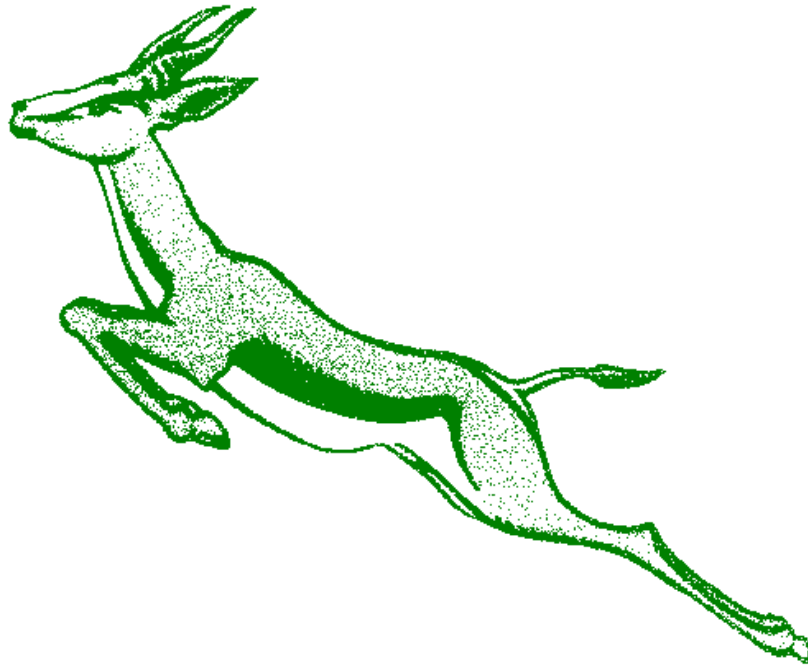


# THE SPRINGBOK



**SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY**

**QUARTERLY**

**Vol. 54**

**No. 1**

**Jan/Mar 2006**

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# ***The Springbok***

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***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 SAE will be acknowledged.

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## Events for your Diary 2006

**London Meetings commence at 1.30 pm**  
**Carlisle Meetings commence at 10.00 am**

28th Jan.	SACS London meeting	Subject: Hyphenated Pictorials 1½d, 3d, 4d & 6d values
4th Mar.	SACS joint meeting with Cinderella P.S. at B.P.T. offices in London.	(all day meeting)
25th Mar.	SACS Carlisle meeting	Subject: Republic Revenues
6th May	SACS London meeting	Subject: Hyphenated Pictorials 1/-, 2/6, 5/- & 10/- values
2nd Sep.	SACS London meeting	Subject: Union Officials
16th Sep.	SACS Carlisle meeting	Subject: First 10 years of the Republic of S.A. Abel Trophy Competition.

**3-5th Nov. Southern African Societies Convention Falstaff Hotel Leamington Spa**

### Other Events for 2006

13-14th Jan.	York Stamp and Coin Fair
22-26th Feb.	Spring Stampex, Islington, London.
13th May	Worpex in Worcester
10th June	Swinpex in Swindon
25th June	Midpex
6-9th July	A.B.P.S. Congress, Renfrew
28-29 July	York Stamp & Coin Fair
20-24th Sep.	Stampex, Islington
19-21st Oct.	Autumn Philatex, Royal Horticultural Halls, Vincent Sq. London.

**For further details, please contact the secretary. We have several joint meetings in the year.  
Please support these events.**

### From the Editors Desk

The year is marching on and this issue of the journal is a little late. My apologies. The good news is that the next issue is almost ready and should follow shortly. This issue has a variety of items which is pleasing. My appeal for RSA articles is slowly being responded to. Please do more articles for this period. We cater for South Africa Union as well as Republican periods.

With this issue I have managed again to include a little leaflet on an interesting subject. Next months issue will have a distinct Aerophilatelic flavour. Brian Stokoe has put together a nice article on the Handley page flight and he is also trying to trace all the remaining covers in existence. This will come as a separate little booklet next issue. The long awaited article on the 1925 Air Mail stamps and their forgeries will also be published. This has taken some time but I hope it will be worth the wait.

The London meetings are still poorly attended. If you are in the area please make an effort to attend a meeting or two. The displays and study sessions have been very good and I have learnt a lot from the regular long time members. Speaking of members, Chris Oliver has been doing a sterling job in recruiting new members, but as fast as we are gaining members, we are loosing same. Why not bring a visitor to the next meeting? We are creating a fair amount of interest in South Africa, but seem to lack this in the UK.

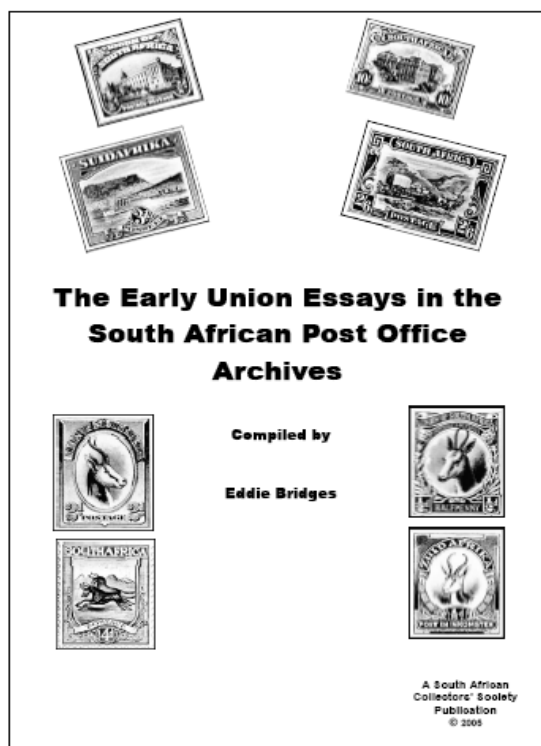
Dr. Ian Matheson, an old acquaintance of mine has copied his Officials collection for Society records. This was a very generous gesture for which we are grateful. We need more of these type of collections copied which will enable an update to the Union Handbook to be made when a volunteer steps forward. We as SACS will be able to provide the support to do this from our collections archive!

Keep the articles coming in. As always I also appreciate feedback, good or bad.

**Eddie Bridges**

## The Springbok Index for 2005

The index for the four issues published in 2005 is included with this issue of *The Springbok* as a loose page. This will allow you to bind it together with the issues of 2005. If you did not get a copy or would like a copy of last years index, please let the Editor know. Thanks to Max Whitlock for compiling the index again.



**The Early Union Essays in the South African Post Office Archives**

Compiled by  
**Eddie Bridges**

A South African  
Collectors' Society  
Publication  
© 2005

### Publication Mishap!

The publication (illustrated on the left) was advertised as being ready in the last issue of The Springbok. Unfortunately before this could be printed I had a mishap with my PC and the publication has been partly lost. I am busy recreating it from a hard copy I have, but is very time consuming. I made the fatal error of not backing this up on my external hard drive, as I do with most of the work I do. My apologies to those who have ordered a copy and are still waiting. As soon as I have it ready again, I will have them in the post.

## LOOKING FOR THE UNUSUAL (OR THE USUAL)



1892-4 Cape of Good Hope ½d slate/white Postal Stationery Envelope with addit. 1d KEVII red tied by manuscript WALVIS BAY 5/7/09 in black pen, to Swakopmund, with very neat arrival postmark 12.7.09. a rare copy of this PO manuscript cancellation.

Similar material on our regular postal auctions. Auction Catalogues viewable on the internet at:  
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## Proposed Exhibition of Union material in 2010

In 2010 we will be celebrating the centenary of the establishment of the Union of South Africa. The South African Collectors Society would like to celebrate by staging a Society exhibit at one of the Fairs in 2010.

I have been asked by the committee, at the AGM in November to enquire whether this would be possible. I have written to the organisers of Spring Stampex, whether this would be possible, with no reply being received to date. The idea would be to put on a display of material covering the whole period from 1910 to 1961.

This should be as comprehensive as possible covering all aspects of Union Philately. A publication covering a bit of the history and a few articles together with scanned or copies of all the exhibits will add to the attraction of such an event. Maybe we could attract some of our overseas members as well if the exhibits are of a high standard.

To start preparing some plan, I have put together a list of possible exhibits. If the members have any further suggestions or proposals, please let me know. If you feel that you might be able to put an exhibit together on one of the proposed subjects in a reasonable amount of detail, please let me know as well.

This could fit in very well with the proposed theme of the International Exhibition to be staged in London in 2010 as well. There will be several activities during this year under the banner of "Festival of Stamps". Let me know your thoughts on this. If we are to proceed with this, we will need to put a small committee together to organise this. It is not too early to start!

Number of frames	Display/Exhibit	Exhibitor	Notes
	The Unions First Stamp		
	The Interprovincial Period		
	The Kings Head Series 1913-1926		
	The First Air Mail Issue of 1925 The stamps and the forgeries		
	The 1925 Experimental Air Mails		
	The 1926-27 Typographed Pictorials 1/2d, 1d & 6d		
	The Bradbury Wilkinson 4d Triangular Issues		
	The London Pictorials 2d - 10/-		
	The 1929 Airmail Issues. Colour Trials and flown covers		
	The Darmstadt Trials		
	The Unhyphenated Rotogravure definitive Issues		Can be split to single values
	The Hyphenated Rotogravure definitive Issues		Can be split to single values

Proposed Exhibition of Union material in 2010 Continued.....

Number of frames	Display/Exhibit	Exhibitor	Notes
	<b>Union Commemorative Issues</b>		
	...1933 Voortrekker Memorial Fund Stamps and Trek Covers		
	...1935 Silver Jubilee of King George V		
	...1936 JIPEX Issues		
	...1937 Coronation of King George VI		
	...1938 Voortrekker Centenary Memorial Fund		
	...1938 Commemoration of the Voortrekkers		
	...1939 250th Anniversary of the Huguenot Landing		
	...1941-42 Large Format War Effort		
	...1942-44 Bantam War Effort		
	...1945 Victory issue		
	...1947 Royal Visit		
	...1948 Silver Wedding		
	...1949 British Settlers		
	... 1949 UPU Anniversary		
	...1949 Inauguration of Voortrekker Monument		
	...1952 Tercentenary of landing of Van Riebeeck		
	...1952 SATISE		
	...1953 Coronation of QE II		
	...1953 Centenary of Cape Triangular		
	...1954 Centenary of the OFS		
	...1955 Centenary of Pretoria		
	...1955 Voortrekker Covenant		
	...1958 German Settlers		
	...1959 50th Anniversary of SA Academy of Science and Art		
	...1959 Antarctic Expedition		
	...1960 50th Anniversary of the Union		
	...1960 Centenary of SA Railways		
	...1960 Union Day		
	1954-61 Animal Definitives		
	The Revenue Stamps of the Union of South Africa		
	The Booklets of the Union of South Africa		
	The Roll or Coil Stamps of the Union of South Africa		
	The Postage Due Stamps of the Union of South Africa		

Number of frames	Display/Exhibit	Exhibitor	Notes
	The Postal Stationary of the Union of South Africa		
	...The Kings Head Postal Stationary		
	...The Kings Head Postal Stationary		
	...The Pictorial Postcards		
	...The Newspaper Wrappers		
	...The Animal Series Postcards		
	...Registered Envelopes		
	...Aerogrammes		
	Airmails of the Union of South Africa		
	The Shipping Postmaster marks		
	Taxed Mails		
	The Railway Post of South Africa		
	World War One Mail		
	World War II Censored Mail		
	Cinderella Material		

If any member is willing to put a display together or already have one written up on any or several of the listed subjects, then please let me know. If I have missed a subject and you have something to show, then let me know as well!

All of this will need time, volunteers and money. We will need to look at dealers specialising in South African material to also sponsor an advert in the proposed publication.

Any further ideas would be welcome.

**Eddie Bridges**

### Copies of Collections

Further to my appeal to for collectors who have collections written up on particular subjects in the Union Period, or have award winning collections, I am pleased to announce that a further two collections have been received from members. I have reproduced a few copies of each which will be made available to members and a copy of each will go in the library. The additional collections available are as follows:

- **The Mike Tonking Study Collection of the 2d Rotogravure Pictorial Issues 1931-1952**
- **The Ian Matheson Large Gold Collection of the First Ten Years of the Official Overprints 1926-1936.**

We thank these members for their generous contributions to our knowledge of these issues. As I have mentioned before, it is important for the Society to keep a record of these study collections as this will ultimately form a source of information for updating the Union Handbook (last updated in 1986). Much new information has come to light and one day this task will need to be tackled. All that is needed is a volunteer or ten!

We now have a copy of a Union Kings Head collection, The Union Bantam War issues and a commitment for a copy of a collection on the Union's first commemorative Issue and a collection on the London Pictorials. Both superb collections which will add to the existing knowledge of these issues.

## Union War Issues

Dickon Pollard from Murray Payne sent me these “Bromides” with some information which I thought would be of interest to members. He provided the following information:

“These come from an extraordinary hoard of stamps and related material which has now largely been dispersed through the normal marketplace. There was quite a large quantity of publicity material for 1930s-1940s New Issues, much of which was (I believe) simply binned. However, these SA items were recognised as being worth salvaging. There are also ‘fliers’ for the release of the 1d and 1/3d values, which I am enclosing.

As you see from the bromides, the designs appear to be ‘as issued’, with the exception of the 1/3d which has (for example 8 planes, but show far more detail. It would be interesting to know how they differ from any extant artwork.

As far as I can guess, these would have been prepared from photographs of artwork and distributed on a fairly limited basis to major wholesalers, simply as publicity material. Probably few survived. It will be interesting to see if anyone has come across similar items before”

Any comments from the members? *Ed.*



The values sent by Dickon Pollard

ISSUE OF 1d. WAR POSTAGE STAMP IN REDUCED SIZE.

The Postmaster-General of the Union announces that the reduced size 1d. war postage stamps will be placed on sale shortly.

There will be no "First Day" issue but the reduced size stamps will be placed on sale at individual post offices as and when supplies of the existing stamp become exhausted at such offices.

The 2d. denomination, in the series  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d.,  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d. and 1/-, has still to be reduced. The cost of a complete set of the miniature war stamps will be 3s.6d., the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d.,  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 3d. and 6d. stamps being printed alternately in English and in Afrikaans.

The design of the new penny stamp remains similar to that of the original stamp of the same denomination, with the exception that the ambulance has been removed and the lettering on the left-hand edge has been placed on the top. The colour remains the same, viz., red.

Persons overseas may obtain supplied by writing to the Under-Secretary, Staff, Room 7(A), G.P.O., Pretoria, and provided they forward a money order, postal order or bank draft to the value of the stamps they require, plus a sum sufficient to pay the registered postage, their orders will be executed as soon as possible after receipt.

-----  
UITGAWE VAN OORLOGSPOSSEËL VAN 1d. IN KLEINER  
FORMAAT.

Die Posmeester-generaal van die Unie maak bekend dat die kleiner oorlogsposseëls van 1d. binnekort te koop sal wees.

Die seël sal nie op 'n vasgestelde datum vir die eerste maal beskikbaar gestel word nie maar sal by die verskillende poskantore te koop wees sodra die voorrade van die bestaande seël by sulke kantore uitgeput raak.

Die 2d.-seël van die reeks  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 1d.,  $\frac{1}{2}$ d., 2d., 3d., 4d., 6d. en 1/- moet nog in die kleiner formaat uitgegee word. Die koste van 'n volledige stel van die oorlogseël in kleiner formaat sal 3s.6d. wees aangesien die  $\frac{1}{2}$ d.-, 1d.-,  $\frac{1}{2}$ d.-, 3d.- en 6d.-seëls om die beurt in Afrikaans en Engels gedruk is.

Die ontwerp van die nuwe 1d.-seël kom baie ooreen met dié van die oorspronklike seël van dieselfde waarde, behalwe dat die ambulans verwyder en die letters aan die linkerkant na die bokant van die seël verskuif is. Die kleur bly dieselfde, naamlik rooi.

Persone in die buiteland kan voorrade verkry deur skriftelik aansoek te doen by die Ondersekretaris, Personeelafdeling, Kamer 7(A), H.P.K., Pretoria, en hul bestellings sal so gou moontlik na ontvangs uitgevoer word mits 'n poswissel, posorder of bankwissel vir die waarde van die vereiste seëls plus 'n bedrag wat groot genoeg is om die posgeld op die geregistreerde pakkie te betaal, saam met hul bestellings gestuur word.

ISSUE OF NEW WAR POSTAGE STAMP.

The Postmaster-General of the Union announces that a new stamp (war series) of ls. 3d. denomination will be placed on sale at all post offices on 2nd January, 1943.

The new stamps, which are intended primarily for the prepayment of airmail fees, are printed alternately in English and in Afrikaans in sheets of 240, and the size is the same as that of the ordinary penny stamp. The colour is sepia brown.

The design is representative of the South African Corps of Signals, an important unit which has not hitherto been included in the existing series of war stamps. A resolute signaller in steel helmet and battle dress, operating his transmitter to headquarters from an armoured car, relays the progress of a tank and aerial battle.

Persons overseas may obtain supplies by writing to the Under-Secretary, Staff, Room 7(A), G.P.O., Pretoria, and provided they forward a money order, postal order, or bank draft to the value of the stamps they require, plus a sum sufficient to pay the registered postage, their orders will be executed as soon as possible after receipt.

UITGAVE VAN NUWE OORLOGSPOSSEËL.

Die Posmeester-generaal van die Unie maak bekend dat 'n nuwe seël (oorlogsreeks) ter waarde van ls.3d. op 2 Januarie 1943 by alle poskantore te koop sal wees.

Die nuwe seël, wat in die eerste plek bedoel is vir die vooruitbetaling van lugposgelde, is om die beurt in Afrikaans en Engels gedruk in velle van 240, en die grootte daarvan is dieselfde as dié van die gewone pennieseël. Die kleur is sepia-bruin.

Die ontwerp is 'n voorstelling van die Suid-Afrikaanse Seinerskorps, 'n belangrike eenheid wat tot dusver nog nie in die bestaande reeks oorlogseëls ingesluit is nie. 'n Vasberade seiner gekleed in gevegstenue en staalhelm, is besig om die vordering van 'n tenk- en luggeveg vanuit 'n pantsermotor na hoofkwartier uit te saai.

Persone in die buiteland kan voorrade verkry deur skriftelik aansoek te doen by die Ondesekretaris, Personeelafdeling, Kamer 7(A), H.P.K., Pretoria, en hul bestellings sal so gou moontlik na ontvangs uitgevoer word mits 'n poswissel, posorder of bankwissel vir die waarde van die vereiste seëls plus 'n bedrag wat groot genoeg is om die posgeld op die geregistreerde pakkie te betaal, saam met hul bestellings gestuur word.



## Letters to the Editor

**Please use this forum to advise me of your interests and what you would like to see in the Journal. I can only change, adapt or modify format, articles if you let me know what your thoughts are. Constructive criticism will always be taken onboard.**

**Ed.**

I have received the following from Douglas Armitage:

Dear Mr. Bridges,

I have just started to look into ting my collection of South Africa 1926-54 pictorial definitive issues. It was therefore very useful to find in the Jul/Sep Issue 2005 of *The Springbok* your very detailed article on the ½d and 1d values covering the London and Pretoria Printings.

However I would appreciate your assistance in respect of your note with regard to differentiating between these printings on pages 72 and 76. In this you give details of which margins were perforated for each printing. However in my edition of the South African Handbook (pages 67 and 68) the information regarding which margins were perforated is opposite to what you say. I note that you refer to the 1986 Union Handbook whereas my copy is the Golden Jubilee edition of 1960. This of course is way out of date but I would not have expected that the basic information as to perforation would have been amended but maybe it was! Your comments would be appreciated. As a matter of interest, I purchased this collection several years ago and it comprised all stamps, both mint and used for all the issues up to 1954 with all the various printings I thought it would make a good display if it included covers. I have therefore been busy these past few years buying covers whenever possible, however it has now become quite difficult to find new ones to add. Your article therefore has encouraged me to make a start!

***I must put my hand up. I made the mistake. Douglas is of course right. I wonder how many other members picked this up. Or did nobody read the article? Ed.***

### Intending to send the Editor an Article with a few pictures?

First of all if you think this is not you, think again! The journal is the lifeblood of the Society. The Editors job is to collate the articles lay out the pages and generally do the necessary things to make the journal ready for printing. The Editors job is **not** to write all the articles in the journal. What he does not mind doing is helping with research, feeding and encouraging others to write. If the Editor has to write all the articles, provide all the items of interest, write to **himself** to add some interest to the "Letters to the Editor" column, then this journal will die.

I have a few stalwarts who have sent in some items which I am always grateful for. However, these stalwarts and the Editor have specific collecting interests and these topics are soon exhausted or we end up with similar editorial content in every issue. What I need is a variety of items which will enable me to balance the content and save some articles for a rainy day. If you do not see your article appear in the next issue, do not despair as it will get used unless I advise you that it will not be published. (this is unlikely to happen!)

Now some items that will help the Editor save time and keep the quality of the content at an acceptable standard. If at all possible send me the articles on a disk, CD, USB memory stick or by e-mail. Short items on paper or in a letter I can still type out but long articles neatly typed on several pages, takes me ages to retype. Mistakes can also creep in as I might miss a sentence or a paragraph. It takes on average up to 40 hours to put one issue of the journal together. I enjoy doing this, but sometimes work pressure does not allow me to spend this sort of time on the journal.

Another problem area is pictures or illustrations. Please try and make good colour copies or better, scan the items and send as mentioned above. Black and white copies are difficult to reproduce in good quality. Colour I can change to black and white and still maintain good resolution. Poor copies cannot be reproduced. Remember the journal is completely digitised. I do not cut and paste as I then have to copy the journal which is more expensive. Digital printing is much easier and more economical. Your help in these matters would be appreciated. Put finger to keyboard and send me some articles!!

**Eddie Bridges**

## Members Queries and Feed Back



### Queries

Members are urged to use this column to raise there queries and the Editor will publish all replies and feed back received in response to queries published. This column has led to some worthwhile information being uncovered by members in response to queries. **Ed.**

#### 1. **Jim Findlay**, who is a member of the WW II Study Group has asked for help on the following:

I have been doing some research on the South African APO 24 in WW II. It would appear that this is a scarce item. David Slater-Kinghorn did a survey of known examples in the 1980s and I have this. Since this was a few years ago, I am trying to update this list. If you have any examples in your collection, please can you let me know the date, any other date stamps, censor catches or marks, identification and unit of sender (if available) and other information. I will be happy to let you have the results of my survey.

*If anyone has any of these APO 24 post markings, please let the editor know with the relevant details and I will pass it on. Alternatively you can e-mail Jim at [a233@mweb.co.za](mailto:a233@mweb.co.za) Ed.*

#### 2. **John Philpott** writes:

My latest acquisition is SAHB 04 (London Printing) mint as per illustration. It seems to have a quite pronounced downward shift. Jack Hagger likes only colossal shifts from reading the SAHB so I assume that he would not consider this a variety. Is it all that rare-have you seen similar? There must have been at least 238 other such stamps (119 pairs) produced originally. (full plate forme re SAHB) It is 12½ mm between and has square stops so is genuine (I hope!)



**Can any member provide some further information? Ed.**

#### 3. **Mike Tonking** has responded to some queries in the Jul/sep 2005 issue of *The Springbok*:

With reference to the Auction Report in the Jul/Sep 2005 Springbok I would like to correct the statement regarding the Harmers sale held on 5 April wherein it stated that there is only one known example of the Interprovincial Natal 10/- value used in the ORC. In my collection I have an example postmarked Harrismith September 1910 thus proving that more than one exists!

As a matter of interest the reason for the 3d hyphenated (SAHB 48) imperforate being a "little crumpled" is that the sheet must have been clandestinely removed from the Government Printing Works. In almost every case the stamps exhibit signs of being crumpled or folded, in fact I have never seen a copy without some sort of crease.

John Philpott's query on the overprinting on the ½d and 1d Kings Heads for use in SWA is interesting. In 1983 and 1984 L. Jacobson wrote articles on the essays for the 1923 overprinted King's Head stamps for use in the mandated territory of SWA. It appears from records in the Windhoek archives that a letter written on 18 January 1918 by James Venning, the Director of Posts and Telegraphs, to the SWA Administrator refers to specimen overprints of the Union postage stamps. To date no trace of these essays have been found. However in 1982 a series of essays overprinted in English in black ink and with the hyphens between South and West appeared. These essays consisted of the 1d KH postage stamp, 1/- revenue stamp, 1d postage due, 1d embossed envelope and a 6d registered envelope (overprinted in red ink). These essays are referred to in archival correspondence and are undoubtedly genuine. The final overprint was of course bilingual with the Dutch Zuid-West being hyphenated. I would guess that the ½d and 1d overprints illustrated are suspect having been overprinted in a rather amateurish manner.

The illustrations of the 2d Officials (SAHB O72) are apparently from the same sheet position. The base stamp was issue 3 (SAHB 38A) which of course has the large splayed arrows printed by exterior cylinder 42. To the best of my knowledge the issue 3 arrows were never altered in any way. I believe, that for some reason, the arrows on the upper example did not fully print.

Continued overleaf....

Members queries and feedback continued....

The marginal arrows were printed in order to facilitate the register for perforating or as a guide to divide or fold the sheet. As much as it would seem natural to print the arrows in the predominant colour of the frame.

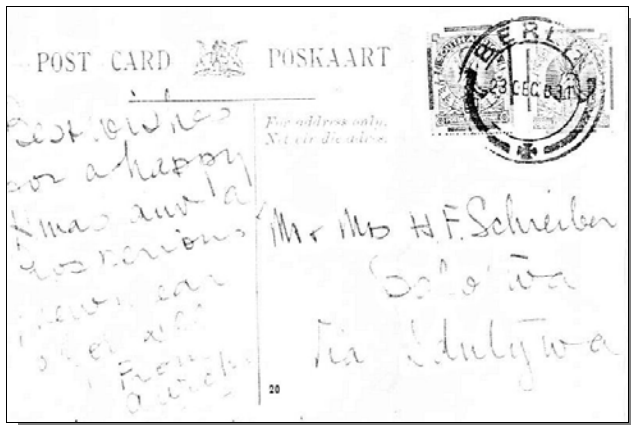
Thanks for this useful information, Mike. **Ed.**

**4. Fred Clark** sent this query on Union Postal Stationary:

At a recent meeting at Leamington Spa, I purchased amongst other things from a South African dealer, two pictorial postcards which conform only to the description of PC 17 in the Union Handbook Catalogue of 1979 page 413 and also P 17 in The Postal Stationary of South Africa by W.J. Quik, Part 2, page 175. The two postcards concerned are numbered 15 & 20 in black and one is shown in the following illustration.

Both catalogues show the date of issue as 1934 with the later catalogue giving additional information that this series of 24 cards were issued as a result of the domestic postal rate being reduced to ½d in 1934.

However my two cards 15 & 20 are clearly marked Berlin 29 DEC 32 and 23 DEC 31 respectively and sent to the same addressee at BOLUTWA. Both cards have additional ½d stamps added to the initial ½d imprinted stamp, indicating a domestic rate of 1d for postcards in 1931 and 1932. So why was this series of cards printed with only the ½d rate catered for? Clearly the catalogue information must be wrong. Does anyone know the true date of issue?







**For the Elusive and Unusual in  
Southern African Philately**

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Randburg  
2194 South Africa

Members queries and feedback continued....

**5. Mike Tonking** has the following query:

I am wondering if any of our members can assist me in confirming facts with reference to the RSA Postage Due Label printed on Harrison paper from cylinders, interior 229 and exterior 263 and reportedly issued in December 1969. Printed on the Goebel 830 machine the cylinders were transposed (Row 10/10 flaw - nick in top of '2' in 2c now appears on and English label) to the previous Issue printed on Swiss paper.

A further distribution was recorded as being made in February 1971, also on Harrison paper, however in this case some sheets were printed by the Goebel 840 machine with black instead of red sheet numbers and now perforated 14x14 instead of 15x14.

It is of interest that, in this case, the cylinders were again transposed and reverted back to the original setting seen on the Swiss paper printing. Thus we end up with two transpositions rather than one recorded in the loose leaf Republic Handbook/Catalogue.

The mystery is the question of how many sheets were printed on the Goebel 840 machine with the 14x14 perforations. From the Government Printers Lists the final delivery of 20000 sheets was made on 9 February 1971 most of which must have been printed on the Goebel 830 machine which was withdrawn around this time. No mention is made of the relative number of sheets printed on the Goebel 840 machine however catalogue value indicates that the perf. 14x14 label is 35 times scarcer than the 15x14. Can anyone come up with the true number of sheets printed ?

also;

I have been unable to find any reference to RSA Postage Due Labels in the Government Printers lists as published in the Springbok from 5.4.61 to 31.12.67. During this period numerous issues were printed and it seems strange that there is no record in the Springbok.

In the July/August 1969 Springbok we find the first reference to the Postage Dues. In this case it refers to the Swiss paper printings and even here the information is incorrect i.e. the 1c and 2c cylinder numbers are wrong whilst the total number of sheets delivered to 12.12.67 at 330 100 is suspect.

Does any member have a record of the Postage Due Labels printed during this period ?

*With all the help Mike has been giving in recent times, it would be nice if one of our members could help him for a change. Ed.*

**6. Douglas Armitage** has sent this query:

I am proceeding quite well writing up my collection and it was a super surprise to receive the small monogram on the Airmail rates along with the Springbok Journal. Just what I have been looking for! I had only just sent an e-mail to Godfrey Mellor asking him if he knew the rates or where I could find them receiving a reply that he did not. My problem now is what were the surface rates both internal and external from roughly 1925 to 1955 plus registration and advice of receipt for letters, postcards and printed matter with the weight steps. Robson Lowe in his Volume II Africa gives some basic rates which I assume to be correct but collectors did not bother much with postal history at that time. I doubt there would be many changes have you any information as to where I might find them?

---

### Advertisers needed

If you are a dealer, part time dealer or know of a dealer, please look at the opportunities in advertising in ***The Springbok***.

We have an active membership who are always on the lookout for material to add to their collections.

The rising costs to produce the journal can only be absorbed if we have a few more advertisers.  
The alternative is increased membership fees.



## Auction Report

by

Tony Howgrave-Graham

2<sup>nd</sup> HALF 2005

Those present at the Leamington conference will have been pleased to see a 1920 Handley Page cover in Bryan Stokoe's fine display of air material. This leads me straight on to the Argyll Etkin sale of 3 June which almost doubled up as an extracurricular SACS meeting. One member was delighted to pick up a similar cover for £765 whilst Harmers had one re-offer for £3,000! (there seemed little to choose between the covers – which may well explain why the latter failed to sell again). The Argyll Etkin sale had a good collection broken down. In the proofs and essays section was a collection of Darmstadt trials with only 37 of the 71 Dix numbers, but many of these were in blocks which are becoming increasingly hard to find as more and more gets broken down for financial gain. It made £2,235. A block of 6 proof strikes of the Jipex overprint (positions 1-6) again illustrates the chopping up of archival material coming, allegedly, from a unique proof sheet. It made £588. Most of the stamp collection was sold in sections with some "good buys" available. The highlight, however, was a 1930 2d vertical part arrow strip of 5 (Fig.1) with the top 2 stamps missing, and virtually missing, their frames. It went to a telephone bidder for £3,175. It was the same apart from half an arrow as the lot sold by Spink in March 2004 for £2,415 (see *Auction Report for 1<sup>st</sup> half 2004*). The airmail section ran to 19 lots with most competition being for a 1930 Casparenthus cover which, with a pc of the aircraft and some newspaper clippings, fetched an over estimate £540.

16 June saw the British Empire portion of the "Gilbert" collection offered by Spink (in conjunction with Harmers of New York). All quoted realisations were subject to 5% VAT but otherwise include the commission. There were some remarkable realisations including £133,000 for a Bermuda cut to shape 1<sup>st</sup> issue Perot in black. The SA and SWA were somewhat more modest. Of the unhyphenated a 1d blk.4 with missing and partly missing frames (perf. separation and reinforcement) (Fig.2) made £575 and an um 2d tête-bêche pair (Fig.3) £4,830 (cat £3,500 at the time though I see SG have now raised this). The 1st 6d official, og, made £161 and the 1<sup>st</sup> 10/- (official at left), um, £218. The 1950-4 2d official with overprint inverted made £575. Of the SWA inverted overprints the 1<sup>st</sup> setting 1d, og, made £172, the 1/3 £195. With the SWE, all um, the 4d made £345, 6d £299 & 1/- £287. The 1945 Victory 1d, lmm, made £161. The 1923 2<sup>nd</sup> setting 5/- with missing stop after Afrika, og, made £402. The same variety for the 10/- £1150 & £1 £1610. The £1 SWA op missing stop, og, made £862 and the 1927-30 10/- with same variety £207. The most remarkable realisation was for the rare, but uninspiring, 1923 setting II ovpt on 1d PD (Fig.4), og, which made over full catalogue at £9,200. The whole sale was quite remarkable in that the realisations were high and virtually all sold with a total realisation of over £2 million. Spink must be patting themselves on their backs!



Auction report continued...

Before moving on the main feature of this report I can half answer the question I posed in the last report. "What is half a registration label worth?" From *Figure 1* it would appear that half an arrow is worth £765. Well, half a label is worth a bit less! Nutmeg re-offered the Amadab cover with the estimate reduced from \$1,250 to \$750. With a reserve of \$400 this made things a bit more inviting so I tendered an offer. Within a few days, however, someone had bid the full \$750.

Now to the "big event". The Stephan Welz sale of 2 August included the late Prof. David de Villiers' award winning collection of London pictorials along with his superb collection of later material all divided into 253 lots placed in their general sale. The talk was that Welz had overloaded the market and there might be some cheap pickings. Reportedly Welz had similar reservations but may well have been acting under estate instructions. Anyway – dream on! The sale has already been written up in the *S A Philatelist* as being a record breaker. It broke the R4m barrier for the first time with very nearly half of this being for de Villiers' material (a record for a single owner). It also produced a record for the highest price paid for a single SA item with lot 851, the hyphenated unscreened 1/- in a block of 4 with the bottom pair completely without frame, *Fig.5*, reaching almost double catalogue at 109,250R (I'll give all realisations for this sale (including commission) in rands (about 11 to £1 at the time).

But back to the beginning:- the de Villiers' portion opened with some superb proof material. Demand for this seems to grow & grow. A Mullins drawing enlarged into a pen & ink essay for the 2d & 3d (*Fig.6 for detail*) reached 32,200R. Two imperf 2d proofs on BW presentation card (with soiling) made 12,650R (4,750R at Meintjes in 1989) and a similar 3d pair showing that the Mullins drawing was made up into stamp form (*Fig.7*) prior to the 10/- centre being tried, made 21,850R (4,200R at Meintjes!). A nice series of similar imperf proofs in issued colours, the "E" version in fixed and the "A" in fugitive inks, all similar to *Fig.8*, made for the 3d, 23,000R (4725 at Meintjes), 4d (with 4 stamps) 18,400R (8400 at Meintjes), 1/- 18,400R (4750 at Meintjes), 2/6 21,850R (6825 at Meintjes), 5/- 18,400R and the 10/- the same.

Master die proofs of the vignettes only in black made 3,680R each for the 3d, 2/6 & 5/- (3150 for each of the 3d & 5/- in Meintjes). Nice 1/- die proofs of the centre in yellow-brown and the frames in blue made 19,950R. There was a mystery telephone bidder at the sale who bought a lot of the archival material. He revealed his identity at Leamington by bringing along the bottom 3 rows (less 2 stamps) of all values and perforation types of the 1927-30 pictorials. These were all double pane items from the printers "proof", or sample, sheets that they saved from each printing and were lifted from their paper and thus without gum. They are important reference material and made superb viewing. With the total of these lots appearing to exceed 175,000R we must congratulate him.

Still with the 1927-30 pictorials, 11 sample proofs in unissued colours, perf specimen, showed their continued popularity by fetching 64,400R. The set in blocks of 6 handstamped specimen and cancelled by the Madagascan Director of Posts made 46,000R. For those still looking for the 5/- perf down inscriptional pair I'm afraid it made virtually full catalogue, og, at 5,750R.

Proceeding to the unhyphenated roto, a blk.4 1d with the bottom pair missing frames and the top missing about 10% made 24,850R (compare with Spink, *Fig.2*, condition clearly matters a lot!). The 2d sepia & mauve trial printing made triple estimate at 6,325R for a lmm pair. A 2d indigo & violet top arrow blk.4 with joined paper, lmm, looked more modest at 2,300R. A lot of people, including myself, seemed keen to acquire the double pane sheet of 3d blk & red, wmk up (folded in half). It realised 11,500R. A blk.8 3d blue with the vignettes only partly printed on the top 4 made 10,925R (5280 in Rall, 1992, with the rand then only 4.5 to £1). The 2/6 slate-green & brown in a lmm corner blk.4 made 4,370R and a green & brown pair with a large doctor blade flaw 1,995R.



Auction report continued...

Of the hyphenated perhaps the most interesting were the 1d Issue 11 imperfs (*Fig.9*). I had always assumed these came from completely imperf sheets but the 2 side marginal blocks on offer show the variety se-tenant with a misperfed pair. Each block made 2,530R. Whilst on the imperfs, a double bottom row of the 3d (Is.3) with the usual creasing, made 10,350R. An arrow blk.6 of 6d (Is.5) with interrupted printing of the vignettes made 27,600R (4620 in Rall – it's interesting to note the wide variation in differentials between auctions proving, again, that auction price and value are very different things). The 1/- block has already been mentioned (*Fig.5*).



This just leaves the bits and pieces. The coils and booklet material all sold well. The first official set including the 6d with upright and inverted (rare) wmk made 6,325R and the roto 1d with overprint doubled vertically (scarce) and horizontally (more usual) made 4,025R for the two. The 1940 5/- "Official" at left made 3,450R for a nice corner blk.8. Of the non de Villiers material a nice Afrikaans 6d typo proof on Waterlow card made 8,625R. A folded strip of 20 units of the ½d SWE with the bottom 2 units showing partial printing made 3,910R, exactly the same as a 1d unit with both roulettes missing. The 1d with only one roulette missing, og, made 5,520R. The 1½d with roulette missing made 3,910R for a blk.4, exactly the same as for a single unit 2d. The "slogans printed on stamp" variety made 1,610R for a 3d marginal double unit and 2,990R for the 1/- (arrow blk.8, 4 units, 2 affected). Finally of the neglected 1954 animals a 4d arrow pair with 85% of the green missing, um, made 4,370R.

So, quite a sale! – and we've only reached 2 August! It means I will have to précis the rest of the year. On 24 August Harmers offered a beautiful Japan Mail Steamship Co. letter sheet (*Fig.10*), similar to, but prettier than, the Union Castle one mentioned in the *SA Philatelist*. I missed it then, as I did the illustration of it in the same publication where it advertised the sale. Offered at £250 it failed to sell but I did pick it up on re-offer in October at the reduced estimate of £150 ((just over £200 with VAT etc). The ostrich and aircraft essay for the 1925 Airs did sell first time round for £569 but the sale had a specialised lot of early mandate period SWA broken down into about 150 lots. Just under half sold but this was generally the more valuable half with a nice "reconstruction" of the 4 corner control pairs of the pale olive £1, setting VI, making £1412 (+VAT). I will just refer anyone interested to the sale for other prices. Their 8 November sale also had some good SA. All quotes are subject to 5% VAT. The 1913 King's head 2d, used, creased, but with no wmk made £376. The 1/3 wmk inverted made a surprising £88 and a vertical pair of £1 on piece with 10/- & 1/-, made £282. A 1927 ½d b/let pane (perfs trimmed 2 sides) made £76 and 1d (trimmed at top) £153. A 1d tete-beche pair described as typo, but roto in the photo, um, made a surprising £823 and a strip of 4 roto 1d with paper join £55.

Auction report continued...

Spink had 3 interesting items in their 26/7 October sale. Firstly was the 1<sup>st</sup> 1½d mine in a bottom left corner block with the bottom pair missing gold. It made 3,080R in the 1992 Thys Rall sale, by reckoning about £650 at the time, but this time offered at £6-7,000! It seemed a crazy mark up on the basis of other items but, lo and behold, it made £9,880! The 1947 Royal Visit colour trials were also again on offer - this time in 3 marginal blocks of 4 of each value in different shades (Fig. 11). Estimated £5-6,000 it's the first time I've seen them sell, albeit at £2,900. Amongst the SWA eight BW cards with imperf proofs in each language setting of each value of the 1937 Coronation set, unfortunately toned, still fetched £3,720 (+ 17.5% VAT).



Argyll Etkin had another good sale on 25 November but mainly relating to pre-Union material whilst Welz had their "Autumn" sale on 29<sup>th</sup>. This included fine collections of SA railway stamps and WW2 military mail. They were lotted in groups which makes price quoting impossible. However, it contained many other goodies. An interprovincial ORC 4d with "IOSTAGE" flaw on piece, used at Victoria West 15 No.10 realised 2,340R. Of the King's head issues 2 control blocks of 4 of the 5/- (both toned) made 11,700R whilst a single control blk.4 10/- (lightly toned) made the same. The missing jubilee line variety in interpanneau blocks of 6 made 5,265R for the 3d, 7,020R for the 4d and 3,042R for the 6d (creased). Vertical pairs of the 2/6 & 5/- with the same variety on attached gutter made 2,808R and 6,435R respectively whilst a similar £1 single (pale-olive) made 15,210R. The 1925 Airs in complete double pane sheets (with faults) made 26,910R. The Pretoria ½d with one in a block of 4 missing vignette (said to be the result of a foldover) made 8,190R. The 1d in a blk.4 with one stamp half printed due to foldover, made 7,020R and the plate 2 with frame missing (SAHB V10) in a blk.4 made 15,210R (which rather pleased me as I have a similar block!). The scarce London 5/-, perf 14x13½ up, made 2,340R for a fu pair and a remarkable 7,020R for a fu block of 4. A 10/- imperf sample proof in black and blue, perf specimen, made 3,276R. Uncut double booklet panes with stitched selvages and the middle block of 4 tête-bêche made 9,945R for the ½d and 14,040R for the 1d. If Fig.5 set a new record for a single SA item it didn't last long because the showpiece item of the right 4 vertical marginal rows of the roto 1d, Issue 1B, including 4 rows with the frame missing, and another row with it partly missing, whilst not reaching the estimate of 200-250,000R did clock in at 204,705R including commission! – so quite a hike up in the record! The 1<sup>st</sup> 1/- PD in um blk.8 made 6,435R and the 1<sup>st</sup> 6d official, og, made 2,547R with the 1950 2d with ovpt inverted, um, making 10,530R. Finally the nice 1973 1r in a strip of 3, one with partly and one with wholly missing orange, um, made 23,400R.

So, all in all, a very active year with many high prices.

## Wanted

Volunteer required to provide the Springbok with updates and news on new releases for Republican Issues. This will cover the stamps, booklets and postal stationery. This is not a huge task but needs someone who is an enthusiast on the RSA period. There is much of interest in this period and needs a willing contributor.

**Apply to the Editor!**

We also require more items on the Republican issues. Please put pen to paper.

## Members Smalls

The following information has been sent by John Dickson for members information.

I have sent a collection to Argyll Etkin to include in their 5 May sale. To anyone collecting Union Postmarks this should be very interesting. It consists of postmarks mostly on cover from the Province of Natal between 1910 and 1976 covering a huge number of villages and towns. There are several thousand items in 68 albums. A huge start on a Union Postmark collection. The description of the material which I gave to Ian Shapiro (I have not seen how they have described the lots for the catalogue) is given below... I think the right people would miss this opportunity unless some comment appears in the Springbok before the sale. The material is with Argyll Etkin and I am sure they would allow people to inspect the collection prior to the sale.

### QUOTE

POSTMARKS OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN PROVINCE OF NATAL 1910 to 1985

#### 1. DURBAN in ten red binders

Mostly covers but some on piece and off paper. Many very fine strikes. Approximately 1000 items. This is an accumulation, sorted by class and type, not written up.

#### 2. PIETERMARITZBURG in four green binders

Mostly covers but some on piece and off paper. Many very fine strikes. Approximately 400 items. This is an accumulation, sorted by class and type, not written up.

#### 3. Natal Villages and smaller towns in 54 binders

Mostly covers but some on piece and off paper. Many very fine strikes. 1000s of items including many rare offices and postmarks. This is an accumulation, sorted by place and type, not written up.

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Mike Tonking has advised of the following:

1. I am looking for a right margin strip of 10 with no sheet numbers of the 4c Arms WM original printing.
2. Working through my RSA Postage Dues I have a number of duplicate mint cylinder blocks for sale or swap if any of our members are interested.

## SPOT A WINNING DEALER! ...IN JUST TWO QUICK STEPS

1. Identify PAUL VAN ZEYL t/a RAND STAMP AUCTIONS in this picture



2. Contact him to discuss how we can help each other, to get a "win-win" (auction or direct sale) result at:  
e-mail: paulvz@mweb.co.za; Tel +27 (0)12 329 2464; Fax +27 (0)12 329 3157

## Report on the London Meeting Jan 2006

### Subject: Hyphenated Pictorials

by John Shaw

This meeting was intended to cover the pence values of the hyphenated pictorials, except for the 1d and 2d which had both recently been covered in depth. It was, essentially, a Fred Clark show with Fred giving a wonderful display of the ½d values, plus selected pieces from his 1½d and 6d studies.

The first hyphenated ½d stamp was Issue 4, which appeared in 1935 and, apart from the Afrikaans country name now being hyphenated, was in the same design as the unhyphenated ½d stamps, all printings being with inverted watermark. A new "find" discovered, after publication of the excellent 1961 Golden Jubilee handbook, was that of Issue 4A, with a new interior cylinder and the frames printed in green rather than bluish-green; apart from the colour, a few tiny vignette flaws, and that Issue 4A is almost always found with upright watermark, these two Issues are indistinguishable. These two issues comprise what is known as Group II, Group I being unhyphenated stamps. Fred showed four arrow blocks from each of these issues

Group III, comprising Issues 5 to 13, appeared between 1937 and 1947s, was printed from a revised design apparent mainly in the stamp corners which comprise horizontal straight lines rather than converging vertical and horizontal lines. Arrow pieces from some of these issues are very scarce and Fred showed all except the left hand arrow from Issue 13; also included was a complete sheet from Issue 7 – one of very few remaining – and mention was also made of the deletion of Issue 9 from this group, on the grounds it was identical to Issue 10, then its re-instatement following the research of the late RJ (Bob) Lawrence, who I regard as my mentor. Spanning the second world war, this group is also notable for the large range of colours, especially in the green frames.

Group IV comprised only Issue 14, where the basic design was reduced in size from 18.5 x 22.5mm to 18.25 x 22.25mm, then Group V comprising Issues 15, 15A and 16 where the stamp designs were reduced a further 0.25mm in both directions; this group is known as the "cross-hatch" design due to the white cross-hatching in bars at the top and bottom of the stamps. All the stamps in this group are scarce to rare, with arrow pieces being both rare and expensive – and on view at the meeting!

For Group VI, there was a major production change in that the frames were now produced from screened cylinders and which comprised Issues 16A, 16B, 16C, 17 and 18, indicating some headaches for the plater! Issue 17 is notable since the sheet size was 9 x 20 stamps instead of 12 x 20 and was produced to use up some under-width paper, also resulting in the top and bottom margins having two arrows each instead of one, and similar to Issue 20 of the 1d stamp. Another feature of Issue 17, and which I had not seen before, was the "speckled heads" at the bottom of the sheet.

Issues 19 to 22 comprised the final group, Group VII, all of which were produced from frame and vignette screened cylinders and lasted until these pictorials were replaced by the animal series in 1954. These stamps were different in that the cylinder numbers were now for the first time printed in the bottom right and left corners of the sheets, except for Issue 22 which bore them in the bottom right corner only. A nice visual progressive flaw on the latter was the gradual disappearance of the "31" from the "31 70" cylinder numbers, and other items shown were the "bushtick" and "line between horns" flaws and, finally the charcoal centres found on some printings of Issue 21.

After a selection of booklet panes and roll stamps, including some scarce complete proving strips of 22, Fred showed some large 1½d gold mine stamps, including covers and a large block with missing shading, and a fine block of six with joined paper. He also then posed some queries, the first on the "green over gold background" on Issue 2 with upright watermark., then on some marginal markings on the KG V definitives, both of which should be covered in greater depth in forthcoming articles.

Eddie Bridges then showed a selection of 3d, 4d and 6d values, plus the interim 4½d, 1/3d and 1/6d values, with emphasis on the 3d which included a possible deep dark blue and a delightful marginal block of six of the 6d Issue 2 with the "ladder" flaw. The former items were represented by all the possible arrow pieces and there was interest in the types and colours of the sheet numbers on the 3d which can be summarised as follows:

Continued on next page....

Issue	Black sheet nos	Blue sheet nos	Red sheet nos
3	4 figures	4 figures	4 figures
4			4 figures
5	5 figures		4 figures

**Table showing the different printings of the 3d values**

Finally John Shaw showed a small selection including a 1½d small gold mine block with partially missing centres, a “dry print”, the “cruciform “ variety and the scarce “waffle plate” issue. This was followed by the 3d Issue 3 imperforate and a block of eight of the deep dark blue Issue 5, the latter purchased many years ago from the Wunsh sale at Harmers. The final page included more 6d “ladder” varieties which included a pair used on piece with a “Shipping Postmaster” cancellation.

Apart from the aforementioned the meeting was also attended by John Archer who, as usual, provided the cakes, Chris Oliver – whose wife Susan is recovering from a successful hip operation - Sebastian Payne and Brian Trotter. It was again a small gathering, but one which was enjoyed by all.

## Membership Matters

### We welcome the following new members:

1106 Dr. Ian Matheson -Kelvin, South Africa

### The following member has rejoined:

859 J.A.N. Lucas -Reedham, Norfolk

### We have received the following resignations:

929 A.L. Garfield -London  
 1048 J. Selby -Glenside, Australia

Member 1007, C. Touzell has moved to South Africa but left no forwarding address.

### Albums Closed:

We were very sorry to learn of the death of John Corbett of Bury St. Edmunds on 21st December 2005.

## Abel Trophy competition 2005

This competition was held in London this time at the September meeting. Eight entries were received and were all of a higher standard than is usual. Brian Trotter, our in-house National Judge , was not competing and therefore judged the competition, which was won by our Chairman, John Shaw. A belated congratulations to him. John’s entry was a study of the 5/- ox wagon definitive stamp. A worthy winner.

This year the competition will be held in Carlisle on the 16th September. Prepare those competition entries! Members not attending, may also make arrangements to have their entries taken by someone or posted to the secretary for forwarding.

**Chris Oliver**

## Report on the joint South African Collectors Society / Rhodesian Study Circle meeting

by

Malcolm Ridsdale

Meeting held at Kurt Steinart Levy offices in Manchester on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2005.

Attendees – 4 members SACS and 9 members RSC

Apologies – 8 members SACS and 3 members RSC

Meeting opened with a welcome from Godfrey Mellor (SACS) and Colin Hoffman (RSC). Godfrey thanked Colin for the use of his offices to hold the meeting.

The morning display / talk was given by Les James (RSC) on the history of the Union Castle Line.

Les displayed a wide range of philatelic material which took the audience through the life of the line from its roots to the final voyages.

As the Union Line did not start up their voyages to South Africa until 1857 Les initially displayed mail items from the first mail ships in 1851. He then used philatelic items from his collection to illustrate the Union Castle Line history.

The Union Line developed from the Union Collier Line that used 5 ships to bring coal to Southampton. These ships broadened their horizons by sailing into the Mediterranean when the Crimean War began.

The first journey to South Africa took 42 days using the Dane and there was not much freight or mail. Turn round in Cape Town was undertaken in a month and some 1100 mail items came back to England. This ship was not seen as good enough and a new ship, the Saxon, was built after the Union Line had their mail contract renewed. Voyages then took 37 days although 28 days was the record.

At this time competition materialised from Donald Currie who formed the Castle Line and initially his ships went on to Calcutta.

In 1869 the Suez Canal opened and 1870 diamonds found in South Africa followed by gold all of which shaped traffic patterns and postal demands using shipping.

By 1872 the Castle Line was operating from London and the Union Line from Southampton in opposition.

In 1876 the mail contract was awarded to both the Union and Castle Lines and journey times were down to 26 days.

The 1880's/90's saw rapid development in ship technology including the use of baskets to get passengers and mail into harbours which had shallow entrances. The Harland and Woolf built ships with shallow draughts that could cope with shallow water and alleviate the use of baskets.

In 1900 the Union and Castle Lines merged following their individual refusal to carry mail as this was the time of the Boer War and there was plenty of other business. This merger saw the emergence of the famous lavender hull and the Union Castle flag.

The Cape Province postal authorities had had their own facilities on board ship (Ocean Post Office) from 1893 to 1910. This post office used 6 different postmarks with the different ships identified by a letter on the postmark and sold Cape stamps. In 1910 the newly created Union took over the postal duties until 1914.

During WW1 6 ships ran regularly from Tilbury, not Southampton. The Llandovery Castle was used as a hospital ship and was sunk by a U boat resulting in one of the great disasters of the war, as survivors were machine-gunned.

Les showed cards from the ships of this period including the 60 booklet cards showing the variety of sports and activities undertaken on the ships. Two booklets were available and often the cricket card is missing. Les has never seen these cards used!!

1922 saw the creation of the round Africa service either via the Suez Canal or down the west coast. The enlarged Union Castle fleet had refrigerated ships and freighters

During 1925 the experimental airmail service was introduced along the route from Cape Town to East London, Port Elizabeth and Durban and return. This was undertaken in conjunction with Union Castle and Les showed first flight covers linking to the Armadale Castle sailing.

It took until 1929 before regular flights started. The Caenarvon Castle took mail from the first of the regular flights. In 1932 Union Castle took over all of the mail activity following the demise of Royal Mail Lines and Elder Dempster.

At the outbreak of WW2 the Admiralty took over the Union Castle ships and even disguised and modified them for their use including as aircraft carriers although they were not armour plated!!

Les covered the post WW2 period with numerous ship post cards showing last sailings or last callings at various ports.

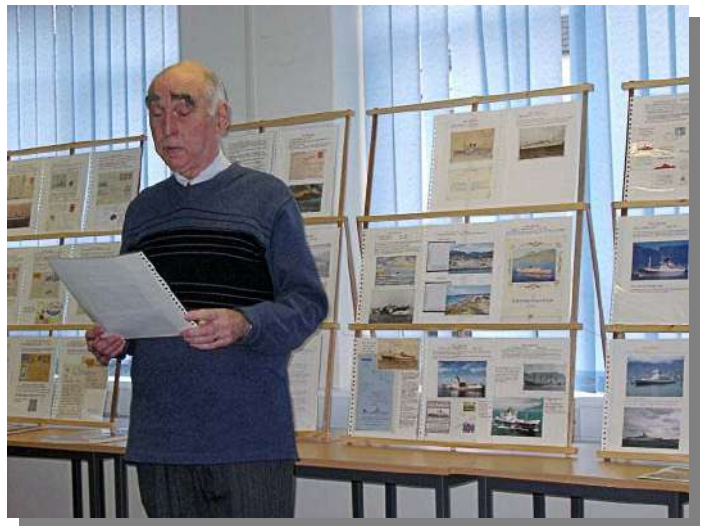
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During 1956 Union Castle joined up with Clan Line creating the British and Commonwealth Shipping Company. It was in this year that the Pendennis Castle set the fastest journey time on the Southampton to Cape run of 10.5 days.

In 1965 some Clan Line ships received castle names and the last castle built (Transvaal Castle) which became Safmarine's Vaal in 1976.

During the 1970's the end came for Union Castle. This was because of the high cost of oil, longer range of aircraft and container ships taking a huge share of the freight market. Les displayed a wide range of cards and covers of final voyages including the 1977 Windsor Castle last trips.

Following Les's highly informative and very enjoyable display, Keith Harrop proposed a vote of thanks.



Les with his informative display

In the afternoon the first display was by Ian Cubbin (RSC) covering the cheque stamps of British Central Africa including imperfs and setting 1 and 2.

Ian started his display by giving some background to the emergence of these cheque stamps which came about during 1897 when 1d stamps were running out and it was decided to overprint 3/- stamps with 1d as they did have embossing dies.

During 1898 these overprints became available in post offices. They were produced in two blocks of thirty stamps on A4 size paper. An article in a copy of the 1914 London Philatelist gave a lot of useful information on these stamps and singles, pairs, triplets and a block of four are known from these early overprints as well as an inverted centre copy.

As a security measure JTGosling signed the back of the stamps which eventually became JTG which appeared horizontally and at 45 degrees and then just the initials JG.

Ian displayed his work on plating to identify stamp positions in the blocks as well as a number of envelopes with stamps (some philatelic) and to JTGosling himself.

Eventually security measures involved control numbers and letters at random.

The setting 1 stamps only appear to have been used at Zomba and five other post offices. Ian has work in progress on sheet reconstruction at each post office. The bulk of the stamps went to Blantyre with the fewest at Kota Kota.

Ian displayed a complete sheet of setting 2 stamps as well as a variety of covers with singles and multiples including ten stamps on a cover!! Ian commented that genuine commercial covers are difficult to come by and he did have a couple of decorative covers with multiple single stamps applied in a circle.

Ian concluded his display by advising that printer's waste copies with missing centres are known (not displayed), approximately 30,000 stamps used for "postal" purposes.

The second display was by Eddie Bridges (SACS) Covering Union booklets.

Eddie displayed booklets starting with number 4 as the first three are rare and when number 2 booklet came up for auction recently it sold at three times Gibbons price.

The first booklets that were available from 1913 onwards were produced by De la Rue.

The 1921 booklets (No 4) included 1/2d, 1d (not tete beche) and 11/2d are relatively common. Also in 1921 came booklets with proposed increases in postal rates and covers have overprints to change rates. 21 different variations are known and advertising panes on booklets also produce many variations.

From 1926 onwards until the 1940's advertising income did not cover costs. This year also saw the first pictorial issues in booklets and Waterlow printed an initial contract of 500,000. After 50,000 booklets adverts put into the interleaves. Eddie showed examples of full panes from voucher copies that had been given to advertisers as sample copies.

Pretoria printings then took over with different coloured covers. Eddie showed specimen copies and further printings with cover colour changes. He also showed stamps from the booklets with a variety of watermarks including inverted and upright.

In 1930 booklet stamps were produced in rotogravure and further voucher copies were issued to advertisers. Economy strips of the remainders of the rotogravure stamps were sold over the post office counters.

continued on next page....

In 1931 postage rates were changed again with corresponding changes to the booklets and adverts. Eddie showed vignette offsets in the centre panes of the three in the booklets, 2d tete beche arrangement in the block of 12 and the dragon flag on the 1d ship.

1935 saw slogans around the stamps and adverts in the booklets. Then in 1937 the adverts were taken from stamp booklets but airmail stickers were added. The change of postage rates cancelled the existing information in the booklets. This year also saw the introduction of the vending machine razor blade booklets with various stitchings.

From 1938 the borderless booklets were issued and this continued up to 1948. Postage rate changes were done by hand stamp cancel. The tete beche pairs disappeared after booklet 14.

As a finale Eddie showed a complete reconstruction sheet of the 1/2d Springbok.

Les James then returned to complete showing his Union Castle material with a short display on final voyage menus from the castle liners.

Johnny Palazzo (SACS) entertained the members with a varied display of southern Africa material. It included the Kruger Park cinderellas from 1953 and a cover showing a machine cancel on "rhino" stamps celebrating 100 years of the Parks Board. He also showed Christmas lottery stamps from Southern Rhodesia from the 1950's and Rhodesia and colour trials of the same. Johnny displayed envelopes from the USA and the UK that showed refusal and postage due during the Rhodesian UDI period.

The final display was shown by Chris Moffat. He extended the earlier afternoon display of 1d overprints on BCA stamps moving from the imperforate to perforated cheque stamps.

The meeting closed just before 4.00pm with thanks being given by Colin Hoffman to all the providers of displays on behalf of the members present. All felt that a very interesting and enjoyable day had been spent.

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## **Remember the Cold War? - Namibia Day Stamps**

by David Haig

For years a small group of stamps has been lurking in the Odd Bods section of my South African Collection. There aren't enough of them to write up, they're not even issued by South Africa or Namibia but something's always stopped me disposing of them.

The reason is that the stamps are all about Namibia before it's independence when South Africa continued to govern the country under a League of Nations Mandate dating from the 1920's. Namibia had started off as the German colony of Deutsche Sud West Afrika. Invaded and occupied by South Africa during the First World War, South Africa had been granted a mandate by the League of Nations after the war to administer the territory. Quite honestly I think most people forgot about it's existence even South Africa. Prior to the 1960's I think if South Africa had applied to the newly founded UN to end the Mandate incorporate South West Africa into South Africa as the 5<sup>th</sup> province, the request almost certainly would have been granted.

The Cold War changed everything. European colonial powers were granting their colonies in the 3<sup>rd</sup> world independence and there was a nasty dirty struggle in the shadows for total world dominance between the Warsaw Pact on one side and NATO, the USA and various other pro-western countries including South Africa on the other. Anyone who thinks that the Third World War never happened is severely mistaken, during that period Africa, Asia and South America became a bloodbath. Africa was a key battleground. The Suez Canal was frequently closed due to conflict between Israel and it's neighbours. In the meantime all the West's oil had to go round the Cape of Good Hope. If the Warsaw Pact could stop the west obtaining oil from African countries and seize control of the Cape Sea Route it would have been game over Russia wins. There was the additional fact that for certain key strategic minerals South Africa held the only significant deposits outside the Communist Block.

These stamps are a product of those not too distant times when the Cold War was in full swing and both sides even tried to use the United Nations for their own ends. An opinion I've heard more than once that the USSR dominated the UN after 1960 which partly explains the current day dislike of the UN by American administrations. The argument ran that South Africa was using the excuse of a mandate from a now defunct body to possess what in effect was an illegal colony. In addition they had the additional stick that South Africa had Apartheid and therefore definitely shouldn't be occupying Namibia. Many western governments supported the anti-apartheid & free Namibia campaigns in the UN and the USSR must have smiled at the sight of the west colluding in its own destruction. This doesn't mean that Apartheid was right because it wasn't and the South African government refused to accept that their policy was handing the enemy a major advantage and stubbornly maintained the Apartheid with increasingly draconian measures.

continued on next page...



As an aside I notice that there are stamps issued by various countries and the UN against Apartheid, Israel, the United States etc but not a single stamp against the Communist Chinese slaughtering 20 million people during the Cultural Revolution or Pol Pot and his Merry Men in the killing fields of Cambodia, but that was the nature of Cold War politics.

The second group of stamps are from Zambia which as a "Frontline State" in the parlance of the times was deeply involved in events throughout Southern Africa. Zambia gave sanctuary to the ZANU & ZAPU groups fighting Rhodesia, the ANC & PAC from South Africa and directly related to these stamps, SWAPO from Namibia. As a footnote to the tale, the 2<sup>nd</sup> last set of stamps issued under the name South West Africa highlight the fact that United Nations Resolution 435 was being put into effect to terminate South Africa's mandate, and hold elections prior to the country gaining full independence which it did on 21 March 1990 as the Republic of Namibia.



If anyone else knows of any other stamps and information I would be pleased to hear from you. I'm sure that there must be a lot more material out there relating to this subject.

Authors Note: All views and opinions expressed in this article are entirely those of the author and should not in any way be seen as the official position of the South African Collectors Society.

Sources:  
 SACC 2004/05  
 South African War Machine by Helmoed Beitmann  
 South Africa's Border War by Willem Steenkamp  
 The Cold War BBC Books

**BRITISH EMPIRE SPECIALISTS**  
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 Sets, Single items, Postmarks, Varieties, Revenues,  
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 E:mail davidloffstadt@yahoo.co.uk

**Do you have an e-mail address?**

If so please send an e-mail to the editors address  
 to enable us to communicate with you quicker and  
 more efficiently. We would like to update our data  
 base of e-mail addresses.

Send e-mail to:

**eddie.bridges@krohne.co.uk**

## 1½d “Gold Mne” stamp with missing shading on the mine dump

by Fred Clark

This variety appeared on stamps of Issue 1 which were printed on sheets with inverted watermark only. These stamps were put on sale at the Post Office at JIPEX on 12th November 1936, where a number of sheets were found to have a few stamps with the above variety and some other stamps with the mine dump shading almost missing. Articles giving information on these stamps have appeared in the South African Philatelist of October 1944 and *The Springbok* Jan/Feb 1958 and the inference is that all the sheets concerned had the inverted watermark.

Extract from Mr. Bowen’s report in the S.A.P. Vol. 20 October 1944 page 110.

“The 1½d stamps were issued without warning on 12/11/1936. It was known the day before that stocks had been distributed to various P.O.’s but even then the local officials did not know definitely when the stamps were to be released for sale.

Sheets were supplied to J.I.P.E.X.– then in full swing– and the stamps were put on sale there on 12/11/1936. According to S.A.P. Vol. 12 1936 page 181, on a number of sheets seen at J.I.P.E.X. on that date, many of the stamps had the shading on the mine dump almost or entirely missing, but this has not been noted on sheets seen since then.

So far as I am aware this statement still holds good, at any rate I have not heard of or seen references to sheets with this variety having been encountered other than at J.I.P.E.X.

Mr. Redford who, along with a postal official, was in charge of the J.I.P.E.X. P.O. informs me that only a few sheets supplied there shows this variety....his impression is that probably not more than 25 sheets were affected.”

Mr. Bowen kept one sheet and in a diagram submitted with the article, he shows that the shading was completely missing on 12 stamps. Positions are as follows: (first stamp on the sheet was inscribed in English)

Row 3/2 A	Row 4/4 E	Row 5/2 A
Row 9/2 A	Row 9/4 A	Row 10/4 E
Row 11/4 A	Row 12/3 A	Row 12/4 E
Row 13/3 E	Row 13/4 A	Row 14/3 A

Thus it will appear that there were 8 Afrikaans and 4 English inscribed stamps per sheet without shading. Not therefore a common item especially on an English inscribed stamp. Mr. Bowen also analysed the rest of his sheet as to partial or lack of depth in the shading.

The anonymous article (by “Skipper”) in *The Springbok* Vol. 6 Jan/Feb 1958 page 12 gives a diagram of a complete sheet of 120 stamps confirming Mr. Bowen’s findings.

**However the following pair of stamps postmarked Cape Town 30th April 1938 with Upright Watermark also has the mine dump shading missing from the English inscribed stamp.**



The metallic gold and slate green printing with Upright watermark, Issue 1 was made in 1938 when the same printing cylinders 6933 interior and 62 exterior screened were used again. The only conclusion is that in this later printing there was a recurrence of the fault. This variety is not known on stamps of issues 2 and 3 of 1940.

## 4th Republican Definitive Series (Buildings)-Some varieties

by Roy Ross

Roy has embarked on compiling a list of all the varieties on this series. *As I know of no detailed publication, this will be very welcome. Ed.*

Roy has asked that all members check their stamps of this series and report any significant errors that they may have and are not listed in the SACC



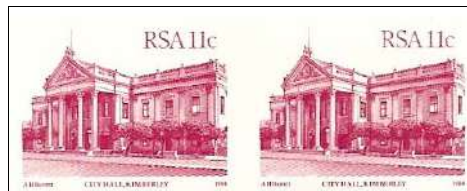
SACC 524cv missing "1" in 1982



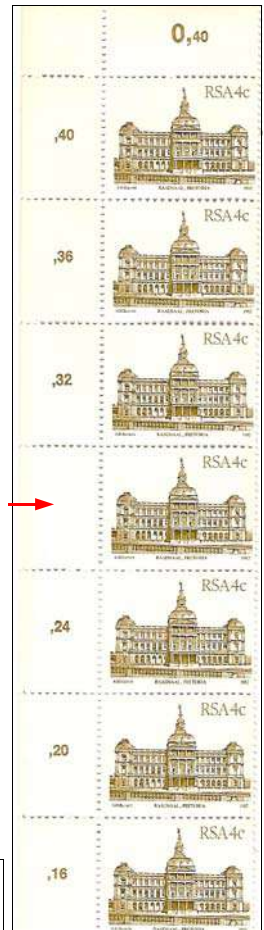
SACC 527cv 25c instead of ,25



SACC 515b imperforate pair



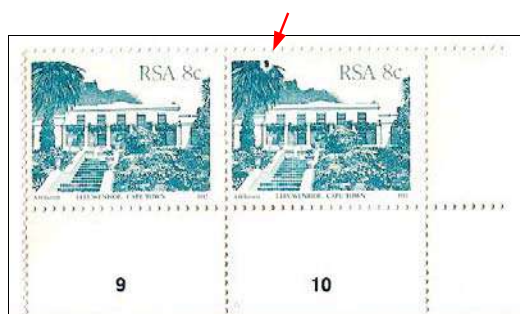
SACC 562a imperforate pair



Left marginal strip with missing "28" in margin. Found on B pane. unlisted



Marginal block of 4. Missing vertical perfs. unlisted



Fruit bearing-unlisted



SACC 528aa Shaved top of 30

## RSA –Roll stamps. Too large for the vending machines!

by Giovanni Palazzo

Although the majority of the articles published in our magazine feature the Union of South Africa, unfortunately not too often are we able to read something about the Republican postage stamp issues. This is due clearly to the lack of support from us the members. Knowing that many members collect RSA I found the Editor's request in the last issue justified, hence this article.

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of July 1982, the 4<sup>th</sup> Definitive series, known as the "South African Architecture" or more widely the "Building Series" was issued. Four additional values of stamps were printed for the vending machines. These coil stamps once made in rolls in 500, were sealed with a protective white paper wrapper. These unwatermarked wrappers have been found in different lengths that are between 20 to 28 cm. and about 3 cm. wide. The paper used for the wrappers, which is of very poor quality, when viewed under the UV lamp, is white luminescent but some of them do not have any reaction because normal paper is utilized. All the wrappers so far seen were printed in three lines in black and only in Afrikaans and although no English version has been recorded yet, in all probability were printed. The printing reads "500 SEËLS TEEN...c ELK/WAARDE R.../STAATSDRUKKER. As you can see from the illustrations (Fig. 1), the face value and the total value of the roll was left blank so the wrapper could be used for any value and therefore it was manually endorsed. An additional rubber stamp "R.S.A." was struck in red colour. These general wrappers were initially used but in later printings the face value and the total value were printed (Fig. 2). It is interesting to note that the latter has a manual endorsement reading "TOO LARGE FOR VENDING MACHINE". The entire roll of the 5c value, was split and sold over the counter in late 1982 at the Central Post Office in Durban. It would be interesting to find a used copy of these "TOO LARGE" coil stamps. (*Giovanni does not mention details of the width of the stamp that was too wide and how this came about. Perhaps one of our friends in the RSA Stamp Study Group could enlighten us? Ed.*)

More variations to the coil wrappers used for this issue were printed over the years. A third type now shows all the details printed in black without the RSA handstamp in red. (Fig.3).

Even if we are writing about modern issues you are still able to look at a different aspect that is often ignored by collectors.

Finally as these coil stamps were usually slotted into the vending machines, the majority of the wrappers were torn and discarded by officials and therefore they are difficult to find. Hoping that some kind of interest has been created. Happy hunting!



Fig 1.

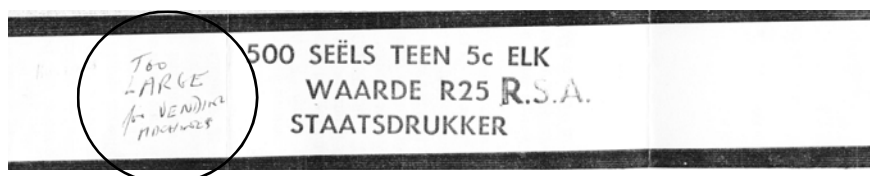


Fig 2 with manuscript, "Too large for vending machine"

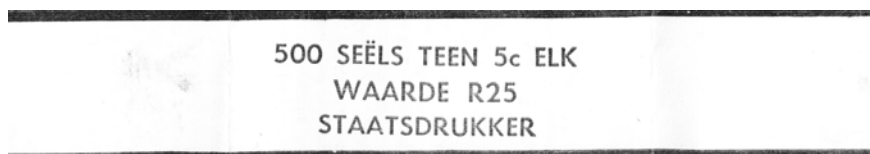


Fig 3.

## Cape Town Pageant 1910 by Ray Glanville Jones

*Ray sent in this short item on the Pageant as background information on the Triangular labels issued by the organising committee to raise funds for the pageant. This was as a result of a query that Fred Clark sent in last year. Ed.*

The Pageant of South Africa was staged in association with the National Celebration of the Opening of the Union-Parliament. The Patron was His Excellency the Rt. Hon Viscount Gladstone, Governor General and the Pageant Master was Frank Lascelles from Great Britain.

On 17 Nov 1910, the Committee passed a resolution :-

“That the thanks of the General Committee in respect of the National Celebration of the Opening of the Union Parliament of South Africa, be conveyed to Mr Frank Lascelles, Master of the Pageant for his services in connection with the Pageant of South Africa”

There were many letters of congratulations to Frank Lascelles after the event , which he kept, and this correspondence was returned to Cape Town by his heirs many years later. These are now in the City Archives.

The Pageant took place three times between 29 Oct – 5 Nov [ excluding Sunday ] on a green area on the water front at Table Bay. There were eight scenes in Part I and eight scenes , plus the Grand Finale, in Part II as detailed in the Appendix. Full rehearsals were held from 4 Oct – 8 Oct.

The Argus Union Pageant Souvenir and Christmas Number 1910 showed photographs of many displays and the Grand Finale. It is difficult to estimate the total number of performers but several hundred are visible in the Finale.

Triumphal Arches for each of the four Provinces were built in the City during the festival and pictures of these were included in the Argus brochure.

### PART I

Scene	1	Arrival of Diaz.
	2	Court of Portugal
	3	Departure of Vasco de Gama
	4	Landing van Riebeeck
	5	Building of Castle moat
	6	Van der Stel
	7	Lady Anne Barnard's Party
	8	Capitulation

### PART II

Scene	1	Court of Holland
	2	1820 Settlers
	3	Suppression of Press
	4	Presentation of Bible
	5	Laager Defence
	6	Dick King's Ride

Photo of Frank Lascelles  
Taken from an old programme  
in the Editors collection.



MR. FRANK LASCELLES,  
Master of the Pageant.



## For the Book Shelf



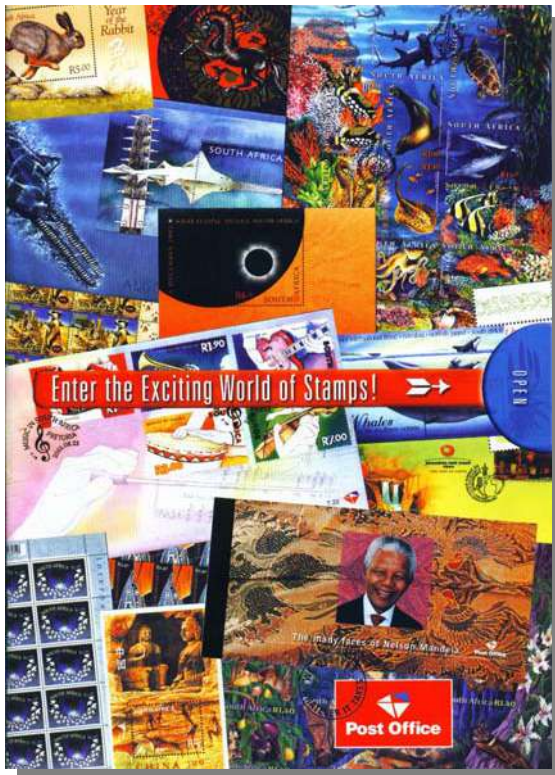
### South African Post Office Publication

The secretary of The South African Stamp Study Circle forwarded this booklet to me. It has been issued by Philatelic Services and shows stamps still for sale by them. Some of them dating back as far as 1998!

I wonder what the dealers make of this.

It illustrates all the issues in colour and is quite a nice publication. It was sent to all deposit account holders but is available if you request one from Philatelic Services.

I have one spare copy available for anyone interested.



### Postmark Books by Putzel

A note seen in the Postmark Society Newsletter might be of interest to members: Information reproduced here with due acknowledgement.

#### Alex Visser writes:

The 10 volume Putzel "Postmarks of South Africa and former Colonies" has been completed. Missing copies from your set are still available. I have taken over the distribution of all the Putzel books, including the four-volume "Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices".

I am also preparing an electronic addendum showing corrections and additions in the same style as the original postmark books, and these are supplemental to the books and not stand alone. This addendum is distributed by e-mail and files are in pdf format (max size of 5Mb). Electronic addenda up to the end of letter E are available, and comprise about 170 X A4 printed pages. These distributions are free for owners of the postmark books, and if you wish to receive the addendum, please e-mail me: [alex.visser@up.ac.za](mailto:alex.visser@up.ac.za) or phone +27 (012) 803 1881 after hours.

### Society Binding facilities

The South African Collectors Society is now the owner of a Thermal based binding machine. This is a high quality machine which is capable of binding documents in various formats. This will be particularly useful for future publications the Society might want to undertake. Most of the publications we undertake are of limited interest outside our field of collecting, which makes print runs small. This in turn pushes the price up and the cost of covers and binding. The machine we have is capable of half perfect binding, full perfect binding in soft cover or paper back as well as hard-cover binding.

With the paperback versions of perfect binding we can print the covers ourselves, whereas with Hard covers we need to go externally to have the covers printed.

We can also do "office" type binding where we can bind the printed document between two covers with a cloth strip along the spine of the document.

We can therefore offer our members the following:

Binding of runs of magazines, articles etc. with a soft cover printed on the front for approx. £4.00 each.

Please contact the editor for details if you are interested in utilising this asset. The costs are basically just to cover the cost of the covers and the spine strip. A few pence is for the printing and design of the cover which will go towards offsetting the cost of the machine. The machine belongs to the Society. You may make use of it!

**Eddie Bridges**

If you know of any publications that may be useful for the Collectors of South African Philately, please let the Editor know. We will endeavour to obtain a copy and review it.

## Book Review

*The following was sent by Peter Thy, the Editor of Forerunners our sister journal in the US. He laments the little publicity this book has received and asked that journal editors publish this in the hope that more awareness of this mammoth tome will be generated. Ed.*

### **Franco Frescura: The Post Offices of the Cape of Good Hope, 1792-1910.**

**Archetype Press, South Africa**

Franco Frescura's long awaited two-volume, 885 page opus on the Cape Colony was finally published in November 2002, after 25 years of research. Its progress has been marked by a number of notable landmark discoveries, including the documentation of the programme of experimental dating and obliterating cancellers run by the Cape Post Office from 1882 to 1891, the introduction of large single circle relief cancellers, and the recording of over 100 hitherto unknown BONCs. Most of these findings were published for the first time in the "*Post Office Stone*", which Frescura and fellow-researcher, Michael Nethersole, edited for about three years. Indeed the term "*BONC*", which has now become ubiquitous in world philately, is an onomatopoeic acronym invented by Frescura and Nethersole to describe the Cape's barred oval numeral cancellers. It also brought to light a number of hitherto unrecorded post offices, including Advance Post, in Basutoland, which Aubrey Scott mentioned in passing, but which he subsequently ignored for lack of additional evidence. In the process the work has garnered a number of local society awards, a gold medal at ALGOAPEX 2002, a Large Vermeil (with felicitations) at PACIFIC EXPLORER 2005, as well as a R25,000 research award from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, where Frescura is currently Professor of Architecture.

At first glance the book is a gazetteer of post offices opened in the Cape Colony prior to 1910, and brings together information from a wide range of colonial sources, including the Post Office, the Telegraph Department, the Public Works Department, the Cape Railways, the Office of the Census, and a wide assortment of social, historical and philatelic sources. In doing so it provides, wherever available, a history of each village or town including the dates of the opening and closing of its post office, the names of its postmasters, its divisional location, the dates of its linkage into the railway and telegraphic network, a brief history of its establishment as a community, and any other details of a historical nature which may have impacted upon its postal affairs, such as floods, local literacy rates, military occupations, riots and relocations. Postal historians who wish to focus on a particular region of the Cape will find each division documented with a short history, a generalised map of postal routes, census and literacy figures, a list of postal routes and, most relevantly, a list of all the post offices falling within its geographical boundaries. Although the minutiae of colonial boundary changes are beyond the scope of the work, the changing face of the colonial administrative landscape is well documented, and the inclusion of additional entries for British Bechuanaland, British Kaffraria, the Transkeian Territories, Pondoland, the Orange River Sovereignty, and the northern Cape republics makes for an easier understanding of colonial geography.

In addition, the book brings together, in separate sections, data on the Ocean Post Office, the Military Post Office, the Railways' Travelling Post Offices, and the lesser-known network of Convict Stations.

Interestingly, there are two reasons why Frescura's book is likely to have a much wider import outside the confines of postal history: his documentation of human settlement in the Cape through the use of postal data is leading to the reassessment and a revision of the hitherto widely accepted assumption that much of this was the result of Church activity; and the discovery that many of the postal services known as "*Field-Corner's Posts*" were an integral part of the Cape's convict labour system. Although the jury is still out on this one, historical archaeologists are beginning to use this book as the starting point of further archival and field research.

This then, is where the book ceases to be a mere gazetteer, and becomes a reference source in its own right, using its data to create internal debates and arrive at sustainable conclusions. Frescura's method of documenting the postal cancellers known to have been used at each post office, with their earliest and latest dates of usage, has given rise to some notable questions, such as, what went on in Walfish Bay after a fire burnt down the armoury and the adjoining post office on 23 June 1909? Covers bearing a Walfish Bay manuscript cancellation from that time bring in good prices at auction, but some have been recorded from as early as 20 June, three days before the fire. Clearly some rewriting of collections will now seem to be in order! Frescura also uses the appointment of postal officials to trace out the tortuous history of such places as Plumstead and Wynberg, Assegai Bosch, Assegai Bush and Two Streams, and Calitzdorp, to name but a few. Historians should derive great enjoyment from the local debates which these conclusions will no doubt give rise to.

continued on next page...

#### **Book review continued...**

The author has also used an open-ended approach to his work, in the belief that no information, especially postal information, is definitive, and has thus opened the way for each student of the Cape's postal history to personalise the work and make it his or her own. Because it is unlikely that a work of this nature can ever be republished or updated, each copy has then the potential of becoming a definitive work in its own right. Researchers will also find that the volumes include a sound typology, (without doubt the work of fellow-researcher Michael Nethersole), a good selection of reproducible maps, and a number of the author's fine line drawings of Cape post offices. The first chapter is also worth a good read, if, for no other reason, than that it answers many of the potential debates before they are even begun.

I realise that the price of this book may be an obstacle to its wider circulation (R1400) but when you realise that, pro rata, a mass-produced art-book will cost an equivalent amount, then this falls into a better perspective. If you can afford it, make sure that you get it. Besides, the specialised knowledge it carries will make it possible for the serious collector of Cape postal history to recover its cost at auction many times over. This opus will stand as the definitive reference in its field for many years to come.

The book is available from The Archetype Press, P.O. Box 1952, Westville, 3630 South Africa or from the author at [galefra@mweb.co.za](mailto:galefra@mweb.co.za). The price is R1400 plus mailing. To the US this will amount to \$232 plus about \$20 surface mailing.

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[www.kronestamps.dk](http://www.kronestamps.dk)

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### **Reminder**

#### **Southern African Societies Convention-Leamington Spa 3-5th November 2005**

If you have not already done so, please note this in your diary. It is a well worthwhile event to attend. The displays are usually superb and the friendly atmosphere second to none.

Please let me know if you are intending to go so we can reserve a hotel room for you. We have block booked a number of rooms in the meantime.

The programme will be distributed in due course.

#### **Auction**

I will not be the auctioneer this year, due to work commitments, but Tony Howgrave-Graham has stepped in to fill this role. He has also appealed to members to dig out that unwanted and duplicate material and let him know what you have. Remember from experience it is the better material, realistically priced that sells. Common bulk material rarely finds a buyer.

Tony can be contacted on 01725 510067 or on e-mail at [ajbmhg@btinternet.com](mailto:ajbmhg@btinternet.com)

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## In the Philatelic Press

### RSA Stamp Study Group Newsletter

Editor Jan de Jong: Correspondence to P.O. Box 72222, Lynwood Ridge 0040, South Africa

Newsletter 242 Jan 2006

Article on the Republican aerogrammes of 1987 (Protea) and the different printings. by David Sinclair

Newsletter 244 Mar. 2006

Check list of all the Inland aerogrammes issued from 1948 to 1993 when these were discontinued.

### The South African Stamp Study Circle Newsletter

Editor/Secretary Keith Perrow: Correspondence to P.O. Box 1795, Bramley, 2018, South Africa

Newsletter 512 Jan 2006.

Interesting notes on the London and Pretoria Printed 1d Ships. by Dennis Wolmarans.

Newsletter 513 Feb 2006

Interesting article on the use of Pigeongrams during the Boer War  
Some cryptic notes on the 1925 Air Mail stamp forgeries. A repeat of what was published before. (***The Springbok will contain a detailed listing of these in issue 2 2006***)

### South West Africa Stamp Study Group Newsletter

Editor Uli Bantz: Correspondence to P.O. Box 6913 Westgate, 1734 South Africa.

Newsletter 324 Mar 2006

Some interesting snippets on censor markings and POW's in WW1 in SWA.

**Bartolomeu Dias** the journal of the FVZA the Dutch Southern African Society. Editor. W.J. Quik  
Correspondence to Postbus 26, 2920AA Krimpen a/d IJssel, The Netherlands.

Interesting article on the Booklets of the Union of South Africa.  
The London printed 2d Postage Dues of Dec 1914.

**The South African Philatelist** The journal of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa  
Editor Dr. Alan Rose Correspondence to P.O. Box 131600, Benoryn, 1504 South Africa.

A letter to Jan van Riebeeck by Danie Scheepers  
Stamps for surcharged letters by Clinton Goslin  
(interesting article on an unknown subject in modern RSA issues)

**SETEMPE** The South African Post Office Magazine.  
Editor Suzie Khumalo Correspondence to Private Bag X505 Pretoria, 0001 South Africa.

A nice article on the newly designed Big Five Booklet issued in February. Nice colour illustrations with technical details.

### RSA Stamp Issuing Programme for 2006

Stamp Issue	Issue date
Chinese Lunar Year of the Dog	27 January
Rock Art	17 February
Cycling	6 March
Medical Outreach	2 May
Bhambatha Rebellion	9 June
Red Cross Children's Hospital	15 June
Animal Tracks-Stories in the sand	1 July
FIFA Soccer World Cup	7 July
Women's March to Union Buildings	9 August
Clivia Flowers	1 September
Rise of Modern Man	24 September
Christmas 2006	2 October
Promote Stamp Collecting as a Hobby - World Post Day 2006	9 October

### South African Patriotic and Propaganda Labels of WWII

by Chris Miller

Together with this issue of The Springbok you will receive a copy in colour of the labels known to Chris to date. If any member can add to this list, please let the editor know. We would like a good colour scan or alternatively a good colour photocopy. If you are unable to do this you may forward the items to the Editor by mail where it will be scanned and returned. We are looking at putting a small publication together on these. Your help will be appreciated.

Editors address on the inside front cover.  
Chris Miller's address is on the last page of the booklet.

We look forward to your responses.

# Union of South Africa: The Pictorial Definitives of 1926-54

## How to distinguish the Major Printings

Eddie Bridges

### Part 3

#### The 3d “Groote Schuur”

There were 7 Basic issues of the 3d value. In the recess printings of Bradbury Wilkinson there was also a different perforation on the basic stamp. These can be divided into three basic groupings, Recess printings, Unhyphenated printings and the hyphenated printings. These are summarised at the end of this section.

#### Recess Printings



Recess printing by Bradbury Wilkinson-London in 1927. These were also issued with 2 different perforation groups. Colours were in a crisp red and black.



Detail of the Recess printing

#### Unhyphenated Rotogravure Printings



Unhyphenated Rotogravure printing generally does not have the colours as deep as that of the previous issue. The detail of the frame is also slightly different.



Detail of the Unhyphenated Rotogravure printing  
The trees are a little further from the top frame compared to the recess printings.

## Unhyphenated Rotogravure cont...



A second printing was made from the same plates as used for the Red and Black printing. The colours were now changed to Blue and Blue. A well known variety in these two printings was the window or shuttered window flaw.

An additional printing in Blue and Blue was made from new cylinders where these flaws no longer appear.

## Hyphenated Rotogravure Printings



There were three printings of the hyphenated issues. The colours were generally duller than the unhyphenated issues. The word Suid-Afrika is now hyphenated and not one word as before. The trees now also touch the top frame.

## Summary of the 3d issues

	UHB#	Issue	Plates/cylinder numbers	Date
Recess Printings Perf 14 (black and red)	25	1	(1) and (1x)	1927
Recess Printings Perf 14x13½ (black and red)	25A	1	(1) and (1x)	1927
Unhyphenated Rotogravure (black and red)	39	1	(1) and 15	1931
Unhyphenated Rotogravure (blue and blue)	39A	1	(1) and 15	1933
Unhyphenated Rotogravure (blue and blue)	39B	2	6914 and 15	1937
Hyphenated Rotogravure (blue and blue)	48	3	55 and 30	1940
Hyphenated Rotogravure (blue and blue)	48A	4	44A and 44B	1949
Hyphenated Rotogravure (blue)	48B	5	17 single	1951

To be continued.....

## The Anti-Apartheid Stamps of East Germany

By: David Haig

Back in the days of the Cold War when Ronnie and Maggie were facing down the Gorby and the Red Peril a country that doesn't exist anymore issued stamps against a national institution which doesn't exist anymore in another country.

Throughout its short history the Deutsche Demokratische Republik better known to most people as either the DDR or East Germany issued political propaganda stamps to show solidarity with various socialist causes & groups around the world. These took the form of an annual Solidarity issue, these being a single stamp with a surcharge.

I don't know what happened with the surcharge money, whether the East German Government simply kept the cash, corrupt Apparatchiks siphoned it off or if it actually did go to Anti-Apartheid groups. What is absolutely certain is that during the Cold War vast sums of money found its way from the Warsaw Pact countries into the hands of revolutionary groups and terrorists.

In some years there was no topic and a plain stamp was issued normally depicting communist symbols such as the star or a clenched fist. In other years the Solidarity stamp was issued on behalf of a particular group or subject. During the 1960's and early 1970's "Undefeated Vietnam" was a frequent subject. Other solidarity issues have been in support of the Cubans, the Palestinians and Nicaragua.

From the late 1970's through to the end of the DDR the most common topic was Anti-Racism and Anti-Apartheid. As you can see from the illustrations these stamps depict Black Africans behind barbed wire or as glorious revolutionary workers heroically throwing off their bonds in true socialist fashion. Arise ye Workers from your Slumbers, Arise ye Prisoners of Want, for Freedom in Revolt now Thunders!

True it is an unusual topic and there isn't a lot of scope for expansion because not many stamps were issued. Only the socialist countries issued stamps like this, some others I've seen but don't own came from Mozambique and the USSR and no doubt there are others. Even though the stamps are issued by a foreign country as they are about South Africa I think it's perfectly OK to include them in a South African collection.

They are very much a product of their time, a world that quite literally no longer exists even though it was only 20 years ago. If anyone else has similar stamps or knows of others, I would really like to hear from you.

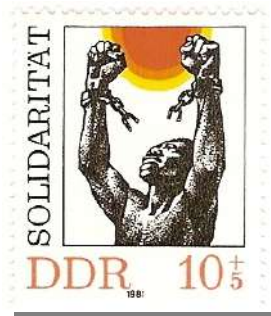
Sources:

Michel Deutschland Katalog 2004/05

Google - Pete Seeger - The Internationale.



Anti racism issues



Anti Apartheid issues

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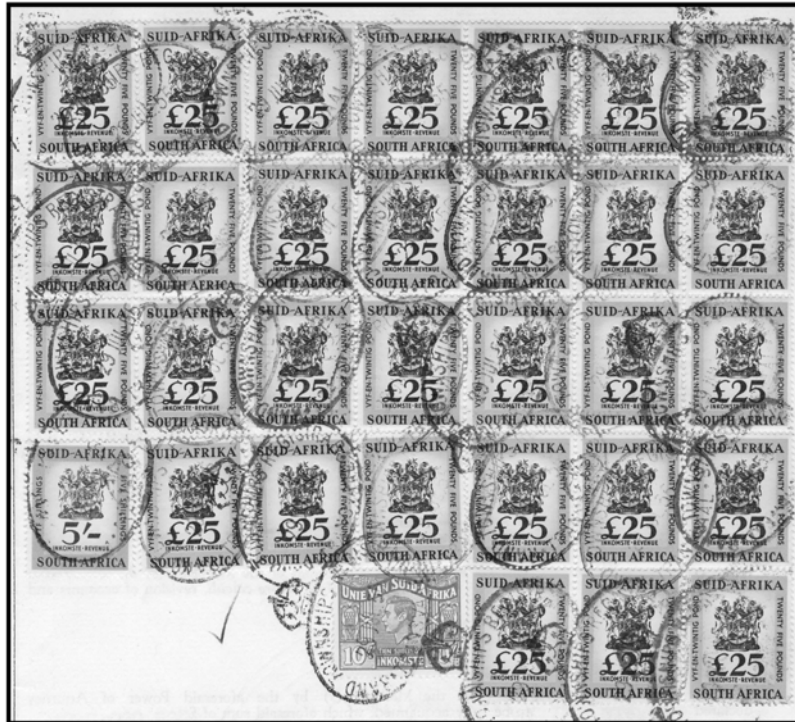


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