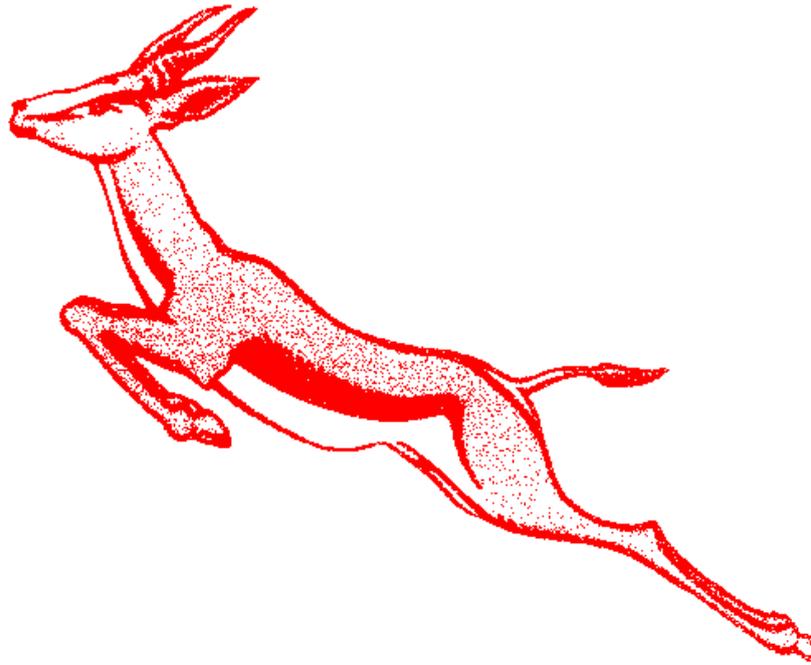


THE SPRINGBOK



**SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY
QUARTERLY**

Vol. 56

No. 3

Jul/Sep 2008

HARMERS
ESTABLISHED 1918
Philatelic Auctioneers, Experts and Valuers

South African stamps feature regularly in Harmers specialized "All World" Auctions.

For further information on buying and selling opportunities contact Dominic Savastano at the address below.

Harmers, No. 11, 111 Power Road, Chiswick, London W4 5PY
Tel: 020 8747 6100 Fax: 020 8996 0649
auctions@harmers.demon.co.uk www.harmers.com



SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY

Hon. Life Members (since inception in 1947)	Eric Sherwood†, Reg Allent†, Jack Hagger†, Bill Branney, John Shaw, Fred Clark†
--	---

President	Vacant	
Hon. Chairman	Sqn. Ldr. J.L. Shaw 17 Balcaskie Rd., London SE9 1SQ	Tel: (020) 8378 1671 e-mail: john.shaw@PGEN.net
Hon. Secretary	C. Oliver 46 Woodville Road, Ham, Richmond Surrey, TW10 7QN	Tel: (020) 8940 9833 e-mail: olivers.of_ham@virgin.net (note dot after olivers)
Hon Treasurer	D.J. Osborn 77 Stuart Road, Southend-on-Sea Essex, SS2 5JS	Tel: (01702) 611 337
Hon. Editor	E. Bridges 2 Short Lane Thorpe Malsor Northamptonshire NN14 1JT	Tel: (01536) 515200 e-mail: aebridges@ukonline.co.uk or e.bridges@krohne.com (for large files)
Hon Assistant Editor and Covers Exchange Superintendent	M. Whitlock 215 High Street Marske by the Sea Cleveland TS11 7LN	Tel: (01642) 482 877 e-mail: max.whitlock@ntlworld.com (note dot after "x!")
Hon Postal Auctioneer and Packets exchange Superintendent	W.J. Branney 19 The Lilacs Orgill, Egremont Cumbria CA22 2HU	Tel: (01946) 823 083 e-mail: w.branney@btinternet.com
Hon Librarian	P.M. Ridsdale 41 Woodlands Drive Thelwall Warrington Cheshire WA4 7JL	Tel: (01925) 262 447 e-mail: ridsdales@ntlworld.com
Hon Membership Secretary	C. Oliver 46 Woodville Road, Ham, Richmond Surrey, TW10 7QN	Tel: (020) 8940 9833 e-mail: olivers.of_ham@virgin.net (note dot after olivers)
Hon Independent examiner of accounts	Eric Day	
Representative for USA	Morgan Farrell	e-mail: mtf3@usfamily.net
Representative for South Africa	Cedric Roche	e-mail: croche@mweb.co.za

SOCIETY CORRESPONDENCE

1. Cash Except subscriptions, auction and exchange packets
2. Editorial
3. Exchange packets and auctions
4. Exchange packet Covers
5. Membership (including subscriptions and change of address)
6. Library
7. Everything else

D.J. Osborn
E. Bridges
W.J. Branney
M. Whitlock
C. Oliver
P.M. Ridsdale
C. Oliver

(Addresses as above)

Please enclose a prepaid envelope or international reply coupon with all correspondence requiring a reply.
Postage will be charged on auction lots returned to vendors and to purchasers of small lots.
When returning books to the Librarian, please make cheques, etc. for postage incurred,
to HIM and not to the Society.



The Springbok

© South African Collectors Society, 2008

ISSN: 0955-6753

Vol. 56 No. 3 Whole No. 303

Founded 1947

Member:

Association of British Philatelic Societies

The Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa

We are also a sponsor of the Stamps in Schools Project

Web Site: http://www.ukphilately.org.uk/Societies/sites_we_host/SAfrica.html

Contents

The Springbok is published quarterly for the benefit of Members of the South African Collectors' Society. It is not available to non-members. Contributions in the form of letters, notes, reports of SA related activities, articles, etc., are always welcome and should be sent to the Hon. Editor. All correspondence including a SAE will be acknowledged.

Editor
Eddie Bridges
The Laurels
2 Short Lane
Thorpe Malsor
Northamptonshire
NN14 1JT
U.K.

Editorial Panel
E. Bridges
C. Oliver
J.L. Shaw

Articles	Page
RSA Stamp Study Circle 25th Anniversary	Eddie Bridges 69
A query from Richard Barnett	70
New Airmail Publication	70
Postal Stationery with UPU Markings	Eddie Bridges 70
The 1/- Gnus-Roto Issue 3	Tony Howgrave-Graham & Morgan Farrell 72
Report on the London Meeting September 2008	John Shaw 79
Mandela Portrait	David Haig 80
Southern African Conference Programme—Leamington	81
SACS AGM Notice and Agenda	Chris Oliver 82
Report on the Leicester meeting	Chris Oliver 83
Regional Meeting Portishead	Nick Arrow 84
Philatelic Holdings of Fred Clark	Chris Oliver 84
A tribute to the Late John Davis	Jamie Gale 84
Report on the Carlisle meeting April 2008	Malcolm Ridsdale 85
Able Trophy Winner 2008	87
WW2: POW and Internment Camps Part 4	JBR Findlay & Rory Ryan 88
Regular Features	
Events for your Diary-2008	68
From the Editors desk	68
Membership Matters	69
Letters to the Editor	87
Advertisers	
Harmers	FP 83
David Loffstadt	71 89
Philatelic Friends	71 100
Africa Stamps.co.uk	39 IBP
Paul van Zeyl t/a as Rand Stamps	82 BP
Africastamps.co.uk	69 78
JP Wharton-Hood	83
Otto Peetoom	89
Harmers	100
Argyll Etkin	IBP
Stephan Welz/Sotheby's	BP
SACS Expo 2010	78

Events for your Diary 2008

London Meetings commence at 1.30 pm
Carlisle Meetings commence at 10.00 am

23rd Feb.	SACS London meeting	Subject: The Animal Definitives of 1954
5th April	SACS Carlisle meeting	Subject: Union Coils & Booklets
26th April	SACS London meeting	Subject: Republican Booklets
17th May.	SACS Leicester meeting	Subject: Open meeting
6th Sep.	SACS London meeting	Subject: Republican Airletters
20th Sep.	SACS Carlisle meeting	Subject: Republican Definitives & Abel Trophy Competition
6th Dec.	SACS London meeting	Other Philatelic collecting interests

7-9th Nov. Southern African Societies Convention Falstaff Hotel Leamington Spa

Other Events for 2008

18-19th Jan.	York Stamp and Coin Fair
27th Feb-1st Mar.	Spring Stampex, Islington, London.
21-23rd Feb.	Spring Philatex, Royal Horticultural Halls, Vincent Sq. London
2-3rd May	A.B.P.S. Show at Harrogate
14th June	Swinpex in Swindon
24-26th July	Philatelic Congress at Stratford on Avon
17-20th Sep.	Autumn Stampex, Islington, London
18th Oct.	Hampex
25th Oct	Middlesex Federation Stamp Day at Amersham
30 Oct.-1 Nov	Autumn Philatex, Royal Horticultural Halls, Vincent Sq. London.

**For further details, please contact the secretary. We have several joint meetings in the year.
Please support these events.**

From the Editors Desk

The travel schedule has not let up as expected this year. I have found that the year is disappearing fast and the next Issue of **The Springbok** is due again. Several of the promised items have not appeared due to various reasons. Mostly my fault due to time constraints. This issue sees the conclusion of the reprint of the booklet on the WW 2 POW and Internment camps in South Africa. Our thanks are due to Rory Ryan and J. Findlay for allowing us to publish this.

The studies and review of the Republican issues that we are getting from the RSA Stamp Study Group newsletter is held over to the next issue due to lack of space.

The Leamington Conference is around the corner and I hope to see as many of our members attend if possible. It is not too late to reserve a space. Please contact Brian Trotter if you need a hotel room.

The auction list enclosed with this issue has a lot of good material and will be well worth attending. If you cannot make it, you can send an absentee bid to the auctioneer, Tony Howgrave-Graham.

The inbox with articles is now empty. Please put pen to paper! I do not always have time to produce a few articles so I need your help.

Please keep the articles coming. It will also help if you send the articles with the images separate in a Tiff or Jpeg format. It is cumbersome to extract embedded pictures from word documents. It takes hours to optimise this to make the digital version easy to print.

Eddie Bridges

Membership Matters

by Chris Oliver

New e-mail addresses:

Please note that several office bearers e-mail addresses have changed. These changes have been made on the relevant page. These are Bill Branney, Eddie Bridges and our representative in the USA, Morgan Farrell.

Members Deceased:

It is with sadness that we note the passing of the following members:

John Davis on 22nd June 2008

Phillip De Paris a long standing member (further details not known)

Stephen Price (member 107) passed away in February this year.

He joined in 1952 and was [by a few months] the second longest serving member, after David Lowry

New Members:

We welcome the following new members:

John Maclennan of Bournemouth No. 1128

Stephen Tucker of Monks Risborough, Buckinghamshire No. 1129

John Hair of Poundland, Pinwherry, Girvan, Ayrshire No. 1130

John Richardson of Figheldean, Salisbury, Wilts. No. 1131

RSA Stamp Study Circle 25th Anniversary

The above Society recently celebrated their 25th Anniversary with an excellent publication on the issues of the Republic of South Africa. This 200+ page publication in colour gives a good overview of the Philatelic issues of the Post Office from 1961 to date. It covers the definitive issues, commemoratives, postal stationery, booklets, miniature sheets, postal markings, publicity labels etc. It is not a specialist book on the issues but gives an excellent overview of all the issues. A worth while edition on the bookshelf for the republican collector. The Study Circle is to be congratulated on a professional publication. May they grow from strength to strength in the next 25 years!

Eddie Bridges



AfricaStamps.co.uk

New website offering fine Southern Africa stamps and specialised items.



Email: info@AfricaStamps.co.uk

A Query from Richard Barnett



The cover shown was posted in Bloemfontein in the early 1900's, does anyone know the meaning and where the letters P.B.O. (in red) were applied?

If anyone has an answer, please advise the Editor and Richard on e-mail: richdiane@uwclub.net

New Airmail Publication

This book is 203 pages long, fully illustrated, with acetate outer covers and, is wire bound. The book is well worth the £30 + P&P. The subject of SA Aerophilately has been neglected for too long - the only books on the topic are Wyndham, published in 1937, Stern, which takes the subject rather sketchily up to 1967, and Burrell who does a very good job (albeit slightly inaccurate in a few cases) covering the period to 1961. Uys has a list of mail for the period 1960 - 1981.

These are the relevant "Bibles" for the SA Aerophilatelist, and they are all out of print and extremely difficult to get hold of at all, let alone in good second hand condition. This book is intended to get virtually all the relevant information into one document, bringing the subject up to date to 1994, adding quite a lot of information which had not come to light when the last 3 books were published, and correcting the few mistakes which these iconic textbooks contain.

The book can be ordered from Nick Arrow. The Beeches, Axminster Road, Musbury, Axminster, Devonshire. EX13 8AZ or by e-mail nicholasarrow@btinternet.com

Postal Stationery with UPU Archival and/or Specimen Markings of German language origin

Recently an advert appeared in the philatelic press for the above stationery for Southern Africa. The advert states that the stationery has UPU Berne International Office archival markings and/or printer specimen overprinting. The lot I purchased for the Union only has pencil dates/markings and one or two items has a rubber stamped date. Some items were unmarked. It also states that the source appears to be an official German UPU collection. As the items were rather pricey for what they were, I would like to find out a little more about the source of this material. The seller in the USA had no further information. If anyone has an idea where this material might have originated, could they please contact the Editor.

Eddie Bridges

BRITISH EMPIRE SPECIALISTS QV-KGVI INCLUDING SOUTH AFRICA

Sets, Single items, Postmarks, Varieties, Revenues,
Postal History, Postal Stationery.

If you have a wants list please contact us
We publish a buy/bid catalogue of British Colonial
issues and a Postal Auction Catalogue which covers
the whole world, these catalogues are produced three times a year,
if you would like copies please contact:

DAVID LOFFSTADT

P O Box 107 Bromley, Kent BR2 8ZA
Tel: 020 8462 7185 Fax: 020 8462 7387
E:mail davidloffstadt@yahoo.co.uk
Member of PTS for over 30 years.

LOOKING FOR THE UNUSUAL (OR THE USUAL)



1892-4 Cape of Good Hope ½d slate/white Postal Stationery Envelope with addit. 1d KEVII red tied by manu-
script WALVIS BAY 5/7/09 in black pen, to Swakopmund, with very neat arrival postmark 12.7.09.

Similar material on our regular postal auctions. Auction Catalogues viewable on the internet at: www.philatelicroads.com or printed catalogues available on request.

Email us at: info@philatelicroads.com
P.O. Box 26456 Hout Bay 7872 South Africa



PHILATELIC FRIENDS
STAMP AUCTIONEERS & DEALERS • HOUT BAY • SOUTH AFRICA



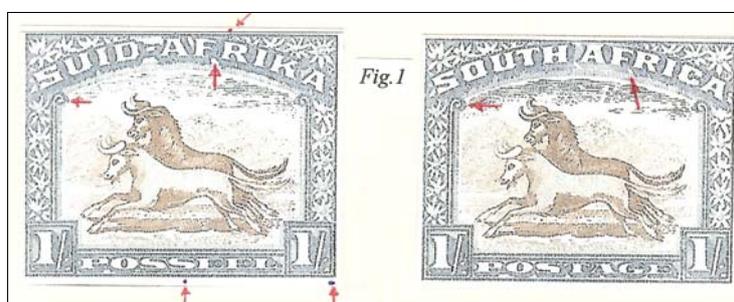
The 1/- Gnus – Roto. Issue 3

by

Tony Howgrave-Graham & Morgan Farrell

We did think that this issue was going to be an easy one to sort out. However, this has not turned out to be the case! The cylinders became quite worn over their long life and developed a lot of scratches, some of which are similar to listed varieties. There is also a huge variation in the obviousness of many of the minor constant flaws, and some, including the listed varieties developed during the course of Issue 3's life. The officials, which should provide help, have, as with Issue 1, just added to the confusion as the handbook listing is clearly, again, wrong.

Issue 3 is the first hyphenated 1/-, printed from internal cylinder 6925 and external cylinder 38 and issued in February 1939. The hyphen was introduced into the Afrikaans design by J Prentice. The lines of shading were re-introduced around the left scroll making the identification of English singles easy from the unhyphenated issues (*Fig. 1*). The stamps are also easily differentiated from Issue 4 by the lack of shading under the bottom right of the "F" in either language setting. There is also a lack of the mark in the mountain in front of the blue gnu which is a multipositive feature of issues 4 to 6. Other design features of Issue 3 are a small horizontal line under the bottom right corner which appears on virtually all of the Afrikaans stamps. A blue dot in the centre of the bottom margin is also common on these stamps, as is a brown dot in the top margin over the "R" of Afrika.



The issue was printed, as usual, in sheets of 120 (20x6) at the Government Printing Works on paper watermarked the multiple springbok's head (universally upright) and perforated 14. 4-figure serial numbers were printed twice in the right margin, firstly in black, then blue (probably c1940) before appearing to revert to black again. In later printings they are in red. We mentioned that Issue 2 was undervalued in catalogues. The same cannot be said of Issue 3 which must be one of the most overcatalogued South African stamps. Issue 3 had a long life with Issue 4 not being issued until January 1948. It doesn't appear to have come into immediate widespread use as stocks of unhyphenated were used up for the first 4 or 5 months. The printings, of which there were many, appear in two main groups, pre- and post-war, with the war effort 1/-'s taking over, almost entirely, during 1943,4,5. The large war effort 1/- was issued 27 October 1941, with the bantam Issue 1 in November '42 and Issue 2 in August '44. The pre- and post-war printings of Issue 3 are quite different with the former on good quality paper with the printing generally quite well defined and the colours subdued. The post-war printings, on the other hand, are generally on poor quality paper with the design rather fuzzy edged and in bright colours, and with the cylinders becoming more worn, multiple scratches are common. The post-war paper shortage may well have been responsible for the policy of issuing frequent small printings and the same may well have applied to ink supply. The ½d, Issue 12, is another particularly good example of several widely different shades appearing, all printed in 1947. Post-war printing appears to have recommenced in 1946. The first post-war usage, however, seems to have been from stocks of pre-war printings.

Shades

Our first attempts at listing shades produced a long list in which it was difficult to be certain where to place many stamps, so a simplified list is preferable:-

- Pre-War:-
1. Sepia-brown and grey-blue (shades). These cover the first printings and probably those with black and blue serial numbers. The latter may well have had rather darker frames. There were clearly at least two printings as "narrow" stamps occur on row 10 in the first printing and on rows 6 & 17 on another early printing before the development of V1, but after the development of V3.
 2. Sepia-brown (shades) and pale violet blue. These printings almost certainly had black serial numbers. The only "narrow" row noted is row 10. The blue shade is fairly constant but the browns vary quite a lot. There is one printing in which the brown is rather fugitive and the later shades are usually quite a deep sepia-brown. It is this shade which is also noted as the first used post-war with dates of use from January 1946 to March 1947.

- Post-War:-
3. Deep purple-brown and "milky" blue. This is the shade listed under the officials as set 22 (ie the last set). It is certainly the shade overprinted with the "mixed fount" but was, however, almost certainly, the first post-war printing with a period of use noted as March 1947 to January 1948. The "narrow" rows are 2 and 13.
 4. "Aniline" and paler "milky" blue. Unlike Issue 4 the typically "aniline" stamps are a distinct printing. The vast majority of the use is in late 1947 (Oct. 1947 – Feb. 1948). The "narrow" row occurs on row 10.
 5. Dark violet brown and deep violet blue. Again there is more than one printing here. The printings almost certainly took place in 1947 (Issue 4 was issued in Jan. 1948), but all examples seen are cancelled between January and June 1948. It is strange, therefore, that it is the shade listed for the 1944-6 officials. The earlier copies appear with very deep, almost blackish, centres and with rows 9 and 20 "narrow". Later copies have more agate centres and row 10 is "narrow". The printings are characterised by the worn state of the cylinders and multiple scratches.

Positional Varieties:-

SAHB V1: The long vertical scratch in blue from row 3/2 to 7/2 (*Fig.2*) appeared sometime in 1940. It is absent from the first 2 or 3 printings so it is worth noting the other minor flaws on these stamps so as to collect them before and after its development. Further confusion may result from similar late flaws developing on other stamps. Row 7/4 has a late scratch very similar to the upper portion of row 3/2 and row 2/5 has a similar (though more curved and left placed) late vertical line through the right limb of "H", as row 7/2.

SAHB V2: The vertical blue line through the vignette on row 10/1 also developed after the first printing (*Fig.3*). A block cancelled Nov. 1939 has been seen without it. It appears, however, to have developed before V1. As row 10/1 appears in all left arrow blocks it would be interesting to know from members' examples, how many appear without V2.

SAHB V3: Is the brown vertical line through rows 16-19/4 (*Fig.4*). It is strange that the handbook excludes row 16/4 as this is the most dramatic portion of the flaw. We have not found any examples of these stamps without the flaw so it may well have been present from the first printing. As 19/4 appears in the bottom arrow block it would be interesting to know if anyone has an early block without the flaw.

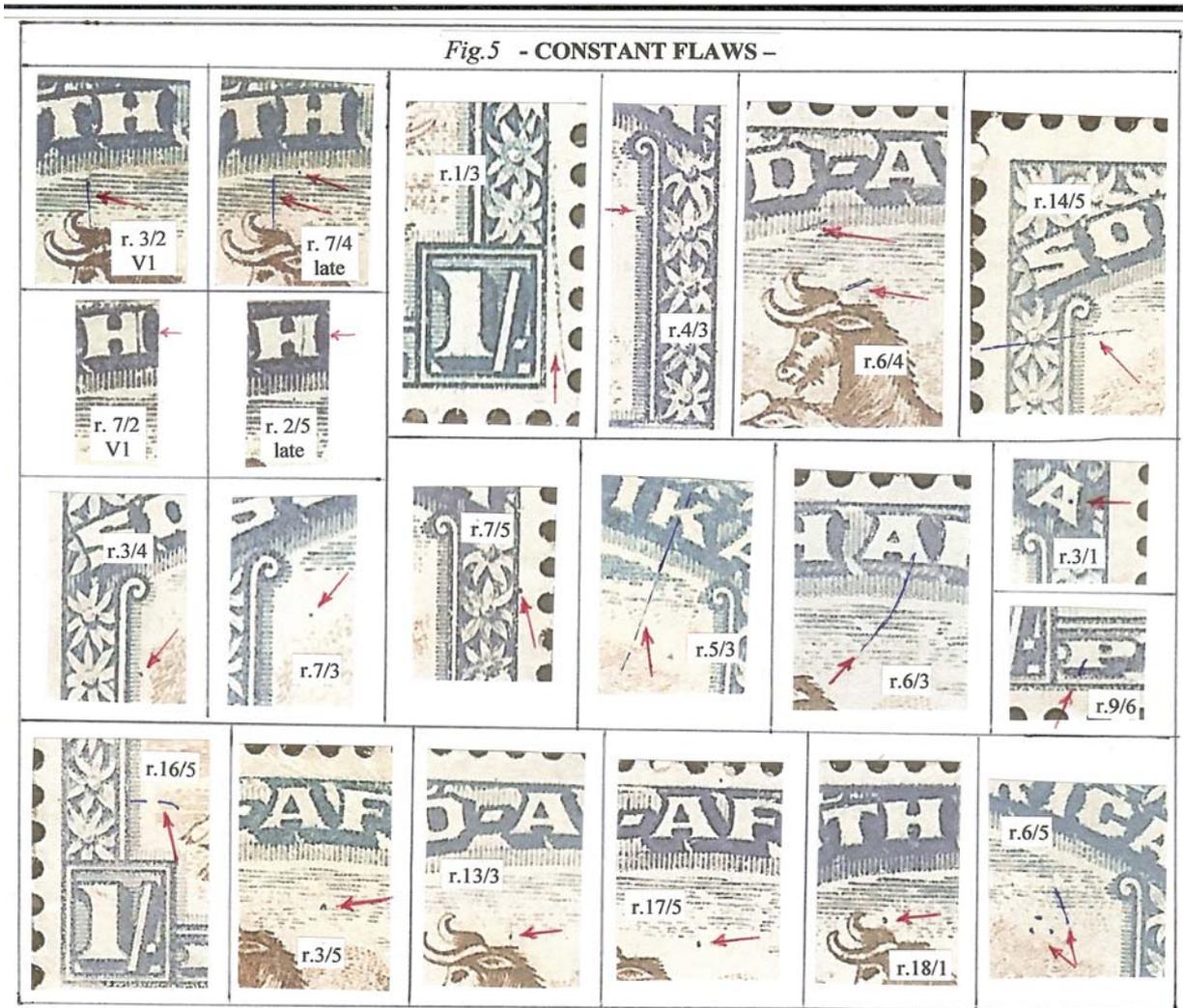


Other positional flaws:

It is possible to position all the stamps on the sheet from minor flaws though it may not be possible to position every stamp you want as some of the flaws are marginal and may be missing. Others are very small and may be obscured by postmarks. Some of the better flaws are shown in *Fig.5* and a key for flaws on Afrikaans stamps in *Fig.6*, and on English stamps in *Fig.7*. It is interesting to note that there are relatively few centre cylinder flaws compared to other issues. Positioning is also made more difficult by the variability of how prominently small flaws appear and by the profusion of scratches that developed on later printings. Some of these scratches are shown in *Figs.8&9*.

Other Varieties:

The only other handbook listed flaw is V4, "very blurred frames". The emphasis here should be on the "very". The real thing is quite dramatic (*Fig.10*).



ISSUE 3 (A)

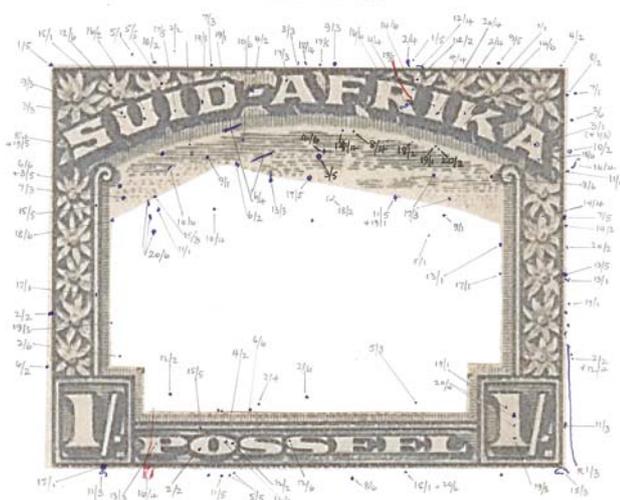


Fig 6

ISSUE 3 (E)



Fig 7

ISSUE 3 (A)

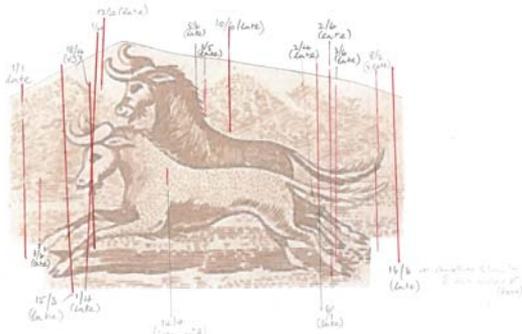
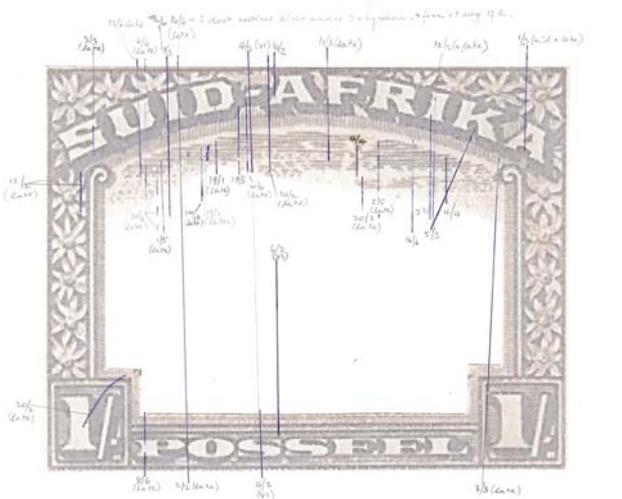


Fig 8

ISSUE 3 (E)

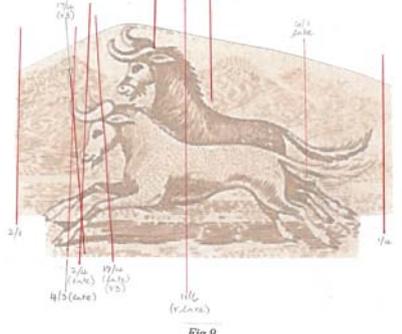
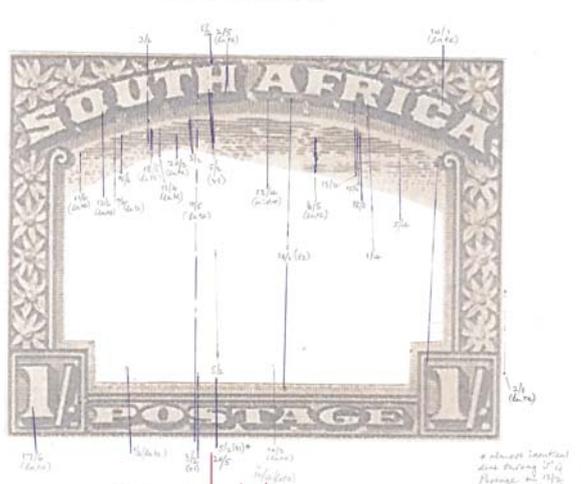


Fig 9



The Overprinted Stamps

1. OFFICIALS:

One of the main reasons this article has taken longer to put together than anticipated, is the Officials. The SAHB gives two sets (16&17) for 1939. It has moved the second overprinting of Issue 2 from set 17 to 16 on the basis that the only difference is very slight, and based on shade. I would suggest that I need more evidence that there were, in fact, two overprintings of Issue 2. It then goes on in the introduction to set 17 to say "according to the published information, no overprinting of 1/- stamps was done between 1938 and 1947". This is clearly not the case and I suspect should read that "no information was published", though one would have to shorten the time span to 1946. I would agree with Jack Hagger's assumption that it is likely that the first overprinting of Issue 3 stamps took place in 1939, but he's then clumped all the first group of shades (sepia browns and grey-blues) into a single overprinting which he has to admit was "considerable". It includes differences in shade much greater than that applied to Issue 2 and he also quotes black and blue serial numbers. It seems more than likely that there were overprintings in 1939 and 1940. He quotes the blue serial number block "3369" so there is little doubt that these blue serial number blocks exist but I'm not the only person yet to see one. Even Ian Matheson's magnificent collection including virtually all the major rarities doesn't have such a block! It's difficult to get sight of sufficient material to draw firm conclusions so members' help would be appreciated. All the examples I've seen from this group come from before the development of Varieties 1&2 but have V3, and the narrow rows are 6 & 17. As I mentioned under "shades" the first printing of Issue 3 has the narrow row 10. It would thus be very interesting to know if members have examples of this group of officials with different narrow rows, or after the development of Varieties 1 &/or 2.

We now come to the war time overprintings on the stamps listed as light sepia and pale violet-blue. They are listed in the handbook under set 19 (1941-4). Ian Matheson (following on from Bob Hisey's article (*The Springbok*, Vol.52/1 of 2004, p16-17)) has split these into set 19 and 20A on the basis that that the stamps containing the diæresis are so rare. He attributes the latter to 1946. I think he may be underestimating the scarcity of the overprinting of this shade in general, however. I think it's scarce enough anyway for the diæresis stamps to be very rare. It seems probable that the overprinting of 1/-s at this time was very limited and, as with set 1, intended for official use only. Whether it took place in one batch, or several, we will probably never know and it probably doesn't much matter. What seems to make eminent sense, however, is to put them, as Ian and Bob do, in the same set as the 2d and 2/6 with the same overprint forme and this would date them to later than 1941-4. The diæresis appears on the 2nd "E" of a short OFFISIEEL on rows 1&11, stamps 5&6. In both cases it is accompanied by a short OFFICIAL and on 1&11/6 the Offisieel is "dropped". See Fig. 11 for row 1/6, but if you get a chance, also look at the unique and wonderful cover dated October 1946 illustrated in Ian Matheson's book under set 20A and eulogised over by C E Sherwood when he acquired it in 1969.

Having had problems with the first two handbook listings you might think we are now approaching calmer waters, but no! We get to set 20, 1946. The SAP reported in April 1947 that 320 sheets of 1/- stamps had been overprinted on 21 November 1946. The SAHB lists these as the dark violet brown and deep violet blue stamps. This can't relate to the very scarce diæresis stamps, or many more of us would own examples!



Neither can it relate to the stated shade as this wasn't issued before mid 1947 at the earliest! I suspect it relates to the "mixed fount" printing in dark purple brown and milky blue which was the first post-war shade, with red serial numbers but listed in the handbook as set 22 of June 1948.

The SAP of November 1947 reported that 199 sheets were delivered between 3 June and 15 September 1947 for overprinting and that these were overprinted including the stamps with diæreses. This is the second 1/- overprinting with diæreses. The stamps are in a violet brown and grey-blue shade and have red serial numbers. A 120 unit forme was used so varieties only appear once per sheet. The key characteristics are a "short" OFFICIAL at the right on row 6/1 and a short OFFISIEEL with a diæresis on the second "E" on 6/2 (Afrikaans stamp) and 6/3 (English stamp). (Fig. 12 for row 6/2).



The next items for consideration are the wonderful looking strips from a single sheet with the lateral overprints transposed language wise causing OFFICIAL to appear twice on the stamps from vertical row 1 and OFFISIEEL twice in row 6. On horizontal rows 6&16 the short OFFICIAL appears at the left on stamp 1, and the short OFFISIEEL with diæresis on stamps 2 & 3. (Fig. 13 for row 6). It's difficult, thus, not to associate the printing with set 21 but the forme was used in two halves and the stamps used were earlier, with black serial numbers. There are no known used copies and almost all the sheet can be accounted for. Call me an old killjoy but I can't help thinking they're just a bit too wonderful – rather like an e-mail from Nigeria telling you you've won £2,000,000 but you've just got to cough up a couple of grand to enable delivery!

That just leaves the June '48 set 22. I'm comfortable putting the dark violet brown and deep violet blue stamps here. It was undoubtedly the last shade and the mixed fount stamps have now been consistently found postmarked earlier than June '48!



2. CUSTOMS OVERPRINTS

This was the last 1/- issue to be used for this purpose being overprinted "DOUANE." in black. I haven't seen any though so can't report if more than one printing exists. Perhaps members can help?

3. Overprinted 70c / KENYA / TANGANYIKA / UGANDA

The overprinting of these stamps as KUT provisionals took place at the Government Printing Works in Pretoria. The stamps are in a sepia-brown and grey-blue shade but from a printing after the development of Varieties 1,2&3. Row 10 is "narrow" and the "perf junction" can be seen again between row 20 and the bottom margin. (Fig. 14). They were issued 20 April 1942. The Gibbons listed variety, SG62a, the "crescent moon" (Fig. 14), is caused by a protruding screw head in the overprinting forme.

Acknowledgements:

We must acknowledge the value of the handbook despite taking it to task on the officials. Our thanks to Ian Matheson for information gleaned from his SACS books on the officials and by e-mail, and to Mike Tonking for responding to e-mails, also to the owner of the very rare official strip for allowing its illustration here despite our doubts on the wholesomeness of its origins (he knows we think it's wonderful anyway!).



South African Collectors' Society Exhibition

Spring Stampex

24-27 February 2010



The South African Collectors' Society will be staging an exhibition to commemorate the Centenary of the establishment of the Union of South Africa on 31 May 1910.

This is an exhibit that should not be missed by Union collectors. We hope to be able to exhibit a selection of material that covers the Union period as comprehensively as possible.

This will include stamps of the Interprovincial period, definitives, commemoratives, postal history, airmails, postal stationary and much more.

In addition, we hope this exhibition will attract local as well as overseas collectors and will inspire dealers to bring along good material to cater to the interests of South African collectors.

In addition, a meeting of the South African Collectors Society will take place during the event and it is hoped to attract a renowned collector to do a talk on some aspect of Union Philately.

An exhibition catalogue will be available and members of the Society will have an information stand to assist collectors and potential collectors of the Union and Republic of South Africa.

Report on the London Meeting-September 2008

by John Shaw

Nine members attended the London meeting on 8th September, rather better than normal, and quite encouraging since the meeting also clashed with other specialist meetings such as the Revenue Society, resulting in an apology from Brian Trotter; and David Osborne and Simon Peetoom tendered apologies and Tony Howgrave-Graham was subject to a three-line whip to attend a family celebration; having devoted a tremendous amount of time recently in preparing the catalogue for the Leamington auction, he might also have welcomed a break from SA material! The topic for the meeting was Republican air letters and was lead by Chris Oliver.

Christopher started the display with Union air letters surcharged for decimal currency and then further overprinted with a two-line dual language "Republic of South Africa" overprint. The external air letters were surcharged 5c (on 6d) and, since some unsurcharged forms were still in stock, these were surcharged and overprinted in a single operation, this giving rise to six easily identifiable types. There were also "blank stamp" air letter forms permitting the sender to add their own stamps, and these appear in a variety of shades from Grey into Blue. The inland letter forms, the 3d rhino stamp surcharged 2½c, this time with seven different types of surcharge – five with the large figures and two with small figures - received similar "Republic" overprints and these are quite scarce. Christopher showed just two and posed the question "were all seven types overprinted? Christopher had Types II & III of the large surcharge and John Shaw produced his only two – Types I & V of the large surcharge, so the presumption is that all five large surcharge types exist, but no small types had been seen by those at the meeting. John also produced a 6d CAL 44 "Lion" air letter with the republic overprint, and without decimal surcharge. At least two of those at the meeting offered to give this item a new home.

After the "stampless" pictorial air letter forms, came the 5c impressed aircraft stamp, with nice views and floral internal decorations embellishing the forms. In 1971 the external 9c and 4c internal forms were printed on chequerboard paper but this proved expensive and was soon dropped; it did, however, see the introduction of phosphor tagging, this time in the form of a rectangular frame around the impressed stamp. When the external rate was increased to 10c, some of the 10c and 4c forms were printed on very flimsy paper, many being gobbled up or damaged by the sorting machine. Chris concluded this section with some nice proofs of the stampless forms including uncoloured papers. Eddie Bridges at this stage produced a machine trail specimen from this period.

1976-82 saw the "Birds of the air" series, some phosphor tagged, some not. The 10c rate was increased to 12c in 1985 and a different bird was shown. Especially interesting items here were those with the "AÉROGRAM/AEROGRAM" inscription in Orange instead of Blue and these are stampless forms for commercial use. The 15c external and 8c internal forms were followed in 1985. Rapidly changing rates resulted in the 1991 undenominated pictorial forms with wildebeest and guinea fowl on the stamps, but noted much more for the lovely Christmas scenes decorating the forms. 1997 saw the introduction of barcodes and, also, due to modern technology, the gradual decline in the use of air letters, with less than 10 varieties issued since then. However this period produced one interesting item; the instructions to the printer were to put the artist's name, Chris van Rooyen, and the English and Afrikaans name of the bird at the base of the stamp. The name Chris van Rooyen was indeed inscribed on the stamp, followed by "ENGLISH AND AFRIKAANS NAME OF BIRD" – but this was on the flower stamp! You just can't get the staff these days!

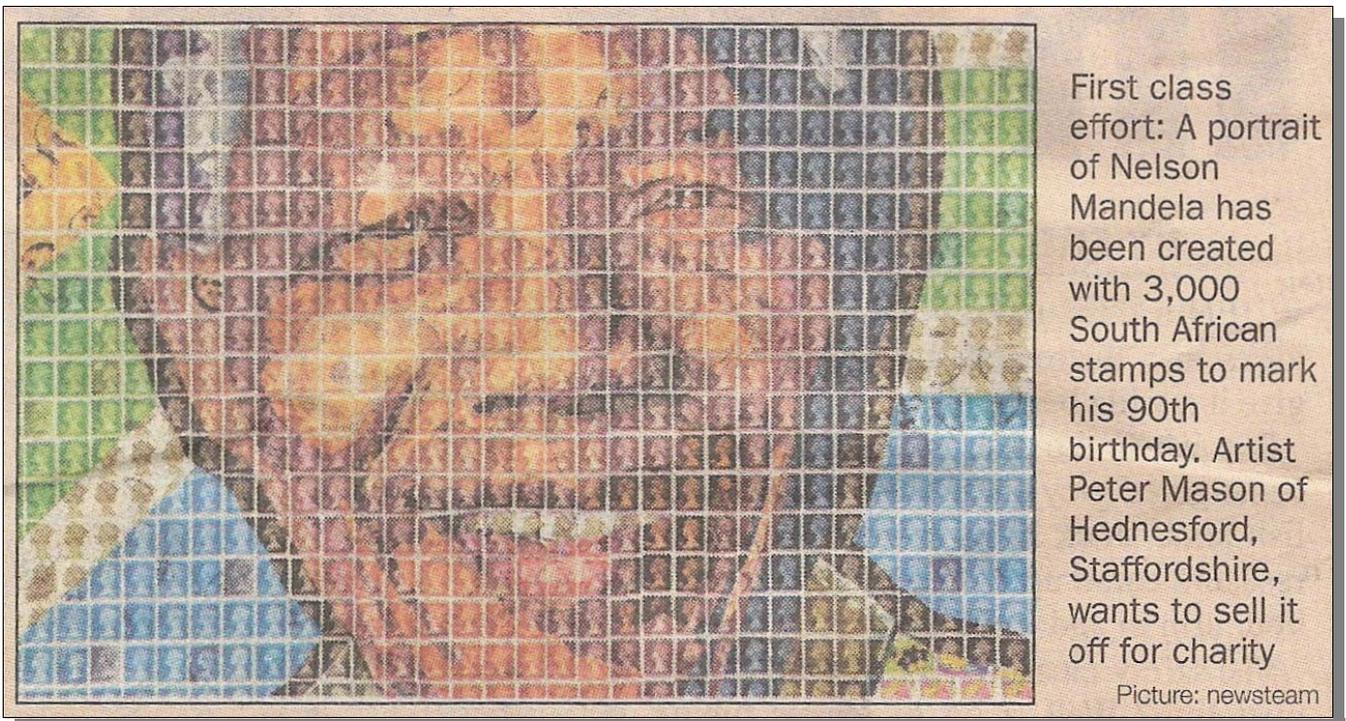
Finally Eddie Bridges showed some privately produced stampless pictorial air letters, which were actually sold over the post office counter to tourists. How this came about is speculation, but possibly the post office was paid a small fee for its service? An interesting feature of the used items on display, was the number of addressees who were old friends, such as our late president, RDA, Alec Page, Eric Sherwood, our founder and Member No 1, John Hodgson and Ian Shapiro. It was a most comprehensive display and the meeting warmly applauded Chris's efforts. Others present at the meeting and not mentioned above were John Archer, Eric Day, Nicholas Lindstrom, David Paige, Len Barnes and Richard Barnett.

Members relaxing after the London meeting in September.



Mandela Portrait created from Stamps

David Haig sent in this picture of Nelson Mandela created with Machins even though the accompanying text says South African stamps! Apologies for the picture quality but your editor still thought it worth while showing!



Southern African Societies Conference: Leamington Spa

The annual conference takes place on the weekend of 7-9th November 2008.

This promises again to be a good weekend with invited displays on the Saturday, dinner and time together discussing stamps with fellow collectors, an Auction, bring and show/tell on the Sunday and of course our AGM on the Saturday evening.

We have block booked rooms at the Falstaff Hotel as before. If you would like to join us, please send me an e-mail, letter or call to reserve a room. Costs are £60 a night including Breakfast and the dinner on the Friday and Saturday evenings.

An excellent auction has been prepared by Tony Howgrave-Graham and should prove to be a highlight of the weekend with much of interest to South African Collectors. (Auction list distributed with this issue)

Our AGM will also be held on the Saturday evening. Please make an effort to attend. (Notice and agenda on the next page.)

Southern African Philatelic Conference Falstaff Hotel, Leamington Spa 7, 8 and 9 November 2008 Programme

Friday 7 November

18.30 Gather in the bar
19.30 Dinner

Saturday 8 November

9.45 – 10.00	Introduction	Brian Trotter
10.00 – 10.45	Basutoland	Eddie Bridges
10.45 – 11.30	ORC Stationery	Mike Smith
11.30 – 12.00	Break	
12.00 – 12.45	SWA to 1950 (part 1)	John Sussex
12.45 – 14.00	Lunch Break	
14.00 – 14.45	SWA to 1950 (part 2)	John Sussex
14.45 – 15.30	South African Airmails	Nick Arrow
15.30 – 16.00	Break	
16.00 – 16.30	SA Union Parcel Cancellations	Sebastian Payne
16.30 – 17.00	SA Union Officials	Tony Howgrave-Graham
17.15 – 18.15	South African Collectors Society AGM	
18.30	Gather in the bar	
19.30	Dinner	

Auction items available for viewing throughout the day

Sunday 9 November

9.30 – 11.00	Attendees bring-along displays	All
11.00 – 11.30	Break	
11.30 – 13.00	Attendees bring-along displays	All
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch break	
14.00 – 16.00	Auction	Tony Howgrave-Graham
16.00	Close of conference	

NOTICE IS GIVEN OF THE A.G.M. OF THE SOCIETY AND THE PROPOSED AGENDA IS ITEMISED BELOW.

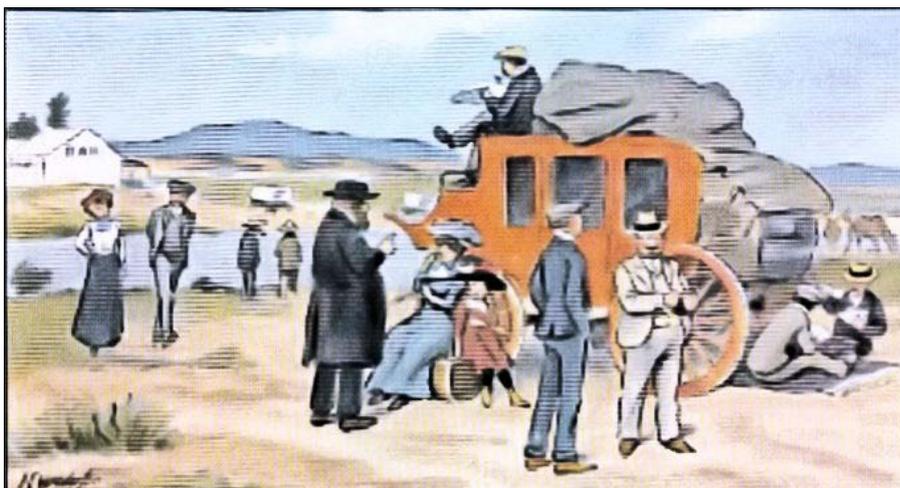
Agenda for the A.G.M. of the South African Collectors' Society to be held at The Falstaff Hotel, Leamington Spa at 17.00hrs on 8th November 2008.

1. Apologies.
2. Record of previous A.G.M.
3. Matters arising if not included elsewhere in the agenda.
4. The Hon. Chairman's report
5. The Hon. Secretary's report.
6. The Hon. Treasurer's report and ratification of annual subscription.
7. Reports from other officers of the Society.
8. Ratification of Officers of the Society.
9. Society meetings and events :
 - a) A brief report on those held. [if not already recorded in The Springbok.]
 - b) British Philatelic Congress - Manchester – 2nd / 3rd July 2009.
 - c) Midpex – Coventry – 11th July 2009
 - d) Portishead meeting for S.A.C.S. Sunday, 9th August 2009.
 - e) 2010 Spring Stampex Display by S.A.C.S. (24th – 27th Feb.)
 - f) Any others.
10. S.A.C.S. support for Youth Philately.
11. A.O.B. – if notified to the Secretary prior to the meeting.

Chris Oliver-Hon. Secretary

SPOT A WINNING DEALER! ...IN JUST TWO QUICK STEPS

1. Identify PAUL VAN ZEYL t/a RAND STAMP AUCTIONS in this picture



2. Contact him to discuss how we can help each other, to get a "win-win" (auction or direct sale) result at:
e-mail: paulvz@mweb.co.za; Tel +27 (0)12 329 2464; Fax +27 (0)12 329 3157

Report on the Leicester meeting 17 May 2008

By Chris Oliver

A regional meeting of the Society was held at St. Phillip's Church Hall on the afternoon of 17th May 2008. Six members and one guest attended and all brought material to display. There was an unusually large amount of postal stationery shown by the members. This was a break from this little documented area of South African philately.

Mike Berry presented a study of Natal Post Office Agency cancellations issued mainly during the Boer War period. Examples of a large number of these cancellations, on individual stamps and on full cover, were displayed.

A large amount of material, relating to the Tercentenary of van Riebeeck's landing in the Cape, had been amassed by Godfrey Mellor. This was passed around for discussion, with a view to including some in the S.A.C.S., February 2010, exhibition.

John Leddington showed the first definitive issue of S.W.A.

Chris Oliver produced some S.A. / Italian P.O.W. postal stationery of WWII. These cards and air-letters had received multi-lingual cachets and censor marks of various shapes and sizes. Many of these were displayed.

We were shown several interesting covers by John Jackson (a visitor) which emphasised the contact between the Netherlands and South Africa during the Boer War period.

Two Kings Flight covers were displayed by Simon Peetoom.

Eddie Bridges presented Intermediate postal stationery, which was printed in the early years of the Union.

Natal postal stationery was displayed by Mike Berry.

A progressive printing study of the 1999 postal stationery cover and some discarded artwork for the 1963 Kirstenbosch issue was shown by Chris Oliver.

To finish the afternoon, Eddie Bridges treated us to his study of the London and Pretoria printings of the Pictorial definitives.

See photos on next page.



**For the Elusive and Unusual in
Southern African Philately**

contact

John-Peter Wharton-Hood

Tel: +27 (0)11 478 2457	1 Collins Street
Fax: +27 (0)11 478 2458	Windsor Glen
e-mail: johnpwh@iafrica.com	Randburg
	2194 South Africa





Members enjoying the displays at the Leicester meeting.

Regional Meeting in Portishead

by Nick Arrow

A meeting was attempted at Portishead during the annual stamp fair held there. However only Nick and one other member pitched up. The meeting was abandoned after 45 minutes or so. It is a pity that more of the local members did not make the effort to attend. However the meeting was not well publicised and we will try and do better next year.

Next years meeting will take place on the afternoon of the **9th August 2009** during the Stamp Fair. This is a Sunday. The room has been booked and more information will be provided closer to the time.

The Philatelic Holdings of the Late Fred Clark

The philatelic material from the late Fred Clark's collection is being offered at Cavendish Philatelic Auctions and by Harmers of London, in the near future. We have agreed, with these auction houses, that their catalogues, or part catalogues, will be packed and posted by them to all of our members. In order to preserve the privacy of our members, these packages will be forwarded for labelling by us. This may mean that some members will receive two catalogues if they are on the mailing list from either, or both, of the firms.

Chris Oliver

John Davis

It is with sadness that I write to advise you of the death of JOHN DAVIS on 22nd June 2008. He was a long-standing member of SACS and also our local Javea Philatelic Society here in Spain. When I took over the distribution of the Springbok I received a list of the addresses of the members and it was serendipitous that the sole member in Spain was John, with an address within a few miles of where I was having a house built. I contacted John and on our next visit to Spain and my wife and I were invited to visit him and his wife Valerie. I had the pleasure of seeing his collection at that date and I have been in touch with him ever since. Some years ago you published an article of his in the Springbok which no doubt members will remember. My clearest recollection of him was as club auctioneer where he had the ability to sell sand to the Arabs! For many years he was the mainstay of the local society and I shall miss his cheery presence.

Jamie Gale

Report on the Meeting held in Carlisle April 2008

By Malcolm Ridsdale

Meeting held at the County Hotel, Carlisle on Saturday 5th April 2008

Attendees – 16 Members (list with Malcolm Ridsdale)

Apologies – John Shaw and Giovanni Palazzo

David Haig opened the meeting in the Chair and welcomed everybody to the 32nd meeting.

Items through the Chair

The meeting stood in respect of the recent passing of two of its members, Fred Clark and Terry Gentle.

DH reminded members that the next Carlisle meeting was booked for the 20th September 2008. The topic for the meeting would be the definitives of the Republic from the 3rd/ 4th issue onwards plus the Homelands. The Abell Trophy would also be competed for at this meeting (9 pages)

General discussion took place regarding the dates and the topics for the meetings in 2009. It was agreed that the meetings would be held on the 28th March and 26th September. The topics being open house and South African sports and pastimes respectively.

Other Officer Reports

Chris Oliver

CO passed a letter from Fred Clark's family around the meeting. He also advised that he and other members of SACS would be attending the funeral. After discussion it was agreed that a donation would be made by the SACS of £100 to the Derbyshire Asbestos Support Team.

CO reported that the SACS has 152 members although these numbers do include some serial late payers.

There was discussion around the purchase of a new photocopier for Max Whitlock as he his current copier is on its last legs. Meeting considered MW's costing of 3.5p per copy which included maintenance and inks and the meeting agreed for MW to go ahead and sort it out.

Eddie Bridges

Looking for articles for next and subsequent issues, he is keen to include a wider theme of articles particularly on Republican topics. He felt that the RSA Study Circle might be a source as well as RSA booklets.

EB commented that the Philatelic Federation of South Africa was looking to update the Union Handbook and they may need to divide the book into parts and circulate to specialist collectors to get new information. He suggested that Fred Clark's excellent material should be scanned before the auction of his collection and there were other collections that should be recorded as they became available before they were split up.

The display planned for the 2010 Spring Stampex needs member help to put together a display of the 1910 – 61 era across the whole philatelic area. The display would take up 200 frames and had already attracted interest from outside the UK.

EB had asked Harmers / Cavendish to make the catalogues of Fred Clark's collection available to members. Max Whitlock agreed to distribute them if they were sent to him.

Bill Branney

Reported that no packets had gone astray during this last year. However, as always he was still requiring more material for the packets and the auctions.

BB commented that he and Fred Clark had done a study on the "Kaffirboom" which could go to EB for The Springbok.

Malcolm Ridsdale

One or two missing books which may be out with members still need to be found although a couple had turned up at the Leamington Spa meeting. The library books were now on shelves as against boxes

Books advertised in The Springbok were to be purchased from EB.

Max Whitlock

MW reported that the cover packets had foundered after Christmas but all the missing packets were no accounted for. New packets (approx 10) would start their journeys shortly. MW commented that the cover packets didn't

make much money but were seen as a valuable service to members.

Around the Table

David Hague

Had visited the British Library and material on show included a large selection of South African material.

Eric Hammond

Had visited South Africa over Christmas/New Year but had not seen any Christmas stamps available. He did note, as he had on his previous trip that the whale sheetlets were being ripped up for general use.

He also commented that SA philatelic books seemed to command good prices.

Ray Glanville – Jones

RGJ had written to Stanley Gibbons regarding flaws that appeared not to be in the catalogues. He commented that he had not received a reply and wondered if the SACS should make an approach. EB stated that he had contacted SG but they were reluctant to let the catalogues become of a specialist nature and felt that only the more common flaws and errors should be included.

RGJ had bid on a couple of collections but had been unsuccessful noting that a British Africa collection with a £300 reserve had gone for £1500 and a South Africa collection with a £500 reserve had gone for £2000.

Godfrey Mellor

GM had brought some permit mail envelopes for the members to look at and showed a fleet mail envelope that he needed help to get the date of. He also bought some of his spare Christmas and Easter seals that were available for sale to the members.

David Briggs

DB showed the meeting a copy of the 1Rand issue from the Architecture definitive series which appeared to include a paper join putting marginal numbers out of sequence. A number of theories were forthcoming from the members present with the most likely being that it had been “manufactured”

He also brought a copy of the 6d Silver Jubilee pair with a query. EB suggested that he had a look on the internet as there was significant information on the varieties found on the SJ issues across the commonwealth.

Albert Moffat

Thanked the members for letter of condolence regarding the death of his wife.

Displays

Bill Branney displayed B20 and B21 booklets which included 1/2d, 1d and 1 1/2d stamps. He included exploded booklets to show various postal slogans. He commented that this was a collection in progress and there were still gaps to fill.

Ray Glanville–Jones showed a selection of booklets starting from 1926 including exploded booklets and coils.

Godfrey Mellor showed Easter seals booklets from 1944 to 1959. He also showed his trophy and silver award certificate which had been gained with this display in the Cinderella section of the North West Federation annual competition.

He also displayed 6d razor blade booklets and mint and used panes from the union booklets as well as Republic booklets including Big Five, Aids, Antelopes, Whales, Water birds, Explore SA, Aircraft etc.

Chris Oliver displayed Republic booklets. These included:

Aircraft series with three different covers and stamp make ups

Rhino stamps in Aircraft covers, Rhino stamps in Rhino covers including the change rate with “blob” over cover price

Big Five with air mail labels and special for INDABA

English and Afrikaans MASAKHANE booklets

Aids awareness booklets

Penguins booklets

Flower definitives in four covers

World Summit of Sustainability

Eddie Bridges displayed Union booklets including the whole of number 4, part of 3 but not (yet) 1 and 2. Booklets included 1/2d and 1d panes and the tete beche configuration. Book 5 was on display which had different front and back covers and now cost 3/6 as against 4's 3/-.

He displayed pictorial booklets with Waterlow, Pretoria and Roto print examples and finally an Imperial Airways booklet from 1936 with air mail stickers only.

Vaughan Stone displayed booklets from the Feld Trust which was a conservation group in SA. 3 different booklets were displayed each with 8 stamps.

The meeting closed at approximately 3.00pm

Able Competition winner for 2008

The Able trophy competition was held at the September meeting in Carlisle. This competition alternates between London and Carlisle every year. The winner this year was Giovanni Palazzo and our congratulations to him. More details and the report of the meeting in the next issue of The Springbok.



Letters to the Editor

Ian Matheson has written in response to John Philpot's query in the last issue:

Please allow me a comment about the 2/6 blue and brown OFFICIAL overprinted stamps.

I am pleased to read John Philpot's comments on the 2/6 blue and brown. This stamp has been conspicuously under-reported. As I showed in my exhibit, the block dated 23 April 1947 proves that there was at least one gap in the Union Handbook, where the first blue and brown 2/6 is reported for November 1947. My speculation was that the pre-Nov '47 blue and brown issues may even have comprised two issues, one with diæresis and one without. The reason I make such speculation is that (i) to match the issue numbers quoted by SA Post Office for the November 1946 issue, we would expect 99 half sheets (blue and brown and with diæresis?) and (ii) the announcement that a further 200 sheets were supplied on 21 November 1946 (blue and brown without diæresis?) confirms a second set. If 200 sheets with diæresis had been produced they would be much more common than they are. Therefore I presume the second set to be without diæresis! As the diæresis set certainly exists, I assume that both sets were in blue and brown; they would not change back to green and brown for a single issue. The strange date of John's block is, unfortunately, post-Nov 1947 so it does not prove much, but I think there is still a good chance that it belongs to one of the two unreported 2/6 sets. I have lumped them both into set 20A but it would not surprise me that there were 2/6 duties in both set 20A and 20. Unfortunately we need more large or positional pieces like John's to define the setting and still more to prove the presence of two different settings. A further comment on the 2/6 blue and brown. Reference to my exhibit will show that I have two printings of 2/6 that do not fit into the current framework. Maybe one of them is the missing set 20 and the other belongs to set 23A? Stephan Welz in Johannesburg sold an upper left corner block some months ago from the second of my unidentified printings. It had the same shade and the same fine lettering. The lettering is so fine that it resulted in the lot being mis-described as "both words short" (variety V3) on all four stamps. Of course it was not an example of this variety, but it did confirm the existence of another printing instead of a colour changeling.

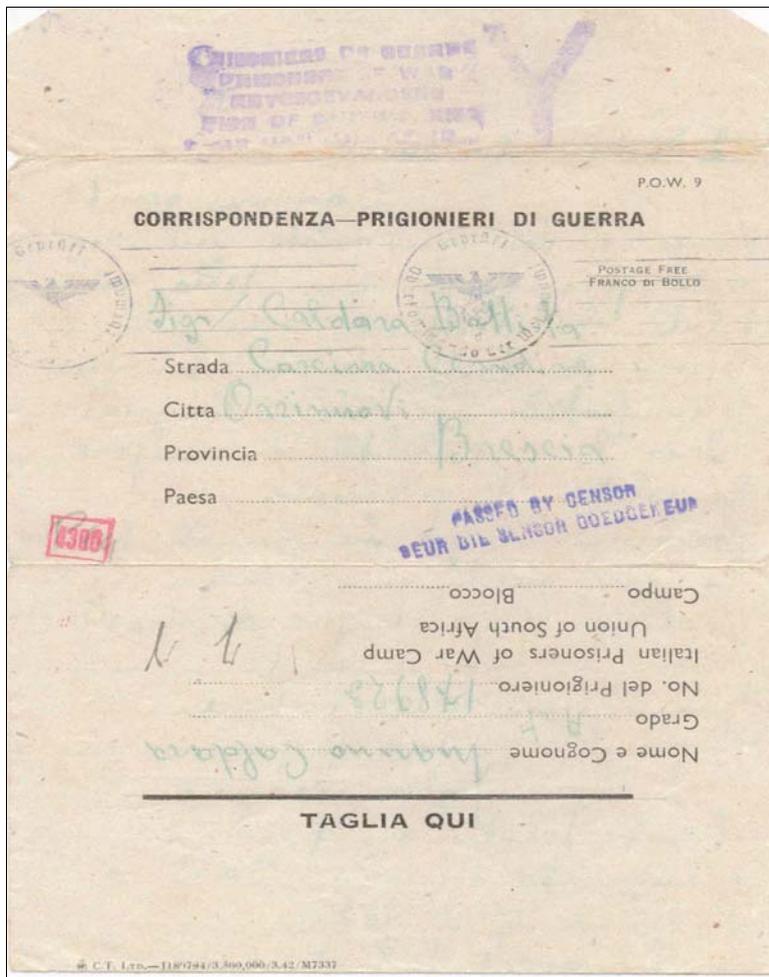


Illustration 78. POW 9, type 4. Censor type 1. Also, Note the five-line censor cachet with 'Y', which is a mystery.

South Africa South West Africa

Fully illustrated lists available for the above countries. Two lists available for South Africa, one featuring better single items, sets and varieties and the second, Postal History. If you would like a copy, please contact:

OTTO PEETOOM

ORMSKIRK STAMPS

Rectory Road, Roos, Near HULL, East Yorkshire, HU12 0LD England

TEL: 01964 670239

INTERNATIONAL +44 1964 670239

FAX: 01964 671204

+44 1964 671204

Website: www.rhodesianstamps.net

For those with other interests, we have separate lists for The Rhodesias including Nyasaland; Basutoland, Bechuanaland & Swaziland, East Africa, Tanganyika, Zanzibar & K.U.T. and Nyasaland Field Force.

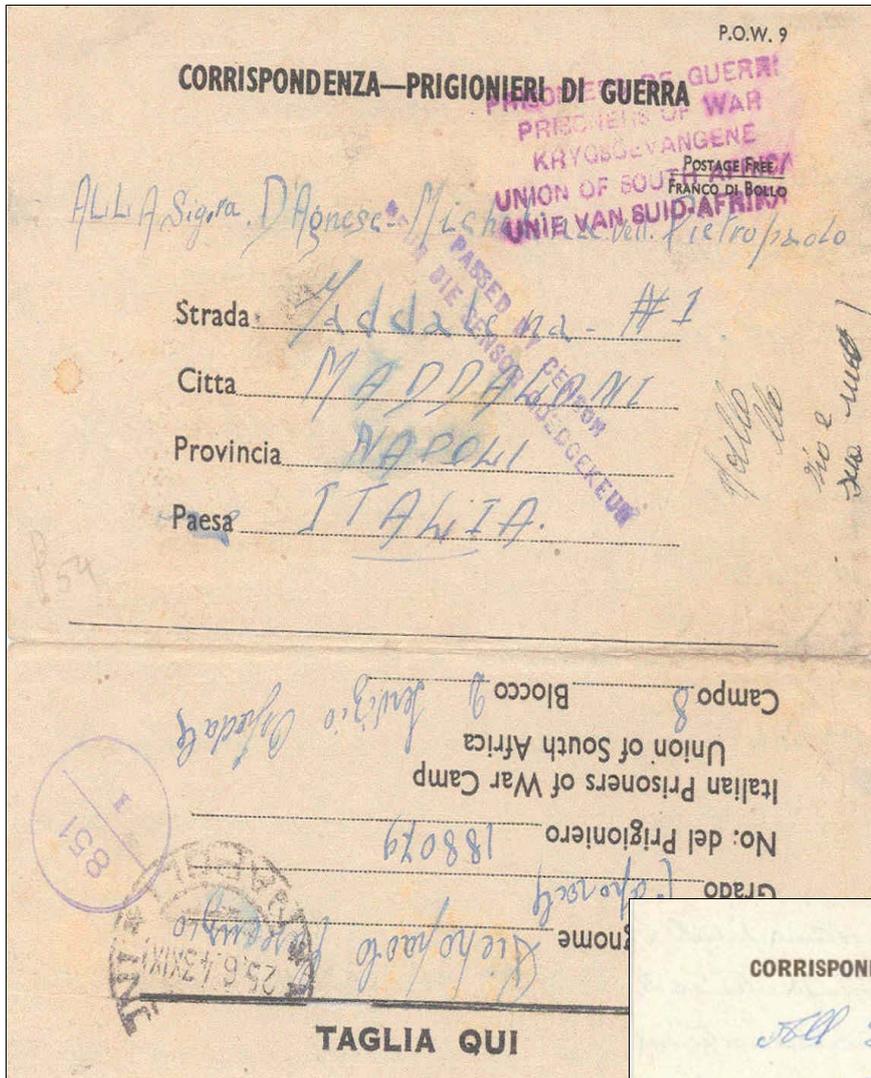
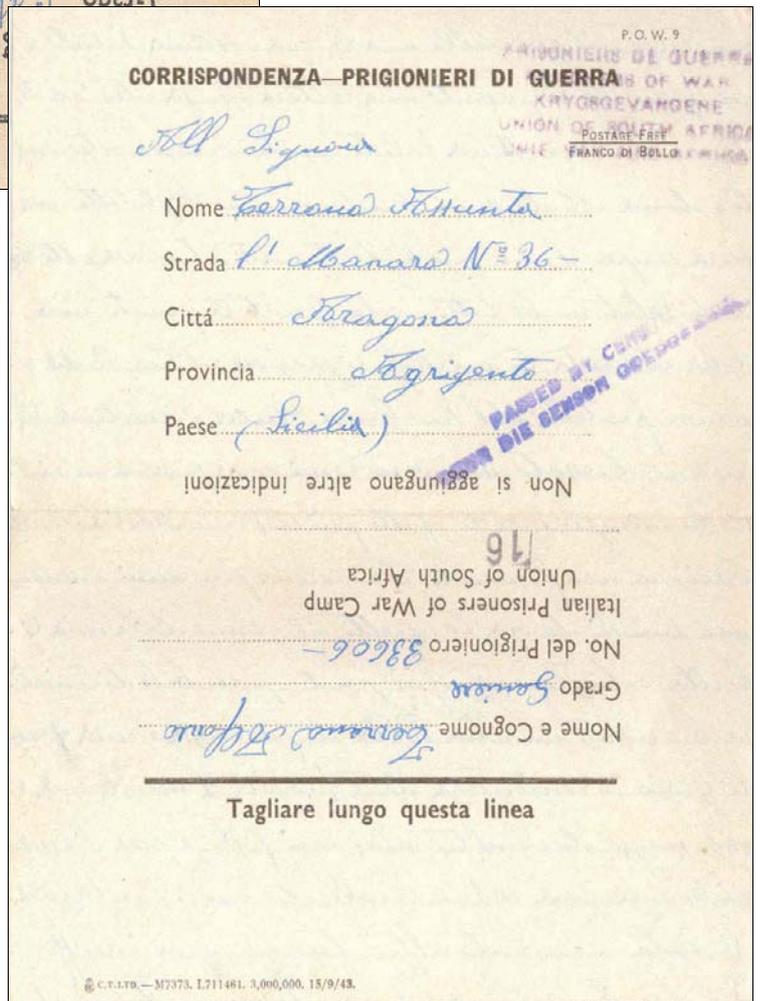


Illustration 79. POW 9, type 5: The title of "CORRISPONDENZA – PRIGIONIERI DI GUERRA" is shorter than that of Type 4, and the address details are bolder than those of Type 4. Censor type 1 (Dickson)

Illustration 80. POW 9, type 6, censor type 1. (Dickson)



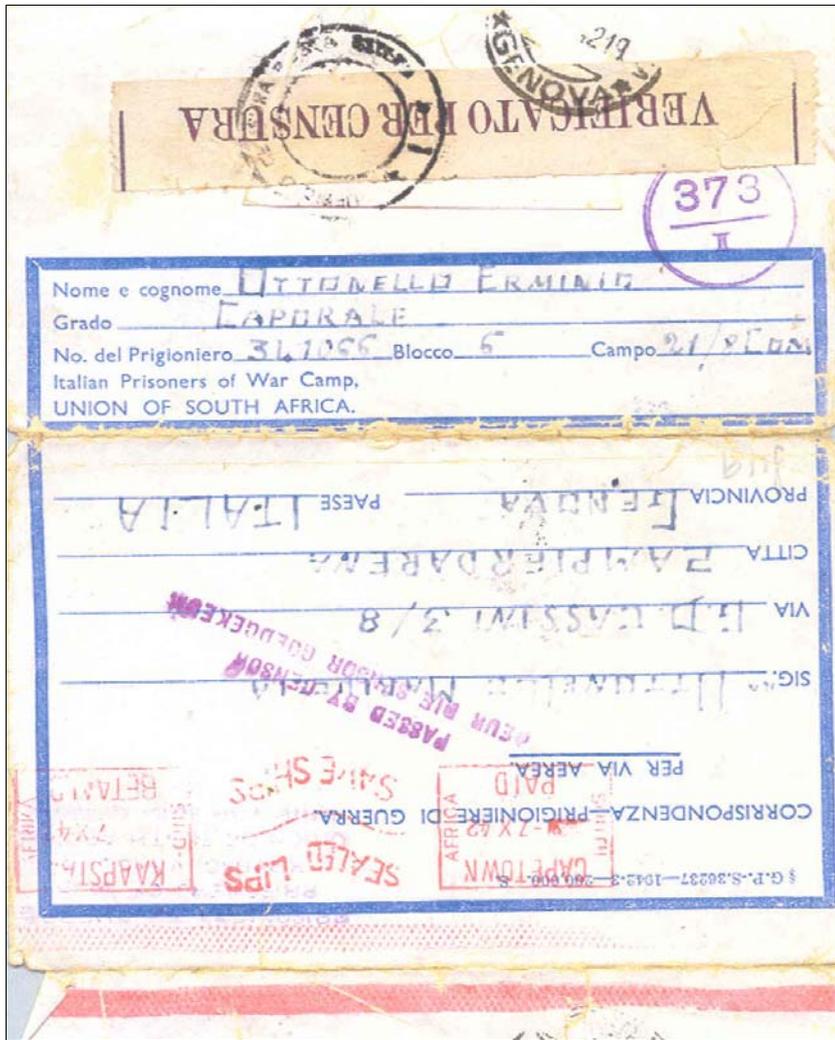
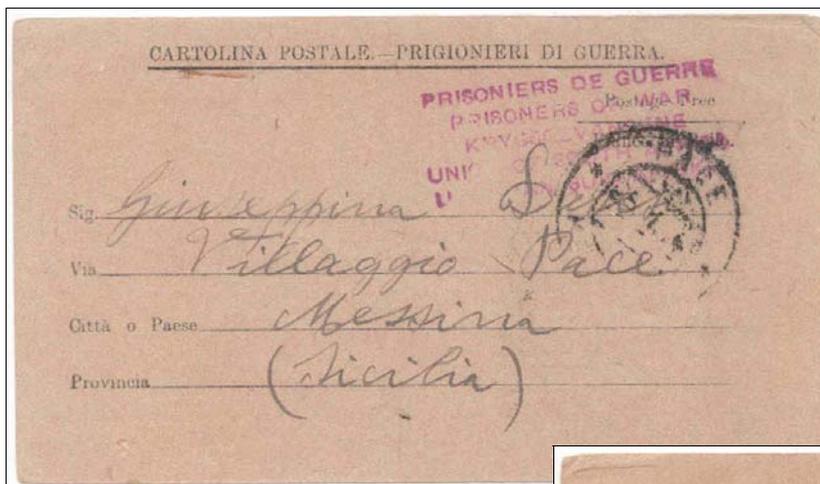


Illustration 81. POW 9, type 7, censor type 1. (Daynes)

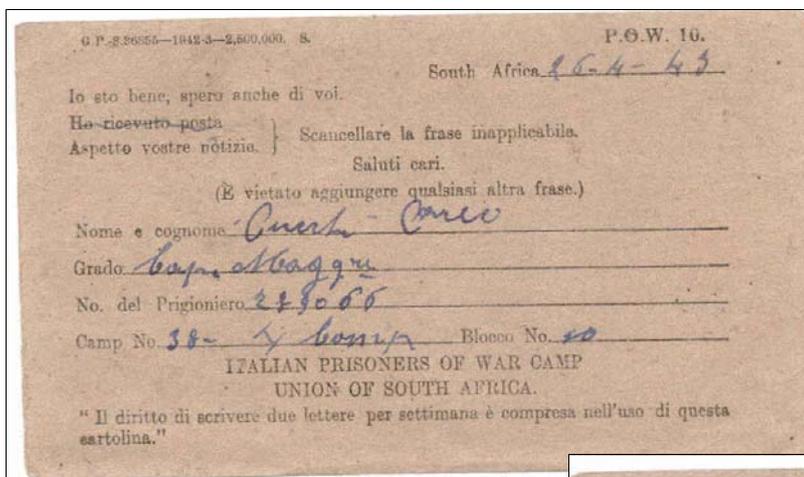
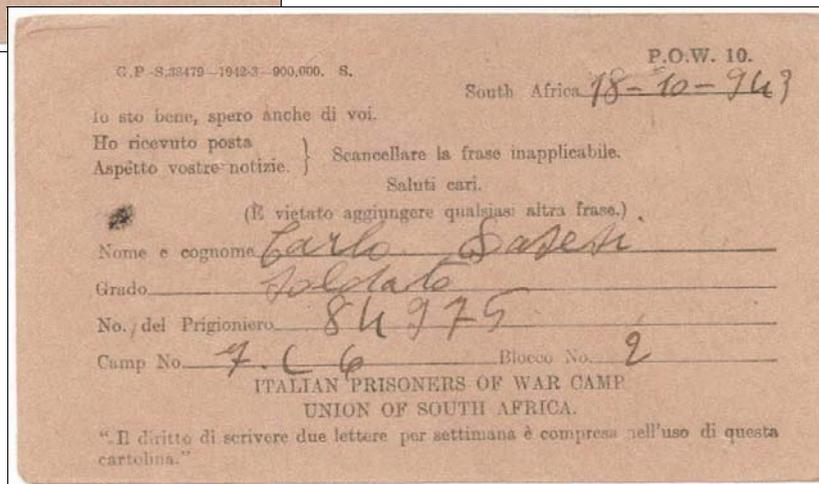
Table 3 Post cards: P.O.W. 10 stationery issued to Italian POWs in South Africa during World War 2.

Type No.	Printer	Date	No. Printed	Size	Language
1.	GP	1942-3	900.000	132 x 75mm	Italian
2.	GP	1942-3	2.500.000	132 x 75mm	Italian
3.	GP	1943-4	3.000.000	152 x 91mm	Italian, English.

Scarcity ratings: Type 1: 7 Type 2: 4 Type 3: 4



Illustrations 82 and 82a. Front and back of POW 10, type 1 with five-line trilingual cachet (Dickson)



Illustrations 83 and 83a. Front and back of POW 10, type 2 (Dickson)



(Data) Epifania 1944
 Caro Pasquale, con la presen-
 te ti faccio sapere che sto in bu-
 nissimo stato di salute, come
 pure vorrei sentire di te e di
 mamma e la sorelle come state
 perché l'ultima postale che ho
 ricevuta era datata 8/6/43.
 Salutarmi tutti, baci a mamma,
 a te molte affezioni tuo frat. del. del.

Illustrations 84 and 84a. Front and back of
 POW 10, type 3 (Dickson)

SERVICE OF PRISONERS OF WAR. P.O.W. 10. TYPE 3

ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR CAMP
 UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Name: Brunco Pasquale
 No. 281376 Grado P.V.

Mitt: _____
 AL: _____

KEUR. UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
 KEUR. UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
 KEUR. UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA
 KEUR. UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

Brunco Pasquale
Via S. Rosa 17
Bari, Puglia
Prov. Bari
- Italia -

G.P.-S.42803-1943-4-3,000,000. B.

Letter Sheets for German POWs

The German prisoners who, arriving in Durban, were not sent on to camps in other countries, were transferred to the Pietermaritzburg Camp. It is not clear why some German POWs were retained in South Africa. The Official Year Book of the Union of South Africa (Chapter 29, No. 23 of 1946, entitled "The Union of South Africa and the War") records 2006 German prisoners held in 1942 and 2000 in 1943. All of these prisoners had been transferred out the Union by the end of 1943.

This small contingent of German prisoners required some form of stationery, either letter sheets, postcards, or both. The printing of the letter sheets was initiated in April 1942, with the final proof being approved by the Adjutant-General on 18 May 1942 (see illustration 84 below). There is no evidence of an official postcard having been printed for these prisoners.

Two examples of the letter sheet, printed by the Government Printer in German, and used in June 1943, are recorded (see illustrations 85 and 86 below). The job number is G.P.-S 38074, the date of printing is indicated as 1942-3 and a total of 20,000 were printed. There is no allocated POW stationery number, as for the Italian letter sheets (POW 9) and postcards (POW 10). All headings are in German, except for "German Prisoners of War Transit Camp. UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA" in the address and the words "Postage Free". Both used examples received a Passed By Censor cachet, of different sizes (Type 1c and an unrecorded type, 36 x 6 mm). If there were 2,000 prisoners and a printing of 20,000, then 10 letter sheets were allocated to each prisoner. The letter sheets can be regarded as rare.

Other official POW forms were P.O.W. 1 – individual Medical Record Form; W.R./P.O.W 5 – South African Red Cross Society, Prisoners of War Interned in the Union of South Africa (list); P.O.W. 8 – Strength Return of Prisoners of War; P.O.W. 8^A – Weekly State of Prisoners of War Interned at 12:00 Hrs; P.O.W. Forms 16, 17, 18 and 19 concerned transfers of pay to and from POWs.

Civilian internees used ordinary civilian stationery.

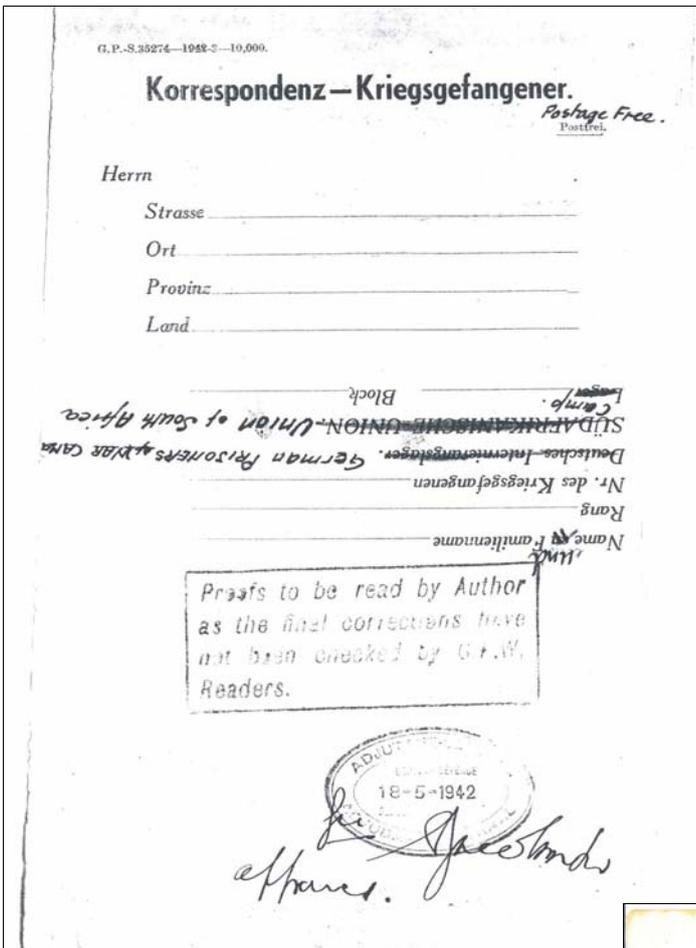
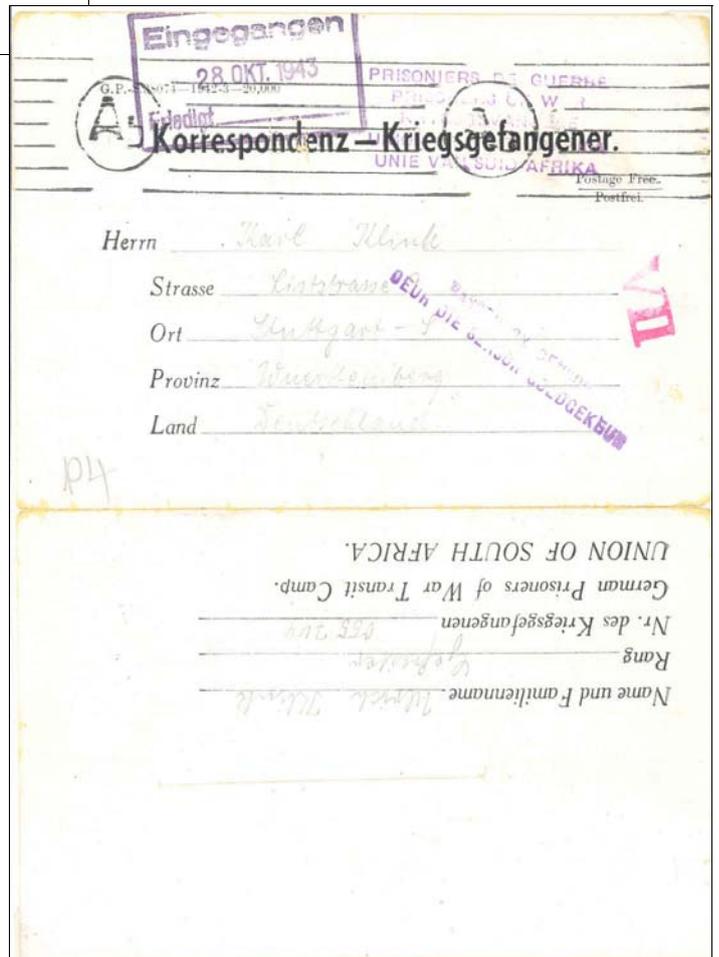


Illustration 85. Proof of the letter sheet for German POWs (SANDF)

Illustration 86. Letter sheet sent on 29 June 1943, arriving in Stuttgart 122 days later. (Findlay)



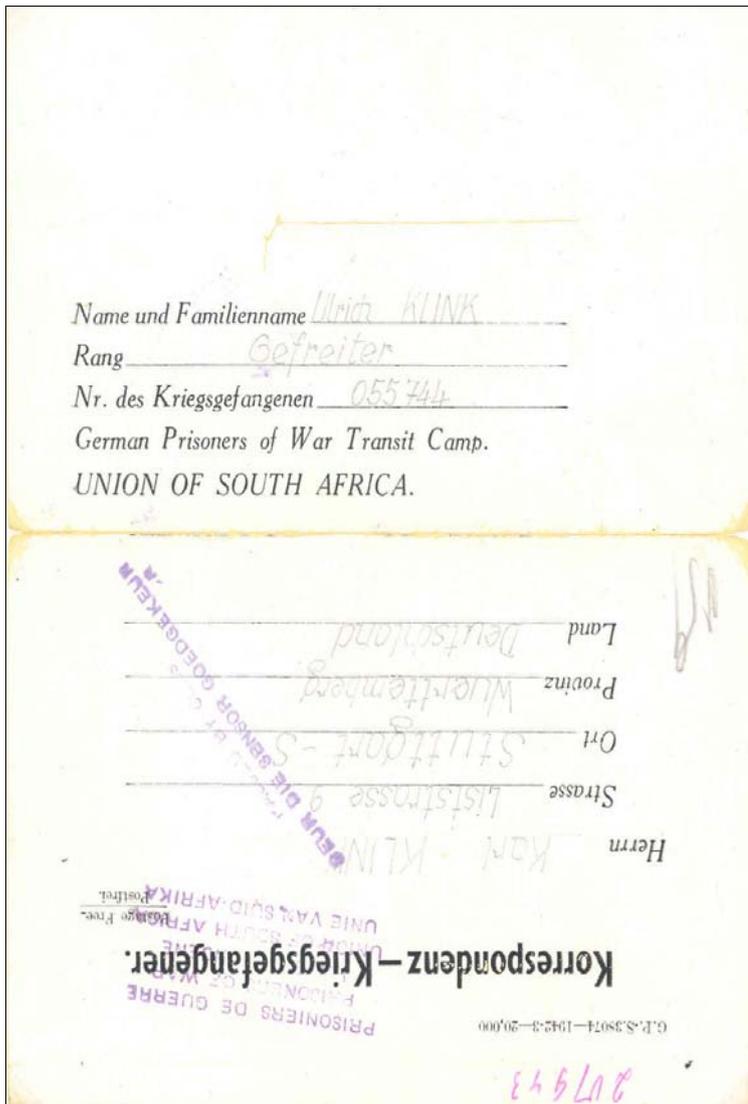


Illustration 87. Letter sheet sent on 8 June 1943, arriving in Stuttgart 104 days later (Findlay)

Enemy POW Mail Postal Routes to South Africa

According to the Assistant Director Army Postal Services Union Defence Force (ADAPS UDF) records, all mail from Germany and Italy to German and Italian POWs in South Africa went via Geneva in Egypt. Mail from Germany went to Basel (Switzerland), then to Istanbul (Turkey), to Palestine and then to Geneva. Mail from Italy was collected at Chiasso and then followed the same route via Basle to Geneva. Mail to German and Italian POWs in Canada, the UK and the USA went from Basel via Lisbon (Portugal) to each country.

On arrival in Egypt, all mail to enemy POWs went to the Chief Prisoners of War Censor (G.S.I.(c)) before it was forwarded to the Central POW Postal Section at Geneva (located at POW Camp 306), which was responsible for the sorting of all POW mail. This was part of the British Army Post Office 207 (BAPO 207); Field Army Post Office 135 (APO 135) was responsible for the dispatch of all mail. Mail was first sorted alphabetically for each camp destination, then counted, and the bundles were labeled and addressed (for example, "Bag No. XXX, destination South Africa; contents 8,975 letters – date of dispatch 21.9.42". An official from BAPO 207 would seal the bags with the "Field APO 135" impression.

From Geneva, the mail went by road to the BAPO at Port Tewfik, where it was loaded onto a ship to Cape Town. On arrival in Cape Town, the POW mail went to the Central POW Postal Section for censorship. It then went to Zonderwater Camp before being directed to the camp where the POW was located.

Radio Messages

In order to accelerate the exchange of messages between POWs and their families or next of kin, use was made of the radio. An agreement was reached whereby very short messages (maximum of 25 words) could be sent, via the POW camp commandant, to the Chief Censor in Cape Town.

Once the censor's approval had been granted, the item was given to the Apostolic Delegate. The Vatican Radio had specific stations in England, Egypt, Australia, India and South Africa to relay POW messages. All messages were routed through Cairo, which appears to have been the central co-ordinating station for contact with Rome. The South African Secretary for External Affairs approved this system on 26 May 1942 and it was reciprocal for Italian POWs in South Africa and South African POWs in Germany and Italy. The messages were written on printed forms with space for the name and address of both the sender and addressee as well as for a return message.

Messages from family and next of kin to POWs were posted to the censor and marked "via Durban and Cairo for disposal via Egypt".

The Vatican Radio would confirm the sending of these messages in writing (where possible) and many service organizations would listen to the broadcasts and forward the messages to the relevant people. There are many examples of postcards confirming the sending of radio messages. The South African Red Cross played a major role in the collection and distribution of these messages.

Broadcasting to Africa by the Vatican Radio was daily at 19h15 to 19h45 on wavelength DGZ 14605 (20.54m).

Mod. 40 CHRISTMAS GREETINGS



Date

SECRETARIAT OF STATE
TO HIS HOLINESS

THIS MESSAGE HAS BEEN TRANSMITTED
BY RADIO ON 22 DEC. 1942

Sender Bernard Friedlander.

Rank Lance-Corporal. No. 241876

Camp No. 104. Military Post 3200.

Addressee Mrs. H. Friedlander.

Street 44 Pearson Street.

Town Port Elizabeth.

County Eastern Province.

Country South Africa.

Message (10 words - Season's greetings only)

X'Mas and New Year Greetings
to all. Fit smiling lore.

Illustration 88. Christmas Greetings message, 22 December 1942(Findlay)

26 February 1942

- The Vatican Radio in Rome broadcast short messages from prisoners of war to their next of kin. These were monitored by various organizations and the message was passed on to the family.
- Below are examples of a message sent by Private Cyril Brenner which was monitored by St. Augustine's Catholic Church, Germiston, and the Women's Auxiliary Service, Brakpan.

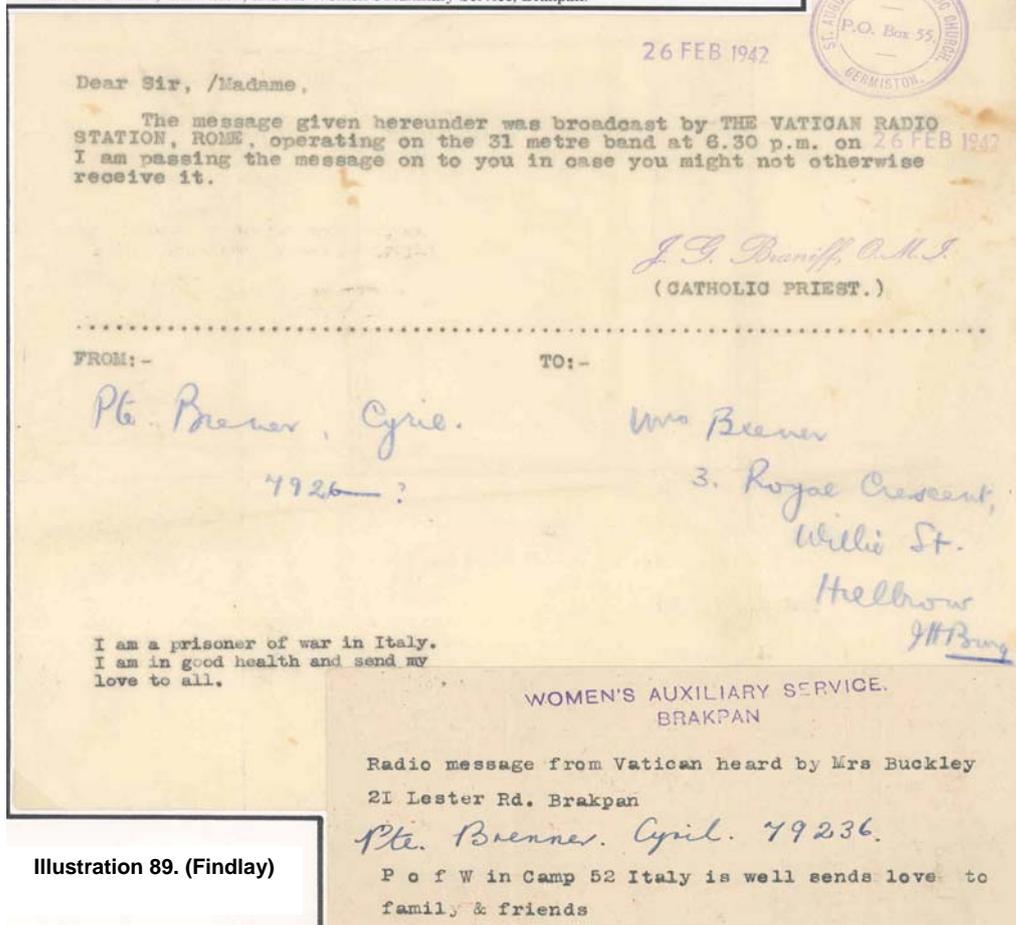
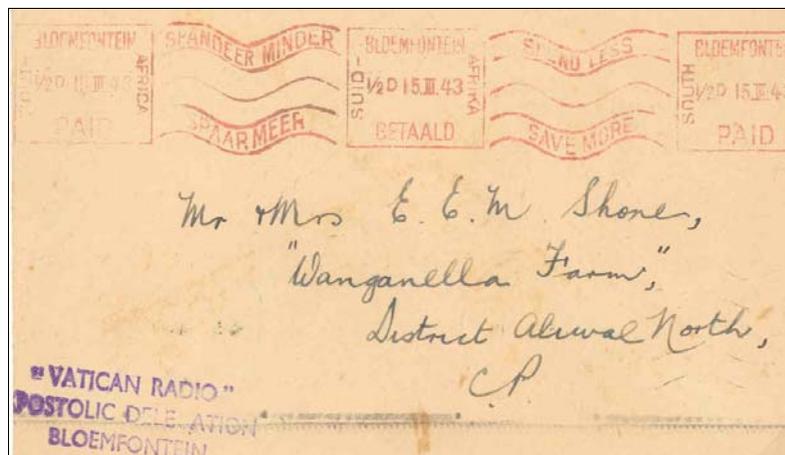


Illustration 89. (Findlay)



Illustration 91. Apostolic Delegation cachet type 2 (Findlay)

Illustration 92. Apostolic Delegation Bloemfontein cachet. (Findlay)



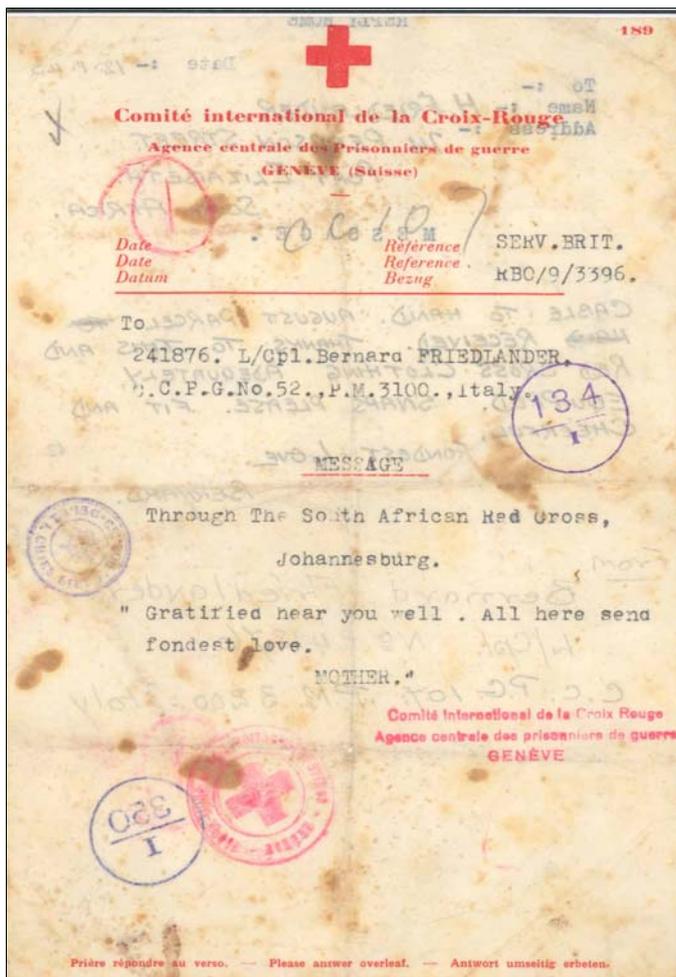


Illustration 90. Message from his mother in Port Elizabeth to L/Cpl. Bernard Friedlander, a POW in Camp 107, Torviscosa, Italy. The message was forwarded by the Red Cross in SA to the Red Cross in Geneva, where it was typed on this form. The Red Cross in Rome then forwarded the message to the Camp. Friedlander replied on the back, and the form was returned by the same route back to SA, being censored in Egypt on route. (Findlay)

POW Camp Telegraphic Addresses

Each of the camps had a telegraphic address registered with the Post Office for the ease and speed of delivery of telegrams (as at 29 January 1945). These addresses are:

Aliwal North:	POWNORTH	Cookhouse:	POWCOOK
Kroonstad:	POWSTAD	Montague Pass:	POWMONT
Pietermaritzburg:	POWPIET	Standerton:	POWVAAL
Warmbaths:	POWBATHS	Worcester:	POWWOR
Zonderwater:	POWZON		

Conclusion

There were 43 POW camps and 6 internment camps established in South Africa during World War 2. There were many “outside labour camps”, which were the result of Italian POWs co-operating with the government after Italy capitulated in 1943. Mail items from the POW camps are not common and only 19 POW camps are recorded as having an identifying cachet(s). The present study is by no means complete. New camps, cachets, markings and information will no doubt come to light. The authors welcome correspondence in this regard.

Acknowledgements

The help of the following individuals has been greatly appreciated:

- Fabrizio Bensi, Comité International de la Croix-Rouge, Archives Division, Geneva;
- Emilio Coccia of the Zonderwater Block Association, who opened up new sources of information;
- Tom Mullins, whose knowledge of all aspects of WW2 postal history in SA is enormous;
- Lt. Steve de Agrela and staff of the South African National Defence Force Documentation Centre, who sourced and provided a wealth of information;
- Leslie Roberts of the Mountain Park Hotel, Bulwer;
- George Cafetzoglou, Leo Crandel, Chris Miller, John Daynes and John Dickson who generously gave access to their collections.

The authors would be glad to receive comments, additional information and scans of unusual covers, at the following addresses:

J.B.R. Findlay at P.O.Box 3474, Parklands, 2121, South Africa, agrecon@pixie.co.za;

Rory Ryan at P.O.Box 1683, Halfway House, 1685, South Africa, rpr@lw.rau.ac.za.

References

Anonymous. 1989. 'South African Internment Camps of the Second World War.' **The Post Office Stone**, 104 (May 1989), pp.19-22.

Deane, John. 1988. 'Three camps of World War II', in **Pietermaritzburg 1838 – 1988: A New Portrait of an African City**"; ed. John Laband and Robert Haswell (Pietermaritzburg: University of Natal Press), pp110-113.

Findlay, J.B.R. 1997. 'The Weza Prisoner of War Camp'. **The S.A.Philatelist**, 73(3), June 1997, p84.

Gazzani, Mario. 1987. **Zonderwater I Prigionieri in Sudafrica (1941-1947)**. Rome, Bonacci.

Harvey Pirie, J.H. 1953. **World War II Philately of Southern and Eastern Africa**. Johannesburg: Africana Museum.

Huntingford, N.P.C. 1988. 'Italian Prisoners of War in South Africa during World War II.' **Museum Review**, Vol.2(1).

International Red Cross Committee Archives (*Archives du CICR*), Geneva: (i) Document call number BG17/135, *Union Sud-africaine*; (ii) Document call number CJC, *Afrique du Sud* 1939-1950.

Kock, Rolf. 1975. **Erinnerungen an die Internierungszeit (1939 – 1946) und zeitgeschichtliche Ergänzungen**. October 1975.

Kruger, Cecilia. 1991. **Italiaanse krygsgevangenes in die Zonderwaterkamp, Suid Afrika, 1941 – 1947**. B.A.Hons dissertation, University of Pretoria.

Little, John. 2000. **British Empire Civil Censorship Devices, World War II: Colonies and Occupied Territories in Africa**. Civil Censorship Study Group.

Michelson, Jonas. 2001. 'Types of Unit Cachets: Union Defence force, World War II'. Unpublished.

Migliavacca, G. 1980. **Italian P.O.W. and Internees in Africa**. Pavia, Italy: private publication.

Post Office Circular 1112 (16 October 1939): paragraph 5, page 6434.

Post Office Circular 1173 (16 December 1940); supplement paragraphs 13 and 14.

South African National Defence Force Documentation Centre: Adjutant General, POW archives.

South African National Military Museum (Saxonwold, Johannesburg): Reference library newspaper cuttings and pamphlets.

Spong, Colin. 2001. 'French Prisoners of War in South Africa.' Typescript.

Tabachnik, A. 1980. 'Cachets and Censor Markings of World War II Internment Camps.' **The S.A.Philatelist**, January 1980, pp 4-6.

Tabachnik, A. 1981. 'World War II POW Mail from South Africa.' **The S.A.Philatelist**, May 1981, pp141-143.

Articles needed

The basket of articles is now empty. The next issue will be very thin if members do not put pen to paper and write a few short articles, items of interest etc.

Desperate Editor!

Argyll Etkin Limited

For

FINE STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY OF THE WORLD

Specialised material from most Countries - Artists' drawings, Essays,
Proofs, Specimens, Postal Stationery, Stamp Boxes.

Items of Historical Interest
including
Royalty - both British and Foreign

* * * * *

We have always had a particular interest in Southern African territories,
and can usually offer an interesting range of material from those areas.

* * * * *

We also undertake valuations of Philatelic & Historical material for all purposes,
including insurance & probate.

* * * * *

AUCTIONS

We hold at least two major auctions per year, offering substantial collections and material
which is relatively new to the market.

We are situated 100 yards from Piccadilly Circus - and welcome visitors
Mondays to Fridays 9 - 5

**27 Regent Street, Piccadilly Circus,
(Entrance in Jermyn St)
London SW1Y 4UA, United Kingdom**

Tel: 020 7437 7800 Fax: 020 7434 1060

E-mail: philatelists@argyll-etkin.com

Website: www.argyll-etkin.com



Stephan Welz & Co.

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

Sotheby's

EST. 1744



Postage Stamp and Postal History sales



SG 206a



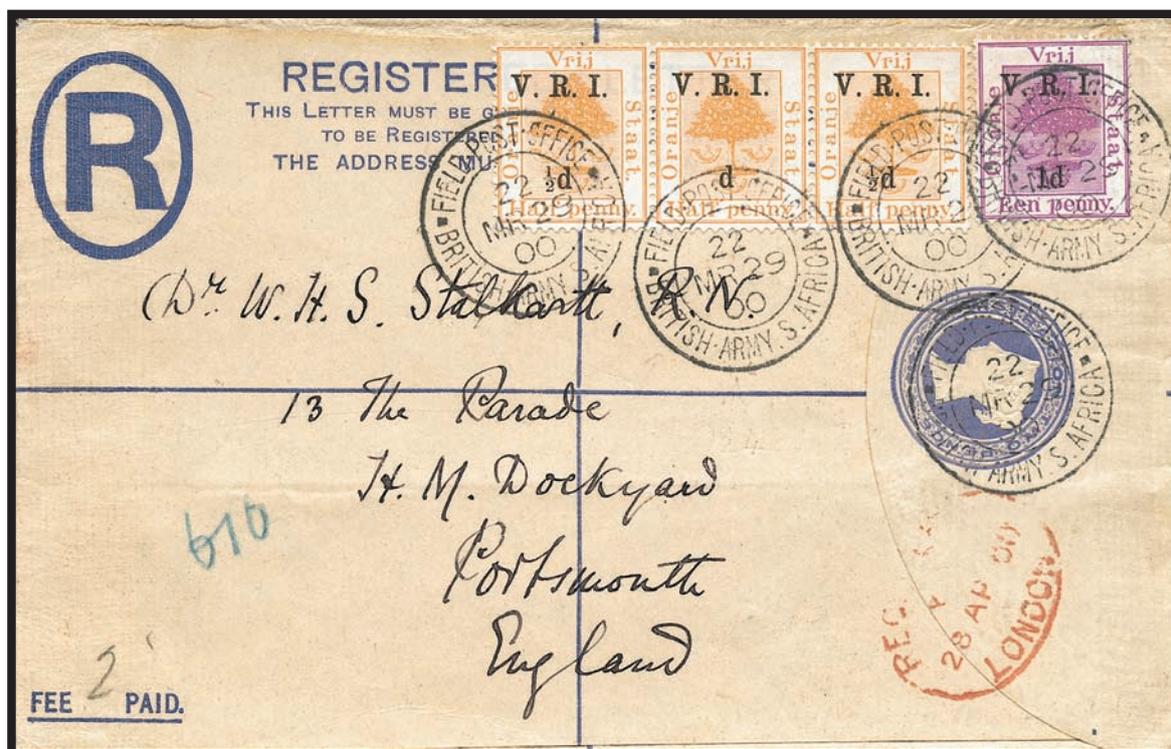
£1 Perf 15



5/- used in S.W.A.



Shifted overprint



Missing '1/2' in strip of three

ENQUIRIES: HOWARD GREEN, DANNY SWART OR MORNÈ DE LA GUERRE

Tel: (011) 880-3125/9 Fax: (011) 880-2656

E-Mail: jhb@sothebys.co.za
Stephan Welz & Co. (Pty) Ltd.
(Reg. No. 68/14585/07)

13 Biermann Avenue, off Oxford Road, Rosebank, 2196
P.O Box 52431, Saxonwold 2132, South Africa.