



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

*JOURNAL OF THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY FOR GREATER SOUTHERN AFRICA*

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

Volume XXIII, Number 3, Whole No. 67

March - June 2010



The 3rd Joint SAPOA issue was released to commemorate the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa.

## **Highlights**

- Reports From Exhibitions**
- Index to Volume XXIII**
- South African Air Letters**
- Training Postal Order or Essay?**
- Out of Course Tax Marks**
- Cape Perfins**
- OFS Censored Postcard**
- The Past Comes Alive**
- Memories and a Postage Stamp**

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

## Vol. 3. THE REVENUES AND POSTAL STATIONERY

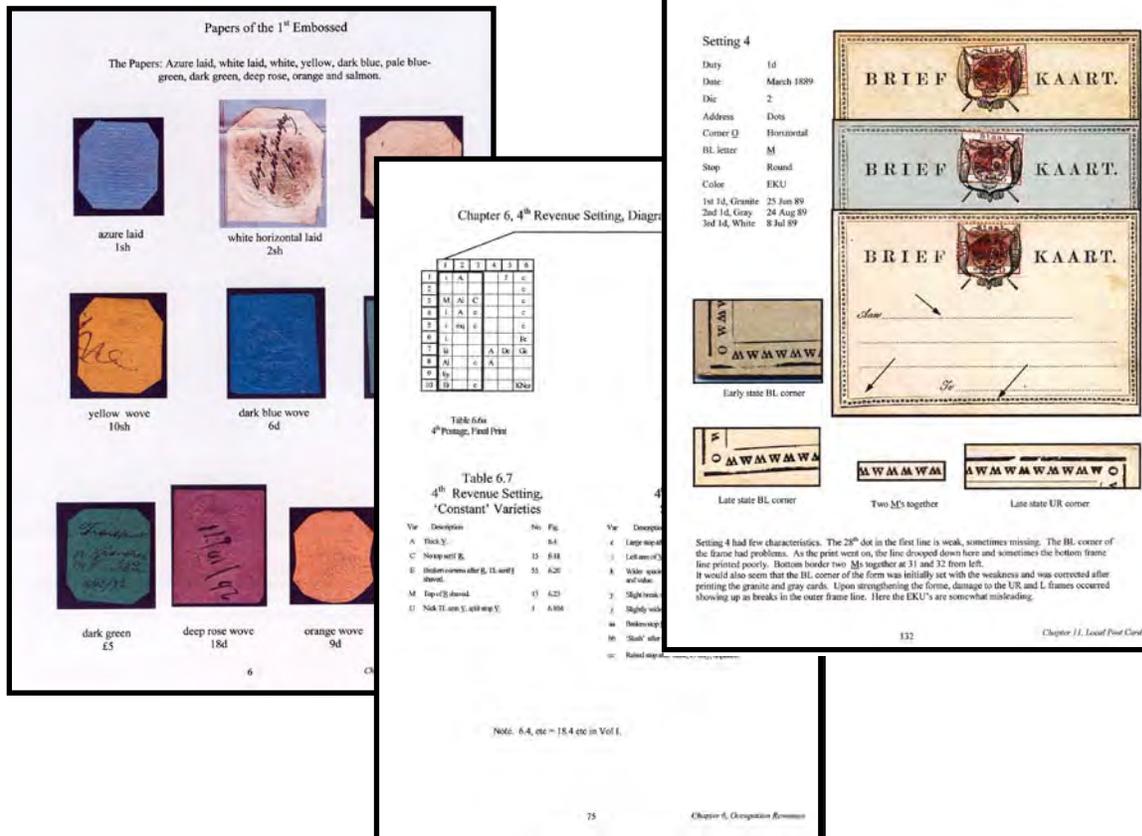
2009. A history and study of the revenues, military and police franks and postal stationery of the Orange Free State and its occupation. New updated treatment of the subject.  
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Price each volume is \$35 plus s/h of \$5 in the US and \$10 elsewhere.

All publications payable by US or UK checks made out to R. W. Hisey, US cash, or PayPal to bobhisey@comcast.net  
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#### Front Illustration:

The 3rd joint SAPOA souvenir sheet has been released to commemorate the 2010 FIFA World Cup in South Africa. The nine countries participating in SAPOA's stamp program are Namibia, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Swaziland, Botswana, Mauritius, Lesotho, and Zambia. It is expected that all nine countries will issue the sheet. In addition, each country may also issue the nine stamps as regular sheet stamps. The souvenir sheets, but not the individual stamps, are printed on gold foil that reproduces very poorly in scanned images.

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

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## Editorial Notes

The year has been pretty busy for collectors of southern Africa, including your editor. Our convention at TEXPEX in Dallas was a clear success from what I can understand, with a large turnout and many honours, including the Grand to a society member. Certainly, the medal levels bestowed on my modest collections were impressive. The London 2010 Festival of Stamps

is now over and we can report that southern African collections and our society members did exceptional well. So well indeed that three members (Bob Hisey, Peter van der Molen, and Tim Bartshe) received the Jury's Felicitations for Research and seven members received Gold or Large Gold medals (Bartshe, Barth, Hisey, van der Molen, Klugman, Matheson, and Minnaar). See the reports from both TEXPEX and London 2010 in this issue. Now we are waiting for Joburg 2010 later this year. The Forerunners has applied to the literature competition, but has as yet not heard if accepted.

Looking forward, the preparations for our next convention at the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show in 2015 is already in progress. Our Convention Chair Tim Bartshe has sent this invitation to our sister societies "We (PSGSA) have decided to hold another African convention at Denver in 2015 and would like to extend the invitation to participate to British related groups devoted to the African continent. The Rocky Mountain Stamp Show has the capacity of mounting 324 frames of exhibits and to host 50 dealers. The venue is close by an internationally connected airport via a short free shuttle and has all of the amenities that can be desired as well as being in Colorado in one of the most beautiful months of the year, May. The dates will be 15-17 May, Friday through Sunday. I would hope that you would consider joining the PSGSA in celebrating this most fascinating area of philately, British Africa." We hope that many society members will be able to attend either represented by their exhibits or in person. Contact Tim Bartshe for any questions and suggestions.

The stamp auction market is still strong despite the worldwide recession. There have recently been two major auctions in my field of collection (the Bechuanalands). The estimates have been generally high and the bidding has been extremely competitive so much indeed to the extent that the average collector often has been left out of the game. The positive experience is that 'unusual' collecting areas like postal stationery and postal history despite having been affected by similar high estimates as for true philately (=stamps) often have sold well below estimates.

eBay keeps being an attractive source for unusual material. It has, however, become more difficult to find it in a flood of common stuff. I used to be able to do a general search for 'Bechuanaland' coming up with say about 200 items. Most recently, I have discovered that a similar search would bring forward upwards of ~800 items. Sellers (dealers or collectors) now list multiple and individual items of common stuff. Some also list all the individual countries to which they will mail with the result that a search for Bechuanaland will bring up their complete inventory. Many sellers have also figured out that Bechuanaland

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

## PSGSA Membership Corner

Welcome to new members:

**René Gerritsen**, Netherlands

Cape of Good Hope Seated Hope rectangulars and Natal King Edward.

See details on <http://www.eghstamps.com/>

**Volker Janssen**, South Africa

Cape, Natal, OFS, Transvaal, SA-Union, RSA, Rhodesias, Scandinavia, German States, & ....

and Botswana are the same, with the results that a search for 'Bechuanaland' is pretty similar to a search for 'Botswana.' The buyer like me has fast learnt to invoke the option of excluding certain sellers particularly offensive in their listing policies. This sometimes excluded dealers that otherwise would have been among my favorites.

Hope that this issue will provide interesting reading material and that all members will find something of interest. Remember that our journal is just as good or bad as our members makes it. The Editor needs your help in the form of small or large articles, interesting items with a couple of explanatory lines, interesting observations and news, and/or simply a short email saying that you appreciate Forerunners.

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

## Society Affairs

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

### Back Issues Available

Back issues of the Forerunners are in stock and available for purchase. These are listed by whole number: #1-4, 6-9, 11-17, 22-27, 28/29,\* and 30-63. The price per copy is #1-3, \$2; #4, \$4, #6-11, \$3; #12-13, \$4; #14-15, \$5; #16-17, \$6; #22-27, \$7; #28/29, \$10; #30-33, \$7; #34-67 \$9. Prices include shipping by lowest rate. Many back issues only exist in few remaining copies. Send orders to the Editor together with payment. \* Combined as a British Africa Anthology with articles from 15 speciality groups celebrating PSGSA's 10th Anniversary during PACIFIC 97.



## President's Corner

Greetings once again from Ontario, where we have been experiencing some very much appreciated hot weather, bringing the downside of having to run the air conditioner. The problem is that my wife likes it cool and I like it hot, so we rail at each other about how high to set the air-conditioning. Yesterday brought us rain and we have more of that today, so all is sweetness and light in the Hanks residence!

We had a good time in Dallas at TEXPEX, having driven down there over four days with lovely spring sunshine all the way. We took a slightly different route from our previous excursions to the "Lone Star State", so that was quite good fun. Barbara had some misgivings about going, as she had fallen earlier in the year and sustained some damage to her back. However, our latest transportation is an Acura TSX and the bucket seats are extremely comfortable. This is the first vehicle I have owned where I have not gotten fidgety by the time I have driven for four hours and it was really a pleasure just to be behind the wheel. Upon arrival at the hotel, I enquired if they had any assistive devices for seniors and they very kindly found me a store that stocked such items and I was able to get Barbara a "rollator" so she could get around over the weekend.

After checking in, I went down to see about putting my exhibits up and needless to say, there were several members down in the hall doing the same thing. It was great to chat with Liz and Bob Hisey, Tim Bartshe and several other exhibitors that I had met in my travels. There did not seem to be as many dealers as I expected, but this appears to be an ongoing problem, with dealers doing more and more business through the internet. But I guess there will always be a few stalwarts that like to meet people at their table and chat while buying and selling.

After looking at what some of the dealers had to offer in the way of Rhodesia material, we looked for lunch and decided to make it in the room. When we travel, we take along a 'Koolatron' to carry the martinis and some meat, cheese and stuff so that we do not have to pay hotel prices for small meals. During the afternoon, some discussion occurred on getting together for dinner and since there was a restaurant within walking distance, that is where the group ended up and the food was pretty good, with a lively discussion to accompany the meal.

More time at the dealers on Saturday, with the PSGSA Board meeting at 12 and a general meeting at 2, with some interesting material to examine. The Critique was held from 4 to 5:30 and was pretty good, with lots of helpful comments from the Jury. Then on to the Awards Banquet, which was not really memorable. However, I managed to win a Gold and a Silver for my two exhibits, which was very pleasing and Tim took the Grand!

Sunday was pretty much the same. The weather over the weekend was not very good, but we drove out of it on Monday as we headed north and east on the way home over four days. Altogether it was a most enjoyable trip and show and it was good to hobnob with other PSGSA members.

Next up is the NTSS show in Denver from June 25th to 27th, but travel plans are not set yet. I do hope that everyone has a good summer and will maybe see some of you at the APS show in August!

Until next time.....

## Report from TEXPEX 2010



A small but active group of PSGSA members met in Dallas, Texas 16-18 April for the first meeting and exhibition since New York in 2007. Leading off with an informal dinner on Friday evening arranged by Ron Strawser, members and friends enjoyed a great weekend of fellowship and philately.

At the Saturday Board Meeting, the following actions were taken:

- David McNamee tabled the Treasurer's Report showing a projected small surplus for the year and a healthy balance sheet with assets of \$8,500, sufficient for a prudent reserve and enough to keep dues at present levels for the foreseeable future. The effect of taking Forerunners to color has been offset by a favorable printing contract and purchase of postage at a discount. Brian Denis continues to assist in the distribution of our journal in South Africa and neighboring countries at a savings of half of what it would cost to provide the journal directly.
- Ron Strawser asked to be relieved of the Secretary's position, and his resignation was accepted with regret. The Board appointed David McNamee as Secretary-Treasurer.
- Tim Bartshe was appointed by the Board as the Convention Coordinator. The next convention will be pan-African, hopefully attracting members of the West Africa and East Africa Study Circles to join with us in Denver at the Rocky Mountain Stamp Show in May 2015.

Discussions were also held covering the following topics:

- The need to push members to write for Forerunners and share their knowledge.
- Recognition that selling advertising in Forerunners was a way to keep dues low, and that we must be on the alert for those opportunities.
- The web site is a powerful resource, but its value is only increased when we provide the Web Master with suitable content. Content could include past articles from Forerunners, links to exhibits on line, lists of South African dealers, some of which get low exposure otherwise.

The Board Meeting was followed by a Membership Meeting in which Jack Harwood presented a talk on Southern African Postal Notes.

Throughout the show, a PSGSA table was maintained by Bob and Liz Hisey and Ron Strawser. It was a place for members to meet and chat and for nonmembers to learn about our society. A number of CDs were sold, as well as a set of the Orange Free State books by Hisey and Bartshe. Back issues of Forerunners were handed out along with applications for membership.

The results of the philatelic exhibition for Southern African exhibits were announced at the Saturday Awards Banquet:

*Tim Bartshe*, Orange Free State Republican Issues 1868-1900, Gold Medal + Grand Award, PSGSA Grand Award for Best Southern Africa Exhibit

*Tim Bartshe*, Reposted, Advertised and Unclaimed: How South Africa Republic Dealt with Undeliverable Mail from the 1890s to June 1900 [OFE], Gold Medal, Auxiliary Mark-

ings Club Award of Merit

*Christopher Dahle*, Rhodesia and Nyassaland Postage 1954-1964, Silver Bronze Medal

*Alan Hanks*, Rhodesia – British South Africa Company (BSAC) 1892-1925, Gold Medal

*Alan Hanks*, Southern Rhodesia 1924-1965, Silver Medal

*Bob Hisey*, The Official Overprints of South Africa 1925-1949, Gold Medal, APS Research Medal, PSGSA Award for Research and Personal Study

*Ron Strawser*, Transvaal Postal Stationery, Vermeil Medal

*Peter Thy*, The Postal Registration Envelopes of Bechuanaland, Gold Medal, PSGSA Award for Treatment, United Postal Stationery Marcus White Award

*Peter Thy*, Southern African Pioneers in World War 2 [OFE], Vermeil Medal, United Postal Stationery Single Frame Award

Members and the public were treated to a great display of Southern African material.



From the informal PSGSA dinner, from the left and clock-wise around the table is Barbara Hanks, Beth-el Strawser, Liz Hisey (just left the table to take the picture), David McNamee, Bob Hisey, Mike Nethersole (a judge and South African native), Ron Strawser, and finally Alan Hanks. Upper right shows better Bob, Mike, and Ron at the lower right corner of the table. Lower right is Grand Award winner Tim Barthse in front of his exhibit. It was said by an anonymous bypasser that he looked more like he was auditioning for a police line up than a Grand Award winner. Picture courtesy of Liz Hisey.

### Postmark Quiz: Upington

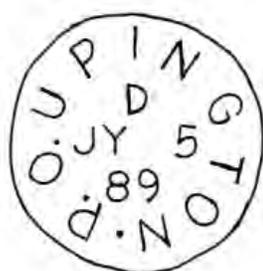
by Peter Lodoen

The town of Upington has belonged to three separate postal entities:

- British Bechuanaland
- Cape of Good Hope
- Union/Republic of South Africa

Where, more precisely, was Upington found (1)?

- Villander's Land
- Griqualand West
- Gordononia
- Namaqualand



Next question. Which numeral cancel was accorded to Upington (2)?

- 966
- 209
- 181
- 1003

And, for the unvanquished student of Southern African philately, which post offices employed the other three numeral cancels, those not associated with Upington (3)?

See answers below.

*Answers.* 1. Gordononia District. 2. BONGC 966. 3. Geluk, British Bechuanaland (181); Maribogo, British Bechuanaland (209); Lobatsi, Bechuanaland Protectorate (1003).

## Society Auction Manager

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

## London 2010

The recently held FIP stamp show in London is now over and our membership was quite well represented from showing off Southern Africa to other topics of philatelic interest. The Show Program was a well illustrated item with a wealth of information not just on the show schedule and exhibits/dealers, but on the show theme as well; King George V. The show medals were struck both obverse and reverse with the show logo and KGV (see lower right column). While there was no differentiation between medal levels, it is a smart looking award indeed. The following is a list of the members who were exhibitors, their titles and medal levels/points. Also listed are exhibits of area interest from non-members. The One Frame Exhibits were restricted to those dealing with issues of King George V. As you can see from the results, the membership did PSGSA proud (**society members are shown in red**)!

The Jury's Felicitations for Research:

- Timothy Bartshe**, United States  
Orange Free State Republican Postage Issues 1868-1900
- Robert Hisey**, United States  
The Official Stamps of South Africa, 1926-1950
- Peter van der Molen**, South Africa  
Swaziland: The King George V Essays and Proofs

Medals of Southern African exhibits included:

- Johnny Barth**, Denmark: Cape of Good Hope - the Prephilatelic Period, 93 Points, Gold
- Timothy Bartshe**, United States: Orange Free State Republican Postage Issues 1868-1900, 95 Points, Large Gold
- Harry Birkhead**, South Africa: Emergency Issues and Strikes of the Anglo-Boer War, 90 Points, Gold
- Christopher Board**, United Kingdom: Union of South Africa Commemorative Stamp, 1910: Design and Production, 90 Points, Gold
- Emil Bührmann**, South Africa: Cape of Good Hope 1864-1901. 90 Points, Gold

**Alan Drysdall**, United Kingdom: The Railway Pioneer Regiment and Imperial Military Railways, 86 Points, Large Vermeil

**Joseph Hackmey**, United Kingdom: Cape of Good Hope Triangulars. 95 Points, Large Gold

**Robert Hisey**, United States: The Official Stamps of South Africa, 1926-1950, 90 Points, Gold

**Brian Hurst**, United Kingdom: King George V Control Letters & Numerals on Stamps of Great Britain Overprinted for Use in the Bechuanaland Protectorate, 72 Points, Silver

**Keith Klugman**, United States: Classic Victorian Natal (1836-1879), 95 Points, Large Gold

**Ian Matheson**, South Africa: Union of South Africa - Official Overprints, 91 Points, Gold

**Emil Minnaar**, Postal Stationery of Gibraltar until 1938, 93 Points, Gold

**Peter van der Molen**, South Africa: Swaziland: The King George V Essays and Proofs [OFE], 91 Points, Gold

**Don Napier**, Study of Rhodesian Bi-Coloured Double Heads using the 3d Value, 73 Points, Silver

**John Pugsley**, Australia: Aspects of the Boer War 1899-1902, 88 Points, Large Vermeil

**Clive Sergay**, South Africa: Zululand 1879 to 1898, 93 Points, Gold

**Alan Uria**, South Africa: Rhodesian Double Heads 1910-1913, 87 Points, Large Vermeil





*Top left, Emil Bührmann from SA explaining his Cape of Good Hope 1864 – 1901 exhibit.*

*Top right, Richard Johnson and Alex Visser from SA and Robert Johnson (to the left) from GB listening to Emil Bührmann.*

*Midt left, Keith Klugman from USA explaining the finer details of classic Natal.*

*Midt right, Johnny Barth in front of his gold winning exhibit of Cape of Good Hope 1652 – 1853.*

*Bottom left, Main entrance to the exhibition hall.*

Photo courtesy, Johnny Barth.

	Large Gold	Gold	Large Vermeil	Vermeil	Large Silver	Silver	Silver Bronze	Bronze	Grand Total
Aerophilately	3	4	2	3					12
Literature	2	12	32	20	15	12	7	4	104
One Frame		5		6		9			20
Postal History	14	48	39	23	6				130
Revenue	2	2	8	1					13
Stationery	6	14	6	7	1	1			35
Thematic	6	12	15	4	3	2			42
Traditional	25	34	43	25	5	1			133
Youth				4	7	3	5	1	20
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>509</b>

An international exhibition are held in United Kingdom every 10 years. The 2010 exhibition thus made it possible to celebrate the anniversary of the first stamp of the world, which came in 1840. This year the exhibition was held in the Business Design Centre in Islington, with good connections to public transport.

There were a total of 1250 frames for the exhibits, but in the middle of the show all frames was renewed, so in practice the exhibition had 2500 frames. There was about 400 exhibits in all plus about 100 entries in the literature class. The competition was strong, and the result was 58 large gold, 131 gold, 145 large vermeil, 93 vermeil, and 72 awarded lower levels. A total of 15 exhibits showed material from the southern African area (see above list). It is interesting that of the 16 southern African exhibits, 20 % was awarded large gold and 47 % was awarded gold compared to 11 % and 26 %, respectively, for the exhibition as a whole. Thus the southern African exhibits as a whole did indeed very well at London 2010.

Johnny Barth and Tim Barthse provided most of the text for this summary. The table as well as the picture below are from Richard West's recent article in the London Philatelist (volume 119, pages 166-169, June 2010).



Brian Trotter (left), Chair of the London 2010 Exhibition, presents Alan Holyoake with the Grand Prix for his exhibit of the first line engraved stamps of Great Britain.

## Joburg 2010 International Stamp Exhibition

The Joburg 2010 International Stamp Show will be held from Wednesday, 27 October to Sunday, 31 October 2010 at the Sandton Convention Centre in Johannesburg. This is the first International Exhibition to be hosted by South Africa since the successful IIsapex International in 1998. Some 1,500 frames of competitive exhibits are anticipated.

The deadline for applications to exhibit passed in March, 2010. As of writing, no further news and information have appeared.



The two souvenir sheets issued to commemorate Joburg 2010.

## We Also Get Mail

Robert Weeden emails from Alaska (weeden@mosquitonet.com) to say "Thank you. I love the color journal packed with variety and great info! Keep up the fantastic work. I plan to submit some things on perkins when I get organized."

## New Membership Secretary

Ron Strawser has had to tender his resignation as secretary after many years of service to the society. The board accepted his resignation during TEXPEX and appointed David McNamee as the new membership secretary in addition to his current duty as treasurer. All membership matters should therefore in the future be addressed to David. Ron tells us that at least with how well the society convention during TEXPEX turned out, he feels that he went out with a high note. Thanks to Ron for his services to our society and the well orchestrated meeting during TEXPEX. However, he has not left us and has promised more often to contribute to the pages of Forerunners!

## Exchange Journals and Newsletters

In the last issue, we listed the journals we receive in exchange for Forerunners. We forgot two newsletters that we also receive in exchange on an electronic basis. These are:

*Magnify*, Royal Philatelic Society of Zimbabwe, Bulawayo. The last issue received is Whole Number 293, April 2010. Just imagine - 293 issues! *Newsletter of Mashonaland Philatelic Society*, Harare, Zimbabwe. The last issue that we have received was from May-June 2009. Included was a note saying that the Editor was resigning and that new issues were dependent on a new volunteer. Hopefully somebody will come forward.

Let the Editor know if you are aware of other local southern African societies that issue newsletters and would be interested in an electronic exchange agreement. The way it works is that the Editor places the new issue on a web page and email recipients the information on how to download.

## For the Collectors Only?

by Peter Thy

At first I had serious concern about the new joint SAPOA issue that was issued on April 9, 2010, by the nine partitioning countries (Namibia, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Swaziland, Botswana, Mauritius, Lesotho, and Zambia). I panicked because the first example of the souvenir sheet that I saw was similar to the example shown below. I had downloaded an image probably from eBay, but had forgotten the details. At first everything looked normal. But then a closer look revealed that the sheet was made up of nine different stamps, one for each of the participation countries denominated in the local currency

(the local postcard rate - I learned later). I searched the internet without finding anything similar. Then I was thinking about fraud, exploitation of collectors, computer geeks with too much spare time, and designer-printer stunt. My next step was to contact Uli Bantz in South Africa and Peter Jukes in Botswana. They at first responded - sorry don't know what you are talking about despite the attached image of the sheet. Peter Jukes in Botswana told me that a single-country sheet had been issued with nine different denominations. He also said that the nine stamps had been issued in regular sheet format.

But then Uli Bantz came back with more information, including the scan of the cover shown here cancelled in Windhoek, Namibia, on the first day of issue. The sheet is clearly the nine-country souvenir sheet that I was looking for. Then he provided a copy of a newsletter from the Windhoek Philatelic Society that showed the sheet and referred to it as "for collectors only" based on information from Namibia Post. It thus appears that at least Namibia had issued both souvenir sheets.

So potentially, there are nine single-country and one multi-country sheets, each with nine different stamps. In addition, there may be nine different regular sheet stamps from each of the nine countries. More next time.



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# Recent South African Air Letters

by Jan Stolk

Following the previous installment on postal stationery with the 2009 'Birds of Prey' issue, I would like to draw some attention on some preceding air letter issues.

In 2008 an air letter was issued depicting some South African wildlife in cartoon style (Figure 1). There are two printing dates and the color of the printings are slightly different:

2008.07.02 light green

2008.11.13 dark green

Between 2004 and 2007 several printings of an air letter depicting wild flowers were issued (Figure 2). The dates of these printings are:

2004.03.26

2005.06.23

2006.02.28

2007.04.18

2004.12.01

2005.11.17

2006.12.01

The first two printings both in 2004 differ from later issues as the bottom corners of the sheet is cut straight while later printings have rounded corners (Figure 3).

All printings have a phosphor band right to the stamp image, only with the first printing this band is in a white color.

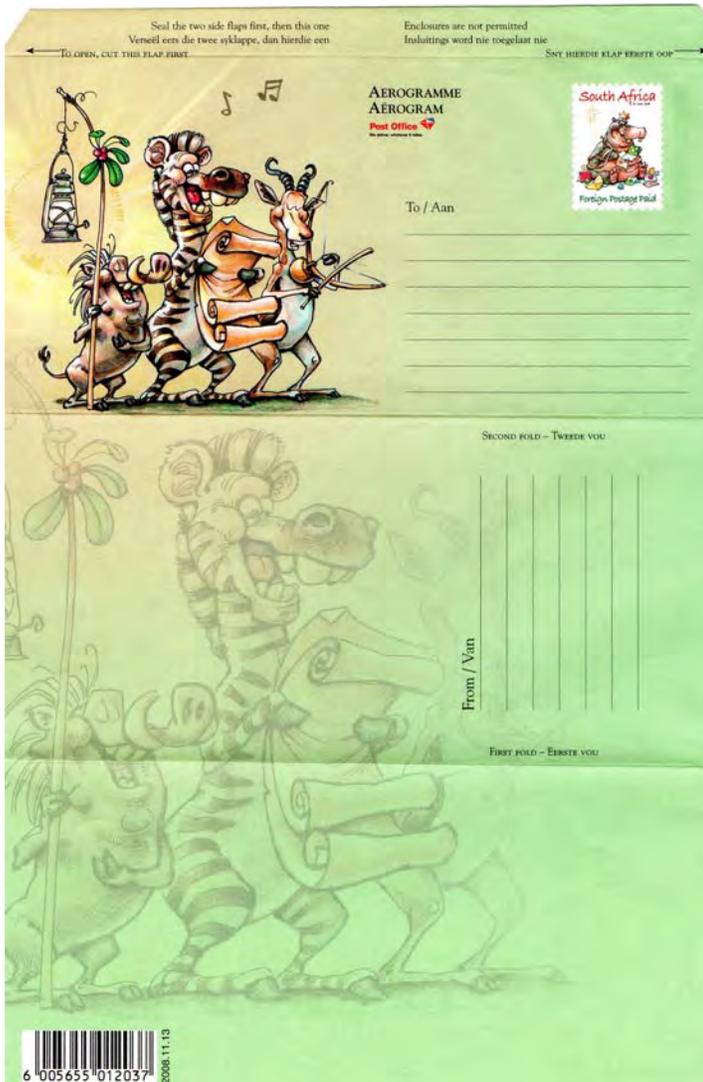


Figure 1.



Figure 2.



Figure 3.



Figure 4.

In 2006 a Christmas air letter was issued, printing date (Figure 4):  
2006.12.10

I was told that the same Christmas air letter was issued in the previous year, but I haven't seen a copy of one yet.

In 2004, an air letter called EASY LETTER was issued (Figure 5). This air letter is for tourists, has no space for writing a message (Figure 6), only a multiple choice possibility for a message. I tried to buy one at several major post offices but nobody had ever heard of this easy letter. My copy came from Philatelic Services, maybe the only one for sale at tourist centers.

Figure 5.



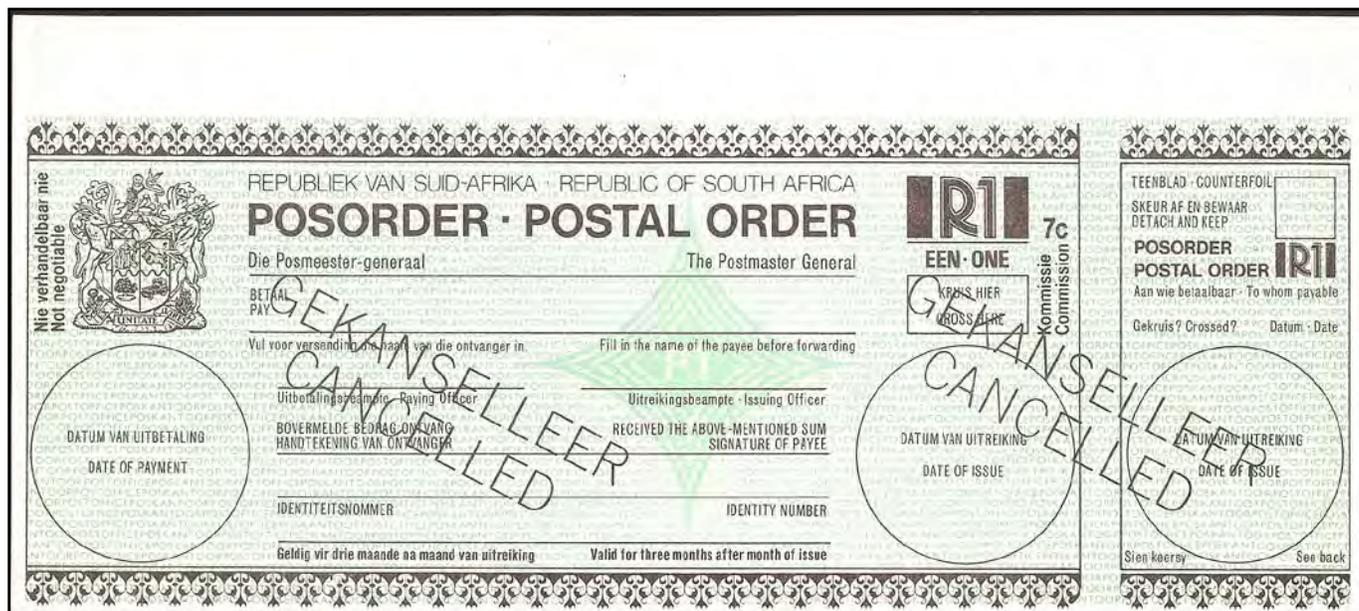
Figure 6.

# Training Postal Order or Essay?

by Jack Harwood

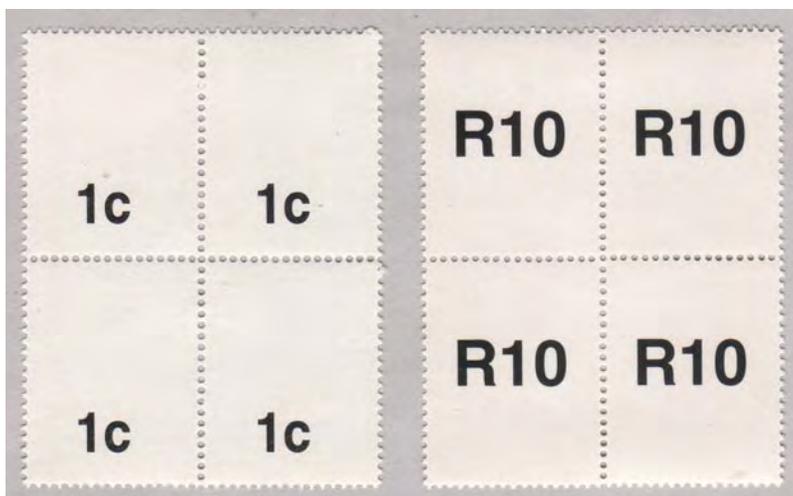
I purchased this R1 Postal Order from a vendor who had a number of “test notes” (banknotes). He believes it may have been used by the South African Post Office Training School. I have never seen a postal order of this design, and wonder whether anyone can confirm its usage by the training school. The other possibility is that it is an essay, an unaccepted design. The

item is on unwatermarked white paper, with light green underprint, a central PT logo, with machine printed CANCELLED. The reverse is blank. Any thoughts from members would be appreciated. Contact me via email at [jharwood2@comcast.net](mailto:jharwood2@comcast.net) and copy the Editor.



The Editor showed this note to *Franco Frescura* who responded: “Regrettably I know very little about postal orders and/or the training school. If this design reached a stage of production where they were making samples, I doubt that this is an essay. On the other hand, I also doubt that they would have gone to the trouble of producing a full-blooded example such as this one for the postal school and would probably have used a suitably defaced one instead, but then please understand postal

orders were a separate section of the post office from philately and stamp distribution, and I do not believe that they were ever invited to submit design proposals for any such thing. In my experience this domain was jealously kept closed to other sections of the post office and probably would have involved the post office bank or savings section and might even have involved the treasury. Sorry I can’t be of any further assistance.”



We can illustrate a couple of South African training school stamps. They were quite simple with only the basic elements present. For let us face it, all a postal clerk needs to know about stamps are their denominations, how to separate stamps among their perforations, and finally how to lick the gum and to paste them unto paper. All the required elements are there: denomination, perforation, and gum on the reverse. The two stamps shown here are part of a set of 30 stamps with denominations between 1c and R10. The set probably dates to or slightly after 1993, when the first R10 stamp was issued as part of a definitive series.

# Posted Out of Course Tax Markings, Part 2

by Jan Stolk

In this instalment the listing of 'posted out of course' markings is continued.

We now see that the Afrikaans 'onreelmatig gepos' is translated by 'irregularly posted'. These markings WF 27, WF 34, WF 37 and WEF 38 are found on Fastmail postal items which have been posted in the normal mailbox instead of handed in at a post office counter. Some of these items are cancelled with a Paid-Betaal cancel on arrival, indicating that the deficiency was paid.

WF42 is a label on yellow paper with the text::

### CAUTION

Letters and packets containing currency, blank postal orders or valuables as jewellery, watches etc. must be registered or insured and postal articles, the covers of which have been marked

for registration or insurance, must be handed in at a post office counter and NOT posted in a posting box.

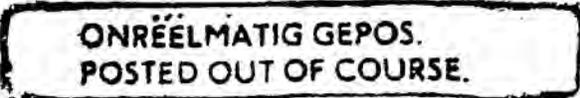
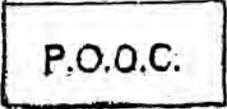
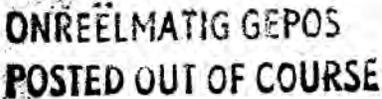
This ..... has been Registered/insured and surcharged..... Because it contains.....and was posted in a posting box contrary the regulations. P.T. 1182--1977-78

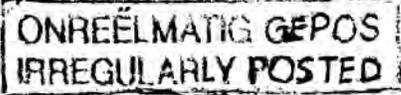
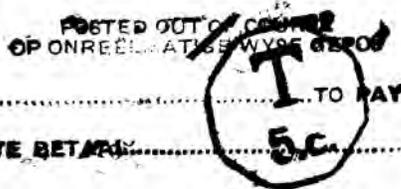
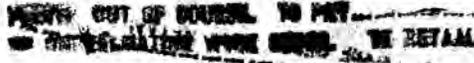
More postage due labels will be listed in one of the next instalments. Again some of the markings are of poor quality and I hope readers will be able to help me with clear copies of these markings. I would like to thank Werner K.Seeba and Johan Diesveld for their continuing support.



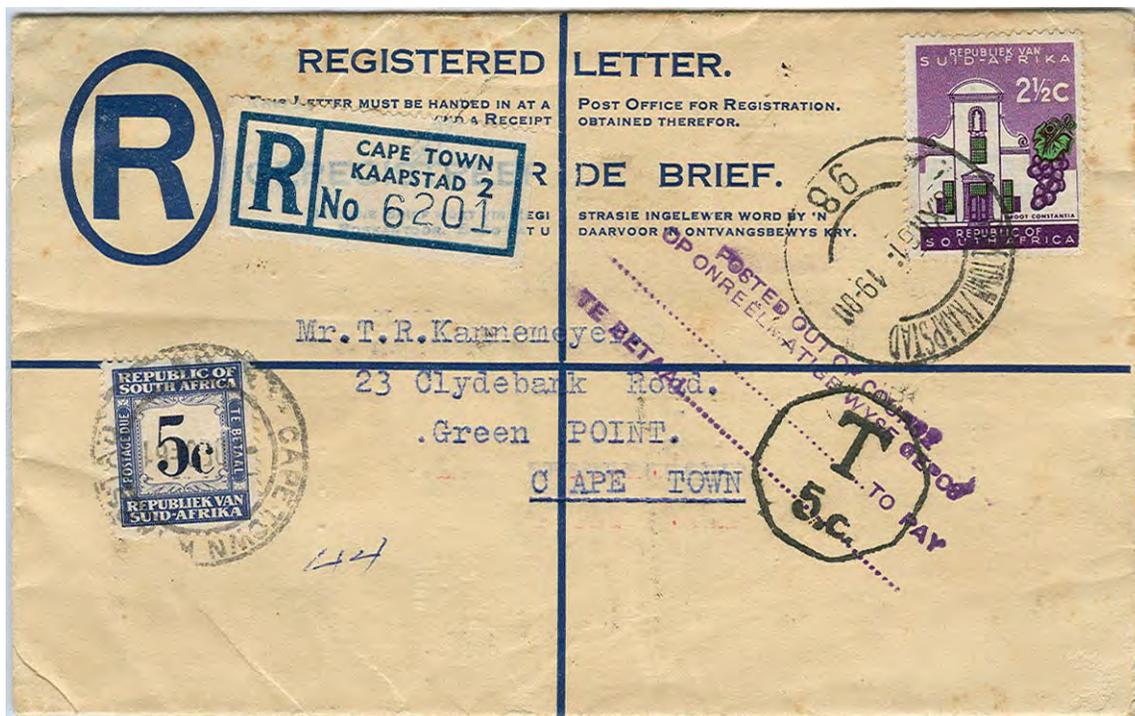
WF 36



P.D.MARKING	SIZE	USED AT	EARLIEST DATE	LATEST DATE
 WF25	35 x 12 mm black	Durban	19 aug. 1902	
 WF26	82 x 14 mm red	Pretoria	1-may-84	13-mar-89
 WF27	50 x 9 mm maroon	Pretoria	1-may-97	
 WF28	71 x 10 mm red	Worcester	07-nov-81	
 WF29	31 x 15 mm red	Umtata	10-jan-96	
 WF30	52 x 12 mm red	Boksburg	04-apr-82	

P.D.MARKING	SIZE	USED AT	EARLIEST DATE	LATEST DATE
BUITEKOERS GEPOS POSTED OUT OF COURSE WF31	53 x 10 mm purple	Pretoria	27-apr-84	
 WF32	77 x 22 mm red	Vereeniging	25-jul-82	25-nov-88
IRREGULARITY OBSERVED AND REPORTED ONREELMATIGHEID OPGEMERK EN GERAPPORTEER WF33	85 x 9 mm red	Johannesburg	?	
 WF34	57 x 14 mm purple	Capemail	25-jan-00	
 WF35	58 x 20 mm dark blue	Capetown	06-dec-61	
 WF36	82 x 7 mm purple	Durban	12-apr-58	

P.D.MARKING	SIZE	USED AT	EARLIEST DATE	LATEST DATE
<p><b>IRREGULARLY POSTED</b> <b>ONREELM</b></p> <p>WF37</p>	<p>37 x 9 mm</p> <p>purple</p>	Queenstown		
<p><b>ONREELMATIC GEPOS</b> <b>IRREGULARLY POSTED</b></p> <p>WF38</p>	<p>50 x 10 mm</p> <p>red</p>	Pretoria	19-jun-97	
<p>POSTED OUT OF COURSE TO PAY BUITEN DEKORSERS GEPOST TE BETALEN.</p> <p>WF39</p>	<p>62 x 22 mm</p> <p>black</p>	Capetown	15-aug-38	11-mar-49
<p>POSTED OUT OF COURSE ONREELMATIC WYSE GEPOS <b>75€</b> TO PAY TE BETALEN.</p> <p>WF40</p>	<p>64 x 22 mm</p> <p>purple</p>	Capetown	02-aug-67	
<p>POSTED OUT OF COURSE ONREELMATIC WYSE GEPOS <b>10G</b></p> <p>WF41</p>	<p>62 x 33 mm</p> <p>red label</p>	Capetown	17-jan-75	
<p><b>CAUTION</b> Letters and packets containing currency, blank postal orders or valuables such as jewellery, watches, etc. must be registered or insured and postal articles the covers of which have been marked for registration or insurance, must be handed in at a post office counter and NOT posted in a posting box. This ..... has been registered/insured and surcharged ..... because it contains ..... and was posted in a posting box contrary to the regulations. P.T. 1182—1977-78</p> <p>WF42</p>	<p>50 x 40 mm</p> <p>yellow</p>	Ladysmith N.	15-jan-94	



WF 35



WF 34

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# Cape of Good Hope Perforated Departmentals

by Werner Seeba

In 1906, the Cape Government's Printing and Stationery Department adopted a system of perforating in connection with stamps used by their Department on foreign mail matter. The stamps so used were passed through a perforation machine and a design consisting of 11 round holes in the form of two triangle, having their common apexes meeting at the center hole, was punched. Definite information as to all denominations of stamps so treated is not available, but the following have been seen: 1d, 2d, 3d, 4d, 1s and 5s.



## Censored Orange Free State Postcard

by Hennie Taljaard and Tim Barthse



*Hennie Taljaard writes:* Recently at the local stamp fair I acquired the attached item. Posted at Ficksburg it seems to have been carried to Natal via Bloemfontein (on the back is a circular datestamp of "Bloemfontein, O.V.S, 28 Nov 1899") and presumably the Transvaal & Delgoa Bay.

Would the reason for sending it via Delgoa Bay be the Boer War?

I am also curious to know about the use of the purple P.M.G cachet. I was hoping somebody could shed some light on the reason it was applied to the cover?

*Tim Barthse comments:* What you have is a very nice example of the censoring organ of the Orange Free State prior to Bloemfontein falling to the British in March 1900. Very early on there was no setup for censorship, then a special double edge blue

cancel of "Kantor van den Postmeester Generaal O.V.Staat" applied to mail in early November then this oval cachet. It is found in blue, violet/purple and black. The route would have been as you say from Ficksburg via Bloemfontein and then usually up north via Pretoria and onto the rail line to Delagoa Bay and back down to Durban. Are there any indications of censorship for Natal? I am not really up on the censoring of the British forces/colonies so don't know exactly what they did and when, though much mail was refused and returned early on from Natal. The rate is proper at 1½d for non-UPU countries as opposed to the ½d that the South African Postal Union set up in 1898. Nice card and very nice and clear strike of the PMG cachet. Probably somewhere around hundred or so example are around, based upon what I own and I have seen, but maybe twice as many as that on cards, mainly, but letters as well.

# A Cover Brings the Past Alive

by Hans Ulrich Bantz

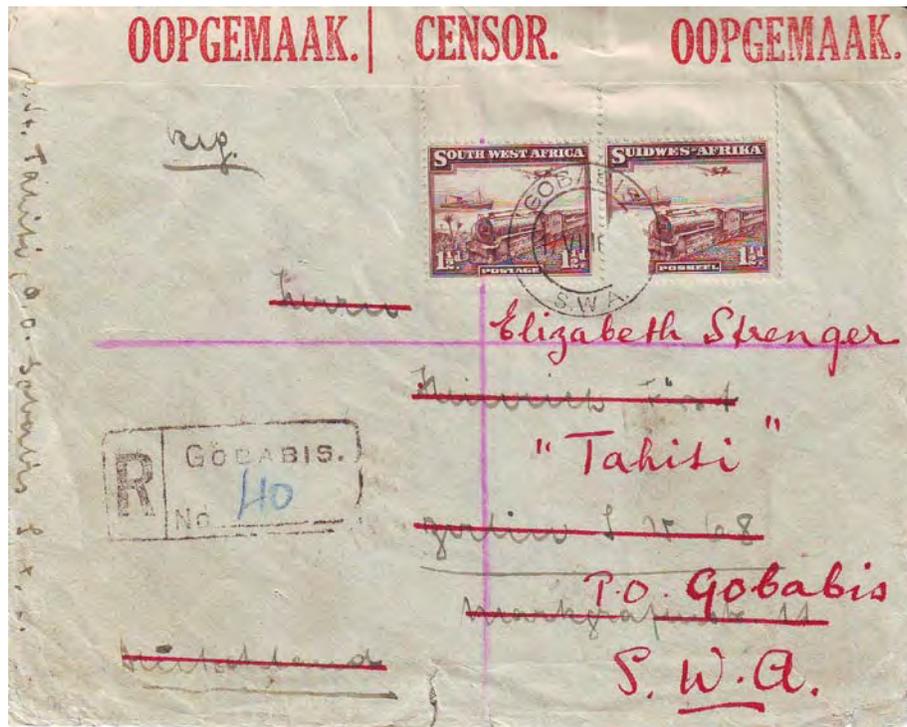


Figure 1.

While rummaging through my office stuff I came across this rather tattered registered cover sent from Gobabis on 17 VIII 1939. Why does this cover bring the past alive? Go back in time and follow my imagination:

August 1939: The Farm Tahiti (Nr. 61 in the Gobabis District), about 60 minutes South of Gobabis on the C20 - the Gobabis - Leonardville - Aranos road along the edge of the Kalahari.

The sender 'E. St.' seals an envelope and franks it with a pair of the 1½d (SCOTT 110) stamps issued in 1937 as additional values to the 1931 "First Pictorials" to make up the 3d postage for a one ounce surface letter to Mr. Heinrich Fürst in Berlin / Germany. 'E. St.' decides to register the letter (Fig. 1) as rumours of an imminent war might have reached the farm. He / she puts the registration fee of 4d in the form of a vertical strip of three 1d stamps of the 'First Pictorials' (SCOTT 109) and a vertical pair of the ½d "250th Anniversary of the landing of the Huguenots", issued one month earlier on July 17, 1939 (SCOTT B9), on the back of the cover (Fig. 2) and puts it on a letter scale. Oops - it is slightly more than one ounce and needs an additional 1½d to avoid postage due. As he/she or Mr. Fürst are stamp collectors, a pair of the 1d 'Huguenot issue' (SCOTT B10) is pasted on thus forfeiting ½d to the post office. The letter is handed in on Aug. 17, 1939 and duly registered as shown by the Gobabis rubber 'R' cachet with the number 40 handwritten in blue. The stamps are cancelled with the GÖBABIS S.W.A. handstamp, later to be listed by Putzel as B4 with a remark "Seen since 1944" (1939 becomes thus a new first date

seen). The cover is posted and starts his journey to Berlin, first by train to Windhoek and from there by train to Cape Town to catch a mail steamer.

September 1939: Before the cover can leave Africa, Britain and France declare war on Germany on Sept. 3, 1939, just two and a half weeks after the posting at Gobabis. It is now held back. Later a 'Censor' opens the cover and seals it again with the 'U. C. 8 (GROOT) DEUR SENSOR.OPGEMAAK / OPENED BY CENSOR label. He strikes through Mr. Fürst's address details and, as he most probably established from the content of the letter, that 'E. St.' is Elizabeth Strenger readdresses the cover in red ink to "Tahiti" P.O. Gobabis S.W.A.

The addition of S.W.A. to the address indicates to me that the cover must have been censored in Cape Town and returned to Gobabis via Windhoek, backstamped with the "WINDHOEK R.L.S. canceller (Putzel B 69) on 14 IV A 40. It arrived at Gobabis on 15 IV 40, eight months after it was handed in.

1939-1940: During the time the cover left Gobabis and came back, the German forces overran Poland. Simultaneously the Soviet Union occupied Eastern Poland and invaded the Baltic States. The occupation of Norway and Denmark by Germany had begun and the preparation for the invasion of France via Belgium and the Netherlands had started. South Africa had at the beginning of World War II a short political crisis. The then Prime Minister J. B. M. Hertzog refused to join Britain in the war. He was defeated in Parliament and gave way to Jan Smuts. South Africa declared war on Germany on Sept. 6, 1939; three days after Britain had done so. Mail services between the

Union of South Africa to Germany and Poland were officially suspended as from Nov. 1, 1939 (Union P. O. Circular No. 114 of 30.10.1939). The time in transit represented by this tattered cover from August 17, 1939 till its return to Gobabis on April

15, 1940 is thus a document of the period of intense human and political tremor and can be used as a remind of events that happened during my own lifetime.



Figure 2.



The General Post Office, St. Martins le Grand, London.

# Art, Reminiscences, and a Postage Stamp

by Hans Ulrich Bantz



Fig. 1. "After the Rain" or "Bush Veld Landscape". The scene depicted on South West Africa's 4cent stamp, issued together with four other stamps on May 1, 1973 (Fig.2) under the heading "Paintings by Adolph Jentsch" (see SCOTT Nos. 338 to 342).

While still sorting the mess stuffing my office, I looked again through the catalogue from the Stephan Welz auction sale No 0709 of "Decorative and Fine Arts", held in October 2007. Amongst the paintings offered was Lot 423: a water colour measuring 19 by 27.5 centimetres, signed by Adolph Jentsch, dated 1953 (Fig. 1).

"After the Rain" or "Bush Veld Landscape". The scene depicted on South West Africa's 4 cent stamp, issued together with four other stamps on May 1, 1973 (Fig. 2) under the heading "Paintings by Adolph Jentsch" (see SCOTT Nos. 338 to 342).

My wife and I were neighbours of "Meister Jentsch" in 1972, while we were living in a caravan on the farm Brack No. 83 in the Windhoek District. The farm is crossed by the road branching off from Kapps Farm towards Dordabis and beyond. Hermann Steyn, the then Director of Pretoria's Philatelic Services visited Mr. Jentsch in those days and selected five Jentsch paintings he wanted to reproduce on stamps to be issued on the occasion of the artist's 85th birthday. Mr. Jentsch told us when he visited us and we had tea after Mr. Steyn's visit that Mr Steyn did not use a magnifying glass to look at his paintings, but a "Verkleinerungs" (reducing) glass to find out which of his art work could be minimized and reproduced on a stamp.

The reproduction on stamps of the five Jentsch paintings selected made philatelic history in South Africa and South West

Africa for two reasons: it was the first time

- a) that paintings were shown on stamps printed by the Pretoria Government Printer and
- b) they were also the first stamps for which the Government printer used the planography printing process.

The enlarged 4 cent stamp proves that the picture on the stamp matches nearly perfectly the colours used in creating the original. The miniature painting on the stamp is indeed an aesthetic delight.

The painting offered at the auction was estimated at R 7000 to 10 000. It sold for R20 000 plus 10 %. The mint 4 d stamp is valued by the 2010/11 South African Colour Catalogue at R3.00, by the 2008 SCOTT Catalogue at US\$ 1.40 and in the latest Michel catalogue at Euro-2.00. A total of 1,250,000 stamps in sheets of 100 of the 4 cent value, that was then the inland letter rate, were printed.

Adolph Jentsch was a German / Namibian artist, born near Dresden in 1888. He died in Windhoek, Namibia (formerly South West Africa) in 1977. He studied at the Dresden Staatssakademie für Bildende Künste (Dresden Art Academy, today's College of Fine Arts) for six years, and used a travel grant award to visit France, Italy, UK, and The Netherlands. Jentsch moved to Namibia in 1938 to escape the approaching war and lived there until his death.



Fig. 2. The 4 cent stamp.

He travelled extensively in Namibia and eventually settled on the farm Brack, where we parked our caravan, near Dordabis, about 60km from Windhoek. His art is closely connected with the SWA/ Namibia landscape which served as an expression of his emotions that were influenced by oriental philosophies and Chinese art. He was particularly attached to 'space'. The painting on the 4 cent stamp is a good example for his gift to capture the vastness of Namibia's landscape on an early morning on paper.

A personal reminiscence: the right hand peak piercing the horizon on the painting is called the Gauchab (Fig. 3), a mountain in the Khomas Highlands range. In 1972, while working as a geologist in this area, we were prospecting for base minerals. To check for the presence of any mineralisation within the

Gauchab, we dismantled a diamond drill and manhandled it up to close to the top of the mountain that is made up by pre-Cambrian serpentinite with granitic dyke intrusions. The borehole drilled right through the mountain did not encounter any economically worthwhile mineralisation. The Gauchab was thus saved from having the same fate as the copper-bearing "Green Hill" once found at Tsumeb or the Appalachia mountain tops that are removed by coal mining.

Sources:

- Levinson, O. (1973): Adolph Jentsch. – Cape Town.
- Roos, N. (1978): Art in South-West Africa. – Chapter 5: Adolph Jentsch and the South-West African landscape. - Pretoria.

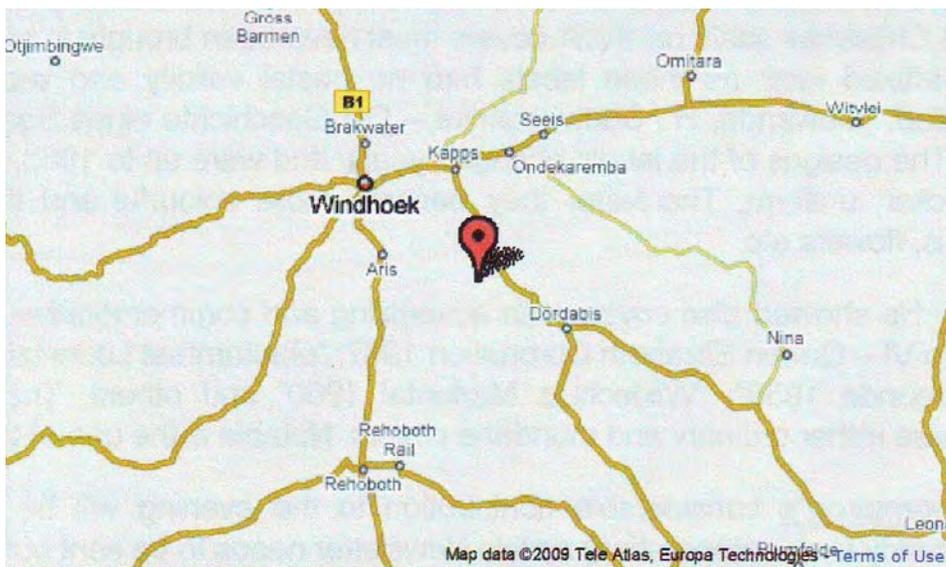


Fig. 3. Location of the Gauchab Mountain in the Khomas Highlands.

## For the Record

99. **Grosvenor** has sold the **John Forrest Collection of Cancellations of the British Empire** on May 19, 2010. It contained over 600 lots and was very strong in southern Africa.
100. **Stanley Gibbons** has released a complete archive edition of **Gibbons Stamp Monthly** from 1890-2009 on DVD. It is said to contain over 40,000 pages and is fully searchable. Price is given at about £120.
101. **Chris Rainey** has announced the eminent opening of his website for Postal History at <http://www.chrisrainey.com/>. He says that "This website is under construction and will be available in the next few weeks. If you collect Postal History from British Colonies, keep looking, as this will be the site for you!"
102. **Steve Drewett** has distributed a direct sales list of 'Specialised Stamps and Postal History of British Commonwealth'. Contact Steve by email at [empirestampauctions@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:empirestampauctions@yahoo.co.uk) to get on his mailing list. Steve Drewett also organizes **Empire Stamp Auctions** from Thornton Lodge, Stanshall Lane, Felton, North Somerset, United Kingdom BS40 9UG. UK.
103. **Stephan Welz** completed their 'Postage Stamps, Postal History, Coins, and Banknotes' auction on May 26, 2010. Included were some early pre-stamped Cape of Good Hope wrappers, like this one:



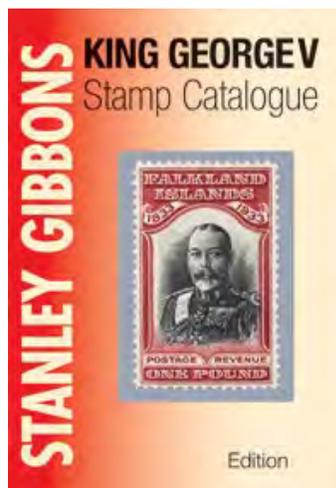
Ca. 1795 VOC wrapper undated addressed to Martin Eckhard at the 'Cabo de Goede Hoop' with talismanic inscription at lower left 'Met Vriend'....'Die God Gelyden', a 6 stuiver VOC h/s at top right.

104. **Prestige Philately** has sold the **John Williams Collection of King Edward VII** on auction May 6, 2010. Go to <http://www.prestigephilately.com/> for more information on forthcoming auctions and the King Edward VII auction.
105. **Clinton Goslin** occasionally releases auction lists with strong southern African representation. The lists are available via email. Contact him to get on his mailing list by writing to [goslin@lantic.net](mailto:goslin@lantic.net).



Pen and ink drawing of KEVII facing to the right and initialized "EF" at the lower right. The Fuchs portrait - reversed, facing to the left - was utilized for the Edwardian stamps of Great Britain and many of the Crown Colonies. Sold at the May 2010 Prestige Philately auction.

106. Another South African dealer that occasionally releases auction list as email attachments are **Paul van Zyl**. Contact him to get on his mailing list by writing to [paulvz@mweb.co.za](mailto:paulvz@mweb.co.za).



107. **Stanley Gibbons** was very active during London 2010. Among their achievements were the launch of an archive edition of Gibbons Stamp Monthly on DVD, construction of the worlds largest mailed envelope of Guinness book fame,

and the release of a new King George V catalogue.

**108. The Philatelic Collections of the British Library** has launched a new expanded **philatelic rarities online** gallery in connection with London 2010. Several Orange Free State, Transvaal, and Cape of Good Hope rarities are include and are absolutely worth checking out on <http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/onlineex/philrar/>.

## New Books

- IO, 2010. Bulletin of the Indian Ocean Study Circle 1970-1991. Whole Nos. 1 to 70. PDF files with full text search on CD.
- Stanley Gibbons, 2010. King George V Catalogue. Stanley Gibbons, London.
- Gledhill, J.M., 2010. Directory of Overprinted British Postal Orders with Historical Introduction by Richard Solly. Published by the Postal Order Society and the Great Britain Overprints Society.

## Highlights From Journals and Newsletters

- Allison, B. and Johnson, R., 2010. OFS to Germany via CGH and UK. Taxed combination covers and UPU accounting arrangements. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal 14, 29-32.
- Barth, J., 2010. CGH: two ways to Finland from Cape Town. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal 14, 1-2.
- Briscoe, A., 2010. The mystery of Paarl. South African Philatelist 86, 6-7.
- Coop, B., 2010. An update on the B.C.A. overprints on the BSA Company stamps. Journal Rhodesian Study Circle whole no. 234, 28-30.
- Dickson, J., 2010. The Union Company's Atlantic service, 1872-1876: Part 4. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal 14, 36-48.

- Drysdall, A., 2010. The 1932 2d and 3d 'large falls' stamps of Southern Rhodesia. Journal Rhodesian Study Circle whole no. 234, 37-42.
- Fernbank, P., 2010. De La Rue sheet numbering. London Philatelist 119, 133-143.
- Harrop, K., 2010. 1953/54 Southern Rhodesia – United Kingdom 1/4d air mail rate. Journal Rhodesian Study Circle whole no. 234, 26-27.
- Hickman, P., 2010. Some observations about '1864' Cape barred oval numeral cancellers used on BSAC. Journal Rhodesian Study Circle whole no. 234, 30-34.
- Hurst, B., 2010. Provisional overprints on 1/2d. Cape of Good Hope stamp issued 27th December 1888 (one-frame exhibit). Runner Post whole no. 77, 1933-1948.
- Johnson, R. and Allison, R., 2010. The UPU status of CGH, OFS, and ZAR (Transvaal). Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal 14, 33-35.
- Lambert, D., 2010. World Council of Young Men's Service Clubs. Journal Rhodesian Study Circle whole no. 234, 43-44.
- Laubscher, L., 2010. Kisumu crash covers. South African Philatelist 86, 8-9.
- Stanford, T., 2010. British Bechuanaland overprints on CGH rectangular. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal 14, 23-25.
- Stroud, R., 2010. The application of martial law and its effect on the mails especially in Cape Colony from October 1899. Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal 14, 5-13.
- Thy, P., 2010. Postal stationery views and news - 11. Runner Post whole no. 77, 1911-1918.
- Woolgar, J., 2010. Propaganda cartoon picture postcards published by Knight Brothers relating to the Chinese labour experiment in the Transvaal – Joseph Chamberlain. Transvaal Philatelist 45 18-19.
- Woolgar, J. and Matthews, J., 2010. Gebruder Senf, stamp facsimiles and contrived postal stationery cards. Transvaal Philatelist 45 13-15.

## Forerunners Forum

### Questions, Comments, and Answers

#### Bechuanaland Protectorate Postmarks

The May 2010 Argyll Etkin sale of the Dave Wessely Bechuanaland collection included this strip of five 2d 1888 'Protectorate' overprinted British Bechuanaland stamps. It was offered as lot 654, estimated £3,200-3,000, but was not sold.

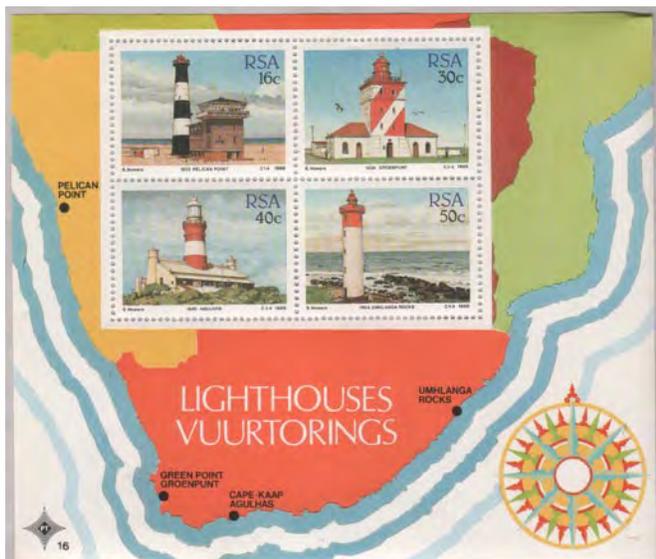
In August 1888, John Moffat established a runner post between Mafeking and Bulawayo to support his diplomatic mission. Cancellers were provided to the post offices on the route inscribed 'BECHUANALAND.' In order to avoid offending Matabele Chief Lobangula who claimed the right to the Tati district, the Tati and Gubulawayo cancellers were after only one day modified by removing 'BECHUANALAND.' The full cancellers for Tati and Gubulawayo are thus only known used AUG



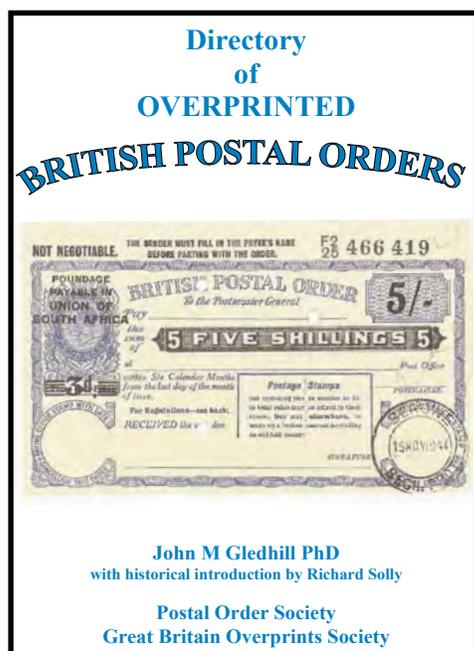
21 88, as seen here. The other cancellers for Shoshong, Molepolole, and Kanye were used for several years, but with the AUG 22 date stamp they are only known on loose stamps. In 1998, the strip shown here (together with another strip of four stamps) were discovered in an old collection. The strip shows datestamps for all the offices with 'BECHUANALAND' apparently applied at a central location before any of the stamps reached their destinations. This raises the question whether the unmodified cancellers ever were used at Tati and Gubulawayo. The strip was applied by favor probably in Vryburg of Mafeking. The earliest Bechuanaland cancelled-to-order stamps!

## Pelican Point Lighthouse

Uli Bantz has send a South African souvenir sheet from 1988, which shows the Pelican Point lighthouse discussed in last issue (upper right stamp).



## Book Reviews



**Directory of Overprinted British Postal Orders** by John M. Gledhill with Historical Introduction by Richard Solly. Published by the Postal Order Society and the Great Britain Overprints Society, 2010. Order from Tony Stanford, P.O. Box 2675, Maidenhead SL6 9ZN, UK; email: gbos@talk21.com. Write for price, mailing expenses, and payment information.

Some members may already have picked up information about the new book just published jointly by the GB Overprints Society and the Postal Order Society. It details all information

about 830 items which have come to our attention in the last 5 years, consisting of GB Postal Orders overprinted for use in 68 countries including: South Africa, Bechuanaland, Lesotho, Transvaal, Rhodesias (North, South, R&N, Zambia), Nigerias (Nigeria, Southern Nigeria), Malawi, Nyasaland, Gambia, Ghana, "East Africa", Tanganyika, Sierra Leone. These are often very scarce. Many stamp collectors of these countries also like to collect the postal orders as part of the full postal picture, so this is an excellent "cross-over" study between GB Overprint stamps and postal orders. The order on the front page is a truly unique item: the underlying GB postal order is incredibly rare, add to that that it was overprinted for use in South Africa, and then add to that that it was used in Bechuanaland! The soft-bound book has 144 pages including 8 full colour plates which show all or part of 55 of the items.

**South African Airmail. History & Development of Airmail Services in South Africa**, volume 1, by Barry Smith, Peninsula Publishers, Simond's Town, South Africa.

This is a live talk & slideshow of 128 pages of a great collection of South African Airmail, on DVD. Total running time 45 minutes, with background music. The display shows the development of airmail services within South Africa from the early years and later, it's connection to the world and continues up to the end of World War 2. It shows covers from 1911 to 1945, including many rare and scarce covers. It is available for US\$16.00 plus \$6.00 postage, from Peninsula Publishers, Volker Janssen, PO Box 404, Simon's Town 7995, South Africa, email: info@peninsulapublishers.com, Fax: 0027 21 786 2468.

Ken Sanford

## The Editor's Most Urgent Wantlist

It is a constant struggle to fill the pages of Forerunners. The problem is not so much feature articles and the regular columns. The problem is more the smaller items related to news from the collecting community, stamps issues, significant auctions, books and books reviews, major articles in other journals, and development in the postal services covering southern Africa. Also needed are reports of changes of addresses and email, requests for help with research projects, requests for the free membership adds, and simple or complex questions for our expert panel. In fact it is a long time since the editor has received a letter or email that was not solicited. Even correspondences with complaints and corrections to an article are rare occurrences. It cannot be that everything written and shown in Forerunners is perfect and that nobody has better and unknown covers and new information. Please let the letter and emails come. Forerunners is for you - the reader.

## Society Publications

- Hisey and Bartshe, 2003. *Philately of the Orange Free State*, Vol. 1, *The Postage Stamps*. Hardbound, 280 pages in full color, \$35 plus \$5 s/h in the US, plus \$10 elsewhere by air.
- Hisey and Bartshe, 2004. *Philately of the Orange Free State*, Vol. 2, *The Telegraphs*. Hardbound, 250 pages in full color, \$35 plus \$5 s/h in the US, plus \$10 elsewhere by air.

Hisey and Bartshe, 2009. *Philately of the Orange Free State*, Vol. 3. Hardbound, 205 pages in full color, \$35 plus \$5 s/h in the US, plus \$10 elsewhere by air.

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

Taylor, Robert. *Early Postal Services of the Cape of Good Hope* PSGSA Exhibit Series (CD-ROM). \$15 pp.

Lodoen, Peter. *Accepted - Rejected: Life of a Botswana Stamp Designer*. \$25 full color print, \$10 on CD-ROM. Postage paid.

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

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

## The Market Place

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

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

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

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

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

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

**South West Africa postal stationery.** I am seeking pre-1969 items. Please send offer to Jan Stolk, Waterhoenlaan 24, B-9120 Melsele, Belgium; [janstolk@belgacom.net](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 95617-3112 or email [thy@kronestamps.dk](mailto:thy@kronestamps.dk).

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

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

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

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

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

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Bechuanaland Protectorate newspaper wrapper made by combining four individual 1888 British Bechuanaland wrappers for the 3d foreign newspaper rate. Mailed from Gaberones to Switzerland on June 25, 1896, with a Palla Road return address.

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# THE RARE AND UNUSUAL

Waterlow & Sons Ltd. 'specimen' proof of BSAC 1898 'Arms' 2/6d. value



In common with many other stamp printers of the period, Waterlow & Sons Ltd. prepared proofs of the values of an intended stamp series. After approval was obtained and a master die proof prepared, the printer sometimes made a few proof pulls and applied the company name with 'specimen'. These were often used as advertising for the quality of the work that the company was capable of performing. There were three proofs from the issue shown above listed in the sale of the Sinton collection at Harmer's on December 5th, 1955; ½d in lake, 3d in blue and 2/6d in bistre, but no dimensions were provided. In the sale of the Simpson collection at Sotheby's on December 3rd, 1982, the same three values were included, but this time the dimensions were given and an illustration of the ½d value provided. The dimensions of the 2/6d value were 47 x 94 mm, with die 2328 struck from the reverse. In the sale at Christie's of the Birkead collection on June 10th, 1986, another 2/6d proof was included, with dimensions given as 60 x 122 mm and die 2328 in reverse. In a Gibbons All-World sale on June 17-20, 1986, the illustrated proof was included with dimensions 58 x 100 mm, also with die 2328 on the reverse. No further similar proofs have appeared to date, thus indicating that possibly only three examples exist.