



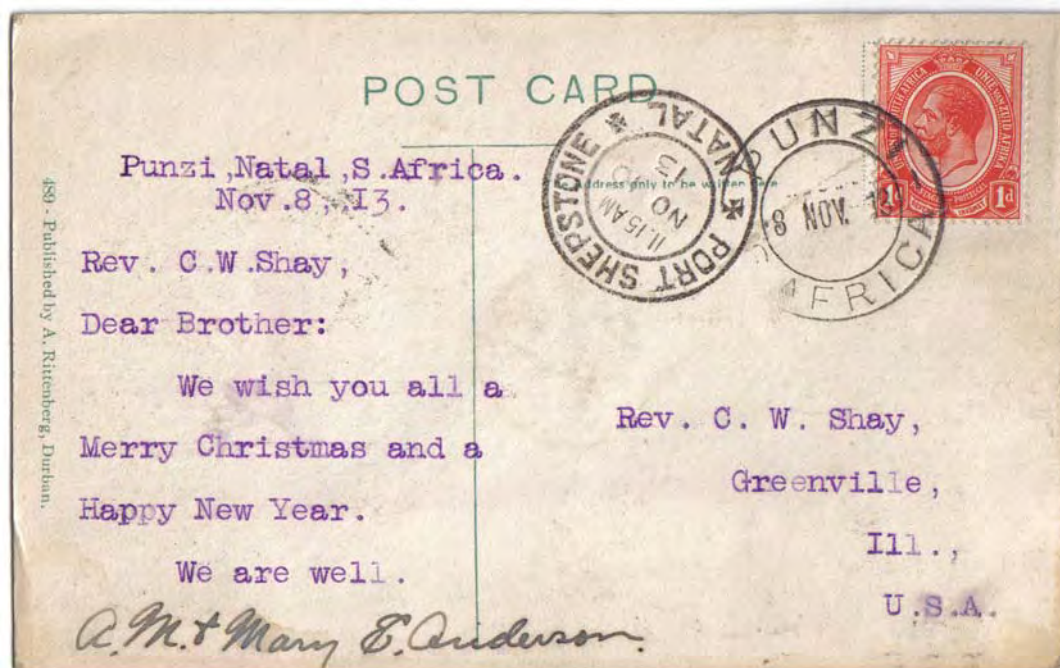
*****FORERUNNERS

JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY FOR GREATER SOUTHERN AFRICA

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

Volume XXII, Number 2, Whole No. 63

November 2008- February 2009



Postcard canceled at Punzi, South Africa, in 1913.

Highlights

- 1960 Qantas Crash
- Exact Postmark Match
- Value of Presentation in Exhibiting
- Mochudi's Harbor
- Botswana Color Error
- Non-Standard Due Markings
- Active Service Card Used in Bechuanaland
- South African F.P.O. 33 During WW1
- Reuben Shapley Randall
- Parcel Cork Marks
- Botswana News
- Postmark Discoveries



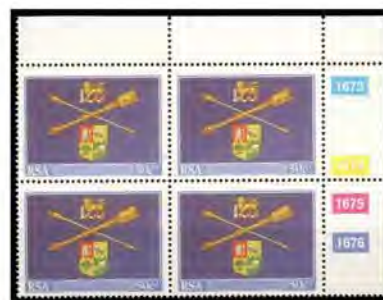
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Front Illustration:

The Punzi postal agency, situated near Port Shepstone,
Natal, South Africa, was open only during the period 1913-
1916 and thus is rated very rare by Putzel. See article by Rudi
du Toit on page 42.

***FORERUNNERS

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Silver at APS Stampshow 2007, Portland; Large Silver at WASHINGTON 2006;
Vermeils at STAMPSHOW 2005 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

This is the second issue printed with colors on the cover. I hope that the readers like the change, despite that few if any responses have reached the my mailbox. So much can be said: the Editor likes the look of the 'new' journal and hopes that the readership has the same feeling.

This issue contains again a strong selecting of articles. Most prominent is a long aerophilatelic article by Brian Peace on the 1960 Qantas crash that includes an extensive selection of illustration. Rudi du Toit shows us how he uses scanning and software technology to demonstrate* an exact match of postmarks. A rare Union Active Service Letter Card used in Bechuanaland during World War 2 is described by Peter Thy. Robin Pelteret has responded to a request by Johnny Barth for help in a previous issue and gives us detailed information on a letter writer that was embargoed in Cape Town harbor in 1806. Werner Seeba shows examples of various Cape postmarks from his collection. The exhibiting column is continued by David McNamee with a discussion of the importance of presentation. Further, Jan Stolk continues his tax marking column and Uli Bantz shows SA Field Post Office no. 33 postmarks originating in South West Africa during World War 1.

This issue came together despite all odds in the last minutes before deadline thanks to the effort of our regular column editors. Thanks to Ken Sanford (aerophilately), Jan Stolk (tax markings), and Uli Bantz (South West Africa). This is not unusual for a small special interest like ours to struggle to fill journal or newsletter pages. Many journals are written by a few members or in fact it is often the Editor who fills most of the pages. In that sense we are doing better than most societies we like to compare ourselves to. The writings done by the Editor have steadily over the past years subsided to the better. The only thing that still troubles me is that the inbox again - and each time - is empty without hardly anything left over from previous editions. So please consider again writing an article - small or large - for the next or a future issue. For your own benefit and for the rest of the membership (and for the peace of the Editor).

It is going to be an exciting spring. Some time ago I talked to friend and complained about the difficulties in getting an exhibit accepted at a 'local' show. I should have know better. The result was that I promised to try once again and that my five frame exhibit on the Bechuanalands and Botswana postal stationery registration envelopes now will be shown in composition at WESTPEX in April (San Francisco). If you are in the area, you will have a change to meet the Editor and his exhibit in persons.

The deadline for the next issue will be June 15, 2009. Please let me have your contributions - small or large - as soon as possible.

Instructions for Manuscript Submissions

Manuscripts should be sent to the appropriate member of the Editorial Board or directly to one of the Editors. Electronic versions of submissions are preferred either embedded in an email message, email attachments or on a floppy disk or CD. MS Word files are preferred. Avoid complex tables, unless in text format. Illustrations should be scanned at least at 150 dpi and submitted in tif, gif, or jpg formats. Illustrations should not be embedded in manuscript files. Contact the Editors if you have any questions and your submission requires special attention. Needless to say, good old fashioned typed or written manuscripts and photocopies can still be submitted and are most welcome.

New Cover Design ?

The general design and layout of the front page dates back to the birth of our society. With No. 2 of Forerunners in 1988, the basic design and the current logo were already in place and has since remained so with only minor adjustments. There is no saying that we must change. But if any member feels like giving it a try, the Editor would be interested in seeing any proposals.

Stampshow 2009 Prospectus

The prospectus and entry form for the 2009 Stampshow in Bloemfontein are available. The show will be at the Oliewenhuis Art Museum, Bloemfontein in September. The deadline for entering an exhibit is May 30, 2009. Go to the PFSA website or contact the Editor.

New US Mail Rates

The US mail rates changes again on May 11. For a typical Forerunners of 3 oz weight, this means a domestic mail rate increase of 5 cents and a foreign mail rate increase of 12 cents. This increase amounts to below \$10 per mailing or \$30 per year.

Society Affairs

The Forerunners is the official journal of the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa. The journal is published three times per year for the periods July/October, November/February, and March/June. Subscription to the Forerunners is included in the membership fees to the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa (PSGSA). Membership fees are US\$25 for USA and Canada mailing addresses and US\$30 for all other addresses. Those that join before July 1 will receive the complete back issues for that year. Thereafter annual renewals occur in August and are due by September 1. A sample copy of Forerunners is available from the Editor for \$9. Presentation issue can be freely downloaded together with application form from psgsa.thestampweb.com. 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) £ Sterling checks made payable to E. Hisey, (3) US \$ or £ Sterling bank notes at the current exchange rates and mailed at the sender's own risk, or (4) 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.

Back Issues Available

Back issues of the Forerunners are in stock and available for purchase. These are listed by whole number: #1-4, 6-9, 11-17, 22-27, 28/29,* and 30-63. The price per copy is #1-3, \$2; #4, \$4, #6-11, \$3; #12-13, \$4; #14-15, \$5; #16-17, \$6; #22-27, \$7; #28/29, \$10; #30-33, \$7; #34-63 \$9. Prices include shipping by lowest rate. Many back issues only exist in few remaining copies. Send orders to the Editor together with payment. * Combined as a British Africa Anthology with articles from 15 speciality groups celebrating PSGSA's 10th Anniversary during PACIFIC 97.



President's Corner

Greetings once again from Ontario, where we are in the midst of another difficult winter. Snowfall has been at record levels, comparable to those of 2007/08 and the temperatures have been unusually low. However, the last few days have been fine and the sun has appeared to make it look warm, even if it is not.

The Rhodesian Study Circle held their 60th Anniversary "Diamond Jubilee" in Capetown, South Africa from Friday, October 31st to Monday, November 3rd, 2008 and it was apparently a gala event, judging from reports in the latest RSC Journal, complete with colour photographs of the proceedings. In addition, a hard bound commemorative booklet was prepared in limited numbers containing various reports such as "The Right Honourable Cecil John Rhodes, P.C., D.C.L." compiled by Alan MacGregor. There were also many shorter reports by well-known collectors from around the world on the historical perspectives and philately of Rhodesia and connected territories. Two sets of postcards (12 monocoloured and 8 in colour) were also prepared commemorating events and places in the life of Rhodes. These were included with the booklet and I am happy that I was able to purchase the set of three items. Let us hope that the PSGSA will be able to prepare some material for our own Anniversary events.

The PSGSA award for excellence in philatelic exhibiting has been under discussion lately by David McNamee, Tim Bartshe and myself and following numerous emails, a set of guidelines was agreed upon and these are listed as follows:

1. The PSGSA Award is limited to the World Series of Philately (WSP) events held annually by the American Philatelic Society and consists of a small plaque and a certificate.
2. For the purposes of the award, Southern Africa is defined as all territories south of the Zambezi River, except that N. Rhodesia, British Central Africa and Nyasaland are included as part of the Rhodesia-Central Africa complex.
3. At least two exhibit entries are required to qualify the award and the winning exhibit shall receive at least a Vermeil level award.
4. Qualifying exhibits may be single or multi framed, from any class or division and should be primarily on some aspect of Southern African philately (stamps, postal stationery, postal history, airmail, Boer War or other similar subjects).

The award at the moment consists of a plaque, but discussion is ongoing about this and it may be changed to a medal or some more practical item for philatelists. In future, the names of winners will be listed in our journal.

The American Topical Association show is in Dayton, Ohio in June and David McNamee's exhibit "The Canoe in Pacific Island Culture" will be in competition. I am sure we all wish him luck. If anyone else has a thematic exhibit, entry forms are available on the ATA website or from me. We certainly need more exhibits and there are at the moment three postcard entries on a trial basis.

Well, that seems to be all that I can think of at the moment except to wish all of you a belated Happy New Year..

Until next time.....

Society Auction Manager

Since our previous auction manager retired after having managed our society auctions for many years, we have been unable to locate a replacement. A society auction is clearly one of the most important benefits of being a member of a specialist society like PSGSA. The lack of an auction may therefore hurt us in the long run. Traditionally society auctions are done using printed lists that are distributed to members as part of a newsletter or separately. Several specialist societies similar to ours are able to maintain auctions at regular or intermittent intervals. Most of these are done purely using printed auction lists. However, times have changed and emails and web pages have become common and should be considered. If anybody is in for the fun - there is a challenging society board position available. Contact any board member or the editor if you feel the urge and excitement.

www.StampGiftShop.com

Former PSGSA member Ashley Cotter-Cairns has launched a new website that offers an array of philatelic gifts. You can get your favorite stamp on your own mug, T-shirt, or other gift items. Perfect for the stamp collector who it is impossible to buy gifts for! Of particular interest to the Forerunners readership might be a free customizing service. Any stamp can be printed on any product including company name, logo, person's name, birthday message. Free of extra charges (printing on the back of a T-shirt costs \$3 extra). Visit www.StampGiftShop.com to see what it all is about.

New Year's Greetings from South Africa

Robin Peltret sent his very best wishes for 2009 to all members: good health, happiness and philatelic fulfillment. He shows the view of the dorp, Riebeeck-Kasteel, circa Christmas 2007. It lies in the Swartland winelands, district Malmesbury, 85 kms, north-east of Cape Town.



Open Letter to the Scott Catalogue

by Tim Bartshe

This is extracted from a note sent to the editor of the Scott's Catalog. Each year they send me tear sheets of the relevant sections relating to my areas of interest, mostly Orange Free State and Transvaal.

The Commando Brief Frank is a true military issue recognized by the postal authorities for free transit within the control of the Orange Free State. It is listed by Stanley Gibbons as M1. The case for it you ask? Well, as there is precedence for such issues in your catalog, I would argue that there are adequate reasons to list this one as well. To tick off a few cases in your Classic Catalog, you include a whole range of Austrian issues, M1-32, MB1-3; Japanese issues of 1910-24, M1-5, Russian Army issues of 1919 with postal "validity" of only weeks and of course the French issues M1-9. Of particular note is the listing of the Egyptian issues of the 1930's where I quote the following:

"purchase and use of the British military forces in Egypt and their families for ordinary letters sent to Great Britain and Ireland by a concessionary arrangement made with the Egyptian government" and further "Envelopes bearing the stamps were to be posted only at British military post boxes."

With this description of stamps only used by military forces within military postal systems, the Commando Brief Franks do them one better in that the stamps in question were accepted at any and all Free State Post offices and did duty mailing letters home from the Boer War Front from October 1899 until their use ended with the capture of Kroonstad in May 1900. They were widely used and are documented by over 130 examples of legitimate usage on cover. They were widely available for use by the commandos in the field from the areas around Kimberley and across the northern Cape Colony during the Boer occupation and including a few forces stationed in Natal. There is even an example going overseas on a cover from a Swede fighting for the Free State Commandos. For further proof of their legitimacy, I would urge you to view my 16 page exhibit on these issues located at www.aape.org. When there, click on the tab "Exhibits Online" and go to the exhibit entitled "Orange Free State - Commando Brief Frank - 1899-1900" where you will find eleven such usages and numerous used examples with a story discussing how they were made and used.

This is a tiny step in correcting a "wrong" that these issues have suffered due to the "importance" factor of the lowly Free State versus the major powers like Austria, France and Great Britain, but for consistency this single issue should be listed and is frequently traded by persons on eBay and on rare occasions a cover is listed in some of the major auction houses of the UK.

If you have any further questions please let me know and I will try my best to answer them or supply you with illustrations. For any other "suggestions" for cleaning up a few things, I would be open to expend some more energy to work with Scott's.



2008 PSGSA Membership Report

Dropped Nonpayment of Dues

R. L. Buse, Jr.	Ohio, USA
T. J. Fewlass	Pennsylvania, USA
Colin Fraser	New York, USA
Erland Hansen	Denmark
John Lieberfreund	Australia

New Members

Rudolph du Toit	South Africa
Colin Moxham	Zimbabwe
Robert Myers	New Mexico, USA
Casimir Skrzypczak	New York, USA

Closed Album

Lutz Heffermann (1939-2008)

Lutz Heffermann was gunned down on Saturday the 1st of November, 2008, at his Northcliff home soon after leaving his shop. Heffermann was an Austrian citizen who had come to South Africa decades ago. He ran a successful stamp shop and auction house (International Philatelic Services and Auctions) out of Johannesburg. He was also the publisher of the South African Colour Catalogue - an internationally accredited guide to the region's stamps. The catalogue had just been released in its 29th edition (2008-09) and is widely used among collectors of southern African stamps. His own special interest was in the Cape of Good Hope stamps and he is rumored to having been in the process of writing a new handbook.

The newspaper 'The Star' reported (7/11/08) 'Heffermann's wife has been living in Austria for a number of years with one of their daughters, while his second daughter lived with her family in South Africa. His close friend and former employee, Nick Troester, said the family were coping and were arranging for Heffermann's ashes to be flown to Austria, as per his request. Troester said condolences were pouring in from all quarters, including from abroad, where Heffermann had won several awards. On Saturday, Heffermann had left his shop on Beyers Naude Drive at around 1 p.m. and went home. It appears he was ambushed in the garage of his house and shot dead. His body was discovered after nightfall by security guards. The garage door had been left ajar, and his briefcase, cellphone and firearm had been taken. Troester described Heffermann as a relaxed man who had a jovial nature and was well liked by his friends and colleagues in philately study and collection of stamps. He was an easy guy to get on with."

A tragic loss to philately, the Heffermann family, and South Africa.

Stephan Welz 2009 Schedule

The 2009 schedule is 13
May and 4 November: Post-
age Stamps, Postal History,
Coins and Medals.



Corrections

Frederick Lawrence (ieconsulting@cox.net) has emailed to correct an error in the Randall letter transcribed by the Editor in last issue. "You read 'tank,' while I see the word as 'cask.' The first letter is the same as the first letter of Cape of Good Hope at the top of the letter, so it's a 'c'. Thus the word is 'ca?k' and ?=s seems to make the most sense, so the word is 'cask'. Robin Pelteret has likewise had problems with the transcription and offers a complete corrected version elsewhere in this issue.

New Year's Greetings from Germany

This special wish
That's made for you
Could not be more sincere
Good luck, good health
And happiness
All through a bright New Year.

These special wishes come from Werner Seeba. The editor has had several letters from Werner recently. He has been very sick for the past year and has spent quite a time at a specialist hospital in Stuttgart. He tells me that although his condition is incurable it can still be alleviated by proper treatment. The good news are that the last few letters have arrived from his home in Stuttgart. He is doing better and is back with his postmarks as proven by the photocopies he send me of Cape octahedrals. We all hope that Werner will regain his health very soon. In the meantime, the Editor at hand has several editions of Werner's regular column on 'New and Old Postmark Discoveries.' They will reappear hopefully in this issue and in many to come.

Mma Ramotswe and Jill Scott



Botswana Post has issued a stamp commemorating the filming in Botswana of the "No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency" based on a series of novels by Alexander McCall-Smith. The filming is coproduced by HBO and BBC as a TV series. The American singer-songwriter Jill Scott plays the lead role of Mma Ramotswe in the film. The stamp shows the detective agency's sign and Jill Scott as

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Precious Ramotswa. Jill Scott is quoted in Linn's Stamp News for having said: "It's like, I'm 36 years old, I'm alive, and have a postage stamp. You've got to be kidding me!"

'Farewell to SAA 74s' Covers

South African Airlines (SAA) retired the last Boeing 747-400 of the fleet on 1st November, 2007. Last commercial flight of B747 with SAA colours was SA-055 route Luanda - Johannesburg. It landed at JNB on 18:25 with registration ZS-SAK. SAS is replacing after 36 years "Jumbo" service the aircraft in long haul routes by Airbus A340. See <http://www.airtransport-news.aero/article.pl?mcat=&id=7065> for the full story.

The Airmail Society of South Africa offers a set of four commemorative covers. Contact D.G. Morton at dmorton@mweb.co.za for the details.



New Homelands Study Circle

Some thirteen people affiliated to the PFSA have started a TBVC Study Group last Saturday 31 January 2009 in Pretoria (Tshwane). The circle's goal (object) is to collect, study, preserve and write-up all the philatelic material, thematic, postal & historical information regarding the so-called TBVC-countries (Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei) in the broad philatelic spectrum. Our regular meetings will take place at the Victoria Cross Lodge in Alphenpark/Menlopark every last Saturday of the month at 10:15. All interested collectors -- in the Gauteng region and also other out-of-town people (by email or snailmail) -- are invited to join the study group. Membership fee is still to be fixed (R60 as from April 2009). Our first official meeting will be on Saturday 28th February, 2009. Please contact Cassie Carstens (convenor) for more detailed information at tel. 012-653-2279 or dscassie@telkomsa.net.



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South African Mail From the 1960 Qantas Crash

by Brian Peace

The QANTAS, Lockheed L-1049G, Super Constellation, Southern Wave VH-EAC left Johannesburg for Mauritius, Cocos Island, Perth and Melbourne on its fortnightly scheduled service to Sydney on 23 August 1960.

Under the command of Captain E. W. Ditton and carrying 12 crew and 38 passengers, VH-EAC was scheduled to leave Plaisance Airport, Port Louis, Mauritius at 5.30 pm local time on 24 August 1960. Light rain ceased shortly before embarkation of passengers, the engines were started at 5.42 pm and VH-EAC taxied out to Runway 13, the only runway adequate for that aircraft type with an all-up weight of 133,000 lbs. The wind was from 110 degrees at 10-15 knots and air temperature 20 Celsius.

During takeoff from Runway 13, engine number 3 lost power just before reaching the V1 speed of 115 knots. The captain pulled off the power, braked hard, and selected reverse thrust.

The aircraft however, did not decelerate as expected. The flight engineer feathered the number 3 engine and pulled its emergency shut-off valve. The Super Constellation could not be brought to a stop and overran the runway at a speed of 40 knots. The aircraft bounced over a low embankment, crashed into a gully and caught fire some 100 metres beyond the end of the concrete. The aircraft was burned out except for the tail section and was written off.

Fortunately, there were no fatalities and of the 21 cases of minor injuries and shock none was life-threatening. The Australian Department of Civil Aviation's examiner, J. Brough, attributed blame firstly to the aircraft not having accelerated in accordance with its rated performance and consequently when the engine failure was called, there was insufficient runway remaining for braking. Secondly, he blamed the flight engineer for not calling the engine failure immediately and the captain

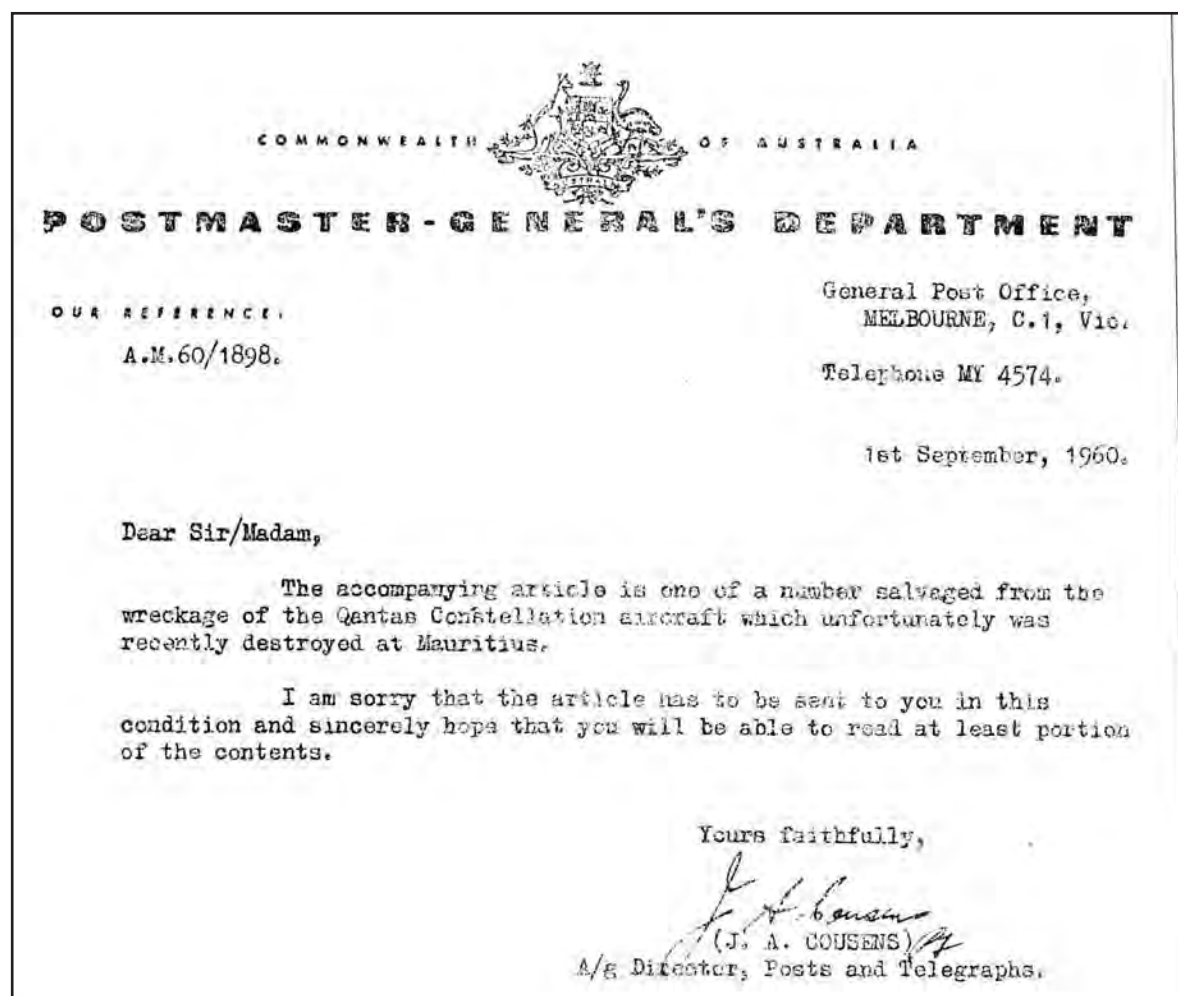


Figure 1.



Figure 2.

for delaying full braking and applying full reverse thrust. He attributed these failings to inadequacies in both training and operating procedures on the part of Qantas.

The instantaneous wing fire was caused by the port wing tank rupturing on impact and the fuel poured onto rocky ground increasing the intensity of the fire. It can be seen from the photograph of the earlier 1947 Lockheed, Harry Hawker, that wing tanks were a later addition.

Upon receipt of Brough's report the Department's Director of Air Safety Investigation stated: This was a "cheap" accident for Qantas ... the important thing is to ensure the company acknowledges the weaknesses involved in bringing it about and is made to see it was completely avoidable.

The Mail

There was 25 kg of mail on board in six mailbags for addresses in Hong Kong, Australia and New Zealand. Five bags were destroyed along with all the passengers' luggage. The salvaged bag contained badly damaged mail for Australia and New Zealand (probably around 250 items).

Australian Mail

Mail for Victoria was delivered with a printed notice from the GPO at Melbourne dated 1 September (Fig. 1). I have a cover addressed to Sydney which is accompanied by a printed notice from the GPO, Port Louis dated 27 August (Figs. 2 and 3). This notice indicated the item had been returned to the sender in South Africa. If the sender wished to re-forward the letter it could be re-posted without further prepayment of postage by presentation at any post office by 31 August 1960.

The illustrated registered cover from Port Elizabeth (Fig. 4) is addressed to The Public Service Commissioner in Adelaide and bears a four-line violet cachet, overall size 70 x 30 mm, reading:

SALVAGED FROM WRECKS
OF QUANTAS PLANE CRASHED
AT PLAISANCE AIRPORT
ON 25,8,60

It is clear that the salvaged mail was first processed by the GPO at Port Louis. In my view this rubber hand stamp was made up at the Port Louis GPO and applied to a limited amount

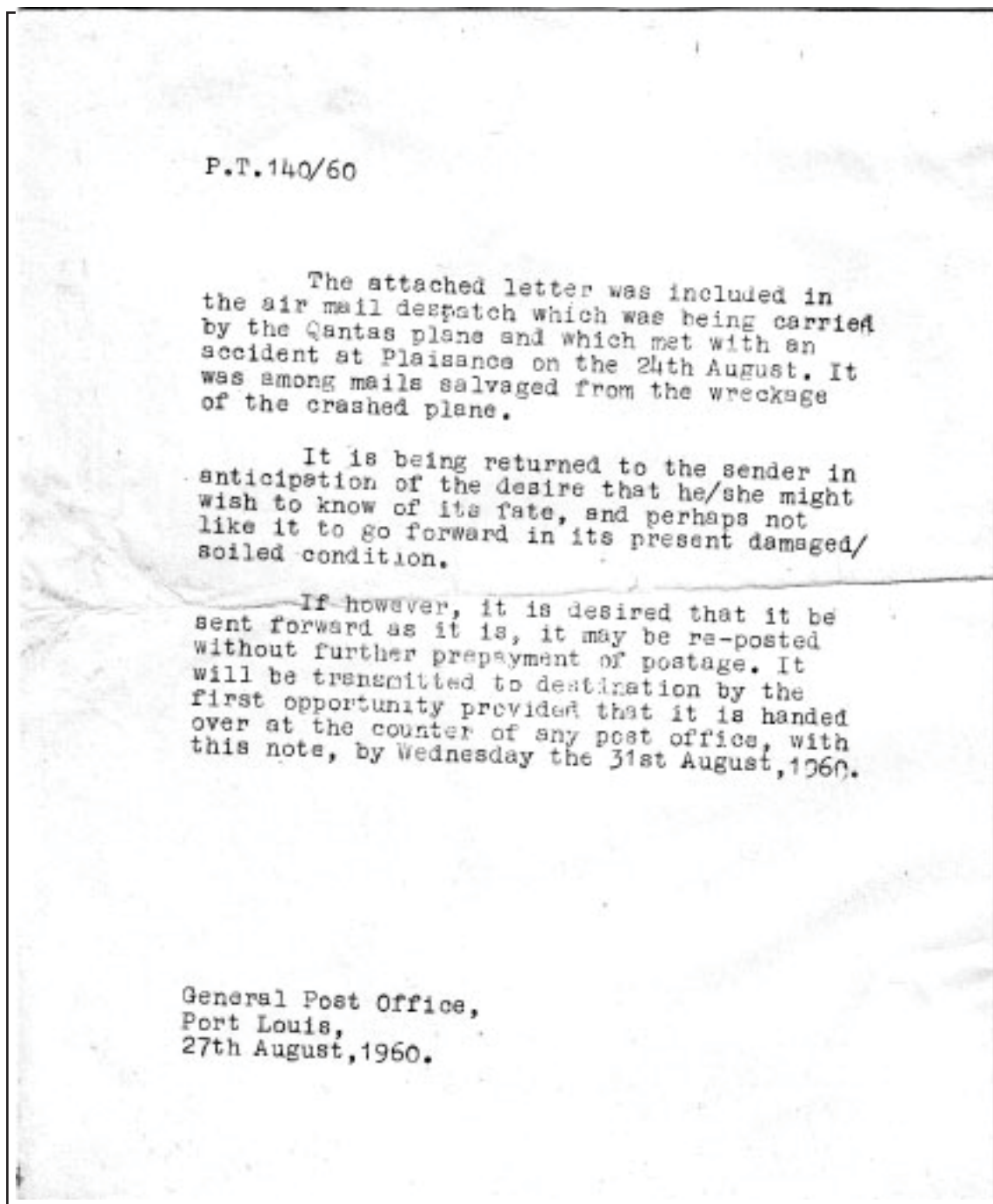


Figure 3.

of mail. The spelling QUANTAS is less likely to have been applied at Adelaide. In fact the Adelaide GPO probably prepared a printed letter but I have not seen an example. This cachet is from the same cover illustrated in Eustis.

I have recorded only four items from this incident addressed to Australia.

New Zealand Mail

I have recorded only three items addressed to New Zealand. The first is a cover cancelled JOHANNESBURG 22-VIII 1960 addressed to The British Traders' Insurance Co in Christchurch

(Fig. 5). It is accompanied by the five-line duplicated slip (Fig. 6) and was received on 19 September 1960 as evidenced by a company date stamp.

The second item is cancelled EAST LONDON 12 00 22-VIII 1960 and is on stationery of the Carlton Hotel, East London (Fig. 7). Addressed to New Plymouth it is also accompanied by the duplicated slip (Fig. 6) but was forwarded from the Returned Letter Office, Te Aro, Wellington in a forwarding envelope ref V.214 (Fig. 8)..

The third item to Otago was also forwarded in the OHMS envelope (Fig. 8) and is partly illustrated in Nierinck.



Figure 4.

The duplicated slip (Fig. 6) was probably prepared in sheets of ten (2 x 5) per stencil and then guillotined (they were not cut with scissors).. I am sure these duplicated slips were prepared in New Zealand.

The Aircrew

Pilot	Captain E. W. Ditton
Co-pilot	First Officer S. D. Patrick
Second Officer	First Officer E. R. Miller
Supernumerary Second Officer	G. Quinn
Navigator	L. V. Sales
Radio Officer	H. Hocking
First Engineer	R. M. Pickens
Second Engineer	E. W. A. Chuter
Senior Flight Steward	P. G. McGann
Second Steward	A. Mackie
Third Steward	N. Foster
Flight Hostess	Miss Marion Stewart-Dawson

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First published in Australian Stamps Professional.
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Figure 5.

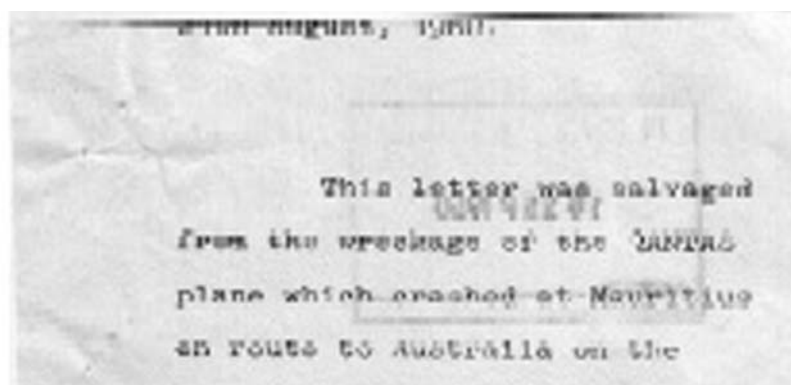


Figure 6.



Figure 7.



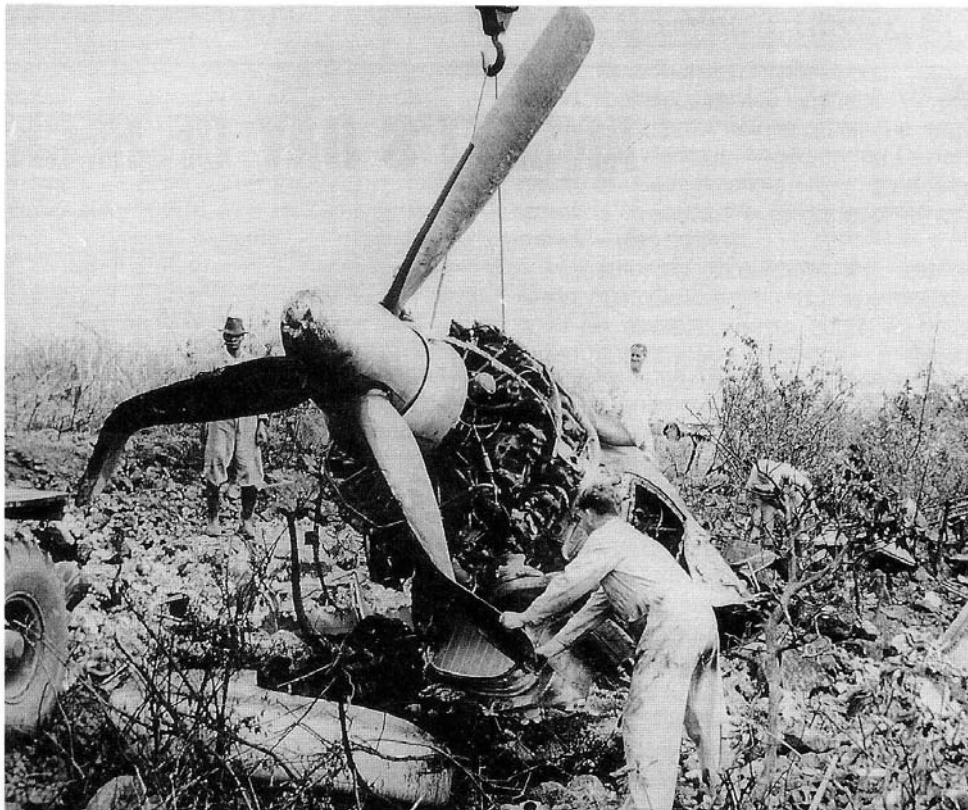
Figure 8.



The first Constellation to carry the registration VH-EAC in 1947 being the Lockheed 749 Harry Hawker. Note the absence of wing tanks the rupturing of which exacerbated the fire following the crash. The Qantas Lockheed 1049G Super Constellation Southern Wave VH-EAC Construction No 4606 was built in 1955 (Photo: John Hopton).



The burned-out wreckage of the Qantas Lockheed Southern Wave VH-EAC (Photo: Bureau of Air Safety Investigation, Australia - BASI).



The number 3 engine of VH-EAC Southern Wave being lifted from the crash site by mobile crane. The propeller sustained less damage than the other three as the engine had been cut and the propeller feathered at the time of impact (Photo: Bureau of Air Safety Investigation, Australia - BASI).

AIRLINER CRASHES ON WAY HERE



THE AIRCRAFT

THE ROUTE



A QANTAS Super Constellation, bound for Perth and Sydney, crashed and burst into flames on take-off from Mauritius Island.

Two passengers for Perth were among six injured.

The flight hostess, a West Australian girl, was unhurt.

The injured WA-bound passengers are:

◆ Miss Susan Dempster (18), of Dalkelth—second-degree arm burns.

◆ Miss Gillian Hannah Meyer—second-degree arm burns and head injury.

Others injured:

◆ Miss Carol Thompson, to Sydney—possible greenstick fracture of the arm.

◆ Mrs. Alice Spence, to Sydney—second-degree arm burns.

◆ John Michael Taylor, to Melbourne, bruised kneecap.

◆ Audrey Kellock, to Sydney—fractured leg.

The flight hostess is Miss Marion Stewart-Dawson (25), of Wandering.

The big 60-seat airliner Southern Wave crashed soon after No. 3 engine failed as it was roaring along the Mauritius runway with 38 passengers and 12 crew aboard.

The pilot, Captain E. Dilton, braked the aircraft, but the runway was slippery after heavy rain and the Constellation overshot.



AIR hostess Marion Stewart-Dawson,

Headlines in "The West Australian" 26 August 1960.



VH-EAC's skid marks can be seen leaving the concrete runway and the Constellation's triple tail fins project from the gully at the south-eastern end of Runway 13 (Photo: BASI).

Using Technology to Get an Exact Postmark Match

by Rudi du Toit

The Punzi postal agency, situated near Port Shepstone, Natal, South Africa, was open only during the period 1913- 1916 and thus rated very rare by Putzel. Through the knowledgeable hands of Ashley Cotter-Cairns, a picture post card came my way that bears this rare Punzi cancellation (see front).

Given the short life of this agency, it seemed doubtful that another postmark of this agency would be found. Great was my

amazement and delight when a fellow philatelist of my home city, Mr Danie van Zyl, mentioned that he has a single King's Head stamp cancelled at Punzi as well. In a most gregarious act he gave this stamp to me, and with both items at my disposal, I used technology to obtain an exact match of the cancellations, proving the use of the same canceller.

First separate scans of both items were made. Using the computer program CoralDraw3, both scans were brought over each other, covering the bottom cancellation. The top scan was made transparent. Next this program allows, in a remarkable way using color identification, for the irrelevant part of the top scan to become even more transparent, leaving only the cancellation visible. In a series of high resolution scans, this technique gave an exact match.

Shown in Figure 2 is the final match and in Figure 1 is a sequence of manipulations. Together with all related information on this postal agency, this forms an interesting project. Any additional information on this postmark would be welcomed.

Comments to Rudi du Toit at rudi@eaglecc.co.za

See front for the original postcard.



Figure 1. The Problem: are the two strikes of the Punzi canceler made with the same cancel?

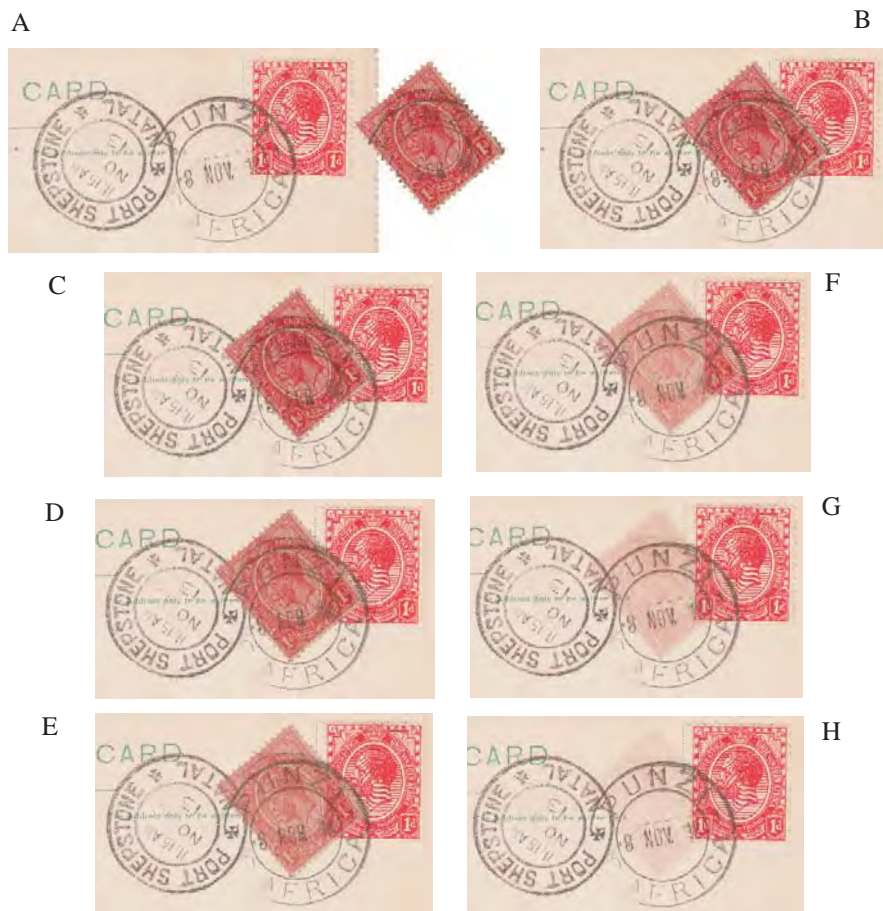


Figure 2. Sequence of electroonic manipulations.

Presentation is Worth More Than Five Points

by David McNamee

In most exhibition classes, "Presentation" is worth only five points of the total score, yet it can affect the total medal level far more than that. With a distracting presentation, it may be harder for judges to follow the storyline in the exhibit and to assess the exhibit accurately.

Philatelic judges evaluate four main areas in most classes of exhibits:

- Treatment and Significance
- Philatelic Knowledge and Personal Research
- Condition and Rarity
- Presentation.

Each of these areas requires a lot of judgment in order to give a fair assessment, but that is why judges are trained and apprenticed under the guidance of chief judges. Of these four areas, presentation may be the most straight-forward area to assess, and it should be also the easiest area for the exhibitor to get right. Presentation includes the overall appearance, the font style(s) and sizes chosen, design layout, and mounting. The following is a recap of the basic principles of good presentation for philatelic exhibiting.

Overall appearance is just that: the first (and lasting) impression the exhibit as a whole makes upon the viewer. In my judges training, I was taught to step back and look at the exhibit in the frames as a whole. To what extent is the exhibit inviting the eye or presenting a jumble of philatelic items? To the extent that the exhibit is haphazardly presented makes it difficult to assess the subtler factors of Treatment and Philatelic Knowledge. This is why Presentation can be worth a lot more than five points.

Some exhibitors believe that the choice of fonts is a personal statement, and that fonts should not play any part in the scoring of the exhibit. That is generally true only when the fonts chosen

tions give the judge only minutes per frame (seconds per page), so the need to make it easy to read is very important.

The general rule of thumb is that the page contains no descriptive text below 10 pt type. Small type (8 pt or 6 pt) is acceptable to meet requirements to indicate an expertized item or the scale of reduction for scans and photocopies. The other general statement is that serif typefaces (like Times Roman, Courier, etc.) are a lot easier to read than sans-serif typefaces (like Arial, Verdana, Helvetica, etc.); however, this is not a hard-and-fast rule, especially if you are using sans-serif for headings. Thematic exhibits often separate thematic text and philatelic descriptions by using serif for one and sans-serif for the other. Generally, type faces like **COPPERPLATE GOTHIC** (small and large capital letters) should be used with care in headings only, because this is the combination that is hardest to read in a body of text.

Consistency is as important as the size and style of font chosen. Chapter headings should always be the same size and font and located in the same place so that the viewer can see when the exhibit moves from one chapter to the next in the story. Running headers (subchapters) should always be in the same size and font and location on each page. Descriptive text should always be the same size and font and located as much as possible in the same place relative to the philatelic item being described; e.g., always above, below or next to the item. If layout space dictates that you need to put the description somewhere else when your normal style is below the item, it is a good idea to use a directional term to start the description, such as "(Left)" or "(Below)" to point the viewer to the item being described.

A scale of fonts and sizes should be consistent throughout the exhibit so that the viewer can follow the story line. One example of a scheme might be:

Title: 24 pt Bold

Chapter Headings: 18 pt Bold (Sans-serif)

Running Headers: 14 pt Bold (Sans-serif)

Page Descriptive Text: 12 pt.

Item Descriptive Text: 11 pt

Item Important Text: 11 pt Bold

Non-descriptive text (Expertized, scale of scans, etc.): 8 pt

are reasonably easy to read, and I think most exhibitors know that already. In writing up your collection, you can use any fonts in any size you like; however, in exhibitions, the viewers' needs should be paramount. If you are entering your exhibit to be judged, understand that the time pressures of most exhibi-

Design layout is perhaps the most challenging aspect of exhibit presentation. It is not easy to fit the philatelic items and their descriptive text on the page while keeping the page consistent with its neighbors. Nevertheless, a consistent layout makes the exhibit storyline easier to follow, just as a smooth road with

gentle curves is easier to navigate than a road with pot holes and sharp twists and turns.

One means of achieving a pleasing layout is to use a template where ever possible. The Chapter Heading and Running Header are always in their particular places, the Page Descriptive Text always starts at “n” number of lines from the top, and the bottom item is always mounted “n” lines from the bottom. Looking across the top or bottom of the four pages in the frame everything lines up for a pleasing effect. There are page layout publishing programs for personal computers that make this aspect easier than it sounds.

There are times to violate the template when the item is too large or too small to fit the normal template. Oversize covers ought to be mounted on oversize paper, if you have access to the paper and a printer to do this. Sometimes large pieces can be lapped or windowed as long as philatelic information (postal markings, address, etc.) is not obscured. Very small items, such as a single cover, should be mounted using the template format; however, the exhibitor should exercise some creativity to fill the white space with a map, more descriptive text, or whatever so that the bottom of this extra material lines up with the bottom of the template.

Aligning the top and bottom of the pages does not mean the insides are necessarily the same. The two-covers-per-page “railroad tracks” look needs to be broken up by staggering items every so often. Traditional exhibitors are fortunate, because

those exhibits have stamps and proofs and other items that can break up the pattern; however, when it comes to usage, these exhibitors must deal with the same challenge that postal stationery and postal history exhibitors face to keep it interesting while maintaining a consistent layout.

Mounting tends to be as sensitive to exhibitors as fonts, if not more so. Some exhibitors are determined to use dark paper, loud mats or black mounts, and they are convinced that there is an advantage to do so. Sometimes they may be right, but most often not. Depending upon the age and condition of the material, white, off-white and cream are the most common and the most attractive for display. Light pastels or gray may look creative, but most often they distract from the philatelic material. Mats for stamps and covers should highlight the material to its advantage rather than overwhelm the material by being too bright or too dark. If mounts are used, clear mounts give the greatest arrangement flexibility; black mounts tend to distract the eye. Black mounts may be the best method of showing off perfins, but perhaps that is the only place where black mounts outperform clear mounts.

Philately is a visual hobby, and exhibiting philately is the most visible manifestation of that. A finely crafted exhibit means that Treatment and Significance, Philatelic Knowledge and Personal Research, and Condition and Rarity are supported by a consistent and pleasing Presentation.

First published by the Philatelic Exhibitor, July 2008.

Botswana Color Error

by Morgan Farrell

The scans below show an interesting variety that was found in a very large lot of kiloware that mostly consisted of this 1967 3 cent definitive of Botswana. The stamp is shown alongside a normal example. At first glance it seems that the green color is completely missing. On closer examination, it can be seen that there is a very slight green color in part of the background of the stamp. The closest description that I would guess fits this stamp is that it is a partial albino printing or, better yet, an inking error of some type. My guess is that it would only be on a small part of a single sheet. It may have even only occurred on this single stamp. Any suggestions from other members?



Bechuanaland's Harbor

by Peter Lodoen

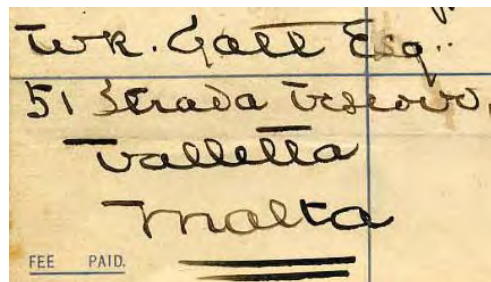
A century ago, the mainstay of Mochudi's commercial sector was Mr. W.A.H. Harbor. The memorable merchant also dabbled in philately.

His philatelic body of work includes some of Bechuanaland's most remarkable covers, generally back-stamped with the bold Harbor oval.

Mochudi Station, today known as Pilane, lies at the conjunction of the Francistown highway, the railway station, and the road that stretches some ten kilometers east to Mochudi Village.



Mr. Harbor's characteristic handwriting.



Non-Standard Postage Due Markings

by Jan Stolk

This group of postal due markings is a modern creation, which came in use after sorting and cancelling machines were introduced in use in Southern Africa. The machines needed a certain size of envelope to be able to function. Upto a certain size, a standard postage fee is paid. For smaller, larger, or thicker envelopes a higher fee has to be paid.

Although the earliest markings I have seen are from the 1980's, I am sure the standard size came in use much earlier. In the 1976, postal rates for the inland postage is 4 cent for a standard envelope.

The standard size was:

Maximum size: 120 x 235 mm




Minimum size: 90 x 140 mm

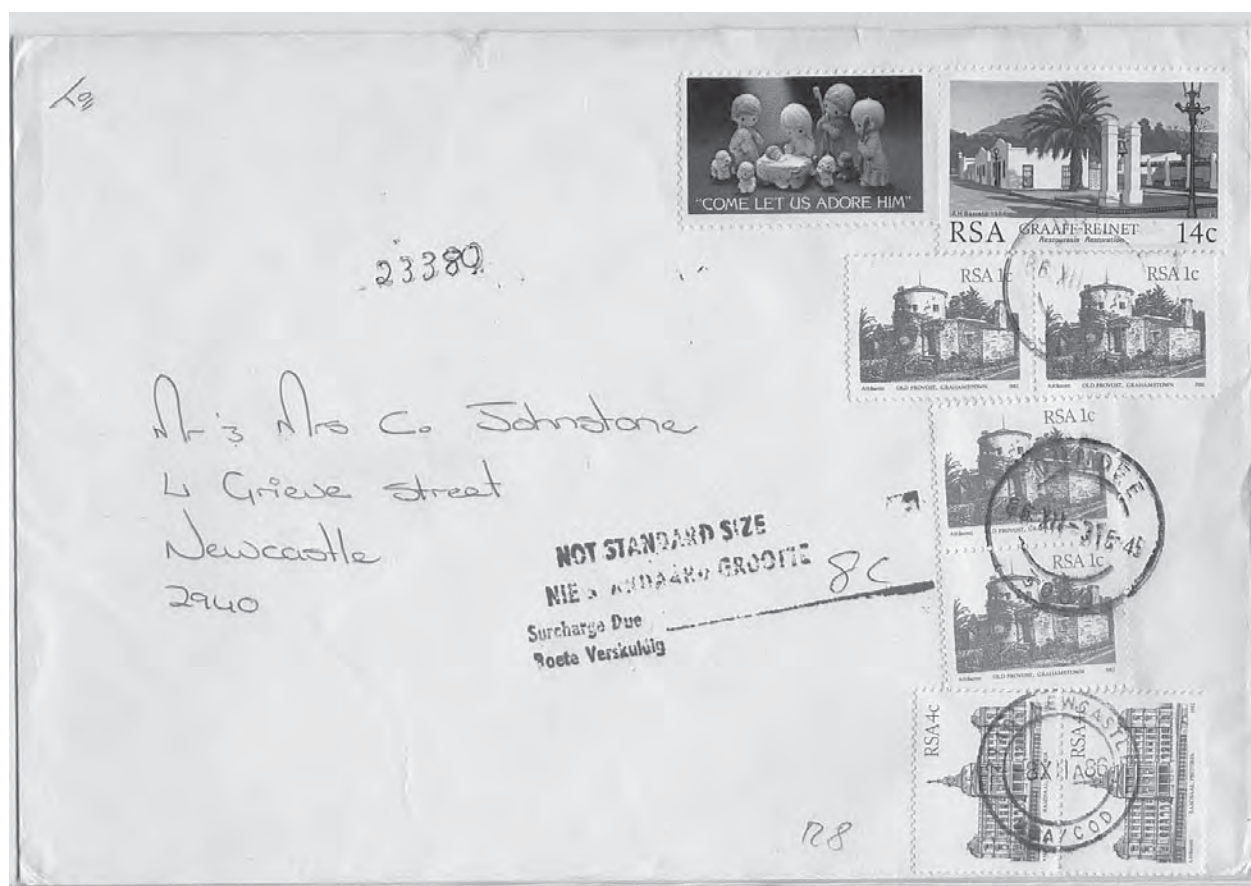
Maximum thickness: 5 mm

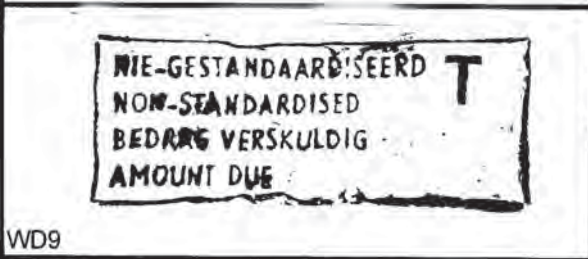

I would like to thank Werner K. Seeba, Johan Diesvels, and Bob Hisey for supplying additional information on previous instalments.

Next instalment will be 'Insufficiently prepaid for transmission by airmail'.

P.D.MARKING	USED AT	EARLIEST DATE	LATEST DATE
<p>"NIE STANDAARD GROOTTE NOT STANDARD SIZE"</p> <p>WD 1</p>	ex-Allen		
<p>NOT STANDARD SIZE NIE STANDAARD GROOTTE Surcharge Due Bedrag Verskuldig</p> <p>WD2</p>	ex-Allen		
<p>NIE GESTANDAARDISEERDE STUK NON-STANDARDISED ITEM T.</p> <p>WD3</p>	ex-Allen		
<p>NIE GESTANDAARDISEERDE STUK NON-STANDARDIZED ITEM BEDRAG VERSKULDIG T AMOUNT DUE</p> <p>WD4</p>	Vereeniging	03-12-1986	
<p>NIE-STANDAARD GROOTTE NON- STANDARD SIZE</p> <p>WD5</p>	Johannesburg	24-04-1987	07-12-1989

NIE GESTANDAARDISEERD NON-STANDARDIZED - BEDRAG VERSKULDIG AMOUNT DUE  WD6	Addo	08-10-1987	
NIE-GESTANDAARDISEERDE POS NON-STANDARDISED MAIL  WD7	Paarl Ceres Sasolburg	19-12-1980	16-05-1995
 WD8	Volksrust	30-11-1981	



	George	25-03-1997	
	Dundee	08-12-1986	

Illustrations have been reduced to 95 % of the originals.

Union Active Service Letter Card Used 1944 in Serowe, Bechuanaland

by Peter Thy

The Union of South African 3d Air Mail Letter Cards were authorized for use in Bechuanaland (without overprinting) as postage for mailing to (and only to) 'members of the Forces in East and North Africa.' The official note was dated 12th November, 1941, and is illustrated in Figure 1. Although not specified in the official notice, it must be assumed that this authorization also included the Active Service Letter Cards (1941-43) as well as the later Air Mail Letter Cards (1943-45). It must also be assumed that their area of use expanded as the war theaters evolved (as far as is known, Bechuanaland soldiers never served in East Africa). The first overprinted military letter cards intended for the same usage was issued in Bechuanaland on October 3, 1944, and replaced the Union cards.

In an article in the *Runner Post* (55, p. 1356-7, 2002), We surveyed the genuine usage of these various cards to military addresses from the Protectorate. We were able to report three examples all judged to be philatelic and not to have been purchased in Bechuanaland. They all originated in South Africa and were addressed to a Union soldier served in the Middle East Forces and were very likely mailed to the Postmaster of Francistown for forwarding.

The Active Service Letter Card illustrated in Figure 2 is the only known example genuinely used in Bechuanaland and addressed to a Bechuanaland soldier serving with the African Pioneer Corps of the Central Mediterranean Forces. The card was mailed in Serowe on 20 September, 1944, and addresses to 8004 Morake Keitseope, 1969 (Bechuana) Coy., A.P.C., C.M.F. The address was corrected to 1981 Coy (1961 Coy did not exist) and got a FIELD POSTOFFICE 385 receiving mark

of October 15, 1944, on the reverse (Figure 3). The card thus took about 27 days to reach the soldier in the field. F.P.O. 385 is known to have been located in Italy from early 1944 to the end of the war. The card contains a short typewritten message (Figure 4) dated September 18, 1944, and signed by Tshekedi

<p style="text-align: center;">BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HIGH COMMISSIONER'S NOTICE No. 203 of 1941.</p> <p>It is hereby notified for general information that, under the provisions of section <i>four</i> of the Post Office Administration and Shipping Combinations Discouragement Act, 1911 (No. 10 of 1911), of the Union of South Africa, as in force <i>mutatis mutandis</i> in the Bechuanaland Protectorate, His Excellency the High Commissioner has been pleased to approve the sale and acceptance for payment of postage in the Bechuanaland Protectorate, as from the date of publication of this notice in the <i>Gazette</i>, of Air Mail Letter Cards bearing Union Government postage to the value of three pence for transmission to the members of the Forces in East and North Africa.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">By Command of His Excellency the High Commissioner. H. E. PRIESTMAN, Administrative Secretary.</p> <p>High Commissioner's Office, Pretoria, 12th November, 1941.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Printed by the Government Printer, Pretoria.)</p>
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Figure 1. Official Notice 203 of 1941.



Figure 2. SA Active Service Letter Card used in Bechuanaland.

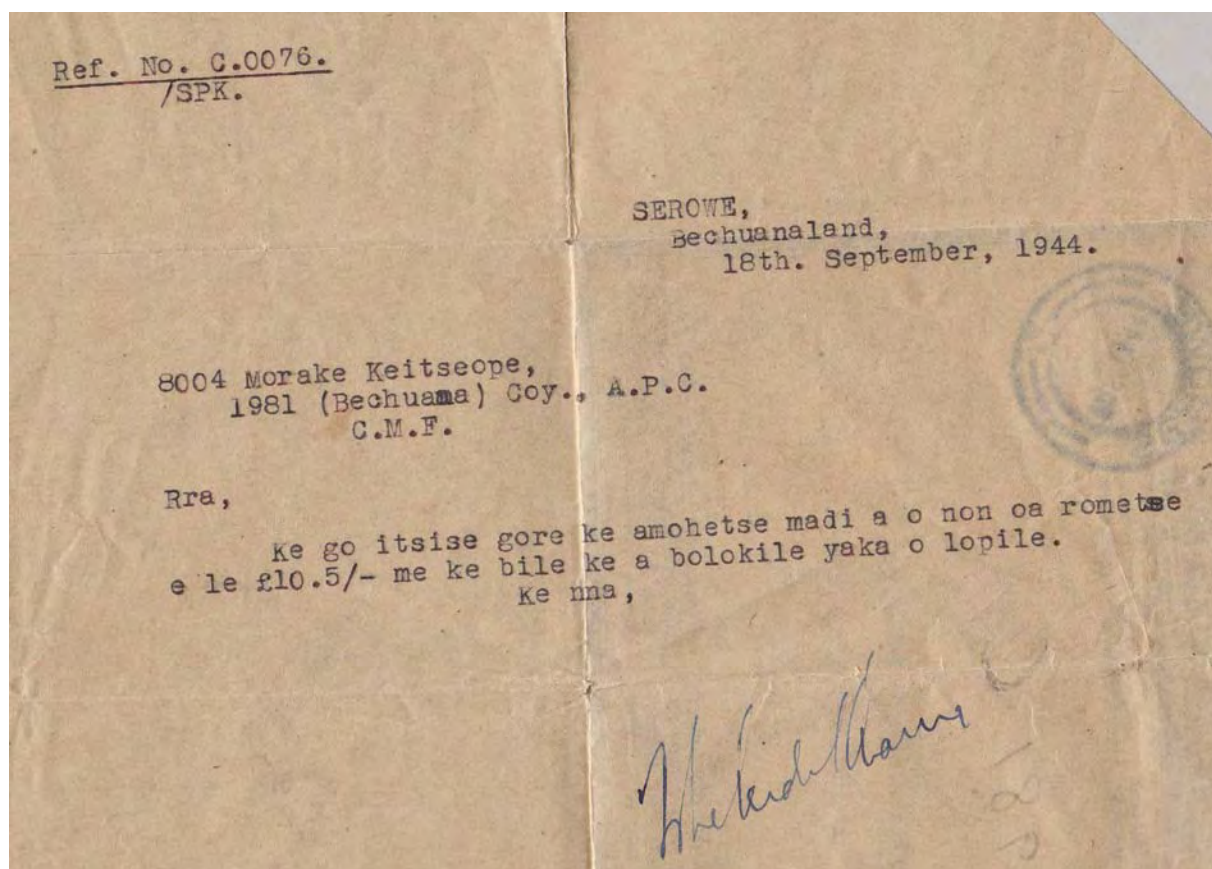


Figure 4. Message on letter card signed by Tshekedi Khama.



Figure 5. Chief Tshekedi Khama in July 1951. Courtesy Africana Museum, Johannesburg. From Wylie, 1990.



Figure 6. Fifth Army - Bechuana keep the supply routed open. British Official Photograph No. BNA. 19826 (dated August 11, 1944).

Khama, acting chief of the Ngwato (1926-50) (Figure 5). The message reads in approximate English translation: 'I am letting you know that I received the money you sent me. It is £10.5/- and I have saved it as you asked, I am ...' (thanks to Peter Lodoen for the translation).

Bechuana 1981 was one of two companies (the other was 1980) that in October, 1943, was transferred to Italy to provide continued support for the Eighth Army's offensive. See Figure 6 for a typical work situation for a Bechuana pioneer group in Italy. Coy 1981 was engaged during August, 1944, in dock work at Ancona and the nearby railhead at Jesi on the Adriatic Sea coast. Later, the company moved forward to Rimini for rail support and mule tending. The letter card thus likely was received somewhere in Northern Italy. The primary source for the troop movements is based on Bent (1952). Three recent scholarly studies on the Bechuanaland pioneers by Shackleton (1997), Jackson (1999), and Schmitt (2006) also contain a

wealth of information on the background and history of the African Pioneers that is of interest to the postal historians.

This is indeed a very rare aerogramme despite the less than perfect appearance. It is at this point the only known example of the South African letter cards genuinely used in Bechuanaland the way they were intended used.



Figure 3. F.P.O. 385.

The Union 3d active and airmail letter cards were released without overprint in the Protectorate during the late 1941 for use to soldiers on active service in the Middle East. These envelopes are very rarely seen used in the Protectorate to the Middle East with only a hand-full known. The Union 3d military air letter cards overprinted for Bechuanaland were released in 1944 with the same general purpose and likewise are very rare with only one example known addressed to the Middle East. The majority was used after the war, either uprated to the overseas 6d civilian rate or used to South Africa for which the sheets overpaid the postwar airmail rates (philatelic and cancelled to order cards are abundant). The civilian 6d sheets were overprinted the same year and are much more common than the genuine used military cards.

A new book by Eddy Bridges (2004) offers an opportunity to evaluate which of the Union cards were used in Bechuanaland without overprinting. The type of card discussed here was one of the last Active Service Letter Cards issued in the Union during the early 1944 (MAL 9). It is plausible that the earlier three issues (1941-43) were also made available in the Protectorate since first authorized on November 12, 1941. The fact that only the last Union issue is known to have been used suggests that the need for these cards must have been substantial enough to require the requisition in 1944 of additional cards, at least in Serowe. It would be interesting to know whether both the English and the Afrikaans versions were made available in the Protectorate. It would also be useful to be able to document other letter cards similarly used in Bechuanaland.

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World War One South African Field Post Office No. 33

by H. U. Bantz

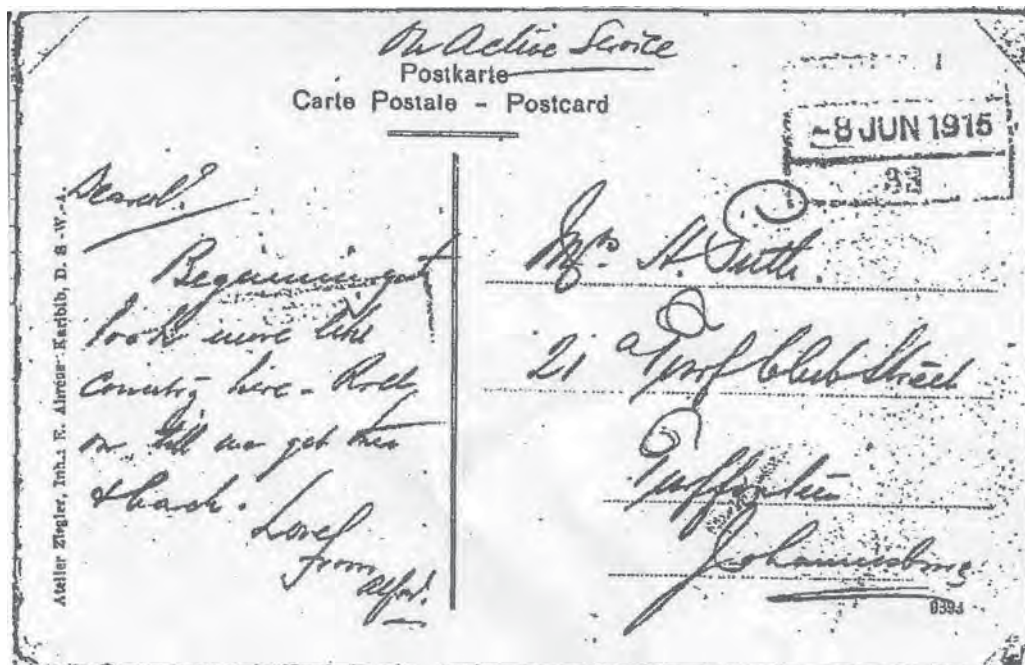


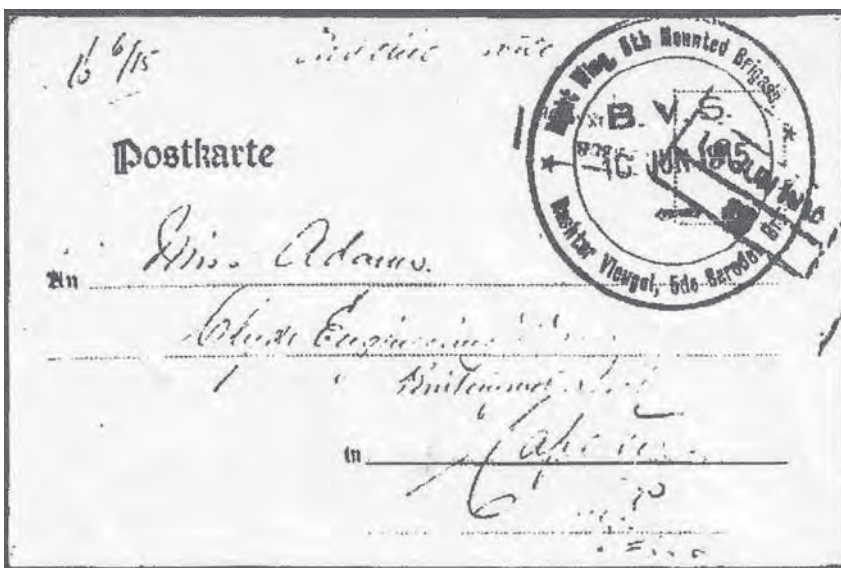
Figure 1. This card is cancelled at FPO 33 and bears a picture of Rietfontein on the reverse. Despite this, the only record of FPO 33 is that it was subsidiary to Base 5, which would put it with the Northern Front.

Figure 2. German-type postcard dated 16/6/1915, cancelled by 3 sectional canceller, almost certainly FPO 33. The card is written by a member of the 5th Mounted Brigade, who were busy preparing for the final advance at Johann-Albrechts-Höhe on June 17. It thus would seem that this was the location of FPO 33 at that date.

The card shown above is cancelled at FPO 33 and was shown about ten years ago in the Newsletter of the South West Africa Stamp Study Group with the hope to trigger information on the whereabouts of the South African field post office No. 33 during the 1915 campaign of the South African forces in South West Africa. After ten years two more items have been found that throw some light on the question asked then.

Details on Figure 2 are as follows: cancelled on 16 JUN 1915 at FPO No. 33. The circular cachet indicates the sender was a member of the 'Right Wing, 5th Mounted Brigade'. This brigade was made up of 1970 marksmen from the Orange Free State commanded by Colonel H. W. N. Botha, a nephew of General Louis Botha, the Commander in Chief of the invading South African forces. 'B. V. S.' stands for "Bothas Vrystaat Skutters". The 5th Mounted Brigade was at this date somewhere between Karibib and Wilhelmstal, preparing for the advance to and the capturing of Windhoek, the capital of German South West Africa. (L'Ange, 1991, page 246). The interpretation of the card presumes that the location of FPO 33 was on 16 June 1915 at 'Johann-Albrechts-Höhe' (now called Albrechts), a siding on the Swakopmund – Windhoek railway line.

Figure 3 provides more information. This card was written by a J. P. Verster to his sister P. J. Verster at Driefontein in Transvaal on 14/6/15 at Neuheusis, 40 km West of Windhoek



and proves that the South Africans were already further to the East of Johann-Albrechts-Höhe. FPO No. 33 where the card was cancelled two days later on 16 JUN 1915 (same date as the card shown as Figure 2) could have remained behind at Johann-Albrechts-Höhe, where the German post office closed down on May 3, 1915. It is probable that the South Africans used the once German post office facilities at Johann-Albrechts-Höhe.

Figure 4 has no relation to FPO 33, but was again written by J. P. Verster this time from Gibeon on 26 FEB 16 to his sister. The address given identifies him as "Sgt. Major J. P. Verster

“No. 59 / B Squad / 2nd Regt. / Mch. Constab”. The language used by Sgt. Major Verster on the card is a mixture of Dutch and a fledgling Afrikaans. The card is thus also an interesting linguistic document. Can anybody tell us what ‘Mch. Constab.’ stands for or what Mr. Verster as a ‘Mch. Constab.’ did?

Figures 2 to 4 were brought to our attention by Mr. H. G. Thompson (Johannesburg) whose good memory and sharp eye spotted them in the collection of Mr. Ian Frith (Johannesburg) who gave kind permission for the publication of this note.

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Trew, H. F. (1936) Botha treks, 190 pages.

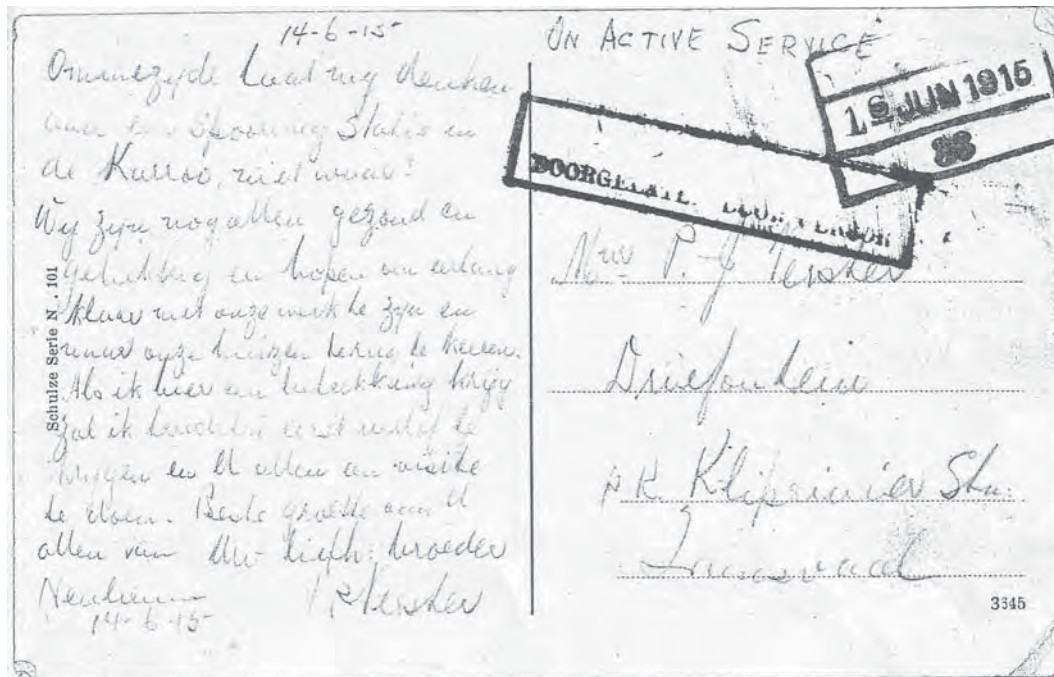


Figure 3.

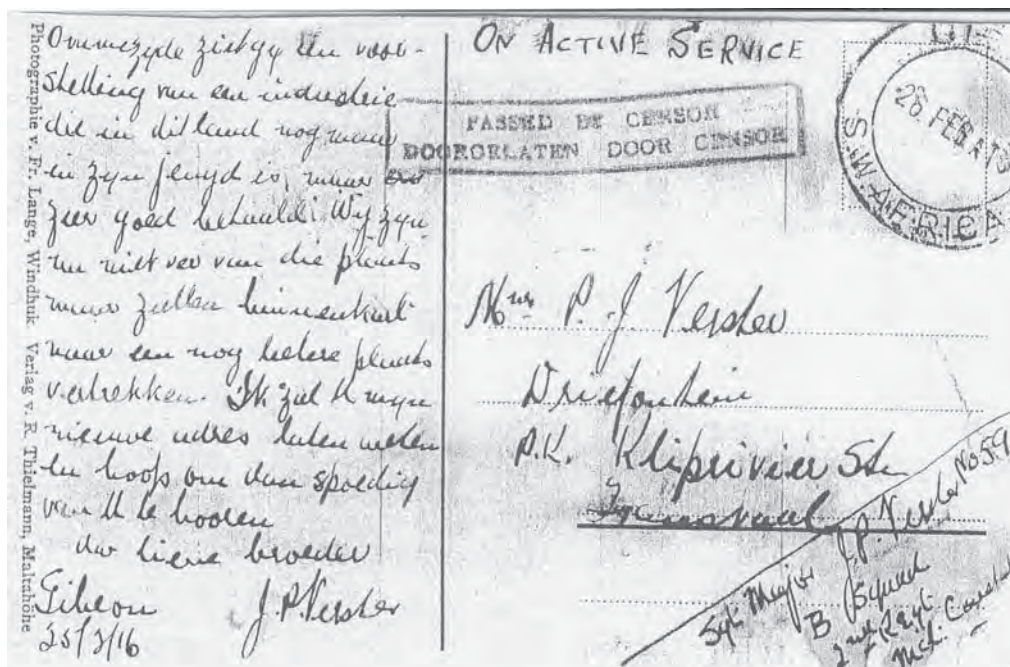


Figure 4.

Note added by the Editor:
Edward Proud in his book on ‘The History of the South African Army Postal Service’ (Proud-Bailey, 1989) lists the Advanced Base Post Office 5 as having been located in South West Africa at Walvis Bay between 26.12.14 and 11.8.15. The Field Post Office 33 is given as having been allocated to the 5th Mounted Brigade (with question mark) in South West Africa from 21.4.15.

Reuben Shapley Randall

by Robin Pelteret



A letter written at Cape Town in 1806 was shown by Johnny Barth in Forerunners #62 together with a request for help with identifying the writer.

The letter was written by Capt. Ruben S. Randall then at the Cape of Good Hope, addressed to himself at Portsmouth New Hampshire, sent by ships mail p(er the) Henryⁱ and its Capt(ain) (Benjamin) Russell^{ii,iii}, and written to his wife, Mrs D. S. Randall.

Cape of Good Hope
March 11th 1806

My Dear & loving wife

No doubt when you receive this you will WISH to know what has become of your Dear Husband. I have only to inform you my Dear that I arrived here on 17th Jany and have been embargoed ever since, till this Day when we got permission to sail. The reason of my coming in here was owing to bad cask and the confounded Rats eat the water cask so that I had only four cask of water left when I arrived. No doubt you and all my friends has been very anxious of my safety - but hope my Dear by the time you receive this, I shall be writing you one from New York - my time is so taken UP IN getting out at 4 o'Clock in the morning that I must write you short - am your loving and Dutiful husband

Ruben S Randall

Mrs. D.S. Randall

Randall was leaving Cape Town at the Cape of Good Hope for New York; whilst Capt. Russell was sailing to Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

The letter reads as given at the left corrected from the version transcribed by the Editor in Forerunners #62:

REUBEN S(HAPLEY) RANDALL (RSR) was born circa 1775 in Portsmouth, Rockingham, New Hampshire and died ? 1856. He was married on 7th (or 8th) August 1802 to DOROTHY S(HERBURNE) WENDELL born 11th February 1780 Portsmouth, Rockingham, New Hampshire, daughter of John Wendell^{iv} Dorothy Sherburne^v.

Two documents relating to RSR are housed in the State Archives Repository, Cape Town. The first reads as follows^{vi}:

To his Excellency Sir Arthur Beard [sic]
Commander in chief of the Colony of the
Cape of Good Hope
Sir
Being on my pafsage to the
United States of America, from Calcutta
Put in here, for Refreshments, and now
Detained by Embargo. I Humbly Request
Your permifsion of the Liberty to
Sell three of four Bales of Goods to
Defray my Expenses and post Charges
Which Request if Granted, will greatly
Oblige Your Excellency's most [indecipherable]
& humb. Sert.
Reuben S Randall

Master of the American Ship Nonohanset

Annotation on reverse

The Particulars wished to be sold

To be stated _

By order of his

Excellency

J.C.Smith

A.C.

The second reads as follows^{vii}:

To Captn. Smith acting Secretary at Cape Town
Sir I Benjamin Rufsell

Master of the American Ship Henry of
Salim [sic] _ Request Permifision for
Captn. John Hall late Master of the
American Ship Patapsco of Baltimore
And now Pafsenger on Board Ship Henry
For America to pafs and Repafs During
The said Henrys stay in this Port
Cape Town 10th Feby., 1806
Beny^a Rufsell

Annotation on reverse

Granted by order of His Excellency

The above documents, together with a reinterpretation of the original letter, clearly identify the author of the illustrated letter, its recipient, the manner of its passage and its bearer. Co-incident material relating to family relationships and famed personalia of those times are fascinating co-incident findings.

The year 1806 at the Cape of Good Hope was an interesting year with considerable disruption to normal functioning as the Batavian Republic handed over control from Governor Jan Willem Janssens to Sir David Baird, acting British governor. That may explain the reason for the good captain being “embargoed”. The Dutch and the British authorities kept detailed notes on the passage of ships in-and-out of Cape Town, of the movement of goods and of people especially if they were bearing currency. We are the richer for it.

References & Further Reading:

1. South African Archives Repository, Cape Town (KAB) ex (British) Colonial Office (CO)
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3. Barth, J. Embargoed in Cape Town, 1806: Request for Help. *FORERUNNERS* 2008: XXII (1) July/October; 6-7
4. A Very Grave Matter: Gravestones and Burying Grounds of New England Ancestors Genealogy First Settlers of New Hampshire Maine Massachusetts <http://gravematter.smugmug.com/gallery/1085830/1/52557582/Large>
5. Holmberg, T. Danish Privateering: 1807-11: American Ships Which have been Carried in by Privateers. [see Randall. Wonolamot. http://www.napoleon-series.org/military/battles/danish/c_danish4.html]
6. FreeBMD : transcription of Civil Registration index of births, marriages & deaths for England and Wales <http://freebmd.rootsweb.com>
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14. Whipple, B. History and Genealogy of “Elder” John Whipple of Ipswich, Massachusetts: His English Ancestors and American Descendants. Publ: Trafford Publishing, 2004 ISBN 1553956761, 9781553956761
15. Konstam, A & Bryan, T. The Pirate Ship 1660-1730. Publ: Osprey Publishing, 2003. ISBN 1841764973, 9781841764979
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Notes:

- i Henry was a British brigand, 400 tons burthen, coppered to the bends, mounting four twelve-pounders, six six-pounders; sunk on 3 August 1812 by Commodore Barney of the privateer-schooner Rosie
- ii The convention was to write a double “s” as “fs”, the Russell would be Rufsell
- iii BR mentioned inter alia in History and Genealogy of “Elder” John Whipple of Ipswich, Massachusetts: His English Ancestors and American Descendants.
- iv Barrett Wendell was a literary critic and professor of English at Harvard. His great-grandfather John Wendell (1731-1808) of Portsmouth, N.H. was engaged in land development in New Hampshire. His grandfather Jacob Wendell (1788-1865) was involved in shipping and manufacturing ventures. [see Wendell papers, Harvard University; see <http://www.chipstone.org/publications/1993/Ward93/index.html>]. Jacob Wendell was a merchant ship owner, and insurance agent who was active in Portsmouth’s financial and civic life from 1810-1865. He also managed the financial offices of ship captains. Samuel Pray and Reuben S. Randall, and merchants Ichabod Goodwin and M.B. Trundy. Jacob’s financial records are store ledgers, shipping data, insurance inventories, and estate settlements. His personal correspondence, especially letters to his sons and son in-law, offers frequent references to local maritime and civic events. [see <http://www.portsmouthathenaeum.org/findingaids/ms025.htm>]
- v Dorothy Wendell née Sherburne was a lady of eminent descend, being a daughter of The Hon. Henry Sherbourne a citizen of great wealth and influence inter alia being Chief Justice of the Superior Court, New Hampshire. [see Waters, Henry Fritz-Gilbert]. After her husband’s death, she ran a cattle farm and owned a great number of properties in New Hampshire and Mas-

sachusetts. In her will, she left the bulk of her estate to her daughters-in-law rather than to her sons because they had been ruined a few years earlier by the failure of the Great Falls Manufacturing Company. By leaving the estate to their wives, she hoped to assure that their creditors could not seize the property. [see Wendell papers, Harvard University]

- vi KAB CO 3856.21 Description: Memorials Received. Rueben S Randall. Application To Sell Three Of Four Bales Of Goods.1806
- vii KAB CO 3856.45 Description: Memorials Received. Benjamin Russell. Application For Captain John Hall [#], Passenger On Ship Henry, To Pass During The Ship's Stay In Port. 1806.

Captain John Hall was captain of the famous Chesapeake launched 2 December 1799 Gosport Navy Yard, one of six frigates destined for the US Navy. Whilst in Sicily in February 1805, he enlisted Gaetano Carusi, a local band leader, and 17 other musicians to the Marine Corps to add to the Marine Band, thereby creating what is now America's oldest professional musical organization. His name is associated with many vessels. He was destined for ignominy following a Grand Court martial for "negligently performing the duty assigned", the so-called "Chesapeake-Leopard affair, 1807."

Parcel Cork Marks

by Werner Seeba

Owing to the difficulties experienced by postmasters in defacing stamps on irregular shaped parcels with the steel date cancellers normally used for letters, most of them made use of corks for this purpose, the corks being cut in various designs.

This practice was not official authorized by the Postmaster General, but as it served the purpose so well, it was soon actively being encouraged with the result that it spread to nearly all the post offices of the Cape Colony.

The most distinctive designs were when the Postmaster used the initials of the office such as 'CT' for Cape Town, 'EL' for East London, and 'PE' for Port Elizabeth. Others used were merely simple geometrical designs.

Here I show some examples from my collection.



CT (Cape Town).



SG 50 (1884)

SG 52 (1885)



SG 49 (1885)



SG 67 (1896)



SG 68 (1896)

SG 62 (1897)



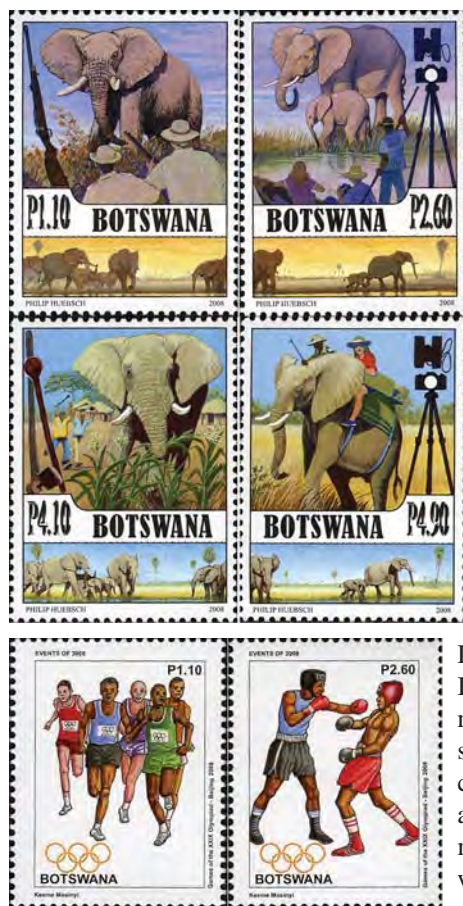
SG 52 (1884)

Botswana News

by Peter Thy

The news coming from Botswana in the past months, or so, have not always been positive. First, Botswana Post reported a 36 % decline in revenues for 2008. The net result was still a modest net profit of P1.03 million. This decline in revenues was attributed to the operation of non-commercial post offices and high fuel prices. Second, it has also been reported that the director for the philatelic services has resigned and that this important position is left vacant. The positive information is that a new general manager of Botswana Post has been appointed. These changes and vacancies in leadership positions are of some concern to the philatelic community for one particular reason. The past years, a group associated with the Philatelic Society and Botswana Post has formulated plans to establish a postal museum and archive in Gaborone. The new general manager Mr. Pete Molefa has expressed his support for the plans and it is hoped that the plans will move forward without too much delays, including the appointment of a much needed curator for the collections.

The final good news is that Botswana Post has completed a modest issuing programs, including only 18 stamps since my last report. An elephant series of four attractive stamps was issued on June 20, 2008. They were designed by Philip Huebsch and were printed by Österreichische Staatsdruckerei using offset lithography. An events of the year series of five stamps was



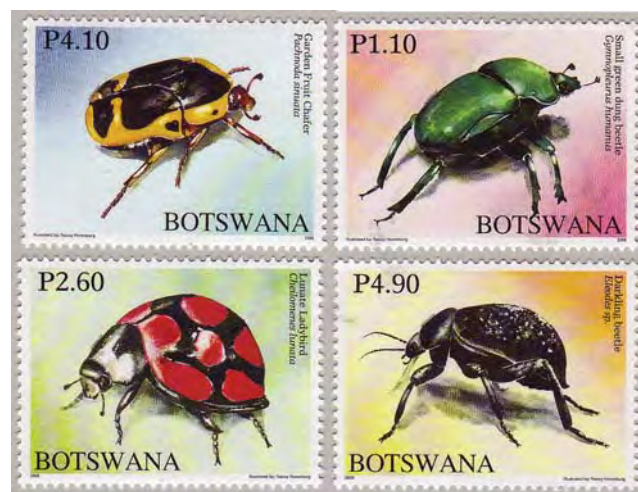
issued on October 30, 2008. This is the 'official' day of issue for the whole set, however, it is likely that some individual stamps were available prior to that date. The subjects are the 2008 Olympic Games in China (boxing), launch of a National Diamond Trading Company, Botswana Heart Foundation, and finally the filming of the 'Ladies' Detective Agency' in Botswana. The technical details of this series are less than clear, mainly due to a continuing poorly maintained philatelic website.

The next issue to be released was a series of 5 stamps commemorating the National Museum. The designer was Paul Melenhorst and the printer was Southern Colour Print



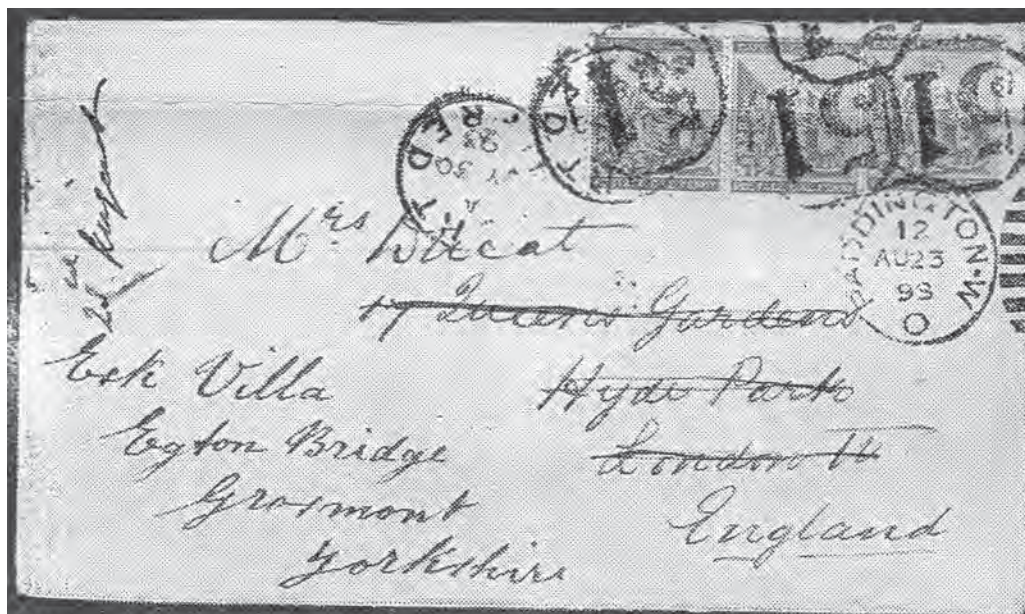
of New Zealand. The response to this series has typically been that the designer must never have seen the subject matter.

The final stamps released were a series of 4 beetles on December 1, 2008.



New and Old Postmark Discoveries

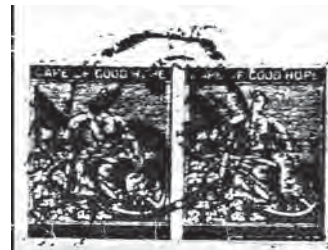
by Werner Seeba



Johnny Barth discussed the allocations of the Cape Colony octagonal cancellers in Forerunners Nos 56 and 60. These cancellers were introduced in 1849, but apparently replaced already in 1853 by the town oval cancellers. Shown here are late usages of these cancellers, all on stamps or stamped covers. No. 51 is known on a cover mailed in 1893 from Port Alfred to London, England. Also shown is a 1892 usage again at



Port Alfred. This canceller was first issued to Bathurst and later transferred to Port Alfred. An example of 53 apparently used at Prince Albert is below, but without date preserved. The final example is octagonal no. 10 canceller used on a postal card at Stellenbosch in 1891 to Pietermaritzburg of Natal. Please report other interesting discoveries.



For the Record

61. Theodore Tedesco has continued his index of literature in the English language that describes **postage stamp forgeries, fakes, reprints, and fraudulent postal markings**. Part 14 appeared in **Philatelic Literature Review** for the 3rd quarter of 2008. Included this time is Zululand.
62. The 8. **Auction of Auktionshaus Christoph Gärtner** (5-7 November 2008) contained a rather extensive collection of used **Mashonaland postal stationery** rarely seen offered.
63. The **Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa** has distributed invitations to subscribe to the fourth volume of their Anglo-Boer war occupation monograph series. This time it is "**The Legacy of Lydenburg**" by **Harry Birkhead and Joh Groenewald**. The book is scheduled to be issued in the beginning of 2009.
64. **Harmers of London** November 2008 (sale 4774) 'All World Stamps and Postal History' auction contained a large collection of Ethiopia (lots 1014-1065).
65. Philatelie Christoph Gärtner is offering the complete run of **Proud-Bailey's Postal History of the British Colonies** monographs at 2400 euros (43 volumes) or as individual volumes.
66. The site **www.philatelics.org** contains downloadable philatelic publications and reference materials with an emphasis on early Great Britain stamps and postal history. Only indirectly related to southern Africa at this point.
67. **Murray & Payne Ltd** has distributed their Philatelic Postal Auction no. 4 catalogue containing a substantial **Rhodesian specialized collection** (closing date was in December 2008). Murray & Payne specializes in King George VI stamps and postal history. Visit their website at www.murraypayne.com for more information.
68. **Victoria Stamp Company** has launched their 25th Public Auction (December 2008) containing specialized collections of the Leeward Islands, Jamaica, and Bermuda. Southern African material is prominently dispersed throughout the auction. Contact society member Phoebe MacGillivray of Victoria Stamp Company at VictoriaStampCo@aol.com or visit www.VictoriaStampCo.com to get on the mailing list.
69. **Grosvenor** has distributed the catalogue for their 44th sale to be conducted in November 2008. A very large collection of **Nyasaland and the Rhodesians** formed by **Tom Clapham** (300 lots). The main part of the catalogue is about 600 lots of the Falklands including the collections of Malcolm Barton. Also noteworthy is the collection of the 'Madame Joseph' cancellations formed by Brian Cartwright and on which his 2005 book was based. Visit www.grosvenor-auctions.co.uk for more details.
70. **Argyll Etkin Ltd** has released their November 2008 Worldwide Stamps and Postal History auction catalogue.



Included a large collection of forgeries of the world (100 lots), Boer war (45 lots), Natal (70 lots), and South Africa collections. Go to www.argyll-etkin.com for more information on this and future auctions.

71. The **Philatelic Collections of the British Library** has distributed their Newsletter No. 14 including news about the donation to the collections of the Johnson collection of postcards relating to the post office, the Row collection of Siamese stamps, and research notes. See www.bl.uk/collections/philatelic/. Illustrated is part of the printing plate for the 1878 Orange Free State 5/-.
72. **Stephan Welz** of Johannesburg has released the catalogue for the October 2008 auction of postage stamps, postal history and coins and banknotes. Unfortunately, it arrived in my mailbox nearly a month late.
73. **Warwick & Warwick** has scheduled the **Norman Levin** collection of **Rhodesian double heads** to be sold at auction on February 4th including stamps, postmarks, and postal history (sale no. 629). Included are 64 lots with complete sheets, first day cancellations on covers and single stamps, and a large collection of commercial covers. Go to www.warwickandwarwick.com for details.
74. The **Universal Philatelic Auctions** is drawing our attention to an upcoming auction on the 7th April, 2009 of **South African Airmails** which emanate from a collector currently living in Scotland. Material on offer includes covers from the first 1911 Pioneer Flights. A catalogue can be obtained from Universal Philatelic Auctions, 4 The Old Coalyard, West End, Northleach, Glos GL54 3HE, United Kingdom. Or by email to Andrew McGavin at andrew@upastampauctions.co.uk.
75. **Spink, Shreves Galleries** has distributed their January 29-31, New York, Collectors Series catalogue of mainly USA and Canada. Included are disappointing few southern African items (10 lots) of which South West Africa are dominating. Of special note are nevertheless large postal history collections of Pitcairn Island and Tristan da Cunha as well as the David Flaar collection of Antarctica postal history (over 200 lots for the latter).
76. The latest issue of the **Journal of the Rhodesian Study Circle** contains a detailed report of the **Diamond Jubilee in Cape Town**, November-October, 2008.
77. **HH Sales Limited** issues regularly literature sales catalogues. If you are looking for the elusive book, HH Sales may be your best bid. The latest catalogue No. 161 was for their November 22, 2008 sale was distributed electronically. Always a large offer of **southern Africa literature**. Request to get on their e-mailing list sales@hhsales.co.uk or visit www.hhsales.co.uk.



- 78. The Postmark and Postal History Society of Southern Africa** has after a few years silence released a new issue of the **Post Office Stone** (whole number 138, dated 2007). Like many smaller specialist societies, the postmark society has struggled with finding willing editors and with obtaining interesting articles from the readership. Okkie de Jager is the editor that can be reached okkie.dejager@nwu.ac.za. Membership questions can be directed to Marge Viljoen, P.O. Box 835, Groenkloof 0027, SA.
- 79. Peter Robin** has distributed his **Reply Coupon** auction list no. 31 (February 28). Again with a small selection of southern Africa international reply coupons. The list is distributed by email. Contact Peter Robin at peterrobin@verizon.net.

New Books

- Morgan, H., 2006. *Blue Mauritius. The Hunt for the World's Most Valuable Stamp*. Atlantic Books, London.
- Murray and Payne Ltd, 2008. *The Commonwealth King George VI Catalogue*, 19th Edition. Murray & Payne, Ayrbridge, UK. Information from info@murraypayne.com or www.murraypayne.com.
- Quik, W.J., 2007. *The postage stamps and postal stationery of Stellaland / Bechuanaland*. Filatelistenvereniging Zuidelijk Afrika.

Highlights From Journals and Newsletters

- Brakspear, G., 2008. Zimbabwe postage rates – an exercise with noughts. *Journal Rhodesian Study Circle* 229, 149-150.
- Briscoe, A., 2008. The postal history of Clanwilliam. *South African Philatelist*, October 2008, 568-570.
- Cafetzoglou, G., 2008. The birth of a stamp, Part II: the 'sheep issue' of 4c. *South African Philatelist*, October 2008, 612-613.
- Davis, T., 2008. From Methuen to Minto - an Angle-Boer war cover. *South African Philatelist*, October 2008, 548-552.
- De Jager, O., 2007. The incorrect usage of postal date stamps on railway letters. *Post Office Stone* 138, 13-15.
- De Jager, O., Burns, M., and Suffield, O., 2007. Tracing the origins of JRR Tolkien in Bloemfontein, author of *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*. *Post Office Stone* 138, 16-20.
- Dickson, J., 2008. Letter rates between the Cape of Good Hope and Britain: 1795 to 1840. Part 5. Cape and Natal Philatelic *Journal* 12, 128-134.
- Dickson, J., 2008. The Natal 2d inland rate of 1868 to 1870. *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal* 12, 148-157.
- Dickson, J., Klugman, K., and Solomon, S., 2008. Natal 1d Chalon head locally overprinted POSTAGE / POSTAGE on 1874. *London Philatelist* 117, 299-303.
- Drysdall, A. and Skinner, P., 2008. Northern Rhodesia 1963: Apparent double printing. *London Philatelist* 117, 396-398.
- Drysdall, A., 2008. A letter from Robert Moffat. *Journal Rhodesian Study Circle* 58, 110-112.
- Drysdall, A., 2008. Miscellaneous railway matters. *Transvaal Philatelist* 43, 96-103.

- Drysdall, A., 2008. Missent to Cape Town. *London Philatelist* 117, 399-400.
- Findlay, J., 2008. SA World War II stamps: why no 'engineer Corps' stamps? *South African Philatelist*, October 2008, 608-609.
- Findlay, J., 2008. World War 2: No. 1 Army Postal Regulation Depot, Durban; cachets and additional information, *South African Philatelist*, October 2008, 566.
- Findlay, J.B.R. and Ryan, R., 2008. World War II: prisoner of war and internment camps in South Africa and their mail. *Springbok* 56, 88-99.
- Findley, J., 2007. Some South African mobile army post office movements in East and North Africa in World War 2. *Post Office Stone* 138, 3-8.
- Higson, A., 2008. Another example of the Bradbury Wilkinson Queen's head 6d plate proof in blue. *Transvaal Philatelist* 43, 89.
- Howgrave-Graham, T. and Farrell, M., 2008. The 1/- gnu – roto. *Issue* 3. *Springbok* 56, 72-77.e
- Hurst, B., 2008. British Bechuanaland. The first provisional overprint of 1885-87. *Runner Post* 73, 1810-1819.
- Menuz, W., 2008. Br. Central Africa – Rhodesia Mix-up. *Postal Stationery* 50 (whole no. 362), 139-141.
- Morton, D.G., 2008. Nyasaland's post WWII air mails. *South African Philatelist*, October 2008, 601-605.
- Stewart, G., 2008. Excise tax stamps, Part II. *Journal Rhodesian Study Circle* 58, 105-107.
- Steyl, P., 2008. A post Office for Zuurbraak. *South African Philatelist*, October 2008, 548-552.
- Wallace, S., The rarer stamps study (Part 1). *Runner Post* 73, 1820-1823.

The Putzel-Visser Postmark Book

Alex Visser writes to let us know that the letter W addendum to the post mark book has been posted on the web. By going to <http://www.up.ac.za/academic/civil/books/> you get a complete listing of all the addenda, as well as their size and date posted. Hopefully this may overcome the problem that some of you could not access the files. Please let me know if you have problems (if you cannot open by clicking on the web address then paste it into your browser). And don't forget - let me get those new discoveries.

The Editor's Most Urgent Wantlist

It is a constant struggle to fill the pages of *Forerunners*. The problem is not so much feature articles and the regular columns. The problem is more the smaller items related to news from the collecting community, stamps issues, significant auctions, books and books reviews, major articles in other journals, and development in the postal services covering southern Africa. Also needed are reports of changes of addresses and email, requests for help with research projects, requests for the free membership adds, and simple or complex questions for our expert panel. It is not because everything in *Forerunners* is perfect and that nobody has better and unknown covers and new information. Please let the letter and emails come. *Forerunners* is for you - the reader.

Society Publications

Hisey and Bartshe, 2003. *Philately of the Orange Free State*, Vol. 1, *The Postage Stamps*. Hardbound, 280 pages in full color, \$35 plus \$5 s/h in the US, plus \$10 elsewhere by air.

Hisey and Bartshe, 2004. *Philately of the Orange Free State*, Vol. 2, *The Telegraphs*. Hardbound, 250 pages in full color, \$35 plus \$5 s/h in the US, plus \$10 elsewhere by air.

Forerunners on CD, Issues 1 to 50 (CD-ROM). \$30 plus \$5 s/h.

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*. \$25 full color print, \$10 on CD-ROM. Postage paid.

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

To order contact David McNamee at the addresses given on page 1.

The Market Place

Union machine and parcel postmarks. Wanted by specialist collector. Single items, collections, or unsorted bulk accumulations. Please contact Bas Payne on bas@paynes.demon.co.uk, or Saltbox Barn, Edney's Lane, Denmead, Waterlooville, PO7 6JL, UK.

Union pictorials 1926-1940. Wanted by specialist collector. Single items, collections, or unsorted bulk accumulations including singles. Please contact Bas Payne on bas@paynes.demon.co.uk, or Saltbox Barn, Edney's Lane, Denmead, Waterlooville, PO7 6JL, UK.

Cape of Good Hope. I buy postal history material, specially the period 1652 - 1853. Please send scan or photocopy with price. Johnny Barth, Nivavaenge 25, DK 2990 Niva, Denmark. E-mail: barth@post3.tele.dk.

SA Homelands used. Seeking postally used stamps and covers (larger lots with duplication OK). Have used Homelands and GB, Commonwealth (Australia, NZ, others) to trade. Send description/scan/price to Chris Oberholster, 2013 Yancy Drive, Bessemer, AL 35022; pangolin100@aol.com.

Wanted: Postal Savings Books and related items from any southern African territories and countries. Send photocopies/scans and descriptions to Peter Thy, P.O. Box 73112, Davis CA 95617-3112, thy@kronestamps.dk.

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 covers. Want to purchase or trade for covers to/from, or through Mafeking, 1885 to present. Send photocopies, 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.

Bechuanaland and Botswana postal stationery. Used, stamped and unstamped, stationery from any territory and any period are needed for collection and exhibit. Send offer to Peter Thy, P.O. Box 73112, Davis, CA 95617-3112 or email thy@kronestamps.dk.

Postmarks. Specialist collector seeks trading partners and unsorted low value duplicates in quantity. I collect pre-Union to 1935. Anything later is available to swap with you. Please contact before sending material. Ashley Cotter-Cairns, 89 Cameron, Hudson, QC, JOP 1HO, Canada, or acottercairns@hotmail.com.

Join the American Philatelic Society. Membership applications and benefits information: APS, 100 Match Factory Place, College, PA 16803, USA.

Madagascar postal stationery. Used and unused, stamped and unstamped, stationery from the greater Madagascar area. Any period and type are needed for collection and exhibit. Send offer to Peter Thy, P.O. Box 73112, Davis, CA 95617-3112 or email thy@kronestamps.dk.

Numerical Cancellers (BONCs) used in Southern Africa sought by collector. Contact me for wantlist or let me know what you can offer. Werner Seeba, In Den Wannenaekern 14, D-70374 Stuttgart 50, Germany.

Send request for your free non-dealer membership ad to the Editor. Multiple ads per issue per member are admitted as long as space is available. Ads will run for several issues unless specified otherwise. Limits of 40 words plus name and postal and email addresses.

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Philately of the Orange Free State

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South African airmail cover mailed in 1951 from Worcester to El Monte, California, USA. Transit marked on reverse at New York Air Mail Field and taxed in El Monte using small oval undated canceller. The cover was franked with 1/3d in South Africa. The airmail rate to USA via UK was 1/9d in 1951 (2/3 via the direct Pan Am route). The 1/3d affixed in stamps amounted to a 6d deficiency or double that to 1s. The deficiency was translated by the South African exchange office to be equivalent to 42 gold centimes that was translated as 14 cents in New York (3 gold centimes = 1 US cent). The regular letter rate 4 1/2d was listed in the 1951 edition of the US Postal Service Tables of Exchange and of Postage Rates to be equivalent to 15 gold centimes that reasonably correspond to the 42 centimes accessed for this airmail letter.

Membership Application

Membership fees are \$25 US and Canada and \$30 for all other addresses. Membership includes a subscription to the Society's quarterly journal Forerunners. Those that join before July 1 will receive the complete back issues for that year. Thereafter annual renewals occur in August and are due by September 1. If sending in dues by mail, please provide funds in US\$ either in currency or a check on a USA bank account made out to "PSGSA." A cheque in Sterling is also acceptable; however, make the cheque payable to "E. Hisey" instead of the Society. Mail all payments to David McNamee, PSGSA Treasurer, 15 Woodland Drive, Alamo, CA 94507 USA. Paypal to "dmcnamee@aol.com" is also acceptable, but please add US\$1 extra to cover part of the PayPal fees we must pay to use the service.

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THE RARE AND UNUSUAL

OFFICIAL SOUTH AFRICAN STAMP OVERPRINTED HORIZONTALLY
INSTEAD OF VERTICALLY



The South African Government Printing Office had routinely been overprinting official stamps once per year for many years, using just one forme for all the normal size stamps. Then the 1½d stamp was reduced in size, BUT was rearranged with the image running up and down, not side to side as previously. So when the first trial sheet was printed, the overprinted words ran across the stamp as seen! The powers in the printing office noticed that this obliterated the country name and the value. The result was a new forme. Only one sheet of 240 of the 'misprinted' stamp was not destroyed. How it came into philatelic hands is unknown. Long known, but unseen for years as closely held by two collectors. These are the only plate blocks that can exist.