

The **Runner Post**

THE BECHUANALANDS AND BOTSWANA SOCIETY



Issue 88 Contents

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Summer 2014

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**David Crocker & Michael Wigmore offer both
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a wide range of British Africa material.**

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plus members PTS (UK) and APS (USA).**

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DIARY OF EVENTS – 2014

20 th September	Society Meeting Stampex, London Design Centre, Islington, London 12.30 to 2.30pm
7 th to 9 th November	Joint Southern Africa Societies Conference Falstaff Hotel, Leamington Spa

Recent Botswana Issues

details and images by Peter Jukes

It seems that along with having a new Philatelic Manager Botswana has started issuing stamps again. They're still not making it out of the country. So here's a catch-up of details for a few old items and some of the new items.

From Runner Post #81

<i>Night Animals of Botswana</i>		Date of issue	29 th November 2010
Denominations	P2.60, P3.00, P4.10, P5.50, P5.60, P6.10	P2.60	Spring Hare
Designer	Amanda Page	P3.00	Fruit Bat
Printer	Cartot Security Printing	P4.10	Pearl Spotted Owl (Pelekekae)
Process	Offset lithography	P5.50	Aardwolf (Thukhwi)
Stamp Size	40mm x 30mm	P5.60	Porcupine (Noko)
Paper	110gsm, gummed, bluish PVA	P6.10	African Civet (Tshiphalore)
Period of Sale	One Year		
Souvenir Sheet Size	135mm x 170mm	FDC Size	162mm x 229mm

From Runner Post #85

<i>Biodiversity in Botswana [prev. Flora]</i>		Date of issue	11 th March 2011
Denominations	P2.60, P4.10, P5.50, P6.10	P2.60	Motantanyane - Ipomoea obscura
Designer	Gwathie Kirby	P4.10	Ledelele - Xenostegia tridentata
Printer	Southern Colour Print	P5.50	Tsebe-rsankuku - Ipomoea magnusiana
Process	Offset lithography	P6.10	Kgane - Ipomoea bolusiana
Stamp Size	30mm x 40mm		
Paper	102gsm, PVA Gum		
Period of Sale	One Year	FDC Size	220mm x 110mm



Launch of Spectacular Birds Definitive Series 10 - 13th May 2014



[Centre Photo - L to R] The new Botspost Philatelic Manager Ms Boitumelo Mothibameu [see also Top right], Mrs Gwathie Kirby, Botswana Post CEO Pele Moleta [see also Top left] and Justice Ian Kirby.

Gwathie Kirby was the artist employed for most of the birds shown in the new definitives issue "Spectacular Birds of Botswana". She and Ian Kirby are receiving gifts from the CEO Pele Moleta •

[Top centre] Guest speaker, Dr. Kabelo Senyatso, Director of Birdlife Botswana •

[Below] The entertainment troupe display the new stamps (14 of them)

Photos by Peter Jukes

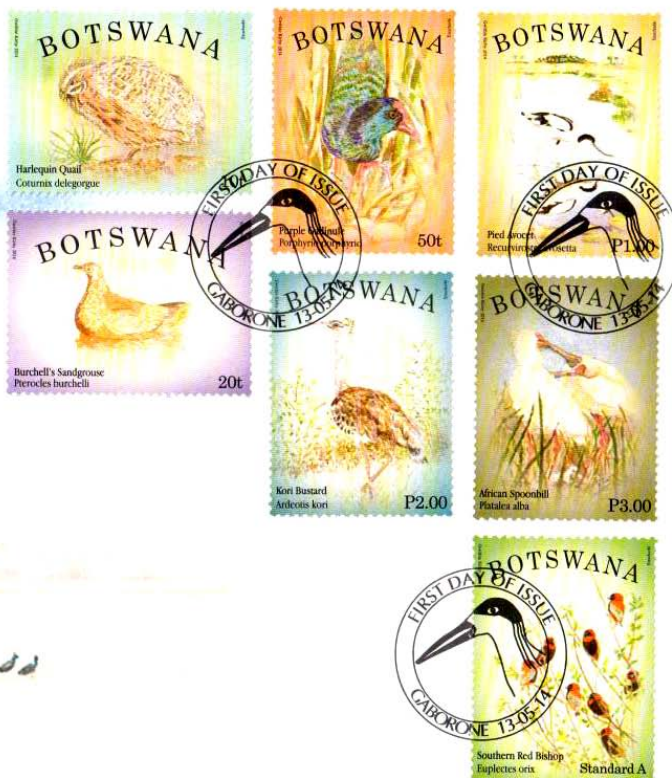


Spectacular

BIRDS OF BOTSWANA
10th Definitive Issue 2014



Official First Day Cover

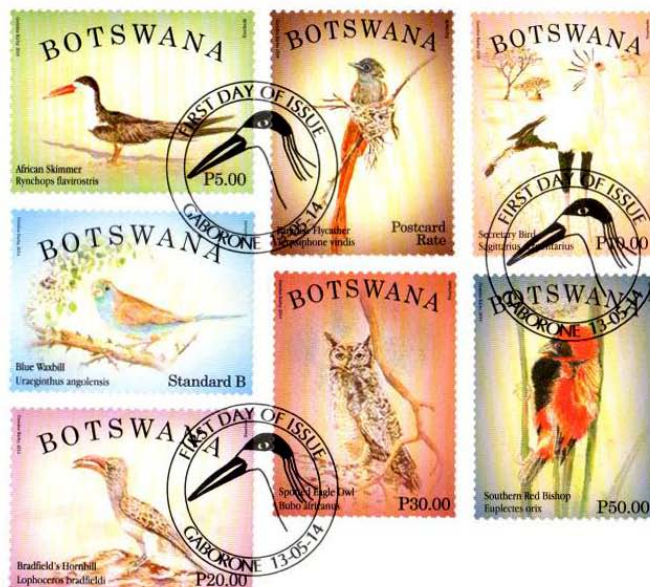


Spectacular

BIRDS OF BOTSWANA
10th Definitive Issue 2014



Official First Day Cover



I attend the official launch of the 10th definitive series of Botswana this morning. It was well attended.

There are 14 stamps in all with at least two new values. The highest value of P50 is a first and there is the addition of a Postcard rated stamp, similar to the Standard A and B stamps. I don't know if it will be sufficient to cover a card from Botswana to the UK?

The launch was well planned and ran almost to its forecast time schedules. Visitors were entertained by a young group of boys and girls, who received a thunderous round of applause at the conclusion of their allotted time.

The new Philatelic Manager Ms Boitumelo Mothibameu was the Master of Ceremonies. The CEO of Botswana Post, Pele Moleta, giving visitors and guests a brief overview of the planned future direction for Botswana Post during his closing remarks

After the speeches all visitors/guests retired to the Philatelic museum on the ground floor and were treated to some delightful refreshments and drinks.

Note: The Minister of Wildlife yesterday named the Kori Bustard as the National bird of Botswana, to end the years of speculation as to what was the National bird of the country.

Launch of Lions Of The Chobe - 26th June 2104



[clockwise from top left]
One of the 10 signed FDCs auctioned off at the meeting • the Artist, Wilson Nguni, and his stamps • the Guest Speaker, Mr Gosieme Neo Mahupleng, a researcher into large carnivores • Sheila Case and the Lioness • the launch party • Elaine Long, long standing member of this Society and the BPS • Mr Pele Moleta (CEO Botswana Post) and Mr Thabo Dithebe (Acting CEO Botswana Tourist Organisation) • the Botswana Post Manager of Philately, Boitumelo Mothibameu.



Medals of Honour to Batswana Soldiers Serving in the African Pioneer Corps during the Second World War

by Peter Thy



Part of the War Memorial in Gaborone

About 10,000 men were recruited in Bechuanaland for service with the African Pioneer Corps during World War 2 between 1941-1946. The majority of these functioned in labour companies in the Middle-East building roads and fortifications against potential invasion and in guarding camps. A smaller number served in combat activity as far north as Italy and Austria as heavy artillery gunners, bridge builders, camouflage smoke makers, drivers and mechanics, and in frontline supply.

Of the about 10,000 originally recruited, 17 were killed in action or died from wounds, 28 died from accidents, 77 were wounded, and 165 died from various illnesses, mostly tuberculosis. British government pensions granted to widows and dependents amounting to 193 and to disabled men 560.

About 8,000 soldiers were demobilized after the war. They were shipped to the Durban and at Clairwood Camp, Pietermaritzburg, they received a set of clothing, their release payment of £5, and discharge papers, and

then were put on the train toward home. They should all have qualified for several service medals (the Star, Defence and War medals) according to the criteria outlined below. There however is no indications that any of the ex-soldiers received any medal at all.

Only three noncommissioned Bechuanaland officers received special honours: R.S.M. Molwa Sekgoma got the Member of the British Empire (MBE) medal and R.S.M. Rasebolai Kgamane and Sgt. Chitu Bakombi the British Empire Medal (BEM). King George VI probably presented these to the sergeants at a honour parade of about 200 men at Lobatsi in 1947, during the stop on April 17 by the Royal Train at the Lobatsi Station.

The soldiers that continued service after the war, like Private M. Moklake (EC 13457) of Bechuanaland, received special attention. He served until 1948 in Palestine in the High Commission Territories Corps (HCTC) and thus received a set of medals (the Star, the Defence Medal, the War Medal, and the General Service Medal). Because of his service in the HCTC, he qualified

for the Palestine clasp/bar and also got his name and rank engraved on his silver General Service Medal. This is the only reason that we today can identify him. About 3,600 men were recruited into the HCTC, about 1,000 of which were new recruits in Bechuanaland. Private Mokalake, probably recruited in Francistown, was one of these latter judging from his high service number. It must be assumed that all HCTC soldiers got the same medal collection as Mokalake.

The veterans proudly displayed their worn uniforms and their medals, if they had received any, at the yearly Remembrance Day until abolished in the mid-70s by the Government because of too many official holidays. The veterans were then largely forgotten and it took about 50 years before all Botswana veterans (or

widowed spouse and dependents under the age of 21 years) belatedly receiving a small monthly allowance (P359 or about \$50 in 2014).

Background Literature

Bent, R.A.R., 1952. *Ten Thousand Men of Africa*. Her Majesty's Stationery Office, London, 128pp.

Jackson, A., 1999. *Botswana 1939-1945*. Clarendon, Oxford, UK, 281pp.

Schmitt, D.A., 2006. *The Bechuanaland Pioneers and Gunners*. Praeger, Westport, CT, 265pp. (edited version of D.A. Shackleton's 1997 PhD).

Shackleton, D.A., 1997. *Imperial Military Policy and the Bechuanaland Pioneers and Gunners During the Second World War*. PhD Thesis, Indiana University, IN, 357pp.



The faded accolades that belonged to Private M. Mokalake

The 1938-1945 Star was awarded for operational service. It is a six-pointed bronze star with the Royal Cipher GRI VI in the centre surrounded by the inscription "The 1939-1945 Star" and surmounted by a crown. The reverse is blank. The ribbon is with three stripes of equal width colored dark blue, scarlet and light blue, representing the three armed services.

The 1939-1945 Defence Medal was awarded for service in areas subjected to air attack for three years in Great Britain or one year in territories overseas. Service in Palestine would qualify for this medal made from cupro-nickel. The award has the coinage head of King George VI on the obverse. The reverse shows the Royal Crown resting above a small oak tree and flanked by two heraldic lions. The light green ribbon is with a central stripe of orange and a narrow black stripe in the middle of each green stripe. The orange central stripe represents the enemy attacks on the green land of England and the black stripes represent black outs.

The War Medal 1939-1945 was awarded to all personnel of the armed forces of the British Commonwealth for

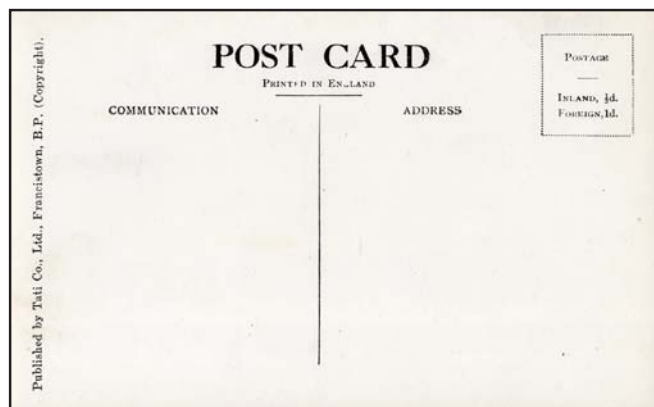
having served at least 28 days. The medal, made of cupro-nickel, was granted in addition to the other campaign stars and the Defence Medal. The obverse shows the crowned coinage effigy of King George VI, facing left. The reverse of the medal shows a lion standing on the body of dragon with one head of an eagle and one of a dragon to signify the principal occidental and oriental enemies. The ribbon is red, white, and blue with a narrow red stripe in the centre flanked by narrow white stripes and broad red stripes at either edge with two intervening stripes of blue.

The General Service Medal 1918-1962 awarded for service in minor campaigns that did not warrant a separate medal. The medal was made of silver and depicts the effigy of King George VI on the obverse; the reverse shows a winged figure of Victoria with a trident in one hand and a wreath in the other. The ribbon is purple with a central stripe of green. Bar was issued for service in Palestine from 1945 to 1948. Only the Service Medal was inscribed by rank and name of the recipient.

Bechuanaland Postcards – Part 7

by Peter Thy/eBay

Peter Thy alerted me to a recent series of postcards on eBay. They're all from the same series of Tati Co. Ltd. postcards. The back is reproduced right. Seller StoryPost noted them as being from the 1910s though the back has no dates. There appear to have been at least 35 cards of which 19 are shown here.



Tati Co., Ltd., Francistown BP



0002 The General Manager's House, Tati Co. Ltd., Francistown.



0004 The Tati Hotel, from Station, Francistown.



0008 Chief Jackalas and his Sons.



0012 The New Railway Station, Francistown.



0013 The Old Railway Station, Francistown.



0014 The Monarch Mine, from S.W. Francistown.



0016 1st Street North from 2nd, Avenue, Francistown, looking North.



0017 1st Street North from 2nd, Avenue, Francistown, looking South.



0018 The School and Church, Francistown.



0019 The Court House and Gaol, Francistown.



0020 The English Church, Francistown.



0022 The Lady Mary Mine, Francistown.



0025 Native Cattle, at Monarch Drift, Francistown.



0026 Store and Grain Depot, Ramaquabane Siding.



0029 Tsessebe Dam, from East Bank of Inchwe River.



0030 Tsessebe Dam, from Mid-Stream, Inchwe in flood.



0032 Store and Smithy, Tsessebe.



0033 Monarch Mine, from East, Francistown.

A previously unreported variety

by Brian Hurst



The stamp illustrated above was recently offered on eBay, being described as SG31 with damaged 'c' and 'h' of 'Bechuanaland'. SG31 is, of course, the Cape 1d. carmine-red overprinted 'British Bechuanaland' in 1891 with the overprint reading upwards and at first sight the seller's description seems accurate. However the damage is clearly the unlisted 'sliced ch' that is a constant variety at position 60 of the left hand pane on SG38 and 39, i.e. the 1d and 2d Cape with the overprint reading DOWNWARDS.

Theoretically, if this variety was to occur with overprint reading upwards, then it would be found at position 1 of the right hand pane due to the reversal of the overprinting forme that is now known to have happened between the production of SG31/32 and



0035 Native Policeman's Hut, Francistown Camp.

SG38/39. However, a careful examination of examples of SG31 from this position of the right hand pane shows no damage to the overprint. It is therefore apparent that the damage to the 'ch' occurred during storage of the printing forme between the production of SG31 in 1891 and SG38 in 1893.

The only conclusion that can be reached is that the stamp illustrated does not belong to the production of SG31 in 1891 but comes from a sheet of SG38 produced in 1893 that has been inserted into the printing press upside down. As such, although unlisted, it carries the same status as SG38g which is described as 'Opt. reading up, no dots to "i" of 'British''. Five examples of SG38g have been recorded.

Get searching for this 'sliced "ch"' one too!

The Rest of the Bechuanaland Post Office

An Exhibit by Peter Thy



The 1890 frontier Bechuanaland Post Office of Macloutsie.
An oxen-drawn mail and passenger coach is readied for departure.

The role of the post offices and agencies in the Bechuanalands and Botswana was not restricted to handling letters and parcels. Many other equally important public services were daily activities. Most importantly, the telegraph was part of the post office and often utilized postal cancellers and postage stamps in addition to sharing the same personnel, building and often counter. In fact, the posts and telegraphs were only recently unified as the Post and Telegraph Services that also handled the emerging telephone network and other radio communications and broadcasts requiring licenses. The transmission of money through the mail or telegraph was done using postal and money orders and was a most important function. The post office further functioned as postal savings bank and in fact was the only banking opportunity available to most residents, in particular women. The early long distance coach lines that connected the main post offices were organized to transport the mail and was only able to accept paying passengers and other goods as space permitted. Later the rail line connected the main post offices relocated to the rail line and shared personnel and facilities. The rail line thus became the artery along which mail, passengers, and goods were and still are being transported, often centred around the post office. Postal and/or revenue stamps were utilized for revenue and business licensing purposes and were distributed and fees collected often at money order counters. Customs functions and related fee collections were also a normal occurrence at larger offices.

What emerges from a closer look at the Bechuanaland post office is an institution with deep roots in the development of the communication and transportation sectors of the country. The post office was and still is the focal point for social, political, and business development and also allowed the local and far away governments to reach their subjects. The functions and duties of the post office involved much more than simple collecting and dispensing letters and postcards.

These important but philatelically less traditional roles can be traced variously in official or private stationery and other ephemeral products. Selected subjects illustrated in this exhibit are:

Background Reading

Bosman, H.C., 1991. Jurie Steyn's Post Office.
Human & Rousseau (Anniversary Edition).
Botswana Postal Services Guide, 1982. Government
Printer. Gaborone (only edition seen)
Smith, R.C., 1967. Rhodesia. A Postal History
- Its Stamps, Posts and Telegraphs.
Published by the author, Salisbury, Rhodesia.
Union of South Africa, 1928. Post Office Guide
Government Printer, Pretoria (this edition used).

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 2-3. Coach Lines | 13-15. Official Mail |
| 4. Forwarding Agents | 16. Newspapers |
| 5. Money Orders | 17-18. Parcels and Customs |
| 6. Postal Orders | 19-23. Telegraph |
| 7-9. Reply Coupons | 24-28. Rail Transport |
| 10. Savings Bank | 29. Telephone |
| 11. Insured Mail | 30. Radio Broadcasting |
| 12. Lost Mail | 31-32. Ham Radio |

2. Coach Line

1892 Bechuanaland Exploration Company
Mail Coach Passenger Ticket

49

No. _____

BW

BECHUANALAND EXPLORATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

The Interior Line of Royal Mail and Passenger Coaches and Carts

Between KIMBERLEY and BAMANGWATO via Taung, Vrijburg, Mafeking,
Malmari, Kanya, Molopolole and Motshodi.

PASSENGER TICKET.

Parmoutia Date *August 2nd* 1892

From ~~BARKLY WEST~~ to *Fort Tuli*

Name *W. E. Thomas*

Fare £ *17.0.0* *Seventeen Pounds* Seat No. _____

Overweight Luggage _____ lbs., at _____ s. _____ d.

FOR CONDITIONS ON WHICH THIS TICKET IS ISSUED
SEE OVER.

W. E. Thomas
W. E. Thomas Agent.

TOWNSEND & SON, PRINTERS, CAPE TOWN AND VRYBURG.

CONDITIONS.

1. The Company's vehicles will start from the Terminal Stations at the appointed time; but while making every effort to observe punctuality, the Company does not hold itself responsible or accountable for any loss, inconvenience, or injury that may result from any delays or detentions during the journey.
2. Children under 12 years of age (with Parents) will be charged one-half of full fare.
3. Passengers must show their Tickets to the Driver or Guard of the Coach or Cart, or to the Company's Agents, when asked for.
4. Seats can only be engaged at intermediate Stations conditionally on the chance of there being sufficient room on the arrival of the Coach.
5. The Company does not hold itself responsible for any Accident to Person or Property through the capsizing or breaking down of the vehicles.

LUGGAGE.

Each Passenger shall be allowed 25 lbs. of personal luggage, to be carried at his own risk, free of charge, but any excess weight must be paid for at Parcel Rates.

By order,

F. JOHNSON,
General Manager.

The mail carts to the Mashonaland frontier accepted paying passengers if space were available. The Bechuanaland Exploration Company operated mail and passenger coaches and carts from Vryburg to Fort Tuli at the Bechuanaland and Mashonaland border from the late 1891. In the late 1892, the concession passed over to the Virsing Brothers of Vryburg. The coaches and carts were drawn by mules or oxen. The trip between Vryburg and Tuli would take over a week of suffering for the unseasoned traveller.

In 1896 the journey through Bechuanaland on the mail coaches was described by R. S. Godley:

"Our road from Mafeking ... lay along the old coach road ... On this road ... coaches, with their spans of twelve mules apiece, used to travel with passengers and mails. Such coaches were huge 'Buffalo Bill' affairs, swinging on enormous leather springs and carrying twelve passengers, the driver, and a Cape boy to assist him. Teams were changed every seven or ten miles ... A journey in one of these conveyances meant days of trial and tribulation. Passengers were of all sorts and conditions. Ladies of doubtful reputation, commercial travellers, prospectors, business men, and parsons were packed like herrings for days on end. Inside there were no room to move or stretch one's legs; one was also choked with dust. Outside one was surrounded by mail bags, and exposed either to glaring sun or torrents of tropical rain."

*Reclamer à Garmburg de l'Etat
de l'Etat qui est un Garmburg*

60

1

THE
BECHUANALAND EXPLORATION COMPANY,
LIMITED.

SHARE CAPITAL.
£150,000 in 150,000 SHARES of £1 each.

1899

ONE SHILLING & SIX PENCE

This is to Certify that the Bearer of this Warrant is the Proprietor of **ONE** fully paid up Share, No. **115399**, of One Pound, in THE BECHUANALAND EXPLORATION COMPANY LIMITED, subject to the Regulations of the Company for the time being, and to the conditions endorsed hereon.

Given under the Common Seal of the Company in London
this **21st** day of **January**, 18**89**

W. W. W. W.
Secretary.

G. J. P. M.
Chairman.

George Cawston
Director.

CECI EST POUR CERTIFIER QUE LE PORTEUR DE CE
TITRE EST PROPRIÉTAIRE D'UNE ACTION, ENTIEREMENT
LIBÉRÉE, NO. **115399**, D'UNE LIVRE STERLING,
DE THE BECHUANALAND EXPLORATION COMPANY
LIMITED, EN CONFORMITÉ DES STATUTS ET DES RÉGLE-
MENTS ACTUELS DE LA COMPAGNIE.

1

NO A0274

THE BECHUANALAND EXPLORATION COMPANY LIMITED

By *W. W. W. W.* Secretary.

By *G. J. P. M.* Chairman.

By *George Cawston* Director.

4. Forwarding Agent

1891 Vryburg Forwarding Agent

SPENCE'S FORWARDING AGENCY
TRANSPORT REPORT

The Government have decided that the Warrenton route shall not be available for "In Transit" or "Rebate" Goods.
Goods for the Free State should be consigned to R. H. SPENCE, Kimberley.

Vryburg Station, March 7th, 1891.

*Railway Carriage from Port Elizabeth to Vryburg on General Merchandise, per 100 lbs.	10/2
Railway Carriage from Capetown to Vryburg on General Merchandise, per 100 lbs.	12/11

"In Transit" Goods under the Railway Bond come from the Coast at following rates:

From Capetown to Vryburg, per 100 lbs., 7/9
From Port Elizabeth to Vryburg, per 100 lbs., 6/4

"In Transit" Goods coming up at the ordinary rates given above* are subject to a rebate of carriage, reducing rates to those charged on "In Transit" Goods "Under Bond," on production of certain documents signed by Officer at Vryburg, certifying that goods have passed beyond Colonial Border.

The following are the ruling transport rates from Vryburg:—

To Johannesburg,	
For Merchandise }	3/6 to 4/- per 100 lbs.
Machinery }	
Bloemhof - - - - -	2/- "
Christiana - - - - -	2/- "
Klerksdorp - - - - -	2/- "
Potchefstroom - - - - -	2/6 "
Pretoria - - - - -	5/- to 5/6 "
Zeerust - - - - -	2/6 to 3/- "
Lichtenburg - - - - -	2/6 to 3/- "
Rustenburg - - - - -	4/6, 5/- "
Mafeking - - - - -	1/9 to 2/- "
Macloutsi - - - - -	12/6 "
Fort Tuli - - - - -	14/- "

Transport to Johannesburg, per Mule Wagon 10/-

Consignors are particularly requested to send Rebate Advice along with Advice Notes or insert Rebate No. on Advice Note.

Persons desirous of having their goods stored for any length of time must make arrangements beforehand, when storage will be charged.

Timber and iron can be stored outside, but no responsibility is taken for any damage which may be sustained in consequence.

N.B.—No Responsibility taken for Loss by Fire.

SPENCE & DRURY.

Telegraphic Address — SPENCE, KIMBERLEY
SPENCE, VRYBURG STATION

Customers are requested to remit all amounts due to the Vryburg Business to us here, and to keep all Accounts distinct from Kimberley.

Please note that Postage to Bechuanaland for letters not exceeding $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. is 2d.

The Vryburg office of a forwarding Agent offers in 1891 forward transport from Vryburg.

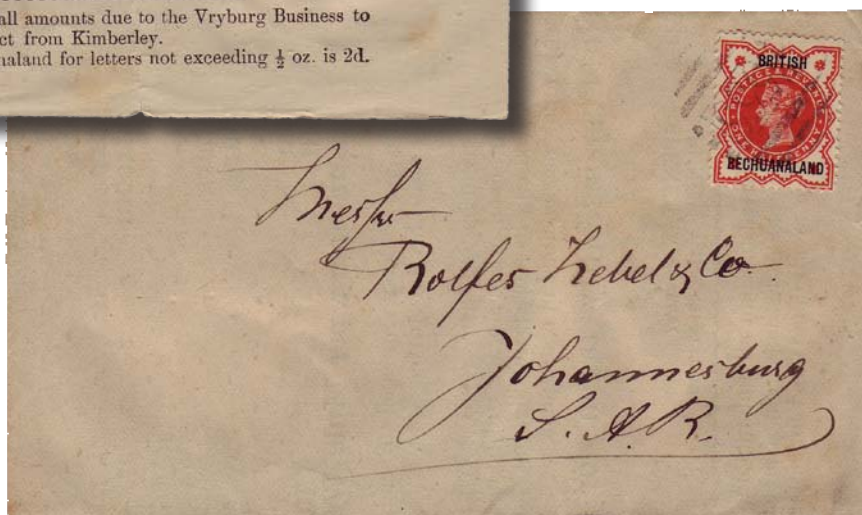
In 1890, the rail line was open to Vryburg. Any further transport would be by oxen or mule cart. The Bechuanaland Exploration Company held in 1891 the government contract for mail and passenger transport from Vryburg to Macloutsi/Tuli (with connection to Mashonaland).

Foreign goods in transit from Cape Town to Vryburg cost 7/9 per 100 lbs.

The transport from Vryburg to Macloutsi cost 12/6 and to Fort Tuli 14/- per 100 lbs.

Mule drawn transport into the Transvaal was also possible at 10/- per 100 lbs.

The notice was distributed by mail to potential customers by folding and addressing on the outside. The $\frac{1}{2}$ d rate paid the commercial rate from Vryburg (BONC 555) to Southern Africa.



5. Postal Money Orders

1894 Inland Money Order Advice

A Money Order Convention between British Bechuanaland and the Cape of Good Hope was signed in 1890. Bechuanaland at that date joined the exchange network already existing in between the southern African states and colonies. Only three post offices then could handle money orders - Taungs, Kuruman, and the main post in Vryburg.



Money order advice mailed to the Pretoria Postmaster from Vryburg (AP 11 94).
Received Pretoria 13 APR 1894.

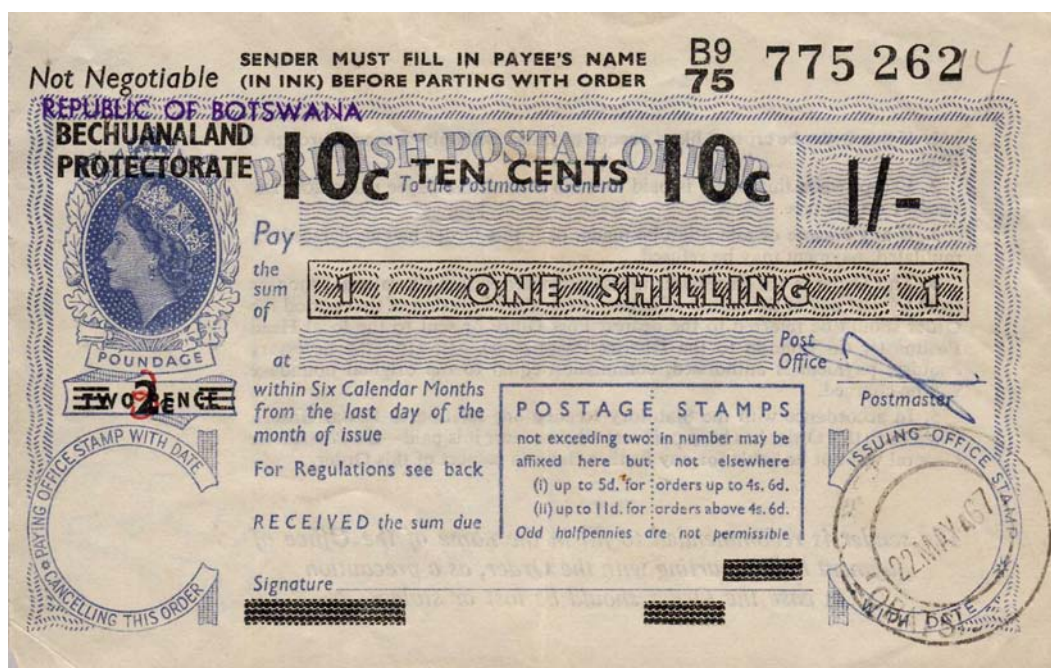
6. Postal Orders

1960 Bechuanaland and Botswana Postal Orders

British and later South African postal orders were made available in the Protectorate from 1907. The Bechuanaland postal orders were issued in 1960 as overprinted and surcharged British orders. Later the orders were overprinted for use in Botswana prior to proper Botswana orders was issued.



Issued in Serove (14 VII 67) after Independence.



Overprinted 'REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA.'
Issued in Lobatsi (22 MAY 67).

7. International Reply Coupons

UPU South African and Bechuanaland Coupons

Reply coupons were used in Southern Africa from 1907 and the same coupons were likely also used in Bechuanaland despite that none has been preserved prior to 1961.

Specific coupons inscribed 'Bechuanaland' or later 'Botswana' were introduced first in 1965. Four different designs are known to have been used in Bechuanaland. These are known as the London, Vienna, Lausanne, and Peking designs after the UPU Congress where they were approved.



London Design

Union of South Africa coupon used in Francistown (18 IV 61).



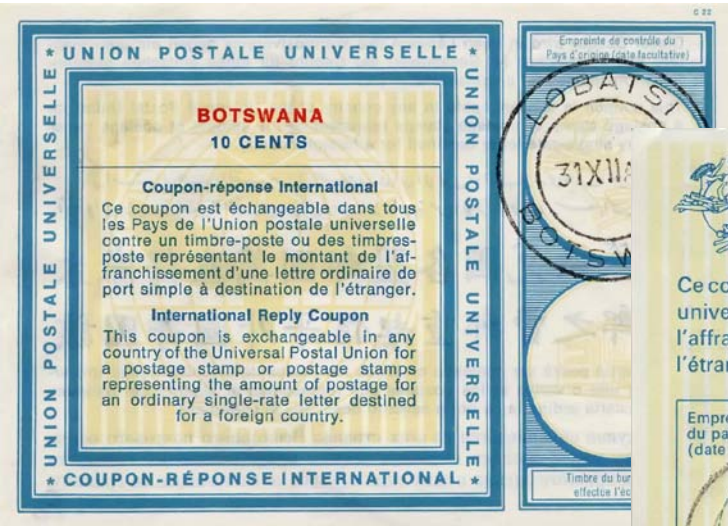
London Design

Bechuanaland coupon used in Lobatsi (5 VI 67).

The coupons paid for a reply letter (either regular letter or later airmail) at any UPU post office. In many aspects, reply coupons are similar to reply postcards.

8. International Reply Coupons

UPU Botswana Coupons



Lausanne Design - This with horizontal UPU watermark.
U.P.U. coupon used in Gaberone (13 I 76).



Vienna Design
Botswana coupon used in Lobatsi (31 XII 70).

Lausanne Design - This with vertical UPU watermark.
U.P.U. coupon used in Gaberone (14 III 91).

The Peking design was the last coupon issued by Botswana. Despite a clear termination date of 31.12.2006, the Post Office kept selling the expired coupon for several years past expiration.



Peking Design
U.P.U. coupon used in Gaberone (12 IX 03).



9. Commonwealth Reply Coupons

Bechuanaland and Botswana Commonwealth Coupons



Printer Imprint Type 1.

Bechuanaland 4c commonwealth coupon used in Botswana (18 X 68).



Printer Imprint Type 2.

Botswana 6 cents commonwealth coupon used 17 VI 70.



Printer Imprints:

[Top] Type 1

[Bottom] Type 2

HARRISON AND SONS, LTD., ST. MARTIN'S LANE, LONDON

HARRISON AND SONS, LTD., 7, CAVENDISH SQUARE, LONDON

British Commonwealth reply coupons were introduced in Bechuanaland around 1960 and continued being used in Botswana after Independence until 1975.

The need for these coupons was the lower rates in effect for mail between the Commonwealth countries.

Printer Imprint Type 2.

Bechuanaland 4c commonwealth coupon used in Botswana (5 VI 67).

10. Post Office Savings Bank

1898 Cape Savings Bank Book
used by Bechuanaland Resident

The Savings Bank was established in the Cape Colony in 1884. The first Savings Bank offices were opened in the Protectorate around 1917-19 (Francistown, Serowe, and Lobatsi). Thus in 1898, the nearest Savings Bank for a Protectorate resident was at the Cape Post Office in Mafeking.

This Name of Office and Number of Book must be stated in all communications respecting this Account.

Name of Depositor, Friendly Society, Trust Fund, &c. *29*
1293


B. Balooe
No. *48a*

Mr. Ernest Frederick Moore
B. Balooe Mochudi

This Book must be produced whenever any money is deposited or withdrawn.

Date of Deposit or Issue of Warrant, &c.	Amount of Deposit in Words, or Number of Withdrawal in Figures, &c.	Amount of	Amount of	Officer's Signature.	The Dated Stamp of the Office to be affixed against.
<i>1898</i> <i>7 Feb 98</i>	<i>from Mochudi</i> <i>222</i>	£ <i>10</i> -		<i>W. H. A. ...</i>	<i>CAPE TOWN</i> <i>APR 1898</i>
<i>June 20</i>	<i>Eleven shgs</i>	<i>11</i> -		<i>D. ...</i>	<i>BEY MON</i> <i>JUL 20 93</i>
<i>" 25</i>	<i>One pnd</i>	<i>1</i> -		<i>D. ...</i>	<i>BEY MON</i> <i>JUL 25 93</i>
<i>Sept 26</i>	<i>Ten shillings</i>	<i>10</i> -		<i>W. ...</i>	<i>DOUGLAS</i> <i>SEP 26 93</i>
<i>Oct 18</i>	<i>7685 08</i>			<i>W. ...</i>	<i>DOUGLAS</i> <i>OCT 18 93</i>

G. P. O. 300.
S. H. 4.



POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK.

This Name of Office and Number of Book must be stated in all communications respecting this Account.

B. Balooe
No. *48a*

The entries of the amount of each Deposit and Withdrawal in the Deposit Books should be carefully examined by the Depositors before they leave the Post Office, in order that they may be satisfied that such entries are correct.

This Book must be forwarded to the Controller, Savings Bank Department, Cape Town, each year, on the *28 April* being the Anniversary of the day on which the Account was opened, in order that it may be compared with the Books of the Department, and the interest due to the previous 30th June inserted. An envelope for the transmission of the Book can be obtained at any Post Office Savings Bank.

NOTE.—A Deposit Book is not a proper security for money lent, and no claim by any person holding a Deposit Book in respect of a loan can be recognised by the Department.

W.A.B. & Sons. A1095, 30, 300, 334.

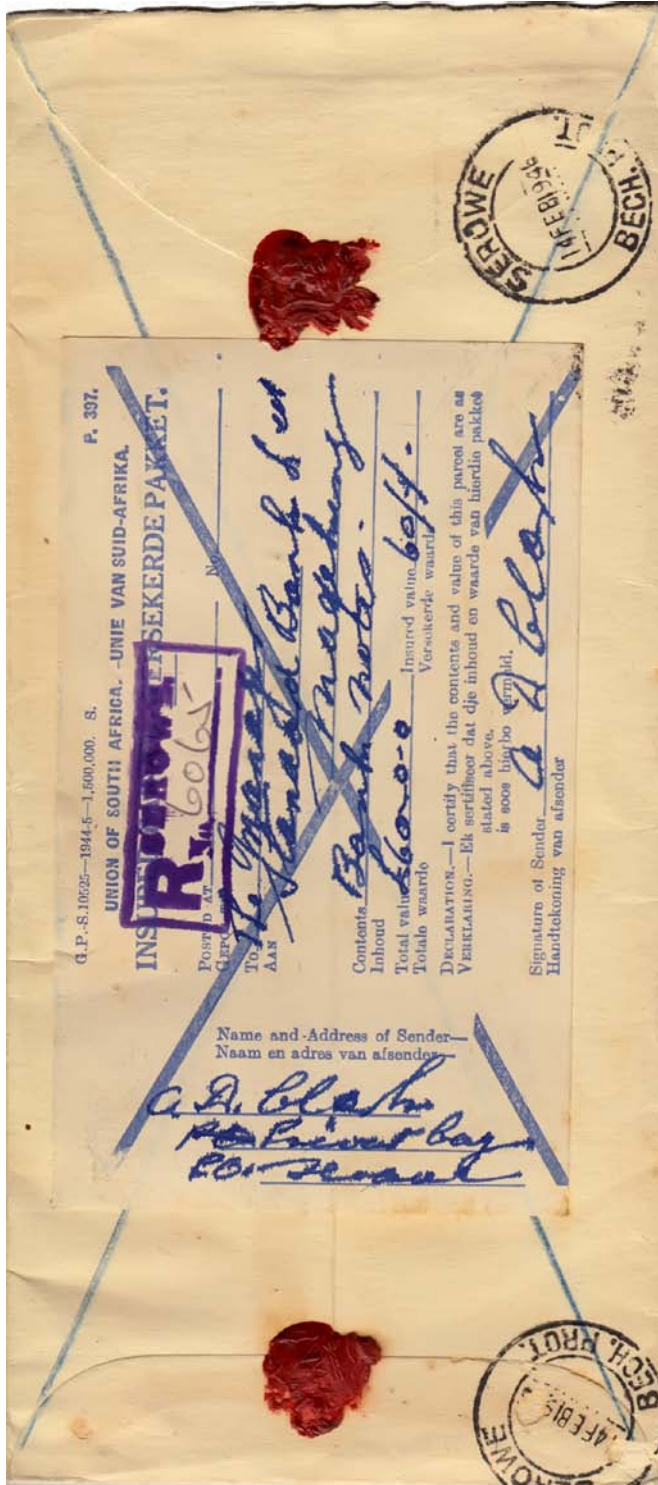
The owner of this savings book was an Cape policeman that opened the account in 1898 in Belmont, Griqualand West. In 1899, he moved to Mochudi and kept his savings account active. The last movement on the book was in October 1899 in Mafeking, leaving a total of £7 7/- still remaining on the book.

11. Insured Mail

Insured Letters Containing 'Engraved Forms'/Bank Notes

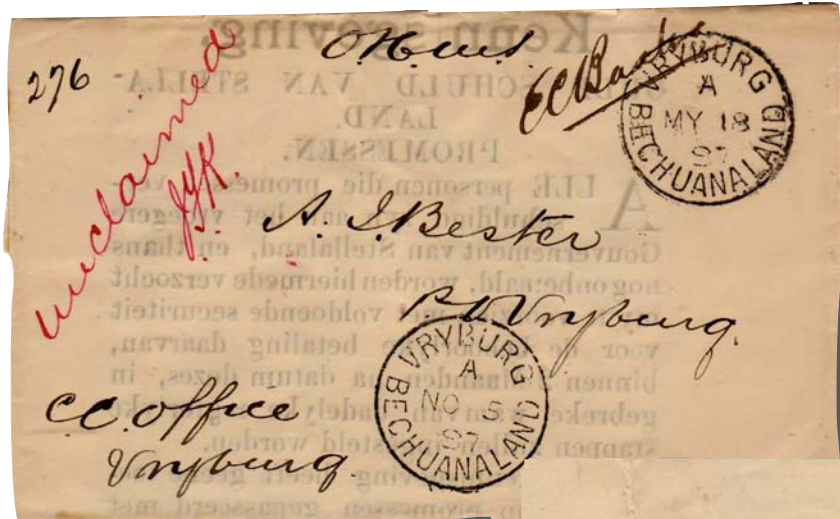
From Serowe in 1946 to Standard Bank, Mafeking (£60).

From Mahalapye in 1958 to Kimberley (£13).



12. Official Mail

1887 O.H.M.S. Stellaland



Stamp-less O.H.M.S. letter made from folding an official notice. Signed E.J. Baxter and endorsed 'C.C. Office / Vryburg' at lower left. 'C.C.' Stands for Civil Commissioner. Addressed to A.J. Bester at P.O. Vryburg.

The letter was unclaimed.

The printed notice written in Dutch reads in part in translation:

Notice.

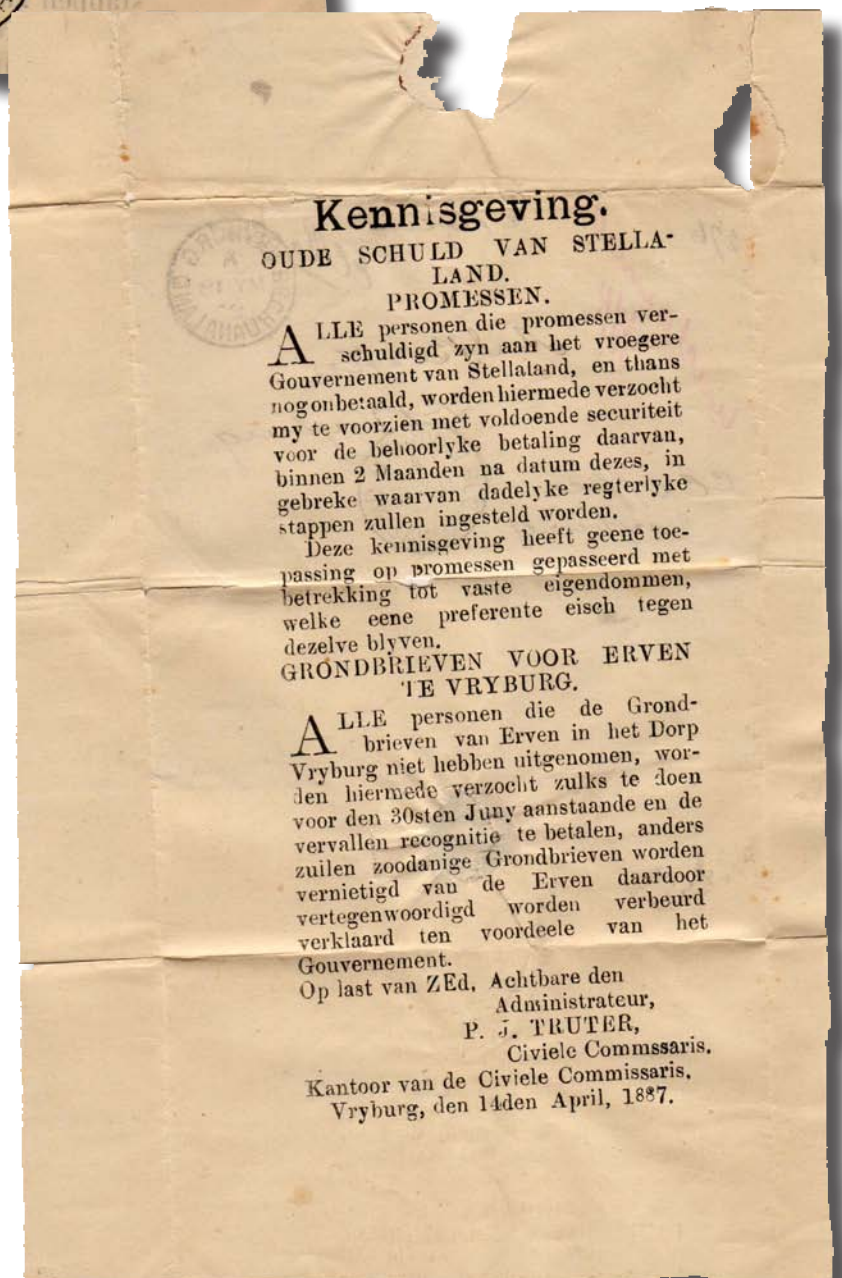
OLD STELLALAND DEBT PROMISSORY NOTES.

All persons owing unpaid promissory notes to the late Stellaland Government are requested to provide security within 2 month or face legal proceedings.

TITLE TO PROPERTY IN VRYBURG.

All persons holding title deeds to property in Vryburg must redeem them by 30 June 1887, pay quitrent due, or forfeit such property to the Crown.

By Order of his Honour
the Administrator
P.J. Truter,
Civil Commissioner,
Vryburg, 14th April 1887.



Kennisgeving.

OUDE SCHULD VAN STELLA- LAND. PROMESSEN.

ALLE personen die promessen verschuldigd zijn aan het vroegere Gouvernement van Stellaland, en thans nog onbetaald, worden hiermede verzocht my te voorzien met voldoende securiteit voor de behoorlyke betaling daarvan, binnen 2 Maanden na datum dezes, in gebreke waarvan dadelyke regterlyke stappen zullen ingesteld worden.

Deze kennisgeving heeft geene toepassing op promessen gepasseerd met betrekking tot vaste eigendommen, welke eene preferente eisch tegen dezelve blyven.

GRONDBRIEVEN VOOR ERVEN TE VRYBURG.

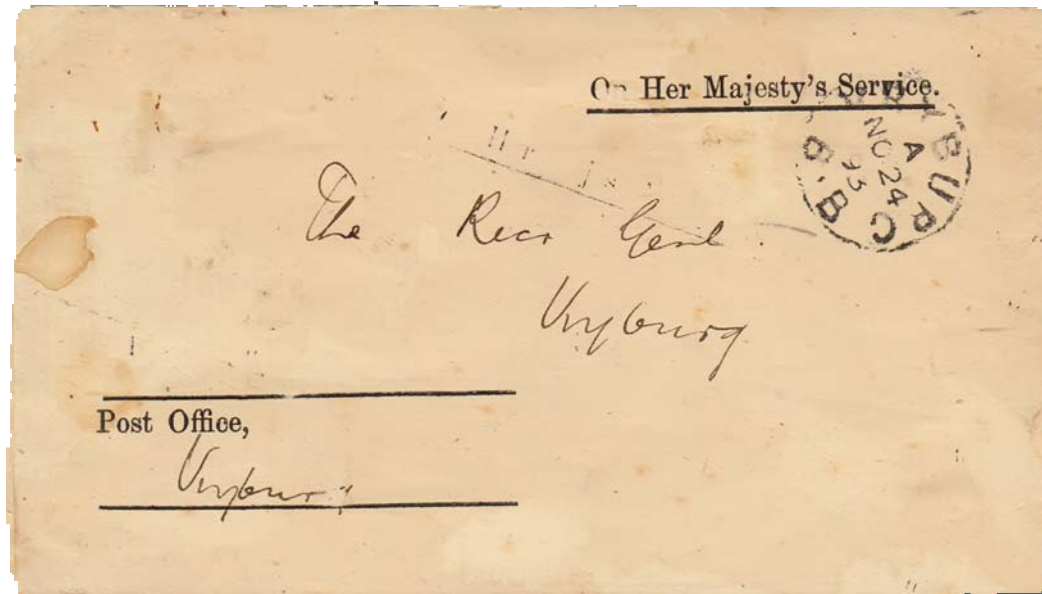
ALLE personen die de Grond-brieven van Erven in het Dorp Vryburg niet hebben uitgenomen, worden hiermede verzocht zulks te doen voor den 30sten Juny aanstaande en de vervallen recognitie te betalen, anders zullen zoodanige Grondbrieven worden vernietigd van de Erven daardoor vertegenwoordigd worden verbeurd verklaard ten voordeele van het Gouvernement.

Op last van ZEd. Achtbare den
Administrateur,
P. J. TRUTER,
Civiele Commssaris.
Kantoor van de Civiele Commissaris,
Vryburg, den 14den April, 1887.

13. Official Mail

1892-1953 O.H.M.S. British Bechuanaland and Bechuanaland Protectorate

Government institutions and related organizations had free franking privileges within southern Africa. Correspondence abroad required full payment.



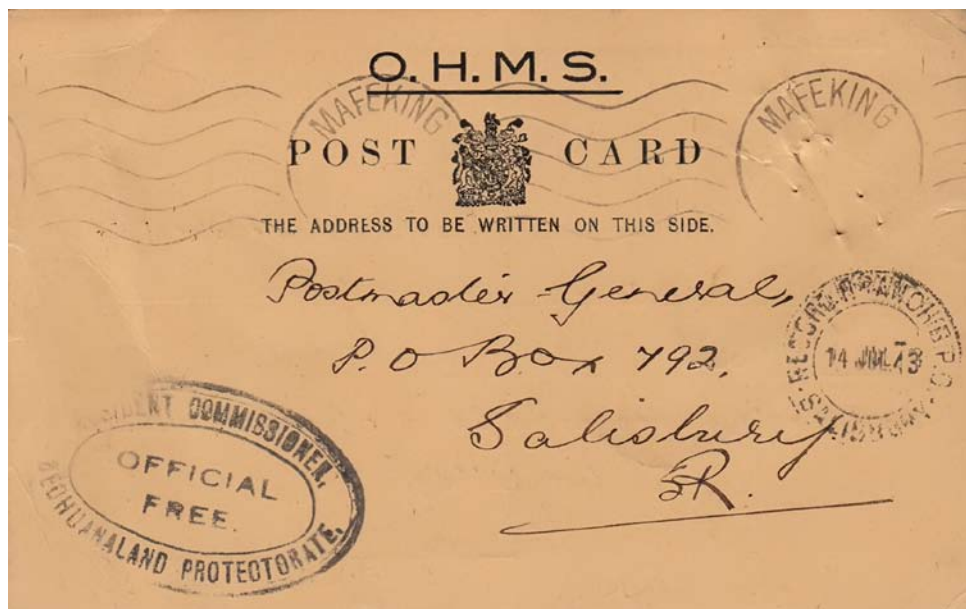
Official wrapper used by the Post Office locally in Vryburg (NO 24 94).
It probably contained the Government Gazette



Official letter from the Chief's Office in Kanye to Mafeking (12 VI 53). The chief was Bathoen II.

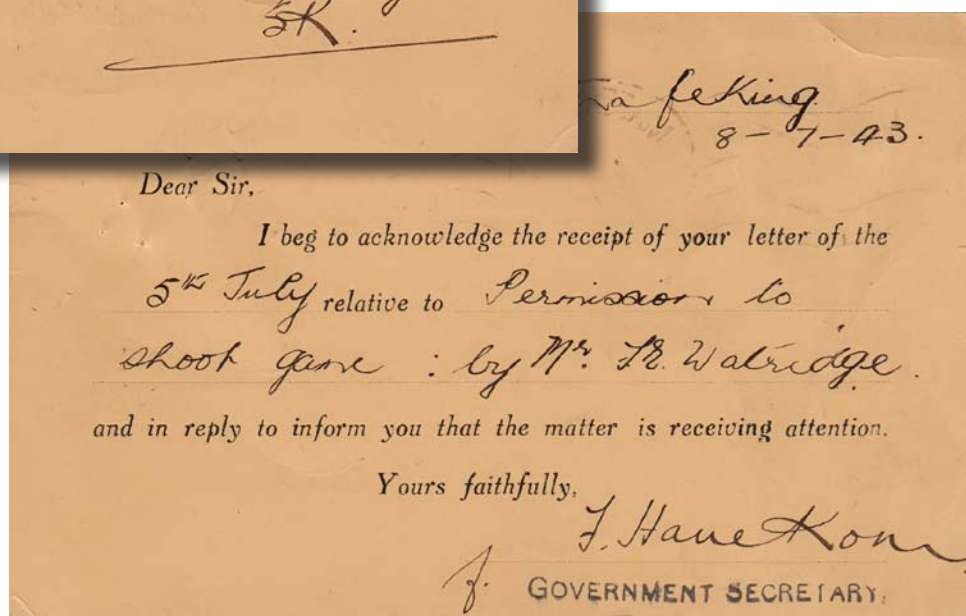
14. Official Mail

1943-52 O.H.M.S. Bechuanaland Protectorate



Preprinted O.H.M.S. postcard used in 1943 from the Government Secretary in Mafeking to the Postmaster General in Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia.

The subject is confirmation that hunting permissions were in part handled by the post office.



Official letter likely from the 'philatelic counter' in Lobatsi to collector in New York (4 V 48). It paid the 4d registration fee in addition to the 3d surface letter rate to USA.



15. Lost Mail

1986 Inquiry Regarding Missing Mail

Inquiry filed in Gaborone about lost registered envelope with content.

BPO/P1/54

Reference No. _____ Item No. _____

A fee of 35t should be collected and affixed to this form in postage stamps in respect of each enquiry in regard to any postal item or in respect of each postal order (where the counterfoil of such order can be produced or the number of the order furnished) or money order enclosed in an unregistered letter. The fee will be refunded on application if it appears that the enquiry was necessitated by a mistake on the part of the Post Office.

If the number of a postal order cannot be quoted, a search fee of 35t is payable.

To be cancelled by date stamp.

PARTICULARS REQUIRED IN AN INQUIRY REGARDING A MISSING OR DAMAGED ITEM.

This form should be filled in as accurately as possible, and handed to the Postmaster preferably at the office of posting. If the contents of a letter or packet are missing, the cover should be pinned to this form, as it will be required in the investigation. Should the missing item be found, no time must be lost in informing the Postmaster to whom the form is handed.

- (a) Nature of item inquired for, viz., letter, letter card, post card, booklet, newspaper, parcel, registered item, insured or c.o.d. parcel, receipted parcel, certified mail, etc.

(b) Office or posting box where posted.

(c) Number of item.
- SENDER:—**

(a) Name.

(b) Address.

(c) Present address.
- ADDRESSEE:—**

(a) Name.

50t

BOTSWANA

Reserved for

11X A87

ROCK DASIE PELA

Letter in registered envelope

+ 5 shagwag

(Certificate of posting must be produced)

45087

S. M. CAGE

(NAME IN BLOCKLETTERS)

ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND

(NAME IN BLOCKLETTERS)

Claimers address has been blanked out.

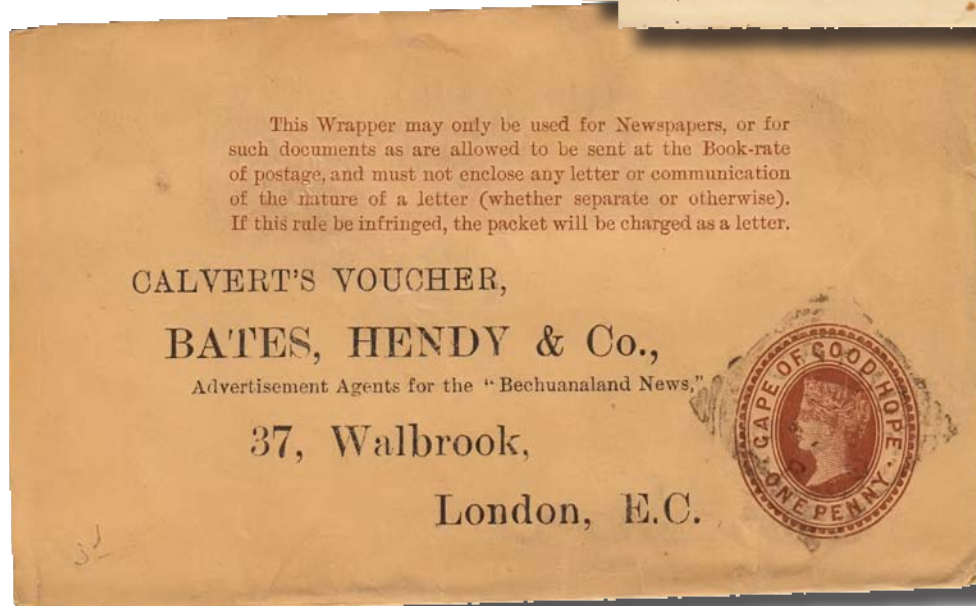
16. Newspapers

Newspaper Wrappers for the Bechuanaland News



Privately produced newspaper wrapper for the Bechuanaland News. Used in Vryburg (AP 1 96) to London. Paid the correct 1d rate for up to 4oz.

Newspaper wrapper for the Bechuanaland News. Used in Vryburg to Mafeking. Paid the local ½d newspaper rate.



Cape newspaper wrapper identifying 'Bates, Hendy & Co.' as being the advertisement agents for the Bechuanaland News. Appears to have been mailed in Vryburg B.B.

1895 Colonial and Foreign Parcel Post

'COLONIAL AND FOREIGN PARCEL POST/FORM OF CUSTOMS DECLARATION'

'For use in the case of Parcels sent from British Bechuanaland to the United Kingdom and Foreign Countries.'

This form was used on May 15, 1895, affixed to a parcel to the Isle of Man. At the right are three British Bechuanaland 6d Queen Victoria stamps with part Mafeking cancellations and traces of two other stamps. The manuscript endorsement is believed to read 11/5d indicating the postage charged at Mafeking. A Cape of Good Hope 'PARCEL PASSING THROUGH THE G.P.O.' label was affixed in transit.

COLONIAL AND FOREIGN PARCEL POST.
For use in the case of Parcels sent from British Bechuanaland to the United Kingdom and Foreign Countries.

Place to which the Parcel is addressed.
Isle of Man

FORM OF CUSTOMS DECLARATION.

In the case of Foreign Parcels only:—
* Net Weight, lbs. *3* ozs. *1*
† Gross Weight, *4*

Description of Parcel.
(State whether Box, Basket, Bag, &c.)
Linen Package

CONTENTS
1 Pair

Signature and Name of Sender
[Signature]

Date of posting *15 5 1895*

Caution.—In the event of the above declaration Parcel will be liable to seizure by the Customs authorities if a Parcel contain Diamonds, Specie, Bullion, Gold or other prohibited articles see the Post Office Guide.

For the use of the Post Office only, and to be filled in by the Parcel Bill No. *21* No. of Rates prepared

Inland Postage *7 1/2* d.
PARCEL PASSING THROUGH THE G.P.O.

Cape of Good Hope.
No. *171*
FOREIGN AND COLONIAL PARCEL POST.

particular, the Parcel, nor Feathers. For

Cape Town—

BRITISH BECHUANALAND 6d
BRITISH BECHUANALAND 6d
BRITISH BECHUANALAND 6d

No information has been found about the 1895 British Bechuanaland parcel rates to U.K.. In 1890 it was only 1/3d per pound. The 1891 Protectorate rate was 2/9d. If this was also the British Bechuanaland rate, it would account for 11/- of the 11/5d endorsement. Parcels to foreign countries were subject to unspecified additional 'forward' postage payable by the Cape Colony to the U.K. The weight details in the box marked 'In case of Foreign Parcels only' have been entered, suggest that the Isle of Man may have been treated as foreign, attracting the extra 5d charge. The Inland Postage of 7 1/2d marked on the Cape label was presumably recoverable from British Bechuanaland.

18. Parcels and Customs

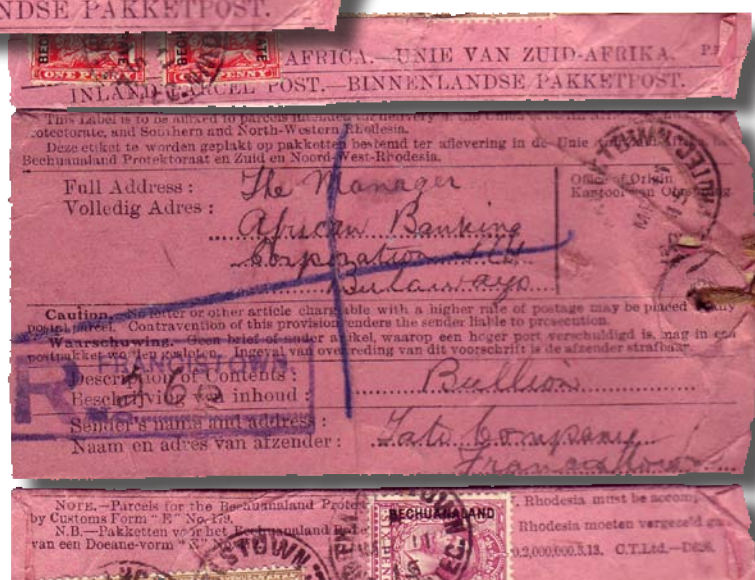
1915-55 Local and International Parcel Labels



South African parcel label used in 1915 from Francistown to the African Banking Corporation in Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia.

Reconstructed parcel label.



The label was used for a transport of gold bullion from the Tati Company to its bank in Bulawayo. The parcel was mailed registered and paid a total of 4/8d. The registration fee was 4d. The parcel post rates are not well documented. It is known that in 1908, the rate per lb to the Cape and Natal it was 1/-. To other places in southern Africa it was 1/6. Assuming that Southern Rhodesia qualified for the 1/- rate, the parcel must have had a substantial weight of 4 lbs. In 1915 this shipment would have been worth about £270.



Bechuanaland Protectorate bilingual parcel label used from Lobatsi to Maseru, Basutoland prior to 1956. Content was woodwork. The affixed stamps paid the 6d parcel rate per lb in effect between 1940-1956.

19. Telegraph

1885 Bechuanaland Field Force
(The Warren Expedition)

		Army Book, 295 C.		MILITARY TELEGRAPHS.		No. of Message	
Inquiries respecting this Telegram, or application for repetition of the same, may be made at the Delivering Office; but any complaint as to its delay, &c., should be made in writing, and addressed to the officer in charge. In either case this form must accompany such inquiries or complaint.				Dated Stamp of 		Delivering Office	
Handed in at the }				Charges to pay £		d.	
Mafeking Office at 11-55 a.m. here at }				Received }		m.	
From Mafeking To Mafeking				To Mafeking		To Mafeking	

The Bechuanaland Field Force was formed in 1885 under the command of General Warren with the purpose of annexing the Boer Republics of Stellaland and Goshen to the British Crown.

The field force erected a military telegraph line from Barkly West to Mafeking, later extended to Molepolole.

Telegram from assistant commander at Mafeking to the officer-in-command at Setlagoli (Col. Paul Methuen).

'if J.S. McHattie has not yet passed you station please detain him & send him back to Mafeking if past there send down line after him wire reply -'

Joseph Hall,
Bring back this man
at once.
Paul Methuen
15.1.1885
July 12.85

Reverse inscribed and signed by Col. Paul Methuen:

'Bring back this man at once.'



The field force was withdrawn in August 1885 and was replaced by the Bechuanaland Border Police, who also initially was given the responsibility for the telegraph line and the mail transport.

20. Telegraph

1897 British Bechuanaland Telegraph Form
used in the Protectorate

Turned in at Gaberones. Received at Palapye at 9:28 am as number 6 in a series of telegrams. Dated by a PALACHE/KHAMAS TOWN postal canceller on February 8, 1897. Sender was the assistant to the Assistant Commissioner at Gaberones. The content related to administrative matters and reads 'make affidavit before Assistant Commissioner Palapye if you wish criminal proceedings taken of ... he declined to make declaration before ... that the oxen was salted.'

BRITISH BECHUANALAND TELEGRAPHS.

If the accuracy of this Telegram (being an Inland Telegram) is doubted, it will be repeated on payment of half the amount originally paid for its transmission; and, if found to be incorrect, the amount paid for repetition will be refunded. Special conditions are applicable to the repetition of Cablegrams. When the cost of a reply to a Telegram has been prepaid, and the number of words in the reply is in excess of the number so paid for, the Sender of the reply must pay for such excess.

N.B.—This Form should accompany any inquiry made respecting this Telegram.

Charges to pay £ s. d

CAPE MEAN-TIME is observed throughout British Bechuanaland.

Handed in at Gaberones at 9.28 x. Received here at 9.28 a

From a. a. c. To Palapye

No. of Message. 6

Delivering Office. PALACHE/KHAMAS TOWN

6 to make affidavit before
Assistant Commissioner Palapye if you
wish criminal proceedings taken against
him. He declined to make
declaration before me Swearing that
the Oxen were salted

21. Telegraph

1945 Southern Rhodesia Telegraph Form used in Bechuanaland

A repeater telegraph station was established at Mahalapye in Bechuanaland to refresh the weak telegraph signal between Rhodesia and Cape Town. When this official telegram was recorded in June 1945 at the Mahalapye Repeater Station, the telegram stream was probably transmitted using automatically systems. The telegram deals with opening times for the Bulawayo station and it must be assumed that Mahalapye would adjust its operation hours accordingly. The use of a Southern Rhodesia form may simply reflect that the repeater station was run by the Rhodesian service, despite being located in Bechuanaland.

G.P.O.—A.17019—H.8200—D.3113—2,000P.—17.7.44

Item No.—P.—4.T.—G.P.O.

SOUTHERN RHODESIA TELEGRAPHS.

Service Message-D.

Reed. from 4/6 Byo at 18/6 by 18/6 Sent to at by at

From <u>Supt Byo</u>	To <u>o/c Rptors Mah</u>
-------------------------	-----------------------------

T.A.

REPEATERS MAHALAPYE
18 JUN 1945

18/6 advising you this office
reverted to normal closing
16th inst stop attendance
monday to Saturday 7am
to 9 pm stop Sunday
attendance restricted to 9am
to clear



Staff at the Mahalapye Repeater Station around or shortly after the above telegram was recorded. The station was known as a punishment station for those officers who had misbehaved.

22. Telegraph

1972 Botswana Telegraph Form Used at Ghanzi

REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

16 JUN 72

Department of Posts and Telegraphs — Lephata la Diposo le Megala

No. 34+34

Nomore

Sent
O rometswe

16/6/72

Class Mohuta	Office of origin—ofisi ya Tshimologo	Words Matoko	Code Nako	Service Instructions Ditaelo
		20	0918	

TO

GO

JOHN KRIPE BOX 206

MAFEKING

SEND COPY OF LAST BALANCE SHEETS TO

MANAGER NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT BANK

GABORONE IMMEDIATELY

P.W.O. 149

OMELWE A

nente gaa ikemiseisa go duela ditathegelo tse di ka dira-
lang mo go sa romesegegeng sentle, gongwe tiego, gongwe
tlhoka go goroga ga mogala o.

Telegram turned in at Ghanzi (16 JUN 72) for transmission to Mafeking. Appears to contain 20 words for which a total of 60 cents were paid by affixing and cancelling postage stamps on the reverse.

Used telegram forms were not expected to be released to the public. This could only happen to receiving forms.

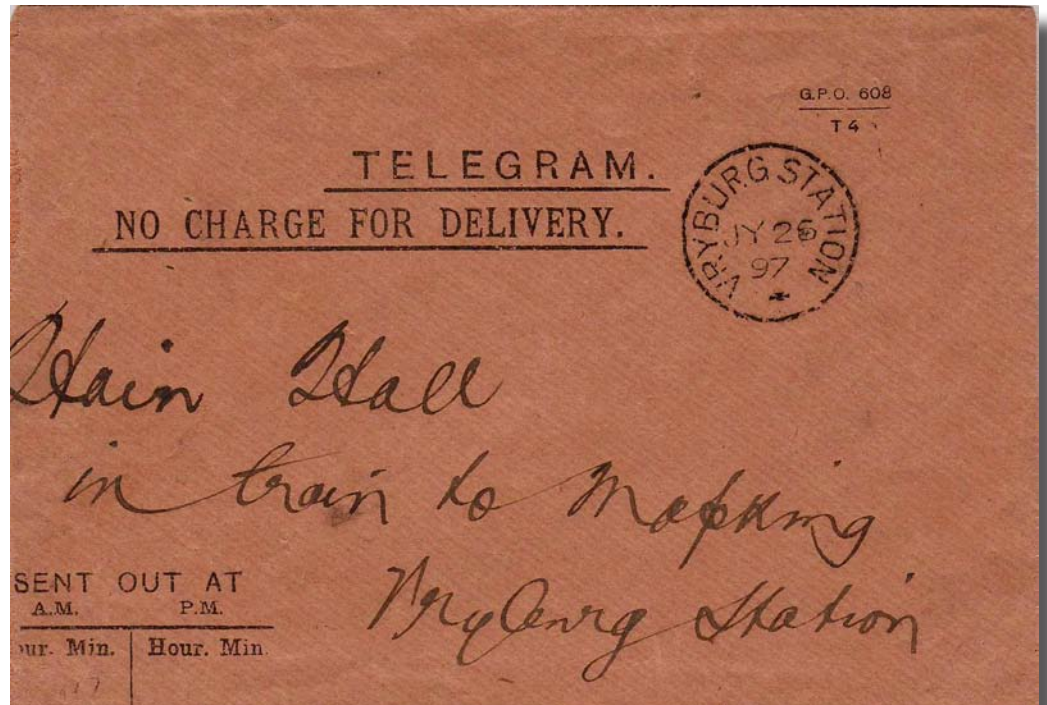


23. Telegraph

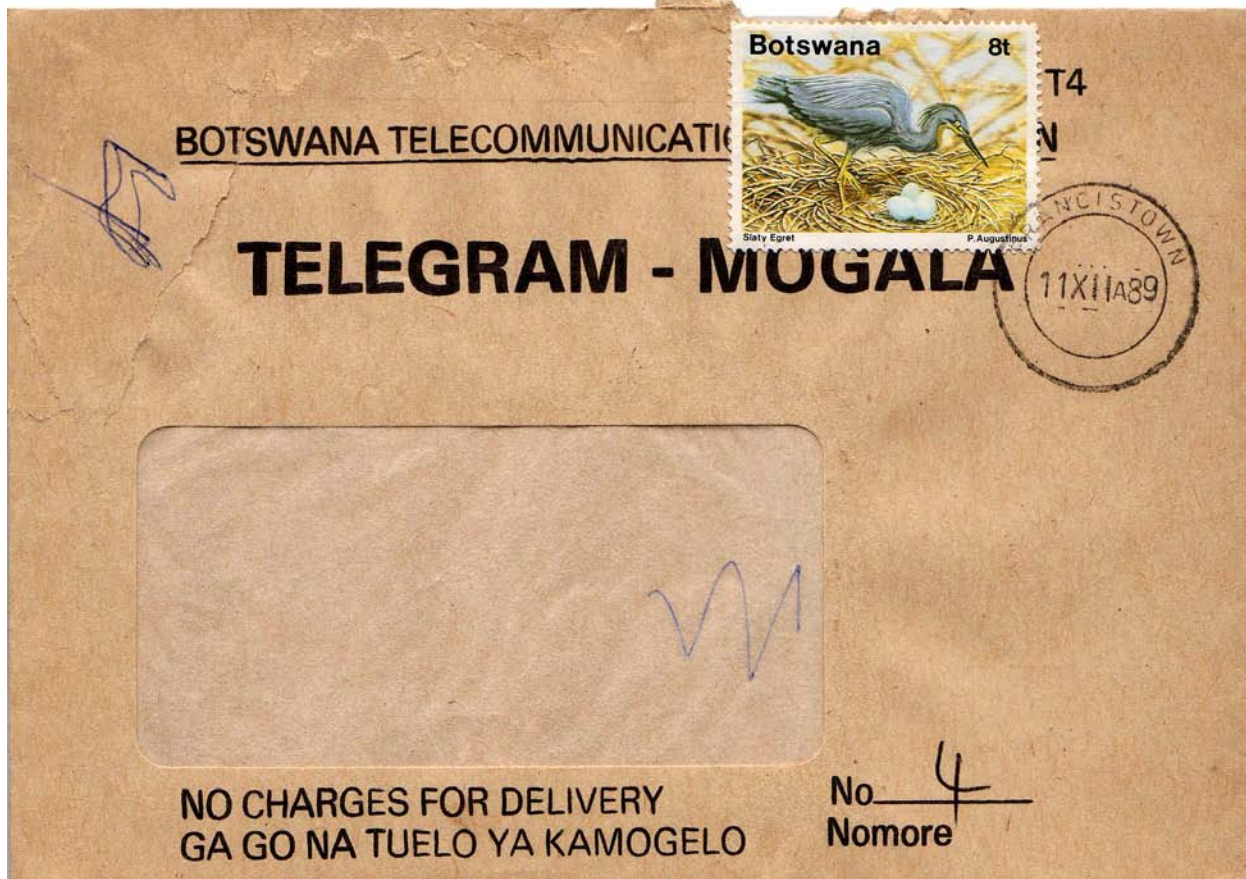
Telegram Delivery Envelopes

Telegram envelope received t Vryburg Station (JY 26 97) and delivered on the northbound train to Mafeking and continuing to the Protectorate and Mashonaland. Not strictly speaking a Bechuanaland cover, despite being delivered on the Bechuanaland train.

Botswana telegram delivery envelope originally received in Palapye (1989-10-8, telegram office cancel on reverse) and delivered in Francistown (11 XI 89) without charges. Readdressed probably to Gaborone and charged the local 8t letter rate.



It is interesting that 8t was paid despite the inscription of the envelope saying 'no charges for delivery.'



24. Rail Transport

1931-40 Bechuanaland Rail Letters

Rail letters were an early form of expedited mail service. Letter could be turned in at manned rail offices (including travelling post offices) or sometimes also to guards on trains. For security reasons, a label (T. 110) would be affixed on the reverse and tied by the rail office dated cancel. The details would be entered in dispatching as well as receiving log books. Postage stamps were affixed on the front and likewise cancelled by the rail office. The postage was made up of the regular postage fee plus a rail surcharge.

This rail letter was in 1940 turned in at the Francistown Rail Office addressed to Bulawayo, Southern Rhodesia. It was delivered by the Bulawayo Rail Office to the Post Office who ultimately delivered the letter the next day. The letter paid 3½d affixes as postage stamps on the front.



The postal letter rate to Southern Rhodesia in 1940 was 11/2d and the rail surcharge was 2d. The rail letter system was temporary discontinued during World War 2, shortly after the first shown letter was dispatched (June 1940).

Railway letter turned in at the Lobatsi rail station (19 AUG 1931) to Waterkloof, Pretoria where it arrived two days later (21 AUG 31).

Paid was 4d, well above the regular postal letter rate of 1d.

25. Rail Transport

1988 Botswana Rail Letter

Rail letter turned in at the Gaborone Rail Station in 1988 (20-12-1988) to Francistown. The fee paid was 10t compared to the 8t regular postal rate.



26. Rail Transport

1968 Rhodesian Rail Waybill used in Bechuanaland

LL for LOCAL COMPULSORY PREPAID TRAFFIC

FORM No. 32/5035

350

TYPECRAFTERS H-47-10,000-4/67

Who pays the Carriage †SENDER or CONSIGNEE?
†DELETE WHICHEVER IS NOT APPLICABLE

DATE 17-8-68

WAYBILL No. 22

TRAIN No. 45

RAILWAY PRO. No.

Freight Paid

Under Charge

Over Charge

Advice Note Number

Received in good condition by
(Signature of Consignee)

Stamps

(FOR RAILWAY USE ONLY)

mentioned goods subject to the By-Laws and Conditions published in the current Railway Tariff Books. No responsibility and description stated above.

Name and full Address of Sender
Levitt Bros.
P.O. Box 2

4c. FT
5c. FT
20c. PY
20c. PY
50c. FT

T.F. 180

R.R. — COMBINED CONSIGNMENT NOTE and PARCELS WAYBILL OR
CONSIGNMENT NOTE FOR ALL OTHER PARCELS TRAFFIC

FROM Bulawayo TO Francistown

NAMES AND FULL ADDRESSES OF CONSIGNEES (Block Letters)

No. of Packages

DESCRIPTION OF GOODS (State type of packages, i.e., Bale, Case, Crate, etc.)

Weight lb.

Rate

R. Cha

Express Dry Cleaners
Bulawayo Rhodesia

1

Railway 401142
for cleaning

73

17 AUG 1968
PARCELS OFFICE
BULAWAYO

SENDER'S!
(1) Are the contents well packed?
(2) Are the containers sound enough to stand handling?
(3) Have all old labels and marks been removed?
(4) Are packages clearly and properly addressed?
NOTE—COMPLETE THIS FORM FOR AS MANY CONSIGNMENTS AS POSSIBLE TO THE SAME DESTINATION STATION OR SIDING.

Receive and forward per Passenger Train the above-mentioned goods to said destination in accordance with the By-Laws, Regulations and conditions published in the current edition of the Official Railway Tariff Books (or any amendment thereof or supplement thereto) of the Administration specified above or the conditions and regulations of any other Railway Administration over whose lines the goods may travel to reach their destination, and it is agreed that the said conditions and regulations shall be applicable to this contract in the same manner as though they were fully set out herein.

Date 17-8-68

Signature of Sender or duly Authorised Representative

Received the above-Laws, Regulations and conditions of the Official Railway Tariff Books (or any amendment thereof or supplement thereto) of the Administration specified above or the conditions and regulations of any other Railway Administration over whose lines the goods may travel to reach their destination, and it is agreed that the said conditions and regulations shall be applicable to this contract in the same manner as though they were fully set out herein.

Date

Time

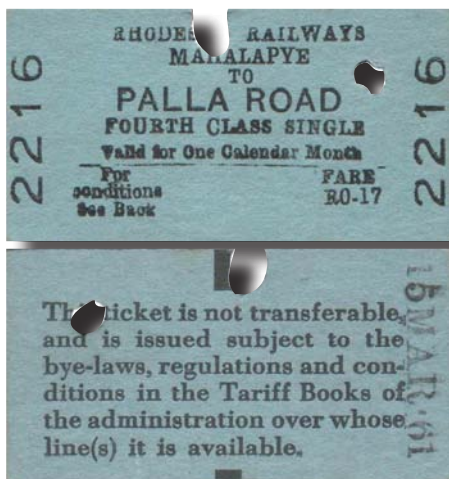
Rhodesian Rail (RR) waybill for shipment in 1968 between Francistown and Bulawayo, Rhodesia (dry cleaning supplies).

Paid in Francistown by affixing 99c in RR parcel stamps and cancelling them by rail office canceller.

Some of the stamps are from Palapye Station (PY), but overprinted by rubber handstamp for Francistown (FT).

27. Rail Transport

1963 Rhodesian Rail Luggage Waybill used in Bechuanaland



1961 single 4th class rail ticket
from Mahalapye to Palla Road.

The price was 17c.

Rhodesian Rail (RR) guard's luggage waybill for a traveller to Bulawayo. The object appears to be a 'sewing machine stand.' The fee was paid in Francistown by affixing R1.49 in RR parcel stamps cancelled by rail office canceller. Arrived the same day in Bulawayo.

The passenger is noted to be travelling on an 'African Pass'.

T.F. 2

R.R.-Guard's Luggage Waybill

From <u>FRANCISTOWN</u>		To <u>BLOEMFONTEIN</u>		via <u>DCT</u>		No. <u>07</u>	FILE PRO No.
Train No. <u>811</u>		Name of Passenger <u>Afr. Pass</u>		FOR <u>Siding</u>		Date <u>Feb 2 1963</u>	Waybill No. <u>9</u>
		EX <u>811</u>		Siding <u>at Pass</u>		Nos. of Tickets <u>4351</u>	

No. of Passengers	Class	No. of Packages	DESCRIPTION	Total Weight	Weight Allowed	Weight Charged	Total Paid	Insurance and Theoretical Luggage Charged at Goods Rates	Proportion Due to each Administration
1	<u>W</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>sewing machine</u>	<u>72</u>		<u>75</u>	<u>1.44</u>		
			<u>Stender</u>			<u>+</u>			

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Space for Parcel Post Stamps

RECEIVED
 FEB 1963

The Guard must see that the entries on this Waybill correspond with the packages delivered to and given up by him. Any delinquency, loss or damage to be reported to the Station Master at once.

Signature of Luggage Officer Gasmoo

①-13785-Bemont Printers, B.Y.O.-1,000 Pages-24.3 59
for Rhodesia Railways

28. Rail Transport

1983 South African Rail Waybill used in Botswana

South African rail waybill used 1983 in Ramatlabama for shipment to Cape Town. The sender is the local station master and the content is clean clothes to his daughter studying in a nursing school in Cape Town. Shipment was paid by R9.95 South African rail stamps on reverse. The stamps are overprinted by RAB or Ramatlabama. This station was in Bechuanaland at the southern border to South Africa. Apparently the station was run by SAR.

[illegible][illegible]

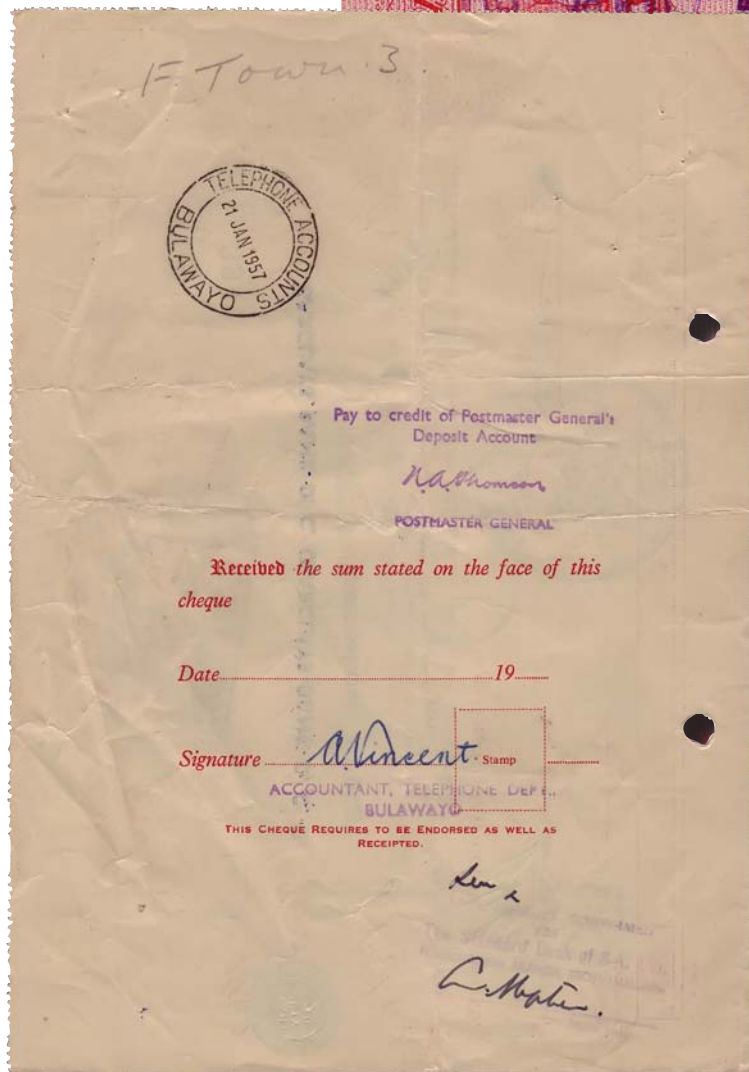
29. Telephone

1957 Payment for Telephone Subscription



Francistown No. 3 paid with this cheque in 1957 for his annual business telephone subscription (£7 9s).

The cheque was written out to the Southern Rhodesian Postmaster-General who deposited it on Telephone Account Bulawayo.



The emerging telephone system in Bechuanaland was connected to the Rhodesian line in the north and to the South African line in the south. In 1966 at Independence, there were below 1,800 subscribers in Botswana.

30. Radio Broadcast

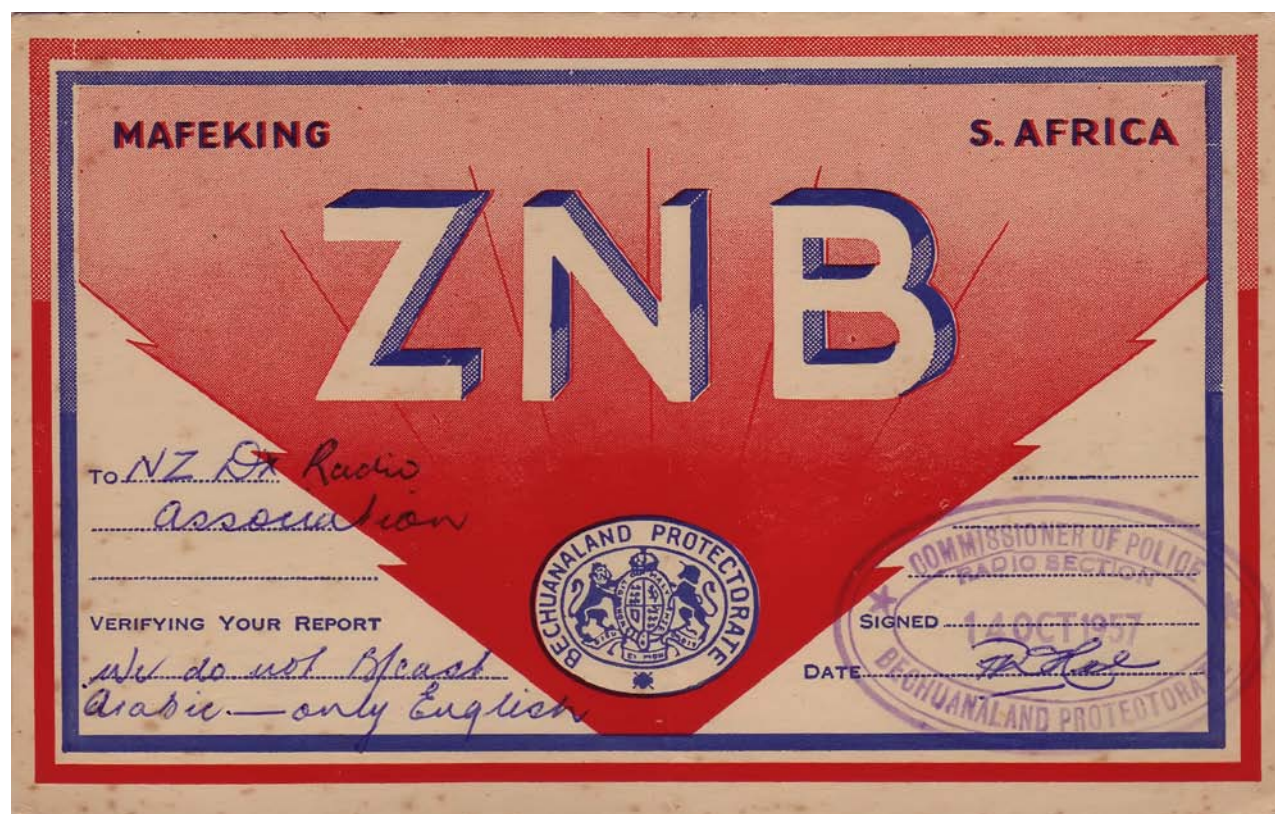
1957 Government Radio Broadcast

Radio broadcasting still is the only regular link connecting some of remote and sparsely populated areas with the local and central government and the rest of the country and the world. There are now two state radio channels in Botswana providing radio service to the public. But it was not always that way.

The first regular radio broadcast in Bechuanaland was ZNB. It was scheduled weekdays 0600-0700 and 1200-1430 and Sundays 1300-1400 only. It opened and closed with the announcement:

“ZNB at Mafeking Calling.”

ZNB was the flagship station of the Protectorate government police and administrative radio network who had evolved during the pre-war years. During World War II, experimental general audience broadcasts, including limited hours of programming targeted at Africans in Bechuanaland, were undertaken over the network. Eventual ZNB lead to Radio Bechuanaland in 1965.



This card was mailed (under cover) to New Zealand DX Radio Association verifying a report by stating “We do not B/cast Arabic - only English.” The card was signed and stamped by Commissioner of Police/Radio Section/Bechuanaland Protectorate. The nascent public broadcasting was under Government control as still is the case.

31. Ham Radio

Bechuanaland QSL Cards

BECHUANALAND EXPEDITION
MAHALAPYE
ZS6BBB/ZS9

ISWL
RADIO DL-9267 confirming your 2xSSB/CW report 11th Jan 1964
at 17.12 G.M.T. On 14 Mc/s. Ur. Rpt. R. S T
Rig. Collins S-Line and KWM2. Ant. TA33. HIGAIN VERTICAL
OPERATORS: PET
Member ExG RADIC
Born in U.K. and dom

EAGLE PRESS 3/64 31762

Short-wave radio operators acknowledge contact with another stations in the form of QSL cards (ham cards). This detailed time, location, and radio specifications. The cards were either mailed directly or to a local radio organization that forwarded them.

Card used by ZS6BBB in 1964 from Mahalapye to German operator.

Card from ZS9G of Kazungula confirming 1950 conversation with Livingstone operator. The card went through the mail. Note the Livingstone postal address for Kazungula located in Bechuanaland Protectorate

KAZUNGULA
BECHUANALAND
PROTECTORATE

P.O. BOX 196
LIVINGSTONE
N. RHODESIA

Z S 9 G

To VQ2PL Confirming QSO on 17-2-51 at 14.00
GMT your fone CW RST 5-9+50 on 40 meters
TX 50 Watts. RX SX28. 73. DAVE BAIRD.

GM3AFG
ZD3AF
ZD2T

R A F

VQ4AWH
VQ2JT
ZS6OL

PRESENT C/S ZS6OL

% RADIO G2MT CONFIRMING Om Fone QSO on 26 Sept 47
At 1240 LT/GMT---UR. SIGS Q.S.R.S. P. QRN QSB
TX 2x 807 RX AKS ANT. 3EC Ret. Beam PWR 40W
REMARKS Tx. Arthur for 2nd try
PRESENT QTH RAF HOME QTH H/O J.M. Thompson
Gaberones 37 Landale Rd. Peterhead
BECHUANALAND Aberdeenshire, Scotland

S & S LTD.-7742

Card used from Gaberones confirming QSO on 26 Sep. 1947 with United Kingdom operator. During WW2 amateur radio operators were often drafted into the army, probably like this Scottish operator who appears to have been stationed in the Bechuanaland. It is interesting since there is no knowledge of RAF presence in Bechuanaland during the war. The operator may have been on a lonely assignment for the purpose of relaying long distance messages (DX).

QSL - acknowledge receipt. QSO - contact completed. DX - long distance. The operator code identify origin of certification: ZS - South Africa; VQ, ZD - British Overseas Territories; GM, GZ - United Kingdom; DL, Germany.

32. Ham Radio

Bechuanaland QSL Cards

QSL cards were normally collected and mailed under cover to a distribution office in South Africa. If they recorded a local contact, they would be mailed directly at the postcard rate.

Used by a resident of Johannesburg travelling to Palapye with a portable transmitter. Mailed to Walvis Bay, South West Africa (16 VI 65).



Used from Mahalapye by a member of the Telegraph Repeater Station to a contact in Pretoria (30 NOV 34).

To RADIO *ZubB.*
 Ur Stn hrd es wkd hr on
1-11-34 at *1140* GMT
 QSA *5* Rg Tone *T9*
 QRN *nie* QRM *nie*

From Stn.
ZS6AX
 H. E. FINCH,
 Rhodesian Repeaters,
 MAHALAPYE, B.P.

Xmt *2 Valve Hartley* Power *4 watts*
 Aerial *2 x 20 ft* QRH *7 mc*
 Receiver *Phillips 2802*
 Remarks: *The yr del es*
Qso. Vy 13.
Ted

Confirming *EW* phone QSO on
14 mcs. on *14/6/52*
 at *17.18* S.A.S.T.
 Ur RST *RS 57 qsb.*
 Receiver line up:
converted 8C450.

Antenna: *68 ft wire.*
 Transmitter: *V60L 2526*
with 1000 watts power supply.
 Power: *10-15 Watts*
 Vy psed to qso u om. Hpe cua sn.
 Vy 73. *Alaw.*

A. H. RITCHIE,
 77, SIXTEENTH STREET,
 PARKHURST, JOHANNESBURG.

Radio *ZS3W.*
P.O. Box 4,
Walvis Bay.
S.W.A.

D. A. Alexander Esq.
Radio ZubB.
160 Bourke street.
Pretoria
E5270

Bechuanaland and Botswana Society

Minutes of the AGM held on 22nd February 2014, 14.30 to 16.00 at the Business Design Centre, Islington

Present:

Don Jeffreys (Chairman), Tony Stanford (Vice-Chairman), David Wall (Secretary), David Bird, Dennis Firth and Barry Stow

Apologies for absence were received from:

Brian Hurst, Neville Midwood, Martin Taylor, John Horner, Clive Garlick, Chris Cordes, Alan MacGregor, Peter Thy, Gordon Smith, Brian Trotter, David Spivack, Joe Taylor, Jim Hudson, Brian Fenemore, Peter Jukes, Richard Stroud, Bruce Warrender, Peter van der Molen, Bill Latzko, Alan Drysdall, John Callow, Eric Burnett, Dave Wessely, Malcolm Batty, Alan Knox, Arnold Berman, Derek Weston, Steve Smith, John Coates and Alan Biddlecombe.

1. Minutes of last meeting (February 2013)

These were unanimously approved.

Proposer: David Bird. Seconder Tony Stanford.

2. Matters arising (except those covered in separate reports):

Plans for a Society presence at NY2016

Following the decision at the last meeting that we should have a presence at the next big international show in New York in 2016, it was agreed that we should start by asking Peter Thy (our US rep) to book a meeting room at the show. Having attended the last major international show, Washington in 2006, Tony said he recommended that everyone try to attend.

Action: DW to ask Peter Thy to book a meeting room for NY2016.

3. Membership Secretary/Treasurer's Report

Martin Taylor, our Membership Sec./Treasurer, wasn't able to attend the meeting. Unfortunately he also hasn't yet been able to complete the accounts for the last financial year (2012/13). However, on the basis of last September's report, the Society's finances are in good health.

4. Editor's Report

Neville also couldn't attend, but he had sent a report, which was circulated to those present.

Main points:

Scanning RP#7-59 (the only copies not already in electronic format)

There had been no further progress in finding a company that could do this.

David Bird asked why we, the members, couldn't do it ourselves. If a few members volunteered to gradually work through a few copies each then the job could be finished within a year or so - and there was no urgency in needing to complete the job soon. Don offered to pass some of his early copies to David Bird so he could get started.

Action: Don to contact Neville to check whether there are any issues in members doing it themselves (e.g. ensuring consistency of approach)

Action: David Bird to start scanning some of the early copies as supplied by Don.

Runner Post

Neville reported that the final proof PDF of RP#87 (40 pages) had just been sent to Martin for printing. Don asked if people felt the quality of recent issues hadn't been up to the same level as earlier issues. Technological advances have meant that later issues are way ahead in terms of appearance - but the early articles had more substance. He wondered whether most of the research that could be written had now been published. Tony felt it probably was because the more interesting articles had now been written. Dennis said he still found the more recent issues to be as interesting as the earlier ones.

Barry asked whether some of the more significant early articles might be reprinted in future issues of RP.

Tony said he was getting scans of the illustrations of related items in the current Murray-Payne auction and would send them to Neville for inclusion in the RP.

Society website

Neville reported having found a domain/webpace provider called siteground (<http://www.siteground.com>). Their starter package (incl domain registration) is initially £2.75/month and e.g. BBSOC.ORG is still available. Other more obvious names have gone. There remain some practical issues about how the Society would arrange to make payments.

Tony said that his experience with other society websites was that these payment issues were easily overcome.

Action: DW to ask Neville to go ahead and apply to siteground for a domain name and webpace.

5. Proposal to make September meeting less formal

Those present voted unanimously to make future September meetings less formal. (Proposer: Tony Stanford; seconder: David Bird). In other words - no agenda and no formal minutes. There would still be opportunities to raise issues that couldn't wait until February's AGM - and, if there were any such issues, a short note would be circulated to members after the meeting to summarise the ensuing discussions.

6. Chairman's Remarks

Don said it was a pity that attendances at meetings were so poor and asked whether anyone had ideas as to how we could persuade more members to attend. Tony said that the previous day's GBOS meeting had attracted 12 members, 4 of whom were from overseas - and given that the GBOS have about twice as many UK members as the BBS, this meeting's attendance of 6 (all UK-based) was of a similar proportion. But Tony went on to suggest that members be canvassed as to what displays they would like to see at meetings. Also, that we get confirmation sufficiently in advance of meetings and give ample notice to members of what they will be able to see.

Action: DW to email members asking what displays they would like to see.

7. GBOS auction

Tony reported that about 50% of lots were sold. Those unsold (that were of an appropriate size) would go into the GBOS packet circuit. The rest would go into an auction e.g. with Grosvenor or de Montfort. David W asked if there was scope for a repeat opportunity for BBS members to enter lots into the next GBOS auction. Tony said there was, provided the BBS membership could accumulate at least 50 lots. As with the last auction the lots would be limited to material up to 1932 including Cape opts, unappropriated dies, Warren expedition etc. Don said he alone could probably find 20 lots - which he would send to Tony, who would forward them to the auctioneer. The next GBOS auction will probably be in early summer.

8. Any Other Business

Next meeting: To be held at Stampex on Saturday 22nd September 2014.

Dennis and Don offered to bring material. Barry said he would also consider bringing along some of his Stellaland forgeries.

Action: DW to book a room as usual.

Tony asked whether we might arrange to have a Society meeting at Europhilex 2015 - to be held in May 2015 at the Business Design Centre. A meeting room is likely to be around £150. Don recalled that we had a room for half a day at London 2010 and that 15-20 members attended. The meeting would consist solely of displays - no business. It was agreed that we should go ahead with this plan and that the May meeting would replace the September meeting next year.

Action: DW to book a room for Europhilex 2015.

The AGM was formally closed.

Members' displays

Tony then put up a display of material comprising used postal stationery, mainly GB ovpts and some Cape items; early usage of Barkly West; newspaper wrappers; some nice EVII postal stationery envelopes; and some interesting used postal stationery from Ghanzi that had been routed through SW Africa.

Dennis showed a range of covers posted in Botswana. These included the use of internal post office handstamps that were never intended to be applied to outgoing mail. Also Botswana Government Service envelopes cancelled internally in the relevant department and then cancelled again by the local post office.

Don thanked Tony and Dennis for bringing these displays.

IBC News

The 1997 30t definitive stamp has been surcharged to P7.30t. The centre stamp (lower enlargement), at least on this row, has a wider setting in the surcharge then the others (upper enlargement). Does any member know when this was done?



Another item of news is that a mint copy of SG F2 was sold at the APS Stampshow in Hartford for US\$80,000 plus 15% commission. Harmer-Schau lot 1249 was estimated at \$10,000.

It was discovered by Canadian born dealer Richard McDonald.



"I was working in my Victoria office early last year on a small collection of British African stamps that I had purchased from a dealer at a large British Postcard Show, International Festival of Cards, Shepton Mallet, Somerset, some years earlier. On the last page, was a clear envelope with an unusual Queen Victoria stamp. It appeared that the former owner of the collection had purchased the stamp for \$20.00 in the 1960s, probably in America. The stamp was a British Bechuanaland One Shilling stamp marked postage and revenue originally issued in 1888. Overprinted on top of the stamp was £5. The example was in Post Office fresh condition, unused, with full original gum. It showed no signs

of ever being mounted or hinged in an album or display. Five Pounds in the reign of Queen Victoria was about three months pay for an English labourer. It was also the largest denomination of stamp normally used for postage. In checking the standard reference works from England and America, I found the stamp listed. The British catalogue had no price, and the American catalogue listed it with a five figure value. So I consulted with Chris Harmer of Harmer-Schau Auction Galleries, whom I had previously worked with and known for over 30 years. He was able to obtain several opinions from other experts, and all believed the stamp was likely real. We then arranged to have it shipped to London for an independent written certificate from the British Philatelic Association. The stamp was certified as genuine about six months later. It took longer than usual, as this was the first example of this stamp they had ever certified. As the British Philatelic Association is considered to be the world experts on British Empire stamps, it greatly emphasized the rarity of this piece. I was fortunate to have an extensive library of several hundred reference books, and among the less common volumes, I found the answer to how rare the stamp is. The reference stated that only 2 unused examples and one postally used example were known. So we now have only the fourth known example of this postage stamp. It is known in America as Bechuanaland Protectorate Scott #AR2, and in Britain as Bechuanaland Stanley Gibbons #F2. I then telephoned the author of the reference book, both to report my new find and seek further details. The author was able to inform me about



an article written in 1994 in the Journal of the Bechuanaland and Botswana Society. Checking on the internet, I found a related American Society as well. The society was able to provide me with copies of the 1994 British article and several other references. It turns out that the three known examples are all in Public Collections. One unused stamp is in the British Library, London, and the other two are in the Botswana Philatelic Museum, Gaborone, Botswana."

BECHUANALAND

MULTIPLE CHOICE



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Over 800 items of Stellaland and the Bechuanalands are listed and illustrated on the website