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*******FORERUNNERS**

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

Volume XXXI, Number 3, Whole Number 91

March-June 2018



This set of stamps was issued in 1973 on the occasion of the *First International Kimberlite Conference* held in Cape Town. The 20c stamp misspells kimberlite.

Highlights

Homelands Postal Orders
 Disaster at Nicholson's Nek
 Geological Superlatives
 Royal Empire Society Specimens
 Bechuanaland Government Envelopes
 Stellaland Early Usage
 Prize Letters

Swaziland is Now eSwatini

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Malawi issued this stamp as part of a larger set of 12 showing medical plants. The K350 stamp shows Piri Piri (Bird's Eye Chilli). It was issued October 9th, 2016, and printed by Cartor Security Printers, France.

Front Illustration:

Lesotho issued a set of four stamps on the occasion of the *1st International Kimberlite Conference* in 1973 in Cape Town. The kimberlite conference has since taken place each 3-5 years in various places, but returned in 1998 to Cape Town and most recently to Botswana in 2017. The word 'kimberlite' appears 6 times on the stamps, but is only once, on the 20c stamp, misspelled as 'kimerlite.'

***FORERUNNERS

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Official Journal of the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa

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

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Editorial Notes

Just came back from the WESTPEX show to discover that I need to prepare a new issue of Forerunners. Actually the truth is that the next issue is scheduled to be distributed in early July. But because I am about to take off for a two months trip to Denmark, I decided to push forward. This issue will therefore arrive in your mail and e-mail boxes out of schedule.

This time we have an assortment of articles, a couple from well seasoned authors but also a couple for first time authors, in Forerunners at least. Hope that you will find something of interest and more importantly will be thinking about how you can contribute to keep Forerunners alive.

The WESTPEX event organized by David Spivack and Colin Fraser for the Rhodesian Study Circle was a cornucopia of Rhodesian exhibits and presentations with a couple of odd exhibits and tossed into the mix. It was unusual to hear several captivating philatelic and postal history presentations that thanks to the RSC influx of collectors was well attended. Also well attended was a RSC society dinner chaired by David Spivack (see photo to the right where David is delivering the welcome. The event was so successful that rumors has been circulating that we will try again in Denver in 2023 during RMSS. The only question is of cause if we can wait to 2023?

Finally, congratulations to **David McNamee** for winning the prestigious *Hennig Award* of the *American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors* for his contributions to the advancement in judging and the art and science of exhibiting. If anybody should ever have doubted, our treasurer has a lot of talents beyond collecting our dues!

Peter Thy

The 2018 Society Auction Has Closed

The 2018 Society Auction was well attended and saw a good sale. If you won or consigned to the auction, you should already have heard from the Auction Manager. It is expected that the unsold lots will be offered at the reserves with information posted on the Society webpage. A detailed report will appear in the next issue of Forerunners.

Frescura's Cape Book

The South African Federation has received Franco Frescura's new Cape book on the postal cancellers from the printer and is now in the process of mailing out orders.

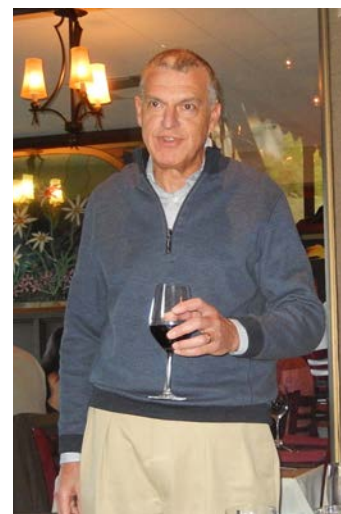
The PSGSA has received a couple of books and will be able to sell these at a significant mailing savings. Contact the Editor if you are interested.

The deadline for the next issue will be October 15, 2018. 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.



Two society members spotted at WESTPEX: Peter Lodoen from Minnesota and (right) David Spivack from California.



New Member

Welcome to

Bill Latzko
Teaneck NJ, USA
Stellaland

Society Affairs

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

Instructions for Manuscript Submissions

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

President's Corner

Our President regrets that he will not be able to join us for this edition of Forerunners. This time, the Guest Contributor is Tim Barthse.

The show at WESTPEX has come and gone and so have the Rhodesia Study Circle and its many members in attendance. Unfortunately I missed all of the fun and friendship as I was on the jury tasked with the onerous job of judging the fine mix of Rhodesia-related material in the frames. There were members from all over the world including Patrick Flanagan from South Africa and others from Australia and Canada attending the show. We also had entries from four long-time members, editor Peter Thy with his ever-golden *Bechuanaland Registration Envelopes* (G), Bob Hisey with his *WWII African Airmail to and from the US* (G), Colin and Pamela Fraser's *British Central Africa 1891-1907* (G) and David McNamee with his spectacular *Natal Rebellion of 1906*. The later exhibit takes full advantage of the newer paradigm of exhibiting any and all "stuff" to great effect garnering a Large Gold along with a slew of other awards including the WESTPEX Chairman's Award which was a painted antique mail box.

The Rhodesian exhibits were *The Postal History of the British South Africa Company-Rhodesia-to 1900* of Patrick Flanagan (G), Mark Loomis and his *Southern Rhodesia Missions to 1978* (LV) and *The 'Admirals' of Southern Rhodesia* (LS), Sean Burke's *Picture Postcards used in Rhodesia 1902-08* (SB), Clyde Homen's *The British Concession at Chinde* (LV), Walter Herdzik's *Northern Rhodesia to North America 1925-1964* (SB) and David Spivack's novice entry as an exhibitor *The British South Africa Company George V Admiral Bi-Coloured Stamps* (LG). No, that is not a typo, David did win a Large Gold with

his first time exhibit attempt and it was a wonderful sight to see so many great rarities in the frames as it was with BCA and the postal history of Rhodesia. My duties kept me away from all the festivities, talks and most sadly the grand dinner on Friday night. As the RSC was drinking and being merry the jury was still deliberating until 7:30! I know, boo hoo!

It was a pleasant experience to meet new faces and see those of people rarely seen. In an attempt to be able to duplicate this event and add to it, through Colin's arm-twisting, the Rhodesia Study Circle will meet at Denver during RMSS in 2023. To add to it PSGSA will also come back to round out the Southern Africa seminar and exhibiting aspects. Hopefully in my travels to South Africa this fall for the show in Pretoria, I can drum up some good support for the show as well as membership recruitment for the Society.

On a final note, I would like to further embarrass our long-time member and treasurer David McNamee by mentioning that he was singled out at the awards banquet on Saturday night at WESTPEX. The American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors' top honor, the Hennig Award for the advancement of judging and the art and science of exhibiting was given to him, much to his surprise. Some of the criteria includes "activities the judge has initiated or been involved in to broaden and make exhibiting more attractive, and to make judging more fair, consistent, and useful to exhibitors. These can be in the fields of judging methodology, education of exhibitors, expansion of exhibiting classes, training of judges, improving and clarification of rules and guidelines, and/or recruitment and training of apprentice judges." For those of you who know David he fills these shoes and much, much more. Congratulations David.

Tim Barthse



Official WESTPEX photo.

Southern Africa at WESTPEX

This year's WESTPEX was devoted to Southern Africa - so it felt. This was mainly due to the Rhodesian Study Circle that convened at the show, but also in some measure to PSGSA members. A total of 12 exhibits with southern Africa themes went on display and took home a fair amount of the golden medals - although came short of scoring any of the Grands. Nearly 10 talks were also offered from Double Heads, Admirals, revenues, missions, and postmarks. A particular successful dinner did draw a large attendance. Here are shown a group of collectors in attendance at a presentation. Nobody mentioned - nobody forgotten.



SAVPEX 2018: Virtual Philatelic Exhibition

Invitations to exhibit at the annual South African Virtual Exhibition have been extended to all collectors. Although the deadline has now been exceeded (April 30), it may be worthwhile to contact the exhibit chair at jnc1@vodamail.co.za. The exhibition is in July in Bloemfontein. SAVPEX (South African Virtual Stamp Exhibition) is the SA national championship for single frame exhibits. Entries are submitted, judged and viewed electronically.

The exhibition is replacing the one frame class normally offered at the National Exhibition. The two past years, under a different name, were very successful with many exhibitors from both South Africa and from the overseas. The exhibits are displayed at the show on a screen and posted on the Federation's website after the show.

The exhibition is a competitive 'One Frame Virtual Exhibition' and open to all members of Societies affiliated to The Philatelic Federation of South Africa (PFSA) and all members of Societies affiliated to the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie (FIP) and Federation of Inter-Asian Philately (FIAP).



King Mswati III



Kingdom of eSwatini

MBABANE, April 19 (Reuters) - Swaziland's King Mswati III, Africa's last absolute monarch, said on Thursday he was officially renaming the country as the Kingdom of eSwatini.

He announced the change to eSwatini, meaning "land of the Swazis," in the local Swati language at Golden Jubilee celebrations of the 50th anniversary of Swazi independence and of his 50th birthday.

The king has referred to the "Kingdom of eSwatini" several times in recent years - in an address to the UN General Assembly in 2017 and at African Union and other international conferences.

Addressing a large gathering in a stadium in the second city of Manzini, 40 km (25 miles) east of the capital Mbabane, the king said Swaziland was reverting to the original name it had before being colonized by the British.

The impoverished southern African nation - a member of the Commonwealth - gained independence from Britain in 1968.

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.

APS STAMPSHOW 2018 - August 9-12, in Columbus, Ohio. APS largest show.

Postal History Symposia have annually been hosted jointly by the American Philatelic Research Library and the Smithsonian National Postal Museum since 2006. The 'Tenth Blount Postal History Symposium' will be held Nov. 1-2, 2018 at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum in Washington, D.C. The theme is 'WWI and its Immediate Aftermath'.

APS AmeriStamp Expo 2019. APS's second largest show February 15-17, 2019 AmeriStamp visits Mesa (Phoenix), Arizona.



Postal Orders of the South African Homelands

by Jack Harwood

In the late 1960's and early 1970's, the white South African government was attempting to control the majority black population by establishing "Homelands", or "Bantustans". Ten homelands were created, largely along ethnic lines. The *Bantu Homelands Citizenship Act of 1970* gave "citizenship" to residents in the homeland designated for each ethnic group.

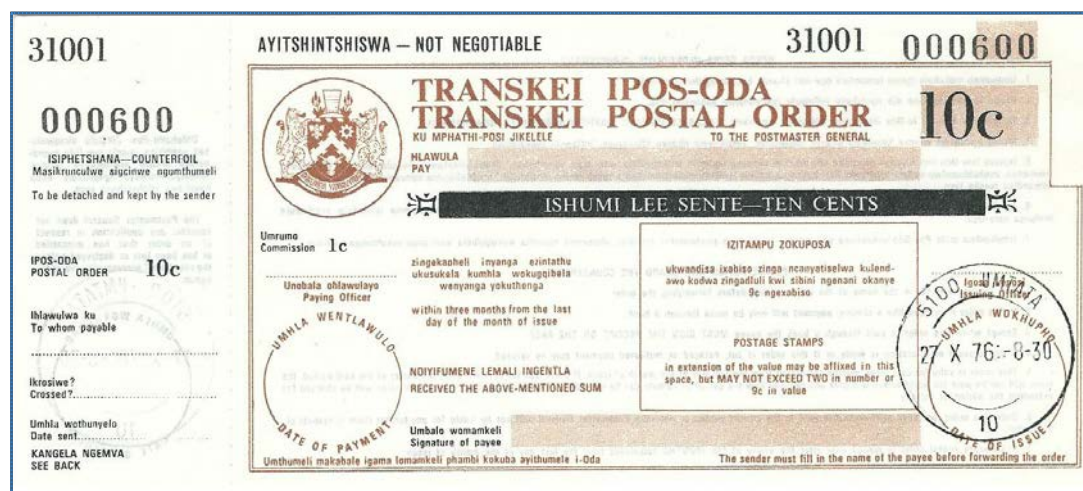
In the late 1970's, South Africa declared four of the homelands "independent", a designation recognized only by South Africa. Transkei became "independent" in 1976, Bophuthatswana (referred to locally as "Bop" for obvious reasons) in 1977, Venda in 1979, and Ciskei in 1981. Each of the four issued postage stamps, postal stationery and postal orders. Initial issues of Transkei, Bop and Venda do not indicate whether they were payable outside their own homeland. However, Ciskei's first issues indicate payment could be made in the other independent homelands, and also in South Africa, South-West Africa (now Namibia), Malawi and Zimbabwe.

The initial issues of Transkei, Bop and Venda were in use for relatively brief periods of time, and are not often seen. By the early 1980's, all four independent homelands were issuing new design Postal Orders very similar to those of South Africa. Those issues are more readily available, although a number of minor changes in headings, font and other features took place.

On 27 April 1994, the homelands were reunited with South Africa, and ceased to exist as separate entities. Postal services continued for a short while after that date, and a few homelands Postal Orders can be found with issue dates subsequent to reunification.

Transkei

Transkei was the first to become "independent", with Independence Day 26 October 1976. The initial design Postal Order, shown below, was introduced on or shortly after that date. The exact number of denominations issued is not known to me,



First design Transkei Postal Order, issued 27 October 1976, the day after "Independence Day"



Second (and final) Transkei design issued Umtata, 8 January 1991

but is probably 20 or more, following the pattern of South African issues.

In the early 1980's, the first issue Transkei Postal Order was replaced by a design very similar to that of South Africa. At least 16 denominations exist, from 5c to R20. A number of variations of font, typesetting and placement of denomination can be found, with perhaps as many as 50 "face-different" items known.

Bophuthatswana

Next to independence was Bophuthatswana on 6 December 1977. Initial issue Bop Postal Orders were placed on sale on Independence Day, and a few with that issue date are in collector hands. Once again, the exact number of denominations is not known, but is believed to be at least 20 ranging from 10c to R20.

Bop first design issues were replaced in the early 1980's by a design similar to that of South Africa. As many as 20 denominations exist, with as many as 50 face-different varieties. Variations in font, typesetting, etc., are similar to other second design homelands issues.

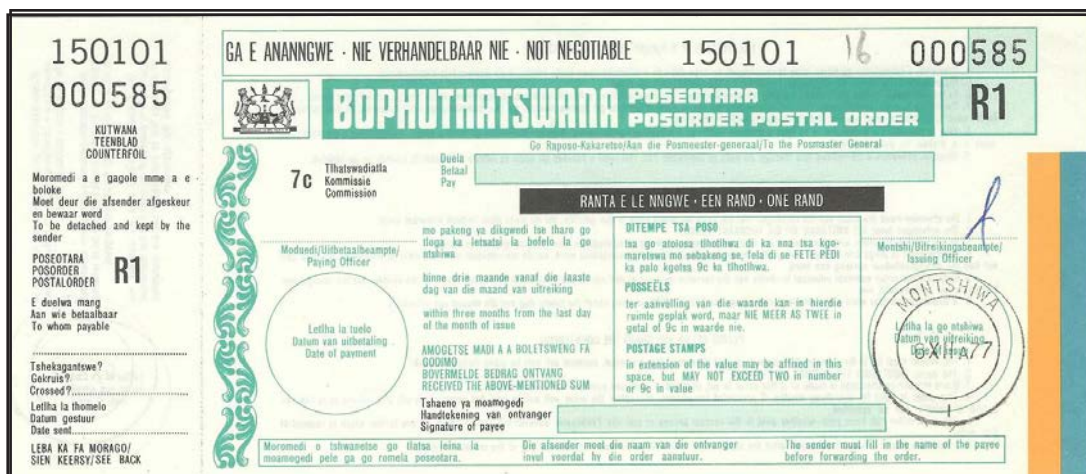
Venda

The third homeland to achieve independence was Venda, on 13 September 1979. First design Postal Orders were produced on light yellow paper with all text in black. As with the other Homelands issues, the number of denominations issued is believed to be about 20, ranging from 10c to R20.

As Transkei and Bop had done, Venda replaced the first design Postal Orders in the early 1980's. The new design was patterned after South African Postal Orders, much the same as the other Homelands. Various printings and minor changes resulted in a large number of "face-different" items.

Ciskei

The fourth and final homeland to issue Postal Orders was Ciskei. Independence Day was 4 December 1981. If Ciskei issued distinctive Postal Orders, they are apparently not known to collectors. The only recorded items are similar to South African issues, and to second design issues of the other homelands. As with other Homelands issues, a wide variety of fonts, typesetting, etc., resulted in a large number of "face-different" varieties.



First design Bophuthatswana Postal Order issued Montshiwa, 6 December 1977, Independence Day. First day of issue



Bop second design, issued Mmabatho 17 January 1991

170 101 000198

TSHISALANAWÉ
COUNTERFOIL
TEENBLAD

Tshifanella u kherulwa vha sala matsho.
To be detached and kept by the sender.
Moet deur die afsender af-gekeur en bewaar word.

TSHIRUMALI
POSTAL ORDER
POSORDER

Yo badelewa nnyi
To whom payable
Aan wie betaalbaar

Yo khorosiwa?
Crossed?
Gekruis?

Datum ya u rumelwa
Date sent
Datum gestuur

VHASEDZE NGA MURAHU
SEE BACK/SIEN KEERSY

A I FHIRISWI • NOT NEGOTIABLE • NIE VERHANDELBAAR NIE

170 101 000198

VENDA TSHIRUMALI
POSTAL ORDER/POSORDER

Ha Postmaster Dzhenerala/To the Postmaster General/Aan die Posmeester-generaal

Malambe Commission
Kommisje

Badele Pay
Betaal

RANNDI NTHIHI ONE RAND EEN RAND

Muofisi wa u badele/
Paying Officer/
Uitbetaalbeempte

Datumu ya u badele
Date of payment
Datum van uitbetaling

Yhokathi ha mhwedzi miraru u thoma nga gutha la u fhedza la hwedzi wa u bvisa within three months from the last day of the month of issue
binne drie maande vanaf die laaste dag van die maand van uitreiking
THANGANEZYO YA TSHLEDE YO AMBIWAHO AFHO NTHA RECEIVED THE ABOVE-MENTIONED SUM
BOVERMELDE BEDRAG ONT-VANG
Tsaino ya muholelwa
Signature of payee
Handtekening van ontvanger

Murumeli u fanela u gadza dzina la muholelwa a saathu u rumela oda.
The sender must fill in the name of the payee before forwarding the order.
Die afsender moet die naam van die ontvanger invul voordat hy die order-aanstuur.

ZWITEMMBE ZWA POSWO
Kha nyengedzo ya ndeme zwi nga nambatedwa kha betshi tshikhala fhedzi ZWI SA FHIRI ZWIVHILI kha nomboro zwa ndeme ya 9 senthe
POSTAGE STAMPS
In extension of the value may be affixed in this space, but MAY NOT EXCEED TWO in number or 9c in value
POSSELS
ter aanvulling van die waarde kan in hierdie ruimte geplak word, maar NIE MEER AS TWEE in getal of 9c in waarde nie.

Ofisi ya u buker/Issuing
Officer/Uitreikingbeempte

Datumu ya u bvisa
Date of issue
Datum van uitreiking

First design Venda Postal Order, issued Sibasa, 13 September 1979, Independence Day. First Day of Issue

07 20 00132424

07 20 00132424

072000132424

A tu seetwe nga murahu/See back
(ru songo nwaiva kha tshikhala tshi re afho nthu/Do not write in the space above)

RIIPHABULIKI YA VENDA • REPUBLIC OF VENDA

TSHIRUMALI • POSTAL ORDER

Vho-Postmaster-Dzhenerala The Postmaster General

KHA VHA HOLE
PAY

Vha glazee dzina la murumeliwa Fill in the name of the payee before forwarding

Muofisi-mubvisi Issuing officer
NDO TANGANEZYO TSHLEDE YO AMBIWAHO AFHO
NTHA TSAINO YA MUHOLELWA
RECEIVED THE ABOVE-MENTIONED SUM
SIGNATURE OF PAYEE

NUMBORO YA VHUNE IDENTITY NUMBER

G.P.-S. R20-VEN-P/O Ina ndeme ya mhwedzi miraru nga murahu ha hwedzi wa u bvisa • Valid for three months after month of issue

R20,00
FUMBILI • TWENTY

A i fhiriswi
Not negotiable

THOHOYANDOU
DATUMU YA U BVISA
DATE OF ISSUE
1991-08-27

TSHISALA NAWÉ
COUNTERFOIL
VHA TRUKHULE
VHA VHEYE
DETACH AND KEEP

TSHIRUMALI
POSTAL ORDER R20,00

I holelwa To whom payable
Yo talwa? Crossed?
Datumu Date

THOHOYANDOU
DATUMU YA U BVISA
DATE OF ISSUE
1991-08-27

Vha phone nga mholo See back

Venda second design, issued Thohoyandou, 27 August 1991

09 20 00065758

09 20 00065758

092000065758

(Makungahle)wa enika kwalo mgao/Do not write in the space above

IRIPHABULIKI YECISKEI • REPUBLIC OF CISKEI

IPOSODA • POSTAL ORDER

uPostmaster-Jikelele The Postmaster General

HLAWULA
PAY

Umthumeli makabhalile igamba tshawulwayo phambi kokuba ayithumele-Poda
Fill in the name of payee before forwarding

Igosa elihlawulayo Paying officer
NOYIFUMENE LE MALI INGENTLA
ISIGNITSHA YOHLAWULWAYO
RECEIVED THE ABOVE-MENTIONED SUM
SIGNATURE OF PAYEE

IGOSA OLIVIKHUPHAYO Issuing officer

UMHLA WOKUKHUTSHWA
DATE OF ISSUE

OKUSISAZISI KUYEZIWE IDENTIFICATION PRODUCED

G.P.-S. R20-CIS-P/O Inhlawula zingekachehi inyanga ezintathu ukususela mhla yethengwa • Valid for three months after month of issue.

R20,00
AMASHUMI AMABINI
TWENTY

Bavikhenkhiswa
Not negotiable

1991-08-09

UMHLA WOKUKHUTSHWA
DATE OF ISSUE

IRIPHETSHARA
COUNTERFOIL
MASIKRUNCULWE
SIGCINWE
DETACH AND KEEP

IPOSODA
POSTAL ORDER R20,00

Inhlawula ka To whom payable
Ikhotswa? Crossed?
Umhla Date

UMHLA WOKUKHUTSHWA
DATE OF ISSUE

Khangula ngemva See back

Ciskei Postal Order, issued Bisho (Bhisho), 9 August 1991

If you are able to add to the information presented here, please contact
the author at jharwood222@verizon.net with copy to the editor.
The article first appeared in the *Postal Order News* No. 125.

Lieutenant Alfred Hutton Radice, 1st Battalion Gloucestershire Regiment: British Prisoner of War and the Disaster at Nicholson's Nek

by Paul Benson

Nicholson's Nek, 6 miles north of Ladysmith, Natal.

Sunday, October 29, 1899 about 11:30 PM

On the night of October 29, 1899 more than 1100 men under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Frank Carleton left Ladysmith, Natal under the cover of darkness towards Nicholson's Nek. The units consisted of six companies of the Royal Irish Fusiliers (520 men), five and a half companies of the 1st Battalion Gloucestershire Regiment (450 men) and the No. 10 Mountain Battery (140 men with artillery). In addition to the troops there were 250 mules carrying ammunition and supplies for the attack. Their objective was to intercept Boer columns of Or-

ange Freestaters under the command of Boer General Christiaan De Wet that were converging from the north and east toward the town of Ladysmith (Figure 1).¹

Carleton's departure from Ladysmith was delayed due to fractious animals and inexperienced mule handlers. By 2 AM on Sunday October 30th it was clear that the unit would not reach Nicholson's Nek before dawn. Carleton made the decision to stop his advance rather than risk being caught out in the open. He chose to position his forces on Tchengula Hill. In the dark and in unfamiliar territory he deployed his troops on the steep slope of the lower summit of the Nek.² An excerpt from

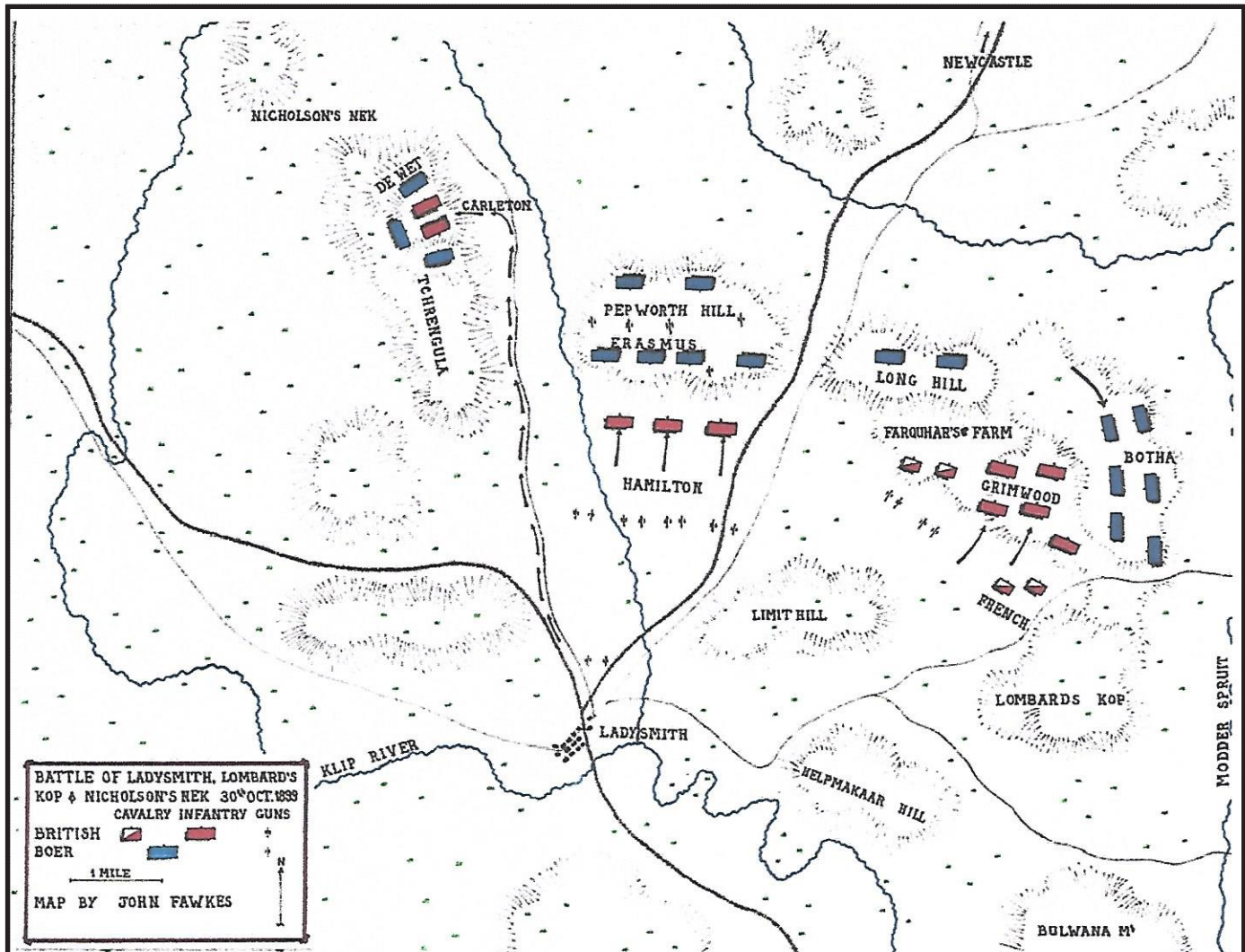


Figure 1. Map showing the positions of the British (red) and Boer forces (blue). Ladysmith is to the south, Nicholson's Nek to the northwest and Farquhar's Farm to the northeast. From britishbattles.com/ladysmith-ma

Louis Creswicke's book series *South Africa and the Transvaal War*, volume 2 vividly describes the resulting confusion:

"The circumstances which attended the movement of Colonel Carleton's movement are even now fraught with some mystery. He carried out the night march unmolested until within two miles of Nicholson's Nek. Then some boulders, loosened evidently for the purpose, rolled down the hill and a sudden crackling roll of musketry stampeded the infantry ammunition mules. The alarm became infectious, with the result that the battery mules also broke loose from their leaders practically carrying with them the whole of the gun equipment. The greater part of the regimental small-arm ammunition was similarly lost. In consequence of this misfortune, Colonel Carleton's small force, after a plucky fight and heavy loss, had to capitulate."³

Another account of the chaos is an excerpt from *The Encyclopedia of the Boer War—Nicholson's Nek*:

"It was rough, hard climbing. A Boer piquet (a small group of soldiers acting as sentinels) was disturbed and fled, passing clean through the British. Mules slipped, then panicked, then stampeded. Men and animals tumbled down the slopes. The guns went with them as well as the infantry's ammunition reserve. Most of the men hurried to the top and hurried to build stone shelters."⁴

Hopelessly outnumbered, exposed, taking heavy losses, and unable to engage the elusive enemy in traditional British military fighting style, Carleton surrendered. A second front to the west at Lombard's Kop and Farquhar's Farm suffered the same fate. More than 400 British soldiers were killed or wounded and more than 800 were taken prisoner. This was the largest surrender of British troops since the Napoleonic Wars and be-

came known as "Mournful Monday."²

The subject of this article is Lieutenant Alfred Hutton Radice an infantry officer with the Gloucestershire Regiment, and the cover addressed to his parents in Naples, Italy. (Figure 2) He was born in 1873, the son of Alberto Hampden Radice, to whom this cover is addressed, and Adele Visetti. The Natal Field Force Official Casualty Roll lists him as captured at Farquhar's Farm which is to the west of Nicholson's Nek (Figure 1).⁶ However, the official account of the battle indicates that units from the Gloucestershire Regiment were with Carleton at Tchengula which is south of Nicholson's Nek and many miles to the east of the Farquhar Farm. Lieutenant Radice would certainly have been with his unit and not with the brigade at Farquhar's Farm. Battlefield accounts are often hastily written and frequently inaccurate. Also, given the large number of casualties and prisoners taken at multiple sites that day it seems likely that the location of his capture is incorrect in the official casualty rolls.

Following his capture Lieutenant Radice was transferred to the State Model School in Pretoria, Transvaal. The cover is dated 2 Jan 1900 from Pretoria and arrived February 10, 1900 in Naples. (Figure 2) On the front is a large double circle COMMANDANT GENERAAL Boer censor handstamp in violet with censor's initials in the center. Interestingly the prisoner's letter was not taxed when mailed without postage from Transvaal. Upon arrival in Italy it was charged 50 centimes postage due. In March 1900 Radice and others were transferred to the Daspoort prison camp. He was released on June 5, 1900 after the surrender of Pretoria to the British.⁶



Figure 2. Cover showing the large COMMANDANT GENERAAL censor handstamp with censor's initials in the center. A 50 centimes postage due applied upon arrival with Naples date stamp

The Gloucestershire Regiment nicknamed the “Glosters” had a long and distinguished history. Originally formed in 1694 as Colonel Gibson’s Regiment of Foot, the expanded and re-named 28th Regiment won a decisive British victory against the French in 1801 during the Battle of Alexandria, Egypt. The unit was again reorganized and renamed the Gloucestershire Regiment in 1881 (Figure 3). The unit’s involvement in the Second Boer War in October 1899 was its first military action with the disastrous results at Nicholson’s Nek. Following the Boer War the Regiment distinguished itself during World Wars 1 and 2 and the Korean War. When it was disbanded on March 26, 1994 its flag carried more battle colors than any other regiment of the line.⁷

Lieutenant Radice survived the war and was awarded the Queen’s South Africa and King’s South Africa medals for his service during the Boer War. He served in the British Army in World War 1, was wounded and subsequently awarded the Distinguished Service Order (DSO) and the Order of the Crown of Italy for his service in World War 1. He retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1923. He died on April 6, 1968 at the age of 94.⁵

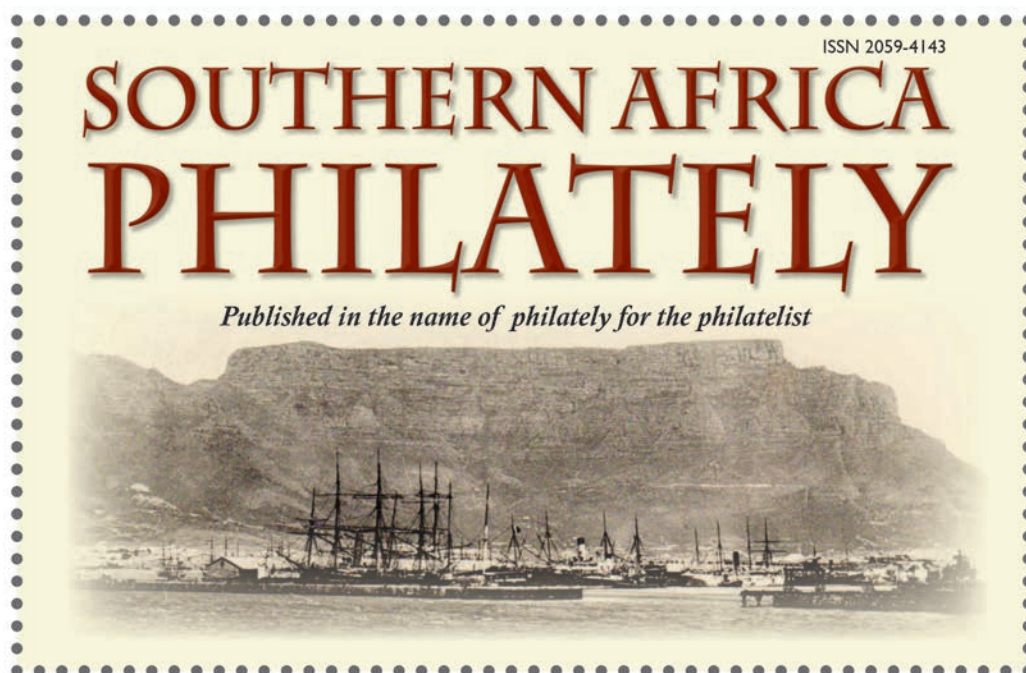
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1. Rickard, J. Battle of Nicholson’s Nek, 30 October 1899. www.historyofwar.org/articles/battles_nicholsons_nek.html. 5 February 2007.
2. From Internet site wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Ladysmith, Battle of Ladysmith. Nicholson’s Nek. Last updated 16 July 2017.
3. Creswicke, Louis. South Africa and the Transvaal War. Volume II, Chapter 1. The Crisis at Home. Published by The Caxton Publishing Company, London, 1900. With special thanks to ReadCentral.com, free online books for providing the chapter online without charge.
4. Evans, Martin M. The Encyclopedia of the Boer War. Action at Nicholson’s Nek, October 30, 1899. Published by ABC-CLIO, Oxford, England, 2000, pages 194-195.
5. From Internet site www.ghgraham.org/alfredradice1873.html. Alfred Hutton Radice 1873-1968.
6. From Internet site www.casus-belli.co.uk. The Register of the Anglo-Boer War 1899-1902: Lieutenant AH Radice.
7. From Internet site wikipedia.org/wiki/Gloucestershire_Regiment, “GloucestershireRegiment.” Last updated 7 April 2018.



Figure 3. Cap badge of the Gloucestershire Regiment. From Internet site wikipedia.org/wiki/Gloucestershire_Regiment.

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South Africa's Geological Superlatives

by Hans Ulrich Bantz

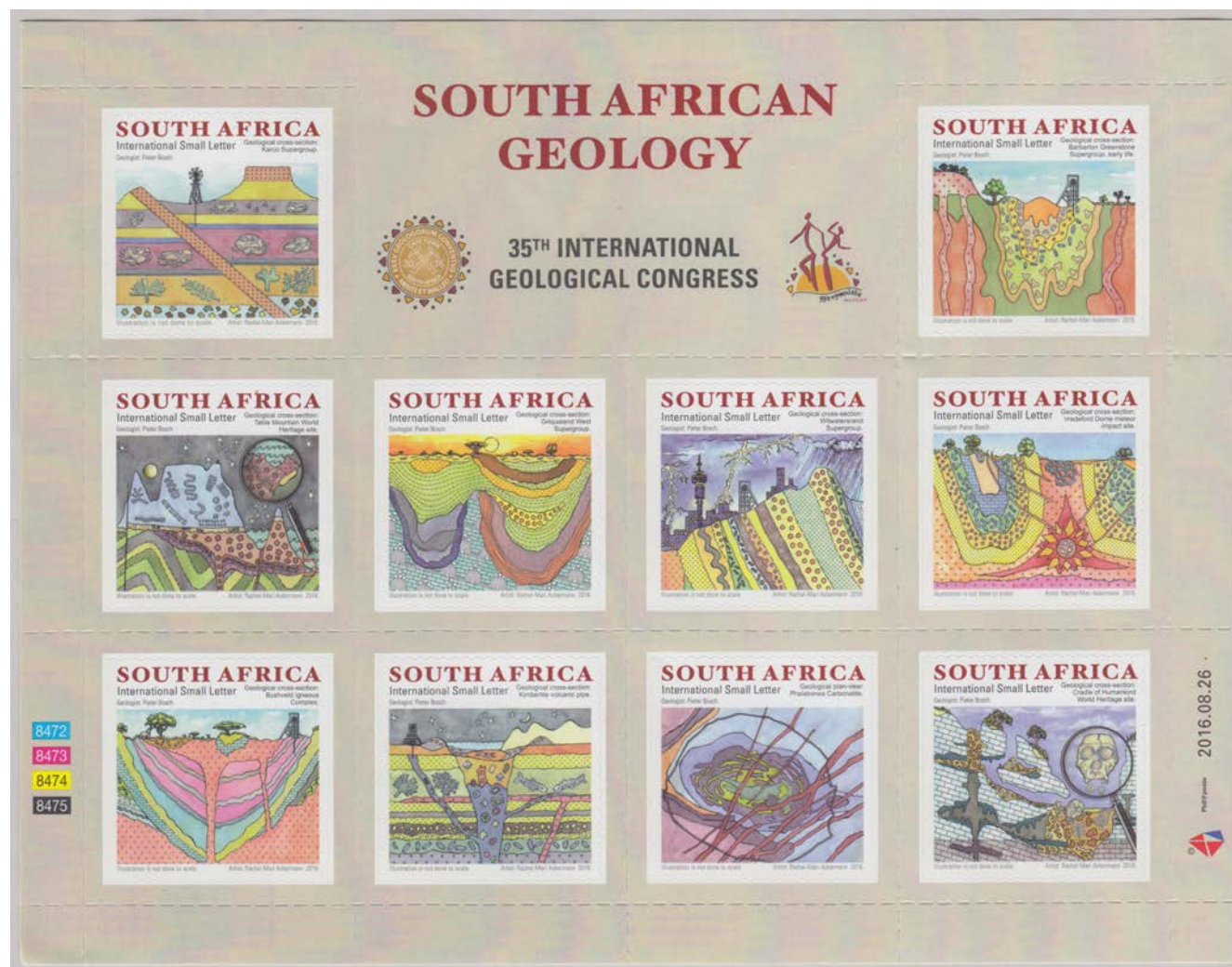


Figure 1. International Geological Congress sheet

The South African Post Office issued a set limited to 50,000 sheets of ten stamps each to celebrate the 35th International Geological Congress that took place from 27 August to 4 September 2016 in Cape Town's International Congress Centre. The stamps offer an artistic interpretation of ten South African geological superlatives of great economic and scientific importance. The concept designs were researched and drawn by Pieter Bosch of the "Council for Geoscience" and the art work was executed by Rachel-Mari Ackermann of Pretoria's Philatelic Services (Figure 1).

This issue created much excitement among thematic/topical collectors of Geology on Stamps and I received many requests from outside South Africa for letters franked with these stamps.

The stamps can be separated along perforated lines into single stamps and the face value of the stamps covered the in 2016 prevailing 'international small letter' rate of Rand 8.40.

The backing paper of each stamp has a description of the picture on the stamp with a numbered explanation/legend (Figure 2).

I was able to create correctly franked covers and post them. However, I was informed that many of the stamps were ruined in the mailing centres by dirty postmarks, a common happening not only in South Africa.

Let us start with the philatelic information:

Issue date: August 12, 2016

Stamp Size: 35 x 35 mm

Stamp Sheet Size 192 x 142 mm

Phosphor: colourless ink

Cylinder numbers; 8472 (blue), 8473 (red), 8474 (yellow), 8475 (black) + Phosphor

Printing process: Offset Lithography

Printed by La Poste, Boulaçac, France

FDC: No. 8.93 and No. 8.94, printed 2000

Special postmark: No. 8.82 Cape Town 26-082016

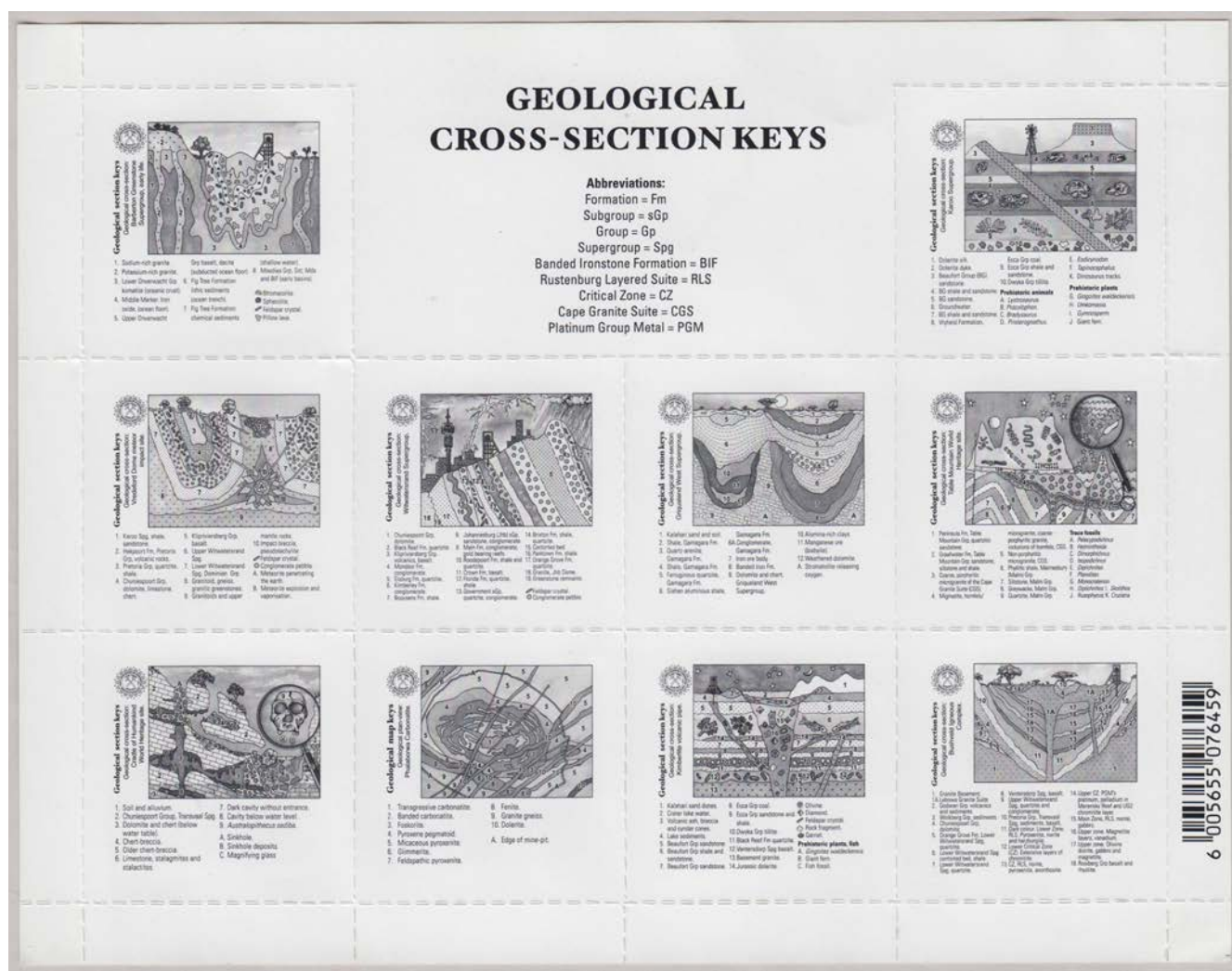


Figure 2. Reverse with numbered explanation/legend

Figure 3 shows how the phosphorous ink of the stamp highlights crucial areas that glow when viewed under UV light. Figure 4 show the two official first day covers, signed by the designer geologist Pieter Bosch.

I received some complaints about the graphic representation of the geological realities. But one has to consider that Pieter Bosch tried to compose and explain in a limited space what has happened during the time of South Africa's ten geological superlatives and what is still preserved in the Earth's crust today.

Some geologists were also not happy about the rather sketchy and sometimes not really geology related information provided on the loose inserts in the FDC's (Figure 5). Here again one must emphasize that these short outlines are aimed at the lay public and not to geologists at all.

After having said this: I, myself, have a complaint about the lay-out of the stamps on the sheet. I would have liked to have them arranged in ascending order from old to young to tell the story of South Africa's fascinating geological history. This I will attempt in the follow-up to this article.



Figure 3. UV light view of the sheet



Figure 4. The two first day cancelled covers signed by the designer

Highlights of South African Geology

The special sheet of ten International Small Letter rate stamps was released by the South African Post Office to coincide with the opening of the 35th International Geological Congress (IGC) on 26 August 2016 at Cape Town, South Africa. The stamps offer an artistic interpretation of ten different South African geological superlatives of great economic value and major scientific importance.

Karoo Supergroup

The 200-300 million year old sediments of the Karoo Supergroup cover about two-thirds of South Africa. The fossils in this repository provide a world-renowned record of the evolutionary development of mammals from reptiles. Dolerites which intruded 180 million years ago have given rise to the flat topped hills which are a characteristic feature of the Karoo landscape.

Barberton Greenstone Supergroup, early life

Remnants of the earliest earth's crust are preserved in the 3,500 million year old Barberton Greenstone Belt. Sediments interlayered with primitive volcanic rocks contain traces of very early life-forms, similar to minute blue-green algae and cyanobacteria.

The Table Mountain World Heritage Site

This is one of the most recognizable mountains in the World and is topped by resistant quartzitic sandstone of the Table Mountain Group. Along Chapman's Peak the lighter coloured sandstone overlies the eroded upper surface of the 550 million year old Cape Granite which intruded into older shale beds.

Griqualand West Supergroup

The sedimentary rocks of the Griqualand West Supergroup formed between 2650 and 2000 million years ago. Cyanobacteria released massive amounts of oxygen into the primitive ocean and facilitated the deposition of the world's largest deposits of manganese, together with huge deposits of iron.

Witwatersrand Supergroup

The extensive Witwatersrand gold deposits were discovered in 1886 and have produced about a third of all the gold ever recovered on earth. The gold occurs in thin pebble layers in the 2800-2900 million year old Witwatersrand Supergroup which occupies a 350 km long, half-moon shaped basin, including the metropolis of Johannesburg.

Vredeford Dome meteor impact site (UNESCO World Heritage Site)

This is the world's oldest and largest known meteorite impact site. 2020 million years ago a meteorite estimated at around 10 kilometres in diameter struck the earth to form an impact crater of about 360 kilometres in diameter. The deeply eroded central circular core, about 40 km in diameter, preserves various deformation features, including fractures filled with impact melt rock.

Bushveld Igneous Complex

The 2055 million year old Bushveld Complex is the world's largest layered intrusion, stretching over an area of over 65,000 square kilometres. Huge troughs of layered igneous rock reach thicknesses of up to 8,000 metres. Thin layers

enriched in platinum, chrome and vanadium constitute the world's largest reserves of these metals.

Kimberlite volcanic pipe

Kimberlite is the most important primary host-rock of diamonds. Kimberlite originates very deep below the earth's surface, and finds its way along fissures and volcanic pipes to the surface of the earth. Kimberlite is named after its discovery site, the town of Kimberley in the Northern Cape.

Phalaborwa Carbonatite

The Phalaborwa Complex is an extinct alkaline volcanic complex that was active around 2060 million years ago. It is the world's only economically viable carbonatite-hosted copper deposit.

Cradle of Humankind World Heritage Site

Cave systems and karstic depressions within dolomite of the 2600 million year old Transvaal Supergroup house the most prolific source of hominid fossils on earth. These famous fossils preserve a unique record of the evolution of hominids during the last few million years.

The stamps have phosphor spots at strategically placed areas that glow when viewed under UV light.

Acknowledgement:

- Mr Pieter Bosch (Geologist Researcher and Stamp Collector)
- Mr Danie J Barnardo (Secretariat - 35th IGC Foundation)
- Dr Chris Hutton (Specialist Scientist, Mapping Geology).

Post Office
We deliver, whatever it takes.

Figure 5. Explanatory insert of the first day covers

Stellaland Postage: Beginning and End?

by William Latzko

The Republic of Stellaland (1882-1885) located between Kimberly and Mafeking in South Africa, issued five stamps. A sixth stamp - 4d with TWEE overprint - was prepared but, is disputed as to whether this stamp was valid. The capital, Vryburg, housed some 20 families at that time. They used the stamps to write letters to newspapers and friends. Some of the covers and used stamps have survived. Their postage seems to be 3d. Mr. Hennie Taljaard (2013) compiled a list of some 86 date cancelled and another 34 stamp with alternate or no cancellation. The earliest known used stamp in Taljaard's article was dated 29/2/84 in the day/month/year format. It was pen cancelled with a date only. For later dated cancellations, the postmaster usually added his initials to the date.

The writer was only aware of Hennie Taljaard's great article after its publication. As a result, my 10 used stamps were not included. Listed below are my used stamps using Taljaard's format.

As can be seen, the first stamp shown (Figure 1) was used a week before what was previously thought to be the earliest known use.

Sir Charles Warren's Expeditionary Force arrived in Stellaland on 7 February 1885 to put Stellaland under British control. The post office seemed to continue functioning as evidenced by later cancellations. The Expeditionary Force had its own stamps. The post office became part of the successor to Stellaland, Bechuanaland, in October 1885.



Figure 1. Earliest known use dated 22/2/84

Another interesting item is a set of three 1d stamps with two dates - 4/2/85-11/2/85 (Figure 2). There is a hyphen between the dates. Was this the last of Postmaster Ferdinand Hartzenberg's official cancellations of Stellaland? There are later known cancellations. Taljaard lists a 29/5/85 FH stamp as the last known of his cancellations.

Reference List

Taljaard, H., 2013. Stellaland Stamp Cancellations. The Runner Post Whole No. 87, 2150-2153. (Also Forerunners Whole No. 77, 5-7.)



Figure 2 Two date cancel 4/2/85 - 11/2/85

Stellaland Listing of Stamps Cancelled in Vryburg						
Date:	Day:	Initials / canceller:	Value:	Remarks:	Source:	
2/22/1884	Friday		3d	Earliest known use	Latzko	1
4/4/1884	Friday	FH	3d		Latzko	2
6/10/1884	Tuesday		4d		Latzko	3
18/11/1884	Tuesday	FH	1d		Latzko	4
2/12/1884	Tuesday	FH	2x3d	On piece	Latzko	5
8/12/1884	Monday	FH	6d		Latzko	6
1/2/1885	Sunday	FH	4d		Latzko	7
1/2/1885	Monday	FH	4d	On piece	Latzko	8
4/2/1885-11/2/1885		FH	3x1d		Latzko	9
?/1884		FH	1d		Latzko	10

Listing in the format month/day/year.

1910 Specimen Cancelled Presentation Stationery to the Royal Empire Society

by Peter Thy

Two 'specimen' cancelled pieces of Cape of Good Hope postal stationery were recently described in *Postal Stationery* by Menuz.⁽¹⁾ The specimen overprint (Figure 1) is well known, although very rare if not unique on stationery. The specimen stamp was referred to as SA1 by Samuel⁽²⁾ and by Samuel and Huggins.⁽³⁾ It was used to cancel the first Union of South Africa stamp (2½d Opening of the Union Parliament) submitted to the UPU in 1910.⁽⁴⁾ In the standard South African catalogues,⁽⁴⁾ SA1 is described variously as 11½ or 12½ mm long with script lettering in black placed diagonally upward on the stamp. Bendon⁽⁵⁾ illustrates a cutting from the ledger book of the Madagascar Receiving Authority with three stamps cancelled with SA1 and in addition by the Madagascar circular red cancel.

This first stamp of the Union was printed by De La Rue of London, who would have been expected, as was custom, also to have prepared and shipped the required 400 specimen copies of the stamp directly to UPU in Berne, Switzerland. This did clearly not happen in this case because the used handstamp differs markedly from standard De La Rue specimen overprints⁽⁵⁾ and even more so because it is known that SA1 was used around the same time for other purposes as shown by the two stationery items shown by Menuz.⁽¹⁾ The first Union stamp was therefore likely specimen cancelled in Cape Town and submitted to UPU by the nascent Union Post Office. It is interesting that this 1910 Union stamp was the only stamp or stationery that was submitted to UPU with specimen cancellation.

A set of stamps and stationery from British Bechuanaland and Bechuanaland Protectorate is also known cancelled with

Figure 1. Specimen overprint used by the Union of South Africa for cancelling a 1910 submission to UPU (magnified by 200 %)

SA1. Holmes⁽⁶⁾ lists what appear to be the then available stamps (about 25) originally issued during 1887-1908; they are mostly cancelled in black, however, his list includes two copies of the 1d scarlet stamp (SG 68, April 1905), one with black and one with blue specimen overprint.

In addition, Holmes lists this SA1 used to cancel in blue a registration envelope overprinted in 1908 with 'BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE' in two lines (Figure 2). Thy and Inglefield-Watson⁽⁷⁾ list a total of four pieces of postal stationery cancelled in purple with SA1 (their's as well as Holmes' Type 4). These are a 1882 Cape postal card overprinted in 1894 for British Bechuanaland (BBS PC8, Figure 3), a 1889 British wrapper overprinted in 1890 for British Bechuanaland (BBS WR7a, Figure 4), a 1907 British registration envelope overprinted in 1908 for Bechuanaland Protectorate (BBS RE31b, Figure 2), and finally a British 1907 registration envelope overprinted 1907 for Bechuanaland Protectorate (BBS RE30b, Figure 5). The two registration envelopes bear the same date codes of FA (June 1907) and one is size F and the other size G.

The Bechuanaland stamps are known⁽⁶⁾ to have originated from the Royal Empire Society. They are assumed to have been prepared in Bechuanaland Protectorate as a presentation col-

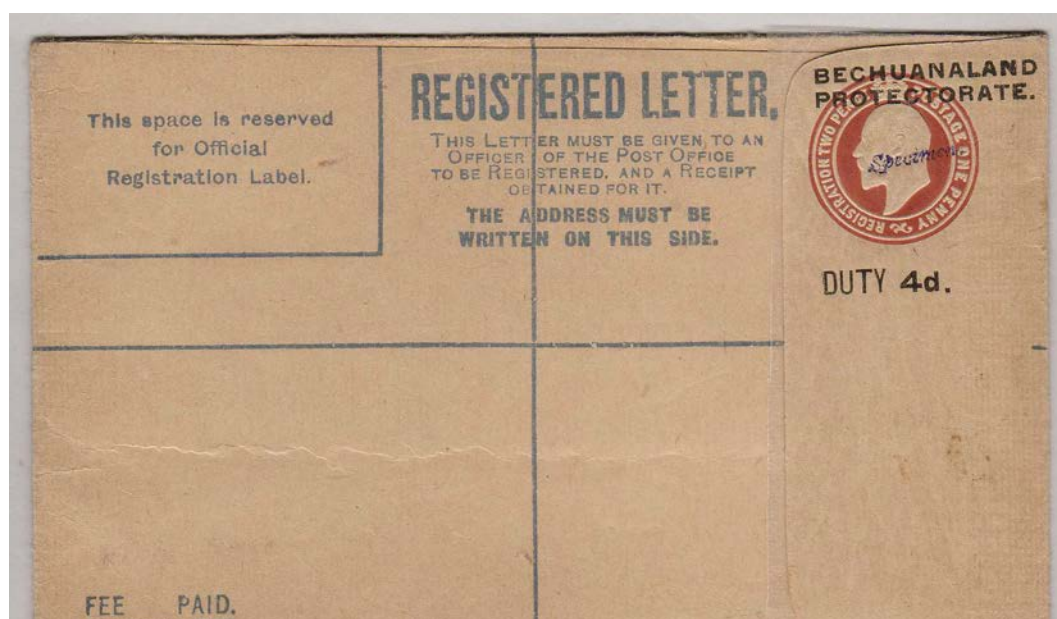


Figure 2. Specimen cancelled Bechuanaland Protectorate registration envelope from 1908 [BBS RE 31b S(1)]



Figure 3. Specimen cancelled British Bechuanaland postal card from 1894 [BBS PC 8 S(1)]

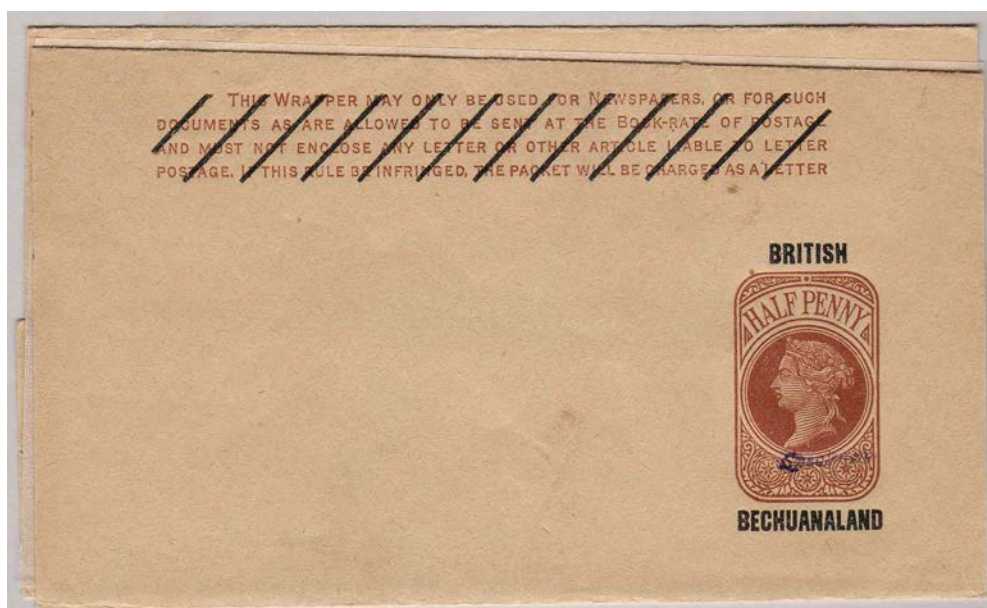


Figure 4. Specimen cancelled British Bechuanaland newspaper wrapper from 1890 [BBS WR 7a S(2)]

lection in 1910 in connection with the unification of South Africa,^(2,6) despite that Bechuanaland Protectorate did not join the Union. It is possible, or perhaps more likely, that the presentation collection was prepared by the Cape/Union Postal Services, since the postal services in the Protectorate at that time was organized from Cape Town. The listing presented by Holmes⁽⁶⁾ is so detailed that it must be assumed that he prior to 1971, when his book was published, have had an opportunity to inspect the collection probably in connection with an auction sale. The Harmers sale of the Holmes collection in 1981 included only seven postal and revenue stamps cancelled in black by SA1 (lot 1208).⁽⁸⁾

Holmes⁽⁶⁾ does not identify his listed registration envelope as having originated from the Empire Society, however, considering the identical specimen cancellation and its time of issue,

this appear to be a reasonable assumption. It is interesting that in 1910, the known specimen overprinted stationery do not include the several British overprinted postal cards between 1894-1907. The intention was probably not to present a complete collection of what was available at the post office, but merely a presentation of the different types.

The two postal stationery items (Figure 6) shown by Munez⁽¹⁾ with the same SA1 specimen cancelling in purple ink, appears to be the 1897 ONE PENNY overprint on the 1895 UPU 1½d card (Quik P10). The wrapper is either the grey or green ½d wrapper (Quik W1 or W1A). Quik and Jonkers⁽⁹⁾ list these wrappers as having been issues in 1882 and 1894, respectively. The former they lists to occur with a handstamped specimen in upper and lower cases without illustrating the overprint. Samuel⁽²⁾ writes about SA1 and the Cape of Good Hope (p. 95) “A

few 1893-1903 issues are known with a small italic 'Specimen.' handstamp (Type SA1) (...) and these are believed to have been prepared for presentation at the time of the formation of the Union. A set of the King Edward VII stamps with another South African overprints (Type SA5) is known to have been presented to the Royal Empire Society (...)."

Although not known for certain, it is reasonable to assume that both the Bechuanaland and the Cape of Good Hope stamps and stationery, cancelled with SA1, were part of the same presentation to the Royal Empire Society at the occasion of formation of the Union of South Africa in 1910.

The Royal Empire (or Colonial) Society was formed in 1868 as a club for gentlemen interested in colonial affairs, received its Royal Charter in 1882, and is today the influential and progressive Commonwealth Club. There is nothing in the history in the Empire Society's history to suggest a special event in 1910.⁽¹⁰⁾ Thus it is reasonable to assume that the purpose of the presentation collection was to celebrate the South African unification.

All indications suggest that the Bechuanaland presentation collection only exist in one example and stamps and stationery from the Bechuanalands with the SA1 specimen cancellation are unique. With the exception of one Bechuanaland stamp that exists in two examples, second copies have not been found. The duplicated stamp in the collection examined by Holmes⁽⁶⁾ is with two different overprint colors and were probably for unknown reasons part of the same collection as also assumed by Holmes.⁽⁶⁾

A recent survey by the Great Britain Overprint Society,⁽¹¹⁾ nine years after the survey of Thy and Inglefield-Watson,⁽⁷⁾ was

not able to find additional overprinted stationery cancelled with SA1. A brief survey among Cape collectors was, however, unable to reveal any stamps with the SA1 specimen overprint. But who know what may show up in the future.

Notes

- (1) Menuz, W., 2017. Cape of Good Hope specimens. Postal Stationery, Whole No. 413, 59.
- (2) Samuel, M., 1976. Specimen Stamps of the Crown Colonies 1857-1948. Royal Philatelic Society London, London.
- (3) Samuel, M, and Huggins, A., 1980. Specimen Stamps and Stationery of Great Britain. Great Britain Philatelic Society, Perth.
- (4) Hagger, S.J. (ed.) The Stamps of the Union of South Africa 1910-1961. Reijger Publishers, Cape Town.
- (5) Bendon, J., 2015. UPU Specimen Stamps 1878-1961. Oxford Book Projects, Oxford.
- (6) Holmes, H.R., 1971. The Postage Stamps, Postal Stationery, and Postmarks of the Bechuanaland. Royal Philatelic Society London, London.
- (7) Thy, P. and Inglefield-Whatson J., 2004. The Postal Stationery of the Bechuanalands and Botswana. British Philatelic Trust, London. BBS in the text refers to Bechuanalands and Botswana numbers.
- (8) Harmers of London, 1981. The Holmes Collection of the Bechuanalands.
- (9) Quik, W.J. and Jonkers, G.H., 1998. De postwaardestukken van Zuid-Afrika/The Postal Stationery of South Africa, Deel/Part 1. Filatelistenvereniging Zuidelijk Africa, Rotterdam.
- (10) <https://thercs.org/about-us/our-history/> accessed April 2017.
- (11) Gledhill, J.M., 2015. Overprinted British Postal Stationery. Great Britain Overprint Society, Maidenhead.

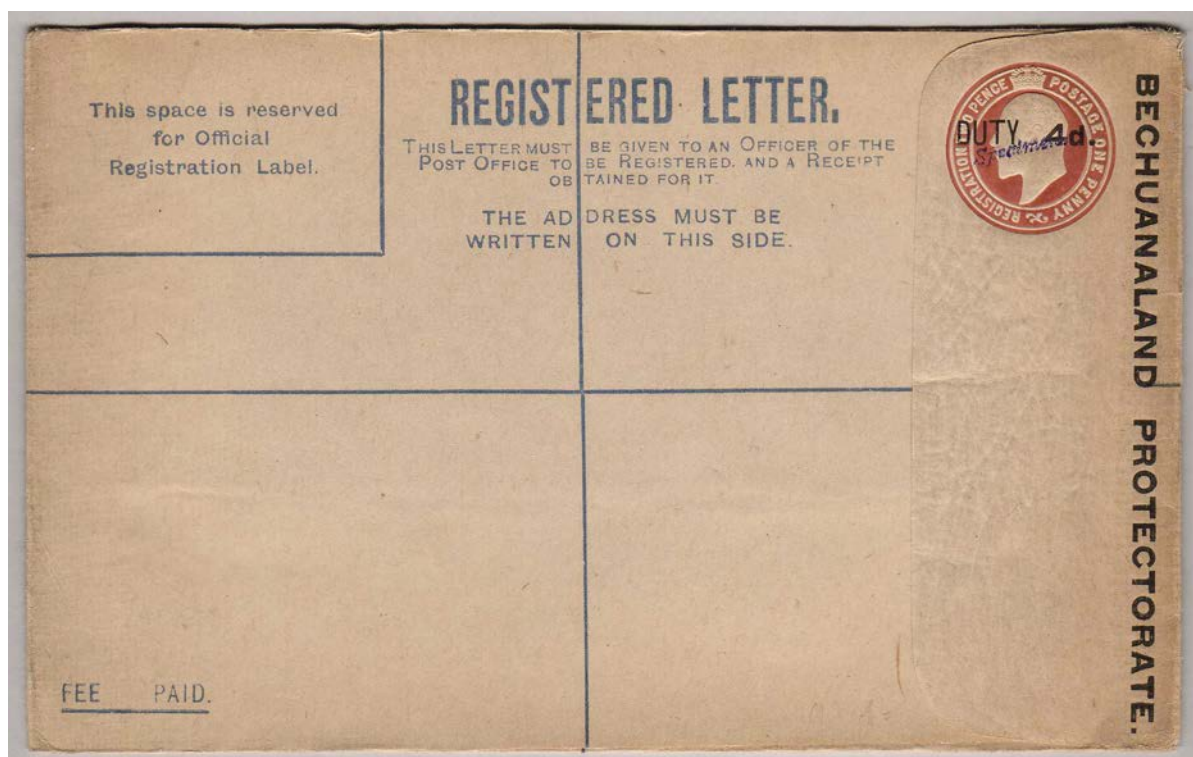


Figure 5. Specimen cancelled Bechuanaland Protectorate registration envelope from 1907 [BBS RE 30b S(1)]

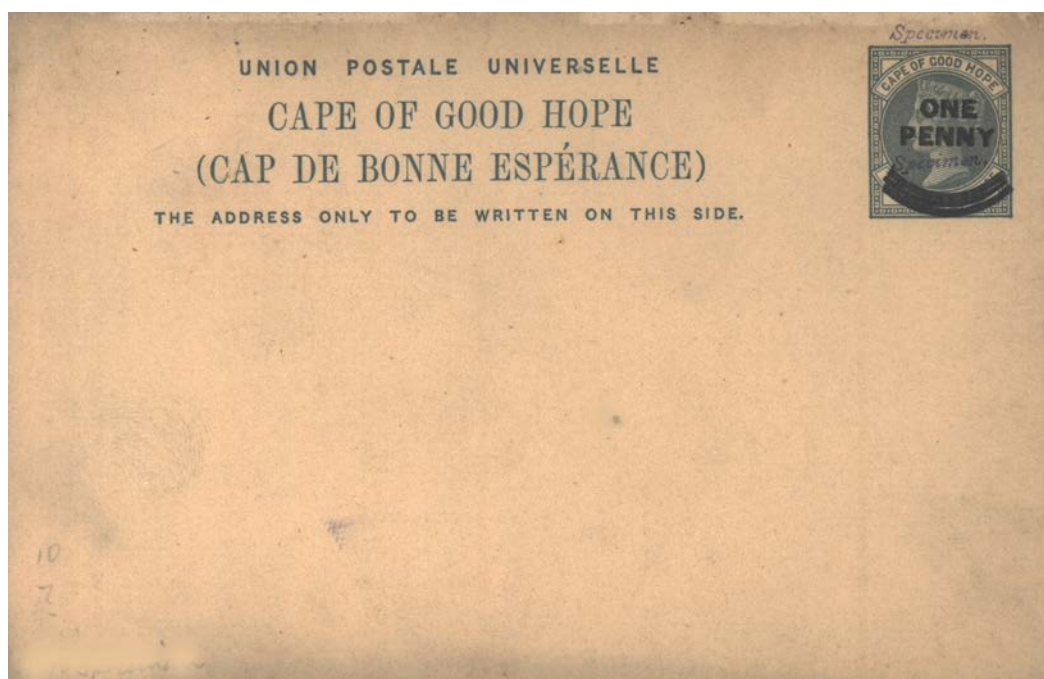
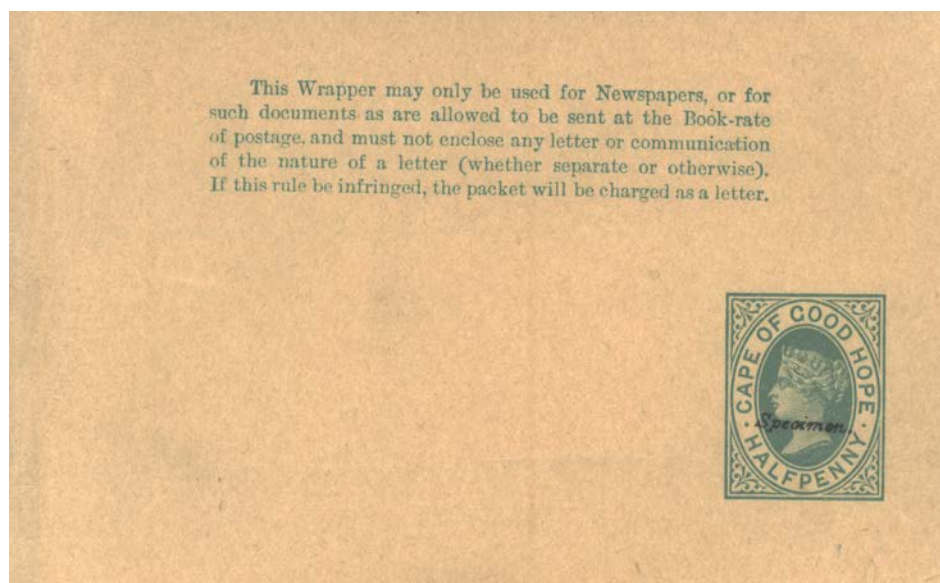


Figure 6. Two stationeries described by Munez with SA1 specimen cancel. Note that the postcard has a double imprint of the specimen cancel. I am grateful to Wayne Munez for allowing me to show his two cards.



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Bechuanaland Government and Botswana Telegraph Envelopes

by Gordon Smith

This is a continuation of two earlier articles that established a typology for official government envelopes from Botswana and Bechuanaland. The first was about envelopes imprinted with “On Botswana Government Service” (OBGS) (FR # 89). The second was about envelopes imprinted “On Botswana Postal Service” (FR # 90). This article will focus on earlier government printed envelopes from Bechuanaland and Botswana imprinted with a variety of different text.

Classification of the Government Printed Envelopes

The classification of the Government printed envelopes discussed here uses the same criteria as for the “On Botswana Government Service” envelopes as indicated in Figure 1. Readers will note a simplification of this classification system compared to that provided in the previous two articles. In the preceding articles, the “Presence and Style of Logo” was not used to differentiate groups in the OBGS classification as the author had not seen envelopes of this category with logos on them; therefore, for this and its related categories, the criterium was relegated to determining variety, if any were to be found in the future. However, in preparing this article, the author has become aware of telegram envelopes with and without logos. In order to provide consistency in the classification system and to simplify it, the author has decided to make the “Presence and Style of Logo” one of the criteria used to determine groups of all the government printed envelopes.

To determine the classification of a government printed envelopes, they are first sorted into a category based on the text indicating that they are being used for official government or postal business (see Figure 2).

As the postal services in Bechuanaland were provided by South Africa until the 1960’s and there is no reason why the South African postal service should not have used their own stationery, it seems likely that many of the envelopes in categories OHrMS, OHsM, OHMS, and OHMS-IDVHW were printed either in South Africa or the United Kingdom.

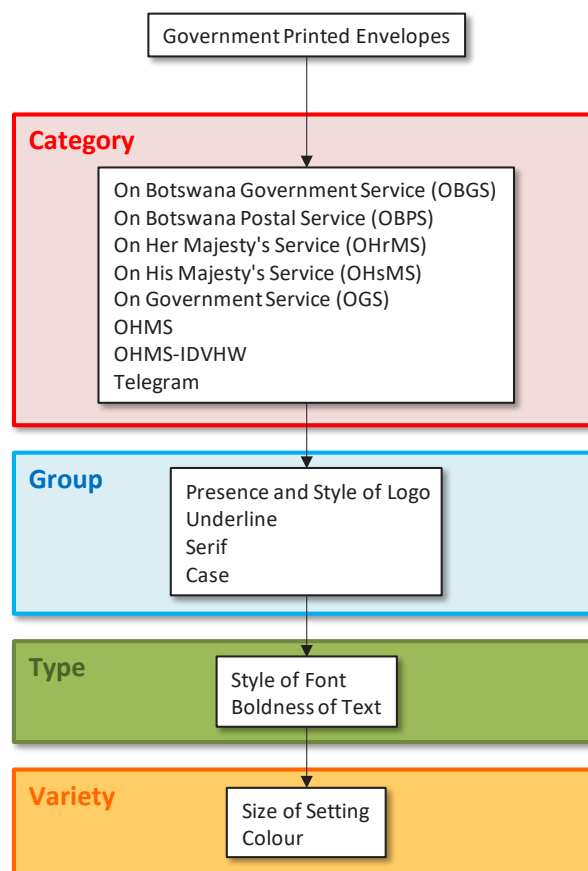


Figure 1: Basis for establishing a typology of Bechuanaland and Botswana Government printed envelopes

The subdivision of categories into groups is based on four criteria: 1) the presence and style of a logo, 2) whether the text is underlined or not, 3) whether the text is a serif or sans serif font, and 4) the case of the text. Figure 3 describes the criteria used. Additional logos styles may be added in the future as they are discovered.

Text found on Envelope	Category
On Botswana Government Service	OBGS
On Botswana Postal Service	OBPS
On Her Majesty's Service	OHrMS
On His Majesty's Service	OHsMS
OHMS (includes O.H.M.S.)	OHMS
OHMS-IDVHW (includes O.H.M.S.–I.D.V.H.W.)	OHMS-IDVHW
On Government Service	OGS
Telegram	TELE

Figure 2: Categorization of Bechuanaland and Botswana Government printed envelopes

1. Logo	Style 0- no logo	Style 1 – Botswana Coat of Arms	
2. Underline	U – underlined	N – not underlined	
3. Serif	s – serif	ss – sans serif	
4. Case (capitalization)	U – all upper case	L – lower and upper case	S – small caps

Figure 3: Basis of grouping for Bechuanaland and Botswana Government printed envelopes

Font Types

The groups of the Government Printed Envelopes are further divided into types based on the style of the font and boldness of the text. Following this definition, different fonts will be numbered as they are found.

Using this system, the following classification to the type level is developed (Figure 4 on the following page). The author is aware of only two telegram covers which are shown in their entirety as there are several visual features that distinguish the different envelopes. As more of these envelopes are discovered, a more refined classification system may need to be developed.

As with the OBGS and OBPS envelopes, a further challenge within the classification is the wide variety in the size of the settings of the text and the colour of the imprints found within each of the types. These criteria are used to denote the variety of the imprint. Measurements of the length of settings vary with each category of mark as per Figure 5 below. The height of the mark is measured on the “H” of the OHrMS, OHsMS, OHMS, and OHMS-IDVHW envelopes, the left side of first “N” on the OGS enveloped and the “T” of the TELE envelopes.

As an example, the designation “OHrMS Type UsL01 79.8 x 4.9” is broken down as follows: “OHrMS” is the category, “Type UsL01” is the type, and “79.8 x 4.9” is the variety.

It is an unusual situation that the government administrative centre for Bechuanaland was located outside the country in Mafeking, South Africa, where the Protectorate post office shared a building with the South African post office. This led to the creation of interesting covers such as the one found in Figure 6, which is an OHMS envelope franked with a Bechuanaland Resident Commission official free mark, but carries a South African stamp. As noted previously, it appears that government printed envelopes allowing free postage are only valid within Bechuanaland / Botswana, so the author wonders if this letter was carried to Mafeking as an in-country letter free of postage and then to allow it to enter the international mail stream, it had South African postage applied. Any thoughts on this theory or other aspects of this study are most welcome.

I would like to thank Peter Thy and David Wessely who very kindly gave me covers and provided scans of material that has assisted with this study. The author can be reached at gs@postalhistory.ca.

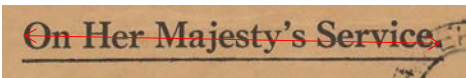



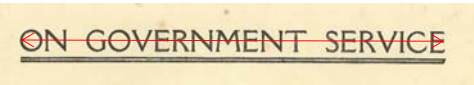

Text found on Envelope	Measurement of Setting	Illustration
OHrMS	from outside left of “O” to right end of middle stroke of “E”	
OHsMS	from outside left of “O” to right end of middle stroke of “E”	
OHMS	from outside left of “O” to outside right of final period	
OHMS-IDVHW	from outside left of “O” to outside right of final period	
OGS	from outside left of “O” to right end of middle stroke of “E”	
TELE	from upper left corner of “T” to lower right corner of “M”	

Figure 5: Method of Measuring Setting

OHrMS Type UsL02	<u>On Her Majesty's Service.</u>	
OHrMS Type UsL03	<u>On Her Majesty's Service.</u>	
OHrMS Type UsL04 (slightly less bold and more compressed than OHrMS Type UsL03)	<u>On Her Majesty's Service.</u>	
OHrMS Type UsU01	<u>ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE.</u>	
OHrMS Type UsU02	<u>ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE.</u>	
OHrMS Type UsU03	<u>ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE</u>	
OHrMS Type UsU04	<u>ON HER MAJESTY'S SERVICE.</u>	
OHsMS Type UsU01	<u>ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE.</u>	
OHsMS Type UsU02	<u>ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE.</u>	
OHMS Type UsU01	<u>O.H.M.S.</u>	
OHMS Type UsU02	<u>O.H.M.S.</u>	
OHMS Type UsU03	O. H. M. S.	
OHMS Type UsU04	O. H. M. S.	
OHMS-IDVHM Type NssU01	O.H.M.S.—I.D.V.H.M.	
OGS Type UsU01	<u>ON GOVERNMENT SERVICE</u>	

Figure 4. Summary of types. The two types of Telegraph envelopes are shown on the next page

TELE Type 0 UssU01

(Based on text :Botswana
Telecommunication)



TELE Type 1 NssU01

(Based on text :Botswana
Posts and Telecommunica-
tions)

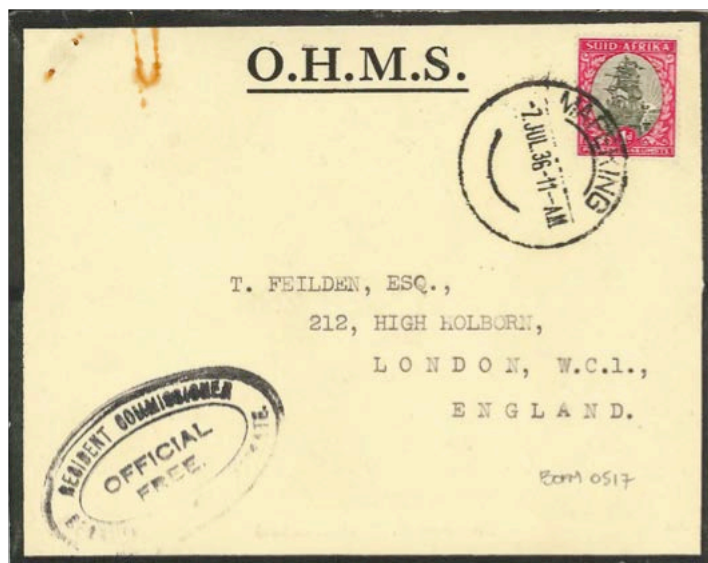
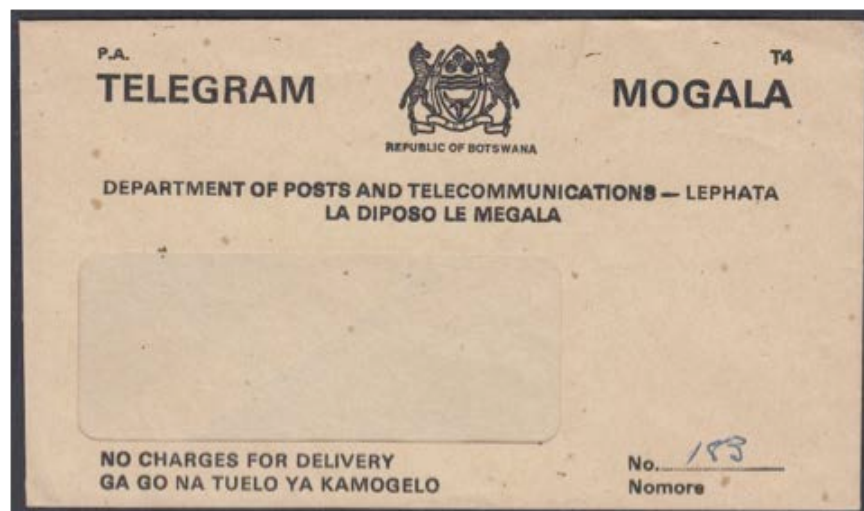


Figure 6: OHMS Mourning Envelope, marked with a Resident Commissioner, Bechuanaland Protectorate, Official Free hand-stamp, franked with a 1d South African stamp, postmarked Mafeking, 7 July 1936.

Forerunners Forum

Lists of South African Post Offices.

Several people have written to draw our attention to excel lists of South African post offices prepared by **Danie van Zyl**. Danie writes himself; "I have attached an Excel file listing all the Union of South Africa Post Offices in 1912. Let me explain: I collect cancellations on Kings Head stamps, but in most cases you cannot see the full Post Office name. Often you can make a guess. In many cases you only have three or four letters from the middle of the name and identification can be difficult. Doing an eye search on a list of names is also very difficult. I have placed all the post office names as published by the government in 1912 in an Excel file. Now you can search for any group of letters. I recently had just this part of the name showing on a stamp: "r rivers". Putting this into the file as a search for item, Excel came up with one find "Twenty-four Rivers" in the Transvaal. Easy peasy! This may only be useful to a few of you. If it is of any use other than the way I use it, I will certainly like to know. Keep well and regards, Danie"

Danie has also prepared a similar compilation of the 1953 post offices including the Union, Rhodesia and the greater Eastern and Central Africa. The lists are available from Danie van Zyl directly at worldstamps@iafrica.com, but will also be posted on PSGSA's website.

We should also direct any interested collector toward Bob Hisey's compilation, as an Excel spreadsheet, of all post offices and agencies listed in Putzel's 4-volume 'Encyclopaedia of Southern African Post Offices and Postal Agencies'. This listing is still available as an CD from PSGSA (see list of publications for details) and serve the same purpose as Danie van Zyl's lists.

Special Request from the SA Post Office

This request by Sandile Keswa, Philatelic Services, appeared early last year in the South African Philatelist and is reproduced below because it illustrates some of the problems faced by the Post Office.

"In current times when we are experiencing an increase in crime and the destruction of government property as a means of protest action, there is a need for Post office staff to be vigilant at all times. As a result, the Post Office appeals to all collectors who would like to take photographs of the outside and interior of post offices, in addition to requests for cancellers, to observe the following protocol. Please make prior arrangements with the relevant Business Development Officer in each region to visit the post office. Details of all Business Development Officers can be found below. This protocol has been introduced for the following reasons.

- The Post Office handles high cash volumes and secure mail items. A person taking photographs without any prior knowledge by the Post Office staff can easily be interpreted as a possible breach of security measures.
- Post Office staff have serious concerns when people unknown to them are observed taking photographs of Post Office infrastructure for unidentified reasons. This can cause unnecessary

alarm amongst Post Office workers.

- At certain periods of the week and month, the Post Office can experience heavy volumes of business. In such a situation, the Post Office staff's priority is to provide a service to paying customers. Requests for examples of cancellers can easily be provided during a quieter period. While the Post Office encourages philatelic activities of all sorts, collectors are urged to respect the following points in order to avoid what could be a highly embarrassing and stressful situation.

- If any collector has an interest, or need, to take photographs of Post Office buildings or operations (both inside and outside), please inform the relevant Business Development Officer so that he can liaise with the relevant Post Office staff.

- If any collector would like copies of cancellers or date stamps they should also contact the relevant Business Development Officer so that prior arrangements can be made with the relevant Post Office."

Franco Frescura comments on the special request: "As I understand it, the SAPO has been having financial problems and at one stage, failed to meet its payments to its suppliers, including the overseas stamp printers. As a result there has been a shortage of stamps and PO counter staff has been using its cash registers to print counter labels usually reserved for parcels and registered mail as normal stamps. You can imagine the chaos that this has caused!

In addition the PO has been dipping into historical philatelic stocks, and local postmasters have been digging into the back of their vaults to find old stock of commemorative stamps sent out by stores as far back as the 1990's, which should have been sold to the public at the time of issue but which, through bloody mindlessness and sheer inertia, was never done. As a result stamps I designed and issued between 1994 and 1999 and should have been relegated by now to the pages of catalogs are finally being sold over the counter!

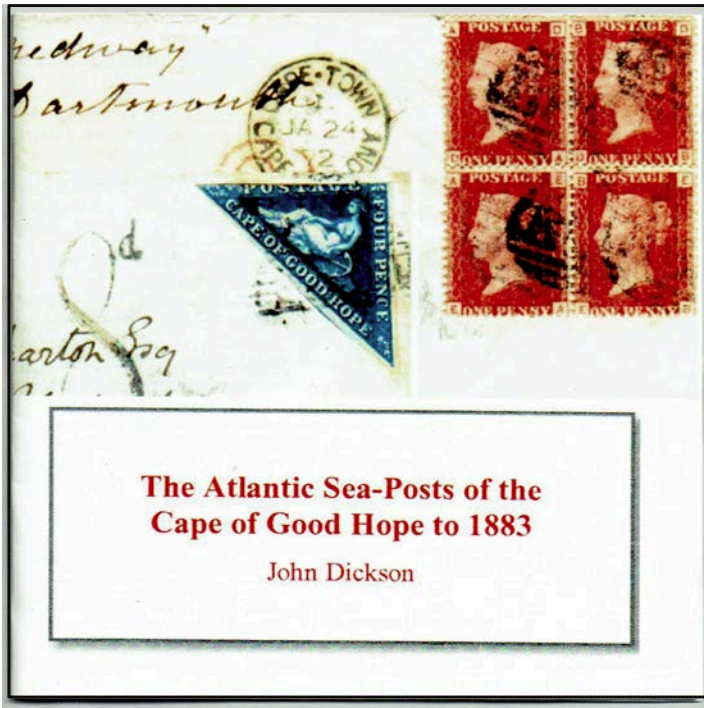
The requests for cancellations ... well, that has never been an easy issue, but as far as I know most PO staff is engaged in the renewal of motor vehicle licenses where the queues ARE long, and have no time to do this, let alone read up on the rules on the subject. As far as I know, if you stick a stamp to an envelope, the postal clerk has to cancel it for you and give you an extra clear strike alongside.

The photography of post offices is something new to me and know of no legal prohibition, not even in the Apartheid era."

Namibia Postal Rates

Uli Bantz send us an Excel spreadsheet containing the 1990-2018 postal rates from Namibia to South Africa prepared by **Derick Loteryman** of Windhoek. Prior to independence in 1990, the South African postal rates were in effect in South West Africa. In addition, the NamPost website has pdf files giving the detailed rates from 1.10.2013 to 30.9.2018. The spreadsheet will be posted on the society website.

Book Reviews



The Atlantic Sea-Posts of the Cape of Good Hope to 1883 by **John Dickson**. Published 2017 by the Author in a MS Word format on a memory stick/CD. Available from the Author at Lismore House, Shepton Beauchamp, TA190LJ, UK. Price is £39 post free, using check drawn on a UK bank or PayPal to johndickson@nzsc.demon.co.uk.

This is a monumental and much awaited contribution to the early Cape of Good Hope postal history. It details the mail packets from the first Dutch attempts to organize a mail service in 1784 to 1883 when the Union and Castle packets were well established. The treatment is organized in two volumes: the first is made up of 21 Chapters and the second contains the transcribed supporting original documents. The study outlines the development of the packets including the negotiations of the contracts between the shipping lines of the postal authorities in London and the Cape. It puts together the available formation on shipping routes, sailing schedules, postal rates, and regulations. The original sources of information are quoted to allow researcher to follow up on information. In addition, many of the original documents has been transcribed and is included in the appendices. The development of the services are illustrated by covers in the authors own collection, although no attempt has been made to provide a guide to markings and postmarks.

The readers of the *Natal and Zululand Post* and subsequently the *Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal*, where much of study has previously been presented, will recognize Dickson's detailed research style. Now the information is available systematically organized in one place. This is a study anybody with an interest of the early postal history of the greater Southern Africa cannot be without. It is proper to congratulate the author with his achievement.

Peter Thy



Entertainments Tax in South Africa. Four Papers by **Ian Matheson and Andrew McClellan**. Published 2017 by the British Revenue Society. Available free as a 77 page PDF document on their website www.revenuesociety.uk.org. A printed copy may also be available by contacting the authors or the Revenue Society.

The work is made up of individual chapters covering the four South African provinces: Cape, Natal, Transvaal, and Orange Free State - thus explains the four chapters of the title. Entertainment tax was introduced in South Africa in 1917. The authors point out that the subject of their study is developing and fully expect (and hope) that new discovery will surface with the publication of their book. For this reason, they have not attempted to provide catalogue numbers. Clear colored illustrations are given for most types and when archival printing information and essays are available these are also included. Shown are many examples of the usages of the stamps. If you ever should be considering a new collecting object, this book will be the ideal starting point.

The authors can be reached by writing to ian@cdi.biz or aj.mcc.new@gmail.com. Andrew McClellan's website is a also worth a visit at www.revrevd.com. The book can be obtained as a fee PDF document from the website of the British Revenue Society at www.revenuesociety.uk.org.

Peter Thy

For the Record

342. The website of the **Rhodesian Study Circle** has recently gone through some major renovations and postings. One particular useful items that can be found is a 71-page long introduction to the **Mardon and Natprint security printers** of Harare. Go to <http://www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk> and look under 'Encyclopedia of Rhodesian and Zimbabwean Postage Stamps.'
343. Spink offered the **Royal Palm Collection of Rhodesian Double Heads** in March, 2018. The collection contained

400 specialized lots.

344. **Stanley Gibbons** is selling at auction the **William 'Bill' O'Connell** collection of **Rhodesian 'Admirals', 'Double Heads'** and Postmarks in June 2018 in London. The collection contains over 700 lots.

345. The **Royal Philatelic Society of London** has outgrown its current premise at **41 Devonshire Place** since 1925 and is now in the process of moving to another location at **15 Abchurch Lane**, also in central London.



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Exchange Journals Received

South African Philatelist: February 2018 (Volume 94, No. 1, Whole No. 946).

FVZA Bartolomeu Dias: May 2018 (Whole No. 118).

Transvaal Philatelist: No new issues received.

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

New Books

Dickson, John, 2017. The Atlantic Sea-Posts of the Cape of Good Hope to 1883. Electronic Version on USB. Published by the author. ISBN 978-0-9540380-2-1. Available from John Dickson, Lismore House, Shepton Beauchamp TA190LJ, UK. johndickson@nzsc.demon.co.uk.

Laubscher, Xavier, 2017. Namibia. All Covers - Publicity Information, Stationery, RXR Stamps, Johannesburg. 224 pp, hardcover.

Matheson, I. and McClellan, A., 2017. Entertainments Tax in South Africa. Four papers. U.K. Revenue Society. Can be downloaded free from <http://www.revenuesociety.org.uk>.

Highlights from Journals and Newsletters

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

Bleazard, J., 2018. 1995 Rugby Cup ink-jet cancels. Part One – used in Pretoria. South African Philatelist 94 (Whole No. 946), 16-19.

Briscoe, A., 2018. Private telegraph companies. South African Philatelist 94 (Whole No. 946), 14-15.

Burke, S. and Pegg, P., 2018. A great item of postal history: 1894 Barotseland mission mail via the Bechuanaland Protectorate. Journal of the Rhodesian Circle 68, 73-76.

Coop, B., 2018. An update on Nyasaland postmarks. Journal of the Rhodesian Circle 68, 45-48.

Davis, T., 2018. Zululand: early twentieth century postcards of Zululand. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal 22 (Whole No. 85), 285-298.

Fischer, A., 2018. Portuguese Nyassa Company – 1901 camel and giraffe. The elusive fourth printing covers of the issue. London Philatelist 127, 173-177.

Johnson, R., 2018. CGH: parcel post. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal 22 (Whole No. 85), 264-284.

Kamffer, G., 2018. The second (1931-1937) and third (1938-1942) series of revenue stamps and the overprinted native tax revenue stamp of the Union of South Africa. South African Philatelist 94 (Whole No. 946), 24-27.

Koster, J., 2018. The Mafeking Blues. FVZA Bartolomeu Dias 30 (Whole No. 118), 32-37.

Krip, E., 2018. Valutawisselingen in de filatelie van Zuidelijk Afrika (3). FVZA Bartolomeu Dias 30 (Whole No. 118), 4-7.

Lowther, K., 2018. Rhodesia and Zimbabwe remain locked in the past. Kelleher's Stamp Collector's Quarterly, Vol. 4, Whole No. 13, 43-46.

Menuez, W., 2018. The Watson post cards. Part 1. Postal Stationery 60 (Whole No. 419), 72-86.

Price, K., 2018. Registered letter markings of the OFS. South African Philatelist 94 (Whole No. 946), 12-13.

Reah-Johnson, S. and Hensman, S., 2018. The colours and printings of the 2d Rhodesian Double Heads. Journal of the Rhodesian Circle 68, 53-72.

Solomon, S., 2018. Natal: the 1877 ½ HALF surcharge. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal 22 (Whole No. 85), 299-307.

Spivack, D., 2018. The BSAC Admiral 1/2d postal stationery newspaper wrapper – more questions than answers. Journal of the Rhodesian Circle 68, 50-52.

van der Vliet, O., 2018. Belastingzegels van Namibie: een update. FVZA Bartolomeu Dias 30 (Whole No. 118), 10-11.

Venter, L., 2018. Voices from the past: correspondence from a son to his mother. South African Philatelist 94 (Whole No. 946), 22-23.

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Stanley Gibbons: 104 (error not cited)

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Websites that Promote Southern Africa Philately

Anglo Boer War Philatelic Society

<http://www.boerwarsociety.org.uk/>

Basutoland, Bechuanaland & Swaziland

www.bechuanalandphilately.com

Cape and Natal Study Circle

www.capenatalstamps.com

Orange Free State Study Circle

www.orangefreestatephilately.org.uk

Rhodesian Study Circle

www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk

South African Collectors' Society

www.southafricacollector.com

The Philatelic Society For Greater Southern Africa

www.psgsa.org

The Rhodesian Philatelist

www.rhodesianstamps.net/The_Rhodesian_Philatelist.htm

Transvaal Study Circle

www.transvaalstamps.org.uk

Thanks to Otto Peetoom for making this compilation.

PSGSA Articles of Distinction

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

2017. 'The intersection of African Liberation and Philately in the Life of an Activist' by Ken Lawrence. Whole No. 88.

2016. 'The 'Woodblock' triangular stamps of the Cape of Good Hope' by David Mordant. Whole No. 84.

2015. 'The South Africa Christmas Stamp Project' by Franco Frescura, Whole Number 83.

2014. 'The Cape Post Office 1795-1910: A Final Report' by Franco Frescura. Whole Number 79.

Prize Letters in the Archives

The following is a story from ABC News with a strong postal history interest, although not specifically connected to Southern Africa. By Kelly Terez, May 17, 2018.

Thousands of letters from all over the world were never delivered between 1650 and 1815. Now hundreds of years later, the world will be able to read those undelivered letters. Britain was involved in a series of wars during that period, and when they captured enemy ships, they seized about 160,000 letters in mailbags.

The National Archives of the United Kingdom has partnered with the University of Oldenburg in Germany in a massive 20-year project to digitize the so-called Prize Papers and make them freely available. The project, funded by Göttingen Academy of Sciences and Humanities, launched this month.

Archivists are preparing the records for digitization with plans to write brief descriptions about the letters and take multiple pictures for a free online research database.

Dr. Amanda Bevan, head of Legal Records at the National Archives of the U.K., told ABC News that reading the letters



is like "eavesdropping on people from the past," since people were writing to those they loved and missed back at home. "It's touching, you feel as though you actually are in touch with the people who wrote them at the time," she said.

Because many of the letters were sent during wartime, she said archivists are uncovering "heartwrenching" stories. "Especially the ones which say, 'I've written three letters, I haven't heard from you. Are you still alive?'" One of the letters she mentioned was from a young Irishman who was writing to a cousin in Waterford about his adventures: "He's been settled on the island of Tenerife in the East Atlantic, and he's been trying to make his fortune, and everything has gone wrong."

One letter from a slave trader to a girlfriend in Holland included a bracelet strung with glass beads, which were used as currency in African slave trade, from the coast of West Africa. It also had grains of sand from the Guinea coast that were used to blot ink.

Americans eager to learn about letters from the American Revolution will have to wait. The project is still in its early days and about a quarter of the estimated 160,000 total letters are unorganized from poor storage over the years. Bevan said the period between the 1770's and early 1780's has one of the worst collections of random papers. "You get letters from the 1770's mixed up with letters from the 1780's. You'll get French ones stored with Spanish ones ... it's clear that they're messed up. Now we just need the time and resources to sort them out."

Here is an example mentioned above: <https://vimeo.com/113053595>. In 1744 William Farrell, who was living in Tenerife, wrote a letter to his cousin James Wyse in Waterford, detailing his various adventures and mishaps. The ship he sent it on was the Franciscus, which was captured. Enjoy the listening.

Society Publications

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

Mordant, David, 2017. Barred Oval Numerical Cancellers of Cape of Good Hope 1863-1963. Can be downloaded from the Society website.

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

Vol. 2. The Telegraphs, 250 pages.

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

CD version is now available at \$30 pp.

Forerunners on CD, Issues 1 to 81 (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. Can be downloaded from the Society website.

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

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

The Market Place

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

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

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

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 positions:

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

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

Contact the Editor for smaller ad sizes.

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.



Post Office Stone. The earliest surviving engraved stone inscribed in Dutch was left behind when the sailing ships Nassau, Fredick Hendrik, Nimmegen, Wesel and Galyas, homeward bound from Batavia, anchored in Table Bay. It bore the following inscription: "HIER ONDER LEGGEN BRIEVEN VAND COMAND DV LEE EN VICE COMD P. CROOCK MET DE SCHEPEN NASSAU FRE HENDRIK NIMMEGEN WESEL EN DE GALIAS. ALHIER DEN 9 APRIL 1632 VAN BATTAVIA GEARIVEERT VIR OCKEN DEN 15 DITTO". They set sail from there on 20 April, and not on 15 April as they had originally planned. Thanks to Franco Frescura for the information.

Membership Application

Membership includes a subscription to the Society's journal Forerunners. The membership fees are \$20 for an electronic version of Forerunners. To obtain also the print version add US\$5 to US mailing addresses, US\$10 to Canada addresses, and US\$15 to the rest of the world. Those that join before July 1 will receive the complete back issues for that year. Thereafter annual renewals occur in August and are due by September 1. If sending in dues by mail, please provide funds in US\$ either in currency or a check on a USA bank account made out to "PSGSA." Mail all payments to David McNamee, PSGSA Treasurer, P.O. Box 37, Alamo, CA 94507 USA. PayPal to "dmcnamee@aol.com" is also acceptable, but please add US\$ 1 extra to cover part of the PayPal fees we must pay to use the service. For some overseas members, it might be more advantageous to send in dues for two or more years to avoid the annual currency conversion fees.

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