



BELLVILLE

Philatelic Society - Filatelievereniging

Posbus 402 PO Box - SANLAMHOF – 7532

<http://bellvillephilatelic.tripod.com>; Email: philately@netpoint.co.za

MINUTES

APRIL 2018 MEETING

PREVIOUS

11 APRIL 2018

ONE FRAME CUP & ROUND TABLE EVENING

Two members took part in the One Page cup on “Gentlemen”. Congratulations to Stephen Light.

The following members are attending the Exhibition Seminar:

Diederik Viljoen, Johan & Maureen Reeves, Johan Bezuidenhout, Chuck Muller, Werner Barnard, Johan du Plessis, Reanie de Villiers

One-Frame Cup: Only one member entered and was deemed a worthy winner of the cup. Congratulations to Stan Rowland with his “Alphabetical Birds” exhibit.

Round Table Evening: The following members brought items to share:

Stan Rowland : Very scarce SWA 1974 Rock Engravings 5c with missing black stamp bought at the recent auction

Reinder Nauta : Poland 1924 issues

Johan Bezuidenhout : Example of a postcard that was re-used and inter-provincial Transvaal stamp with a Burgersdorp, Cape cancellation

Diederik Viljoen : 1954 Rhodesia-Nyasaland Printers proof

Johan du Plessis : Example of Voortrekker Commemorative issue

SATURDAY, 21 APRIL 2018

EXHIBITION SEMINAR

Although only 19 people could attend the seminar, it was a huge success and everyone felt that they've gained some new knowledge and confidence to start / complete / extend an exhibition.

A huge Thank You to our guest speakers who shared their knowledge and Saturday to make this event possible.

FORTHCOMING

9 MAY 2018

LADIES NIGHT & “WHERE DO I BEGIN?”

Ladies Cup: This cup is open to all female members and for any category. The minimum of 32 pages (2 frames) applies with all the normal rules for each category. Exhibitions will be judged according to the category it falls into.

Where do I begin?: Reanie de Villiers will facilitate the rest of the informal evening. Many of us have stockbooks full of sorted stamps, but don't know how to go from there to a small 8-Page exhibit. If you have ANY specific question, please let Reanie know to include it in the discussion.

13 JUNE 2018

AFRICA & REST OF THE WORLD CUPS

Africa Cup: All countries in Africa, including Madagascar and Mauritius, are included in the exhibition range for this cup. Minimum 2 frames (32 pages) exhibit – as for a traditional exhibit.

Rest of the World Cup: All countries, excluding the Africa continent, are included in the exhibition range for this cup. Minimum two frames (32 pages) exhibit – as for a classical collection.

11 JULY 2018

THEMATIC CUP & THEMATIC EVENING

Thematic Cup: Minimum two frames (32 pages) exhibit – covering any subject that cannot be categorized as a traditional exhibit (e.g. country).

Diederik Viljoen will give a short talk on ThematicSA and specifically, the Western Cape branch. Members can bring along any thematic items for a “show and tell”.

AUGUST 2018

COMMITTEE MEETING : 19:00 – AT HOME OF WERNER BARNARD, D'URBANVALE

The program for the last part of the year and planning for next year will be discussed. Date to be confirmed nearer to the time.

8 AUGUST 2018

AUCTION

We have received some items for an Auction and have scheduled it for the August 2018 meeting. A catalogue will be distributed to all members as soon as it is available.

Postal Runners – the Heroes of early Communication

[<https://gondwanatravel.wordpress.com/tag/namibia-postage-stamps/>]

By William Dockwra on October 14, 2011

Talk of snail mail! That's putting it very mildly. Are the loved ones back home all right? Are mother and father still alive? Will the head office send the urgently needed bibles or won't they? German missionaries in Namibia had to wait two years before they received an answer to the letters they sent to the home country. Every now and then they waited in vain. Around 1840 the mailing route was not only very long but also dangerous...

At that time, of course, postal services did not even exist. The missionaries sent their letters by runner or asked travellers to take them with. The first postal runner service in today's Namibia was established in 1814 between the missionary stations of Bethanien and Warmbad. As more missionaries arrived and started to work in the central and northern parts of the country, they formed a loose network of occasional runner services. These days it is hard to imagine the value that a letter from home had for them, the great joy that it brought...



Postal runner, artist: Heinz Pulon, issued 1988

Letters to Germany had to be sent via Cape Town and the colonial power, Great Britain, because German ships had as yet no particular reason to call at the coast of South West Africa on a regular basis. Essentially there were two routes for sending mail to the Cape: by land through the south of the country and all the way to Cape Town, or the somewhat closer town of Port Nolloth, and the Baiweg (Bay Way) from the interior to Walvis Bay; ship traffic from Port Nolloth and Walvis Bay to Cape Town was erratic.

The surface route was the biggest challenge. Namibia's first postmen were real heroes who certainly deserve to be honoured by means of a postage stamp. They covered hundreds of kilometres on foot, in the murderous heat of the summer and bitterly cold winters. They were able to take up to 17 kg of mail. The mailbag was tied to a stick which they carried on their shoulder; a bag with their provisions was attached to the other end of the stick. They took around 12 days to get from Windhoek to Walvis Bay. On foot they were faster and more reliable than saddle oxen or ox carts. Horses were not suitable in those early days because they often succumbed to horse sickness.

Apart from the exertion postal runners also had to withstand many dangers. One of the runners, who was the communication link between the mission stations of Bethanien, Warmbad and Kommagas (approx. 50 km west of Springbok), disappeared one day. Tracks were found shortly afterwards which led to the assumption that he had fallen prey to a lion. One of his successors met with the same fate. In that case, however, neither

the postal runner's mortal remains nor the mail was found. People were also a threat. During the armed conflict between Nama and Herero sealed documents were viewed with suspicion by both warring parties, even though the missionaries did their best to remain neutral and mediate between the two.



***Postal runner on the route Tsumeb – Ondangwa with post bag and pouch of provisions.
Photo: Walter Moritz***

Due to the distances and dangers mailing was far more expensive than it is now. In addition to the postal charges from Cape Town to Germany via Britain, the wages for the runner as well as his provisions had to be paid – in British Pounds, then the valid currency at the Cape, and in kind.

Incidentally, the postage stamp as proof that the sender had paid the delivery costs was developed at about the same time when the missionaries were lamenting the fact that they had to wait for answers for two years. On 1 May 1840 the 'Penny Black' was issued in Britain, a printed piece of paper with an adhesive film on the reverse – the world's first postage stamp. Sir Rowland Hill, a member of parliament who developed the concept for postal reform and submitted it to parliament, is seen as the inventor of the postage stamp.

The term 'stamp', however, refers to a method of prepayment which is 160 years older than the postage stamp. More than 330 years ago, in 1680, a merchant called William Dockwra and his partner Robert Murray established a postal service in London. A hand-stamp on the mail piece showed that it had been paid for.

Sources:

von Schumann, Gunter und Kube, Sigrid: Der Anschluss an die Welt. Die Geschichte der Post und Telekommunikation 1888-2005; in: Klaus Hess und Klaus Becker (Hg.): Vom Schutzgebiet bis Namibia 2000, Göttingen 2002, S. 468-479

Postman, by Namibian Artist Joe Madisia, 1997

Postal runner - A Postage Stamp for a Gravestone

[<https://www.gondwana-collection.com/article/2017/09/08/postal-runner-a-postage-stamp-for-a-gravestone/>]

Now would actually be a good time to light a fire and spend the night in the bush, he thinks. However, Omaruru isn't much further from here and he can find his way easily in the dark. He is also spurred on by ambition. The journey to Walvis Bay has taken him less than three weeks, which is really fast but quite normal for him. Wouldn't they be amazed then, if he returned tonight? And also terribly pleased about this particularly heavy bag of letters they always awaited so eagerly? Ignoring the heavy load on his shoulder he continues his trot through the bush. There! Isn't that the glow of a fire ahead of him?

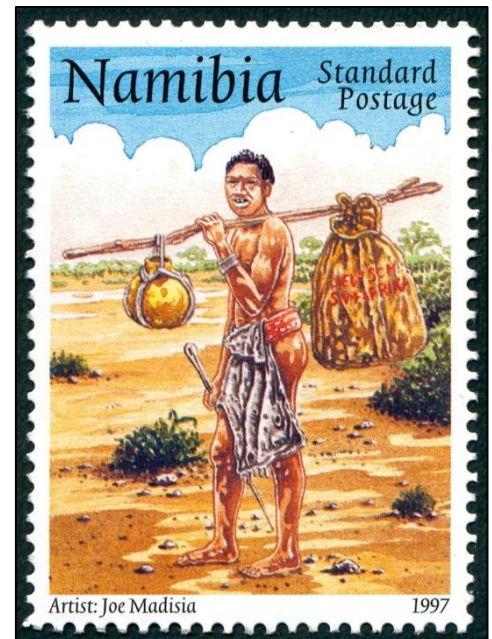


Postal runner Richard "Tooke" Karambovandu shortly before his tragic death in September 1897.
Source: Lichtbildstelle des Fernmeldetechnischen Zentralamtes (FTZ) in Darmstadt
(seit 1995 Forschungs- und Technologiezentrum der Deutschen Telekom AG in Berlin)

Suddenly a voice booms through the darkness: "Stop! Who goes there? Password?" He is startled. He doesn't know the password. "Tooke", he calls and because he does not recognise the voice he hastily adds "the postal runner". "Password?" the voice asks again, louder now and nervous. His anxiety turns into fear. The soldier on watch does not know him and will shoot if he does not immediately respond with the correct password. "Post, post ..." he shouts breathlessly. "Post, post ..." he keeps gasping after a blow hits him on the chest and knocks him down.

This is how the last few minutes in the life of Richard "Tooke" Karambovandu might have been. Unfortunately there is no record to tell us what really happened on that first day of September 1897. There is no doubt, however, that a tragic mistake was made. Tooke, the postal runner, was a highly appreciated member of a trained Herero unit attached to the Schutztruppe. He was laid to rest with military honours in the Rhenish Mission cemetery in Omaruru. His grave can no longer be identified as the customary wooden cross has not withstood the ravages of time, termites, wind and weather.

But 100 years after his death Namibia Post has given him a monument visible far beyond Omaruru, and even beyond Namibia's borders: a postage stamp designed by Namibian artist Joe Madisia. A picture of Richard "Tooke" Karambovandu, which must have been taken shortly before his death, served as reference.



Programs of other societies in the Western Cape

	THE ROYAL
MEETINGS:	Second and fourth Monday of each month at 20:00 at the Athenaeum, Newlands, Cape Town
14 MAY 2018	Phil Collins: Union of South Africa; Malcolm Murphy - Mystery
28 MAY 2018	Malcolm Suttill – Stellaland & GB Postal History from Charles II
11 JUNE 2018	Volker Janssen - Cape of Good Hope
25 JUNE 2018	Victor Millard - Imperial Airways
9 JULY 2018	Brian Franklin: MALTA; Danie Scheepers - Seychelles
23 JULY 2018	ALL MEMBERS POSTCARDS convened by Malcolm Murphy

STELLENBOSCH	
MEETINGS:	First Tuesday of the month at 19:00 at Le Donjon, La Societé, La Clemence, Webersvallei Rd, Stellenbosch
1 MAY 2018	H. Geertsema - Koningin Wilhelmina; Alle lede 2 bladsye - Werkers/Workers
5 JUNE 2018	S. Borgin – Cars; All members 2 page - Architecture/Argitektuur (incl Buildings/Geboue)
3 JULY 2018	P. Jolie & T. Britz; Alle lede 2 bladsye - Koninglikkes
PAARL	
MEETINGS:	Second Thursday of the month at 19:30 in the MBA Boland building, Concordia Street, Paarl
17 MAY 2018	Combrinkbeker-kompetisie
14 JUNE 2018	Tema: Letter A (Worcester)
12 JULY 2018	Tema: Vasvra-aand
PINELANDS	
MEETINGS:	Last Wednesday of the month at 19:30 in the Activities Room of Pinelands Public Library
30 MAY 2018	Auction
27 JUNE 2018	All Members: Main: Family History; 1page: Personalities beginning with “E”; Voluntary: Workshop
25 JULY 2018	Neville Smith: Apple Express; 1page: Personalities beginning with “F”; Voluntary: David Kent; Other: Garden Cities & Beginners Comp.
FISH HOEK	
MEETINGS:	First Tuesday of the month at 19:30 at Minor Hall - Civic Centre, Recreation Road, Fish Hoek
1 MAY 2018	Foreign Evening & Competition (Max 14 pages). Volker Janssen will show out of competition.
5 JUNE 2018	Colin Rowe will show GB
3 JULY 2018	Stamp Sale Evening. All members can buy and sell on free tables. Scratch boxes will be available. Also small Society Stamp Auction by Colin Rowe
DURBANVILLE STAMP FAIR	
MEETINGS:	First Saturday of the month from 09:00 – 12:30 at Bergsig D.R.Church, c/o Boland Way & Protea Way, Durbanville
STAMP FAIRS	Stamp Fair dates for 2018 are: March 3rd, April 7th, May 5th, June 9th, July 7th, August 11th, Sept 1st, Oct 6th, Nov 3rd, Dec 1st (all 1st Saturday except for June & August).
LIVE AUCTIONS THEMATICS, WESTERN CAPE	Live Auction dates for 2018 are: March 17th, May 19th, July 21st, Sept 15th, Nov 10th
	Meets on Stamp Fair dates from 09:30 – 10:30



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



NAME	SURNAME	BIRTHDAY
Anne Marie	Wigmore	13 May
Neil	Matthee	16 May
Gert	Strydom	27 May
Reanie	de Villiers	12 June
Jan	Rossouw	14 June
George	Coetzee	24 June
John	Potter	06 July
Diederik	Viljoen	20 July
Johan	Bezuidenhout	25 July
Ida	Potgieter	8 August
Robert	Harm	6 August
Steve	Hannath	19 August
Claude	Mathey	27 August
Michael	Wigmore	30 August

SUBS FOR 2018

Federation Fee 2018:	R 200 (incl vat)
Society Fee 2018:	R 90 (same amount payable by non-home members)
Total Membership Fee 2018:	<u>R 290</u>

PROGRAM 2018

MONTH	SUBJECT	TEA DUTY	ONE PAGE
10 JAN 2018	ALL MEMBERS' NIGHT & 8 PAGE CUP	I POTGIETER C MATHEY A HORSTMAN	HERBS & SPICES
14 FEB 2018	ONE PAGE, CUPS & AGM	J POTTER R DE VILLIERS	WILD ANIMALS
18 FEB 2018	COMMITTEE MEETING	AT THE HOME OF WERNER BARNARD, D'URBANVALE	19:00
14 MAR 2018	AUCTION	H MULDER A HUGILL	---
11 APR 2018	ONE FRAME CUP & ROUND TABLE EVENING	J BEZUIDENHOUT E STOCKENSTROM	GENTLEMEN
21 APR 2018	EXHIBITION SEMINAR	AUDITORIUM, BELLVILLE LIBRARY	09:30 – 16:00
9 MAY 2018	LADIES CUP & "WHERE DO I BEGIN?"	R LOO C MULLER	SOCCER
13 JUNE 2018	AFRICA & REST OF THE WORLD CUPS	R HARM N MATTHEE	YOUTH
15 JUNE 2018	SA VIRTUAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION (SAVPEX 2018)	BLOEMFONTEIN	---
11 JULY 2018	THEMATIC CUP & THEMATIC EVENING	S ROWLAND D VILJOEN	PAINTINGS
AUG 2018	COMMITTEE MEETING	AT THE HOME OF WERNER BARNARD, D'URBANVALE	19:00
8 AUG 2018	AUCTION	S LIGHT T OLCKERS J DU PLESSIS	---
10 SEP 2018	QUIZ EVENING	THE ROYAL	20:00
12 SEP 2018	INTERCLUB COMPETITION	BELLVILLE	---
1 – 3 OCT 2018	JUNASS 2018	ATHENAEUM, NEWLANDS	---
10 OCT 2018	TAKING STAMPS ONLINE & OPEN CLASS EXHIBITS	C MATHEY I POTGIETER G STRYDOM	TRANSPORT
17 – 20 OCT 2018	NATIONAL EXHIBITION 2018	CENTURION	---
19 OCT 2018	CONGRESS	CENTURION	---
14 NOV 2018	VISITORS & BELLVILLE EXHIBIT EVENING	H MULDER J POTTER	"K"
5 DEC 2018	PRESIDENT'S EVENING	AT THE HOME OF WERNER BARNARD, D'URBANVALE	19:00
9 JAN 2019	ALL MEMBERS' NIGHT & 8 PAGE CUP	A HUGILL A HORSTMANN	SPACE
13 FEB 2019	ONE PAGE, CUPS & AGM	N SMITH AM & M WIGMORE	POLITICS
13 MAR 2019	AUCTION	M & J REEVES D CROUKAMP K LOUWRENS	---

Contact information:

Secretary: Reanie De Villiers - Cell: 082-567-0353 (a.h. please); e-Mail: philately@netpoint.co.za