



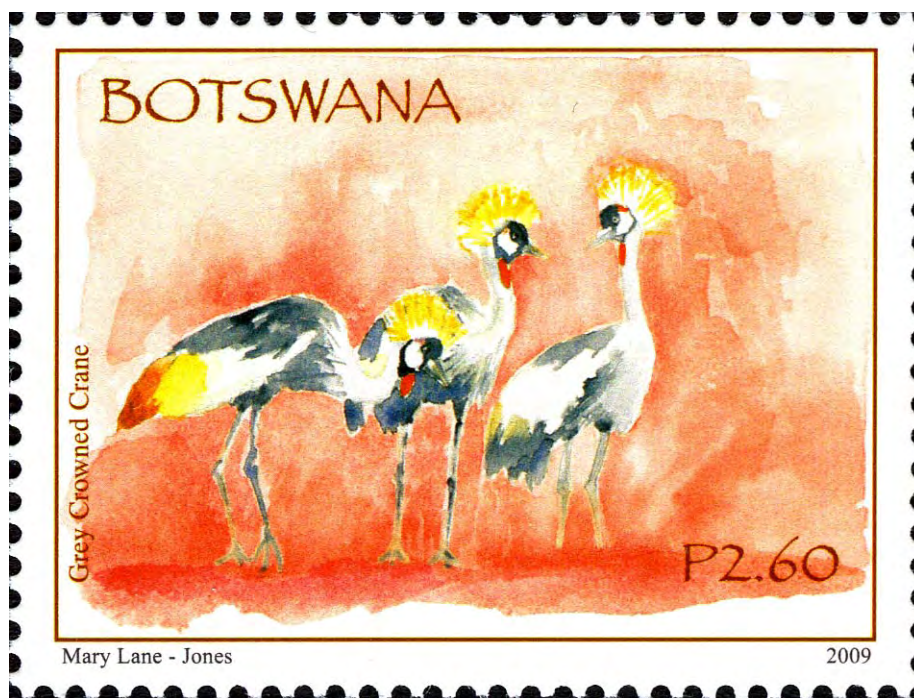
******FORERUNNERS*

JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY FOR GREATER SOUTHERN AFRICA

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

Volume XXIII, Number 2, Whole No. 66

November - February 2010



This stamp showing grey crowned cranes was issued by Botswana in 2009.
Watercolored by Mary Lane-Jones and printed by Österreichische Staatsdruckerei.

Highlights

OFS Military Franks
Posted Out of Course Tax Marks
Explanatory Marks
Botswana Postal Stationery
From Bechuanaland to the WW1 Battlefield
Compulsary Registration
Postal History of Nyasaland/BCA

Philately of the Orange Free State by R.W. Hisey & R.T. Bartshe

Vol. 3. THE REVENUES AND POSTAL STATIONERY

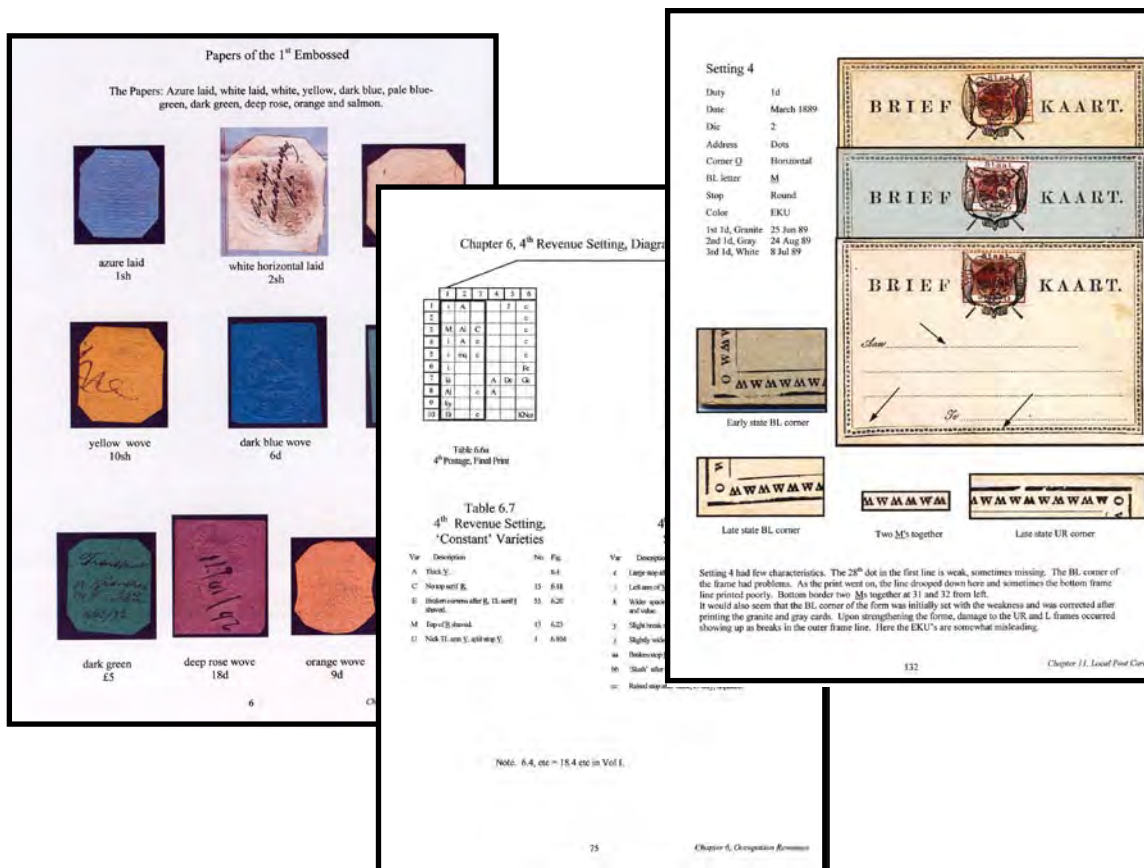
2009. A history and study of the revenues, military and police franks and postal stationery of the Orange Free State and its occupation. New updated treatment of the subject.
In full color, hardbound, 205 pages.

Vol. 2. THE TELEGRAPHS

2004. A history and study of the telegraph system and stamps of the Orange Free State and its occupation. Covering the stamps, offices, routes, rates, postmarks, forms, etc.
The first comprehensive work on this subject. Vermeil at Stampshow 2004.
HH Pirie Prize for best literature in South Africa.
In full color, hardbound, 250 pages.

Vol. 1. THE POSTAGE STAMPS

2002. Covering the postage stamps of the Orange Free State and its occupation. The most thorough and modern work on this subject available. Gold Medal at Stampshow 2002. Large Vermeils at FIP Espana 2004 and South African National Show 2002.
In full color, hardbound, 280 pages.



Price each volume is \$35 plus s/h of \$5 in the US and \$10 elsewhere.

All publications payable by US or UK checks made out to R. W. Hisey, US cash, or PayPal to bobhisey@comcast.net
Ordered from and paid directly to Bob Hisey, 7227 Sparta Rd., Sebring, FL 33875; bobhisey@comcast.net.



The Philatelic Society For Greater Southern Africa

OFFICERS

Founder

Bill Brooks, 2854 W. Calle Vista Dr., Rialto, CA 92377;
billpatti99@sbcglobal.net

President

Alan J. Hanks, 34 Seaton Dr., Aurora, Ontario, L4G 2K1, Canada;
alan.hanks@sympatico.ca

Vice President

Left vacant

Treasurer

David McNamee, 15 Woodland Dr., Alamo CA 94507; dmcnamee@aol.com,
tel. 1-925-934-3847

Secretary

Ronald Strawser, 5819 Alderfield Ct., Houston, TX 77084-5888;
strawser5@earthlink.com

Directors

Bob Hisey (Treasurer Emeritus and Publications), 7227 Sparta Road,
Sebring, FL 33872; bobhisey@comcast.net
Timothy Bartshe (Library and Archives), 13955 West 30th, Golden, CO
80401; timbartshe@aol.com
Jan Stolk (International Affairs), Waterhoenlaan 24, B-9120 Melsele,
Belgium; jan.stolk@telenet.be
Robert Taylor (Programs), 674 Chelsea Drive, Sanford, NC 27330, USA

Speciality Editors

Hans Ulrich Bantz (South West Africa and Namibia); P.O. Box 6913,
Westgate 1724, South Africa; ulib@mweb.co.za
Timothy Bartshe (Boer Republics), see address above
Alan Hanks (Rhodesians), see address above
Kendall Sanford (Aerophilately), 613 Championship Drive, Oxford, CT
06478; kaerophil@gmail.com
Jan Stolk (Taxed Mail and Postal Stationery), see address above
Peter Thy (Bechuanalands), see address below

Web Page Editor

Clive Levinson, 186-8120 No 2rd, Suite 812, Richmond, BC, V7C 5J8,
Canada; clivel@bundu.com

Journal Editor

Peter Thy, P.O. Box 73112, Davis, CA 95617-3112; thy@kronestamps.dk

<http://psgsa.thestampweb.com>

Please report address and email changes.

Support our Advertisers - They Support Our Journal.

Front Illustration:

The stamp was issued by Botswana in June 2009 as part of a four-stamp series featuring cranes. Based on beautiful watercolor paintings by Mary Lane-Jones and printed by Österreichische Staatsdruckerei using offset lithography.

***FORERUNNERS

ISSN 1076-2612

Vol. XXIII, Number 2, Whole No. 66, November - February 2010
Official Journal of the *Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa*

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.

© The Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa, unless otherwise stated. Permission to reprint material appearing in this journal is granted provided that proper credit is given to the Forerunners and that the Editor has been notified. The quoting in whole or in part of any material should be properly attributed to the Author(s) and the Forerunners.

Table of Contents

Editorial Notes	29
Society Affairs.....	30
President's Corner.....	31
Feature Articles.....	
Some Official Free Frank Markings of the Orange Free State Military by Tim Bartshe	34
The Postal History of Nyasaland/B.C.A. by Werner Seeba	39
From Bechuanaland to the WW1 Battlefield by Peter Thy	48
Specialty Columns	
The Demise of Postal Stationery in Botswana by Peter Thy	38
Posted Out of Course Tax Markings, Part 1 by Jan Stolk	41
Items of Interest.....	
Explanatory Mark: 'Parti Gone Away Vertrek' by Robert Johnson	47
Compulsary Registration by Peter Thy	47
For the Record.....	51
Forerunners Forum	52
Book Reviews: New Zealand Postal Notes 1886-1986 ..	52
New Books	53
Highlights From Journals and Newsletters	53
Market Place.....	54

Editorial Notes

The year we just entered promises to be eventful and exciting for southern African philately and postal history. In April, we will have our annual Convention during TEXPEX in Dallas. Several of our members will show their collections and PSGSA's new award for best southern African exhibit will be awarded for the first time. Our own David McNamee will be the chief judge. Both board and general society meetings will be on Saturday the 7th. Please attend if possible. Contact Ron Strawser at strawser5@earthlink.net if you are able to attend and also if you will like to

join a Friday evening dinner. The Editor regret that he will not be present despite fond memories from a youthful stay at University of Texas at Dallas and not to mention the Wineburgh Philatelic Research Library, a special collection on the upper floor of the campus library (well in those days at least). I recommend a visit when you are in the area and can certainly vouch for the Texan hospitality that Ron mentions.

The next event will be the international London 2010 that will take place the following month of May. Several Society members will show their exhibits and we wish them all the best of luck. There will also be several meetings hosted by southern Africa specialist societies. All PSGSA members have an invitation to attend the meeting of the Transvaal Study Circle on the 11th of May (see page 32). If you attend London 2010, please consider writing a show report for the Forerunners.

But if two major exhibitions already were not enough, there is more coming. Another international exhibition with South African roots is currently taken shape. JOBURG 2010 is scheduled for the late October in Johannesburg, South Africa. The deadline for entering the competitive exhibits has passed. It is expected that major exhibits of southern African material will be on display, including those of many PSGSA members. The Editor has applied to show our journal, the Forerunners, in the literature competition, but the decision of admission has not yet been made. Hopefully, we will have more news for the next issue of Forerunners due late June.

Not to forget that many of us have multiple local and regional event that easily could occupy our efforts and time during the year without the distraction from events far away. Yes indeed an exciting year is on us.

During CHIGACOPEX 2009, Forerunners received a vermeil in the literature composition. We shared the podium with other vermeil recipients: Postal History Journal, Mexicana, and GBCC Chronicle. Gold recipients in the same category was Western Express and The London Philatelist to put the award in perspective. The critique sheet shows that we got 36 % out of a total of 45 % for Philatelic Aspects, 32 % out of a total of 40 % for authorship aspect, and 12 % out of a total of 15 % for Editorial and Publishing Aspects. This is exactly the same score for each of the three main criteria (80 %) and puts us well within the vermeil bracket of 75-84 %. If we look at the individual sub-criteria, we gained slightly on membership services (85 %), organization and clarity (93 %), and freedom from typographical errors (100 %). We lost slightly on research (70 %), treatment (40 %), and presentation (60 %). Not sure what we should take away from this, except being pleased that we did so well. The Editor is certainly pleased with the 100 % for the freedom of

typographical errors!

This is another issue with something for all. Tim Bartshe illustrated military franks of the OFS based on a chapter in the OFS monograph just released. Werner Seeba tells the story of the Nyasaland (or B.C.A.). Peter Thy traces a registered envelope from the Bechuanaland in 1917 to the Belgium battlefield during WW1. Jan Stolk continues with his tax marks of South Africa, this time the posted out of course marks. Finally, Robert Johnson proposes that we devote space in future issues to explanatory marks in the same manner that Jan has detailed the tax marks. Perhaps somebody will take up the challenge and organize such a study? In meantime, just let the examples fill the Editors in-box.

The observant reader will understand that the in-box was empty when this issue was put together. The fact that the Editor had to fill several empty pages gives this away. Articles of any length are badly needed for the next issue. Particularly, small news items and the favorite cover type of articles. Also needed is illustrations for the front and the last 'The Rare and Unusual' page. This journal is for you and your writings!

The deadline for the next issue will be June 15, 2010. Please let me have your contributions - small or large - as soon as possible.

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 mailing addresses and US\$30 for all other addresses. 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. 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.

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 hand written manuscripts and photocopies can still be submitted and are most welcome.

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; #34-66 \$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, with the winter playing strange tricks, along with the weather over most of North America, if one pays attention to the weather map. We have had rain recently, followed by such cold weather that a number of water mains burst in Toronto, which created all kinds of havoc. This was the first winter that I decided to employ a snow plowing contractor and have only had need of him once. I will bet there will not be a refund!! Enough about the weather already!

Our PSGSA Convention is not far in the future and will be with us before we know it. As the ad in the last Forerunners noted, the venue is at TEXPEX, April 16-18 at the Doubletree Hotel Dallas, near the Galleria. The hotel address is 4099 Valley View Lane in Dallas, so make your reservations early. As I mentioned in my last column, Ron Strawser is our Convention Coordinator and he has recently sent out a questionnaire to all North American members asking if they will be attending or exhibiting. Several exhibits from members have already been submitted but there is space left according to the exhibit chair. My wife and I are planning to drive down and it will be good to do another trip to Dallas, where we have been on a number of occasions, the first of which was a bit strange, as we could not seem to find the exit we wanted and ended up in Waxahatchie, some distance south of Dallas. Must use a better map this time!

There will be some PSGSA awards available at the show and I am hoping to be one of the lucky recipients, as I plan on two entries. There will be a number of meetings, but plans for those have not been firmed up as yet, but we have asked in the questionnaire if anyone has a particular topic that they would like to have as a presentation. Hopefully, we may be able to arrange an informal get together at a local hostelry to see old friends and perhaps make some new ones. One of the things I have really enjoyed over the years has been the friendships that I have built up, which of course can be renewed each time one visits a stamp show.

I hope everyone has been enjoying the new look of our journal, with colour to spice things up a little. Our thanks are due to those who have made it possible. As with a number of other philatelic organizations, it is the willing volunteers that make things work and the APS, ATA, PSGSA and many others, would not be as active as they are without them.

Well, that seems to be all that I can think of at the moment and I have to get this column to the editor for the deadline!

Until next time.....

PSGSA Convention at TEXPEX 2010



The PSGSA will be one of the convening societies at Texpex to be held in Dallas, TX on April 16-18. Details for the show itself can be found on their website at: <http://www.texasphilatelic.org/texpex/Home.html/>.

PSGSA will hold both a general meeting and a board meeting at the show. The board meeting will be held on Saturday from 12 to 1 PM. The general meeting will

be held on Saturday at 2 to 3 PM. The general meeting will include talks by one or two of our members. Following the general meeting we will retire to the frames to view the exhibits shown by PSGSA members. To date these exhibits include the multi-frame exhibits:

Orange Free State Republican Postage Issues 1868-1900
The Officials of South Africa 1925-1949
Transvaal Postal Stationery
The Postal Registration Envelopes of Bechuanaland
One frame on Southern African Pioneers in World War 2.

The PSGSA will be providing special awards to be given to the best South African area exhibits. Go to <http://www.texasphilatelic.org/texpex/Home.html/> for practical information on Texpex.

In addition to the meetings during the show we will go out Friday night for dinner at one of the nearby restaurants. Anyone who is attending the show who would like to join the group for dinner should contact Ron Strawser at strawser5@earthlink.net so we can make reservations. So mark April 16-18 on your calendar and join us to see some great South African area material and to enjoy the legendary Texpex hospitality.

London 2010

The International Stamp Exhibition London 2010 will take place 8th to 15th of May. There will be 2400 frames on display. Of these, 85 will be devoted to southern Africa. Here is a list of accepted exhibits with southern African themes. The number before the exhibitor is the number of frames. There is three exhibits from the UK, four from US, and six from South Africa. Australia and Denmark have each one exhibit.



- 1 Brian Hurst: King George V Control Letters & Numerals on Stamps of Great Britain Overprinted for Use in the Bechuanaland Protectorate. United Kingdom.
- 1 Christopher Board: Union of South Africa Commemorative Stamp, 1910: Design and Production. United Kingdom.
- 1 Donald Napier: A Study of the Rhodesian Bi-Coloured Double Heads using the 3d value. Australia.
- 1 Peter van der Molen: Swaziland: The King George V Essays and Proofs. South Africa.
- 5 Emil Bührmann: Cape of Good Hope 1864-1901. South Africa.
- 5 George Krieger: British East Africa, the stamps and their usage, 1890-1902. United States.
- 8 Alan Uria: Rhodesian Double Heads 1910-1913. South Africa.
- 8 Clive Sergay: Zululand 1879 to 1898. South Africa.
- 8 Harry Birkhead: Emergency Issues and Strikes of the Anglo-Boer War. South Africa.
- 8 Ian Matheson: Union of South Africa - Official Overprints. South Africa.
- 8 Johnny Barth: Cape of Good Hope - the Prephilatelic Period. Denmark.
- 8 Joseph Hackmey: Cape of Good Hope Triangulars. United Kingdom.
- 8 Keith Klugman: Classic Victorian Natal (1836-1879). United States.
- 8 Robert Hisey: The Official Stamps of South Africa, 1926-1950. United States.
- 8 Timothy Bartshe: Orange Free State Republican Postage Issues 1868-1900. United States.

Only three southern African specialist societies have announced meetings during London 2010: Transvaal Study Circle (11 May); Bechuanalands and Botswana Society (15 May); Rhodesian Study Circle (14 May). However, it must be expected that others will also hold meetings.

Joburg 2010 26th Asian International Stamp Exhibition



This year in South Africa promises to be an exciting year for more than just sports enthusiasts. The Joburg 2010 International Stamp Show will be held from Wednesday, 27 October to Sunday, 31 October 2010 at the Sandton Convention Centre in Johannesburg. This is the first International Exhibition to be hosted by South Africa since the successful IIsapex International in 1998. The show will see members of the international philatelic community, drawn from some 45 countries, join South African philatelists and stamp enthusiasts over four days of philatelic activities. The entire Ground Floor of the Sandton International Convention Centre has been secured for the exhibition which will span some 5,800 m² (nearly 60,000 square feet). Entry for the competitive exhibition closed on 31 March.

Highlights include an exceptional Court of Honour featuring a selection of the Queen Elizabeth II collection, for which Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has given personal approval.

The official launch of the 8th definitive stamp series by South African Post Office is another highlight of this show.

Some 1,500 frames of competitive exhibits with over 20,000 pages of stamps and philatelic material are anticipated and frames will comply with the International Convention of 16 pages per frame. The Competitive Exhibition is set to be a major attraction and draw strong interest from a wide spectrum of local and international collectors and philatelists.

The Joburg 2010 International Stamp Show will include a variety of special events and entertainment, which will be enjoyed by adults and children alike. A youth activation zone will appeal to new and young stamp collectors, inspiring and assisting them to embrace the hobby.



PSGSA Membership Corner

Welcome to new members:

Robert Johnson UK
Michael Leeman USA
John Tollan Australia
Scott Zaragosa USA

Vermeil to Forerunners at Chicagopex

Vermeil at Chicagopex was a major achievement. We received 80 points in the middle of the vermeil interval. Our major downgrades were for research and treatment. Thanks to all members for supporting our journal. It should be noted that the first version of the palmares gave the level as silver. This has officially been corrected.



SHATPS London Meeting for May 2010

The St. Helena, Ascension and Tristan Da Cunha Philatelic Society (SHATPS) will hold its second international meeting in connection with the London 2010 international philatelic exhibition. The meeting will be open to the general public. The Meeting will be on Thursday, May 13 from 2 pm until 5 pm at the Hilton London Islington Hotel adjacent to the Business Design Centre at 52 Upper Street in London. The meeting will include talks by society members on Ascension, Tristan Da Cunha, and St. Helena. Updated news can be found online at <http://atlanticislands.org/news.htm>.

Correction to OFS Book Volume 3

I am sorry to discover that the rather important table on page 5 of Volume 3 of The Philately of the Orange Free State got butchered in the transfer to the printing format. Half of the table disappeared. It was the table of EKUs and paper types of the embossed revenues. I apologize for this problem and hope it is not too big a problem for you. Email me to get a copy of the corrected table.

Bob Hisey bobhisey@comcast.net

Invitation

The Transvaal Study Circle Committee look forward to welcoming members of The Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa and their guests at our meeting from 2 pm to 5.45 pm on the 11th May in the City Suite of the Hilton Hotel which is next to the Business Design Centre, venue of London 2010 – International Stamp Exhibition. Our meeting will include The Major Ian B. Mathews Memorial Lecture delivered by Lars Jørgensen on the topic of “Early ZAR/Transvaal Covers” and will start at 2.15 pm. Details as always on the TSC website www.transvaal.org.uk.

Jeff Woolgar

Exchange Journals and Newsletters

We receive several journals and newsletters from sister societies in exchange for the Forerunners. These are:

The Springbok (South African Collectors' Society)

The Transvaal Philatelist (Transvaal Study Circle)

South West Africa Newsletter (SWA Stamp Study Group)

Bartolomeu Dias (Filatelistenvereniging Zuidelijk Afrika)

We also receive the South African Philatelist as part of our affiliation with the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa. These periodicals are mostly received by the Editor and will eventually end up in the Society Library.

The Putzel-Visser Postmark Addendum

by Alex Visser

Since Ralph Putzel published the first volume of the ten volume opus magnus in 1992, major changes in the status of post offices in South Africa occurred. Many post offices were closed, and new post offices opened. Furthermore, many cancellers were unable to handle the year 2000. The SA Post Office resolved to use a standard steel canceller, based on the Swiss style which is termed "new style" in the description. Apparently some 7600 of these cancellers were issued. However, individual post offices were given certain freedom, and some regions resolved to use a variety of self-inking cancellers. These have been found to have a relatively short life of two to four years, and may become elusive in years to come. Until clarity on their availability is obtained, their price has been retained at 2/10, as for all current material, consistent with the original pricing.

In the Addendum, which will be maintained in electronic format to facilitate inclusion of new information in the correct position, the same style as the original books will be kept. Information readily available in the books is not repeated. The same numbering system as in the books is maintained, except in some isolated instances where the information for a particular post office is renumbered, but this is clearly indicated. Where the information of a canceller in the book is modified an asterisk is found after the number, such as No. 4*. If no asterisk is shown the information is new. This is also true of additional variants of the date format.

Finally, after 1400+ images and 115 pages the letter M additions have completed. I have placed this on <http://www.up.ac.za/academic/civil/books/>. I have also updated some of the other letters, which you can identify from the date.

Unrecorded cancellers, or better copies of illustrated strikes, are always welcome. These can be sent electronically (scanned at 300 bpi) or as clear photocopies. Soft- or hard-covered subscription copies of the ten volume set or individually, are still available.

Many thanks for all the assistance. I am astounded by the number of new date stamps, particularly the pre-1950s, which are being recorded. I sincerely appreciate your inputs.

With kind regards, and happy postmarking.

Alex Visser, 212 Roos St., Meyerspark, 0184 South Africa.
alex.visser@up.ac.za

UPU Specimen Postal Stationery

by James Bendon

During the past year and a half I have been compiling a whole-world catalogue of postal stationery that was overprinted 'Specimen' (or the equivalent such as 'Muestra') before it was sent to the UPU for distribution to other member countries. In many ways this work is a belated sequel to my book 'UPU Specimen Stamps' that I published as long ago as in 1988.

It has been very much a cooperative effort and has relied on contributions made by collectors and professional philatelists around the world who have provided information relating to their own specialities.

As a result of this assistance the project is now about 90% complete. To see the catalogue in its current state go to www.jamesbendon.com and click on 'specimen postal stationery' and then on 'introduction'.

The 'list of countries' will show where help is still needed. Amongst the most important gaps are Argentina, Ceylon, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Netherlands & Colonies and Rhodesia. Perhaps you can help?

To see what is at present listed go to www.jamesbendon.com and click on 'specimen postal stationery'.

James Bendon, P O Box 56484, 3307 Limassol, Cyprus
www.jamesbendon.com/

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.

Personal Stamp

The Editor has always wanted to include portraits of board members and major contributors to the Forerunners. This is such a possibility that arrived on my mail the other day. It shows Tim Barthse that is a long term board member with responsibilities for the library and archives. He also for many years managed our society auction. Other current credits to his name are director of the United Postal Stationery Society and president of AAPE. I would say that this stamp must belong in any OFS and Transvaal collection!



Some Official Free Frank Markings of the Orange Free State Military

by Tim Bartshe

There are numerous cachets that were applied by the officers/commanders of the various military units of the Orange Free State. Most interesting and frankly the most attractive of them all is that of the Orange Vrystaat Artillerie. This was the only full-time artillery unit based out of Bloemfontein composed of approximately 45 volunteers from 1879-1900. This unit was given franking privileges either officially or by acceptance. The franking device was a 39 mm diameter rubber hand stamp applied to the mail in various colors ranging from green to magenta, though the majority are found in purple. The seal was generally countersigned by a signature or initials of the commander of the unit.

While anything but common, there are a number of examples floating around and a lovely example was shown in Volume 3, page 99, of the *Orange Free State Philately* by Hisey and Bartshe and also herein as Figure 1. I have seen at least eight examples personally and another five being displayed in *The Orange Free State Bulletin*, numbers 193, pages 3257-8, and 207, pages 3601-3.

A second group of covers recorded are from 1895 and include a piece from Christie's Oct. 1987 auction of Gerald Buckley's collection, lot 237. It is in purple and has the same initials as shown in Stroud's very similar example on page 3257 in number 193 of the *Orange Free State Bulletin* and thus most likely of the same time period around Sept. 1895.

A third group of covers is represented by Stroud's page 3258 and Allison's page 3602 of the *Orange Free State Bulletin* referenced above. Both are dated Aug. 1897, one addressed to Petrusburg district Boshof and the other to Johannesburg, dated Bloemfontein.

The final grouping of covers are from the early stages of the Boer War from September 1899 through April 1900. The Hart Auction of Cavendish in June 1993 had an example as lot 1021 and described with an initialed purple cachet addressed to Germiston from Bloemfontein dated 30 Sept. 1899. The cover, by visual inspection of the very small scan, did not find its addressee and most likely was not returned until after the fall of the Republic as the auxiliary marking is bilingual with English



Figure 1

The dates range from 1892 through 1900, with four being from 1892. All of these are addressed from Bloemfontein to P.O. Welkom in the Winburg District during the first half of the year.

A cover offered in Christie's June 1988 auction as lot 311 shows a similar cover to the one shown in Figure 1 and is addressed to the same individual in Welkom, but in a different hand dated 18 Jan. 1892. The cachet is in blue-green.

instead of Dutch and the UPU French. Another example from 1899 (also shown in Volume 3, page 100, of *The Orange Free State Philately*) is with a signed violet strike from Bloemfontein 28. July to Vosterskop P.O. Edenburg, arriving the next day (Figure 2). A note associated with the item indicates that the signature is that of D.F. Marais, Postmaster of Bloemfontein at the time.



Figure 2.

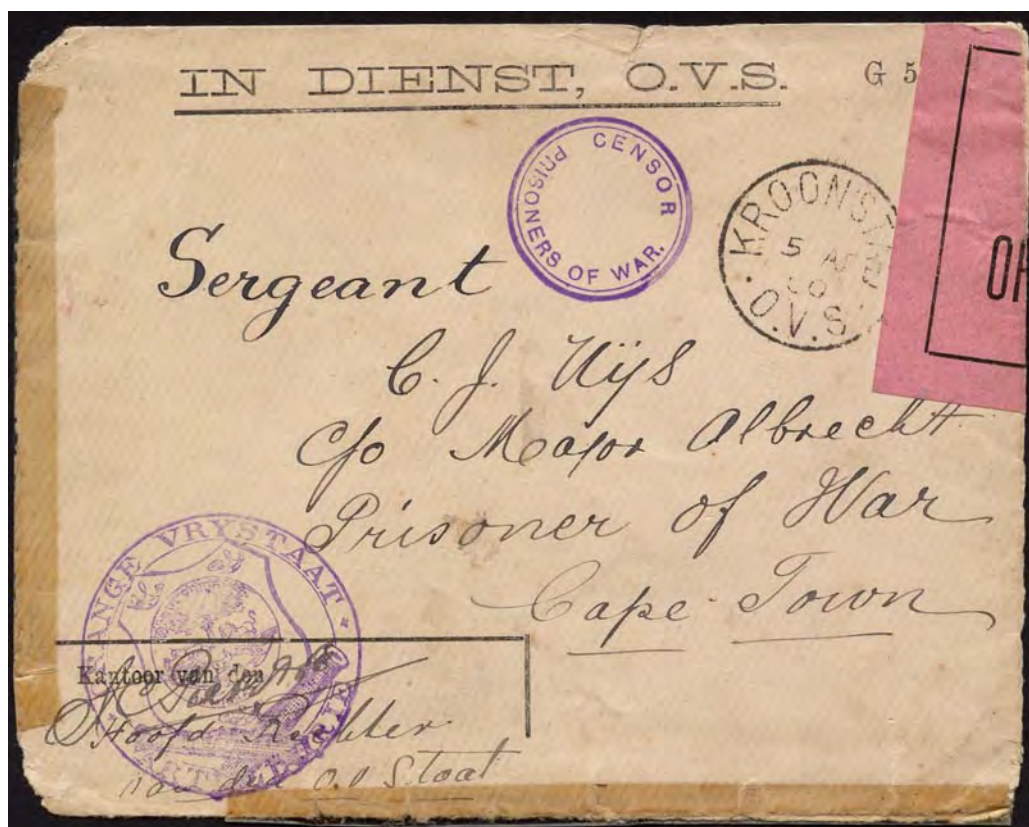


Figure 3.

I have acquired at a recent Nutmeg sale the only recorded example from the war-time proper. Shown in Figure 3, it is addressed to a Sergeant C.J. Uys POW in Cape Town. It is mailed from the new capital in Kroonstad on 5 April and it was sent via Pretoria where it received a transit mark dated 7 April and via Lorenzo Marques where it received the typical blue Ambulante marking. It ended up in Durban on 3 May, where it was censored and sent to the Cape. The "In Deinst" envelope has a box in the bottom left with "Kantoor van den" with the name of the sender and "Hoof'd Richter/van den O.V. Staat". The cachet is clean and very crisp as can be seen in the enlarged scan in Figure 3a.



While not an exhaustive research of all auction catalogs and price lists, examples this cachet are not common and probably number less than 30 in total. The final two examples seen are offered by Alan MacGregor and the images are on his website www.rhodesia.co.za. Both are from the 1892 group addressed from the same hand to Winburg from Bloemfontein on 9 Feb. in green (Figure 4) and 4. April in purple.



Figure 4.

Other cachets that I have seen related to military units are directly associated with the movements of the various Commandos in the early part of the war. These seem to be particularly scarce; Bill Hart's collection appears not to have any associated with the Free State. I have acquired a couple of different examples over the years, one a cog-edged double oval hand stamp in purple (Hisey and Bartshe, page 101) seen in Figure 5. It is associated with the Commando from the Wijk Vilgerivier district in Vrede, J.L. Pretorius Veldcornet and mailed from Harrismith on 31 Oct. 1899. Another officer has initialed it allowing free passage to Bloemfontein. Note that this is after the issuance of the Commando Brief Franks, but possibly prior to the distribution of these to the north-east front. Richard Stroud described a circular cachet with the coat of arms within a double-edge double circle of the Stads Veldcornet Bloemfontein O.V.S. (Stroud, 2007, page 3638). Similarly, it is very early in the conflict dated 17 Oct. sent from Boshof to Bloemfontein.

Another cachet in purple is shown in Figure 6 on an identical envelop to the above example from Kroonstad. It too is from the new capital at Kroonstad dated 17 April 1900. It was mailed to Lindley located east of Kroonstad half way to Bethlehem and arrived the next day. The initialed cachet is a double circle 42/38 mm in diameter with the coat of arms, capped by three stars and the wording O.V.S. Hoofd-Commissariaat.

All of these items represent officially authorized free mail for on-service personnel. I am sure that there are others out there hidden in collections and old auction catalogs, but this at least gives the readers a review of material that I have seen.

References:

Allison, Bob, 2007, Further Orange Vrystaat Artillerie Mail and a Sabre, The Orange Free State Bulletin, The Journal of the Orange Free State Study Circle, no 207, pg 3601-4.

Hisey, R.W. and R. T. Bartshe, 2009, Orange Free State Philately, Volume 3, pg 99-101, Pub The Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa and OSSEWA Press.
 Stroud, Richard, 2003, Two Orange Vrystaat Artillerie Covers, The

Orange Free State Bulletin, The Journal of the Orange Free State Study Circle, no 193, pg 3257-8.
 -----, 2007, For the Record, The Orange Free State Bulletin, The Journal of the Orange Free State Study Circle, no 209, pg 3638.



Figure 5.

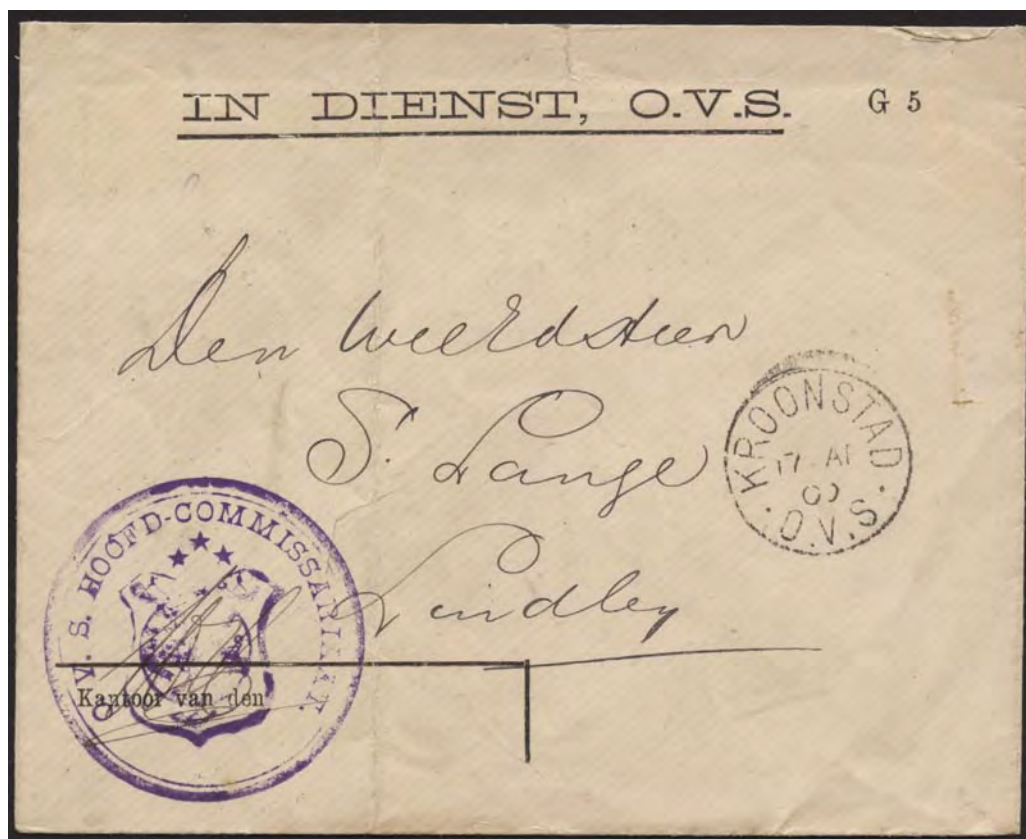


Figure 6.

The Demise of Postal Stationery in Botswana

by Peter Thy

Botswana Post has effectively discontinued offering postal stationery to its costumers. The last postcard was issued in 1997 and was fittingly a commemorative card for World Post Day. The last aerogramme was issued the same year and, despite expectations, new issues have not since been released. New registration envelopes with imprinted stamps have not appeared since 1966, despite that envelopes without imprinted stamps since and still are available at the Post Office.

The last of these registration envelopes was released in 1997. Since then no envelopes sufficient different to justify a new catalogue listing have appeared. Between 1982 and 1997, a total of at least seven different types of registration envelopes have been identified and were printed by at least four different printers and/or contractors. The fact that new types and printers have not been identified for the past ten years suggests that the use of the stampless registration envelopes also is being faced-out or has lost their appeal to the postal customers.

The exception is an envelope recently found (Figure 1). Three examples have so far been identified first used in Shakawe during March, 2000. The latest example is from Gaborone used

in 2006. At first the new envelopes look very similar to the last envelope from 1997 listed in the stationery book as RE 63 (Thy and Inglefield-Watson, 2004). Most notable is an apparent enlargement of the 'R in oval' and a widening of all lines including the registration cross lines. On RE 63 the oval measures 24 x 32 mm (Figure 2A). On the new envelope it measures 25 x 35 mm (Figure 2B). It is plausible that this is a new printing. This type of envelope has been in use now for over 10 years and it is expected that several new printings must have been done since 1997. Is any reader able to report further sightings of this unusual registration envelope?

Reference

Thy, P. and Inglefield-Watson, J., 2004. The Postal Stationery of the Bechuanaland and Botswana. British Philatelic Trust, London.

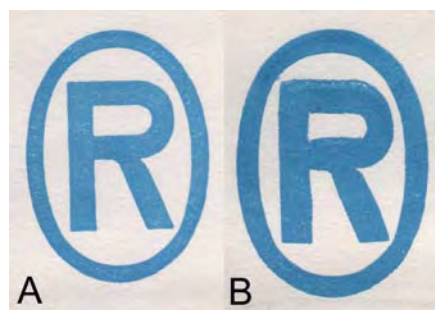


Figure 2. (A) old; (B) new.



Figure 1.

The Postal History of Nyasaland/B.C.A.

by Werner Seeba

The first humans inhabiting the area around Lake Nyasa or British Central Africa (BCA) were probably Bushmen. They were hunters that lived in simple huts and rock shelters and left behind rock paintings. Later settlers were Bantu tribes. The recorded history of Nyasaland (now Malawi) begins with Arab traders from the East African coast who brought back reports of a long lake and a native civilization. The first European to visit the lake was the Portuguese Gaspar Bocarro in 1616. The next European was the Scottish explorer and missionary David Livingstone who traveled in this region of Africa in 1859. Later the London Missionary Society established several mission stations and schools in the Northern Highlands, west of Lake Nyasa. In the southern part, a mission station was established in 1876 by a Henry Henderson who named it Blantyre after Livingstone's birthplace in Scotland. This settlement was made a municipality in 1895, the first in British Central Africa.

By 1889, the British Government established the British South Africa Company (BSAC) to hedge Portuguese and German influence in the region around Lake Nyasa. By 1891, the British took over the control when the Nyasaland District Protectorate was created. Only the Sultan of Karonga, who was a slave trader in the northern parts, resisted the annexation.

During April 1891, the first stamps were issued as Rhodesian stamps overprinted 'B.C.A.' Very possibly, this year also saw the first establishment of a postal agency (actually only huts and shelters) that formed the first postal service in the district. Very little is known or recorded about the postal service during the first two years. At the beginning, the mail was probably handled and transported by the police or BSAC representatives.

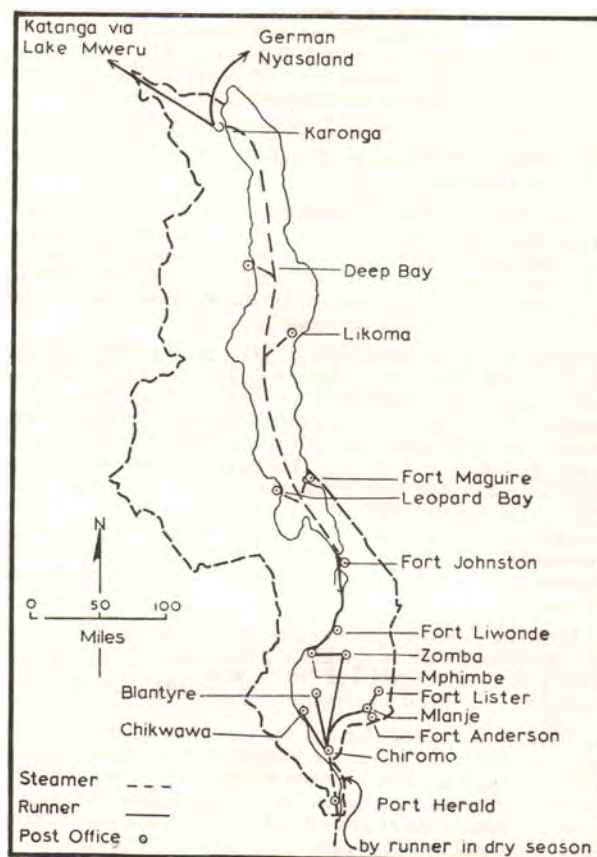
By 1892, or earlier, obliterations in barred diamond shapes with letters or numbers in the center came into use in the Rhodesians and Nyasaland. Although it is apparent that they were exchanged at various times, it is not possible to trace exactly when and at which postal agency or post office they were used. The same is the case with the barred oval numeral cancellers (BONCs) issued during 1893.



Early BCA cancels

The first postal service in the Nyasaland/B.C.A. was rural and very primitive. During one of the first postal inspections, investigators found at one greater village that the postmaster's house had fallen down and that he and his family had in consequence taken up residence in the post office itself, which con-

sisted of only one room. In the middle of the office was the traditional African fire over which a cooking pot was standing full of 'sadza.' The counter had been eaten away by white ants or termites and the posting box was lying in the yard, where it had become a toy for the postmaster's children. The postmaster had removed a few bricks from the wall and the resulting hole became the new posting box. The posted letters dropped onto the brick floor. Needless to say was the ruined canceller and so was the floor. Whilst inspection the office, they took the opportunity of examining the mail on hand. To their amazement the letters were all crawling with lice.



Malawi internal routes and Post Offices 1894. From C.A. Baker, 1971. The postal services in Malawi before 1900. Society of Malawi Journal vol 24, no. 2, July 1971, p. 1-38.

Usually the hours of postal business were determined by the position of the sun. As the postal service inspectors reached the next post office at three o'clock in the afternoon. The postmaster had already closed for the day. A big notice was placed on the veranda – stoep - with the words. "Because I now live inside the Post Office you must not think that I am on duty all the time. I close at four o'clock and then you not worry me till tomorrow."

On August 1st of 1892, the Rhodesians and Nyasaland were admitted to the South African Postal Union. Everything now got

easier. Only BSAC stamps were required to pay postage. Local post cards were available from the early 1893.

At the 11th May, Mr. Ernest Edward Harrhy, previously at the GPO in Cape Town, travelled with the commissioner and Consul-General Harry Johnston to British Central Africa. Harrhy was given a contract for one year to establish the postal system in the newly occupied territory and was appointed Postmaster-General at the age of only 24. I am very sure that Mr. Harrhy went to the Post Office Store in Cape Town and took along with him to B.C.A. twenty-two barred obliterations with the numbers 851 to 874 (BONCs) for use in the newly opened Post Office Agencies and Post Offices. After arriving in Tshiromo, he soon established a service of African mailrunners. The first mailrunner route he established started in the south at Port Herald at the Lower Shire River, via Tshiromo and Tshikwawa, to Blantyre in the Shire Highlands, further on to the Mpimbi on the Middle Shire, the place where the mail was carried by river and lake steamer. The Tshiromo or Chiroma Post Office was an important distribution center for mail. Next Harrhy established regular weekly mail service between Tshiromo and Blantyre, also including Zomba, the Government administrative headquarters, as a three time weekly mail service between Blantyre, Mlanje, Mpimbi, and Port Johnston. The mailrunner outfit was something looking like a frockcoat, with Bermuda trousers, a Fez on the head, and armed with snider rifles.

The first years, mail transported from the BSAC Headquarters in Salisbury to Fort Jameston took 21 days to reach its destination – 480 miles or 768 km away. Mail from Salisbury was first transported by mailrunners to Mazoe – from there further on to Tete, a mail exchange point at the Zambezi in Mozambique. From Tete, letters were again conveyed to Fort Jameston by runner. Parcel mail was carried from Chinde at the east coast by boat up to Zambezi and also to Tete for onward conveyance to their destinations. In the early years, mail to the B.C.A./Nyasaland was mainly for missionaries and B.S.A.C. officials, police, and soldiers. The history of Tete begins in 1504 as the Portuguese occupied and developed the region of Zambezia, as it then was called. In 1506, the first trading station was established for ivory and gold. Later also, missionary stations were established by Jesuit and Dominican missionaries. Tete is 480 km away from the sea. The Mozambique mailrunner services were not satisfactory and complaints were frequent. The difficulties were not the Portuguese authorities. The real culprits were the weather with swollen rivers during the rainy season and the immense distances involved. The mailrunners were employed at 30 shilling per month, including meal rations. In September 1898, a mailrunner service was established between Umtali via Inyanga in Rhodesia, to Mozambique territory, and to Blantyre. From Blantyre, mail was carried further to Jameston. This route was abandoned within six months.



Posted Out of Course Tax Markings, Part 1

by Jan Stolk

This installment lists some of the 'posted out of course' marks used by South Africa. Posted out of course is translated in Afrikaans in several different ways: 'Buitekoers Gepos' - a direct translation of the English, but also by 'Onreelmatic gepos' or 'Op onreelmatic wyse gepos', which both means irregularly posted.

This type of markings are for used on registered covers (blue cross over the cover) mailed in a normal mailbox instead of handed in over the counter at the post office, often with the registration fee not paid. It also is used on covers containing money and postal orders and without being registered, this can only be the case with coins or if mail is opened for inspection by the postal authorities.

WF1 is one of the oldest markings, already used in Johannesburg in 1931 and was still in use in 1981. After 50 years of usage some wear is apparent: the sharp corners of the rectangular are now rounded and also the letters show some wear.


Not all post offices were supplied with these markings and letters have been marked in manuscript with 'Posted out of Course' and an amount to be paid. In some cases the post office used it standard red registration marking and adds 'Posted out of Course' to this marking and the amount to be paid.

As the listing is quite long, I will split it into two installments.

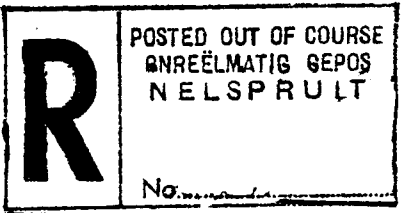
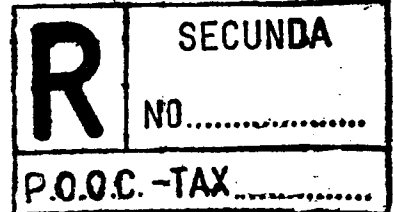
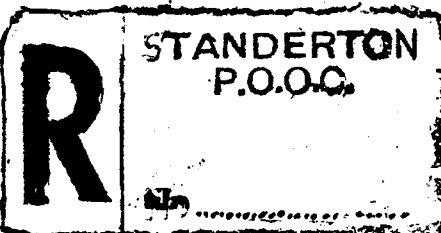
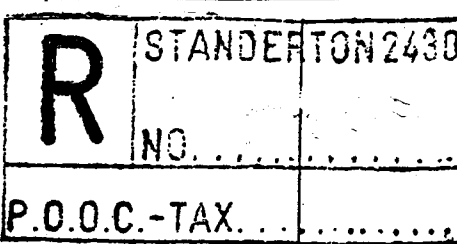
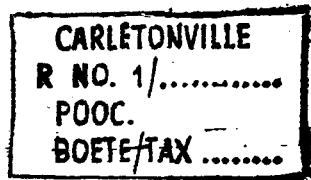
My thanks to Werner K. Seeba and Johan Diesveld for their ongoing support by sending photocopies of taxed covers and additional information on installments.

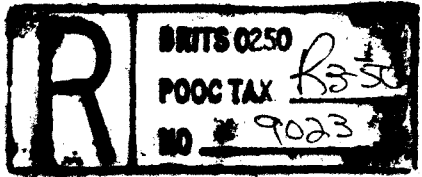
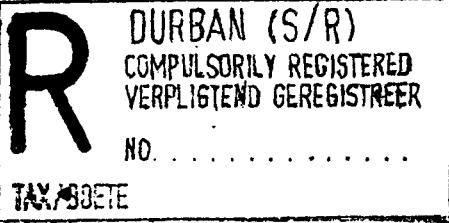
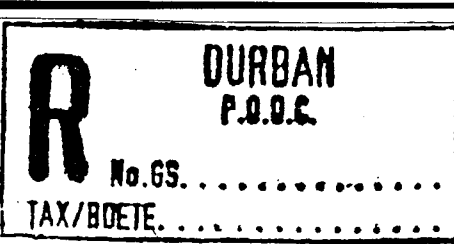


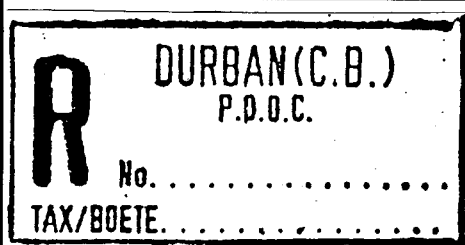
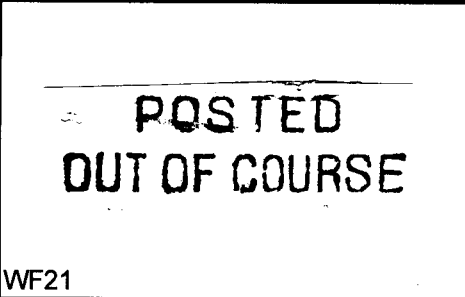
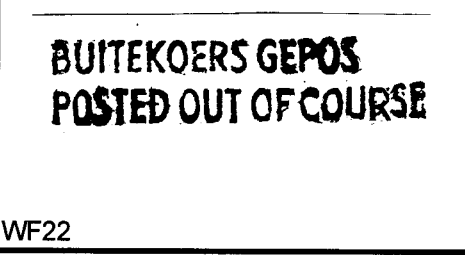
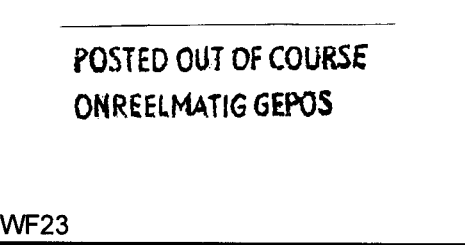
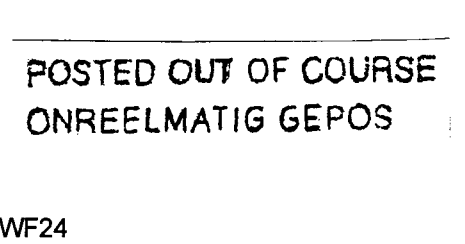
WF 1

P.D.MARKING	SIZE	USED AT	EARLIEST DATE	LATEST DATE
 WF1	53 x 15 mm black	Johannesburg	18-feb-31	20-jan-81

<p>POSTED OUT OF COURSE 2</p>	58 x 10 mm	Ex-Allen		
WF2				
<p>CONTRARY TO REGULATIONS IN STRYD MET DIE REGULASIES 1</p>	55 x 11 mm	Johannesburg	18-nov-25	29 mar 32
WF3	black			
<p>BUIE KOERS GEPOS POSTED OUT OF COURSETO PAY</p> <p>TE BETAAL.</p>	47 x 22 mm	Capetown	24-nov-86	
WF4	red			
<p>POOC TAX/BOETE</p>	43 x 14 mm	Mtubatuba	21-dec-93	
WF5	red			
<p>BUIE KOERS GEPOS POSTED OUT OF COURSETO PAY</p> <p>TE BETAAL.....</p>	54 x 28 mm	Capetown	29-dec-82	18-nov-93
WF6	black/red			
<p>BUIE KOERS GEPOS POSTED OUT OF COURSETO PAY</p> <p>TE BETAAL... 4050</p>	52x 24 mm	Capetown	29-dec-82	
WF7	red			

<p>POSTED OUT OF COURSE BUITE KOERS GEPOS DATUM/DATE..... TYD/TIME.....</p> <p>WF8</p>	<p>54 x 28 mm red</p>	<p>Pretoria</p>	<p>1-mar-88</p>	
 <p>WF9</p>	<p>51 x 26 mm red</p>	<p>Nelspruit</p>	<p>18-jul-81</p>	
 <p>WF10</p>	<p>49 x 26 mm red</p>	<p>Secunda</p>	<p>17-jul-84</p>	<p>26-mar-86</p>
 <p>WF11</p>	<p>60 x 30 mm purple/red</p>	<p>Standerton</p>	<p>01-nov-81</p>	<p>1-mar-85</p>
 <p>WF12</p>	<p>61x 30 mm</p>	<p>Standerton</p>		
 <p>WF13</p>	<p>40 x 22 mm red</p>	<p>Carletonville</p>	<p>05-nov-85</p>	

 <p>WF14</p>	<p>54 x 22 mm</p> <p>red</p>	<p>Brits</p>	<p>15-sep-95</p>	
<p>PORT SHEPSTONE 4240</p> <p>POSTED OUT OF COURSE</p> <p>ONREELMATIG GEPOS</p> <p>TAX/BOETE</p> <p>WF15</p>	<p>41 x 30 mm</p> <p>red</p>	<p>Port Shepstone</p>	<p>06-dec-93</p>	
<p>OP ONREELMATIGE WYSE GEPOS</p> <p>POSTED OUT OF COURSE</p> <p>TO PAY:</p> <p>TE BETAAL: T</p> <p>WF16</p>	<p>60 x 31 mm</p> <p>red</p>	<p>Stellenbosch</p>	<p>01-jul-82</p>	
<p>PIETERMARITZBURG</p> <p>POSTED OUT OF COURSE NO.</p> <p>ONREELMATIG GEPOS NO.</p> <p>TO PAY/TE BETAAL</p> <p>WF17</p>	<p>84 x 28 mm</p> <p>red/purple</p>	<p>Pietermaritzburg</p>	<p>11 may 82</p>	<p>08-jan-89</p>
 <p>WF18</p>	<p>58 x 30 mm</p> <p>red</p>	<p>Durban</p>	<p>23-jan-84</p>	<p>26-jan-93</p>
 <p>WF19</p>	<p>60 x 28 mm</p>	<p>Durban</p>	<p>ex-Allen</p>	

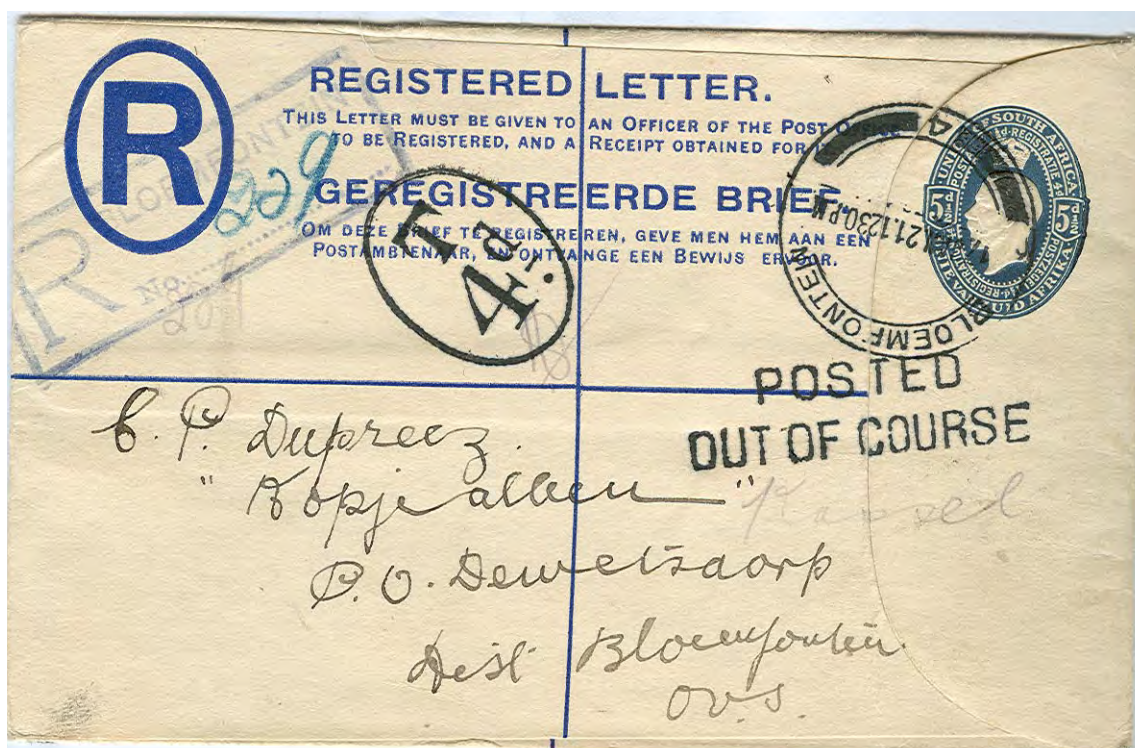
	60 x 30 mm	Durban	ex-Allen	
WF20				
	46 x 13 mm black	Bloemfontein	07-jan-21	
WF21				
	49 x 10 mm purple/red	Pretoria Vanderbijlpark	23-apr-86	28-nov-89
WF22				
	39 x 10 mm red	Port Elizabeth	27 oct 83	
WF23				
	54 x 10 mm red	Port Elizabeth	19-apr-94	
WF24				



Learn More, Do More, Enjoy More *with APS!*
American Philatelic Society
— America's Stamp Club —
www.stamps.org



WF 5



WF 21

Explanatory Mark: 'PARTI GONE AWAY VERTREK'

by Robert Johnson

Robert Johnson (robert.johnson83@hotmail.co.uk) has emailed this scan. He explains that he has been preparing some GB KGV airmail covers for auction and the attached emerged from the heap.

He suggests that since we are systematically listing insufficient prepaid marks, we might like to use this cover to get readers to send in other examples of explanatory marks.

The 10d per 1/2 oz service was in force between the 1st November 1933 and the 16th November 1934.

The Editor fully agree and will be very willing to include such marks in Forerunners.



Compulsary Registration

by Peter Thy

This letter was mailed from Palapye, Bechanaland in 1948 to Border Chemical Corporation, Border, East London. It arrived in Border and was refused and returned to the sender. The reason for the refusal was no doubt that the letter was taxed 8d as detailed in the label affixed on the reverse. Banknotes and postal orders were not allowed in letters without registration. Violation would result in compulsory registration. The taxed 8d amounts to twice the registration fee. The letter was probably selected for examination because it was addressed to Border Chemical to which money enclosures were expected. It was opened at Border Post Office on the April 19 after arrival there on April 15. It was discovered as expected that the letter contrary to regulations contained a 4/6d postal order.



Reduced to 65 % of the originals.



From Bechuanaland to the WW1 Battlefield

by Peter Thy



Figure 1.

This is a truly a miserable cover (Figure 1). It has all the earmarks of a cover that a discriminating collector would hesitate even to touch with his or hers favorite tongs and certainly would never admit in public to own. To mention, all the stamps originally affixed on the front have been removed without traces, the canceling therefore is only discernible by part of a remaining date '1. JUN.', a large tear occur just below the upper left corner and penetrates toward the right, numerous collector scribbles are all over it, and the usual tear and wear admittedly often seen on this type of stationery are also there. So yes a miserable cover that truly can compete with the Bechuanaland cover described by Peter Lodoen in Forerunners no. 61. But let's look at the misery in more details perhaps to understand why it is still sitting in my collection.

The registration envelope used for the letter is a typical British envelope overprinted during 1913-1917 for use in Bechuanaland Protectorate. It is the smallest envelope available (Size F). According to Thy and Inglefield-Watson it is a RE 32 of which three different types are known identified by a date code next to the printers imprint under the flap (McCorquodale & Co.). The known dates are G.F., K.F., and E.G. (or July 1912, Oct. 1912, and May 1913, respectively). The present envelope, however, has a F.G. date code identifying the printing of the envelope to be June 1913 (but not necessary the date of the stamp imprint and certainly not the overprinting). This date code has previously not been recorded and would likely be assigned the number RE 32d in a future revision of the stationery catalogue. The envelope is missing full stop after 'FEE PAID' in the lower left

corner on the front. This may be common for envelopes printed in 1913 and later.

The registered letter was mailed in June 1917 from Palapye Road by the rail Station Master. The registration cachet clearly identify the office of dispatch as Palapye Road despite no complete dated cancellers are preserved. The sender is identified by a crowned oval dated cachet on the reverse reading 'STATION MASTER/11 JUN 1917/ PALAPYE ROAD'. The incomplete data given on the front as '1 JUN.' should thus probably be read as 11. JUNE 1917, the date when the registered letter was handled in over the counter. In 1917, the registration fee was 4d paid by the surcharged stamp imprinted on the envelope. The fee for mailing a letter in 1917 to Europe was 2½d per 1½ oz.

The recipient of the letter was a soldier serving in the British Army somewhere in Belgium or France during the First World War. It is addressed to

No. 4236 Pte D. Fenton,
140 M. G. Company,
A Section,
B. E. F.,
France or Belgium.

'M.G.' stands for Machine Gun and 'B.E.F.' for British Expeditionary Forces. The 140th M.G. Company was formed in the 47th (2nd London) Division in 1915. The Division took part in the Battle of Pilkem Ridge (31 July - 2 August) as well as the remaining of the Third Battles of Ypres fought until September 17, 1917.



Figure 2.

When the letter reached the battlefield in very late July 1917, the Third Battle of Ypres (Passchendaele) had begun with heavy artillery bombardment followed by a major First Army offensive launched on July 31. The battle dragged out due to severe weather and to unexpected strong German fortification. The Allied made few advances during most of the rest of the year and suffered severe casualties mounting to 310,000 men. The MG Companies were often heavily inflicted with up to 30 % killed in action.

It is thus not surprising that the letter from Bechuanaland had problems locating its recipient in the Battlefield of Flanders. The letter went via Cape Town to London. An incomplete London registered letter section 20 JY date cancel appears on the reverse. It was sorted in London at the Base Army Post Office as was practice at that time. It first went to APO R47 (47th (2nd London) Division Railhead), where the recipient was expected to be found, and then on to FPO 173 on the same day of July 29. APO R47 was in 1917 located near Ypres of Belgium, right in the hot spot for the Ypres offensive a few days later. The FPO 173 cancel was assigned to the 173 Brigade of the 58 Division, probably in the same area.

The Army cancels on the reverse are:
 ARMY POST OFFICE R.47 (29 JY 17)
 FIELD POST OFFICE 173 (29 JY 17)
 FIELD POST OFFICE T.G. (30 JY 17)
 ARMY POST OFFICE S.18 (30 JY 17)
 ARMY POST OFFICE S.18 (31 JY 17)
 FIELD POST OFFICE 173 (4 AU 17)
 ARMY POST OFFICE R.47 (4 AU 17)
 ARMY POST OFFICE S.1. (AU 5 17)

Having not found Pte Fenton, the letter moved away from the battle to FPO TG and then to APO S18, reaching both the next day of July 30. FPO TG was located at Hesdin and APO

S18 at Camiers, both in France toward the west coast of Pas-des-Calais along the English Channel. FPO TG appears to have been a major rail intersection and APO S18 was the major base depot of the British Army in France and also the base depot of the Machine Gun Corps. The letter was returned the following day from APO S18 back to FPO 173 and again APO R47, still near Ypres, where it arrived on August 4. From there it made the trip back to the coast to APO S1 which was the Southern Central Office for the Army Cross Post in France at Abbeville.

Somewhere along this route information on the whereabouts of Pte Fenton was obtained, probably at APO R47, and a note was scribbled on the reverse of the letter reading:

No. 4 Ward,

1st South African General Hospital.

The 1st South African General Hospital was attached to the B.E.F. in France and was located at Abbeville during 1916 to 1918. It was managed by the South African Medical Corps, had over 1000 beds, and was staffed largely by South African volunteers. It was thus not solely for South Africans, but was serving the Allies in general.

There is a '4' in a circle on the front and also a note in the lower right corner reading 'No Record 4 Gen' (or is it Gan?) that has been crossed out. It is thus probable that the letter after all reached the SA Hospital without further postal markings. The roughly torn envelope toward the top and left and the lack of further forwarding markings may be indications that it finally reached Pte Fenton. It is also reassuring that there is no Pte 4236 D. Fenton listed as having died during 1917-1918, despite two other D. Fentons are indeed listed.

The passage of the wounded from the Western front was often first to a Regimental First Aid post for emergency first aid, then if required to a Field Hospital (forward hospital/clearing station) near the front, where first surgical interventions were carried out, and if the patient did not die, to a larger base hospital like the 1st South African General Hospital, where sur-

geons and nurses were better equipped to deal with complicated problems. These hospitals varied in bed-numbers from the mid-200's to several 1000s and were located well away from the battlefield near a port from where patients could be moved (often by hospital ship) to England to received further hospital care or to recuperate.

Sources

Proud, E.B. (undated). History of British Army Postal Service. Vol. 2-1903-1927. Proud-Bailey, Norfolk, UK.
 The Long, Long Trail. <http://www.1914-1918.net/> (Feb. 2010).
 Thy, P. and Inglefield-Watson, J., 2004. The Postal Stationery of the Bechuanalands and Botswana. British Philatelic Trust, London.

Thanks to Robin Pelteret for the information on the 1st South African General Hospital and other information on army hospital organization and care during World War One.



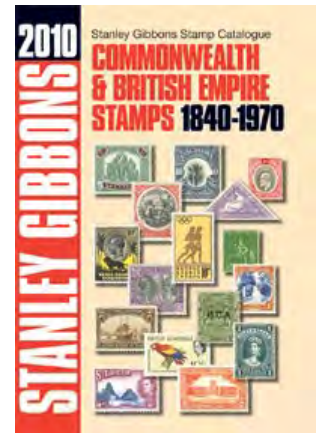
1916 postcard from the battlefield of World War One to Bechuanaland. Cancelled by FPO 51 and censored and addressed to Tati Territory, Bechuanaland Protectorate. The picture shows the trenches of the Western Front.

For the Record

88. The publication of the 2010 edition of the **South African Colour Catalogue** has just been announced. The new publisher after the untimely death of Heffermann is **Philimpex Philately** of South Africa that can be reached by writing to P.O. Box 918, Halfway House 1685, South Africa, or email to philimpex@philimpex.co.za. The price is R499 to which postage will be added.
89. A new issue of the **Post Office Stone** (Whole no. 139) has been mailed to all members of the **Postmark and Postal History Society of Southern Africa**. This is indeed good news that shows us that the society is still active despite a year-long hiatus in the publication record. The society has also published a new **Occasional Paper** (no. 18) detailing the postal history of the **Swaziland Commando during Angle-Boer War**. The society can be reached by writing to the secretary Marge Viljoen, P.O. Box 835, Groenkloof 0027, South Africa. The new Editor is Okkie de Jager that can be reached by writing to okkie.dejager@nwu.ac.za.
90. The **Rhodesian Study Circle** is conducting a study of **Southern Rhodesia postal history during World War 2** with the goal of producing a society memoir. They need information on internment camps, POW mail, free Xmas mail, RAF camps, army camps, BSAC police, Royal Hellenic Air Force cachets, South African war train, patriotic labels, war economy labels, and other related subjects. Contact Christopher Cooksey at cooksey@one-name.org if you can help.
91. **Theodore Tedesco** has published the final installment of his 'Index of literature in the English language that describes postage stamp forgeries, fakes, reprints, fraudulent postal markings, and other obliterations' in the Philatelic Literature Review (vol. 58, 138-247, 2009). This time it contains an author index.
92. The **Rhodesian Study Circle** has distributed the list of their March 2010 auction. It contains 540 lots of stamps, postmarks, revenues, postcards, aerophilately, and general postal history from the areas of interest (BSAC, Rhodesians, Nyasaland, Zimbabwe, Zambia). It should serve as a reminder that society auctions are still possible in the age of internet auctions.
93. A new book with the rather unusual title of 'With the Postcard through Houtteniqualandt, Kannaland and the Lange Kloof' has been published by its author **Pauw Steyl**. The book is basically about the recorded postal history of the Southern Cape, specifically the original George District (1777-1911), including the Districts Knysna, Mossel Bay, Oudtshoorn, and George. It is published by the author in full color. Contact him by writing to pauwsteyl@postalhistory.co.za. Visit www.postalhistory.co.za for more details.
94. **Victoria Stamp Company** has released the catalogue for their Public Auction No. 27 (January 30, 2010). It contained several strong collections, including David Herendeen's British Commonwealth Postage Dues and Robert Winter's collection of British Commonwealth QEII Errors. Go to www.VictoriaStampCompany.com for information on fu-

ture auctions.

95. **Spink** has sold the **Pierron Collection of modern British Commonwealth missing color errors** during auction on December 8, 2009. The entire catalog can be downloaded or viewed at <http://www.spink.com>. The Pierron's online catalogue can be seen at www.errors.com including not only color errors but also other types of errors like perforation, watermark, printing, etc.



96. **Stanley Gibbons** has released, in August 2009, the 2010 edition of the **Commonwealth and British Empire Stamps 1840-1970** catalogue. Included are several new plate flaws, inverted, and reversed watermark varieties.
97. **Argyll Etkin** has announced that their May 20th Auction will include the **David Wessely** postal history collection of **Bechuanaland**. David was until recently a long-standing member of PSGSA. His collection was won several national and international gold medals.
98. **Michael Hamilton** maintains an on-line shop devoted to stamps, postmarks, and postal history. It contains a strong British Africa selection. It can be viewed at <http://www.michael-hamilton.com>.

Pelican Point Lighthouse



The Pelican Point Lighthouse was built in 1932 by the South African government on the sandy peninsula sheltering Walvis Bay. The tower is 34 meter high. See page 56 for more details. Photo Gunter Scheuermann.

Forerunners Forum

Questions, Comments, and Answers

UK Tax Mark Book Still Available

An updated version of the Ken Senelson book on UK tax marks book reviewed in FR#65 is now available directly from the author at ksnelson@rogers.com.

More Schuler Covers

David Crocker (trident@lando.co.za) has written to report several Schuler covers in addition to those reported in FR#64 by John Pugsley and Tim Bartshe. The new covers are part of David's recent exhibit at the SA National Exhibition in Bloemfontein entitled "THE BOER INVASION OF THE NORTHERN CAPE VIA THE ORANGE RIVER." The collection was shown in support for the Oorlogs Museum in Bloemfontein, but has now been broken up for sale.

1. Vield Dienst Cover addressed to Mr C.B.(R) SCHULER,P. O.Box 4298 Johbg. Z.A.R. backstamped Johannesburg 3rd December 1899.
2. WARRENTON 1d ZAR addressed K.R.Schuler Bus 4298 Johannesburg backstamped Johannesburg 28th December 1899.
3. BURGHERSDORP / C.G.H. dated JA 15 backstamped Johannesburg 18th January 1900 on arrival but BETHULIE / O.V.S. in transit 15 JA 19 has short message on reverse.
4. COLESBURG / C.G.H. Free State Postcard addressed K.R. Schuler Bus 4298 Johannesburg backstamped Johannesburg 7th January 1900, the card also contains a message.
5. COLESBURG / C.G.H. mixed franking of 1/2 Penny Orange of OFS and 1/2 Green of ZAR cancelled 31st December 1899, postmarked Johannesburg 8th January 1900 on arrival.
6. COLESBURG / C.G.H. cancelling Transvaal 1/2 Green Postcard addressed K.R.Schuler Bus 4298 Johannesburg, also has message on reverse and is backstamped 7th January 1900 on arrival in PRETORIA.

British Bechuanaland Postmark



1893 on a block of eight 1d stamps. Two different cancels with HARTZ or HARTS exit. This is the most common with the spelling Hartz. Also shown is an indeed rare incoming 1888 cover to Dry Hartz.



There is a handful of rare British Bechuanaland postmarks mostly from agencies only opened just before (or after) Cape annexation.

This example is from Dry Hartz used in

Mafeking Siege Cancells

This block confirms something that the Editor has long suspected. Somebody during the Mafeking siege in 1900 made-up several sheets with affixed siege stamps and got them nicely stamped. These have since been sold one-by-one as canceled stamps (which they surely are).



Dirty Hut Tax Token

The Editor has clearly a soft spot for Rhodesian hut tax tokens. Here is another example, however, this time it has not been cleaned.



Botswana CO-OP GCC

Can anybody identify this label? It is inscribed 'BOTSWANA/CO-OP/GCC'. This is self explanatory, except what does 'GCC' stand for? Gaborone Cycling Club or perhaps more reasonable Gaborone City Council? Was it a tax or a savings stamp? Any help?

AIDS Cancel from Botswana

Peter Jukes has emailed from Botswana an example of recent AIDS cancels that have been in use at several post offices.



Book Reviews

NEW ZEALAND POSTAL NOTES 1886-1986. A Priced Catalog. Including notes on British Postal Orders Issued in New Zealand by Jack Harwood. Order from Jack Harwood, 3241 Ringwood Mdw, Sarasota FL 34235-7005, USA; email: jharwood2@comcast.net. Price US\$45 + \$4 postage in USA. £38 postpaid to U.K. Payment via personal check (cheque) or Paypal.

For the first time, collectors have a reference work which details all Postal Note issues of New Zealand. This catalog presents the results of almost thirty years of collecting and research. Twenty-seven separate and distinct Postal Note types

are identified, with most photographed in full color. Every variety and denomination is listed and priced. Counterfoil types are described and pictured, and watermarks are identified. Other sections include information on Post Office Training School usage, remaindered items, "star" notes, archival holdings at both Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa and New Zealand Post, and extensive listings of British Postal Orders issued in New Zealand. A series of appendices include information on serial numbers for many issues, plus a group of Official Acts and documents relating to Postal Notes. Published by the author

This catalog should help both philatelists, who typically consider Postal Notes to be a form of postal stationery, and numismatists, who consider them a form of paper money. The catalog is easy to use, with a separate page devoted to each type and design. Several charts assist in locating items by year of issue and design characteristics.

New Books

- Harwood, J., 2010. New Zealand Postal Notes 1886-1986. Published by the author at 3241 Ringwood Mdw, Sarasota FL 34235-7005, USA; jharwood2@comcast.net.
- Porter, R. and Sandilands, J., 2009. The Swaziland Commando, Anglo Boer War 1899-1902. A Philatelic Documentation of the Movements as Described in the Hilhorst Correspondence. Occasional Paper 18, The Postmark and Postal History Society of Southern Africa, 36 pages.
- Steyl, P., 2009. With the Postcard Through Houtteniqualandt, Kannaland and the Lange Kloof. Available from the author at P.O. Box 9748, George, 6530, South Africa, pauwsteyl@postalhistory.co.za or www.postalhistory.co.za.
- South African Colour Catalogue 2010. Philimpex Philately, P.O. Box 918, Halfway House 1685, South Africa, philimpex@philimpex.co.za.

Highlights From Journals and Newsletters

- Allison, D., 2009. A hubbub of subhubs. The Post Office Stone 38 (Whole no. 139), 14-18.
- Amore, H., 2009. His Majesty's Hospital Ship "Ebani", a World War 1 cover. The Post Office Stone 38 (Whole no. 139), 6-7.
- Arrow, N., 2009. "Make Your Sixpence Fly" The red cross "Our Day" Aerial Post, October to December 1918. The Springbok 57 (Whole no. 307), 62-67.
- Board, C., 2009. Where exactly was Komati (Middle)? The Transvaal Philatelist 44 (Whole no. 172), 88-92.
- Burke, S. and Reah-Johnson, S., 2009. A confusion of cancels. The Journal of the Rhodesian Study Circle 59 (Whole no. 233), 161-172.
- Davis, T., 2009. Zululand: Rorke's Drift and Ntingwe recalled. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal 13 (Whole no. 52), 140-142.
- de Jager, O., 2009. Postal routes between South Africa and the Congos during the interprovincial era. The Post Office Stone 38 (Whole no. 139), 10-13.
- Debney, R. and Dickson, J., 2009. The Morewood correspon-

- dence: a Natal letter of February 1850. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal 13 (Whole no. 52), 156-158.
- Dickson, J., 2009. Cape records of English mails between July 1849 and February 1851. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal 13 (Whole no. 52), 159-167.
- Dickson, J., 2009. Natal postal regulations and official information 1873 – fourth extract. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal 13 (Whole no. 52), 168-176.
- Dickson, J., 2009. The Union Company's Atlantic service, 1872 to 1876: part 3. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal 13 (Whole no. 52), 177-182.
- Drysdall, A., 2009. Northern Rhodesia dies and plates 1925-51. London Philatelist 118 (Whole no. 1371), 376-389.
- Drysdall, A. and Hickman, P., 2009. Two early covers from Barotseland sent via the Bechuanaland Protectorate. The Journal of the Rhodesian Study Circle 59 (Whole no. 233), 155-160.
- Faers, C., 2009. South African occupation of German South West Africa: adapted German postmarks. The Springbok 57 (Whole no. 307), 82-85.
- Goldblatt, R., 2009. The House of Stamps. South Africa Philatelist 85 (Whole no. 897), 814-815.
- Howgrave-Graham, T. and Farrell, M., 2009. The Rotogravure 1/- Gnu's – issue 4. The Springbok 57 (Whole no. 307), 86-91.
- Kruger, G., 2009. Manuscript cancellations of van Brandis and Rider Haggard. The Transvaal Philatelist 44 (Whole no. 172), 83-86.
- Leefflang, B., 2009. Thorne, Stuttaford - a Cape pioneer postcard publisher. South African Philatelist 85 (Whole no. 897), 806-807.
- Maselis, P., 2009. The Hertwig and Manduau labels in the Congo (1883-1884). London Philatelist 118, 352-365.
- Messenger, P., 2009. The flower standard postage stamps of South Africa. South Africa Philatelist 85 (Whole no. 897), 818-820.
- Messenger, R., 2009. The antelope standard postage stamp of South Africa. South Africa Philatelist 85 (Whole no. 896), 782-784.
- Porter, R., 2009. Natal Government Railways: the "N G R" perfin. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal 13 (Whole no. 52), 148-155.
- Porter, R., 2009. POA cancels on active service mail from Ladysmith. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal 13 (Whole no. 52), 143-147.
- Pringle, A., 2009. Postal services provided by the flying boats. South Africa Philatelist 85 (Whole no. 897), 812-813.
- Thy, P., 2009. Postal stationery news and view - 10. The Runner Post Whole no. 76, 1886-1893.

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.

Hisey and Bartshe, 2009. Philately of the Orange Free State, Vol. 3. Hardbound, 205 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.

GSWA, OFS postal stationary & the Cape of Good Hope pre-stamp period are my interests. Philatelists wishing to correspond and exchange information / material can write to me at: Hennie Taljaard, P O Box 816, Ceres, 6835, RSA or stadsbeplanner@ananzi.co.za.

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 Wannenaeckern 14, D-70374 Stuttgart 50, Germany.

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).

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.

Commercial Ad Rate Schedule

Premium positions:

1/1 page inside front cover single issue \$60, annual \$150, two years \$280.

1/1 page inside back cover single issue \$50, annual \$120, two years \$200.

1/1 page outside back cover single issue \$60, annual \$150, two years \$280.

Contact the Editor for smaller ad sizes.

Non-premium position:

1/2 page: single issue \$20, annual \$60, two years \$100.

1/1 page: single issue \$40, annual \$95, two years \$170.

All advertisers who reserve a full page ad for one year or longer will receive full membership to the PSGSA. Contact the Society Treasurer or Editor for any special requirements and for booking your premium spaces. All payment should be addressed to the Treasurer. The Editor will assist with ad designs if required.

Publications of the PSGSA

Philately of the Orange Free State by R.W. Hisey & R.T. Bartshe

Vol. 3. THE REVENUES AND POSTAL STATIONERY

2009. A history and study of the revenues, military and police franks and postal stationery of the Orange Free State and its occupation. New updated treatment of the subject.

In full color, hardbound, 205 pages.

Price \$35 plus s/h of \$5 in the US and \$10 elsewhere.

Vol. 2. THE TELEGRAPHS

2004. A history and study of the telegraph system and stamps of the Orange Free State and its occupation. The first comprehensive work on this subject. Vermeil at Stampshow 2004.

HH Pirie Prize for best literature in South Africa.

In full color, hardbound, 250 pages.

Price \$35 plus s/h of \$5 in the US and \$10 elsewhere.

Vol. 1. THE POSTAGE STAMPS

2002. Covering the postage stamps of the Orange Free State and its occupation. The most thorough and modern work on this subject available. Gold Medal at Stampshow 2002. Large Vermeils at FIP Espana 2004 and South African National Show 2002.

In full color, hardbound, 280 pages.

Price \$35 plus s/h of \$5 in the US and \$10 elsewhere.

REJECTED-ACCEPTED:

LIFE OF A BOTSWANA STAMP DESIGNER

by P. Lodoen

Price \$25 in color print, \$10 CD-ROM, postage paid.

Download free as pdf file from Society website.

FORERUNNERS ON CD

Edited by R.W. Hisey

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

POSTAL OFFICE NAMES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

ACCORDING TO RALPH PUTZEL

Spreadsheet (Excel) and Database (Access) Compilation of Office Names

Compiled by R.W. Hisey

CD-ROM \$15 pp.

EARLY POSTAL SERVICES OF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

by R. Taylor

Exhibit Series (CD-ROM). \$15 pp.

All publications payable by US or UK check (latter made out to R. W. Hisey), cash, or Paypal to dmcnamee@aol.com. Mail to David McNamee, 15 Woodland Dr., Alamo CA 94507, USA. The OFS books should be ordered from and paid directly to Bob Hisey, 7227 Sparta Rd., Sebring, FL 33875; bobhisey@comcast.net.



QSL card used from Pelican Point Lighthouse of the Walvis Bay, South West Africa, in 1961 to acknowledge communication with an amateur radio station located in USA. The card was forwarded to the US radio operator via the South African Radio League (SARL) under cover to its sister organization in the US. The Pelican Point Lighthouse was established in 1932 and is still active. This lighthouse was built by the government of South Africa during its administration of the Walvis Bay territory. Pelican Point is a long sandy peninsula sheltering Walvis Bay, the best naturally protected harbor on the southwest African coast. The light station is near the tip of the peninsula (see page 53).

Membership Application

Membership fees are \$25 to US mailing addresses 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." Mail all payments to David McNamee, PSGSA Treasurer, 15 Woodland Drive, Alamo, CA 94507 USA. Paypal to "dmcnamee@aol.com" is also acceptable, but please add US\$1 extra to cover part of the PayPal fees we must pay to use the service. For some overseas members, it might be more advantageous to send in dues for two or more years to avoid the annual conversion fees.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email address: _____

APS No: _____

Collecting interests and Comments: _____

Giraffe Stamps



Quality Stamps for all levels of Collectors



Mint and Used Stamps of the British Empire
featuring specialist listings of Southern and Central Africa

www.giraffestamps.com

Expertization of World Classics



Sismondo
EXPERTS

www.sismondostamps.com
sismondo@dreamscape.com

Reliable, Competitively Priced & FAST!

Estimated Turnaround Time: 2-3 WEEKS!

*Photo Certificates with
Detailed, Accurate, and Complete Descriptions
If you have stamps which require certification, mail them today!*

Liane & Sergio Sismondo

Philatelic Experts

10035 Carousel Center Drive
Syracuse, New York 13290-0001

ASDA * NSDA * PTS * CSDA

THE RARE AND UNUSUAL

Parcel from the South African Republic to the UK in 1900

Deze etikette kan alleen dienen voor pakketten bestemd voor plaatsen in Zuid-Afrika.		PAKKETPOST (Zuid-Afrikaansche Republiek.)		De waarde van Pakketten voor Natal, Kaapkolonie, O.V. Straal en Britsch Bechuanaland, enz., moet opgegeven worden.	
No.	Adres: <i>Mrs Ansell</i> <i>Catharine Towers</i> <i>Rugby.</i>				
Maximumgewicht 11 lbs., maximum lengte 39 1/4 inch, maximum breedte en omtrek te zamen 6 voet.	Ik certificeer dat dit pakket bevat:				
TARIEF. Voor het binnenland, Swazieland, Oranje Vrijstaat, Natal, Kaapkolonie en Londen. Marques, 4d. per 5000 of gedeelte daarvan en 2d. voor iedere bijkomende 4 onzen of gedeelte daarvan. Naar het British Protectoraat en Rhodesia (zie Postgids).	waarde £ en dat geen artikel ingesloten is onderworpen aan een hooger tarief dan dat voor pakketten.				
	Handteekening: _____				
	Adres: _____				
	Datum: _____				
<p>WAARSCHUWING.—Artikel 100 van Wet no. 18, 1888, bepaalt dat een ieder die een pakket of drukwerken op de post bezorgt of laat bezorgen, waarvan de inhoud onzeker is, aan een hooger tarief of misschien op de bestemmingsplaats van een pakket, een vast bedrag van den inhoud er van zal schrijven, indien daaraan schuldige bevonden, onderhevig zal zijn aan een boete van niet meer dan Vijftig Ponden Sterling of aan gevangenisstraf met of zonder harden arbeid voor een tijdperk van niet meer dan Zes Maanden.</p>					
(P.P. no. 1a.)		100,000, 1-2-99.			

This parcel was mailed from the British Base Post Office on 3. Oct., 1900, went via London and arrived in Rugby, UK, on 3. Nov. What is most interesting, other than the very rare parcel form, is the fact that most of the stamps used for the mailing were “provisionally” overprinted in manuscript “V.R.I.”. The parcel is without question authentic; cancels override the overprints, all stamps are tied/canceled, and the package arrived at its destination. The rates at this time are unknown. During the prewar period, the UPU rates were 3d for 4 oz. Examples of parcel forms from the first decade of the 20th century indicate 4d for the first 8 oz and 2d for each subsequent 4 oz. This was a large package probably 26-28 oz. Rare and unusual indeed.

Reduced to 75 % of the originals.

