

The Runner Post

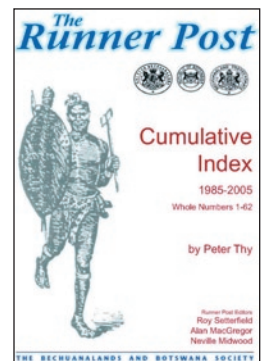
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Nov 2005/ Mar 2006

THE BECHUANALANDS AND BOTSWANA SOCIETY

DAVID CROCKER

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Membership News

Andy Wilde

Berkshire, UK

Andy's collecting interests include Bechuanaland QV Jubilee overprints. He is a member of GBOS, GBPS and BWASC.

DIARY OF EVENTS

2006

Wed 20 th to Sun 24 th Sep	Autumn Stampex, Business Design Centre, Islington, London (Angel tube)
Thu 26 th to Sat 28 th Oct	Autumn Philatex, R.H.S. Hall, Greycoat Street, London (Victoria tube)
Sat 28 th Oct	AGM and informal meeting; 12:45 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. - Room 22 at Philatex
Fri 3 rd to Sun 5 th Nov	Southern African Specialist Societies Conference 2006. Falstaff Hotel, Leamington Spa. Contact Brian Trotter for bookings.

2007

Thu 22 nd to Sat 24 th Feb	Spring Philatex, R.H.S. Hall, Greycoat Street, London (Victoria tube)
Sat 24 th Feb	Informal meeting; 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. - Room 31 at Philatex Southern Africa Specialist Societies meeting; 4 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. - Room 31 at Philatex
Sat 27 th Oct	12:45 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. Annual meeting - Room 22 at Philatex

* The Society encourages members to bring Bechuanaland or Botswana philatelic material to Society meetings. If members do plan to bring along material, and especially if they have questions, however minor, it would be helpful if they could alert the Secretary, noting if and what material they will be bringing along and what questions they have. Prior notice enables the Secretary to forewarn and co-ordinate other members who may want to prepare information or send or bring along comparable material.

News

Runner Post delay

Producing an issue of Runner Post normally takes about a hundred hours. And with pressure of work (a large computer system going live in late November 2005) the planned date for Runner Post #64 slipped from November to December.

Then disaster struck. Having spent some of that precious Christmas holiday on making some good progress on the issue, the hard drive on my main (old) PC failed! That meant buying and fitting a new drive and recovering what I could from backups.

So I decided to produce a double issue, #64 and #65, to catch up with the schedule of three issues a year.

Runner Post #66, due in late June, will include part two of Dennis Firth's series on "Official Free Markings" and all those articles [Ed:Hint] that members are going to send to me by the end of May.

Peter Thy has completed his "Runner Post Cumulative Index 1985-2005" and a copy is included with this issue.

Our Auctioneer has come up with enough items for another Auction and a copy of the catalogue for the 16th Postal Bid Sale is also included.

So hopefully there's plenty to read, and apologies it took so long to get to you this time.

SASS Conference 2006

The 2006 Southern African Specialist Societies Conference will take place at The Falstaff Hotel, Leamington Spa, November 3rd to 5th. There will be an invited display Friday evening, and invited displays Saturday, participants bring-along displays Sunday morning and auction Sunday afternoon. The rate this year is £58 per person per night for dinner, bed and breakfast. Please contact Brian Trotter if you need further information or want to make a booking.

SG41a. Small figure '1'
(Row 5 Stamp 4 position)

We are reliably informed that this particular position of the small figure '1' in the setting is likely to be deleted from the next edition of the Stanley Gibbons Part 1 catalogue.

This action is intended to clarify the position arising as a result of the discovery in a recent study of further small figure '1's in the setting (see Runner Post #62).

It is hoped that the remaining two positions (R7/2 and R10/2) will be illustrated to allow collectors ease of identification.'



R5/4 position, it is the upper left stamp in the block of 4

BPS Event - October 2006

30th Sep. 2006 sees the 40th Anniversary of Botswana Independence. Oct. 9th is World Postal Day. Around the weekend of the 21st Oct. there is an (as yet unconfirmed) major South African philatelic event planned. The Botswana Philatelic Society (BPS) is planning its own event from Oct. 6th (Friday) to Oct. 8th (Sunday).

The BPS dates were chosen to allow keen members living in South Africa to get to the Botswana event, and still be back in plenty of time for any commitments to the South African event.

The Society has decided to give members this early warning in The Runner Post, even though parts of the event are as yet "unclear".

Sheila Case says:

"The BPS normally has a small Youth Exhibition at about that time of the year. We will attempt to upgrade that Youth event, and attach to it 'sideshows'. Each sideshow will be run by some designated member or group, so that if one fails, there will still be things going on. The whole event will be low-key in comparison with National Exhibitions in other countries, but it should be pleasant, interesting and in local terms, eye-catching."

Friday evening and Sunday morning meetings, would be the advanced philatelic interest part. These would be private and comparatively small - maybe 20-30 attendees.

The Saturday, built around the Youth event, would be a Public Day. Sheila is hoping it will be sponsored by BotswanaPost. It is aimed towards young collectors, general and semi-specialised collectors of any age.

More details should be in the next Runner Post.

New Revenue Material

Brian Trotter and Neville Midwood

A South African dealer is believed to have helped dispose of a solicitors archive of documents relating to Bechuanaland. This has offered the opportunity for a number of documents with Bechuanaland revenue stamps to come to the market.

The first and most significant batch were offered at the Stephan Welz auction of 5th August 2005. Since then a few other dealers have been offering

documents with Bechuanaland revenue stamps, and some have been available on eBay, presumably all from the same original source.

The philatelic material is mostly George V and George VI Revenues or revenue usage. Few documents from this period had come to light previously.

Possibly there are many more in other solicitors archives, or perhaps this was the last such batch?



One of the recent documents to come onto the market.

This one bears the first recorded example(s) of the King George V £1 "Revenue and Revenue" on document



(L-R and T-B) [approx. 150%]
Lots 34, 36, 37, 44 and 51
from the 'Gawaine Baillie'
Sale

The 'Gawaine Baillie' Sale of British Africa

24th/25th November 2005

by Brian Hurst



The Bechuanalands were represented by no less than forty nine lots at the sale of Volume 5 of the philatelic collection formed by Sir Gawaine Baillie, Bt. held at Sotheby's on 24th November 2005.

A relatively small gathering of dealers, agents and collectors assembled in the rather refined atmosphere of Sotheby's galleries in London's New Bond Street on the 24th November. They were balanced by an impressive number of telephones placed at the ready for the receipt of telephone bids.

The sale commenced in the manner of a fine art sale rather than the slightly relaxed atmosphere that prevails at most philatelic auctions. It also quickly became apparent that a reserve in the region of 80% of the lower estimate figure had been placed on all lots, yet the auctioneer, unless he had sufficient covering postal bids, was starting each lot at a considerably lower figure. Frustratingly, a number of lots went unsold simply because the bidding failed to reach the reserve figure, when much time could have been saved simply by opening at the reserve as is the custom in most philatelic sales.

The Bechuanaland section was fortunately near the beginning of the sale, and I was happy to escape into the fresh air a little under an hour after the commencement of the sale. The Argyll-Etkin sale the following day made a refreshingly unfussy contrast.

The lots followed a strange pattern. Whereas some of the highly specialized material (such as 'unappropriated dies' proofs) and regular scarce stamps such as the £1 and £5 'unappropriated dies'

of 1887, and the 10/- 'Protectorate' overprint of 1888 went unsold, many of the varieties and all of those accorded the status of 'rarer stamps' by the Society's study were fetching spectacular prices.

Amongst the more notable results was lot 34, a vertical strip of 3 of SG30b ½d grey-black overprint double, one inverted. This went for £7,200 against an estimate of £2000-£2500. On its last appearance at Spink in March 2002, it fetched £1,610.

There were four 'rarer' stamps on offer. Lot 36 was a rather dubious (in my opinion) non-certificated copy of SG30e ½d grey-black 'British' omitted which went for £4,370 against a £2,000-£2,500 estimate, and a Gibbons catalogue price of £3,000. Lot 37 was SG31c, the 1891 1d rose-red 'Bechuanaland' omitted which achieved a price of £1,840 against a £900-£1,000 estimate, and an auction price of £920 when last sold in 2003. Lot 44 was SG47a, the 1888 2s. green and black First 'o' in 'Protectorate' omitted which fetched £13,800 as compared to £7,475 at the 'County' sale in 2003. The most amazing of all was Lot 51, SG54d, the 1890 ½d vermilion 'Portectorate' for 'Protectorate' inverted which fetched a staggering £15,600 as against £3,910 in the 2003 'County' sale; an increase of virtually 400%. I believe this to be a record price for a stamp of the Bechuanalands. These three latter stamps all went to anonymous telephone bidders.

Increases such as these are alarming to ordinary collectors such as myself, and simply put the majority of such material beyond my reach. It has the taste of 'investment portfolio' syndrome, which does our hobby little service. I wonder if the market will calm, now that the Chancellor has reneged on his original announcement that collectibles, such as stamps, were to be allowed as investments for Pension Fund purposes. We shall have to wait and see...

Twenty years ago

Newsletter No. 4/ Runner Post No. 1 -
Autumn 1985

Reproduced below are the words and images - if not the exact layout/paging and errors - of the Bechuanaland project Newsletter No. 4, which was also known as The Runner Post [No. 1] - *Editor*

The Runner Post



NEWSLETTER NO. 4

AUTUMN ISSUE 1985

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THE BECHUANALANDS AND BOTSWANA SOCIETY

-1-

The Inaugural Meeting of the Bechuanalands and Botswana Society

This was held in the Orchid Room, Horticultural Halls, London, during British Philatelic Exhibition, on October 16th, 1985. Eight intending members were present and two sent apologies from their stands in the Hall. Nine other apologies for inability to attend have been received.

Brian Trotter acted as Convenor, and welcomed those present, then outlined the aims and objects of the proposed society. The Proposal that "This Society be Formed" was put, seconded, and carried unanimously.

A Questionnaire had been previously circulated (copy and results attached) to ascertain the general opinions as to the scope etc. of the Society, and after considering the results, it was decided that Botswana be included, but not Bophuthatswana; also that all aspects of the philately and postal history of the area be covered.

A Name for the society was discussed, about 15 variations being considered before agreeing that the title of the Society be The Bechuanalands and Botswana Society. It was felt that this name would avoid any restrictions, and would not confuse with any other group.

Officers

It was proposed that H.R.Holmes be invited to be Life President of the Society. Seconded and agreed.

It was proposed that Brian Trotter be Founder Chairman. Seconded and agreed,

It was proposed that Roy Setterfield be Honorary Secretary, Seconded and agreed,

It was proposed that Philip Kaye be Honorary Treasurer. Seconded and agreed.

It was agreed that in view of the difficulties of meeting, the formation of a Committee of Management be left in abeyance, but that a special Representative for Southern Africa was highly desirable, and that the Hon. Sec. should write to a certain person inviting his acceptance.

Subscription

Agreed that this should be Pound Sterling 5 and reviewed at A.G.M.

-2-

Communications

Having regard to our scattered membership, a Newsletter is essential, to be issued quarterly, by Airmail where necessary. The next issue (No. 4) to include the report of this meeting, to be improved in appearance, and to be entitled 'The Runner Post'. The style, content, format, costs of production and postage were discussed, also editorship.

Affiliation

To B.P.F. etc. It was preferred to leave this in abeyance for the present.

Bank Account

To be opened with Midland Bank plc, This Bank makes no charges provided the account is in credit. Three signatories, any two to sign cheques etc.

Meeting

It was proposed that the Society meets during B.P.E. and Stampex in London, i.e. twice yearly. It is well understood that attendance will be very limited, but at least worth trying. Agreed, And - it is hoped that meetings may also be arranged for South Africa. Opinions of members to be sought via the Runner Post. Therefore ...

Next Meeting arranged for Wednesday, March 5th 1986 at Stampex, London.

A.G.M. provisionally October 15th, at B.P.E. London.

After those present had paid their initial subscriptions, the Chairman declared the meeting closed.

Present :

Philip Cattell , Somerset

Jim Catterall, Cornwall

Aubrey Glasborow, Hampshire

Alan Macgregor, London

Mike Nethersole, Johannesburg

Roy Setterfield, Sussex

Brian Trotter, Switzerland

Gren Eaton (Visitor)

Unable to leave their stalls:

Bill O'Conne1l, IOM

Philip Kaye, Sussex

P.S. The meeting was far more lively than these formal minutes might suggest!

Apologies have been received from:

H.R. Holmes, Hampshire

Hamish Campbell, Durban, RSA

John Coates, London

Brian Fenemore, Cape Town

John Inglefield-Watson (Col) Scotland

Mrs. Sten Jensen, Denmark

Dave Matthews, Scotland

D. Painter, Hampshire

-3-

RESULTS OF QUESTIONNAIRE

34 completed questionnaires have been returned. Owing to slight ambiguity in the phrasing of question 4, it was difficult to ascertain the correct intentions in 6 cases, therefore these are not considered in the results under question 4. They were, however, in line with the other replies and do not affect the overall interpretation.

Questionnaires returned 34

Questions 1 and 2: Would you be in favour of a Bechuanalands/Tswanalands Collectors' Group or Society and paying a subscription

yes	30
no	3
follow the majority	1

Question 3: Would you be willing to help with

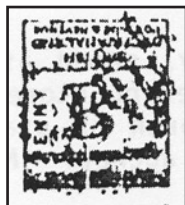
a) newsletter	7
b) advisory	15
c) info/photocopies of own collection	26
d) organising regional activity	4

Question 4: What do you think should be the scope of the group

	positive	negative
BB & BP	26	-
Botswana	18	8
Stamps	26	-
Postal History	26	-
Stellaland	24	2
Mafeking	24	2
Bophuthatswana	11	13
Revenues	24	1
Forgeries	25	
Errors	26	

-4-

Barred Oval Cancellation with letter "B"



Mike George sends a photocopy of B.B. 1d on 1d SG22 with Barred Oval cancel, but letter B in place of the expected numeral. Not the upright oval of Cape Colony etc, with three short bars at each side, but an upright bar. Robson Lowe's Encyclopaedia states 'Bulawayo also used a barred oval containing B', repeating Dann's 'Large thick B in barred oval - Bulawayo'.

John Inglefield-Watson has one on SG 34, and Holmes had a copy on SG 34: in a letter from John I-W. he says 'If ... a Bulawayo cancellation, there would be plenty of Rhodesian stamps with it and surely a cover would exist. Instead it is apparently a very rare one found only on B.B. stamps'.

Further comments and/or examples, please. And are there any similar ovals with other letters?

The Holmes Collection on view?

We are informed that 'The Famous Holmes Collection' (sic) of British Bechuanaland and Bechuanaland Protectorate, now in a Bank vault pending the establishment of a Botswana Postal Museum, will be on view for the first time in October 1986, at Gaborone. The Holmes Collection? Well, possibly about two-thirds of it. Nice to know that it will see daylight for a short time after five years.

MATTERS ARISING

1. 8d Unappropriated Die.

I hang my head in shame for not doing my homework properly. I have been gently chided by H.R.H. for not referring to his book p.46:-

'In the Ferrari collection there was what purported to be an unissued 8d; it reappeared when the Burrus collection was sold, but on examination it proved to be a fake, (being) parts of two stamps joined together.' So what happened to it? Did someone have the courage to tear it up, or is it still lurking somewhere? Caveat emptor. - R.S.

2. How about our own auction?

We hope to try an "in-house" Society auction in 1985, so get your duplicates ready. More about this next time.

3. Charles Hill

Dr. Seligmann writes: The Charles Hill postal agency, named after Charlie Sharp, Kgalagadi trader, was opened in the desert store of Mr. Sharp in north-eastern Kgalagadi. Ten pounds worth of stamps and £20 worth of postal orders were issued to the agency. Mrs. Elizabeth Johanna Kotze was the delegated agent.

Charles Hill is about 3 miles from Mamuno, the border post. In 1962 the agency was transferred to nearby Xanagas school. On April 1, 1967 and on September 12, 1978, reopened at Charles Hill (what happened in the interim?) where the Mamuno date stamp was used for quite a number of years. A new post office has been erected here.

4. Magalapye BBP

Was this uncommon cancellation used on general mail, or reserved for counter use on registered mail? With one except the ones we have seen have been on higher value ("Seahorse") stamps. The exception is Brian Fenemore's KE 1/- dated May 22, 1914. It may be that Mahalapye Siding was used until approximately 1914 and Mahalapye from around 1920 onwards, leaving a gap in between for the Magalapye version. Much more information is required, and examples of strikes. Who can help?

Typology for B.B. and B.P.

This was reviewed at BPE with Mike Nethersole, who is (somewhat of an expert in postmark typology. Once the small modifications discussed have been made, it shall be available to any interested member - although the sub-type illustrations and classifications shall still be incomplete. This typology is foreseen as one of the possible topics for our next meeting, to be held at "Stampex" in March.

A typology appetizer

Type 1 B 2



Type 2 E 61



Type 1 D 53

Gold Bars by mail

As promised, Charles Barkaway's 'gold bar' label - a beauty !



Whoops! Sorry, that is not Charles Barkaway's gold bar label after all. We first need a better photocopy for the illustration, so we replaced it with one belonging to Brian Fenemore. Also a beauty, but we don't know what is on the reverse side (to which bank(?) it was sent). Brian, how about a copy of the other side for the next issue?

And a footnote from Hamish Campbell: "I was so pleased to see that gold bars really were sent by post. .. When we still had a weekly rail/ship ex Durban to Southampton, we used to see the gold coming in.. in a couple of railway coaches bristling with policemen armed to the teeth.

Stop Press!

A better photocopy of Charles Barkaway's "gold bar" label has just been received. So here it is.



13/1/1916. Registered Parcel Label from Tati Co. Ltd. Francistown to African Banking Corporation, Bulawayo franked by 5/- rose carmine (2) SG 84, 2/6 deep sepia brown (2) SG 83; 1/- bistre brown (4, inc 3 on reverse) SG 82 4d slate green (on reverse) SG 80 and 10/- green and black of British Bechuanaland SG 19. All tied by Francistown c.d.

Unfortunately even the second copy of the reverse side of this label is not readable, so hopefully we can offer a better copy in the future.

Recent Botswana Issues

15-06-2005

Edible Crops 2005



The issue consisted of four values; 80t, P2.10, P3.90 and P4.70.

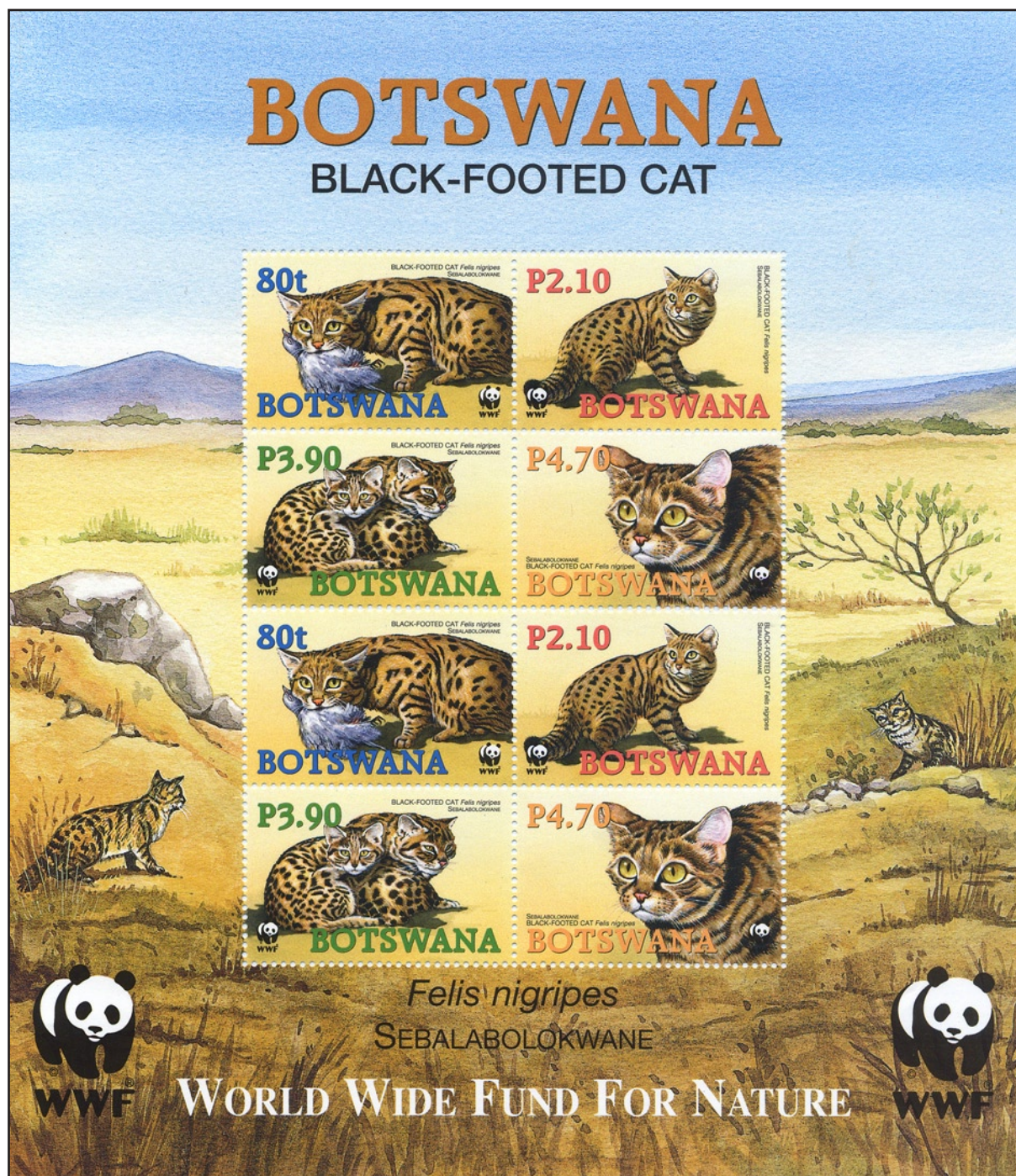
Shown above is the FDC, stamps and first day canceller.

25-10-2005

Black-Footed Cat

The issue consisted of four values; 80t, P2.10, P3.90 and P4.70 and a mini-sheet.

The mini-sheet, shown below, comprises two sets of four values. The First Day cover, stamps and first day canceller are illustrated right



BOTSWANA

BLACK-FOOTED CAT
Felis nigripes



SEBALABOLOKWANE

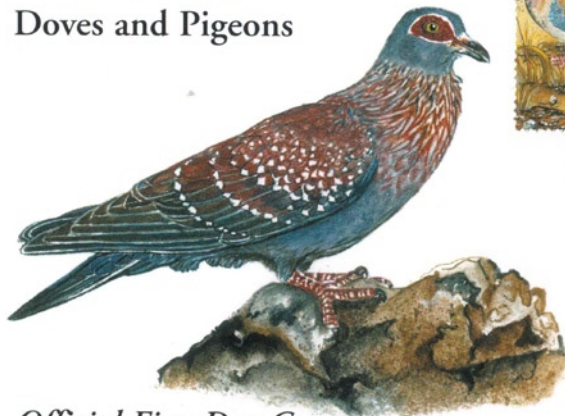
Official First Day Cover



20-12-2005

Christmas 2005 - Doves and Pigeons

Botswana
Christmas 2005
Doves and Pigeons



Official First Day Cover

Rock Pigeon, Leebarope



The issue consisted of four values; 80t, P2.10, P3.90 and P4.70.

Shown above is the First Day Cover, stamps and first day canceller.

[Ed: Am I the only one to find it unusual to have a "Christmas issue" with its first day on the 20th December when we in the UK have traditionally come to know the 19th as the last day for Christmas posting?]

Essays for 1888 British Bechuanaland Newspaper Wrappers

by Peter Thy and John Inglefield-Watson

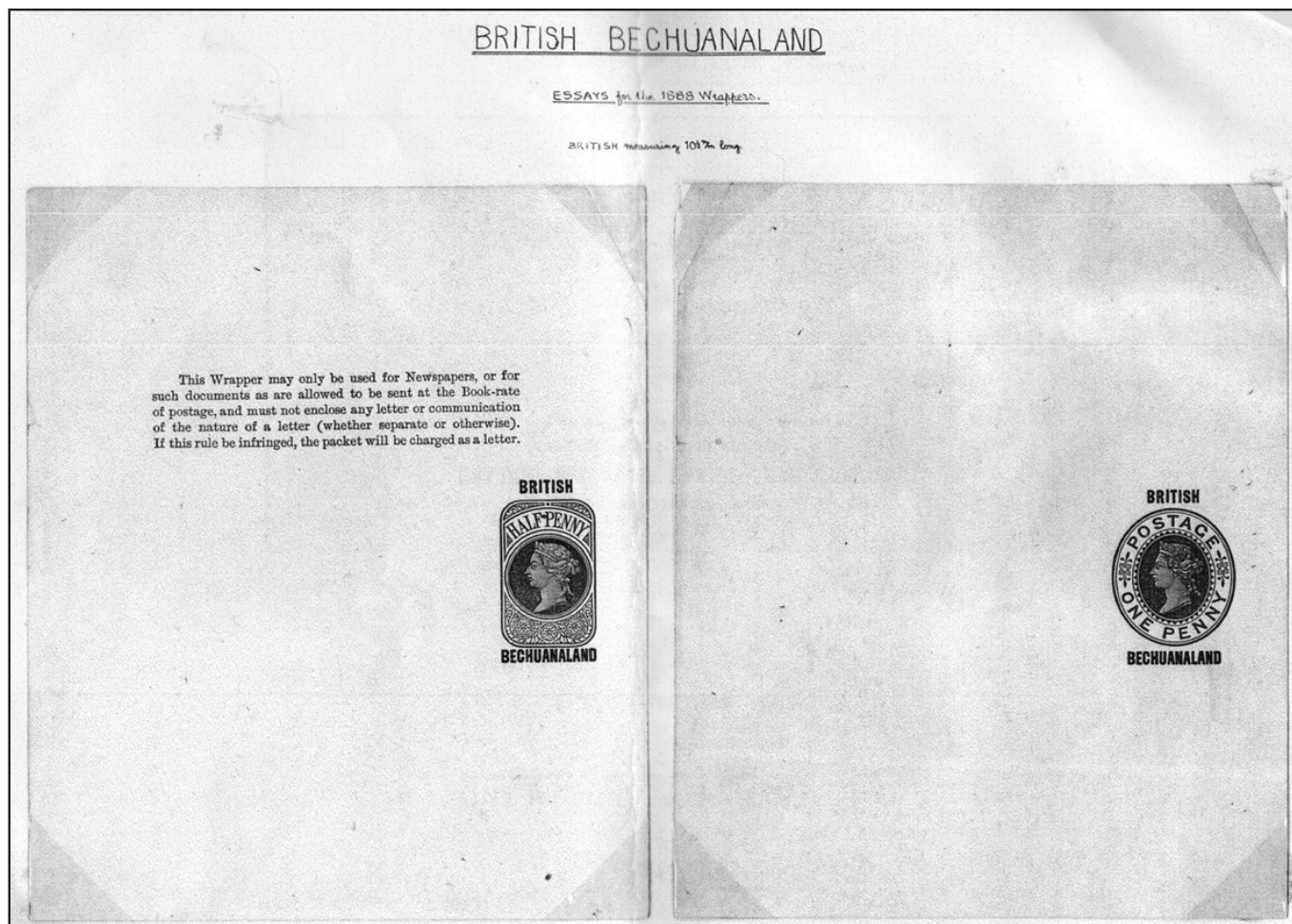


Figure 1. The two essay wrappers as mounted and annotated by the previous owner
From a photocopy kindly supplied by Argyll Etkin [70% of original]

Argyll Etkin's November 4th 2004, auction contained a lot of two 1888 British Bechuanaland newspaper wrappers described as essays (lot 418) (**Figure 1**).

The lot description reads: "1888 ½d and 1d G.B. newspaper wrappers with 'BRITISH / BECHUANALAND' essay overprints above and below the stamps, with 'BRITISH' 10.5mm wide (being 9.5-10mm on the issued wrappers) and the ½d wrapper without bars obliterating the five lines of instructions. Very rare, and possibly unique, no essays of this issue of wrappers were recorded by Thy/Inglefield-Watson." The alleged essays were illustrated in the auction catalogue on colour Plate H and here in Figure 1.

The issued wrappers in question are BBS No. WR 3 and WR 4 (Thy and Inglefield-Watson, 2004). They are British wrappers overprinted in 1888 by 'BRITISH'

above and 'BECHUANALAND' below the stamp. In addition, the ½d wrapper has five lines of text deleted by 10 diagonal bars. The wrappers were printed and perhaps also overprinted by De La Rue. As stated in the auction catalogue, no essays were known to exist for overprinting the British wrappers for British Bechuanaland when our book went to press.

The Argyll Etkin catalogue gives two reasons for identifying the wrappers as essays: (1) the length of 'BRITISH' is 10.5 mm long in contrast to the issued wrappers where it is only 9.5-10mm long and (2) the bars that cancel the text on the issued ½d wrapper are missing. We will examine these two claims in turn.

Background

De La Rue printed the original wrappers in sheets of multiples, but typically cut the sheets prior to

shipment to the colonies. Huggins (1970, p. 90) states that “(w)rappers were printed in sheets, with stamps in rows, tête-bêche in relation to each other, spaced in a staggered manner to allow cutting.” It is further known that very similar Cape of Good Hope wrappers, also printed by De La Rue, were done in sheets of 10 (Philatelic Society London, 1895, p. 60).

Full uncut sheets were made available in the Cape of Good Hope for local commercial overprinting and cutting to specified size (Philatelic Society London, 1895, p. 60), as is well known for Cape Argus (newspaper) wrappers of the period. It is, however, not conclusively known if full sheets were made available in British Bechuanaland. The overprinting in London by De La Rue (or by the Stamping Department at Somerset House) may thus have been done either on individual wrappers or on sheets of wrappers. There, nevertheless, are indications that the Bechuanaland wrappers were cut prior to shipment: (1) multiples are not known to exist; (2) the printings were relatively small (WR 3, 32,640; WR 4, 29,520; WR 7, 110,400); (3) there was very limited commercial activity in the colony at that time; and (4) the knife used for cutting the wrappers had truncated corners unlikely to have been available in the colony. For these reasons it is suggested that stocks of already cut British wrappers were conveniently utilized for overprinting as British Bechuanaland wrappers.

Lengths of ‘BRITISH’ and ‘BECHUANALAND’

We have examined our holdings of the British wrappers with ‘BRITISH’ and ‘BECHUANALAND’ overprints (WR 3, 4, and 7). The results are summarized in **Table 1** (below). A total of 69 wrappers were examined, comprising 12 of WR 3, 29 of WR 4, and 28 of WR 7.

The measured length of ‘BRITISH’ varies between 9.5 mm and 10.5 mm (the uncertainty in the measurements estimated in Table 1 is ± 0.125 mm).

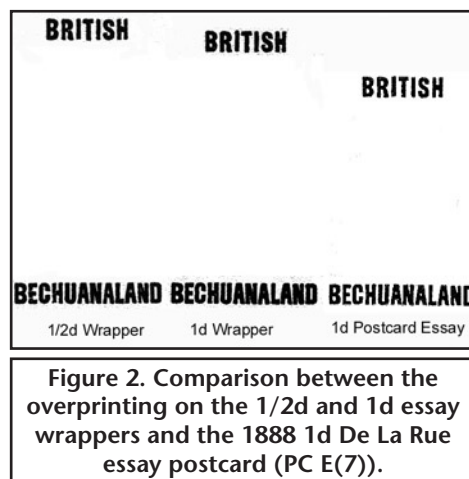
Table 1. Length of ‘BRITISH’			
Lot 419	10.5 mm		
PC E(7)	10.5 mm		
WR 3a	10 mm	1	12.5%
WR 3a	10.5 mm	7	87.5%
WR 3b	9.5 mm	4	100.0%
WR 4	10 mm	29	100.0%
WR 7	10 mm	27	96.4%
WR 7	10.5 mm	1	3.6%
TOTAL		69	

The majority (87%) of overprints on WR 3a (square ends to bars) has ‘BRITISH’ 10.5 mm long, similar to the alleged essays. All examples of WR 3b (sloped ends) have ‘BRITISH’ significantly shorter measuring only 9.5 mm. All copies of WR 4 have ‘BRITISH’ 10 mm long, while on most (96 %) examples of WR 7 ‘BRITISH’ is 10.5 mm long. The observation is thus

that 10.5 mm long overprints are dominant (58% of all WR 3) on the early ½d issued wrapper and thus not confined to possible essays.

The length of ‘BECHUANALAND’ is remarkably constant at 19 mm for all wrappers.

The distance between the two overprint lines shows as expected systematic variation related to the size of the imprinted stamps (**Figure 2**) (WR 4 30 mm,



WR 3 and WR 7 32-32.5 mm; measured as distance between top of ‘BECHUANALAND’ and base of “BRITISH”).

Missing Overprint Bars

Missing overprints on postal stationery are for good reasons difficult or impossible to identify unless two overprints were required on such as reply postcards. The only known example that so far has been positively identified as missing is on a reply postcard, where ‘BRITISH BECHUANALAND’ is missing on the reply card, but not the message card (PC 6 V(2)). Others may exist among British and Cape stationery known occasionally to have been used in Bechuanaland without overprint.

The important question for further evaluating the alleged ½d essay wrapper is thus obviously whether both the overprinting and the text cancelling were done in one or two printing operations. The Philatelic Society of London (1895, p. 17) writes about the British Bechuanaland wrappers that “(t)he whole of the surcharge on the halfpenny values, including the diagonal lines, were applied at one operation.”

We have measured the perpendicular distance between the bars and the top corner of ‘B’ of ‘BRITISH’. A group of 16 WR 7 wrappers shows a very consistent distance. In contrast, the distances measured for WR 3 show two groupings, with about 2 mm difference, despite low numbers examined that can be broken down as belonging to WR 3a (6 wrappers) and WR 3b (3 wrappers), respectively.

The overprinting formes were probably made by electro- or stereo-plating an originally typeset forme as was common at De La Rue at that time (Easton.

1949). The evidence suggests that two formes were used for overprinting WR 3 (including the diagonal cancelling bars) and one forme for each of WR 4 and WR 7. There is thus no support for suggesting that the overprinting of WR 3 was done in two steps.

De La Rue produced the Cape newspaper wrappers in circulation in 1888 and had the same text inscription (without cancelling) as on the British wrappers used for the British Bechuanaland wrappers. The Cape wrappers were also overprinted for British Bechuanaland still without text cancelling. The reason for cancelling of the text is not clear. It is possible that it may have been that 'book mail' rates were not yet introduced in British Bechuanaland in 1888. It is plausible that this was a last minute realization at De La Rue or Somerset House and that a few trial overprints had already been made.

Related Postcard Essay

An essay for the 1888 overprinting of the British 1d foreign card exists that is very similar to the wrapper overprint (PC E(7); Figure 2). It is plausible that both the wrappers and the British postcards were overprinted at the same time and by the same overprinter (De La Rue). This postcard essay (or an example of it) was sold as lot 418 at the same Argyll Etkin's auction containing the alleged essay wrappers.

Conclusion

In the absence of printers and/or archival marking on the wrappers, there is no support for the proof status of the 1d wrapper. The overprint is similar to that on the issued wrappers and cannot be distinguished from these (WR 4).

It is plausible that the missing cancelling bars on the ½d wrapper was an essay produced prior to realization

that the text on the British wrappers did not apply in British Bechuanaland. We consider it less likely that the missing wrapper overprint bars were a printing error. On the other hand, in the absence of printer's notations there is no direct confirmation that the wrapper was an essay.

The 10.5 mm length of 'BRITISH' on either of the wrappers cannot support the suggestion that they were essays since similar overprints exist on the issued wrappers.

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Some unlisted overprint errors and varieties from the 1890s

by Brian Hurst

Many collectors of the Bechuanalands will have in their library a copy of Bob Holmes book "The Postage Stamps, Postal Stationery, and Postmarks of the Bechuanalands", published by the Royal Philatelic Society London in 1971. If not, they should beg, borrow or steal a copy since, to this day, it remains the standard work on the subject. It is not perfect; it is frustratingly short on references and some of its conclusions are downright inaccurate. Nonetheless, at intervals scattered through its pages there are references to a number of unlisted stamps which I find particularly interesting.

I have spent some time tracking down copies of a

couple of these stamps, and have added to them a couple more which are not listed within the pages of the book.

SG33 The GB 1d lilac 'Jubilee' stamp overprinted 'British Bechuanaland'

This stamp, issued on 1st December 1891, has one major unlisted error variety. On page 60 of his book, Holmes states "One sheet of the 1d was inserted in the press so that the top row of stamps missed the overprint and the bottom row of the overprint was printed on the lower margin. However, the unoverprinted stamps were removed from the sheet,



and se tenant pairs with and without overprint have not survived, but examples of the stamp with the attached margin bearing the overprint are known, including one piece with the Control Letter R"

I illustrate a corner marginal copy of the variety, being the only example I have ever seen.

SG39 Cape of Good Hope 2d bistre overprinted 'British Bechuanaland' reading down.



This stamp, issued on 12th March 1895 has two listed varieties within its overprint setting of 120. At row 1 stamp 3 of the right hand pane a letter 'u' has been inserted in an inverted position as a substitute for the second 'n' of 'Bechuanaland' (SG39e), and the adjacent stamp at row 1 stamp 4 has suffered damage to the typeface to the extent that there are no dots over the two 'i's of 'British' (SG39f).

Since this particular stamp is listed with overprint double (SG39a), it is logical to deduce that copies of the inverted 'u' and no dots to 'i's varieties must have existed in double form from the doubly overprinted sheets. It is accepted that three sheets of stamps received this double overprint. By reference to the differences in the position of the overprints and the postmarks on used copies, it is recognised that one sheet was issued by each of the Post Offices at Mochudi, Mafeking and Gaberones. The double overprints were not 'philatelically discovered' at the time, with the result that despite a total print of 360 copies, used examples are very scarce and mint ones are extremely rare.

Given these circumstances, it is hardly surprising that, until now, none of the three theoretical copies of either the inverted 'u' or 'missing dots' with double overprint has been seen. I was very surprised and delighted, therefore, to discover earlier this year at auction in London, a mint example of the inverted 'u' double (illustrated here), which proved to be

from the sheet issued at Gaberones. This rare item will not, however, be listed by Gibbons as a result of their current policy of no longer listing 'varieties of varieties'

SG53 GB 1d vermilion overprinted 'British Bechuanaland', locally surcharged 'Protectorate Fourpence'



This is a provisional issued in 1889 to overcome a shortage of 4d stamps.

The first of the two varieties which I illustrate has the surcharge printed in a dull dark green colour instead of the normal black. It is not an easy stamp to spot, although on comparison the colour of the surcharge is different to the true black of the 'British Bechuanaland' overprint.

Holmes explains the reason for the green colour when he writes at page 89 of his book "A few copies of the normal surcharge are known printed in green instead of black, this having been caused by the ink rollers not having been properly cleaned after the previous job had been finished. The copies seen have all been cancelled with the Shoshong date stamp."

Holmes goes on to state that the stamp was issued in August of 1889, Gibbons are more specific with a date of 1st August. Both these statements are at variance with the 7th March 1889 Shoshong postmark on the illustrated example.

Five examples of this stamp are known to me.



The second variety has most of the word 'Protectorate' missing due to a fold in the stamp that has prevented the impression of the inked typeface. The fold has been opened out and is clearly visible. Although varieties caused by folds are invariably 'one-offs', a similar stamp with a different part of the word 'Protectorate' missing was offered by Sotheby's in the recent sale of Sir Gawaine Baillie's Africa collection.

In conclusion I would add that all the four varieties illustrated, despite their unlisted status, command high prices at auction. Sightings of these and any other unexplained variations in overprints and surcharges should be reported to the Society for information and study purposes.

Bechuanalands Postal Stationery in Public and Archival Collections

by John Inglefield-Watson and Peter Thy

Studies in the Philatelic Collections of the British Library and the Royal Mail Archives have revealed some items of interest. Our book on the Bechuanalands postal stationery did not list stationery in public collections and archives. However, such material is still of considerable relevance since it can provide information on printing and distribution. Here we list observed stationery items and discuss those found to be of particular significance.

U.P.U. Collection (Royal Mail Archives)

The U.P.U. Collection is one of the Philatelic Collections held in the Royal Mail Archives that is managed by the Postal Heritage Trust. In the list below, 'Year Date' refer to annotation on items and 'Year BBS' refer to date of issue given in our book.

The 27 items of Bechuanalands postal stationery have in the past been remounted on 12 archival sheets with 2 or 3 items on each sheet. Their overall reference number is 'PS 10' which is followed by the sheet number and a number for each item on the sheet. The sheets are grouped into four categories: postcards, registration envelopes, wrappers and aerogrammes.

Sheet/Item No.	BBS No.	Year Date	Year BBS	Remarks
Postcards				
01/01	PC 3a S(1)	1891-94	1888	
01/02	PC 13 S(2)	1901	1901	
02/01	PC 15 S(1)	1904-05	1907	
02/02	PC 16 S(1)	1904-05	1907	
03/01	PC 17a	1914	1913	No Specimen marking
03/02	PC 19 S(1)	1933	1932	
04/01	PC 20 S(1)	1938	1938	
04/02	PC 21a S(1)	1944	1944	
05/01	PC 22	1957	1956	No Specimen marking
05/02	PC 23	Undated	1961	No Specimen marking
05/03	PC 23	Undated	1961	No Specimen marking, deeper shade than 05/02
Registration Envelopes				
06/01	RE 15a S(l)	1889	1889	
06/02	RE 25 S(l)	1899	1899	
07/01	RE 28 S(l)	1903	1906?	
07/02	RE 33a	1913	1913	No Specimen marking
07/03	RE 32b	1913	1913	No Specimen marking
08/01	RE 35	1920	1919	No Specimen marking
08/02	RE 38b	1921	1920	No Specimen marking
08/03	RE 37b	1921	1920	No Specimen marking
09/01	RE 40a	1927	1925	No Specimen marking
09/02	RE 41 S(l)	1933	1932	
10/01	RE 42a S(l)	1938	1937	
10/02	RE 44	1955	1955	No Specimen marking
10/03	RE 46	Undated	1961	No Specimen marking
Wrappers				
11/01	WR 7a S(l)	1891-94	1890	'BRITISH' 10 mm
11/02	WR 4 S(l)	1891-94	1888	'BRITISH' 10.5 mm
Aerogrammes				
12/01	AE 6a	Undated	1958	No Specimen marking

Except as noted left, a year date is written in pencil both on reverse of each item and below it on the sheet. The significance of the dates is not known to the curators. It is evident that it is not the issue date. Probably it is the date of receipt into the collection or the despatch date of specimens to the U.P.U. There is no other writing up on the sheets.

There is nothing in this U.P.U. Collection that is not already listed in our book. It is, nevertheless, of interest to compare the archival dates (Year Date) to the dates of issue as recorded in our book (Year BBS). The dates of issue are sometimes up to 2 years later than the archival dates. The King Edward VII cards believed to be issued in 1907 (PC 15 and 16) have 1904-05 archival dates that are consistent with known printing dates as well as U.P.U. Berne Archival markings. Another significant deviation between the archival dates and the assumed year of issue is for the first King Edward VII registration envelope believed to have been issued around 1906 (RE 28). The example in the Royal Mail U.P.U. Collection has the date 1903 that is consistent with known U.P.U. Berne archival markings. The issuing of the King Edward stationery was probably delayed because of the availability of significant stocks of Queen Victoria issues.

U.P.U. Collection (British Library)

Description/ BBS No.	Remarks
Registration Envelopes	
RE 32b (Size F, Code KF)	2 envelopes; punch hole in stamp, one with Post Office auditor's green crayon tick on front
RE 33a (Size G, Code KF)	3 envelopes; same as above
RE 40a (Size G, Code ET)	1 envelope, Type 2A 'SPECIMEN' handstamp diagonally on stamp.

This collection is said to consist of surplus duplicate items from the U.P.U. Collection in the British Royal Mail Archives.

The punch holes are the only such cancellation known to exist on Bechuanaland stationery. Other punch holes may have been made for filing purposes (RE E(21)).

The use of Type 2A 'SPECIMEN' handstamp on a 1925 registration envelope (RE 40a) is highly unusual and not to our knowledge previously reported. Specimen handstamp Type 2A was used to cancel the

Bechuanaland U.P.U. Collection after 1913 (see Notes to Specimen Type 2, page 150 in our book).

Foreign and Commonwealth Office Collection (British Library)

The origin of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Collection can be traced to a circular letter dated 23rd April 1890 and signed by Lord Knutsford, Secretary of State for the Colonies. A copy of this letter is held in the British Philatelic Collections. The text reproduced below was previously published by David Beech, Head of the Philatelic Collections, in an article in the 'London Philatelist' (No. 102, p. 210, July/August 1993).

"In 1890, the Colonial Office in London decided that an example of every postage and revenue stamp together with examples of postal stationery, issued in the British Empire overseas, should be formed into an official collection. The decision was communicated to the territories by means of the following letter:

<i>Circular</i>		<i>Colonial Office [embossed with Royal Coat of Arms]</i>	
		<i>Downing Street 23rd April, 1890</i>	
<i>Sir</i>			
<i>I have the honour to inform you that it is desired to obtain, for record in this department, as complete a collection as possible of Colonial Postage and Revenue Stamps, Post Cards, Embossed Envelopes, and Newspaper Wrappers. I should therefore be obliged if you would supply me for that purpose with single specimens of the stamps now in use in the colony under your Government, and with any new stamps which may from time to time be printed, or with any alterations which may be made in the current issue.</i>			
<i>If specimens and stamps no longer in use can be also sent to me it will make the record in this office more complete and interesting.</i>			
		<i>I have the honour, to be.</i>	
		<i>Sir,</i>	
		<i>Your most obedient,</i>	
		<i>humble Servant</i>	
		<i>(Sd) Knutsford</i>	
<i>The Officer Administering the Government of (.....)</i>			

The material received from that date until 1992 was transferred in 1993 from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, the successors of the Colonial Office, to the British Library Philatelic Collections. The postage and revenue stamps have been affixed or stuck down into large volumes and the postal stationery has been (lightly affixed) into similar volumes. There are eight such volumes."

As described in the above quote, the Colonial Office Collection was formed by requesting each colony or protectorate to submit examples of new issues. This was not covered by the standard distribution of specimens of new issues retained by the Crown Agents in UK for record purposes, as shown in their Requisition Books. However, one of Crown Agents' departments may have been responsible for sending examples to the Colonial Office. Alternatively, they may have originated from U.P.U. distribution to the Bechuanaland postal administration that would have gone to South Africa whose Postmaster-General also was responsible for the Protectorate. This latter was most likely the case for the initial submission of specimens of current stamps and stationery which included PC 3a, PC 3b, WR 4, WR 7, RE 15, RE 16, and RE 17 that were cancelled by specimen Type 2.

Each item in the collection bears a specimen marking and/or a manuscript endorsement stating 'New Issue' with date. It is not known whether these markings were applied before despatch from the colony or on receipt in the colonial office. Therefore, in our opinion, the dates are not a reliable source for actual issue dates. The following items were observed:

Description/ BBS No.	Remarks
Postcards - British Bechuanaland	
PC 11 S(1)	Handstamped serif 'SPECIMEN' (Type 3) on stamp on both parts of card
PC 12 S(1)	Handstamped serif 'SPECIMEN' (Type 3) on stamp
Postcards - Bechuanaland Protectorate	
PC 13 S(2)	Not annotated
PC 14a	Not annotated
PC 15	Not annotated
PC 16	Not annotated
PC 18	Annotated '21.6.20'
PC 19 S(1)	Overprinted diagonally 'SPECIMEN' (Type 20). Annotated '1 Decr 1932. New Issue'
PC 20 S(2)	Annotated 'New Issue 5.4.38'
PC 21a S(1)	Annotated 'Rec'd 16/6/44'
PC 22	Annotated 'Change of Royal Portrait - Rec'd 16.2.56'
PC 23	Annotated 'rec'd 23/7/62'

Registration Envelopes - Bechuanaland Protectorate	
RE 25	Not annotated
RE 27	Not annotated
RE 35	Annotated '21/6.20'
RE 38	Not annotated
RE 41	Overprinted 'SPECIMEN.' diagonally on reverse, similar to Type 22, but measuring 88 x 11 mm including stop. Annotated '1 Decr 1932. New Issue'
RE 42a S(1)	Annotated 'New Issue 5.4.38'
RE 43	Handstamped sans-serif 'SPECIMEN' in violet (43 x 4 mm). Annotated 'New Issue 14.9.50'
RE 44	Annotated 'New Issue Size G. Rec'd 2.5.55'
RE 45	Annotated 'New Issue Size H2. Rec'd 2.5.55'
RE 46	Annotated "REQN 2732/60"
RE 47	Annotated "REQN 2732/60"
Aerogrammes	
AE 6b	Unmarked. Year Code 'L'

PC 19 is known to have been issued in the Protectorate on 12 December, 1932. Since the first printing of this card was made in October 1932, the 1 December, 1932, issue day given on the archival card may have been the day the card was filed by the Colonial Office. Similar comments can be made on the other listed stationary items.

The specimen overprint on the archival copy of RE 41 is five millimetres longer than the U.P.U. overprint (83 mm) listed in our book as Type 22 (only found on PC 21). (Note that the length of specimen Type 22 is erroneously listed as 85 mm in our book, it should be 83 mm.) If a 88 mm long version of specimen Type 22 exists in a private collection, it should be listed as RE 41 S(1) in our book.

The new issue annotation on RE 42a of 5 April 1938 is consistent with both a first printing in October 1937 and with the day of issue given in our book as December 1937. The first printing of RE 43 was made in October 1949 and could have been issued in the Protectorate in September 1950. However, again it is more likely that the

annotation date is the filing date. The new issue date annotated on RE 44 and RE 45 is too close to the known May 1955 day of issue in the Protectorate and again is likely the filing date of the April 1955 printing.

Tapling Collection (British Library)

Our book included mention in footnotes of all essays found in the Tapling Collection. In order to be consistent, we are here giving the complete list of stationery items included in the Tapling Collection. All items are without annotations.

Description/ BBS No.	Remarks
Postcards - British Bechuanaland	
PC 1 (x2)	
PC 2	
PC 3b (x2)	
PC 6	
PC 7b	
PC E(1) (x2)	One with inverted overprint See Note B on p.154 of our book
PC E(2)	
PC E(11)	
Wrappers - British Bechuanaland	
WR 1	
WR 2	
WR 3	('BRITISH' just under 10 mm)
WR 4	('BRITISH' just over 10 mm)
Essay	1/2d essay on Cape wrapper See Note C on p.160 of our book
Registration Envelopes - British Bechuanaland	
RE 2a (x2)	
RE 3	
RE 4	
RE 5a	

RE 6a	
RE 7a	
RE 8 (x2)	
RE 9a	
RE 10	
RE 12	
RE 14	
RE 15a (x2)	
RE 16a	
RE 17a	
RE E(17)	
Registration Envelopes - Bechuanaland Protectorate	
RE 18	
RE 19	
RE 20	
RE 21	
RE 22	With overprint in greenish black - See Note C on p.66 of our book
RE E(18)	See note B on p.173 of our book in respect of overprint spacing
Essay	Essay on RE 2a, Size I, with additional overprint 'PROTECTORATE.' (23 x 2 mm, including stop) See Note B on p.173 of our book

We acknowledge the Philatelic Collections of the British Library for permission to view the U.P.U., Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and Tapling collections. We benefited from the kind assistance of David Beech, Head of the Philatelic Collections. He also brought to our attention the 1890 Colonial Office circular inaugurating the Colonial Office Collection and reproduced by him in a 1993 article in the London Philatelist. Further, we acknowledge the Philatelic Collections of the Postal Heritage Trust for permission to view the U.P.U. Collection in the Royal Mail Archives. Royal Philatelic Society of London gave us permission to quote from the London Philatelist.

Postage Stamps used on Telegrams

by Peter Thy

Postage stamps were used for paying for transmission of telegrams in Botswana. The stamps were affixed to the front or back of telegraph forms and were often cancelled with regular postal or special telegraph cancellers (see RP#60, p.1452). The high fees associated with telegrams often required large blocks of stamps to be affixed. Because there was clear confidentiality issues involved, outgoing telegraph

forms with stamps were not released to the public, presumably including the sender. On the other hand, incoming transcribed telegrams were delivered to the recipient, but were without stamps and, therefore, of less interest to the common stamp collector. For these reasons, we would expect that both incoming and outgoing telegraph forms would be very rare.

This is correct as far as incoming telegrams are



Figure 1: Cancelled by a 250mm long "CANCELLED".

concerned. However, some outgoing telegraph forms appear, despite regulations, to have been released to the public; probably because of the monetary value of the stamps attached to them. We have seen telegraph forms, or part of forms, originating from a range of offices (Orapa, Ghanzi, Shoshong, Mahalapye, Shashi, Francistown, Lobatsi, Serowe, and others), date stamped between 1970 and 1972. The few full telegraph forms that have survived are addressed both locally as well as to South Africa. It must be assumed that the leak was neither at the dispatching office nor at the receiving office. It is most likely that the leak was at a central telegraph facility in Lobatsi or Gaborone where the transmitted telegraph forms eventually were assembled pending destruction.

Many of stamps used on telegraph forms have in addition to the postal or telegraph cancellers also been cancelled by large, 250 mm long, one-line rubberstamp, reading 'CANCELLED' and made-up of 25 mm tall, non-serif letters as shown in **Figure 1**. More common are off paper, singles or blocks of stamps with part cancellations (**Figure 2**). The apparent similarities of these cancellations, despite

ink variation, suggest that the cancellation were done at one location and not at several local offices. The preparation of a special canceller also suggests that the selling of the telegraph forms were approved at higher level in the then combined Postal and Telegraph Services.

The special telegraph cancellers were relatively similar to the 'emergency' cancellers used at the same time (**Figure 3**). The examples seen were rubber single-circle cancellers with "TELEGRAPH OFFICE" at top and 'ORAPA' at the base (38 mm in diameter). A very similar canceller is one with 'TELEGRAPH OFFICE' replaced by 'ORAPA' and nothing at the base. Smaller diameter (about 30-34 mm) cancellers also occur; similar to the emergency cancellers also used for



Figure 2: Part cancel on singles or blocks.

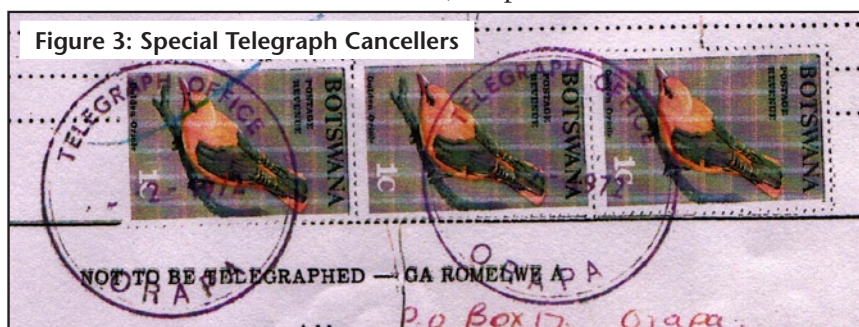


Figure 3: Special Telegraph Cancellers

postal purposes between 1968 and 1974.

Clinton Goslin (CG Stamps & Collectibles, P.O. Box 11644, Klerksdorp, 2570 South Africa) directed my attention to this fascinating aspect of Botswana postal history and philately. He also supplied the illustrations. Please let the editor know if you have additional observations and/or better explanations than offered here.



Four "CANCELLED" 35c on a piece of a Department of Posts and Telecommunications form.
Postal canceller is Maun; date appears to be 6 XII 74.
Courtesy John Schaerer - independently received to Peter's article.

Control letter 'F' on the ½d vermilion SG9

by Brian Hurst

According to de la Rue records, the GB halfpenny vermilion was overprinted 'BRITISH BECHUANALAND' on four separate occasions.

In his book 'The Postage Stamps, Postal Stationery and Postmarks of the Bechuanalands' Holmes at page 47 records four control letters for this stamp; namely 'B', 'D', 'F' and 'L'. This matches the number of printings made. He further goes on to state that control 'B' is from sheets with no marginal rule ('Jubilee' line), that 'D' and 'F' are from sheets with the marginal rule squared at the corners and that control 'L' is from sheets with the marginal rule rounded at the corners.

I had no reason to dispute this statement until I recently acquired the item illustrated, which clearly shows control letter 'F' from a sheet with marginal rule ROUNDED at the corners.

Further investigation indicates that the control letter 'F' was applied to halfpenny vermilion sheets printed from plates with rounded, squared and squared & bevelled corners. It has always been assumed, however, that the small number of sheets overprinted for use in British Bechuanaland (524 sheets with control letter 'F') were done on basic stamps taken from stock at the relevant point in time, and would



Corner pair of SG9 showing control letter 'F' and rounded corners

have all come from a single batch.

Is Holmes, therefore, in error by stating that SG9 with control 'F' has the marginal rule squared at the corners, or did the 524 sheets in fact come from more than one batch?

Please can I ask that any collector or dealer reading this short article who thinks they may have control letter 'F' on SG9 in their collection or stock (it will need to be a corner block), checks to see whether the marginal rule is rounded, squared or squared & bevelled at the corners, and reports their findings to me.

At the same time I would be very interested to know if anyone has ANY control letter on SG9 with an IMPERFORATE lower margin.

Thanks for any help you can offer. Please contact me at the details on p.1527, or tel: +44-(0)1773-742619

The 'Unappropriated Dies' - Die Proofs

by John Inglefield-Watson

Update of the RP#28 List of Known Examples

In September 1992 I published in RP#28 a record of the nineteen Die Proofs of 'Unappropriated Dies' struck in black on white glazed card that were known to me. A further eight examples have now been included in the updated list of twenty seven shown below. As before, only those denominations that were used in Bechuanaland are listed.

I have still not recorded any complete examples of the 1d, 3d, 1/- and £1 denominations but cut down examples of all four exist showing no 'state' or date. Complete examples of the 1d, 1/- and £1 exist struck in their issued colours on white glazed card without 'state' or date.

(The date formats below are those used on the cards)

Denomination	No 'State'	Before Hardening	After Hardening	Before Striking	After Striking
2d	Apr 22 1872	Apr 23 1872		May 16 1872	
4d		18 FEB 84			22 FEB 84
6d		Mar 27 1872			May 18 1872
2/-	Sep 23 1874 Nov 2 1874	Oct 12 1874 24 JAN 81			
2/6	Mar 23 1872	Mar 26 1872 24 JAN 81			
5/-		Apr 23 1872		May 24 1872	May 25 1872
10/-		Mar 27 1872 Apr 23 1872		---Undated--- May 31 1872	May 25 1872 Jun 6 1872 Oct 14 1875
£5		May 7 1872		---Undated---	Jun 11 1872

Minutes of Annual General Meeting (2005)

taken by Dennis Firth

Saturday 29th October 2005 at 10.30am.

Room 33, Royal Horticultural Hall, Greycoat Street, London.

Members present: Brian Trotter, Chairman; Brian Hurst, Sir John Inglefield-Watson, Arnold Berman, Dennis Firth (for the displays only), Malcolm Hodgson

1. Apologies for absence

Neville Midwood, Tony Stanford, Martin Taylor, Bill Latzko, Sheila Case, Alan MacGregor, Dickon Pollard.

2. Minutes of the AGM held on 30th October 2004

The minutes of the AGM held on 30th October 2004 were approved.

3. Inclusion of articles on Swaziland and Basutoland/Lesotho in the Runner Post

It was noted that members views concerning inclusion of material on Basutoland/Lesotho and Swaziland in the Runner Post had been recorded in Runner Post#63. Almost all views had been positive. The Transvaal Study Circle had pointed out that they currently covered Swaziland up to 1910.

It was agreed that before proceeding with the proposal all members would be invited to give their opinion on the issue in a postal vote.

It was agreed that the Committee would consider the matter in further detail at their meeting to be held on 5th November 2005.

4. The Postal Stationery of the Bechuanalands and Botswana exhibition entry

It was agreed that Brian Trotter would take over from Sir John Inglefield-Watson the task of entering the Postal Stationery book into the South African National Exhibition.

5. Runner Post Index

It was reported that Peter Thy had produced an excellent index of the past 20 years of issues of The Runner Post.

It was agreed that the index would be produced in print form in black and white, rather than as a CD, as originally envisaged. Advertisements had been solicited for inclusion in the Index and four positive responses had been received.

It was agreed that the index, once completed, would be circulated to all members with The Runner Post. The estimated cost of production was £200 plus around £1 00 for additional postage, less £80 from advertising, resulting in a net cost of around £220. This was considered a very appropriate use of the Society's resources.

It was unanimously agreed to record a vote of thanks to Peter Thy for his splendid work in producing the index.

6. Requests for back numbers of The Runner Post

It was noted that publication of the index could lead to more requests for back numbers of The Runner Post.

It was agreed that the general policy should be to provide articles from back numbers, rather than to provide complete back numbers. An exception could be made where the Society held copies of back numbers surplus to requirements. Members would be charged for back numbers and articles.

7. Transferring back numbers of The Runner Post to a compact disc

Neville Midwood was sending fifteen back numbers of The Runner Post to Gordon Smith in Canada who had kindly agreed to undertake an initial trial to transfer back numbers of The Runner Post to compact disc. If the trial was successful, it was agreed that the Committee would need to consider how to handle copyright and other issues before proceeding with production.

8. Runner Post award

It was noted that The Runner Post had received a Large Silver Award at Stampex 2005 and had come extremely close to receiving an even higher award. The meeting wished to congratulate Neville Midwood on this achievement.

9. Financial situation

Audited accounts for the year to 30th June 2005 were tabled.

It was noted that the Society had generated a surplus of £616 in the year, mainly as a result of two successful

auctions organised by Brian Hurst. Net assets at year end were £2,737. The accounts were approved unanimously. The meeting recorded its gratitude to Jo Taylor for undertaking the audit and for assistance to the Treasurer

10. Membership

It was noted that membership remained at around 100, but retiring members were not currently being replaced by new members at a rate sufficient to maintain membership at the same level. More new members were needed.

It was agreed that the Chairman would follow up with Peter Thy a proposal to place an advertisement for members in the PSGSA publication, at a cost not expected to exceed £50. It was noted that the Treasurer was following up issues of non-payment of membership subscriptions. It was agreed that non-payers should not receive copies of The Runner Post.

11. Treasurer

The Treasurer gave notice of his intention to retire wef October 2006, upon completion of 5 years service as Treasurer.

12. Auctions

Two very successful auctions had been held in 2005. A further auction was planned, to be held in the first half of 2006. The meeting thanked Brian Hurst for having organised the auctions.

13. Chairman's appointment

The meeting congratulated Brian Trotter on his appointment as Chairman of the British Philatelic Trust.

14. Future Meetings of the Society

[Ed: This section has been removed to avoid confusion as some changes have since been made to dates, times and locations. Please see the "Diary of Events" on p.1528 for the latest information on Future Meetings of the Society.]

15. Future meeting display themes

It was noted that the Spring meetings were designated primarily for displays.

It was agreed that themes for material for display could include a mix over time of stamps, postal history and postal stationery. It was suggested that themes could be chosen by members based on letters of the alphabet to be circulated by the Secretary in advance. Another option would be to nominate a lead displayer.

DISPLAYS

The main theme of the displays was Postal Stationery

John Inglefield-Watson began proceedings by showing

- The two printings of the 1d plus ½d postcard, PC22; the two postcards being on thin smooth and thicker more fibrous card.
- The 1935 registered envelope.
- The 1899 "Antilles" type envelope specially printed for Bechuanaland Protectorate.
- Proofs or essays of the 1889 British Bechuanaland 4d vermilion registered envelopes.
- The De La Rue and McCorquodale printings of Queen Elizabeth II size H registered envelopes RE 47 and RE 49.
- Botswana formula registered envelopes RE 50 and RE 52, British style.
- Registered envelopes RE 54, RE 55 and RE 56, the earliest known dates of use being 6th February 1978, 28th November 1978 and 14th May 1983 respectively. **Are any earlier dates of use known?**

Malcolm Hodgson had a query on PC9 and showed a 2d bisected stamp of 1955 used on cover in 1960 also an example of PC7b used 13/2/93, earlier than the date of 6/3/93 shown in the Stationery book.

Dennis Firth showed two recent purchases, an example of RE32c, only two examples seen by the authors and PC13 with Type 8 Specimen overprint.

Brian Hurst showed some rare stamps including examples of SG39a 2d overprint double used at Mochudi and Gaberones and one showing inverted U for the second n of Bechuanaland, SG53 with overprint in green, also with Protectorate virtually omitted and SG33 1d lilac showing the British Bechuanaland overprint in lower margin.

[DF: Postal Stationery numbers are as shown in The Postal Stationery of the Bechuanalands and Botswana - no home should be without one]

Checklist of Botswana Postmarks (Second Series)

Part Five

The fifth instalment from the Botswana Postmark Project Team as they continue to extend the earlier work done on Botswana Postmarks (First Series) by Brian Trotter. The study follows the same Postal Marking Classification System (Typology) as the First series and continues numbering from the First series.

The Project Team consists of Bruce Warrender, John Inglefield-Watson, Peter Thy and David Wall - with assistance from Sheila Case, Barbara Andersson, Steen Jelgren, Dennis Firth, David Allison (non member) and Peter Jukes.

The earliest date being included in this "Second Series" is 01-Jun-1995 i.e. only new postmarks and markings appearing after this date, which have not

been previously recorded, are included.


"Number so far recorded" only includes what is contained in the collections of the small number of members working on the Postmark Project and does not necessarily represent relative scarcity.


During the course of this study new types of sub-variants for some of the postmarks have been found. It is hoped to publish a list of the new variants at the end of the project.


Further information on recorded postmarks, copies of better illustrations, and, of course, information on unrecorded markings is welcome and should be sent to Bruce Warrender (post) or e-mailed to the Editor.


Bruce wishes to thank all the team members and also John Schaerer for their contributions


For Offices Beginning - MAS to MM


MASUNGA	No 4 Type 21 B 51	
	Circle diameters	23mm & 37mm
	Earliest recorded date	16-Mar-2000
	Latest recorded date	01-Mar-2004
	Number so far recorded	11

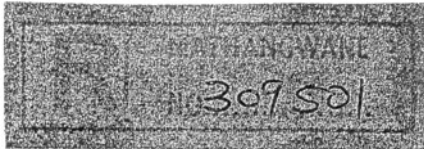
MASUNGA	No 5 Type 21 C 21	
	Circle diameters	18mm & 31mm
	Earliest recorded date	23-Mar-1998
	Latest recorded date	23-Mar-1998
	Number so far recorded	1


MASUNGA	No 6 Type 61 C 26	
	One struck in red, one struck in purple	
	Outer oval dimensions	35mm by 59mm
	Earliest recorded date	18-May-1999
	Latest recorded date	14-Feb-2001
	Number so far recorded	2


MASUNGA	No 7 Type REGN 2a	
	Struck in red	
	Box dimensions	21mm by 56mm
	Earliest recorded date	18-May-1999
	Latest recorded date	19-Dec-2001
	Number so far recorded	2

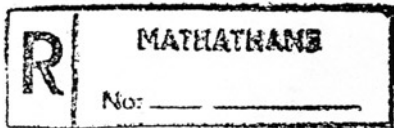
MATHANGWANE (previously spelt Matangwane)	No 3 Type 2 B 51	
	Circle diameters	18mm & 27mm
	Earliest recorded date	15-Feb-2001
	Latest recorded date	15-Feb-2001
	Number so far recorded	1


MATHANGWANE	No 4 Type 61 C 26	
	Struck in red	
	Outer oval dimensions	36mm by 57mm
	Earliest recorded date	03-Nov-2000
	Latest recorded date	10-Nov-2004
	Number so far recorded	2


MATHANGWANE	No 5 Type REGN 2a Struck in red	
	Box dimensions	14mm by 50mm
	Earliest recorded date	unknown
	Latest recorded date	unknown
	Number so far recorded	1


MATHATHANE	No 4 Type 21 F 22	
	Circle diameters	21mm & 35mm
	Earliest recorded date	19-Feb-2001
	Latest recorded date	15-Nov-2004
	Number so far recorded	2


MATHATHANE	No 5 Type 8 J 26. Struck in red.	
	Similar to No. 2 see RP #39 p.882 - with different lettering.	
	Box dimensions	29mm by 51mm
	Earliest recorded date	19-Feb-2001
	Latest recorded date	15-Nov-2004
	Number so far recorded	2





MATHATHANE	No 6 Type REGN 2a. Struck in red	
	Similar to No. 3 see RP #39 p.882 - with larger dimensions	
	Box dimensions	16mm by 51mm
	Earliest recorded date	19-Feb-2001
	Latest recorded date	19-Feb-2001
	Number so far recorded	1

MATHUBANTWA	No 6 Type 2 B 51	
	Circle diameters	18mm & 27mm
	Earliest recorded date	19-Aug-1999
	Latest recorded date	05-Jul-2002
	Number so far recorded	3

MATHUBANTWA	No 7 Type 21 B 55	
	Circle diameters	22mm & 35mm
	Earliest recorded date	03-May-2000
	Latest recorded date	17-Aug-2000
	Number so far recorded	5

MATHUBANTWA	No 8 Type 21 B 56(1)	
	Circle diameters	22mm & 35mm
	Earliest recorded date	17-Aug-2000
	Latest recorded date	17-Aug-2000
	Number so far recorded	1

MATHUBANTWA	No 9 Type 61 J 40 Struck in red	
	Outer oval dimensions	35mm by 58mm
	Earliest recorded date	17-Aug-2000
	Latest recorded date	17-Aug-2000
	Number so far recorded	1
New sub-variant 40. "POST MASTER" at top with {OFFICE NAME} at base.		

MATHUBUDUKWANE	Now closed. Date of closure unknown	
MATSILOJE	No 4 Type 21 B 51	
	Circle diameters	22mm & 35mm
	Earliest recorded date	14-Feb-2001
	Latest recorded date	02-Nov-2004
	Number so far recorded	2
MAUN	No 38 Type 21 B 55	
	Circle diameters	21mm & 35mm
	Earliest recorded date	29-Feb-2000
	Latest recorded date	17-Apr-2000
	Number so far recorded	2
MAUN	No 39 Type 21 B 56(1) One struck in red.	
	Circle diameters	21mm & 35mm
	Earliest recorded date	29-Apr-2000
	Latest recorded date	18-Nov-2004
	Number so far recorded	7
MAUN	No 40 Type 21 B 56(2)	
	Circle diameters	21mm & 35mm
	Earliest recorded date	18-Jan-2000
	Latest recorded date	29-Apr-2000
	Number so far recorded	4

MAUN	No 41 Type 21 B 56(5)	
	Circle diameters	21mm & 35mm
	Earliest recorded date	07-Jan-2000
	Latest recorded date	03-Jul-2002
	Number so far recorded	4



MAUN	No 42 Type 61 C 38 Struck in red	
	Outer oval dimensions	31mm & 50mm
	Earliest recorded date	14-Mar-1999
	Latest recorded date	18-Jan-2003
	Number so far recorded	14



New sub-variant 38. {OFFICE NAME} at top with "CB" above "POST OFFICE" (2 lines) at base.

MAUN	No 43 Type 61 C 49(2) Struck in red	
	Outer oval dimensions	31mm & 52mm
	Earliest recorded date	07-Aug-2000
	Latest recorded date	06-Jul-2002
	Number so far recorded	3



New sub-variant 49. {OFFICE NAME} at top with "COUNTER" followed by a number above "POST OFFICE" (2 lines) at base.

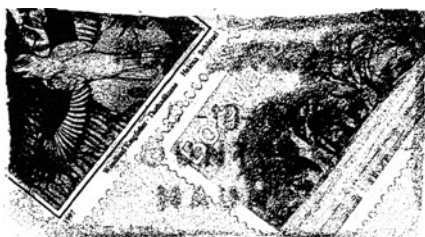
MAUN	No 44 Type 61 C 49(4) Struck in red	
	Outer oval dimensions	31mm & 52mm
	Earliest recorded date	08-Jun-2002
	Latest recorded date	08-Jun-2002
	Number so far recorded	1



MAUN	No 45 Type 61 C 49(6) Struck in red	
	Outer oval dimensions	31mm & 52mm
	Earliest recorded date	08-Aug-2002
	Latest recorded date	06-Nov-2002
	Number so far recorded	2



MAUN	No 46 Type 8 J 29 Struck in red	
	Box dimensions	28mm by 53mm
	Earliest recorded date	20-Oct-1998
	Latest recorded date	20-Oct-1998
	Number so far recorded	1





MAUN	No 47 Type 1 M 19(7)	
	Circle diameter	38mm
	Earliest recorded date	05-Nov-2004
	Latest recorded date	05-Nov-2004
	Number so far recorded	1
New sub-variant 19. "BOTSWANA POST" at top with "COUNTER" followed by a number above {OFFICE NAME} followed by "POST OFFICE" (2 lines) at base.		





MAUN	No 48 Type MISC 2c Struck in red	
	Circle diameter	45mm
	Earliest recorded date	25-Jun-2001
	Latest recorded date	25-Jun-2001
	Number so far recorded	1
New sub-variant 2c. "ASSISTANT POSTMASTER" above {OFFICE NAME} at top (2 lines) with "BOTSWANA POSTAL SERVICES" at base.		





MAUN	No 49 Type MISC 6 z 24 Struck in red	
	Outer oval dimensions	35mm & 58mm
	Earliest recorded date	26-Aug-2000
	Latest recorded date	23-Jun-2001
	Number so far recorded	6
New sub-variant z 24. "POST OFFICE" at top with "RECEIVED" above [OFFICE NAME] (2 lines) at base.		


MAUN	No 50 Type MISC 6 z 25 Struck in red	
	Outer oval dimensions	34mm & 54mm
	Earliest recorded date	30-Jun-1999
	Latest recorded date	28-Aug-2001
	Number so far recorded	4
New sub-variant z 25. "POST OFFICE" at top with "EMS" above [OFFICE NAME] (2 lines) at base.		

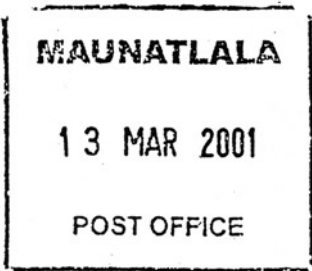
MAUN	No 51 Type MISC 6 z 26 Struck in red	
	Outer oval dimensions	38mm & 59mm
	Earliest recorded date	12-Dec-2000
	Latest recorded date	06-Nov-2001
	Number so far recorded	9
New sub-variant z 26. "POST OFFICE" at top with [OFFICE NAME] above "POSTAGE PREPAID" (2 lines) at base.		

MAUN	No 52 Type MISC 11	
	[OFFICE NAME] above design with the words "Census Botswana 2001:- Be there to be counted 17th - 26th August 2001"	
	Earliest recorded date	19-Jul-2001
	Latest recorded date	19-Jul-2001
	Number so far recorded	1


MAUN	No 53 Type 1 M 19(6)	
	Circle diameter	38mm
	Earliest recorded date	20-Dec-2004
	Latest recorded date	20-Dec-2004
	Number so far recorded	1


MAUN	No 54 Type 61 M 22 Struck in purple	
	Outer oval dimensions	36mm & 56mm
	Earliest recorded date	20-Sept-2004
	Latest recorded date	20-Sept-2004
	Number so far recorded	1
New sub-variant 22. "BOTSWANAPOST" at top with [COUNTER] above [OFFICE NAME] followed by "POST OFFICE" (2 lines) at base.		


MAUNATLALA	No 4 Type 21 B 56(1)	
	Circle diameters	21mm & 35mm
	Earliest recorded date	13-Mar-2001
	Latest recorded date	13-Mar-2001
	Number so far recorded	1

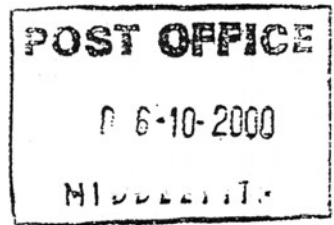
MAUNATLALA	No 5 Type 8 C 26 Struck in red	
	Box dimensions	35mm by 41mm
	Earliest recorded date	11-Oct-2000
	Latest recorded date	13-Mar-2001
	Number so far recorded	2


wrong postmark image on issue (now corrected)


METLOJANE 	No 5 Type 21 F 22	
	Circle diameters	21mm & 35mm
	Earliest recorded date	29-Mar-2000
	Latest recorded date	29-Mar-2000
	Number so far recorded	1


METLOJANE 	No 6 Type 61 J 27	
	Outer oval dimensions	34mm & 55mm
	Earliest recorded date	29-Mar-2000
	Latest recorded date	29-Mar-2000
	Number so far recorded	1


MIDDELPITS 	No 8 Type 21 F 11(1)	
	Circle diameters	21mm & 35mm
	Earliest recorded date	06-Oct-2000
	Latest recorded date	11-Oct-2000
	Number so far recorded	2


MIDDELPITS 	No 9 Type 8 J 26	
	Struck in red	
	Box dimensions	28mm by 42mm
	Earliest recorded date	06-Oct-2000
	Latest recorded date	06-Oct-2000
	Number so far recorded	1


MMADINARE	No 6 Type 21 B 55	
	Circle diameters	22mm & 35mm
	Earliest recorded date	??-Mar-2000
	Latest recorded date	02-Nov-2004
	Number so far recorded	3


MMADINARE	No 7 Type 21 B 56(1)	
	Circle diameters	22mm & 35mm
	Earliest recorded date	28-May-2001
	Latest recorded date	28-May-2001
	Number so far recorded	1


MMADINARE	No 8 Type 61 C 26 Struck in red	
	Outer oval dimensions	28mm & 56mm
	Earliest recorded date	23-Jul-2001
	Latest recorded date	23-Jul-2001
	Number so far recorded	1

MMANKGODI	No 4 Type 21 J 26	
	Circle diameters	22mm & 37mm
	Earliest recorded date	03-Nov-2004
	Latest recorded date	03-Nov-2004
	Number so far recorded	1

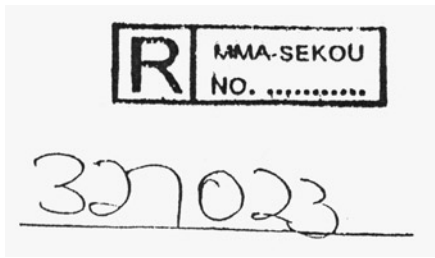
MMANKGODI	No 5 Type 8 J 26	
	Struck in red	
	Box dimensions	23mm by 44mm
	Earliest recorded date	29-Aug-2000
	Latest recorded date	29-Aug-2000
	Number so far recorded	1


MMAHASHALALA	No 4 Type 21 F 22	
	Circle diameters	21mm & 35mm
	Earliest recorded date	25-Apr-2001
	Latest recorded date	31-Jul-2001
	Number so far recorded	2


MMASEKOU	No 10 Type 21 B (4) 51	
	This postmark may have existed before 1 st June 1995, but has not been recorded. See similar postmarks RP#41 p.958/959 pmks 1,2,3	
	Circle diameters	17mm and 30mm
	Earliest recorded date	19-Oct-2000
	Latest recorded date	18-Jan-2003
	Number so far recorded	3

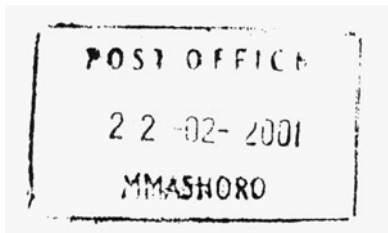
MMASEKOU	No 11 Type 21 X 14	
	Circle diameters	23mm and 37mm
	Earliest recorded date	16-Jan-2003
	Latest recorded date	16-Jan-2003
	Number so far recorded	1

New sub-variant 14. [OFFICE NAME] at top with "BOTSWANA" at base and with "CB" at base inside the divided inner circle.

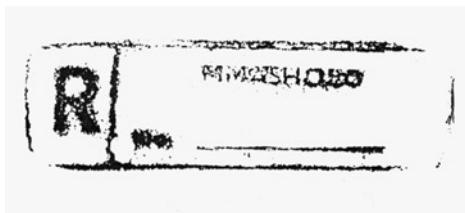
MMASEKOU 	No 12 Type REGN 2a	
	Note that MMASEKOU is hyphenated and written MMA-SEKOU	
	Box dimensions	11mm by 36mm
	Earliest recorded date	19-Oct-2000
	Latest recorded date	26-Jun-2001
	Number so far recorded	2

MMASEKOU 	No 13 Type MISC 6 z 14 Struck in red	
	Outer oval dimensions	35mm & 56mm
	Earliest recorded date	16-Jan-2003
	Latest recorded date	16-Jan-2003
	Number so far recorded	1

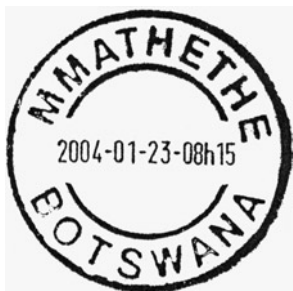
MMASHORO 	No 5 Type 21 F 22	
	Circle diameters	22mm and 35mm
	Earliest recorded date	22-Feb-2001
	Latest recorded date	22-Feb-2001
	Number so far recorded	1

MMASHORO 	No 6 Type 8 J 26 Struck in red	
	Similar to postmark No 3 see RP#41 p.960 - except smaller dimensions and letters	
	Box dimensions	25mm by 42mm
	Earliest recorded date	22-Feb-2001
	Latest recorded date	22-Feb-2001
	Number so far recorded	1

MMASHORO	No 7 Type REGN 2a Struck in red	
	Box dimensions	16.5mm by 56mm
	Earliest recorded date	22-Feb-2001
	Latest recorded date	22-Feb-2001
	Number so far recorded	1



MMATHETHE	No 3 Type 21 B 51	
	Circle diameters	23mm and 37mm
	Earliest recorded date	15-Sep-2002
	Latest recorded date	23-Jan-2004
	Number so far recorded	2



MMATHETHE	No 4 Type 21 X 15	
	Circle diameters	22mm and 37mm
	Earliest recorded date	26-Mar-2003
	Latest recorded date	26-Mar-2003
	Number so far recorded	1





New sub-variant 15. [OFFICE NAME] at top with "BOTSWANA" at base and with "CB" at top inside the divided inner circle.

MMATHETHE	No 5 Type 61 J 26 Struck in red	
	Outer oval dimensions	35mm & 55mm
	Earliest recorded date	06-Feb-2001
	Latest recorded date	06-Feb-2001
	Number so far recorded	1

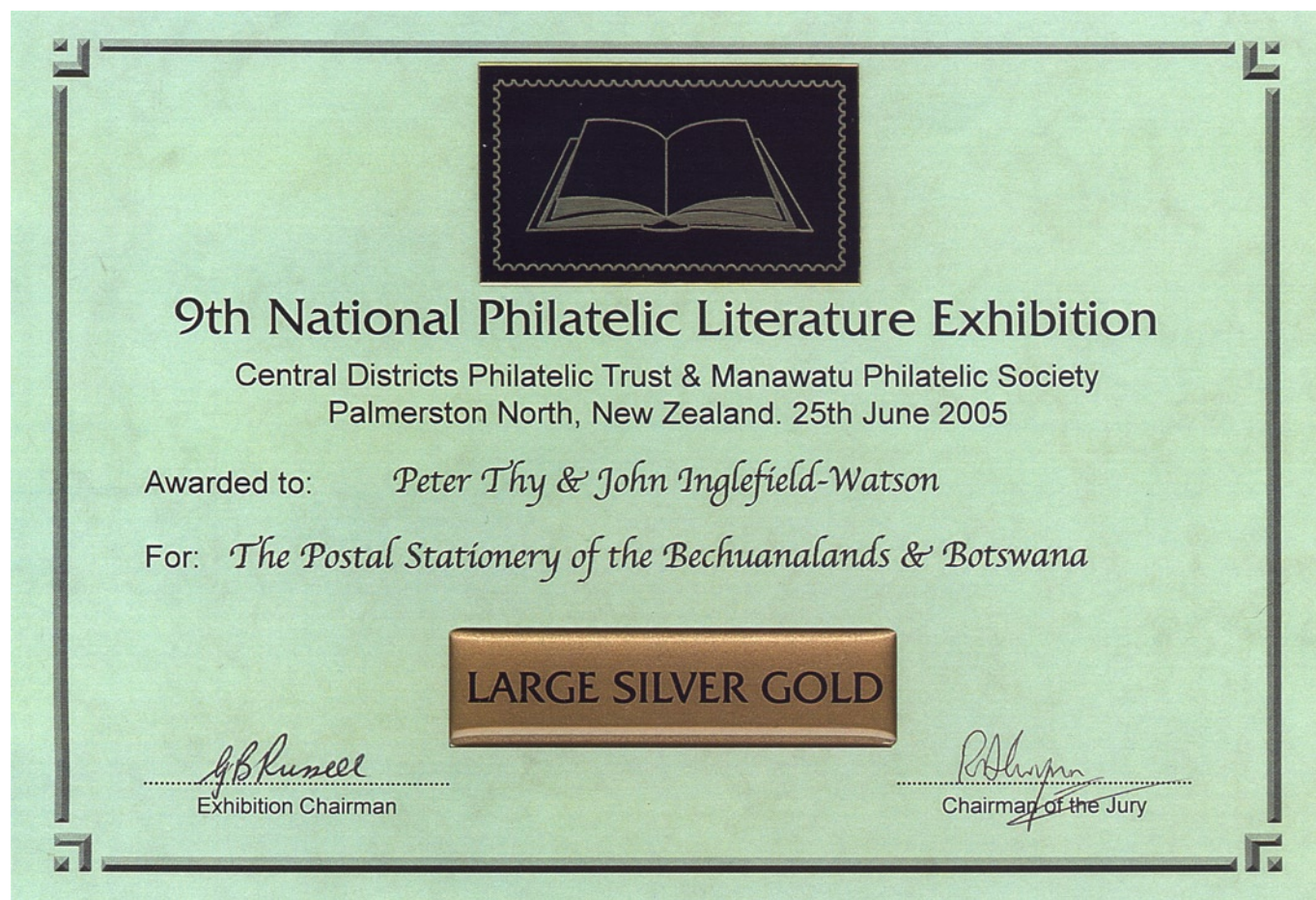


wrong office name on issue (now corrected)

MMATSHUMO	No 6 Type 21 F 22	
	Circle diameters	21mm and 35mm
	Earliest recorded date	25-Jul-2001
	Latest recorded date	25-Jul-2001
	Number so far recorded	1

MMUTLANE	No 3 Type 21 F 22	
	Circle diameters	22mm and 35mm
	Earliest recorded date	24-Feb-2001
	Latest recorded date	24-Feb-2001
	Number so far recorded	1

Recent Awards



AUTUMN STAMPEX 2005

Runner Post

achieved a

SILVER

for the

LITERATURE

exhibit entitled

The Runner Post

Treatment of Contents (40%) 29%

Originality, Significance and Depth of Research (40%) 28%

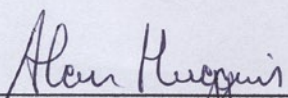
Technical Matters (15%) 13%

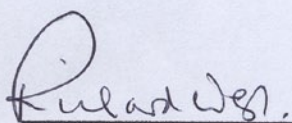
Presentation (5%) 4%

Total Marks 74%

Judges Comments

A very well produced journal. We would welcome the month appearing in the page headings alongside the volume and page number. The postmark study is very worthwhile.


Chairman of the Jury


Secretary of the Jury

BECHUANALAND 'SEAHORSES'



1914 Waterlow 5/- rose-carmine. Corner block of four superb mint. SG 84 £750



1919 De La Rue 5/- bright carmine Lower right corner block of four superb mint. SG 87 £1250



1920 Bradbury Wilkinson 5/- rose-red Marginal block of four very fine mint SG 89 £425

Over 600 priced items of Stellaland, the Bechuanalands and Botswana are listed and illustrated on www.rhodesia.co.za

ALAN MACGREGOR

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