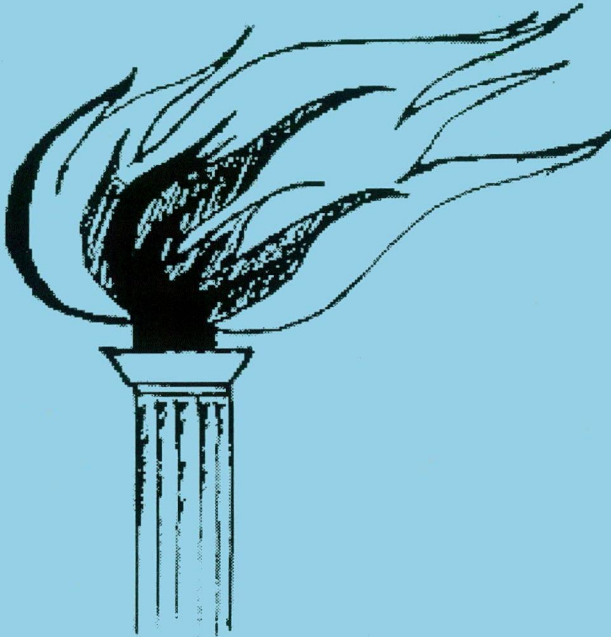


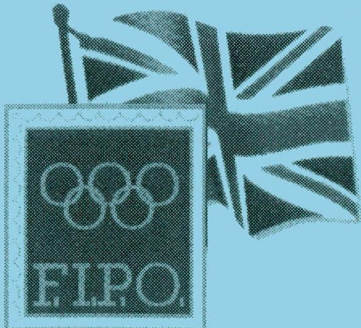
TORCH BEARER



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- 2004
- 2008
- 2012



**SOCIETY of
OLYMPIC
COLLECTORS**

SOCIETY of OLYMPIC COLLECTORS

The representative of F.I.P.O. in Great Britain



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BACK ISSUES AND DISTRIBUTION:	Ken Cook, 31 Thorn Lane, Rainham, Essex, RM13 9SJ, Great Britain.

BACK ISSUES: At present, most issues of TORCH BEARER are still available to Volume 1, Issue 1, (March 1984), although some are now exhausted.

As stocks of each issue 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 £2.00 each, or £8.00 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 your order to David Buxton 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 payment 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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I am aware from a number of calls and emails that the passing of our founder, Franceska Rapkin FRPSL, will be known to many readers before receiving this issue of Torch Bearer.

I am sure that many of the SOC's earlier members will have corresponded with, or known Franceska personally, and they in particular will understand the difficulty for any individual in attempting to write a tribute to someone of Franceska's unique character and presence.

I would be pleased to publish any short tributes that members may wish to forward by mail or email in the next issue of Torch Bearer.

FRONT PAGE

Franceska Rapkin FRPSL

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Franceska on December 13, 2001.

Franceska will be sadly missed by members of the philatelic community world-wide many of whom were her personal friends.

Franceska is survived by her daughter Sarah, her son and daughter-in-law, Simon and Joanna, and their son Kaspar.

In Sydney, at Olympihlex 2000, Franceska was awarded a Gold Medal as the Grand Prix International presented by the International Olympic Committee - the latest award for her renown '1936 Olympics' exhibit.

For many years, Franceska and her husband Leon, before his death, had worked to promote philately. Youth, traditional and thematic philately were all avidly supported and promoted.

The Society of Olympic Collectors owes its very existence to Franceska. Whilst many Olympic collectors seemed to meet at National exhibitions, it was Franceska who called the first meeting of interested collectors and proposed the formation of the Society of Olympic Collectors in 1984.

Franceska served as Chairman from formation until 1996, and Editor from formation until 1994. Her period as Chairman was followed by a term of four years as President, and she was the only person to whom the status of Life Member has ever been granted.

In the editorial of the first issue of Torch Bearer, Franceska wrote: "***The start of a new venture is always exciting. We have an opportunity to begin a worthwhile venture, something that has not been previously attempted in Great Britain. Although Ernest Trory's shop in Brighton was a Mecca for Olympic Collectors in the 1950's and '60's, he never attempted to start a club where like-minded collectors could exchange news and views.***"

With the exception of the reference to Great Britain, which under-estimated the international appeal for the Society, her vision remains alive through the society today.

We are often referred to as 'The Rapkin Boys' when overseas, (and we have been known to react to the term), but I am sure that in our hearts, we are actually proud of the implied association.

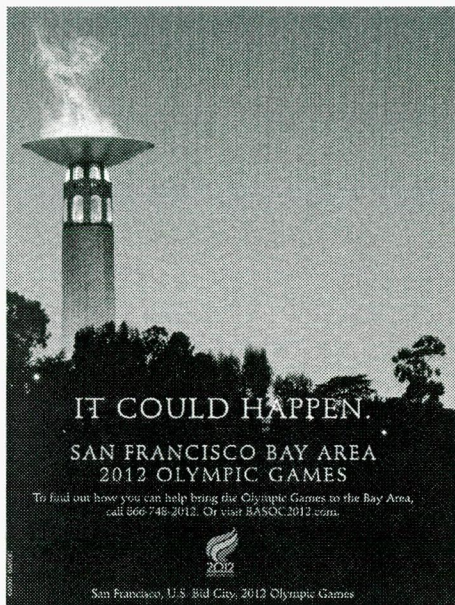
NEWS FROM MEMBERS

The illustrated postcard was first seen on an internet auction site in late September 2001.

A number of cities in the United States have bid committees promoting their wish to host the 2012 Olympic Games, and similar badges certainly exist for some of them, (*information would be welcomed*), this is however the first promotional postcard that has been seen.

IT COULD HAPPEN.
SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA
2012 OLYMPIC GAMES

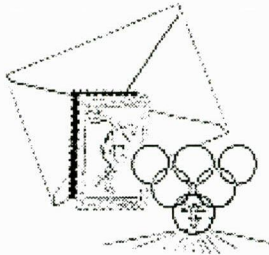
The card has a credit for San Francisco, US Bid City, 2012 Olympic Games.



Picture Postcard Monthly mentioned three postcards in a series 'Campaign for the prevention of, and against violence in sport' published in France by the Ministry for Youth and Sport. All of the cards bear the logo of the Ministry and the French Olympic Committee.

It has since become apparent that the cards belong to a far bigger series. The following designs are known (*information of others would be welcome*):

Wheelchair racer; Cyclist; Taekwondo; Athletics; Trials motorcyclist; Canoeist; Rugby {12 yr old}; Rugby {18 yr old}; Handball; Football.



OLYMPIC-GAMES FOOTBALL (SOCCER) SPORTS



- classic till today -

stamps / blocs / souvenir-sheets / ** / * / ☺ / ✉ • proofs • epreuve
de luxe • cards • letters • first day covers • postmarks •
cancellations • postal stationery • books • autographs •
tickets • programs • pins • badges • pressfotos • coins •
medals and more special material

OUR STOCK HAS MORE THAN 50 000 ITEMS FROM
ATHENS OLYMPICS 1896 TO SYDNEY 2000

pricelists (8 a year with aprox. 100 pages / some illustrations)
auction catalogues (mail bidding) 4 a year (every lot is illustrated)

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ALBERTVILLE Xth ANNIVERSARY - 2002

Albertville celebrated the 10th anniversary of the XVI Olympic Winter Games with a programme of events centred on the weekend of 26/27 January 2002.

FCOS, our sister Society in France took the opportunity to join in the celebrations by participation in the first day ceremony for the La Poste stamp issue for Salt Lake City at the Maison des Jeux on Saturday, and by organising a bourse and members exhibition in the Olympic Hall on Sunday. Their Annual General Meeting was also held at the Dome Centre on Saturday, and presentations for the exhibitors were made at a dinner held at the Roma Hotel on Saturday evening.

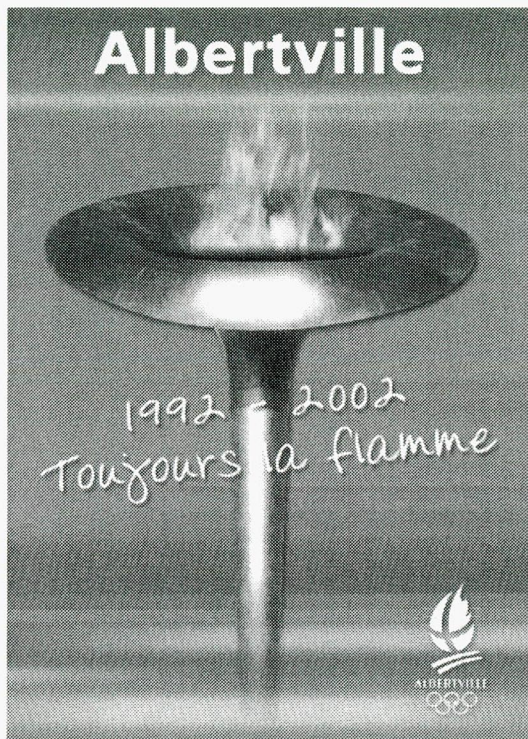
The weekend proved very interesting for David Buxton and I as there were numerous opportunities for philatelic and postcard souvenirs.

On arrival at the Maison des Jeux at 10.00 am, the temporary La Poste facility was doing a brisk trade in sales of the Salt Lake City stamp, and cancelling covers and souvenirs. The usual items that accompany a stamp issue in France were available - An A4 philatelic document; An A5 philatelic first day notice; A single colour 'proof' print of the stamp on card. {See *Volume 18, No. 4 for details of the Salt Lake City stamp and FD cancel*}.

La Poste also had supplies of a free postcard showing the Albertville cauldron which was used as the graphic design for the 10th Anniversary.

Pre-paid envelopes with commemorative illustrated panels are becoming very popular in France, and an envelope with the 'Cauldron' design was on sale in packs of 10.

FCOS had also prepared two maximum cards using the Salt Lake City issue, one for the Winter Olympic Games, Salt Lake City, and another for the 10th Anniversary.



Maximum cards prepared by AFCOS

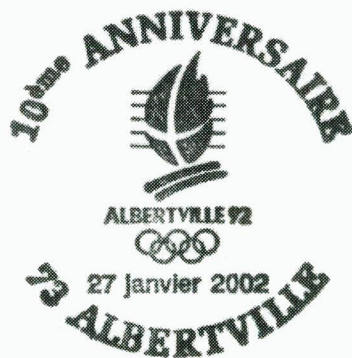
Right: Maximum card for the Salt Lake City stamp issue, in association with the **Association Francaise de Snowboard**.

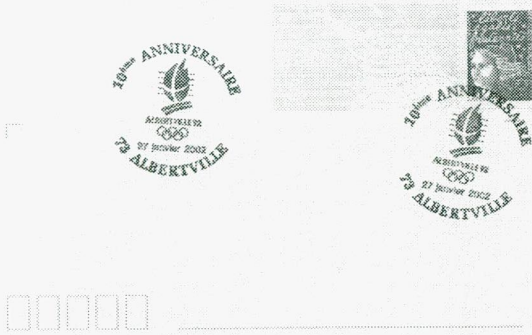
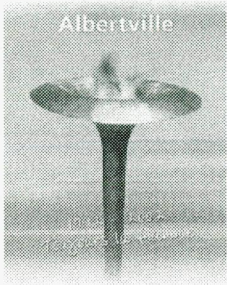
Below: Souvenir card for the 10th Anniversary, with special handstamp.



10^e anniversaire des Jeux olympiques d'hiver
d'Albertville et de la Savoie
1992 - 2002

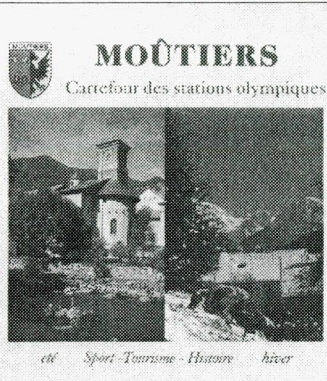
Below: The special handstamp for the 10th Anniversary used at the Olympic Hall on 27th January.





Above: The Albertville 10th anniversary prepaid envelope.

Below: Moutier prepaid envelope, with 10th Anniversary slogan cancel.



Of course, other opportunities presented themselves to purchase current items from La Poste, and to mail items for the 10th Anniversary slogan postmarks currently in use around the Savoie Olympic Stations {see volume 18, No. 4}.

FCOS had prepared a number of covers with the slogans, including the illustrated Moutiers stationery envelope illustrated above.

Having completed our 'duties' at the Post counter, we crossed to the Maison des Jeux reception area, with me confidently telling David that there would be nothing new since September.

I was immediately proven wrong! In the display cabinet immediately inside the entrance there was a really attractive series of new postcards, featuring the costumes from the Opening Ceremony of the XVI Winter Olympic Games.



The cards were sold as a folder of 15. 14 designs feature either individual costumes or scenes from the Opening Ceremony, the 15th illustrated below shows the Albertville medals. The souvenir card produced by AFCOS {page 6} is a variant of one of the cards in the pack (background masked out).



With midday approaching, there was time for a quick stroll around town before attending the AFCOS General Assembly at the Dome Centre. There are still a number of original 1992' souvenirs available in the shops, many at discounted prices. Many of the modern postcards bear references to the Winter Olympic Games, or feature the Olympic Hall, or the remaining features such as the cauldron. It appeared that there had been a 'shop window dressing' competition, as many windows featured Olympic posters or memorabilia to celebrate the 10th Anniversary.

Thirty plus members of AFCOS attended the Assembly, and some active debates took place. Many of the issues are common to all collectors societies - costs of printing, and means of revenue in particular.

After the General Assembly, there was about an hour for non-Olympic shopping (snow boots for Salt Lake City), then check in at our hotel. By coincidence (and because most others were full), we were staying at the venue for the evening meal and presentation, so only a casual stroll to dinner.

The whole evening was a very pleasant social event, although David must have suffered through his lack of French. Between courses, we were treated to a version of the founding of the modern Games (staged for the English?), which was about as biased, although good humoured, as would be a film produced in America extolling the virtues of how they won the Battle of Britain!

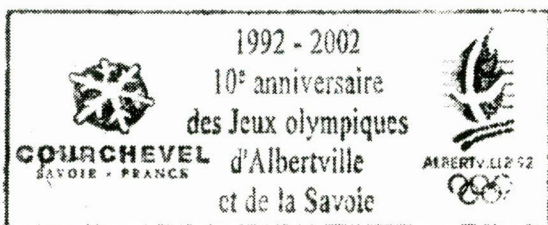
Presentations were made to the successful exhibitors, as the judging had been carried out earlier in the day, and after the meal we were all expected to join in a 'table quiz' about French achievements in the Winter Olympics and various World Championships, which was thoughtfully compiled as 'multiple choice'.

We headed for bed, and an opportunity to catch up on the time spent driving down on Friday night - looking forward to the bourse and exhibition on Sunday.

On Sunday, we made our way to the Olympic Hall in plenty of time for the 10.00am opening - the weather had changed, it was pouring with rain, and the drive home later promised to be quite a challenge.

There were over forty dealers or AFCOS members manning tables at the bourse, and the array of material being offered was really staggering. There were not many great rarities, but the variety of material was very impressive.

Both David and I were soon purchasing modern postcards, many of which we had never seen before. We both also managed to fill known gaps in our collections. We had made a conscious decision not to try and man a table, as we would only have 3 or 4 hours before setting off for home - it proved a wise move.



COURCHEVEL 2 - 1 - 02

Bob Wilcock had already found a table with 'P.P.' copies of some of the 10th Anniversary slogan postmarks, so following his directions I headed off to try my luck. All of the slogans will probably exist in 'P.P.' format, but requests by mail are not always filled as they should be used for bulk mailing. Existence of the following can be confirmed:

Aime (2-1-2002); Bourg Saint Maurice (2-1-2002); Brides les Bains (2-1-2002); Courchevel (2-1-2002); Les Arcs (2-1-2002); Moutiers (12-1-2002); Tignes (2-1-2002).

One or two items for Grenoble turned up, which are not philatelic, but make attractive additions to the collection. I was particularly pleased with the illustrated lottery ticket.

As the illustration shows, it actually has a 'stamp' attached for '1968 SPORTS'.

With time running out, a very quick look around the exhibits, a range of attractive items, and very scarce material. Every exhibit was worthy of close examination for a variety of different reasons.



My final minutes were spent on a fairly emotional reunion with Henri Robert, and Guy Viallet, the Postmaster, and Assistant Postmaster at Albertville during the preparations for, and staging of the Games, together with Madame Robert. Brenda and I had spent so much time during the Albertville Games at Olympex with Guy and the Robert's, that we had got to know each other very well despite language barriers.

Henri retired as postmaster soon after the Games, and this was our first reunion. Guy I have met a number of times since during our trips to Albertville, but not since his move to La Poste at Aix les Bains. All too soon we had to depart. Eight hours later we were at Calais looking forward to a meal in the restaurant of the Ferry. We enjoyed our meal, despite a tray of cups almost flying past us! The rain had stayed with us all the way from Albertville, and the stabilisers on the ferry certainly disguised the swell. At 2.00 am, I dropped off David, and an hour later I was home - another 'Olympic weekend' was over.

EVENTS DIARY

There are still plenty of events this year for the Olympic Collector, Collectors events linked with the Winter Games and Anniversary events take place throughout, February and March, with Lausanne in May. A number of members are known to be attending these events - anyone interested in further details please contact the Editor.

Olympex 2002
Exhibition of Invited Olympic Displays
Salt Lake City and County Building
Utah, USA

January 15th - February 28th.
Displays of Philately, Numismatics and
Memorabilia on the themes of
Olympic Winter Games and Winter Sports

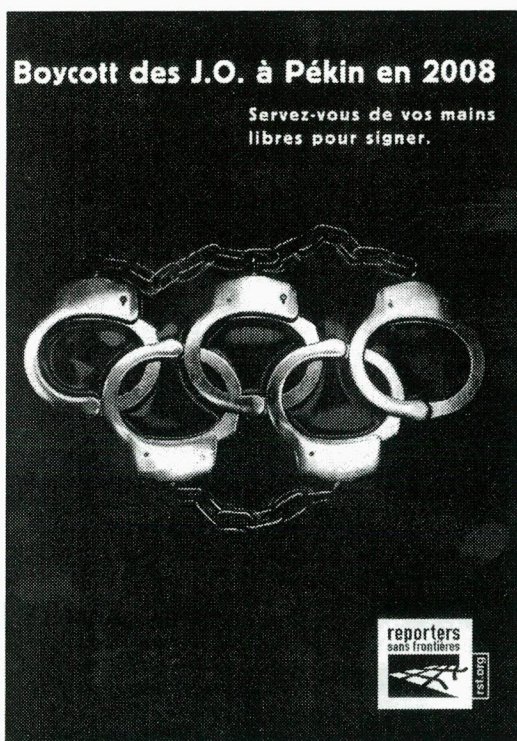
Olympic Collectors Fair, City Hall,
Oslo, Norway - 50th Anniversary Event

March 15th and 16th.

World Olympic Collectors Fair,
The Olympic Museum, Lausanne

May 17th to 19th.

BEIJING 2008 PROTEST POSTCARD (II) - FRANCE



Another Beijing boycott postcard has appeared, this time from France.

The picture side of the card is black and white with handcuffs arranged to represent the Olympic Rings.

The card is published by CART COM, and is pre-addressed to:

Reporters sans frontières
5, rue Geoffroy-Marie
75009 Paris

The pre-printed text (in French) reads:

China : Gold Medal for violations of Human Rights

To the Member States of the United Nations, I wish to express to you my indignation at the award of the 2008 Olympic Games to Beijing.

Considering the known substantial violations of human rights in China, It seems unacceptable and even dangerous to award the organisation of the most prestigious of sporting festivals to the Chinese Government.

I also demand that you express publicly your dissatisfaction, and that you call for a boycott of the Olympic Games in Beijing.

The text is followed by a space for name and address details to be completed by the sender, and the slogan:

'There is no freedom without freedom of the press'

The card was obviously produced by *Reporters sans frontières*, and distributed to solicit support for their views, and the wording suggests that it was issued after award of the Games to Beijing. In effect the returned, completed cards are to be used as a petition to show the level of support for a campaign by Reporters sans frontières. It will be interesting to see if the level of support is ever published.

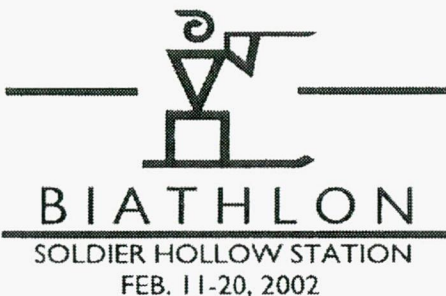
SALT LAKE CITY - UPDATE

Mark Maestrono forwarded details of the USPS cancellation program for the XIX Olympic Winter Games.

All of the cancels are available by mail order as detailed below by submitting addressed stamped covers.



Alpine Skiing - Snowbasin/Deer Valley Station, Postmaster, PO BOX 31798, Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0798



Biathlon - Soldier Hollow Station, Postmaster, PO BOX 31784, Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0784



Bobsleigh - Utah Olympic Park Station, Postmaster, PO BOX 31785, Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0785



CROSS-COUNTRY
SOLDIER HOLLOW STATION
FEB. 9-24, 2002

Cross-Country - Soldier Hollow Station, Postmaster, PO BOX 31783, Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0783



CURLING
THE ICE SHEET STATION
FEB. 11-22, 2002

Curling - The Ice Sheet Station, Postmaster, PO BOX 31786, Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0786

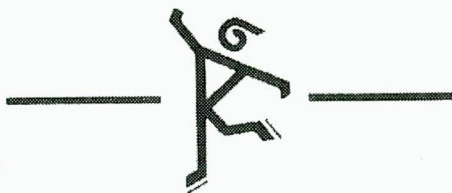
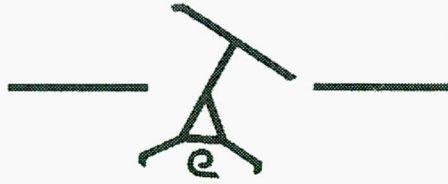


FIGURE SKATING
SALT LAKE ICE CENTER STATION
FEB. 9-22, 2002

Figure Skating - Salt Lake Ice Center Station, Postmaster, PO BOX 31778, Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0778

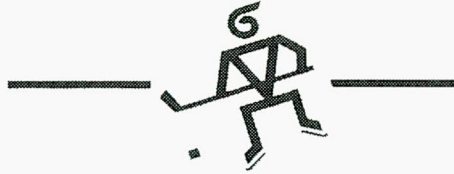


FREESTYLE SKIING

DEER VALLEY RESORT STATION

FEB. 9-19, 2002

Freestyle Skiing - Deer Valley Resort Station, Postmaster, PO BOX 31788,
Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0788



ICE HOCKEY

THE PEAKS ICE ARENA / E CENTER STATION

FEB. 9-24, 2002

Ice Hockey - The Peaks Ice Arena/E Center Station, Postmaster, PO BOX 31787, Salt
Lake City, UT 84131-0787



L U G E

UTAH OLYMPIC PARK STATION

FEB. 10-15, 2002

Luge - Utah Olympic Park Station, Postmaster, PO BOX 31782, Salt Lake
City, UT 84131-0782



NORDIC COMBINED

FEB. 9-22, 2002- UTAH OLYMPIC PARK,
SOLDIER HOLLOW STATION

Nordic Combined - Utah Olympic Park/Soldier Hollow Station, Postmaster,
PO BOX 31797, Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0797



OPENING / CLOSING CEREMONIES

OLYMPIC STADIUM STATION

Opening/Closing Ceremonies - Olympic Stadium, Postmaster, PO BOX 31790,
Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0790



SHORT TRACK

SALT LAKE ICE CENTER STATION
FEB. 13-23, 2002

Short Track - Salt Lake Ice Center Station, Postmaster, PO BOX 31781,
Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0781

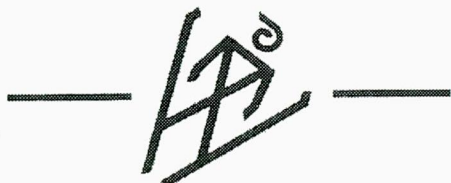


SKELETON

UTAH OLYMPIC PARK STATION

FEB. 20, 2002

Skeleton - Utah Olympic Park Station, Postmaster, PO BOX 31792, Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0792

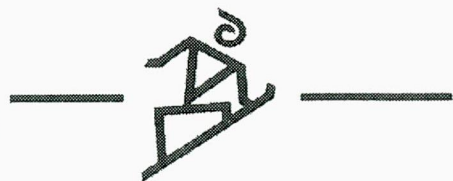


SKI JUMPING

UTAH OLYMPIC PARK STATION

FEB. 8-18, 2002

Ski Jumping - Utah Olympic Park Station, Postmaster, PO BOX 31780, Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0780

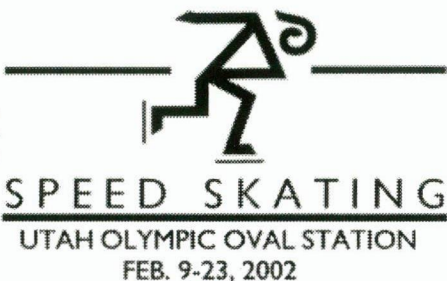


SNOWBOARDING

PARK CITY MOUNTAIN RESORT STATION

FEB. 10-15, 2002

Snowboarding - Park City Mountain Resort Station, Postmaster, PO BOX 31779, Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0779



Speed Skating - Utah Olympic Oval Station, Postmaster, PO BOX 31791,
Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0791



Olympic Torch Station, Postmaster, PO BOX 31793, Salt Lake City, UT
84131-0793



Olympic Arts Festival - Cultural Olympiad Station, Postmaster, PO BOX
31796, Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0796

Figure Skating - Salt Lake Ice Center Station, Postmaster, PO BOX 31778,
Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0778



OLYMPIC FAMILY HOTEL

LITTLE AMERICA STATION

FEB. 8-24, 2002



Olympic Family Hotel - Little America Station, Postmaster, PO BOX 31795,
Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0795



MEDALS CEREMONY

OLYMPIC MEDALS PLAZA STATION

FEB. 9-24, 2002

Medals Ceremony - Olympic Medals Plaza Station, Postmaster, PO BOX
31789, Salt Lake City, UT 84131-0789

OLYMPEX 2002

OLYMPIC FAIR STATION

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84111 - FEBRUARY 8, 2002



Olympex 2002 - Olympic Fair Station, Postmaster, PO BOX 31794, Salt Lake
City, UT 84131-0794

All cancels are dated **February 8, 2002**.

For those attending the Games, all cancels (including the First Day of Issue cancel) are available on a hand-back basis from the US Postal Service Temporary Post Office located at the Crossroads Mall in downtown Salt Lake City.

Please note that there are **NO** venue post offices at the sports events.

The Olympex 2002 cancel will also be available periodically during the day at Olympex 2002.

The IOC Hotel cancel will also be available periodically at the Little America Hotel (IOC Family Hotel), however this is a **CLOSED** facility – only accredited individuals will be allowed entry.

Airmail postage rates for foreign destinations:

Post card: Canada/Mexico (maximum size 4.25" x 6"): 50 cents

Post card: All other international (maximum size 4.25" x 6"): 70 cents

Letter (first ounce): Canada/Mexico: 60 cents

Letter (first ounce): all other international: 80 cents

Registered mail fee: \$7.25 (not available by mail order)

Commemorative postcards

Great Mountain West have maintained a steady flow of postcards since 1996.

Many of the earliest designs have been reissued in different formats or with changes to style or text.

The tables on the following pages summarise our knowledge of cards published up to mid january 2002, and I am grateful for the information provided by Mark Maestroni and Norman Jacobs.

Some of the most recent issues, are new designs incorporating action sporting scenes representing most of the disciplines from the Winter Olympic Games, and limited editions of 20020 commemorative folders have recently appeared.

Cards have been issued in five distinctive styles - some designs occur in multiple styles.

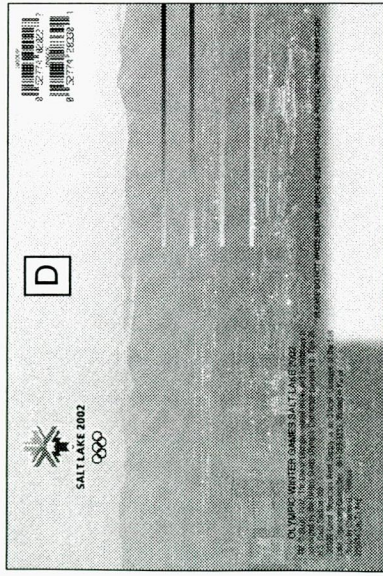
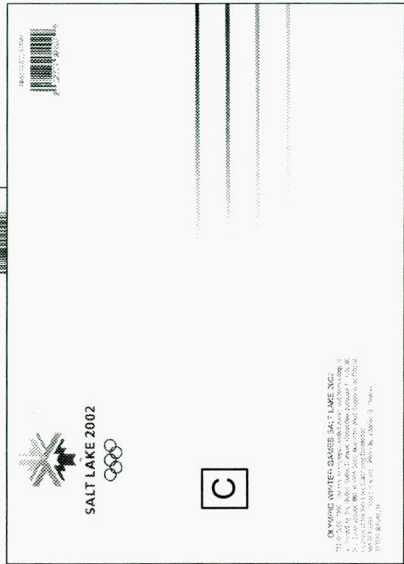
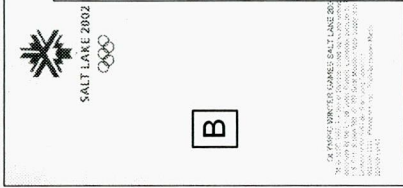
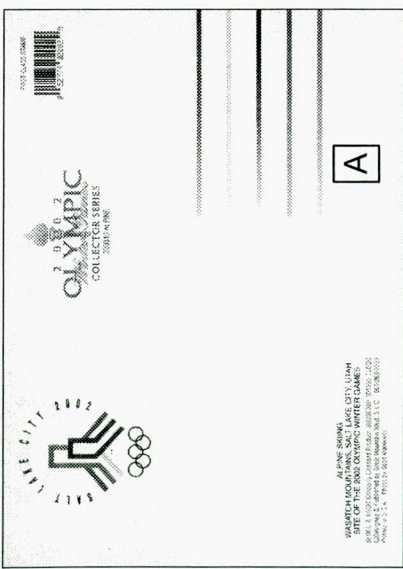
Style A - backs feature the bid logo in colour, coloured address lines;

Style B - backs feature the Games logo, all printing on the back is black;

Style C - backs are as Style B, but with the logo in colour,

Style D - full colour back, text at bottom left - unique bar code at stamp space;

Style E - full colour view with vignette, text at centre, unique bar code as Style D.



Card No.	Series	Size	Format					Unique barcode	Description
			A	B	C	D	E		
220101	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H	✓					View over city at dusk, Salt Lake City at bottom
220102	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H	✓					View over city at dusk (blue), Salt Lake City 2002 in sky
220103	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H	✓					View over city at dusk (blue), 2002 at bottom
220104	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H	✓					Illustrated Utah map
220105	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H	✓					Aerial view at dusk, National flags as border.
220106	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H	✓					Downtown at dusk, 2002 in sky
220107	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H	✓					Fireworks over Downtown
220108	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H	✓					City with mountain backdrop
220201	Wasatch	7" x 5"	H	✓					Snow covered trees and peaks
220202	Wasatch	7" x 5"	H	✓					Snow covered mountains, pictograms in sky
220203	Wasatch	7" x 5"	H	✓					Sunrise through snow covered trees
220204	Wasatch	7" x 5"	H	✓					Snow covered mountain face
220205	Wasatch	7" x 5"	H	✓					Snow covered mountains (violet)
220206	Wasatch	7" x 5"	H	✓					Snow covered mountain slope
220207	Wasatch	7" x 5"	H	✓					View down valley, Salt Lake City in distance
220208	Wasatch	7" x 5"	H	✓					Snow covered peaks, "Wasatch mountains".
220209	Wasatch	7" x 5"	H	✓					Snow covered mountain slope
220210	Wasatch	7" x 5"	H	✓					Snow covered mountain slope
220211	Wasatch	7" x 5"	H	✓					Aerial of Park City with slopes and pistes as backdrop
220212	Wasatch	7" x 5"	H	✓					Spring view of Park City and mountains
220213	Wasatch	7" x 5"	H	✓					View over city to illuminated ski runs
220301	Alpine	7" x 5"	H	✓					Two skiers amongst trees
220302	Alpine	7" x 5"	H	✓					Two skiers in burst of disturbed powder
220303	Alpine	7" x 5"	H	✓					Single skier breaking through ridge
220304	Alpine	7" x 5"	H	✓					Skier on undisturbed slope

Card No.	Series	Size	Format						Unique barcode	Description
			A			B				
			A	B	C	D	E			
220305	Alpine	7" x 5"	H	✓					Four skiers on slope in trees	
220306	Alpine	7" x 5"	H	✓					View down valley with single skier	
220307	Alpine	7" x 5"	H	✓					View along valley side with single skier	
220308	Alpine	7" x 5"	H	✓					Three winter scenes	
220309	Alpine	7" x 5"	H	✓					Two skiers emerging from burst of powder	
220310	Alpine	7" x 5"	H	✓					Two skiers on undisturbed slope with sun behind	
220311	Alpine	7" x 5"	H	✓					Ski tracks in snow, 2002 at foot with views in '00'	
220401	Event	7" x 5"	H	✓					Slalom skier in Park City vest	
220402	Event	7" x 5"	H	✓					Downhill skier, Park City vest	
220403	Event	7" x 5"	H	✓					Speed skater	
220404	Event	7" x 5"	H	✓					Ski jumper	
220405	Event	7" x 5"	H	✓					Downhill skier, by Park City banner	
220406	Event	7" x 5"	H	✓					Downhill skier	
220407	Event	7" x 5"	H	✓					Short track speed skaters	
220408	Event	7" x 5"	H	✓					Celebration fireworks at time of award of the 2002 Games	

Card No.	Series	Size	Format						Unique barcode	Description
			A			B				
			A	B	C	D	E			
219000	Mascot	6" x 4"	H		✓			✓	21057	'Rock' carvings of mascots.
219001	Mascot	6" x 4"	H		✓			✓	21058	The story of the SLOC mascots (text).
219002	Mascot	6" x 4"	H		✓					Plush mascots with bobsleigh & skis.
219003	Mascot	6" x 4"	H		✓			✓	21060	Graphic mascots, skiing disciplines, light background.
219004	Mascot	6" x 4"	H		✓					Graphic mascots, skiing disciplines, dark background.
219005	Mascot	6" x 4"	H		✓			✓	21062	Heads of graphic mascots, pictograms.
219006	Mascot	6" x 4"	V		✓					Heads of graphic mascots.

Card No.	Series	Size	Format					Unique barcode	Description
			A	B	C	D	E		
219007	Mascot	6" x 4"	H		✓			Large heads of graphic mascots.	
219008	Mascot	6" x 4"	H		✓			Small heads of graphic mascots.	
219009	Mascot	6" x 4"	H		✓			Pictograms of mascots.	
219011	Mascot	6" x 4"	H		✓			Graphic mascots, skiing disciplines, view background.	
219012	Mascot	6" x 4"	H		✓			Downtown view over mascot pictograms & motto.	
219013	Mascot	6" x 4"	V			✓	28331	Mascots with Downtown view	
219014	Mascot	6" x 4"	V			✓	28332	Mascots, Coal ski-jumper over view black/grey border	
219300	Mascot	7" x 5"	H		✓			Graphic mascots, skiing disciplines, view background.	
219301	Mascot	7" x 5"	H		✓			Downtown view over mascot pictograms & motto.	
219500	Salt Lake	9" x 4"	H		✓		21072	'Rock' carvings of mascots, with story of mascots.	
219501	Salt Lake	9" x 4"	H		✓		21073	Large mascot heads over downtown at dusk.	
220101	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H		✓			View over city at dusk, Salt Lake border.	
220101	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H			✓	21077	Oval view over city at dusk	
220103	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H		✓		21079	View over city at dusk (blue), 2002 at base.	
220105	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H		✓			Aerial view at dusk, Salt Lake 2002 at base.	
220106	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H		✓			Downtown at dusk, 2002 Olympic Winter Games.	
220107	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H		✓		21083	Downtown sunrise (violet) 2002 at base.	
220109	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H			✓	28354	Downtown sunrise Salt Lake 2002 in sky.	
220110	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H			✓	29919	Montage of SLC and Utah	
MW57-FP00		7" x 5"	H			✓	28328	Photo montage, UTAH Land of Contrast (as 29919)	
220208	Wasatch	7" x 5"	H		✓		21092	Snow covered peaks, "Wasatch mountains".	
220213	Wasatch	7" x 5"	H		✓			View over city to illuminated ski runs	
220213	Wasatch	7" x 5"	H		✓		21097	View over city to illuminated ski runs, text box added	
220214	Wasatch	7" x 5"	H		✓		21098	Snow covered valley & runs, "Park City, Utah".	
220215	Wasatch	7" x 5"	H		✓		21099	View over city to ski runs, "Park City".	

Card No.	Series	Size	Format						Unique barcode	Description
			A		B		C			
			A	B	C	D	E			
220216	Wasatch	7" x 5"	H		✓			✓	21100	Ski runs 'XIX OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES / etc.'
220231	Wasatch	7" x 5"	H		✓					Snowy peaks at sunset 'Salt Lake 2002'
220312	Alpine	7" x 5"	H		✓			✓	21113	Off piste skier 'SALT LAKE 2002'
220400	Event	7" x 5"	V		✓					Salt Lake 2002 flag
220401	Event	7" x 5"	H		✓					Slalom skier
220402	Event	7" x 5"	H		✓					Downhill skier, Park City vest
220403	Event	7" x 5"	H		✓					Speed skater
220405	Event	7" x 5"	H		✓					Downhill skier, by Park City banner
220406	Event	7" x 5"	H		✓					Downhill skier
220407	Event	7" x 5"	H		✓					Short track speed skaters
220500	Salt Lake	6" x 4"	H		✓	✓		✓	21123	Downtown with mountain background
220501	Salt Lake	6" x 4"	H		✓					Snow covered mountains at dusk
220502	Salt Lake	6" x 4"	H		✓			✓	21125	Illuminated downtown at dusk
220503	Salt Lake	6" x 4"	H		✓			✓	21126	Aerial view, mountains and city
220504	Salt Lake	6" x 4"	H		✓			✓	21127	Aerial view, downtown (mid distance)
220504	Salt Lake	6" x 4"	H		✓					Aerial view, downtown (near distance)
220505	Salt Lake	6" x 4"	H		✓			✓	21128	Aerial view over illuminated city
220506	Salt Lake	6" x 4"	H		✓					View over city to snow covered mountains
220506		7" x 5"	H					✓	21083	'Freeform' view over city to snow covered mountains
220507	Salt Lake	6" x 4"	H		✓					City at daybreak, black border, white text
220507	Salt Lake	6" x 4"	H		✓			✓	21130	City at daybreak, white border, black text
220509	Salt Lake	6" x 4"	H					✓	21131	Downtown and mountains at sun rise
220510	Salt Lake	6" x 4"	H					✓		Delta Center
220511	Wasatch	6" x 4"	V							Salt Lake 2002 logo
220512	Wasatch	6" x 4"	H		✓			✓	21134	Panoramic map of venues

Card No.	Series	Size	Format					Unique barcode	Description
			A B C D E						
			A	B	C	D	E		
220513	Salt Lake	6" x 4"	H			✓	✓	28329	Photo montage, UTAH Land of Contrast
220514	Salt Lake	6" x 4"	H			✓	✓	28330	View over city at dusk
220515	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H				✓	29287	Downtown in front of mountains
220516	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H				✓	29284	Downtown in sunlight
220517	Salt Lake	6" x 4"	H				✓	30076	Temple / Downtown - summer?
220598	Wasatch	6" x 4"	H		✓		✓	21135	Ski runs on mountains, three insets of skiers
220599	Wasatch	6" x 4"	H		✓		✓	21136	View over city to illuminated ski runs
220600	Wasatch	6" x 4"	H	✓					View over city
220600	Wasatch	6" x 4"	H				✓	21137	View over city with balloons
220601	Wasatch	6" x 4"	H	✓			✓	21138	View over illuminated city
220602	Wasatch	6" x 4"	H	✓					View over city, balloons in sky
220603	Wasatch	6" x 4"	H	✓			✓	21140	Snow covered mountain slopes
220604	Wasatch	6" x 4"	H	✓		✓	✓	21141	Cloud over snow covered mountains
220605	Wasatch	6" x 4"	H	✓		✓	✓	21142	Seven summer views and logo
220606	Wasatch	6" x 4"	V		✓		✓	20018	Snow covered mountain slopes and peak
220607	Wasatch	6" x 4"	H		✓		✓	20019	Illustrated Utah map
220608	Wasatch	6" x 4"	H		✓		✓	20020	Snow scene, flags of nations as border
220609	Wasatch	6" x 4"	H		✓		✓	20021	Lake with snow covered mountains
220610	Wasatch	6" x 4"	V		✓		✓	20022	Rapids through forest
220612	Wasatch	6" x 4"	H		✓		✓	21143	Seven winter views, logo
220613	Wasatch	6" x 4"	V		✓		✓	20024	Flowering meadow with mountain background
220614		6" x 4"	V		✓		✓	30290	Misty view through trees
220620		6" x 4"	H		✓		✓	30291	'Contrast' five views
220621		6" x 4"	V				✓	30292	Arch rock, four events
220695		6" x 4"	V				✓	30294	Alpine events, view with two skiers overlaid

A = Bid logo, B = B&W back, C = Colour logo back, D/E = Picture back

Card No.	Series	Size	Format							Unique barcode	Description			
			A		B		C		D			E		
220697		6" x 4"	H									30295	Snowboarding events, view with 5 event vignettes	
220699		6" x 4"	H									30297	Figure skating events, view with 4 event vignettes	
220700	Event	6" x 4"	H		✓								Ski jumper	
220701	Event	6" x 4"	H		✓								Downhill skier by Park City banner	
220702	Event	6" x 4"	H		✓								Downhill skier	
220703	Event	6" x 4"	H		✓								Downhill skier, black vest	
220704	Event	6" x 4"	H		✓								Slalom skier	
220705	Event	6" x 4"	H		✓								Bobsleigh	
220706	Event	6" x 4"	H		✓								Downhill, ski jump, speed skating, bobsleigh	
220706	Event	6" x 4"	H							✓		21150	Cross country, Aerials, Figure skating	
220800	Alpine	6" x 4"	V		✓								21156	Off piste skier
220801	Alpine	6" x 4"	V		✓									Skier in powder
220802	Alpine	6" x 4"	V		✓									Off piste skier in distance
220803	Alpine	6" x 4"	H					✓					20025	Skier in powder
220804	Alpine	6" x 4"	V					✓						Four views, skiing and snow boarding
220805	Alpine	6" x 4"	H					✓					20027	Three views, off piste skiing
220806	Alpine	6" x 4"	H					✓						Two views, snow boarding, skiing
220807	Alpine	6" x 4"	H					✓					20029	Four views, snow boarding, skiing
220808	Alpine	6" x 4"	H					✓						Three views, snow boarding, skiing 'Go for the Gold'
220810	Alpine	6" x 4"	H					✓						Four views, snow boarding, skiing
220901	Salt Lake	9" x 4"	H					✓					21159	Downtown in front of mountains
220902	Wasatch	9" x 4"	H					✓					21160	Fourteen views, 3 winter, 11 summer
220904	Salt Lake	9" x 4"	H					✓						Downtown panorama at dawn
220905	Wasatch	9" x 4"	H					✓					21163	Panoramic map and legend of venues
220929	Wasatch	9" x 4"	H					✓					21166	Snow covered mountains

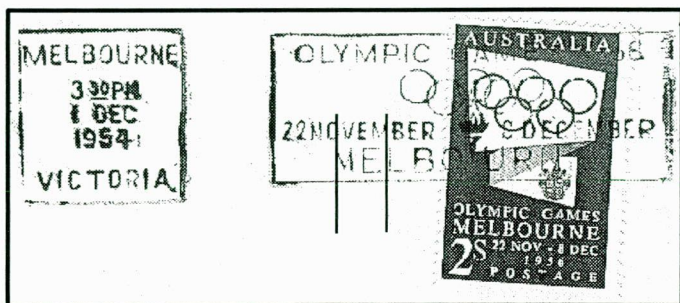
Card No.	Series	Size	Format					Unique barcode	Description
			A	B	C	D	E		
220950	Wasatch	9" x 4"	H		✓				Panoramic view of ski runs over Park City
220951	Wasatch	9" x 4"	H		✓		21168		Illuminated Park City and ski runs at dusk

Card No.	Series	Size	Format					Unique barcode	Description
			A	B	C	D	E		
Pack	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H						A = Bid logo, B = B&W back, C = Colour logo back, D/E = Picture back
200212571-1	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H						Collector series, 'Framing Print Postcards' 20020 sets
200212571-2	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H		✓				Figure skating events
200212571-3	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H		✓				Skiing events
200212571-4	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H		✓				Nordic events
200212571-5	Wasatch	7" x 5"	H		✓				Ski jump, bobsleigh, luge, skeleton
200212571-6	Wasatch	7" x 5"	H		✓				Snowboard events
200212571-7	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	V		✓				'Contrast', rock arch and snow
200212571-8	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	V		✓				'Culture', rock paintings, 'cave dwelling'.
200212571-9	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H		✓				'Courage', runners on rock incline
200212571-10	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	V		✓				'Celebrate', fireworks over Downtown
200212571-11	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H		✓				Mascots, sketches in sports poses
200212571-12	Salt Lake	7" x 5"	H		✓				Views of four seasons
									Skaters against dusk view over Downtown

Card No.	Series	Size	Format					Unique barcode	Description
			A	B	C	D	E		
	Decals	6" x 4"	V	✓			52774 02013		A = Bid logo, B = B&W back, C = Colour logo back, D/E = Picture back
	Decals	6" x 4"	V	✓			52274 21233		3 circular, 1 rectangular (black on white), printed direct on back
	Decals	6" x 4"	V	✓			52274 02013		As above, shrink wrapped - card back separate from decals
	Decals	6" x 4"	V	✓			52274 02013		3 circular, 1 rectangular (white on white), printed direct on back
	Decals	6" x 4"	H	✓					As above, shrink wrapped - card back separate from decals
	Decals	6" x 4"	V	✓					2 'lightning flash', 1 circular, 1 rectangular
	Decals	6" x 4"	V	✓					3 square, 1 rectangular

Melbourne 1956 Slogan Postmarks – Part 1

Bob Wilcock



Introduction

The Australian Post Office launched a slogan postmark campaign to advertise the Olympic Games in Melbourne, starting on 1 December 1954. The Philatelic Bulletin of the time reported that there were **61 dies**, and listed the number issued to each town. This article provides a general introduction to the cancels. Later articles will set out a listing of the dies.

Dates of Use

The cancels were not in continuous use, but for various short periods. The dates given in the Philatelic Bulletin are:

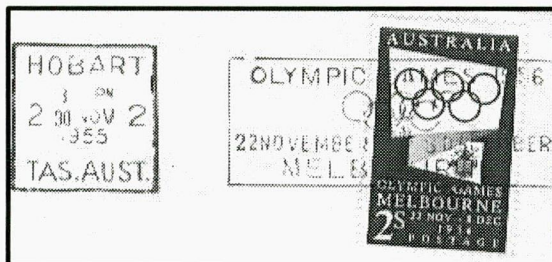
- 1954: 1-4 December
- 1955: 2-8 January or 9-16 January (at the discretion of respective post offices)
- 20-26 February
- 3-9 April
- 15-21 May
- 26 June – 2 July
- 21-27 August
- 24-30 September
- 20-26 November
- 1956: 21-27 February
- 4-10 April
- 16-22 May
- 26 June – 3 July
- 8-14 August
- 25 September – 1 October
- 21-27 November

This includes 1 December 1954, the date of issue of the 2/- blue (first day cancel illustrated above).

It should be noted however that the listed dates do not include:

- ? 30 November 1955, the date of issue of the 2/- green
 - ? 31 October 1956, the date of issue of the principal Olympic set of 4 stamps
 - ? 12 November 1956, the date of issue of the Olympic aerogramme
- Note also that the slogans were not in use for the whole period of the Games.

The dates published in the Philatelic Bulletin appear to be authorised or intended dates of use, and many examples are known from dates outside those listed. In particular at least one die from Melbourne was in use on 30 November 1955, and one from Hobart (FDC of the 2/- green shown below). Does any reader have a 31 October or 12 November 1956 example?

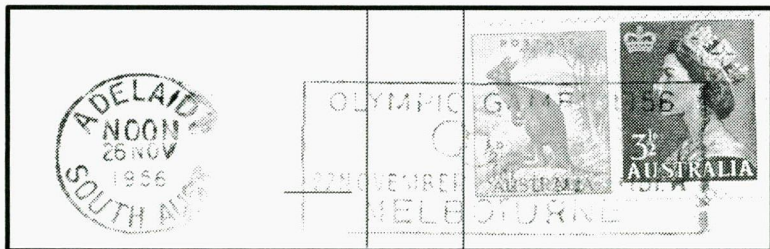


At least 2 Melbourne cancels and one Perth Cancel were used on 28 November 1956:



It is also reported that the Perth slogan was introduced on 30 November 1954. can anyone provide a copy?

Adelaide



Cancel 26 November 1956; the horizontal and vertical lines are to assist in identifying the different dies; this will be explored in a later article.

Adelaide

The Philatelic Bulletin reported 9 dies for Adelaide. However detailed research has so far not enabled identification of all 9 dies.

In my researches I have examined as many examples as possible, and am particularly indebted to John Crowther, Tom Darcy, Victor Hale, Kenny Cook and Karl Reiter (and illustrations in the Volk and Healey & Wise auction catalogues). Modern computer technology can help in identifying fine differences, but for all the examples examined a complete listing is proving elusive.

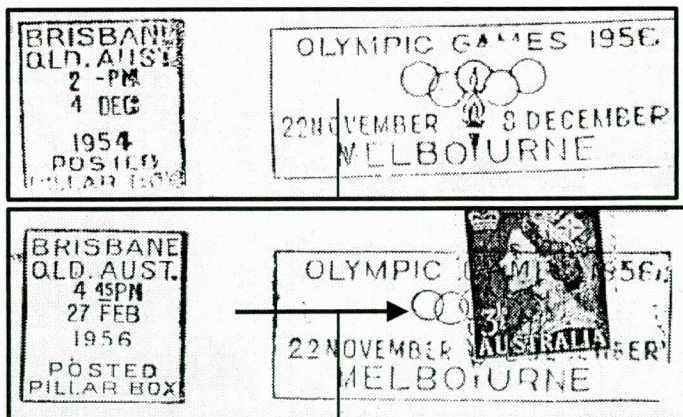
The problem largely stems from the fact that the Olympic dies were used for a short period, replaced by non-Olympic slogans, then used again. This intermittent usage meant that it was inevitable that dies found themselves in different machines; hence you cannot reliably classify by dater. Conversely where you find cancels bearing the same date but with different daters then you must have different Olympic dies.

Help Wanted

This is not a problem confined to Adelaide, it applies to all the towns and cities. To help complete the listing I should be grateful to receive scans or photocopies of clear examples from any of the towns. My address is at the front of Torch Bearer; scans may be e-mailed to bob@towlard.freemove.co.uk. My thanks in advance.

Brisbane

6 dies were used in Brisbane. Two slogans nicely illustrate the differences in Olympic die:



The 'flat' Olympic rings in the lower slogan make this die particularly easy to identify. The vertical lines indicate one of the differences in the lettering. Note also that although the daters both have the same text, they are clearly different dater dies. These differences will be explored and listed in the later articles.

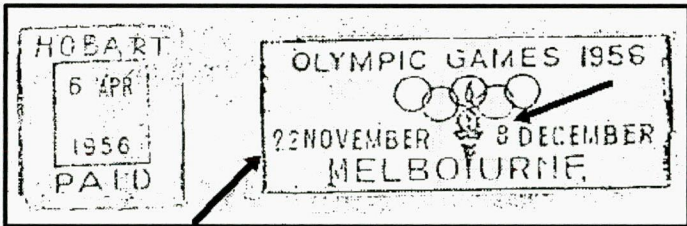
Canberra

Only 1 die was allocated to Canberra, and it has been seen with just the one dater. It seems likely that there was just one machine. In particular no example has come to light of the slogan used (in red) with a 'PAID' dater – if you have one please send a copy!



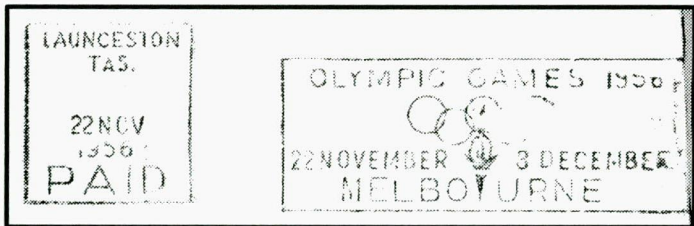
Hobart

4 dies were allocated to Hobart, Tasmania. The slogan from here is not common, but it can be found with various daters, including a 'PAID' dater.



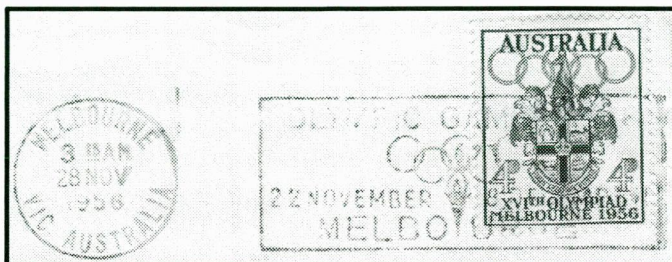
Launceston

Launceston, also in Tasmania, had 3 dies allocated. This is none-the-less a scarce cancel. It is known used with a 'PAID' dater, but site of more examples will be welcome to help in differentiating the 3 dies.



Melbourne

15 dies were allocated to Melbourne itself, and this is perhaps the commonest. First day use is illustrated at the start of the article, late use, on **28 November 1956** is illustrated below:



Newcastle



2 dies were allocated, but all examples examined so far appear to be the same die notwithstanding different daters.

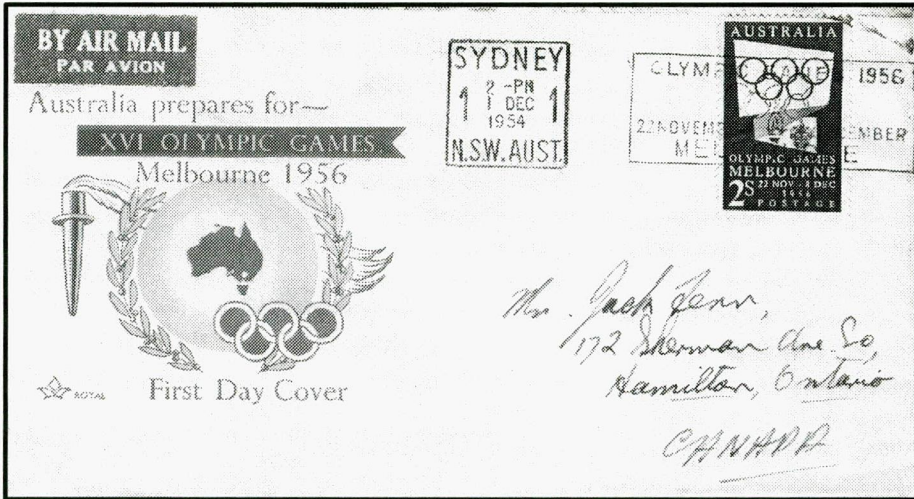
Perth

Very detailed information is available for Perth, thanks to work done by the West Australia Study Group. **3 dies** were allocated, one of which was introduced on 30 November 1954. The intriguing thing is that a fourth die may have been identified. The example below stands out, principally because of the high '8' before 'December'. This is the only example, and the date is illegible. Sight of another copy would be most interesting:



Sydney

Sydney is a challenge: **18 dies** were allocated, and cancels show no number or numbers 1-18. It seems these do not represent different sub-offices, like London E1, E2 etc. in the UK, but machines numbered 1-18. There is thus the same problem of Olympic dies migrating from machine to machine as elsewhere. A lot of examples are available, but I would still welcome seeing more.



Despite the valiant efforts of Tom D'Arcy in particular, we have tracked down no published work detailing these slogans except for Perth. So please send your photocopies to Bob Wilcock, 24 Hamilton Crescent, Brentwood, Essex, CM14 5ES, or e-mail your scans (colour Jpegs for preference, in batches if you have a lot) to bob@towlard.freeserve.co.uk All contributions will be acknowledged in Torch Bearer.

Society of Olympic Collectors Annual General Meeting

Philatex, Horticultural Hall, London
March 2nd 2002 at 10:30 a.m.

**Please try to come along and show your support or
voice your opinions (or just to join us for a coffee and a
chat after the meeting)**

2001 - AN AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC ODYSSEY

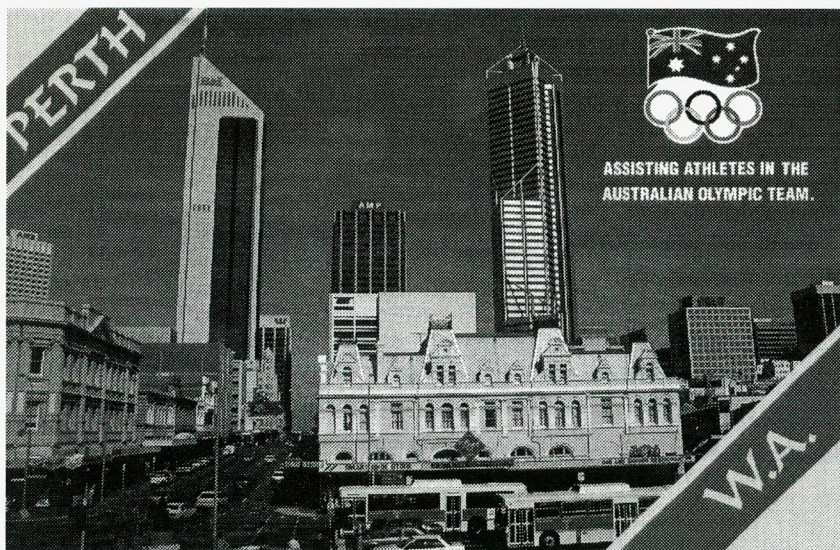
David Buxton.

The original intention was to visit Australia during the 2000 Olympic Games. Considerable effort was put into place to encourage my wife, who wanted to visit her Aunt and Cousin both of whom lived in Perth, to consider the Year 2000 for our visit. "It will take at least 4 years to save up" I said in 1996 and then "We need a goal, something like the Year 2000..." was the next bit of the jigsaw. I knew that any mention of the Olympics would produce a negative response at this stage. The year 2000 was agreed on, and then one of Rennie's friends said "Australia in 2000? Did David say if that was likely to be in the autumn, because the Olympics are on then" Our friends know me too well!

Unfortunately a combination of my employers not allowing me time off in September "You will still be doing the end of the year accounts and the new academic year starts in October" and the eventual cost led us to delay our visit until Easter 2001. In the meantime, Rennie's cousin and her family had moved to Melbourne (sheer joy, I had wondered how I was going to visit MCG and home of the 1956 Games), and then a few months before the Games started, they moved to Sydney – "Plenty of room for you to stay". The cost factor could have been solved. Never mind I thought, it is still within 6 months of the Games and just think of all those postcards that would be issued after the Games. I was well prepared, Bob Farley had given me details of where to look, and gave me a list of what he still needed for his collection, along with the wants list of Tom D'Arcy in Melbourne, Alan Mc Naughton in Queensland, and Brian Hammond, all of whom had contributed their joint knowledge of what had been printed. Bob even gave me a listing of what I needed. In addition I promised Peter Doherty a new member that I would find a few cards for him. The list was in a leather folder, in publisher order, colour coded, serial numbers and descriptions. I dared not return home without filling in more than a few blanks.

We, that is Rennie, Philip (my son) and myself left London Heathrow at 22.15 hrs on 1st April, it was cold, wet and dreary, we arrived in Perth at 1.15 hrs on 3rd April, it was warm, dry and full of promise. After we got some sleep and breakfasted we walked out into the sun - 34 degrees. We started our sightseeing of Perth and I was soon buying postcards to send home. No Olympic cards yet though. I did buy my first Olympic book of the holiday and my first Sydney 2000 Olympic Tie. We decided to walk to the River Swan and have a picnic lunch and there we discovered The Swan Bells, a bell tower built for the Millennium and containing bells from St. Martin in the Field, London as a gift. Rennie likes bells, she collects miniature bells and this was a must. My own interest was increased when I read the list of bell ringers at midnight on 31st December 1999 ringing in the new Millennium, because one of them was Shirley Strickland, the 1956 Gold medallist in the Hurdles. After the visit to the bell tower, we walked towards a few shops on the jetty, "Three hours in Perth and not an Olympic Card" I complained to Rennie.

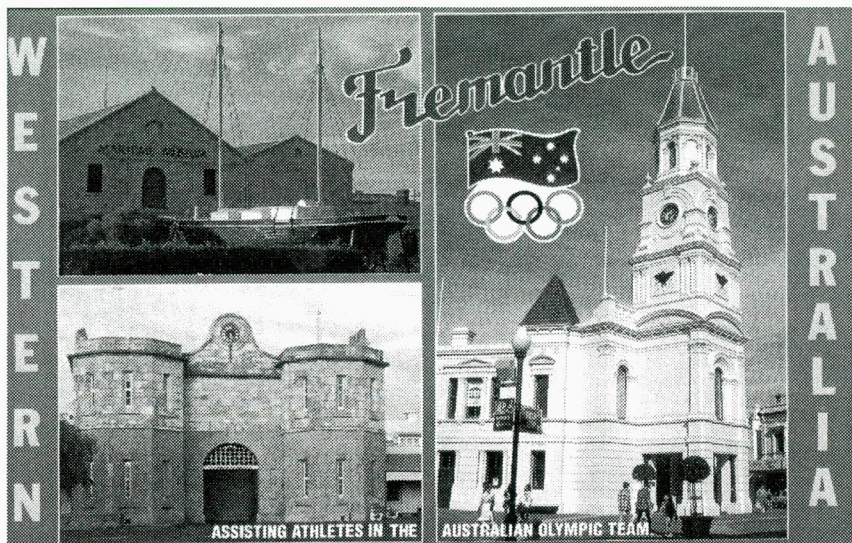
I wished I had said that earlier, as the first shop on the jetty had several view cards of Perth with the words "Assisting Athletes in the Australian Olympic Team" and issued for the 1996 Games. Still it was a start and half a dozen copies of each was purchased.



Our second day in Perth started with a morning coach tour of the City and surrounds, as we drove down one of the streets, I noticed one of the Banks still displaying very large posters of Olympic swimmers - Susie O'Neil, Grant Hackett and Ian Thorpe and made a mental note to revisit the scene. We left the coach and decided to visit St. George's Cathedral. One of the ladies welcoming visitors approached us and we conversed about the Cathedral and our own church in Bicester. We must have been talking for nearly 20 minutes when she asked if we were on holiday or visiting relatives. "Both" I said "and visiting Olympic sites as well". She remarked that she had noticed my tee Olympic tee shirt and that her son had represented Australia in both the 1984 and 1988 Olympics at Water Polo! His name is Richard Pengelley and he is listed as the second name in the team. Australia came 5th in 1984 and 8th in 1988. Unfortunately he was not in Perth at that time, otherwise she would have introduced us, and she even offered to take me to Perry Bank Stadium as I had wanted to see the British Empire Stadium, but sadly we could not make the time as the next two days were going to be spent with Rennie's aunt and uncle and then we would be on our way to Melbourne – but the offer is there for when ever we can go back. After a long walk, and a few wrong turns (I have to maintain a standard of consistency when on SOC business – new readers will have to obtain back numbers of Torch Bearer to appreciate this) we found the Bank and I just had enough photos left on the film in my camera to take a picture or two of each swimmer. No Olympic cards today, but a copy of David Wallechinsky 2000 edition of "The Complete Book of the Olympics" in a book sale.

also visited a stamp and Card shop in London Court. It had a great window display of 1956 tickets, programmes, posters and maps but nothing of interest inside.

Our second day with Rennie's aunt produced some more "Assisting Athletes in the Australian Olympic Team" postcards showing views of Perth and of Fremantle. During the course of the day, Rennie's uncle and I established a common interest in books, and so we visited the local market "Where a very good second hand book dealer has a stall. It was very good I bought a novel "Not for Glory, Not for Gold" on the attempts of Bannister, Landley and Santee in breaking the 4 minute Mile which had me enthralled on the plane journey to Melbourne, as well as two other Olympic and Commonwealth Games Books.



On arrival at our hotel in Melbourne, I had to make two important telephone calls, the first was to Rennie's cousins eldest son, Ben, who had stayed on in Melbourne when his parents moved to Sydney, to arrange a get together and the second was to SOC member Tom D'Arcy who was going to meet me at a Collectors Fair in Melbourne at "Which at least one postcard dealer will be there". The venue was Hawthorn Town Hall and I duly met up with Tom and three of his grandchildren. The Postcard dealer was expecting Tom as he had a few items put aside for him, one or two of which were new to our listing of Sydney cards, and I was able to buy some excellent cards as well. We left the Fair in the early afternoon, had some lunch and Tom then drove me to his house where I was able to look at his 1956 and 2000 card collection in awe. Tom's wife made some tea and Tom gave me some memorabilia that he had duplicates of including some free cards. I gave him some of the cards that I had already obtained for him with the promise of more when I got to Sydney. Tom and his wife then drove me back to my hotel pointing out some of the 1956 sites on the way.

Rennie and Philip had visited the local market and been to see the sea. We met up with Ben and his girl friend Jody, that evening and I recounted the journey by Taxi to Hawthorn Town Hall. The Taxi driver had great trouble finding Hawthorn on his map and then on arrival, he asked me what the Town Hall looked like. I asked Ben and Jody (in jest) if Hawthorn Town Hall was that difficult to find, they replied that they lived opposite it. I then told them about the fair and that most of it was toys and collector cards and mainly Beanie Babies, at that Jody then said that she collected Beanie babies and could I give her details of the next fair! Ben had chosen a pub with a wide screen TV which was going to show the English F.A. Cup semi final, just in case we found conversation hard going – we last saw Ben when he was 5 years old, 20 years previously. We did not look at the TV once, as we joked all evening.

The next day included a coach tour of Melbourne in the morning and a visit in the afternoon/evening to Philip Island to see the Penguins coming out of the sea at Sunset. On the way we saw Kangaroos and a Wombat at a Reservation and Koala Bears at a Conservation park. I also bought a couple more Olympic Books in another book sale and another “Assisting Athletes in the Australian Olympic team” this time with a Melbourne view. Our final day in Melbourne saw me making the trek to Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) while Rennie and Philip went shopping in the City. Expectations were high as Tom had found some double length postcards of the Opening and Closing ceremonies of the Sydney Games and we knew that there were more in the set. On arrival I decided to book my place on the one-hour tour rather than the twenty-minute tour, after all I had come a long way. My decision was to be the right one. Our guide introduced himself and told us (twelve in the group) that it was his privilege to take us around the MCG. He then asked us to introduce ourselves and say where we came from. I was on his immediate left so he turned to me first “ My name is David and I come from Oxford in England” “Oh no” he replied “ My first tour of the day, and I’ve got a Pom, any other Poms” he asked, there was no response. “ I’m sorry mate, but you’re on your own.” Then he started, “Australia beat England in the first test here and the bails were burnt and that is the start of the Ashes” and turning towards me and “100 Test Matches later you will not guess the result” “ Yes, I said same result same margin, despite Derek Randall” I replied. “Oh an educated Pom” he retorted. “I did say that I came from Oxford” I chipped in. He turned his attention to the Olympic Honours Board and spoke about the 1956 Games. “This is what I came for,” I said, wearing another Olympic Tee Shirt.

“There we are, 3000 Meter Steeplechase, Chris Brasher, GBR”. I announced with pride. “Tell me David,” the guide asked “You’re eyes are younger than mine, is that the only GBR up there?”

“Yes, “ I replied “ You know this board better than I do, I expected to see more Australian athletes, up there” As quick as a flash he responded “ Well we won a lot more in the Pool as well”. I expect by now most of the other tourists were getting a little tired of this double act, but we were having a great time. We were allowed to touch the turf with our big toes, “ I am not allowed to let you go on the grass” he said,

his we did even though there were hundreds of Children on the field in an organised Sporting School. I asked him which of the seating stands were in use in 1956 and he pointed out the position of the Olympic Flame and where the finish line had been. In the members pavilion there were pictures to be seen of cricket games, which sparked off more debating such as "The first game in Australia, the English did not think that we could play the game so we had 17 players and you had 11, do you know what the result was?"

"I expect you won that one" I conceded, "No he replied, you did. You can beat us when we have 17 players but not when we have 11" he chuckled, "Unless it is at Healeyville in 1981" I could not help myself. "Ah but they were great games" he conceded. Another picture was of the First Tied Test between Australia and West Indies, I confided that I had listened to the finish on the radio while my mother was shouting at me to get out of bed and get to school. "I was pleased to hear the first drawn test but sorry that Australia had not won as I was more familiar with the Australian players" The guide gave me the great complement " You're not such a bad Pom". The tour carried on into the Long Room, where I was informed that I could take a picture. The Guide told me that he had taken a picture in the Long Room at Lords, after being told that it was not allowed, and then had the camera confiscated. The condition of taking a picture at MCG was that I went to Lords and told them that I was allowed to take the picture in the Long Room at MCG. As you can see the tour went well over its time slot! I then visited the Cricket Museum and spent a lot of time in the Olympic Museum as you can guess. I did not obtain the cards in the set that I had set out to do so, but I did find a number of cards not on our listings.

The next day, we hired a car and drove to Sydney, stopping overnight at Canberra. A planned short visit to the War Memorial which houses a marvellous Military Museum (history is another of my passions) was aborted after 2 hours by Rennie who was getting anxious to get to Sydney and meeting her Cousin. A visit to the gift shop produced a number of Military cards for my collection. "Have you got a lot of friends, or do you collect these cards?" I was asked by the assistant. I told her I collected them and as proof showed her the list that Bob had produced "These are just a few of the Olympic cards I am after" She was most interested and impressed but of course did not have any Olympic cards, and nor did I expect any.

Our first full day in Sydney (Good Friday) started off with a ride on a ferry, which took us under Sydney Harbour Bridge and into view of the Opera House. It was even more magnificent than all those holiday programmes made out. We landed at The Rocks, and the postcard hunting started in earnest. Both Debbie (Rennie's cousin) and her husband Tony could not believe that I wanted to stop at every postcard rack at every shop, and when I produced the master list it was too much. I do not think that Tony ever did appreciate that the cards had to have an Olympic message or image on it, but by the third or fourth shop, Debbie was hooked. She was pulling cards out of the racks quicker than I and when she found her first card not on the list, you would have thought she had won the lottery.

She had not, but I, Bob and everyone else nearly had. There were still banners around the harbour representing each Olympic host city and for the first time I could imagine what it would have been like to have been here at the time of the Games.

Our second day saw a return visit to the centre of Sydney. This time by train, as this would be our regular journey. Tony worked near the railway station and would drop us on his way to work and collect us on his leaving work. I was disappointed that there were very few Olympic cards to be found that day. Debbie took us to the site of one of the Official Olympic Stores, but it had closed down, undeterred we looked around and found a table in one of the shopping malls, selling off the remaining clothing items. Another Tie and Tee shirt were purchased at very little cost.

On Easter Monday we all visited "The Great Australian Muster" which was the theme of The Royal Sydney Easter Show held at Homebush. We saw the outside of the Swimming Pool and Stadium Australia. Tony asked if I wanted to go across the road for a closer look. I declined and told him that I would come back for a whole day visit and go on the tours, and today was going to be a family day. It was apart from nearly buying a "Show Bag" of Olympic goodies. "Show Bags" are a great tradition at the Easter Show, you buy a bag which can have nearly any theme inside it that you can think of – Chocolate bars, cartoon characters, magazines, perfumes, Coca Cola to name a few. One of the arenas was devoted to Sport. The Rugby Union World Cup was on display as were a number of photographs of Sport events including the 2000 Olympics. They were all framed and all expensive. The evening performance, which included the best of the breeds of animals, Carriage racing, Polo Match, Stunt Saloon Car racing and a tableau of the 100 years of Australia's Federation, concluded with a magnificent Firework display. All of this was in the stadium used for the Olympic Baseball Competition!

Tuesday was return to work for Tony and Debbie, so Rennie, Philip and I returned to the City Centre. I had the address of The Sydney Stamp Centre and found the premises very quickly. The shop however had closed just before Easter, as the owner was selling more material over the Internet than in the shop. I telephoned to ask if I could view the material, but it was still in the packing cases. I had not had any joy with the specialist shops. We visited Darling Harbour, where I found a lot of cards not on the list, which lifted my spirits and we did a lot of sightseeing. On the television that evening there was a news item that there had been an auction in Perth of Shirley Strickland's Olympic Medals and personal items obtained at the Olympics. I wished that it had been held two weeks earlier when I might have been able to obtain a copy of the catalogue or even had a chance of viewing the items. So near and yet so far. We decided to do our own thing on Wednesday, which meant that Rennie and Philip went to the beach at Manly and I returned to Homebush.

My first visit was to The NSW Hall of Fame, which had pictures of all the leading sportspersons going back over the years. Names from my childhood, Cricket, Rugby and Olympics jumped out at me.

found the facts amazing; a number of stars that I associated with non Olympic Sports had represented Australia at the Olympics. There were no postcards for sale here and so I moved onto the Swimming Pool. The builders were already taking down the wings of the Pool, which had provided additional seating, and I was impressed with the Gold Medals in the entrance with names of prominent Australian Swimmers. My first big disappointment of the day was in the gift shop. There were no Postcards of the Pool! General street scenes of Sydney but nothing Olympic. I decided to ask the assistant who proved to be very unhelpful. "We have not got any".

"Where may I find them?" I asked, hoping that she was going to tell me that there was an Olympic Shop, with cards galore.

"There are not any, we have destroyed them all"

"But they are collectable" I said, " I have come all the way from England to buy some"

"We are nothing to do with the Olympics now, the name has changed, so we have destroyed the cards. We are having new ones printed, and I do not know when they are coming" was the final comment.

I spent some time taking in the atmosphere of the Swimming pool, but with the seating being pulled out, it was hard to visualise what I had seen on the Television. Tom D'Arcy had previously had the same disappointment regarding the cards being destroyed, but a few months later he was able to send copies of the newly printed cards.

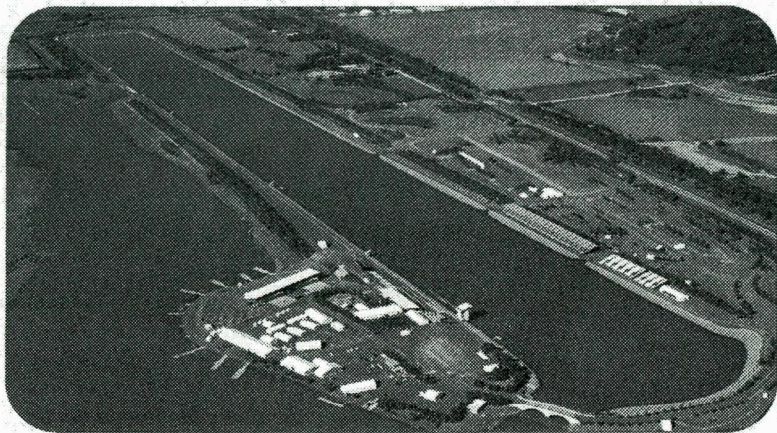
The next call was Stadium Australia, impressive and majestic. I decided that after the success of the MCG Tour, I had to buy a ticket for the long tour. The ticket sales lady must have noticed my (yet another) Olympic tee shirt. "Have you come to see the Track?" She asked. I replied that I had. " I hope that you won't be disappointed" she replied, "The track was pulled up the day after the Paralympics and they are widening the field area".

I was not unduly worried as I entered, but when we got inside, Stadium Australia was like a building site. There were only three of us on the tour and we were all from England. The guide must have decided that he was outnumbered and the rapport of the MCG tour was not to be repeated. In fact the tour was a very factual information with plenty of statistics, such as the number of miles of roadway, the number of gallons of water used to flush the toilets and so on. There obviously was not the history and the sporting events to retell. We visited the changing rooms, had a photographs taken in the stadium and another on the podium. The athletic track was re-laid on the training track next door, and the field was being enlarged for Rugby Union, Rugby League, Australian Rules Football and Soccer. It was also intended to play one day Cricket Internationals.

After the tour, I found the shop, well a stall really. Olympic Cards were here, but they were all on my list and all previously bought before my visit. I found the series that I was trying to complete at MCG and the same cards were missing here. The young lady assistant must have been suspicious of me. I was picking up cards and putting them back, referring to my list. "Can I help you?" she said rather weary of me. I told her that I was looking for Olympic cards and that I had a checklist of wants. She looked at the list, well page one and said, "Were that number of cards produced for the Olympics?" I then turned over all the remaining pages and added that I had been able to purchase cards in the past few weeks, not on the list." She was very impressed, and confessed to being a

postcard collector herself. She had no idea that so many cards had been produced for all the Olympics. "These are just for Sydney 2000," I explained. She was staggered and then when she realised that I was buying for at least six collectors, she was really sorry that she could not find me any new cards. We spoke about postcard collecting and The Society of Olympic Collectors and for a few minutes, I thought that I had enrolled a new member. I then visited the Mobile store in the Park and the local hotel, but no new cards to be found. I could not believe that I had visited the main sites in Homebush and not found any cards on our wants list.

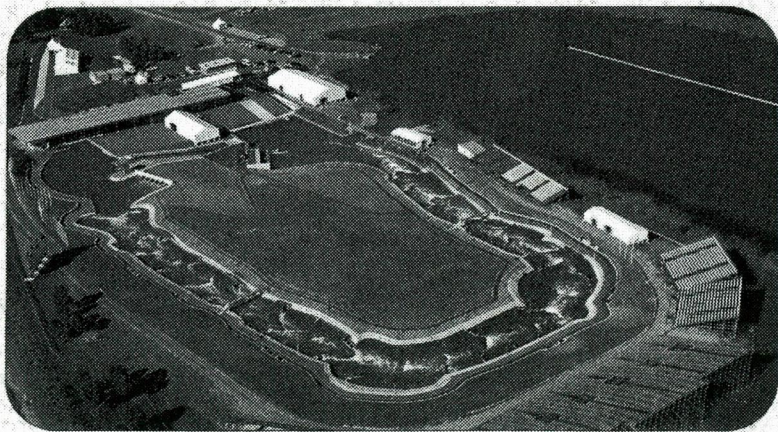
I decided on a change of tactics. I had seen most of what I wanted too at Homebush and decided that I would catch the train to Penrith. My original plan was to visit Penrith on the Friday, but I decided it would be better to spend the last full day with Rennie and Philip. I have been a long time Rowing fan and like most of us, I had watched Steve Redgrave win his fifth Gold Medal. I also had other reasons for going. Andrew Lyndsay had won a Gold Medal in the Eights and he had been a student at the College that I work at, also Bob had recommended that I visit the main Post Office and had identified a few shops worth visiting. On arriving at Penrith, I checked the train times, as I had to be back at Tony's pick up point at 18.05 pm hopefully meeting up with Rennie and Philip on the train. Time was not on my side, so a quick visit to the shops and Post Office and then onto the Rowing Centre. Unfortunately I had found the wrong shops and Post office to those recommended by Bob. I decided to catch a taxi as my request for directions to the lake was either met by "I don't know" or "It's a long way". The taxi journey was longer than I expected, about 3 miles, and I was trying to retrace the journey in my mind. The taxi driver asked why I wanted to go to the Rowing centre, as there was nothing there. On arrival, I asked if there was a local bus, "No" he replied. I asked if I could have the telephone number of the taxi firm to ring for another taxi. "There is no telephone box and when do you want one as there is about half an hours waiting time?" I looked at my watch and realised that I only had about half an hour before I needed to get back to the station. The driver asked me again why I wanted to be at the Rowing Centre and was I sure that this was the right place. I said, "This is where the Olympic Rowing was held," the taxi driver agreed. "Well, one of my students won the Gold Medal in the Eights and I have come to see the venue" I exaggerated a little. Suddenly the taxi driver was all-attentive. One of my students had won a Gold; looking back I think he must have thought that I had coached him. How long did I want to look around for? He could wait up to fifteen minutes for me and he would charge the smallest amount of waiting time. I decided that this was the best I could hope for and so set off to the Rowing Course. It was just like I remembered from television, minus the spectator stands. I re ran the races through my mind, and unlike the feeling in the morning, the atmosphere was there. I took many photos, and returned to the taxi after 10 minutes. The Taxi driver was all for taking me to the Canoe White Water course, but time was running out and his meter was running up. On the journey back the taxi driver was telling me all about the people he had driven to the Games and as I left him, I had a strong suspicion that I was going to be included in his future tales.



Sydney International Regatta Centre

PENRITH LAKES
SYDNEY - AUSTRALIA

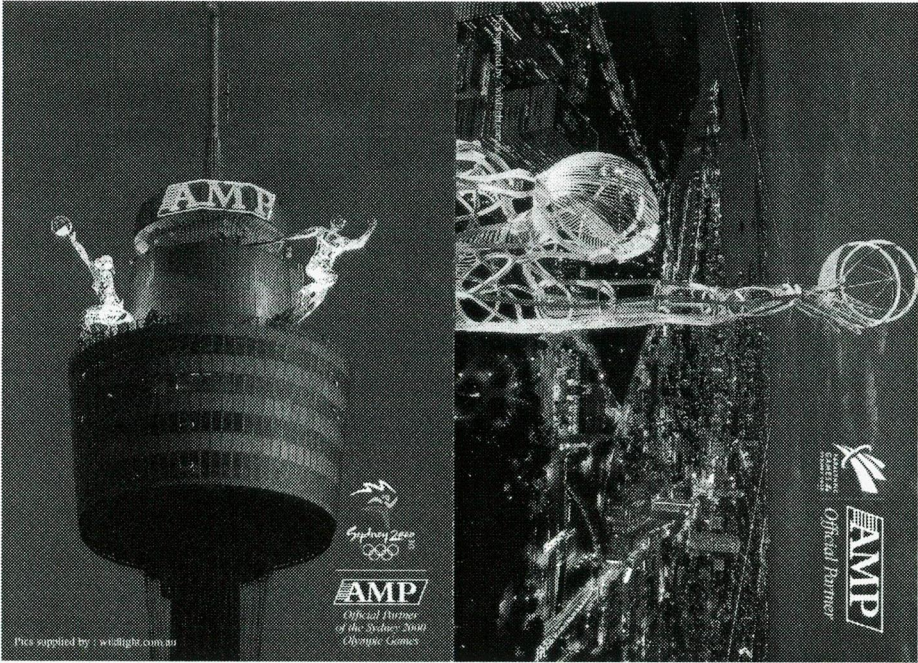
Two postcards showing the Penrith Olympic venues. Part of a series published by BARTEL. Coincidentally, Tom D'Arcy's persistent contacts with the publishers came to fruition at the same time as our visit - Tom received cards by mail, I found the cards around the Sydney area.



Penrith Whitewater Stadium

PENRITH LAKES
SYDNEY - AUSTRALIA

I caught the train before the one on which Rennie and Philip were on so both Tony and myself were on the station to greet them. I reflected that I had seen three major Olympic venues and I had not bought one postcard. The last day but one saw a return to Darling Harbour and Philip and I did the "Bridge Climb" a great experience, with plenty of funny stories, interesting facts and great views. Our final full day included visiting another Olympic Store, which was closing down. All the postcards were boxed up, and most of the items left were not tempting enough to me. Our main visit was to the AMP Tower and I viewed the collection of Olympic Torches. As we waited to ascend to the observation tower, we noticed that one by one the lifts were not working and by the time we wanted to come down, there was only one out of five lifts working. The queue was right around the Tower. On the viewing platform I found some new cards of the AMP tower with the Olympic Sculptures, which I was very pleased with and then my final Olympic item, a three-part postcard of the AMP Tower. SOC member, Chris Turner had obtained a set for me, when he attended the Games, and I was the only one, out of the six that I was buying for, that had a set. A few visits were made to the information counter to pick up a couple of sets. The cards were being folded by the assistant, as fast as visitors, including me, were taking them. "You are not going up again," said an embarrassed Rennie, "No " I replied and turned to Philip and asked him to get a couple of sets for his "Old Dad". I managed to get enough sets for all those who wanted one.



My final Olympic act was to take a photograph or two of the blue line marking the Marathon Course which went past the top of Tony and Debbie's road, had I been there in September, the runners would have passed within 100 meters of their house!

The holiday had combined sightseeing, visiting family and my hobby of Olympic Collecting. It had been very successful and enjoyable with plenty of those gaps filled on the master list and some interesting new cards not listed. The Olympic memories that stood out were the MCG Tour, the day spent with Tom and finding that I was speaking to the mother of an Olympic Water Polo team member in the Cathedral at Perth. Some months after our return home, we heard that Ben and Jody had got engaged. "Any chance of a return visit when they get married?" "Of course" I thought, hopefully it will be in 2006 at the same time that Melbourne are hosting the Commonwealth Games!

CANADA'S OLYMPIC HORSES 1984 - 1988

Did you know that **Kingsway Skoal** has an Olympic Gold Medal?

I didn't until I came across a press release issued by Canada Post to announce the block of 4 equestrian stamps issued on 2 June 1999:

"Born in 1983, **Kingsway Skoal** was bred ... by Vern Franklin of Bonnyville, Alberta. The bucking horse first gained notice at the **1988 Olympics in Calgary**, where he was awarded a Gold Medal for his performance."

I was as puzzled as no doubt you are. Where did a horse fit into the Winter Olympics?

A quick look at Vallechinsky showed that one of the other horses in the block, **Big Ben**, and rider **Ian Millar** had competed in the Prix des Nations (Team Jumping) at Los Angeles in 1984 and Seoul in 1988, being the best horse on the Canadian team which came fourth each time. In no reference book



could I find what **Kingsway Skoal** had been doing at Calgary.

Finally I went back to the press release. There, the French text explained that it was a special Gold Medal awarded in the Rodeo that was one of the events in the cultural programme supporting the Games. Mystery solved!

REVIEW OF MAGAZINES WITH OLYMPIC INTEREST

JOURNAL OF SPORTS PHILATELY.

Volume 40 Number 2, has on its front cover a copy of the reverse of the SOC Henley Postcard, signed by the members of SOC and AFCOS and posted with the special postmark from our meeting in Henley last September. The President's message includes details of Olympex 2002, which is being held from January 15th until February 28th at the Salt Lake City and County Building. An article on the availability of philatelic material relating to the candidature bids for 2008 reveals that whilst there is plenty of material from Beijing, especially since they won the nomination to host the 2008 Games, there is very little from the other cities. An example is given of Toronto, where despite much searching and receiving one bid committee cover, the only postal used item was a meter used by the Toronto City Hall. Further investigation revealed that in order to speed up the mail, the postal staff did not set the meter to include the publicity graphic. Hence the lack of material, the author of the article did in fact obtain a few copies when one of the machines was undergoing repairs. There appears to be even less material from Istanbul and Osaka.

Other articles include the second instalment of Wisden's Five Greatest Cricketers of the Century, postal items from the 8th IAAF World Athletic Championships, the use of the Canadian 1972 World Figure Skating stamp by the Canadian peace keeping force in Vietnam and the Kosice Marathon.

Available from Margaret A. Jones, 5310 Lindenwood Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63109 U.S.A.

JOURNAL OF OLYMPIC HISTORY

Volume 9-issue number 3 of the Official publication of the International Society of Olympic Historians, opens with an article on the legacy of past President Samaranch, comparing the position of the IOC in the 21 years of his leadership. Baron Coubertin is the subject of two articles, the first is on his death and burial and the second on his observations to the 1928 B.O.A. Official Report.

The claim of Zus Braun the Dutch 1928 Olympic backstroke champion, that she was stabbed in the leg by some Americans, sitting behind her, which prevented her taking part in the 1932 Games are reported in another article. The choice of John Mark to carry the 1948 Olympic Torch caused some controversy at the time and the story of John Mark is retold. The final article is on the Jesse Owens museum in Oakville, Alabama.

Volume 10 is a Commemorative Issue to celebrate the first 10 years of the Society. Articles include Conan Doyle and the Olympics. It first of all dispels the legend that the author of Sherlock Holmes was one of the officials that helped Dorando Pietri over the

finish of the Marathon in 1908, and follows the campaign led by Conan Doyle to restore the fortunes of Britain at the Olympic Games after their poor performance in 1912 at Stockholm. The 1906 Games in Athens was the subject of much discussion and the correspondence and debates that led to the "Intermediate Games" is reported.

The story of the Olympic Rings and their use up to the present day is well documented as are biographies on Ernest Ravenstein of the National Olympian Association; Elias Katz a Finnish Olympic Athletic Champion and contemporary of Paavo Nurmi; Aileen Riggan Soule the American 1956 Gold Medallist in the Springboard Diving competition; and Tom Richards a member of Australia's 1908 Olympic Gold Medal Rugby team.

Available from Ian Buchanan, The Old Fighting Cocks, Burgh-next-Aylsham, Norwich. NR11 6TP

ADDITIONS TO THE SOCIETY LIBRARY

Journal of Sports Philately	Vol. 40 No 2	November - December 2001	160g
Phila-Sport (Magazine of UIFOS The Italian Sports and Olympic Group)	No 39	August - September 2001	230g
Podium (Magazine of the Argentine Sports and Olympic Group <i>In Spanish</i>)	No 42	October 2001	60g
Bulletin of the O. S. P. C. Berlin (<i>In German</i>)	No 2	2001	60g
Olympsport (Magazine of the Czech Sports Thematic Group).	No 1 (109)	2001	30g
	No 2 (110)	2001	30g
	No 3 (111)	2001	30g
Olympic Review	No 40	August - September 2001	300g
	No 41	October - November 2001	300g
		Olympic Day Run, supplement to Oct-Nov 2001	275g
Themescene	No 65	December 2001	60g
A. B. P. S. News	Volume 8, No 4	October 2001	60g
The New Stamp Mail (Forerunner of A. B. P. S. News)	Volume 1, No 1	November 1993	20g

SOC SOUVENIRS

Stocks of the following souvenirs are still available, however some are very limited (less than 5 copies), please use the order slip on your subscription form.

SOC Postcard Number 1	1986 Much Wenlock cancel: The 100th Annual Olympian Games		£1.50
SOC Cover Number 1	1986 Much Wenlock cancel: The 100th Annual Olympian Games		£1.50
SOC Postcard Number 2	1988, Dorando cancel: Spring Stampex cancel: National Postal Museum Olympic Exhibition		£1.25 £1.25
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