

BICYCLE STAMPS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BICYCLE STAMPS CLUB

BS 56 - August - 2006

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Posteitaliane filatelia



89° Giro d'Italia



ITALY - 2006 - POSTCARD - 89th Giro d'ITALIA

The magazine is included as a benefit of membership. A bicycle stamp checklist is maintained by the club and is available at cost, please contact Piet Hein Hilarides,
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Bicycle
Stamps

56

New Issue Update

BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA (CROATIAN POSTS)	20.11.03	FDC	INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S DAY - STAMP DEPICTS DRAWING BY 8 YEAR OLD ANTONIO LOVRIC	1+FDC+ MAXICARD	
COSTA RICA	? .07 04	120c	OLYMPIC GAMES - ATHENS 2004	1+SE-TEN STRIP	50-6
COSTA RICA	? .07.04	SE-TEN STRIP	AS ABOVE - SE-TEN STRIP OF 4 DIFF. STAMPS - INCLUDES THE ABOVE	1+SE-TEN STRIP	50-6
EQUATORIAL GUINEA	? . ? . 03	400 F.C.F.A	100 TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR DE FRANCE - PELETON	1+ SE-TEN STRIP + SHEET	51-9
EQUATORIAL GUINEA	? . ? . 03	SE-TEN STRIP	AS ABOVE - SE-TEN STRIP OF 3 DIFF - ABOVE STAMP - CENTENARY OF WRIGHT BROS FLIGHT AND 150 TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF VINCENT VAN GOGH	1+ SE-TEN STRIP + SHEET	51-9
EQUATORIAL GUINEA	? . ? . 03	SHEET	AS ABOVE - SHEET OF 12 STAMPS - CONSISTS OF 4 OF THE ABOVE SE-TEN STRIPS	1+ SE-TEN STRIP + SHEET	51-9
FINLAND	04.05.06	€ 0.65	EUROPA INTEGRATION - STYLISED CYCLISTS ON A TANDEM	1+S	56-6
FINLAND	04.05.06	SHEET	AS ABOVE - SHEET OF 10 OF THE ABOVE STAMP	1+S	56-6
GAMBIA	01.03.03	MS D45	CENTENARY TOUR DE FRANCE - AWAITING DETAILS	12 + 3SHT + MS	
GREECE	09.09.03	MAXI-CARD	OLYMPIC GAMES - ATHENS 2004: MIND & BODY - CYCLING	5 + SHT + MAXI-CARD	
GUINEA	?	850 F	"AMERICAN IMPRESSIONISTS" CYCLISTS IN STREET SCENE	4+S	53-10
GUINEA	?	SHEETLET	AS ABOVE - INCLUDES THE ABOVE STAMP	4+S	53-10
GUINEA	?	M/S	BEIJING OLYMPICS 2008 - STAMP OF NO CYCLING INTEREST - CYCLIST ON SELVEDGE	3+4M/S	55-17
GUINEA-BISSAU	? . ? . 2003	500FCFA	OLYMPIC GAMES ATHENS 2004 - VARIOUS SPORTS PERSONS - INCLUDES LANCE ARMSTRONG	6+S	53-8
GUINEA-BISSAU	? . ? . 2003	SHEETLET	AS ABOVE - SHEETLET OF 6 STAMPS INCLUDES THE ABOVE	6+S	53-8
GUINEA-BISSAU	? . ? . 2004	450 FCFA	OLYMPIC GAMES ATHENS 2004 - VARIOUS SPORTS PERSONS - INCLUDES TYLER HAMILTON	6+S	53-10
GUINEA-BISSAU	? . ? . 2004	SHEETLET	AS ABOVE - SHEETLET OF 6 STAMPS INCLUDES THE ABOVE	6+S	53-10
GUINEA-BISSAU	? . ? . 2005	MINI SHEET	155 TH ANNIVERSARY OF "PENNY BLACK" STAMP - QUEUE OF VARIOUS TRANSPORTS INCLUDES A CYCLIST ON A HIGH WHEELER	MS	53-8
GUINEA-BISSAU	? . ? . 2005	450 FCFA	SPORTS STARS - LANCE ARMSTRONG	6+S+MS	53-8
GUINEA-BISSAU	? . ? . 2005	SHEETLET	AS ABOVE - SHEETLET OF 6 DIFF. STAMPS AND 3 LABELS - INCLUDES THE ABOVE STAMP	6+S+MS	53-8

GUINEA-BISSAU	??.2005	MINIATURE SHEET	AS ABOVE - MINIATURE SHEET STAMP OF NO CYCLING INTEREST - LANCE ARMSTRONG ON SELVEDGE	6+S+MS	53-8
GUINEA-BISSAU	??.2005	350 FCFA	"PEQUIM 2008" VARIOUS SPORTS INCLUDING CYCLING	6+S	53-8
GUINEA-BISSAU	??.2005	SHEETLET	AS ABOVE - SHEETLET OF 6 DIFF. STAMPS AND 3 LABELS - INCLUDES THE ABOVE STAMP	6+S	53-8
ISLE OF MAN	12.08.05	BOOKLET PANE	"TIME TO REMEMBER" - CONTAINS 10 OF THE ABOVE 26p STAMP - PANE OF 10 OF THE ABOVE STAMP - WAITING ON DETAILS	10 - 2 x SE-TEN STRIPS OF 5 + 2B	
ICELAND	19.05.04	BOOKLET PANE	EUROPA 2004: HOLIDAYS - TOURING CYCLISTS - PANE OF TEN STAMPS (NO DETAILS YET)	2+2X BOOKLETS	
IRELAND	28.02.03	BOOKLET PANE	ST PATRICK'S DAY - CLOWN ON A STRANGE CYCLE IN PARADE - BOOKLET PANE OF 10 OF THE ABOVE STAMP	3 + 3 S X 16 + 4 B/KLETS	
ITALY	2006	POST CARD	89th GIRO D'ITALIA - MAP OF COURSE	1	56 COVER
ITALY	2006	POST CARD	89th GIRO D'ITALIA - ARRIVO 16 [^] TAPPA - ROVATO - TRENTO MONTE BONDONE - 50th ANNIVERSARIO DELLA 18 [^] TAPPA DEL GIRO D'ITALIA 1956	1	56-8
MACEDONIA	14.11.05	60d	50 TH ANNIVERSARY OF EUROPA STAMPS - STAMP ON STAMP - SHOWS 09.05.02 STAMP WITH HIGH WHEELER -SEE BS41 PAGE 7	4+MS+S	56-7
MACEDONIA	14.11.05	MS	AS ABOVE - MS OF FOUR STAMPS - INCLUDES THE ABOVE	4+MS+S	56-7
MACEDONIA	14.11.05	SHEET	AS ABOVE - SHEET OF 8 STAMPS - 2 OF EACH OF THE ABOVE STAMPS	4+MS+S	56-7
PHILIPPINES	?	p 6	23RD SOUTHEAST ASIAN (SEA) 2005 GAMES - GAMES MASCOT ON BICYCLE - THIS IS THE SAME AS THE PICTOGRAM	6+SHEET	55-COVER
PHILIPPINES	?	SHEET	ASA ABOVE - SHEET OF 6 STAMPS INCLUDING THE ABOVE	6+SHEET	55-COVER
ST. THOMAS AND PRINCE ISLANDS	? 2004	Db 7000	60 th ANNIVERSARY OF D-DAY - TROOPS WITH BICYCLES LANDING ON BEACH (SEE CANADIAN 05.08.94 ISSUE BS 17B PAGE 5 AND D-DAY ARTICLE BS 49 PAGE 20)	1+S	53-9
ST. THOMAS AND PRINCE ISLANDS	? 2004	SHEET	AS ABOVE - SHEET OF 9 DIFF. STAMPS - INCLUDES THE ABOVE	1+S	53-9
SIERRA LEONE	17.11.03	1500L	OLYMPIC HISTORY GOLD MEDAL WINNERS - MARCUS HURLEY - USA 1904	8	
SINGAPORE	?	SHEET	"UNIQUELY SINGAPORE" - SHEET OF 5 STAMPS AND 10 LABELS - STAMPS OF ON CYCLING INTEREST - STATUE OF CYCLIST ON ONE LABEL	SHEET	53-16

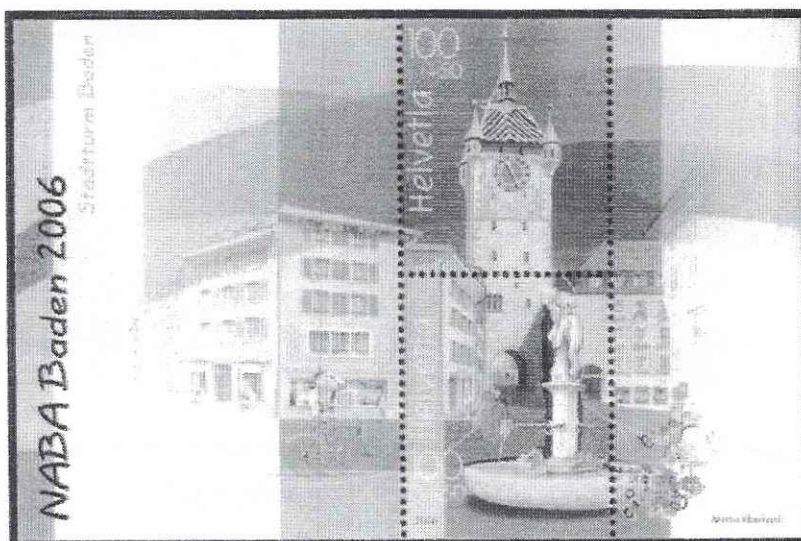
SOUTH AFRICA	06.03.06	NVI	VELO MONDIAL CONFERENCE (WORLD CYCLE CONFERENCE) - NVI - INTERNATIONAL AIRMAIL LETTER POSTAGE - CHILDREN RIDING TO SCHOOL	1	56-5
SPAIN	?.?.04	POST CARD	VUELTA ESPAÑA 2004 - FRONT OF CARD SHOWS RIDER BREAKING AWAY - REAR OF CARD SHOWS ROUTE FOR TOUR	POSTCARD	52-17
* SURINAM	<u>01.03.05</u>	NVI	TEDDY BEARS 2005 - TEDDY BEAR RIDING A TRICYCLE	12 + 4 LABELS +S	51-8
* SURINAM	<u>01.03.05</u>	SHEET	AS ABOVE - SHEET OF 24 DIFF. STAMPS IN 2 PANES+ 4 LABELS	12 + 4 LABELS +S	51-8
SWITZERLAND	07.09.06	MS	BADEN CITY TOWER - STAMPS OF NO CYCLING INTEREST - CYCLIST & BIKE ON SELVEDGE	2+MS	56-6
TATARSTAN	? 2002	5.00	FAMOUS MOVIES - E.T. STAMP SHOWS SILHOUETTE OF BICYCLE RIDER AND E.T.	1+S	53-11
TATARSTAN	? 2002	SHEET	AS ABOVE - SHEET OF 12 DIFF. STAMPS - INCLUDES THE ABOVE	1+S	53-11
UNITED STATES	03.04.03	MAXI CARD	OLD GLORY PRESTIGE BOOKLET UNCLE SAM RIDING A HIGH WHEELER - MAXI CARD OF ABOVE STAMP	5+B+M/C	

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.



SOUTH AFRICA - 06.03.06

CHILDREN RIDING TO SCHOOL

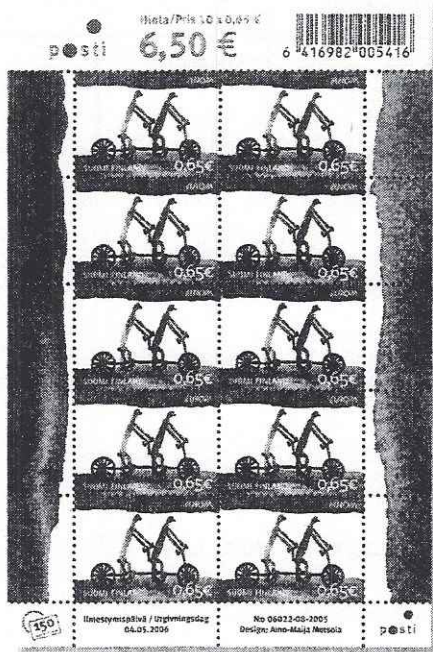


SWITZERLAND - 07.09.06 MS - BADEN CITY TOWER

EUROPA: integration

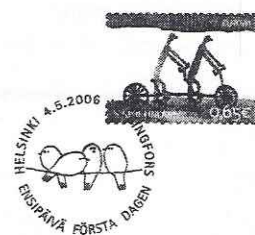
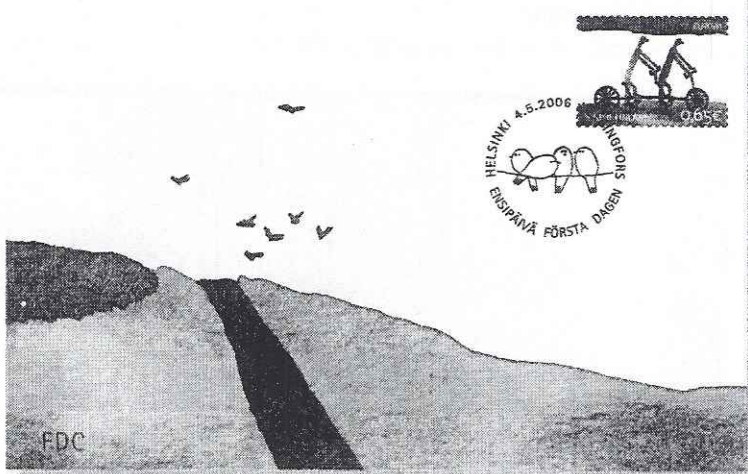
Issue date
4 May

European
integration
– we all pull together



A sense of speed and sharing –
summer experiences at their best.
Pedalling shared is a pleasure mul-
tiplied.

This cheery gummed special stamp
was designed by Aino-Maija Metsola
together with the University of
Art and Design. Great summery at-
mosphere for your mail!

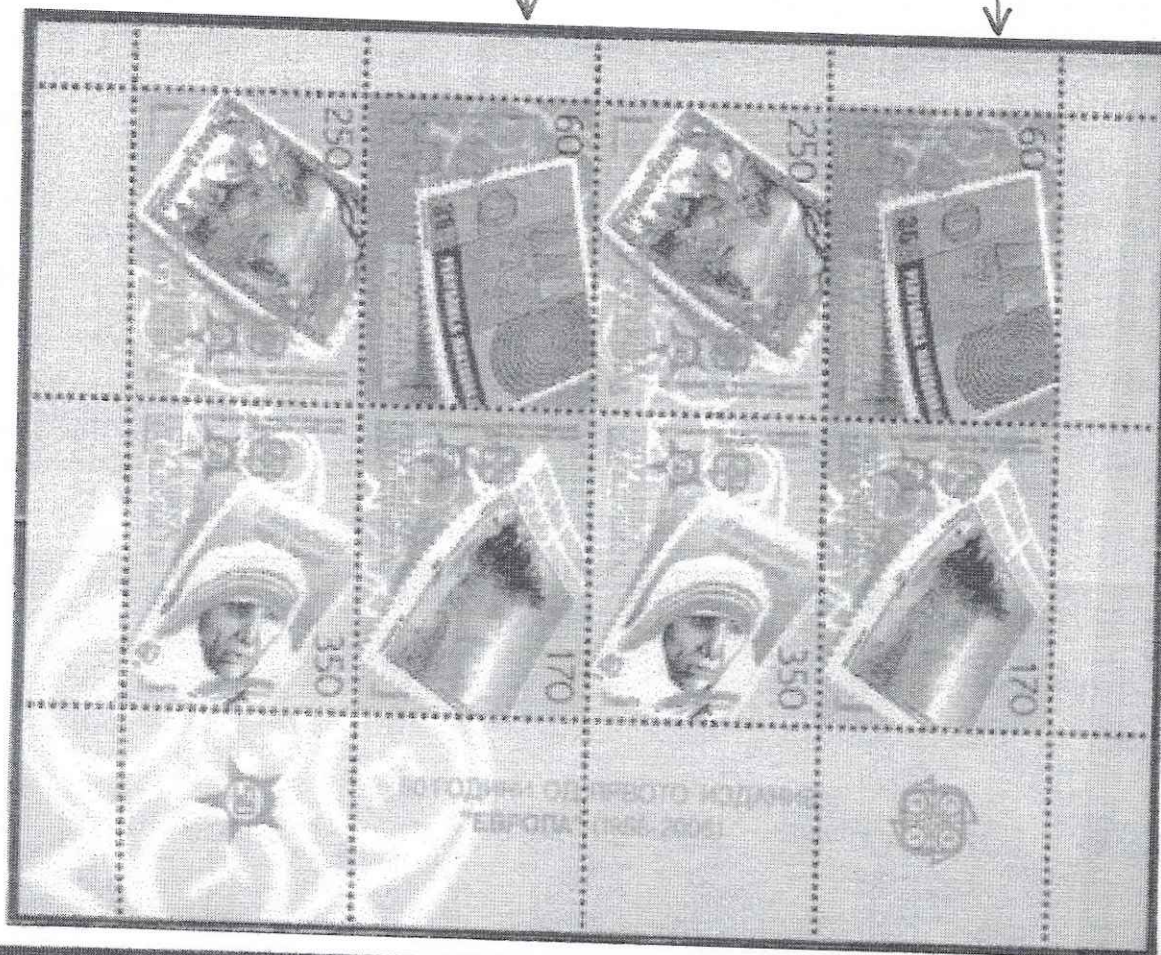


EUROPA: integration 4 May 2006

Order code	06022
Face value	€0.65
Designer	Aino-Maija Metsola
Issue	1,000,000 stamps
Sheet size	103.5 x 160 mm
Stamp size	35.4 x 26 mm
Perforation	13 x 13
Paper	PVA Gum 110 g
Printing method	4 colour offset
Printer	Cartor Security Printing, France

FDC	
Order code	06022F1
Price	€1.10

FINLAND - 04.05.06



BICYCLE THEMATICS

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH
& FOREIGN

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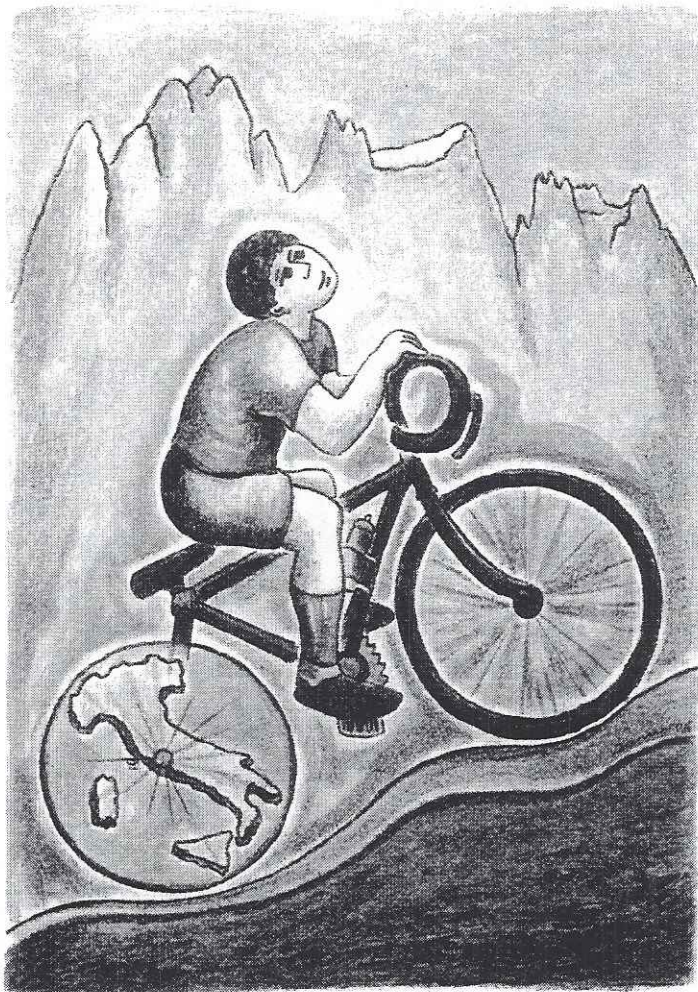
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REQUIREMENTS.

MACEDONIA - 14.11.05

MEMBER BOB LEE'S

POSTAL NEW ISSUE SERVICE



Il Giro d'Italia 2006 a Falcade San Pellegrino



**GERMAN CANCEL
NORTHWEST GERMAN
PHILATELISTENVERBAND ELBE
WESER EMS
STAMP SHOW ON 24.10.04 IN
MELLE**

**ITALY - 2006 - GIRO d'ITALIA 2006
"A FALCADE SAN PELLEGRINO"
FRONT AND BACK OF POSTCARD**

89° GIRO D'ITALIA
Tappa Pordenone - Falcade San Pellegrino
venerdì 26 maggio 2006

"Dolomiti in rosa"
Tecnica mista di Dario



Cartolina stampata in 1000 esemplari



Royal Mail - Post Buses

Brian Sole in a local auction acquired an unusual item recently. Some years ago the Royal Mail began a series of Post Bus services. In some country districts the Post Van was used to pick up passengers, in addition to collecting mail. In a few cases current postage stamps were stuck onto the ticket. This bus ticket has a 13p Cycling stamp cancelled to show it was used on the Dorking - Coldharbour - Ockley Post Bus on 2 August 1978, the first day of issue of the cycle stamp and by a coincidence, the 5th anniversary of the Royal Mail Post Bus service on this Surrey route.



Royal Mail details of service

Access all areas

POSTBUSES COLLECT YOU AND YOUR MAIL

Introduction

At Royal Mail we're opening up the countryside to people who live in, and want to visit, even the most remote areas of Britain. This is thanks to our Postbus scheme, that uses specially prepared red mail vans to pick up passengers as well as post, once or twice a day. In many communities, Postbuses are the only way to get around for people who don't drive, meaning they no longer need to feel cut off from the outside world.

Fresh air

It's also a breath of fresh air for tourists, who can now use the service to explore remote parts of the countryside, travelling to towns and villages through roads that are mostly traffic-free. If you're going walking you can leave the car behind.

All aboard

Whether you live in the country or you're just visiting, you can hail a Postbus at any point along its route and it will stop to pick you up, providing road and traffic conditions allow. As Postbuses need to deliver mail in the morning and pick it up in the afternoon, there are usually two services a day from Monday to Friday, which will hopefully provide you with an easy way to get to and from wherever you're going for the day. In the most remote parts of the UK, there's just one service a day, and in others the service also runs on Saturday morning.

Because our Postbuses follow postal delivery and collection schedules, they don't always travel the same route on the return journey, so you may have to plan your day carefully to catch a ride home. If you're using our Postbus service for the first time, check out the timetable and routes.

A little goes a long way

We've made our Postbus service as good value as possible as we're totally committed to helping people get around. Fares differ across the UK depending on where you are and how far you travel, and also on how much subsidy the local government provides. For shorter journeys fares range from 40p to £1, while for longer journeys, fares range from £2 to £4. However there are concessionary fares on all Postbus services, so you might well be paying even less.

Perfins and bicycles

Pieter Reijbroek, The Netherlands

Probably all stamp collectors are familiar with the stamps with the small holes, representing letters or iconic pictures. These are called "perfins", an abbreviation of PERForated INItials. In the past, until the seventies, these stamps were seen as being damaged and often thrown away. Nowadays there is a large number of perfin collectors, many of them organised in clubs.



What was the use of these perfins? In the past, almost immediately after their introduction, stamps were used as a financial tender: it was possible to exchange the stamps for real currency at the post office. Stamps were very expensive in the past: the cost of one stamp equalled the amount of wages for half a day's (or a whole day's) labour. It was tempting to take away stamps from the office or workshop and exchange them for real money. The Englishman Joseph Sloper created a perforator which could punch letters and symbols into stamps. The initial use of this perforator was in 1868. With the perforation of the initials or a logotype, the stamp bore an owner's mark and the stamp was no longer accepted as currency, thus preventing



theft.

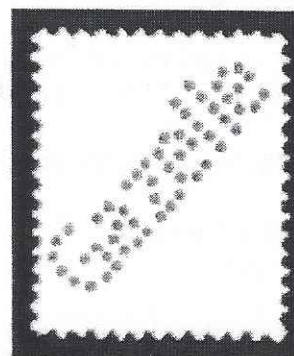
Perfins were used in lots of countries (over 200) by lots of organisations: in the Netherlands more than 800 different perfins were used, in Germany 18,000 and in Great Britain over 30,000.

Amongst these, some are related to bicycles, bicycle factories, producers of bicycle parts, bicycle clubs and so on.

For the Netherlands I found 6 different perfins of bicycle factories or bicycle trading companies:

- * H. Burgsmüller & Zonen, Rotterdam
- * Kestuin Rijwielfabriek NV, Rotterdam
- * Eysink Fabrieken, Amersfoort
- * Gazelle Rijwielfabriek, Dieren
- * Rijwielfabriek Gruno, Winschoten
- * R.S. Stokvis & Zonen, Rotterdam
- Bicycle tires:
- * Continental, Amsterdam
- * O. Englebert Fils & Cie, Amsterdam
- * Verenigde Nederlandsche Rubberfabrieken Heveadorp

Without question the most famous of these nowadays is undoubtedly Gazelle, founded by Willem Kölling in 1892. He and his colleague Rudolf Arentsen ordered bicycles from England and sold them in Holland. In



Gazelle used perfins in the period 1920-1928. The perforation was used in 30 different Dutch stamps. In the majority of cases cancellation of perfins was done in the village or town where the company was established. For Gazelle this was Dieren.

And who was Joseph Sloper? As I usually do I did a search on the net and found the following article by Toke Norby that details the early days of the development of perfins.

DARN. MY SAW BLADE IS DULL.

MY SHARPENER IS IN HERE SOMEWHERE.

NOW I CAN USE THE SAW, BUT I HAVE TO CHANGE THE PAPER IN THE SANDER.

BUT I CAN'T USE THE SANDER UNTIL I FIX THE BASE.

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The Story about the Terms SPIFS and PERFIN

Stamps Perforated by Initials of Firms and Society's PERForated INitials

By Toke Nørby

Introduction

In the spring of 1996 I wrote a general article on this subject which was posted on the Internet STAMPS List and in the news groups rec.collecting.postal-history and rec.collecting.stamps. The article you see here only covers the story of the terms SPIFS and PERFIN, apart from a short introduction of the very beginning of the PERFIN story. If you would like to see the complete version of my general article, you can find it on my SPIFS/PERFINs Introduction Page together with my story of the Danish PERFINs.

Acknowledgements

I am indebted to Mr David Hill, treasurer of the British Perfin Society, who has made information from their library available to me. I am also indebted to Mr Maurice Harp for letting me quote his story about Sir Henry Bessemer from The Perfin Society Bulletin.

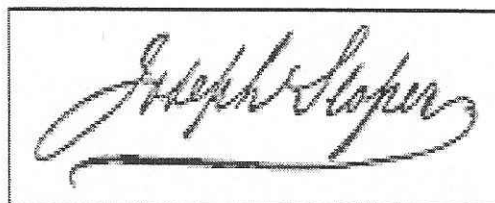
As far as this article is concerned, a special thanks is due to Mr Richard L Mewhinney <neverin@nac.net>, USA, who found the source where the abbreviation PERFIN was first mentioned. Also a special thanks is due to Mr Michael Baadke, <mbaadke@scottonline.com>, Senior Editor at Linn's Stamp News, who found the 1943 issues of "Linn's Weekly Stamp News" for me. (Believe me or not: Michael told me that one of his cats is named PERFIN because of her talent for perforating Michael's skin when she is annoyed with him :-).

●●●●●●●●●●

The Very Beginning

A few years ago I read an article in the stamp exhibition catalogue for "Arbejdernes Frimærke Klub" who celebrated their 50 year anniversary with an exhibition, ARNØPHIL 76 (1). In this catalogue Mr Harald Suhr-Jensen wrote: "*The term originated from the American "PERForated INitials", while the term in England is "SPIFS" (Stamps Perforated with Initials of Firms and Societies)*".

Not many collectors of PERFINs doubt that it was Mr Joseph Sloper from England who invented a perforating machine which could be used for perforating initials etc. on postage stamps and other papers of any value. Actually it seems that the first person who thought about perforating "stamps" to prevent fraud not was Mr Sloper but was:



Sir Henry Bessemer

In "The Perfin Society Bulletin" No 274 (2) from February 1995, Mr Maurice Harp describes the "real inventor" of the PERFIN machine as Sir Henry Bessemer. Maurice Harp found in the library of the Perfin Society a newspaper cutting from The Sunday Express:

"7 January 1945 Ripley (World Copyright) Sir Henry Bessemer, 1813-1898, of Charlton, whose process for making steel revolutionised the commercial history of the world, invented - when only 20 years old - a machine to perforate stamps, thereby saving the Government UK£ 100,000 a year from fraud."

Maurice Harp told us that:

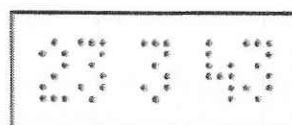
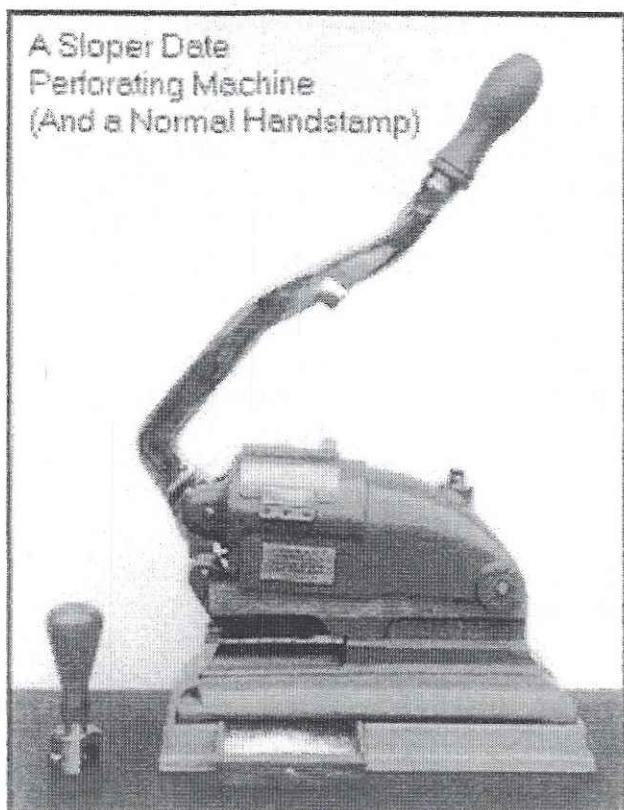
"Bessemer, in 1832 suggested a possible solution for preventing stamp fraud. Earlier revenue stamps were embossed to show payment of these, and Bessemer suggested that the stamps should be perforated instead of being embossed. Because of this suggestion Bessemer was

offered the job of supervising the implementation of his plan. But when he told his fiancée about his news she came up with a suggestion of her own. Her suggestion was that the embossed stamp should incorporate the date directly with removable date plugs. When Bessemer told this to his future employers they decided to adopt the idea. Unfortunately they also decided that they did not need Bessemer's assistance anymore and Bessemer received nothing for his ideas. His gift of this invention to the Government was to have been recognised by a permanent official appointment, but the promise was not kept. Therefore, instead of PERFINs being born on revenue stamps in the 1830's, we had to wait for 35 years for Joseph Sloper to use a similar idea on postage stamps".

Later, the story of him being wronged by the Board of Stamps came to the notice of Benjamin Disraeli, Prime Minister of Great Britain, and, as a result, Bessemer received a knighthood as some recompense for the injustice. As far as I know Bessemer's "invention" never saw the light of the day and probably no machine was ever made by him, but in spite of this, IF Bessemer had the opportunity to work with his idea, he would have been the real inventor of the perforating machine as sure as Leonardo da Vinci was the inventor of the helicopter!

Mr Joseph Sloper

Instead of seeing the first perforated "stamps" in 1833, we had to wait until Mr Joseph Sloper, who was born in 1813, "reinvented" and patented a perforating machine in 1858 (English Patent No 1985/58). The machine was intended to be used for cheque protection. By means of a roller with different projecting points it was possible to make different perforations in the cheques. In 1868 Sloper patented a perforating machine for railway tickets (English Patent No 2741/68) and further, his patent No 643/69 from 1869 described an advanced machine "for perforating paper, etc. employing a stripper and embodying interchangeable heads, allowing choice of design" - e.g., for dating railway tickets. (Below you see a "Sloper Date Perforating Machine").



"23March1943"

Toke Norby's Birthday!

Charles Jennings (3) wrote:

The first idea of using Sloper's invention for postage stamps seems to have originated with firms who were already using his machines for their cheques. Certainly, the first to apply to the Post Office for permission to have stamps perforated was Messrs. Copestake, Moore, Crampton and Co., who, in a letter of 23 October 1867, asked the GPO a permission to underprint stamps on the back and asked for permission to perforate stamps. After some correspondence between Sloper and the GPO, Sloper finally received:



General Post Office 13th March 1868

MR. SLOPER

Sir, The Postmaster General has had under consideration your letter of the 27th ultimo, and His Grace desires me to inform you that, under the circumstances, he will not object to the perforation of postage stamps in the manner described by you, with a view to protect merchants and others, as far as possible, from the theft of the stamps used by them.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,

R. PARKHURST. (The Chief Clerk)

F Hugh Vallancey (4) wrote:

"The above formed the basis of the official permit by the GPO and the following is an extract from "General Instructions to Postmasters by the Postmaster General":

March 1st, 1869

POSTAGE STAMPS.

In consequence of representations made to the Post Office by various firms that their Postage Stamps are purloined by persons in their employ, the Department has recommended that the Name or Initials of Firms, etc., be perforated through the Stamps, so, that, inasmuch as the Sale of such Stamps would be thereby rendered difficult, the temptation to steal them might be lessened or altogether removed. Postmasters will take care not to purchase any Postage Stamps thus marked which may be offered to them for Sale.

"The Man who Coined the Term PERFIN"

When I wrote this heading I thought about the good old film "The Man who Shot Liberty Valance" but actually this article has no connection at all to the film, although Lee Marvin's "equalizer" could make holes to.

Since "Part 7 - Epilogue - The Never Ending Story" of my SPIFS/PERFIN story on the STAMPS List and in the news groups rec.collecting.postal-history and rec.collecting.stamps was posted to you on 19 May 1996, I have been in contact with the former president of "The Perfins Club" in the US, Mr Richard L Mewhinney, who has been so kind by spending a lot of time digging out the information I needed to fill the last holes in my series about SPIFS - PERFINs. Thanks to Richard I am now able to post you the

"thrilling conclusion of this exciting mystery story -- Who named these holey stamps PERFINs? What was his/her name? The answer may lie in one of the early issues of the Perfins Club newsletter."

as the late Bob de Violini wrote me in May 1996!

From Richard's papers (5) we can see the most important part of the PERFIN story relates to the terms used. Let me give you a retrospective view and quote some articles from philatelic magazines and other sources:

A clipping from the "American Boy Magazine" (6), February 1909:

"We have noted the issue of stamps privately perforated with initials as a protection against thievery by employes (sic). By a recent order this practice has been authorized and the collecting of these stamps will form an interesting "side line". It is, of course, readily appreciated that they have no pecuniary value but the excitement and pleasure of quest will be appreciated. We illustrate a few current "perforations"." (The illustrations are omitted here. Authors remark). Notice: "no pecuniary value".

Further, the "order" noted above was issued 8 May 1908 by The Postmaster General of the United States (Section 562, Paragraph 5):

16 *"United States Postage stamps, to be acceptable, must be absolutely without defacement, provided*

that for the purpose of identification only and not for advertising, it shall be permissible to puncture or perforate letters, numerals or other marks or devices in the United States Postage and Special Delivery Stamps. The punctures or perforations shall not exceed one thirty-second of an inch in diameter, and the whole space occupied by the identifying marks shall not exceed one-half inch square. The puncturing or perforating must be done in such a manner as to leave the stamp easily recognizable as genuine and not previously used. The use of ink or other coloring matter in connection with such puncturing or perforating is prohibited."

The Early 1930's

It seems that we can not find anything in the philatelic press until the early 1930's where an undated (But what year and which magazine?) note (5) said:

Pin-Perforated U.S. Stamps

In answer to the many requests from the readers of my article in this magazine on pin perfs on November 7, I submit the following list of recently identified devices

Peter E. Hafner"

22 July 1933

In the English magazine "Stamp Collecting" (7), Mr F Hugh Vallancey wrote an article "British Stamps Perforated with Firms' Initials". This article was published serially in the magazine from July/August 1933. This article was reprinted as a little pamphlet the same year. At that time, the term "SPIFS" was not yet coined.

November 1933

In the Danish magazine "Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift" (8), the head clerk in the Danish GPO, Mr Olaf Bøgh wrote about "perforated" stamps used by different authorities in Denmark.

13 June 1936

Mr George Harnden, in the "Weekly Philatelic Gossip" (an American magazine) wrote an article named "Perforated Initials" (9) in which he wrote:

"The name, "Perforated Initials", is applied by stamp collectors to stamps through which small holes have been punched for private identification purposes before being postally used. They are generally discarded from specialized and advanced collections as being imperfect. The name, which is prevalent among philatelists, is really a misnomer because numerals, geometrical designs, trade marks, etc., are also perforated in stamps, as well as initials or letters. The proper name, I believe, and the one which I have coined for this little known side-line of philately, is "Private Identification Markings Applied to Postage Stamps". For the sake of brevity throughout this article they will be referred to merely as "Private Markings"."

Of course he had the opportunity to coin the abbreviation "PIMAPS" :-) but as we know he did not.

Harnden also mentioned the first countries to adopt PERFINs:

"Foreign governments recognized this bad situation many years ago as evidenced by the dates on which their postal laws were amended to allow the perforation of stamps for identification purposes. England granted permission to perforate stamps in 1868, only 28 years after the issue of her first postage stamp; Belgium, in 1872; Germany, France, Denmark and Switzerland in 1876; Austria-Hungary in 1877; Italy in 1890; Japan in 1902, and the Netherlands in 1903".

December 1943 - The Term PERFIN was coined

It seems that the year before the term SPIFS was coined in England, the term PERFIN was coined in USA. It was actually coined by the stamp collector Mr Hallock Card, of New York, who was the editor of the "Homestead Hobbyist" (10) in which we in No 3 from February-March 1944 can read:

Join the "Perfins"

A society for collectors of perforate initial stamps. Send stamps and envelopes for membership card. No dues, no other costs. The "HOBBYIST" will come to you each issue for one year. Your name listed, kinds you collect, number in collection, and if you wish to exchange, keep me informed

of changes of address. Any member can secure a list of members by sending a 3c stamp. Address: Homestead Hobbyist, Otselic, N.Y."

In his "A History of The Perfins Club - a Research Project" (11) from June 1970, Mr Richard L Mewhinney wrote:

"The Perfins Club

An organization of philatelists, devoted to the collection and study of Perforated Initials and Insignia in postage stamps. Founded 1943".

Notice that Mewhinney also use the term "Insignia" - This is, as far as I know, the earliest known use of the term in connection to PERFINs - Further, **when The Perfins Club was founded it was the first time the term PERFIN was used!!**

Mewhinney continues:

"A CLUB

Sometime in the early part of 1943, a gentleman by the name of Hallock Card of Otselic, N. Y. noted an advertisement in "LINN'S" about perfins. The advertiser, one Warren Travell. This is our beginning. But for these two men, this work may never have been written, or at least would have been a different story. Mr. Card, a printer, was at this time sending out a monthly advertising pamphlet called the "HOMESTEAD HOBBYIST" to some 700 subscribers. Mr. Card answered Mr. Travell's advertisement and a correspondence developed. Warren Travell urged Hallock Card to start a club using the "HOMESTEAD HOBBYIST" as a media of spreading information. Travell had found several mentions of perfins in various periodicals and insisted that many collectors were saving perfins but had no way of contacting each other. Hallock Card did use his little advertising pamphlet to spread the word and an organization was formed and members were accepted into the group. All available information indicates this founding date to be December, 1943. Dues, forms of that period, and letters written by Hallock Card at later dates list this month and year."

In "Linn's Weekly Stamp News" (12) we can see one classified advertisement from Warren Travell that appeared in three consecutive issues of "Linn's Weekly Stamp News". The first appearance was 13 May 1943, followed by 20 May and 27 May, but nothing after that. In each of the issues, the advertisement appeared under the heading "Wanted," and on Page 6 each time. This is the text of the advertisement:

WANTED, ACCUMULATIONS OF PER-
forated initials. State amount and price
or swap wants. Warren Travell, San
Bernardino, Cal.



"Official Records 1945

The first official publication of the Perfins Club was the first issue of "PERFINS" that came out in April, 1945. A membership list at this time shows a total of 28 members. The club had three officers:
#1- Hallock Card was our Editor-Secretary-Treasurer
#3- Charles Metz was named as our first Vice President in June 1945.
#4- Warren Travell was our President."

As you see it was Mr Hallock Card who coined the term PERFIN, probably in agreement with Mr Warren Travell.

1944 - The Term SPIFS Was Coined

In Charles Jennings's book (3) from 1968, "The History of British Security Stamps (Overprinted and Underprinted)", published by the "Security Endorsement & Perfin Society of Great Britain" we can read that it was Charles Bein, who, in the "West End Philatelist", between July 1944 and February 1947, published a series of articles entitled "SPIFS". Charles Jennings wrote: *"This was the first official use of the name "SPIFS", which Bein coined from the initial letters of the phrase "Stamps*

1960

"Perfins, Spifs or Punchies or why they punched holes in stamps?"

I only quoted Mr Van Lint because he used the term "Punchies" which I never had heard before :-)

Now you have all the information I have found about the perforated stamps. I was happy to dig all this out and I am happy that I know quite a bit more, thanks to all the kind people who had helped me with the story of SPIFS - PERFINs.

Thank you for your attention!
Toke Nørby

References:

1. "Firma-Perforeringer/PERFINS" by Harald Suhr-Jensen. Stamp Exhibition Catalogue for ARNØPHIL 76, 13-14 March 1976, Copenhagen, Denmark, pp 49-53.
2. "Sir Henry Bessemer - Inventor of PERFINS!" by Maurice Harp. The Perfin Society Bulletin No 274, February 1995, pp 6-7.
3. "History of British Security Stamps (Overprinted and Underprinted)" by Charles Jennings. 1968. See also (14) and (15).
4. "British Stamps Perforated with Firms' Initials" by F Hugh Vallancey. Stamp Collectors' Handbook, No. 1. 1948.
5. Files of Mr Richard L Mewhinney.
6. American Boy Magazine, February 1909.
7. "British Stamps Perforated with Firms' Initials" by F Hugh Vallancey. Stamp Collecting, 22 July 1933, pp 425-426. 29 July 1933, pp 445-446. 5 August 1933, pp 469-470 and 478.
8. "Nuværende Danske Tjenestemærker" by Olaf Bøgh. Nordisk Filatelistisk Tidsskrift, Vol 12, 15 December 1933, pp 253-254.
9. "Perforated Initials" by George H Harnden, the "Weekly Philatelic Gossip", 13 June, 1946, p 453.
10. "Homestead Hobbyist, No 3, February/March 1944. Publisher: Mr Hallock Card.
11. "A History of The Perfins Club - a Research Project" by Richard L Mewhinney. June 1970.
12. "Linn's Weekly Stamp News: 13 May 1943, Vol XVI, No 8, Whole Number 758.
20 May 1943, Vol XVI, No 9, Whole Number 759.
27 May 1943, Vol XVI, No 10, Whole Number 760.
13. "Perfins, Spifs or Punchies" by Victor J Van Lint. The American Philatelist, January 1960, Vol 73, No 4, p 257.

Two other recommendable books:

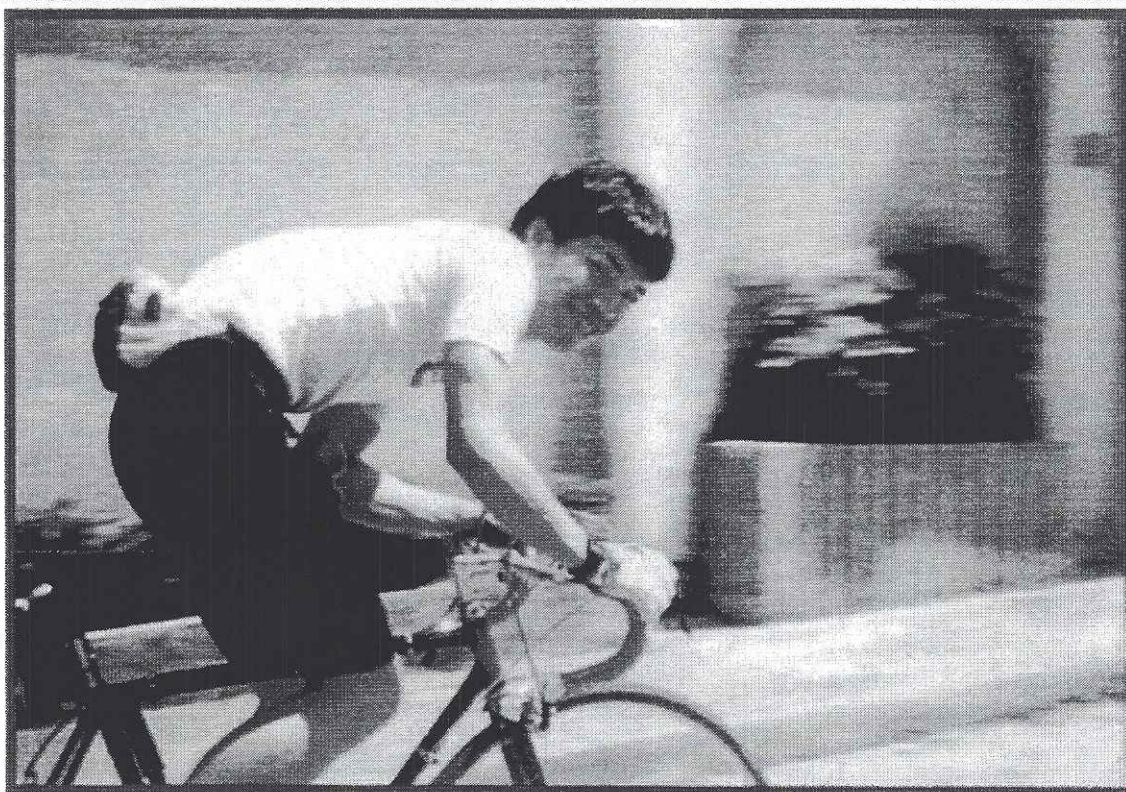
15. A History of J Sloper & Co's Stamp Security Service Through Five Reigns. By Sloper & Co. 1939

Editors note: I wish to thank Tøke Norby for his kind permission to print the above abridged article from his web site. You can see the full article at: <http://www.norbyhus.dk/perfhist.html>"

Below is part of the website front page. This is followed by Frame1, pages1 and 4, part of frame 2 and copies of Raymond's award certificates.



Bisekleta Guy.org



Raymond Valerio See aka Bisekleta Guy



Frame 1

Frame 2

Frame 3

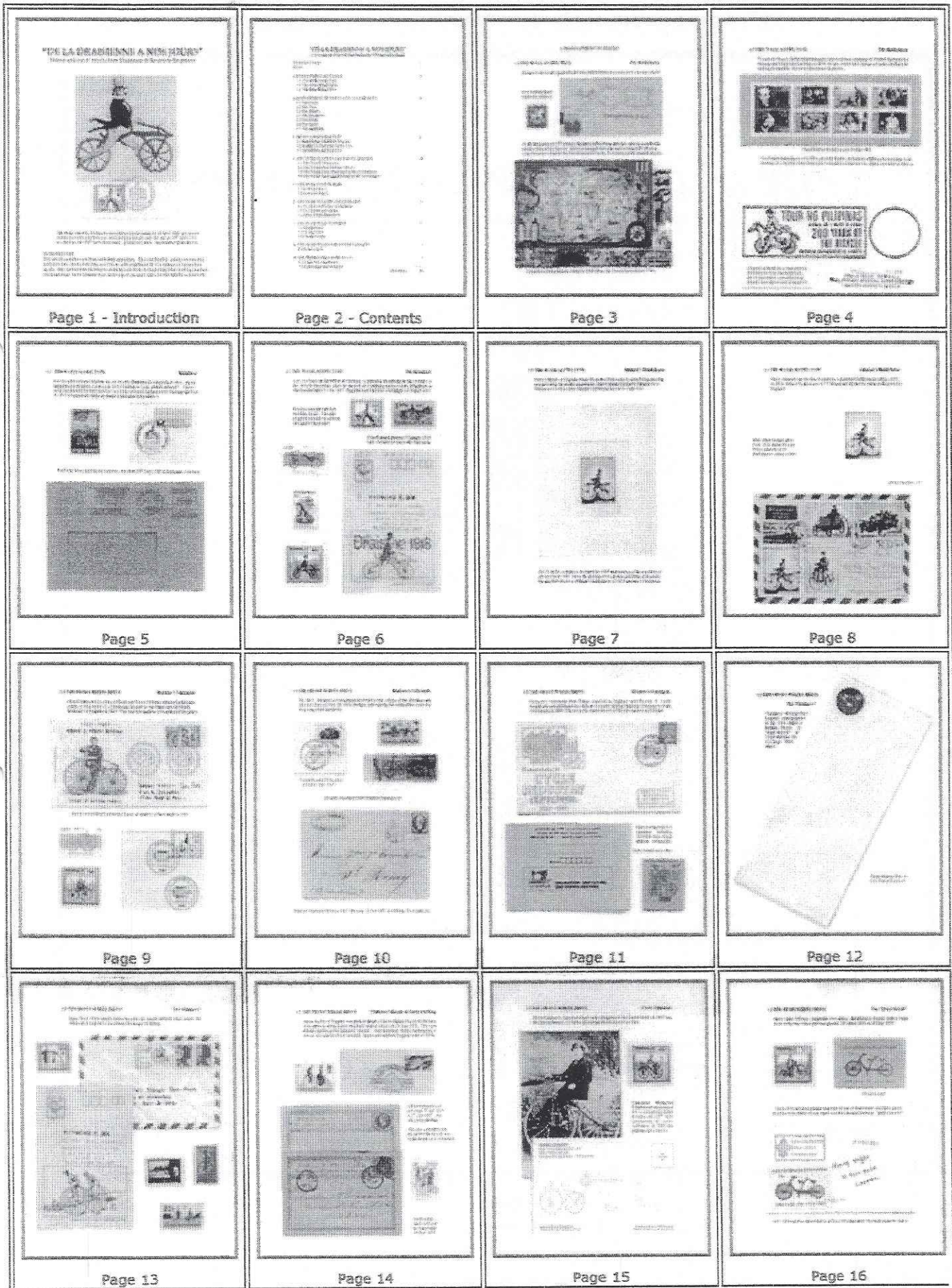
Frame 4

Frame 5

Email Me



HISTORY AND USE OF THE BICYCLE / FRAME 1





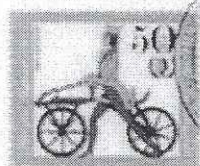
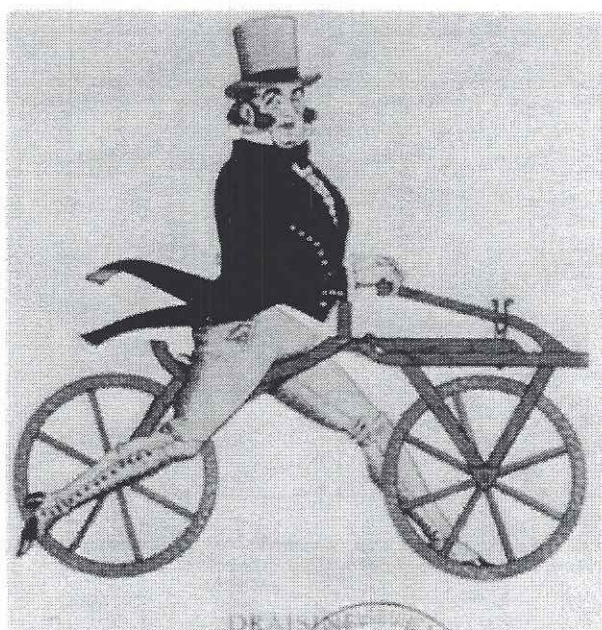
BisekletaGuy.org



HISTORY AND USE OF THE BICYCLE / FRAME 1

"DE LA DRAISIENNE A NOS JOURS"

History and use of bicycle from Draisienne of the past to the present



The stamp showing Draisienne was released by Germany on 16 April 1985, the special commemorative postmark was used in Karlsruhe for only one day on 29th April 1985 to celebrate the 200th birth anniversary of Karl von Drais, the inventor of the bicycle

INTRODUCTION

The bicycle enriches our lives with their usefulness. They are healthy, energy saving and pollution free. Most of all they provide us with enjoyment be it in leisure or competitive sports. This exhibit tells the history of the bicycle from its beginning from walking machine the Draisienne to the present type, touching on its many uses for the benefit of mankind.

Page 1

Exhibit Introduction

24 P-1 P-2 P-3 P-4 P-5 P-6 P-7 P-8 P-9 P-10 P-11 P-12 P-13 P-14 P-15 P-16



BisekletaGuy.org



HISTORY AND USE OF THE BICYCLE / FRAME 1

1.1 THE WALK ALONG TYPE

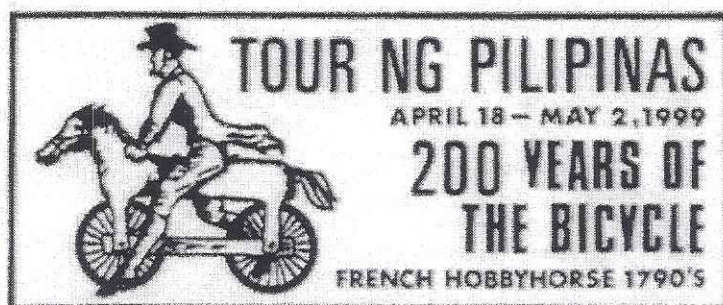
The Hobbyhorse

Nicéphore Niepce, father of photography, had confirmed existence of French hobbyhorses through surviving letters written in 1818. He was said to have improved on the machine by making it steerable. However this cannot be proven...



French stamp booklet issued 10 July 1999

No French hobbyhorses of 1790's survived. Baudry de Saurier confirms its existence in his drawing of a wooden beam fashioned to resemble a horse on two wheels on which a rider sat.



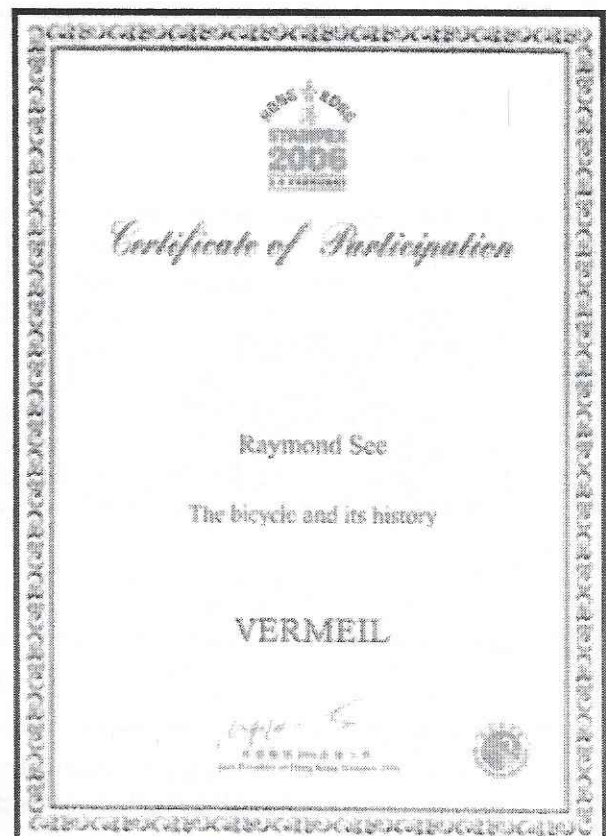
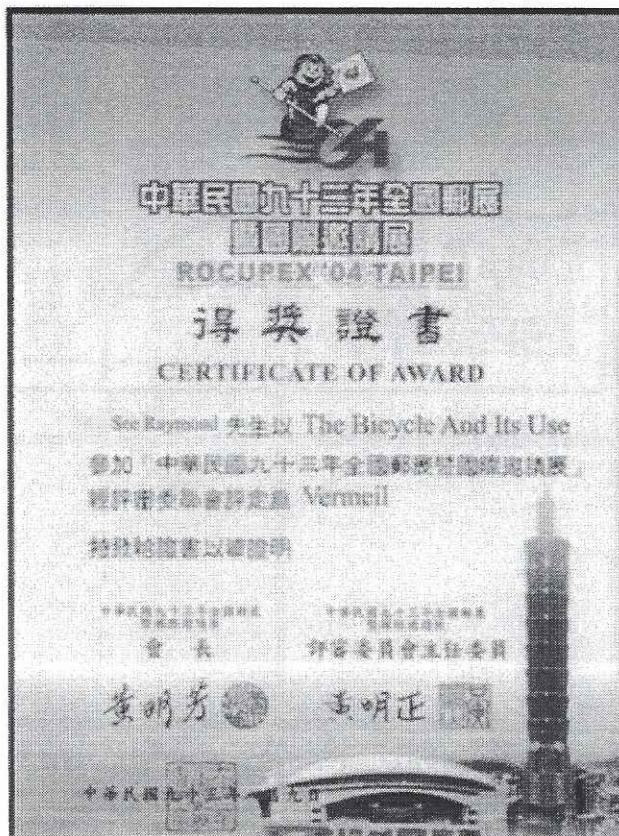
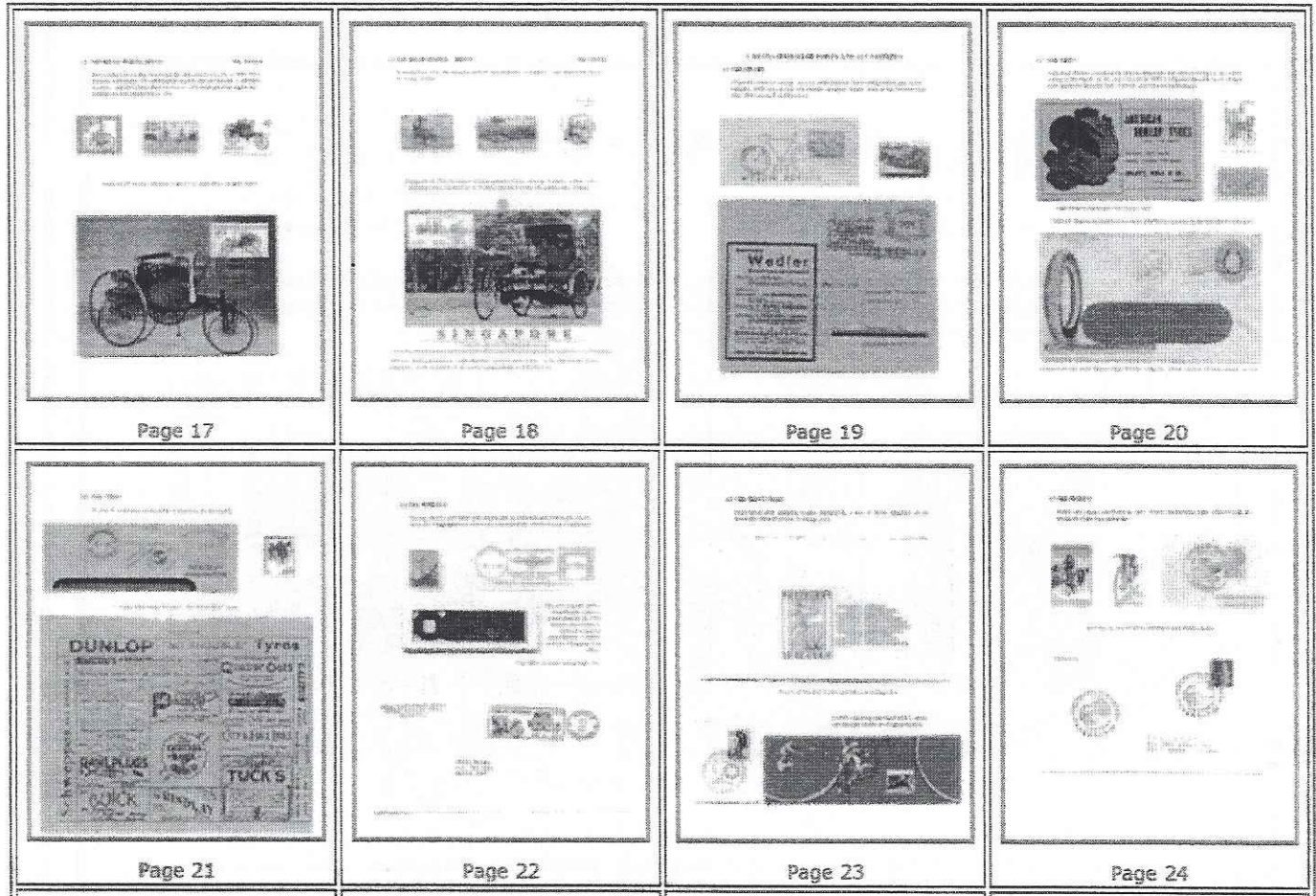
Original artwork for a cancellation intended for issue but withdrawn due to last minute cancellation of bicycle race due to lack of sponsors

PHILIPPINE POSTAL CORPORATION
LIWAPANG BONIFACIO, MANILA

Page 4 - Development in Stages The Walk Along Type - The Hobbyhorse

P-1 P-2 P-3 P-4 P-5 P-6 P-7 P-8 P-9 P-10 P-11 P-12 P-13 P-14 P-15 P-16

HISTORY AND USE OF THE BICYCLE / FRAME 2



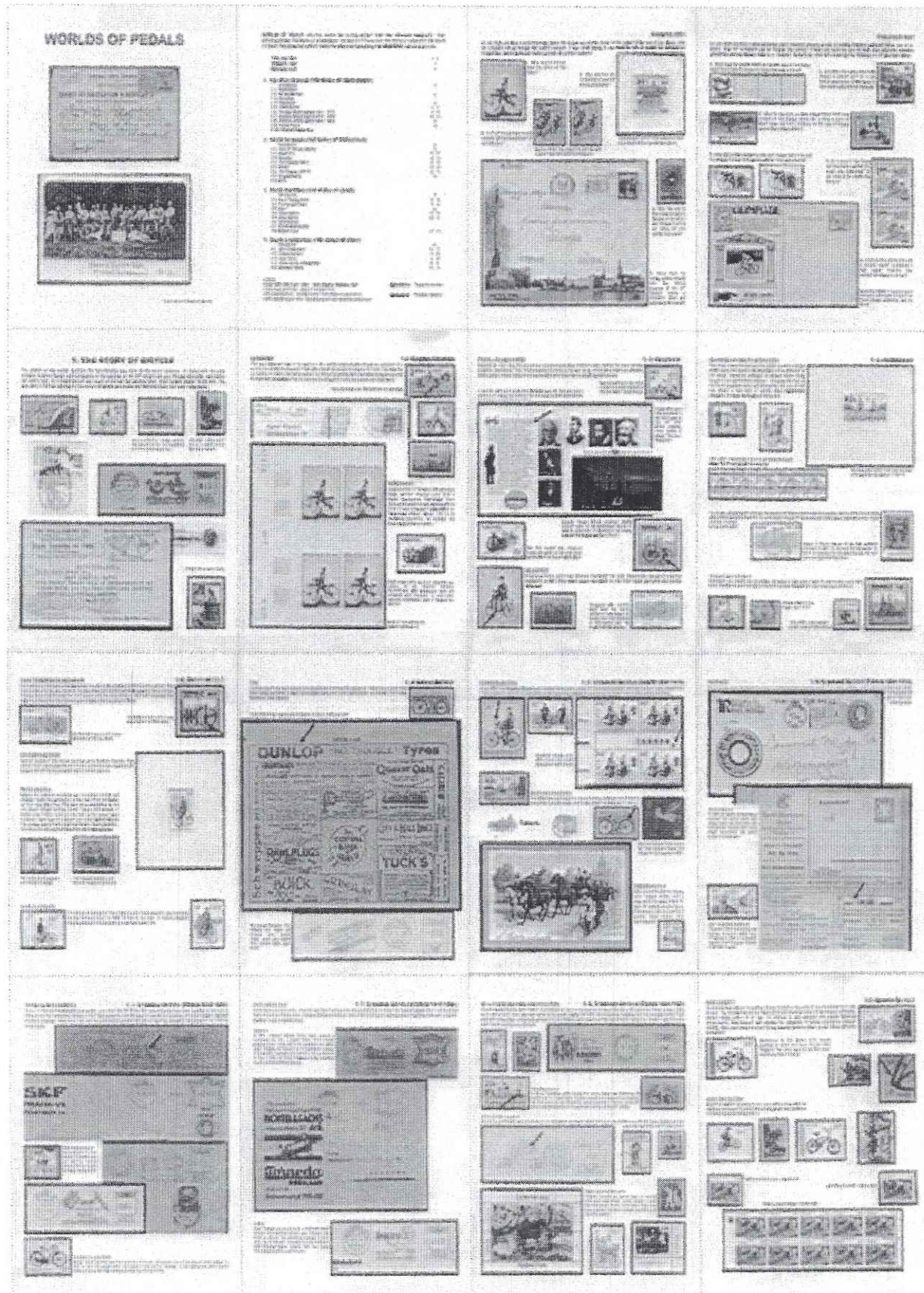
EXPONET

VIRTUAL INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

EXHIBIT: **WORLDS OF PEDALS**

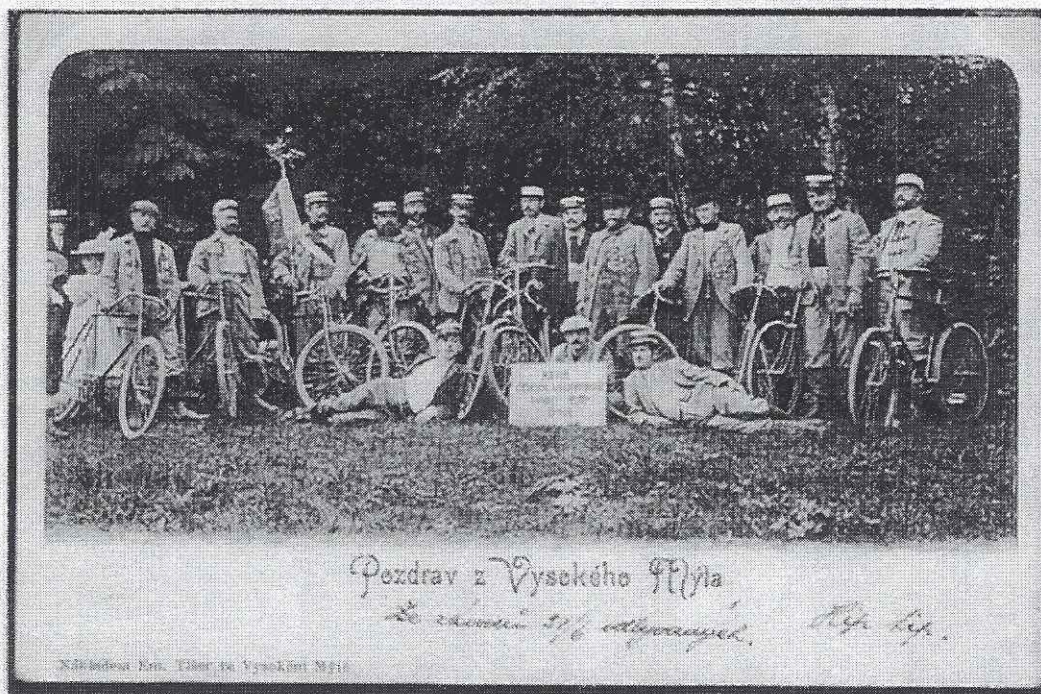
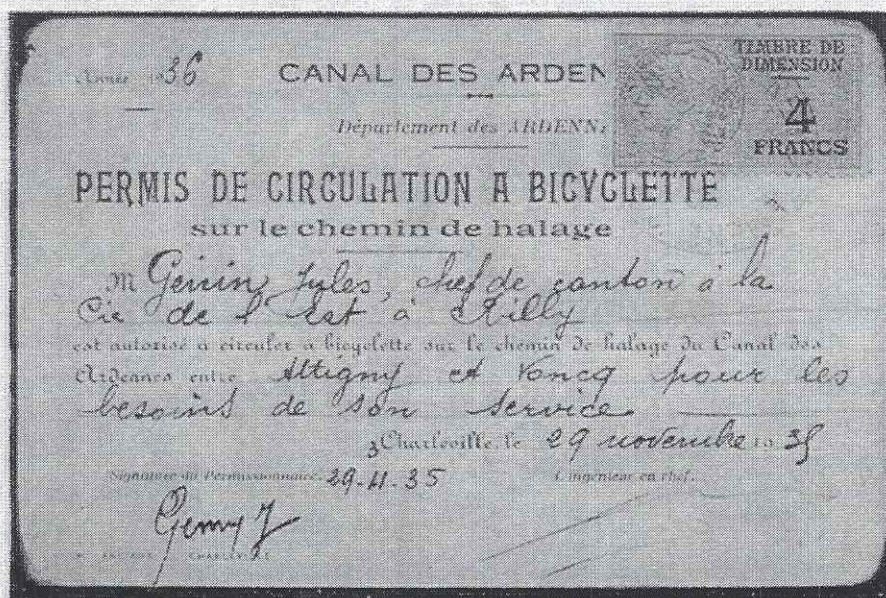
EXHIBITOR: **VOJTECH JANKOVIC, BRATISLAVA, SLOVAKIA**

Editors note: this is Frame 1 of Vojtech Jankovic's Exhibit, on the following pages are pages 1,3 and 4





WORLDS OF PEDALS



Vojtech Jankovič, Bratislava, Slovakia

THEMATIC TEST

Do you think you have a good knowledge about the bicycle and various forms of its usage? Either yes or no, please, stop for a moment and go through the exhibit carefully. I hope after seeing it, you would be able to answer the following set of questions. Which particular sheets provide the correct answers?



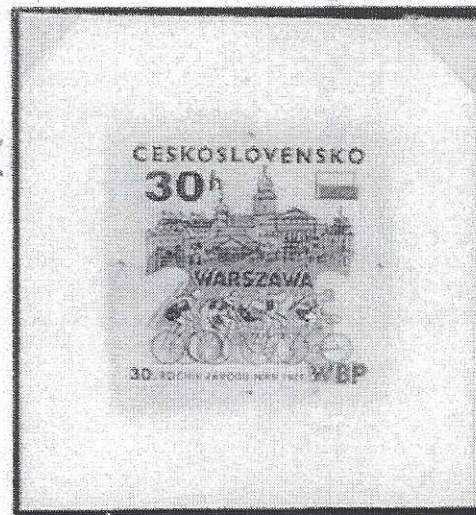
1. What kind of mistake made the author of this stamp?

2. Why was the city of Warsaw chosen for this bicycle stamp?



Belgium (1963): Two stamps, the left one with a typical "blue front wheel" printing error.

3. In which cycling event cyclists compete behind motorbikes? Do you know why?



Czechoslovakia (1977): A full colour proof with a significant shift of red and blue colours.



4. Why the man on the stamp carries his bicycle on his shoulder instead of sitting on, riding and propelling it by pedals?

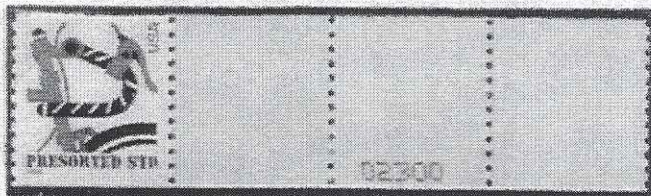


5. Were there any cycling events included into the official program of the 12th Olympic Games in Helsinki? What did sportsmen do instead?

PHILATELIC TEST

Do you think you have a good knowledge about thematic philately as well as building thematic exhibits? Either yes or no, please, stop for a moment and go through the exhibit. I hope you would be able to find some particular philatelic specialities and non-obvious items in it. However, to warm up, start with answering the following set of questions, please.

1. What does the number 02300 on the rear side of the stamps mean? What type of stamps are these five ones in a strip?



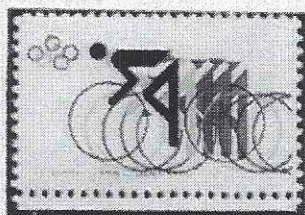
2. Why does this stamp have holes shaped in letters SIT? Is it any kind of destruction of the stamp or have those holes another meaning?



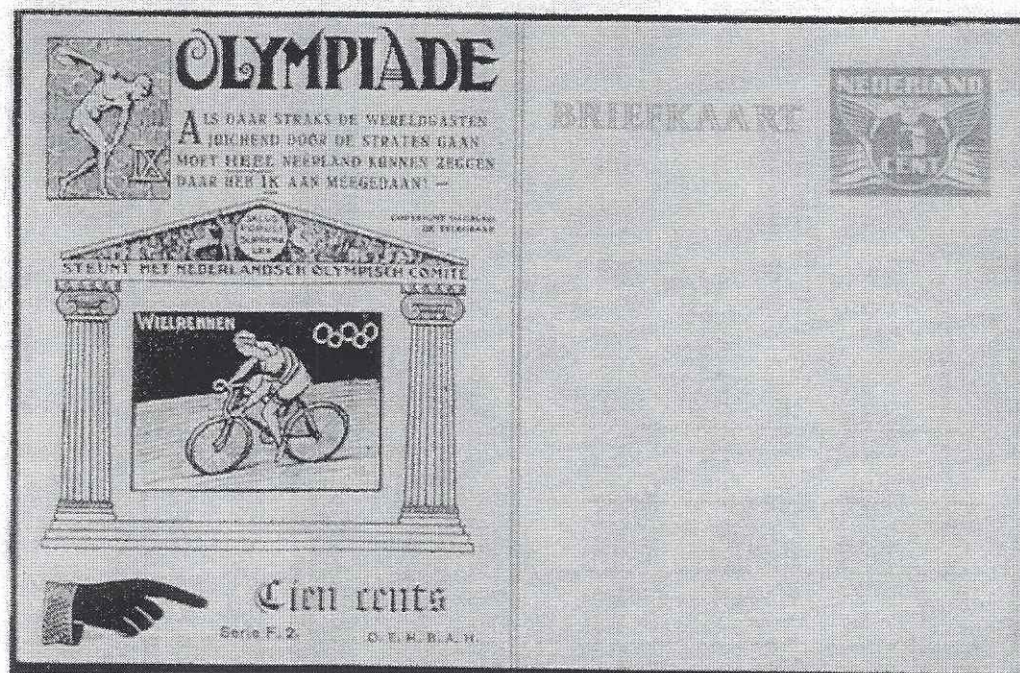
3. What do the texts on these stamps mean? Were they printed on the stamps during the printing process or later? Have the texts influence on the type of stamps and/or their postal validity?



4. What did probably happen to the right stamp? Could it be used for postage if there is no country neither face value printed?



5. Is it correct that there are two stamps instead of a single one presented? If yes, what is the reason for doing so?



6. Could be this postal card with a private imprint considered a fully regular philatelic item suitable for thematic exhibit?

Nederland (1928): A "Huygens" postal stationery card issued to finance the Dutch Olympic Committee, sold for 3c+10c.

