

A cover from Ndola in 2022

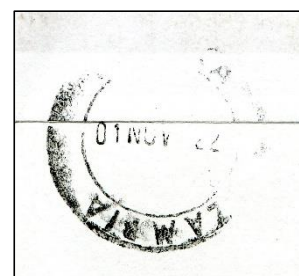
RSC member, **Rod Kantor**, visited Zambia in 2022. He writes: *I was well attended to at what is probably the remains of the philatelic bureau in N'dola, there having been no new stamps since about 2015. A well-worn and rather ragged brown envelope was brought to the counter and I was able to work my way through the jumble of stamps it contained, pick the stamps I wanted and then separate them from the sheets. When I'd prepared the three covers I asked that they not be cancelled with a Philatelic Bureau datestamp and was offered either a simple N'dola one or the Parcels stamp. The former was well worn so I chose the Parcels. The quality of the datestamp on the covers is indicative of the quality of service and attention I received from the officer. The officer seemed to quite enjoy joining me on the journey through the contents of the envelope, chatting, laughing and offering up new "finds".*

I was the fortunate recipient of one of this covers with the rather mysterious backstamp.



Posted on the 21 October, 2022, it arrived at my home on 17 January, 2023. **Adam Goulding** made this comment: *It is lovely to see this cover. Especially so as the Ndola mark is new and an unrecorded type 38jk.*

*The interesting back stamp is a partial Lusaka with Zambia arranged backwards and **Hal Hoyte** gave it a code of its own type 28A. It was around as an extremely rare registered cancel, then it disappeared for a while and has come back as a backstamp on incoming international mail. This is the first time I have seen one going the other way. The date format got changed too.*



As **Pliny the Elder** (AD 23-79) wrote: *Semper aliquid novi Africam adferre* – Africa always brings (us) something new.