



PORT ELIZABETH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

PORT ELIZABETH FILATELIEVERENIGING

ESTABLISHED 1890 - RECONSTITUTED 1912

Address: Postnet Suite 11, Private Bag X0002,
The Fig Tree, Charlo, 6033, RSA

Venue: Bible Society House, 31 Cotswold Avenue, Cotswold

Correspondence: francois@softchem.co.za

Volume 10 No 7

Newsletter

July 2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
Editor's note	1
From the secretary's desk	1
Rolling programme for 2026/2027	1
Minutes of monthly meeting	2
Reader contributions	11
The antique collective	11
Editor's titbits	11

office-bearers

President/editor	Francois Friend	082 554 8900
Vice president	David Brown	041 360 4025
Secretary/treasurer	Louis Oosthuizen	082 469 7494
Honorary auditor	Barry Green	072 055 7448
Exchange superintendent	Graham Butcher	083 351 7980
Librarian	Willy Porter	082 705 5317

Next meeting

3 August 2026 at 11:00 (back at the Bible Society)

editor's note

Welcome to our newsletter for July where winter is with the people in the Eastern Cape and apparently our summer is in Europe. Go figure. At least winter means real rugby time with the north versus south internationals recently completed where the Springboks did their "thing" once again. Coming up are the south countries battling it out with a mouthwatering prospect of Springboks versus the All Blacks for four Saturdays in a row. Hopefully the Boks good performances of the past couple of years will continue this season. On that hopeful note we trust you will enjoy the seventh newsletter of the year. Keep well, safe and sound.

from the secretary's desk

Birthdays for August 2026: Charles Louw on 8 August, Thomas Schulz on 12 August, Dr John Haigh on 21 August, Hugo Lee on 23 August, Denise Cope-Morgan on 25 August and Andre Vlok on 31 August, trust you all enjoy your day.

rolling programme for 2026/2027

month	date	happenings
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.
July	5 Jul 2027	Pub quiz at the Barn and Barrel. 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 6 JULY 2026 AT THE BARN & BARREL, PORT ELIZABETH COMMENCING AT 11:00

PRESENT: Francois Friend (in the Chair)

MEMBERS: 19

APOLOGIES: 2

VISITORS: 0

The president welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Minutes of the monthly meeting dated 1 June 2026 were tabled for adoption. These were accepted - proposed by Dave Brown and seconded by Morrice Groer.

The meeting then proceeded with the scheduled events.

(1) ITEMS OF INTEREST, BRINGALONGS AND NEW ACQUISITIONS

Dave Brown started off by informing the meeting about some hidden information on the German occupational issues of Jersey that were issued in 1941. In 1940 the Germans invaded the Channel Islands and when the post office's supplies of British stamps ran out, they gave permission for stocks to be designed and printed locally.

Major NVL Rybot designed the new stamps and did something that would have put him in front of a firing squad have the Germans found out what he had done. In the top corners of the ½d stamp he put an inverted A in each one. This stood for "Atrocious Adolf" and in each of the bottom corners a B meaning "Bloody Benito" (the stamp is slightly over-inked so the B's cannot be seen). The 1d stamp has an A in each corner and this represents a Latin phrase: "*Ad Avernum Adolf Atrox*" which, when translated, reads "to hell with you, atrocious Adolf" (see both stamps below). No prizes for guessing that Major Rybot had an intense dislike of the Germans.



1941 Channel Islands ½d German occupational issue.



1941 Channel Islands 1d German occupational issue.

Next Dave showed an issue from Jersey commemorating the 100th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II's birthday issued on 21 April 2026, shown on next page. Along with England and some other Commonwealth countries, Jersey issued this commemorative stamp to mark the centenary of Queen Elizabeth II's birth. It is a single high-value £ 10 stamp featuring a regal design, celebrating her extraordinary life of service and her long-standing ties with the Channel Islands. Queen Elizabeth II made six official visits to the Channel Islands between 1949 and 2005. During one visit to Jersey's States Chamber she emphasised that she "cherished and greatly valued the ancient ties that bind together the Crown and people of this island". These visits reinforced her personal and symbolic bond with Jersey, making the centenary issue especially meaningful. Dave said that unfortunately his scanner is not of high enough quality to actually record the foiling in gold colour that runs down the left side of the stamp with the words "100 Years of Queen Elizabeth II".

Dave also brought along the below miniature sheet issued by Djibouti in 1985 to commemorate the birth of John James Audubon (1785–1851). Audubon was a French-American naturalist, artist, and ornithologist best known for *The Birds of America*, a monumental work of 435 life-sized bird illustrations. His legacy is both celebrated for its artistic and scientific impact and criticised for his involvement in slavery and questionable scientific practices. He tried mining, storekeeping, and other ventures in Kentucky, but none succeeded. Then, in the 1820s, he turned fully to bird illustration that led to him travelling widely across America to study and paint birds. His *magnum opus* was *The Birds of America* (1827–1838), published in Scotland and England, depicting birds in dynamic, lifelike poses at actual size. He also authored the *Ornithological Biography*, five volumes of essays on bird habits and frontier life. Audubon's life was, and is still, plagued with controversies:

- slavery - Audubon bought and sold enslaved people, and his writings reveal racist views;
- scientific misconduct: accused of plagiarism, fraud, and fabricating data; and
- legacy debate: while the National Audubon Society (the USA's equivalent of South Africa's Bird Life South Africa) retains his name, many regional chapters have distanced themselves from his name.



Jersey commemorative stamp.



1985 Djibouti miniature sheet.

Finally, Dave introduced a very interesting "all whites" issue to the meeting asking if anyone know who they are. Fortunately Dave had the answer by way of the below miniature sheet issued on 6 May 2026 and explained that the All Whites are the New Zealand soccer team that this year returned to the FIFA World Cup for the first time in 16 years. The 2026 team was just the third men's New Zealand side to compete at the tournament, following the debut 1982 side and the iconic 2010 team, who went undefeated in South Africa.



2026 New Zealand "All Whites" miniature sheet.

Next up Ian McArthur continued with his entertaining "series" of what is required to get onto a stamp by showing a Polish stamp with the Comte de Saint Germain (1691 or 1712 - 1784) depicted on it, see below. The gentleman's real name and origins remain unknown. He was a European adventurer who had interests and achievements in science, alchemy, philosophy and the arts. He associated himself with some of the most prominent figures of the era, including Giacomo Casanova, Voltaire and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. There has been controversy about his origins and achievements, even his very existence. The 1950 edition of Encyclopedia Britannica devotes half a page to him but from later editions he is completely absent. So.... what can be said about the Comte de Saint Germain that is indisputably true?

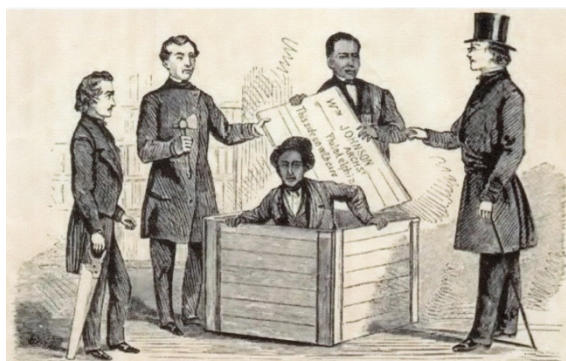
1. His origins, life and death had an air of mystery about them.
2. He had what seemed to be unlimited wealth and jewels, without any visible source.
3. He was a gifted conversationalist and spoke several European languages.
4. He was an accomplished musician and composer.
5. He was associated with King Louis XV and Madame de Pompadour.
6. He met Casanova, Voltaire, Mozart, Catherine the Great of Russia and many members of the nobility of France.
7. He equipped alchemical laboratories for the King and the Comtesse de Genlis.
8. He assisted the Comte de Buffon in the development of glazes for ceramics.
9. He displayed paints of dazzling new colours to French artists.
10. He assisted in the development of dyes for French fabrics.



Comte de Saint Germain and Polish stamp portraying him.

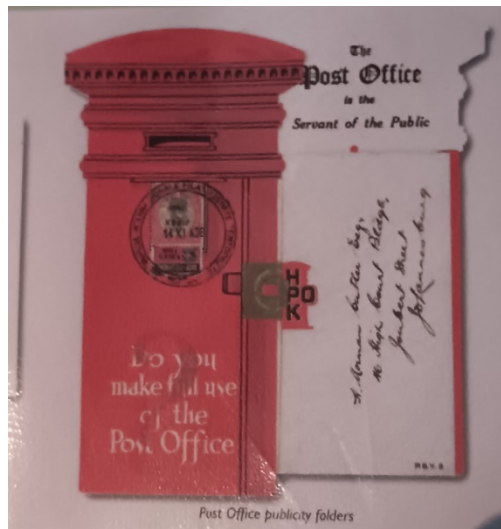
Francois, with his unique sense of humor, asked Ian if he has figured out how to get depicted on a stamp yet? Ian remarked that in France you could pay a certain amount and send a picture of yourself and get yourself on a stamp but unfortunately he did not have enough money for that. Francois then said that we should ask for donations so that Ian could forever his face on a stamp.

Next Ian told the very interesting story about "Box Brown". In 1849 in the south of the United States a slave name Henry Brown, with the help of abolitionist allies in the north, escaped slavery by mail. He was placed in a wooden box measuring 0,9 m x 0,8 m x 0,6 m, see below, and supplied with some biscuits and a small quantity of water. The box was labelled "dry goods". After a journey of 27 hours by rail, wagon and steamboat he arrived safely in the north. Thereafter he was known as Box Brown.



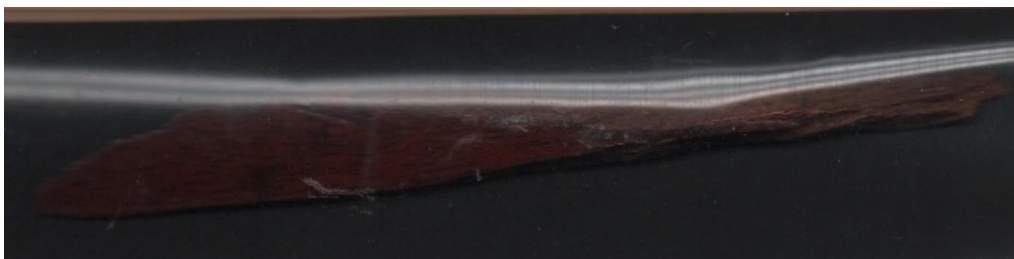
Box Brown.

Vernon Mitchell brought along the below picture of a 1936 JIPEX post office publicity folder and said that he is looking for one for his collection. He also made use of this opportunity to thank everyone for their prayers and messages during his time of illness as this time about a year ago he was very ill and it is only by the grace of God that he is still here today.



JIPEX post office publicity folder.

Lieb Venter showed a very interesting and highly collectable unique Handley-Page flight cover and other related items (see below) that he bought from a European auctioneer. After the end of WWII towards the end of 1919, the Handley-Page SA Transport Ltd was established with the aim of providing the first practical commercial air mail service in South Africa. Two 16-passenger Handley-Page airplanes were sent to South Africa to commence with operations. The Postmaster-General had agreed to the conveyance of mail by the "Pioneer", one of the Handley-Page aeroplanes, and on 11 February 1920 in a telegram from his office to the Surveyor in Cape Town, permission was given for letters to be conveyed by aeroplane from Cape Town to Beaufort West, De Aar, Kimberley and Johannesburg.

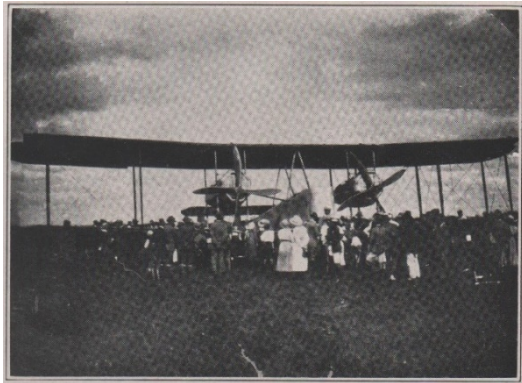


Part of the propeller of the Pioneer that was recovered.



Rare cover carried by the Pioneer in February 1920.

Postage had to be prepaid in stamps at a rate of 1d per half ounce plus a special charge of 2 shilling per ounce or fraction thereof. The special charge was agreed upon as payment to the Handley-Page SA Transport Company. Letters also had to be endorsed "By Aerial Post". After a successful trial flight on 7 Feb 1920, the Pioneer with a crew of three, Major Meintjies (pilot), captain Venter (co-pilot), Mr Askew (engineer) and seven passengers left Wynberg at 06h30 on 15 February 1920 *en route* to Johannesburg on its first commercial flight. Three forced stops were made with the first just past the Drakenstein range to enable navigation. The next was at Blaauw-heuvel and then at Laingsburg for refueling after the aircraft's fuel bladder was punctured. The Pioneer reached its first planned stop at Beaufort West, four days behind schedule on Thursday, 19 February 1920. At 13h30 the aircraft resumed its flight. Eight minutes later it made an emergency landing due to a snapped rudder post. Nobody was hurt but the aircraft was damaged beyond repair.



The Pioneer in Cape Town and its historic flight ends near Beaufort West.

After the demise of the Pioneer outside Beaufort-West, the passengers returned to Cape Town and the mail was dispatched via rail from Beaufort West to the north. Handley-Page covers are amongst the rarest of South African air post items according to Wyndham (*The Airposts of South Africa*, LA Wyndham, Cape Town, 1936). Only twelve of the original 422 are known to remain. Besides bearing the manuscript indication "By Aerial Post" and the Cape Town datestamp impression, covers received a special official franking of "Carried by Aeroplane" in block letters and in some cases a circular cachet inscribed "Handley-Page South African Transport, Ltd., Aerial Post".

Lieb then showed the below image of President Paul Kruger weaved into material. It must have been a German "art work" as the president's name is written in German. He was a very adored statesman, especially in Europe, and he was often depicted on post cards. Lieb mentioned that he was well known for smoking a very strong tobacco brand, known as Magaliesberg tobacco.



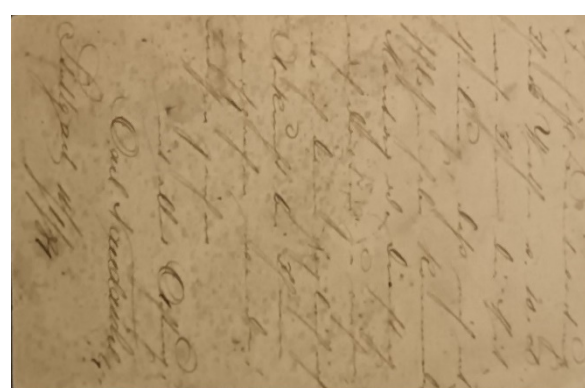
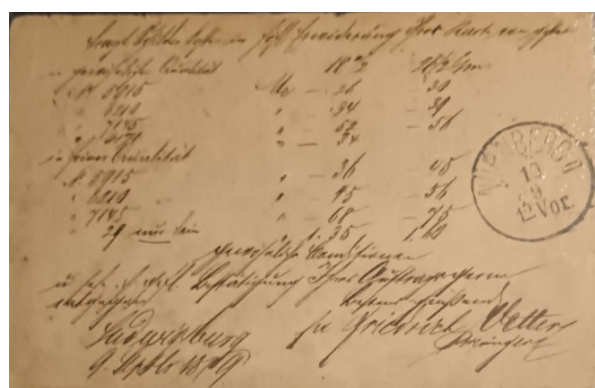
Weaved image of President Paul Kruger.

Graham Butcher brought along some interesting perforation shifts that he found on some of the stamps in his collection. He mentioned that most of the perforation shifts are found on the earlier printings because the modern technology is so much better and these shifts rarely occur on the modern issues. Another interesting bit of information that Graham shared with us is that the older papers, because of the older technologies, were not as refined and contained bits of metal in the paper. This often caused the brown spots found on some of the older stamps and envelopes.



Stamps with perforation shifts.

Lastly Richard Johnstone brought along two postcards from the old Kingdom of Württemberg, a historic German state that existed between 1806 and 1918 with its capital Stuttgart. They are cancelled with circular Stuttgart postmarks dating 1879 and 1881.



Front and back of two Württemberg postcards.

(2) GENERAL

Graham Butcher explained to the members present at the meeting the procedures to follow when taking stamps from the circuit books. Francois then said that Christian Trumpp requested from him prior to his wife and his departure to visit their daughter Samantha in Europe to provide some feedback on his return. He told the meeting a bit more about all the beautiful places they visited, especially Lake Como in Italy where they visited a small village above Como that even had its own post office. Francois said that while Europe had some exceptionally beautiful places it is always nice to return to South Africa where the citizens of the country do not sometimes realise how blessed they are with the size of property, lovely weather (although Europe was quite enjoyably warm during their trip), good food and the best sporting channel in the world.

An active auction followed with 11 lots on offer, seven lots from Ian, three from Morrice and one lot with proceeds going towards the bible society. Only one lot went unsold with the total turnover for the auction amounting to R 1 970 and commission of R 196 (R 1 960 x 10%) that was paid over into the society's bank account.

The next meeting will be held on Monday 3 August 2026 back at the Bible Society for the Philatelic Services Stamp's Friend Trophy, general trading and auction; as well as show items of interest, bringalongs and new acquisitions.

(3) PUB QUIZ

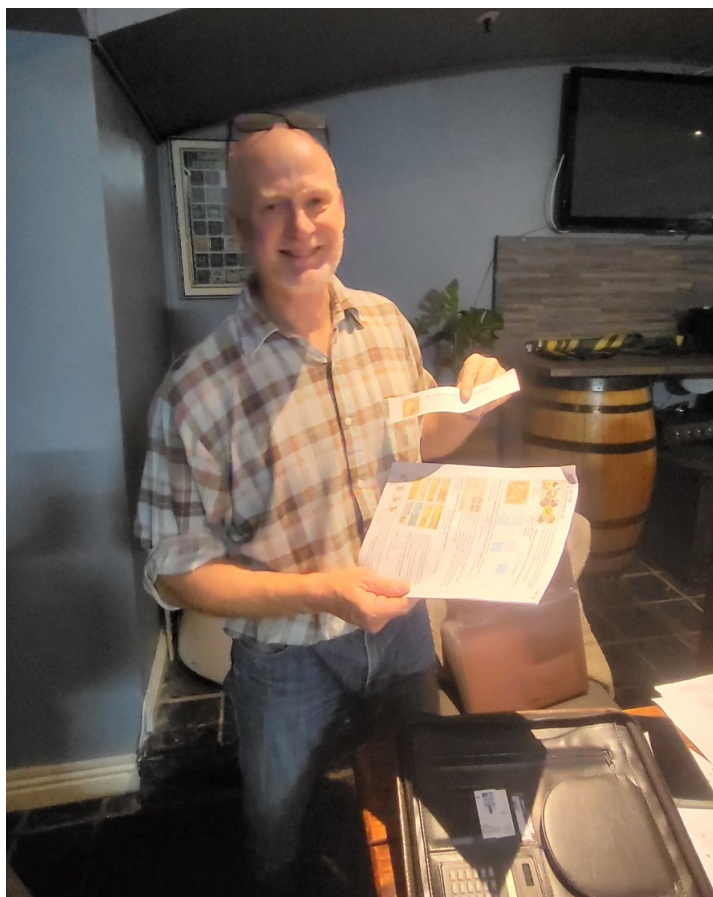
The pub quiz followed the general meeting and this time round it was Louis Oosthuizen who prepared the 20 questions and answers for the day's quiz. As per normal members were split into two teams (after pulling numbers from a pub cup), namely Team A: Willy Porter, Anthony Harris, Ian McArthur, Richard Johnstone, Charles Louw, Marietjie Peens, Bruce Watson, Graham Butcher and Cecil Ahlers (as shown below from left to right around the table); and Team B: Marc Marcovich, Lieb Venter, Morrice Groer, Francois Friend, Vernon Mitchell, Barry Green, Kevin Johnstone and Dave Brown (as shown below from left to right around the table).



Team A - who came second.



Team B - the eventual winners.



Louis - the quizmaster for the day.

The winners were Team B with 11 points and Team A not too far behind ending with 6 points. Each of the winning team's members and the quizmaster received a R 200 gift voucher for the Barn & Barrel. The gift vouchers and the lunch served at the end of the quiz were sponsored by the society. Once again all present were in good spirits and the late morning/afternoon was enjoyed by all.

The meeting closed eventually at 14:57 with there being no further matters to discuss.

PRESIDENT:

DATED:



.....Van Gogh Lisa

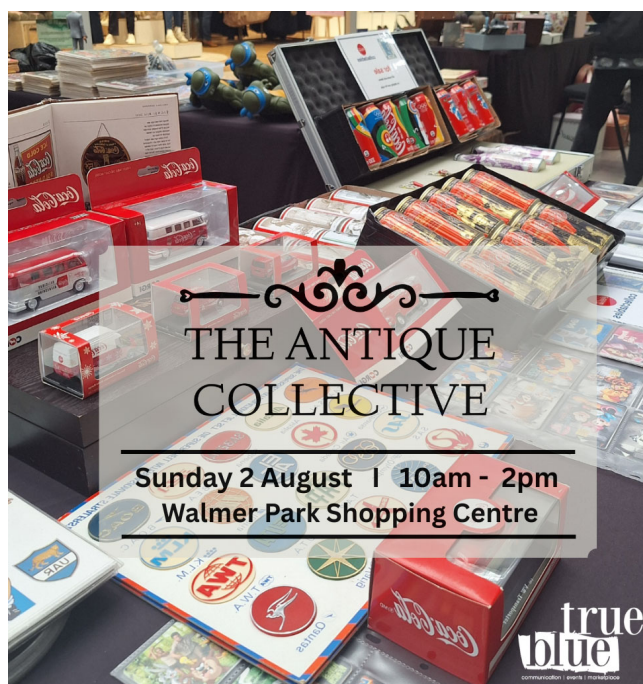
reader contributions

Our dealer friend from the United Kingdom, Mark Taylor, has once again forwarded a not so common philatelic item, this time round a complete sheet of the 1894 Matabeleland telegraph stamps shown below.



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 2 August.



editor's titbits

Well folks that is that for our July 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

Stamp's Friend

Port Elizabeth/Eastern Cape

buying • selling • want lists

082 554 8900 • info@stampsfriend.com

www.stampsfriend.com

British Commonwealth • South Africa



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

