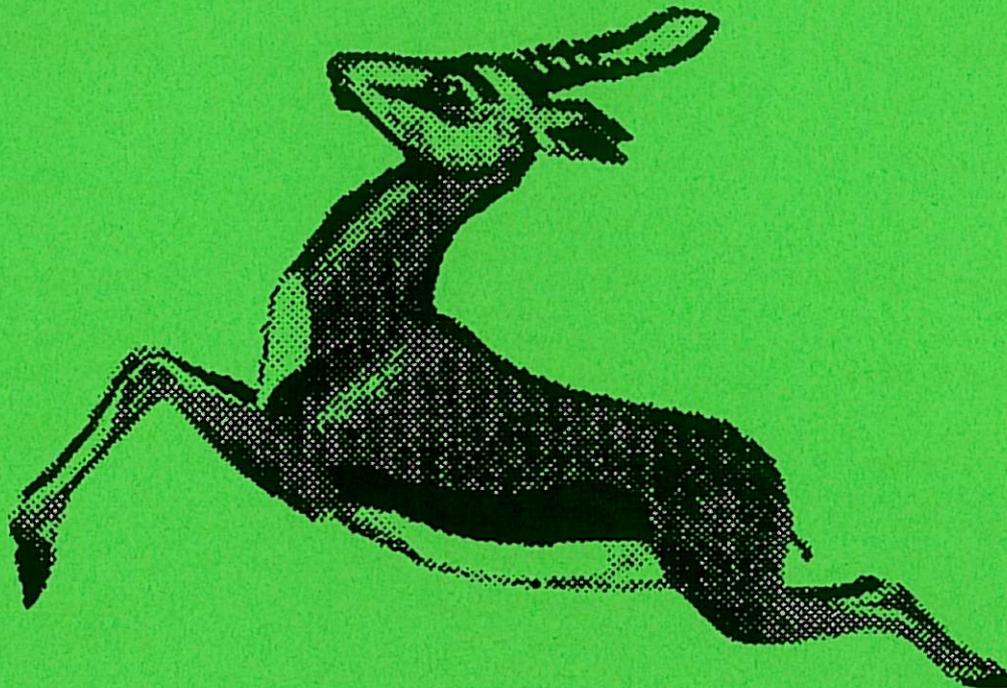


THE *SPRINGBOK*



SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY
QUARTERLY

Vol 41 No 1

Jan/March 1993

HARMERS
OF LONDON

We will be pleased to inspect and advise on your stamp or postal history collection without obligation.



We can fully appraise all family archives, portfolios, etc. for inclusion in our regular Bond Street auctions.

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The Springbok



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The Springbok is published 4 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

For your entertainment, enjoyment and better still early response please. Should you be tempted to frown with a book by the fire, or yet another video, and the winter scene does tempt one, remember the adage that although there's no smoke without fire, unless you researching and questioning souls make positive moves among your waiting material there'll be no fire for lack of wood; i.e. items for publication. So allow not the chance to pass and do as others have done, see within. Look again or with more enlightened eye on your own or another's cherished but usually unseen items and think over your earlier conclusions.

First exhortation over, may I pass along to the programme of meetings which had to be critically re-appraised in 1992 as your Committee felt serious misgivings that with so few coming to London, did the justification remain and were we in danger of hanging on to an outdated pattern of meetings. As the commercial way changed in London so did life-long friends pass on who were part of that regular scene and who have not been replaced due to many reasons among which are expense of travel and London being less attractive to spend time in, albeit the exhibitions of art and museum life have a more varied programme now.

In pursuit of the sometimes elusive matter of 'subject' for the meetings, they are often the result of a question put at an earlier occasion that could not then be answered with clarity perhaps, or it demanded more research and comparison. To this end, whilst a subject for a meeting is desirable, do not be put off from raising the query you have, certainly do not leave coming!! The flexibility inherent in our association of philately means we are only too ready to help and a solution can usually be found. We try to keep the spread of subjects as wide as possible over the year, and the provincial meetings come up with what to do next time at that event then under way.

The PROGRAMME has been set in more detail elsewhere (p.6) as the dates have also increased. Any more 'speaker' occasions please?
DWP

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Meetings

A full programme of Society meetings is to be found on p.6.

Francis Eustace & Jack Hagger, RDPSA

TWO HEADS WERE BETTER THAN ONE

WORKING SEPARATELY, we found that we had been unable to solve the mystery of the oblique line, obviously of multipositive origin, in the gutter between the 11th stamps of rows 15 and 16 of the Union of South Africa hyphenated halfpennies of Issues 8, 10 and 13, but absent in the intervening Issues 9, 11 and 12.

Once we co-operated we found we had material to prove that the variety is absent from Issues 5, 6 and 7 but neither of us had an example of it from Issue 8, where it was generally agreed that it made its first appearance.

Then a single used stamp turned up known to be row 15/11 by the thickened lines of shading in front of the buck's neck, a feature in other parts of the vignettes on some stamps in this issue. Now that we knew what to look for it was not long before the two stamps came, in singles, on a receipt where fortunately they had not been cancelled.

When these stamps had been soaked off and rejoined we had the original state of the flaw shown here as our starting point. It should be mentioned that this and all the other illustrations show the stamps at double their normal size. In the enlargement they have lost some definition so the features we draw attention to have been overlined in black.

In the printing works it was obviously decided that the flaw had to be eliminated from the multipositive before the next exterior cylinder could be etched and for the purpose the substance used had to be both opaque and colourless.

It had one serious fault, in that it flaked off and had to be renewed from time to time as we show.

ISSUE 8

The original state of the line between the 11th stamps in rows 15 and 16. Note the thickened lines of shading below the buck's muzzle on the upper stamp.



ISSUE 9

The painting has left a very tiny dot below the bar on the upper stamp and just touched the bar on that below. This latter created a weakness in the etching which with wear created a distinct dent, shown here in its stages.



ISSUE 10

The flaw is back in its original state, but is easy to identify through the large green dot near the bottom of the left hand bar on row 16/11.



ISSUE 11

Back on the job, the painter has just touched the bar on the upper stamp, appearing as a tiny dent, and left a part of the line above the bar on the lower one.



ISSUE 12

The painter's last effort, still not quite successful, has left a dot below the bar of the upper stamp and a shorter projection above the bar on that below.



ISSUE 13

Back to square one and end of story.



It had occurred to us in the beginning that the Issues had not perhaps been numbered by the original cataloguers in correct chronological order of the etching of their cylinders. However a study of the multipositive flaws, particulars of which it is not necessary to detail here, show that this was not so and readers can be assured that the sequence we have outlined is the correct one.

PROGRAMME OF SACS MEETINGS

Saturday 27 March 1993

10am to 4pm at the County Hotel, Botcher Gate, Carlisle. Contact Brian Carter (SACS Librarian).

Saturday 3 April 1993

2 to 4pm at the Hawkstone Hall, Kennington Road, London. 1927 Pictorial Definitives, study of values to 1/-. Contact member R.D. Allen.

Saturday 22 May 1993

11am to 4pm at Burnham on Sea. Subject Commemoratives. Contact Richard Stroud, 28 Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea TA8 1LQ. (0278) 782235.

Tuesday 8 June 1993

6 to 7.30pm at Hawkstone Hall, Kennington Road, London. First Republican Definitives. Contact R.D. Allen.

Saturday 19 June 1993

2pm at Drove Road School, Swindon, where SWINPEX 1993 is to be held and we have use of a room. Contact Hon. Editor.

Sunday 15 August 1993

2 to 4.30pm at Portishead, near Bristol, by invitation of their Convention that weekend. Subject is Postal History. Contact Richard Stroud (address as above).

Saturday ?? September 1993

2 to 4.30pm at Hawkstone Hall, Kennington Road, London. SACS AGM plus Abell Trophy plus Mini Auction.

Saturday 25 September 1993

10.30am to 1.30pm by invitation of the Hampshire Philatelic Federation to HAMPEX '93 a joint meeting of 'Africa' societies. Contact Hon. Editor.

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

SPEAKERS

To the Solent DPS at the Church Hall, Stafford Road, Southsea on Monday 5 April 1993, D.W. Painter on the various aspects of the mail of the Union of South Africa. 7.30pm.

To the Romsey DPS at the Town Hall, Romsey on Thursday 20 May 1993, Brian Redpath on South Africa. 7.30pm.

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

Guy R Dillaway

**CAPE OF GOOD HOPE POSTAL HISTORY:
THE TRIANGULAR PERIOD**

THIS ARTICLE FOCUSES UPON CAPE TRIANGLES used to and from foreign destinations. In 1980, I received a letter from Paul Wolf, PFSA, for information on triangular covers to and from foreign destinations. Paul had hoped to compile as complete a list as possible for a future article. Unfortunately, Paul died a few years later without ever writing the article. His notes were never found. Since his death, I have attempted to continue the original work and add the number of covers known and the rates in effect at that time. The period covered is 1853 to 1865 which I consider the most usual time frame. Mixed issue frankings are not covered in the survey. This article is a tribute to the man who piqued my interest in triangular postal history, Paul Wolf.

I will begin with a simple list of destinations. Major country headings will be used throughout. States, provinces, etc., will be listed under the major heading. The numbers in parentheses () indicate the number of covers I have actually seen and recorded. No number means that there are too many covers to bother recording or that a cover has been reported but I have not seen it or a photocopy thereof. However, these rates will be counted in subsequent articles.

Austria (1)

Australia

New South Wales (1)

Victoria (1)

Western Australia (2)

British Kaffraria

Batavia (1)

Canada

New Brunswick (1)

Nova Scotia (1)

Ontario/Montreal (3) – 14 covers from the
Shanley correspondence reported – only 3 seen.

China

Amoy (1)

Hong Kong (1)

Denmark (2)

Finland/Russia (2)

France (5)

Germany

Baden (2)

Bavaria (1)

Hamburg (1)

Hanover (1)

Germany (Cont.)

Mecklenburg-Schwerin (1)

Prussia (3)

Saxony (1)

Great Britain

England

Guernsey (1)

Ireland

Scotland

Wales

Holland

Hungary (1) Another reported, not seen

India

Bengal (2)

Bombay

Calcutta (3)

Madras (1)

Poona (1)

Punjab (1)

Trincomalee (1)

Madeira (1)

Mauritius (2)

Namaqualand

Natal (7)

New Zealand (4)

Norway (1)

Orange Free State

Saint Helena (1)

Spain (1)

Sweden (3)

Switzerland (3)

Turkey (2)

United States (6)

COVERS FROM FOREIGN DESTINATIONS

Basutoland (3, only 1 with an adhesive)

British Kaffraria

Orange Free State (1)

Transvaal

There are many covers from British Kaffraria. A significant number are military mail. However, I only know of two from German military settlers. I have not seen a cover from the Transvaal and only one from the Orange Free State. There must be others.

As you can see, the list is quite short – only 27 major headings. The sources used are Paul's original list, the three collections on display at London '90, the Maxwell Joseph sale, the Solomon sale (Kohler) and the Dale-Lichtenstein sale. Information has also been provided by anonymous collectors. Information from anyone will be greatly appreciated. Please, if possible, provide all postal information on the front and back of the cover and the provenance (address inside front cover page).

To be continued...

As the above is a plea for help in a little known field of research, it is presented to members as extracted from Forerunners, the journal of the Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa, with their permission.

Reply to Dr Guy R. Dillaway, PO Box 181, Weston, MAS 02192, USA.

DWP – Ed.

'FLAWED' GEORGIAN



One of the few advantages of living too long is that when the solution to something which has puzzled me over the years turns up, I'm still around to identify it.

In an article which appeared in the July/Aug 1989 number of *The Springbok*, Jeff Fine and I illustrated a white flaw on the edge of the medallion of a 2½ Union K.G.V. stamp which we knew to be constant, but wondered why it had not appeared on other values processed by the same headplate.

The answer came in a lot in an auction catalogue received in November where two pairs of these stamps were described as having 'worm' flaws. Curious, I asked for photocopies which are reproduced here, and provide the answer. A piece of thread or suchlike found its way on to the plate and was moved around by the ink roller. At some stage it adhered, possibly with the aid of drying ink, to the edge of one of the medallions until the plate was cleaned, thus giving rise to what seemed to be a constant flaw.

S.J. Hagger, RDPSA

STAMPEX 1992 – AUTUMN

Once again I made use of the free ticket sent by one of our stamp business members, as there were only two listed with S.A. material it did not take me long to try elsewhere. Another dealer – I'll call him that – when asked for South African coils produced a horizontal strip of three with a nice price of £200. These were not of the early ship type. NB the first coil sheet, R 12S, was 1934 and the word SOUTHAFRIKA was as I have shewn. I did not buy and I deliberately failed to tell him that it is impossible to have a horizontal strip of three.

Of the exhibitions, saw some nice Revenues, not South Africa – back home I had a look at my Revenues to see if they were worth while entering... So far – NO! RDA

Sqn. Ldr. John Shaw, MBE, BSc., FRPS,L

MORE ON 'WHY HORIZONTAL?'

JOHN DAVIS IS ONE OF MANY who has asked the question of why the alternatively inscribed stamps of South Africa should be collected in the horizontal, rather than vertical pairs. The Union of South Africa has been my main speciality for some 30 years now, and the Union period is rich in varieties. A view has been offered that this is just a 'dealer con', but without one element to support that viewpoint; it is wrong, but market forces do play a part.

The answer to this perennial question is hinted at by Mr Davis. The reasons are purely those of tradition – and because every album publisher to date producing printed albums with spaces for the stamps has considered it best to provide spaces in horizontal format; thus, for collectors who store their stamps in this type of album, vertical pairs will not fit into the allotted spaces. Apart from the monocoloured coil stamps (for which vertical format spaces are naturally provided), there is then, virtually no demand for vertical pairs from this very large section of the market.

Thus, vertical pairs are a far less saleable commodity than horizontal pairs, and Gibbons are correct when they state these are worth about half that of the horizontal pairs. Singles are even less saleable and Gibbons no longer list them; when they did, the prices were substantially lower than for used pairs, mostly less than one tenth – and scarcely marketable at those prices!

Even specialists, who would not use printed albums, seem to shun vertical units, despite the obvious argument that many stamps from the Union period are less fragile in vertical format. Certainly the 1935 Silver Jubilees are extremely vulnerable in horizontal pairs. Strangely, the American market takes a very different view, Scott catalogues listing three variants of each stamp, the English, the Afrikaans and a se-tenant pair. During my RAF service I was fortunate to make half a dozen or so flying visits to the USA; it almost made one weep to see how they had so carefully prepared for the largest section of their clientele with stockbooks crammed with rows and rows of lovely mint stamps – all neatly separated into singles!

For my own part, I collect whatever I consider best fits into my collection to help complete a particular part of the story. By upbringing I suppose, I prefer horizontal units but occasionally take vertical units if I want the item badly enough and, because vertical pairs are cheap, these usually turn out to be real bargains. Recently I was offered a watermark variety and then thought I had missed it since it was out on approval to another customer, who eventually returned it because it was a vertical pair; this was only the third such item I had seen offered in my 25 years of searching, and this vertical pair is now one of my prized items. Incidentally, most South African Union period inverted watermarks are quite common and frequently more so than upright; this was one of the half dozen exceptions.

Because gravure printing was in its infancy in the 1930's, virtually every South African stamp issued from 1930 to 1960 can be plated – and vertical units, or blocks, are needed if one is to effect any sort of serious plating study. However, postmarks tend

to obscure many of the cylinder varieties and plating is thus best attempted using predominantly mint stamps. This leads to yet another market factor – that used vertical pairs have far less proportionate value compared with mint vertical pairs than their horizontal used to horizontal mint pairs. This fact is also compounded as South Africa is one of the large users of postage stamps (for postage!) and there appear to be very many commercially used vertical pairs on the market.

To those wishing to form a collection of South Africa as cheaply as possible, and not motivated by profit, collecting vertical pairs is an attractive proposition; however, for those wishing to sell I can offer little consolation save that the market forces will prevail.

INSURING YOUR COLLECTION

Newport, Gwent
19 December 1992

Dear Editor,

I know you are always on the look-out for subjects for *The Springbok*, and I would like to raise a matter which I don't think has had much of an airing recently, namely insurance of stamp collections.

Although I am not an expert, and am hesitant about crossing from the open country of just collecting stamps into the jungle of printing technology which specialisation entails, even a modest annual budget begins to tot up in value over the years.

There are two aspects of this insurance problem that concern me: (a) valuation, and (b) cover. On the question of valuation, I do not mean to be disrespectful to the trade when I say that on a narrow one-country front, with some years of auction experience, and with the aid of an SG catalogue (suitably discounted), I can assess the value of my collection as well as anyone, and thus avoid having to pay a valuation fee. It is a struggle to get an insurance company to accept this.

As to cover, is there an insurance company specialising in stamp collections? At present, mine comes under the Special Possessions category of my general contents policy, which I feel is not altogether satisfactory.

I would very much appreciate an article in *The Springbok*, giving help and advice from someone with experience in this field.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Rose

A.J. Howgrave-Graham

AUCTION REPORT, NOVEMBER 1992

ALL QUIET ON THE HOME FRONT! – at least it looks that way for the next couple of months. There were some significant lots sold during September and October though they were thin on the ground. Again there seemed more SWA than South Africa. Of the latter one of the more interesting items was three (½d, 1d & 2½d) GV proofs mounted on a single card and presumably falling into the ‘anonymous’ group though with frames to values that I haven’t seen before. They realised £202 at Corbitts with, I assume, a happy buyer as I am informed there was considerably more ‘on the book’. (I have hopes that he, or she, may be a subscriber to the ‘auction service’). A 1930 ½d booklet strip of 4, tête-bêche across gutter, SG42b, made £404+VAT at Western compared to a complete strip of 9 (with TB & TB across gutter) realising R3300 at Stephan Welz in July – the 1d fetched R5500 and the 2d (strip of 6 with centre pair tête-bêche) R6050. A 1d Official pair with ovpt double, SGO14a, made £123 at Harmers (compared to R715 for a blk.4 at Welz) and the 1/-, SGO29 with diæresis fetched £168 for a used pair (Christies).

Turning to SWA, the 1927 £1 mint fetched £44 (Harmers) to £49+VAT (Western), the SWE 1/- opt inverted, used, £100, the Victory 1d similarly, fu, £89 and the scarce 1947 2d Official, SGD21, fu, £291 (all these Christies). The Gibbons 8 October sale was most notable for the super ‘Comida’ Cape of Good Hope but the two ‘key’ SWA items, the 1923 1st 10/- with ‘dropped stop’ variety (maximum of 10 said to exist) and the 1927 £1 with missing stop, both remained unsold. Perhaps because of the £1200 & £1400 price tags.

Returning to the Stephan Welz ‘Thys Rall’ sale, as promised in the last article, there were numerous very significant realisations some of which I list below. The sale was reportedly very well attended with intense bidding, particularly for the earlier lots before people started to run out of money! Unfortunately some lots, such as the King’s Head £1 plate blocks, were clumped together making individual prices impossible to elicit.

1910 2½d – composite essay ex De La Rue archives	R5720
– die proof in black on die sunk card	R3080
– imperf colour trial in deep violet blue	R2420
– small script specimen overprint	R990
– FDC signed by H.S. Wilkinson	R880

1911 Mackay essays – 16 single values – R1100 (=just over £13 each compared to one GB auctioneer, who had better remain nameless, who estimated a single at £150!).

1913 Die proofs of the various frames on glazed cards fetched mostly R1045 (approx. £200 at the time, which is not dissimilar from the 1972 ‘Wunsh’ realisations and markedly less than the £600-£700 they were reaching at Harmers in 1982).

1913 – complete set ovpt specimen	R2860
– complete set in top marginal control singles	R5280
– ½d plt.2 control Blk.4	R1100
– ½d double print at left, vertical pair	R19,800
– ½d a single with a complete double image	R18,700
– 1d plt.1a bottom row of 12	R4180
– 2d corner single with missing watermark	R462
– 10/- with complete ‘new moon’, og.	R2200
– 10/- used (thin) with inverted watermark	R495

1925 Air set on official presentation card	R990
1927 Pretoria – ½d tête-bêche pair	R1650
– 1d tête-bêche pair	R1760
– 1d Blk.4 with two stamps imperf on 4 sides	R1210
1927-8 Imperf colour trials perforated specimen (7)	R10,450
The set in pairs h/s SPECIMEN	R1980
Imprint pairs – 5/- Gp.1 (R1100), Gp.2 (R2420), Gp.3 (R1100)	
10/- Gp.1 (R550), Gp.2 (R825)	
1929 Air 1/- colour trials (on back of old land charts), set of 5	R935

The unhyphenated & hyphenated pictorials were largely offered in mixed lots but there were some individual and interesting items:

1930-45 2d trial printing in sepia & mauve (Blk.4)	R880
1/- with centres only partly printed (pr)	R1210
Hyphenated 1½d missing gold, a pair in a corner Blk.4	R3080
SWE ½d triplet missing roulette	R572
1d ditto	R528
1½d ditto (tone spot) + 2d	R605
1947 Royal Visit photographic essay for 3d value	R825
Booklets – 1913 2/6 stapled right (Uhb B1), (½d panes of 1 & 4 stamps only, 1d complete)	R3520
– 1913 2/6 stapled left (Uhb B2) complete	R7150
– 1921 3/- (Uhb B4) complete	R495
– 1922 3/6 (Uhb B5) complete	R685
– 1926 1d vertical pair (blunted perfs bottom WMK SIDEWAYS (B6,V1))	R3080
– 1927 2/6 (Uhb B7) complete	R7700
– 1927 ½d & 1d panes ex B7	R825
– 1939 2/6 (Uhb B16) complete	R6600
– 1940-41 B18 + B19 complete	R176
1963 Red Cross 12½c with red 'cross' omitted, og.	R3300
1964 Nursing 12½c missing gold in pair with normal, og.	R352
1967 R1 missing orange in a strip of 3 with another partly missing, um (a dramatic item and one of my favourites in the sale)	R4120

Finally I have recently been offered a 1913 1d pair with 1½d overprints stated to be thought to be of 'proof' status. I gather a block of the same was sold in auction in South Africa a few years ago but wonder if members have any information on this item as I haven't seen it before. Wherefrom the proof!?

ACCLAIM FOR THE AUCTIONS REPORT

I was astonished to read in Tony Howgrave-Graham's Auction Report in the Sept/Oct 1992 issue of *The Springbok* that only a handful are so far supporting this excellent venture. For those of us 'out in the sticks' with little chance of attending fairs or calling on dealers, auctions must surely be the best means of adding to our collections. I am not ashamed to admit I am going to save money by sending for these copies and dropping my own subscriptions to auction houses, but I wonder how long the system will last if more people do not join. So could I, through your columns, plead for more members to send two or three quid, with a foolscap s.a.e. to Dr A.J. Howgrave-Graham, The Cottage, Barford Lane, Downton, Salisbury SP5 3QA, and to send another s.a.e. pronto every time to get a set of lists from Tony.

Peter Rose



THE THYS RALL SALE (JO'BURG)



PROOF?

= 1½D. = = 1½D. =

The following study was completed on 16.3.90 employing a lens with a magnification of x6.

1/1	Red dots bottom inside leg of 'H' of Hein	5/7	Smudge left of 'R' of RSA
1/3	Tiny blue dots over 'EAE' of dorotheae	6/1	Dot under 'H' of Hein – Smudge 5/23
1/4	Black dots front & below lithops	6/3	Tiny dot over 's' of lithops
1/5	Blue dot below date	6/4	Dot centre of 'R' of RSA
1/6	Blue dot below 'H' of Botha – Red dot 12/10	6/5	Tiny dot above 'A' of RSA
1/7	Dot below date	6/8	Dot between '8's of date
1/8	Tiny dot below 'O' of Botha	7/1	Black dot under 'A' of RSA – White patch in '9' of date – Red dot 6.5 x 28mm
1/9	Tiny red dot below '5' of 5c	7/2	Black dot above first 'e' of dorotheae
1/10	Dot above 'O' of Botha	7/3	Split 'o' in lithops
2/1	Red dots under date & right vert. perfs	7/5	Dot below 'a' of Botha
2/2	Tiny blue dot over 'H' of lithops	7/6	Dots bottom left corner
2/4	Dots 13/7	7/7	Blue dot behind last leg of 'A' – Dot under 'ps' of lithops – Dot over 'H' of Hein
2/6	Dots below 'c' of 5c	7/9	Lower first leg 'H' of Hein – Lower first '8' in date
2/7	Dot below 'dor' – Red dot lower curve of 'S' of RSA	7/10	Red smudge 16/30
2/9	Tiny dot below 'd' of dorotheae	8/1	Black dot under 'A' of RSA – Black dot 7mm left of Hein
2/10	Black dots in front of 'H' of Hein	8/4	Blue dot 9/28
3/1	Large line by 'c' of value	8/5	Tiny black dot in front of 'l' of lithops
3/2	Black dot left of 'R' of RSA – Purple dot 21.5 x 12.5mm	8/9	Smudge over date
3/4	Black dot inside first leg of 'A' of RSA	8/10	Dot over '9' in date
3/5	Black dot under 'r' of dorotheae	9/3	Blue dot below '5'
3/6	Black dot behind last '8' of date	9/5	Red dots 'c' of 5c
3/9	Dot over first 'e' of dorotheae	9/6	Black dot 5/18
3/10	Dot below '9' of date	9/7	Blue dot under '1' of date
4/1	Black dot near left margin	9/8	Red/blue dots under '5' of value
4/2	Red dots left of 'R' of RSA	9/9	AS ABOVE
4/3	Blue dots below 'H' of Hein	9/10	Black dot over 'e' of Hein
4/5	Smudged 'lit' in lithops	10/1	Blue dot between '5' and 'c' of value
4/6	Two dots above and left of 'l' of lithops	10/2	Blue dot below '5' of value
4/7	Dot over 'ea' of dorotheae	10/3	'h' in lithops – Blue dots 7/5
4/8	Diagonal scratch top right corner	10/4	Dot left leg of 'A' of RSA
4/10	Dot between 'R' and 'S' of RSA	10/5	Faint blue line 3/22
5/2	Black dot in top curve of 'S' of RSA	10/7	White line 'H' of Hein
5/3	Dots around RSA	10/9	Red/blue dot above dorotheae
5/4	Dot over 's' of lithops – Dot over first '8' of date	10/10	Black dot over 'or' of dorotheae
5/5	White patch 'l' of lithops		

R.D. Allen

REPUBLICAN FIRST DEFINITIVES – 2c GOLD POURING

I am trying to sort out the Republican 1st Definitive 2c Gold Pouring postage stamp, the ordinary issue and NOT the coils, as the Republican loose leaf catalogue lists twenty issues/distributions. The SACC lists fourteen, and the Robemark only 5 items. Due to that state of listing, I decided to make an itemised list. So far I am not fully satisfied that all three are correct in every detail, and these remarks are for the normal postage stamps and do not refer to the coils.

As to the coil issues of this stamp, if you have one with a 5mm phosphor coding, then it is a COIL, the normal postage stamps only have the 3mm band, but so does the coil issue.

Checking the Government Printing Lists as published in *The Springbok*, Vol.11 (6), p.115, I find that the first two issues of this stamp have the cylinders recorded in error and I now quote: 'CYLINDER No.91 USED – wrongly etched as 16'. This will require alterations to:

- (a) Republican loose leaf catalogue, pages G3 & G4;
- (b) S.A.C.C. pages 25 & 26;
- (c) Robemark page 69.

As to identifying the various printings, the first three should be quite easy to identify, due to the watermarks or absence of them; it is the REDRAWN issues that follow, i.e.

1st: 'OF' the 'F' immediately over 'C' and 'N' of 'VAN' over space between 'KA'

Redrawn: 'F' over the space between 'CA', and 'N' over the 'A';

that the use of the Ultra-Violet X-ray and a watermark detector is necessary, plus the knowledge of how to check if chalky surface (i.e. with a SILVER object).

To assist those who receive the Exchange packets, I have used and will use an Ultra-Violet X-ray plus watermark detectors and the silver object as I suspect not every member on that circuit has the first two. The Society owns a 'SIGNASCOPE' for watermark detecting. I have not found it very helpful, but if a sufficient number of members would let me know I will take it to the Saturday 3 April meeting. Once again, let me know by POSTCARD...

The X-rays will sort out the phosphorescent, the fluorescents.

Members who have copies of the 2c Gold Pouring stamp (excluding coils) and have access to a U.V. lamp would oblige me by examining their holdings under the lamp and letting me have the results, especially the phosphor bars. Everything must have a reason, and this is as shown on the opposite page. The information has been obtained from the Republican Stamp Catalogue as published by the Federation under the penmanship of the late Dr H.G. Raubenheimer and although not listed on the opposite page, the early items are stated to be 'SHADES' but in the later listing he does state 'colour patches'.

The *South African Philatelist*, Vol.43, April 1967 (these stamps were printed from, sorry, issued from 31 May 1961 to 1974) has an article by the same gentleman, 'Colours and Shades'. The son, Dr H.R. Raubenheimer, gave me permission to reproduce his father's listing of the Post Office Essays, vide *African Notes & News*, Vol.17 (1), March 1966, pp.9 et seq.

In my attempt to identify the issues of this 2c, I have come across a number of shades, and after very careful deliberation I have come to the conclusion that by ignoring shades we have a better understanding of this particular stamp. So my suggestion is: SACC 200; 211; 228; 238; 264; 290 (this 290 has both Swiss and Harrison papers); 290b; 290c; 316; 316a; 327; 327b; 327c.

When you have read the extract from the *South African Philatelist* (see p.18) I am positive you will come to the same conclusion.

Finally, have you amended your copy of the SACC re the perforations of 198?

SG No	Cyl	Issue	Dist	Wmk	Cyclo No	Paper	Colour	Phos 3mm	Remarks	SACC No
204	91/86	1	1	arms	none	-	yellow & blue		drunken perfs	200
		2	2	arms	4 in red	-				
		3	3	arms	4 in red	-				211
		4	4	none	4 in red	-				228
204	G2/G1 A/B	2	1	RSA	5 in black	-	yellow & blue			238
204A	236/237A/B (REDRAWN) & G49	1	1	RSA	5 in black	Harrison	orange & blue		fluorescent	
		2	2	RSA v/b	5 in black	Harrison			-do- front only	264
		3	3	RSA v/b		Swiss		phos 3mm		290
		4	4	RSA v/b		Harrison		phos 3mm		
204A	413/412/A/B G49	2	1	RSA v/b	5 in black	Harrison matt	orange & bright blue			
		2	2	RSA v/b	5 in black	Harrison glossy		phos 3mm		290b
		3	3	RSA v/b	5 in black	Harrison matt		phos 3mm		290c
		4	4	RSA v/b	5 in black	Harrison glossy				
		5	5	RSA v/b	5 in black	Harrison phosphorescent		no phosph. cyl.		316
204A	448/447	3	1	RSA v/b	5 in black	Harrison phosphorescent	yellow-orange & bright blue			316a
204B	484/483 A/B	1	1	none	5 in black	Harrison phosphorescent	orange-yellow & blue			327
204C	572/573	1	1	none	6 in black	Harrison phosph. glossy	bronze & blue		perf 12.5	327b
204D	622/621 A/B	1	1	none	6 in black	Harrison phosph. matt	orange & blue glossy			327
		?	?	none			yellow & dark blue			
		?	?	none		chalky paper			chalky	327c

Dr H.J. Raubenheimer

COLOURS AND SHADES

(Reproduced from the South African Philatelist, April 1967)

It has often been remarked, particularly at the meetings of the S.A. Study Circle, that, although there has been such a wide range of colours or shades on the Republic Stamps from even the same set of cylinders, our Catalogue merely lists them, in the great majority of cases, as 'Shades'. This description is obviously very wrong. It has seemed anomalous that overseas catalogues and magazines have gone into far greater detail in describing colours than what we do. We were interested to note, for example, that what we had recorded – not yet in the Catalogue, however – as a shade of orange on a recent printing of the 20 cent stamp has been given the name of 'flesh'.

It was agreed that greater diversification as regards colours is called for, so the Study Circle appointed a small committee to study and report on that matter. The committee has started its work and has been fortunate in having access to large and finely annotated collections. It soon enough found that the question of colour changes is intimately bound up with other factors which will be mentioned later. It would require a close study of the printings of the Government Printing Works where its job sheets were analysed, the records of the Philatelic Bureau of the Post Office and a knowledge of the printing processes at the Printing Works. Fortunately the Bureau, as usual, proved co-operative and consequently Mr Johnny Booyens, the head of the stamp printers, completed the picture as is now presented to you.

Ink becomes item number one in importance and it is necessary to follow the sequence of operations from the beginning. There is one department of the Printing Works that buys and stocks the ink, it prepares the ink on requisition by all the departments. The ink is made from pigments, imported, and from one source, the successful tenderer. This is the general rule although there may be exceptions, as will be seen later. The pigments are in powder form and are mixed in solvents together with other ingredients such as varnishes and drying and carrying agents. Owing to the large demands ready mixed inks are always on hand. There is a score or so of different pigments and they are named; the blues, for instance, are bronze blue, sky blue, three colour blue and airmail blue.

The solvent commonly used is xylol; its inks

are good for relatively slow running machines such as the Goebel 830 and 840; but a faster machine such as the Albertina requires an ink of higher volatility, then the more volatile toluol is used. Occasionally the stamp department buys special ink, one such case was some while back when ready mixed ink was bought from Germany for printing the new postcards. What was over was used for stamps; how much ink was over and which stamps were printed are not known. At all events it appears that the experiment did not come up to expectations. There were some difficulties.

We come now to what happens in the stamp printing department. Quite an involved process is gone through before the final colours are decided upon – interesting as that is it is outside the scope of this article. The colours are decided upon, the basic colours are ordered from the ink department and they try to order just enough for that printing. The ink is supplied in various sized containers, a common one being a five gallon drum. The colours are mixed until the required colour or shade is achieved. The proportions are then noted and are adhered to as rigidly as possible. Indeed, during the printing of the first 15c definitive stamp, the proportions were given in large type on a paper stuck on the machine above each printing cylinder. In this case, the colours were to be brick red, chrome yellow and black, so, above the first printing cylinder was 'orange 2½ galls., matt-brown 1 lb.'; above the second was 'mid chrome-yellow 1 gall., reducing medium 1 gall., matt-brown ¼ lb.', and above the third was 'black 1½ galls.'. The 1 lb. measure referred to was just a small tin holding about a pint. (You have probably seen the stamp by now so you know what caused these colours.)

It is freely admitted that various factors, not the least among them being the human one, can contribute to even a marked change in shade or even colour. A change can occur while the machine is running or after it has been restarted after a stoppage. The first thing to bear in mind is that the machine does not run indefinitely. At most it runs as long as the roll of paper lasts, about two hours, then it must stop. And while a new roll is inserted anything else to be done can be done. The ink, through evaporation in its large trough can have become viscous, more thinner is added

with very probably a change in colour. More of that anon. So a change can occur in a perfectly normal way in the course of even one morning for that reason.

On the other hand other factors can come into play and these depend largely upon a lengthy stoppage of the machine or a stoppage of that particular printing. That order for stamps may be completed, a printing may be stopped and resumed months later while the machine is used for something else and it is most likely that the new ink is quite different in colour. Actually if the colour happens to be the same, one can regard it as a coincidence if one were to judge by the stamps known to have come from the new printing. Almost always there is a change in those circumstances. So the colours from stores as well as the colours mixed in the stamps department can vary after long periods.

We have two splendid examples of these two main causes of change – ink in stock and change in a run. In the first instance there was a gold colour in stock that was last used for stamps for the 1½d 'gold mine' stamp in 1940. There was not much left over and that was used for the 2½c nursing stamp in 1964. It had a dull colour. That was soon exhausted and a new 'gold' named colour was then used. The difference between the two was as chalk to cheese. The new one was quite 'glittery' in effect and the two printings were quite distinctive. Incidentally, attempts were made to 'dull down' the new gold so now we have a nice range of shades of gold. The second instance is shown on the 10c stamp. First printed in May 1961 there were already changes in shade of the light green in its early distributions when there emerged a brilliant emerald green in February 1962. What actually caused it has not been officially confirmed; all that we know, judging by the cyclometer numbers that numbered the flow of

sheets from the machine, that when the 29 thousands appeared the emerald green appeared, and after a couple of thousand sheets the green became lighter.

And here emerged an interesting fact which may seem strange to us laymen. If a thinner such as xylol is added to the ink for stamps the colour deepens, in other words, the thinner the ink the darker the colour, and the thicker the ink the lighter the colour. At the same time the thicker the ink the clearer the printing, the thinner the ink the more blurred the printing. All this within reason of course. The viscosity of ink is a matter of much importance and much work is done to ensure uniformity. There are various devices presently being considered at the printing works. One is an ingenious 'automatic viscosity controller'.

In general, however, recent researches have brought to light features regarding colours and shades which appear too uniformly and regularly to be dismissed as sheer coincidence. Too often a printing on a new order, or a resumption of a run after a prolonged interval, both even from the same cylinders, shows a change of colour or shade. A change can frequently accompany a new order or where there is other evidence of an important change of issue.

Taking all these variables into consideration it is impossible to declare any particular colour as a rarity without other corroborating evidence. A colour from a particular cylinder may be a rarity today, it may be exactly reproduced tomorrow.

It is certainly not claimed that this article is the last word on this most interesting subject regarding the Republic Series of stamps up to now. It is merely a very superficial preliminary study written in the hope that others may go into the matter more deeply.

MARKS & CACHETS OF WORLD WAR II

During a fairly long lifetime I have always been defeated by a combination of circumstances, happenings which by themselves would have been of little consequence but which when they came together brought disaster.

For the first time in over thirty years my copy of *The Springbok*, through a Post Office error, reached me by air instead of surface mail – some weeks earlier than it would otherwise have done. In it was an article by W.A. Page, FRPS, L which called for comment which I mailed off to the Editor right away, seeing it would have been advantageous for it to appear as soon as possible, which it did in the Nov/Dec 1992 issue.

Only a few days later when looking through the collection of an old friend I spotted an airletter bearing the MARITIME MAIL mark which from the sender's address could not have been posted at the Royal Naval Auxiliary Hospital. This, along with Mr Page's cover, made it obvious that the mark was applied to the mail from *all* the Naval establishments in Durban. Although I mailed off a substitution it arrived too late and I trust that Mr Page, the Editor and his readers will accept my apology.

S.J. Hagger

[The interest in the not easily identifiable marks and censor cachets that are to be found on mail in the period 1939-45 from South Africa is known to exist among members; will you please look among yours and let Alec Page have a copy or your descriptive notes to help us along with this field please. - Ed.]

116

POSTAGE STAMPS DISTRIBUTION AS AT 30th SEPTEMBER 1992

JOB NO NUMBER PER SHEET VALUE NUMBERS OF SHEETS ORDERED DATE OF FIRST DELIVERY DATE OF FINAL DELIVERY TOTAL NUMBER OF SHEETS DELIVERED PAPER PLATE NUMBER SAME DESIGNS OR NEW REMARKS

AIR LETTER

56010.56	3		Postage	1 300 000	92/03/31	92/08/06	1 332 500	Oyster Opaque	New	Printed by Litho
			Paid							
60320.23	3		Postage	3 500 000	92/09/11		210 000	Oyster Opaque	New	Printed by Litho
			Paid							

FIFTH DEFINITIVE SERIES SUCCULENTS

59189.03	100		2c	80 000	92/09/21		80 000	2375,2376,2377 and 2378	New	Printed by Litho
59189.03	100		7c	100 000	92/09/29		6 000	2379,2380,2381 and 2382	New	Printed by Litho
58136.61	100		10c	150 000	92/06/18	92/07/02	149 500	Unwater-marked and 2344	New	Printed by Litho
56686.25	100		35c	4 000 000	92/03/27		1 120 000	Harrisons 2324,2325,2326 Paper and 2327	New	Printed by Litho

RSA INCIDENTAL SUCCULENTS

57689.18	100		Standardise	480 000	92/03/23		360 000	Unwater-marked and 2323	New	Printed by Litho
								Harrisons Paper		

RSA POSTCARDS

56523.64	36		Postage	2 000 000	92/06/16	92/09/08	2 021 000	Dukuza Linen	New	Printed by Litho
			Paid							
56524.65	36		Postage	2 150 000	92/09/15		208 000	Dukuza Linen	New	Printed by Litho
			Paid							

ANTIQUA CAPE FURNITURE: SPECIAL STAMPS

56296.59	10		35c	1 750 000	92/06/30	92/09/17	1 720 000	Unwater-marked and 2335 and 2336	New	Printed by Litho
								Harrisons Paper		

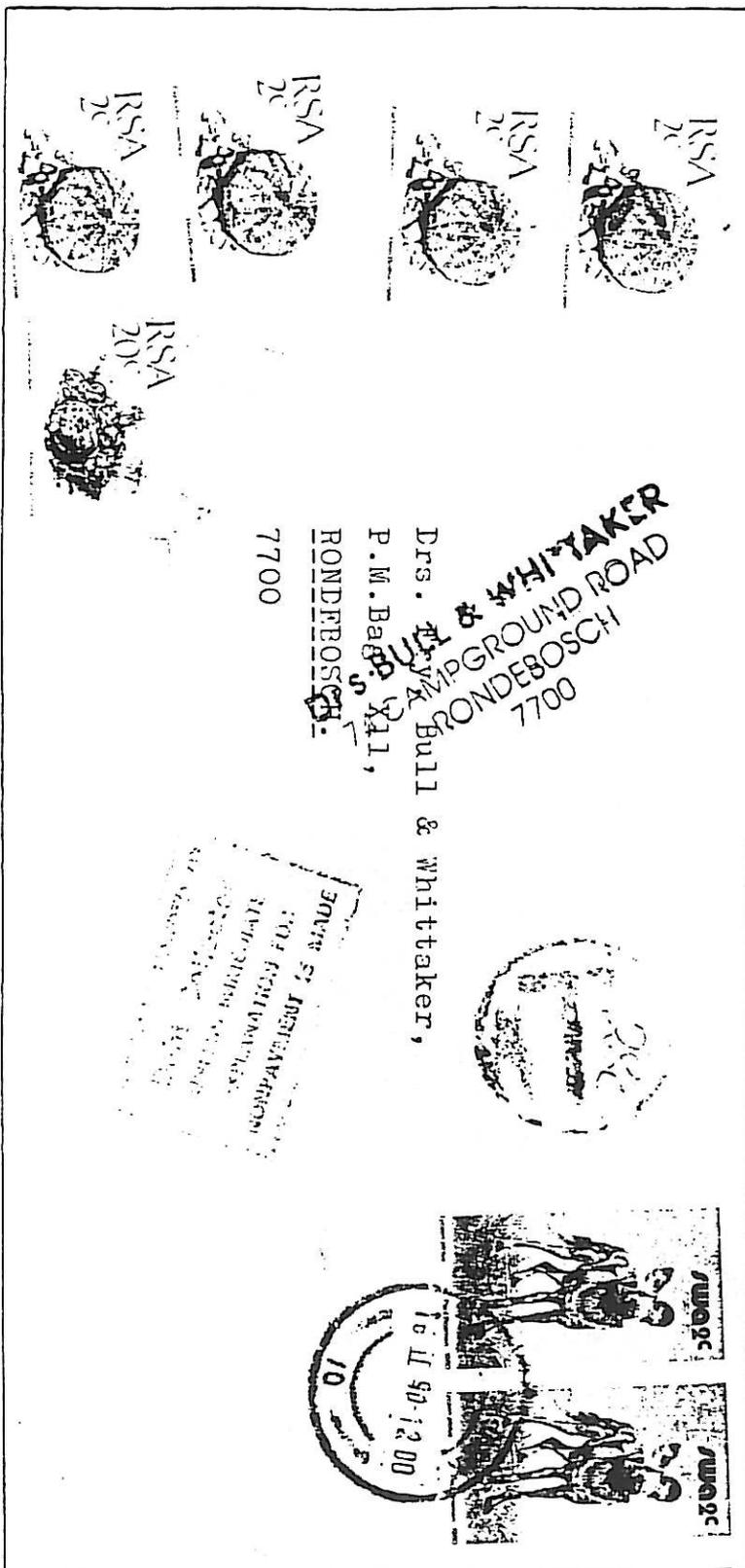
RSA SPORT 1992: MINIATURE

59218.32	8		35c, 70c, 90, F105	90 000	92/07/17	92/08/17	90 000	Unwatermarked	New	Printed by Litho
								Harrisons Paper		

CERTIFIED CORRECT
 DEPT MANAGER STAMPS
 BUYING AND SUPPLIES
 1992-10-07

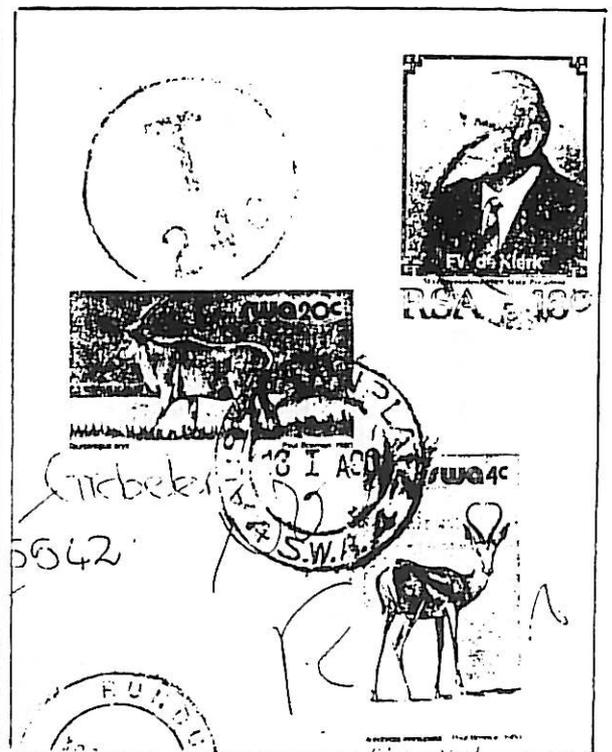
R D Allen

FROM MY SOURCES



The large envelope carries a T in black with the 28c in red manuscript. The 5 stamps at left are cancelled TAX in carmine from a ?rubber canceller.

The oblong cachet seems not to be postal ?? is in red.

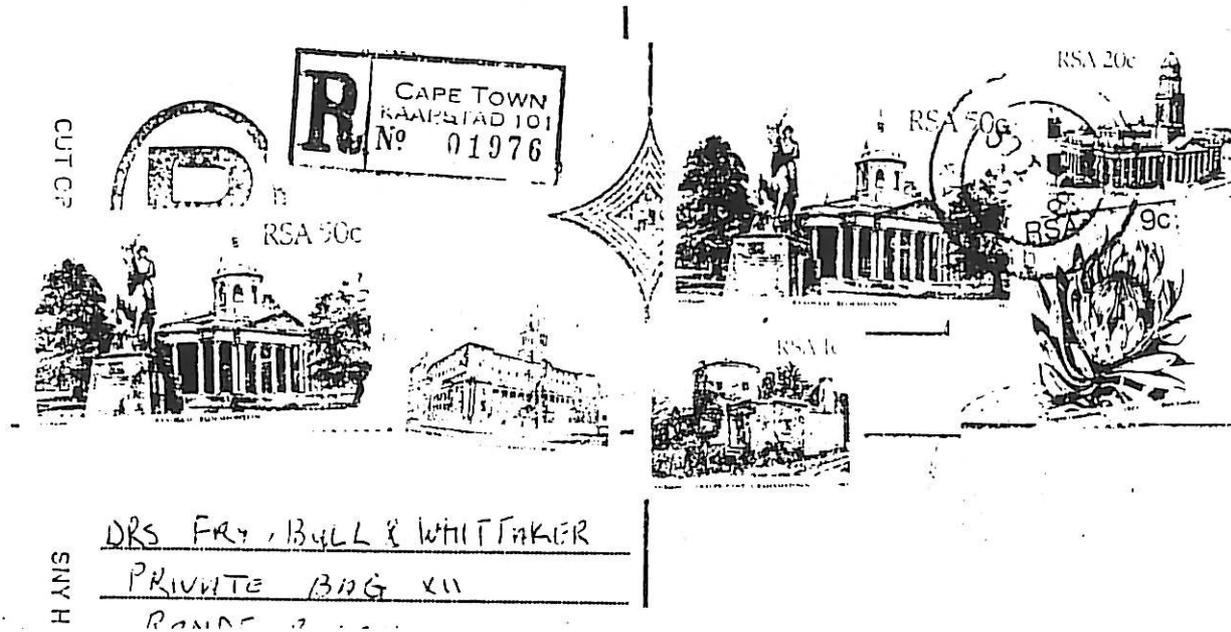


This cut-out section carries an encircled T 24c in carmine.

Both items copied without alteration or re-sizing. - Ed.

FROM THE SAME SOURCE:

This registered item has had added 50c + 14c + 1c stamps which are each cancelled with the carmine TAX about 1cm in height. The lower right mark is RONDEBOSCH DEPOT as compared with the larger mark DEPOT RONDEBOSCH on the item next below from KEETMANSHOOP.

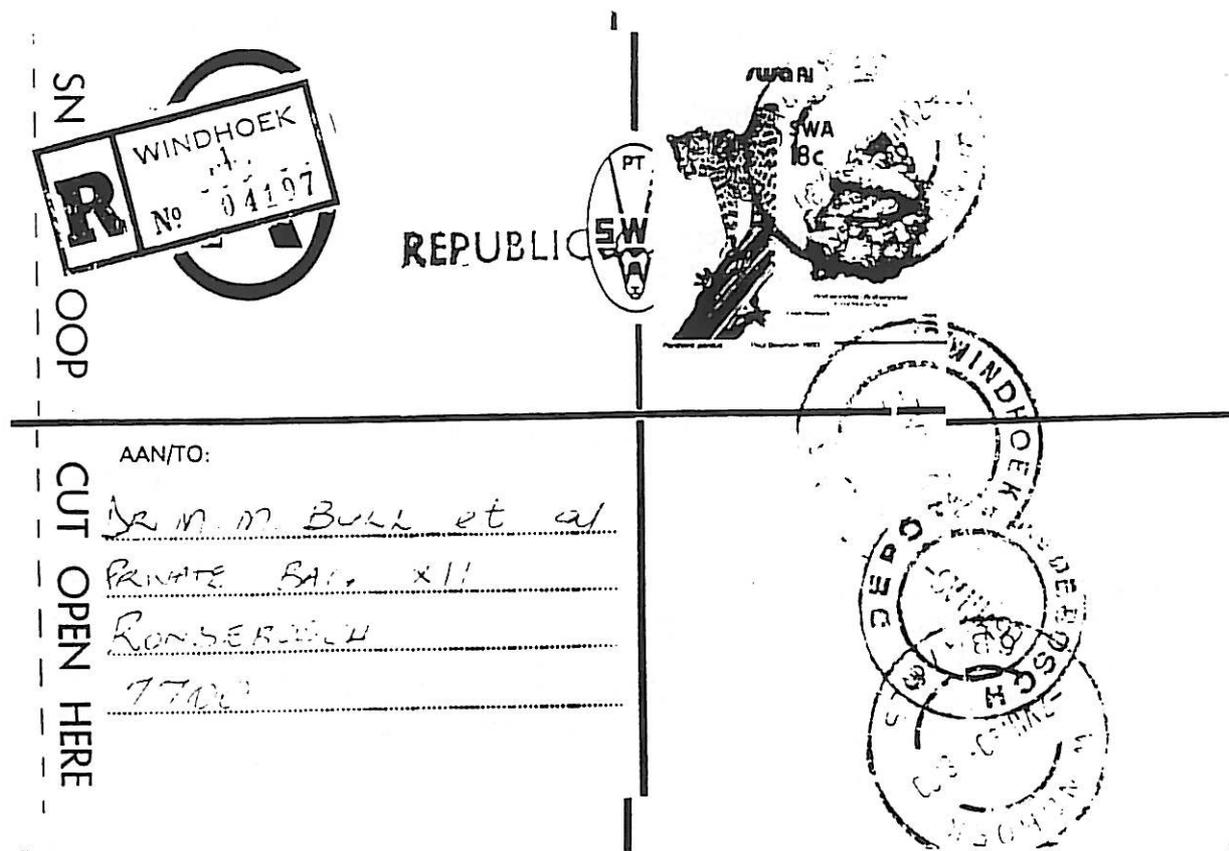


This one has been deliberately enlarged to show the right dot to the right of the 'c' at top right of the second 50c stamp.



OVERPRINTED STATIONERY:

How useful to have correspondents that produce such correspondence as this item of genuine mail of August 1990 with the REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA in carmine over the SWA PT logo.



PHILITEX 1992

Following last issue's brief report of the Silver Medal awarded to *The Springbok* at Philitex '92, where the journal was entered in class D3, Society Organs, we reproduce below the Judges' Comments:

1. *Treatment of Contents (Authorship)*: Well written material; good content.
 2. *Originality, Significance, Depth of Research (Philatelic Aspect)*: High level of original material, research contributions.
 3. *Technical Matters (Editorial Aspect)*: Good. Good index effort.
 4. *Presentation (Publishing Aspect)*: Good.
- General Summary*: A strong specialty journal.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

New Member

954 M.P. Nicholson, from Daventry (Post and instructional marks)

Resignations

549 Mr R. Rapley (our Librarian for several years)

591 National Library of Australia

Change of Address

817 Jorgensen, to Cheadle (reported as Manchester in last issue)

927 Kotek, to Calgary, Alberta T2Z 2G2

THE SPRINGBOK, Vol. 40, No. 4, p.76

Member Mr Ryan poses a question about postage stamps of South Africa which have a dual usage, i.e. postage or revenue.

This is a problem, and as far as I know nothing has been recorded in Sherwood's or B & H Revenue catalogues for this type of material, or Interprovincials. I do have some and they are on the back pages of a couple of my Revenue albums, that for the four former Colonies - I have them from C.G.H., Natal, Orange River Colony (Free State) -, and in the Union album, where I have KGV 2 blocks of 12 (2 x 6); every stamp is initialled and signed, all for 1/-, also have other values. There are a couple in the Republican album.

At my last visit to Weston-Super-Mare, I was asked why I collected them in that state of usage, I replied they are Revenues. Alas, I do not have any of the other African revenues in that area.

If any member is interested to update his Sherwood Catalogue, please let the Hon. Editor or myself know, e.g. Sherwood's prices are in many instances wrong, he had an extra '0' in the value.

A suggestion: If you do not take the *S.A. Philatelist*, try to borrow Vol. 67, No. 3, p.66 et seq., for CUSTOMS DUTY where you will find the first instalment of a listing, which I found to be very helpful.

Finally, I am sorting out some holdings and so far have found over 40 of the Ship Pennies, various issues, all Revenue used, still sorting that material.

Mr Ryan mentioned DODD's catalogue, see item 19 in the GREEN BOOK. The *S.A. Philatelist* published articles from him many years ago.

RDA

A P O L O G Y

Due to the untimely death of our selected Copy agent preceeded by a colleague of his, the production and delivery of this issue has been much delayed. DWP Editor