



******FORERUNNERS*

JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY FOR GREATER SOUTHERN AFRICA

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

Volume XXVII, Number 2, Whole No. 78

November 2013 - February 2014



Nelson Mandela 1918-2013

Highlights

Pre-philately of Port Elizabeth

West Charterland Once Again

Conference Report

Franked Telegram Envelopes

British Bechuanaland Wrappers

Auction Debriefing

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Botswana Post issued this stamps in 2012 as part of a 6-stamp series. The theme was 'Myths and Legends of Botswana.' The P6.60 stamp shown is inscribed 'How Death came to the World.' Printing details are still unknown.

Front Illustration:

South Africa issued on 11th February, 2014, a souvenir folder to honor the legacy of Nelson Mandela. The stamp is valid for standard inland postage (R2.80) and is being sold only as part of a souvenir folder for R50.

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

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Editorial Notes

This issue is shorter than normal with 28 pages. It is only because of two last minute articles that we are able to make it to the press in time with a nearly complete edition (should have been 32 pages). This must remind us that it is the members who write our journal and if nobody writes articles, large or small, there will be no Forerunners.

The two last minute articles were on the Port Elizabeth philately by Johnny Barth and a study of the British Bechuanaland newspaper wrappers sold on eBay by John Courtis. The next issue will depending on you participating be ready in late June.

It was an exciting fall for the Editor. In November, 2013, I had to attend a meeting in Denmark and decided to stop on my way by the 10th joint meeting of the southern African specialist societies, this year being organized by Simon Peetoom at Leamington Spa in Warwickshire, England. It was a most enjoyable weekend with a series of invited talks of various subjects, followed by shorter contributions, a large auction, and not to forget discussions during dinner time and afterward in the bar. This year saw a heavy dose of Orange Free State because of the study circles 60th anniversary. See Chris Oliver report starting on page 38 for the details. It was a worthwhile weekend immersed in philately and lots of opportunities to see old friends and to meet new ones. Highly recommended, if you should ever get a chance.

The Forerunners was entered in the literature competition at CHICACOPEX 2013 and received a silver-bronze. This was a two-level downgrading from our normal award level, including the previous STAMPSHOW 2013. Although there is no reason for speculating about why - as this is just an outlier that defines our normal medal level. It is however worthwhile to consider a couple of the suggestions offered by the jury: (1) "needs more editorial work, esp. caps and punctuation, sentence structure, grammatical errors," (2) "illustrations clarity not sharp," and (3) "layout needs improvements and illustrations not effective." The problem with syntax and grammar is a longstanding problem with which we have long struggled. It is therefore good to report that Moody Tidwell has volunteered to act as proof reader. He worked on the last issue and again this time. Let us know if you see improvements.



Peter Thy

The deadline for the next issue will be June 15, 2014. Please let the Editor have your contributions - small or large - as soon as possible.

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

Contact David McNamee if you wish to reach another member.



Resolution of Illustrations

The quality of the illustrations in Forerunners is an important part of the journal. We can all agree about this. We all want illustrations that allow us to see all the details and the real colors, both on the computer screen and in the printed journal. Despite this, more and more illustrations submitted are of a subquality and easily pixellate when enlarged (as above). This is becoming more and more common with images often downloaded from internet sites. Is this an unavoidable consequence of a changing world and collectors now using internet information for their research? A good example is the research article in this issue on the British Bechuanaland newspaper wrappers. All the information used in this article was obtained from eBay and likewise all images were also downloaded from eBay. Will we have to accept this in the future or is there anything that we can do about it?

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 \$6. A sample 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) US \$ or £ Sterling bank notes at the current exchange rates and mailed at the sender's own risk, or (3) PayPal plus \$1 fee to the Society Treasurer at dmcnamee@aol.com. All membership fees and other payments should be mailed directly to the Treasurer. All communications about membership, subscriptions, publications, activities, and services of the Society should be sent to the Secretary.

Instructions for Manuscript Submissions

Manuscripts should be sent 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 in color and 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.

President's Corner

This is the time of year when I wish that I had been one of the migratory birds that has the good sense to depart from our northern location and await the winter in a warmer climate. We have been experiencing some really low temperatures over the past couple of weeks, with the mercury dropping to -21°C (-3°F), almost to the point where you wonder if the car will start! In addition, we experienced an ice storm in and around Toronto that weighed down so many trees that large branches were breaking off and landing on the overhead power lines. This created power failures over much of our area and we were without power for three days! We tried to be tough and cope with it. But one night on our Swedish foam mattress turned into a concrete, I gave up and were on the 'phone to the nearest hotel and a room with HEAT! The citizens of Toronto had a really tough time, with power in some areas being out for quite a few days and elderly residents of high rise condo towers with no emergency power supply being in really poor shape.

At a recent meeting of the Philatelic Specialists Society, we were entertained by a most interesting talk by one of our members on early postal systems in Cuba. He informed us that Cuba had a railroad system before Canada and had a working mail system with circular date stamps before such was instituted here in the north! Many of the talks given by our members at the monthly meetings are well researched and with the modern technology available, we get illustrations of the material under discussion.

I received an e-mail the other day regarding the discovery of a rare Bechuanaland revenue stamp with the BPA commenting that it was the first time they had issued a certificate for this stamp, with only two known unused copies and one postally used. I am sure further details will be included in our journal.

Until next time...

Alan J. Hanks

Preservation of Scale in Forerunners

Despite that we strive to preserve the original scales of philatelic material in Forerunners, often we fail for either practical reasons or because of technical or printing problems. It can be difficult to fit many large sized envelopes onto a couple of pages and reduction in size is necessary. In most cases the reduction will be given. More that often the scans submitted do not conform with my computer and software. The results too often is that the original scale of an item is lost in the transfer. This is not necessarily a fault of the author. In some cases it may, however, be clear the author has little experiences with using his or her scanner and software. There is not much that can be done about this. In those cases, we try to estimate the real size if important (such as for stamps, overprints, and cancels). An additional complication is that adjustments in size may occur during printing, as was the case for the last issue. It is therefore important that illustrations in Forerunners are not used for research and expertizing purposes. If you submit articles with illustrations that require exact scaling, please let me know so we can work on it.

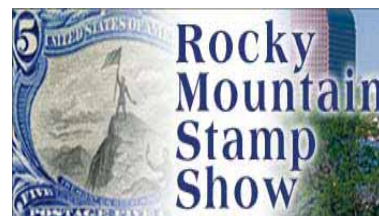
Mark Your Calendar

Several important stamp shows and exhibitions are fast approaching. It is now time for making a decision about to attend and to mark your calendar.

LONDON 2015 on the occasion of the 175th anniversary of the first postage stamps is an international exhibition in London 13-16 May 2015. Go to <http://www.london2015.net/welcome-to-london-2015/> for the details. There will be no US commissioner for the show and applications for exhibiting must be submitted directly to the show committee in London.

Rocky Mountain Stamp Show 2015 (May 15-17) is being planned to feature southern Africa with participations of national and international specialist societies. Updates when available will be posted on <http://www.rockymountainstampshow.com/> as well as in Forerunners.

World Stamp Show NY 2016 is an international show to be played out in New York from May 28 to June 4, 2016. Go to <http://www.ny2016.org/> for all the details.



TBVC Studiegroep/Study Group

The study group has started a comprehensive study of the stamp issues of the South Africa Homelands. TBVC stands for Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda, and Ciskei. So far 18 summaries of the stamp issues of Transkei, Bophuthatswana, and Venda have been distributed:

- No. T1: Summary; 1963 Transkei Legislative Assembly; 1976 independence series (8 pages).
- No. T2: 1976-84 First definitive series (12 pages).
- No. T3: 1977 Transkei Airways; 1977 medical plants; 1977 Radio Transkei (8 pages).
- No. T4: 1977 Help of the blind; 1978 pipes, weaving, and wild fruits (9 pages).
- No. T5: 1978 cripples; 1979 initiation, water resources (8 pages).
- No. T6: 1979 year of the child (4 pages).
- No. T7: 1980 fishing flies; 1980 Rotary International; 1980 cycads (9 pages).
- No. B1: Summary, 1977 independence issue (8 pages).
- No. B2: 1977 first definitive series (12 pages).
- No. B3: 1978 world hypertension month; Taung stone works; Wright brothers (8 pages).
- No. B4: 1978-9 first year independence; boxing; road safety (8 pages).
- No. B5: 1979 sorghum beer, platinum, and agriculture (8 pages).
- No. B6: 1979 year of the child (4 pages).
- No. B7: 1980 anti-smoking; 1980 Mafeling (4 pages).
- No. V1: Summary; 1979 independence (4 pages).
- No. V2: 1979 first definitive series (7 pages).
- No. V3: 1980 wood carvings; 1981 tea and sunbirds (8 pages).
- No. V4: 1981 Orchids; 1980 bananas (8 pages).

Each stamp description gives a detailed summary of the philatelic knowledge as well as the special cancellations and covers. If your interest is the homelands, this is definitely something that you will want to see and a project you must get involved in. The group invites comments and input to the project. Contact Connie Liebenberg at jacoli@mweb.co.za to get on the mailing list for the TBVC annexes and to offer your help. Visit <http://tbvcstudygroup.co.za/>.

Sold at Society Auction
1888 Bechuanaland Protectorate
with overprint variant (SG 40).
Sold at \$25.



Society Auction Results

By now the 2013 Society Auction has been completed. All lucky winners should have received their winning lots and the vendors been contacted by the auction manager.

We had over 160 lots for sale ranging from very desirable items to some more modest material. The total estimated reserve was about \$3,600 making the average value at about \$23. Only four members offered items for the auction.

We received 18 bids from 7 bidders for 175 lots, which means only ten percent of the lots received a bid. Only one lot was sold for more than one step over the reserve.

The total amount of the bids was \$614, which includes the 5% fee we added to partially cover mailing expenses and the 3% add-on for PayPal.

This is the disappointing outcome of our first auction in many years and require that we carefully consider why so few members failed to show an interest. Clear answers to these questions are important for deciding how to proceed.

(1) A total of 160 lots from four vendors is satisfactory, although a wider participation could have raised the diversity and brought in more bidders.

(2) The auction excluded lots of a value below \$5. It is clear that the bids received were mainly for the better items. So perhaps we should only accept better items and reject to common material?

(3) How well was the auction advertised and how well was the auction list distributed? The auction was announced in several issues of Forerunners and finally clearly featured in the last issue before closing of the auction one month later in December. A reminder was also included in an email distributing the October Forerunners. The list was posted early on our website and should have been easily available to all members with a computer and an internet access. The fact that we did not receive any requests for help with paper copies can only be taken as an indication that all who wanted to participate did have the opportunity. Are we right?

(4) How should we conduct future auctions? Should we restrict the auction - or fixed price sale - to only better items? Should we offer unsold material at fixed lowered price? Should we include shorter (say 4 pages) lists in Forerunners? Is the electronic distribution of auction lists satisfactory?

Please let us have your feedback as soon as possible.

Peter Lodoen has written, as the only person, about the auction saying: "I suppose we could have a one page auction in the journal, and sent to anyone we have on our mailing list, with only the best items listed. Has to be on paper, that collectors can hold and look at. Maybe, as

suggested, just a net price sale, perhaps one page in the journal, with subscribers submitting lots, and stating their price. If they sell, 15 % to the society."

Electronic Distribution of Forerunners

We have started an electronic distribution test of our journal. The first was #77 that was distributed as an attachment to an email to all members that has registered an email address. We continue the test with this issue (#78) again as an email attachment, but with a standard resolution in contrast to the previous issue that was distributed as a low resolution web mode. The journal will also be available as a download from our website www.psgsa.org. At the same time we will continue to print and mail the journal as usual to all members.

After issue #79, we will evaluate the outcome and decide whether to offer all members starting with issue #80, the option of choosing between receiving the Forerunners as either (1) an email attachment and as a download from our website to a reduced fee or as (2) in addition a printed version at a regular fee. It is plausible that the economy of the printed version will require that we will have to increase the printed fee.

We have received a few responses from members:

Bas Payne writes: Congratulations - a very welcome development provided image quality is maintained or improved. I hope that it will also have searchable text - makes a great difference. I'd be very happy to receive e-copy only. *In a follow-up email, he continues:* I wrote a few hours ago to say that I thought that searchability and the quality of illustrations are both important. Searchability in the text of FR 77 is fine. But this doesn't extend to the text in the tables, which appear to have been treated as illustrations. Is it possible to treat them as tables? - this would make them searchable, and make it possible to export data. I had hoped that the quality of illustrations would be substantially improved - especially of original stamps and covers; sadly, however, most are rather low-resolution, and start pixellating quite quickly, so detail isn't available. Presumably this is because of the relatively small size of the document file; as most people now have quite rapid broadband and large storage capacity, I hope you will consider improving the quality of the illustrations. I don't think many people would be troubled if the document file size increased to - say - 6Mb, and this would give much better illustrations.

Ken Sanford writes: I received it and it looks good.

Ron Carlson writes: The Forerunners #77 came through just fine, interesting reading. Issues stopped coming in some time ago, and many other items from South Africa seem to not make it.

Robert Johnson writes: This came through OK. It worked well and was easy to read and move through the text. Printing a page was no problem.

Now we know that four members are supportive although also critical. But let us also have your comments about the quality of the Forerunners and its ease with which you are able to handle the PDF version on your computer, as well as about the prospects of a transition to an only-electronic format.

Pre-philatelic Covers From Port Elizabeth

by Johnny Barth



Figure 1.

This article originated as a tribute to the first meeting of the Port Elizabeth Philatelic Society held in March 1912. The Society celebrated its 100th birthday in October 2012 by sponsoring the national exhibition Centapex 100. The presentation here of covers from (and to) Port Elizabeth is a greeting to the Society and the exhibition.

During their migration to the east, the Dutch farmers reached in 1776 what was later to be known as Port Elizabeth. Here they started up farming. At that time the area was outside the control of the central government in Cape Town. During the first British occupation a military outpost was erected, called Fort Frederick, which is still to be seen today. It was built high on a hill overlooking the harbour and provided military support to the area, which at that time was very much a frontier border area.

The area was called Algoa Bay until 1820 and the first cover (Fig. 1) is from that period. It is a receipt for gunpowder from Fort Frederick to Captain Smyth at Cape Town. The distribution of all gunpowder was controlled by the Military Authorities in Cape Town. The letter (wrapper) must be from 1806 or 1807, as Captain James Charmichael Smyth was acting colonial secretary 1806-1807. He later commanded the Royal Engineers at the Battle at Waterloo as a Lieut. Colonel – but that is another story. The mail between Fort Frederick and Cape Town was carried by the Dragoon Regiment, at that time the 21 Light Dragoons.

On 6 June 1820, the village was officially named Port Elizabeth, in honour of Elizabeth Frances, the deceased wife of Sir Rufane Shaw Donkin, the acting governor of the Cape Colony.

The next letter (Fig. 2) was sent from Southrepps in Norfolk and has a postmark from Holt (undated, on the back), London Paid Ship Letter and London tombstone, both dated 7 No-

vember 1831. It was prepaid to Cape Town with 1/- in red. On arriving at Cape Town another 1/3 was added, together with the To Pay postmark. The 1/3 is 11 d for the distance between Cape Town and Port Elizabeth plus 4 d postmasters fee, which was paid on all letters entering the Colony. The letter is addressed to Philip Frost in Algoa Bay, Port Elizabeth, Cape of Good Hope, South Africa. The old name Algoa Bay is still used, but now together with Port Elizabeth – old habits die slowly. Philip Frost was one of the 1820 settlers. He was 32 years old when he arrived with his wife Elizabeth (30) and their 6 children (Phillip (11), James (10), William (7), Edward (6), John (4) and Mary (1½) in the ship Ocean with Damant's party.

Port Elizabeth got its Post Office and first Postmaster, William Dunn, 1 February 1822, and its first postmark in 1823 – Fig. 3. The Crown-in-Circle postmark was normally used in black, but Port Elizabeth – together with George and Kowie – is known to have used red ink. Only about 5 covers are known with the Port Elizabeth postmark in red.

The postmark is also known used as a seal – Fig. 4 – and because of that, it wore out quickly. Not many letters are seen with the postmark after 1830.

In 1838 a steamship service was started between Cape Town and the coastal ports of the colony. The first ship was the Hope, which was replaced by Sir John St. Aubyn in 1840. The cover shown as Fig. 5 was sent by the third coastal steamer the Phoenix, sailing from Port Elizabeth 21st October 1844 arriving in Cape Town on the 23rd October. The letter is endorsed “pr. Steamer” and the 11 d rate was prepaid. This cover was described in more details in Cape & Natal Philatelic Journal, June 2007.



Figure 2.



Figure 3.

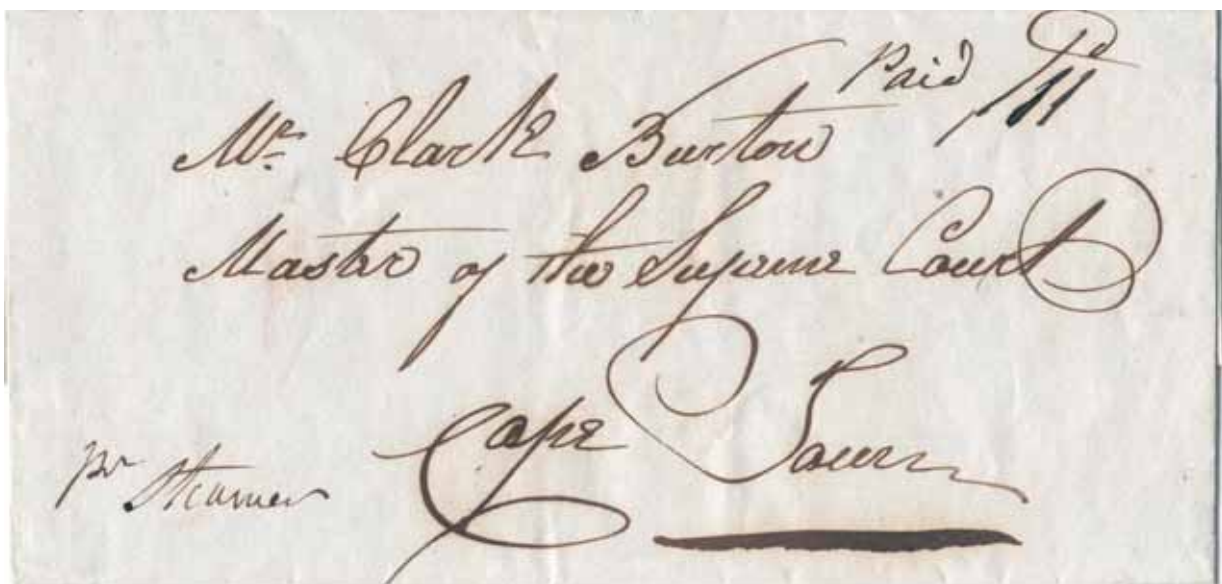




Figure 6.



Figure 7.

The crown-in-circle postmark from Port Elizabeth was not used on this cover, and was rarely used after 1830.

In 1849, 60 towns was issued with new postmarks of an octagonal shape with large numbers. No cover has so far been found from Port Elizabeth and nor has any distribution list, so we don't know what number was issued to Port Elizabeth. In my articles in Forerunners (#56, pages 10-12 and #60, pages 50-54), I suggested that number 45 was issued to the Port Elizabeth, but there is no real proof. Fig. 6 shows a cover sent to Port Elizabeth from Burghersdorp, dated 28 May 1851, with the octagonal 40 postmark from Burghersdorp.

The last postmarks from Port Elizabeth in the prephilatelic period were issued in 1852. They were dated postmarks mak-

ing Port Elizabeth one of only two towns (the other was Cape Town) issued with such in the prephilatelic period. The postmarks incorporated the name of the town, the dating and either "Paid" or "To Pay". Both are known in red, but only about 5 of the "Paid" postmark are in private hands and the only known "To Pay" in red is in a museum collection.

Fig. 8 shows the "Paid" postmark on a very early registered cover. This is one of only two recorded covers in private hands with the "To Pay" postmark.

This article was originally published in the Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal (whole number 64, p. 126-126, 2012). It is reprinted with permissions in a slightly revised version.



Figure 8.

The West Charterland Expedition Again

by Peter Thy

The latest two issues of *Forerunners* (#76 and #77) have carried contributions to the story of the West Charterland Expedition to Ngamiland. This time a couple of pieces to the story have emerged. The first is a caricature of F.D. Lugard that first appeared in *Vanity Fair* on 19th December, 1895. I discovered it in Margery Perham bibliography of the early years of Lugard. Perham describes in vivid details the trek of the West Charterland Expedition to Ngamiland with Frederick Lugard as its leader. Facing the advancing rinderpest, he and his team of 11 Europeans and 27 'Cape-boys' started out in the face of all odds with mule and donkey drawn wagons using a total of 170 mules and donkeys pulling 35,000 lbs total load, mainly made up of food. Arrangement was made for subsidiary supply expeditions for the following years. The trek up north was littered by the carcasses of oxen contamination the scarce water supplies. Flies covered the wagons and their donkeys and mules died in alarming numbers. Increasing tensions between Lugard and the American mining engineer resulted in the latter leaving the expedition in Gaberones. Here they were told that the trek route to Bulawayo was littered by 64,000 dead trek oxen in addition to 4,000 stranded wagons. They arrived on June 1, 1896, in Palapye where Lugard obtained Chief Kharma's permission to proceed together with a promise of a weekly runner service between their Ngamiland camp and Palapye. Kharma further warned them against Chief Sekgoma of the Ngamiland with which he had a boundary dispute. On June 15th they continued on the most difficult 400 miles, but now without reliable maps, insufficient water supplies, and through Bushman territory. Lugard described the Bushmen as "the most ghastly, hideous animals" he ever had seen. Unfortunately, I am now running out of space and you will have to read for yourself. Have a good reading.

Perham, M., 1956. Lugard. The years of Adventure 1858-1898. Collins, London.

F.D. Lugard's signature on 1896 letter to a friend.



Caricature of F.D. Lugard from *Vanity Fair*, 19th December, 1895.

Conference Report: Leamington Spa 2013

by Chris Oliver

A Report of the Southern Africa Philatelic Societies Conference at the Falstaff Hotel, Leamington Spa on 8th - 10th November 2013.

Simon Peetoom organized another excellent Conference, the tenth, with more and different people attending than on previous occasions. If it grows much more, an alternative venue may be required.

Some of us had arrived from overseas with two from America, one from Germany, another from Norway and one, Bob Hill, from Hitchin Hitchin, who won the Tony Chilton Memorial Cup this year, by popular vote. A good number of us arrived on Friday evening but after assembling at the bar, were subject to voluntary apartheid, as members of the O.F.S. Study Circle & their guests were to enjoy a 60th anniversary dinner, whilst others of us removed to the main restaurant. This was also enjoyable, with much convivial discussion between us.

After a prolonged breakfast and the arrival of a few more friends, those present descended to the depths where Otto Peetoom and Simon Peetoom were open for trading and Dickon Pollard enabled viewing of some of the items in his forthcoming auction sale to take place. Not to be outdone, Nick Arrow supervised the viewing of the lots being auctioned in the Sunday sale.

An early start on the invited displays for the day was enhanced, as far as this report is concerned, because each speaker provided a synopsis of the content to the organiser prior to the event.

1) **Orange Free State Postal History 1834-1900** by Bob Allison RDPSA

The display of 19 frames began with three missionary covers, 1834-1839, and an 1847 letter from a Cornet in the 9th Dragoon Guards stationed at the Fort in Bloemfontein. Early Orange River Sovereignty (1848-1854) mail included a letter describing the battle of Boomplaatz, a soldier's letter and an 1849 incoming missionary letter. The pre-stamp Republican period, 1854-1868 began with examples of all five BETAALD hand-stamps, two unique, which were introduced shortly after the first Cape stamps. Other covers illustrated other methods of indicating the payment of postage.

Combination mail using Cape triangulars, and then rectangulars were well represented, both before the OFS issued stamps and afterwards. Unexplained triple combinations on pieces were included.

Following 31st December 1880, the end of the combination period, the display concentrated on the rates of postage and their reductions, both internal and outside destinations. A significant comparison of population in 1880 between the OFS and England, each of similar land mass area, saw a population of only 130,000 (60,000 white, 70,000 colored) in the Free State and 24 million in England. Hence the difficulty of finding covers from this period and before.

The display concluded with 15 sheets of pre-1900 OFS railway material and the final frame was dedicated to a miscellany of postcards, both inward and outward. Bob described his display as very much a "work in progress" as there was still so much more information still to be ascertained and confirmed.

2) **The Coil Issues of the Union of South Africa** by Tony Howgrave-Graham

This display is in response to a request to see how these items can best be collected, mounted and displayed. The coil stamps have been neglected cousins of the pictorial issues for too long and no collection of the latter is complete without the coils. The display shows examples of all the Union coil issues including a good selection of R13, the unhyphenated 2d. This issue is a strange, short lived one for which there were no dispensing machines! Mostly used by businesses they were soon replaced by meter stamps. Particular emphasis throughout the display is put upon the variety of ways the two extra rows of images were etched onto the cylinders to create 22 rows of 6, rather than the sheet format of 20. It also illustrates the difficulties encountered, the results and how to recognize them. For some reason more sheets of coil stamps were printed than were required for the vending machines. Records relate to "suitable" sheets being selected for splitting into coil strips but unfortunately fail to mention what the criteria for suitability were. Spare ½d and 1d sheets were issued to post offices cut back to 240 stamp format. Examples of these are shown including a superb interpanneau block of 70 of the 1935 1d which illustrates all the key features of the stamps.

As a postscript the displayer has a request for information. Coil stamps showing various, and varied, marks associated with the vending machines. There are a number of examples of these in the display. Does anyone have any information on the nature and design of the vending machines used?

3) **Field Post Office Double-circle Datestamps in the OFS/ORC during the Anglo-Boer War** by Bob Allison RDPSA

These datestamps are referred to as DC FPO code numeral (eg DC FPO 33). Some 32 such datestamps are recorded as having been used in the OFS/ORC during the Anglo-Boer War. In most cases, the code numeral relates to the Field Post Office (FPO) in which the datestamp was first used. However, subsequent to the reorganization of the South African Field Force in March to May 1900, and the formation of new military mobile columns later in the campaign, some datestamps were used by other FPOs and any one-to-one correspondence was lost.

Which of the DC FPO datestamps had actually been used within the OFS/ORC at some point in the campaign? Fortunately, an authoritative work since was published in 2003: the late Peter Prime's excellent work *British Army Postal Cancellations of the Anglo-Boer War*. From this book, with Peter's

permission, the relevant data was extracted in as simple a form as possible, and converted to tabular format for each type of datestamp. This display is prepared from that format.

4) A Perspective of OFS Postcards after the Anglo-Boer War by Richard Stroud

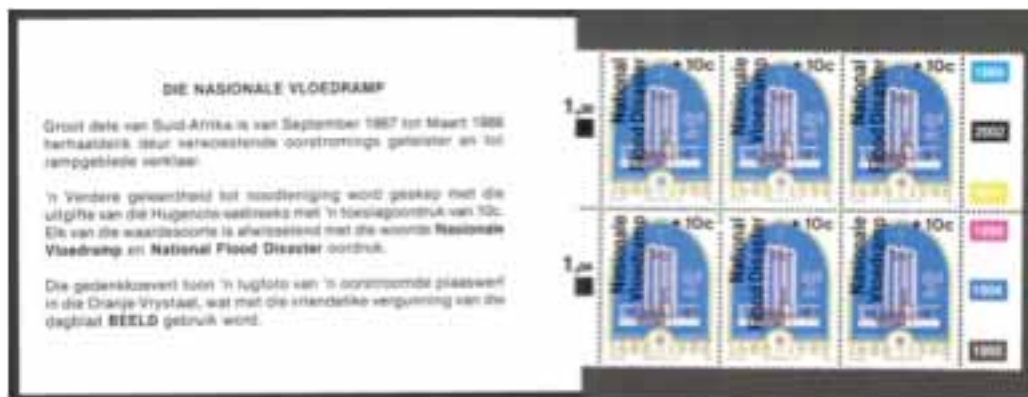
The assembly of a collection of OFS postcards showing the towns and dorps from 1902 onwards may seem to be a straightforward task. However, this is not the case and many locations did not have any such cards for several years, some not until the Union period. The reason for this is that such places had effectively ceased to exist: they had been burnt or devastated, and some destroyed, during the Scorched Earth phase of the Anglo-Boer War.

After the Peace of May 1902, Boer prisoners of war were re-united with their families in the concentration camps, given tools and seed and returned to their devastated farms and damaged towns. This continued well into 1903. It took some years for towns to be rebuilt where major damage had occurred. Those postcards that subsequently were produced - a slow process - show much evidence of new build and this can be seen in the display. Cards from many locations have yet to be found.

tionally or by default, which makes a study of booklets more interesting.

In November 1987, Natal suffered from devastating floods. The government authorised stamps to be issued with a monetary surcharge added to aid the relief fund. Sheets of the 16c. "buildings" definitive stamp were overprinted to include a 10c. surcharge. Some of these sheets were broken down into strips of ten stamps, 2 rows of 5 stamps, with the selvedge used to fix these to a simple booklet cover. On the inside of this cover bilingual statements explaining the reason for the surcharge were printed. Two further surcharged issues on commemorative stamps were treated in a similar way and in April 1988, when the flood disaster was considered national, the surcharged 16c. Huguenot commemorative stamp was also used in booklets.

The affixing of ten stamps in booklet covers by use of the selvedge was continued on all but self-adhesive stamps in South Africa from then on. Through 1993, the Aviation stamps were produced in three differing cover designs, although the outer cover remained the same, and with numerals in the bottom left corner of the ten stamps. The format of sheets to achieve this numerical sequence is indicated. The Aviation booklet covers were used in association with standard rate "rhino" stamps later in 1993. Printpak TVL had also produced a similar "rhino"



5) Republic of S. A. Stamp Booklets 1987 – 2010 by Chris Oliver

This power-point presentation served to augment a display of 84 pages showing the development of stamp booklets in the Republic from 1987, when the S.A. Post Office decided to re-introduce booklets, until 2010.

Although not complete, it is intended to show nuances and peculiarities adopted in their production and issue, either inten-

tionally or by default, which makes a study of booklets more interesting. booklet in August 1993 where the stamp depicted on the cover represented the stamp contained therein with red lettering in black. Each booklet has a date and a batch number indicated on the inside of the flap. In mid 1994 the postage rate had risen from 45c. to 60c. The price on the outer cover of a "rhino" booklet was concealed but the rates shown on the inner face remained as before.

Easipost covers were introduced in February 1995 containing standard “rhino” stamps. Again, these are dated with batch codes on the inside of the flap. This continued, with various stamp reprints, until October 1996. The Masakhane commemorative stamps of 1995/96 were issued in booklet form in unilingual cover types for both large and small format stamps.

In May 1996 five air postcard rate “Big Five” stamps were issued in a booklet together with five stylized airmail etiquette labels and reproduced in a different booklet in December that year. July 1997 saw stamps with elliptical security perforations in booklets although the same water conservation issue also used conventional perforations in tandem. There was a growing trend to use booklet covers for advertising purposes. The antelope stamps make an appearance in April 1998 in both self-adhesive and conventional form. Changes in phosphor coating and cover treatment are indicated.

From 2000 onward all booklets contain self-adhesive stamps of either standard rate mail or for air postcard rate stamps. The last 15 pages show variations in printing and design of these.

The display also contains commemorative stamp booklets not mentioned above.



6) The Postal Markings of Natal by Mike Berry

A brief discussion of the history of Natal prior to annexation by Britain in 1843 was followed by details of the 1846 introduction of the first formal schedule of an inland postal service on main routes serving about 3000 Europeans. Initially three Post Offices were opened at key settlements in 1850, illustrated with pre-stamp and postmarks items.

British subsidized immigration rapidly increased the population but it was not until 1857 that the first stamps, embossed in Pietermaritzburg, were issued to the now 15 Post Offices.

Also displayed were examples of various hand cancellations, Umhlali on embossed 3d, and others on Perkins Baker printed “Chalon Head” perforated stamps introduced in 1859. Only in 1860 were proper numeral cancellers distributed.

Examples of almost every one of the three different generations of numeral cancels on/off cover were shown, followed by some of the very attractive but fragile circular date cancels incorporating royal crowns, and various shield cancels both on/off cover.

Later circular date cancels off cover filed A to Z for almost all Natal Post Offices until Union were available to view. Next a brief history of POA cancels with a frame of examples off cover, and two frames of interesting entires, especially Boer War use of the “wandering POA43” cancel.

Finally, to complete the display, two frames of covers bearing a varied range of rubber stamp and other postal markings for special purposes, some particularly scarce such as experimental postage paid mark (bulk pre-paid): found without contents at Durban: Besters provisional cancel (ABW): plus some previously unlisted marks.

7) Cape of Good Hope 1792/1910 by Bob Hill

The display covered the majority of the date stamps used, including their varieties and late usage, well into the Union (1940’s).

Amongst covers shown were several with first day cancellations, shipping and assistant shipping postmaster cancels, Boer War covers, some maritime cover including one from the Austro-Hungarian Navy, one from S.S. Nautilus (only two recorded) several with manuscript cancellations including one from Walvis Bay.

There were examples of cork cancellations, parcel and pre-post mail and the barred-oval numeral canceller. Bob also showed examples of mail from railway and telegraph offices and items of social history from the period. He read out several Post Office instructions made in the 1880’s concerning the use of date stamps illustrating their importance to the authorities. Bob provided a small illustrated handout, showing cancellations used, to go with the display.

All presentations were given with the usual humour and aplomb. Bob Hill’s display was certainly a worthy winner.

The raffle raised £189.00 in aid of the Conference Fund. Simon thanked all those who had contributed.

We were all together for an enjoyable meal that evening and were blest by a quicker breakfast on Sunday morning, before attendees displays commenced, of which there a lot (16), with all completed in little over three hours, thanks to efficient whip cracking by Simon. Very brief reports of these follow.

Bas Payne commenced by showing Z.A.R. double circle single line cancellations introduced in 1894 & in general use by 1896. Some of these have not been recorded previously. He then displayed truncated double circle date stamps 1888-94. Coded as those of the Cape but no records to confirm whether these were time codes or clerks' individual code letters, as the latter could seem to be the case from analysis.

Chris Board also displayed unusual Z.A.R. postmarks 1894-1901 from minor locations.

Peter Thy's display evolved around the early communication and transportation of mail in Bechuanaland & the Bechuanaland Protectorate.

Simon Peetoom gave a short display comprising RSA State Presidents, an OFS Provincial State letter head and an error of photograph on a maxi-card. Mainly from the Fred Clark collection.

Rob Lester showed registration cachets circa 1910 associated with the first Union stamp.

Alan Harley showed how communications were severely disrupted during the Anglo-Boer war. One cover shown took 60 days instead of the, more usual 1½ day journey. Alan also described training for censors, censorship cachets and a PoW cachet of the period.

Tony Stanford described, in his display, the opening up of Bechuanaland Protectorate to western influence, from the Mofat and Rudd negotiations with the Matabele to the British military intervention resulting in the founding of Bulawayo after the destruction of Gubulawayo.

Brian Hurst's one-frame display showed a study of the ½d vermilion stamp of Great Britain which was overprinted for use in Bechuanaland and the Bechuanaland Protectorate. Included were revaluations, double overprints and other varieties prior to the Cape assuming control of the posts.

Eddie Bridges displayed information on the customs union between the four provinces at least 4 years prior to political

union. He explained that London Pictorials had been made available to Trading Companies overseas in U.S.A.; Australia; Holland; Germany and France.

John Shaw displayed 1924 proofs and essays following the three competitions for the Pictorials.

Dennis Firth was the only one to display S.W.A. this weekend. He included much censored material covering the 1915 – 1923 occupation period.

Tony Howgrave-Graham showed the vicissitudes experienced in adapting the gnus on the Natal Coat of Arms and seen on revenues of the province, for incorporation into the Union Arms and the 1/- Pictorial stamp

Bob Hill displayed a medley of perfins, forgeries, mistakes and fly-specs on union & pre-union mail.

Alan Drysdall presented some more railway mail anecdotes with examples of a 1904 CSAR perfin which was quickly superseded in January 1905 by a CSAR overprint. This was withdrawn in October 1905 but did not stop forgeries with earlier or later dates being produced. Alan also showed a Transvaal stamp overprinted for OFS use.

Chris Oliver gave a short display of registered envelopes which included the 6d animal stamp. He described how that stamp was overprinted when S.A. changed to decimal currency and again some four months later when the Republic came into being with a 5c. stamp of similar design intervening.

Peter Grimley had some queries to ask regarding Zululand: Where are the Mbopoma Falls and Nkandla?

Tony Howgrave-Graham thanked Simon, on behalf of us all, for a superbly organized weekend. This was endorsed by all present.

After a lunch break Nick Arrow, assisted by Tony Johnson & Susan Oliver clerking and an efficient team of runners, conducted another splendid auction.

All was completed by about 15.30 hrs with exchanges of good will between attendees.

'No Charge for Delivery' Telegram Envelopes

by Peter Thy

A telegram was turned in at a telegraph office written on a telegram form. The sender paid per the number of words/letters and thus paid all expenses, including delivery. The text was transmitted to the receiving telegraph office, where the text was written down on telegraph forms. After due time, the original telegram forms were forwarded to a central telegraph office where they supposedly were destroyed.

The local delivery for domestic telegrams are done by the postal service in telegram envelopes clearly stating 'NO CHARGES FOR DELIVERY.'

But why is it that all telegram envelopes seen by this collector always have a stamp affixed to pay for the local letter rate, like 7t in the example shown here? Was this stamp affixed by the telegraph office before turning over to the postal office? Or did the recipient after all pay a delivery fee? Can anybody solve the mystery?



Post Office Postal Stationery Wrappers of British Bechuanaland: Supply and Demand Characteristics

By Dr. John K. Courtis FRPSL

More than 50% of the extant post office postal stationery used wrappers of British Bechuanaland appear to be philatelically inspired. This claim cannot be made about wrappers of any other country or postal entity. To put this assertion into context the author has developed a database of images of used post office wrappers worldwide. These images have been hand-collected daily from the Internet site eBay since September 2003 and the database stands at 32,000 different images. During this decade of record-keeping there have been 43 used wrappers of British Bechuanaland listed for sale. An examination of the addressee details reveals a remarkable duplication of wrappers addressed to H. Röchling (12), Paul Kiderlin (5), Van Straten (5) and Otto Bickel (2). These are well-recognized names of philatelists who addressed postal stationery items to themselves. The editor Peter Thy has kindly added other “philatelic” names to this list: Booleman, Hellmich and Hertog. The purpose of the paper is to analyse the characteristics of the wrappers listed on eBay as well as realized transactions. It is acknowledged that other wrappers of British Bechuanaland have been offered for sale by dealers and the traditional philatelic auction houses during the past decade and those with information about such

wrappers are invited to add their knowledge to supplement the findings of this eBay-based study.

Post Office Issues

The first post office wrappers of British Bechuanaland were issued in January 1887. The first two issues were two wrapper issues of Cape of Good Hope - ½d green QV and 1d brown QV - with the indicium overprinted in black serif in two lines – British 7.25mm, Bechuanaland 14.5mm beneath. There is no stop after Bechuanaland. The overprinting was done by the local government printer W. A. Richards & Sons. These issues are catalogued as E1 and E2 by Higgins & Gage. The population of British Bechuanaland at that time was approximately 84,000, but missionary reports state that there were only few white settlers. Hence the usage of these provisional issues must have been small and no used examples have appeared on eBay in the past decade.

These provisional issues were replaced later in the year with ½d and 1d QV wrappers of Great Britain with BRITISH above the indicium and BECHUANALAND beneath the indicium in black sans-serif upper casing. The overprinting was done by

Illustration 1: Indicia used on British Bechuanaland Post Office Wrappers



Table 1: Frequency of Appearance of Post Office Wrappers of British Bechuanaland

H&G Cat #	Brief Identifier	No. on eBay	Up-rated	“Local” Addresses	O’s seas Destin.
1	1887 provisional o’print in back on ½d green QV Cape of Good Hope	0	0	0	0
2	1887 provisional o’print in back on 1d brown QV Cape of Good Hope	0	0	0	0
3	1887 ½d QV brown 5-line GB overprinted	3	2	1	2
4	1887 1d QV brown GB overprinted	16	2	9	7
5	1889 provisional o’print in red with dot on ½d green QV Cape of Good Hope	1	0	0	1
6	1889 provisional o’print in back with dot on 1d brown QV Cape of Good Hope	1	0	0	1
7	1889 ½d QV brown 4-line GB overprinted	22	3	14	8
	Totals	43	7	24	19

De La Rue in London and 32,640 and 29,520 were printed. The five line text of GB has ten diagonal slash lines in two types: square ends and angled ends. The length of these slash lines vary: line 1 is 13.25mm, lines 2-9 are 18mm in length and line 10 is 11.5mm and all lines are parallel to one another set at an angle of 47°.

Two years later in 1889 the same provisional issues as E1 and E2 were again overprinted by the government printer W. A. Richards & Sons, the differences appearing in the width of the overprint. The ½d green QV was overprinted in red with British 8mm wide and Bechuanaland 17mm wide with full stop added. The 1d red-brown QV was overprinted similarly but in black, the difference between the earlier overprint being the width of the overprint and the addition of the full stop.

Later that year the then current GB wrapper with four lines of text was overprinted by De La Rue with 12 diagonal slash lines with angled ends. The first line is 11mm, lines 2-11 are 16mm and line 12 is 12.5mm; all lines are parallel to one another and are set an angle of 49° and are spaced 5mm apart. The extra two slash lines are needed on this wrapper because the text length has increased from 75mm to 88mm. Technically this is a third kind of slash line because it is angled at the top but square at the base except for the 12th line which is square at both ends. Two types of paper were used – yellow buff and deep buff; the overall quantity printed was 110,400. No other issues were made. British Bechuanaland became part of Cape Colony in 1895. These several overprinted indicia and slash

lines are shown in Illustration 1 with due thanks to the Kosniowski catalogue (forthcoming).

Supply Characteristics

There were 43 used wrappers of British Bechuanaland listed for sale on eBay during the 125 months since September 2003. This represents an overall listing rate of one wrapper per 2.8 months. When individual issues are considered there was only one each of E5 and E6 wrappers listed and none of E1 and E2. In other words, the locally overprinted provisional wrappers are very difficult to find commercially used. There were four examples of E3 which is a listing rate of about one per 2½ years. There were 16 copies of E4 and 22 copies of E7 wrappers. These numbers are inflated considerably in that 12 of the 16 (75%) of E4 and 12 of the 22 (55%) of E7 were philatelically-inspired.

Of the 43 wrappers, seven or 16% were uprated with British Bechuanaland stamps: Scott 10 (4), 11 (2) and 39 (2). One wrapper has a Portuguese stamp and FUNCHAL MADEIRA cancels. Wrappers sent to overseas destinations comprise 44% of the extant wrappers in the database: Germany (9), Great Britain (5), USA (3), and one each to Russia and Switzerland. The postal historian would be frustrated at this lack of routing write-up opportunities. Three wrappers addressed to Cape Town, Natal and South Africa have all been treated as local addresses.

The author has conducted more than 40 country-studies of post office wrapper supply and demand characteristics. From

Illustration 2: British Bechuanaland Wrappers Alleged to be Philatelically-Inspired



time-to-time “clusters” of wrappers surface on the philatelic market addressed to one individual or company. These wrappers are usually salvaged when estates and archives are dissipated. For example, there are many wrappers addressed to Mrs. Booker of Bermuda, Gordon & Gotch, Holloway, and Clarke Platt & Son of Victoria, and written in distinctive hand by Horace P. Schott of Gibraltar, to name but a few. These clusters are not philatelically-inspired wrappers but have been accumulated by an individual, library or organization for a variety of reasons as part of correspondence files or as collectors.

With regard to British Bechuanaland there are three individuals that dominate the number of extant wrappers. H. Röchling (12), Van Straaten and Paul Kinderlin (five each) account for 22 wrappers or 51% of those listed on eBay. Research is needed on these individuals to determine why so many wrappers bear their name and address. While it is suspected that these wrappers form part of a larger corpus of philatelically-inspired postal stationery, no evidence has yet come to light about the motivation of these three individuals. Examples of wrappers suspected of being philatelically-inspired and attributed to certain individuals are shown as Illustration 2.

Wrappers addressed to Paul Kiderlin and Otto Bickel can be found from other countries so there is prima facie evidence that these individuals arranged to have wrappers sent to them-

selves. The wrappers to J. F. Van Straaten have all been pre-printed and pre-addressed. This not the only known case of preprinted addresses, however, as there are two wrappers with preprinted addresses to Eug Honigsheim, Leipzig, Allemagne (a stamp dealer listed in *The American Philatelist*). The bulk of the philatelically-inspired wrappers are addressed to H. Röchling, Winburg, O. F. S. All are addressed in the same hand and all show the address details located well towards the lower section of the wrapper with O.F.S. almost right on the fold. That these were all handwritten by the same hand is unquestionable. The mystery remains as to who was H. Röchling, for this was not an uncommon name.

There are no wrappers bearing censor marks, no registered wrappers, no postage due and no transit directions. Wrappers bearing some special interest are shown as Illustration 3. The first and second wrappers are the sole extant examples (from eBay) of E5 and E6. When placed side-by-side it is clear that these wrappers were addressed by the same hand and postmarked from Vryburg on the same day AP 16 9. Jan Kosniowski and I feel these are per favour cancels. If this is the case then perhaps these two wrappers are philatelically-inspired also.

Wrapper three shows a blue adhesive with a pair of cancels. Trying to track down the postal history of this wrapper took several hours of frustrating searching for this author. Many moons

ago the author bought an 1897 Lincoln Illustrated Stamp Catalogue – the whole world in 385 small pages. It took less than 15 minutes to find that the adhesive was the 1882 Portugal 50 Reis blue King Louis I (Scott 61). This then raised the question what was a Portuguese adhesive doing tied to a British Bechuanaland E3 wrapper? I asked Peter Thy for help which he kindly provided thus. He wrote: “Is it reading Funchal Madeira? The Cape packet mail was calling at Madeira on the way to Southampton on some sailings. Funchal was the capital and probably where the packet called and the passengers had a chance to get off the ship for a full day before continuing to the UK. It is my impression that mail posted on the ship could be taken off the ship and thus posted at Fuchal. This may have been the case if to Europe or back to South Africa with the returning packet. It is also my understanding that Cape stamps could be used onboard (and thus probably also Bechuanaland stamps). Not sure where the Portuguese stamp came from - the ship or the local PO. Rare to see”. The date-bridge postmark is indeed FUNCHAL MADEIRA and the date appears to be 24 SP 7 given the difficulty of reading dates from unclear Internet images. This wrapper should delight the postal historian. It sold for \$86 and there were nine bidders.

Wrapper four is another pre-addressed wrapper, postmarked from Mafeking and addressed to Leipzig, Germany. There are two examples of these preaddressed wrappers in the database.

Realized Sales

The author’s database of eBay sales transactions collected daily from March 2006 until the present shows only 15 sales transactions occurred during this period. Table 2 summarizes

the sales by post office issue type from low to high realized prices and the number of different bidders involved in each transaction. (Note that number of bidders is not the same as number of bids which is normally higher). A rule of thumb developed by the author from prior studies is that 2.5 bidders represent the “norm”. A score above 2.5 indicates a stronger interest than the norm while a score below 2.5 indicates less interest by bidders. With small sample sizes averages make little sense as measures of central tendency, but nevertheless it is clear that the overall weighted average number of bidders of 3.67 is a signal of strength of bidder interest in these wrappers. The overall bidder profile for the 15 sales is that there was one transaction with nine bidders, one transaction with six bidders, three transactions each with five bidders, four transactions each with four bidders, one transaction with three bidders, two transactions each with two bidders and three sole bidder transactions.

Another database has maintained a record of Specimen wrapper sales. For British Bechuanaland there has been only one sale (E7) with a sole bidder. Only 345 copies of this wrapper type were overprinted for U.P.U. purposes.

Conclusion

British Bechuanaland has the distinction of having the highest proportion of philatelically-inspired extant wrappers. Wrappers addressed to three individuals account for more than 50% of the 43 used wrappers in the author’s extensive database of worldwide images of post office postal stationery wrappers. The database has been hand-collected daily from eBay listings since September 2003 and comprises 32,000 images. Of the 43 wrappers only 21 are not philatelically-inspired. In the past

Table 2: eBay Sales Transactions of British Bechuanaland Wrappers (2006-2013)

H&G #	Sales Details (Ranked Low to High in USD) & Number of Bidders per Sale (in Parentheses) Post Office Issues:	# of Sales	Mean Sale Price	Mean # of Bidders
1	No sales recorded	0		
2	No sales recorded	0		
3	86.00 (9)	1	86.00	9.00
4	49.99 (1); 51.00 (1)	2	50.50	1.00
5	24.02 (5)	1	24.02	5.00
6	9.75 (5)	1	9.75	5.00
7	0.99 (1); 8.25 (6); 8.50 (4); 9.00 (1); 13.77 (4); 16.49 (2); 25.12 (4); 26.70 (3); 37.65 (5); 57.88 (4)	10	17.07	3.40
	Totals	15		3.67
	Specimen Sale			
7	9.00 (1)	1	9.00	1.00
	Totals	1		1.00

Illustration 3: British Bechuanaland PO Wrappers with Postal History Interest



decade neither of the first two provisional issues has appeared. There is one copy each of the second two provisional issues and these appear to have been cancelled per favour.

The wrappers of British Bechuanaland are unremarkable in the sense that they show no auxiliary markings, no registration and no postage due. There were no wrappers bearing private printing despite the fact that The Bechuanaland News was using privately printed wrappers to mail their newspapers. Seven wrappers were uprated but only three different adhesives were applied. The 19 wrappers addressed to overseas destinations were to Germany, Great Britain, USA, Russia and Switzerland. The postal historian is limited in routing opportunities although one gem was “discovered”, namely, the wrapper bearing a Portuguese adhesive tied with a pair of Funchal Madeira cancels and addressed to Cape Town.

There were 15 sales of post office wrappers and one Specimen wrapper recorded during a 94 month data collection period. Generally speaking the realized prices reflect the collector demand and the limited supply for these wrappers. Bidder interest is high with an overall average of 3.67 bidders per transaction.

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The author can be reached by writing to
acapajc@friends.cityu.edu.hk.



Appendix: Census of Post Office Wrappers of British Bechuanaland Listed on eBay in the Decade 2003-2013
(Excluding Philatelically-Inspired Wrappers)

H&G "E" #	Addressee Details British Bechuanaland PO Wrappers	Postmark	Uprated Scott Cat #	Other details
3	Mr. L. B. Givavdean 244 6th Avenue New York, USA	Barred 555 obliterator	1d Scott 11	1 red crayon
3	Tul Berndt Esq Box 233 Cape Town South Africa	Funchal 24 SP 7 Maderia	Portuguese 50 reis	Stamp beneath indicium
3	Mr. F. J. Gurr 68, Dalberg Road, Brixton, S. W., London, England			
4	Revd Director E. Harms Hevmannsburg Via Greytown Natal	RAMOUTSA unreadable date		
4	Mr. F. Salzmann 8 Brungrasce Beren Switzerland	cds VRYBURG MY 27 92		
4	Monsieur Eug Honigsheim 23 Loehstrasse Leipzig, Allemagne	pr cds MAEFKING BECHUANALAND A AP 13 90		Name and address preprinted
5	Herr P? Strauven Welz ? No. 11 Dusseldorf Rhenish Prussia (i.e. Germany)	cds VRYBURG B AP 16 9		See Illustration 3-1
6	Herr ?? Dusseldorf Germany	pair cds VRYBURG B AP 16 9		See Illustration 3-2
7	Secty Bechuanaland Exploration Co, 19 St. Swithin's Lane London, E.C. England	Barred 555 obliterator		
7	Mr. E. E. Spreight B.A. 61 Kingston Rd., Oxford, England	Pair sq. circle MAFEKING MY 6 95 B.B.		
7	Mr. E. E. Spreight B.A. 61 Kingston Rd., Oxford, England	Pair sq. circle MAFEKING MR 11 95 B.B.	½d o'printed on GB (Sc10)	
7	C. E. Fryer Esq., Fisheries Department, Board of Trade Whitehall, London, Eng.	Barred 555 obliterator		
7	Mr. J. Carnell Vryburg	cds VRYBURG AP? 2 96 B. B.		
7	Mr Thos Kelly Box 152 Pretoria, S.A.R.	Barred 555 obliterator		
7	Mr. L. B. Givavdean 244 6th Avenue New York, USA	Barred 555 obliterator		Top of wrapper folded; inspection might show it is E3
7	Monsieur Eug Honigsheim 23 Loehstrasse Leipzig, Allemagne	cds MAFEKING BRITISH date unreadable BECHUANALAND		Name and address preprinted
7	Mr. L. B. Givavdean 244 6th Avenue New York, USA	3 strikes of barred 555 obliterator	Sc 10 + 11	
7	Mr. Hugo Michel Apolda, Germany	cds MAFEKING BRITISH AP 4 94 BECHUANALAND		
7	Unreadable details on piece ...att Esq. C.M.G ...Mafeking	cds MAFEKING BRITISH date void		

Book Review

South African Airmails, 2nd Edition, by Nicholas Arrow. Reviewed by Ken Sanford. Published by Nicholas Arrow, The Beeches, Axminster Road, Musbury, Near Axminster, England EX13 8AZ, 2013, email: nicholasarrow@btinternet.com. Soft Cover, A4 size, 276 pages. Price £30.00 (approximately US\$47.00, plus airmail postage, Europe - £7.85 (US\$12.50), South Africa / America - £12.60 (US\$19.50) & Australasia - £13.25 (US\$21.25), surface mail it is £8.05 (US\$13.00) to either America or Australia, etc.

The book is an outline of the airmail services affecting South Africa, with a listing of aerophilatelic material flown to, from or through South Africa for the period up to 7 February 1994. Excluded are the internal airmails of South West Africa, South African Air Force Mails and flown mail which simply has South Africa as a final destination as well as South African acceptances for air mail services undertaken away from South Africa.

The whole concept of the book has changed. When Mr. Arrow wrote the first edition, he was somewhat in awe of Burrell, Stern et al, and anxious not to conflict with what they said. This time, he has been more authoritative and not afraid of disagreeing with them if felt necessary.

Also the style of the book is different. The first Edition was rather a 200K word essay on his own collection - this edition is intended to have more of a text book feel to it, and you will note that in the body of the book he does not refer to himself (except very occasionally and in the third person) at all, except for one or two references in the introduction, which in this reviewer's



opinion is permissible.

The reader will also find that the textual passages in Chapters D and H are far more substantial than they were in the 1st edition. The chapters are laid out as follows:

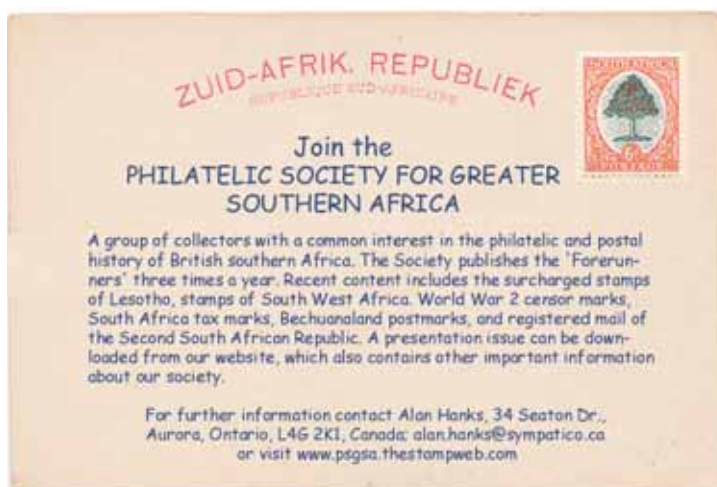
- A. Pioneer flights to 31 August 1939
- B. Internal flights to 31 August 1939
- C. External flights to 31 August 1939
- D. The War years, 1 September 1939 to 30 September 1945
- E. Airmails from 1 October 1945 to 31 May 1961 (the end of the Union period)
- F. Airmails from 1 June 1961 to 31 December 1974
- G. Airmails from 1 January 1975 to 31 December 1981
- H. Airmails from 1 January 1982 to 7 February 1994

There is a preliminary overview of the period in question, with a short internal index of the various main items in the chapter (mostly divided by year) and finally a description of the relevant information. There follows a detailed listing of the relevant mails carried. In Chapters F, G & H, the textual narratives are substantially reduced, with only such explanation as is essential, as, by this time, the aerophilatelic commemoration of a new service was so ingrained, that, usually the philatelic covers which record the flight also record all relevant details, rendering further narrative superfluous.

There is a rather detailed description of most flights and events, with the covers shown in color. The catalog type listings at the end of the chapters, refer to the page number where details of the flight can be found.

The number of covers flown is not shown, nor are there any prices for covers. There are five appendices. Appendix A mentions covers flown by helicopters, gliders, hang gliders, parachutes & pigeons, and there is a listing of covers flown by balloon. Appendix B gives dates of intermediate flights of government experimental service in 1925. Appendix C is a note concerning Rand Airport, Johannesburg. Appendix D is an amplification of the Imperial Airways mail connection to the Indian service from 1932 to 1933. And Appendix E is a listing of non-postal, but flown memorabilia. And finally, there is a detailed Index.

The book contains a wealth of information and will be essential for the aerophilatelist with an interest in South African Airmails.



This card is posted on the Society website and can be downloaded and printed for personal and society use. Distribute it to your friends interested in Southern Africa, give it to your favorite dealer suggesting that he/she should consider advertising in Forerunners, or simply distribute it at your local stamp show.

Forerunners Forum

Questions, Comments, and Answers

Airmail Book Reprint

Reprint Edition of 'Bridging the Continents in Wartime' by **Aitink and Hovenkamp** is now available. It is 227 pages in full color, exactly as the original book. The price is US \$50 plus the following postage: U.S. addresses - \$4 media mail; Canada - \$13 first class; Other countries - \$24 Global Priority Mail. For orders from the US and Canada, please send a U.S.\$ check (drawn on a U.S. bank or U.S. branch of a bank) made payable to Ken Sanford, 613 Championship Drive, Oxford, CT 06478-3128. For orders from outside the U.S. & Canada, please pay by PayPal to kaerophil@gmail.com and add \$3 to cover the PayPal fees.

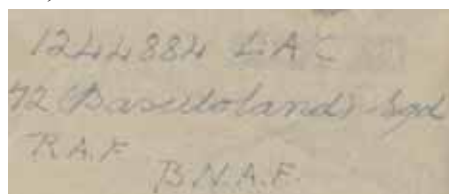
New International Reply Coupon

The new IRC design was revealed on July 1, 2013 and will be valid until 2017. South Africa and Malawi appear to be the only southern African postal administrations offering this service, but all UPU countries are required to accept them. Anybody seen these?



RAF 72 Basutoland Squadron

The **Editor** writes: one of my interests is the African Pioneer Corps required during World War 2 in the High Commission Territories of Southern Africa. I recently was offered a 1944 honors airmail letter mailed from FPO 720 to Plymouth, U.K. The return address in the message 72 Basutoland

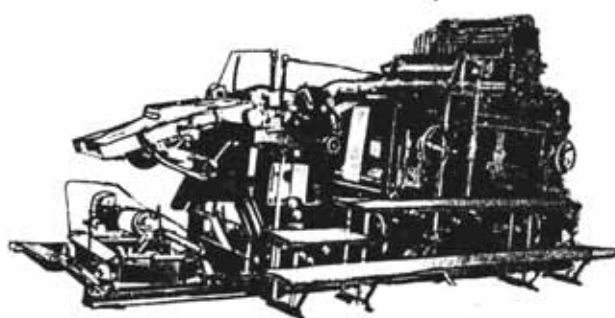


Sqd, RAF, BNAF as seen to the left. What has RAF 72 Sqd to do with Basutoland? Can anybody help?

Strange South African Perforation

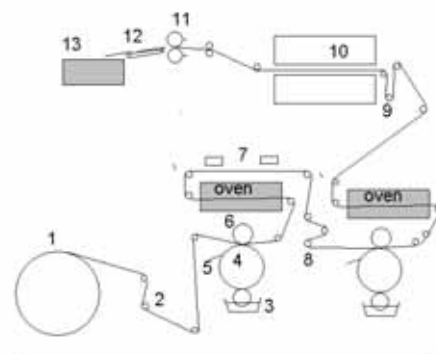
Bob Hisey responds to a question in FR # 76 by **Robert Weeden** about why a block of 4 of the 12c RSA Buildings definitive could have staggered perfs in the middle of the sheet.

This stamp seems clearly to have been printed by rotogravure, and thus on one of the GPO's two rotogravure presses (see below). Each of these presses was roll fed, and had an in-line perforator. One perforator had 11 rows of pins and the other 2 rows. The continuous web of printed stamps could be shifted left or right, and also forward and back, in order to keep the perfs aligned with the print. Each time one of these adjustments was made, you got either a short/long stamp or staggered perfs. It is quite common on these presses, but only rarely seen as gross as this example.



- Unwind at BL, with finished sheet pile above.
- About 7 feet high and 18 feet long.
- Handwheels are at the two printing cylinders.
- Installed in 1930, still running.

1. Gummed paper unwind roll
2. Tension adjust.
3. Ink pan
4. Gravure cylinder
5. Doctor blade
6. Pressure roll
7. Sheet number
8. Register control
9. Register control
10. Perforator
11. Cut-off knife
12. Delivery belt
13. Finished sheets



Moody Tidwell has also written about the same subject to remind us about an article in the Springbook in the 50s. It was written by W.N. Sheffield and titled 'The narrow perforation variety in the Union stamps. A PDF version is available from the Editor.



St. Helena Mystery Envelopes

Steven Zirinsky has written to show us some world-wide envelopes mailed to the same address on **St. Helena**. They are only a few envelopes of a larger batch most of which shows no unusual features. A few has been sealed by an examination tape. The one shown here was mailed from Romania and addressed to St. Helena with a Romanian registration label at the lower left. A hand stamp applied at the lower right indicate that the content was radio amateur reply cards (ham cards). The most interesting, however, is what appears to be a South African registration label (--- ZA) for incoming international registration. Can anybody explain why a letter from Romania to St. Helena ends up with a South African registration label? Do mail to St. Helena move through South Africa?



The examination tape appears very similar to censoring tape used during World War 2. Are these types of customs tape in use in South Africa or was they applied on St. Helena when received? Steven believe that they are of South African origin, but admit that he can not be certain.

Another interesting marking on several envelopes is a red inked squared box with 'CMA 16.' The example shown here is from Slovenia, but is otherwise lacking spectacular features. Is any members able to comment? Contact Steven at szirinsky@cs.com and the Editor.

Highlights From Journals and Newsletters

- Allison, A.R., 2013. The postal history of the Orange Free Sate. Orange Free State Bulletin 232, 4195-4244.
- Braksear, G., 2013. Rhodesia Railways: railway parcel stamps. Journal Rhodesian Study Circle 63, 188-192.
- Dickson, J., 2013. Natal: letters home written by the Byrne settler Archibald Keir Murray (senior) between 1850 and 1854. Cape & Natal Philatelic Journal 17 (Whole no. 68), 323-337.
- Diesveld, J., 2013. Nederlandse plaatsnamen in Zuid Afrika. FVZA Bartholomeu Dias 100, 4-8.
- Drysdall, A., 2013. A new twist to the story of the BSA Co.'s reminders. Journal Rhodesian Study Circle 63, 182-187.
- Hoffman, C. and Reah-Johnson, S., 2013. The Admiral Collection of Lord Vestey at Spink. Journal Rhodesian Study Circle 63, 178-180.
- Johnson, R., 2013. CGH and Natal: record of forgeries. Cape & Natal Philatelic Journal 17 (Whole no. 68), 367-375.
- Kalkhoven, V., 2013. CGH: VOC postal operations at the Cape. Cape & Natal Philatelic Journal 17 (Whole no. 68), 293-316.
- Livermore, B., 2013. Why Rhodesian philately? Journal Rhodesian Study Circle 63, 193-195.
- More, K., 2013. The De La Rue specimen overprints of British Central Africa. Journal Rhodesian Study Circle 63, 195-197.
- Peetoom, O., 2013. B.S.A.C. 1d. Small Arms pictorial postal stationery cards H&G 11a. Rhodesian Philatelist 32, 558-

564.

- Peetoom, O., 2013. The 1935 Silver Jubilee Issue Part I. Rhodesian Philatelist 32, 565-575.
- Porter, R., 2013. Natal: treatment of 'bulk' mail by the Natal Post Office. Cape & Natal Philatelic Journal 17 (Whole no. 68), 317-320.
- Porter, R., 2013. Natal: 1870 letter from France – an uncommon ¼ ounce rate. Cape & Natal Philatelic Journal 17 (Whole no. 68), 291-292.
- Stolk, J., 2013. Boetestempels van Zuid Afrika met Romens cijfer. FVZA Bartholomeu Dias 100, 15-18.
- Thy, P., 2013. Forged used British Bechuanaland newspaper

New Books

- Lera, T., Barwis, J.H., and Herendeen, D.J. (eds.) 2013. Proceedings of the First International Symposium on Analytical Methods in Philately. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington D.C. Available from www.scholarlypress.si.edu in PDF format.
- Barefoot, J., 2012. British Commonwealth Revenues. Barefoot Ltd, 410 p. Available from www.barefoot.co.uk.
- Altink, H. and Hovenkamp, E., 2013. Bridging the Continents in Wartime. Important airmail Routes 1939-1945. Aerophil, Oxford CT (reprint of the original 2005 edition). Available from kaerophil@gmail.com.

Exchange Journals Received

The Springbok: no longer received.

South African Philatelist: no longer received.

South West Africa Newsletter: Nos. 389 (September-October 2013), 390 (November-December 2013), and 391 (January 2014).

FVZA Bartholomeu Dias: Nos. 100 (November 2013) and 101 (February, 2014).

Transvaal Philatelist: Volume 48, no. 3 (November 2013).

We only exchange print journals with the Transvaal Study Circle and Filatelistenvereniging Zuidelijk Afrika.

For the Record

217. **AfricaStamps.co.uk** is distributing their Winter 2013 pricelist of common and specialized South Africa stamps.
218. The **South African Collectors' Society** is offering their **Archive of Study Collections**. A total of 20 volumes, some nearly 200 pages thick, are available in print format by going to the society's new website at <http://www.southafricacollector.com/index.html>.
219. The **Smithsonian Institution Scholarly Press** has released the Proceedings of the First International Symposium on **Analytical Methods in Philately**. It is available in PDF format, together with other Smithsonian philatelic volumes, from www.scholarlypress.si.edu.
220. The **website** of the **South African Collectors' Society** has been completely redone by Otto Peetroom at <http://www.southafricacollector.com/index.html>. It is now load-

ed with useful information and resources and is still growing. Very well done and worth a visit even if you do not collect South Africa – but a must if South Africa is your passion. Go to our society website for a direct link.

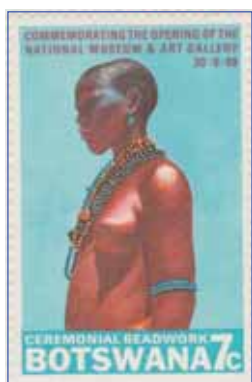


A group of collectors celebrating the new website.

221. The **Empire Stamp Auctions** (Steve Drewett) is normally offering their specialized auctions both in print and online in full color. However, the latest was a **World War 2 censored postal history** collection was an exception by being only offered on line. See auction lists and general offers by going to www.stevedrewett.com.
222. A detailed summary compiled by Denise Collie of the internal and **external postal rates of South Africa between 1910 and 2013** is available in a spreadsheet format (MS Excel) by writing to donsden3@gmail.com.
223. It has become more and more difficult to obtain information on **the new and more recent stamps of southern African countries**. The philatelic websites are often either not existing or is not being updated. The WADP's numbering system on the UPU website is also for many countries not being updated on a timely fashion and the commercial catalogues are struggling to get new information. **'The most complete stamp catalogue in the world'** on <http://www.stampworld.com/> can be of help for many countries.
224. **Philatelic Friends** of Wellington SA (Ken Joseph) is now issuing small auction lists intended for auctions in conjunction with local shows. These catalogues can be downloaded from their website at <http://www.philatelifriends.co.za/>.
225. **Spink** will be offering the **Harry Birkhead Collection of the Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902** on auction March 12, 2014, at their London office. The catalogue is now available on their website www.spink.com.

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Society Publications

- Hisey and Bartshe, 2003. *Philately of the Orange Free State*, Vol. 1, The Postage Stamps. Hardbound, 280 pages. Sold Out.
- Hisey and Bartshe, 2004. *Philately of the Orange Free State*, Vol. 2, The Telegraphs. Hardbound, 250 pages. Sold Out.
- Hisey and Bartshe, 2009. *Philately of the Orange Free State*, Vol. 3. Hardbound, 205 pages. Sold Out.
- CD version of the Orange Free State Volumes is in preparation.*

Forerunners on CD, Issues 1 to 75 (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.payne@gmail.com, or The Mill House, Clifford Bridge, Drewsteignton, Exeter EX6 6QE, UK."

Union pictorials 1926-1940. Wanted by specialist collector. Single items, collections, or unsorted bulk accumulations including singles. Please contact Bas Payne on bas@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.

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 Schuykill Dr., Calabasas, CA 91302.

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

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

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

Bechuanaland and Botswana postal stationery. Used, stamped and unstamped, stationery from any territory and any period 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 stationery & 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.

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

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

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

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

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.

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

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

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

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Contact the Editor for smaller ad sizes.

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THE RARE AND UNUSUAL

Waybill for Northern Rhodesia Rail Letter

RY PREPAID TRAFFIC FORM No. 32/5035

K^TNU. 72 A.P. Ltd. 11481/2

GNEE?	WAYBILL No. 15	TRAIN No. 70N	RAILWAY PRO. No.
-------	-------------------	------------------	------------------

Received in good condition by
(Signature of Consignee)

06


RAILWAYS

1967

ICE

(FOR RAILWAY USE ONLY)

Stamps



Sender G.M. BOARD.

P.O. Box 7.

KAPIRI MPOSHI.

On July 28, 1967, G.M. Board turned in a rail letter at the Rhodesian Railway station in Kapiri M'Poshi intended for transport to another rail station. The letter had to be affixed the local postal fee using regular postage stamps. An additional fee for the rail transport was paid by affixing a 3d Rhodesian Rail stamp overprinted 'KP' for Kapiri M'Poshi on a regular waybill (R.R.- COMBINED CONSIGNMENT NOTE and PARCELS WAYBILL for LOCAL COMPULSORY PREPAID TRAFFIC). Both the postage stamps on the envelope as well as the rail stamp on the waybill were cancelled with a box canceler reading 'RHODESIAN RAILWAY / 28 JUL 1967 / CLERK - --- / KAPIRI MPOSHI.' Could have been better if the letter was preserved and the waybill had been complete. Still a rare and unusual piece of postal history.