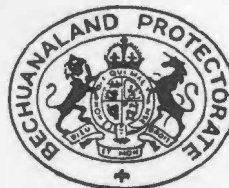


# ***The Runner Post***



**RUNNER POST NUMBER 48**

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**SEPTEMBER 1997**

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## EDITOR'S COMMENTS

## A JOURNEY TO THE INTERIOR

I recently had the opportunity of visiting Botswana after an absence of ten years.

In August, I joined Gawie van der Walt in Johannesburg for the start of a journey to Botswana. Gawie is the Vice President of the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa representing the 'Outside Territories' which includes Botswana. Gawie wanted to visit the Botswana Philatelic Society and asked if I would like to accompany him. We travelled by way of Mafikeng (as it is now officially spelt) arriving early morning just as the museum was opening. Some fascinating exhibits relating to the second Anglo-Boer war and particularly to the famous siege. The history of Mafikeng is reproduced in an informative booklet on sale at the museum entitled *The Place of Stones / A Short History of Mafikeng to Commemorate its Incorporation into Bophuthatswana*. The booklet was produced in about 1984 for the museum with the help of the now defunct Bophuthatswana Government.

After resuming our northerly journey we entered Botswana by way of 'Ramatlabama Road' arriving in Gaborone to be met by a sizeable delegation from the Botswana Philatelic Society who promptly overwhelmed us with hospitality. Courtesy of Andy Andersson, a visit to Poso House and the famed Holmes collection had been organised for the afternoon. For me, this was one of the highlights of the trip as, other than illustrations in catalogues and books, I had never actually seen any of the incredible items which the museum has acquired over the years. An employee of the Philatelic Bureau had been assigned to show me round and after a quick five minute walk round the frames assumed I was finished. He was somewhat perplexed when I brought in a chair, hauled out a thick notebook and proceeded to spend considerable time on each frame taking copious notes. He eventually gave up waiting and returned at hourly intervals to see how I was doing. Eventually I had to leave as the building had closed and the guards wanted to lock up. I returned the following day to make further notes. The museum is somewhat limited in space and I understand not all of the Holmes collection is on display. Another collection which has been donated anonymously contained a frame of stationery including several essays. Unfortunately, the pages in all the frames are set back from the glass too

far to be able to study the items under magnification. This, coupled with poor lighting in some areas made it difficult to determine the status of some of the essays. Ideally, photographs should be taken, but that may have to wait for a return trip - hopefully in 1998. A detailed listing of some of the Holmes items will appear in a future issue of the RP. There was also an extensive exhibit of Botswana Post Office archival material including essays and progressive artwork and proof material for both stamps and aerogrammes. Outside the museum proper was a large display of mainly special event cancellers along with impressions from each instrument.

The evening was set aside for the monthly meeting of the Botswana Philatelic Society which was held at a sports club. The society is probably the most active and enthusiastic I have ever visited - even allowing for a larger turnout than normal to see the 'foreigners'. The proceedings were ably handled by Brian de la Rosa who managed to steer the evening through what seemed an enormous number of attractions ranging from reports on new issues and general philatelic news to numerous competitive displays which appeared to cover every available surface. It was a real pleasure to meet so many keen collectors and to renew contact with what seemed to be the entire Botswana philatelic community. The strength of the Society is even more remarkable when one considers that many members are only temporarily in Botswana while on contract though I understand new members appear as fast as old ones have to leave.

The next day saw me back at Poso House in the morning but the rest of the day was spent at Crocodile Pools. This is where three farms - belonging to Andy Andersson, Alec Campbell and the late David Finlay - are situated (what was the old Transfeldt property). Andy and Barbara Andersson excelled themselves and again overwhelmed us with hospitality. A guided tour round the perimeter of Andy's property was enlivened by Andy's casual comment that he was occasionally irritated when lions escape from the adjoining game farm! Back at the house we were informed the reason for hockey (?) sticks parked strategically around the house was to ward off snakes who had the temerity to enter! Barbara gave stern warnings that no-one was to enter Andy's study. Apparently Barbara was under the delusion that Andy's study was somehow more chaotic than that of any other philatelist. As the day rolled on and Barbara relented, we were each allowed a quick look (there was only room for one person at a time). I have to admit, Andy's study does rank as one of the more crowded I have ever seen and had the appearance of chaos though he proved this was 'organised chaos' when, more than once, he went in to retrieve something thereby proving he knew where (almost) everything was to be found.

The evening had been designated a special meeting for all BBS members in Botswana and it was again a great pleasure to renew contacts and to put 'faces to names' on the membership list. Members present included: Andy Andersson, Sheila Case, Brian de la Rosa, Elaine Long, Karl Seligmann and Alan Knox. A most enjoyable evening and our sincere thanks to everyone who made our trip such an unforgettable experience.

#### **PACIFIC 97 AWARDS**

Congratulations to two of our members who showed successfully at the Pacific 97 World Philatelic Exhibition held in San Francisco. David Wessely was one of the large number of exhibitors who was not accepted as the show was over-subscribed almost three times. However, David was in San Francisco as a helper and had been asked to bring his collection as a 'standby' in the event some exhibits did not arrive. This proved to be the case and David excelled by being awarded a Large Vermeil for his 5 frame exhibit 'The Bechuanalands'. Vic Visser was one of the few exhibitors accepted from South Africa and he obtained an impressive Large Silver for his exhibit also titled 'The Bechuanalands: 1884-1934'. Congratulations to you both for an excellent achievement in the premier philatelic competition.

Peter Thy entered his Bechuanaland postal stationery collection at a local show in Sacramento where he achieved a very commendable Gold award.

#### **MIDPEX, 28th June 1997, Tilehill, Coventry**

The Society had a stand at this year's highly successful MIDPEX. A wide-ranging display was assembled which covered most of the Society's interests. Manning the display were Dennis Firth, David Hardwick and David Wall. All three provided a contribution to the 96-sheet display. Additional contributions were received from Sir John Inglefield-Watson and Jim Catterall.

Jim's contribution was a selection of sixteen sheets from his prize-winning postal history collection - not the originals but high-quality colour photocopies. Inside their protective envelopes it was virtually impossible to detect that these weren't the originals and whilst this is a non-starter for proper competitive displays, it does provide some flexibility for Society displays when a member cannot attend in person and prefers not to be separated from his or her collection.



The broad themes on display comprised:

- Early Postal History (Jim Catterall)
- Railways (David Hardwick)
- Postal Stationery (John Inglefield-Watson and David Wall)
- Botswana Stamps and First Day Covers (David Wall)
- Postal markings of the Bechuanalands (Dennis Firth)
- Early airmail services (John Inglefield-Watson)

Also available at the Society's stand was an eight-page Runner Post 'sampler' that Alan MacGregor had assembled using some of the best articles to have appeared in the past few years. Interest in the stand was never overwhelming but we enjoyed a steady trickle of visitors throughout the day - several of whom were already members of the Society but cannot usually attend our twice-yearly meetings.

The presence of other societies provided ample opportunity for networking. The Rhodesia Study Circle, in particular, was well represented and we were able to put out some feelers about the possibility of another joint meeting between the BBS and the RSC. The last such meeting was at Alexandra Palace in 1990 and we may suggest a similar arrangement for THE STAMP SHOW 2000 - which is to be held at Earls Court from 22nd-28th May 2000.

MIDPEX was a success for all involved and we will certainly be applying to participate in the 1999 event.

David Wall

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## MEMBERS' COMMENTS AND QUERIES

### BOTSWANA DEFINITIVE SURCHARGES

Which printing firm or firms overprinted the surcharges on the Botswana definitive stamps which were issued in 1987 (SG 612-4), 1990 (SG 690-2), 1992 (SG 725-8) and 1996 (SG 817-9)? The SG catalogue states that the 1994 10t on 12t surcharge was done by the Government Printer, Pretoria, but makes no comment on any of the other surcharges.

Dennis Firth

### POSTMARK QUERY

Looking through the Botswana postmark listings in Runner Post, certain postmarks are inscribed 'CB', which according to the Typology, stands for 'Circulation Branch'. What function does the Circulation Branch of the Post Office actually perform?

Certain other postmarks show the letter 'C' followed by a number, e.g. 'Maun C1' and 'Maun C5'. What does the 'C' stand for?

Dennis Firth

[ I understand the 'C' stands for the 'Counter' number within the Post Office - particularly at larger PO's to help identify which particular official handled an item of mail or postal order etc. Perhaps each Post Office official was assigned their own canceller and number? - Ed ]

### EXPEDITED MAIL SERVICE VERSUS EXPRESS MAIL

In RP 38 Peter Thy published an excellent article on the stationery of the Botswana Expedited Mail Service. How does this system work, and how does it differ from the long standing 'Express' arrangement?

Dennis Firth

### 1922 1d POSTAL FISCAL (SG F3) PLATE NUMBER '6'

Brian Trotter writes in response to the query in RP 47 (p1155) regarding which Plate Numbers were used for the 1922 Postal Fiscal issue, I have a bottom corner block of 6 of the Union 1d stamp overprinted 'Swaziland / Revenue / Only' also with Plate Number '6' at the bottom of the second column. So at least one sheet from plate number '6' was used for the Swaziland overprinting. Perhaps both territories had the overprinting done at the same time.

## MEMBERS' COMMENTS AND QUERIES

**STELLALAND £5 REVENUE OVERPRINTED 'BRITISH BECHUANALAND' - Brian Trotter**

Brian has sent this illustration of a Stellaland £5 revenue stamp he recently acquired. Brian writes: "I don't know if this is 'on record' - although it does seem a bit familiar. It has an 'overprint', - more likely a handstamp of 'BRITISH BECHUANALAND' in two lines applied in black towards the top of the stamp. The 'BECHUANALAND' starts under the lions nose and goes across the shield - not so easy to see. The stamp is cancelled in manuscript '14.1.87'."

Brian is correct when he says it seems familiar. It is remarkably similar to the very scarce handstamp applied to the Cape 1864-type revenues. Courtesy of Argyll Etkin, I can illustrate the 1/- duty handstamped 'BRITISH BECHUANALAND' in addition to a SPECIMEN overprint (which came first?). The Argyll-Etkin description described the handstamp as being in "small thin roman capitals in violet-blue".

Apart from a few singles of each value, I know of two examples of the 1/- value, each on a Power of Attorney document - one dated in February 1887 and the other in what appears to be July 1887 (the years are both clear).

Barefoot & Hall (1996, 5th edition) list the 6d and 1/- (B&H 1-2) with an issue date of 1887. B&H also tentatively list a '2/- red' with this handstamp but have not assigned a number to it - presumably until they receive confirmation of its existence. I have never seen an example.

Although it is not possible to accurately compare the handstamps next to each other and the illustrations may vary in degree of enlargement, the similarity is remarkable - even down to the larger initial capital letter on each line. It would certainly appear that the Stellaland and the Cape handstamps are contemporary.

**POSTAGE DUE STAMP QUERY - SG D9 ON CHALK-SURFACED PAPER?**

In response to Stewart Cockerill's query in RP 47, his suspected variety on chalk-surfaced paper is not only unlisted by Gibbons but is also not recorded by any other reliable source known to me. The same comment applies to the unsurcharged ½d postage due stamp SG D4. The last recorded printing of this stamp was made on ordinary paper in July 1947. Only the 1d and 2d values were printed on chalk-surfaced paper in 1958.

The 5c decimal surcharge was applied in 1961 to remaining stocks of the ½d stamp which were a mixture of the printings on the rough, thick 1944 paper and the smooth, thin 1947 paper, as described in my article in RP 34. The printing on 1947 paper is in a paler shade of green and this paper is superficially similar to the 1958 chalk-surfaced paper. The quantities surcharged on each type of paper are unknown.

Was Stewart misled by noticing the above differences into thinking that his stamp is on chalk-surfaced paper? In my opinion it seems much more likely to be on the 1947 ordinary paper. However, if he applied the silver test and got a positive reaction further examination of his stamp, which I would gladly undertake, is called for with a view to eventual expertisation.

J.F.I-W.

## MEMBERS' COMMENTS AND QUERIES

## DE LA RUE 5/- 'SEAHORSES' POSTMARKED BEFORE DATE OF ISSUE

In response to Chris Cordes' query in RP 47 and the Editor's footnote, I believe that the explanation is that his stamp was printed by Waterlow, not De La Rue. Unfortunately the top tooth of each of the side perforations of his stamp is so short that it is not possible to be sure whether or not they are the thicker teeth characteristic of De La Rue printings, as described in my article in RP 42.

A Waterlow printing has slightly thicker teeth at the bottom of the side perforations but these cannot always be identified on single stamps. Other features that would help to determine the printer are not apparent on a photocopy.

Perhaps the stamp in question is the uncatalogued carmine-red shade of the Waterlow 5/- which is often confused with the De La Rue bright carmine to which it has a closer resemblance than to the catalogued Waterlow rose-carmine shade as mentioned in the final paragraph of my RP 42 article. These shades were all listed by me in RP 43.

J.F.I-W.

## DE LA RUE 2/6 'SEAHORSE' POSTMARKED BEFORE DATE OF ISSUE

Howard Cook has also responded to Chris Cordes' query in RP 47.

Howard comments that he has a used block of four 2/6 'Seahorses' which was in the Holmes and Campbell collections.

The Holmes sale catalogue described it (lot 1241) as being the 2/6 deep brown from the De La Rue printing (SG 86).

Stanley Gibbons give the year of issue for SG 86 (now 'sepia') as 1920. However, the block is cancelled with Francistown postmarks clearly dated FE 7 18 !?



Howard informs me that he has subsequently obtained a certificate confirming the block as SG 86.

## THE 'ONE HALF-PENNY' PROVISIONAL OF DECEMBER 1888 (SG 29)

I can offer one addition to Jim Catterall's RP 47 list of significant varieties and flaws on SG 29. There is a constant 'spaced hyphen' variety at position 48, the hyphen being about 1mm further to the right of the 'f' of 'Half' than elsewhere in the setting. This can be seen in the illustration in Holmes's book but not in the reproduction in RP 47. An example is therefore illustrated.

I feel that it may be helpful to newer members who wish to attempt to plate genuine examples of SG 29 to draw attention to the useful information given by 'Koi' in RP 6 and supplemented by me in RP 7.

J.F.I-W.



## FORGERY OF SG 29 WITH INVERTED 'e' in 'One'

Jim Catterall sent this illustration of an interesting forgery of the 1/2d on 3d Provisional (SG 29), which was recently on offer at auction with a description purporting it to be a variety with the 'e' of 'One' inverted. Although it does indeed have an inverted 'e', unfortunately the stamp is a forgery as this 'variety' does not occur on genuine stamps. Proof of its status is provided by the vertical bars which are set far too high. It appears to have been provided with a cancellation of the genuine '555' Barred Oval Numeral Canceller which is believed to have been misused.



## ITEMS OF INTEREST

**'SPOTTED' WATER MONGOOSE - Steen Jelgren**

Steen Jelgren has sent this illustration of the 50t Water Mongoose (SG 750) from the 1992 Animal definitive issue. The stamp, which is tied to piece by a Kasane postmark dated 7 July 1997, shows a remarkable printing error in the form of noticeable 'spotting' on the animals rear and to a lesser extent, its head. As Steen says, it is remarkable how nicely the spots have been placed!

**BRITISH BECHUANALAND ½d GREEN (SG 57) WITH ALBINO OVERPRINT ON REVERSE**

I recently came across examples of the 1897 Cape ½d yellow-green overprinted 'BRITISH BECHUANALAND' (13½mm apart) showing varying degrees of an inverted albino impression of the overprint on the gummed side. Corner blocks or strips from the upper left, and both lower corners of the pane imply that at least one full pane received the albino impression. The intensity of the impression varies considerably from being barely visible to quite distinct and there is no doubt that it is an albino overprint rather than an offset.

The light smudges below the overprints on the illustrated corner strip mark the position of the albino impressions on the reverse. These were presumably caused by the pressure of the overprinting plate picking up ink or dirt from the bed of the plate or perhaps from another sheet beneath?

Why a pane or full sheet would have been placed upside down on the bed of the overprinting plate is unknown. Perhaps the printers (Townshend & Co, Vryburg) found that a layer of paper placed under the sheet receiving the overprint helped 'cushion' the overprinting and produced clearer impressions? Any other theories are welcome. Has any member seen or heard of this variety before. Does it exist on either of the other two overprintings which were done in Cape Town by Taylor & Marshall (SG 56) or W.A. Richards & Sons (SG 57) ?

## ITEMS OF INTEREST



## COLOUR SHIFTS ON 2½ CENT DUTY OF THE 1961 DECIMAL DEFINITIVES - PW van der Molen

A Johannesburg stamp dealer was recently breaking a complete sheet of 50 stamps of the 2½c duty depicting the Scarlet-Chested Sunbird, showing significant colour shifts, priced according to sheet position. A top marginal pair is shown below, together with a 'normal' at right for comparison:

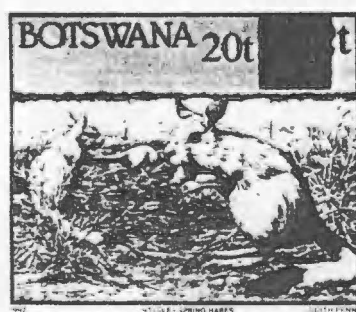
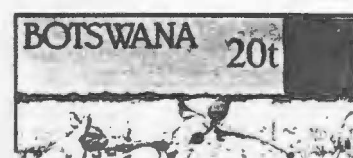
More than one colour shift seems to be present. If one takes the perforations as the frame of reference, then it appears that the predominant shift is of the bistre background colour to the left by 2 mm, with the black colour also shifted left by 1 mm; the scarlet and green colours appear to be correctly positioned. The shift of the black colour also results in the Scarlet-Chested Sunbird sporting a white 'bib'! The colour shifts are slightly more pronounced at the top of the sheet than at the bottom.

Colour shifts in this issue were previously described in RP 25, p466 (5c duty) and RP 26 p491 (2½c duty), while HR Holmes in his '...Bechuanalands' on p167 reports a downwards shift of the black colour on the 2½c duty by some 5 mm "giving the stamps a most distorted appearance".

## VARIETIES ON 1996 2t ANIMAL DEFINITIVE SURCHARGE

Alan Knox writes from Botswana with details of two varieties he has seen on the 1996 20t on 2t surcharge (SG 817).

Illustrated at right are two examples of the surcharge which could be classified as 'thin' and 'thick'. The top stamp having the '20t' noticeably bolder than the lower stamp. The box obliterating the old value appears more heavily inked which leads to the question is this variety due to the degree of inking of the surcharging type, or has a bolder version of type been used?



The second variety, illustrated above, concerns the '2' of the '20t' surcharge which appears as 'short top and bottom of 2' or perhaps '2 shaved at left'. Alan says he has noticed this variety on three stamps on the lower half pane of sheets, on the last stamp [5] of rows 7, 8 and 9.



**THE BECHUANALANDS - GB STAMPS OVERPRINTED BY DE LA RUE:  
PRINTINGS AND QUANTITIES - A CORRECTION**

*John Inglefield-Watson*

Details of the quantities of GB stamps overprinted by De La Rue for use in the Bechuanaland were published in my article in RP 44. A re-examination of the relevant Day Books in the De La Rue Archive has revealed one error in the article due to my mis-reading of the microfilm. The entry on page 1049 in respect of the 'Quantity Overprinted' of the KE VII 2½d denomination should be amended to read as follows:

Sheets x Stamps per Sheet: 486 x 240.      Grand Total: 116,640.

In addition the dates in the heading of the KE VII section should be corrected to read 1904-13.

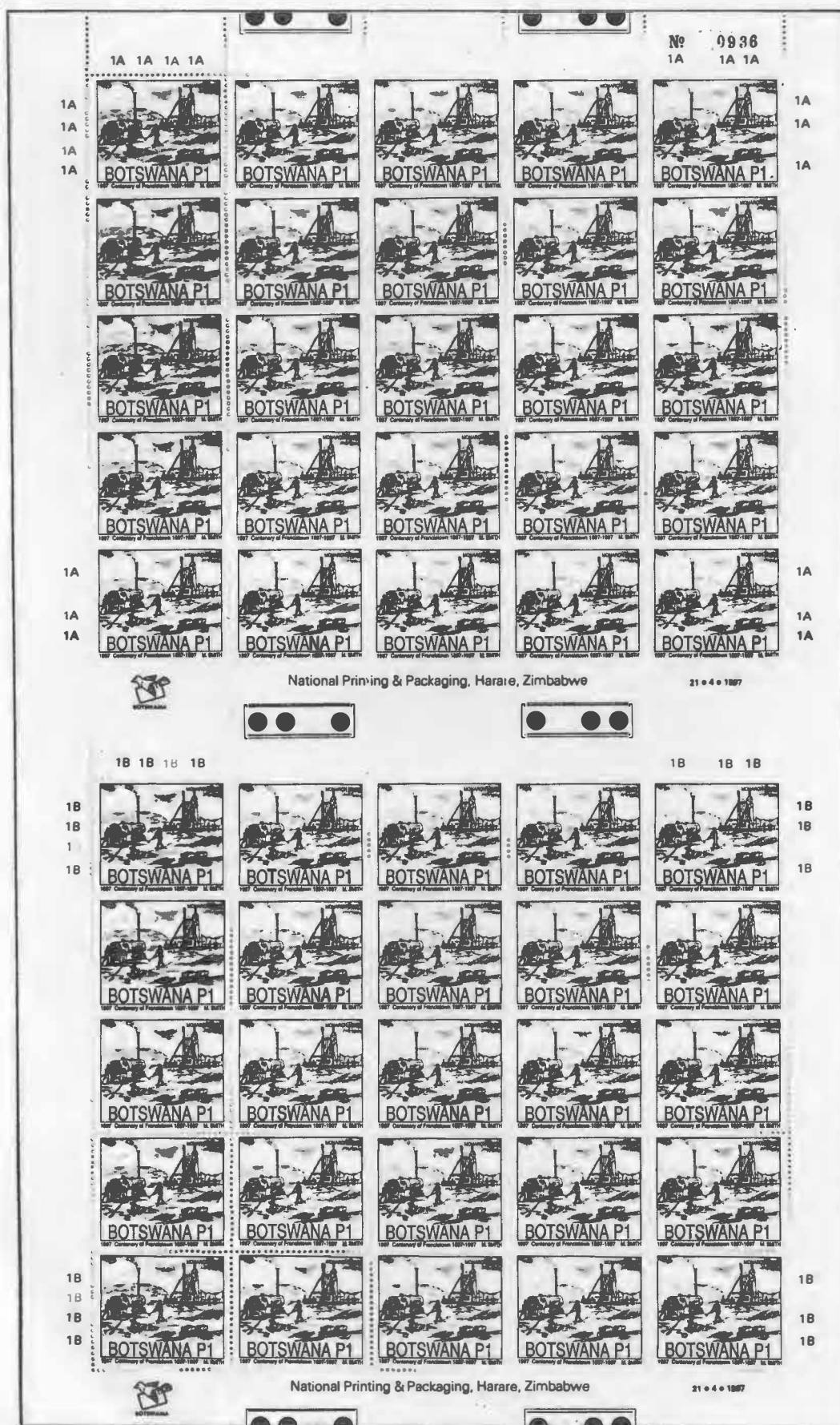
**BOTSWANA 1997 NEW ISSUE PROGRAMME**

The following listing of Botswana recent/proposed new issues has been compiled from information provided by Andy Andersson, official Post Office pamphlets and from the September newsletter of the Botswana Philatelic Society.

We welcome hearing from members who can confirm the following details and/or issue dates or can supply any additional information:

21 Apr	Francistown Centenary	4 stamps, First Day Cover
10 May	Under 17 Football	Media Postcard with imprinted stamp
5 Jun	Int. Waste Management Congress / Conference	First Day Cover, special cancel
9 Jun	(or 6 Oct?) New Set of Tourism Aerogrammes (5)	Government Printer Pretoria
12 Jul	Completion of Railway Centenary	Set of 6 stamps: 35t, 50t, 80t, P1, P2, P2.50
28 Jul	Commonwealth Conference on education	First Day Cover and special cancel
4 Aug	New Bird Definitives (7th definitive series)	18 stamps 5t - P10, First Day Cover, special Numbered FDC at Art Exhibition (4 August?)
4 Aug	Possible release of new set of booklets & postcards?	
22 Sep	(or 23 Sep?) Royal Golden Wedding	3 stamps, Miniature Sheet (P10 stamp), FDC
6 Oct	(or 10 November?) Christmas issue - plants	5 stamps: 50t, 70t, 80t, 90t, P1
9 Oct	World Post Day	Postcard with 35t imprinted stamp and special cancel
24 Oct	Centenary of Death of von Stephan	Postcard with imprinted stamp, special cancel

On the following page is a reduced illustration showing the format of a full sheet of the P1 duty of the Francistown Centenary. As can be seen, each pane of 25 stamps has cylinder numbers in each corner. In this instance the top pane has 1A 1A 1A 1A while the lower pane shows 1B 1B 1B 1B. The top two corners of each pane show cylinder numbers at top and right of the corner stamps while the lower corners show cylinder numbers at the sides only. The printing date appears below the SE corner stamp of each pane and the sheet number appears above the NE stamp of the top pane only. 'Traffic Lights' appear at the top, between the panes and at the bottom of the sheet.





## RAILWAY CENTENARY 1897-1997

The official Botswana Postal Services pamphlet for the Railway Centenary issue contains interesting background information on the history and development of Railways in Botswana and on the issued stamps. It was written by Peter Lodoen who was also the designer of the stamps. The text of pamphlet is reproduced below:

### Bechuanaland to Botswana

The assertion is often made that European rulers sat in smoke-filled rooms in Berlin, London, Paris, Brussels and Lisbon, and divided up far-away Africa amongst themselves. In the case of Botswana this was decidedly not true, for every inch of Bechuanaland's frontiers was fixed by hard negotiations between white men and Tswana chiefs. The borders were disputed a hundred years ago by Cecil Rhodes at Bamangwato kgotlas, and by Khama III, Sebele I and Bathoen I in Foreign Secretary Joseph Chamberlain's London chambers. Once the borders were set, they remained eternally in place.

The century-old decisions were well taken, for not only have the borders remained unchanged, but they have also defined a nation of extraordinary political and economic stability. No other African state has maintained a multi-party democracy throughout the post-colonial period.

Though Botswana appears harsh and barren to the outsider, its land is well loved by its inhabitants. The Tswana accept the harsh conditions of heat (mean summer highs of 35 degrees Centigrade) and drought (average annual rainfall of 460 millimetres), but profit from the sweet, dry grass that feeds their cattle. In times of good rains the population (1.4 million compared to 600,000 in 1968) is outnumbered by five cattle to one person. Botswana's bovine wealth is exceeded only by the precious diamonds found under the sands of the Kalahari Desert, the country's most prominent physical feature.

Botswana's vast surface area (583,000 square kilometres, and 1100 km from southwest to northeast) has in recent years been joined together by a vigorous road-construction programme. Bechuanaland's extremities were originally linked by cattle trails, a runner-post route, a coach line and, from 1897, a railway.

This stamp issue commemorates the completion of that railway one hundred years ago in October.

### Missionaries' Road to Rail Road

Long before Bechuanaland became a British Protectorate, missionaries struck north from the Cape of Good Hope, preaching the Good News in a language called Chuana, or Tswana. They travelled a dusty "missionaries' road," which in time began to demarcate and define the Tswana-speaking nations: Barolong, Bangwaketse, Bakwena, Bakgatla, Batawana and Bamangwato.

Men of God sought the Tswana's hearts while other men - Boers and Matabeles - sought their cattle and their sweet grasslands. Behind the missionaries followed men who sought to extend the empire of the great Queen Victoria. Carrying Royal charters, they named themselves the British South Africa Company (BSAC).

The desire for Tswana land burned intensely in men's hearts, and when gold was struck near the Tati River in 1867, the Matabele, the Transvaal Boers, the Bamangwato and the British all laid claim to the same territory.

Borders were drawn and re-drawn, agreements were made and broken, cattle were stolen and recaptured, and rebellions broke out and were quelled, but by 1885 British dreams of empire and Tswana desires for protection coincided when the Bechuanaland Protectorate was declared. The BSAC began gradually to bring the Tswana chiefs into line, gaining concessions through which a road of steel might be laid.

On 4 May 1889 Bathoen I granted the Bangwaketse Concession, and the Lobatse Block was established. Old Chief Sechele I of the Bakwena sold railway rights to the BSAC, and his successor Sebele I conceded a small 160-square-mile tract for the majestic sum of 12,000 pounds sterling. The paramount chief Khama III negotiated personally with BSAC chairman Cecil Rhodes, and on 23 November 1893 the Bamangwato Concession was finalised. Rhodes and the British held Khama in such high esteem that they granted him the unparalleled honour of his own postal cancellation: "Palachwe Khamastown."

The Barolong Farms, the Bamalete Reserve, the Gaborone Block, the Tati Concession, the Tuli Block and, finally, the Bakgatla Reserve under Linchwe I were surveyed and legalised as components of the Protectorate. Macloutsie Camp was built and manned by a joint British and Tswana police force. And after the Bechuanaland Railway Company was founded in May 1893, all seemed ready for the laying of rails northward to Pitsane, Pilane, Palapye and points beyond.

All was not ready. While the Cape Government wrangled over the Railway Bill, the Matabeles under Lobengula rose up in rebellion. Furthermore, President Paul Kruger and his acquisitive Transvaalers grew increasingly suspicious of the Tswana chiefs and their alliances with the British.

Plans were made to bring the Transvaal government to heel, but the disastrous failure of the Jameson Raid, launched from Pitsane in December 1895, made it absolutely essential for the BSAC to secure the Bechuanaland Protectorate and to guarantee it the full protection of the Crown.

The year 1896 welcomed the construction of rail lines through thereunto unknown stops at Lobatse, Otse, Ramotswa, Notwane and Gaborone. When the rinderpest struck Bechuanaland cattle, overland transport to the north became astronomically expensive, and railway engineers, led by George Pauling, put construction work into high gear. A mile a day the line drove north, and the borders between Boer and Briton, between Batswana and Matabele were irrefutably drawn in solid 60-pound steel.

Plans for a Tuli Block route were scrapped in favour of the smooth Palapye-Francistown road. The scent of war swept across the bushveld, and the British had no time to waste in outflanking the Boer.

In March 1897 the first Cape Government Railways locomotives puffed into Mochudi (Pilane). July saw steam in Palapye. And September brought rail traffic to Francistown.

Bechuanaland, the Protectorate whose continued existence and physical boundaries remained much in doubt as 1895 dawned, had gained an unshakeable territorial integrity as 1897 ended. The spikes and bolts of the rail line were the immutable force that held the Protectorate together.

### One Century Later

Botswana took a bold step in 1986 when the young nation established Botswana Railways. The new railway took over operation of lines in Botswana from the National Railways of Zimbabwe.

Clearly the safest and least expensive means of transport in the country, Botswana Railways passenger trains travel three times daily through the length of Botswana. One overnight train carries on to Bulawayo in Zimbabwe. The train service has been so reliable that many Botswana residents commute from Mochudi, Ramotswa and Lobatse to Gaborone.

Additionally, Botswana Railways daily sends seven freight trains along its lines, and operates an efficient overnight parcel service and a modern container delivery service.

As Botswana Railways looks forward to the 21st century, it has opened two dryports that bring Botswana ever closer to overseas markets. In March 1995 the Gaborone Container Terminal, Gabcon, was established. A year later in April 1996 a second dryport, Francon, was opened in Francistown. Selebi-Phikwe also has a dryport, and Botswana Railways works in conjunction with the BCL copper-nickel mines.

The dryports make it possible for all customs clearance formalities to be performed in Botswana. Today goods arriving at the dryports are loaded by the ultra-modern Fantuzzi reach stackers on to trucks for expeditious delivery to further destinations in Botswana.

### STAMP DESIGN

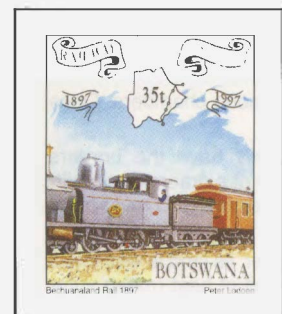
#### 35t Fourth Class Cape Government Railways

The African sun burns fiercely over the Karoo and the Kalahari, and for those who inhabit the vast expanses that stretch northwards from Cape Town, water is life's primary concern.

The great need for water led designer Michael Stephens and British manufacturer R. Stephenson and Co. to create the 4th class of Cape Government Railways locomotives. These 4-6-0 engines were equipped with side tanks and tenders, and carried, in addition to six tons of Cape coal, 2275 gallons of water.

In 1880 the first of the 4th class locos arrived from Britain, ready for duty under the African sun. As rail lines reached the Bechuanaland Protectorate in the 1890's, the 4<sup>th</sup> class 4-6-0's hauled goods, construction material and passengers ever deeper into the bushveld.

The stamp shows the locomotive with its six-wheel tender and early wooden coach. The coaches were simple and slow-moving, but immeasurably more comfortable than the ten-horse carriages of the Zeederberg Coach and Mail Service.



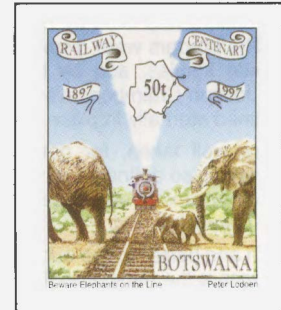
### 50t Elephants on the Line

“Wonderfully smooth and steady,” proclaimed Henry Morton Stanley of his 1897 train journey through Bechuanaland to Bulawayo. His train arrived on time for the festive inauguration of the rail line, but two of the four special trains destined for the Bulawayo ceremonies had derailed en route.

The difficulties of early transit were many, but, ironically, the greatest danger to the 1890’s railroad was rain. The northerly rails were laid in gentle switchbacks across the dry river beds of the Mhalatswe, Foley, Motloutse, Shashe and Tati Rivers. Heavy summer rains sent water rushing eastward to tear the sand from under the sleepers that held the rails. Even the lightest 4-6-0 locomotives laid 48 tons of pressure on the 60-pound rails, and derailments were common until stone bridges were built to span the dongas.

Further problems involved the supply of water, which was scarce and hard, and the supply of coal, which was plentiful but soft, and animals - from domestic cattle to wild wildebeest - that roamed the grasslands and trampled across the railway line.

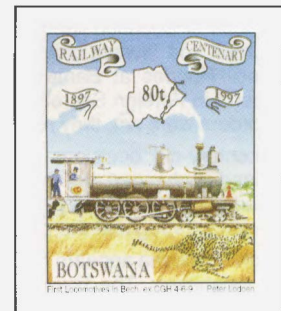
The legendary African bush elephant, rising in weight to ten tons and more, strode almighty across the veldt. The stamp recalls the simultaneously majestic and frightening sight of a family of elephants crossing the rails. The locomotive is a 4-8-0 wood burner of the 7<sup>th</sup> class, bringing 18,660 pounds of tractive force to bear against the gentle jumbos. The 7<sup>th</sup> class engines were the first to operate decorated in Rhodesia Railways livery.



### 80t ‘Converted Joys’ and Cheetahs

As rail lines reached ever outwards from the Cape of Good Hope, British-made locomotives chugged into southern Africa in unprecedented numbers. The 4<sup>th</sup> class 4-6-0’s claimed title as kings of the Cape rails, a score arriving in 1880, 49 more in 1882, 19 in 1883, and a final four in 1884. The locos had conquered the Karoo and viewed the vast horizons of the Kalahari as their next challenge.

Michael Stephens’ original design was modified by his successor, Chief Locomotive Superintendent H.M. Beatty. Most of the 4<sup>th</sup> class engines saw their Joy valve gear restructured, their side tanks removed, and their weight, with tender, reduced from 55 to 48 tons. The oldest existing locomotive photograph shot on Bechuanaland rails shows a so-called “Converted Joy” crossing the Tati River’s dry sand bed. The Joys and other 4-6-0’s worked the 484-mile (780-kilometre) Mafeking to Bulawayo line at a slow and steady pace. Excessive velocity placed heavy demands on supplies of coal and water, and greatly increased the risk of derailment.



The true speed demons of the bushveld remained the cheetahs and springboks. Never has a locomotive been produced to match the style, speed and grace of the cats and antelopes of the Kalahari.

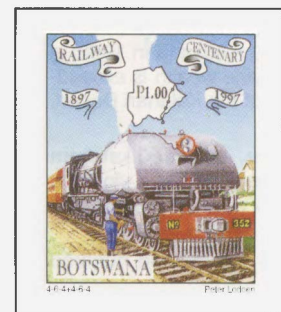
### P1 Fifteenth Class Garratt

Almost as old as the Bechuanaland Protectorate was the double-bunkered, triple-framed, steam-breathing monster known as the Garratt. Designer H.W. Garratt’s articulated locomotive, produced for narrow-gauge railways in hot, dry climates, first set its massive drive wheels on African rails in the Belgian Congo in 1911.

The locomotive, tackling Africa’s harsh terrain and hellish heat, emerged unbeaten, and as rail traffic through Bechuanaland increased, an order was placed with the Beyer-Peacock locomotive works in Manchester. Four 95-ton 4-6-4 + 4-6-4 behemoths were purchased in 1940, but Bechuanaland’s bridges needed restructuring before the Garratts’ mighty boilers breached the Protectorate borders. Regrettably, World War II intervened, and Bechuanaland’s bridge strengthening plans were shelved.

Nineteen years rolled by before the first Garratts, by then known as Rhodesia Railways 15<sup>th</sup> class, took passengers from Bulawayo to Mahalapye. Bechuanaland became Botswana before the Garratts were unleashed upon the entirety of the Mafeking line.

In 1973 Botswana’s myriad whistle stops - from Dibete and Phala Road to Tonota and Tshesebe - felt the throbbing pulse of diesel power, and the 76-year reign of king steam passed into history. Only the 15th-class



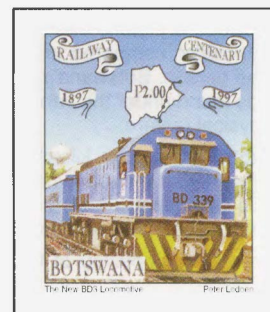
4-6-4+4-6-4 articulated Garratt No. 352 remained at the Francistown station as a gigantic but gentle reminder of the past.

## P2 From Brazil to Botswana

Botswana Railways beefed up its locomotive stock in 1991 by purchasing ten CoCo diesels from General Electric of Brazil. Each of the type U15C diesels weighs 97 tons. They have been designated BD3 class after the original twelve BD1 and 20 succeeding BD2 class diesel-electrics. Both the BD1 and the BD2 locomotives were pictured on stamps of the 1992 Botswana Railways Deluxe issue.

Today BD3 class locomotives haul the day passenger train from Francistown to Lobatse. The overnight trains to Bulawayo are handled by the BD2.

The stamp depicts locomotive No. 339 as it pulls out of Gaborone station on the road to Lobatse.

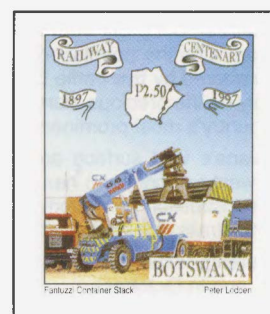


## P2.50 "Future at Work"

A century after sleepers and rails first passed what was then Tlokweng village, the massive Fantuzzi stacker has come to what is now Gaborone station.

Botswana Railways' modern-day demands require movement of six-and twelve-metre long containers, each of which may weigh up to 38 tons. To handle the gigantic task, an order was placed with Bond Equipment of Klerksdorp, South Africa, for the delivery of two Fantuzzi container stackers.

The first of the two 72-ton Fantuzzi's arrived at Francistown's Francon in February 1997. A second unit was transported by flatbed truck from Klerksdorp to Gabcon, Gaborone, in March 1997.



Botswana is Africa's third nation - along with South Africa and Namibia - to employ the Fantuzzi. First developed in Italy some 25 years ago, the stacker has come to widespread use in South Africa. Fully computerised to assure optimum safety, the Fantuzzi stacks containers five high, that is, to a height of 13.5 metres. The Fantuzzi's six-cylinder diesel engine moves the stacker at a maximum speed of 32 kilometres per hour and consumes some 200 litres of fuel in the course of a day's work. The stamp shows the Fantuzzi at work at Gabcon, Gaborone.

## First Day Cover

The First Day Cover pictures an 1890's passenger train and the railway line as it stretches through Botswana. The railheads of Pilane, Palapye Road, Francistown and Bulawayo were reached one hundred years ago.

The Bechuanaland Railway Company 4-6-0 locomotive, manufactured by Neilson of Glasgow, was redesignated, renumbered and repainted in Cape livery before it worked north of Mafeking.

Peter Lodoen

QUANTITIES		PRINTERS	:	National Printing & Packaging (Zimbabwe)
35t	1 200 000	PROCESS	:	Lithography
50t	100 000	SHEET FORMAT	:	2 Panes of 25 stamps
80t	100 000	PERFORATION	:	14
P1	100 000	STAMP SIZE	:	35mm x 30mm
P2	100 000	ARTIST	:	Peter Lodoen
P2.50	100 000	FIRST DAY COVERS	:	1500 at P10 each

Stamps (mint and cancelled), First Day Covers, Cylinder blocks (mint and cancelled), Gutter pairs (mint and cancelled) and complete sets in full sheets (mint or cancelled) are available from the Philatelic Bureau.

For further details and to order, contact Botswana Postal Services, Philatelic Bureau, P O Box 100, Gaborone, Botswana Tel (+267) 353 131, Fax (+267) 313 599



# GERMAN SOUTH WEST AFRICA MAIL VIA MIER AND ZWARTMODDER

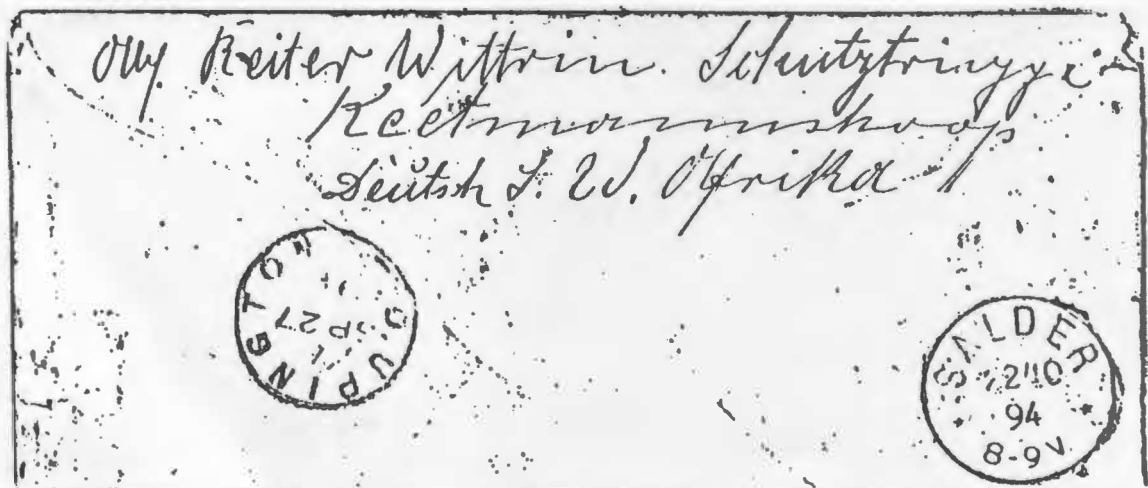
*Jim Catterall*

Three postal land routes out of southern German South West Africa to the Cape have been recorded:

1. Keetmanshoop - Warmbad - Ramansdrift - Steinkopf
2. Ukamas - Upington
3. Keetmanshoop - Hasuur - Rietfontein - Zwartmodder - Upington

From May 1897 until at least 1902 route No.1 was officially recommended by the German authorities and was run to time-tables. Surviving mail from the first two routes was franked with German adhesives and usually backstamped at the first post office reached after crossing the border into Cape territory, i.e. Steinkopf and Upington respectively. Similar mail from route 3 posted at Hasuur can be found but none with transit marks of Mier has been seen by the writer. However, Hasuur was near enough to the Bechuanaland/Cape border for mail to be taken or sent across and posted at Rietfontein using Cape cards and stamps as can be seen on the fourth cover shown.

The first two covers illustrated below also show direct access to the Cape postal system at Zwartmodder for mail originating at Keetmanshoop.



**Cover No. 1**

Keetmanshoop is about 200km. west of Rietfontein which in turn is about 130km. north of Zwartmodder. In 1894 neither Keetmanshoop nor any other place on the route before Zwartmodder had a post office. Mail originating as far west as Keetmanshoop and sent by route 3 is scarce as the southern route via Warmbad was soon recommended. In the case of the first two covers the method of transport may have been unofficial.

The postage stamps would be affixed at Zwartmodder and the franking cancelled there by the BONC 394 with the Zwartmodder B.B. datestamp of SP 26 94 alongside. On the reverse is the transit cds of Upington SP 27 and the German arrival of 22 October. One postage stamp is missing and as the rate at that time was probably 4½d the missing stamp should have been a 1d value.

In 1894 a storekeeper called Albert Jackson arrived at Rietfontein and he is reputed to have organised a private mail service to Zwartmodder using Hottentot runners. The writer Lawrence Green knew Jackson and claimed that he was responsible for introducing camels on to the Mier - Zwartmodder route. Green says that Jackson wrote to Cecil Rhodes and asked if camels could be sent to the Kalahari. Rhodes agreed and two camels eventually arrived. Subsequently Jackson was appointed Postmaster. This may be true but Green also says that Jackson left Rietfontein after four years, i.e. in 1898, and if Jackson used camels he must have done so before the official Camel Post began in July 1899.

The Camel Post continued with interruptions for the Boer war and to rest the camels when necessary until it finally ended in 1914. The camels took four days to cover the distance through arid scrubland.

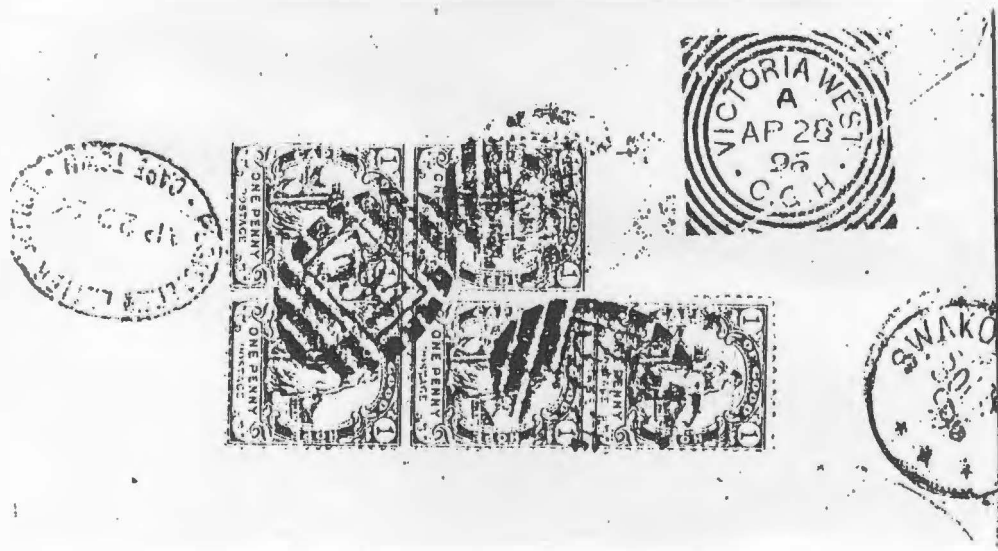
**Cover No. 2**

The second cover is from the same correspondence almost a year later. Neither Keetmanshoop nor Mier yet had a post office and the cover was again posted at Zwartmodder on 3 June 1895.

A pair of British Bechuanaland 2d stamps (SG 34) was cancelled with the BONC 394 with the Zwartmodder B.B. datestamp alongside. The cover was underpaid at 4d but passed without penalty. The letter rate at the time would be 4½d (see Runner Post No.45). The Zwartmodder datestamp has no year slugs but the year is confirmed by the German arrival datestamp (30 July 1895) on the reverse.



COVER 3



COVER 3 (REVERSE)

**Cover No. 3**

The third cover is a registered letter to Windhoek posted at Zwartmodder seven months later, after annexation of British Bechuanaland to the Cape but Zwartmodder was still using the B.B. datestamp. The date of posting is not clear and the address of the sender is not shown. The cover was routed via Victoria West, which was then the railhead, and backstamped there on 28 April 1896, then to Cape Town arriving 29 April and on to Walfish Bay by ship, which it reached on 28 May. It then travelled via Swakopmund where it was also backstamped on 30 May and finally to Windhoek but with no arrival datestamp shown. The cover is franked with five one penny Cape adhesives and cancelled by BONC 394. Few covers are seen using the Zwartmodder B.B. datestamp and numeral either before or after annexation.





#### Cover No. 4

The fourth cover, a letter-card written at Hasuur in 1905. A post office was opened at Hasuur in 1903 but the writer did not trouble the German postal system but posted it directly at Rietfontein which was just across the border close by. The cancellation was by the Mier B.B. datestamp on 25 October 1905. Backstamped Upington 31 October.

It must be pointed out that the Mier datestamp was issued to and used solely at Rietfontein. This was presumably because that place was the centre of the Mierland district; the datestamp had nothing to do with the small nearby village of Mier. The card would have gone by Camel Post to Zwartmodder and then via Upington to Cape Town.

The agency at Mier was opened in 1895 at about the time of annexation to the Cape and issued with a British Bechuanaland datestamp. This remained in use until about 1918. It is not known used with B.B. stamps. After about 1900 mail from GSWA via Mier and Zwartmodder became more frequent.

The translation of the message on the card shows that German soldiers stationed near Hasuur regularly used the Cape mail service via Rietfontein.

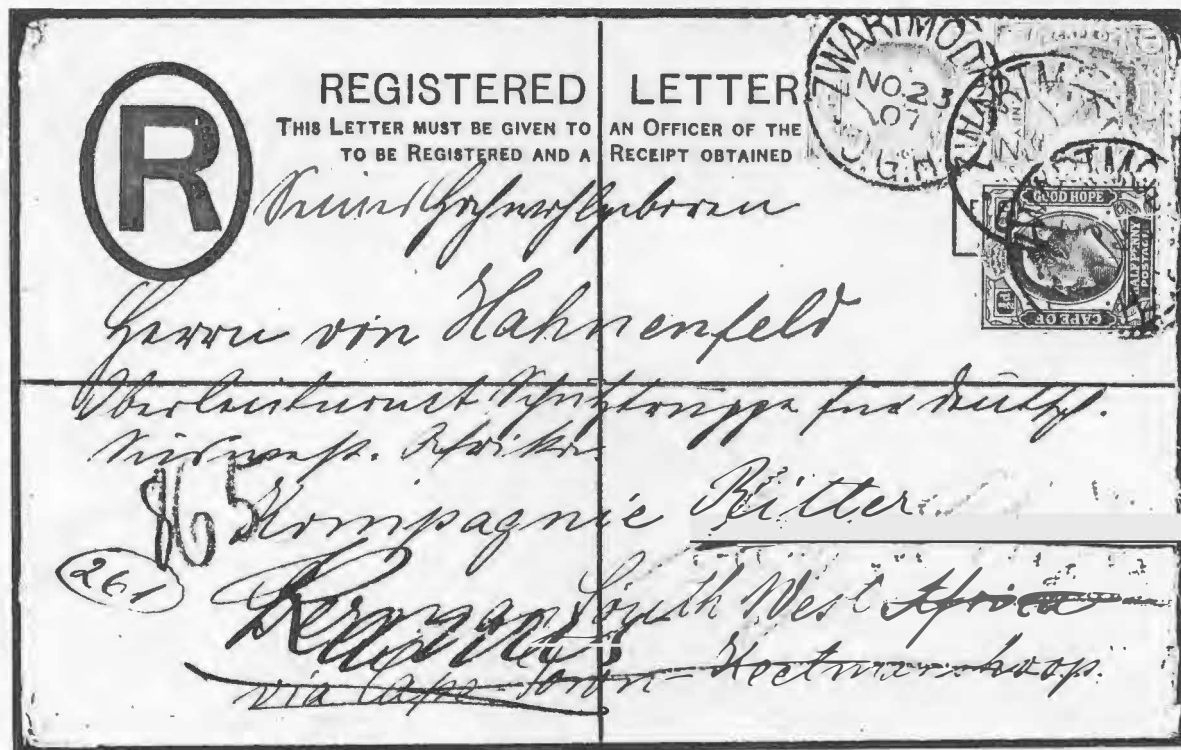
"HASUUR 27.9.05

Dear Parents,

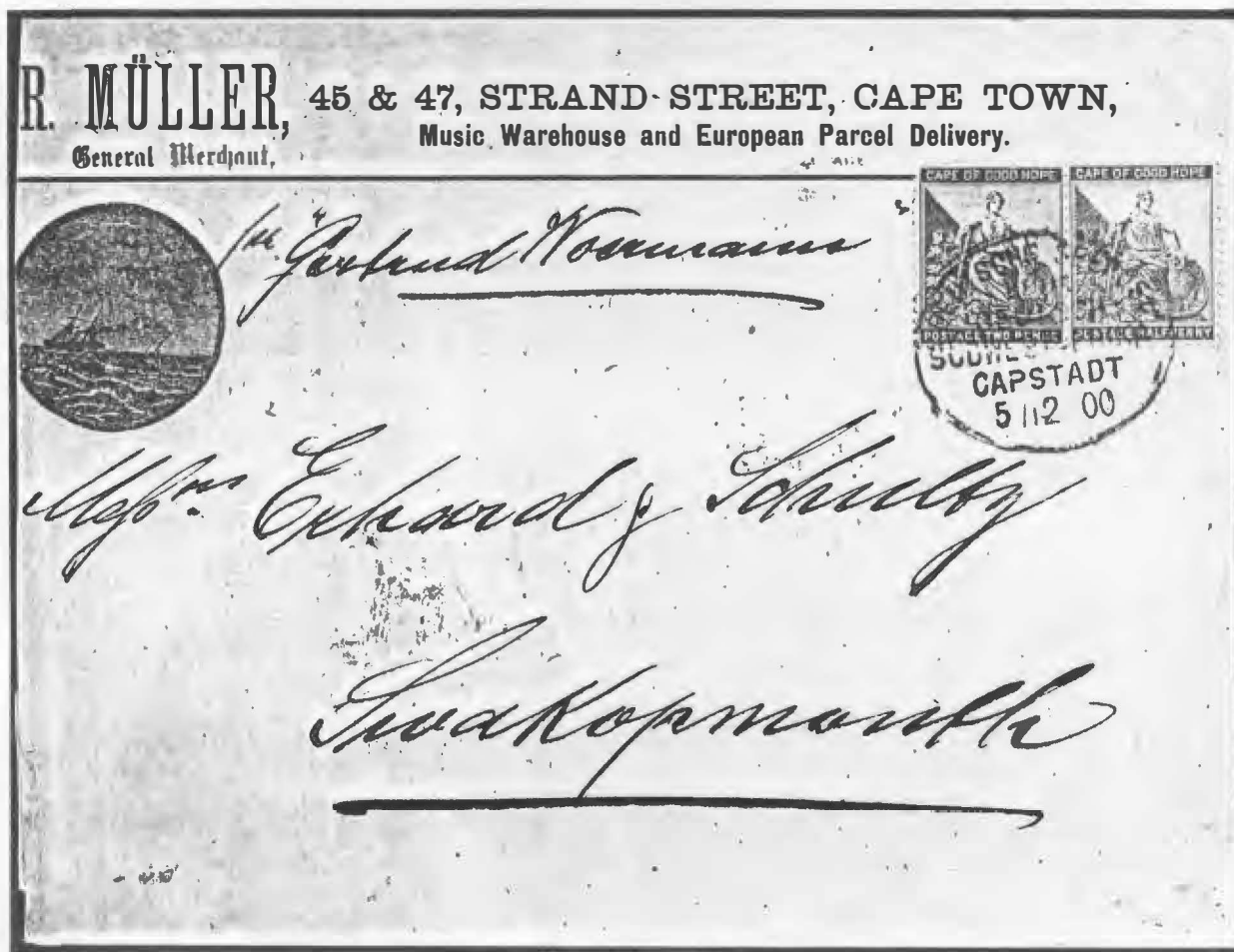
Thank you for your letter of 11.4.05 which I only received at the end of September. Am at present at Hasuur waiting supplies for my station, Nubiskopp. Have not much time and must postpone detailed letter. Hasuur lies almost on the border. One buys English cards which go via Cape Town. Am still feeling excellent and hope you are the same. Nothing at present of Contemplated trip home. In the hope of eventual Wiedersehen.

Yours,

Arthur"



COVER 5



COVER 6

**Cover No. 5**

British Bechuanaland was annexed to the Cape in November 1895 but whereas Zwartmodder was issued with a C.G.H. datestamp fairly quickly the Mier B.B. datestamp was in use until at least 1918.

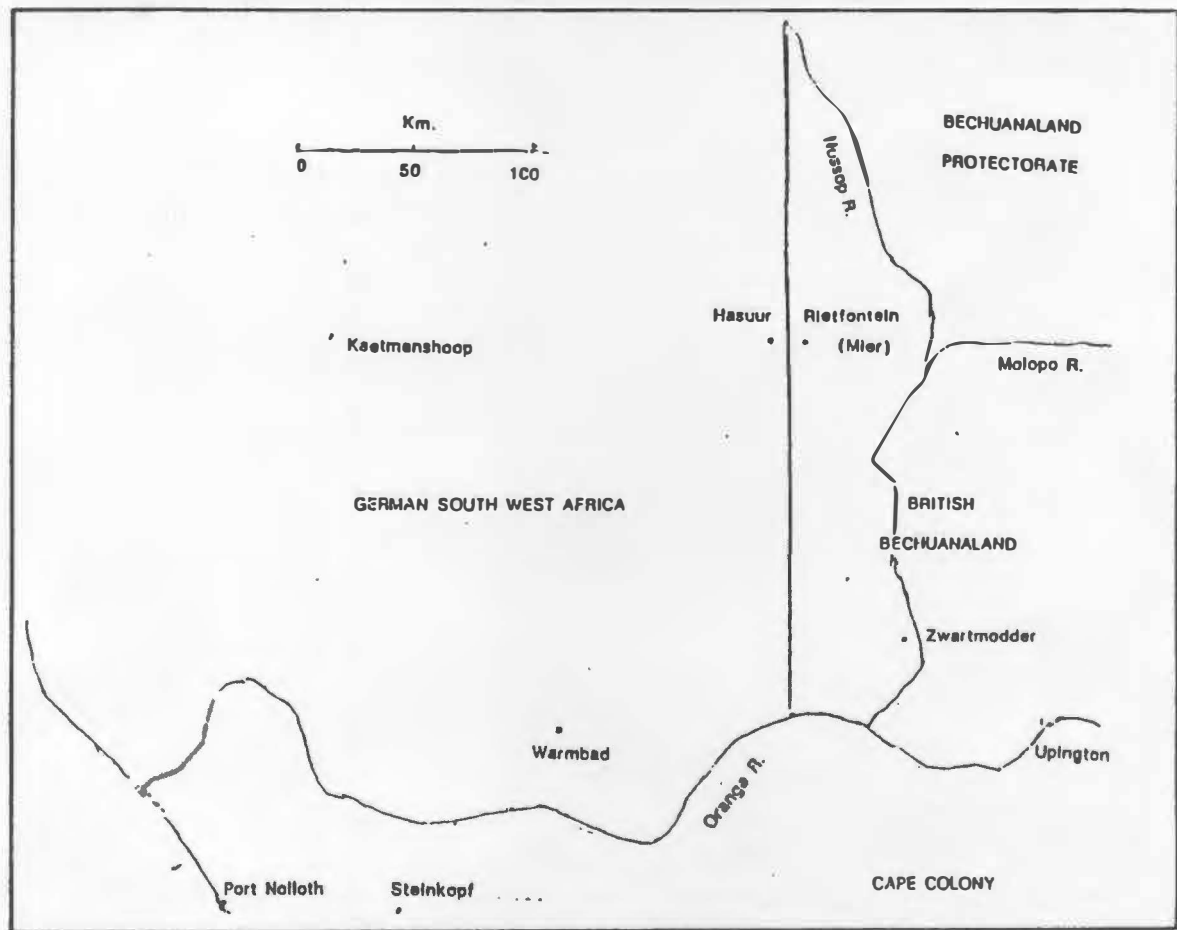
Cover No. 5, a registered stationery envelope originated in Zwartmodder and was posted there on 23 Nov 1907 and cancelled by the Zwartmodder C.G.H. datestamp on that day. The cover is addressed to a German officer at Keetmanshoop and re-addressed to Kanus. The backstamps indicate the route only as far as Cape Town - Uptington 25 Nov, Western TPO UP 30 Nov., Cape Town RLS 2 Dec.

From 1897 until at least 1902, the land route from Cape Town to Keetmanshoop and southern GSWA via Steinkopf and Ramansdrift was recommended. However, if convenient, mail could go by sea to Port Nolloth and then by land. In July 1908 the railway from Luderitz Bay to Keetmanshoop was opened and from then on mail from the Cape to Keetmanshoop could go by sea to Luderitz Bay and then by rail.

**Cover No. 6**

The last item is an example of a cover sent by the German mailboat 'Gertrud Woermann' from Cape Town to Swakopmund.

Franked with C.G.H. stamps and cancelled by datestamp 'Deutsche Seepost. Linie Deutsche SudwestAfrika. Capstadt 5.12.00.' The 'Gertrud Woermann' went aground and was lost in 1903.



MAP TO SHOW RELATIVE POSITIONS OF TOWNS MENTIONED IN THE TEXT.

**References:**

1. Albert Friedemann *The Postage Stamps and Cancellations of the Post Offices in German South West Africa* (English translation, with additions, by Ralph F. Putzel, 1980)
2. *The South African Philatelist*, November 1977.
3. *To the River's End*, by Lawrence Green (1948)

## BECHUANALAND CENSUSES

*Peter Thy*

While visiting my local university library looking for something quite different, I came across a copy of the 1901 Census of the British Empire published in 1906 by His Majesty's Stationery Office. As a collector interested in postal history, I have frequently wondered about the size of the populations and the literacy rates in British Bechuanaland and the Protectorate. Or to put it differently, who was using the post office and the often diminutive printings of stamps and postal stationery?

Censuses were carried out in southern Africa every ten years, for example, in 1871, 1881, and 1891. The 1901 census, however, was postponed by war until 1904. The only information for British Bechuanaland is from 1891 and gives the total population as 72,736. This information is found in a footnote to a Cape of Good Hope summary table (Table 1). If we assume that the break-down on the different population groups was similar to that of rural Cape of Good Hope (in 1904), we can estimate that 10,910 Europeans (or whites) and 61,826 non-Europeans or 35,640 men and 37,096 women lived in British Bechuanaland in 1891.

How many of these were able to write and, therefore, likely to send and receive letters at the post office? If we do the same type of calculation based on the literacy data of the Cape Colony (again in 1904), it is suggested that British Bechuanaland in 1891 had 18,911 inhabitants, European and non-European that were able to read and write. If we correct the total number of Europeans for juvenile non-writers, we get 8,837 European inhabitants that all are assumed to have been able to read and write (obviously an oversimplification!). This implies that about 10,000 non-European inhabitants may have been able to read and write. The latter number is about 20 % of the total non-European and non-juvenile population. This percentage appears very high.

Although this is merely a play with largely unrelated numbers, it does indicate that the segment of the population who used the post office was small, and that it was equally composed of whites and non-whites. An indication of this may be the listings of unclaimed letters at both the Vryburg and Mafeking post offices that were published at regular intervals in the British Bechuanaland Government Gazette (Table 2). These often contained listings of unclaimed native mail (perhaps unclaimed because of the high unpaid fees).

There are several oversimplifications in this analysis which we happily chose to ignore. First, it is doubtful whether the demographic, racial, and educational make-up of British Bechuanaland in 1891 were similar to rural Cape in 1904. Second, the census for the native population is probably incomplete since the enumeration efforts by the authorities was widely seen as an attempt to increase taxation. Information for the white population may be more reliable since immigration was regulated as well as birth and death were required by law to be reported (this was at least the case for Bechuanaland Protectorate). Third, the literacy rates are based on actual information given to the census collectors, and therefore, may reflect the problem that many people refused to acknowledge their inability to read and write.

The 1904 census also includes information on the Protectorate (Table 3). There was a total of 120,776 inhabitants, half of whom were under the age of 15. There was only 1,004 Europeans in the Protectorate. Since there was only about 25 % women among this group, we can assume that the juvenile part of the European population was small. That leaves us with a European population of say around 900 (225 women and 675 men) that may have been able to fully use the post office. There is no foundation for estimating the literacy rate among the non-European segment of the population, but this was probably significantly lower than for the Cape of Good Hope.

The very small European population in the Protectorate explains the small printings of many stamps and stationery. For example, the first two postcards issued in the Protectorate were only printed in numbers of 2,000 and 3,000, respectively, perhaps less than one or two cards per literate inhabitant! The very small white population of Bechuanaland persisted until after World War II, as can be seen from summaries extracted from the Blue Books of South Africa (Table 4). It is also interesting that the white percentage of the population did not increase until well after the war.

POPULATION at the CENSUSES 1865 to 1904 of the COLONY as constituted at each successive CENSUS.

CENSUS YEAR.	Cape Colony as constituted in 1865.	Territories annexed 1866-1876. <sup>a</sup>	Cape Colony as constituted in 1875.	Territories annexed 1876-1891. <sup>b</sup>	Cape Colony as constituted in 1891.	Territories annexed 1891-1904. <sup>c</sup>	Cape Colony as constituted in 1904.
1865 ...	496,881	—	—	—	—	—	—
1875 ...	592,830	122,154	—	—	—	—	—
1891 ...	830,887	125,098	570,739	570,739	1,527,224	238,816 <sup>c</sup>	1,766,040
1904 ...	1,199,184	182,009	741,789	741,789	2,122,982	286,822	2,409,804

<sup>a</sup> British Kaffraria.<sup>b</sup> Griqualand West and Native Territories (excluding Pondoland).<sup>c</sup> British Bechuanaland and Pondoland.—The populations given for these territories in 1891 are 72,736, and 166,080 respectively; the latter number being an estimate supplied by the Magistrates in 1896.

Table 1. Summaries for Cape of Good Hope, 1865-1904. From 'Census of the British Empire, 1901.'

AGES and RACE DISTINCTION of the POPULATION, 1904.

AGES.	Number.	RACE DISTINCTION.	Number.
Under 15 Years	57,996 29,437 28,559	Europeans or Whites { Persons Males Females	1,004 657 347
15 Years and upwards.	62,780 30,137 32,643	Aboriginal Natives { Persons Males Females	119,411 58,712 60,699
		All other Coloured Races { Persons Males Females	361 205 156
Total ...	Persons Males Females		120,776 59,574 61,202

NOTE.—The above numbers include an estimate for the wandering tribes of Bakaahari and Basarwa. They are estimated to number 10,000, and are apportioned equally among the age periods and the sexes.

Table 3. 1904 Census for Bechuanaland Protectorate. From 'Census of the British Empire, 1901.'

Year	Whites	% White	Total Population
1904	1,004	0.8	120,776
1911	1,692	1.4	125,350
1921	1,743	1.3	152,983
1936	1,899	0.7	265,756
1946	2,205	0.8	293,964

Table 4. Summary of Bechuanaland Censuses

From 'Official Year Book of the Union and of Basutoland, Bechuanaland Protectorate and Swaziland', 1948.

## Lists of Unclaimed Letters.

LIST of unclaimed Correspondence lying at the Vryburg Post Office, on the 30th November, 1894:—

Brets, Dolf, 2d  
Clark, W  
Campbell, M  
Coetsee, S  
Coetzee, G  
Coetzee, P  
Caldecott, C H  
Dalt, R L G  
Dolport, J  
De Villiers, M  
Deyzel, W W  
Steyn, W M, c/o A de Klerk 2d  
Du Preez, H H, 4d  
De Boer, J H, 2d  
Bedes, Henry  
Fourie, J D, 2d  
Gosch, S  
Gardner, C W  
Shwaupeel, c/o R van der Hoff  
Haggard, J (2)  
Herbst, M J H  
Henry, W H  
Joubert, B H, 2d  
Johnson, Moses  
Klotke, J  
Jacobs, Moses  
Lloyd, G T (2), 2d  
Lubbe, P  
Lottering, D L  
Leronx, G J, 2d  
Lottering, C, 2d  
Lentlen, v d, Gert, 2d  
Larne, J G  
Louw, J H  
Merwa, v d, A J

Meil, G  
Martin, F  
Marais, F L, 2d  
Orstrand, B  
Odenhual, J H, 2d  
Pretorius  
Pogietter, Freckie  
Pretorius  
Pretorius, P S  
Pienaar, D, 2d  
Lonsburg, D T  
Rooyen, van, H C  
Van Zyl, Maria, c/o Roscher  
Rietjies, D  
Rood, P J  
Stynberg, N J, 2d  
Steinsehl, M H, 2d  
Struiker, Mrs  
Swart, P J J  
Smith, C H  
Shent, C  
Strydom, G I  
Soholtz, C  
Swartz, S  
Tait, R, 2d  
Trollope, Watts W  
Townsend, C (card)  
Venter, D J, 2d  
Vaughan, Arthur  
Vrwr  
Voigt, Albert  
Wernhardt, V  
Whitlock, Gordon, 2d  
Wyk, van, J W J, 2d  
Wessels, J F C  
Waitt, G.

## NATIVES.

Baveditse Hanse  
Monetillo Loogoru  
Motholo Puogor  
Mpili Toboroto  
Moron Morepho  
Tandiyies Khosonay  
Puozale

Catherine Montwane, 8d  
Belami Zoni Utebi, 4d  
Martebe Solohe, 2d  
M Mreidor, 4d  
Nellie Spandeel, 2d  
James Nxozana, 2d  
Chebele Mukwa, 2d

J. E. SYMONS, Postmaster.  
Vryburg, 30th November 1894.

Table 2. Unclaimed Letters at Vryburg Post Office in Nov 1894. From British Bechuanaland Government Gazette for Dec 7th, 1894. Notice is signed by the former postmaster of Macloutsie.



## CHECKLIST OF BOTSWANA POSTMARKS

### MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS WITHOUT ANY OFFICE NAME

*Brian Trotter*

This checklist covers the postmarks so far recorded that are without any office name. The Botswana Postmark Project Team has recorded 36 of these miscellaneous markings up to now. As new ones are issued and additional ones are discovered, we encourage our members to provide further information on these, as well as more information on those already recorded.

SINCE THE RECORDED MARKINGS REPRESENT ESSENTIALLY ONLY WHAT IS CONTAINED IN THE COLLECTIONS OF THE VERY SMALL NUMBER OF MEMBERS WORKING ON THE POSTMARK PROJECT, RECORDED NUMBERS OF MARKINGS DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT RELATIVE SCARCITY OF THE RESPECTIVE MARKINGS.

The results of the Project Team's efforts for these miscellaneous markings without any office name follow (In roughly chronological order).

#### FIRST DAY OF ISSUE



No. 1 Type SPEC 4a

Earliest recorded date	:	Sep 30, 1971
Latest recorded date	:	Sep 30, 1971
Number recorded so far	:	1

Commemorating the 5th Anniversary of Independence.



No. 2 Type SPEC 1a

Circle diameters	:	19 & 26 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Nov 11, 1971
Latest recorded date	:	Jul 11, 1973
Codes recorded	:	A, D
Number recorded so far	:	8

---

#### DEPT. OF POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS



No. 1 Type MISC 6d

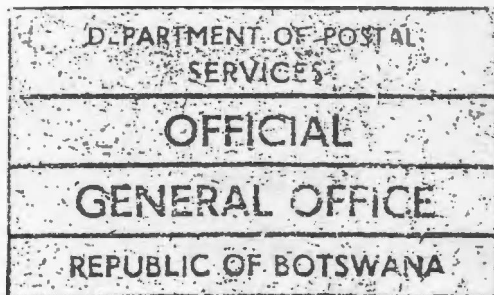
Oval dimensions	:	±35 x 55 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Feb 6, 1976
Latest recorded date	:	Feb 6, 1976
Number recorded so far	:	1



## No. 2 Type MISC 8a

Box dimensions : 33 x 52 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Feb 6, 1976  
 Latest recorded date : May 2, 1977  
 Number recorded so far : 4

## DEPT. OF POSTAL SERVICES



## No. 1 Type MISC 8b

Box dimensions : 38 x 63 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Oct 13, 1982  
 Latest recorded date : Nov 18, 1982  
 Number recorded so far : 2

## SPECIAL EVENT CANCELLATIONS



## No. 1 Type SPEC 4b

Earliest recorded date : Oct 27, 1981  
 Latest recorded date : Oct 27, 1981  
 Number recorded so far : 2

Opening of Botswana Vaccine Institute.



## No. 2 Type SPEC 6f

Earliest recorded date : Sep 30, 1986  
 Latest recorded date : Sep 30, 1986  
 Number recorded so far : 3

Omnibus marking - 20 Years of Independence. Special National Stadium Cancellation.

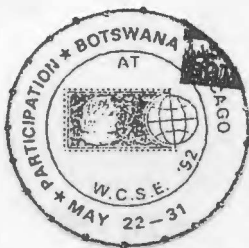


## No. 3 Type SPEC 4b

Earliest recorded date : May 3-13, 1990  
 Latest recorded date : May 3-13, 1990  
 Number recorded so far : 3

All recorded items are struck in red. Omnibus marking - Stampworld London 1990.





## No. 4 Type SPEC 4c

Earliest recorded date : May 22-31, 1992  
 Latest recorded date : May 22-31, 1992  
 Number recorded so far : 1

The single recorded item is struck in blue. World Colombian Stamp Expo 92, Chicago.



## No. 5 Type SPEC 4c

Earliest recorded date : Aug 24-29, 1992  
 Latest recorded date : Aug 24-29, 1992  
 Number recorded so far : 2

Both recorded items are struck in blue - Botswana International Trade Fair.



## No. 6 Type SPEC 4c

Earliest recorded date : Oct 23-25, 1991  
 Latest recorded date : Oct 23-25, 1991  
 Number recorded so far : 3

All recorded items are struck in blue - Tourism Expo 1991 (See No. 7 for a similar strike for the 1992 Expo).



## No. 7 Type SPEC 4c

Earliest recorded date : Oct 22-24 1992  
 Latest recorded date : Oct 22-24 1992  
 Number recorded so far : 2

Both recorded items are struck in blue - Tourism Expo 1992 (See No. 6 for a similar strike for the 1991 Expo).



## No 8 Type SPEC 4c

Earliest recorded date : May 8-14, 1993  
 Latest recorded date : May 8-14, 1993  
 Number recorded so far : 2

Both recorded items are struck in blue. Botswana National Library Service.

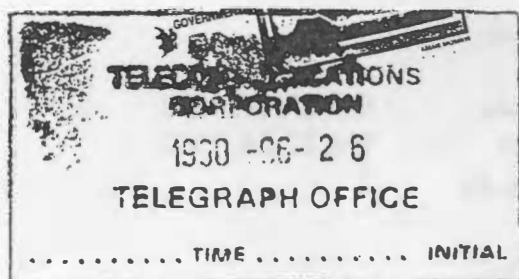
## OTHER CANCELLERS



## No. 1 Type OTHR 2a

Earliest recorded date	:	Nov 29, 1983
Latest recorded date	:	Nov 29, 1983
Number recorded so far	:	1

Education Secretary / Bobonong Area datestamp used as a canceller. (This could also have been recorded under Bobonong).

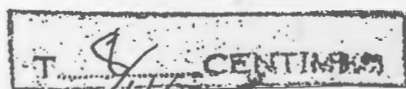


## No. 2 Type OTHR 1b

Earliest recorded date	:	May ?, 1987
Latest recorded date	:	Jun 26, 1990
Number recorded so far	:	3

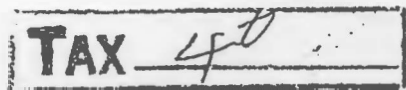
One recorded item is struck in red. Telegraph office datestamp used as a canceller.

## POSTAGE DUE



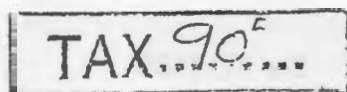
## No. 1 Type PDUE-2

Box dimensions	:	10 x 52 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Sep 2, 1967
Latest recorded date	:	Sep 2, 1967
Number recorded so far	:	1



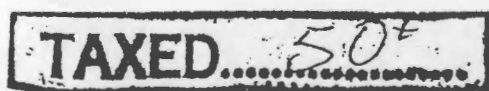
## No. 2 Type PDUE-1

Box dimensions	:	11 x 52 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Nov 25, 1988
Latest recorded date	:	Nov 25, 1988
Number recorded so far	:	1



## No. 3 Type PDUE-1

Box dimensions	:	11 x 54 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Nov 15, 1991
Latest recorded date	:	Nov 15, 1991
Number recorded so far	:	1



## No. 4 Type PDUE-3

Box dimensions	:	11 x 62 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Sep ?, 1992
Latest recorded date	:	Sep ?, 1992
Number recorded so far	:	1

## MISCELLANEOUS DATESTAMPS



## No. 1 Type MISC 7m

Oval dimensions	:	28 x 45 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Jun 19, 1990
Latest recorded date	:	Aug 9, 1991
Number recorded so far	:	4

All recorded items are struck in red. Note spelling as CURCULATION.



## No. 2 Type MISC 3g

Circle diameters	:	19 & 28 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Sep 27, 1989
Latest recorded date	:	Nov 6, 1989
Number recorded so far	:	2

Both recorded items are struck in red.



## No. 3 Type MISC 11

Earliest recorded date	:	May 3-13, 1990
Latest recorded date	:	May 3-13, 1990
Number recorded so far	:	1

Stamp World London 1999.



## No. 4 Type MISC 11

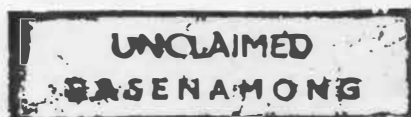
Earliest recorded date	:	Mar 26-Apr 3, 1993
Latest recorded date	:	Mar 26-Apr 3, 1993
Number recorded so far	:	1



## No. 5 Type MISC 11

Earliest recorded date	:	May 25-28, 1993
Latest recorded date	:	May 25-28, 1993
Number recorded so far	:	1

## MISCELLANEOUS MARKINGS



## No. 1 Type MISC 8j

Box dimensions	: ± 15 x 53 mm
Earliest recorded date	: Jul 9, 1983
Latest recorded date	: Jul 9, 1983
Number recorded so far	: 1

The single recorded item is struck in red.



## No. 2 Type MISC 81

Box dimensions	: 12 x 53 mm
Earliest recorded date	: Aug 14, 1985
Latest recorded date	: Aug 14, 1985
Number recorded so far	: 1



## No. 3 Type MISC 8s

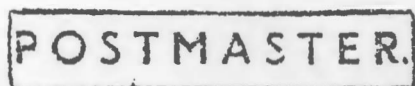
Box dimensions	: 10 x 20 mm
Earliest recorded date	: ??, 1988
Latest recorded date	: ??, 1988
Number recorded so far	: 1

POSTMASTER.

## No. 4 Type MISC 9a

Letter dimensions	: 4 x 36 mm
Earliest recorded date	: ??, 1988
Latest recorded date	: ??, 1988
Number recorded so far	: 1

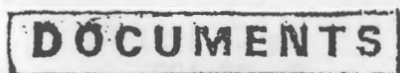
The single recorded item is struck in red.



## No. 5 Type MISC 8d

Box dimensions	: 10 x 53 mm
Earliest recorded date	: ??, 1988
Latest recorded date	: ??, 1988
Number recorded so far	: 1

The single recorded item is struck in red.



## No. 6 Type MISC 8g

Box dimensions	: 9 x 51 mm
Earliest recorded date	: ?
Latest recorded date	: ?
Number recorded so far	: 1



## No. 7 Type MISC 8g

Box dimensions : 11 x 61 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Sep 28, 1991  
 Latest recorded date : Sep 28, 1991  
 Number recorded so far : 1



## No. 8 Type MISC 8h

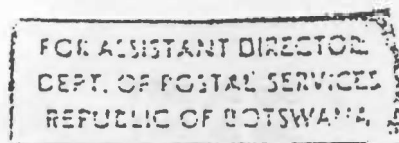
Box dimensions : ± 12 x 50 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : ??  
 Latest recorded date : ?  
 Number recorded so far : 1

The 'O' in postage is apparently missing.



## No. 9 Type MISC 8r

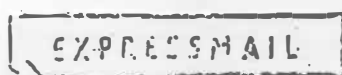
Box dimensions : 11 x 67 nun  
 Earliest recorded date : Sep 28, 1991  
 Latest recorded date : Sep 28, 1991  
 Number recorded so far : 1



## No. 10 Type 8n

Box dimensions : ± 12 x 50 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : ?  
 Latest recorded date : ?  
 Number recorded so far : 1

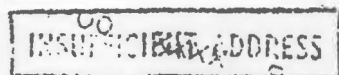
The single recorded item is a photocopy, so no way to determine the colour of the strike.



## No. 11 Type MISC 8q

Box dimensions : 8.5 x 43.5 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : ?  
 Latest recorded date : ?  
 Number recorded so far : 1

The single recorded item is a photocopy, so no way to determine the colour of the strike.



## No. 12 Type MISC 8p

Box dimensions : 9 x 43 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Feb 5, 1994  
 Latest recorded date : Feb 5, 1994  
 Number recorded so far : 1

The single recorded item is struck in blue.

The Botswana Postmark Project Team that provided the data for this Checklist for Miscellaneous Markings without any office name was Dennis Firth, the late Mike George, Sir John Inglefield-Watson, Peter Thy, David Wall (with help from Barbara Andersson and Sheila Case), and myself.

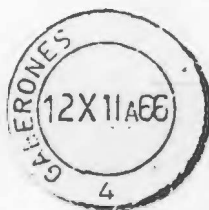
## CHECKLIST OF BOTSWANA POSTMARKS FOR GABORONE

*Brian Trotter*

This is the final checklist of postmarks put together by the Botswana Postmark Project Team, and covers all the markings we were able to record for Gaborone. New markings for Gaborone (and many other offices) have probably been issued during the time elapsed between collecting the information, and finally getting the checklist published. This has also been an ongoing situation with many of the latest recorded dates, with new later dates coming available as the cancellers continue to be used. So, in many cases, the latest recorded dates have little real relevance.

SINCE THE RECORDED MARKINGS REPRESENT ESSENTIALLY ONLY WHAT IS CONTAINED IN THE COLLECTIONS OF THE VERY SMALL NUMBER OF MEMBERS WORKING ON THE POSTMARK PROJECT, RECORDED NUMBERS OF MARKINGS DO NOT NECESSARILY REPRESENT RELATIVE SCARCITY OF THE RESPECTIVE MARKINGS.

The Project Team has recorded 202 markings for Gaborone so far. The results of the Team's efforts follow.



### No. 1 Type 2 E (4)

Circle diameters	:	18 & 26 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Dec 12, 1966
Latest recorded date	:	Aug 12, 1971
Codes recorded	:	A, B
Number recorded so far	:	10

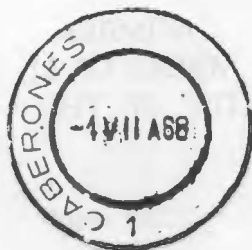
This is Bechuanaland Protectorate marking with 'Bechuanaland' excised (See Runner Post No. 23, page 436).



### No. 2 Type 2 E (5)

Circle diameters	:	18 & 26 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Dec 24, 1966
Latest recorded date	:	Jun 26, 1971
Codes recorded	:	A
Number recorded so far	:	3

This is Bechuanaland Protectorate marking with 'Bechuanaland' excised (See Runner Post No. 23, page 436).



### No. 3 Type 2 E (1)

Circle diameters	:	21 & 32 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	May 8, 1968
Latest recorded date	:	Jul 1, 1968
Codes recorded	:	A
Number recorded so far	:	2

This is Bechuanaland Protectorate marking with 'Bechuanaland' excised (See Runner Post No. 23, page 435).



## No. 4 Type 2 E (2)

Circle diameters	:	21 & 32 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Jul 13, 1970
Latest recorded date	:	Jul 16, 1970
Codes recorded	:	A
Number recorded so far	:	2

This is Bechuanaland Protectorate marking with 'Bechuanaland' excised (See Runner Post No. 23, page 435).



## No. 5 Type 23 J 26

Circle diameters	:	32 & 35 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Aug 15, 1968
Latest recorded date	:	Aug 15, 1968
Number recorded so far	:	1

The single recorded item is struck in red.



## No. 6 Type 2 A 1

Circle diameters	:	22 & 33 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Nov 1, 1966
Latest recorded date	:	May 29, 1971
Codes recorded	:	A, B
Number recorded so far	:	11



## No. 7 Type 2 A 1

Circle diameters	:	20 & 31 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Dec 18, 1975
Latest recorded date	:	Dec 11, 1991
Codes recorded	:	A, B, C
Number recorded so far	:	22

Wide letter spacing. 'Gaborone' begins and ends slightly below the top of the date line. See numbers 8 and 9 for narrower letter spacing.



## No. 8 Type 2 A 1

Circle diameters	:	19 & 31 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Jul 2, 1985
Latest recorded date	:	Sep 14, 1992
Codes recorded	:	A, B
Number recorded so far	:	7

See number 7 for wider letter spacing, and number 9 for larger inner circle.





## No. 9 Type 2 A 1

Circle diameters	:	20 & 31 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Nov 4, 1974
Latest recorded date	:	Jun 22, 1992
Codes recorded	:	A, B, C
Number recorded so far	:	19

See number 7 for wider letter spacing, and number 8 for smaller inner circle.



## No. 10 Type 2 A 1

Circle diameters	:	20.5 & 34 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Nov 27, 1989
Latest recorded date	:	Jun 9, 1993
Codes recorded	:	A, B, C
Number recorded so far	:	8

'Gaborone' off centre, to the left, in relation to the date. Earliest recorded item has the date sequence reversed (year, code, month, day).



## No. 11 Type 2 A 1

Circle diameters	:	18 & 26 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Feb 6, 1973
Latest recorded date	:	Feb 7, 1995
Codes recorded	:	A, B, C, None
Number recorded so far	:	Over 50

Some recorded items have the date sequence reversed (year, code, month, day). See number 12 for a similar marking with slightly bigger circle diameters, and slightly larger and wider letter. Item with no code has the year in full (1987).



## No. 12 Type 2 A 1

Circle diameters	:	19 & 27 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Aug 11, 1970
Latest recorded date	:	Dec 13, 1991
Codes recorded	:	A, B, C, None
Number recorded so far	:	Over 50

Some recorded items have the date sequence reversed (year, code, month, day). See number 11 for a similar marking with slightly smaller circle diameters and slightly smaller and narrower letters.



## No. 13 Type 2 A 1

Circle diameters	:	19 & 28 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Dec 31, 1986
Latest recorded date	:	Apr 11, 1994
Number recorded so far	:	3



## No. 14 Type 1 B 52

Circle diameters : 25 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Feb 28, 1985  
 Latest recorded date : Feb 15, 1988  
 Number recorded so far : 11



## No. 15 Type 22 B 51

Circle diameters : 20 & 28 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Feb 23, 1981  
 Latest recorded date : Jul 9, 1990  
 Number recorded so far : 16



## No. 16 Type 2 B 51

Circle diameters : 18.5 & 27 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Dec 5, 1977  
 Latest recorded date : Nov 25, 1994  
 Number recorded so far : Over 50

See number 17 for a similar marking with larger, wider lettering.



## No. 17 Type 2 B 51

Circle diameters : 18.5 & 27 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Aug 7, 1992  
 Latest recorded date : Jun 29, 1994  
 Number recorded so far : 8

See number 16 for a similar marking with smaller, narrower lettering.



## No. 18 Type 2 D 6

Circle diameters : 22 & 33 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Jan 19, 1987  
 Latest recorded date : Nov 1, 1988  
 Codes recorded : A  
 Number recorded so far : 10

Note spelling as GABORNE.



## No. 19 Type 21 B 51

Circle diameters : 18 & 30 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Mar 23, 1983  
 Latest recorded date : Mar 2, 1993  
 Number recorded so far : 38

Two of the recorded items are struck in red.

---



## No. 20 Type 21 A 1

Circle diameters : 17.5 & 29.5 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Dec 11, 1991  
 Latest recorded date : Jan 30, 1992  
 Number recorded so far : 2

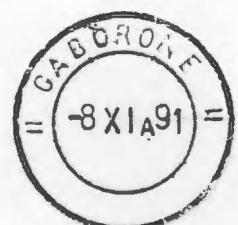
---



## No. 21 Type 2 F 6

Circle diameters : 19 & 28 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Nov 13, 1990  
 Latest recorded date : Sep 6, 1993  
 Number recorded so far : 7

---



## No. 22 Type 2 A 3

Circle diameters : 19 & 28 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Mar 13, 1991  
 Latest recorded date : Nov 11, 1994  
 Codes recorded : A  
 Number recorded so far : 3

---



## No. 23 Type 2 F 2 (1)

Circle diameters : 19 & 28 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : May 22, 1990  
 Latest recorded date : Dec 10, 1993  
 Number recorded so far : 41

---



## No. 24 Type 2 F 2 (2)

Circle diameters : 19 & 28 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Dec 6, 1991  
 Latest recorded date : Feb 12, 1993  
 Number recorded so far : 12



## No. 25 Type 2 F 2 (3)

Circle diameters : 19 & 28 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Aug 1, 1990  
 Latest recorded date : Oct 13, 1994  
 Number recorded so far : 29



## No. 26 Type 2 F 2 (4)

Circle diameters : 19 & 28 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Dec 1, 1990  
 Latest recorded date : May 7, 1991  
 Number recorded so far : 2



## No. 27 Type 2 F 2 (5)

Circle diameters : 19 & 28 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Sep 24, 1990  
 Latest recorded date : Feb 5, 1993  
 Number recorded so far : Over 50



## No. 28 Type 2 F 2 (6)

Circle diameters : 19 & 28 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Apr 14, 1990  
 Latest recorded date : Jan 9, 1995  
 Number recorded so far : Over 50



## No. 29 Type 2 F 2 (7)

Circle diameters : 19 & 28 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : May 4, 1990  
 Latest recorded date : Aug 20, 1990  
 Number recorded so far : 9

Two of the recorded items have no hyphen between month and day (see illustration), and 2 recorded items have day and month sequence reversed.



## No. 30 Type 2 F 2 (8)

Circle diameters : 19 & 28 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : May 3, 1990  
 Latest recorded date : Jun 3, 1992  
 Number recorded so far : 43



## No. 31 Type 2 F 2 (9)

Circle diameters : 19 & 28 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Apr 24, 1990  
 Latest recorded date : Jun 29, 1993  
 Number recorded so far : 10



## No. 32 Type 2 F 2 (10)

Circle diameters : 19 & 28 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Oct 11, 1990  
 Latest recorded date : Dec 8, 1994  
 Number recorded so far : 16



## No. 33 Type 2 F 2 (11)

Circle diameters : 19 & 28 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Jul 9, 1990  
 Latest recorded date : Apr 19, 1994  
 Number recorded so far : Over 50



## No. 34 Type 2 F 2 (12)

Circle diameters : 19 & 28 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Apr 25, 1990  
 Latest recorded date : Feb 10, 1995  
 Number recorded so far : 22

The first digit of the month is missing on many of the earlier recorded examples (see illustration), others record a 2 digit month in all instances (e.g. 08 for August).



## No. 35 Type 1 D 9 (2)

Circle diameter : 25 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Sep 17, 1985  
 Latest recorded date : Sep 17, 1985  
 Number recorded so far : 1



## No. 36 Type 1 D 9 (3)

Circle diameter : 25 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Aug 9, 1986  
 Latest recorded date : Aug 9, 1986  
 Number recorded so far : 1



## No. 37 Type 1 D 9 (6)

Circle diameter : 25 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Apr 15, 1986  
 Latest recorded date : Apr 15, 1986  
 Number recorded so far : 1



## No. 38 Type 1 D 9 (8)

Circle diameter : 25 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Sep 24, 1985  
 Latest recorded date : Sep 14, 1988  
 Number recorded so far : 10

Three of the recorded items have the date line inverted.



## No. 39 Type 1 D 9 (9)

Circle diameter : 25 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Oct 14, 1985  
 Latest recorded date : May 16, 1986  
 Number recorded so far : 4

The latest recorded item appears to have no stop after the month.



## No. 40 Type 1 D 9 (10)

Circle diameter : 25 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Sep 16, 1985  
 Latest recorded date : May 26, 1986  
 Number recorded so far : 6

The latest recorded item appears to have no stop after the month.



## No. 41 Type 1 D 9 (11)

Circle diameter : 25 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Jan 4, 1986  
 Latest recorded date : Jan 4, 1986  
 Number recorded so far : 1



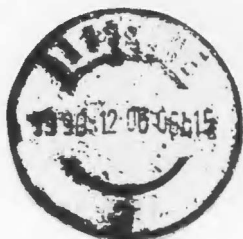
## No. 42 Type 1 D 9 (12)

Circle diameter : 25 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Oct 2, 1985  
 Latest recorded date : Sep 14, 1988  
 Number recorded so far : 3





No. 43 Type 21 E (1)  
 Circle diameters : 18 & 31 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Aug 6, 1991  
 Latest recorded date : Mar 8, 1993  
 Number recorded so far : 13



No. 44 Type 21 E (2)  
 Circle diameters : 18 & 31 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Dec 6, 1990  
 Latest recorded date : Dec 6, 1990  
 Number recorded so far : 1



No. 45 Type 21 E (13)  
 Circle diameters : 18 & 31 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Dec 11, 1991  
 Latest recorded date : Dec 11, 1991  
 Number recorded so far : 1



No. 46 Type 21 E (14)  
 Circle diameters : 18 & 31 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Dec 11, 1991  
 Latest recorded date : Dec 11, 1991  
 Number recorded so far : 1



No. 47 Type 21 E (15)  
 Circle diameters : 18 & 31 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Dec 11, 1991  
 Latest recorded date : Jan 26, 1993  
 Number recorded so far : 11



No. 48 Type 2 E (1)  
 Circle diameters : 19 & 28 mm  
 Earliest recorded date : Sep 8, 1971  
 Latest recorded date : Dec 11, 1991  
 Codes recorded : A, B  
 Number recorded so far : 12



## No. 49 Type 2 E (2)

Circle diameters	:	18 & 26 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Sep 10, 1969
Latest recorded date	:	May 13, 1970
Codes recorded	:	B
Number recorded so far	:	2

Note spelling as GABERONES.



## No. 50 Type 2 E (2)

Circle diameters	:	19 & 26 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Oct 3, 1969
Latest recorded date	:	Mar 17, 1993
Codes recorded	:	A, B, None
Number recorded so far	:	Over 50

Some recorded items have the date sequence reversed (year, code, month, day).

Note: Some recorded items have circle diameters of 19 & 27 mm, and an even shorter tail to the '2' than the illustrated smaller outer circle version. However, for simplicity, these have been treated as one marking.

No illustration  
available

## No. 51 Type 2 E (3)

Circle diameters	:	19 & 26 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Nov 17, 1980
Latest recorded date	:	Nov 17, 1980
Codes recorded	:	A
Number recorded so far	:	1



## No. 52 Type 2 E (5)

Circle diameters	:	18 & 27 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	Jun 17, 1985
Latest recorded date	:	Jun 25, 1991
Number recorded so far	:	10



## No. 53 Type 2 E (3)

Circle diameters	:	19 & 31 mm
Earliest recorded date	:	May 2, 1977
Latest recorded date	:	Nov 4, 1988
Codes recorded	:	A, B, C
Number recorded so far	:	10

PART TWO OF THE GABORONE POSTMARK STUDY WILL APPEAR IN RUNNER POST 49

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1897 Cape 1/2d yellow-green overprinted 'BRITISH BECHUANALAND' (words 13mm apart). Strips of three from each corner of the sheet, each showing Plate Number '2'. Very fine / superb mint. Scarce and attractive group. SG 56

Perhaps not, though I can always offer interesting and attractive items to enhance your collection.

For further details of these and other fine and rare items from the Bechuanalands, Rhodesias and the pre-Union states of South Africa, please contact:

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