



Philately South Africa: Stamping with Adél

Issue 4

Newsletter

July 2025



Stamp collecting, also known as philately, has been a cherished hobby for over a century. Each stamp holds a piece of history art and culture.

Stamping Spotlight:

John Handman showing the
Edwardian Postcards Patronising
the Zulus of Natal

From my Desk:

GB foreign Bill Revenues
Dividend coupons

The weather in June was marvellous and I attended quite a few meetings and stamp fairs. I met up with a few friends as well and spent some time in London just walking about. I walked so much I think I am shorter by an inch if you can believe that. At one of our meetings there was a gentleman's challenge to a duel!!

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Philatelic Calendar

Internationals

EXHIBITION	DATE	PATRON AGE	LINK
Great American Stamp Show Illinois	14-17 August 2025	APS	GASS 2025
National Stamp Show 2025 Paarl	3-6 Sep 2025	PFSA	PFSA
NORDIA 2025 Sweden	12-14 Sep 2025	FEPA	Nordia 2025
PHILAKOREA 2025	17-21 Sep 2025	FIP	Korea 2025
DUBAI 2026 WSE	4-8 February 2026	FIP	Dubai 2026
BOSTON 2026	23-30 May 2026	FEPA	Boston 2026
MACAU 2026	26 June – 1 July 2026	FIAP	Macau 2026

Virtual

EXHIBITION	DATE	PATRONA GE	LINK
SAVPEX 2025	June 2025	PFSA	PFSA
AUSVIPEX	Start 27 Nov 2025	APF	Ausvipex 2025

Altrincham Fair

This is a very small fair held at the Altrincham Conservatory Club. They cater for every type of collector and I enjoyed the experience. The venue is superb and I enjoyed it a lot, even though I parted with quite a bit of money.

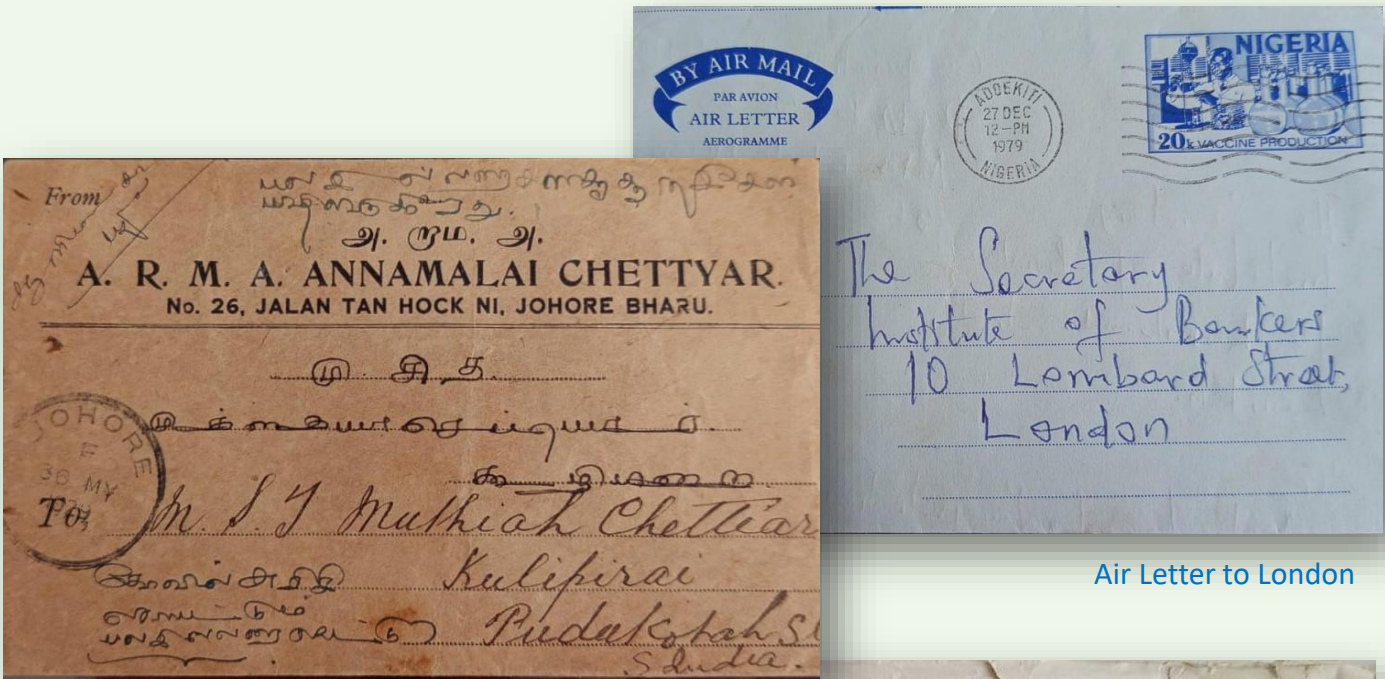


Jamie Smith and David Sheldrake



Tea Room

I bought a few different items that caught my eye: Nigerian Covers and aerogrammes, Israel covers and Postal Stationery. Some material for my Australian States Exhibit. Afterwards, I had to have a cup of tea – of course.

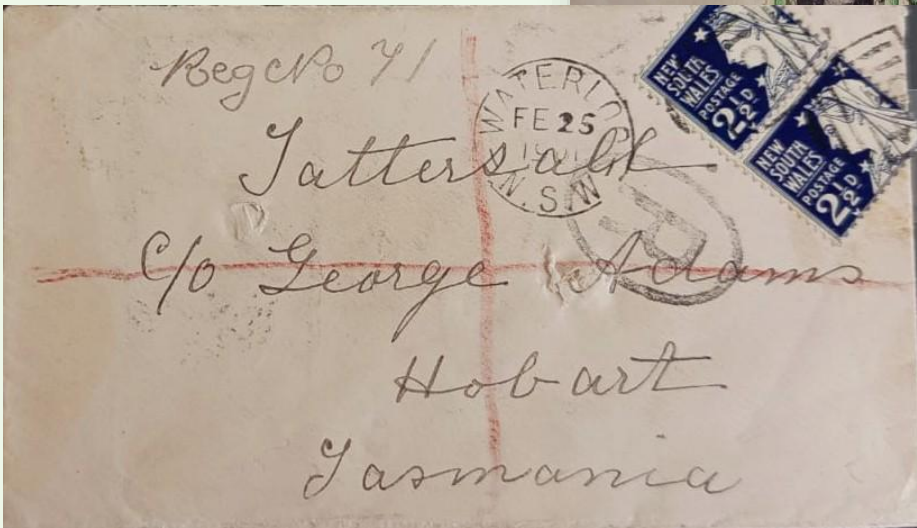


Letter from Johore

Air Letter to London



Letter from Nigeria to the UK



Registered Letter from Waterloo to Tasmania

Swinpex 2025

This was held in Swindon, I went with Alex Haimann and was pleasantly surprised at the amount of dealers that were there. It was very well supported, and I bumped into a few zoom friends as well. The biggest surprise was when a dealer heard that I was from South Africa and had to show me a cover he had bought on the day for 6 pounds: It was a cover addressed to Captain Dawie Uys - see below. I am sad that I had missed out.



Readers' Requests

I receive a lot of requests, and I always try to assist where I can.

Siegfried Mayr has an extensive collection of the Voortrekker Centenary Trek of 1938. However, there are a few cancellations that are still missing from his collection, and I would appreciate it if anyone can assist Sigfried in completing his collection. Siegfried can be mailed at siegmayr@yahoo.com - herewith the list of the items required.

Pretoria Trek

Philadelphia
Reddersburg
Petrus Steyn
Boksburg North

Blood River Trek

Harrismith
Ladysmith
Jagersdrift Station
Utrecht



Last months ZOOM Experiences

June was an interesting month, and I learnt quite a lot at the zoom meetings. The Twickenham society is new to the general circuit, with a few familiar faces.

CIVIL SERVICE PS

Hosted by **Margaret Emerson**, who happened to present some miscellany items from her collection. She has a way of telling a story and the meeting was well worth attending.

Postal stationery cards - Victorian

An inland card issued 1st October 1870
Imprinted ½ d stamp rate.
Printed on the front only, the business correspondence was written or printed on the reverse.



In 1871 around 75 million postcards were sent in Britain

British Empire - Nova Scotia

Proofs on card of the
12 ½ cents value issued
1860-1863

Overprinted Specimen



SEEOPS

Diarise the SEEOPS meetings if you can, informal yet informative.

Paul Davey– ‘Aspects of China’ what a treat this was, not everyday you see an in depth study on China, especially how their postal system operated.

5 June 1901



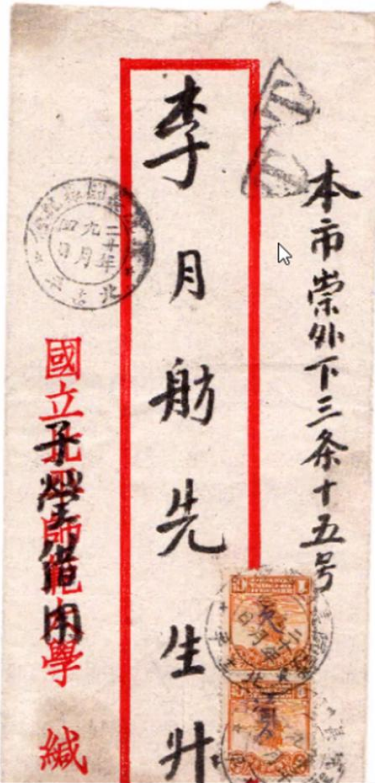
Sent printed matter from Edinburgh to a medical officer in the mining department of the CER in Newchwang. Marked “Left district. Present Add unknown”. The bilingual “RETURNED / TO WRITER” is not recorded by Padget in purple. Returned via Shanghai to Edinburgh where ½d was due for the return service..



4 Sep 1931

Local cover from Peking 13. The two 1c stamps have written in manuscript “chi'en tzu” or postage due. 2c was double the 1c local rate. The cancel is the “National Burial of Tan Yuan-chang” commemorative.

On reverse:
Two postman's marks.



PHILATELY SOUTH AFRICA: Stamping with Adél

This was a well attended and fun meeting. Many different items were shown. Herewith is the link to view the link: [Recording](#)

Margaret Emerson– Mail coaches was the theme of her display and it was beautifully illustrated and explained.

John Besant Mail Coach 1787



More effective brakes

A tighter turning circle without risk of tipping up

Novel method to prevent the wheels coming off while in motion



Ted Roberts– Cancellation POA 43 is a South African cancellation – Post Office Agency



Luke Devlin– He showed a WWII soldier letter from Norway.



Jamie Smith - showed some Mauritius material

Mauritius – Strategic position for naval and anti-submarine and convoy operations.



Consolidated Catalina.



Japanese aircraft carrier.



R.A.F. Censored, O.A.S. Air Mail Cover from E.A.A.P.O. 73 dated 5/9/44 and addressed to England.



Japanese submarine
On a 'Player's' cigarette card.



Internet map showing the
strategic position of Mauritius.

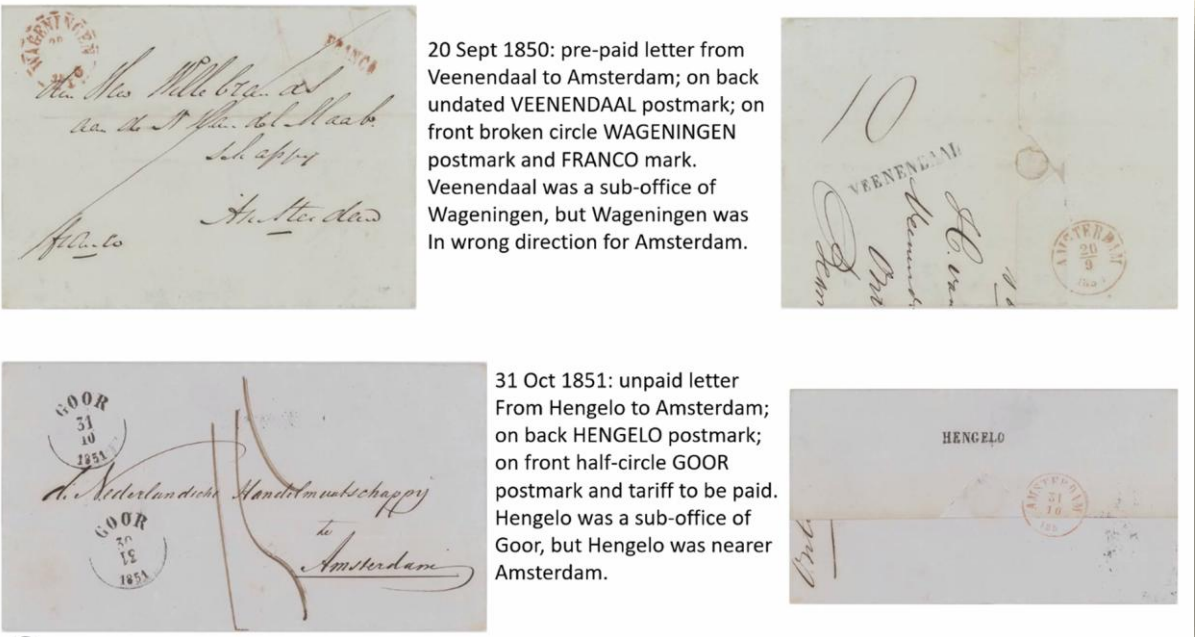
STOCKPORT PS

This was one of the meetings where anyone could show, which leads to a great variety as well as interesting discussions.

Robert McMillan – ‘Hull’ Various items from his collection.



Philip Longbottom – ‘Railways’ Various items from his collection.



HARROGATE PS

I love this group, they are quirky and it is run by Keith Burton. This meeting's theme was all about the navy.

Mike Kentzer – He showed a few items from an aspiring naval officer

Quebec 1814



London
Add ½
L 185(3)



Quebec harbour

This letter was presented twice for transmission to Scotland in 1814. First on 22nd July, where it received a Quebec ship letter mark, but it was realised that there were no ships available. The letter was handed back, added to and then taken to the Naval Office and carried by HMS Ajax to Plymouth Dock, **DN1662**, then via London to Glasgow. Postage was 3/2, 8d ship letter fee plus 2 x 1/3, for 500 – 600 miles.

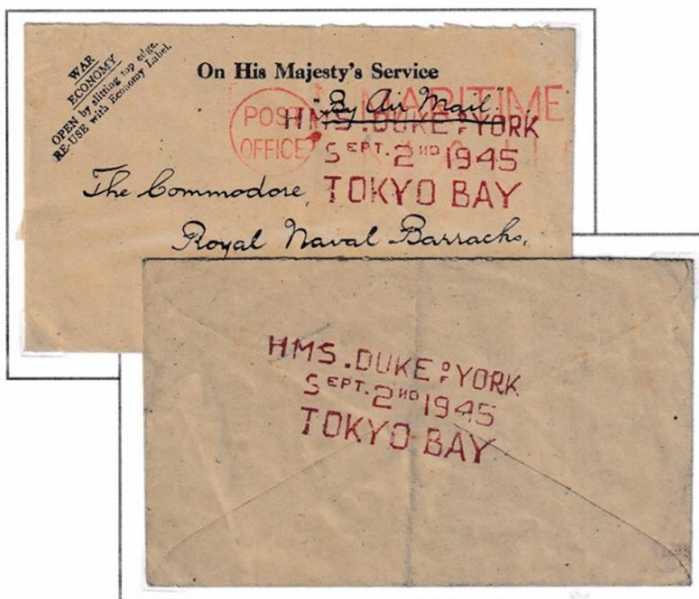
Michael Torreggiani– He showed a few ship letters

HMS Duke Of York

HMS Duke of York was the flagship of the British Pacific Fleet.

She participated in the surrender ceremonies in Tokyo Bay on the 2nd September 1945, when the surrender of the Japanese forces was accepted on the USS Missouri.

Two envelopes sent to the Commodore of the Naval Barracks at Devonport, sent on the day the instruments of surrender were signed.

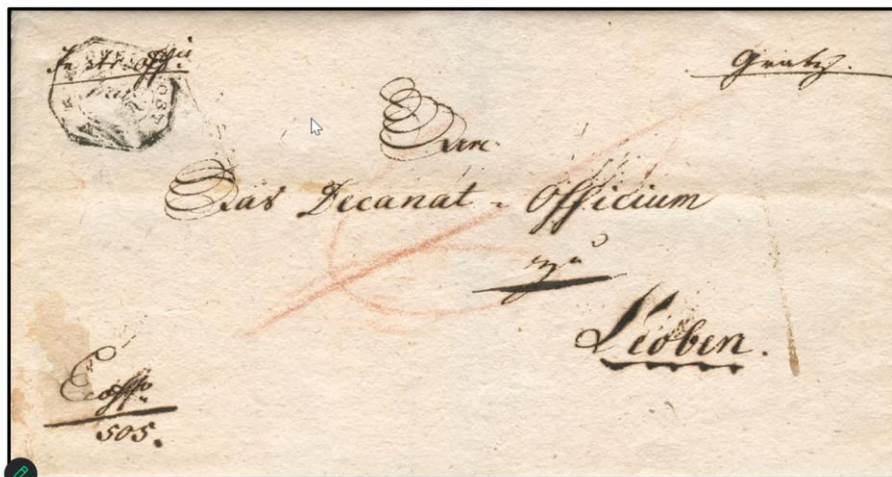


TWICKENHAM & DISTRICT PS

This society is new to our circuit and run by Huw Williams. I will definitely attend their meetings again as it is informative and relaxed.

Roger– He transported us to an Austrian town called Leoben, using maps and postcards.

A bit of postal history



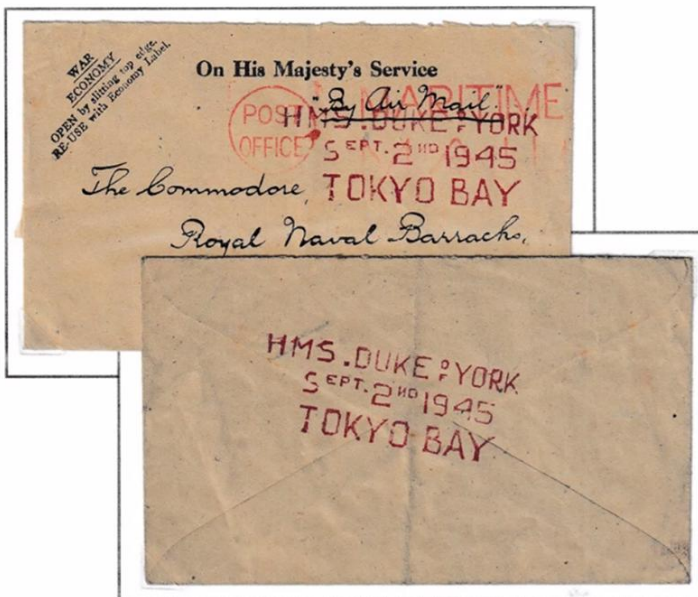
'Ex offio' folded entire ecclesiastical letter from Gratz to the Decanat (deaconry) in Leoben manuscript dated 21 April 1823. Postmarked with the octagonal Gratz postmark. No charge marks and with a red 'curly P' to indicate both parties being allowed free postage.

Christopher Oliver– He showed items of The Great Trek for us South Africans in the audience

HMS Duke Of York

HMS Duke of York was the flagship of the British Pacific Fleet. She participated in the surrender ceremonies in Tokyo Bay on the 2nd September 1945, when the surrender of the Japanese forces was accepted on the USS Missouri.

Two envelopes sent to the Commodore of the Naval Barracks at Devonport, sent on the day the instruments of surrender were signed.



WITWATERSRAND PS

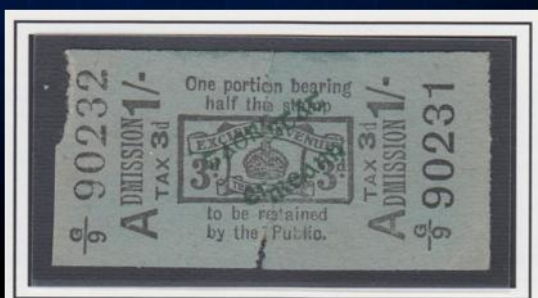
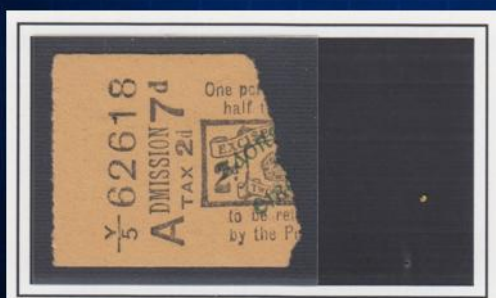
This is a hybrid meeting with members in the room as well as attendees via zoom, OBVIOUSLY this is my favourite meeting as it is my home society.

Ian Matheson– I am running out of words to say when it comes to Ian, he does extensive research, he knows how to make boring stamps interesting, but most importantly, he is keen on sharing his knowledge. At this meeting the Excise Revenues of Ireland was showcased, and the full presentation can be viewed from this link: [Presentation](#)



Government Stamped Tickets, for payment of Entertainments Duty, may be obtained from the Collector of Customs and Excise, Dublin. They are not kept or obtained by Post Offices.

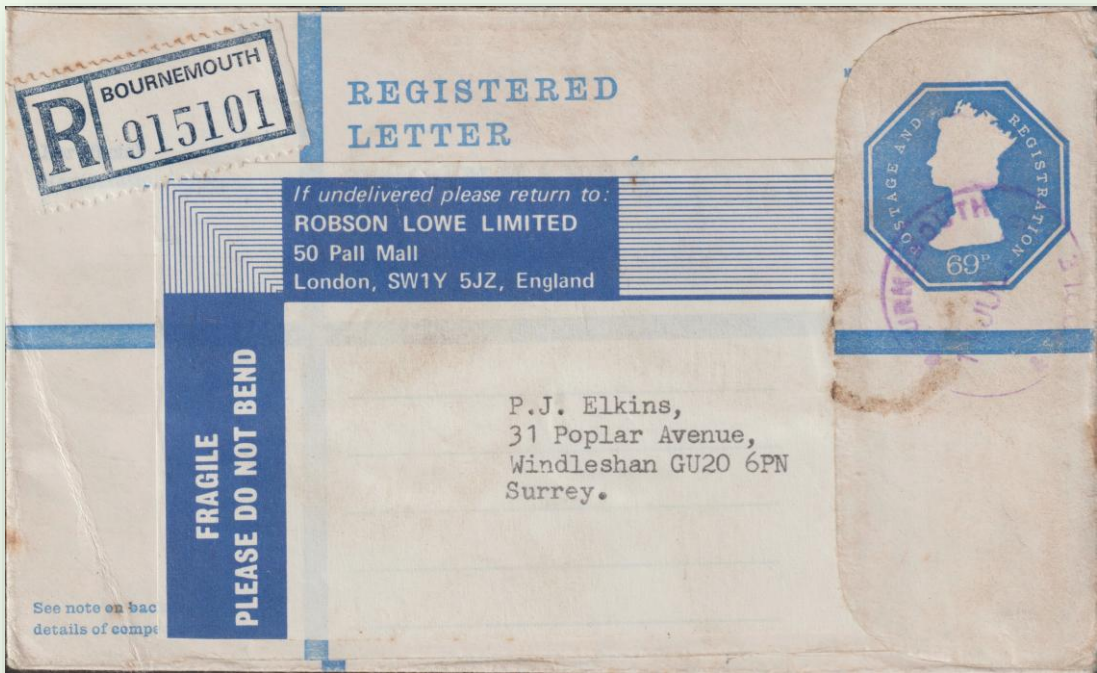
Ex POST OFFICE GUIDE (1924)



My Latest Acquisitions

Herewith some items I acquired at stamp fairs the last month

I saw the **Robson Lowe** label and just had to have it for my Robson Lowe material



I saw a display on the Sierra Leone Airmail stamps, and naturally I had to have these.

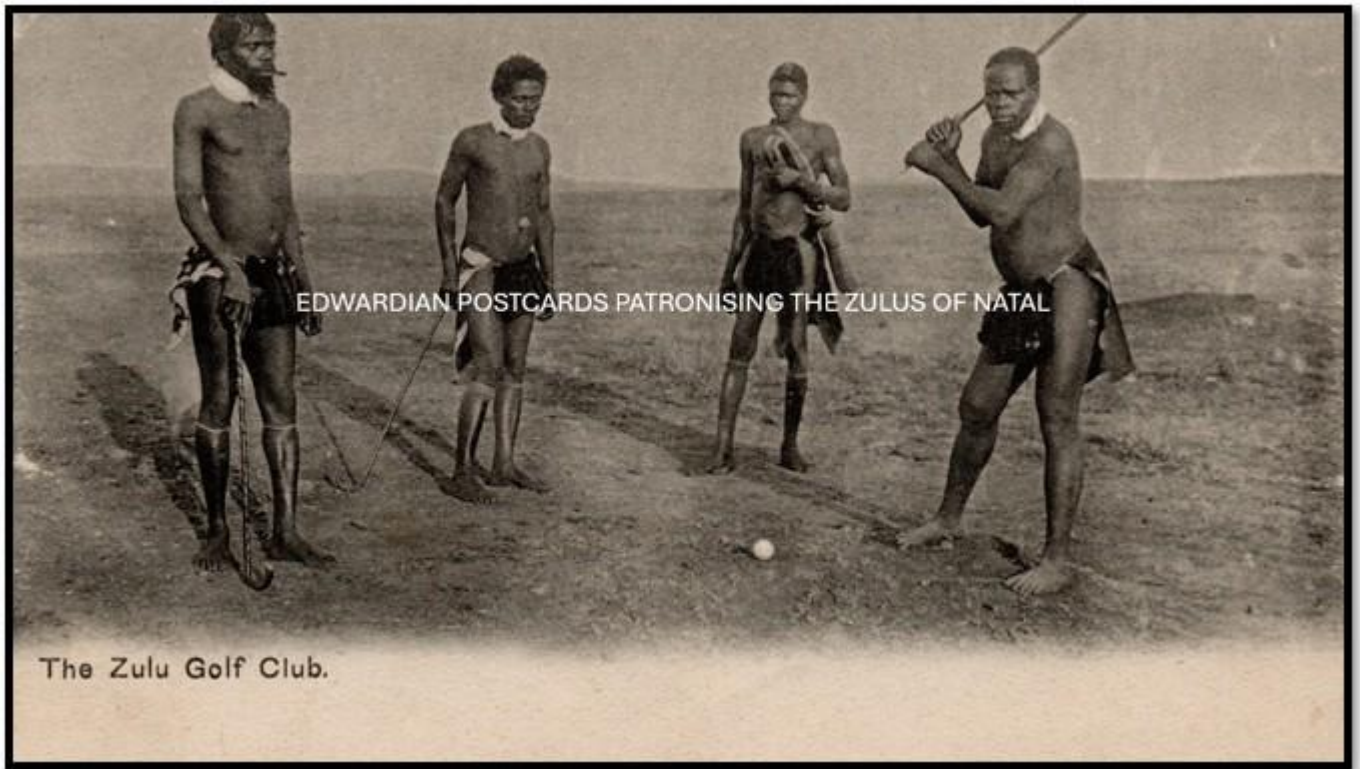


ZOOM Happy Hour

John Handman showed a selection of Edwardian postcards patronizing the Zulus of Natal.

This was thought provoking and beautifully illustrated the way humanity has changed their attitude towards other nationalities

You can access the recording via the following link: [Link](#)

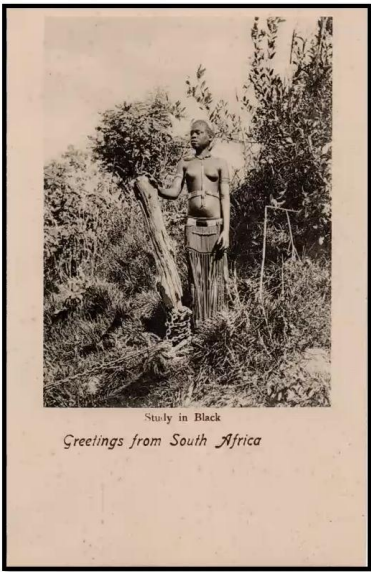


"Black But Comely". Both cards with the same caption but different publishers.

The card on the left is published by ? And features a black woman dressed in western clothing. The card is unused and has an undivided back.

The card on the right is published by the Cape Of Good Hope It is also unused and has an undivided back.

"Study In Black" Pictures a young woman who appears to be involved in removing a tree stump. The publisher is the Cape Of Good Hope. It has an undivided back and is unused.



"Study in Black and White" This is one of the few cards in this presentation that depicts a white person. Does the title refer to the colour of his skin or of his suit? The card was published by R.O. Fueslein, Johannesburg, it is unused and has a divided back.

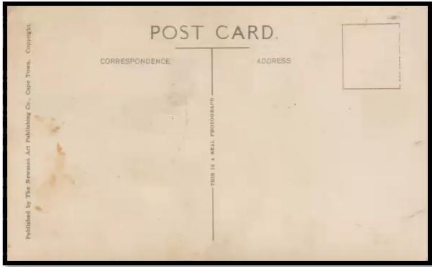


"Zulu Dwarf (Rare) and full grown man". This card shows the Edwardian fascination with anything out of the norm. The publisher is Hallis and Co. from Port Elizabeth.



The back of the card on the left shows a divided back and used. It was sent from Port Elizabeth 24th October 1911 arriving at its destination Bloemfontein on the 26th October 1911.

The card on the right has a divided back and is unused, it was published by The Newman Art Publishing Co of Cape Town.

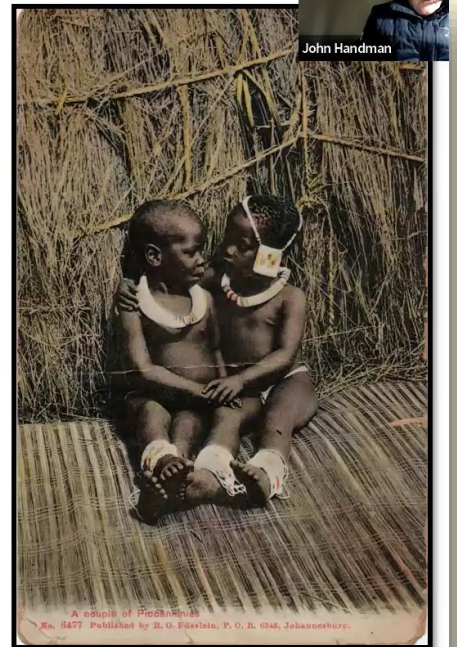


"This Zulu Chief is Times" Showing again that physically different and highlighting the Chief's obesity.

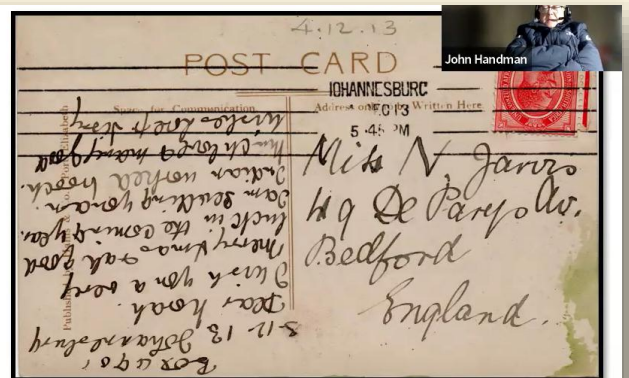




"Do You Love Me?" Published by Sallo Epstein and Co. of Durban and "A couple of Piccanninies" published by R.O. Fusslein of Johannesburg. The top card in black and white, the card to the right in colour. Interestingly the same photograph. I would presume that the photograph was sold to both companies, but find it unusual that almost all of the cards displayed in this exhibit don't recognise the original photographer.



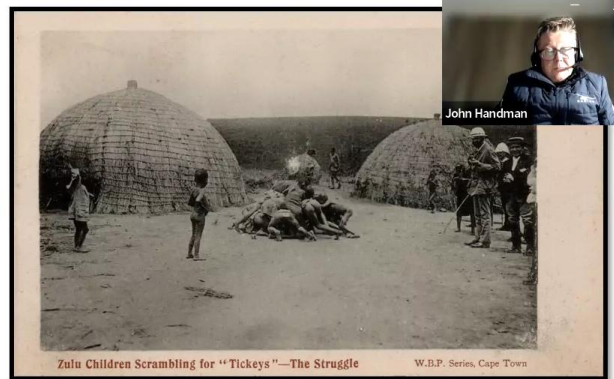
"S.A. NATIVES PECCANNINIES AT DINNER" Again the offensive description of the children eating a meal out of a three-legged cast iron pot. This image has also been used by multiple publishers from the early 1900's. This card was published later, probably after the formation of the Union of South Africa.



The back is divided and was published by Hallis and Co of Port Elizabeth. The card was sent from Johannesburg on the 4th of December 1913 to Bedford, England. There is unfortunately no receiving cancellation.



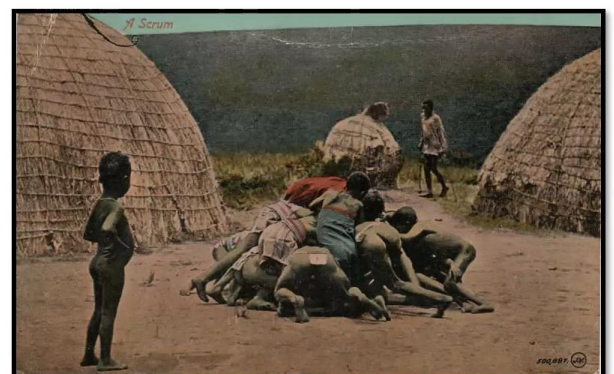
"A GROUP OF PICCANINIES" Piccaninies is an offensive and outdated word that is not derived from the Zulu language. It was used throughout the colonies as a term to describe a black child. The word is believed have been derived from the Portuguese word *pequenino*, which translates to *little* in English. The publisher was P.S. & C. (Paul Schaefer & Co) of Cape Town. It is a divided back card sent from Pietermaritzburg on 29th January 1907 arriving in Mooi River on January 30th 1907.



The three cards on this slide inspired this presentation. Coins being thrown onto the ground for black children to fight over, all the while the European onlookers smiling and laughing.

"Zulu Children Scrambling for "Tickeys"— The Rush" and "Zulu Children Scrambling for "Tickeys"— The Struggle" were both published by W.B.P. Series Cape Town. The cards have undivided backs and are unused.

"A Scrum" is the same image but cropped to exclude the Europeans in the previous cards. This card was published later by The Valentine & Sons Publishing Co. Ltd. From Cape Town, it was however printed in Britain. It is an unused divided back card.



Conundrum Corner

It is a regular occurrence when we have a meeting, and someone will show an item that needs clarification one way or another. Sometimes, you get your answers, and other times the whole room is stumped. I would like to take this opportunity to appeal to you to assist in providing answers if you can. in our zoom meetings, but we don't always find the answer. I would like to use this platform and appeal to you to assist if you can.



This is a request from **Chris Hawley**, a Poynton PS Member. The conundrum is the fact that there are two numbers written in blue. There has been a few suggestions:

- 1) The number on the left could be a fee of 2\6
- 2) It could be a journal number from the post office
- 3) Maybe it was sent via the pneumatic post and that is why there are two different numberse.

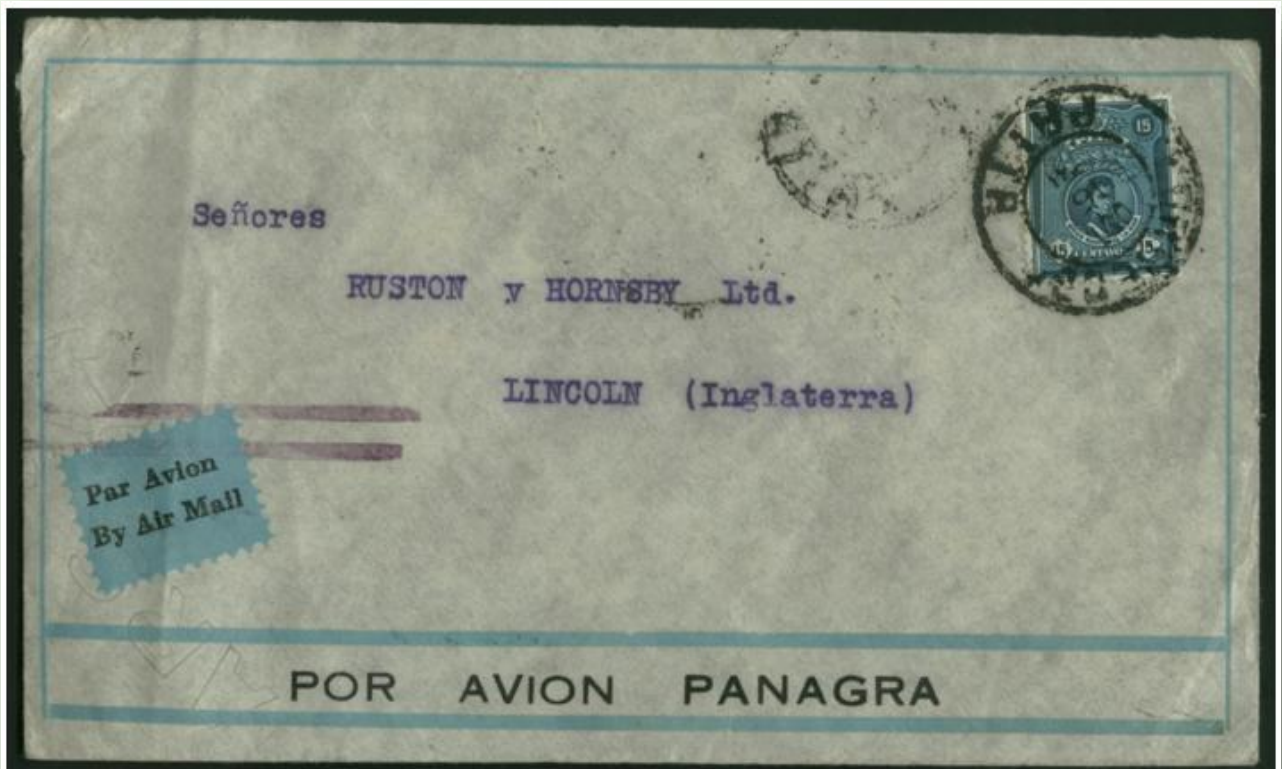
There are no other markings on the back of the letter.

If you can assist please contact me on adelbulpitt@gmail.com

This request is from **Rodney Knight**

The question is what does PAITR in the cancellation stand for?

Secondly, What are the double lines over the airmail label?



15c stamp SG 435 issued 1925

PANAGRA formed 1928, merger between Grace Shipping and PanAM



9 x 10c stamp SG 502 issued 1931

Rear of envelope



CORREOS PAITR OCT 16 31

Reversed **S** in 'CORREOS'

Where/What is PAITR ?

Air Mail label crossed out

Where? Why?



If you can assist, please contact me on adelbulpitt@gmail.com

This cover is from **Jamie Smith**: It is a letter from the Sudan during the Gordon Relief Expedition..
It is supposedly from a soldier named Col. H Brackenbury but still unconfirmed

GORDON RELIEF EXPEDITION - Cover from Colonel Brackenbury on the River Nile near Merawi (Merowi) – 7/2/1885.



England
The North
Mrs Hemmings
Mansfield House
New Cavendish Street
London

7.2.85

No stamps available

T

1d



Korti - Sudan - 1885.
Sudan post office on River Nile.
Only open Dec '84 - May '85.



Sender.
Col. H. Brackenbury.

Cover from Col. Brackenbury (Staff Officer with General Wolseley) written on a pinnace (Small sailing/rowing boat taken from H.M.S. Monarch) on the river Nile, (from where he directed the river forces). Manuscript 'No stamps available'. Landed at Korti, 'T' applied. Received in London and taxed 1d which was incorrect as an officer's letter was 6d. (1d being an 'other ranks' concession rate). **Continued.**

GORDON RELIEF EXPEDITION - Cover from Colonel Brackenbury on the River Nile near Merawi (Merowi) – 7/2/1885.



England
The North
Mrs Hemmings
Mansfield House
New Cavendish Street
London

7.2.85

No stamps available

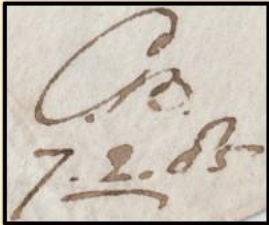
T

1d



'NO STAMPS AVAILABLE'.

Brought forward for reference.



'C.B. - 7/2/1885'.
Col. H. Brackenbury.



Korti – 1885.
Egyptian/Sudan Post Office.



'T' Taxed.
Applied at Korti – Sudan.



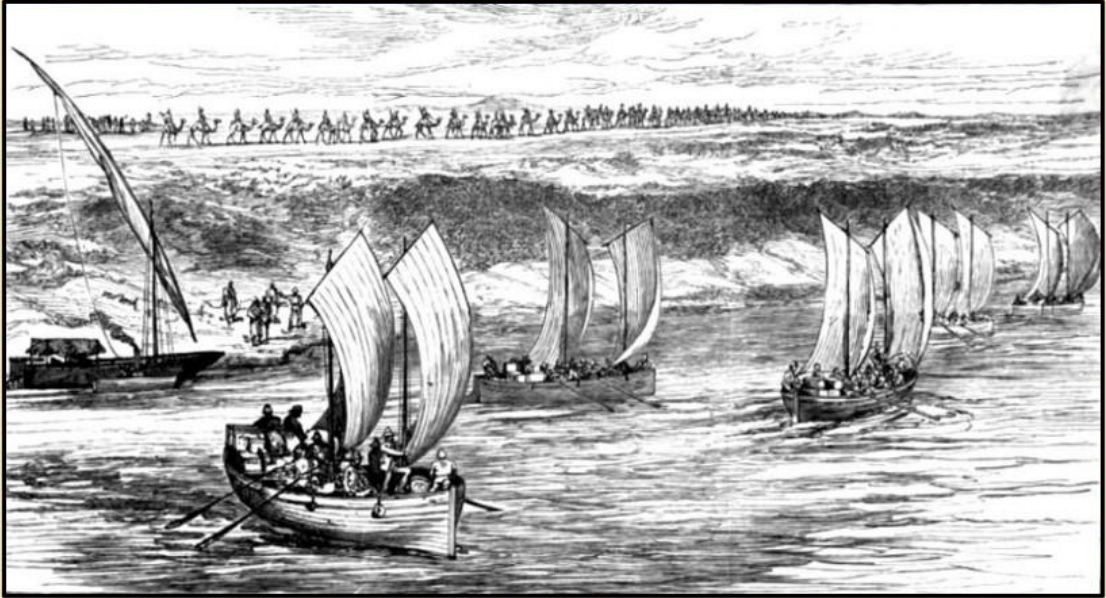
1d strike.
Applied in London.



London - 9/3/1895.
Receiving Strike.

Continued.

Continued. GORDON RELIEF EXPEDITION - Cover from Colonel Brackenbury on the River Nile near Merawi (Merowi) – 7/2/1885.



Continued.

The Head of the River Column: Royal Engineers and Guards' Camel Corps with pinnaces in the foreground of the type that Col. Brackenbury was Sailing on. (A drawing by a newspaperman taken from the Internet).

Col. H. Brackenbury was in command of the small boats on the expedition which would have included the Canadian Voyageurs who manned the Royal Navy Whalers. He sailed in the pinnace from H.M.S. Monarch, - a boat similar the boat in the foreground.

Below is all the research on this cover, it would be helpful if it can be confirmed that this letter was indeed from Col. H. Brackenbury

Continued.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION REGARDING COLONAL H. BRACKENBURY COVER.

Extract from Wikipedia - Nile Expedition.

On 7 October 1884, the Canadians reached Alexandria by sailing ship and headed up the Nile by a combination of shallow draft steam launch and train. On 26 October 1884, the Canadians met Wolseley and his force of 9,000 soldiers at Wadi Halfa. By November the combined force were at the first of six cataracts and began to ascend the rapids. **The southward progress of the expedition sped up with the experienced voyageurs manning the boats. The boats that Wolseley selected were modified Royal Navy whalers.** They were almost 10 metres (33 ft) long, 2 metres (6 ft 7 in) wide and .75 metres (2 ft 6 in) deep, and were equipped with twelve oars, two masts and a removable rudder. The boats had the capacity for a dozen men along with enough cargo to supply them for a hundred days.

Extract from, The Nile Expedition – in the 'Illustrated London News 3rd January 1885.

The detachment to be commanded by General Earle, which started up the river from Korti on Sunday last, the 19th Hussars following on Monday along the bank of the river, and part of the Engineers riding on camels, altogether numbers 2400 men - namely, 900 infantry, including the South Staffordshire regiment, and 1500 of the Mounted Brigade, with six screw guns. The means of transport are as under: - Camels, 1800; horses, 400; **steamers, two; pinnaces, two; and whalers, sixty-four.** The 19th Hussars will act as scouts to the Expedition. A camp will be formed at Handab, near the Fourth Cataract, thirty-five miles above Merawi, and a hundred miles from Korti. **The river movements are directed by Colonel Brackenbury, in the pinnace of H.M.S. Monarch.** The South Staffordshire regiment, nearly 600 strong, is towed in 52 whale boats. A large quantity of intrenching tools is taken, to be used in fortifying defensive positions.



The Addressee (The Honourable Mrs Tremayne) was a member of the aristocracy

She was the daughter of Charles Crespigny Vivian, 2nd Baron Vivian and Mary Elizabeth Panton.
She married John Tremayne on the 13/11/1860. She died on the 30/10/1917 aged 75.

Items of Interest

Dividend Coupons

These are four dividend coupons from a Belgian company named "Soieries de Maransart & Coutures Germain Société Anonyme".

Soieries de Maransart & Coutures Germain was a public limited company. The name "Soieries" suggests the company was involved in the silk industry. These are dividend coupons, indicated by "Coupon de l'Exercice" (Coupon of the Financial Year).

The coupons are for different financial years: 1928-29, 1929-30, 1932-33, and 1933-34.

All coupons state that they were "Payable à Bruxelles" (Payable in Brussels), indicating the payment location for the dividends.



Dividend coupons of a Belgian Public Limited Company



Rear of dividend coupons

Local Club Meetings

I like to visit as many societies as possible, and if time and budget allows I try and attend international exhibitions where I can. I am sharing my experiences with you in the hopes that you will join me in my philatelic journey and come and say hi.

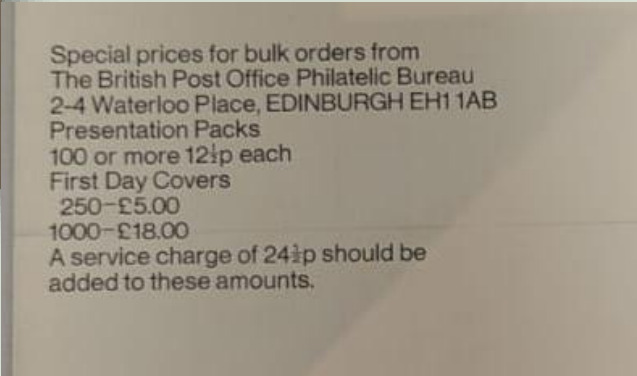
POYNTON PS

Ralph Stuttard – Showed the difference between display packs and presentation packs that were issued by the Philatelic Bureau of Edinburgh. The first group being the Display material that were seen in the local post offices, and used as a form of advertising of the new issues that were released.

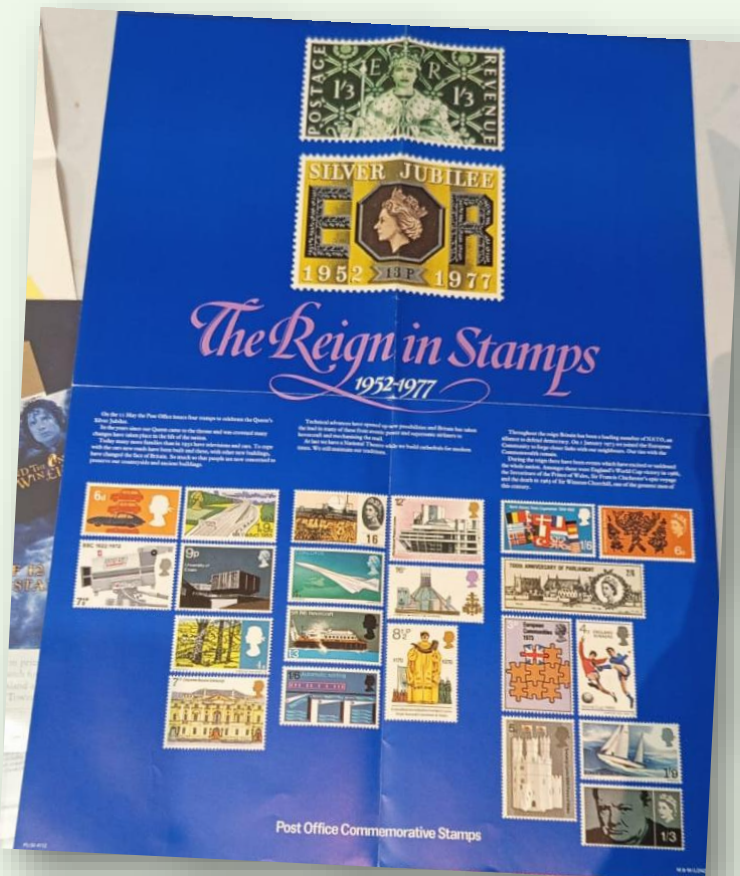


Encapsulated press release

The second group are the presentation packs that were given to the press as well as prominent people of the time.

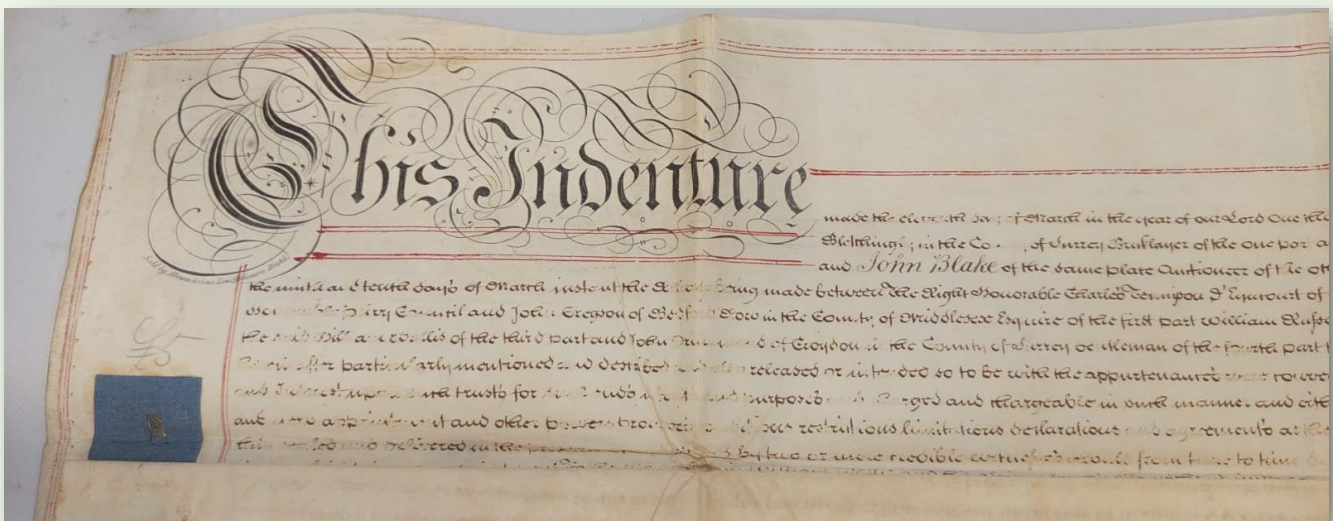


Wording at the rear of the packet

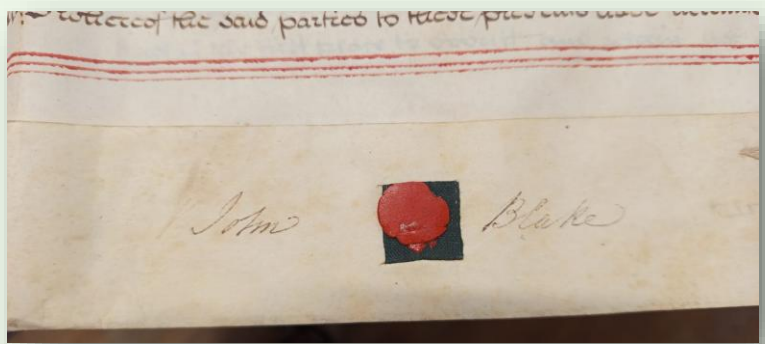
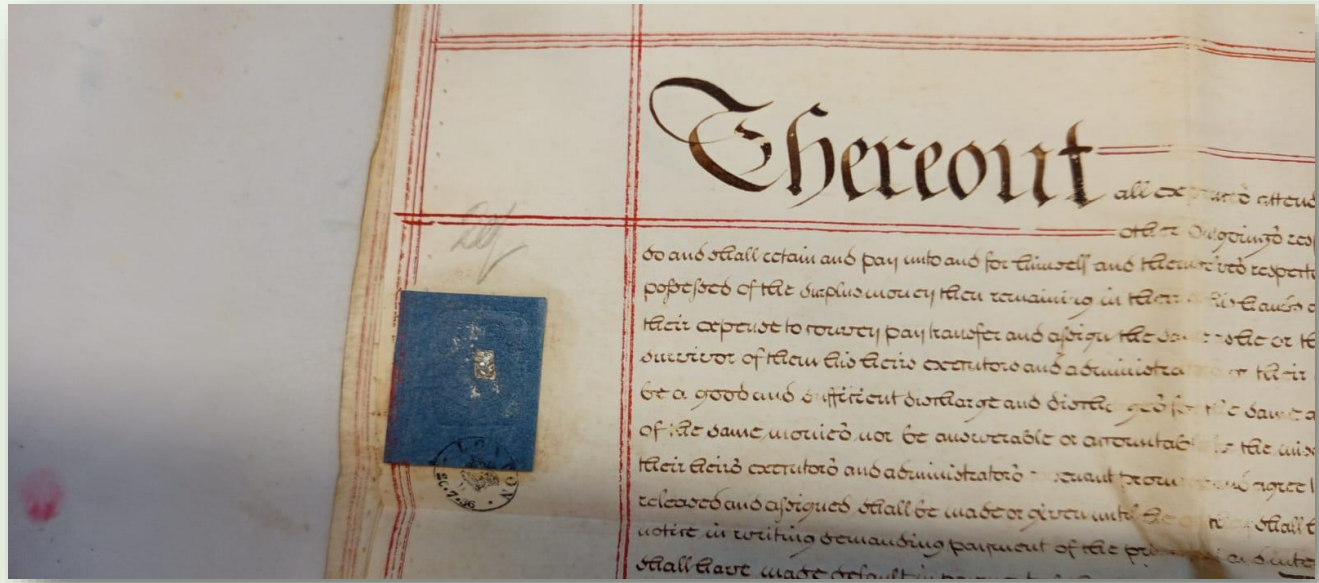


POYNTON PS

Keith Johnson – Showed a magnificent collection of material relating to Lord Alfred Tennyson. It was amazing to learn how many influential/Famous people were his close friends.



Entire Indenture was on display



death.

Service sheet and ticket with the Dean George Granville Bradley's seal.

He was another great friend of Alfred and Emily, also Headmaster at Marlborough while Hallam and Lionel studied there.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

FUNERAL

OF THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

LORD TENNYSON,

POET LAUREATE,

ON

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12th, 1892,

At 12.30 p.m.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY.

FUNERAL OF LORD TENNYSON

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12th, 1892,

At 12.30 o'clock precisely.

Admit One Person

BY THE

WEST CLOISTER DOOR, THROUGH DEAN'S YARD.

(AT 12 O'CLOCK.)

G. G. BRADLEY, Dean.

PRECINCTS

From my Desk

GB Foreign Bill Revenue Stamps

This set was issued between April and May of 1872 in various shades of green.
The set of 1871 was in various shades of Lilac.
The watermark is V R.
I am still looking to complete the set soon.



V R Watermark



Different shades of the 4/-



Different shades of the 5/-



Different shades of the 10/-