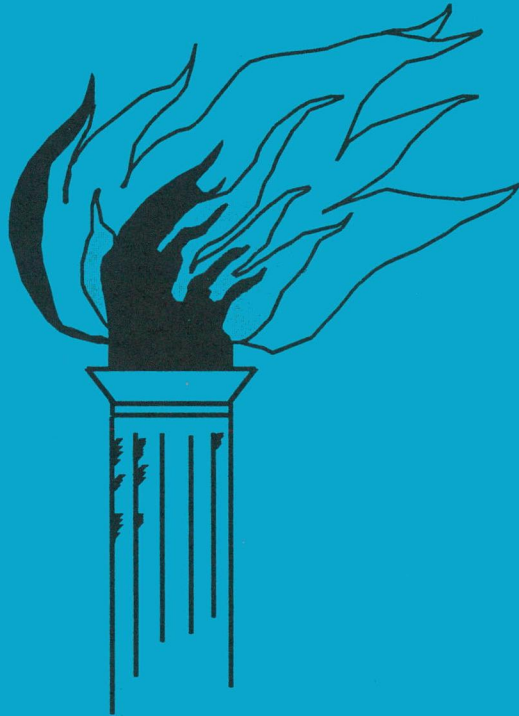


# TORCH BEARER



SOC

SOCIETY of OLYMPIC COLLECTORS

## **YOUR COMMITTEE**

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<b>CHAIRMAN:</b>	Mrs Franceska Rapkin, Eaglewood, Oxhey Lane Hatch End, Middx HA5 4AL Great Britain.
<b>VICE CHAIRMAN AND EDITOR:</b>	Robert Farley, 14 Lime Walk, Acton, Nr Sudbury, Suffolk. CO10 OUL, Great Britain.
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<b>AUCTION MANAGER:</b>	John Crowther, 3 Hill Drive, Handforth, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 3AP, Great Britain.
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<b>COMMITTEE:</b>	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.

VOLUME 12

MAY 1995

ISSUE 2

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## MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY OF OLYMPIC COLLECTORS

Membership starts on election, of which applicants will be notified, and will last for one calendar year. All back issues of the magazine will be sent to members joining during the year.

Junior members are those aged under 18 years in the year of joining, subscription rates are half of the adult rate until the 18th birthday.

Applications should be made to the Secretary, and should include the following details: Name, Address, Telephone No, Occupation, Collecting Interests, Membership details of other Societies and be signed by the applicant.

In the case of junior applicants, date of birth should also be stated, and the application must be countersigned by a parent or guardian.

Subscription rates at 1st January 1995 are: United Kingdom £7.00, Europe £9.00, (DM25, \$US17), Outside Europe £12.00, (DM35, \$US23).

American cheques drawn in \$US in the USA are acceptable, but all other overseas payments should be made in either Sterling, US Dollar or Deutschmark currency notes, or by Sterling cheques payable in London.

## FRONT PAGE

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I decided that I would have to enforce a strict regime of allocating my time to Torch Bearer, and advance planning the content of each issue when I offered to act as Editor. When the November 1994 issue had been prepared, I was really pleased that I had a substantial part of the February and May issues allocated, authors had agreed to the supply of articles, and it looked as though I had over estimated the time needed to create the journal. Talk about naive!

This issue contains one article that was planned for May, and the first installment of an article that was intended to be only two or three pages in February – everything else is a result of either new contributions, or the fact that further information has created the need to rewrite or update items.

I had promised an article on the Gods of Olympus to Francesca in early 1993, it seemed reasonable that I would finally have it ready for February 1995 ( and it was ready, it just got displaced by more current items ). The article had grown by February to about eight pages, and seemed like a good start to this May issue.

I had not allowed for my surprise (I knew the evening before), 40th birthday trip to Greece and Olympia, after which the amount of additional material rendered the article rather wanting. As a consequence you will find only the initial installment in this issue, following articles will look at the range of material available to illustrate this mythical foundation of the Ancient Games.

This issue contains two detailed studies, the subject matter of which, I acknowledge, will be of very limited appeal, as there will be very few collectors wishing to specialise in a single issue of Yugoslavia, and not all members collect the very modern Games. The articles have been included for a number of reasons, and I could probably fill far more than one page in giving them all. Please take the time to read them, they both illustrate the vast array of material and opportunities for specialist study that are available to us all, as collectors of Olympic material, as postal historians, as philatelists, and most importantly as collectors of things that interest us. They also illustrate the level of knowledge that we should be able to publish and share through the existence of the Society of Olympic Collectors.

This issue also contains the first listing of Olympic postmarks, compiled by Manfred Winternheimer, and regularly published by our sister society IMOS. This will become a regular feature, thanks to their co-operation.

On a personal note, I should have moved home by the time that you read this issue, the new address will appear in the August issue. Brenda my wife will still be at the current address until at least July, so my move is not an excuse to hold back if you intend to send articles!

The final selection as host of the 2002 Olympic Winter Games will take place in Budapest on June 16, between the four remaining candidates. Osternund, Quebec, Salt Lake City, and Sion, will all be awaiting the result with expectation, and I am sure that a number of members will be in attendance because of the philatelic exhibition that is being staged to coincide with the I.O.C. Session. I would be grateful for a first hand report to publish in a future issue.

Finally, please do attempt to support your Society, by contributions to Torch Bearer, the auction or packet. Try to recruit friends as members, and of course try to attend the Annual General Meeting on the 1st July at Thematica.

# NEWS FROM MEMBERS

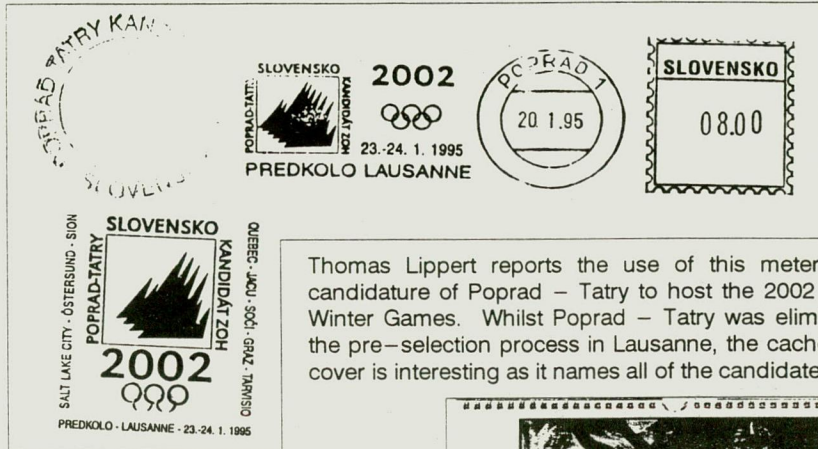
Thomas Paton, an avid bridge player forwarded the following news cutting:

" At its deliberations in May next year in Budapest, Hungary, the International Olympic Committee will consider an application from the WBF {World Bridge Federation} for recognition of bridge as an Olympic sport.

Mazhar Jafri of Pakistan, a member of the WBF Executive Council who has carried the bridge message to the IOC, believes approval by the IOC Congress is virtually certain.

The measure has already been approved by the IOC Executive Council, Jafri reports. This does not mean that bridge will become a part of the Olympic Games. However, Jafri points out that IOC recognition will pay huge dividends by raising the stature of bridge. This is especially important in nations where there are taboos against card games and where support for sporting events is in the hands of the government."

\*\*\*\*\*



Thomas Lippert reports the use of this meter for the candidature of Poprad – Tatry to host the 2002 Olympic Winter Games. Whilst Poprad – Tatry was eliminated in the pre-selection process in Lausanne, the cachet on the cover is interesting as it names all of the candidates.

## Olympic Poster Calendars.

Robert Budge reports the appearance of two superbly printed calendars to commemorate the Centennial of the Modern Olympics.

The 1995 calendar uses the posters from Athens 1896 to Helsinki 1952.

The 1996 calendar uses the posters from Melbourne 1956 to Atlanta 1996.

The calendars are printed on quality paper, and faithfully reproduce the posters. Each page includes some fascinating details from the Games to which the poster relates.

The calendars are priced at \$24.95 Australian.

Other calendars featuring the logo of the Australian Olympic Committee are available at A\$9.95 and A\$14.95.



MAY 6 – 8, 1995

## OLYMPSPORT '95

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF PHILATELIC  
LITERATURE ON THE THEME OF SPORT AND THE  
OLYMPIC GAMES

In conjunction with PLZEŇ '95

Plzeň, Czech Republic

Olympic Collectors meeting 13.00 6th May

Saturday 10 June, 1995 10.00am. – 5.00pm.

## MIDPEX

MIDLAND SPORTS CENTRE FOR THE DISABLED

Cromwell Lane, Tile Hill, Coventry

The Exhibition for National / Specialist Philatelic Societies

Displays by 40 Specialist Societies – 30+ dealers

FREE PARKING EASY ACCESS FREE ADMISSION

JUNE 12 – 18, 1995

## OLYMPIAFILA '95

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF OLYMPIC  
AND SPORT PHILATELY

ON THE OCCASION OF THE 104th SESSION OF THE I.O.C

Meeting Hall of the Municipal Building, Budapest, Hungary.

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, JULY 1 – 2, 1995

## THEMATICA 1995

THEMATIC SOCIETIES and DISPLAYS – DEALERS

Annual General Meeting of the S O C, Saturday 4.00pm

Carisbrooke Hall, 63 Seymour Street, London.

The Society of Olympic Collectors will have a table at  
MIDPEX and THEMATICA.

The Society souvenirs and a selection of unsold auction lots  
at reserve prices will be available to visitors.



Robert Cyca from New Zealand asks if anyone can give information about the boxed black cachet on this recently acquired Hindenburg flight cover. One of his German friends, who has no special philatelic knowledge, believes that it is somehow associated with "illegal" postage (he thinks that the English translation is closer to illegal than insufficient). The indistinct part of the cachet which covers part of the address appears to be "Frankfurt (Main)".

\*\*\*\*\*

Richard Miles, 52 Over Lane, Almondsbury, Bristol BS12 4BW. Great Britain, seeks a copy of the Olympic Anthem in English – can anyone help.

He is also seeking a listing of the philatelic items available that commemorate the Olympic Winter Games, 1992 in Albertville. Are any listings of stamps, postmarks, covers etc. known to members, (other than the Torch Bearer supplements) ?

\*\*\*\*\*

**Symbolism of the Flame** from the February issue has been the subject of a number of responses, and comments. These will be edited and published in the next issue, as I am afraid that space is not available in this issue. If you have anything further to contribute, please let the Editor know.

\*\*\*\*\*

Please remember the Society Packet when considering disposal of any surplus material. Your duplicates could become another members cherished item. Send your material to Colin Faers, the Packet Manager.

\*\*\*\*\*

# Centenary of the I.O.C. and the HELLENIC OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

The following information is extracted from a letter sent to the members of F.I.P.O. by the Hellenic Society of Olympic and Sport Philately, unfortunately it arrived just after the deadline for the previous issue of Torch Bearer, as it compliments reported items.  
 { See Volume 12, pages 5 7 and 8 }.

" Our Society, in honour of the 100th anniversary of the I.O.C., its first President, Demetrius Vikelas, and the 100th anniversary of the Hellenic Olympic Committee, organised in Athens in the Zappeion Palace from 12 – 14 November 1994, an exhibition of Olympic stamps and documents.

At the Zappeion Palace (known to collectors of Olympic stamps owing to the rare postmark of the 1906 Olympic Games) the first national Olympic committee in the world, the Hellenic Olympic Committee, was founded on 12 November 1894, in the presence of **Baron Pierre de Coubertin**. The prestige lent by the position and personality of the Committee President and members, supported and illuminated the institution of the Olympic Committee, in particular during the first crucial decades. It has continued throughout the century to play a creative and decisive role in the Olympic movement.

The exhibition was opened with every official formality by the **Minister of Transport and Communications, Mr Athanasios Tsouras**, and was attended by important public figures. Greetings were addressed by **Antonios Tzikas, President of the Hellenic Olympic Committee** and by **Haralambos Venardos, General Secretary of the historic " Panahellenic Gymnastics Association "**, which was represented at the **International Athletic Congress** in Paris in 1894 by **Demetrius Vikelas**. The President of the Hellenic Society of Olympic and Sport Philately, **Georgios Dolianitis**, referred to the commemorative nature of the exhibition."

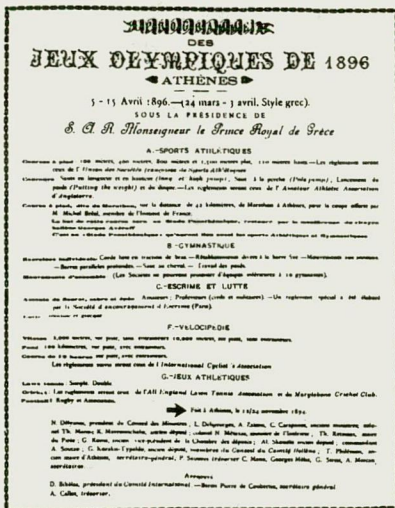
## ΕΚΘΕΣΗ ΟΛΥΜΠΙΑΚΩΝ ΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΟΣΗΜΩΝ ΚΑΙ ΤΕΚΜΗΡΙΩΝ

Ζάππειον  
12-14 Νοεμβρίου 1994



12.11.1894 - 12.11.1994  
100 ΧΡΟΝΙΑ  
ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΛΥΜΠΙΑΚΩΝ  
ΑΓΩΝΩΝ

ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΕΤΑΙΡΕΙΑ ΟΛΥΜΠΙΑΚΟΥ-ΑΘΛΗΤΙΚΟΥ ΦΙΛΟΤΕΛΙΣΜΟΥ



1894 - 1994  
100 ΧΡΟΝΙΑ Δ.Ο.Ε.  
ΔΗΜΗΤΡΙΟΣ ΒΙΚΕΛΑΣ  
Α ΠΡΟΕΔΡΟΣ Δ.Ο.Ε.

The cover of the Official Invitation to the exhibition (actual size 252 x 178mm), reproduces the Programme for the Olympic Games of 1896. The copy illustrated has been franked and cancelled with the Demetrius Vikelas stamp and exhibition cancel.



A sheetlet of the labels promoting the Centenary of the I.O.C. which were circulated at the exhibition.

" A commemorative postmark by the Hellenic Post Office which was used on the first day of the exhibition, bears the following text:

– Exhibition of Olympic stamps and documents Athens 12–11–1994 / Hellenic Society of Olympic and Sport Philately / –12–11–1894 Zappeion 12–11–1994 100 Years of E. O. A. (Hellenic Olympic Committee)."

"Demetrius Vikelas, with his high ethics and his personality in general, embodied the Olympic Ideal. He was one of the protagonists at the International Congress in Paris in 1894 and played a decisive role in organising the First International Olympic Games in Athens in 1896."

The letter also mentions that the H.S.O.S.P. will be participating in seventeen exhibitions and lectures in different cities throughout Greece during 1995.

Members visiting Greece may like to contact them to check if an exhibition coincides with their visit. The address is: Hellenic Society of Olympic and Sport Philately, 20 Didotou Str. Athens 106 80, Greece.

# BARCELONA 1992 – SOUTH AFRICAN POSTAL OPERATIONS

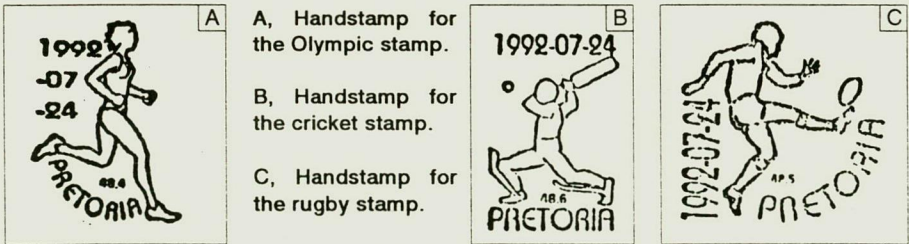
Naomi Beinart

This article attempts to assemble the philatelic facts regarding South Africa's participation in the Olympic Games of 1992 in Barcelona, after an absence of 32 years. South Africa last participated at Rome in 1960.

On the 24th July, 1992, South African postal authorities issued a set of six sports stamps and a miniature sheet combining all six designs, only one design commemorated the Olympic Games. This was the 70c value showing women runners sprinting to the tape. Of the other designs, one of the two 35c values show Formula One Grand Prix Motor Racing, the second shows Soccer, the 55c value shows the Total Paris to Cape Motor Rally, the 90c shows Rugby, and finally the R1.05 depicts the loss of a wicket in a cricket match.



Special pictorial first day handstamps were available at Philatelic Services, Pretoria – a relevant design for each sport.

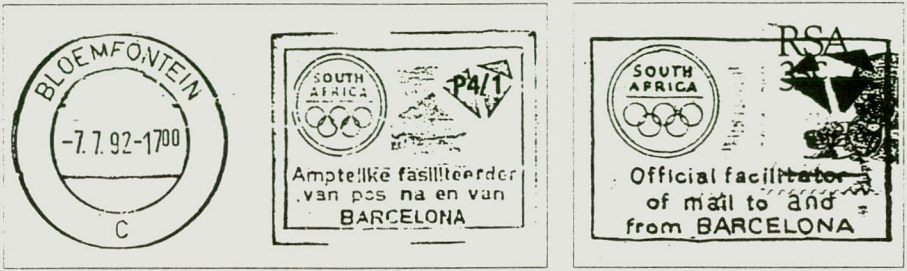


- A, Handstamp for the Olympic stamp.
- B, Handstamp for the cricket stamp.
- C, Handstamp for the rugby stamp.

Special slogan cancellers were used in the period leading up to the Games, the actual dates and offices of use have not been determined. Those seen have been from the larger cities of Cape Town, Johannesburg, Durban, Pretoria and Bloemfontein, all copies are of poor quality. The earliest date seen so far, is the 28th June 1992, and the latest is the 1st August 1992. Regular use occurred in the cities mentioned during July.

All of the slogan cancellers took the same form, differing only in the overall size, and the placing of the date / city circle to either left or right of the slogan tablet.

The text appears in either english or afrikaans, "Official facilitator of mail to and from Barcelona" or "Amptelike fasiliteerder van pos na en van Barcelona" respectively.



Above, afrikaans, Bloemfontein slogan.

Above right, english slogan tablet.

Right, afrikaans, Durban slogan.

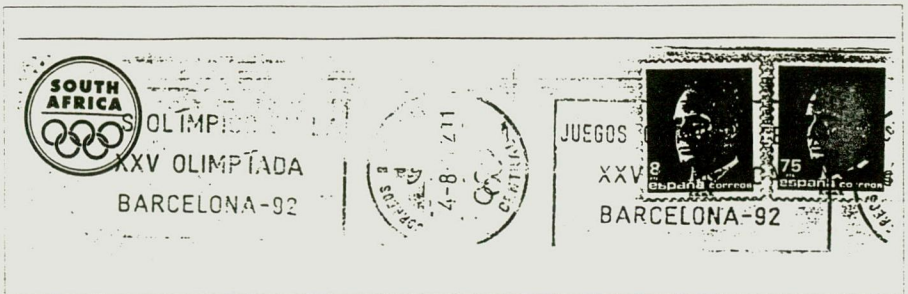


The slogan tablet also includes the South African Olympic emblem (top left) and the logo of The South Africa Post Office – a stylised envelope (top right).

The slogan canceller from Durban differs slightly in that it is narrower, with the Olympic emblem to the left, with the text beneath the Post Office logo to the right.

Members of the South African Olympic Team were each issued with a special stationery kit, at a function held on July 22nd 1992, just before their departure for Spain. Each kit contained specially designed postcards – six different are known, each with correct Spanish postage stamps affixed ready for mailing (to South Africa), a writing pad and a packet of envelopes, also correctly franked with Spanish stamps.

The writing paper and envelopes are pale cream in colour, with the South African Olympic emblem on them, the writing paper also has "Barcelona '92" printed up the right side of each sheet. About 500 kits were issued.



The printed portion of an envelope from the stationery set, issued to members of the South Africa Team, with 83 ptas postage affixed.

Special arrangements were made by the South African Post Office for the delivery and receipt of mail between the South African Team in the Olympic Village and South Africa. Letters from South African fans, family and friends only required the standardised internal letter rate of 35c in stamps to be affixed, with the item addressed to the relevant athlete, coach or official:

c/o South African Olympic Team,  
Olympic Village,  
P. O. Box 800,  
Pretoria 0001.

Special arrangements had been made with the Spanish Postal Authorities, and certain commercial airlines to facilitate the despatch of the mail to Madrid (S A A and K L M land there), and then to the Olympic Village near Barcelona, and vice versa. In practice, this speedy delivery arrangement did not materialise either to or from the Olympic Village, it was sometimes actually slower as it did not use the normal Spanish postal system. The huge amount of mail generated by the Olympic Games, negated any attempt to use the special arrangements. It is possible that the postbags from South Africa were held up in Spain because they had to be treated "specially" and thus differently from normal mail.

The South African Post Office issued a press release on August 13th, 1992, stating that more than 2000 items of mail addressed to members of the South African Team, had been received at the special postbox in Pretoria during the Games. The mail had been forwarded daily in line with the terms of the agreement with the Spanish Postal Administration and the airlines. Letters which arrived after a certain date were being forwarded to the relevant Sports Federations for onward transmission to the athletes.

Among those who received the most mail were the athletes Elana Meyer, Tshakile Nzimande, Bobang Phiri and Zola Pieterse, yachtsman Rick Mayhew, tennis stars Wayne Ferreira, Piet Norval and Amanda Coetzer, and swimmers Marianne Kriel and Peter Williams.

In addition to the letters and postcards, a large number of telegrams and parcels were also received by athletes.

I personally wrote to two athletes who I know well, and asked them to return the envelopes. The letters were sent through the Pretoria address, in the hope that they would attract transit markings to record their onward transmission. The only postal marking they received, was the internal cancellation on the 35c stamp, which indicates that the mail was carried through to the Olympic Village in the Pretoria mailbags, never actually entering the normal Spanish system, where surcharges would have been applied for underpayment.

A number of foreign fans also sent their letters via the Pretoria special postbox to South African Team members, not realising the delays that would occur. In most cases the letters would have been received quicker from foreign fans had they been posted direct from their home country. Hindsight really is a wonderful thing!

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## Namibia

On July 24th, 1992, the Namibian Postal Administration issued a set of four stamps and a miniature sheet commemorating the Olympic Games. The designs are:

20c. Runners.

25c. Namibian flag, map and Olympic Rings.

45c. Swimmers.

60c. Barcelona Olympic Stadium.

The miniature sheet unites the four individual designs.

Dealers in South Africa did not buy the Olympic issues for stock due to the relatively high face value and the general economic climate.

Naomi, kindly located a number of sets which were made available to S O C members in Lausanne, during the Collectors Fair. She has managed to locate a few more sets, as they are now scarce in South Africa.

These are available to members on a first come first served basis, on payment by a sterling cheque payable to Mrs N Beinart, at the following prices:

South Africa set and miniature sheet:	£12.50
Namibian set and miniature sheet:	£ 6.50
Postage / packing, per order:	£ 1.00

Requests should be addressed to: Mrs N Beinart, 202 San Michele, Main Road, Three Anchor Bay, Cape Town 8001, South Africa.

## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – 1994

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Held on Saturday 2nd July 1994 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 Annual General Meeting.

### PRESENT

Mrs F Rapkin (Chairman)

Mrs E Miller (Secretary)

Mr J Crowther (Auction Manager)

Mr J Miller (Printer and Distributor)

Mr R Wilcock

Mr R Farley (Vice-Chairman)

Mr C Faers (Treasurer / Packet Manager)

Mr K Cook ( Librarian)

Mr D Buxton (Advertising Manager)

Two members of the Society.

### APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

### APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Minutes of the meeting on 3rd July 1993 were approved and signed. Proposed by Mr Crowther, seconded by Mr Wilcock.

### MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

### TREASURER'S AND PACKET MANAGER'S REPORT

The Balance Sheet was presented.

Although bank interest is down the balance still remains satisfactory at nearly £5,000. In the Treasurer's opinion there needs to be no increase in subscriptions at the moment.

Mr Faers announced that after ten years he wished to lighten his commitment to the Society and offered his resignation as Treasurer. Mr David Buxton has agreed to take over the post.

As Packet Manager Mr Faers pointed out that the packet runs at a slight loss, due to heavy annual insurance, but as it gives a service to members it was thought to be worthwhile. A request for Olympic material to circulate in the packet is to be placed in Torch Bearer.

Mr Faers will continue as Packet Manager for the time being. Mr Buxton proposed that the report be accepted, seconded by Mr Farley.

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Ten years ago a small band of enthusiasts met in the Bloomsbury Crest Hotel to discuss the formation of our Society, we now have a membership of some 250 collectors in all parts of the world. It is pleasing to see so many of the original Committee still serving but we do need some younger Committee members – an injection of new blood and new ideas into the Society.

The development of the Summer and Winter Games supplements which have been produced by Bob Farley and Bob Wilcock, have contributed greatly to the prestige of the Society. I would like to thank them on behalf of us all. Sadly I have to announce Colin Faers is standing down from the Treasurers post, however he wishes to carry on as Packet Manager, so we do not lose Colin. David Buxton has agreed to take over as Treasurer which means that we are now looking for an Advertising Manager to take over from David.

I am optimistic about the trip to the Olympic Museum in Lausanne which is being organised by David Buxton and hope that a number of members will join in. However it is regrettable that so few have decided to attend the celebration dinner arranged to mark the 10th anniversary of the Society.

Finally, my thanks to all the members of the Committee for their support in the past year. In particular Bob Farley for taking over the Editor's mantle.

#### EDITOR'S REPORT

There has been a reasonable response for articles for Torch Bearer. It is hoped to maintain the high standard of Torch Bearer, by including new items. There is still a lot of material for both Lillehammer and Barcelona, which it is hoped to use in future supplements.

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT

In September 1993 John Crowther organised an exhibition at Manchester Museum in support of the Manchester 2000 Olympic Bid. It was well attended by the public, but it did not bring any new members to the Society. Although we were disappointed that Manchester was unsuccessful, we wish to congratulate Sydney.

Bob Farley and Bob Wilcock worked hard on Albertville Part 4 and this was issued to members last November along with Torch Bearer.

I would like to record our thanks to Franceska Rapkin, who has been the Editor of Torch Bearer since the start of the Society, for her hard work and dedication. Bob Farley has now taken over as Editor. Please support him and send any articles or information which you think members would be interested in.

Thanks also to Colin Faers who has been our Treasurer since the formation of the Society. He now feels it is time to resign in order to keep up with his collection and other interests. David Buxton is welcomed as his replacement.

The Society membership stands at 241. So far 26 members have not renewed their subscriptions for 1994. Since the 1st January this year 4 new members have joined the Society.

On Saturday 10th June 1995 a number of specialist societies are getting together at the Midlands Sport Centre for the Disabled, Tile Hill, Coventry. Dealers have been invited and our Society has booked a table. Dick Frost will be displaying a number of frames of Olympic material, so do come along and support the event.

#### AUCTION MANAGER'S REPORT

Sales in 1993 totalled £6506.45, which was a considerable reduction on the record sales of £8068.50 in 1992, possibly due to 1993 being a non-Olympic year.

The auction is being supported by an increasing number of vendors, but there is the problem of re-submitting unsold lots in later auctions. I would like to let members know that unsold lots have not been forgotten and that they will be put into later auctions as early as possible. Good quality literature for the Olympic Games is being received.

Mr Crowther was pleased to report that £500 is being transferred to the general account.

## PRINTER / DISTRIBUTOR'S REPORT

A slightly lower number of Torch Bearer has been printed due to a slight drop in membership numbers. Stocks of back numbers is still being maintained.

## LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

New items that have been bought will be listed in Torch Bearer. Although a reprint of the Library List was made there has been little response. Mr Cook continues to look for material to maintain and improve the library. Mrs Rapkin is to seek permission for extracts from IMOS Olympic postmark listings to be published in Torch Bearer.

A request was made for a Directory of the Olympic Committees. Two are to be purchased if costing no more than £2 or £3.

## P.R.O.'S REPORT

Press releases are still being sent out overseas. Personal contacts made by members are the best way to advertise the Society. It was suggested an editorial be put into Sports magazines. Stanley Gibbons publications, local Radio stations and Federation News Letters may help with publicity.

## ADVERTISING MANAGER'S REPORT

Potential advertisers have been written to, and all dealers at Thematica have been circulated. Hopefully they will advertise in Torch Bearer. Members buying items from the advertisers in Torch Bearer are again asked to mention where they saw the advert, this should encourage more advertising.

The proposed trip to the new Olympic Museum and the three day Collectors Fair, has been discussed to find the best option for travel. Travelling by coach would take too long, by air too expensive. A scheduled train leaves London on Thursday 6th October at 9.25am arriving at Lausanne at 21.57 hrs. Return journey leaves Lausanne at 7.31am Monday morning arriving London 19.37 hrs. The cost for return fare is £142 for adults, a reduction is available for children.

Accommodation is quoted at £40 per person per night, but cheaper alternatives are being investigated. The total cost will be about £260 per person (meals not included). Subject to numbers, a group booking discount may be available.

## ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was suggested by John Osborne that a computer be bought by the Society to assist John Crowther with the auction. To be discussed by committee at their next meeting.

## DATE OF NEXT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This has been arranged to take place at Thematica on 1st July 1995, at 4pm in the Allenby Room.

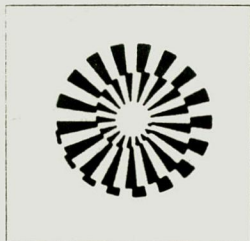
The meeting closed at 3.20pm and was followed by displays of Olympic "Odds and Sods" from Mr Crowther.

## ° Please Keep This Postcard ° Munich 1972.

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David Buxton

Whilst reading the journal of Bob Farley's visit to Lillehammer for the 1994 Olympic Winter Games, and realising that some of the happenings were similar to my visit to Munich for the Games in 1972, I thought about writing a similar article. However it was not until I was in Lausanne in October where I met Society member Jonathan Rosenthal, who had stayed in the same village as myself during the Games; and Ingrid O'Neill who had found some Munich postcards for me that I felt the time had come to put pen to paper!



The article is extracted from the letters and postcards that I sent to Rennie, who was at the time my girlfriend and who is now my wife. These cards formed the start of my Olympic collection as although I was a postcard collector, Olympics was not one of my themes – as the article will reveal.

**Letter written 26th August, 1972.**

" We arrived here last night at 11.30pm. We, that is Roly Martin, Mike Tait and myself are staying at a Farmhouse just outside the village (?). Half a dozen houses, one shop and one sub-post office.

The plane left Luton one hour late but we landed at the Munich Military airport a quarter of an hour early, which made the actual flying time one and threequarter hours. There was no room for us at Munich Airport so we were diverted to the military airfield. We left Munich at 7.40pm to travel what was supposed to be 25 miles or, so we were told, one hours drive, as you will have noticed we arrived at 11.30pm! I would estimate that we are about 40 miles from Munich and not counting all the stoppages last night; we were forever starting and stopping, the coach will take about one and a half to two hours each day to get from here to Munich.

There are 12 Welsh men at the farmhouse, they were very happy last night, because every time the coach stopped they made for the nearest beer house, hence I think the extra long journey. We were given vocal renderings of every welsh song from 'Land of My Fathers' to 'We'll Keep A Welcome in the Hillside's'.

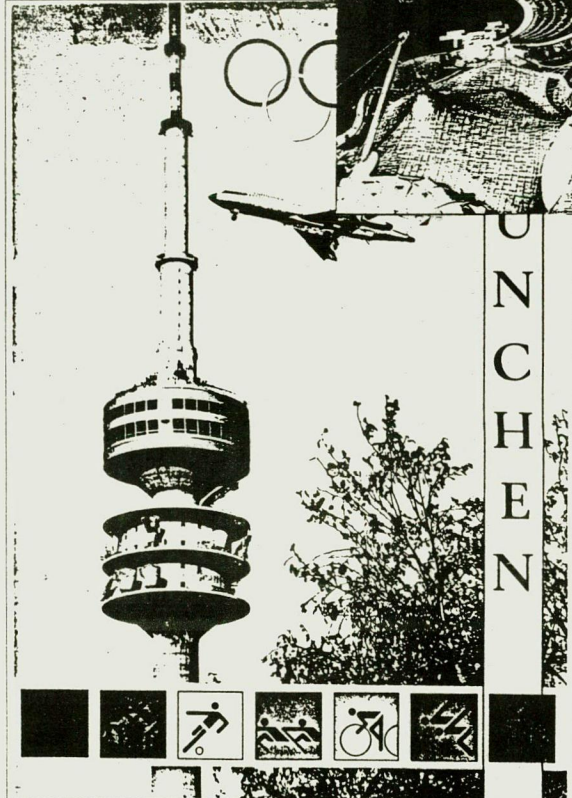
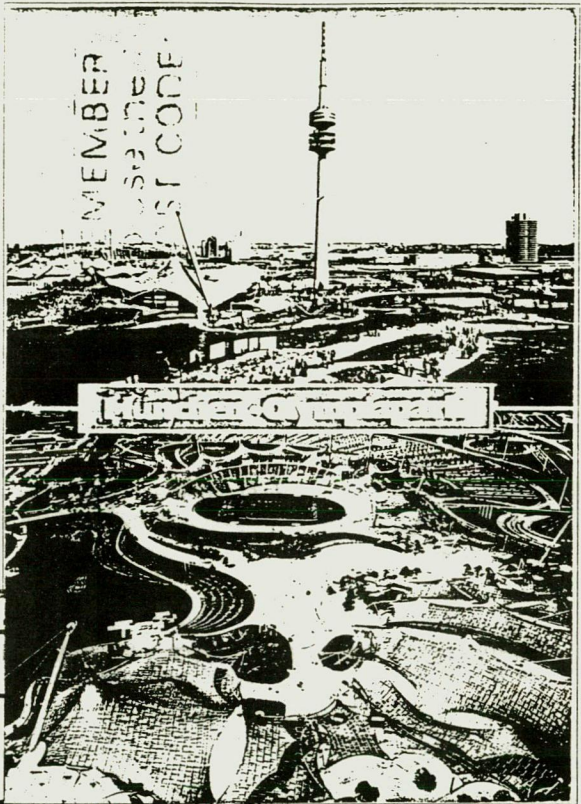
The complete party, which is scattered far and wide in this area, is 284. 144 came yesterday afternoon, that was my flight, and the other 150 should have left Luton at 11.30 yesterday morning, some of them arrived at our farmhouse at 2.15am this morning! They eventually left Southend at 11.00pm after spending all day at Stanstead! So I should not complain. (Which flight did you catch Johnathan?).

The weather is very hot and I am at present awaiting a bus to take us all to Munich for the Opening Ceremony, although we have no tickets we are hoping to look around Munich as there is nothing to do here (unless we milk the cows!). There are only seven of us from the athletic club now, with Pat Greene and Tony Kelly with their wives making up the party from Oxford".

Postcard of 290 metre high Olympic Tower and the Sports Stadium.

27th August 1972.

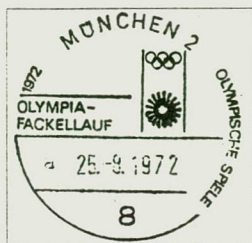
"We saw the opening ceremony from the hills overlooking the stadium after hiring a mini-bus; as there was no room for us on the official coach. Today we are sunbathing by a big lake 3km from our farm. We first went for a 5 mile cross-country run around the lake and through the woods on the far bank, and then for a swim. The water was very warm. The run nearly killed me! I should have expected it, coming over with an athletic club".



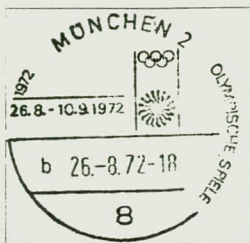
Postcard of Television Tower with border of sport pictograms.

1st September 1972.  
(sent to workmates).

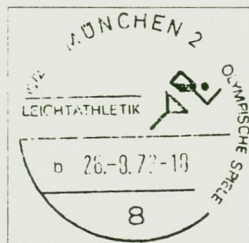
"We are just getting up (5.45am) to be in time to catch the coach to take us to Munich for the athletics! We are staying at a farmhouse, one of five which make up a village called Unterhoswang (don't look for it on the map you will never find it). We are 40 miles east of Munich and we catch the Coach at Hoswang which is about 20 minutes walk away".



The Olympic Flame arrives in Munich  
25th August 1972.



The XX Olympic Games,  
Munich.  
26th August – 10th  
September 1972.

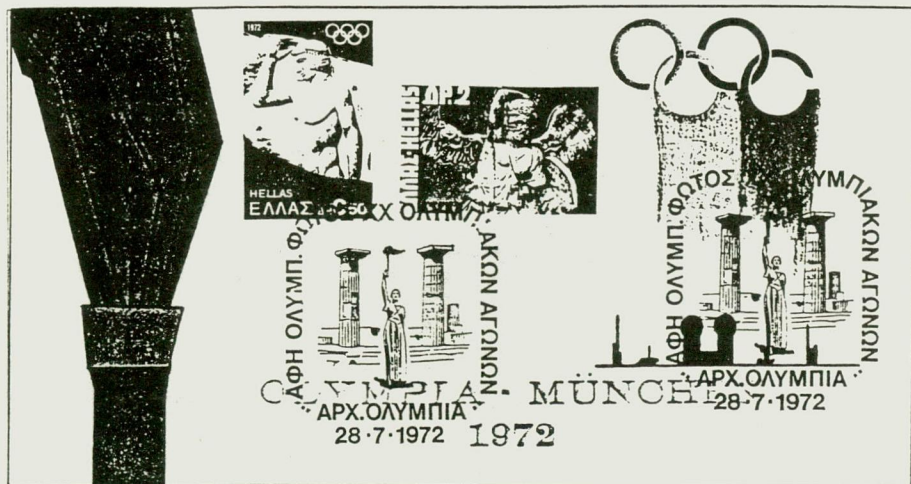


The XX Olympic Games,  
Munich.  
Athletics.

Letter, 3rd September, 1972.

"After writing my letter to you (on 26th August) and posting it, I went and stood at the bus stop for our special coach to take us to Munich; it arrived late and more people wanted to get on than there were seats. People with tickets for the opening ceremony were let on the coach first (even those who had not paid for the coach!) and people such as me who did not have a ticket for the opening ceremony were unlucky, even though we had paid for the coach every day. (When we bought the tickets we were only allowed to buy either the opening ceremony or the closing ceremony and not both. We bought the closing ceremony because they also allowed us in for the show jumping).

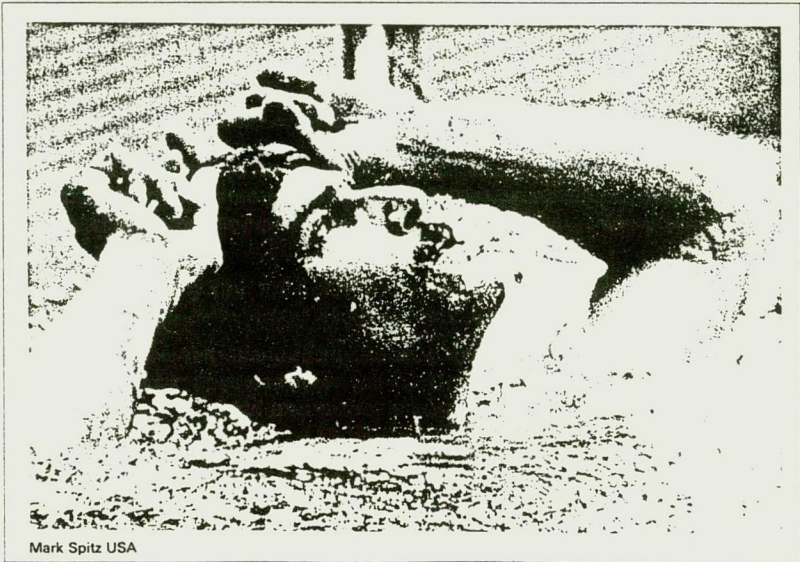
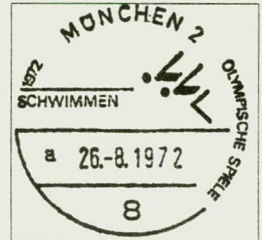
Fourteen of us were unable to get on the coach so we managed to hire a minibus from Endorf, the next village, and made our way in. We watched the opening ceremony from the hills, although we could not see the teams parading around the stadium. We stood, as we later found out, about 50 yards away from the Bavarian Soldiers who fired their blunderbusses to mark the opening of the Games. If you saw the torch lit, we were standing directly in line with it, in the distance. I have bought you two first day covers, one is for the lighting of the torch in Olympia and the other has composite stamps making up a view of the Olympic Park.



We then caught the minibus back to Hoslwang for a meal. Hoslwang is the nearest habitation from our farmhouse in Unterhoslwang and is 20 minutes walk away. It has a few houses, one of which serves as a post office, a church with a tall tower, 3 shops and a cafe which is the central meeting point and also where we eat. The cafe owner changed his menu from a la carte after a few days to a Special Olympic Menu. We do not know what we will get until it is in front of us but I have been able to communicate with one of the waitresses by doing animal impersonations (well she can not speak english) and we usually find out what the dish is!

Tony and I have worked out how to get a table quickly. There are three coaches in convoy, so that is about 150 people arriving at the same time at a cafe which has about twenty tables, three of which are already taken up by the local farmers. Tony pretends to have trouble getting his camera—bag off the luggage rack, so standing in the aisle he is able to hold everyone off while I run into the cafe and reserve a table. Trouble is now everyone else is trying a similar ruse.

We have to get up at 6.15am (5.45am on two mornings) in order to wash, shave, there are no power points so I have to use a safety razor which I have not used for two and a half years (ouch!) and if we are lucky, breakfast. We then have to be at Hoslewang at 7.45am (7.15 on two mornings) for the coach. We get back to Hoslewang at about 10pm, have a meal, walk back and flop into bed. Breakfast started by consisting of bread and cheese or ham. One of the others in the farmhouse decided that he wanted a cooked breakfast (no not me) and so sometimes we get a boiled egg. On the journey back the coach has the radio on with an Olympic update so we learn of all the things that have happened. Last night an American Swimmer called Mark Spitz seemed to be winning all the medals – but you have probably watched it on TV, so you will already know.



Mark Spitz USA

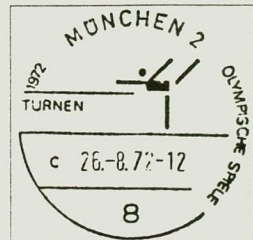
On Monday (28th August) we waited two hours for a non-existent coach to take us to a larger lake so we decided to go back to Lake Pelham. Only two people went running as I and a few others 'forgot' to bring our kit or swimming costume. I spent all day writing postcards, everyone thinks it is a big joke as I keep buying cards, and then stamps and then I'm looking for a postbox. They also think it is rather amusing that for three evenings running either I or someone else has ordered for me veal covered in breadcrumbs, a very popular meal, and I get served veal a different way each evening, but not covered in breadcrumbs. I finally got it on the fourth evening – now I don't know what to order at night.

We went on an excursion to Salzburg on Tuesday (29th). On the way we stopped at Obersalzberg which was Hitler's house, now destroyed. At Salzburg we visited the Cardinals Palace and got quite wet from the trick fountains.



Olga Korbut UDSSR

Wednesday 30th was a very dull day so we walked to Pelham and found a hotel with a colour TV. We watched the Olympics, swimming, volleyball, basketball, canoeing, boxing, canoeing, gymnastics, canoeing, canoeing, hockey and canoeing. Germany were winning all the canoeing medals by the way! I enjoyed the gymnastics the most, I don't usually, but they showed this cheeky Russian gymnast called Olga Korbut and she was very good and popular with the crowd. After a while Pat and I got fed up with the TV so we went for a short (!) run. He soon out ran me and when we jumped into the lake it was f-r-e-e-z-i-n-g.



Thursday 31st, day one of the athletics – we spent the morning looking around the Olympic Park, which is a great area in which the athletic stadium, swimming pool, cycle track and sports stadium have been built. There is also a big lake with a fountain (yes another one) which throws water about 100 yards into the air.

We have bought tickets for all the afternoon athletic sessions leaving the morning free. We were surprised that in the second round of the 100 metres sprint the American

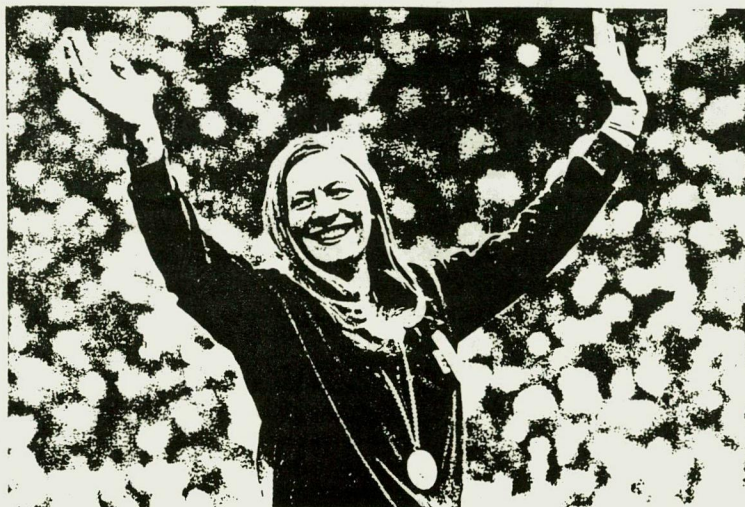
runners did not take part. They have won nearly every Olympic Sprint title over the years. Somebody has heard that the three athletes were in Munich waiting for their team bus and were watching on a TV set the start of their race thinking it was a repeat of the first round. I saw David Bedford in the 10,000 and David Hemery in the 400 hurdles qualify for the next round, but John Sherwood was injured.

Friday 1st September. We looked around two large departmental stores in Munich. One of them has rows of postcards of the previous days Olympic Winners. There are hundreds of them, just as well or I would be tempted to buy them. I did however buy a set of Olympic Games Posters, so that I have some Olympic cards in my collection.

*{The author has been known to cry when he reads this part of the letter!}*. In the afternoon I saw David Hemery again (3rd in the semis) and an American 800 metre runner named Dave Wottle, who wears a dirty white hat, and is on his honeymoon. He does not start running until everyone else is entering into the final bend. I expect you see enough on the TV so I won't give you lots of details, but the atmosphere and the comradeship between spectators is fantastic.

Saturday 2nd. It rained in the morning so we looked around the shops but it was drier in the afternoon. David Hemery came third, so it did not start well, but Mary Peters is leading the pentathlon. A few of us stayed late in the almost empty stadium to watch her, the coach was due to leave at 6.30pm but we did not leave the stadium until 7.15, only Roly and I stayed, the others left at different intervals, and then we ran as fast as we could fearing that we would be left behind. The coach had waited as so few people had turned up on time. I can now say that I ran at the Olympic Games!

Sunday 3rd. We spent the morning in the Olympic Park, and watched some actors performing in an open theatre and found a Bavarian beer tent complete with dray outside and oompah-pah band inside. Mary Peters won the Gold Medal by the narrowest of margins, we all screamed at her, willing her to firtish as close as possible to Hedio Rosendahl, who being the local star had her own supporters around us. The wait for the result was one of the longest I have known and at last we heard the National Anthem being played. David Bedford did not win, so the chances of more Gold are quickly diminishing.



Mary Peters Grossbritannien

Monday 4th. This morning we visited the cathedral in Munich, watched the figures go round on the hour on the town clock and visited the Departmental Store with all the postcards. They had one of Mary Peter and she only won the Gold yesterday. Today is the last day of the first part of the athletics, so we will not come into Munich tomorrow. Kip Keino won a Gold over the steeplechase, Valeri Borzov completed the sprint double, this time with all the Americans in the race and a sixteen year old German schoolgirl, Ulrike Meyfarth won the high jump. Tony got cross because he has a cine camera and he was filming Barbara Inkpen the British jumper. He kept running out of film because she took so long to take her jump! "

**5th September.** Postcard of Inside of Olympic Swimming Pool.

"No athletics today, so we have gone to Lake Chiemsee, and we are at present on an island in the middle which has a great palace on it. (A castle of Ludwigg II). Eight of us came, there were 22 people on a 13 seat minibus. It must have been the village market link, because at every stop we said we were full and the driver stopped and found some wood which he put across the gangway for people to sit on. The minibus took us to Prien where we caught a train straight out of the 'Virginian' TV series and finally a passenger steam boat – such is modern travel!"

**6th September.** Postcard of the Olympic Stadium from the Television Tower.

"On our return from Lake Cheimsee last night, we learnt of the killings of two officials in the Olympic Village. Later we were told that yesterdays and this mornings events were cancelled. This morning we learnt that the hostages, some arabs, policemen and a pilot were killed in a shooting battle. Everyone here is miserable as it looks as though the Games will be cancelled."

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This was the last postcard I sent, as judging from the letters I was getting from Rennie, any other cards would have arrived home after me. It was, looking back, a sombre but historical card to conclude a series of light hearted greetings.

The Games did continue, and I continued to divide the day between sight-seeing in the morning, and watching the athletics in the afternoon. Of the remaining memories I have, I can recall thinking that I had never seen so many fountains in one city, and on the athletic track; Lasse Viren completing the double over 5,000 as well as 10,000 metres, Jim Ryan falling in the 1500, and the hoax runner entering the stadium ahead of Frank Shorter while I was searching for his name in the programme.

My second most embarrassing moment was trying to sell my closing ceremony ticket in Munich (as the Games had been delayed by one day, but our plane had not), and the most embarrassing moment when the customs officers charged me excess duty on a six inch doll in the costume of a Munich Monk with the Olympic Rings on his chest, a dachshund in the olympic colours, both for Rennie and a brooch for my mother. They were obviously shrewd investors and valuers, as they realised the value these items would receive as Olympic Collectables twenty years later!

Two years later I decided to collect postcards of the Olympic Games, for twenty years I could not find any of those Munich Medal Winner cards, if only I had bought a few, especially Mary Peters. . . . and then in Lausanne last October, Ingrid O'Neil gave me a selection of cards of the Munich Games, amongst them was Mary Peters.

# IMOS – LISTING OF OLYMPIC POSTMARKS

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Compiled by Manfred Winternheimer



## Key – Erläuterungen – Explacation

Sl.pmk	Slogan cancellation – Werbestempel – Obliteration publicitaire.
FD.pmk	Special first day postmark – Ersttags-Sonderstempel – Obliteration speciales premier jour.
Sp.pmk	Special cancellation – Sonderstempel – Obliteration speciales.
M.mk	Meter mark – Freistempel – Affranchissement mecaniques.

## Centennial of the International Olympic Committee

### ARGENTINA

- 1344 Sp.pmk 1000 BUENOS AIRES – ARGENTINA / 100 ANOS COMITE OLIMPICO INTERNACIONAL / COMITE OLIMPICO ARGENTINO / Chateau de Vidy  
Illustration: Shield, Olympic Rings and Chateau de Vidy.

### ARUBA

- 1345 FD.pmk ARUBA / ERSTE DAG VAN UITGIFTE  
Illustration: Olympic Rings.

### AUSTRALIA

- 1346 FD.pmk Sydney / New South Wales 2000 / first day of issue  
Illustration: Torch.

### BRASIL

- 1347 FD.pmk ECT. PORTO ALEGRE-RS / DIA DE CIRCULACAO / 1894-1994 COMITE OLIMPICO INTERNACIONAL  
Illustration: Centennial logo.

### BAHAMAS

- 1348 FD.pmk BAHAMAS / FIRST DAY / OF ISSUE / CENTENARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE  
Illustration: Centennial logo.

### CHINA

- 1349 FD.pmk BEIJING / INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE (*Chinese script*)  
Illustration: Olympic Rings and flame.
- 1350 Sp.pmk BEIJING / 1894 – 1994 / 100 years of the International Olympic Committee (*Chinese script*)  
Illustration: Olympic Rings.

### TAIWAN

- 1351 FD.pmk TAIPEI / 100 Years of the I O C (*Chinese script*)  
Illustration: Olympic Rings, High jumper, Runner and Weightlifter.

### GERMANY

- 1352 Sp.pmk 24837 SCHLESWIG 1 / VEREIN SCHLESWIGER BRIEFMARKENSAMMLER / IMOS-Jahreskongress 1994 / Vor 100 Jahren / Grundung des IOC / durch / Baron de Coubertin  
Illustration: Postmark of Paris.
- 1353 Sp.pmk 53111 BONN 1 / TAG DER FIPO-CIO (DEUTSCHLAND) / 100 JAHRIGER OLYMPISCHER KONGRESS / PARIS  
Illustration: Centennial logo.

**GERMANY**

- 1354 M.mk 67105 SCHIFFERSTADT / 100 Jahre / Internationales Olympisches Komitee / INTERNATIONALE MOTIVGRUPPEN / OLYMPIADEN UND SPORT  
Illustration: Sorbonne in Paris, Eiffel Tower and Baron Pierre de Coubertin.
- 1355 Sp.pmk 96472 RODENTAL / Treffen / Sorbonne Paris / 1. Olymp. Kongress 1894  
Illustration: IMOS logo, flame and Sorbonne in Paris.
- 1356 Sp.pmk 71063 SINDELINGEN 1 / INTERNATIONALE BRIEFMARKENBORSE / 100 Jahre / I O C / Sammler Service der Post  
Illustration: Cauldron and flame.

**FINLAND**

- 1357 Sp.pmk FINLANDE / PARIS / 100 / CONGRES / OLYMPIQUES  
Illustration: Olympic Rings and stylised Eiffel Tower.

**FRANCE**

- 1358 FD.pmk PARIS / CENTENAIRE DU COMITE INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIQUE / P. DE COUBERTIN  
Illustration: Torch.



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# FRANCE

- 1359 Sp.pmk CNIT-LA DEFENSE-92 PUTEAUX / CONGRES DU CENTENAIRE / COMITE INTERNATIONAL / EXPOSITION / PHILATELIQUE / OLYMPIQUES  
Illustration: Baron Pierre de Coubertin.
- 1360 Sp.pmk CNIT-LA DEFENSE-92 PUTEAUX / CONGRES DU CENTENAIRE / COMITE INTERNATIONAL / OLYMPIQUE / ASSEMBLE / GENERALE CONSTITUTIVE  
Illustration: AFCO in Olympic Rings.
- 1361 Sp.pmk CNIT-LA DEFENSE-92 PUTEAUX / CONGRES DU CENTENAIRE / COMITE INTERNATIONAL / OLYMPIQUE  
Illustration: Official emblem of the Congress.
- 1362 Sp.pmk CNIT-LA DEFENSE-92 PUTEAUX / 102e SESSION-CENTENAIRE / COMITE INTERNATIONAL / OLYMPIQUE / PRIX OLYMPIA  
Illustration: "Stamp" with Olympic Rings.
- 1363 Sp.pmk CNIT-LA DEFENSE-92 PUTEAUX / 102e SESSION-CENTENAIRE / COMITE INTERNATIONAL / OLYMPIQUE  
Illustration: Official emblem of the Congress.
- 1364 M.mk PARIS 13 ITALIE / AVE D'ITALIE / CONGRES OLYMPIQUE DU CENTENAIRE / CNIT - LA DEFENSE / EXPOSITIONS D'ART ET DE PHILATELIE  
Illustration: Official emblem of the Congress.



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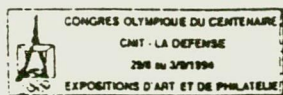
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## JERSEY

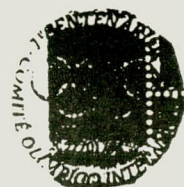
- 1365 FD.pmk JERSEY / FIRST DAY OF ISSUE / I O C / CENTENARY  
Illustration: Olympic Rings.

## NORTH KOREA

- 1366 Sp.pmk PYONYANG / DPR KOREA / 100 Years of the IOC (*part in Korean script*)  
Illustration: Stylised globe and Olympic Rings.

## CROATIA

- 1367 FD.pmk 41101 ZAGREB / HRVATSKI OLIMPSKI DAN / 100. OBLUETNICA /  
MEDUMARODNOGA OLIMPIJSKOG KOMITETA  
Illustration: Baron Pierre de Coubertin.
- 1368 Sp.pmk 41115 ZAGREB / dan medunarodnog olimpijskog komiteta / 1894–1994 /  
CITIUS–ALTIUS–FORTIUS  
Illustration: Baron Pierre de Coubertin, Centennial logo and Signature.
- 1369 Sp.pmk 41101 ZAGREB / HRVATSKI OLIMPJSKI DAN  
Illustration: Basketball player, shield and Centennial logo.



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## CUBA

- 1370 FD.pmk HABANA 6 / CENTENARIO C O I  
Illustration: Olympic Rings.

## LAOS

- 1371 FD.pmk POSTES LAO / PREMIER JOUR / centenaire du / C O I  
Illustration: Olympic Rings.

## ITALY

- 1372 FD.pmk ROMA FILATELICO / CENTENARION COMITATO INTERNAZIONALE  
OLIMPICO  
Illustration: Centennial logo.

## NORWAY

- 1373 Sp.pmk OSLO / I O C 1894–1994  
Illustration: Centennial logo.
- 1374 Sp.pmk PARIS 26.8.–5.9.1994 / LA POSTE NORVEGIENNE / CONGRES /  
OLYMPIQUE  
Illustration: Centennial logo.

## MONACO

- 1375 FD.pmk MONACO O.E.T.P. /1894 – 1994  
Illustration: Centennial logo.

## PORTUGAL

- 1376 FD.pmk CTT LISBOA / COMITE OLIMPICO INTERNACIONAL / 1e CENTENARIO  
Illustration: Olympic Rings.
- 1377 FD.pmk CTT DELGADA / COMITE OLIMPICO INTERNACIONAL / 1e CENTENARIO  
Illustration: Olympic Rings.
- 1378 FD.pmk CTT FUNCHAL / COMITE OLIMPICO INTERNACIONAL / 1e CENTENARIO  
Illustration: Olympic Rings.

## RUSSIA

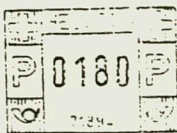
- 1379 FD.pmk MOSKAU-POSTAMT / 100 Years of the International Olympic Committee  
(Russian script)  
Illustration: Flag with the Olympic Rings.

## SWITZERLAND

- 1380 Sp.pmk 1000 LAUSANNE / CENTENAIRE DU CIO  
Illustration: Centennial logo.
- 1381 M.mk 1000 LAUSANNE / COUR / CENTENAIRE / DU / COMITE / INTERNATIONAL / OLYMPIQUE / 23.6.1894  
Illustration: Centennial logo.
- 1382 M.mk 1000 LAUSANNE 3 / COUR / PARIS 1994 / CONGRES DU CENTENAIRE / 29 AOUT - 3 SEPTEMBRE / 103e SESSION / 4-5 SEPTEMBRE / COMITE INTERNATIONAL / OLYMPIQUE  
Illustration: Official logo of the Congress.



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## SLOVAKIA

- 1383 FD.pmk BRATISLAVA / (No other text)  
Illustration: The Coubertin Monument from Olympia.
- 1384 Sp.pmk BRATISLAVA 1 / 100 ROKOV OD ZALOZENIA MOV V PARISZI / 1894 – 1994  
Illustration: Centennial logo.

## SLOVENIA

- 1385 FD.pmk 61106 LJUBLJANA / 100 LET MOK / PRVI DAN  
Illustration: Olympic Rings.

## THAILAND

- 1386 FD.pmk BANGKOK / 100 Years of the IOC (*part Thai script*)  
Illustration: Official logo of the Centennial Congress.

## CZECH REPUBLIC

- 1387 FD.pmk PRAHA / (No other text)  
Illustration: Olympic Rings and Torch.
- 1388 M.mk 16000 PRAHA 6 / 23.6.1894 / 100 LET / ZALOZENI / MOV – C.I.O.  
Illustration: Baron Pierre de Coubertin.

## TURKEY

- 1389 FD.pmk ANKARA / ULUSLARARASI OLIMPIYAT KOMITESIMIN KURULUSUNUN /  
100 . YIL { I O C }  
Illustration: Inverted Olympic Rings.

## HUNGARY

- 1390 FD.pmk BUDAPEST 4 / EVES A NEMZETKOZI / OLIMPIAI BIZOTTSAG  
Illustration: Olympic Rings and Centennial logo.

## URUGUAY

- 1391 FD.pmk CORREOS URUGUAY / 100 ANOS COMITE OLIMPICO INTERNACIONAL /  
EMISION  
Illustration: Centennial logo.

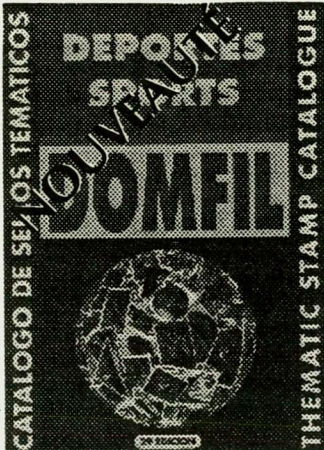
## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

- 1392 Sp.pmk LONG BEACH, CA 90804 / HONORING THE CENTENARY OF THE /  
INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC COMMITTEE / 1894 – 1994 / STAMP EXPO /  
STATION  
Illustration: Hurdler.
- 1393 Sp.pmk LOS ANGELES, CA 90045 / SESCAL SEMICENTENNIAL STATION /  
INTERNATIONAL OLYMPIC / COMMITTEE CENTENNIAL / 1894 – 1944 –  
1994  
Illustration: Torch and Olympic Rings.

## CYPRUS

- 1394 FD.pmk CYPRUS – KIBRIS / (No other text)  
Illustration: Olympic Rings and other symbols.





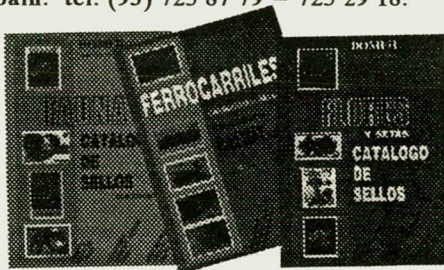
CATALOGUE DE  
TIMBRES  
THEMATIQUES  
SPORTS

CATALOGUE OF  
THEMATIC  
STAMPS  
SPORTS

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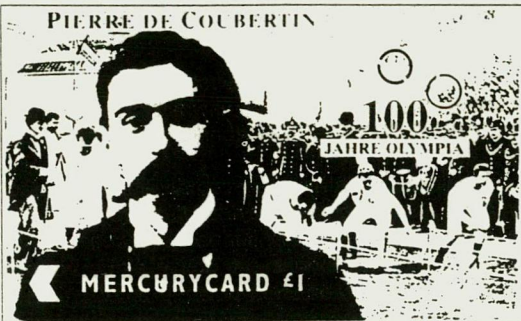


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## THE GODS OF OLYMPUS

Bob Farley

The Olympian Gods form one of the deities of ancient Greek mythology, twelve of them often being referred to as the Olympian Gods.

The relationships between these mythical deities, and their origins are obviously shrouded in the mists of time, and confused by the retelling of accounts, and the license used when recording them in classical literature and poetry. Archeology and research have established the existence of many temples and cults dedicated to the many Gods and Goddesses, but cannot offer definitive proof of their relationships with each other. Information is further confused by accounts using either the Roman or Greek nomenclature for the individuals, or even a combination.

Greece issued a series of twelve stamps on 17 February 1986 depicting the twelve Gods of Olympus.



### **Hestia, 5 Drachma.**

Accounts of the origin of Hestia vary, some say that she was borne of Gaea (earth), others that she was a daughter of Cronus and Rhea (sister of Zeus). Goddess of the hearth and fire, the fire was tended by her accolites, the young virgins who became known as vestals. Her attribute was a ritual bowl containing a flame.

*{In Roman mythology she was known as Vesta}.*

### **Hermes, 18 Drachma.**

Son of Zeus and Maia, the messenger of the gods, depicted either with a winged helmet or staff and wings on his sandals. Attributed as the father of Pan. The patron of travellers and sportsmen, and supporter of gymnastics. Often chosen as a symbolic representation of message delivery (or express delivery), hence his appearance on postage stamps.

*{In Roman mythology he was known as Mercury}.*



### **Aphrodite, 27 Drachma.**

The origin of Aphrodite varies, perhaps a daughter of Gaea and Uranus, or more often born from the blood of Uranus on his death along with the Giants and the Furies. She was the Goddess of love and of the sea, worshipped throughout the Greek world. Her beauty was chosen over that of Athena and Hera by Paris. The mother of Eros, by Ares.

*{In Roman mythology she was called Venus}.*



### **Ares, 32 Drachma.**

Son of Zeus and Hera, brother of Hephaestus. The God of war, he was respected as a referee in all combats and competitions. He was exiled when his love for Aphrodite became known. His attributes were a spear and a firebrand. His sacred animals the wolf and the woodpecker.

*{In Roman mythology he was called Mars}.*



### **Athene, 35 Drachma.**

Daughter of Zeus and Metis, she was the Goddess of wisdom, war and the arts. She is always depicted wearing a helmet and usually holding a shield and spear. Her sacred animal was the owl. Athens was named in her honour. *{In Roman mythology she was called Minerva}.*



### **Hephaistos, 40 Drachma.**

Son of Zeus and Hera, brother of Ares. God of fire, Zeus cast him from Mount Olympus, breaking his leg and leaving him lame. Despite this he was partner to Aphrodite the most beautiful of the goddesses, and fathered her son Cupid. He forged the lightning for Zeus. His forges were at Lipari and inside Mount Etna. His attributes a hammer and tongs. *{In Roman mythology he was called Vulcan}.*

### **Artemis, 50 Drachma.**

Daughter of Zeus and Leto, sister of Apollo. She was the Goddess of hunting and chastity, and was very shy. She was an archer and is often depicted hunting with her bow, in the woods where she resided. *{In Roman mythology she was called Diana}.*



### **Apollo, 110 Drachma.**

Son of Zeus and Leto, brother of Artemis. God of poetry, music, the arts and medicine. He threw the discus, and rode Pegasus. He and Artemis were born on the Aegean island of Delos, where festivities were held in his honour. He is often depicted on a chariot drawn by four horses. He was keeper of the Olympic Truce, before during and after the Games. *{In Roman mythology he was called Phoebus}.*

### **Demeter, 150 Drachma.**

Fathered by Cronus, in some accounts by Rhea, Demeter was the goddess of fertility (agriculture), she taught mortals how to cultivate the soil. Portrayed in ancient times with a sythe and a sheaf of corn, crowned with a band of woven ears of corn. *{in Roman mythology she was called Ceres}.*



### **Poseidon, 200 Drachma.**

Son of Cronus and Rhea (brother of Zeus). God of the seas, often depicted on a chariot in the form of a seashell, drawn by sea-horses. Some accounts record him as the father of Pegasus and Orion. His trident is a symbol of previous power, as he had previously used lightning in the same way as Zeus. *{In Roman mythology, he was called Neptune}.*

### Hera, 300 Drachma.

Daughter of Cronus and Rhea (sister of Zeus). Queen of the gods, she bore a number of offspring with Zeus, including Ares, Hephaestus, Hebe and Eileithya. She vied with Aphrodite and Athena in beauty, she is depicted on a chariot drawn by peacocks in classical poetry. Her attributes were a diadem, sceptre and the pomegranate.

{In Roman mythology she was called Juno}.



### Zeus, 500 Drachma.

Son of Cronus and Rhea, he survived despite his father devouring each of his male offspring to avoid being overthrown by one of them as prophesied.

He was worshipped as absolute master of everything that existed. He was thought to reside at the top of Mount Olympus surrounded by his court. Monuments and temples were erected in his honour throughout the Greek world.

His attributes were lightning and a sceptre, his animal the eagle.

{In Roman mythology he was called Jupiter}.

**The complete series were issued in two formats;  
Perforation 12.75 all sides, or perforation 12.75 horizontal x imperf.**

### Varieties.

The 5 Drachma, value can be found with an interesting variety that was drawn to my attention in Athens by dealer Anastassis D Papageorgiou. It is known as the "falling leaf", a clear "J" can be seen, appearing to have fallen from the stem. The variety seems quite common, having obtained a used copy on piece in Athens, I was pleasantly surprised to find three mint examples in a dealers stock in England. All copies that I have seen are on the 12.75 x imperf series.



All of the relationships, are open to challenge, and cannot be regarded as definitive. The fact that the Gods were so prolific, incestuous and not adverse to involvement with mortals, and of course mystic, prevents the tracing of any geneological line by logical methods.

Accounts even vary as to the twelve who form the Gods of Olympus. For the purpose of these articles, the above issue by the Hellenic Post Office has been treated as correct.

Eleven of the twelve Gods had been represented on Greek stamps prior to the 1986 series, providing ample opportunities for illustration within a collection. The future instalments of this article will review the stamp issues, postmarks, and other collectable items that exist.

A number of the Gods have appeared on the definitive issues of other European countries, for example the newspaper stamps of Austria, showing Mercury (Hermes), and the Ceres (Demeter), definitives of France, but will not be considered in this series.

## YUGOSLAVIA – 1969 OBLIGATORY TAX ISSUE

Bob Farley

At first glance, this issue of a single stamp may appear rather uninteresting, however the symbolism of the design, makes it a popular choice in many exhibits, it is often used within a section dealing with the torch relay, sometimes to illustrate the international nature of the Games. It could appear in a section on funding the Games, or even just to illustrate the Olympic Rings.

This issue is possibly worthy of greater recognition, if only because of the wealth of varieties that can be hunted down, for example, it is actually quite difficult to find two copies that are the same size.

Use was obligatory, in addition to postage for the period of "Olympic Week", from the 1st December – 7th December 1969.

Proceeds from the sales were contributed to the National Olympic Fund.

A total quantity of 8,000,000 stamps were lithograph printed by the Italian Institute of Graphic Art, Bergamo.

### Issue date 24th November 1969.

The issue is afforded the following catalogue status:

Stanley Gibbons:	1398	Perforation 11.
	1398a	Horizontal pair imperforate between.
Michel:	37A	Perforation 11.25.
	37B	Perforation 9.00.
	37U	Imperforate.
	37AUu	Imperforate at bottom.
	37AUl	Imperforate at left.
	37AUM	Horizontal pair imperforate between.
	37AF	Missing gold (globe and frame).
	37l	Part missing gold (section of frame).

### The basic issue:

#### Perforation 11.25



Stamp size:  
29.50 x 36.50 mm.

The design shows the Globe crossed by the Olympic Torch, symbolising the international status of the Olympic Movement, with the Olympic Rings above.

The design is the work of  
A. Milenkovic.

Stamp sizes where quoted, refer to the width followed by the height, to the centre of perforations

#### Perforation 9.00



Stamp size:  
29.50 x 37.50 mm.

### Variations of size, and missing perforation pins.

All measurements are to the centre of perforations. The following variations of size have been recorded. The table does not make any allowance for individual examples that vary in width or height at either top and bottom, or left and right sides.

#### Perforation 9.00

Width:	29.50	29.75	30.00	30.50	30.75	32.00
Height:	36.00	36.50	37.00	37.50		

#### Perforation 11.25

Width:	28.00	29.00	29.50	29.75	30.00	30.25	30.50	32.50
Height:	35.50	36.25	36.50	36.75	37.00	37.50	38.00	

#### Perforation: 9.00



Stamp size:  
30.50 x 37.00 mm.



Stamp size:  
30.50 x 37.50 mm.

#### Perforation: 11.25



Stamp size:  
28.00 x 37.50 mm.  
Missing horizontal  
pin, offset by one  
hole per row.



Stamp size:  
29.00 x 37.50 mm.



Stamp size:  
30.00 x 37.50 mm.  
Missing vertical pin,  
offset by three holes  
per row.

Perforation Varieties –  
Shifts of position.



Above, a major horizontal shift of 7.50 mm, with no apparent vertical shift, however the spacing between the lines of horizontal perforations vary, almost trimming the designs in the top row of this block.

Stamp sizes: top row, 29.75 x 35.50 mm.,  
 bottom row, 29.75 x 36.75 mm.

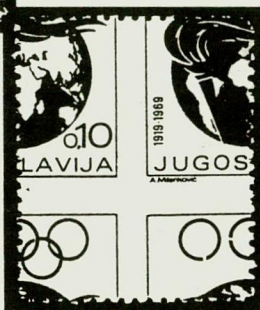
Above left, a minor shift of 2.50 mm, in both axis causing the designers name to appear in the top margin.

Stamp size: 29.50 x 37.00 mm.

The variations in stamp sizes are obviously the result of minor shifts in perforation position, as the spacing of individual designs within the printed sheet is constant.

Major shift of 15.50 mm to both axis causing a very spectacular variety, one "stamp" incorporating the sections of four individual designs.

The individual "stamp" is 30.50 x 36.50 mm.



This dramatic variety (left), could perhaps be used to illustrate the discord between nations that has produced boycotts.

**Perforation Varieties – Missing lines of perforations**



**Perforation 9.00**

This block shows missing perforations between the bottom row and margin. The block appears to have been trimmed, but sufficient remains to establish that it is corner marginal.

Stamp sizes (top row):  
32.00 x 36.50 mm. and  
29.50 x 36.50 mm.

**Perforation 11.25**

This block shows missing perforations between the left margin and column one, and between columns two and three.

Missing vertical lines also occur between columns one and two, and between column four and the right margin.



Perforation Varieties – Missing lines of perforations

Perforation 11.25

Complete sheet showing imperforate between rows one and two. The lines of perforations between columns three and four, and between column four and the right margin are not vertical.

30.50



37.00

36.50

36.50

30.00

30.25

29.50

32.50

Perforation Varieties – Missing lines of perforations

Perforation 11.25

Complete sheet showing imperforate between column four and the right margin. Also a missing perforation pin in each vertical line of the top row, offset by two holes per stamp width.



Perforation Varieties – Missing lines of perforations

Perforation 11.25

Missing horizontal lines of perforations are known :

- (a) Between top margin and the first row;
- (b) Between the first and second rows.



Column one,  
stamp width  
29.75 mm.

Column two,  
stamp width  
30.25 mm.

Perforation Varieties.

Imperforate

This marginal imperforate variety is unfortunately cut extremely close to the right hand frame line, but examination of sheets imperforate between the left margin and column one would not allow the creation of an example of this height.



This single, could be created from the row one or two, stamp two positions of the sheet displaying missing vertical lines of perforations between left margin / column one, and column two / column three.



Unfortunately the variation in individual stamp sizes presents numerous opportunities to create "imperforate" varieties, only a block of nine, corner block of four, or a single bordered by adjoining frame lines could be considered conclusive.

Missing colour.

Perforation 11.25



The omission of gold printing is the scarcest recorded variety of this issue.

It certainly overshadows the normal design when used to illustrate the Olympic Torch, or the Olympic Rings.

Stamp size:  
30.50 x 38.00 mm.

Minor varieties, showing missing portions of the frame line are more common, missing sections of frame varying in length from 1 – 10 mm have been seen, this variety seems to only appear on the left frame line, suggesting that this may be a constant variety, varying only in the severity of the effect – possibly a result the flaw developing and growing through the print run.

Stamp size:  
30.00 x 35.50 mm.



The number of varieties discovered, suggest that even more exist, so that this article cannot hope to achieve completeness.

The study and collection of a single issue can certainly become rather obsessive, but it does open up a number of possibilities, for example;

– The variety may be more suitable to illustrate a specific point, the major perforation shift to show discord between nations, the missing gold to better illustrate the Torch, perhaps even the perforation shift to left or right could be used to reinforce a swing in political ideology.

– The Olympic Collector, could actually display within the traditional class, certainly this issue when complemented by the other Yugoslavian obligatory tax issues, and possibly the issues commemorating the Olympic Games would provide sufficient material. Similar opportunities exist for many countries.

– Much can be made of an extremely common item, creating a very personal study, at minimal outlay, the normal rules governing a buyer / seller negotiation can be heavily influenced by the degree of knowledge held by each party.

\*\*\*\*\*

Please remember the Society Packet when considering disposal of any surplus material. Your duplicates could become another members cherished item. Send your material to Colin Faers, the Packet Manager.

\*\*\*\*\*

## MACHINE PRINTED STAMPS – BARCELONA '92

Thomas Lippert

The Spanish postal administration were responsible for an issue of machine vended Olympic stamps. They used machines from the German manufacturer Klussendorf to issue their third commemorative machine label on the occasion of the XXV Olympic Games – after EXPO '92 and the Granada Exhibition, also in 1992.

In Barcelona, four machines were installed in the Main Post Office (MPO), two were for use by the public, vending labels for payment in coinage, the other two were counter machines for use by the postal staff which produced stamps printed on labels with the Olympic logo. The Klussendorf press release announced that the first day of operation would be July 29th, 1992, but in the MPO the machines came into operation on the afternoon of July 28th. They were installed by the main entrance, one to the left, the other to the right.

This has been recognised as the first day of issue, and is given in the new MICHEL specialized catalogue for machine stamps. Its author, the Swiss dealer M. Seitz, was in Barcelona at the time, and well placed to verify the date.

Each of these machines could be loaded with a roll of 2000 labels. On the 28th, the dealers almost monopolised the machines, and the labels were sold out very quickly. At 6 pm. a notice FUERA DE SERVICIO "greeted" the disappointed collectors, apparently there were not any members of the technical staff available to replenish the machines.

Collectors should be careful not to ignore the receipts from these machines. They were printed by pressing the request key, and give the machine number, the face value of the labels, and on some the time of vending. The receipts are of special interest when issued on an Olympic date, the following receipts are from the first few hours:

ORGANISMO AUTONOMO
CORREOS Y TELEGRAFOS
CIF: Q-2817025-F
ESPAÑA
NUMERO MAQUINA 011
FECHA 28 JUL 92
IMPORTE 83,00
GRACIAS
COLECCIONE PRODUCTOS
FILATELICOS

Figure A1:

Receipts from both machines in the MPO:

←  
The one on the left is the first printed for a customer from machine 011

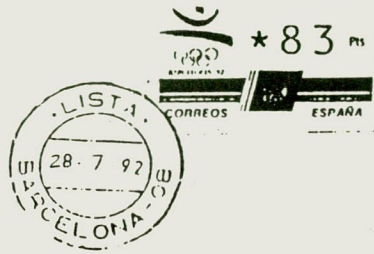
→  
The one on the right is from machine 012 on the second day of use at the MPO.

ORGANISMO AUTONOMO
CORREOS Y TELEGRAFOS
CIF: Q-2817025-F
ESPAÑA
NUMERO MAQUINA 012
FECHA 29 JUL 92
IMPORTE 160,00
GRACIAS
COLECCIONE PRODUCTOS
FILATELICOS

Fig A2.

Getting mail cancelled with a handstamp was a problem, one of the few possibilities for ordinary mail was the use of the *Poste Restante / Lista de Correos* counter.

The postage is correct for an overseas letter – 83 Ptas.



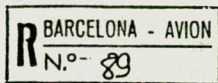
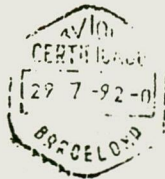
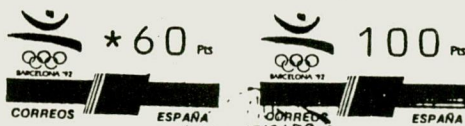
Ms. Graham Batehouse  
 4203 Maryvale Rd NE  
 CALGARY Alberta.  
 T2A 2T7 CANADA

||| ||

Fig A3.

The stamps for this cover to Belgium are correct for two reasons, firstly the total value is correct, 45 Ptas. ordinary mail inside the European community plus an additional fee of 115 Ptas. for registration. The individual label values are also correct, as they were ordered by using the machines keys. The rate was not available by use of a single key selection. (See Table 1)

These labels were obtained from machine number 012 (right hand side of the MPO) on the second day of use. The cover was then mailed at the registration counter of the MPO.



Robert Altruye  
 Turfheidestr. 30  
 3910 Neerpelt  
 Belgium

The vending machines at the MPO had 19 keys from which you could select by reference to the tarif. Most useful tariffs were included.

For the period of the Olympic Games the keys were assigned as table 1.

**Table 1:** Tarif keys of the Klussendorf stamp vending machine "Stamp Center 631" (for coin operated usage by the public), installed in the entrance hall of the MPO from July 28th '92.

Key	Face value	Tarif	Weight (up to)
1	17 Ptas.	Local.	20 gr.
2	26 Ptas.	Local.	50 gr.
3	31 Ptas.	Local.	100 gr.
4	27 Ptas.	National.	20 gr.
5	36 Ptas.	National.	50 gr.
6	57 Ptas.	National.	100 gr.
7	45 Ptas.	Standard tarif for E.C.	20 gr.
8	60 Ptas.	Other European countries.	20 gr.
9	125 Ptas.	Other European countries.	50 gr.
10	145 Ptas.	Other European countries.	100 gr.
11	83 Ptas.	Africa, America, some Asian countries.	15 gr.
12	106 Ptas.	Africa, America, some Asian countries.	20 gr.
13	171 Ptas.	Africa, America, some Asian countries.	30 gr.
14	194 Ptas.	Africa, America, some Asian countries.	40 gr.
15	217 Ptas.	Africa, America, some Asian countries.	50 gr.
16	100 Ptas.	Oceania, some Asian countries.	15 gr.
17	140 Ptas.	Oceania, some Asian countries.	20 gr.
18	205 Ptas.	Oceania, some Asian countries.	30 gr.
19	245 Ptas.	Oceania, some Asian countries.	45 gr

The face values available at the MPO differ from those available at the temporary Olympic post office (TOPO) in the entrance area of OLYMPHILEX.

From the counter printers "Stamp Center 847" at Olympihlex you could order every value in steps of 1 Peseta, starting at 17 Ptas. Interestingly the postage for printed papers was only 13 Ptas. in July / August '92, and could not be supplied. A postal clerk fulfilled the wishes of customers by operating the machine.



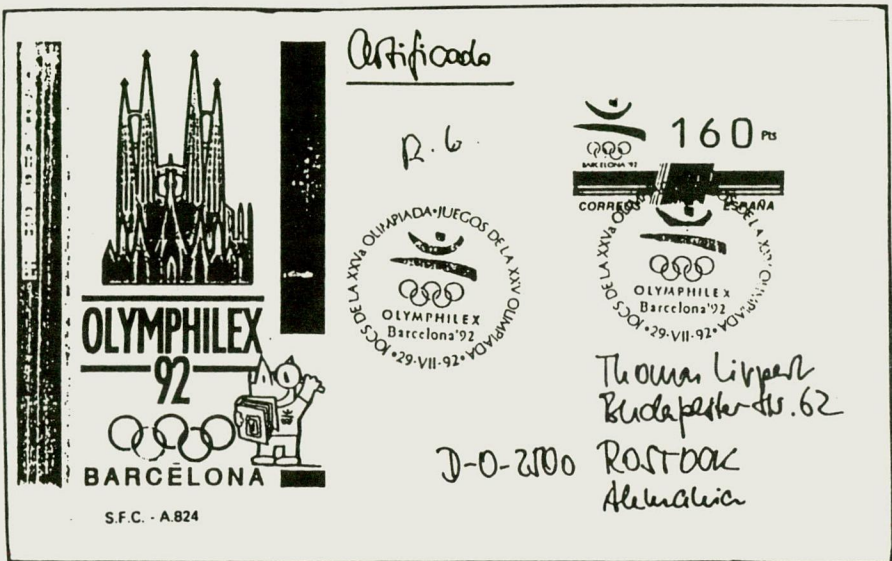
**Fig A4.**

These two receipts are among the earliest issued from the two machines at Olympihlex, identified as machine numbers 1 and 11. The receipts differ from those in Fig 1. because the time of sale is also given.

Being present, I saw that the earliest labels had only partial printing of the value, collectors did not seem concerned, or register any protest when these were handed over – rather than being destroyed, as is the normal practise.

The cover shown in Fig A5. is registered, however, at the TOPO they had not been supplied with registration labels, regular or registered cancellers, so the cover has been marked manually *R. 6* ( other methods of marking registered mail manually can also be found during the period of the Olympic Games!).

The cover is from the opening day of the exhibition. The stamp is an authentic first day usage, because the label is not of a value available previously from the MPO. Whilst this was the second day of use for labels using the Olympic design, it was the first day for values other than those listed in Table 1. The counter printers at Olymphilex remained in use until the closure of the exhibition on August 6th, 1992.



Some examples of pre-release usage have been reported, or at least the dates of cancels on some covers would seem to verify this. I know of examples cancelled at Hospitalet de Llobregat (26.7.92), and Mollet del Valles (27.7.92), one or two days before the official installation of the machines. The early release of the Cobi stamp has been recorded and authenticated by the research and registered mail sent by Manuel Garcia and Bob Wilcock, reported in Torch Bearer (it also happened in the Tabacalera "offices"), the official pre-printing of machine labels is rather unlikely. It is more probable that some local philatelists with exceptional connections among postal staff have been busy! See Fig A6.



Fig A6.

These Olympic Klussendorf stamps even have a post-Olympic period. Postal officials continued to fill the machines with the "Olympic paper" until it was exhausted in 1993. This is not particularly important to collectors who only include a single example of the stamp in their collection, or who are only interested in postal activities during the Games. To others however, this post-Olympic period proves very interesting.

To prevent manipulation, the postal authorities began programming all machines to print stars for all unused digits, for all values under 1000 Ptas, on August 7th, 1992. I consider that these changes came to late for Olympic collectors, at least to have any affect on mail posted at the TOPO's, the date was close to the end of the Games, and the pressure of servicing the demands of collectors, athletes, spectators and the Olympic family, suggest that the postal workers were unlikely to consider the programming of the machines as a high priority. Perhaps a member has an example of a label showing stars from the final days of the Games – if so, please let us know! These four digit labels have the Michel catalogue numbers 4.1.2. and 4.2.2.

Sometimes it is possible to find labels printed with the machine number and the date, more often only the machine number. According to the postal rules during the Games, the postal clerks were not allowed to print out with dates.

In June, the lack of strict regulations, made it possible to obtain dated labels, during the Games it had become more difficult.

Labels that are known to exist with machine number and date, are identified by "X" in Table 3, and it is probable that other TOPO's will become known in future – but are these copies from general sales, or in response to philatelic requests / favours?

Although rules governing the use of these EPELSA machines were in existence at the time of the Olympic Games, the reality of the situation should be considered – the high volume of activity in particular. As stated, the introduction of the machines was recent, and the printing of dated labels had not been forbidden initially. The staff at the TOPO's were drawn from a wide geographical area, many were from offices that had not had machines installed. The regular postal clerks were supported by attractive girls, mainly students fluent in a foreign language, obviously able to assist, but not trained in the use of the machines.

I was told by one of the very helpful staff that it would normally be in contravention of the rules to issue dated labels, and that it was not a simple or swift task to change from dated to undated – it is therefore likely that a quantity will exist where any copies are known. I also had difficulty in obtaining values of 490 Ptas. on a single label because of problems with operating the machines. The situation was very variable, the next day all things were possible, it seemed that changes of employees shifts were the major factor in determining what was possible. The only solution being to keep trying, and make regular visits to each office.

When considering the philatelic description of these items in a collection we need to take great care. Rigid application of the postal rules and philatelic definitions, would mean that these machines created two very different items!

The appearance of the date on the label changes the definition from a stamp to a postal meter. The undated label is a machine stamp, for use anywhere within the jurisdiction of the postal administration at a time chosen by the purchaser. As a consequence of which the Michel catalogue does not list the labels with dates.

This division into two types, is of course a very precise interpretation. It is based on the expectation that dated labels will only be used on the day that they are printed, this was not the case in Barcelona, dated labels were accepted on subsequent days, and at offices other than the office of issue. The reality being that it was such a busy period, purchasers and staff were unsure of the rules, and it would have been time consuming to attempt strict enforcement.

On the other hand, it is difficult to believe that the items actually produced by the machines in the TOPO's were dependant on "accidents", or which member of staff was on duty.

A change in postal rates meant that the "key" tariffs at the MPO were also revised, this enables specialists in machine stamps to differentiate between a number of "tarif sets", as well as different papers and receipts.



Finally the philatelic service in Madrid made its contribution, commercially it was sensible to make the Olympic machine stamps available to subscribers. In consequence they sold for a short period, labels with a four digit imprint (instead of the three digit of Barcelona), with a highest value of 999 Ptas. – (as before). Michel notes the date of their appearance as March 23rd. 1993.

They are rather expensive, so a complete set of all the 19 key values with four digits, at the valid tariffs in 1993 (up to 270 Ptas.) can cost more than 1000 DM. (£460). Each collector must decide what to include in their collection. You can however be sure that these four digit labels were neither produced in Barcelona, nor were they available during the Olympic period. They have no part in the postal activities during the Olympic Games, however for the collector specialising in host country issues, they are an interesting variety – but it does not require a "full" set of 19 values to document their existence.

Many collectors will have seen and ignored the other machines at most counters in the MPO used for producing machine stamps. The Spanish EPELSA machines were introduced into Spanish post offices from June 16th, 1992. The labels are unlike those from the Klussendorf machines, in that they are self adhesive rather than gummed, the value being printed by a thermal printer. Different paper types were soon identified, and achieve recognition in the Michel catalogue.

For Olympic collectors, the main interest relates to the fact that most TOPO's were equipped with EPELSA machines. As they played a "backroom" role, they were often forgotten. After the Games, these machines were reallocated to other post offices, and they are probably still in use, waiting to be found!

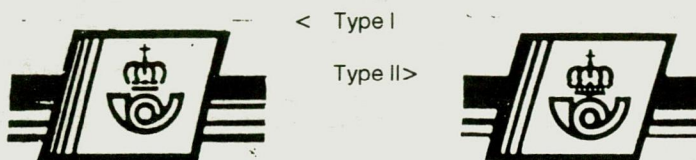
We therefore need to identify those EPELSA labels with Olympic significance.

Table 2: Different types of EPELSA labels.

	Type I	Type II	Type III
Crown	open	closed	open
Frame	thick	thick	thin
Colours	a bit darker		
Paper / print	Eduardo Albeniz, Pamplona	Ovelar, Madrid	FNMT, Madrid
Michel number	4.1.1	4.2.1	4.3.1

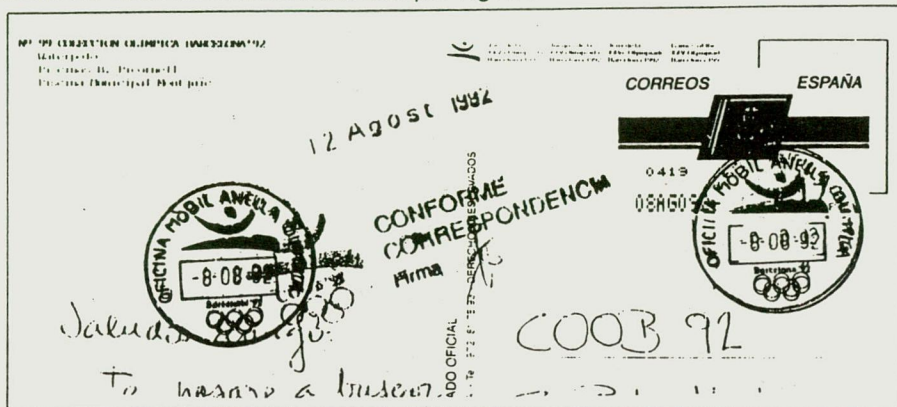
NB. The third digit of the catalogue number identifies that these are machine stamps with three digit values.

Fig A8.

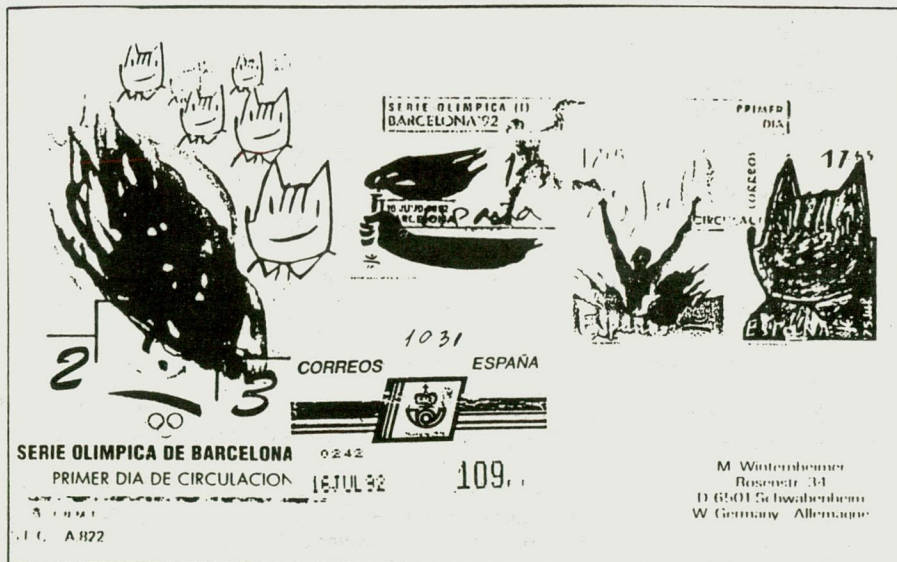




A peculiarity of the Spanish postal authority, (*confirmed by resolucio*n No. 489, 27.3.92), is the requirement that even postal meters should be postmarked / cancelled. The fact that the dated label on this cover from the TOPO at the Olympic Ring has been cancelled does not in any way contradict the previous definitions, or aid any attempt to define the dated labels as machine stamps. Fig A11.



This cover has managed to contravene the rules in two ways, firstly the printing of dates was prohibited at least a month earlier, and secondly the label has not been cancelled. Fig A12.



There can be little doubt that the use of labels from the TOPO's helps to prove items of mail as genuine. The operation of the TOPO's for a very short period, and their use of the machines, adds to the significance of the labels to the Olympic collector. They are an important item in the postal operations of the XXV Olympic Games.

The following table lists the TOPO's with their respective machine numbers, it could be expanded to include the machine numbers from regular offices taking part in Olympic postal operations. Most offices had one machine, but in the MPO an EPELSA machine seemed to be installed at every counter position. As these machine stamps (undated labels) could be obtained outside the Olympic period, they have not been included.

Table 3: The special TOPO's and their EPELSA machines.

TOPO	EPELSA No.	Working period	Type	Dated
Olympic Village Barcelona	{*1} 0584 {*2} 0325	06.7. – 12.8.92 06.7. – ?	II II	 X
Olympic Village Parc de Mar	0089	11.7. – 12.8.92 09.7. !	II	X
Olympic Village Banyoles	--	13.7. – 12.8.92	--	
Olympic Village La Seu d'Urgell	--	17.7. – 12.8.92	--	
Media Village Vall d'Hebron	0576	24.6. – 12.8.92 03.7. !	II	X
Media Village Montigala / Badalona	0325	04.7. – 12.8.92	II	
Main Press Centre CPP	0415	11.7. – 11.8.92 12.7. !	II	X
International Youth Camp CIJ	0177	20.7. – 12.8.92	II	
Mobile Office Anella Olimpica	0419	25.7. – 09.8.92	I	X
Mobile Office Vall d'Hebron	0243	28.7. – 09.8.92	II	X
Mobile Office Reial Club de Polo	--	29.7. – 06.8.92	--	
Olympihlex '92	{*3} --	29.7. – 06.8.92	--	

{\*1} Machine 0584 was used in September for the Paralympics.

{\*2} According to the Spanish collector Tena de Sanchez, machine 0325 was moved before the Games opened to the TOPO of the Olympic village Montigala.

{\*3} Equipped with two Klussendorf counter printers.

By studying the Michel catalogue, I have realised that we should not view covers and items from Barcelona and other Olympic sites from only the Olympic collectors point of view.

Collectors may be tempted to soak off the self adhesive EPELSA stamps, be cautious, remember that the paper is heat sensitive. A German collector has recently reported that he obtained only pieces of black paper from a "hot" water bath.

M. Seitz the author of the catalogue expects that the imprints will disappear in only ten years, although my copies do not appear to have suffered from photocopying after three years – I remain hopeful that they will survive. The paper used for the EPELSA labels has been reported as less stable than some other special papers, by specialists in the study of machine stamps . . . . . let's enjoy them for as long as we can see them!



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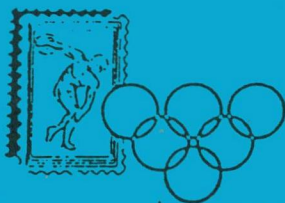
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