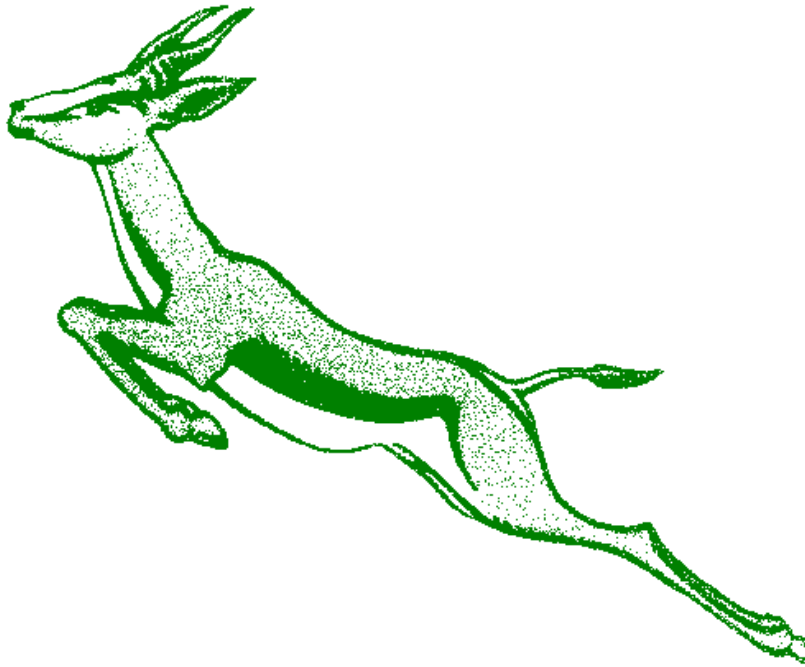


THE SPRINGBOK



SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY

QUARTERLY

Vol. 54

No. 4

Oct/Dec 2006

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The Springbok

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Contents

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 2007

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

24th Feb.	SACS London meeting	Subject: World War Mail (not stamps)
24th Mar.	SACS Carlisle meeting	Subject: Open Meeting
12th May	SACS Cambridge meeting	Subject: Open Meeting
26th May.	SACS London meeting	Subject: Early Union Postcards
15th Sep.	SACS Carlisle meeting	Subject: Gold Mining
29th Sep.	SACS London meeting	Subject: More Union Officials & Abel Trophy Competition
1st Dec.	SACS London meeting	Other Philatelic collecting interests

9-11th Nov. Southern African Societies Convention Falstaff Hotel Leamington Spa

Other Events for 2007

19-20th Jan.	York Stamp and Coin Fair
28th Feb-4th Mar.	Spring Stampex, Islington, London.
1-3rd Mar.	Spring Philatex, Royal Horticultural Halls, Vincent Sq. London
9th June	Swinpex in Swindon
30th June	Midpex in Coventry
19-23rd Sep.	Autumn Stampex, Islington, London
26-28th Oct.	Dundee Philatelic Conference
1-3rd Nov.	Autumn Philatex, Royal Horticultural Halls, Vincent Sq. London.
24-26th Nov.	A.B.P.S. Congress and Show, Croydon

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

From the Editors Desk



This is the last issue of the year which has had many highlights. As your editor, I can only keep the quality of the journal at the levels we have now achieved, if you the members continue supporting me as wonderfully as you have done for these last 3 years. Yes, this is the end of the third volume I have completed! How time flies.

In some ways it has also been a tough year for me as business commitments took me out of the country for y more weeks than I anticipated and the result was an issue of **The Springbok** not always arriving when you were expecting it. I need the membership to continue sending articles, whatever the length, for inclusion.

We experimented with a few inserts this year and I must say that the feedback I got was very pleasing. These were done at relatively low cost. If you have a small monograph that you would like to do, but felt that it was too long for an article, send it in. If we cannot accommodate it in the pages of The Springbok, then we will try and publish it as a supplement to **The Springbok**.

This past year I did not finish some of the publications I have been working on due to time constraints, but hope to complete at least one next year. This will help raise some funds for the Society as well.

As mentioned before, we will be staging a small exhibition to celebrate the Centenary of the Establishment of the Union of South Africa in 2010. This will need a lot of funding for Frames, transport and so on. We will also attempt to do a special issue of the Springbok again and hopefully print a special show catalogue as well as try and do a publication on some aspect of the Union.

All that remains for this year is to wish you and your families a happy Christmas and a wonderful new year.

Eddie Bridges



A record of the A.G.M. of the South African Collectors' Society held at The Falstaff Hotel, Leamington Spa at 17.00hrs on Saturday 4th November 2006.

Seventeen members were present.

The Chairman, John Shaw, welcomed all.

1. Apologies were given for our Treasurer D. Osborn, M. Maltby, W Branney, M. Whitlock, I. Shapiro, A. Cooke, and for Paul van Zeyl and Otto Peetoom who were engaged elsewhere.

2. The Report of the last A.G.M.

This had been held at 17.00hrs on 5th November 2005 at The Falstaff Hotel Leamington Spa. It was agreed that the report was a true record of the matters discussed at that time. Proposed by Fred Clark, seconded by Brian Trotter & agreed by all.

3. Matters arising from that meeting which are not covered by the agenda.

No matters arising.

4. The Hon. Chairman's report.

Last year was saddened by the deaths of two of our long-serving members, John Corbett, whose true modesty when showing his lovely material made him one of the gentlemen of philately, and Jack Hagger, just short of his 102nd birthday. Jack was without doubt the doyen of Union philately and his work on the Union handbook, and on the Union officials will be the definitive references for these subjects until long after most of us are also gone; Jack's knowledge was without peer, and even his irascible comments will be sorely missed. John Corbett's collection was recently sold by Harmers and both our secretary and myself have advised on the disposal of this and other collections in order to maximise the returns to the beneficiaries when, because of time and labour constraints, so many estate collections are simply "boxed up" by the auctioneers with scant attention paid to their real value.

On the home front, attendances at the Carlisle meetings continue to be good and there has been some increase in the attendance at the London meetings, albeit this is still only a handful and it is a shame that members in the London area are missing so many wonderful displays; the last display of officials by Tony Howgrave-Graham, I feel, even better than that given by the late Jim Nunnely, way back in the days when we used to meet at the Liberal Club near Charing Cross. Our present London venue is our seventh different London meeting place during my time with the society but I hope that is more a feature of the problems of obtaining decent premises than of my longevity. In arranging the Swedish Church hall for our London meetings Chris Oliver, with Susan's help, has done the society a great service. Thank you both.

On the public relations side, the new-look Springbok has been very well received and has, I feel, also resulted in a better standard of article for the journal. My thanks, therefore must go to Eddie Bridges for this, but we must not forget Max Whitlock's contribution in distributing the Springbok.. Eddie, Brian Trotter and Tony Howgrave-Graham have also carried out splendid work in connection with this event here at Leamington. I must thank all the committee members and other helpers for their work during the year but finally, on this side, I must pay tribute to Godfrey Mellor for his sterling work as convenor of the Carlisle meetings, usually aided by a willing bunch there, with Bill Branney usually to the fore.

Finally, I wish to say a few words about our Wicks award for literature. John Wicks was a dealer in South Africa and, although I did not know him, the late Bob Lawrence, my mentor, always spoke well of him and how he encouraged the true students and researchers, especially Bob and Jack Hagger. The adjudication panel for this award, which is for articles on Union matters, is the society chairman, myself, Hon. secretary, Chris Oliver, and the editor of the Springbok, Eddie Bridges, but the award is only made if there are sufficient articles of quality, published in any journal, not just the Springbok; so it is not always made. We did feel that last year there were sufficient good articles to merit the award and there were three serious contenders for the award – and I shall now announce the result. The award for 2005 is given, on a majority decision, to Eddie Bridges, not in his role as editor of the Springbok, but for his erudite and thought provoking articles in that magazine in 2005. Congratulations to Eddie.

5. The Hon. Secretary & Membership Secretary's report.

Three meetings were held in London and two in Carlisle. There were no provincial meetings held this year but it is hoped to rectify this in 2007. A meeting has been organised, in Cambridge, on 12th May. We have a table and a small display at the A.B.P.S. show in Torquay on 24th & 25th of this month and at Midpex on 30th June 2007, where we would be pleased of help in manning these stands.

Next year, the A.B.P.S. is staging the show in conjunction with the Philatelic Congress at Croydon. This occurs rather late in the year on 23rd & 24th November 2007. We will have a stand, again, and I would appeal, now, for help with manning this.

Carlisle meetings, at the County Hotel, are to be held on 24th March and 15th September 2007. Meetings will also be held in the Swedish Church, London W1 on 24 February (Wartime mail), 26 May (Early postcards of the Union), 29 September (more Officials), and 1st December 2007 (Collecting interests other than S.A. / S.W.A.). The Abell Cup Competition will be held in London at the September meeting and more entries are needed. Details of all 2007 meetings will be included on the S.A.C.S. programme card.

Godfrey Mellor stood down as convenor of meetings in the north last September after ten years. David Haig has taken his place, so if you wish to know anything about northern meetings contact him. Our thanks to both Godfrey and David.

The Plans for the S.A.C.S. Exhibition at Autumn Stampex 2010, to celebrate the Centennial of the Union of South Africa, are proceeding apace, masterminded by our human dynamo, Eddie Bridges. I hear that there is an International Show, at the same venue, some five months previously, which will enable some of our foreign visitors to acclimatise themselves to the surroundings, in advance.

You will have read in the Springbok that we are looking for a new Hon. Librarian. Book space is required, but the job is not onerous. Please contact me if you think that you may be able to tackle this important job.

Eleven new members have joined the Society and three more have rejoined since the last A.G.M. We have, however, lost ten through resignation or non-renewal. John Corbett died in December 2005 and our Honorary Life Member Jack Hagger passed away in May. A full obituary for him appeared in the Springbok. Our membership, therefore, increased slightly to 168. It would be good if we could increase this number substantially during the coming year.

We now have no Honorary Life Members. The committee has discussed this and has decided to ask three members to become H.L.F. members. This distinction is conferred to those who have done a lot for philately and particularly South African philately and the Society. A few folk would be obvious contenders for the honour but, after consideration, it was agreed to ask Fred Clark, John Shaw and Bill Branney to become H.L.F. members. The two latter, being members of the committee, did not, I hasten to add, vote for themselves.

My thanks to John Shaw, Eddie Bridges, Max Whitlock, David Osborn, Bill Branney, Brian Trotter, Tony Howgrave –Graham, Morgan Farrell and Cedric Roche. Thank you all for your support.

We enjoy cordial relationships with the other Southern Africa philatelic societies in Britain and many of our members belong to some of these other societies. We would, particularly draw members attention to the Transvaal Study Circle who are celebrating forty years of existence. They have organised joint Southern Africa meetings in room 31 on Saturday 4th March 2007 in the Horticultural Halls, Greycoat Street, Westminster, London at 4.00pm - 5.00pm and at SWINPEX 2007, Saturday 9th June 2007. St Joseph's School, Ocotol Way, Swindon, and to which S.A.C.S. members are welcomed.

The Secretary's Report was proposed for adoption by Brian Trotter & seconded by David Page. Fred Clark and David Page said that they enjoyed the joint meeting held with the Cinderella Stamp Club, and suggested that a reciprocal meeting should be held. This may be held over until 2008, as the meeting venue is booked for our London meetings in 2007.

6. The Hon. Treasurer's report.

The financial statement for 2005, was circulated. The chairman then read the Treasurer's report. At present we have approximately £6,500 in the bank but we have a further issue of the Springbok to be issued this year. This will cost about £800. The quality of print and colour are a price worth paying. Subscriptions only cover some 50% of the cost of the magazine and the balance comes from reserves or from commissions received from the auctions and the packets. We are grateful to Bill and Max for this contribution. Realistically the subscription should be at £15.00 to cover 75% of the magazine cost and, hopefully, some additional advertising revenue might be forthcoming.

Eddie Bridges hoped that a separate account for publications could be inaugurated so that members could see the monies generated by this part of our work. Malcolm Ridsdale felt that there was not enough detail in the income & expenditure account presented. Richard Barnett said that he thought that the presentation was easy to understand especially by a financial layman like himself. These points would be passed to the Hon. Treasurer. The acceptance of the Hon. Treasurer's report was proposed by Eddie Bridges, seconded by Roy Ross and agreed.

Discussion on the suggested increase in subscription for 2007 ensued. It was felt that an increase to £15 would not be prudent following a £2 increase this year. It was therefore mooted that an increase of £2 should be made, as we would need large expenditures if the proposed S.A. 2010 autumn exhibition were to succeed

and the profile of the S.A.C.S. was kept to the forefront. On a vote 12 members voted for an increase of £2.00, 1 member voted against, our 2 new Hon. Members and 2 others abstained. The increase was therefore agreed and a fuller statement regarding the need for it will appear in the next Springbok.

7. The subscription for 2007.

In 2007 will be £12.00 for U.K. and Europe and £14.00 for overseas members.

The subscription in Rands would be about R200, which could be paid to Cedric Roche, on our behalf. The surface mail rate for receiving the South African Philatelist in 2007 will be R150 which equates to £10.50 on current exchange rates. We shall probably charge £11.00 to take account of possible exchange rate fluctuations between now and February 2007.

8. Hon. Librarian. Malcolm Ridsdale offered his services in succession to Brian Carter, who has resigned for personal reasons. Malcolm was thanked, proposed by Roy Ross, seconded by Eddie Bridges and his offer accepted. Members must realise that will take a few weeks to collect the library and sort out the task, so a short time may elapse before the library is up-and-running again. Thanks to Brian for his tenure of the office.

8a. Reports from other officers of the Society.

The Hon Auctioneer & Stamp Packet Superintendent and the Hon Cover Packet Superintendent both report that things are going well but more material is desperately needed from members. Bill Branney has had 13 packets in circulation although one was lost, early in the year. Can members please ensure that they do not keep the packets for more than five days. There have been two auctions from which most monies have been collected & the vendors paid.

The Hon. Editor hopes to have more time to commit to the Springbok next year & intends to produce a bumper issue of The Springbok in 2010 to coincide Union centennial celebrations.

The Webmaster now needs to update the web-site as a matter of urgency. The Hon Secretary is to ascertain whether Brian Carter wishes to continue in this role. Eddie Bridges could take on this duty, if necessary, providing that the password was known.

9. Ratification of Officers of the Society. All Officers and Committee other than the Librarian were willing to stand for re-election. Godfrey Mellor proposed that they should be elected en bloc. This was seconded by Nick Arrow and agreed.

10, 11 and 12. These items were covered in the Hon. Secretary's report.

13. S.A.C.S support for Youth Philately. At our last A.G.M. it had been agreed to donate £100 to the N.Y. S.C. to help their work in encouraging young collectors. The young are the future of our hobby. It was proposed by Eddie Bridges and seconded by Nick Arrow that we give a similar amount this year. This was agreed by all.

14. The Club Rule Book. This should have now been received by all members. Our grateful thanks to Max Whitlock for preparing this document and to Eddie Bridges for publishing it. Nick Arrow was concerned that the Auction steps were different to those previously published. He would discuss this with Bill Branney.

15. A.O.B. The meeting agreed that the S.A.C.S. should support the 2010 International Exhibition frame appeal. The committee will decide to what extent this support should take.

The meeting finished at 18.55 hrs after the Chairman had thanked those present for attending.

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AGM held at Leamington 4th November 2006

Summary

- A good number of members attended the AGM and John Shaw opened the meeting with a few minutes of silence for members who had closed their albums.
- The committee was voted back in en bloc with the exception of the Librarian who had indicated that he would like to step down. Malcolm Ridsdale has come forward and was volunteered/coerced into the job! Thank you Malcolm. Malcolm has also been contributing *The Springbok* with his reports of the Carlisle meetings for some time now.
- Three Honorary Memberships were bestowed. This historical step was taken by the Committee as our last Honorary Member, Jack Hagger Passed away in the past year. These members are John Shaw, Fred Clark and Bill Branney. These dedicated members have contributed their time and energy to the Society for many years and the members present had no hesitation in ratifying these nominations at the meeting. Congratulations to these gentlemen.
- Eddie Bridges was awarded the Wicks Medal for his articles on Union Pictorials in *The Springbok*.
- Our support for Junior Philately will continue with a suitable financial contribution.
- The meeting also voted to support The International Exhibition in 2010 financially by sponsoring some frames.
- Membership fees be increased slightly to prevent the eroding of our finances due to the increased cost of producing The Springbok. (more details elsewhere)
- The new Rule Book was discussed and generally accepted. Some clarification on Auction descriptions to be investigated.
- The SACS exhibition for the Centenary of the establishment of the Union of South Africa will now go ahead. Bookings have been made and £1000 to be budgeted for the frame hire and transport. (short report elsewhere)

Increase in Membership Fees

The committee has decided to increase the annual subscription again this year. This has been brought about by the fact that *The Springbok* has increased in size, quality and colour under the guidance of our Hon. Editor and is now a highly regarded publication.

This inevitably has meant that costs would rise slightly whilst our membership remains constant. Subscriptions only cover 50% of the cost of the magazine. Commissions from the exchange packets and auctions cover the remainder. We are continuing to promote the Society by attending national venues such as Midpex and A.B.P.S. Torquay and holding occasional provincial meetings for those not able to attend the meetings held in Carlisle and London or the joint Southern Africa Weekend Philatelic Conference. More publications are planned. We would not wish to drain our reserves in any way at present and this may result in a further small increase next year.

It is our intention to hold a philatelic exhibition at Autumn Stampex 2010 to celebrate the centennial of the Union of South Africa. This will result in some expenditure in frame hire, transportation and erection, together with the assembling and insurance of exhibits on display.

We hope that the enhanced profile of the Society and the provision of an easily readable magazine will bring benefits to all of our members.

Chris Oliver
Hon. Secretary

See Hon. Editors report further on.

Editors Report for 2005/2006

2005 was a fairly good year as far as articles go. A steady stream of articles from a number of contributors kept me going.

A total of 121 pages were published in the four issues.
5 advertisers placed adverts raising £214 towards printing costs

In 2006 to date 107 pages have been published with one issue to go.
We have gained an additional 2 advertisers, which will help towards printing costs.

2006 has been a difficult year for your editor as he had a heavy overseas commitment, which meant that the first two issues were distributed much later than would be expected. This backlog has slowly been reeled in and the September issue went out almost on time and the last issue for 2006 will be distributed before Christmas.

Articles have been slower this year, but the regular contributors have kept a few coming forward. I need a more varied range of articles to enable me to try and keep a fair balance for both the Union as well as the Republican period.

Something new, which we tried this year was the inclusion of a supplement to The Springbok on two occasions this year. The first was a listing of WW2 propaganda labels and the second a Monograph on The Handley Page Flight by Brian Stokoe. This was done at a relatively small cost and appears to have been worthwhile as the response was positive.

The exchange programme with other Societies with an interest in Southern Africa has been very successful and material from these publications has been used from time to time. We have like wise given permission for these Societies to use information from our publication provided the author is acknowledged.

Cost are becoming a concern. The printing costs have risen steadily and we are facing another increase any day now. Paper costs have gone up, the service contract for the printer has increased due to high fuel prices etc. It will become difficult to maintain the standard and quality at the current level if we do not find additional funding. Currently the costs are higher than the income. We will have to consider increasing the annual fees in a year or so, increase our advertising revenue and/or increase our membership.

The Aerogramme publication has also added a few hundred pounds to the publication funds.

The Union Booklet Publication should also contribute a bit.

I would like to thank Tony Howgrave-Graham for his regular entertaining Auction Report. I have been getting feed back from auctioneers!

Also John Shaw and Malcolm Ridsdale for the regular meeting reports for the North and South meetings.

Max Whitlock deserves a round of applause for the thankless task of putting The Springboks into envelopes, addressing them and posting, sometimes with very short notice that the Journal is on its way!

I look forward to the continuing support of the membership in the form of contributions, the advertisers and Krohne Ltd for the printing of the journal.

Eddie Bridges
Hon. Editor

Financial Statements

SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS SOCIETY					
as at 31st December 2005					
C MAIN ACCOUNT					
INCOME			EXPENDITURE		
Subscriptions b/fwd	1,311.65				
Subscriptions	409.00		Springbok	2,045.32	
Less S.A. Mag Cost	<u>- 400.00</u>		Less Advert	<u>- 154.00</u>	1,891.32
		1,320.65			
Interest		260.43			-
Auction LS			Book Aero		-
Sales	1,274.50		Donation		100.00
Vendors	<u>- 1,204.65</u>	69.85	Engraving		-
			Books for Library		44.00
Book sales		175.00	Subscriptions		82.40
CD sales	86.00		Postages etc		-
Less Costs	<u>- 105.00</u>	- 19.00	Rent of rooms		277.30
			advert		4.58
					-
		1,806.93			2,399.60
Deficit for year		<u>- 592.67</u>			
A EXCHANGE PACKETS & AUCTION					
Income		6,157.16			
due to vendors		<u>5,211.40</u>			-
		945.76	Postages		124.62
Interest		0.23	Insurance		136.83
			Rent Re meeting carlise		50.00
Total for year		<u>945.99</u>			<u>311.45</u>
Excess for year		<u>634.54</u>			

Union of South Africa - Passport Regulations

by

Giovanni Palazzo

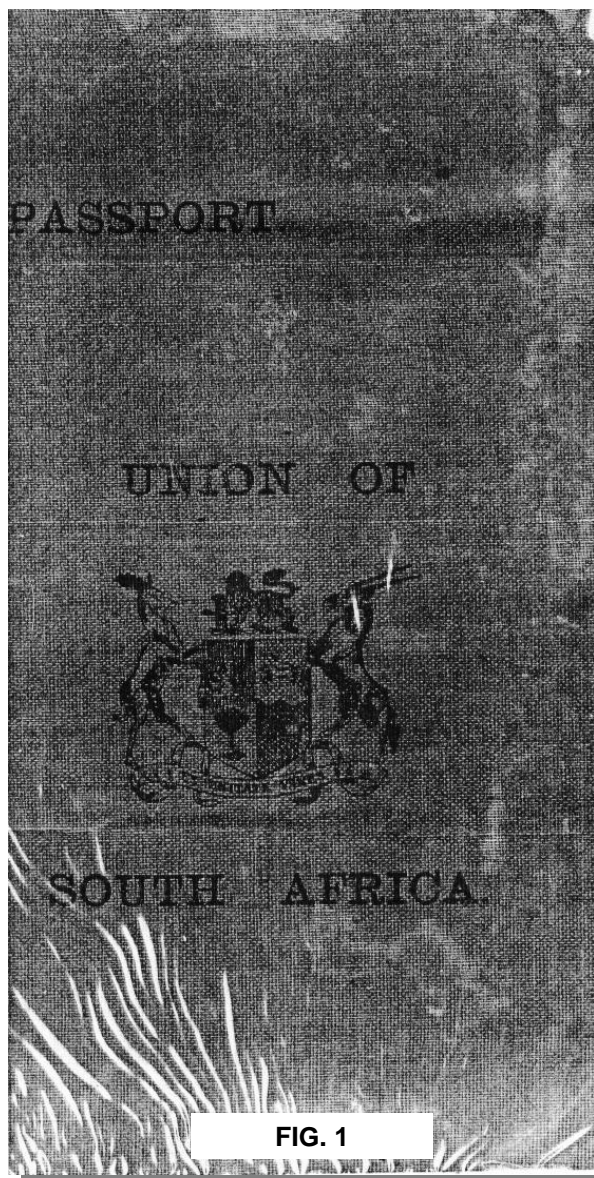
The Department of the Interior of Pretoria issued this passport, no. 36895/11, on the 30 th March 1921 to Mrs. D.C. Clarke. As her child, Wilfred, was under the age of 16 years, he was also included but no photograph was required. It is interesting to note that the size of the passport is 11 x 19 cm. (Fig.1)

The inside, when opened, is approximately ten times larger because it is firstly folded over in two and then again from the right to left side, another five times, like a concertina file and now the actual size, fully open, is 51 x 35.5 cm. The inside has all the regulations, the descriptions and the photograph(s) of bearer(s) and as well observations, using the entire space provided. The back has only eight sections for endorsements or visas.

Issued in a dark green with black printing reading "PASSPORT/UNION OF/ then in the middle the Coat of Arms and below it, /SOUTH AFRICA. While the entire passport is printed in English only, an embossed bilingual canceller reading "MINISTER VAN BINNELANDSE ZAKEN UNIE VAN ZUID AFRIKA" and "MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA" was used to tie the photo to the page. Besides English, the other official language at that time was Dutch, as Afrikaans only replaced the Dutch language in the early 1930's.

A purple rubber stamp informs the holder that the passport is available for travelling within the British Empire, including territory under British protection and mandate, but is not available for Palestine, Egypt (has been crossed out) or Mesopotamia unless specifically endorsed for these countries.

The initial fee of £1 was paid using a revenue stamp from the 1913 issue of King George V (B11), which was perforated with large holes in a fancy pattern (Fig. 2) before it was stuck onto the passport page. The Secretary for the Interior renewed this passport on 30th July 1926 after the fee of 2/- was paid by means of revenue stamps. Another revenue stamp of 2/- was required because an endorsement (or visas) to travel to a foreign country was requested at the same time. Both values (B5) were again perforated with large holes but in a different fancy pattern to that of the £1 value. It appears that the Department of Interior in Pretoria, had various punching devices not only to deface revenue stamps, but as well to avoid staff pilferage.



As every printed document was listed, the passport was no exception and its list number, which was allotted to Department of Interior, was "D.I.22". The printer's job number, the date and the quantity ordered in that specific year can also be found printed on the inside, at the bottom left corner (765-28/1/21-7,300).

As the Union of South Africa only had in operation its own Government Printing Works in Pretoria from the early thirties, we can only assume that as postage and revenue stamps were printed abroad, also documents like passports were printed as well in the United Kingdom. The passport shows the papermakers watermark four times in two lines "CHARLES MARTIN/EXTRA STRONG".

Ed. Apologies for the poor illustrations. Poor black and white photocopies are difficult to reproduce.

Continued on next page..

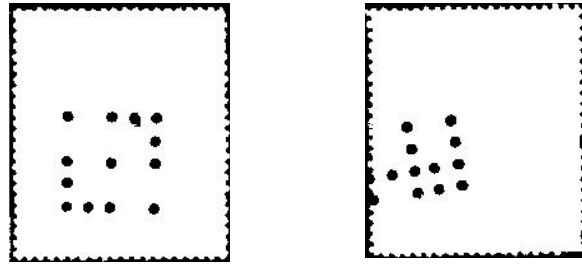
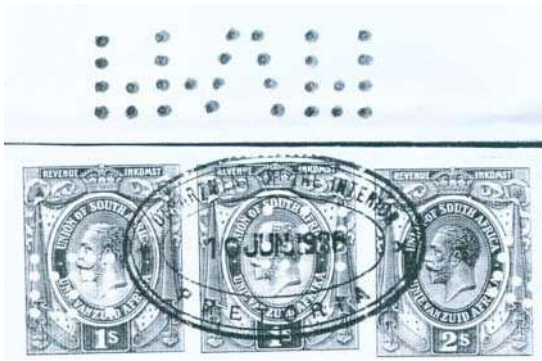


Fig. 2 illustrating the punched patterns

Finally, these are the regulations printed inside the passport:

1. Application for passports must be made at least 30 days prior to the date of sailing in the prescribed form and enclosed in a cover addressed to "Secretary for the Interior, Pretoria"
2. A fee of £1 in the form of a loose un-cancelled revenue stamp is payable for each passport. The fee must accompany the application, and should be placed in a separate envelope inside the large envelope containing the application.
3. Passports issued at the Department of Interior between the hours 10 and 3 on weekdays and 10 to 12 on Saturdays. On Sundays and Public Holidays the Passport Office is closed.
4. Passports are granted in the Union
 - 1) to natural-born British subjects;
 - 2) to the wives and widows of such persons; and
 - 3) to persons naturalized in the United Kingdom or the Union of South Africa

A married woman is deemed to be a subject of the State of which her husband is for the time being a subject.

5. Passports are granted;

In the case of a natural-born of a British subject and persons naturalized in the United Kingdom or in the Union of South Africa upon the production of a declaration by application on Form D.I. 45, verified by a declaration made by a magistrate or justice of peace resident in the Union. Applicant's certificate of birth and other evidence may also be required.
6. If the applicant for a passport be a naturalized British subject, the number, date, and place of issue of the Certificate of Naturalization must be given on the application form. Naturalized British subjects will be described as such in their passports, which will be issued subject to the necessary qualifications.
7. Passport issued on or after 1st January 1921, unless otherwise endorsed, are valid for travelling anywhere within the British Empire but do not exempt the holder from compliance with the immigration regulations in force in the various countries in the Empire.
8. Passports are not available beyond two years from the date of issue. They may be renewed for a further four periods of two years each, after which fresh passports must be obtained. The fee for each renewal is 2s., payable by means of revenue stamps. A further 2s. is payable for any endorsement to travel to a foreign country or countries. Fee must accompany the application.
9. A passport cannot be issued by the department of Interior on behalf of a person already abroad; such person should apply for one to the nearest British Mission or Consulate. Passports cannot be sent out of the Union of South Africa by post.

It should be mentioned that revenue stamps throughout the Union were also overprinted with the word "KONSULAIR" and "CONSULAR" reading vertically down either side of the stamp in black in capital letters. The height of the letters is not the same for various issues (values) overprinted. These stamps were used for issuing visas to foreigners who wished to visit South Africa. They were affixed on passports and then cancelled by the South African Embassy from the country in question, while normal revenue stamps were used to issue or renew passports to nationals as previously stated. More information regarding the use of revenue stamps on passports during the Union period would be much appreciated.

PSGSA to hold 20th Anniversary Meeting and exhibition in New York 15-18 March 2007

The Philatelic Society of Greater Southern Africa is holding their 20th Anniversary meeting in New York in association with the ASDA Mega-Event at Madison Square Garden which is centrally located in Manhattan. The Society is planning an exhibition as well and invite members of SACS to consider exhibiting. Details below:

Applications to exhibit:

We wish to have as many Africa related exhibits as we can. The show Jury has been carefully selected to have special expertise in British Empire in general and British Africa in particular. The Jury Chair is Guy Dillaway a renowned postal historian and specialist in the postal history of the Cape. The other Jurors are: Tim Bartshe, David Herendeen, David McNamee and David Springbett (from the United Kingdom).

Those wishing to exhibit at the 20th Anniversary meeting can obtain the exhibit prospectus (and application form) at the American Philatelic Society (APS) web site: Site: **www.stamps.org**

On the left hand side, click on exhibitions and shows, then click on Spring Mega-Event. At lower right corner click on Prospectus and Entry Form.

Dealer's booths:

Dealers must be ASDA members - but non members can apply for membership by contacting the Executive Director, Jim Roselle, by e-mail at: joroselle@erols.com

Saturday 17 March Southern Africa Seminar:

This will be held in conjunction with the British Empire Study Group. The seminar will be held at The Collectors Club, 22 East 35th Street starting at 2:00 PM. It will finish at about 6:00 PM and in the evening there will be a no host dinner.

Subjects to be discussed include the stamps and postal history of Natal, the Aerophilately of Southern Africa, Rhodesian Arms issues, the Bantam issues of South Africa and South West Africa, the postal history of Bechuanaland, etc..

Further information may be obtained from:

Colin Fraser
PO Box 335
Woodstock NY 12498

Tel. 845 679 0684
Fax. 845 679 0685
E-mail: frasers@writeme.com

If anyone is considering exhibiting or attending, please let the editor know.

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.

Membership Matters

By Chris Oliver

We welcome new members:

1115	Dr. Neil Cronje	of Bloemfontein, South Africa
1116	Richard Barnett	of Bishop's Stortford
1117	Otto Peetoom	of Roos, nr Hull

Stephan Welz of Johannesburg, South Africa has also joined and are advertising in the Journal.

Fred Clark, Bill Branney and John Shaw were all elected as Honorary Members at the A.G.M. on Saturday last. Congratulations to them.

We have a new Librarian who is Malcolm Ridsdale. It will take a few weeks to collect the library and sort out the task so some time may elapse before the library is up-and-running again. Well done Malcolm.

E-mail Addresses

If you have an e-mail address please let the Hon. Secretary have this. It is a very convenient way of communicating if we need to advise members of anything at short notice.

Lewandowski Award

You might ask what is this? I had not heard of this award before until a UPS envelope arrived through the mail. Great was my surprise and delight to find enclosed a letter, a medal and a small honorarium from the United Postal Stationery Society in the USA.

I quote from the letter:

The United Postal Stationery Society is very pleased to notify you that you are to share the year 2006 Lewandowski Award for your "Aerogrammes of the Union of South Africa 1942-1961" Artur Lewandowski was a long time dealer in worldwide aerograms who at his death left the UPSS a legacy which we are using to encourage the publication of outstanding books on postal stationery of the world.

So there you have it. SACS is on the map in the USA as well!

Eddie Bridges

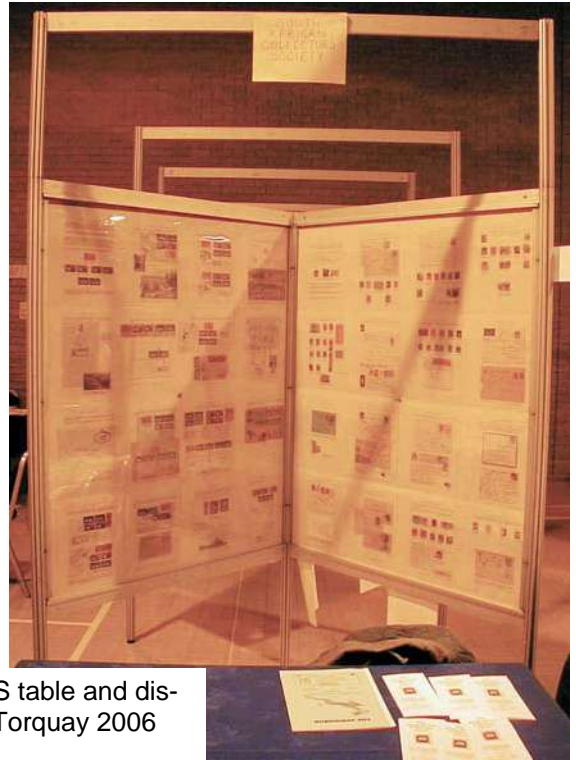


The Lewandowski Literature Award medal.

A.B.P.S. Torquay 2006 Philatelic Show

The S.A.C.S. had a table and a small display at the show, which was in a large venue at the Riviera Centre. My thanks to Maurice Flack and Nick Arrow, who helped man the stand with me. The competitive displays covered all philatelic disciplines but a lack of Southern African material was very apparent. Those 35 dealers who attended seemed well pleased but the highlight of the show was the Awards Dinner held in an adjacent room. Although I had not originally intended to attend, I changed my mind, and was pleased that dress suits were now considered optional rather than de rigueur and that speeches were kept to a minimum. The food and service was good value and 210 people attended. Much improved from the usual pomp and ceremony.

I attended the E.G.M. of the A.B.P.S. where the change of rules to allow an Independent Examiner to examine the books rather than an Auditor was approved. The ill-considered suggestion to increase the subscription in January 2007 was, after much criticism, withdrawn. This will be revised and considered at the A.G.M. on 30th June 2007 for introduction in January 2008. We were advised that the A.B.P.S. Handbook, which is nearly a year late in issue, will be distributed in December 2006!!



Chris Oliver

The SACS table and display at Torquay 2006

What do members want?

This is a question that is asked every year when the programme for the following year is planned. If members have any proposals for subjects, maybe an audio visual show, presentation on using a PC for stamps, Ebay etc., subjects for displays and so on, please let the Hon. Secretary have your views. Study sessions have been useful in the past but times change. More members are needed at meetings as well.

We had no response to the proposal below for a meeting in the Midlands. If Leicester is not convenient, we can look elsewhere in the region. It is your Society. Become more active and support the meetings your committee arranges.

Eddie Bridges

SACS Meeting in Leicester?

John Ledington, our member in Leicester has a suitable and convenient venue in that could be available for a meeting. If any members in the Midlands are interested in getting together for a day of displays or a study session on a particular area, please let the editor or Chris Oliver our Secretary know. If there is sufficient interest, then we can add this to the programme next year. John has offered to arrange and co-ordinate such a meeting.

I gave a display at this venue to the Leicester Philatelic Society earlier this year and it is very central. Five to six minutes walk from the station, convenient for trains from London, Sheffield, Derby, Nottingham, Coventry, Birmingham etc. Any members in this region who feel it is too far to travel to London or Carlisle, this is your opportunity to meet fellow SACS collectors. Let us know. Our Society will only grow if we stay active and in this way might attract new members.

Eddie Bridges

Meeting held at the County Hotel, Carlisle on Saturday 16th September 2006

by Malcolm Ridsdale

Attendees – 13 Members (list with David Haig)

Apologies – C. Oliver, W. Branney, Eddie Bridges, John Shaw, Albert Moffat and Brian Carter

Meeting opened with Godfrey Mellor in the Chair who welcomed everybody to the 29th meeting.

Items through the Chair

GM advised members that the next two Carlisle meetings were booked for the 24th March 2007 and the 15th September 2007. It was agreed by the members present that the March meeting would be "Open House" displays and September would be Gold Mining in South Africa.

General discussion took place regarding the start times for the Carlisle meeting. After debate it was agreed that 10.00am would remain the starting time.

Congratulations were extended to Eddie Bridges in his absence on the Rowland Hill Award, which had been given to him in recognition of his contribution to Philatelic Research and Writing.

GM commented that it had been sad to see the obituary in The Springbok of Jack Hagger.

GM advised the members that due to various pressures and commitments Brian Carter had tendered his resignation as the society's Librarian and the members joined GM in extending a vote of thanks to Brian for his hard work. GM also advised the meeting that he intended to stand down as the coordinator of the northern meetings. GM has been taking this role for the last 10 years and along with a number of his other philatelic duties across a number of societies he felt that the time had come to take a back seat to allow him just to enjoy his stamps. He wished to thank those officers and members who had assisted with his tasks and wished his successor well. The members present warmly thanked GM and in seeking a volunteer to replace him David Haig agreed to take up the reins.

Other Officer Reports

Bill Branney

No report from BB

Brian Carter

No report from BC

Max Whitlock

MW reported that with tongue in cheek that he was now regarded as a "Transvaal expert" in the Philatelic Exporter magazine following an article in that publication.

MW commented that he had received a number of calls requesting news of The Springbok's arrival but all understood Eddie Bridge's work schedules and a wish to produce a quality publication. GM commented that it was worth the wait.

Regarding the cover packet MW shared his frustration that members didn't always send him details of what they wanted and delayed the packets because of holidays. Perhaps the phone ahead might also be a useful arrangement with these packets although there wasn't an insurance issue. MW has enough material for two further packets but then more will be required.

Around the Table

Eric Hammond

EH visiting SA in December and offered to purchase specific SA stamps if members let him know.

Roy Ross

RR brought to the meeting copies of his Empire Exhibition book which is available at £14 plus £1 postage (in the UK). He offered his thanks to Fred Clark for proof reading the book. There was a minor amendment to be made on page 47 in the next to last paragraph which should read "not at any post office"

RR is looking for a register of attendees at the Empire Exhibition- the Golden Register. Suggestion to try either the Johannesburg or Pretoria Philatelic Societies.

John Ahmed

Commented that there were lots of new SA issues.

He is currently enjoying working on Boer War, 1st / 2nd WW issues and philatelic material of these periods. Has had a lot of help from the Public Records Office in Kew. Has found a register of POW's and got help from Bloemfontein to get further information on battles and capture.

Giovanni Palazzo

Shared a copy of the Natal and Zululand Post with the members and an article within it on Entertainments Duty Tax, co-written with John Dickson.

Max Whitlock

Had recently purchased three SA 1930's covers at his local club. He had been quite fascinated by the back stamps which had taken the covers all over Africa.

Ray Glanville-Jones

Advised the members that he had found further patriotic labels. The article in Vol 54, No 1 on page 28 should be amended by the addition of:

Scene 7 – Anti convict

Scene 8 – Moshesh

Grand Finale

He also showed a CD Rom of SA Postcard Values 2006 which was obtainable through Vera Trinder price £10 plus postage.

Fred Clark

Has had problems with the SA Philatelic Bureau and has cancelled his order.

David Haig

Showed two Empire Exhibition Catalogues that he had purchased off E Bay.

Abel Trophy

Although unfortunately no trophy was available to present to the winner three of the members, Fred Clark, Giovanni Palazzo and Patrick Williams entered this year's competition.

FC's entry was WW2 postmarks with examples of dumb postmarks (i.e. Durban deleted from the post mark), covers with censorship marks and examples of double circle postmarks and wavy line/straight cancellations.

GP's entry was revenue stamps used in Natal. These included Victorian, Edwardian and Union stamps with large perfins on documents when all these eras of revenue stamps were used together. There were also documents showing sideways perfins.

PW's entry concentrated on official marks on the post between 1910 and 1926. Then examples of the new definitives over printed Official/Offisieleel including their use on non-official business.

After careful consideration of each of the displays, Giovanni Palazzo was declared the winner of what was seen by all to be a close run thing from three excellent entries. Congratulations were expressed to Giovanni with a promise of the trophy as soon as possible.

Displays

In the afternoon members put up First Ten Years of the Republic displays.

Godfrey Mellor displayed photographic proofs of the stamps from the first ten years of Republic issues that had been released by the Philatelic Bureau for the press including the first definitives and then the commemorative issues. The display included notes from the original Reginald Allen collection and mint examples of the stamps.

Fred Clark commenced his display with a FDC of the first definitives, 31/5/1961, with stamps from 1/2c to 1R. He showed a range of blocks, single and multiple rows and arrow blocks. Sheets of the very first issues of the definitives had no sheet numbers. To show this FC had strips with the arrow without numbers although only lasted for a few days before numbers appeared. FC has 1/2c – 12½c but is missing the remainder – work in progress! Then moved on to the two groups with arms watermarks and coil strips, varieties and the second set with no watermark. Completed his display with RSA watermark issues including reversed watermarks and other varieties.

Giovanni Palazzo displayed Republic revenues including values used before 31/5/1961. There were 18 values on arms watermark paper with the R200 issued in 1967. There were a number of shades shown and minor varieties but kept to the last colours of the Union issues changing the value to Rands. They incorporated the year of issue by using an coloured dot which moves around the edge of the stamp. Also showed penalty-overprinted copies which require payment of five times the normal fee if payment delayed.

The meeting closed at approximately 3.00pm

London Meeting – September 2006 – Early Union Officials

by John Shaw

Again, this London meeting was held at the Swedish Church hall, just off Marylebone Road, and was again led by Dr Tony Howgrave-Graham. The meeting comprised the “hard core” of London attendees of John Archer, Eddie Bridges, Fred Clark, Christopher Oliver, Tony H-G, Brian Trotter and myself.

Tony based his display on Sets 1-12 of the Union officials as described in the Dr Ian Matheson Large Gold medal collection covered in our society booklet of his exhibit. He did, however, take some licence in extending into later sets which contain the remaining unhyphenated officials, which seemed quite logical.

Sets 1 to 4 comprise entirely the London recess or the typographed (letterpress) stamps with the official overprint reading upwards, sets 1-2 with stops and sets 3-4 without stops. In theory, unused examples of sets 1-2 should not exist since they were intended only for official franking and our late president RD Allen, an ex-policeman, always described them as “stolen property”; unused examples are certainly much scarcer than the used, which is not the case with later sets, whose stamps could be purchased at the philatelic bureau and used normally by the general public. There was much discussion on the identification of the 2d King’s head stamps, where the London printing (O3) overprint is identified by very dark, shiny, ink, which obscures the design which, in the Pretoria (O7) stamp can be seen through the overprinting. These “London and Pretoria” designations are now, themselves, in doubt since it appears all the officials were overprinted in South Africa. The 6d Pretoria with inverted watermark also caused much discussion and Tony showed two used blocks, both as normally found, used at Rosebank. Dr Ian Matheson possesses a pair with the Union Buildings postmark, which is apparently the only example not used at Rosebank. All the unused 6ds with stops are rare and the inverted watermark is in the hen’s teeth category, although the numbers of used examples known tends to defeat the theory that only one sheet existed. With his customary modesty, Tony did not mention the fact all three mint pairs of the 6d were there on display – the first time we have seen these together in my time, since even the late Jim Nunneley’s collection was missing the inverted watermark. Overall, this section was peppered with many fine and lovely blocks.

Set 5 is a strange mixture of unhyphenated rotogravure, London recess 2d – this being being the rare Group III, and the last of the Pretoria typographs. Then Sets 6 and 7 saw the introduction of the 1/- and 2/6d recess, and the 2d rotogravure, the former set showing the stop after Official variety (Row 10/1 or 7) and shown in lovely complete bottom two rows with imprint. The bottom four rows of the 2/6d from Set 7, without the stop variety, was another quite stunning piece. Tony also showed a diagram of the stops varieties on the ½d Set 6 which also has the words of overprint spaced variously between 9½ and 12mm which makes this stamp visually quite distinctive. All four arrow blocks of the 2d Issue 1 (Set 6) and the ½d Set 7 were shown, but the highlight of the ½d values was a block of the unlisted Set 11, without the two flaws, short “L” on 16/9 and broken “L” on 16/10 – varieties present on the ½d from Set 10; Dr Matheson’s collection also contains a very similar block, so now there are two! For Set 11, Tony also included the scarce 6d with upright watermark, the “easiest to identify” according to SAC/H, but also the most difficult to find! Again with typical modesty, Tony showed, but did not mention, the very scarce 2/6d with inverted watermark; this is from Set 14.

After Tony’s magnificent display, it was up to the rest of us to follow the Lord Mayor’s show. Brian Trotter proudly presented his complete collection of officials, two lovely covers bearing the King’s Head 2d stamps, which are very difficult to find on cover and are the only Union officials in Brian’s sphere of interest. Fred Clark showed the 2d King’s Head with the BEC2 specimen overprint, from the Bechuanaland archives, and Eddie Bridges showed the same overprint on a pair of 1ds from Set 1. These are receiving authority specimen overprints and, whilst not UPU specimens, are very collectable and make nice additions to any specialised study. Finally, John Shaw showed a selection of mainly 1d and 6d values from Sets 4 and 5, overprint upwards without stops, and showing progressive stages of the broken “O”, “G” for “O” and deformed “O” varieties, and some extra stop varieties from Set 5.

All present considered this to be a most successful meeting, Tony H-G taking the lion’s share of the credit, and so much so that a Part Two session of officials is planned for 2007. Personally, I feel that many of our London members are missing the opportunity to see some very fine material and to learn more about their particular interest, so please do make an effort to attend and please do let us know your views on when we should meet in London and what you would like to see in the programme.

Members Queries

Cover queries from Rudolf Lasar

Rudolf writes: I have some covers mounted on album pages. One cover shows a machine canceller, probably stemming from Durban, which I never saw before. Is this something remarkable?

I am sure I have seen this reported in The Springbok or SAP but could not find the references. Ed.

Another puzzling cover was sent from Port Elizabeth to New gardens, New York, USA, on 29th November 1942. This cover shows scorch marks. Are these marks due to careless handling, then it is not worth keeping, not to mention mounting on an album page! For this reason the tempting assumption may be that this item was saved from an accident or war damage. Has anybody got historical information regarding this?

Rudolf will be grateful for some feedback. Ed.



The two covers from Rudolf Lasar

Brooke Bussell writes from Canada:

I am enclosing herewith a scan and an old photocopy enlargement of the 1/- Issue 4 with the final overprint. The pair and single were acquired at different times but all three demonstrate what I have termed the "rain" variety. My research has failed to uncover any references to this variety and under the circumstances and in view of the proposed publication on the "Officials", I thought other members of SACS may be able to throw some light on this matter.

All three stamps show traces of the "raindrops" on the bottom margin indicating that a number of stamps must have been affected in the same way. It is obviously not a "Doctor blade" flaw and the question really arises as to how these multiple specs originally occurred. All three patterns are different and I wonder whether some form of powdered pigment was perhaps spilt over the plate during the printing process and was subsequently removed with the next sweep of the "Doctor blade".

I would be interested to learn whether any other members have similar items or can shed any light as to how this variety could have occurred.



Members Queries continued....

Another Official enquiry

John Philpott writes:

Attached is an upright watermark B4 SGO16 w. photocopy. (from a recent auction in Cambridge) The colossally broken "O" stands out. By sheer coincidence, the only pair I have of same issue has the identical flaw, so I assume it is a constant position in the forme. It is in dear lamented Jack Haggars set 11 in which he says there are too many broken letters to specify. Now there is a 1d (issue 11, inv. watermark) as well as Tony Howgrave-Graham's half penny in that set. Is anybody able to position this flaw?

*John wrote asking if I have copies to position but regrettably I have none. Thought that if published, someone will come up with an answer as invariably happens in **The Springbok!** Ed.*



Mike Robinson of Cumbria has asked for Help!

He has missed some RSA issues and seems unable to procure them. These are:

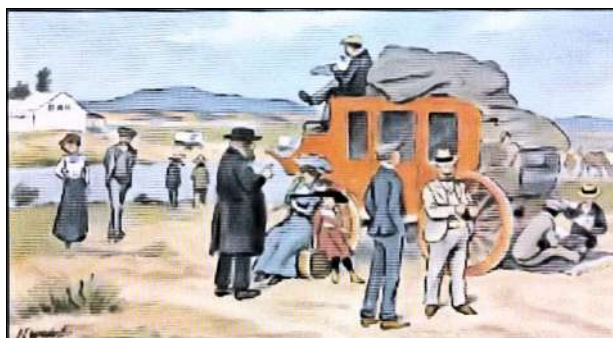
1. 16.10.03 Diplomatic Relations India Min. Sheet SACC 1552.
2. 30.07.04 Large Spiders SACC 1609

If anyone has some duplicates please contact Mike on mike@nwbirds.co.uk or let the editor know.

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

Members Feedback

John Philpott writes:

I have had a short look through Dr. Matheson's epic on the Union Officials. (*Copy of his award winning display. Ed*) This is an absolute must for Union Officials' collectors. It is a natural follow-on from Jack Hagger's purely descriptive Handbook. Imagine the Handbook being illustrated with this! When one sees such at an exhibition, it is impossible to take it all in. One may make a few notes, but ones memory soon fades of the contents. Now we have such as a reference for life. I do not know whose idea it was but it was brilliant.

Incidentally, I see a clone of my query in *The Springbok* Vol 54/1 p11. Same sheet I assume. A bit of pedantic nit-picking: set 11 1935 6d broken "SI" should of course, have been in "OFFISIEEL". Dr. Matheson's collection as shown, must be absolutely definitive. I can hardly imagine a better one. He must have virtually everything!

It is modern enough to have Tony Howgrave-Graham's set 11 1/2d find.

I did not realise that there was all the "diagonal" overprinting leading to colossal; displacements. There is so much in his collection.

I hope to include a top semi-arrow B4 of what might be a double overprint (O39) 1d set 9. There is no similar for direct comparison on the relevant page. It is possibly just a "kiss" print.

What a brilliant contribution to the knowledge of the stamps of The Union. I trust he has a similar follow-up for the later years.

This is on its way! Ed.

John has also added the following in a separate letter:

1. Additional to John Shaw's listing of the 1925 Airmail Stamp Forgeries, (*The Springbok* Vol 54/2 p 65 et seq.) was an issue appearing in the eighties. Every auction house's catalogue seemed to have blocks of 4. The perforations matched those of the genuine stamps exactly, ie perf. 12. Photocopies included. It is seen that the two prominent flaws on the 6d (mark on U and protrusion above I) as seen on page 72 were evident, so presumably, they hailed from a similar source.
2. I have a mint upright wmk. LTC B6 (1/1 to 3/2) of the large 1½d with very pale shading especially on the mine dumps of 2/1 and 1/2. I suspect that the master negative "programmed" the etching of this feature to give very shallow cells on the cylinder. Then, these soon clogged up and, after printing of the "JIPEX" sheets, the printing press operator spotted the error and initiated a process of more frequent cylinder cleaning; occasionally just catching it in time (or not quite!). It is too much to hope that operators records or foremen's reports are still available after 70 years? I have other very pale examples with each watermark.



Mike Tonking writes:

I found the article by Tony Howgrave-Graham on Flyspecks and Transpositions which appeared in the April/June 2006 Springbok most interesting. As he notes the importance of the flyspecks is paramount for without them it would be impossible to determine the various roll stamp transpositions.

His comment on the rare 3 row transposition of the 1940 1d. sheet Issue R20S intrigued me for the following reason. The late Jack Hagger told me that this had been discovered by that fine philatelist the late R.J. Lawrence in 1961 in the form of a single block of 2x5 stamps (horizontal rows 3 and 4 and vertical rows 3,4, and 5).

This block he split and gave Jack Hagger a block of 4 retaining a block of 6 which is in my collection.

To the best of my belief this was the only block ever identified which must make it one of the Union roll stamp rarities.

Corresponding with Tony Howgrave-Graham he told me he mentioned it as it allegedly existed and was pleased to know that it does actually exist !

Tony Howgrave-Graham has commented on the following:

In the collection of the Union "Officials", Ian Matheson makes the comment that the stamps of set 1 were overprinted in London. I was always under the impression that all overprinting was done by the Government Printer in Pretoria. Does Ian have any evidence of the overprinting in London?

WASHINGTON 2006 SHOW - A REPORT.

by Chris Oliver

The philatelic exhibition commenced on 27th May and lasted until 3rd June with 860 competitive entries, all of a very high standard. The S.A.C.S was represented, with one of the forty-three jurors being Francis Kiddle. Brian Trotter & Gary Brown were apprentice jurors. Medal winners from our membership were Patrick Flanagan, Ian Matheson, Bob Hisey and "Corny".

Both Patrick and Ian won gold medals but not with South African material, displaying the Rhodesian admirals issue and the early years of British Honduras, respectively.

Bob Hisey achieved a Large vermeil with his S.A. officials and "Corny" a vermeil for S.A. civil censorship in WWII. A large number of people attended, including a number of British dealers. It was good to meet a number of old and new friends from around the world. Washington was hot and humid causing the organisers to soup up the air-conditioning in the hall to quite a cold temperature at times. Exhibits were placed in all parts of the hall with numbering of both exhibits and stands needing careful getting used to. It was, however, an excellent and enjoyable gathering.



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

contact

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Book Review

By Fred Clark

The latest book concerning South African Philately to come my way is entitled "Atlas Listing of Commemorative and Special Date Stamps".

Compiled by Danie van Zyl, this work covers the period 1910-2006 and is of A4 format with stapled pages and glossy soft cover. Following a Preface, the book is divided into Section one-Union of South Africa: - Section Two Republic of South Africa: - Section Three—Republic of South Africa - Full Democracy: - End Notes and Index. It should be noted that the datestamps of the Homelands, (Bophuthatswana, Ciskei, Transkei and Venda) are not included although the contents page does not make this clear. The pages themselves are not numbered apart from a comprehensive 20 page alphabetical index at the back of the book, but page numbering is of no consequence as each datestamp is individually numbered and appears in order of date and issue. In addition to the index, a number of individual datestamp entries list the relevant number of subsequent similar datestamps which can be quite helpful.

The general arrangement is datestamp number, date of issue, brief description, column indicating if permanent or temporary and code letter indicating a value category A, B, C, D, E, F and R (rare). These categories are discussed in detail in an end note, listing factors governing sensible market values.

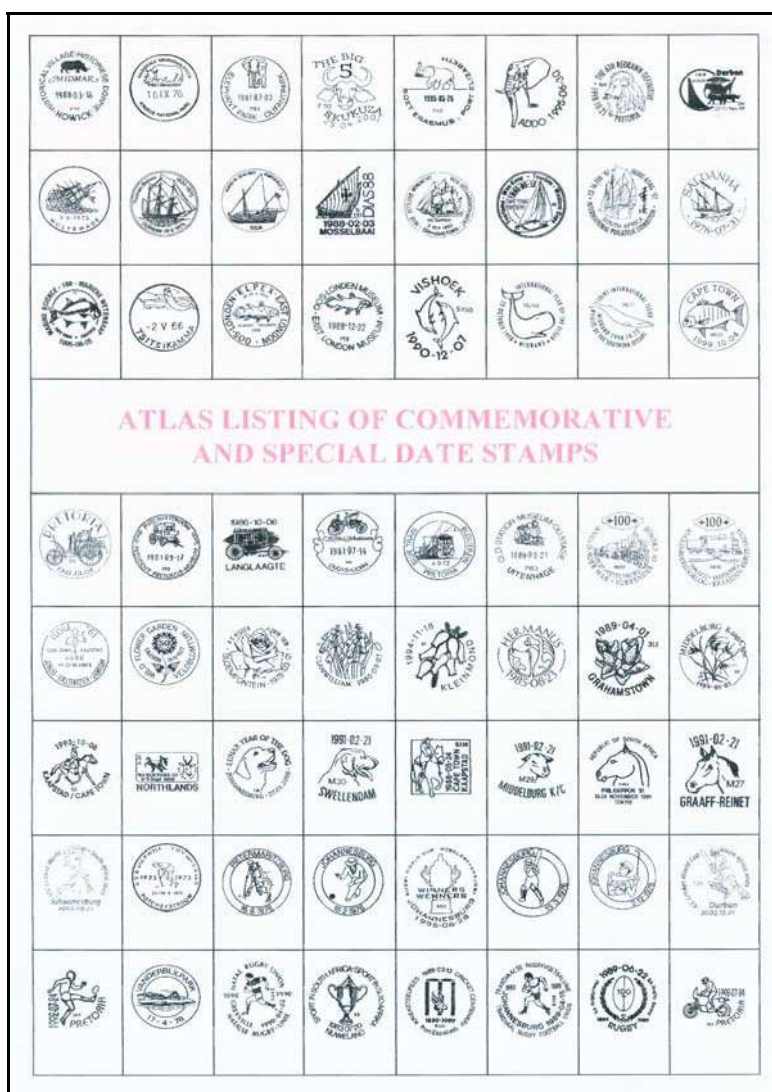
It should be noted that each description does not give details concerning the history and events about the usage of each datestamp and in this respect Reisner's book "The Special and Commemorative Postmarks, Cachets and Covers of South Africa 1892-1995", is still essential reading to collectors of such material. Indeed the author of this book gives full credit to the work of Hasso O. Reisner and other philatelists. However unlike Reisner's book, the datestamps dealt with, do not include those of F.P.O's, Houses of Parliament, Union Buildings, Mobile Post Offices or Table Mountain.

With very few exceptions, each datestamp is illustrated, though not necessarily in true size. They range in number from 1 to 1216 and a nice thought is the inclusion of blank space up to the number 1271 for collectors to add their own data for datestamps issued subsequent to 15th September 2006. This space should cope with datestamps to be issued over the next three years or so at the current rate of appearance.

This book will be extremely useful for collectors of this material whether on cover or piece, is good value for money and is recommended.

The price of the book is approx. R50 plus postage and is available from Marge Viljoen in Pretoria.

Her address is: Po Box 835, Groenkloof, Pretoria 0027. South Africa



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

How to distinguish the Major Printings

Eddie Bridges

Part 5

The 6d "Orange Tree" (actually an olive tree)



1926

Typograph printing by Waterlow & Sons London and later by the Government Printer in Pretoria. (1927)
Leg of "R" in "AFR" curved at bottom.
Orange background smooth.



Leg curled

Orange background smooth



1930

Printed by the Government Printer in Pretoria using the Rotogravure process.
Leg of R now end squarely on the bottom frame line.
Orange background less smooth.



Leg ends square on frame line



1937

The first of the hyphenated issues. The spandrel in the left and right corners of the design are open and the green lines in the vignette are faint.



Spandrel open

Green background lines faint



1938

Colour changed to a red/orange. Spandrel still open but green lines in vignette now much more distinct.



Spandrel open

Green lines now more pronounced



1946

A new design with the spandrel now closed. Shades of orange to red/brown exist. Overall size of stamp reduced slightly



Spandrel closed.



1950-1954

Fully screened Rotogravure. The screening changes the design from solid colours to small dots or squares that make up the design. Gives the stamp a less crisp appearance.

Summary of the 6d Issues

	UHB #	Issue	Plate/cylinder numbers	Date
Waterlow Typograph Printing Perf. 14½x14	28	1	(1) and (1x)	1926
Pretoria Typograph Printing Perf. 14½x14	35	2	(2) and (2x)	1927
Rotogravure Printing inverted wmk	41	1	(1) and (1x)	1931
Rotogravure Printing inv. and upr. wmk.	41	1a	(1) and (1ax)	1932
Hyphenated Rotogravure Printing	49	2	52A and 51A	1937
Hyphenated Rotogravure Printing	49A	3	6919 and 53	1938
Hyphenated Rotogravure Printing	49B	4	9 and 6935	1946
Screened Hyphenated Printing	49C	5	6930 and 6	1950
Screened Hyphenated Printing	49D	6	85 and 32	1954

This is a difficult group of stamps to collect as not much in the line of positional pieces appear on the market. There are also many shades of the various printings as it appears that orders for new stamps were never completed in one print run. Each time a new print run was started the ink mixture changed slightly.

Sheet numbers in the right margins also assist in identifying printings as these appeared in various forms. 4 figure black, blue and red. Five figure numbers also appeared when the stamps were printed on the newer Rotogravure machine purchased in later years.

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New Booklet Pane Discovery

by Eddie Bridges

A purchase earlier this year from a dealer in Cape Town appeared to be a new find. This was a pair of "Specimen" booklet panes which appear to emanate from Booklet 14. These panes were stamped "Specimen" and handed out to the advertisers on the interleaves in the Booklets. These were also known as voucher copies. These are not recorded in the Union Handbook or in any of the earlier publications of the Handbooks. Where could these have been all these years and why have none come on to the market?

I have gone through all the S.A. Philatelists of the time without any success. If any member has any further information, please let me know.



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.

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Report on the Southern African Societies Conference 2006

by Chris Oliver

Another successful meeting was held at The Falstaff Hotel, Leamington Spa on 3rd to 5th November 2006.

Members gathered on Friday evening to dine and chat. On the following morning other members arrived, for the first display by Brian Trotter. This was of Colonial and Early Union Booklets and started with a page showing a dummy booklet of the O.F.S. The colony never went further in producing a stamp booklet. The Transvaal was more adventurous in selling 2/6 worth of stamps for 2/7, charging the extra 1d for binding. The Cape followed suit and stapled right and left to take advantage of the printed sheet of stamps. When assembling booklets it was sometimes necessary to overprint some stamps "not for use" in order to maintain the value. The additional charge for binding was eventually abandoned. Early Kings Head booklets of the Union had, like those of the colonies, a dark pillar-box red cover and were printed by De la Rue. By 1920, cheaper, pink covers were used in producing the booklets. Booklet panes were specially produced with a tete beche layout to suit left-hand binding. This results in upright and inverted watermarks being found and, following a change in postal rate, tete beche 1½d stamps sold over the counter.

Otto Peetoom showed four frames of material from the S.A. pageant held 96 years previously on 4th November, prior to the Duke of Connaught opening the first Union parliament. Labels had been circulating since May 1910 and commemorative brochures were available in Dutch and English. Interesting postcards of the event were also included in the display.

Colin Hoffman explained Bulawayo had been cut off from the rest of Southern Africa by the Matabele revolt in March 1896. Cape stamps were overprinted, later that year, to provide postage for the stranded personnel and forces. Colin explained the need for overprinting as the crisis continued for some eight months. Fournier forged some of these overprints onto used prolific Cape stamps to enhance their value.

After a short break Eddie Bridges displayed an exemplary collection of Union Pictorial booklets, following on from Brian Trotter's earlier presentation. Waterlow printed the first three issues. The first with interleaved adverts having blank reverse sides. Subsequent issues had printed adverts to both sides of the interleaving. Stamps on the Pretoria booklet were, initially, 13½ x 14 but the Goebels machine made the stamp narrower. Eddie showed an example of the additional jubilee line on the additional stamp on the top row of the sheet, voucher copies of 1935 and inverted airmail labels on booklet B11 (1937). In the 1937/8 razorblade booklets no pane reconstruction is known.

An extensive display by Robert Johnson followed after lunch, showing the rates and postal markings used on mail to and from the Cape of Good Hope, between 1864 and 1899. This was appreciated as little of this material is displayed. He explained that there was a dearth of material as trade was at a stand still and communications were limited. The ship letter rate was used for all destinations to the east. Re-posted items were subject to an additional ½d tax. Robert showed some underpaid mail, too-late mail, official letters & correspondence, registered mail to Rhodesia and a much traveled cover from U.K. to Japan and back.

John Dickson's presentation was on the early seaposts of Natal. Rates between Britain and Natal were similar to those between Cape and the U.K. Outgoing & incoming mail fees were always collected in the U.K. until 1861 but from 1862 these were paid by the sender. The Union Steamship Co. operated this route 1863 – 68. A route between Plymouth – Southampton and Cape Town was operated by General Screw Company with onward transport to Durban by Rennie. John showed Devonport marks and Cape Packet "D" cancellations.

Paul van Zeyl told the story of the 1914 rebellion in South Africa when resistance to Botha's intent to enter W.W.1 against Germany was made. Premier Botha and J.C. Smuts wanted to win the peace, after the Anglo-Boer conflict, by protecting trade links with Britain and the Commonwealth. Christiaan Beyers left the government to join the rebels. Out of the 30,000 rebel force, 21,000 were Afrikaners. There were 900 casualties in this rebellion and many prominent Boers lost their reputation and, sometime, their lives as a result of this action. A good social philatelic display by Paul.

The last of the invited displays was presented by Richard Stroud on the end of the Rhodesia & Nyasaland Federation. The Federation had lasted nine years and, when formed, had raised the economies of all three countries. Nyasaland broke from the Federation in October 1963 and resumed its own postal services by issuing provisional definitives in November. In January 1964 it issued its first definitives which lasted until the beginning of July 1964 when the Republic of Malawi is proclaimed and new definitives were issued. These first issues are, consequently, difficult to obtain on cover. Meanwhile Northern Rhodesia resumed its own postal administration on 1st December 1963, one month prior to the break up of the Federation. Southern Rhodesia issues new definitives and on 1st September 1964 both Rhodesias demonitised Federation postage stamps.

Continued on next page....

Votes had been cast, by those present, for the best invited display. All received good marks but Eddie Bridges received most votes and, during dinner, the Tony Chilton Memorial Trophy for 2006 was presented to him. Paul van Zeyl was runner up.



The Tony Chilton Memorial Trophy left and Eddie Bridges with part of his Union Booklet display.



On Sunday short displays from other members present were enjoyed.

Otto Peetoom displayed a philatelic alphabet of some interesting and noteworthy items from his unique collection of "things which I like".

Derek Lambert displayed a miscellany of interesting items. Material relating to two notable expeditions and other mail having a special social philatelic bias.

John Sussex showed a selection of Kings Head stamps on six sheets.

Brian Hurst displayed a clear study, including plating examples and specimens, of the British Bechuanaland November 1887 overprint to the ½d orange stamp.

A £5 Transvaal King Edward VII stamp shown by Andrew Higson was thought to be a forgery. Andrew displayed recognisable forgeries and genuine stamps for comparison and invited the opinions of those present.

Dr. Chris Board showed some postal cards of Transvaal 1885 - 1902. His display was divided into those used for commercial functions, social functions and frivolity, which gave an insight into conditions in the towns of Transvaal.

Chris Oliver showed how the R.S.A. antelope stamps and postal stationery developed from initial rejected sketches by the designer, Denis Murphy.

Richard Stock explained the background to the Zulu War of 1879 and showed material on the Khambula battle and cards of Rourke's Drift.

South Africa was the fifth country to send mail by air. Fred Clark displayed Red Cross "let your sixpence fly" cards with propaganda labels, which were priced 3d attached. Some of these cards missed flights, and were sent by conventional mail, due to a influenza epidemic which occurred at that time.

Richard Barnett showed surcharged mail from Southern Africa. This included a 1916 card from S.A. to Italy with a 1d stamp and which should have been charged 2½d (T 30c) and some recent inflation mail from Zimbabwe with a cover marked insufficient payment at \$1600.

Godfrey Mellor reminded us of his display in 2005 when he showed S.A. Christmas Seals. This time he showed some examples of these seals on cover with war labels also included. He also displayed some official philatelic bureau photographs of the Union WW II issues and first R.S.A. definitives including the 15c additional value of 1967.

We next saw some Angola border mail, upon which Dennis Firth had some queries.

Tony Stanford displayed Zululand 1887 – 97 although the G.B. overprinted stamp use started on 1st May 1886 and on 30th June 1898 the stamps were withdrawn. Tony included fiscal use of some used stamps and a forged overprint on a British stamp.

Continued on next page....

Paul van Zeyl's one frame display of Cape triangular woodblock stamps including forgeries was very impressive. A display of 1960 South African unadopted definitive designs by Tony Howgrave-Graham posed the question was there a competition held?

Nick Arrow produced some advertising mail of S.A. and two curious slogan cancellations. The advertisements covered hotels, manufacturing and mechanical equipment sales. The slogans included " Stop Dongas" which turned out to be an exhortation to reduce soil erosion.

John Shaw displayed the Boysen essays, the 1952-3 essays by Hendridsz, some Harrison sample stamps and a Leiden proof. The latter named as it was produced by Netherlands Rotogravure in Leiden. John followed up with a glimpse of his newly acquired indigo violet 2d pictorial issue 3.

The last display of another excellent congress was given by Eric Day. Eric showed Imperial Airways Africa Service covers. Imperial Airways was formed on 1st August 1924 when it made its first commercial flight.

After a break for lunch Tony Howgrave-Graham conducted a very successful auction. He had put a great deal of effort into organising this and members of all the Southern Africa Societies should have received a detailed catalogue to enable book bids to be made by those not attending. It would have been good to see more attendees stopping for the auction but those who did had an enjoyable time and approximately £9,600 of bidding took place. Well done Tony.

Paul van Zeyl & Otto Peetoom were our only dealers this year but they enjoyed themselves and considered the conference worth while.

Brian, Eddie and Tony were warmly thanked by those present for all their efforts in making the weekend a success.

The rest of the invited displays on Saturday

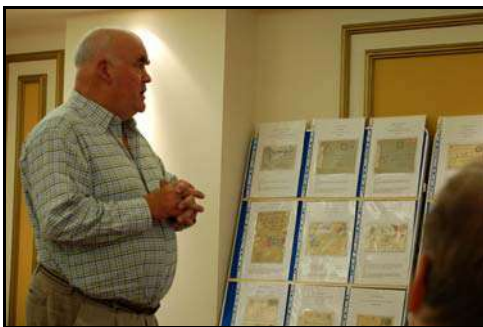
Photos, courtesy of Neville Midwood



Brian Trotter



Colin Hoffman



Robert Johnson



John Dickson



Paul van Zeyl



Richard Stroud



Anyone want to disagree?



Please let it be genuine!



Now where is that item?



Is it cold in here or is it just me?



Now where am I?



Now, what was I going to say?



What did I write here?



Everyone enjoying a look.



Come look at my babies!



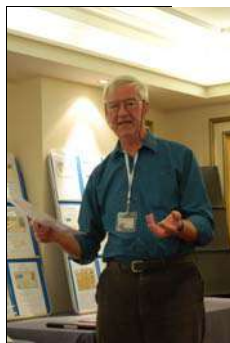
Any wise comments?



This is serious business!



My back is killing me!



Believe me!



Now, where was I?



Was I to show something?



It will come to me in a moment!



I hope I am at the right conference!

Shall we sing together?



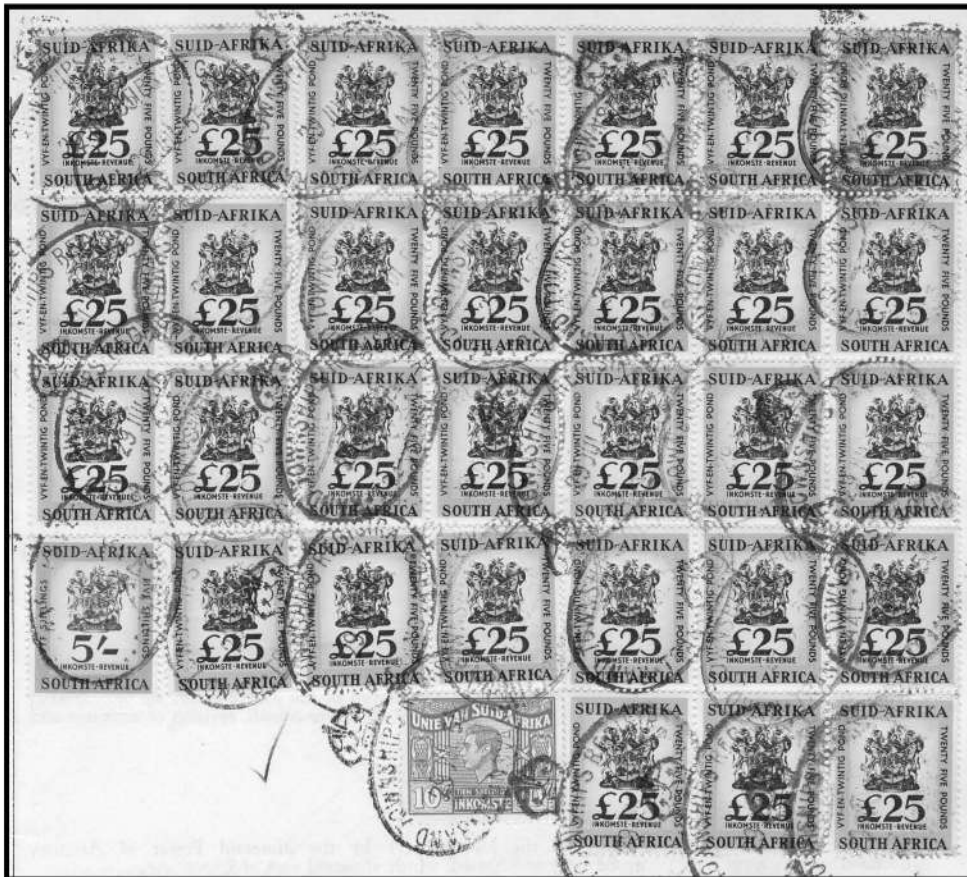
My thanks to Neville Midwood for the photos. He is not responsible for the text! Ed.

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Shifted overprint



Missing '1/2' in strip of three

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