

THE SPRINGBOK



Vol 40 No 2

Mar/Apr 1992

SOUTH AFRICA AT AUCTION

BUYING

Is your name on our Special List?
If not, write or phone today in
order that your specialised interests
are recorded on our register.



SELLING

When the time comes to sell your
collection contact us without delay.
With the experience and expertise
gained over half a century of
philatelic auctioneering we provide
the finest service for vendors of
quality material.

HARMERS of LONDON

5 NEW BOND STREET, LONDON W1A 4EH. TEL. 01-629 0295

SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY

President	R.D.Allen 82c Hackford Road, London SW9 0RG	(071-582 6498)
Hon Secretary (not membership)	W.A.Page, FRPS,L 138 Chastilian Road, Dartford, Kent DA1 3LG	(0322 270361)
Hon Treasurer	R.J.West 4 Downsvie Close, Swanley, Kent BR8 7JL	(0322 662899)
<i>Editorial Board:</i>		
Hon Editor	D.W.Painter 13 Alma Road, Romsey, Hants SO51 8EB	(0794 515646)
Hon Editorial Assistants	R.D.Allen A.R. Chilton J.L. Shaw, FRPS,L C.P.Ravilious	(071-582 6498) (081-648-5853) (0526 398398) (0323 32121)
Hon Production Editor		
Hon Exchange Superintendent	W.J. Branney 19 The Lilacs, Orgill, Egremont, Cumbria CA22 2HU	(0946 823083)
Hon Postal Auctioneer	Dr W.F.Fincham 10 Vallis Way, London W13 0DD	(telephone calls via R.D. Allen)
Hon Librarian	J.B. Carter 2 Old Smithy Cottage, Old Road, Crosby, Maryport, Cumbria CA15 6SP	(0900 818567)
Hon Membership Secretary	A.R.Chilton 56 Framfield Road, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 2AL	(081-648 5853)
Hon Auditor	Alan Caines Ilfracombe	

SOCIETY CORRESPONDENCE

1 Cash EXCEPT subscriptions, auction and exchange packets	R.J.West
2 Editorial	D.W.Painter
3 Exchange packets	W.J. Branney
4 Postal auctions	Dr W.F.Fincham
5 Membership (including subscriptions)	A.R.Chilton
6 Library	J.B. Carter
7 Change of address and mailings	R.D.Allen
8 Everything else	W.A.Page

(Addresses as above)

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

THE SPRINGBOK

Vol.40, No.2
Whole No. 236

(c) South African
Collectors' Society, 1992

ISSN: 0955-6753

Editor:

D.W. Painter
13 Alma Road
Romsey
Hampshire
SO51 8EB

Editorial Board:

D.W. Painter
R.D. Allen
A.R. Chilton
J.L. Shaw
C.P. Ravilious

The Springbok is published six times in each year 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

There is a considerable feeling of relief in office bearers' minds now that the various considerations of filling the vacant posts have very largely been resolved.

It is unfortunate that the date chosen for the meeting at Weston-super-Mare coincides with the Bristol two-day event on 11/12 April 1992. Once the situation was realised it was easier to understand that there was a problem and the Weston meeting, having no "convener", is now likely to be withdrawn from the list. We are fortunate in having been able to accept an offer from SWINPEX organisers later in the year (see Programme below).

Among the materials in this issue there do seem to be more replies and requests than new contributions, yet each has a part. Continuing responses are as patchy as ever. Some articles thought to be good "starters" have brought no comment - yet - and the less evident have given rise to encouraging and detailed replies.

The selection process for the WICKS AWARD is under way and at the next London meeting the 1992/93 programme will be discussed. Don't let that deter you from sending in suggestions for subjects as we are ever open to proposals.

There remains the open question of a provincial meeting: do you want - can you arrange such a meeting? This can be within the County Federation Exhibition and Fair or are there 2/3 members at or near enough to a major centre who will host such a gathering? There is such support among other specialist societies and I am too aware of the cost of travel to make light of the ability of many members to attempt to attend, but we can but put a pebble into the pool.

Plans are afoot to get us into Spring or Autumn Stampex 1993 with stewards needed on an hourly/daily basis. I was impressed by two society exhibits at the Spring 1992 Stampex.

DWP

Contents

An unrecorded MPO handstamp	24
London Meeting, February 1992	26
From the Packet Secretary...	27
The "Calabash" flaw: three replies	28
Imperial Airways' African route (review)	29
South African postage dues	29
Hand-painted commemorative covers	30
Essays of South Africa	30
Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa	31
Republican aerogrammes	31
Unique U.P.U. specimens	32
Republican first definitives	33
SAP - request for back issues	33
An auction watch service?	34
National Stamp Day	34
Press release	36
Study of the 1c Succulent	37
Government Printer's Information	38
Membership notes	40

Meetings

7 Apr. 1992	Members' displays: CGH, Natal, SWA
11 Apr. 1992	Meeting at Weston-super-Mare (Subject to cancellation)
9 June 1992	Members' displays: postal stationery
20 June 1992	SWINPEX (Drove Rd School, Swindon, 2pm)

Meetings (unless otherwise stated) are held at Hawkstone Hall, Kennington Road, opposite Lambeth North Underground Station and near Waterloo Main Line, 6pm for a 6.30 start.

Why not come yourself and bring a friend? Members of the Society and visitors alike can be sure of a warm welcome!

A PREVIOUSLY UNRECORDED MOBILE POST OFFICE HANDSTAMP

The Springbok, November/December 1991, page 110, starts: "It is quite strange to the philatelic world how so much new information and material is found *after* a book has been published".

A very true statement, to which one could add "negation of information provided and published in good faith"! Nevertheless there does come a point at which a would-be author should publish - research is an ongoing action. Not to publish can so easily become NEVER to publish, with years of valuable research lost.

I use that introduction, as currently I am working on an updated/revised edition of the monograph *The Mobile Post Offices of South Africa (the postmarks, registration marks and cachets 1937-1983)*, published in 1989 following a series of articles in *The Springbok* (1980-1983). I hope the revised publication will appear by the autumn of this year.

The need has arisen from the receipt of a large amount of additional data, unsuitable for a supplement; and the original is out of print.

One addition is however worthy of advance "exposure" since it reveals a handstamp that has not previously been recorded or illustrated anywhere to the best of my belief. This relates to the Mobile Post Office No. 25 operating in the Durban area.

The introduction of the new Mobile P.O. to serve the Pinetown and Westville districts of Durban was first recorded, as an amendment to the South African Post Office "List of Post Offices" - circular No. 542 dated 18 October 1971. At the time the Mobile was provided with a small double-circle bilingual canceller, with the English legend first (Fig. 1).

Post Office Circular No. 883-78 dated 1 May 1978 shows an amendment to the April 1978 "Post Office List" redesignating Mobile P.O. No. 25 as WESTVILLE. (Its head office remained Westville as previously.)

On 5 September 1978, Post Office Circular 901-78 shows another amendment reverting Mobile P.O. No. 25 back to DURBAN, still with the head office as Westville.

The final chapter originated from a memorandum issued from the Senior Director P.O. (Philatelic), Natal dated 10 August 1979, which runs (loosely translated from the Afrikaans): "Mobile P.O. No. 25 Durban is permanently closed as of 1 August 1979 and as of same date, applied as an extension of the Westville counters".

This was in keeping with a new policy for the Mobile P.O. system, and the withdrawal of their unique handstamps.

The memo also attaches specimen strikes of the handstamp in use on 31 July 1979 - an Afrikaans version of Fig. 1 (see Fig. 2).

That is not however the end of the story. During the summer of 1990 whilst at a stamp fair, I came across two Mobile P.O. covers (non-philatelic) from the same correspondence, one dated 5 April 1978 bearing cancellation Fig. 1 but with the reverse date style; the other dated 22 June 1978, with an M.P.O. 25 WESTVILLE cancellation which was completely new to me.

Subsequent researches commenced with the Regional Manager, Postal Operations, Durban without success, but with an eventual reply from the Post Office Museum in Pretoria.

The essence of the information received is quoted above, but they were unable to provide a copy of the itinerary of the Mobile, or any information on the Westville handstamp, or an example.

Thus, it can only be presumed from the P.O. Circulars that the re-designation of the Mobile from Durban to Westville resulted in the provision of a new canceller, which in turn was withdrawn and replaced with the second altered language-setting Durban canceller. Similarly firm dates cannot be established, only P.O. Circular dates of the initial opening and subsequent changes to ultimate closure.

Summary:

- | | | |
|--------|---|---|
| Fig. 1 | Opening (P.O. Circular)
18 October 1971 | Redesignated Westville
1 May 1978 (POC) |
| | Earliest date seen:
24 February 1972 | Latest date seen:
5 April 1978 (Reverse date) |
| Fig. 2 | 1 May 1978 (POC)
Westville | 5 September 1978 (POC)
Redesignated Durban |
| | Only date seen: 22 June 1978 | |
| Fig. 3 | 5 September 1978 (POC) | 10 August 1979 (P.O. Memo)
Mobile became counter extension |
| | Only date seen on cover: 15 January 1979
Final date 31 July on P.O. Memo | |

The WESTVILLE canceller was thus in use for a matter of about four months and went unrecorded; similarly Fig. 3 had a life of less than one year. The 15 January 1979 use was philatelic.

I conclude by asking - has anyone seen examples of particularly Fig. 2, and/or Fig. 3. If so please advise, and where possible photocopies of covers would be appreciated.



Fig.1

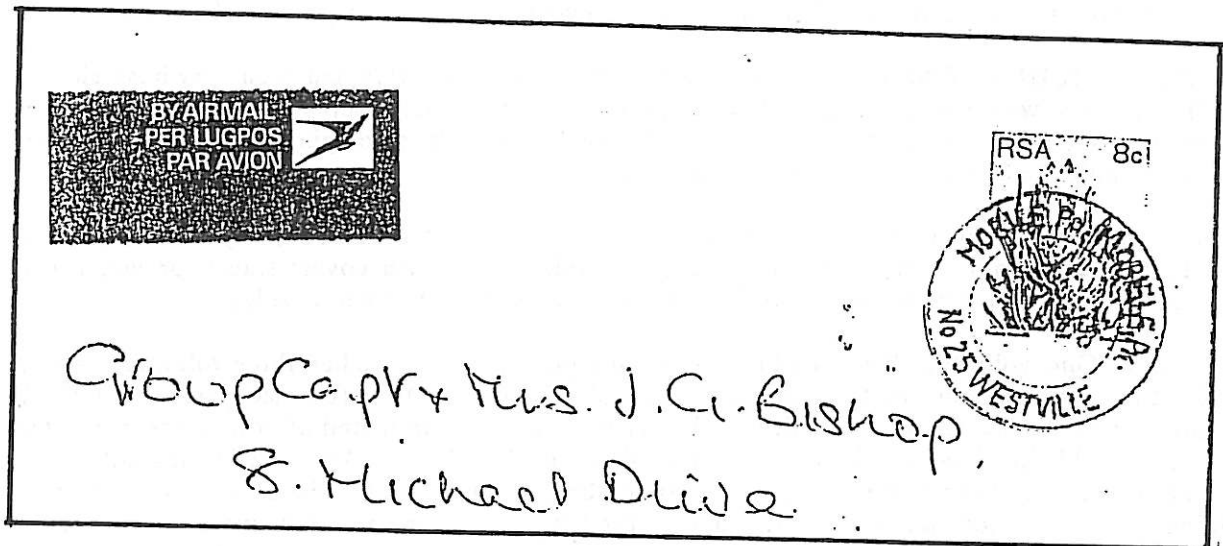


Fig.2 - (Cancellation strengthened for clarity)

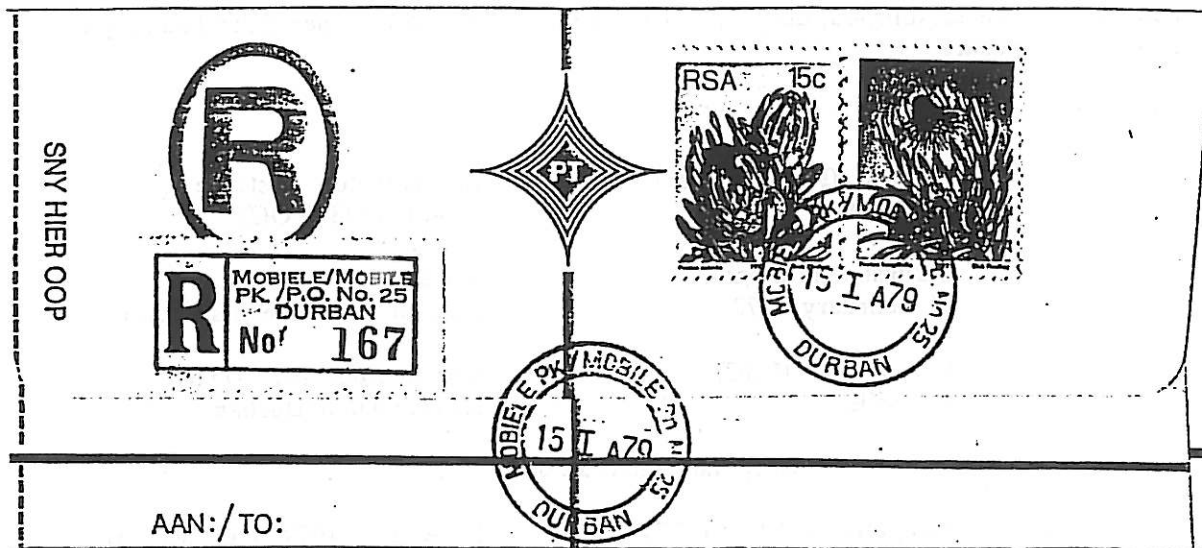


Fig.3 Philatelic use.

Fig.3

Final Impression
(P.O.Museum)



LONDON MEETING, FEBRUARY 1992

It is very strange how things work out for the better - in the final instance. Last year when we were arranging the programme for the current year, we had second thoughts about the title for this particular meeting, questions were asked and decisions were made as to whether there was enough material to make a worthwhile show for members attending.

The actual showing did not start until about 7.20 p.m. The discussion started at 6.20 p.m., but many important matters needed discussing due to events that neither you nor I anticipated.

PACKET CIRCULATION: This was explained to us by Alec Page who had been very busy chasing up the current whereabouts of circulating packets... Many costly telephone calls and one good decision arose out of it, that all on the circulating lists supply a telephone number - day and evening would be a great help to trace packets.

On the Exchange Packet generally, please read the rules in the Green Book; stay within them and PACK securely. Your stamps will not be insured unless your own covers transit or you accept the Society cover in which case there is a percentage to pay on what is sold.

LIBRARY: One volunteer has been located and accepted, however we had three volunteers - what a pity there was not one to take over from the MAILING BLOKE (but see p.40 - Ed.). It will be some time before the library will be fully active; a new list circulated after it has been printed, with some additional books. By the way, the office is of LIBRARIAN, and he may not be able to answer queries. Many 'moons' ago, in this publication there was a list of members who were willing to assist fellow members with queries; the list gave information as to what member would do his/her best to answer queries upon a certain section, e.g. Ship pennies, Booklets, etc., and/or

special issues. Could such a list be updated? (Please tell the editor.) The transport of the library to its new location has been arranged with co-operation of the membership. Thank you to those concerned.

PHILIP CATTELL'S PRIVATE LIBRARY: This is being passed to the Society. The material not for our listing (see above re new listing) will be disposed of through the Society to its members, please await that list. It will not be an auction.

SOCIETY AUCTION: Bill Fincham hopes to have his listing ready as soon after Easter as possible - Easter Sunday is 19 April 1992. He welcomes your lots, but to assist the publication of the list as early as possible PLEASE GIVE YOUR WRITTEN DESCRIPTION.

Now as to the Meeting proper, for which the subject was:

LONDON AND PRETORIA PRINTINGS OF BOOKLETS AND COILS

Tony Chilton introduced the booklets by stating that he had been offered a complete booklet of the London printing for £2,000. Note the word 'offered'. What did he show...? A very unusual booklet with the face value of '2/6' crossed out and in ink '1/1'. As to the London ½d, panes of six with central gutter margin markings and different markings, plus advertisements - in each and every case that follows re advertisement, the page was shown and photocopy of the material listed on the back. The penny was shown in panes of six (the maximum within the booklets) with similar marginal markings. All were in mint condition. Tony exploded his booklets.

Next the PRETORIA PRINTINGS; and firstly a booklet cover with 2/6d thereon. Its adverts, both types of marginal marking in complete panes. This booklet he called B7: see Jack Hagger's listing, page 147, which should be amended to '6' and is nothing to do with the Pretoria printed booklet, and upon comparison with another Pretoria which he called '7a', the difference being with the advertisement pages and these were shown. The booklet pages of six stamps were shown with marginal markings in both values, viz. the ½d and the 1d. A very nice block of six was seen in used condition, plus a 1d overprinted SPECIMEN. Finally with blocks of four, etc., with the portion of the adjoining stamp in tête-bêche, always on the right.

Now as to the coils, though here there is not much to write about:

Of the London printings the ½d was shown in a nice strip of six with the head wrapper attached, clearly showing the printer's name; two pairs each with a join (see preamble to this issue in SAC Handbook page 130, second paragraph). 1d: pair with the head attached, a very long wrapper; strip of 3 with yellow tail; a mint pair with several used pairs and singles, one pair on cover.

Pretoria: ½d mint strip of four, with join showing the vertical alignment; a nice strip of four used on part cover. 1d mint strip of three, and some used, a strip of ten mint (no join, these were in strips of 20), a mint pair with inverted watermark. In the coils issues there were only eight pages. Hence the opening remark.

RDA

FROM THE PACKET SECRETARY...

Bill Branney asks in correspondence with me, that members please adhere to the carefully prepared requirements as shown in both the Green Book and the guide notes contained in each packet. Renewed emphasis on the standard of packing is made, please.

Following the London report (above) there is the opportunity to make a better selection of material if you will please let him know, with your telephone number, your particular areas of collecting so that he will be the better able to try to make up packets according to areas or main interest, e.g. Mint-Union; Postmarks-Union-SWA-states, etc.; and it follows that if vendors are able, they should adopt that means of making up booklets, which I am reminded are available from Bill at a modest cost.

Hon. Editor

THE CALABASH FLAW : THREE REPLIES

From M.J.H. Tonking:

I would like to offer the following observations on the comments raised in the Nov/Dec 1991 and Jan/Feb 1992 issues of *The Springbok*:

According to the *South African Philatelist*, July 1928, the transposed overprint only occurred on the London printed ½d, 1d and 6d values. At some point the overprint was also applied to these values printed in Pretoria using the old Waterlow plates. Since it is reported that the overprint was not transposed on these stamps the 1d value with the "Calabash flaw" row 12/5 could only appear on the English stamps with an English overprint. It is doubtful if it is found with the overprint transposed. Since the number of Pretoria sheets overprinted has not been recorded it would be difficult to say how rare the flaw might be. The misplaced overprint is reported on both the London and Pretoria printings.

Stamp booklets were never issued overprinted for use in South West Africa. I am unable to comment on the inverted watermarks reported on these stamps. I would respectfully suggest that the student of Union stamps overprinted for use in South West Africa has a vital interest in the basic stamps for it is often the basic stamp which can be used to identify the particular South West Africa overprinting.

There is little doubt that there is still work to be done to sort out the low values of the first pictorial overprintings as the information recorded at the time does not answer the sequence of events and the relative numbers of sheets overprinted of the London and Pretoria stamps.

From Morgan Farrell:

I am primarily a collector of Union stamps. I have a particular interest in penny ship stamps and especially the first issues, the typograph. Mr Greenhalgh's find of a calabash flaw on the stamps with the overprint as shown in the illustration is very surprising. The flaw occurs on stamps of Issue III and as far as I know that particular overprint was on stamps of issue I only. I admit that my materials of SWA Penny ships is not as great as the materials I have of the Union stamps, but I have examined a large number of the SWA stamps and I believe that the calabash flaw can only occur with stamps with the SWA overprint. Without actually examining the stamp I would guess that it is not a "calabash" flaw but a printing flaw of some sort.

With that said, it would be very interesting to me to be proven wrong and I'd be pleased to correspond with Mr Greenhalgh direct about this. I find his offer of plating information very interesting as well.

From Des Greenhalgh:

On the "Calabash flaw": on coming across the item mentioned in the SWA Stamp Study Group *Newsletter* I immediately approached Mr Francis Eustace, who is well known for his vast philatelic knowledge, especially in the area of Union ½d's and 1d's. Morgan and he have already been in contact with each other on such studies and are well known to each other. Francis, having examined the stamp, in the first instance concluded that it was the "Calabash flaw". Hence when I read Morgan's comments I had to refer the matter back to Francis for his comments.

After a very careful examination he has concluded that he must agree with Morgan's findings. He finds, now, that it is an inking flaw in a similar position to that of the Calabash flaw. As Morgan's conclusion was arrived at by deduction, Francis has proved beyond all doubt, by comparison that it is definitely from Issue I. Francis thus retracts his previous statement as he found that the flaw does not display all the characteristics of the "Calabash Flaw" and furthermore the red of the stamp is too rich for it to be from Issue III and this one does not have the hook found at the bottom of the Calabash.

REVIEW

Movements of Aircraft on Imperial Airways' African Route, 1931-1939, by Peter Wingent. ISBN 0 9518598 0 3. A4; card covers; limp bound; vii, 211 p. Obtainable by post from the Author, 10 The Dean, Alresford, Hants SO24 9AX. Price: £14 plus postage (£1.80p, UK inland).

Every so often a book appears which we have all been waiting for but which nobody has previously taken the trouble to produce. Such a volume is Peter Wingent's *Imperial Airways' African Route 1931-1939*, which the author has not only researched and written but has also typeset, bound and published. Quite an achievement!

Starting at the end of February 1931 with the first regular mail flight from Croydon to Mwanza in Tanganyika, and ending with the last Southampton-Durban flying-boat service before the war broke out, secrecy prevailed, and Poole became the English flight terminal, every flight is recorded. From information appearing in *The Times* and other publications, the author has compiled a listing of all the stages reported, with dates, and the names and types of the aircraft used. There are a few minor gaps (*The Times* did not appear on Sundays, for instance), but the picture is surprisingly complete and quite fascinating. The book ends with the 1936-1939 details of the Kano-Khartoum feeder service and its westward extensions, which eventually reached the Gold Coast.

Decorating and illustrating the text, Peter Wingent has added numerous maps, aerophilatelic covers, flight schedules, airways advertisements and other explanatory ephemera. Useful notes identify changes of aircraft, connecting services, crashes and other disasters, and alterations of the principal postage rates and mainline schedules. Up to 1936 there were often five different aircraft involved in one scheduled service, so there is a vast array of information; probably in excess of 20,000 facts, covering nearly 2,000 airmail services.

Congratulations go to Imperial for punctuality, for only a few of its flights were ever late, and to the author for his excellent index and painstaking accuracy; the two errors I noticed are so minor that they can hardly mislead. With its log of every flight, this is a work which will be as useful for the Imperial Airways African services as is the TSchroots Encyclopedie tot 1935 for KLM's to the East Indies. A book to satisfy a long felt need. Confidently recommended, and a bargain at the price.

Ian McQueen

SOUTH AFRICAN POSTAGE DUES

A collector in Australia has appealed for help in his search for postage due labels and is particularly looking for covers of "unusual type". He also includes a wants list which whilst not large is nevertheless quite formidable. Any member who may be able to assist, or may be interested in communicating, is asked to write direct to Bernie Doherty, P.O. Box 18, Waratah 2298, Newcastle, Australia. (He is very much involved in the Australian Federation and is also Consultant Editor of the Australian "Stamp News").

His particular wants are as follows, for which he adds that he has material to offer in exchange:

- 1914 Die proof of frame on 3.6 x 2.4" white record card (M.S. in black ink 18/1/13).
3d die proof (Green, purple, brown, black, red, blue, grey) on single Springbok wmk paper. Handstamped 27 Jan 13.
- 1927 Frame plate proof imperf pair in green? (He has slate & rose as well as a single green).
- 1914 Strips of six showing varieties or large blocks (excluding 5d & 6d values).
- 1969 4c plate number block of RSA upright watermark, Afrikaans at top version (SG62c).
- 1970 4c plate number block of reprint, English printing with bulge & white dot flaw on 4 (RSA t^a—ête-bêche wmk).
- 1972 SG type D8 South African postage dues used on cover.
Transvaal dues.
South African dues used on cover.

WAP

HAND PAINTED COMMEMORATIVE COVERS

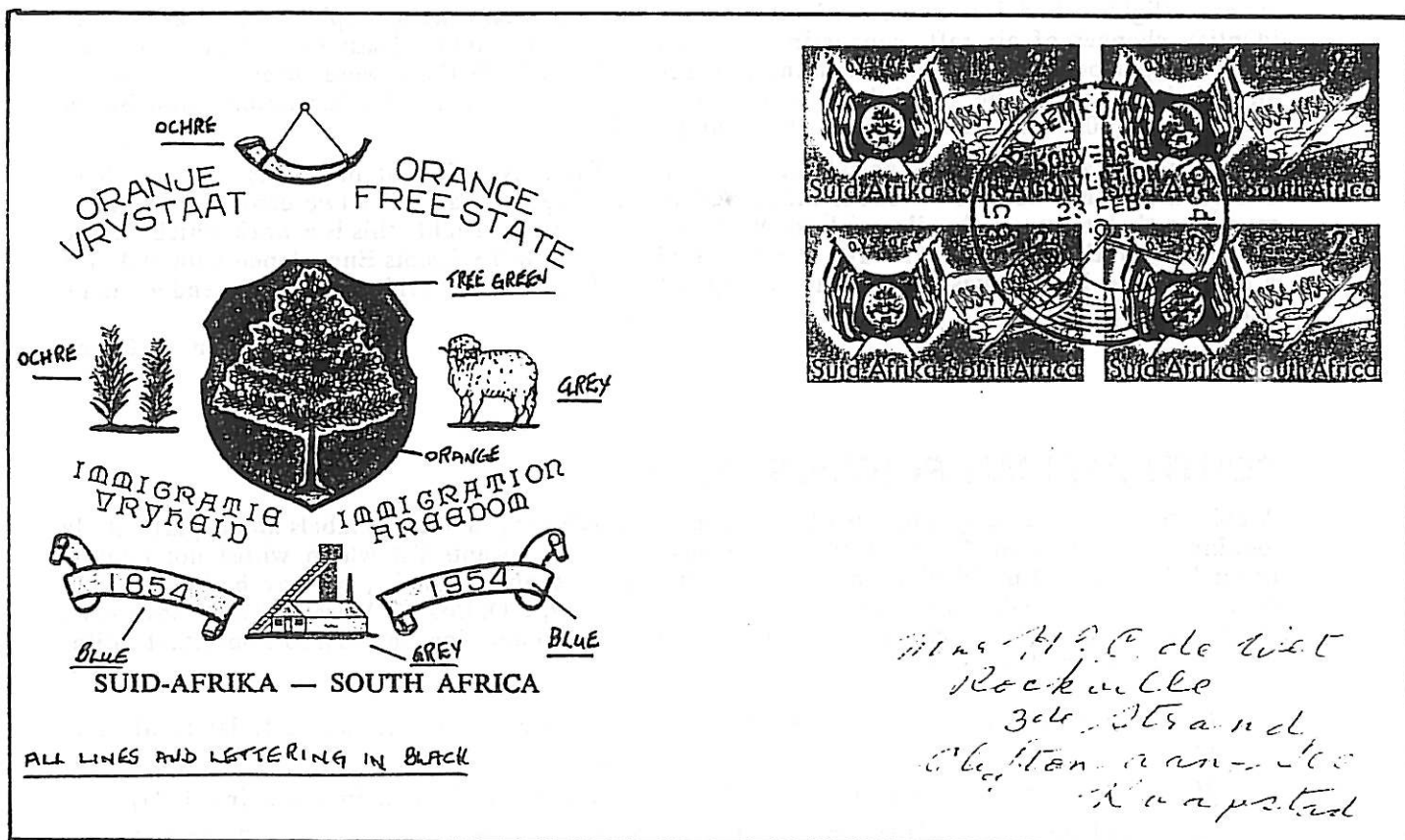
Recently, whilst dealing with a member's query, and at the same time preparing a mini display for a local society, I had occasion to read again R. Glanville Jones' most interesting article on the hand painted covers attributed to H.J. de Wet (see the Jan/Feb and March/April 1991 issues of *The Springbok*).

My display of 25 sheets was to be of the Union Commemorative covers, and I then remembered that I also had a hand painted cover. This is for the O.F.S. Centenary commemorative of 1954 and is a beautifully designed and painted cover (see illustration). It has a pencil note on the reverse "Cover by artist De Wet 1 of 6". The envelope is of heavy cartridge paper, watermarked with large 1952 and EN being I would think the beginning of the word England.

The cancellation is the first day of issue for the stamp - 23 February 1954. I note that this item is missing from the original article.

W.A. Page

The illustration has been annotated with the various colours:



ESSAYS OF SOUTH AFRICA

Our President writes that he has over a number of years gathered information about the various "Essays" of South African postage stamps. He now considers that it may be pretty well complete, but once published something else will turn up! However that needs first putting into order; numeric by value perhaps or by date of presentation; postage or postage due. What we seek is a member, or members, perhaps recently retired, but certainly with a penchant for such research. It can be published serially in *The Springbok* as the means most likely to attract challenge and interest. Any member interested please write to Hon. General Secretary Alec Page.

PHILATELIC SOCIETY FOR GREATER SOUTHERN AFRICA

The Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa announces acceptance of materials for its annual international mail bid auction for 1992. The auction is open to non-members as both vendors and buyers. Countries included are the pre-Union states and republics, Union/Republic of South Africa, South West Africa/Namibia, the Homelands, the Rhodesias/Zimbabwe/Zambia, Bechuanaland/Botswana, Basutoland/Lesotho, Zululand, Nyasalands/Malawi, Anglo-Boer War and Inter-provisional periods. Lot categories include literature, postal history/stationery, postage stamps, back-of-the-book, cinderellas, aerophilately, military/civil censorship, collections, etc. Number of lots normally exceeds 575 with material of interest for beginners to the specialist, ranging in value from a few dollars to hundreds.

Request lot submission guidelines before sending material: Tim Bartsche, PSGSA Auction Manager, 8826 W. Cluster Pl. Lakewood, CO 80226 (Lots accepted 1 April to 31 May 1992). Catalogue available after 15 July 1992 for \$3 or equivalent mint US postage from: Bill Brooks, PSGSA Secy., P.O. 2698, San Bernardino, CA 92406-2698 - BIDS CLOSE 15 October 1992.

Society membership info: David Wessely, US Int'l Representative, 125 Elma Dr. Elyria, OH 44035.

Lot submission guidelines are also available from:

England: Athol H. Murray, Erlesdene Garden Cottage, Green Walk, Bowdon, Altrincham, Cheshire WA14 2SL

RSA: Dr H.U. Bantz, 47 Van Santen Dr., Horizon View, ZA1724

REPUBLICAN AEROGRAMMES - INLAND AND OVERSEAS

Since the death of Dr H.J. Raubenheimer (Senior), it does seem as if the cataloguing of the Republican listing of internal and overseas aerogrammes has lapsed, see Loose Leaf Catalogue pages 1 R 1 to 7; S 1 to 4 (Greetings) and T 1 to 7 (inland).

To try to overcome these missing links I have researched my library and have compiled a listing of the three series, Inland, Overseas and Greeting, etc., by listing the JOB number, i.e. material on order to the Government Printery.

As an example, the 2½c, catalogued for 10 types, yet the job numbers extend to 16, which must have been reprints; unfortunately the listing does not and has never recorded the difference in the printing design, etc., except it does state some cylinder numbers, e.g. 1960- new design and cylinders 68/10 (3 entries) and 89/10 - 4 entries; millions were printed.

The 5c overseas, 14 job numbers, and in 1962, two sets of cylinders for the same job number, 53/115 and 98/4. Millions printed.

The GREETINGS: also 5c, and special emissions, the information is lacking, and to contemplate trouble for us the same cylinder numbers are quoted but different job numbers, e.g. 1963 98/4, and 1962, 53/115...

We have one saviour re catalogue listing: two German authors have published, in German, a book containing aerogrammes to 1988, see *The Springbok*, Vol. 40, No. 1, p. 7 for a review.

RDA

RSA POST OFFICE BULLETINS

Over a number of years I have filed all the Bulletins received by me, and strange as it may seem, I do not possess any of the bulletins listed under "Member Requests" in *The Springbok* 39 (6), p. 121. Why? I asked myself. Then it dawned upon me, if the missing numbers were allocated to the HOMELANDS, I pass these on to fellow members as they are of interest to them, and not to me. BUT, I did notice that sometimes the initial digit was missing in the printed matter, so instead of 126 it read 26.

RDA

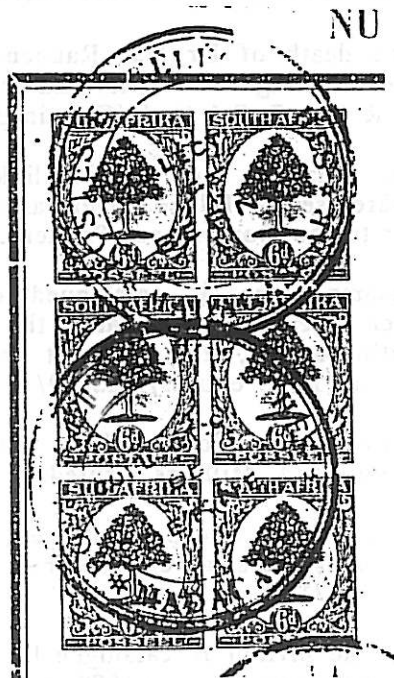
UNIQUE U.P.U. SPECIMENS

In Berne, Switzerland, on 9 October 1874, the treaty for the founding of the General Postal Union was signed by 22 member countries. Four years later and still expanding, it changed its name to the Universal Postal Union (U.P.U.). Now more than a century on it embraces virtually every country in the world, and since 1948 has been a specialised Agency of the United Nations.

Its first article formed a single postal territory for reciprocal exchange of correspondence, with the treaty also guaranteeing freedom of postal transit throughout the territories of the Union. Over the years it has become a platform for many other spheres of international co-operation and development of postal services.

From the early days one of its activities was to receive specimens of the stamp issues of the member countries and distribute them to other members. One such country, Madagascar, built up an archive from this material, which was normally distributed by the U.P.U. in multiples.

The Madagascar reference collection was affixed to large folio pages, which also recorded the date of receipt and the number of stamps noted. Each page was signed by the Director of the Posts & Telegraphs. Additionally, as a security the specimens were tied to the pages with a distinctive 42mm diameter triple-ring cachet in red, reading "POSTES ET TELEGRAPHES * MADAGASCAR * COLLECTION DE BERNE". Very few of the member countries had used their own protective markings, although some do exist with "SPECIMEN" or "ULTRAMAR" overprints.



The archive arrangement was initially in country order (1895-1912) but from 1912 to 1928 the arrangement was chronological.

From 1910, with the founding of the Union of South Africa, the Union issues were forwarded to Berne for onward distribution, thus they were included in the Madagascar archive.

Recently this unique archive has come on the market and the well known London dealers Argyll Etkin Ltd. have obtained a major portion of the material, which has been carefully separated into country or individual units.

Of Union interest, one issue stands out, that of the Bradbury Wilkinson pictorial definitives all in multiples and, unlike many other items, overprinted with the small violet "SPECIMEN" (see handbook page 24) in addition to the Madagascar cachet. Also included is the 6d Waterlow Orange Tree (see illustration) in a tied block of three pairs.

We extend our thanks to Argyll Etkin Ltd. for permission to use their publicity to record the break-up and disposal of this unique archive, which is legitimately available to the collector. The illustrations were also provided by Argyll Etkin.

(U.P.U. introduction source *Union Postale* No. 1 Jan/Feb 1981 - a review in seven languages, published by the International Bureau of the U.P.U.)

REPUBLICAN FIRST DEFINITIVES

Following upon the article appearing in the November/December 1991 issue of *The Springbok*, pages 105-109, our member Des Greenhalgh reports that so far he has had but one response to his request for comments, and that was from Germany.

Nevertheless, in the meantime, Des has been instrumental in setting up a group of collectors in South Africa who aim to do a complete study of the issue "from start to finish".

Other members of the group are Xavier Laubscher (Secretary of the South African Stamp Study Circle and member of the RSA Study Group) and Mrs Martie Vos (also a member of both groups).

Des adds that Reggie Smith is also involved in plating the coil stamps of all five definitive issues.

The group's plan is to complete the study and publish a definitive work. We wish them well with the project and it is hoped that members will rally round and support them in their efforts.

We are also now able to publish another small section of the results of the study of the 3c value (crimson-breasted shrike) for which Des repeats his appeal for views and comments all of which are designed to further the development of the planned publication.

SOUTH AFRICAN PHILATELIST Request for Missing Back Issues

From the same correspondent, Des Greenhalgh, comes a request for 19 back issues of the SAP, missing from his own library. They are:

Vol. 1 - Nos. 1, 9, 10	Vol. 8 - Nos. 11, 12
Vol. 3 - No. 3	Vol. 19 - Nos. 7, 8, 10, 11
Vol. 4 - No. 2	Vol. 20 - No. 1
Vol. 5 - No. 7	Vol. 21 - No. 1
Vol. 6 - Nos. 2, 12	Vol. 25 - No. 1
Vol. 7 - No. 1	Vol. 41 - No. 6

Available for exchange are about 30 duplicates, alternatively he may be able to offer stamps of RSA, SWA or Rhodesia.

Requested by: Des Greenhalgh,
PO Box 11723,
Dorpspruit 3026,
South Africa

AN AUCTION WATCH SERVICE?

Having sold my South African collection some ten years ago and flirted with commercialism which gave me a very privileged and wide view of the totality of philately, I think I have some justification for saying that in terms of stamp collecting (if not postal history) what you have always suspected, and probably believed, is in fact quite true - South Africa with its "Union" and first "Republican" definitives has produced the most interesting issues available for collection. Having fairly recently bought a couple of collections and a few items separately I am now delighted to be back in the fold again! The scope of the issues with the variety of printing methods including some of the first rotary rotogravure in the world with their host of minor varieties, those gorgeous War Efforts, the shades, screens, watermark types, the papers, phosphors, the selection of different multipositive combinations of vignette and frame, the practice of selling spare stocks of the numerous booklet and coil issues in sheet form ... I could go on! --- and all this for good honest reasons from a post office looking to be economic, innovative and lead the way. The early period is as free as most countries could be at that time of the so called "philatelic" material, particularly if you consider some of the pre-Union State material.

My real purpose in writing, however, is not to toady to the converted but to test the water and see if the membership might be interested in an auction service. My guess is that most of the major auction houses and their smaller cousins would be only too happy to provide catalogues if they knew all the South African lots were being forwarded to a large number of interested people. An "official" society organiser could for a few pence to cover photocopying and some SAEs provide a useful service to members showing what material is available and a useful spin-off could be some regular reviews of auction realisations of more standard material or specialised, and could be featured in *The Springbok*.

I hereby register my interest in such a scheme should someone wish to set it up, or volunteer to organise it myself should members so wish.

Dr A.J. Howgrave-Graham,
The Cottage,
Barford Lane,
Downton,
Wilts. SP5 3QA

(Bearing in mind the usefulness of previous auction reports, the revival of this collating is unquestionably timely and the offer was quickly accepted. SAEs to Dr Howgrave-Graham please. - DWP)

NATIONAL STAMP DAY

I write regarding the May/June 1991 issue of *The Springbok*, Vol. 39, No. 3, p. 59. In the Postage Stamps Information as at 31 December 1989 there is an item "National Stamp Day Special Stamps". This should not have been included as the correct title should have been "National Savings Stamps". Possibly you may wish to advise members of this. I took the matter up with Mr Steyn and he has advised me accordingly. This item should not have been included as "STAMPS"!!! I have also been advised by the Printers that it has been erroneous to refer to the paper as "Harrisons". As you may be well aware they only do printing and not the manufacture of paper. In future they are going to refer to the paper as being *supplied* by Harrisons.

I enclose a copy of the Stamp Day Issue order which Mr Steyn kindly sent with his letter (see next page). It is certainly interesting, and you may be interested in having a copy of an order from the G.P.O. to the printing works. By the way, only 691,500 were printed eventually, not the anticipated figure of 700,000.

J.M. Smart

(And who dares to say that the reports are rarely read! - Ed.)

STAATSDRUKKERY
GOVERNMENT PRINTING WORKS

Datum van advies
Date of advice 1990-04-17

FILATELIEBESONDERHEDE
PHILATELIC PARTICULARS

1.0 Itembeskrywing
Item description 21c Spesiale uitgawe/Special

ISSUE

1.1 Taak No./Job No. 4371684

1.2 Rekwisie No./Requisition No. 2129/1.2.5.1

1.3 Hoeveelheid bestel
Quantity ordered 700 000 Velle/Sheets

2.0 Drukbesonderhede/Printing particulars

2.1 Verwagte datum van druk
Expected date of printing 1990-03-19

2.2 Verwagte getal
Expected number 700 000 Velle/Sheets

2.3 Eerste of herdruk
First or reprint 1ste Druk/1st Print

Die Direkteur
The Director
Filateliedienste
Philatelic Services
Pretoria
0001

3.0 Filmmateriaal
Film material

3.1 Meesternegatief(wc)
Master negative(s)

3.2 Multipositief(wc) (Gravure)
Multi positive(s) (Gravure)

3.3 Multinegatief(wc) (Litografie)
Multi negative(s) (Lithography)

4.0 Situaties vir litografiese plate
Situations for lithographic plates

	Nummer Number	Staande Standing	Nuut New	Kleur Colour
4.1 (a)	2149	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Driekleur Blou/Tricolour Blue
(b)	2150	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Driekleur Geel/Tricolour Yellow
(c)	2151	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Driekleur Rooi/Tricolour Red
(d)	2152	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lig Groen Gemeng/Light Green mixed
(e)	2153	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Swart/Black
(f)	2154	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lig Grys gemeng/light grey mixed
(g)	2155	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lig Geel gemeng/Light Yellow mixed
(h)	2156 2157	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lig Blou gemeng/Light Blue mixed Lig Groen gemeng/Light Green mixed

4.2 Uitleg van blonderaad plaat
Lay-out of cylinder or plate
1x3 Velle/Sheets

4.3 Uitleg van vel (posseels)
Lay-out of sheet (postage stamps)
5x5 Verskillende Seëls/
5x5 Different Stamps

4.4 Posseelgrootte
Postage stamp size
28,70 x 38,07

5.0 Masjienbesonderhede/Machine particulars

5.1 Drukkers(e)
Printing press(es) 794

5.2 Perforeerder
Perforator (Walter Kroll) 14,25 x 14

6.0 Papier/Paper

6.1 Leweransier/Papiermeul
Supplier/Paper mill Harrison's

6.2 Oppervlakte
Surface Matt / Mat

6.3 Gom P.V.A
Gum

6.4 Fosforisientbelag
Phosphorescent coated Ja/Yes

Neen/No

6.5 Vêlgrootte: Rolwydte
Sheet size: Roll width 630 x 295

7.0 Algemene opmerkings
General remarks


namens Staatsdrukker
for Government Printer

PRESS RELEASE

The Inter Southern African Philatelic Agency which handles the philatelic services of the Republics of Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda, Ciskei and Namibia announces that the respective postal administrations will depict the undermentioned themes on postage stamp series during 1992:

Country	Date	Theme	Number of stamps
Transkei	20 February	Flowering plants: Orchids	4
	1 April	Heroes of medicine: 7th set of the series	4
	16 July	Waterfowl	8
	17 September	Fossils: 2nd set of the series	4
Bophuthatswana	9 January	Old maps of Africa: 2nd set of the series	4
	1 April	Easter stamps: 10th set of the series	4
	18 June	Acacia trees	4
	19 November	The Lost City at Sun City	5
Venda	5 March	Industrial products: Clothing factory	4
	21 May	Bee types	4
	13 August	Inventions: 2nd set of the series	4
	15 October	Crocodile farming	4
Ciskei	19 March	Cloud formations	4
	4 June	Satellites over Southern Africa	4
	20 August	Agricultural implements: 2nd set of series	4
	5 November	Hotels in Ciskei	4
Namibia	30 January	21st anniversary of the Conservatoire	4
	16 April	Freshwater angling	4
	2 July	Swakopmund: Jewel of the Namibian Coast	4
	10 September	Equalisation of the disabled	4

WANTED - REVENUE STAMPS, ESPECIALLY:

- (A) Customs Duty or Douane overprints;
- (B) Cigarette Duty; for the four former Colonies as well as Union/Republic.

RDA

A STUDY OF THE 1C SUCCULENT

By

W.J. BRANNEY

1/6	Dot left of 1c	6/1	Fuzzy red marks above highest leaf
1/8	Dots above and below "n" of Huernia	6/2	Black spot below "A" of RSA Fuzzy "ni" in Huernia
1/9	Blue dot below "a" in Zebrina	6/3	Black dot below "i" of Zebrina
1/10	White line in "a" of Botha	6/6	Dots below "e" of Huernia
2/1	Mark in "a" of Zebrina	6/7	Malformed "a" in Botha
2/3	Dot in "R" of RSA	6/8	Black dot above "H" of Huernia
2/7	Dot below "H" of Huernia	6/9	Black specks in date
2/10	Large smudge above "1" in date	6/10	Spot under "ia" of Huernia Red spots near right vertical perfs
3/2	Dot below 15th perf (Upper)	7/3	Dot above 1c
3/3	Dots above lower perfs	7/5	Dot above "R" of RSA Dot at 8th upper perf
3/5	Mark in "H" of Huernia	7/9	Dot in "n" of Zebrina
3/9	Red dot 6/19	8/1	White patch in "n" of Zebrina
4/1	Broken "o" in Botha	8/2	White patch in "i" of Zebrina
4/5	Marks in "ue" of Huernia	8/5	Missing part of "e" in Huernia
4/6	Black dot between "R" and 1c	8/7	Black dot 5/28
5/3	Two black dots 5/26.5	8/9	Black dot 5/29
5/5	Mark in front of "R" in RSA	8/10	Blue dot 6/10 Dot 14/28
5/6	Bee swarm above "H" of Huerina	9/3	Dot behind "c" of 1c
5/7	Dot 2.5/25	9/6	Small dot between "R" and 1c
5/8	Red marks below 1c Bee swarm between 1A-He	9/7	Black dot above "a" of Zebrina
5/9	Black spot above "1" in date	10/1	Small blue dot 17/3
5/10	Small dot between "A-1" date	10/2	Black dot over "u" of Huernia
		10/3	White patch in "H" of Huernia Small dot between "a-Zebrina"
		10/4	Small dot top right corner 10/9 Dot between lower limbs of "A" in RSA

Pane B Original Printing

Magnification x 6

Date of Study - 10 March 1990

47 *continued*

POSTAGE STAMPS INFORMATION AS OF 30 SEPTEMBER 1974 (CONTINUED)

JOB NO	NUMBER PER SHEET	VALUE	NUMBER OF SHEETS ORDERED	DATE OF FIRST DELIVERY	NUMBER OF SHEETS DELIVERED	DATE OF FINAL DELIVERY	TOTAL NUMBER OF SHEETS DELIVERED	PAPER	CYLINDER NUMBER: INTERIOR	EXTERIOR	SAWS DESIGN CYLINDER OR FEH	REMARKS
23467,35	100	50	60 000	4.6.74	27 700	16.7.74	84 000	Unwatermarked Phosphorescent Harrison Paper	614	613	Yes	
24641,98	100	40	375 000	24.6.74	38 800	18.7.74	312 200	" "	620	619	Yes	
26796,31	50	150	50 000	12.3.74	12 300	19.9.74	35 400	" "	644, 645 and 646	647	Yes	
19373,60	110	10	5 000 rolls x 500	27.9.74	227 $\frac{32}{110}$	227 $\frac{30}{110}$	50 rolls	Unwatermarked Phosphorescent Harrison Paper	616	607	Yes	
24907,20	110	20	2 400 rolls x 900	6.8.74	2 272 $\frac{80}{110}$	1 136 $\frac{42}{110}$	2 450 rolls	" "	625	619	Same	
19374,61	110	20	12 000 " "	24.3.74	1 136 $\frac{42}{110}$	1 136 $\frac{42}{110}$	2 50 rolls	" "	674	619	Yes	
15800,44	110	50	1 500 rolls x 300	30.10.73	721 $\frac{30}{110}$	3 603 $\frac{70}{110}$	2 125 rolls	" "	61	61	Same	
19375,82	110	50	1 200 " "	500 19.9.74	2 043 $\frac{52}{110}$	4 772 $\frac{80}{110}$	1050 rolls	" "	61	614	Yes	
10663,58	110	100	250 rolls x 200	19.6.73	1 310 $\frac{20}{110}$	2 774 $\frac{80}{110}$	975 rolls	" "	620	618	Yes	
19376,03	110	100	1 200 " "	24.9.74	636 $\frac{40}{110}$	636 $\frac{40}{110}$	350 rolls	" "	631	641	Yes	
13137,27	6	40	500 000	5.9.73	15 000	38.9.50 and 1.11.51	229700 singles	" Blue and Red	22, 23, 212, 231, 238	239	Same	
16002,44	6	90	500 000	21.3.74	20 050	5.9.74	513 016 - 3 078 100	" "	22, 212, 232, 237, 238	"	Same	
26218,59	6	90	300 000	12.9.74	29 050	11.9.50 - 7/4 300	300 singles	" "	" "	"	Same	
24969,21	20	30	60 000	16.7.74	900	17.9.74	52 680	100% WHITE	29, 217 Black, 214 Phos, 225			
24968,21	20	30	60 000	16.9.74	1 500		16 015 = 320 300	Blue, 240 Red				New plates Printed in Litho

BERNARDINI KONIG
GERMANY
John Miller



POSTAGE STAMPS INFORMATION AS AT 30th JUNE 1991

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 NUMBERS	SAME DESIGN OR NEW	REMARKS
--------	------------------	-------	---------------------------	------------------------	----------------------------	------------------------	----------------------------------	-------	---------------	--------------------	---------

FIFTH DEFINITIVE SERIES SUCCELENTS

50032.37	100	25c	1 000 000	91/03/27	50 000		530 000	Underwatermarked Harrison's Paper	2218, 2219, 2220 and 2221	New	Printed by Litho
----------	-----	-----	-----------	----------	--------	--	---------	-----------------------------------	---------------------------	-----	------------------

AIR LETTERS

52611.91	3	Postage Paid	900 000	91/06/24	15 000		135 000	Oyster Opaque Matt		New	Printed by Litho
----------	---	--------------	---------	----------	--------	--	---------	--------------------	--	-----	------------------

RSA 30 SPECIAL STAMPS

49665.74	25	25c	700 000	91/04/15	23 000	91/05/16	700 000	Underwatermarked	2222, 2223, 2224 and 2225	New	Printed by Litho
49665.74	25	40c	60 000	91/04/10	28 000	91/04/10	60 000	Harrison's Paper	2226, 2227, 2228 and 2229	New	Printed by Litho
49665.74	25	50c	60 000	91/04/10	28 000	91/04/16	60 000		2230, 2231, 2232 and 2233	New	Printed by Litho
49665.74	25	60c	60 000	91/04/10	28 000	91/04/10	60 000		2234, 2235, 2236 and 2237	New	Printed by Litho

RSA POSTCARDS

50493.94	40	Postage Paid	2 200 000	91/04/29	12 000		1 444 000	Dukuza Linen		New	Printed by Litho
----------	----	--------------	-----------	----------	--------	--	-----------	--------------	--	-----	------------------

RSA 30 MINIATURE

49547.57	14	60c	45 000	91/04/09	45 000	91/04/09	45 000	Unwatermarked Harrison's Paper		New	Printed by Litho
----------	----	-----	--------	----------	--------	----------	--------	--------------------------------	--	-----	------------------

Signature

MEMBERSHIP NOTES

Change of Address

B.S. Stokoe (708) from Peterborough to Syston, Leicester

New Members

- 939 A.H. Murray of Bowdon, Altrincham (Cape of Good Hope collector)
940 J.B. Carter of Crosby, Maryport, Cumbria (Union; RSA; SWA & Homelands)
941 D.G. Haig of Coltness, Wishaw
942 P. Malcolm of Uxbridge
943 Harald Schei of Aneby, Norway (British Africa. Also Rhodesia SC member)

Rejoined

- 781 Dr A. Howgrave-Graham of Downton, Wilts

Resignations

- 930 J. Feintuch of New York
896 I. Hodgson of Durbanville
776 K. Parker of Kendal
712 Mrs S. Terry of Chippenham

APPOINTMENTS

HON. LIBRARIAN

The Committee are pleased to confirm that this post has been filled by the first volunteer, Mr J.B. Carter. Our grateful thanks to J.M. Duckett and J.R. Gale for their welcome offers.

The new Hon. Librarian resides at 2 Old Smithy Cottages, Old Road, Crosby, Maryport, Cumbria CA15 6SP. (Please see report on meeting in London of 11 February 1992.)

DESPATCHER

From the volunteers, Mr J.R. Gale has accepted the task of sending out *The Springbok* from the June 1992 issue. Conveniently situated near our present printing shop and Tony Chilton, who transports the copied material, Mr Gale lives at Shirley, Croyden.

Please note that ALL address changes are to continue to A.R. Chilton as Membership Secretary who maintains the list.

VISITS TO OTHER SOCIETIES

By publication I shall have been to Winchester and on Tuesday 5 May 1992 Alec Page will be at Southampton and District at their meeting place at the Eastleigh Unity Club, Southampton Road, quite close by the Railway Station and the Swan Centre at 7.30 p.m. as a guest speaker for that Society's 60th Anniversary. The Southampton and District Society is grateful for his ready acceptance to speak as part of the year's programme which is quite a milestone.

Hon. Editor