

THE SPRINGBOK

SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS'
SOCIETY QUARTERLY
www.southafricacollector.com



WATERLOO'S 1^o BI-COLOUR.



1926.

6^o BI-COLOUR.



1926.

1/2^o BI-COLOUR.



1927.

Editorial

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

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2019

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This month Otto Peetoom has answered my request for more RSA papers with two. I hope you enjoy them. In addition we have another diaereses paper, following Roald Sand's in the last issue, from Tony Howgrave-Graham and he hopes to have more information on Roald's paper once the current crisis permits. Mike Tonking has sent some further illustrations on the 1d Ship article last month and Nicholas Arrow and Malcolm Judd have papers on some interesting covers. In addition Siegfried Mayr has updated his list of Voortrekker covers from the last issue. Finally we have some interesting SWA covers from Tony H-G in the SWA corner, and the index of last year's issues.

As I write this everything is shutting down in the UK, and many other countries, because of Covid-19. We are encouraged to stay at home and 'self-isolate'. I am hoping some of you will use this opportunity to work on your collections and prepare some papers for the Springbok. I look forward to receiving a 'flood' of new papers!!

Sadly we have to report the passing of 3 more members, two of them long standing members who will be well known to many of us. Obituaries will be found in this issue. The start to 2020 has not been kind to our society.

Tony Johnson

Index to Springbok Volume 67 (2019)

You will find the index for last year's Springbok magazines on page 63 of this issue. My apology for the delay in publishing this.

Thanks to Otto for the reminder.

Membership

Deceased Members

We are sad to announce the passing of Eddie Bridges, John Richardson and Simon Hunt. Obituaries for Eddie and John, who will both be known to many of our members, will be found in this issue.

I knew Simon Hunt, a relatively recent member (he joined 2 or 3 years ago), as he was a member of my local philatelic society. He only managed to get to one SACS meeting but will be remembered by those at that 2019 Letchworth meeting where he provided a display. I will miss him at our local meetings. - Ed.

Contents	Page	Contents	Page
Society News:		Articles:	
Auction report from November meeting	40	Another diaereses Tony Howgrave Graham	41
Notification and agenda for AGM	52	RSA - Major Commemorative Varieties	42
Chairman's and Secretary's annual reports	53	Otto Peetoom	
From The Editor's Desk:		Early mistakes on Imperial Airways Flights	49
Letters to the Editor from Nicholas Arrow and	48	Nicholas Arrow	
Mike Tonking		RSA Commemoratives - part 2	54
Obituaries for John Richardson and Eddie	58 and 60	An unregistered puzzle	57
Bridges		Voortrekker Centenary Covers	58
Index to Springbok, Vol. 67 (2019)	63	South West Corner	61
		Tony Howgrave Graham	

I had to hold this over from last month because of a lack of space. We are including it now in readiness for the next Auction. This was due to be held in May but has had to be postponed, unfortunately.—Ed.

November Auction Report

Nicholas Arrow (Auctioneer)

The November report was something of a mixed bag. The good news is that, with post-auction sales taken into account, the total sales amounted to £3,742.50, which shows a fairly good overall record of sales - 102 lots out of 220 offered, roughly 47%. The less good news is that, once again, I was faced with a room with just a few members, only 6 of whom had registered to bid. This, to me, bears an even less favourable comparison to the May Auction, where I had 10 different bidders registered to bid at the auction.

If there is an answer to this, it would be to have loads of new material to sell. It was significant, and to me highly satisfactory, that there was a very keen purchaser of the modern material, and hopefully this will show a resurgence of interest in this area of our hobby. It is also sad that almost the only interest in the pre-Union material was shown by our good friend Paul van Zeyl - there were three lots of the pre-Union material sold to postal bidders and about the same to the room bidders.

I set out below a list of the prices of the various lots for those who like to see how the sales went. The November Auction is, effectively, supporting the November convention, and I need all the support for the November Auction to ensure that future conventions can be funded.

Fortunately the May Auction will be quite a big one as I have been asked by a collector, who is giving up collecting, to dispose of a quantity of very high quality material, and I have also received support from my more usual suppliers of material.

So I end this report on a high note, but although May will hopefully be an excellent auction, obviously the more new material I can offer, the better the result and of course the better the commission for the Society.

Please look out your old material and send it in to me - it is no good just sitting in the stock book that you never open - you might just as well hope to turn it into cash and make someone else's day by providing them with the material to fill that space in his album which has been annoying him for so long!

3	£25.00	51	£120.00	107	£110.00	174	£25.00
4	£2.50	55	£5.00	111	£25.00	175	£8.00
6	£50.00	56	£14.00	116	£12.00	176	£140.00
9	£105.00	58	£20.00	118	£6.00	177	£25.00
11	£15.00	60	£8.00	121	£22.00	178	£25.00
12	£15.00	63	£150.00	122	£90.00	179	£25.00
13	£90.00	64	£180.00	123	£15.00	180	£25.00
16	£150.00	65	£270.00	126	£20.00	181	£25.00
21	£7.00	68	£5.00	127	£10.00	182	£20.00
22	£52.00	71	£20.00	130	£70.00	183	£2.50
23	£18.00	74	£8.00	134	£25.00	184	£16.00
24	£8.00	76	£3.00	135	£8.00	185	£12.00
25	£5.00	79	£170.00	137	£44.00	187	£85.00
26	£36.00	81	£30.00	138	£32.00	189	£10.00
27	£5.00	85	£60.00	139	£3.00	190	£8.00
28	£15.00	86	£16.00	141	£20.00	194	£25.00
29	£5.00	94	£30.00	145	£20.00	197	£25.00
30	£12.00	95	£25.00	150	£35.00	198	£20.00
32	£10.00	96	£23.00	152	£38.00	205	£5.00
34	£10.00	97	£60.00	165	£4.00	206	£5.00
44	£10.00	98	£60.00	166	£6.00	208	£15.00
45	£4.00	99	£80.00	167	£15.00	210	£25.00
46	£25.00	100	£25.00	169	£4.00	216	£8.00
47	£15.00	101	£26.00	170	£6.00	218	£50.00
48	£8.00	103	£110.00	171	£2.50	220	£5.00
49	£10.00	106	£210.00	173	£30.00		

Diaereses revisited

Tony Howgrave-Graham

I was going to write a follow up on Roald Sand's observation in the last *Springbok* that the 1944-6 medium format 1½d official overprinting on Issue 6, which includes the diaereses (SGO33a, SAHB O96), can be found on stamps from the right half of the sheet. It would appear that he's absolutely correct but the corona virus scare has prevented me seeing a complete unoverprinted sheet to absolutely confirm things, so it will have to wait until the next *Springbok* is issued.

Sticking with diaereses, John Dixon's 1/- gnus appeared in Spink on 30 January this year and I was delighted to acquire the used pair of Issue 3 with a diaeresis on both stamps (Fig.1). These turned out to be on row 1/5&6, thus from Ian Matheson's new classification of set 20A in 1946. The very fine strip of 4 on cover shown in his excellent booklet are 11/5&6. So far these are the only two recorded used horizontal pairs. Does anyone have another? With only a top right corner block of 4 mint and very few used singles it must have been a very small printing. The diaereses on the 1947 issue (set 20) are considerably less rare (Fig.2), but appearing on rows 6&16/2&3, I've never seen a used horizontal pair.

Most of John's material sold and it included many very nice items or collections. The realisations were mostly modest. The famous Issue 4 1/- with missing frames (Fig.3) had a hammer price of £6,500, so approximately £8,000 with commission (against an estimate of £8-10,000). It does have a rather weak join with separation of the top 2 perfs but had made £10,300 at Spink in July 2018. The nicer example in a fine mint block of 4 (Fig.4) made £10,000 in the de Villier's sale at Welz in August 2005 and hasn't, to my knowledge, been offered anywhere since. The partially missing frames were all unsold. Fig.5 was estimated £7-900 and Figs.6&7 at £3.5-4,000 each. The block with part serial numbers (Fig.6) had made a surprising £5,250 at Murray Payne in 2013 and the Fig.7 block is nice by dint of it being easily positioned because of V4 (a large blue cloud over the left mountain) on row 9/5.



Figure—1 (enlarged by 30%)



Figure—2 (enlarged by 30%)



Figure 4



Figure 3



Figure 5 reduced



Figure 6 reduced



Figure 7 reduced

RSA - Major Commemorative Varieties

By Otto Pectoom

Introduction

From the early 1960's, within a matter of years, several good and in some instances 'visually impressive' varieties came to light. Many of them are listed in the *Stanley Gibbons* catalogue, whilst others only find a place in *The South African Stamp Colour Catalogue* (SACC). There are certain variations that do not meet the SG criteria to warrant a listing and such items are for obvious reasons only found in the SACC.

The Available Research

In some cases new discoveries find their way into the pages of *The South African Philatelist*, but a worthwhile hunting ground for RSA varieties is available in the auction catalogues of *Stephan Welz* in Johannesburg. Unfortunately many of the major varieties offered were only illustrated in black and white. When it comes to SA varieties, one sale in particular is a good starting point, the *Lamont Smith* auction on 14 June 1989. Many of his RSA varieties reappeared in later sales.

Missing Colours

March 1963 - 50th Anniversary of Kirstenbosch

2½c Red omitted SG 224a or SACC 223a, not reported in the SAP. Listed in 1971 SG Part I (un-priced). 1984 SG Elizabethan catalogue priced at £750. By 2008 SG Commonwealth catalogue also priced used at £750.

August 1963 - Red Cross Centenary 12½c with Red Cross omitted SG 226a or SACC 225a. A tentative report of this



variety only appeared in the August 1965 SAP and suggests that omissions were found on a sheet bought in Pretoria and that another sheet found its way to England. A dealer in the UK stated 22 copies of which one is damaged. The debate in South Africa felt there were more. Most examples are single stamps, but it does exist in a vertical pair with normal.

Lamont Smith included a top right corner marginal example proving it came from row 1.

Used examples - Two known copies, one with a wavy line machine cancel. Welz 12.11.1987 lot 643 - later sold by Stephan Walter to Brian Coote. Sold by Stanley Gibbons auction 1.12.2015 as lot 1103. Partial omissions of the Red Cross also occur.

December 1963 - First meeting of Transkei Assembly

2½c Light green omitted SG 237a or SACC 244a. June 1964 SAP...*characteristic extends over the 5th to 9th horizontal rows...green partly absent on the stamps of the 5th row and completely so on those of the other four rows.*



Bought over the counter at Pretoria, the report is not quite correct as the stamps on row 9 retain a residue of green.

2½c Transkei Assembly - continued

Lamont Smith included a corner marginal strip of 6 - On R5/1 an almost total omission and the stamp ex R6/1 with missing green. S. Welz offered a vertical pair and the stamp ex R9/1 described as 'virtually completely omitted' - Sale 30.3.1994 lot 424 and in Sale 25.3.1992 lot 470 - a strip of 12 from the last vertical row and the stamp ex R9/5 is described as having the green 99% missing. Thus partial omissions are found on rows 5 and 9 and totalling missing on rows 6, 7 and 8 (15 stamps).

October 1964 - 50th Anniversary of South African Nursing

12½c Gold omitted - SG 257a or SACC 249a.

The South African Philatelist April 1974 there is an illustration of a top right marginal block of 14. It states that the pane in question was discovered in the UK and omissions occur on rows 2 to 6. Rows 1 and 7 being normal thus there are 25 possible omissions and varieties from rows 2 and 6 are likely to be in a pair with normal.

This variety is not on offer very often and is an item best appreciated 'in pair with normal'. The *Lamont Smith* collection did not have an example.



It is stated that the variety occurred on Pane 'A' as there are minor flaws on R1/5 being a blue dot above left of the nurse's bosom plus another on her forehead. The 1974 report notes that 17 examples found their way to South Africa and the balance sold overseas.

The above block originates from the piece illustrated in the SAP and was part of Freddie Herzberg's collection sold by Spink 26 January 2017 as lot 1918, estimated at £3000 - 4000 its hammer price was £7000 + (29%) = £9030.

December 1966 - Verwoerd Commemoration

3c Brown omitted SG 267a or SACC 259a. This variety is not mentioned in the SAP and I believe two sheets were split up. Offered in S. Welz 11.5.93 as lots 381 and 382.

Sheet 1 - Total omission on stamp 11 and partial on 7 to 10 plus stamp 12 (Illustrated on the next page).

Sheet 2 - Partial omissions on stamps 1 to 5.

Lamont Smith included a top left corner marginal block of 12 from rows 1 and 2 with partial omissions ex sheet 2.

RSA - Major Commemorative Varieties

December 1966 - Verwoerd Commemoration continued



Two pieces from **Sheet 1** at auction

1. Welz 30.3.1994 lot 425 in a horizontal strip of five. The first two stamps normal followed by a progressive partial omission across the remaining three stamps.

2. Harmers 3 July 1996 lot 1755 a pair with a total and partial omission. At the time it was valued at R18,000 in the SACC and estimated at £1,700.



I frequently receive emails from people who have come into possession of an accumulation of 'junk stamps'. They are under an illusion that they have something 'rare and valuable' and request a valuation. As a total surprise, a scan of a page of junk stamps included a used copy of the 3c, from the right of a strip, with a partial omission on the left. Unfortunately, request for a 'better scan' fell on deaf ears.

The 1966 3c Verwoerd brought to a close five major colour omissions in four years and nothing else appeared until 1974.

July 1974 - 50th Anniversary of Broadcasting in SA

Black Omitted - 4c Black inscriptions omitted SG 345a or SACC 356a. This error occurs in the bottom two rows of the sheet making ten examples possible.



Lamont Smith included a bottom marginal single.

A positional strip of six was offered by S. Welz on 26.10.1994 as lot 397.

In the description it mentions that a photograph of the original multiple was taken prior to splitting it.

This October sale included a host of RSA varieties and also included.

A Paper Join

Lot 396 offered a 1966 RSA Anniversary 7½c in a right bottom marginal strip of eight with a paper join across three stamps.

Double Print - Lot 400 offered a 1976 15c Bowls Champion with a double print of Gold - SACC 400a.

November 1975 SA Tourism - Four 15c se-tenant designs

Orange and yellow omitted - SG 388ab or SACC 393a-396a. There is a footnote in SG...*At least two sheets, one...used to prepare official first day covers at Pretoria...*

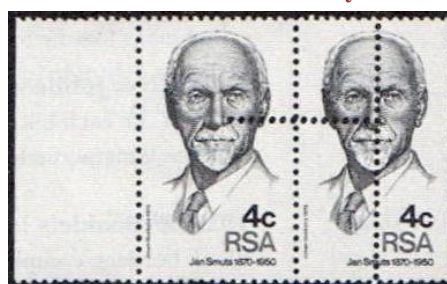
Sheet format - Cylinder A & B with forty stamps on each pane producing twenty se-tenant blocks of four.

Missing Colours Cylinder Blocks - Both A & B were offered as blocks of six in Welz on 11.5.1993 in lots 402 and 403 with a note...*only 1 other 'A/B' block known to exist...*

The foregoing suggests that two of each cylinder has survived and contradicts the SG footnote which states 'the other sheet' was broken up for use on FDCs. As the illustrations in the Welz catalogue are black & white, there is no point including them.

Missing Colour on FDC - An example was offered by Stephan Welz on 14.8.2007 as lot 761.

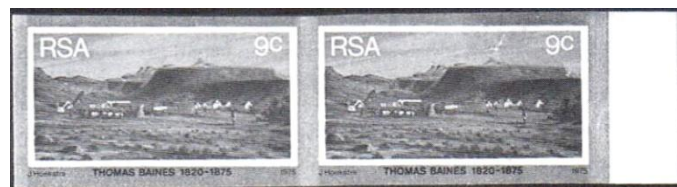
May 1975 - Jan Smuts Birth Anniversary



Perforation variety - Although this item does not fall in the 'major variety' category, it is worthy of note as it is possibly a 'one off'. Welz 23.3.1988 lot 393

June 1975 Thomas Baines Centenary - 9c Imperforate

Unlisted by SG (390 variation) - SACC 385a. A top marginal pair was offered by Welz on 11.5.1993 as lot 401.



S. Welz 24.11.1993 - lot 473 & 30.3.1994 - lot 430

This variety is the first RSA commemorative imperforate and three others followed during 1976 and in 1978.

April 1976 - 15c World Bowls Champions

Gold overprint omitted - Partial on stamp four and completely on stamp 5 & 6. Not listed by SG and SACC 400c.

Welz 11.5.1993 as lot 404 top corner marginal strip of six and re-offered again on 30.3.1994 as lot 431.

Stanley Gibbons Auction 17 June 2015 in lot 417 offered a strip of six. Illustration on the next page.

April 1976 - Erich Mayer Centenary

4c Imperforate - Not listed by SG and SACC 401a. In keeping with many of the above varieties I have found no reference to them in the SAP.

S. Welz offered a right marginal pair in their 11.5.1993 sale as lot 406 and a top marginal pair on 26.10.1994.

The illustrated imperforate block of four on the following page featured in Welz on 19.3.1997 as lot 501 and is incorrectly described as being from the 1975 Thomas Baines issue.

RSA - Major Commemorative Varieties



1976 15c World Bowls Champions - Illustration courtesy Stanley Gibbons Auction 17 June 2015 as Lot 417

April 1976 - Erich Mayer Centenary - 4c Imperforate

See write up on previous page.



Ex Welz - 19.3.1997 as lot 501

October 1976 - Ocean Mail Centenary

10c Imperforate SG 409a or SACC 411a

The item below is probably one of the most interesting RSA imperforates. The top two strips were offered by Welz as lot 395 on 23.3.1988 with a tentative description.

All four rows subsequently appeared in their 24.11.1993 sale as lot 463 stating a P.O. clerk had roughly separated the above units.



In addition lot 464 offered another two pairs from the top two rows - Illustrated above.

Welz on 3.7.2002 once again offers the above rows in lot 607 and the description informs us... *originally severed horizontally by tearing along a ruler by P.O. clerk...*

When I initially saw the two top rows in the 1998 sale I could not resolve what the purpose was to separate the stamps in the way it was done. However it appears that a diligent clerk was intent in splitting up his stamps to the best of his ability.



March 1978 - Walvis Bay Centenary - 15c Imperforate

Not listed by SG and SACC 443a. Again no information about this variety in the SAP. Printed in sheets of 25, the cylinder strip of 5 from the 1st vertical row is intact and offered by Welz on 24.11.1993 as lot 475.

The remaining twenty stamps make another ten pairs possible. The foregoing sale also included a lower marginal pair in lot 413. Welz 11.5.1993 offered a top right corner marginal block of four plus a pair in lots 424/425.



The Lamont Smith collection included a pair.

May 1978 - Tribute to Dr Murray

4c last stamp on each row imperforate on three sides.

The variety is beyond the scope of the SG catalogue and listed in the SACC as 444a. This item has been offered in several Stephan Welz sales either as a full sheet or in strips of five.

At least 2 sheets were found (10 strips of 5)

Continued on next page.

RSA - Major Commemorative Varieties

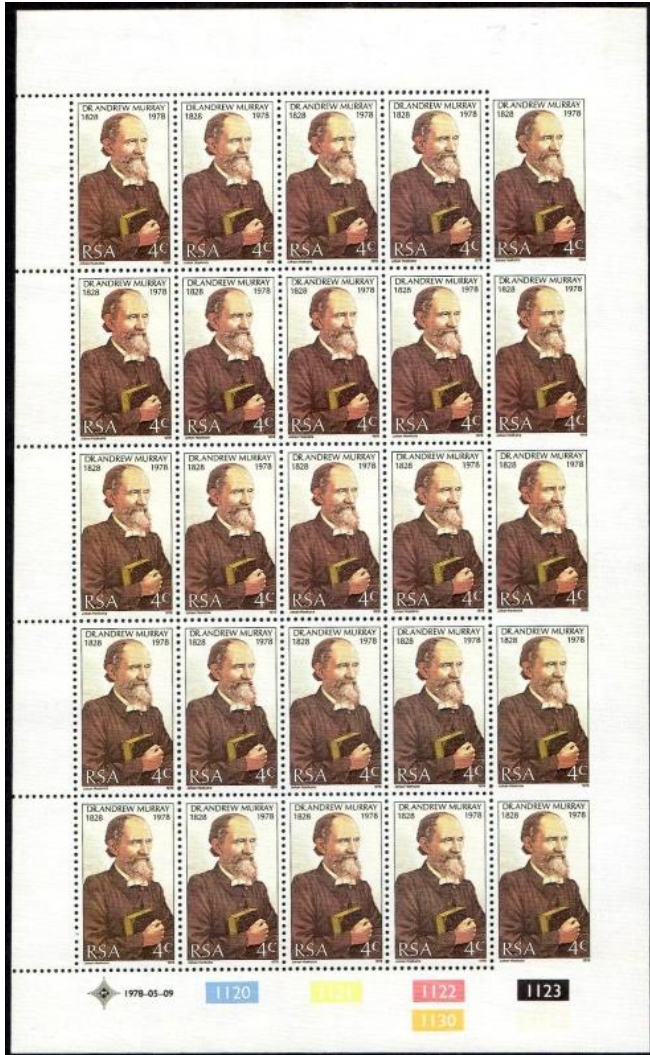
May 1978 - Tribute to Dr Murray continued

Sheet 1 - Offered as a full sheet at Welz 12.11.1987 in lot 658 and described as having a light crease on the top right hand stamp and there is a faint '3' in pencil in the top right margin. The sheet was offered in April 2000 and again in their 21.7.2004 sale as lot 566.

Sheet 2 - Ex *Lamont Smith* Top marginal strip offered twice at Welz. 12.10.1991, lot 335 and 18.4.2000 as lot 537.

Two different strips of 5 on 11.5.1993, lot 426 and 24.11.1993, lot 474. The latter offered again on 30.3.1994 as lot 435.

Bottom marginal cylinder strip of 5, Welz 26.10.1994, lot 414.



Welz 21.7.2004 - lot 566

The above sheet is accompanied by an 14 July 1897 original letter written by Dr Andrew Murray at King Williams Town.

September 1979 - 50th Anniversary of Christmas Stamps 4c Christmas Fund Missing Gold SG 464a or SACC 468a

The cylinder numbers on the selvedge are the normal stamp is 1221 (blue) 1222 (yellow) 1223 (red) 1224 (black) and 1225 (gold). The last cylinder, in gold, printed an inscription in Afrikaans (horizontal) and English (vertical) which reads 'Kerseëlfonds 1929 - 1979' and 'Christmas Stamp Fund'.

The cylinder strip with the variety excludes cylinder 1225 (gold). This variation is not easily spotted and is not very prominent.



Missing Gold No Cylinder No 1225



Normal Stamp with Cylinder 1225 (Gold)

RSA - Major Commemorative Varieties

1979 4c Christmas Fund Missing Gold continued
 Stephen Delpont in Kempton Park brought this item to my attention and informed me...*My mother bought all the new issues from Isando post office for us. The company that my mother worked for was Girlock. They bought full sheets and she then bought the control blocks or cylinder blocks from the company's postal department. The rest of that sheet was used for sending accounts etc. to customers. At some stage afterwards I took over my brother's stamps, early 1980s and with the sorting I found this strip without the gold... In 1986 I took it to Glen and Velda Carpendale to send to the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa Expert Committee for assessment. As you can see on their certificate (No 8568) dated 1 Nov 1986, that it is genuine in their opinion...*

Following the PFSA certificate it was recorded and illustrated, in black and white, in the *RSA Stamp Study Group Newsletter* No 33 (December 1986).

Stephen continues...*I then sent the information to, if I remember correctly, International Philatelic Services in Johannesburg which arranged to be published in the SACC catalogue. November 1996 I sent the info to Stanley Gibbons...which decided that they will list it in their catalogue.*

Stanley Gibbons Correspondence - Stephen wrote to SG on 20 November 1996 and received a reply on 7 January 1997 from the Catalogue Editor David Aggersberg who wrote...*I have not previously heard of this missing colour error...I can certainly confirm that the missing gold error will be listed in the next edition of the Part I (British Commonwealth) catalogue as no 464a...*

The variety is listed for the first time in the SG 1998 Part I Volume 2 edition.

This variety is also known on a Post Office first day cover.

November 1980 National Art Gallery



5c Three sides Imperforate

This variety is beyond the scope of the SG catalogue and listed in the SACC as 485a.

First offered by Welz in *Lamont Smith* sale, then on 28.3.1990 as lot 630 and again on 19.3.1997, lot 505. Re-appeared once more 18.4.2000 in lot 538.

I believe it is the same strip of five and I do not know whether it is the only known example.

May 1981 State Theatre 20c Right margin Imperforate

Another variety beyond the scope of the SG catalogue and listed in the SACC as 494a. I have only traced this item once in a Welz auction on 18.4.2000 as lot 539.

Illustrated in the next column.



1981 State Theatre - 20c Right margin Imperforate

1981 State Theatre Miniature Sheet No 9 Imperforate with Gold & brown omitted - When Welz was still known as Sotheby's Johannesburg, I first encountered this item in a 5 July 1983 sale as lot 447, described with a horizontal crease and said to be one of three recorded. Probably *Lamont Smith*.



A copy described without a crease was on offer by Welz in lot 428 on 11.5.93. Another (without comment) on 26.10.94 in lot 415 and once more on 18.4.2000, lot 540.

During 2012, in June and November, the same example was offered in two Welz sales and described as being...*one of only two non-creased m/sheets...* If one can believe the foregoing it does imply that there ought to be more than three examples as suggested in 1983.

A lack of new material

RSA Varieties took a back-seat for several years and nothing of note appeared until 1985, an omission of a black inscription and a similar variation followed a year later.

Both these varieties are not very striking and I assume that they occurred in a full sheet.

May 1985 Inauguration of Cape Parliamentary Buildings 50c Black omitted - SG 585a or SACC 591a.



A horizontal pair was offered by Welz on 26.10.1994 in lot 428. I bought a copy for a client in 1989 and that example, ex Coote was sold by Stanley Gibbons Auctions on 1 December 2015 as lot 1121.

RSA - Major Commemorative Varieties



February 1986 Donate Blood Campaign

12c Black Omitted - Inscriptions below design, SG 594a or SACC 600a. A Fair number of these varieties appeared in Welz starting with a single on 11.5.1993 in lot 437.

A lower right corner marginal block of four featured in lot 429 on 26.10.1994, ex *Lamont Smith*. A bottom marginal strip of three was offered on 8.8.2006 in lot 688.

Brian Coote's collection included an example, sold by SG as lot 1122 on 1.12.2015.



May 1990 National Stamp Day

21c Se-tenant strip of five with **Silver Omitted**

Not listed by SG and is SACC 722a-726a

Illustrated above and best appreciated by comparing it to a normal strip. I have seen it offered twice at Welz, on 14.4.1999 in lot 486 and 8.8.2006 as lot 1028.

I purchased an example for a client in 1989 and was informed that most of the known examples suffer a horizontal machine crease.

Lack of Varieties

After 1990 the next decade saw no further 'missing' colours and only three perforation varieties.

1992 Antique Cape Furniture sheetlet of ten with right side imperforate SACC 777a. Catalogued R10,000 - Conservative.

1992 Sport 35c as an imperforate pair or imperforate on three sides horizontally SACC 779a & b.

1993 South African Harbours 35c Walvis Bay imperforate to bottom margin SACC 790a.

1992 Furniture sheetlet

This is the most interesting item as I am able to relate first hand information. In 1994 a Mr Ken Lewis, then living in Cyprus, sent me a photocopy of a sheetlet enquiring if I was interesting in buying same. We agreed a price and shortly afterwards was asked if I would like to buy another. I enquired whether he perhaps had a suitcase full of them.

Illustrated at right - 1992

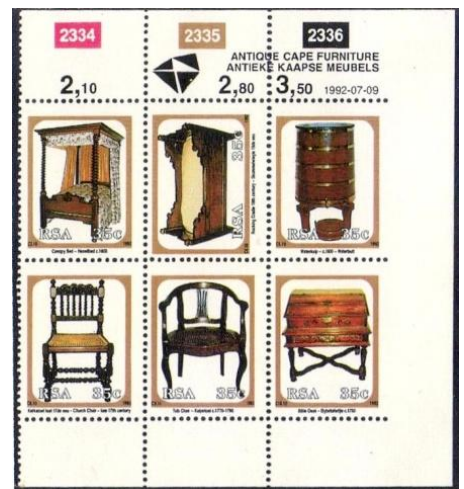
Antique Cape Furniture sheetlet imperforate at right - Sold in 2010 for £600.

1992 Furniture sheetlet continued

At that point the complete story was related. The sheetlets were printed ten at a time and Lewis, while buying postage at the Underberg post office in Natal saw the clerk splitting a sheetlet and spotted the variety. He acquired the foregoing along with seven other examples, the others having already been sold to person's unknown and probably lost to philately for good.

Two were sold by auction, in a 21 October 1992 Stephan Welz offered a sheetlet as lot 648, estimated R900 - 1200, it realized R2640. Harmers in London offered the second example and I bought five plus the part sheetlet.

I disposed of all but one to the South African Stamp Trade. Part sheetlet sold for £425.



References - The original article appeared in *Southern Africa Philately* No 4 (October 2016).

Updates appeared in Issues No's 5, 6 and 7. This article has been revamped and includes all the above mentioned updates.



Letters to the Editor

From Nicholas Arrow

Wilbert Davids is quite right in his comments about my article in the Springbok #67-4.

The 2 red bars across the Air Mail Etiquette were indeed applied in London, which makes the cover, if anything, even more interesting!

Rather than being mis-sorted in Bangkok and bagged for Cape Town instead of Johannesburg, it was bagged for London, for reasons that defy the imagination.

On arrival at Croydon (on Flight IW249) on the 17th January, the cover had the AM etiquette cancelled, and the item was then redirected to go to South Africa on the next mail ship, the Canarvon Castle, which left London on the 19th January, arriving in Cape Town (there was no intermediate stop at Walvis Bay) on the 5th February. The problem then faced by the Cape Town Post Office was as stated in my article, and the cover was flown by Gordon Store to Windhoek, where it was passed to the SWA postal authorities' hands for delivery.

This does not explain the ordinary Windhoek postmark on the rear of the cover, but I strongly suspect that it was because of the new concessionary arrangement with Gordon Store that no specific arrangements were made as to how these covers should be serviced in SWA.

I must acknowledge the help I have been given by Peter Wingent in compiling this correction to my original article.

Sincerely, Nick

From Mike Tonking (RDPSA)

With reference to Tony Howgrave Graham's excellent article "Back to Basics the union Unhyphenated 1d. Ship" which appeared in the January Springbok I would offer the following comments :

He makes reference to the 11th row flaw found on Issue 8 which I thought members might be interested to see in more detail (see adjoining page).

In the case of issue 7 a feature not often noted are the very faint horizontal lines which appear in the right margin. One is red and the other two black. These lines were used to enable the printer to correctly align the printing cylinders to ensure the correct positioning of the vignettes and frames.

Kind regards, Mike.

Issue 7 - Showing Printing guidelines in the right margin. (Enhanced to show up clearly)



Other magazines

As I told you last month we exchange the Springbok for other publications. We now have to add another, Forerunners, the journal of the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa, a Society based in North America. I have the current issue and it includes articles on The Philately of sub-Saharan Africa, GB wrappers addressed to Rev William Marcus, Nairobi, and Ink used in British Bechuanaland (1889 - 1890) as well as other items which would be of interest to some of our members.

In the last two RSA Study Group Newsletters articles include some lesser known RSA varieties and recent issues with printing details and control numbers.

I don't have permission to forward either of these newsletters to members but if anyone is interested in either I am happy to put them in touch with the respective Editors.

Don't forget we also receive copies of Bartholomeu Dias, a Dutch language magazine, which I do have permission to circulate to members for anyone who can read that language..

Union of South Africa

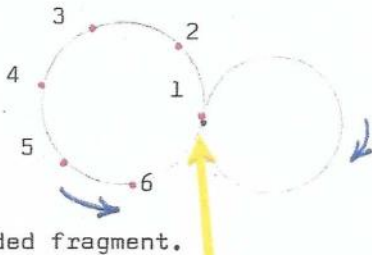
1d. UNHYPHENATED ROTOGRAVURE Group 3 Issue 8 - 'Eleventh Row' or Repeating Flaws

Six eleventh row flaws are known to occur in vertical row 3. The absence of these flaws is proof of two stages of printing.

These flaws were caused by fragments of metal which became imbedded in the inking roller during printing. Since the roller was five sixths the diameter of the printing cylinder, six equally spaced marks were imprinted on the cylinder surface and transferred to the sheet of stamps at eleven row intervals.

Printing cylinder
21" circumference.

Inking roller
17,375" circumference.



Direction of rotation.

Afrikaans Stamps.



Row 13/3 - Flaw missing.
Row 13/4 - Red dot above 'R' of AFRICA.



Row 17/3 - Flaw missing.
Red line in right gutter.

English stamps



Row 2/3 - 'Spot in sea'



Row 6/3 - 'St. Elmo's light'



Row 10/3 - Red mark between 'F' and 'R' of AFRICA.



Row 13/3 - 'Spot in sea'



Row 17/3 - 'St. Elmo's light'



Row 21/3 - Spot in bottom margin.

Eleventh row flaws 3,66 stamps apart

Please Help

As you will see on page 53 the society is looking for two new committee members and a new auctioneer. Please think seriously about either of these roles as the society needs your help!

Early Mistakes on Imperial Airways Flights

By Nicholas Arrow

Whoever said it is unknown, but somebody's law decrees that if something can go wrong, it eventually will, and the same is undeniably true of mail systems all over the world. In the realms of aerophilately, particularly when there is a new service being tried out, and even more so when things are falling apart on the ground as it were, the opportunities for someone to make a cobbler of it are legion!

The problems affecting the 1932 inaugural flights of Imperial Airways, between London and Cape Town are of course well known - the appalling weather in Rhodesia was not the ideal background for a new service and system to be tried out, but probably the mistakes outlined in this short article had happened well before the service reached Rhodesia, probably in some cases before the flight even started.

A huge amount of mail was prepared for carriage on the flights to and from South Africa. The schedule called for no less than 28 different places to be visited, and that total does not include Paris. Mail would be collected and delivered to (say) the Cape Town Post Office for sorting. It would be sorted in the office and "bagged" for delivery to whichever airport along the route was most suitable. So, if an item was addressed to Salisbury, it would be put in the Salisbury mail bag, so that, on arrival at Salisbury, the mail bag would be removed. Obviously, mail collected in Salisbury would take its place, and so on and so forth.

There was a further opportunity for confusion to reign, in that whilst it should be easy to sort correctly an item of mail addressed to a particular destination along the way, a lot of mail would be addressed further afield and it would be necessary for the sorting clerk to know where the mail should be removed for the purpose of making the most convenient connection.

But of course, not everything ran perfectly, particularly as some destinations were far distant, and perhaps the geographical knowledge of the sorting clerk could be bettered, or perhaps at the end of a long day, sorting out literally thousands of items of mail for 25+ different destinations, a certain lack of concentration should hardly be the subject of comment.

What actually happened on this interrupted first flight was that the mails recovered from the 'City of Delhi' after the forced landing in the swamp to Broken Hill, were taken on to Nairobi by the 'City of Baghdad' (the plane that had found the 'City of Delhi'), to wait for the second flight North from Cape Town, (flown at this stage of the 'City of Arundel'). This flight proceeded more or less normally (it was 2 days late by the time it reached Croydon), collecting all the mail intended for the first scheduled flight as it went. The first flight ('City of Baghdad') however did not leave Nairobi until the 7th February, proceeding 8-9 days late all the way to Croydon - by the time it reached Alexandria, the flight was running 9 days late.

The schedule of the flight then lay from Alexandria, Egypt, via Mirabella (Crete) to Athens, where it would stay overnight, departing the following morning to Brindisi.

The flying boat undertaking the stage from Alexandria to Brindisi was the Short S-17 'Sylvanus'. It left Alexandria on the 13th February at 5.00am, and ultimately arrived at Athens at 11.20am. It stayed there overnight, leaving at 6.20am on the 14th February, flying to Brindisi, where it arrived at 2.00pm.ⁱ [The mails were then taken by train to Paris, and flown to Croydon, arriving there at 11.07 on the 16th February.] Which means that mail addressed to Italy in general, and Brindisi in particular, should have been bagged for delivery to Brindisi. That this was not always the case is established by at least two covers, which I acquired, separately, some considerable time ago. The first (Fig 1) is addressed to Brindisi -

Due to the problems which befell the first service it arrived 9 days late at Athens (on the 13th February), when the cover was clearly taken off the 'Sylvanus', which continued normally to Brindisi where it landed on the 13th February on its way North. This cover was carried to Brindisi, almost certainly by ship, where it arrived on the 16th February.

The other cover shows a similarly strange journey - see copy of front and back, Figs 2 and 2a respectively (overleaf).

This also shows a Johannesburg transit mark - there was an intention that all mail passing through Johannesburg should be given a transit mark, but although this did not work out in practice, this item, posted in Pretoria, received the Johannesburg mark as a transit mark - plus the Athens Airport arrival mark and Athens Post Office transit mark applied to the other cover, alongside the Rome arrival mark of the 17th Febru-

ary. Again, this would have been transferred to Brindisi, probably by the same ship which brought the other cover, and then transferred to Rome, again probably by rail.ⁱⁱ

It is of course *possible* that the mail taken off at Athens was processed at the Athens Post office, receiving the Athens marks shown in figs 1/2a. It is of course *possible* that it was realised that a mistake had been made and that these items should have stayed on board the 'Sylvanus'. It is of course *possible* that once the mistake had been made, the items would have been returned to the 'Sylvanus' for onward carriage. It is of course *possible* that the items were taken off at Brindisi on the 14th January but that they were not processed until the 16th February (which was in fact a Sunday).

But is it likely . . . ?

The upshot of all this is that mail, addressed to Italy which should have been bagged up for unloading at Brindisi was not so treated. The probable to almost certain reality of the situation is that mistakes were made, for whatever reason, whereby some items of mail were bagged for Athens, and taken off the service there, whereas, to state the obvious, they should have been bagged for Brindisi.

However, what is apparent and very important to note, is that the established thinking of several of the authorities on South Africa airmails has been muddled at best. Wyndham (*The Airposts of South Africa*), for example states that the mail from the 'City of Delhi' was "forwarded northward by the 'City of Baghdad' along withⁱⁱⁱ the second Cape -London air mail which had left Cape Town on the 3rd", ie the 2nd flight from Cape Town. This is repeated almost verbatim by Burrell (*Par Avion in South Africa*). The two airliners effectively came together at Nairobi and parted immediately, with the second service North overtaking the first, to arrive at Croydon 5 days earlier.

Hopefully, if nothing else, this final "early mistake" can now be rectified!

ⁱ I must acknowledge my sincere gratitude to Peter Wingent for allowing me to use his researches whereby I am able to quote very precise times and dates of the 'Sylvanus' as it progressed North on this flight.

ⁱⁱ At least one other cover exists addressed to Brindisi which is impressed with the Athens arrival mark, although there are no other arrival / transit marks impressed (Peter Wingent collection).

ⁱⁱⁱ Emphasis supplied.



Figure 1
Part of the reverse of the cover is shown in Fig 1a

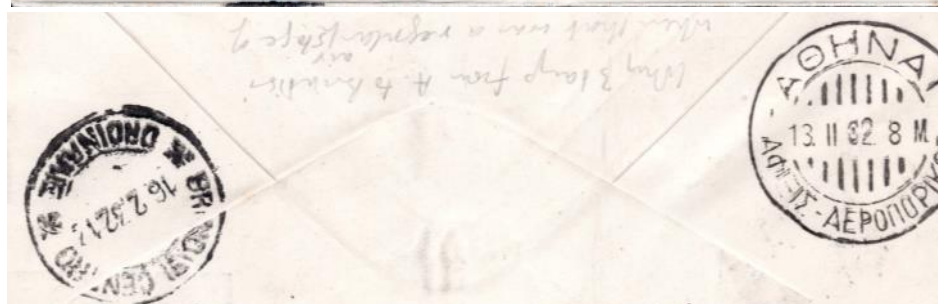


Figure 1a

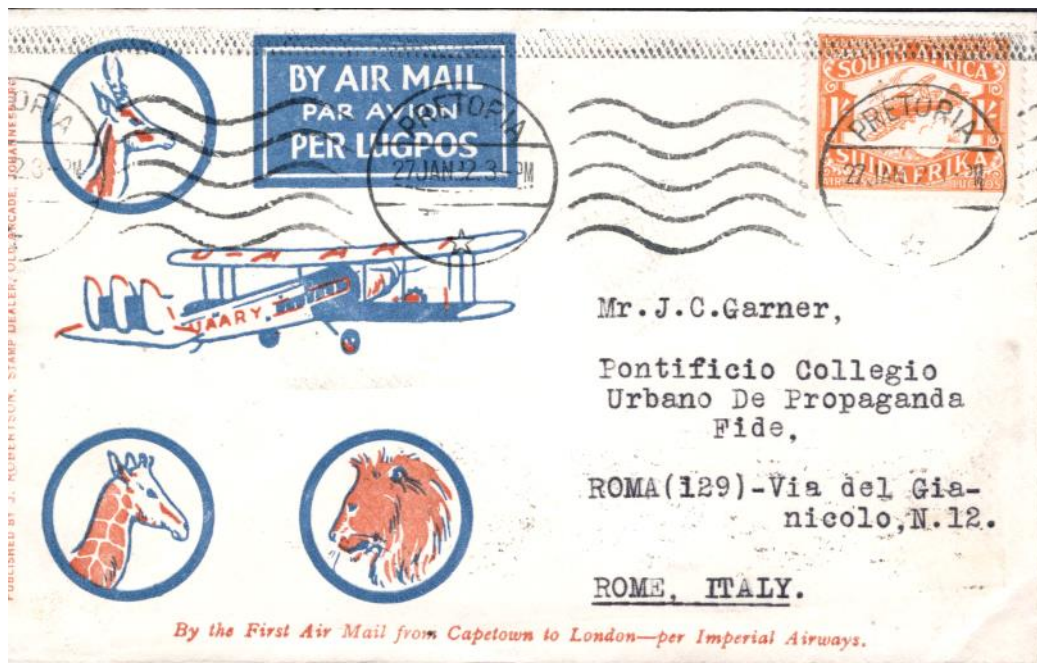


Figure 2



Figure 2a

NOTICE IS GIVEN OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY ON SATURDAY, 16TH MAY 2020.

This year the A.G.M. will be held by post or by e-mail due to the Covid 19 virus.
Any questions, queries or nominations for the committee should be received, by the Secretary before Saturday, 2nd May 2020.

[See p38 of this month's issue for contact details of the Secretary and current committee]

Agenda for the A.G.M. of the South African Collectors' Society. 16th MAY 2020

1. **Record of previous A.G.M.** [see Springbok 67/3 82/83] (AGM held 18th May 2019.)
2. **Matters arising if not included elsewhere in the agenda.**
3. **The Hon. Chairman's written report.** (see facing page)
4. **The Hon. Secretary's written report.** (see facing page)
5. **The Hon. Treasurer's report & statement on proposed subscriptions for 2021.**
6. **Reports from other officers of the Society, if any.**
7. **Election of Officers and committee**
- 7b **Appointment of an Auditor.**
8. **Conferment of Hon. Membership, if any name put forward.**

9. Ratification of Library Fund.

At present we allocate £200 per annum to enable the Hon. Librarian to purchase new books for the Library.

10. Society meetings and events :

Meetings at Letchworth Garden City go from strength to strength with two meetings proposed but, alas, not achieved due the Covid 19 virus.

London meetings, it is hoped, will be held at The Kings Head, 13 Westmoreland St, Marylebone, London W1G 8PJ

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

In previous years we have made a donation of £50 to support this. Do we wish to continue so to do?

12. A.O.B. – if notified to the Hon. Secretary prior to the meeting.

SACS CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2019 – 20

This year started promisingly with an excellent Spring Meeting at Meriden and there have been some good regional meetings. The Autumn joint societies conference attracted fewer attendees than usual and I had a ridiculously painful inflamed knee which caused my early exit.

Otherwise it's been a quietish year. Congratulations must be offered to Tony Johnson, our new editor, who has taken over from where Roy Ross left off and maintained the quality of the *Springbok* at its very high level. Thanks, too, to Simon Peetoom who has taken on the role of membership secretary in addition that of treasurer and convenor of meetings.

The year has been marred by a series of deaths and now by the corona virus which has cancelled all meetings until further notice including the Spring Meeting which had been planned for May and was to include the finest auction we've had for years. It is proposed to now hold this at the November Conference weekend. It has also cancelled the live AGM which will have to be held electronically. Chris Oliver will notify everyone. This brings to mind the necessity of thanking Chris so much for his long and efficient stint as Hon Secretary.

The only good thing about Covid-19 is that many of us can now start sorting all that material we've stored away for a rainy day and get around to mounting it up! We are nearly all, though, in a "high risk" category by dint of age and possibly medical problems as well. So please take care of yourselves.

Tony Howgrave-Graham - Chairman

THE HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT.

This report is supposed to cover 2019 but I will, on this occasion, make mention of unhappy events which have occurred in the early part of this year.

Meetings at Meriden were as successful as usual although we could do with more attendees. Regional meetings in London and Carlisle numbered two each and again it would be good if more members could come along. It is hoped that the proposed new venue in London will prove a draw. Bob Hill organized a very successful meeting in Letchworth and was intending to convene two in 2020.

Several of our old friends and good philatelists who were members have passed away during the last six months, Robert Johnson, Gary Brown, Richard Barnett, John Dickson, John Richardson and, in February, Eddie Bridges lost his battle with cancer. Eddie joined the Society in 1995 and was an enthusiastic supporter, being Hon. Editor – January 2004 – April 2012 & September 2012 – April 2013 and was elected an Honorary Life Member in November 2009.

I was pleased to relinquish the role of Membership Secretary last May and our Treasurer, Simon Peetoom, has assumed that post with a good deal of success. Well done Simon. Nick Arrow wishes to hand over the administration of the Auctions after eleven years. He would be happy to wield the gavel, if required, but would like someone to take over the collating and organizing.

Covid 19 virus, you will be aware, has wrought havoc with our meetings, this year, including the May Auction. Nick is hoping to stage a bumper auction in November, before retiring.

We also need two committee members to join the team. Please consider this, also.

My thanks to all the committee, officers and members of the S.A.C.S. who have helped me through another year, particularly our President, who is recovering from a difficult operation.

C.E.O.

RSA Commemoratives Part II - The Fourth Decade 1991 - 2000

By Otto Pectoom

The First 30 Years 1961 - 1990 Part I

This was published in our Issue No 337 on pages 32 to 35.

1991 - 1995 More & more stamps!

This period starts with a set of four issued on 30 May 1991 and combines two events, the 30th Anniversary of the Republic plus *Scientific and Technological Achievements*.



None of the designs are actual devoted to the 30th RSA Anniversary and it is somehow lost; it seems a pity as no further issue celebrates subsequent anniversaries.

December 1991 - 30th Anniversary of Antarctic Treaty



The above is an attractive (2 stamp) issue depicting the research ship SA Aghulas with Adelie Penguins in the foreground.

Same Value Se-tenant Stamps out of Control

In July 1992 a 35c ten stamp sheetlet was issued depicting *Cape Furniture*. Next the Post Office dropped a bomb shell with their 1993 Aviation sheetlet, a 25 x 45c stamp unit and more in number than the definitive sets.

It did not stop there as they also appeared in booklets with ten stamps; three different variations of the cover increased the count to 30. There are ten numbered settings, thus the specialist had to buy thirty booklets containing 300 stamps.

Wall-paper Stamps

During the 1950's and 60's, as a schoolboy collector, it was a rare treat to obtain a South Africa new issue. At that time several Foreign countries produced floods of large colourful commemoratives which abounded in junior 'Stamp Packets'. We dubbed them as being *Wall-paper stamps* and I never imagined that the same title could one day be applied to commemoratives issued in South Africa.

Wall-paper Stamps continued

As if big was not large enough, Philatelic services went over the top with the 1994 Child Art.



1994 Child Art
Five awful looking stamps measuring 50 x 33.5 mm and the first set of RSA Wall-paper stamps! In my opinion this issue is the most unattractive RSA set issued.

Sizes of Designs - The same format as the *Child Art* was used for the 1994 *Stamp Day* and 1995 *Aviation*.

Another, even larger, rectangular stamp (68 x 26 mm) first used for 2 values of the 1990 *Co-operation* set was again adopted for the 1995 *Tourism* series and the top value of the 1995 *Rugby*.



January 1995 *Tourism* - First Issue



1995 *Rugby Worldcup*

Protest from the Public

The *Philatelic Federation* met with the Post Office on 27 July 1995 and it is noted - Stamp sizes will be standardised on three formats. The large size of recent years is unpopular (*The South African Philatelist* October 1995 page 153).

Further Exploitation

The 1992 introduction of a sheetlet of ten became more frequent by 1996. Also another habit was to issue more than one set of stamps on the same day.



1993 *Aviation* Booklet pane of ten

RSA Commemoratives Part II - The Fourth Decade 1991 - 2000

Miniature Sheets A Change of Policy

The last miniature sheet (MS) that replicated a complete set of stamps is the 1994 *Tugboats* (MS No 23). The 1995 *Rugby* and *Gandhi* issue only include one stamp from each set. In between these two is another single perforated stamp contained in a MS being the 1995 *Singapore Exhibition* and it was not available as a single.



1995 *Singapore Exhibition*

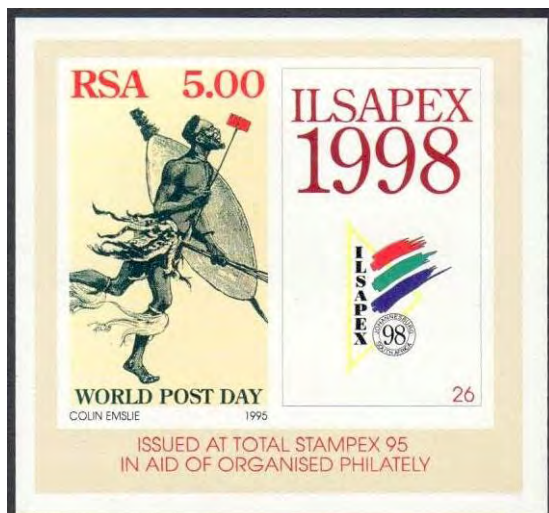
This, 'one stamp' miniature sheet trend, became a regular policy during the fourth decade with a few exceptions.



On 19 October 1995 an imperforate MS included an enlarged image of a *Native Mail Runner* issued as a single 'Standard Post' stamp on 19 October 1995.

This MS trend was prolific during 1995 to 2000, twenty nine were issued and only one issue included two stamps being the 1998 ILSAPEX miniature sheet.

During the next ten years fifty eight miniature sheets were issued.



1995 Imperforate R5.00 design incorporated into a miniature sheet. The perforated 'Standard Post' value is illustrated above.

A Change at Philatelic Services

Franco Frescura was appointed as Head of Philatelic services on 1 October 1994 and his predecessor, Herman Steyn, retired in April 1995.

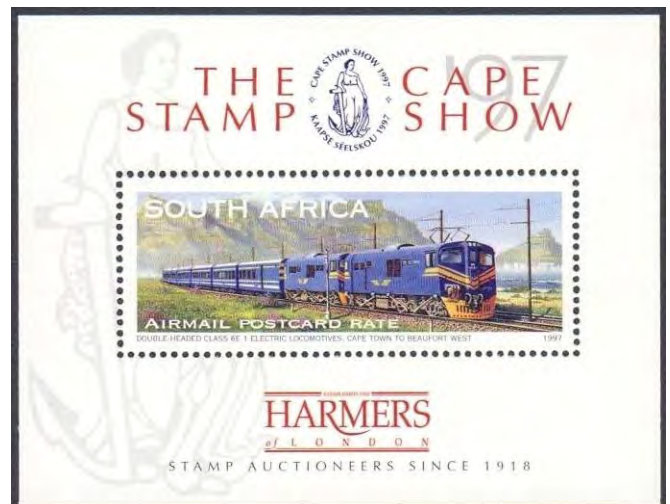
Change at Philatelic Services continued

Frescura shot himself in the foot when a letter from him was published in the April 1996 edition of *The South African Philatelist*. Letters of protest and indignation followed and appeared in every subsequent SAP during 1996. He was head of Philatelic services until 31 March 1999 and he was a Consultant to the Post Office from 2000 to 2004.

Frescura intended to take SA Philately by storm and made an unfortunate comment in the SAP...*I think it is about time that the blind old men of South African Philately who seem to be hell-bent on taking the hobby to the grave with them should have the good grace to realise their time has gone...*

1996 - 1997 Corporate MS

Another new gimmick was the introduction of Corporate MS, starting with two sponsored by the shipping firm *Safmarine*. Most of them are attractive, but were they necessary? Seventeen Corporate emissions were issued, the last by *Clover Diary* in November 1998 - 1997 *Harmers Corporate MS* below.



The Straw that broke the Camel's back

Whilst Frescura informed all those who cared to listen what a wonderful job he was doing for SA philately, the reality is that many collectors drew a line under their RSA collections and dealers stopped buying RSA new issues.

Many designs are only obtainable as miniature sheets or in booklets. Whilst the Philatelic Marketing Machine purports to sell stamps for postage, their stream of colourful confetti is not intended for such a purpose.

Try placing one of the giant MS or sheetlets on an envelope.

The Fourth Decade 1991 - 2000

No	Date	1991 - 1996 Commemoratives	Stamps
139	21.02.91	Breeding Animals (<i>Se-tenant</i>) ⁷	5
140	30.05.91	Republic Anniv. – Achievements	4
141	15.08.91	SRN and Midwives	1
142	01.10.91	TELKOM Established <i>Se-tenant</i>	2
143	09.10.91	SA Scientists	4
144	05.12.91	30 th Anniversary of Antarctic Treaty	2
145	06.02.92	Conservation	3
146	09.05.92	National Stamp Day <i>Se-tenant strip</i>	5
147	09.07.92	Cape Furniture - <i>Se-tenant sheetlet</i> ⁸	10
148	24.07.92	Sports + MS 20	6
149	08.10.92	van Wouw (sculptor) + MS 21	4 + 1

RSA Commemoratives - The Fourth Decade 1991 - 2000

No	Date	1991 - 1996 Commemoratives	Stamps	No	Date	1997 - 2000 Commemoratives	Stamps
150	28.01.93	SA Harbours + MS 22	5 + 1	202	17.05.97	Year of Culture <i>Se-tenant block</i>	10
151	07.05.93	Aviation - <i>Se-tenant sheetlet</i> ⁹	25	203	29.05.97	Pacific '97' Exhibition MS 37-12	MS
152	08.10.93	National Stamp Day	4	204	05.06.97	Water birds <i>Se-tenant block</i>	10
153	12.11.93	Tourism - <i>Se-tenant strip</i>	5	205	01.08.97	Blue Train <i>Se-tenant strip</i>	5
154	28.01.94	Fruit Exports	5	206	10.08.97	Cattle <i>Se-tenant block</i>	4
155	08.04.94	Peace Campaign	4	207	24.09.97	Sontonga, Composer <i>Se-tenant pair</i>	2
156	10.05.94	President Mandela	4	208	08.10.97	Cape Town Exhibition MS 38-13	MS
157	13.05.94	Tugboats + MS 23 ¹⁰	5 + 1	209	09.10.97	World Post Day MS 39-14	MS
158	01.07.94	Child Art <i>Se-tenant 50 x 33.5mm</i>	5	210	03.11.97	Christmas <i>Se-tenant sheetlet</i>	10
159	30.09.94	National Stamp Day <i>50 x 33.5mm</i>	4	211	28.01.98	Year of the Tiger MS 40-15	MS
160	18.11.94	Heathers <i>Se-tenant strip</i>	5	212	11.02.98	National Sea Rescue	1
161	18.01.95	Tourism - Warthog	1	213	01.05.98	SAPDA '98' MS 41-16	MS
162	01.02.95	Flight Anniversary <i>50 x 33.5mm</i>	2	214	08.06.98	World cup Football	1
163	15.02.95	Tourism - Lost City	1	215	28.06.98	SA History <i>Se-tenant sheetlet</i>	10
164	28.04.95	Tourism - Rhinoceros	1	216	16.08.98	Raptors <i>Se-tenant sheetlet</i>	10
165	12.05.95	Tourism - Waterfront	1	217	04.09.98	Trees <i>Se-tenant block</i>	4
166	25.05.95	Rugby World Cup + MS ¹¹	3	218	28.09.98	Explore SA <i>Se-tenant strip</i> Booklet ¹⁵	5
		ditto MS 24 - One stamp from set	MS	219	28.09.98	Explore SA <i>Se-tenant strip</i> Booklet ¹⁵	5
167	15.06.95	50 Years CSIR	1	220	09.10.98	Christmas <i>Se-tenant strip</i>	5
168	28.06.95	Rugby Champions	2	221	09.10.98	World Post Day MS 42-17	MS
169	30.06.95	Tourism - <i>Se-tenant strip</i>	5	222	20.10.98	ILSAPEX 98 MS 43-18 ¹⁶	MS(2)
170	25.08.95	Marine Science Centenary	1	223	23.10.98	Whales <i>Se-tenant block</i> + MS 44-19	4 + 1
171	01.09.95	Singapore Exhibition MS 25-1 ¹²	MS	224	09.12.98	50 th Anniversary of Human Rights	1
172	16.09.95	Papal Visit	1	225	15.02.99	125 th UPU Anniv. <i>Se-tenant block</i>	4
173	16.09.95	Masakhane Campaign	1	226	16.02.99	Year of the Rabbit MS 45-20	MS
174	02.10.95	Gandhi Commemoration + MS ¹³	2	227	19.03.99	Sailing Ships <i>Se-tenant block</i>	4
		ditto MS 26 - One stamp from set	MS	228	19.03.99	Australia '99' MS 46-21	MS
175	09.10.95	World Post Day	1	229	01.04.99	AIDS Awareness <i>Se-tenant pair</i>	2
176	19.10.95	Total Stampex '95' MS 27-2 ¹⁴	MS	230	27.04.99	IBRA '99' MS 47-22	MS
177	24.10.95	50 Years UN	1	231	30.04.99	SAPDA '99' MS 48-23	MS
178	24.10.95	50 Years UNESCO MS 28-3	MS	232	01.05.99	Workers Day <i>Se-tenant sheetlet</i>	10
179	24.11.95	Sea Shells - <i>Se-tenant strip</i>	5	233	16.06.99	President Thabo Mbeki	1
180	10.01.96	Africa Cup Football + MS 29-4	5 + 1	234	23.06.99	Order of St John Anniv. MS 49-24	MS
181	08.02.96	Football Champions	1	235	29.06.99	Arts Festival <i>Se-tenant strip</i>	5
182	28.03.96	Bloemfontein 150 th Anniversary	1	236	06.08.99	Explore SA <i>se-tenant strip</i> Booklet ¹⁷	5
183	18.05.96	CHINA '96' Exhibition MS 30-5	MS	237	08.08.99	Wall Art <i>Se-tenant sheetlet</i>	10
184	01.06.96	Sekoto (artist) + MS 31-6	2 + 1	238	21.08.99	CHINA '99' MS 50-25	MS
185	08.06.96	CAPEX '96' Exhibition MS 32-7	MS	239	09.09.99	JOPEX 99 MS 51-26	MS
186	08.06.96	Youth Day	1	240	04.10.99	Migratory Species <i>Se-tenant sheetlet</i>	10
187	08.06.96	Comrades Marathon	1	241	11.10.99	Boer War Centenary (1 st) <i>Se-tenant</i>	2
188	05.07.96	Atlanta Olympics <i>Se-tenant strip</i> + 1	6	242	01.01.00	New Millennium	1
189	01.08.96	New Constitution <i>Se-tenant strip</i>	5	243	02.03.00	National Lottery	1
190	05.08.96	Safmarine <i>Se-tenant pairs</i> + MS 33-8	4 + 1	244	05.04.00	Family Day	1
191	09.08.96	Woman's Day	1	245	22.05.00	Stamp Show '2000' MS 52-27	MS
192	09.10.96	World Post Day	1	246	23.06.00	Frogs <i>Se-tenant sheetlet</i>	10
193	09.10.96	Christmas	1	247	23.06.00	JUNASS '2000' MS 53-28	MS
194	09.10.96	Bloemfontein Exhibition MS 34-9	MS	248	01.08.00	Medicinal Plants <i>Se-tenant strips 5x2</i>	10
195	04.11.96	Nobel Laureates <i>Se-tenant sheetlet</i>	10	249	01.09.00	Sydney Olympics	5
196	04.01.97	100 Years of Motoring	1	250	19.09.00	Year of Peace ¹⁸	1
197	12.02.97	Hong Kong Exhibition MS 35-10	MS	251	22.09.00	World Heritage Sites	3
198	07.03.97	Water Conservation <i>Se-tenant strip</i>	5	252	09.10.00	Year of the Dragon MS 54-29	MS
199	01.04.97	SA Navy Anniv. <i>Se-tenant block</i>	4	253	09.10.00	World Post Day ¹⁹	1
200	26.04.97	Freedom Day <i>Se-tenant strip</i>	5	254	25.10.00	Boer War Centenary (2 nd)	2
201	02.05.97	Year of the Ox MS 36-11	MS			4 + 1 = 4 stamps plus Miniature sheet	

Reference

⁷ Issue 139	1991 Animals, SG date 12 Feb and should be 21 Feb
⁸ Issue 147	1992 <i>Cape Furniture</i> , first se-tenant sheetlet of ten
⁹ Issue 151	1993 <i>Aviation</i> , only se-tenant sheetlet of 25
¹⁰ Issue 157	1994 <i>Tugboats</i> , last MS to include all the stamps in set
¹¹ Issue 166	1995 <i>Rugby</i> , first MS only includes one stamp of set
¹² Issue 171	1995 <i>Singapore Exhibition</i> , first MS with includes its own perforated designed stamp
¹³ Issue 174	1995 <i>Gandhi</i> , second MS that includes one stamp of set
¹⁴ Issue 176	1995 <i>TOTAL STAMPEX</i> , only MS with an imperf stamp being a large version of a perforated stamp

¹⁵ Issue 218/9	1998 Explore South Africa, designs only issued in booklets
¹⁶ Issue 222	1998 <i>ILSAPEX</i> MS, includes two perforated stamps
¹⁷ Issue 236	1999 <i>Explore South Africa</i> , designs only issued in booklet
¹⁸ Issue 250	2000 <i>Year of Peace</i> , dated 10.09.00 in SACC
¹⁹ Issue 253	2000 <i>World Post Day</i> (9 Oct) - Re-issued on 8 Nov as a sheet of 20 with a <i>Se-tenant</i> , half-size label depicting Gladiators from a TV series. Face R26, sold at R35 (Ref SAP No 843 p 168). SG dates do not tally

AN UNREGISTERED PUZZLE

Malcom Judd

It must have been a real surprise for the Censor when opening this envelope and finding £115 pounds inside. Posted on the 29th May 1944 and with the cancel 'Send Greetings Telegrams' the sender was forwarding much more than such a greeting. I had presumed that this correspondence, going only to Durban, would be a Posted Out of Course (POOC) piece of mail but close examination proved otherwise. The 8x1d (SG D25) postage due stamps supplementing the original 1½d (SG 57) would, I expected, have covered the POOC cachet or writing. In fact the envelope is sufficiently transparent to read from the inside what is under the postage due block; a pre-printed 'S.A.C.&Co'. That insignia is repeated around a double circle within a colour and the inner circle possibly in red without writing. I have no idea who or what that identifies as the sender.

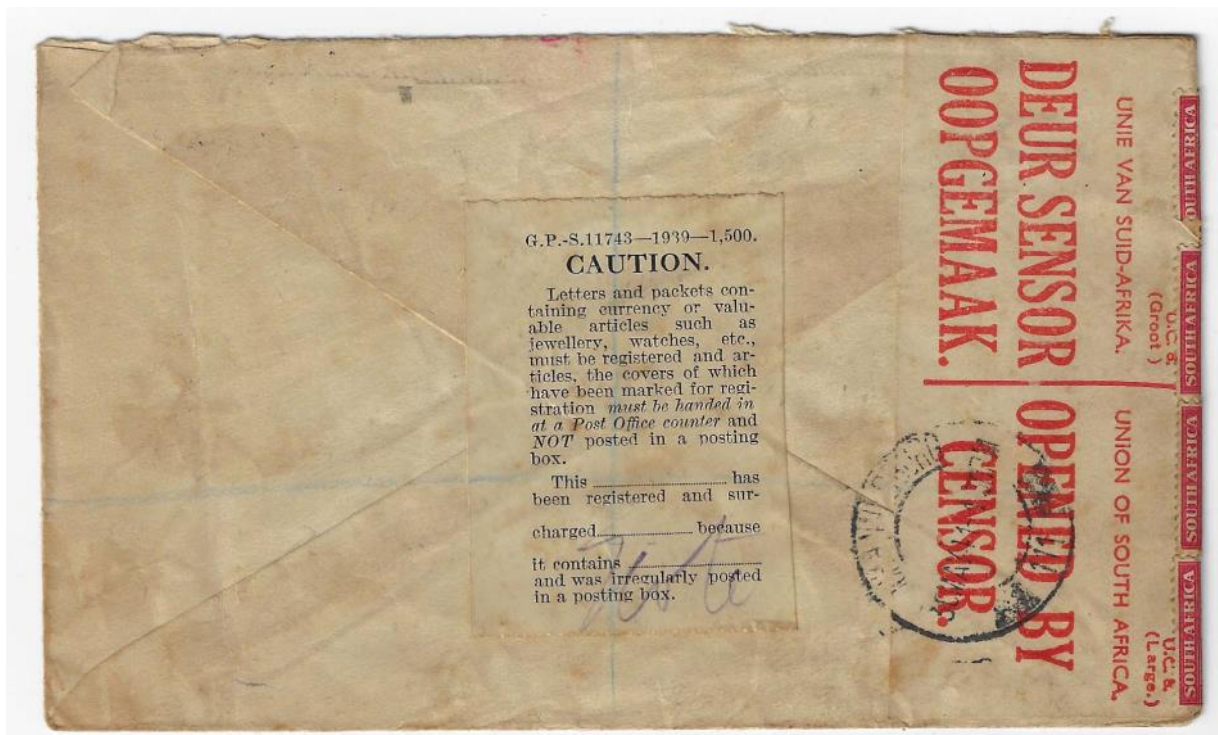
At the foot of the cover in very faint blue crayon is 'DNR' and a 'T'. I have jumped to the conclusion that the DNR is 'Did not register' as that makes sense of the envelope. There is a Johannesburg machine cancel on the front of 29 V 44 together with a Registration cachet that includes a printed 'Johannesburg' and a written number (8018?). The normal blue lines of a Registered item are crossed over the cover and supplemented with further blue lines across the postage due stamps which are cancelled 'Durban 94' and '2 - V1 - 44'. An 8D with a dash under it in a circle denotes the amount to pay but has no 'T' in it and is not shown in R.D. Allen's Postage Due markings of South Africa booklet.

Significantly, across the back of the cover (see overleaf) is a 'Caution' label of 1939 origin which says, inter alia, that 'Letters and Packets containing currency.....must be registered....'. Confirming that the cover was not previously registered, the blue lines are drawn across the label both vertically and horizontally. There is a further cds of Johannesburg dated 30 May 1944, linking the 'Opened by Censor' Label resealing the envelope on the reverse. On opening the envelope I expect that Mr Rorich was happy to pay 8d in order to safely receive £115, the amount noted on this cover!

(Malcolm says that he found this cover in a general auction in Portugal amongst 23 envelopes, half of which were badly damaged by damp)



Front of the cover described above



Back of the cover described on the previous page

Addendum

Siegfried Mayr

In the previous Springbok (No 349) we published a table sent by Siegfried detailing the information he had compiled concerning the 1938 Voortrekker commemorative covers. In the intervening few months he has been able to update this. The changes are summarised by Siegfried as follows:

- Krugersdorp: I acquired additional covers and noted that some were dated Dec 1 and some Nov 30. Also different cancellers were used. Both dated covers have the machine back cancel and thus were carried by the wagons.
- Dullstroom: This town was on the Blood River route but no wagons were in that neighborhood in October. A fellow collector reported this cover to me. I removed it because I could not verify that it was carried by the wagons.
- Elandslaagte: I have this cover. It has the Blood River back cancel. I had originally erroneously listed it as part of the Pretoria Trek.

The revised table is shown on the facing page.

OBITUARY

JOHN RICHARDSON

It's with great sadness we have to announce the death of another member. John was a local businessman in Salisbury and keen Republican collector. He was also, our Auditor for a number of years. Attendees at the conferences will know him well as he always, and cheerfully, turned up on the Sunday to help with the auction.

He leaves a widow, Sue, to whom we send our sincerest commiserations.

He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

RIP John.

Voortrekker Centenary Trek - Aug - Dec 1938

Pretoria Trek			Blood River Trek		
Origin	Date	Origin	Date	Origin	Date
Cape Town-25604	08-Aug	Kroonstad-995	30-Oct	Vegkop-2713	01-Nov
Weenen-?***	04-Aug	Edenville-121	31-Oct	Lindley-351	02-Nov
Philadelphia-?	09-Aug	Vegkop-3348	01-Nov	Senekal-263	03-Nov
Stellenbosch-1915	09-Aug	Heilbron-217	02-Nov	Paul Roux-95	04-Nov
Paarl-1098	10-Aug	Kopjes-89	03-Nov	Bethlehem-279	07-Nov
Wellington-773	11-Aug	Vredefort-74	04-Nov	Kestell-113	07-Nov
Breerivierstasie-29	12-Aug	Parys-347	05-Nov	Harrismith-5	08-Nov
Worcester-2122	13-Aug	Potchefstroom-1402	12-Nov	Retiefklip-1085	09-Nov
Robertson-612	16-Aug	Ventersdorp-234	15-Nov	Bergville-115	10-Nov
Montagu-306	17-Aug	Lichtenburg-288	19-Nov	Winterton-114	12-Nov
Bonnievale-80	18-Aug	Zeerust-417	22-Nov	Estcourt-75	15-Nov
Swellendam-1428	22-Aug	Groot Marico-211	23-Nov	Mooi River-?	16-Nov
Zuurbraak-74	22-Aug	Zwartruggens-139	25-Nov	Howick-?	17-Nov
Heidelberg(Cape)-743	23-Aug	Rustenburg-553	26-Nov	Kranskop-?***	31-Oct
Riversdale-585	24-Aug	Magaliesburg-154	30-Nov	Pietermaritzburg-1290	21-Nov
Albertina-133	25-Aug	Krugersdorp-499	30 Nov/01-Dec	Durban-603	23-Nov
Mossel Bay/Baai-844	26-Aug	Roodepoort-106	02-Dec	Wentworth-47	26-Nov
Hartenbos-266	30-Aug	Germiston-222	05-Dec	New Hanover-59	28-Nov
Groot Brakrivier-203	31-Aug	Alberton-12	06-Dec	Greytown-49	29-Nov
George-1116	02-Sep	Benoni-235	06-Dec	Muden-84	30-Nov
Oudtshoorn-?	05-Sep	Brakpan-124	07-Dec	Weenen-437	03-Dec
De Rust-189	05-Sep	Vereeniging-155	07-Dec	Bloukrans-821	03-Dec
Port Elizabeth-?*	08-Sep	Heidelberg(Tvl)-235	08-Dec	Colenso-77	05-Dec
Willowmore-591	12-Sep	Jameson Park-?***	08-Dec	Ladysmith-7	06-Dec
Uitenhage-?***	10-Sep	Boksburg North/Noord-26	09-Dec	Danskraal-1385	07-Dec
Aberdeen-331	15-Sep	Boksburg-14	09-Dec	Elandslaagte-?***	08-Dec
Graaff-Reinet-3011	20-Sep	Springs-303	09-Dec	Waschbank-?***	09-Dec
Pearston-146	22-Sep	Johannesburg-1813	10-Dec	Dundee-86	10-Dec
Somerset East/Oos-173	24-Sep	Jeppestown-52	10-Dec	Jagersdrift Station-?***	12-Dec
Slagtersnek-25861	26-Sep	Pretoria-?***	13-Dec	Utrecht-34	12-Dec
Cradock-573	01-Oct	Burger Kamp	14/17-Dec	Blood River	14/16 Dec
Hofmeyr-230	04-Oct	Voortrekker Mnmt	13/17-Dec	47 Blood River	16/12/47
Bulhoek-11330	10-Oct				
Steynsburg-2148	11-Oct				
Burghersdorp-476	12-Oct				
Aliwal North/Noord-682	13-Oct				
Rouxville-278	14-Oct				
Smithfield-405	17-Oct				
Wepener-72	18-Oct				
Dewetsdorp-381	19-Oct				
Thaba 'Nchu-149	20-Oct				
Bloemfontein-3100	23-Oct				
Brandfort-409	24-Oct				
Reddersburg-?	25-Oct				
Winburg-1630	26-Oct				
Ventersburg-179	27-Oct				

SWA Origin

Windhoek 18-Oct

Updated: January 16, 2020

Contact: siegmayr@yahoo.com

* HJ Klopper viewed the PE mayor as Afrikaner unfriendly, so PE covers were not carried by the wagons - no machine cancel

** Sidetrek - with machine cancel**

*** No machine cancel

Cover numbers from Hasso Reisener's definitive text

OBITUARY

EDDIE BRIDGES

19 May 1953 - 5 Feb 2020



Born in Cape Town and the eldest of three boys Eddie started collecting stamps aged 9 and encouraged by Benji Joseph, a dealer in Johannesburg, he went on to become a lifelong philatelist and major expert on the Union of South Africa, especially loving his 1d ships.

He was called up for national service in South Africa and, on one occasion during basic training, objected to a nasty corporal bullying a timid recruit. When confronted by the bullying corporal Eddie challenged him to a race, the corporal in running kit and Eddie in full combat kit with heavy front and back packs. The smirking corporal streaked ahead but the smirk disappeared as the race went on and Eddie overtook him fresh as a daisy whilst the corporal came in an exhausted second. Eddie, never boastful, had omitted to tell anyone he was a member of the South African rowing team and in peak fitness! It was this fortitude he demonstrated again in his long battle with his cancer where his courage and positivity shone through until the treatments ran out.

After gaining a degree in history he gained another in engineering and worked for Krohne as an instrument engineer, ending up as global head of marketing. Whilst heading up a factory near Cambridge he became involved with the university and gained a PhD in history with a dissertation on the allied troop movements in Africa in WW2. He also lived and worked in Germany before finally moving to the United States. He became a member of many philatelic groups including the Collectors' Club of New York where, in 2015, he gave a presentation on the battles between the stamp printing companies and the South African authorities. He belonged to all the post-Union societies we can think of and won many awards including one from the American Postal Stationery Society. He was also a member of the Royal, becoming a fellow, and being their American East Coast representative whilst he lived there. He was also presented with a South African Federation plaque for "services rendered".

But it was the SACS that was his main love. He took over editorship of the Springbok from Franz Heyman in April 2004 taking it into the modern era until his move to the US in 2012. He also initiated publication of the popular "display collection" booklets, even winning a Post Office cash prize for the one on aerogrammes. He wrote many articles for the Springbok including a joint venture with John Shaw on the 1925 airmail forgeries. He was also a great researcher with his detailed trawl through the Pretoria archives turning up some fascinating unpublished correspondence on the Darmstadt trials. He was a major player in organising the early Society conferences at Chester, then Leamington Spa and was a great, but generous spirited, competitor often taking home the Abell Trophy or Tony Chilern Cup. He won the Wicks Medal twice. Later he was a qualified competition judge and gave freely of his time to many clubs in the US. He was generous in sharing his philatelic knowledge and, had time been on his side, he would almost certainly have become a RDPSA, and possibly a RDP. Eddie was made an honorary member of our Society, an honour richly deserved.

After his marriage sadly failed he was fortunate to meet Carol Bommarito at the 125th Berliner Philatelisten-Klub, propitiously on Valentine's Day 2013. He moved to New York to be with her and found love, companionship and a shared hobby. Carol was his partner to the end and was so supportive towards him. His philatelic successes continued through to 2019 when he won a large gold at Stockholmia for his Darmstadt entry where he read a paper on the same and later in the year was presented to the Queen at the Royal.

It's a great shame that the life of this dedicated and talented philatelist was so cruelly cut short. He was a mainstay and stalwart in our Society. He was a giant amongst current South African collectors and a mentor to many. He was a great philatelist and a great friend who we mourn and sadly miss.

John Shaw
President

Tony Howgrave-Graham
Chairman

SWA CORNER

Tony Howgrave-Graham

This quarter I just show 3 covers from German times. The "wanderstempels", which involved changing their names when they moved from site to site, are interesting, and I'm sure played a part in encouraging the South African authorities who followed to act similarly, if not exactly the same. They were provisional cancels used at short lived offices, or whilst a new permanent office awaited a permanent canceller.

The first item shows the "Aus" handstamp on the Kubub canceller. Described in Putzel as one of the great South West rarities it's actually a temporary canceller that preceded the wanderstempel!

Kubub is some miles south of Aus on the road to Maltahöhe. A certain Herr Herman set up a sheep, wool and horse breeding station there in 1891 providing (especially) horses to the German Colonial Authorities. It acquired a post office on 16 Jan 1900 but when the Keetmanshoop-Luderitzbucht railway reached Aus in 1906 it was deemed more sensible for the post office to be there too. On October 12 the post office moved from Kubub to Aus bringing with it its original canceller and registration labels. The "Aus" handstamp was used on top of the Kubub postmark for 13 days from 13-25th October. Wanderstempel I (originally the Otyimbingue cancel) was unearthed and after a gap of nearly 7 years arrived at Aus (its sixth place of use) and was used as a temporary canceller from 26 October until December. The Aus handstamp is usually in violet as in Fig.2 but later, and more scarcely, in black (Fig.3). The handstamp was also used on the Kubub registration labels and for a longer time than on the canceller.

It may be noted that 2 of the 3 items shown are feldpost as the army was much involved in the area whilst suppressing the Bondelswart's rebellion.

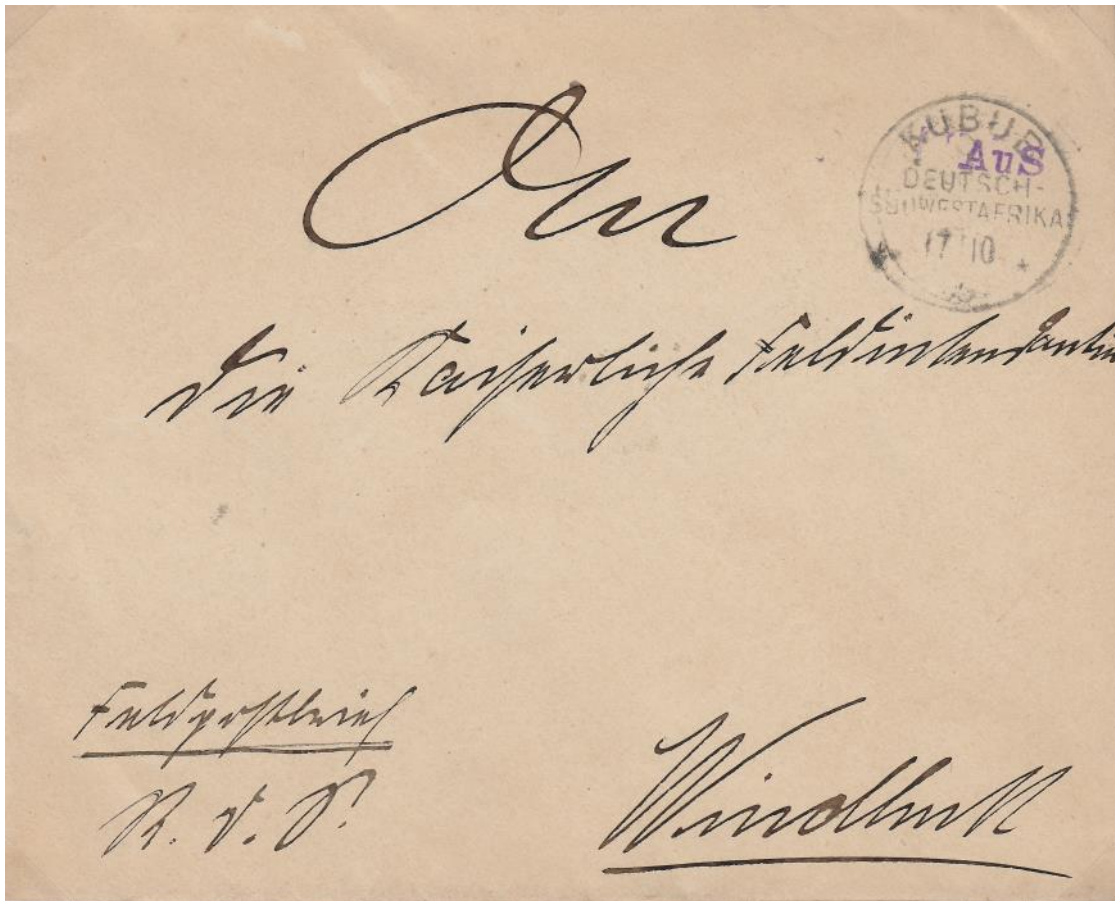


Figure 1



Figure 2

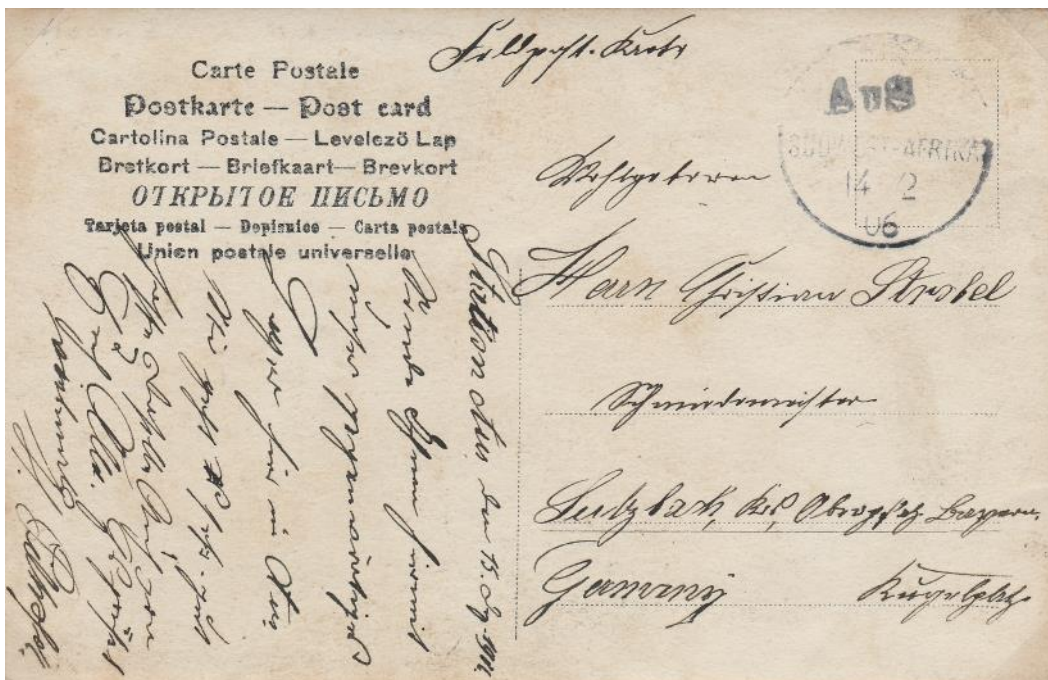



Figure 3

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The Springbok Index 2019 Volume 67/1 - 67/4 Whole Numbers 345-348

Philatelic News	Volume	Page	Articles	Volume	Page
Society News					
Membership	67/1	3	1952 Exhibition Cape Town	67/1	8
Conference 2018 report	67/1	4	2d Colour Trial 1931	67/1	13
Membership	67/2	39	OAT Marks	67/1	14
Packet Secretary Report	67/2	39	KGV Roll Stamps	67/1	22
AGM Agenda/Accounts	67/2	40	4th Definitive Buildings	67/1	27
London Meeting - Feb 2019	67/2	42	SA Colour Catalogue Prices	67/1	28
Letchworth Meeting - Mar 2019	67/2	44	Roto 2d. Roll stamps	67/1	29
Carlisle Meeting - Mar 2019	67/2	45	Rarest Union Roll Stamp	67/1	31
SACS Meeting - May 2019	67/2	47	Capetown Postcards	67/2	48
Membership	67/3	71	A puzzling Postcard	67/2	54
Packet Secretary Report	67/3	71	My Favourite Cover	67/2	55
Annual conference report	67/3	72	Grover Perforator problems	67/2	56
Images from Meriden	67/3	74	Transkei Stamps	67/2	57
Congratulations to Members	67/3	81	1949 British Settlers	67/2	61
Report of the AGM	67/3	82	JIPEx Postcards	67/2	64
Membership	67/4	103	OAT Cover revisited	67/2	65
Latest Study Book - Mobile Post Offices of SA 1936-90	67/4	103	½d SACC 236c Imperf	67/2	66
The Editor's Desk					
Items of Interest	67/2	46	Back to Basics	67/3	76
Comments on earlier issues	67/3	84	Unhyphenated 2d: Issue 1a	67/3	85
2 queries from Nick Arrow	67/3	92	Union Sheet Numbering	67/3	86
Jipex postcard - from Kalman Illyefalvi	67/4	112	Dorsland Trekkers	67/3	88
Query from Tony Howgrave Graham	67/4	112	My Favourite cover	67/3	90
Second query from Tony Howgrave-Graham	67/4	123	EG Kinsey Collection	67/3	94
Features					
Website News	67/1	12	South West Corner	67/3	98
2018 New Issues	67/1	33	Kings Head design competition	67/4	104
2018 Springbok Index	67/1	35	RSA Philatelic Foundation Souvenir Sheets	67/4	113
Website News	67/2	51	Back to Basics, part2	67/4	116
New Issues	67/2	67	Union Sheet Numbering	67/4	122
RPSL final meeting report	67/3	93	South West Corner	67/4	125
Book - Pioneer Postcards	67/3	96		67/4	126
Obituary (Eric Atkin)	67/3	98		67/4	129
Review - Pioneer Postcards	67/4	121			
Donation to Boston 2026	67/4	121			

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