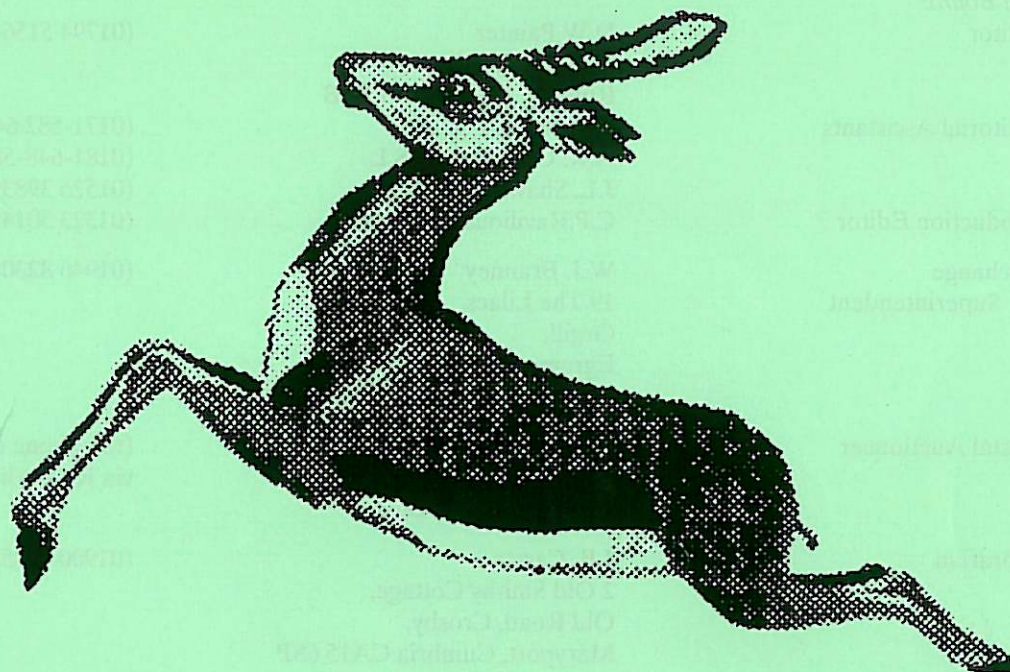


THE *SPRINGBOK*



**SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY
QUARTERLY**

Vol 43 No 1

Jan/March 1995

ESTABLISHED 1918
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The Springbok is published quarterly for the benefit of Members of the South African Collectors' Society. It is not available to non-members.

Contributions in the form of letters, notes, reports of SA related activities, articles, etc. are always welcome and should be sent to the Hon. Editor. All correspondence will be acknowledged.

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This issue concludes the examination of the 'Kingfisher' by Fred Clark. Two items of comment. Firstly a surprising view about a sister publication that being South African in origin carries articles in both 'official' languages. Where interest has been aroused, we do have the offer from our member David Haig in Scotland to translate. Then there has been another packet astray. Now whose fault this is, I am not enquiring into, all we ask is that you the member observe the rules; pack it securely and address it to Post Office requirements; then obtain the necessary documentation. Your suggestions for the programme are welcome. — DWP

Programme of Society Meetings 1994/95

Saturday 18 March 1995

2 to 4.30pm at Hawkstone Hall, Union postal stationery by Tony Chilton.

Saturday 25 March 1995

Day meeting at the County Hotel, Botchergate, Carlisle, from 10 to 4.30. Organiser, Brian Carter (Hon. Librarian)

Tuesday 20 June 1995

6 to 7.30pm at Hawkstone Hall, the War Effort issues by Alec Page & David Painter.

HAWKSTONE HALL is across the road from **LAMBETH NORTH** Underground Station and a modest 10-minute walk from Waterloo Station.

LONDON MEETING, 13 December 1994

Five members and one visitor formed the party for the meeting, at which two volunteers attended to display modern South West Africa material.

Informal items were first raised and then we were led into a very in-depth presentation from Fred Clark with admirable mint items from the issue of 1961 to the present. One particular aspect he emphasised was the need to be aware of the size of watermark being directly related to the paper supplier; also that the layout of the watermark differed from supplier to supplier. Note that the perforations may be found extending to the right as well as being found at the edge of the last column (single). The width of the selvedge also differs from group one to the final groups.

For example, Pane A group II of the 3c has no horizontal perforation on the left side; Pane B has, but not apparently in every case.

Alec Page presented items of Postal History of the early administrative period.

Tony Chilton showed Postal Stationery including the 1½ and 3 cent which were both of a short issued period. Registered covers of purely commercial origin he showed had been examined for variations in text; punctuation and length of instructional detail.

David Painter showed a run of the Commemorative Covers of the Decimal period.

A varied and absorbing meeting, with thanks to exhibitors. (And a special thank you to our President for the refreshments. - DWP)

STAMPEX (11-16 October 1994)

Thanks to the usual philanthropic dealer and a member of the Society, I did manage a visit on Wednesday 12 October.

At the outset I did not visualise what would happen. The bus driver went well past the bus stop bell call which made a much longer walk to the exhibition halls. Upon arrival, the turnstile was very active, and I collected the free catalogue to acquaint myself with the layout of dealers' stalls and the exhibition frames. Alas, a new format in the catalogue make-up did not help, so a hasty search through the pages was necessary. However I did not scan the catalogue as I should, and also left the halls earlier than intended. Back home with a welcome cup of tea, on a final browse of the catalogue I saw Exhibits 143-146, 'The De La Rue Adhesive Revenue Stamps of the Cape' shown by Sq. Ldr. J. van Puyenbroek (see Sherwood's book, foreword, second paragraph).

To the dealers' stalls, and a nice slogan cover (see the *South African Philatelist* Vol 70/2/41) on a Transvaal 1d red Johannesburg cancellation of 1911: it was marked Interprovincial, and now rests in the Slogan album.

From an old member, who had a stall, a used cover, 1d London printing of the 1d booklet, in pair. It was very cheap - no, I am not interested nowadays in booklets, but one of our active members is. (It has been posted to him.) You may wonder how the dickens I knew what he wanted, but I attend meetings and made a mental note of his collection.

Alas, a probable last visit to Stampex. One cannot be so mobile as yesteryear. This may be a surprise to many members who know I was at Scout Camp this August - my main undertaking was the provision of food, so much so with a cost of £35 per capita and the food per person was £25.08, yet it was done and this is a matter of you know 'who'.

RDA

Tony Howgrave-Graham

AUCTION REVIEW - DECEMBER 1994

FIRSTLY I MUST APOLOGISE for being so slow getting a third review on paper. I'm afraid Government 'reforms' have pressurised time to an intolerable extent with things appearing to get worse rather than better. The problem this causes the review is that there have been an estimated 7,000-8,000 lots past my eye since the last review and this means selection is bound to be a personal one. If anyone wants areas looked at that aren't mentioned below they must let me know. The number of lots also makes me wonder about the often heard complaints of difficulty finding decent material.

The joke of the last two years must be the Gibbons listing of the first rotogravure 4d (SG46). Their 1993-4 price of £140 mint brought a rash of spare copies onto the market, most of which remained unsold. The 1994-5 price of £38 would lead one to assume that they had misprinted the first '1' of the price, but a look at the used prices of £90 down now to £25 gives the lie to this interpretation. Perhaps they were quoting for the watermark upright issue in 1993-4 and the inverted watermark this year. The former is, of course, probably the scarcest basic unhyphenated stamp. Recent realisations for this are R1320 for an UM pair (Stephan Welz, Oct '94) and £58+VAT for an 'mm' pair (Gibbons, Nov '94). Quite a marked difference for a hinge! A vertical used pair fetched £18 (Redpath) and a pair (wmk. inv.) with the 'spear' flaw (I always thought it was a 'bamboo!'), mm, fetched £38 (I think at Cavendish but can't confirm this).

While still on the unhyphenated rotogravure, Harmers offered a nice marginal block of 10 with interrupted printing of the frame (see photo, p.7) which realised £1540+VAT (May '94) — a similar non-marginal block, apparently from the same sheet, fetched £1265+VAT (Gibbons, Oct '94).

Much debate has taken place over the value of the 1911 Muizenberg-Kenilworth cards. I mentioned in my first review that I thought an £84 realisation was cheap. When asked earlier this year I hazarded £120-£140 as reasonable and was surprised when hauled to task over this as Warwick & Warwick, who had one on offer estimated at £300, claimed a realisation of £360 (pre-commission & VAT!). I might add that the same cover has now reappeared twice mentioning a minor fault and was last estimated at £200. Glasgow estimated £120-£140 on one of theirs and Philips £120-£150 (Sep '94), but I haven't yet seen the realisation. Whilst on flight covers Harmers offered a cover from Oscar Garden's Capetown to England solo flight which crashed in N. Rhodesia (Jan '94, £550 against a £100 estimate!).

Returning chronologically to 1910 some realisations (if in rands they relate to Stephan Welz) which may be of interest are:- 1910 2½d FDC (R605), 1913 set to £1 opt specimen (£660, Harmers, May '94), ½d dark mossy green, mm (R462), blk.4 (R1320), 2d marginal single UM with no watermark (£99+VAT, Warwick, Sep '94), 2½d imperf colour trials (£198 each, Harmers, May '94) and (£330+VAT! at Western, July '94). The scarce 2½d wmk inverted (R484) for a mint blk.4. The £1's seem to be selling well with fine copies often now exceeding £300 and used £120-£150. A used control single, green & red (R1210) and a fine mint corner control pair, pale olive green (£1100, Harmers). The 1921 3/- pink covered booklet, all panes wmk inv. (£242, Harmers).

The 1927 Pretoria tête-bêche ½d pair made R1650, a blk.4 1d perforated nicely absolutely through the middle of the stamps (£55+VAT, Urch Harris, Nov '94, see photo, p.7). A specimen set of the pictorial issues made £374 (Harmers). The 5/- perf 14 used (R770), perf 14x13½ down (R990 used, R715 mint - both with small faults), perf up (R605 mint, R935 imprint - again both with small faults). Some later pictorial realisations are ½d Issue 15, the unscreened 'cross-hatch', UM blks.4 (£25, Redpath and Southampton), 1d Issue 11, imperforate blks.4, UM (£143, Harmers, £99 Southampton) and a pair (£50, Redpath). 1d Issue 19, double top & bottom rows & serial No blks. (£20, Redpath), similar Issue 21 (£21), 1/- Issue 3, double top & bottom rows, UM (£185, Redpath) and 2/6 Issue 2 & 4 bottom double rows, UM (R770, the same but Issue 2 only unsold at Redpath at £35).

There has not been much of the popular War Effort material on the market - it always seems to sell well. The 'missing roulettes' are no exception which always surprises me as they seem less interesting and more expensive than some of the other varieties. Anyway ½d (R1210), 1d (E/V £120+VAT at Harmers), 1½d (£99, Harmers, May '94; £143!, Western, July '94).

A recent correspondent complained at the amount of modern error material passing through Stephan Welz wondering if it had genuinely passed through the post offices unnoticed. It seems to sell fairly well irrespective of this. A few realisations are 1963 (no wmk) 10c emerald control blk., UM (R605), 1963 Red Cross 12½c, red omitted (R3630), 1964 Nursing 12½c, gold omitted (R3960), 1987 unissued Bible 40c (consistently R2200).

The 1914 Postage Due set in UM blks.4 (R2640). The first official 6d still gets competitive bidding. An UM marginal blk.4 of the Pretoria printing with wmk inverted was the exception due to its pricing but sold second time round at £990+VAT (Harmers). The 1930-47 1d opt double (SGO14a), UM (£176 Harmers) & 1950 2d with opt reading upwards, UM (£640, Philips).

Proofs and Essays still seem to do well, particularly the former, though the 1913 issues are still fairly static in price:- Frame proof of £1 (£231), Head & Frame proofs of 2½d (£462, all Harmers). To me the most interesting proofs were offered by Stephan Welz in Sept '93. These were of the 1927 Pictorials ex the Bradbury Wilkinson archives and not mentioned in SAHB (see photo 3d & 1/- frames, p.7). There were 10 lots which realised from R2750 a card. As they all belong together and totalled R32,230 they were a little beyond my pocket! 1929 Air proofs in black (R660). Some strange 1910 essays failed to sell (Harmers) but 1993 was mainly notable for the large influx of Konya material onto the market. This appeared in this country in some less likely auctions (Phoenix, Sandafayre, Warwick and Glasgow) as well as in South Africa. I include a photo of the unissued 1949 Kruger 1½d (Phoenix) to whet the appetite. I gather an eminent member of this society has been displaying some of this material — perhaps someone could persuade him to write an article for *The Springbok*. Part of the Glasgow auction list included the fine Dick Archer collection.

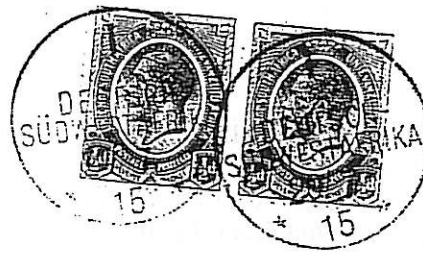
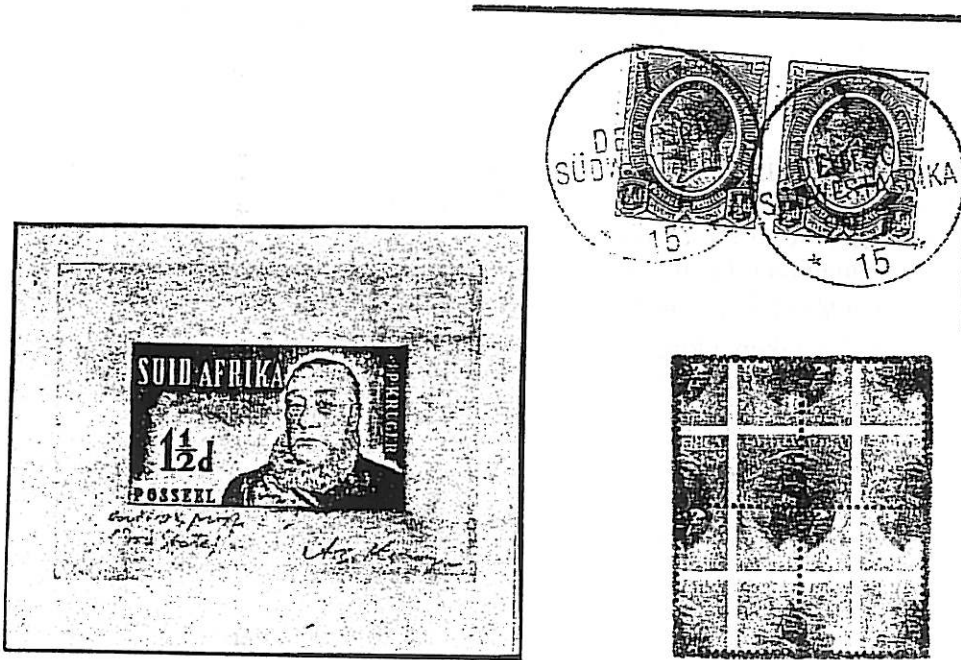
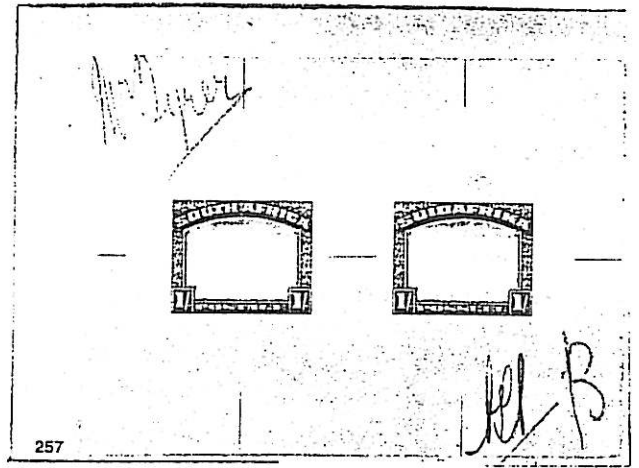
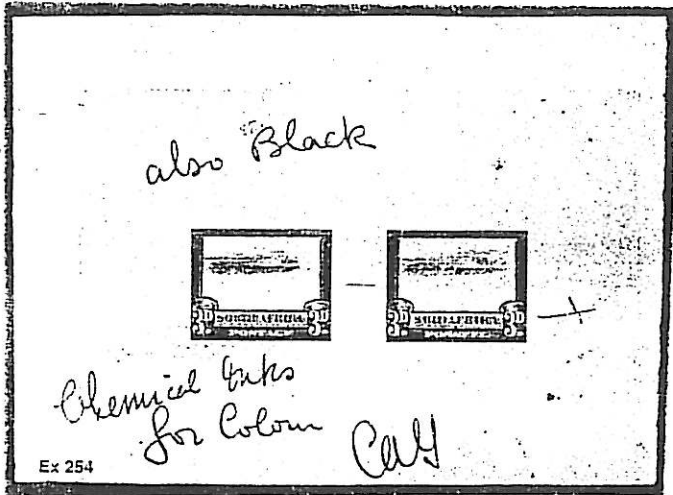
Other 'named auctions' were both run by Cavendish with the 'Bill Hart' in June '93 and the 'Tom Curry' in March '94. The former had some superb material but generally pre-Union so beyond my monitoring scope. The Tom Curry lots unfortunately attracted VAT as the proceeds were going to his golf club. However it allows me to end by including some South West Africa in this review. I confess to having been side-lined over the last year by the 1915-22 'Occupational' period since buying a large lot of German origin from Warwick having missed some equally scarce material first time round not knowing anything much about it. The 'Wanderstempel' article in the *SA Philatelist* (Oct '93 p.138-42) rekindled my interest in the mucking around with and altering of German cancellers as I had a cover of the Outjo conversion of Wanderstempel V. I mention this because the Tom Curry lots had several Wanderstempels which realised from £66 - £176 (+VAT) on cover, not very comparable to Stephan Welz as the offices differed (Kalkfontein R715 & Owikokorero R2200). It also had an original strike of the Swakopmund - Windhoek railway canceller on PC (£330+VAT compared to estimate of £100). The occupational period was remarkable for the military covers with FPO 15 - £88, FPO 18 - £88, FPO 25 - £99, FPO 29 - £121, FPO 30 - £77, FPO 53 (crease) - £61 (all + VAT).

I have been looking for a stamped cover with an unaltered German canceller to start my collection. It is proving elusive — I bid on the Tsumeb military cover (see photo) but not, I'm afraid, too close to the realisation of R3520!

Finally, I finished the last review with a query about the 1½d overprint on king's head 1d. I never did get a response but Stephan Welz produced a collection shortly afterwards of bisects on cover making up the 1½d rate just before the 1½d was issued. Some got through, some picked up tax marks or dues and the collection included a blk.4 of the overprints. Unfortunately it didn't sell and wasn't re-offered!

This review's question is nothing to do with auctions. The Pretoria 1d, plate 2, cracked and a cliché on row 20/9 had to be replaced. The centring of the replaced cliché is, not surprisingly, different from the rest of the sheet. Can anyone tell me why the centring is different on this ½d control pair?





BOOK REVIEW

Transvaal: The Provisional Issues of the First British Occupation, by Alan Drysdall, published June 1994 by James Bendon Ltd. (in association with the Transvaal Study Circle), PO Box 6484, Limassol, Cyprus. £18 or \$28.50. Hardback, illustrated colour dust jacket and colour plates, 82 + viii pages. ISBN 9963 579 68 X.

It is now some 88 years since the Royal Philatelic Society's encyclopaedic work on *The Postage Stamps, Envelopes, Wrappers, Post Cards and Telegraph Stamps of the British Colonies, Possessions and Protectorates in Africa* was published in 1906, but Alan Drysdall's work is the most important treatment of this aspect of Transvaal philately to have appeared since then. Yardley's work has been drawn upon, as have the writings of later specialists such as Luff, Criddle, Curle and Basden, but they have been greatly added to with a wealth of original research which has enabled a number of long standing errors and misconceptions to be corrected.

The whole book is packed with facts, all of which are backed by reference to the author's own collection (extensively displayed to the Royal two years ago) or other notable collections or original published research: indeed, the bibliography contains no less than 50 references. The first seven sections deal (after a very useful historical background) with the postage stamps which were available for overprinting when Britain annexed the bankrupt South African Republic in April 1877 and then the settings of the 'VR Transvaal' overprints in red or black, in capital or lower case letters. The 'ONE PENNY' provisional overprints on the Queen's Head issue of 1879 are not overlooked, nor, unlike the Royal's earlier work, are the revenue stamps, whose story occupies a further four sections.

The meat of this book lies in proving, often for the first time, the number of settings of the overprints, their chronology and the relationship between the postage and the revenue settings. The whole work is copiously illustrated (two of the plates are in colour) and in only very few instances have photocopies rather than original items been used for the photographs (though the need for an erratum slip to cope with one missing caption is an annoyance).

The Transvaal Study Circle has taken a long time to produce this, its first major publication. We are promised more. If this standard of scholarship can be maintained, together with the publishing expertise of James Bendon Ltd., then a too long neglected area will have been well served.

Tony Chilton

RSA INLAND POSTAGE-PAID ENVELOPES

In April 1993, the South African Post Office issued a pre-paid inland envelope, of which several varieties have now appeared.

The first type is reported in the *South African Philatelist* of August 1993, page 124, as having been issued on 1 April 1993 at a cost of 50 cents (45c postage plus 5c for the envelope). The size is 220 x 110 mm on yellowish brown paper. The clay pot design at the top left measures about 78 x 33 mm; the postage paid design at the top right is about 47 x 35 mm with a 4mm wide phosphor band to the left. The reverse of the envelope bears just an area on the flap for the sender's name and address, plus the Post Office logo at the bottom right.

A second type followed shortly afterwards, identical to the first except that it is on darker brown recycled paper. The reverse of the envelope now also has the 100% recycled paper logo and a bi-lingual slogan — 'The Post Office supports a better environment'.

The third type of envelope has the same inscriptions on the reverse as type 2 but the front now has a completely different postage paid design at the top right, with the Afrikaans inscriptions now at the bottom and right. The top left corner of the envelope is blank.

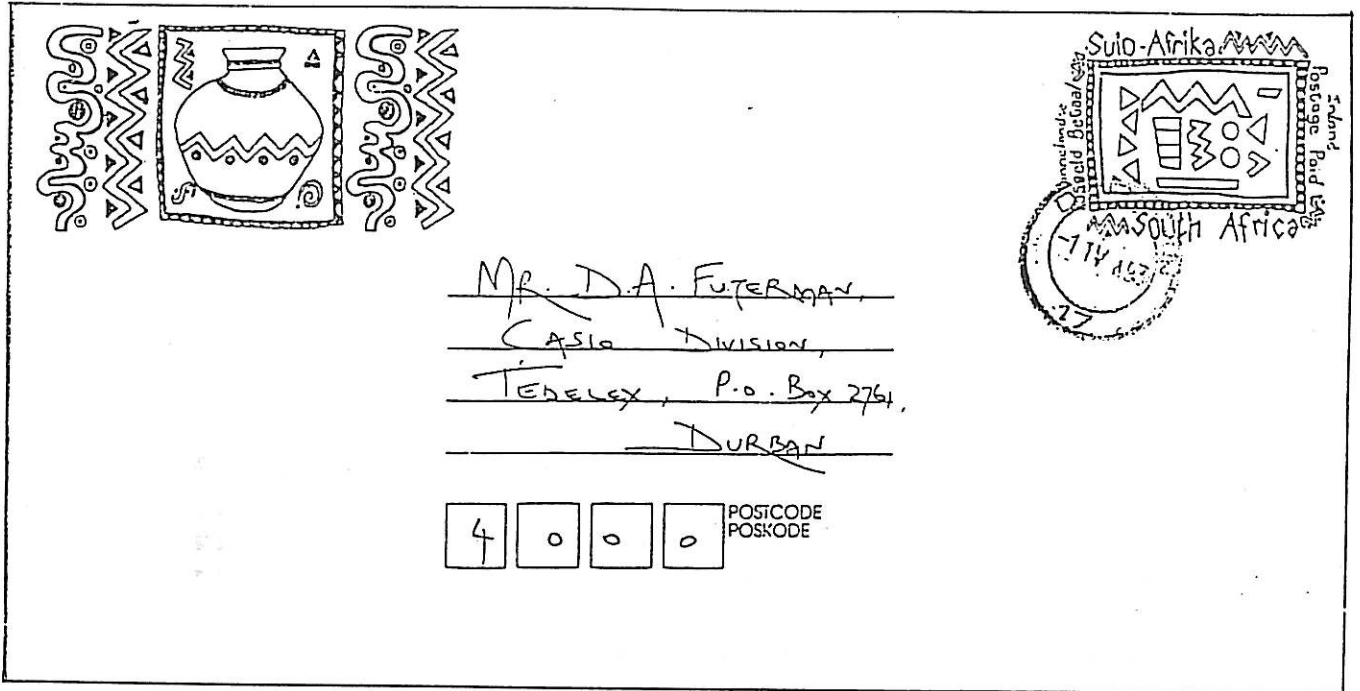
The fourth type is similar to the third but is a smaller envelope, size 175 x 110 mm. The clay pot design has returned to the top left though it is now reduced to about 55 x 26 mm.

The fifth type is a window envelope in the larger size and with a 'bulk post' design 50 x 22 mm at the top left. The postage paid design is as for the third and fourth types but there is no phosphor band. The reverse of the envelope differs however in that there are now no lines or boxes for the

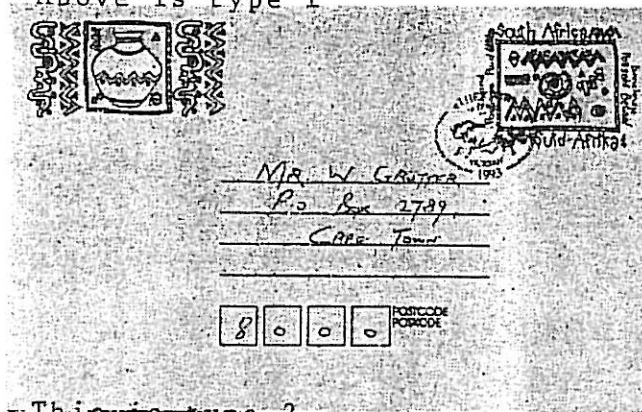
sender's details and the recycled paper logo no longer says 100%. Presumably the glaseline cover to the window is not recycled.

Just these five types have been seen by me so far. There may yet be others. Apart from the initial issue, no dates of issue are yet available.

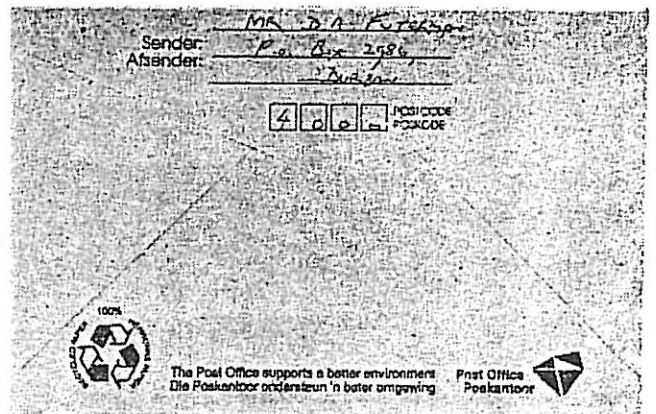
Tony Chilton



Above is type 1



This is type 2



Thereverse of types 2/3 and 4

"THE POST OFFICE SUPPORTS A BETTER ENVIRONMENT".

Another new brown issue is the pre-addressed "Ithuba" envelope, also of recycled paper. This one does not have the design on the left hand side of the envelope, but it does have the newer, "Stamp Design" — a difference noted in the lettering of "INLAND POSTAGE PAID/BINNELANDSE POSTGELD BETAAL". (size of envelope 90 x 152 mm).



These are full size of type 5

Recycled paper has been very difficult to successfully copy, so apologies are offered, but I did try. Thanks to the *South African Philatelist* for several of the above items and text which supports Tony's report of his findings thus far. — DWP (Hon. Editor)

NEW ATLAS PRICE LIST/CATALOGUE OF SOUTHERN AFRICAN STAMPS AND COVERS

The Society has received a copy of the 21st Price List/Catalogue, compiled and edited by Glen Carpendale of Manlo Park, South Africa. He will no doubt be remembered as joint editor, with Coen Slagt, of the Atlas Republican catalogues of the 1980s. This new publication is worthy of comment and could be a useful addition to members' libraries.

In the introduction the Editor states: 'this book is not a true catalogue but it is my selling prices ... but as I do not have all these items in stock it also serves as a catalogue'. A fair statement, although it does not really do justice to the publication. It is easy to use, well illustrated, although in black and white, with 150 pages in A4 format. Each territory included carries an index in chronological order with the added luxury at the end of each section of a check list — an ideal way of recording a main collection. It is adequately detailed without reflecting in-depth specialisation for which specialist handbooks already exist. One other important aspect is that the Homeland territories which ceased to issue their own stamps in April 1984 are complete to the end of their 'existence'.

The Price List/Catalogues are available at R33, including postage, from 'World Stamps' (Glen Carpendale), P.O. Box 36296, Menlo Park 0102, South Africa.

W.A.P.

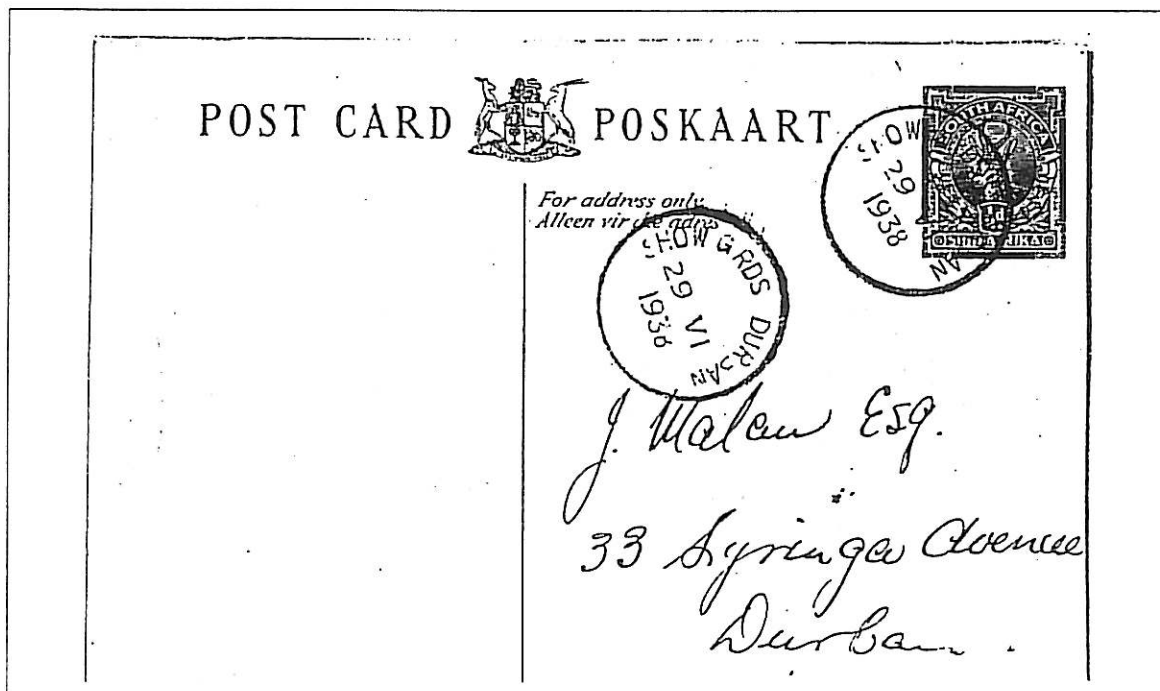
A POSTMARK FIND

A recently acquired postcard, illustrated below, shows two strikes of a postmark previously unknown to me. The postcard is the item of Postal Stationery listed as PC19a in the Handbook/Catalogue, and the postmark is of the relief type 25mm diameter single circle with the inscription SHOW GRDS DURBAN arranged around the top and 29 VI across the centre, with the year 1938 below.

This postmark is not shown in Hasso Reisener's book *The Special & Commemorative Postmarks, Cachets & Covers of S. Africa*, nor is it shown in Ralph Putzel's recent book *The Postmarks of South Africa*, vol. 2. Rather surprising for a 1938 postmark.

Can anyone provide more information about this postmark, the location of these Show Grounds in Durban and whether this was a one-off event or one held over a number of years, as with the Show Grounds at Bloemfontein?

F.A. Clark



Fred Clark

THE 1/2c REPUBLICAN STAMP

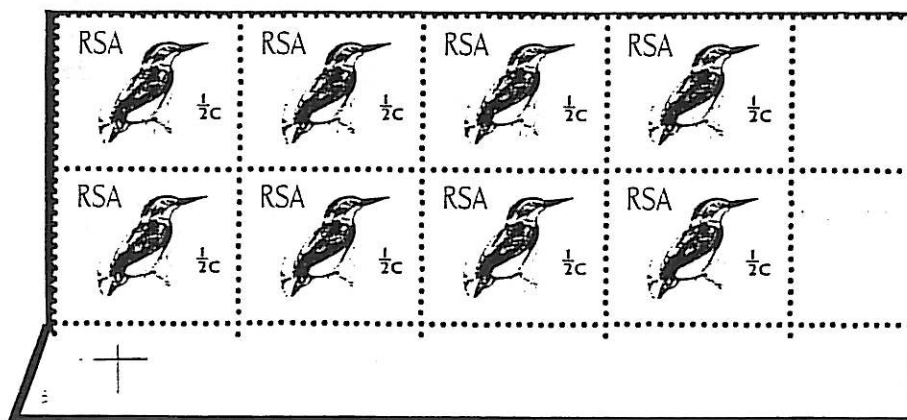
CYLINDERS 264-265-266 (Concluded)

ZOID
JAN. 1969

GROUP 3. ISSUE 1
FIRST DISTRIBUTION
TÊTE-BÊCHE R.S.A. WATERMARK SIDEWAYS

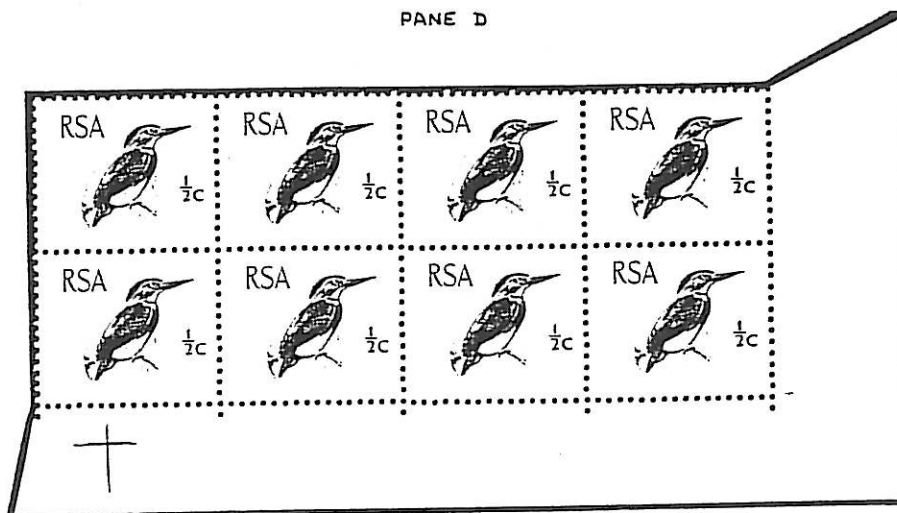
CYL. NOS 264, 265, 266
4 PAGES EACH 10 ROWS x 10

PANE B



COLOUR REGISTER

PANE D



COLOUR REGISTER

PERFORATION
GUIDE MARK

GUILLOTINE
GUIDE LINE

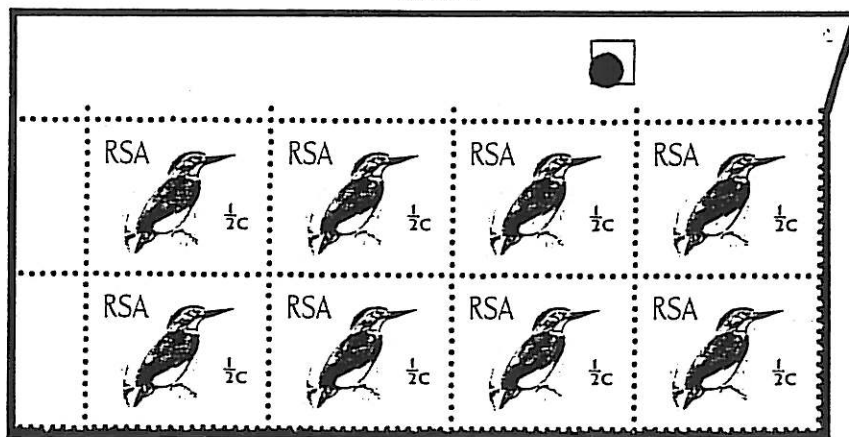
201D
JAN. 1963

GROUP 3 ISSUE 1
FIRST DISTRIBUTION
TÊTE-BÊCHE R.S.A. WATERMARK SIDWAYS

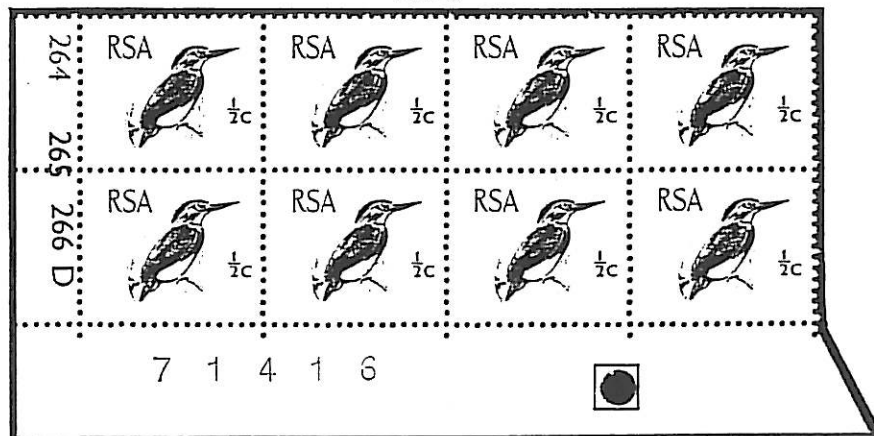
CYL. N°s 264, 265, 266
4 PANES EACH 10 ROWS x 10

PERFORATION REGISTER PUNCH HOLES

PANE C



PANE D

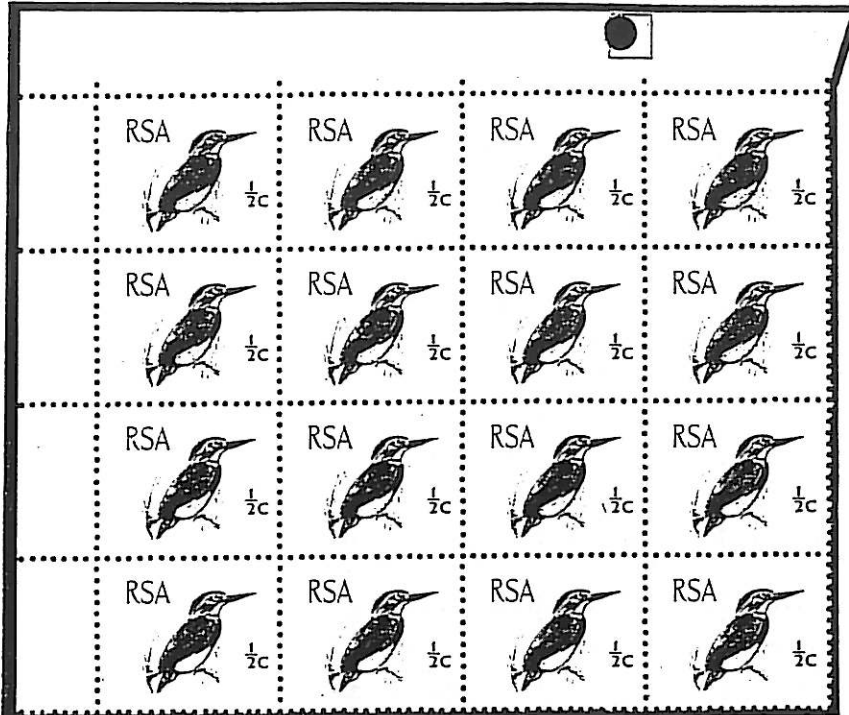


201D
JAN. 1970

GROUP 3. ISSUE 2
FIRST DISTRIBUTION
TÊTE-BÊCHE R. S. A. WATERMARK SIDWAYS

CYL. NOS 264. 265. 266 & 64-
4 PAGES EACH 10 ROWS X 10

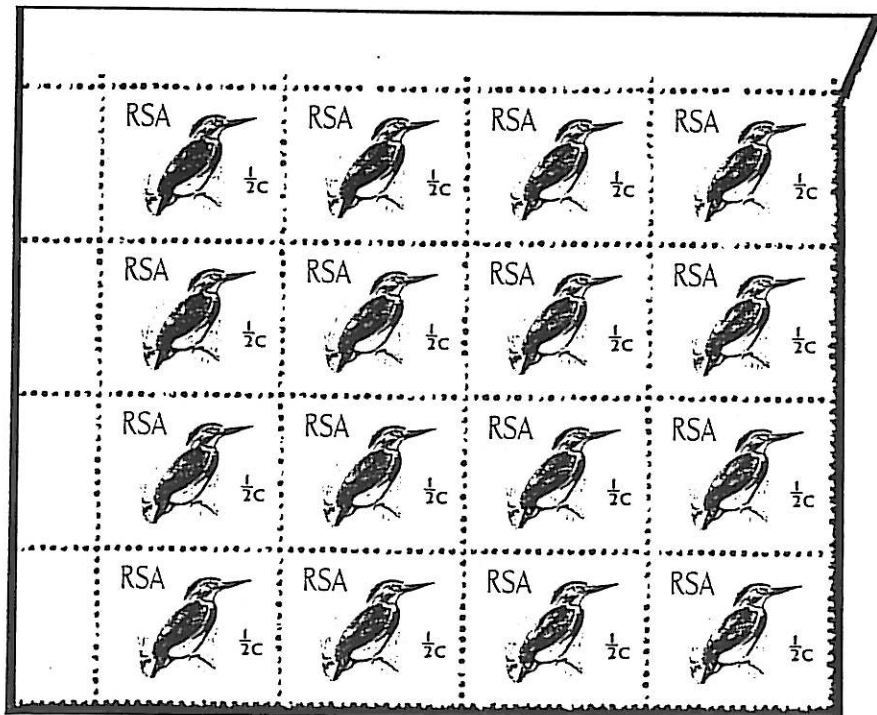
PHOSPHOR BANDS 5 M.M. WIDE
ON SWISS PAPER



VERTICAL BLUE LINE
AT BOTTOM L.H. CORNER.
ROW 4, NO 1.

PANE C

RED DIAGONAL STROKE
LEFT OF 1/2 OF 1/2c. V. 4.



PANE D

RED DOT ABOVE BIRD'S FOOT.
ROW 3, NO 3.

201D
JAN. 1970

GROUP 3. ISSUE 2
FIRST DISTRIBUTION
TÊTE-BÊCHE R.S.A. WATERMARK SIDWAYS

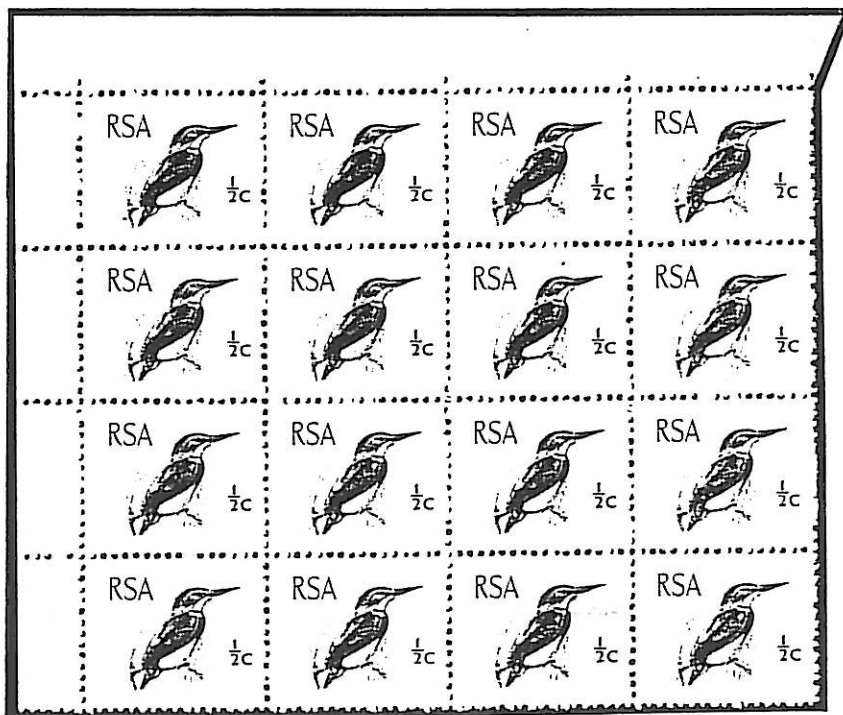
CYL. N°s 264. 265. 266
4 PANES EACH 10 ROWS x 10

PHOSPHOR BANDS 5 M.M. WIDE
ON SWISS PAPER



PANE A

LARGE ROSINE COMET IN TOP
RIGHT HAND CORNER.
ROW 4. N° 3. VII.



PANE B

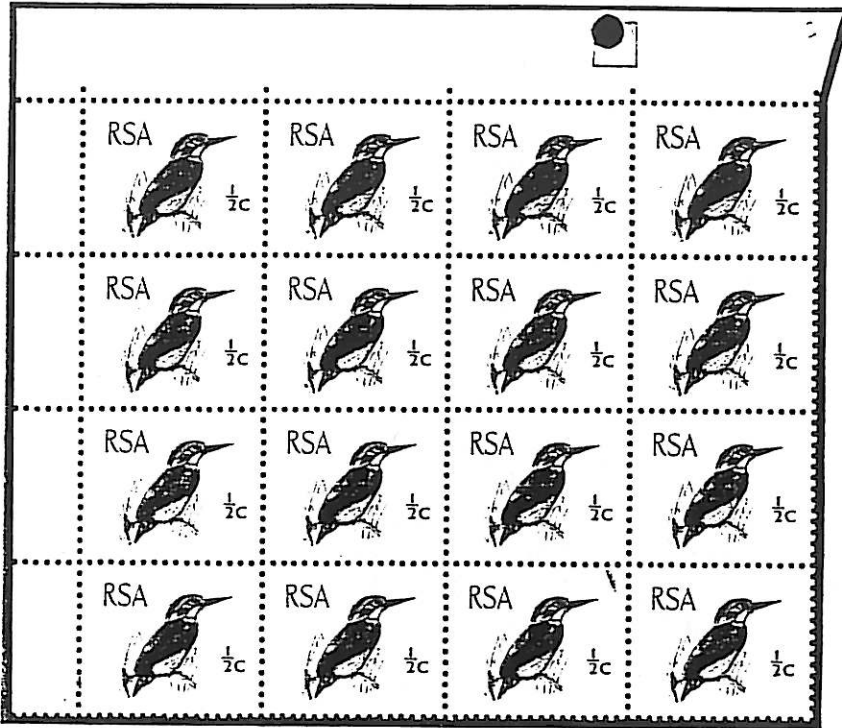
LARGE BLUE DOT ABOVE
BIRD'S HEAD. ROW 2. N° 3.
VII.

201D
APRIL 1970

GROUP 3. ISSUE 2
SECOND DISTRIBUTION
TÊTE - BÊCHE R. S. A. WATERMARK SIDWAYS

CYL. N°S 264.265.266
4 PANES EACH 10 ROWS X 10

PHOSPHOR BANDS 5 mm WIDE
ON HARRISON PAPER

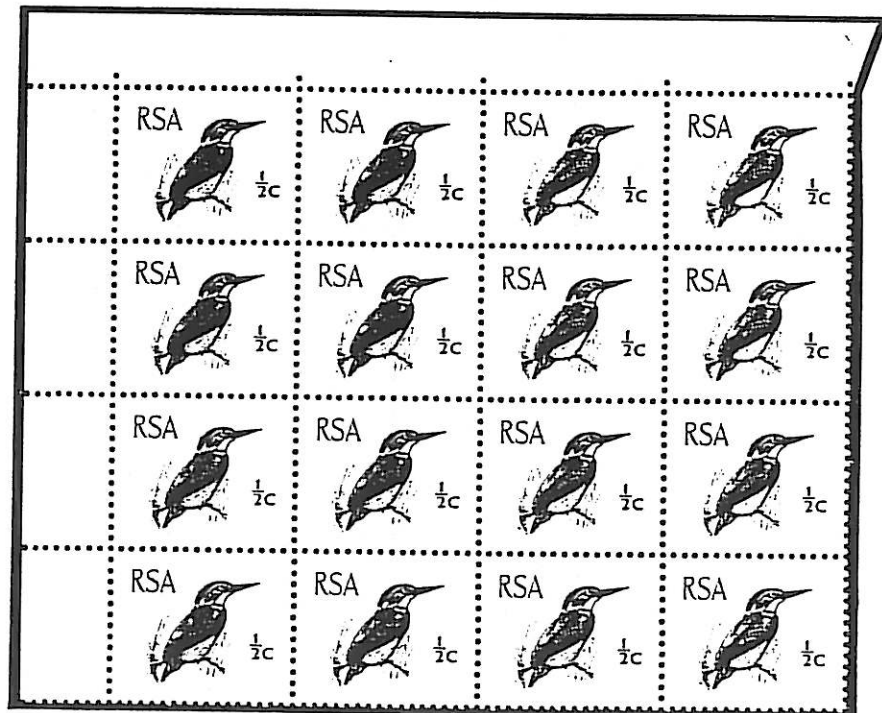


ON THIS PRINTING THE RED 265
AND BUFF 264 CYLINDERS WERE
TRANSPosed IN RELATION TO
THE BLUE 266 CYLINDER.

PANE C

LARGE ROSINE 'COMET' IN TOP
RIGHT HAND CORNER.
ROW 4, N° 3. VII.

VERTICAL BLUE LINE AT
BOTTOM L.H. CORNER.
ROW 4, N° 1.



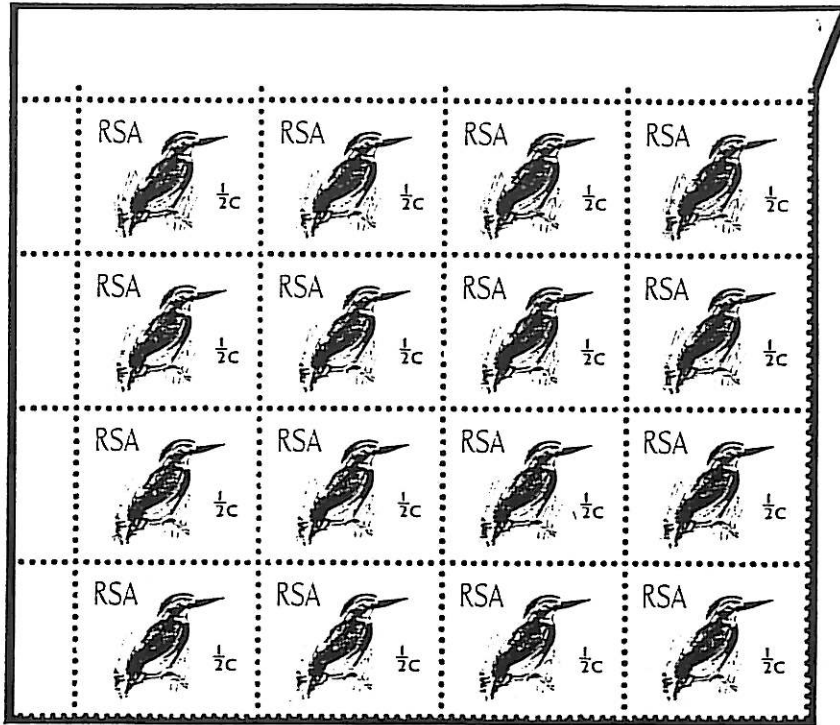
PANE D

201D
APRIL 1970

GROUP 3, ISSUE 2
SECOND DISTRIBUTION
TÊTE-BÊCHE RSA WATERMARK SIDEWAYS

CYL. NO'S 264, 265, 266
4 PANES EACH 10 ROWS X 10

PHOSPHOR BANDS 5 M.M. WIDE
ON HARRISON PAPER



ON THIS PRINTING THE RED 265
AND BUFF 264 CYLINDERS WERE
TRANSPosed IN RELATION TO
THE BLUE 266 CYLINDER.

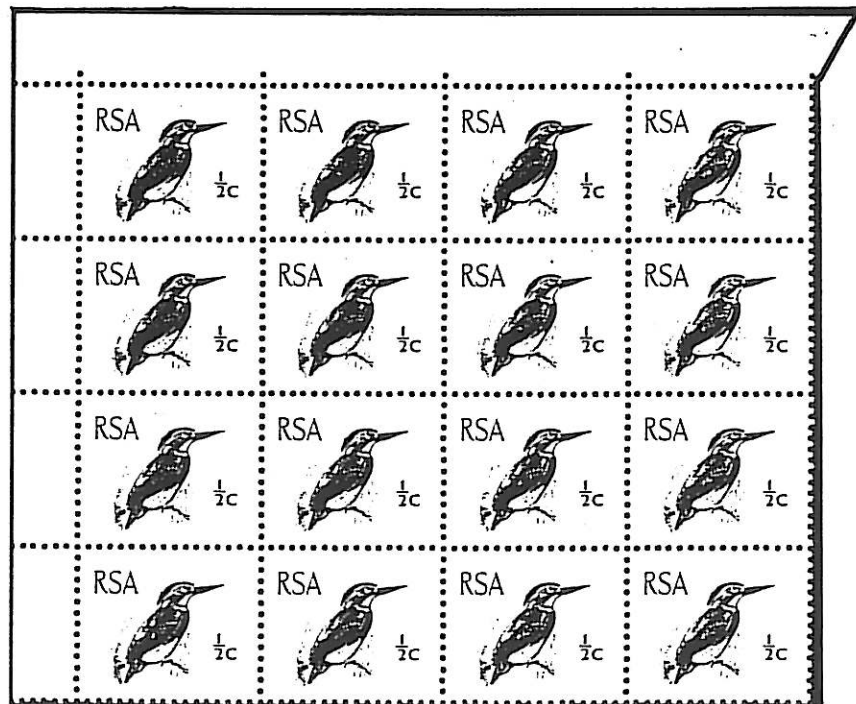
PANE A

RED DIAGONAL STROKE
LEFT OF '2' OF $\frac{1}{2}c$.
ROW 3, NO 3. V4.

PANE B

LARGE BLUE DOT ABOVE
BIRD'S HEAD.
ROW 2, NO 3. V16.

RED DOT ABOVE BIRD'S FOOT
ROW 3, NO 3. V10.





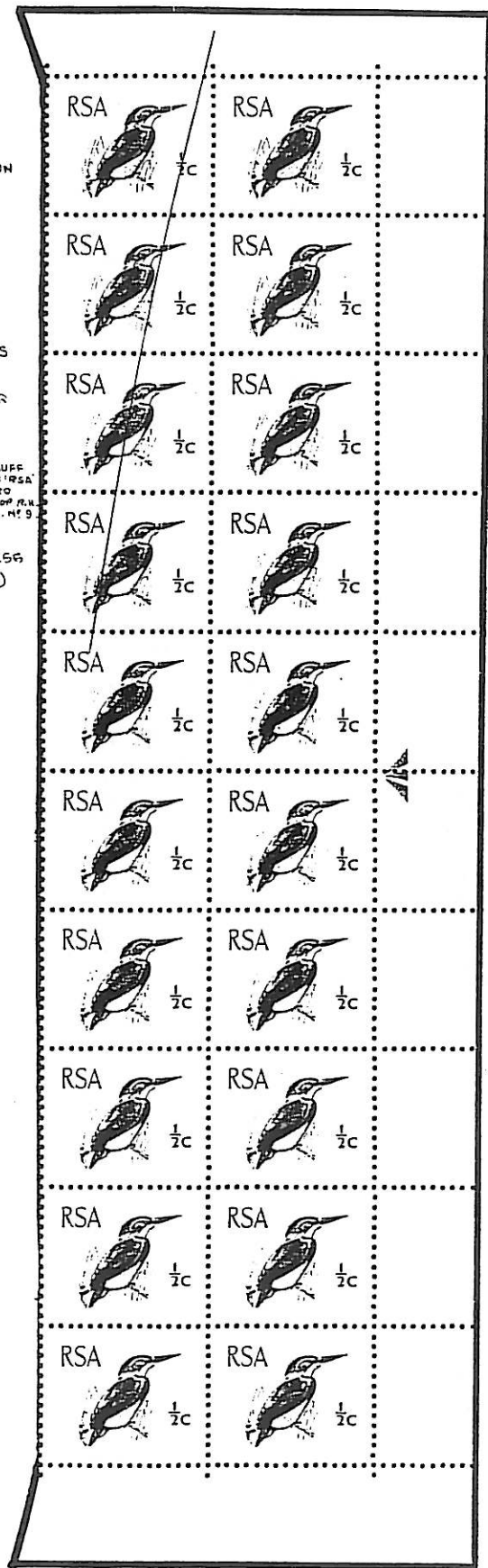
201D
JAN. 1970

GROUP 3
ISSUE 2
FIRST DISTRIBUTION
TÊTE-BÊCHE
R. S. A.
WATERMARK
SIDEWAYS

PHOSPHOR BANDS
5 M. M. WIDE
ON SWISS PAPER
PANE B

LONG CURVED BUFF
LINE FROM 3 OF 'RSA'
ON ROW 4, NO. 9, TO
MARGIN ABOVE TOP R.H.
CORNER OF ROW 1, NO. 9

CYL. NO: 264, 265, 266
& 64 (PHOSPHOR)



7247 050
1 OF 12
A 11.10
V. 17.

201D
JUNE 1971

GROUP 3. ISSUE 3
SECOND DISTRIBUTION
TÊTE-BÊCHE RSA WATERMARK SIDEWAYS & REVERSED

CYL. N^os 264, 265, 266 & G45

PHOSPHOR BANDS 3mm WIDE
ON HARRISON PAPER

A SMALL PROPORTION (ABOUT 1 IN 16) OF THE PRINTING OF JUNE 1971 WAS PRINTED ON THE SAME HARRISON PAPER BUT WITH ITS WATERMARK REVERSED GIVING A MIRROR IMAGE AS SHOWN BELOW

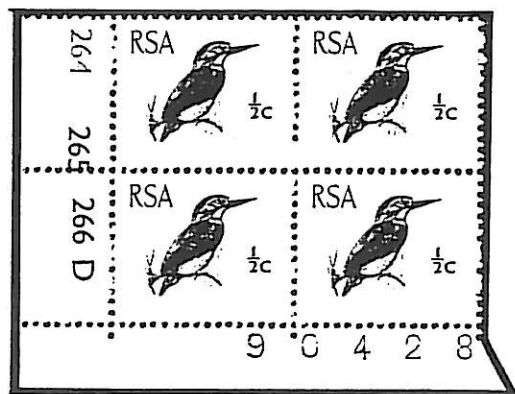
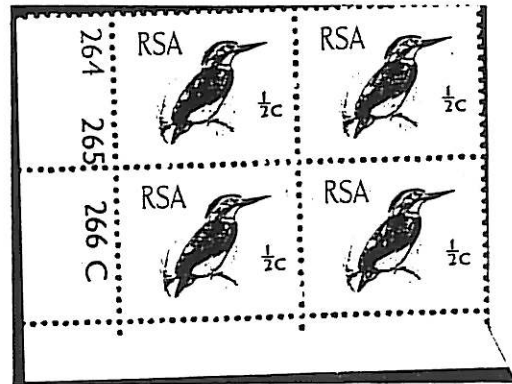
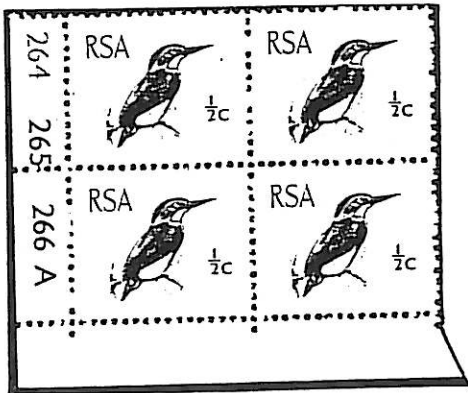


NORMAL

REVERSED

vis.

WATERMARK VIEWED FROM FRONT OF STAMP



'BOKS THAT NEVER WERE ...

Sharp-eyed readers of *The Springbok* (are there any others?) will have noticed that in January 1993 the magazine's cover had a facelift. Ever since the first issue, dated Jan/Feb 1953, the 'Bok' which had surveyed the world from this privileged vantage point had been the original 1/2d Springbok of 1926, vignetted in a recognisable though modified version of the stamp. With no more than a few colour changes, including a brief period when the 'stamp' was printed rather disconcertingly in scarlet, the 1953 cover design survived unchanged for the next four decades. However, as the magazine's fortieth anniversary approached, voices were heard calling for change. Something more streamlined, it was felt, might better harmonise with the upbeat image which the Society wished to project as it moved into the final decade of the twentieth century.

The process of evolving a new cover design was not unlike that attending the production of a new series of definitive stamps. Several ideas were circulated, and from some of these 'essays' were prepared, showing how different versions of the cover would look. A common feature of all these designs was the incorporation of the Springbok motif in some form, since for a journal with this word at its masthead nothing less would do. Among variants considered and rejected were several from sets of essays of the early Union period (mostly too crude), the 'naturalistic' 1/3 Springbok from the 1954 series (insufficient definition), and the appropriately athletic 'Bok' from the 1969 SA Games set. Two of these designs made it to the mock-up stage — a version incorporating the SA Games 'Bok' (a striking image, but hopeless when enlarged), and the design eventually chosen, which was based on the 'Leaping Springbok' of 1953. This too passed through several variants, one of which is illustrated below, but was finally pronounced satisfactory by the Committee, and duly adopted for the first issue of 1993. The coincidence that 1993 was the fortieth anniversary both of *The Springbok* and of the stamp featured on its cover was another reason for thinking that the right choice had been made.

A final point. If you look hard at the buck's trailing hind leg you will see that it has been supplied with the merest suggestion of a hoof, invisible on the 1953 stamp. Computers are wonderful things, and after 'scanning' an enlarged photocopy of the stamp it was a (relatively) simple matter to detach it from its background and touch in the missing hoof. However, not being an expert in antelope anatomy, the Production Editor contented himself with an impressionistic treatment of this extremity rather than attempting a realistic portrayal. Maybe it's fortunate that this particular 'Bok' will remain fixed for ever in mid-stride!

CR

THE SPRINGBOK



SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY
QUARTERLY

Vol 41 No 1

March 1993

THE SPRINGBOK



SOUTH AFRICAN COLLECTORS' SOCIETY
QUARTERLY

Vol 41 No 1

Jan/Feb 1993

S J Hagger, RDPSA

NOT REVERSED PERFORATION

A RECENT LETTER FROM A FRIEND concluded 'The item I acquired is Issue 1, and both imperforate at the top and in the right margin. For it to be a "reversed perforation" the right margin should be perforated. The question is: Were some sheets normally imperforate at the top, or is there another reason? Your views would be appreciated'.

As my views could be of interest to readers I have submitted them to the Honorary Editor as well.

If, as I firmly believe, the sheets of stamps typographed at Pretoria were always fed to the perforator at their right hand edge, then as he surmises my friend's block 'A' (see p.21, opposite) cannot have the perforation reversed. Compare it with a corresponding block 'B' of Issue 2 in my collection, perforated through the side margin, which does.

In the original state the comb would have been able to perforate through both top and bottom margins as was the case with the first sheets of these stamps to be produced. There were also some extra pins which ensured that even those with a top margin taller than a stamp were still perforated through.

When it was decided that the bottom margin should no longer be perforated the redundant pins were removed, with the exception of the one that punched the hole at the end of the jubilee line. Some sheets, which were fed incorrectly, would still have been perforated through the bottom margin and only partly through the top one, as in 'C'.

Later still it would have been decided that the extra pins were also superfluous and they were removed in their turn, except the single one, as in 'D'.

Last of all a batch of sheets was misfed in such a way that the bottom margin was perforated and the top one not. My friend's block 'A' is from one of them, as is also a block of mine 'E' which has the bottom margin perforated but is from a later printing proved by the presence of all three of the varieties on stamp No. 10 of row 18.

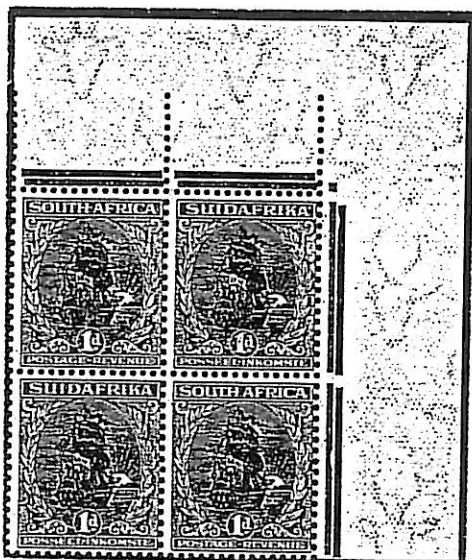
A



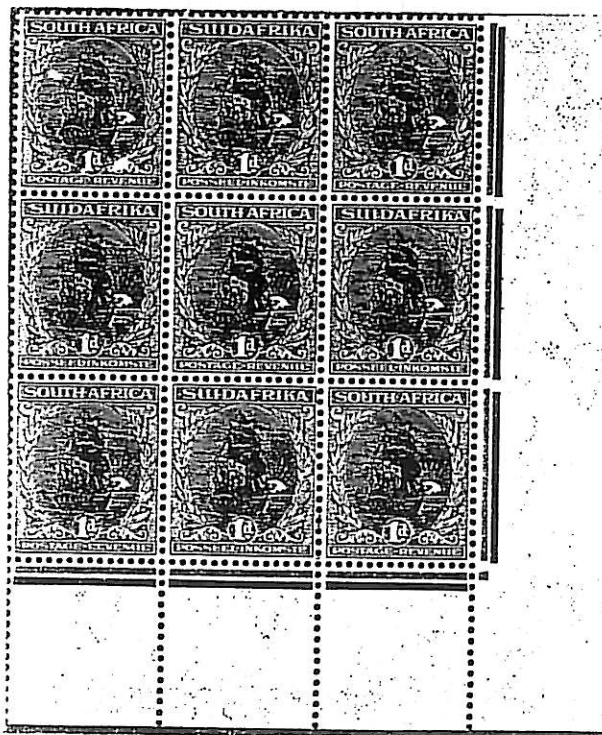
B



C



E



D



JOB NO	NUMBER PER SHEET	VALUE	NUMBER OF SHEETS ORDERED	DATE OF FIRST DELIVERY	NUMBER OF SHEETS DELIVERER	DATE OF FINAL DELIVERY	TOTAL NUMBERS DELIVERED	PAPER	PLATE NUMBERS	SAME DESIGN OR NEW	REMARKS
<u>SIXTH DEFINITIVE SERIES: THREATENED FAUNA</u>											
62316.00	25	Standard-disised	4 000 000	93/07/27	18 500	94/03/07	1 310 001	Unwatermarked Harrison's Paper	2463,2464,2465 and 1466	New	Printed by Litho
<u>SIXTH DEFINITIVE SERIES: THREATENED FAUNA: STAMPBOOKLET</u>											
67703.33	50	Standard-disised	360 000	94/01/04	120 000	94/03/16	360 000	Unwatermarked Harrison's Paper		New	Printed by Litho
<u>PEACE: SPECIAL STAMPS</u>											
69925.33	25	45c	210 000	94/03/14	18 000	94/03/22	210 000	Unwatermarked	2607,2608,2609 and 2610	New	Printed by Litho
69925.33	25	70c	30 000	94/03/14	18 000	94/03/16	30 000		2611,2612,2613 and 2614	New	Printed by Litho
69925.33	25	95c	30 000	94/03/15	18 000	94/03/16	30 000	Harrison's Paper	2615,2616,2617 and 2618	New	Printed by Litho
69925.33	25	R1,15	30 000	94/03/14	18 000	94/03/16	30 000		2619,2620,2621 and 2622	New	Printed by Litho
<u>R.S.A. POSTCARDS (ERICAS)</u>											
63371.44	40	Postage Paid	2 000 000	93/07/06	10	94/02/22	2 032 020	Dukuza Linen		New	Printed by Litho

122a

JOB NO	NUMBER PER SHEET	VALUE	NUMBER OF SHEETS ORDERED	DATE OF FIRST DELIVERY	NUMBER OF SHEETS DELIVERED	DATE OF FINAL DELIVERY	TOTAL NUMBERS DELIVERED	PAPER	PLATE NUMBERS	SANE DESIGN OR NEW	REMARKS
67731.61	3	Postage Paid	3 500 000	93/12/15	40 000		879 500	Oyster Opaque		New	Printed by Litho

AIR LETTER (ERICAS)

POSTAGE STAMP PROGRAMME 1995

The South African Post Office announces the following special South African stamp issues for 1995

- 18 January Tourism - Eastern Transvaal
- 1 February South African Airforce - 75 years
- 1 February First Trans Africa flight - 75 years
- 15 February Tourism - North-West
- 28 April Tourism - KwaZulu/Natal
- 12 May Tourism - Western Cape
- 25 May Rugby World Cup
- 15 June CSIR - 50 years
- 30 June Tourism - Northern Transvaal
- 21 July Tourism - Orange Free State
- 11 August Tourism - Northern Cape
- 25 August 100 years of marine science in South Africa
- 15 September Tourism - Eastern Cape
- 2 October Gandhi Commemoration
- 6 October National Stamp Day
- 24 October United Nations - 50 years
- 10 November Tourism - PWV
- 24 November Sea shells
- 8 December Gerard Sekoto

Intersapa, the agency that now handles the philatelic services of NAMIBIA announces the following themes for 1995

- 8 March 1995 - Centenary of railways in Namibia
- 24 May 1995 - Namibian Fossils
- 10 July 1995 - 125 years of Finnish Mission
- 16 August 1995 - Namibian Adornments
- 24 October 1995 - 50 years United Nations

Celebration of British Africa Philately sponsored by The Philatelic Society for Greater Southern Africa in support of PACIFIC '97

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

New Members

973 J.M. Grist, c/o Harmers of London
974 E. Gair, of Newcastle upon Tyne NE2 2DL
975 I.M. Wheale, of Newport, Isle of Wight

Change of Address

891 B. Cartwright to Knights Enham, Andover
933 C. Kuitenbrower Postcode change to SO14 3DJ
955 D.J. Hooton to West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 6DD
837 J. Leddington should read 151B Little Glen ROAD
578 Dr P. Olver leaves Farnham for Guildford GU3 3BQ

INFORMATION AND REQUESTS

Of late I have had questions from newer members as to how they can purchase back numbers of *The Springbok*.

We do not carry a stock, and it is suggested that they examine the membership lists on the back pages of our magazine, for resigning members and one whose number is about 125, then contact Tony Chilton, FRPS,L (for address see p.2) asking for your request to be forwarded to the former member.

Currently there is a specific opportunity to acquire a worthwhile run of the magazine:

Springboks Vol. 12/1 (Jan 1964) to Vol. 41/4 (Dec 1993) but minus Vol. 17, 170 + total. Republic Handbook in 2 vols. Any offers or exchanges? Buyer must collect or pay postage. Contact B.W. Coleman, 42 Retreat Est., Downham Market, Norfolk PE38 9QH, Tel. 01366 388590.

The Society has acquired a selection of back issues of the *South African Philatelist* between 1937 and 1950. Only one complete volume, Vol. 24, 1948, is available at £5. Others can be offered at 50p per copy pro rata. Members are invited to submit wants lists to the Honorary General Secretary (for address see p.2). First come first served!

The Hon. General Secretary is also looking for two issues of the *South African Philatelist* himself – namely Vol. 20 No. 1 & Vol. 21 No. 1.

THE REPUBLICAN AEROGRAMMES

R D ALLEN writes that with the end of the AEROGRAMME we now have suitable opportunity to compile a record of issues, both Overseas and Internal. He has been collating information from his many sources, but finds some 'vacancies' both in his collection and the 'official' listings, the latter being a bit sparse on detail. He seeks the help of any member also interested in the field particularly where there is information gleaned that has not so far been given in the various publications and bulletins. e.g. items like logos; types of 'TO/AAN' and 'FROM/VAN' which are noted in horizontal and vertical format: ? to which printing do such items relate on the ERICA series.

He notes, with evident regret, that his Standing Order has not brought forth any sensible supply of the various printings as have been notified in the press releases and ANY information that members could provide would be most welcome.

It may be that the Society could publish a definitive listing !!

DWP