

MAURITIUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

QUARTERLY UPDATES

No. 1 – 2017

JANUARY – MARCH

JANUARY:

The society did not hold a members monthly meeting in January. We stopped doing this a decade ago when the management committee decided that the society take a break in January just as everyone else does in Mauritius.

The management committee however met at the residence of the president, 3A La Louise Avenue, Quatre Bornes at 13:00 hours to approve the minutes of meeting of 5th December 2016 and to review the last meeting of the year. The February 2017 agenda was established and the AGM date was confirmed for 4th March 2017. Other matters were also examined. A general overview of most of the events of a relatively calm year was debated and proposals for the future were considered.

FEBRUARY:

The February members meeting was held on the 4th of the month at College du St Esprit, Sir Virgil Naz Avenue, Quatre Bornes at 14:00 hours. The agenda was mainly about the stamps and postal history of Mauritius in 2016 and local press cuttings and coverage of the “Post Office” printing plate and “Bombay Cover” sale as well as overseas reports on the two Mauritian items of important historical and philatelic value. The “Swan” 2017 calendar and the reckless liberty taken with facts regarding the “stories” about the three philatelic illustrations and the new look Mauritius Post annual of December 2016 were analysed. Notes and pages of B.I.O.T., Mauritius and Seychelles from the third edition of the 2016 “Indian Ocean” SG stamp catalogue were explained.

In addition to the main issues dealt with disturbing press cuttings and the personal experience by a couple of members on missing, undelivered, redirected letters and parcels handling by Mauritius Post confirmed the perception of malpractice within the corporation. The 2017 “Swan” desk calendar was distributed to each member present at the meeting as was the 1815-2015 bicentenary National Archives commemorative magazine kindly donated by the two institutions. The 2016 SG 3rd Edition “Indian Ocean” stamp catalogue was distributed to those who placed their orders, courtesy of A N Maudarbokus who took the trouble to purchase these on behalf of the society.

The first members meeting of 2017 bodes well for the rest of the year. 15 local members and Patrick Kwan from Australia were in attendance.



**EAU COULEE
POST OFFICE**

Opened 01.02.1991
Current Location :
Monseigneur Leen
Street
Postcode : 74321



The convocations dated 25th January 2017 were posted from Eau Coulee on 24th one day in advance.

Mauritius Philatelic Society P.O. Box 89 Quatre Bornes Mauritius

Contact us via our e-mail address : mru.philatelic.society.1989@gmail.com

Visit our website : www.mauritiusphilatelicociety.com

MARCH:

The Annual General Meeting was held on 4th March 2017 at College du St Esprit at 14:00 hours.

The press notice was published in "L'express" on 13th February 2017 and the members convocations dated 21st February were posted from Phoenix on even date.

The AGM convocation agenda was of seven items as follows

1. Approval of Minutes of 2016 AGM
2. Report of the President for the year 2016
3. Approval of Accounts ending 31st December 2016
4. Approval of Budget for the year 2017
5. Election of Committee Members and Office Bearers for the year 2017
6. Appointment of Auditor for the year 2017
7. A.O.B.

The outgoing committee members met at 13:00 hours to ensure that all the procedures were respected and in conformity with the rules and regulations of the society. Documents were checked, eligibility of candidates were noted, audited accounts and the budget were reviewed and the accuracy of reports and schedules were scrutinized.

The AGM began at 14:00 hours sharp. All business was completed without any contestation and all decisions were approved and unanimously adopted.

The nine elected committee members subsequently met and decided that the office bearers and officers retain their former posts and serve their new terms as follows:

W Mico ANTOINE	President
A Nasser MAUDARBOKUS	Vice President
Saoud MAUTHOOR	Treasurer
Alain LOUIS	Assistant Treasurer
Sachitanand MUNGRA	Secretary
Arnaud GUIBERT	Assistant Secretary
Jean J AUGUSTE	Member
Thonyno DIEUDONNE	Member
Jaswant JHURRY	Member

17 members attended the AGM and 5 proxy votes were recorded.

No AGM is held without a special supporting display and no display unit is left empty. The cost-of-arms of Mauritius on stamps and covers were spread over two units with special covers and detailed data and press cuttings on the 1992 redesigned republic arms and presidential ensign given particular attention. Two other units were devoted to some colonial era railway items, early Pitney-Bowes meters and other material.

AGM schedules, audited accounts, budget and related listings were appended to one unit. 16 auction lots were placed on the last board – all six boards were utilized.



**PHOENIX
POST OFFICE**

Opened 26.09.1868
Current location :
Syed Hossen
Avenue
Postcode : 73550



The convocations dated 21st February were posted from Phoenix on the same date.

STAMPS OF MAURITIUS

COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS

25th ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS

A single stamp was issued on Sunday 12th March 2017 on the occasion of the silver jubilee of the Republic of Mauritius which coincided with the 49th anniversary of the granting of independence to the island. The stamp with a face value of Rs 25.00 features the 1992 re-designed coat of arms against a cream background with the national colours striped across the length of the lower part of the stamp – a waste of paper. A smaller stamp would have been more appropriate for the occasion.

The Official First Day Cover (OFDC) is illustrated with a replica of the Rs 10.00 1992 “Presidential Flag” insignia composed of the republican coat of arms with its gold RM inscription and laurels. The data card or insert contains short accounts of history and of the “Armorial Ensigns of Mauritius” as well as the technical details of the stamp. The OFDC was put up on sale “exceptionally” on Sunday 12th March 2017 at 17 selected outlets in the main towns and coastal villages which opened from 9:00 to 11:00 AM for the sale and servicing of the silver jubilee stamp and covers only. The OFDC went on general sale at all postal outlets on Monday 13th March 2017 one day after the event.



The Rs 25.00 stamp and the official cover to which it was affixed was on sale at Rs 90.00 per unit.

STAMP PROGRAMME 2017

The society took cognizance of the stamp programme for 2017 as proposed by the “Stamp Advisory Committee” by email on Friday 31st March 2017. The list of stamps to be issued are as follows :

- (a) 25th Anniversary of the Republic of Mauritius (1) March
- (b) 175th Anniversary of the Tai Biou Pagoda (also known as the Kwan Tee Pagoda) (1) May
- (c) 250 years of Mauritius Police Force (1) August
- (d) Centenary of Late Serge Constantin (1917 – 2017) (1) September
Lions International Centennial Anniversary and Lions 50th Year of Presence in Mauritius (1) September

- (e) 50th Anniversary of the Bank of Mauritius (1) September
- (f) Sea Shells of Republic of Mauritius (4) October
- (g) Chagos Archipelago and Islets of Republic of Mauritius (3) November

The number of stamps per issue is shown in brackets.

STAMP PROGRAMME 2016

All the six series of stamps approved by the Government of Mauritius on 25th March 2016 were produced and released during the year. The list was posted on the society's website in the No.2 Quarterly Update. A total of 13 stamps were issued in 2016, 4 of which were carried forward from 2015, as opposed to only 4 stamps issued in 2015. In addition three new printings of the "Indigenous Flowers" definitive of 2009 were also issued in May 2016 raising the total number issued in 2016 to 16 stamps.

THE PRESS AND THE POST

- 05.01.2017 Le Défi Quotidien : Enchères en Suisse.
- 27.01.2017 Le Défi Quotidien : Quand ou famille envoy ene parcel.
- 10.02.2017 L'express : Délais inadmissibles.
- 03.03.2017 L'express : Services – Le code postal ...
- 22.03.2017 Le Défi Quotidien : Détournement de la pension de vieillesse.

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ATTEND YOUR SOCIETY MEETINGS ATTENDANCE FIGURES 2017

JAN - MARCH 2017 - JANUARY N/A, FEBRUARY 16, MARCH 17.