

Bicycle Stamps

Mai 96

BS20A - SPRING - 1996

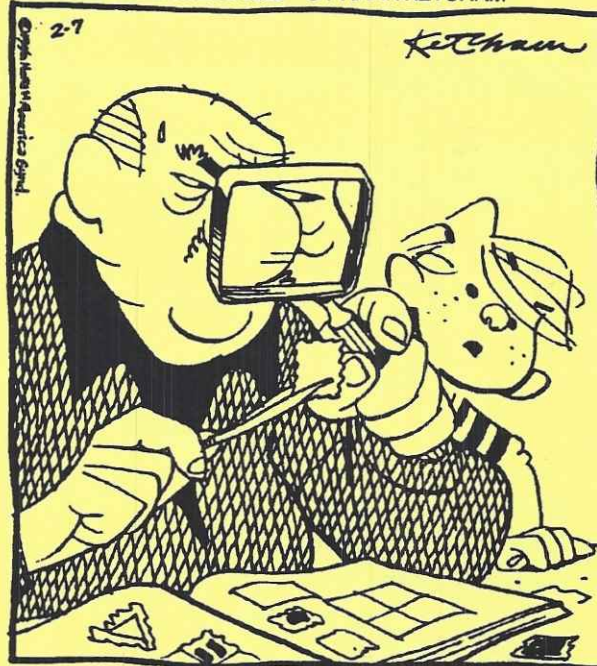


Editor: Anthony E Teideman

Australia.

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

DENNIS THE MENACE BY HANK KETCHAM



*"What's the use of having stamps
if they don't have bikes on 'em?"*

"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.



Bicycle
Stamps
20A

New Issue Update



FRENCH WEST AFRICA	15.03.58	25F	CONSTRUCTION OF DAKAR	6	20A-CS
GUYANA	00.01.94	\$600	125th ANNIV OF BASEBALL	2	
BURKINA FASO	00.00.95	600F	ATLANTA OLYMPICS	4+4S+S+S	19B-CS
CAMBODIA	00.00.95	1000r	ATLANTA OLYMPIC CYCLIST	5+S	18A-4
SINGAPORE	00.00.95	2D	SINGAPORE '95	10S	19B-CS
TOGO	00.11.95	200F	TRANSPORTATION - RACING	S+S+S	19B-CS
TOGO	00.11.95	SHEET	TRANSPORTATION 9 DIFF INCLUDES ABOVE	S+S+S	
ARGENTINA	02.12.95	75c	CENTENARY OF CINEMA - BICYCLE THIEF	1	19B-29 20A-CS
ARGENTINA	02.12.95	SHEET	CENTENARY OF CINEMA 6 DIFF INCLUDES ABOVE	6	
SAHARA OCCIDENTAL	00.00.96	136p	ATLANTA OLYMPICS- CYCLIST	6+S	20A-CS
SIERRA LEONE	00.00.96	250L	CENTENARY OF CINEMA-ET ON BIKE INTHE SKY	1	20A-CS
SIERRA LEONE	00.00.96	SHEET	AS ABOVE - 9 DIFF - INCLUDES ABOVE	S+S+2S	
SLOVENIA	00.00.96	?	ATLANTA OLYMPICS	?	
DOMINICA	16.01.96	3\$	DISNEY - WRECKED BIKE	S+2S	20A-CS
ISRAEL	20.02.96	1.05s	MOUNTAIN BIKE	3	19B-5
MALTA	29.02.96	25c	YOUTH WELFARE - CHILD ON TRICYCLE	4	
NETHERLANDS	00.03.96		WESTERWOLDE - REGIO POST	3S	20A-6

ISSUED IN THREE SHEETS (RED, ORANGE, YELLOW) OF 10 X 50C STAMPS, PRINTED IN DUTCH. THERE IS ONE ROW OF 5 HORIZONTAL STAMPS THAT PICTURE A SILHOUETTE OF A CYCLIST AND ONE ROW OF 5 VERTICAL STAMPS PICTURING 5 DIFFERENT WINDMILLS. THOUGH VERTICAL STAMPS, THEY ARE PRINTED HORIZONTALLY, THE TOP OF THE WINDMILL ON THE RIGHT. THE TOP SELVAGE CONTAINS THE REGIO POST ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER. THE BOTTOM SELVAGE CONTAINS THE REGIO POST RATES.

NETHERLANDS	00.03.96	SHEET	WESTERWOL REGIO POST	20A-6
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ISSUED IN THREE SHEETS AS ABOVE BUT PRINTED IN FRYSIAN.

Bicycle
Stamps

20A

New Issue Update

1.0 UNITED STATES	02.05.96	32C	OLYMPIC ATLANTA SHEET OF 20 DIFF CYCLING	2S	20A-CS
SWEDEN	24.05.96	3.85SEK	FIVE PICTURES OF SUMMER - CYCLIST	5	20A-8
SWEDEN	24.05.96	BOOKLET	AS ABOVE - CONTAINS 5 PAIRS OF STAMPS - 2 WITH CYCLIST. BOOKLET COVER ALSO SHOWS CYCLIST	1	20A-8
NETHERLANDS	00.06.96	?	TOUR DE FRANCE	3	
1.0.1 LIECHTENSTEIN	03.06.96	1.10f	OLYMPIC CENTENARY	3	20A-CS
1.0. NEW ZEALAND	10.07.96	80C	ATLANTA OLYMPICS CYCLIST	5	20A-4
1.0.1 Niederlande	31.8.96	70c			

Please note:

1. Undated issues will remain on the list until such time as a date of issue is established.
2. Corrections or addition of information to previously listed items are underlined, as is the country name.
3. Number or letter "S" in brackets after the country name show where stamp appears in Steve Malone's Checklist. The number, ie (8), is Steve's reference number, whereas an (S) means that it is in the 1996 Supplement.
4. The last column shows where the stamp is illustrated, with BS number followed by page number or CS for colour supplement.



1996

OLYMPIC GAMES

DATE OF ISSUE: 10 July 1996

The five circular stamps of this issue are coloured in accordance with the five Olympic rings. The stamps, designed by Steve Fuller of Wellington, illustrate five of the sports in which New Zealand will compete at the Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta, USA, this year.

New Zealand Post "FOCUS",
Issue No.19 April 1996

Swimming - 40c

While New Zealand has yet to bring home 'gold' at the Olympics, we have several new swimmers who are performing well in this fiercely competitive international sport.

Cycling - 80c

New Zealand has competed in cycling at every Olympics since 1932. This demanding sport requires fitness, stamina and good tactical abilities, and New Zealand is heading to Atlanta with every confidence of 'being in the medals'. Definite medal prospects...

Athletics - \$1.00

The New Zealand sporting history books record a long list of athletics medal winners including such names as Jack Lovelock, Murray Halberg, Peter Snell, John Walker, and Lorraine Moller. For a country the size of New Zealand, we have done well in athletics and will be striving to succeed in 1996.

Rowing - \$1.50

New Zealand's first Olympic rowing medal, a bronze, was won seventy six years ago in Antwerp. Over the years, New Zealand has experienced success in many categories of rowing - coxed and coxless fours, eights and coxless pairs.

Yachting - \$1.80

In an island nation such as New Zealand, there is no shortage of good sailors and plenty of good water to sail on. Lakes, harbours and rugged coastal waters are ideal for training world-class sailors. It is hoped that New Zealand's recent yachting successes will continue at Atlanta.

These round stamps are perforated on an ex-Leigh Mardon Pty Ltd perforating comb, which is now being operated by Southern Colour Print in Dunedin.

PLEASE NOTE: FINAL STAMP ARTWORK WAS UNAVAILABLE
AT THE TIME OF PRINTING FOCUS.



Bicycle
Stamps

20A

New Issue Update

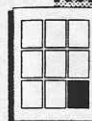
1958.03.15 (150% of original size)



(Discovered by André Dhondt)



ONE



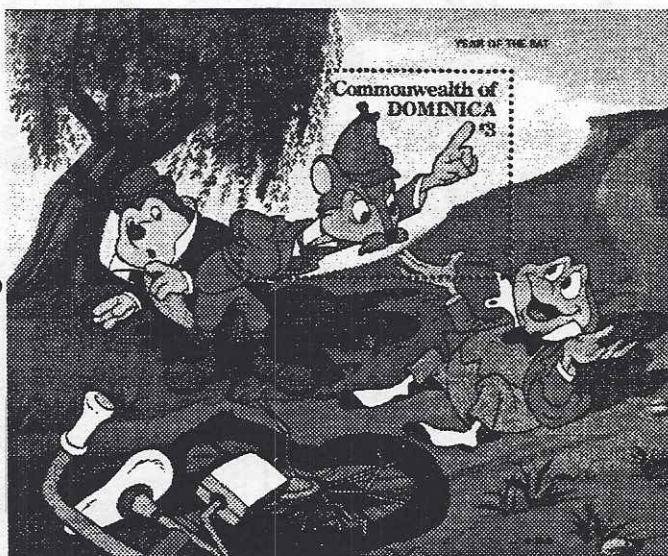
1996.??.??



1996.06.03 (Enlarged)



1996.01.16 (75% original size)



1996.05.02



Men's
Cycling

Sprint cycling was one of the original events in the 1896 Games. It combines speed and strategy on a banked track. A women's event was added in 1988.

Back of Stamp



This line of reflections is likely caused by a bicycle.

Kørestolsbasket med Tivoli i baggrunden.
Foto: Preben B. Sahborg.

Sport

Frimærket i dette hæfte er udgivet den 21. marts 1996.

Det er ét af i alt fire frimærker i en serie med sportsmotiver.

Frimærket viser handicapidret (kørestolsbasket). Motiverne på de øvrige frimærker i serien er svømming, sejlsport og cykelsport. Frimærkerne er tegnet af grafisk designer Johannes Bojesen. Trykt i offset af Post Danmark. Frimærker & Filatel.

POST

S80

Sport
37,50 kr.

(75% of original size)



1995.12.02



1996.01.08



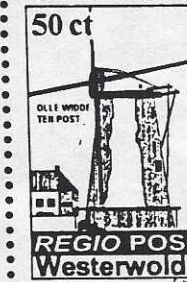
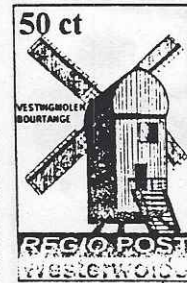
1996.??.??

1996.03.21

TELEFOON / FAX
0597- 646317

Eigenhaardstraat C 98
9663 RH Nieuwe Pekela

REGIO POST Westerwolde



Bezorging in
heel
Nederland.

0- 50 gr. 50 cent
51-100 gr. 100 cent
101- 3000 gr. 500 cent

0- 50 gr. 50 cent
51-100 gr. 100 cent

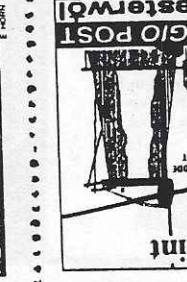
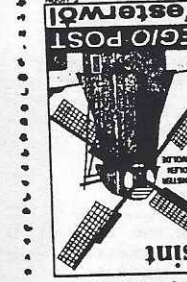
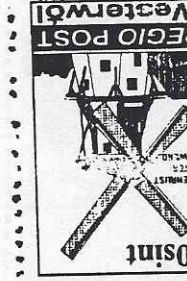
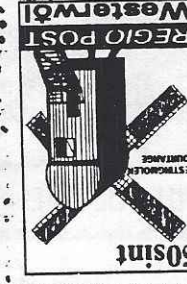
Het bezorgen

REGIO POST

TILLEFOON / FAX
0597- 646317

Aignheerdsstraat C 98
9663 RH Nij Pekel

REGIO POST Westerwöl



en; t'gait deur
hail Nederland.

501-3000 gr. 500 sint
belstuken 500 sint
aantaken 500 sint

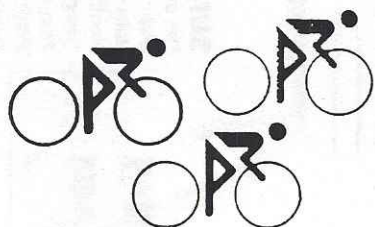
0 - 50 gr. 50 sint
51-100 gr. 100 sint
101-250 gr. 150 sint
251-500 gr. 250 sint

Veur joen post
vraag wie p/st
van:

REGIO POST
dai aaltied
minder kost

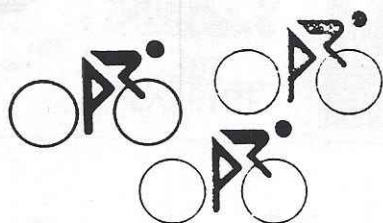
From Marco Tibbe

Marco has sets for sale,
\$US 20.00 per set.



14 वी एशियन साईकलिंग प्रतियोगिता, 9-16 दिसम्बर 1989
प्रथम जूनियर एशियन साईकलिंग प्रतियोगिता यमुना वेलोड्रोम, नई दिल्ली
XIV ASIAN CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIPS, 9-16 DECEMBER 1989
1st JUNIOR ASIAN CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIPS, YAMUNA VELODROME, NEW DELHI.

प्रथम जूनियर एशियन साईकलिंग प्रतियोगिता भारत INDIA



14 वी एशियन साईकलिंग प्रतियोगिता, 9-16 दिसम्बर 1989
प्रथम जूनियर एशियन साईकलिंग प्रतियोगिता यमुना वेलोड्रोम, नई दिल्ली
XIV ASIAN CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIPS, 9-16 DECEMBER 1989
1st JUNIOR ASIAN CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIPS, YAMUNA VELODROME, NEW DELHI.
SPONSORED BY BALSARA

From Anil Aggarwal

Anil has some copies for sale, please contact him directly

FIVE PICTURES OF SUMMER

Paintings by Swedish artists will be featured on this summer's stamps, each with a vision of summer by the sea.

SVEN X:ET ERIXSON (1899-1970) spent his summers on the west coast where he painted boats and nets, landscapes, children and glittering water, and that is where this sunny summer motif is from.

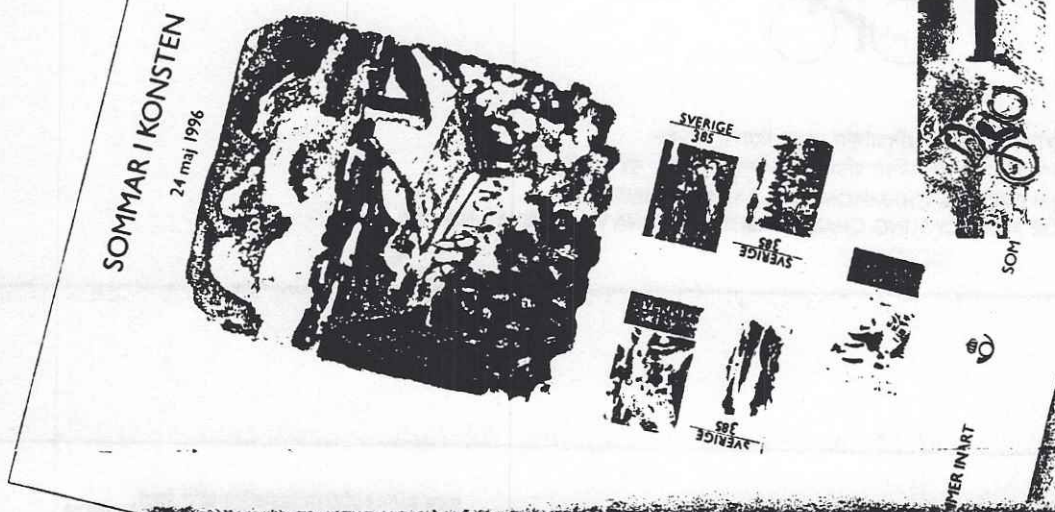
ROLAND SVENSSON (born in 1910) is one of the most prominent painters of the Stockholm archipelago. Here he captures the atmosphere of a summer's night in a painting that makes an archipelago-lover's heart beat faster.

ERIC HALLSTRÖM (1893-1946) describes an idyll with an air of unreality. The gentlefolk are lying in the green grass on the island and the coffee tray is set. The rowing boat has been pulled up on the shore and sheep graze in the background.

THAGE NORDHOLM (1927-1990) got his inspiration from the grandiose country around his house on the slope down to the water on the Norrland coast. Here bright summer flowers glow against the strict silhouette of a conifer forest.

RAGNAR SANDBERG (1902-1972) charged his pictures from the west coast with colour and light. In this painting a grandmother is lifting her grandchild into a boat while the mother looks on. The strong light erases the borderline between sea and sky.

**Swedish Post Bulletin
#3/1996**



The FDC illustration and cancellation are by Rolf Erikson, who also designed the collector's sheet and the booklet cover.

The collector's sheet features an archipelago motif by Roland Svensson.

The booklet cover has a detail from Sven X:et Erikson's painting.

**SOMMAR
I KONSTEN
SUNDSVALL
24.5.1996**

SUMMER IN ART

Day of issue: 24 May 1996

Originals: Paintings by Sven X:et Erikson, Roland Svensson, Eric Hallström, Thage Nordholm and Ragnar Sandberg.

Design: Rolf Erikson

Format: 44.12x26.60 mm

Print: 4-colour offset

Printing works: Sweden Post Stamps, Kista, Stockholm.

VALUE	TYPE	PROD NO	PRICE SEK
3.85	Booklet	963160	38.50
	FDC	963100	22.25
	Coll. sheet	963101	35.25

KARIN KOCK AND ASTRID LINDGREN - FAMOUS SWEDISH WOMEN

BERÖMDA KVINNOR
3 MAJ 1996



We have chosen 3 May as the day of issue to honour the International Women's Leadership Forum which will be held in Stockholm 5-7 May.

NOTE! Delivery together with the stamp issue 24 May 1996.

Swedish Post Bulletin #3/1996

Collectors will have to decide whether to include the Astrid Lindgren stamp for, like William Saroyan (BS19A/p23), her only connection is her book: "Lotta's bike" (Visst kan Lotta cykla).

BERÖMDA KVINNOR
ASTRID LINDGREN

EUROPA 96
4 ST. VALÖR 6 KR. PRIS 24:-



The 1996 Europa theme is Famous Women. Astrid Lindgren, author of books loved by children all over the world, will be on a Swedish stamp. She shares the issue with Karin Kock, another famous Swedish woman.

KARIN KOCK (1891-1976) was the first woman member of the Swedish government. She started out as a Liberal, but in the early 1930s she turned to the Social Democrats. In 1947 she became a member of the government and the following year she became Professor of National Economy, and three years later Director of the Central Bureau of Statistics, the first woman head of a central authority.

Karin Kock played a prominent part in society, especially as an economics expert, and made valuable contributions in the fields of science, politics, and administration.

ASTRID LINDGREN (born in 1907) is the most read writer in Sweden. She made her

debut in 1945 with Pippi Longstocking. Soon there were new Pippi books and new stories, Bill Bergson Master Detective, Simon Small Moves In, Rasmus, Lotta on Troublemaker Street, Mischievous Meg, Karlson on the Roof, and many more. Just as often a story about an urchin as a poetic saga.

The Bullerby Children and the Emil books take us to her childhood in the country, Mio My Son and the Brothers Lionheart to fairylands and the fight between good and evil. Her latest story, Ronia the Robber's Daughter, is an adventure and a saga ending in peace and reconciliation.

Astrid Lindgren's books have been translated into some sixty languages, and they have generated plays, films, and TV series all over the world.

Like Karin Kock, Astrid Lindgren has also taken part in the political debate. Always as the friend of children and animals.



BERÖMDA KVINNOR
ASTRID LINDGREN

ASTRID LINDGREN

The first day cover features a Pippi illustration by Ingrid Vang-Nyman and a picture of the Riksdag Building.

The cancellation is the symbol for women, also repeated on the booklet cover.

Inga-Karin Eriksson designed the FDC, cancellation and booklet cover.

The collector's sheet has an illustration by Ilon Wikland from Mischievous Meg.



BERÖMDA KVINNOR
ASTRID LINDGREN

EUROPA 96 - FAMOUS WOMEN

Day of issue: 3 May 1996

Originals: Inga-Karin Eriksson after photos taken by Pica Pressfoto and Leif Jansson

Engravers: Martin Möck and Piotr Naszarkowski

Format: 26.60x31.25 mm

Print: 3-colour recess

Printing works: Sweden Post Stamps, Kista, Stockholm.

VALUE TYPE	PROD NO	PRICE SEK
6 Booklet	962660	24
FDC	962600	27
Coll. sheet	962601	40

Slogan Inkjet Postmarks

by Steve Malone

Postmark and cancel collectors may be interested in knowing about a new inkjet postmarking technology (often referred to as "sprayed-on" cancels) currently in use by around 200 post offices in the United States. Their use that has been reported in the Postmark Pursuit column by Fred Baumann and the Postal History column by Richard B. Graham in *Linn's Stamp News*.

In the April 3rd, 1995 *Linn's* Mr. Baumann explains that the technology has been in use since 1989 and that the equipment is used to cancel "stale-dated meter mail". By this I presume he means low priority mail that may not have been shipped out the same day it is received.

...at least one of these postmarks is bicycle related. The postmark reads "St Jude Bike-A-Thon LSU-S" and was used on May 6th, 1994.

postmark reads "St Jude Bike-A-Thon LSU-S" and was used on May 6th, 1994. It was not mentioned whether it is possible that other dates for this postmark are also possible. Since it is mentioned that only 2 or 3 special slogans are used per month, it is likely this particular postmark was in use for a week or more.

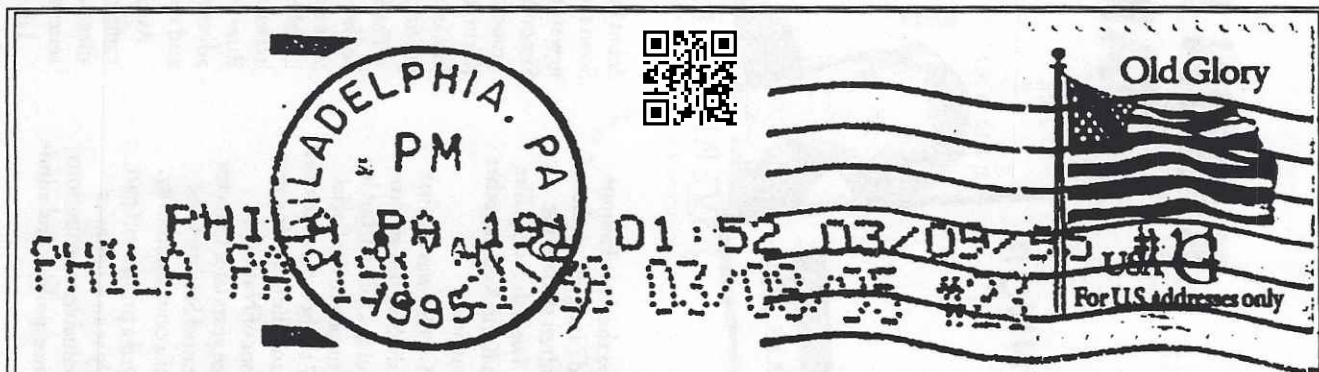
Mr. Graham's article of February 5, 1996 gives examples of several post offices not mentioned in the April 3rd article that have recently added Christmas greetings to their inkjet cancels. It would appear that this would indicate that this increases the likelihood of these cancels being of topical or thematic interest.

In looking through some recent mail I came across the triple-canceled cover below. The two lower cancels on the cover are examples of inkjet postmarks. From this example it would seem that stale-dating also happens with non-meter mail, as this cover has dates of 03/08/95 & 03/09/95.

Mr. Baumann goes on in his article to mention some of the post offices that use the technology: Cape Girardeau, Missouri, Shreveport, Louisiana, plus post offices in Wisconsin. The Shreveport Post Office is currently unique among these post offices in that it has used the technology since December 1993 to advertise local charity events, major holidays, & United States Postal Service events, thus making the postmarks of potential interest to topical and thematic collectors. A follow-up article in *Linn's* on May 29th reveals that at least one of these postmarks is bicycle related. The

Several cycling magazines have announced that the United States Postal Service will be taking over sponsorship of the former Montgomery-Bell cycling team. This sponsorship is aimed partially at increasing philatelic sales for the USPS outside of the United States. It also presents the possibility that post offices near races where the USPS team participates might mention the team in their cancels, though it appears that most of their races will be in Europe. The addition of mountain biking to the Atlanta Olympics adds yet another opportunity for something of interest to be produced for collectors of bicycle cancels.

As this technology continues in use it is likely that more post offices will start promoting local events with it, like the Shreveport charity Bike-A-Thon, so keep your eyes open for the possibility of a new and unique bicycle postmark to add to your collection!



The two lower cancels are examples of inkjet postmarks. Additional slogans are usually added to the beginning of the line. The use of slogans on these cancels appears to be increasing and spreading to additional post offices around the U.S.

Du Pont, the eccentric heir to a chemical company fortune, who has been charged with the murder of 1992 Olympic wrestling Gold Medalist Dave Schultz, was also a stamp collector and exhibitor of international distinction.

He happens to be the owner of one of the finest British Guiana collections, which includes the 1856/1c Magenta British Guiana. Du Pont purchased this anonymously in 1980 for \$US935,000.



The British Guiana Penny Magenta was anonymously acquired by John E. duPont in 1980 for \$935,000.

This stamp became one of his prize possessions and served as a centrepiece for his British Guiana exhibit that won the Grand Prix International at the 1986 Ameripex in Chicago.

The following year Du Pont, who was known as a supporter of triathlons, put himself on a postage stamp and this is where bike stamp collectors will find him. He appears on the deluxe sheet issued by Redonda on 15th June 1987, where he is shown running, swimming and cycling.

Dealer Victor Krievins, a long-time friend of du Pont, said the millionaire did it for a joke - spending \$US10,000 for the honour.

When the stamp came out, du Pont said: "Where the hell is Redonda?" He also asked what the Scott number was, only to find Scott do not list the issues of Redonda!!

You may also ask "where the hell is Redonda?" - this little map may help...



The location of Redonda in the Lesser Antilles is shown courtesy of the *Reader's Digest Atlas of the World*. The *Times of London Gazetteer* gives the map coordinates as 16° 57' N, 62° 20' W.



This short article is based on information published in "Linn's" Feb 12 '95, "Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News" Feb 16 '96 and "Who Weekly" Feb 12 '96. I also must thank Norman Batho and Steve Malone for sending related articles.

A.E. Teideman

Danish Porto Betalt Imprints

By Steve Malone

The Danish Porto Betalt imprint is unique among bicycle stamps. It was designed for the Danish Post Office and requires a special permit, the number of which is required to be printed below the imprint. The thing that makes it unique is that I know of no other government designed bicycle "stamp" that can be printed by private firms (though privately designed bicycle imprints are used in the same manner in Australia).

The first mention I find of this imprint is in issue 2 of *Spoken' Word*, which lead to a brief article in *Spoken' Word* 5 by Ann Rogers and David Sher. In that article it is explained that Porto Betalt translates to Postage Paid in English. Furthermore, the "PP" in upper right of the design is an abbreviation for the French expression *Porte Paye*, also meaning Postage Paid.

Each firm using this service is required to register with the Post Office. In 1981, when the *Spoken' Word* article was written, it was required that the postage be paid in cash and the items be posted at a post office.

The items that can be prepaid with this imprint (or any other Porto Betalt imprint) are letters (including domestic and international C.O.D. items), parcels not accompanied by despatch notes, and registered domestic letters. The only limitation to these uses is that at least 300 identical items must be posted and the sender's name and address must appear on each item.

I contacted the Danish Post Office's Postal Philatelic Centre for any additional information that they might supply about this issue. In the response Mrs. Mai-Britt Christensen wrote that the impression was first used in 1963. She also added that the designer was Carl-Henning Dalsgaard and that he lived in the United States at that time.

The imprint continued in service until 1986, at which time it was replaced with a simple posthorn design.

The only example of this stamp that I currently possess is an April, 1968 new issue announcement from Posten Filateli, which was given to me by Mrs. Christensen. This was very intriguing to me, since it made it possible that a bicycle stamp new issue announcement could have been sent out with this bicycle stamp on it, which would result in two bicycle stamp designs imprinted on one postal card!

I collected Danish new issues up to about 1973 or 1974 and seem to recall all (or most) of the announcements having the bicycle imprint (none of which I kept, unfortunately). Originally the announcements were

only text descriptions of the stamps being issued, but in the early seventies the stamp designs themselves were added to the announcements. I began getting new issues again in 1986, but Postens Filateli had at that time switched to a full-color magazine format for their new issue announcements. In the intervening period it was not known what style of new issue announcements were in use, thus it was possible that the 1977 Road Safety Traffic Act issue was announced on a card containing this imprint.

The prospect of finding such a card was very exciting, but upon writing again to Mrs. Christensen I was told that a different imprint was used for the mailing of these announcements. A disappointment, to be certain, but it is good to know for sure whether or not such an item exists.

With this imprint being in service for 23 years and generally used for bulk mailings, there should be ample opportunity to come across inexpensive copies among stamp dealers' stocks of old covers. Thus, it can be the source of an interesting and inexpensive specialty bicycle stamp collection.

Among the colors of inks known to be used are black, dark blue, red, & dark green. No doubt many other ink colors are possible. The stamp has been printed on postal cards, envelopes, and adhesive-backed address labels - all on a wide variety of paper types and colors.

There appear to be some minor differences in the imprints themselves, with at least one example in the collection of Norman Batho appearing to have a thinner font than in the illustration at the beginning of this article. And another has fake perforations that are not as blunt as those shown. This in itself is rather intriguing, as the materials for making the imprint were only available through the Post Office. Thus, there may be some official varieties of the imprint, which should not be surprising, given its length of service.

This imprint is one example of a stamp that can make bicycle stamp collecting more enjoyable, as they are



552

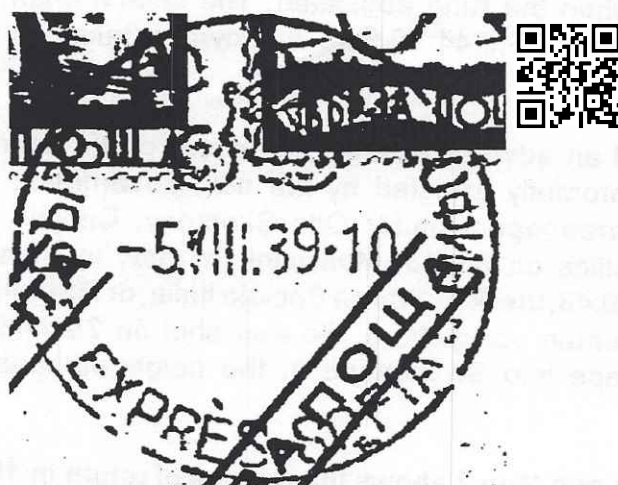
inexpensive and fairly easy to find (especially in Europe), due to the number of large commercial mailings by private firms and the thousands of new issue announcements distributed by the Danish Post Office.

With this issue anyone can have diverse and interesting specialized collection without huge expense. All it takes is time and diligence in your search.

I would greatly appreciate receiving photocopies of any interesting variations of this imprint. And I would be interested in knowing if anyone has any spares they would like to trade or sell.

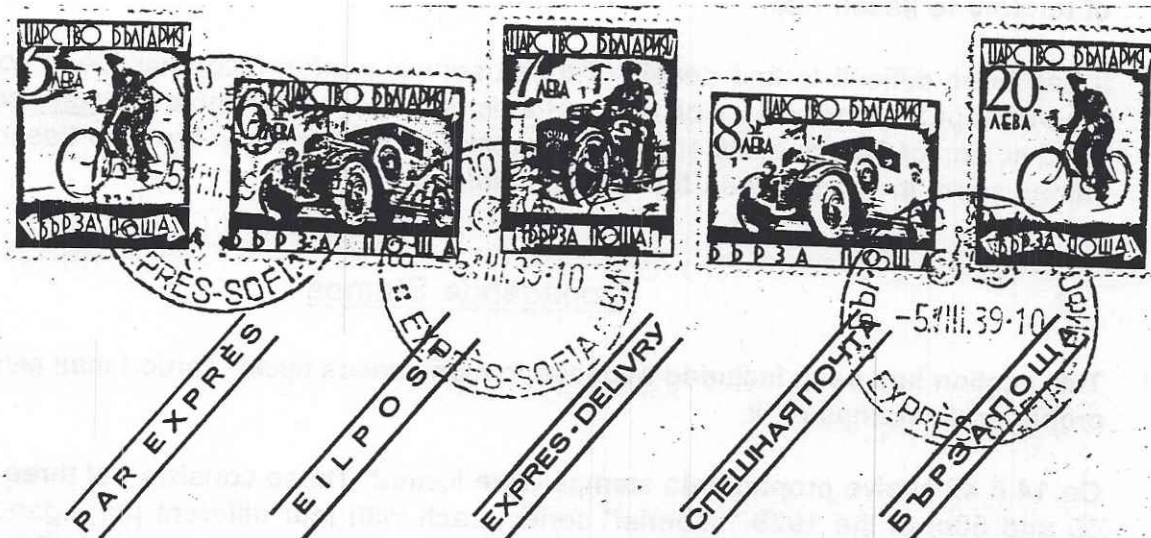
Bulgaria Special Delivery Stamps of 1939

by Steve Malone



Another missing piece of the bicycle stamp puzzle was put into place recently with Bert Schapelhouman's acquisition of an Express First Day Cover from Sophia of Bulgaria's 1939 set of Special Delivery stamps, two of which depict postmen on bicycles (Scott numbers E1 & E5). The date of issue, which is listed as 1939 in Scott's, is clearly marked as August 5th, 1939.

The cancel itself is also very interesting. Unfortunately, the picture of the messenger cyclist at the top of the cancel is not very easy to discern from these photocopies.



1-R JOUR D'EMPLOI
FIRST DAY COVER
ERSTTAG-BRIEF

SECOND WORLD WAR ITALIAN LOCALS

by G.J. Oettle

The latter part of the Italian campaign is of consuming philatelic interest. As the Allies advanced northwards, the Germans and Fascists withdrew ahead of them, leaving general disarray in their wake. In particular, the postal services suffered. A number of private, local and cycle-carried services arose, which lasted from late 1944 to the beginning of 1946.

An analysis of the situation is complicated by the various governments in place at different times. Italy was technically a monarchy until 5.6.46 when a referendum decided in favour of a republic. However, Victor Emmanuel III only reigned until 5.6.44, when he retired from public life, his reputation tainted by his association with Mussolini. His son, Umberto, took over as Lieutenant-General until 9.5.46, when the King abdicated. The latter's reign, as Umberto II, lasted less than a month. The period 5.6.44 - 9.5.46 is known in Italian as the *Luogotenenza*.

Following the Allied invasion of Sicily, and an adverse vote by the fascist grand council, Mussolini resigned on 25.7.43. He was promptly arrested by the new government but rescued from Gran Sasso by German paratroopers under Otto Skorzeny. Despite the armistice signed between Italy and the Allies on 8.9.43, Mussolini (by now in Vienna) improvised a republican government on 15.9.43, the *Repubblica Sociale Italia*, or RSI, which functioned in northern Italy (still under German occupation). He was shot on 28.4.45 by communist partisans whilst trying to escape into Switzerland in the neighbourhood of Castiglione d'Intelvi.

Map 1 shows the front line at various dates and Map 2 shows the months of return in 1945 of territory to Italian rule.

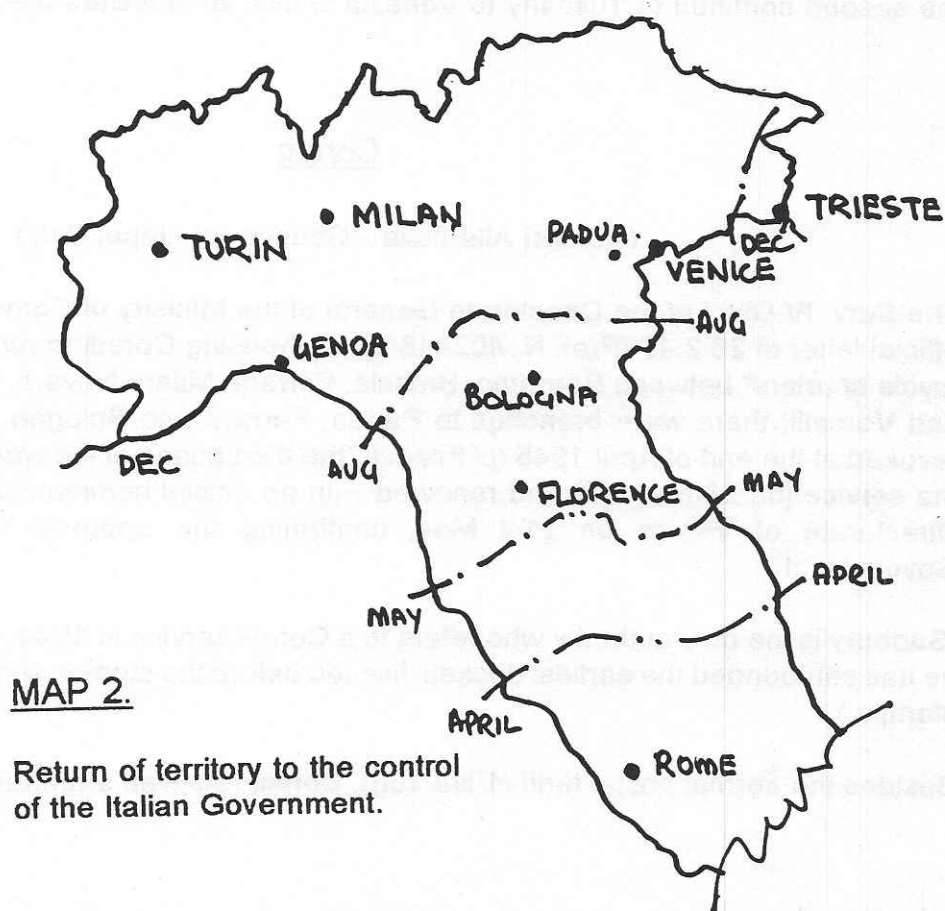
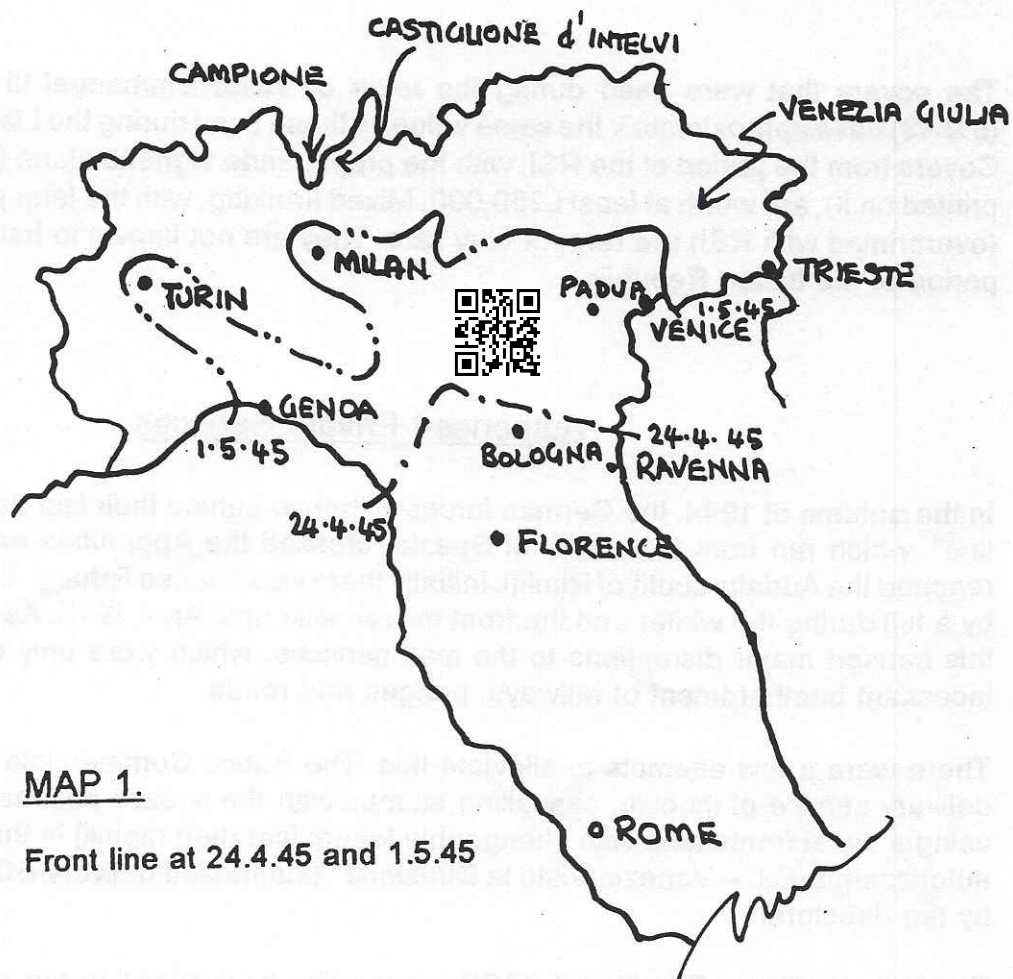
It has been difficult to find details of these services; information has been collated from various sources, some of which are contradictory. The most reliable philatelic source is the 1995 edition of Sassone. Where quoted, catalogue values are in lire from Sassone; market values seem to run between 50-70% of catalogue.

Propaganda Stamps

This section has been included because in many cases cycle-carried mail also has some propaganda stamps on it.

On 14.8.42 twelve propaganda stamps were issued. These consisted of three values (25, 30 and 50c) of the 1929 "Imperial" series, each with four different propaganda "stamps" attached to them in an imperf se tenant pair. They ceased to be valid on 7.8.45.

In northern Italy during the RSI they were declared invalid on 15.3.44 because there was a picture of the King on the left part. In southern Italy, during the Lieutenant-Generalacy and the reign of Umberto II, they were not accepted because the right part had the (fascist) propaganda vignette. As a result, they were used divided (cut down the middle) making it possible to remove the offensive part and reducing the twelve stamps to three. They were used intact only exceptionally.



The covers that were used during the reign of Victor Emmanuel III after the armistice (8.9.43) have approximately the same value as those used during the Lieutenant-Generalcy. Covers from the period of the RSI, with the propaganda vignette alone (which has no value printed on it), are worth at least L250,000. Mixed franking, with the later propaganda stamps (overprinted with RSI) are rare, or very rare. They are not known to have been used in the period of the Italian Republic.

Authorised Private Services

In the autumn of 1944, the German forces withdrew behind their last defences, the "Gothic line", which ran from just south of Spezia, crossed the Appenines east of Florence and reached the Adriatic south of Rimini. Initially there was intense fighting, but this was followed by a lull during the winter and the front moved little until April 1945. As might be expected, this caused major disruptions to the mail services, which were only exacerbated by the incessant bombardment of railways, bridges and roads.

There were a few attempts to alleviate this. The Banca Commerciale Italiana provided a delivery service of its own, cancelling stamps with the square postmark of the bank, and using a violet frontstamp with changeable letters [caratteri mobili] in three rows: "Recapito autorizzato/B.C.I. = Venezia/Visto la Direzione" (authorised delivery/BCI- Venice/approved by the directors).

Two organizations, Coralit and SABE, were officially licensed to run a postal service; the former with a group of cyclists between Lombardy and the Veneto (with Trieste) to Piedmont, the second confined to Tuscany to Venezia Giulia. Both issued their own stamps.

Coralit

(Corrieri Alta Italia - Couriers of Upper Italy)

The Serv. IV Div. I of the Directorate General of the Ministry of Communication, issued an official letter of 26.2.45 (Prot. N. 402448/B), authorising Coralit to run a postal service with "cycle couriers" between Bergamo, Brescia, Ferrara, Milan, Novaro, Rovigo, Turin, Trieste and Vercelli; there were branches to Padua, Ferrara and Bologna. This permission was revoked at the end of April 1945 (cf Filanci: "the disruptions of the war obliged it to suspend the service [on 28th April]") and renewed with an official communication of the Provincial Directorate of Venice on 21st May, confirming the approval of the Allied Military Government.

(Sudbury is the only authority who refers to a Coralit service in 1944; in addition, I think that he has confounded the earliest dockets [issued before the stamps were printed] and the first stamps.)

Besides the normal postal tariff (1 lira/15g), Coralit received a further 14 lire for every 10g.

At the time that the company was formed in Venice, mail carried by the official routes could take three to four weeks to cross northern Italy. Coralit's licence was to transport mail between post offices; final delivery remained the responsibility of the post office. It should be borne in mind that at this time the whole area involved was still beyond the Allied front.

Before despatch the letters were brought to the local post office to be franked, then placed in bags accompanied by a detailed itinerary (in triplicate!) and handed to the couriers who passed them from hand-to-hand until they reached their terminal. Here the letters were handed to the post office for registration; the 2.5 lire express surcharge was for the account of the company. Two copies of the itinerary sheet were handed over to the official, while the other, stamped by the post office, served as a receipt.

Before Coralit had its own stamps, they used simple dockets printed in black phototype on coloured paper, and a rectangular rubber stamp was impressed on the back of the envelope and completed by hand, showing the date and fee due to Coralit.

The couriers were paid 75 lire/day plus expenses for the bicycle, as well as 2.5 lire/km and 30 lire/meal. Each rode 60-100km/day, with one day off for each two worked. There were two Managing Directors (in Turin and Venice) and four Regional Inspectors (Venice, Veneto & Friuli, Lombardy and Piedmont).

In terms of the first authorisation, two stamps were issued (imperforate and ungummed), of 14 and 28 lire; as it turned out, the second value was not used. After the service was restarted, two further sets were produced, whose values were multiples of 14 lire. Both were printed by Sarig Graphic Industries of Turin, and the design/engraving [bozzetti] was by the architect Ferruccio Grassi.

Coralit ceased operation on 30.6.45, when the Allied Military Government restored the regular postal service in upper Italy, having carried over 200,000 items of mail in its brief life.

March 1945.



Value in an oval on a rectangular background. Printed (stampa tipografica) in sheets of 100 - Imperf - ungummed

		Mint	Used	No. Issued
1.	14 lire	25,000	150,000	
	ultramarine			
	on cover		4,500,000	
2.	28 lire	675,000		
	carmin pink			



May 1945.

Lion of St. Mark (3-5) and bicycle wheel on map of Northern Italy (6-7). Photolitho, in sheets of 50 (10x5) on yellowish paper. Imperf.

			Mint	Used	No Issued
3.	14 lire	carmine	27,500	75,000	10,300
		on cover		450,000	
4.	28 lire	olive green	27,500	75,000	104,000
		on cover		450,000	
5.	57 lire	violet lilac	27,500	110,000	22,350
		on cover		850,000	
6.	70 lire	light brown	27,500		17,400
7.	140 lire	ultramarine grey (sic)	27,500		11,850

There are records of two vertical strips of proofs, perforated and interspaced [con interspazio], with all five values, one with colour added to the 56 lire and the other to the 70 lire.

June 1945



Cyclist on a map of Northern Italy. Photolitho, in sheets of 40 (4x10) on yellowish paper. Perf.

			Mint	Used	No Issued
8.	14 lire	vermillion	30,000	100,000	24,800
		on cover		500,000	
8a.		imperf on right	250,000		
9.	28 lire	olive grey	30,000	100,000	24,500
		on cover		500,000	
9b.		double perfs on left	150,000		
10.	56 lire	lilac	30,000	150,000	18,700
		on cover		1,000,000	
11.	70 lire	grey brown	30,000		13,000
12.	140 lire	blue grey	30,000		11,300
12a		perfs markedly displaced	120,000		
Whole set on cover (philatelic)				275,000	

Franco Filanci wrote a paper in "Cronaca Filatelica" (February 1980, No.39) which was translated by B. Thornton and published in "Bicycle Stamps" BS16B Pages 13-15. It is especially useful for details of how the service operated. Filanci's tariffs differ widely from Sassone's, and I have only quoted the latter; in particular, Filanci gives values which were not multiples of the stamps issued. In addition, Filanci's dates and the size of the printings of various stamps does not agree with Sassone.

S.A.B.E.

(Società anonima Barbera Editore)
(Barbera Publishing Co. Ltd.)

A memorandum from the Ministry of Communication (No.407910-406157/CV) dated 7.8.45 granted SABE a concession to run a postal service in both directions [nei due sensi] between Florence, Venezia Giulia and Friuli, using appropriate means [con propri mezzi]. The Provincial Directorate of Posts and Telegraphs of Florence confirmed the concession, authorising the relevant arrangements in a letter of 21.8.45. In addition to normal franking, a variable number of the stamps printed for this service were also used. The stamps were cancelled with a normal postmark and, in addition, a red cachet was used, which looks like a saltire but represented a cross-roads, with the text: "Portentur diu/noctaque - Cito - Cito - fratribus/italicis" in Latin.

1945

Stylized chariot with four horses. Printed (stampa tipografica) in small sheets of 12 (2x6) with an explanatory inscription at the top. Chalky paper; imperf.

BOLLI PER CORRISPONDENZE
FIRENZE - VENEZIA GIULIA
SERVIZIO SPECIALE GESTITO DALLA
SOC. AN. BARBERA - EDITORE
NEL PERIODO ARMISTIZIALE DELLE PROVINCE ITALIANE
OCCUPATE DELLA VENEZIA GIULIA
Photo: Museo delle Poste, Roma - 400157/CV del 7-8-1945



			Mint	Used	No Issued
13.	5 lire	violet brown	35,000	150,000	
		on cover		375,000	
14.	10 lire	indigo	35,000	75,000	
		on cover		250,000	
15.	50 lire	green	35,000	150,000	
All three sheets, complete			1,500,000		

The most valuable covers are those which travelled between Venezia Giulia and Tuscany, especially if they are franked with the stamps of the AMG-VG (excluding Gorizia and Trieste).

Part two of this extensive article will be printed in BS20B; the author had hoped that it would appear, complete, in one issue but, at 15 pages, this would have meant that half an issue would have been devoted to this topic.

In his letter that accompanied this article, Julien explained what he considers to be a "bicycle stamp". He defines them as stamps for mail that was carried by bicycle - regardless of the image on the stamp itself. In case you have not as yet realised, the values in the tables are in Lire. Julien has also included the original wording in brackets where he has not been sure of the correct translation.

His sources are "Sassone", Norman Batho's listing, earlier articles in "BS" and histories of the period.

When I began preparing the article for inclusion in the magazine, I came upon a few problems, so I wrote to Julien and asked him to explain. After some months of waiting for a reply and, as we had now purchased a fax machine, I decided to fax him and send him a copy of my letter. It was just as well!

This is a direct quote from Julien's fax of 22 May 1996:

"Thank you for your fax, which arrived this morning. The reason you had had no reply to your queries of 22.1.96 was that your letter never arrived; indeed, I had begun to wonder if my MS had not vanished into the bottomless maw of the SA PO. Our postal services have become totally unreliable; on average, a letter within the city takes three to four weeks (if it arrives at all), and the only way to ensure delivery is to pay premiums five to ten times standard rates. There is regular theft from letters any thicker than a single sheet of airmail paper (forwarded, if they could be bothered, with the specious label "Article found damaged in the post") and last Christmas postmasters were found burning mail to avoid delivering it."

... And I thought I had problems with postal deliveries....!!

Postal Uniforms of Portugal Post Card Set

Submitted by Steve Malone

BPM Série Fundamentos 10/82
Boletreiro-ciclista, 1939
Aquarela de José Dias Sanches, 1949
Porte-dépêches cycliste, 1939
Aquarela de José Dias Sanches, 1949
Distributor of telegrams by bicycle, 1939
Watercolour by José Dias Sanches, 1949



FEDERAÇÃO DO MUSEU DOS CORREIOS E TELECOMUNICAÇÕES DE PORTUGAL

ESCREVA O CÓDIGO POSTAL NAS ZONAS SOMBRINEADAS

ENDEREÇO

*Above: 84% reduction of the back of the post card.
At Left: full size copy of the front of the card.*

This is the only bicycling-related post card from a set of 10 which depict various postal uniforms in use during the first century of Portugal's C.T.T. (Post, Telephone, & Telegraph). The set was on sale at the Post & Telecommunications Museum of Portugal, located in Lisbon, in 1992.

Printed in October, 1982, the post card shows a 1949 watercolor rendering by José Dias Sanches of a 1939 telegraph messenger.



SOSSI plans Capex events

by AE Teideman (extracted from LINN'S May 13th issue)

The Scouts on Stamps Society International will hold its 1996 annual meeting at the Capex 96 international stamp exhibition in Toronto, Canada. Capex 96 is the world philatelic exhibition being held in the Metro Toronto Convention Centre June 8-16.

The SOSSI annual meeting will be held from 3pm to 5pm, Sunday June 9, in the convention centre. Visitors are welcome to attend. An auction will be held during the second hour of the meeting. A SOSSI dinner will take place the previous evening and SOSSI will staff a society lounge at Capex 96 throughout all nine days of the show.

Host of SOSSI events will be the Maple Leaf Chapter No.15. Based in Toronto, this chapter has been in continuous operation since it was chartered April 14, 1962.

Two covers for this event will be sold at the SOSSI lounge, and both may be ordered by mail for delivery after Capex 96.

A SOSSI cover (in three colours) will picture a reproduction of the Cape of Good Hope stamp of 1900 that pictures a bicycle messenger. The cachet will tie in with the Capex 96 theme of "Transportation".



Cachet for the Scouts on Stamps Society International souvenir cover for the Capex 96 stamp show.

During the Siege of Mafeking (which lasted more than 200 days) in the 1899-1902 Boer War, the town ran out of regular stamps and was forced to create its own.

The stamps are two similar versions of a portrait of Lord Baden-Powell (the British commander of the besieged town) and the Bicyclist stamp.

Baden-Powell had formed the youth in Mafeking into a Cadet Corps for carrying messages. The Bicyclist stamp pictures one of them, Sgt Major Warner Goodyear, age 12.

Seven years later in 1907, Baden-Powell established the Boy Scouts movement, and many believe that his Mafeking Cadet Corps provided the inspiration.

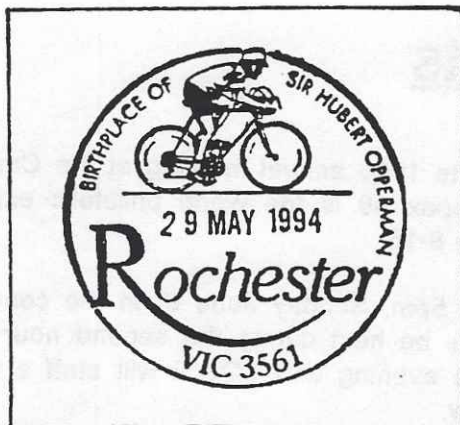
A Maple Leaf Chapter cover pictures the chapter logo modified with the insertion of the Capex 96 logo. This cachet will be printed in green. Covers will be franked with one of the new 45c stamps to be issued June 8 at Capex 96 and will be first-day cancelled with the Capex 96 postmark for that day.

Cost will be \$1 per cover plus 50c per order for shipping (U.S. funds). Orders with payment should be sent to Jack Lyons, 47 Tremont Road, Islington, Ontario M9B 3X3, Canada.

"Sir Opperman"

by Pasquale Polo and Norman Batho

On May 29th 1994, the Post Office of the Australian town of Rochester put into permanent use a custom illustrated postal cancellation to celebrate the citizens' dedication of a commemorative statue of their illustrious countryman, Sir Hubert Opperman.



Formerly a telegraph messenger boy, "Oppy" was certainly the most celebrated of the Australian cyclists (four times Australian champion - 1924, 1926, 1927, 1929), and a specialist in long distance races, including motor-paced, road and track.

In December 1938, he rode 1000 miles from Adelaide to Sydney in 63hrs & 37.5mins. Some of his other accomplishments include the official World Motor Paced 24hr record of 860 miles in 1932, a 2hr tandem-paced record of 107.5 miles and a 24hr tandem-paced record of 585 miles.

With no serious competition in Australia, in 1928 he embarked for Europe to find more legitimate adversaries.

He participated in the 1928 Tour de France, captaining the first official Australian team to compete in the Tour (placing 17th), and was a protagonist in the Paris-Brussels (3rd place) and Paris-Rennes of that year, placing favourably. He was dedicated to racing, placing 3rd in the Six Days at Paris, dominating the Bol d'Or (24hr paced race). In that year he also broke the record for the tough English "Lands End to John O'Groates".

He returned to Europe in 1931, again participating in the Tour de France (placing 12th). Also that year he won the classic Paris-Brest-Paris, covering the 726 miles in world record time (49hrs, 23mins).

Fighter and bomber pilot, he fought on the Pacific front from 1940 to 1945.

In 1949 he was elected a Member of Parliament, entrusted with important government commissions. He was in fact Minister of Transportation and later of Labour and of Immigration, and finally was appointed High Commissioner to Malta.

He was elected "Knight of the Order of Saint George" and thus became entitled to be called "Sir".

His fascinating life story may be read in his book "Pedals, Politics and People".

Perhaps fittingly, "Oppy" passed away on April 18th 1996, at the age of 91, while pedaling his exercise bicycle.

Steve Malone sent this obituary, which he saw in a Seattle newspaper.

Hubert Opperman, 91, a star international cyclist in the 1920s and '30s, in Melbourne, Australia, Thursday while peddling his exercise bicycle.

↑
WHAT WAS HE DOING
SELLING IT?

Bicycle Stamp Jersey

Submitted by Steve Malone

The "Bit & Run" jersey below is being advertised in the current Performance mail order catalog. Made by Primal Wear, the jersey features a "stamp" depicting a dog that has bitten through the rear wheel of a mountain bike. It also has a Primal Wear, USA cancellation.

The jersey (order # 00-8870A) costs \$59.99 plus shipping. It is available by phone (1-800-727-2453) in sizes M(38-40), L(42-44), & XL(46-48).



A T-shirt is also available, but it does not include the stamp and cancellation parts of the design.

INDEXES, LISTS, ETC.

The following letter (extract only) and index was sent by Terry Crawford:

"I wonder if the enclosed "concise index" is worth including in a forthcoming issue of "Bicycle Stamps"? I've been collecting cycling stamps for almost 30 years, mounting them in albums under sub-topic headings (eg: children, military, Tour de France) as I obtain them. Faced with a long period off the bike following an operation, I've decided to rearrange the collection with rather more writing-up than before. So my first step was to check through "Bicycle Stamps", "Spoken Word" and "Cycle Clips" to analyse and index the vast amounts of data they give.

During this, I came across a request by Brian Sole in "Spoken Word", issue 10, page 22, for details of a Haaxman label, but nothing more has ever appeared in print, though most enquiries about mysterious items have prompted members to come forward with information. I'm writing to Brian to find out if ever he discovered anything, but in the meantime is it worthwhile raising the matter again in "Bicycle Stamps"? (I've just obtained my own copy of the label, for about 55 cents, which can't be bad!) ..."

INDEX TO "SPOKEN WORD" (1980-85), "BICYCLE STAMPS" (1986-1996) AND "CYCLE CLIPS" (1993-1994)

Terry Crawford has compiled this "concise index" as a prelude to re-organising and writing up his collection. He thought it might be useful to other BSC members. Terry stresses that it was drawn up to meet his own needs, and it excludes postal stationery, varieties, cancellations and non-philatelic material. (Seven issues of "Cycle Clips" were published in Britain under the editorship of BSC member Douglas Marchant, covering all forms of collectables featuring cycling.)

Arnhem locals BS7
 Argentina "Primeros Juegos Desportivos" essay SW10
 Australia locals BS1 BS6; reprints BS16B BS17A
 Bayern and German stamps with se-tenant labels BS16A
 Bilston Cycle Post BS19B
 Books on bicycle stamps BS5
 Castiglione d'Intelvi locals BS8b
 Centre Cycle ("Hen & Chicken") SW10 BS4 BS12B
 China (NW) 1949 local BS7
 Clacton-on-Sea locals SW10 BS1 BS2 BS6
 Code of ethics for bicycle philatelists BS5
 Colchester Scouts locals BS6 BS9B BS13B BS18A
 BS18B CC1
 Cois Postaux de Paris 1890 SW10 BS2 BS13A
 Concord stamp (USA) BS16B
 Costa Rica 1 col sports revenue stamp BS11B
 CTC: centenary SW3; card BS4 BS6; 1928 label SW10
 Cuba special deliveries 1899-1910 BS16A BS17A
 "Cyclic quadrilateral" label mystery BS5 BS6 BS9B CC7
 Dating mistakes on stamps BS5
 Denmark Ferie stamps 1943-47 BS8
 Denmark "Mærkat" poster stamps CC3
 Egypt Postal Savings Bank stamps BS5
 Egypt bogus 1976 Olympics issues BS19A
 France military vignettes BS2 BS3 BS5
 Fresno cycle mail locals BS7 BS9A BS10B
 Geneva bicycle tax stamp tax BS5
 German state locals BS10B CC1
 Germany: Wentz Kaiser's Jubilee military label 1913 CC2
 Germany Stalinale stamps BS12A BS12B

Great Britain 1971 postal strike locals CC5
 History of bicycle SW7
 Italy military vignettes BS7
 Local issues -general articles: by J-P Mangin BS4; by Carl Wiedman BS14A
 Makefing locals SW3 BS11A; reprinted as a British local CC6
 Military bikes BS11A
 Netherlands Stadspost local delivery service BS13A
 Norway Drammens Expresbureau local 1890, BS18A
 Peace Race BS8B BS9A: covers SW6
 Pegley, Frank: Thematica 89 entry, "The History of the Bicycle" BS7
 Penny Farthing post, Exeter SW10
 Philatelic terms BS2
 Philippines 1902 overprint BS8B
 Philippines Cebu guerilla stamps 1942-43 BS12B
 Poland Groszy overprints BS19B
 Prague 1918 scout local cycle(?) post CC1
 "6" label mystery BS5 BS6 BS9B CC7
 Stonelick locals SW3
 Sweden reply licence stamp BS2
 Switzerland military vignettes BS5
 Timaru locals BS4 BS8B
 Touring on stamps CC5 CC6
 Trade covers SW4
 Volta de Catalona vignettes BS8 BS15A
 World championships, list of issues BS8



His mention of the request for information from Brian Sole in issue 10 of "Spoken Word" raises an interesting question: are the requests for information that are printed in "BS" always answered? Since becoming the editor, on a number of occasions I've asked for assistance with information - and must admit I am still awaiting replies.

For instance, I've yet to receive any information on the Venezuela issues of March 10th 1959 (BS18A p29). I'm beginning to wonder if I need a list of outstanding queries.. But, back to the topic of this article...

In April 1995 I received from Carl Wiedman a letter and copy of his list; on examining it I realised that I needed such a list. Carl's list detailed the various articles etc., in chronological order of magazine issues. (If you would like a copy I will send you one.)

I decided that my list, derived from Carl's should be in alphabetical listing by article, eg:

ADVERTISING COVERS	F.HAVNOONIAN	SW 4 11
ANTI-VIBRATION BICYCLES HISTORY	F.HAVNOONIAN	SW 7 5
AUSTRALIA VICTORIAN ADVERT BOOK	S.SCHMIDT	BS 6 14
AUSTRALIA 'WORLD OF THEMATICS'	B.VAN TENAC	BS 7 38
AUSTRALIAN BIKE STAMPS	G.WADE	BS 6 28
AUSTRALIAN STAMP BOOKLETS	A.TEIDEMAN	BS19A 11
AUSTRIAN BICYCLE LICENSES	F.HAVNOONIAN	SW 5 4
AUSTRIAN MODERN ART	J.MUHSIL	BS 1 36
BELGIUM - BOOKLET DISCOVERED	M.TIBBE	BS15B 27
BICYCLE AS A POSTAL VEHICLE	F.HAVNOONIAN	SW 3 6
BICYCLE CENTRE CYCLE HEN & CHICK	I.DODD	BS12B 19
BICYCLE GOES TO WAR - THE	M.CAIDIN/J.BARBREE	BS11A 14
BICYCLE LICENCES - AUSTRIAN	F.HAVNOONIAN	SW 5 4
BICYCLE NORTH DAKOTA (PLACE)	B.SCHAPELHOUMAN	BS11B 14
BICYCLE PHILATELIST LIVES IN CHINA	R.SEE	BS 9B 27
BICYCLE SERVICES (LITTLE KNOWN)	J.MANGIN	BS 4 9
BICYCLE STAMP (EARLIEST KNOWN)	D.MARCHANT	SW10 1
BICYCLE STAMPS THAT AREN'T	W.EZELL	BS17A 6
BICYCLE TAX STAMPS (SWISS)	D.MARCHANT	BS 5 18
BICYCLE TAX STAMPS (SWISS)	D.SHER	BS 6 12
BICYCLE THE	F.SOLE	SW 7 7
BICYCLES 100 YEARS OF STAMPS	A.TEIDEMAN	BS 6 34
BICYCLES "CENTRE CYCLE"	D.MARCHANT	SW10 24
BICYCLES "CENTRE CYCLE"	I.GRAY	BS 4 32

Terry's list is yet another variation, for he has included articles, etc., from "Cycle Clips", (I note with interest he quotes '7' issues; I only ever received '6'. I paid PStg.14 direct to the magazine when I received a renewal form, this was for the second year's issues. Eventually I heard from Douglas Marchant that the magazine had folded - I didn't even get a refund, but that's life.)

Do other members have such lists, or how do they decide the order in which they keep their stamps? I, for instance, keep my collection strictly in chronological order. My list is only used as a reference when preparing some material for the magazine, etc.

U.S. Postal Service team set

The U.S. Postal Service Cycling Team — formerly Montgomery-Bell — was officially announced on November 16. Besides team members already confirmed, such as team captain Andy Hampsten (from Banesto), the 13-man squad also includes German sprinting hope Sven Teutenberg from Novell (who placed third in the recent Paris-Tours classic after taking a stage of the Vuelta a España) and Mike Engleman from Shaklee (who placed eighth in the world time trial championship).

Explaining the marketing strategy for the new team, U.S. Postal Service chief marketing officer Loren Smith said, "We feel an international cycling team competing in significant high-profile events in a number of countries will help us achieve our worldwide business goals. We look forward to a rewarding, long-term relationship."

In 1996, the team is planning the following schedule: the early-season races in Europe (including events like Ghent-Wevelgem); the East Coast season (from the Tour DuPont through the CoreStates USPRO Championship); the Tour of Switzerland in June; and, hopefully, the Vuelta a España in September. Furthermore, the squad expects big things at the Olympic Games from its two women members, Rebecca Twigg and Phyllis Hines.

The complete team lineup is: Darren Baker, Mike Engleman, Chad Gerlach, Eddy Gragas, Tyler Hamilton, Andy Hampsten, Marty Jemison, Nate Reiss and Clark Sheehan (all Americans), Dariusz Baranowski and Tomasz Brozyna (both Polish), Remigijus Lupeikis (Lithuania), and Sven Teutenberg (Germany). The team's co-sponsors are Montgomery Securities, Bell helmets, GT bicycles, Bausch & Lomb sunglasses, Cannondale clothing, Sports Pep nutritional supplements, American Isuzu Motors, Spinergy wheels, Shimano components, Marker USA leisure wear, Profile handlebars, Polar heart-rate monitors and Selle San Marco saddles.

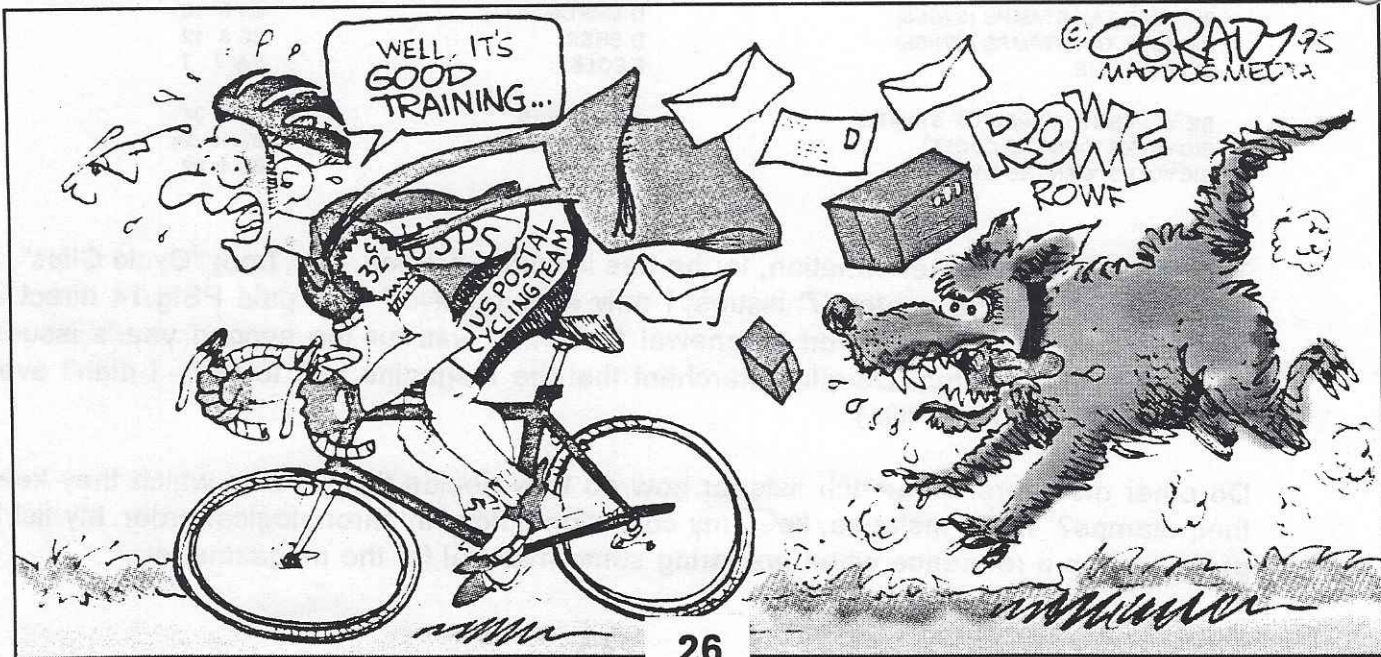


HERE COME THE MAILMEN!

EDDIE BORYSEWICZ IS BACK ON THE International scene. The legendary Polish coach has snared the U.S. Postal Service for a three-year sponsorship deal. Interested in increasing their international service in Europe and the Far East, the Postal Service has chosen the decidedly international sport of professional cycling as a publicity venue. Fittingly, the team made its debut in the Tour of China.

Andy Hampsten, at the end of his contract with Banesto, has signed on as team leader. The two-time Tour of Switzerland winner and winner of the Giro d'Italia will guide the team of mostly American riders on their two trips to Europe—one prior to the Tour DuPont and one after the Olympics. Backing up Hampsten are consistent performers Mike Engleman, Darren Baker, Nate Reiss, Marty Jemison, Eddy

Gragas and Clark Sheehan. Young hopefuls such as Chad Gerlach and Tyler Hamilton will also get their first taste of big-time Continental bike racing. Borysewicz has also signed Dutch sprinter Sven Teutenberg as well as Polish all-around riders Tomasz Brozyna and Dariusz Baranowski.





From Douglas Marchant. The discovery of a recent San Marino stamp that is likely to have several tiny bicycles, though they cannot be clearly distinguished as such, even from this 300% enlargement.

BITS & PIECES

Shown above is a First Day Cover of the 50th National Sports Festival Issue from Japan and a 300% enlargement of the San Marino issue.

The more observant among you may also notice, when examining the Westerwolde/ Westewol issues, on page 6, that the windmills are the same as on the 1994 Maasland Issue (BS17B p13).

