

# THE HISTORY OF TRANSPORT IN ZIMBABWE

Issued 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2014

(Extracted from Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 2 of 2014)<sup>2</sup>

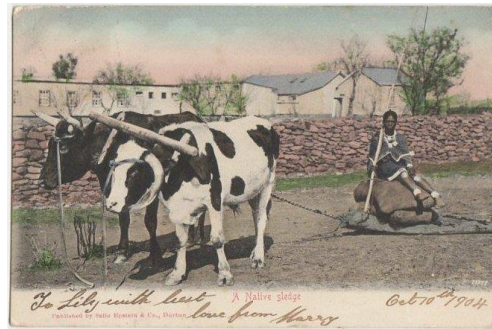
The first tracks were created by humans carrying goods, and these often followed the game trails. As animals became domesticated, donkeys and oxen were used by man for transport.

In Zimbabwe the sledge was pulled by oxen or donkeys but this caused erosion of the soil. With the introduction of the wheel, a solid wheel was formed out of a log of wood for the sledge. This then led to the adaptation of the colonial Scotch cart which is still widely used in Zimbabwe.

Transportation changed people's lives over time. It made it possible to travel to different destinations and to move goods and produce easily and quickly. Transportation made the world a smaller place

## 25c: The Sledge used in the 1890s

The Tonga sledge was drawn by donkeys. Cattle could not be used due to the presence of foot and mouth disease in the Zambezi Valley. The sledge had a reed basket built into the 'Y' shaped branch cut from a large tree.



Model A Ford belonging to J E Needham

## 30c: Model 'A' Ford Pheaton 1928

Successor to the famous Model T'. This very reliable and inexpensive Model 'A' was one of the most popular cars in Zimbabwe at the time. Country of origin - USA Engine - 3 cyl.S.V.3285cc Years built-1927-32 Price when new - £132

## 30c: Winston Churchill Train 1929

The Winston Churchill train was manufactured by Hudswell Clarke and Company in Leeds (works number 1627) and was a 36 tonner. It and its sister train were brought to Beira to work on the wharf, but were soon found to have a too rigid wheel base for the tight curves on the docks and were then withdrawn to Mutare. It was mainly used in the shunting yards. In 1941 it was named after Churchill.



Hudswell Clarke & Co engine (1371)



De Havilland DH – Fox Moth

**75c: De Havilland DH - Fox Moth 1932**

E.H Spencer of Spencer's garage in Victoria Falls had operated a DH Puss Moth aircraft from July 1935, providing charter flights around Victoria Falls. By 1946 Spencer's Airways, Victoria Falls, were using one Avro Anson, one De Havilland Fox Moth, one Tiger Moth and one Fairchild UC.61A to provide short pleasure flights over the Victoria Falls.

**85c: Bristol Bus 1946**

This bus was a wartime bus which was rebodied by Bence at Longwell Green around 1946. The Bristol bus was manufactured by Bristol Commercial Vehicles located in Bristol, England. In Zimbabwe the bus was used by Guinea Fowl School in Gweru. It was then donated to the National Museums and Monuments in December 1980.



Donkey drawn Scotch cart

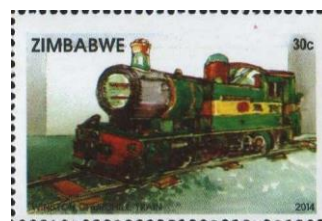
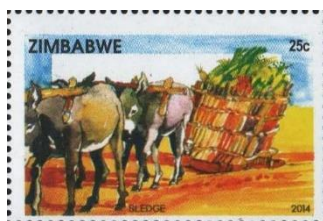
**\$1: Ox-Drawn Cart 1964**

Ox-Drawn Cart (Scotch Cart) is normally drawn by a pair of oxen or donkeys and is used to carry produce, firewood or shopping by small farmers. It consists of an axle with bearings or bush wheels, a load container and a drawbar (called a diesel boom). The wheels rotate separately for cornering.



A variant of the Scotch Cart!

## The Stamps



## Catalogue Listings

SG	ZSC <sup>1</sup>	Value	Description
1368	769	25c	The Sledge used in the 1890s
1369	770	30c	Model 'A' Ford Pheaton 1928
1370	771	30c	Winston Churchill Train 1929
1371	772	75c	De Havilland DH – Fox Moth 1932
1372	773	85c	Bristol Bus 1946
1373	774	\$1	Ox-drawn Scotch Cart 1964

## Technical details

<b>Stamp size:</b>	Sheet stamps:	42 x 28 mm
<b>Sheet Size:</b>	50 stamps (10 rows of 5 stamps), two panes per printed sheet	
<b>Artist:</b>	Leslie Johnson	
<b>Paper:</b>	ZSC paper type J: paper described by Zimpost as “Chancellor Litho PVA Gummed Postage Stamp Paper”. This paper is produced by Tullis Russell Coaters of Glenrothes, Fife, Scotland. Under UV there is no fluorescence either front or back, the stamp appears to be very dark	
<b>Print colours:</b>	Cyan, magenta, yellow & black	
<b>Perforations:</b>	SG 14½; ZSC 14¼ Top margin: Perforated through Other margins: Imperforate	
<b>Printer:</b>	NatPrint, Harare, Zimbabwe	

**Printer's Imprint:** Bottom Margin, below Row 10 Column 3. Imprint printed in black

**Cylinder numbers:** Left margin opposite R1/1. Colours reading down –cyan, magenta, yellow, black

**Colour register:** Type TL 4– round boxed – top margin above R1/1. Colours from left – black, yellow, magenta, cyan

**Sheet Value:** Sheet stamps only: Top margin, above R1/5, printed in black

**Sheet Number:** Type SN 7 with printed 'ZIMPOST' prefix, right margin opposite R1/5 reading down.

**Bar codes:** Opposite R9 & 10/5, printed in black, numbers:

20c	2 009113 000011
30c (Model A)	2 009113 000028
30c (Train)	2 009113 000035
75c	2 009113 000042
85c	2 009113 000059
\$1	2 009113 000066

<b>Print numbers:</b>	25c	300,000	30c	150,000
	30c	150,000	75c	10,000
	85c	10,000	\$1	10,000

**Issue date:** 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2014

### Cylinder numbers and colour register

This is the only instance, to date, where the positioning in the margin of the cylinder numbers and colour register and swapped round as can be seen in the block of four opposite. The 'traffic lights' would normally be found in the left sheet margin, not in the top margin.



## Bar codes

This is the first issue where bar codes have been introduced to the sheet margins. Each value has a separate bar code, see numbers above. Uncertain if the bar codes are used in the sale of the individual sheets or to audit the distribution of the sheets. If it is for the individual stamps, then why have a different bar code to the two 30c values?

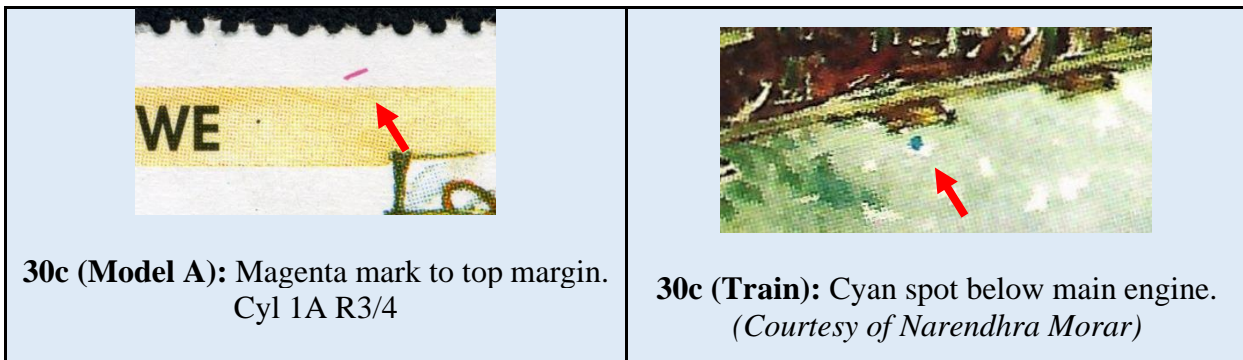


## Listed Varieties

No listed varieties have been reported.

## Unlisted Varieties

Numerous small dots and specks in the printing of these stamps were noted in the examination of the sheets with missing black printing.



## First Day Cover

No first day covers were made available by the Philatelic Bureau, covers can, however be found with the Harare First Day of Issue canceller on plain covers and Bureau manila stationery.

## Related Matters



Single sheet, with printer's other notations removed, prior to sheet receiving the sheet number and being split into the two 1A & 1B sheets.

*(Courtesy of Jefferson Ritson)*

### **Bibliography:**

1. "The Zimbabwean Concise Postage Stamp Catalogue", published by Harare Stamp Company, edited by Ken Allanson, Mike Amos and Geoff Brakspear. The catalogue continues to be updated and expanded by Geoff Brakspear, and is now published on the Rhodesian Study Circle website.
2. Zimbabwe Post, Philatelic Bureau Bulletin No 2 of 2014