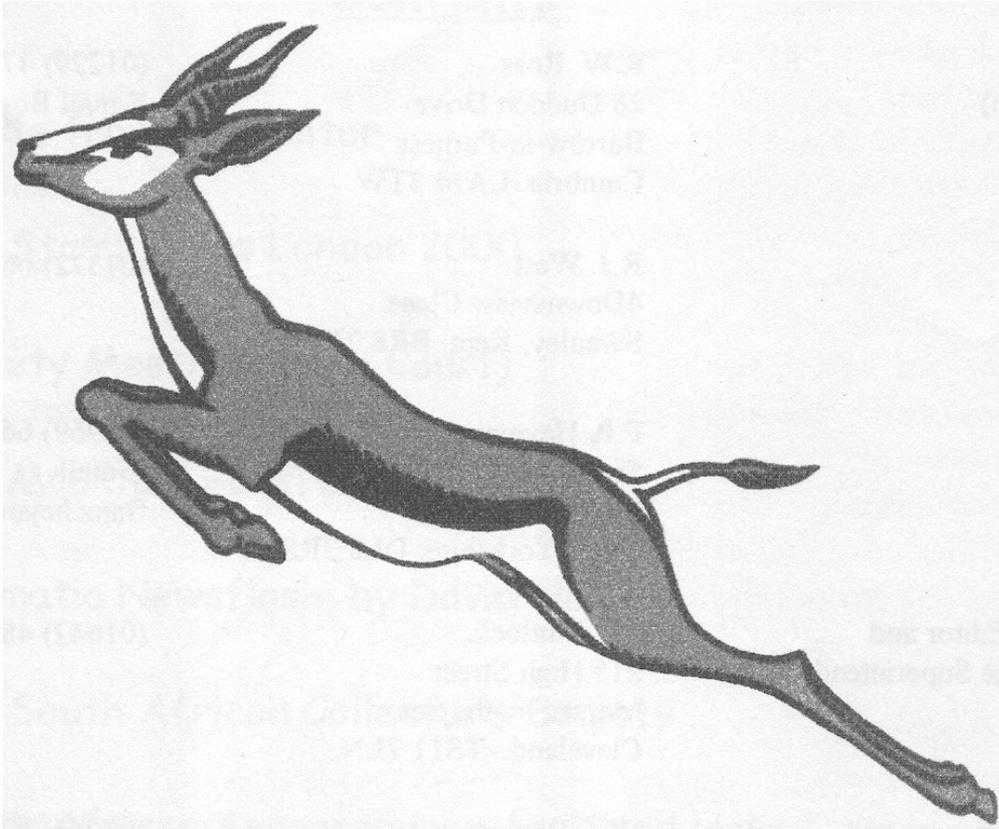


# *THE SPRINGBOK*



**SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY**

**QUARTERLY**

**Vol. 53**

**No. 1**

**Jan/Mar 2005**

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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 SAE will be acknowledged.

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## Events for your Diary 2005

5th Feb.	SACS London meeting	Subject: 2d Union Buildings
16th Apr.	SACS London meeting	Subject: Postage Due Stamps
23rd Apr..	SACS Carlisle meeting	Subject: George V
3rd Sep.	SACS London meeting	Abel Trophy Competition and Any other Philatelic Interests
24th Sep.	SACS Carlisle meeting	Subject: Airmails
<b>4-6th Nov.</b>	<b>Southern African Societies Convention, Falstaff Hotel, Leamington Spa.</b>	
26th Nov.	Joint Rhodesian Study Circle & SACS meeting, Manchester	
3rd Dec..	SACS London meeting	Subject: Revenues

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

## Other Events for 2005

23-27th Feb.	Spring Stampex, Islington
23-27th Feb.	Spring Philatex, Royal Horticultural Halls, Vincent Sq. London
11th June	Swinpex, Swindon. Joint meeting with S. A. Societies
25th June	Midpex, Coventry
7-10th July	A.B.P.S. Congress, Derby
29-30th July	York Stamp and Coin Fair
21-25th Sep.	Autumn Stampex, Islington
22nd Oct.	Hampex
27-29th Oct.	Autumn Philatex, Royal Horticultural Halls, Vincent Sq. London

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

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## From the Editors Desk

This is the first issue of the new year and I look forward to an active year of South African philately. The word on the street is that South African Philately is becoming increasingly popular. This is particularly so for the Union period. If Philatelic Services in Pretoria can get there act together then the RSA period will also attract more followers. Unfortunately, most of the Republican collectors amongst our members have given up for various reasons. This varies from poor service to too many issues. This has discouraged potential new members. We therefore need to take at least one potential new member to our hobby and our collecting field, under our wings so to speak, and encourage and support him or her with their collecting and urge them to join our Society. The future of our Society lies in us recruiting new members. Enough of that. On to another subject.

I also need your support with *The Springbok* in the form of articles and information. The journal relies on you, the membership, and not only the Editor! If I do not get articles, snippets of information etc. you will have to put up with what I produce. This might not be to everyone's taste. We need a variety of subjects and articles to keep the interest of members alive. Remember the Journal is our window to the world as our members are scattered across many parts of the world. Speaking of far flung members, thanks to all those who wrote in with their encouraging words of appreciation for the Journal.

The Annual Southern African Conference went off well again. This is now a permanent fixture on the Southern African Philatelic calendar. Dates for this years event are mentioned above in the Diary section.

I look forward to your continued support for this year and wish you all a fruitful philatelic year.

Eddie Bridges.

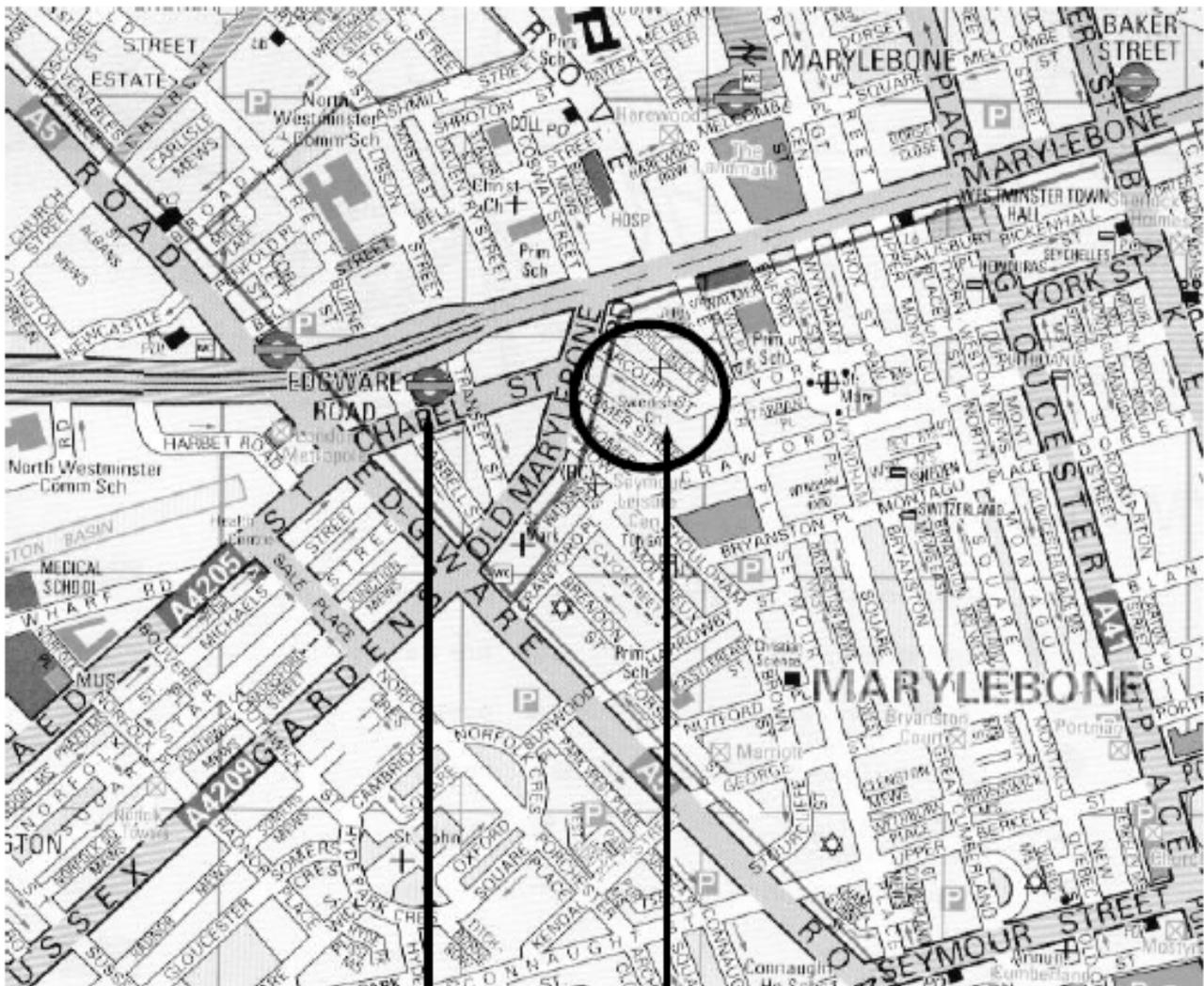
## Stop Press.

Apologies for the late arrival of this issue. This has been due to a failure of the printing machine I use to print The Springbok. The company has now purchased a new machine and hopefully this problem will not happen again.

## New London Meeting Venue

We reproduce the map for the venue again in case you have misplaced the last issue of *The Springbok*.

Meetings in London start at 13:30. The address is **The Swedish Church, Harcourt Street, London W1**.



Nearest Tube Station  
Marylebone

Swedish Church Harcourt St, Marylebone



## Letters to the Editor

Please use this forum to advise me of your interests and what you would like to see in the Journal. I can only change, adapt or modify format, articles if you let me know what your thoughts are. Constructive criticism will always be taken onboard.

**Ed.**

**Gawie van Eeden from Pretoria** writes in response to the query from Graham Manning in the Oct/Dec 2004 issue of *The Springbok*.

"There are in fact three known varieties, all on the arrival date stamp on the reverse: These are illustrated below.

- A. The time indication in the impression, viz AM, is without stops.



- B. The time indication in the impression, viz A. M., is with stops.



- C. Same as "B" but the inscription "Air Mail Facility JFK, NY 11060" is not in line with "A.M."



Thanks to Gawie for this information. He also has sent photocopies of the date stamps that was mentioned in the article by Olaf Schulze and Rudolf Lasar, that they could not obtain. These will be passed on to them. **Ed.**

A second letter from Gawie regarding the IFNI stamps on letter posted in Jhb. submitted by Les Elmore, which appeared in the Oct/Dec 2004 issue of *The Springbok*, describes what he thinks happened. (Gawie worked for the Post Office!)

"Foreign stamps on locally posted articles are not cancelled, and normally encircled in the manner described, to show that they are invalid for postage. The local postage was 3d at the time. The item would therefore have been surcharged with double the deficiency, i.e. 6d.

Articles containing cash or items of intrinsic value are subjected to compulsory registration. If posted in a letter box (posted out of course) such items are officially registered and surcharged with double the normal registration fee, which was 6d at the time, thus a further surcharge of 1/-. It is evident that the item in question must have had some sort of indication on it that the contents was of value or that it was the intention to have it registered. (The Post Office chaps were smart in those days !!) The markings on the item are the normal ones applied to items posted out of course, i.e. in a letter box instead of handing it in at a P.O. counter for registration. The surcharge of 1/6d is therefore correct for an unpaid article subjected to compulsory registration."

**Fred Clark from Derby** has responded to Chris Miller's query on page 131 of Vol. 52. (Oct/Dec 2004) He writes:

"I would suggest the following as a possible explanation.

- The cover was landed from the S.S. Nahoon when this vessel arrived at Durban but bearing S. African stamps and for a S. African addressee did not necessarily require a Paquebot mark.
- The cover was immediately sent for censoring, following which the sealing label was tied with the Arms "C" mark of Durban and the "Durban Released by Censor" cachet applied on the back and (faintly) on the front over the stamps.
- Letter forwarded to East London where it received an arrival date stamp and another different date stamp to cancel the stamps which due to the faint "Durban Released by Censor" mark had seemed not to have been cancelled.
- Realising the letter was from a ship and not already having been marked as such in Durban, the East London Paquebot mark was applied and the letter delivered to the addressee."

Thanks Fred. **Ed.**



## Members Queries and Feed Back

Members are urged to use this column to raise there queries and the Editor will publish all replies and feed back received in response to queries published. This column has led to some worthwhile information being uncovered by members in response to queries. **Ed.**

### Queries:

Fred Clark has the following Query.

#### Cape Town Label of 1910.

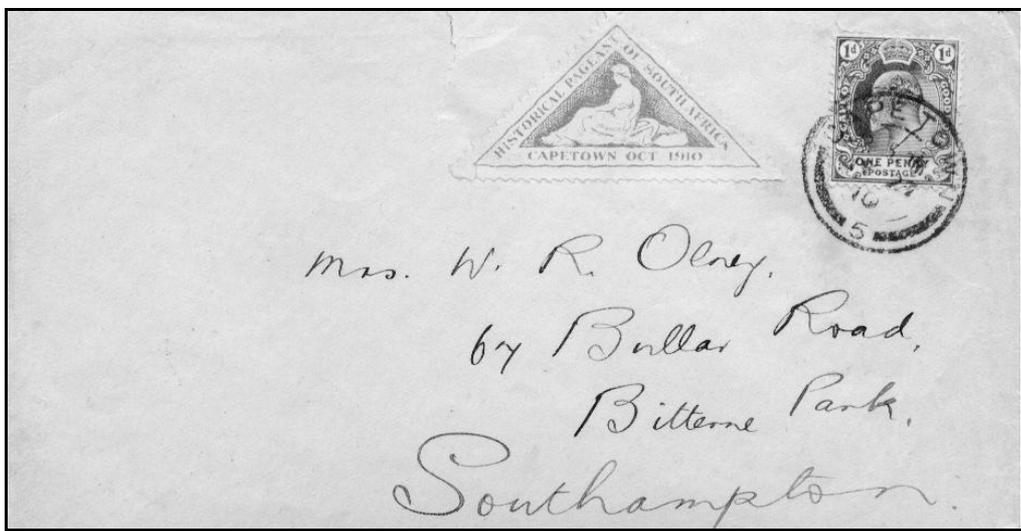
A recently acquired cover is of interest in that in addition to normal postage it bears a label of a type I have not previously seen. Triangular in shape and perforated 11¼ on all sides, the label shows the figure of Hope and an anchor on a rock at the centre with the wording "HISTORICAL PAGEANT?OF SOUTH AFRICA" on the two sides and "CAPE TOWN OCT 1910" across the bottom. The cover addressed to England and shown below, is post-marked Cape Town 12.5 PM July 27 1910 and is back stamped Southampton Packet Letter 6AM 13 August 1910. The label on the cover is printed in green ink, whereas the accompanying separate example is in a blue ink.

Not having seen or heard of this label before, a number of questions arise:

1. Where and who printed them and when were they issued?
2. Were they sold in aid of this pageant and if so at what price?
3. What was the sheet format?
4. In how many different colours were they printed?
5. What were the basic details of this Cape Town Pageant?

Can any member provide this information? Bearing in mind the information forthcoming from my recent enquiry regarding "Remember the Lusitania 1817" label, I am hopeful.

*Maybe Francis Kiddle can enlighten us again? Ed.*



**Fred Clark from Derby** has also responded to the query from Les Elmore on page 129 of Vol. 52. (see also *Gawie van Eeden's response in "Letters to the Editor"*)

Fred writes:

"Regarding Les Elmore's query on page 129 Vol. 52 of *The Springbok* concerning the compulsory registration of a cover, the following extract from the Post Office Guide 1986 (of S. Africa) on the subject of registration, may be of interest to him. Also item 3 regarding registration states "All articles to be registered must be handed to a postal official and must on no account be posted in a posting box."

Although the cover he refers to is dated Oct. 1960, the gist of this later extract would be little different from that of the earlier date. Unfortunately no illustration of the cover was given which might give a clue as to the reason this item was subjected to compulsory registration. For instance although Les does not mention the lines normally drawn horizontally and vertically through the centre of a registered cover, the presence of such lines alone, on an envelope, is taken by the Post Office as indicating a requirement for registration and I have examples of such items. So far as the blue crayon line drawn round the two stamps is concerned, it is usual Post Office practice for this to be done where the stamps concerned are invalid for postage.

#### 9. Compulsory registration

Postal articles that may reasonably be believed to contain coins, precious stones, gold (raw or manufactured), jewellery, gold or silver watches, banknotes, uncrossed cheques not made payable to order, uncrossed postal orders exceeding R1,00 in value on which the name of the payee has not been filled in or postage stamps exceeding R1,00 in value are subject to compulsory registration. In certain cases, for instance where coins of negligible value are enclosed in large mail consignments for advertising purposes the Postmaster General may be approached for special authority to exempt such articles from registration. Common metal-cased watches need not be registered. Gold coins are accepted for dispatch by registered mail **only if they are enclosed in Post Office registration envelopes**, otherwise they must be dispatched by insured parcel mail.

Postal items bearing the word **Registered** or any other word, phrase or postmark of a similar nature written or impressed on the cover and that are posted unregistered are subject to compulsory registration and are surcharged double the ordinary registration fee, i.e. R1,10. In addition any deficient postage is collected at double rates. If the value of the postage stamps affixed to such packets is in excess of the ordinary postage, the difference is deducted from the compulsory registration fee.

**Postal articles that are found open** in the post or are undelivered and that contain cheques or dividend warrants not crossed or not made payable to order, or any other valuable articles are also subject to compulsory registration and to payment of a double registration fee in addition to any deficiency of postage at double rates.

**No compensation is paid** in respect of the loss of or damage to an article registered because it is subject to compulsory registration. For compulsory insurance of parcels see paragraph 5, page 41.

Extract from the Post Office Guide 1986 as supplied by Fred Clark.

#### 10. Addressee's receipt

No registered article will be delivered until the addressee, his agent or other person considered to be authorized to receive the article shall have signed a receipt for it on the prescribed form that will be presented to him for signature by the delivery officer.

#### 11. Advice of delivery

The sender of a registered article may arrange, at the time of posting for an advice of its delivery to be obtained from the addressee, his agent or other person considered to have been authorized to receive the article, by completing an advice of delivery card **Avis de réception** in ink or by typewriter. Such cards are returned to the senders by airmail if this will expedite their delivery.

The advice of delivery services and charges are as follows:

(a) **Advice of delivery card accompanying a surface mail article** (postage stamps to the value of all charges must be affixed to the cover of the article):

Return of advice of delivery card: 25c **plus** the registration fee **plus the postage on the registered article (irrespective of the mass of the advice of delivery card).**

(b) **Advice of delivery card accompanying an airmail article (postage stamps to the value of all charges must be affixed to the cover of the article):**

Return of advice of delivery card: 25c **plus** the registration fee **plus** the airmail postage on the combined mass of the registered article and the advice of delivery card.

**Members Queries and Feedback cont....**

One of our newer members, Mark Breen from Denver Colorado USA, also writes in response to Greg Manning's query: (It is good to hear from new members. **Ed.**)

I am a new member and just received the latest "The Springbok". Here is an answer to Greg Manning's question about the SAA covers. The attached scan shows the back of SAA #2. The top shows AM no stops. The one in the middle is AM with stops And the one at the bottom is a variety of the AM with stops where the outside writing goes lower on the LHS. Here is the scan....

This is one of the areas that I collect. So I hope this helps.

Thanks  
Mark



---

I have also had a response to my request for information on the "Razor Blade" booklet vending machine. If any members can add to this, it would be appreciated, specially a source for good pictures. This is for the proposed book on the Union Stamp Booklets. **Ed.**

Eddie,

I am librarian to the National Philatelic Society in London and I have just seen your cry for help in the classifieds of the Springbok journal.

I have an interest in stamp vending generally and can advise you that "Brecknell's" is in fact Messrs. Brecknell, Munro and Rogers. They were a British company that entered the postal vending field in 1932. Previously, they had been well known in the automated vending machine industry Brecknell and were producing fare collection machines for the London Underground network by 1932. They also submitted that year to the then General Post Office a machine similar to what is known as the B1 that had a coin tester of their own design. This machine was for the vending of stamps by coil NOT booklet. However, it is clear that the razor books of South Africa were vended through a British made BM&R machine. BM&R "sort of" still exist, in the form of Salter Brecknell's who produce weighing scales - including postal. They are a division of Avery.

Hope this helps - I only wish that I could contribute more such as a picture, but this is not possible. I bet one exists in the NPS library somewhere, though!!

Regards,

Glenn H Morgan FRPSL

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Southern African Philately**

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## Members Smalls

Mark Breen from Colorado USA has the following request:

I am trying to put together a comprehensive list of Homelands Postal Stationary and would love to know of / contact fellow members who collect similar material.

I am also trying to complete/expand my collection of the following, and would again love to know of /contact any members that have a similar collecting interest and might have duplicates:

1. Silk FDCs from South Africa, SWA, Namibia and Homelands
2. Silk Maxicards from South Africa, SWA and Homelands
3. Official FFC from SAA and SWA/Namib Air/Caprivi Air etc
4. South African Airways (not Airforce) Museum Covers
5. KempAir and AirPhilSA covers
6. Unofficial/Private Issued Maxicards from South Africa, SWA and Homelands
7. Frama FDC from South Africa, SWA and Namibia

My contact info is:  
Mark Breen  
7520 S. Niagara Ct.  
Englewood, CO 80112  
USA



## Membership Matters

### **We welcome new members:**

1087 M. C. G. Maltby of Gloucestershire  
1088 Alan MacGregor of South Africa  
1089 Stanley Gibbons Publications  
1090 Mrs Ann Coltman of Essex

### **The following members have advised me of their resignations for a number of reasons.**

696 R.A. Hurrell of Kent  
737 R.E.C. Tedd of Leicester  
869 J. Stolk of Belgium  
902 Mrs. R. Smith of South Africa

We thank them for their long and valued membership.

### **Subscriptions**

Members Subscriptions were due on 1st January 2005. Please ensure that you have renewed. It would be easier for us if you would consider paying by Standing Order. Please contact me if you wish to consider this.

### **Midpex and Hampex**

Could we please have some volunteers to man the tables at **Midpex 25th June** and **Hampex 22nd October**. Your help here would be appreciated.

**Chris Oliver**

**Membership Secretary.**

## **A record of the A.G.M. of the South African Collectors' Society held at The Falstaff Hotel, Leamington Spa at 17:30 on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2004.**

Eleven members were present.

The Chairman, John Shaw, welcomed all.

Apologies were given for our President R.D.Allen, D. Osborn, W Branney, and for Mike Smith, Richard Stroud, Dr. Chris Board and Paul van Zeyl who were attending meetings elsewhere.

### **The Report of the last A.G.M.**

This had been held at 17.00 on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2003 at The Falstaff Hotel Leamington Spa. It was agreed that the report was a true report of the matters discussed at that time.

### **Matters arising from that meeting and are not covered by the agenda.**

Portishead venue is free and meetings were moderately well attended when last held there. Nicholas Arrow to investigate and advise the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Editor with view to getting West Country meetings started again during 2005.

A joint meeting between The Rhodesian Study Circle and the S.A.C.S. is being planned for November 2005, in Manchester.

### **The Hon. Chairman's report**

John circulated his written report, below, and made mention of some of the points raised in it.

The last year has been eventful, with much good news and much sad news. The sad news has been the passing of two of our stalwart members, Alan Caines our auditor and Dr Bill Fincham, who had been our auctioneer for some 25 years before leaving that post to concentrate on his beloved India collection. I understand Bill sold the best of his Union material to buy one Indian stamp – the Ghandi 10 rupees with Service overprint, and that much of his better India will be sold by Spink later this year. The India Study Circle has helped the family with this material and some of the lesser items have been auctioned at Study Circle meetings. Chris Oliver and myself were asked to help with the remainder of the South Africa which included an astonishing amount of Christmas seals, plus a fine study of Easter seals, and air letters and "Glory boxes". Much of the material has already been sold (some at Carlisle, some at a London meeting, some here at Leamington) and, in accordance with the family's wishes, has gone to good homes within the society where it will be enjoyed as Bill enjoyed his hobby so much.

After Bill and Alan being plucked from this earth at relatively tender ages, it was so encouraging and wonderful that our doyen, Jack Hagger, celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in July, and was appropriately honoured in South Africa. His editorship of SAC/H has resulted in a publication which is the *vade mecum* of Union philately and his efforts have enriched the lives of most serious Union collectors.

On the home front, the Carlisle meetings continue to attract good support and it was also good to see the Abell Trophy awarded this year for the first time to a Carlisle member; it was a thoroughly deserved victory for Bill Branney, which adds a new name to the trophy. The London meetings still attract only a handful of members, which is a shame considering the quality of the displays and the enthusiasm of the small band of faithful. The London meeting place has also caused problems; in view of the attendance Hawkstone Hall became just too expensive, so we tried the British Philatelic Center at Charterhouse Street, just as BPC was unexpectedly obliged to undertake a major, and expensive, refurbishment which resulted in the loss of the small meeting room and, again, price forced us to move yet again. Chris Oliver has done sterling work in finding us both a stopgap and, hopefully, a more permanent meeting place.

The new look Springbok has shown what modern technology can do and is well received; Eddie still needs articles from you though, without which the publication cannot survive. Eddie is a good "chaser" – always cajoling me for something – just like his predecessor, Franz Heymann; Franz was honored for his work of over eight years as editor by the Wickes Award, and this was presented to Franz at the last Carlisle meeting. Franz was quite surprised to receive the award and at the time of the announcement had his head firmly into the Bill Fincham glory box he had just bought at the auction.

Finally, I wish to place on record the society's thanks to Brian Trotter and Eddie Bridges for their splendid organization of the Leamington conference. This was the best so far and most enjoyable.

AGM cont.....

### **The Hon. Secretary's report.**

We have had a reasonably good year with fifteen new members being enrolled. Four of our members died, three members did not renew and three have indicated that they wish to resign at the end of this year due to age or infirmity. Six unproductive membership enquiries were received. Morgan Farrell is now established as our representative in North America and will be pleased to receive subscriptions for 2005 from members in that area, if they find it convenient. We need, ideally, a representative in South Africa also.

Membership currently stands at 168, so we need more members.

Society meetings have been held in Carlisle, London and Arbury, Cambridge. The last meeting of the year is to be held at Basildon as part of the A.B.P.S. Basildon 2004 fair.

The two meetings in Carlisle were, as usual, very well attended. Numbers attending the London meetings have increased slightly and our venture into Cambridge had four attendees including one of our new members. The display, at each of these meetings was exemplary. I was particularly enthralled by the displays of the bantam war issues at one of the London meetings. Another attempt at meeting in Cambridge will be arranged and also a meeting in the West of England. I need help in selecting a suitable venue.

A.B.P.S. 2006 is to be in Torquay!!

We still require help in manning the table at Basildon 2004 later this month.

Joint meetings with the other Southern Africa philatelic societies have been held at Swinpex, both London Philatex fairs and, of course, the congress at this venue.

S.A.C.S. have booked to attend Midpex in June 2005. Dates and topics for Carlisle and London meetings have already been fixed.

Work on Society publications is proceeding apace thanks to Eddie's hard work and his stimulation of others.

Thanks to all of the committee and other members who have supported me in my first full year as General Secretary.

### **The Hon. Treasurer's report.**

The financial statement for 2003 with additions to show the extent of transactions for the year, was circulated. This included the Hon Auctioneer and Stamp Packet Superintendent's information.

The Independent Examiner had audited the accounts to date and these will be presented for inclusion in The Springbok early in the New Year.

During this year £3,000 had been spent on publications but this expenditure should be made good from book sales. More publications are planned for the coming year. It can be seen from this that the financial situation is still healthy and there will be no need to increase subscription rates for 2005 but a small increase should be planned for 2006.

Malcolm Ridsdale made a request for more clarity on expenditure and income and asked if members could have a breakdown of Society expenses.

Godfrey Mellor pointed out that the sum included for subscription income seems low for 168 paid up members and has includes an odd amount of 33p when subscriptions should be in multiples of £8.00 and £11.00.

Should the accounts for Publications be kept separate from running accounts?

The Hon. Secretary will discuss this with the Hon. Treasurer with view to incorporating these points into the accounts to be included in The Springbok.

The accounts, as presented, were approved subject to the above.

The subscription for 2006 is to be set at £10.00 for U.K. and Europe and £12.00 for overseas members. This was proposed by Godfrey Mellor, seconded by Nicholas Arrow and agreed by those present.

### **Reports from other officers of the Society.**

The Hon Auctioneer & Stamp Packet Superintendent's Report and the Hon Librarian & Webmaster's report were written from information provided to the Hon Secretary. These are as follows.

#### **The Hon Auctioneer & Stamp Packet Superintendent**

All packets are back with me and only one was lost during the year, which is about par for the course. Phoning ahead is generally working well. It has been suggested that slip might be included in the packet confirming that a telephone call had been received before the packet arrived and a telephone call had been made before packet dispatched.

Packets seemed to be going around slowly and I still need more material. Eddie Bridges is to continue to include a regular mention in The Springbok.

#### **The Hon. Librarian and Web-master.**

I am busy updating the library list. It has been agreed that the library of Springboks will be split into smaller groupings, probably annual and will be bound. The library and Springbok lists are to be put on the SACS website.

AGM Cont....

### **The Hon. Cover Packet Superintendent.**

Always a need for more material.

I have had some difficulty when material is not priced, it makes for more work and delays the packet. However I would rather have this than no material.

I am busy sorting through some postage due items which are still to be photocopied and then distributed. I still have a huge amount of date stamp cards to be put through the cover packets. There are a number of "cheap" items that will not bring in much revenue for the SACS. There is a feeling at times that it is a waste of effort with all the photocopying and distribution costs.

### **The Hon. Editor.**

He will be binding The Springbok in annual or bi-annual increments for the Library. Will consider binding these for other members, subject to cost and availability.

Sharper presentation in the Springbok is best achieved if material is scanned, well photocopied or given to Eddie to scan. The magazine seems to be going from strength to strength. More advertisers now bring in more revenue. It is intended that only members will be allowed to advertise. This should increase membership. A map showing the Arbury, Cambridge venue will be included in The Springbok when a further meeting there is planned.

The Society should begin to plan for the Union centennial show and celebrations in 2010. Eddie envisages a bumper issue of The Springbok amongst other ideas.

### **Ratification of Officers of the Society.**

All Officers & Committee are willing to stand for re-election.

Godfrey Mellor proposed that they should be elected en bloc. This was seconded by Nicholas Arrow and agreed.

### **A.B.P.S. Basildon 2004 Show.**

The S.A.C.S. will be represented at Basildon 2004 and have booked a meeting room for 1¾ hours on Sunday morning 21<sup>st</sup> November. This meeting is open to all interested and will be an open meeting. Please bring a few pages for a display. We desperately need people to help man the table during other periods over the weekend.

### **The Southern Africa Societies joint meetings at Philatex.**

The Hon. Secretary attended both this year and is intending to go to that organized for the Spring Stampex. More support from members would be welcomed.

### **Midpex 2005.**

S.A.C.S. have booked a table but the other Southern Africa Societies do not seem favourably disposed to attending as a society. We will need some help from members in manning the table.

### **Swinpex 2005.**

The joint Southern Africa meetings at Swinpex always seem well attended. The S.A.C.S. will, again, be there next year.

### **A.B.P.S. Torquay 2006.**

The next A.B.P.S. show after Basildon will be held in November 2006 and is to be managed by Barry Horne. S.A.C.S. members should consider whether they wish the Society to have a table and/or meeting there. Decision needed by next Congress weekend.

### **The Club Rule Book.**

No comments having been received regarding the proposed rule changes it is assumed that all members are satisfied with these. The suggested rule changes are therefore to be adopted. This was proposed by Brian Trotter, seconded by Fred Clark and agreed by all present.

Rules relating to the awarding of the Tony Chilton Memorial Cup have to be ratified by all Southern Africa Societies in the U.K. These consist of: The Rhodesian Study Circle; The Transvaal Study Circle; The Orange Free State Study Circle; The Natal & Zululand Study Circle; The Anglo-Boer War Philatelic Society; The Bechuanaland and Botswana Society and The South African Collectors' Society. Currently, the award is given for the best major presentation during the Joint Congress weekend, by popular vote from those present. It is intended that this should be formulated into a rule for this competition. Comments, please, to the Hon. Secretary.

AGM Cont.....

**A.O.B.**

**S.A.C.S. Insurance.**

At shows such as Chester, Midpex or Basildon we may have philatelic displays associated with our stand. If the organisers do not carry a blanket insurance, the S.A.C.S. has taken out insurance cover. Most collectors insure their collections and will therefore be already covered against loss. With the proviso that we would need to advise those who were displaying, of our intention, is it necessary for the S.A.C.S. to take out insurance cover in the future? Comments, please, to the Hon. Secretary.  
We have taken out insurance for Basildon 2004.

**The next A.G.M. will be held at the same venue on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2005.**

The meeting finished at 18.50 after the Chairman had thanked those present for attending.

**C.E. Oliver. 10.11.2004**

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### **Society Binding facilities**

The South African Collectors Society is now the owner of a Thermal based binding machine. This is a high quality machine which is capable of binding documents in various formats. This will be particularly useful for future publications the Society might want to undertake. Most of the publications we undertake are of limited interest outside our field of collecting, which makes print runs small. This in turn pushes the price up and the cost of covers and binding. The machine we have is capable of half perfect binding, full perfect binding in soft cover or paper back as well as hardcover binding.

With the paperback versions of perfect binding we can print the covers ourselves, whereas with Hard covers we need to go externally to have the covers printed.

We can also do "office" type binding where we can bind the printed document between two covers with a cloth strip along the spine of the document.

We can therefore offer our members the following:

Binding of runs of magazines, articles etc. with a soft cover printed on the front for approx. £4.00 each.

Please contact the editor for details if you are interested in utilising this asset. The costs are basically just to cover the cost of the covers and the spine strip. A few pence is for the printing and design of the cover which will go towards offsetting the cost of the machine. The machine belongs to the Society. You may make use of it!

**Eddie Bridges**

**This space may be used for advertising.  
Contact the Editor.**

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## More Virtual Stamp information

by

Rudolf Lasar

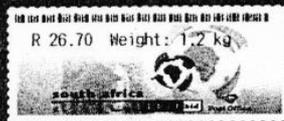
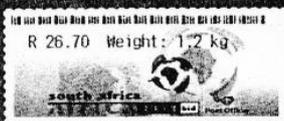
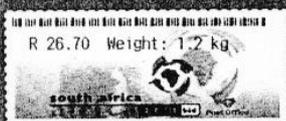
Subsequent to the article published by Franz Heymann in The Springbok of Jul/Sep. 2004, some further information has been received from Rudolf. His complete article is not published here as much has been covered already. However the publicity flyer that he has sent is reproduced here to complete the picture. Some usefull postage rates is also supplied by Rudolf which might be of general interest.

# Virtual Stamps, yet another way to simplify your life.

Because the Post Office is all about keeping things simple, we'd like to introduce you to our new product, the Virtual Stamp. But what exactly is a Virtual Stamp? It's simple really, they function exactly the same way as normal stamps and can be used for all postal items, except they'll only be available at Post Offices. And the biggest benefit is that from now on you'll only need one stamp per postal item.

#### Here's how it works:

Take your postal item to the counter where the teller will weigh it, punch the info into the computer and print you a stamp to the correct value. And because Virtual Stamps are peel and stick, there's no more licking! Just another way we're doing our best to make posting items hassle free.



Fill in the questionnaire below and drop it in the entry box provided and you stand to win a duffel bag containing a host of Post Office goodies. Your feedback provides us with valuable information that enables us to further improve our services.

As this is a pilot project, your comments are very valuable to us.

Do you like the look of the stamp?  YES  NO

Do you prefer it to conventional stamps?  YES  NO

Was the system convenient to use?  YES  NO

Do you like the idea of having only one stamp to cover the postage of letters and parcels?  YES  NO

Do you think there is room for improvement on this stamp?  YES  NO

If yes, what do you think could be improved. \_\_\_\_\_

#### Details:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_



LOBEDU LEO BURNETT 101667

**Postage rates:**

- 0,15 Rand = for unaddressed Infomail of the type "National Street Delivery"
- 0,25 Rand = for brochures of the type "National Box Delivery"
- 2,10 Rand = for postcards in Southern Africa and worldwide by surface mail
- 2,80 Rand = for domestic Fastmail envelopes at small (DL) maxi size
- 2,95 Rand = for small airmail letters in Southern Africa
- 3,45 Rand = for domestic ordinary mail in covers at medium size (B5)
- 4,00 Rand = for small airmail letter up to 50 g to destinations beyond Southern Africa
- 4,35 Rand = for domestic ordinary mail in covers at large size (B4)
- 6,65 Rand = for domestic Fastmail covers and postcards at medium size (B5)
- 17,10 Rand = for small parcels up to 100 g to destinations beyond Southern Africa

Several reports now seem to indicate that the trial has run its course and many of the trial Post Offices now longer offer these stamps due to the machines not being refilled.

We wonder if this idea will be pursued any further? We will keep you informed if any further information or news comes to our attention.

## Members in the News

### Richard Stroud

Our congratulations to Richard Stroud who was awarded the Skinner Cup at the recent Federation Congress held in Durban. This award is the second highest award that is made by congress for services to Philately in South Africa.

### Chris Board

Chris was awarded an O.B.E. in the Queen's New Years Honours list. Our congratulations to him from all the Committee and members of S.A.C.S.

### Brian Trotter

A belated congratulations on being awarded The Lee Medal by the "Royal" for his display of South African Revenues to the Society in London.

### Mike Tonking

Gold at Dursapex 2004 (South African National Exhibition) for his exhibit "Rotogravure Pictorial Postage Stamps 1930-1935."

Mike was also awarded a Congress award for his article in the SAP (June 03) "Revisiting the SWA Type 1 forged inverted overprints"

### Paul van Zeyl

Silver-bronze award at Dursapex for his exhibit "The Boers of East Africa"

## Short Report on Dursapex held in Durban 13-16 Oct. 2004

The following information is culled from the SWA Stamp Study Group News Letter and the South African Stamp Study Circle News Letter.

This year we hope to have our own representative in South Africa report back to us.

The SWA Stamp Study Group report that the Exhibition and organisation was "satisfactory"

Some comments from the minutes of the Congress: Some thoughts about an International Exhibition in South Africa to commemorate the establishment of the Union of South Africa a hundred years ago. Funding such an exhibition could be a potential problem.

Mention was also made that the frame layout will be changed at this years National Exhibition in Cape Town to fall in line with International guidelines. This change is from five vertical strips of three pages each to three horizontal rows of five sheets each. (*This still falls short of the 16 page layout adopted in the rest of the world, Ed.*)

From the reports it appears to have been an exhibition which did not escape some criticism.

The National Exhibition for 2005 will be in Cape Town from 19-22 October 2005.

## Society Publications

Now that the Aerogramme Publication is complete and put to bed so to speak, it is time to think of what next to tackle. If you, the membership has any ideas or you are working on a publication, please let the Editor know. I might be able to help or assist in getting everything into a printable file for digital printing etc. If you need help in finding more information, Then **The Springbok** is the vehicle to find that information. Our Journal is now widely read and all the Specialist South African Societies get a copy.

### Union Essays in the Post Office Archives

We are currently working on a small publication to illustrate the Union Essays in the Archives in South Africa and for which a set of photographs were made. This is not new research but a pulling together of all the available information that has already appeared in print. To this end we need further information on the scanned item on the next page.. When was it issued and by whom? Any information on this would be helpful.

### The Booklets of the Union of South Africa

This is a publication I started some 4 years ago and then put it aside again. I have now revived this from my attic and am looking for collaborators. I am aware that several of our members are working on specific sections or booklets and some have passed information on to me. This is an area that has not been too well documented in one place. There is quite a bit of information scattered around in various publications. This now needs bringing together and putting into one publication. I have quite a bit of information and examples of the booklets but could do with some help to put information together on various issues. I would also need to find the owners of the archival material that exists for the earlier issues and then to obtain good copies of these. So if you know of anyone who has archival items, please let me know.

If you are interested in participating in this project, please let me know.

**Eddie Bridges**

The following is a small extract from the Kings Head booklets 4 and 5. The listing in SG and the SACC is not comprehensive enough. The Union Handbook mentions an additional surcharge type for Booklet 4 but makes no distinction between the two types of surcharge on the front of Booklet 5. Both booklets have additional varieties which could be listed as Booklet 4 and 4a and Booklet 5 and 5a. Examples illustrated below.



**Booklet B4 showing the surcharged postage rates due to increased postage. This type had the "2d" surcharged in a larger type.**



**Booklet B4a showing the surcharged postage rates due to increased postage. This type only had the "2" surcharged in a smaller type.**



**Booklet B 4**



**Booklet B 4 rear**



**Booklet 5 with surcharge on the front with rounded ends to the 3**



**Booklet 5a with surcharge on the front with squared ends to the 3**



**Rear cover of Booklet B5 and 5a with "2d" surcharge in similar type to B4. These booklets are only known with this surcharge**

Union of South Africa  
Postage Stamp  
Alterations  
*Old Designs*

Unie van Suid-Afrika  
Posseël-  
veranderinge  
*Ou Ontwerpe*



*New Designs*

*Nuwe Ontwerpe*



Illustration courtesy of Chris Oliver

# The Second U.K. Congress Of Southern African Philatelic Societies

by

Chris Oliver

The meeting held at The Falstaff Hotel, Leamington Spa on 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> November was another great success.

## Major Mathews Memorial Lecture

Members gathered on Friday evening and having settled in were treated to the Major Mathews Memorial Lecture given, this year, by Dr. Andrew Higson F.R.P.S.L. entitled **The Stamps of Swaziland 1889-1894**. This erudite discourse examined the overprinted issues of the Z.A.R. stamps, initially and both reprinted and forged. Their postal, fiscal and telegraphic use was discussed and high value fiscal stamps of the same era were also mentioned. Dr. Higson provided a concise transcript of his lecture to those present and gave us something to think about & discuss over dinner.

## Invited Displays

On the following morning, the first display was on censored mail during the Anglo-Boer War and was given by Stuart Duggan. Examples of the use of British civil censor handstamps, the deformation of rubber handstamps, variations on the equilateral triangled Transvaal marks and different forms of the "Passed by Censor" mark at Harrismith were all shown. Stuart also related how date 'slugs' were omitted from marks used during 1900 as the double 0 was not easily recognisable. Boer seals were occasionally captured by the British for use by them. Stuart considered that the colours violet and purple were often misrepresented in catalogues and other descriptive works.

Colin Hoffman charted the opening up of Southern Africa through the Transvaal, Bechuanaland and the Rhodesias by the British South Africa Company. Anomalies in the postal system, its routes and rates, were created and admirably described in Colin's display. There was no military concession rate for the British invasion force. The word Bechuanaland was removed from the handstamp slug to avoid giving offence to the native king Lobengula I.

The last display of the morning was by Dr. Chris Board, F.R.P.S.L. on his researches on the first stamp of the Union of South Africa. He related how his interest in the stamps of South Africa was engendered in the 1970's when he undertook some enjoyable studies of inter-provincial use after a visit to the Postal Museum with Croydon Philatelic Society. Later when researching Cape Postal Cards in the De la Rue archives he was side tracked when finding a trial proof of the proposed 1d stamp and the Treasury files on the inter-provincials and the setting up, design and production information relating to 2½d union commemorative stamp. Chris then described the information gleaned from this source from Wilkinson's early sketches, Holland's more professional drawings and the various modifications and developments to these, conditioned by political manoeuvres of the time. The watchword on all research is to check all facts and do not copy what has gone before unless it is from an original source.

On reconvening after lunch, John Shaw gave a detailed display of the first pictorial issue of South Africa. The Union was anxious to make a change from the first definitive issue as they considered it too colonial in its design. Progressive design competitions were held between 1923 and 1925 and many essays produced. Photographs of 150 of these, in colour & in monochrome, were released by the post office in 1974 and some of these were shown. John made further references, in his display, to printing processes used both in London and in Pretoria, their disadvantages and advantages, culminating in the trials of the use of a Goebell machine in Darmstadt in 1929 and its subsequent purchase by the government in 1930. A synopsis of this excellent display was provided by the presenter. (*repeated in this issue. Ed.*)

Our next speaker, Ian Shapiro, told us of the story of Gerald Medway who, in 1940, was evacuated from Sidcup, Kent to Johannesburg during the war years. This lad sent weekly communications to his parents during his sojourn in South Africa between the ages of twelve and seventeen. This archive of Social Philatelic interest was acquired some nine years previously. Ian had made contact with Mr. Medway and after consultation with him, had agreed that most of the correspondence of over 350 letters would be deposited in the Imperial War Museum archives. Unlike some of his contemporaries Gerald Medway had been treated very well and had attained a good education prior to his return to England. He had been one of 380 evacuees, 2 doctors and 8 nurses who had been dispatched to South Africa away from the sphere of battle during W.W.II.

Richard Stroud followed his interesting display given in 2003, by presenting a display showing the political changes between 1880 & 1900 which affected postal rates, particularly in the O.F.S. There was a defined time for dispatch by steamer resulting in the persistent use of a "Too late mail" cachet. Richard's display included

### **Congress cont....**

included registration fees, transport rates and the effect of the U.P.U. on contemporary rates between territories and the effect of the absence of a ½d postal stationery card, culminating in Lord Roberts annexation of the territory in May 1900.

A little later than scheduled, South African Collectors Society and the O.F.S. Study Circle adjourned for their A.G.M.'s, prior to drinks and dinner.

Votes had been cast, by those present, for the best invited display. Ian Shapiro received most votes and, during dinner, he was awarded the Tony Chilton Memorial Trophy for 2004.

### **Short Displays on Sunday**

On Sunday more displays were enjoyed. This time short displays from members present rather than from invited speakers.

Paul van Zeyl first gave an update on progress after the recent theft from the Post Office archive in Pretoria. Members should continue to be aware that modern S.A. material from this source may be offered for sale in this country and in Europe.

John Cowlin gave a display of Transvaal postal orders between January 1898 and August 1899.

Chris Oliver showed the development of Airgraphs between South Africa and England from 1941, the introduction of the Airgraphs direct from S.A. in May 1942 to the culmination of this service on 31<sup>st</sup> July 1945.

Censored material from South West Africa between 1915 & 1919 were displayed by Fred Clark. He included good examples of censor numbers 99, 100 and 102 to 106 inclusive.

Derek Lambert showed how Rhodesia was shaped by outside influences by the use of correspondence. A letter from Cecil Rhodes, from Oxford, to his bankers, and a letter to him, in Bulawayo. The use of an expeditionary force to prevent a possible invasion of Rhodesia by the Boers. The Lake Tanganyika flotilla in 1915 and other W.W.I material used in and around the area.

Andrew Higson showed a variation of an unlisted overprint on a Natal Telegraph stamp and asked for suggestions on how to authenticate this.

Alan Harley treated us to the story of Lewis Pugh-Evans through correspondence to and from him during his tour of military duty 1900-1902 in South Africa and then his eventual retirement as a Brigadier in January 1938.

Johan Diesveld displayed New Zealand pictorial postal cards in two colours, cream and yellow containing pictures of South Africa. He also had cards of 1903 from Northern Rhodesia with a picture of a dead elephant.

A display of the 1974 U.D.I. period in Rhodesia, including military postal labels and cachets, was shown by Richard Barnett.

Brian Hurst showed the 1885-1895 British Expeditionary Force mail in British Bechuanaland.

Registered mail from the Bechuanaland Protectorate was shown by Denis Firth. This included Cape and G.B. overprinted stamps and postal cards and special cancels used during the royal tour.

Tony Howgrave-Graham displayed the use of German cancellers & registration labels in S.W.A.

Tony Stanford showed some Anglo-Boer War covers of interest.

Bram Leeftang's display was of Chromo-lithographed stationery cards for the Berlin Trade Exposition depicting the theme "Transvaal Life".

Mike Smith put up some C.1900 O.F.S. view cards by W.A. Wright of Bloemfontein, Barlow Bros. booklet of views and Fred Cairstow's ox wagon.

During the afternoon Eddie Bridges conducted his third, highly successful auction.

Over both Saturday and Sunday brisk business had taken place between those present and the dealers, Paul van Zeyl, John Sandilands, J.P. Wharton-Hood, Alan Macgregor and Simon Peetoom. They were all thanked for their contribution to another grand congress.

Brian and Eddie were congratulated and thanked for their hard work. It was resolved that another congress would be held at the same venue on 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> November 2005. We trust that the dynamic duo will organize it with similar expertise and that more members will take the opportunity to attend.

## Congress Photo Gallery



The audience being entertained



Stuart Duggan with his Anglo Boer War censored mail



Colin Hoffman with his British South Africa Company display

## Congress Photo Gallery continued.....



Chris Board with his superb display on Union of South Africa number 1.



Ian Shapiro with his winning display on the Gerald Medway correspondence. A very moving and human story well told and displayed



Richard Stroud with his OFS display which charted the changes in Postage Rates between 1880 and 1900.

## John Shaw's display at Leamington Spa

The handout that John distributed at the Conference is reproduced here for the benefit of members. If you did not attend, you missed the chance to see a superb display of these issues. Probably one of the best in existence today as most of the well known Union collections have been broken up in recent times.

### Union of South Africa - The First Pictorial Stamps

by

John Shaw

The Union's first stamp was issued in 1910 and was followed in 1913 by the KG V head design, both issues printed by De la Rue. This period was covered last year with an outstanding display by Dr. Tony Howgrave-Graham.

The new Dominion saw these stamps as being too much in the colonial image and comparison was made with the De la Rue Colonial key-types and, especially, with the stamps of the Straits Settlements. Thus, design competitions were held, in 1923, 1924 and 1925, seeking designs which would more appropriately depict the image of this new nation. After the 1923 competition, which was to seek ideas, the second and third competitions were more restricted, concentrating more on the presentation and quality of chosen designs.

Some of the essays for these competitions are in private hands, mostly the Springbok essays by Harrison's, and also later Harrison essays, and a few by Bradbury Wilkinson and De la Rue following the sales of their archives by Robson Lowe. Much light, however, was shed on what essays exist when, in 1974, The South African Post Office produced numbered sets of some 150 essays in colour and exactly 182 essays in Black & White, the latter representing the full range of those produced. It is believed that some 50 sets of each were produced but, at the time, they were not popular on account of the cost. Where relevant to the display, some of these photographs are shown.

The Springbok essays were produced by the gravure process in three formats, large and unscreened, small and screened, large and screened and bi-coloured. The small screened essays, in Grey-black, Blue, and carmine are the easiest to obtain, the latter being the most common of all South Africa proof/essay material. The imperforate bi-coloured essays are among the rarest, with only one sheet of ten images of three of the eight colour combinations produced. Examples of almost all the known Springbok essays are shown, including the only remaining imperforate sheet of ten. All three different types of the second Harrison essays are shown, then three ship penny essays from the De la Rue archives, including the 1d brown with simulated perforations, this being the only known example. Note also that one De la Rue 1d Red essay is inscribed in "High Dutch" - Z U I D AFRIKA, rather than Afrikaans - SUI D AFRI KA.. The dual official language changed to Afrikaans the year this essay was produced. After large and significant submissions of essays by Harrison's and De la Rue, the contracts for printing the stamps were awarded to Waterlow's, for the small format ½d, 1d and 6d stamps and to Bradbury Wilkinson for the other values in larger format. An innovation was that the stamps were inscribed alternatively in English and In Afrikaans throughout the sheet.

The small format ½d and 1d stamps were produced by letterpress and issued on 1st January 1926, together with an imperforate 4d triangular stamp, and a first day cover bearing these is shown. The Waterlow contract permitted Waterlow's to print the stamps for one year, then hand the printing plates to the Government Printer at Pretoria, including unused plates, thus, two separate printings can be identified, with the Pretoria printings being of poorer quality than the



An enthusiastic John with his display!

**John Shaw's display cont....**

London printings. For the 1d stamp, one plate was used by Waterlow, and all three by Pretoria. The plates were not well maintained and Plate two especially suffered considerable deterioration, resulting in cracks and replacement of some of the interior clichés, one being replaced offset, giving rise to the "Twisted Ship" variety. All values of both printings occur with inverted watermarks, and tête-bêche varieties can be found on the Pretoria printings of the ½ and 1 d stamps and all these are shown. Plate proofs also exist of all values and I have attempted to identify which emanate from Pretoria and which from Waterlow's.

The recess-printed 4d triangular stamp copied the famous Cape of Good Hope design and was issued to the post office imperforate, in single stamps cut to size, in packs of 60. These were produced in sheets of stamps in each language, rather than se-tenant. These were unpopular with the postal clerks and the stamp was soon withdrawn and replaced by the 4d Native Kraal design, but the outcry by collectors prompted the stamps to be made available in complete imperforate sheets. These occur with the watermark sloping and "sloping left" and "sloping right" can be determined by design characteristics on the stamps.

The larger format recess-printed stamps were superbly produced by Bradbury Wilkinson and made their first appearance in 1927. They were produced in two panes of 60 stamps, side-by-side, except for the 2d value where one issue was produced in a four-pane format. The values up to 1/- were issued in uncut side-by-side format and, thus, inter-panneau pieces may be obtained; the 2/6d to 10/- values were guillotined into panes of 60 before issue. An especially interesting feature of this series is the perforation arrangements, with both a single, perf. 14, vertical comb used for what is termed Group 1, and a single, perf. 14 x 13½, horizontal comb used for Groups II and III. With different stamp sizes and perforation arrangements a total of 20 different basic imprint pieces may be obtained, with the 2d Group III and 2/6d Group II imprint pieces being especially scarce; all 20 of these are shown in the display. Inverted watermarks are known on the 2d and 4d values, both being very scarce, examples of each from the MacDougal collection being shown. Another interesting item is the Bradbury Wilkinson proof card showing both languages of the 4d stamp in fugitive and in fixed inks.

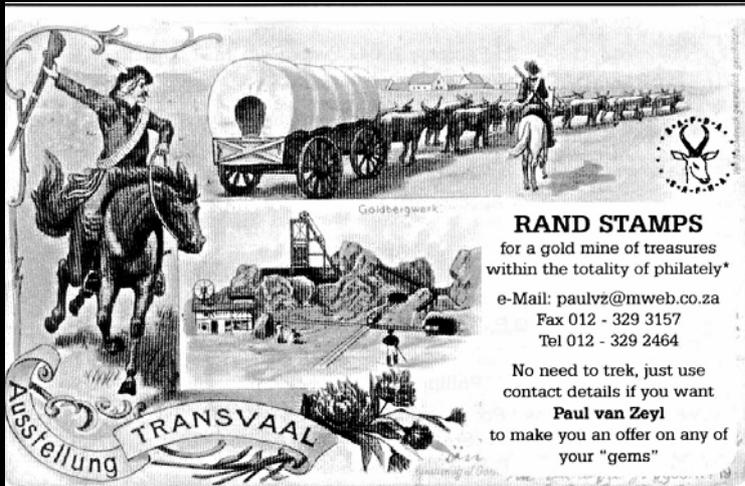
The beautifully produced recess-printed stamps proved expensive and the letterpress process undertaken by Pretoria was a disaster. The government wished to produce its own stamps cheaply and in vast quantities. So, in 1929 it commissioned a midlands company, Hunter-Penrose, to supervise the trials of a new Goebell, German, printing press using cylinders made by Netherlands Rotogravure in Leiden. using a new, and then secret, process, the printing to be carried out in Darmstadt, Germany. Dummy cigarette tax bands, portraits of the Hunter-Penrose founder, and the ship penny stamp were all used in the trial and many of these "Darmstadt Trials, came to light when the company was liquidated in the late 1940s, Professor Victor Dix making an excellent study of these which formed the basis of a paper to the Royal Philatelic Society and an article in the London Philatelist. A selection of these trials is shown, together with other associated material including the Harrison "specimen" samples and the Johnny Booyesen Springbok essay which is the subject of a short article in the latest issue of the Springbok.

The Government purchased the Goebell machine and from 1930 started to produce its own stamps, in similar design to Waterlow and Bradbury Wilkinson and these make a lifetime study in themselves. But that is another story.

**John Shaw -- 05 Nov 2004**

**I have asked both John Shaw and Chris Board to look at the feasibility of scanning their collections to enable us to have a copy for our library. If possible I can also make further copies for interested parties for study purposes. It takes a lifetime to build these type of collections and in many cases they are broken up without a record of what the collection contained. I will keep you informed of progress.**

**Editor.**



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**\*Totality of philately = stamps, postal history & stationery, postmarks, postcards, documents and literature**



## For the Bookshelf

There has been very little to report in the line of new publications. I am happy to advise that the long awaited Union Aerogramme publication is complete and those who expressed an interest in this publication should have received it by now. If you still require a copy, please let me know and a copy will be forwarded.

The book consists of approx. 100 pages, most in colour to identify the various issues and printings. The binding is a semi perfect bind. Cost is £25 post paid.

A new publication planned for release by the Philatelic Federation in South Africa is "The Pseudo-Siege of Schweizer-Reneke" Stamps and postal history of a town in the Anglo-Boer War.

The price will be £20. I know this is slight outside of our sphere of interest but will be an interesting addition to your bookshelf. If anyone is interested please let the editor know, who will forward the relevant details.

### The Pseudo- The Pseudo- Siege of Schweizer- Reneke

Stamps and postal history of a town in the Anglo-Boer War



Birkhead & Groenewald

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Fred Clark has also uncovered an interesting book on the story of the development of flight in South Africa. He was due to do a review of this book with details, but has unfortunately been indisposed and has not done so yet.

# Union of South Africa-Official Revenue Cancellations

by

Giovanni Palazzo

## Colonial Cancellations-Natal

After 1910 the various Colonial Revenue Offices continued for a while using the cancellers previously in use. Examples of a particularly distinctive type used in Natal, which could be called the Natal Square Canceller are illustrated below. (Fig.1). They are all numbered, and it is therefore theoretically possible to ascertain the department, or possibly the counter, where they were used. The number appears above the word "REVENUE" in the top quadrant of the cancellation. This is a field of study for the search to identify the numeral-coded cancellers as used by the Natal Postal Agencies. The earliest year seen with this type of cancellation is 1907, though the latest date, so far recorded is 1920. The strikes show a number of interesting varieties, including inverted slugs or inverted characters in the date-day/month (three letters) year (two digits) in the central oval. As the date was supposed to be changed daily, it is clear that some officials were rather careless during the resetting of the slug. I show a selection of date-line errors and omissions.

The size of the canceller is 34X34 mm, and is known only used with black ink. Listed below are the numeral square cancellers, which I have recorded to date.

1,3, 4, 5, 9, 11,12,13,14, 15, 17,18, 20, 22, 25,26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31,32, 33, 34, 36, 38, 39, 41, 42, 43, 45, 46, 49, 50, 51, 52, 54, 59, 61, 64.

The author published this article in the Natal and Zululand Post Vol 1 No. 1, March 1997, pages 22/23, and has now been updated. Cooperation from readers is kindly requested to report new findings.

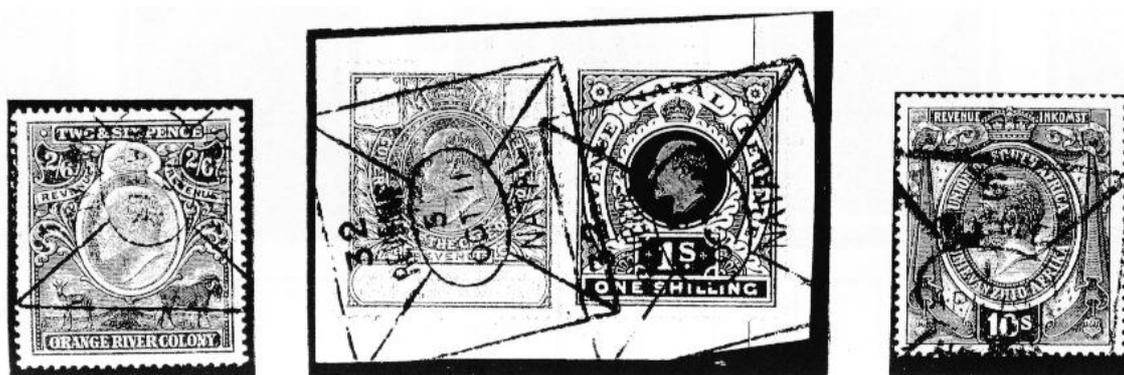


Fig. 1

## Union Cancellations

While the first set of revenue stamps of the Union of South Africa was issued on the 1st September, 1913, cancellations reading "INLAND REVENUE?UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA" were used from at least 1912 on revenue stamps of the four former Colonies, and later on the Georgian values.

Two different types of this canceller have been noted so far. In the first type, (Fig. 1) the wording "OF" between Union and South is much smaller, while in the second type (Fig. 2), all the words in the inner circle are of the same size and in both types separated by a solid square.

The radius of the canceller is exactly 3 cm. It is interesting to note that both types were in use since 1912. The numbering system used for the Natal Square canceller was also adopted with these new Union cancellers but now the numbers are found above the date line. Once again this may indicate the revenue department or possibly the counter where they were used.

Well over 260 of these cancellers were put in use by 1914 and this is an indication, how in a relatively short period of time, the four former Colonial Inland Revenue Departments were re-organised under the new Government. It will be very interesting to find out, from official records, if a listing of the cancellers used from 1912 to possibly the late 1920's were ever gazetted together with the towns or offices where they were used.

Another peculiar aspect is that all these early Union cancellations were made only in the English Language.

Fig. 1  
Small "OF"



Fig. 2  
"OF" same size as the  
rest of the lettering



It was not until the early 1930's that the first bilingual cancellers appeared. This was around the time South Africa also started printing its own Revenue stamps (1931)

It is also interesting to note that the South African Inland Revenue Service is still using the numbering system developed by Natal back in 1907.



## Auction Reports

by  
Tony Howgrave-Graham

Having dug out the box of catalogues I save to enable this article I was as disappointed as old Mother Hubbard's dog! There really has been remarkably little good South African material on offer the last 6 months though, as in the first half of the year, there's been quite a lot of SWA.

This report has also proved remarkably difficult to put together with difficulties getting catalogues (Grosvenor, for instance, deciding I didn't need their Commonwealth catalogue, only the GB!) and even more difficulty getting realisations despite e-mailing in pathetically begging to aggressively threatening fashion! If I hadn't promised our Hon. Ed. six monthly reports I think I'd have given this one a miss. Anyway, with some effort I hope I've managed to find something to entertain.

Looking at what has been on offer September was obviously the month even if Harmers sums up the trend. Of 22 lots offered 14 were unsold and 6 withdrawn! Their SWA, however, fared better with the 1<sup>st</sup> setting 10/- og making £941 & the £1 £470. A control pair of the setting VI £1, m margin only, made £200. A wonderful pair of BW proof cards with imperf colour trials of the 1935 SJ (*Fig.1*) made £2352 (ev £1000). Similar cards for the 1937 1½d mail train, with imperf in each language setting made £470 for the plain card and £706 for the "approved" card and again similar cards for all 8 values of the 1937 coronation made £4411 (ev £2500).

At Grosvenor a remarkable, if philatelic, 1922 envelope understamped 2x½d coil stamps and taxed 2d which was made up of two cut down ¾d cigarette labels and a standard ½d stamp as a PD made £188. Even more "philatelic" covers with multiples of complete cigarette labels allegedly making up postage due rates realised £447. Staying with postage dues 4 beautiful imperf colour trial of the 1<sup>st</sup> issue made 24,200R at Welz in July (*Fig.2*). A frame proof in black of the same issue made 18,700R and an attractive 1931 cover with an unaccepted 2d revenue and thus stamped 2x2d PDs, 748R.

Also in September Bonhams had the scarce ½d unhyphenated roto official with vertically doubled overprint in an um bottom right corner blk.4 (*Fig.3*)

which made £646 and Cavendish a rather nice 1925 1<sup>st</sup> Air cover to Turkey franked 6d & 3x1d Air stamps (hence no postage). This (*Fig.4*) was thus taxed 40c made up 3 different Turkish PDs. I was outbid on this so congratulations to whoever it was who paid £188 for it. Philangles had a number of mixed cover lots which would be difficult to précis and our "Philatelic Friends" had another large offering. As I expect you know their "realisations" are actually records of the top bid received so the following are their figures. A 1917 booklet (UHB B2) with one and bit ½d panes remaining and the cover scuffed and creased is quoted at £320, a Cape large wings "make your 6d fly" with an "Our Day" label on board £130, a small wings (& without label) card £110. A 1935 1d coil perf gutter block of 8 with the bottom row darker (ex row 21) was a bit of a snip at £44 (ev £65), rather the opposite of 2x1½d pairs (with broken chimney and flag varieties) £28 or the 1<sup>st</sup> hyphenated 5/- with wmk inverted, um, £120! Four nice looking railway covers from the '30's are quoted at £40 each, a 1931 2d booklet pane with V1, um, £130! (ev £90) and a WW1 unused Imperial Light Horse X-mas card (ev £30), £55.





Fig.2

I received a nice colour catalogue from Randburg Auctions in June. The e/vs were generally rather high but I bid, I thought rather generously, on a nice Kanus postmark in blue. All I can tell you is that it fetched over 1800R as e-mail requests for the realisations went unanswered. I've had similar problems with another newcomer to me, Nutmeg Auctions in USA. They advertised themselves and some fine SWA material with a full page in the SAP. Strangely the advert featured a Neuheusis manuscript cancel on cover which failed to appear in the auction. Also failing to appear was, despite several attempts to secure one, their explanation for this! So all I can do is quote the e/vs. All lots sold unless mentioned.



Fig.3

A nice registered cover (Fig.5) stated to be 1916 with a Swakopmund German reg label with "Deutsch" obliterated (usually 1919), under-franked and with 1d & 3d Union PDs on board made over \$220. A fine, if philatelic, blk.8 unopt 5/- (Fig.6) cancelled Kalkfeld CDSs x2 had an ev \$300. A 1924 Sandfeld Post cancel on piece (similar to the illustration in Putzel) failed to sell (a contrived cover with 4x1d each franked by this made 3680R in Welz in June - & odd that Putzel puts 8000 points on something he states he didn't know existed!). A 1<sup>st</sup> setting 1d marginal blk.4 with misplaced overprint resulting in Africa appearing above South West, SACC 2j, Imm, (Fig.7) \$1800; 10/- pair og \$1400, fu \$2500 & £1 fu \$750. The setting II £1 pair \$1500. Of the "S.W.A." ovpt set the 4d with missing stop fu at Ham River \$125, 6d with rather good white oranges (Fig.8) unsold at \$60, 1/- perf 14x13½ down with missing stop (Fig.9) sold (ev \$1500).



Fig.5

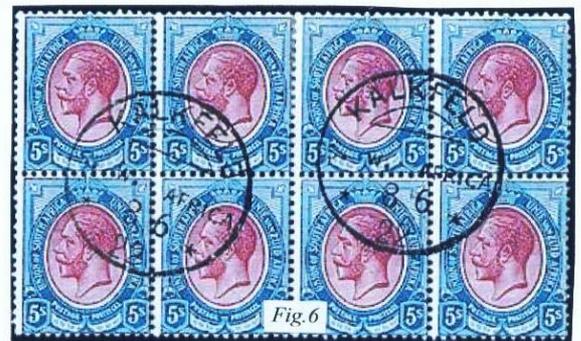


Fig.6



Fig.7



The 1974 5c elephant & hyena with missing black SACC274a (Fig.10) sold ev \$1200 (realised 2200R at Welz in 1997, abt £325) and the 1<sup>st</sup> 1d PD (SACC2c) in a strip of 3 with roulette missing between the left stamps and between the right stamp and margin sold ev \$1750. The 5d PD SACC7 with misplaced ovpt causing the same variety as for the 1d above sold – ev for the pair \$2500 (stated unrecorded but I note Welz sold a pair, og, in June 1997 at well over estimate but still markedly less than this at R3520, somewhat over £500 at the time). Anyway with the dollar having collapsed since this sale people may like to keep an eye via the internet (www.nutmegstamp.com) – the site is excellent and easy to use. One thing that has to be bourn in mind, however, is that Nutmeg are obliged to put a customs label on so you will be charged VAT on purchases.

Finally a few more Welz realisations. In July the King's Head specimen set, each on a small piece, made 9350R, the 1½d and 1/3 as a duo 863R. The ½d plt.2 control strip of 3, creased, 1610R; 2d with no wmk, vimm, 3910R; £1 pale olive, vfu. 4140R & the 1d coil wmk inv., fu, 1093R. Seven 1923 Harrison 1d springbok essays made 2760R, 1927 2d inv wmk, og, 1495R and 3d gutter pair 575R. A vertical pair of 1931 1/- with centres displaced made a surprising 1380R & a SWE 1½d with missing roulette, the same.



Of the SWA two unovptd 3d blue used on a small piece made 1610R. A July 1915 uprated PS card from Hans Wieland to a nephew in Germany sent undercover to Sweden and thus not really requiring the 3 handsome strikes of the rare unaltered German FPO1 at Tsumeb made 9350R. A large cover franked 3d and cancelled the very rare "BK" of (probably) Brackwasser Rail made 12,650R (Fig.11) and another 1916 cover to Switzerland franked 2½d cancelled by the Outjo negative seal 6600R. A Busch ½d PS card with the Station Master's oval of Kuibis made 3450R (Fig.12) – otherwise the Busch material remained unsold as did a very cheeky ask of 12-1500R for a Charles Hand pseudo-interprovincial cover.

I was going to finish with the December Welz but Harmers has some good SWA 1931 proof material in their December sale too so I'll start the next report with these. If you want a prediction it is that Harmers lots 2661&2 exceed their estimates by more than a little!

**We look forward to the next report Tony. Ed.**

***PS. Nutmeg have just produced the realisations for the lots requested:- The registered cover (Fig.5) fetched \$300, the 5/- blk.8 (Fig.6) \$450, ( a Sandfeld post on 1/2d on piece made \$200), the 1d misplaced ovpt (Fig.7) made \$2700 (a similar block with a couple of tone spots made \$1900), the 1st setting 10/- og made \$2100, used \$2000 & £1 fu \$1150. The 2nd setting £1 fu made \$2300. The 4d missing stop used at Ham River didn't get quoted but the 1/- (Fig.9) realised \$1350. The 1974 5c missing black (Fig.10) made \$1350 and the 5d PD with misplaced ovpt \$2400.***

# The 1d Ship Stamp of the Union of South Africa overprinted for Consular use.

by

Eddie Bridges

(This article originally appeared in the Revenue Journal of Great Britain Vol. XII Number 4 March, 2002 and is repeated here for the benefit of members)

This is another one of those areas of South African philately and in particular the revenue side, where very little published information is available.

As the 1d Ship pictorial stamp was valid for postage as well as revenue use, it was overprinted for Consular use in addition to the many other duties it was overprinted for during its life from 1926 –1954. It has only been in recent months that I have been able to acquire a number of examples of these illusive items and an attempt could be made at finding out a little more about them.

This overprint on the 1d Ship, is mentioned by Sherwood in his Revenue Catalogue of 1980, as no. U166. It is also mentioned in British Commonwealth Revenues (5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Editions) by J. Barefoot Ltd. as no. 21 under the Consular section. None of the earlier Union Revenue listings mentioned this stamp as far as I can determine.

It has been assumed till now that only one overprinted issue exists. From the examples I have, It has been determined that there are at least two different issues of the stamp overprinted with two different settings of the overprint type.

## Why Consular Overprints?

A short article in the South African Philatelist of June 1956 explains: ***South African revenue stamps of the denominations 1d, 3d, 6d, 2/6, 5/-, 10/-, and £1 have been overprinted "Consulair/Konsulair" for use in the Unions Consular offices abroad. These stamps are affixed to documents as evidence of payment of fees for services such as the attestation of wills, the authentication of documents and similar services.*** The examples on piece I have seen have all been on Passport pages for Visa payment fees. The article also states that the stamps were used for a very specific purpose by the Union's diplomatic and consular representatives abroad and that the stamps were not available for sale to the general public. During my searches in the South African Post Office Archives in the in the late 1980's I never found any evidence of the existence of these particular 1d stamps overprinted as such.

## The Stamps

There appear to be two issues of the 1d ship stamp used for these overprints. This is by no means definitive as the examples I had to study were all used with the cancellations making identification of the stamp issues difficult. I am pretty certain of the two issues I mention here as they were compared with my reference collection of these stamps where I have many samples of both used and mint. The issues are numbered according to the Union Handbook/Catalogue of 1986. Definitive Edition by Jack Hagger.

### Issue 11.

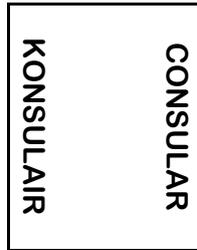
The stamp was printed from cylinders 10(interior) and 11(exterior) and issued in July 1935. This was the second issue to be printed using the Rotogravure process with the Afrikaans spelling "SUID-AFRIKA" with a hyphen between the words. They appeared with either upright or inverted watermarks. (Springbok Head) This was a large issue with many printings, with the result that the stamps vary greatly in colour and appearance. The colours of the vignettes may vary between grey-black to slate and bluish grey. The stamp size was 18.5 x 22.5 mm which was slightly larger than the issues printed in June 1940 and onwards. (issue 15 onwards) I mention this as the catalogues quote dates of issue for these overprints as 1940.

### Issue 12

This 1d stamp was printed from cylinders 7022 (interior) and 20 (exterior) and issued in November 1936. The same printing process was used and for all intents the stamp appeared the same. Slight colour variations and appearance in the frame design made it possible to identify it as such. The stamp size was as before.

## The Overprints.

The overprint read *Consular/Konsulair* in capitals with *Consular* on the right reading down and *Konsulair* on the left reading down with no stops. The letters are 2 mm high and the word "Consular" measures 17 mm long and "Konsulair" 18.2 mm long.



Type 1: Words 12 mm apart  
 Type 2: Words 13.2 mm apart

From the examples I have, it is clear that two overprint settings were used. The first, which appears on stamps of issue 11 only, the words *Consular/Konsulair* are 12 mm apart. I have called this Type 1. (See fig. 1) In the second setting, the two words are 13.2 mm apart and I have found this only on stamps of issue 12. I have called this Type 2. (See fig. 2)

**What the Catalogues say.**

Sherwood No. U166 – 1d Rotogravure postage stamp of 1930-45. Overprint in capitals 3.5 mm high.

Clearly this is incorrect as the text refers to the overprint being similar to the previous revenue stamps where it states that the letters are 2 mm high.

British Commonwealth Revenues. 6<sup>th</sup> Edition – No.21 in Consular section. 1940 overprint on Rotogravure postage stamp. No mention of length or height of overprints.

The copies with legible dates that I have, all show usage in the 1950's. One Issue 11 stamp pair has a clear date of 26 October 1953. (Fig 1) and an Issue 12 pair with a date in manuscript of 13/3/51 or 57. It is not clear. (Fig.2. The dates on Passport pages I have seen are all used in the 1950's as well. Those seen are 15/7/57, 9/12/51, Nov. 1955 and 26/4/55.



Fig. 1 Type 1

Fig. 2 Type 2.



In conclusion the questions that still remain unanswered are as follows: Were the stamps issued in 1935 overprinted in such quantity that they lasted till well into the 1950's? The same question for the issue 12 stamps in 1936 needs to be answered.

Alternatively , the copies I have and those seen have all been used in Consulates where the usage was not high and subsequently the stocks issued to them, lasted many years. The legible cancellations I have, indicate usage in the Congo and what appears to be Athens. I am sure the stamps must have been overprinted shortly after they were issued, as the 1d ship value was a common value for postage and revenue. This stamp was printed and reprinted regularly in large quantities which indicates a high demand. Many further new issues were printed after 1935 and 1936 and certainly the issues in the 1950's had a different appearance and design as well as a different screened process was used to print them. I have not seen any Consular overprints on these stamps. It can therefore be seen that there is still some research to do. More copies of these stamps with the Consular overprint are required and particular dated copies on piece or passport pages.

I therefore appeal to all collectors who have copies of these overprints to scan or copy them and send forward them to me. We might then be able to find some answers to the open questions.

## 1½d Official Horizontal Overprint-The Final Chapter

Further to Bob Hissey's article in the last Issue, The Springbok Vol.52/4 Oct/Dec 2004, further information has come to light. A member has now uncovered the remnants of the sheet conclusively establishing that a sheet at least was overprinted in this way. Bob has identified the printing and the set to which the issue belongs.

The Royal Philatelic Society London has issued a certificate stating that the stamps are genuine. This issue is given the SG number of SG O34 (var.) It is also listed in the Commonwealth King George VI Catalogue as number O19b. The text accompanying this listing states "It is reported that one sheet was sold over a post office counter, but positive information lacking as to the issue of this variety"

Your editor will now forward all the information to the SG Catalogue Editor for a request for this item to be given a listing in SG.

The copy of the Royal certificate and a scan of the remainders of this sheet are shown here as well.

As the accompanying scan shows on the next page, this is now definitely overprinted on Stamp issue 9 according to the Union Handbook.

No. **188987**

**THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY**  
LONDON

41 Devonshire Place  
London W1G 6JY

Meeting of 14 SEP 2004

In the OPINION of The EXPERT COMMITTEE the item described as

South Africa: 1941-48 S.G. No. O 34 (var.)  
1½d Blue-green and Yellow-buff - Pair - Overprint  
type O2 (Official/Official) - White Sideways -  
But variety: Overprint horizontal - Unused, is Genuine

Observation: Not officially issued.

  
Chairman



Submitted by Michael C.G. Maltby

Issue 9  
 July 1948



6/5 Two white  
 marks bottom frame line  
 at hand end V.S.

7/5 Green dot at  
 of small chimney  
 V7.

7 9 0 4

overprint spaced 16½ mm  
 as 0114 465.

as set 23  
 1949 & 50.

Stamps of South Africa  
 Golden Jubilee 1960 Edition.



If any of the members are interesting in purchasing any pairs or blocks, please contact the Editor who will put you in touch with the owner.

This issue is sure to be a worthwhile addition to any collector of the Officials.

## Wanted

Volunteer required to provide the Springbok with updates and news on new releases for Republican Issues. This will cover the stamps, booklets and postal stationery. This is not a huge task but needs someone who is an enthusiast on the RSA period. There is much of interest in this period and needs a willing contributor.

**Apply to the Editor!**

We also require more items on the Republican issues. Please put pen to paper.

## Requirements for sending items for Publication

Eddie Bridges

To ensure that we try and maintain a reasonable quality for *The Springbok*, I need your co-operation on the following points please:

### 1. Text Articles/info

Please send all text in Microsoft Word. This makes life a lot easier for me as I do not have to retype pages of text. (My typing speed is not good!) This text can be sent as an attachment by e-mail or on a floppy disc or CD if you have the facilities. If you do not have the facilities or the use of a computer, then by all means send the article on paper and I will type it out. I would rather do this than have no article at all!

### 2. Illustrations and pictures

This is a problem for most of us. Poor photocopies do not reproduce well at all. Some of the copies I have received have been faint and poor. It is important to try and get a crisp clean copy in black and white.

Better still do the photocopy in colour if at all possible. This usually reproduces better.

My preference is of course scanned images which you can send by e-mail or on a disk by snail mail.

This allows me to manipulate the resolution to suit and the file size. If you are scanning, please save in jpeg format. I find that, depending on size of illustration, a fairly good resolution can be achieved if you make the file size about 300 to 500 Kbyte

Please do not try and incorporate pictures and illustrations on to a page with the text and only send me a paper copy! If you do this, you might as well send me the disk to enable me to use the text and I can lift the image and position it to fit the page. This makes page layout easier. I cannot scan your information again as this just loses all the resolution. I tried to do this with an article I received ready on paper without success. I had to use such a high resolution scan that the file became too big to manipulate with ease.

If in any doubt, give me a ring or send me an e-mail. I will try and help.

Your co-operation in this regard, will make for an enjoyable experience for all of us!

## Author Index to Vol. 52 2004

Index to *The Springbok* Vol. 52 2004 is inserted herewith. It is not stapled in to enable you to include it with the relevant issues of last year. The analytical index will also be updated accordingly. You will be advised when this is ready from JB Carter our Librarian.

**The Next issue of *The Springbok* will be out in April if all goes well.**

## Advert opportunity on the back page

If you feel that you would like to advertise in *The Springbok* and support this publication, please contact the Editor who will supply the necessary details. Rates are very reasonable and you will reach a very dedicated and enthusiastic membership who is always looking to build their collections.