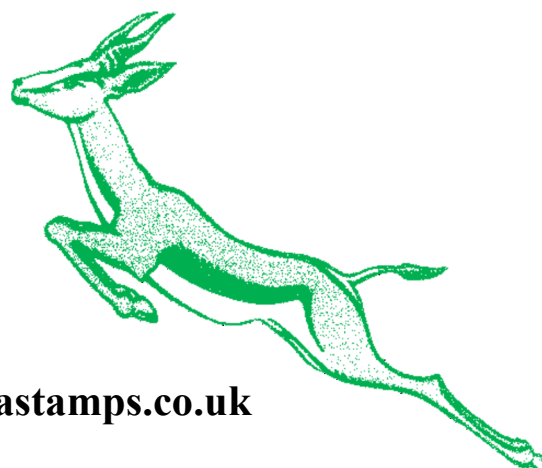


THE SPRINGBOK



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SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY QUARTERLY

Volume 61 No. 2



Variety (Fruit Bearing) not listed

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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 a SAE will be acknowledged.

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New Editor: Roy Ross

I joined the Society in 1996 and was the Secretary for 7 years prior to Chris Oliver taking over the reigns. During my years as secretary there were some memorable and very successful events, the joint meetings of the Southern African Societies at London 2000 and Chester 2002 to name two. My interest in South African Philately started when I lived and worked in South Africa for 12 years from 1974 to 1986. When I joined the society I started attending the Northern meetings in Carlisle and quickly found out that there were many like minded people like myself and have made many friends over the years. Sadly though many of those have now passed away but will not be forgotten.

I have no intention of altering the format of the Springbok at this present time but would like to stimulate some interest in Postal History and the Republic issues. If anyone else feels the same then please send me some articles. I know that there are members who feel that they are not knowledgeable enough to put pen to paper and they have some very interesting items. Send me a copy and I will do the rest.

I am sure that you will join me in thanking Eddie for his excellent work over the years as Editor and I hope that you all will be able to support me as you have supported him.

Harry Birkhead RDPSA, FRPSL.

The Society is very sad to hear the passing of Harry following complications from heart surgery on 13th March 2013. He was a well known collector of Rhodesian and Anglo-Boer war material and won the SA Grand Prix on a couple of occasions.

Chris Oliver

Obituary - Ray Glanville-Jones

On 20th March we lost another of our supportive members, who died following a short illness. Ray Glanville-Jones joined the Society in 1958 and has supported the Northern Meetings of the Society on a regular basis since that time. Ray's quiet and gentlemanly manner hid a wealth of knowledge about South African philately and that of other countries. In addition to his main philatelic interest in South Africa, Ray took an active part in the hobby in the West of Scotland. He had been President of Ayrshire P.S. in 1975 – 76; President of Old Eastwood Stamp Club in 1997 – 99 and Treasurer of that Society following his move to Glasgow. He was also a member of Caledonian P.S. Ray is survived by his daughter and son-in-law to whom we extend sympathies. We have, indeed, lost a good friend and active member in Ray.

R.I.P. Ray Chris Oliver

South African Airmail Book

Nick Arrow has advised that his book "South African Airmails" Second Edition is available from him at a cost of £30. For those within the UK the price includes P&P, those outside the UK will have to add P&P. His contact details are listed inside front cover.

95th Philatelic Congress of Great Britain - 29th June

On 29th June, also a Saturday, the Society is publicising itself at the 95th Philatelic Congress of Great Britain which is being held at the Hallmark Hotel, Matson Lane, Robinswood Hill, Gloucester GL4 6EA.

On that afternoon we will have been provided with twenty assorted frames of 9 or 12 pages and intend to show some of our diverse collecting interests.

Nick Arrow and Chris Oliver will be there to explain what the Society does and perhaps recruit some new members.

The frames will be unsecured club frames so we could do with one or two more people to attend, to help us between 2pm and 4.30pm.

The theme of the Congress this year, which lasts from 27th to 30th June, is Africa and will be chaired by Colin Hoffmann whom some of you will know. With such a theme I consider that we should be sure that we are well represented.

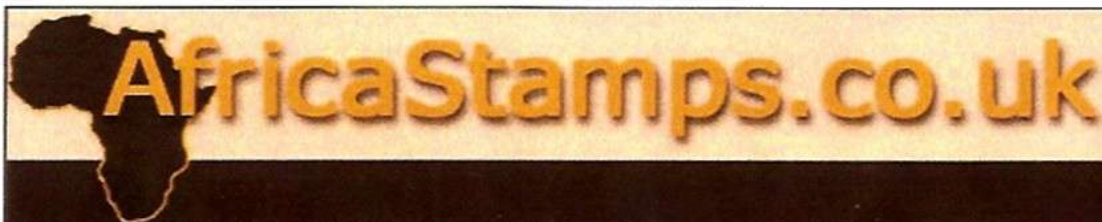
Contact Chris Oliver if you can help

Membership

Welcome to new member Dr. Leon (Jake) Jacobson 1168 from Sasolburg South Africa. His collecting interests are Southern Africa, SA Customs Duty/Douane, Transvaal, Jap occupation of China and German Samoa

New Address Simon Peetoom

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The President's Ramblings – *the unkindest cut of all*

Three times in the past, I have been embarrassed after asking members of our society questions that have in turn, embarrassed them. Two of them are still alive, and I know that, for your amusement, they will not object to me putting this on record. The second instance concerned our distinguished member, Brian Trotter, who, when I enthusiastically pointed out to him the wonderful Swaziland revenues that Paul van Zeyl was selling at a Leamington conference, and that being a serious revenue collector, he really out to see them; a somewhat embarrassed Brian explained “they were mine – I decided to restrict my interests and so sold them to Paul”. However, as a non revenue collector I was so impressed with these documents that I bought a few for myself. The third occasion was the disappearance from a respected collection of a very important item I wanted displayed in our society centenary display at Stampex in 2010. This time I shall give no name save to relate the item was a very fine block of the 2d tête-bêche.

So it is the first occasion that really what inspired the title of this article and concerns my very good late friend Robert McDougall. He was the best in the society for expertise on the ½d Springbok and 2d Union Buildings. Not many years earlier I had been mesmerised by the sight of a vertical pair of the ½d inscribed SOUTH-SOUTH, something I had never seen before, and still treasure. Later, in 1973, I bought a study of the first rotogravure roll stamps from the Wunsh sale in which there were several strips of these stamps including an unbroken proving strip of 22, a strip from column one with creased paper rivulets and three coil joins each showing three same language stamps se-tenant. I showed these to my mentor, Bob Lawrence and to Robert McDougall and determined to try and get strips of eight of the language errors from all 12 columns of the sheet. The Wunsh purchase was a good start, yielding about eight of them and Bob Lawrence, who had them all, kindly supplied me with photographs of the plating study. He also pointed out that the two three language coil-join strips in the gold medal portion of the Wunsh collection were faked, but that the one in the duplicate section was genuine, and the only one he or Robert McDougall had ever seen. He told me why, and that, at that time, only the three of us and Jack Hagger knew the reason, and we were not to reveal it. Since the other three are now long departed, I shall shortly reveal the secret to our chairman, if he does not already know; I believe Mike Tonking was also later told the secret.

Before that meeting I also showed the stamps to some friends at my then home in North Yorkshire, and was furious that one of them, a RAF officer very senior to myself, was flicking cigarette ash all over the place and that a portion appeared to have burnt into one stamp. Later I discovered this was actually the “cigar” flaw on R1/10 which, strangely, is not present on the sheet issue and also that I had the “hay in buck’s mouth” flaw on R22/12 which, of course, cannot appear in sheet form. The ½d and 1d roll stamps were, incidentally, the first of the rotogravure stamps to be issued, and before their sheet counterparts, although the sheet printing cylinders were made first in 20 rows of 12 format, and the 22 row roll cylinders made by etching two extra rows of stamps in the top and bottom blank margins, the language error on the ½d occurring because the printers etched them in the wrong order.

Eric Sherwood used to visit me frequently when we lived in Lincolnshire and, knowing my interest in R9, he once brought along his entire stock, about 20 strips. I managed to complete my 12 column reconstruction and noticed that he also had the one strip Robert McDougall was missing; in those days we held London meetings at the National Liberal Club and there I told Robert who then asked Eric to send it to him, which he did, folding the strip along rows 21 and 22. Later, when I asked Robert if he had received this item he was full of sorrow and embarrassment and eventually confided that was so excited that he was about to complete his R9 reconstruction that he was far too swift opening the packet with the letter opener and, in the process, neatly cut the precious strip in two – now I do think that was the unkindest cut of all!

Report on the meeting held in Carlisle on March 23rd 2013-04-05

By Malcolm Ridsdale

Attendees – 5 Members, David Haig, Max Whitlock, Roy Ross, John Ahmad and Malcolm Ridsdale

David Haig welcomed everybody to the 41st meeting and acknowledged that the low numbers attending was down to the severe wintry weather experienced in northern England and Scotland. A card recognising the recent passing of Ray Glanville Jones was passed around and signed by everyone for David to send to Ray's family from the northern group of the SACS.

Items through the Chair

The next meeting will be held on the 21st September at the County Hotel, Carlisle. The topic of the meeting would be none specific with attendees encouraged to bring any aspects of SA stamp collecting that appealed to them.

Around the Table

The members present held a general discussion on SACS and stamp issues. Roy Ross commented that he was looking forward to producing The Springbok as its new Hon Editor and he hoped that members of the SACS would contribute a wide selection of items to help continue to make the magazine an attractive read. Max Whitlock updated the meeting on the situation with the cover packet which has been delayed as very few members have indicated to Max that they want a sight of this packet. Max asked for members to contact him if they wanted to be included on the list.

Displays

There were no displays.

The meeting closed at approximately 12.00pm for lunch and then a visit to a stamp auction that was being held across the road adjacent to the railway station.

The SACS Library update By Malcolm Ridsdale (Hon Librarian)

Since the last Springbok further books have been added to the Library lists as follows:

The Official Post and the Official or "Free" Letter Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope by Robert Goldblatt

The Kings Head Stamps and Stationery of South Africa by Brian Trotter which was produced for the RPSL meeting May 2012

The South African Stamp Colour Catalogue 2002/03

The Library includes up to date copies of The Springbok and the SA Philatelist. If any member has a spare copy of the last couple of SETEMPE's that they could let me have I would appreciate them.

The Library now has a complete collection of The Springbok thanks to a very generous donation of the early issues by Mike Robinson.

If you wish to borrow any of the above or have an electronic copy of the complete lists of books, magazines and articles you can do so by e mailing me (ridsdales@ntlworld.com). Please contact Max Whitlock (0164 2482877) if you require a paper copy.

Please feel free to contact me if I can be of any assistance in your search for information.

The Wicks' Medal

By Chris Oliver

In 1961, John E. Wicks, auctioneer of Pietermaritzburg, in his tenth year as an auctioneer wished to present a prize to be awarded on or around 30th September each year to a worthy contributor of a written and published work on S.A. philately during the previous year. In 1982 the rules were amended to confine the award to those members contributing a worthy article for The Springbok. Members are asked to advise on which articles on which articles in a specific year, they consider worthy of consideration. The Hon. Editor; The President; The Chairman and the Hon. Secretary of the Society then consider the standard of articles included and, if any are worthy, recommend the award to be presented at the next Annual General Meeting of the Society. This year, it is intended that the A.G.M. should be held in June and the articles published in the Springbok during 2012 will be considered.

At the A.G.M. held in November 2012 it was intended to present Nicholas Lindström with the Wicks' Medal for his article on "Using Rotary Blade Damage to Study Union Stamps" Springbok, Vol. 59 No. 4 [2011] Unfortunately, work commitments meant that he could not attend and the President took the opportunity at the recent London meeting to remedy this.

The committee felt that Nicholas had not only undertaken an original line of research of study on stamp issues of which many of us are aware, but had shared this knowledge in a concise manner.

In an effort to promote more membership participation in the decisions which, it is hoped, will result in the award of the medal for the year 2012, a voting form is included with this edition of the Springbok. It is hoped that a large number of members will take time to consider and make a decision on the best article which they deem worthy of the award.



Nicholas Lindstrom presented with the Wicks medal by John Shaw

Editors note: A separate voting form for the Wicks' Medal can be found in the envelope with this issue of The Springbok

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LONDON MEETING – MAR 2013

By John Shaw

This was the first 2013 London meeting held, as usual, at the Calthorpe Arms in Holborn, those present were Tony Howgrave-Graham, Tony Johnson, Nicholas Lindstrom, Christopher Oliver, David Osborne, David Paige and John Shaw. Before the displays, there was a short discussion on the forthcoming June Leamington Spa conference which, this year, would also be the occasion of our society AGM and then the presentation of the Wicks medal to Nicholas Lindstrom, who had not been able to receive the award when it was announced last November at Leamington.

At this meeting, we think we achieved a “first” in that all seven present actually did display something, and I know this gave our new chairman, Tony H-G a feeling of warmth that no one felt inhibited about talking about their stamps, albeit this meeting was much more postal history.

The topic of this meeting was “Anything” and Tony H-G started with a display of 11th row flaws on the unhyphenated 2d Union Buildings stamp, repeated flaws which appear in many different positions in those columns where a small fragment has embedded into the inking cylinder and transferred to one of the printing cylinders; however, one is best left to read Tony’ article on these for a more erudite explanation.

Nicholas Lindstrom showed an extensive study of the hyphenated 3d Groot Schuur definitive, with some marginal guillotining characteristics, moving sheet numbers, and many examples of the aeroplane flaw, now listed by Gibbons, I believe; you may recall Nicholas’ previous study of the marginal cuts on the 5/- Issue 3.



David Paige showed revenue stamps, with reference to the 1864 Stamp Act, with a fine selection of high values from the four provinces; especially interesting items were an OFS 10/- postal order and an anti-nuptial agreement. David says this represents “Work in Progress”.

Chris Oliver seems to have a monopoly on the latest NVI (no value indicated) republican stamps and showed the Dennis Murphy Antelope designs which were rejected by Franco Frescura, then the first

self-adhesives and the postal stationery cards in the same basic designs, then sets of five in sheet format and, finally, booklets with the Aids Awareness or Kruger Park logos. Finally, Chris showed a 1d embossed KG V postal stationery envelope with printing completely offset on the reverse – an item catalogues in the 1952 handbook, I recall.

David Osborne’s topic was the stampless World War two airmail letter sheets, classified according to the “Lee” types documented in a 1980 Essex publication; there was a multiplicity of Egypt Post Prepaid marks, mainly on letters to South Africa, the covers franked with large and small war effort 3ds. One unusual cover was printed in purple and there were many different censor marks and privilege envelopes. There were South African and general pictorial Christmas lettersheets, with pictures both inside (normal) and outside. These items are, in essence, the forerunners to the MAL (Military air letters) listed in SAC/H and this made a most interesting display.

Cont’d

Simon Peetoom showed parcel labels including “Greetings from East Africa” and a Royal Artillery badge embroidered on a linen patch. Perhaps the most interesting, and humorous item was a fragment of cloth with the inscription:

“Land of fleas, flies and ants,
We have no Christmas cards,
So here is a piece of my pants”

Not exactly iambic pentameter, but pretty good, Simon.

John Shaw showed mainly postcards depicting Kruger Park scenes, usually with the corresponding first animal series stamps affixed; it is not generally known that the 6d lion stamp was copied by a brewery to advertise their “Lion” beer. A letter from the company, in response to a request for some of these stamps stated that since the “stamp” produced was too much like the real thing, the Post Office had forbidden them to use it and they had destroyed all their stock; the “Lion” stamp John showed was “one that got away”.

I think this is the first time that everyone attending – all seven of us – actually showed something; there were no big guns at this meeting but it was certainly one of our most interesting and entertaining.

O

From The Editors Desk

Mike Tonking asks if any member can advise him as to why these examples have guillotined left margins.

If anyone knows the reason please let me know and I will publish the answer (Ed.)

Unhyphenated Rotogravure Issue 2/2a vertical row 2.

All printed on creased paper with watermark upright.

All have guillotined left margins with torn top, bottom and right margins.

Identification:

Fig. 1 Row 10/2 — Dot to left of left tower.

Fig. 2 Row 13/2 — Smudge in left frame.

Row 14/2 — Dot 4mm to left of left chimney just above roof.

Fig. 3 Row 19/2 — purple dot 2mm to right of right tower

Row 20/2 — Tiny dot in top of ‘2’ in 2nd.

How is it possible that these examples have guillotined left margins? They are not from Booklet B 9 or the economy strips.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

South Africa in London

The stamps and postal history of Southern Africa feature regularly in our auctions held throughout the year in central London, heart of the global stamp market. Our June 5th auction will feature an exceptional section of the cancellations and postal history of South West Africa and complimentary copies of this catalogue will be available on request.

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SG1 Specimen Fake

By Simon Peetoom

Please look at the scan attached, I was offered this little gem at a stamp fair in London. It is a complete fake; the overprint has been printed using an ink jet printer. Under a glass you can see the dots of ink and they have soaked into the paper, giving a suffused appearance. The gentleman making the offer also had Bechuanaland Victory pairs with a missing overprint on one stamp, the "overprint" being applied by the same method. The chap who offered them to me was not the offender and believed them both to be dubious. Apparently a dealer has "a stock book full of them" and offers them for sale "cheap" i.e. about £20 each. In my opinion they are worthless.



The fake would not fool an experienced collector, especially someone with other specimen overprints available for comparison, but it could fool a beginner and someone not cynical enough to know that something too good to be true usually is. A genuine specimen overprint usually has an indentation from the overprinting forme showing through on the back of the stamp – to see what I mean have a look at any South Africa Official. Be aware that not all specimens are overprinted; some are hand stamped, such as the later issued values of the King's Heads

O

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A Comment on the January Auction report page 14 Vol.61/1

By Mike Tonking

In the January issue of the Springbok, auction report, Tony Howgrave-Graham raises an interesting question regarding the imperforate pair of the 1/2d. Issue 17 where he refers to '4 rows of a single sheet'.

I can find no references in the literature on these stamps apart from the note in the 1986 Handbook. They were specially printed for the Cultural Museum in Cape Town in 1948 from the Issue 17 plates. Imperforate complete stamps, vignettes only and frames only known. I do not know on what basis it is reported that there were only 24 complete stamps recorded. I am sure that Tony's comment "presumably, 4 rows of a single sheet" is correct.

Issue 17 was most unusual in that due to a shortage of standard width paper, use had to be made of paper of a narrower width which resulted in each sheet containing 180 stamps in 20 rows of 9 stamps with two arrows in both top and bottom margins. The first three rows of the multipositive were masked out which meant the first stamp was now in Afrikaans. There now being 9 stamps per row it meant that there could only be four complete pairs in a row. It would seem logical that the die proofs for the Cultural Museum were printed directly from the original Issue 17 cylinders, as illustrated below, and not from a new set of cylinders used to print a single sheet.

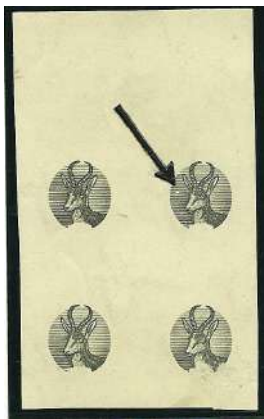


Fig. 1
Interior cylinder 25 rows 1 and 2
Stamps 6 and 7.
Row 1/7—white mark in line with buck's right eye



Fig. 2
Complete top two rows of Issue 17.
Row 1/7—Flaw as seen on proof sheet.

AGM at Leamington Spa

The AGM will be held at Leamington Spa in June this year, a departure from previous years. This meeting in June has been designed to get the Society back on a healthy footing after all the problems of last year, finding Officers for the Society and a new Editor. We are happy to report that things are moving in the right direction and the society looks forward to a healthy future. The Society is now entering its 66th year and as can be seen from the Journal number, *The Springbok* is now in its 61st year of continuous publication.

Please note that this meeting is not a replacement for the annual Southern African Societies meeting in November, which will take place again this year. This is only a SACS meeting! Visitors are always welcome.

South African Collectors' Society
Falstaff Hotel, Leamington Spa
1st & 2nd June 2013

Saturday 1st June

- 10.30 - 11.00 Doors Open—Tea & Coffee available
11.00 - 13.00 Displays — Two hours, 4 x half hour slots
13.00 - 14.30 Lunch break
14.30 - 15.30 Further displays — One hour. 2 x half hour
15.30 - 16.30 Abell Trophy one frame competition — 9 sheets
Informal pint break and chair moving
17.00 A.G.M
19.00 Dinner with presentation of Wicks medal and Abell Trophy

Sunday 2nd June

- 9.30 Doors Open
10.00 - 11.00 RSA Hour
11.00 - 12.30 Bring and Show
Why I collect the Stamps and Covers of South Africa
12.30 - 13.30 Lunch Break
13.30 onwards Auction

Auction items available for viewing throughout Saturday and Sunday
For further information contact Simon Peetoom: simon@africastamps.co.uk

Leamington Displays by Simon Peetoom

The displays being shown at the Leamington Spa meeting are: Tony Howgrave-Graham—Maritime mail. Eddie Bridges—Hyphenated Pictorials. Chris Oliver—RSA booklets. Roy Ross—RSA Building Definitives and 1¹/₂d Mine Dump missing shading. Otto Peetoom—War Labels. Rob Lester—The commercial covers from his 1910 2¹/₂d Union collection. John Shaw—1935 Silver Jubilee.

There is also time to show what you bring along. It would be nice if this could follow a loose theme of “Why I collect South Africa” but I am sure we will all be delighted to see anything you choose to bring along. Don't forget your entries for the Abell Trophy one frame competition. The Time slots for the Display's of half an hour are not set in stone. If anyone needs more time then I'm sure we can accommodate. There is probably enough time for one more display on Saturday.

Rates for the Falstaff Hotel are: Dinner Bed & Breakfast £60 per person per night, £90 double room. To book contact Simon Peetoom: simon@africastamps.co.uk

COGH perfined Officials

Roald Sand asks for any further information on the COGH perfined Officials.

He has the book by E. Tamsen *The Official Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope*.



Chris Oliver has sent in this information from pages 40/43 of Brian Trotter's book "The Edwardian Stamps of the South African Colonies."

I have reproduced it here for the benefit of other members (*Ed.*)

Does anyone else have any further information? (*Forward to Editor*)

Use as Official Stamps

The Cape of Good Hope Official stamps are somewhat shrouded in mystery. Allis⁵ states that it was the Cape Government Printing and Stationery Department that adopted the system of punching security holes in stamps for their official use. Amoores⁶ says it was the Stationery and

⁴ *Cape Colony Post and Telegraph Guide No. 86*, Cape Town: Cape Colony Government, January 1905, p. 64.

Printed Forms Branch of the Colonial Secretary's Department of the Cape of Good Hope. He illustrates a cover front showing this office as the sender. These may have been one and the same, but the probability is that the title used by Amoores is the correct one, as much of the information provided by Allis has since been updated and adjusted with further research.

The Cape Colony became a member of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) on 1 January 1895. Under the UPU conventions, mail between postal administrations was free, but all other mail, including official mail, had to be prepaid using adhesive stamps. This means that letters sent abroad by the Cape Government would need to be prepaid in this way.

Perhaps more relevant, was that postage on all Government parcels had to be prepaid. The Cape Colony's *Post Office Guide*⁷ of 1903 states: 'Under the regulations of the Parcel Post all government parcels must be prepaid at the ordinary tariff'. This regulation was changed in October 1910 to allow the government parcels to go through the mails free. The Stationery and Printed Forms Branch had responsibility for the sale and distribution of all government reports, publications and maps, and would have used the parcel post for much of the distribution of this material.

The Cape Colony Post Office permitted the practice of perforating or puncturing initials or a design on postage stamps as a security measure. The Stationery and Printed Forms Branch were conforming with the regulations when they had stamps for their official use punctured in a distinctive eleven hole 'bow tie' design (Fig. 7.2), 13.5 mm high and 13.5 mm wide.

Recorded dates of usage of these official stamps are from February 1904 to July 1906. Consistent with the stamp availability of this period, not only King Edward VII series stamps were punctured for official use, but some of those of the previous issues that were in use throughout the Edwardian Period were also punctured for official use. The Stanley Gibbons Catalogue listing and that of Amoores are consistent, and they list:



Fig. 7.2 The 'Bow Tie' punctured design.

2d	pale bistre Hope Seated (SG 50)
6d	purple Hope Seated (SG 52a)
½d	green Hope Standing (SG 58)
3d	magenta Hope Standing (SG 60)
2d	chocolate-brown Hope Seated (SG 62)
3d	bright magenta Hope Seated (SG 64)
4d	sage-green Hope Seated (SG 65)
1d	carmine Table Mountain (SG 69)
½d	green King Edward VII
1d	carmine King Edward VII
2d	brown King Edward VII
3d	magenta King Edward VII
4d	olive-green King Edward VII
6d	bright mauve King Edward VII
1s	yellow-ochre King Edward VII
5s	brown-orange King Edward VII

⁵ Allis, Gilbert J. *Cape of Good Hope its Postal History and Postage Stamps*, London: Stanley Gibbons, 1930, p. 115.

⁶ Amoores, Hugh. 'Perfins of the Cape of Good Hope', *The South African Philatelist*, Sept/Oct/Nov 1992, pp. 138-9.

⁷ *Post Office Guide*, Number 78, 1903, Regulation 11, p. 72.

It is probable that Amoores' article is the basis of the Stanley Gibbons listing. It is worth noting that Jurgens⁸ claimed to have seen all 9 values of the King Edward VII punctured for official use, so this would include the 2½d value not listed above.

These stamps have not enjoyed much status in the past, hence the general lack of information on them. For example, the 'Maximus' sale of the Cape of Good Hope Stamps⁹ incorporated them in a mixed lot housed in a green album. This lot included stamps from 1864 onwards, with various unusual postmarks and usages, including 'Printing and Stationery Dept. Security punching.'

Needle Punctured for Railway Use

Some Cape stamps were also needle punctured for railway use. These are covered in Chapter 33, which views Edwardian stamps of all four colonies that were used for railway service.

Overprinted for Revenue Use

The postage stamps of the Cape were also pressed into revenue service. Two denominations were overprinted for Cigarette Duty, five for Customs Duty, and one for Patent and Proprietary medicine duty, while the ½d and 1d were authorised for use to pay receipt stamp duty. These are all covered in later chapters. The authorised use of ½d and 1d postage stamps to pay receipt duty in Chapter 9, Patent and Proprietary medicine duty in Chapter 11, Cigarette Duty in Chapter 12, and Customs Duty in Chapter 34.

8 Jurgens, A. A. 'Cape of Good Hope Official Stamps', *The South African Philatelist*, January 1947, p. 5.

9 Sotheby's auction catalogue, *Postage Stamps of the Cape of Good Hope, The 'Maximus' Grand Prix Collection*, London, 7 September 1989, lot 578.

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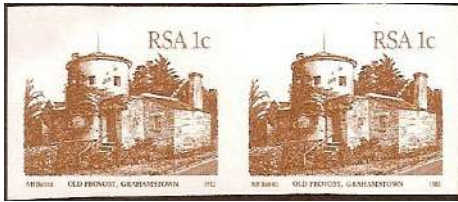
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4th Definitive Buildings Series

By Roy Ross

Here are some examples of listed varieties. Has anyone any other examples?



1c imperforate pair SACC 515b



11c imperforate pair SACC 562a



4c missing ,28 in margin pane "B"

No SACC number for this item



Missing (1) 982 SACC 524cv



25c instead of ,25c SACC 527cv

4th Definitive Series (Buildings)

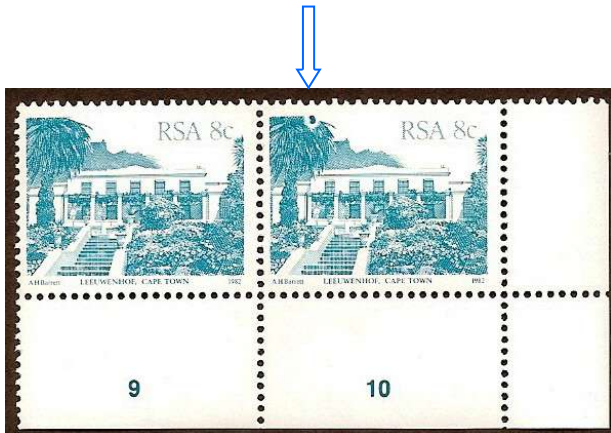
By Roy Ross

It has long been my intention to put together a booklet on the Buildings series. However I still need additional information before this can be done. This is a fascinating series and a lot of the buildings I have actually seen, which is one reason for my keen interest in them.

Over the next few issues of the Springbok I hope to stimulate some interest from other members by writing articles on this series, which in turn should fill in any gaps that there are in my collection and enable me to finally write the booklet.

There are a lot of unknowns regarding the amount of varieties not listed in the SACC 30th Edition. If anyone has any items not listed please forward me copies and I will publish them.

Examples of unlisted varieties that I have.



8c Fruit bearing



20c Marginal block of 4 with missing vertical perfs.



30c Shaved top.

This has been listed before in a previous Edition of the SACC as 528aa
But not in the 30th Edition

Does anyone know from which printing these came from?

My full sheets of stamps are only the 1cent to the red 20cent values, one sheet of each value.

The 8cent Fruit bearing is not from cyl 1430 pane 'B' I have this sheet of stamps.

What is the reason why some of these stamps are not listed in the later SACC Editions? is it Space?

What can be done if anything to get them listed?

Governmental Experimental Air Mail Scheme 1925

An amusing card

By Nicholas Arrow

Collectors will all be familiar with the Experimental Air Mail scheme set up by the Government in 1925, which resulted in the production of the first South African Air Mail stamps (SACC 25-28). Initially the route was proposed from Cape Town via Mossel Bay, Port Elizabeth and East London to Durban, but because of the uncertainty of the weather at Mossel Bay (which was an area prone to fog), the itinerary was changed somewhat at the last moment, and Oudtshoorn substituted for Mossel Bay. Mail to Mossel Bay was flown, somewhat irregularly, to Mossel Bay, and from Mossel Bay was taken by train to Oudtshoorn and then put on the appropriate flights West or East depending on the destination. Mail to or from Mossel Bay is quite plentiful on the first flights (both from Cape Town on the 2nd March and to Cape Town on the 6th March), but far less so afterwards.

This card was posted on the 5th March 1925 and taken by train to Oudtshoorn, and then put on the first flight West to Cape Town which left Oudtshoorn on the 6th March. It is correctly franked 1d for the surface delivery and with 1d for the Air Mail, paid for by the Air Mail stamp.



So why is such an ordinary item worthy of a note in *The Springbok*? Perhaps it isn't, but the message on the back is pure gold! It reads -

*"Dear Mr Gunn,
Licensing Court held today. Full gathering and long discussions. The usual type with which you are familiar. Hot stuffy court room and plenty of proposals and gas amounting to nothing.
Yours ..."*

Cont'd

An Amusing Card Cont'

and I know just what the writer was thinking about. I remember a day many years ago in the Somerton Magistrates Court. The Court always dealt with licensing applications first and on this particular occasion, the Court seemed quite incapable of making up its mind on anything at all. I even recall that it retired to consider whether to grant an unopposed application by a publican for an "Occasional Licence", ie one for a bar outside normal Licensed Premises, such as a village hall for a dance or similar function. This so irritated me that the door had barely closed behind the Magistrates when I was moved to comment that presumably the Court had to decide whether it had a mind to make up in the first place. Such comment was uttered rather more loudly than perhaps was politically advisable, and drew a rebuke from the Clerk, but I know all too well exactly what the writer of the card was thinking!

O

South African Collectors' Society Accounts

South African society

Income and Expenditure up to 31st December 2012

Income		Expenditure		
Subscriptions	2,822.22	Purchase of S A Philatelist Library	35.00	
S A Philatelist Subs	532.00	Purchase of S A Philatelist Members	490.32	
Auction NA	184.03	4 Springbok Magazines I	1,246.07	
Advertising	589.00	2 Springbok Postage	620.37	
Copier Income Max	225.78	Rent London	93.00	
Donation	20.00	Rent Carlisle	100.00	
Packet	397.70	Other Room Hire	33.00	
		Stamp Insurance	150.40	
interest	16.50	ABPS and handbook	113.30	
		ABPS advert	55.00	
		Engraving	43.05	
		Auction costs	123.78	
		Library Purchase	57.00	
		Other	54.40	
		Trophy write off	54.60	
		Donation	20.00	
Total Income to date	4,787.23	Total Expenditure to date	3,289.29	
Surplus so far in the year	1,497.94			
 Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2012				
	Bank Current	4,606.82	Subscriptions in advance 2013	606.00
	Cash	55.46		-
Amount held by C Roche	S.A. Rands 10094 at 13.75	734.10	L.Spa Balance	2,925.90
	Deposit Account	3,000.00		
	Packet Fund Account	541.31		
		8,937.69		
	Photocopier	1.00		
Adverts raised in January 2013	Advertising	470.00		
19 Trophies left	Trophies	1,037.40		
Reconciled figures to those held by Max	Stamps held	636.04		
			Brought Forward	6,052.29
			Surplus so far on the year	1,497.94
	Totals	11,082.13		11,082.13

THE FORGED SOUTH WEST AFRICA OFFICIAL 1/2d. SG 023a

By Mike Tonking

The South West Africa Official 1/2d. Value was, together with the 1d., 1 1/2d., 2d., and 6d. Values, overprinted in 1952. This was the third printing of Issue 6 which was well executed and free of printing flaws unlike the previous Official issues. It is known that the overprint transpositions occurred in the case of the 1d., 1 1/2d., and 6d. Values in the Issue 6 first and second printings. Over the past few years used examples of the 1/2d. Value with transposed overprints have come onto the market all of which are the forger's art.

There are a number of features which serve to identify the forgery and are common to all the forged examples seen to date.

1. The overprint applied to the issue 6 1952 printing was placed in line with the bird's shoulder. Fig. 1. whereas in the case of the forged overprint it is raised to lie across the bird's head.
2. The forged overprint is very smudgy and the letters slightly thinner as well as being too light in colour. Fig. 3. and Fig. 4.
3. In the genuine overprint the bottom of the 'C' in OFFICIAL is rounded whilst that of the forgery it is cut off at a sharp angle. Fig.5 and Fig. 6
4. There is a projection on the inner top right side of the 'O' in OFFISIEEL which is not seen on the genuine overprint. Fig.7 and Fig. 8.
5. Examples have been seen with deepening of the overprint embossing towards the right hand end of the overprint on the rear of the stamp. This is indicative that the overprint application may not been via a plate.
6. No item of postal history has been recorded to date.



Fig. 1
Genuine overprint on bird's shoulder



Fig. 2
Forged overprint raised to bird's head

This is a dangerous forgery which might, at first glance, fool a casual observer and any example should be examined with care as it is highly unlikely that a genuine 1/2d transposition does indeed exist.



Fig. 3 *Genuine 1952 overprint*



Fig. 4 *Forged overprint*

Cont'd



Fig. 5
Genuine 'C' in OFFICIAL



Fig. 6
Forged 'C' in OFFICIAL

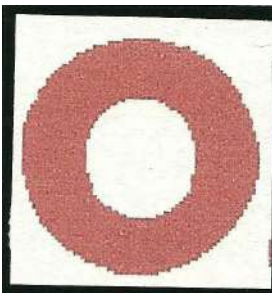


Fig. 7
Genuine 'O' in OFFISIEEL

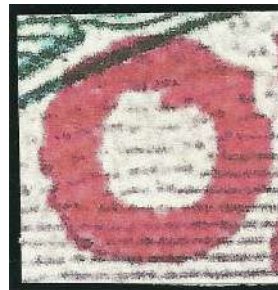


Fig. 8
Forged 'O' in OFFISIEEL

Although the source of the forgery is uncertain it is probable that it emanated from Europe. It is reported that some years ago a local dealer had about twenty copies for sale at inflated prices. In 2006 a used copy surfaced at Murray Payne which exhibited all the features of the forgery. A used pair was auctioned by S Welz in 2009 which again was a forgery. Coincidentally the same pair was auctioned had been submitted to the RPS and given a bad certificate for both the overprint and the postmark. The BPA had examined one copy which they concluded was forged. In 2010 the South African Philatelist Federation Expert Committee examined no less than four pairs all of which were considered to have been forged. The latest example was offered at auction by Spink in January 2013 and again it was a forgery. In view of this evidence it is difficult to understand on what basis Stanley Gibbons and the SACC have listed it in their catalogues. To date no genuine example of this transposed overprint has been seen and it likely to remain that way in the future.

Acknowledgements: The author would like to acknowledge assistance from Michael Wigmore RDPSA, Murray Payne, S. Welz, Spink, The RPS, BPA and especially Jan van Beukering.

— O —

Abell Trophy Competition

This years Abell Trophy competition will be held at the June meeting in Leamington Spa.

- The Abell Trophy rules are as follows:
- Not more than nine pages on any topic related to the objectives of the society.
- Posted entries are acceptable and should be sent and post paid in both directions.
- Good quality colour photocopies or scans on stiff paper are also acceptable, but must be the entrants own material.
- The competition will be judged by those present.
- The trophy will be awarded for one year.
-

Pretoria Typographs— $\frac{1}{2}$ d Perforation problems by Mike Tonking

As recorded in the 1986 Handbook a number of perforation problems were experienced particularly with the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 1d. values.

Sheets were fed into the single comb perforator (14,5x14,0) at the right margin which was left imperforated whilst the left sheet margin was perforated through. There must have been some reason for the numerous examples of trial comb strikes seen in the right margin. These range from half to eight or more extra perforations. Many complete trial comb strikes are recorded which gave rise to double or more perforations in the right margin. Whether these problems were due to poor operator operation or perforator malfunction is not known.

Examples of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Value

Extra holes in right margin – trial strike of comb when being registered with the stamps.



Double perforation where alignment required to be adjusted to the left. The horizontal perforations of the second beat coincide with the first.



Treble perforation in this case the sheet was inserted at an angle.



Quadruple perforation – four attempts were made at centering the comb, three in the right margin and a final one in the correct position.



Perforated through a foldover of the top of the right margin.



Reversed perforation where the right margin is perforated through.



Imperforated left side margin.



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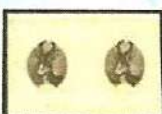
Harrison Essays 1d Springback. £65



Pretoria 1d Spectacular Offset Block. £275



1d Imperf Frames, Museum Proofs, 24 Pairs Exist. £600



1/2d Imperf Centres, Museum Proofs, 24 Pairs Exist. £600



Harrison Essays 1d Springback "Muster". £120



Pretoria Typo's 1d Imperf Colour Trial/Plate Proof. £160



Pretoria Typo's 1/2d Imperf at Left. £550



Airmail 9d Green Imperf. £725



c1953, Group of Four Photographic Essays. £240

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