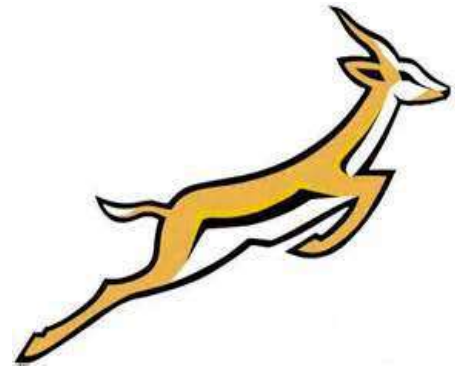


THE SPRINGBOK



**SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS'
SOCIETY QUARTERLY**

www.southafricacollector.com

Volume 66 No. 4



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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.

The Springbok was awarded a large vermeil medal at Stampex 2017

Editor

R W Ross

Editorial Panel

T. Howgrave-Graham

C. Oliver

J.L. Shaw

© South African
Collectors' Society,
2018

Vol. 66 Iss. 4 Whole No. 344
Founded 1948

Editorial

Unfortunately this issue is very late going to the printers due to matters out of my control. If everyone works together then this would not happen!

The deadline for receipt of articles for the next issue is the third week of January.

I would like to thank all those who have contributed to the Magazine in the past year and wish everyone a Merry Christmas and prosperous New Year. Without those who send me articles we would not have a magazine so please keep sending them in. I can never have enough articles.

A number of members have sent in queries, which I have published, over the years and most have received little or no feed back. I am sure that there are members within the Society that may know some of the answers, so please take the time to send me any information that you may have for the benefit of us all. It does not matter if you think it is trivial it may be the last piece in the jigsaw.

Membership subscriptions for 2019 are now due

A subscription form is enclosed with this issue.

Max Whitlock Obituary



I have to sadly report the recent death of Max Whitlock member number 995. Max was one of our regular Northern group members and after his wife died in 1999 he wanted something to do and took on the role of Cover packet Manager and Distribution manager. The latter he continued to do until his recent illness.

He was a Civil Engineer and built many of the roads in the UK.

He enjoyed gardening and helped with the running of a number of organisations in his local area of Redcar

For his service to our society, Max was elected a Hon life member of the society in 2009.

RIP Max - RWR

Pretoria Stamp Show 2018

SACS Members - Trophy awards

The Grand Prix (Best in Show)

Hugh Amoore RDPSA - South African Postal rates and changes 1961 - 2011

C.E.D Enoch Trophy (Best Philatelic Research) Hugh Amoore RDPSA

Potch 78 Award (Best Exhibit Post WW11) Hugh Amoore RDPSA

Ilsapex Award (at the discretion of the Jury)

Mike Tonking RDPSA - The RSA Roll Stamps - "the final chapter"

Jonas Michelson Literature Award (Best Literature)

John Dickson - The Atlantic Sea-Posts of the Cape of Good Hope to 1883

Pilot Pen Award (at the discretion of the jury)

John Dickson

Large Vermeil

Paul van Zeyl RDPSA - The 'Bittereinder' Rebellion

A Report on the London meeting held on 22nd September 2018 at The Calthorpe Arms, Greys Inn Road, London WC1X 8JR

Six members attended and there were five apologies for absence from Messrs. Page, Payne, Hill, Tony Johnson and Simon Peetoom.

It was agreed by those present that the London meetings in 2019 would comprise a discussion on S.W.A. on the Spring meeting and an open meeting in the Autumn. Chris will book dates when he pays for this meeting, upon its conclusion. This meeting was an open meeting with a variety of material shown. *Dates for next years meetings can be found on the inside cover of this issue. Ed.*



John Archer raised a query regarding the sheet numbering on the 1974 – 77 definitive issue, with particular reference to 3c. value. On the first four printings the sheet numbers are odd on the A panes & even on the B panes. This reverses on the fifth printing. Are the sheet numbers, in fact, pane numbers? It was suggested that John might contact Mike Tonking and/or Roy Ross to discuss it further.

Chris Oliver, in recognition of the centennial of the ending of WWI next month, displayed some WWI ephemera and some examples of civil censorship on mail during WWII. Examples of all known censor tapes from the latter war were shown and examples of all lettered Union Coats

of Arms from A to T with the exception of D which is an S.W.A. censor.

John Shaw had purchased Dr. John Ahmad's Egypt Post Prepaid collection which included date stamps and censor marks of WWII. He displayed a large selection of this collection which contains an amount of John Ahmad's research into military records.

All present thanked John for providing ham sandwiches for our repast, in addition to his display. "Royal" members will be able to see one of John's other collecting interests on 4th October when his Paraguay will get an airing.

One of our regular attendees had complained that he never saw stamps at London meetings, only Postal History. To remedy this, Tony Howgrave-Graham displayed his collection of the George VI Coronation issue. This included the five printings of the ½d stamp (1 right and 2-5 left); the 1d value uncommon left hand cylinder printing; several doctor blade flaws; plenty of varieties and a 1d block of ten stamps [5 x 2] having joined paper. Unluckily the member had given his apologies.

Rob Lester displayed twelve pages of the Muizenberg / Kenilworth airmails. Some of these had been signed by E.J. Driver. He requires a card containing the Vacuum Oil Co. advertisement to complete his display.

John Shaw had made some recent purchases for his collection of Union definitive stamps, a 3d rotogravure with two paper joins and five essays of other values which he proudly displayed.



John Shaw, Chris Oliver, Tony Howgrave-Graham, Rob Lester, John Archer

The Next London meeting will be held on Saturday 16th February 2019

A Report on the Carlisle meeting held at the County Hotel, Carlisle on Saturday 22nd September 2018

Attendees – David Haig, Roy Ross, Colin Moore, Peter Dix, Eric Hammond and Malcolm Ridsdale

David Haig welcomed everybody to the 53rd meeting.

Items through the Chair

The next meetings will be held on the 23rd March 2019 and 21st September 2019 at the County Hotel, Carlisle. The topic of the next meetings would continue to be “open house” which was continuing to prove to be a popular, varied and entertaining choice.

Around the Table

Before the displays were set up for the following session the attendees spent time discussing a range of SA philatelic topics enjoying a lively debate across a spectrum of Union and Republic areas. Roy Ross also led a discussion about the possibility that the SACS might support a stand at the ABPS conference in Perth during April 2019 and attendees were asked to give some thought as to how they may be able to contribute to this.

Displays

Roy Ross

RR displayed a range of issues from within the First Definitives of the RSA including pairs, blocks, vertical and horizontal strips from a variety of printings and sheets of 100. He also displayed a number of the issues from Group 6 and 7, Swiss and Harrison paper era. All stamps were mint mostly with selvedge detail e.g. cylinder and sheet numbers.

His second display covered commemorative issues from 1981 – 84 all in mint condition including cylinder blocks plus related FDC's.

David Haig

DH's display was of a wide range of cards etc showing aspects of the Boer War.

Malcolm Ridsdale

MR's display covered a range of SA first flight covers from the 1970's and 1980's showing how routes had changed over time due to political decisions and then technical advancement in aircraft. He also showed a number of Namibia first flight covers as the newly independent country in the 1990's developed its air routes.

Peter Dix

PD displayed a selection of Union Castle items from his collection. They included covers, ephemera and RSA mint blocks of stamps from the 2007 issue. His display covered a variety of the Castle liners and SA ships on the GB/SA route.

Eric Hammond

EH displayed SA Union Official stamps in mint / used condition from issues. He followed this display with a range of Cape Town post cards showing harbour and city views from the early 20th century and how changes were made both large and small to the city of relatively short periods of time.

Colin Moore

CM showed Union KGV mint and used definitives up to the £1 value. They included pairs, blocks, coils some with control numbers and tête-bêche pairs.

The meeting closed at approximately around 3.00pm.



Malcolm Ridsdale showing Namibia first flight covers



Part of Peter Dix's display. Menu's from the Carnarvon Castle, Bloemfontein Castle and S.A. Oranje.

Auction No. 48

Lot No.	Sold Price	Lot No.	Sold Price	Lot No.	Sold Price	Lot No.	Sold Price	Lot No.	Sold Price
1	£7.00	68	£10.00	122	£5.00	169	£20.00	244	£4.00
2	£50.00	73	£22.00	123	£30.00	170	£22.00	246	£48.00
3	£2.50	74	£26.00	125	£30.00	174	£3.00	247	£35.00
4	£4.00	75	£32.00	132	£160.00	177	£60.00	248	£35.00
6	£6.00	76	£42.00	133	£50.00	178	£22.00	249	£48.00
7	£6.00	80	£20.00	134	£210.00	180	£18.00	250	£30.00
8	£10.00	85	£52.00	135	£160.00	183	£15.00	251	£19.00
10	£20.00	89	£29.00	136	£10.00	187	£15.00	252	£16.00
11	£7.00	90	£20.00	137	£40.00	193	£16.00	253	£20.00
13	£12.00	93	£50.00	138	£50.00	196	£4.00	254	£750.00
14	£11.00	94	£30.00	141	£16.00	199	£30.00	255	£25.00
15	£8.00	95	£44.00	142	£32.00	202	£55.00	256	£9.00
17	£350.00	96	£34.00	144	£60.00	203	£6.00	257	£12.00
22	£40.00	97	£36.00	146	£85.00	205	£25.00	261	£8.00
28	£55.00	102	£28.00	147	£20.00	206	£60.00	262	£4.00
30	£120.00	105	£20.00	148	£60.00	207	£10.00	263	£12.00
48	£25.00	106	£95.00	152	£80.00	209	£19.00	264	£4.00
49	£40.00	108	£25.00	155	£80.00	215	£220.00	265	£8.00
51	£50.00	109	£14.00	159	£60.00	220	£13.00	267	£12.00
54	£4.00	112	£25.00	162	£130.00	224	£46.00	268	£20.00
60	£15.00	113	£60.00	164	£10.00	225	£12.00	269	£80.00
61	£6.00	114	£32.00	165	£5.00	227	£5.00	270	£3.00
63	£12.00	115	£9.00	166	£25.00	228	£10.00	271	£2.00
64	£12.00	116	£130.00	167	£16.00	234	£130.00	273	£6.00
66	£10.00	118	£16.00	168	£4.00	243	£42.00	274	£16.00
								275	£19.00
								278	£17.00
								279	£3.00
								280	£2.00
								282	£5.00
								283	£4.00
								284	£14.00
								287	£10.00
								290	£6.00
								295	£3.00
								296	£20.00
								300	£5.00
								301	£2.00
								302	£430.00
								303	£16.00
								312	£15.00
								313	£18.00
								322	£30.00
								325	£34.00
								333	£2.50



AfricaStamps.co.uk

New website offering fine Southern Africa stamps and specialised items.



Email: info@AfricaStamps.co.uk

Auction No.48 Report

by Nick Arrow

The November Auction this year threw up a number of surprises, but before I outline what these were, I would like to thank my team, Mike Berry, who kept the lots in order before the Auction, Bob Hill, Rob Lester and John Richardson, who distributed all the lots during the Auction and kept the postal sales and the unsold lots in immaculate order (such a help when dealing with the aftermath!) and Tony Johnson, whose record keeping on the computer was absolutely faultless, saving me hours of time over the next frantic days. Sadly, Susan Oliver was not in attendance, but we managed to keep our heads above water despite this, Tony adopting a bit of a dual role to keep me on the straight and narrow!

With 336 lots, (reduced to 321, as #30, which was a compilation of the following 15 lots, was sold), the percentage of lots sold was just under 30%, which in one sense was rather disappointing, but the total value of the lots sold, largely due to some hefty post auction sales, was just under £6,000. Interestingly, the number of room bidders (12) was dwarfed by the number of postal bidders (26, although included in this number were several members who had attended the Conference but did not stay for the auction), and the percentage of value of the lots sold was 25/75 Room to Postal bidders. In the past, the room bidders would get it pretty well all their own way – several lots however were knocked down to the postal bidders despite there being some quite strong bidding in the room.

Anyone who wants to follow up on any lot which may have interested them is welcome to get in touch with me to see if the lot is still available.

I will need some more material for the May auction, so please look out your unwanted material and forward it on to me, preferably with a reserve.

I like to think that I am getting a bit better at the organisation behind the auction, and, thanks to the splendid work of Bob Hill etc, this year saw all the lots (bar one) sent out by the Friday after the auction. As I have to calculate the P&P and perhaps find out how to send the material to some of the more outlying members, this is not too bad!

Onwards and Upwards!!

O

Product Review

Hawid Mount Glue Pen

By Roy Ross



Ever tried to mount a cylinder block using a Hawid mount?

Like me you will find that they fall out as you have cut off the sealed edge or edges.

As with all the gadgets advertised I was sceptical as to whether this one works or was just a gimmick.

Having used it now for a while it is easy to use and can be used to seal the open edges. I have also found that the glue is strong enough to seal the edges by only placing glue at intervals along the edge without the need to do the whole edge.

To use, run the pen along the black backing about 2mm inside the outer edge and then put the clear top onto it and use some finger pressure for a few seconds to permanently seal.

The pen is ideal for those of us that have many off cuts that would have gone to waste without the use of the pen

Don't leave the cap off for long periods as the tip will dry out.

The Vintage Springbok - Society Hiccups

By Otto Pectoom

Preamble

A year ago I collated what was said to be its 70th Anniversary of this society, at the time I had very little information to go on. I searched *The Springbok* index as well as back numbers of *The South African Philatelist* and collated the available information. It is obvious that no one in the past has seriously researched the past and whatever was written was done 'Off the cuff'.

The Vintage Springbok

At the end of 2017 I borrowed the back numbers of the society journals starting from 1953 through to 1962 to note anything of interest that is worthy of mention.

To date several articles entitled *The Vintage Springbok* has been published in recent journals.

A few days prior to the June 2018 Annual Philatelic weekend at *Strawberry Bank* in Meriden I was browsing through the issues of the 1961 - 62 *The Springbok* when an item caught my eye.

In Volume 10 Issue 4 July/August 1962 on pages 64-65 Eric Sherwood presented an article **The Society - and You**

It starts with...*It may come as a surprise to some that the Society enrolled its first members on May 4th 1948, although of the three joining on that particular day only Mr E. Lauder is still enjoying the fruits of his wisdom...*

In What Year Did the Society Start?

On the inside front of current issues of *The Springbok*, it boasts 'Founded 1947'...says who? I telephoned Chris Oliver to ask whether he had any historical evidence that supported a 1947 start. The foregoing requires thorough research in order to put the question into perspective...was it 1947 or 1948?

A Slow and 'Casual' Start of the Society

Initially a 'News-folder' was circulated from one member to the next. The first AGM only took place in 1952 and the first issue of *The Springbok* made its debut in January 1953.

In his first editorial Eric Sherwood wrote...*the Society was started some five years ago with a membership of approximately 12...* This statement brings us back to 1948, then why does it say on the inside of the journal 'Founded 1947'?

The answer to the above proved easy...Eddie Bridges, the former editor, introduced it in the July/September 2004 edition of *The Springbok* (Volume 52 Issue 3 No 287). His editorial does not mention anything regarding the year 1947!

1948 versus 1947

Eric Sherwood was a diligent correspondent and whilst I was collating the alleged 70th Anniversary I published this...

The South African Philatelist (SAP) September 1948

Under a title **SOUTH AFRICAN STUDY CIRCLE**

We have received particulars of the formation in Britain of a South African Collectors' Society, it being a club and study circle for collectors of South African Stamps. They propose having a monthly bulletin and the issue of the 'S.A. Philatelist' to members, an exchange packet and a new issue service. The Secretary is Mr C.E. Sherwood, 105 Marford Crescent, Sale, Cheshire, England. Our best wishes for their success...

In the event that the society started in 1947, I cannot perceive that Eric would wait longer than one year before sending the above statement to the SAP. However the search for more concrete evidence continued. Surely someone ought to mention the tenth anniversary at some point in time.

The Tenth Year of the SACS

I found nothing in issues of *The Springbok*, but the 1953 - 58 file includes a printed booklet entitled *Exhibition & AGM Catalogue & Agenda* - this took place on Saturday 26 October 1957 and on page 2 there is a casual remark...*The South African Collectors Society, formed in this country...is now in its tenth year...* Year nine ended in May 1957, thus by October the SACS was indeed in its 10th year!

A Casual Mistake with the 21st Anniversary

The Springbok Volume 16 Issue 5 September/October 1968 Eric Sherwood wrote...*Twenty-one today...A milestone in the life of all of us and no less in the life of a magazine and a society...* Surely the 21st year is in May 1969?

Miraculously the answer (and the proof) reveals itself in the same journal. A reproduction of the first *Monthly News Folder* (A-1) Eric wrote...*Here for your inspection and approval, I hope, is the first Monthly News folder...* Page 10 includes 'Auction Items' which announced the forthcoming Sales for Messrs. Hadfield Craven Ltd. in Torquay on 5 June 1948 and 12 June 1948.

The South African Collectors Society founded in May 1948

First News Folder May 1948 announced forthcoming auctions in June 1948.

Formation of Society announced in the September 1948 edition of *The South African Philatelist*. First AGM 1952, first issue of *The Springbok* January 1953 including a statement... *the Society was started some five years ago...* (1948)

Seventieth Anniversary of the Society was in May 2018 and not in October 2017.

The Mystery of Members (Plural) No 45

Frank Abell was an early member of the society (No 45). He passed away on 2 January 1961 and Eric Sherwood announced this in the Editorial in Volume 9 Issue 1. In the same journal W.A. Page wrote a brief obituary on page 12. Alec wrote...*his well known (particularly for his I.P.'s) collection has been bequeathed to a friend. The writer understands that it is hoped to continue to maintain and build up the collection...* assume 'I.P.' denotes 'Inter-Provincial'.

Could the person who inherited Frank's collection be Miss C. Steel of Herne Hill in Brixton? She is noted in the following issue as New Member '45'. I checked others joining as being 397-400 and 401-408, thus it is not a typing error. Miss Steel remained a member up to March 1972 and is noted as having resigned in Volume 20 issue 2.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION	
New Members -	
45.	Miss C. Steel, 86 Herne Hill, Brixton, London, S.W.9.
401.	Leland P. Fish, 45 Conant Drive, Buffalo 23, NY., U.S.A. (Interests - Covers and postal history)
402.	M. H. Earhart, 5427 Florence Boulevard, Omaha 10, Neb., U.S.A. (Interests - everything regarding Union philately)
403.	J. H. Winter, 57 Zullan Road, Mapperley Park, Nottingham. (Interests - pictorials)
404.	William H. Evans, Box 86, Mt Rainier, Maryland, U.S.A. (Interests - springbok ad, ship ld, orange tree 6d issues)

It is certainly strange that immediately after Frank Abell's death that an out of sequence number is allocated to a new member, being Frank's old No 45! A short note in *The Springbok* would certainly have saved some head scratching some six decades later.

The Vintage Springbok - Society Hiccups

More Society Hiccups - Life Members

Life members, according to the current journal, these are listed on the inside front page starting with Eric Sherwood noted as 'since inception in 1947'. The foregoing was first noted in *The Springbok* No 296 (October 2006) In *The Springbok* No 300 (2007) Chris Oliver wrote...*Sherwood...On 1 January 1985 became our first Life Member...*

The above does not tie in with an announcement in the January/February 1963 issue...*Of the many domestic items discussed by the New Executive was a motion that Mr C.E. Sherwood should be made a Hon-Life Member of the Society. The Committee was in full agreement... The idea behind the suggestion can be summed up in that apt official statement, 'For Services rendered over a Decade'...*

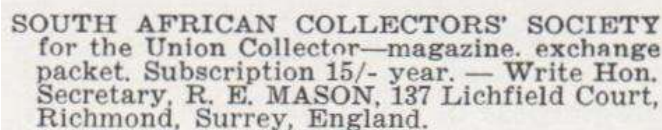
Listing of 'Life Members' in *The Springbok*

It seems a reasonable idea that the inside front page ought to include the names of those who are 'Life Members'.

May I suggest that the year in which each member became a 'Life Member' is inserted behind their names e.g. Eric Sherwood (1963)...Roy Ross (2016)...etc.

Officers of the Society - The Secretary

In *The Springbok* No 300 it suggests that W.A. Page was Secretary from October 1962 until 1997. In the 70th Special Edition I noted that R.E. Mason was cited as being the Secretary in a May 1970 SAP advert.



SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY
for the Union Collector—magazine, exchange
packet. Subscription 15/- year. — Write Hon.
Secretary, R. E. MASON, 137 Lichfield Court,
Richmond, Surrey, England.

May 1970 Society Advertising in *The South African Philatelist*
New Secretary R.E. Mason in Richmond

This 'hiccup' has been solved via another back issue of *The Springbok*. W.A. Page acted as Secretary and Membership Secretary. On 24 September 1968, due to pressure of his work, Page tendered a letter of resignation as Secretary. The foregoing is included in Volume 17 Issue 6.

It appears that a compromise was reached by splitting the duties of Secretary and Membership Secretary into two jobs. Thus Page continued as the Secretary (not membership) and from early 1970 R.E. Mason took on the task as Membership Secretary, his name is included on the inside front of the March/April 1970 journal confirming his position. R.E. Mason continued as Membership Secretary up to 1983.

More Secretarial Hiccups

In *The Springbok* No 300 (October 2007) on page 100 it suggests that S.G. Nunneley assumed the position of Membership Secretary from May 1970 until February 1983. This is not true and Nunneley was never Membership Secretary.

The Librarian, R McDougal, died suddenly on 23.1.76 and Nunneley took over that position. D.W. Painter took over membership from Mason and was in office from 1983 to 1990. That was followed by A.R. Chilton (1990-2002) and after his death, the position went to Chris Oliver.

The Society Secretary (Not Membership)

Alec Page continued in this roll until his death in 1997 and our current Editor, Roy Ross, assumed the position (1998-2003) In September 2003 Chris Oliver became Secretary (as well as Membership) which had not been the case since end 1969.

Eric Sherwood 'I had a Dream - 350 Members'

With the launch of a regular Society journal in January 1953 an unprecedented number of people joined. Eric's initial ambition was to reach a total of 250 members by year end.

In *The Springbok* Volume 1 No 2 Eric wrote...*we are aiming at a membership of 250 by the end of the year. It stands now at 131...* Thus he was expecting another 120 to join in 8 months.

Volume 2 No 1 - January/February 1954...*although the 1953 target of 250 members was not reached, in actual fact the strength was 232 at the end of the year...Can we increase this to 350 members by the end of 1954?*

Volume 2 No 5 September 1954...*exactly one third of our present membership of 226 is overseas...*

Volume 3 No 1 - January/February 1955...*looking back to this time last year, we note our membership was 232 and now it is 229...just another 21 members will put up the 250...*

The dream for 350 evaporated and the wish for 250 members also did not materialise. The highest count noted remains 232.

Volume 3 No 5 - September 1955...*It is regrettable to have to continue stressing the point but we are still losing members faster than we gather them...*

Volume 3 No 6 November 1955...*At the end of 1954 the membership was 229 - now it is 204...*

Collating Membership Numbers

On the back page of each issue is noted those who joined, were re-instated, resigned, lapsed and deceased. Eric Sherwood often lamented over the decline of the loss of numbers.

To date I have collated these figures from 1953 to 1976 and herewith a brief summary. Between 1955 and 1960 there is a net loss of 14 and I estimate the total of about 190 members.

During 1961/62 there was a gain of 27; however for the period 1961/1970 it indicates an overall increase of only one.

Specific reports on membership numbers in *The Springbok* faded rapidly e.g. September 1959 AGM...*membership was a few down on last year...*

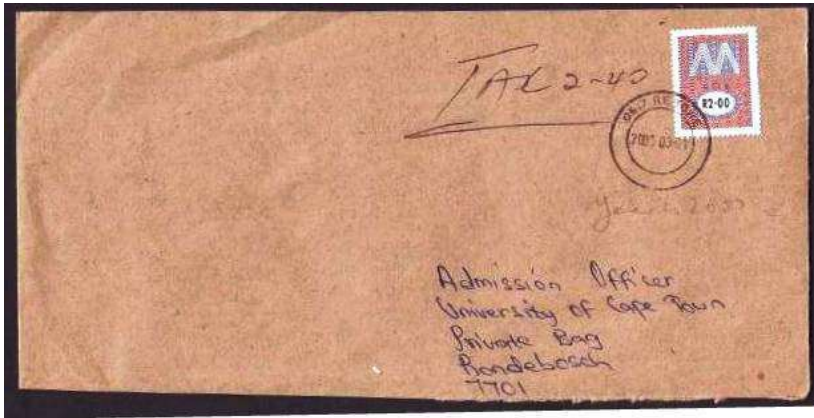
September 1960 Editorial...*It is pleasing to note that the new membership list is increasing again...*

November 1960 Editorial...*Membership has risen now to 193...* In the same issue, on the last page, there is a breakdown of the Overseas numbers - Australia (6) Argentina (2) Canada (2) Holland (1) South Africa (30) SWA (1) and USA (23) totals 65, thus one assumes UK (128) = 193.

In Volume 12 No 1, January 1964 a detailed breakdown noted a figure of 222 being UK (134) Europe (10) South Africa (39) North America (31) South America (2) and Australia (6) This is the last specific report in the journal for many years and nothing further appeared to the end of 1976.

1971 to 1976 Statistics - Amounts to a loss of two in number.

From the Editors Desk



Maritime Industry Training Board Stamps.

The Springbok 343 Page 111.

An Email from Oscar van der Vliet.

I have examples of both types used in 2001

Letters sent with surface mail R1,20 (7-4-97 – 15-3-01) and R1,50 (16-3-01 – 31-1-03)

The brown one was intercepted, and penalty was twice the surface fee: R2,40 Remarkable that the other one has slipped through. In most cases, a phosphor bar is enough to pass the sorting machine.

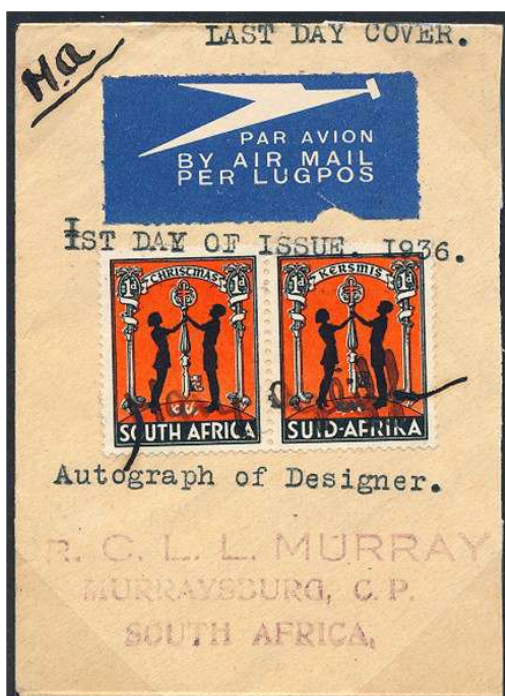


A Note from Wilbert Davis concerning his article The Springbok 343 - Page 83

I noticed an error in my published article, unfortunately (my error): a year 1949 in Figure 4 should have been 1940

A Reporting Error in the last Springbok 343 - Page 79

From Rob and Lyn Lester



It is always difficult to report on Society meetings as so much content is displayed, viewed and discussed. We always read with much interest the report after each meeting published in the Springbok, but must correct a minor error following the June 2018 meeting noted on page 79 of the August 2018 Springbok 343.

The article advises, “*Mary Aycliffe designed the 1929 label...*” This is not the case. The 1929 label was designed and printed by John Singleton-Williams Ltd of Durban, who incidentally also designed and printed the very similar 1930 label.

Mary Ayliff was the designer responsible for the 1936 Christmas label. The reason this was highlighted at the meeting was because of the piece displayed that contains her signature across a pair of bilingual labels as shown.

A Query from the Editor – The Springbok 343 - Page 92

In the last Issue I wrote:

It was not until checking the SACC that something did not add up. They actually state that 316a is light blue and yellow. All the other 2c stamps mentioned in the definitive series say ultramarine and yellow.

I have always assumed that my dark example was the correct one and also have never seen the light one before. Has anyone come across this light blue 447 448B cylinder block?

Does anyone have an example of the A cylinder?

No Handbook or catalogue that I have lists two colours for this cylinder.

David Osborn emailed me some excellent scans of the Cylinder blocks he has.

It can be seen that this Cylinder has numerous colour differences only one of which is listed in the SACC.



- O -

What is this? An unidentified 1974 RSA stamp printing.

From Jan van Beukering OFS PS



Fig. 1.

I recently came across a right marginal strip showing a blank column and then on the margin a cut off portion of the control bar and two perforations at the outer edge. (Fig. 1)

Unfortunately I do not have access to a full sheetlet of this issue to compare, but when shown to Mike Tonking RDPSA for an opinion he suggested that it may have been a trial perforation sheet portion, but not a misprinted column, done on the Grosvenor printing machine. In the bottom corner is, what appears to be, a doubled printed sheet number and two perfs on the bottom edge of the margin. (Fig.2) On the normal control left block the 5-figure sheet number appears on the bottom left margin

Has anyone come across a similar item or perhaps suggest another view?

A Note from the Editor:

The perforations were done on the Grover two row machine, gauge 12,5 x 11,75. The top and bottom margins are imperforate except for the single extra hole at each end of the vertical rows of perforations. The left margin is perforated through and the right presents an unusual picture. At the right of rows 1 to 5 is a vertical row of 5 'blank stamps' of the same size as the stamps and on the right of this is an imperforate margin 19mm wide.

The stamps were printed in a single pane of 100 stamps, 5 x 20 rows.

The block of stamps that appear to have the stamps missing were printed like that Reference Study Circle News Letter 152/4



Fig. 2

Does anyone have a full sheet of these stamps or examples as shown so that we can confirm what was written in the Study Circle News Letter? Ed.

Ugly & red: jusqu'à markings on South Africa mail 1932-1939

By Wilbert Davids FRPSL

Generally known as 'jusqu'à' markings, these postmarks are generally recognised as the 'ugly red bars' on airmail covers. Jusqu'à (meaning 'up to') markings were placed on covers in order to indicate the termination of an airmail stage, usually the last airmail stage in transit. The reason why these markings are called by with a French expression is unknown to me, but surely Ian McQueen's 1993 book 'Jusqu'à Airmail markings' may have contributed to the fact.

Although many types of 'jusqu'à' markings exist, depending on the definition, the scope of this article are only the 'fancy', sometimes crudely made cancels, usually struck in red, purple or black with a simple bar or cross design. The purpose of this article is to explain the postal history these fancy markings specifically on South African foreign mail.

The difficulty of proving the purpose

At first sight, covers showing jusqu'à markings are not too attractive to collect and all appear to be the same: it could just be any airmail cover from South Africa to the USA or anywhere else, with the airmail terminated at some point on route. The reason why, appears to be unclear and irrelevant. Airmail is airmail, right? Not really.

When talking to fellow postal historians, I often tell them that the *only* way one can prove a cover has flown, is when the cover tells you the airmail was either terminated or cancelled. Take a look at some of your covers. Most airmail covers only show the departure postmark, a stamp paying the airmail rate and an airmail label. The cover doesn't tell you what happened with it.

A cover with a jusqu'à marking in fact tells you it *has* flown at least on one stage on route, and it also tells you the place where (air) mail was handled during transit. Difficult in some cases however, is to find the reasons why this happened and why it was important (enough) to place a marking on the envelope or card in the first place. Now it's becoming postal history.

Why & where were they used?

As mentioned, jusqu'à markings were placed to indicate the termination of an airmail stage on route. This was usually done at transit points (airfields) and not at post offices. The main reason for this, was that in the early days of airmail, to many international destinations, airmail was only partially possible. The main stages often existed of a combination ('combimail') of both surface and airmail. Airmail from South Africa to the USA until 1939 for example, flew to London, and sailed to the USA. Airmail to destinations in Europe during the same period however, could be transmitted further by airmail in most cases.

Also, when sending a letter between 1932 and 1939, it was not always faster to send it by air all the way. The combimail *via* London to USA for example, was always faster than *direct* surface mail, but combimail to Australia between 1932 and 1934, was not.

Looking at South African covers, the use of 'Jusqu'à' was usually because of one of the following reasons:

1. No further airmail transmission was possible: the cover was further transmitted by surface mail
2. The airmail was paid for airmail for only one airmail stage (usually the first) on route, not for the second.
3. The cover was not paid for airmail in full (usually a change in postage rate)
4. The cover went by airmail, but shortage of postage was discovered afterwards and postage due was to be collected.

As mentioned, the fancy jusqu'à markings are recognised by most philatelists as the ugly red bars from London, but there are more (although limited) transit points that used them. Some of them are found on South African mail (London, New York, Vienna, Leipzig & Rhineland), whilst others are rare or even not known on South African covers (e.g. Marseilles, Hong Kong, Singapore). The reason for this is that most South African airmail was sent to USA, Europe or to destinations within Africa. For many other destinations, it was simply not necessary to transfer mail to surface on other routes, as was the case for example, for Australia.

The London marking

London markings make up at least 50-75% of the total of South African covers bearing jusqu'à markings. Practically all were sent to the USA, Canada or to South America. During 1945 & 1946, they can also be found on mail to Europe, mostly Switzerland & Germany. Many, many types exist, however, finding neat and clean strikes is difficult (figure 1 & 2).



Figure 1:

Airmail cover from Capetown (9-1-1940) to New Westminster (Canada). When the Transatlantic airmail service London-New York commenced on 1-9-1939, it was flown by **both** BOAC and Panam seaplanes, however BOAC 'stepped out' late 1939 because of the war. Initially, the airmail rate to Canada was 1/3 instead of the new 2/0 shilling by air via New York, but became 2/0, when Panam became the sole carrier for this FAM-18 service. The airmail was for this reason cancelled in **LONDON** and forwarded sea mail.



Figure 2:

Airmail cover from Capetown (25-3-1937) to Saint John (NB), Canada. From November 21st 1934 until June 25th 1937, the airmail rate for letters both to Canada and the UK was 6d, whereas airmail to New York was 1/0 and beyond New York was 1/3. As letters couldn't fly to Canada directly, and onward surface mail to Canada would be faster in any case at the time, the airmail was terminated already in **LONDON**, hence the two red bars on this particular cover.

The New York marking

The typical New York purple vertical 4 bar is the second abundant marking on South Africa covers and were placed on letters not be carried further by airmail, usually because airmail was only paid for the stage up to New York. Of course, up to 1939 covers only flew up to London, but in cases they were not cancelled in London, this was done in New York (figure 3 & 4).

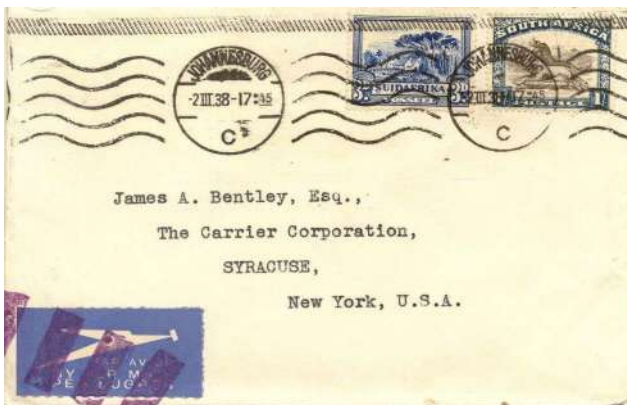


Figure 3:

Airmail cover sent from Johannesburg (2-3-1938) Syracuse (New York, USA) with the postage paid for airmail beyond New York (1/3 shilling). Although an inland US airmail was available to Syracuse (the CAM-20) at the time, the airmail was already cancelled in **NEW YORK** (city), using the purple vertical bars. Apparently, it was then forwarded overland.



Figure 4:

Airmail cover sent from Johannesburg (24-2-1937) to Bogotá (Columbia) with the airmail fee paid up to New York. The cover went by sea both to USA (no airmail to USA available yet) and thence to South America. Airmail cancellation from **NEW YORK** (4 vertical bars) and arrival postmark (reverse) 30-3-1937.

The Vienna Marking

South African pre-war airmail that was offloaded in Athens with destinations in central Europe could also fly via Vienna, one of the few European transit points that used fancy jusqu'à markings. One can find these on mail to Austria, Hungary or Czechoslovakia (figure 5).



Figure 5:
Airmail postcard from Capetown (31-1-1937) to Prague. This postcard was offloaded from the Empire airmail at Athens (Greece) and forwarded via Vienna to Prague. On reverse transit Athens Aeroposta 9-2-1937; on the front visible, a datestamp Viena Flugpost (February 10th 1937) and the jusqu'à marking of **VIENNA** (black cross). Postage is the correct 6d airmail for postcards to Europe (except UK).

The Leipzig & Rhineland markings

In Germany, fancy jusqu'à markings were used in the mid 1930's, only in few towns (Leipzig, Frankfurt, Cologne). They always appear as purple crosses, with the big Leipzig cross as the most often seen (figure 6). Smaller crosses do exist, and are known on South African mail and origin from the Rhineland, either Cologne or Frankfurt (figure 7).



Figure 6:
Airmail cover sent from Johannesburg (21-8-1937) to Chemnitz, with the correct postage paid (1 shilling) for airmail to Europe. Airmail was terminated in **LEIPZIG**, Germany, using the 'large cross' canceller in purple, which is allocated to this town. It was then forwarded overland.



Figure 7:
Airmail cover sent from Capetown (15-12-1936) to Aachen (Germany) with the correct airmail fee of 1 shilling paid to Europe. Airmail was terminated at **FRANKFURT**, using a small black cross and a Frankfurt dated canceller 28-12-1936 on front. Cover was then forwarded overland.

The Catapult airmail cancellation

Very rare, and with only one copy known on non-philatelic mail from South Africa, is the boxed diagonal bars marking used for German Catapult flights, the so called 'Nachbringflüge' (figure 8).



Figure 8:

Airmail cover sent from Durban (1-3-1937) to Port Chester (New York, USA) with airmail fee paid up to New York. This was indicated by the line canceller placed in South Africa. The airmail was cancelled by the German post, more specifically: the airmail feeder service (in German: 'NACHBRINGFLUG') to the German steamship, sailing from Cherbourg to New York. This very typical 'boxed diagonal bars' canceller was used only for this purpose and was placed on board the ship which received the mail from the airmail feeder, probably flying from Southampton. They are rare on non-philatelic commercial mail.

A (proposed) new South African marking

When the regular Imperial airmail to London was inaugurated on January 27th 1932, the airmail rate became 1/0 and replaced the 6d rate for the proving & special flights. Here, I propose a new finding of a very distinct jusqu'à marking allocated to South Africa, possibly Capetown. The copy shown, is only one I know (figure 9).



Figure 9:

Intended airmail cover sent from East London (28-1-1921) to Bexley Heath (near London, UK). When the regular airmail service to London started just the day before (on 27-1-1932), the airmail rate was raised from 6d (for the proving flights) to 1 shilling for the regular service. This cover was 6d short paid and the airmail was subsequently cancelled already in **SOUTH AFRICA**, hence the two red bars over the airmail label. This type is was previously unrecorded for South Africa. Note: although 2 horizontal bars are common for London, these 2 diagonal bars are not. Also, no postage due was indicated.

Letter bundles – heresay, heresay.....

Most sources mention that the jusqu'à markings were placed (only) on the upper envelope in a bundle of envelopes. For a long time, I subscribed this point of view without questioning this. However, when looking at my collection today, this might not be so true in some cases, especially airmail to North America. Many Aerophilately students, tried to explain the fact why the fancy markings are not found on *all* covers. Not knowing the postal history background of all countries and covers, it seems plausible to them that they were placed only on the upper envelope in a bundle or even, when placed on the backside, on the lower laying envelope in a bundle.

Between September 1935 and 25th June 1937, two postage rates for letters from South Africa to the USA applied: 1/0 for airmail (up) to New York and 1/3 for destinations beyond New York. Kindly note, that no airmail was available between London and New York at the time. Usually, *all* letters that were *not* to be carried beyond New York, were affixed with jusqu'à marking in either London or New York. Other covers via London and New York to be carried beyond New York, usually do not have any airmail confirmation markings at all.

Another example are airmail covers to Germany: only in the early 1930'ties one can find the typical red circle German airmail confirmations markings. When this usage was dropped, one can find covers without any confirmations markings. At a later stage, during the mid 1930'ties, some German transit points started to use blue/purple crosses as jusqu'à markings.

So, the reason for covers *not* having jusqu'à markings are because of specific reasons, not because of the assumption they were in the middle of a letter bundle.

The end of their general use.

Jusqu'à markings can be found up to the 1980'ties, however on South African mail, their regular use was between 1932 and 1940 and also shortly during 1945 and 1946. The reason was both the start of the transatlantic airmail from London to the USA, and the prompt ending of it due to the outbreak of WW2. The transatlantic connection to New York made it unnecessary to indicate on letters the ending of the airmail in London. Also, the outbreak of WW2 made it practically impossible to send any airmail to Europe anymore.

The result was an immediate stand-still of civil airmail at the time, but in military sense however, it continued to develop rocket fast. The range and reliability of aircraft increased with every new model, and when the international (air) mail connections were restarted (to the USA already as soon as March 1942), many connections could be made entirely out of airmail stages. From 1946 onwards, developments continued and by the beginning of the 1950'ties, South Africa was connected with the rest of the world with direct flights, bringing transfer times of mail worldwide back to a couple of days. Airmail had become the standard, not the exception.

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O

Soccer African Cup of Nations. Champions 1996. Missing Dot

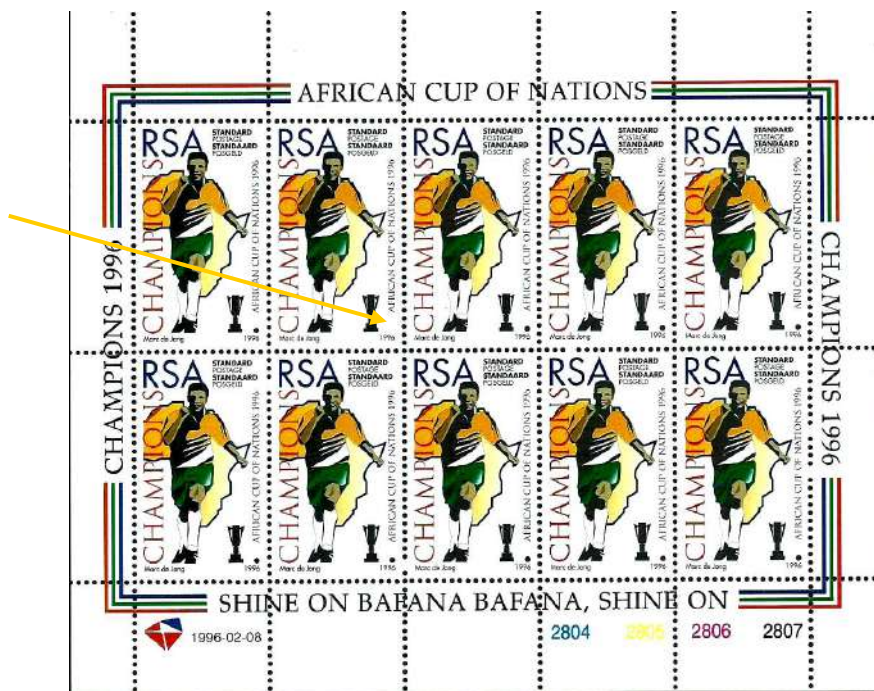
By Roy Ross

SACC 939 variety, complete sheet with missing black dot on the second stamp top row.

As technology has moved on the chances of finding errors on RSA stamps has become less likely. But every now and again one does come to light.

In this particular error I suspect that it was down to a design fault, human error, someone forgot to put the dot in. As with all the stamps from this era these sheets were printed in a number of panes. This one was Pane E.

It is also interesting to note that the missing dot variety also occurs on the Maximum Card with a used price of R180. Has anyone got an example?



First Day Covers of the London Pictorial Issues of South Africa

By Keith P Klugman FRPSL

While the first commemorative issue of the Union of South Africa was celebrated by many collectors producing and retaining First Day Covers (FDC's) of the 2½^d stamp on 4th November 1910, the following Union issues printed in London until 1927 are rarely recorded used on their date of issue – indeed there is contention over some of the dates. The KGV definitive was issued on 1 Sep 1913 and rare first day covers exist. This article, however, is focused on the next issue, the London Pictorials.

Despite the persistence of the Stanley Gibbons catalogue in identifying Jan 2nd as the date of issue, this was not the case and the ½^d, 1^d and triangular 4^d were issued and used on 1st January 1926. It seems that in 1926 a variety of post offices were open on New Year's Day!

Illustrated below are 5 different FDC's cancelled on 1st January 1926 and others likely exist. They all have bilingual pairs of the ½^d and the 1^d plus one each of the English and Afrikaans inscribed 4^d stamps. The first (Fig 1.) is addressed by a handstamp to the South Africa Philatelist at PO Box 5826 in Johannesburg. The slogan Johannesburg roller cancel is dated Jan 1 1926 and reads "Support S.A. Industries; Ondersteun S.A. Industrie".



Fig 1. Johannesburg Slogan FDC 1 Jan 1926

A second Johannesburg FDC cancelled with a circular date stamp on 1 Jan 1926 at 630pm at counter number 21 is addressed to the well known Johannesburg stamp dealer Robertson at the same PO Box 5826, suggesting he may have been responsible for posting both of these FDC's. It is endorsed in manuscript "Used day of Issue 1/1/26" on the reverse.



Fig 2. Johannesburg Circular Date Stamp 1 Jan 26 630pm Counter 21

Not to be outdone, Bloemfontein also had an open post office that New Year's Day (Fig.3) locally addressed to Mrs M Reichenberg.



Fig 3.
Bloemfontein Circular
Date Stamp 1 Jan 26
7.30am Counter 3

In Fig 4. We find a cover addressed to Johannesburg but originating in Benoni also on 1st January 1926.



Fig 4.
Benoni Circular Date
Stamp 1 Jan 26

Finally, there is a remarkable usage on an envelope at a temporary rail post office on the train leading north from Cape Town, the Western TPO2 also on the 1st Jan 1926 (Fig. 5). It is simply addressed PG Nethercott so no doubt handed back to the person who mailed it!



Fig 5.
Western TPO2 Circular
Date Stamp 1 Jan 26 ON

This case rests on the effort and money expended by A Gutterson to produce registered FDC's as he had done a year earlier, well in excess of the 4^d for registration and 1^d postage required on these locally addressed letters. While contemporary confirmation of these dates as representing the first day of issue would be helpful, the dates of 7th and 16th March are proposed by these covers as candidates.



Fig 8. Cape Town Registered 2^d block of four 7 March 1927 with certificate of posting



Fig 9. Cape Town Registered block of four 3^d 7 March 1927 with certificate of posting

Fig. 8 shows the 2^d value in a block of 4 locally registered with proof of posting on 7th March 1927, opened out for display. In Figs. 9, 10 and 11 the 3d, shilling and 5/- values are similarly shown posted on the same date.



Fig 10.
Cape Town Registered 1/-
block of four 7th March 1927
with certificate of posting



Fig 11. Cape Town Registered 5 shilling



Fig 12. Stal St., Cape Town Registered 2/6 pair 16 March 1927.

Fig. 12 Opened for display, but no certificate of posting. The date of 16 March is clearer on the back-stamp. Whether A Gutteson was prescient in realizing that a used pair of the 5/- would be worth much more nearly a century later than the 10/-, but more likely that he missed the date of the 10/- issue or did not have a spare pound for a pair of them, this fascinating series of covers sheds no light on the day of issue of the 10/-.

The 2^d is however recorded (Fig 13) used on two covers to two different people, but both covers with similarly typed addresses to the same PO Box, one with an English stamp, and the other the Afrikaans stamp.

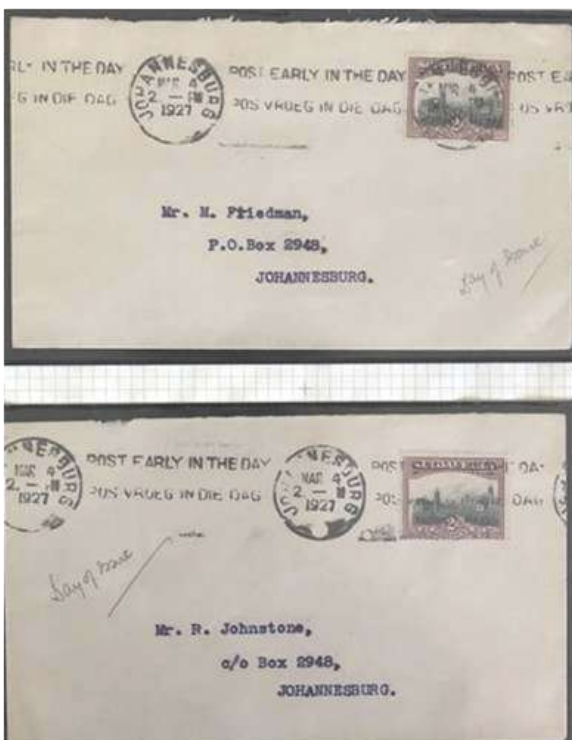


Fig. 13 Johannesburg Slogan cancel 4th March

The slogan cancel is “Post Early in the Day; Pos Vroeg in Die Dag” and it is dated 2pm on the 4th March 1927. Each cover is inscribed “Day of issue” in manuscript.

The author is trying to get additional data on all the earliest recorded uses of KGV issues of the Union, other than the Silver Jubilee issue of 1935 and the Jipex of 1936, which are well recorded for the 1st May 1935 and 2nd Nov 1936 respectively. Should any reader have information or illustrations of earliest known uses please let me know at keith.klugman@gatesfoundation.org. Among the KGV issues much clearer dates are known for most Union issues although the earliest recorded dates of the bantams remain unclear to me -

I have/

I have a record and have seen another of a pair of the 1½^d bantam with roulette perforation on 15th August 1942 on a cover produced in analogy to these Guttesson covers, by A Semmens, who so diligently made first day covers of the large war effort stamps.

In summary, it appears that the London Pictorials were issued on at least 5 dates. The initial 3 stamps appeared on New Year's Day, 1926 across the country with the 6^d following on 1st May 1926. Then all the other stamps were issued in March with the 4th the earliest recorded in Johannesburg for the 2^d, the 7th March 1927 for all values in Cape Town, except the 2/6 on the 16th March, the brown 4^d which appeared according to Gibbons on 23rd March 1928, and the 10/- for which an earliest recorded use in March 1927 is not yet established.

Note added in proof

At my request Rob and Lyn Lester reviewed this article – they identified a second copy of pairs of the ½^d, 1^d and triangular 4^d to Robertson with the identical Johannesburg cancellation to that illustrated in Fig.2. In addition, they add Cape Town, perhaps unsurprisingly, as an office open on 1st January 1926 with a single Afrikaans 4^d used on piece from counter 20 at 830am, with the year date yet to be changed from 1925, shown as Fig. 14, and a cover (Fig. 15) with blocks of the ½^d and 1^d and a single English 4^d used later that day at 1230pm from counter 9 with the year date correctly changed to 1926. A final cover adds Kimberley with singles in both languages, to the list of post offices open on New Year's Day 1926 (Fig.16) to cancel the new London Pictorials.



Fig. 14
Cape Town counter 20
cancel 1st Jan at 830am
with year still reading 25.

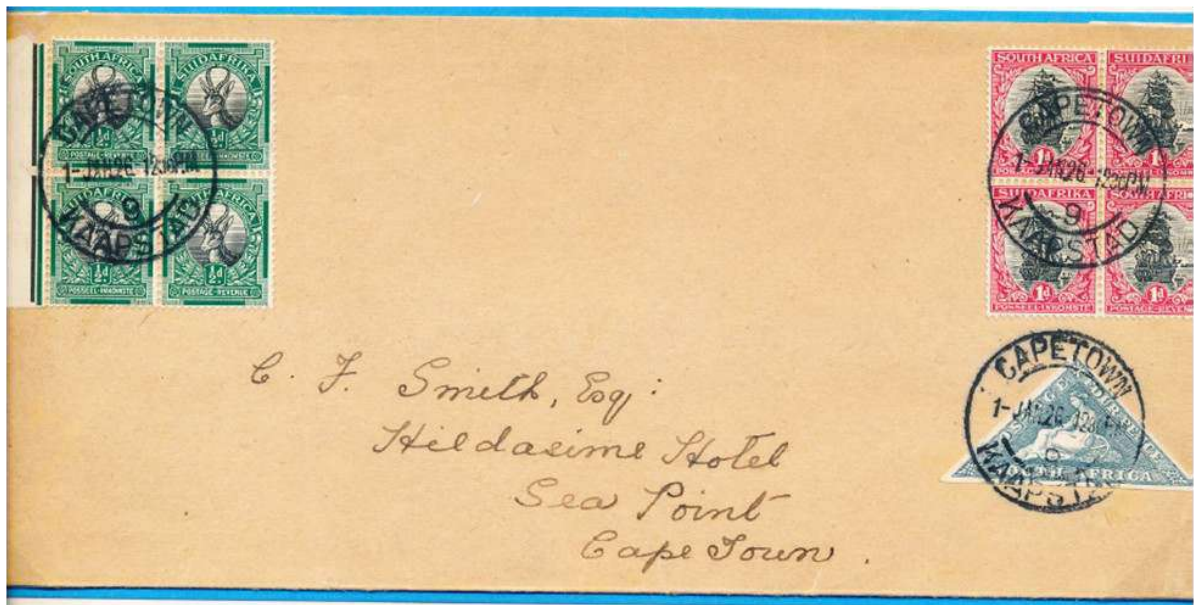


Fig. 15 Cape Town counter 9 cancel 1st Jan 1926



Fig. 16 Kimberley 1st Jan 1926

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The SAA Boeing 747 First Flight to Durban - October 1971

By Nick Arrow



October 1971. The first SAA Boeing 747 (Jumbo) and first to visit Durban. Flown by then SAA Chief pilot Capt. Pi Pienaar, it did a round South Africa trip, doing a touch and go at each of the major airports. This photo was shot over Durban by Mike Duff from a single engine Cessna piloted by Tom Chalmers (founder and editor of World Air News). The shoot was pre-planned and the Cessna was in radio contact with Capt. Pienaar throughout. The armchair pilots will note the "Jumbo" was literally hanging in the air (full flap, undercarriage down) to enable the Cessna to keep up with it. Capt. Pienaar's parting shot was "Guys, if I go any slower, I will fall out of the sky" and seconds after this photo was shot he retracted everything and climbed away in the direction of Johannesburg.

The Rotogravure Hyphenated Pictorials with Black Sheet Numbers

By Mike Tonking RDPSA

During the period 1933 - 1953 two different printing presses were in use at the Government Printer for printing the rotogravure hyphenated pictorial stamps. These were the Goebel KM11 machine, number 830, as well as the Goebel machine number 840. In the case of the 830 press the four figure sheet numbers were printed in red, whilst those of the 840 press were five figure printed in black. The vast majority of the rotogravure hyphenated pictorials were printed on the 830 press, however on very few occasions the 840 press was used. Since many thousands of sheets were printed on the 830 press and relatively few on the 840 press, the latter are considered unusual.

The printings with black sheet numbers appear during the period 1949 - 1952. In July 1952 the South African Philatelist noted that black sheet numbers had been noted on the ½d., 2d., 3d., 6d. And 1/- values. After contacting a number of collectors it appears that to date no black sheet numbers have been seen on the high values.

Although the reason for using the 840 press is unknown it was probably due to an increase production of a particular value to meet demand or alternatively, for some reason, the 830 press was unavailable.



Fig. 1
½d. Issue 21 Cylinders 11A and 11B.
August 1949 with normal red sheet numbers



Issue 21 - December 1949
Final printing known as the
'charcoal' printing.
Black sheet numbers. A small
number of the first sheets printed
had red sheet numbers before
the printing was changed to the
840 press

Fig. 2
3d. Issue 5 single cylinder 17
Normal printings red sheet numbers.



April 1952
Black Sheet number.



Fig. 3
 4d. Issue 3 single cylinder 103
 Normal red sheet numbers opposite rows 15



Black sheet numbers row 18 and 19.
 Note wide sheet margin



Fig. 4
 6d. Issue 5 cylinders 6 and 6930.
 Normal red sheet numbers opposite rows 16 and 17.



Black sheet number (early 1951).
 Opposite rows 15 and 16.
 Note wider margin and green dot at bottom
 which is only seen on later printings.



Fig. 5

1/- Value Issue 5 cylinders
6935 and 68926
Normal red sheet numbers
opposite row 15



Black sheet numbers
June 1952
Opposite rows 16 and 17.
Note wide margin.



Fig. 6

Of interest is the 1/- OFFICIAL
set 29 055 overprinted on Issue 5
which had been printed on the
840 press with black sheet
numbers. It is reported that 499
sheets were overprinted.



References:

Roto and Planographic Printings - W.J. Quik - SAP June 2004

Pictorial 1/- Stamps with black sheet numbers - SAP June 1952

The stamps of the Union of South Africa 1910-1961 - S.J. Hagger RDPSA


The quality of the images are poor because they were taken from books. Ed.

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1849 Natal Settlers By Errol van Greunen

The issue in 1949 must have been when country was still in a period of austerity. Two different cylinder blocks and no official First Day Covers! However philatelists always abhor an issue vacuum and in my collection (obtained from Paul van Zeyl), I have a number of interesting FDCs.

The cylinder blocks of the issue had the numbers 29 and 98. However the printed number only appeared on Cyl 29.

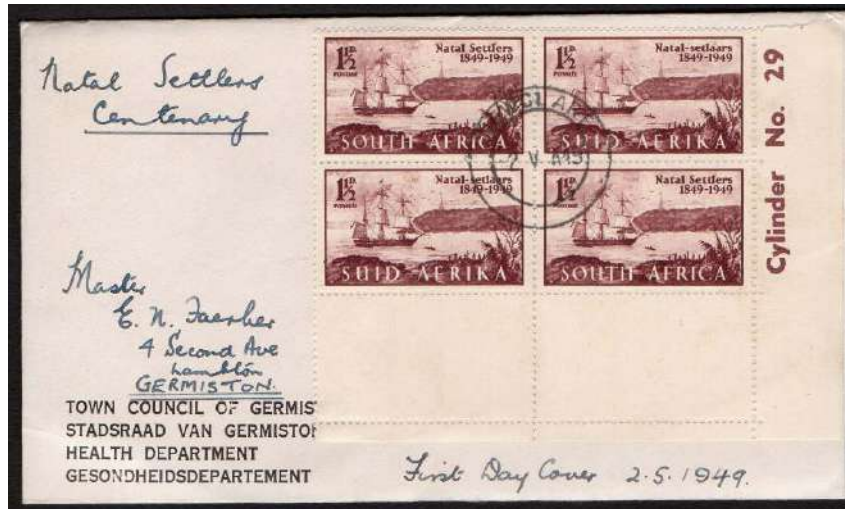


The first cover was a totally home made one.



The next was produced by a stamp dealer. ("Ace Covers") Like the previous cover it had a block of 4 stamps and posted in Pretoria.

The third cover was on an envelope of the City of Germiston. The father of the recipient, "Master" E Faerber, was a doctor employed by the Germiston Municipality. He was a keen philatelist and his name is found on many a cover. This was posted with a block of four stamps showing the cylinder number 29.



The last of this set of envelopes was also produced by Ace also addressed to the previous recipient



Details of "master" E.N. Faerber's father.



My wife and I had befriended David and Judy MacKay at our church. When David learnt of my interest in Philately he mentioned that his father had been the Postmaster at the Nottingham Road P.O. in Natal. Thus whenever a new stamp was issued, Mr MacKay senior also had the stamp(s) cancelled on the day of issue. So my cover/FDC collection is sprinkled with these “First Day Cancellations”.



The final cover is one that gives a philatelist much joy in tracking down the story related to the cover/recipient. In the article, Springbok 341, page 16, mention was made of the gold mine named Blyvooruitzicht. The General Manager was Kenneth Ireland, who died in a fall of rock in the underground workings. Ken Ireland (as he was known) and his wife Muriel had 3 daughters, Margaret, Joan and Muriel.

So the recipient of the next cover, Margaret, was living with her parents when they were on another Gold Mine of the Rand Mine Group, Consolidated Main Reef. It was not a first day cancellation, but on the 5th.



The term ‘Byrne Settler’, means any emigrant brought to Natal by the company, J. C. Byrne & Co. These people landed in Natal on 20 ships during the years 1849 to 1851.

Joseph Charles Byrne was born in Dublin in about 1800, the son of a small-time cattle-dealer, Joseph Byrne of Mount Argus House in that city.

Byrne always had ‘his eye on the main chance’. When stocks and shares were high he was much involved in the market. When they plunged, and their fall became one of the contributing factors to mass emigration, Byrne jumped on a new band-wagon – just that – emigration, Natal was the colony Byrne chose to push. Early in Jan. 1849 his first advertisements for Natal emigration appeared in British newspapers, and he opened his Natal Emigration and Colonization Office in London, at 12 Pall Mall East.

Among the Byrne settlers were two distinct parties, one sent out by the Duke of Buccleuch, and another which emigrated under the auspices of W. J. Irons. The second group - Wesleyan settlers – the Natal Christian Emigration and Colonization Society.

William Josiah Irons, a businessman and farmer in Hertfordshire, and a native of St Albans, conceived a co-operative scheme of emigration in an attempt to improve the lot of his fellows – to enable people to achieve a better life overseas – something that, without assistance, would have been beyond them.

This

This was not a business venture. This Christian Emigration and Colonization Society was aimed mainly at Irons's co-religionists, Wesleyans. He approached the 2nd Earl of Verulam to become patron of the scheme and to promote and present it to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, Earl Grey. (Verulam's father, the 1st Earl, had been MP for St Albans prior to his elevation to the peerage.)

The first vessel, the *Wanderer*, sailed on 24 Jan. 1849 with 15 emigrants. She arrived on 16 May, and is the ship pictured on the commemorative stamp. The *King William* sailed for Natal on 20 October 1849. Overcrowded with more than 270 passengers and crew, scarlet fever broke out and claimed the lives of sixteen children during the 91-day journey. Adding to the death toll, two seamen were lost overboard. Spare a thought for Anne IRELAND, whose husband Robert died on board, leaving her with 7 children - plus an infant named Ocean Robert, born at sea.

ARRIVED, Jan 23, the *King William*,, 463 tons, Benjamin Avery, master, with emigrants.

To add to the family history, Joan the second daughter married James Haburn van Greunen, my brother and Muriel married Edwin Craig Hunter, my wife's brother in a double ceremony.

The boys of each marriage had one of their Ireland ancestor's name.

Peter **John** van Greunen, and **Robert** Kenneth Craig Hunter.

Most of this information was researched by Cynthia Hunter.

Wikipedia/Google - <http://shelaghspencer.com/settlers/>
<http://shelaghspencer.com/byrnesettler/>

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IN LIGHTER "VEIN" by Norman Prince

We, as aero philatelists, have always believed we are practicing our hobby however I have come to the realization that this hobby is actually an obsession.

To prove this point I would like to draw from my experience – knowing full well that you too, suffer from the same malaise.

How many normal people sit up late at night on the internet, finger on the enter button, waiting for the auction to close, heart racing, not willing to let this “rare find” escape simply because you know it will not come up on auction again. Then, having secured the prize, there is the anxious wait for it to arrive: sometimes only three weeks later!

Then too, when I think of the fact that I already own about 1000 flight covers – how many more do I need? A hobby? No an obsession!

Now, having secured this “rare find” one would think you would be satisfied – wrong, that is just the beginning. Now you have to spend many more hours on the internet researching this cover. An obsession; you bet!

This obsession of course takes you even further, you need books; reference books, catalogues, books on the early pioneers, in fact anything to do with aircraft, and yes back on the internet you go.

I was once asked if I would ever sell my collection, horrified I replied “would you sell your children?” A hobby? Definitely not.

As we all know, these flight covers cost money, does anyone budget for this? I know I don't; I want that cover no matter what. But it is very expensive, so what. I don't care, I simply must have it. Somehow this obsession drives us and we find the cash to feed the obsession because we know we won't find it again.

Have we reached the depths of this obsession yet? No, because we also joined a philatelic society (or two), how could we not as we must meet with likeminded philatelists (all sufferers of the obsession by the way) this now leads us to the next level of the obsession: we just have to display. But why? Well we must advance our knowledge and our collection in open competition – and – wait for it; we may even get recognition for our hard work! And hard work it is, as many hours went down the drain preparing, arranging, writing up and finally sweating. Will it make the grade?

Even our homes and family suffer, we need secure storage for all our material, no problem build a bookshelf and also don't forget the dehumidifier, we must protect at all costs! Maybe even a safe is needed.

I strongly believe this obsession knows no bounds or limits, we were hooked, like an addict, at an early age and now many, many years later we are still totally addicted. Not being able to participate in this obsession would result in severe withdrawal symptoms.

Finally we have heard it said many times that “philately is the sport of Kings” does it imply that even Kings are smitten with this obsession?

The Royal Philatelic Society London

PRESS RELEASE 9th October 2018

Latin America shown to Royal

Three members of The Royal Philatelic Society London showed aspects of Latin America at the meeting held on 4 October. John Shaw MBE FRPSL displayed traditional philately of Paraguay and Haiti, Glen Stafford showed Nicaragua postal stationery, while Ray Todd OAM RDP FRPSL chose traditional philately of Chile, postal history of Haiti and postal stationery of Paraguay.

Introducing the displays, President Patrick Maselis RDP FRPSL commented that Latin America is a part of the world not often featured in displays given to the Society. Sadly Glen Stafford could not be present, but Ray Todd had come over from Australia, accompanied by his wife Elsa.

Giving the vote of thanks, Brian Trotter RDP FRPSL reiterated that Latin America is an area not seen often in the UK, yet on show was 'beautiful, fascinating material', with items to appeal to all – stamps, including essays and proofs; postal stationery, again with essays and proofs; and postal history. Brian added that all three displaying had been inspired by the late Brian Moorhouse, who devoted so much of his life to promoting the philately of the area.

Those wishing to visit The Royal Philatelic Society London at 41 Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY, or be a guest at one of its meetings, are asked to contact the Administrative Office (020 7486 1044).



Illustration:

Ray Todd OAM RDP FRPSL with his wife Elsa, Patrick Maselis RDP FRPSL, President of The Royal Philatelic Society London, and John Shaw MBE FRPSL.

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South Africa Letters at the ABBA Museum from David Osborn

On a recent visit to the ABBA museum in Stockholm there were some letters from fans of ABBA and this one was spotted in the front of the display!



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