

# East Africa Study Circle

A display to

**THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY LONDON**

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Celebrating the Fortieth Anniversary of the Foundation of the  
East Africa Study Circle



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## EAST AFRICA STUDY CIRCLE

The East Africa Study Circle was conceived on 21 October 1978 at a foundation meeting in London and officially constituted at an inaugural meeting held in Floral Room B at the Royal Horticultural Society New Hall London on 2 March 1979. Amongst those attending were Bill Colley, Ben D'Souza, John Minns, Kenneth Pennycuick, Ted Proud, Stuart Rossiter and Bob Kingsley-Holmes. Apologies were received from Colin Hardwick, Roy Dunstan, Ewen Minto, Dennis Vandervelde, Patrick Ellis, Terry Sturton and Ian Gibson.

The Circle's origins however go back even further to the early 70's when four eminent members of the Royal, Stuart Rossiter (one time Editor of The London Philatelist), Kenneth Pennycuick RDP, Roy Dunstan and our esteemed Life President John Minns, comprised an unofficial study group of East African stamps and postal history. Stuart Rossiter was a postal historian *par excellence*, and someone whose driving ambition, above all else, was to encourage the study of the philately of East Africa. Forty years on the Circle today actively promotes the study of the stamps and postal history of Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania and their colonial era predecessors, including British East Africa, German East Africa, Tanganyika and Zanzibar.

We have a worldwide membership of around 160 and meet three times a year in London at The Union Jack Club adjacent to Waterloo Station. Meetings take the form of displays and membership participation events and at two of the meetings a lively members' auction takes place. Our membership also meets at major and regional philatelic events elsewhere.

'B.E.A.', the Study Circle's Bulletin, is published in January, May and September each year and the Circle has also published handbooks by members from time to time. Our extensive library of both philatelic and general publications is available to UK members. It also holds a complete run of the Bulletin from Issue No.1 in May 1979 to date.

The Circle's website has recently been substantially redeveloped and now incorporates a members' log-in area. It is proving an increasingly significant facility as development continues and material is progressively uploaded.

The annual subscription is £20 in the UK and £25 elsewhere. Digital membership at a reduced subscription is to be introduced from January 2019 for members opting to rely on digital copies of the bulletin.

For further details please visit the website at: [www.easc.org.uk](http://www.easc.org.uk) or contact the Hon. Secretary:

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## SETTING THE SCENE

East Africa is an exceptionally interesting hunting ground for philatelists and postal historians. The political context is formed by the several colonial territorial acquisitions that accompanied the 'Scramble for Africa', the impact of multiple imperial influences and the dislocations and realignments resulting from war. Arab and Indian cultural, social and economic influences greatly enriched the native Swahili to create a regional melting pot. Striking developments in sea, rail and (later) air communications transformed the speed and effectiveness of postal services. Postal organisation in the region underwent a number of step changes through the colonial period and beyond.

### Early Days

Communication had been happening in the region for many centuries before the Europeans arrived – by dhow along the coast and across the Indian Ocean, by runner or caravan overland. Before the introduction of formal postal services in East Africa, European letters were normally carried privately by ship, usually to Aden where they could be connected with the already established steamship services running between Europe, India and further afield. Connections, often hazardous, could also be made between Uganda and the Mediterranean via the Nile.

At that time the East African regional hub was Zanzibar – the East African fulcrum of the Indian Ocean trading system, the region's main commercial centre and the jumping-off point for traders, explorers and missionaries travelling in the mainland interior. Later Zanzibar became the main base for the suppression of the slave trade, led by the British naval presence and the exercise of diplomatic pressure. The first formal postal arrangements were established there under the administration of the Indian Post Office, using the stamps of India (the influence of India on postal practices in East Africa is a recurring theme). A post office was briefly in place between November 1868 and April 1869, to be followed by a permanent presence from October 1875. While a British Protectorate over Zanzibar was declared in November 1890 it was only in July 1895 that control of the postal service was transferred from the Indian to the Zanzibar authorities, the first stamps under the new regime being issued on 14 November 1895. A German post office was located there between August 1890 and July 1891 and a French one from 1889 to 1904.

### The 'Scramble for Africa'

In the last two decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century most of the imperial powers – Great Britain, France and Germany, not to mention Belgium, Spain, Portugal and Italy – engaged in an escalating competitive 'Scramble for Africa' at the end of which only Abyssinia and Liberia remained exempt from colonial control. On the East African mainland the main imperial contest was between Great Britain and Germany. 'Spheres of influence' were agreed in 1885, the areas that later became Kenya and Uganda falling to Great Britain and the area to the south that became German East Africa (eventually Tanganyika) to Germany. The territorial arrangements were given more precise definition in a further Anglo-German agreement signed in Berlin on 1 July 1890, which also saw confirmation of the British protectorate over Zanzibar.

In the British sphere the Imperial British East Africa Company (IBEAC) received its royal charter on 3 September 1888. Its first post office (Mombasa) was established and its first stamps issued on 23 May 1890. A German post office operated in Lamu on the coast between December 1888 and March 1891. The IBEAC, seriously under-resourced, was wound up in 1895, its place being taken by the British East Africa Protectorate under direct control from London.

The interior territory of Uganda, initially part of the remit of IBEAC, became a British protectorate on 1 April 1893, its first stamps being issued on 20 March 1895. The so-called Lado enclave, an extension of the Congo Free State on the west bank of the upper Nile from 1894, was later to become part of Uganda. In other territorial developments Uganda's eastern province was transferred to British East Africa (1902) and its northern province to Sudan (1914).



*An 1894 original photograph mounted on card and used as a New Year greetings card by the staff of the Imperial British East Africa Post Offices. It shows the mail for Uganda about to leave Mombasa on its 600 mile, two month journey prior to the building of the Uganda Railway. On the reverse is a note that one man carries the mail, the following nine men are guards and the rest carry food and cloth for the journey*

While British East Africa and Uganda remained politically separate, their postal services were amalgamated in 1902 and thereafter stamp issues were common to both. A strong unifying factor was the construction of the Uganda Railway from Mombasa, which was started in 1896 and reached the shore of Lake Victoria in December 1901. Although built with the backing of the British government mainly for imperial strategic reasons, it proved to be a powerful catalyst to the development of the interior and greatly facilitated postal as well as other communications.

Meanwhile, as early as 1885, Germany had declared its sphere of influence to the south to be under German imperial protection. The German East Africa Company (*Deutsch-Ostafrikanische Gesellschaft - DOAG*) was formed soon thereafter. The first post offices were established (at Dar es Salaam and Bagamoyo) on 4 October 1890. The DOAG, however, proved to be short-lived (for reasons rather similar to the IBEAC). German East Africa (*Deutsch-Ostafrika - DOA*) became a German colony on 1 January 1891. The stamps of Germany were used from 1890, overprinted with the colony's currency from July 1893 and additionally with the colony's name from April 1896. The overprinted stamps were succeeded by the German colonial key plate 'yacht' issue in 1901.

## World War I

With two of the main belligerents controlling adjacent territories, World War I inevitably had a major impact in the region. Germany opened hostilities in September 1914 by sinking a British cruiser in Zanzibar harbour. Mafia Island was occupied by the British in January 1915. Following the invasion of German East Africa by the Allies, civilian mail was accepted by the Indian Army Postal Service using overprinted Indian stamps. GEA territory in Ruanda-Urundi to the west, bordering Belgian Congo, was occupied by Belgian forces from 1916. The German forces in German East Africa fought throughout the war despite being vastly outnumbered by the Allies, and only finally surrendered after the Armistice. A British administration for the occupied territories was established in 1917, the first post offices being opened under this new management on 1 June and the first stamps (overprinted stamps of East Africa) issued in September 1917. Under the Treaty of Versailles signed on 28 June 1919, Ruanda-Urundi was mandated to Belgium, Kionga, a tiny triangle of land in the south bordering Portuguese East Africa (Mozambique) to Portugal and the rest to Great Britain. The British mandate was renamed 'Tanganyika' on 1 February 1920. The mandates became effective on 20 July 1922.



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## Subsequent Evolution

Initially the British government was scrupulous in acknowledging the special status of Tanganyika as a mandate rather than a colony, but the distinction became increasingly blurred with the passage of time. This elision made possible the amalgamation of the postal service of Tanganyika with those of Kenya and Uganda in January 1933. The first stamps of the combined postal regime were issued on 1 May 1935 and remained thus until independence.

By contrast the special status of Zanzibar, of which the head of state was the Sultan, not the imperial monarch, was punctiliously observed until independence. Thus Zanzibar never became part of the joint postal arrangements that applied on the mainland and continued to issue its own stamps bearing the Sultan's head.

In the meantime the East Africa Protectorate, with a growing community of white settlers, was renamed Kenya in July 1920, at the same time acquiring an enhanced status as a crown colony. Jubaland, on the northern coast of Kenya centred on Kismayu, was ceded to Italy in June 1925 and later incorporated into Italian Somaliland. Uganda remained a protectorate as before.

Of the four territories Tanganyika was geographically the largest, but Kenya the most significant postally. In 1931, for example, Kenya accounted for 54 per cent of the region's postal traffic, well ahead of Tanganyika (31 per cent), Uganda (10 per cent) and Zanzibar (5 per cent). While the traditional maritime, rail and lacustrine (mainly Lake Victoria and Lake Tanganyika) mail routes remained in place, the new feature of the inter-war period was the rapid development of air mail, both through a growing network of internal services and the opening of trunk connections with London, South Africa and elsewhere.

The British territories of East Africa were heavily involved in World War II. Kenya was the southern springboard for repelling Italian forces in Italian Somaliland (Italian East Africa) and Ethiopia. East African forces saw action not only within the region but also throughout the Indian Ocean and points further east. A dedicated East African Army Postal Service, with its own network of post offices, provided close support. Kenya was an important logistical base for campaigns further afield and was the location of various internment and POW camps. Meanwhile Tanganyika became an adopted home for evacuees from Poland.

*A block of four of the 5 shillings large format value of the 1922 'giraffe' issue of Tanganyika, from the first issue of new stamps for the territory following the creation of the British mandate. By using the head of a giraffe, the national animal of Tanganyika, as the centrepiece of their design, the stamps neatly side-stepped the nature of British imperial authority in the territory*



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## Independence

As a result of growing nationalist pressures (most obviously reflected in the Mau Mau insurgency in Kenya) and of new thinking by the British government in relation to its African possessions, independence rose to the top of agendas in East Africa as elsewhere. Tanganyika became independent on 9 December 1961, Uganda on 9 October 1962, Zanzibar on 10 December 1963 and Kenya on 12 December 1963. Tanganyika and Zanzibar were joined as the United Republic of Tanganyika and Zanzibar on 26 April 1964, to be renamed Tanzania on 29 October of the same year, an arrangement that has lasted, with occasional wobbles, to this day.

The East African Community came into effect in December 1967. Posts & Telecommunications was one of four infrastructure bodies formed to provide a unified service throughout the region (the others being Airways, Railways and Harbours). Commemorative stamps were produced in common for all three territories. Definitive stamps continued to be specific to each territory, although they were normally accepted as valid in the others. Postal services, as did the others, went their separate ways again on 15 April 1976.

## This Display

A display such as this cannot do full justice to every aspect of the region's postal development. There follow 23 contributions from 15 members and one distinguished guest, Patrick Maselis. While broadly chronological, these contributions reflect many of the themes and cross-currents touched upon above as well as exhibitors' particular enthusiasms.



*East Africa 1960*



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# DISPLAYS

| <b>TITLE</b>                                                       | <b>FRAMES</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
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| The Lado Enclave                                                   | 2             |
| DOA Forerunners 1888-1893 (including Lamu and Zanzibar)            | 3-6           |
| The Survey, Construction and Early Operation of the Uganda Railway | 7-8           |
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*Underpaid and taxed cover from Zanzibar to Switzerland, January 1880*

Forerunner mail in 1856 with ADEN/B.P.P./BEARING (British Packet Postage) and cachet of the French Consulate, Zanzibar. The Indian Government opened an Experimental Post Office on 1 June 1878. A double-rate cover to Germany is shown using the Zanzibar 'bars' canceller. This was replaced by the BRITISH P.O. duplex cancel, with the earliest recorded use of 12 August 1879 on display.

Early registered mail is scarce and three covers are shown: 1881 (to Germany), 1883 (to India) and 1884 (to Muscat). These are followed by an Indian stationery registered envelope, emanating in German East Africa and sent to Germany in 1887 through the British post office in Zanzibar. An underpaid letter to Switzerland in 1880 has the deficiency paid with Swiss postage dues (120 centimes).

An entire containing a ten-page letter from Captain Cromwell of the *U.S.S. Ticonderoga*, en-route to Zanzibar. Posted at Zanzibar in October 1879 to Mrs Cromwell, Phila., U.S.A.; franked 10 annas (double-rate postage). *Ticonderoga* spent a month at Cape Town, here 31 of the battleship's crew deserted for a new life, possibly the attraction of the gold fields.





14th December 1909 registered letter from DUNGU (Uele District) 'via Mombassa' to Belgium. Franked with 40c Congo stamp (= internal letter rate of 15c and registration fee of 25c) and also franked with 5 Uganda stamps totalling 32 cents cancelled at GONDOKORO 5 January 1910 paying the rate through Uganda and on to Europe. Gondokoro registration label on reverse

Lado is a territory of 40,000 sq.km between the Congo, Sudan and Uganda. The natives were illiterate, so postal history is only known in the wake of the first expedition to the region, which was by Egyptian forces in 1841. Other expeditions were quickly organised, followed by missionaries and traders. In 1871, the territory was annexed by Egyptian Sudan. Leopold II resolved to take further steps to conquer Southern Sudan and from 1891 onwards he organised several expeditions, and eventually occupied Lado in 1897. After the death of Leopold II in 1910, Lado was restored to Great Britain.

**Pre-Lado Period.** Only mail from explorers, missionaries and the Province of Equatoria's governors and civil servants can be found.

On display is a letter from von Heuglin, the German explorer who took part in the Dutch von Tinné expedition in the Bahr-El-Ghazal (1863). This letter was sent by native bearer to be handed in at the French consulate in Khartoum and bears the consular handstamp **VICE-CONSULAT DE FRANCE/ KARTHOUM**. It was then transported by diplomatic bag to Alexandria (23 October 1863). The request 'par Trieste' was not followed as it travelled aboard the Carmel, a ship belonging to the Ligne d'Egypte which left for Marseilles on 20 October. It has the handstamp of the travelling post office 'MEDITERRANEE A LYON'.

**Lado Period 1897-1910.** Three routes were available to access the Lado region.

**The Nile Route:** This was the most popular route because it was a much faster route than the two others. From 1909 the Sudanese authorities decided that Belgian Congo stamps would only cover the inland portion of the journey and that Sudanese stamps were required outside the Enclave's boundaries. On display is mail with the scarce mixed frankings.

**The Congo Route:** Mail required only Congo stamps, but the journey time was much longer.

**The Uganda Route:** This is the scarcest route with only a handful of covers known to exist. This is due to the very small number of Belgians serving in the south of the Enclave. Illustrated is an example from this route, originating in Dungu.





Registered letter with receipt of acknowledgment (Avis de Reception) sent from Dar-es-Salaam 30.8.92 to Berlin. The fee paid is in total 80pf which consists of 40pf postage for a letter between 16 and 30g, 20pf registration fee and 20pf fee for the receipt of acknowledgment. The latter fee could be placed on the attached receipt of acknowledgment or on the cover itself, as in this case. To clearly mark that the receipt of acknowledgment fee was paid, the 20pf stamp was cancelled in manuscript 'Avis de Reception'. This is the only cover known from German East Africa with the receipt of acknowledgment fee paid and cancelled in manuscript

During the colonization of East Africa, Germany opened four post office in the region which were post offices abroad – specifically Lamu (1888), Zanzibar, Bagamoyo and Dar-es-Salaam (all 1890). The latter two became post offices on 1 January 1891 under the colonial administration of German East Africa with the transfer of the coastal strip. Lamu and Zanzibar were closed on 31 March and 31 July 1891.

These post offices abroad all used the ordinary German stamps and their usage in East Africa can only be recognised by the cancel. Also the colonial administration continued the use of German stamps until 1 July 1893 when the stamps in Pfennig value received overprints in Pesa currency. The 2 Mark stamp remained in use until the issue of the Rupien values of the Yacht type stamps on January 1st 1901. These unoverprinted German stamps are called 'Forerunners' ('Vorläufer' in German) as they predate the regular stamp issues.

During the use of the forerunners several additional post offices were opened along the coast of German East Africa: Tanga and Lindi (1891), Kilwa, Saadani and Pangani (1892) and the 2 Mark stamps were also issued in Mohorro and Mikindani (1894).





*Postal facilities on the Uganda Railway c. October, 1899 (British National Archive)*

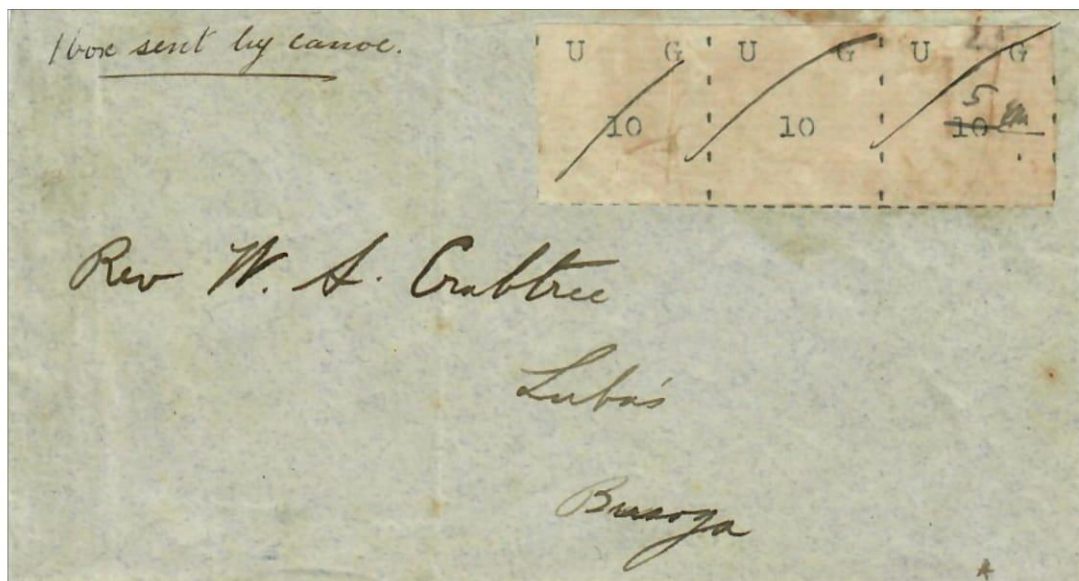
The building of the Uganda Railway (1896-1904) was a monumental achievement, aimed at suppressing the slave trade in East Africa, containing German influence in the region and opening a reliable route to Uganda. The construction team, led by George Whitehouse, Chief Engineer, overcame numerous challenges, including difficult geographies, inclement weather, man-eating lions and political opposition.

The Railway ran from Kilindini on the Coast to Port Florence on Lake Victoria. A reconnaissance survey was conducted by Captain J.R.L. Macdonald between 1891 and 1893 and detailed construction surveys started in January 1896. The first rail was laid at Kilindini on 30 May 1896. Prior to this time, there were only a few post offices and postal agencies in British East Africa, all of which were along the Coast. Mail was carried by runner between Mombasa and the interior. The development of the postal administration in the region paralleled the building of the Railway. Post offices or postal agencies were established along the Railway as it progressed upcountry.

The Railway was built by indentured labour from India. These workers, needing to send money and letters home, created an immediate demand for postal and money order facilities. A post office was quickly established at KILINDINI. As construction progressed, it became necessary to provide postal services for the Indian workforce along the track. A post office was opened at RAILHEAD. This post office was moved inland with the Railway. During 1901, a post office was also established at EARTHWORKS, the camp for embanking gangers clearing the land and plate laying. A Travelling Post Office (TPO) service was in use from c. 1 January 1900.

On 20 December 1901 the final rail was laid at Port Florence (later KISUMU), the terminus of the Uganda Railway, connecting Mombasa to the Lake steamer services and Uganda. After the completion of the track to Kisumu, the railhead post office moved back down the line, toward Mombasa, as work continued on permanent bridges, viaducts and a tunnel on the Mau Escarpment. Construction was finally completed in September 1904.





*The 'Crabtree' first issue typewritten cover sent by Rev Ernest Millar to his colleague William Crabtree. One of twelve examples of typewritten stamps additionally surcharged in manuscript to indicate the correct postal rate*

The stamps and postal history presented in this display mark the birth and early development of a new postal system. No printing facilities were available in Uganda when it became a British protectorate in August 1894. Needing a postal service, the embryonic administration looked for help to the missionaries of the Church Missionary Society (CMS), the only established organisation in the new territory. The first missionary stamps, created by Rev Ernest Millar on his typewriter, were launched on 20 March 1895. Millar produced four further such issues over the following fifteen months. By now the CMS had imported a hand press from England to support its rapidly expanding mission. Printings of typeset stamps in November 1896 and July 1897 were produced on this machine under the supervision of Rev Frank Rowling. Only at the end of 1898, by which time demand for stamps was fast outstripping local capacity, was the first De La Rue definitive issue introduced. Even so typeset stamps remained in use for some months.

The missionary stamps are primitive and lack elegance, but are wonderfully atmospheric and evoke the difficult circumstances of their production. The missionaries themselves – deeply committed, resourceful and very human – almost live and breathe through the covers that survive. The main protagonists in the story are Millar and Rowling, but we meet through these covers a much larger cast of the missionary characters active in Uganda at the time.

Following a brief introduction, this display is in two parts:

#### **Typewritten stamps**

For each of the five typewritten issues the display shows the unused stamps, a selection of blocks and strips, examples of typing errors (which, unsurprisingly under the circumstances, were not uncommon) and examples of postal usage. Only a handful of most values survive. Amongst many rarities the two outstanding items are arguably the 'Crabtree' first issue cover and the 500 cowries fifth issue/first issue parcel piece.

#### **Typeset stamps**

The second part of the display starts with an analysis of the two printings, illustrated by panes and sheets. There follows a selection of covers chosen to demonstrate the internal and external destinations, rates and cancellation methods in use at the time. The 'L' (local) overprints of the first printing are explained and their usage illustrated. Examples follow of the scarce 'White Fathers' missionary covers and the distinctive 'Le Carré' campaign covers.





*April 1899 White Fathers 'Double Queen' cover, Kampala to Algeria*

In this single frame display of twelve early covers I have tried to create a vignette illustrating not only the awesome remoteness of Uganda in the last three decades of the 19th century but also the impressive introduction of a reliable postal service in perhaps the most challenging environment of the Empire.

My first item is an 1876 entire from General Charles Gordon written towards the end of his three years service as Governor General of Equatoria. Addressed from Fatiko the fort established by his predecessor Sir Samuel Baker between Lake Albert and Lake Victoria in 1872, Gordon with his Royal Engineers had established a chain of military forts southwards up the Nile from Khartoum and these briefly supported a weekly military post down the Nile to Egypt and Europe. Three years later a remarkable 1879 pioneer missionary letter from M'rooli near present day Masindi already talks bravely of trying to set up a civilian postal service.

A franked cover from a member of the famous 'Portal' expedition to Uganda in 1893 provides an early example of the treatment of official and unpaid mail from up-country now almost invariably routed to the East coast through British East Africa. An 1894 photograph on a Christmas card from the IBEA Company staff at Mombasa graphically illustrates the logistical challenges of providing a mail service to and from Uganda by this route.

The eight missionary covers which complete the frame include a scarce 1896 cover sent via Mombasa to the UK bearing a British East Africa stamp only, whilst another cover sent the following year to an addressee within BEA bears Uganda typesets only. The display continues with four significant combination covers which provide evidence of the confusion occasioned by the introduction of Imperial Penny Post early in 1899. A 'Double Queen' cover to Algeria in April 1899 shows how the introduction of IPP did not immediately validate Uganda stamps for use on correspondence to destinations outside the Empire until Uganda eventually became a member of the Universal Postal Union on 31st March 1902.

Two concluding covers both illustrate the use of Imperial Penny Post and comprise a much travelled letter to the Canadian Arctic which spent over a year in transit before being returned undelivered to East Africa and an intriguing incoming cover from the Sudan.



*The earliest known cover carrying examples of the Imperial British East Africa Company stamps. The initial consignment was dispatched from London on 1 September on the BISN Company's s.s. Madura and arrived Mombasa around 1 October*

The area which was to become known as British East Africa was born of the 'Scramble for Africa' and was allocated to the British sphere of influence at the Berlin Conference of 1884. In 1888 the Imperial British East Africa Company was established under Royal charter and in May 1890 the Company opened two post offices on the coast at Mombasa and Lamu.

Until the arrival in October of the initial consignment from Bradbury Wilkinson of the Company's lithographed Sun and Crown or 'Sunburst' issue, overprinted stamps of Great Britain were used and when these very soon ran out, unoverprinted Indian stamps obtained from Zanzibar were used for the August and September mails.

The stamps of British East Africa were issued in extremely small numbers throughout its twelve years as an independent administration both up to 1895 when the company became insolvent and the construction of the Uganda railway commenced and thereafter as a British Protectorate until 1902. The supply of stamps on hand was frequently exhausted and gave rise to the issue of at least six provisional issues. This presentation includes examples from all of these as well as many of the scarce overprint or handstamp varieties which often arose through the work being carried out locally at Mombasa or by native printers at the offices of the Zanzibar Gazette in Zanzibar.

The display includes some rare early proofs from the Bradbury Wilkinson archives along with essays and artists proofs from the archives of De La Rue who were retained by the Crown Agents as printers of the later Protectorate material. The collection has been assembled over a period of nearly forty years and includes items from the Hind, Danson, Rossiter, Minns and other more recent sales.





*Insured and registered mail from the Freretown Mission in December 1894. Franked 37½ annas with provisionals*

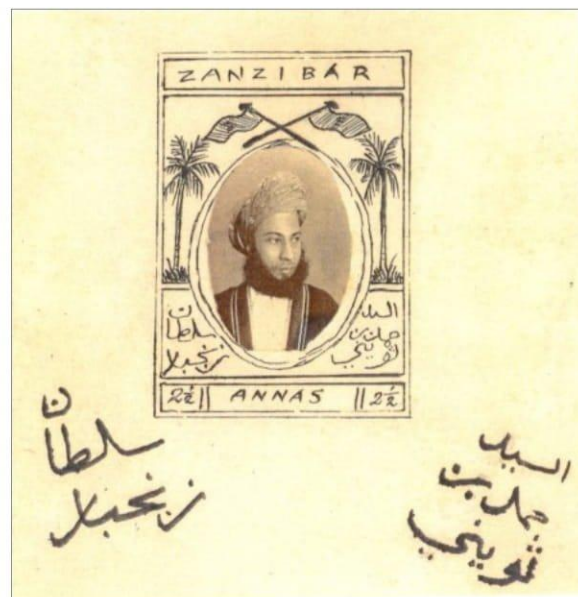
A trader's cover from Lamu to Germany franked 6 annas with 'On G.B.' provisionals and cancelled at Aden on 29 July 1890. Indian stamps were used during a stamp shortage in August and September 1890 and a cover to India is shown. The only recorded mixed franking of Indian and IBEA Company definitives on mail from the Freretown Mission in December 1890.

Row 2 of the exhibit shows covers franked with manuscript provisionals in March 1891: SG.20 (one cover recorded) used from Lamu, SG.21 (two covers recorded) and SG.23 (two covers recorded). A Macallister cover with two 1 anna VHM provisionals (SG.25) is also shown. A cover from the Tana River Expedition in 1891; trader's mail in 1894 from Wasin to Germany.

Frame 19. Covers franked with handstamped provisionals issued in July 1895: Lamu to Finland (August 12) and Furley missionary mail (August 5). Commercial cover of 28 October 1895 showing advance use of the 2½ annas 'On India' provisionals before the official transfer of stamps from Zanzibar on 10 November 1895. Book post wrappers from the Taveta Mission sent to England in 1897 (black cancel) and 1898 (purple cancel).

A Travelling Post Office operated on the Uganda Railway, covers of 1901 are shown to London and India. A cover with EXPERIMENTAL P.O. cancel sent in 1902 from the Railway Camp ahead of Railhead.

A cover to India in 1891 from Capt. F.D. Lugard at Kampala Fort, Uganda, conveyed on foot to the coast and franked at Mombasa with British East Africa stamps. Double Queen cover from Bishop Tucker at Kampala (23 January 1899) franked with De La Rue stamps (4 annas Uganda for internal postage, 2½ annas B.E.A. for external postage to England). Three such covers recorded. Double Queen cover to Switzerland from the Revd. Ernest Millar, franked at Kampala (4 March 1900) with 1 anna Uganda as payment to Mombasa and 2½ annas B.E.A. for external foreign postage.



1895 Artist's sketch

Artist's sketch from the Zanzibar Government in October 1895. Illustrated in 'De La Rue History' (Plate 41). Enclosed in letter (1.10.95) to the Foreign Office, London. Passed to De La Rue (29.10.95). The letter states: 'The Arabic characters in the lower corners of the sketch are reproduced below on a large scale so that you may see them quite clearly.' The inscription at the left reads 'Sultan, Zanzibar.'

Essays for De La Rue issues of 1896, 1899 and 1904. Essays for the Sultan Hamoud issue: low values, one rupee and higher value rupee stamps. Master die proofs of the 1908 issue for the cents stamps (both designs); blank value colour trials of the Hamoud rupee design and 'View of Port' stamps. Imperforate plate proofs of the 1908 issue: 10 rupees-200 rupees complete in corner vertical pairs; 1 rupee-5 rupees complete in horizontal marginal pairs.

Complete set of 14 values (1 anna-50 rupees) of Indian Revenue stamps unused, overprinted ZANZIBAR and CANCELLED. Introduced between May 1892-August 1894, they are the first stamps of Zanzibar. CANCELLED sets were colour standards retained for De La Rue and Inland Revenue reference.





*Left: ½ anna overprinted 'Zanzibar' in blue rather than the usual black, applied only in a small early printing*  
*Centre: An example of the 'Zanzibar' overprint used on one of the large format rupee values*  
*Right: 3 annas overprinted 'Zanzibar' in error*

The Zanzibar Government took over the administration of its postal service from the Indian Post Office on 10 November 1895. As a temporary measure the Indian stamps then in stock were overprinted 'Zanzibar'. There followed one of the most interesting and extensive series of overprint issues in British Empire philately. Due to a succession of bureaucratic delays and communication hiccoughs, the definitive De La Rue issue was not ready for release until December 1896. In the intervening 13 months Thomas Remington, the newly-appointed Postmaster General, had to juggle his limited stamp supplies, for much of this period with competing demand for provisional stamps in British East Africa, for which he was also responsible. The numerous errors and varieties in the overprints and surcharges quickly attracted the interest of collectors and compounded his supply problems.

The definitive work on these issues was published in 1906 by the noted philatelist Thomas Hall, later to become Editor of *The London Philatelist* and President of the 'Royal.' Although several important collections have been assembled since then (including most notably the Royal Collection), the study now illustrated is the first comprehensive re-examination of these issues since Hall. The study

- Describes the four settings of the small format stamps (up to and including the 1 rupee), amplifying and in certain cases modifying the analysis made by Hall. Five panes and half panes of these issues, including one of the two used by Hall to illustrate his 1906 study, are used for this purpose.
- Draws together a comprehensive illustrated reference list of the errors and varieties, of which the study identifies 74, including the 'Zanzidar', 'Zanzibar', 'Zanzibarr' and 'Zanibar' errors and a number of unique items. The study includes many varieties not listed by Hall.
- Analyses the '2½' anna surcharges that occurred throughout, adding a further element of complexity and interest.
- Demonstrates the likely chronology of the overprint and surcharge printings (of which there were at least 27). This exercise was not attempted by Hall in his own study. Examples of rarities also serve to illustrate the sequence. Many used examples, including some on cover, provide further evidence of chronology.
- Presents all the known errors and varieties of the large format stamps (2, 3 and 5 rupee values), including the exceptionally rare 'Zanziba' error, the only set outside the Royal Collection. The large format stamps were not analysed by Hall in any depth.

The selected extracts that follow can, of course, offer no more than a taster of the full study.



*Local provisionals on cover to Versailles 25 July 1897. Thick and thin numeral 5 (Yvert 32h & 32i)*

The provisionals of 1894, issued 15 March and withdrawn on 30 March. Four stamps used within the short period of official use are shown. A registered cover to England has a 5 annas/50 provisional used on the day of issue (15 March 1894). A complete pane of 25 of the 2½ annas/25 provisional.

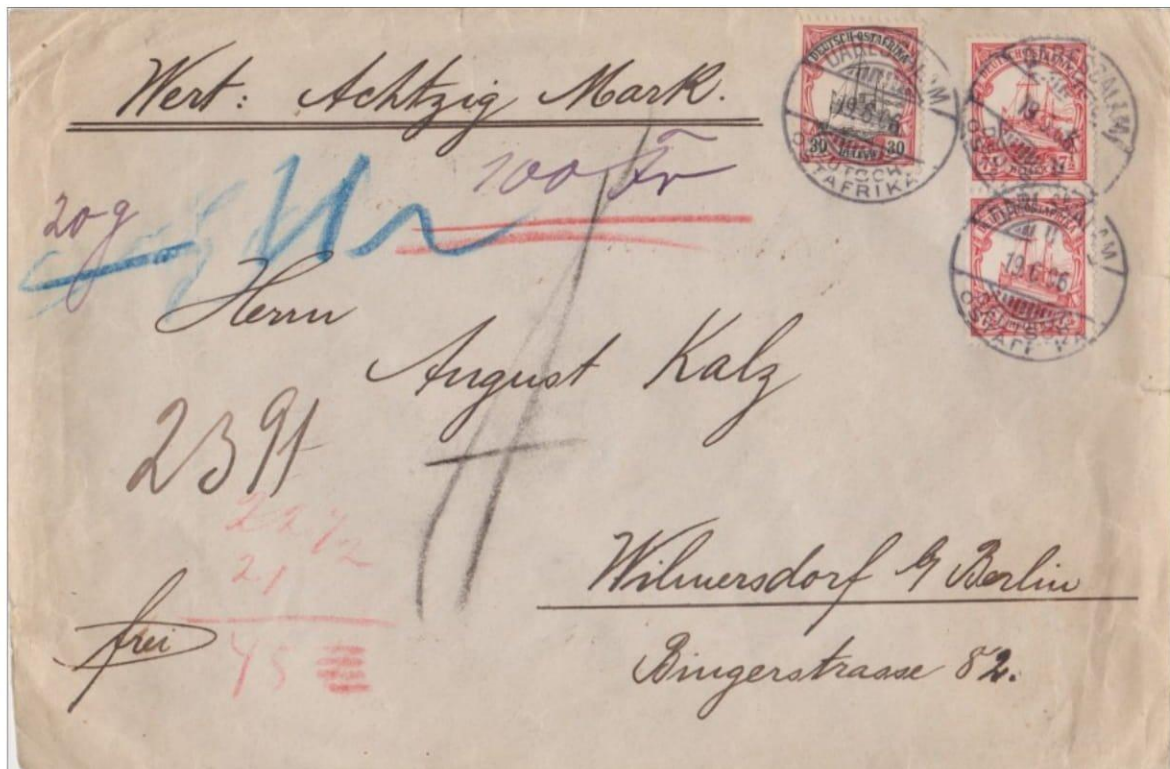
A registered cover of 25 July 1897 to Versailles franked 5 annas with two copies of the 2½/25c on ½ anna provisional. These stamps were authorised by Consular Order dated 20 July 1897 to service three overseas mails between 25-29 July.

The Exposition Universelle, Paris 1900. A special printing of the Zanzibar 1896-1900 issue on Bristol pasteboard with simulated perforations. The set of eleven values in marginal corner blocks of four.

The 1904 provisionals. Set of five on Sage type stamps (SG.65-69). Produced locally to service mail for the mailboat sailing on 22nd July 1904. Registered cover to Corsica with pair of 2½ and 25c on 1 anna provisionals (5 anna registered rate).

Three covers sent in 1890, one with the French Post Office cancellation unusually struck in red. Registered cover from the German Consulate, sent to Austria in 1894 and franked with a single 75c French stamp.





*An insured letter from Daressalaam to Berlin franked with 45 Heller (30 + 2 x 7½ Heller stamps) for postage and insurance*

This is a collection of mint stamps and used on cover and these yacht stamps were produced on lozenge watermarked paper in 1905 and immediately put on sale in East Africa in 1906 to replace the earlier issue which had been printed on unwatermarked paper and had been on sale from April 1905.

Consequently, the stamps on watermarked paper were issued as required and remained available until the total occupation of the Colony in 1917. Most of the low values were issued in 1906 but the 30 Heller appeared in 1909 and the 20 Heller in 1911, and the 3 Rupien in 1908. The 1 Rupie was sent to East Africa during the war in 1916 and the 2 Rupien was not produced until 1920 long after the Colony had passed into Allied hands and after the Treaty of Versailles had given the territory to Great Britain to hold as a mandate for the League of Nations.

The low values were printed in sheets of 100 and in the bottom margin appeared the country imprint twice with a printer's order number (HAN) in the middle. The exception to this is the 20 Heller stamp where the HAN was printed in two separate colours, orange and black. In the frames are examples showing these together with other marginal variations. The high value stamps were printed in sheets of 20 and most have a retouch in the clouds on stamp number 1.

Covers are included to illustrate the use of the stamps especially having regard to rates of postage both within the Colony and to Germany but also to other countries abroad. Of particular interest are the following covers:

1. The 2 items with provisional Neu Langenburg markings in January/February 1913, both are rarely seen.
2. The insured letter – there are very few recorded examples.
3. The registered cover from Kigoma to Brussels dated April 1914.
4. The registered letter to London using the British Uganda railway immediately pre-war.
5. The various parcel cards including several with c.o.d. markings.



Registered postal stationery card overprinted **RUANDA** with additional postage (5 Fr.) also overprinted **RUANDA**, written in Kigali and cancelled in **MWANZA** (undated ex-German canceller). Calais arrival 18.1.17

In April 1916 Belgian troops, divided into two brigades, invaded German East Africa. Kigali was taken on 6 May by one brigade, then Nyanza on 19 May, leaving the Belgians in control of all of Ruanda Province. A second brigade came from the west, taking Usumbura at the beginning of June. Kitega submitted on 27 June (leaving the Belgians in control of all of Urundi Province), Kigoma fell at the end of July, and then following the railway line the Belgians took the capital of German East Africa, Tabora, on 19 September 1916.

Baron Charles Tombeur de Tabora (born Charles Tombeur in Liège, 4 May 1867; died in Brussels, 2 December 1947), was a Belgian general who commanded the Force Publique in the Belgian Congo during World War I. He ordered the overprinting of Belgian Congo stamps and their use in the new occupied territory.

**1. Typewritten Overprints.** The word **RUANDA** was added, using a typewriter! On display is a letter written by Henrion, a war correspondent attached to the main headquarters in Namirembe (Lake Victoria) and mailed to Sainte-Adresse in France. Censored in manuscript *Vu pour censure militaire*: (signed) *Trentels* it bears a large circular crested handstamp **CONGO BELGE \* CT. DES TROUPES DE L'EST \*** in violet-grey. The overprint **RUANDA** was added by typewriter and the letter cancelled in transit at Entebbe 20 JY 1916. It arrived at Sainte Adresse 29 8 16.

**2. Tombeur Overprints.** These exist as either **RUANDA** or **URUNDI**. Including the full-stop the **RUANDA** overprint is 17.5mm long and the **URUNDI** overprint 16mm long. These stamps are known with Tombeur's authenticating signature on the reverse. Illustrated is a registered postal stationery card overprinted **RUANDA** with additional postage (5 Fr.) also overprinted **RUANDA**, written in Kigali by Second Lieutenant Mathieu on 28 October 1916. It received the undated ex-German **MWANZA** cancel in transit and passed through Mombasa 14 December 1916. The text reads *Please find attached a 5 Fr. stamp from Rwanda*. Only two 5 francs overprinted stamps are known on an entire card/cover.





*One of three covers displaying the 'Interned D.O.A.' label. The addressee, Miss Blackburne, was associated with the Universities Mission to Central Africa (UMCA) and served in Tanga at the Onset of the War*

This four-frame exhibit displays the postal history of the lead-up to and duration of World War I in Zanzibar. Germany maintained a strong presence and influence at Zanzibar leading up to the start of the War. This was evident clearly with the routine monthly visits of the Deutsche Ost-Afrikanische Linie's passenger ships and the ever-present German Navy. The exhibit begins with postal history of the German passenger ships of the D.O.A.L. and their scheduled visits to Zanzibar in June & July 1914. When the War commenced, there was an almost immediate censorship of the mails, particularly of German mails, imposed first at London, and, soon thereafter, censorship by postal officials enacted by the Sultan of Zanzibar. Additional postal censorship was initiated several months later by military law from the British authorities. Examples of individual British ship censorship after the sinking of the *HMS Pegasus* by the German cruiser *Königsberg* are displayed. Cables and telegrams were likewise subjected to review. Examples of all censor tapes and hand-stamps that were applied are shown. Of note are two covers censored by the British Air Services employed for surveillance of the *SMS Königsberg*.

Examples are shown of how Germans attempted to by-pass mail censorship at Zanzibar, either through Switzerland via the International Red Cross or Mozambique as Portuguese colonies were neutral in the War. Mail confiscated by Zanzibar postal officials is shown, along with the documented rationale used by those officials including, for example, mail to enemy occupied countries, mail discussing war news, and mail written in 'unknown' languages. Of importance is the presentation of mail from members of the *Königsberg* crew while grounded up the Rufiji River. Selected examples of mail are drawn from other relevant players such as the French military, and Indian Field Post Offices at Zanzibar and British-occupied German East Africa. Two examples of incoming mail to a British teacher interned in German East Africa that Zanzibari officials held until after the War are illustrated.



*Block of nine Upper Left pane Bars below '4 cents' R 7/1-R 9/3 upward misplacement 'No Country' with R 9/1 & R9/2 line or part line above 't' varieties*

Overprint sheet layout and shifts, both vertical and horizontal, plus plate positions of varieties.

This overprint was produced by overprinting some of the current 6c stamps with a line of printer's bars to obliterate the value tablets at top and the new value '4 cents' in centre.

Printing of the overprint was carried out by Swift Press in Nairobi from printer's type set in a Forme. There was one overprint Forme for the complete sheet of 240 which follows the sheet layout of the 6c stamps which were printed in sheets of 240 in 4 panes (2 x 2) of 60 (10 x 6) with central vertical and horizontal gutters.

There are 'constant' flaws to the figure 4 and line or part line above 't' in 'cents'. Poor quality control resulted in many positional varieties being issued, notable of these are 'Bars below', 'Half and half' both vertical and horizontal, 'Bars missing' and Double.





1933 – Unwelcome consequences of overweight airmail

Four phases of Kenyan postal history for postage due material are identified: pre-adhesives (up to 1928), Kenya & Uganda (1928-35), Kenya Uganda Tanganyika (1935-1967), and Kenya (from 1967).

The first phase, from when the Imperial British East Africa Company first established its post offices at Lamu and Mombasa through the creation of the Kenya Colony to the issue of postage due labels for Kenya and Uganda in 1928, provides examples of inbound, outbound and through-bound postage due mail and various tax marks.

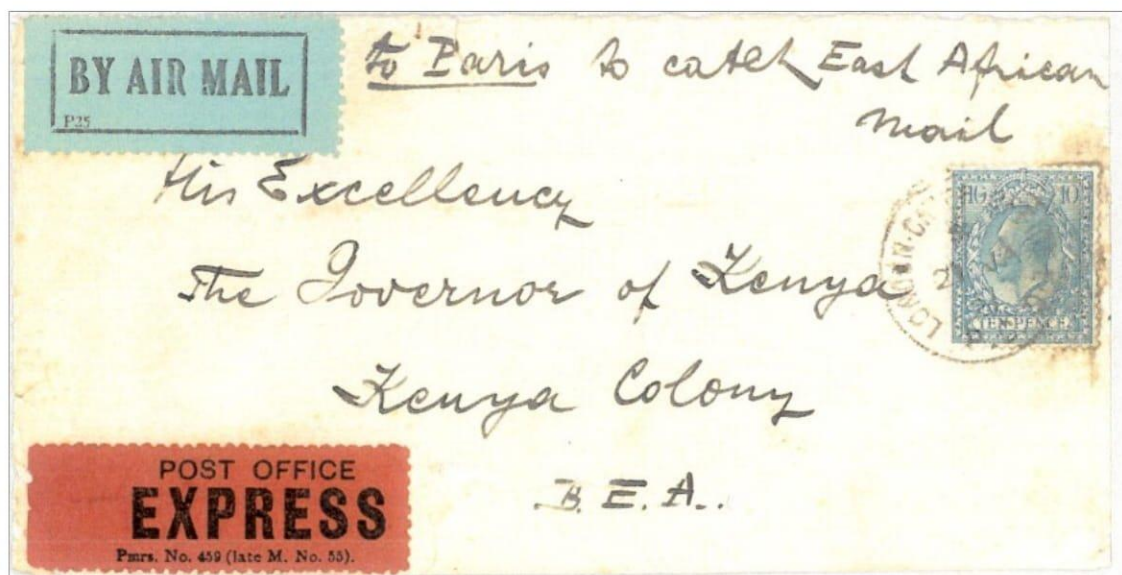
The photographic essay for the first postage due labels has a single line inscription for Kenya and Uganda. The initial release in October 1928 with the two line inscription included four values: 5cts, 10cts, 20cts and 40cts, with overprinted specimens; the additional values for 30cts (1931) and 1sh (1933), were perfined.

When the postal administrations of Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika were amalgamated in 1933, the postage due labels of Kenya & Uganda labels were used in Tanganyika until the new design inscribed Kenya Uganda & Tanganyika became available from 1 May 1935.

Examples representing each value used on cover are shown for each of the three territories with multi-taxed items, those with 'charges not collected,' Returned Letter Office mail, and overweight airmail.

The 1935 design for the three territories remained in use for the next 32 years, through several printings: first on chalky paper, then on rough paper due to wartime paper shortages, then the post WWII printings on smooth paper with brighter colours. Examples used on cover in each of the three territories include the usual reasons for their application: Posted Out of Course, multi-taxed, overweight air-mail, and late fee not paid.

From 1967, after independence, the postage due labels were to a common design individually inscribed Kenya, Uganda or Tanzania. Over the next half-century, there have been many printings for Kenya with various papers and perforations and even a redrawn design. However, the impression gained is that in recent decades, the postal authorities have tended to overlook postage due collection.

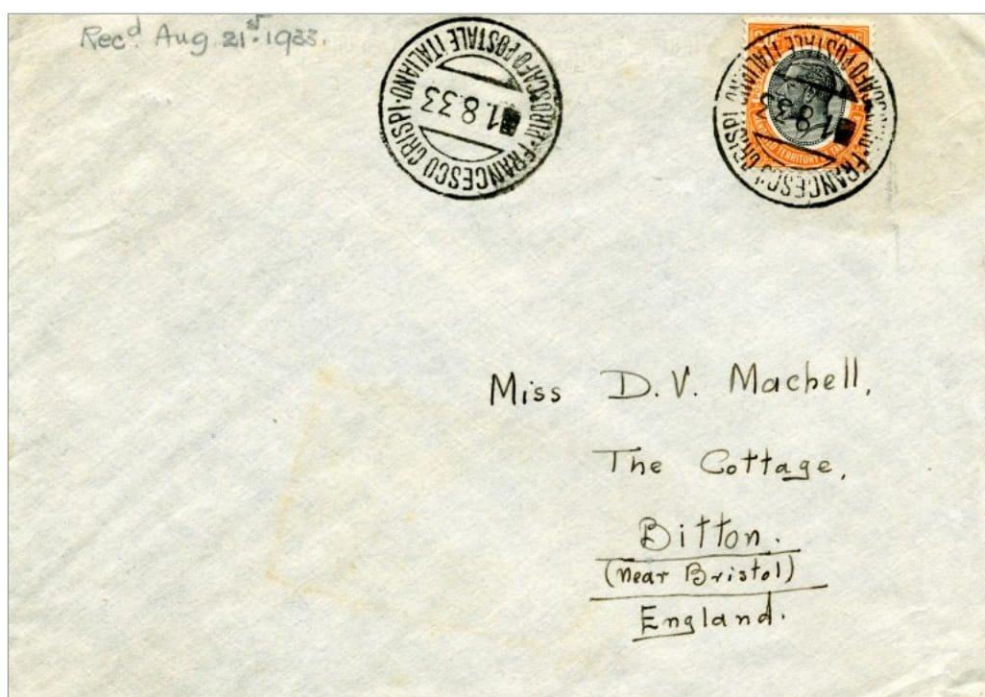


*The cover shown is an example of the early airmail. Flown by Handley Page or Instone London to Paris then by rail to Marseilles to join the steamer service to East Africa. Later mail was flown to Marseilles then when Imperial Airways service opened to India the mail was flown to Alexandria then on by sea*

The size and inhospitable terrain of East Africa allied to the vagaries of the weather made travel by surface transport both slow and difficult. Aviation was to provide the solution to these problems. The exhibit shows a selection of the airmails to, from and within East Africa up to 1939. Represented are pioneer, survey, R.A.F. and record breaking flights together with scheduled services and local feeder services which played an important role in opening up East Africa.







*A 1933 cover to the UK posted onto an Italian ship berthed in a Tanganyikan port. The Francesco Crispi was a 7,600 ton steamer of the Lloyd Triestino line operating out of Trieste via the Suez Canal and the East African coast to South Africa. Italian ships were recognised as the most luxurious passenger ships serving East Africa*

Before the introduction of cheap, efficient and regular airmail services to Tanganyika, the majority of external mail, be it personal, business or governmental, travelled by sea, with some internal and transit mail travelling along the coast or via the great Central African lakes of Victoria and Tanganyika. UPU regulations allowed for the stamps of the nation where a ship was berthed to be used for mail posted onto ships of all nations, although stamps of the ship's nationality were used when posted aboard at sea.

Three categories of sea mail are displayed in Frames 39 & 40. (1) Those shipping lines which did not cancel mail on board, including the Union-Castle Line which served East Africa, delivered mail to one of three Tanganyikan ports: Daressalaam the capital, Tanga the major northern port, and Lindi, a small southern port. Here they received paquebot cancellations. (2) Tanganyika stamps on mail posted onto vessels in port which did not cancel on board would receive paquebot cancellations where mail was off-loaded, often around the Indian Ocean. (3) Tanganyika stamps on mail posted onto vessels in port which *did* cancel on board would receive a variety of German, French, Dutch and Italian ship cancellations.

Frame 41 displays lacustrine (lake) mail. Major lake ports operated in similar fashion to the coastal ports. Kigoma on Lake Tanganyika was regularly used by residents in eastern Belgian Congo to send mail to Europe, transit times being significantly quicker than mail sent via the Congo's Atlantic port. Also the steamship *Liemba* operated on the lake as a mobile postal agency. Lake Victoria had steamers which offered regular services around the lake, and a post-box on board was cleared at major ports. Some towns had paquebot cancels; others used the town's regular canceller. Prior to the combined stamp issue for Kenya, Uganda & Tanganyika on 1st May 1935 mail arriving at ports in Kenya or Uganda and emanating from Tanganyika can easily be identified. Subsequently other indications of a Tanganyikan origin are necessary to identify such mail.



*Air letter from Ifunda Camp to allied-occupied Germany. Ifunda was one of the two Evacuee Camps in Tanganyika with its own postal agency. It lay 28mls south-west of Iringa, hence the postmark **IRINGA SUB 14.JY.1947** The postal agency there was open from 7 December 1944 – 2 June 1948*

As one consequence of a pre-war Nazi-Soviet treaty (the Ribbentrop-Molotov Pact) both Germany and Russia invaded Poland in September 1939, taking many thousands of prisoners-of-war. Soon afterwards a Russian round-up of civilians occurred, including many Jews and children. Any number from 320,000-980,000 are thought to have been forcibly removed to Russian labour camps and collective farms. Conditions during the journey were appalling and many died *en route* or at destination.

When in June 1941 Germany turned on her ally and invaded Russia these Polish prisoners became allies overnight. The able-bodied men were formed into a Polish army but refused to leave without their families, the aged and the sick. Eventually the Polish commandant Anders agreed to evacuate everybody possible to Persia via the Caspian Sea. The first evacuations across the Soviet-Persian border began on 25th March 1942.

Polish refugees (technically evacuees) were temporarily settled by the British in many parts of the world, including six Evacuee Camps in Tanganyika. Some arrived direct from Persia but others, including many orphans, only arrived in East Africa after the war via other camps. The first camp opened (September 1942) and the last closed (in the early 1950's) was Tengeru in the north of Tanganyika Territory. The others were Ifunda, Kidugala, Kigoma, Kondoa-Irangi and Morogoro; these latter camps were all closed by the end of 1948.

This display deals with the subject chronologically and material from all six camps is shown. Initially mail was sent through local post offices but a Consul-General for Poland was soon established in Nairobi, Kenya and by mid-1943 most mail appears to have been sent in bulk for censorship and cancellation there. In 1944 (possibly after D-Day and the 'turn of the tide') mail was dealt with more locally at Daressalaam, and thereafter camps gradually reverted to using local post offices. In addition two camps, Ifunda and Kidugala, actually had postal agencies on site for a time.





*Tanganyika 30c H size giraffe registered envelope used 16 August 1927 from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma*

East Africa currently comprises Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania but, since the 1890s, the area has been known by a bewildering variety of names so any study of the postal stationery could include items from:

British East Africa, Uganda, East Africa and Uganda, Deutsch-Ostafrika, German East Africa, Tanganyika, Zanzibar, Kenya and Uganda, and KUT (Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika) with the addition, during World War I, of Indian Expeditionary Force and Belgian Occupation items.

This display, which excludes Zanzibar, can only show a small selection of the wide variety of postal stationery used in East Africa between 1891 and the early 1960s but the emphasis is on used examples and the more unusual items. It includes the first known used postcard in March 1893, reply cards sent back to East Africa from overseas, albino envelopes (embossed but with no colour printing) with both an accepted and a taxed example, wartime captured postal stationery (WWI – German, WWII – Italian), formula registered envelopes (with no stamp imprint) used in 1937 and again (Indian issues) in 1941 to 1944 when no other supplies were available, a postal stationery cut-out used for postage and a King Edward VII telegraph form.

Postcards were first issued in 1893 and continued to be popular, especially for inland use, with over 800,000 supplied of the last issue in 1961. Until 1943 the cards could be bought for the cost of the imprinted stamp so they were widely used, with printed messages, by firms, missions, clubs and societies. During World War II KGV postcards were printed in 4 different colours and on two types of card. In 1942, one of these issues bore the KGV coat of arms and the heading 'Kenya and Uganda' despite the amalgamation with Tanganyika some seven years earlier but this was corrected when the colour changed yet again.

Most types of postal stationery were issued at some time in East Africa but only single postcards, ordinary envelopes and airletters were still in use at the time of Independence in the early 1960s.



*20c Imperf on gummed watermarked – one of three known pieces all top marginal – probably of proof status*

A selection from a study of the definitive issue with perforation and colour changes linked where possible to the printings recorded in the De La Rue records with requisition numbers and quantities. The display contains the major catalogued varieties mainly in positional blocks. Shown are a 20c imperforate pair, one of three known, on gummed watermarked paper, items from the 'oily' printings from the war time consignment which was affected by fire and the use of the vignette plate used first for the GVI 15c and 2/-denominations and then used for a late GV printing to meet urgent needs in the colony. The study looks at the common designs where vignette plates were used for more than one denomination, apart from the £1 stamp, rather than the traditional basis of increasing face value.







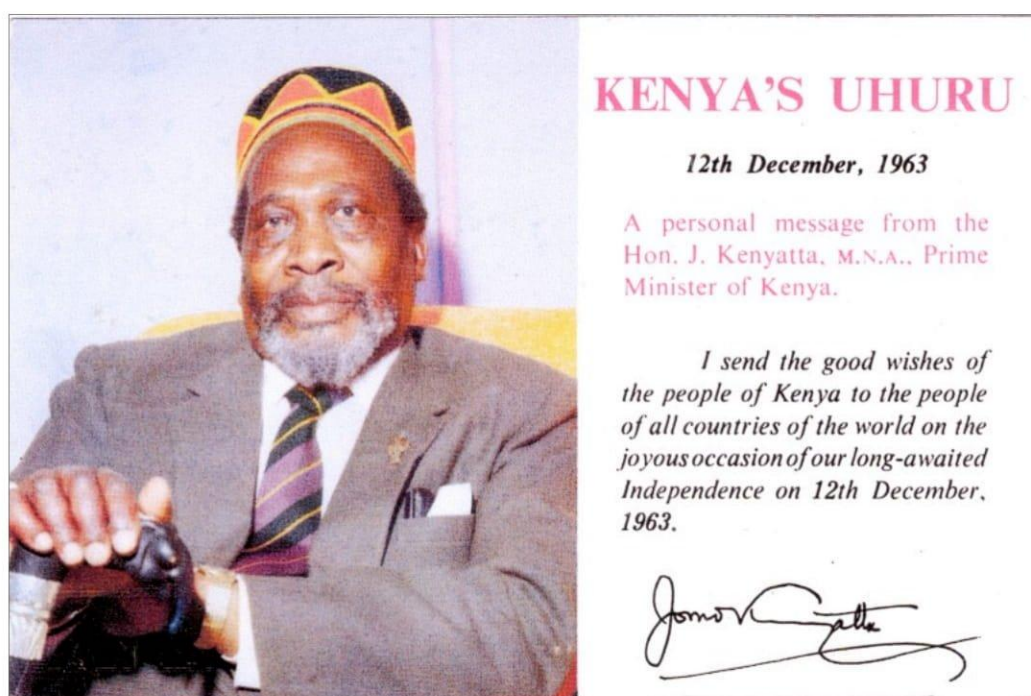
*The revolution came as a surprise to many. There is no inkling of anything amiss in this postcard to England postmarked 14 January 1964, the first day the Post Office re-opened*

Just a month after gaining Independence on 10 December 1963, Zanzibar experienced a short and bloody revolution, starting on the night of Saturday 11 January 1964, which swept away the Sultan and the Arab dominated government, replacing both with an African led regime under Abeid Karume. There is still much debate about why the revolution happened when it did, about its leader John Okello (who was swiftly replaced by Karume), and the international influences that may or may not have been behind the unrest.

The Zanzibar Post Office reopened on Tuesday 14 January 1964. Ted Proud told how he managed to get through by telephone to the Assistant Postmaster in Zanzibar that day. The news was that the Post Office had re-opened and everything was normal. Proud said that he enquired about what stamps were being sold and was told 'same as before.' He expressed surprise that the Sultan's stamps were still being sold. A shocked silence followed. Post office staff started defacing the Sultan's portrait with manuscript crosses. Stanley Gibbons catalogues have long carried a footnote identifying stamps thus cancelled on cover or piece from this period as being of interest.

Three days later, on Friday 17 January 1964, locally produced handstamps were introduced. Described by eye witnesses as being just metal strips without handles and held clumsily between finger and thumb, the handstamps were applied both to stocks of stamps held at the main post office in Stone Town, and letters brought in by members of the public to be posted. A number of local agents and dealers were quick off the mark too, contributing to a variety of handstamp uses.

This display explores the stamps and postal history of this short period, starting with material from the weekend of the revolution, the reopening of the post office and running through to the introduction of the local handstamps, their use on mail from village post offices and the range of varieties and unauthorised applications of the handstamps.



*Jomo Kenyatta Uhuru Greetings Postcard*

This display aims to show just how much this remarkable country has progressed since its independence. The initial sheets cover the special Jomo Kenyatta postcard heralding the Independence of Kenya (12 December 1963) as well as a short set of five values, with proofs and artwork, for the Republic Issue released on the 12 December 1964.

The talented Kenya artist Mrs. Rene Fennessy made an enormous contribution to Kenyan philately with the beautiful sets of definitive issues that followed; the Wildlife, Shells, Minerals, Flowers and Birds of Kenya. These issues will be well known amongst thematic collectors though space precludes their display today.

One short controversial issue was distributed to main post offices in Kenya to commemorate the XIII Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh in 1986. Kenya, along with 31 Commonwealth nations, stayed away due to the U.K. maintaining sporting links with apartheid South Africa. This decision resulted in the withdrawal and destruction of the entire Kenya issue with no record made of it in the catalogues. Mint examples of the five adhesives are shown here.

In November 2011 Kenya issued a set of 100 adhesives in conjunction with the International Centre of Insect Physiology & Ecology, bearing superb illustrations of the insects found in Kenya. There are four sheetlets of 25 stamps each, but what is extraordinary is that the S.G. catalogue records only two of the sheetlets (65/- & 75/-). Here the 25/- and 95/- sheetlets are displayed, the former cancelled by an oblique black line and with the word SAMPLE in the lower selva.

A further set of 100 adhesives was issued in December 2013 commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Independence. This remarkable set portrays various historical events, but a number of errors have been noted. Perhaps the most notable of these is on the 90/- sheetlet, position R4/2, where the 5 rupee George V adhesive (issued 1912) is described as an '1890 Postage Stamp!'

The display ends with two stamp issues that were released in 2017, commemorating the wildlife 'Big Five' and a new railway from Mombasa to Nairobi.



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## **EAST AFRICA STUDY CIRCLE**

### **40th Anniversary Display to The Royal Philatelic Society**

**15<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

May I begin by thanking the President and Council of The Royal Philatelic Society London for affording the East Africa Study Circle the great honour of presenting a display to the Society in this their fortieth anniversary year. East African philately embraces a huge and diverse field of study and interest of which our display at No. 41 today is proof enough, commencing as it does amidst the slave markets of Zanzibar in 1856 and concluding with a lovely and colourful display of post-independence Kenya.

We have been delighted to include your President Patrick Maselis as a guest exhibitor with his two single frame displays on the Lado Enclave and on the First World War Tombeur issue of Ruanda-Urundi. On behalf of all our members I do want particularly to thank Patrick for the personal support and encouragement he has given to the Display Committee in facilitating our display at No 41. I should also like to thank the staff at the Royal for their help in organising this event today.

In conclusion thanks are due not only to the fifteen members of our Circle who have contributed to today's display but also to the Display Committee who have devoted much time and effort over the last few months to the organisation of this event and the preparation of this commemorative handbook. It is their hope that it will encourage an increasing interest in the stamps and postal history of this fascinating and sometimes comparatively under-recognised area of Africa.

**John Wilks**  
Chairman

10<sup>th</sup> January 2018

**The Display Committee: Eric Coulton, Nick Guy, John Griffith-Jones, Michael Farrant and John Wilks.**



# UGANDA RAILWAY.

## THE HIGHLANDS OF BRITISH EAST AFRICA

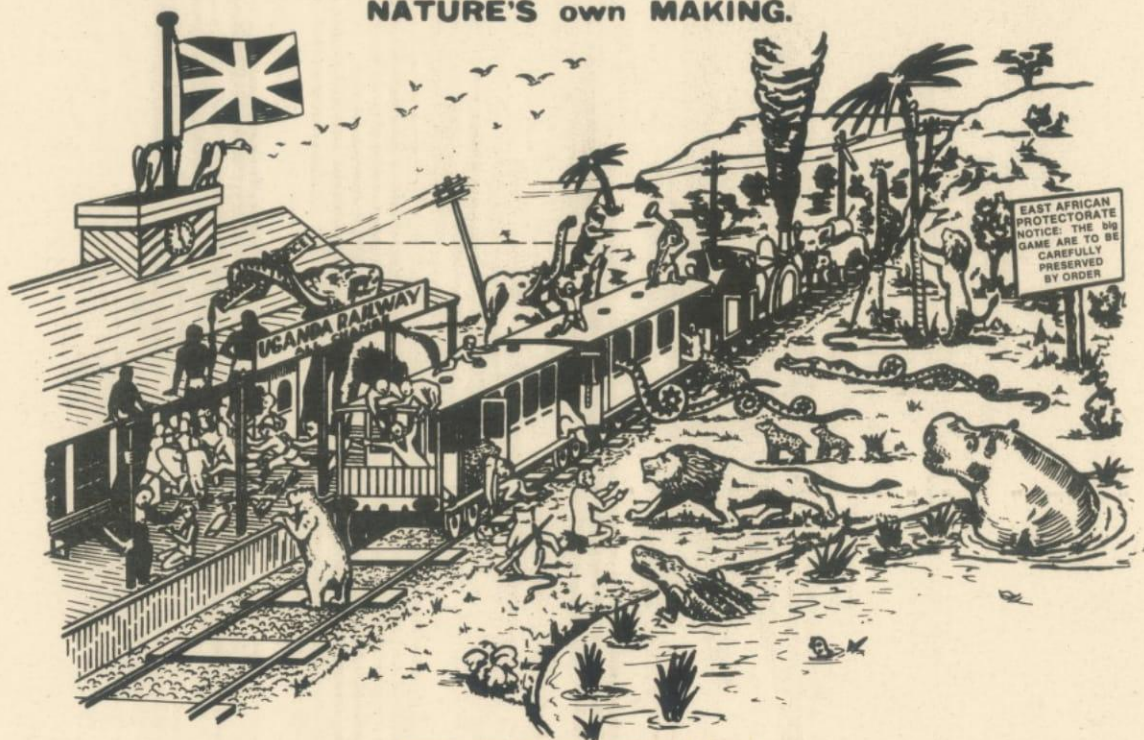
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