

# BICYCLE STAMPS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BICYCLE STAMPS CLUB

BS 43 - May - 2003

President: Brian Sole  
Vice-President: Jacques Matthys



Secretary/Editor: A E (Tony) Teideman  
Treasurer: Norman Batho



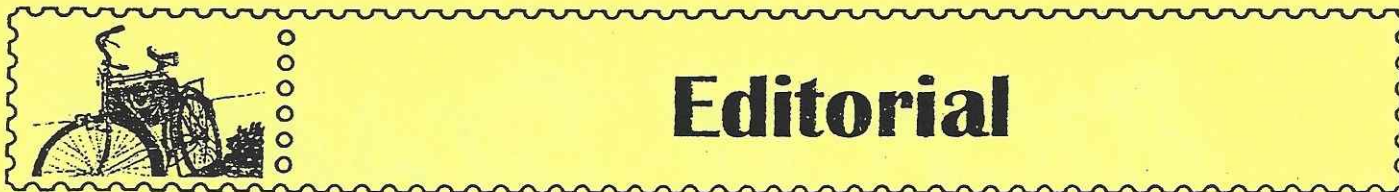
ITALIAN POSTCARD FROM JACQUES MATTHYS COLLECTION

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, USA.

Membership inquiries should be sent to either:

Brian Sole, President,  
Norman Batho, Treasurer,  
Tony Teideman, Secretary, I

England  
USA.  
Australia.



# Editorial

You may have noticed that a lot of my illustrations are a bit fuzzy. This is due to the increasing use of prints of new issues from the 'net' - these are never as clear as photocopies of the original stamps.

One member, Michel Lesueur, sends me black & white photocopies and these are always perfect- I cannot thank Michel enough for doing this. Other members send me copies by e-mail and these I can never get good copies of. Any information is gratefully received however, so if you find something of interest, please send me the details - don't worry about doubling up on something someone else might have sent - just remember, yours might be the only information I receive.

Concerned members have advised that our web site has disappeared! I am currently waiting for a reply from ex-member Steve Malone, who originally created this site, and I hope to resurrect the site as soon as possible.

I would like to welcome the following new member: Yolanda Pardo  
Her address is :C/ Alfahuir #39 B - 5 Pt 11, 46019 Valencia, Spain

The following corrections have been made to the roster -

Change of address:

Ronald Lindler	4712 S. Glenrose Road, Spokane, WA 99223 USA
Mauricio Lloreda	21a Vernon Terrace, St Martins, Christchurch, New Zealand
John E Richardson	39 Bridgewater Rd, South Ruislip, Middx, England HA4 0ED

The following members now have an e-mail address:

Pieter Reijbroek	reybroek@dgr.nl
Shiro Yagami	bca06052@nifty.com

I must thank the following members for their contributions to this issue: Russ Bissett, Paul Braman, Michel Canton, Michel Lesueur, Ralph Letsch, Jordi Quintana, Brian Sole and Tadeusz Zmudzinski.




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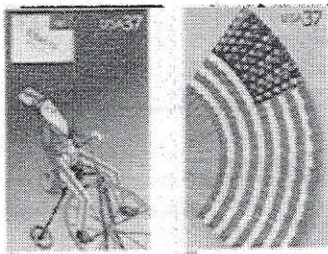
ANTIGUA	01.03.03	\$2.00	TOUR DE FRANCE - MAURICE GARIN	2S X4S + 2 MS	
ANTIGUA	01.03.03	SHEETLET	AS ABOVE - SHEETLET OF 4 OF THE ABOVE STAMPS	2S X4S + 2 MS	
ANTIGUA	01.03.03	\$2.00	AS ABOVE - MAURICE GARIN	2S X4S + 2 MS	
ANTIGUA	01.03.03	SHEETLET	AS ABOVE - SHEETLET OF 4 OF THE ABOVE STAMPS	2S X4S + 2 MS	
ANTIGUA	01.03.03	MS \$6.00	AS ABOVE - HENRI DESGRANGES	2S X4S + 2 MS	
ANTIGUA	01.03.03	MS \$6.00	AS ABOVE - PIERRE GIFFARD	2S X4S + 2 MS	
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS	14.03.03	10c	ANNIVERSARIES & EVENTS - TRACK CYCLISTS	8	43-6
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS	14.03.03	SE TENANT PAIR	AS ABOVE - 2 DIFF 10c STAMPS - INCLUDES THE ABOVE STAMP	8	43-6
BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS	14.03.03	SHEET	AS ABOVE - SHEET OF 20 STAMPS - 10 SE-TENANT PAIRS PER SHEET	8	43-6
*CHILE	<u>02.10.00</u>	\$ 250	450 <sup>TH</sup> ANNIV OF CITY OF CONCEPCIÓN. DEPICTING PAINTINGS BY G. de la FUENTE ROIJAS -STAMP SHOWS A HORSE, LOCOMOTIVE, COAL TRUCK AND CHILD ON BICYCLE	6	42-13
*CHILE	<u>02.10.00</u>	SE-TENANT STRIP	AS ABOVE - SE-TENANT STRIP OF 6 STAMPS FORMING A COMPOSITE DESIGN - INCLUDES THE ABOVE	6	42-13
CHINA	00.00.00	POSTAL CARD	SYDNEY OLYMPICS - STAMP IMPRINT IS FOR BEIJING OLYMPICS 2008 - CYCLING - STYLISTED CYCLIST	2	41-10
CHINA	00.00.00	POSTAL CARD	AS ABOVE - TRIATHLON - STYLISTED CYCLIST	2	41-10
CONGO	00.00.00	2.00 CF	THE ART OF ALFONS MUCHA (1860-1939) - "PERFECTA CYCLES PAINTED IN 1902	9+S	39-16
CONGO	00.00.00	SHEET	SHEET OF 9 - INCLUDES THE ABOVE - PART OF PAINTING ALSO ON SELVEDGE	9+S	39-16
CZECH REPUBLIC	00.00.98	POSTAL CARD	90 YEARS OF THE NATIONAL TECHNICAL MUSEUM - SPECIAL LIMITED ISSUE BY POSTFILA	P	36-30
FRANCE	?	POST CARDS	SET OF THREE POSTCARDS SHOWING RACING CYCLISTS BEING CAUGHT AND PASSED BY POSTMAN ON BICYCLE	3	43-16
GUINEA-BISSAU	00.00.01	350 FCFA	SPORTING PERSONALITIES - JAN ULRICH	1+S	41-16
GUINEA-BISSAU	00.00.01	SHEET	AS ABOVE - SHEET OF 10 DIFF. INCLUDES THE ABOVE STAMP	1+S	41-16
HUNGARY	20.03.03	F100	FOR YOUTH 2003 - EXTREME SPORTS - FREESTYLE BMX	1+MS	43-6
HUNGARY	20.03.03	MS	AS ABOVE - 4 DIFF. STAMPS INCLUDES THE ABOVE	1+MS	43-6

JAPAN	23.07.02	80yen	LETTER WRITING DAY - "IT'S THE POST MAN" - POSTMAN ON A BICYCLE	14+S+St	43-12
JAPAN	23.07.02	SHEET	AS ABOVE - SHEET OF 10 DIFF 80yen STAMPS - INCLUDES THE ABOVE	14+S+St	43-12
JAPAN	23.07.02	STRIP- SELF ADHESIVE	AS ABOVE - 4 DIFF 50 yen AND 6 DIFF 80 yen SELF ADHESIVE STAMPS - INCLUDES THE ABOVE 80yen STAMP	14+S+St	43-13
KYRGYZSTAN	00.00.00	20c	FAMOUS CITIES OF THE WORLD - "AMSTERDAM" - BICYCLES ON FENCE BY CANAL	6	39-20
KYRGYZSTAN	00.00.00	20c	AS ABOVE - BICYCLES ON CANAL BRIDGE	6	39-20
KYRGYZSTAN	00.00.00	SHEET	AS ABOVE - SHEET OF 6 DIFF.. - INCLUDES BOTH ABOVE	S	39-20
KYRGYZSTAN	28.08.02	S 3.00	HISTORY OF SUMMER OLYMPIC GAMES IV - STAMP ON STAMP - CYCLING & KOREAN STAMP (SEOUL 1988)	24+3L+4S	43-7
KYRGYZSTAN	28.08.02	SHEET	AS ABOVE - SHEET OF 6 DIFF. STAMPS & 3 DIFF. LABELS - INCLUDES THE ABOVE STAMP - SHEET IS ONE OF 4 ALL WITH DIFF. STAMPS, BUT THE 3X LABELS ARE THE SAME ON EACH SHEET.	24+3L+4S	43-7
LUXEMBOURG	18.03.03	€1.00	TOURISM 2003 - MAMER CASTLE - STAMP SHOWS SCULPTURES OF TWO GREAT SPORTSMEN OF MAMER - NICOLAS FRANTZ TWO TIME WINNER OF THE TOUR DE FRANCE AND LUXEMBOURG'S FIRST OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALIST JOSY BARTHEL WHO WON THE 1500 IN1952 AT THE HELSINKI GAMES - FRANTZ IS SHOWN WITH HIS BICYCLE.	3	43-14
LUXEMBOURG	18.03.03	MAXICARD	AS ABOVE - SHOWS PORTION OF ABOVE STAMP	3	43-14
MOZAMBIQUE	00.00.01	20000 MT	SYDNEY 2000 VICTORS - CLARA HUGHES	2+2S	41-16
MOZAMBIQUE	00.00.01	SHEET	AS ABOVE - SHEET OF 6 DIFF. INCLUDES THE ABOVE STAMP	2+2S	41-16
MOZAMBIQUE	00.00.01	28000 MT	AS ABOVE - MICHAEL DODGE	2+2S	41-16
MOZAMBIQUE	00.00.01	SHEET	AS ABOVE - SHEET OF 6 DIFF. INCLUDES THE ABOVE STAMP	2+2S	41-16
MOZAMBIQUE	00.00.01	100000 MT MS	ATHENS 2004 - LANCE ARMSTRONG	MS	41-15
NORFOLK ISLAND	00.12.01	POSTAL CARD	6 <sup>th</sup> SOUTH PACIFIC MINI GAMES - TRIATHLON - MIAMITI THE BOOBOOK OWL GAMES MASCOT RIDING A BICYCLE. (ONE OF 10 POSTCARDS FOR VARIOUS SPORTS)	10	40-COVER
*PALAU	11.01.02	34c	AS ABOVE -FRONT OF CYCLIST	2+2S	40-12
*PALAU	11.01.02	34c	AS ABOVE - REAR WHEEL OF BICYCLE	2+2S	40-12
*PALAU	11.01.02	34c	AS ABOVE-SE-TEN PAIR SHOWING CYCLIST	2+2S	40-12
*PALAU	11.01.02	SHEET	AS ABOVE - SHEET OF 30 DIFF 34c STAMPS INCLUDES THE 2 ABOVE	2+2S	40-12

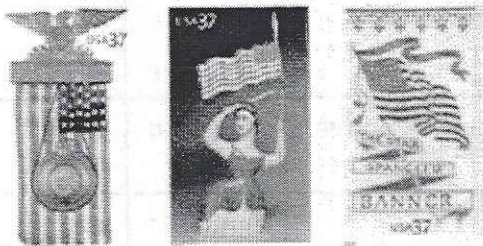
SIERRA LEONE	01.02.03	MS 	LUNAR YEAR OF THE RAM - MS OF 6 STAMPS - STAMPS OF NO CYCLING INTEREST - CYCLIST ON SELVEDGE	6+MS	43-9
SLOVAKIA	00.00.01	POSTAL CARD	PL 60 - FIRST USE OF 14.05.01 POSTAL CARD - CACHET - HISTORY OF POSTAL RULES	P	42-17
SLOVAKIA	00.00.01	POSTAL CARD	PL 62 - THIRD USE OF 14.05.01 POSTAL CARD - CACHET - 7 <sup>TH</sup> EUROPEAN FAIR PLAY CONGRESS	P	42-17
SLOVAKIA	00.00.01	POSTAL CARD	PL 63 - FORTH USE OF 14.05.01 POSTAL CARD - CACHET - 60 YEARS OF FACULTY OF ELECTROTECHNIC & INFORMATICS AT SLOVAK TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY IN BRATISLAVA	P	42-17
SLOVAKIA	00.00.01	POSTAL CARD	PL 64 - FIFTH USE OF 14.05.01 POSTAL CARD - CACHET - ŽILINFILA 2001 NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION	P	42-18
SOMALIA	00.00.01	2600 Sh.So	CHRISTMAS 2001 - FIREMAN SAM - CHILD RIDING BICYCLE	9+S	39-9
SOMALIA	00.00.01	SHEET	AS ABOVE - SHEET OF 9 DIFF. CONTAINS THE ABOVE STAMP	9+S	39-9
SPAIN	00.00.99	POSTCARD	1999 "VUELTA A ESPAÑA" - ISSUED BY THE SPANISH POST OFFICE AS AN OFFICIAL PATRON - COPY OF STAMP ISSUED 31.10.60	1	42-19
SPAIN	00.00.99	POSTCARD	AS ABOVE - COPY OF STAMP ISSUED 13.04.83	1	42 COVER
SPAIN	17.11.02	€ 0.75	SALAMANCA 2002 - INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION FOR YOUTH - SPORT - SILHOUETTE OF CYCLIST AND NAMES OF 5 SPANISH SPORTSMEN, TOP OF LIST IS PEDRO DELGADO.	6+6MS+SHT +MS	43-8
SPAIN	17.11.02	MS	AS ABOVE - MS OF ABOVE STAMP WITH PEDRO DELGADO DEPICTED ON SELVEDGE	6+6MS+SHT +MS	43-8
SPAIN	17.11.02	SHEET	AS ABOVE - SHEET OF ALL 9 STAMPS IN SET - IE HORIZONTAL STRIPS SHOW DETAILS OF 6 MS AND TOP STRIP SHOW THE 3 OTHER STAMPS. INCLUDES DETAILS OF ABOVE STAMP/MS.	6+6MS+SHT +MS	43-8
SURINAM	15.02.03	4000f	TRAFFIC SIGNS - FIFTH SERIES - " CYCLING NOT ALLOWED ON THIS ROAD"	1	
TATARSTAN	00.00.00	5,00	VARIOUS SPORTS - RIDER WINNING ROAD RACE	1+S	41-15
TATARSTAN	00.00.00	SHEET	AS ABOVE - SHEET OF 12 DIFF. STAMPS - INCLUDES THE ABOVE	1+S	41-15
UNITED STATES	03.04.03	37c	OLD GLORY PRESTIGE BOOKLET - 20 <sup>TH</sup> CENTURY FOLK ART - UNCLE SAM RIDING A HIGH WHEELER	5+B+M/C	43-6
UNITED STATES	03.04.03	PANE	AS ABOVE - BOOKLET PANE CONTAINS THE ABOVE STAMP	5+B+M/C	
UNITED STATES	03.04.03	MAXI CARD	AS ABOVE - MAXI CARD OF ABOVE STAMP	5+B+M/C	

ZIMBABWE	08.08.02	\$ 20.00	"TECHNOLOGY TODAY" SCHOOL DESIGN COMPETITION WINNERS- "MAIL RUNNER AND LOCAL POST OFFICE" - BICYCLE OUTSIDE POST OFFICE	1	43-6
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1. Undated issues will remain on this list or the " Issue Information Update" list, until such time as a date of issue is established.
2. Issues marked \* have been corrected or have additional information, the additional or corrected information is underlined.
3. Issues marked  are deemed to be fake, ie not stamps only Cinderellas, therefore they will not have a date of issue.
4. Additions to the list are indicated by a heavy solid left hand border to the country's name box.
5. Issues that appear on this list for over a year are moved to the "Issue Information Update" list.
6. The last column shows where the stamp is illustrated, with BS number, followed by page number.
7. POSTAL CARDS are those cards that include the stamp or prepaid indicia printed on it.  
POST CARDS need the addition of a stamp for mailing.  
Only those Post Cards issued by a country's post office are included in this list.



ZIMBABWE - 08.08.02



UNITED STATES - 03.04.03



BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS  
14.03.03



HUNGARY - 20.03.03

THE HISTORY STAMP ON STAMP OF THE SUMMER OLYMPIC GAMES



THE HISTORY STAMP ON STAMP OF THE SUMMER OLYMPIC GAMES



HUMANITY

THE HISTORY STAMP ON STAMP OF THE SUMMER OLYMPIC GAMES



CELEBRATE

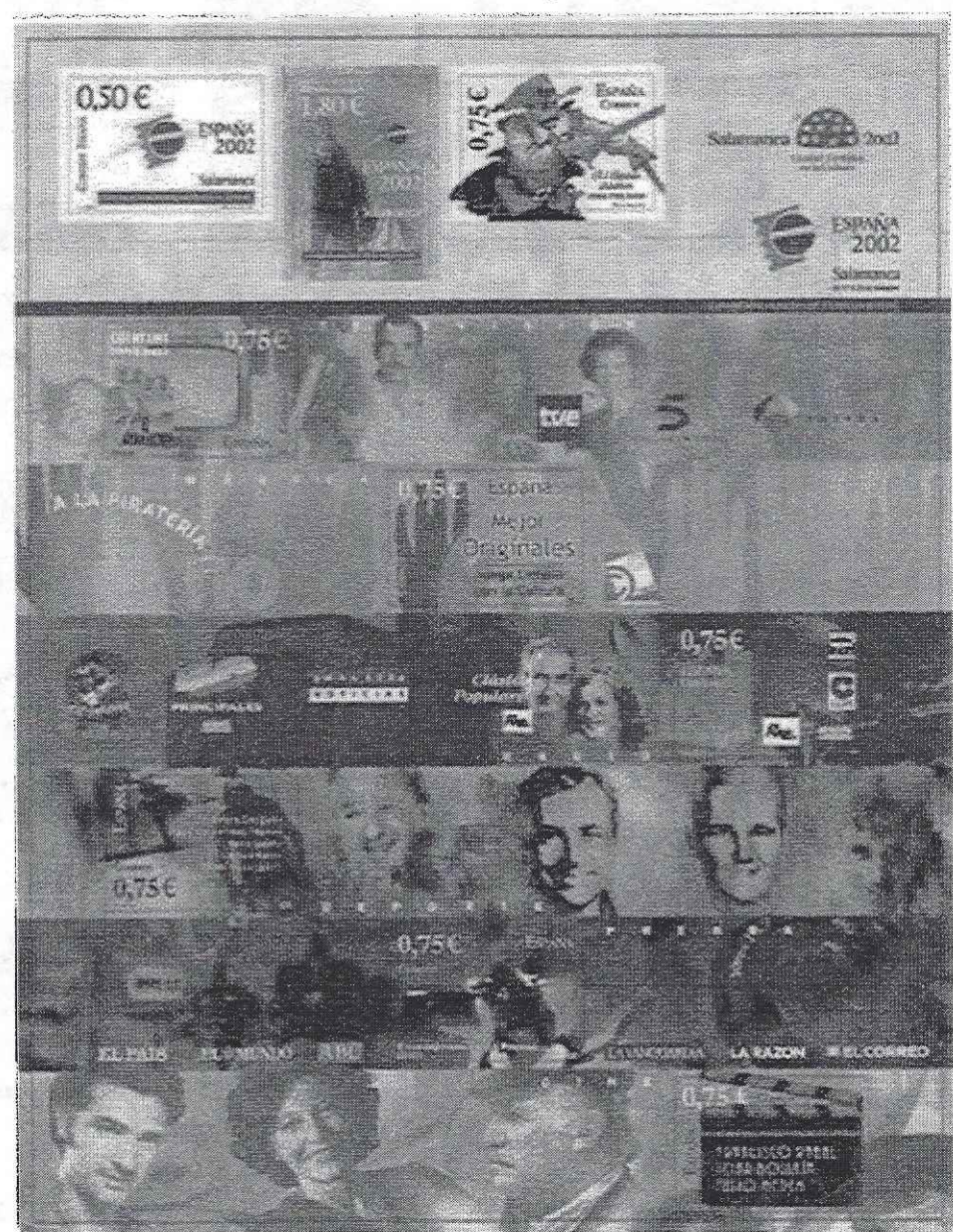
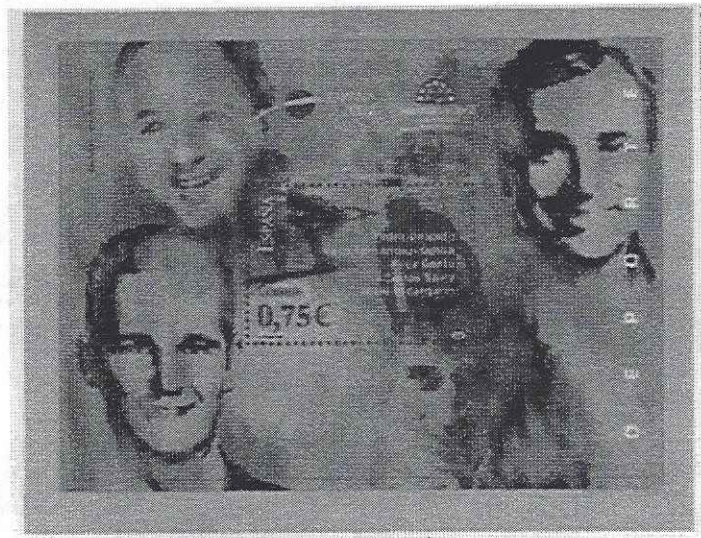
THE HISTORY STAMP ON STAMP OF THE SUMMER OLYMPIC GAMES



HUMANITY

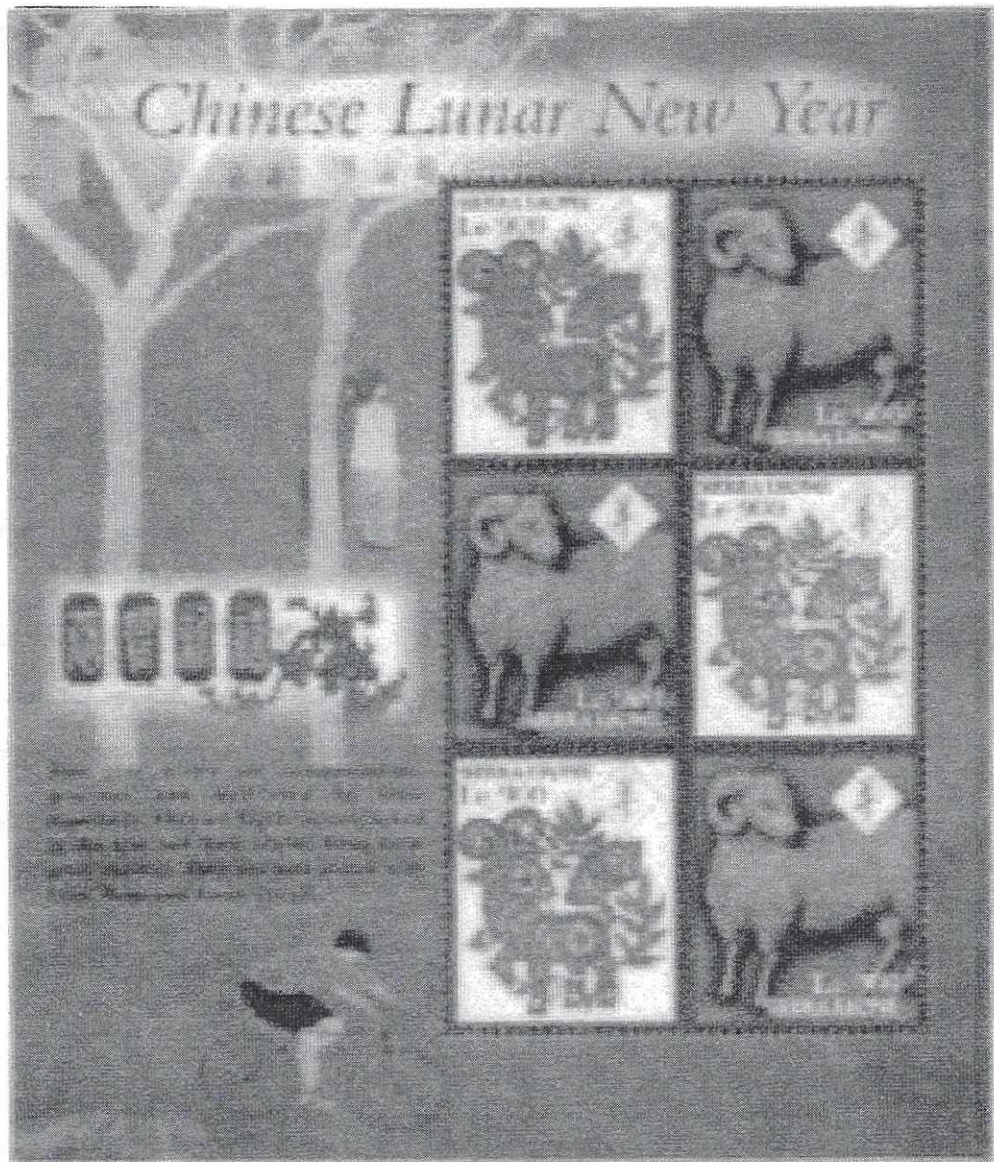
CELEBRATE  HUMANITY

KYRGYZSTAN - 28.08.02



SPAIN - 17.11.02





SIERRA LEONE - 01.02.03



FRANCE - 30.09.02



*Editors Note: I had not realised, that the bottom row of stamps on the miniature sheets from the "Twentieth Century" series, could be detached and used as a strip, that was until Michel Lesueur sent me some material, and used the above strip on the envelope.*

*Emissione di un francobollo ordinario appartenente alla serie tematica "Lo sport italiano" dedicato ai Campionati Mondiali di Ciclocross*



\*\*\*\*\*  
\* ITALIAN POST OFFICE FACT SHEET - WHICH \*  
\* INCLUDES DETAILS OF SPECIAL HANDSTAMP USED \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

Data di emissione: 1 febbraio 2003.

Valore: € 0,41.

Tiratura: tre milioni e cinquecentomila esemplari.

Vignetta: raffigura un atleta di ciclocross che porta sulle spalle la sua bicicletta, a rappresentare la specifica disciplina sportiva; in basso a sinistra è riprodotto il logo dei Campionati Mondiali di Ciclocross che si svolgono a Monopoli il 2 e il 3 febbraio 2003. Completano il francobollo la leggenda "CAMPIONATI MONDIALI DI CICLOCROSS", la scritta "ITALIA" ed il valore "€ 0,41".

Bozzettista: Antonio Saliola.

Stampa: Officina Carte Valori dell'Istituto Poligrafico e Zecca dello Stato, in rotocalcografia.

Colori: quadricromia.

Carta: fluorescente, non filigranata.

Formato carta: mm 30 x 40.

Formato stampa: mm 26 x 36.

Dentellatura: 13¼ x 14.

Foglio: cinquanta esemplari, valore "€ 20,50".





*A commento dell'emissione verrà posto in vendita il bollettino illustrativo con articolo a firma di Nino Benvenuti, Presidente del Comitato Organizzatore dei Campionati Mondiali di Ciclocross.*

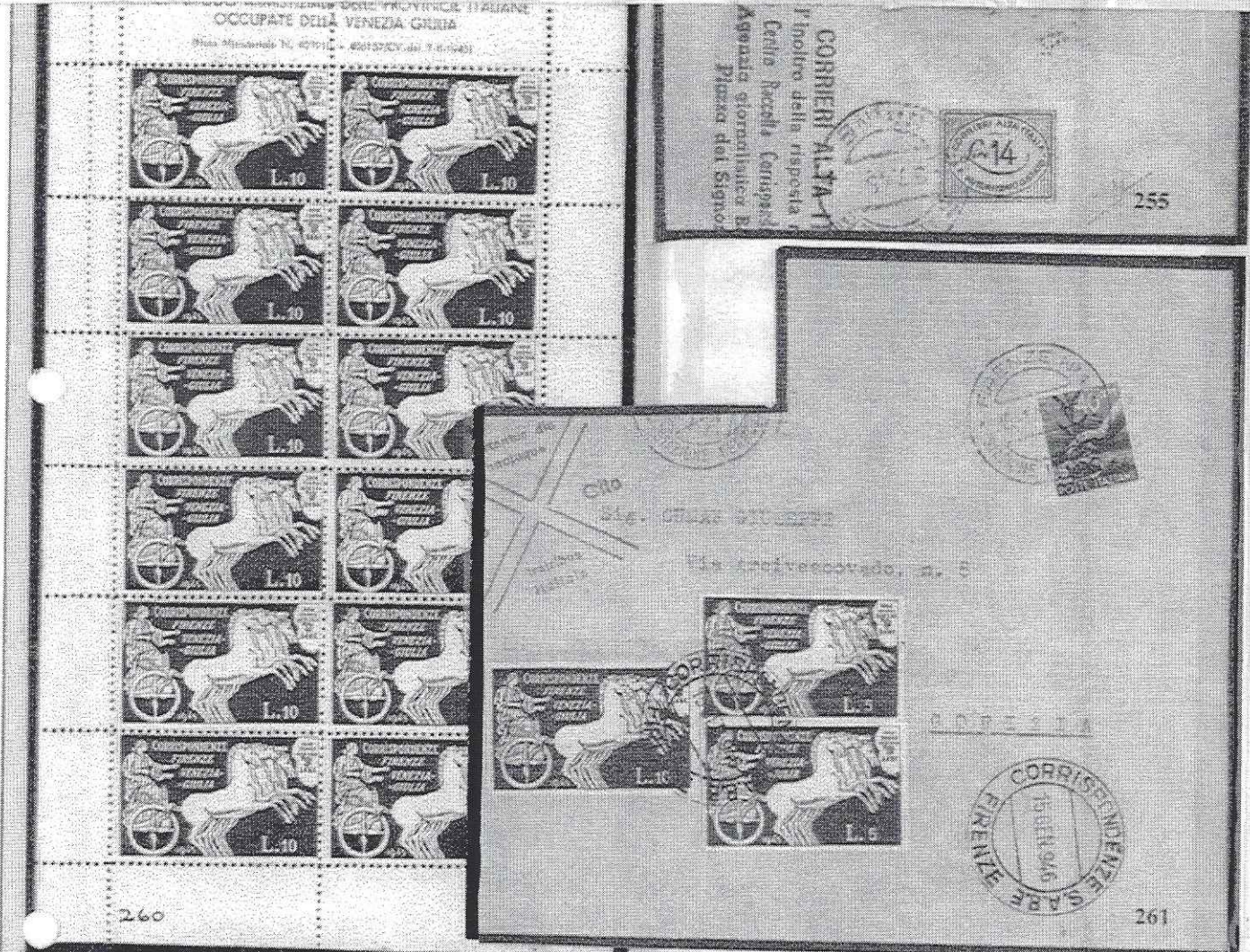
*L'Ufficio Postale di Monopoli (BA) utilizzerà, il giorno di emissione, l'annullo speciale realizzato a cura della Divisione Filatelia; inoltre metterà in vendita una cartolina raffigurante particolari contenuti nella vignetta del francobollo della serie tematica, al prezzo di € 0,52, oltre il valore del francobollo.*

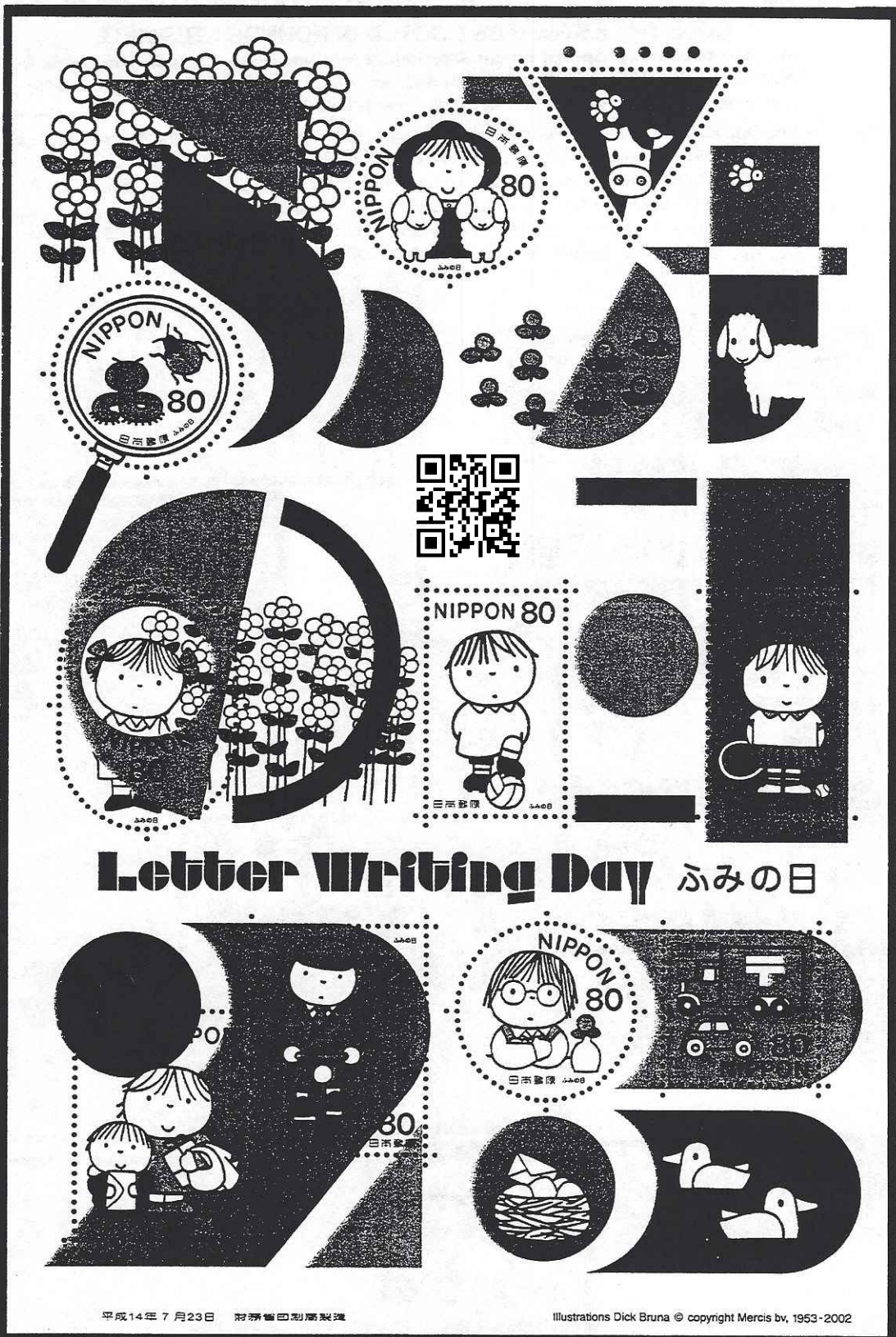
*La cartolina sarà posta in vendita o potrà essere prenotata presso tutti gli Sportelli Filatelici del territorio nazionale.*

*Il francobollo e i prodotti filatelici potranno essere acquistati anche online sul sito internet [www.poste.it](http://www.poste.it).*

ITALIAN LOCAL SERVICES - EXTRACT FROM "HARMERS" SALE ON 22.10.2002  
NOTE THE ESTIMATES QUOTED IN POUNDS STERLING.

- 255  — 14L., tied to reverse of opened out envelope Registered from Treviso to Sacile franked on front 1929-42 1L., Social Republic 50c., 1L., fine and very rare. Only a very few of the Coralit stamps known used on cover. Sassone 2. Cat. 3,750 Euros (Photo-Plate 12)..... E £1,000
- 260  — 10L. indigo, perforated sheet of twelve (2 x 6), u.m., lower-left stamp creased, otherwise fine and extremely rare. Sassone 12,000 Euros++ (Photo-Plate 18)..... E £1,000
- 261  — 5L. (2) and 10L., used with 1948 40c. on envelope from Gorizia to Firenze, red "Cito Cito" cachet, fine (Photo-Plate 12)..... E £300
- 262  — 10L., used with Venezia Giulia 2L. on envelope from Goriza to Firenze, "Cito Cito" cachet in red, fine and scarce (Photo-Plate 8)..... E £300





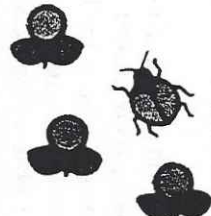
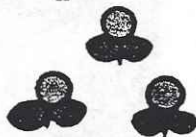
# Letter Writing Day ふうみの日

JAPAN - 23.07.02



# Letter Writing Day ふうみの日

50 NIPPON



平成14年 郵便局

財務省印刷局製

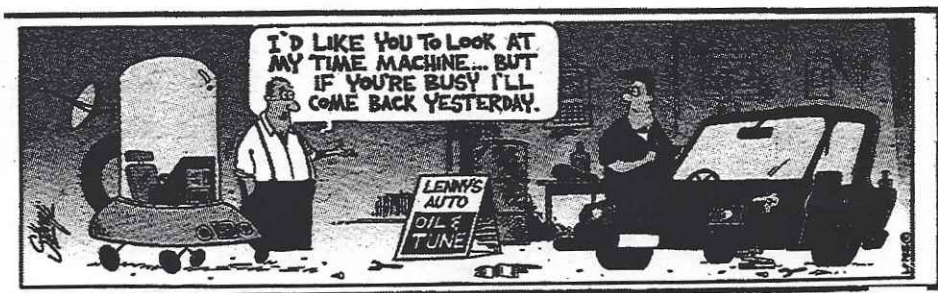
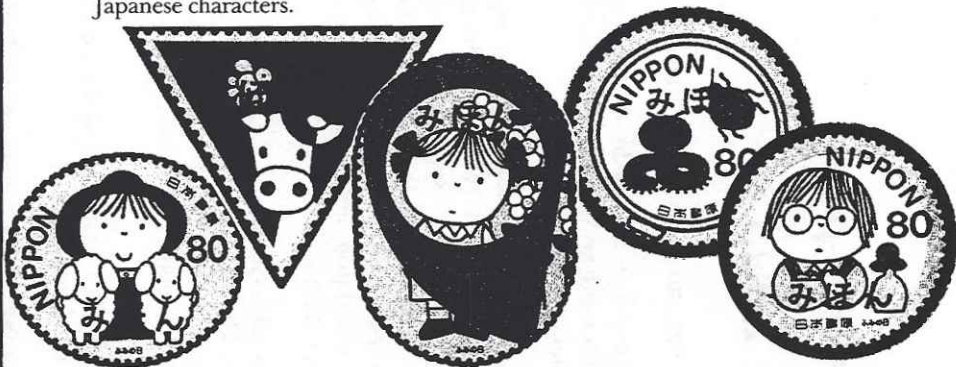
Illustrations Dick Bruna © copyright Mercis bv. 1953 2002



## Write a letter

So long as the Chinese and Japanese use a system of ideograms rather than an alphabet in the western sense, there will always be a need for 'snail mail'—a paradox, considering Japan's prominent role in the computer industry. Although the Japanese language lends itself well to voice mail, the written word will continue to depend on many thousands of characters. All Japanese children are expected to master the 881 most essential characters by the time they are about ten years old, while there are a further 969 characters prescribed by law for general publication, and it is widely accepted that a working knowledge of at least 4000 characters is required in order to read a newspaper.

It is small wonder, therefore, that the government actively encourages the art of letter-writing, through the Letter Writing Day (the 23rd of each month). July is Letter Writing Month and for many years now stamps have been released each 23 July. As has been the case since 1999, the motifs for the latest series were designed by the renowned Dutch cartoonist, Dick Bruna. There are four 50y. stamps in a *se-tenant* strip and five 80y. stamps in a conventional rectangular format, but there are also two circular, an oval, an elongated oval and a triangular – the last-named the first of this shape from Japan. The stamps show Bruna's inimitable figures, with the inscription *fumi-no-hi* (letter writing day) in Japanese characters.

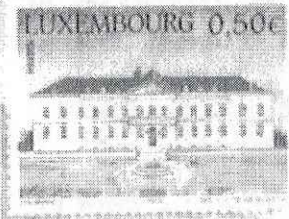


## Une série de 3 timbres-poste

### « Touristique 2003 »

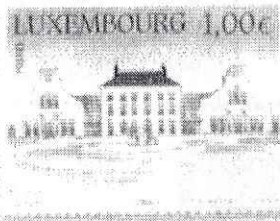
**Differdange** (17.659 habitants, au sud-ouest de Luxembourg-Ville)

L'abbaye Fontaine Marie de Differdange de l'Ordre de Cîteaux, filiation de Clairvaux avait été fondée par Alexandre de Soleuvre. Le couvent était réservé aux jeunes filles de familles nobles.



Le bâtiment qui subsiste et qui est reproduit sur le timbre a été élevé par l'abbesse Françoise de Gourcy (1719 - 1843). Elle fit sculpter ses armoiries dans le fronton central. Après la suppression du couvent par la loi républicaine, le domaine fut vendu comme bien national pour appartenir successivement à différentes familles aisées.

La ville de Differdange acheta l'immeuble en 1929 pour y installer un hospice civil. En 1981, l'Etat en fit l'acquisition et l'hôpital devint Maison des Soins. Les récents travaux de restauration de l'ancien corps de logis (1997 - 2000) rendent à cette vieille bâtisse toute sa splendeur d'antan, toute la noblesse de son architecture.

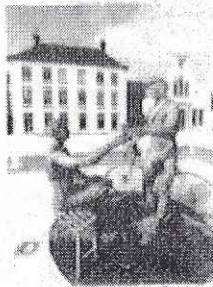


**Mamer** (4.892 habitants, à l'ouest de Luxembourg-Ville)

Depuis le 1<sup>er</sup> mars 2002 l'administration communale de Mamer est installée dans le château entièrement restauré qui est reproduit sur notre timbre. Le château est agrémenté à

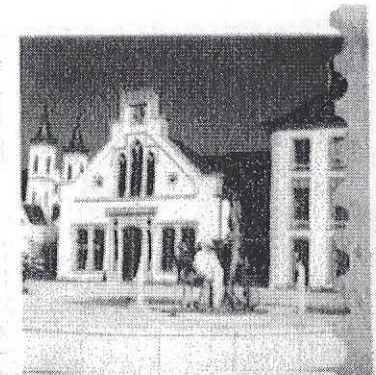
l'arrière d'un petit parc, où figurent deux sculptures à la mémoire de deux grands sportifs de Mamer, Nicolas Frantz, double vainqueur du Tour de France, et Josy Barthel, champion olympique.

Les origines du château de Mamer remontent loin dans le passé. En 960, la comtesse Liutgardis fit don du hameau de Mamer à l'abbaye St. Maximin de Trèves. A

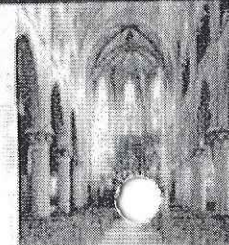


cette époque il y avait déjà une construction sur le site de l'actuel château.

Frédéric François, jadis un des plus hauts fonctionnaires du pays, reconstruisit le château en 1830 sous sa forme actuelle. En 1995, l'immeuble fut acquis par la commune de Mamer et le conseil communal décida de restaurer le « Mamer Schlass » pour en faire la maison communale.



MAXI  
CARD



TOURISM 2003 - MAMER CASTLE - STAMP SHOWS SCULPTURES OF TWO GREAT SPORTSMEN OF MAMER - NICOLAS FRANTZ TWO TIME WINNER OF THE TOUR DE FRANCE AND LUXEMBOURG'S FIRST OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALIST JOSY BARTHEL WHO WON THE 1500 IN 1952 AT THE HELSINKI GAMES - FRANTZ IS SHOWN WITH HIS BICYCLE.

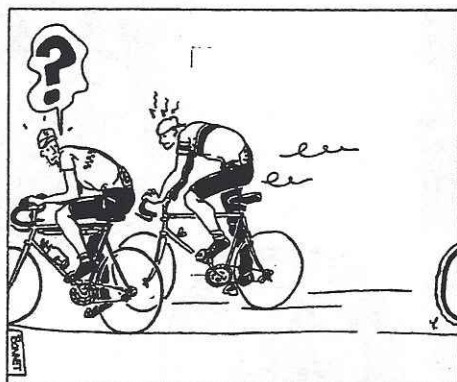


CARD SENT BY MICHEL CANTON - PICTURE ON CARD IS OF MICHEL TAKEN SOME FIFTEEN YEARS AGO



LUXEMBOURG - 14.05.02 - FDC

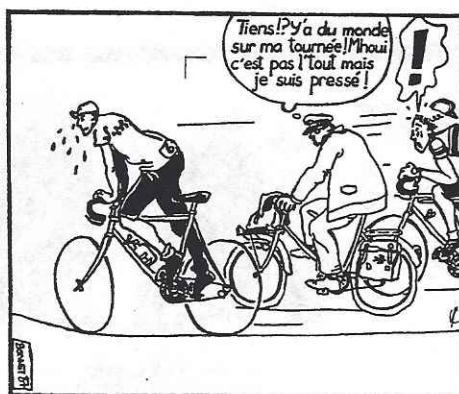
PTT CARTEPOSTE



Bonnet - 55 20 37 89 - Tulle

74<sup>ème</sup> TOUR DE FRANCE CYCLISTE

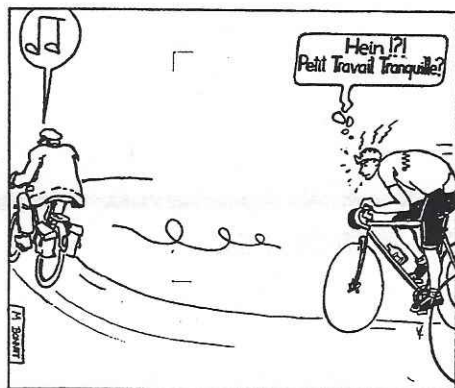
PTT CARTEPOSTE



Bonnet - 55 20 37 89 - Tulle

74<sup>ème</sup> TOUR DE FRANCE CYCLISTE

PTT CARTEPOSTE

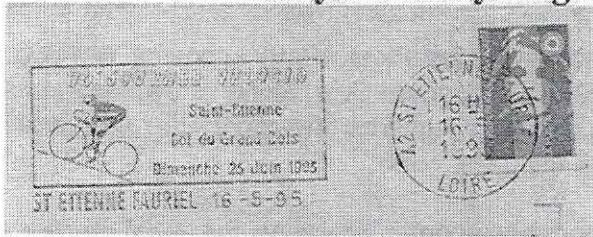


Bonnet - 55 20 37 89 - Tulle

74<sup>ème</sup> TOUR DE FRANCE CYCLISTE

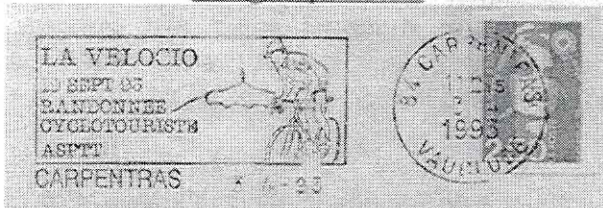


**Meters and postally used covers from France about bicycle and cycling**

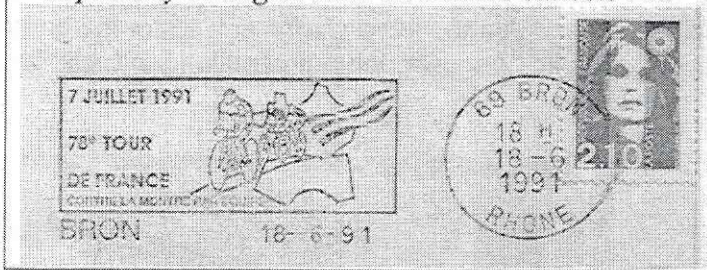


Mostly between 1 and 3 euros each.

Ask for free Xerox to  
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AFO



MEMBER LOIC MARCHAT HAS SOME ITEMS FOR SALE AS PER ABOVE ADVERT - ON THE RIGHT ARE A FEW EXAMPLES.

CICLOBBY è un'associazione di ciclisti urbani di Milano che vorrebbero usare il più possibile la bicicletta per spostarsi in città o nel mondo. Se siete d'accordo, aderite a CICLOBBY: saremo più numerosi e ascoltati.

CICLOBBY is a Milanese urban cyclist association that would like to see bicycles used in town and around the world as much as possible. Join CICLOBBY, a large group gets heard.



Gianni Scandelli, socio Ciclobby, inviato alla scoperta della realtà ciclistica australiana.

Ciclobby member, Gianni Scandelli, is going "down under" to discover the Australian cycling conditions.



TEL. 02/5850 MILANO



ON THE LEFT IS PART OF THE REAR OF THE POSTCARD SHOWN ON THE COVER, THIS EXPLAINS HOW, WHAT AT FIRST SIGHT APPEARS TO BE AN AUSTRALIAN CARD, IS IN FACT FROM ITALY.

ABOVE - JACQUES MATTHYS HAS TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF AUSTRALIAN POSTS PERSONALISED STAMP SYSTEM AND SO HAS HIS "OWN" BICYCLE STAMP.

## ONCE: 50th Anniversary (1988) - A forgotten Spanish stamp?

By Jordi Quintana

In several BSC magazines there have appeared some articles about what you collect. My own criteria is: anything that appears on a stamp which directs your mind towards a bicycle or cycling theme would be included in my topical collection. This includes writers, sculptures, inventors - but everyone has his own criteria on what he collects and what a bicycle stamp is.

A new stamp was issued in 1998 by The Netherlands, commemorating the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Rabobank. I don't have any doubt about the bicycle topical interest of this stamp. This stamp appeared in a BSC magazine as a bicycle stamp and in stamps lists too. Nobody has noted the same case for the 1988 Spanish stamp commemorating the 50th anniversary of ONCE. The difference between these two stamps is that the Spanish one was issued previously to the relationship of ONCE with cycling. This organisation has sponsored a professional bicycle team since 1989 and it has become one of the most important professional teams. ONCE's riders have won important races and won the team classification in the Tour de France. In the 2001 Tour de France, for example, the ONCE team won the Team classification and the Teams Time Trial and the team's leader, Joseba Beloki, finished second to Lance Armstrong. In 2002 he was second again.

ONCE is the acronym of Organización Nacional de Ciegos de España (Spanish Organisation of Blind People), and was founded by the Spanish dictator Francisco Franco. When it was founded they immediately started a lottery in order to obtain funds to create specific schools and medical services, promote the integration of blind people into the society and into the job environment, all for the benefit of the blind people. Now it is a great organisation, capable of sponsoring a professional bicycle team or to promote and sponsor the paralympic sports in Spain.

This stamp was issued on the 26th December of 1988 and depicts a face without eyes, a fragment of Braille language spelling the capitals "ONCE" and the organisation's logo: a blind man with his characteristic white walking-stick.

\*\*\*\*\*

The team has included the following riders:

Joseba BELOKI (ESP): Three times on the podium in the Tour de France; winner of the Volta a Catalunya.

Abraham OLANO (ESP): World Championship winner; Olympic winner; podium and yellow jersey in the Tour de France and Giro d'Italia; Winner of the Tour of Spain. Depicted on stamps issued by Central Africa on 25/08/1998 and 29/09/1999.

Alex ZULLE (SUI): podium and yellow jersey in the Tour de France and winner of Tour of Spain.

Laurent JALABERT (FRA): Climb winner and yellow jersey in the Tour de France and winner of Tour of Catalonia and Spain.

Johan BRUYNEEL (BEL): Team Manager of US POSTAL team which includes Lance Armstrong.

Eduardo CHOZAS (ESP): winner of Alpe d'Huez stage in the Tour de France. As a winner, his name is written on one of the bends on the climb.



Marino LEJARRETA (ESP): winner of Tour of Spain.

Melcior MAURI (ESP): winner of Tour of Spain.

Juan LLANERAS (ESP): Olympic champion and World Champion winner in track racing.

Information is available on the following web sites: [www.once.es](http://www.once.es)

Site for professional team: <http://www.once.es/cidista/prehome.cfm?opcion=6&pag=organismos>  
<http://oncedb.deutsche-bank.es/>

The stamp and lottery tickets shown are all readily available at low cost. If you want any, write me.

\*\*\*\*\*



COVER AND  
LOTTERY  
TICKETS



LOTTERY TICKETS



Editor's note:

Jordi has explained his own definition of what he perceives to be a "Bicycle Stamp". I have deliberated many times on this subject and had many exchanges of correspondence with the late Douglas Marchant on the topic - see "Definition of a "Bicycle Stamp", BS24A p8, see also "Obtuse Connections" by Ron Sant BS24B p14 and "Obtuse Connections - my Findings" by Vojtech Jankovic BS26 p20.

We actually don't really collect "Bicycle" Stamps as such, we all include velocipedes, uni, tri and quad cycles. The strict meaning of "Bicycle" is "a two-wheeled pedal-driven vehicle". Then there are recumbents, hand-driven cycles, scooters, etc. We can't say 'human-driven' because I'm sure you have all got animals riding cycles.

Then there are 'photo's of velodromes and portraits of famous cyclists - but the word "famous" can lead to some problems, there is for example the stamp showing Astrid Lindgren, author of "Lotta's Bike" (see BS20A p9) and also the one showing William Saroyan, author of "The Bicycle Rider in Beverly Hills"; both, to a collector not knowing their literary achievements would, by examining their stamps, fail to see any connection to cycling. Included in this category would be the stamp showing Dr Paul Dudley White MD (see BS18B p21) whose contribution to cycling was his being "the only 'spokesman' around in the 1950's " for cycling in the Unites States.

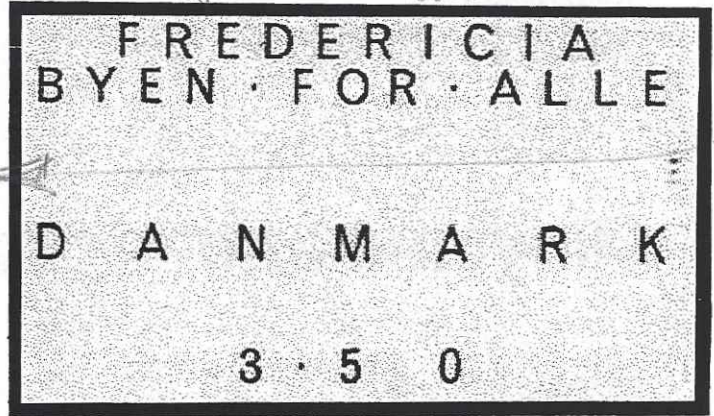
I must ask you, when you first view the stamp illustrated on the right do you immediately see a "bicycle stamp"?

It is the Netherlands Robo Bank 19.05.1998 issue



nur wenige Braille-Bustaben  
auf der Marke → zu wenige

This stamp is the Danish issue of 05/19/90 - "Fredricia: Town for Everybody" - I have been advised that the inscription in Braille on this stamp includes the words "improved access for the handicapped, children, pedestrians and cyclists".



Once again, it's really up to you as individuals whether you include such stamps in your collection.

Whilst on this subject, what are your thoughts about including wheelchair stamps in your collection, ie: "invalids on wheels"? Is this not "a human-driven wheeled vehicle"?

*Returning to Jordi's article, I do not agree that the Rabobank issue appeared in BS or in any lists I have seen.*

One further thing. Over the years, the controlling body for world cycling, the UCI, have considered what exactly is a bicycle? Below is an extract from their rules that you find interesting...

## SECTION 2 BICYCLES

### Preamble

Bicycles shall comply with the spirit and principle of cycling as a sport. The spirit suggests that cyclists compete in competitions on an equal footing. The principle asserts the primacy of man over machine.

### Principles

#### Definition

1.3.006 The bicycle is a vehicle with two wheels of equal diameter, The front wheel shall be steerable; the rear wheel shall be driven through a system comprising pedals and a chain,

#### Type

1.3.007 Bicycles and their accessories shall be of a type that is or could be sold for use by anyone practising cycling as a sport. The use of equipment designed especially for the attainment of a particular performance (record or other) shall be not authorised.

#### Position

1.3.008 The rider shall normally assume a sitting position on the bicycle. This position requires that he be supported solely by the pedals, the saddle and the handlebar.

#### Steering

1.3.009 The bicycle should have a handlebar which allows it to be ridden and manoeuvred in any circumstances and in complete safety.

#### Propulsion

1.3.010 The bicycle shall be propelled solely, through a chainset, by legs moving in a circular movement.

# Bicycles and Motorcycles



## Bicycles

The Post Office bought or hired a few early bicycles or 'velocipedes', which cost £6 to £8 each, prior to 1880. However, their trials failed, mainly because it was difficult to find men fit enough to ride the bicycles. In 1880, two tricycle posts were used as an experiment in Coventry, because it was thought that it was less tiring to ride a tricycle. The Post Office paid the riders a weekly allowance of five shillings for the tricycles' purchase and maintenance.

In 1882, Edward Burstow, a Horsham architect, invented the 'Centre Cycle'. Nicknamed the 'Hen and Chickens' it had a large central wheel and two small wheels at each end, and brackets above the small wheels supported a basket for mail at each end. In 1883, following the introduction of the parcel post, this type was used for the increasing loads in rural areas. It was apparently successful in Horsham, but less encouraging reports from other areas ended the experiment.

Between 1883 and 1895, bicycles and tricycles were used on a trial basis for carrying post and telegram deliveries. By 1895, sixty-seven cycle posts had been established throughout the country, using bicycles and tricycles provided by their riders. The riders received a weekly allowance in return. In 1895, the number of cycles used led to the weekly allowance being fixed at four shillings per rider.

Post Office bicycles were first officially introduced in 1896, when 100 were bought, largely to cope with the extension of the radius for the free delivery of telegrams from one to three miles. After this initial purchase, bicycles were specially made for the Post Office. However, this only lasted until 1904 when the Post Office specification was abandoned because many cycle manufacturers felt unable to produce the design which required special machinery. Manufacturers were therefore asked to produce quotes for bicycles of their own specifications, provided that they were suitable for Post Office work. As a result, from 1904 the Post Office used various designs, gaining experience about each type's advantages and disadvantages. However, maintenance problems arose because separate stocks of parts were needed and the Post Office decided to return to a standard design.

In 1929, the standard cycle was introduced, and annual purchases changed the whole fleet to this standard by about 1935. The 1929 design was used until 1992. Postal cycles had free-wheels and two brakes whereas telegraph cycles had a fixed wheel. The cycles, usually painted red, were required to carry loads weighing up to 50lbs, and had to last at least four years.

A booklet entitled *The Cycle Handbook* was available at every office to assist Postmasters and others in the management of their cycles. The riders were responsible for keeping the cycles in good condition, and were supplied with a card entitled 'How to use and take care of Post Office Cycles.' Repairs were carried out by local tradesmen with parts supplied by the Post Office.

In 1977, W R Pashley of Stafford became the main supplier of bicycles to the Post Office. In 1990, 55 prototypes of a three-speed bicycle, developed by that company, were tested. The new design, the first since 1929, had a lighter frame, plastic mudguards and all-weather hub brakes. A plastic container for mail was carried at the front. The new design, introduced nation-wide on 22 September 1992, was intended to gradually replace the Royal Mail's fleet of 35,000 'boneshakers' as they wore out. In January 1993 an electric motor was introduced for going uphill or when carrying a heavy load. However, postmen still had to pedal when going downhill or on flat stretches.

## Motorcycles

During the early part of the twentieth century, experiments were made in the use of motorcycles. In 1903, a motor tricycle was on trial in London and in about 1910, a postman on a rural service near Watford used a petrol motor auto-wheel device attached to a bicycle.

By 1913, some Post Office staff used private motorcycles for their official duties. They were paid an allowance of three pence a mile for use of the vehicles. The following year, motorcycles were provided by the Post Office on an experimental basis. Twenty heavy motorcycle combinations were bought, comprising ten New Hudsons, six Douglases and four Rovers. They were all single-cylinder machines of 3hp horse-power with wicker or metal

side-carriers. They were introduced on rural collections and deliveries to replace postmen on horseback. However, between 1914 and 1919 the experiment was suspended, due to wartime petrol rationing.

In 1919, the use of motorcycles by the Post Office was resumed, and more powerful, twin cylinder, machines were introduced. In 1920, another trial with the auto-wheel device, attached to a bicycle, took place in Douglas. The start of the 1920s was the beginning of the Post Office's motor transport scheme, during which it purchased Matchless, Triumph, BSA, Enfield, Douglas, Clyno and Chater Lea motorcycles. BSA was found to be the best for price and quality and acted as supplier to the Post Office for a number of years.

In 1924, light solo motorcycles and light motorcycle combinations were first used experimentally to carry post. The combinations were slightly more expensive to operate but were more satisfactory and by the early 1930s were gradually replacing the solo motorcycles. By 1925, 400 twin cylinder motorcycles were in use, in all types of postal work.

Following experiments in Leeds in 1933, motorcycles were soon adopted by telegraph messengers. However, only messengers over 17 who had their parents' consent and a declaration of fitness from a doctor were eligible for riding them.

Until the 1960s, companies such as BSA and Raleigh supplied motorcycles to the Post Office. In September 1967, fifty Raleigh Supermatic mopeds, modified for Post Office use, were introduced. Earlier trials of mopeds had shown they were suitable for rural collections and deliveries, deliveries on housing estates on the outskirts of towns, patrol and inquiry work and telephone kiosk cleaning. In the 1970s, BSA and Raleigh gave way to makes such as Honda. The Honda VT500 was used from 1988, and the Kawasaki GT500 from 1989. The Honda SH50 City Express moped was used from 1993, mainly for low volume deliveries in towns or rural areas.

## Sources

**POST 10:** Inland Mails Organisation: Road (1786-1934)

**POST 30:** England & Wales Minutes (1792-1920)

**POST 33:** General Minutes (1921-1954)

Wheeler, C. 1933. *The Development of Mechanical Transport in the GPO St Martin's-Le-Grand*

Shipway, H.S. 1934. *Post Office Cycles. Post Office Green Papers* No.11

Post Office Vehicle Club. 1981. *GPO Vehicles - A Concise Guide: 1906-1946 and 1946-1969.*

Information from Same Day delivery, Parcelforce depot, London, 1996

Portfolio collection

## How to proceed with your research

Unfortunately, we are unable to conduct research for you and customers are advised that they will need to visit the archives themselves (or arrange for someone to come in their place). If this is impractical a list of independent record agents can be obtained from:

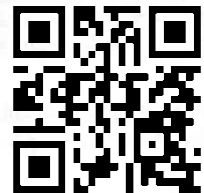
The Joint Secretaries & Treasurers  
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29 Badgers Close  
HORSHAM  
RH12 5RU

Our public search room has photocopying facilities and microfilm reader printers. Trained staff are available to assist visitors.

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Email: [heritage@royalmail.com](mailto:heritage@royalmail.com)

Website: [www.royalmail.com/heritage](http://www.royalmail.com/heritage)

# HOW TO USE AND TAKE CARE OF POST OFFICE CYCLES

## BICYCLES NOT TO BE LENT

1. Bicycles belonging to the Post Office are to be used for Departmental business only. They must not be lent to anyone not employed by the Department, nor to any officer of the Department, except by the authority of a responsible officer.

## CONDITION OF MACHINES

2. Before a machine is taken out for its first journey on any day, it must be presented for inspection to the proper officer, who will see that it is in good condition.
3. Tyres should be inflated almost "board hard", so that the tread (i.e. the pattern) alone is in contact with the road when the rider is in the saddle.
4. Care must be taken that the tyres do not rub against the frame.
5. The brakes must be tested before every journey, and if out of order must be put right before the bicycle is used.
6. No more than  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches of the handlebar stem and 5 inches of the saddle pillar should protrude out of the frame.
7. The saddle top should be kept taut.

## RULES OF THE ROAD

8. Make yourself familiar with the rules of the Highway Code in particular:
  - (a) Before moving off, make sure that it is safe to do so and not inconvenient to other road users. Watch particularly the road behind.
  - (b) Keep well to the left except when overtaking or turning right.
  - (c) Give signals correctly, clearly and *in good time*.
  - (d) Before overtaking make sure it is safe to do so.
  - (e) Do not overtake (i) at or near a corner, road junction or pedestrian crossing; (ii) when approaching the brow of a hill or a hump-back bridge; (iii) where the road narrows or when to do so would force other vehicles to swerve or reduce speed.
  - (f) When turning right signal in good time and take up position just left of the middle of the road.
  - (g) Where the traffic is congested, dismount and walk. On no account ride in and out of vehicles in a traffic block.
  - (h) Where there is a Halt sign stop at the major road, even if there is no traffic on it.
  - (i) Do not hold on to a motor vehicle or trailer in motion.
  - (j) Do not ride close behind a moving vehicle.
  - (k) On no account ride on the footpath.
  - (l) When ringing the bell, do so at a reasonable distance behind a person or vehicle. Special care should be exercised if it is evident that the warning is not heard or is disregarded.

## CONSIDERATION FOR PEDESTRIANS

9. Give way to pedestrians on uncontrolled zebra crossings. They have the right of way. Signal your intention to slow down or stop.  
At pedestrian crossings controlled by lights or police give way to pedestrians on the crossing when the signal to move is given. Watch for pedestrians coming out suddenly from behind stationary vehicles. Be specially careful near schools, bus and tram stops and pedestrian crossings.

## SPEED

10. Never ride faster than is consistent with your own safety and the safety and convenience of other users of the road. Exercise special care on rough or slippery roads, and in foggy weather.

## DESCENDING HILLS

11. Apply gradually both brakes at the same time and at the very commencement of the descent. The sudden application of a brake or brakes often causes an accident. When riding down a hill the feet must not be taken off the pedals. Dismount and walk down steep and dangerous hills.

## RACING, CARRIAGE OF OTHER PERSONS, &c.

12. A rider must not race, nor ride in company with others. He must not allow another person to ride with him on a bicycle, nor must he use the machine for practising tricks. While riding, another machine must not be trailed or carried.

## LEAVING BICYCLES WHEN DELIVERING A TELEGRAM, &c.

13. As far as possible the bicycle should be kept in sight when it is necessary for the rider to leave it. Whenever the bicycle has to be left it should be placed in a position of safety so that it cannot readily fall over or be damaged by passing traffic.

## USE OF LAMPS

14. Lamps must receive attention daily as directed in "Instructions for Cyclists and Inspecting Officers Rg. 104". They must be switched on at the proper time, i.e., not later than half an hour after sunset until half an hour before sunrise. Also lamps should be switched on whenever the circumstances call for safety measures in this direction.

## IF AN ACCIDENT HAPPENS

15. All accidents must be reported. The report should be made on form P694G, a copy of which must be carried by each officer employed on cycling duty. Full particulars as to what led to the accident, and when and where it happened, must be noted. The names and addresses of all concerned in the accident and of any available witnesses, must be obtained, and particulars furnished to the responsible officer on return to the Office. If the rider is injured, however slightly, an entry should be made in the Accident Book.  
If any part of the bicycle, or any cycle appliance, is broken or lost, the matter must be reported at once.





## TYRES

16. The tyres should be carefully examined at least twice a week for cuts, holes, &c., and any thorns, flints, or other substances which may be found adhering, should be removed.

## STORING

17. Bicycles must be kept in a place that is dry and not subject to extreme heat or cold; they must not be left near a fire or hot-water pipe, as this would injure the tyres.

## CLEANING AND OILING

18. A bicycle when wet or muddy must never be put away for the night, or even for a few hours, without attention. Mud should be removed at once, and the various parts, except the tyres and rims, should be wiped over with an oily rag; the thorough cleaning of the machine can be postponed.
19. The daily cleaning may be restricted, as a rule, to removing surface dirt and dust.
20. The bicycle must be cleaned and oiled thoroughly once a week. Failure to do this may result in the Cleaning Allowance being withheld. (For detailed instructions on "Cleaning and Oiling", see "Instructions for Cyclists and Inspecting Officers Rg. 104"). Regular oiling of all parts ensures easier running.
21. Be very careful not to let the oil come in contact with the tyres and rims.

## INSTRUCTION BOOKLET

22. An instruction booklet, Rg. 104, dealing with cleaning, oiling, methods of adjustment, &c., is supplied to enable riders to understand their bicycles. It may be obtained upon application to the officer in charge of cycles, and every rider should be in possession of a copy.

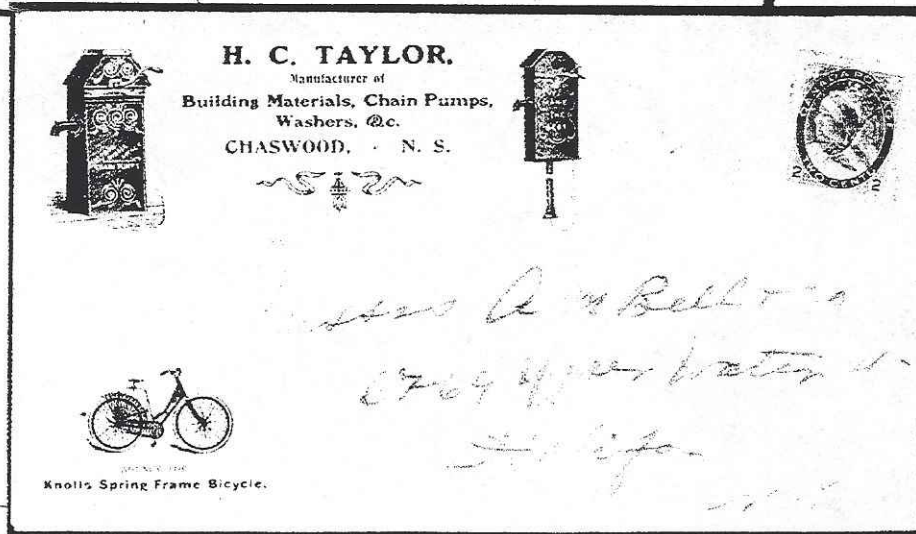
## PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

23. When protective clothing is carried on a bicycle it must be securely fastened so that there is no danger of its entanglement in the machine. Straps for the purpose are supplied, on application.

GENERAL POST OFFICE, LONDON.

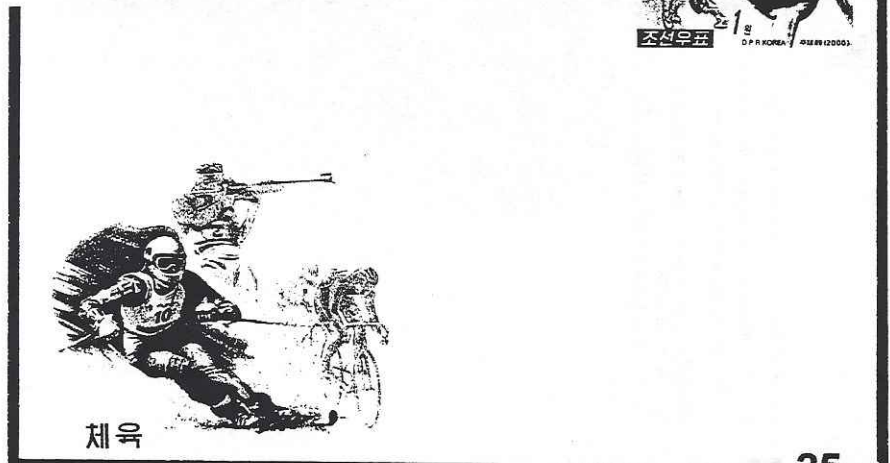
(S.O. 352891) Wt. 78894 10m. 3/59 Wc. & S. Gp. 346

This Reference Card, which was issued to postmen with bicycles, is the one mentioned in the sixth paragraph of the Royal Mail "Heritage Information Sheet" shown on pages 24 and 25.



A 1903 ADVERTISEMENT CARD - A MULTI-PRODUCT ADVERTISEMENT - PUMPS AND BICYCLE - BY H C TAYLOR OF CHASWOOD, NOVA SCOTIA.

KOREA NORTH - PRE STAMPED ENVELOPE - STAMP WAS ISSUED 07.07.00 FOR THE WORLD STAMP EXPO 2000



# CAMPEONATO DEL MUNDO DE CICLO CROSS



26

Las peticiones de sellos deberán dirigirse a:  
 Les commandes de timbres doivent s'adresser à:  
 Orders for stamps may be addressed to:

Dirección General de Correos y Telégrafos  
 Sección de Filatelia  
 Palacio de Comunicaciones—28070 Madrid—SPAIN

INFORMATION  
 BROCHURE  
 PUBLISHED BY  
 SPANISH POST  
 OFFICE (SERVICIO  
 FILATÉLICO -  
 ESPAÑA) DETAILING  
 THE STAMP ISSUED  
 02.02.90 FOR THE  
 WORLD CYCLE  
 CROSS  
 CHAMPIONSHIP.  
 SEE BS8 p 14 AND  
 BS15A p 24.



RUSS BISSETT RECENTLY SENT ME THE ABOVE 1996 ISLE OF MAN COIN AND I REMEMBERED THAT AUSTRALIA ISSUED A COIN FOR THE BRISBANE COMMONWEALTH GAMES IN 1982. DO ANY OF YOU KNOW OF ANY OTHERS?



Depósito Legal: M.4.477-1990



Fecha de emisión }  
 Date d'émission } 2-2-90  
 Date of issue }

Información n.º 2/90

DIRECCION GENERAL DE CORREOS Y TELEGRAFOS



MINISTERIO DE TRANSPORTES, TURISMO Y COMUNICACIONES  
 Secretaría General de Comunicaciones  
 DIRECCION GENERAL DE CORREOS Y TELEGRAFOS



### CAMPEONATO DEL MUNDO DE CICLO CROSS

**Fecha de emisión:** 2 de febrero de 1990.

**Valor:** 20 pesetas.

**Tirada:** 3.000.000.

**Papel:** Estucado, engomado, fosforescente.

**Estampación:** Huecograbado policolor.

**Tamaño:** 28,8 x 40,9 mm. (vertical).

**Dentado:** 13 3/4.

**Pliegos:** 50 sellos.

España, se convierte poco a poco, en sede de acontecimientos deportivos mundiales y la Comisión de Programación, de Emisiones de Sellos y demás Signos de Franqueo, no duda en filatelizarlos. Si el año pasado era la Copa del Mundo de Atletismo y el anterior lo fue el Campeonato del Mundo de Hockey sobre patines, es, ahora, el Campeonato del Mundo de Ciclo Cross, el acontecimiento a celebrar y la villa de Getxo su sede.

El ciclo cross, es una modalidad deportiva, en la cual ciclismo y pedestrisimo se combinan. Los participantes, tras un trecho de buena carretera, corren campo traviesa, cruzando terrenos impracticables e incluso vadeando arroyos, de manera que alternan el pedal con la carrera a pie.

El sello conmemorativo, muestra junto al logotipo de los campeonatos y la imagen simbólica de un participante, la fachada del Ayuntamiento de la localidad vizcaína que alberga este Campeonato, edificio en el cual Primo de Rivera celebró un Consejo de Ministros, al año siguiente de ser construido. Las obras fueron dirigidas por Ignacio Smith, según los planos de Fidel Iturria, en 1928. Presenta la fachada, un cuerpo central y otros dos laterales a modo de torres, accediéndose por señorial escalinata.

### CHAMPIONNAT DU MONDE DE CYCLOCROSS

L'Espagne devient petit à petit le siège d'événements sportifs mondiaux, et la Commission de Programmation des Emissions de timbres et autres Signes d'Affranchissement n'hésite pas à les consigner dans la philatélie. Après la Coupe du Monde d'Athlétisme, l'an dernier, et le Championnat du Monde de Hockey,

MADRID  
2 Febrero 1990

CAMPEONATO  
DEL MUNDO  
DE CICLO-CROSS



PRIMER  
DIA  
DE  
CIRCULACION

— MATASELLOS PRIMER DIA DE CIRCULACION —

*L'année précédente, vient maintenant le Championnat du Monde de Cyclocross, qui aura lieu à Guecho.*

*Le cyclocross est une modalité sportive qui combine le cyclisme et la course pédestre. Les participants, après un bout de bonne route, courent à travers champs, traversant des terrains impracticables et même des ruisseaux, alternant ainsi l'usage des pédales et la course à pied.*

*Le timbre commémoratif présente, à côté du logotype des championnats et de l'image symbolique d'un participant, la façade, de la Mairie de la ville basque qui sera le siège de ce championnat, édifice dans lequel Primo de Rivera avait tenu un Conseil des Ministres, l'année qui avait suivi sa construction. Les travaux ont été dirigés par Ignacio Smith, selon les plans de Fidel Iturria, en 1928. La façade présente un corps central et deux ailes latérales en forme de tours. On y accède par un escalier seigneurial.*

### WORLD CYCLE CROSS CHAMPIONSHIP

*Spain is slowly becoming a world sports event headquarters and the Stamp Issuing Program Committee and other Postal Depts are focusin on this fact by printing commemorative stamps. Last year it was the World Athletics Cup, and the previous year it was the World Skate Hockey Championship and now it is the World Cycle Cross Championship, which will be held in the village of Getzu, where its headquarters are located.*

*Cycle Cross is a form of sport which combines cycling and foot racing. After a smooth stretch of highway, the participants will run cross-country, through difficult terrain and even wade across streams, alternating pedaling and racing on foot.*

*The commemorative stamp shows the championship's logo and the symbolic image of a participant and the facade of City Hall in the Biscayan town where this Championship takes place. Primo de Rivera held a Cabinet Meeting in this building the year after it was built. Construction was directed by Ignacio Smith, in 1928, according to Fidel Iturria's drawings. The facade is made up of a central body and an ornate staircase, and two side sections in the shape of towers.*



More amusing newspaper snippets we found on the Internet.

■ From the *Churchdown Parish Magazine*: "Would the Congregation please note that the bowl at the back of the Church, labelled For The Sick, is for monetary donations only."

■ From *The Guardian* concerning a sign seen in a police canteen in Christchurch, New Zealand: "Will the person who took a slice of cake from the Commissioner's Office return it immediately. It is needed as evidence in a poisoning case."

■ From *The Times*: "A young girl who was blown out to sea on a set of inflatable teeth was rescued by a man on an inflatable lobster. A coast-guard spokesman commented: "This sort of thing is all too common these days."

■ An Austrian circus dwarf died recently when he bounced sideways from a trampoline and was swallowed by a hippopotamus. Seven thousand people watched as little Franz Dasch popped into the mouth of Hilda the Hippo and the animal's gag reflex forced it to swallow.

# Europa



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España

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THE STAMP ISSUED  
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"CHILDREN'S  
GAMES" - THE  
STAMPS ARE OF NO  
CYCLING INTEREST  
BUT THE COVER  
SHOWS A CHILD  
ASTRIDE A  
TRICYCLE.



SAN MARINO- 22.03.02

GREAT BRITAIN - 16.07.02

2002 COMMONWEALTH GAMES  
COIN COVER - HOLDS A £2 COIN  
FOR EACH OF THE FOUR  
COMPETING BRITISH HOME  
COUNTIES, PLUS A SET OF  
STAMPS





# From My Musette



- \* **Thematica** - For the benefit of those members who might be able to attend, Britain's thematic show, will take place on Saturday and Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> June 2003 at Carisbrooke Hall, 63 Seymour Street, London, a short walk from Marble Arch. Opening hours are: 10.30am to 5.30pm Sat and 10.30 to 5.00pm Sun.
- \* **St Petersburg 2003** - Brian Sole has informed us that he has been appointed the British Commissioner for this Russian International Philatelic Exhibition, which will run from 7-14th November 2003. For further details please contact Brian.
- \* **Groszy** - Tadeusz Zmudzinski has received requests from members regarding information about the Polish overprinted Groszy stamps. Tadeusz explains that, as the Groszy hand-stamped overprint was introduced on the 28.20.1950 due to currency conversions, those stamps that exist with this overprint prior to that date would be illegal, eg: how can you have a stamp issued on 01.05.1948, legally have an overprint that was not introduced until 1950? (*I think this subject needs further investigation..*)
- \* **Triathlon** - Further to our previous observations on this subject, Terry Crawford has written to say "I agree that a stamp featuring triathlon in general and not showing cycling is not a bicycle stamp. But a pedant might argue that a stamp that commemorates a specific triathlon event including cycling (such as in the Olympic games) but that does not include an image or word relating to cycling might be! And sooner or later there'll be a stamp that shows a medal-winning triathlete during the running or swimming phase who later in his or her career becomes famous as a cyclist." !!
- \* **Gimmick or Advanced stamp design** - (from GSM Jan. 2003) - Remember Gibraltar's recent stamp issue which incorporated real rock in the stamp production? When you ran your fingers over the image of the Rock of Gibraltar you could feel the rocks. Correo Argentino (Argentine Post) has now produced a similar effect but not with 'real' rocks - in this instance they have used 'netting'. A set of 4 stamps was issued on 28.09.2002 commemorating the Men's World Volleyball Championships. Each stamp incorporated an image of the match net with the mesh of the net printed 'proud' of the background. This too can be felt if you run your fingers over the net shown on the stamp.
- \* **Snippets** - I couldn't help but put these little gems in to brighten your day...
  - \* If at first you don't succeed, sky-diving is not for you!
  - \* It may be that your sole purpose in life is simply to serve as a warning to others!
  - \* If you lend somebody \$20 and never see that person again, it was probably worth it!
  - \* If you resolve to give up smoking, drinking and loving, you don't actually live longer, it just seems that way
- \* **Challenges** - Some of the challenges that postal administrators in general face. The core product has been around for a long time - first class mail or the equivalent in other countries. That's paid for infrastructure and while that's been their bread and butter product they have had universal service obligations that they must do things even if they are-not profitable.

The USPS have to deliver to the bottom of the Grand Canyon. They use a mule train to go there every day and its damn expensive. They are obliged to deliver to the Eskimo villages in Alaska, and they do so by special planes. It's much more expensive than delivering in a city but that's part of the universal service and part of the charter that every citizen has the right to receive mail. In the past when postal services had the monopoly on the delivery of mail, things worked fine. In today's market place there's a lot of competition on that monopoly. There's the Internet, email, fax, and online banking. You name it. So then growth in that product, which is the bread and butter, has slowed down considerably. As long as there is a universal service obligation postal services will have to continually raise prices and when this happens you lose more volume based on price elasticity.

When did this begin to happen; Email and fax started to eat into the business during the 1980s. In the United States during the 1980s first class mail grew about 5 per cent per year. During the 1990s this fell to about 1 per cent, So between the 80s and 90s they lost 4 per cent growth on over half the-First Class volume.

- \* **The Future of Stamps - Print your own** - Emma Nash (GSM April 2003) reports that UK businesses and consumers could be buying electronic stamps on the internet by the end of this year, if Royal Mail trials prove successful. Tests are due to start within the next three months.

'You will be able to buy stamps online and print them on your printer,' Royal Mail information systems director, Paul Kelsall, recently told Computing magazine. 'You will also be able to put your logo or a picture next to it.'

The technology is being developed by Lockheed Martin, the company which supplies Royal Mail with its sorting machines. 'It has to interface with the mail sorting machinery so that when an electronic stamp hasn't been paid for, it can identify that,' said Kelsall. The 'stamps' will contain encryption technology to reduce potential fraud. When an electronic stamp is printed, the cost will automatically be deducted from the customer's account.

Royal Mail is enthusiastic about the arrival of electronic stamps, but is being cautious about their potential. 'We are obviously getting into this because we think people want the convenience that will be introduced with it', explained Kelsall. 'But this is only a trial. We need to check usability and take-up, which is important.' The stamps will be designed to work with common PC applications such as Microsoft Word and Excel.

- \* **Removing cancellation marks** - Russ Bissett wants to know if anyone can recommend a sure and safe way to remove cancellation marks from stamps. He has some on which the cancel ink is rather dark and thick. Can anyone help him??



- \* **Some news from the past** -

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**STANLEY GIBBONS MONTHLY JOURNAL**

(SEPTEMBER 30, 1899.)

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clerk handed over, put them in his pocket, tore up the telegraph form, and departed in triumph. A man who could thus make red tape look ridiculous deserves to be regarded as a public benefactor.—*Truth*.

\* \* \*

A NEW development in postal deliveries is A Cycle Post, being tried at Grantham, where, in order to serve a group of villages embraced in a circuit of several miles, the Post Office has established a cycle post. A mounted postman leaves the Grantham head post office daily at 12.30 p.m., taking letters and parcels for delivery in Little Ponton, Great Ponton, Rochford, Colsterworth, Stalnby, Sewstern, Buckminster, and Skillington. The bicycle is specially constructed for postal purposes, and is enamelled in "pillar-box red." The prompt delivery by this means is much appreciated in the district served.

\* \* \*

THE following paragraph appeared in *The*

We have much pleasure in announcing Generous Gift that our friend M. Victor Robert, the to the French well-known stamp dealer of the Rue Nation by M. Richelieu, Paris, has given a magnificent Victor Robert collection of French essays and proofs to the Cabinet of Engravings of the Bibliothèque Nationale. M. Robert informs us that such a collection was lacking in France, and that it is much appreciated by the officials, and will do something to give Philately a standing in quarters to which it has never appealed before. We heartily congratulate M. Robert on his generosity.

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**THE WIDE, WIDE WORLD.**

By PHILOLOGOS.

ACCORDING to the *I. B. V.* of Leipzig, the collecting of post cards is going ahead in Canada, and many fine collections

- \* **Back copies of BS** - we send copies of our magazines to the ATA and the BTA. The BTA have advised that they have decided to only keep on file the last four issues. Brian Sole has been in contact with them and has now received a bundle, that consists of 29 issues eg BS18A Spring 1995 to BS40 August 2002. Any member who wants any, can have one copy, or all copies, for the cost of postage and packing. Please contact Brian