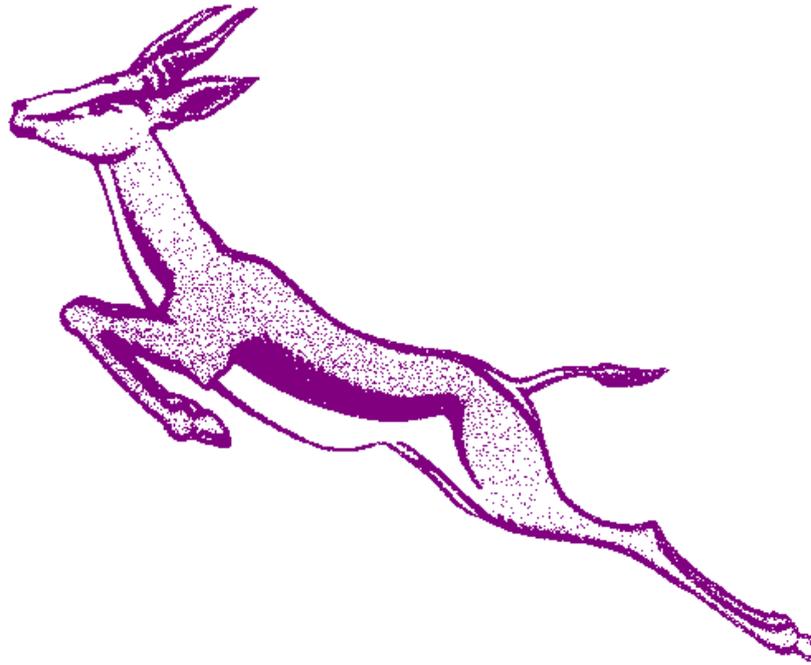


THE SPRINGBOK



SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY QUARTERLY

Vol. 57

No. 4

Oct/Dec 2009



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The Springbok

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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.

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Events for your Diary 2009

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

7th Mar.	SACS London meeting	Subject: Silver Jubilee & other Union Commemoratives.
28th Mar	SACS Carlisle meeting	Subject: Open meeting
2nd May	SACS London meeting	Subject: Joint meeting with Cinderella P.S.
23rd May.	SACS Leicester meeting	Subject: Open meeting
9th Aug.	SACS Portishead meeting	Subject: Open meeting
26th Sep.	SACS Carlisle meeting	Subject: Sport, games and past-times in South Africa
3rd Oct.	SACS London meeting	Subject: Abell Trophy & The Homelands
28th Nov.	SACS London meeting	Subject: Republican Postcards

13-15th Nov. Southern African Societies Convention Falstaff Hotel Leamington Spa

Other Events for 2009

25-28th Feb.	Spring Stampex, Business Design Centre, Islington, London.
26-28th Feb.	Spring Philatex, Royal Horticultural Halls, Vincent Sq. London
13th June	Swinpex in Swindon
11th July	Midpex in Coventry
16-19th July	Philatelic Congress at Salford, Manchester
16-19th Sep.	Autumn Stampex, Business Design Centre, Islington, London
5-7th 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

As the year draws to a close, we may reflect on the state of our hobby and in particular our Society. Despite the anxiety that the hobby is in decline we appear to be holding our own. Yes, our membership has declined slightly and we should endeavour to try and recruit members for our Society. South Africa and in particular the Union period offers a lifelong challenge with many new discoveries still emerging to this day. This despite the Union being formed a hundred years ago in May next year.

This brings me to the topic of the celebrations next year. SACS will be displaying philately of the Union on the Village Green at Spring Stampex in February. Please make an effort to support and attend this event. We are very honoured that Lord Selborne will open the displays. He is the Great Grandson of the 2nd Earl Selborne who was the High Commissioner to South Africa from 1905 –1910 and played a significant role in facilitating the establishment of the Union of South Africa.

Elsewhere in this journal you will find more information on the 10/- London Pictorial with the inverted centre as illustrated in the previous issue. David Page has done some digging and come up with interesting information on this item. It is not listed in the Union Handbook or SACC but is listed by Gibbons.

The in tray for articles is now empty and I am need of some new material here. If you are working on something, please let me know.

All that remains is for me to wish you all a joyous festive season and a happy new year.

Eddie Bridges

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SACS Exhibition at Stampex 2010

Arrangements are now well advanced and looks like this will be an event not to be missed. The aim is to display as much as possible of the stamps and postal history of the Union of South Africa from 1910 to 1961.

We have approximately 160 frames each capable of holding 16 album pages.

I still need some volunteers for subjects as listed in the list that will accompany this issue of *The Springbok*.

The areas we need to cover are the Commemorative issues. If you can do anything from 8 pages (half a frame) to a full frame or more, please let me know soonest. I need to finalise these frame allocations by end of November latest. WE have also had offers from overseas members, but unfortunately this is complicated, as we have not applied to customs and excise for permission to import collections and allow them back out the country again. However, if you want to visit us in February, you will be welcome to hand carry your collections yourself and declare them when you enter with the necessary paperwork. Let me know if you would like to follow this route.

Thanks to the members who have already volunteered some help, and offer to display something.

Closer to the time I will be looking for some volunteers to man the information table at the show as well as help in mounting and dismounting the displays. The logistics of this will be communicated shortly.

We have also been offered some publicity in the national philatelic press and if anyone is willing to put an article or two together with some pictures/illustrations, please let myself or Chris Oliver know. We need to maximise this opportunity. This needs to be decided soon as it needs to be in the February issues which appear early January. These all have copy deadlines towards the end of November.

Eddie Bridges

Membership Matters

by Chris Oliver

Not much to report apart from the good news that we have found replacements for the posts of Auctioneer and Packets Superintendent after Bill Branney indicated that he wished to relinquish these responsibilities due to failing health. Bill served the Society for many years in these positions and we thank him for this.

Nick Arrow has taken over the responsibility for the Auctions and Tony Johnson that of the circulating packets. These members were ratified at the AGM held in Carlisle. Gentlemen, welcome on board and hope you have many years of enjoyment in these positions.

Colin Hoffman Regional Vice President for Societies outside South Africa

At the recent annual meeting of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa, Colin was appointed as Regional Vice President for Societies outside South Africa. We congratulate him and wish him every success. He is assured that he will receive the full support and cooperation from SACS.

Colin is well known to most and is a regular attendee of the annual Leamington Conference where all of the Southern Societies affiliated to the Philatelic Federation in Britain meet. Very convenient!

The 10/- London Pictorial with inverted centre

Since my request for information in the last issue, two people have come forward with information. David Page has done some digging and his findings and comments can be found elsewhere in this issue. Below is a composite of the known stamps that he has put together. Otto Peetoom has also promised to put his information together based on the display he showed at Leamington Spa. This will be published in the next issue.



LOOKING FOR THE UNUSUAL (OR THE USUAL)



1892-4 Cape of Good Hope 1/2d slate/white Postal Stationery Envelope with addit. 1d KEVII red tied by manuscript WALVIS BAY 5/7/09 in black pen, to Swakopmund, with very neat arrival postmark 12.7.09.

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South African occupation of German South West Africa:

Adapted German postmarks

Part 2

by Colin Faers

Erundu

Erundu post office was opened 30.6.17 and closed 31.3.18. There was no post office here in German colonial times and the adapted German postmark was Wanderstempel II. The office was open for only nine months and postmarks/covers are scarce.

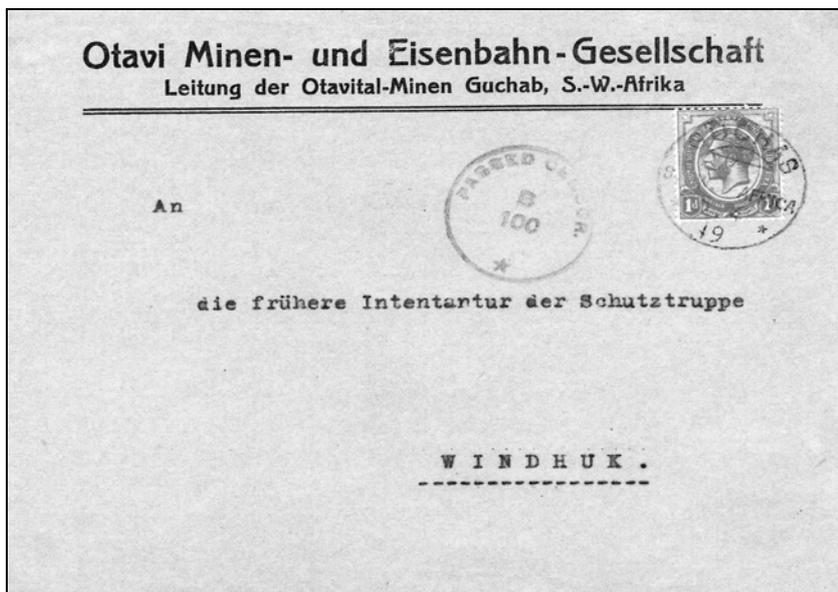
Background note: The German 'Wanderstempel' were used as and where needed, usually on a temporary basis until permanent postmarks arrived from Berlin. Wanderstempel II was made without any place name to be used as required, which was as follows:

Otavi	Oct 1899 – 3 Feb 1900
Hatsamas	1 Mar 1900 – 1 Jun 1900
Kapenousseu	1 Oct 1901 – 31 May 1903
Nauchas	1 Nov 1903 – 13 Jan 1904
Okahandja	30 Jan 1904 – 14 Mar 1904
Waterberg	7 Nov 1904 – 1 Dec 1904
Okowakuatjiwi	23 Jan 1907 – Sept 1907
Otjihavera	25 Nov 1907 – 20 Jan 1908



Guchab

Office opened 11.7.16 and closed 13.8.56 when name was changed to Uchab. Until January 1917 mail was post-marked at Otavi. The German postmark for Gochas was converted to GUCHAB but the 'B' of GUCHAB soon started to revert to the 'S', until it was repaired in 1935.



Commercial censored cover Guchab to Windhuk 5.4.19. GUCHAB postmark B 1a oc showing the 'B' starting to revert to 'S'. Small year slugs – note raised month figure '4'. Circular 'PASSED CENSOR B 100' cachet. Backstamped with adapted oval T.P.O. postmarks WINDHOEK 8.4.19 and 9.4.19.

Kolmanskop

Kolmanskop is situated just to the east of Luderitzbucht. The adapted postmark still retained the double 'NN' from the old German spelling.



Local censored letter with KOLMANNSKOP adapted German postmark 19.7.17 to Luderitzbucht. Postmark without stop between day and month. Opened and resealed with censor tape 101.

Black boxed bilingual 'PASSED BY CENSOR' cachet. Cover backstamped with Luderitzbucht arrival postmark 19 JUL.17, Putzel type B 9 oc.

Luderitzbucht

The first post office in occupied territory. Opened as a Military Post Office 17.9.14, Army Base P.O. 4, which postmark was seen for the first time 25.10.14; Simenhoff confirms this as the first occupation postmark of S.W.A. Postmark usually used without stamps by military personnel. Army Base P.O. 4A has an earliest recorded date of 14.12.14. There are various other army postmarks including dumb postmarks 4 & 4A.

The first definitive civilian adapted postmark was seen end July 1915. The adapted German postmark Putzel B 9 oc has the lines in the inner segments removed, the bottom segment blacked out and the umlaut removed from the 'Ü'.



Commercial censored postcard Warmbad to Luderitzbucht. Boxed bilingual censor cachet.

- 1) Warmbad postmark B 2 oc 5 NOV 1915, time code 'A'. 2) Kalkfontein transit postmark B 1b oc, 'block' instead of time code after month. 3) Keetmanshoop transit postmark B 2 oc, 'block' instead of time code between year and time.
- 4) Luderitzbucht adapted German arrival postmark 18.NOV.15.-9-AM, variety: 'block' instead of '1' in day of month; this variety is not listed in Putzel.

Mariental



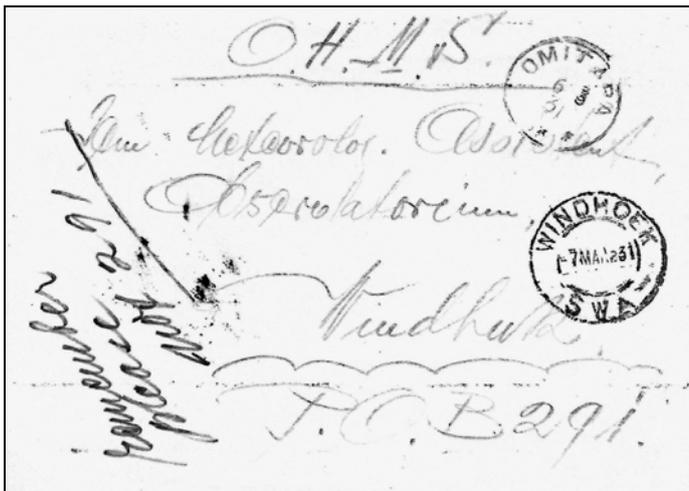
Coloured propaganda card Mariental to Johannesburg 19.6.17 with adapted postmark Putzel B 2 oc – only the letters 'S W A' remain



Keetmanshoop transit postmark 20.JUN.17 (Putzel B 2 oc) and boxed bilingual 'PASSED BY CENSOR' cachet.

Omitara

Office opened 27.5.19. The German post office at Omitara had a very brief existence, having opened 20.6.14 and closed May 1915. During this period the standard bowed type postmark was used; it is one of the rarest of D.S.W.A. postmarks. The old-style single-ring German postmark (not used in German times) was used unaltered at Omitara from 1921 to 1938. It is the only example of an unaltered German postmark.



Omitara to Windhoek 6 3 31. Monthly rainfall report from Schlesierfarm for February 1931. Omitara postmark B 1 oc and Windhoek postmarks B 24 on front and back, both dated 7MAR 31. The one on front has time code 'B' whereas that on the reverse has time code 'A'.

Outjo

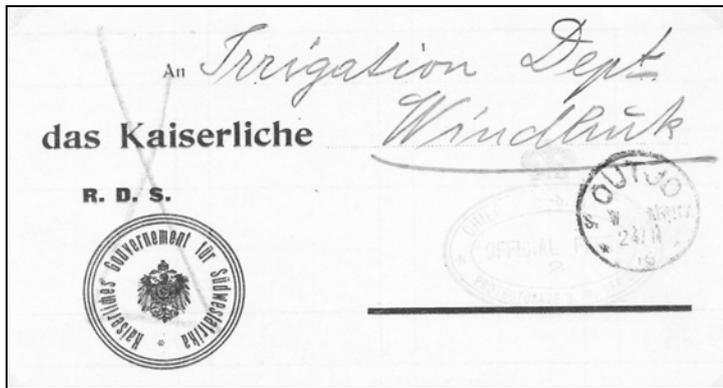
Office opened November 1915. Two different adapted postmarks are shown. B 4 oc is adapted from Wanderstempel V. The earliest recorded date is 27.5.16. In January 1918 this postmark was withdrawn and adapted for use at Witvlei (q.v. for more information). The lettering in this postmark is larger than in B 5 oc below.



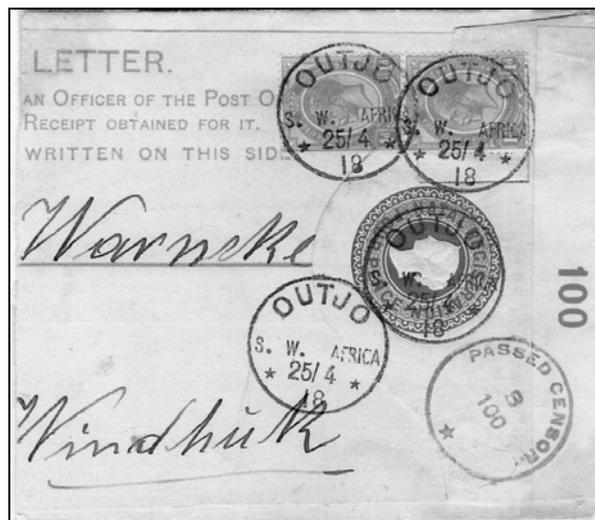
Adapted postmark B 4 oc. For the original Wanderstempel, see Witvlei.



The second adapted postmark B 5 oc. First seen January 1917. Smaller letters for OUTJO.



Monthly rainfall report for Farm Chairros for September 1916 Outjo to Windhuk. Adapted postmark B 4 oc dated 24.11.16. Also with weak purple Crowned Oval 'Chief Secretary Protectorate S. W. Africa – OFFICIAL FREE 2' cachet.



Registered cover Outjo to Windhuk 25.4.18. Correct 6d rate. Natal embossed envelope (trimmed at left); SA provincial envelopes are seldom seen in SWA.

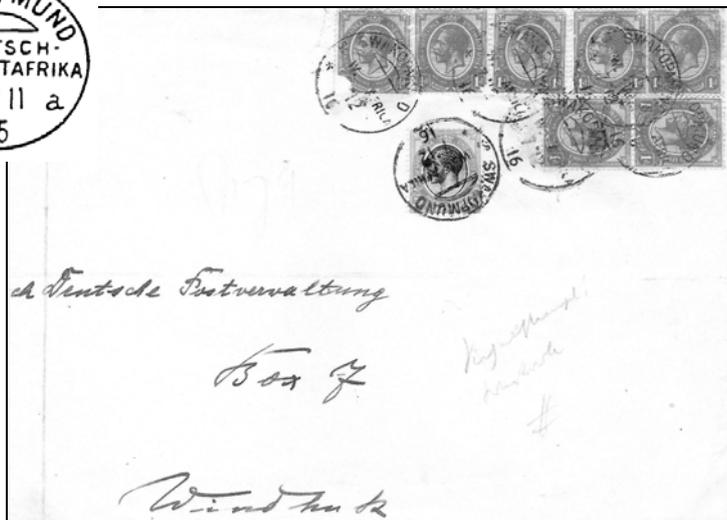
WINDHOEK R.L.S. rubber postmark B 11a oc (smaller year slug) on reverse, a very rare postmark (unfortunately too weak to reproduce adequately).

Swakopmund

Civilian post office from about 25.8.15.



Large registered cover (part) Swakopmund to Windhuk 7.12.16. Bears six strikes of adapted postmark B 7a oc 'raised stop between day and month'. Further strike on back and WINDHUK/R.L.S. (Registered Letter Service) arrival postmark B 11 oc 9 DEC 1916 in green. Censored: opened and resealed with censor tape 100.



Tsumeb

Office probably opened 9.7.15. This was the date of the German surrender and captured German Wanderstempel I appears to have been used unaltered at Tsumeb during July/August 1915. The German bowed postmark was also used unchanged for a short while, until 24.7.15. Tsumeb post office was initially under military control; the date it became a civilian office is not known.

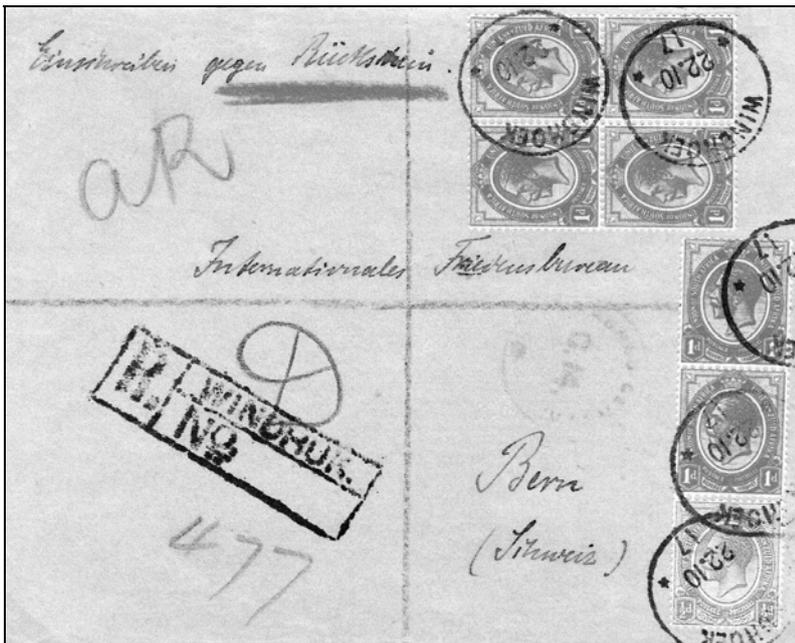


Adapted German postmark B 3 oc. As a temporary measure the word 'DEUTSCH' was sawn horizontally in half. It is known thus from 24.7.15 to mid-August 1915 and is rare.



Windhoek (Windhuk)

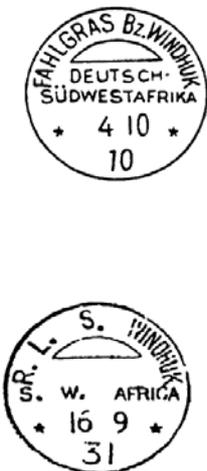
Office opened on day of occupation 12.5.15.



Censored registered cover Windhoek to Bern, Switzerland 22.10.17. Franked 6½d rate. Six strikes of adapted German postmark B 8 oc (including one on reverse). Manuscript 'Einschreiben gegen Rückschein' – advice of receipt (AR). Black rubber R-stamp with pencil '477'. Opened and resealed with bilingual tape 99 and circular 'PASSED CENSOR C.14'.

Windhoek (Windhuk) – Registered Letter Service

Adapted postmark B 14 read 'R. L. S. WINDHUK', adapted from the German postmark for FAHLGRAS Bz. WINDHUK. First recorded 3.1.19, it was still seen as late as 1935.

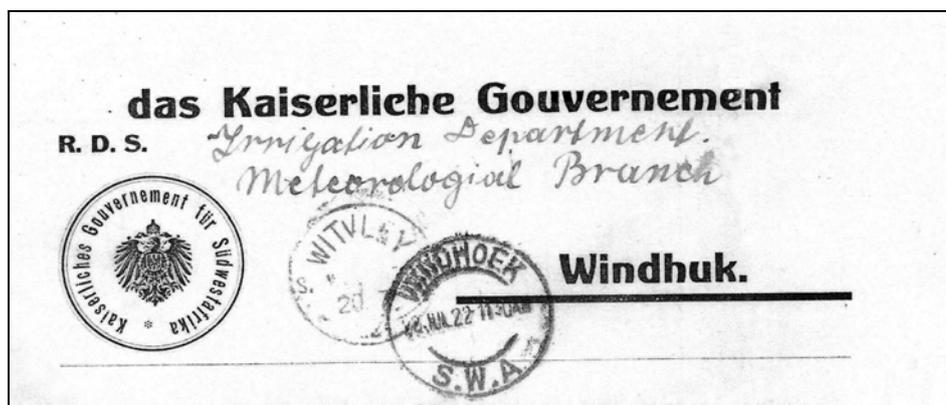


Registered cover Windhoek to Rouville, Orange Free State 4.10.32. Transit postmark DE AAR STATION 8 OCT 32 and ROUXVILLE arrival postmark 10 OCT 32. Franked 6d, registered rate with three fine strikes of the adapted R. L. S. WINDHUK postmark, which is quite scarce and is more often seen used as an arrival postmark on inward mail.

Witvlei (Witvley)

Office opened 20.4.16. The Witvley adapted postmark had been converted four times:

- The original German postmark was for Uhabis, which closed in 1897.
- Then the place name was removed and it became Wanderstempel V, being used in early 1915 for Feldpost 2.
- Under South African occupation it was first converted to OUTJO B 4 oc; and
- then finally to WITVLEY. The final conversion has a stop instead of an oblique stroke between day and month.



Monthly rainfall report from Witvley to Windhuk for May 1922 on official, unaltered 'Kaiserliches Gouvernement' form. Witvley adapted postmark 20.7.22.

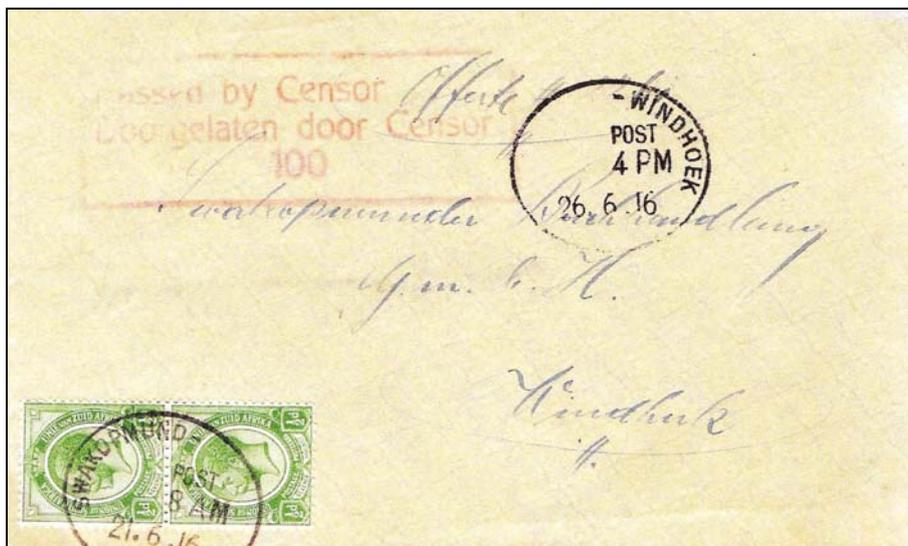
Adapted T.P.O. postmarks – Swakopmund & Windhoek

The construction of the railway in German South West Africa started from Swakopmund in 1897, reached Windhoek on 19 June 1899 and was officially opened 30 July. When the system was completed there was first a broad-gauge line Swakopmund – Karibib – Windhoek and then south with links to Lüderitzbucht and the Cape. A second, narrow-gauge line ran northwards Swakopmund – Usakos – Karibib – Otavi – Tsumeb and Grootfontein. Oval German T.P.O. postmarks were introduced in 1901: ZUG 1 to ZUG 4 and an unnumbered version. These German T.P.O. postmarks are scarce.



During the South African occupation ZUG 1 postmarks were seized and adapted to leave a single town name: either Swakopmund or Windhoek. The date portion remained unchanged. The BAHN of BAHNPOST was removed and a time code added; ZUG 1 was also deleted.

These adapted postmarks are the most commonly seen of all the adapted German postmarks. They are quite easily found but there are many minor varieties, particularly in regard to the date stops, which may be found high, low, missing or even double. The time code is known missing and there are also examples of inverted date slugs etc.



Censored cover Swakopmund to Windhuoek 21.6.16 showing the adapted T.P.O. postmarks for both places: SWAKPOMUND 21.6.16. and WIND-HOEK arrival 26.6.16. Large boxed 3-line bilingual censor cachet No.100.

We thank the Editor of "Germania" for allowing us to reprint this article. I am sure it has been of interest to many of our SWA collectors. **Ed.**

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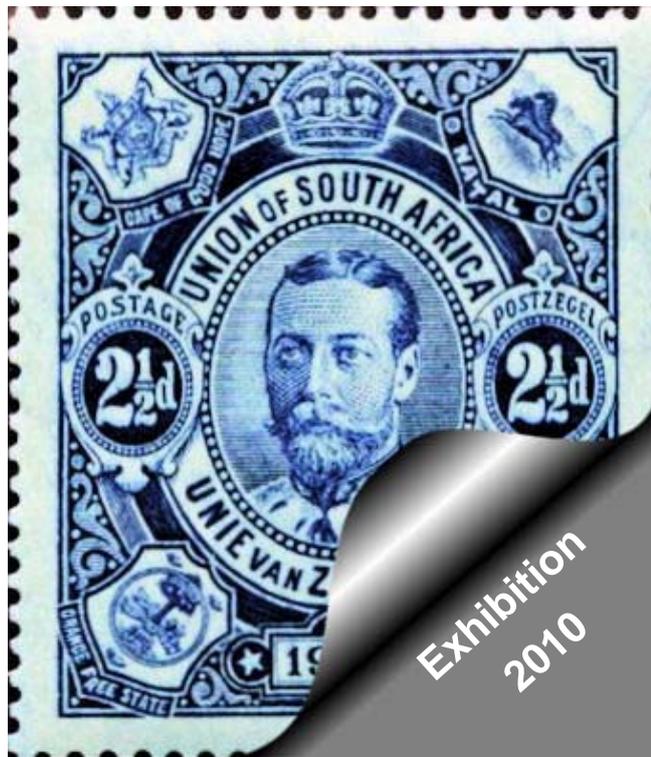
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South African Collectors' Society Exhibition

**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.

The origin of the designs used for the Large War Effort stamps 1941-1943 and the Bantam War Issues 1942 to 1945

by Eddie Bridges

On various dates between August 1941 and January 1943, stamps with values from ½d to 1/3 appeared with designs depicting the Unions' War activities.

At intervals from August 1942 onwards, all values of the War Effort stamps from ½d to 1/- were brought out in a much smaller format to save paper. The designs were copied, with the modifications and adaptations which this reduced design required from the corresponding values of the large War issues, issued from 1941 to 1943. All these modifications were done by J. Prentice from the Government Printing Works.

The Designs

The ½d design was based on a drawing of marching infantry, provided by an unknown artist.

The 1d design was based on a nurse (Barbara Palmer) drawn by the War artist Neville Lewis, while the frame was drawn by Corp. Wagner of the Defence Force Printing Unit.

The 1½d featured a portrait of Bob Kershaw also drawn by Neville Lewis with the frame by Wagner.

The seaman featured on the 2d was Clive Peter based on a drawing by Neville Lewis with the frame again drawn by Wagner.

The photograph of Elizabeth Liebenberg of the Woman's Auxiliary Corps was featured on the 3d and the photo was provided by the Postmaster General. The frame was again drawn by Wagner.

The drawing of the defence installation on the 4d was done by Wagner in its entirety.

Wagner was also responsible for the 6d design depicting a welder.

The design for the 1/- tanks and the 1/3 signaller were designed by unknown artists.

Background to the War Effort Stamp Series

The predominant idea behind the creation of the stamp series was to acknowledge the activities of the various branches of the Union Defence Force (UDF). It was suggested that Capt. Neville Lewis, South Africa's first appointed war artist, should be approached to design the series.

Neville Lewis (1895-1972) was born in Cape Town and studied fine art in the United Kingdom at the Newlyn Art School and the Slade School of Fine Art. During the First World War (1914-1918), he served in the British Army. Lewis established himself as a portrait painter of international recognition in the years between the two world wars. On 4 December 1940, he was appointed as the first of seven official war artists in the UDF. In the three years that he spent as a war artist, he travelled in and between South Africa and the battlefronts in East and North Africa and painted many important personalities, including Field Marshall Jan Christiaan Smuts, Viscount Montgomery of Alamein, Earl Alexander of Tunis, Air Chief Marshal Lord Tedder and Major General Dan Pienaar (GOC of the 1st South African Division).

At the time the request was made, Lewis was too involved with the war art programme to devote all his attention to this new project. Instead, he submitted five already completed portraits for approval for the series. These portraits were of a nurse of the South African Military Nursing Services; a pilot of the South African Air Force; a sailor of the South African Naval Forces; a trooper of the South African Tank Corps and a black soldier of the South African Native Military Corps. Lewis had photographs of the portraits produced and mounted on board with a rough border sketched around each one. They were thus ready for reduction to the required size of a stamp.

The submissions were favoured by both the Post Master General and the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs at the time. According to Lewis, however, Smuts, who was Prime Minister of South Africa and Commander-in-Chief of the UDF at the time, vetoed the use of the portrait of the black soldier. This was very disappointing to Lewis, who considered the portrait in question to be the best of the five. Eventually, only the portraits of the pilot, sailor and nurse were used. It is not known why that of the tank trooper was omitted from the list.

The five designs submitted by Neville Lewis



*Soldier South African Native
Military Corps
(Official WW2 Art Collection, Cat.
No 1815)*



*Trooper - South African Tank Corps
(Official WW2 Art Collection, Cat. No
1214)*



*Sailor
(Official WW2 Art Collection
Cat. No 1924)*



*Lt R Kershaw, DSO, DFC
(Official WW2 Art Collection, Cat. No
1744)*



*Nurse
(Official WW2 Art Collection Cat. No
1833)*

The sailor

The portrait of Clive Edward Peter was used to represent the sailor. Before the outbreak of the war, Clive Peter had trained in the Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve in East London. In September 1940, he joined the South African Seaward Defence Force, but was seconded to the Royal Navy, where he remained until the end of the war. He served as a Leading Signaller for practically the entire war, before being commissioned as an Acting Sub-Lieutenant in April 1945. One of the ships on which he served was the frigate HMS *Nigella* which docked in East London Harbour to be refitted during the war.

The nurse

Barbara Palmer trained at Addington Hospital in Durban before the war. In 1940 she joined the South African Military Nursing Services and served for a period in South Africa at No 110 Military Hospital. It was while she was stationed there that Lewis produced the portrait. In 1941 she was transferred to the Middle East and served in turn at Nos. 104, 105 and 106 Military hospitals until 1944, when she returned home to marry.

The pilot

The third subject in the series was the pilot, Lieutenant Bob Kershaw, who in March 1941 became the first South African to be made a Companion of the Distinguished Service Order. He achieved this honour in East Africa, after he had landed under fire to rescue his flight commander, Captain Jack Frost, whose plane had been shot down. He had then flown with Captain Frost on his lap in his single-seat Hurricane for three-quarters of an hour before landing back at their base. Kershaw was recommended for the Victoria Cross for this deed. Later in 1945, he was also awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his courage and devotion to duty.

All three portraits used in the stamp series, as well as the two which were omitted, remain part of the official Second World War Art Collection housed at the South African National Museum of Military History. They are exhibited from time to time with other works from the collection in various exhibitions held both at the Museum and at other venues around the country. Just as the stamp series was produced during the war to commemorate the men and women who served our country, these portraits and the other paintings in the collection remain a lasting testament to the same cause.

Reference for information on Neville Lewis and the designs were taken from:
Military History Journal—Vol 11 No 1 with acknowledgement.

Wanted

Your editor is working on a draft of a publication on the War effort stamps. The following items are needed and if you can help, please advise items for sale with price before sending! I also need scans of the varieties on the Large War effort series. If you can help, please let me know.

Large War Effort

- ½d All four corner blocks as well as the arrow blocks and a sheet number block.
- 3d The four corner blocks
- 4d The four corner blocks from the orange brown shade
ditto from the reddish brown shade
The four arrow blocks from the reddish brown shade
- 6d The four corner blocks
- 1/- The four corner blocks
The four arrow blocks
- 1/3 Issue 1 Corner blocks and arrow blocks.
Issue 2 The four arrow blocks
Issue 3 The four arrow blocks

I also have many duplicates of the various Bantam issues in positional pieces if you are trying to complete your collection. Let me know your wants and I will see if I can help.
e-mail and address on the inside front cover.

Eddie Bridges

1963.12.11 TRANSKEI LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Designer: Pieter Marais

The Xhosa-speaking tribes established themselves from around 1775 in the portion of the Eastern Cape which later became known as Transkei and was brought administratively under British colonial rule.

From the mid 1890s councils were instituted, meeting quarterly, and brought together yearly to form a general council, commonly known as the Bunga. In May 1957 a Territorial Authority (TA) whose members were elected from the regional authorities, replaced the Bunga.

Under the chairmanship of Paramount Chief Kaiser Matanzima, the TA asked South Africa for self-rule in 1961. This request was complied with by means of the promulgation of the Transkei Constitution Act, 1963 which provided for the establishment of a unicameral legislature and a cabinet. Provision was also made for Transkei to have its own flag and national anthem, its own official language and citizenship.

The Transkei Legislative Assembly consisted of the four Paramount Chiefs, 60 chiefs and 45 members elected by registered voters, who could also be members of the Transkeian tribes living elsewhere in South Africa. The Cabinet, elected by the Assembly, consisted of a Chief Minister and five Ministers, namely for Justice, Education, Interior, Agriculture and Forestry, and Roads and Works.

Transkei became the first "independent homeland" on 26 October 1976 and issued its own stamps. It was re-incorporated into South Africa after the 1994 South African elections. The last Transkei stamps were issued on 18 March 1994.

To commemorate the opening of the first legislative assembly held in the Transkei, a special stamp was issued and a special datestamp provided which was used in Umtata on the opening day. The Assembly was held in the Bunga building in Umtata, the capital of Transkei.



SACC 244

Bilingually printed on RSA watermarked paper, the mark being upright, on the Goebels 830 machine in double die format and perforated, gauge 15x14 by the small hole eleven row appliance. Half the sheet was perforated in one go and a slight jump in the perforation can normally be observed on the vertical perforations between the top and bottom arrows.

The top and bottom margins are perforated through and have brown single line broken bars with an extended gap between the segments opposite stamps 2 and 3. The side margins are imperforate except for a single perforation hole, and contain centrally positioned brown pre-manufactured arrows. The cylinder numbers, S12 green, S31 brown, and the pane designation letter, A or B, are inscribed on the bottom margin of each pane below stamp 4.

Different printings were made on paper with white gum and brown gum. A departure from the normal printing process in this case was that the stamp panes consisted of 20 rows of 4 stamps (instead of 20 x 5) giving 80 stamps per pane.

LAYOUT	A	B
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20 rows of 4 stamps (80 stamps)

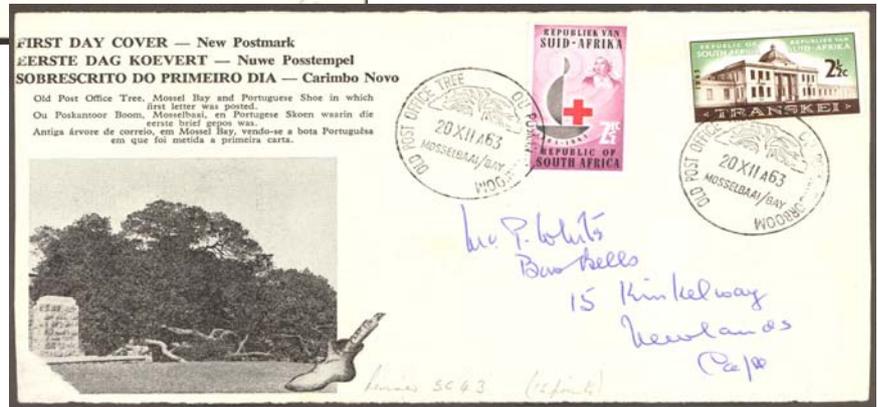
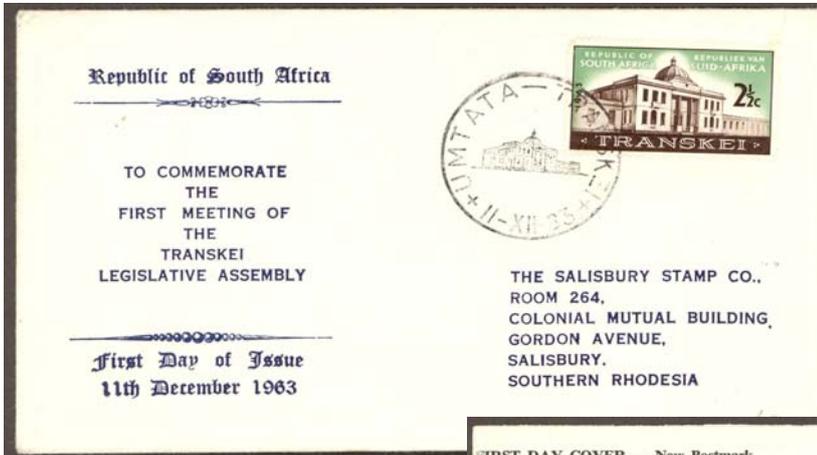
Pane		Identification
A	R1/1	Prominent brown dot left of large 2 of value
	R2/1	Prominent brown dot above roof
	R12/1	Prominent brown dot on right margin
	R16/4	Inclined line at toe of large 2 of value
	R19/2	Small brown dot below large 2 of value
B	R20/3	Small green ring in vertical limb of F in AFRICA
	R2/4	Small brown dot at 7 o'clock to left lower window
	R3/2	Two tiny green dots below UI of SUID
	R6/4	Smudges S of SOUTH
	R12/3	White diagonal line below R of TRANSKEI
	R16/4	Prominent brown smudge on right margin
	R20/1	Prominent brown smudge above T of Transkei

The order was for 625 000 sheets of 80 stamps per sheet. A first delivery of 2 000 sheets was made on 22.11.1963, the total delivery being 635 655 sheets.

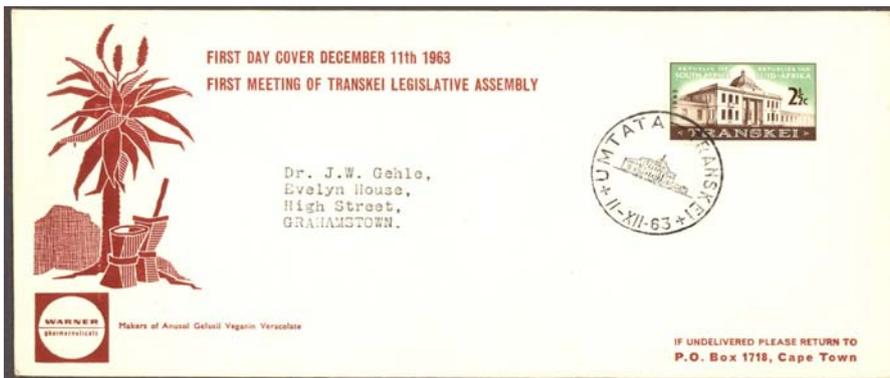
Varieties:

Green omitted due to stoppage of printing machine (22 copies known). According to the S A Philatelist of June 1964, the interrupted printing extends over the 5th to the 9th horizontal rows resulting in the green background being partly absent on the stamps of the 5th row and completely so on those of the other four rows.

Envelopes reported at the meeting



Special datestamp and cover of old PO tree in Mossel Bay (Reisener No 43)



References:

The Special & Commemorative Postmarks, Cachets & Covers of South Africa 1892-1975 – Hasso O Reisener, p.87
SA Philatelist, December 1963, p.223, January 1964, p.3, June 1964
Philatelic Bulletin No 46, November 1963
Setempe Vol 7 No 4, November/December 2002, p.16
RSA Handbook, Q19
Encyclopaedia of Southern Africa, Eric Rosenthal, Frederick Warne & Co Ltd, London, 1964, p536

Articles Wanted

Just a reminder again that the supply of articles has dried up. Please put pen to paper and supply your editor with a few articles. I would like to try and provide a balanced journal with articles of a diverse nature covering both Union and Republic periods. I have a supply of studies of the Republican Commemoratives which have been kindly supplied by the RSA Stamp Study Group. However more articles are needed from both periods.

I unfortunately do not have the time to do much research at the moment so am not able to do many articles.

Your desperate Editor!

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

1964.05.08 - 75 YEARS S A RUGBY BOARD

Designer: Unknown

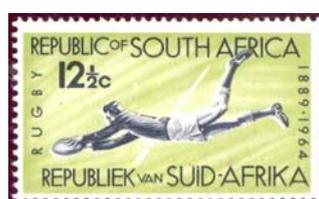
Two commemorative stamps were issued on 8 May 1964 to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the SA Rugby Board which was established in 1889. For the occasion a special datestamp was provided for use in Cape Town.

Two datestamps were made to cope with the large quantity of mail expected to be posted for this special post-mark. The makers of the datestamp made an engraving mistake on one of the datestamps. The O of BOARD has been engraved incorrectly as a U. This was discovered by one of the postal officials on inspecting the datestamps. It was returned to the engravers for correction. A small plug was inserted in the body of the datestamp and this was re-engraved to give the desired O. The new letter shows a very small abnormality. Inspection of the datestamp, now housed in the Post Office Museum, shows that a repair has been carried out. The datestamps are, in all other respects identical to each other, having been engraved from the same template.

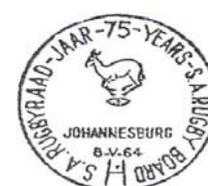
A similar datestamp was provided for Johannesburg.



SACC 245



SACC 246



The two datestamps

The origins of rugby in South Africa have been traced to matches played between regiments of the British Army engaged in the earlier Border and Zulu wars, but no details are known. There is a report in the newspapers of a match on Green Point Common on 23 August 1862 between the military and a civilian side attended by His Excellency the Government and Mrs. Wodehouse; the Colonial Secretary, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs. Jenner and a large crowd. In the same year the Diocesan College (Bishops) challenged a combined military and civilian team and defeated them by three goals to one.

It is generally accepted that rugby, as we know it, sprang from a near-relation called the "Winchester Game", which was introduced to the Diocesan College, Rondebosch, by Canon George Ogilvie, when he came from Winchester College to be headmaster of "Bishops" in 1861. SACS, the forerunner of the University of Cape Town, followed suit a year later.

Several old boys from this school helped to form the first two rugby clubs in the Cape Peninsula – Hamiltons (1875) and Villagers (1876). The only other claim to have started rugby in this country comes from Swellendam, in the Southwest Cape, where the game is believed to have flourished in 1865. A great fire destroyed the documents which would have provided proof.

"Gog's Football", as it became known remained the prevalent style of rugby until 1878, when William Henry Milton (later Sir), a lively and forceful former English Rugby Union international, persuaded local sportsmen they were old-fashioned and playing the wrong game. Five years later, students at the mainly Afrikaans-speaking Victoria College (later the University of Stellenbosch) adopted the game.

In 1883 the Western Province Rugby Union was formed, after a formal proposal was adopted at the annual meeting of the Hamilton Football Club. Mr Percy Ross Frames of Kimberley served as the first president of the South African Rugby Board and it was resolved that the Board would adopt the rules of the English Rugby Football Union. F L Aitcheson, the honorary secretary of Hamiltons, told other clubs: "Matters such as uniformity of rules, purchase of a challenge cup, selection of teams, such as the Mother Country and Colonial born, etc. would be attended to". This was followed a few months later by the Eastern Province Union. The Griqualand West Union was formed in 1886 and in the Transvaal during the gold rush in 1889. By this date the game was well under way in Natal.

When the first British team came to South Africa (W E Maclagan's 1891 side), the tour was regarded as mainly an "educational" one. In 1896 another British side came to South Africa and the South African side was captained by B H (Fairy) Heatlie. He is still remembered as one of the "greats" of the game.

South Africans took their rugby seriously in the early 1900s. Love of the sport overcame all barriers and on at least one occasion the Anglo-Boer War was politely set aside in the interests of rugby:

"The Honourable Major Edwards

O'Kiep

Dear Sir

I wish to inform you that I have agreed to a rugby match taking place between you and us. I from my side will agree to order a cease-fire tomorrow afternoon from 12 o'clock until sunset, the time and venue of the match to be arranged by you in consultation with Messrs Roberts and Van Rooyen who I am sending in to you.

I have the honour etc.

Pp S G Maritz

Field General

Transvaal Scouting Corps

Concordia

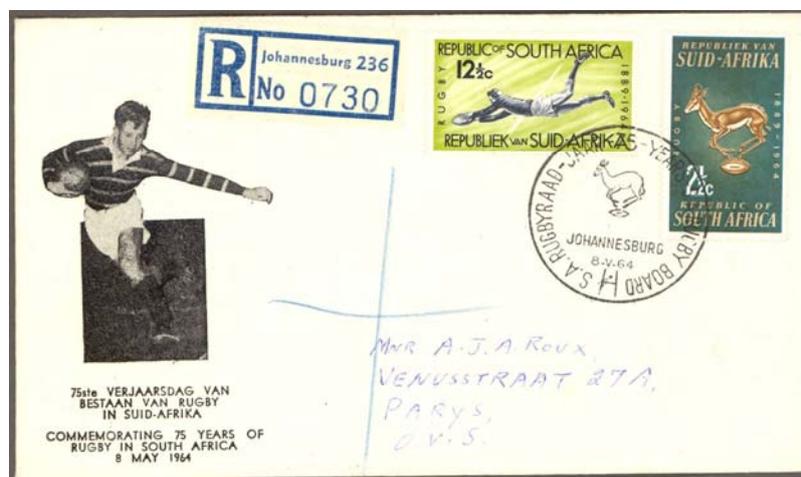
28 April 1902"

In 1906 Paul Roos took the first Springboks to Britain. Sports journalists enquired about the team's nickname – the New Zealand team had recently been named the "All Blacks" on account of their black togs. The South African team had no nickname, but the next day they visited the London Zoo and found a small herd of springbok there. Some members suggested that they adopt the springbok as their nickname. The idea was received with approval and the next day Paul Roos suggested to a newspaper reporter that the team be called "De Springbokken". This was later shortened to "Springbokke" and eventually to "Springboks". The "characters" in this team were the four three-quarters from Stellenbosch – J Loubster, Japie Krige, "Boy" de Villiers and A C Stegmann, known as the thin Red Line, because of their maroon Stellenbosch jerseys.

The first trial of strength with the New Zealand All Black team occurred only after World War 1, when Theo Pienaar took a side to New Zealand. If the first World War had not intervened, a unique rugby team would have toured England – all the players would have been named Morkel.

Other international tours followed with matches against Wales, Scotland, Ireland and France. Following the defeat by France in 1958, South African rugby was at the cross-roads. Frank Mellish, Chairman of the Selectors, evolved an improved system of trials, which incorporated Junior Springbok games and short tours. In 1959 a Junior Springbok team visited the Argentine, winning all its games. The first team to come to South Africa on a short tour was Scotland in 1960, followed by the All Blacks and New Zealand, making South Africa ready for the tour of Britain and France, playing 34 games in all.

Two teams to arrive on short tours in 1961 were the Irish and the Australians.



Bilingually printed on paper with RSA watermark, 2½c facing right and 12½c upright, double die format of 5 rows x 20 stamps per pane, on the Goebel 830 machine. The perforation was done by an eleven row appliance with the left and right hand margins perforated through.

2½c

Pane B	R1/2 R1/3 R1/7 R2/4 R3/20 R5/13	Vertical green line below “AF” of Afrika Long green line below “S” of Suid Tiny dot in large 2 of value Whitish smudge above ½ of value Small white dot on right margin below 4 of 1964 Small golden dot right of R of Republiek
Pane A	R2/1 R2/13 R3/17 R4/20	Small green dot right of 1 of value Curved golden arc above B of Republic Light halo effect between Springbok’s leg Small green dot below Springbok’s belly

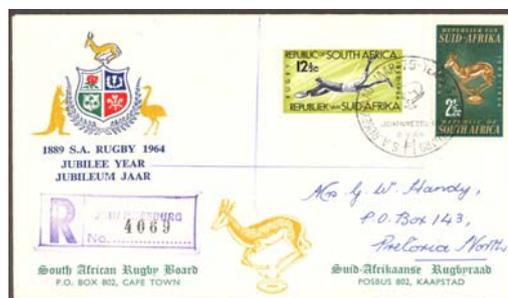
On an order for 500 000 sheets of 100 stamps per sheet, a delivery of 17 100 sheets was made on 25.3.64, the total delivery being 473 927 sheets.

12½c

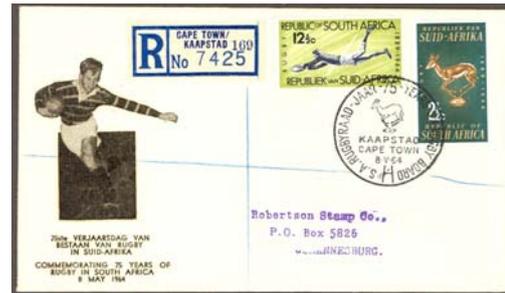
Pane B	R4/3 R8/1 R9/1 R15/5 R19/5 R20/1	Small black dot below S of South Two small black dots in sheet’s left margin Tiny black dot in bottom gutter margin below p of Republiek Small black dot on player’s trousers Tiny black dot below 12 of value Tiny black dot behind player’s head
Pane A	R1/5 R14/5 R17/1 R18/3 R19/2 R19/5	Tiny black dot left of 9 of 1889 Tiny black dot on left leg of player’s shorts Tiny black dot to right of R of Rugby Tiny black dot at top of R of Africa Tiny black dot to left of 1 of 1889 Horizontal green line on player’s head

On an order for 15 000 sheets of 100 stamps per sheet, a delivery of 2 020 sheets was made on 26.3.64, the total delivery being 14 351 sheets.

Envelopes reported at the meeting:



Cancelled on reverse Windhoek 9 V 64



Source:

The Special & Commemorative Postmarks, Cachets & Covers of South Africa 1892-1975 - Hasso O Reisner, p 89
 SA Philatelist, November 1964, p 199
 Philatelic Bulletin No. 47, March 1964
 Handbook Q21/23
 Atlas Catalogue of RSA, 1983/4, p 66
 Encyclopaedia of Southern Africa, Eric Rosenthal, Frederick Warne & Co Ltd, 1964
 South Africa's Yesterdays, Readers Digest, 1981

We wish to thank the RSA Study Group for permission to reprint these articles for the benefit of our members. A special thanks to Connie Liebenberg for getting these files to me. **Ed.**

Your editor is in need of some articles!

Put pen to paper or rather finger to keyboard now!

Report on the September London Meeting

by John Shaw

This meeting was actually held on 3rd October, and delayed from September due to other conflicting events; nine members and one guest – Susan Oliver, wife of our secretary- attended with the philatelic side of the programme devoted to “Homelands” and the Abell Trophy competition. The members attending were John Archer, Eddie Bridges, Tony Johnson, Tony Howgrave-Graham, Nicholas Lindstrom, Christopher Oliver, David Paige, Simon Peetoom and John Shaw and there were apologies from Len Barnes, Eric Day, David Osborne and Brian Trotter.

The business side of the meeting centred on the forthcoming “Village Green” display at Spring Stampex 2010 where Eddie Bridges reported we had been allocated 80 two-sided frames, each to take 16 pages. Whilst some provisional allocations had been postulated, it was the wish of the meeting that as many members as possible should contribute, notwithstanding they may not have the best holdings of the topics displayed – and that, since this event is non-competitive, participants might borrow items from others to make their displays more comprehensive. So, please make your offers to display to Eddie Bridges or Tony H-G as soon as possible. Lord Selborne, grandson of the first Governor-general had agreed to open the display on 24th February 2010. Tony and Eddie are obviously doing a fine job in making the arrangements and this should be our best display ever in the UK, even better than that at the YWCA almost 50 years ago! There is much behind the scenes activity involved and Eddie is quite busy arranging insurance, hospitality, security, production of brochures and the erection and dismantling of frames.

Other business matters included society officials; Bill Branney – who has done sterling work for the society -is shortly to retire as packet and auction secretaries and Nicholas Arrow and Tony Johnson had agreed to nomination for auction and packet secretaries, subject to ratification at the AGM. Obviously, other nominations and volunteers for these and other offices would be welcomed, so please let Chris Oliver know before the AGM

The Abell Trophy attracted four entries and there was discussion on how many pages entries should contain, the answer being nine or twelve; in the event the winner was John Shaw who showed only eight pages of first issue (De la Rue) postage dues, highlights being the colour trials and pairs of the 1d, 2d and 3d with inverted watermark. Second was Tony Howgrave-Graham with a fine showing of shipping postmaster material including a much-expertised cover to USA with Eddie Bridges splitting his vote with two entries, the typographed ½d springbok – which included a first day use on piece - and the Kenya, Uganda Tanganyika overprints, including specimen pairs of the 1d, one with upright, one with inverted specimen. In truth, any four of these entries would have been worthy winners of the trophy.

Eric Day had been nominated to lead the homelands display, but was unable to attend, and so obligingly sent a wonderful array of material along. These issues, now dead countries philatelically speaking, do not enjoy the popularity of the Union or Republican periods, despite being so well produced and having such wonderful thematic appeal. Eric’s material was beautifully presented and quite comprehensive. Of course, until archive material comes to light there are no real rarities which possibly limit its appeal... However commercially used material, especially on cover, is very hard to find (I think my total holding of such is just one Transkei cover), but Susan Oliver showed six album pages with more commercially used material than any of us had seen before, interestingly much of it addressed to people we know. Since the homelands have now been absorbed back into the public, we may now only collect what already exists, and there never was much of it! I know that one of our members (absent today) collects commercially used singles of the homelands and, after 20 years of searching, is still missing two stamps, both catalogued at 10p or so. Browsing through the catalogue most stamps, I note, catalogue less than a couple of pounds and I could find nothing so much as a tenner. In these days of credit crunch could the homelands, then, provide a new topic for some of us?

Once again, this proved a most enjoyable afternoon.



John Shaw receiving his Abell Trophy medal from Chris Oliver our Hon. Secretary.

Report on the Southern African Societies Conference held in Leamington Spa 13-15 November 2009

by Chris Oliver

On 13 to 15 November, over 40 members of those British philatelic societies devoted to Southern Africa met at the Falstaff Hotel in Leamington Spa. Those who had arrived, were happy to spend the Friday evening over a meal and informal discussions.

Brian Trotter, the programme organiser, welcomed regular attendees and some new faces.

Longer invited displays were presented on Saturday. These would form the subjects to be considered for the award of the Tony Chilton Memorial Trophy. Other members gave smaller displays on Sunday morning. The auction of about 300 lots handled by Tony Howgrave-Graham assisted by Susan Oliver brought the afternoon, and a successful conference, to a close.

Richard Stock gave the first display with the aid of a Powerpoint presentation, which concerned the Boer invasion of northern Natal. The Boer forces commandeered postal stationery, hand-stamps etc. from captured British post offices and adapted them for re-use. Some items showing this re-use were displayed, together with correspondence from junior army personnel, from Parry and from Bowen, who was later killed in action. Richard gave much historical background information and described how Redvers Buller did not see eye to eye with his superior officer, Lord Roberts. An enlightening display that was eventually judged the winner of the Chilton Memorial Trophy. The next display was of the early mails in Rhodesia and was given by Colin Hoffmann, also with the aid of Powerpoint. 1860 correspondence from Dr. David Livingstone together with his map of 1863 showing his routes and discoveries in Southern and Central Africa. Other mail from Frank Oates and Emil Holub was also shown. Mail displayed from the Bechuanaland Exhibition 1884-5 included "doctored" cancellers with "British Bechuanaland" deleted. We also saw ship letters despatched via Durban and Umbali in 1892 and a combination cover with both Bechuanaland and S. A. Company stamps affixed. The Matabele War erupted in 1893 after an uneasy peace and in 1895 a further Matabele Rebellion occurred. These skirmishes and the subsequent Anglo- Boer War caused mail delays. Colin also displayed revenue items from this period.

Otto Peetoom produced something slightly more modern and certainly different, a colourful selection of World War labels. He explained how the Governor General's War Fund of W.W. I became the War Fund in W.W. II and, subsequently the National War Fund. These labels were either issued for charity or for patriotic or propaganda reasons. The display was divided into sections for W.W. II Red Cross; The Gifts and Comforts Fund; Naval; Fifth Column awareness; Nations overseas; Rebuild British Cities; Medical Help for Russians; Help the Victory, including eight liberty cavalcades and, finally, the 1945 Springbok Legion War Fund. An entertaining display filled with material not often seen, even by collectors of War Labels.

After lunch, King George V, S.W.A. postal stationery was presented by Francis Kiddle who confessed that this

was a new subject for him and that he had not yet researched the subject thoroughly enough. All German S.W.A. stationery had been destroyed, by 1917, when the territory was mandated to South Africa. S.A. postal stationery was used there until 1923 when specially overprinted stationery was produced. Overprinting was done on an individual item basis because much had already been cut. First capital letters were used then lower case lettering followed in 1927 by bilingual English and Afrikaans overprinting. Francis showed examples of all of this material.

The name Zimbabwe derived from the 11th c. city built by the Lemba tribe in that country. Richard Barnett showed some pictures of the ruins, but then concentrated on the inflation philately of the modern state from 1979. In 2009 the Zimbabwe currency was tied to the S.A. Rand.

Paul van Zeyl's display was of material from the S.A. Homelands. The first, Transkei, was established in 1976 and three other states were established soon after. They each had a degree of autonomy. Paul discussed the reality of that autonomy and showed that although stamps were printed in Pretoria the Homelands intended to use them to attract tourists. Gambling was not permitted in South Africa except in Bophutatswana where Sol Kerzner established a casino. Paul showed preliminary studies for material which was never issued in the Homelands but was adopted for use, later, by the South African Post Office. A very thought provoking display as often happens when Paul gives it.

On Saturday evening, after dinner, Tony Howgrave-Graham was presented with the Wicks Medal which had been awarded to him jointly with Morgan Farrell for the 2008 study article, in the Springbok, on the 1/- Roto pictorial definitive stamp. Richard Stock received the Chilton Memorial Trophy. John Shaw had been awarded the Abell Trophy for a display, in London, of the Union postage due stamps.

Soon after 9.30 on Sunday morning, general displays by attendees commenced with John Sussex presenting mail censorship in S.W.A. during W.W.I when separate South African forces advanced into the south, central and northern parts of the German territory.

Otto Peetoom reminded us of a recent query, on the 10/- Table Mountain inverted centre, reported in the Springbok and endeavoured to answer this with reference to an edition of "The Stamp Collector" [Australian] He also displayed pre 1931 airmails of Nyasaland [1916 /18] and Southern Rhodesia [1925 /6]

Andrew Higson had managed to purchase, on ebay, a £5 Transvaal stamp cancelled 17.1.1900. This had subsequently received a certificate of approval from the R.P.S.L. Both were shown here.

Dr. Chris Board displayed S.A.R. cancellations using numerals in triple circles or triangles. He explained how this system had been adopted and used. A Pietersburg newspaper provisional completed his display.

Godfrey Mellor showed the 1952 Van Riebeeck Tercentenary issues of South Africa and the Netherlands, including commemorative combination covers.

The display by Nicholas Lindström was on a study of repetitive blade flaws on the Union 1d; 1/-; 2/6 & 5/- values of the London pictorial issue.

Brian Hurst's display of G.B. used in Bechuanaland included almost every control letter known. He explained that De la Rue had introduced these controls as an accounting procedure and showed how these had been implemented.

We next saw Swaziland revenue stamps and Court Fee receipts, which were presented by Peter van der Molen.

Denis Firth displayed German S.W.A. where steel date stamps had been manufactured in Germany for use in over 100 new post offices in the colony. He included the introduction of the Wunderstempel.

Mike Berry included in his display, Natal covers overprinted P.O.A. (Post Office Emergency) This also occurred during the Anglo-Boer War. In 1890 / 91 cancellers moved from office to office. One cover shown included a Natal Field Force mark as well as a P.O.A. and another a P.O.A. 73 mourning cover.

Derek Lambert presented labels used in Nyasaland and Rhodesia promoting the World Council for Young Men's Service Clubs.

Licenses recorded in the Government Gazette and a faked cover with incorrect rates were some of the items included in Robert Johnson's display of Cape material.

Richard Weaver displayed the 1972 wool promotion stamps with cartoons on the selvedge and some items for which he required some explanation. Namely 1925 airmails – which printing, and what was the reason for multi-use of postage due stamps. The latter was thought to be Customs Duty payment.

The next display, by Chris Oliver, was a miscellany of items from W.W.I including some Field Service Cards produced by different printers for the British government.

Tony Howgrave-Graham displayed Inter-provincials including perfins, late fees and high values on documents. Also shown was a card of a second return flight from Muizenburg ?

Censor marking of the second Anglo-Boer War were displayed by Alan Harley.

Tony Stanford showed Rhodesian money order coupons and cancellations of rail letters.

Springbok and other essays for the Union definitives, including some produced in Holland were displayed by John Shaw.

Bob Hill displayed some FRAMA labels which included, initially, three types of paper at 34 locations and some later short-lived coloured examples.

After an adjournment for lunch, the approximately 300 lot auction commenced. This was, again, very successful and Tony Howgrave –Graham was thanked, warmly, for his efforts. Brian Trotter and Eddie Bridges were thanked for their prowess in producing another outstanding weekend. Simon Peetoom will be helping with the organisation in 2010 when the conference will be held on 12th –14th November.



Richard Stock receiving the Tony Chilton Memorial Trophy for the best invited display



Tony Howgrave-Graham receiving the Wicks Medal which he was awarded jointly with Morgal Farrell for their study of the 1/- Roto printings.

Leamington photo gallery



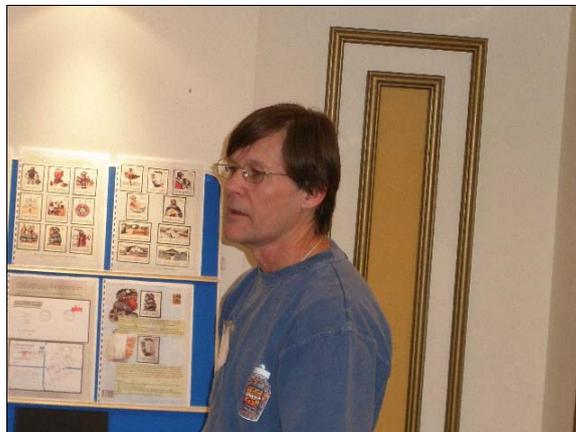
Richard Stock and his Power Point presentation



Richard Barnett



Otto Peetoom



Paul van Zeyl

Report on the meeting held in Carlisle on the 26 September 2009

by Malcolm Ridsdale

Attendees – 13 Members (list with Malcolm Ridsdale)

Apologies – Albert Moffat, David Haig, Max Whitlock and Vaughan Stone

Roy Ross opened the meeting in the Chair (in the absence of David Haig) and welcomed everybody to the 35th meeting.

Items through the Chair

The first 2010 meeting would be on the 27th March and the topic of the meeting would be around the Boer War Period (1890 to 1910). The second meeting would be on the 25th September and the topic would be SA used abroad.

Other Officer Reports

Bill Branney

Reported, that he was retiring as Hon Auctioneer and Packets Superintendent. He advised that Nick Arrow was going to look after the auction activity and Tony Johnson the packet work.

Malcolm Ridsdale

Reported that there continued to be some interest in the library contents and some members old and new had contacted MR to borrow or to get copies of books or information from them.

Max Whitlock

Although MW was absent from the meeting he wished members to know that was retiring from his duties as Covers Exchange Superintendent

Around the Table

Eric Hammond

Whilst visiting South Africa in the near future would be happy to obtain SA stamps if any member required them.

David Briggs

Initiated a discussion around varieties and what and what wasn't in the various catalogues.

John Ahmad

Commented that he was writing up his items relating to SWA postmarks

Godfrey Mellor

Reminded members of the forthcoming SA Collectors meeting in Leamington Spa in November. Also Stampex in February 2010 with items from SA collectors in the Village Green celebrating 100 years of the Union.

Displays

Giovanni Palazzo

Displayed revenues in the Interprovincial period from 1910 to 1914.

Also included early use of Union revenues before their official first date in September 1913.

He displayed documents and pieces with mixed provincial use of revenues. He showed how the identity numbers on cancels, which referred to specific offices, carried through into the Republic era.

Also displayed documents with mixed provincial revenue stamps used in the 1880's, well before the Interprovincial period.

John Reddington

Displayed an accumulation of Kings Heads used in SWA and a range of postmarks. There were a range of covers on display and also SA revenues used in SWA.

Godfrey Mellor

Displayed SA sports and pastimes on modern covers from the 1970's. He included covers signed by government ministers, event winners and SA prominent sportsmen and women in various sports.

He also displayed a variety of exhibition covers commencing with JIPEX in 1936.

Eric Hammond

Displayed stamps of special interest to him i.e. the Pretoria Roto Printing 4d Native Hut with the upright watermark. This is the uncommon stamp as the biggest majority were printed on inverted watermark paper. He showed copies with varieties, pairs, triples and blocks of four / six. There were different shades as well as copies on covers.

The meeting closed at approximately 3.00pm

Report on the London Meeting November 2009

by John Shaw

This was, sadly, the last meeting to be held at the Swedish Church in Marylebone, since the authorities there can no longer accommodate us; thanks to our secretary, Christopher Oliver, we do now have an alternative meeting place, in a room in the Calthorpe Arms public house, a venue we once enjoyed when Charterhouse Street was unavailable. Thank you Chris... Despite the theme of the meeting being Republican postcards, a topic not to everyone's choice, the attendance of nine members was quite encouraging. Those attending were John Archer, Len Barnes, Eddie Bridges, Eric Day, Tony Howgrave-Graham, Tony Johnson, Christopher Oliver, David Osborne and John Shaw.

Aside from the venue problem, the business side of the meeting concerned the future retirement of Bill Branney, following the A.G.M. at Leamington Spa, where Tony Johnson had agreed to take over the exchange packet and Nicholas Arrow the postal auction, and the fact that Simon Peetoom had agreed to manage the Leamington conference in place of Brian Trotter who was fully committed with the organisation of London 2010. Eddie Bridges stated that dealer advertising for our booklet for the February Stampex exhibition was proceeding slowly and he would issue a few reminders. Some more exhibitors were required for the display and his main concern was on commemoratives.

The displays themselves proved to be (almost) a one-man Christopher Oliver show and started with the 1961 monocoloured Purple-brown postcards with the impressed 1½ cent bull stamp and with similar pictures to those on the previous 1½d leopard stamp series. There was discussion on the positioning of the "P" of POST CARD or Postkaart and the initial view that there were two series was probably squashed by the postulation that the cards were printed from two cylinders, one the basic card, the other the picture, and the "P" disposition was simply due to the alignment of the two processes. There were different issues of these in 1962, 1963 and 1965. In December 1966, the colour of the stamp was changed to Blue, the pictures were now multicoloured, much whiter card was used and there were phosphor and non-phosphor varieties.

In 1972 the postcard rate was doubled and the 3c Blue bird stamp was impressed, with the same sets of pictures as before. 1978 saw a move away from these pictures to a series showing proteas and this series continued when the rate increased to 5 cents in 1980. In April 1982 the rate increased to 8 cents and this time the impressed design was a protea stamp with the same design depicted on the card. These were soon succeeded, in September, by the fruit designs and "Produce of South Africa" pictures. This continued with the increase in rate to 10 cents in April 1983, 11 cents the next year, 12 cents in 1985, 14 cents in 1986 when different inland and external rates were introduced (16 cents for external), these to be increased again in 1987 to 15 cents inland and 18 cents external; these latter reverted to the pictures being "scenes".. Going back just a little in time were the October 1979 cards which featured the impressed flower stamps with the picture being an enlarged stamp of the same design, or a complete set of four stamps – very attractive. Finally in the first session Chris showed the May 1998 corporate multi-lingual postcards associated with the women's campaign and the words "Real men don't abuse women" in four languages.

1991/92 saw a pack of six cards celebrating six different anniversaries first with the Erica flower and Erica stamp, then the rhino stamp. The 1997 "Capetown Ladies" reproductions of older seaside type somewhat saucy postcards in attractive colours and 1998 saw the horned animals series with the same stamp and picture animal; these designs were also very popular as se-tenant coils and booklet stamps. These were followed by series featuring Namaqualand flowers, the Table Mountain stamp series and in 1997 a 70 cent postcard celebrating the centenary of the first South African postcard – pre-union of course! The "ages past" period concluded with a set to commemorate the Chinese Mining Community with exotic old reproductions including the Chinese cookhouse, communal bathhouse and the opera – together with a lovely Red decorated packet which had contained the cards. Chris showed most items were shown both used and unused and this represented virtually all there is to show in the issued Republican postcards.

Tony Howgrave-Graham, fearful that the displays might be a bit thin, and having nothing in Republican postcards himself to show, brought along his Darmstadt Trials, which included examples of all 71 Dix numbers, but also items none of us had seen before which were pages from the Shuck MacLean archives showing examples of the London Pictorials, together with prints from the inks used for these stamps; these prints were in the form of partial cheques and other pictorial items. On enquiring about these the printers stated their premises (just like De la Rue at Bunhill Row) had been bombed during World War Two and, since most of the records had been destroyed, they could be of little help concerning this material – which did without doubt come from their records. Other noteworthy items were a large block of the complete trial with Springbok head watermark and a vertical pair, one stamp with the vignette partially printed.

Again, this was a most enjoyable meeting.



Members enjoying the final meeting of the year.

Record of the A.G.M. of the South African Collectors' Society to be held at The Falstaff Hotel, Leamington Spa at 17.00hrs on 14th November 2009.

1. **Apologies** were received from David Page; Bill Branney; David Osborn; Bob Hill; Mike Berry; Tony Johnson; Alan Macgregor; Paul van Zeyl; Otto Peetoom.
2. **Record of previous A.G.M.** was proposed for adoption by Francis Kiddle, seconded by Tony Howgrave-Graham and agreed by those present.
3. **Matters arising if not included elsewhere in the agenda.** None.

4. **The Hon. Chairman's report.** The stability we have enjoyed over the venue for London meetings has been, sadly, shattered but our secretary will report the consequent good news later. The availability and cost of suitable meetings premises is no small cause for concern to societies such as ours, and some have now gone to the wall as a result of this and lack of good committee members; in the latter, we are fortunate in having a dynamic secretary in Christopher Oliver and excellent support elsewhere. Bill Branney and Max Whitlock have given sterling service to the society and, on their retirements from office, I thank them for all they have done. Also, without the work of Tony Howgrave-Graham, Eddie Bridges and Brian Trotter, there would be no Springbok and no Leamington; my thanks to those and all the committee for showing such dedication to the society.

Leamington is now almost set in stone as an enjoyable annual conference. Last year the disposal of the Derek Milledge estate through the auction gave members an opportunity to obtain nice collections and single items at reasonable prices, and Judith Milledge a return better than she could have expected elsewhere. On this occasion we have another estate, that of the late Les Elmore in the auction – not to the extent of the previous estate, but with some interesting items and plenty of volume. The sale of the Fred Clark stamp section at Harmers left many of our members disappointed, with the average estimated lot price of over £2,500 being beyond range; in my case, one lot in which I was really interested would have added less than 30 items to my collection but realised, with buyer's premium, over £10,000. Fred was a regular and ardent supporter of our London meetings and is sorely missed, with his vast input of display material and the hilarious consequences of his deafness; his family are well aware of these traits and value memories of them.

Attendance at the London meetings has improved but is still disappointing, considering the quality of some of the displays there. Carlisle meetings still attract bigger attendances and I wish to thank those involved, not least David Haig and Bill Branney for organising things there. The venture into regional meetings some years ago has also proved to be an unqualified success.

Our plans for celebrating the centenary of the formation of the Union of South Africa, with a 180 frame display using the "Village Green" at Spring Stampex next year going well, thanks mainly to Eddie Bridges. I would like to see as wide a participation in this exhibition as possible, with not all the frames going to those with the best collections; let us make this a society or family-type event with, if needs be, members borrowing items from each other's collections to enhance their own material. We hope, thanks to Dr Chris Board, that Lord Selborne, grandson of the Union's first Governor-general, will be able to open the exhibition and I hope many of you will get the opportunity to meet him. Next year we also have both the London 2010 international and, for those who can make it, celebration of the centenary of the issue of the first postage stamp in South Africa in November 2010. Next year, then, is an important year for South African and UK philately. Again, I thank you all for your support and wish you a successful and fruitful conference.

5. The Hon. Secretary's report. I was sorry to learn of the downturn in Bill Branney's health, earlier this year and his subsequent decision to give up the posts of Hon Packet Superintendent and Hon Auctioneer, which he has done admirably and conscientiously for the Society since 1992 and 1996 respectively. We wish him well and look forward to seeing him at the meetings in Carlisle.

Max Whitlock has also expressed a wish to give up, at the next A.G.M., the role of Cover Packet Superintendent, which he has diligently carried out since 1999. Another appointment will need to be considered then.

We are fortunate in having volunteers for the two positions on the Committee. I would expect that they may be elected unopposed, in which event I look forward to working with them and thank them, warmly.

In spite of great efforts by some of our members, Society membership now stands at 140. We need to increase our numbers to ensure that subscriptions remain competitive, so please help to publicise the S.A.C.S.

Our Chairman, John Shaw, won the Abel Trophy this year, with a display of Union postage due stamps. After careful scrutiny, it was decided to award two of the Wicks Medals, for 2008 articles in the Springbok, to Morgan Farrell and Tony Howgrave-Graham, jointly, for their studies of the 1/- Gnu Pictorial Roto issue 3.

This year three meetings were held in London, two in Carlisle, one in Leicester and one in Portishead. We have another planned for the 28th November 2009 in London when the theme is "Republican Postal Cards".

Carlisle meetings, at the County Hotel, are to be held on 27th March 2010 (Victorian & Edwardian S.A. [1860 – 1910]) and a further meeting will be held in September 2010. Meetings will also be held on 20th February (Maritime Mail), 29th May (Hyphenated Pictorial High Values [6d +]), 25th Sept. (World War II). The last meeting of the year will be on 27th November 2009 (an open meeting). A Leicester meeting is to be on 19th June 2010. [*This will now be changed to avoid the Stafford Fair*] and a West Country meeting will take place in August. It is sad that the London meetings can no longer be held in the congenial surroundings of the Swedish Church but we hope that our new venue, at the Calthorpe Arms, Greys Inn Road, London WC1X 8JR [on the corner of Wren Street], will be equally as pleasant.

The Abell Cup Competition will be held in Carlisle at the October meeting and more entries are needed. Details of all 2010 meetings will be included on the S.A.C.S. programme card and in the Springbok.

After further discussion, following last year's A.G.M., the committee decided to make a donation to the London 2010 International Philatelic Exhibition appeal for frame sponsorship. We gave £150, based upon £1 for each member of the Society, in March 2008 and in 2009.

The Plans for the S.A.C.S. Exhibition at Autumn Stampex 2010, to celebrate the Centennial of the Union of South Africa, are still proceeding well and I feel sure that Eddie will be saying something more about this.

My thanks to all of our committee and workers for the society, John Shaw, Max Whitlock, Bill Branney, David Osborn, Eddie Bridges, Malcolm Ridsdale, David Haig, Tony Howgrave –Graham, Nick Arrow, Brian Trotter, Morgan Farrell and Cedric Roche. Thank you all for your support.

Please continue to support the library and provide material for the Springbok, the auction and the exchange packets.

These two reports were proposed for adoption by Eric Day, seconded by Brian Trotter and agreed.

6. The Hon. Treasurer's report and ratification of annual subscription. After the last A.G.M. there was some concern on the way that the accounts were presented. The production of the end of year accounts in the Springbok had been compiled to reflect this. In the absence of the Hon. Treasurer, Eddie Bridges briefly interpreted these accounts to show that our funds are still in a "healthy" state. In view of the forthcoming S.A.C.S. exhibition and general increases in expenditure, it is expected that the annual subscription for U.K. & Europe will rise to £15 in 2011, with the overseas subscription rising in proportion.

Eric Day was willing to continue as the Hon. Auditor to the Society. His re-appointment was proposed from the chair and confirmed.

7. Reports from other officers of the Society. None had been received from those officers who were not present. Eddie Bridges spoke briefly about plans for the Exhibition. He confirmed that he would be sending out version two of the schedule of displays, with details of dates for collection of material to those who had agreed to contribute.

Max Whitlock reported that the photocopier purchased for his use, by the society, should pay for itself within two years. He undertook copy work for other groups at the going rate.

8. The structure of the Committee and Officers of the Society. It was agreed that the office of President would not be filled at the present time and that the officers would remain as at present. Max Whitlock wished to step down at the next A.G.M., as Hon. Superintendent of the cover packet.

9. Auction rules. Nick Arrow advised that should he be elected as Hon. Auctioneer, he would intend modifying the auction rules. These would be set out in the Springbok, for members' comments.

10. Ratification of Officers of the Society.

Hon. Postal Auctioneer – Nick Arrow proposed by Bill Branney and seconded by Eddie Bridges.

Hon Packets Exchange Superintendent – Tony Johnson proposed by Chris Oliver and seconded by Bill Branney.

These two officers were elected unanimously.

Other Officers are willing to stand again. They were proposed en bloc by Nick Arrow, seconded by Francis Kiddle and confirmed by those present.

11. Society meetings and events :

a) A brief report on those held. [if not already recorded in The Springbok.]

A record of all society meetings has already, or will appear shortly in the Springbok.

a) S.A.C.S. meetings in Carlisle and London in 2010. These are mentioned in the report from the Hon. Secretary. The last London meeting of 2010 will now be an open meeting as most of the London attendees will have seen Otto Peetoom's War Labels, displayed here, earlier today.

a) West Country meeting for S.A.C.S. in 2010. Possibly in Salisbury or in Portishead during August. To be confirmed.

b) 2010 Spring Stampex Display by S.A.C.S. (24th – 27th Feb.) See **7**) above.

c) British Philatelic Congress - Kenilworth – 22nd / 25th July 2010. An interesting annual conference to which attendance urged.

d) Any others:

London 2010 – 8th /15th May. Brochures were available here.

2010 Festival of Stamps. See website.

Johannesburg 27th/31st October 2010, inc. letter from Colin Hoffmann.

A few brochures for the exhibition were available. Colin, in his new role as Philatelic Federation of South Africa, representative for areas outside S.A., is asking whether affiliated societies would help with the financial implication of staging the International Show in Johannesburg. S.A.C.S. agreed to make a donation of at least £100. Additional amounts would be considered dependent upon the outcome of the S.A.C.S. exhibition at Spring Stampex.

12. S.A.C.S. support for Youth Philately. It was agreed that a grant of £100 would be made, as in previous years.

13. Society website: It was agreed to ask Simon Peetoom to organise this. He will contact Eddie, Chris and other committee members for information to be included.

14. A.O.B. – if notified to the Secretary prior to the meeting. The President proposed that Godfrey Mellor should be elected an Hon. Life Member of the Society. Godfrey had organised the northern meetings for a number of years until he retired as convener two years ago. He is still a strong supporter of the Northern Group.

John thanked all for attending and the meeting adjourned at 17.50 hrs.

More on the 10/- with Inverted Centre

by David Page

Dear Editor,

You say, v57 no3 p 73 that you've been unable to find the background story to the B&W 10/- inverted centre variety.

The following from Springboks in 1989 and 1990 may help:

Springbok v37 no6 p134

10/- PICTORIAL "DISCOVERY"

The Society's Hon. General Secretary was in Paris recently to cover PHILEXFRANCE for *Stamp mail*. While there, he writes, "I picked up a colour reproduction of the following item, apparently "discovered" in Johannesburg in 1981 and now on sale by Gibbons at 9500 pounds!

"I looked at the original The margin is repaired, and I actually think may even have been added. I have never heard of or seen it before, and Gibbons didn't seem to have any information either.

"I ask where are the other 59 of a pane of 60, assuming they escaped checking.

"My own feeling is that this may have been a single item of printer's waste smuggled out of Bradbury Wilkinson."

. . . The next concerns the “inverted vignette” stamp discussed under the heading “10/-Pictorial Discovery” and here I am in complete agreement with the writer’s feeling with regard to its origin. There must, in the first place, have been a sheet of 120, not 60, of them and I’m sure it was set aside for destruction even before it reached the checkers, seeing that the margin is still in its untrimmed state.

With this item one must ask oneself why it only saw the light of day some fifty years after it was printed; the answer being of course that if the smuggler had tried to dispose of it too soon he would have lost his job [and likely his liberty – *Ed*]. Something he obviously (*sic*) couldn’t afford to do.

I do not think this margin could have been added, as in the circumstances in which it was removed it would have had to be a marginal copy. These circumstances also probably account for the defective perforation at lower left, and it would have been “smuggled out” in someone’s shoe.

Jack Hagger

On the second of the two topics adverted to by Jack Hagger our Hon. General Secretary adds:

Thanks are due to our Treasurer, Tony Chilton, for bringing to light a little more information regarding the 10/- definitive inverted centre reported and illustrated in *The Springbok* 37(6) November/December 1989, p.134. It was, according to a Private Treaty advertisement from Stanley Gibbons in August 1979, then a new discovery, and when offered was supported by a BPA certificate 1979 stating “of uncertain status”. The price was not quoted! The same item was offered in Stanley Gibbons “Rarities of the World” auction of in May 1990 with an estimate of 5000 pounds sterling.

Like Alec Page, I’ve examined the one that Gibbons had as it was on view at the decennial show at Ally Pally in 1990 prior to their *Rarities of the World* sale; I can confirm his statements about its condition.

Perhaps I should have said ‘the one that Gibbons has’ for the item didn’t sell in that sale and, as far as I know, Gibbons still has it. (I did hear a tart comment made some years back at a London meeting to the effect that the item may be genuine but it’s not legitimate and, ‘no self-respecting SA collector would lower him/herself to own the item.’)

The plot now thickens – doesn’t it always! I’d always understood that the one Gibbons had (has) was unique and have not heard anything over the years to indicate that there were any more though, as Hagger said, there must have been at least 120 at sometime. It is now obvious that there’s a pair as well and Tony in his auction report alludes to ‘some singles’ and ‘another pair’. So:

1. How many are known?
2. If there be a number of them, does this knock on the head the suggestion of printer’s waste smuggled out in someone’s shoe for, that being the case, you might expect a number of them to be a bit on the battered side?
3. Or, was the sheet, or part of it, improperly released with someone’s connivance?
4. Where were they ‘liberated’? At B&W, or was the inversion missed at checking and then did the sheet go to SA (with others) to be rejected there – then ‘liberated’? The latter is probably unlikely as, has been remarked, the selvedge is untrimmed.

Now a bit of jigsaw puzzle work: the Spink Shreves marginal pair is from rows 1 and 2. The Gibbons item is also marginal and, thanks to the wonders of modern computers the two items can be put together and I can more-or-less convince myself from the way the marginal perfs are split, from the angle of the selvedge cut and from the way that the horizontal perfs wobble about that Gibbons’ stamp is from row 3. I’d hazard a guess, by the degree of miss-registration of the vignettes that all three come from the same sheet.

With sheet fed printers an inverted vignette (like an inverted watermark) is possible at anytime during a print run if part-printed sheets are fed upside-down but, remembering what I’ve read, and have been told, about the genesis of the recess issue, the fact that the vignette is horribly miss-registered seems to put it into the early days of printing of this issue when B&W were having registration problems.

That’s what I know of the story and as (seemingly) in every case where a question is dealt with at least a further two questions result that others may care to address to fill your in-box.

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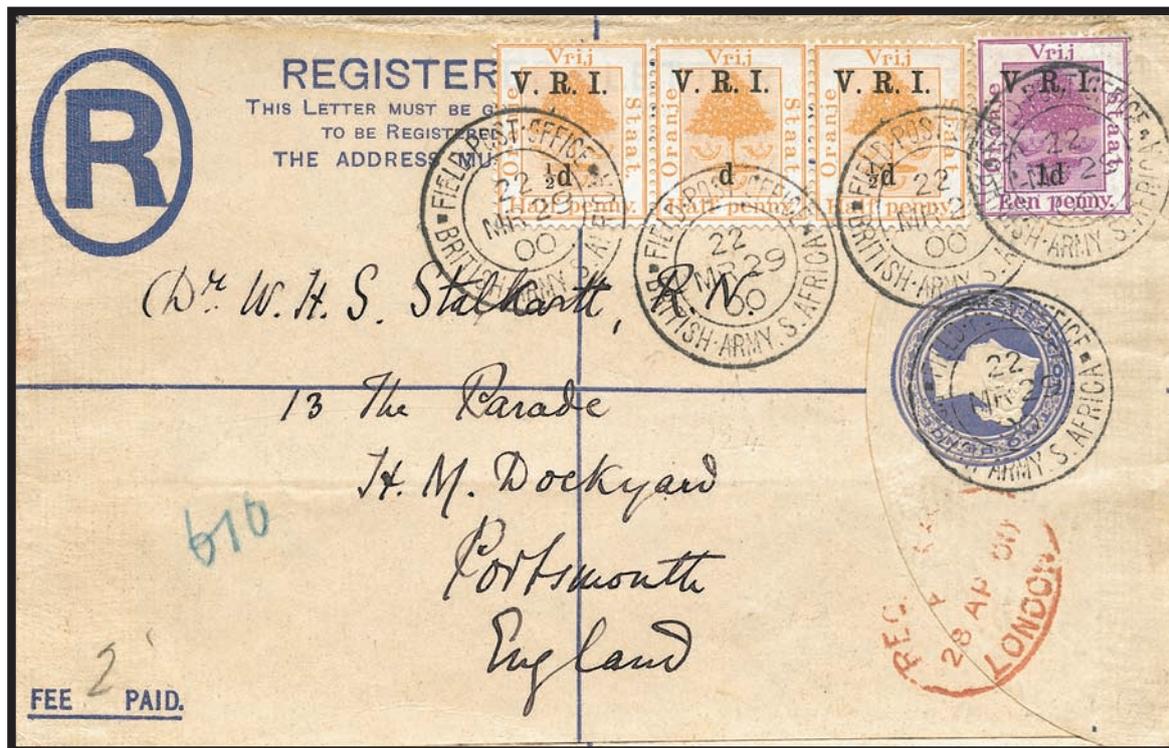
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Shifted overprint



Missing '1/2' in strip of three

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