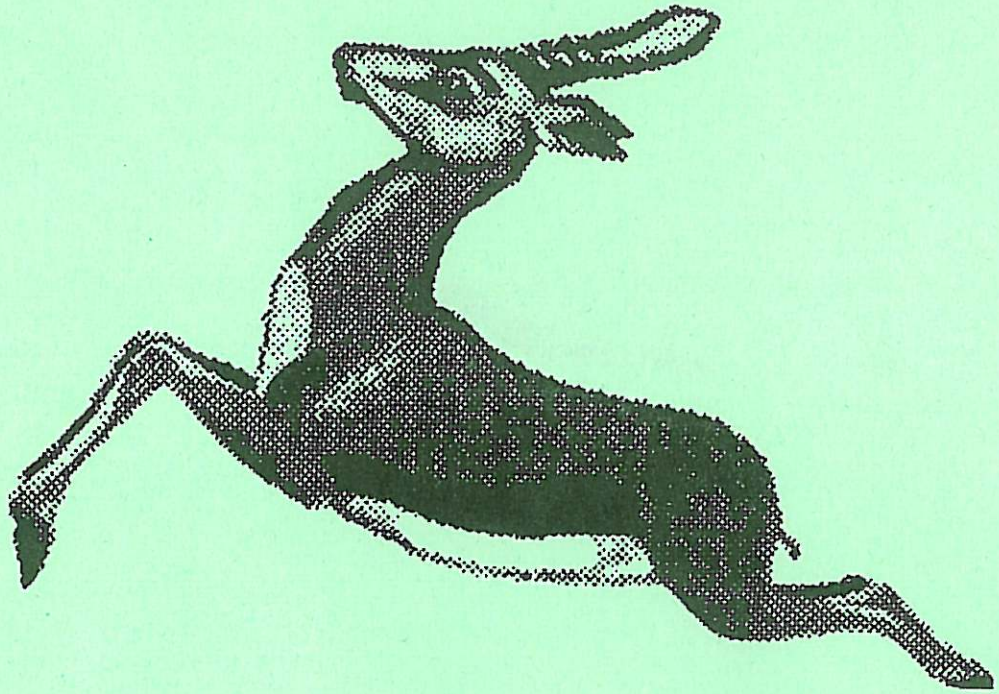
THE *SPRINGBOK*



SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY

QUARTERLY

Vol 41 No 3 **July/Sept 1993**

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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 will be acknowledged.

Editorial

With this third issue I find I have made notes in good time and am becoming more used to planning that much farther forward for Notices. The AGM issue really provides me with the opportunity to thank my fellows of the Committee, the members who give other members the chance to meet nearer to home than at London and our contributors of articles large and small.

The question of translated articles came up at Carlisle last year at their inaugural meeting, and with a swift response from David Haig I then took the chance to sort through our late friend Philip Cattell's run of the *South African Philatelist* for articles that looked attractive and not 'dated'. A new venture for *The Springbok* I believe and I hope useful.

Seems to be more South African material appearing at auction, not that I am necessarily getting different catalogues. The lots are specifically better grouped as to issues and periods rather than the often bland general lots from the collector who does not appear to have specialised to any degree. Questionably large 'pane' commemorative issues seem to be the vogue among the larger countries, and more commercially motivated than postally needed similarly with the 'Special' booklets of the United Kingdom unfortunately.

A meeting of the Society, no not another 'regional' but as full a one as can be staged. Two separate and elder members have expressed a hope for such. The Committee have discussed several ways at it, but exhibiting at STAMPEX for example is costly, stewarding demands lengthy and overall a defeating total we seem unable to meet.

Venue; are there frames available to safely display in? say from a local society; or is there a Federation event at which we could exhibit fully and meet all day at a location likely to attract some existing 'Regional' followers plus other members we are rarely otherwise able to meet?

DWP

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Meetings

A full programme of Society meetings is to be found on p.72.

N C Combrink RDPSA

CREATE A THEME WITH POSTMARKS

FOR MANY YEARS THE POSTMARK HAS BEEN IGNORED AND NEGLECTED. Fortunate then is the collector who collected old postmarks and still continues to collect postmarks. It is a well known fact that some postmarks have a greater value than the stamp or cover on which they appear.

To enjoy this branch of philately to the full, the collector has to gain a thorough knowledge of his material. As with stamps this branch of collecting requires a lot of patience and extensive research.

In postal history, the postmark is a mountain of information. It is only then that the collector gains a true appreciation of the value of postmarks and the relative importance of postmarks to philately.

When collecting postmarks it is usual to arrange the postmarks alphabetically according to place name. Such a collection seeks only to preserve the marks. The collection can still however be divided into regions or provinces.

Postmarks must be seen in the same way as stamps and like stamps can show the postal history of town, region or country. Thematic collecting with postmarks is a challenge for the collector. The collection could contain places named after people or nature such as mountains, water, flowers, etc.

The research for and the knowledge gained from the following theme have given this collector a great deal of pleasure. The theme in question is: POSTMARKS OF POST OFFICES LOCATED SOLELY IN RAILWAY STATIONS.

Early in the history of our country, post offices were established at the railway stations of the smaller towns. As the towns developed, the post office was moved into town. There are cases where the post office for economic or other reasons was returned to the station.

During the British administration of South Africa, many of the towns and stations acquired English names, some of which have since been changed. It is here that the postmark serves its role in postal history as evidence. Every postmark from a station post office has its own history and shows that it served somewhere alongside the railway tracks of South Africa.

For the purposes of this article, only the stations in the Cape Province will be examined. The very first station post office was evidently EERSTE RIVER STATION. The earliest known date is for 1868, according to a surviving example. Eerste River Station is a junction between Stellenbosch and Somerset-West.

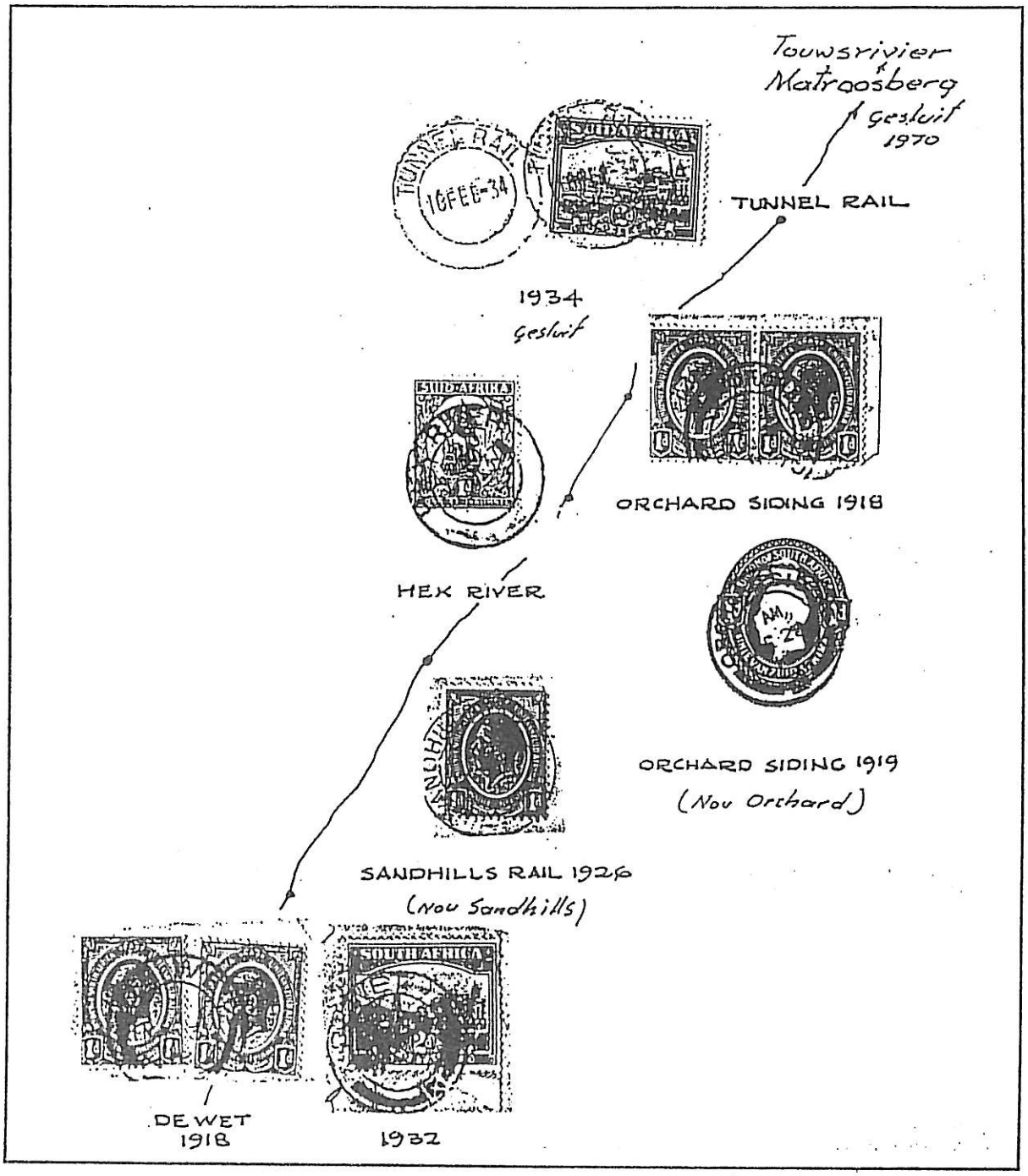
BOSMANS CROSSING, on a stamp of the Cape of Good Hope, makes a person wonder where the station was. The name was later changed to STELLENBOSCH RAIL and then to DU TOIT STATION, the closest station to Stellenbosch. The post office at Du Toit Station was eventually closed.

The name TRIANGLE STATION stumped me. During the second Anglo Boer War the post office was still there. The post office was at a station on Matroosberg just north of De Doorns. To get to the station, trains required two locomotives. Behind the station was a triangular set of tracks which was used by one of the locomotives to turn around for the return trip to Worcester. The name Triangle Station was later changed to MATROOSBERG. The station GREAT BERG, the station closest to Piketberg, eventually became a mission station with the name MORAVIA, by which name it is still known today. Examples of both postmarks are available.

South of Paarl there used to be a post office on BENNETTSVILLE station, named after a local resident called Mr Bennet [sic]. The station is now known as KLAPMUTS and the post office no longer exists.

LADY GREY BRIDGE is the postmark on a postcard dating from 1893. The post office is still open although the station is now called HUGUENOT. VICTORIA WEST ROAD was 8km from the town. When the line was rerouted through the town in 1904, the station became HUTCHINSON.

This is just a small example of how postmarks can be used thematically. The subject is massive and can be applied to any area of the country. With the major cities like Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, East London, Durban, Bloemfontein, Johannesburg and De Aar as starting points, a collection displayed with railway maps can be made very interesting.



The above article was originally published in Afrikaans in the July–August 1990 issue of the *SA Philatelist* as 'STEMPELS MAAK n TEMA'. It has been translated from Afrikaans by Mr D. Haig (SACS) and is reproduced here with the kind permission of the *SA Philatelist*.

REGIONAL MEETING, CARLISLE, MARCH 1993

THE MEETING WE HELD IN MARCH was very successful even though we did not obtain the number of members that we did in September. I think the success was partially due to the fact that we knew each other. The change of hotel for meeting was quite as good but we saved £20 on the room and the lunch was half the cost (not as good but all we wanted).

We obtained a new member again with this meeting making two so far, which is quite satisfactory. If we gain a member each time we shall do quite well. I believe there were 15 present. We decided subject to the committee's approval to hold two meetings – again in September of this year and in April 1994.

I organised a model of the RSA Bureau's general album and sheets of non-acid paper, all because the Bureau stopped supplying them! They come out at approximately the same price as theirs did – £13.50. If anyone is in the same predicament as I was, I have a few left out of the 100 I had to buy – extra sheets are £5.50. 75 have gone already.

J.M. Smart

LONDON MEETING, 8 JUNE 1993

NOT A VERY GOOD ATTENDANCE, probably due to the national and even the world recession and the ever-increasing costs of travel by rail.

Our Hon. Secretary explained (a) the reason for the delay in the posting of *The Springbok*, Vol. 41, No. 1 (the explanation was given on a loose slip within the envelope, but as a perpetual reminder I have pasted mine over the blank space at the foot of page 24, therefore it will not get mislaid), (b) the relevant material re bad debts, published in the Society magazine, page 48, the penultimate item. On this particular point, whilst the Society's magazine is copyright, it does seem likely that the Committee would not interfere if the relevant matter was published in any other philatelic magazine.

David Painter then explained his action re the disposal of the philatelic literature of the late Philip Cattell: a few items were presented to the Royal Philatelic Society of London, and some to our members who made personal contact with David.

The subject of the meeting was the 1c Republican. David opened the batting with some blocks, plus other Republican material of that era. Alec mentioned that his article within these pages had been updated (see Vol. 16, pages 53, 64 and 112); then Fred Clark offered some more items plus information.

As there was time, I produced a card with six examples of the Republican 2½c, SACC 212, with for want of a better term 'offset', but in various degrees of depth... The purple as on the front of the stamp being complete but NOT the small amount of green. No explanation was forthcoming except some puzzled looks from the members present. I did send a photocopy to our Hon. Editor, but it would be a waste of paper to publish.

Finally I requested Fred to let our Hon. Editor have the additional information he had noticed about his blocks of four or was it six, the mobility of blue dots and dashes seemed most uncanny.

The real last item, I produced a modern booklet, alas no stamps thereon – the sender had used them to post a letter to me.

RDA

INSURANCE – TWO FURTHER CONTRIBUTIONS

I REFER TO MR ROSE'S LETTER on page 11 of *The Springbok*, Vol. 41/1 for Jan/Mar 1993. I write as a fairly recently retired insurance company underwriter and for many years previously a director of a firm of brokers having a close association with Lloyd's and the London market.

Stamp collections may be insured as part of the contents of a dwelling; against the risks specified and subject to any limit imposed; more often as part of an 'All Risks' extension to a contents policy, in which case the total value would be specified, and there would normally be a limit on any one item or set. The condition of average would aply with either method, i.e. any claim would be reduced in proportion to any amount by which the sum insured is below the total market value at the date of loss.

One objection to these methods is that the sum insured will, most probably, be index-linked. This is, I suggest, a nonsense for a stamp collection. It is never a good idea to insure a risk under a policy which is really not intended to cover that risk – a house contents policy is what it says, and is not an All Risks policy on a stamp collection with house contents tacked on.

Insurers who will give an entirely separate policy are very few. Eagle Star and Sun Alliance once were prominent but have, I believe, ceased to underwrite such business. The auctioneers, Harmers of London, advertise a policy underwritten at Lloyd's. Messrs H.W. Wood, insurance brokers, of London, have also advertised the same policy in the philatelic press. It was, I believe, this latter firm which arranged cover for Stampworld '90. This policy at Lloyd's requires items with a market value of £1,000 or more to be specified: will cover exhibition or transit risks (obviously on terms to be agreed): is not index-linked: and the limit on cover in a dwelling will depend, *inter alia*, on the protections. I suggest that if you want a sum insured above £30/50,000 you must be prepared to use safe/bank deposit facilities. This, for the initiated, is a broker's cover, and is available to other Lloyd's brokers – so if you use one they should be able to obtain it for you. So far as I know, there is no other similar policy generally available – but I'm ready to be corrected.

Patrick H. Williams FRPS,L

The first thing that caught my eye when issue 41/1 of *The Springbok* arrived yesterday was the letter from Peter Rose about the insurance of stamp collections. I had already met him so I telephoned him last night with details of my own insurers:

H.W. Wood Ltd.,
47 Berkeley Square,
London W1X 5DB

Telephone 071–629 6201

The insurance they arrange – essentially tailor-made for philatelists – is done through Lloyd's and I give them my strongest recommendation. Coming from a banker this is recommendation indeed!

Of course, the odds are that many members will know of them already, and also of Harmers' well-known involvement with insurance for people like us. Certainly, collectors of any substance should avoid having their material swept up within a normal household contents policy.

Norman Clowes

NOTICES

1. **ESSAYS (Combined publication):** Some time ago, through these pages, I made an appeal for members to put ready for eventual publication the information I had gathered over a number of years, but alas no volunteer(s). The material has been posted in three parcels to the Hon. Editor of the *SA Philatelist* for helpful and hopeful publication of the entire 'ESSAYS', that word used in its broadest philatelic terms.

RDA

2. **POSTAGE DUES & ITS MARKINGS:** Since the publication of the second edition of a book under the above title, much new material and information has come to hand, mainly due to increased postal charges and the splitting of the Post Office in the Republic of South Africa into two separate departments. If you have any information please pass it on: you may 'think' it is a duplicate – I have used the term 'think' - but do you 'KNOW'?

RDA

3. **CATALOGUE – POSTAL STATIONERY – REGISTRATION:** I have eight (8) albums with registration covers therein, listed under the various printers, e.g. De La Rue to the last – at present – SILVERRAY. Correct dates of issuance are not firm – they are not published by the Post Office on their NEW ISSUES lists. (See *The Springbok* Vol. 36 No. 5, pages 101 to 107: 1988 was the year of publication.)

RDA

Norman Clowes

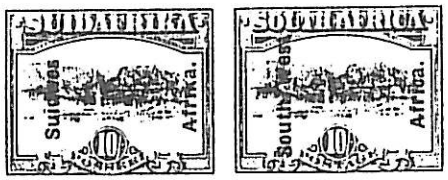
THOSE HORIZONTAL PAIRS AGAIN!

MY OWN INTEREST IN THE SUBJECT OF HORIZONTAL PAIRS arises from the fact that, although I do not at all collect South African stamps as such, I do have a substantial collection of South West Africa – which brings with it alternatively inscribed overprints on the South African raw material as well as other permutations due to the overprints themselves. When it comes to the question of how to collect the overprinted £1 values USED I unashamedly go for singles as used pairs (even vertical) commercially used are rarely, if ever, seen. I decline to pay fancy prices at auction for 'fine used' horizontal pairs with the inevitable light Windhoek cancellation. But there is more to it than this.

Reproduced on the opposite page is the album page on which I display the overprint varieties on the South West African April 1927 set. I had already acquired two pairs with 16mm and 16½mm se-tenant when I realised that the only way to get pairs with the variety 16½ on both stamps was to get them – horror of horrors – vertical! Seriously though, it would be interesting to hear which South African stamps or varieties, if any, force collectors to defy convention in like manner.

April 1927

Examples from the 3rd and 4th vertical rows, 'South West' 16½mm and 'Suidwes' 16mm spacings



Examples from the 3rd and 4th vertical rows, 'Suidwes' 16½mm and 'South West' 16mm spacings

Horizontal pairs with both stamps having the 16½mm spacing cannot exist. It follows that the ideal way to show the variety on both stamps is by means of vertical pairs, preferably with the printer's imprint.

This was the last set to bear bilingual overprints. Later postage stamps were overprinted 'S.W.A.' until the appearance of the first definitive issue in 1931.

John Davis

THE 2c GOLD-POURING

APROPOS MR ALLEN'S ARTICLE ON THE 2C GOLD-POURING, the stamps all fall into nine main groups with unique features which make them readily distinguishable. If we add the two colour variants listed in SACC (316a and 327b) and the two paper variants (290c and 327b) we arrive at the 13 recommended by Mr Allen.

Personally, I would also include coils. Three have unique identifiable features (290a and 290d with the 5mm tag which he mentions and 327a, Perf 14 on unwatermarked paper). The other two are the problem if you are trying to identify singles – 264a and 290e. This is where shade might possibly help although after reading the item from the *South African Philatelist* this seems a very long shot. I have solved the problem to my own satisfaction simply by deleting them.

Going back to the nine main groups, I find a UV lamp essential. With the stamps face up under the lamp it is quick and easy to divide a large quantity into three heaps: (a) no yellow phosphorescence (b) phosphor 'tagging' and (c) phosphor all over. Now separate the (a) heap into original design and redrawn design and look at the watermarks of the originals. Arms is Group I, None is Group II and RSA is Group III.

You can save time by using the UV lamp again. Group III is the only original on Harrison paper that fluoresces. You need the lamp anyway for the redrawn design from the (a) heap. Turn the stamps face down. Those that fluoresce on the back are on Harrison paper and are Group IV; those that look dead are on Swiss paper (fluorescent only on the front) and are Group V.

Repeat this technique with the stamps from the (b) heap. The dead ones are on Swiss paper and are Group VI; those that fluoresce are on Harrison paper and are Group VII.

Finally to the (c) heap where the easiest guide is perforation. If it's 14 it is Group VIII and if it's 12½ it is Group IX. Well, nearly. Unfortunately you do need to check the perf 14s as those without watermark are coils from Group IX.

I find the watermarks abominably difficult throughout these issues so it's a relief that most stamps can be distinguished by other means. I wonder how on earth anyone can identify the reversed watermarks, etc. that occur on other values. Almost impossible with used singles, surely?

Editorial note:

RDA's contribution has stimulated more than one member to review his holdings of the 2c Gold-Pouring issue. On the next page we print a useful tabulation of all printings of this stamp, compiled by J.M. Smart.

LISTING OF THE 2C – FIRST ISSUE

SACC	Cyls	Sheets Printed	Issue Date	Details
200	16-86	118,042	May 1961	Arms Watermark
200 (a)	16-86	54,999	Dec 1962	Arms Watermark. Reprint
211	16-86	74,390	Aug 1963	No Watermark
228	G1-G2	98,500	Nov 1964	Harrison paper – RSA W/mk – Fluorescent front and back
228 (a)	G1-G2	97,200	Jan 1966	Harrison paper – RSA W/mk – Fluorescent front and back. 1st Reprint
228 (b)	G1-G2	122,000	Dec 1966	Harrison paper – RSA W/mk – Fluorescent front and back. 2nd Reprint
238	236-237	107,000	Feb 1968	Harrison paper – RSA W/mk – Fluorescent front and back. Design redrawn
264	236-237	99,200	Mar 1969	Swiss paper – RSA T/B W/mk – Fluorescent front only. Design redrawn. 3mm bands
290	236-237	113,500	Apr 1970	Swiss paper – RSA T/B W/mk – Fluorescent front only. 3mm band
290 (a)	236-237	113,000	Jul 1970	Harrison paper – T/B W/mk – Fluorescent front and back. 3mm bands
290 (b)	412-413	491,100	Oct 1970	Harrison paper – T/B W/mk – Fluorescent front and back. 3mm bands
290 (c)	412-413	956,300	Dec 1970	Harrison paper – T/B W/mk – Fluorescent front and back. 3mm bands
290 (d)	412-413	184,000	Oct 1971	Harrison paper – T/B W/mk – Fluorescent front and back. 3mm bands
316	412-413	943,100	Nov 1971	Swiss paper – T/B W/mk – Phosphorescent front only
316 (a)	447-448	174,500	Mar 1972	Swiss paper – T/B W/mk – Phosphorescent front only
316 (b)	447-448	987,600	Apr 1972	Swiss paper – T/B W/mk – Phosphorescent front only
327	483-484	292,000	Dec 1972	Harrison paper – No W/mk – Phosphorescent front and back
327 (a)	483-484	211,000	Jan 1973	Harrison paper – No W/mk – Phosphorescent front and back
327 (b)	483-484	304,600	Feb 1973	Harrison paper – No W/mk – Phosphorescent front and back
327 (c)	483-484	137,000	May 1973	Harrison paper – No W/mk – Phosphorescent front and back
327 (d)	483-484	162,000	Jun 1973	Harrison paper – No W/mk – Phosphorescent front and back
327 (e)	483-484	188,500	Jul 1973	Harrison paper – No W/mk – Phosphorescent front and back
327 (f)	483-484	314,700	Aug 1973	Harrison paper – No W/mk – Phosphorescent front and back
327 (g)	483-484	429,100	Dec 1973	Harrison paper – No W/mk – Phosphorescent front and back
327 (h)	483-484	374,000	Jan 1974	Harrison paper – No W/mk – Phosphorescent front and back
327 (i)	572-573	448,300	Mar 1974	Harrison paper – No W/mk – Phosphorescent front and back
327 (j)	621/623	491,700	Aug 1974	Harrison paper – No W/mk – Phosphorescent front and back

Although the numbers are the same as in the SACC, I am afraid I have had to alter the subsidiary numbers, especially in the number 327. Also I have omitted the coil numbers.

All the above productions of issues have been carried out by JOB Numbers issued by the Post Office to the Government printers, and are accordingly classified as separate issues.

J.M. Smart 1993

Richard T Cowan

ROOTS

How many of you remember how you first became interested in stamps, your early collecting days and the start of a long and likely circuitous journey to the world of Springboks and Orange Trees, 'Shuttered Windows' and 'Frozen Breath'?

I still remember my own start quite vividly, even though it was in 1937 and I was only 5½ years old. It was May 12 and the day of the Coronation of King George VI. I was in Peking.

It was a day of celebration for the English community there. The afternoon included sports events for the children and I succeeded in winning the slow bicycle race. First prize was a soft cover, partially illustrated album and a large packet of stamps, strong in mint never hinged rarities from French West Africa, the Senegal and Cameroun. But no hinges. I was allowed to stay up late that night, ostensibly to watch the fireworks, but my collecting blood was on the boil and this windfall time was spent licking the backs of my new treasures and pasting them into the appropriate country pages and spaces. I was to learn quickly that this was not considered good philatelic practice.

(Perhaps there was some unconscious link between that day in Peking and an exhibit that I entered in a local Toronto stamp show a few years ago which featured the South African Coronations. A judge was to remark by the way that the printing of these stamps appeared to be so bad that perhaps it was the stamps *without* the constant flaws which should be featured!)

A few months after Coronation Day we returned to England, but not before I had initiated a devious trading and swap manoeuvre. One of our neighbours was a boy about six years older than myself who had a collection of stamps that I longed to have. It contained I recall a number of the local Air Post stamps (i.e. the Junker F-13 flying over the Great Wall) which to my eye were both large and impressive. How could I persuade him to part with this collection? Happily (or unhappily) he happened to be equally interested in securing my older brother's English school caps numbering about eight. The exchange was soon made, but without of course the knowledge of other family members including my brother.

This substantial expansion of my stamp collection was discovered by my mother soon after our return to England (probably during the unpacking). Where had I got all these stamps? Who had I stolen them from? Slowly the gory details were admitted and the wisdom of Solomon dictated over my protests that the collection must immediately be mailed back to the previous owner. Thus my first business transaction turned out to be a very bad deal, and the more so as my partner in crime, needless to say, kept the caps!

He was eventually to become an admiral in the Royal Navy, and I of course a business man. I was soon to find new opportunities for profit back in England. My mother's brother lived in the Fiji Islands and happily was a very regular correspondent. I removed the stamps almost as soon as they were coming through the letter box and when I had accumulated a good pile would hurry down to the Classic stamp shop in Baker Street to sell them.

This contact at a tender age with the adult world of retailing provided me with two important learnings. (1) The difference between catalogue value and what I could sell the stamps for could only be measured in astronomical units. (2) Stamps depicting native out-rigger canoes skimming through the water in full sail are worth more if the artist neglected to put somebody in the canoe.

My interest in stamps had waned by the time that I had reached my teens. I did not return to collecting until the early 1970s. In part, this was in response to my wife urging me to find some 'sedentary' hobbies – this being a euphemism for ones that kept me in the house as opposed to out of it! This pressure curiously coincided with my doing some research to locate racing (horses) stamps which I planned to mount in a framed montage as a wedding gift for a close friend who is an aficionado of the turf. Not surprisingly perhaps, the process of working my way through catalogues and then trying to locate the ones I had targeted reignited my love of this particular search. During the first three months of my return to collecting I concentrated single-mindedly on British North America. Frustration at my first major auction at not getting some Canadian material I wanted caused me to bid on a South Africa lot of a large but inexpensive

collection. I was bidding blind and had not previewed the material. This time I was successful, though determining exactly what I had acquired proved quite challenging to say the least. With only Scott and Gibbons to guide me, it was a photo-finish between throwing in the towel and addiction. Fortunately the latter won out.

British North America was rapidly abandoned. As I type this little history, a new thought suddenly has come to me. What if the real reason for my abandoning British North America was my subconscious aversion to admirals? Perhaps the prospect of having to look through the magnifier at George V masquerading as a British admiral on thousands of Canadian stamps was just too threatening!

These autobiographical meanderings and I hope occasionally amusing musings about my collecting will be seen no doubt as strange material for *The Springbok*. But there is a message within that is not unimportant. I invite you, dear reader, to think back on *your* collecting roots. What were the influences behind your start? What kept your interest alive or resurrected it at some later stage? However logical or idiosyncratic, however planned or accidental your journey to South Africa, think thankfully of the rich harvest.

TYPOGRAPHED COIL STAMPS WITH 'UNEQUAL' JOINS

(*The Springbok* 41 (2) p.44–5)

I am confused as to where the piece of a cancelled 'strip' of four ½ds enters the fray. This 'strip' must actually be two separate pairs because the vertical edges of the top two stamps are not parallel with the edges of the bottom two stamps. Parallel sides are a 'must', even if sheets are not 'in line' when joined prior to slitting (e.g. as the RH illustrated strip of four), otherwise the bottom end of the sheet will slit into stamps of strange half-and-half designs or similar.

The paragraph re R9 is of interest. These were, of course, rotogravure-cylinder-printed and, presumably, were the products of slitting reels/coils of the printed stamps. Two rolls/reels would assumedly be spliced together for continuous slitting possibly on the slitting machine (when stopped!). The terms I use may not be the accepted philatelic ones but come from 35 years in the transparent films industry (not always Cellophane but the products are usually described as such!).

John Philpott

LONDON AND PRETORIA PRINTINGS, VOL.41 (2) p.42: A REPLY

Jack Newman kindly comments:

> A glance at my (minute) holding of identifiable London and Pretoria typographs generally supports the theory. There is however a pair of ½d with left margin fully perforated (Pretoria) of 17½mm width, which is just about the same as a London pair (18mm) – the latter showing some 8 perforation holes coming in from the straight edge.

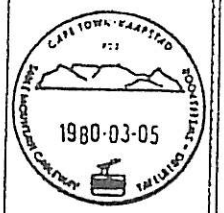
SPECIAL TEMPORARY DATESTAMP

GANDHI COMMEMORATION

On 7 June 1993 at PIETERMARITZBURG, 100 years after the incident there that is stated to have had such a profound influence on Gandhi's way of life, when he was required to leave the train.

Sir Roy Welensky has commented that only Britain would actually commemorate such a man who gave them so much of a problem by commemorating Gandhi on a special stamp; now South Africa does so in particular fashion.

SPECIAL POSTMARKS



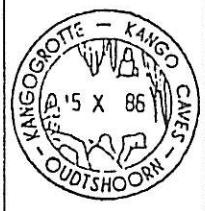
P2.2
Cape Town
Kaapstad
8000

P7.2
Philatelic Services
Filatelledienste
Pretoria
0001

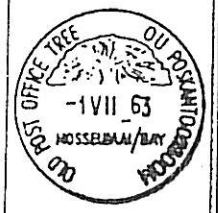
P1
Kimberley
8300

P5
Pretoria
0001

P6.1
Cape Town
Kaapstad
8000



P9.1
Oudtshoorn
6620

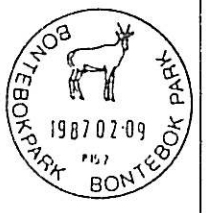


P11
Mosselbaai
Mossel Bay
6500

P12.1
Skukuza
1350

P13.1
Pretoriuskop
1243

P14.1
Cradock
5880



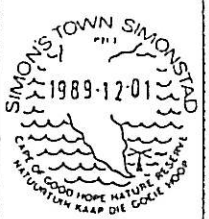
P15.2
Swellendam
6740

P16.1
Addo
6105

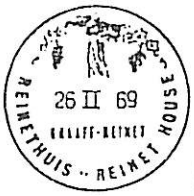
P17.1
Upington
8800

P19
Bethlehem
9700

P20
Humansdorp
6300



P21.3
Simon's Town
Simonstad
7995



P23
Graaff-Reinet
6280

P25
Pietermaritzburg
3200

P26
Springfield
2137

P27
Cape Town
Kaapstad
8000

P28.1
Jan Smuts Airport
Jan Smutslughawe
1627

P29
Grahamstown
Grahamstad
6140

P30
Pretoria
0001

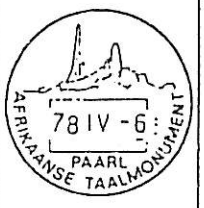
P31
Stellenbosch
7599

P32
Pretoria
0001

P33
Bloemfontein
9300

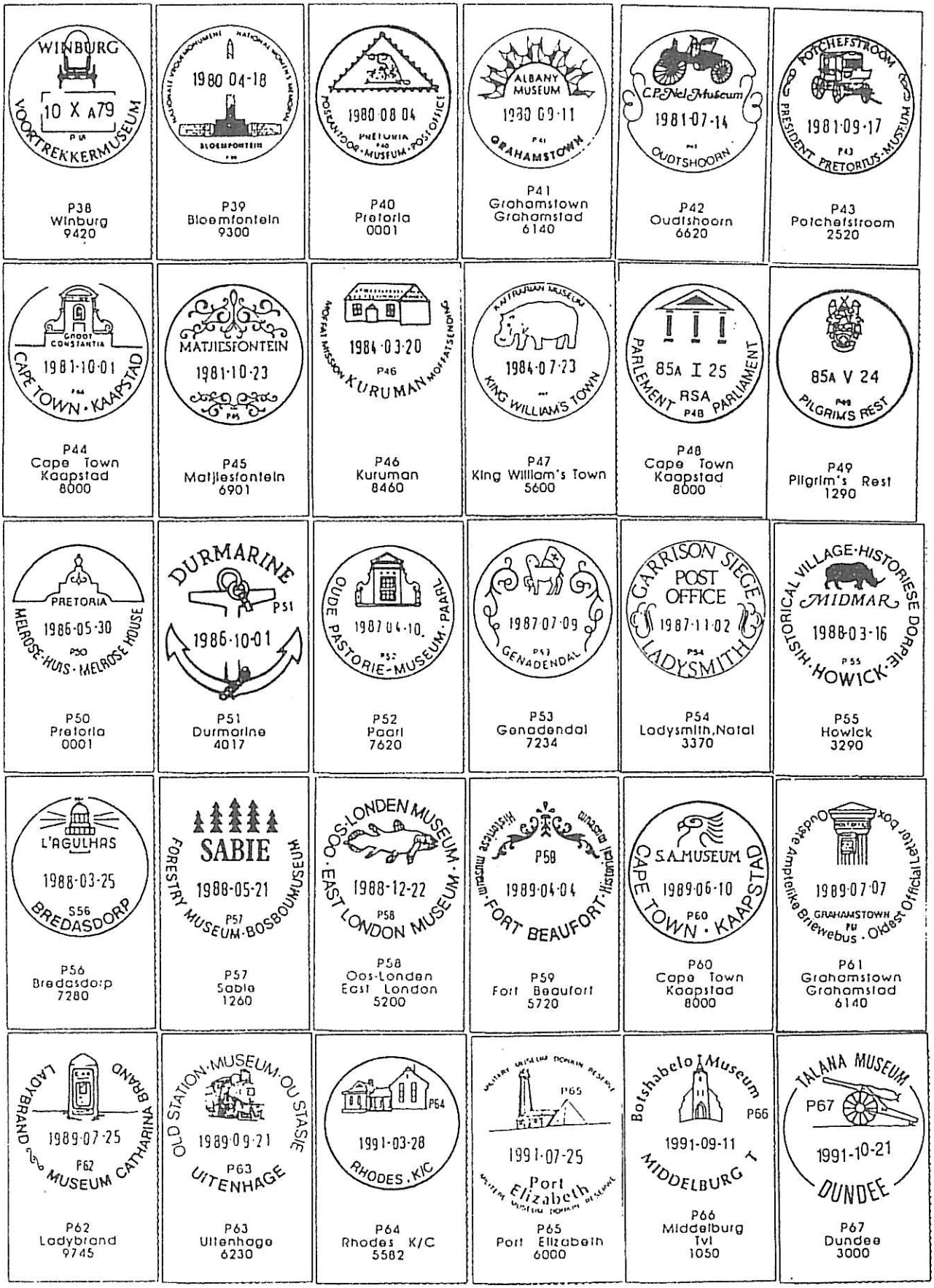
P34
Saxonwold
2132

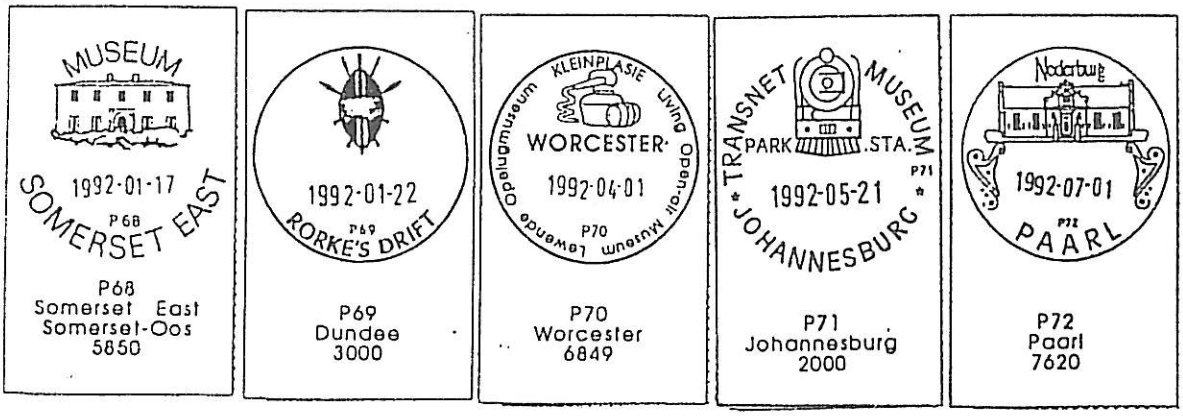
P35
Boshoek
0301



P36
Paarl
7620

P37
Tulbagh
6820


WINBURG
10 X A79
VOORTREKKERMUSEUM
P38
Winburg
9420
1980 04-18
BLOEMFONTEIN
P39
Bloemfontein
9300
1980 08 04
PRETORIA
POSKANTOOR-MUSEUM-POSTOFFICE
P40
Pretoria
0001
ALBANY MUSEUM
1980 09-11
GRAHAMSTOWN
P41
Grahamstown
Grahamstad
6140
C.P. Nel Museum
1981-07-14
OUDTSHOORN
P42
Oudtshoorn
6620
POTCHEFSTROOM
PRESIDENT PRETORIUS-MUSEUM
1981-09-17
P43
Potchefstroom
2520
GROOT CONSTANTIA
1981-10-01
CAPE TOWN · KAAPSTAD
P44
Cape Town
Kaapstad
8000
MATJIESFONTEIN
1981-10-23
P45
Matjiesfontein
6901
1984-03-20
KURUMAN MOFFATSENDING
P46
Kuruman
8460
ANTRUIAN MUSEUM
1984-07-23
KING WILLIAM'S TOWN
P47
King William's Town
5600
85A I 25
RSA
PARLEMENT PARLIAMENT
P48
Cape Town
Kaapstad
8000
85A V 24
PILGRIM'S REST
P49
Pilgrim's Rest
1290
PRETORIA
1986-05-30
MELROSE-HUIS · MELROSE HOUSE
P50
Pretoria
0001
DURMARINE
P51
1986-10-01
P51
Durmarine
4017
1987-04-10
OUDE PASTORIE-MUSEUM · PAARL
P52
Paarl
7620
1987-07-09
GENADENDAL
P53
Genadendal
7234
GARRISON SIEGE
POST OFFICE
1987-11-02
LADYSMITH
P54
Ladysmith,Natal
3370
HISTORICAL VILLAGE · HISTORIESE DORPIE
MIDMAR
1988-03-16
HOWICK · HOWICK
P55
Howick
3290
L'AGULHAS
1988-03-25
S56
BREDASDORP
P56
Bredasdorp
7280
SABIE
1988-05-21
FORESTRY MUSEUM · BOSBOUMUSEUM
P57
Sabie
1260
OOS-LONDEN MUSEUM
1988-12-22
OOS-EAST LONDON MUSEUM
P58
Oos-London
East London
5200
P58
1989-04-04
FORT BEAUFORT
P59
Fort Beaufort
5720
S.A. MUSEUM
1989-06-10
P60
CAPE TOWN · KAAPSTAD
P60
Cape Town
Kaapstad
8000
1989-07-07
GRAHAMSTOWN
P61
Grahamstown
Grahamstad
6140
LADYBRAND
1989-07-25
P62
MUSEUM CATHARINA
P62
Ladybrand
9745
OLD STATION · MUSEUM · OU STASIE
1989-09-21
P63
UITENHAGE
P63
Uitenhage
6230
P64
1991-03-28
RHODES · K/C
P64
Rhodes K/C
5582
P65
1991-07-25
Port Elizabeth
P65
Port Elizabeth
6000
Botshabelo Museum
P66
1991-09-11
MIDDELBURG T
P66
Middelburg
Tvl
1050
TALANA MUSEUM
P67
1991-10-21
DUNDEE
P67
Dundee
3000



P68 Somerset East Somerset-Oos 5850

P69 Dundee 3000

P70 Worcester 6849

P71 Johannesburg 2000

P72 Paarl 7620

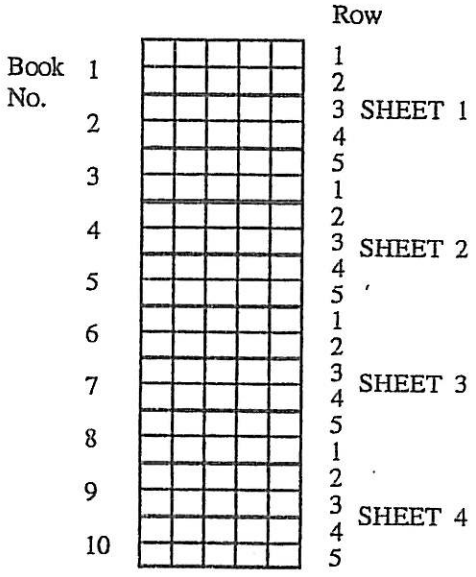
These SPECIAL DATESTAMPS are of a permanent nature and may be obtained by application to the Post Office at the location shown below the example. Other information notices from the South African Post Office, for which I am grateful, show the planned second definitive issue for NAMIBIA due on 01.10.1993 on the subject of Butterflies.

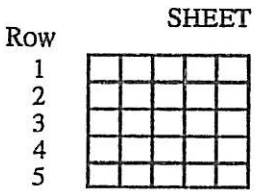
There is a sixth definitive series from SOUTH AFRICA due on 02.07.1993 which has the subject of Threatened Fauna.

The commemoratives show a distinct inclination toward the natural theme with history well behind, but pictorially well presented.

NEW RSA STAMP BOOKLETS

Everyone is no doubt aware that the latest Aviation Issue is available in booklets of 10 stamps at various supermarkets. A few interesting facts: There are 10 different booklets, two types of outside covers. The one plain inside and the other with the standardised postal rate and conditions, this being of yellowish card. Further if one puts all the books together one is able to see that the stamps have been printed as one plate of four of the original sheets. The format is depicted below.





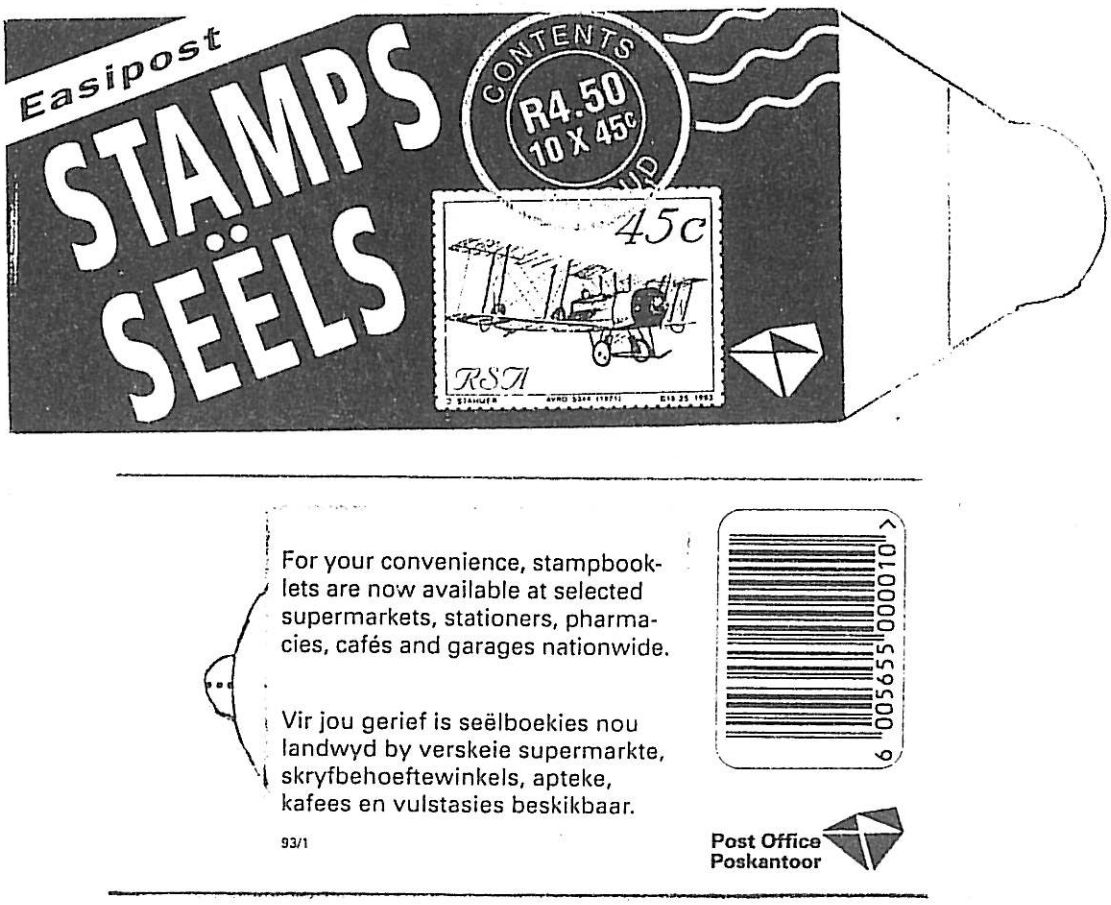
Book 1 – Rows 1 & 2
Book 2 – Rows 3 & 4
Book 3 – Rows 5 & 1
Book 4 – Rows 2 & 3
Book 5 – Rows 4 & 5
Book 6 – Rows 1 & 2
Book 7 – Rows 3 & 4
Book 8 – Rows 5 & 1
Book 9 – Rows 2 & 3
Book 10 – Rows 4 & 5

The question now being asked, were the books printed in a sheet of 100 stamps, i.e. 20 rows by 5 stamps across and has the right plain border been removed when the sheets were divided into booklets, probably by hand. No doubt more news on the latest booklet saga will unfold with time. It has been noted that not all the stamps are folded in the same way.

Never a dull moment in philately. Maybe because there are 25 different stamps in the sheet a demand will exist for used stamps by collectors wishing to collect all 25, possibly placing a premium on modern day used stamps!!!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT L. Jacobson (pers com)
Dr N. Cronje (pers com)
of the KIMBERLEY Philatelic Society

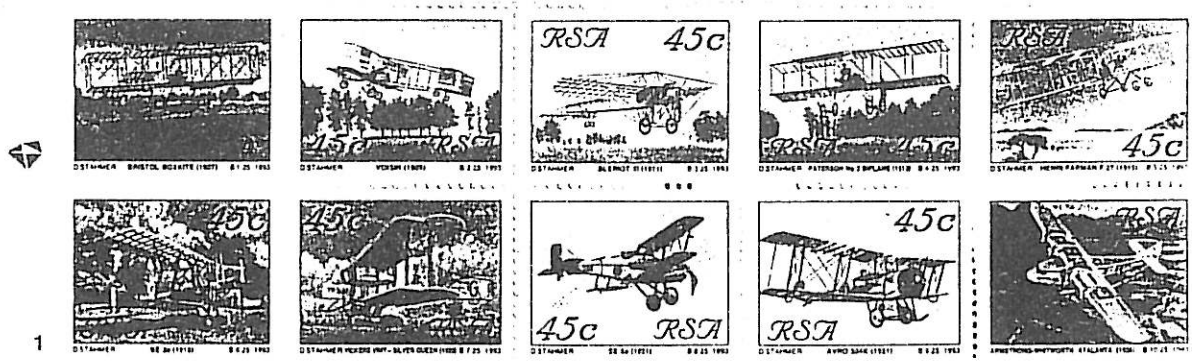
NEW RSA STAMP BOOKLETS – DISPLAYED



Firstly the booklets contain 10 x 45c stamps of the Aeroplane series selling at R3.99 to R4.23 in various stores. As indicated they were printed in panes and each booklet page has a number upon it (see over). The front and back are shown above with the inside of the 'buff' coloured booklet produced by PRINTPAK TVL (the logo at bottom left corner). This information does not appear on the inside of the white card booklet, neither does the latter have any indication of printer. The outside is exactly the same for both.

BASIC POSTAGE RATES/BASIESE POSTARIEWE

Standardised mail/Gestandaardiseerde pos	45c	
Maximum mass/Maksimum massa	50g	
Maximum size/Maksimum grootte	120 x 235 mm	
Minimum size/Minimum grootte	90 x 140 mm	
Maximum thickness/Maksimum dikte	5 mm	
Nonstandardised mail/Niegestandaardiseerde pos	Surface mail/Landpos	Air mail/Lugpos
Up to 100g/Tot 100g	80c	105c

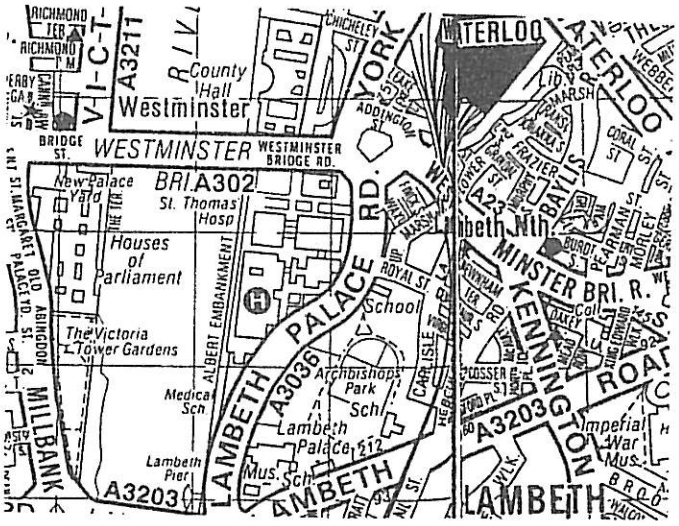


Pane 1 above is in the PRINTAPAK item, with the Basic Postage Rates listed

Pane 5 is from the booklet with plain card in white, N.B. John Hodgson has panes 1 and 3.

LONDON MEETING LOCATION

Entrance to the Hall is by the 'E' of KENNINGTON. Fred Clark and the Hon. Editor have met at a café, opposite on occasions.

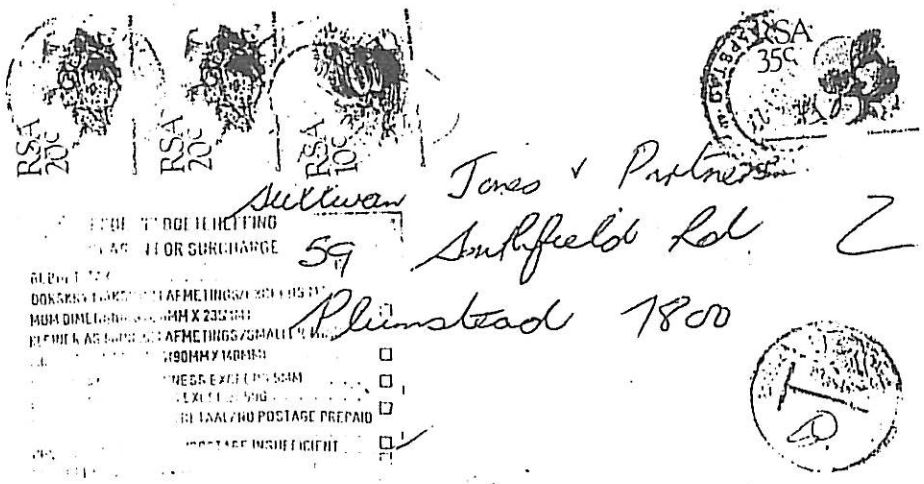


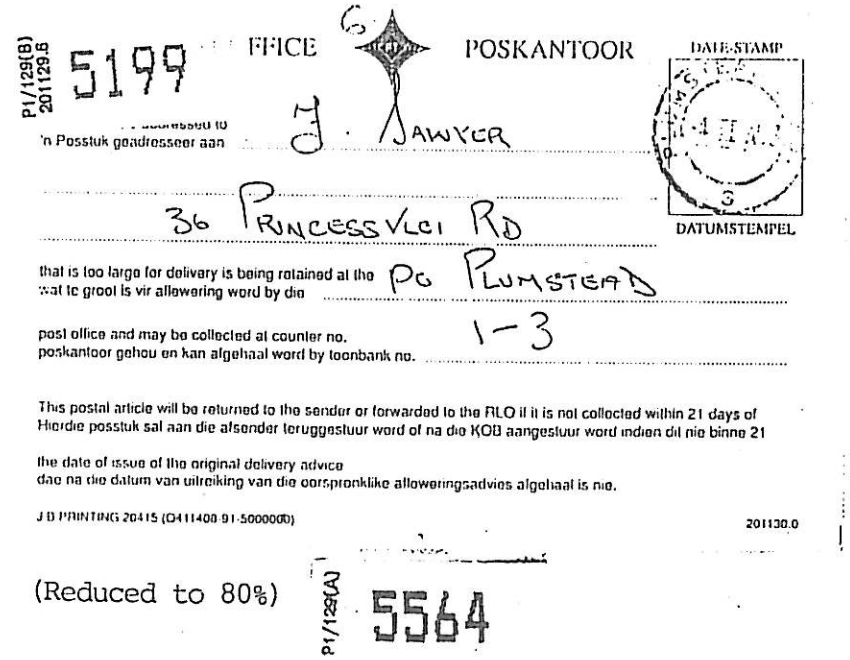
POSTAGE DUE AND ITS MARKINGS

TOP: Postage paid 35c, which was correct at the time of posting; therefore WHY the surcharge of 50c? (The blurred postal notice is in RED, as is the 'T50' circled, apparently applied by a hand rubber stamp, which is new to me.)

MIDDLE: For use by the Post Office for P.O. Box holders if the item is too large etc. for the box, and it is affixed to the card, with the item's number for collection at the relevant desk: note top left P1/129(B). Yellow, size 4 x 2cm.

LOWER: Similar type of label, this is marked as immediately above but it is 'A', and I have taken it from a wrapper sent to me by accident, part of a wrapper used a second time. This time it is a great help. This label is white in colour.





(Reduced to 80%)

R.D. Allen

ERROR IN DESIGN?

OUR HULL MEMBER, ROY CARLESS, has sent an interesting newspaper report on what is described as a geographical error on the S.A.N.A.E. (South African National Antarctic Expedition) commemorative stamp issued on 16 November 1959.

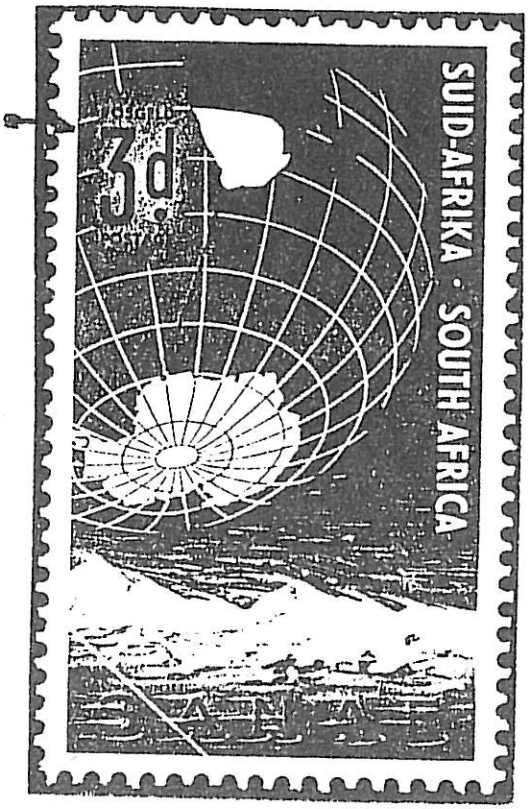
The *Daily Despatch*, East London, of 21 November 1959 goes to great lengths to point out the errors. The introductory paragraph reads: 'For the first time in the history of South Africa a postage stamp issued by the Department of Posts and Telegraphs is geographically incorrect'.

The narrative continues with a description of the 'errors' which occur on the globe showing the bottom half of the African continent and the Antarctic region. The design shows parts of Bechuanaland, a section of Southern Rhodesia and the whole of Basutoland as 'having been annexed by the Union'. Additionally it comments that the 20° line of latitude which passes through the middle of Madagascar is shown as the Northern boundary of the Union, except where the boundary line goes around the southern tip of Mozambique. A small section of South West Africa north of the 20 degree line 'is unclaimed as part of the Union'.

The remainder of the column records comments by the then President of the East London Philatelic Society and another reader in Port Elizabeth, extolling the merits or otherwise of withdrawing such stamps, also pointing out existence of other 'errors of design' that have occurred in the past worldwide.

One wonders if there was any subsequent comment on what I would not describe as 'errors' but merely artistic licence in a minuscule art form which at best may be described as stylized or symbolic.

WAP



Enlarged illustration of the 'offending' stamp reproduced from the original Post Office official publicity photograph

SOUTH AFRICAN AIRFORCE MUSEUM

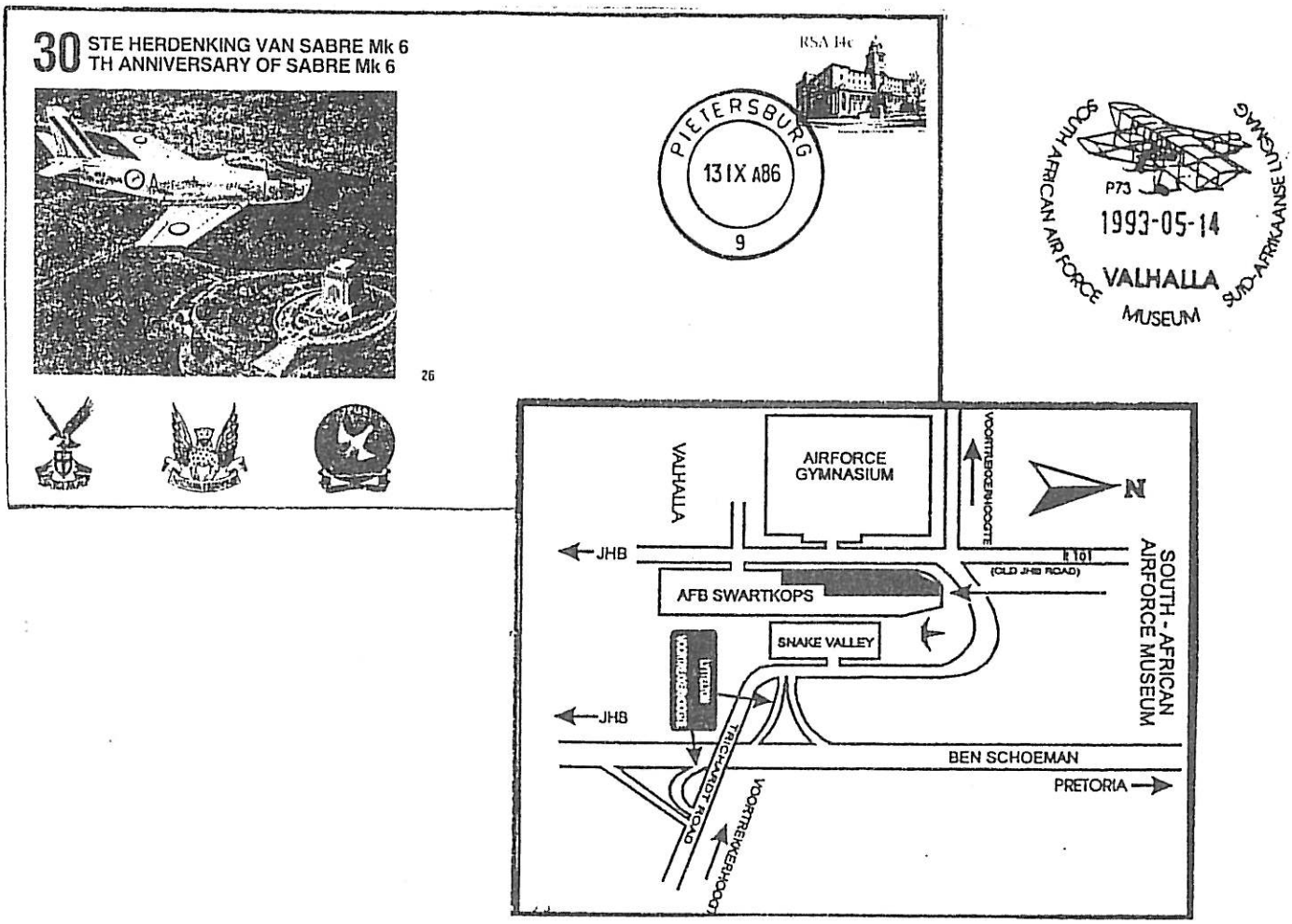
On 14 May 1993, the South African Post Office Ltd. issued a special date stamp in the permanent series for the opening of the newly upgraded Museum, which is now open to the public.

The embryo of the SAAF Museum was established in October 1973, but lacking in funds the first Officer Commanding, Col. P. McGregor, started a series of commemorative covers to raise funds. A Friends of the SAAF Museum Society was also created from volunteer enthusiasts. After 20 years of hard work the SAAF Museum may now take its place among the world's major aviation museums.

Readers may recall that the commemorative covers were the subject of a three-part listing in *The Springbok* – Jan/Feb 1988, March/April 1988, Sept/Oct 1988 – when the first 31 issues were also illustrated: a typical example (reduced) is shown below. This series was completed in 1988 with the issue of cover No. 40, then followed by series two and three. The second series commemorated events in the two world wars and the third series marks events from the current squadrons and units. To date (June 1993) series two has 14 issues and series three 8 covers. Most of the covers are still available, in two versions – signed or unsigned – and may be ordered direct from the Museum: Mrs J.C. Strydom, SAAF Museum, AFB Swartkop, P.O. Valhalla 0137, SA. For interested members, I will be happy to provide a copy of the order form which contains a complete priced list of all issues (some of the early ones are out of stock). Please forward stamps for 30p, plus an address label, to W.A. Page, 138 Chastilian Road, Dartford, Kent DA1 3LG.

Would-be visitors to South Africa may like to have the opening times and location, etc. The museum is open Monday to Friday 0900–1530, weekends 1000–1700 (closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day only). For location see map. Public transport – from Pretoria by bus from Church Square to Valhalla; from Johannesburg by Inter-City bus to Pretoria, then as above.

W.A. Page



117

POSTAGE STAMPS INFORMATION AS AT 31st DECEMBER 1992

JOB NO	NUMBER PER SHEET	VALUE	NUMBER OF SHEET ORDERED	DATE OF FIRST DELIVERY	NUMBER OF SHEETS DELIVERED	DATE OF FINALE DELIVERY	TOTAL NUMBERS DELIVERED	PAPER	PLATE NUMBER	SAME DESIGN OR NEW	REMARKS
				ANTON VAN WOUW: SPECIAL STAMPS							
56455.97	25	35c	700 000	92/09/23	23 000	92/10/26	703 000	Unwater-marked	2383,2384,2385 and 2386	New	Printed by Litho
56455.97	25	70c	60 000	92/09/22	23 000	92/10/01	60 000	Harrisons Paper	2387,2388,2389 and 2390	New	Printed by Litho
56455.97	25	90c	60 000	92/09/23	23 000	92/10/07	60 000		2391,2392,2393 and 2394	New	Printed by Litho
56455.97	25	R1,05	60 000	92/09/23	23 000	92/10/01	60 000		2395,2396,2397 and 2398	New	Printed by Litho
				SOUTH AFRICAN HARBOURS: MINIATURE							
61361.54	5	35c,55c, 70c, 90c, R1,05 (Combination)	70 000	92/12/08	70 000	92/12/08	70 000	Unwater-marked Harrisons Paper		New	Printed by Litho
				SOUTH AFRICAN HARBOURS : SPECIAL STAMPS							
61366.59	25	35c	700 000	92/12/17	23 000		23 000	Unwater-marked	2411,2412,2413 and 2414	New	Printed by Litho
61366.59	25	55c	65 000	92/12/10	23 000		23 000		2415,2416,2417 and 2418	New	Printed by Litho
61366.59	25	70c	65 000	92/12/14	23 000		23 000	Harrisons Paper	2419,2420,2421 and 2422	New	Printed by Litho
61366.59	25	90c	65 000	92/12/14	23 000		23 000		2423,2424,2425 and 2426	New	Printed by Litho
61366.59	25	R1,05	65 000	92/12/17	23 000		23 000		2427,2428,2429 and 2430	New	Printed by Litho

Page 70

THE SPRINGBOK July/Sept 1993

POSTAGE STAMPS INFORMATION AS AT 31st DECEMBER 1992

117 (cont'd)

JOB NO	NUMBER PER SHEET	VALUE	NUMBERS OF SHEETS ORDERED	DATE OF FIRST DELIVERY	NUMBER OF SHEETS DELIVERED	DATE OF FINAL DELIVERY	TOTAL NUMBER OF SHEETS DELIVERED	PAPER	PLATE NUMBER	SAME DESINGS OR NEW	REMARKS
				AIR LETTER							
60320.23	3	Postage Paid	3 500 000	92/09/11	25 000		934 000	Oyster Opaque		New	Printed by Litho
				FIFTH DEFINITIVE SERIES SUCCULENTS							
59788.97	100	1c	50 000	92/10/07	6 000	92/10/13	50 500		2399,2400,2401 and 2402	New	Printed by Litho
59189.03	100	2c	80 000	92/09/21	6 000	92/10/01	81 500		2375,2376,2377 and 2378	New	Printed by Litho
59189.03	100	7c	100 000	92/09/29	6 000	92/10/07	101 500	Unwater-marked	2379,2380,2381 and 2382	New	Printed by Litho
56686.25	100	35c	4 000 000	92/03/27	80 000		1 770 000	Harrisons Paper	2324,2325,2326 and 2327	New	Printed by Litho
60385.88	100	50c	150 000	92/10/07	6 000	92/10/26	156 000		2403,2404,2405 and 2406	New	Printed by Litho
60385.88	100	R2	120 000	92/10/13	6 000	92/10/28	115 500		2407,2408,2409 and 2410	New	Printed by Litho
				RSA INCIDENTAL SUCCULENTS							
57689.18	100	Standar-dise	480 000	92/03/23	25 000	92/11/04	455 500	Unwater-marked Harrisons Paper	2320,2321,2322 and2323	New	Printed by Litho
				RSA POSTCARDS							
56524.65	36	Postage Paid	2 150 000	92/09/15	22 500		1 624 000	Dukuza Linen		New	Printed by Litho

PROGRAMME OF SACS MEETINGS

Saturday 4 September 1993

2 to 4.30pm at Hawkstone Hall, Kennington Road, London. AGM and Election of Officers. Abell Trophy competition, Mini Auction and 'Recent Acquisitions'. Entries to Hon. General Secretary.

Saturday 25 September 1993

a) Northern Group meet 10 to 4 at Carlisle. Contact Brian Carter.
b) 'Africa' Societies Group meeting at Ringwood, Hampex 1993. Meet 10am. Contact Hon. Editor, D.W. Painter.

Tuesday 7 December 1993

6 to 7.30pm, Hawkstone Hall, Kennington Road, London. Rotogravure booklets. Contact is R.D.Allen.

Saturday 12 March 1994

2 to 4.30pm at Hawkstone Hall, Kennington Road, London. Kurt Goldsmith displays from his Aerophilatelic Collection of South Africa.

Tuesday 14 June 1994

6 to 7.30pm at Hawkstone Hall, Kennington Road, London. George V period Mackennal Heads. Contact is R.D. Allen.

NB. Hawkstone Hall is opposite Lambeth North Underground Station & near Waterloo Main Line.

Members of the Society and visitors alike are assured of a warm welcome at all meetings!

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

John RADFORD	598	Regret to advise of the death of this Chesterfield member
Mrs S. Grobler	917	Removed to Mmabatho in Bophuthatswana
ROBEMARK Philatelists	732	Late reinstatement of membership

A PUBLICATION

John Davis, based in Spain, has produced for us a 'Catalogue Cross-Check List' of the First Definitives of the Republic. Listed by face value in Groups showing brief details, e.g. perfs; with the SACC, Atlas, Arcade and SG numbers in succession.

Available to MEMBERS from Alec Page. 30p in stamps for United Kingdom and EC countries; Air elsewhere please send stamps of GB to the value of £1 OR suggest an arrangement to Alec, but please remember that whilst the pamphlet (A4) is free, the postage must be met by you.

MEMBERS SPEAK

Jim Grassom tells me he is at DUMFRIES on 8 September 1993 and at St Andrews in Fife on 16 November 1993 speaking at the Society meetings there. It is worth commenting that he is a strong representative of our Society in Scotland and will, with his fellow Scots, be over the Border into Carlisle on 25 September 1993 to meet the other men of the North that I had the pleasure of first joining in September 1992, enthusiastic and very welcoming.

DWP

MEMBERS WHO DID SPEAK

Thanks to Brian Redpath of Blandford Forum for coming across to Romsey to reward all of us (not many, but enthusiasts!) with an attractive cross-section from his collection. Some nice postal stationery of the Interprovincial period with a good selection of commercial items. For the stamp men the Georgians of the first Union definitives and used elsewhere, how nice.

Bradbury Wilkinson archive items with printing dates pencilled in the margins closing with some first Airs strange 'Returned Letter Office Franks', a rather neglected field. Naturally enough he is after speakers for his local Society, so I may be visiting the town where my soldiering days began.

DWP

REGIONAL MEETING

Richard Stroud hosted a reasonably well supported meeting at Burnham-on-Sea in May. Possibly affected by the production problems for *The Springbok* which delayed notification, but none the less his efforts are much appreciated in putting together a wide display including Korean War SA cards; Sea Mail with Shipping Postmaster and Assistant Shipping Postmaster cancels; Airmail and covers from both World War Periods.