



PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY
PORT ELIZABETH FILATELIEVERENIGING

ESTABLISHED 1890 - RECONSTITUTED 1912

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Newsletter

June 2026

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Next meeting

6 Jul 2026 at 11:00 (reminder at the Barn and Barrel)

editor's note

Welcome to our newsletter for June with winter now arrived in the Eastern Cape, although mid-20 °C days still present to confuse all and sundry. On the sporting front South Africa's football team, Bafana Bafana (the boys, the boys), made it through to the world cup 32-team knockout round but alas, that is where the hopes of a nation ended. It is always amazing that the country's football in world standards remains in the doldrums for a nation with world class facilities, especially in comparison with some much poorer African nations that perform way better than South Africa. At least the ladies cricket team scraped through to the semifinals of their world cup tournament, so let's hope for two more great games there. On that hopeful note we trust you will enjoy the sixth newsletter of the year. Keep well, safe and sound.

from the secretary's desk

Birthdays for July 2026: Terence Adam on 4 July and Marietjie Peens on 31 July, trust you will have a great day.

rolling programme for 2026/2027

month	date	happenings
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	1 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.
December	4 Dec 2026	President's night.
January	11 Jan 2027	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	1 Feb 2027	Pub quiz at the Barn and Barrel. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.
March	1 Mar 2027	Annual general meeting. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.
April	5 Apr 2027	Pub quiz at the Barn and Barrel. Items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.
May	3 May 2027	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	7 Jun 2027	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.



minutes of monthly meeting

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY, HELD ON MONDAY 1 JUNE 2026 AT THE BIBLE HOUSE, 31 COTSWOLD AVENUE, COTSWOLD, PORT ELIZABETH COMMENCING AT 11:00

PRESENT: Francois Friend (in the Chair)

MEMBERS: 17 **APOLOGIES:** 5 **VISITORS:** 1 (Roy Harrington)

The president welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes of the monthly meeting dated 4 May 2026 were tabled for adoption. These were accepted - proposed by Morrice Groer and seconded by Lieb Venter. Francois welcomed visitor Roy Harrington (from KZN) again to the meeting and said Roy can just as well become a member of the society. He also mentioned that Bruce Watson informed him that Dallas Whitfield are back in the intensive care unit at hospital, the society's thoughts are with him and his family.

The meeting then proceeded with the scheduled events.

(1) NEVILLE POLAKOW TROPHY COMPETITION

There were no participants.

(2) MIKE KOYD POSTAL HISTORY SHIELD COMPETITION

There were no participants.

(3) ITEMS OF INTEREST, BRINGALONGS AND NEW ACQUISITIONS

Ian McArthur started this section by confronting the meeting with some questions that many philatelists struggle with. What does one collect and when do you draw the finish line? For example, do you stop your South African collection with the year 2000 issues or do you carry on? Maybe you can choose a country with a "beginning" and an "end" like one of the homelands for example. Ian mentioned that Brunswick [...*Braunschweig, formerly a duchy (also known as a dukedom - a territory, country or domain ruled by a duke or duchess) of North Germany that joined the North German Confederation in 1868, Ed.*] is an example of a country that only issued stamps from 1852 to 1865 and only had three different designs (see below). Then there was also a colony of Canada with the name New Brunswick that issued a total of nine stamps from 1851 until 1863. Both of these collections would unfortunately only be "the dream come" true for someone with a very favourable bank balance.



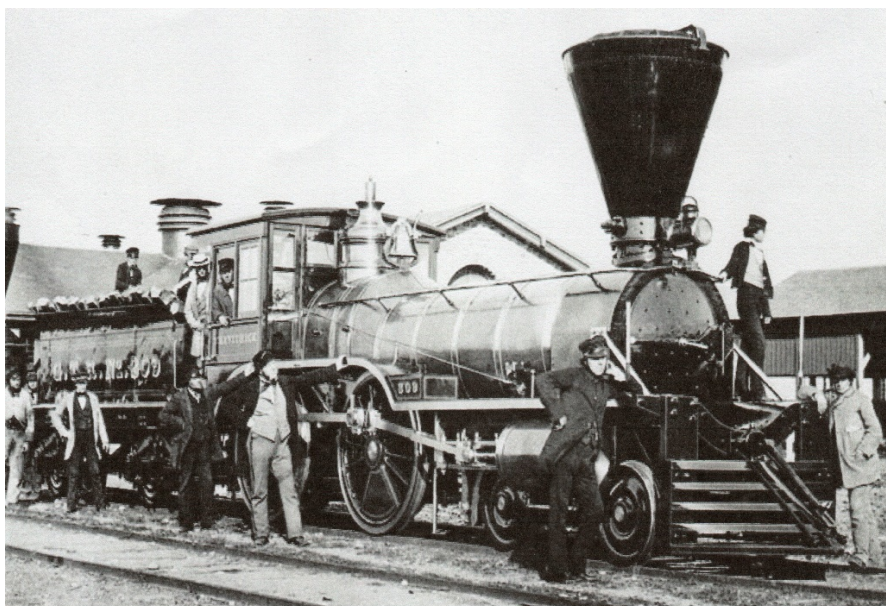
The three different stamp designs of Brunswick that were issued from 1852 to 1865.

Braunschweig or Brunswick is the largest city in Lower Saxony between Hannover and Berlin, Germany, north of the Harz Mountains at the farthest navigable point of the river Oker, which connects it to the North Sea via the rivers Aller and Weser and in 2025 it had a population of 255 500. Until the founding of the German Empire, the Duchy of Brunswick was an independent state. In the years from 1852 to 1867, twenty different stamps were issued. The stamps from Brunswick are among the issues of the "old German states" and are usually very expensive.

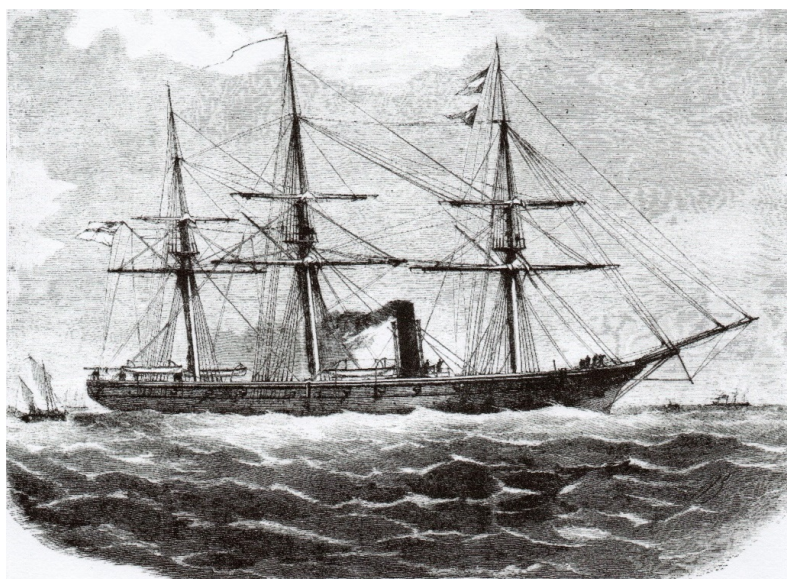
When the Duchy of Brunswick joined the German-Austrian Postal Union on 1 January 1852, the first stamps of 1, 2 and 3 silver groschen each were issued. However, the different currencies made it very difficult to differentiate the postage levels. The postage valid for one's own postal area could not be converted into the postage levels of the German-Austrian Postal Union. This fact was reason enough to divide the stamps into districts. In 1857, for example, a stamp of 4/4 Gute Groschen, that is, 3 Brunswick silver pfennings, was issued. This stamp had the special feature that it could be cut into four parts if necessary. This meant that you could also stick the correct postage on the letter in the different currencies.

The postal sovereignty of the Duchy of Brunswick was retained until 31 December 1867. From 1868, the postal service was taken over by the North German Postal District. Until this day, the stamps issued so far were valid. The last series of stamps was issued on 1 October 1865. This series was generally different from the other series, in its design, as well as in its appearance.

Then there is New Brunswick, a province of Canada bordering Quebec to the northwest, the Gulf of Saint Lawrence to the northeast, Nova Scotia to the east, the Bay of Fundy to the southeast and the United States of America's state of Maine to the southwest. It is part of Eastern Canada and is one of the three Maritime provinces and one of the four Atlantic provinces with 775 610 inhabitants (2021 census). New Brunswick's postage stamps are a testament to the province's maritime heritage and its early integration into the Canadian postal system. The stamps reflect the province's history and are sought after by collectors for their unique designs and postal historical significance. New Brunswick began issuing its own stamps in 1851, with a total of nine stamps issued until 1863. The 5c brown stamp with the design showing Charles Connell, the Postmaster-General, was not issued due to objections. Most of the printing was destroyed, however, a few survived. The stamps often feature portraits of Queen Victoria and include notable designs such as the first steam ship and train shown on a postage stamp, see below. Ian also showed the below photos of the locomotive and steam ship that were portrayed on the above stamps.



Grand Trunk Railway Locomotive No. 309, "Trevithick", Montreal, 1860.



A screw frigate of c. 1860

New Brunswick different stamp designs and photos of locomotive and steam ship displayed on the stamps.

Ian then told the meeting a bit more about the United States Parcel Post service that was introduced in 1913 with its characteristic red stamps, shown below. Before then, all packages sent by mail had to weigh 4 pounds (1,8 kg) or under. Soon afterwards the maximum weight limit was increased to fifty pounds. One family decided to make use of this increased weight limit when five-year-old May Pierstorff was sent from Grangeville to Lewiston, Idaho, to visit her grandmother on 19 February 1914. May was just under the weight limit at 48,5 pounds and her parents realised that sending her by mail would be cheaper than buying her a train ticket. They attached the postage of 53 cents in parcel post stamps to May's coat and she rode in the train's mail compartment all the way to Lewiston. She was personally delivered to her grandmother's home by Leonard Mochel, the mail clerk on duty, see below. [... not sure if there would have been any mental effects of this ride on poor May's future life, Ed.]



US parcel post stamps.



Photo of Leonard and May.

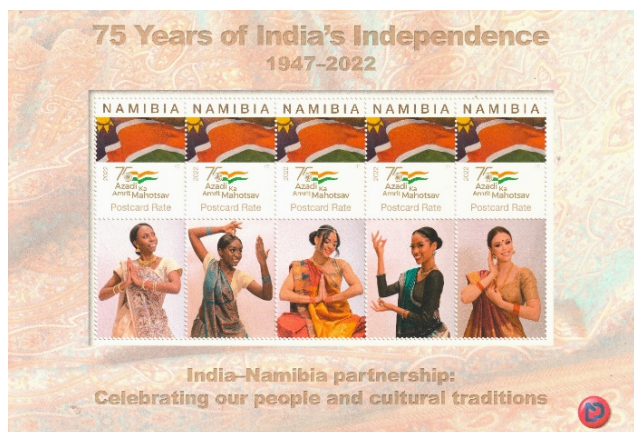
Dave Brown brought along some scarcer items this time round that Francois tried very hard to make disappear. Dave started by saying that one does not realise that little acts of kindness, a listening ear, friendship and so on really cost a person very little. These acts can, sometimes, be rewarded with similar acts of kindness. Why this homily Dave enquired??? Well in this case friendship resulted in Dave being given something he had only seen in catalogues - a strip of five Orange Free State Commando Brief labels, given as a gift. Labels 1, 2 and 4 are almost perfect examples, label number 3 is damaged and label number 5 is almost in two pieces, hanging on by a mere thread (see below).



Orange Free State Commando Brief labels.

These labels were issued on 15 October 1899, just days after the outbreak of the Second Boer War (11 October 1899), to simplify censorship and franking of soldiers' letters as initially each letter had to be signed by a commanding officer, but the volume of mail made this impractical. They were issued by the Orange Free State (Oranje Vrystaat) government for use by its commandos (citizen militias) and affixed to soldiers' letters to indicate they had been censored and approved for transmission through the Orange Free State field post system. The labels were issued in sheets of 20 with five distinct types/dies used to print each row separately. Multiple-label blocks are extremely rare due to limited printing and wartime usage as only around 10 000 labels were produced.

Dave then said that being a collector of Namibia he heard of the below two personalised sheetlets sometime during 2025. [... listed as numbers P15 - P18 in the South African Colour Catalogue (SACC), Ed.] Enquiries at the time revealed that they were, together with the other item shown below, a very limited edition and that the entire production had been sent to India. How true this might be Dave does not know, but then they were certainly unavailable. Dave has seen that at least one, the last one, is available from Nampost at N\$ 69,00. This is another case of a limited issue that was not available for purchase by the public. Taleni Africa is a tourism company aimed at the high end of the market and their establishments are in Namibia's tourist hotspots such as Etosha National Park, Sossusvlei and a couple of "desert camps". Their website states: "Taleni Africa's mission statement is to be Leaders in Exceptional Experiences at Legendary Destinations. The national bird of Namibia is the majestic fish eagle known for its remarkable eyesight combined with the Oshiwambo word "Taleni", which means to view or to see, it forms the backbone and soul of our company, Taleni Africa Tourism Collection." They obviously use the personalised sheets as tourist handouts as this is not the first or only set of personalised stamps to bear their name.



Namibian personalised stamp sheets.

The Namibia 2016 *Taleni Africa* personalised stamp sheet (Sossusvlei design, SACC PS10) is currently listed at around \$ 589 (R 11000) for mint condition on international platforms like eBay. [... listed at R 6 000 for mint in SACC, Ed.] This reflects its rarity and appeal to collectors of modern Namibian personalised issues.

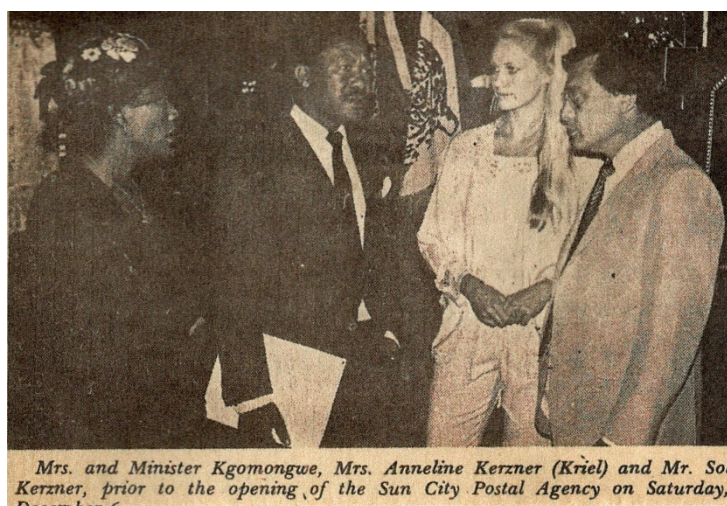
Willy Porter brought along a newspaper clipping about the Sun City commemorative stamp issue of Bophuthatswana (see further below) that appeared in the Rustenburg Herald on the date of issue, 6 December 1980. Following are some extracts from this newspaper article:

The issue is significant because it is one of the first times that a commercial theme has been chosen for a series of commemoratives. The four stamps are in denominations of 5c, 10c, 15c and 20c and portray (respectively) the Sun City Hotel, The Gary Player Country Club, The Casino and the Extravaganza. Each stamp also depicts the Southern Sun Logo. The issue of the stamps also coincides with the opening of a postal agency at Sun City. Prior to this opening, all post had to be delivered and collected at the nearest Post Office in Phokeng. Until a post office can be constructed at Sun City, the Standard Bank will undertake the sale of the stamps and a post box will be erected in the foyer for letters to be franked with the new Sun City postmark. The minister of Post and Telecommunications, Mr MA Kgomongwe officially opened the postal agency at Sun City and unveiled the commemorative stamps.

The official ceremonies were followed by a champagne breakfast. In his opening speech the minister of Post and Telecommunications addressed Mr Sol Kerzner by saying, inter alia, the following: "Even before we as a nation became independent, friends have come forward in word and in deed to assist us to become a viable nation. Such a friend, we as a people have come to know in Mr Sol Kerzner." He continued by saying: "So far it was not possible for us to offer our philatelic clients shares in Sun City, but they soon discovered that their small investment in our stamps, especially our very first issues, will already pay them a handsome dividend because we offer quality at a low price and good service. So much so that our deposit account holders have grown from 3 443 in 1977 to 10 091 at the end of November this year. The print order for our first day covers has grown from the initial 35 000 in our first year to 115 000 for the first issue next year. Compare this figure with the average print order of plus minus 6 000 - 7 000 of our immediate neighbours who achieved their independence in 1965 and a blind man can see that we are a vibrant dynamic nation going somewhere, and that our stamps appeal to collectors here and all over the world." [...amazing the positive expectations of the stamp-buying public of the 1970s and 1980s across the world, Ed.]



The commemoratives that all the hoo-hah was about on first day cover.



The newspaper clippings showing most of all, the beautiful Anneline Kriel.

Vernon Mitchell took members at the meeting back in time to 1994 with matters regarding the first democratic election, see below. He showed, *inter alia*, a copy of the Government Gazette with cancelled stamps on it, the 1994 "coin cover" together with the original order form. The cover was selling for a meagre R 15 at the time. This cover sold overseas at one stage for up to R 6 000. The market value today is about R 250. At this stage Francois interrupted Vernon to tell the meeting about his wheelings and dealings in 1993/1994 concerning this cover. When he was selling stamps at Rosebank Flea Market this "R 5 coin cover" was his best seller. After a couple of months real work took over so he stopped with this stamp dealing sideline. Out of the blue he received a phone call from a lady from the USA that was in South Africa overseeing the voting process. She told Francois that she was on her way back to the United States and was looking for him at the Rosebank Fair without any luck because she was hoping to buy a "few" of the R 5 inauguration covers from him. The "few" covers turned out to be about a hundred and needless to say, Francois got the covers from his "contacts" at Philatelic Services in Pretoria and made a handsome profit in the process.



Reminders and memories of 1994.

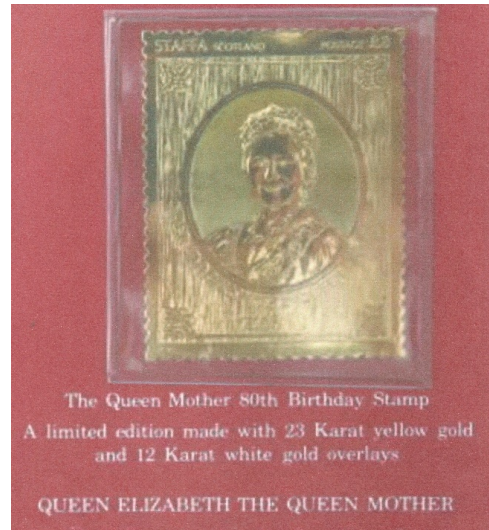
These covers reached the height of their popularity in South Africa in about 2013/2014 with them selling for about R 2 500 a cover. Vernon then continued by showing the meeting a few advertisements from political parties. For the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) there was a sticker with the face of Mangosuthu Buthelezi (1928 - 2023) on it and for the African National Congress (ANC) a sticker with the face of whom else but Nelson Mandela. He also showed us a ballot paper of the 1994 election and a privately made sunset cover of the homelands. The homelands were incorporated into the Republic of South Africa on the 27 April 1994.

(4) GENERAL

Ian McArthur brought along the below photos of two items available for sale on behalf of another party. If there is someone interested they are welcome to contact him for more information.



Princess Diana and Prince Charles porcelain plate.



Gold plated stamp of the Queen Mother.

After the tea/coffee break the meeting continued with a very active auction. Ian, Valdy, Bruce and Lieb brought along items that were auctioned by Francois. The total proceeds from the auction amounted to R 1 720 with 10% of this amount paid over as commission to PEPS by the sellers.

The next meeting will be held on 6 July 2026 at the Barn and Barrel's Paddock for our next pub quiz with Louis Oosthuizen setting the 20 questions. Members are invited to show some items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions. We will commence with our meeting followed by the quiz and lunch, which will be paid by PEPS.

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

PRESIDENT:

DATED:



.....Florence Lisa

the antique collective

The Antique Collective (TAC), being held monthly on the first Sunday of a month at the Walmer Park Shopping Centre, takes place on Sunday 5 July. Apparently Stamp's Friend will once again be there if the below promotional blurb by the organisers is anything to go by. [... not quite sure since when the organisers started their "vendor spotlight" story, and probably a thank you is due to them, but the editor fears that placing the below photographed old man in the blurb might have the opposite effect than that desired, of enticing more people to the fair 😊, Ed.]

THE ANTIQUE COLLECTIVE

VENDOR SPOTLIGHT

Stamp's Friend
is bringing a fascinating
collection of collectables
to **The Antique Collective**
on **Sunday, 5 July**.

Whether you're a serious
collector or simply enjoy
uncovering pieces of the
past, Francois's stand
is not to be missed.

SUNDAY, 05 JULY
CENTRE COURT,
WALMER PARK SHOPPING CENTRE

MEET FRANCOIS FRIEND



Stop by to find out
the value of that old
family stamp collection,
or to look
for new material.



HOST VENUE



CONNECT WITH US



EVENT PRODUCERS

peps swop column

We continue this month with our regular feature of a swop column. Please contact the editor if you wish to have anything placed in the swop column. Maybe, just maybe, this is starting to work as the editor received some positive feedback from one of the advertisers below.

the PEPS resurrected Evening Post swop column

Various JIPEX panes to swop or sell plus also looking for a few missing JIPEX panes to swop or buy. Contact Alex at alex@gotte.co.za. For those collecting RSA booklets - various RSA booklets to swop for Nos 10, 15, 18, 22, 23, 24 and 27 (perf 14). If interested contact Graham at zs2gib@gmail.com. Any strange or out of the ordinary philatelic material, cigarette cards, flat objects, etc with regard succulents, to swop or buy. Contact Francois at francois@softchem.co.za. Looking for Eugene Marais first edition books. Willing to swop good white wine. Contact Mark at mark@sianalytics.co.za.	Looking for any old Camel cigarette memorabilia, from lighters, old advertising material, etc. Contact John at john@softchem.co.za. Collecting penny reds according to plate numbers. Have numerous to swop if interested. Contact Alex at support@dna-online.co.za. Any old South African post office signs lying around, or any other post office material/items to buy/swop? Contact Francois at francois@stampsfriend.com. Do you have any old coca-cola dingbats, yo-yo's, very old bottles, advertising signs, pins, etc to swop/buy. Contact Curling at fpg@softchem.co.za.
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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.



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Stamp's Friend

Public group · 476 members

+ Invite
Share

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 June 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



SF

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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+

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 2024 = R 1 700

