

28/35

# TORCH BEARER



SOCIETY of OLYMPIC COLLECTORS

11-2

## YOUR COMMITTEE

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- CHAIRMAN:** Mrs Franceska Rapkin, Eaglewood, Oxhey Lane  
Hatch End, Middx HA5 4AL Great Britain.
- VICE CHAIRMAN  
AND EDITOR:** Robert Farley, 14 Lime Walk, Acton,  
Nr Sudbury, Suffolk. CO10 OUL, Great Britain.
- SECRETARY:** Mrs Elizabeth Miller, 258 Torrisholme Road,  
Lancaster LA1 2TU, Great Britain.
- TREASURER AND  
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Dorset DT2 8SN. Great Britain.
- AUCTION MANAGER:** John Crowther, 3 Hill Drive, Handforth,  
Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 3AP, Great Britain.
- LIBRARIAN:** Ken Cook, 31 Thorn Lane, Rainham, Essex  
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- P.R.O.** Andy Potter, 75 Morley Avenue, Wood Green,  
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- BACK ISSUES AND  
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Lancaster LA1 2TU, Great Britain.
- ADVERTISING:** David Buxton, 88 Bucknell Road, Bicester,  
Oxon OX6 8DR, Great Britain.
- COMMITTEE:** Bob Wilcock.

**BACK ISSUES:** At present, back issues of TORCH BEARER are still available to Volume 1, Issue 1, (March 1984), though there are now very few complete sets of Volume 1. When these run out, they will not be reprinted. It is Society policy to ensure that new members will be able to purchase back issues for a four year period, but we do not guarantee stocks for longer than this. Back issues cost £1.25 each, or £5.00 for a year's issues, including postage by surface mail. If ordering single copies, please indicate which volume you require. Cheques should be made payable to the SOCIETY OF OLYMPIC COLLECTORS and sent with the order to John Miller at the above address. If you wish to receive back issues by airmail, please add 75 pence per issue (£3.00 per volume.)

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

**COPY DATES:** TORCH BEARER is published four times a year; in February, May, August, and November. Articles or adverts for inclusion in a particular issue should be sent at least two months in advance.

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Johan Jorgen Holst 1937 – 1994

On the 13 January Johan Holst, Foreign Minister of Norway, and S.O.C. member, died in Oslo after a short period of hospitalisation following a stroke in December.

Johan achieved deserved acclaim during 1993 for the joint efforts of his family in brokering the talks between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

The Times described Johan, .. as combining formidable intelligence and eloquence with great personal charm, listing his spare time pursuits as listening to the music of Gustav Mahler and collecting stamps.

Johan corresponded with many collectors worldwide and collected host nation material from all modern Olympiads. I was fortunate to be one of those correspondents, and had the pleasure of meeting with Johan and his family in March 1993. He was an informed and enthusiastic collector, keen to share and acquire knowledge of all new material with his correspondents. His frequent letters were always eagerly awaited, and I am sure that many collections of Lillehammer material will include items provided by Johan. It is ironic that he was not able to attend the XVII Winter Games in his native Norway.

Condolences have been forwarded to his wife Marianne, and his son Edvard.



Med NOC til OL



Johan Jørgen Holst

400 dager igjen til OL på Lillehammer.



C5

Special cover prepared by Johan for the approach of the Lillehammer Games.

## FRONT PAGE

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As the first, I hope that this will be the most difficult Front Page that I have to write – "practise makes perfect" springs to mind.

Betty Miller expressed the views of many members in the February issue, but I feel that I must recall the effort that Francesca has put into Torch Bearer for ten years. I know that she benefitted from Leon's guidance and proof reading for much of that time, and I know that I will have similar support from my wife Brenda. The maintenance of previous standards will be high on my list of objectives.

I stressed, when offering to take on the role of editor, that I had no wish or intention of writing a forty eight page journal four times a year, and I know that the committee will help to avoid that happening.

The quality of Torch Bearer, your magazine, is dependant on your input, I make no apologies for the rather blatant attempts to encourage your submissions. These will be found throughout the pages in future, whenever an article touches on an obvious subject for development. The ongoing exchange of views about modern material and it's presentation at exhibitions is a good example. Many of us will benefit from the views being expressed, surely other members have a contribution to make.

I look forward to writing letters of apology, excusing the delays in publication of submitted articles. (A task I would prefer, when faced with the option of "creating" articles on subjects in which I do not specialize).

Those members of longer standing, will be aware that I write on current Games, particularly Winter, as Brenda and I have a preference for attending the winter events. Those who know me personally will know that my collecting (hoarding?) interests are far broader based, and extend beyond philatelic boundaries.

My personal views on future development of Torch Bearer will obviously influence my role as Editor. Through a number of "Front Pages" I will try to share those views, so that you can offer comment, influence my decisions and help me to achieve what you really want. The first instalment includes the real fundamentals :

Firstly, Torch Bearer is the only link between all of the members, and must be the society flagship. Collectively, we the members, have a unique pool of knowledge. I believe that each of us can improve the enjoyment of our hobby (whatever our collecting field) by sharing and recording that knowledge, for the benefit of fellow members and newcomers. Torch Bearer remains a unique source for many facts, and regularly acts as the earliest record for current Games.

Secondly, the title of our Society, does not attempt to restrict membership or the journal to philatelic boundaries. I have often wondered if we lose some short term members because we fail to provide any news, views or articles on their collecting field. Postcards appear to have become an established part of many collections, literature is important to everyone, but what of coins, medals, posters, match box labels? Indeed, an almost endless list, having the Olympic theme in common. Please put pen to paper and enlighten us all!

Atlanta 1996

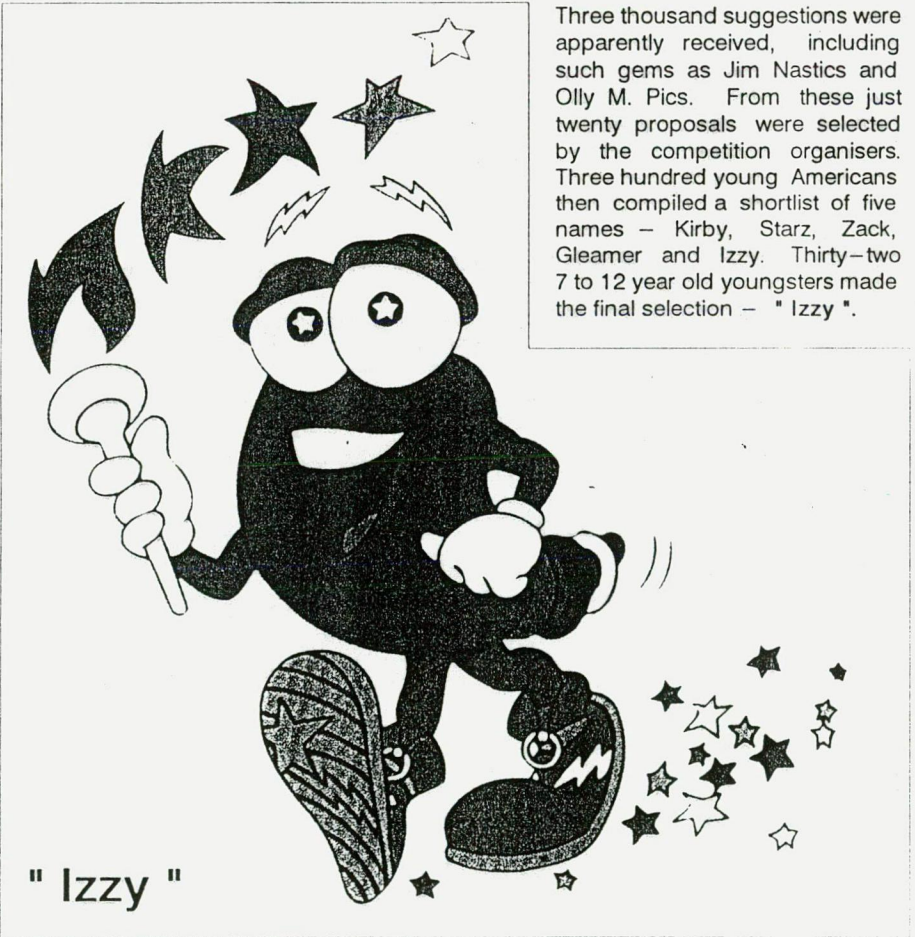
Olympic Review No. 309 / 310 July – August 1993, reports an update on the proposed mascot for Atlanta.

The mascot, which is described as "rather undefinable", currently enjoys the name Whatizit. This is considered too vague a name for a mascot destined for worldwide stardom. The Organizing Committee had invited Atlanteans under fifteen years old to suggest possible names in a competition.

After all the comments about the United States and commercialism, particularly related to the Olympic Games and exploiting marketing opportunities, Whatizit looks unlikely to appear in the top ten on many children's christmas lists. "It" will present an interesting challenge to the manufacturers of cuddly toys !

\* \* \* \* \*

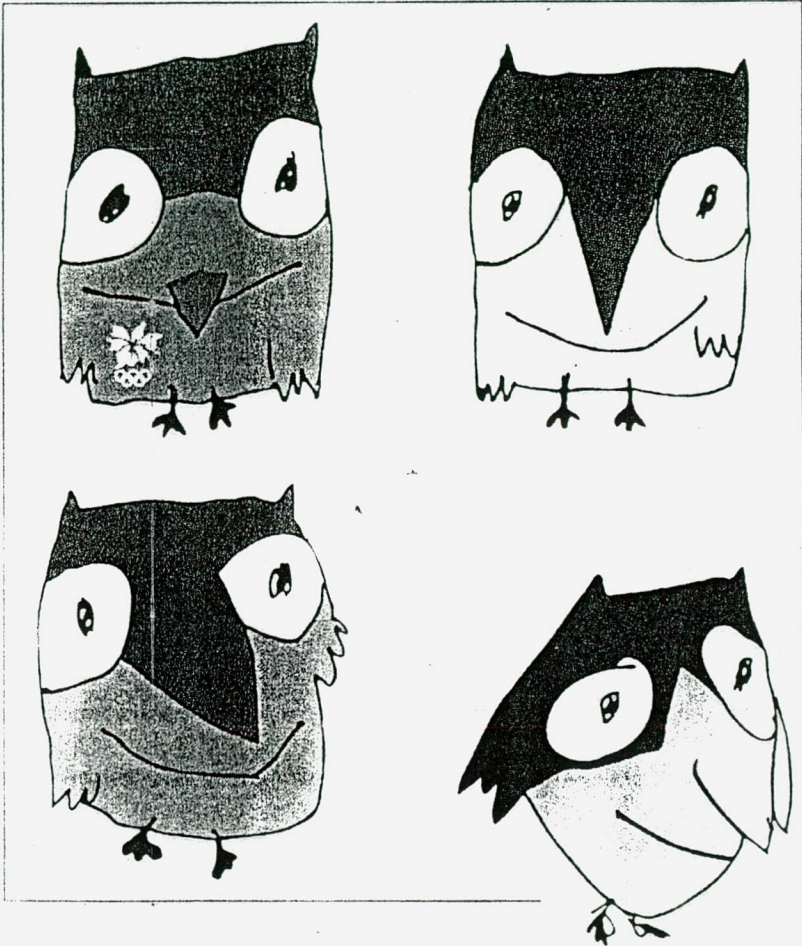
Three thousand suggestions were apparently received, including such gems as Jim Nastics and Olly M. Pics. From these just twenty proposals were selected by the competition organisers. Three hundred young Americans then compiled a shortlist of five names – Kirby, Starz, Zack, Gleamer and Izzy. Thirty-two 7 to 12 year old youngsters made the final selection – "Izzy".



Nagano 1998

Olympic Review No. 312 October – November 1993, reveals the names of the mascots for the XVIII Winter Games.

" They have the charming name of "Snowlets", an ingenious combination of snow and "owlets"."



The mascots seem to always appear as a group of four, each varies in colour and each having a different expression. Interestingly, only one ( top left ), has the Games logo incorporated in the design.

On the 13 th June 1993, ( second anniversary of the award of the Games ), a large group of helpers planted over 6,000 trees in Iizuna Kogen, the site of the acrobatic skiing competitions in 1998.

# NEWS

Bob Scott, chairman of the Manchester 2000 Bid Committee, was knighted in the New Year honours, for his work during the unsuccessful bid.

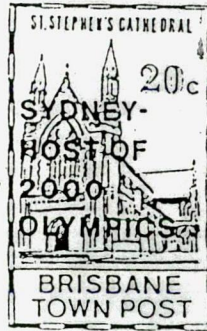
Sir Robert Scott, became chairman of a bid to host the Commonwealth Games in 2002. The Commonwealth Games Council for England, at their meeting on February 2, chose between the proposals of Manchester, Sheffield and London, selecting Manchester as the english candidate, to go forward to the meeting of the Commonwealth Games Federation in November 1995 where the final selection will be made.

Ivan Mircev sends details of a "cinderella" miniature sheet issued by Brisbane Town Post to commemorate the choice of Sydney as host of the XXVII th Olympic Games.

The sheet was issued on the 27 th September 1993, and was printed by "Printshop at the End of the World", Brisbane.

Members interested in obtaining a copy of this sheet should write to Ivan at :

P. O. Box 431  
Nerang, Queensland 4211,  
Australia.



B T P  
1991-1993

R. J. Thomas sends details of some 2002 Winter Games Bid Comités:

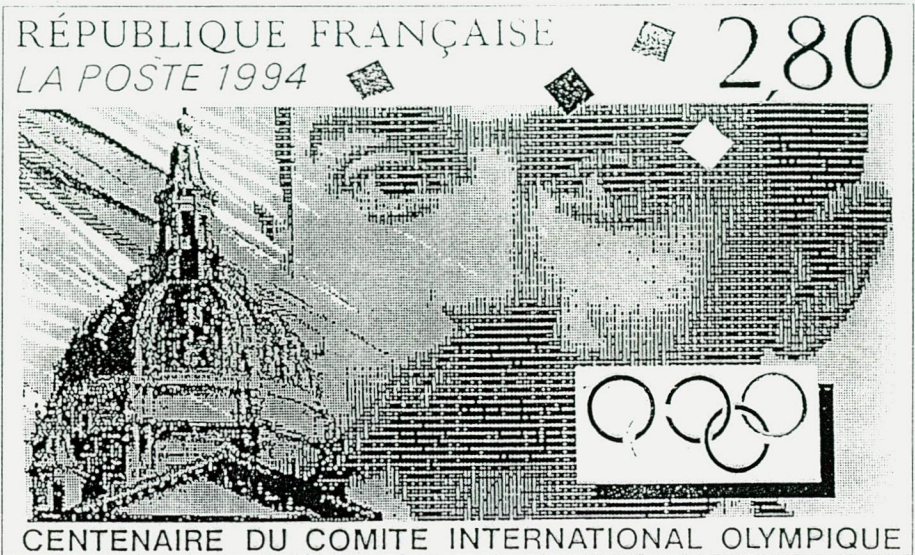
Salt Lake City Bid Committee,  
215 South State # 2002,  
Salt Lake City,  
Utah 84111  
United States of America

Quebec 2002 Winter Games Corporation,  
525 Boulevard Rene Levesque Est,  
Bureau 500  
Quebec  
Canada G1R 5R2

SUPPORT YOUR SOCIETY ! - Why not use the Society Packet or Auction to dispose of your unwanted material ? Remember that your duplicates could well become another member's treasures !

**NEWS**






Bob Wilcock provides the following information from France :



The provisional design for the planned stamp issue on 23 June 1994, Centenary of the International Olympic Committee. There will be an Olympic Philatelic Exhibition to coincide with the Centenary I. O. C. Congress, 26 August – 5 September.

A number of Society members intend to visit Paris for the Exhibition. Others who are interested in either exhibiting or visiting the Exhibition should contact either Bob Farley or Bob Wilcock as soon as possible.

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<p><b>ALPINE SKIING</b> Slalom places a premium on speed and skill. Skiers must race down unforgiving mountainsides through a maze of flagged gates.</p>	<p><b>LUGE</b> Participants, known as "sliders" careen down a course of banked, and hair-pin turns at speeds up to 65 m.p.h.</p>	<p><b>ICE DANCING</b> Form and grace, elaborate costumes and charismatic melodies combine to make ice dancing an Olympic favorite.</p>	<p><b>NORDIC SKIING</b> Perhaps the most gripping of the skiing competitions, cross-country racers endure taxing trials over rolling natural terrain.</p>	<p><b>ICE HOCKEY</b> The "goalie", protected by more than 40 pounds of padding, must react in a flash to stop approaching shots.</p>
<p>29  USA</p>	<p>29  USA</p>	<p>29  USA</p>	<p>29  USA</p>	<p>29  USA</p>

United States "Winter Sports" issue, no mention of the Olympics, possibly an indication of their thoughts on TOP III membership?

## MEMBERS FORUM

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Member J. Glassford of 45 Darwin Road, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP4 1QE, recently purchased an Olympic collection for the 1988 Games of Calgary and Seoul.

The collection was originally offered on a subscription basis by The Westminster Collection Ltd., P.O. Box 100, Watford, Hertfordshire., and was marketed as the Olympic Masterfile.

Mr. Glassford is uncertain about the completeness of his purchase, he has the items despatched with newsletters 1 – 24. Correspondence with The Westminster Collection has not been able to establish the overall size of their "collection" as their records are not kept beyond the final distribution.

If any member can confirm the extent of this collection or the existence of a newsletter after number 24, Mr Glassford would be pleased to hear from you.

\* \* \* \* \*

Italian member Uberto V. Stefanutti responded to GRENOBLE FINDS (vol. 10, p.77).

The Hotel Farandole, user of the meter illustrated in Grenoble Finds, acted as a reception site for the Olympic area. Umberto has stayed at the hotel when acting in his capacity with F. I. S., and was intending to question the hotel management about their involvement in the Grenoble Winter Games. Unfortunately his judging schedule was later changed. It does however appear that there may be a link between the hotel and the Games.

Uberto also responded to the Ice Hockey article (vol. 10, p79), and added further information about printing varieties of the Polish stamps commemorating the IX th Winter Olympic Games, Innsbruck.

The 1 zl. value, ski-jumping (SG 1447), exists with the value missing, apparently as a result of a missing colour. The photocopy received is unfortunately not clear enough to reproduce.

Uberto has recently added a cover for the Calgary Winter Games to his collection which bears a Nakiska cancel, with a date style not listed in Winternheimer or previous issues of Torch Bearer. [ This item will be included in a future article as research has been in progress since May 1988, when I first became aware of this style of cancel. Ed. ]

\* \* \* \* \*

The major Philatelic Catalogues, including Scott, Stanley Gibbons, Yvert and Michel, rarely list varieties of issued stamps unless they originate from either their own home country or related territories, where far more specialised listings are of greater interest to collectors in their home market.

The interests of our members, transcend such boundaries, and create a demand for knowledge of issues from less well documented countries. If you possess such varieties, please share your knowledge through Torch Bearer.

**MEMBERS FORUM**

James Bowman, of 3459 Township Avenue, Simi Valley, CA 93063 – 1546, USA, recently purchased the cover illustrated at auction. James is seeking information about the cachets that have been applied.

The backstamps confirm that redirection took place. Please pass information to James direct, with a copy to the Editor so that Torch Bearer can pass on any explanation of the cachets to everyone.



*Empfänger!*



*An*  
Wehrmacht-Transport-Abteilung  
der XI. Olympiade  
Döberitz-Eisgrund

*14. / 1/2. Wbr. Div. 22/4  
Inf.- Regt. 8, All.-Inf.-Abt.  
Münster-Gladbach - ~~Friedrichshagen~~  
~~Friedrichshagen~~*



Frei durch Ablösung Reich

\*\*\*\*\*  
Thomas Paton, 161 Kings Road, Harrogate, HG1 5JQ, England, plans to issue a label to commemorate the centenary of the I.O.C., the design is still being finalised, but will be common. Text will be printed in six languages: English, French, German, Greek, Italian and Russian (one per label). The labels will be printed in five colours, and in sheetlets of six – write direct for further details.

\*\*\*\*\*  
Dick Frost, Gerona, Church Road, Grandborough, Rugby CV23 8DH, has started to prepare an index of sporting personalities, listing just their name and the sport in which they compete. It is anticipated that the overall index will contain some 2500 – 3000 entries. Dick envisages that a complete print would run to about fifteen A4 sheets. Members interested should make direct contact. Cost is likely to be £ 1.00 including postage – basically cost of copying and sending.

## MINUTES OF THE A.G.M. OF THE S.O.C. – 1993.

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Held on the 3rd. July 1993 at 2.30pm in the Victory Services Club, 63/79 Seymour Street, London.

Mrs. Rapkin opened the meeting at 2.30pm by welcoming members to the seventh Annual General Meeting.

### Present

Mrs F. Rapkin (Chairman)	Mr R. Farley (Vice Chairman)
Mrs. E. Miller (Secretary)	Mr. C. Faers (Treasurer / Packet Manager)
Mr. J. Crowther (Auction Manager)	Mr. K. Cook (Librarian)
Mr. J. Miller (Printer and Distributor)	Mr. R. Wilcock

Five members of the Society.

### Apologies for absence

Mr. A. Potter (Public Relations Officer)  
Mr. A. Sabey

### Approve and sign the minutes of the last meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on the 27th June 1992 were approved and signed.

### Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

### Finance / Packet Manager's Report

An Income and Expenditure Balance Sheet was presented. The accounts are again very satisfactory, with a surplus for the year of £845.05 and Society funds totalling £5,000. The surplus comes from £1,000 of accumulated auction commission. The increased subscription income and the devaluation of sterling have helped to cover the cost of printing / distribution of Torch Bearer and supplements. Bank account interest rates have fallen during the past year. Printing / distribution costs have continued to rise. Advertising income has increased during the current year. Taking all these factors into consideration, the Society retains a good accumulated surplus and a satisfactory financial position.

Packets are circulating on two circuits as frequently as possible, with new material inserted before being sent out again. The packet remains dependent on a few regular contributors although the number has now increased. Several new buyers have joined the circuit. In 1991, six packets were circulated with sales totalling £1,030.47.

The packet runs at a slight loss, but provides a service to both vendor and purchaser members.

### Chairman / Editor's report

It seems that for the last few years, each year holds something of Olympic interest. We no longer have peaks and troughs, and this is particularly true now that the Summer and Winter Games have been split.

On 23rd September the decision will be taken for the host of the Games in 2000. Will it be Ankara, Beijing, Berlin, Brazilica, or Sydney ? Could it be our own Manchester, who has tried so hard to be awarded the honour ? Whatever the outcome, there can only be one winner and many disappointed losers. As a prelude to the selection, Manchester is holding an Olympic exhibition from the 13th September, which will be partly philatelic. Thanks are due to John Crowther for organising this exhibition on behalf of the Society. Thanks are also due to the British Olympic Association, the National Postal Museum, and to individual members of the Society for loaning the material that is being shown. Do try to visit the Exhibition. My thanks are once again due to your hard-working Committee. Without their dedication, the Society would not function as smoothly as it does, if it functioned at all. I sometimes feel that we are reaching out to deaf-mutes. Cries for help or assistance are met with a deafening silence. At the beginning of this year, I asked for a new Editor to take over from me, after ten years. It may come as a surprise – or perhaps not – to hear that I received not one reply. Why is it that IMOS, our sister Society in Germany, and S.P.I., our American brethren, manage to organise meetings and excursions that are well attended ? If someone has the answer, please let your Committee know, we are willing to learn ! This is YOUR Society ! Membership numbers remain steady, we lose a few each year but numbers are made up again by the end of the year.

In the role of Editor, I am still constantly on the lookout for interesting new articles. There are no longer any in reserve, and many articles being used are reprints from other journals. I am not prepared to write the Journal as well as edit it, please let me have your news, views and information. If you feel that you can don the Editor's hat, I would be VERY interested to hear from you.

#### Secretary's report

At the end of December '92 the membership had increased to 274 members.

Twenty six members did not renew for 1993, membership now stands at 257.

Booking a suitable room for the A.G.M. during Thematica is becoming harder, it was suggested that the Secretary book a room for the 1994 A.G.M. as soon as possible.

A letter has been received from the Hungarian Philatelic Society inviting the S.O.C. to join with other specialist societies for an annual event to be held in Coventry at the Midland Centre for the Disabled. The date proposed is Saturday 14th May 1994. Dealers are to be invited, and would be advised of the participating societies, enabling them to select their stocks accordingly. Mr. David Buxton offered to co-ordinate with the organisers. It is hoped that more members will support this event.

#### Auction Manager's report

A summary of the 1992 Auction results was presented. Average sales for 1992 were 90% of reserves, with 72% of lots sold. The number of bidders ranged from 52–63. Unsold lots from earlier auctions will be re-issued in the next two auctions. Contrived covers from the U.S.A. for 1980 Lake Placid and 1984 Los Angeles, 1928 postcards, phonecards and Esso Olympic stickers for the 1972 book at £2 each do not sell. Good quality Olympic books always attract bidders. It was suggested that there should be a separate sale of Olympic literature, but it was decided to leave such items in the Auction. Mr. Crowther requested that vendors split their material for sale into the appropriate sections before sending for auction. A sum of £500 has been transferred to the General Account.

Mr. Crowther was congratulated on the running of the Auction.

### Printer / Distributor's report

Printing of Torch Bearer and the Society Publicity Cards is proceeding in accordance with our predictions.

Asked what the card that is sent out with Torch Bearer is for, Mr. Miller replied, that he will produce an article about the cards, to appear in the next issue of Torch Bearer.

### Librarian's report

Mr. Cook reported with regret the loss of the Olympilex '85 catalogue in the post, and reminded that all books MUST be returned by recorded delivery. Any missing back numbers of magazines which are normally held by the library are to be replaced. It was agreed that an up-dated Du Bois catalogue should be purchased. A comprehensive volume on Basket Ball Philately has been received and added to the library. A bound copy of the 1948 Games official reports has been sent for auction, Mr. Crowther will contact the vendor and ask if the library may agree to purchase it, otherwise the library will bid for the book.

Mr. Cook was instructed to buy any Olympic reports that become available on behalf of the library.

A library listing which is to be put into Torch Bearer will be tried for one year. S.P.I. is providing the library with back issues of all their journals for which the Society is extremely grateful.

### Public Relations Officer's report

Unfortunately during the year the time I have been able to devote to this task has been limited by outside commitments. Regular press releases to Gibbons and Stamp Magazine, and one mailing to overseas magazines. The Norwegian Post Office have been contacted and they will be publishing an article on the Society in their journal sent to subscribers of Olympic issues.

### Advertising Manager's report

There are three full page and two half page advertisers for Torch Bearer. Ingrid O'Neil has an additional full page advert booked for the New Issue supplement. City Hall Stamps are a new advertiser. All previous advertisers, auction houses and postcard dealers who are known to have Olympic stocks have been written to. If anyone has a possible contact then I would be grateful for details. David Feldman of Switzerland will place an advert when they have sufficient Olympic material for an auction. Topical Philatelic House no longer have an advert as there was no response to past adverts in Torch Bearer. Please, do mention Torch Bearer by name when responding to advertisers so that we can minimise the risk of losing advertisers. To advertise the Society it was suggested that the P.R.O. sends an Advertising Pack to secretaries of Philatelic Federations and Philatelic Societies to help increase membership. P.R.O. to be advised. It was also suggested that the S.O.C. advertising frame go to the Manchester 2000 Exhibition.

### Manchester 2000 Exhibition

There has not been much response from the Much Wenlock Museum, they are very reluctant to allow material out of their possession although they will allow photocopies to be used.

The British Olympic Association is loaning 30 artefacts from various Olympic Games including medals and badges from the Games held in London in 1908 and 1948 and an Olympic Torch from 1948. The National Postal Museum are assisting with material consisting of artwork and essays from the 1948 Games in London, together with items relating to other sport issues. The greater part of the Exhibition will be provided by members of the S.O.C. which will cover the 1908 Games, including British Olympic Committee vignettes, Franco-British Exhibition postmarks – (dates of finals), postcards of the Stadium and the "Dorando" Marathon.

For the 1948 Games at Wembley there will be a Presentation Pack and Card, varieties of stamps and airletters. Ticket Office postage meter and covers from the temporary and mobile post offices in the Olympic Village and at Olympic Venues, as well as sponsorship of Great Britain's teams by Royal Mail and other organisations. The International Olympic Committee Session in Birmingham during 1991 will be well represented. Material for the Manchester bids to stage the 1996 and 2000 Games will also be included, as well as the S.O.C. frame.

Designs incorporating the Manchester Stadiums and the Olympic Village were shown as potential postcards, for use as Maxi Cards and for sale to both members and the public. It was decided that 500 of each be printed, but the approval of the 2000 Bid Committee must be obtained.

Insurance for all material displayed at the Museum is covered by the Museum.

#### Any other business

It is hoped that the supplements for Albertville part 4 and Barcelona part 2, will be ready for printing, the former to be distributed with the November issue of Torch Bearer.

Mr. Crowther reported that one overseas member had not paid for material sent to him from the Auction, although letters had been sent to him. He will write again and if this does not produce a response, will write to their National Philatelic Federation to see if they can assist.

The Committee proposed a vote of thanks to be passed to Mrs. Brenda Farley for assisting at the S.O.C. table, thereby allowing all the Committee to attend the A.G.M.

#### Date of next meeting

At Thematica 1994, Victory Services Club, 63/79 Seymour Street, London.  
Saturday 2nd. July at 2.30 pm. in The Allenby Room.

The meeting closed at 3.45pm., and was followed by displays of Olympic Material.

Albertville – Mr. Farley                      Paris and Barcelona – Mr. Wilcock  
Cinderella / vignettes – Mr. Paton

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The proposed event at the Midland Centre for the Disabled, 14th. May 1994 mentioned in the Secretary's report has been abandoned for 1994 due to other commitments at the venue. The organisers are however still attempting to arrange such an event, on an annual basis within the Midlands. When this occurs, details of Society participation will be published.

## THOSE CARDS ?

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John Miller

Following some enquiries about the sets of cards which were issued with Torch Bearer during 1992 and 1993, I have been asked to give details of why and how they were produced.

It is a common problem with organisations who obtain their income from annual membership subscriptions, that the expense and effort involved in getting members to renew their subscriptions on time often outweighs the advantage of having a low membership fee. Renewal notices and final reminders cost time and money, particularly if they have to be posted independently. Numerous ways have been tried to reduce the problem; even such drastic measures as introducing a Registration Fee which is paid with the initial subscription and has to be paid as a rejoining fee if the member allows their subscription to become overdue, and their application to rejoin is approved.

Your Society is not immune from this problem. To reduce the problem, it was decided that cards should be issued to those members who renewed their annual subscription promptly, as thanks for the saving in administration, and hopefully to encourage others to renew promptly.

The cards would be titled Society Publicity Cards, and would be issued in sets of four. One with each issue of Torch Bearer during the year of 1992, and if they proved successful, similar sets would be issued in following years.

Torch Bearers were judged to be an appropriate theme, due to the association with the Olympic Games, and the Society. Two sets were then selected by the Committee from various illustrations following the chosen theme.

The selected designs, their source and issued quantities were:-

### Series A

Card 1.	Postcard.	Torch bearer, and route.	1936 Summer	( 181 )
Card 2.	Poster.	Running torch bearer.	1964 Summer	( 247 )
Card 3.	Poster design.	Torch and dove.	1976 Summer	( 265 )
Card 4.	Mongolian stamp.	Skiing torch bearer.	1976 Winter	( 275 )

### Series B

Card 1.	Peruvian stamp.	Mascot of the IV th South American Games.	1990	( 193 )
Card 2.	Russian block.	Games mascot torch bearer.	1980 Summer	( 247 )
Card 3.	Composite of Korean stamp and torch.	Games mascot torch bearer.	1988 Summer	( 261 )
Card 4.	Postcard.	Games mascot torch bearer.	1992 Summer	( 263 )

As the total number of each card required would be relatively low against normal print run standards, it was decided to produce the cards individually. The cost, and the exact number of each issue could be controlled. Production would be strictly limited to the number of "paid up" members at the time of issue.

To both identify, and ensure the printed quantity, it was decided that each card should be personalised with individual membership numbers.

When the individual designs had been selected, the cards were produced in the following manner.

- Eight A6 colour copies of the face were produced, and eight A6 black and white copies of the reverse.
- The A6 copies were then mounted on A3 sheets as masters.
- The masters were then run through the copiers, black initially, then colour to produce sheets of eight cards on 105gsm paper.
- The A3 sheets of eight cards were cut into half, making two A4 sheets, each of the A6 cards then had a membership number stencilled on it - by hand.
- The A4 sheets were then laminated using 250 micron pouches for series A and 150 micron pouches for series B.
- The individual cards were cut from the A4 sheets, ready for despatch with the appropriate magazine.

As expected the quantity of each of the cards varied according to the number of "paid up" members at the time of issue. The quantities are shown on the preceding page, against each card.

The final number of members for 1991 was 248, and for 1992, 280. It can be seen from these figures, that there was little change in the proportion of prompt membership renewals, and it seems that the cards did not achieve their objective in this respect. Maybe they had some influence on the increase in the number of members during 1992, but as they were never advertised, and 1992 was an Olympic Year, this is doubtful.

The Committee were unable to positively identify any savings in either costs or administration, it was therefore decided to discontinue the cards after 1993.

{ The problems caused by late renewals persist, other incentives / penalties may have to be considered - please help to avoid wasteful administration costs. Ed. }

If you live in the United Kingdom and would like to receive packets of Olympic material to view in your own home, contact the Packet Secretary.

( See inside front cover for address details ).

Packets are circulated as often as possible, over two circuits, North and South. Additional members, as either buyers or sellers are always welcome.

We regret that this service has to be restricted to the United Kingdom for buyers due to insurance cover.

Worldwide vendors are welcome.

# THE 101st I.O.C. SESSION – MONACO

Bob Farley

The 101st. Session of the I.O.C. was held in Monte-Carlo, Monaco from the 21–24 sept. 1993. For collectors and Olympic historians, the most important item on the agenda was probably the selection of the host venue for the "Millenium Games". Bids were presented by the five remaining candidates: Ankara, Beijing, Berlin, Manchester and Sydney. Two previously declared candidates, Brasilia and Milan having already withdrawn.

At approximately 7.30 pm G.M.T., after four rounds of voting, Sydney was selected.

The Monaco postal authorities issued a number of items to commemorate the event.

## Stamp Booklets: Issued 20th. September 1993

- (a) Value 22,40 F. Contents 8 stamps at 2,80 F. (E.E.C. minimum letter rate)
- (b) Value 36,00 F. Contents 8 stamps at 4.50 F. (overseas letter rate)

Two stamp designs are common to both booklets, the first shows the arms of the Olympic Committee of Monaco, the second shows the logo / emblem of the I.O.C. Session.

The remaining six stamps of each booklet depict events (winter and summer), at which the athletes of Monaco have competed, during previous olympiads.



## Front cover design

The booklets were sold unfolded, the back gives details of the contents.

22,40 F cover printed in red.

36,00 F cover printed in blue.

## Slogan cancel

MONTE . CARLO /  
PTE DE MONACO /

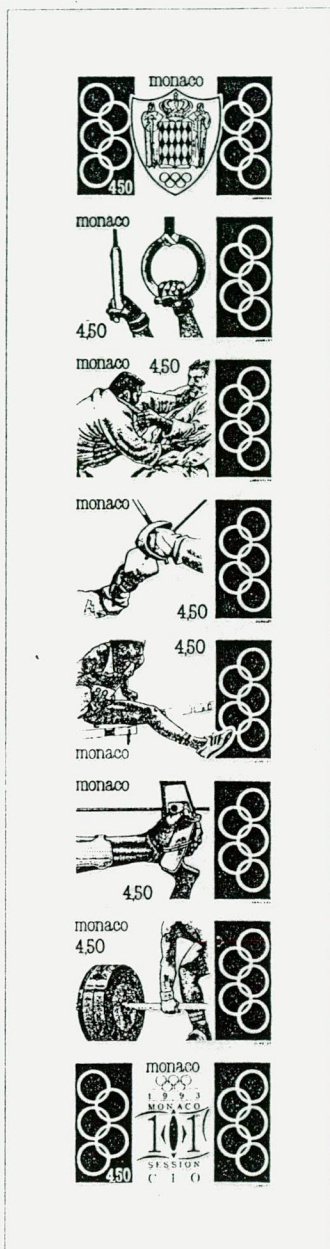
Illustrated with the  
Session logo.

copy shown is dated  
23 – 9 – 93  
"decision day"





22,40 F. booklet pane, printed in blue, red and dark brown on light blue/green paper.



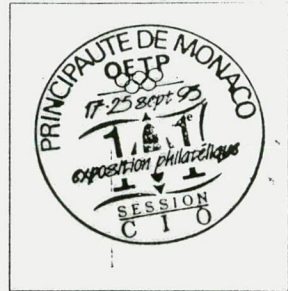
36,00 F. booklet pane, printed in blue, red and dark brown on gold coloured paper.

Handstamp / cachet

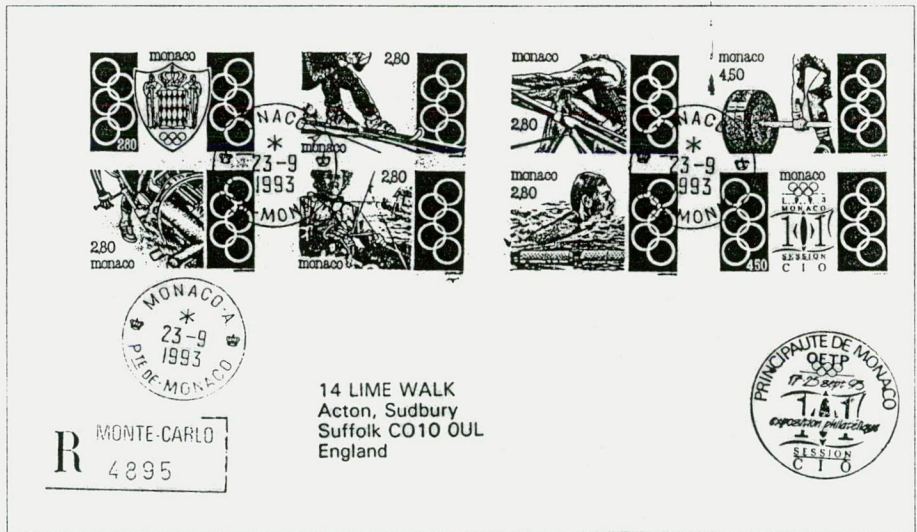
Circular design, 32mm diameter, of fixed date style.

PRINCIPAUTE DE MONACO / O E T P /  
21 – 25 sept 93 / exposition philatelique

including an illustration of the I O C Session logo.



Can any members provide further information regarding the philatelic exhibition? All copies of this mark have been placed away from the stamps, therefore not acting as a cancellor, information regarding it's status would be welcome.



Registered Cover, cancelled MONACO – A/23.9.93, with the above exhibition handstamp placed clear of the stamps.

The cover is franked with values from the commemorative booklets at the correct postal rate of 25,80 Francs (2,80 postage, 23,00 registration fee).

The Philatelic Bureau notice of new issues containing the release details of the stamp booklets is a further very attractive collectable item. It contains a full size copy of the booklet panes, all of the stamp designs being reproduced without values. It is printed in A4 format.

	Votes :	1st round	2nd round	3rd round	4th round
The result of the most important debate of the Session :					
Sydney		30	30	37	45
Beijing		32	37	40	43
Manchester		11	13	11	—
Berlin		9	9	—	—
Ankara		7	—	—	—

## READING MATTERS

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### Official Report of the Games of the XXV Olympiad Barcelona 1992

Published by COOB '92 S.A., ISBN 84-7868-107-8 (four volume set) edited by Roma Cuyàs, available from Digec S.A., Apartat F.D. 185 08080 Barcelona Spain, price about 15,000 pesetas per volume post paid. The set is available in either English, French, Spanish or Catalan.

For the first time, the Official Report is on sale to the general public. It totals over 1800 pages of text and full colour illustrations in four volumes, each cover bearing a specially commissioned painting by Antoni Clavé, protected by a dust jacket.

Volume I, the Challenge, covers the candidature period in great detail, from the birth of the idea in 1980 through to the birth of COOB '92 after the successful vote in Lausanne on 17 October 1986. The story is prefaced by a general history of Barcelona, the city's previous bids from the 1924 Olympics onwards, with a brief look at the ancient Games, and a brief report of each of the modern Games from Athens to Seoul, each being illustrated with one or more of the stamps issued. Disappointingly, but perhaps understandably, there is no survey of the competing bids.

Volume II, the Means, takes the story through all the planning and preparation, with details of all the venues and sub-sites including maps, photographs and plans. There is a full report of all the activities included in the Cultural Olympiad from 1988, invaluable for thematic background to a collection or display.

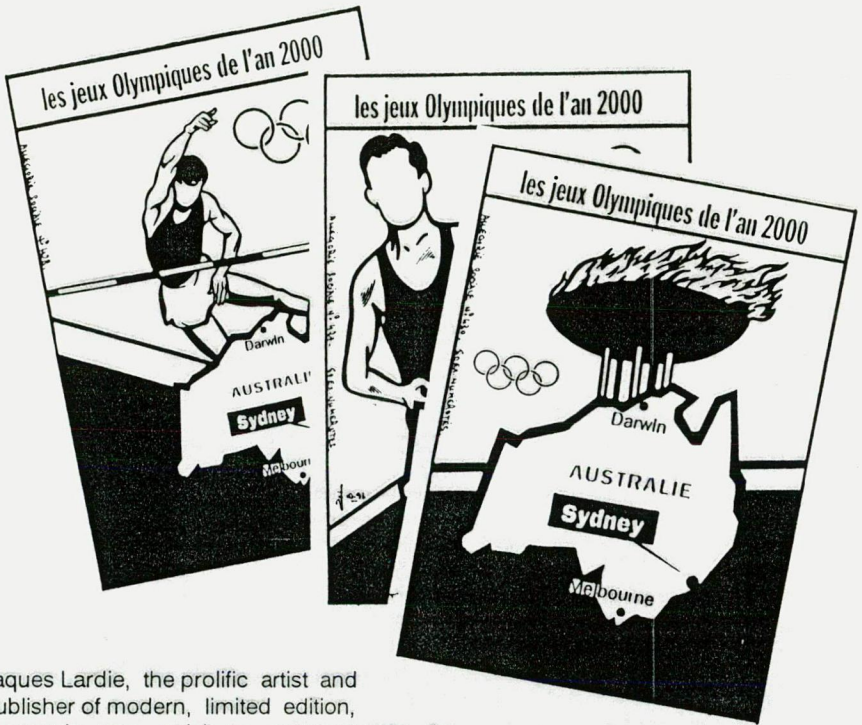
Volume III, the Organisation, not only explains the organisation of the competitions but also the organisation of the Torch Run, the Ceremonies, the Olympic Family services, the Villages and almost all other aspects. Philately gets two, inaccurate, paragraphs but there is mention that stamps raised 240 million pesetas. I have not found anything on postal services.

Volume IV, the Games, is the triumphant conclusion. There is more than an event by event report of the sports, with more information on the Ceremonies and the Olympic Cultural Festival, there is a whole gamut of background material, but again little if anything on postal services. Although there are lists of every competitor by country and by sport, the results are mostly limited to the first 8 places – the British Olympic Association report actually gives more detail!

If you are a Barcelona aficionada, the Report is a must, but at over £300 it is beyond the pocket of most – including S.O.C.! It will not be added to the library, but information from the Report will be included in Barcelona – the Facts Part 2 (to be published hopefully by the end of the year) and in Torch Bearer articles from time to time in the future.

As a footnote, the order form is pre-paid postal stationary, so it is an Olympic philatelic item, but the postal packaging for the report itself is very dull and ordinary – not a reason to buy it!

# SYDNEY 2000, POSTCARDS FROM FRANCE



Jaques Lardie, the prolific artist and publisher of modern, limited edition, postcards was quick to commemorate the award of the XVII th Olympic Games to Sydney.

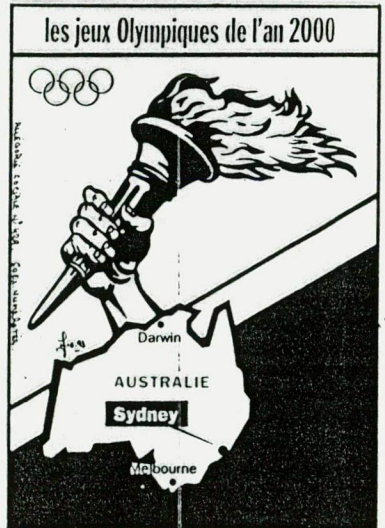
Three series of cards had been issued before the end of 1993.

The first issue of four cards are from the long running "Allegorie Sociale" series, which also included a number of Albertville cards. The cards are numbered 427, 428, 429 and 430 in the series.

The cards are black and white, of quality printing on good card and limited to fifty copies of each design.

Each design features an outline map of Australia with Sydney, Darwin, and Melbourne marked.

The individual cards feature, a runner, a high-jumper, a torch, and a cauldron.



The second issue consists of five cards which are colour photo-montages, photographically produced with postcard backs. They additionally promote Greenpeace (a popular collecting theme in France). The issue is limited to one hundred copies of each design.

All designs have the text " SYDNEY / LES JO DE L'AN 2000 ", and the banner " GREENPEACE ".

The individual designs feature, a stopwatch, a runner ( 142 on vest ), a runner ( 101 on back ), athletes in silhouette ( rowing ? ), and a high-jumper.

The third issue consists of seven cards which are black and white, produced on postcard stock, but of "photocopy" quality. The designs all feature various stages of a distance race. The issue is limited to fifty copies of each design, and is accredited to "l'Artiste roi", a Lardie alias.

The designs are most probably adaptations of scenes from an actual race or races, the same athlete, with the same vest number appearing in a number of designs.



Sydney 2000  


Sydney 2000,  


ey 2000,  




Bob Farley

To avoid devaluing a future supplement about the range of items available to the collector, and to avoid the publishing of unverified information, the following account allows the reader to follow our progress, and share our experiences at the Games.

Accommodation in Moelv, central to the Olympic area, had been arranged through Trollparken. The party was made up of myself, my wife Brenda (a veteran of such "holidays"), Claire and Andrew – Brenda's daughter and son-in-law as our guests (a late wedding present), and finally John Larmer a member of the S O C from Canada.

The four of us were driving to Norway, while John was finding his own way to Moelv, arriving on the 17th.

The holiday obviously had a number of objectives, enjoying a break and the events, obtaining the advertised items produced by the Post Office, seeking out new post cards, and recording the actual postal arrangements were amongst the general aims.

A number of very specific objectives formulated from various sources acted as a specific wants list" – Post Office post card from Hamar ( seen in a J S P article ).

- Postcard for the athletes to return to children who had provided drawings to decorate their quarters in the Olympic Village ( seen on T V ).
- Registered mail from the restricted access Post Offices.
- Official post card 505, missing on the racks during our 1993 visit.
- Large commemorative match boxes for our Librarian, seen in 1993 but left behind because of their bulk.



The post card placed in athletes quarters, for them to return, as a thank you, to the child who drew a picture hung in their room.

The cards were pre-addressed, with a printed message "Thank you for your drawing".

(Photograph from television).

8th February

We sailed from Dover at 6.30 am, arriving Calais at 9.00, then drove straight through to Denmark, with only one five minute stop. Brenda and Claire were sharing the back seat of the car with bags, boots, flasks, wine bottles and duty free – so much for my many warnings about available space!

The closure of the Elb tunnel in Hamburg cost us the two hour saving accumulated throughout the day, we finally arrived at our hotel ten minutes later than our forecast time. The Hotel had been opened for us, as the Danish season ends in October.

### 9th February

At breakfast, the hotelier mentioned that snow rarely settles in Denmark, but we may be lucky and see a sprinkling in the far north. Approaching Frederikshavn, we did indeed see some snow laying in the furrows of the adjoining fields. We checked-in with only minutes to spare, sailing at 1.30 pm for Larvik.

The shipping line is Norwegian, as a result the Official post cards were on sale, along with a number of the souvenir items in the Tax Free shops, Kristin and Hakon forming the cover design of the Tax Free price list. From the 12th, an "Olympic" Menu was being offered on board, but Andrew and I were taken by the mildly curried fish soup on the standard menu. As we had now seen references to the Games, anticipation was definitely growing.

We arrived in Larvik at 7.30 pm, in darkness, and drove down the loading ramp into about eight inches of fresh snow, narrowly avoiding a customs officer when attempting brake! We negotiated the steep slope from the port, drove past our hotel with about three feet of snow piled on both sides of the road, found a car park and walked back to the hotel. Walking back we passed the railway station, mention was made of leaving the car and continuing by train, as there appeared to be some six inches of snow packed on the road, despite a continuous clearing operation.

### 10th February

The car started, and moved! Surprisingly the steering responded, so we headed for the E18. The main road was clearer, but I did notice that the back seat passengers remained awake – a rare occurrence.

While filling with petrol, I was surprised to see the amount of merchandise at an Esso station with reference to the Games, particularly as Statoil had a official connection.

Much of the journey to Oslo was spent following a Coca-Cola advertisement on the back of a bus, increasing our anticipation.

On the Oslo ring road we encountered the first Olympic directional signs, these were obviously placed before major roadworks commenced. After following diversions for a distance, we were definitely off our route. After some superb "solar" navigating we found ourselves on the E6, heading north, with Lillehammer on the signs.

The roads continued to improve, allowing us to reach Hamar about two hours ahead of schedule. The first sight of the Viking Hall covered in snow was really breathtaking. Our keys would not be available for two hours, so a stop seemed in order.

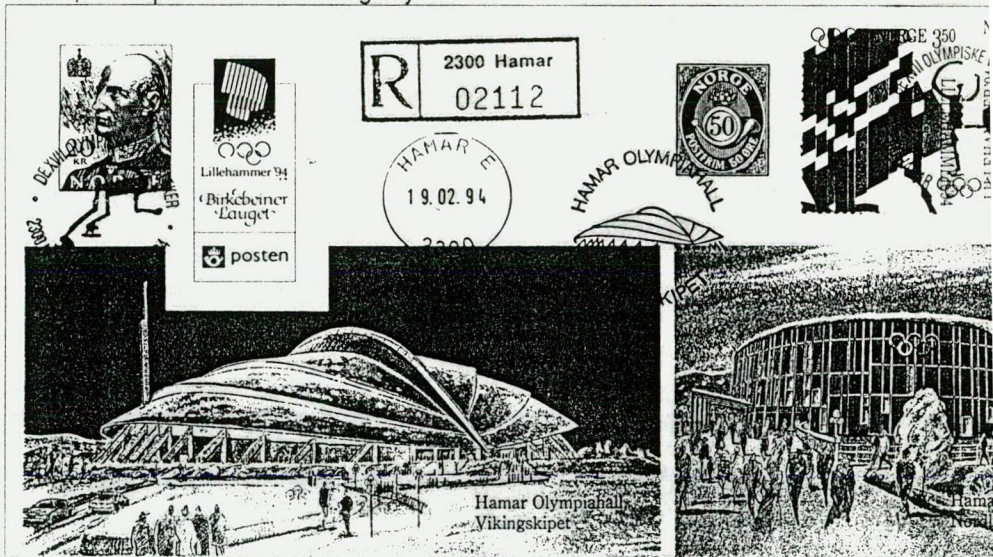
Parking in the town centre, we headed off for a well deserved coffee. An hour later, carrying some three hundred post cards and brochures from the Tourist Office, a cafe was located, Andrew was proving an asset when searching card racks, and a whole range of products were displaying the Lillehammer logo. Outside a bar displaying a Heineken sign, there were a number of bicycles (a rare sight in these conditions), all the property of the Netherlands Olympic Team.

The cafe had been carefully selected so that the Post Office was on our direct route back to the car. The Torch Relay was due to pass through Hamar that evening and souvenirs including matches, lighters, stickers button badges and small flags all joined our other purchases. One of the "wants" list was also achieved – the Post Office card, mint, with world speed skating cancels and with world cycling championship cancels. We also established the existence of one restricted access Post Office in Hamar, for the Media.

We finally reached Moelv at about 3 pm., locating the house after some searching, and a number of very scenic diversions.

Our host, Stig Berg, was a very congenial gentleman, who showed us around and then stayed to chat. Stig was moving into a cabin in the grounds during our stay, but offered to make up the essential log burning stove for us each day on his way to work. It was a very strange feeling, sitting in warmth and comfort, with picture windows screened to half height by snow, and a temperature variation in excess of forty degrees on the other side of the glass.

We settled down to review the days finds, decided not to visit the Torch celebrations in Hamar, and planned the following day.



The Hamar Post Office card, with event cancellations and Viking Ship cachet.



Souvenirs of the Torch Relay – left : Match box cover, right : Button badge.

11 th February.

We drove into Lillehammer to explore, the ticket at the car park had Olympic advertising, the VISA centre was giving free pins, then into Prolympia. The exhibition was not due to open until 6 pm, it was not possible to obtain an invitation for the official opening, so, we registered two covers and set off on a tour of the town.

We visited many more post card outlets, the LOOC Exhibition Centre, the Tourist Office, and walked the length of the main street. We found a Quebec 2002 display above one shop, chatted for a while then enjoyed their pancakes with maple syrup cooked in the street ( very reminiscent of a Petro Canada breakfast in Calgary ).

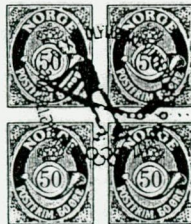
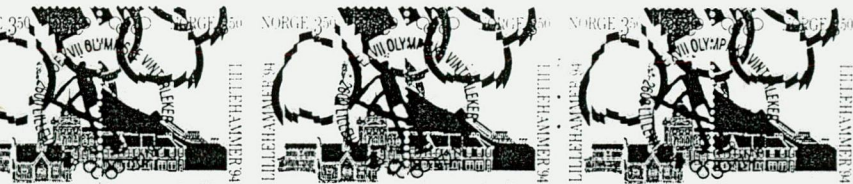
We needed a prepaid telephone card to use the telephone at the house, so we sought out the Tele Service Centre, prepaid cards were available in 350, 1050 and 2100 Kr. denominations, all carry the Games logo and they were supplied in an "Olympic" folder. Normal telephone cards, with Olympic designs, for use with pay-phones were also available in 35, 105 and 210 Kr. values. " Freebies " including sweets, pencils, memo pads and a post card joined our collection. We returned to Moelv noted the Post Office opening hours, the bus stops, bakers and banks, then on to the house so that I could prepare covers for opening day, and the final stamp issue. Andrew tried to find the other channels on the T. V., two seemed somewhat limited – and the newspapers gave details of five !

12 th February.

8.30 am., bulk purchase at the Post Office, and a nice cover with a Moelv C.D.S. for the passage of the Torch on the 11 th, signed by the runner who carried the torch into town, also a new Post Office post card showing 1993 stamp issues including the Torch Relay pair, then back to the house to frank covers.

I headed off to Lillehammer to mail numerous covers, whilst the others relaxed – we would meet up in Gjøvik for the Ice Hockey later in the afternoon. Restrictions were now in force, so I headed to the station armed with my Olympic Bus Pass.

Below : The Police envelope, retrieved from the snow, and later used.



Den sentrale politistyrke OL-94

POLITI

A conversation with a lady during the bus journey, will I am sure interest many British commuters. I was told that Norwegians had been very happy with the heavy snowfalls – for the sake of the Games, however, after about two days, they were very concerned that they had the wrong kind of snow – it appeared to be melting on the roads ! ( salting is not usual in the Lillehammer area, but very heavy salting was carried out anticipating the increased traffic, and influx of foreign drivers ).

I carried out my mailing at Prolympia, noting that the counter used on the 11 th. had been converted to exchange transactions only. Visiting the VISA centre, I found post cards advertising the Olympics of the Imagination, a painting competition for children. I arrived at the Main Post Office, which also acted as the bus terminal. Gjovik buses run every 30 minutes according to the schedules, after an hour, during which I checked with numerous locals, volunteers and police, not one Gjovik bus had passed – I was having doubts about their assurances that I was in the correct place ! Eventually, I walked round the corner to find two buses marked for Gjovik.

Arriving in Gjovik at 2.30 pm. I headed for the Post Office to register more covers, the office had a note on the door explaining that it would close at 2 pm. – the advertised Saturday time during the Games being 6 pm. I wandered through the town, which was completely closed and deserted, as normal for a Saturday afternoon. I noted another Post Office in Storgata ( a similar note on the door ), and walked up to the Cavern Hall to await the others.

The interior of the Cavern is quite spectacular, and we all enjoyed the Russia v Norway match. On a foray during the first interval, the information desk yielded further VISA post cards – the twenty five winning children from Norway, Canada and the U.S.A. were attending the Games ( with their parents ) as their prize, the original paintings were on display in the International Area at Lillehammer close to Hakon Hall. Postal facilities at the Cavern were limited to a post box.

After the match we walked to the bus station and encountered a number of problems. Firstly, no stand for Moelv. Secondly, volunteers, police, military and drivers had no idea of which stand. We settled for a Hamar bus, on the basis that Hamar was on our side of the lake, a bus duly arrived. Third problem – we were about to learn that there are as many pronunciations of Moelv as there are bus drivers in Norway, each recognises only their own ! Purely by luck we arrived in Moelv. With hindsight, we should have read the omens here.

### 13 th February.

A leisurely day without event tickets, into Lillehammer to place mail, a brief look at the exhibits, and a general search for cards etc. We found a copy of card 505, however, it has a hole punched through it. It came from a helpful shopkeeper who produced her swatch of samples, and was prepared to part with her copy when asked. Back at the house we watched the Games on television and packed ready for the luge.

### 14 th February.

7.23 bus to Lillehammer, 8.15 bus to Hunderfossen, about 150 people for a 50 seater bus. After much debate and attempts by an official to send everyone off to catch a shuttle bus, further buses arrived. We were at the track by 9.00 ( –25 C.) so we set off to find a good position for viewing, finding a mobile Post Office en route.

The Post Office was offering either Lillehammer illustrated labels or Faberg labels for registration, opting for the latter, I was pleased to receive number 2.

After the first run, we discovered that our sandwiches were frozen solid, they had to be thawed for about five minutes between your hands to have any chance of biting them ! We walked to Oyer and caught a local bus back to Lillehammer. In the Tourist Office we found the days issue of Hugin, the multi-lingual newspaper of the Games.

15 th February.

We had only two tickets for the cross-country event, so we decided to let Claire and Andrew attend while we explored the area around Hakon Hall.

Walking from Lillehammer centre to the Olympic Park, I retrieved an illustrated envelope from the snow, it had the logos of the Politi, and the Games, it was carefully placed inside our bus timetable to thaw and flatten for future use. Claire and Andrew caught a second bus to the event carrying a number of covers for mailing, in case there should be a mobile office at the stadium. Brenda and I visited the sponsor stands including the VISA art exhibition. Establishing that there were twenty six post cards, we managed to collect one or two complete sets under the close scrutiny of an attendant. Heading back to Prolympia, another find in the snow, a sticker for the Swiss candidate for the 2002 Winter Olympic Games. (It later dawned on me, that there was a reason for the lack of stickers at these Games – at the temperatures we were experiencing, the use of pressure sensitive adhesives was totally ineffective, the sticker we had found seemed to have lost it's adhesive – later at the house, when thawed, it was very sticky.)

Later, at the house, with a number of registered covers collected from Moelv Post Office, it was possible to reach a number of conclusions :

- The Lillehammer Illustrated Registration Label was in use at far more locations than announced. ( Notified as Lillehammer Post Office and five others.)
- The only way to identify the origin of a given cover, would be by recording the label numbers of each office.
- Either more than one roll of each Registration Number existed, rolls were being moved from office to office or rolls were being split to provide small stocks to mobile/temporary offices.

< Receipt 7510, from Birkebeiner Stadium on 15.2.94

 **postkvittering**

postanv./tilv  
 innbet kort  
 verdibrev

rek. sene  
 pakke  
 betalt postoppil


Konto nr./reg. nr. **7510**

det er betalt for  luftpost

til **N. Jacobs, 2712**  
**Decatur, Ga 30**

avstir og postkontor



 **posten** Ta godt vare på kvitteringen/kvitteringa  
De må vise den/hov ved eventuell klage

		Betalt for	Kvittering	
Til <b>M. Wilcock J.</b>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Luftpost <input type="checkbox"/> Ekspres <input type="checkbox"/> Innsgaranti	Verdi/porto/avgifter	
Address <b>8 RUE LOUIS PERGAUD</b>			Verdibelop	kr
<b>F 69500 BRON FR</b>			Postoppkrav	kr
<b>Gjelder (brev ut, rekommantert og pakke)</b>			Porto/postale avgifter	kr <b>29</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Postanv./tilv	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rek sending	<input type="checkbox"/> Bank INN	Innskuddsbo	
<input type="checkbox"/> Innbet kort	<input type="checkbox"/> Pakke	<input type="checkbox"/> Bank UT		
<input type="checkbox"/> Verdibrev, pakke	<input type="checkbox"/> Betalt postoppkrav	<input type="checkbox"/> Flei kolla	Antall	
<b>Andre opplysninger</b>		<b>For Posten</b>		
Konto nr./reg. nr. <b>7509</b>	Utl belop	Sign		
Vekt (p.p.)	Belop i NOK	11 02 94		

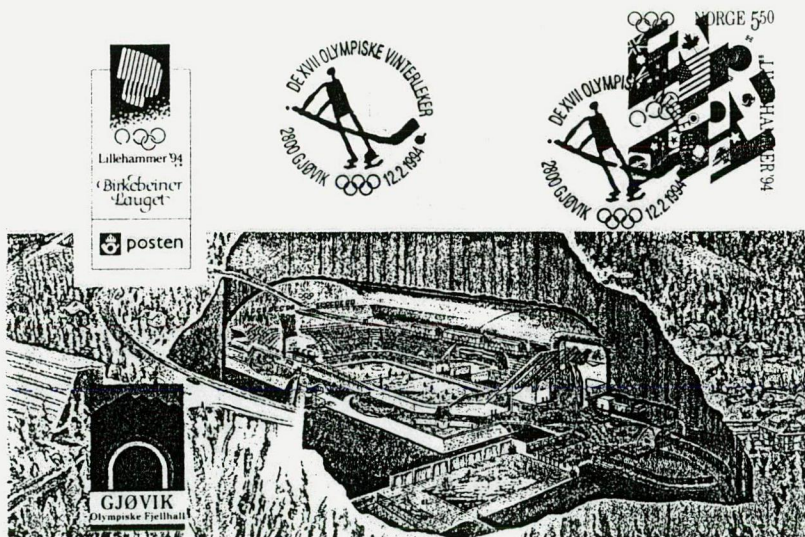
Bil 70 0735 00 11029884 v. Nær-Turistisk  
 Kvitteringsuttrykk av skje anken avskrift av statter/erstatning datustempel og sign

Receipt 7509, from Prolympia on 11.2.94 (this counter was marked "exchange transactions" from 12.2.94 onwards).

16 th February.

Another rest day, without events. We had planned to drive to Hamar, but Brenda had been popping paracetamol for two days, and finally admitted to a serious toothache. We telephoned around and found a dentist in Gjøvik who could see her. (Helpful, as I could also mail the covers originally intended for the 12th.)

After 45 minutes in the dentist's chair, Brenda emerged feeling much better, with a prescription, and a further appointment for the following week. We set off for the Pharmacy, and to explore the town. We added a number of new post cards, and some nice items from the Post Office including a maxim card for the 12.2 showing an artist impression "cut away" view of the Cavern. From Gjøvik to Lillehammer for the daily visit to Prolympia, and to collect Hugin.



17 th February.

An early start for the Super G at Kvitfjell, standing on the bus for an hour, followed by a 3 Km. walk across a frozen lake to the piste, another very cold day! Another mobile Post Office in the venue (made the journey worthwhile), where, chatting to the staff, I learned that the same Office was to serve Hafjell the following week. This Office had either Lillehammer or Favang labels for registration. I had realised my mistake at the luge track, and this time I registered mail with both labels.

After the event we experienced our first real "non-queue" for a bus, 3-400 people preparing to (c)rush the door of a bus, should it eventually arrive. Buses appeared to be operating to an instruction that they should pull up about two coach lengths from the head of any line (presumably to allow the waiting mob a better chance of forming a crush and blockage at the door). We stood for another hour back to Moelv.

At the bus stop, we noticed that back-packs, with flags sticking out at a 45 degree angle, on the backs of owners who constantly swung around to hold conversations, were not conducive to retaining your eyesight. The foundations were laid for a flag snapping or burning policy! Most of the flags were Norwegian, not enough variety to form a collection.

John rang to say he had reached Hamar, and had decided to go direct to an event. I returned to Lillehammer to have a proper look around the exhibits, place mail, and collect Hugin. I chanced on "Canada House", a meeting point for Canadian visitors and athletes, having accepted the offered pins, I was pleased to find that one came fixed to a post card. The card does not mention the Lillehammer Games, but the back has Government of Canada printed in French, English and importantly, Norwegian. I sat up preparing covers for the following day, everyday, I vowed to get ahead, every night I prepared covers until 1 – 2 am., and tried to evaluate incoming mail. John finally arrived at about 12.30, so we chatted to introduce ourselves, exchanged details of the days experiences ( John had found a small Post Office in Hamar ), then headed for bed at 2.30.



18 th February.  
 Brenda and I were away early to attend the Biathlon, leaving the others to sleep in. After the event, we went back to Moelv. John and I returned to Lillehammer so that I could save him some time by showing him around. We visited Prolympia, taking the opportunity to video a number of items. We decided on a coffee before returning to the house, John was a little surprised that he was offered a choice of only alcohol free beers, his query whether the coffee was caffeine free, followed by a related remark about sex, ( which I will leave to your imagination ), was received with a smile and a blush by the girl serving, her command of english being very good.

The arrival of John heralded the beginning of a more intense period of philatelic activity, we could cover a wider number of locations each day, and every night ( usually after midnight ), we would sit and chat, comparing acquisitions.

Four of us had also reached the mid-point of our holiday, but there were still finds to make, and record. .... To be continued.

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## THEMATICA 1994

Saturday and Sunday 2nd and 3rd July 1994. Doors open 10.30 a.m.  
 Carisbrooke Hall, 63 Seymour Street, London.

At a recent philatelic society sale, a fellow collector aware of my collecting interests, drew my attention to a rather tattered copy of the "Stamp Collectors Annual 1949", as it had fallen open at an illustration of the 1948 Olympic Games issue. I parted with the sum of 25 pence (the sale was on behalf of charity), not expecting to even read the article. Later at home, I was intending to remove the page and place it in a box file – storage space is now at a premium, when another illustration of an Olympic issue caught my eye I succumbed and read the little paperback through, and I felt that some of the views expressed take on an added poignancy today. The following extracts are obviously written as topical comments at the time of publication, however most could be written today with name changes. So as an ironical twist, it could perhaps be said that "the names have been retained to protect the guilty". All references to the olympic theme are reprinted below, some extracts are only part of an article, therefore, where necessary a synopsis is given.

COMMEMORATIVES FOR EVER ! by "Avatar"

The article reviews many of the worldwide commemorative issues of 1948, the author is certainly more tolerant of commemorative issues than other contributors, and possibly favours their issue, He includes the statement, "Commemoratives may almost be called "tabloid history" ranging over the whole story of human endeavour and achievement."

"An event which everyone foredoomed to failure and which turned out to be a resounding success was the 1948 Olympic Games held in London from July 29th. The stamps issued to commemorate the Games can also be said to be a success, two of the designs showing more imagination than has been seen on British stamps for many a long day. May the inspiration continue !"

THE BEST DESIGNS OF 1948 by L. E. Scott

The article comments on the stamp issuing policies of numerous territories, the quality of their stamp design and production.

"Now we come to what may be described as the two outstanding designs of the year {1948} both emanating from a country which usually sets a high standard in stamp production – Austria. To my mind, the Olympic commemorative issued in January is a lesson which should be taken to heart by those responsible for our own trashy Olympic set.

Admittedly, it is a bigish stamp but of so perfectly balanced workmanship that this passes by unnoticed. The theme is the Olympic flame which created such interest when carried from Greece to Britain in July ; so simple and yet so telling as to make criticism superflous. I ask readers merely to look at this beautiful stamp, printed in one of the most delightful shades of blue I have ever seen, and then to donate a copy to the Postmaster General with the request – "Why can't we have stamps like this?"

The work of that fine artist A. Chmielowski, and engraved by G. Wimmer, no more superb production has ever come out of Austria. Incidentally, the authorities responsible for erecting that twee little aspidistra-stand at the Empire Stadium might take a good look at this plinth and bowl, and try to exercise a little imagination on a future occasion. Here is a stamp worthy of an album page to itself, and, be it noted, it is recess-printed."

{ The second design mentioned, was the top value of the Wild Flowers charity issue }.



The article considers 1948 as a turning point in the history of the British Post Office, previously having snubbed the idea of special issues, three sets of stamps appearing in rapid succession.

"Much was expected of the Olympic Games' stamps but true to tradition the Post Office shunned the pictorial type and stuck to the symbolic. The values were 2.5d., 3d., 6d. and 1/- and the designs were severely criticised especially that of the shilling on which the winged victory was sarcastically described as a young lady in an ugly nightdress.

The issue of the Olympics also saw the Post Office institute a first day cover service for the first time. Part of the special post office at Wembley Stadium was set aside for the purpose but unfortunately a fault in the cancelling machine spoiled an enormous number of covers to raise yet another outcry from philatelists.

At the same time things were going wrong within the printing works itself. Rarely does a defective British stamp see the light of day but the Silver Weddings and Olympics produced a large crop of errors and varieties which are the delight of the collector but which should have been consigned to the furnace.

One dealer found a complete sheet of the 1 rupee doubly overprinted on the shilling Olympic; "....."It remains a mystery how these stamps got into circulation. Was it due to inadequate checking or was there a leakage somewhere?"

#### DESIGNERS OF THE GREAT BRITAIN OLYMPIC STAMPS Anonymous, reprinted in full.

"Percy Metcalfe, C.V.O., R.D.I., designer of the 2.5d. value, has had a long artistic career. He is on the Livery of the Goldsmiths' Company; has designed coinage for Eire, Turkey, Egypt, Iraq, New Zealand, Fiji, Greece and Bulgaria, the Great Seal of the Realm 1928, the Great Seals of Eire and South Africa; Coronation medals.

Abram Games, F.S.I.A., responsible for the 3d., born in London; age 34, is self taught; worked in studio until 21, then as a freelance. Joined the Army in 1940 and made War Office poster designer, designing exclusively for the Army, including the controversial "A. T. S. Glamour Girl". War posters exhibited in London, New York, Paris, Moscow, Leningrad, Prague, Switzerland etc. One-man shows in Stockholm (1943) and Brussels (1946). Demobilised 1946 and freelance once again. Lecturer in design at Royal College of Art, London.

Stanley D. Scott, of the 6d. design, is a 28 years' old designer for Messrs. Waterlow & Sons Ltd. Received art training at the West Ham School of Art and joined the firm in 1935. Saw six years' war service with the Field Survey, Royal Engineers, almost four of which were spent overseas with the Eighth Army.

Edmund Dulac, designer of the 1/-, is well known in the artistic world. His work includes book illustrations, portraits, caricatures, stage settings and costumes and decorations. He designed and modelled King's Poetry Prize medal; the King George VI Coronation stamp (1937), and the King George VI cameo portrait used in all the current stamps. He also designed the present 7d. to 5/- stamps. The Free French Colonial stamps and bank notes and the first post-war stamp for Metropolitan France - "Marianne" - also were designed by Mr. Dulac."

## COLLECTING RECENT GAMES – WHAT IS AN OLYMPIAD ?

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Bob Wilcock

Manfred Bergman has once again given myself and other potential exhibitors excellent advice and clarification in relation to exhibiting competively, I look forward to his further response, and hope that other members will take up some of his more interesting, and perhaps difficult points.

I confine myself this time to the question as to what is an Olympiad, and say at once that I am sorry if the closing remarks of my last article upset you Manfred; they were not meant to be sarcastic, just tongue in cheek. The question though is an interesting one, and whatever the precise answer, it can be addressed philatelically.

The official answer will I think be in the Olympic Charter, the document that contains the Olympic rules and definitions. I do not have access to that, but the 1985 edition of "The Olympic Movement" published by the I. O. C. certainly says (p. 76) "The Olympic Games consecrate an 'Olympiad', meaning a period of four successive years, and are held at the beginning of the Olympiad they are meant to celebrate."

That edition was in fact compiled before the staging of the Los Angeles Olympics, and I mentioned last time that the unannounced change of Olympic procedures in relation to the Olympic Flag amounted to at least a 'de facto' change in definition.

Furthermore, a change fits in with public perceptions – there is a build-up over the four year period to the Games, which are seen as a climax to an Olympic programme. The I. O. C. "TOP" sponsorship programme is also linked to the period of years building up to a Games, and advertising rights terminate by 31 December of the year in which the Games are held. The first programme ran from 1985 to 1988 and related to the Seoul (and Calgary) Games. The first contract under "TOP 2" was signed on 14 February 1989 between COOB '92 and Coca-Cola.

So is the handstamp of 3 October 1988 "1e Dia 'de l'Olimpiada" a mistake? COOB '92 do not think so. To try to resolve the problem I went to the 'Official Report of the Games of the XXV Olympiad' published by COOB '92. The forward to Volume II, by the Editor Roma Cuyas i Sol refers to "... the cultural programme which was put on over the four years of the Barcelona Olympiad leading up to the Olympic Festival of the Arts, which was held parallel to the Games."

Chapter 6 is headed "The Cultural Olympiad" and deals with the many events from October 1988, commencing with the first public performance on 8 October of the song 'Barcelona' by Freddy Mercury and Montserrat Caballe. Olimpiada Cultural S. A., the organising company, was formed on 10 November 1988.

The 1988 programme went under the title "Gateway to the Olympics", 1989 was "Year of Culture and Sport", 1990 "Year of Arts", and 1991 "Year of the Future" Finally 1992 saw the "Olympic Arts Festival" with events throughout the year but especially in the three months culminating in the period of the Games (Volume 4 of the Official report).

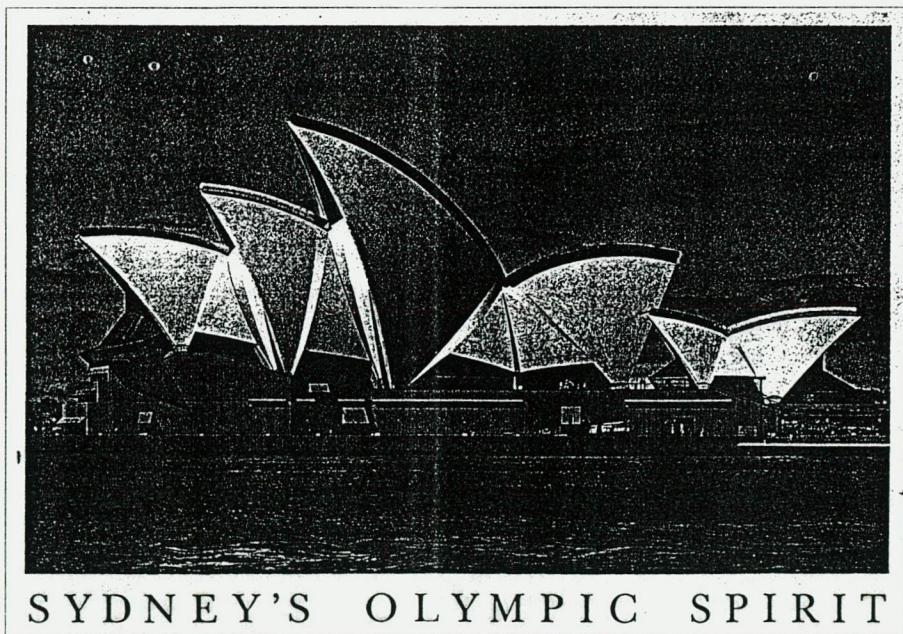
Perhaps there is a difference between an Olympiad and the Cultural Olympiad associated with the Games, but in any event I think it a little odd to include the Barcelona Cultural Olympiad programme in a philatelic display relating to the XXIV Olympiad whose Games were celebrated at Seoul. The Seoul Organising Committee were wound up in 1989, and COOB '92 were dissolved on 25 July 1993. On that date a private foundation, "The Olympic Barcelona Foundation" took over to preserve the memory of the Games, and their Olympic Gallery in the Montjuic Stadium was officially opened, one year to the day after the Opening Ceremony of the Games. This opens another Olympic chapter, another philatelic chapter, but now all eyes turn to Atlanta... and another Olympiad....

Special handstamp from "Olympihlex '92," commemorating the Philatelic Exhibitions at two Olympic Games.



## A POSTCARD FROM AUSTRALIA

A postcard from member Alan Sabey, during his recent holiday to Australia commemorates the selection of Sydney to host the Millenium Games.

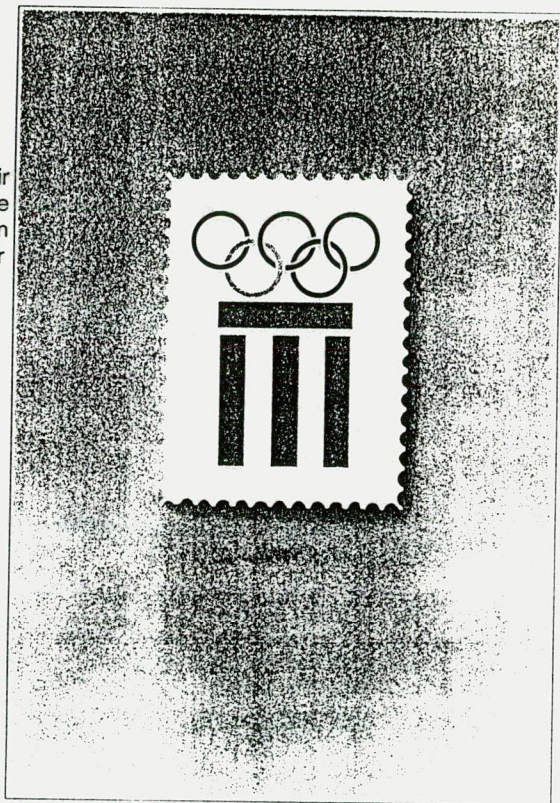


The card is credited to and copyrighted by David Messent Photography. Text on the back reads: SYDNEY / New South Wales, Australia / The Opera House decorated with / the logo for Sydney's successful bid for / the year 2000 Olympic Games

## THE OLYMPIC MUSEUM – LAUSANNE

I.M.O.S. our sister Society based in Germany, organised a trip to the Olympic Museum in Lausanne during December 1993. Such trips form a regular part of the I.M.O.S. programme, and enjoy a healthy level of support, which must offer encouragement to their hard working organisers.

The postcard received from their expedition shows the logo of the new permanent Olympic Museum and bears a handstamp of similar design which is in daily use.



The Museum is the structural embodiment of many years of planning. A "Trophy" Room was first established in 1915 when the I.O.C. moved to Lausanne from Paris. In 1924 a small museum was installed when the I.O.C. moved into the Villa Mon Repos, then in 1982, President Samaranch opened the temporary Olympic Museum. This offered limited display areas, but provided a central storage location in which to consolidate the I.O.C. collection of archive material and a vast range of items for future display.

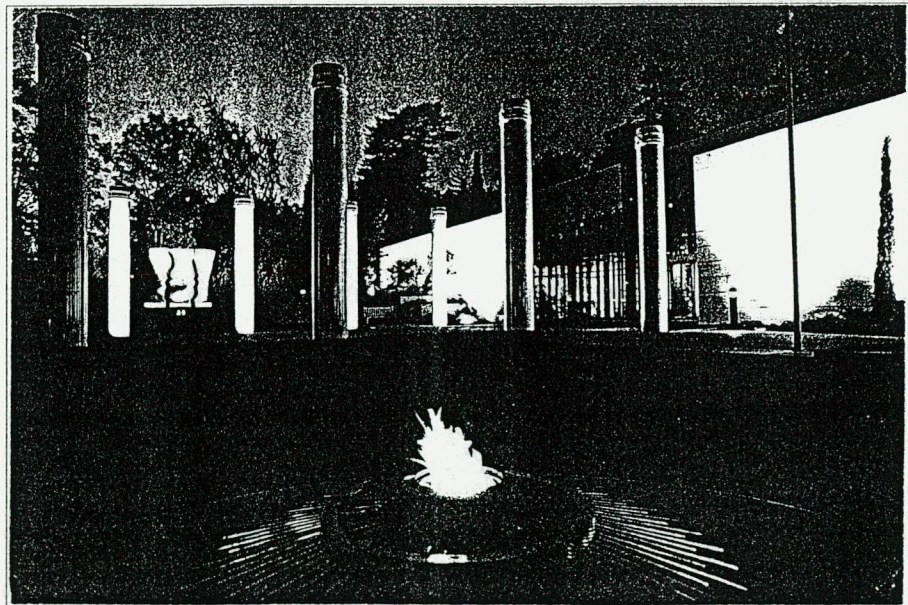
The new premises offer a permanent site with modern display and viewing facilities, enhanced by high quality storage facilities, galleries for itinerant exhibitions an auditorium and cafeteria.

The Museum was opened with much ceremony on the 23 June 1993 – the 99th anniversary of the founding of the I. O. C., and was then used as the venue for the 100th I. O. C. Session. Cachets were prepared for the inauguration of the Museum and the I. O. C. Session. The Swiss postal authorities also honoured the occasion with the issue of a single stamp.



As part of the inauguration, a flame was ignited in Geneva by laser, it then travelled to Lausanne as a centrepiece of the opening celebrations, arriving at the Olympic Park (site of the Museum) by Lake Geneva's flagship The Vaudoise.

The flame was finally handed to Katarina Witt for her to light the Olympic Fire in the grounds of the Olympic Museum.



The cauldron with the Olympic Fire was used as the design for the 1993 I. O. C. Christmas card.

## SOCIETY OF OLYMPIC COLLECTORS – SOUVENIRS

* * * * *			
*	S. O. C. Postcard No. 1		
*	Much Wenlock Olympian Games		
*	With Olympian Games handstamp 19 July 1986	£ 1.50	
* * * * *			
*	S. O. C. Cover No. 1		
*	Much Wenlock Olympian Games		
*	With Olympian Games handstamp 19 July 1986	£ 1.50	
*	(Olympian Museum postcard as filler)		
* * * * *			
*	S. O. C. Postcard No. 2		
*	Dorando's Marathon Run 1908		
*	With Stampex Olympic & Soccer Pmk. 1.3.88	£ 1.25	
*	With Postal Museum Olympic postmark 18.10.88	£ 1.25	
* * * * *			
*	S. O. C. Cover No. 2		
*	1908 Olympic Fencing Poster		
*	With Stampex Olympic & Soccer Pmk. 1.3.88	£ 1.50	
*	With 97th IOC Session h/s on fencing stamp		
*	as F D C, 11 June 1991	£ 1.50	
* * * * *			
*	S. O. C. Postcard No. 3		
*	97th Session IOC: Candidates for 1998 Olympic Winter Games.		
* * * * *			
*	Unused copy	£ 0.75	
*	With IOC ( Torch Runner ) handstamp 11.6.91	£ 1.50	
*	With Official Opening IOC Session h/s 12.6.91	£ 1.50	
*	With Int. Convention Centre slogan 12.6.91	£ 1.50	
*	With 97th IOC Session slogan 15.6.91	£ 1.50	
*	( Date of Nagano's selection )		
* * * * *			
*	S. O. C. Postcard No. 4		
*	Albertville '92 Winter Olympic Resorts		
*	Unused copy	£ 0.60	
*	With Albertville Olympic Logo handstamp	£ 2.00	
* * * * *			
*	Please add 30p. postage U.K., 60p. worldwide per five postcards.		
*	Cheques payable to S. O. C.; Giro account number 35 619 5708		
* * * * *			
*	Bob Wilcock, 24 Hamilton Crescent, Brentwood, Essex, CM14 5ES		
* * * * *			
*	Remember that Torch Bearer back issues are available from John Miller,		
*	you can still complete all volumes.		
* * * * *			
*	All supplements, New Issue Guide No. 1, Albertville Parts 1 – 4,		
*	and Barcelona Part 1, are still in print – contact John for details.		
* * * * *			

# ROME 1960 – "FREE RUMANIA" BOGUS STAMPS

Bob Farley

An addition to the Dubois CATALOG OF OLYMPIC LABELS



13th. January 1961 (?)

"Issued" in dark green  
Design size: 60 x 27mm.

"Value" 75



Design shows a pistol being aimed at a "target" containing the hammer and sickle

Perf: 14.5 x 14.0

These labels, were politically motivated, and prepared by an exiled Rumanian faction. The text "Youth must repel the communist doctrine !" clearly states the purpose of issue, and appears in (E)nglish, (R)umanian and (S)panish. The full sheet size is unknown to the author, but from examples and multiples seen it is known that :

Width is at least six columns, a horizontal strip being inscribed: (R) (R) (S) (S) (E) (E).



Imperf

Bottom marginal copies.

The wide bottom margin of the sheet carries a design consisting of the Olympic Rings and text Roma 1960 – in green



The labels may have been produced as a result of the many Ukrainian labels commemorating the Olympic Games in Rome bearing a similar anti – communist text. The unconfirmed date of issue postdates the Ukrainian issues.

# GRENOBLE 1968 – HOST NATION POSTAL MARKINGS – part 1

Rene Christian

Over twenty years have passed since the publication of the Winternheimer catalogue of postal markings of the Xth Winter Olympic Games. A number of articles have been published in German and Italian journals containing additional information. There have also been cancellations commemorating the twentieth anniversary of the Games.

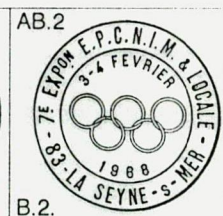
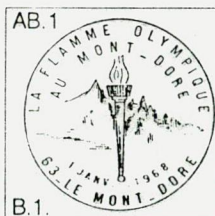
This listing aims to correlate previous listings and make additions where necessary. Reference numbers from previous listings are given to ease identification ;

prefix {It} = Italian journal, prefix {Wi} = Winternheimer

The Xth Winter Olympic Games took place in Grenoble and the surrounding region from the 6 – 18th February 1968. The majority of Post Office markings originate from that region ( department 38 ).

## First Day Postmarks

- {It} {Wi} A.1. 38 GRENOBLE / XES JEUX OLYMPIQUES D'HIVER /  
PREMIER JOUR / 22 AVR 67 / Olympic Rings.  
{It} {Wi} A.2. 38 GRENOBLE / Xes JEUX OLYMPIQUES D'HIVER /  
PREMIER JOUR / 27 JANV 68 / official emblem.



## Special Handstamps

- {It} AB.1 63 LE MONT – DORE / LA FLAMME OLYMPIQUE /  
{Wi} B.1. AU MONT – DORE / 1 JANV 1968 /  
torch and mountain range.

- {It} AB.2 83 LA SEYNE – s – MER / 7E EXPON E.P.C.N.I.M.  
{Wi} B.2. & LOCALE / 3–4 FEVRIER 1968 / Olympic Rings.

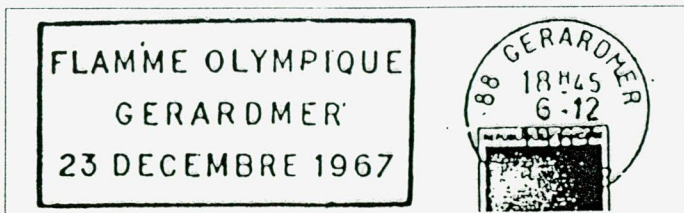


- {It} AB.3 38 GRENOBLE / Xes JEUX OLYMPIQUES  
{Wi} B.3. D'HIVER / INAUGURATION / 6 FEV. 68 /  
Olympic Torch.

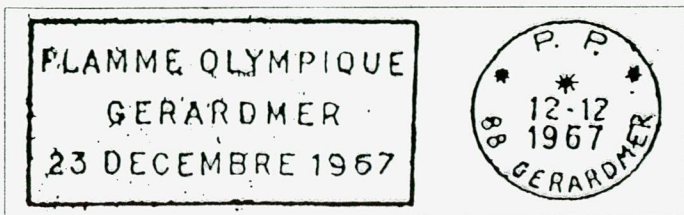
- {It} AB.4 PARIS / EXPON LES SPORTS D'HIVER DE  
{Wi} B.4. COMPETITION / 8 FEV 68 /  
Ski jumper and F.F.S., F.F.S.G. in two circles.

Machine cancellations

- {It} BG.1 88 GERARDMER / VOSGES / FLAMME OLYMPIQUE / GERARDMER /  
 {Wi} C.1. 23 DECEMBRE 1967 / text only. (stated as department 86 in Wi.)



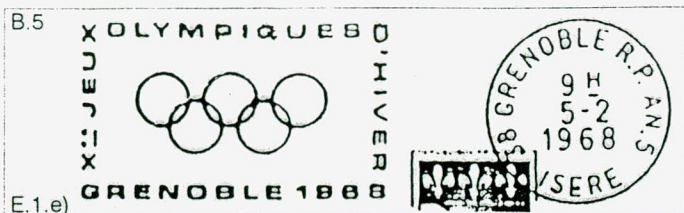
- {It} BG.2 88 GERARDMER / P. P. / FLAMME OLYMPIQUE / GERARDMER /  
 {Wi} C.2. 23 DECEMBRE 1967 / text only. (Porte Paye, bulk mailing 12.12.67)



Common "slogan" section with the following design ;

Xes JEUX / OLYMPIQUES / D'HIVER / GRENOBLE 1968 / Olympic Rings.

- {It} B.1 {Wi} E.1.a) 38 GRENOBLE GARE / ISERE dater section.  
 {It} B.2 {Wi} E.1.b) 38 GRENOBLE R.P. AN.2 / ISERE dater section.  
 {It} B.3 {Wi} E.1.c) 38 GRENOBLE R.P. AN.3 / ISERE dater section.  
 {It} B.4 {Wi} E.1.d) 38 GRENOBLE R.P. AN.4 / ISERE dater section.  
 {It} B.5 {Wi} E.1.e) 38 GRENOBLE R.P. AN.5 / ISERE dater section.  
 {Wi} E.1.f) 38 GRENOBLE R.P. AN.6 / ISERE dater section.



- {It} BA.1 ALPE D'HUEZ / ISERE / 1850m, 3350m / i'alpe / d'huez / HIVER-  
 {Wi} E.2. ETE-SKI / Olympic Rings and stylised "sun".



- {It} BA.2 ALPE D'HUEZ / ISERE / L'ALPE / D'HUEZ / Station Olympique du  
 {Wi} E.3.a) Bobsleigh / Olympic Rings and four man bobsleigh.

- {It} BA.3 38 ALPE D'HUEZ / ISERE / L'ALPE / D'HUEZ / Station Olympique du  
 {Wi} E.3.b) Bobsleigh / Olympic Rings and four man bobsleigh.



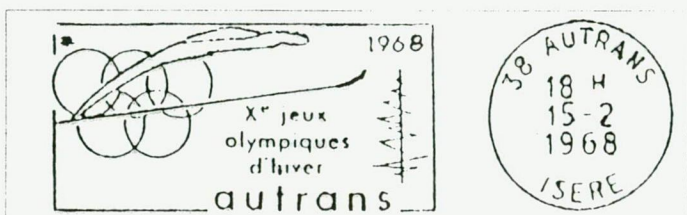
- {It} BA.4 38 ALPE D'HUEZ / ISERE / ALPE D'HUEZ / 1860-3350m / Station du  
 {Wi} E.4. Bobsleigh / aux Jeux Olympiques / de Grenoble / stylised 4 man bob.

As {It} BA.4, {Wi} E.4. but with dater to the left, "slogan" on right.



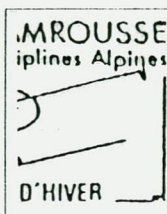
- {It} BB.1 AUTRANS / ISERE / 1968 / Xe jeux / olympiques / d'hiver / autrans /  
 {Wi} E.5.a) Rings and ski jumper

- {It} BB.2 38 AUTRANS / ISERE / 1968 / Xe jeux / olympiques / d'hiver /  
 {Wi} E.5.b) autrans / Rings and ski jumper



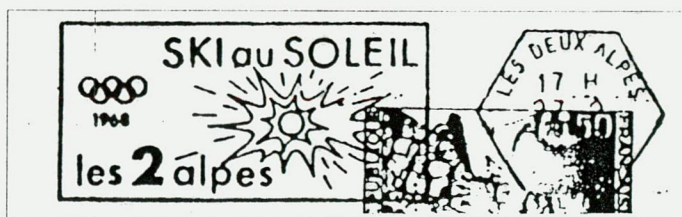
Common "slogan" section with the following design ;  
 CHAMROUSSE / Disciplines Alpines / 5 au 18 fev. 1968 / Olympic Rings and skier.

- |      |      |             |                            |
|------|------|-------------|----------------------------|
| {It} | BC.1 | {Wi} E.6.c) | 38 URIAGE AN.1 / ISERE     |
| {It} | BC.2 | {Wi} E.6.a) | 38 CHAMROUSSE / ISERE      |
| {It} | BC.3 | {Wi} E.6.b) | 38 CHAMROUSSE AN.1 / ISERE |

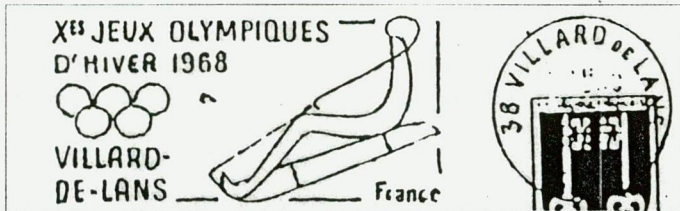


Common "slogan" section with the following design ;  
 SKI au SOLEIL / 1968 / les 2 alpes / Olympic Rings and stylised sunburst.

- |      |      |             |                 |                                    |
|------|------|-------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| {It} | BD.1 | {Wi} E.7.b) | dater on right. | LES DEUX ALPES / ISERE (Hexagonal) |
| {It} | BD.2 | {Wi} E.7.a) | dater on left.  | LES DEUX ALPES / ISERE (Hexagonal) |
| {It} | BD.3 | {Wi} E.7.c) |                 | 38 LES DEUX ALPES / ISERE          |



- {It} BE.1 VILLARD DE LANS / ISERE / XES JEUX OLYMPIQUES / D'HIVER 1968 /  
 {Wi} E.8.a) VILLARD- / DE-LANS / France / Olympic Rings and stylised luge.  
 {It} BE.2 38 VILLARD DE LANS / ISERE / XES JEUX OLYMPIQUES / D'HIVER 1968 /  
 {Wi} E.8.b) VILLARD- / DE-LANS / France / Olympic Rings and stylised luge.



- {It} BF GRENOBLE GARE / ISERE / SEMAINES INTERNATIONALES /  
 {Wi} E.9 NEIGE-GLACE / GRENOBLE 1967 / FRANCE  
 (Pre-olympic "proving" event for a number of the venues).



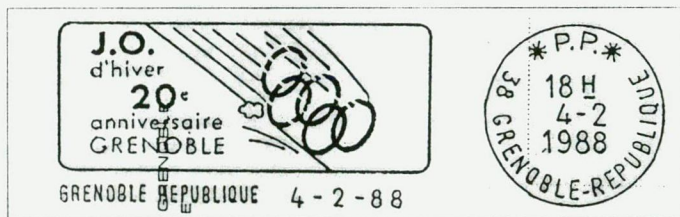
Machine cancellations – 20th Anniversary, 1988.

Common "slogan" section with the following design ;

J. O. / d'hiver / 20e / anniversaire / GRENOBLE / Olympic Rings sliding down slope.

38 GRENOBLE REPUBLIQUE / ISERE  
 \* P.P.\* / 38 GRENOBLE – REPUBLIQUE  
 38 GRENOBLE BERRIAT / ISERE

- {Wi} A.5. 38 GRENOBLE FOCH / ISERE



## Single Ring Cancellations

A number of temporary, or sub offices operated during the Games, utilising distinctive single ring cancellations.

### GRENOBLE R.P.

{Wi} G1	{It} D.1	38 GRENOBLE-R.P. ANNEXE 2 / -ISERE-
{Wi} G2	{It} D.2	38 GRENOBLE-R.P. ANNEXE 3 / -ISERE-
{Wi} G3	{It} D.3	38 GRENOBLE-R.P. ANNEXE 4 / -ISERE-
{Wi} G4	{It} D.4	38 GRENOBLE-R.P. ANNEXE 5 / -ISERE-
{Wi} G5	{It} D.5	38 GRENOBLE-R.P. ANNEXE 6 / -ISERE-



Annexe 2 = Ice Stadium, Annexe 3 = Press Centre, Annexe 4 = Olympic Village.  
Annexe 5 = Press Centre, Annexe 6 = Speed Skating Stadium.

### AUTRANS

{Wi} G7	{It} DA.1	38 AUTRANS - ANNEXE 1 / -ISERE- (Nordic Olympic Village).
{Wi} G8	{It} DA.2	38 AUTRANS - ANNEXE 2 / -ISERE- (Cross country Stadium).



### CHAMROUSSE

{Wi} G9	{It} DB.1	38 CHAMROUSSE-ANNEXE 2 / -ISERE- (Downhill piste)
{Wi} G10	{It} DB.2	38 CHAMROUSSE-ANNEXE 3 / -ISERE- (Olympic Village)



### VILLARD-DE-LANS

{Wi} G12	{It} DC	38 VILLARD-DE-LANS - AN.1 / -ISERE- (Mobile Office)
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### ST NIZIER-DU-MOUCHEROTTE

{Wi} G11	{It} DD	38 ST NIZIER-DU-MOUCHEROTTE B / -ISERE- (Mobile Office)
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## COLLECTING LOS ANGELES 1984

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Sherwin Podolsky

( This article first appeared in the July / August 1984 issue of the Journal of Sports Philatelists, and is reprinted with permission.)

The article has added significance, if it is read in conjunction with the Auction Manager's report, and when remembering that the next Summer Games will again be staged in the United States of America, at Atlanta.

\* \* \* \* \*

This article presents purely personal preferences, some may call them prejudices, in offering guidelines for collecting the 1984 Olympic Games philatelic material.

Having collected since 1956, when I was inspired by Ernest Trory's Philatelic History of the Olympic Games, I have watched the scene of new issues and cover material hit the dealer bourses and philatelic advertising every four years. Yet, a few years later, some of the material comes belly-up in auctions at realisations assuring their consignor-owner a financial bath! Sometimes the material simply does not sell for years; sometimes the market chosen for the sale is inappropriate because it is not directed at the thematic collector or dealer.

This is not to say that collecting current and recent philatelic material is going to be profitable when sold. In my opinion, it takes about twenty five years for material to season to its financial worth.

The collector should be able to acquire his material reasonably. The stamps of foreign countries can be acquired later, when the collections show up in auctions at estimates well below the owner's original costs.

My suggestion is to be careful with those collections if they are heavy in countries that do not have National Olympic Committees. Stamps of such countries should be left out of a collection, because such countries are only interested in garnering money from collectors. These countries often do an exceptional job in research and printing, so that the subjects have great appeal. They should be resisted. Another group of Olympic stamps that should be left out of the collection consists of non-participating nations. However, these countries may have National Olympic Committees. In my opinion, there will still be enough material to choose from those countries that did take part in the Games.

A compromise could be made with the two groups described above, by only choosing very selectively certain stamps from sets that may fit in with a particular theme that one is trying to develop. Under no circumstances should one try to extend oneself financially to any great extent. As for the participating countries, I would stick to the varieties listed in the major catalogues. Imperforate, mis-perforations, colour errors, and especially souvenir sheets, can be omitted without any damage to the theme or the collection.

What if the stamp is only available as an imperf or a souvenir sheet? If the regular form of issue is imperforate and sold at normal face value, and it is available at a reasonable

dealer mark up, that is alright. However, I would limit souvenir sheets to include only those that have been issued by the host country. Sets from other countries, including souvenir sheets, would simply be omitted from the collection. Colour errors and mis-perforations add spice to a collection. One should make a point of knowing about the philatelic policy of the country of issue. Are the errors or freaks legitimate? Are similar items available from other issues emanating from that country? What has been their pedigree and history? Have they been listed in the specialised catalogues?

How about covers? My preference is to seek the postally travelled covers with stamps affixed at the correct postal rate for the service supplied. I avoid souvenir first day covers, and the tacky unaddressed stamp show cover with a special cancellation. Sometimes I miss sending away for a special cancellation on time, and I may pick it up anyway, since it is better than nothing, but that is not my primary way of doing things.

My preference is for host country material. Yugoslavia had dozens of cancellations, and I understand that there were also meter cancellations for the Olympic Winter Games in Sarajevo, yet nearly everything on the market consists of mint stamps and souvenir covers. I have some of the stamps mint, and just a couple of covers sent to me through the mail. That is about as far as I will go for Yugoslavia until travelled covers show up. I do not have much interest in the material from the participating countries, but I am very partial to the Greek torch relay covers, if they have seen postal use.

What about proofs and colour trials? 99% of them are made for collectors, and have nothing to do with stamp development. They provide almost obscene mark ups for dealers, and generally do not seem to earn very much respect from the jury at exhibitions. The early proofs and colour trials were very much truer to their original purpose in the stamp development at governmental level. You must study the philately of the particular country to determine the degree of respect you, (and the amount of money you want to pay) and others give to this material.

Most imperforate varieties were never intended to be used, and many are not even valid for postage. If the item is imperforate, try to get it legitimately postally used on cover. Otherwise it is merely a souvenir variety, of questionable interest philatelically. In my opinion, Disney "Olympic" stamps have no place in a serious Olympic collection. Mickey Mouse and Donald Duck are out of character with the Olympic theme. The dealer hype to promote these stamps is tremendous, almost as bad as tobacco advertising.

As popular as they are, cachet collecting is not recognised at international level in thematic exhibitions. You cannot develop your theme with Olympic cachets in an exhibit, unless the exhibition is at easy-going local level. You can collect cachets, (like anything else) for your personal pleasure all that you wish, but prepare yourself for a rude shock at an exhibition with accredited judges. You can get away with cachet development of your theme in First Day Cover exhibitions sponsored by the American First Day Cover Society. To a limited extent, you can include non FDC material in such exhibits. Examine the rules when considering entering such exhibitions. The most collectible phase of the 1984 Olympic philately consists of the covers from the organising committees and the International Olympic Committee, especially the slogan meter cancellations. For the Los Angeles Games, the covers of the licensees, sponsors and suppliers have definite interest when they have commemorative cachets and are used in conjunction with slogan meter cancellations. This is the kind of material that can tell you about the organising and financing of the Olympic Games. The publicity material for the

Los Angeles Games includes stamp show commemorative cancellations, many machine slogan cancels and also postal maximum cards, all correctly used.

The torch relay cancels, the special cancellations for the 88th Session of the International Olympic Committee before the opening day, and all the cancellations during the Olympics, are all worthy of collection, but preferably on postally travelled covers or cards. Look for the coloured computer postal markings on the covers and cards as evidence of postal travel. Anyone can address a souvenir cover that has never travelled in the post. Covers cancelled on the dates for the various sporting events and finals, can be used to tie in the postmark date with the write up about the event. If you have covers and cards with duplicate cancels and dates, save them, as each can be used for a separate write up. Some finals for different events may fall on the same day.

Alright, you may decide that travelled material is for you, and you visit your local fair and ask for Olympic covers. The 1984 material will likely be 99% untravelled. Most disappointing. How can you collect if the material is not available? Now you know what it is like to wrestle with your philatelic conscience! The easiest thing is to buy the mint stamps of the host countries at normal new issue prices, but that is easy, and not nearly as much fun, or as rewarding.

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## A MESSAGE FOR THE TORCH RUN

---

Just over fifty years ago, the first Torch Relay, connecting the ancient Olympic stadium with a modern Olympic stadium was run. It was based on an idea of Carl Diem, then the Secretary General of the Olympic Organising Committee for the Berlin Olympic Games.

Pierre de Coubertin, the aged founder of the modern Olympic Games, was too old either to attend the lighting ceremony of the first torch or to attend the Games in Berlin. However, he did send a message to Olympia which was read out at the start of the ceremony. This address, as well as others made by de Coubertin, were gathered together by the Carl Diem Institute and published in Schorndorf in 1967 under the title "THE OLYMPIC IDEA":

\* \* \* \* \*

..... Athletes, who in your eager hands will carry the symbolic flame from Olympia to Berlin, I wish to tell you, since it is my privilege as founder and Honorary President of the modern Olympic Games to address you, in what spirit my thoughts go with you, and what meaning I attribute to your efforts.

We are living through solemn hours, for unexpected sights are rising everywhere about us. And while the forms of a new Europe and a new Asia are vaguely discernable as in a morning mist, it seems that humanity is at least about to recognise that the crisis in which it is caught up is, above all, a crisis of education.

I have seen fifty years pass since the day in 1886 when I put aside every kind of personal preoccupation and dedicated my life effort to the preparation of an educational revival, being convinced that no political or social stability could be obtained without previous pedagogic reform. I believe that I have accomplished my task, but not in full.

From the countless stadia scattered over the surface of the globe there now rises the clamour of athletic enjoyment, as it once rose from the Hellenic gymnasia. No nation, no class, no profession is excluded from it. The athletic cult now revived has not only bettered public health, it diffuses a smiling sort of stoicism apt to aid the individual in his resistance to the daily trials and depressions of life.

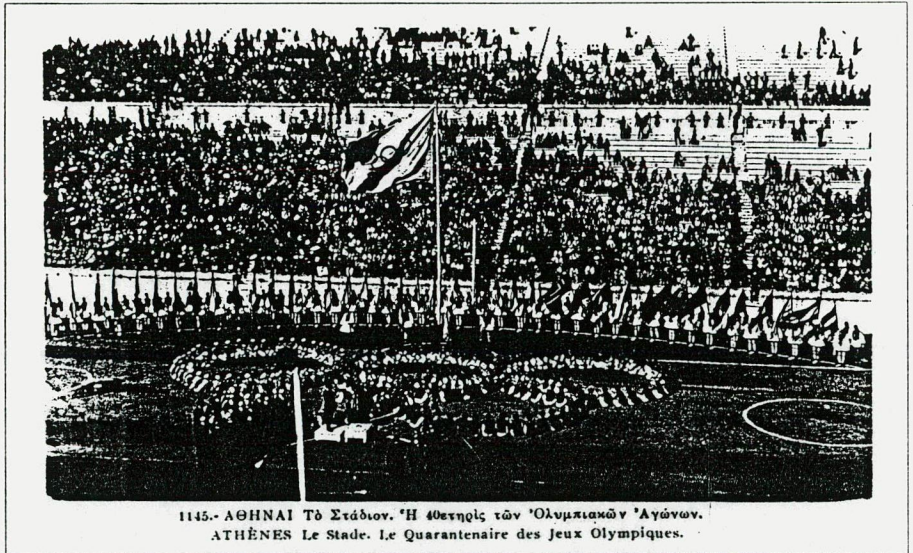
Let us congratulate ourselves on these results; but not everything is thereby accomplished. The mind in its turn must be freed from the bonds which have been imposed upon it by excessive specialisation, and must escape from the oppressive strait-jacket of narrow professions. The vast panoramas opened to our time must be shown to everyone on the threshold of active life, if only as a fleeting vision. The future belongs to those peoples who will first dare to transform the education of the young adult. For it is he – not the child – who grasps and governs fate.

Thus there will be established the vigorous and well-considered peace appropriate to the sporting epoch of high ambition and strong will. I entrust to you my message – no doubt the last that it will be my lot to deliver. May you have happy running. The German Committee has devised and organised this event with care that is appreciated by every nation. It begins, moreover, in a place that is illustrious above all others, under the sign of that eternal Hellenism which has not ceased to light the path of the centuries, and whose ancient solutions are still applicable to many a contemporary problem.

Ask on my behalf the young people gathered in Berlin to accept the heritage of my labour and to complete what I have begun, what the pervading routine-mindedness and pedantry have prevented me from accomplishing in full – in order that the union of muscle and thought may be finally sealed for the sake of progress and human dignity .....

## 1936 – TORCH RELAY CELEBRATIONS IN ATHENS STADIUM ?

Bob Farley



The text of the illustrated postcard states that the scene and celebration shown is:

"ATHENS The Stadium. The Fortieth Anniversary of the Olympic Games."

This would date the celebration as 1936, the Olympic Flag and the Olympic Rings formed by participants are the focal point of the photographic view. The card is unused, but a message on the back (in greek) mentions 1938 and 1939, suggesting that the card may have been mailed within an envelope.

The obvious time to hold such a celebration in Athens would have been to coincide with the passage of the Torch Relay to Berlin, but the Torch or a cauldron do not appear to be present, although something is being held aloft just at the right of the base of the flagpole. The flags of at least forty nations are being borne by bearers in Greek costume. Can any of our members offer further information about the celebration shown, were any other postcards produced? Was this the first time that the Olympic Flag was raised in the Athens Stadium?

As the card is numbered 1145, it seems to have been included within a publishers series of tourism / view cards, it is possible that adjacent numbers may also depict the celebrations. A camera is set up on the podium in the foreground.



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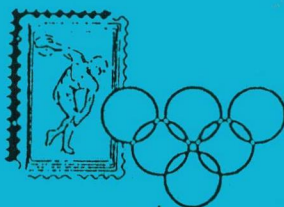
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