



ISSN 1076-2612

******FORERUNNERS*

JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY FOR GREATER SOUTHERN AFRICA

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

Volume XXXV, Number 1, Whole Number 102

January-April 2022



On April 8, 1635, a flotilla of Dutch ships bound for Batavia arrived at Table Bay and left letters beneath this Post Office Stone. It was discovered during excavations in Adderley Street in 1974

Highlights

Canadian Soldiers
Botswana Permit Mail
Rail Post Labels
Stamps Are Our Ambassadors
Shire Highland Map

Cape Town International Exhibition in November

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Botswana Post issued this P4 stamp in 2016 as part of a series on Elephants as four stamps and a miniature sheet of 16. Printed by Southern Colour Print.

Front Illustration:

A flotilla of Dutch ships bound for Batavia arrived at Table Bay in 1635 and left letters beneath this Post Office Stone later discovered during 1974 excavations in Adderley Street. Photo by Diane Deblois at the Slave House Museum in Cape Town.

***FORERUNNERS

ISSN 1076-2612

Vol. XXXV, Number 1, Whole No. 102, January-April 2022

Official Journal of the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa

Large Silver at London 2022; 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

The Covid Pandemic has slowly receded in our part of the world. Local, state and federal regulations and guidelines to prevent the spread and unnecessary deaths have been lifted sometimes from day to day. People are becoming careless forgetting that the virus is still with us and may suddenly appear in new mutation far more contagious than anything we have seen so far. A new wave could easily migrate from the parts of the world where vaccination efforts are still in their beginnings. In the meantime, in-person stamp shows and meetings have resumed nationally and internationally. Local club meetings and stampshows are slowly returning toward normality with dealers and collectors attending as we remember from a couple of years ago. International shows are also returning with the London 2020 (2022) just finished and the Cape Town International 2020 (2022) to start in about half-a-year. International travel restrictions are still with us often requiring vaccination documentations, last-minuted negative test before taken off and returning home, and the use of masks during traveling. This all are a reminder to be careful and to plan your travelling with the safety of yourself and others as a priority.

It has been pointed out that some illustrations in Forerunners often appear in resolutions, both in the printed and the electronic versions, too low to be of use. In order to solve this, a high resolution pdf version will in the future be distributed together with the low resolution web version. In addition, some critical illustrations will be posted on our website in their original resolutions and if possible will also be linked to the original source (like the map on page 24). It is also recommended if you have special needs that you contact the Editor; however, the resolution of illustrations are restricted by the submitted items and may thus not be able to be improved.

It is hoped that you will find something of interest in this issue. If not, please consider writing an article for the next issue.

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 August 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.



Closed Album

David Parsons 1951-2022

It would have been difficult to have collected stamps and postal history related to southern Africa for a long time, like this editor, not to have encountered David Parsons in his capacity as either auctioneer or at the various meetings of specialist societies. David was often there always ready offering his advice or telling a good story. He was born on 27th June 1951 and died after a long illness on 6th January 2022.



David had a love of stamp design at an early age through his father who, when David left school at 18 years old, arranged interviews with Robson Lowe and Stanley Gibbons in London. David took the job with Robson Lowe at 50 Pall Mall on the basis of a £15 a week salary – £3 more than Stanley Gibbons offered! The rest is history, with David going on to become one of the most respected philatelists and expert describers of recent years. His expertise was centred on British Empire, with specific focus on India and Africa. He will be missed.

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, after some airline/airport adventures, Candace and I just returned from South Africa, a visit that lasted for 5 weeks. I want to say that with a few exceptions, the people are the same, warm, friendly and vibrant. The few exceptions are ESCOM's continuing decline in efficiency as evidenced by the "load sharing" situation around the Western Cape where depending upon the decisions of the utility what level you are in whether you have any power outages or as many as three a day (which we found in Franschoek) and yet none in the Gardens area in Cape nor in Tulbagh. The other was not really anyone's fault I suppose as the floods in KZN which caused the deaths of well over 500 persons north of Durban. We happened to be there driving north on M4 and N2 just before a bridge on the former washed away. Not a pleasant experience and our hearts go out to the victims and survivors of this event. That flooding led to the virtual shut down of the port and a shortage of refined fuels being delivered to such places as A.O. Tambo International Airport. That issue caused the cancellation of our flights. Seems that SA has no refinery of their own and must import refined products leading to potential disruptions.

All that being said it was a glorious time visiting the Western Cape, the Natal Midlands and the Kingdoms of Lesotho and Eswatini. We even snuck into the Eastern Free State at Clarens for a beautiful view of the Red Rocks area. Everywhere we went we were greeted by the same inhabitants who have a wonderful view on life who have not really changed in the 40 years I have been going to SA and how they react to strangers; from the top of Sani Pass, the "roof of Africa" to the families in Manzini (old Bremersdorp, Swaziland) to the Malays in Bo Kaap, Cape Town. The beauty of the landscape and the wonder of the wildlife is unsurpassed by anywhere I have been in 6 of the 7 continents.

While there I had the opportunity to spend time with a couple of fellow philatelists, Frits Aab who joined us for an evening of drinking wine and getting acquainted in Cape Town and Ian Paterson and his partner Diedre who joined us in Franschoek for dinner. A restaurant perched high on the mountain side overlooking the valley at sunset. Ian is an avid collector of telegraphic history, forms and stamps particularly from the Orange Free State and the South African Republic. Good food, good drink and good friends. Unfortunately, we had little time as we drove probably some 2000 miles on the "wrong" side of the road. Phew, we made it back alive with only dirt on the Toyota to mar its surface.

I would like to close with a photo taken at the above dinner with Ian to show what a pleasure it was to be in South Africa with friends. Consider going to the show in November.

Tim Bartske



New Members

Welcome to

Stephen D. Chicoine

Concord, NH

South Africa 1910-1993 and
Southwest Africa 1923-1990

Franklin P. Holder III

Eastman GA

Greater Southern Africa, Postal History, and
Philatelic Literature

Brad Webb

Minnesota

Bechuanaland, Botswana, and the Rhodesians

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.



Cape Town International Stamp Exhibition is rescheduled for 8 to 12 November 2022. A total of 2,000 frames is expected to be on display. Prepare to join PSGSA in Cape Town at this exceptional event. Go to <https://capetown2022.org> for most recent updates.



APS Great American STAMPSHOW for 2022 has been scheduled for August 25-28 in Sacramento at the Convention Center. This is prior to Cape Town and furthermore in the Editor's home area.

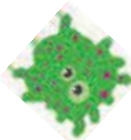


SAVPEX 2022 South Africa's Seventh Virtual Philatelic Exhibition (SAVPEX), a one-frame exhibition, hosted by the Orange Free State Philatelic Society under the auspices of the Philatelic Federation of South Africa. The exhibits will be available for viewing in July 2022 on the PFSA's website (<https://stampssa.africa>). Exhibit entry has by now expired (contact Joof van der Merwe for details, josuav528@gmail.com).



Philately and the Pandemic

The Covid virus has slowly reseeded and collectors and dealers are returning to in person meetings. It is, however, important to realize that the virus is still here and caution is recommended. International traveling is still often restricted by vaccinations, negative tests, and use of masks.



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 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.

South Africa Perfin Catalogs

My name is Jeff Turnbull and I have been a member and past official of the Perfin Society (of Great Britain) for many years.

It is with regret that I recently learned of the death of one of your PSGSA members, Brian Dennis, an avid South Africa perfin collector. I am also an avid perfin collector, and recently with the help of other collectors I have written Perfin catalogues for South Africa (you will find them at this address: Free to download). <https://perfin.org.uk/rest-of-world-catalogues#4f2a182f-10c0-4393-8dd1-ac1994c39fcf>

Unfortunately, I was unable to procure Brian's collections, but I did manage to glean some information from scans that were sent to me by the person in charge of the sale.

Information and images are of the utmost importance with perfins, and I am hopeful that you can make your members aware of these Perfin Catalogues and that more information may be forthcoming. Perfin collecting is a long-neglected area of stamp collecting, and these catalogues are just a start. As I have said, hopefully we will get more information. I am also willing to give my views and to answer any questions that collectors may have on this subject. My email is mrjandit@gmail.com.



Covid Update

- Covid policy: masks are still mandated indoors in public places. Compliance is close to 100%. Negative tests are required for entry into South Africa.
- By every metric, the incidence of Covid is now lower than it is in the UK, the USA, and many European countries including France and Germany.

The Exhibition

- The Cape Town International Convention Center: open and spacious with great natural light; uniquely suited to philatelic exhibiting.
- Exhibition layout: frames and dealer stands have been integrated to create a natural flow that will encourage visitors to wander around, linger and browse.
- Accommodation: space has been reserved at top-class hotels offering various pricing options – all no more than a 5 minute walk from the exhibition.

Dealers and Exhibitors

- Visit our website for answers to all your questions: <https://capetown2022.org>
- Dealers: it is almost impossible to visit the exhibit without walking past every stand; flexible layout and furnishing options; book the stand you want online.
- North American Exhibitors: enter online or contact your commissioner. Deadline 15 May

USA Commissioner



Sandeep Jaiswal
s7jaiswal@gmail.com

Canadian Commissioner



David McLaughlin
david.mclaughlin@rogers.com

Cape Town as a destination

- Cape Town remains a world-class tourist destination. It is well-organized, clean, and safe, and great value with outstanding service standards.



PSGSA Articles of Distinction

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

2021. 'The Airmail Stamps of the Union of South Africa' by Andre du Plessis.
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.

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Two (Famous) Canadian Soldiers¹

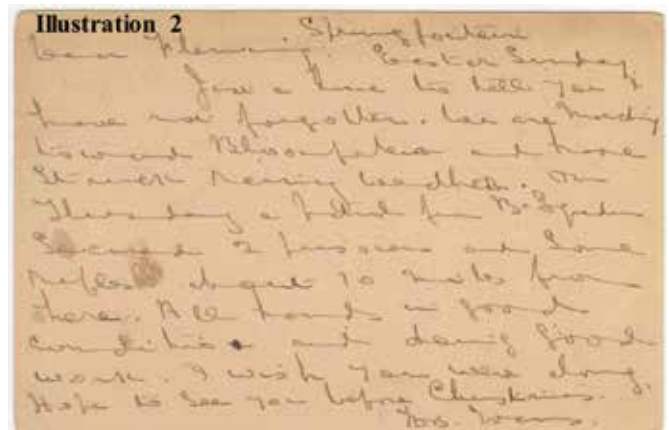
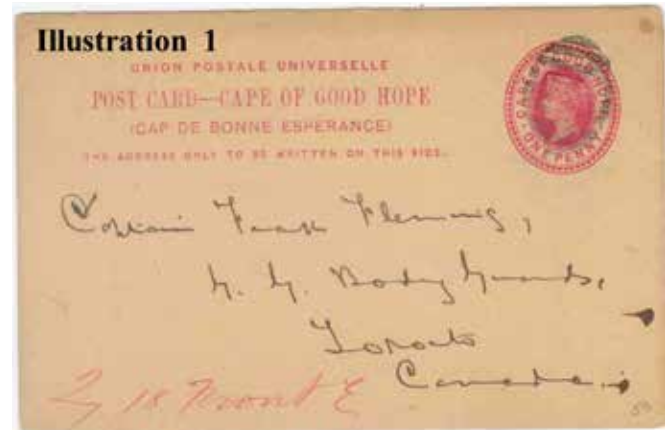
by John Woollard

Old postcards intrigue me. I like the postal markings, for sure, but, beyond that, the cards often have a story to tell. Naturally, the stories are often mundane, sometimes a glimpse of a business transaction gone wrong, sometimes organizational, sometimes desperate, or plaintive, sometimes obscure, occasionally providing a fresh detail for the historian, or a new facet for a well-known story; and sometimes they serve simply as a door to some historical enlightenment. As an example of the last, let me share some of what I discovered from one such old postcard, which has introduced me to some ‘famous’ Canadian soldiers, of whom I was unaware. I wonder if am alone in this ignorance.

Quite some months ago, while I was bringing order to an untidy stack of folders and papers, I unearthed a used Cape of Good Hope Queen Victoria 1d postal stationery card (H&G15)² [Illustration 1]. It was addressed to *Captain Frank Fleming, G. G. Body Guards, Toronto, Canada*. In truth, I acquired this some five or six years earlier but somehow managed to mislay it, so at this stage have no idea exactly when, where, or how I got it. But on this rediscovery I was chuffed to see that, although lacking any other postmarks, it had a rather faint Cape-style 777 numeral cancel, a new value for me. One always hopes for a town cancel as well, to make the item a “proving cover”, but sadly this was absent. Failing that, the next best thing is when the writer has mentioned where the item was sent from, and in this case he had written ‘Springfontein’ [Illustration 2]. No problem with that at first glance, until I recalled that there was a town of that name, not in the Cape of Good Hope at all, but in the Orange Free State, later Orange River Colony. So I wondered if this was an early, illicit inter-provincial usage? To check this, I consulted Mordant’s listing of Cape BONCs³ and was gratified to find that, sure enough, BONC 777 was indeed used at Springfontein AND that Springfontein was in the Orange Free State! Curious, eh? Earlier commentators stated that the Boers had plundered the canceller from an unknown office,⁴ and that the British army then recovered it when they reached Springfontein. Given that a BONC 777 had been used at Stormberg Junction in 1898, and that the Boers had over-run that small community in late 1899, surely Stormberg is the identity of the “unknown office”.

Springfontein itself was also an important railway junction where the Berlin Mission Society had established a mission station to minister to the railway workers, predominantly black. That settlement had likewise been over-run by Boer commandos in late October 1899, but then in 1900 they had withdrawn without fighting in response to the advance of British forces, who arrived on 16th March, and set up an encampment there, which included a hospital.⁵

My card in question has no date as such, but the author wrote “Easter Sunday.” If I assume the year was 1900, then an inter-net site⁶ tells me the date was 15th April 1900, which fits in the range of usage dates listed by Mordant.⁴



Despite being hand-written, with many letters ill-formed, the text of the message was not too difficult to decipher: *Dear Fleming \ Just a line to tell you I \ have not forgotten. We are marching \ toward Bloemfontein and have \ struck rainy weather. On \ Thursday a patrol from B Squadron \ secured 2 prisoners and some \ rifles about 10 miles from \ here. All hands in good \ condition and doing good \ work. I wish you were along. \ Hope to see you before Christmas. \ Yors Evans.* No mention of casualties or the devastating reverses that the British Army suffered in the opening stages of the War; it sounds more like a casual outing across the veld with merely a touch of excitement to give variety to life.

So, who was the recipient and who was the sender? Although one often cannot find out much on either, I did think I could track down the Canadian recipient as an officer in the Body Guards.

It turned out far better than I expected, for Captain Frank Fleming had an impeccable pedigree. He was none other than the first-born of Sir Sandford Fleming,⁷ designer of the first Canadian postage stamp,⁸ instigator and champion of ‘Universal Time’, railway builder, founder of the Royal Canadian Institute, university chancellor, advocate for a submarine telegraph cable to unite the British Empire, and co-founder of the first Alpine

Club of Canada. This first child of six, Frank Andrew Fleming, was born 8th November 1855 in Peterborough, Ontario. His upbringing must have been effective and solid, for in the summer of 1872 at age 16 he accompanied his father as part of the small group [Illustration 3]⁹ on the 'ocean to ocean' surveying trip when they "discovered" the Yellowhead Pass (see Map 1) through the Rockies, and urged unsuccessfully that, because of its gentle approaches and modest elevation, it be used as the route for the Canadian Pacific Railway then being planned.¹⁰



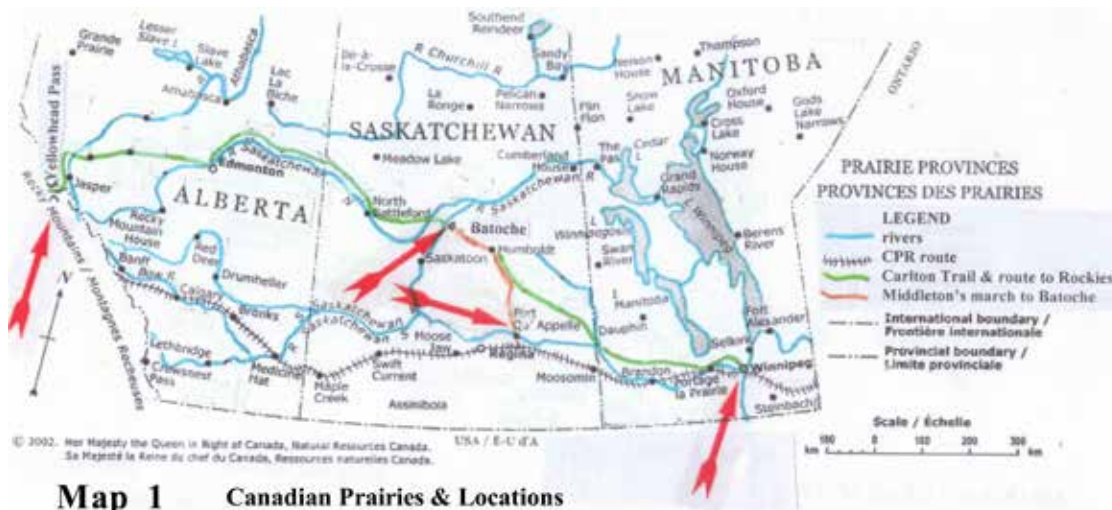
That same year Frank was enrolled as an Ensign (Provisional) in the 1st Battalion of the Governor-General's Foot Guards in Ottawa, and by 1878 he had risen to the rank of 2nd Lieutenant.¹¹ In 1882 he married Ellen Alberta Coutlée,¹² daughter of the Sheriff of Ottawa, living in Aylmer. Over the following years the couple had three children.

In 1885, the Métis felt that the Canadian Government had failed to honour earlier commitments, so were clamouring for respect, rights, and even independence. In reaction to this, the Government determined that they were 'rebels', and that a strong military response was necessary. Accordingly, it began sending troops westwards, the first group of about 900 under General Middleton leaving Winnipeg on 23rd March. Next, on 30th March, the Body-Guards were placed on active service.¹³

Two days later they started their move west too, with Frank being transferred from A-troop to take charge of B-troop, effectively a promotion.

These troops were sent by rail, for by this period the Canadian Pacific Railway was under vigorous construction, with extensive sections complete, although there were also many portions North of Lake Superior that were unfinished. The soldiers coming from Ottawa had to cover those sections on foot or by sleigh, suffering the cold stoically, for in early April there was still much snow on the ground. Despite all that, they were able to cover quickly the 2,700 km from Ottawa to the railhead at Qu'Appelle [see Map 1]¹⁴ in southern Saskatchewan (at that time called Assiniboia). The troops under General Middleton marched North from Qu'Appelle and then North-West to reach Humboldt, on the Carlton Trail, the name of the wagon route from Winnipeg to Edmonton. They arrived there before the end of April, and established a garrison as a base for scouting sorties to the north and west. This rapid deployment must have been distinctly unsettling for the 'rebels'. The next group of soldiers, consisting of about 450 men, was under command of Lieutenant-General Denison and included the Body Guards. They soon followed Middleton's troop, reaching Humboldt on 2nd May, where they constructed formidable fortifications for the base, which they called "Fort Denison". Although back then Humboldt had a civilian population of but one person, it housed a post office and, most importantly, a telegraph station, one of the many on the route of the telegraph line that linked Winnipeg with Edmonton.¹⁵ It was that feature which recommended stopping at such an insignificant place, for the telegraph station was a critical link in keeping communications between the military and the Government in the East; indeed, the line farther west kept being sabotaged! These troops were unlikely to see much direct military action, but members escorted supplies to the front, ran dispatches, made scouting sorties, and, of course, ensured that communications with Ottawa were maintained. They also relaxed! [Illustration 4].¹⁶

During this time, Frank was certainly not idle. He either volunteered or was selected for various excursions, and even when they had just arrived at the railhead at Qu'Appelle, he was active. The military had learned that about seventy teams of hors-



es and wagons had crossed the Qu'Appelle River at Racette's Crossing some 32 miles downstream and seemed to be heading North. It was suspected they were taking supplies to Riel; hence action was needed. Thus, a group of soldiers was despatched to deal with the wagon train; the troops included Lieut. Fleming in charge of twenty men of the Body Guards plus another ninety men of the York and Simcoe Battalion. In the end it was a false alarm, for "it transpired that the wagons belonged to a party of plains hunters returning to their homes after winter operations in the West."¹⁷



Illustration 4.

Then a little later ...

"May 4th, fifteen men under Lieutenant Fleming left for a point on the trail forty miles to the south, where they met a party of the Quebec troop escorting some teams laden with ammunition ... On the 8th Lieutenant Fleming returned with the ammunition convoy, the men as black as negroes, due to the dust from the trail and the recently fire-swept prairie."¹⁸

In another sortie, a native American had been captured, and after being interrogated, he revealed that a band of Dakota Indians led by Chief White-Cap was trying to move southwards. A few words of background are appropriate.

The Dakota bands had originally roamed widely between the US and Canada, and in 1787 had signed a peace Treaty with the British crown, promising to be allies and friends. Although this treaty did not guarantee them the access to the wide tracts of land over which they were accustomed to hunting, the Dakota abided by it, and in 1879 were allocated land in a Reserve, south of where Saskatoon is located. As an indication of the generally good terms between the peoples, a short time later Chief White-Cap gave advice to Methodist preacher John Lake on the best place to situate a Temperance Colony. The site was on a wide river and formed the core of what later became Saskatoon. When invited to join Louis Riel's forces, White-Cap declined, both because he cited the treaty with the Crown, and doubtless also because he foresaw the likely outcome. He was thus heading south to get out of harm's way. Unfortunately, the Army

seemed to think this move was sinister and took action. The following contemporary account reveals much about attitudes and behaviour at that period – not all of it commendable:

"The next morning Lieut-Col. Denison detailed Lieut. W. H. Merritt to take a party of twenty-five men and try and capture White Cap and his followers. Merritt's instructions were that there should be no fighting if it could possibly be avoided, and he was advised that perhaps the Indians might surrender if properly handled. Lieut. Fleming volunteered and was allowed to accompany the party. The Sioux Indian was informed of the instructions imparted to Merritt, and, under the circumstances, appeared willing to help the party to reach his tribesmen.Marvellous cleverness was displayed in following the trail, generally at a gallop. At times his ability in this seemed more akin to witchcraft or second sight than the result of a lifetime's training. ... As the party was very short of food, Merritt decided that, if on reaching the alkali plain the Sioux were not sighted, it would be necessary to return to Humboldt. The sun was getting very low on the second day of the chase, when suddenly the Indian gave a significant grunt, and ... It was soon discovered that the rapid approach of the Body Guard had surprised the Sioux in camp while their horses were grazing,

and they were seen to be running to cover with their rifles. As they had not yet opened fire, the captive Indian and the interpreter were sent with a flag of truce to parley and see if the Indians were willing to surrender, which was found to be the case. The Body Guard troopers were naturally eager to get into action, but were restrained from being the aggressors."¹⁹

I can find no other information about Frank's activities during this period. The main body of the army overwhelmed the Métis under Louis Riel in a battle at Batoche lasting from 9th to 12th May, and the Body-Guards were removed from active service on 24th July 1885. It must be added that, despite being executed as a traitor, Riel is now recognized as a visionary, fighting for minority rights, and supporting multiculturalism and tolerance.

Frank remained with his unit, and evidently was viewed favourably by his superiors. Thus in 1890, he was one of four officers who were chosen to lead a select troop of soldiers as escort to the Duke and Duchess of Connaught when they stopped in Toronto on 30th May during their tour across Canada.²⁰ The Royal couple were returning from India, where the Duke had been commander-in-chief of the British Army, and travelled by CPR train on the now completed railway from Vancouver through the Rockies, across the Prairie provinces, and onwards to Toronto where there was a municipal welcome and a military parade, before continuing to Ottawa, Quebec, and thence to England.

By 1897 Frank had been promoted to the rank of Captain and was the sole officer from the Body-Guards to be in the military contingent sent to England to represent Canada at the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria. Serving in the Cavalry section,²¹ on the day of the historical pageant through the streets of London, Frank was appointed second-in-command of the whole colonial escort: quite an honour!

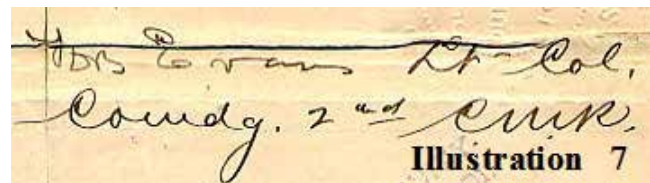
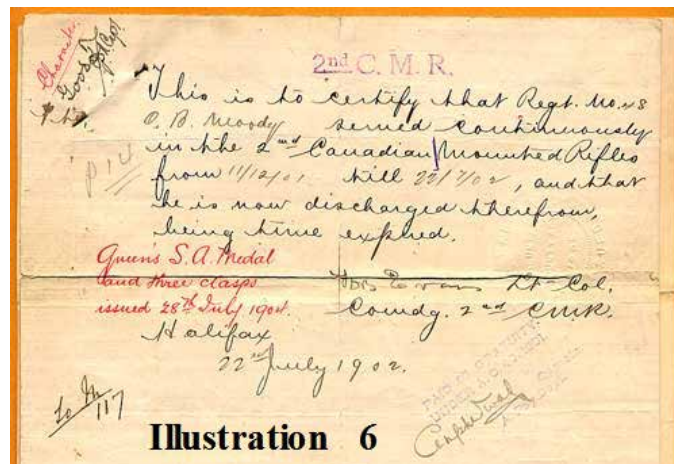
By 1912 he had advanced to rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, and to cap off his career he was deeply involved in the Centenary Celebrations²² of General Brock's 1812 victory against the Americans. Thus, he participated in the General Committee that was charged with organizing the event, and then served as officer-commanding for the contingent of the Governor-General's Body-Guard present at Queenston Heights for the ceremonies on 12th October of that year.



Sadly, the following year he passed away on 4th June 1913, a victim of arterio-sclerosis.¹⁰ His tomb-stone in Beechwood, Ottawa, is remarkably plain and unemotional, lacking any mention of family, background, or even military career [Illustration 5]. Given that this was a few days before the marriage of their oldest child and that he was not quite 58, this was a rather sad fade-out for such a faithful soldier, and a poignant milestone for the family, since his eminent father did not pass away until 22nd July 1915.

What about the writer of the card? It seemed fairly clear that the writer signed himself as Evans [Illustration 2], preceded by a scrawled "Yors" – not an unreasonable way of ending a note, despite the apparent mis-spelling. Although 'Evans' is a fairly common name, I fancied that, given the content and tone of the message, the writer was almost certainly a Canadian officer. Of the several Evans involved in the Boer War the one that stood

out was a Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Dixon Byron Evans. To my delight I found a scan of his signature on a discharge document²³ [Illustrations 6 & 7] which matched perfectly the signature on my card – and showed that what I had read as "Yors" was in fact his initials: TDB.



"Who was Lt-Col Evans?" you ask. Again, not an insignificant figure: indeed, his on-line biography²⁴ says he was "the outstanding Canadian soldier of his generation"! Born on 22nd March 1860 in Hamilton, he entered the military in 1880, joining the 43rd (Ottawa and Carleton) Rifles. By 1884 he had been promoted to Captain, and then in 1885 he also served with the infantry militia in the heavy military response to the attempt by Louis Riel to improve conditions and rights for the Métis. Perhaps it was during that time that Evans and Fleming became acquainted, both being on duty in that campaign. In 1888 Evans joined the Permanent Force infantry, then in 1891 transferred to the cavalry, the Royal Canadian Dragoons, evidently having a love of riding. In 1897 he was appointed as commander of the Canadian cavalry contingent sent to England for Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee, when the two must certainly have met. In 1898 he was advanced to rank of Acting Lieutenant-Colonel, and appointed to command the Yukon Field Force that had been authorized in March of that year.

This contingent of just over 200 soldiers, predominantly volunteers from regular units, had been assembled to augment the small police force in the Yukon. Its purpose was to maintain order during the Gold Rush, to protect the commercial banks, and to ensure there was a definite Canadian presence on the ground, for there was a fear that since so many prospectors were from the US, the US government might be tempted to annex the territory (nothing changes, eh?). This fear had evaporated by the following year, and half the force was withdrawn in July, with Evans returning to his post in Winnipeg in October.

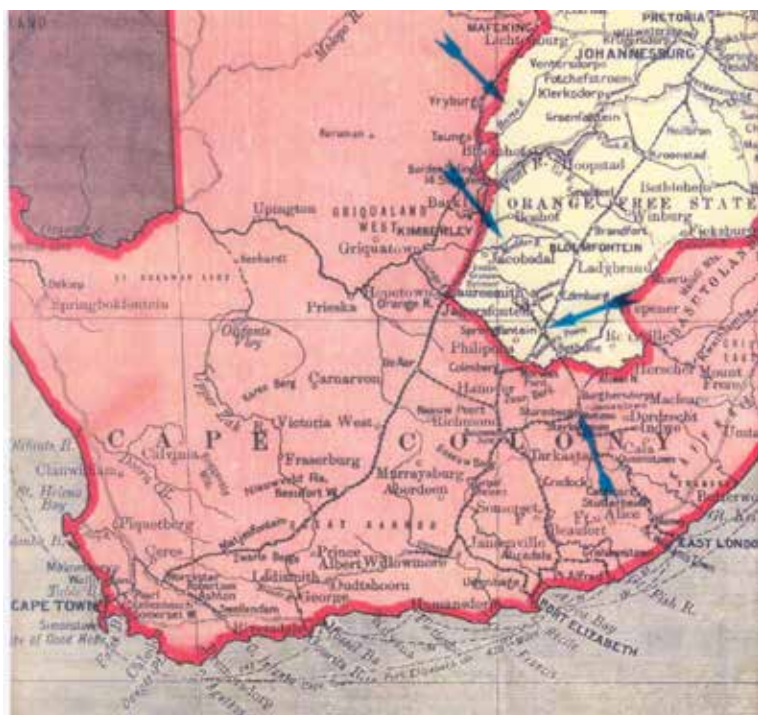
But the Boer War had broken out in mid-October 1899, and

Britain was seeking troops from various dominions to assist in the campaign. The Canadian government was indecisive, even reluctant, but individual citizens were not, hence very quickly there were hundreds of volunteers eager to augment the British Army in South Africa. One contingent of 1,000 men was hurriedly organized and left from Quebec on 30th October 1899, under the rather perplexing title “The 2nd (Special Services) Battalion” of the Royal Canadian Regiment. They arrived in Cape Town on the 29th November, and after a couple of months training, their military prowess was soon demonstrated. Their pivotal role in winning the battle of Paardeberg Drift (on the Modder River) in February was both critical for the British campaign and a huge boost for the Canadian psyche; indeed, one might see this almost as a prelude to Canada’s reputation for formidable bravery²⁵ forged at Vimy Ridge less than twenty years later.

Shortly after that first contingent had left Canada, a second contingent was assembled and mobilized as “The 1st Battalion, Canadian Mounted Rifles” (renamed Royal Canadian Dragoons from August 1900). This was composed of 19 regular army officers, many from the Dragoons, and 371 men and their horses,²⁶ organized into two squadrons, under Lieutenant-Colonel L. W. Herchmer with Evans as second-in-command. Their departure was delayed because of sickness of the crew of the troop-ship, S. S. Milwaukee, but this allowed for valuable training. Finally on 21st February 1900 this battalion embarked for South Africa, arriving in Cape Town on 21st March, a week after Bloemfontein fell to the British. The battalion was incorporated into the First Mounted Brigade under Major-General Hutton, and ordered promptly in the direction of Bloemfontein. Their initial movement was along the line of rail, and they reached Springfontein on 12th April²⁷ [see **Map 2** for this & other locations mentioned in this account].

Well, that fits perfectly with the 15th April date of my postcard, doesn’t it? Moreover, Evans’ battalion had not yet faced combat, so the relaxed, bucolic tone of the text is understandable.

Soon after their arrival there, the commanding officer of the Battalion, Herchmer, fell ill, and in his stead, on 5th May,²⁸ Evans was made Acting-Commander, an appointment that was made substantive in August 1900. Evidently Evans was an active and effective leader, for he “...was ever ready to send his scouts out by day or night to locate laagers, provide early warning, or to ambush unwary Boers.”²⁹ Among the various engagements in which the unit was involved during the advance on Pretoria was one in the early morning of 11th October, when Evans led 200 Mounted Rifles to victory at Bankfontein, outmanoeuvring a much larger Boer force.³⁰ Then on 7th November, at the farm Leliefontein, East of Pretoria, they served as a rearguard successfully protecting the British forces from a strategic withdrawal, repelling numerous attacks from a larger Boer force. Three Victoria Crosses were awarded to Canadians for exceptional bravery in this action.³¹ The unit left Africa on 13th December 1900, by which time it had taken part in twenty-eight



Map 2 Arrows show: Harts River; Paardeberg Drift; Springfontein; Stormberg Junction.

engagements, and had its strength reduced to three officers and eighty-three other ranks.³²

In late 1901 the Canadian government arranged for a third contingent to be sent to southern Africa, the six-squadron-strong “The 2nd Regiment, Canadian Mounted Rifles”, and appointed Evans as its Commander – indeed, the majority of officers and about a quarter of the men had previously served in Africa. They left Canada in January 1902 and after arrival underwent a few weeks training. Once in the field, they found that the nature of the campaign had changed, for the Boer forces were diminished, the countryside had been emptied of people, and a sprawling military presence everywhere was attempting to control all movement and of course capture remaining Boer soldiers. The unit was assigned to such duties in the Transvaal and it was in one such attempt near the Harts River on 31st March that this Regiment was caught, and suffered serious casualties.³³ However, fighting was soon to cease, for the peace treaty was signed at the end of May, and the Regiment returned home a month later.

Maybe the active life of a soldier was taking its toll, or perhaps a steady dribble of societal expectations was wearing him down, but in 1904 Evans finally left the ranks of the bachelors. His lucky bride was none other than Eleanor Isabel McMillan, the only child of Manitoba’s Lieutenant-Governor. He was 44 and she 25. Judging by the newspaper report³⁴ of the day, this was a significant event indeed. Under headlines trumpeting “*Society Agog over Military Wedding*,” it was said that the “nuptials [were the] most brilliant event of the kind ever witnessed in Winnipeg,” for it was “*A wedding that had been looked forward to by society [and took place] in the presence of a large and fashionable congregation*”. Moreover, it was “*The*

first military wedding in Winnipeg, and the bride and groom are most popular not only in the city but all over Canada". Wow! The report went on to describe in enormous detail the decorations and beauty of the bride's gown: what the groom wore seemed of secondary importance!

In 1907 Evans was appointed District Officer Commanding at Winnipeg but the following summer, he fell ill while on duty in Brandon. Upon recommendation of his physicians he was admitted to the sanatorium at Battle Creek in Michigan, where he hoped to regain health prior to taking a much needed holiday. He seemed to be recovering gradually, then abruptly declined after about two weeks, dying on 23rd August. One diagnosis was that his demise was a consequence of over-work and sun-stroke earlier in the summer.³⁵ He was only 48. His childless widow married a business-man, Leigh Manners McCarthy, on 17th November 1910, with much less fuss and adulation from the press.³⁶

So after all that well, I've learned many details of Canadian history, in particular of Canada's gallant involvement in the Boer War. But there are still some loose ends. I wonder about Frank Fleming's own family: why such a discrete gravestone? What happened to his wife: did she re-marry? Did their children feel overshadowed by the distinguished military career of their father? And Evans: with such a spectacular and well-connected wedding, how had they met? Was there a sizzling courtship or did her papa announce proudly announce one day that the family had made an excellent decision on her behalf? Disappointing, or perhaps I should say, sad that there were no children. Then I wonder how well had Fleming and Evans known each other? One can discern how they probably met, but were there any special circumstances that bound them together, beyond simply serving at the same time and place? The friendship must have been deep for Evans to bother to send a card from 'the Front'. Maybe I shall unearth some more snippets in the future, but those questions remain unanswered and for the moment I put my quest aside. Maybe some reader has an inside track and can throw more light on the connection.

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Sir Sandford Fleming, Col. Robertson Ross

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Botswana Permit Mail

by Gordon Smith

In the early 2000's, BotswanaPost introduced Permit Mail as an alternative to stamps and meter franks for large volume mailers. This service was first noted in the Bechuanaland and Botswana Society journal, the Runner Post, in August 2001. Additional information, including a portion of a flyer describing the service, was published in the Runner Post in February 2002. Links to these articles can be found at <https://postalhistory.ca/botswana-permit-mail/>.

Permit Mail cannot be placed in regular mailboxes. Mail items must be submitted to BotswanaPost in trays, boxes or bundles. Payment terms are negotiated prior to or at the time of mailing. It is only accepted at the Southern Sort Center at Poso House, Gaborone, the Pota Sort Centre in Palapye, and the Tati-town Sort Centre in Francistown. Permit Mail envelopes may not be used as Business Reply envelopes.

To use this service, organizations apply to BotswanaPost for an "Authority Number" that must be included in the Permit Mail impression. This number is permanently assigned to the requesting organization until it is cancelled. The issued Authority Numbers of which I am aware range from 10000 to 10042, so I assume that the numbers start at 10000 and that there are at least 42 permit holders. Figure 1 provides a list of Authority Numbers and the name of the organization holding them of which I am aware.

The Permit Mail impression (Figure 2) must be designed according to the following specifications and the impression must be pre-printed in upper right corner of the envelope. The impression may be printed in any colour.

While permit impressions can be organized by authority number, this service has been available since the early 2000's and organizations have made multiple printings of envelopes using the same authority number.

To date, permit imprints come in three major types:

1. Professionally printed directly on the envelope
2. Handstamp applied to the envelope
3. Professionally printed on a label which is subsequently stuck on the envelope

These types can be further differentiated based on the following features:

- a. Colour
- b. Fletching characteristics (lines on the side of the circle) - e.g., curved vs. angular, spacing, boldness
- c. Overall size of Imprint
- d. Font size and boldness
- e. Boldness of circles and fletching

The following list provides examples of various permit imprints organized by types and further differentiated by variety. Various printings can be further distinguished by looking at other aspects of the printing on the envelope, such as the colour and style

of logo and the size and boldness of the font in the return addresses. However, as an overview, this article only illustrates the examples of some of the major varieties. A more complete listing of permit impressions, organized by authority number,

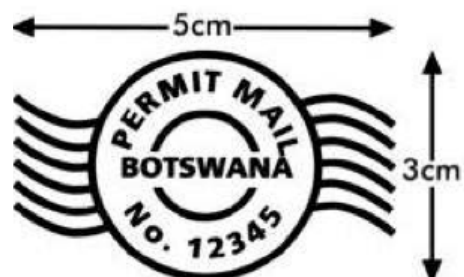


Figure 2.

can be found at <https://postalhistory.ca/botswana-permit-mail/>.









All illustrations of the imprints have been reduced to 50%. Colour descriptions are determined using the Stanley Gibbons Stamp Colour Key (Item No. 2350, 1994). Where the Colour Key description does not provide a sufficient match, further description is added in brackets.









"Dia." is the diameter of circle is measured horizontally across middle of word "Botswana". Often, when this dimension is more than 30 mm., the vertical dimension is 30 mm. creating a slightly oval shape that is not immediately apparent to the naked eye. The o/o (out-to-out) distance is measured horizontally from the extreme outer edges of fletching (the wavy lines on

Authority No.	Holder
Blank	Not Known
10000	BotswanaPost
10001	Botswana Power Corporation
10004	MultiChoice
10005	Botswana Telecommunications Corporation
10006	Water Utilities Corporation
10009	Botswana Life Insurance Limited
10010	Standard Chartered Bank
10011	Orange
10012	Mailing Services (PTY) Ltd
10013	Stanbic Bank
10014	Mascom Wireless
10020	Botswana Couriers
10023	Not Known, assume a mailing service due to variety of companies
10028	Not Known, possibly Motsvedi Securities
10032	Mailwise International
10033	Skip Hire
10034	Barclaycard
10035	Botswana Unified Revenue Service
10038	Barclays Bank of Botswana Ltd
10039	Price Waterhouse Coopers
10042	Botswana Examinations Council


Figure 1.





Permit Impression - Professionally Printed Directly on the Envelope

Illustration	Description
	Blackish Olive Irregularly spaced fletching 31.0mm dia., 50.5mm o/o Small lettering Regular boldness of circles and fletching
	(Light) Olive-Black Regularly spaced fletching 31.0mm dia., 50.5mm o/o Medium lettering Regular boldness of circles and fletching
	(Light) Grey-Black Regularly spaced fletching 31.9mm dia., 53.9mm o/o Large lettering, boldly printed Bold printing of circles and fletching
	Slate Regularly spaced fletching, vertical ends 32.8mm dia., 50.5mm o/o Medium lettering, fine printing Regular boldness of circles and fletching
	Grey-Black Regularly spaced, broken fletching 30.0mm dia., 50.9mm o/o Very large lettering, fine printing Fine printing of circles and fletching
	Grey-Black Regularly spaced fletching 25.0mm dia., 43.5 o/o Small bold lettering for "PERMIT MAIL" and "BOTSWANA", small fine lettering for Authority No. Fine printing of circles and fletching
	Greenish Black Regularly spaced, wavy fletching, vertical ends 29.0mm dia., 49.0mm o/o Medium lettering, very fine printing Fine printing of circles and fletching
	Olive-Black Thin angular fletching, vertical ends 26.5mm dia., 50.0mm o/o Large lettering Fine printing of circles and fletching
	Slate-Black Regularly spaced, angular fletching 29.8mm dia., 49.6mm o/o Large lettering, finely printed Fine printing of circles and medium printing of fletching



	<p>Grey-Black</p> <p>Regularly spaced, long. angular fletching</p> <p>24.5mm dia., 50.0mm o/o</p> <p>Medium lettering</p> <p>Fine boldness of circles and fletching</p>
	<p>Bright Purple</p> <p>Regularly spaced fletching, vertical ends</p> <p>35.0mm dia., 54.0mm o/o</p> <p>Medium lettering, fine, with Botswana in bold</p> <p>Regular boldness of circles and fletching</p>
	<p>Ultramarine, bold</p> <p>Regularly spaced fletching</p> <p>31.3mm dia., 53.2mm o/o</p> <p>Large lettering, very bold</p> <p>Bold printing of circles and fletching</p>
	<p>(Light) Deep Grey-Blue</p> <p>Regularly spaced fletching</p> <p>30.0mm dia., 50.0mm o/o</p> <p>Large lettering, bold</p> <p>Bold printing of circles and fletching</p>
	<p>(Light) Steel Blue</p> <p>Regularly spaced fletching</p> <p>29.8mm dia., 49.9mm o/o</p> <p>Medium lettering, bold</p> <p>Regular printing of circles and fletching</p>
	<p>(Light) Royal Blue</p> <p>Regularly spaced fletching</p> <p>30.2mm dia., 50.5mm o/o</p> <p>Medium lettering, finely printed</p> <p>Very fine printing of circles and fine printing of fletching</p>
	<p>(Light) New Blue</p> <p>Irregularly spaced fletching</p> <p>31.5mm dia., 50.1mm o/o</p> <p>Medium lettering</p> <p>Fine printing of circles and fine printing of fletching</p>
	<p>(Bright) Turquoise-Blue</p> <p>Regularly spaced somewhat angular fletching, off centre, vertical ends</p> <p>30.0mm dia., 50.3mm o/o</p> <p>Large lettering</p> <p>Very fine printing of circles and regular printing of fletching</p>

Permit Impression - Handstamp applied to the envelope

	<p>Bright Rose Red</p> <p>Irregularly spaced fletching</p> <p>30.0mm dia., 50.0mm o/o</p> <p>Medium lettering</p> <p>Regular printing of circles and fletching</p> <p>Imprints in the red range are the predominant colour of the handstamps</p>
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	(Light) Rosine Regularly spaced angular fletching 31.0mm dia., 53.5mm o/o, large circle is oval-shaped Large lettering Very fine printing of circles and fine printing of fletching
	(Fluorescent Pink) Irregularly spaced fletching 30.5mm dia., 48.2mm o/o Small lettering Regular printing of circles and fletching
	(Light) Ultramarine Handstamp Irregularly spaced fletching 29.7mm dia., 48.5mm o/o Regular lettering Regular printing of circles and fletching Only handstamp seen in the blue range of colours
	(Light) Slate-Black Regularly spaced somewhat angular fletching, off centre, vertical ends 30.0mm dia., 50.0mm o/o Large lettering, finely printed Fine printing of circles and fletching Only handstamp seen in the black range of colours

Permit Impression - Professionally printed on a label

	Black Regularly spaced fletching, off centre 27.0mm dia., 45.0mm o/o Large bold lettering for "PERMIT MAIL", large fine lettering for "BOTSWANA", regular lettering for Authority No. Fine printing of circles and fletching
	Slate-Black Regularly spaced fletching, somewhat flat 28.0mm dia., 50.5mm o/o Medium lettering, finely printed Fine printing of circles and fletching

either side of the circles), also more-or-less centred across the word "Botswana".

I would be delighted to hear from anyone who has additional information on this subject. You can reach me at gs@postalhistory.ca.

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T110 Rail Post Labels: An Updated List

by Jan Stolk

I was very pleased when after A.E. Davis had send me a not listed label, I also received a mail from Hugh Amooore from Cape Town. He is working on a new book and the chapter on Railway Letter Service contains a similar listing as my listing in Forerunners 98, November December 2020. We were able to complete each other's listings with several printings and exchange our views on some printings.

The additional labels received are now in the attached updated listing.

In this listing I also added a new label type D1, this label is pictured in Hagan and Naylor's Railway Postal History of South Africa. It has a different text: Leave care and car to the S.A.R./Laat kommer en motor aan die S.A.S. oor. This label is printed in black and has the similar printing information as label C1a which was printed in red with the usual text.

I first thought this was a proof from the Post Office archives until I discovered a used copy in Putzel's Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices part 1, page 192.

Always looking forward to receiving information on the T110 labels, jan.stolk50@gmail.com.



B5



B6

RAILWAY LETTER POST T110 LABELS

Type	Size (widthxheight)	No.	Make	Job no.	Date	Amount	Used at
A (black)	63 x 17	1			1921		Robinson, Port Elizabeth
A (red)		2		R.1824 (S.G.1584)S	7/22/25	25,000	Hagen & Naylor
B	50 x 102	1	G.P.S.	3187 (S.G.2035)S	11/5/34	100,000	White River, Clocolan
		2	G.P.S.	44 (S.G.28)S	1/7/35	100,000	De Aar , Pietermaritzburg, P.E.
		3	G.P.S.	1044 (S.G.615)S	4/5/35	200,000	New Hanover Rail
		4	G.P.S.	2842 (S.G.1881)	10/10/35	200,000	Lobatsi, Grahamstown (E.A.Davis) (Hugh Amooore)
		5	G.P.S.	2109 (S.G.1370)	/1936	200,000	(Hugh Amooore) Draghoender,Scottsburgh,Cedarmont, Joh.burg
		6	G.P.S.	2117 (S.G.1701)	/1937	200,000	(Hugh Amooore) Coerney, Joh.burg,
C	75 x 75	1a	G.P.S.	1128 (S.G.780)S	Jan-38	200,000	Pietersburg
		1b	G.P.S.	1235 (S.G.781)S	1939	200,000	Kroomie, Greytown
		1c	G.P.S.	20607(S.G.271.)S	1940	200,000	Rossburgh, Ceres, Nigel, Proteam
		1d	G.P.S.	23662 (S.G.106.)S	Jul-46	100,000	Greytown
		1e	G.P.S.	20408 (S.G.697)	Sep-48	150,000	Cambridge, Red Hill, Stutterheim, Cathcart
		1f	G.P.S.	20275 (S.G.476)	1949-50	100,000	Albert Falls, Three Sisters
		1g	G.P.S.	20106 (S.G.525.)S	Mar-52	100,000	Kransfontein
		1h	G.P.S.	202480 (S.G.835)S	Jun-55	150,000	Indwe, Ramathlabama, Avontuur
		1i	G.P.S.	21038 (S.G.992)S	Sep-48	50,000	(Hugh Amooore) Aberdeen Road
		1j	G.P.S.	20046 (S.G.409)	Feb-52	100,000	(Hugh Amooore) Heidelberg, Knysna, Queenstown
		1k	G.P.S.	80198 S	Apr-53	150,000	(Hugh Amooore) Bothaville, George, Beaufort West
		2	Peerless/Soloron	2209	Jul-55	100,000	De Aar
		3a	Condor	7377 SM779	Jul-59	80,000	Viottenburg, Elgin
		3b	Condor	S.M. 509	Apr-60	95,000	Port Shepstone, Joubertina, Matroosberg, Debenek
		4a	Caxton.Pta.	4001(S.M.271)	Feb-57	100,000	Visrivier, Indwe, Kalabaskraal
		4b	Caxton Pta.	6388 (S.M.322)	Feb-62	80,000	Vet River, Piketberg, Victoria
		4c	Caxton	2057/10185/010-5180 37/61723			Misgund (Narrow gauge covers 1989), Hoedspruit
		4d	Caxton Pta.	5669 (S.M.1635)	11/21/61		(Hugh Amooore)Knapdaar
		5	Goldprint	(S.M.1561)	Aug-63	40,000	Houtkraal
		6	Orban	2782 SM 673	May-64		De Doorns
		7a	Kimberley litho	30245 (SM1264)	Nov-67	41,000	Kalkrand
		7b	Kimberley litho	(S.M.1017)	Aug-66	50,000	(Hugh Amooore)
		8a	HBN	c4211 (SM165)	Jan-68	50,000	Kendrew,Trappes Valley
		8b	HBN	C6010 ESM 1927G	Nov-69	70,000	Bultfontein
		8c	HBN	7791 E/SM 1832G	Sep-71		Ugie, Williston, Kraaifontein
		9a	B.P.P.co	(SM1103)	Jul-68	40,000	Calvinia
		9b	B.P.P.co	E/SM 755G	May-70		Robertson, Dreunberg, Sterkaar, Breerivier,Wolseley, Patensie
		9c	B.B.P.co	2057-18189 37/61723	Oct-80	142,000	Hartenbos
		9d	B.P.P.co				Swellendam, Goodwood, Pinelands,Redhouse, Noupoot, Alexandria
		9e	B.P.P.co	2057 10774 010 60			Arnoldton
		9f	B.P.P.co	2057 10409 070		60,000	(Hugh Amooore) Graskop
		9g	B.P.P.co	2057 17165 010 37/61723		102,000	(Hugh Amooore) Afrikaskop
		9h	B.P.P.co	E-SM 2101 G	oct/70	20,000	(Hugh Amooore) Mossebaai
		10a	Compress	6149 E/SM104G/2/71	Feb-71		Port Elizabeth,Three Sisters

		10b	Compress	523			Letjiesbos, Copperton, Cradock, Kameel, Mount Stewart, Baroe
		11a	Hendlers	B5399 2057 11082	May-75	60,000	Eendekuil
		11b	Hendlers	B5849 Labels 2057 11298 030	Oct-75	60,000	Toise, Bloemfontein
		11c	Hendlers	B7333 2057 11946 830	Feb-77	100,000	R.F.Putzel covers
		11d	Hendlers	B8014 labels 2057 122-12 580	Jul-77	200,000	R.F.Putzel covers, Postmaburg, Mareetsane, Poupan, Loerie, Tulbagh Road, Graaff Reinet, Bonnievale, SAR Joh.burg, Goageb SWA
		11e	Hendlers	C1809 2057 1518 3 010 37/61723	Aug-79		East London, Ulco, Lime Acres, Makokskraal, Knysna
		12	Perskor(OVS)Bpk	A9070 37/61723	Jul-79		Donkerpoort
		13	ELP.	ESM.681.G.			Laingsburg, Kroonstad, Bloemfontein
		14	no make	no job no.			Langeenheid, Louterwater, Bethulie
		15	Nu Art Ptg-Jhb	23621 (S.M.918)	Apr-63	40,000	(Hugh Amoore) AFX
		16	SASDRUK/SARPRINT	37/61723 (T110)			Hilton (Suid-Afrikaanse Vervoerdienste/South African Transport Services)
D	75 x 75	1	G.P.S.	1128 (S.G.780)S.	/1938	200,000	(Putzel) Oudtshoorn

Clj



Clj



Clk



C4d



C7b



C15



D1





C9f



C9g



C9h

**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

Olive Woodpeckers

Olive Woodpeckers have a red cap, and both sexes show a red stripe that is conspicuous in flight. Some populations show a red patch at the center of the bill, and others a completely olive belly. Found in forest and dense woodland. Resistant to cold and hot climates, though their own range is in South Africa. They forage in the upper canopy of trees, probing and probing branches for insects and eating them up with their barbed tongue. Both sexes excavate the nest, which is an oval-shaped hole in the bark of a tree.

Philatelic Awareness for Civil Servants: Stamps are Our Ambassadors

by Sheila Case



In 1974 a Black President on a postage stamp was still a novelty

The Dead Duck. In an earlier story (Opportunity One in a Million) I related my experience of being appointed, at age 76, to ‘invigorate the Philately Department’ at BotswanaPost. The Department was, indeed, a dead duck and needed a considerable breath of life to get back on its feet. In the three previous years, when expectations had been for a total 12 sets of attractive stamps, Philately had produced only three sets, one was OK but incomplete, one weak and one flat out wrong! How did it get this way?

How the Duck died. At the time of Independence, as the Bechuanaland Protectorate became The Republic of Botswana, the only stamp collectors in the country were a handful of expatriates, mainly elderly white men. Botswana Postal Services was part of the Civil Service. The Philately Department, consisting of two ladies, generously titled Philately Manager and Assistant Manager, worked from a small, dark room upstairs in the back of the Main Mall Post Office. While they might have had competence filling in forms in triplicate, they were all at sea when faced with stamp production and distribution. The elderly white gentlemen were invited to fill the knowledge gap. Government formed a Stamp Advisory Committee (SAC) comprising the two Managers, and three philatelists.

By the time (2004) I became involved with the SAC, Botswana had nearly 40 years of successful stamp issues; the elderly gentlemen had, one by one, either left the country or left this life; and the SAC consisted of the third or fourth generation of local Managers, still Civil Service minded, and still lacking appropriate training, along with one, the last remaining, expatriate. I served for 5 years, retiring for health reasons, and the Committee struggled on until, as was bound to happen eventually, the final philatelist passed away and the system collapsed.

Calling Emergency Service for the Dead Duck. In 2013 I was invited to the CEO’s office; and after a remarkable conver-

sation, unexpectedly found myself appointed to revive the dead duck. My job description was, in 8 words, “*Decide what needs to be done. Do it.*” When I requested more details, I was told, “*No-one in this building knows what Philately is about. You are the one who knows, so please, fix my Philately Department.*”

The Dead Duck Doctor. It was one of those ‘right person, right time, right place’ situations. To resuscitate this dead duck needed local experience of stamp production, and to bring it to good health, experience of the international philatelic market. I had both. I had served 5 years on the SAC and written two 40-page booklets for Botswana Post. (One provided information on all stamps issued since Independence, and one covered Philately in Botswana; both were used for publicity.) As for the international market, I had bought and sold African stamps by mail for 30 years. More to the point, during that period I had subscribed to, and read cover to cover, the international trade journal, *The Philatelic Exporter*.

Further, I knew how to create and institute a programme; I had for 35 years created science programmes for schools. All that was needed here was a tweak, change the subject matter from science to philately, and we were ready to go. No textbook to guide me, no collaborator, just flying solo from Day 1.



Reinvigorating the Dead Duck. I started badly. I was teaching in an uplifting venue...the Philatelic Museum on the ground floor of Poso House was architectural eye-candy, with large, bowed windows facing onto Khama Crescent, two large sections holding display cases for an array of Botswana stamps, and the walls ‘graffitied’ with philatelic information. The ambi-

ence was light and airy and we worked at a table in the centre of the room in a collaborative, friendly square. Everything looked good, but my planning was not up to the same high standard as the venue; I was going too far and too fast, and when I took time to survey progress I was not pleased with the outcome. A period of reflection set me right...I would go all the way back to Square One, and not move from one topic to another until I could get appropriate responses to my questions...a 50% pass rate was not going to cut it, these people had a job to do, and they had to get it right. So, where, exactly, was Square One? We went back to...it may sound funny, but it turned out to be right...*What is a Stamp?*

We were doing well, moving along with a sense of achievement, when suddenly I was presented with new information. I was to make a presentation to two meetings of Management, Senior Management and Middle Management. It seems that people had raised questions about why the Philately Department was having a Special Advisor, and the big boss decided that the best person to answer this would be, of course, Yours Truly.

Now visualize this...the beautiful, sophisticated venue, two semicircles of tables to seat about 25 Senior Managers, roughly half of them women, and all impeccably dressed in business suits, many having chosen to add the red and gold scarves or ties representing BotswanaPost corporate colours. The view from the teacher's spot was both pleasing and encouraging, but I was daunted...and I guarantee that I do not daunt easily...I was faced by maybe 30 degrees, mainly in Business, possibly 300 total years of experience in business management, and I was going to start with *What is a Stamp?*

The What is a Stamp? Presentation. I did not have to introduce myself, the CEO did that, in generous terms; I did not have to introduce the project, his left-hand man did that, in optimistic terms. So, I was able to start my topic straight away, with three questions. *What is a Stamp? Why do we keep issuing new ones when the existing ones seem fine? Why put in a project for Philately when it is the smallest unit in BotswanaPost, with a tiny budget?*

Being at heart a teacher, I started not by giving information, but by asking questions. It turned out, as expected, that they knew how a stamp is used at the Post Office counter, but that was the extent of the knowledge. Here is how it went from there.

First, we needed a little history, presented through images of locally issued stamps. Fortunately, Botswana are passionate about their history, the independence of the nation and its progress, so this topic fell on fertile ground.

"In the 1880's, when your great-grandparents were in their teens, a few letters needed to be transmitted within the Bechuanaland Protectorate region, and some further afield to England, where letters were moving in larger quantities all over the country. There was no unified system; to get a letter from A to B. One method was to have a courier take it all the way...within England that could be some days on horseback; within Botswana it was for a while by Runner. In some places, one courier could not make the whole trip, and contacts had to be arranged to complete the journey...if passing across several borders, this



Runner Post stamp
issued in 1972

could be problematic.

Payment was normally by the recipient, and there was no ruling about how much to charge. Chaos ruled; a system was needed. Two pioneers devised solutions to ease mail delivery. From Switzerland, Heinrich von Stephan instituted the Universal Postal Union, streamlining services within nations and across boundaries. In Britain, Rowland Hill, with the famous penny black, introduced uniform penny postage; payment was to be made by the sender, and all letters were charged at the same rate. This was controversial, but it resulted in simplicity of administration. We still use that concept today, a letter being carried 1 kilometre within Gaborone is charged at P3.20 from Gaborone to Esha, over 700 km distant, also P3.20.



H von Stephan, U.P.U. Rowland Hill, penny post Penny Black

The answer to Question 1 is this: a stamp is a receipt showing payment for a service to be supplied by the postal administration.

"Now let's have a go at Question 2. Why do we keep issuing new stamps? Why are we not still using the stamps of 1976, when the new National Currency was introduced? Some more history throws light on the scene.



1932 King George V 1938 King George VI 1953 Queen Elizabeth II

"Bechuanaland Protectorate stamps of 1932 show the popular design, baobab tree with cattle, and the head of King George V of England. These were in use for 6 years. In 1938, the new King, Geo VI was invested, and the stamps changed, retaining the Bechuanaland image. 5 years later, Queen Elizabeth II ascended to the throne and the stamps were changed again.

Stamps were not replaced unless there was a significant political change. There was nothing like our present programme with 4 or 5 sets per year.

"However, a new perspective had been creeping in; it had become the custom to celebrate significant national events, such as royal weddings, with a special issue of stamps, a *commemorative issue*. By 1966, when Botswana became independent, yet another change had occurred, a few sets of stamps had been issued depicting national interests, such as birdlife, flora, and fauna, that were not commemorating *events*. These were originally designated as *special issues* but now we lump them all together as commemoratives, while the longer-running sets, which *define* our services, are known as *definitive series*. These changes in British stamp programmes were reflected in other nations also. What had happened?

We will come back to this question in a while.

"First, we need some personal experience. In your welcome pack there is an envelope marked DO NOT OPEN. Now it is time to open these. You will find 100 Botswana stamps. Tip them out onto the table and set aside two stamps... which stamp is the first to catch your eye, demanding a second look? Then, after sorting through more carefully, find one stamp which is of interest to you personally, your childhood, your family, your home village."

As you may imagine, there was initially a little frigidity in the air...what, are we in Standard One again? But, as I knew it would happen, soon someone found something to share with a neighbour, then before long the room was full of chatter. I allowed this to go on for a few moments, then asked for a show of stamps. The first result was expected, the eye-catching stamps had strong colours...most had selected Scenic Skies and Diamonds, both of 2001. The second stamp selection was much more interesting. Almost 100% showed *people*. If you have lived in Botswana, you would realise that I should not have found this unexpected.

They had picked out presidents, literacy, childcare, traditional lifestyles and so on. To drive home a point I wanted to make, I asked for volunteers to explain their choices. First went the CEOs right-hand man, apologetically, promising that he had mended his ways since the time of his story, he showed the Standard B stamp of the Spectacular Birds series, telling us that it revived a childhood memory; *We used to shoot these with our catapults*. Another manager offered *I chose this stamp on literacy; our family understands that literacy is important because my aunt, who went to the clinic for a skin complaint, could not read the label on the bottle, drank the tincture instead of rubbing it on her skin and ended up worse than she had started*.



So you see, there is interest in the topics on our stamps.

"The earliest stamps date back to the 1880s at which time people working in offices processing a lot of mail became in-

trigued by the stamps and started collecting them. At first, they liked to see how many countries they could accumulate, but very quickly they started trying to collect complete sets, different topics, and an international market developed, first with individual collectors exchanging stamps with each other, then dealers stocking a variety from which a collector could choose. Next came auctions for prized items. Stanley Gibbons, a London company, started cataloguing known issues, and the market developed very rapidly. At the beginning, the postal authorities drove the market, selecting topics and issue dates based, as mentioned, on royal events, but they quickly realized that commemorative issues had a huge appeal, and at that point the collectors started to drive the market.

"In this way stamps continued to function as receipts but also became collectibles. This gives an answer to Questions 2. From the 1950's stamps were no longer produced merely for operational usage, they had become a collectible, a source of revenue for the postal agencies. Agencies like revenue, you will understand that! Issues therefore started to proliferate. An international philatelic market had developed. (It currently operates at about ten billion US dollars per annum, an amount of money not to be ignored.)

"In the face of potential chaos, the UPU issued guidelines for stamp issuing agencies, advising restraint in the number of stamps to be issued per annum.

"When Botswana came onto the scene as a new stamp issuing entity, the guidelines were in place, and the newly constituted SAC followed them closely, ensuring that, from the start, Botswana had a good public image in the world of philatelists. The 1966 stamps issued were: a commemorative set of 4, showing the National Assembly Building and other symbols of national pride; the 1966 definitive set showing the transition from Protectorate to Republic by using the 1961 Bechuanaland stamps, overprinted REPUBLIC of BOTSWANA. The 1967 set showed Birds of Botswana.



"This was a nice balance for the first Botswana stamps, the commemorative set focused directly on the interests of Botswana while the new definitive set was very attractive on the international market.

"At this point, the wisdom of Botswana's advisors was evident; they realised that internationally, postal administrations were adopting varied policies, some directed mainly to honouring the home country, some directed mainly to cashing in on the lucrative international market. (Here is an example, in a single year, during which period Botswana issued 11 stamps, one of our neighbors, working with an overseas 'advisor' issued nearly 150, on topics such as Japanese Art, Chinese Art and Maritime Development...this was a landlocked nation! Such profligate

action brings contempt from knowledgeable philatelists and damages the reputation of the issuing service)

"Our SAC adopted a conservative policy, in accordance with guidelines from the UPU, to protect our reputation. We still follow this policy, and we are from time to time noted as a beacon of light within Africa. The key points are these...

All stamp themes relate specifically to Botswana

Normally 4 or 5 commemorative sets will be issued each year, and definitive sets once every 5 years

"Untying Apron Strings. Before Independence, all our stamps originated, in design and production, from England. From 1966 decisions were made by the SAC in Botswana and carried out by the Crown Agents. Based in London, Crown Agents was a British Government agency dedicated to assisting the transfer to Independence of Botswana and several other territories. By 1976, of the commemorative sets issued a good number reflected interests specific to Botswana, some reflected interests in which Botswana joined other nations, such as the annual Christmas issue, and a handful reflected colonial interests. (For example, I wonder how many Batswana, in 1970, had any concern for the Death Centenary of Charles Dickens?) The designers were originally in Britain, but by 1971 a local artist, expatriate, but Botswana based, was designing our sets on a regular basis. By 1981, other local expat artists had submitted successful designs, and a new era started when the first Motswana artist, Keeme Mosinyi, returned from overseas training and started to contribute regularly; his series on traditional life...traditional handicrafts, foods, dress, medicine and others was highly respected.



Traditional Foods



Traditional Medicine



Traditional Handicraft

"So, now it is 2014, where do we stand right now? The early period had embedded Botswana stamp issues and design more firmly into Botswana, but the original experienced philatelic guidance had faded away. The Duck was Dead because the last elderly white gentleman was gone. My view is that this is only a temporary weakness; we can rebuild, with even more dedication to Botswana, good stamp issues on topics selected by local interests, and emphasizing Botswana-based designers. If we do it right, and aim for sustainability, we can set up something that will be of value for many years. That, in a nutshell, is what we are aiming for in our project to Reinvigorate Botswana Philately. At this point we have partial answers to Questions 2 and 3.



Avoid topics less relevant to Botswana



Bring in Botswana relevance; this is for Commonwealth Day



Bring in international interest; conservation ranks highly

"Prescribed Medication for the Dead Duck. Getting the Philately programme up and running comes down, as all development projects, to *planning* and *execution*. Who will make the plans? What will be their guidelines?

"For now, and you will just have to trust me, I will be making the plans, but eventually we will reconstitute the SAC, ensuring that they appreciate the significance of the policy they inherit. More to the point, we will build in additional strength by ensuring that all members of the Philately Department (there are about 5) have received detailed training in planning and execution of a national stamp issuing programme. They will no longer be passive attendees at the SAC meetings, but active participants.

What will be shown on our stamps? Well, you may rest assured that it will not be Japanese or Chinese art. Our stamps will be about Botswana.

Stamps are our AMBASSADORS

"Medication Number 1. Planning. This is for every SAC meeting. The stamps reflect Botswana to nations of the world.

"There will be many people overseas who know nothing about Botswana but who come across our stamps in one context or another. To develop appropriate messages we need to know who we are and what should be said about us, also to whom are we talking? What might they be interested to learn? Our stamps can reflect, for instance, our proud membership in the United Nations, our appreciation of the various UN agencies such as UNESCO and FAO, our membership in the British Commonwealth of Nations, and in SADC.



"They can also show the wealth of our natural resources, inviting people to come and visit. Both Desert and Delta offer wonderful tourist attractions, and our elephant experiences match any in the world.

"We should speak also to COLLECTORS. A good annual programme will be balanced to include both local interests such as the National Museum and Art Gallery, and international collector interests such as Endangered Eagles. For your information, I should mention that the number one collectible topic worldwide is Birds, and we have many, beautiful birds to show them.

"The SAC draws up an annual programme, then decisions have to be made about which philatelic products to include for each issue. These are the products we offer; definitive set of about 15 stamps, the lifetime of this issue is 5 years; commemorative sets, 4 to 6 stamps per set, 4 or 5 times annually. These are all sold across post office counters for operational use. Then there are two products specifically for the collectors, the miniature sheet (maybe a couple of times per year) and the First Day Cover, for all sets issued.



"Before finalizing the planning for a year's programme, the SAC should edit with review questions. Does the proposal adhere to our policy, reflecting Botswana appropriately and issu-

ing an appropriate number of stamp sets? This check speaks to our reputation. Second, what is the cost to the collector of subscribing for the year? If the total cost is too high, we alienate our collector base, and lose their custom; if it is too low, we fall below our target for revenue generation. (I will be teaching strategies for achieving this balance.) Answers to the review questions guide us in our three R's: reputation, relationships and revenue.

The Philately programme should enhance our...

REPUTATION, RELATIONSHIPS AND REVENUE

"Prescription medication Number 2. Once the annual programme is approved, the next step is execution. We have to make sure that two things go on at the same time: *design and printing arrangements.*

The timeline can be difficult. From first meeting with the designer to receiving the printed stamps for distribution may be 6-9 months, and at any given SAC meeting, 3,4, even 5 sets of stamps may be under consideration. Some of our least effective stamp designs have come about because of delays when something had to be thrown together in a hurry because channels had not been opened early and effectively. (You are in the Museum, check out the Olympic set of 1996...it is over there.. and you will see what I mean.) I want to emphasise the timeline.

You all work in Botswana, you manage departments, and you know how frequently projects, both large and small, get into difficulties because the planners do not have enough experience in forward planning and establishment of a timeline. Philately needs to work at least a year in advance

"Artists for Botswana stamps. Designing stamps is a specialized skill. The artist is working in a very small space and is required to create images with impact. (There are other constraints, not mentioned here). At the time of the collapse of the SAC, they were relying almost completely on professional designers outside the country. We plan to move the design work as completely as possible within our borders; to locate citizen artists who can do the job, or be trained for it, and if we are forced to look to expatriate artists, to work with the community based here in Botswana.



Low impact design



High impact, local artist



High impact, another local artist

"Printing for Botswana stamps. Connection must be established with a world-class printer. Stamp printing is a very specialized venture and there are only a handful of acceptable printers in the world. We need to ensure that both SAC and Phil-

atelic Staff are aware of suitable printers and of the appropriate procurement procedures for commissioning them to print our stamps.

"Philatelic Sales of Botswana stamps. Philatelic sales are our sales to collectors. This service runs mainly through the little office you see behind you, in the Museum. A handful of local customers come in to purchase across the counter, but most of our philatelic sales are via internet. One task our project needs to undertake is to develop a better understanding of internet philately, and to devise a marketing strategy in accordance with the findings.

"Finally, on behalf of the team, I would like to assure you that we intend to build a sturdy programme, offering Botswana Philatelic products of the highest calibre in design and printing, and bringing credit to the nation...we will be Branding Botswana.



Our Philately intern preparing stamps for sale

"I will end with a happy note. A simple survey revealed that these are the two most favourite stamps issued to date:



Most favoured by Botswana : Chiefs and Presidents. Most favoured internationally, Diamonds (this one has been seen in magazine articles, and on the cover of a major international stamp catalogue (in competition with literally thousands of stamps issued worldwide in that year).

"I thank you for your attendance and your input. If you have questions, I am ready to take them now."

That was the presentation. There were additional pictures, and some more audience participation, but I have here conveyed the gist of it. While some Managers merely sat through the session because their attendance was required, others had enjoyed playing with Botswana stamps and a number commented to me personally that all the information I had presented was new to them. There was a surprising ongoing effect. For quite a while, every time I got into the elevator (my work was on the ground floor, my liaison on the 11th) someone would make a comment on whether our stamps were doing effective work as Ambassadors. I suspect that the ambassador word is still surfacing from time to time, nearly a decade later.

Sheila Case is, as you can understand from the above, a retired school teacher, who now resides in Oregon. She worked most of her life in Africa - latest in Botswana where she also found time to participate in the Citizens Stamp Advisory Committee and acted as advisor to the Philatelic Bureau. She maintains a blog under the pen name *Mma Case* where she writes about her experiences in teaching and Africa. The blog called 'Wind of Change by Mma Case' can be reached by going to <https://www.patreon.com/windofchange> or just Google it. You may have to pay a small fee to get access. But trust your Editor, it is worth it if you have even remote experiences with teaching and with Africa. She can be reached by writing to sheilacease23@gmail.com.

Pioneer Postcards of South Africa
1896-1900

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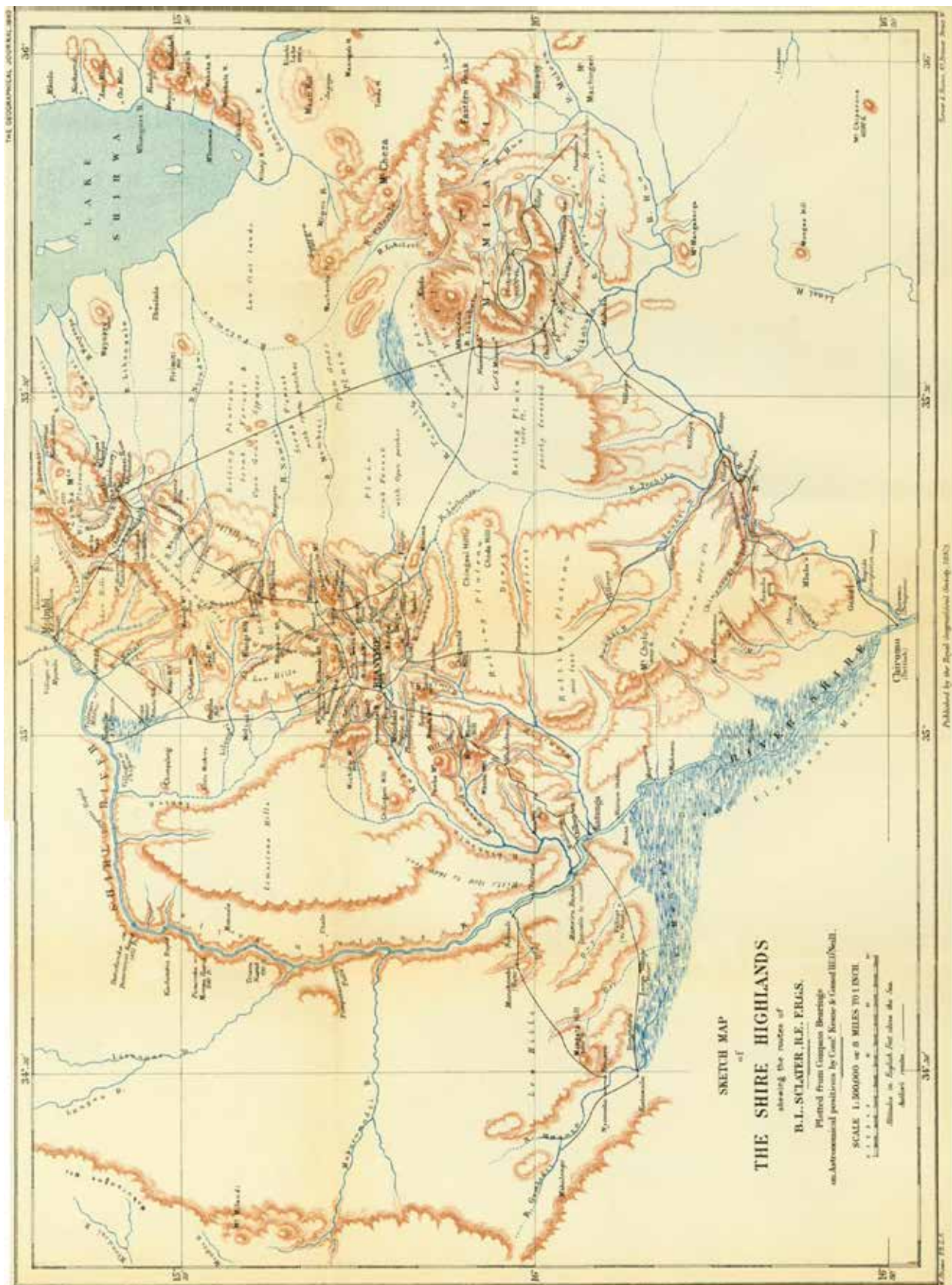
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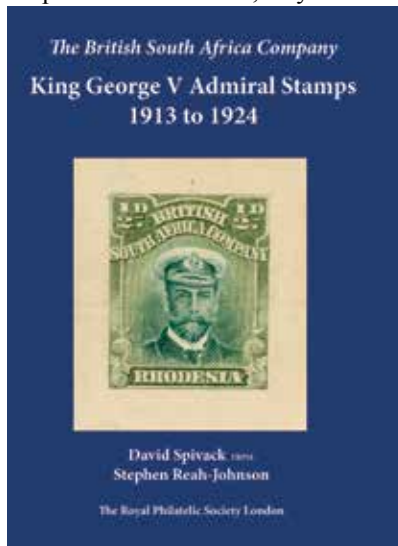
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Forerunners Forum

New Book: The British South Africa Company King George V Admiral Stamps 1913 to 1924 by David Spivack and Stephen Reah-Johnson, Royal Philatelic Society London.



This important new book, published by the Royal Philatelic Society, London, provides an in-depth review of, and research into, the British South Africa Company's King George V Admiral stamps and postal stationery issued between 1913 and 1923, one of the most intriguing definitive series of the British Empire.

In addition to exploring the development of the design, essays, die proofs, and colour trials,

there is a focus on the production issues that resulted in the many plates, states, and colours of the Admiral stamps over its 11-year history.

With an eye to unravelling the many enduring mysteries surrounding this issue, the authors have reviewed both the philatelic history of, and research into the Admirals, resulting in a detailed analysis of the plates, states, printings, colours, and flaws of the 19 values that constitute the series. An understanding of the role of provenance and rarity is also included, examining trends which have had an impact on selected Admiral rarities. In addition, a full review of the issued Admiral postal stationery is provided. Completing the work is a unique specialised catalogue and rarity guide based on auction results of the Admiral stamps and postal stationery over the years.

In sum, the authors have undertaken a comprehensive approach to examining the complexity of the series and address many of the mysteries surrounding the British South Africa Company Admiral stamps. This work should appeal to philatelists interested in complex and long running definitive issues of King George V, specialists in the Admirals, as well as those seeking to understand the myriad of stamp production challenges during and following World War I. (Press release from the RPSL)

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.

New Books

Spivack, D. and Reah-Johnson, S., 2022. The British South Africa Company King George V Admiral Stamps 1913 to 1924 by David Spivack and Stephen Reah-Johnson. Royal Philatelic Society London.

Thy, Peter, 2021. Postal Orders Used in Bechuanaland and Botswana. A Philatelic Exhibit. Available from Amazon.com

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

Bartshe, T., 2022. Orange Free State Republican Postage Stamps 1868-1900. Available from Amazon.com

McNamee, David, 2021. Tasmania Registered Mail 1844-1913. Available from Amazon.com

McNamee, David, 2021. Tasmania Postal History. An Exhibit of the Cancellations of the First Allocation Period 1853-1861. Available from Amazon.com

McNamee, David, 2022. Important Tasmanian Stamp Exhibits. Four One-Frame Gold Medal Exhibits. Available from Amazon.com

McNamee, David, 2022. Van Diemen's Land Pre-Adhesive Postal Markings 1922-1853. Available from Amazon.com

Hisey, R.W. and Bartshe, T., 2022. Orange Free State Philately Volume 1: The Republic and The Occupation 1854-1903. Available from Amazon.com (reprint of 2002 issue)

Hisey, R.W. and Bartshe, T., 2022. Orange Free State Philately Volume 2: The Telegraphs: The Republic and The Occupation 1854-1903. Available from Amazon.com (reprint of 2002 issue)

Hisey, R.W. and Bartshe, T., 2022. Orange Free State Philately Volume 3: The Republic and The Occupation 1854-1903. Available from Amazon.com (reprint of 2002 issue)

Philatelic Friends

Ken Joseph of Philatelic Friends has announced his plan for retirement. He writes: "I have been in the stamp trade for 50 years and with my 70th birthday a mere 14 months away, it is time to think about slowing down and planning ahead. We are therefore looking for a person, or a group of people, to take up the challenge of moving the company forward. Nothing has been decided yet and I am open to discuss various scenarios for future possibilities."

The John Dickson Papers

When John Dickson was the editor of the Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal he researched the Natal Surface Printed Stamps (prepared by De La Rue) by examining De La Rue Day Books and Correspondence Books over the period 1867 to 1902. The results of his research are contained in some 30 pages of notes, which contain considerable amounts of detail on the production of the stamps, requisitions by the Natal Government, responses from the Colonial Agents and De La Rue, and much more. The Cape and Natal Journal is including these notes as appendices in their journal whole numbers 100-102. Go to <https://www.capenatalstamps.com> to download the journals or contact simon.solomon@bigpond.com if you are not a member and need access.

RPSL Award Recipients

Three recent US recipients of RPSL awards were due to the pandemic delays finally assembled in February 2022 in London. First Cheryl Ganz received the Lee Medal for the best digital presentation, namely 'Zeppelin LZ-129 Hindenburg On Board Post Office.' Next Keith Klugman receiving the Tapling Medal for his article in The London Philatelist on 'Natal: Use of 1857 Embossed Stamps.' Finally, James Gough was awarded the Crawford Medal for his work "The Postal History of the Universal Postal Union: The Postal Card, 1869-1974."



Left to right: Richard Stock, past president RPSL with Peter Cockburn, current president, and the three recent US award recipients: Cheryl Ganz, James Gough, and Keith Klugman.

Philatelic Federation of South Africa

The emblem of the Federation depicts a unique South African feature of early postal history: "Post Office Stones" were discovered on 7 March 1896 while excavations in Strand Street, Cape Town were in progress. The stones tell the story of early Cape history in which letters addressed to, or to be conveyed by, passing ships were placed under the rocks. The earliest inscription dated 1618. The lowermost center of the logo symbolizes the stone with letter underneath lying on the ground. See also Front Cover illustration of this issue.



For the Record

455. **Keith Klugman** signed the **Roll of Honour of Distinguished SA Philatelists (RDPSA)**. Keith's specialization in Natal philately over the last 20 years and the many presentations of his collections have made a major contribution to putting Natal in the spotlight.
456. The **literature competition at London 2020** (2022) has now finally been completed. The **Forerunners** received a Large Silver (76 points). Congratulations to all the journal authors who made this possible.
457. **Keith Klugman** won the Runner-up in the **London 2022 World Stamp Championship** for his Victorian Natal 1857-1899. Another congratulations!
458. Both the Journal and the Website of the **Rhodesian Study Circle** received Gold at London 2022. Check out the website, even not being a member, it is loaded with information that keeps growing. Go to <http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk>.
459. The winner at **London 2022** was **Vittorio Morani** of Italy with "Tuscany 1836-to UPU: Letter Mail in, from and to Tuscany: routes, rates and charges." Third runner-up was **Joseph Hackmeyer** of UK with "The Triangulars of the Cape of Good Hope."
460. **Franco Frescure** has been rumored to being preparing two new books on the **Cape of Good Postal History**. The first volume is already being offered on Amazon.com. The second volume is in progress.

Botswana & Rhodesian Meter Marks

Bernard Lachat emails about Botswana and Rhodesian Meter Marks (bernard.lachat@bluewin.ch): "I'm a Swiss meter stamp collector. I am now preparing a collection with "Early meter stamps of the world", especially after UPU congress of 1920. However, I am also interested in countries that used postage meters before 1920. There are of course some meters almost impossible to find. I write to you because I am looking for a meter stamp printed on a document from Botswana or Southern Rhodesia. Franks like these:



Despite my research, I cannot find them. By any chance, could you help me find such a document? Thank you in advance for your precious collaboration.

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.

- Berry, R., 2021. Rhodesian and Zimbabwean military formation and unit cachets: Part 1 – introduction to the series and the Grey's Scouts. *Journal Rhodesian Study Circle* 71, 370-374.
- Berry, R., 2022. Rhodesian and Zimbabwean military formation and unit cachets: Part 2 – depot, the Rhodesian Regiment. *Journal Rhodesian Study Circle* 72, 102-106.
- Berry, R., 2022. Zimbabwe: the battalions of the Zimbabwe National Army and 5 Brigade (1980-1983). *London Philatelist* 131, 7-23.
- Bourbon, A. de, 2021. Cigarette tax labels of Southern Rhodesia and the Federation 1914-1963. *Journal Rhodesian Study Circle* 71, 333-336.
- Diesveld, J., 2021. Zuid-Afrikaanse burger censurstempels tijdens de Tweede Wereldoorlog (4). *FVZA Bartolomeu Dias* 34, 32-35.
- Diesveld, J., 2022. De verschillende kleurschakeringen van der eerste Unie briefkaart. *FVZA Bartolomeu Dias* 34, 10-17.
- Findlay, J., 2022. World War II: paper as a strategic commodity and its impact on philately. *South African Philatelist* 98, 48-53.
- Flanagan, P., 2022. The Mkushi postage due, type written in red. *Journal Rhodesian Study Circle* 72, 48-57.
- Fraser, C., 2022. British Central Africa. Ports, gunboats, paddle wheelers and watersport. *Journal Rhodesian Study Circle* 72, 110-114.
- Harrop, K. and Loomis, M., 2022. The Southern Rhodesia WWII octagonal censor handstamp. *Journal Rhodesian Study Circle* 72, 30-36.
- Harrop, K., 2022. Southern Rhodesia – World War II. *Journal Rhodesian Study Circle* 72, 130-132.
- Hartog, J. den, 2021. De rotskunst vad de Bushmen (3). *FVZA Bartolomeu Dias* 34, 15-19.
- Hubbard, P., 2022. Lobengula's seal revealed. *Journal Rhodesian Study Circle* 72, 15-24.
- Hughes, M., 2021. The newspaper parcel stamps of Rhodesia Railways 1903-1980. *Journal Rhodesian Study Circle* 71, 327-332.
- Hughes, M., 2022. The machine cancellations of Southern Rhodesia during Federation 1953-1963. *Journal Rhodesian Study Circle* 72, 37-41.
- Kamffer, G. and Joubert, J., 2022. Aspects of the postal system of the Republic of South Africa. Part 7: express mail. *South African Philatelist* 98, 57-60.
- Kamffer, G., 2021. Various aspects of the postal system of the Republic of South Africa. Part 6: registered mail. *South African Philatelist* 97, 176-179.
- Kamffer, G., 2022. Various aspects of the postal system of the Republic of South Africa. Part 7: the railway letter post system, railway newspaper stamps and other railway related issues. *South African Philatelist* 98, 14-17.
- Kantor, R., 2022. Zimbabwe: and abbreviated postal history. *Journal Rhodesian Study Circle* 72, 42-44.
- Katz, F.P., 2021. Wituland revisited. *London Philatelist* 130, 545-558.
- Klugman, K., 2022. Natal: recorded use of the 1893 large Natal postcard lacking UPU wording. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 26, 35-41.
- Klugman, K.P., Polizatto, V., Porter, R., and Solomon, S., 2022. Recorded covers to and from Natal via Mauritius, carried by P&O steamers between the UK and South Asia or Australasia. *London Philatelist* 131, 90-101.
- Lloyd, C., 2022. Fiscal use of the Southern Rhodesia George V Field Marshal and Silver Jubilee stamps by the Bulawayo Magistrate's Court. *Journal Rhodesian Study Circle* 72, 133-135.
- Lowther, K., 2022. Namibia's long fight for freedom traced in South African military mail. *Kelleher's Stamp Collector's Quarterly* 8, 60-65.
- Mittelbach, M. and Solomon, S., 2021. CGH: more on the itinerant parson of Murraysberg, subtitled 'Tales of Two Hofmeyers.' *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 25, 183-189.
- Morar, N., 2022. Kariba in black and white. *Journal Rhodesian Study Circle* 72, 58-60.
- Palazzo, G., 2022. De belastingzegels van de Republiek van Zuid Af-

- rika (1978-2007) deel 1. *FVZA Bartolomeu Dias* 34, 10-14.
- Pigorsch, E. and Eberlein, U., 2021. The Witu Sultanate stamps: a material Analytical approach. *London Philatelist* 130, 533-540.
- Plessis, A. du and Findley, J., 2022. WWII Italian prisoners of war in South Africa. *South African Philatelist* 98, 61-64.
- Plessis, A. du, 2021. Correspondence of the Chinese indentured mine-workers on the Rand – 1904-1910. *South African Philatelist* 97, 192-194.
- Plessis, A. du, 2022. Disorder on the Rand. *South African Philatelist* 98, 30-33.
- Porter, R., 2022. A sage of two town halls. *South African Philatelist* 98, 54-56.
- Porter, R., 2022. Newspaper mail of Natal. *South African Philatelist* 98, 18-25.
- Ross, S., 2021. Malawi stamp network: Christmas. *Journal Rhodesian Study Circle* 71, 348-354.
- Solomon, S., 2021. CGH: letter from Grahamstown to Montreal. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 25, 193-197.
- Solomon, S., 2021. Natal: the Edwardian issues 1904-09. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 25, 198-210.
- Solomon, S., 2022. CGH: 1883 De La Rue appendices A, B, and C. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 26, 21-24.
- Solomon, S., 2022. CGH: the 1882-83 seated hope issue. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 26, 11-16.
- Solomon, S., 2022. Natal: a brief look at Durban and the beach. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 26, 16-20.
- Solomon, S., 2022. Natal: the 1908-09 Edwardian issue. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 26, 27-35.
- Spivack, D., 2021. Stanley Gibbons 2022 'Part 1' BSAC Admiral catalogue revisions Summary of listed charges. *Journal Rhodesian Study Circle* 71, 355-357.
- Toussaint, J. and Diesveld, J., 2022. Livingstone en de Zambezi. *FVZA Bartolomeu Dias* 34, 30-32.
- Visser, A., 2022. Phun with postmarks: regional use of cash register/terminal receipts. *South African Philatelist* 98, 46-47.
- Visser, A., 2022. Phun with postmarks: the genealogy of a South African Post Office cash register/terminal receipt. *South African Philatelist* 98, 8-10.
- Vliet, O. van der, 2022. Traveling taxes of South Africa. Part 1. *South African Philatelist* 98, 27-29.
- Wilson, A., 2021. The Admiral 1923 perf. 15 stamps. *Journal Rhodesian Study Circle* 71, 361-364.
- Zegerman, K. and Leeftang, B., 2022. Kasteel de Goede Hop. *FVZA Bartolomeu Dias* 35, 6-9.
- Zegerman, K., 2022. De rotskunst van de Bosjesmannen. *FVZA Bartolomeu Dias* 34, 34-38.
- Zegerman, K., 2022. De slag bij Amajuba. *FVZA Bartolomeu Dias* 34, 26-28.
- Zegerman, K., 2022. De zoeloe oorlog van 1879. *FVZA Bartolomeu Dias* 34, 29.
- Zegerman, K., De antilopenzegels (5). *FVZA Bartolomeu Dias* 34, 4-7.

Exchange Journals Received

South African Philatelist in electronic format only: December 2021 (Volume 97, No. 6, Whole No. 969); February 2022 (Volume 98, No. 1, Whole No. 970); and April 2022 (Volume 98, No. 2, Whole No. 971).

FVZA Bartolomeu Dias: February 2022 (Volume 34, Whole No. 133) and May 2022 (Volume 34, Whole No. 134).

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.



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. A 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

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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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