



# \*\*\*\*\**FORERUNNERS*

*JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY FOR GREATER SOUTHERN AFRICA*

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

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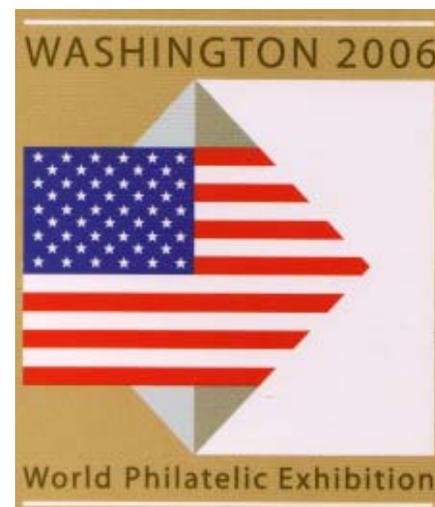
November-February 2005/06



British South Africa Company Native Tax Receipt with embossed 10 shillings revenue and 'rhino' as symbol for 1921.

## Highlights of This Issue

Washington 2006  
Cape Postmaster Generals  
Harvesting eBay  
Postage Stamps Used on Telegrams  
Books with Philatelic Flavors  
WW2 Mail Via Intermediate  
Kruger Essays  
Surcharged Stamps of Lesotho Part 4  
Issue Date of SA Postal Card  
Still More Oval Framed Tax Markings  
Postal Orders Looted During Boer War





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Front Illustration:

British South Africa Company Native Tax Receipt with embossed 10 shillings revenue and 'rhino' handstamp as symbol for 1921. See Joe Ross' article in Forerunners # 45 (2003, p. 51-53).

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Vermeils at STAMPSHOW 2005 and C7NPLE, Ottawa; 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

Many of us are now getting ready for Washington 2006 with last minute traveling plans and exhibits to prepare. A meeting has been scheduled for southern Africa interest groups and it is hoped that many members will be able to meet. For this issue, we again have a full slate and you are invited to enjoy. Perhaps the most important event in the past months is that we have got a new and well designed website at <http://psgsa.thestampweb.com>. Use it and give our web page editor Clive Levinson your comments and suggestions for improvements and additions. The deadline for the next issue will be June 15. Please let us have your contributions - small or large - as soon as possible.

Thanks to Ashley Cotter-Cairns for proof reading

## 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). The membership fees are \$25 to North America and \$30 by air to Europe and southern Africa. A sample copy of Forerunners is available from the Editor for \$9. Presentation issue can be freely downloaded together with application form from [psgsa.thestampweb.com](http://psgsa.thestampweb.com). Advertising rates can be found in the Market Place section. Payment options are (1) check drawn on a US bank and made payable to PSGSA, (2) £ Sterling bank draft at current exchange rate with 'payee' left blank, (3) US \$ or £ Sterling bank notes at the current exchange rates and mailed at the sender's own risk, or (4) Paypal to the Society Treasurer at [bobhisey@comcast.net](mailto:bobhisey@comcast.net). All membership fees and other payments should be mailed directly to the Treasurer. All communications about membership, subscriptions, publications, activities, and services of the Society should be sent to the Secretary.

### Instructions for Manuscript Submissions

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

## President's Corner

Greetings once again from north of the border. I have to say I was shocked to find that I had not sent any message or contribution to the journal since the March/June 2003 issue. Maybe some of you thought I had emigrated to a far-off land, but I can only offer a most prosaic explanation. I seem to have been busy with many other societies and their affairs, together with various stamps shows, house repairs and holidays. Retirement certainly will enable one to do all of those things, but I have to say that I have been in contact fairly frequently with the other officers on Society matters.

Forerunners is such an enjoyable journal these days, with a plethora of interesting articles on African philately. It is a good indication that our Society is alive and well and that the various officers are contributing their time and efforts to keeping up that state of affairs. Canada always seems to me a bit of a wasteland when it comes to the collection of and interest in those areas that intrigue us all. In fact, most dealers up here see me coming at shows and shake their heads, which translated means "nothing new for you."

There are two events on the horizon which hopefully will change that, as we have the AmeriStampExpo here in Toronto on April 7-9 and Washington is getting pretty close now. If any members are interested in showing single frame, postcard, display or thematic exhibits at AmeriStampExpo, I would be happy to send a prospectus and entry form. As far as Washington is concerned, Colin Fraser is setting up a meeting of the Rhodesia Study Circle and other groups such as PSGSA. It will take place on Tuesday, May 30th at 10 am and is scheduled for two hours. Tim Bartshe has been notified, but you could contact Colin direct at [Fraserstamps@cs.com](mailto:Fraserstamps@cs.com).

There are a couple of stamp clubs here in Toronto and another society (Toronto Entomologists Association) that I belong to and they are having problems in finding volunteers to carry on some of the duties. That is coming up in our own society as our redoubtable treasurer, Bob Hisey, is looking to relinquish the position after many years. Is there a younger member out there who has some slight knowledge of financial matters who might be willing to take over this very necessary job? After all, it is the money coming in which allows us to put out such a great journal. If anyone is interested, please contact Bob or myself.

With that I think I will end this message with a promise that it will not be as long before you hear from me again and maybe I shall see some of you in Washington. Until next time ...

### Back Issues Available

Back issues of the Forerunners are in stock and available for purchase. These are listed by whole number: #1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28/29,\* 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34-46. The price per copy is #1-3, \$2; #4, \$4, #6-11, \$3; #12-13, \$4; #14-15, \$5; #16-17, \$6; #22-27, \$7; #28/29, \$10; #30-33, \$7; #34-54, \$9. Prices include shipping by lowest rate. Many back issues only exist in few remaining copies. Send orders to the Editor together with payment. \* Combined as a British Africa Anthology with articles from 15 speciality groups celebrating PSGSA's 10th Anniversary during PACIFIC 97.



## Speciality Editors for Forerunners

The Editor and the Forerunners depends on our Speciality Editors. These are listed on the first page of each issue together with their speciality areas. The duty of a specialist editor is straight forward. He or she will

1. assist the Editor by reviewing and editing,
2. write an occasional article,
3. search and promote writings from potential authors, and
4. supply news items for the Forum and Society sections.

It is not a requirement that the Speciality Editor will write an article for each issue, but it will certainly not be discouraged. An important function is to seek out potential authors and encourage them to write articles for Forerunners. This may involve technical and editorial assistance to potential authors. The Editor may also need assistance with evaluating and editing submitted articles whose subject is outside his own expertise.

The ideal description for a Speciality Editor: Broadly knowledgeable philatelist. Specialist collector and perhaps exhibitor. Active in organized philately. Well versed with the existing literature and specialist journals. Perhaps already writing articles for the specialist journals and hopefully also for Forerunners. Admittedly, few of our existing Speciality Editors will fit this description so don't restrain yourself from coming forward.

As a regular reader of the Forerunners you will be aware that some areas are well represented on the pages of Forerunners. Other are poorly represented. It is difficult to hide that the Bechuanalands recently have been overrepresented. Nobody has complained, but it would be ideal if we could produce a more evenly balanced Forerunners. Look at the Speciality Editor list and decide if you can help. Contact the Editor even if your subject is already covered.

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### Silver at CHICAGOPEX 2005 and Vermeil at C7NPLE in Toronto



Forerunners received two more medals in 2005 in addition to the Vermeil at Stampshow in Grand Rapids reported in the last issue. First a Silver at CHICAGOPEX and then a Vermeil at Toronto's 7th National Philatelic Literature Exhibit. Our journal has been accepted for Washington 2006 and we will wait for next issue to evaluate the combined judges comments.

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### Show Reports

**Forerunners** was awarded SILVER at CHICAGOPEX 2005. **Nigel Roberts** received SILVER for 'Nyasaland and Malawi Postmarks' also at CHICAGOPEX 2005. **Peter Thy** received GOLD at SCAPEX 2005 for 'Botswana and Botswana Postal Orders.' **Peter Lodoen** was awarded SILVER at C7NPLE in Ottawa, Canada, for his book 'Rejected-Accepted' (PSGSA Publication). **Forerunners** was awarded VERMEIL and the **Anglo-Boer Philatelist** SILVER at the same literature exhibit. **Dickson and Hanman** got a VERMEIL also in Ottawa for 'The Postal Stationery of Natal.' **Christopher Dahle** received SILVER-BRONZE for 'Rhodesia and Nyasaland Postage 1953-1963' at MILCOPEX 2005 in Milwaukee, Wis. **Jon Johnson** received SILVER at BNAPEX 2005 (Edmonton, Alberta, Canada) for 'Mail from the South Africa Military Nursing Services.'

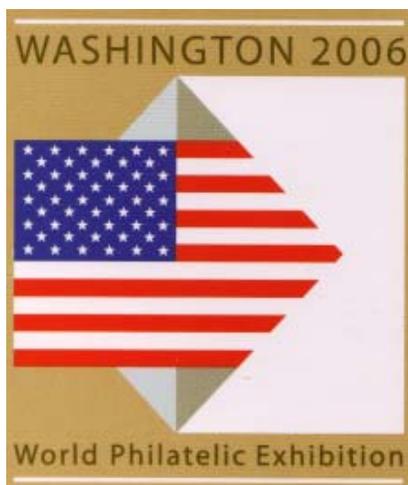
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### Silver to Accepted-Rejected

Peter Lodoen's book on his adventures as stamp designer for Botswana Post was awarded a Silver at Canada's 7th National Philatelic Literature Exhibit held in Toronto in conjunction with STAMPEX during October 14-16, 2005. Congratulations to Peter Lodoen for this achievement at the most important North American philatelic literature exhibition.

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### Washington 2006 Society Meeting



A Rhodesia Study Circle and PSGSA meeting will be held Tuesday, May 30 at 10 am. Frames will be available at the meeting. See show program for venue. Contact Colin Fraser, P.O. Box 335, Woodstock NY 12498; [frasers@writeme.com](mailto:frasers@writeme.com), or Tim Barthse at the table of American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors (AAPE) (or leave message at table). Contact Tim prior to the meeting by writing to [timbarthshe@aol.com](mailto:timbarthshe@aol.com).

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### New Website and Webmaster

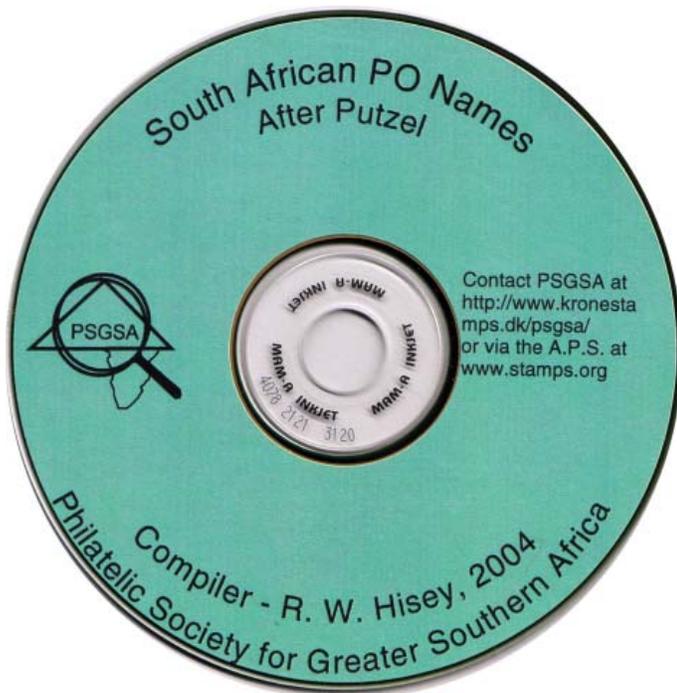
We have a new website and also a new webmaster. Go to <http://psgsa.thestampweb.com> to enjoy our professionally designed and maintained site. All correspondence concerning the website should be addressed to the website editor (and webmaster) Clive Levinson at [clivel@bundu.com](mailto:clivel@bundu.com). Clive will like to hear your comments about improvements and additions.

---

### Search for Society Treasurer

Bob Hisey has after many years of services expressed a wish to 'retire' as society treasurer and to concentrate on his Orange Free State Philately books. Please come forward and contact Bob if you are interested in taking over this important society function.

## Postal Office Names of Southern Africa after Putzel



The Society has released a new ROM-CD prepared by Bob Hisey. It contains a compilation of southern Africa postal offices. The purpose is to help place postmarks that are only partially legible. The base is the magnum opus of Ralph Putzel listing all the post office names of South Africa. This list is intended to be basically an index to Putzel's work.

The format is in MS Access database and also MS Excel spreadsheet. It includes name, opening date, and province/colony/state. The lists can be searched using partial names, as are commonly found on stamps. The most efficient search engine is the database form, but the spreadsheet is also searchable.

Errors are certainly present and the compiler will appreciate being told of them so they can be corrected in later editions. Contact Bob Hisey at bobhisey@comcast.net. The CD is available from Bob Hisey at \$15 including mailing. Special mailing offer is available if several society CDs are ordered.

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### The Editor's View

The submission of a written work for publication in philatelic newsletters and journals, like the *Forerunners*, is almost always conditioned by the author's prior acceptance of reasonable editorial revisions, irrespective of whether or not such a condition has specifically been expressed. The submission of a typescript thus assumes that the author consents to revisions. It is the editor who decides what reasonable constitutes. The editor may further choose to solicit advice from knowledgeable experts in the field in question. Based on such advice, it is the editor's sole decision when modifications are substantial enough to require the author's response and detailed arguments against modifications. Withdrawing an article without offering informed arguments are rarely an option unless the editor and the expert reviewers have

suggested so. It is the editor who makes the final decision about whether or not to print a submitted article.

These principles do not differ from common practices for peer-reviewed society and commercial journals and other publications. It is very rare that solicited or unsolicited articles are published without significant editing. There are indeed good reasons why an editor actually is called an editor. It is the duty of the editor to assure the relevance, quality, and readability of a typescript. Readability includes presentation and conformity with accepted philatelic nomenclature and journal style. Special consideration and attention are demanded by manuscripts written by authors using English as a secondary language (or translated into English).

Prospective authors should consider that philatelic journals and newsletters are run by collectors that sacrifice their spare time, weekends, and vacations to edit, produce, and mail-out the philatelic journals that we take for granted will arrive in our mailbox at regular intervals. Most authors submitting articles are more than willing to work with the editor to improve an article to make it more readable and easier to understand. It is always a pleasure to work with such authors. Occasionally, an author is encountered that lacks the writing skills and more importantly the personal mentality and willingness to improve his/her own writings. It is for this rare person that this is written. My apologies to the rest.

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### Life of a Botswana Stamp Designer: Review in American Philatelist

All too often essays of stamps are held by printing companies or governments and are seldom seen by the collecting community. If they are seen, it often is after the artist or designer has died, and precious few details as to the why and wherefore are known or preserved. Thus, the work by the designer of rejected and accepted designs for Botswana postage stamps is to be applauded.

Peter Lodoen has been a designer of postage stamps for the Botswana Post for the past fifteen years and he tells, often with humor, his adventures along the way. I found this to be a charming and very enjoyable "read." I wish more stamp designers and artists would tell their story so we collectors would have a better understanding of what goes on behind the scenes. For example, when the city of Bologna, Italy, sent a letter to the Botswana Postal Services in 1995 suggesting they should issue stamps commemorating Bologna's native son Marconi, I suspect many collectors would question why Botswana would want to do that. As the author points out, most people living in Africa do not have access to a daily newspaper while many who do are not able to read it, so the radio is THE means of getting information in Africa. Although Marconi was not shown on the stamps issued, the use of a radio was. Knowing the background presented by the author makes this an understandable and meaningful issue.

The colorful illustrations compliment the well-written text to give the reader a better understanding of the various stamp issues.

Reprinted from *American Philatelist*, December 2005, p. 1146-1147. Written by Joe Hahn and reproduced with permission.

The book is still available either printed in full color or on CD-ROM. The booklet can also be downloaded from the PSGSA website and can be viewed on your computer or printed for personal use.

# Postmaster Generals of the Cape, 1792-1910

by Franco Frescura

## INTRODUCTION

On 2 March 1792 Acting Governor Johan Isaac Rhenius appointed Adriaan Vincent Bergh the first Postmaster of the Cape. Following the first British occupation of the Cape, on 11 June 1795, he took the oath of allegiance to the British Crown, and was allowed to retain his position until 1798 when he was replaced by John Holland. On 18 October 1820 he was appointed the first postmaster of Clanwilliam, and filled this position until 15 December 1826. Bergh married his first wife, Angelique Wilhelmina Falck, in 1794, and his second, Cornelia Sophia Cruywagen, in 1802. He died in 1852.

In January 1797 the British Government created a Court of the Vice-Admiralty at the Cape, with a single judge to run its affairs. John Holland was sent out from England to fill this position and, together with his wife, arrived at the Cape on 3 February 1798. A month later, on 3 March, he was also appointed Postmaster General for the Cape, with an office in the Castle. By all accounts Holland was a good humored and agreeable person. Lady Anne Barnard met him soon after his arrival and found him to be: "A man who was pleasant, almost handsome, though somewhat of the old Beau, rather clever but of a spirit too encroaching and eager for influence. I saw that he wished to get possession of the mind of my husband but as he saw it too there was no danger." (1994: 287)

Holland was not in good health and his stay at the Cape was not destined to be a long one. In addition, the Peace of Amiens, signed in March 1802, made it clear that the Cape was to be returned to the Batavian Republic. As a result on 6 August 1802 Holland sold his house at 47 Bree Street, together with its contents, and on 11 September he finally left the Colony (Philip, 1981: 185). The impact that he had upon the running of the Post Office at the Cape does not appear to have been unduly high. Following his departure, the position of Postmaster General was left vacant, and on 21 February 1803, the administration of the Cape was formally returned to the Dutch. In 1804 the direction of the Cape Post Office was given to Mr CG Hohne, but nothing more is known of this official. On 18 January 1806 the British annexed the Cape, and this time around their tenure was to prove more permanent. On 1 April 1806 a local businessman, William Caldwell, was appointed Deputy Postmaster General as a temporary measure, pending the arrival of an official from the Colonial Office in Britain.

William Caldwell was born in May 1758 in Inverness, Scotland. Having served for a time in India as a Lieutenant in the Bengal Artillery, he arrived at the Cape on 26 January 1796 aboard the Danish ship "Johanna". On 12 February 1796, less than a month after his arrival, he was married to his second wife, Catharina Hendrina Bletterman, who bore him two daughters. On 7 May 1798 he requested the Cape Government for permission to settle in the Colony, and on 5 January 1799 he signed the Loyal Address to Gen Sir Francis Dundas, then Lieutenant-Governor of the Cape.

During the twenty years of his life at the Cape, Caldwell appears to have led a busy, and perhaps even convoluted, business life. On 30 August 1800 he was recorded to be running a warehouse at 25 Shortmarket Street, Cape Town, and on 16 January 1802 he moved to 32 Berg Street where he opened a hotel. On 13 November 1802 he moved to 4 Strand Street where he ran a retail store beneath his dwelling and boarding house, but on 10 September 1803 he sold off his stock and moved to Stellenbosch where he ran a boarding house from a dwelling owned by Mr Wolfferum. On 20 November 1803 he signed an oath of submission to the Batavian Republic, and on 15 February 1806 he expressed his intention of remaining in Stellenbosch. However two months later, on 1 April 1806, he was appointed Deputy Postmaster General for the Cape, a position he held until 2 December 1807 when Matthew Gall, the new Postmaster General, arrived from England. On 9 August 1806 he moved back to Cape Town where, from 11 April 1807, he resided at 8 Strand Street. On 5 March 1808 he was running a general merchandise store at 7 Bergh Street, with a branch in Stellenbosch. On 19 September 1808 he purchased the home of the widow J Bernhard in Stellenbosch. However on 11 January 1812 he announced that "his public duty obliges him" to move back to Cape Town and on 25 January he sold off his Stellenbosch house and effects. He probably retained his property at 7 Bergh Street for in 1815 he was reported to be acting from there as the agent for a London property firm. On 3 January 1812 he was appointed Wine Taster for all Cape Wines, a position he held until his death in Cape Town on 2 July 1816, at the age of 58.

Although Caldwell's career in the Post Office was relatively brief, he is credited with the re-organization of the local postal service, the spread of new postal routes into the interior of the country, and the revision of postal charges. His wife, Catharina Caldwell, must also have been a vigorous and enterprising woman. Not only does she appear to have taken an active hand in her husband's business affairs, but on 8 May 1808 she was appointed postmaster at Stellenbosch with Mrs AC Hudson as her deputy. She filled this post for the next 38 years, with only a brief break in 1829, and retired from the Post Office in 1846, when she must have been close to 70 years old (Philip 1981: 51-2). In addition she also continued to provide lodgings at their old house at 7 Bergh Street, as well as at 30 Strand Street, while also retaining her position as postmaster at Stellenbosch,

The case of the Caldwells casts an interesting light upon the levels of performance which the Colonial Administration expected of its high-ranking postal officials during these early years. We already know from numerous other examples that, right up to the 1850s, senior appointments in the Cape Post Office were handled, on a part-time basis, by private individuals or business concerns. The instance of the postmaster at Port Elizabeth is a good case in point. It comes as no surprise therefore to learn that William Caldwell managed to retain a number of diverse business interests throughout his brief career in the Post

Office, or that his wife Catharina should have continued with these interests while she also fulfilled the duties of postmaster at Stellenbosch (Philip 1981: 51-2).

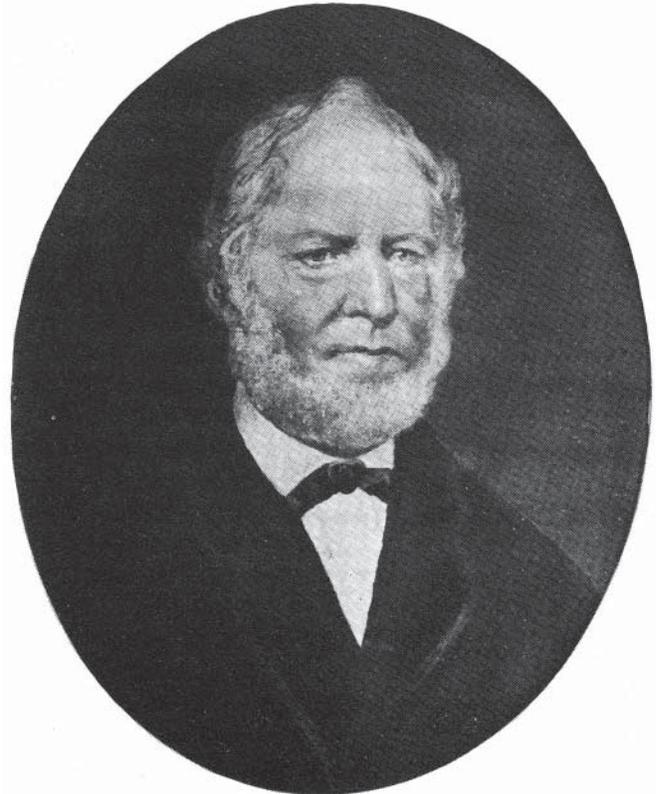
On 28 August 1806 the British Secretary of State for the Colonies in London wrote to General Sir David Baird, Governor of the Cape, instructing him that, upon the arrival at the Cape of Matthew Gall, he should be appointed Postmaster General for the Colony. Gall arrived at Cape Town on the sailing ship "London" on 2 December 1807, and was confirmed to this position the following day. On 11 September 1808 his house in Wale Street was broken into and a murder committed on its premises. On 20 May 1809 he took a prolonged leave of absence in Europe and only returned on 21 June 1811. In May 1813 he again left, returning on 8 September 1815. On both occasions Robert Crozier was left acting on his behalf. He finally resigned on 18 November 1815. In total Gall remained in office for just on eight years, and for four-and-a-half of these he was absent from the Colony. This lack of concern was to have a detrimental effect upon the organization of his department, and by the time he had resigned in 1815, the postal services of the Cape were widely regarded to be in a shambles. The few innovations that were introduced during his term of office can probably be attributed to his successor, Robert Crozier.

Robert Dupre Crozier was born in Caledon, County Tyrone, Ireland, in about 1785, the son of John Crozier and his wife Mary Henderson. His father was an Ensign in the 29th Regiment from the Estate Strathmore, near Gilford in County Down, Ulster. When Dupre Alexander, Earl of Caledon, was appointed Governor of the Cape early in 1807, he invited Crozier to join his administration, and the party arrived in Cape Town on 22 May 1807.

After spending his first week at Government House making copies of dispatches, on 1 June 1807 Crozier was made 8th clerk in the Colonial Secretariat at the Castle, and on 1 September 1808 he was promoted to Cashier in the Lombard and Discount Bank at a salary of £225 per annum. While retaining this position he also served as Acting Postmaster General in 1809-11, and again in 1813-15 in the absence of Matthew Gall. Despite his obviously advantaged social and political connections Crozier's career does not appear to have progressed as rapidly as the young man might have wished, and on 3 April 1812 Lord Liverpool wrote to Governor Cradock requesting that he be found more lucrative employment. This request was repeated on 10 November 1814 when the Secretary of State for War and the Colonies, Lord Bathurst, wrote to Lord Somerset, suggesting that "Mr C is represented to be a very meritorious public servant". On 3 February 1815 Crozier was appointed agent to the Agricultural Board, and on 13 March he married Johanna Magdalena van Ryneveld, daughter of Chief Justice WS van Rijneveld. In time she bore him three sons, all of whom went on to fill important positions in the British Colonial Administration.

He was appointed Acting Postmaster General for a third time on 21 September 1815, and following the resignation of Matthew Gall on 18 November 1815, was confirmed in this position with an annual salary of £375. For the next thirteen years he continued to work in the Government offices at the top of the Heerengracht,

occupying one room as cashier in the morning, and another across the courtyard as Postmaster General in the afternoon. On 1 June 1828 he gave up this dual existence and took up the position of Postmaster General on a full-time basis with a revised salary of £600 per annum. This was reduced to £400 when the Whig Party won the British elections in 1834, but was restored to its original level when the Tories returned to power in 1844.



*J. J. le Sueur*

First Postmaster-General of the Cape.

Johannes Adriaan le Sueur

During his term of office, southern Africa underwent a number of major changes, including the British colonialization of the eastern frontier, the emigration of dissident Dutch from the Cape, and the expansion of European settlement into the Karroo. Under Crozier's leadership the Cape Post Office opened 73 new offices, introduced prepaid adhesives, and extended its postal routes throughout the southern African hinterland, providing the Colonial Administration in Cape Town with communication links to the troubled Eastern Cape as well as most of the Karroo. Towards the end of his life he was struck by a long and painful illness, and although he took sick leave on 10 April 1851, he did not retire until 4 February 1852, probably in order to prevent the Colonial Secretary to the Cape, John Montagu, from appointing his son as Postmaster General. He died in Cape Town on 11 March 1852. Two days later the "Commercial Advertiser" of Cape Town wrote that Robert Crozier had been a "most amiable and universally respected gentleman (who had) filled important offices in the Colony for nearly half a century. This he did

faithfully and blamelessly, without offence in public or private life, and enjoyed the cordial affection of all who knew him”.

Johannes Adriaan Le Sueur was a career bureaucrat who joined the Cape Civil Service on 1 July 1818, and only entered its postal service on 7 June 1849 when he was appointed postmaster at Mossel Bay. On 4 December 1851 Governor Sir Harry Smith promoted him to the position of Postmaster General, with a fixed salary of £600 per annum. Under his direction during the next thirteen years the Colony’s postal income was more than trebled while its Establishment was expanded to 396 post offices. Unfortunately this growth was not accompanied by a concomitant revision of management structures within the GPO. In some instances reporting lines were allowed to blur and even lapse, thus allowing some members of staff to act without proper authority or supervision. As a result in February 1859 Mr J Armstrong, a clerk who was subsequently shown to have a propensity for gambling and female companionship, was placed in charge of the sale of postage stamps. This action was not authorized by Le Sueur, but was taken by a fellow clerk who wished to rid himself of this task. By the time he was detected in August 1864, Armstrong had managed to embezzle the sum of £1899.17s.1d from his funds. As a result three members of staff at the GPO were discharged from service and Armstrong was arrested and subsequently convicted of defrauding the Post Office. Despite his past achievements, and the fact that he was not personally responsible, Le Sueur was found to have been in derelict of his duties, and in 1865 he was dismissed from his post and ordered to repay the shortfall to the Post Office. After repeated representations to the Cape Parliament, this sum was initially halved, and then waived in its entirety. From 16 October 1866 he was placed on an annual pension of £315 per annum, but by the time he died, on 26 June 1876, the unfairness of his dismissal had been quietly recognized and he was retired on full pension.

The only portrait of Johannes Adriaan Le Sueur recorded to date originates from the Cape Archives. It is undated, and was inscribed as “JJ le Sueur. First Postmaster-General of the Cape”, probably in error (Rosenthal and Bloom, 1969). However, the Colonial Blue Books also show that there was a JJ le Sueur, who joined the GPO in Cape Town on 24 September 1855, with the status of a “Clerk, fifth class”, some four years after JA le Sueur became Postmaster-General, in 1851. Thereafter JJ’s career can only be described as having been a little “accelerated”. On 1 October 1855, within seven days of joining the Post Office, he jumped to “Clerk, first class”, leading us to conclude that he must have been a quick learner, and he was promoted to Chief Clerk on 1 January 1863. Little is known of him after 1865, when scandal overtook the Le Sueur family. One can only conclude, therefore, that JJ and JA were not unacquainted with each other, especially since their surname was not

common in Cape society of that time. This also means that the portrait in the Cape Archives must be that of Johannes Adriaan, as JJ would have been too young at the time to have been the man in the picture.

Following these events, the Colonial Administration appointed James Davidson as Acting Postmaster General, and instituted a Commission of Enquiry into the system of audit of Post Office accounts. It found that the Post Office’s method of handling stamp stocks as well as large sums of money was suspect and recommended sweeping changes to its accounting and reporting structures. As a result the Colonial Government temporarily rusticated Le Sueur’s former deputy, George Aitchison, to a civil service position at Tulbagh and, on 1 October 1867, appointed Charles Piers as Postmaster General. Piers, who had previously held the position of Superintendent of Convicts



George William Aitchison

for the Colony, had no record of employment in the postal service, and it is probable that he was only charged with implementation of new and more stringent fiscal procedures in the postal system. In 1873 George Aitchison was brought back from rural obscurity, and Piers was returned to his former post. The following year a grateful Colonial Administration promoted him to Resident Magistrate for Wynberg.

George William Aitchison began his career in the Cape's postal service on 23 September 1850 when he was appointed to the position of Additional Clerk in the General Post Office, Cape Town, with a fixed annual salary of £90. This was raised to £100 in 1852. The following year he was seconded to the Audit Office, and on 18 July 1857 he was promoted back to the GPO as Accountant to the Postmaster General with an annual salary of £250. In 1860 his duties were extended to include the work of Secretary to the Postmaster General, thus effectively making him Le Sueur's deputy. This involved a commensurate increase in annual salary to £300. Despite his senior position, he was not implicated in the financial scandal of 1864 and his reputation appears to have escaped unscathed by the subsequent dismissal of Le Sueur. Nonetheless, on 1 January 1869 he was transferred to Tulbagh where he spent the next four years as its Civil Commissioner and Resident Magistrate. In 1873 he returned to the postal service as Postmaster General, and remained in office until his sudden death on 26 January 1892.

Aitchison's tenure marks a key period in the development of the Colonial Post Office. Under his leadership the postal system was modernized, with the rationalization of the field-cornet's posts, the appointment of career post office administrators to key

provincial positions, the extension of the postal network from 379 to 718 post office, and the merger of the post and telegraph systems. His administration laid the groundwork for subsequent events that allowed the transformation of the Cape Postal Establishment from its colonial roots into a modern and efficient service. However many of the important innovations achieved by his administration were probably owed to Somerset French, an expert in the British postal system who was seconded by the Colonial Service to the Cape Post Office in 1880.

Somerset Richard French was born in England on 31 January 1849, the son of Robert French. He married Josephine Murphy who bore him a daughter and a son. He was educated privately, and on 30 August 1866, at the age of 17, he was appointed to the Money Order Office, at the General Post Office in London. The young man made rapid progress, and in September 1869 he was transferred to the Secretary's Department, Postal Branch. In about 1874 he was placed in charge of the Intelligence Branch, Telegraphs, and in July 1878 was selected to accompany the expeditionary force to Cyprus under Lt-Gen Sir Garnet Wolsley, where his task was to organize a post and telegraph service on



Somerset Richard French



Benjamin M Duff

the island. By now his reputation as an expert in postal matters was firmly established, and following the successful completion of this mission, he was requested to undertake the re-organization of the Cape's postal system. As a result he was transferred permanently to the Colonial Service and was posted to Cape Town where, on 1 August 1880, he was appointed Secretary and Accountant to the Postmaster General. On 1 January 1884 he introduced a Postal Savings Bank system and, in addition to his other duties, also became its Controller. Following the sudden death of George Aitchison on 26 January 1892, he was appointed Postmaster General of the Cape, as well as General Manager of the Cape, Natal and Basutoland Telegraph Company.

In time his portfolio was enlarged to include a number of additional responsibilities. In 1893 the post office of British

Bechuanaland and the Rhodesian telegraphs were brought under his administration; in 1897 he was appointed Postmaster General for the Bechuanaland Protectorate; and from 1893 to 1897 French was also the General Manager of the Transvaal Continental Telegraph Company. As a result French personally came to control the greater part of Southern Africa's postal services, a role which gave him a major voice in the formulation of postal policies for the region and allowed him the scope to realize his



William Thomas Hoal

vision of a greater southern African postal union. He was responsible for having the Cape Colony admitted to the Universal Postal Union in 1895, and was the major driving force in the introduction of the Imperial Penny Post on 28 December 1898. He represented the Cape, Natal and Rhodesia at the UPU conference in Washington in 1897, and in Rome in 1906. He oversaw the creation of a Southern African Postal Union in 1898, and brought South African postal rates in line with those of the UPU. During the South African War of 1899-1902 he was in control of the British Army Post Office in South Africa, as a result of which he received the special thanks of the Imperial Government and of Field-Marshal Lord Roberts.

A man of great business acumen and organizing ability, French predicted that the telegraph and the telephone would have a major impact upon communications. He also advocated the employment of well-educated men in the postal service, although he opposed the employment of women where office conditions would bring about fraternization between the genders. His administration was marked by a willingness to introduce extensive technical innovation, as well as a process of continual assessment, re-organization, and streamlining of management functions within the Post Office. In 1896 he was conferred the Dignity of Companion of the Most Distinguished Order of St Michael and St George for his services to the Colonial Post Office, and was knighted in 1901. He retired from his post in Cape Town on 31 January 1908, but continued to serve the Cape Colony until 1910,

acting as its Agent General in London. He died at Aylwins, Mayfield, in Sussex, on 11 May 1929.

French's official duties frequently took him out of the country, and between 1892 and 1905 his deputy, Benjamin M Duff, acted in his stead. After Duff's retirement in 1905, this position was taken over by William Hoal, who succeeded French in 1908.

William Thomas Hoal was born at Fowley, Cornwall, the eldest son of William Stribley Hoal. After completing his education at Exeter, in Devon, he emigrated to the Cape in 1872, and in 1880 married Harriet Elizabeth Garner, daughter of Capt Thomas Garner, who bore him nine children. On 1 June 1872 he joined the Cape of Good Hope Telegraph Co in Port Elizabeth as a telegraphic clerk. He passed into government employment on 1 July 1873 when the Company was taken over by the Cape Post Office, and for the next 35 years his career followed a steady, if unspectacular, upward path. In September 1875 he was promoted to Chief Telegraph Operator at Graaff-Reinet; Chief Telegraph Operator at Kimberley in January 1876; postmaster at Fort Beaufort on 1 May 1878; Supervisor of the Central Telegraph Transmitting Office at Fort Beaufort on 1 July 1881; postmaster at Kimberley on 1 March 1886; and postmaster at Port Elizabeth on 17 August 1889. These peregrinations finally came to an end on 1 April 1892 when he was appointed Accountant and Controller of the Money Order Branch, at the GPO in Cape Town. He rose to Assistant Secretary on 1 July 1894; Secretary on 1 January 1905; and finally Postmaster General on 1 February 1908. When the Union of South Africa was established on 31 May 1910, he became its first Postmaster General, but died soon after.

Given his brief tenure in office, it is difficult to assess Hoal's contribution to the development of the postal system in southern Africa. Most of his work at the GPO in Cape Town was conducted under the management of Somerset French, whose powerful personality and dominant leadership would have overshadowed the achievements of all but the most brilliant of subordinates. Consequently there are few major projects which can be attributed directly to Hoal, and at best we can only assume that French would not have suffered for long the company of an incompetent deputy.

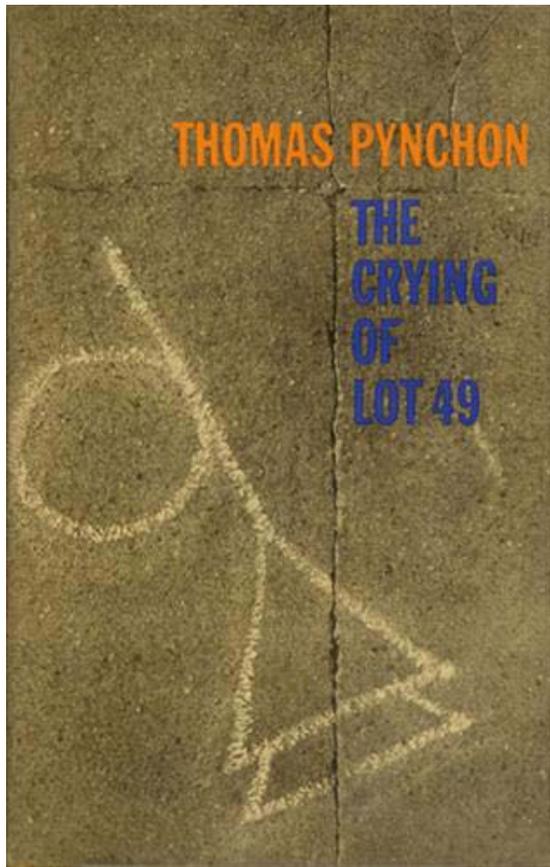
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## Book Reviews: Philatelic Flavours

by Ashley Cotter-Cairns

It's not every issue of *Forerunners* that features reviews of novels. Philately is quite unusual in fiction, and though I have broad tastes in literature I rarely encounter any significant mention of stamps or the postal service. Recently, though quite by chance, I came across two such novels and I thought I should share them with other PSGSA members.



### **The Crying Of Lot 49** **By Thomas Pynchon**

*The Crying Of Lot 49*, by the famously media-shy Thomas Pynchon, was an unremarkable-looking paperback among a heap of books discarded by a friend emigrating to Austria. I began reading without any idea of the wonderfully paranoid vision of modern America and the place of an alternate postal service in its construction and maintenance. Forty years after its first publication, it still reads well in a modern context and never feels stale.

The story charts the journey of Oedipa Maas, named executor of a deceased millionaire's tangled portfolio of properties and investments. So convoluted are these assets that she requires the services of a specialist lawyer to help her to liquidate them. The

unsuspecting reader might, after 30 pages or so, be prepared for a relatively straightforward voyage of discovery, as the midlife-crisis she is fighting teaches Ms. Maas more about herself and where she is going in life.

However, things take a wholly bizarre twist when Oedipa first sees a postal horn symbol. Knowledgeable philatelists may already have recognised this from the cover as the symbol used on the Thurn and Taxis stamps issued by the tiny former German province. Later, the link with various private pre-Union American Pony Express-style services is drawn. It soon becomes apparent that even in the modern world, there is an alternative to the postal service, but its management and operation are shrouded in secrecy. Either that, or Oedipa is the victim of an elaborate and expensive hoax.

Ms. Maas attempts to unravel the truth and discovers that many of the apparently genuine American stamps in her late husband's collection feature a hidden engraving of the Thurn and Taxis post horn. The conspiracy seems to go higher up in government than she had imagined; or yet more trouble has been taken to hoodwink her. In an attempt to flush out the organisation's management, the collection of altered stamps is put into auction, and at last the title of the book becomes apparent.

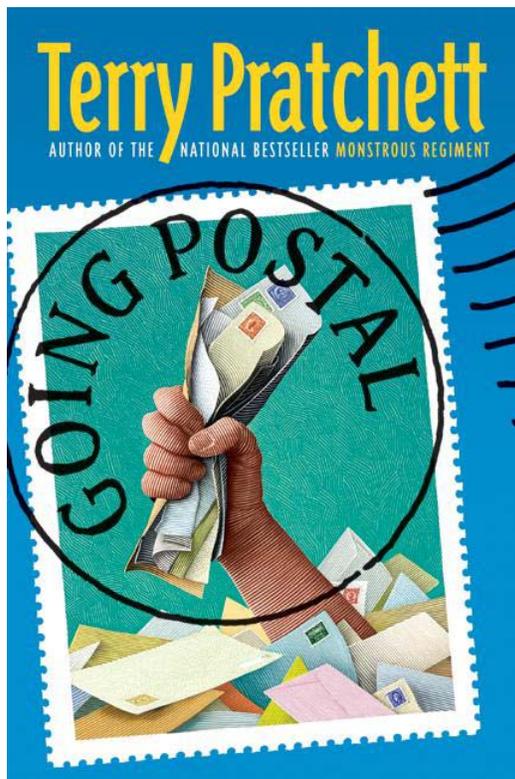
I was left hanging by the end of this rather short novel. It read to me almost as if the author changed his mind in mid-book and lost interest in the main character. Her development seemed to peter out, the story (which was, for me, the more interesting aspect of the book anyway) taking over and sweeping her away. A shame, as I was just getting to like her.

That said, this is a rarity in literature – a 'real,' adult novel with a philatelic and postal undercurrent, rather than a clichéd heist story about a valuable stamp or collection and its recovery – and its relative shortness means it won't distract you from your collecting for too long. I cannot wholeheartedly recommend it, because (in common with the other work of literature reviewed elsewhere in this issue) it's a somewhat specialised construction of language that won't suit everybody.

Pynchon's vision is extraordinary and his style is an acquired taste. You may find yourself re-reading parts of the text to understand the point he's making, but most good books improve with a second reading. This is not an airport or beach read, though philatelists used to reading technical and specialist literature are perhaps better equipped to deal with this kind of writing than the average reader.

Give it a try the next time you are at a loss for paranoia and a sense of order in our hectic modern world: Pynchon will set you straight in a few helter-skelter hours.

Publisher: HarperCollins, Price: US \$11.95, available at most bookshops or [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)



## Going Postal By Terry Pratchett

Af few people can have failed to have heard of Harry Potter, surely there are fewer yet who have never come across a novel by Terry Pratchett. The infamous Discworld novels, a fantasy series set in a disc-shaped land carried by four elephants on the back of a giant turtle, are so popular that one in every 50 books of any kind sold in the UK are by Pratchett.

He turns out a new book every six months, and it's this proliferation that has, for me at least, worked against the author. I found myself enchanted by his early works but unable to keep up with their release, and in the end lost interest. To be fair to Pratchett, he is merely providing what his fans want – more of the same, as often as possible – and while he has some incredible ideas, I began to find new titles a bit too similar to ones I'd already enjoyed.

Going Postal caught my eye in an airport bookstore, because postal themes are so seldom covered in fiction, and it had been over ten years since I'd read anything new of his. I decided to take a brief visit back to Discworld.

The story concerns one Moist von Lipwig, a petty thief whose only delight in life is cheating people of their modest savings. He has time to reflect on his many shortcomings when he is captured, tried and sentenced to death by hanging; one consolation to him being that there is nobody in his life to care about him and so nobody will mourn his passing.

As the noose stretches around his neck he blacks out, coming to in what he believes is Hell. Instead, he finds himself face-to-face with Lord Vetinari, a mysterious and powerful figure who runs the city of Ankh-Morpork almost single-handedly. Moist faces a simple choice: he can die, no strings attached, or take the

position of Postmaster of the defunct Ankh-Morpork General Post Office, and make it a going concern once more.

The greatest challenge he faces is from The Clacks, a kind of mediaevil Internet which sends messages using tall semaphore towers. People turned away from the Post Office when sending messages via The Clacks became cheaper and faster. Eventually the Post Office became a kind of museum, stuffed with undelivered mail and manned by a skeleton staff of administrators. It's this mess that Moist must unravel, all the while facing the very real possibility of assassination by the rich and unprincipled owner of The Clacks, one Reacher Gilt. He discovers that he's not alone in hating The Clacks and its owner and ultimately, ordinary people want the Post Office to succeed, and succeed it does.

Going Postal is another novel that isn't for everybody. It isn't essential to like fantasy novels, but it helps a lot if you are at least aware of their very particular language and the limitations of various creatures. Understanding what a Werewolf, Vampire or Golem is, for example, allows you to focus on the plot and enjoy Moist's personal battle with the mammoth white elephant that is the ancient Post Office.

If able to accept Discworld and its strange inhabitants, the philatelist or postal historian will find many hilarious observations here. Any way you turn it, the Post Office, past or present, is an easy target for satire. Pratchett reveals himself to be remarkably savvy about the weaknesses of Government, bureaucracy and collectors. I particularly enjoyed the rather geeky postal assistant, Stanley, who is tasked with designing stamps and making the most of the sudden demand for errors, flaws and first-day covers.

Those of us with dedicated stamp cupboards, or even rooms, will sympathise with Moist and his staff having to sort and deliver towering stacks of old mail. The solutions he introduces to make the Post Office a more efficient structure would not be out of place even today (as anybody who uses CanadaPost on a regular basis could testify to). The Clacks is an obvious fantasy interpretation of the telephone or the Internet. Their effect on our own postal systems is not dissimilar to the damage The Clacks inflicted on the Post Office in the novel.

Mr. Groat and his society of retired postal workers reflect what a state our institutions would be in without dedicated, hard-working people who treat delivering the mail as a vocation. Even The Clacks receives some sympathy from Pratchett, with a nod to the pioneers who opened up vast, untamed continents to the Civilisation of mass communication in the form of the telegraph and telephone networks, often working under near-impossible conditions.

There's something for many types of reader to enjoy here, including a love interest for the roguish and charming Moist. If Pratchett relies too much on easy laughs from exaggeration and overstatement, it works for him and his fans. I never laughed out loud, but I found myself smiling a lot. It may not turn you into a Discworld fanatic, but Going Postal will provide a few hours of lighthearted distraction. Don't forget your golden hat!

Publisher: HarperCollins, Price: US \$7.95, available at most bookshops or [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

# South Africa World War II: Mail Via Intermediary

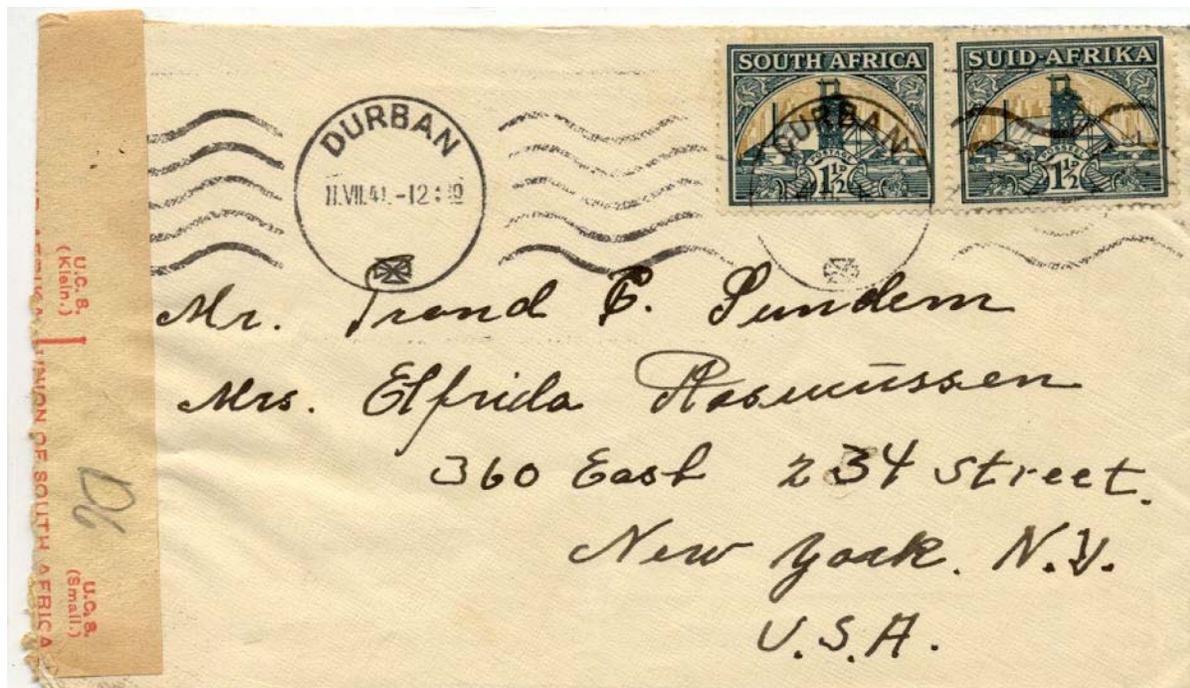
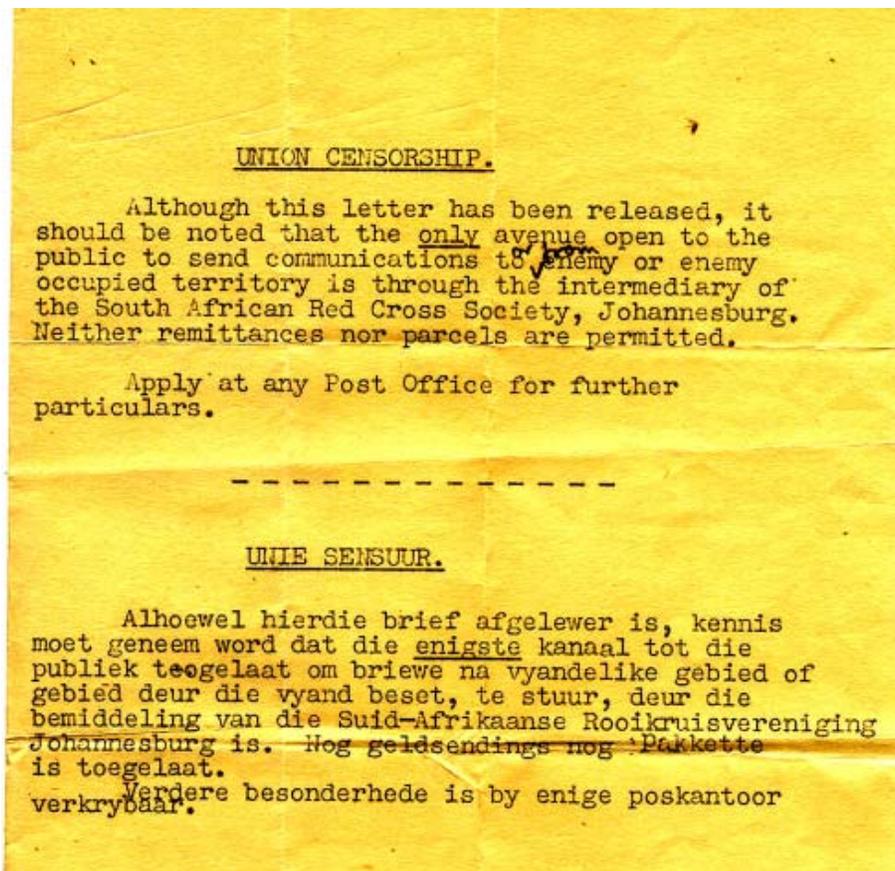
by Chris Miller

The illustrated cover is of general interest only as mail via intermediaries other than the Red Cross was not normally allowed.

Of great interest to collectors of this period is the duplicated bi-lingual memorandum from the censor advising the recipient of this prohibition. This is reproduced to the right. It has been necessary to retouch the picture as the original is on very poor wartime coloured paper and like most duplicates the print is not very good. It has also been enlarged.

As far as I am aware neither this nor any other duplicates from the South Africa Censorship has been reported. If you have any additional details or other forms I would be interested to hear.

As always Chris Miller at 161 Upper Woodcote Road, Caversham, Reading, Berkshire, RG4 7JR, UK would like to hear from you either by post or via e-mail to [cpbmiller@aol.com](mailto:cpbmiller@aol.com). Unless there is some input from readers these short articles will be infrequent, as I have now reported all items that I know about. I know from Post Office archives that other items should exist, but where are they? Can you help?



# Surcharged Stamps of Lesotho, 1986-1991: Part 4, SG 733 to 948

by Morgan Farrell

This finalizes my survey of the surcharged stamps of Lesotho issued between 1986 and 1991. The three previous instalments appeared in Forerunners #50, 51, and 52. The reader is referred to part 1 in #50 for a general introduction and summary of issued surcharged, types of overprint, and watermark.

Please forward any new information to Morgan Farrell, P.O. Box 1064, Hamilton, MT 59840, USA or email mtf3@qwest.net.

## 40s on 7s

SG 733 (ill. 147)

Control 1A1A1A1A1A (ill. 148)

This surcharge is on the 1984 7s butterfly definitive. It was issued December 1987 and it was surcharged with Type 8 surcharge, but with '40' instead of '20'.

### Varieties

None seen.

### Errors

None seen.



Illustration 147



Illustration 148

## 3s on 9s on 30s

SG 734 (ill. 149)

Control 1A1A1A1A (ill. 150)

This is an additional surcharge of 3s on stamps previously surcharged 9s on the 30s butterfly definitive with Type 1 surcharge (SG 722). The stamp was issued February 1988 and the additional surcharge was done with Type 10 surcharge. It follows that the same varieties from SG 722 again are seen on these as well as a few new varieties from the Type 10 surcharging.

### Varieties

Row 2/7 - falling bars (ill. 150)

6/6 and 6/7 - rising and falling bars (ill. 151)

6/1 and 7/1 - weak printing of '3' (ill. 152)

### Errors

I have a double surcharge of the 9s surcharge, SG 734a (ill. 153). This double 9s has not been seen on the 9s on 30s without the additional 3s surcharge and it has only been seen used. I also have an uncataloged error with an additional '3s' surcharge (ill. 154). After some stamps with this error were seen used on mail, the rest of a single sheet was acquired by a collector in the Post Office in Teyateyaneng.



Illustration 149



Illustration 154



Illustration 151



Illustration 150



Illustration 153



Illustration 152

## 7s on 9s on 30s

SG 735 (ill. 155)

Control 1A1A1A1A (ill. 156)

This is an additional surcharge of 7s, again on stamps previously surcharged 9s on the 30s butterfly definitive with Type 1 surcharge (SG 722). The stamp was issued February 1988 and the additional surcharge was again done with Type 10 surcharge, but this time with a '7s'. Again the same varieties are seen as on SG 4 722 and a couple of additional varieties are seen.

### Varieties

Row 3/6 and 3/7 - long and short bars (ill. 157)

### Errors

I have an uncataloged error with an additional '3s' surcharge (ill. 158). This too was found at the Teyateyaneng Post Office.



Illustration 155



Illustration 158



Illustration 157



Illustration 156

## 16s on 12s

SG 947 - 1988 imprint (ill. 159)

Control 1A1A1A1A (ill. 160)

This surcharge is on the 1988 12s bird definitive. It was issued February 1990 and the Type 11 surcharge was used. I need a complete sheet of this stamp. In the meantime, I can identify only the following varieties.

### Varieties

- Row 1/1 through 1/5 - '16' and 's' are closer together than on surcharges of other positions (ill. 161)
- 4/4 - 's' broken at top (ill. 162)
- 9/1 - Top of 's' shaved (ill. 163)

On these surcharged stamps, black dots appear on different parts of some stamps (ill. 164, 165, 166, and 167). I do not know if they appear in the same positions on the sheet or even the same parts of the stamp as constant flaws. I need more material to study and/or more information on these.



Illustration 159



Illustration 160



Illustration 161



Illustration 164



Illustration 165



Illustration 162



Illustration 166



Illustration 167



Illustration 163

### *16s on 12s*

SG 948 - imprint 1989 (ill. 168)

Controls 1C1C1C1C (ill. 169)

1D1D1D1D (ill. 170)

This surcharge is on the 1989 imprinted 12s bird definitive. It was issued February 1990 and the Type 12 surcharge was used. I could use a complete sheet of this as well. There is one variety that I know of.

#### Varieties

Row 6/3 - longer bars, SG 948c (ill. 171)

#### Errors

I have an inverted surcharge variety, SG 948a (ill. 170 and 172). There must have been several sheets printed. Dealer prices are not very high. I also have a double surcharge variety, SG 948b (ill. 173 and 174). A scarce variety is SG 948d (ill. 175). This is the 1989 imprinted bird definitive but with the Type 11 surcharge from the previous issue. I have two used singles. I know of two others and, to the best of my knowledge, no unused stamps have been found. There must be other used stamps though. My singles have 'Maseru Pitsoground' postmarks and the others known to me have 'Alwynskop' postmarks. This means that at least two sheets existed. My stamps were found in kiloware sold in this country by a dealer that sold Lesotho kiloware to others besides me. I do not know of any 'dot' varieties from this surcharge (Type 12).



Illustration 168



Illustration 169



Illustration 170



Illustration 172



Illustration 173



Illustration 171



Illustration 175



Illustration 174

**16s on 30s**

SG 948e - 1988 imprint (ill. 176)

Control 1A1A1A1A (ill. 177)

This surcharge is on the 30s 1988 bird definitive. It was issued January 1991 and the Type 13 surcharge was used. Two varieties are so far known.

**Varieties**

Row 4/4 - lower bar omitted (ill. 178)

9/5 - broken '6' (ill. 179)

The dot varieties are again seen (ill. 180,181, 182, 183, and 184).

**Errors**

I have an inverted surcharge, SG 948ea (ill. 185). I also have a stamps with part of the surcharge missing (ill. 186).



Illustration 179



Illustration 177



Illustration 178



Illustration 176



Illustration 180



Illustration 182



Illustration 181



Illustration 183



Illustration 184



Illustration 185



Illustration 186

### *16s on 40s*

SG 948f - 1988 imprint (ill. 187)

Control 1A1A1A1A (ill. 188)

This surcharge is on the 40s 1988 bird definitive. It was issued January 1991 and the same Type 13 was used as the previous issue. The same two varieties are seen as is one other.

Varieties

Row 1/2 - broken 's' (ill. 189)

4/4 - lower bar omitted (ill. 190)

9/5 - broken '6' (ill. 191)

Spot varieties are again seen (ill. 192 and 193)

Errors

No errors have been seen.



Illustration 191



Illustration 187



Illustration 189



Illustration 190



Illustration 188



Illustration 192



Illustration 193

# South Africa Postal Card Series UHB PC17 - Issue Year

by Bernard Doherty

In the process of preparing pages for an exhibit of South Africa postal cards, problems were encountered in obtaining an as issued mint card of the pictorial series UHB PC17, without an additional halfpenny stamp affixed. (UHB refer to Union Handbook, Sheffield et al.)

In Tony Chilton's 'Supplement to South African Philatelist (Vol 68, No 1),' he describes UHB PC17 as follows: "Early in 1934 the internal postcard rate was reduced to 1/2d and a new series of pictorial cards was issued. The address side of the cards was similar to the 1927 1/2d issue, with the box (printed outline) for an additional 1d stamp for overseas destinations. The coat of arms is different and measures only 11 x 8 mm: the number on each card is printed in black rather than green.

The photographs used for the illustrations were again supplied by the publicity department of the South African Railways. The photographs had previously been part of a publicity series of 36 unstamped picture post cards, which had been produced in dark brown for the Empire Exhibition at Wembley of 1924/25.



Figure 1. Wembley card (left) compared to the 1934 postcard.

These Wembley cards had been numbered from 1 to 36, but as only 24 were chosen for the postal stationery cards, there are corresponding gaps in the numbering sequence

In 1935 the postcard rate was again increased to 1d and, as had happened previously, the unsold stocks of these pictorial post cards were returned to the Government Printer for an additional stamp to be affixed, before they were returned to stock."

The table on next page sets out a comparison of the Wembley 1924/25 post cards and the equivalent captions as used for UHB PC17 (some of the views had been previously used in 1927 and again in 1931-32).

The only view which does not appear to conform to the Wembley designs is view 29 – 'Railway Line near Victoria Bay'.

On several others the wording in the caption was modified or changed completely, the changes are reflected in the table above.

## Mint Examples

In order to show the address side format of UHB PC17 postal cards, mint examples were sought from a few individual stamp traders in Germany, South Africa and USA. A further enquiry was sent to a collector in USA, who was known to have several of the cards. The two individuals who had examples of this series, commented that all their cards had the additional halfpenny Springbok stamp affixed. The full set being prepared for the exhibit, similarly, all had the additional adhesive affixed.

The scarcity of mint cards, as issued, prompted further research. As well as correspondence with Tony Chilton on the subject, resulted in a similar answer.

## Used Examples

Checking through used examples in the accumulation, four UHB PC 17 cards were identified from one correspondent. All had the additional 1/2d adhesive affixed. Each had a gum or water stain approximately 15 mm wide, vertically across the top of the stamp to the upper edge of the postal card, indicating that a similar method or apparatus had been used to either moisten or affix the stamps (Figure 2).

On examination three of the cards were clearly postmarked at Cala and Queenstown. Now the surprise, the postmark dates were for the year 1932. Confirming the postmark was the manuscript dates on the message section of the cards, namely 6/7/32; 2/8/32; and 7/9/32, thus they were used between July and September 1932 (note that the cards, View Nos 8, 20, 29, and 33, had the additional 1/2d adhesive affixed).

On one of the cards (View 33, Falls at Waterval Boven) was the message: "Dear Till - How do you like these falls? I think they are in the Transvaal. Quite pretty aren't they. I got them at the Post Office 1/- for 6 with stamps, rather cheap..... Heine."

## UHB PC 17- Packet Cost and Contents

The original cost for a packet of six pictorial cards was 9d (postage 1/2d plus 1d per card)

On the Series 1 to 4 packets of six cards held, the original cost 9d had been obliterated and 1/- had been hand stamped in purple.

The views in the numbered packets were random numbers rather than in chronological sequence. The random view numbers in each packet were (refer to Table 1):

Series 1 - 25; 28; 36; 1; 9; 22

Series 2 - 33; 29; 26; 21; 20; 8

Series 3 - 27; 24; 17; 15; 5; 4

Series 4 - 35; 34; 16; 14; 10; 2

Thus the packets over stamped 1/- were available in 1932, and the message writer purchased at least a Series 2 packet (see

Table 1

1924/5 Wembley View Caption	1927	1934 View Caption
1 Capetown & Table Mountain		1 Capetown. Table Mountain
2 Capetown: Houses of Parliament		2 Houses of Parliament. Capetown
3 Capetown: Adderley Street	6/1	
4 Capetown: Camps Bay	2/7	4 Camps Bay thro' the trees. Capetown
5 Capetown: Devil's Peak		5 Devil's Peak thro' the trees. Cape
6 Cape Province: Hex River Valley		
7 Port Elizabeth: 1820 Settlers' Memorial		
8 Mossel Bay: Sea Bathing		8 The Poort. Mossel Bay. Cape
9 Cape Province: Montagu Pass		9 Montagu Pass. Cape
10 Cape Province: Cogman's Kloof	1/6	10 Montagu. The Langeberg
11 Cape Province: East London Oxford St		
12 Cape Province: Kimberley Town Hall		
13 Natal: West Street Durban		
14 Natal; Bathing Enclosure Durban		14 Durban. Natal
15 Natal: Esplanade Durban		15 The Esplanade. Durban
16 Natal: South Coast		16 Amanzimtoti. Natal
17 Natal: Umlaas Falls		17 Umlaas Falls. Natal
18 Natal: Pietermaritzburg		
19 Natal: Zulu Headman		
20 Natal: Umzimkulu River, Pt Shepstone	4/22	20 Umzimkulu River, Pt Shepstone. Natal
21 Natal: Drakensberg Mountains	1/5	21 Drakensberg Natal. Mont-aux-sources
22 Natal: Drakensberg Mountains		22 Drakensberg. Natal
23 Drakensberg Range: Main Tugela Gorge George		
24 Orange Free State: Bloemfontein		24 General View of Bloemfontein
25 Orange Free State: Scene at Kroonstad	1/4	25 Valsch River and Bridge. Kroonstad OFS
26 Cape Province: Port St Johns		26 Port St Johns
27 Transvaal: Union Buildings Pretoria		27 Union Buildings. Pretoria
28 Transvaal: Govt House, Pretoria	1/1	28 Government House, Pretoria Transvaal
29 Transvaal: Church Square, Pretoria		29 Railway Line near Victoria Bay
30 Transvaal: Town Hall Johannesburg		
31 Transvaal: A Gold Mine Johannesburg		
32 Transvaal: Residential Johannesburg		
33 Transvaal: The Falls, Waterval Boven		33 Falls of Waterval Boven
34 Transvaal: A Mountain Road	4/20	34 Wylie's poort. N Transvaal
35 Transvaal: A River Scene		35 River Scene. Tzaneen N Transvaal
36 Nrth Transvaal: Home of Hippopotami		36 Hippos in Komati River. E Transvaal

The notation in the '1927' column refers to series/view number of Wembley cards.



Figure 2. PC 17, View 33, Falls at Waterval Boven. Used 1932.

card numbers preceding the written message).

**Post Card Rates**

To get a clearer picture of the situation let's examine the applicable rates, before putting forward a supposition on the issue year for UHB PC 17.

*Postcard Rates - 1910 Onwards*

Date	Inland	British Commonwealth Egypt and Palestine	Foreign
At Union	1/2d	1d	1d
1920, May 10	1d	1d	1d
1922, Jan 1	1d	11/2d	11/2d
1926, Jan 1	1/2d	11/2d	11/2d
1931, April 1	1d	11/2d	11/2d
1934, April 1	1/2d	1d	11/2d
1937, July 1	1/2d	1d	11/2d
	1d airmail	11/2d airmail	

*Inland Postcard Rates 1937 - 1980*

Date	Surface	Airmail
1937, July 1	1/2d	1d
1943, April 1	1d	

Yes, the inland postcard rate was reduced to 1/2d from 1934; however, the inland rate was not increased to 1d until April 1943, although the airmail rate for inland cards was set at 1d in July 1937. Thus it would appear that, there was no need for the 1/2d UHB PC17 cards to be up rated in 1935.

**Supposition**

1. A new series of 1/2d pictorial cards was issued in late 1930 or early 1931, to replace the 1927 series. Thus the series may have been printed prior to the issue of 1d UHB PC 14 series. In which case examples of these views may exist used (and mint) without the 1/2d Springbok adhesive affixed.
2. The UHB PC 17 series may have been printed late in 1931 or early 1932 in anticipation of a reduction in the inland postcard

rate.

**Chilton's Response**

The following is an excerpt from Tony Chilton's response to the above supposition, received 25 April 2001:

"I think there is a basic answer to this conundrum – I got it wrong! Your cards used in 1932 show that PC17 was issued not in 1934 but rather earlier, probably early in 1931. They were then made obsolete by the postage increase, which could have been announced by the Minister of Finance in the budget, without prior warning to the GPO. Hence the scarcity of cards without the additional adhesive."

**Conclusion**

Whatever the case, UHB PC 17, 1/2d pictorial postal cards, up rated to 1d, were in circulation in July 1932.

Comments and information on dated PC17 cards in the period 1930 to 1933 would be appreciated, and can be forwarded to the editor (or B. Doherty, P.O. Box 18, Waratah 2298, Australia, bjdoh@bigpond.net.au). And if you have a spare mint example of any of the UHB PC 17 cards, without additional adhesives affixed, to dispose of (at a reasonable price), the writer can find a prominent place for it in his exhibit.

**References**

Sheffield, W.N., Hagger, S.J., Berry, T.B., and Legator, S. (eds), (not dated). Stamps of South Africa – Handbook Catalogue Golden Jubilee Edition. Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, Johannesburg, South Africa.

Chilton, Tony, (not dated). The Pictorial Postal Stationery Cards of the Union of South Africa. Supplement to The South African Philatelist, Vol. 68, No. 1, Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa.

Board, Christopher and Alexander, Jean, 1991. A mystery solved: SA stationery and Wembley Exhibition postcards. South African Philatelist, Vol. 67, No. 4, pages 107-109 (July/August 1991).



Two other PC 17 used in 1932 (80 %).

# Additional Oval Framed T-Markings

by Jan Stolk

After the previous instalment in last issue, additional information was received on marking type U4. The original marking which was selected for further use is illustrated in Figure 1. This was published in the South African Philatelist (August 1957, page 119). Number 'LXXVI' was used in Johannesburg and was still in use in 1936.



Figure 1.

J. Diesveld supplied me with a postcard used in Ladybrand OFS in 1922 with a T-marking with the bottom of the frame missing (Figure 2). Further, I found

several of these markings used in 1980 to 1990 similar to U4 used in Bloemfontein (Figure 3).

I suppose that these Transvaal markings were returned to the General Post Office in Johannesburg, adapted, and later relocated. Otherwise there is no explanation for them to end up in various OFS towns.



Figure 3.

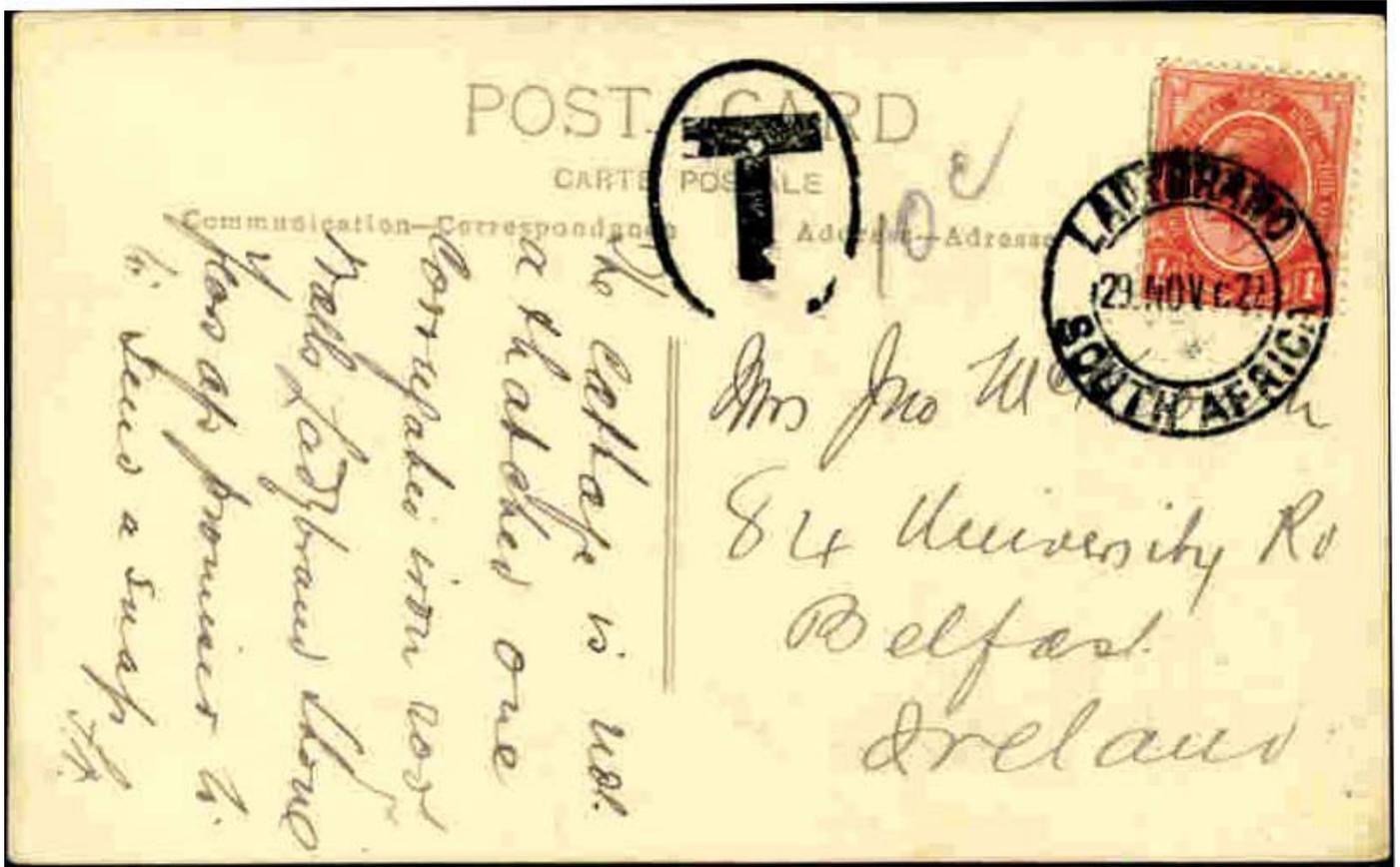


Figure 2.

# Postal Orders and Notes Cashed in Johannesburg During September 1899

by Richard Solly

## Introduction

The Boer War started

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 9 October 1899 | Boer ultimatum issued;                    |
| 11 October     | time for acceptance of ultimatum expires; |
| 12 October     | outbreak of fighting.                     |

The British occupied Bloemfontein on 13 March 1900 and Johannesburg on 31 May 1900.<sup>1</sup>

This article is about *cashed* Cape Postal Notes, Natal Postal Orders, Orange Free State Postal Notes and Transvaal (ZAR) Postal Orders, only. It makes no further reference to OFS notes or ZAR orders, which are *unissued* (presumably looted<sup>2</sup> from individual offices<sup>3</sup>) or uncashed, but with obviously spurious issue date stamps,<sup>4</sup> and thus presumably also looted.

There is no significant difference between Postal Orders and Postal Notes in this context. All four countries had the same ten values, from 1/- to 20/- (1/-, 1/6d, 2/6d, 5/-, 7/6d, 10/-, 12/6d, 15/-, 17/6d, and 20/-) and the same commission (poundage) was charged, on issue, on each value in each country. A pity the politicians could not agree as well as the Postmaster-Generals.

## Postal Notes and Orders Cashed Before the Boer War

I am proposing a theory that there were two main hoards of *cashed* Postal Orders/Notes, 'liberated' during the Boer War at:

- Bloemfontein, Orange Free State. A huge hoard of Orange Free State (OFS) Postal Notes only, this being a part, if not the total, of those cashed since their introduction (thought to be December 1897). Includes notes cashed within OFS, at many offices besides Bloemfontein itself, as well as outside OFS. No OFS notes seen cashed after August 1899, except in Johannesburg, see below. I assume that the return of notes cashed abroad during September 1899 was interrupted by the war.
- Johannesburg, Transvaal. A very much smaller hoard of Cape, Natal, OFS and Transvaal items cashed in September 1899 at Johannesburg only. These were, I assume, one month's accumulation of paid orders, awaiting transmission to Pretoria, the capital.

I assume the outbreak of war froze these holdings of paid orders and notes in Bloemfontein and Johannesburg.

## Bloemfontein Hoard

The large numbers of cashed Orange Free State Postal Notes will be familiar to all collectors. These were issued all over the Orange Free State and, more to the point, cashed all over the State and in addition in the Cape, Natal and Transvaal (then the Zuid Afrikaansche Republiek = ZAR). While it might be remotely possible these were looted from all over the place, the simplest explanation is almost certainly the best. They were all looted

together from the same place. The most likely place is the capital of OFS, Bloemfontein. Those notes cashed outside OFS had been returned to their country of origin as required by the terms of the *South African Postal Union Convention*, effective from 1 January 1898, see below.

Most, including those cashed in OFS itself, but not all, have an additional paid or betaald hand stamp of the country of payment. These hand stamps appear to have been applied centrally in the country of payment, rather than at the office of payment.

The OFS notes cashed abroad have postage stamps to the amount of the original poundage added, usually on the reverse. The postage stamps were attached and date stamped at the time of payment, usually with the same date stamp as was used in the date circle for the paying office on the front. This represents an extra charge collected for notes and orders paid abroad, see below.

Dates recorded so far for OFS Postal Notes:

Earliest issued on 28 December 1897

Latest cashed, other than in Johannesburg, on 31 August 1899.

## Exchange Between the Countries of South Africa

*Postal Notice* dated 12 June 1897 (*Natal Government Gazette*, 22 June 1897, p 939):

- From 1 July 1897, Cape Postal Notes and Natal Postal Orders exchanged.
- And also paid in both Orange Free State and ZAR.
- Reciprocal exchange with Orange Free State and with ZAR 'whenever a Postal Order system is introduced in one or other of those States'. From which it can be inferred that there was as yet no Postal Note or Order issue in either Orange Free State or ZAR, but both were anticipated.

Exchange of Postal Orders and Notes between all the four countries was further confirmed in the *South African Postal Union Convention*, effective from 1 January 1898. The payee was charged an extra commission, equaling that paid on purchase, when cashing a Postal Order or Note issued in one of the other three countries of the Postal Union (Article 114 of the *Convention*). Further, Article 122 of the *Convention* reads '... as soon as possible after the close of each month, all Postal Notes paid during the previous month shall be forwarded by the Postmaster-General of the country of payment to the Postmaster General of the country in which the Postal Notes were issued....'

## Cape Postal Notes Paid Abroad

The few Cape Postal Notes, I have seen so far, which were cashed abroad, were all paid in Johannesburg in September 1899, the month before the war. Illustrated here is one paid in

**POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT**  **CAPE COLONY**  
**POSTAL** **NOTE**

**FOR TWENTY SHILLINGS**

(20/-)

ISSUING OFFICE STAMP WITH DATE  
 AU 31

DATE OF ISSUE *21 8 89* N°460885

To the MONEY ORDER OFFICE at *Johannesburg.*

PAY to *Herbert le Strange* any time within THREE CALENDAR MONTHS from the last day of the Month of Issue the sum of TWENTY SHILLINGS on account of the Postmaster General.

POSTMASTER.

\* NOTE.—The person to whom this Note is issued should, before parting with it, fill in the name of the person to whom the Amount is to be paid, and may fill in the name of the Money Order Office at which the Amount is to be paid. The person so named must sign the RECEIPT below, and must also fill in the name of the Money Order Office, if that has not already been done.

RECEIVED the above-named Sum. *Herbert le Strange* SIGNATURE.

**REGULATIONS.**

1. After this Note has once been paid, to whomsoever it is paid, the Postmaster-General will not be liable for any further claim.
2. If any erasure or alteration be made, or if this Note is cut, defaced, or mutilated, payment may be refused.
3. The regulations under which this Note is issued allow the Postmaster to refuse or delay payment, but he must at once report his reasons for so doing to the Postmaster-General.
4. After the expiration of three months from the last day of the month of issue this Note will be payable only on payment of a commission equal to the amount of the original poundage, with the addition (if more than three months have elapsed since the said expiration) of the amount of the original poundage for every further period of three months which has so elapsed, and for every portion of any such period of three months over and above every complete period. The poundage in all cases to be attached to the back of the Note in postage stamps.

PAYING OFFICE STAMP WITH DATE  
 CAPE TOWN  
 21 SEP 89

**ORANJE VRIJ STAAT** 04218

**POST NOOT**

(1/-)

1. Nadat dese Noot een maal betaald is, aan wie ook al derselwe betaald is, zal de Regeering niet verantwoordelyk gehouden worden voor enige verdere vordering.

2. Indien eenige uitschraping of verandering gemaakt worde of indien dese Noot gesneden, doorgeslaan of verminkt is kan betaling geweigerd worden.

3. De Regulatien waaronder dese Noot is uitgereikt machtingen den Postmeester om betaling te weigeren of te staken, maar moet hy dadelyk rapport doen aan den Postmeester-Generaal zyne redenen daarvoor opgevend.

4. Nadat drie maanden verlopen sijn van den laatsten dag der maand van uitreiking zal dese Noot alleen betaalbaar sijn op betaling van een Commissie gelykstaande met het bedrag van het oorspronkelyke, met de byvoeging (indien meer dan drie maanden verlopen sijn soeter gesegde vervaltijd) van het bedrag van het oorspronkelyke Commissie loon voor elke verdere tydperk van drie maanden die alzoo verlopen sijn & voor elk gedeelte van zulke eenen tydperk van drie maanden over & boven ieder vervalle tydperk. Het Commissie loon in alle gevallen te wippen geacht achterop de Noot in postageijs.

Aan het POSTWISSEL KANTOOR te *Johannesburg*

BETAAL aan\* *Herbert le Strange* ten eenigen tyd binnen drie achtereen volgende maanden van den laatsten dag der maand van uitreiking de som van

**EEN SHILLING**

op rekening van de Regeering.

POSTMEESTER. *J. J. van der Merwe*

\* NOTA.—De persoon aan wien dese Noot is uitgereikt moet, alvorens derselwe witzynen besit te laten gaan, den naam van den persoon invullen aan wien het bedrag betaalbaar is en mag den naam van het Postwissel kantoor invullen alwaar het bedrag betaald moet worden. De persoon alzo genoemd (den Ontvanger) moet de kwitantie onderaan teekenen en inset ook de naam van het Postwissel invullen indien zulks nog niet gedaan is.

BOVENSTAANDE Som ontvangen *Herbert le Strange* HANDETEKENING.

COMMISSIE LOON  
 ORANJE VRIJ STAAT  
 EEN PENNY

STEMPEL VAN KANTOOR VAN BETALING MET DATUM  
 W. K. B. V. A. R.  
 11 SEP 89  
 SPRING Z. A.  
 MET DATUM

Johannesburg on 2 September 1899. All had the appropriate cancelled ZAR postage stamps attached on the reverse for the extra payment required when presented abroad. None have the rectangular BETAALD/PRETORIA hand stamp (as sometimes but not invariably seen on Orange Free State notes paid in ZAR before September 1899). It is then most probable that these Cape notes had not been forwarded to Pretoria, nor yet been

returned to Cape Town, as required by the *Convention*, but were still in Johannesburg at the start of the war and stayed there until removed after it was captured.

**Natal Postal Orders Paid Abroad**

Similarly the few Natal Postal Orders, I have seen paid abroad, have all been cashed in Johannesburg in September 1899. They

all have cancelled ZAR postage stamps attached on the reverse. None have the rectangular BETAALD/PRETORIA hand stamp. Illustrated are a 7/6d cashed 29 September 1899 and a 17/6d cashed 21 September 1899.

I first came across Natal Postal Orders cashed in Johannesburg in a mixed lot at a Cavendish auction in Derby, England, over twenty years ago. For cashed items, they were in nice condition. I went all the way to Derby. The saleroom was crowded. I had to wait ages for the lot, and then I did not get a look in. The price zoomed to £800, I went home with nothing. These items were cashed, there might be lorry loads of them about somewhere. It might be another Orange Free State bonanza. It would have been unwise to pay more than £50 for them. Perhaps there was something else in the lot.

I was quite right not to chase the items at Cavendish, in my then state of knowledge. If I had known then what I know now, it would still have been foolish. The table given here shows what I know now. Assuming I am right and all that was taken from Johannesburg were orders paid in September 1899, there may be a number of these cashed Natal orders. But it is unlikely there are loads, as there are hundreds, perhaps thousands, of cashed Orange Free State Postal Notes.

#### Other Orders Cashed in Johannesburg in September 1899

Transvaal (ZAR) Postal Orders and Orange Free State Postal Notes (illustrated cashed on 11 September 1899) can also be found cashed in Johannesburg in September 1899. The OFS notes have cancelled ZAR postage stamps attached. None of those I have seen have the rectangular BETAALD/PRETORIA hand stamp. I cannot prove the OFS notes were taken in Johannesburg, rather than having been sent back to Bloemfontein (and later removed from there). If they did indeed remain in Johannesburg, then the war stopped their return as, more obviously, it must have stopped the return of paid Cape notes and Natal orders. The war must have placed a strain on the resources of the Boer republics, not surprising then if they no longer bothered to exchange paid orders/notes with each other.

#### Natal Postal Orders Paid in Natal and Elsewhere in 1899

*Postal Notice* dated 12 June 1897 (*Natal Government Gazette*, 22 June 1897 p939), mentioned above, implies that Natal Postal Orders were being issued on 1 July 1897, but it is not explicit that this was the date of their introduction. It may have been earlier. I have not been able to find any other notice, which might refer to their introduction. In my so far unsuccessful attempts to confirm the date of their introduction, I looked at the *Natal Blue Books*. The first of these in which I have been able to find any reference to Postal Orders is for 1899, though it is apparent that Natal Postal

Orders had been issued for all of 1898 (and presumably earlier). See table for numbers postal orders paid locally and aboard in 1899. Also given is the total for 1898, but not divided by place of payment or denomination, of 17149 orders with a total value of 10064-17-6.

There is a table with a breakdown by denomination of orders/notes from abroad paid in Natal in 1899. There are no comparable figures in the 1898 *Blue Book*.

Natal Postal Orders Paid in 1899													
paid in	1/-	1/6	2/6	5/-	7/6	10/-	12/6	15/-	17/6	20/-	total	£-s-d	
Natal	1653	1188	1415	2683	852	3655	379	922	371	8110	21228	12529-	7-6
Cape	272	144	151	170	44	232	32	45	10	549	1649	829-	15-6
OFS	13	4	13	15	6	19	0	6	1	70	147	93-	9-0
ZAR	66	49	40	73	9	115	8	18	5	426	809	539-	19-6
Rhodesia	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	-	2-6
Total	2004	1385	1620	2941	911	4021	419	991	387	9155	23834	13992-	14-0

Ref: *Natal Blue Book* 1899 p. G7.

These figures probably do not include the orders paid in ZAR in September 1899, the ones we are interested in. Even so, 809 orders from Natal to ZAR in eight months makes only about 100 in a month, of which not all necessarily went to Johannesburg. That sets a maximum. The number surviving could be much less.

#### Help with Late Cashed Postal Orders Needed

I am looking for evidence of any OFS Postal Notes cashed after August 1899, whether at Johannesburg or elsewhere.

I have not studied Transvaal Postal Orders. They are less common than Orange Free State Postal Notes. It may be that most of the cashed ones were paid in Johannesburg. Most of the examples illustrated recently by J F Cowlin in *Postal Order News*, 74, p. 14-17, October 2004, were cashed in Johannesburg in September 1899, but one is shown which was cashed earlier in March 1899 in Pretoria. Photocopies of other *cashed* Transvaal Postal Orders would be much appreciated.

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Perhaps the date the British arrived outside Johannesburg. It does not seem to match the date given by Churchill in his book *My Early Years*, which describes how he chanced his luck and walked in civilian clothes unchallenged through Johannesburg at dusk, while it was still occupied by Boer fighters, on 2 June if I take his meaning correctly.

<sup>2</sup> Perhaps I should not say looted, since we should be grateful they were.

<sup>3</sup> Recently I have seen two unissued Cape Postal Notes, with messages on the back, indicating they had been looted, presumably from Cape offices recaptured from the Boers or from Boers, who had looted them.

<sup>4</sup> Usually unsigned. While not exactly rare, these items, presumably taken as souvenirs, are relatively uncommon.

Richard Solly can be reached by writing to 13 Greenways, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 3NG, UK; or by email [resolly@btopenworld.com](mailto:resolly@btopenworld.com).

NATAL



POSTAL ORDER 400750

If this Order be crossed... payment will only be made through a Banker...

To the

POSTMASTER in charge of the MONEY ORDER OFFICE at \* JOHANNESBURG PAY to \* W.A. Phillips



within Three Calendar Months from the last day of the Month of issue the sum of Seventeen Shillings & Sixpence

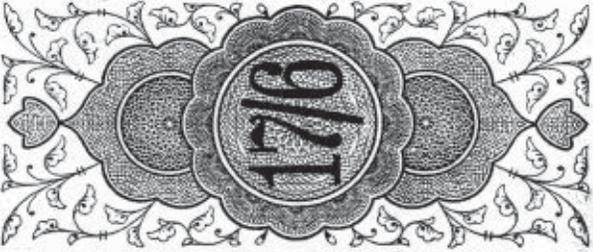
Dr. Edmund G. Postmaster



\* The person to whom this Order is issued must, before parting with it, fill in the name of the person to whom the Amount is to be paid...

RECEIVED the above-named AMOUNT

W.A. Phillips Signature



NATAL



POSTAL ORDER 401690

1. If this Order be crossed... payment will only be made through a Banker...

To the

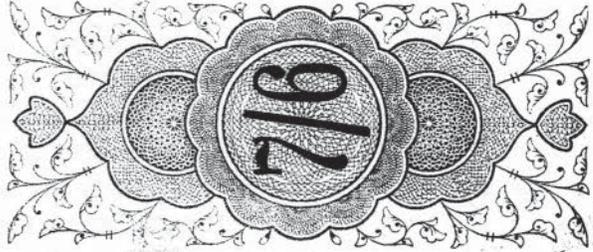
POSTMASTER in charge of the MONEY ORDER OFFICE at \* JOHANNESBURG. PAY to \* FOR THE ARGUS PRINTING & PUBLISHING CO., LIMITED within Three Calendar Months from the last day of the Month of issue the sum of SEVEN SHILLINGS & SIXPENCE



\* The person to whom this Order is issued must, before parting with it, fill in the name of the person to whom the Amount is to be paid...

RECEIVED the above-named sum

W.A. Phillips Signature



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24 Whitworth Road, Chippenham, Wilts, SN15 3QS, UK, or US representative, Jack Harwood, P.O. Box 32015, Midtown Station, Sarasota, FL 34239, USA, for membership information.

# Harvesting eBay

by Tim Bartshe

While many in the organized philatelic world have proclaimed that the internet has been the ruination of stamp shows (and this may in part be true), it has actually been a harvesting bounty bringing literally thousands of vendors to your very home to show you material locked up in some obscure collection half a world away. Although you might not find world rarities (proven wrong in an example below), you will find things of wonder and great interest to fill holes in your collections and exhibits that you might not even know you had!

First up is a little TPO item (Fig. 1) from a Lieutenant most likely stationed at Stormburg Junction. The rail line did not open up all the way to East London until some 9 months later in May 1902. 'Up' designates back towards Rosemead and the Midland Line where it would be routed to Cape and onwards to England. This mark though not rare is much scarcer than its Midland and Western counterparts.

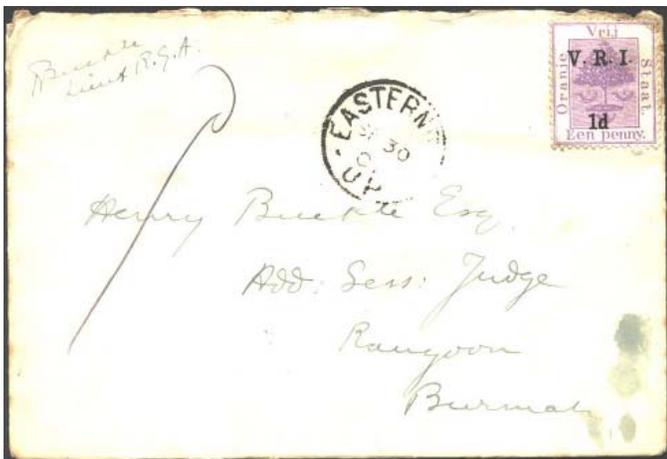


Figure 1.



Figure 2.

The next railway item is a piece of official stationery of the Nederlandsche Zuid-Afrikaansche Spoorweg-Maatschappij or NZASM. The item (Fig. 2) measures 153 x 115 mm which is too short, the top most likely cut off during the envelope opening on receipt. There is no recorded official envelope without a model number and the closest measurement would fall into Model 60 or 153 x 122 mm. The listing shows 3-94 as the date of issue; however that may be a typo of misreading of the date on the cover used in the reference. The printing numbers and date of issue in the bottom left corner are quite small at 15,000. These items in any condition are quite scarce, this one doubling my population. [The reference for these items is found in Alan Drysdall's Transvaal Railway Stamps and Travelling Post Offices, 1997.]



Figure 3.

Along the same stationery vein is an item I picked up from (Fig. 3) fellow PSGSA member Ralph Myerson. Postal cards emanating from the Eastern Front of Natal during Boer occupation are not all that difficult to find, particularly those going to Herr Schuler in Johannesburg. Domestic usage to ZAR is most common with the occasional one going overseas. This item is of particular interest because it is a) going to Sweden, b) it is postmarked at the scarce village of Ingagane which is located just south of Newcastle on the main rail line in northern Natal, and c) it is from one of the Swedish volunteers associated with the Boer forces writing home. What a find!

The next item (Fig. 4) is a commercial advertisement or printed matter piece from Pretoria to England. It is an excellent early example of the 3d rate along with usage of the newly released Vurtheim issue put on sale some six months prior on 3 March 1885. Finding early domestic usages is a difficult task in and of itself, but this item is a real gem. It will find a prominent position in my Second Republic collection and at a very cheap price, I might add!

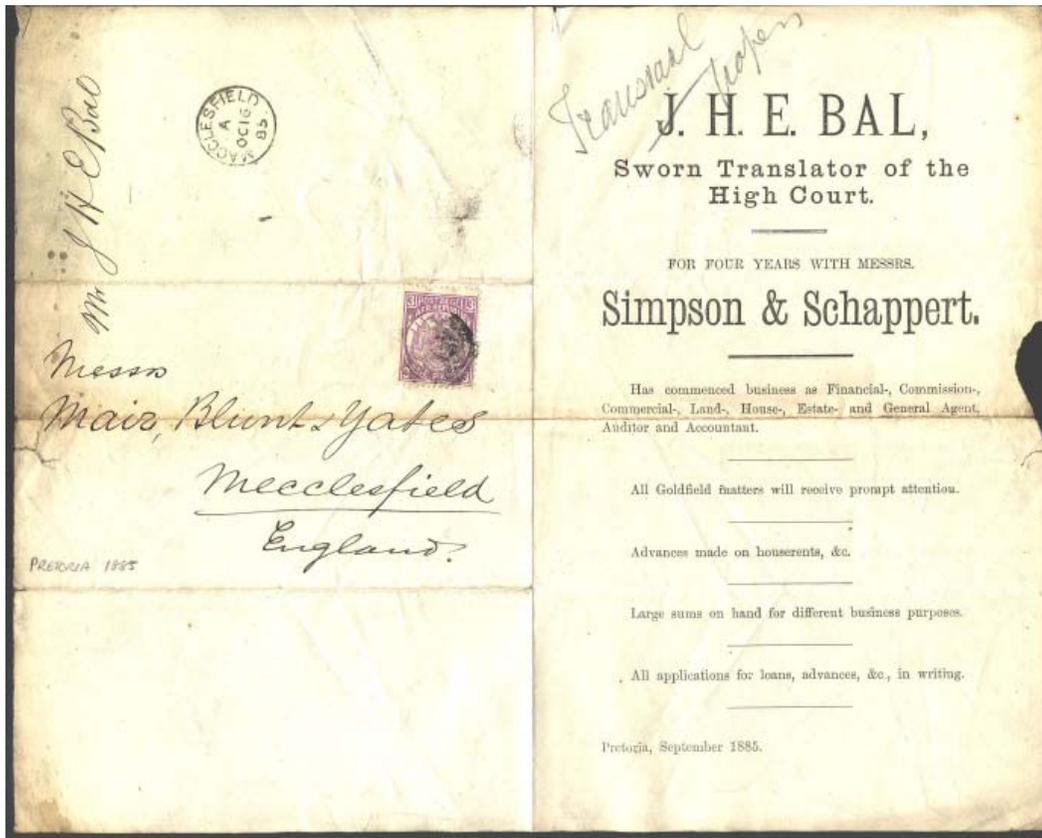


Figure 4.

Figure 5.

A rather fun and unusual item is seen in Figure 5. This might fall into a category anywhere from a fantasy, cinderella or essay. It is obviously a propaganda card produced to raise support during Kruger's European tour. The rather official indicia imprint is a somewhat crude rendition of the official arms of the ZAR with the portrait in inside taken from the full reproduction of him at left. It is imprinted Novembre 1900 while the manuscript is datelined Paris 12/12/1900. It is even "signed" by Um Paul himself, though its authenticity is somewhat in question when compared to other official document signatures I have. In any event, an interesting part of history and I would almost bet that you would never see this at a dealer bourse here in the states.



Finally, I said that great rarities infrequently show up on eBay, at least in my area of interest. Well, Figure 6 is a fine exception to the rule. This 1d red/blue setting 1 example from a printing of 21,440 stamps issued 28 September 1877 is inverted. As the setting was for 2 panes of 40, there could only be at most 80 examples possible. This used one and another from the same vendor that was unused are the only two I have seen and two were offered in the Crocker Sale November 1980. I am pretty sure that the Drysdall collection contains an example, but do not know whether

it is one of the Crocker copies. That being said, based upon the apparent survival rates of these stamps, it is unlikely that more than eight exist in private hands, making this a true rarity by any classification.



Figure 6.

Long live the internet!

# Postage Stamps Used on Telegrams

by Peter Thy

Postage stamps were used for paying for transmission of telegrams in Botswana. The stamps were affixed to the front or back of the telegraph forms and were often cancelled with regular postal or special telegraph cancellers. The high fees associated with telegrams required large blocks of stamps to be affixed. Because there were clear confidentiality issues involved, outgoing telegraph forms with stamps were not released to the public, presumably including the sender. On the other hand, incoming transcribed telegrams were delivered to the recipient, but were without stamps and, therefore, of less interest to the common stamp collector. For these reasons, we would expect that both incoming or outgoing telegraph forms would be very rare.

This is correct as far as incoming telegrams are concerned. However, outgoing telegraph forms appear despite regulations to have been released to the public, probably because of the monetary value of the stamps attached to them. We have seen telegraph forms, or part forms, originating from a range of offices (Orapa, Ghanzi, Shoshong, Mahalapye, Shashi, Francistown, Lobatsi, Serowe and others) between 1970 and 1972. The few full telegraph forms that have survived are addressed both locally as well as to South Africa. It must be assumed that the leak was neither at the dispatching office nor at the receiving office. It is most likely that the leak was at a central telegraph facility in Lobatsi or Gaborone where the transmitted telegraph forms were eventually assembled pending destruction.

Many of stamps used on telegraph forms have in addition to the postal or telegraph cancellers also been cancelled by large, 250 mm long, one-line rubberstamp reading 'CANCELLED' and made-up of 25 mm tall, non-serif letters as shown in Figure 1. More common are singles or blocks of stamps with part cancellations (Figure 2). The apparent similarities of these cancellations despite ink variation suggest that the cancellation were done at one location and not at several local offices. The preparation of a special canceller also suggests that the selling of the telegraph forms was approved at higher level in the then combined Postal and Telegraph Services.

The special telegraph cancellers (Figure 3) were relatively similar to some 'emergency' cancellers used at the same time (see FR#23, p. 15-18). The examples seen were rubber single-circle cancellers with "TELEGRAPH OFFICE" at top and "ORAPA" at the base (38 mm in diameter). A very similar canceller has "TELEGRAPH OFFICE" replaced by "ORAPA" and nothing at the base. The smaller diameter (about 30-34 mm) emergency rubber cancellers are also seen on telegram stamps.

Clinton Goslin (CG Stamps & Collectables, P.O. Box 11644, Klerksdorp, 2570 South Africa) directed my attention to this fascinating aspect of Botswana postal history and philately and also provided the illustrations. Please let the editor know if you have additional observations and/or better explanations than offered here.

Figure 1.

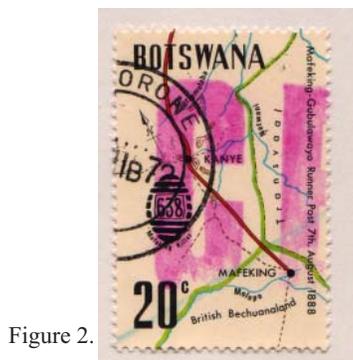


Figure 2.



Figure 3.

# Kruger Essays

by Tim Bartshe

Isaac van Alphen proposed the issuance of a new design of postage stamps to be printed in the South African Republic itself. In doing so, it would save money and time from dealing with Enschede and the long trip from Holland. This was approved by the Volksraad during their 1894 session; however, due to constraints of funding and lack of adequate printing facilities, this idea was postponed until 1898. Act No. 13 of 1898 regulated the production and administration of postage and revenue stamps. Some progress was made including the production of a special watermarked paper **ZA** over **R** and the various design stages for the proposed issue. A Pretoria photographer took the portrait of Kruger that was used in the essay for the stamp designs of the values from 1/2d to 1sh while the Arms design was to be for the higher values.

Obviously preparation for and the initiation of war in October 1899 put these issues on hold. The only reminders of this story are those pieces of watermarked paper that come up for auction now and again and the designs shown accompanying this piece. Curle and Basden comment that copy(s) exist in the Royal Collection. Also a note attached to the lot I acquired these in state that the two specimen examples “are in the Moseley Collection and noted: ‘these specimens came from the collection of Dr Brennan who informed me he had them direct from the President.’”

The items are fairly self-explanatory. Item 1 is an enlarged example of the watermark showing **ZA** over **R**. Item 4 is a photograph essay of the plate die while the printed items, the one Kruger (item 4) and two Arms essays (items 2-3) with blank value tablet has a faint hand stamp ‘Specimen.’ within that space, the perforated one is almost albino in nature. The watermark paper is the reverse of a special “favor” reproduction of a perforated Kruger essay pasted on the paper for the Pretoria Philatelic Society in 1929 (Criddle). The reason and/or occasion is unknown to me.



## Putzel-Visser Postmark Books

Alex Visser writes: The 10-volume Putzel ‘Postmarks of South-Africa and Former Colonies’ has been completed. Missing copies from your set are still available. I have taken over the distribution of all the Putzel books, including the four-volume ‘Encyclopaedia of South African Post Offices.’ I am also preparing an electronic addendum showing corrections and additions in the same style as the original postmark books, and these are supplemental to the books and not stand-alone. This Addendum is distributed by email and files are in pdf format (max size of 5 MB). Electronic addenda up to end of letter E are available, and comprise about 170 A4 printed pages. These are distributed free to owners of the postmark books, and if you wish to receive the addendum please email me at alex.visser@up.ac.za.

Note the new Society CD-ROM with Excel and Access database listings of all Postal Offices mentioned in Putzel and Visser’s books. The CD can be ordered from Bob Hisey at bobhisey@comcast.net or regular mail to R.W. Hisey, 7227 Sparta Rd, Sebring, FL 33875, USA.

### THE AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

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OR E-MAIL DMORTON@MWEB.CO.ZA

# Washington 2006 - Affordable and Comfortable

Have you made arrangements to attend Washington 2006, the international philatelic exhibition taking place May 27-June 3 at the Washington, DC Convention Center? If not, you still have time to plan the vacation of the decade, but do not delay.

Some collectors have the impression that past international shows have been expensive and uncomfortable affairs. Washington 2006 is doing everything possible to make sure that all attendees have a pleasurable experience during their visit no matter what their budget.

Washington, DC is a major hub for domestic and international air carriers and offers three regional airports: Reagan National, Dulles International, and Baltimore-Washington International. Discount airlines from across the country regularly offer specials, especially during the start of the vacation season. Traveling by bus? Greyhound and other bus companies offer round trips between New York City and DC for as little as \$40. Prices can be even lower from locations such as Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Richmond, and Norfolk.

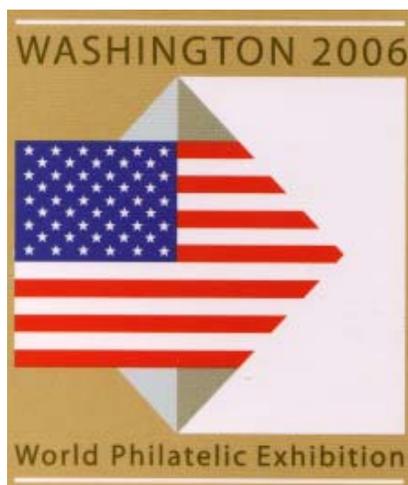
Traveling by car? Consider parking the car in the outer suburbs at one of the many Metro stops and take the train into town. Parking is under \$4 per day, and one-way fares are only a few dollars. The trip into the city typically takes under 45 minutes. There are some 2,000 parking spots at 70 parking lots within a three block radius of the Convention Center available on a first-come basis, typically charging around \$20 for the day.

Hotels right in Washington can be expensive. Most of the discounted blocks of rooms reserved by W2006 at seven nearby hotels have been booked. A new option available to show-goers is the brand new Embassy Suites hotel located two blocks from the event at 900 10th Street. Special rates are \$189 per night double occupancy, \$169 single occupancy, and are only available by booking this rate online through the W2006 web site.

Smaller hotels in the city offer rates as low as \$99 per night. For those on a tighter budget, check out suburban hotels, especially those within walking distance of Metro stops. Look especially in the Arlington, VA and Crystal City Ronald Reagan Airport area. Rates can start around \$69 per night. The Internet will help in finding these and other deals. Check out Hotwire and Priceline.com for deeply discounted rooms. AAA/CAA and AARP members should look into special offers available exclusively for them. Seniors should always ask if a discount is available no matter which property they are considering.

Washington 2006 continues the long-standing tradition of U.S. internationals by offering free admission to all visitors. Other international shows elsewhere have charged the equivalent of \$5-10 per day just to enter the hall.

The most common complaint heard about other international shows has been the lack of chairs and the booth configurations of the dealers. Be assured that Washington 2006 has addressed these concerns from the very early planning stages of the exhibition.



All dealers have the option of either stools or chairs for customer use. They will be provided with two chairs or stools (at their choice) for every five feet of booth space frontage. However, it is the dealer's choice whether or not to have any chairs at all available for customers. Dealers can also configure their booths with options of see-through countertops and/or frontage.

Additionally, W2006 will have areas throughout the show floor with tables and chairs for people to rest. Chairs and benches will be provided in major cross aisles. Other retreats are located in each of the three major halls. The food courts provide additional seating.

The Washington 2006 exhibition takes up over 500,000 square feet of space. The dealer aisles are extra wide and will be carpeted, but plan to wear comfortable shoes. It is possible to rent wheelchairs or motorized scooters on a daily basis (\$25 and \$50, respectively) or for the entire run of the show. This should be done in advance to assure availability through a link from the W2006 web site or directly from "Scootaround" at <http://www.scootaround.com/rentals/wpe/>, or by phoning 1-800-441-7575. Payment can be arranged using major credit cards.

Attendees need not leave the Convention Center for lunch or snacking. The facility includes an 18,000 square foot casual dining food court with reasonably priced options at seven different dining experiences. These include: Foggy Bottom Grill (American fare), Wolfgang Puck Express (salads, soups, pizza), Seafood by Phillips, Subculture (gourmet deli), Bello Pronto (Italian), Mr. Thoi (Vietnamese), and a Mexican restaurant. Hours of operation are at the discretion of each establishment. Special food carts will also provide alternatives to the type of food usually available.

By joining the Washington 2006 Club, an exclusive lounge and eatery restaurant right on the show floor, members can enjoy additional food options not available elsewhere and a peaceful area for conversation and rest. Entrance is included with Washington 2006 memberships at the Sustaining Supporter (Organizer's Club) level and above. Otherwise a Washington 2006 Club membership may be purchased separately.

For full information about Washington 2006, including an up-to-date schedule of meetings, seminars, and first day ceremonies, go online to <http://www.washington-2006.org>, or write to Washington 2006, PO Box 2006, Ashburn, VA 20146-2006. Questions may also be emailed to [info@washington-2006.org](mailto:info@washington-2006.org).

Press release, dated February 1, 2006, from Thomas M. Fortunato (Washington 2006 Media Communications Chairman), 28 Amberwood Pl, Rochester, NY 14626-4166 USA. Visit Washington 2006's homepage <http://www.washington-2006.org>.

# Forerunners Forum

## Computers in Philately

The Virtual Stamp Club will sponsor and operate the Computers in Philately booth at Washington 2006. "We expect to offer Internet access, demonstrations of software and web sites, and informal lectures by publishers," said Virtual Stamp Club president Lloyd de Vries. The four-sided Virtual Stamp Club Computers in Philately area will be located near the Youth and Literature Reading Areas. It will be staffed for the entire run of the show. "Computers are such an integral part of stamp collecting now," said de Vries. "We use them for communication, for cataloguing, for commerce, for exhibiting, for research. We hope to show all these facets at Washington 2006." Additionally, the VSC will be planning a series of interviews, informal talks and demonstrations throughout the eight-day show. An advanced schedule will appear on the group's Web site and should be considered as "a work in progress." Daily updates will be at the booth and online. The Virtual Stamp Club is one of the Internet's top English-language sites for philatelic news, information and discussion. The group's membership numbers in the thousands. It is a chapter of both the American Philatelic Society and American First Day Cover Society. Their web site, at [www.VirtualStampClub.com](http://www.VirtualStampClub.com), contains hundreds of pages, with weekly show calendars, audio features, one of the most up-to-date U.S. stamp program listings anywhere, and more. The site typically gets 30,000 hits a day, with more than 1,100 unique visitors. An average of 200 collectors visit their active message board daily, which is monitored around the clock by a volunteer staff of 12. All is offered free of charge. For more information, contact de Vries by email at [stamps@pobox.com](mailto:stamps@pobox.com) or visit them online.

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## Publish Your Research in Forerunners

Our Journal is in constant need for articles. If you specialize in southern Africa, please consider writing down your observations and findings for these pages. The editor and his Speciality Editors will be happy to assist if required. We particularly need modern philately and postal history, thematic, aerophilately, cinderella, TB stamps, telegraph and rail philately and history, rate and route studies, and military postal history. Your interests are the limits. If you are a regular reader of Forerunners you will know that certain areas are well covered. Other areas are poorly covered. These include the Rhodesias, Cape of Good Hope, Natal, Union and Republic of South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Basutoland, Malawi, among others.

A typical article for the Forerunners contains text, illustrations, tables, reference or literature list, acknowledgement if relevant, and captions for illustrations and tables. The editor prefers the main text as a word document. Illustrations should be scanned at 150 dpi (covers) or 300 dpi (stamps) and saved as jpg or tif files. References, illustrations, and tables should be called for in the text. All illustrations should be clearly identified both in the text and by file names. This will greatly help the editor.

## Stanley Gibbons Product Guide

Stanley Gibbons has released its 2006 Product Guide. It is 44 pages stuffed with accessories (catalogues, albums, stock systems, investment products). Of special interest to collectors of southern Africa is the appearance of a single country Central Africa catalogue. Go to [www.stanleygibbons.com](http://www.stanleygibbons.com) for informations and to order your copy of the product guide.

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## Scott Needs Color Illustrations

You will probably have discovered that the Scott catalogues are being transformed into color. Your favorite area may still contain stamps in black and white. Many of these may be common stamps and still others may be rarer stamps. If you think that you can help, you should contact Scott Publishing and offer your help. Scott will prefer to get your stamps on loan and will pay for mailing. But they may accept your scans at these specifications: 100 %, black background, RGB color, 300 dpi, saved as in PC tiff format with extension 'tif'. Contact Nancy Martin, Scott Publishing Image Coordinator at [nmartin@scottonline.com](mailto:nmartin@scottonline.com) if you may be of assistance.

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## New Zimbabwe Postal Rates

New postage rates became effective on August 1, 2005. A week later the public were still trying to get details of the new rates. Unconfirmed reports say that ZIMPOST did not even bother to publish the new rates in the local press. The August 2005 postage rates had hardly be in use for a week before the Government had a mini-budget and increased various taxes amongst which was the Value Added Tax (VAT), which was increased on general items from 15% to 17.5% with effect from September 1, 2005. This resulted in an increases in postage rates and some rare rate covers for the postal historians.

### *August 1, 2005*

Domestic letter (20g), printed matter, or postcard: \$10,000  
Airmail letter to Africa (10g), printed matter, or postcard: \$50,000  
Aerogramme to Africa: \$40,000  
Letter to Europe (10 g) or printed matter: \$60,000  
Postcard to Europe: \$50,000  
Letter to rest of the world (10 g) or printed matter: \$80,000  
Postcard to rest of the world: \$70,000

### *September 1, 2005*

Domestic letter (20g), printed matter, or postcard: \$10,250  
Airmail letter to Africa (10g) or postcard: \$52,000  
Aerogramme to Africa: \$41,000  
Letter to Europe (10g) or printed matter: \$62,000  
Postcard to Europe: \$52,000  
Letter to rest of the world or printed matter: \$82,000  
Postcard to rest of the world: \$72,000

From the October 2005 Newsletter (Whole Number 276) of the Royal Philatelic Society of Zimbabwe. See also FR#52, p. 127.

## Spink to Sell Transvaal Collection

Spink will sell Alan Drysdall's collection of Transvaal's First Republic and First British Occupation issues in their March 1, 2006, auction in London. Certainly an auction to look forward to if your interests are the Transvaal and adjoining territories. For further details and to request a copy of the catalogue, contact David Parsons, [dparsons@spink.com](mailto:dparsons@spink.com) or visit [www.spink.com](http://www.spink.com). Spink can also be reached by writing to 69 Southhampton Row, London WC1B 4ET, UK.

### Still More Hut Tax Tokens



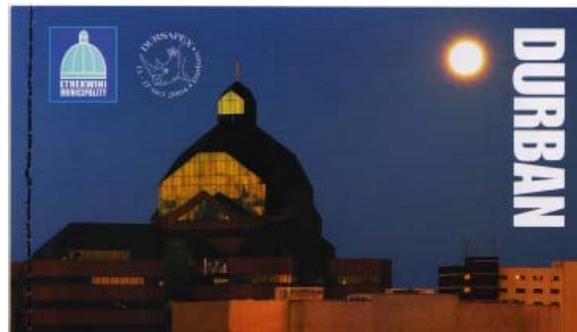
Scale approximate only.

## South African Philatelic Services

The South Africa Post Office is distributing a comprehensive catalogue showing all available stamps and other philatelic items from the Philatelic Services. The catalogue is printed in full color and shows all stamps, covers, postcards, booklets, and year sets. Contact the Philatelic Services for your copy of the catalogue by writing to Private Bag X505, Pretoria 0001, South Africa, email [sa.stamps@postoffice.co.za](mailto:sa.stamps@postoffice.co.za), or visit [www.sapo.co.za](http://www.sapo.co.za). The catalogue exist in both printed version as well as in electronic format (pdf).

### DURSAPEX 2004 Booklet

The Editor has received a few copies of a souvenir philatelic exhibition booklet for DURSAPEX 2004 in Durban. It contains labels with Durban city motifs. Not philatelic except for the exhibit logo on front. Beautifully designed by Franco Frescura and printed by Government Printer. Available on a first come basis (addressed and franked envelope much appreciated).



### Censored 1946 Cover to Gobabis

The article in last issue by Miller and Bantz on an unusual censored cover to Gobabis was reprinted in the SWA Stamp Study Group Newsletter No. 319 (September 2005, p. 2) and gave rise to a few comments. We reproduce these with permission together with a comment by Chris Miller.

S. Payne ([bas@paynes.demon.co.uk](mailto:bas@paynes.demon.co.uk)) writes. "The latest outgoing censored cover I have from South West Africa was posted from Swakopmund to Buenos Aires on 2 January 1946; it carries a Mullins Type 5 label and an Arms over D (Windhoek) handstamp. It was presumably censored in Windhoek during the first week of January 1946. Judging from covers seen (though censored covers are probably more likely to survive and be collected than uncensored covers), a fairly high proportion of overseas South West Africa letters - both outgoing and incoming - were censored during 1940-44. A much smaller proportion of 1945 covers appear to have been censored, both from South West Africa and from South Africa; it would appear that civilian censorship was becoming much more selective during the last months of the war. Mail to and from Germany in 1946-48 was generally censored in Germany, as in the case of the cover you illustrate, but not in South West or South Africa. The label and handstamp on the cover seem to me to be typical of covers censored in the British Zone in Germany in this period - but a specialist can probably tell you more."

H. Badstfibner (P.O. Box 105; Wartburg; 3233, SOUTH AFRICA) examined his stock of post-WWII censored mail. Six of his covers are addressed to members of the Matheis family in Okahandja. Three of the covers came from the French Zone, posted on 30.4.46, 26.11.46 and 20.3.47. The first two covers were still censored in the Germany. The cover, posted in 1947, has no censor marks whatsoever. One cover mailed from Braunschweig (20.9.46) and two from Berlin (10.6.47 and 10.7.47) to Okahandja were censored and sealed by British Military censors in Germany. None of the six covers was censored in South West Africa, probably trusting that the French and British censors had done a good job. The remaining ten covers were posted within Germany from one occupied zone into another (allowed as from Oct. 24,-1945) and from Germany to South Africa (allowed as from??). Like the SWA covers, the covers into South Africa were censored in Germany, but not in South Africa. These covers are not strictly relevant for South West Africa. Members interested in copies or scans of these covers are welcome to contact me.

Chris Miller emails to add to the discussion: I too have items from South West Africa censored in Windhoek after the date when the official history says that censorship of official mail had ceased. The history of Censorship (A U.K. Government Publication) states that overseas censorship ceased in the Autumn of 1945 and the last to cease was the Middle East on 31 January 1946. The history also states that the intensity of censorship was reducing throughout 1945. Censorship in territories formerly occupied by the enemy continued for some time later and special arrangements existed for censorship of prisoners of war mail prior to their release. Imperial censorship was always selective. It was never possible to read all letters and preference was always given to mail to or from correspondents who were considered to pose a risk, then to territories posing the same risks and only as resources permitted to internal or within the allies mail. SWA was considered to be a special risk because of the German connections of so much of its population.

#### Reference

History of the Postal and Telegraph Censorship Department 1938-1946' volumes 1 and 2, Home Office Accountable Document H.O.A.D. No 1. from the Public Records Office London and held under their reference DEFE 1/333 and DEFE 1/334.

The letters from Payne and Badstfibner originally appeared in SWA Stamp Study Group Newsletter No. 320 (August 2005, p. 2).

### UPU Reply Coupons to be Invalidated

The International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union is preparing to replace the current international reply coupon that is scheduled to be invalidated Dec. 31, 2006. The new design will be introduced July 1.

### Philatelic Literature Price List

David Crocker and Michael Wigmore have just released their 6th Philatelic Literature Price List containing a large southern Africa selection. The list is available in either electronic format (word document) or in print. Contact Crocker & Wigmore at dcrocker@lando.co.za or PO Box 294, Montagu 6720, South Africa.

### The Lost FDC



While compiling the illustrations for Peter Lodoen's booklet on his stamp designs for Botswana Post, there was one item that eluded us for years. We attempted to illustrate all stamps and official first day covers, but were unable to locate a copy of the 'Birth of Radio Communications' FDC issued in 1996 (only 2,500 covers made). We have finally located a copy.

### News From Botswana

A new book on the British King George V Seahorses has been released by the Great Britian Philatelic Society. The book will be of interest to Bechuanaland collectors since the Seahorses were overprinted for this territory. The book is written by Bryan Kearsley and titled 'Discovering Seahorses.' It contains nearly 300 pages and over 380 illustrations, some of which are in color. This is an important study of the production and plating. The book is available from Ian Harvey, GBPS, 27 Landford Road, Putney, London SW15 1AQ, England, email ph@harvey27.demon.co.uk.

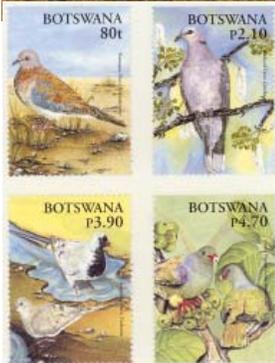
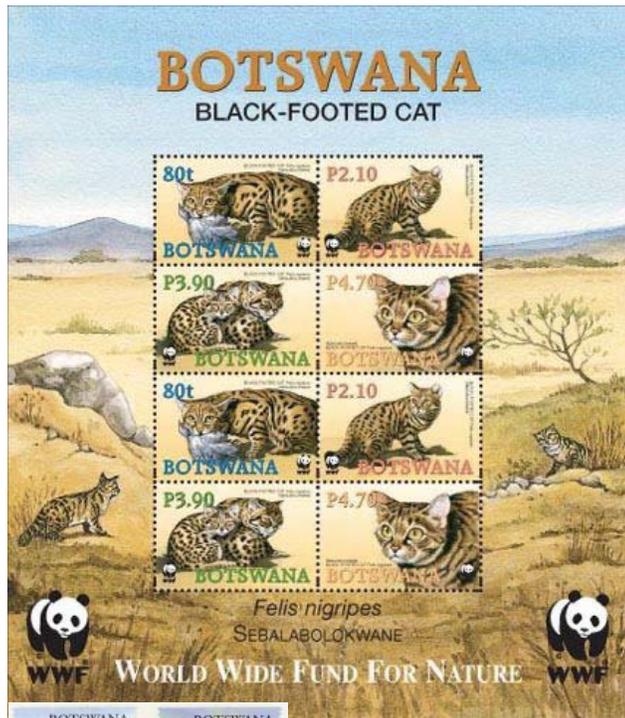
During the 1990s, Andy Andersson organized and catalogued the philatelic and postal history holdings of the Postal Archives of Botswana. The collections are stored in a backroom behind the Museum in Poso House. Since then nobody has had access to the catalogue, not to mention the collections. To remedy this, negotiations recently took place between representatives from the Postal Services, Botswana Philatelic Society, and the Bechuanaland & Botswana Society. The outcome is that a copy of the catalogue in the form of a computer printout has been released to the local philatelic society. Another development is that permission appears to have been made to scan selected items in the collections. We will keep you updated about developments including the accessibility of the collections to visitors.

Karl Seligmann is well known to most collectors of the Bechuanalands. For many years, he has worked on a book manuscript detailing the early postal history of Bechuanaland based on extensive studies of the archives in Botswana and South Africa. This work has been rumored to be nearly finished for years, but the publication has dragged out due to difficulties of finding a publisher that would be able and willing to sponsor the very voluminous work. Seligmann has now agreed to let the Botswana Philatelic Society form a committee with the goal of publishing the work. Contact John Schaerer, Private Bag BR

354, Broadhurst, Gaborone, Botswana, jsi@info.bw if you can assist.

Steen Jelgren, P.O. Box 1767, Mochudi, Botswana, has released a new sales lists with mint Botswana stamps and FDC. Contact him by writing to steen@botsnet.bw.

Botswana Post issued a series of World Wildlife Fund stamps on October 24, 2004, showing black-footed cats. The stamps (80t, P2.10, P3.90, P4.70) were designed by Roger Gorringe and printed in offset by Cartor. It is not known if the stamps were issued in regular sheet format.



Four Christmas stamps were issued on Dec. 20 showing birds. Little information is available since the website of Botswana Post has not been updated since 2004. Also advance notice has not been released.

## Rustenburg Boer War Stamps by Joh Groenewald

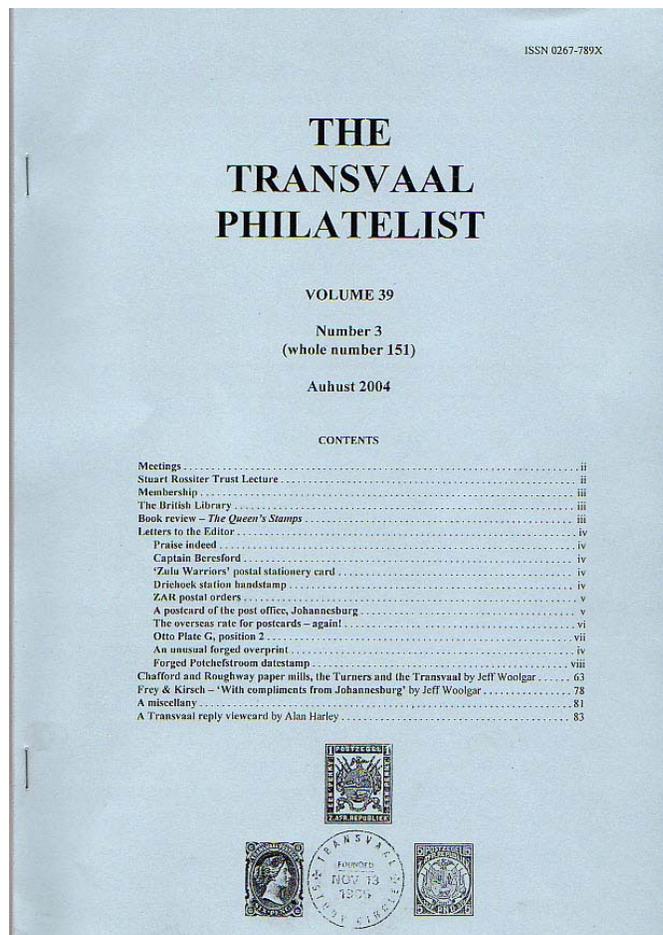
The local stamp issue of Rustenburg during the Anglo-Boer War is the focus of current research by Harry Birkhead and Joh Groenewald, following their ground-breaking discoveries which were published by the Philatelic Federation of South Africa as 'The Witherwithal of Wolmaransstad and The Pseudo-Siege of Schweizer-Reneke.'

Rustenburg was occupied by Imperial troops under Major-General Baden-Powell in June 1900, and evacuated two months later. During this time, stamps of the Transvaal republic were

handstamped "V.R." in capital letters. A 1902 report suggests extensive forgery of the Rustenburg handstamping. In order to confirm the genuine, Birkhead and Groenewald examined over 30 'VR' stamps on original, travelled covers. They have come to an amazing conclusion: more than one 'VR' handstamp was used, in fact more than two. The largest multiple so far examined on cover is a pair of the 1d - but there exists a splendid cover with a block of six of the halfpenny on the back. The cover was sold by Victoria Stamp Co in 2000. "We believe this block of six is the key to the proving of the genuine VR handstamping," says Harry Birkhead. "We appeal to the owner for a scan on CD, and we'll happily pay all costs," he says.

In the past number of years Victoria Stamp Co has sold several covers with Rustenburg stamps, used from Rustenburg to North America. These are exquisite items. There were only 12 Canadian artillerymen at Rustenburg, with two guns. Please, if you can assist with scans of the block of six, or any other Rustenburg material - anonymously if you wish - please contact the Editor, or Joh Groenewald at johgroen@mweb.co.za (PO Box 4430, Pretoria 0001, S Africa).

## The Transvaal Philatelist



The Transvaal Philatelist is distributed quarterly by the Transvaal Study Circle. The most recent issue we have seen is whole number 154 from May 2005. The Editor is Alan Drysdall, 4 St. Phillips Way, Bitterne, Southampton, SO18 5NH, UK,

alandrysdall@aol.com. Contact Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Jeff Woolgar, 132 Dale Street, Chatham ME4 6QH, UK, jeffwtsc@beeb.net, for membership information. Annual subscription £10 (£5 extra for airmail delivery to overseas members). The issue shown above contains a discussion of a new discovered tête-bêche variety, leather postcards, 'Swazieland-with-full-stop' overprints, and the Vurtheim £5. The journal also covers many general philatelic issues of interest to most southern Africa collectors. An indispensable journal and a very worthwhile society. Visit the study circle's website at Rich's Southern Africa Colonies (<http://dialspace.dial.pipex.com/town/terrace/ywmw18/>).

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## Bechuanaland Border Police Token



This Bechuanaland Border Police canteen token for the value of 1s was recently sold on eBay. Diameter is 23.3 mm. Listed in Hern's Handbook on Southern African Tokens among other denominations (1d, 3d, 6d, and 1s). Value is estimated around R1000 for a fine copy (2004).

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## New Books

- Eibl-Kaye, G., editor, 2006. The London Philatelist Archival Edition, 1892-2005. Royal Philatelic Society London. Complete on searchable CD.
- Roberts, N.: The Postmarks of Nyasaland and Malawi. Available at \$45 pp from Nigel Roberts, The Old Cottage, Little London, Albury, Surrey GU5 9DG, U.K.
- Borgstein, A., 2006. South African Railway Covers: 1910-2003. Contact the author at P.O. Box 23168, Gezina, 0031 South Africa for price and ordering information.

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## Society Publications

- Hisey and Bartshe, 2003. Philately of the Orange Free State, Vol. 1, The Postage Stamps. Hardbound, 280 pages in full color, \$35 plus \$5 s/h in the US, plus \$10 elsewhere by air.
- Hisey and Bartshe, 2004. Philately of the Orange Free State, Vol. 2, The Telegraphs. Hardbound, 250 pages in full color, \$35 plus \$5 s/h in the US, plus \$10 elsewhere by air.
- Forerunners on CD, Issues 1 to 50 (CD-ROM). \$25 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 Bob Hisey at the addresses given on page 1.

## Society Auction Manager

Since the previous auction manager retired after having done our society auctions for many years, we have been unable to locate a replacement. Traditionally society auctions are done using printed lists, but times have changed and emails and web pages have become common and should be considered. If anybody is in for the fun - there is a challenging society board position available. Contact the editor if interested.

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## The Market Place

**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](mailto:janstolk@belgacom.net).

**Mafeking covers.** Want to purchase or trade for covers to/from, or through Mafeking, 1885 to present. Send photocopies, prices or trade want list to Frederick Lawrence, 658 W. Douglas Ave., Gilbert, AZ 85233-3219; [ieconsulting@cox.net](mailto: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](mailto:janstolk@belgacom.net).

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

**Postmarks.** Specialist collector seeks trading partners and unsorted low value duplicates in quantity. I collect pre-Union to 1935. Anything later is available to swap with you. Please contact before sending material. Ashley Cotter-Cairns, P.O. Box 603, Hudson, QC, JOP 1HO, Canada, or [acottercairns@hotmail.com](mailto:acottercairns@hotmail.com).

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

Send request for your free non-dealer membership ad to the Editor. Only one ad per issue per member. Ads will run for 3 issues unless specified otherwise. Limits of 40 words plus name and postal and email addresses.

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## Commercial Ad Rate Schedule

*Premium positions (full covers only):*

- 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.
- Front cover sponsorship banner \$70 single issue, annual \$180.

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

All advertisers who reserve space for one year or longer will receive full membership to the PSGSA. Contact the Society Marketing and Advertising Director 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.

## **Publications of the PSGSA**

### **REJECTED-ACCEPTED: LIFE OF A BOTSWANA STAMP DESIGNER**

by P. Lodoen

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

Download free as pdf file from Society website.

### **Philately of the Orange Free State Vol. 2 THE TELEGRAPHS**

R.W. Hisey & R.T. Bartshe

A history and study of the Telegraph system and stamps of the Orange Free State, its occupation and successor Orange River Colony. Covering the stamps, Offices, routes, rates, postmarks, forms, etc. The first comprehensive work on this subject.

Vermeil at Stampshow 2004

In full color, hardbound, 250 pages on coated paper.

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

### **Vol. 1 THE POSTAGE STAMPS**

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Covering the postage stamps of the Orange Free State and its occupation. The most thorough and modern work on this subject available. Gold Medal at Stampshow 2002, Large

Vermeil at FIP Espana 2004 and Large Vermeil at South African National Show 2002.

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### **FORERUNNERS ON CD**

Edited by R.W. Hisey

Issues #1 to 50 (CD-ROM). \$25 plus \$5 s/h.

### **POSTAL OFFICE NAMES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA ACCORDING TO RALPH PUTZEL**

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

Compiled by R.W. Hisey

CD-ROM \$15 pp.

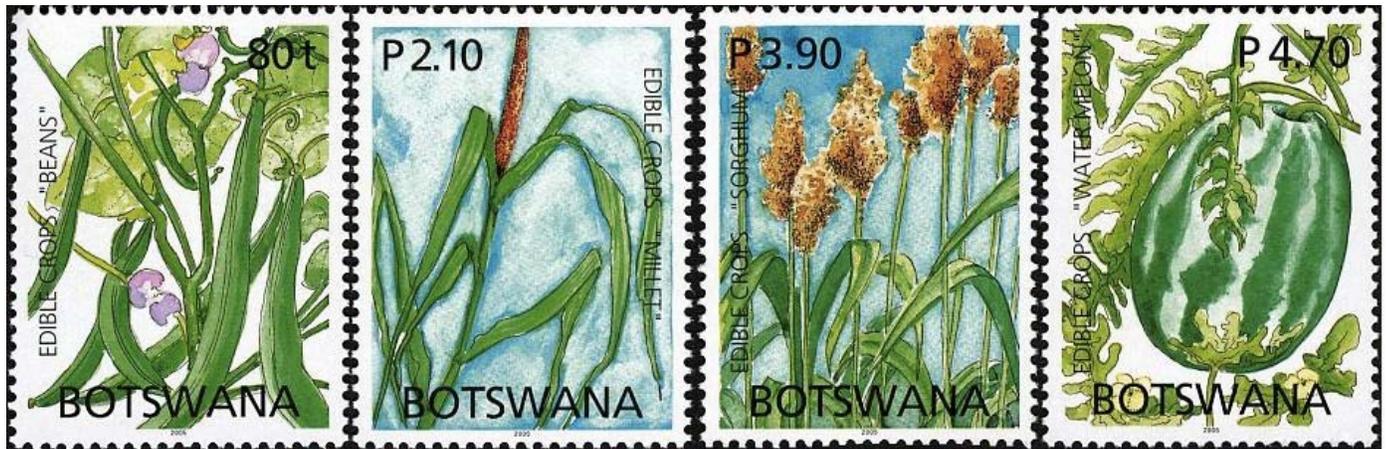
### **EARLY POSTAL SERVICES OF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE**

by R. Taylor

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

All publications payable by US or UK check (latter made out to R. W. Hisey), cash,  
or Paypal (to bobhisey@comcast.net).

Mail to R.W. Hisey, 7227 Sparta Rd, Sebring, FL 33875, USA



This is a series of four stamps issued by Botswana Post on June 15, 2005. The stamps depicts typical edible crops designed by Ann Golifer and printed by Joh Enschele. This is an example of a well designed and printed set of stamps that we have become to expect from Botswana Post. All fine except perhaps for the uniformly black overlaid text. The August 2005 Newsletter from the Botswana Philatelic Society discuss good stamp designs. *Stamps* should (a) perform their functions efficiently, (b) look attractive, (c) carry their messages clearly, and (d) not violate international guidelines. In more details: (1) country name and face value should be easily read, (2) stamps in the same set should be distinguishable as belonging to each other, (3) if the stamps commemorate a historic event, the event should be named and the relevant dates given, (4) designs and topic should be relevant to Botswana, (5) design should be uncluttered, (6) the foreground should not fade into the background. Similarly, *first day covers* (1) should clearly identified design topic and day of issue, (2) cover should contain space for address, (3) information inset should be sized to fit into cover, (4) inset should contain full and accurate information, (5) inset should include numbers produced, and (6) stamp illustrations on inset should be full size. *Information flow*: (1) pamphlets advertising upcoming issues should reach everyone on the mailing list in advance of the issue day, (2) each January, a provisional list of issues for the year should be announced, (3) a newsletter, annual or occasional, would be appreciated, (4) first day canceller should be withdrawn from use on the second day of issue, and (5) at the end of the issue period, unsold stamps should be withdrawn from sale and shredded and numbers of each item should be made available. The Editor would like to add that a requirement also is a well organized and frequently updated website.

## Membership Application

Membership fees are \$25 US and Canada and \$30 Europe and southern Africa (contact the Treasurer for other destinations). Initial membership includes all back issues for the year joined (July to June). Payment options are as follows: (1) US dollar check drawn on a US bank, (2) dollar money order, (3) PayPal to bobhisey@comcast.net, (4) pound sterling bank check drawn on a UK bank and payable to E.M. Hisey, and (5) US \$, pound sterling, or Euro currency sent registered mail. Complete the following form and mail to Robert W. Hisey, PSGSA Treasurer, 7227 Sparta Rd, Sebring, FL 33875. Or email bobhisey@comcast.net.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Collecting interests: \_\_\_\_\_

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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