

Bicycle Stamps

BS18A - SPRING 1995

j-L: 15

Editor: Anthony E Teideman

Australia.

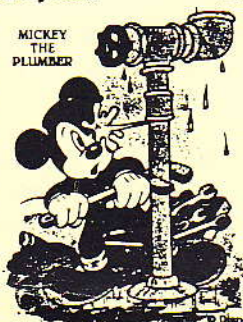
Officers: Norman Batho, President
Takao Ono, Vice-President
William F Hofmann, Treasurer
Anthony E Teideman, Secretary

Mickey's Home Services



Guyana

\$35



Guyana

\$35



Guyana

\$35



Guyana

\$35



Guyana

\$35



Guyana

\$35



Guyana

\$35



Guyana

\$35



Disney Characters at Work

"Bicycle Stamps" is the official publication of the Bicycle Stamps Club. The magazine is included as a benefit of membership. A bicycle stamp checklist is maintained by the club and is available at cost from Norman Batho, U.S.A.

Membership inquiries should be sent to either:

Tony Teideman, Secretary,
Bill Hofmann, Treasurer,
Tore Josefsson, European Treasurer,

Australia.
U.S.A.

Sweden.

EDITORIAL

I hope you are pleased with our new coloured 'New Issues Update' supplement - I must thank Steve Malone for his efforts in designing, printing and supplying them and Norman Batho for supplying the various stamps for Steve to use.

It is intended that the supplement will be a regular feature and will be of use as a reference. I myself intend to keep them with Steve's checklist. This checklist has already proved to be an invaluable source of reference in the short time I've had it.

Members are reminded that the Club has a "For Sale" scheme via our magazine and also that it is the Club's policy that members may advertise in the magazine free of any charges. We would, however, welcome any adverts from non-members at a nominal fee.

It was pleasing to hear that Takao Ono and his family, who live 30Km from Kobe, were unaffected by the dreadful earthquake in January. Personally I had been quite concerned as I had not heard from him for some time and it was a relief to receive his letter and hear that his family was okay and his house did not suffer any damage - only a T.V. had fallen to the floor.

Question Time: Put on your thinking caps - Which bicycle stamp issues cannot have first-day covers? You all probably have them in your collections... Give up? Turn to page 20 and read about them..

I must thank the following for their contributions to this issue: Norman Batho, Tore Josefsson, Steve Malone, Douglas Marchant, Takao Ono, Pasquale Polo, Ron Sant, Sherry Schmidt, Brian Sole, Marco Tibbe and Carl Wiedman.

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New Issue Update



✓ ECUADOR	22.06.94	300s	JUNIOR WORLD CYCLING CHAMPS	2	✓	Sed
✓ ECUADOR	22.06.94	400s	JUNIOR WORLD CYCLING CHAMPS	2	✓	Manchu
✓ CANADA	11.07.94	43c	WWII CIVILIAN W/BIKE 4 DIFF SE-TEN	4	✓	
CANADA	11.07.94	43c	WWII SOLDIERS W/BIKE 4 DIFF SE-TEN	4		
✓ FRANCE	24.07.94	BOOKLET	TOUR DE FRANCE 9 RIDERS ON COVER (CONTAINS 10 STAMPS - NO CYCLING SIGNIFICANCE) 5 DIFF COLOUR BOOKLETS - WHITE/PINK/YELLOW/BLUE/GREEN	B		
FRANCE	24.07.95	BOOKLET	TOUR DE FRANCE 13 RIDERS ON COVER (CONTAINS 20 STAMPS - NO CYCLING SIGNIFICANCE) 5 DIFF COLOUR BOOKLETS - WHITE/PINK/YELLOW/BLUE/GREEN	B		
✓ COLOMBIA	01.09.04	270/300p	POSTAL TRANSPORT (SEE BS17B)			
✓ ITALY	08.11.94	600L	ITALIAN TOURING CLUB CENT. WHEEL	1		
✓ TANZANIA	12.12.94	SHEET	50th ANNIVERSARY D-DAY SHEET OF 6 DIFF BIKE	2+3S+3S		
✓ TANZANIA	12.12.94	200s	50th ANNIVERSARY CANADIAN FORCES W/BIKES	2+3S+3S		
✓ BOSNIA	? 94	8	EUROPA BICIKL IZ 1885 2 ORDINARIES/2 SE-TEN	2		
✓ CAMBODIA	? 95	1000r	ATLANTA PRE-OLYMPIC CYCLIST	5+S		
✓ ST. PIERRE & MIQUELON	? 95	5.10f	THE TRIATHLON CYCLIST	1		
✓ VIETNAM	? 95	400d	WOMEN IN COSTUME W/BIKE	3		
✓ GREAT BRITAIN	20.01.95	SHEET	COLCHESTER & ESSEX STRIKE MAIL RALEIGH ROADSTER SHEET OF 4	S		
GREAT BRITAIN	20.02.95	1P	COLCHESTER & ESSEX STRIKE MAIL RALEIGH ROADSTER	S		
✓ GUYANA	? .02.95	SHEET	DISNEY CHARACTERS AT WORK SHEET OF 8 DIFF	3S+3S+6S		
✓ GUYANA	? .02.95	35\$	MICKEY THE PAPER BOY	3S+3S+6S		
✓ TURKS & CAICOS	06.02.95	20c	100th ANNIV IOC CYCLIST	10+2S		



NEW ISSUE UPDATE - cont'd...

✓ ISLE OF MAN	08.02.95	24p	CYCLIST WATCHING OLD LOCOMOTIVE	5
✓ SAN MARINO	10.02.95	100L	JUNIOR WORLD CYCLING CHAMPS	4
IRELAND	28.02.95	SHEET	NARROW GAUGE RAILWAYS SHEET OF 4 DIFF	4+S
✓ IRELAND	28.02.95	52p	NARROW GAUGE R/WAYS CYCLIST	4+S
✓ IRELAND	28.02.95	52p	MAXICARD N/G R/WAYS CYCLIST	4
✓ ARGENTINA	11.03.95	75c	PAN-AMERICAN GAMES CYCLIST 2 DIFF SE-TEN	4
✓ DENMARK	04.05.95	P/PACK	COPENHAGEN TOWN HALL & BIKE	P/P
✓ UGANDA	? 05.95	450s	ATLANTA OLYMPICS 1988 GERMAN CYCLING TEAM	6+2S
✓ SWEDEN	12.05.95	BOOKLET	CYCLISTS RIDING/GOTA CANAL BOOK OF 4 2 SE-TEN	B
✓ SWEDEN	12.05.95	5kr	CYCLISTS RIDING/GOTA CANAL	2
✓ UNITED NATIONS	26.05.95	55c	'YOUTH OUR FUTURE' WHIMSICAL CHARACTERS ON BIKES	6
✓ TONGA	06.06.95	3\$	25th ANNIV C'WEALTH ENTRY CHILD/BIKE	5
✓ TONGA	06.06.95	2\$	-- DITTO --	5
✓ TONGA	06.06.95	80c	-- DITTO --	5
✓ TONGA	06.06.95	60c	-- DITTO --	5
✓ TONGA	06.06.95	45c	-- DITTO --	5
NEW ZEALAND	21.06.95	80+5c	HEALTH CYCLIST SE-TEN PAIR OF TRIANGLES	2



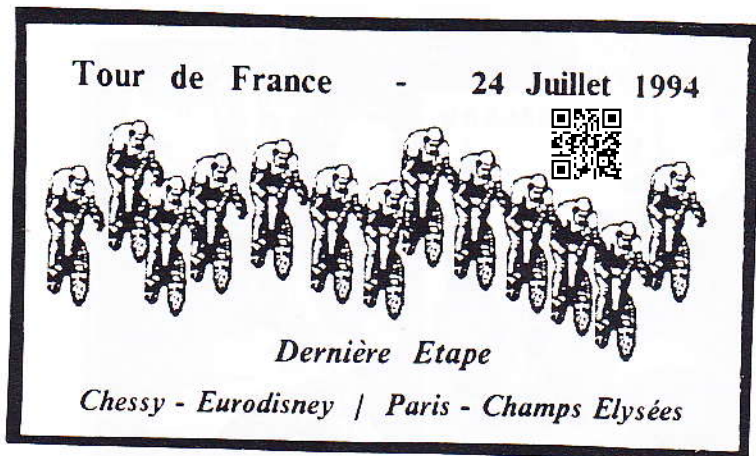
1994



1995



1995.02.10



De sömmardagarna antligen infinner sig ligger fritidsbåtar i långa rader till synes övergivna småbåtshamnar, var är båtfolket? Tillgängligheten framsta beviser för våra möjligheter, även om vi ofta inte har båt.

Man önskar, kanske för en resa på Göta kanal, eller en tur i skärgården. Båten blir där en ganska krävlig men viktig del i livet. Man också bo i land, kanske på ett vandrarhem eller i tält. Båtar har också stor frihet att styra själv.

Bengt Hedberg



Välkommen till en ny värld. Någon gång har vi varit på båtsemester. Båtar och semester är ett bra sätt att kombinera. Även rent teoretiskt är det en sällsam upplevelse att vara en flytande båtshamn, undantagna både vintern och vardagen. Det betyder att man inte bara har en egen fritidsbåt, men för en del kan båten till och med bli en del av livet. Navigeringar och seglar är nödvändigt.

Även om båten till vi bara oss till det. Nog så nödvändigt om vi färdas i en mindre båt som en kano eller eka. Men frihetslängtan och upptäckarglädje har inte med sig att göra. Vad är det då för drömmar som får några av oss att lägga ned allt annat, arbetet, på en egen båt, när man lika gärna kan köpa sig en hytt i ett hotell på ett hotell med en lockande utsikt?

Vad är det som gör att vi vill ha en båt? Vad är det en njutning att uppleva en båt som en del av livet? En båt som man själv har valt. Allt man kan göra på en båt är att njuta i den omhändertagande kanten. Kanske är den egna båten en del av livet, en del av den gemensamma. Men båtfolk vill inte kallas vid sådana jämförelser. Båtar representerar något speciellt som inte låter sig kategoriseras så enkelt.



Presentation Pack, Stamp Booklet and Postcard

Together with the issue of the stamp series "Peace and Liberty", marking the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Denmark, the Postal Philatelic Centre is issuing a presentation pack containing one of each of the four stamps. The pack is illustrated with authentic photos from

the occupation and also contains a short text about this period and the individual stamp motifs.

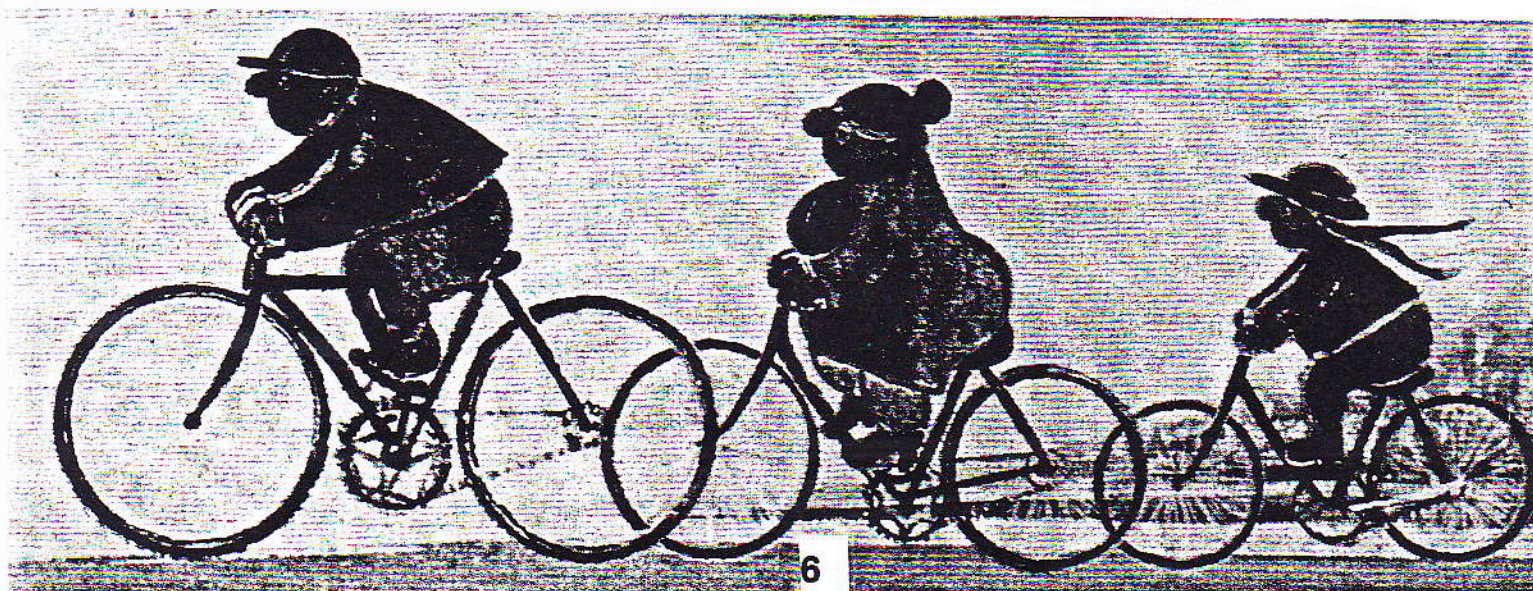
The Postal Philatelic Centre is also issuing a new special stamp booklet. The booklet contains 10 specimens of the stamp showing Montgomery in the Town Hall Square.

Likewise, a postcard with the Montgomery stamp printed on it both as franking and as part of the illustration, will be issued.

A mint postcard costs only DKK 4.75 (inclusive of Danish VAT), i.e. only DKK 1.00 above the nominal value.



8



6



25th ANNIVERSARY OF TONGA'S ENTRY INTO THE BRITISH COMMONWEALTH



6th June 1995. Total face value of set T\$6.35.

Children of the Commonwealth is the theme of this issue marking the Silver Anniversary of Tonga joining the British Commonwealth of Nations.

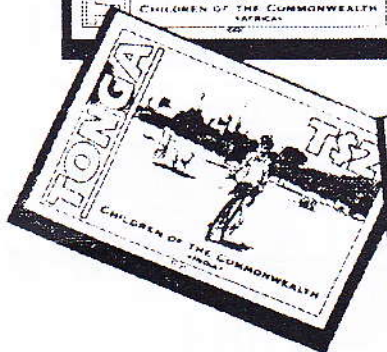
Five stamps showing youngsters from different parts of the Commonwealth each with their favourite possession - their bicycle and set against a typical local background (from Europe, Africa, India, Asia, and Polynesia).



DESIGN DETAILS: All five stamps are the work of Kevin McGee an artist new to Tongan stamp design.



PRINTING & TECHNICAL DETAILS: Printed by Walsall Security Printers Ltd., England, using photo-litho in 4 process colours on 102gsm PVA gummed paper. Perforation 14. Issued in sheet of 15, five rows of three with plate markings and imprints along the bottom margin.



PERIOD OF SALE: One year subject to availability.

Source: CPA Consultants Tonga & Niaufou'ou New Issue Press Release, May, 1995.



"Youth: Our Future" is the theme of these six May 26 United Nations commemorative stamps plus a souvenir card.



50th ANNIVERSARY - D-DAY 6TH JUNE 1944

There have been at least two stamp issues and one set of covers issued commemorating D-DAY, that depict bicycles.

This Tanzania sheetlet shows Canadian Forces landing on Juno Beach. This stamp is remarkably like the photo, shown below, that Douglas Marchant found, this shows the second wave of the 7th Canadian Brigade landing on Juno.

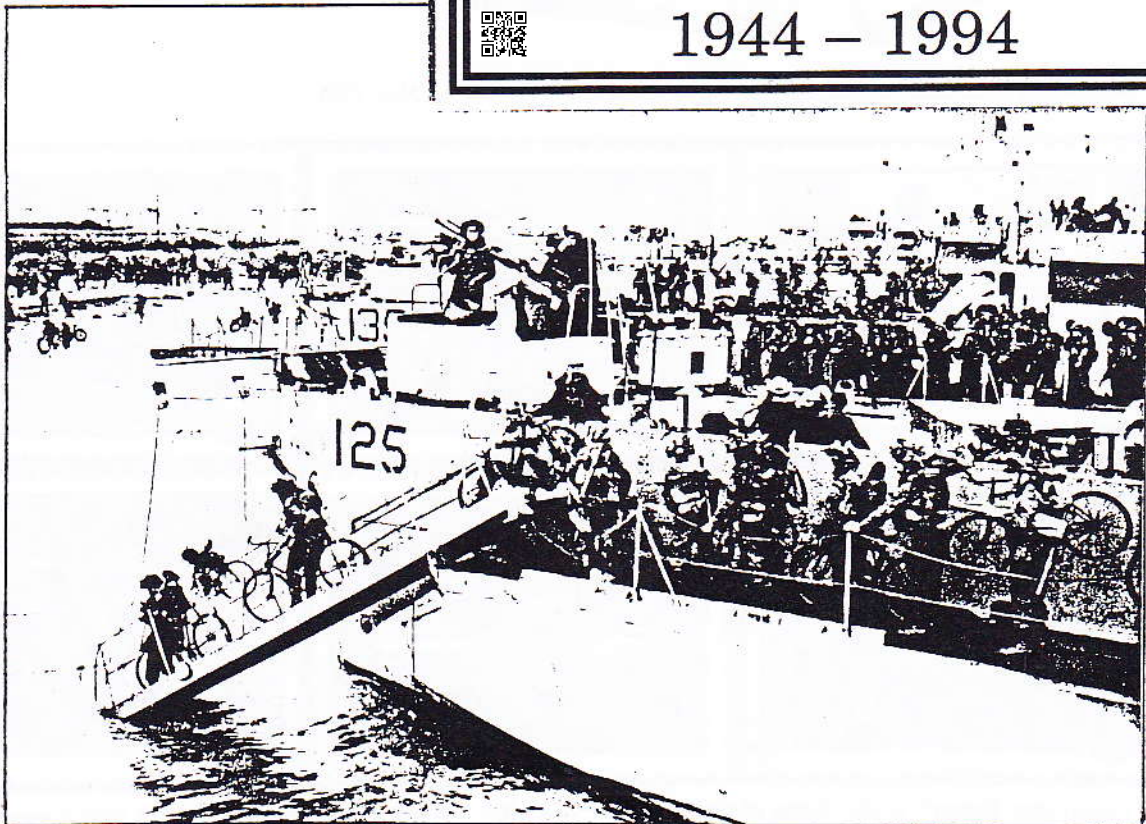
The same photo appears on a Benham cover. The cover is signed by Richard Todd the famous film star. Todd, or as he was then known, Captain R.A. Palethorpe-Todd parachuted as a member of the 6th Airborne Division on June 6th, to relieve Major Howard at Pegasus Bridge.

This was the first bridge in France liberated on D-Day, it was later renamed Pegasus in remembrance of the British Parachutists whose emblem was Pegasus.

50th ANNIVERSARY - D-DAY 6th JUNE 1944



1944 - 1994



CANADIANS DISEMBARKING. The second wave of the 7th Canadian Brigade lands on the western side of Juno Beach at 0730 on D-day.

HULTON DEUTSCH



OPERATION OVERLORD (D-DAY)

The services produced a fantastic set of four covers commemorating the four sections of the Day - The French Resistance, the Navies, The Air Forces and the Armies. We have selected the signed and special versions. Only 800 covers were produced, numbered and certified and the signatures are superb!



THE AIR FORCES £7.50
Signed by one of the most famous pilots of the war - Air Vice Marshal "Johnnie" Johnson DSO DFC who led the Canadian Wing of 36 Spitfires on four sorties over Normandy on 6th June 1944



THE NAVIES £7.50
Signed by Vice Admiral Sir Peter Berger KCB LVO DSC MA who served on HMS Ajax AND Rear Admiral Brian Brayne-Nicholls CB DSC who served on HMS Hilary of Force J during the Normandy Landings



THE ARMIES £10
Signed by Richard Todd, who is not only the famous film star, but was also the Captain who relieved Major Howard at Pegasus Bridge



THE FRENCH RESISTANCE £7.50
Signed by Odette Hallowes GC MBE Légion d'Honneur, one of the great heroines of the Resistance

By coincidence Richard Todd later in his career acted the role of Major Howard in the film "The Longest Day". The cover is one of a set of four.

This other Tanzania sheetlet shows Royal Marine Commandoes landing on Juno Beach. One is carrying what may appear to be a bicycle, but Douglas has found a photo (see next page) showing equipment that the Airborne used, and in the center is a folding Motorbike called a Welbike, and that is what is shown on the stamp.

50th ANNIVERSARY - D-DAY 6th JUNE 1944



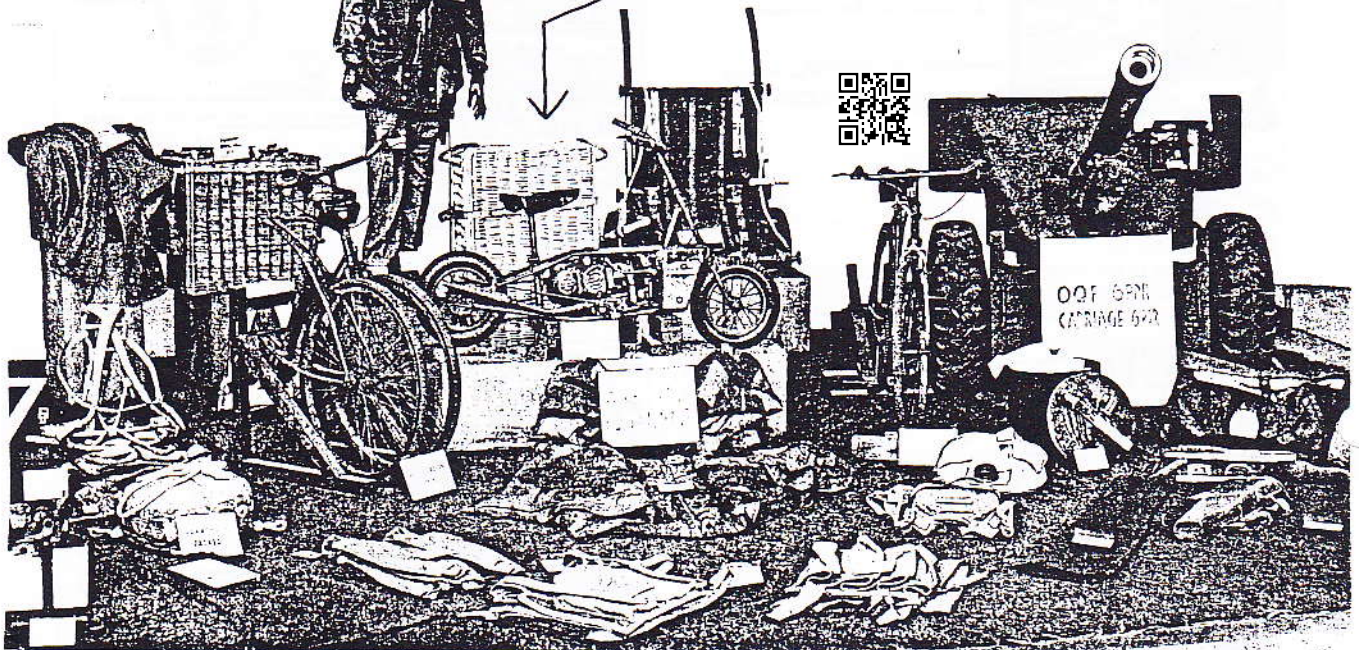
1944 - 1994

AIRBORNE EQUIPMENT

Airborne equipment displayed by the ROAC in early 1943. From left to right: oversmock, pannier, trousers, helmet and collapsible bicycle. On the floor are a transport rack, a Sten ammunition magazine, a container parachute, a Bren valise and canvas jerkins. Right: an SMLE valise, and a leg valise for the Sten MkV which, like the Welbike folding motorbike (centre), was not used on 6 June 1944. (IWM)

NO DETAILS OF THIS EQUIPMENT MAY BE PUBLISHED

JERKIN



The more observant amongst you will have noted that the caption on the photo states that the Welbike was not used on June 6th! This of course refers to Airborne usage, the stamp depicts a seaborne landing.

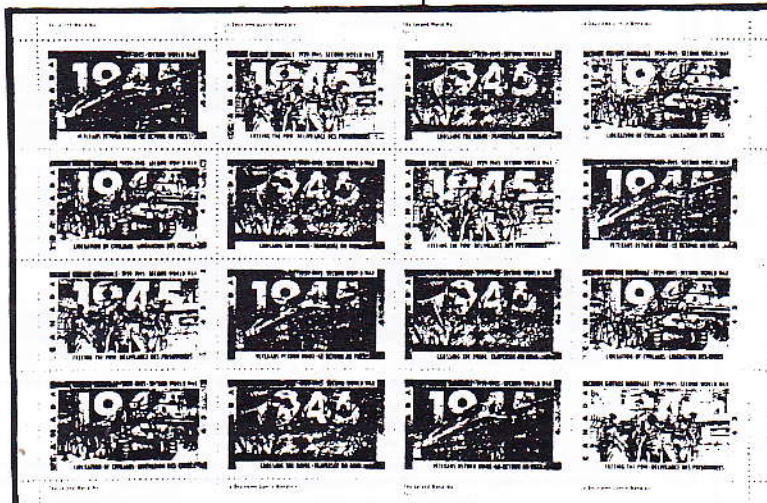
Canada issued two sheets, one we detailed in BS17B showed soldiers carrying bikes up the beach. Closer examination has found a bike on the other one.



1995



IN OF CIVILI



Of interest also is the way the stamps were printed.

They are in sheets of four se-tenant fours, ie 16 stamps to a sheet, but each se-tenant four is arranged differently.

In consideration of space the sheets are shown half size.



DRAMMENS EXPRESBUREAU

Rare bicycle stamp sold on Norwegian auction

By Tore Josefsson

One of the rarest bicycle stamps "Drammen Expresbureau" issued 1890-91 was sold on an auction in Oslo the 1st of April this year. The stamp was of mint quality and very beautiful. The limit prize was 5000 kroner but the stamp was sold for 9200 kroner plus 15% charge to the auctioneer, so the prize became 10580 kroner (USD 1460).



1579



1583

- | | | |
|------|--|---------|
| 1578 | ☆/☆/☆/☆/0 Arendal Bypost. 1/4. Serie i fireblokker samt bl.a stemplet serie og en dobbelttagget 2 øre. | 2.500,- |
| 1579 | ☆/ 5. Arendal Bypost. 5 øre på 7 øre 1885 på konvolutt. Et vakkert utstillingsobjekt i topp kvalitet.
<i>The 5 øre on 7 øre 1885 on cover. A superb item for exhibition.</i> | 5.000,- |
| 1580 | ○/☆/5/6. Arendals Bypost. 1885 provisoriene. 7 ustemplede og 5 stemplede merker på 2 albumark. | 1.500,- |
| 1581 | ☆/☆/☆/0 7/16. Arendals Bypost. Speisalsamling av utgavene fra 19.11.1885 til 1891 på 8 albumark. I alt 106 merker. | 2.500,- |
| 1582 | ☆/ Arendals Bypost. Brevkort nr 1 sendt til Ulleberg i 1888. Loddrett arkivbrett. I tillegg et ubrukt brevkort nr 2. | 1.500,- |
| 1583 | ☆ 10 øres Drammens Expressbureau. God tagging og sentrering. | 5.000,- |
| 1584 | ☆/○ 1/4. Tromsø Bypost. Spesialsamling første utgave med 14 ubrukte (2 fireblokker) og 7 stemplede merker hvorav ett på brevstykket. I tillegg 10 ubrukte og 7 stemplede 2 øre 1882. | 1.500,- |
| 1585 | ☆ 5 a. Tromsø Bypost. Fireblokk med håndstemplet overtrykk type I. Meget sjelden. | 2.000,- |

SEOUL OLYMPICS

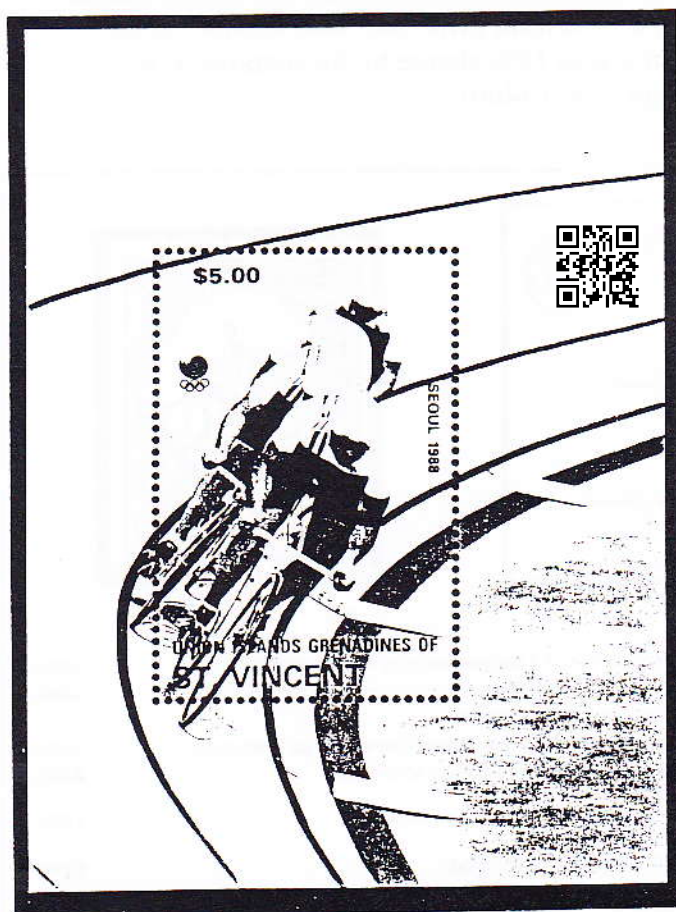
The following stamps were, it appears, announced but never issued!! Some were unknown until quite recently.

Piet Hein Hilarides has however obtained them and has been good enough to forward photocopies.

Most, if not all the stamps, were issued in sheetlets, some of four, others of six. Piet Hein has split the sheetlets into individual stamps for display in his collection.

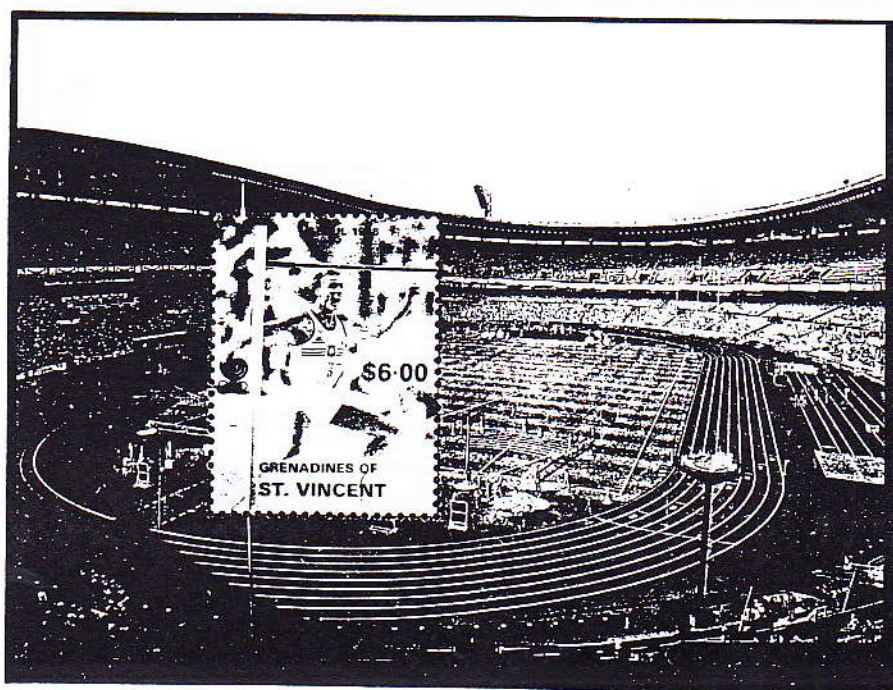
Douglas Marchant has copies of some of them, please contact him if you are interested and want to add them to your collection.

Those shown on this page are from the "Union Island Grenadines of St Vincent". The stamps are from a sheetlet of four, with the \$4 stamp showing 3 cyclists - the \$5 mini-sheet shows 4 cyclists.



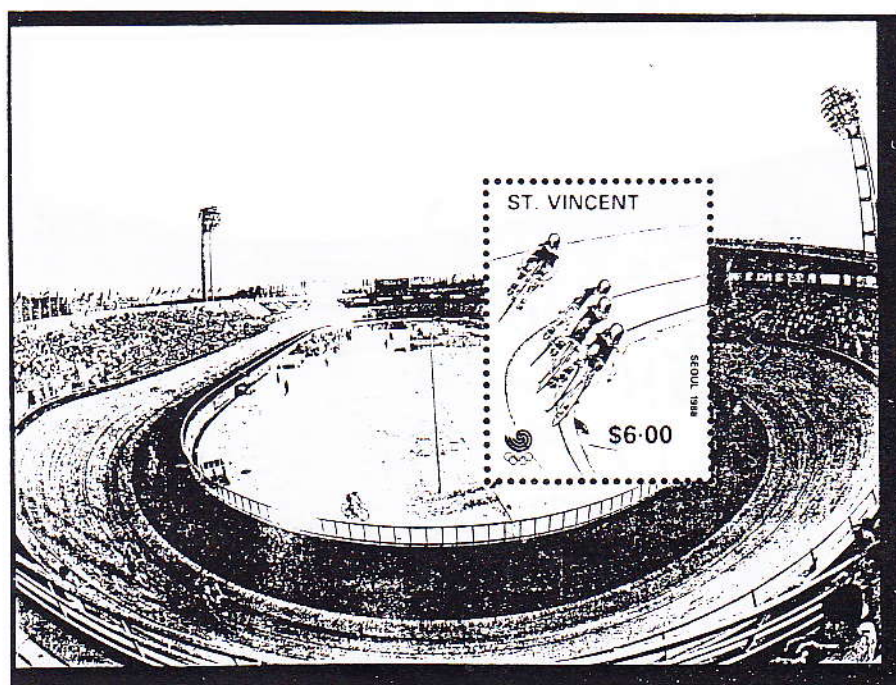


Grenadines of St Vincent: sheetlet of 6 stamps - \$2.50 shows 4 cyclists, \$6 mini-sheet no cycling interest.



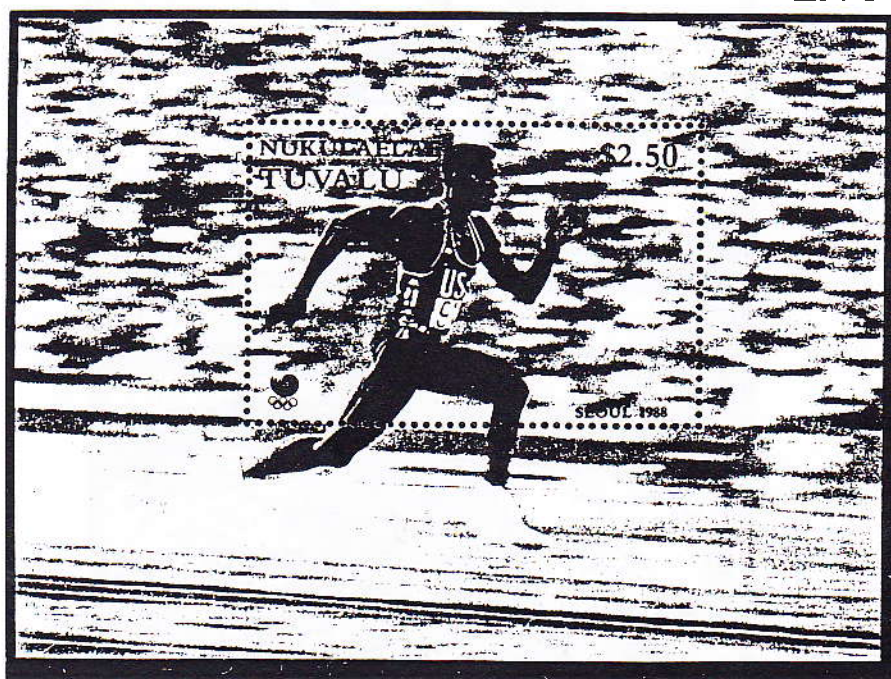


St Vincent: sheetlet of 6 stamps - \$2 shows 2 cyclists, \$6 mini-sheet shows 4 cyclists.





Tuvalu (Nukulaelae): sheetlet of 6 stamps - \$1.75 shows 1 cyclists, \$2.50 mini-sheet no cycling interest.



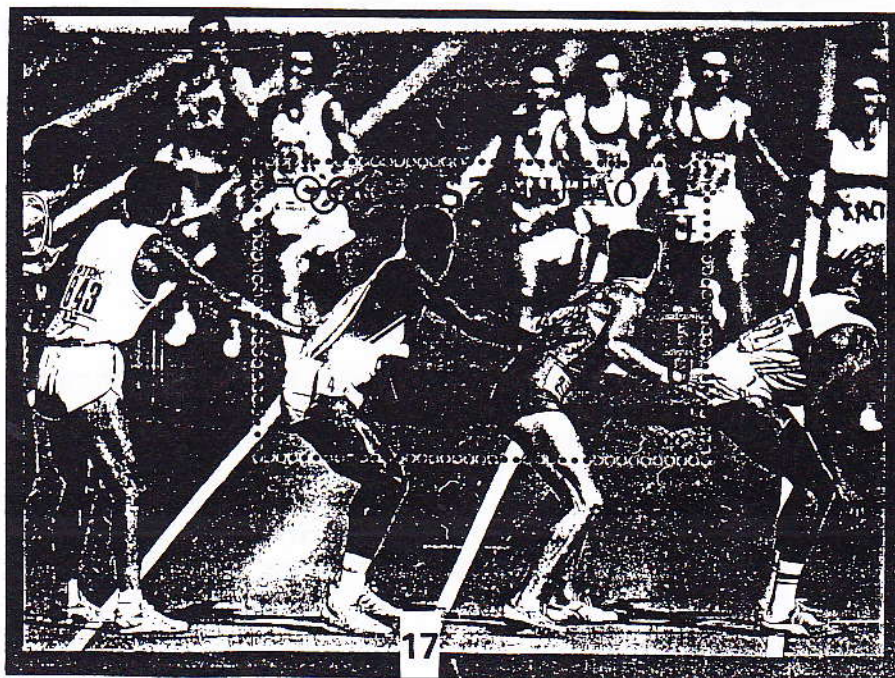


Tuvalu (Nukufetau): sheetlet of 4 stamps - \$2 shows 4 cyclists, \$2.25 mini-sheet no cycling interest.





Tuvalu (Niutao): 8 stamps - 25c stamp shows 1 cyclist, \$2 mini-sheet no cycling interest.



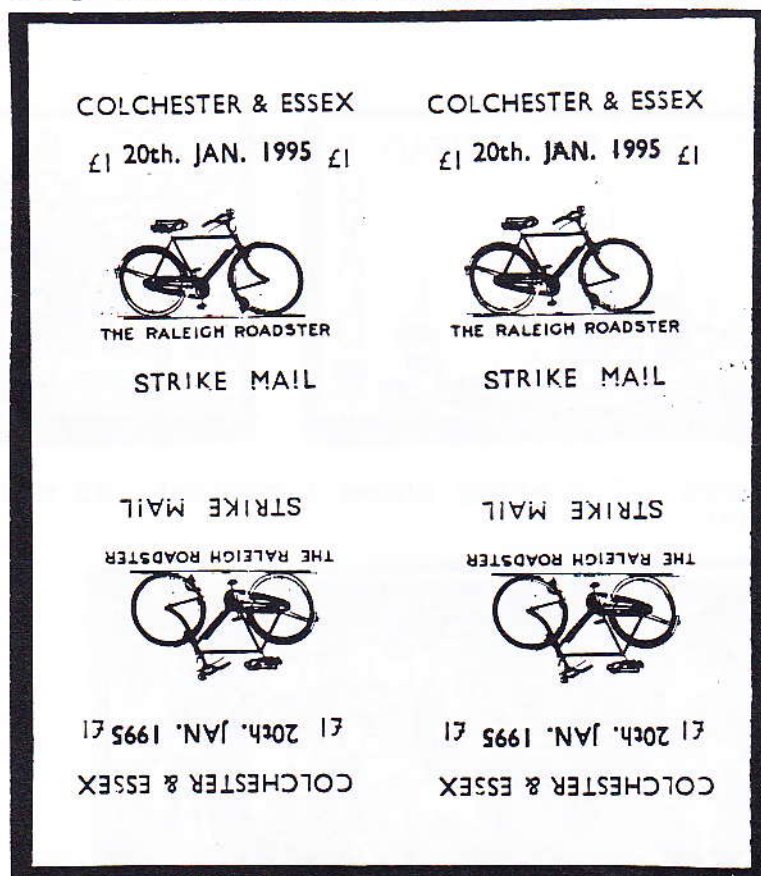
COLCHESTER & ESSEX STRIKE MAIL ISSUE

On January 20th 1995 a bitter dispute between postal staff and management erupted in London, bringing mail services across the capital to a halt. More than 15,000 postal workers staged an unofficial strike, halting deliveries and collections across most of London.

Echoing the worst unrest of the '80's, post boxes were sealed, pickets were called out and, what started as a small isolated row, suddenly took on all the hallmarks of a major industrial dispute.

Ivan Trinder, who each year is involved in the Colchester Scouts Cycling Christmas mail, heard about the strike on the evening of the 19th. Having a suitable stamp design on hand and, by overprinting them with the relevant date, was able to provide an interim service as he had done previously during the December 12th mail strike.

I have yet to receive copies of the December 12th issue so can only illustrate the January 20th issue.



Unfortunately, it is proving impossible to obtain printed proof that these stamps were in fact used. Douglas Marchant has been in touch with Ivan Trinder regarding possible substantiating local newspaper coverage of the strike mail service. Ivan Trinder replied that - "as far as newspaper reports are concerned, a strike that is over in just a day or two, makes it impossible to get copy to the local papers in time to be printed. The local papers in this area are reluctant to give any publicity without a paid advert."

In another letter he states - "for example, take the last case, (January 20th) the strike was announced on the evening of the 19th (Thurs) and of course it was impossible to advertise or get an announcement in any paper when the deadline expired the day before (18th). Newspaper coverage was possible for the Scouts because we had at least one month's notice. It must be remembered that post office strikes on occasions start as one day affairs but become extended as in 1971 and 1988 and it is then that it is possible to place local adverts etc."

We therefore have to rely on the integrity of Ivan Trinder and accept his word that the strike mail issues on December 12th and January 20th were genuine.

I would like to thank Douglas & Norman for supplying background material for this article..

Tony Teideman

MAASLANDPOST OSS=
de STADSPPOST DIE
altijd minder
kost 04120 - 25285

Uitg. drukkerij, boek- en kantoorboek-
Van der Helm, Hoofdstraat 52, Tel 40-1.

MAASLAND COVERS

Prettige Kerstdagen
en een
Gelukkig Nieuwjaar

Tam. Bosman
B. Kerkstr 9
1075 LL
Amsterdam

POST- en
PAKKETDIENST
MAASLANDPOST OSS=
de STADSPPOST DIE
altijd minder ALMERE-
LELYSTAD
kost 04120 - 25285

Tam. Pie
Ejalk 36.17
8232 ms
19 Pelystad
22/12

Prettige Kerstdagen
en een
Gelukkig Nieuwjaar

12/12

Bird Watchers Haven



Norfolk Island possesses several unique species plus many birds found only in the North Tasman Sea.

Nine hundred miles from Sydney, six hundred from Auckland the round-the-world traveller may journey conveniently from Australia to New Zealand with a never to be forgotten break at Norfolk Island.



Norfolk Island is a tiny Island, but few places in the world have such a variety of scenery within so small a compass. Vales and Dales, Peaks and Valleys, Pasture land and Virgin forest



Every corner of Norfolk Island with its beautiful beaches, picnicking areas and spectacular cliff views is accessible by road. Some hundred miles, with low price self hire cars for visitors.



Norfolk Island for land sports, Golf, hiking trails, horse riding, motor cycling, bicycling.



Norfolk Island offers the holidaymaker Tranquility, the peace of mind that comes to one eager to 'Get away from it All'.



Philatelic Section Administration Offices Kingston Norfolk Island 2899 South Pacific



The air is perfumed on Norfolk Island
The scent of wild orange and lemon blossoms, of pine needles, of guavas of innumerable flowers along every path and road

Norfolk Island current postage stamps and future New Issues plus First Day Covers are available to Philatelists and others interested. Enquiries should be airmailed to:-

Philatelic Section Administration Offices Kingston Norfolk Island 2899 South Pacific

Norfolk Island for Duty Free shopping. There are several dozen Duty Free shops on the island with every internationally known brand of watches, perfumes, radios, television, cameras, binoculars, electronic and hi-fi equipment. Large selections of diamonds, precious stones and gold jewellery. Highly competitive and low priced.

Norfolk Island is the original home of the world famous Norfolk Pine



now flourishing in every temperate corner of the globe.

Norfolk Island for Duty Free shopping. There are several dozen Duty Free shops on the island with every internationally known brand of watches, perfumes, radios, television, cameras, binoculars, electronic and hi-fi equipment. Large selections of diamonds, precious stones and gold jewellery. Highly competitive and low priced.

Norfolk Island tourist accommodations are in every range to every taste and purse. High quality Hotels with food to match, Holiday Cottages with complete facilities for small and large families. Modest Guest Houses and Luxurious Flats, all near to supermarkets and food shops.



Nine hundred miles from Sydney, six hundred from Auckland the round-the-world traveller may journey conveniently from Australia to New Zealand with a never to be forgotten break at Norfolk Island.



Norfolk Island current postage stamps and future New Issues plus First Day Covers are available to Philatelists and others interested. Enquiries should be airmailed to:-

Philatelic Section Administration Offices Kingston Norfolk Island 2899 South Pacific



Norfolk Island for water sports, swimming, boating and secluded beaches. Skin diving amidst unbelievably varied tropical fish. Angling from shore for supper or deep water trophy seeking.




Norfolk Island issued four sets of stamps in the period 1974-1978 that included a cyclist on the backing sheets. The cyclist does not appear on any of the stamps as these are self-adhesive. The stamps were issued in sheets of 20 (see illustration), with each stamp having on its backing sheet some tourist-related information, only one depicting a cyclist (left-hand column, third stamp down).

On the backing sheets of the first issue (Dec 16th 1974), the word "Auckland", shown on the flight path (left-hand column, second down and fourth column bottom) is misspelt as "Aukland", even though it was spelt correctly in the narrative. Subsequent issues were corrected.

This information was obtained when a stamp dealer on Norfolk Island presented me with complete backing sheets showing the error and the correction. The dealer intimidated that he had further copies of these backing sheets which I could possibly obtain if any member is interested.

The above answers the question posed in my editorial, as these stamps, once removed from the backing material, lose their cycling connection.

Tony Teideman 

The following article, by Bruce Stoff, from 'Bicycle Retailer & Industry News', Vol 4, No.7, Issued May 1st 1995, was sent in by Sherry Schmidt (via Steve Malone). Steve is trying to locate the author of the article for, whilst he has many factual errors in the article, perhaps he has other articles that he is willing to share with us.



Among the most expensive bike stamps, a Ugandan Mickey Mouse is worth \$3.

Bikes That Take a Licking

BY BRUCE STOFF

LAKE HELEN, FL—Ray Schuessler's office is bursting with bicycles, more than 150 at last count. It would be a real mess if any were larger than an inch square.

As a stamp collector, Schuessler has more bicycles in one drawer than most

retailers cram into a warehouse. His compact inventory fits neatly in a file cabinet.

A former minor league ball player in the West Texas and Carolina leagues, Schuessler left baseball to become a successful sports writer. Then, intrigued

Stamps . . .

Continued

by investment possibilities, he began buying stamps 20 years ago.

"I bought stamps by the hundreds. I bought sheets and sheets of them, and I took a licking," he said, no pun intended.

But instead of kissing off his collection, which he estimates at 10,000 to 20,000 stamps, Schuessler chose to write about it.

He began by categorizing his stamps by subject. Each category was an inspiration for articles. His first were about baseball. Then he branched out. Over the years, his postal passion has become a profitable sideline.

By his best estimate, Schuessler has written more than 700 stamp stories in publications ranging from *Golf Digest* to Australia's *Tennis Magazine*. A worldwide interest in stamp stories hardly surprises him.

"Stamp collecting is the world's most popular hobby. There are 200 million philatelists around the world," he said.

Ever since England invented the postage stamp in 1840, people have been collecting them. But with half-million stamps in existence, and about 8,000 new stamps issued yearly, trying to corral even one nation's 2,000 to 5,000 stamps is an overwhelming proposition.

Collectors, therefore, specialize in one topic like medicine, baseball or bicycling. It makes topical collecting the most popular branch of the hobby.

When it comes to his own topical favorites, Schuessler naturally has a soft spot for baseball. But his bicycle stamps are a close second.

"I wouldn't say I'm the reigning expert in bicycle stamps, because I really don't specialize in any one topic. But I do believe I have written more topical stamp stories than anyone else," Schuessler said.

It came on a Bulgarian stamp commemorating the Balkan Olympic games. Even though cycling has been an Olympic event since 1896, gold-medal cyclists remained, philatelically-speaking, anonymous until 1957 when the Dominican Republic issued a stamp honoring Ercole Baldini's victory in the 1956 Melbourne games.

Even today, stamps honoring racers are relatively rare. It makes them some of the most valuable to topical collectors. Certain complete sets fetch \$15 to \$20, or about a buck a stamp.

Photos by Raymond Schuessler



The first country to issue a stamp of an Olympic gold medal cyclist was the Dominican Republic. It acknowledged Ercole Baldini's victory in the 1956 Melbourne Games with a stamp issued in 1957. Its value today is about 10 cents.

While he may deny being an expert on the subject, a conversation with Schuessler suggests otherwise. He's quick to point out that the first bicycling stamp was issued by Cuba in 1890, but it took until 1931 for bicycle racing to make its postal debut.

Schuessler said.

The upshot is sobering for those looking to make money collecting cycling stamps. Most sell for pocket change.

"None of my bicycle stamps has appreciated substantially in value. In fact, the vast majority of stamps are only worth

a few cents each. Most people collect them for the fun of it," Schuessler said.

But for retailers, stamps can prove profitable. A small, colorful display of bicycle stamps at the register will attract the eye of any enthusiast. And even when keystoneed, most will retail for under \$1, making them a perfect impulse item.

Stamps can also be used in eye-catching displays, as decorations on hang-tags, as art on store newsletters and even as customer giveaways. "There are all sorts of ways a bike shop can use stamps," Schuessler said.

Retailers interested in finding bicycle stamps should begin in the local library. Scott's Catalogue, published annually, is a library staple that lists photos and prices of most stamps. Linns Stamp Weekly, also found in most libraries, is a forum for stamp dealers around the country.

Avoid looking for U.S. bicycling stamps, Schuessler said. It's a waste of time. To the best of his knowledge, the U.S. Post Office has only issued one cycling stamp. Printed in 1981 as part of series on transportation, it features an 1870s high-wheeler.

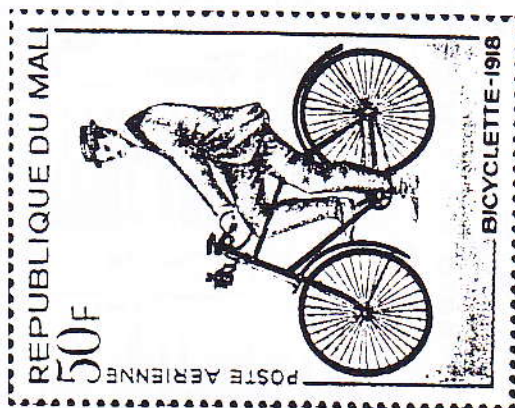
"It's crazy that there's only one American bicycle stamp. That's not enough to honor the sport of bicycling in America. Americans have made tremendous con-

tributions to cycling over the years and one stamp is not enough to acknowledge it," he said.

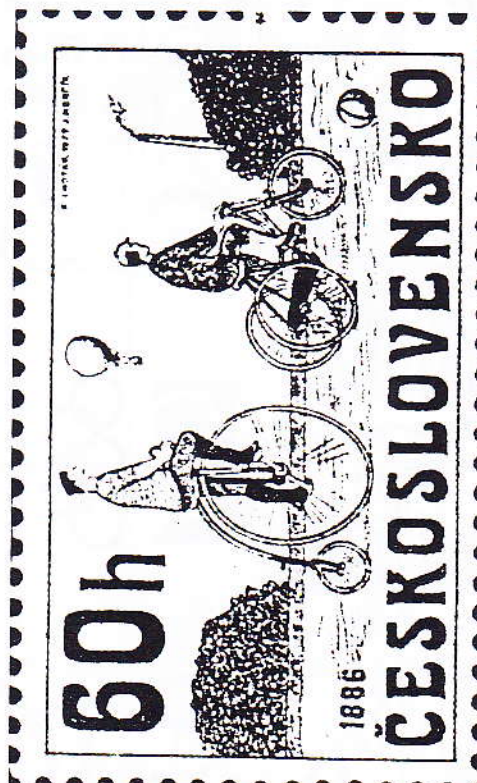
Schuessler's research brought similar news to bowlers two years ago when he disclosed, in an article, that the U.S. Post Office had never issued a bowling stamp. The Post Office was subsequently swamped by letters from outraged bowlers.

The effort paid off. A U.S. bowling stamp is being issued in June. "If it worked in bowling, it should work in cycling," Schuessler said. □

The Republic of Equatorial Guinea issued this stamp in 1972 commemorating Eddy Merckx's performance in the 1959 Tour de France.



A mystery stamp, this Mali "Bicyclette 1918" stamp is not pictured in any stamp catalog.



Published in 1979, this stamp is part of a five-stamp set of historic bicycles. The 1880 high-wheeler bike on this stamp was made in Prague in the Smichov factory.



Dhufar sent no cyclists to the 1972 Olympic Games.

00205218

5 2 2 2 2 1

40 sellos de correos de 29 pesetas.—DEPORTES.—Olimpíadas de oro.—1994



This is a full sheet of the stamps first illustrated on page 24 of BS17A.



National Panasonic



賀新年

旧年中は格別のご厚情を賜り
厚く御礼申し上げます
年頭にあたり皆さまのご清栄を
心からお祈りいたしますと共に
本年も一層のご厚誼を賜ります
ようお願い申し

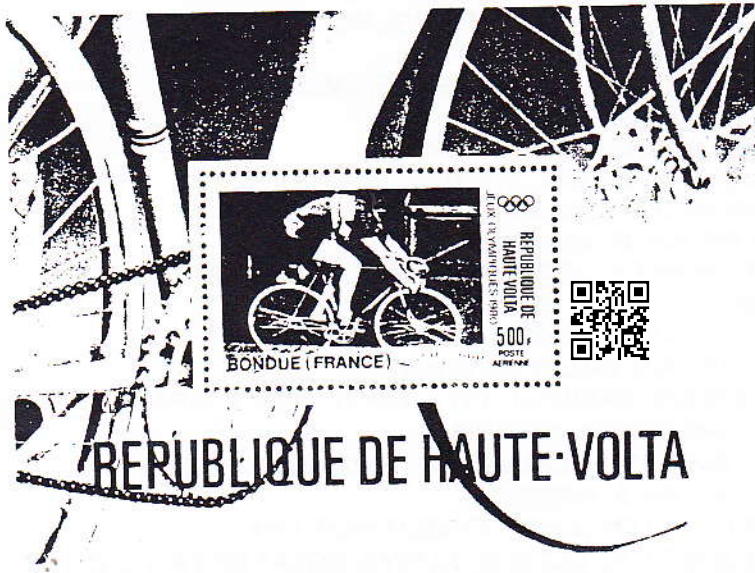
平成七年 元旦

大阪府柏原市
ナショナル自
社

Touring Club Italiano



India 600



BICYCLE STAMPS LIST

A review of Norman Batho's list by Ron Sant.

Compiled by Norman Batho, 358 Iverson Place, East Windsor, New Jersey, 08520 USA. Price \$6.00 in USA, \$7.50 elsewhere.

Facts: Size 8.5" (215mm) x 11" (279mm), 33 pages on continuous computer printout stationery.

Each page is divided into 13 columns giving country, date of issue, Scott or Minkus catalogue number, whether a national postal authority issue, perforate or imperforate, whether unauthorised, face value, brief description, whether non-sporting, the quantity of stamps in the set containing the cycling stamp, condition, cost and Yvert and Teller or Michel catalogue number. The condition and cost columns are blank to allow the user to record their own information.

There are three main sections, the first for national issues, lists 217 countries with 1682 entries, the second for local issues, lists 16 countries with 331 entries and the third for labels and stamps of doubtful postal significance which lists 19 countries and 171 entries.

Countries are listed in alphabetical order and stamps for that country in date order with separate lines for sheet stamps, sheetlets, booklet panes, booklets and strips if appropriate.

It was last updated in February 1995.

Comments: We all like some sort of list to provide us with a check as to how complete are our collections and as a wants list for when dealing with suppliers. This is Norman Batho's personal list which he makes available to others and is commendable in its execution and comprehension. Its purpose is not only to list all known cycling stamps but to encourage the search for items not known by the compiler and so extend our knowledge.

This is a simple listing to be used as a guide in conjunction with other reference books and catalogues and at 80 lines per page is very compact and can easily be carried, particularly if bound into a folder of the type produced for computer stationery.

The boundaries of what constitutes a bicycle or a stamp continually exercises our minds and most collections contain peripheral material of dubious value. The section on locals in this list is a useful contribution to an area still expanding and being explored though it includes all the recognised issues. The section on labels and stamps of doubtful postal significance is an interesting selection of what could be a very extensive list depending on how the subject is defined. Both these sections provide information on interesting areas of our hobby which may lead to more study being carried out to enable us to understand their significance.

The current list omits the Trucial States issues which were contained in earlier copies, probably due to a computer error in the latest updating, which should be corrected when the list is next revised.

This list may be obtained directly from Norman Batho who will advise non US members how they pay.

FROM MY MUSETTE

- * Venezuela Issue March 10th 1959 - Can anyone help with this enquiry from Carl Wiedman?

On December 12th 1952 Venezuela issued a set of four stamps and a Souvenir Sheet commemorating the "3rd Bolivian Games", eg: (III Juegos Deportivos Bolivarianos), these showed a section of the National Velodrome with riders on the track.

Then on March 19th 1959 another set was issued - these commemorated the "8th Central American and Caribbean Games" eg: (VIII Juegos Deportivos Centroamericanos Y Del Caribe), there were 5 normal mail and 5 airmail stamps issued, with the normal issues showing what the Stanley Gibbons' catalogue refers to as the "Caracus Stadium".

Do these stamps show the same venue, as the cross-section of the grandstand appears to be the same? Ronald F. Sudbury, in his book "Stamp Collecting for the Cyclist" lists this issue and states "a set of 5, one of which illustrates a Velodrome"...



If anyone can help, please let me know and I'll pass it on to Carl and other interested members via this column...

- * Earlier this year Brian Sole sent me a copy of an article that he had come across in an old "Stamp Magazine", this was about a township called 'Bicycle'. When I read this, I knew I had read it before.. but where? Then, Carl Wiedman, in his recent letter, enclosed a copy of his listing that he uses as a reference source of information on articles in our magazine and this showed that an article on 'Bicycle' had appeared in BS11B. Carl's list starts with "Spoken Word" Issue I, and lists such items that are informative, as opposed to those that are merely interesting. Using Carl's list as a base, I am compiling an alpha list by article for my own use. If anyone would like a copy of Carl's list, or mine, please let me know.
- * Steve Malone's checklist was reviewed by "Bicycling Magazine", April 1995 Issue, and received 2.5 chain-wheels! They stated in their review that they would have given it 4 chain-wheels, except there was no colour...
- * At the top-centre of your colour supplement is shown a stamp with the words "HRVATSKA REPUBLIKA HERCEG BOSNA" - our Serbian/Croatian translator (Douglas Marchant) advises that this means The Croatian Republic of Herzegovian Bosnia. This was a State created by the Croats that resided in the Herzegovian area when the present unrest began. The United Nations, realising the problems caused by this breakaway mini-state, put pressure on the Croats State to withdraw their support and so the mini-state ceased to exist.