

Figure 4. Message on letter card signed by Tshekedi Khama.

### Botswana Bar Coded Registration Labels Revisited

*including further examples from Bruce Warrender and ramblings by the Editor*

In reviewing the recent sendings it seems certain that the nine figure number on the label is the serial number; increasing such that smaller numbers are generally earlier. Peters Thy and Jukes gave examples starting with the two letters, 'RR' which almost certainly relates to Registered. Bruce gives some 'EE' examples; which relates to Expedited Mail Service (EMS) (they were on EMS receipts).

Also from Peter Jukes article we know that some of the later labels were ordered in batches from external sources. What isn't known is if ordered labels came in both RR and EE (I haven't seen any EE "blue labels").

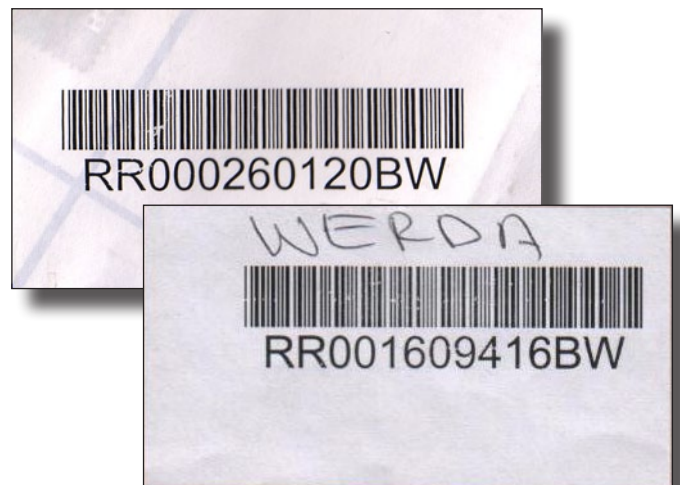


We start with an image from Bruce of which he says "I don't know if this label was a forerunner to the white bar code label reported in RP#63, but the date is 15<sup>th</sup> Nov 2004, earlier than the white label".

Lets for arguments sake call it the **first series**. Serial

Ed: In Runner Post #73, p.1807-9, I published Peter Jukes' article brought about as a result of a question raised by Peter Thy in Runner Post #72. Peter Jukes listed a number of types of BCRLs. Bruce Warrender sent in his article about the same time, so here is my attempt to tie together all the examples sent in so far.

number around 64k in Nov 2004. Rather a complex (not cheap) shape. The blue tip to the pencil shape suggests there is more to the left on the label sheet.



Neither of these images come from Bruce. The top image is lifted from Steen Jelgren's letter in RP#63 p.1533 and was dated Dec 2004. Serial number has

now increased up to 200k.

Label size is 70mm x 37mm, the same as the lower image of the two which is lifted off Peter Jukes Fig1 from Feb 2006. The **second series**.



From Bruce another white bar code label with a size of 35x52mm; dated 20<sup>th</sup> Mar 2007; with a particularly tall barcode. Not noted by Peter Jukes. The **third series**. This again looks like an in-house produced label.



From Bruce another white bar code label, this time with letters 'EE'. It was attached to a receipt for Expedited Mail Service, dated 19<sup>th</sup> Sep 2006 at Orapa. This is an identically sized to the in-house "second series", suggesting it too was printed in-house. The serial number is higher than the "third series" example. Did just EE continue in-house? More examples needed before any conclusions could be drawn. Suggest this is also the second series.



Kingsley's first order for 10000, the lower is Peter Jukes Fig4, from 22<sup>nd</sup> Jun 2007, the upper from Peter Thy's original Runner Post #72 query dated 25<sup>th</sup> Aug 2007. Bruce has one dated 31<sup>st</sup> May 2007. There is quite a shade variation, but this may have been introduced by different scanning methods getting the images to me. For now lets assume both are the same **fifth series**.



From Bruce, the upper image, is one of five examples he has, all dated during Sep 2007. Peter Jukes Fig3 is the lower image, the date isn't readable from the scan.

This is the Pale Azure series, the **sixth series** and Kingsley's second order

Below I have tabulated the sizes and colours of those BCRL's sent in so far. I haven't included date ranges as there are obvious overlaps. More examples needed!

Series	Colour	Label Size mm	Text Size mm	Barcode Size mm	Printed	RR	EE
First	White/Navy	93 x 16	3	9.1	unknown	✓	?
Second	White	70 x 37	4.2	8	in-house	✓	✓
Third	White	52 x 35	3.5	11	in-house	✓	?
Fourth	White	52 x 35	3.3	7.6	in-house	✓	✓
Fifth	Blue	69 x 18	4.7	10.7	Kingsley's	✓	?
Sixth	Pale Blue	70 x 18	4.7	10.7	Kingsley's	✓	?



# The **Runner Post**

THE BECHUANALANDS AND BOTSWANA SOCIETY



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ISSN No 0953-3354

**February 2009**