

MAURITIUS PHILATELIC SOCIETY

QUARTERLY UPDATES

No. 2 – 2016

APRIL - JUNE

APRIL:

The April meeting was held on 2nd April 2016 at 14:00 at College du St Esprit, Sir Virgil Naz Avenue, Quatre Bornes.

The agenda listed three items – Postage Due/More to Pay, British Indian Ocean Territory-UK stamps USA covers, An aspect of Mauritius.

Postage Due/More to Pay was about the procedures for the correct application of charges following the revision of postage rates on 1st August 2015. Instruction No 32/2015 of 7th August 2015 was fully analysed.

The second item was a display of a selection of stamps of B.I.O.T. (British Indian Ocean Territory) issued from 1965 to 2015 and the USA covers were mainly philatelic covers, dated stamped US Navy FPO from 1974 to 2010 with various B.I.O.T., Diego Garcia, Chagos Islands postmarks and cachets.

An aspect of Mauritius was mostly about a “Roland Garros” flown cover of 1937 and some postal history items of the colonial period.

Other matters dealt with were a three point request from Valery Chavyrko of Russia on SG890 (40c on 75c), the Rs 7.00 flowers (SG1184) new printing of 9 June 2015 and an Independence Street address on a 1965 cover. The April agenda was presented by Mico Antoine and A N Maderbokus.



April convocations were posted on 24th March 2016 from Rivière du Poste Post Office.

MAY:

Derek Taylor was the main speaker on a comprehensive aerophilatelic flown covers of Mauritius display. Mico Antoine helped out with a worldwide collection of stamps on aircraft. Flown covers included seven Roland Garros covers, two Raid Samat covers, 100th Anniversary of the Madagascar-Reunion-Mauritius covers in both direction, Imperial Airways covers and GUBA flight covers. Lufthansa, BOAC, Air France, South African Airways, Quantas, Swissair, Vatican and Air Mauritius FFCs were also some of the interesting flown covers shown. Other material included censored WWII airmails, Mauritian aerogrammes, photographs of Plaisance airport from 1945 to 2015 and a family pilot licence to fly “any kind of flying machine”. Derek gave a fairly detailed narration of the building up of his collection as well as anecdotes and insights on his role in some aspects of civil aviation in Mauritius.

Mico Antoine’s arrangement of a worldwide range of modern aircraft stamps included those of several African countries, commemorative miniature sheets and sheetlets and two Royal Air Force (RAF) military aircraft series supported the main subject of the day.

The notice board carried news and press cuttings on postal matters, some amusing digital franking abbreviations and varieties and a “Missent to Jamaica” from the UK to Mauritius post card of April 2016.



May and June convocations were posted on 27th April 2016 from Camp Diabie Post Office.

JUNE:

The June society meeting was held on 4th June at 14:00 hours. The agenda listed two items namely an audio-visual presentation on Mauritian philately and Mammals of Mauritius 1994 – the story behind the stamps. The first item was rescheduled to August and the second item was improved upon with the “250th Anniversary of the wreck of St Geran” 1994 and the “150th Anniversary of the Mauritius Chamber of Commerce and Industry” 2000 commemorative sets of stamps.

The first scheduled item was replaced with three important philately related articles in “Week-End”. These were the David Livingstone visit to Mauritius titled “Le séjour de l’explorateur écossais David Livingstone a Maurice en 1856” of 1st May 2016 and “Le cas du Mauritius Post Office” in two parts on 8th and 29th May.

The story of the three commemoratives were about the photographs, artwork and the related reference material used in the process of stamp production. More than one current and several past members of the society were directly involved in the research, concept and realisation of the three sets of stamps in question.

Page 7 of the March 2016 “Post Office” News, the newsletter of Mauritius Post, on 2015 events and activities of the corporation titled “Financial Evolution” over the past 12 year period was analysed – with its (18 month period) error and Mauritius Post’s own graphic evidence that the non-postal revenue increase as a percentage of total revenue was not that impressive.

“Freshwater Fauna” commemoratives and the “Flowers of Mauritius” definitive new printings were reviewed.

**ATTEND YOUR SOCIETY MEETINGS
RAISE OUR ATTENDANCE FIGURES WHICH WERE**

**JAN - MARCH 2016 - JANUARY N/A, FEBRUARY 16, MARCH 18.
APRIL - JUNE 2016 - APRIL 15, MAY 13, JUNE 14.**

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NEW MEMBERS

CHENG KAI ON Nöellie of Port Louis was admitted as a member of the Society on 4th June 2016.

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SOCIETY MEETINGS 2016

Society members meetings for the period July to December 2016 have been scheduled on the following dates: 2nd July, 6th August, 3rd September, 1st October, 5th November and 3rd December.

STAMP OF MAURITIUS 2016 COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS

UNITED NATIONS MAURITIUS

A single stamp was issued on 09 May 2016 to coincide with the visit of BAN KI MOON (Ban Ki-moon), General Secretary of the United Nations, to Mauritius.

The simple stamp bears its raison d'être with the words "SUSTAINABLE / DEVELOPMENT / GOALS" in three lines. The denomination of Rs 27.00 is the combined postage (Rs 10.00) and registration fee (Rs 17.00) for the standard inland registered letter rate and it will be used extensively for that purpose.

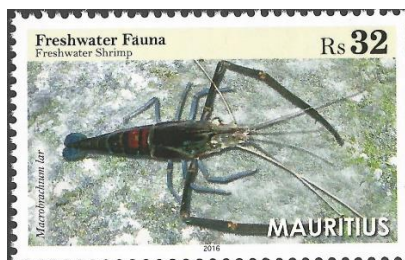
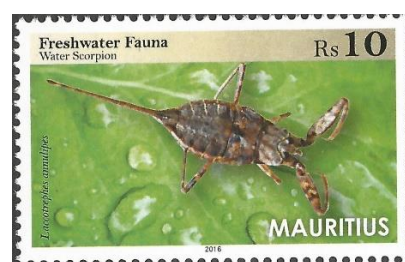


The stamp was promoted as "Together for Sustainable Development" and the official First Day Cover is illustrated with the 17 goals of the project together with the logo of the UN.

FRESHWATER FAUNA

A set of stamps was issued on 6th June 2016 on four freshwater species of Mauritius featuring respectively Re 1 Giant Mottled Eel, Rs 10 Water Scorpion, Rs 18 Nile Tilapia, Rs 32 Freshwater Shrimp.

The Re 1 denomination is a fraction value, the Rs 10 the standard inland mail rate, Rs 18 the (105 mm x 148 mm) airmail postcard rate and the Rs 32 mainly for overseas letters, newspapers, periodicals and other high value usage.



DEFINITIVE STAMPS

New printings of the **Indigenous Flowers of Mauritius** definitive stamps of 2009 went on sale in Mauritius during May 2016 as follows:

- * SG1180 Rs 3.00 Myonima obovato
- * SG1185 Rs 8.00 Distephanus populifolius
- * SG1190 Rs25.00 Roussea simplex



Rs 3.00 pays the little used “certificate of posting” fee, Rs 8.00 is the overseas surface mail 20 grammes letter rate and Rs 25.00 is mainly used as the fiscal charge for a copy of a birth certificate. All three denominations will be used as fractions to make up rates as none of the three new printings are for the most used postal rates of Mauritius listings of August 2015.

The year imprint (2016) of the new printings is found in the bottom margin of the three stamps.

- * Original 2009 SG numbers.

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CENTRAL FLACQ POST OFFICE

The new Central Flacq Post Office at **Flacq Coeur de Ville** - Super U Complex - was inaugurated on 28th February 2016.

(See Quarterly Update No. 1 – 2016 where no photographs were shown).



Shutters down



Shutters up

STAMP PROGRAMME 2016

The stamp programme for 2016 was approved by the Cabinet of the Government of Mauritius on 25th March 2016 as follows:

- (a) Fresh Water Fauna in Mauritius
- (b) Endorsement of the Sustainable Development Goals
- (c) Maritime Air Squadron (New Dornier Aircraft)
- (d) Nature Walks
- (e) Fresh Water Flora in Mauritius
- (f) World Diabetes Day

No official stamp programme has been released by the Philatelic Bureau of Mauritius Post Ltd to date.

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PORT LOUIS MUNICIPAL COLLECTOR'S CLUB

Some 30 children from Cassis met at the Freddy Deveaux Polyvalent Centre at 13:00 on 28th May 2016 where Randhir Mungra, Mico Antoine and Meeline Lui Yew Fai introduced the group to some basic aspects of stamp collecting.

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THE PRESS AND THE POST

- 14.04.2016 Le Défi Quotidien : Collaboration Mauritius Post – PME
- 17.04.2016 Week-End : Doléances contre le bureau de poste de Rose Hill
- 20.04.2016 L'Express : La Poste paralysée
- 08.05.2016 Week-End : Le cas de Mauritius Post Office (I)
- 14.05.2016 Le Défi Plus : Mauritius Post – deux cadres recalés
- 23.05.2016 Le Défi Quotidien : Tentative de vol à la poste de Beau Bassin
- 25.05.2016 Le Défi Quotidien : Le suspect trahi par ses vêtements
- 29.05.2016 Week-End : Le cas de Mauritius Post Office (II)
- 04.06.2016 Le Défi Plus : Les comptes de la Poste dans le rouge
- 26.06.2016 L'Express Dimanche : Réduit L'ancienne gare ferroviaire ...
- 29.06.2016 Le Défi Quotidien : Pertes de Rs 646,6 M à la Mauritius Post

Note: The two articles in “Week-End” (I) and (II) were both two full page features: Nothing new or wrong about (I), almost everything wrong with (II).

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