



PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY
PORT ELIZABETH FILATELIEVERENIGING

ESTABLISHED 1890 - RECONSTITUTED 1912

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Newsletter

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Next meeting

5 December 2025 at 19:00 (President's night at Barn & Barrel)

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editor's note

Welcome to our newsletter for November with summer and long sunshine days firmly in place now, wonderful. Wonderful can also be the expression uttered by many a South African sporting lover with the cricket team beating India in India 2 - 0 in the recent test series to record the first such series win in 25 years!! And then.... off course there are the Springboks. What can one say, many a South African must be pinching themselves for the dream world we all live in at present when it comes to Springbok rugby. Even with only 13 or 14 men on a field they are unbeatable at present. Long may these pinching times prevail. On that extremely happy note, we trust you will enjoy the eleventh and last newsletter of the year (gee, how time flies). Keep well, safe and sound.

from the secretary's desk

Birthdays for December 2025 and January 2026 are Peter Joseph on 13 December, Stephen Cross on 23 December, Jacques le Roux on 24 December and Bryan Hossack on 30 January. We hope they have a great day over the festive season.

rolling programme for 2025/2026

month	date	happenings
December	5 Dec 2025	President's night.
January	12 Jan 2026	Contemporary Cup, TJ Strachan Ladies Bowl and President's Cup competitions. General trading and auction - bring some of your material that you wish to dispose of. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.
February	2 Feb 2026	Pub quiz at the Barn and Barrel. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.
March	2 Mar 2026	Annual general meeting. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.
April	13 Apr 2026	Pub quiz at the Barn and Barrel. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.
May	4 May 2026	Philatelic Services Stamp's Friend Trophy and Quarterly Cup competitions. General trading and auction - bring some of your material that you wish to dispose of. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.
June	1 Jun 2026	Neville Polakow Trophy and Mike Koyd Postal History Shield competitions. General trading and auction - bring some of your material that you wish to dispose of. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.
July	6 Jul 2026	Pub quiz at the Barn and Barrel. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.
August	3 Aug 2026	Philatelic Services Stamp's Friend Trophy competition. General trading and auction - bring some of your material that you wish to dispose of. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.
September	7 Sep 2026	Dave Berg Cup for best thematic display competition. General trading and auction - bring some of your material that you wish to dispose of. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.
October	5 Oct 2026	Pub quiz at the Barn and Barrel. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.
November	2 Nov 2026	Quarterly Cup and Contemporary Cup competitions. General trading and auction - bring some of your material that you wish to dispose of. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.



minutes of monthly meeting

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY, HELD ON MONDAY 3 NOVEMBER 2025 AT THE BIBLE HOUSE, 31 COTSWOLD AVENUE, PORT ELIZABETH COMMENCING AT 11:00

PRESENT: Francois Friend (in the Chair)

MEMBERS: 18

APOLOGIES: 4

VISITORS: 0

The president welcomed everyone to the meeting. A special welcome was given to Vernon who joined us again after some serious health issues. Minutes of the monthly meeting dated 6 October 2025 were tabled for adoption. These were accepted - proposed by Morrice Groer and seconded by Dave Brown.

The meeting then proceeded with the scheduled events.

(1) QUARTERLY CUP COMPETITION

There were no participants.

(2) CONTEMPORARY CUP COMPETITION

There were no participants.

(3) ITEMS OF INTEREST, BRINGALONGS AND NEW ACQUISITIONS

Dave Brown, as usual, brought some interesting and informative items to the meeting. Starting in 1973 Austria issued a number of definitive stamps with scenic views of various castles, buildings, etc. It seems that some of these stamps were reprinted privately by Israeli philatelic organisations and/or dealers. The stamps had tabs attached as is normal for Israel's stamps and the tabs refer to events and commemorations. Illustrated below are five such stamps reprinted, namely the 50g stamp - the tab mentions that the Friends of Israeli Stamps salute the Ameripex Stamp Exhibition of 1986 with the statue of Liberty at the bottom; another 50g stamp - this reprint commemorates the 120th birthday of Theodor Herzl and the tab refers to this and also has a bit of a Jewish National Fund stamp printed on it with the Friends of Israeli Stamps mentioned on the tab "Werbeschau 1.-4. 5. 1980" printed at the bottom; which refers to a stamp show held in Austria on the dates above; a 3s stamp with the tab saying the Friends of Israeli Stamps salute the Ameripex 86 stamp show with a picture of Israel's stamp honouring Harry S. Truman issued in 1975 at the bottom; next a 4s stamp with the same tab as the second 50 g stamp above; and finally a 11s stamp with an embellished Star of David on the tab that states that the issue is "for the 125th birthday of Theodor Herzl" with the tab referencing a philatelic exhibition held in Austria on 7 May 1985.



Austrian stamps with an Israeli twist.



Dave then showed the interesting £1.60 stamp from Gibraltar that was issued on 21 January 2025, see below. It is part of a set of four values and a miniature sheet that were all normal stamps except for the £1.60 stamp. The official blurb that accompanied the issue had this to say about the stamp: "An illustration of the HMS Victory is depicted on the stamps. This particular stamp will be a world first for Gibraltar and without doubt a unique collectors stamp as there will be a layer of actual timber from the original HMS Victory in Portsmouth on the stamps where there is wood illustrated on the designs. The concept is similar to our previous Views of the Rock issue released in 2001.". According to Dave, gently stroking a finger over the hull of the Victory ship on the stamp, the roughness of the dust can be felt.



Gibraltar wooden dust stamp.

Finally, Dave brought along two South African Nursing Association 50th anniversary covers shown below. Dave mentioned that he showed the top cover as a colour changeling at the July meeting as the colour of the stamp and of the nurse's cape did not seem right. This issue was made available before the Post Office officially issued first day covers. Dave has now acquired another first day cover of this stamp issue (bottom cover) and the two can now be compared. Looking at the covers the only item that has not changed colour is the 12½c stamp. The top cover is postmarked King Williams Town and the lower one Westdene, Bloemfontein. Dave now has the following questions:

1. Did the Post Office supply envelopes to people who wished to make first day covers?
2. Why did the colours of virtually everything change but the colours of the 12½c stamp and the envelope itself remain unchanged?
3. Was the King Williams Town cover exposed to sunlight for any length of time?

In answering the last question Dave believe that it seems so because the right part of the nurse's cloak has faded a little.



South African Nursing Association 50th anniversary covers.

Next in line was Ian McArthur who brought along a set of 16 Russian stamps (see below) issued in 1951 commemorating Russian scientists. Ian mentioned that the Western world are sometimes [... mostly?, Ed.] quite oblivious to the scientific achievements of the Russians. Some of these achievements are highlighted in the brief description of each of the stamps provided below.



Russia stamps issued in 1951 commemorating Russian scientists.

PK Koslov (1863 - 1935) was an explorer that during his expedition of 1907 - 1909 explored the Gobi Desert and discovered the ruins of Khara-Khoto, a Tangut city destroyed by the Ming Chinese in 1372.

NN Miklukho-Makai (1846 - 1888) was a Russian explorer and scientist. He worked as an ethnologist, anthropologist and biologist. He became famous as one of the earliest scientists to settle among and study indigenous people of New Guinea "who had never seen a European".

AM Butlerov (1828 - 1886) was a Russian chemist, one of the principal creators of the theory of chemical structure (1857 - 1861), the first to incorporate double bonds into structural formulas, and the discoverer of hexamine (1859).

NI Lobachevsky (1792 - 1856) was a Russian mathematician and geometer, known primarily for his work on hyperbolic geometry, and also for his fundamental study on Dirichlet integrals.

KA Timiryazev (1843 - 1920) was a Russian botanist and physiologist and a major proponent of thought of Charles Darwin in Russia. He founded a faculty of plant physiology and a laboratory at the Petrovskoye Academy.

NS Kurnakov (1860 - 1941) was a Russian chemist, who is internationally recognised as the originator of physico-chemical analysis. He also was one of the principal founders of the platinum industry in the Soviet Union.

PN Yablochkov (1847 - 1894) was a Russian electrical engineer, businessman and the inventor of the Yablochkov candle, a type of electric carbon arc lamp. Yablochkov's major invention was the first model of an arc lamp that eliminated the mechanical complexity of competing lights that required a regulator to manage the voltaic arc.

AN Severtsov (1866 - 1936) was a Russian and Soviet evolutionary zoologist who worked on comparative anatomy and morphology. He studied the evolution of vertebrates and established an institute for evolutionary morphology that is now named after him. Severtsov developed the biogenetic law or recapitulation theory of Ernst Haeckel.

KE Tsiolkovsky (1857 - 1935) was a Russian rocket scientist who pioneered astronautics. Along with Hermann Oberth and Robert H Goddard, he is one of the pioneers of space flight and the founding father of modern rocketry and astronautics. His works later inspired Wernher von Braun and leading Soviet rocket engineers Sergei Korolev and Valentin Glushko, who contributed to the success of the Soviet's space programme.

AN Lodygin (1847 - 1923) was a Russian electrical engineer and inventor. He invented an incandescent light bulb before Thomas Edison, but it was not commercially profitable. The lamp with a tungsten filament is indeed the only design used now, but in 1906 was too expensive. He invented a diving apparatus that was very similar to modern scuba equipment. His ideas for an electrical helicopter were used many years later by Igor Sikorsky.

AG Stoletov (1839 - 1896) was a Russian physicist who was the founder of electrical engineering. He became professor at Moscow University in 1873 and a renowned scientist worldwide and represented Russia at the first World Congress of Electricity in Paris in 1881.

PN Lebedev (1866 - 1912) was a Russian physicist. He was the creator of the first scientific school in Russia. In 1891 he started working in Moscow State University in the group of Alexander Stoletov where he made his famous experimental studies of electro-magnetic waves.

AO Kovalesky (1840 - 1901) was a Russian embryologist who studied medicine at the University of Heidelberg and became professor at the University of St Petersburg. He was the brother of the paleontologist Vladimir Kovalevsky and the brother-in-law of the mathematician Sofya Kovalevskaya.

DI Mendeleev (1834 - 1907) was a Russian chemist known for formulating the periodic law and creating a version of the periodic table of elements [... *one of the coolest thingamajigs in the world, Ed.*]. He used the periodic law not only to correct the then-accepted properties of some known elements, such as the valence and atomic weight of uranium, but also to predict the properties of three elements that were yet to be discovered (germanium, gallium, and scandium). He said in an interview: "I saw in a dream a table where all elements fell into place as required. Awakening, I immediately wrote it down on a piece of paper, only in one place did a correction later seem necessary." He is credited with a remark that burning petroleum as a fuel "would be akin to firing up a kitchen stove with bank notes".

SP Krasheninnikov (1711 - 1755) was a Russian explorer of Siberia, naturalist and geographer who gave the first full description of Kamchatka in the early 18th century. He was elected to the Russian Academy of Sciences in 1745. The Krasheninnikov Volcano on Kamchatka is named in his honour.

SV Kovalevskaya (1850 - 1891) was a Russian mathematician who made noteworthy contributions to analysis, partial differential equations and mechanics. She was a pioneer of equality for women in mathematics and was the first woman to earn a doctorate in mathematics, in the modern sense of that term, the first woman appointed to a full professorship in mathematics (and one of the first appointed to a full professorship in any discipline).

Willy Porter brought along a set of postcards depicting all the tapestries found on the walls of the Voortrekker Monument, see below. Both Francois and Vernon stated that the set is quite sought after and Francois said he would like to have "first-right-of-refusal" should Willy one day consider selling the set.

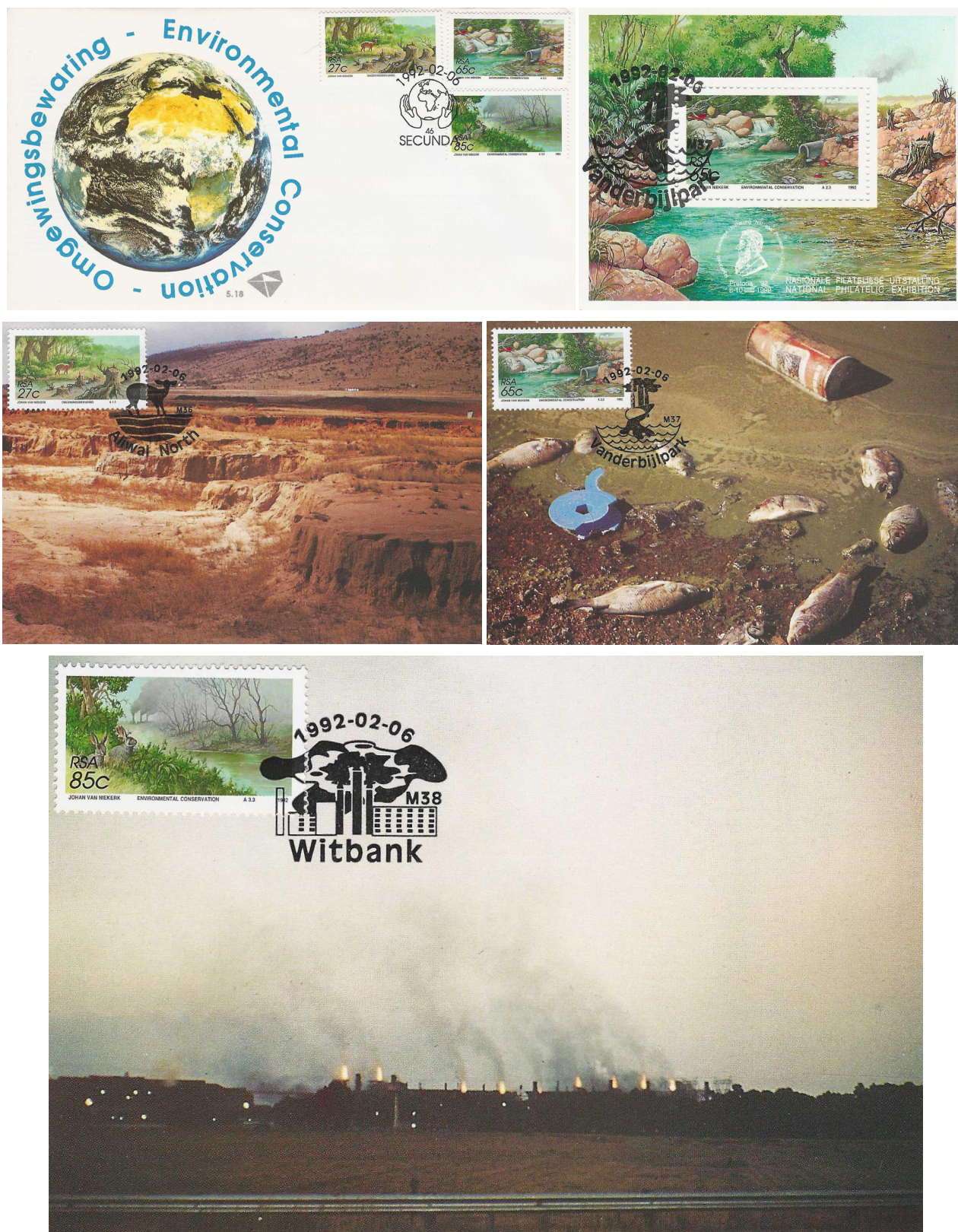


Voortrekker Monument tapestry postcard.



Voortrekker Monument tapestry postcards (continued).

Francois brought along items from the South African environmental conservation issue of 1992 (see next page). While he went through items from a collection he recently bought he noticed for the first time (he thought) that different datestamp cancellations were used for this issue. The first day cover was cancelled with a datestamp from Secunda and the three maxi cards had datestamps from Aliwal North, Vanderbijlpark and Witbank respectively. The foundation miniature sheet had the Vanderbijlpark datestamp. Francois said that was the first time he recalled seeing different datestamps being used for a single commemorative issue. However, when checking other South African maxi cards he saw that this was not the first time this happened. The first occurrence of different datestamps for a single commemorative issue he found was that of the October 1989 South African energy sources issue that had datestamps of Mosselbaai, Secunda, Kernkrag and Kriel on the maxi card issues. Some later issues also had different datestamp cancellations on the maxi cards. So either old age brought memory loss for noticing these things or one became quite non-observant during the times of multitude post office stamp offerings.



South African environmental conservation issue of 1992.

(4) GENERAL

Vernon suggested that in future the competition displays should be placed in the foyer. This was unanimously accepted. He also informed us about a competition for the "most beautiful stamp in the world" that was going to be held. (Not that South Africa is issuing any new stamps!) Dave mentioned the Namibian "owl" stamp that was voted most beautiful stamp a while ago and Barry Green rather coincidentally had the "owl" stamp at the meeting.

Dave played Father Xmas and gave away a first day cover album to the first person with his/her hand in the air.

Francois told us about a parcel, addressed to the Emerald Hill post office where he had a post box that was delivered to his house. The Emerald Hill post office closed a few years ago. Ian also had an interesting experience where a letter from France was delivered at his home in Blue Horizon Bay, six months after it was mailed. Francois mentioned that in years gone by, pre-airmail era, it took approximately ten days for a letter from St Helena to Port Elizabeth to reach its destination, depending on the relevant ship. Willy then told us about Jeffrey's Bay's own delivery man, Peter Rhode that delivers post almost daily since 2012(!!) forwarded the below photo of Peter.



Peter the JBay postman.

(5) AUCTION

A very lively auction ensued with lots from Desré Kapp's collection and the remainder of David Marston's collection. Desré's collection was kindly donated to the society by her son Nick and raised a total of R 3 680 for the society. Anybody in need of alarms, gate/garage motors, intercoms, electric fences and camera's can contact him, see below. David's remainder collection was sold for an amount of R 7 350.



Kappco Security.

The next gathering will be held on 5 December 2025 at the Barn & Barrel in the form of President's Night. Members that would be attending should forward their names by latest 21 November 2025 to either Louis or Francois for booking purposes.

The meeting closed at 12:15 with there being no further matters to discuss.

PRESIDENT:

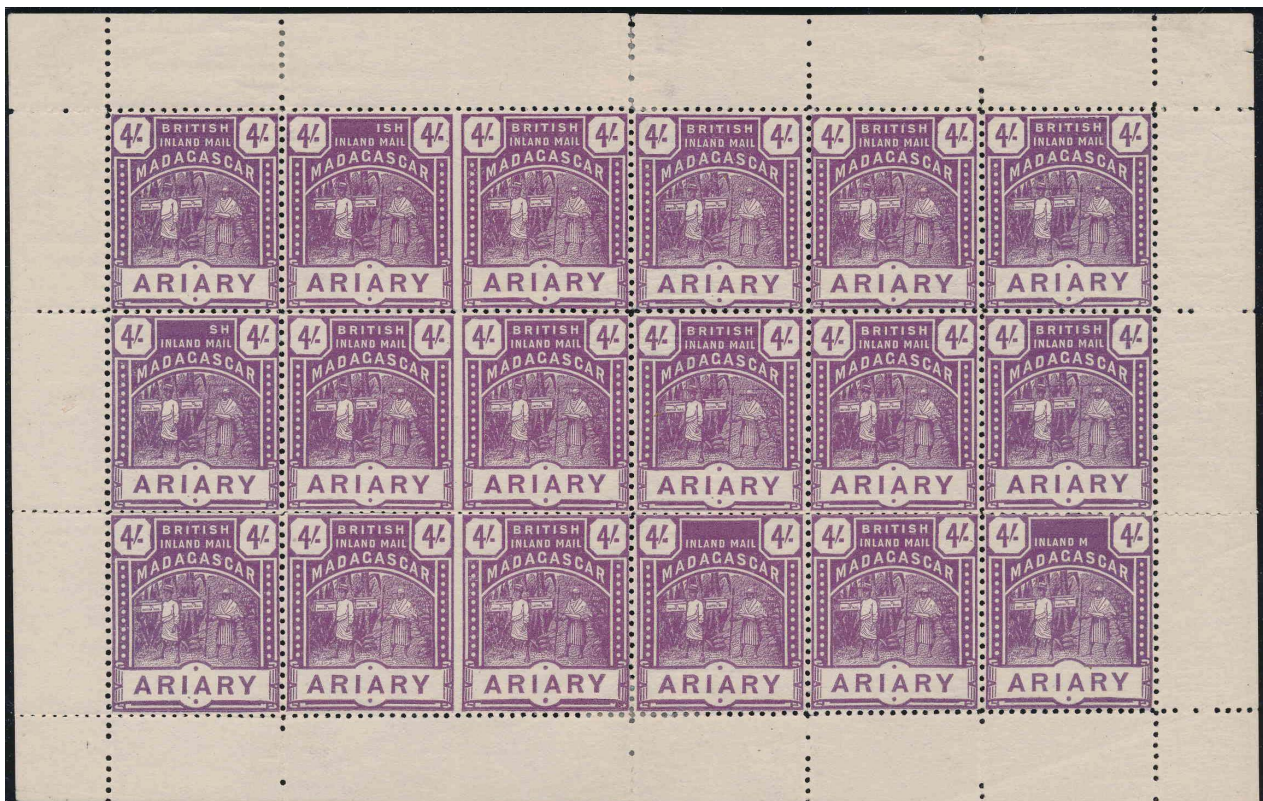
DATED:



.....Xmas Lisa

reader contributions

Our dealer friend from the United Kingdom, Mark Taylor, forwarded the below beautiful block of the 1895 4s bright purple issue from Madagascar with the imperforated variety between second and third vertical rows. One of the major rarities of the colony, ex Harry Nissen, Colonel JR Danson.



Christmas in the home fair

That time of the year again for the Christmas in the home fair in December at the Fairview Centre in Willow Road. As the venue is just about in the centre of the city with loads of parking one expects the same large number of attendees as last year. Stamp's Friend will once again be there so here is hoping PEPS members and family ties will attend in their droves.



A festive poster for the 'Christmas in the Home gift & craft market'. The background is a warm, textured yellow with string lights and a large white star. The text is arranged as follows:

Christmas
IN THE HOME
gift & craft market

DEC 2025

5 FRI 09:00 – 17:00
6 SAT 09:00 – 17:00
7 SUN 09:00 – 15:00

FAIRVIEW CENTRE WILLOW ROAD, PE / GQEBERHA.
ENTRY R20 KIDS U/12 FREE

Elsje 082 873 7663
www.truebluecommunication.co.za

Facebook and Instagram icons.

editor's titbits

Reminder of the facebook group that is free to join by all with some collectable information, updates, news, etc. Please feel free to contribute.



A banner for the 'Stamp's Friend' Facebook group. On the left is a postage stamp featuring Queen Elizabeth II with the text 'STAMP'S FRIEND' and '十二先時' (12 pence). The main text on the banner reads:

Stamp's Friend
Port Elizabeth/Eastern Cape
buying • selling • want lists
082 554 8900 • info@stampsfriend.com
www.stampsfriend.com
British Commonwealth • South Africa • St Helena

Logos for the Eastern Cape Philatelic Society, PPS, and ifeda are also present.

Below the banner, the Facebook group interface shows 'Stamp's Friend' as a public group with 476 members, along with 'Invite' and 'Share' buttons.

Note: back issues of the PEPS newsletters available from the Stamp's Friend website under the news/articles menu.

Well folks that is that for our November edition of the newsletter. Should you come across useful philatelic articles, auction results, news items, etc - please forward to us for possible inclusion in future newsletters. Also, any letter to the editor is welcomed. *Bye*

stamps and
other collectables

a cover
from yonks



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SF



Stockbooks

Lighthouse Basic 32 pages	R 680
Lighthouse Basic 64 pages	R 980
Lighthouse Comfort 32 pages	R 970
Lighthouse Premium 64 pages + slipcase ..	R 1 100
Lindner 64 pages	R 1 080

Mounting strips

Hawid, Prinz, Lighthouse pre-cut strips	from R 20
Lighthouse SF (per 5 strips)	
217 mm x 21,5 mm or 27,5 mm	R 30
217 mm x 33 mm or 36 mm	R 40
217 mm x 40 mm or 45 mm	R 50
217 mm x 55 mm or 66 mm	R 60
217 mm x 72 mm or 84 mm or 92 mm	R 70
217 mm x 148 mm or 164 mm	R 110

Tweezers and exhibition sleeves

Tweezers (12 cm/15 cm)	R 200/350
Exhibition sleeves (packet of 5)	R 160

Magnifying glasses

Straight shank 60 mm	R 30
Folding 30 x 21 mm	R 70
Illuminated 40 x 25 mm	R 140
Lighthouse frameless LED	R 550

Other

Prinz stockcards - box of 100	R 650
Vario pages	
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8 strips/packet of 5	R 180

Stamp and first day cover albums

Various new and second hand stockbooks and cover albums in good condition.	R 100+
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Stock

British Commonwealth/cinderella's
South Africa/Homelands/SWA/Namibia

we buy stamps and collectables

we do want lists

Nov 2025

remember to visit our website at www.stampsfriend.com

Stanley Gibbons Commonwealth (1840 - 1970) catalogues available

2014 = R 300 2015 = R 400 2016 = R 500

2017 = R 600 2018 = R 700 2022 = R 1 100 2023 = R 1 400

