



NEWSMAGAZINE

The Pretoria Philatelic Society
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President's Piece

Thank you to all members who attended the very interesting May meeting.

Paul van Zeyl's exhibit "The Rise and Decline of the National Party, 1948 – 1994" was very informative and resulted in a lively discussion. It was interesting to experience this fragment of South Africa's history that happened in our time. It also gives a good idea of what type of items can be shown in Open Class.

Our hobby is probably the most flexible of all hobbies. It does not require any specialised skills and is suitable for all ages. Most important is that one can collect stamps all year round, regardless of the climate.

Stamps are miniature works of art and it is virtually impossible to collect them without gaining knowledge about the stamps themselves and the history surrounding them. This makes the Open Class so fascinating, because the philately side can be complemented with other related items.

The next meeting will on 5 June. The evening is Members' Choice and all members are encouraged to bring pages of their choice from their collections. The Favourite Pages slot, introduced at the May meeting, will be done again at the July meeting.

The letter for the June meeting is "H". Please bring along your contributions.

See you at the meeting on 5 June.

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Meeting 8 April 2017

The President, André du Plessis, welcomed the 14 members and one visitor attending the meeting, with a special welcome to Paul van Zeyl, the speaker for the evening. Apologies were received from Clive Poole and Mike Dove.

Matters of Interest

- The Post Office's collection is to be appraised. Cedric Roché explained that the valuation of the collection is an audit requirement. It is not a prelude to selling the collection.
- The Federation website has a Club News section. Contributions are to be sent to the webmaster. André du Plessis will send in the list of committee members, the PPS's newsletter and the programme for the year.
- The results of the questionnaire about future PPS meetings will be discussed in the August 2017 meeting.
- More contributions are needed for the exchange booklets.
- Steve Marsh is busy updating members' details on the PPS's database. He'll be e-mailing a form to members requesting their latest contact details. Those who receive their PPS communications by post will already have received a form in the post.
- We've received the beta version of the new Exchange Section compiler programme. Steve Marsh and John Barry are doing the testing.

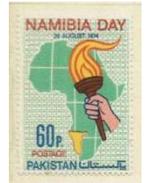
Items of Interest

- Alex Visser showed:
 - A number of small tins that originally contained things like cigarettes or gramophone needles and which could be used to hold stamps.
 - A BONC 22 cancellation. In the Paul van Zeyl auction a BONC 22, which has not been recorded used in 1908, was listed as being a new discovery for Hawston. The BONC is not a Cape BONC, but an OFS one, which was recorded being used at Groothof, OFS in 1908. On the piece listed the BONC was probably used as a receiving mark, as it has no relation to Hawston in the Cape.
 - Shanghai municipality local posts.
 - A Belgian Congo postage due stamp.
 - Customs duty stamps stuck on promotional material sent to South Africa by, for example, pharmacists.
 - A copy of "Standard Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of the Union of South Africa", compiled by L. Simonhoff and published by the Pretoria Philatelic Society.
 - Three precancel publications:
 - "The Noble Official Catalog of United States Bureau Precancels", 62nd edition, January 1980.
 - "The Precancel Stamp Society's Town and Type Catalog of the United States and Territories"
 - "Guide to Precancel Collecting"
 - An example of a cancellation using fugitive ink. (Warning: don't put such things in water as they run!)



➤ Marge Vijoen showed:

- UN stamps from the South-West Africa-to-Namibia transition phase and Namibia Day (26 August) stamps from various countries.



- A letter sent from London on 23 September 1951 and stamped as received in Molenrivier on 15 October 1951
 - A letter with two different Bronkhorstspruit cancellations, both dated 24 October 1980
 - Dr Heinz Wirz's latest book, "The Independent State of Ciskei (4 December 1981 – 17 April 1994); a Philatelic Inventory".
- Alex Visser brought a box of assorted stamps, FDC, etc, and members could take whatever they wanted. At the end of the evening, André du Plessis and André Nel took the remainder to sort through.

Advance notice for October's meeting: Interaction with UK club

The October meeting will be an interaction with a British philatelic club via Jaime Smith. The idea is to exchange members' exhibits in electronic format. The exhibits will be sent to members beforehand (using, for example, Dropbox) so that members can view the exhibits before the meeting. The exhibits will be discussed at the meeting and members will be the judges of the exhibits. Members are encouraged to participate by contributing exhibits. Please let André du Plessis know if you'd like to show an exhibit of one frame or even a few pages.

Changes to the programme

- The programme for August and September will be swapped round: Committee's Pages will be in August and the Philatelic Workshop (with a focus on discussion of one-frame exhibits) will be in September.
- André du Plessis introduced two new slots to the monthly meetings:
- Expert knowledge-sharing: A knowledgeable person will be asked to provide a 5 -minute talk on an aspect of philately.
 - Favourite Pages: Two members will be asked to bring a selection (approximately seven pages) from their collections. These don't have to be written up.

Expert Knowledge Sharing

Paul van Zeyl kicked off this new slot with a discussion about British postal stationery used in South Africa during the Anglo-Boer War, as well as Transvaal postal stationery used in the Cape, OFS and Natal. Postal stationery used in this way is pre-inter-provincial material.

Favourite Pages

- Danie van Zyl displayed “The First Airmail Stamps 1917-1925”.



- Duncan Bain displayed British Central Africa stamps and Nyasaland stamps.



The Letter R



- Terry Lynne Harris showed a postcard of the school on Robben Island.

- Marge Vijoen showed Rhodesia airmail labels.



- Cedric Roché showed:



- Union assize Revenues
- Canadian Revenues
- Basotholand Revenues
- Russian stamps

Evening's entertainment:

Paul van Zeyl displayed his "The Rise and Decline of the National Party, 1948 – 1994" exhibit.

The exhibit has the following sections:

1. The promotion of White nationalism by the National Party
2. Apartheid's ascendancy
3. Installing the Homelands
4. The tide turns
5. 'Border War'
6. Botha's bankruptcy & beyond
7. The new ball-game

The exhibit portrays the evolution of South Africa from the winning of the 1948 General Election by the National Party under Dr Daniel Malan to the first all-encompassing elections in 1994. Essentially it reflects opposing forces of nationalism attempting to bring about sustainable socio-political systems within one shared territory. The items shown will attempt to demonstrate that this is a history without parallel in the world, one which deserves close consideration by nations which already face similar forces as well as those who will be facing them in the foreseeable future.

It also reflects the passage of the exhibitor through this tumultuous period in South Africa. It commences from his (White) community telling him he should not play with African children from nearby Atteridgeville and his mother forbidding him to cycle to the Church Square in Pretoria to view the celebrations for the attainment of a Republic; through conscription into the Defence Force and being told he should volunteer to drive Magirus-Deutz trucks to prop up the Portuguese in Angola in 1968; through research for Stanbic i r o capital market issues for the newly 'independent' Transkei; studies for the Corporation for Economic Development, a RSA development parastatal; working with Prof Jan Lombard to establish the 'neutral' Development Bank; working with STK as a researcher, including attaining the views of groups in unbanned bodies comprising the UDM to assist in adapting operational foci and addressing the negative impacts of Regulations; then undertaking research for the World Bank in the transition to working as an independent development economist with a wide range of urban communities to assist them in shaping development requests for the ANC government's implementation. Accordingly, each and every item displayed is of importance to the exhibitor.

Thanks

Steve Marsh thanked the various contributors to the evening's programme: Paul van Zeyl for sharing his informative exhibition with us: Danie van Zyl and Duncan Bain for sharing a sample of their favourite pages; and all those who had displayed items of interest and letter R items. André du Plessis thanked everyone for attending and thanked André Nel for seeing to the refreshments.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday, 5 June 2017. The theme is “Member’s Choice” and the letter for the month is H.

Programme for upcoming meetings		
Meeting date	Theme	Letter
5 June 2017	Members’ Choice	H
3 July 2017	Club Competition	C
7 August 2017	Committee’s Pages *	K
4 September 2017	Philatelic workshop – focus on discussion of one-frame exhibits *	U
2 October 2017	Interaction with British philatelic club via Jaime Smith	L
6 November 2017	Cedric Roché – Embossed revenues	P
4 December 2017	Committee to exhibit	F
8 January 2018	Members’ Pages	Q
5 February 2018	Members’ Choice	G
5 March 2018	AGM	T

* **NOTE:** The programmes for August and September have been swapped around.



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