

THE RUNNER POST

The Bechuanaland & Botswana Society




Botswana 50 years of Stamp Issues - 2015 Botswana Stamps
 Bechuanaland KEVII 6d Postal Fiscal - Unappropriated Dies - 1961 QEII RI Overprint
 Philatelic Forum - Early History of Philatelic Colours





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2016 Subscriptions

Inland £17 - Europe £22 - Overseas £25

The above includes a copy of
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Edition of *The Runner Post*

Thus during 2016 each member will receive
six journals. Please pay promptly by
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Editorial

This journal includes an extensive article on the KEVII 6d Postal fiscal and is a demonstration of 'getting our members involved'. I sent a collective email asking 'what have you got' and this provided valuable input in expanding the article.

Such an article requires several months to evolve into what is hopefully a very readable contribution to the Postal Fiscals.

As an experienced researcher it has taught me that a casual two page article can easily snowball into a dozen pages or more.

For example, in 2014 I wrote two pages on philatelic colour charts and before I knew it I had a twenty page essay which I published as a Special Edition to my journal *The Rhodesian Philatelist*. During 2015 I have sourced further information that allows me to rewrite the earlier period, see page 2292.

Matters Arising

1) We welcome Brian Trotter and David Bird as Committee members.

2) An item that repeatedly rears its head at every AGM is the subject of scanning the old journals. David Bird volunteered to carry out this task several years ago, but it seems no one took notice of his offer. As far as I am aware the job moves at a snail's pace...before we know it, it will no longer be necessary as everyone will be too old to bother. It comes as no surprise that it once again features on the AGM agenda in 2016...lots of resolutions followed by continued inactivity.

3) **Good News** - I trust that our members will regard this as 'good news.' As many people live overseas I have advocated that we must provide journals on a regular basis.

We are currently without a permanent Editor, the society faced a crises and its very survival was at stake. To avoid this I have agreed to continue as acting editor.

At the September EGM there was a unanimous decision, during 2016, each member will receive a copy of the new journal *Southern Africa Philately* (40+ pages per issue) plus the latest *Runner Post* (we aim to provide from 12 to 20 pages) per issue. The intention is to dispatch journals during January, July and September.

The above is an initial trial for one year and by posting both journals together, it will reduce the society's overheads dramatically. Once the system is up and running I would appreciate comments and input from our members.

4) **Journal Input** - Everybody enjoys a 'good read', but someone has to write it. More input is required, whilst I am capable of writing a journal, it needs to be appreciated that I am currently the editor of three journals, so come on people make an effort please - Note most of this journal by the editor.

5) **We need a new Editor** - If anyone would like to try their hand at it. I am happy to start them as Assistant-editor and guide them through the initial stages. Pages may be laid out in the usual 'Word' programme and with some guidance you may be surprised what can be achieved. Why not give it a go!

Botswana Fifty Years of Stamps

By Otto Pectoom

Introduction

In September 2015 Botswana issued a commemorative set of five stamps plus a miniature sheet *Save Botswana's Vultures* and half a century before a set of four celebrated Independence. Although new issues are shunned by many collectors, I wonder how many have seen a complete Botswana collection and an even bigger challenge is to attempt acquiring a complete run.

Buying Botswana

In January 2015 I started constructing a website and thought a picture show of stamps would be appropriate and the easiest way of obtaining scans is to simply buy the stamps. I started at the York Racecourse stamp show and bought every different set on offer...next I made a clean sweep of EBay.

I found a Dutch dealer on the internet and at Stampex I had limited success. Nigel Haworth added to the tally plus a London dealer was also of help. Next stop a few dealers in South Africa...after which my luck fizzled out...but my wants list shortened. The June Stafford Fair brought along another half dozen issues and member Mike Smith had a few sets to swop. The first anniversary of *Buy Botswana* has arrived and after a year I am almost complete. Only the 2010 Night animals set of six plus MS remain adrift and no booklets appear to be on offer. Thus there is nearly a complete show of 50 years of Botswana stamps to look at - www.bechuanalandphilately.com

A Review of Botswana Stamps

I listed issues by year and summarized each decade. Separating definitives, commemoratives and MS and there are pitfalls. The reason for the foregoing is the occasional oddball item, for instance there are two commemoratives that were only issued in miniature sheet format, 20th year of Independence MS 603 and SADC MS 903. In other instances certain designs or values only appear on the miniature sheets i.e. 1997 Golden Wedding MS 976, 1998 Princess of Wales, with each design at 2p50, MS 889 and 1998 Weavers MS 894.

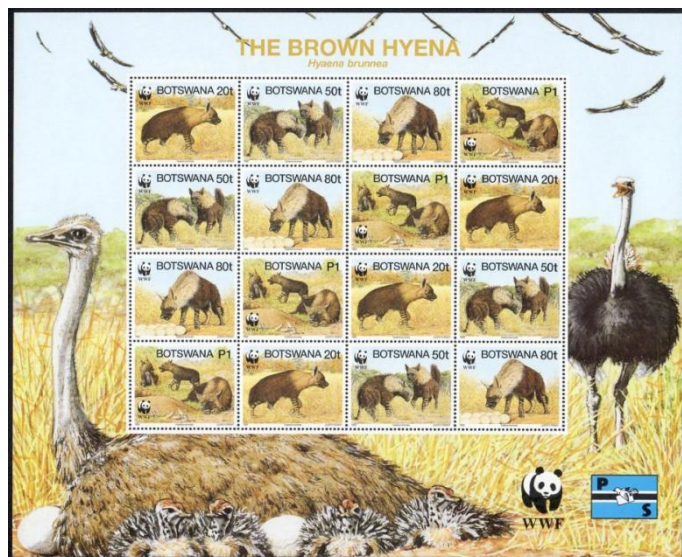
The first SAPOA 2004 set only appeared as a sheetlet, but the 5p Cattle Egret was printed in sheets and presumably used as a definitive.

Stamps incorporated into a miniature sheet design

This trait started with the 1999 Miss Universe and continued on the Wetlands series (2000 - 2003) plus the 2001 Kgalagadi Wildlife Park. MS 910, 938, 948, 963, 999 & 1014. Seen as individual stamps, the designs appear incomplete.

Counting the number of collectable stamps

I excluded varieties, postage dues and booklets, but added 'must have' items such as the 1995 Hyenas (SG 809 - 812). A set of singles, in a se-tenant strip of four and a sheetlet of sixteen with decorative borders.



My review indicates a total of 1,258 stamps, which takes into account the number of stamps in each miniature sheet.

Decades	Defs	Coms	MS	Total
1966 - 1975	3	28	10	186
1976 - 1985	3	43	8	272
1986 - 1995	2	41	9	270
1996 - 2005	2	44	15	281
2006 - 2015	2	37	11	249
Totals	12	193	53	1258

The highest number of stamps in a year was 1992 (46) and 2014 (44). The least number were in 2012 (6) and 2013 (7).

Definitives - 221 stamps in total

Overprinted on Bechuanaland (14), depicting birds (82), Animals (54), Butterflies (14) and Minerals (14). New Currency overprints (24) and Surcharges (19)

Conservative Issuing Policy - Over a period of 50 years Botswana has effectively issued, on average, two stamps per month which in my opinion is very acceptable.



1966 Independence



1976 New Currency

Membership and Subscriptions

I have been collecting a variety of subscriptions for over thirty years and experience has taught me that it is a thankless task. There will always be some who do not intend renewing, but as they do not inform those concerned, unnecessary reminders are sent out.

When I took over as membership secretary in February it soon became clear that little or no effort had been exercised in the recent past and I spent most of 2015 attempting to recoup what had been lost.

For 2016 I adopted an advance strategy by requesting subscriptions via email or post starting on 28 November. The immediate benefit is that those who intended to resign have done so and those who co-operated by means of prompt payment have helped to make my task easier. A big thank you to all concerned.

At the beginning of 2015 we potentially had 108 members, despite numerous requests the numbers dwindled down to 95, which included a few hopefuls who had indicated they wished to continue but didn't part with their money.

Francis Kiddle and Werner Seeba closed their albums for the last time and their obituaries appear in the next column. The following resigned Derek Weston, Martin Taylor, Barrie Forrester-Smith (Botswana) and Bram Leeftang (Netherlands). A letter to Birgit Sten Jensen in Denmark was returned.

End of Year numbers

Currently we potentially have 88, half and half, inland and overseas. In total over 50 have paid their 2016 subscription.

Meetings

Friday 19 February - The 2016 AGM is to take place during Stampex. The Saturday get together has been discontinued due to the lack of attendance. Another factor is that it costs the society £96 per annum that effectively uses £1+ from each member's subscription.

28 May - 4 June 2016 New York International

The BBS is sharing a booth with the *GB Overprint Society*. No doubt several of our members will have a presence at this show. It is hoped that a few new members may be recruited. See page 2289 for more precise detail.

4/5 June 2016 Leamington Spa

This will be the third annual weekend conference held by the *South African Collectors' Society* and they have kindly extended an invitation to all members of the BBS. Anyone interested in attending ought to contact Otto Peetoom well in advance of the actual date.

14 - 17 September Stampex London

Currently there are no plans to meet, but that may change.

4 - 6 November 2016 Annual Southern Africa Conference

This is effectively the highlight of the year for the philately of Southern Africa and is well attended each year. Many of our members are regular 'faces' at this event. Those of you who have not attended in the past ought to consider doing so. If a full weekend does not appeal, I recommend a Saturday visit

Stamp Fairs

Venues that offer shows that are on for two days are *York Racecourse* (January & July), *Stafford* (June & November) and new in 2016 a *Salisbury Collectors Show* 13/14 May.

Obituaries

Francis Kiddle RDP Hon. FRPSL

23 July 1942 -21 October 2015

We regret to inform you of the death of Francis Kiddle at his home in Fleet on 21 October.

Our condolences to his widow Máire Kiddle, his sons John and Alan - Also his Brother Charles

Francis worked in the space industry, retiring in 1997, as Assistant Director of Space Technology Research, at the Defence Evaluation and Research Agency in the United Kingdom.

His philatelic contributions include:

1977 Council Member of the Royal Philatelic Society London
1979-1994 Honorary Librarian of the Royal Philatelic Society London

1994-1996 President of the Royal Philatelic Society London

1996-2005 Chairman of the British Philatelic Trust

2000-2008 Chairman of the FIP Philatelic Literature Commission

2001 Royal Mail Lifetime Achievement Award

2006 Signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists

2006 U.S.A. Smithsonian Museum Lifetime Achievement Award

2008-2015 Chairman of the FIP Revenue Commission

2009 Honorary Fellowship Royal Philatelic Society London

2012 The Lichtenstein Award

He was many times a philatelic judge at FIP Exhibitions and at exhibitions in the United Kingdom and elsewhere in the world, and was Curator of the Perkins Bacon Archive held by the Royal Philatelic Society London until his death.

He was a great friend to philately, and philatelists everywhere, and will be sorely missed.

Werner Seeba 16 January 1942 - 21 October 2015

I received notification dated 17 December from Dorothea Ledwon, Werner's sister-in-law of his passing. He lived in Stuttgart, Germany and I am aware that Werner was a keen enthusiast of Barred Oval Numeral Cancellers (BONC's). Two of his contributions appeared in *The Runner Post*, an article on *BONC 891 on Cover* in December 1994 and in 2000 *Stellaland BONC 232*.

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Getting it Right and being Philatelically Correct

By Otto Peetoom

Introduction - As a researcher and writer, experience has taught me not to accept everything at face value. In particular when it comes to dates and figures, an exercise of cross-checking often indicates that the writer did not quite get hold of the correct end of the stick.

Date of Issue versus date of use

Postage stamps are often straight forward unless it is a provisional, surcharge, local or emergency printing. The foregoing depends on accurate documentation. Dates for Stamp booklets, Officials, Postage Dues or Revenues are often muddled up either by date of dispatch, delivery, distribution and/or their alleged first day of use.

In days gone by, should a revered individual make a statement, all and sundry tended to accept their word. Nowadays researchers are prone to challenge past opinions by seeking the appropriate proof.

Incorrect information published in catalogues, article or books may be adjusted in a short space of time or remain in place for decades.

Published Figures

These are subject to human error, copying them incorrectly, transposing figures or simply making a statement without checking. Other errors can develop gradually without being noticed for many years. See page 2282 SG F1 listing.

An example relating to Bechuanaland

Stellaland

The Bechuanalands (1945) by A.A. Jurgens pages 17 & 18 *Stellaland Reminders*, the author relates that the first tender by H. Feldman was not settled and in the mean time more stamps were sold...*included a purchase made by Messrs. Stanley Gibbons & Co. to the amount of £20.*

The reminders were subsequently acquired by Whitfield King and Jurgens noted...*it will be found that the following stamps had been sold in the interval between the first and second tenders...1d x 118, 3d x 92, 4d x 82, 6d x 82, 1s x 82.*

A quick calculation indicates a total of £9 3s 2d! Was that all Stanley Gibbons received for the £20 tendered?

A.A. Jurgens

I believe it is fair to say that his book on Bechuanaland was at one point in time regarded as being the definitive work on its philately. In my opinion its immediate downfall is that Jurgens did not include any bibliography. I also suspect that he may well have copied some Harrington's work which was published in a series of articles in *The South African Philatelist* starting in July 1937 through to August 1938. Harrington also made his fair share of mistakes.

In a recent issue of *Forerunners* No 83 July - October 2015 in an article by Franco Frescura entitled *Philatelic Honesty and a Court of Ethics Proposal* the author made some scathing remarks about Jurgens and writes...*Virtually the whole of his research was either fictitious or self-serving speculation based on fable or hear-say. The harm of such fraud lies in the fact that a number of subsequent researchers have been led into accepting his data, using it as a basis for their own deductions.*

Jurgens passed away on 11 July 1953 at the age of 66 and short obituaries appeared in Gibbons' Monthly and in the SAP. In the September 1970 Jubilee issue of *The South African Philatelist* under *Ships that have Passed*, J. Robertson made the following comment on Jurgens...*There are some funny stories about the adventures of some Cape covers that passed through his hands, but let us speak no evil of the dead.*

Blue Jacket

Neville Midwood forwarded the following, but does not disclose where it originated from...*I received the piece illustrated in the attachment, and I found Blue Jacket a strange name for a post office, but local friends were not surprised...the paragraph below, taken from a website called Cardboard Box Travel Shop, explains why.*



The main street in Francistown is still called Blue Jacket Street. It is dedicated to the memory of an old prospector, Sam Anderson, famous even before he arrived in Botswana. He was the first man to walk, (with little more than his prospecting wheelbarrow), right across Australia's Western Desert and immortalized in Francistown for the blue denim jacket he always wore.

Postmark - G.P.O. Bechuanaland 1 SEP 37



Howard Cook sent in scans of a used set of 1937 KGVI Coronation stamps all cancelled with a single circle G.P.O. Bechuanaland 1 SEP 37.

Peter Thy made the following comments: I do not recall seeing this canceller before. However, it most likely originated at the South African GPO. In 1937, the Bechuanaland Post Office was still administrated by the South African post office.

The main Bechuanaland post office in Mafeking was small and provided only minor functions such as local accounting and distribution. The dominating factor was the South Africa PO until 1962 when the Bechuanaland finally severed its ties with South Africa. If these stamps were cancelled on the First Day in Southern Africa, the location was certainly Cape Town and the date stamp originates from the GPO handling Bechuanaland.

The KEVII 6d Transvaal overprinted Bechuanaland Protectorate

By Otto Pectoom

Introduction

The inspiration to write about a stamp that was intended purely for fiscal purposes, but as it turned out, was unintentionally also valid for postage. It is a story that began over a century ago and having found various snippets, in contemporary or a seldom seen defunct ¹ journal, it set the wheels in motion. This account aims to shed light on a rather misunderstood Postal Fiscal.

As so often is the case between government departments and collectors, the public's 'right to know' might get out of hand that invariable led to indignation and/or outrage.

15 October 1910 - Gibbons Stamp Weekly

New Issues and Discoveries - Bechuanaland Protectorate
Several of our contemporaries have listed the current 6d Transvaal overprinted for use here. It was listed as 1910 Current stamp of Transvaal overprinted with Type 9, in black. 79 6d, black and orange, C

Thus its initial listing was as SG 79 6d on chalky paper and included as such in the 1911 Stanley Gibbons Part I catalogue.

19 November 1910 - Gibbons Stamp Weekly

Bechuanaland - A correspondent sends to 'The Stamp Collector' a letter which bears out our opinion that the overprinted 6d Transvaal was intended as a fiscal and justifies us in including it in our Catalogue under the head of 'Postal Fiscals'.

In the same issue, on the following page, a letter that was previously published in *Stamp Collector* is included.

Resident Commissioner's Office Mafeking
September 23rd, 1910

Sir,

In reply to your letter of the 20th inst., I have the honour to inform you that the Transvaal 6d stamps overprinted 'Bechuanaland Protectorate' were obtained for revenue purposes, but as they are printed 'postage and revenue' and there is no Government Notice in force stating what stamps are available for postal purposes, they can be legally used to prepay postage in the Protectorate. The issue consisted of 1500 stamps and they were first sold in December, 1908.



In the 22 October 1910 edition of *Stamp Collector* on page 149 the following comment appeared...*we were sure that these stamps had been issued some time back for fiscal purposes...As most of these fifteen hundred stamps have been fiscally used, we guess that it will be a scarcity.*

Subsequently the 6d overprint changed from SG 79 to F1 in the 1912 catalogue and that listing remained in place, unchanged, up to 1973.

In a footnote it stated: *This provisional was issued for fiscal purposes, but a few were allowed to be used for postage.*

February 1911 - The South African Philatelist No 4

Surprise and upset in South Africa. The listing of SG 79 set off a debate and much speculation at a 10 January 1911 meeting of the Johannesburg United Philatelic Society

...Mr Schofield read a letter he had received from the Postmaster at Mafeking, in which it was stated that the stamp in question had been issued to a few Commissioners of Revenue for fiscal purposes only and that it had never been sold by the post-office or authorised for postal use.

Indignation and outrage followed that included a remark...*If SG includes the Bechuanaland rubbish, why does he boggle about the Transvaal and ORC C.S.A.R. issues, which, whatever be their status, at least did legitimate postal duty?*

Order was restored after the society gained sight of another letter published in *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*.

24 December 1910 - Gibbons Stamp Weekly

C.B. Mowbray from Port Elizabeth wrote on 14 November 1910 to advise he had...*endeavoured to procure some...and sent in the reply he received.*

Post Office Mafeking 9 Nov. 1910 - To Mr C.B. Mowbray

Dear Sir, I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 4th inst., with PO enclosure 5/-, which I herewith return owing to the stamps (Transvaal 6d overprinted 'Bechuanaland Protectorate') being unprocurable; they have never been issued to post offices; it was a provisional fiscal stamp issued to revenue officers of the Bechuanaland Protectorate, but their stocks have been exhausted. Yours faithfully H.H. Flowers.

On the strength of the reply Mowbray advised SG that...*The enclosed memo seems to prove that they were only fiscal stamps, and in case you have not already learnt this, it may be consoling to find at least one less to add to future Catalogues.*

18 March 1911 - Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly

A great deal has been written about the 6d Transvaal, on chalky paper, overprinted 'British Bechuanaland'...we reproduce a letter...by Messrs. Bright & Son, who have also shown us the envelope ('registered' and 'On H.M.S.') in which the letter was sent and which bears and was franked by one of the above stamps...Bright & Son remind us that the first used copy they had, and which we chronicled, was found in a mixed lot of South African stamps.

Bright & Son had sent a remittance, with a request for a supply of the 6d overprint, to the Government Secretary in Mafeking that was redirected to the Assistant Commissioner's Office in Gaborones. He responded to their request on 1 November 1910 that included sending their order in an envelope, franked and registered with a 6d F1.

The above concluded F1 reports in England, but six thousand miles south in South Africa the debate was far from over.

May 1911 - The South African Philatelist No 7

Letters from various sources were published that included the 18 March reports in *Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly*.

F.F. Fisher in a letter dated 24 March 1911 re-iterated that the fiscal stamps were valid for postage and wrote...*I possess myself several letters bearing these stamps only, posted in the ordinary way at Lobatsi, Francistown and Gaborones...and also Mochudi, all posted on different dates and passed through without query.*

A Mr A.J. Cohen had shown a mint block of four on 14 February and on 11 April a used copy on piece cancelled Lobatsi July 3². Should this be correct, it would be the earliest.

The KEVII 6d Transvaal overprinted Bechuanaland Protectorate

A letter from Grenfell Bros., in Francistown dated 22 April 1911 stated the postmaster couldn't supply such stamps and had recently returned payments totalling £37. It is interesting to note that these remittances were effectively sufficient for the entire stock, 1480 stamps!

J.C. Hand summed up all the correspondence and was not happy with the state of affairs concluding...*There's something rotten in the state-whom or what?*

The Editor had the final word on the correspondence asking why the postmaster at Francistown claimed...*issued for revenue purposes only...* yet a postally used example dated JY 10 1910³ are on record - The foregoing was not the end of the story.



Said to be the largest known multiple - Courtesy Brian Hurst

Enough is enough the Johannesburg Society is taken to task

Letter published in the June 1911 - *The South African Philatelist* No 8 dated 16 May 1911 from an ex Postal Official, in Bulawayo, name withheld - Card enclosed, Baxter or Fisher?

Bechuanaland Protectorate - Overprinted on Transvaal 6d

As so much has been written respecting the above stamp and the postal administration of the Bechuanaland Protectorate has been unjustly blamed owing to a misunderstanding of its position in this matter, I think it only fair to the various officials to give a resume of the facts, which do not appear to be generally known.

The Government of the Bechuanaland Protectorate obtained from the Transvaal Treasury during January 1907, fifty sheets, each containing thirty, thus 1500, of the above stamps, which were overprinted by the Government Printer in Pretoria. Supplies of these were sent from the 'Resident Commissioner's' office in Mafeking to various 'Assistant Commissioners' in the Protectorate from time to time when requisitioned for. At the offices of such Assistant Commissioners they were used fiscally for ordinary revenue purposes, such as bringing to account 'Fees of Court', and were sold to the public.

Owing to the facts (a) that all Bechuanaland stamps bearing the words 'Postage and Revenue' have from 1887 to the present date been available for postal and fiscal purposes in the Protectorate irrespective of whether they were purchased from Postmasters or other officials, and (b) That the words 'postage and' were not ruled through by the Government Printers in Pretoria, there is no valid reason why these 6d stamps should not be recognised by Postmasters in prepayment of postage on letters.

No Clerk of the Court could refuse to accept any Protectorate stamps, tendered in payment of 'taxation fees' on the ground that they had been bought from the local Postmaster instead of from himself!

The courteous and always obliging Postmaster at Mafeking has been criticised by you on the supposition that 'he distributed these very stamps' to the Post Offices in the Protectorate: but, as will be seen by the above explanation, they were not supplied to him either for direct sale or for distribution to Post Offices in the Protectorate...on November 19th, 1910, he wrote to me to the effect that he had been unable to procure any as none were sold for postal purposes, and, owing to the limited supply running short, instructions had been given that no more could be spared for collectors.

The Postmasters have had so much trouble in replying to enquiries from all parts of the world for a stamp which they had no means of supplying, that it seems hard to add to their worries by passing an adverse 'decided judgement' upon them and their methods when they are not only blameless in this respect, but unable to defend themselves by writing to you.

You may be interested to know that in reply to a request of mine within the last month for a few copies of these stamps a revenue official in the Protectorate wrote me that they are now quite unobtainable, and added that a dealer recently offered £100 for 400 copies, but none could be sent him.

February 1912 - *The South African Philatelist* No 16

In the last issue of the above journal there appears a report of a meeting of 12 December 1911 of the *East London Philatelic Society*. A display by a Mr Palmer...

The philatelic treat of the evening was due to Mr Palmer, who gave a very interesting and lucid account of the origin and general history of the much discussed Transvaal 6d King's head surcharged 'Bechuanaland Protectorate' and issued primarily for revenue purposes only. Mr Palmer explained how it came to be issued, number, and reason for the same. He then explained how a smart collector came along and saw the stamp among the revenue stamps, purchased a few, and posted letters to himself bearing these stamps. He also posted one to the Distributor of Stamps, who passed the same and thus practically acknowledged it as a postal label.

The gentlemen then bought up about two-thirds of the entire stock and left for home, where he evidently offered them to dealers; for he, Mr Palmer, had been informed on good authority that applications from dealers and others totalled up to several hundreds of pounds. These the Distributor of Stamps was unable to supply, and wrote to Capetown for more supplies, when he was informed that they were not intended for postal purposes and no more were to be issued, and the money and orders on hand were to be returned at once. Mr Palmer was the happy possessor of a block of eight unused and two postally used. One which he exhibited on entire had been evidently half over the Union after him. He also mentioned the difference in the printing of stamps, some having the B raised in Bechuanaland and others level.

The Palmer story - Many of his statements are in my opinion subject to question. The suggestion that 'some collector' managed to purchase around 1000 stamps and disappeared overseas with his haul would not have gone un-noticed in the British Philatelic Press. Palmer's story intimates exaggeration and perhaps a few too many beers before the meeting. On the other hand I feel it has a place in this account.

The Conflicting Reported Dates

23 September 1910...*first sold in December, 1908.*⁴

16 May 1911...*obtained from the Transvaal Treasury during January 1907.*⁵

1938 W.J. Harrington...*In January of 1910 there was a sudden shortage of sixpenny revenue stamps*⁶

1945 Jurgens - On page 100 in his book, assumed 1910 and probably copied Harrington⁷

The KEVII 6d Transvaal overprinted Bechuanaland Protectorate

Conflicting Dates continued

1971 Holmes - On page 116 in his book...*Towards the end of 1906 there was a need for a 6d fiscal stamp...in January 1907 they were sent to the 'Resident Commissioner' at Mafeking...*⁸

The general consensus is that they appeared as revenue stamps circa early January 1907 and started being postally used in July 1910. As previously stated, it seems that a used copy...*found in a mixed lot of South African stamps...* was responsible for a rush by dealers and collectors alike.



6d SG F1 Fiscally used - Francistown March 1910
Ex Wessely- Argyll Etkin 20.5.2010 ex Lot 702

Comment on dates - Whilst it is suggested that F1 had been around since early 1907, I have not had sight of a fiscally used copy with a date prior to 1910.

The Stanley Gibbons listing of the 6d KEVII Postal Fiscal

This was subject to a long debate in 1991 by Alan Drysdall⁹ in as much that SG stated it was overprinted on Transvaal SG 266 instead of 266a (chalky paper). The foregoing has a simple explanation as to how a stamp, correctly noted in 1911 was eventually listed incorrectly by 1992.

The development of an Error - A report in the 15 October 1910 *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* indicates it was first listed in 1911 as SG 79 6d, black and orange, **C** = *chalky*.

By November 1910, SG suggest in their weekly journal that it ought to be listed as a Postal Fiscal and that was implemented in the following edition of their Part I catalogue.

At that time the SG policy was not to list stamps on ordinary and/or chalky paper separately. Indication was 'O' or 'C' and if a stamp was known on both papers it was denoted **OC**¹⁰.

I have confirmed that by 1914 SG 79 was listed as F1 6d black and orange, **C** - thus the listing remained correct.

The foregoing stayed in place until 1973. In 1975 Stanley Gibbons added a note *No 266 of Transvaal* but the letter 'C' remained in place.

This was effectively 'half' a mistake and the foregoing lasted until 1991. Then in the 1992 catalogue Stanley Gibbons deleted the **C** and now the listing of F1 was purported to be on *Transvaal 266* instead of 266a which compounded their error. The foregoing was subsequently corrected to read 'SG 266a' in the 1993/94 Commonwealth catalogue.

F1 described as a Provisional - In the 24 December 1910 *Gibbons Stamp Weekly* a letter from H.H. Flowers, Post Office Mafeking 9 Nov. 1910 was published who referred to F1 as...*it was a provisional fiscal stamp issued to revenue officers...*

Perhaps it was this that led to a footnote in SG which stated it was a *Provisional* - It remained in place from 1912 to 1973.

Overprinted format

A 16 May 1911 from an ex Postal Official noted... *fifty sheets, each containing thirty, thus 1500...* Holmes⁸ intimated that sheets of sixty were overprinted in two settings of thirty and does not clarify how he arrived at the foregoing supposition.

Allegedly Overprinted with Margins Removed

In a further article by Drysdall¹¹ refers to an item circa 1940 and entitled - *One of the rarest KE VII Colonials* which stated:- *...overprinted in complete blocks of thirty...we believe usually having the margins torn off.* This is another instance whereby a writer refers to 'blocks of thirty'.

In terms of the margins having being removed, in my opinion this is the product of the author's imagination as examples are known with top, side and bottom margins. Top marginal copies, for no reason at all, appear to be thin on the ground.

Overprinted Specimen... *A copy of the stamp, overprinted 'Specimen' was included in the set of Bechuanaland stamps presented to the Royal Empire Society in 1911.* (Holmes)⁸

Obtaining mint or used copies

Judging by the number of envelopes addressed to officials within the Protectorate, they were very quick off the mark! Except for a London dealer, virtually every known envelope is addressed to someone connected to officialdom and envelopes to Baxter, Ealing in London being the most prolific.

W.A. (Bill) Harbor¹² in Mochudi was a known trader in stamps and other commodities well before the turn of the century and used a distinctive cachet, usual on the reverse of registered envelopes.

Bill was responsible for posting many of the surviving SG F1 envelopes and items to Baxter all bear the W.A.H. hallmark on the reverse. The overprint represented an ideal rate, 4d registration plus 2d postage. Being a local man, he was well placed in obtaining mint examples of F1 and certainly supplied a good number of them to Bright & Son in England.



W.A. Harbor

Bright and Son The London dealers were one of the successful parties to obtain quantities of the KEVII overprint; they also requested that their order must be dispatched registered using an F1 as postage. The dealers appear to have sent orders to various towns, there are Bright & Son envelopes from Francistown, Gaberones¹³ and Mochudi (sent by W.A. Harbor)

The most Interesting F1 cover

It appears to be a genuine commercial envelope, registered at Gaberones in September 1910 with an additional 1d x 2 addressed to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Brussels, Belgium. It is described in detail on the next page.

Overprint Varieties

Raised 'B' in 'Bechuanaland', brought to the attention of those attending the 11 May 1911 meeting¹⁴ of the *Philatelic Society of Rhodesia* - Occurs on the first stamp. Holmes⁸ erroneously stated the variety, on stamp 1, is a raised 'P' in 'Protectorate'. On the fifth stamp, the first 'a' in 'Bechuanaland' is raised.¹⁵

The KEVII 6d Transvaal overprinted Bechuanaland Protectorate

Known, Reported or Alleged dates of use

I have always been wary of reported dates, in particular if they purport to be the earliest or latest dates of use, thus my policy is, when I have seen it, I believe!

Entries marked* are dates provided during 1911 in reports of meetings in *The South African Philatelist*.

During 1995 Drysdall recorded his earliest date as 17.7.1910 at Mochudi and the latest 24.7.11 at Gaberones.^{9 & 16}

These dates may be modified from 12.7.1910 to 20 III 1934.

Doubtful or Alleged dates - JY 3 10 (Cohen²), JY 10 10 = 12th July, editor's error.³ JY 11 10 on a cover to Vallentine Johannesburg, MOCHUDI JY 11 10, backdated by favour using a type of datestamp that was not in use until circa 1916.

A Thank you to all contributors - A collective email brought numerous scans of usage to the fore and revealed previously unrecorded data - many thanks for your co-operation!

The principal use of F1 was during the second half of 1910 at Francistown, Gaberones, Lobatsi and Mochudi. Probably, thanks to Harbor, the latter was the most prolific.

Philatelic Society of Rhodesia - Reports of meetings

12 April 1911...Mr Baxter kindly brought...singles, pairs and strips of Bechuanaland SG 79, both used on entires and unused. ...the following postmarks noticed: Lobatsi JY 13 1910, Mochudi OC 13 1910 and Francistown JY 12 1910.

11 May 1911 - Bechuanaland by E.C. Baxter and F.F. Fisher... Of the much discussed No 79...a mint block of four and a pair used, showing variety 'B' in 'Bechuanaland' raised.¹⁴

The following postmarks-Gaberones JY 31 1910, Francistown 12 JY, 22 OC & 15 NO 1910, Lobatsi 13 JY 1910 and Mochudi 13 JY, 13 OC, 29 NO and 21 DE 1910.

1910 Usage - Francistown

JY 12 10*, OC 22 10* & NO 15 10* - (1911 Baxter & Fisher)

Used pair JY 12 10 (With raised B variety)¹⁴

Cover OC 22 10 (Royal Collection) addressed to London¹⁶ October 22nd was a Saturday.

Cover NO 14 10 to Bright & Son, Registration No 1241.



FRANCISTOWN NO 14 10 - Courtesy Brian Trotter

1910 Usage - Gaberones

JY 31 10* (Reported by Fisher in 1911) The 31st was a Sunday. Cover JY 31 10 with a pair to F. Fisher, Cape Town, Reg. 362 I believe the above are one and the same.⁹

Cover SP 11 10 with F1 + KEVII 1d x 2 to Brussels, Belgium. Registered No 460 to Monsieur Albert de Bassompierre, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Affaires Etrangères).



GABERONES JY 31 10 - Courtesy Brian Trotter



The above commercial envelope to the Bureau of Foreign Affairs is undoubtedly the most interesting item franked with an overprinted KEVII 6d, registered and dated GABERONES SP 11 10 (A Sunday) Two KEVII 1d overprints were added and date stamped SP 13 (Tuesday), backstamped GABERONES STATION 13 SP, Kimberley transit 15 PIC, Cape Town 17 SP 10 with Brussels 8 OCTO 1910



Transit more than likely on the *Armada Castle* departed Cape Town 21.9.10, arrived Southampton 8.10 10 and forwarded the same day arriving Brussels at 1930 (7.30^{PM})

The KEVII 6d Transvaal overprinted Bechuanaland Protectorate

1910 Usage - Lobatsi

JY 3 10* A Sunday (1911 Cohen report - doubtful) ²

JY 13 10* Reported in 1911 by Baxter & Fisher.

On piece JY 13 10 ex Catterall Grosvenor 23.5.2001 - lot 1192.

JY 13 10 - Used single - Roger Howard collection.

JY 13 10 - Used single - Andrew Higson collection.



JY 13 10 (Andrew Higson)



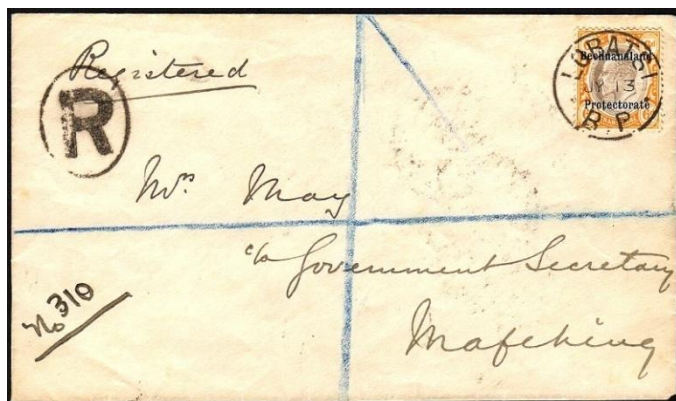
NO 26 10 (Tony Stanford)

JY 13 10 - Cover to Mrs May, Mafeking, Registration No 310.

JY 13 10 - Cover to (W.T. Wilson?) Birmingham, ex Hyland, Spink 21.3.2002 - lot 215.

NO 26 10 Used single (a Saturday) - Tony Stanford collection.

Note - As most of the use at Lobatsi is Wednesday 13 July, I remain sceptical of the 3 July Cohen report. ²



Lobatsi JY 13 10 - Ex Corrigan & Peetoom (Spivack coll.)

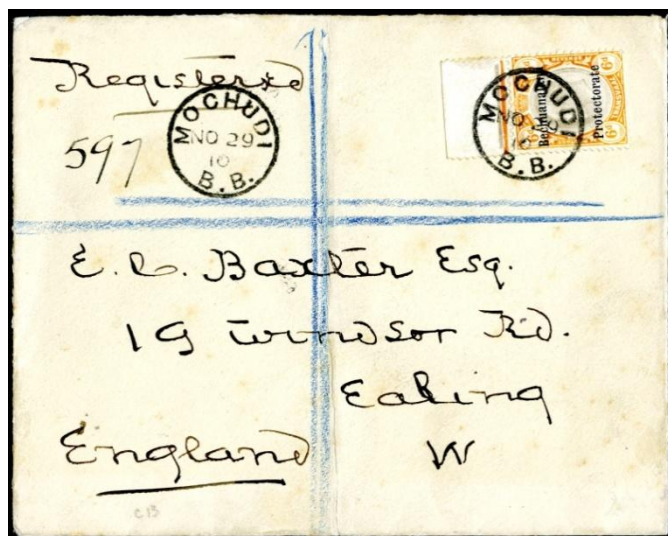
1910 Usage - Mochudi

13 JY, 13 OC, 29 NO and 21 DE 1910* - All 1911 reports.

JY 13 10 - On piece ex Victoria auction 3.2.12 - lot 548

JY 17 10 - Recorded by Drysdall - No further detail. ^{9 & 16}

July date - Used single in, on Bid-or-Buy October 2015



Mochudi NO 29 10 - Top marginal copy
Posted by Harbor, Ex Holmes - Spivack collection

1910 Usage - Mochudi Continued

OC ? - Used single - Roger Howard collection

OC ? 10 - On piece ex Victoria auction lot 804

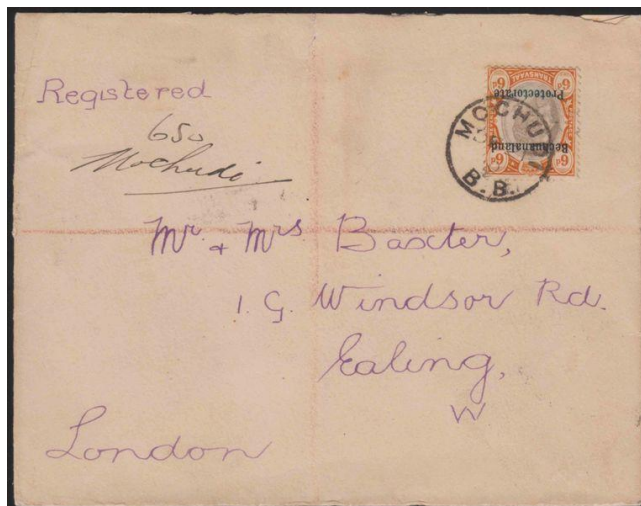
NO 15 10 Cover to Bright & Son, Registration No 570 ¹⁹,
Christies 12 June 1991, lot 180

NO 29 10 - Cover to Bright & Son, Registration No 594,
ex Catterall Grosvenor 23.5.2001 - lot 1191. ¹⁹

NO 29 10 - Registered cover to Bright & Son,
ex Inglefield-Watson. ¹⁸

NO 29 10 - Cover to Baxter Registered No 597 to Ealing ex
Holmes, Harmers 29.10.1981 lot 1275 - Spivack collection.

NO 31 10 (Day inverted) Cover to E.C. Baxter-Ealing Reg. 563
Ex Wessely, Argyll Etkin 20.5.2010 lot 703.



Mochudi DE 21 10 Posted by Harbor - Hurst collection

DE 21 10 - On piece ex Robert Siegel auction 19.5.2015 lot 245

DE 21 10 Cover to E.C. Baxter, Reg. 650 - B. Hurst collection.

DE 21 10 Cover to E.C. Baxter, Reg. 652 ex County lot 1385.

1911 Late Use at Gaberones

JY 24 11 - Recorded by Drysdall - No further detail. ^{9 & 16}

JY 26 11 Cover to Mrs May (not registered)

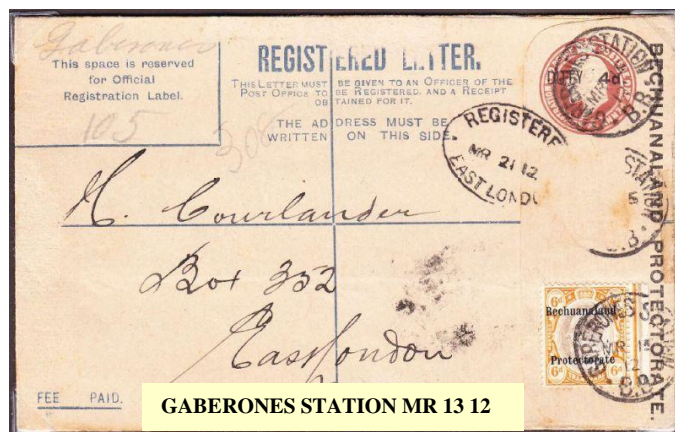
Christies 12 June 1991, lot 181 ¹⁷

1911 Late Use at Mochudi

AP 10 11 Cover Registered to Johannesburg, ex Holmes,
Harmers 29.10.1981 lot 127

1912 Late out of period use at Gaberones Station

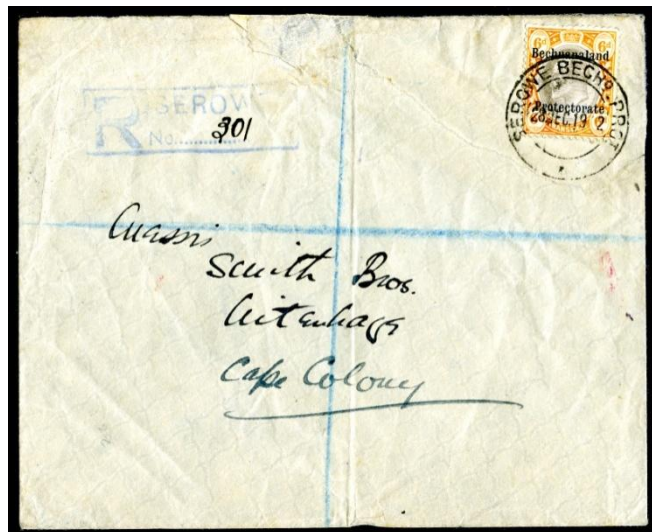
MR 13 12 - KEVII 4d Registered Postal Stationery envelope to
H. Courlander ²⁰, East London, Registration 105, one adhesive
missing. MR 21 12 East London arrival - Clive Carr collection.



The KEVII 6d Transvaal overprinted Bechuanaland Protectorate

1912 Late out of period use at Serowe

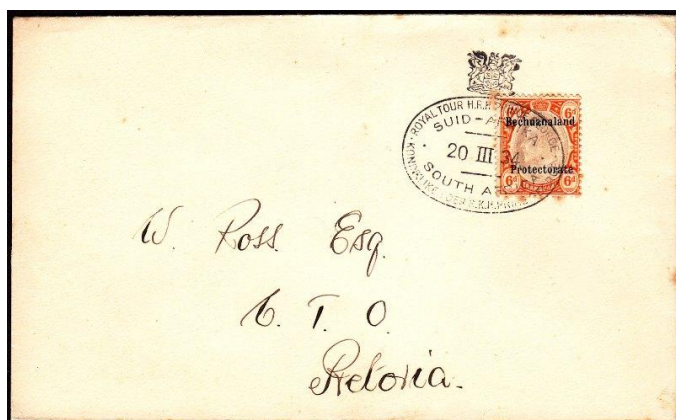
28 DEC 1912 - Registration No 301 to Smith Bros. Uitenhage. Back stamped Kimberley 30 DE 12, De Aar 31 DE 12 transits and Uitenhage 1 JA 13 arrival. David Spivack collection.



SEROWE 28 DEC 1912 - David Spivack collection

1934 Royal Train at Gaberones

On cover 20 III 34 - Oval Royal Tour to W. Ross, Pretoria with 23 MAR 34 arrival backstamp. During Prince George's Royal Tour, many philatelic covers were created using an array of different stamps and it seems that one individual sacrificed a precious SG F1 - Clive Carr collection.



20 III 34 - Very late Philatelic use of SG F1 - Clive Carr

Palapye Station - Noted by Holmes⁸ Not seen or any reports to confirm this usage. I surmise that it ought to prove to be a date after 1910 as it does not fit into the Francistown, Gaberones, Lobatsi and Mochudi pattern.

Used Abroad - Transvaal TPO

In *The Rhodesian Study Circle Journal* No 127 (September 1984) Roy Setterfield sent in a photocopy of an F1 stamp said to be cancelled 'EUROPEAN MAIL TPO SEP 10 -1-DN'. The writer was of the opinion that it was a 'by favour' cancellation.

In RSCJ No 129 (March 1985) replies were received from Alan Drysdall and Major Harold Criddle. Alan wrote...*that this was used on the Central South African Railway (CSAR) route, on trains from Transvaal to the Cape.*

Criddle pointed out that the datestamp should read TRANSVAAL T.P.O. SEP 10 1 - -DN EUROPEAN MAIL

Notes on other used items

Certain items mentioned in literature or vaguely described in action catalogues are also worthy of note.

1. Used block of four, Royal collection. One of two used blocks of four known.

The other a corner marginal block

Appears it may have been used on a parcel.

No office visible

Date - 23 NO

Spivack collection



2. Registered 'On O.H.M.S.' envelope to Bright and Son, not seen, probably from Gaberones.¹⁵

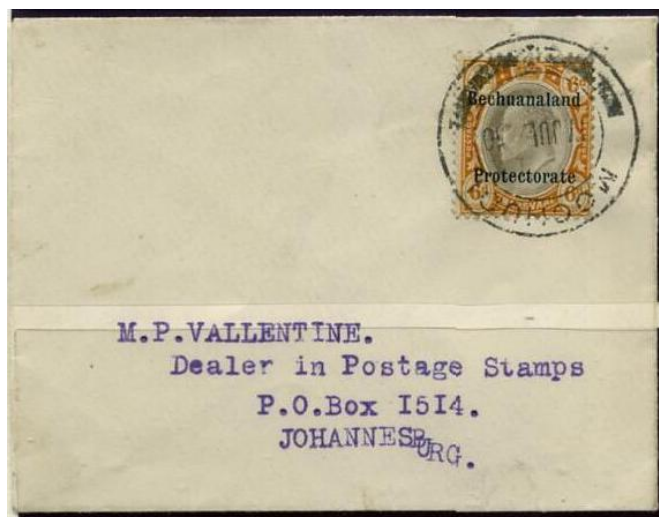
3. Robson Lowe, Danson sale 16.7.1971 Lot 1071...*used on printed envelope* - Perhaps a Bright & Son cover. ...*a pair on piece...single on registered envelope with addressee name cut away.* Not seen the last item.

4. Spink 3.10.2007 Inglefield-Watson sale, lot 1260, a vertical strip of four cancelled Gaberones D.C. 3 May with a datestamp introduced during the 1960's.

5. A cut down cover to M.P. Vallentine, Johannesburg, a stamp dealer. Allegedly dated 11 JY 10 using a datestamp that was only introduced in April 1916.

Vallentine was established in 1897, operated from Pretoria Buildings, corner of Bree and Smal streets, Johannesburg and advertised in the 1910 - 1912 editions of *The South African Philatelist*.

It appears that he obtained a cover that was backdated and I believe that if he had possessed a July 1910 cover with F1, it would have been reported in the pages of 1911 - 12 SA Philatelist.



Howard Cook collection

The KEVII 6d Transvaal overprinted Bechuanaland Protectorate

Forgeries

An example was included in lot 1259 (Inglefield-Watson sale).



Another appeared on EBay in October 2015 with two smudged cancels TRANSVAAL 14 FEB 10. Both the overprint and cancellation are forged.

Another version includes an inverted overprint, offered from Taiwan and seen on the internet - Illustrated in *The Transvaal Philatelist* No 191.

6d KEVII overprint - Stock depleted or withdrawn

Some authors suggest that the overprints were withdrawn, but this may be a supposition. H.H. Flowers in Mafeking wrote on 9 November 1910...*fiscal stamp issued to revenue officers...but their stocks have been exhausted*. 16 May 1911 in a letter from an ex Postal Official...*owing to the limited supply running short, instructions had been given that no more could be spared for collectors*.

Considering that it is obvious that the various Protectorate officials were ensuring that they obtained as many copies as was possible. Combine that with the determination of the public who were attempting to procure whatever was still available. It seems to me that by the end of 1910 there was no 'remaining' stock 'to withdraw'.

Holmes wrote ⁸...*when the authorities realised what was happening the stamps were withdrawn...* This is a rather naive comment because, as soon as the authorities tumbled to the fact that there was a money-making gimmick at their disposal, they jumped in feet first and I suggest that any remaining stock was snapped up 'for official purposes'.

A Collective Summary of Postal Fiscal SG F1 Appears in *Southern Africa Philately* No 2 on page 79

Notes

¹ *The South African Philatelist* (1910 - 12) Published by the Johannesburg United Philatelic Society.

² 1911 - A.J. Cohen report...*on piece cancelled Lobatsi July 3...* Is taken as read and is not necessarily correct.

³ The editor incorrectly quoted a July 10, 1910 which was 12th July.

⁴ *Gibbons Stamp Weekly*, 19 November 1910.

⁵ *The South African Philatelist* No 8 - June 1911.

⁶ *The South African Philatelist* - March 1938 page 36.

⁷ *The Bechuanalands* (1945) by A.A. Jurgens.

⁸ *The Postage Stamps, Postal Stationery and Postmarks of the Bechuanalands* (1971) by H.R. Holmes.

⁹ *The Runner Post* No 25 - December 1991 pages 469 & 470.

¹⁰ In the event that a stamp on ordinary and/or chalky paper had different shades, then they were listed separately.

¹¹ *The Runner Post* No 27, June 1992 p530 - 531 Drysdall article.

¹² W. Harbour mentioned in *The Runner Post* No 18, 38 & 56.

¹³ *The South African Philatelist* No 7 May 1911 p64.

¹⁴ The pair with the raised B variety reported in 1911 may be the same example illustrated in *The Runner Post* No 27, June 1992.

¹⁵ *The Edwardian Stamps of the South African Colonies* (2004) by Brian Trotter p297.

¹⁶ *Transvaal, Revenue and Telegraph Stamps* (1995) by A.R. Drysdall - James Bendon (Cyprus) in association with the Transvaal Study Circle.

¹⁷ The only 'late period' cover that has not been registered and now in the Botswana museum collection.

¹⁸ In the Botswana museum collection.

¹⁹ Bright & Son dealt with W. A. Harbor, a stamp dealer and several envelopes to them, as well as to others were dispatched by him.

²⁰ Henry Courlander and Thomas Alfred Batten founded *Courlander's Agencies*, East London in 1908.

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Bechuanaland 1961 R1 Type I - SG 167 with a low Overprint

By Otto Pectoom

Introduction - The First Setting of this Surcharge was produced on the original 1955 printing of the 10/- value. Only thirty sheets (1,800 stamps were overprinted) - According to Holmes in his 1971 Publication between 400 and 500 Type I were sent to Berne for UPU distribution. 700 copies are believed to have been used on First Day Covers.

Thus a mere *ten sheets*, 600 stamps were available in mint condition and blocks of four or larger multiples were considered as rarities. I sold a block of four in my 10 September 2004 Bechuanaland Postal Auction as lot 96.

Pat Bullivant in his 1962 Shelly Catalogue states - *Type I was limited to 30 Sheets of 60, of which some 400 are said to have been destroyed whilst a considerable proportion were used up on specially prepared First Day Covers.*

In February 2015 Alan Macgregor informed me that there ought to be five or six complete sheets of the R1 Type I in the Botswana archives. The foregoing was confirmed by Brian Hurst who advised that he had sight of these sheets and commented...*One of the complete sheets in the Botswana Post archive has the surcharge very low.*



Type I Central



Type I Low & Left

In recent years several blocks have appeared in a variety of auctions and Murray Payne in their 29 July 2014 Auction in lot 189 offered a R1 Type I in a Cylinder - Imprint block of eight, estimated at £2000, it sold for £4300.

In Johannesburg, South Africa, since circa 2010, a man of Indian descent has been offering numerous copies, including large multiples of the R1 Type I, SG 167 for sale. It is said that the man was a bank manager in Botswana, lived in Gaborone and relocated to Johannesburg.

It has also been suggested that Stanley Gibbons purchased a quantity of the R1 from a man of Indian origin during the 2010 Johannesburg International.

Dickon Pollard from Murray Payne informed me that he saw two bottom rows of SG 167 at that particular show.

The same man is also selling Imperforate proofs of Botswana Issues and thus far I have seen odd values in imperforate blocks of four for 1982 and 1985 Christmas plus 1988 Early Cultivation.

In February 2015 a previously unknown Type I with the Overprint at foot was brought to my attention and I was given the loan of an example for my opinion. The person concerned informed me that he had purchased a number of normal R1 Type I as well as the misplaced overprint directly from the above individual.

I made several enquiries in the United Kingdom and South Africa which confirms the above.

It was suggested that he had at least three or more intact sheets of which one has the R1 Type I in the lower Country tablet as illustrated.

I have it from a reliable source that two collector's were invited to the man's home where they were shown and offered a full sheet of a R1 Type I. They were also offered a Type I with a misplaced low overprint.

On occasion a full sheet of a scarce stamp may suddenly come to light, after fifty years, more than one seems strange, but a complete sheet with an overprint in a different position appears to be too good to be true.

I have exchanged numerous emails with Botswana Post, they carried out an audit of their vaults and confirmed that every single sheet of the R1, irrespective of type, has been unlawfully removed from their files

The overprinting of the Bechuanaland stock in 1961 dictates, as per security printing practice, that the exact number of sheets submitted must be returned. Whether spoilt or otherwise and it is up to the postal authority in question what to do with said 'spoilt' sheets.

The Bullivant statement - If a quantity of the R1 Type I had to be destroyed, was it perhaps because the overprint was situated in position where it was difficult to see?

It would be logical to perhaps retain a sheet with a low overprint as it does not do any harm in an archive. However should it be 'leaked' onto the philatelic market, it suddenly becomes an item of interest and intrigue.

Observations on the R1 Type I Misplaced Overprint

I made 2400 dpi scans of both the illustrated stamps and carefully examined them. The variation is on the correct 1955 10/- printing whereas the R1 Type II was overprinted on an April 1961 10/- reprint, on much thinner paper with white gum.

The R1 overprints are in my opinion the same shape and size. The ink on the issued version is shiny as compared to the shift which is rather dull. I do not consider the foregoing as being significant. Dickon Pollard informed me that a copy of the variation was submitted to them for an opinion. Dickon stated that his observations matched mine. Further enquiry confirmed that both examples came from the same source.

BPA opinion

In February 2015, at a specific request from Adrian Myer, I submitted the R1 stamp in question. I have no idea what went on during the interim, however by the end of October 2015, the item remained in limbo. Yet there is a new footnote in the 2016 SG catalogue on page 97 which states...*Examples of No 167 with the surcharge at foot are believed to be from a trial sheet.*

In order to substantiate the above the same opinion ought to be reflected on a BPA certificate, but I somehow doubt that.

I challenged the above footnote and have been informed; via a third party that it was a mistake and it will be interesting to see what appears in the 2017 Commonwealth catalogue. It is also worthy of note that the catalogue value of a mint SG 167 has been reduced by £100. In view of the large number of extra copies flooding the market, another cut is justifiable.

What the conclusion of this saga ought to be is anyone's guess.

Recent Botswana Stamp Issues

Date of Issue

This is difficult to ascertain, I put the 2015 issues into Google and although images of the stamps may be found, the dates are not available. The Botswana Post website is not kept up to date; in fact it is a good year behind, the last listed issue being the domestic animals 5.8.2014. Nigel Haworth supplies new issues to me and these are included below.

Okavango Delta Wildlife

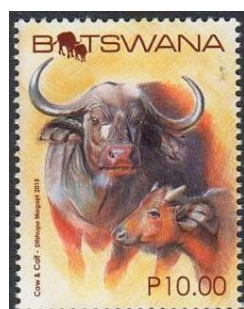
In our last issue I included a set of the stamps (issued 10.3.2015), but I believe a MS was issued at a later date.



Printed on the reverse of each stamp, it notes...The Okavango Delta, in north west Botswana comprises of permanent marshlands and seasonally flooded plains. It is an exceptional example of BIODIVERSITY through the interaction between climatic, hydrological and biological processes.

20 May 2015 Abstract Art in Botswana SG 1231 - 1234 Four values (Illustrated in *The Runner Post* No 90)

22 July 2015 African Buffalo in Botswana



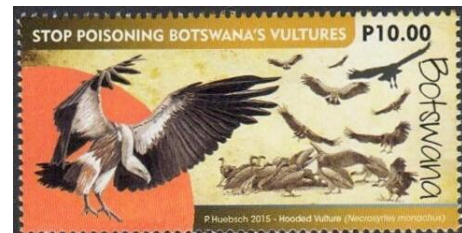
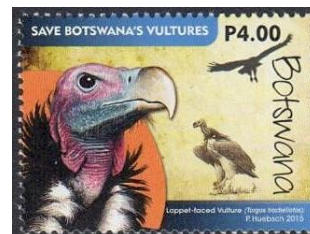
SG 1235 - 1238

Four values plus a MS 1239

African Buffalo in Botswana MS 1239



28 September 2015 - Save Botswana's Vultures SG 1240 - 1244 Five values plus MS 1245



The Society Website www.bechuanalandphilately.com

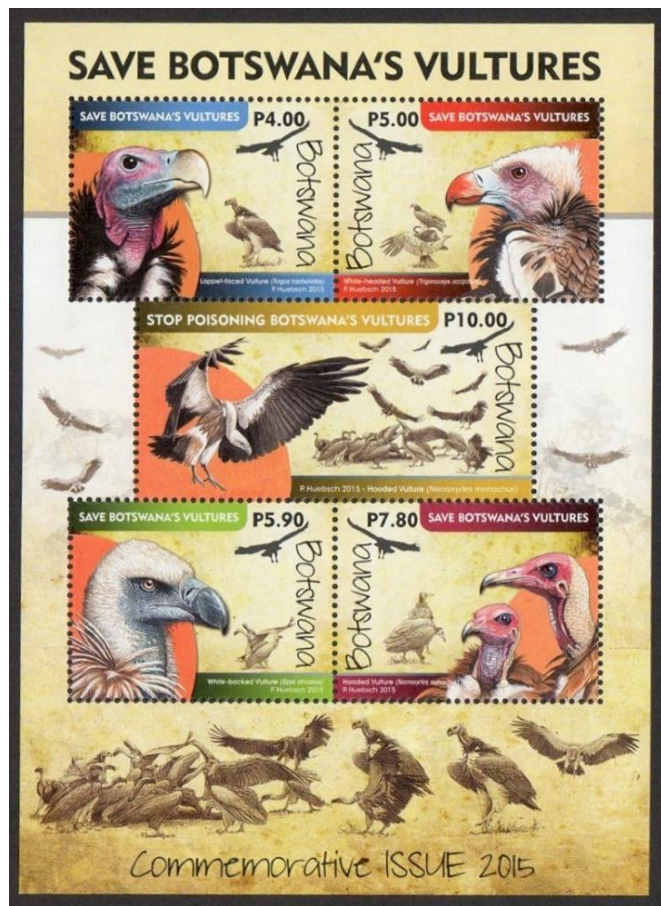
The site has been live since Saturday 10 January 2015, during the year we gained two new members as a result of the site.

Maintaining the site is time consuming and a few recent additions took ten hours to complete. What is disappointing is that none of our members have sent anything to add to the site.

Thus whatever is on the site is by and large on my own initiative. Prior to the website, other than dealers and EBay, very little about Bechuanaland came up with a Google search. This has changed since going 'live' in so much that the website is invariably in the mix whatever one may search for that is connected with Bechuanaland or Botswana Philately.

Botswana New Issues - New York International - AGM Agenda

28 September 2015 - Save Botswana's Vultures MS 1245



20 November 2015 - Vervet Monkey in Botswana

Set of four plus a miniature sheet (No images available as yet)

The BBS at New York 2016 28 May to 4 June

The World Stamp Show - NY 2016 - By Tony Stanford
Takes place at the Javits Center in New York City.
Admission is free.

Throughout the show, the BBS is sharing an information booth with The GB Overprints Society in an area reserved for the Southern African Societies. Peter Thy and myself will be around much of the time and throughout the show there will be someone from one of the Societies manning the booths, so we hope that any members visiting the show will come to the booth and introduce themselves or leave a message so we can get in touch.

Peter Thy has reserved meeting room 1E09 for joint meetings with the PSGSA.

Monday 30 May, 1-2 pm, Theme discussion/roundtable:
Southern African Philatelic Societies: Past, Present, and Future.

Tuesday 31 May, 1-2 pm, Seminar by Peter Thy, Postal History of Southern African Pioneers Serving in World War II.

Other meetings of interest:

The *GB Overprints Society* has reserved meeting room 1E09 on the afternoon of Tuesday 31 May between 2-4 pm to enable members to meet and to display and discuss selections from their collections.

BBS members are welcome to join this meeting and bring along any of the GB Overprint items from their collections they would like to display or discuss.

The Post Order Society has organized a meeting showing a Display of Early British and Colonial Postal Orders in room 1E07 on Thursday 2 June, 3-5 pm.

The *Rhodesian Study Circle* invites BBS members to a general meeting with a lecture on Friday 3 June, 2-4 pm in room 1E09.

Other Booths of interest: United Postal Stationery Society is sharing with the Postal Order Society.

Rhodesian Study Circle is sharing with several other Africa specialist societies.

It is recommended to check the dates and times prior to the meetings due to updates and changes. It is also recommended that you arrange for your accommodation and travel in good time. Go to the <http://www.ny2016.org> for the latest updates

Peter and I look forward to the opportunity to meet members of the BBS at NY2016. Don't hesitate to contact us by email to arrange for a meeting outside the scheduled meeting times.

Agenda of the February AGM

To be held on Friday 19 February 2016 from 11.30 am at the Business Design Centre, Islington

1. Apologies for absence
2. Approval of minutes of the AGM held on 21 February 2015
3. Approval of minutes of the EGM held on 18 September 2015
4. Matters arising
 - Scanning back issues of Runner Post
 - BBS meetings at Leamington Spa during the South Africa Collectors' Society weekend in June and the Southern African Societies' weekend in November
 - BBS Auction
5. Membership Secretary/Treasurer's report
6. Editor's report
7. Chairman's Remarks
8. *Bechuanaland & Botswana Philately* Website
9. Any Other Business
10. Next meeting

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Rules of the Bechuanalands and Botswana Society (Revised 2015)

1. The TITLE of the Society shall be *THE BECHUANALANDS AND BOTSWANA SOCIETY*.

2. The OBJECT of the Society shall be to encourage the study of all aspects of the Philately and Postal History of these Territories including Basutoland and Swaziland.

3. The OFFICERS of the Society, who shall be Honorary, will comprise: Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Editor, Archivist, Auctioneer (optional) and any others it is deemed necessary to appoint from time to time.

These OFFICERS shall constitute the Committee of the Society and shall be empowered to co-opt other Members to the Committee as necessary. They shall be elected, as is practical, at the Annual General Meeting of the Society and any postal votes from Members unable to attend in person shall be deemed valid.

4. The CHAIRMAN shall chair all meetings where practical. He shall be required to be familiar with each and every aspect of the Society. He may serve for a maximum period of four years. After serving the maximum period, the ex-Chairman is eligible to serve on the Committee in any other capacity.

5. The HON. SECRETARY shall notify members of meetings, draw up an agenda and maintain a Minute Book.

6. The HON. TREASURER will take charge of the Society's Funds, maintain a Bank Account in the name of the Society and present at the Annual General Meeting a Statement of Accounts, duly examined, for a twelve month period from

1 January to 31 December. The Annual Subscription should be reviewed every year by the Treasurer and approved by the Society at its Annual General Meeting.

7. The HON. MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY shall keep a Register of Members and may, at his/her discretion, admit to membership an applicant on payment of the Annual Subscription in force at the time and thereafter payable on the first day of January each year. Any member who has not paid his/her subscription by 31 March shall have the benefits of membership suspended until payment has been made. If no payment is received by 30 June the member shall automatically be deemed to have resigned.

8. The EDITOR will be responsible for production of the Society Journal entitled *The Runner Post*. Journal costs to be kept within budget and the recruitment of advertising encouraged.

9. An HONORARY ACCOUNTANT EXAMINER shall be appointed whose duty shall be the examination of the Hon. Treasurer's Annual Statement of Accounts.

10. An AUCTIONEER is currently an optional position and may be appointed and/or approved by the Committee.

11. An ARCHIVIST will retain for reference purposes at least one copy of every publication of the Society, together with similar material acquired by the Society in connection with its objects. He shall also be responsible for providing copies of publications for sale to Members and the provision on loan of all other material.

12. An ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Society shall be held at the beginning of the year or as is practical. The Annual General Meeting shall:

a) Receive the Reports of the Officers for the preceding year. b) Review and approve as necessary the Statement of Accounts presented by the Hon Treasurer and, if practical, appoint a Hon. Account Examiner for the ensuing year.

c) Elect the Officers of the Society and other Committee Members to serve for a minimum of one year. Only fully paid up members of the Society are eligible for election.

d) Consider any other business resolutions or matters arising. All resolutions should be notified to the Hon. Secretary in sufficient time for their inclusion in the Agenda. Any other items should be notified to the Chairman before the start of the meeting; the Chairman to rule if the item is of sufficient urgency to be included in the Agenda.

13. In the absence of the Chairman, the most capable Committee Member will conduct a meeting. If necessary the Chairman of the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

14. Honorary Life Membership may be awarded to any member of the Society who is deemed to have made an outstanding contribution to the well-being of the Society over a long period of time. Nominations are to be approved by the Committee.

15. The Committee shall be the sole authority for interpretation of these Rules and shall decide on all relevant matters affecting the Society not provided for within them.

Any objections and/or proposed amendments to be directed to the Society's Hon. Secretary Brian Hurst.

Revised Constitution to be adopted at our February 2016 AGM.

EGM Minutes - 11.30am on Friday 18.9.2015 at Stampex

Present: Otto Peetoom, Brian Hurst, Tony Stanford, Brian Trotter, David Bird, Colin Palmer, Alan MacGregor

Apologies: Don Jeffreys, David Wall, Andrew Higson, Stephen Dillon, Bruce Warrender and Alan Biddlecombe

Item 1. To hold an election for the posts of Chairman and Hon. Secretary of the Society - Tony Stanford was proposed as Chairman by Brian Hurst and seconded by Alan MacGregor.

There was no other candidate and he was elected with five votes in favour and one abstention.

Brian Hurst was proposed as Secretary by Tony Stanford and seconded by Alan MacGregor.

There was no other candidate and he was elected unanimously.

Item 2. To approve the Proposed (revised 2015) Rules of the Bechuanalands and Botswana Society

The adoption of the rules, as printed on Page 2266 of Runner Post No 90, was proposed by Brian Hurst and seconded by David Bird.

The adoption of the certain amendments suggested by Brian Hurst was proposed by Tony Stanford and seconded by Otto Peetoom and was unanimously accepted.

It was also unanimously agreed that the Rules with the above amendments would be re-printed in the next issue (see above)

Item 3. The Future of the Society

It is recognized that receiving the Runner Post is the principle benefit for most members of the Society.

After some discussion Otto Peetoom offered to continue as Editor for the next year, providing three slimmer editions of the Runner Post to be dispatched with three 2016 editions of the *Southern Africa Philately* publication, subscription to this latter publication to be included as part of the Society's annual subscription. This was proposed by Brian Hurst and seconded by David Bird and unanimously agreed.

It is also recognized that holding regular meetings is an important means of bringing together officers and members, both to discuss aspects of their collecting interests and to enjoy displays. After some discussion, it was unanimously agreed that as well as continuing with the Saturday Stampex meetings, Society members would be invited to join the June weekend meeting of the South African Collectors' Society at Leamington Spa, which is expected to develop into a Southern African Societies Meeting similar to the November meeting which is well attended by Society members.

Item 4. To Discuss Subscriptions for the year 2016

Otto Peetoom had calculated that to provide the three editions of the Runner Post to be dispatched with the *Southern Africa Philately* the 2016 subscription should be raised for UK members, £22 for European members and £25 for overseas members. This would entail some as yet unknown level of subsidy from Society funds.

These subscription rates were proposed by Otto Peetoom, seconded by Brian Trotter and unanimously accepted.

Otto Peetoom also proposed that the provision of an electronic copy of the Runner Post for members at a much reduced cost should be withdrawn.

Item 5. Any Other Business

David Bird proposed that the meeting should thank Otto Peetoom for his hard work in putting the Society back onto a sound financial footing, to which all readily agreed. The meeting closed at 12.35

The Unappropriated Die Issues for British Bechuanaland

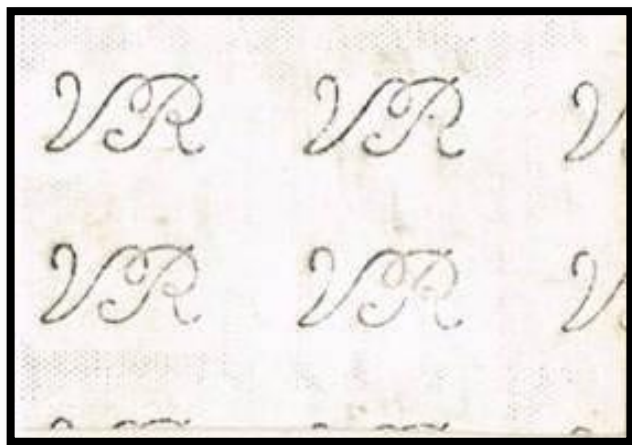
By Tony Stanford

Introduction

The un-appropriated dies were introduced by De La Rue & Co. in 1872 as a quick and economical means of producing the many different British revenue stamps that were required, being used to produce key plate stamps on which the value was inscribed. There were three designs in different sizes for the pence, shilling and pound values, all printed using fugitive inks. The pence values were lilac, the shilling values green and the pound values were violet or lilac. The duty plates were produced for overprinting sheets with the required appropriations, which were generally printed in a specific colour for each value.



Imperforate plate proofs in black on thin unwatermarked white card of the GB Inland Revenue Unappropriated Dies stamps produced by De La Rue.

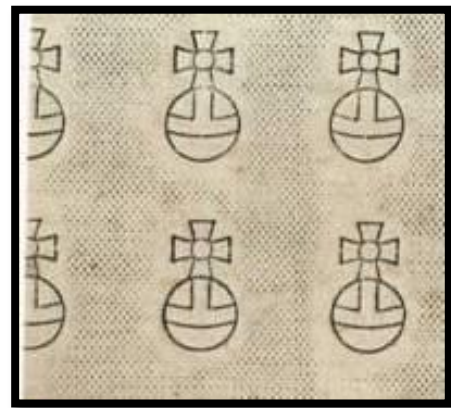


Sample of the script VR watermark printed in black ink on thin card from the original dandy roll. This watermark was used for the shilling unappropriated die values from 1881

The first overseas issue of these stamps was in Cyprus, where revenue stamps were urgently required and it was expedient to requisition De La Rue to produce them from the unappropriated dies normally used for British revenue stamps. The low value revenues were despatched to Cyprus in late 1878 and the higher values in early 1879.

The unappropriated dies were again used for The Military Telegraph stamps introduced in 1884 for use by the British Army in Egypt, and later used for the Sudan and Bechuanaland Expeditions in 1884 and 1885. In Egypt the stamps were locally overprinted in Turkish Piastres and subsequently by De La Rue in London.

Sample of the Orb watermark printed in black ink on thin card from the original dandy roll. This watermark was used for the pence and pound unappropriated die values from 1881.



The unappropriated die series inscribed 'BRITISH BECHUANALAND POSTAGE & REVENUE' was first issued in January 1888 for use throughout the Bechuanalands until the annexation of British Bechuanaland to Cape Colony in 1895 and although no further printings were made after 1897, they continued to be valid for use in the Bechuanaland Protectorate until the 31 March 1933.

The Army Telegraphs stamps were produced in 1895 for use by the British Army in Ashanti, using unappropriated dies and overprinted half-penny Jubilee stamps. The Army Telegraph stamps were subsequently used during military manoeuvres and in Southern Africa throughout the Boer War

This is the first of a series of articles. Subsequent articles will cover the use of the Military Telegraph issues and Postage and Revenue issues in the Bechuanalands.



Printed Imperforates - Handstamped SPECIMEN

Introduction

Colour is a subject that is never ending and as far as I know, the first colour guide was produced in America. In the January



1883 issue of *The National Philatelist* they wrote....*As long ago as 1878 the National Philatelic Society suggested the idea of compiling a color chart which would represent the various colors used in printing stamps, with sufficient accuracy, to avoid confusion in the minds of Philatelists.*

In 1884 the above cumulated into a thousand copies of *A Color Chart Designed to Illustrate and Identify the Colors of Postage Stamps* being printed by the American Note Company.

Published by National Philatelic Society, Tribune Building, New York.

British Colour Guides

I was previously under the impression that Britain's first philatelic colour guide was - **1899 A Colour Dictionary** by B.W. Warhurst...this is not so as a colour guide was on offer in the first edition of the *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal* dated 20 July 1890. It was included in a full page advertisement and reads...**A COLOUR CHART** *Designed to Illustrate and Identify the colours of Postage Stamps price 3/- or post-free 3/2.*

What I found strange is that this particular philatelic accessory was only offered in the SGMJ No 1 and did not feature in any other subsequent editions. However I did locate it on offer in an SG publication by Major Edward B. Evans entitled *Stamps and Stamp Collecting: A Glossary of Philatelic Terms and Guide to the Identification of the Postage Stamps of All Nations* (1894).

On the last page there is an advertisement offering *Philatelic Works - Published or for sale by Stanley Gibbons*. 'The Colour Chart' available for 3/3. Although taken as read, an editorial in the September 1894 *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal* suggests that SG had little or no faith in this product.

1894 Editorial - What Stanley Gibbons thought of their own 'Colour Chart'...*when we have constructed our chart, comes the second difficulty, which, in our opinion, is a far greater one and that is to get it generally adopted and 'used'.*

We ourselves possess somewhere a copy of the 'Standard Colour Chart', but we are bound to confess that we do not know where it is, that we have not seen it for the last year or two and that we do not recollect having ever succeeded in making any intelligent use of it. The fact is that we 'poor but honest' compilers of catalogues do not, as a rule, possess specimens of every variety included in our lists; and even if we did possess them, or had access to them, it would be practically impossible to compare each one of them with a chart, if we had the most complete one possible...

1893 - 1899 Pioneering Philatelic Colours in SGMJ

Nothing appeared on the question of colour until Volume III No 35 - 31 May 1893 when Gibbons' published a short paper by Gilbert Lockyer 'On Colour'. The author remarked on the 1884 USA chart...*was overloaded by shades...and it did not, as far as I know, make much progress in public favour...*

Lockyer suggested eight basic colours including black and subdivided the others - Red (6), Blue (6), Green (6), Yellow (4), Brown (4), Purple (4) and Grey (4).

1894 - SGMJ Vol. V No 51 - September - B.W. Warhurst presented an article *Names of Stamp Colours*.

Warhurst stated...*The greatest confusion reigns among the violets and purples, lilacs and mauves, the former two being constantly used indiscriminately for each other...*

The author was of an opinion that...*if six to ten...who could readily meet in London and are connected in their profession or business with the use of various colours...can be induced to form a committee and consider the suggestions made by correspondents and then compile a new list of names more suitable than the present ones, it is certain that their decision would almost, if not altogether, universally accepted...*

October 1894 - The article solicited correspondence and comment from Ben Webster. He thought Warhurst's suggestion was somewhat over ambitious and felt that a committee could resolve the issues raised within two or three days. Webster debated various names of colours and concluded...*Magenta and Solferino as colour names are objectionable, also puce, meaning flea-colour; the former having been given to certain aniline shades, from a fancied resemblance to the blood as seen on the blue uniforms of the soldiers killed or wounded there.*

November 1894 - In the SGMJ another article entitled *The Relationship of Colours* followed. A Dr Dufton introduced his theories starting with the primary colours of red, yellow and blue, followed by secondary colours produced by equal mixture of the first, producing orange, green and mauve. By mixing all three primaries together it produced brown.

At this stage it became complicated to follow as a triangular diagram is sub-divided and that is purported to help us plot the course to other shades. It seemed that colour was far too complicated for the average stamp collector and nothing else was published for eighteen months.

1896 - The Tinto-Meter (A break-through?)

Announced in the April edition (Vol. VI No 70) and in the Editorial it states...*is an appliance by means of which any coloured substance can be examined side by side with slips of coloured glass, which slips can be interchanged and combined until they show the exact tint of the coloured substance with which they are being compared...*

A debate over the pros and cons of the value of a Tinto-meter to stamp collectors follow and once more the subject of colour took a back seat.

May 1897 - A French Solution to a Colour Chart

Reported in the September SGMJ

...*Mons. Maury published in 'Le Collectionneur de Timbres-Poste' a scheme for an ingenious but simple colour chart...It consists of a sheet containing spaces for thirty common stamps, the colours of which are fairly constant and above each is given the name Mons. Maury assigns to that particular colour. So simple a table as this can, of course, only be looked upon as an outline of a colour chart, but at the same time it is fairly comprehensive...*



It is worth noting that some 20+ years later Stanley Gibbons copied Maury's innovation by producing a 'Temporary' colour chart. It remained in use until such time as they were in a position to offer a better version that used 100 perforated labels specially printed for SG by Perkins Bacon.

Early History of Philatelic Colours

December 1897 SGMJ - Another American Colour Guide

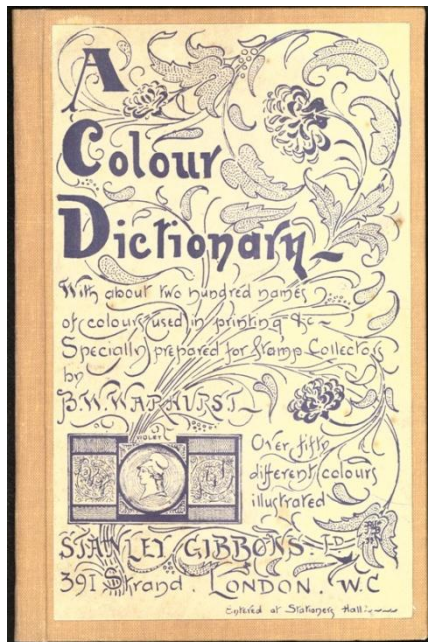
Published in booklet form and the opening remarks read... *having described Mons. Maury's simple colour chart...we received a copy of a much more elaborate one...consists of names of 113 colours.* Entitled 'Guide to the Colours of Postage Stamps' by Charles Stewart published by Mekeel Press.

1899 - A Colour Dictionary by B.W. Warhurst

Announced in the June SGMJ in the editorial column...*over two hundred names of colours...printed in ten different coloured inks, on as many different papers...fully illustrated in fifty eight colours...Mr Warhurst is an expert in all matters connected with printing and colours.*

On offer in strong paper cover 2s 6d or well bound in cloth 4s.

Warhurst entered his book at the Manchester Exhibition held from 29 June to 5 July 1899. Details of his award appeared in the July edition of SGMJ under Class XI For Special Arrangements, Curiosities, etc. a *Bronze Medal, given by Messrs Winch Bros for the best colour chart of genuine postage stamps.*



Warhurst's book became the standard colour guide distributed by Stanley Gibbons. It was reprinted twice.

A second edition appeared in January 1908 and a third in 1910.

It appears that the book, for the first two decades of the Twentieth Century, was the bible of Philatelic Colours in Britain.

The shortfall of Warhurst's book is that the majority of his listed colours were not illustrated and it would require an Academic to be able to visualise a colour by means of a description.

During 1900 a paper was read by W.M. Jones before the *Manchester Philatelic Society* entitled *Stamps and their Colours* and it appears that Jones ruffled Warhurst's feathers as several letters appeared in SGMJ. It seems that the society at one point intended producing their own colour chart. In the December 1900 issue it was announced that the Manchester Society had decided not to undertake the formation of compilation of a colour chart.

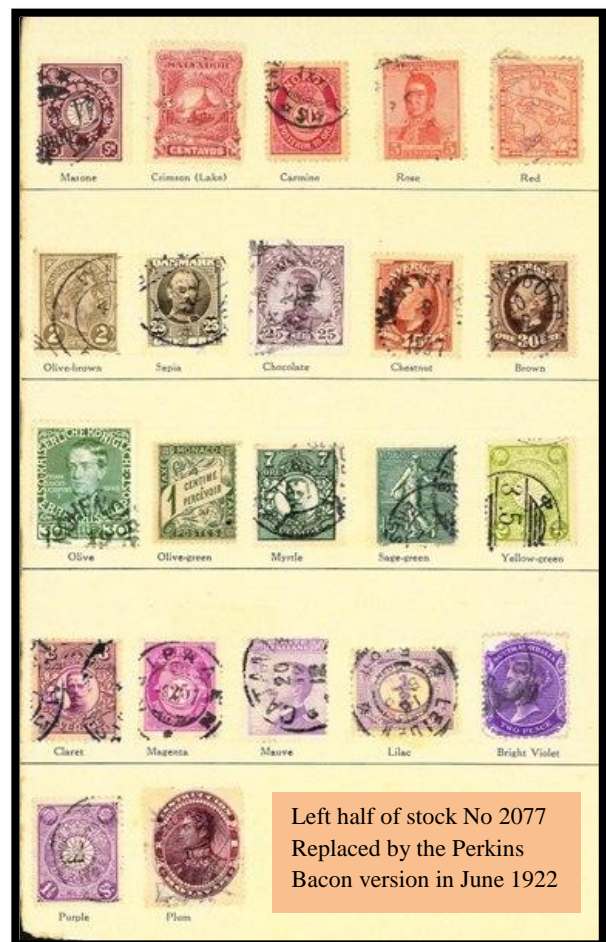
1911 - Benjamin Webster Warhurst passed away on 10 April 1911; his obituary appeared in the April 1911 GSMJ. Another obituary was posted in the April 1911 edition of *The London Philatelist*. Once his book sold out, Stanley Gibbons were no longer in a position to reprint it and needed to resort to a new colour guide.

A Post WWI Colour Guide

The First World War 1914 - 18, followed by the 1918 - 1920 Spanish Flu pandemic will have affected philatelic activities considerably. It appears that by early 1920 the stock of books was depleted. Designing and arranging the manufacture of Stanley Gibbons first *modern* colour guide would require time and patience, thus the firm resorted to a temporary measure.

Stock No 2077 - It appears that Stanley Gibbons took a leaf out of Mons. Maury book and more or less replicated his 1897 colour guide using common stamps.

In the April 1921 *Stanley Gibbons Monthly Circular* a full page advertisement announced the introduction of their new *...Folding card on which 45 Stamps of standard shades are stuck, with the correct colour name printed beneath each... The price was Two Shillings.*



Birds and Stamps - Robert Ridgway (1850 - 1929)

He was an American ornithologist who published an array of books which included two that systematized colour names for describing birds - *A Nomenclature of Colors for Naturalists* (1886) and *Color Standards and Color Nomenclature* (1912).

The reliability of Ridgway's colours attracted philatelists and as he was interested in stamps, he corresponded with serious collectors who used Ridgway's book. One particular individual was Stanley Bryan Ashbrook (1882 - 1958) a collector of classic USA, after his death, his collection was sold by H.R. Harmer. Ashbrook sent in a batch of 31 copies of an 1851 stamp to have them named according to Ridgway's colour guide.

ALAN MACGREGOR

A Highlight from the Hurst Collection



BECHUANALAND PROTECTORATE

1890 'Trial' overprints. Lower marginal mint block of nine, all with the overprint inverted. The centre stamp additionally showing the error of spelling 'Portectorate'. SG 54, 54d). One of the rarest stamps of the Bechuanalands. Spectacular and outstanding.

Note: Four examples of this error are recorded of which only two are in private hands: a mint single and the example in the block of nine above. The Royal Philatelic Collection contains an example within a used block of four, and the Mosely collection within the British Library has an example within a vertical mint strip of three

The Brian Hurst Collection

Alan MacGregor is delighted to announce the acquisition of Brian Hurst's Collection of the Bechuanalands. The collection focuses primarily on overprinted stamps, from the 1885 Cape issues through to QEII decimal surcharges. With numerous extremely rare and unique items, superbly written-up, it ranks amongst the best Bechuanaland collections ever formed with sections being awarded gold medals at various British Exhibitions. Over the years, Brian's original research into the various overprinted and surcharged issues made significant contributions to our knowledge of these fascinating issues and resulted in many revisions and additions to the Stanley Gibbons catalogue.

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