

Closed Albums

Robert Ian Johnson 1940-2019

Robert was born on 20th September 1940. At the tender age of 22, he passed the examination needed to become a practicing solicitor. His philatelic life must also have started early, since he managed to put together several collections, including British postal history, Cape of Good Hope Rectangulars, and French Congo Postal History. But his interests stretched much further.

Articles written by Robert have appeared in many society journals, including those of the Cape and Natal Study Circle, Anglo Boer War Philatelic Society, Orange Free State Study Circle. He also authored or coauthored important and difficult handbooks on British postal rates between 1936 and 2000, Iraq postal history and rates, and India express post.

Robert's administrative work has been equally creditable. He was the first chairman of the Friends of the National Postal Museum, trustee of the Stuart Rossiter Trust, and most recently the editor of the publication program of EPA Experitising's Educational Charity.

He was most generous in providing access to all his collections and willing to help others with his knowledge.

In 1988 he joined the Royal Philatelic Society London and was elected a Fellow in 1995. In 2012, he was awarded the highly prestigious Tapling Medal for his work 'Cape of Good Hope: 1882 to 1884'. This was followed in 2014 by being invited to become a signatory of the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists.

Robert passed away on 25th September 2019 and will be deeply missed by all who knew him. Philately has lost another Giant.

Based on Simon Solomon's obituary in the Cape and Natal Philatelic Journal No. 92.

Steven Gardiner 1959-2019

Steven was born in Port Elizabeth on 18th April 1959. He obtained a commercial business degree from University of Port Elizabeth and settled down in the same town and later in Cape Town where he had just retired. Many collectors worldwide of southern Africa have undoubtedly had contact with him since he widely traded on eBay under the name 'algoast.' Steven has in the past been a member of the PSGSA. His main collecting interests were the early postal history of Swaziland and Basutoland; the latter received a Gold SAPDAPEX 2017. His Basutoland exhibit has been published by Volker Janssen (www.janssenstamps.com) and is still available.

Steven died on 6th September 2019 at a too young age, after several years of poor health, from a massive stroke. We extend our condolences to his large family and wife. We will all be missing 'algoast.'

Based on obituary in the South African Philatelist, October 2019

Bechuanalands and Botswana Society

It is with regret that we have been notified that the BBS has ceased to exist, the Runner Post will no longer be published, and their website will be closed. A total of 102 issues of the journal appeared since 1984 with a total of 2467 pages. The later years have seen a dwindling membership and little interest in contributing to the society and the journal. The result had been that the operations were completely left to the only remaining society officer - the editor - that eventual had to call it a stop. The Bechuanaland Society and the Runner Post will be missed. RIP

Botswana Government Printed Envelopes: Update

by Gordon Smith

The following markings are added to the typology of 'On Botswana Government Service' (OBGS) envelopes described and illustrated in No. 89 of this journal.

Please feel free to provide additional thoughts and information related to the development of this typology. The author can be reached at gs@postalhistory.ca

- OBGS Type NssL04
- OBGS Type UsS04
- OBGS Type NssU014
- OBGS Type UsS05
- OBGS Type NssU015

OBGS Type NssL04	
OBGS Type NssU014	
OBGS Type NssU015	
OBGS Type UsS04	
OBGS Type UsS05	



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******FORERUNNERS*

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Endangered Cranes set of four stamps and a miniature sheet were issued by Botswana Post on October 9, 2019

Highlights

Philately of Southern Africa
Vermilion Ink
Reverend Falloon
Wrapper Catalogue