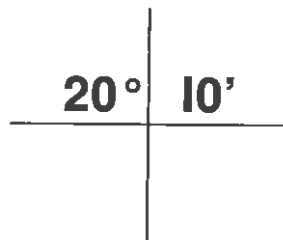


2010

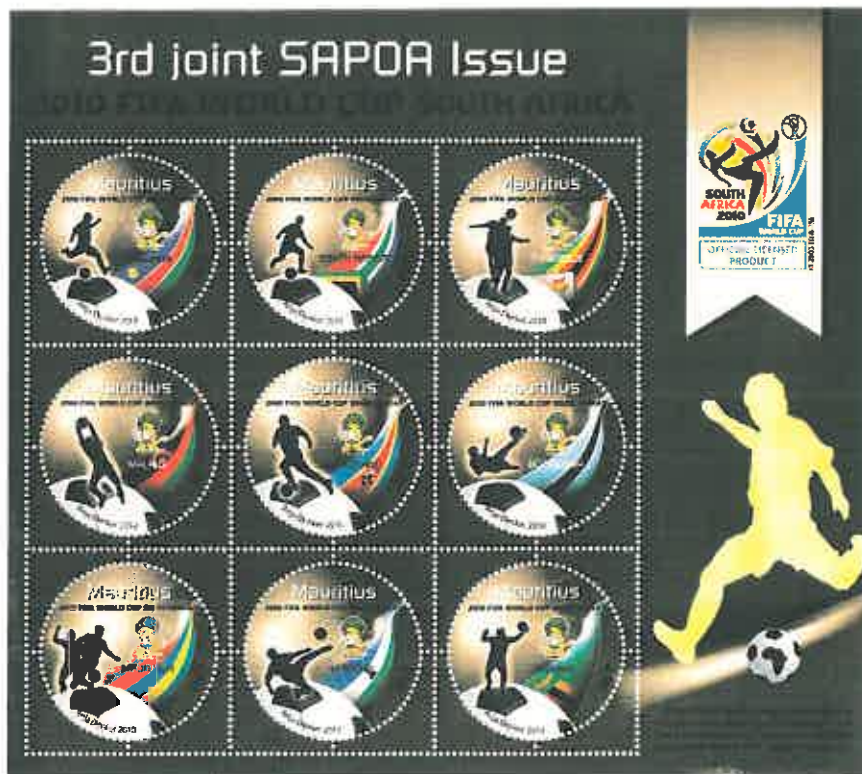
Issue No 1 - APRIL 2010



THE JOURNAL OF THE MAURITIUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

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(Reduced)

MAURITIAN WALLPAPER

2010 is a publication of the Mauritius Philatelic Society

Written, edited and prepared by Mico W. Antoine

P.O. Box 89, Quatre Bornes, Mauritius

INDIAN OCEAN

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From the Editor's Desk

I have been thinking about changing the "News Items" title and format for a couple of years now but never really got around to settling on anything that looked or sounded right. We began in 1990 with Newsletter, followed by News Bulletin and then News Items. I wanted something modern and completely different for the Society's journal in 2010.

After looking at several titles such as Letterbox, Mailbag and Mailbox I settled on 2010. Simply 2010, numerals of the current year, after all we turned 20 in November 2009!

2010 is not simply a convenient series of numerals, it is much more. 20°10' is "the" latitude of Mauritius, it was in fact 21°10' in 1950 until it was corrected in 1953 - hence the two stamps on the title page. The number 20 commemorates our successful twenty years but 10 is not a number it is 10 inspired by the Indian Ocean Study Circle bulletin's title.

2010 is therefore a combination of this year as well as the 20th year of the current Mauritius Philatelic Society and the location of the island on the map of the world at latitude 20°10' in the Indian Ocean.

It did cross my mind to pirate the 10 title from the Indian Ocean Study Circle but then on its own it would translate into AYO and I did not like that at all. I hope you like the new title and format. If you do not, at the very least, I hope you will like the contents.

Mico W Antoine

THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR 2010

The Management Committee of the Society was constituted on Saturday 6th March 2010 after the Annual General Meeting. The members for the year 2010 are as follows:

President - Mico Wilfrid Antoine

Vice-President - Nasser Ahmad Maderbokus

Treasurer - Judex Leu Adrien

Vice-Treasurer - Vicky Cushmajee

Secretary - Tarkesswarnath Greedharrye

Vice-Secretary - Assenjeer Ismael Kara

Members - Hans Bigler

- Jean Marc di Costanzo

- Vikash Rupear

MONTHLY SOCIETY MEETINGS

JANUARY - There was no Society meeting in January 2010. The Management Committee however met at the residence of the President in La Louise on Saturday 16th at 13.00hrs.

FEBRUARY - The February meeting was held at College du St Esprit, Sir Virgil Naz Avenue, Quatre Bornes at 14.00 hrs on Saturday 6th February 2010.

The stamps of the British Indian Ocean Territory (B.I.O.T.) and the stamps of Mauritius for years 2008 and 2009 were shown side by side as the main topic. The stamps were compared for content, design, relevance and other characteristics. In addition the postal history of Mauritius and the main postal and philatelic aspects of Mauritius during 2009 were examined.

Several leaves of the November/December 2009 Expo were displayed and the exhibition itself was discussed. The leaves included the 1924 (SG222) Rs50 fakes and fiscals, the Provisionals of 1885-1891, postal markings, Mauritian aerophilately and postal stationery. The exhibition was reviewed and the consensus was that it was well organized and the standards were high. It was however noted that attendance was lower than in previous years and that press coverage was poorer than usual due mainly to competition from a national festival and a mini-budget presentation in Parliament which clashed with the inauguration date.

The 12-page 2009.3 "News Items" and the Expo CD were distributed. 20 members including two from abroad attended the February meeting.

MARCH - The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at Collège du St Esprit, Sir Virgil Naz Avenue, Quatre Bornes on 6th March 2010 at 14 hrs as per the notice published in *l'express* on 18th February 2010 and the Secretary's convocation letter to members of the same date.

In compliance with the Rules and Regulations of the Society and in conformity with all the provisions and articles as laid down by the Registry of Associations the AGM was held as scheduled on a fine Saturday afternoon.

The agenda was: (a) Approval of minutes of 2009 AGM (b) Report of the President for the Year 2009 (c) Approval of Accounts ending 31st December 2009 (d) Approval of Budget for 2010 (e) Election of Committee Members and Office Bearers for the Year 2010 (f) Appointment of Auditor for the Year 2010 (g) Any Other Business.

All business were carried out and all queries dealt with to the satisfaction of those present. 19 members who attended the AGM and 7 proxy votes ensured the requisite quorum. The AGM ended at 15.05 hrs.

Dr. A.N. Maderbokus then put up a small display and gave a talk on the endangered fauna and flora of Mauritius for those who stayed behind. Khan Mustapha showed his flowers definitive of 2009 collection together with 2010 additions

APRIL - The April meeting was held at the usual venue and at the usual time in Quatre Bornes on the 3rd of the month.

The WebRiposte Computerisation presentation made by Mico Antoine included the evolution of ordinary inland postal rates in Mauritius from Rs2 to Rs5 to Rs7 and the inland registered mail rate from Rs10 to Rs15 to Rs21.

The various counter position inscriptions of the labels CC (Counter Clerk) SU (Service Unit) PMRSTK (Postmaster's Stock) PMR (Postmaster) and CC1STK (Counter Clerk No1 Stock) were noted. The different and indiscriminate allocation of the various counter IDs are inexplicable as these do not appear to be logical or uniform. The extension of the "Blue Penny Counter Computerisation Project" to Rodrigues was updated with proving covers from La Ferme and Port Mathurin.

The 2010 Stamp Issue Programme announced by the Cabinet Office and by Mauritius Post were posted on the notice board, the contradictions were noted, the incompleteness, omissions, additions and the absence of issue dates were highlighted and the lack of professionalism evidenced.

Dr. A.N. Maderbokus showed examples of Certificate of Posting (FEE) covers as well as several actual certificates. He gave a brief history of the development of this service and the increase in fees from the time of the introduction of the service in 1915.

Mico Antoine showed three types of Parcel Post services namely Inland Parcel Post, Inland Parcel Post - Inter Island (*MPL PSO 113*) and Overseas Parcel Post together with tables of postage rates for SAL (Surface Air Lifted) and Air Parcel Post together with the Despatch Note (CP 71) the Customs Declaration (form CN 23) and the Receipt (CP 72). Several unused specimens of the various forms as well as examples of the forms used, some with postage stamps affixed, were shown.

17 members attended the April meeting in spite of diversions all over Quatre Bornes due to major sewage works, the Easter week-end and the Chelsea-Manchester United game live on TV; the loyals were present. The rather longer than usual meeting ended after 17.00 hrs.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Management Committee meetings of the Society for the period January to April 2010 were held as follows: Saturday 16th January at 13.00 at the residence of the President, 3 La Louise Avenue, Quatre Bornes and on Saturday 6th February, Saturday 6th March and Saturday 3rd April at College du St. Esprit, sir Virgil Naz Avenue, Quatre Bornes.

All the meetings started at 13.00 hrs. The quorum was assured with 6, 7, 6 and 7 members for the four respective meetings. The quorum is 5.

DELIBERATIONS / DECISIONS

JANUARY

- The first Society meeting of 2010 was fixed for 6th February.
- The 2010 Society lunch was scheduled for 13th February at Quatre Bornes.
- The AGM was programmed for 6th March 2010 with the usual cyclonic condition reserve.
- The Society Outing will be a visit to the Case Noyale - Chamarel region in the Black River District.

FEBRUARY

- Cognizance was taken of the unaudited accounts for the year ending 31st December 2009 and the budget proposals for year 2010 were examined.
- A draft of the President's Report and the AGM agenda was tabled.
- Total funds raised for the Exhibition was Rs57,000 and direct expenses Rs28,082.
- Cash reserves stood at Rs54,191 at 31st December 2009.
- The net worth of the Society at 31st December 2009 stood at Rs65,926.

- As from January 2010 the new format of the Society journal would be published in April, August and December - three issues a year from the current four.
- Hans Bigler confirmed that all the preparations for the Society's lunch had been completed. The Indian menu will accommodate all tastes. The cost per head was estimated at Rs600 for a party of a minimum of 12.

MARCH

- Confirmation that everything was in order for the AGM: letters of candidature for membership of the Management Committee were scrutinized, proxy forms checked, audited accounts and budget discussed and cognizance taken of all matters concerning the AGM.
- Approval was given for a 20% increase of the monthly attendance fee.

APRIL

- The AGM of 6th March was discussed. All went according to plan and all matters raised were clarified. All post AGM statutory obligations were promptly actioned such as filing of returns, registration of the security bond, banking obligations.
- KLAUS D. KAHN of Germany was admitted as a member of the Society.
- The Society Outing was fixed for 15th May 2010. Eleven members had shown interest to date.
- The membership register has been updated at 31st March 2010.
- Committee members were notified and reminded of the necessity of the prompt and urgent treatment of all correspondence and other matters relating to the good management of the Society.

OVERSEAS MEMBERS

NEIL CARPENTER from Surrey, UK was in Mauritius during January and February 2010. He met several members of the Management Committee and he attended the Society meeting of 6th February 2010.

JEAN PRINS of Roquebrune-sur-Argens, France visited Mauritius at the beginning of the year and he was at the February 2010 meeting. During his sojourn he filled some important gaps in his Mauritius collection with the help of several Society members.

FEBRUARY LUNCH

13 members signed up for the February lunch organized by Hans-Christian Bigler. 11 members turned up at "Happy Raja" St Jean Road, Quatre Bornes at noon on Saturday 13th February 2010.

TRANSFER OF

PORT MATHURIN POST OFFICE

On 18th February 2010 the transfer of Port Mathurin post office was announced by Mauritius Post Ltd via Circular Note No 05/2010 ref PS/P2/59.

As from Monday 22nd February 2010 the Port Mathurin post office was accommodated in a more modern and spacious building located about 50 metres from the former office opposite Rodrigues College Junior Department, Solidarity Street.

The new post office provides the traditional range of postal and non-postal transactions as well as additional new services. The telephone number is 831 2098 :- the postal address - Port Mathurin Post Office, Port Mathurin, Rodrigues.

STAMP PROGRAMME

The official stamp programme of Mauritius for year 2010 was announced by the Prime Minister's Office on Friday 26th February 2010 under item #7 of the Cabinet Decisions of the day as follows:-

#7 Cabinet has taken note of the Stamp Issue Programme for the year 2010. Besides an Embossed Gold Stamp of Dr. the Rt. Hon. Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam, Father of the Nation, stamps would be issued on the following themes: FIFA World Cup 2010, Shanghai Expo 2010, Coats of Arm (District Council) and the Battle of Grand Port. (sic)

On 5th march 2010 under reference MPL/OM/STP/2010 Mauritius Post Ltd announced the "Stamps Issue Programme for

Year 2010." Title / Proposed month of issue /

1. Sapoa Joint Stamp Issue FIFA World Cup 2010 / Apr-10
2. Embossed Gold Stamp of Late Dr. S.S. Ramgoolam / ?
3. Shanghai Expo Joint Stamp issue with China post / ?
4. Coats of Arms (District Councils) /
5. Battle of Grand Port / Aug-10
6. Conquest of the island by the British (Mauritius) / Dec-10

"The issue dates are tentative, not yet finalized." (sic)

N.B.: The programmes are published as is dated, undated and question marked ? included.

Compare the two programmes carefully. In the mean time mull over what may have happened between 26th February and 5th March 2010.

SPECIAL COVERS

BIRTH CENTENARY OF RENGANADEN SEENEVASSEN 2010

Renganaden Seeneevassen, "the first Mauritian Minister of Education" was born in Port Louis on 11th April 1910 and to commemorate his birth centenary a Special Commemorative Cover was released on 11th April 2010.

The cover is franked with two stamps from the current Flowers definitive series (Rs6 and Rs10), cancelled with a circular cachet measuring 27 mm in diameter reading Birth Centenary of (top) Renganaden Seeneevassen (bottom) with 11 April / 2010 in two lines within the inner circle.

A portrait of the commemorated who died in June 1958, one year after becoming a minister, illustrates the cover above the date 1910-1958. An illustrated data card eulogises the "kindness and compassion" of the "distinguished orator with exceptional leadership attributes" amongst other virtues.

1500 covers were produced of which 1000 were acquired by the Ministry of Education and 500, priced at Rs40 per unit, were sold to the public at the Philatelic Bureau in Port Louis.

Ed Note: Renganaden Seeneevassen was announced for a commemorative stamp in the 2008 Stamp Programme together with Dr. Icery. Both stamps were never released. R. Seeneevassen has however appeared on Mauritian stamps before in 1981 SG621 and in 2007 twice on the two "Ministerial System-1957" (Osman) stamps (See News Items 2007.4 of December 2007)

Paul Laurent Edmond Icery (1824-1883) "a great Mauritian scientist" is yet to appear on a stamp or special commemorative cover. R. Seeneevassen is from the Indo-Mauritian Tamil community. Paul Icery is not an Indo-Mauritian!

DEFINITIVE STAMPS

NEW PRINTING

A new printing of the Rs7 denomination of the current Flowers definitive was released in Mauritius on 10th March 2010. This is the second new printing of this denomination after the other new printing of 1st September 2009. The original printing of the twelve Flowers set was released on 9th April 2009.

The first new printing as well as the original printing both bear the year imprint, 2009, in the bottom stamp margin however these two stamps are not easily distinguishable from each other apart from a slight shade variance. Only those at Mauritius Post and CAPCO know why the addition of a symbol such as the letter A or the simple removal of the year imprint was not made for the 2009 new printing so that the original 2009 and the first new printing could have different and separate identities. The (2010) second new printing however bears the year imprint 2010 and thus easily identifiable unlike the September 2009 new printing.

Printed by BDT International of Ireland, the sheet format and other technical details are the same as that of the original and the new printing of 2009 except for one singular feature.

The position of the sheet number of the second new printing is found on the selvedge above the eighth stamp (on the right of the pane position 8/1). The original printing sheet number is printed in the side selvedge of the first stamp of the right side pane (10/1) and the sheet number of the first new printing is positioned in the side selvedge of the first stamp of the left pane (1/10). All the other normal and standard selvedge and gutter imprints are found on all the sheets.

A relatively small quantity of the Rs7 2010 new stamps were produced, the same quantity as the 2009 new printing and the possibility of having to resort to another new printing in 2010 is highly likely for this extensively used standard inland postage rate, hopefully with its own identity. Several other new printings will have to be made during 2010 as some denominations are no longer available.

DEFINITION

The term New Printing means the printing of additional supplies of current stamps as opposed to Reprint which refers to stamps that are printed anew after they have been withdrawn.

COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS

3rd joint SAPOA issue

The 2010 FIFA WORLD CUP SOUTH AFRICA is the subtitle of the 2010 Mauritius World Cup stamp(s) - the 3rd joint SAPOA issue being the main title - according to Mauritius Post's Official First Day Cover.

The cover's poor cancellation cachet, which does not cancel any of the stamps on the three FDCs, has the same inscription as the FDCs and (presumably) so does the totally illegible emboss of all these covers.

The Stamp

The single stamp of Mauritius issued to commemorate the World Cup is titled "Mauritius 2010 World Cup South Africa". The stamp features two soccer players in action, part of a football, the national flag, the *quadricolor* of Mauritius, and Zakumi, the South African official mascot. The name of the South African designer of the stamp, Anja Denker, and the year 2010 are at the base of the stamp and the value Rs7 is angled to the lower right. The actual stamp design is round, since a football is round, however the whole of the actual stamp is square.

The technical data provide several details such as: Printer - Jos Enschede Security Printer, the Netherlands: Printing Process - Offset, 4 process colours + white: Stamp Format - Square: Stamp Size - 44x44mm square perforation and 37.55x37.55mm round perforation: (meaning the diameter is 37.55): Sheet Composition - 50 stamps on the whole sheet: (meaning no gutter as the sheet is one single pane).

The stamps are printed on unwatermarked paper, but this detail is not given!

The Sheet

The selvedge or the stamp edging surrounding the sheet is the same on the two vertical lengths of the sheet; the perforations are punched between all the stamps and the selvedges as they are on a normal Mauritian sheet. The bottom selvedge is however unusually one long imperforate strip along the entire width of the sheet and this is singularly different from those of other normal Mauritian sheets. At the top of the sheet the selvedge of each of the five stamps as well as the two corner edgings are perforated. In addition about one quarter of the "round the design perforation" is punched into the selvedge of each of the five stamps. (See illustration). This too is singularly different.

The entire sheet itself is formatted vertically. It is composed of 10 rows of 5 stamps per row and the whole of the (upright) sheet measures 47cm x25cm.

There is no printer's imprint (trade mark or corporate logo) anywhere on any of the selvedges of the sheet nor are there any cylinder details. The only marking is found on one selvedge at the top left of the first stamp of the sheet, position 1/1, where the colour dabs or traffic lights have been printed. None of the sheets of the total printing of the ordinary stamps are numbered. Mauritian sheets of 50 stamps are

normally numbered for control, for collectors and for the "official collection".

The Gold Foil Souvenir Sheet

A gold foil souvenir sheet consisting of nine different stamps representing only nine SAPOA issuing countries, from a total of the fourteen members of the South African Postal Operators Association, each with a face value of Rs7 was also released. The nine participants are Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Each of the nine countries gets a "Mauritian" stamp and Mauritius supposedly gets in return, a stamp from each of the eight other participants in their gold foil souvenir sheets. None of the participants' souvenir sheets were on sale at any post office outlets in Mauritius for this disjointed and partial 3rd joint SAPOA issue.

The basic design of the nine stamps of the gold foil s/s are monotonously similar except that the soccer players actions are different for each of the nine stamps and the name and the national flag of the participating countries appear on their separately allotted national stamp in the Mauritian s/s.

Additional technical details of the s/s are: Size - 167x188mm: Paper - 106 gms stamp paper with gold foil all over: FDC size - 110x220mm. The s/s is printed on unwatermarked paper.

The Official First Day Cover

A good number of gold foil souvenir sheets were broken up and affixed to three separate Official First Day Covers as follows: (1) Mauritius, Lesotho, Zambia (2) Malawi, Swaziland, Botswana (3) South Africa, Zimbabwe, Namibia. The official FIFA World Cup logo and a footballer in action, for which Mauritius Post's in-house graphist takes credit, adorn the FDC. The exact number of First Day Covers produced is not known to date as the exercise is ongoing however many covers are made up of stamps that have been

mishandled during preparation. Damage includes pulled perforations, folds, partially missing gold foil and water smudges on the gold stamp face.

The stamps on the three covers were all supposedly "embossed" with one single "emboss" however when the embossing proved to be a completely futile exercise a special cancelling cachet was quickly manufactured and applied to the cover but not to the three stamps - thus the stamps are neither cacheted nor "embossed". The nine stamps are simply not cancelled!

The special circular cancelling cachet representing a football is 27mm in diameter and reads "SAPOA JOINT STAMP ISSUE / MAURITIUS / 09 APRIL 2010". The relief of the "emboss" is so poor that it cannot be measured. The belated discovery that the useless "embosser" did not cancel the stamps and that inking foil (which is metal based) is a hazardous operation the amateurism of Mauritius Post in philately is once again evidenced. The cachet is of such poor quality that there are many variations of the clarity of the impressions occasioned by a "quick job" exercise. Poor inking, shades and incomplete strikes are not uncommon in a set of three covers of three varieties.

The ordinary single Mauritian stamp from sheets of 50 were not used for any Official Mauritian First Day Covers nor were any of the Mauritian stamps from the gold foil s/s, used singly on their own, on any Official Mauritian FDCs. It also did not dawn on anyone at Mauritius Post to produce Mauritian official FDCs with the gold foil and ordinary stamps together on a single cover.

The normal single stamp, the Gold Foil Souvenir Sheet and the three Official First Day Covers were launched at 15.45 on 9th April 2010 at the Postal Museum in Port Louis with many speeches and much jiggling, modern dancing and juggling in a circus atmosphere - the special ceremonial programme *dixit*.

The embossed gold foil FDC stamps uncanceled by both the embossing die and the cancellation cachet

The top selvage perforation



Cancellation cachet



THE CHALLENGE TO A DUEL

Place - Port Louis MAURITIUS · Date - 20th May 1852 ·

The challenge from Cornelius Connor; Chief Clerk in the Post office to James Stuart Brownrigg; Colonial Postmaster General.

Sir,

I believe that you are a son of a general officer, and it is natural to suppose that you have something of the spirit of a soldier about you, which I am sure you have. I too have served in the army; therefore in justice to me you can hardly refuse to give me the satisfaction of a soldier, by meeting me on the sod of honour. I believe the usual place is adjacent to the fortress of Fort William, and the hour on or before sunrise.

I am, &c.

(Signed) C. Connor

P.S. - If your aim be as true as your boast, and mine the same, there will be no need for a doctor.

20 May 1852.

Why did the Chief Clerk challenge the PMG and what was the outcome? The answers in the next issue of "2010".

* * * * *

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING

On 16 July 1915 the following was passed:

Certificates of Posting of Unregistered Correspondence, except parcels.

Any person who desires proof of an unregistered letter, express delivery letter, letter card, postcard, sample packet or newspaper should, when the letter or other postal matter is handed in at a post office, apply for a CERTIFICATE OF POSTING.

A FEE of RS 0.02 (2 cents) will be payable for the certificate which shall be delivered from books of counterfoil forms, bearing printed consecutive numbers.

Articles in respect of which CERTIFICATES OF POSTING are issued are NOT registered and will not be checked in the post, but will be treated as if posted in a letter box.

In the event of loss, damage or delay, the certificate will confer NO title to compensation.

A CERTIFICATE OF POSTING confers no proof of the nature of the contents of the article posted.

(This data was submitted by Dr. A.N. Maderbokus)

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2010

Extracts from Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 6th March 2010 at St Esprit College, Quatre Bornes.

- **Approval of minutes of 2009 AGM**

The minutes were approved on a proposition of Jean Auguste seconded by Krishna Gunnoo.

- **Report of the President for the Year 2009**

The President welcomed the members for the 20th Annual General Meeting of the Society.

With the demise of Vijay Ramharai in May 2009, Hans Bigler filled the vacant seat on the Committee. After the departure of George Gérard Louis as Secretary in September 2009 Tarkesswarnath Greedharrye was nominated to the post. Between September and December 2009 the Committee functioned with eight members. This year some young men - Chrishnanand Cushmanjee and Jean Marc di Costanzo will be standing for election as committee members. This is a welcome development as very few members are eager to serve.

There was an average attendance of 18 members at our monthly meetings, with the highest in February (24) and the lowest in October (14) mainly because some very regular members did not turn up on several occasions. Only four members joined in 2009, compared to 9 in 2008 although a lot of application forms were delivered at the exhibition.

The "Alphabet Competition" was almost a non-event as participation was very low. Ah Lan Lam Yan Foon and Judex Leu Adrien were regular competitors with Khan Mustapha and Pascal Chan You Fee also competing - that is only 4 with the President putting up *hors-concours* entries to fill up the display units.

The usual "News Items" were issued with No.3 having 12 pages and some 14 to 18 pages envisaged for No.4. As from 2010 only 3 "News Items" will be issued in April, August and December.

Sale of stamps, covers and philatelic materials under the care of Jean Auguste will be restyled.

The event of the year was the Stamp Exhibition commemorating the Porcelain Jubilee of the Society held in November / December 2009.

The farcical mismanagement of the Mauritian stamp programme by Mauritius Post during 2009 was noted.

- **Approval of Accounts ending 31st December 2009**

The Treasurer presented the audited accounts, a copy of which was affixed onto the Notice Board. The efforts of the Management Committee in raising funds and the healthy financial position were highlighted. The accounts were approved on a proposition of Assenjee Ismael Kara seconded by Pravin Gopaul.

- **Approval of Budget for the Year 2010**

The budget of Rs60,000 Income and Rs60,000 Expenditure for the Year 2010 was presented by the Treasurer and was approved on a proposition of Dr. A.N. Maderbokus seconded by Khan Mustapha.

- **Election of Committee Members & Office Bearers for the Year 2010**

The following were elected unanimously by acclamation (19 members present and 7 proxy votes) as members of the Management Committee for 2010: Mico Wilfrid Antoine, Judex Leu Adrien, Hans Bigler, Vicky Cushmanjee, Jean Marc di Costanzo, Tarkesswarnath Greedharrye, Assenjee Ismael Kara, Ahmad Nasser Maderbokus and Vikash Rupear.

- **Appointment of Auditor for Year 2010**

Man Fan Lam Hang, FCCA, was appointed as Auditor for 2010 on a proposition of Mico Antoine seconded by Krishna Gunnoo.

BUDGET 2010			
Income	Rs	Expenditure	Rs
Subscriptions	20,000	Cost of Sales	13,000
Donations & Sponsorships	15,000	Postage	10,000
Society Sales	23,000	Stationery	4,000
Other Income	2,000	Catalogues & Magazines	4,000
		Cost of monthly meetings	7,000
		Other expenses	15,000
		Printing of News Bulletins	<u>7,000</u>
Total Income	<u>60,000</u>	Total Expenditure	<u>60,000</u>

AUDITED ACCOUNTS

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009		
	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
	Rs	Rs
CASH RESOURCES		
Cash in Hand - 1.1.2009	1,500.00	1,500.00
Cash in Bank - 1.1.2009	<u>32,524.72</u>	<u>27,908.15</u>
	<u>34,024.72</u>	<u>28,408.15</u>
RECEIPTS		
Entrance Fees	400.00	900.00
Subscriptions	19,500.00	22,800.00
Sales	11,950.00	0.00
Donations/Sponsorship	57,278.72	0.00
Commission on Sales	0.00	6,746.00
Interest Received	193.49	314.57
Others	<u>1,800.00</u>	<u>340.00</u>
	<u>91,122.21</u>	<u>31,100.57</u>
	<u>125,146.93</u>	<u>60,508.72</u>
PAYMENTS		
Cost of Sales	9,707.00	0.00
Exhibition Expenses	28,082.50	0.00
Newsletters/Bulletins	3,303.00	5,323.50
General Expenses	<u>29,863.20</u>	<u>21,160.50</u>
TOTAL OUTFLOW	<u>70,955.75</u>	<u>26,484.00</u>
BALANCE AT END	<u>54,191.18</u>	<u>34,024.72</u>
REPRESENTED BY:		
Cash in Hand - 31-12.2009	500.00	1,500.00
Cash at Bank - 31.12.2009	<u>53,691.18</u>	<u>32,524.72</u>
	<u>54,191.18</u>	<u>34,024.72</u>

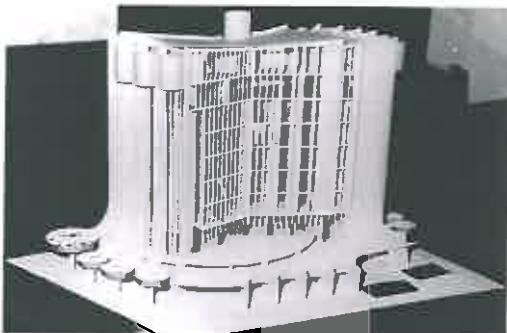
STATEMENT OF ASSETS & LIABILITIES @ 31 DECEMBER 2009		
	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
	Rs	Rs
ASSETS		
Furniture & Fittings	7,735.00	7,735.00
Stocks	4,000.00	4,000.00
Cash in Hand	500.00	1,500.00
Cash at Bank	<u>53,691.18</u>	<u>32,524.72</u>
	<u>65,926.18</u>	<u>45,759.72</u>
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
	<u>65,926.18</u>	<u>45,759.72</u>
ACCUMULATED FUND		
Balance @ 1.1.2009	45,759.72	41,143.15
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year	<u>20,166.46</u>	<u>4,616.57</u>
	<u>65,926.18</u>	<u>45,759.72</u>

NEW GPO BUILDING PORT LOUIS

In "News Items" 2009.4 of December one of the Editor's notes was on the New GPO Building, Port Louis. A member wishes to know more about this. So here it is.



The inscription on the 1974 (SG474) R1 Centenary of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) stamp reads New GPO Building / Port Louis. Then Mauritius (postal services and the government) were looking to the future and the architect's model of the building, made by the Ministry of Works, was used to design the stamp. The building plans included underground parking, service bays, postal and ancillary facilities as well as administrative offices for the telecommunications and other government departments. The project was drawn up by the British Postal Consultancy Services and was to be an impressive addition to the Port Louis skyline.



The site for the edifice was a piece of Crown land occupied by the Forestry Department between John Kennedy Avenue and La Chaussée, the latter being the street where a certain Joseph O. Barnard had his shop.

Today an impressive multi-storeyed building does stand on the 1974 New GPO Building site; the HQ of the national airline - "Air Mauritius". The New GPO Building was never built anywhere in Mauritius. Since 2004 Mauritius Post Ltd (sometimes referring to itself as the G.P.O amongst other appellations) began looking to the future again.... from an empty plot in Ebène.

CUSTOMS CONTROL CACHETS

In the December 2009 "News Items" (Page 13) three Parcel Office cachets were shown. "Have you seen any other cachets?" we asked, one member replied.

Here is a well struck His Majesty's Customs / Mauritius oval cachet on a pair of SG152 (1902)

stamps fiscally cancelled on piece. Both Rs2.50 stamps are pen cancelled with what appears to be the initials of the controlling officer - unfortunately they are not dated.



If you wish to show any of the stamps and items of interest in your collection or simply to show off send in good photocopies or scans with brief notes to the Editor who will gladly reproduce good material with acknowledgement.

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

A single circle circular hand stamp reading First Day of Issue (top) Mauritius (at base) and the date month and year in two lines as shown was last used on 27 February 2004, the day of issue of the "Commemoration du 20ème anniversaire de la COI" single stamp commemorative on private FDCs as no official FDCs were produced for this release. This particular handstamp was put back into "stores" after use.



Similarly some official FDCs were cancelled with First Day of Issue handstamps: in 1976 Second World Hindi Convention, in 1980 80th Birth Anniversary / 40 years of Parliamentarian / Prime Minister, and in 1981 Moslem Year 1400 AD.

In 2010 the 3rd SAPOA joint issue / 2010 FIFA World Cup FDCs are not cancelled with the "First Day of Issue" handstamp. The FDCs are simply not cancelled, not with the embosser nor with the hastily manufactured cachet. Is the First Day of Issue handstamp(s) lost or are those at Mauritius Post unaware of its/their existence!

ROLAND GARROS

In the September 2009 "News Items" (Page 5) mention was made of "Someone in the Society wanting to disprove the 50 covers for France claim."

How many covers were flown to France? According to Peter Ibbotson "50 letters from Mauritius for France" were carried by the *Roland Garros*. However much more mail was also carried.... 2.450 kg for Madagascar (from Mauritius and Reunion) 10.200 kg (mainly from Reunion) for Djibouti, Tunis and Syria, and 8 kg for European addresses other than French.

Therein may lie or may not the answer to the many covers, much more than the 50 French letters, addressed to Germany, Reunion, England and other destinations.

So let us settle for 50 covers for France and many many more for other destinations. The auctioneers and vendors do not tell you this. They play on the figure "50 only" to create a high priced rare cover.

Here is a very good clear strike of the *Roland Garros* cachet on a redirected cover purchased by a member in Paris during December 2009.



(Reduced)

WALLPAPER

A derogatory and uncomplimentary philatelic term of American origin meaning unnecessary stamps sold by unscrupulous governments and postal administrations so as to get more money from collectors.

THE PRESS

The Independent	26.01.2010	Mauritius gains entry to World Expo 2010
The Independent	04.02.2010	Rare collection of coins and stamps
Le Matinal	27.02.2010	Haïti : MPL and La Croix Rouge à Maurice....
Le Mauricien	27.02.2010	Partenariat MPL/Croix rouge.... Haïti
The Independent	02.03.2010	New stamps to be launched soon
Le Matinal	02.03.2010	Emission de timbres-poste
L'express	17.03.2010	Services] La poste se réinvente
Le Matinal	18.03.2010	La Mauritius Post a le vent en poupe
The Independent	18.03.2010	Mauritius Post posts strong growth
The Independent	29.03.2010	Mauritius to take part in Shanghai Expo
L'express	30.03.2010	Internet à la poste
Le Matinal	31.03.2010	Reviving philately
L'express	03.04.2010	Une adresse controversée
Business Magazine	07.04.2010	La poste se réinvente
L'express	16.04.2010	Mauritius Post lance un feuillet d'or
L'express	16.04.2010	Le souvenir Gold Foil à Rs63

MAURITIUS POSTAL HISTORY = MAURITIUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY