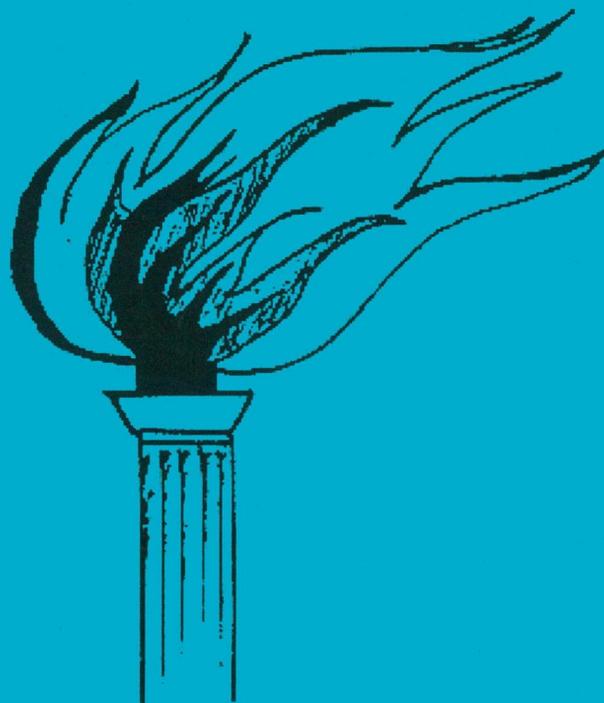


Volume 15 Issue 3

TORCH BEARER



SOCIETY of OLYMPIC COLLECTORS

SOCIETY OF OLYMPIC COLLECTORS

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BACK ISSUES: At present, most issues of TORCH BEARER are still available to Volume 1, Issue 1, (March 1984), although some are now exhausted.

As stocks of each issue run out, they will not be reprinted. It is Society policy to ensure that new members will be able to purchase back issues for a four year period, but we do not guarantee stocks for longer than this. Back issues cost £2.00 each, or £8.00 for a year's issues, including postage by surface mail. If ordering single copies, please indicate which volume you require. Cheques should be made payable to the SOCIETY OF OLYMPIC COLLECTORS and be sent with the order to John Miller at the above address. If you wish to receive back issues by airmail, please add 75 pence per issue (£3.00 per volume).

LIBRARY: Photocopies of articles are available through the Librarian at 10 pence per sheet. Please enclose payment with the order. Books may be borrowed, but postage must be paid IN BOTH DIRECTIONS. The Librarian's address is listed above.

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MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY OF OLYMPIC COLLECTORS

Membership starts on election, of which applicants will be notified, and will last for one calendar year. All back issues of the magazine for the current year will be sent to members joining during the year.

Junior members are those aged under 18 years in the year of joining, subscription rates are half of the adult rate until the 18th birthday.

All applications should be made to the Secretary.

Subscription rates for 1998 are:

U.K., £8.00; Europe, £10.00 (DM30, \$US20),

Outside Europe, £15.00 (DM 40, \$US28).

Acceptable forms of payment: \$US cheques drawn in USA; Sterling, \$US or DM currency notes; Sterling cheques.

FRONT PAGE

The Society A G M passed without incident, and as usual members were noticeable by their absence. For the first time since joining the committee I was also absent, as a result of a last minute decision to attend the FIPO Assembly in Paris. A report of the Assembly appears on page 136.

After the Assembly, FIPO hosted a meal for delegates, which was both enjoyable and an opportunity for further informal discussion. Amongst the numerous topics of conversation two may be of particular interest.

Firstly, it is probable that the next Olympic Fair in Lausanne will be held over the Easter holiday in 1999 - which should provide adequate notice for those hoping to attend;

Second, there is a widely shared view that all societies should attempt to encourage 'Olympic' collecting, rather than sitting back and waiting for existing collectors to find us.

On this latter point, I would be grateful for any suggestions for ways in which we could encourage prospective members. For my own part, I have always accepted invitations to speak or display to either junior groups (Brownies, Scouts, Schools), or non collecting groups such as Rotarians. I may have encouraged some new philatelists, but I am not so sure about Olympic collectors.

Torch Bearer only has about 170 pages per annum in which to pass on information, (and on occasion this can seem excessive when articles are lacking!). As a result of this limitation, Torch Bearer has not contained a new issue listing for 'Olympic' stamps on the basis that National titles already provide this information, although it is recognised that collectors embarking on an Olympic collection would find this information helpful. I would be interested in members views on this subject, to help the Committee review existing policy. It is noticeable that new issue reports in the philatelic press seem to be getting later and later, often almost a year behind their French and German counterparts.

Two regular features may appear absent in this issue - News from Members and Members Forum. This is not actually the case, as the items received this quarter both needed sufficient space to warrant individual listing - see pages 99 and 142.

Two planned publications are nearing completion.

The first, an updated **Library List** from Kenny Cook is almost complete, and this will be serialised throughout 1999.

The second will be the final part of **Albertville - the facts**, which Bob Wilcock has already prepared and is being proof read. The method of distribution and cost will be determined at the next committee meeting and notified through Torch Bearer.

PICTOGRAMS FOR SYDNEY 2000

Tom D'Arcy forwarded the following information on the Sydney 2000 pictograms:



Archery



Boxing



Equestrian



Handball



Sailing



Table Tennis

Thirty four pictograms, graphic symbols for the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, were unveiled on 21 May 1998. They represent each sport and some of the disciplines on the Olympic Programme.

Since Tokyo 1964, it has been common practise for each host city to develop their own style of pictogram.

Initially these were used predominantly as a form of universal signage for the Games - the stylised and simplistic figures crossing language barriers.

Whilst the earlier pictograms were functional, they always reflected the 'style' of the host nation, and soon became an opportunity for the host to create a unique 'look at the Games'. The designs now feature in many forms of promotional literature, and souvenirs - they have become a further 'marque' for each Olympiad, a designed property to be protected and commercialised.

Pictograms, as graphic designs, lend themselves to reproduction within postmarks. The 'simplicity' of their design relies on the ability to be reproduced in a single colour, and in fulfilling their original role, each can replace text.

The release that supports the launch of the Sydney pictograms restates their lineage, and gives details of their development:

"Each International Federation for the twenty eight sports on the Sydney 2000 Competition Program was closely involved in the design of the pictogram representing their sport.



Athletics



Canoe / Kayak Sprint



Fencing



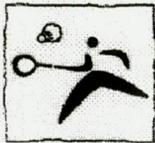
Hockey



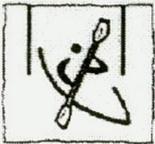
Shooting



Taekwondo



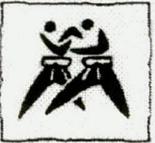
Badminton



Canoe / Kayak / Slalom



Football



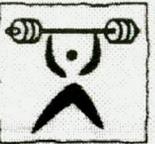
Judo



Softball



Tennis



Weightlifting

An important factor in designing each image was ensuring that the sport or discipline was clearly recognisable. As Sydney is staging the 'Athletes Games', the 34 pictograms also had to depict the competitor in each sport and discipline as accurately as possible.

The Sydney 2000 Olympic Pictograms are inspired by the vitality and spontaneity of the Sydney 2000 Games logo. They present each sport in a fresh, dynamic way and embody the energy, optimism and excitement of Australia's Games.

The sporting pictograms of the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games depicted, are the property of SOCOG and are protected under various copyright and other laws."

The common image of the boomerang forms part of each pictogram, in common with the Sydney logo. The designs all seem to achieve their objective of 'easily identifying the sport that they represent' (although Modern Pentathlon, as usual relies heavily on symbolism).

From the 'unveiling' in May, to first 'philatelic use' will be a period to monitor.

It is quite likely that one of you will be able to confirm such use before this article appears - write in to the Editor and keep us all informed!



Baseball



Cycling



Gymnastics



Modern Pentathlon



Swimming



Triathlon



Wrestling



Beach Volleyball



Waterpolo

IMOS Congress, 1st - 3rd May, 1998 - Berlin

The Annual Congress of IMOS our sister society in Germany was held from the 1st 3rd May, 1998 with OSPC (Olympic & Sports Philatelic Club), Berlin acting as the hosts. As a number of SOC members also belong to IMOS, and we have regular contact through journal exchanges, Thomas Lippert extended an invitation to SOC members to attend the Congress which offered a very full three day programme of Olympic and philatelic events.

Eventually three 'parties' decided on a Spring break and to take advantage of the superbly organised weekend. Brenda, my daughter Sarah, John Crowther and I, decided to travel by car, David, Rennie, Tracy and Philip Buxton travelled by air; as did Bob and Ruth Wilcock.

The following account of our excursion was prepared by my daughter Sarah (her first attempt at journalism!), with a few italicised philatelic details that I have added.

Wednesday 29th April, 3.30a.m.

I was woken at 3.30 a.m. by Brenda. Dad, Brenda and John were having a cup of coffee prior to starting our long journey. We were packed and in the car by 4.00 a.m. (actually 4.01, as Dad complained that we were late). Dad and John in the front, Brenda and I in the back. It was a quick and dark journey, at first we were only sharing the motorway with a few lorries, then a few cars appeared now and again. The M25 was actually acting as a road not a car park! Arriving at the Channel Tunnel ready for Le Shuttle, we had a fying visit to Duty Free for Dad's cigarettes, and Brenda's perfume, then onto the train. The train departed on time, but as usual the advertised radio service was not operating (Dad's pet moan).

We drove off the train and straight onto the motorway. The back seat of the car is comfortable, but in the small space you can't move very much. (*You should try the drive to Lillehammer with three weeks luggage!*). It's only o.k. travelling in the car all day when my dad lets me listen to my music for a while. I was prepared with my walkman for when dad plays his tapes.

We spent all of 25 minutes in France, and about two and a half hours in Belgium - the scenic route? It was very hot in the car, and we eventually stopped for lunch in Holland at a very nice motel where we sat on an outdoor terrace and enjoyed a cold drink, some real coffee and a snack. Off again and into Germany. I then fell asleep for about 30 minutes and woke up to find that the weather had changed and it was raining. There were a lot of roadworks making travelling very slow. Dad and John had decided to stop overnight just beyond Hannover, and we found a hotel at about 8.00 p.m. We had dinner at the hotel where I tried my German and managed to order apple strudel for Brenda, and Coca-Cola for myself. We all went to bed early to prepare for the final stage of our outward journey. We all slept well, although some of us heard the terrific thunderstorm during the night!

Thursday 30th April, 9.30a.m.

After a generous breakfast, we were on our way, back into roadworks making the journey very slow. We finally arrived in Berlin at 1.30 p.m. and checked into the hotel which was at the same complex as the hall for the Congress. We were actually staying in an apartment block that had formerly been used by East German athletes when attending training sessions at the sports complex - a facility for elite and promising athletes. Each apartment had two twin bedrooms from a common entrance area (with shared refrigerator), and a shared shower room with toilet. After a refreshing shower, we all went to the foyer to meet with our hosts, arriving IMOS members, and to await the other parties. At about 4.30 the Buxton family arrived, and after they had checked in we confirmed our bookings for excursions and went to dinner at about 5.30. I had a tuna salad, as I knew what that meant on the menu. After dinner Dad and his friends stayed to listen to speakers (thanks to Thomas Lippert acting as interpreter), whilst Brenda, Rennie, Tracy, Philip and I went for a wander around. We found a few shops and a supermarket, which we looked around and bought a few supplies. Chewing gum was over 40 pence a pack! When we returned to the hotel Dad told us about the main topics of the speakers, sport and drugs. Bob and Ruth Wilcock had also arrived. We went to bed early again because we had an early start for the morning's excursion. 7.00 a.m. on holiday!

Friday 1st May, 8.30 a.m.

After a buffet breakfast, dad went off to the IMOS Congress in the adjoining centre, all the ladies, Bob, David, John, and Philip went on the 'ladies' programme, an organised sightseeing tour of Berlin. It was very good, except that Thomas was attending the Congress and could not be with us to translate. It was very interesting to see the difference between East and west Berlin. We saw parts of the Berlin Wall that are still standing and we visited the Information Tower in the area of major rebuilding. There is a lot of building work going on and since the completion of the Channel Tunnel the Berlin redevelopment now forms the largest single project in Europe. Berlin is a very big city with a lot of shops and interesting and historic buildings. We went back to the hotel to meet Dad for lunch. After lunch, Dad and the collectors went to a bourse, whilst the rest of us went for a walk around the sports complex of which the hotel is part. We found a McDonalds for an ice cream. Later we all attended the organised dinner at the hotel.

The IMOS Congress was attended by over 80 members, and ran as one session from 8.30 until 12.30.

Within the opening address, a number of guests were welcomed, and offered an opportunity to respond. On behalf of the SOC, I thanked our hosts for their invitation, and mentioned our envy at their ability to attract so many members to their Congress and to other social occasions.

Reports were given by the officers, including an update on the preparation of an IMOS web site (which is now operational).

IMOS benefits from a very active relationship with both the German Ministry for

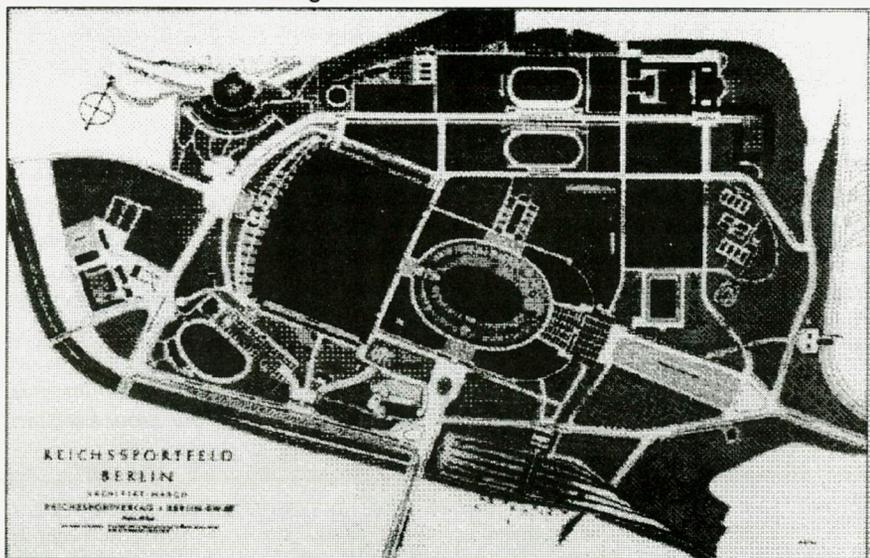
Sport and their IOC Member. Both took part within the programme.

After lunch, a members bourse took place. The range of material available for exchange or sale was extensive - from classical to modern. Souvenirs of the Congress included a handstamp, and autograph sessions by Olympic medallists.



Saturday 2nd May, 8.00 a.m.

Another early start for a tour of the 1936 Olympic Stadium. We visited the Bell Tower first. Tracy, Philip and I used the steps up and down, whilst others paid and used the lift. Dad, Brenda and Rennie stayed on the sportsfield (I saw the kiosk owner appear, and noticed the postcard racks), we waved to them from the top. We walked to the stadium and had a very detailed guided tour - it really was hot! It was strange to see immaculate rugby and cricket pitches in the area occupied by British troops, near to the new Sports Museum. In the Museum we visited the hall that had been used for fencing in 1936.



Lunch was provided in a hall enroute from the Olympic Stadium to the site of the Olympic Village. As the village was a collection of derelict buildings within the former Soviet Zone, supplemented by more recent 'barrack' apartment blocks being prepared for demolition, I stayed with Brenda and Tracy by the coach, because I was tired from the mornings walk. We saw a fox run into one of the buildings, but we were warned not to walk around as there may be munitions present. When the others returned from their guided tour we returned to the hotel.

A dinner and dance was organised for the evening, with a superb buffet. Before the dancing, a group of local schoolchildren provided a number of musical and dancing sketches accompanied by their teachers - they were very good. Closing speeches were made, with a number of presentations, and then the dancing began. Tracy, Philip and I went to see if the bowling alley was open, but finding it closed we went back to the apartment to listen to tapes.

Sunday 3rd May, 10.00 a.m.

After a civilised start and breakfast, there was an organised walk around the sports complex. We took part in the group photographs, but then left for our long journey home across four countries. Dad and John had decided to travel via Hamburg to avoid all the roadworks on the A2. With only one brief stop for a snack, we arrived in Calais at about 10.30 p.m., and took to our beds in readiness for the relatively short trip home in the morning.

Overall it was a very good trip, and helpful to me because of current school projects on World war II. It was interesting to see Berlin. It would have been even better if I spoke and understood more German. My thanks to Thomas for all his patience and help with translation, and to Regina Germann who spoke English and made us welcome. Thanks also to IMOS and the Berlin Club for all their efforts in organising the excursions, and thinking of the non-collectors.

I am looking forward to my next 'Olympic' adventure.

As we left on Sunday, David Buxton was left with a specific task for Monday as their flight was later that day. During the Congress it had been mentioned that a Berlin Museum had recently staged an exhibition of Olympic memorabilia for which a souvenir postcard of the mascots had been produced. David fulfilled the challenge.

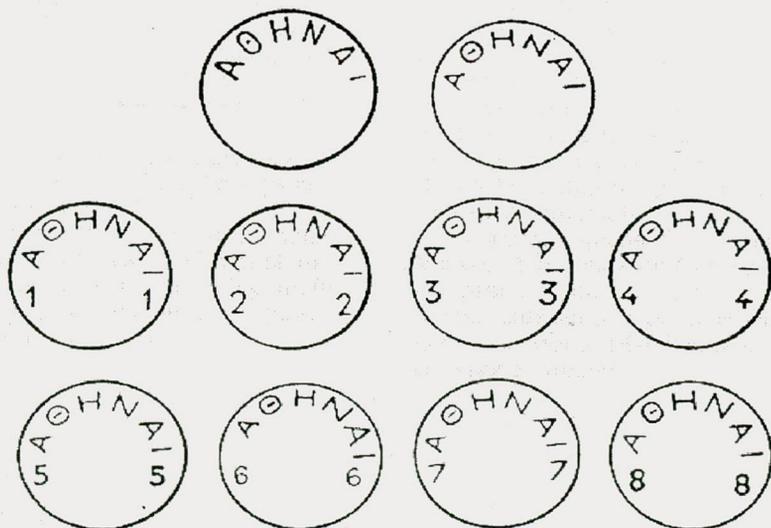
IMOS with OSPC had provided an opportunity for collectors and their families to meet and socialise in pleasant surroundings. The value of such gatherings is dependent on the input of individuals attending, and despite our groups limited knowledge of the German language, we all felt welcome, and I am sure gained a lot of knowledge about the 1936 sites.

Changes to planned coach routes, (due to May Day crowds), and the use of cars by Berlin Club members to increase available seats all ensured that everything ran smoothly.

"CLASSIC OLYMPIA" GREECE 1896: ONLY ONE POST OFFICE IN ATHENS..

Mauritzio Tecardi

In the early 1950's, the few Olympic sport philatelists of the time began to realise that in addition to stamps they could enrich their collections with other postal history documents such as envelopes, postal stationery and post cards with stamps of the "Greece 1896" Olympic issue cancelled with various postmarks of different post offices, mobile rail and maritime post offices, etc. In fact the first attempts of certain collectors in this field, pushed, helped and encouraged by the first specialised catalogue, published in Milan by Giulio Landmans in 1952 which included not only stamps but also many special cancellations, go back to these years. From the first slow attempts to increase knowledge in this field, finally at the beginning of the 60's - and I repeat with great difficulty since nothing precise or official was known about the existence of such material - the first "studies" and publications appeared. And it is to one of these that I want to refer with regard to the object of these notes. In 1964 a small volume of 48 pages was published in Rome by Aldo d'Urso "La Filatelia Ellenica nel Regno Olimpico" (Hellenic Philately in the Olympic Reign) which brought to the knowledge of the few (but good!) Olympic philatelists of the time the findings of an old researcher: Spiro Raftopoulos. In addition to the very useful information published it also contained a detailed and illustrated list of the various postal cancellations of Athens which could be found on stamps of the Olympic issue of Greece in 1896. Raftopoulos clearly said that these cancellations came from just as many post offices.



On the basis of this "information" the most committed Olympic philatelists began to dedicate their time to the research and the study of these cancellations. As years went by, especially in Italy and Greece, some good "studies" on this research began to appear in thematic collections. But the first doubts also appeared as to the existence of these various post offices. In fact there was an abundance of marks from some of these - relatively speaking since it was (and still is) not easy to find material on this issue - whereas for others hardly anything existed.

However, for many years Raftopoulos' thesis and that of other Hellenic philatelists, was accepted and in the "Olympic" collections, at the chapter on the postal use of the first Olympic stamps the various cancellations of Athens were always mentioned as coming from just as many post offices.

With regard to this I wish to underline that many fell into the error of indicating 11 of them, instead of 10, since they also presented the cancellation "ATHENS 9". In fact this cancellation entered use at the beginning of 1900 and consequently the Olympic stamps (and also others) with this cancellation from 1896 until 1899 are "cancellations to order" applied afterwards!

This is what I also specified in my collection on the basis of what I had seen, after rapid research carried out on the scarce documentaion of the time.

At the beginning of the 90's a few Hellenic philatelists - both "Olympic" and "postal history" began to have doubts as to the existence of these various Athenian post offices, while others even tried to give them a territorial location. Unfortunately these remained suppositions since nothing official, such as decrees, regulations or publications of the time were known to exist.

Now, thanks to the research started by an Olympic philatelist from Ukraine, the mystery seems to have been solved.

Here is the communication from our friend Vsevolod Furman from Odessa, who sent me an 'avant-premiere' of a very interesting draft document on the genesis and philatelic-postal history of the first Olympic issue:

"The expected arrival of many foreigners, and supposed increase of the stream of correspondence, putting the series of commemorative stamps into circulation, etc., impelled the Athenian postmasters to publish a special guide book.

It contains detailed information about postal rates and rules, the list of services offered, the order of the working day at the city post office (in spite of the accepted opinion amongst most collectors, investigators, and experts that at that time there were 9 post offices in Athens, the "Guide-book" distinctly says that there existed only one post office in Athens) which was located - since 1888

at the corner of Lykavitou and Stadium Street, and which was open from 5 a.m. till 10 p.m. on weekdays. The so-called main (central) post-box was in this office, and the mail was collected out of it each hour from 5.30 a.m. till 7.30 p.m. On Sundays they took out the last mail at 3 p.m.

In the Athens post office the following windows were in operation:

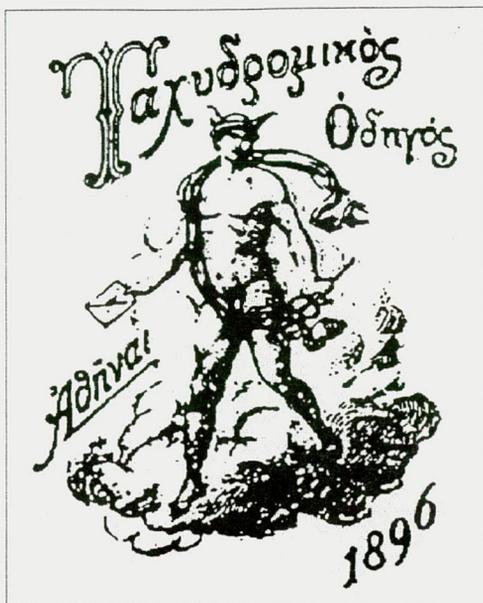
- for sending printed matter, books and newspapers (from 6 a.m. till 6 p.m.)
- for sale of stamps and sorting of letters (from 8 a.m. till 7 p.m.)
- for Poste Restante mail (from 8 a.m. till 12 a.m. and from 2 p.m. till 6 p.m.)
- for registered mail (from 8 a.m. till 12 a.m. and from 2 p.m. till 6 p.m.)
- for remittances (from 9 a.m. till 12 a.m. and from 3 p.m. till 6 p.m.)
- for sending parcels (from 9 a.m. till 12 a.m. and from 3 p.m. till 6 p.m.)

On Sundays money orders were neither remitted, nor paid. Postmen delivered the mail three times a day (from 10 a.m. till 6 p.m.). But if it was necessary, they delivered until 8 p.m.

According to the data published by the well known investigator of Greek postal history M. Constantinis, there were 10 metallic post boxes in Athens during the period from 1884 until 1899 (in the streets and squares of the city) and 22 wooden ones (in various pharmacies and small shops).

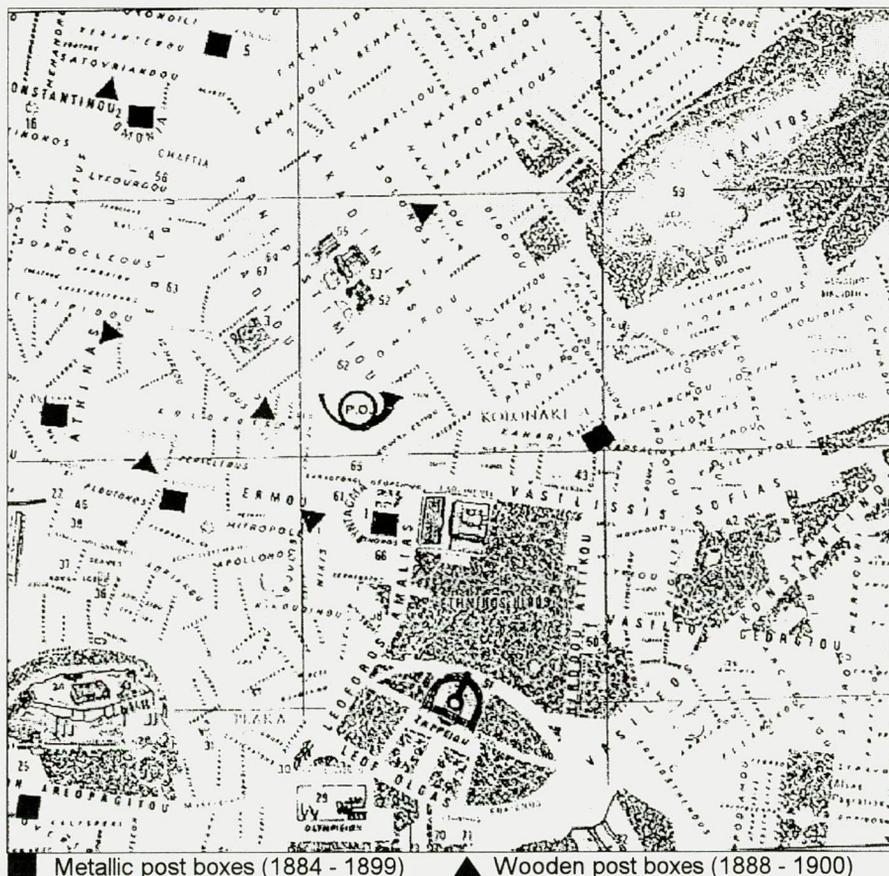
Metallic post boxes were located in the following places (see schematic map):

- in Constitution (Sintagma) Square;
- in Kolonaki Square;
- at the corner of Pinakotou and Anonimou Str.;
- in Patisiou Avenue (now it is the continuation of Eolou Street) near the Art school;



Cover of the Booklet produced by the Athenian Postal Authorities.

- in Omonia Square;
- in National Bank Square;
- in the Square of Heroes;
- at the corner of Ermou and Kapnikarea Streets;
- near the Eolou Temple;
- in the Square next to Kydatheneion Street.



Among the oldest "postal points" of the city we should mention some private pharmacies where they had boxes for the mail and in addition sold postage stamps:

- Leonidis pharmacy in Ermou Street;
- Athinadi pharmacy in Ermou Street;
- Smirnistopoulos pharmacy in the Street of Athnians;
- Cerahi pharmacy in Solonos Street;
- Arvantinos pharmacy in Museum Street;
- Nikolaidi pharmacy in Omonia Square.

Post officers took the mail out of the boxes four times a day and delivered it in coaches to the post office.

We should note that in 1902 the number of metallic boxes in the city increased by 24. Some of them were installed in hotels (e.g., in "Grande Bretagne", "England", "Paggion"), others - in shops, coffee bars, pharmacies. But there was only one post office in Athens at that time, which in 1900 moved to the building in Loudovikou Square (now it is Kodzia Square), belonging to Vasileiou Melos. The movement of the post office was carried out according to the agreement of December 3, 1899, ratified by the law... of March 27, 1900."



Further confirmation of the "findings" of Vsevolod Furman is given by the discovery in my archives of copies of two beautiful envelopes with Olympic stamps cancelled on 25th March 1896 - the day of issue (and also the first day of the first Olympiad of the modern era). Both have an unmistakable heading: "BUREAU DE POSTES / ATHENES"! One is cancelled 'ATHENS 3', the other, 'ATHENS 7'.

Most probably they are "service" envelopes at the disposal of the single post office being considered.

At this point one thing appears clear and final: in 1896, Athens had only one post office with six windows for the users of the various services. This leads to the necessity of completely re-writing the chapter "offices and cancellations" of the postal history of the first Olympic issue of Greece "Athens 1896". This new "status" will have to be taken into account especially by exhibiting philatelists; in fact as of now, the "Jury members" will also be aware of this "novelty" and will have to take it into consideration in their evaluations.

But why did this post office have so many different cancellations?

I will write about this in the near future. However I am convinced that the results of my detailed research consequent to this "discovery" will be even more interesting and revolutionary!

SMALL AD's

1984 Los Angeles Olympics

Registered cacheted covers with "Los Angeles Olympics 1984" USPS registry tapes with specific PB meter numbers for many sports.

Tie-in stamps / cancels / vignettes.

For sale - Trades possible

Send \$1 for photocopies

Specify sports of interest if possible

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MELBOURNE 1956 : SYDNEY 2000

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WANTED! - WANTED! - WANTED!

1948 London Olympic Games, Organising Committee cover, used in the 'correct' period - either before, during or immediately after the Games.

Can offer in exchange, the 1948 Great Britain issue in full sheets of 120, intact perforations. 2 1/2d. cylinder 3, 3d. cylinder 1 (with 'crown flaw'), 6d. cylinder 9 dot (with retouched HLP), 1/- cylinder 3

Please contact the editor with a photocopy of any cover offered.

WANTED! - WANTED! - WANTED!

Articles for **TORCH BEARER** - All Olympic related philatelic subjects.

Why not share your knowledge of your special interest?

An individual event, or Olympiad - personal experience at the Games.

The story of an individual item? - Your questions about an individual item.

There really are an unlimited number of subjects to choose from!

NEWS OF MEMBERS

News from Members, has been a regular feature in Torch Bearer since the early issues, but a recently received 'cutting' has provided the opportunity to start what could become a new regular slot.

If any of you have reports of special achievements, send them in for all of us to share. This initial report on our member **Bob Horman** sets a really high standard to match!



Bob, 80, sets pace for a marathon life

No alcohol and a vegetarian diet yesterday propelled former World War II Digger Bob Horman to the fastest time in a marathon by an 80 year-old.

Horman of Redland Bay, out-slogged competitors a quarter of his age to finish the Brisbane River Run marathon in 3hrs 39min 18sec. It was believed to be almost 29 minutes quicker than the fastest time recorded for an over 80 year old.

Police closed off streets around Suncorp Stadium, the start and finish of the marathon, to allow 4300 competitors to take part.

Janine Reid won the women's and Ron Peters the men's event.

After a brief rest and drink, Horman sat talking animatedly with well-wishers, including Olympic silver medallist Lisa Ondieki, who wanted to know his secret of octogenarian fitness.

"Number one, I'm vegetarian and I'm careful with anti-oxidants to beat free radicals. Alcohol, I've never touched it," Horman said. "But the running has got to be for fun."

And he has hopes of a better time next year. "Why not? There is always a rabbit willing to take you out," he said.

Horman has had a varied career in and out of athletics. He narrowly missed selection in the Australian walking team for the 1968 Mexico Olympics, is a former mayor of Ringwood in Victoria and was once a construction engineer in Africa.

ONCE IN A LIFETIME - Lot No. 7885

John Murray

In the early part of this year, I was invited by the French Philatelic Association in conjunction with the Organising Committee of the 1998 World Cup Competition to participate in an International Philatelic Exhibition devoted to 'Football', entitled "**Philfoot '98**".

In my own case, I eventually displayed five exhibits:

- World Cup 1930 - 1970;
- Olympic Football 1900 - 1948;
- Uruguayan Football;
- Football vignettes (parts 1 and 2).

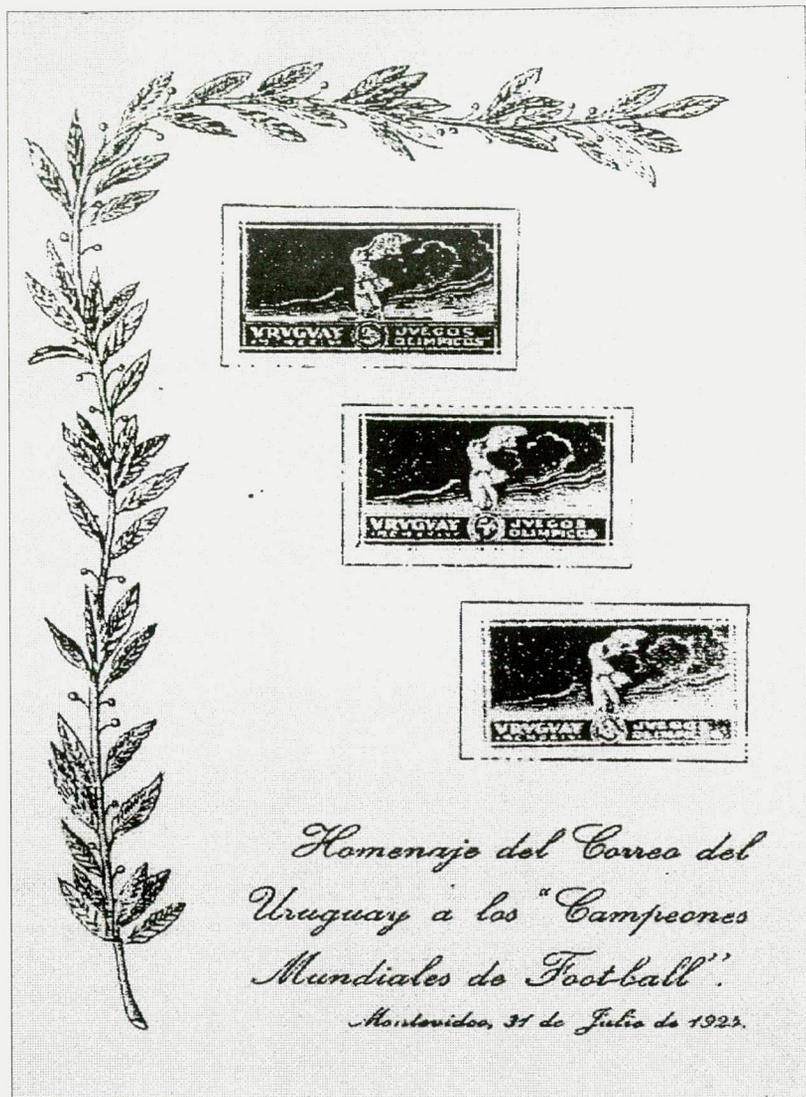
Several of my fellow exhibitors, I have known personally for many years, the last time that the 'Football Old Guards' had gathered in this way was in Madrid during the World Cup Football competition for a similar display to that in Paris.

Ever since my introduction to serious collecting and displaying 'Olympic Football' in 1963, I have taken great pleasure in extolling the virtues of Uruguay's Olympic Football triumphs at Paris (1924) and Amsterdam (1928).

In an Olympic Football collection there are a number of items recognised as 'special' by the specialist collectors. One of these special items is the publicity booklet issued by the Uruguayan Postal Authorities to honour the Uruguayan team following their Gold medal performance in Paris during 1924. When Uruguay issued the philatelic world's first official football stamps, the issue comprised three stamps with the design of the Samothrace (Louvre Museum, Paris). These stamps had face values of 2 Cts, 5 Cts, and 12 Cts.

As a special tribute to their victorious team and the Uruguayan Olympic Officials, a special printing of 500 sets of this issue was prepared on **yellow paper**. A very small quantity of this printing were affixed to the inside of the 1924 booklet and these booklets were presented to the members of the team and the Olympic Officials who had accompanied them to Paris.

During my years of travelling to give lectures about Olympic Football at philatelic societies, I have always stressed the importance of this booklet, and on one particular evening during such a display I was asked by one of the club members in the audience (Paisley Society, I believe) - if the booklet I was displaying meant so much to me, what would it mean to me, if I also had the autographs of that famous 1924 Uruguan team. Somewhat caught off guard, in my response I seem to remember saying that the chances of acquiring such an item was almost nil as we had the situation where a team all the way from South America had played 50



The Presentation souvenir produced by the Uruguay Postal Authorities, for distribution to the team members and officials following their victory at the Olympic Games, Paris 1924.

years ago, and were probably all dead. Such an acquisition would be almost impossible. However, I did concede the point that there was every possibility that such an item did exist, in Uruguay, but that the owner of such an historical piece of memorabilia, would surely realise its importance and would never part with it, especially if he was an Olympic collector.

Moving to the present, and my trip to Paris on the occasion of Philfoot, I had the good fortune to meet with Society of Olympic Collectors Chairman, Bob Farley, who happened to be attending a FIPO assembly. At Bob's kind suggestion, I was invited to accompany him to the assembly as a delegate on behalf of the S.O.C., little realising in my wildest dreams what the outcome would be.

At the assembly, opening speeches were made by Dr. Manfred Bergman and the President of the International Olympic Committee, Juan Antonio Samaranch. Much to my delight, I was asked to stand up and be introduced as an exhibitor at Philfoot, and delegate of the Society of Olympic Collectors.

During the business of the assembly, I was handed a complimentary copy of a catalogue for a philatelic auction to be held in Paris five days later - I laid the catalogue to one side, deciding to read it later, back in the hotel.

On the departure of President Samaranch, I had the honour of being introduced, and expressed my thanks to him for his complimentary remarks expressed to the organisers of Philfoot '98, especially about my "Uruguayan Football" exhibit.

Back at my hotel after a nice relaxing shower (Paris was in a heatwave), I finally found time to sit and study the auction catalogue from the FIPO assembly. I noticed that there was a small section of the auction devoted to the issues of Uruguay for the 1924 and 1928 games, with a lot featuring the first World Cup, 1930.

Carefully scrutinising each lot, I came across **Lot No. 7885** described as the *1924 A.N. Paris Olympic Card No. 160 "L'EQUIPE D'URUGUAY" with the autographs of all the players on the back of the unused card.* It took several seconds to finally sink in, that after over forty years, here was the very thing that I have always dreamed of acquiring, but had believed would be impossible to possess.

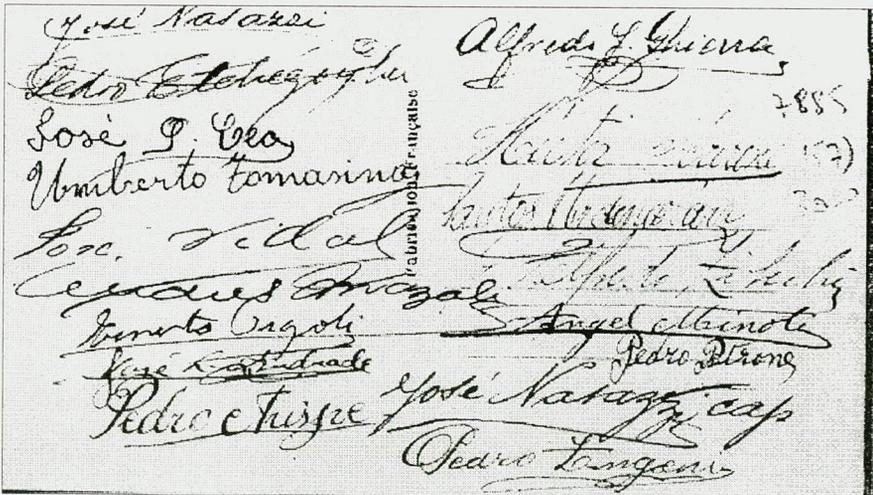
As it was Saturday evening, and knowing that Parisian stamp dealers would be closed for business on Sunday, I would have to wait until my return to Scotland to submit my faxed bid for lot No. 7885.

For the next few days, I went through what could only be described as "Philatelic Torment", thinking 'did I get it?' 'Have I lost out to another bidder?' The torment was almost unbelievable. I almost camped over the office fax awaiting news.



Above: the face side of Lot No. 7885, The Uruguay football team, Olympic Games, Paris 1924.

Below: The reverse side of the postcard, with the signatures of the team members.



The first indication I received about the auction came when my wife telephoned me at the office to tell me that the "Prices realised" booklet had arrived from Paris. Holding my breath, I asked my wife to turn to Lot No. 7885 and tell me what it had realised. After what seemed like an eternity interspaced with a few mumbled Lot Numbers, she finally told me what Lot 7885 had achieved - and I let out a loud "YES", realising that I was now going to be the owner of an historical piece of "Olympic Football" history.

Several days have now passed, and Lot 7885 has been in my possession for a number of them. I still cannot believe my good fortune, and even now I have to sneak a look every so often just to convince myself that I really do have this card to place in my Uruguay collection.

In conclusion to the saga of Lot No. 7885, I would like to put it on record that cooperation between fellow Olympic Collectors can still produce some wonderful results, and in my case I must state **"Thanks a million Bob for that invite"** without which I would never have seen that all important catalogue.

As an added footnote, it should be noted that of the original 1924 squad of players no fewer than eight went on to later represent Uruguay at the 1928 Amsterdam Olympic Games, where they again won the Olympic Gold medal. The players referred to being Mazali, Nasazzi (Captain), Arispe, Andrade, Urdinaran, Petrone, Cea, and Scarone.

After completing the Olympic "double" again some of the players participated in the 1st. World Cup Championships hosted by Uruguay in 1930.

To end a brilliant football career no fewer than six of the 1924 squad represented the Uruguayans and successfully went on to win the 1st. World Cup in a stirring final against longtime rivals Argentina.

The six players referred to were; Andrade, Cea, Nasazzi (Captain), Petrone, Scarone, and Urdinaran.

It came as a complete surprise to me, when I had a very excited John (Jack) on the telephone telling me about the instrumental part I apparently played in this little saga. Obviously I am pleased for Jack and his new acquisition, particularly as it encouraged him to put pen to paper and share his experience with us all. I think it only right that FIPO and AFCOS who were the real catalyst and host in Paris share in Jack's delight.

I am sure that many of us have had similar experiences with a piece that is special (although not necessarily valuable) to us as individuals - why not share one of your special "finds"? {Ed.}

ISRAEL '98

Franceska Rapkin

After all the work and all the planning, the organising Committee of ISRAEL '98 must be experiencing some sadness, as well as elation, that the international exhibition in Tel Aviv to commemorate the Fiftieth Anniversary of the State of Israel and of the first Israeli stamps is but a memory.

The standard of the exhibition was remarkably high. This was borne out by the fact that considerably more exhibits were awarded medals of silver-gilt and above than in the lower medal ranges. Of these, forty two were large gold medals and eighty two were gold medals. British competitors did very well. Large Gold Medals with a special prize were awarded to Zvi Alexander, Trevor Davis, Gerald Sattin and David Springbett; Gold Medals with a Special Prize were awarded to Franceska Rapkin for "The 1936 Olympic Games" and Arthur Woo, and without special prizes to Bernard Berkinshaw-Smith, Hugh Feldman, Zeev Galibov, Barrie Jay and Cyril Metliss. Christopher Cruttwell, John Duggan and Denis Vandervelde were awarded Large Vermeil Medals, while Francis Kiddle, Nora Hargreaves and Patrick Pearson each received a Vermeil Medal.

Society of Olympic Collectors member Ossi Virtanen was also awarded a Gold Medal for his exhibit "The Olympic Movement". Other Olympic exhibits were; Peter Osusky (Slovakia), "For the Glory of Sport 1925 - 1945", Vermeil; Phairot Jaira Prasertkun (Thailand), "History of Olympic Games", Large Silver; Karl Rathjen (Germany), "Olympic Summer Games 1892 - 1992", Vermeil.

Most exhibitors at an exhibition however, are more interested in the dealers and in the material in the frames than in the medals awarded. Again, visitors would not have been disappointed. There was some incredible material on display, particularly in the National Class exhibits. For me, two of the most moving pieces were a couple of postcards at the beginning of Zvi Alexander's invited exhibit, written by Theodor Herzl, the founder of the Zionist Movement, to his daughter. From a philatelic point of view, there were certainly more important pieces in the collection, but the correspondence from father to daughter was poignant and made one see Herzl in an entirely different light.

The British institutions received fulsome praise at the awards dinner for their contribution to the Court of Honour, and deservedly so. Charles Goodwyn, the Keeper of the Royal Philatelic Collection, David Beech, the Curator of the Philatelic Collections at the British Library and Douglas Muir, Curator of the National Postal Museum's Philatelic Collections, really pulled the stops out to bring along the most suitable material. The British contribution related almost entirely to the Mandate period, most of which was unique and had never been seen before by the public. David Beech also brought along some of the rarities from the Tapling Collection,

such as the unused 2d. Blue Post Office Mauritius and the 1d Red used on cover. The many visitors to the Court of Honour certainly appreciated the opportunity of seeing this material and there was a steady stream of visitors at the Court of Honour exhibits throughout the period of the exhibition.

There was also a large and varied section of invited exhibits, many of which related to Holy-Land philately. Amongst the contributors were Alan Huggins with British Levant Postal Stationery and Zvi Alexander with Jewish Colonies in the Holy-Land.

After the first few days, parties of children were escorted around the exhibition frames. It was particularly noticeable that the youngsters were not left to their own devices, but were escorted around the frames by knowledgeable collectors. Perhaps the experience will have instilled into some of the children a desire to take up stamp collecting too. Amongst the items on display in the Court of Honour that was most frequently surrounded by the young visitors was the space suit worn by the French Astronaut, Jean Loup Chretien during the Franco-Soviet T-6 mission. This was one of the spectacular pieces from the Alberto Bolaffi collection. Alberto Bolaffi also brought along other space-related items and, for the philatelist, most interesting of all, the original sketch of the Penny Black, signed by Rowland Hill. Other contributors to the Court of Honour were Steven Walske of the United States, the Museum of Communication, Bern, Switzerland, David Feldeman, Geneva, Switzerland, The Olympic Museum, Lausanne, Switzerland and the Postal and Philatelic Museum of Israel.

Great Britain was also well represented by the dealers. Amongst those present were, Argyll Etkin, Gerald Ritchie Bodily, Carmichael and Todd, Michael Chipperfield, Euro-Yu, Stanley Gibbons, Harmers of London, Stephen Kander, Spink (Stamp Department) and Stampfile. Royal Mail was also amongst the postal administrations who came to Tel Aviv to celebrate Israel's Fiftieth Anniversary.

The impression was that it was a happy exhibition. The organising committee appeared to be working well together as a team. An early complaint was the few visitors that came into the further halls. It is always a problem when an exhibition has to occupy more than one venue. However, frequent announcements were made throughout the day, and when I visited the farther reaches of the show, there were certainly plenty of people around. One of the strongest complaints that I heard was from Dicky Rustin of the United States Postal Service, which was placed in one of the far halls, along with many of the other postal authorities. Yet even as we were talking some forty visitors entered the hall. At the end of the exhibition, it was estimated that some sixty thousand people had visited the show. Although I did not watch any television or listen to the radio, I understand that the exhibition was advertised there and several posters in the vicinity of the fair grounds announced that a stamp show was taking place.

One negative note that was frequently repeated was that exhibitors were not amongst those best treated. I understand that without a prior invitation or an exhibitor's badge, it was not possible to get into the opening ceremony and most exhibitors were not given their badge until the show was officially opened. At the Palmares, only medals were handed out, instead of the medals, as well as the special prizes. For those exhibitors who were awarded a Large Vermeil Medal and below no special ceremony was held, and they were expected to queue and wait their turn. Perhaps a minor criticism, but a valid one for collectors who had taken a great deal of time and effort to prepare their exhibits.

Others, however, may have a different viewpoint. Speaking for myself, it was a friendly, relaxed exhibition and the organisers can feel justly proud of most of their efforts.



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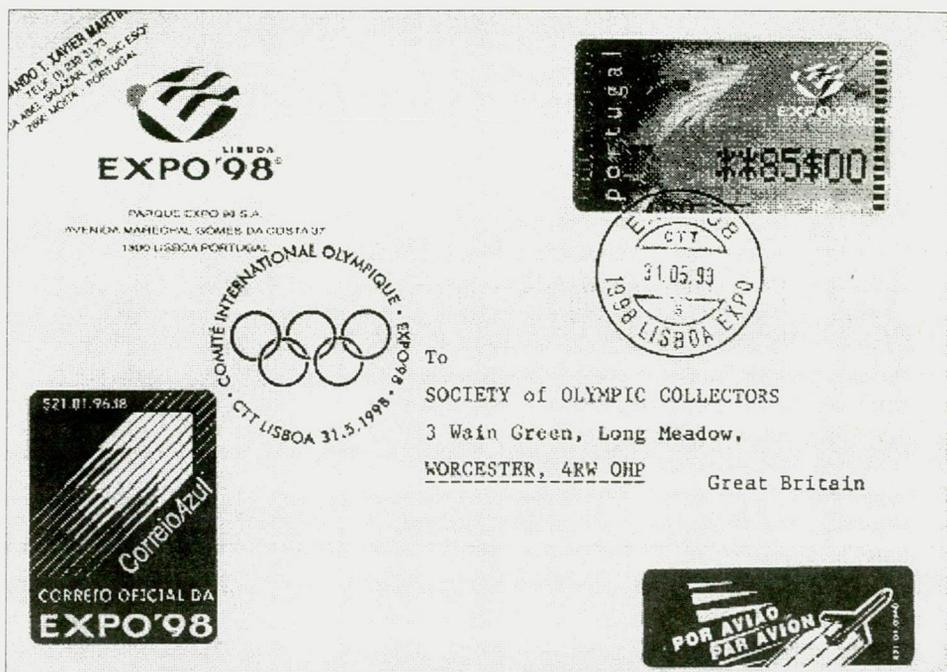


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OLYMPIC DAY, EXPO '98 - LISBON



In his report to the FIPO Assembly, Maurizio Tecardi mentioned the introduction of 'Olympic Day' at exhibitions with FIP patronage. A commemorative 'Olympic Day' was also held at Expo '98 in Lisbon, Portugal. I am indebted to two of our members who forwarded the illustrated covers.

To the right, is a cover forwarded to John Crowther by Prof. Manuel A. V. Ribeiro da Silva, who wrote:

"I am pleased to send you the cover of this letter, which is the cover of the International Olympic Committee at the EXPO '98 (Universal Exhibition in Lisbon - The last of the century) with the special cancellation of the IOC at the EXPO '98 (cancellation just for one day), over the complete set of the Portuguese stamps for the Atlanta Olympic Games, Registered. I think it is a nice piece, with all these combinations...."



The registered cover is very attractive, with a number of commemorative elements linking the IOC to EXPO '98.

The envelope imprint and the cancellation both mention the IOC and EXPO '98.

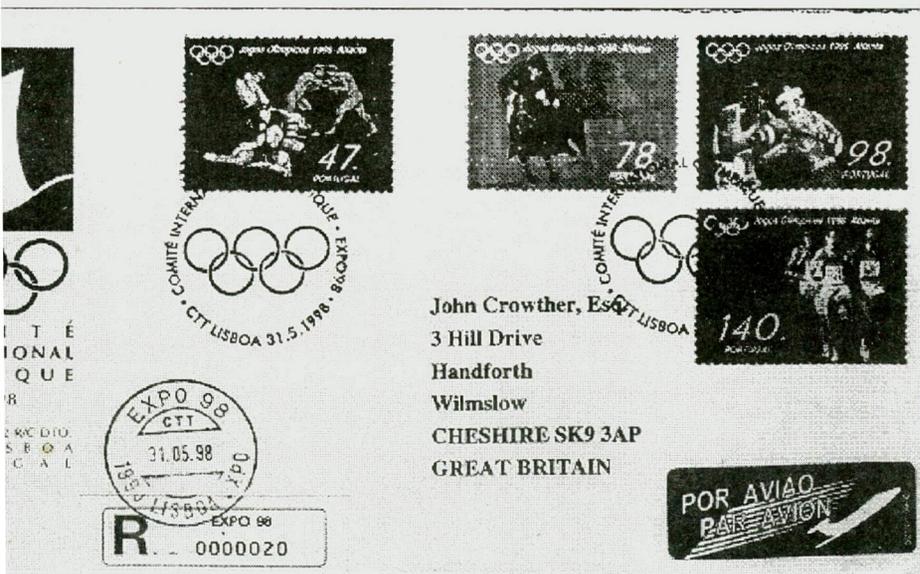
The registration label is commemorative and has the text EXPO 98.

The cover illustrated left, was forwarded to me by Fernando T. Xavier Martins, and was sent to highlight the special IOC cancellation, 'Par Avion'. I assume that this was mailed with a request for the special cancel, as the face is cancelled with the IOC cancel and the postmark of the Expo '98 Office dated 31.05.98 - however it is backstamped 'LISBOA JUL 98' suggesting a considerable demand for the special cancel.

This cover also bears further commemorative elements; the self adhesive label at bottom left (reference 521.01.9638) bears the text 'CORREIO OFICIAL DA / EXPO '98'; franking is provided by a commemorative 'automated' stamp with an EXPO '98 design.

As a further point, both covers have handcancels from the EXPO 98 post office. On the registered mail cover, the cancel has a '5' in the lower section, on the cover shown here this area is blank - suggesting the use of identifiable dies at each counter position.

Whilst some of you will not consider these covers as totally 'Olympic', they serve as superb examples of the different elements to look for on 'modern' covers.



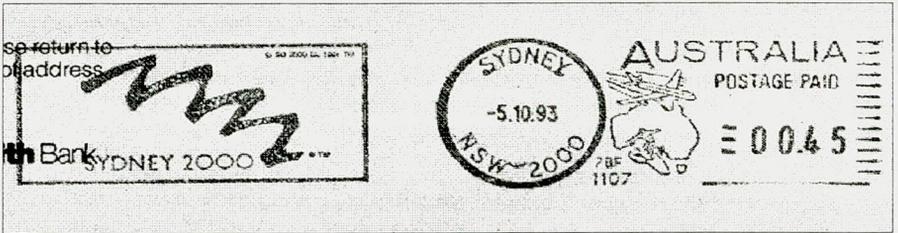
SYDNEY 2000 - UPDATE

With the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games rapidly approaching, it seems a good time to review some of the material that is available. The following information is a compilation from our Australian members, (to whom thanks are expressed) received over the last few years that has been formulated into a list. There is no claim to completeness, and any additions would be welcomed to enable future updates.

A. Franking Meter Marks - Sydney 2000, 'Opera House Squiggle' logo.

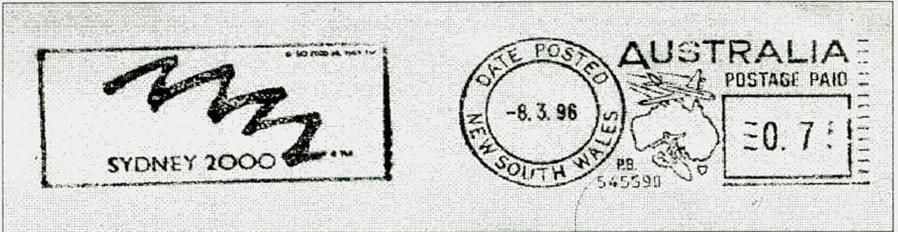
A.1. Impression with map of Australia, aircraft and surfer, single ring dater.

A. 1. a. 'SYDNEY / N S W 2000' meter PBF 1107 (used on Commonwealth Bank envelope).

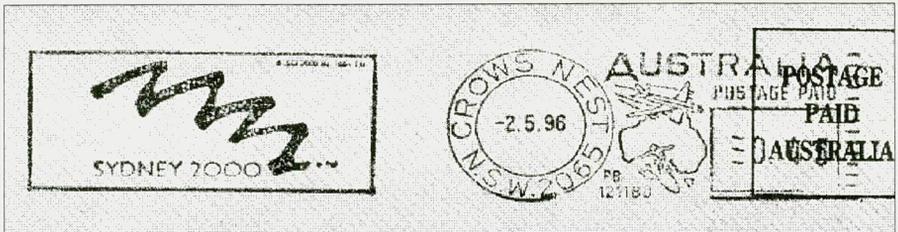


A. 2. Impression with map of Australia, aircraft, and surfer, double ring dater.

A. 2. a. 'DATE POSTED / NEW SOUTH WALES' meter P.B. 54559D

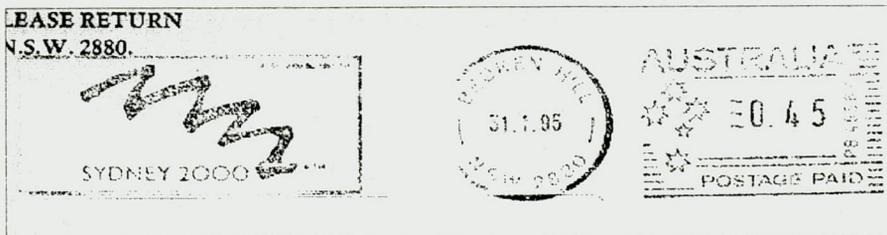


A. 2. b. 'CROWS NEST / N.S.W. 2065' meter P.B. 12118D



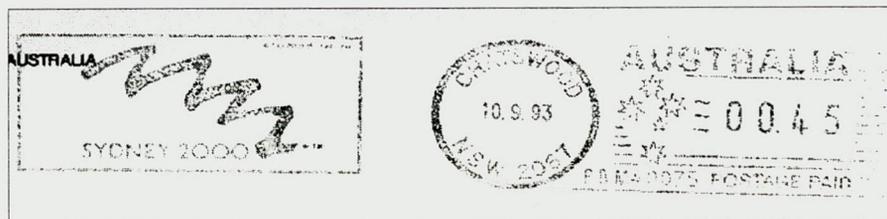
A. 3. Impression with Southern Cross, single ring dater - with arcs.

A. 3. a. 'BROKEN HILL / N. S. W. 2880' meter PB45587 {used on envelope with P.O. Box 454, Broken Hill return address}.

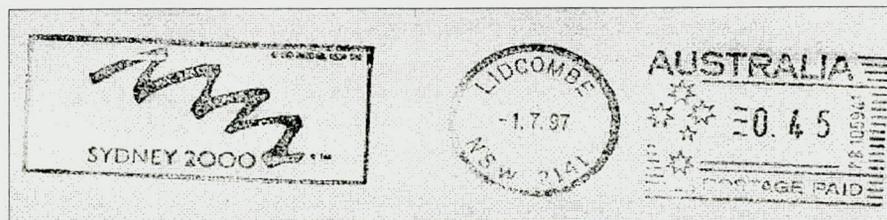


A. 4. Impression with Southern Cross, single ring dater - without arcs.

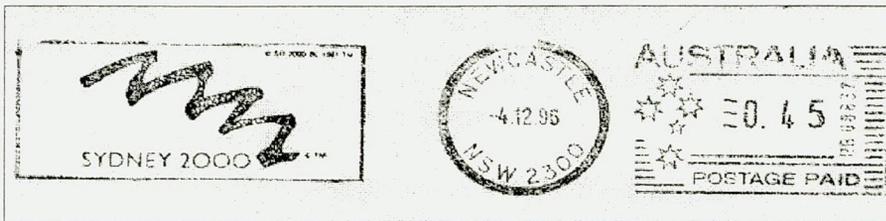
A. 4. a. 'CHATSWOOD / NSW 2067' meter PBM40075 {used on AMF Bowling Centres envelope}.



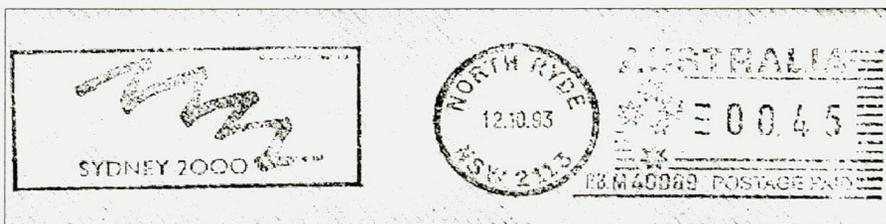
A. 4. b. 'LIDCOMBE / NSW 2141' meter P.B.105941



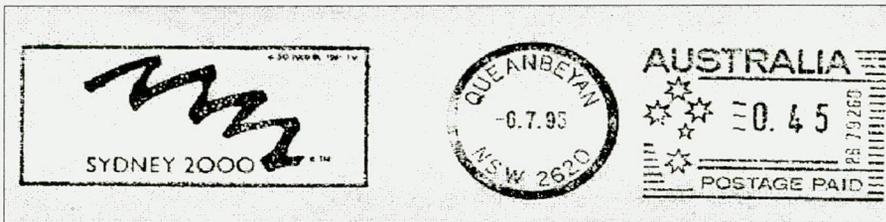
A. 4. c. 'NEWCASTLE / NSW 2300' meter P.B.68837



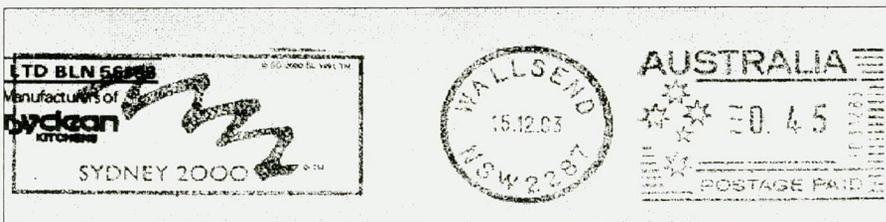
A. 4. d. 'NORTH RYDE / NSW 2113' meter P.B.M 40089



A. 4. e. 'QUEANBEYAN / NSW 2620' meter P.B. 79260 {used on envelope from Barrie Cole Transport}.



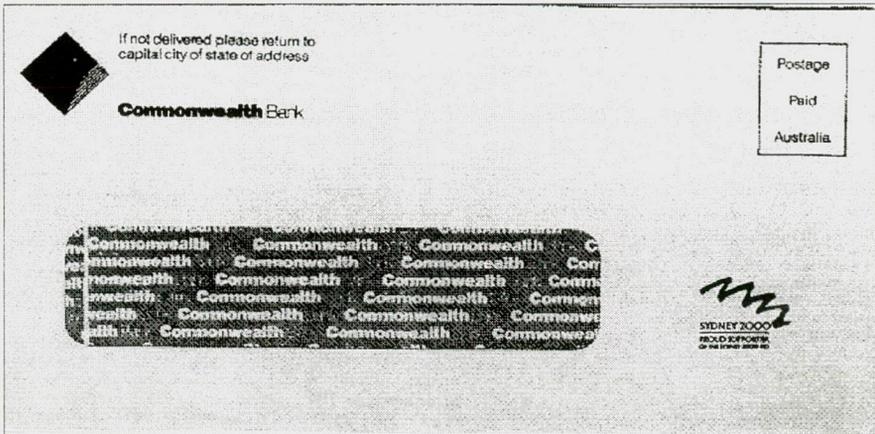
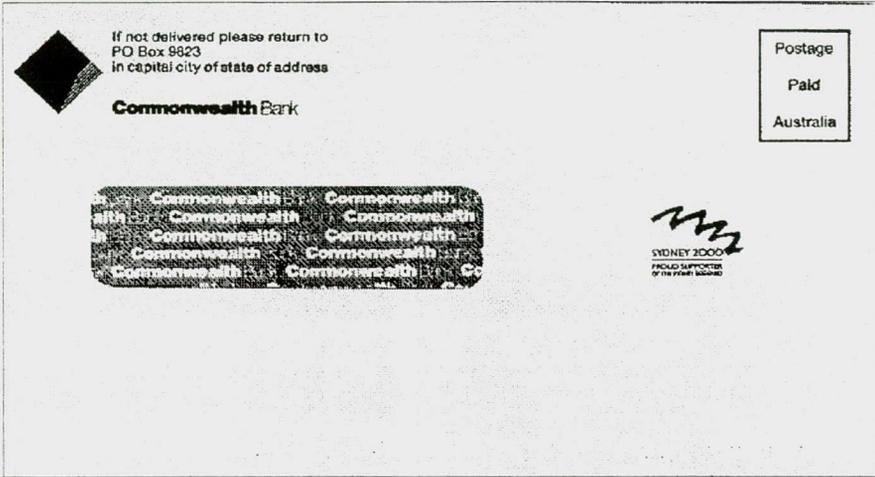
A. 4. f. 'WALLSEND / NSW 2287' meter P.B. 33283 {used on envelope from Barnsley Joinery Works}.



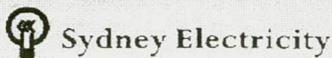
B. Postally Paid Impressions - Sydney 2000, 'Opera House Squiggle' logo.

B.1. Envelope including 'Opera House Squiggle' logo and 'SYDNEY 2000 / PROUD SUPPORTER / OF THE SYDNEY 2000 BID'.

B. 1. a. Commonwealth Bank 'If not delivered please return to / PO Box 9823 / in capital city of state of address' *Window envelope 190 x 114mm.*
Postage / Paid / Australia



B. 1. b. Commonwealth Bank 'If not delivered please return to / capital city of state of address' *Window envelope 190 x 111mm.*
Postage / Paid / Australia



B. 1. c. Sydney Electricity, *Window envelope 234 x 119mm.*
 Postage / Paid / Australia (in 'negative' on blue background)
Flap text: ELECTRICITY THEFT COSTS YOU \$\$\$\$\$\$ / REPORT ALL CASES/ 24 HOUR HOTLINE 131388 / SYDNEY ELECTRICITY GPO BOX 4009 SYDNEY 2001 AUSTRALIA

B. 1. d. Australia Post, *Express Post envelope 228 x 162mm.*
 Postage is Prepaid / only when label is intact Guaranteed /Next Day Delivery
The example illustrated is for letters and documents, maximum weight 500g, maximum thickness 20mm. The reverse has instructions and details of use, and bears the reference 599/0087. A number of larger (difficult to display / store) envelopes are known to exist.



For Letters and Documents
 Max Weight 500g
 Max Thickness 20mm
 Australia Post

Express Post

Guaranteed Next Day Delivery

CN388018



Postage is Prepaid only when label is intact

To: Company Name National Mutual

For urgent Attention of Personal Insurance Telephone

PO Box Number or Street Address 44 Market Street

Town City Sydney State

PO Box Addressed insured early morning delivery

*Conditions apply



SYDNEY 2000
 AUSTRALIA

Postcode

2

0

0

0

B.2. Envelope with reference to SYDNEY 2000

B. 2. a. Channel 7 Television
Window envelope 220 x 110mm.

POSTAGE PAID / AUSTRALIA / Channel 7 logo /
AUSTRALIA / Olympic rings /
 SYDNEY 2000



*Flap text: IF NOT DELIVERED WITHIN 7 DAYS PLEASE
 RETURN TO: TELEVISION CENTRE, MOBBS LANE,
 EPPING, NSW 2121*

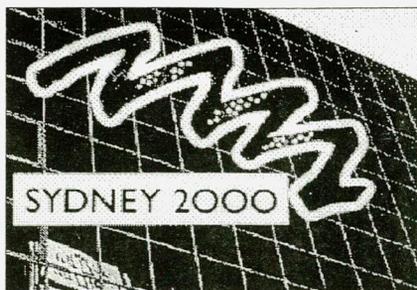
C. Postcards

This listing is restricted to cards that appeared before the current official **Ink Group** issues. The majority are published by Sydney G. Hughes, and are very difficult to allocate to their 'series'. It appears that cards with totally unrelated numbers, were then grouped into 'collectors series' to encourage sales. Numerous attempts to solicit information from the publishers have gone unanswered.

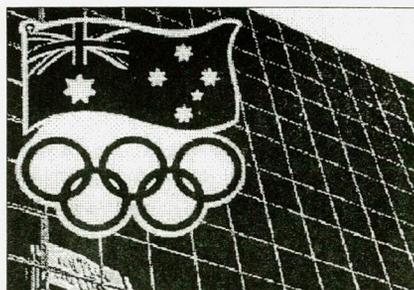
It seems likely that some difficulties were encountered with copyright of the 'squiggle' logo, because a large number of the cards are known with either the 'squiggle' or the Australian Olympic Committee logo, and it is possible that all exist in these two types.

C. 1. Published by SYDNEY G. HUGHES

Card No.	Card No. of Series*	Text on back ' <i>relevant text on face</i> '	Size	Logo	
				A	B
SY 11		Aerial of city skyline, Circular Quay and Opera House ' Sydney / Celebration City '	143 x 102		
SY 12		Looking across inner harbour towards the city. ' Sydney / Celebration City '	143 x 102		
SY 13		North Sydney Harbour Bridge and city skyline from Blues Point ' <i>squiggle and Sydney</i> '	143 x 102		
SY 14		Opera House and Harbour Bridge reflections against a night sky. ' Celebration City SYDNEY {Opera House has the illuminated ridge}.	143 x 102		



A= Sydney 2000 logo.



B= Australian Olympic Committee logo.

* **'Series'** Many of the cards are arranged into two *'collector'* series as well as having individual identification; Sydney series of 30, Celebration series of 52.

Card No.	Card No. of Series*	Text on back <i>'relevent text on face'</i>	Size	Logo	
				A	B
SY 16		View from Sydney Tower towards Darling Harbour. <i>'squiggle Sydney Celebration City'</i>	143 x 102		
SY 17		Aerial view of Sydney across Sydney Tower to North and South Heads. <i>'squiggle Sydney Celebration City'</i>	143 x 102		
SY 18		Twilight tones viewed across Darling Harbour towards Sydney Tower. <i>'squiggle Sydney Celebration City'</i>	143 x 102		
CSYG 1	2 of 30	Dusk city skyline - Opera House, city highrise and Harbour Bridge. <i>'Celebration City'</i>	164 x 110		
CSYG 2	3 of 30	Harbour aerial across Garden Island and Botanic Gardens towards city skyline. Inset Harbour Bridge and Opera House with Olympic colours. <i>'Celebration City'</i>	164 x 110		●
CSYG 3	4 of 30	World cruise shipping on Sydney Harbour at dusk from Circular Quay.	164 x 110		●
CSYG 4	10 of 30	Historical monument to Captain Cook. Other famous sites of Sydney - The Rocks and the Opera House.	164 x 110		●

Card	Card No. of Series*	Text on back ' <i>relevent text on face</i> '	Size	A	B
CSYG 4	4 of 52	Historical monument to Captain Cook. Other famous sites of Sydney - The Rocks and the Opera House. Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. HOST NATION'	164 x 110	●	
CSYG 5	5 of 30	View across safe harbour anchorage towards city. ' Celebration City / Host Nation'	164 x 110		●
CSYG 6	6 of 52	Restoration of Sydney's early settlement history of the Rocks area provides the authentic charm of bygone days. Sydney 2000 Olympic Games.	164 x 110	●	
CSYG 7	6 of 30	Darling Harbour and city link monorail, a focal point of one of the city's leisure and entertainment facilities. [Orange borders]	164 x 110		●
CSYG 7	6 of 30	Darling Harbour and city link monorail, a focal point of one of the city's leisure and entertainment facilities.	164 x 110		●
CSYG 9	7 of 30	Harbour southside marina and city skyline - Elizabeth Bay area. ' Celebration City / HOST NATION'	164 x 110		
CSYG10	10 of 52	The Queen Victoria Building - George Street, Sydney. Sydney 2000 Olympic Games	164 x 110	●	
CSYG10	7 of 30	The Queen Victoria Building - George Street, Sydney. ' CELEBRATION CITY'	164 x 110		●
CSYG11	8 of 30	Year 2000 flags highlight the Opera House on Sydney's Harbour. {Candidature flags in view}	164 x 110		●
CSYG12	12 of 52	Famous Bondi Beach, sailing and surfing is part of the aquatic attraction of Sydney. Sydney 2000 Olympic Games ' Celebration City'	164 x 110	●	
CSYG14	14 of 52	Beautiful beaches to the north and south of Sydney Harbour. Sydney 2000 Olympic Games ' Celebration City HOST NATION' {map of beaches on right of picture side}.	164 x 110	●	

Card	Card No. of Series*	Text on back <i>'relevent text on face'</i>	Size	A	B
CSYG14	9 of 30	Beautiful beaches to the north and south of Sydney Harbour. Sydney 2000 Olympic Games <i>{map of beaches on left of picture side}</i> . View is a different beach.	164 x 110		●
CSYG15	11 of 30	Aerial of Sydney featuring Harbour, Opera House and city skyline 'Celebration City'	164 x 110		
CSYG16	12 of 30 16 of 52	Harbour heights view towards the city. Rushcutters / Elizabeth Bay areas. 'Celebration City' <i>{numbered in both series!}</i>	164 x 110		●
CSYG17	28 of 30	Harbour and highrise aerial with inset Sydney Cricket Ground. 'Celebration City' <i>{view includes a Sydney 2000 bid banner}</i>	164 x 110		●
CSYG18	18 of 52	Aerial of Manly towards North and South Head with inset featuring the beach and Harbour jetty. Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. 'Celebration City' / HOST NATION'	164 x 110	●	
CSYG18	29 of 30	Aerial of Manly towards North and South Head with inset featuring the beach and Harbour jetty. Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. 'Celebration City'	164 x 110		●
CSYG19	19 of 52	Feature scenes - Town Hall, Hyde Park and El Alamein Fountain, Kings Cross. 'HOST NATION'	164 x 110	●	
CSYG19	30 of 30	Feature scenes - Town Hall, Hyde Park and El Alamein Fountain, Kings Cross. 'HOST NATION'	164 x 110		
CSYG21		Sydney Tower, City Skyline and Harbour Bridge at Sunrise.	164 x 110		
CSY.7	38 of 52	Sydney celebrates under sunny skies. Harbour views from Circular Quay. Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. 'Celebration City' / HOST NATION'	142 x 102		●

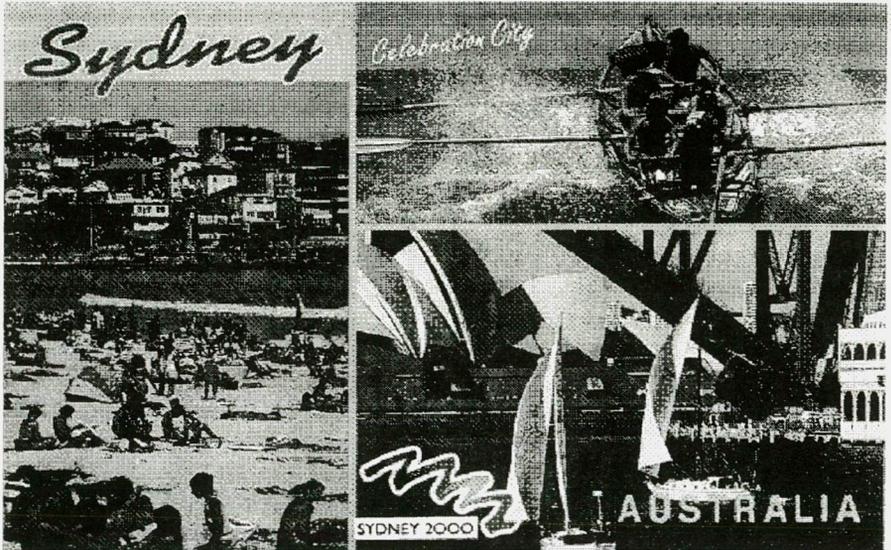
Card	Card No. of Series*	Text on back ' <i>relevent text on face</i> '	Size	A	B
CSY.7	1 of 30	Sydney celebrates under sunny skies. Harbour views from Circular Quay. 'Celebration City'	142 x 102		●
CSY 19		Panoramic view from Sydney Tower across the Harbour towards Sydney Heads.	142 x 102		●
CSY 20		Sydney Tower aerial and inset - Cuddly Koala	142 x 102		●
SYG. 6		Restoration of Sydney's early settlement history of The Rocks area provides the authentic charm of bygone days. ' <i>squiggle</i> ' and Sydney.	167 x 111		
SYG 13		Aerial view across The Heads of Watson Bay, Sydney Harbour and city skyline. ' <i>squiggle</i> ' and Sydney, Celebration City'	167 x 111		
SYG. 20		Reflective moods of Sydney Harbour at dusk. ' <i>squiggle</i> ' and Sydney.	167 x 111		
SYG 22		Aerial view of Sydney's City, featuring Sydney Tower (Foreground) and Sydney Harbour. ' <i>squiggle</i> ' and Sydney, Celebration City'	167 x 111		
CSPAN 2	13 of 30	Night festivities light the Sydney Harbour Bridge and Opera House 'Images of Gold .. Sydney'	200 x 100		●
CSPAN 2	13 of 30	Night festivities light the Sydney Harbour Bridge and Opera House 'Images of .. Sydney'	200 x 100		●
CSPAN 3	14 of 30	Bondi - A famous Australian beach.	200 x 100		●
CSPAN 4	15 of 30	View from Blues Point area towards North Sydney and Luna Park, Harbour Bridge and city skyline. 'Celebration City / HOST NATION'	200 x 100		●
CSPAN 5	16 OF 30	View over Bennelong Point to Opera House and Circular Quay. 'Celebration City'	200 x 100		

Card	Card No. of Series*	Text on back ' <i>relevent text on face</i> '	Size	A	B
CSPAN 6	23 of 52	City skyline and Sydney Aquarium - Darling Harbour sunset. Sydney 2000 Olympic Games ' Celebration City / HOST NATION '	200 x 100	●	
CSPAN 6	17 of 30	City skyline and Sydney Aquarium - Darling Harbour sunset. ' Celebration City / HOST NATION '	200 x 100		●
CSPAN 8	18 of 30	Aerial of the Harbour, Opera House and city skyline under sunlit skies. ' Celebration City / HOST NATION '	200 x 100		✓
CSPAN 9		City highrise from Darling Harbour. ' <i>squiggle</i> ' and Sydney, HOST NATION '	200 x 100		
CSPAN 10	19 of 30	View from Millsons Point on the North Shore across the Harbour to city skyline. ' HOST NATION '	200 x 100		
CSPAN 11	28 of 52	Harbour Reflections. Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. ' HOST NATION '	200 x 100		
CSPAN 11	20 of 30	Harbour Reflections. ' HOST NATION '	200 x 100		
CSPAN 12	29 of 52	City highrise and Harbour Bridge reflections Sydney 2000 Olympic Games ' Celebration City '	200 x 100		
CSPAN 12	22 of 30	City highrise and Harbour Bridge reflections ' Celebration City '	200 x 100		
SPAN 9		City highrise from Darling Harbour. ' <i>squiggle</i> ' and Sydney, HOST NATION '	200 x 100		
CSSV 1	21 of 30	Celebration City - Sydney	328 x 111		
CSSV 3	23 of 30	Harbour Bridge and Opera House with Olympic colours and reflections. ' Celebration City / HOST NATION '	328 x 111		●
CSSV 5	24 of 30	Aerial of Sydney Harbour towards Macquarie Point, Botanic Gardens, Opera House and city skyline. ' Celebration City / HOST NATION '	328 x 111		●

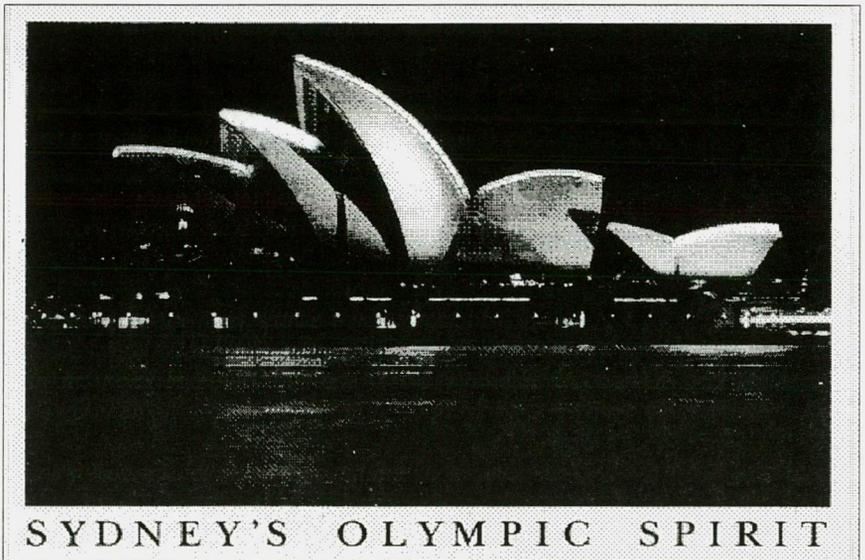
Card	Card No. of Series*	Text on back ' <i>relevent text on face</i> '	Size	A	B
CSSV 6	25 of 30	Silhouetted Harbour Bridge and Opera House 'HOST NATION'	328 x 111		●
CSSV 7	26 of 30	Darling Harbour excitement - Main complex entry, outdoor entertainment and restaurants. Maritime Museum and city highrise. 'HOST NATION'	328 x 111		●
CSSV 7	36 of 52	Darling Harbour excitement - Main complex entry, outdoor entertainment and restaurants. Maritime Museum and city highrise. Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. 'HOST NATION'	328 x 111	●	
CSSV 8	27 of 30	Circular Quay, Bennelong Point and Opera House, in Olympic colours. 'Celebration City'	328 x 111		●
SSV 2		Darling Harbour excitement and reflections. <i>'squiggle', Sydney</i> 'AUSTRALIA HOST NATION'	328 x 111		
SSV 4		City night lights with Harbour Bridge span. <i>'squiggle', Sydney</i> 'Celebration City'	328 x 111		

C. 2. Published by David Messent Photography

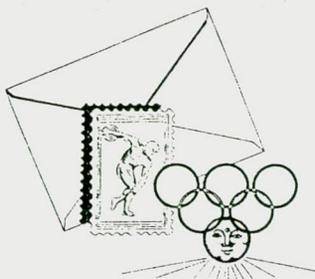
409	The Opera House illuminated with the colours of Sydney's Olympic bid logo. Philip's project manager Peter Glasheen worked 2 days without sleep to ensure the lights were ready for the night of the Olympic Bid announcement. 'SYDNEY'S OLYMPIC SPIRIT'	143 x 102
412	The Opera House illuminated with the logo for Sydney's successful bid for the 2000 Olympics.	143 x 102
420	Sydney Monorail on Pymont Bridge. <i>Monorail carriages have 'Sydney 2000' advertising along their side, also Sydney 2000 banner on building in background.</i>	102 x 143
445	The 'Bounty' on Sydney Cove. In the background Sydney Opera House is decorated with the colours of the year 2000 Olympic bid.	102 x 143



SYDNEY G. HUGHES postcard No. *CSYG 12*.
 'CELEBRATION SERIES 12 OF 52 DESIGNS'

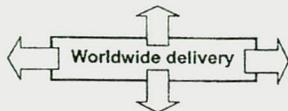


DAVID MESSENT postcard No. 409.



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GENERAL MEETING OF FIPO - Paris, 27th June, 1998

A General Meeting of FIPO - Federation Internationale de Philatelie Olympique took place at the Postal Museum, Paris on Saturday 27th. June, 1998, during the period of 'Philfoot' the Exhibition of Football Philately.

AGENDA

- 1) Roll call;
- 2) Report presented by the Secretary General, Mr Maurizio Tecardi;
- 3) Report presented by the Coordinator of the CCO, Mr Manfred Bergman;
- 4) Presentaion of the candidates for the place of member of the Board of Directors of the FIPO;
- 5) Elections;
- 6) Announcement of the results;
- 7) Questions and various.

The meeting actually opened with an address and welcome from , The Director of the Postal Museum, Mr Serge Debien. Following the opening address the President of FIPO and IOC, His Excellency Juan Antonio Samaranch congratulated the organisers of Philfoot '98 and the various FIPO delegations for their efforts to promote Olympic Collecting. The President stressed again that Olympism is sport and culture of which Olympic and sports philately is an important pillar. The President hoped that special exhibitions such as Philfoot would be held at various sporting events in the future.

Due to the unavoidable absence of Maurizio Tecardi, his report on FIPO's activities was presented to the assembly by Manfred Bergman.

Report on the activities of FIPO between March 1997 and June 1998, prepared by the Secretary General, Mr. Maurizio Tecardi.

Just over one year since the meeting held in Lausanne on the occasion of the last "Olympic Fair", here we are again to take stock of what has been done during this period and look at our future programmes. First of all, I would like to thank all those present. It is with great pleasure that I note the presence of delegates from very far afield and the large number of representatives of national associations who belong to the great FIPO family. Before opening the proceedings, I would also like to thank the officials of the French Post Office for the excellent organisation of "Philfoot" and the management of the Musee de la Poste for

allowing us to hold our meeting here.

Thank you again for your participation. As I said at the beginning, just over a year has passed since our last meeting. FIPO's presence on the international philately scene is even more apparent thanks to its own work, both central and peripheral. Many national associations work very hard at both national and international level and, among them, it would seem only fair to mention first of all AFCOS and to thank it publicly for all the work it did on the occasion of "Philfoot '98". The Italian UIFOS and the German IMOS are certainly among those who best interpreted the spirit which guided our President, H.E. Juan Antonio Samaranch when he created FIPO, namely the promotion of sport and Olympism through philately and vice versa. Also very active are the associations in Argentina (Grupo Podium), the Czech Republic, Great Britain, Hungary and China. They have all worked hard on the organisation of philately exhibitions, particularly in connection with major sports events. But we should not forget the work done by a lot of national associations in the specialist publications sector. Numerous publications issued by certain associations have become veritable national magazines; from the most venerable like the SPI bulletin, published in the United States by Sports Philatelist International and the German one published by IMOS to the most recent, "Phila-Sport" published by the Italian UIFOS, 'Olimpismo' issued by UEFO in Spain, "Torch Bearer" issued by the British Association, "Podium" issued by the Grupo Argentino, "Olympsport" published by the Czech association, "the Malaysian Sporting Philately" published by the Group of Olympic and Sport of the Philatelic Society of Malaysia, "Olymphil" issued by the Croatian association and the bulletins of the Belgian Olympic Philately Club and the FIPO, Switzerland.

On the subject of these publications, it is really a shame that some of the articles cannot be translated and made available to sports and Olympic philatelists in all countries. However, it would seem appropriate to take this opportunity to point out the possibility of reprinting the most important articles from the different publications and publishing them again, translated into different languages. Of course, it is necessary to quote the source, namely the author and the publication where the article first appeared. However, the publications, bulletins and magazines sector is very important for both knowledge and dissemination of sports and Olympic philately.

I referred earlier to "Philfoot '98" and the success it is enjoying. I would like to emphasise the cooperation that has come about on this occasion between the leaders of FIPO and the national associations. Without this cooperation, "Philfoot '98" would never have happened. There have been other examples of these excellent relations and there will be others in future; in Nagano, at the last edition of the Olympic Winter Games, the Organising Committee and the Japanese Post Office asked for our assistance with an exhibition on the theme of winter sports. The exhibition was held and "Naganophilex '98" was a real surprise for its many visitors, Japanese and foreigners alike. We owe this success to our friends from UFOS, AFCOS, and the Swiss Sports Philatelists Association.

This cooperation is continuing inasmuch as MOSFIT (the Society of Hungarian Olympic and Sports Philatelists) has requested the FIPO's patronage for the next "OLYMPIAFILA '98" to be held in Budapest in August on the occasion of the 17th edition of the European Athletics Championships. I would like to take this opportunity to urge you all to help to make this event, too, a great success.

Still on the subject of exhibitions, FIPO is already working on "Olympilex 2000", I have pleasure in giving you a preliminary preview of its logo. I hope you like it. Our colleague Manfred Bergman will shortly be giving you all the details of this exhibition, which takes place every four years and is our most important rendez-vous.

FIPO's presence at world level has become more apparent thanks to the "Olympic Days" held on the occasion of international philatelic events organised with FIP patronage. The organisation of an "Olympic Day" within the framework of the FIP's world events is one of the agreements concluded between FIPO and the FIP. This arrangement was put into effect in New Delhi in December on the occasion of "INDEPEX '97" and in Tel Aviv in May at "ISRAEL '98", it will also be the case in Milan in October at "ITALIA '98". I hope that this type of "day" can be repeated at other "worlds". Still on the subject of cooperation with FIP, it seems appropriate to report what was published in the 63rd issue (March '98) of the magazine "FIP-FLASH". Here is the full text of the communique of the Thematic Philately Commission:

"Qualification of the OLYMPHILEX Promotion Class results to take part in FIP Exhibitions

On the occasion of OLYMPHILEX - the specialised exhibition held at the Olympic Games - the promotion class took place alongside the competition class under the auspices of the FIP and was a great success.

The same jury, appointed in agreement with the FIP Executive, as stipulated by the GREX, evaluated the two classes.

After several requests, it was clarified with the FIP President that, under the agreement between FIP and FIPO, if a national federation agrees to treat a vermeil medal at OLYMPHILEX in the promotion class as their national equivalent, the collection concerned will be eligible to take part in FIP exhibitions."

This seemed to me an important and timely clarification.

Another high point of the FIPO's last period was the publication of the IOC-FIPO Yvert catalogue. Its success has exceeded expectations and it is completely sold out. A second, corrected and expanded edition is planned. Our colleague Jean Varga will speak to us about the catalogue in greater detail later.

I would like to conclude this report by referring to the new FIPO logo. After some initial problems, everything now seems to be sorted out and finalised. Many

national associations have already modified their emblems and others are in the process of doing so. Those who have not yet done so will be able to decide more easily.

I now give the floor to Mr Manfred Bergman, who will also speak in his capacity as OCC coordinator.

Manfred Bergman presented an update on Olympihlex, the key points being:

- The venue has been established; A display area within the Sydney Tower. As a major tourist attraction and shopping centre, this should ensure a high attendance from those with only a casual interest as well as individuals making specific visits.
- CCO will have to find the finance for the show as SOCOG has no budget for Olympihlex.
- Australia Post will make a large contribution if the rest of the budget is balanced.
- In the worst of cases, Olympihlex will not be competitive (thus enabling savings for Jury members etc.).

Outline details of the forthcoming IVth Olympic Fair in Rio during November were given, together with an invitation to all member societies to take tables. It is intended to provide a very varied programme of lectures interspersed with bourse / trading sessions relating to the various fields of Olympic collecting.

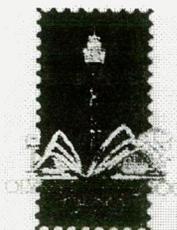
The Assembly then held an election of a representative from the membership of the FIPO societies to become a member of the FIPO board of directors. Seven candidates had emerged, and a proposal was made to elect all of the candidates on an agreed rota of service. This was defeated on practical considerations as the board meet only two or three times per annum and such a rota would need to cover a very long time scale. It would also prevent any continuity of views.

The election was held, and after three ballots Mr George Dolianitis was duly elected. The reaction of defeated candidates and their supporters later in the day in offering their congratulations to Mr Dolianitis reflected and confirmed the friendship and cooperation within FIPO.

The Assembly ran longer than previous gatherings, achieved important business, and benefitted from the presence and input of so many member societies together with His Excellency President Samaranch who spent much of his time attempting to be attentive to proceedings whilst fulfilling requests for autographs.

Unfortunately only a brief visit was possible to Philfoot '98, but the material was superbly presented.

**The Olymphilex
2000 Logos.**



PIERRE DE COUBERTIN - 'COIN' POSTCARD



My trip to the FIPO Assemble led to one unexpected find in the postcard racks at the Gare du Nord.

Ever since the IOC Centennial Congress in 1994, I have made a point of checking tourist view cards in the Paris racks 'just in case' any of the banners or decorations for the event appear in 'new' views.

Persistence finally paid off, although not quite as expected.

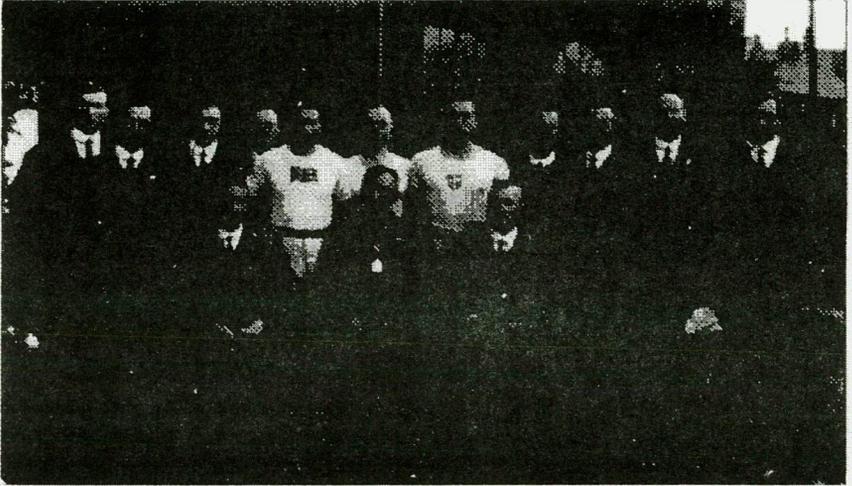
The illustrated 'freeform' postcard features current French coinage, the 20 Franc piece selected (see detail, left) is the commemorative struck in 1994 honouring Baron Pierre de Coubertin.

The moral? Stay alert!!

ANTWERP 1920: BRITISH GYMNASTS

Bob Wilcock

Can members add anything to the story of this recently acquired card?



The text on the reverse reads:

A photograph taken after the special display given by the Olympic aspirants, from which the team was chosen in 1920 at Cardiff. Mayor in the centre flanked by Charles West on his left and Mr ?? the President on his right - I am behind Mr West - Tommy Cook on my right and "Bunny" Franklin on his right. I wonder if you recognise any of the others.

I presume they are various officials of the West Country.

Bernard Wallis Franklin is the Gymnast with the Union Jack on his vest, and was selected for the Olympic team. They came fifth in the Team Combined exercises at Antwerp. Tommy Cook, the gymnast in the centre of the photo was not apparently selected. The writer of this card is the gymnast with the shield on his vest, whose signature appears to read "S H Inchby". Wallechinsky does not list him as a member of the gymnastics team.

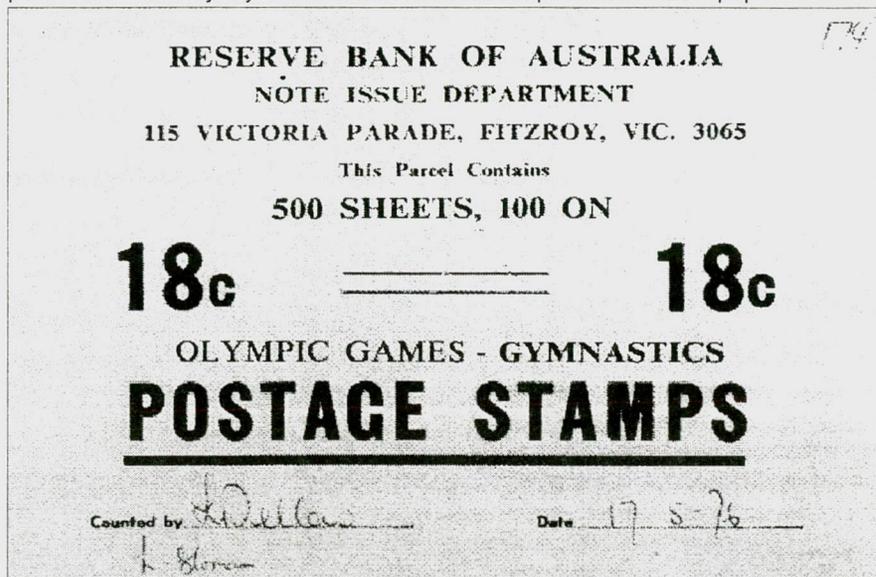
Can any member cast any light on him, or Tommy Cook, or the Cardiff selection event? Can anyone name the President, and the institution whose president he was? The editor would welcome any information members can offer.

FROM THE AUCTION

The item illustrated this issue, certainly qualifies as 'beyond the catalogue' philatelically.

John Miller in his articles on Sponsorship of the 1996 Olympic Games, which concluded earlier this volume, has identified many items that are of postal significance - but rarely either seen or considered by the collector, such items are not regularly found with dealers. I am sure that many of us were surprised to see 'wrapper labels' from the packages distributing 'Olympic branded' booklets of stamps, and the 'non-olympic' label has now been illustrated world-wide.

In reality, John has drawn our attention to material that is essential to the efficient distribution and timely issue of items within the depths of the sales division of the post office - the majority of which must find itself in post office waste paper bins!



Such items must exist from the majority of postal administrations, although no doubt early labels would have been manuscript notes prepared by clerks.

The card illustrated and offered in the Auction was prepared as a label for use on packs of 500 sheets of the 18c., Gymnastic value of the Australian issue to commemorate the Montreal Olympic Games, and is signed by the person who counted the contents, and dated 17. 5. 76 in preparation for distribution.

It just goes to show, sometimes there are escapees from the waste paper bin!

REVIEW OF MAGAZINES WITH OLYMPIC INTEREST

JOURNAL OF SPORTS PHILATELY

The journal of Sports Philatelist International Volume 36 Issue No. 6 includes an article on The Olympic Village Post Offices at the Nagano Olympic Games. The article first examines the organisational structure of the Postal Service at the Games, the five Olympic Village temporary post offices, the changes in the postal code system and the different cachets and cancels used. Another article which focuses on Nagano features the Postal material of the Czech Republic (*see last issue of Torch Bearer Ed.*). Other articles cover the second part of 100 Years of Russian Football, The First Football Team to Fly (in 1929, an American Football Team), Ski Lifts and a Sydney 2000 Update.

Available from Margaret A. Jones, 5310 Lindenwood Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63109 U.S.A.

JOURNAL OF OLYMPIC HISTORY

The International Society of Olympic Historians published Volume 6, Number 2 since our last review. The first article looks at the research into finding a letter which established proof that Michel Breal came up with the idea of including the Marathon in the 1896 Athens Games and donated a dish as the trophy. The search was successful in that not only did the author find the letter but the surviving members of the family of Spiridon Louis and some of his important documents including the trophy. Other articles look at the politics behind the Seoul Olympic Games, Irish-Born Medal Winners in the Early Olympic Games (up to 1924), a campaign (successful) to change the names of the streets in the 1956 Olympic Village from Battles which the Australians fought in, to reflect the achievements of former Australian medallists. (The street names were changed back to battles after the Games though!) and the update of the article which includes details of the Australian Athletes who will have roads named after them at the Sydney 2000 Games. Weightlifting in Serbia from 1857 to 1992 and the Athletes in Nagano both produce statistics to satisfy the historians, and articles on Herman Van Karnebeek and the search for the missing name of the bronze medal winner in the International Free Pistol Match for Teams in Paris 1900 (still unsuccessful) make up a full and detailed publication.

Available from Ian Buchanan, Old Fighting Cocks, Burgh-next-Aylsham, Norfolk, NR11 6TP, Great Britain.

PHILA-SPORT

Magazine of the Italian Union of Olympic and Sports Philatelists, issue No. 26, which "kicks off" with an article on the philatelic items commemorating the Football World Cup. Other articles include Baseball, Nagano Olympics and Ski-Archery. An article on Olympic Torches and the Torch Relays, and the National Postal Collection in Atlanta complete what is always a very well illustrated magazine.

Available from Bruno Tassoni, Via dei Monti Tiburtini, 600, 00157 Roma, Italy.

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