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We hardly knew ye

On Friday the 13th of May, Royal Bank of Scotland Group Plc. announced its intention to redeem the three issues of preferred stock that featured in the [April 8 issue of Grant's](#). When we wrote, the issues changed hands at a 5.3% discount to a \$25 par value; as we go to press on Tuesday, they fetch an average price of \$25.27.

The marketing department of this publication would like you to know that the annualized rate of return on the three over the past month has ranged between 81% and 91%. The analytical team regrets that such

a superb risk-reward proposition (more-than-respectable dividend yields coupled with the now realized chance of prompt redemption) was snatched from the hands of the deserving investors.

You may recall that the issuer of the preferreds, RBS Holding N.V., was a nagging irritant to the Royal Bank, its parent. Small, overcapitalized and freighted with compliance busywork, RBS Holding was clearly not long for this world. We only regret that it left it so soon.

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