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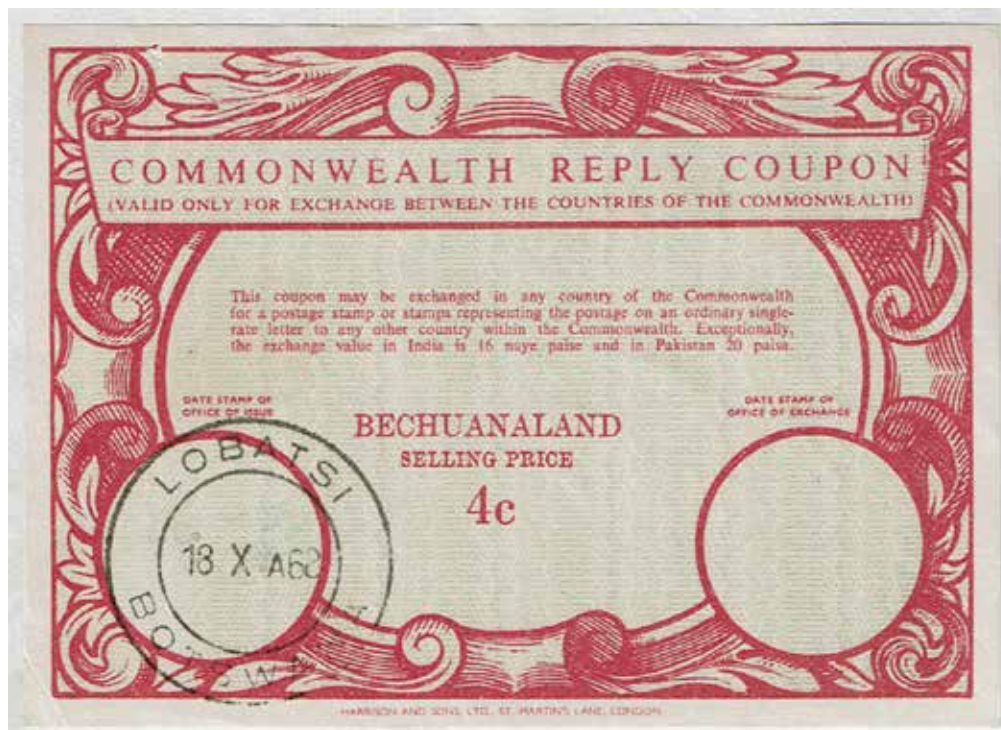
******FORERUNNERS*

JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY FOR GREATER SOUTHERN AFRICA

Affiliated with the American Philatelic Society and the Philatelic Federation of South Africa

Volume XXXIV, Number 3, Whole Number 101

September-December 2021



Bechuanaland Commonwealth Reply Coupon used in Lobatsi in 1968 just after independence

Highlights

Hong Kong Trial Stamps
Blue Cape Triangles
T110 Rail Labels
Supply of Wrappers
Varieties of Airmail Stamps

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Malawi issued this Christmas stamp in 2012 in sheets of 50 and as miniature sheets of 5 different trees. Issued on 25th December and printed by Cartor Security Printers of France.

Front Illustration:

4 cents Bechuanaland Commonwealth Reply Coupon used in Lobatsi in 1968 just after independence. The Commonwealth coupons were more expensive than the UPU coupons that were 10 cents. Just a few years later, Botswana received their own Commonwealth coupon now costing 6 cents.

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Large Vermeil at CHICAGOPEX 2020; Vermeil at STAMPSHOW Richmond, VA 2017; Large Silver at WORLD STAMP SHOW NEW YORK 2016; Vermeil at CHICAGOPEX 2015; Silver at CHICAGOPEX 2014; Silver-Bronze at CHICAGOPEX 2013; Vermeil at STAMPSHOW 2013, Milwaukee; Large Silvers at the New Zealand National Philatelic Literature Exhibitions 2012 & 2013; Vermeil at JO'BURG, 2010; Vermeil at STAMPSHOW 2010, Richmond; Vermeil at CHICAGOPEX 2009; Silver at STAMPSHOW 2007, Portland; Large Silver at WASHINGTON 2006; Vermeils in 2005 at STAMPSHOW and C7NPLE, Toronto; Silver at CHICAGOPEX 2005; Silver-Bronze at LONDON 2000; Silvers at JOPEX 99, STAMPSHOW 99, and COLOPEX 99; Silver-Bronze at PACIFIC 97; Vermeil/Certificate of Merit at OKPEX 96; Large Silver at New Zealand National Philatelic Exhibition 96; Silvers at SESCAL 95, CAPEX 96, WAPEX 93, and HAFNIA 94; Silver-Bronze at ESPAMER 96, SINGAPORE 95, and PHILAKOREA 94.

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Editorial Notes

It is already nearly two years since your Editor was getting ready to go to London 2020 but was brutally intercepted by a total shutdown of international air traffic. Now London 2022 is soon preparing to open its doors for another attempt at the same time as a new, is it the fourth?, COVID wave is hiding the world and our hobby. We can only hope for the best outcome this time around. We are also concerned for the Cape Town International Exhibition later in 2022. It is still in my plans to attend this show, God, Covid, and boosters willing.

Admittedly, there is some good news to report from the last couple of years. The virtual exhibits have flourished with our 'own' SAVPEX already announcing its 7th show in 2022. The past show have had a strong PSGSA participation. It has also been rewarding for the Editor to see a consistent flow of good manuscripts undoubtedly resulting from our involuntary home stays and more spare hobby time.

For the past two years we have issued 7 numbers of Forerunners as opposed to the normal 6 issues. We have also expanded the total number of pages from the usual 192 pages to 256. Even this issue is expanded by 4 pages in an attempt to catch up with the flow of manuscripts. Please let them come!

As you may have noted, your current Editor has now been at work for over 50 issues. So it should probably not come as any surprise that he is great need of retirement. Therefore, don't hesitate to step forward and raise your hand. We need somebody with only a minimum of technical knowledge and more importantly lots of new ideas and energy. It is fun and unlimited support is certainly offered by the Society and the outgoing Editor.

Enjoy this issue and all the best for a healthy Holiday Season.

Peter Thy

Reduction in Ad Rate Schedule

A substantial reduction in the commercial ad rate schedule has been introduced with this issue. It is hoped that it will entice members and dealers more often to consider the Forerunners.

The deadline for the next issue will be January 15, 2022. Please let the Editor have your contributions - small or large - as soon as possible.

Changes of address or email should be reported to the Secretary-Treasurer David McNamee at dmcnamee@aol.com.



Collapse of the Postal System as We Know it

It is not only today we fear for the wellbeing of our postal service. In Denmark, about 60 years ago there were also concerns, but for a very different reason.

At the height of the cold war in 1963, after the raise of the Berlin wall and the Cuban missile crisis, the Danish Postal Service prepared in secrecy an emergency stamp that would pay the basic domestic letter rate. The rationale was that Denmark could be occupied by a foreign force or perhaps affected by a nuclear disaster with the result that the central postal service could collapse. For this purpose, 200 million stamp were printed and deposited together with printing plates in sealed packages at selected, but unknown, eight post offices. In 1991, with the collapse of the Soviet Union, it was decided to destroy the stamps. However, 150,000 copies were donated to the Danish Philatelic Foundation for fund raising purposes. This is the only known example of a Cold War emergency stamp. Fortunately, only mint copies are known to exist.



Society Affairs

Forerunners is the official journal of the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa and is published three times per year for the periods January-April, May-August, and September-December. Subscription to the Forerunners is included in the membership fees to the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa (PSGSA). The basic membership fee is US\$20 for the electronic version of the journal. The print version can be obtained by adding \$5 for USA mailing addresses, \$10 for Canada addresses, and \$15 for the rest of the world. Those that join before July 1st will receive the complete back issues for that year. Thereafter annual renewals occur in August and are due by September 1st each year. A sample copy of Forerunners is available from the Editor for \$6 or may be downloaded at no cost together with application form from www.psgsa.org. Advertising rates can be found in the Market Place section. Payment options are (1) check drawn on a US bank and made payable to PSGSA, (2) US \$ or £ Sterling bank notes at the current exchange rates and mailed at the sender's own risk, or (3) PayPal plus \$1 fee to the Society Treasurer at dmcnamee@aol.com. All membership fees and other payments should be mailed directly to the Treasurer. All communications about membership, subscriptions, publications, activities, and services of the Society should be sent to the Secretary.

Instructions for Manuscript Submissions

Manuscripts should be sent directly to the Editor. Electronic versions of submissions are preferred either embedded in an email message, email attachments or on a CD. MS Word files are preferred. Tables in Excel or text format are preferred; avoid complex Word tables. Illustrations should be in color and scanned at least at 150 dpi and submitted in pdf, tiff, gif, or jpg formats. Illustrations should ideally not be embedded in manuscript files. Contact the Editor if you have any questions and your submission requires special attention. Needless to say, good old fashioned typed or hand written manuscripts and photocopies can still be submitted and are still most welcome.

President's Corner

Well, in keeping with the last message that frightening face in the mirror has once again been "forced" to recede behind these silly disposable masks. And also in keeping with the news of the day our Society's 'homeland' South Africa is once again under threat from the mutating Covid 19 virus. Designated B.1 in early 2020 one of the first variant "of concern" was Beta first defined in South Africa in May 2020. The next wave to hit was the Delta from India in October 2020. Now as things were starting to settle down a bit a new variant called Omicron, first described in November. While of concern particularly with the 50 or so mutations noted in the genome, it is contagious but does seem to have a less virulent bent than Beta and Delta. We shall see what we shall see.

As unfortunately happens, the victim is punished as all incoming persons from Southern Africa are now restricted for entry into the USA, but at present we can go there. That is the good news for the upcoming Cape Town 2022 show still in the works with advanced planning ongoing by the organizing committee. Still slated for 8-12 November, their second Newsletter is now available online on their website capetown2022.org. Here is the date organizer for those interested in participating and attending:

- 15 May 2022: all entry forms to be received by commissioners
- 31 May 2022: all entries sent by National Commissioners to Commissioner General
- 30 June 2022: National Commissioners advised of entries accepted for exhibition
- 30 July 2022: National Commissioners to have advised successful entrants
- 15 September 2022: Deadline for revisions to entry sheets
- 31 August 2022: Deadline for jury selection
- 30 September 2022: Deadline for payment of invoices
- 8 November 2022: exhibition opens
- 12 November 2022: exhibition closes

The Newsletter also has an interesting article about Africa's first stamp, the Cape of Good Hope triangles along with a bit about the Western Cape Winelands. If you have never visited the storied vineyards first planted mid-17th Century you are in for a treat. Over the years, the industry has grown both in quality and style eclipsing most regions of the world. Their Chenin Blanc is now being recognized as equal to the Loire Valley in France. Once known as Steen, a purely Afrikaans name along with Pinotage a true South African invention, so many varietal shine with their freshness as well as their complexity of terror. The wine, food, climate and stunning beauty are a mix that is worth a 16-hour flight to experience. Please go online, look at it and get excited to visit one of the still glorious spots on earth.

On the radar now for exhibitions are virtual shows. A number of WSP shows have been initiating this, Chicago and Seattle for two of them. Recently, a single page exhibition has been promoted by an Indian group via Facebook and the India Study Circle will be holding a similar exhibition here in Denver for next year's Rocky Mountain Stamp Show. The Rhodesia Study Circle has also been holding Zoom meetings and I would imagine when

they hold their annual show with us in 2023, the same will be in concert with the physical event.

Back in June the Israel Philatelic Federation held a virtual stamp exhibition in celebration of the Abraham Accord signed between the UAE, Israel and the USA. Called AAPE2021 (I hope that AAPE didn't mind the use of the name, any publicity is good publicity) it was a success and yours truly gave a ZOOM presentation on exhibiting picture postcards set up with the help of Colin Fraser and the organizers of the show. This is going to be happening more and more frequently as we progress into the 21st century. Not, I pray that we get away from actual shows with dealers and people and exhibits, but in conjunction with that expanding the amount of sharing that can go on without a physical presence. We shall see. More on that later.

Tim Bartshe

New Members

Welcome to

David Frye
Franklin, MA

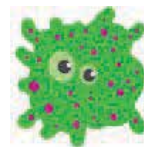
Post-Colonial Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania,
Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe
Mozambique, Angola

Jeff Levan
Lancaster, PA

Union and Republic South Africa, SWA/Namibia,
Rhodesia and Nyasaland

Mark Your Calendar

Most stamp shows and exhibitions have been canceled or delayed because of the pandemic. This situation may last well into 2022. In some cases shows have been replaced by virtual events. Look out for updated announcements.



London 2022 Philatelic International Exhibition, Business Design Centre, Islington. The show was postponed to 19-26 February 2022. The literature competition is now planned



to be completed together with the main exhibition. Exhibits accepted for 2020 is still accepted for 2022 unless otherwise agreed. Go to www.london2022.co/news for the most recent news updates.

Contact the US Commissioner Jack Harwood for information by writing to jharwood222@verizon.net.

Cape Town International Stamp Exhibition is rescheduled for 8 to 12 November 2022. A total of 2,000 frame is expected to be on display. Prepare to join PSGSA in Cape Town at this exceptional event. Go to <https://capetown2021.org> for most recent updates.



APS Great American STAMPSHOW

for 2022 has been scheduled for August 25-28 in Sacramento at the Convention Center.

Wanted

Zimbabwe Commercially Used Stamps. *Scott 644*, 1991, fruits 65c dwaba berries. *Scott 1002*, 2005, views, 52,000, elephant. *Scott 1007*, 2006, food, corn, 35,000. *Scott 1011*, 2006, food, 300,000, sweet potatoes. Will pay \$50 each. Write to bobhisey@comcast.net if you can help.

PSGSA Articles of Distinction

Posted at: <http://stamps.org/Articles-of-Distinction>

- 2020. 'T110 Rail Letter Post Labels' by Jan Stolk. Whole No. 98.
- 2019. 'Letters from the Zulu War 1876-1879' by David McNamee. Whole No. 94.
- 2018. 'Lieutenant Alfred Hutton Radice, 1st Battalion Cloustershire Regiment: British Prisoner of War and the Disaster at Nicholson's Nek' by Paul Benson. Whole No. 91.
- 2017. 'The intersection of African Liberation and Philately in the Life of an Activist' by Ken Lawrence. Whole No. 88.
- 2016. 'The 'Woodblock' triangular stamps of the Cape of Good Hope' by David Mordant. Whole No. 84.
- 2015. 'The South Africa Christmas Stamp Project' by Franco Frescura, Whole Number 83.
- 2014. 'The Cape Post Office 1795-1910: A Final Report' by Franco Frescura. Whole Number 79.

PSGSA Website

The Society website has been updated to a more modern design. Of additions so far are a complete run of Forerunners, with the exception of the most recent issues. The webmaster is planning further reorganizations. Please contact him with your suggestions and offer your help with writing and stuff to place on the new site. Contact Clive Levinson, LevinsonClive@gmail.com.


Clive Levinson

Africa Theme Autumn Stampex

An Africa theme to Autumn Stampex (28 September to 2 October 2022) is being planned. We have received the following message from the ABPS Exhibitions Committee and Stamp World Exhibitions: We would like to invite all ABPS affiliated specialist societies to participate.

We hope to have some 250 frames of 'African' exhibits, almost certainly too many for any one specialist society, but by bringing together an entire continent we hope to achieve one of the largest exhibitions of the continent's philatelic joys.

Entries will be open in the usual way from 1 May 2022 and will close on 15 August 2022. Entries may be made in any class listed on the website and may be competitive or non-competitive. All entries will receive a certificate and multi-frame competitive exhibits a medal.



Cape Town 2021

International Stamp Exhibition

9th – 13th November 2021

Dear Readers,

In order to raise funds for the planned 2021 Cape Town International Exhibition, a set of ten postcards depicting original artworks by Mrs. Julia Birkhead (wife of the late Harry Birkhead RDPSA) have been produced for sale to collectors.




These official Postal Stationery cards issued by the Post Office, the fourth in the series, will be sold in a packet of 10 designs, depicting indigenous birds. Orders may be placed with Emil Minnaar. Tel. 063 803 3536 or by email: Emil@Minnaar.org








The cards will also be on sale at Cape Town 2021 International Exhibition in November. The selling price will be US \$17 plus Postage and Packaging of US \$8. (Local is R230 plus pp R20).

Payment may be made by EFT to the account of:

Philatelic Federation of SA
Standard Bank
Swift Code: SB ZAZAJJ
Branch Code: 012 442
Account Number: 023 304 669
or to PAYPAL account: Emil@Minnaar.org

Please support our endeavour.
Kind regards, Emil Minnaar





The Hong Kong Post Office Trial Stamps

by Franco Frescura

Generally speaking, people who work in the security printing industry are a genial and gregarious bunch who enjoy a good yarn told over a hearty meal and a decent bottle of Aussie wine. Despite the fact that they are often in competition for the same contracts, they generally like each other's company, and they are not shy of exchanging salacious stories about people in the trade. When a client presents them with a particularly challenging project, they will often refer them to the party best qualified to meet their needs.

The events I am about to describe took place in 1995 and 1996, when, in terms of the Treaty of 1898, the Territory of Hong Kong was about to be returned by the British to the Chinese People's Republic or, as many people refer to it today, Mainland China. The British, who had spent a lot of time, money and effort into building up Hong Kong as the financial hub of the Asian-Pacific region, were clearly unhappy about this looming deadline, and initially tried to argue that, in the spirit of British law, a 99-year lease was just another way of owning land in perpetuity. Understandably the Chinese rejected such claims as, in terms of the original agreement, a 99-year lease was intended to last quite literally for 99 years.

The British then attempted to negotiate an extension to the lease, but found the Chinese to be just as obdurate in this regard. At issue was not only Hong Kong, but also the return of nearby Macau, a former Portuguese colony whose future was equally in the balance. In 1984 Britain and China signed a Joint Memorandum whereby they agreed that the territory would revert to Chinese ownership in 1997. However the Memorandum also stipulated that Hong Kong would be governed until 2047 as a Special Administrative Region under a constitution that guaranteed its people a high degree of political and economic autonomy. Both recognized that much of the value of Hong Kong now lay in its role as a centre of financial activity, and neither side was willing to see it lose its regional and international pre-eminence.

Fearful that this might not be enough, in 1994 the British introduced a number of constitutional reforms which made the Hong Kong government more representative, but which were immediately condemned by Beijing as being in breach of the 1984 Memorandum. Regardless of any mutual understandings that had been reached to date this made quite clear what the official attitudes of the Beijing government would be after the transfer of political power in 1997. As a result, in 1995 the management of the Hong Kong Post Office, known as HK Post, undertook a review of its business arrangements with the obvious objective of strengthening its autonomy from mainland China. This included the retention of its business links with overseas security companies.

Hong Kong did not have a Government Printing Works of its own and ever since the Colony had issued its first postal adhesives in 1862, these had always been printed in London. Now that the question of its political future had been resolved,

HK Post came under severe pressure from the Chinese to award its future stamp printing contracts to the Chinese Government Printer. Historians understand the status enjoyed by both banknotes and postal adhesives in the symbolism of international heraldry, and recognize that normally the first official acts of a new state will be to issue both in its own name. Acceptance of these symbols by the international community normally equates to an acknowledgement of territorial rights, and quite clearly the former British territory of Hong Kong was not about to abandon these rights without a struggle. Everyone feared that, had the HK Post printing contract gone out on open tender, this would be awarded to a "torpedo" bid by the Chinese Government Printer, even though the company was not known for the high quality of its products. In the printing industry a "torpedo" bid commonly refers to a tendering price well below cost submitted in order to obtain the business ahead of other commercial competitors. This loss is then recouped later on, usually by providing below-standard service.

Thus with a reunification with China looming large on the political horizon, in 1995 HK Post hatched a scheme that would, at the very least, defer its inevitable union with the Chinese Post Office for another 40 years. In the world of international politics forty years can be a very long time, and few people can predict what the situation will be in 2047. Besides, it made sound business sense to continue its present and well-tested links with the international security printing community.

THE HK POST PRINTING TEST

In consequence the HK Post management devised a two-stage programme whereby it could first assess the comparative levels of service and technical expertise that each printer could offer before entering a more conventional tendering process where the guiding concern would be financial. Because any decision taken would ultimately have political implications, HK Post probably resolved at an early stage to base their considerations solely upon factors of a technical nature rather than social imponderables that could not be easily measured and were beyond their level of governance.

Unfortunately the objectives of this project were not properly defined at the outset, and the technical brief was confused at best. This is difficult to understand as HK Post was being advised in this project by professional consultants from Australia, but it may lead us to suspect that any such confusion arose at an internal committee level, where the brief was created. Thus it seems likely that even at that early stage a number of external pressures and personal agendas were already at play. The companies that were invited to participate in this project were:

The Chinese Government Printer
Multi-Disciplinary Communications Corporation (MDC)
Bundesdruckerei, the German Government Printer
Walsall Security Printers, UK

De La Rue-Harrison, UK
Courvoisier, Switzerland
Joh Enschede Security Printers, Netherlands

The MDC was an international umbrella company which included The House of Questa (UK), Ashton Potter (Canada) and Ashton Potter USA)

Joh Enschede Security Printers, Netherlands, who, although a privately owned company, are commonly used by the Dutch Government as their Government Printers. Although highly regarded in the industry, they too are known for the submission of “torpedo” tenders.

Sprintpak, in Australia, may also have submitted examples of their work, but I have not been able to confirm this.

The brief required the printing firms concerned to reproduce in a stamp format a common polychromatic design supplied for this purpose by the HK Post. This featured a dragon, a symbol of Chinese culture common to the East Asian subcontinent, with Chinese lettering of a largely illegible size located in panels on the left and top, while a ribbon with the words TEST SAMPLE was placed at an angle across the bottom right hand corner. This must be the first time that the words HONG KONG and CHINA have appeared together on a stamp design.

The artwork was made available to the printers in an electronic format on disk, together with hard copies printed on a laser printer. This, then, is where the first problems were encountered.

The dragon design was literal and uninspiring, and although it dealt with a traditional Chinese theme, it had none of the qualities that one has come to expect of Chinese art, either past or present. It used colours that could be best described as “commercial”, and was probably the product of an advertising art studio rather than a professional graphic artist. The stamp layout is mechanical, and no attempt has been made to integrate the image of the dragon with the lettering. Indeed the addition of a lemon-yellow panel on the left-hand side bearing reams of nearly illegible Chinese writing displays an absence of familiarity with the principles of graphic design at a reduced visual scale.

From a printer’s point of view the design offered few challenges for its reproduction. It was suitable for a four-colour lithographic printing, had no additional spot colours, and presented no difficulties in registration. A good printer like Courvoisier might have been able to use photogravure, but this would have added greatly to its production costs.

In addition the technical brief made no references to additional security features, such as the type of perforation, quality of papers, and the use of phosphor in the mail sorting system. The artist did not provide a key to the colours used, and the laser copies provided were not well-calibrated and thus provided no assistance to the printers.

Despite these drawbacks, and the uneven playing field that they created, all of the companies listed above were able to submit examples of their work in sheetlets of 20 or 25 stamps each. It is reported that the variance in colour between the various submissions was notable. At this stage the Chinese Government Printer was disqualified from further participation in the project

for reasons that are not known, but may be linked to the quality of their work.

However, one final act had still to be added to this seemingly complex farce. When HK Post issued a revised set of specifications for the final stage, this gave gravure as the only method of printing! Again, one might suspect that outside pressures had been allowed to influence the tendering process. When the results of the tender were announced, the Dutch firm of Enschede was found to have submitted the lowest prices.

However this contract does not appear to have been exclusive, and although the bulk of the work between 1995 and mid-1997 was done by Enschede (45%), Ashton Potter (USA) was awarded 31% of the contracts, including the 1997 definitive set of 16 values.

Smaller contracts were also given to Leigh-Mardon of Melbourne, Ashton Potter (USA), Harrison, Walsall, and Courvoisier. Significantly only two of these projects were printed using the process of photogravure.

On 1 July 1997 Hong Kong became a Special Administrative Region, and information of this nature has become more difficult to obtain.

DEALINGS WITH THE SA GOVERNMENT PRINTER

I do not know how much of the information reported above is in the public domain, or whether any of these test stamps have ever been made available outside the security printing trade. I received my copies in my capacity as a senior manager at the South African Post Office (SAPO) at a time that I was leading negotiations with a number of international security printing companies as part of a (then confidential) plan to sever our links the South African Government Printer in Pretoria. By 1996 the SAPO Management Board had grown weary of the persistent breaches of security at the Government Printer and its obdurate refusal to improve its standards of performance. Regardless of Post Office complaints, its management refused to place controls on its issue from Stores of phosphorised security printing papers, its staff refused to follow instructions given by our Art Studio, they often tampered with our artwork and stamp designs, and the quality of their colour reproduction was regularly below standard.

Although popular opinion overseas then held that the Post Office and the Government Printer were joined at the hip and that nothing short of a natural disaster of biblical proportion would ever part them asunder, the discovery in 1997 that printing staff working on the premises of the Government Printer and using its equipment had forged and printed postage stamps with a face value in excess of R7 mill finally forced the issue and made the Post Office’s decision relatively simple.

At first glance it might appear that this was not a difficult decision to have taken. The South African Government Printer was thoroughly incompetent and highly corrupt, and although a number of attempts were made to implement changes to its standards of delivery, very little was ever achieved. At the time South Africa was going through its post-1994 Summer of Democracy, when a number of radically different social groups and political philosophies were learning to get along with each

other, and the Mandela Cabinet included politicians drawn from a wide spectrum of political thought. The ruling party, the ANC, was in the parliamentary majority, but in the cause of national reconciliation, and within reason, it was willing to accommodate the values and different management styles of former apartheid foes.

As a result the Post Office fell under the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, a portfolio which had been allocated to the ANC, while the Government Printer came under the control of the Minister of Home Affairs. At that stage its Cabinet head was the leader of a small but influential minority party whose pre-election strategy had been based upon armed civil disobedience. This had brought one of the country's four provinces to the brink of an armed uprising. As it was later discovered, much of this trouble had been fermented by local warlords who feared that a democratic government would threaten their income from the marijuana trade.

As a result the ANC Government was particularly sensitive to anything that might upset the country's fragile political balance, including the running of this particular ministry, and I was under specific instruction to be particularly diplomatic in my dealings with the Government Printer. I was not unaware of this, but despite all my tact, at least one unsuccessful attempt was made by staff at the Government Printer to have me removed from my position at the Post Office.

Following the country's first democratic elections in April 1994, the Ministry of Home Affairs had also retained most of the bureaucratic staff that had run the Department under the old apartheid regime. Consequently it had become a hold-out for old-time reactionaries, most of whom were nearing their age of retirement. Unfortunately Home Affairs also controlled the issue of passports, another state security product not entirely removed from the printing of stamps, whose production was wholly under the control of overseas security printing companies. Thus, the very people I was negotiating with on behalf of the Post Office also had (undeclared) vested interests in other, and possibly more lucrative aspects of the country's security requirements.

In addition we should also bear in mind that South Africa was, and still is the dominant economy in the southern African region, and in 1992 was one of the founding members of the

Southern African Development Community (SADC), a union of 16 countries whose members are committed to regional integration and the eradication of poverty through economic development. Over the years many of the SADC countries had brought their printing business to the Government Printer who had become the de facto security printer for the region, and had it chosen to, it could have become a major regional player in the global security printing industry.

Although South Africa was only one member country of a community of 16, at the time it was responsible for approximately 71% of the postal business within the SADC region. Our closest competitor was Namibia who, I believe, had only 7% of the market share. I clearly recall that Lesotho's philatelic market was only 600 copies of any one issue, whereas South Africa's was about 33,000. My printing budget in 1996 was R350 mill which, in today's terms, would translate to about R1 bill, and if South Africa had left the Government Printer, it would probably take most of the SADC printing business with it. My negotiations were thus of particular interest to a number of parties outside of South Africa, especially as the prospect of regional joint stamp issues would raise substantially everyone's income from philatelic sales.

As history now tells us, the South African Post Office did remove the Government Printer from its list of suppliers, and today it no longer prints postage stamps.

MDC was one of the companies I was dealing with, and when the time came for the Post Office Board to take a decision, our stamp printing contract, involving not only postal adhesives, but a growing range of booklets and tourist-based philatelic products was awarded to The House of Questa. The contract for self-adhesive products went to SprintPak in Australia, while the Frama labels went to Courvoisier, in Switzerland. Regrettably this last project was subsequently abandoned by the Post Office. The Hong Kong test stamps were part of the portfolio of technical data and security-related products which I accumulated and subsequently allowed me to arrive at a conclusion. The notes that I made 24 years ago form the basis of this paper.

THE MDC SUBMISSION

The HK Post Test Stamp project involved the design of a single label by the Hong Kong Post Office. Copies of the art-



Ashton Potter litho submission, at about 250-300 dpi



House of Questa first submission in Super Litho 800 dpsi



House of Questa second submission in Super Litho with micro lettering



work were then distributed to each of the security printing companies concerned. They were then expected to reproduce this artwork as a stamp using a printing technology that would best forefront their individual printing skills.

Two subsidiary companies of the MDC Group each submitted a separate proposal: Ashton Potter (USA), and The House of Questa, in the UK. Both submitted a sheet of 25 stamps each in a 5x5 format and both employed offset litho as their preferred method of production. Students of philately will know that lithographic reproduction is capable of reproducing a flat colour or line work, but cannot deal with the continuous tones of a nuanced image, like a photograph. What the printer does, therefore, is reduce the image photographically to a line by breaking up the continuous tone into a series of dots. This is called a screen, and the size of the screen will determine the density of the colour. The human eye is incapable of reading the individual dots, which are normally too small to be separated, and therefore will read them as a continuous colour surface. Where a surface has no shaded nuances, it can be reproduced as a flat colour, and is commonly known by printers as a "spot colour".

Examples of screening are readily seen on old newspaper photographs of 100 years ago, where they used early litho technology with a relatively coarse screen, usually about 75-100 dpsi, or dots per square inch, which can be seen easily with the naked eye. Modern litho printing commonly uses about

250 dpsi, which can only be seen with the aid of a magnifying glass, but more recently, in the 1990s, The House of Questa introduced a patent litho system known as Super-Litho, which uses 600-900 dpsi, and whose dots can only be seen with the aid of a fairly powerful 30x magnifying glass. Super Litho gives a sharp and clean edge to the printed surface, and can thus replace spot colour and printed line technology, and while it may not have the textured feel of recess printing, it costs a fraction of the price.

While Super-Litho is capable of giving a sharper printed image than normal litho, this refinement is seldom necessary as the average person is normally unable to tell the difference between the two. However Super-Litho can be used as a security feature that allows a Post Office to place hidden marks as part of a stamp design and acts as a deterrent against their forgery. Its technology is so good that each dot can be printed to a specific shape, like a commercial logo or the silhouette of a person.

Today a number of postal administrations have introduced this as a standard feature of their philately. The Canadian Post Offices hides the date of the printing in its stamp design, while the Royal Mail also uses the date alongside a small copyright mark.

In the HK Post project the firm of Ashton Potter (USA) submitted a sheet of 25 labels printed in normal litho technology. As the original artwork was not available for comparison, com-



Microprinting on second House of Questa submission

ment is difficult but at first glance the colours appear to be a little flat, most particularly those in the blue range, while the white lettering against the blue background is a little ragged. The colour registration is good but, under magnification, the black Chinese letters on the yellow panel to the left are noticeably thick and rough.

The House of Questa submitted two examples of its work. The first was printed in Super-Litho in sheets of 25 labels at about 700-800 dpsi and its colours are noticeably deeper and richer than those submitted by Ashton Potter. The colour regis-

tration is good and the panels of flat colour have well-defined edges. The Chinese writing on the left is noticeably thinner and more elegant, and the white lettering against a blue background is well defined.

The second example from the House of Questa was identical to the first in every respect except for the fact that the printer had edged both sides of the blue TEST SAMPLE ribbon with the words HONG KONG CHINA. This has been done in micro-lettering and is only visible under high 30x magnification. To the naked eye this appears as a straight black line.

SOME FINAL THOUGHTS

Unfortunately events in Hong Kong twenty-three years later have proved these fears to be warranted although, to the best of my knowledge, HK Post has yet to award the Chinese Government Printer its first tender to produce a set of postal adhesives. This position is likely to change, sooner rather than later, as, in 1997, the territory had been in a relatively strong economic position, while in 2020 this has been substantially undermined by changing world events.

It is also important to understand that the philatelic trade based in China has a domestic market base of some 72 million collectors. There is no single country in the world that can match this, which means that, in many ways, the future of the hobby will be determined by those postal administrations that are able to penetrate this market.

T110 Rail Post Labels: An Update

by Jan Stolk



This rail post label was send to me by Tony Davis. It was mailed from Lobatsi in the Bechuanaland Protectorate to Johannesburg on Nov. 7, 1937. It is franked by three 1d coronation stamps cancelled by an indistinct oval office rail canceller. On the reverse is a T110 rail letter label and a strike of a SAR/Lobatsi canceller.



Type	Size	No	Make	Job No.	Date	Amount	Used at
B	50x102	4	G.P.S.	2842(S.G.)	10/10/1935	200.000	Lobatsi

The Blue Cape Triangles

by Bob Hisey

I had often puzzled over the blue color of the various 1d Cape Triangles. I could not understand the irregularity of the inking and apparent reactions with the paper. The mystery is now solved!

In Peter Young's new book, "The Inks of De La Rue" on page 62, he expounds on their troubles with their insistence on the paper being "prepared" by containing Prussian Blue. This was a safety measure as the Prussian blue would react with the tannin in writing inks to form an insoluble blue mark. This was done for some stamps until 1884.

"However, this caused stamps with the large anchor watermark to show various and irregular levels of blueness in their paper where they had been exposed to dampness or wetted. In some cases, where the paper was more deeply blues, the colouration of the paper could distort the appearance of the purple ink used to print the stamp."

This problem would be more evident in the Cape triangles, since they were engraved and the paper had to be dampened before printing. The English stamps were letterpress.

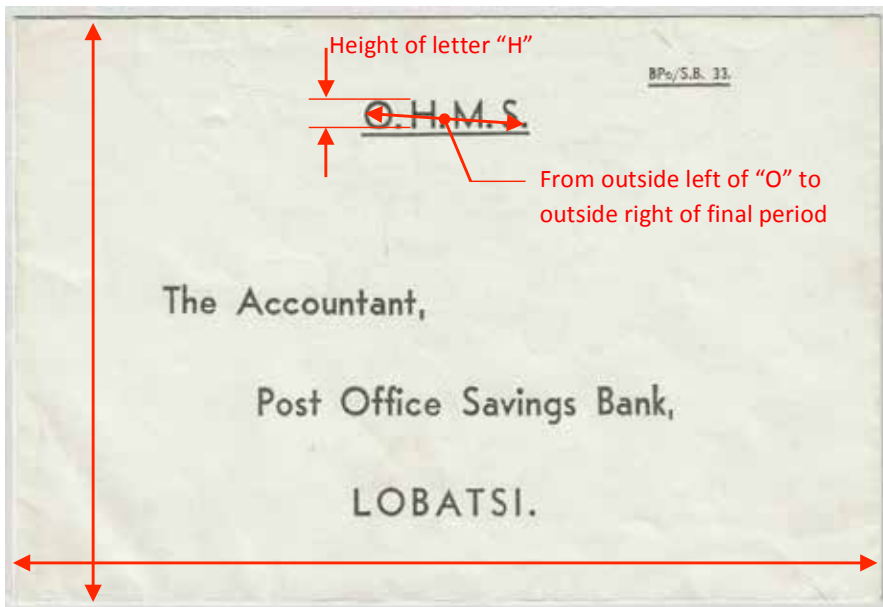
The relevant text from Young's book (p. 62) reads "A par-

ticular problem for De La Rue that affected the inks was the requirement in the early days of stamp production that their paper should have Prussian Blue incorporated into the slurry to ensure that the paper was 'chemically prepared' (...) for the 1d adhesive stamps to be used for receipts, and in paper for the high denomination stamps often used for accounting purposes. The idea was to make the stamps unsuitable for re-use, for the tannin in ordinary writing inks used for receipts would react with the Prussian Blue to produce a permanent blue 'imprint' where the writing was, and even to cover the image if attempts were made to remove the writing ink with water. This chemical inclusion was continued until 1884 in some papers (...). However, this caused stamps with a Large Anchor watermark to show various and irregular levels of blueness in their paper where they had been exposed to dampness or wetted. In some cases, where the paper was more deeply blues, the colouration of the paper could distort the appearance of the purple ink used to print the stamp."

Young, P., 2021. The Inks of De La Rue & Co. and their Introduction of Synthetic and Aniline Ingredients c. 1850-1910. Royal Philatelic Society, London.

OHMS Post Office Savings Bank Envelope

by Gordon Smith



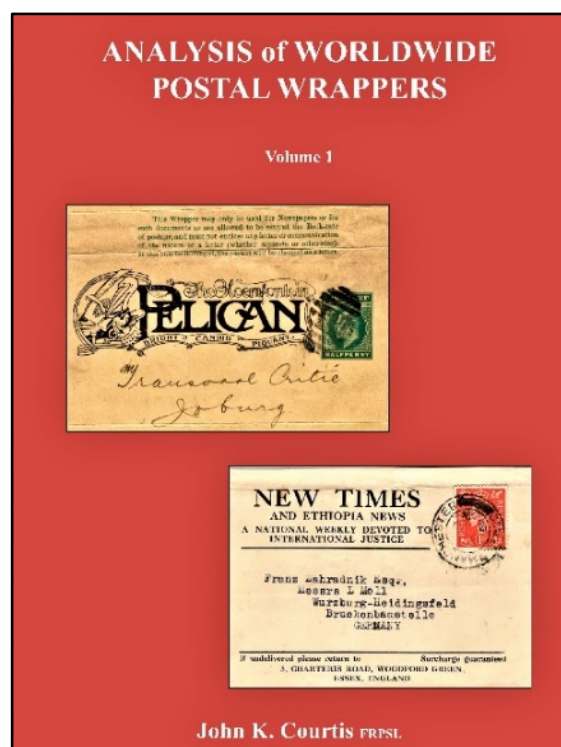
In response to the author's request regarding material from the Post Office Savings Bank, the editor has provided the following image of an OHMS envelope.

The code BPo/S.B. 33. found in the upper right corner can be interpreted as Bechuanaland Protectorate / Savings Bank, 33rd in a series of forms or printings.

This is a previously unidentified OHMS envelope type (see article entitled "Bechuanaland Government and Botswana Telegraph Envelopes" in Forerunners #91 from March/June 2018, page 75). This envelope can be designated as OHMS Type UssU01 127 x 190 mm which, based on the typology in that article, indicates that the OHMS label is the first one found that is underlined, comprised of a sans serif font in all upper case letters, and is 33 mm long by 6 mm high.



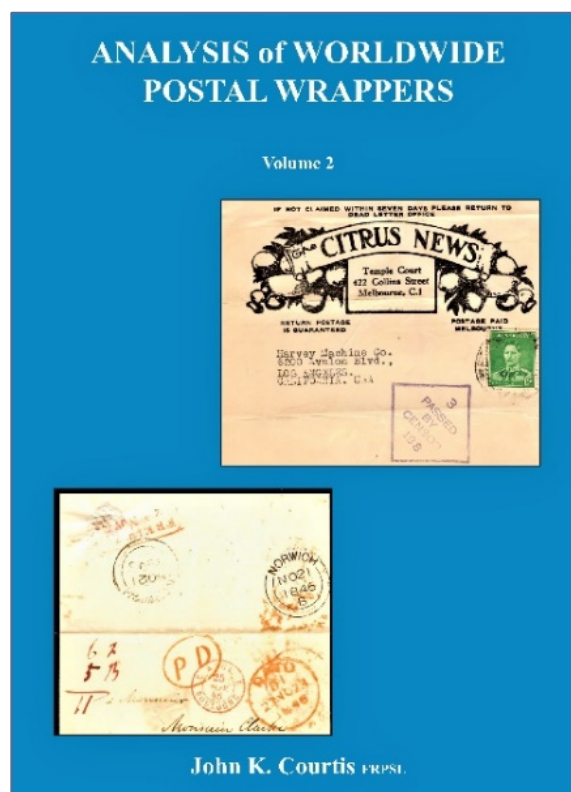
Analysis of Worldwide Postal Wrappers: Attributes of Postal Stationery, Postal History and Social Philately, Dr John K. Courtis FRPSL, Vol. 1 and Vol. 2, 33 Chapters, pp. 930, £50 plus postage, for details contact Claire Scott at the Postal History Society: claire@historystore.ltd.uk



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Supplies of Post Office Postal Stationery Wrappers of Southern Africa Countries for the Decade 2011-20

by John K. Courtis FRPSL

There are eleven countries in South Africa that issued Post Office postal stationery wrappers. Because of low survival rates it is of interest to know whether the supply of used wrappers coming onto the market has been stable or declining. Some awareness of what has happened in the last decade will allow country collectors and postal stationery collectors to assess the likelihood and time involved in being able to complete their collections. Also, there is a relationship between scarce supply and higher prices so there might be a financial impact.

The figures in Table 1 are based on daily listings of used wrappers on the internet site eBay. These have been hand-collected by the author over the past decade. They represent different used wrappers; duplicates have been removed. Although eBay is not the only auction site or source of wrappers available to the philatelic market, it is large, growing, objective and transparent with many buyers and many sellers. It is available to anyone worldwide who is connected to the internet. The internet web sites that discuss eBay statistics as a market place emphasise its enormity and reach. It has 182 million active buyers and more than USD10 billion in revenue in 2020. While there are a growing number of internet market sites rivalling eBay, the concept of using the internet for buying and selling philatelic material has become well entrenched.

The total supply of wrappers for the 11 countries was 1,805. Two countries dominate the supply: Cape of Good Hope 49% and Natal 25%. The remaining nine countries account for the remaining 26% of the total. These countries are examined for uncommon types and scarcity. A collector of Cape of Good Hope could expect to obtain all seven types although there are two types that appear with less frequency: the 1892 1½d greenish grey Queen Victoria within oval, and the 1902 1d carmine King Edward VII. Of the 1,194 copies of Cape of Good Hope

wrappers in the database, the 1½d greenish grey count is 50 copies or 4% of the total and the 1d carmine is 22 or 2% of the total.

A collector of Natal can easily expect to obtain all four Post Office issues. All types appear regularly, although the 1902 1d red King Edward VII is the least common of the four.

Each of the other countries are examined in turn using the information in Table 1. This information comprises used and different wrappers that were listed on eBay during the decade 2011 to 2020. To the extent possible, the illustrations show the wrapper types that are the more difficult to obtain.

British Bechuanaland

There were 40 copies of Post Office wrappers of British Bechuanaland recorded in the decade. This amounts to four copies per year. These wrappers have the name added to the wrappers of Cape of Good Hope or Great Britain. There was no separate design and printing for this country. Of the seven basic Post Office types, unquestionably it is the 1887 issue of the ½d grey-green and the 1889 issue of the same Cape of Good Hope indicium, both overprinted horizontally British Bechuanaland in black or red in London by W. A. Richards & Sons. Neither have been recorded used, not only in the past decade, but not since September 2003, when daily record-keeping commenced. Peter Thy kindly supplied the image with the red overprint. No commercially used copies are known.

British Central Africa/Nyasaland

Only one Post Office wrapper type was issued by British Central Africa Protectorate. This 1d carmine was issued in 1899. There were 27 listings of this wrapper during the decade and at least one copy appeared each year except for 2019. Al-



Figure 1. Cape of Good Hope 1892 1½d greenish grey QV and 1902 1d carmine KEVII

Table 1: Annual Per Country Listings of Post Office Used

Wrappers: 2011-2020											
Countries	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Totals
British Bechuanaland	2	6	0	8	7	4	2	6	0	5	40
British Central Africa	6	1	1	4	9	1	1	1	0	3	27
Nyasaland Protectorate	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
British South Africa Co.	5	3	5	3	1	1	1	2	7	5	33
Southern Rhodesia	1	0	2	0	3	0	1	0	0	0	7
Cape of Good Hope	95	80	76	103	87	97	101	63	102	78	882
Natal	36	36	58	54	50	44	46	59	38	35	456
Orange River Colony	4	9	4	1	6	7	1	6	2	3	43
South West Africa	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Transvaal	19	24	14	28	8	17	15	33	6	29	193
South Africa	9	5	15	17	9	15	12	9	16	14	121
Total	177	164	175	221	180	186	180	179	171	172	1805



Figure 2. British Bechuanaland 1/2d grey green Cape of Good Hope overprinted in black and red

though its appearance is spasmodic, it is not uncommon. There are 45 copies in the database, of which 27 have appeared in the past ten years.

In 1907, British Central Africa Protectorate was renamed Nyasaland and the following year two Post Office issues were printed and supplied by De La Rue: 1/2d green and 1d carmine King Edward VII. These used wrappers are difficult to find, the supply of Nyasaland Protectorate comprising a single used copy of the 1/2d green recorded in the database prior to 1910. No used copies of the 1d carmine have been recorded. Both of these wrappers are scarce if not rare.

British South Africa Company

There were three Post Office types printed by Waterlow & Sons, London and issued by the British South Africa Company. In 1903, two types were issued: a 1/2d green vertical indicium showing the Company's Coat of Arms and a 1d red vertical oval depicting the same Arms. In circa 1916, a third wrapper was issued, a 1/2d green vertical oval King George V Admiral design. There must have been a reasonably strong demand for the first two issues with 97,000 delivered of the 1/2d and 127,000 of the 1d. These two issues are not difficult to find, with an average listing rate of one every five months.

The supply of 33 wrappers included all three types although the 1916 issue is scarce and commercially used copies have not been recorded. This King George V issue experienced a print run of only 5,000 copies. The earliest usage date was December 1922, thereby suggesting that the new wrapper was not released until existing stock of the first issue was depleted. The four used copies of this wrapper are addressed to stamp collectors and cover providers. Of the 39 copies of British South Africa in the database this wrapper represents only 10% of the total.

Southern Rhodesia

The area known as British South Africa Company became Southern Rhodesia in 1923. The Admiral design of the last issue of the Company was used for the first 1924 issue, the new name appearing in the same space as the old name. There was a 1/2d green and a 1d red issued, and in 1931 the 1/2d green was replaced with King George V and in 1938 replaced again with King George VI. While all types have appeared on eBay, the number that have appeared on the market is too small to be of much use to a collector of the region. Only seven wrappers appeared in the decade and then only in four of the ten years.

Of the four Post Office issues, 1924 1/2d green has appeared in the database three times, while the 1d red once only. The



Figure 4. British South Africa Company 1916
King George V Admiralty

1931 issue of King George V appears twice and the 1938 issue of King George VI appears twice also. All issues of Southern Rhodesia are difficult to find.

Orange River Colony

There were two Post Office types issued in 1902 depicting the head of King Edward VII. The ½d green and 1d carmine appeared 43 times during the decade. Prior to that, another 22 ap-

peared in the database since 2003. There are 25 of the ½d green and 30 of the 1d red. The average annual listing rate is about four. A collector should have little difficulty in obtaining these issues from eBay listings as they are not uncommon.

South West Africa

The 1913 first issues of South Africa were overprinted SOUTH WEST AFRICA, SOUTHWEST AFRICA or ZUID-WEST AFRIKA. Also, the wrappers of South Africa could be used in South West Africa. All overprinted issues occurred in 1923 (January, May and September). They are all scarce. Only three appeared in the past decade and then only in one year, 2014. The database shows six copies, each is different. Kościowski lists 11 basic types.

Given that only six examples have been listed on eBay in 17 years, it is more realistic for collectors to obtain mint copies and add a used copy if and when it appears. There are wrappers of South Africa with evidence of postmarks from South West Africa, including Windhoek.

Transvaal

Including the Coat of Arms issue in 1899 and their hand-stamped overprint in June 1900 there were ten Post Office issues of Transvaal. Only the 1902 King Edward VII ½d green and 1d carmine issues are common. The supply of Transvaal during the decade was steady and strong with 193 copies, representing an annual average of about 20. A collector would



Figure 5. Southern Rhodesia 1924 1d red King George V, 1931 ½d green King George V



Figure 6. South West Africa ½d green and 1d red (005, 006)



Figure 7. Transvaal May 1899 3d violet & green, September 1900 1/2d green V.R.I. overprint

have been able to obtain a copy of each of the 1899 set as the quantity of the 1/2d green and 1d carmine and green was double those of the 2d brown and green and the 3d violet and green. The same set handstamped V.R. in black violet are scarce wrappers and no copy of these has been listed since record-keeping commenced in 2003. In September 1900, the handstamp was changed to V.R.I. black overprinting and these too are scarce wrappers, with only a single copy in the database of 238 copies of Transvaal. These wrappers would more likely be offered by traditional philatelic houses because of their high premiums. The Boer War V.R.I. wrapper shown in Figure 7 has this listed at USD1,900. The Kościński catalogue shows high values on all eight of these (unused only) overprinted indicia.

Conclusion

Research such as this might well be seen to be frivolous in nature. However, for the completist postal stationery and country collectors alike, it is useful to be aware of what items can be obtained from populist web site auction platforms and what items have either never appeared or have appeared in small and insignificant quantities. Some items will either have to be tracked down elsewhere, while some items might need to be acquired unused as space fillers. Knowledge is power and being aware of the very scarce items alerts collectors as to what to watch out for and potential bargains. For many collectors it is the chase that is the most fun.



Figure 8. South Africa 1931 1d red & black ship; 1933 1d red & black text in sans serif font

South Africa

There were 11 basic types of Post Office issues. The supply during the decade was steady with 121 copies. The range per year was a low of five and a high of 16, the annual average being 12. Of the eleven types, nine have appeared on eBay and two have not appeared since September 2003. There are some low quantities, for example, the last two issue in 1933 had only six copies of the 1/2d green and black springbok and two copies of the 1d red and black Van Riebeeck's ship. Except for the first 1913 issues which depicted the head of King George V, other issues can be differentiated by text lines in English and Afrikaans and their layout. Of the 11 issues, only three types have appeared with a reasonable supply of copies. The other eight issues have either not appeared or have appeared only in small quantities of seven to two for the decade. Once again, collectors should consider an unused copy.

References

- Higgins and Gage (1964), Priced Catalogue of Postal Stationery of the World, California.
- Kościński Jan (2019), Newspaper Wrappers: A Catalogue of Postal Stationery Newspaper Wrappers from the Whole World in three parts, self-published

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Varieties of the Air Mail Stamps of the Union of South Africa

by André du Plessis

First Set of Airmail Stamps

The Department of Post and Telegraphs decided to use a design of a bi-plane in flight without inviting designs from artists. An order was placed with the Cape Times, Cape Town for the printing of the stamps at a cost of three shilling per thousand stamps. This final design was drawn by Arthur Cooper, an engraver employed by the Cape Times. Printing was done under tight supervision of a Post Office official.



First Set

Three firsts can be associated with these stamps: They were the first stamps to be designed and printed in the Union of South Africa. For the first-time stamps were printed and issued with Afrikaans inscriptions. In 1925 Afrikaans replaced Dutch as an official language. "SUIDAFRIKA," spelled without a hyphen, replaced "ZUID AFRIKA" (Dutch) as printed on the first Union stamp and first definitive issue. These were the first definitive air mail stamps to be officially issued within the British Empire.

Considering the fact that the Cape times did not possess the specialist equipment necessary for stamp printing, they did an astounding job and printing errors and flaws are few.

Forgeries of these stamps exist and will be dealt with separately at a later stage.

A summary of the known varieties are shown on pages 107 and 108.



Second Set

Stamp size 31.5 x 24 mm
The design depicts a sideview drawing of a De Havilland 60 Cirrus Moth in flight against the background of Table Mountain, Cape Town. Shades of colour exist in both values.

Second Set of Airmail Stamps

The establishment of a regular air mail service in the Union of South Africa in August 1929 necessitate the amendment of the postal rates. Government Notice 1280 of 19 July 1929 reads: "*A supplementary charge for the conveying of postal articles (exclusive of parcels) by Union air mail, 4d per ounce...*"

It was decided to issue two air mail stamps of the denominations 4d and 1/- that were placed on sale on 16 August 1929.

Stamp size 25 x 30 mm
Stamps were placed on sale on 26 February 1925
Slight colour differences are found in all for values

As for the 1925 stamps, no invitations were extended for submission for stamp design. A design by a staff member the Government Printer, who printed the stamps, were accepted.

General Characteristics

A characteristic appears on every stamp of both values. It takes the form of an oblique white line through the air craft tail.



A summary of the known varieties are shown on page 109.

The 1½d Stamp of 1937



Stamp size: 3 x 24 mm
The design is symbolic of the gold mining industry in South Africa and depicts the headgear and dump of a gold mine against a golden background.
Shades of colour exist in all printings

Characteristic

On every Afrikaans stamp a small curved dent appear near the right-hand end of the bottom frame line.

P/copy



Issues 1 to 3

In all three issues only the exterior cylinders were screened. The first stamps of Issue 1 appeared with an inverted watermark. In later printings, it appears upright as well as for Issues 2 and 3.

Printed in metallic-gold and slate green and yellow-buff and greenish slate. Shades of metallic-gold and slate green: pale, deep or brownish buff or grey-green.

An English stamp appear as first stamp on the sheet.

Multipositive

The same multipositive was used to etch more than one cylinder. It follows that any flaw that had appeared on it during the preparation stage will be repeated. Also with each new use, the flaw would appear or be removed.

A summary of the known varieties are shown on pages 110 and 111. The language above a stamp in the variant listing indicate the language setting of the stamp on which the variety appears.

Afrikaans



Tiny green dot in gutter above "U" of SUID
(ex Row 20/3)
UHB V1



Broken chimney and top of headgear much fainter
(ex Row 11/6)
UHB V2

Memorabilia

To endorse the 1925 experimental service, it was decided to print special presentation cards on which to mount a full set of stamps.

Cards signed by the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs or the Postmaster-General were presented as a souvenir to the pilots and other persons associated with the service.

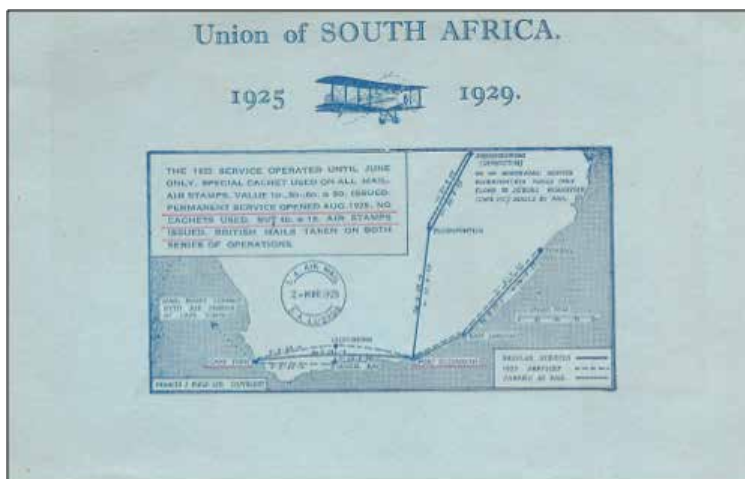
No official record was kept of the number used for this purpose, but it is believed that less than 30 of these cards were presented and are of very great rarity.

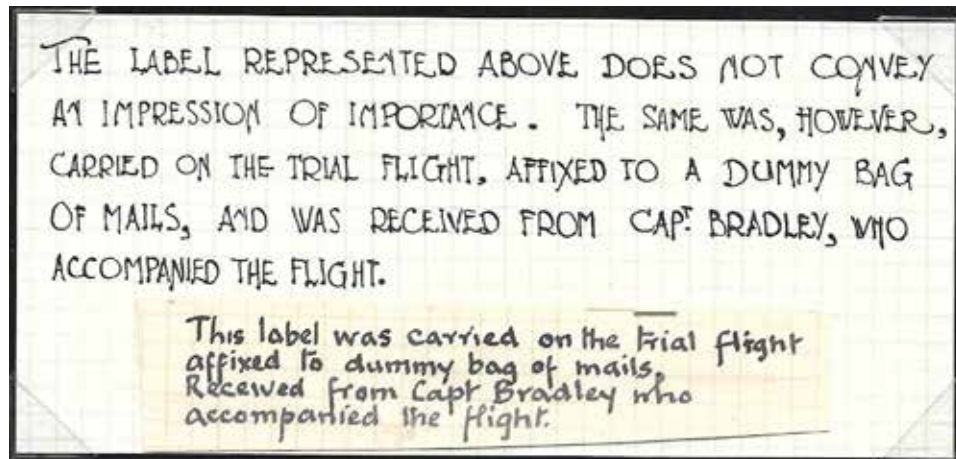


Official souvenir card inscribed in French dated April 1925, issued to members of the Universal Postal Union.



Map folder published by BCM/AIRFIELD, LONDON to commemorate the Air Mail Service by the Union Government in 1929. The folder indicates the routes flown by the services in 1925 and 1929.





Rehearsal Flight

A full-dress rehearsal took place on Friday 23 February 1925 with three DH 9's that left Durban at 05:00. No official mail was carried on this flight.

J.T. Burrell wrote "*Two of them carrying a pilot and dummy mailbags, while the third carried a pilot and a special correspondent of the Cape Times, Captain Bradley.*" (pp. 46).

Six dummy mails were transferred to relay airplanes at East London, Port Elizabeth and Mossel Bay. The flight arrived safely in Cape Town at 16:45, an hour and a quarter later than the scheduled time, due to inclement weather conditions at Mossel Bay.

The trial run proved that it would be necessary for the airplanes to leave Durban on Thursday and proceeding as far as East London to leave for Cape Town via Port Elizabeth and Oudtshoorn the following day.

This would leave ample time to reach Cape Town in time to connect with outgoing Union Castle mail ships that departed on Fridays at 16:00.

It also confirmed the unsuitability of Mossel Bay as an air mail station because the prevalence of dense coastal mists and fogs. Steps were taken to abandon it as a station for the inland Oudtshoorn.

J.T. Burrell in "Par Avion in Southern Africa," 1986, page 45 wrote: "*There is a story that Captain Bradley took an air bag label as a souvenir and handed it over to W.R. Morrison. Mr. Morrison was a well-known collector and at the time of the 1925 experimental flights used to write for the Cape Times*"

The label and explanation shown above is from the previous owners as it was found by the author on their display pages.

Acknowledgement

Permission from Spink to publish appropriate images from auction catalogues are acknowledged with thanks. Also to Morgan Farrel, Mike Tonkin, Peter Pannall and Moody Tidwell for their support. Please note that images are not according to scale.

References

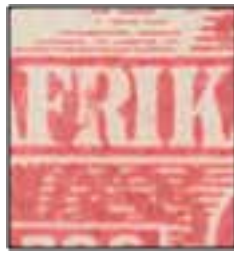
- Handbook/Catalogue – Union of South Africa Stamps, 1952: A. Kaplan, Sam Legator and William N. Sheffield, pp. 33 - 49.
- South African Airmails 2008: N. Arrow: pp. 27 - 9.
- The Airposts of South Africa, 1936: L.A. Wyndham (Aerophilatelic Society of S.A. Feb., 1980), pp. 17 - 28, 95 - 9.
- The Stamps of the Union of South Africa 1910–1961: Handbook Catalogue, Definitive Issue, 1986: S.J. Hagger, pp. 18–21, 83–5.



First Set Varieties 1d



Missing serif to "d"
in left value tablet
ex Row 6 and 12/2
UHB V1



Smudge on "R" of
SUIDAFRIKA
ex Row 7/9
UHB V2



Top of "R" in
SUIDAFRIKA open
ex Row 11/10
UHB - V3



Reversed "h" for "d"
in left value tablet
ex Row 11/8



Airman's face solid colour
Various positions on sheet
Imperforate left margin
UHB - V4



Imperforate at left margin UHB V4

Unaccepted Engraver's
master design. Three
sets of these designs
found their way into the
hands of collectors

In June 1925, a piece of paper showing the impression of TWELVE (12) of the 1d stamps in imperforate condition was bought by a Cape Town dealer from a youth stating he obtained it amongst some waste. The block was cut up into single stamps and sold as imperforates. Despite the bad condition, it reposes in Union collections.



First Set Varieties 3d



Dash under wheel
ex Row 3 and 9/8
UHB V1



Stroke through strut
ex Row 3 and 9/9
UHB V2



Imperforate at left margin
UHB V3



Airman's face
solid colour
Various positions

First Set Varieties 6d



Stop in front LIUGPOS
ex Row 1 and 7/6
UHB V1



Circle between "I"
and "R" of AIR
ex Row 3/9 UHB V2



Flaw in "G" of
LUGPOS
ex Row 1/10



Airman's face
solid colour
Various positions

First Set Varieties 9d



"Extended strut" flaw
ex Row 5 and 11/1
UHB V1



Oblique stroke
through left value
tablet



Broken "R" in
SUIDAFRIKA
ex Row 12/8
UHB V3



Airman's face solid
colour
Various positions



Imperforate
left margin
UHB - V4



Imperforate left margin with
extended strut (bottom left stamp)
ex Row 5/1
(also Row 11/1)
UHB V4



Imperforate
bottom margin
Row 6
UHB V5

Second Set Varieties 4d



White blob between "A"
and "F" of AFRICA
ex Row 3/8
(Top pane only)
UHB V1



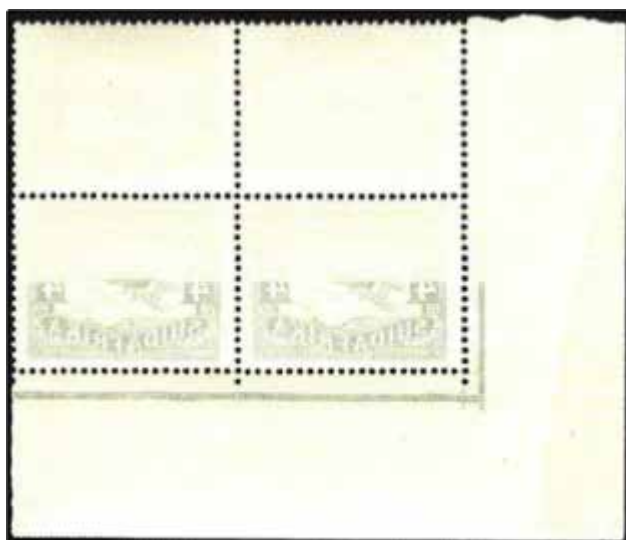
Short "I" in AIR
ex Row 3 an 9/9
(Top and bottom pane)
UHB V2



Retouched frame under
"U" and "G" LUGPOS
ex Row 12/5
(Bottom pane only)
UHB V3



Retouched clouds
ex Row 12/9
(Bottom pane only)
UHB V4



Offset at back - partial
UHB V5



Two slightly different
essays for a 6d value in
black on stout, surfaced
paper, each measuring
103 x 82 mm. Small
differences in the back-
ground and side orna-
mentation as well as the
landscape. Numbered
"1929/1" and "1929/2"
in black ink

Second Set Varieties 1s



White blob under
"U" of LUGPOS
ex Row 12/5
(Bottom pane only)
UHB V1

Comments

A further variety "Offset at back" is described in the Union Handbook for the 6d and 1/- and is not illustrated above. I have never come across one.









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ISSUE 1
Headplate 6933: Frameplates 62: November 1936


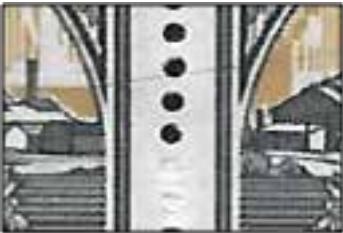






Afrikaans	English	English	English	English	Various
					
Bulge in right frame above center (ex Row 13/2) UHB V3	Short green line in "Ladder" above bottom right corner (ex Row 15/5) UHB V4	Nick in left of headgear near center (ex Row 16/6) UHB V5	Flag on small chimney at right (ex Row 20/2) UHB V6	Short faint vertical green line above bottom right corner (ex Row 20/4) UHB V7	Completely or partially missing shading on mine dump (Various positions) UHB V8

Various Positions on Sheet

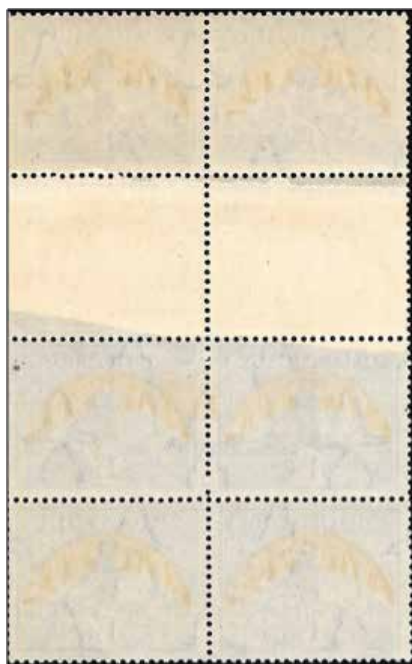


Partially or completely missing shading on mine dump (UHB V8)

ISSUE 2 and 3
Headplates 62 and 6930: Frameplate 15: November 1936

Afrikaans	English/Afrikaans				
					
			White spot near center of two parallel columns on building at left (ex Row 20/3) UHB V9 ISSUE 2 ONLY		
			Thin green line running upward through the lower right hand to center and showing best where it enters and leave the frames (ex Row 4/2 and 3) UHB V16 ISSUE 3 ONLY		
English	English	Afrikaans	Afrikaans	Afrikaans	Afrikaans
					
Long green line, "Ladder" in bottom right corner (ex Row 3/5) UHB V10	Thinned frame line below large "1" of 1 1/2d (ex Row 9/1) UHB V11	Green "ball" in bottom right corner (ex Row 11/4) UHB V12	Nick in top frame above "D" of SUID (ex Row 12/1) UHB V13	Serrated outside edge and smears in side lower right-hand frame line (ex Row 17/6) UHB V14	Nick in top of larger one of 1 1/2d (ex Row 20/5) UHB V15

General 1½d Issue



Joined paper UHB V17

Missing center
(Various positions)
UHB V18

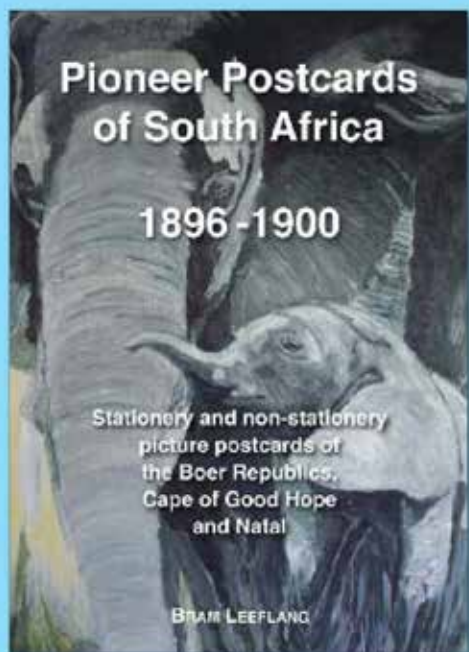
Although listed, I have
never come across any
of these.

Their existence is con-
firmed by four leading
Union philatelists.

Any information on this
variety will be appreci-
ated



Green over the gold of the
vignette (middle stamp)
(Various positions)
UHB V19



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Updates to Bechuanaland and Botswana Government and Telegraph Envelopes

by Gordon Smith



Figure 1: Telegram Envelope from Department of Posts and Telegraphs, Bechuanaland Protectorate

The following are additions and corrections to the Bechuanaland Government and Botswana Telegraph Envelopes article in issue #91.

Telegram Envelopes

In the previous article, the designation of TELE Type 1 NssU01 is based on text Department of Posts and Telecommunications not Botswana Posts and Telecommunications as indicated in the article.

Figure 1 provides an illustration of a new TELE Type 1 NssU02 (Based on text: Department of Posts and Telecommunications) see illustration.

Chronologically:

- TELE Type 1 NssU02 is from Bechuanaland Protectorate
- TELE Type 1 NssU01 is from Botswana
- TELE Type 0 UssU01 is a later envelope from Botswana

Based on a review of the three copies of these telegram envelopes, some observations can be made. All envelopes are marked with 'T4' in upper right corner which would appear to be a denotation by the Department of the stock number for the type of envelope. While the country name, the presence of a logo and the name of the department change to reflect changes in governance in the country, basically all other printed text on the envelope is the same.

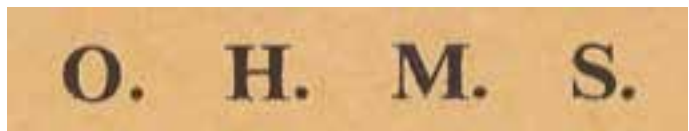
OHMS Envelopes

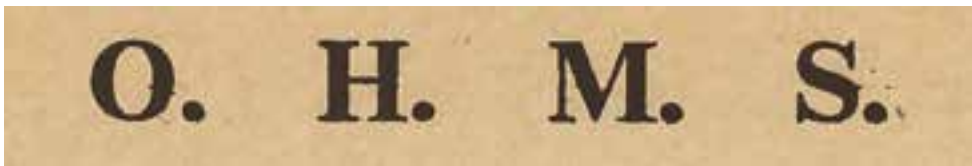
OHMS Types UsU03 was miss-classified and should be OHMS Type NsU01. OHMS Types UsU04 was miss-classified and should be OHMS Type NsU02.

Figure 2 illustrates a new OHrMS type: UsU05. In addition to the text 'On Her Majesty's Service' printed across the top, 'Office of the Surveyor-General of British Bechuanaland' is printed in the lower left. This cover postmarked in 1889, provides proof that the official mail envelopes were specifically prepared for British Bechuanaland and not always imported from South Africa or the United Kingdom.

Figure 3 illustrates a new OHMS Type UssU01. The cover is undated, but based on the spelling of Lobatsi and the general look and feel of the envelope, it is assumed that the cover is from the Bechuanaland Protectorate. Note the stock number in the upper right corner.

OHMS Type NsU01
UsU03





OHMS Type NsU02
UsU04



Figure 2: 'On Her Majesty's Service' Official Free Envelope from 'Office of the Surveyor-General of British Bechuanaland' posted on March 14, 1889 from Vryburg



Figure 3: OHMS Official Free Envelope to the 'Post Office Savings Bank' in Lobatsi, stock number 'BPo/S.B. 33.'

Exhibitors Press and Southern Africa

The **Exhibitors Press** has inaugurated a new series of Southern African exhibit volumes. The first three exhibits are now available on Amazon.com for ordering.

R. Timothy Bartshe: *An Illustrated Visitors Guide to Bloemfontein: A Southern African Postcard Exhibit.* Available as a paperback from Amazon.com for \$19.99, plus tax and shipping. See details by clicking [here](#).

This volume reproduces an award-winning exhibit of postcards of Bloemfontein, the capitol of the Orange Free State. Through dozens and dozens of cards you will not only appreciate the early city of Bloemfontein, but you see how a master exhibitor turns a collection into an ordered and cohesive story that tells a compelling story. These postcards are from the "Golden Age" of postcards when high quality cards were printed in great numbers, widely used and avidly collected. In 1905 alone, estimates are that over seven billion postcards were sent through the mails. They have been a subject of collecting interest for over 125 years and continues to be an exciting and rewarding area for collectors, historians, stamp collectors and those who appreciate beautiful objects.

R. Timothy Bartshe: *Orange Free State Postal Cards of 1884-1900.* Available as a paperback from Amazon.com for \$30.00, plus tax and shipping. See details by clicking [here](#).

This volume brings to life the regularly issued postal cards and the provisionally issued postal cards of the Orange Free State - now part of South Africa. This is a Grand-Award winning stamp exhibit of postal cards (those with postal indicia) and not postcards (those where a stamp has to be affixed). It addresses, in a very thorough fashion, rate changes, settings, and printings of the Republican issues. Cards overprinted by the British are excluded. It includes the postal cards of 1883/84, issue of 18889, surcharges in 1891, cards of 1891-1897 with 18 printings and the three different definitive cards of 1898. The exhibit contains numerous rarities that will delight the reader.

They can be ordered, together with many other publications, on amazon.com by searching for 'exhibitorspress'.

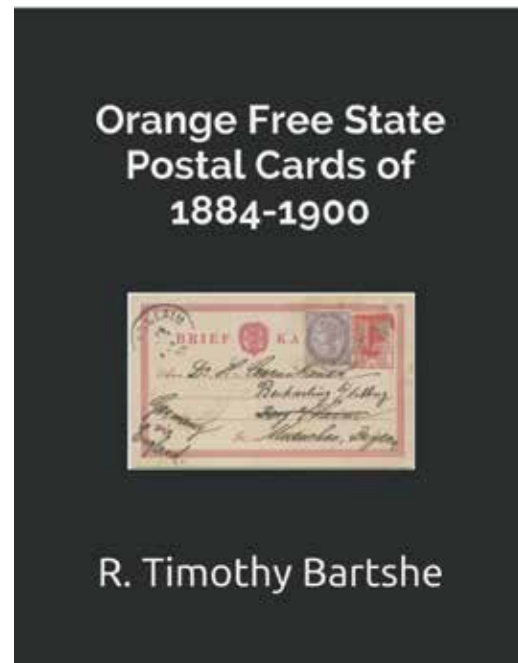
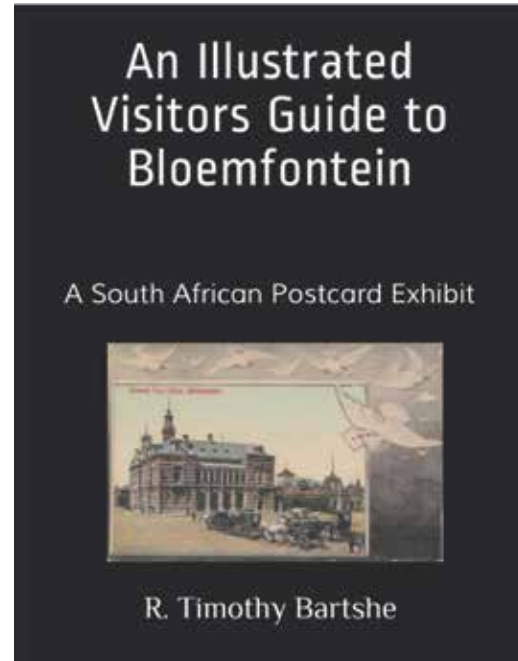
The publisher and editor of Exhibitors Press, Steven Zwilling, is on the outlook for additional volumes for the Southern Africa Series. He can be reached by writing to steven.zwilling@gmail.com

Book Review

Bendon, J., 2021. U.P.U. Specimen Stamps 1878-2021. Supplement 2021. Oxford Book Projects, Oxford. £40 plus shipping, <https://www.jamesbendon.com>.

James Bendon has already released a supplement to his 2015 monograph. The supplement is 184 pages long compared to the 520 pages of the original monograph. The main content of the supplement is a 7 page on receiving authorities, includes Bechuanaland, French West Africa, Natal, and Tunisia. Following is 40 pages of updates for the general specimen catalogue. The re-

maining supplement is 70 pages of reproductions of articles and auction catalogues from the Philatelist, Robson Lowe's 1976 Basel sales, and the 1980 Sotheby Parke Bernet South Africa sale. These appendices are undoubtedly important references for any collector that are interested in specimen stamps. However, the question to ask is if it really is important to obtain these reprinted in a glossy book? Would we not have been equally satisfied with the usual sloppy photocopies that most collectors probably already own and have saved a bit on an already expensive book? Despite this, it is an important reference for collectors of Natal and Bechuanaland. Peter Thy



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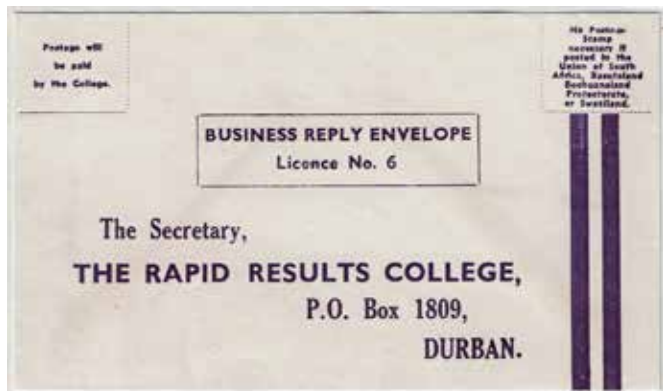
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Forerunners Forum

Business Reply Envelope

The Editor asks about these types of Business Reply Envelopes or similar Reply Cards. The example shown is stated to be valid in the Union, Basutoland, Bechuanaland, and Swaziland. No stamps are needed and postage will be paid by the recipient. Have anybody seen some of these used? How did the recipient pay and was mailing discounted? Was it paid by potages due stamps affixed to the envelope or a separate document?



Digital Magazine for Angola Philately

Reinhard Kuchler writes from reinhardkuechler@yahoo.de to announce that the German based Society for the Philately of Portugal and former Portuguese Colonies is publishing a digital Magazine for Angolan Philately since Independence 1975 ("Moderne Angola-Philatelie"/MAP). "Since 2016, 16 issues of this Magazine and two special issues has been released to all collectors for free only via e-mail since 2016. There are no print issues. I know that Angola may not in the focus of your society and that Angola is only over the border. But it would be a pleasure for me to send MAP to you and your members. Every year we are publishing three issues only in German language."



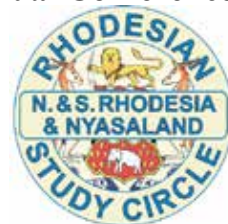
7th SA Virtual Philatelic Exhibition

BREAKING NEWS is that the seventh South Africa Virtual Philatelic Exhibition (SAVPEX) will go ahead with entries closing on 30 April 2022. We are all invite to enter and support this event! You will find all about SAVPEX 2022 on the PFSA website on the "WELCOME" page. Click here for a link a link to the entry form.



Rhodesian Study Circle Annual Conference

The 2022 Annual Conference has been announced for Friday 29 April to Sunday 1 May at the Strawberry Bank Hotel, Meriden, Midlands, UK. Contact Brian Trotter at bjayt43@yahoo.com if you are interested in attending.



Tapling Medal Awarded to Keith Klugman



Keith Klugman was in 2022 awarded the 100th Anniversary Tapling Medal of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, for his articles on embossed Natal stamps published last year in the London Philatelist. This medal has been awarded annually since 1920 for the best article in the London Philatelist.

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For the Record

444. The 1st Virtual International Stamp Exhibition **Bangabandhu 2021** has been announced as the 1st Virtual International Stamp Exhibition (FIAP). It is organized by the **Bangladesh Philatelic Federation**. The Inauguration Ceremony will occur on the ZOOM platform on 10th December local time.

445. **Spink** has in October sold the **Arnold Brickman Rhodesia Admiral** Collection as an electronic auction 375 lots.



446. **Spink** has sold the '**Greca**' collection of **southern Africa postal history** in two auctions in September 2021. One auction was an electronic auction the day before the main auction. A total of 1300 lots were offered for sale and it appears that most were sold.



447. **Spink** finally sold important stamps and covers of the world at their October 2021 auction. Included were a strong collection of the **Cape triangles**, **New Republic**, **Rhodesian Admirals**, and more generally Southern Rhodesia.

448. **Andrew McFarlane** has published a book about how to write a **synopsis for a philatelic exhibit**. It is available on Amazon.com for \$35. Go to www.exhibit-synopsis.com.



449. **Mike Smith** gave a presentation for the **United Postal Stationery Society** on the **Postal Stationery of the Orange Free State** in July 2021. His presentation is still available on the UPSS website (click here for a direct link).

450. **Tim Bartshe** has released two of his award winning exhibits as booklets. These are the **Visitors Guide to Bloemfontain** and **Orange Free State Postal Cards of 1884-1900**. They are both published by the **Exhibitors Press** and available on Amazon.com. See page 114.

451. The publisher of **Exhibitors Press**, **Steven Zwillinger**, is on the outlook for additional volumes for his **Southern Africa Series**. He can be reached by writing to steven.zwillinger@gmail.com.

452. This has nothing to do with Southern Africa. However, it is a beautiful topical presentation given by **Tom Broadhead** to the France and Colonies Philatelic Society (US) on August 29, 2021. The title is '**The most beautiful Bridge in Paris**.' It is still available on YouTube either via https://www.franceandcolonies.org/docs/Bridge_In_Paris.pdf or directly via <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sJUeb-PdMzw>.

453. **Keith Klugman** gave in April 2021 a presentation for the **Collectors Club of New York** on the **Victorian Natal**. The video is not public and requires membership to be viewed. The Editor has a pdf file that looks like it could have been from this presentation or something similar in the form of a one frame exhibit.



Reprint

454. The **Postal History Society (UK)** has published a book in two volumes by **John K. Courtis**. Its subject is an '**Analysis of Worldwide Postal Wrappers**.' It is available from Claire Scott of the Postal History Society for £50 plus postage. Write to claire@historystore.ltd.uk.

Index for Forerunners

There are several pressing issues for our society that require volunteers to step forward. The preparation of a Forerunners index is perhaps the single most outstanding task. The Editor runs into this problem often. For example, recently, a member asked if an article he wrote some years ago ever appeared in Forerunners. The answer is that I really don't know. Other examples involve philatelic questions that we know have been covered in Forerunners but that cannot be found. An index will greatly improve the usefulness of Forerunners to our members and philatelists in general. The fact is that if we can't find something that has been written in the past, it may just as well not exist. So, consider stepping forward.

It is true that the archival edition of Forerunners (available on CD) can be searched using Adobe Acrobat or Reader functions. However, results of a simple search for say 'Rhodesia' will generate too many results. An author and subject index and a table of content would be so much more efficient.

Annual Article of Distinction Award

The next award will be for the current volume ending with this issue and will be announced in No. 102.

All feature and column articles of more than two printed pages will be eligible. The competition will be judged by an *ad hoc* committee presided by the Society President. The judgement of the committee will be final.

The winning article will also be eligible to be posted on the American Philatelic Society's 'Articles of Distinction Archive' (www.stamps.org/Articles-of-Distinction).

Book Review

Gledhill, John, 2020. Overprinted British Postal Orders 1905-1989. A Directory. Volumes 1 and 2, Second Edition. Postal Order Society and Great Britain Overprints Society. Total 570 pages. Printed in a limited edition. Contact the societies for its availability or direct to john@jgledhill.me.uk.

This is not the first major monograph to appear recently and to be authored or edited by John Gledhill. There were a first, but more modest edition, of the present directory from 2010. Collectors of British overprinted stationery will also no doubt remember his 2015 monographs on 'Overprinted British Postal Stationery' (504 pages) and 'Overprinted British Airletters' (123 pages). There is thus no doubt that expectations is high with the arrival of this new postal order definitive directory of overprinted British postal orders. To cut it short, the collectors of postal orders are not being disappointed.

The monograph first traces the history of the extension of the British postal order system to the colonies beginning in 1903 and outlines the scope and methods used for the listings. Following is a detailed historical introduction on the printing and overprinting of the orders by Richard Solly. A following chapter details the classification system used in the listings. The subsequent monograph contains an alphabetic listing of the known postal orders for each colonial territory starting with Abu Dhabi and ending in volume two with Zambia. Listings for overprinted orders used within the United Kingdom, pension orders, specimen overprinted, and Postal Museum registration copies and essays are also included.

The presentation are comprehensive and illustrated with main types of orders and their details in colors. This study in truly a major feast and indispensable for postal history and stationery collectors of the British Empire and the Commonwealth. John Gledhill should be congratulated with this achievement and for his services to the philatelic community.

It is, however, important to recognize that the British overprinted orders are only the very tip of the iceberg. The colonial (and others) territories issued postal orders of their own prior to the spread of the British orders across the globe. Many colonies also issued their own orders concurrent with the British orders and often continued their own schemes after the British orders were withdrawn. For collectors of southern Africa, it should be noted that Gledhill recognizes a total of 329 of British orders to have survived from southern Africa:

Bechuanaland Protectorate and Botswana (20)
Cape Colony (3)
Basutoland and Lesotho (3)
Nyasaland and Malawi (7)
Rhodesia (3)
Federation Rhodesia and Nyasaland (23)
Union South Africa (127)
Republic of South Africa (79)
Southern Rhodesia (25)
Swaziland (4)
Tanganyika and Tanzania (3)
Transvaal (6)
Northern Rhodesia and Zambia (26)

Peter Thy

Highlights from Journals

This regular column lists some of the more important articles on Southern Africa Philately and postal history that recently have appeared in other journals. It is based on our exchange journals as well as on those that by other means end up on the Editor's desk. If you find that some important articles are missing, please supply the relevant quotes.

- Amoore, H., 2020. Some notes on Rhodesian airgraphs. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 70, 486-489.
- Anonymous, 2020. The great adventure. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 70, 491-496.
- Barter, M., 2021. Revenue documents with history – Dan Judson and John Blakiston – the siege and relief of Mazoe 1896. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 71, 37-39.
- Briscoe, A., 2021. Stopped by censor. *South African Philatelist* 97, 94-96.
- Briscoe, A., 2021. The post office at Macloutsie, Bechuanaland. *South African Philatelist* 97, 52-54.
- Burke, S., 2021. Christmas cards in support of the Paris Missionary Society in Barotseland. *South African Philatelist* 96, 202-204.
- Burrett, R., 2021. Early postal facilities on Gwanda Goldbelt. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 71, 122-128.
- Burrett, R., 2021. Post Offices in Zimbabwe and Zambia. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 71, 42-43.
- Burrett, R., 2021. The confusing story of too many Gwaais. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 71, 52-475.
- Cooksey, C., 2021. 1932 northbound first flight to off-line destinations beyond Africa. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 71, 102-105.
- Cooksey, C., 2021. 1932 northbound first flights to off-line destinations within Africa. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 71, 46-475.
- Cooksey, C., 2021. The development of Imperial Airways service from the Rhodesias to Australia 1932-1934. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 71, 135-139.
- Cooper, D., 2021. 1970 definitive issue SG 441 2 1/2c multi-coloured. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 71, 75-76.
- Cooper, D., 2021. Rhodesia & Nyasaland 1959 definitive issue 3d inverted center printed on gummed side. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 71, 151-152.
- Courtis, J., 2021. CGH: Postal history aspects of Cape of Good Hope postal wrappers. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 25, 34-40.
- Davis, T., 2020. CGH: Early en route mail – the first Canadian contingent, 1899. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 24, 179-186.
- den Hartog, J., 2021. De rotskunst van de Bushmen (1). *FVZA Bartolomeu Dias* 33, Whole No. 132, 8-10.
- den Hartog, J., 2021. De rotskunst van de Bushmen (1). *FVZA Bartolomeu Dias* 33, Whole No. 131, 30-33.
- Diesveld, J., 2021. Zuid-Afrikaanse burger censuurstempels tijdens de Tweede Wereldoorlog (3). *FVZA Bartolomeu Dias* 33, Whole No. 129, 33-37.
- Fraser, C., 2021. The 1897 British Central Africa Issue. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 71, 31-34.
- Hankins, P., 2021. Stanley Gibbons – Autumn Africa Auction 2020. A strange place to discover Christmas greetings from your grandfather. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 71, 106-109.
- Harvey, I., 2021. The Cape of Good Hope book of stamps and De La Rue essay books of stamps. *London Philatelist* 130, 435-439.
- Herdzik, W., 2021. Northern Rhodesia tourist publicity labels. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 71, 110-113.
- Hoffman, C., 2021. A brief history of Waterlow. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 71, 49-51.
- Kamffer, G., 2021. The functioning of the postal system in the Republic of South Africa since 1961. Part 2. *South African Philatelist* 97, 56-59.
- Kamffer, G., 2021. The functioning of the postal system in the Republic of South Africa since 1961. Part 3. *South African Philatelist* 97, 90-93.
- Kamffer, G., 2021. The functions of the postal system in the Republic of South Africa since 1961. *South African Philatelist* 97, 20-24.
- Kamffer, G., 2021. The Mmaleboho (1894). Magoeba (1894/1895) and Mphephu (1898) campaigns in the Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek (ZAR) against the Vendas. *South African Philatelist* 96, 182-186.
- Klugman, K., 2020. Natal: the Dickson Natal sale at Spink in October 2020. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 24, 155-162.
- Klugman, K., 2021. Natal: Errors of the Natal halfpenny overprint on mail of remote German missionaries. *Cape and Natal Philatelic*

- Journal 25, 54-56.
- Klugman, K., 2021. Natal: Numeral cancellations on the embossed postage stamp of Natal. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 25, 44-53.
- Klugman, K., and Porter, R., 2020. The Nineteenth Century registration markings of Natal. Part 1. Different crown in circle O.1 markings used in Durban and Pietermaritzburg. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 24, 188-195.
- Klugman, K., and Porter, R., 2020. The Nineteenth Century registration markings of Natal. Part 2. The O.2 registration number markings. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 24, 207-212.
- Knip, E., 2021. Chinese contractarbeiders aan de Rand 1904-1910. *FVZA Bartolomeu Dias* 33, Whole No. 129, 15-18.
- Lambert, D., 2021. The Paul Graetz expeditions. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 71, 27-30.
- Leefflang, B., Klugman, K., and Porter, R., 2021. Natal: Earliest recorded picture postcard used in Natal. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 25, 13-23.
- Looker, B., 2020. The Besancon Rhodesia sale by Corinphila, Zurich, 9 September 2020 – the Double Heads lots. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 70, 498-502.
- Maisel, R., 2021. WWI, the flu pandemic and the flow of mail in British Colonies. *London Philatelist* 130, 311-314.
- Morar, N., 2020. The myth(s) of Great Zimbabwe. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 70, 514-519.
- Mulder, P., 2021. Kraaipan. *FVZA Bartolomeu Dias* 33, Whole No. 130, 26-29.
- Palazzo, G. and van der Vliet, O., 2021. De belastingzegels van Zuid Africa. *FVZA Bartolomeu Dias* 33, Whole No. 131, 16-18.
- Palazzo, G., 2021. Nummerstempels uit Natal en de Unie. *FVZA Bartolomeu Dias* 33, Whole No. 129, 10-14.
- Peggie, P., 2021. In search of Native Commissioner cancels. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 71, 116-117.
- Peggie, P., Harrop, K., and Flanagan, P., 2020. BSAC official mail. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 70, 476-480.
- Plumbe, T., 2021. Artists of Waddington printed Malawi and Zambia issues. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 71, 61-64.
- Porter, R. and Klugman, K., 2020. The Nineteenth Century registration markings of Natal. Part 3. The O.3 registration date stamp. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 24, 223-226.
- Porter, R. and Klugman, K., 2021. The Natal 1857 mute cancel used on embossed and early Chalon stamps. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 25, 57-61.
- Porter, R., 2021. Official mail of the Colony of Natal. *South African Philatelist* 97, 14-17.
- Porter, R., 2021. Official mail sent by or received in Natal from overseas countries. *South African Philatelist* 97, 80-85.
- Pratley, R., 2021. Postal notes circulating alongside banknotes as currency! Part IV. *Postal Order News*, Whole No. 140, 24-28.
- Reah-Johnson, S. and Spivack, D., 2020. Plate 1, 1R, and the waxed moustache reconsidered; an electroplate? *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 70, 474-475.
- Ross, S., 2021. Nyasaland 1953 overprinted revenue stamps. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 71, 129-132.
- Ross, S., 2021. Uses of Nyasaland 1953 overprinted revenue stamps. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 71, 143-45.
- Solly, R., 2021. Overprinting of British postal orders for issue in the colonies at Somerset House – Part 1. *Postal Order News*, Whole No. 139, 22-27.
- Solomon, S., 2020. CGH: Standing Hope issue of 1893-1902. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 24, 196-206.
- Solomon, S., 2020. CGH: the first rectangular issue 1864-77. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 24, 131-140.
- Solomon, S., 2020. CGH: The Table Mountain issue of 1900. Klugman, K., and Porter, R., 2020. The Nineteenth Century registration markings of Natal. Part 1. Different crown in circle O.1 markings used in Durban and Pietermaritzburg. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 24, 188-195. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 24, 213-222.
- Solomon, S., 2020. Natal: the Chalon Head and its origin revisited. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 24, 145-153.
- Solomon, S., 2020. Zululand Spink Ltd 'The Dickson' and July 2020 auctions. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 24, 166-169.
- Solomon, S., 2021. CGH: The Griqualand West revenue stamp issue bearing the Bourne head. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 25, 24-32.
- Sorour, V., 2021. Protea definitive series: the key to the five types of the 20c stamp. *South African Philatelist* 97, 42-43.
- Sorour, V., 2021. Protea definitive series. *South African Philatelist* 96, 178-179.
- Spivack, D., 2020. A methodology to analyses the BSAC Admiral listing in the Stanley Gibbons Part 1 catalogue. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 70, 507-511.
- Spivack, D., 2020. Stanley Gibbons 2021 'Part 1' BSAC Admiral catalogue revisions. Summary of listing changes. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 70, 512-514.
- Steyl, P., 2021. The development of postal services in the Schoonberg and Kammanassie region. *South African Philatelist* 97, 60-62.
- Stolk, J., 2021. Boetestempels van de Oranje Vrijstaat en Transvaal. *FVZA Bartolomeu Dias*, Whole No. 129, 3-6.
- Stolk, J., 2021. De Port Paye/Postage Paid/Posgeld Betaal stempels van RSA. *FVZA Bartolomeu Dias* 33, Whole No. 130, 12-15.
- Stolk, J., 2021. De T110 rail letter post labels (vervolg). *FVZA Bartolomeu Dias* 33, Whole No. 131, 10-14.
- Stolk, J., 2021. Strafport labels van RSA. *FVZA Bartolomeu Dias* 33, Whole No. 130, 34-38.
- Taylor, J. and Taylor, M., 2020. Some Nyasaland and Northern Rhodesia archival material and photographs. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 70, 503-506.
- Thomas, M., 2021. Making connections. *Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* 71, 40-41.
- Thy, P., 2020. On British Central Africa's two pence registration envelope. *Postal Stationery*, Whole No. 435, 337-343.
- Thy, P., 2021. Letters from Home: Southern African Pioneers enlisted in the British Pioneer Corps during WW2. *Postal History Journal* Whole 178, 18-34.
- Thy, P., 2021. Letters from home: Southern African soldiers enlisted in the British Pioneer Corps during WWII. *South African Philatelist* 96, 192-196.
- Thy, P., 2021. More British Central Africa two pence registration envelopes. *Postal Stationery*, Whole No. 437, 80-83.
- Tonking, M., 2021. Revisiting the SWA Type 1 forged inverted overprints. *South African Philatelist* 97, 46-47.
- van der Vliet, O., Rong, R., and Knip, E., 2021. De belastingzegels van de thuislanden. *FVZA Bartolomeu Dias* 33, Whole No. 132, 28-31.

Exchange Journals Received

South African Philatelist in electronic format only: August 2021 (Volume 97, No. 4, Whole No. 967) and October 2021 (Volume 97, No. 5, Whole No. 968).

FVZA Bartolomeu Dias: August 2021 (Volume 33, Whole No. 131) and November 2021 (Volume 33, Whole No. 132).

The PSGSA exchanges printed journals with the Filatelistenvereniging Zuidelijk Afrika. We receive the South African Philatelist as an affiliated society of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa in electronic format. Forerunners is exchanged as an electronic document to all southern African specialist societies known to us.

New Books

Bartshe, T., 2021. An Illustrated Visitors Guide to Bloemfontein: A Southern African Postcard Exhibit. Available from Amazon.com

Bartshe, T., 2021. Orange Free State Postal Cards of 1884-1900. Available from Amazon.com

Trotter, B., Hoffman, C., and Flanagan, 2021. Rhodesian Philately to 1924. The British South Africa Company Period. Royal Philatelic Society London.

Bendon, J., 2021. U.P.U. Specimen Stamps 1878-2021. Supplement 2021. Oxford Book Projects, Oxford. www.oxford-bookprojects.co.uk

Society Publications

Smith, Gordon, 2020. Bechuanaland and Botswana Registration Labels: An Updated Typology and Listing. Can be downloaded from the Society website.

Hisey, Bob and Matheson, Ian, 2017. The "Officials" of South Africa. PDF on Memory Stick, \$30 pp.

Mordant, David, 2017. Barred Oval Numerical Cancellers of Cape of Good Hope 1863-1963. An Third Edition of the listing is also available downloaded from the Society website.

Hisey, Bob and Bartshe, Tim, 2003-9. Philately of the Orange Free State, Vol. 1. The Postage Stamps, 280 pages.

Vol. 2. The Telegraphs, 250 pages.

Vol. 3. Revenues and Postal Stationery, 205 pages.

CD version is now available at \$30 pp.

Forerunners on CD, Issues 1 to 99 (CD-ROM). \$30 plus \$5 s/h. Early issues can individually be downloaded from the Society website.

Taylor, Robert. Early Postal Services of the Cape of Good Hope PSGSA Exhibit Series (CD-ROM). \$15 pp.

Lodoen, Peter. Accepted - Rejected: Life of a Botswana Stamp Designer. Can be downloaded from the Society website.

Hisey, Bob (compiler), 2006. Postal Office Names of Southern Africa According to Ralph Putzel (CD-ROM). \$15 pp.

To order contact David McNamee using the address given on page 1.

The Market Place

South Africa OFFICIALS. Want to purchase/trade for stamps overprinted official/offisiel. Collections, accumulations, units or pairs, for studying purposes. The usual is as interesting as the spectacular. Can offer Union and RSA stamps and covers. Send scans and price to Roald Sand, Bygdoy alle 27B, 0262 Oslo, Norway. roald.sand2@getmail.no

Union machine and parcel postmarks. Wanted by specialist collector. Single items, collections, or unsorted bulk accumulations. Please contact Bas Payne on bas.payne@gmail.com, or The Mill House, Clifford Bridge, Drewsteignton, Exeter EX6 6QE, UK.

Union pictorials 1926-1940. Wanted by specialist collector. Single items, collections, or unsorted bulk accumulations including singles. Please contact Bas Payne on bas.payne@gmail.com, or The Mill House, Clifford Bridge, Drewsteignton, Exeter EX6 6QE, UK.

Bophuthatswana used. Wish to trade for used in/off cover, including revenues and postal stationery. Have all Homelands used, some mint and older general worldwide to trade. Write Will Ross, 4120 Schuylkill Dr., Calabasas, CA 91302.

South West Africa postal stationery. I am seeking pre-1969 items. Please send offer to Jan Stolk, Waterhoenlaan 24, B-9120 Melsele, Belgium; janstolk@belgacom.net.

Mafeking siege "blueprint" covers. Want to purchase or trade for covers with Mafeking siege "blueprint" stamps. Send photocopies or scans, prices, or trade want list to Frederick Lawrence, 658 W. Douglas Ave., Gilbert, AZ 85233-3219; ieconsulting@cox.net

South African postage due covers. Looking for postage due mail from and to South Africa, all periods welcome. Please send offers to Jan Stolk, Waterhoenlaan 24, B-9120 Melsele, Belgium; janstolk@belgacom.net.

Natal Postcards Wanted. Used or unused picture postcards from 1906-1907 depicting scenes and events surrounding the Natal Native Rebellion. Contact David McNamee dmcmamee@aol.com.

Botswana and Bechuanaland Official Free Marks: interested in trade or purchase. Contact Gordon Smith, 11 Elliot St., Dartmouth NS, CANADA B2Y 2X6; gordon.smith@ns.sympatico.ca.

Botswana Meter Marks: interested in all eras. For trade or purchase. Contact Gordon Smith, 11 Elliot St., Dartmouth NS, CANADA B2Y 2X6; gordon.smith@ns.sympatico.ca.

Zimbabwe Covers between 2008 (Jan 1) and 2009 (Apr). Bob Hisey at bobhisey@comcast.net.

Perfins Wanted. I buy/trade for perfins of Cape, Natal, Transvaal, ORC, and South Africa. Especially interested in on cover examples, but will give generous return for any loose stamps. Write or email with trade/sale proposal. Robert Weeden, 1446 Grenac Rd, Fairbanks, AK 99709 or email weeden@mosquitonet.com.

Airmails from SA to South America. Wanted airmail covers from SA to South or Central America between 1932 and 1952. Send scan or photocopy with price to Hugh Amoore, (9 Bishoplea Road, Claremont, South Africa, 7708); email to: hugh.amoore@uct.ac.za).

Swaziland Picture Postcards Wanted. Please send scan to Peter van der Molen at molens@pixie.co.za

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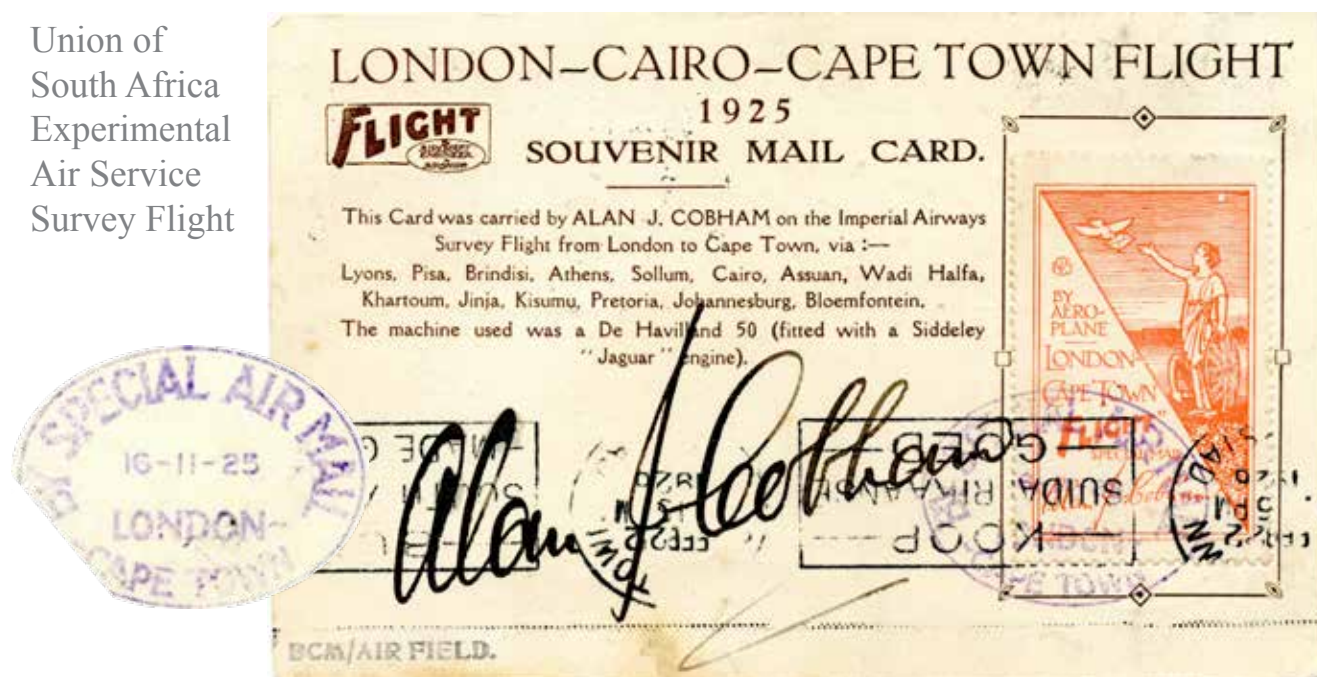
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Union of
South Africa
Experimental
Air Service
Survey Flight



In 1925 the British government assigned Imperial Airways the task of developing aerial communication within the Empire and employed Alan Cobham (later Sir Alan) to survey the planned route from Cairo to Cape Town. Cobham, accompanied by an engineer and photographer left England on 16 November 1925 and arrived at Cape Town three months later on 17 February 1926. Special Souvenir Cards, sanctioned by H.M. Postmaster General, were carried and posted at various landing spots along the way. The most prized are those carried the full way and mailed after arrival at Cape Town. Shown is the reverse of a souvenir card prepared for the Trans-Africa Survey Flight, signed by Alan J. Cobham and posted at Cape Town. It is franked with 2d KGV South Africa value tied by a "Cape Town/22 February 1926 1:30 PM" cancel and addressed to Colesburg, C.P. Special orange perforated cachet is tied by lilac oval "By Special Airmail/London-Cape Town/16-11-25" commemorative strike.

Membership Application

Membership includes a subscription to the Society's journal Forerunners. The membership fees are \$20 for an electronic version of Forerunners. To obtain also the print version add US\$5 to US mailing addresses, US\$10 to Canada addresses, and US\$15 to the rest of the world. Those that join before July 1 will receive the complete back issues for that year. Thereafter annual renewals occur in August and are due by September 1. If sending in dues by mail, please provide funds in US\$ either in currency or a check on a USA bank account made out to "PSGSA." Mail all payments to David McNamee, PSGSA Treasurer, 15 Woodland Drive, Alamo CA 94507, USA. PayPal to "dmcnamee@aol.com" is also acceptable, but please add US\$ 1 extra to cover part of the PayPal fees we must pay to use the service. For some overseas members, it might be more advantageous to send in dues for two or more years to avoid the annual currency conversion fees.

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