



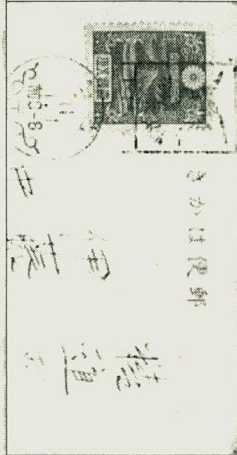
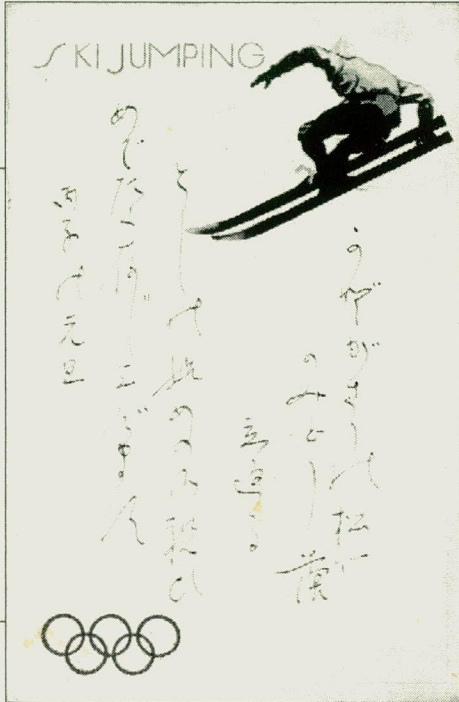
TORCH BEARER



Sapporo 1940 New Year Greeting card.



- 1924
- 1928
- 1932**
- 1936**
- 1940**
- 1944
- 1948**
- 1952
- 1956**
- 1960
- 1964
- 1968**
- 1972
- 1976**
- 1980
- 1984
- 1988
- 1992**
- 1994
- 1998
- 2002
- 2006**
- 2010
- 2014



- 1896
- 1900
- 1904
- 1908**
- 1912
- 1916
- 1920**
- 1924
- 1928
- 1932
- 1936
- 1940**
- 1944
- 1948**
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- 1976**
- 1980
- 1984
- 1988
- 1992
- 1996
- 2000
- 2004
- 2008**
- 2012**



SOCIETY of OLYMPIC COLLECTORS

SOCIETY of OLYMPIC COLLECTORS

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



YOUR COMMITTEE

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P. R. O.	Andy Potter andywithsarah@waitrose.com

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.

VOLUME 23

SEPTEMBER 2006

ISSUE 3

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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 for the current year 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.

All applications should be made to the Secretary.

Subscription rates for 2006 are:

U.K. £12.00; Europe, £14.00 (€ 20, \$US 30).

Outside Europe, £19.00 (€ 30, \$US 35, \$AU 45)

Acceptable forms of payment: Sterling, \$US, \$Australian or € currency notes; Sterling cheques; **PayPal - in £ sterling**.

FRONT PAGE

Secretary's Jottings

Hello there! Just thought I would put fingers to keys and have a chat. Firstly, welcome to our new members – there are a few of you out there. We also have a new committee member, co-opted in June. Andy Potter has agreed to take on the job of Public Relations Officer, so if you see adverts or articles about us, it will be down to him.

Whilst on the question of publicity, do any of you ever give talks or displays on Olympics to your local philatelic club? If so let us know about it. We can tell other members. Anyone win any prizes? Who knows, maybe there will be talks or displays of Olympic material in clubs the length and breadth of the UK, or even elsewhere, bearing in mind our International membership. Don't forget either, that if anyone sees an article on Olympics that does not originate from us, we would be happy to receive a copy with publication details, for the records.

John and Betty Miller have both been members of our committee in the past. We were pleased to see that they have both been made life members of the British Thematic Association for their work in that area. Many congratulations to you both.

Some of us enjoy the auctions, finding items of interest, and bidding, sometimes successfully. Other members have joined the International packet, and receive copies of items for sale. Both avenues might find an illusive cover, a new postcard, something that takes the fancy. Unfortunately, both of these can only continue to be effective and interesting if the organisers receive sufficient material of reasonable quality to offer. Can you help? This might be just the place to put your duplicates or the odd cover that you do not know why you brought it, into.

We have less than 2 years until Beijing in 2008, and then 2010 and 2012. The time will go by very quickly. We will try to commemorate as many events as possible, with maybe SmartStamps somewhere. 2008 is the centenary of the 1908 England games and also 60 years from our games of 1948. Watch this space.

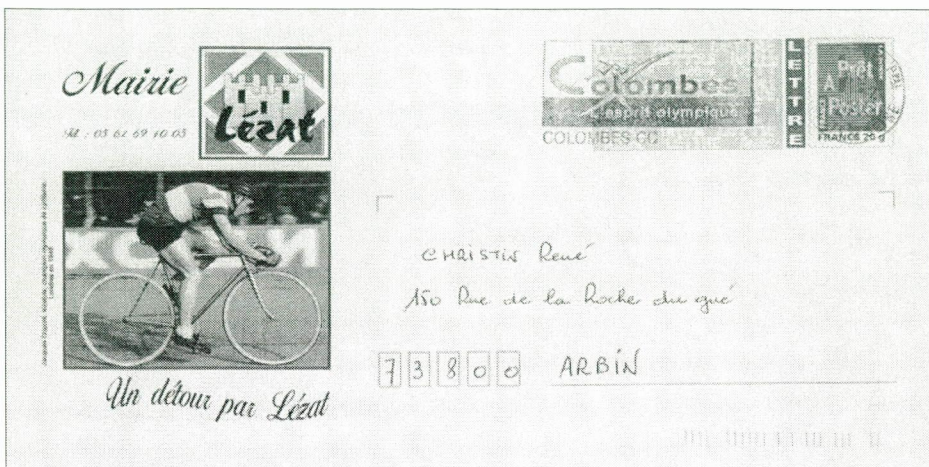
To close, please remember that this is your Society. Let us have your thoughts and ideas – you do not have to wait for the end of year form to talk to us!

Remember the Society auction when disposing of your duplicate material. - The Auction Manager would be pleased to receive your lots.

Take the opportunity to reach fellow Olympic collectors

London 1948 Cycling Gold: Jacques Dupon

Bob Wilcock, with thanks to René Christin



The winner of the 1948 1,000 metres time trial in Wembley Stadium was 20 year old Jacques Dupont from Lézat, a tiny village just south of Toulouse in France. He took gold in 1 minute 13.5 seconds.

In 2005 the Mairie (Town Hall) of Lézat sponsored a pre-paid envelope ("PAP" in French) with a photo of the village's most famous citizen. The photo is not of the Olympic race, but the caption reads "Jacques Dupont, lézatois, champion olympique de cyclisme, Londres en 1948". The envelope illustrated is postmarked "Colombes L'esprit olympique". Colombes was of course where the main stadium was for 1924, and a potential venue for Paris 2012.

Jacques Dupont was French Pursuit Champion in 1948 and second in the World Pursuit Championships that year. He went on to win the prestigious Paris-Tours race twice, in 1951 and 1955, and was road-race Champion of France in 1954. The local cycling club is named after him, and, no doubt in his honour, a stage of the Tour de France started at Lézat in 2005.

For more information go to www.lezat.fr/tourdefrance.html

Remember the Society auction when disposing of your duplicate material. - The Auction Manager would be pleased to receive your lots.

Take the opportunity to reach fellow Olympic collectors

1920 ANTWERP OLYMPIC GAMES

Machine Cancels - *Addendum*

by Laurentz Jonker

Following the reprint of Laurentz's article on page 67, Laurentz provides an update of his research.

1920 BELGIAN OLYMPIC MACHINE CANCELS

Antwerpen / Anvers 6

Additional Variety:

D.a. 26.VIII.1920: year missing at hours: "8-9", "21-22", "23-24".

Bruxelles / Brussel 1

Variety A., previously listed must be 14.VII.1920 (*not* 14.VI.1920).

Additional varieties:

D. 1.9.1920 without month / 5. ? .1920 - it is not clear if the date cancel had month: "9" or "IX". Probably "IX".

E. IX.1.1920 instead of 1.IX.1920

Bruxelles (Midi) / Brussel (Zuid)

Known dates of use extended to: 22.VI.1920 - 24.VII.1920

Bruxelles (Q.L.) / Brussel (L.W.)

Correction:

"Q.L." = "Quartier Leopold", not "*Quartier Latin*" (French)

"L.W." = "Leopold Wijk", not "*Latijnse Wijk*" (Flemish)

Bruxelles (Nd) / Brussel (Nd)

Additional varieties:

D. 2.VIII.1920: inverted day and month at hour "22-23".

E. II.VII.1920: day with roman figures.

Charleroy 1

Known dates of use extended to: 22.VI.1920 - 27.IX.1920

Variety extended:

B. 26.VII.1920: inverted hour "14-15", "20-21"

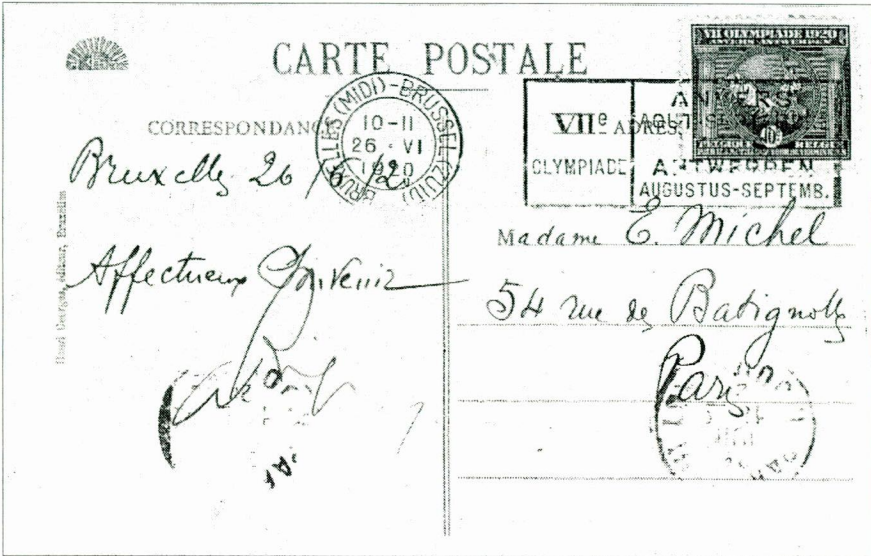
Gent / Gand 3

Known dates of use extended to: 23.VI.1920 - 23.IX.1920

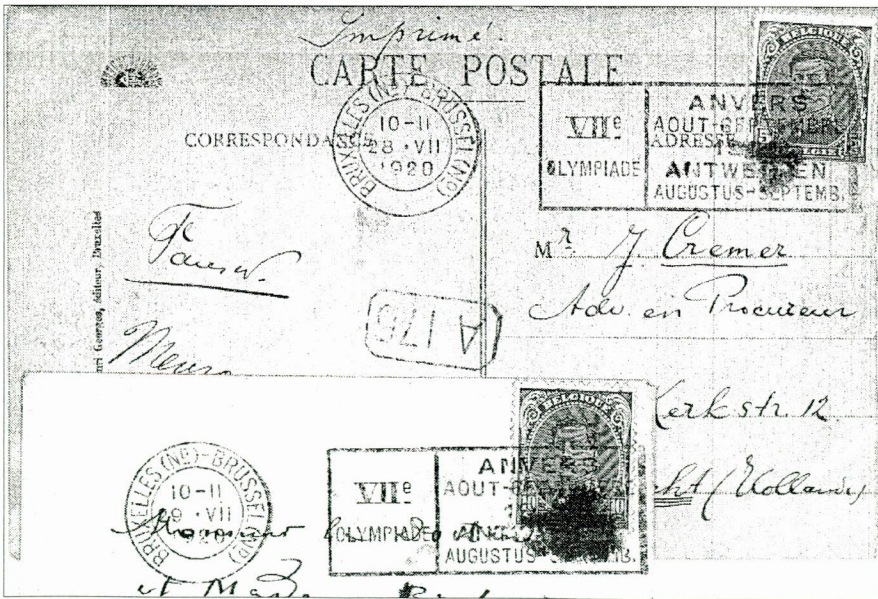
Liege / Luik 1

Additional variety:

B. 31.VII. 920 without "1" of "1920". It is not clear if this is a variety or an incomplete cancel impression.



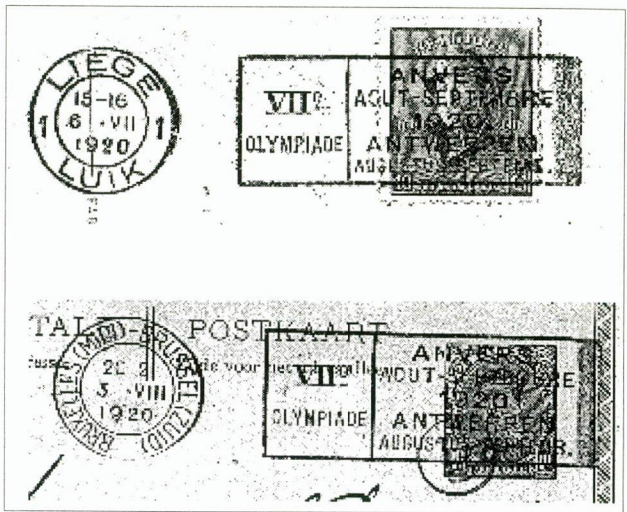
Bruxelles (Midi) Olympic machine cancel dated 26.VI.1920 - (Bruxelles (Midi) was not previously illustrated).



Brussel (ND) Olympic machine cancels showing progressive 'black spot' noted on page 69.

Examples of Liege and Bruxelles (Midi) machine cancellations showing a wide black vertical bar at the right.

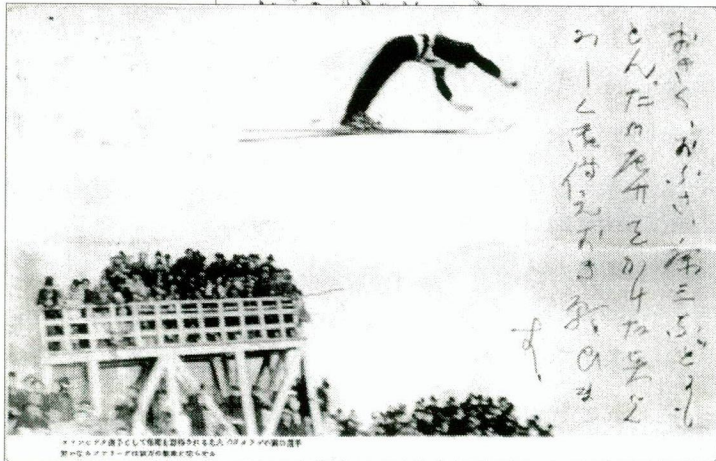
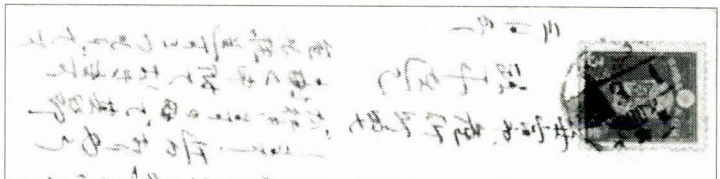
This is probably the result of a 'back-strike, or 'kick' by the machine.



SAPPORO 1940 - Two postcards

From M. Ichimura

See also front cover.



Propaganda postcard.

オリンピック選手として帰郷を期待される北大OBクラブの関口選手
鮮やかなツアラーズは数々の観衆を惚らせる

Hokkaido Univ. OB Club Sekiguto
Ski athlete for the 1940 Olympic
Winter Games.

1940 TOKYO - FURTHER MATERIAL

Mr. Masaaki Ichimura has again provided material for the cancelled Games of the XII Olympiad to be illustrated and recorded.

**THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE
OF THE XIITH OLYMPIAD TOKYO 1940**
MANTETSU BLDG, TORANOMON, AKASAKA, TOKYO.

Organising Committee cover used with 4 Sen stamp.
The addressee is an I.O.C. member in the U.S.A.

THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE
OF THE XIITH OLYMPIAD TOKYO 1940
MANTETSU BLDG TORANOMON, AKASAKA, TOKYO.



M. Frederic René Coudert,
2, Rector street,
New York City,

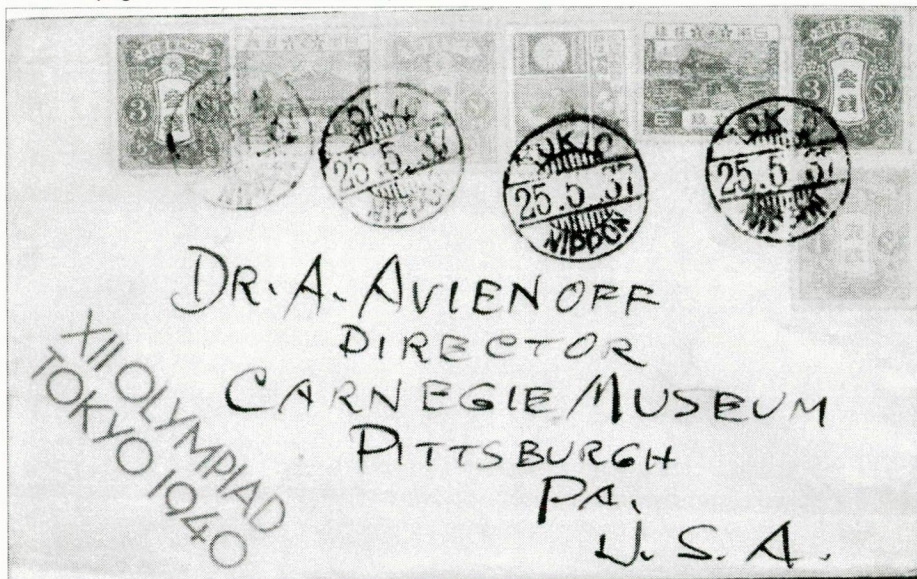
The Games of the XIIth. Olympiad awarded to Tokyo, should have been held in 1940 - the 2600th. Anniversary of the founding of the Japanese Empire, but the Japanese-China War disrupted plans.

The Japanese Cabinet officially suspended the Games on July 15, 1938.

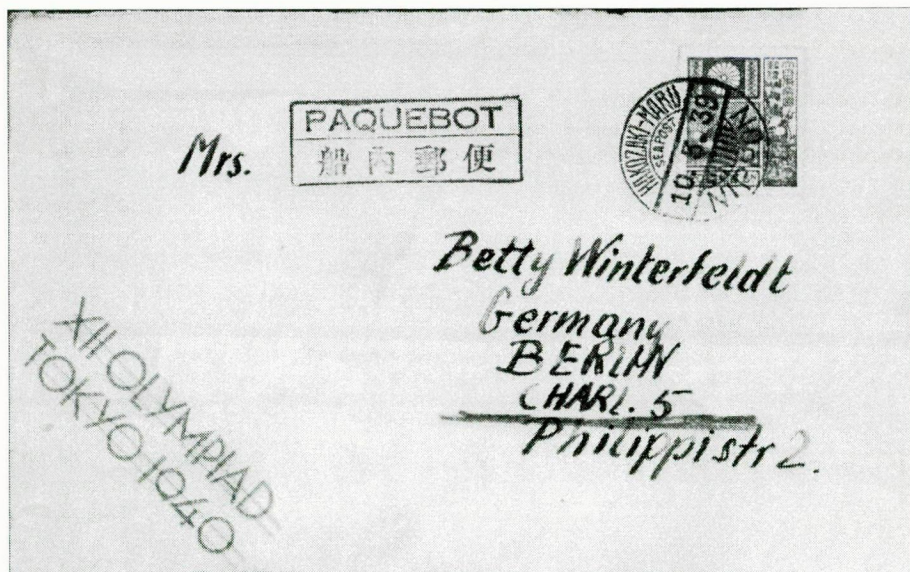
Right: Commemorative postal stationery card used with a special cancel for the 2600th. Anniversary of the founding of the Japanese Empire with a cachet for the XIIth. Olympic Games.



N Y K Propaganda covers - further examples:



Cover with Olympic text mailed to the U.S.A. 25th. May, 1937 from Tokyo.



Cover with 'struck through Olympic text mailed to Germany, 10th March, 1939 from S.S. Hakozaiki Maru, with boxed Paquetbot cancel.

N.Y.K Line

Envelope from "The Travel Bulletin" N. Y. K. Monthly Magazine, mailed to Hamburg, Germany. Franked by red, Post Paid cancel, the envelope is printed with the promotional text 'XII OLYMPIAD TOKYO 1940'.

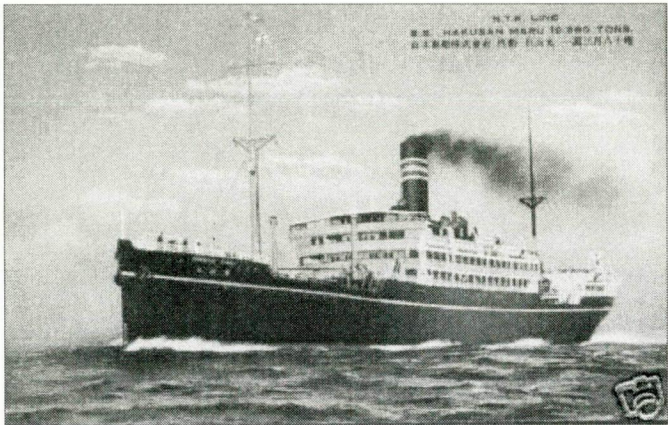


NYK Postcards with Olympic separation text

An update of the postcards cards have been reported, with further illustrations: (Illustrations are on the pages listed or *** in this issue).

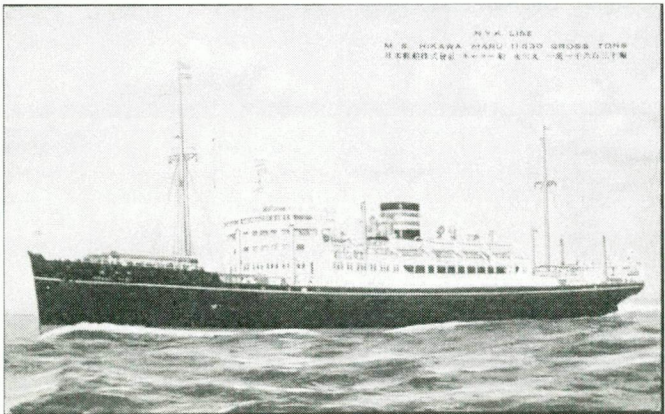
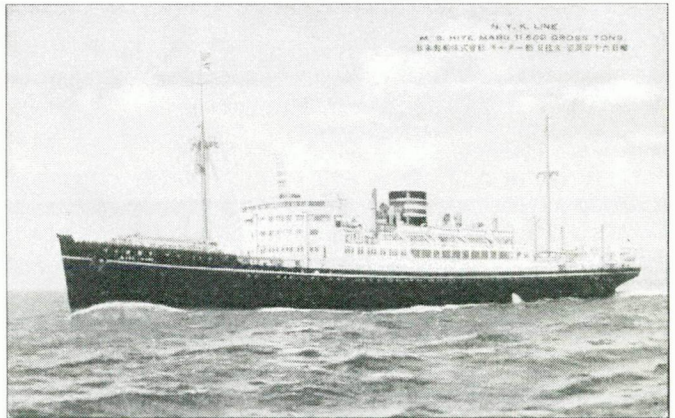
M.S. CHICHIBU MARU (2cards)	vol 20 p.120	S.S. KAMO MARU	***
S.S. HAKUSAN MARU	***	S.S. KASHIMA MARU	***
S.S. HAKOZAKI MARU	vol 20 p.160	S.S. NAGASAKI MARU	***
M.S. HEIAN MARU	vol 20 p.122	S.S. SHANGHAI MARU	***
M.S. HEIYO MARU	vol 20 p.119	S.S. SUWA MARU	***
M.S. HIE MARU	vol 23 p.9	S.S. TAIYO MARU	***
M.S. HIYE MARU	***	S. S. TANGO MARU	vol 23 p.8
M.S. HIKAWA MARU	***	M.S. TATSUTA MARU	vol 20 p.55
M.S. KAMAKURA MARU	vol 20 p.120	M.S. YASUKUNI MARU	vol 23 p.9

There are also a number (at least four) of artist drawn postcards showing interiors of vessels, and one showing streamers thrown from the vessel to the quay.



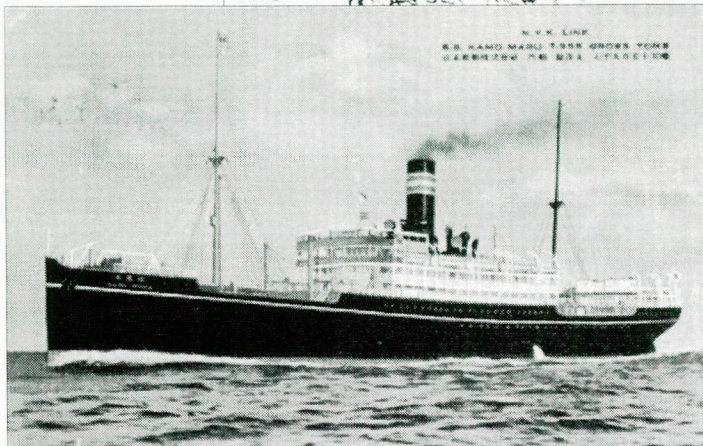
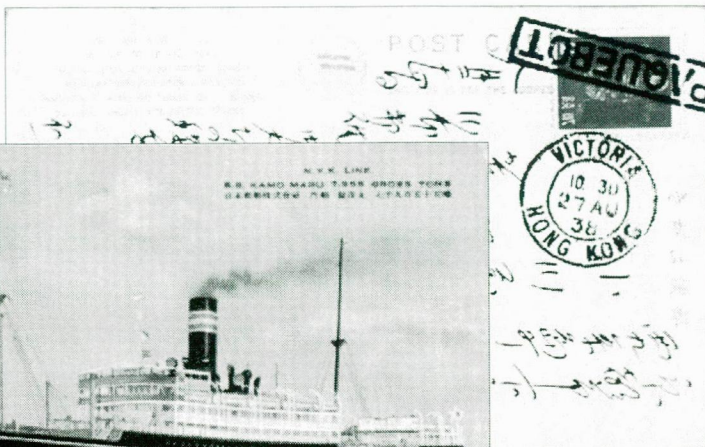
Postcard of the
S.S. Hakusan Maru.
Back divider: "XII
Olympiad--Tokyo 1940."

Postcard of the
M.S. Hiyei Maru 11,600
Gross Tons.
Back divider: "XII
Olympiad--Tokyo 1940."



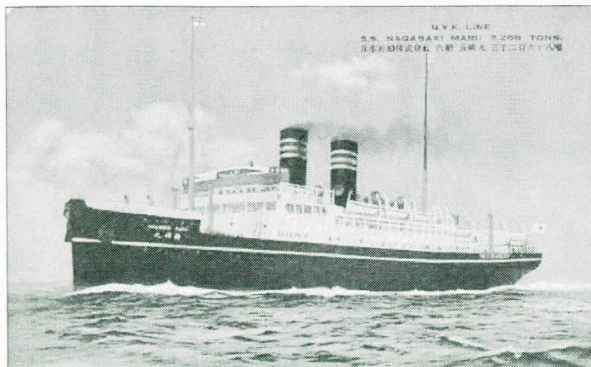
Postcard of the
M.S. Hikawa Maru
11,630 Gross Tons.
Back divider: "XII
Olympiad--Tokyo 1940."

Postcard of the
S.S. Kamo Maru.
Back divider: "XII
Olympiad--Tokyo
1940."



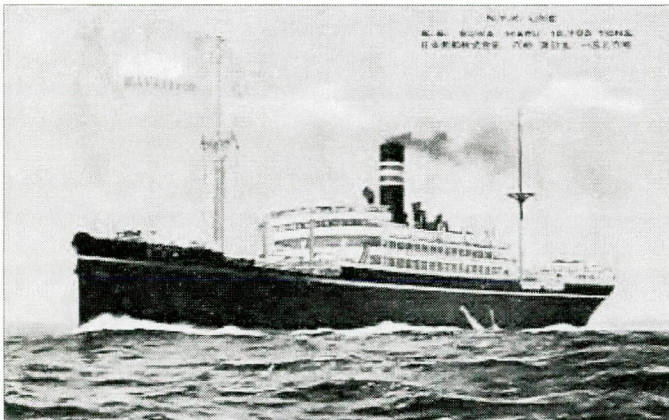
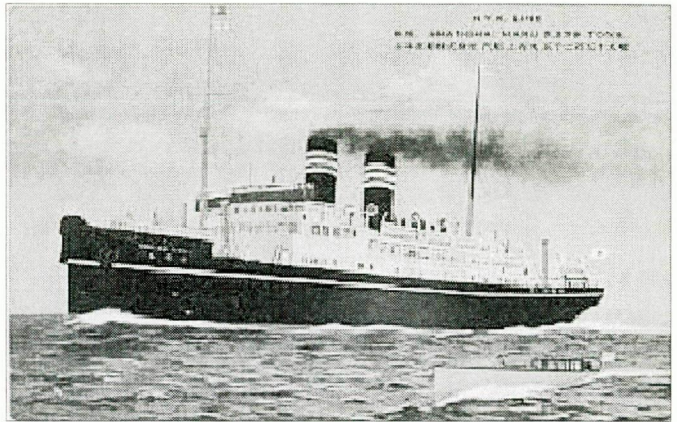
Cancelled
'VICTORIA HONG
KONG 27 Aug
1938'. With boxed
PAQUETBOT.

Postcard of the M.S. Kashima
Maru 9,908 Gross Tons.
Back divider: "XII Olympiad--
Tokyo 1940."



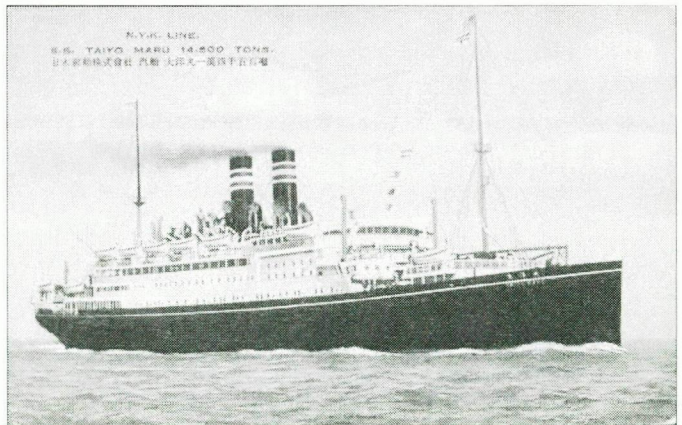
Postcard of the M.S. Nagasaki
Maru 5,268 Gross Tons.
Back divider: "XII Olympiad--
Tokyo 1940."

Postcard of the
S.S. Shanghai Maru.
Back divider: "XII
Olympiad--Tokyo 1940."



Postcard of the
S.S. SUWA MARU .
There is a
commemorative cachet
on the front that reads,
"Souvenir of the voyage
Suwa Maru, May 22,
1938." Back divider: "XII
Olympiad--Tokyo 1940."

Postcard of the
M.S. Taiyo Maru 14,500
Gross Tons.
Back divider: "XII
Olympiad--Tokyo 1940."



Worldwide stamp issues, London 2012

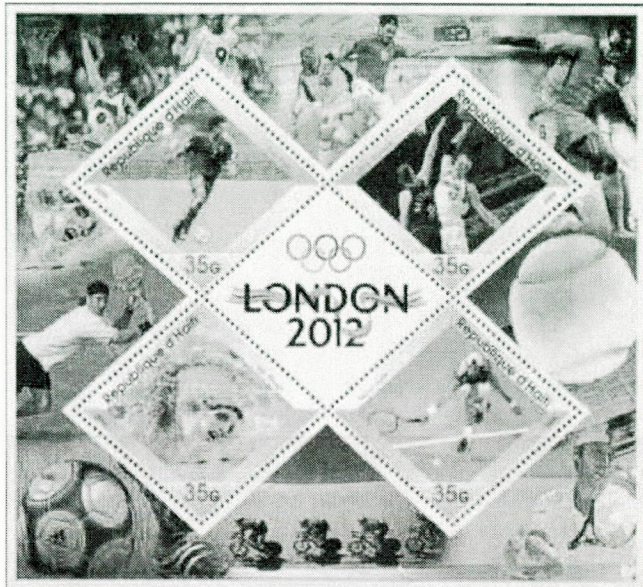
Some postal administrations were very quick off the mark with issues that look forward to the XXXth Olympic Games, London 2012.

News of these issues, and illustrations are proving difficult to find. If any members can help - please get in touch.

Haiti

Miniature sheet of four values plus central label.

35G. Football;
35G. Basketball;
35G. Swimming;
35G. Tennis.



St Thomas and
Prince Islands

Miniature sheet of four x 9000 Db values.

'Olympic Stadium';
Sebastian Coe;
Wembley Stadium;
Kelly Holmes.

All designs include
the London 2012
logo.

London 2012 - Weymouth Bay and Portland Harbour

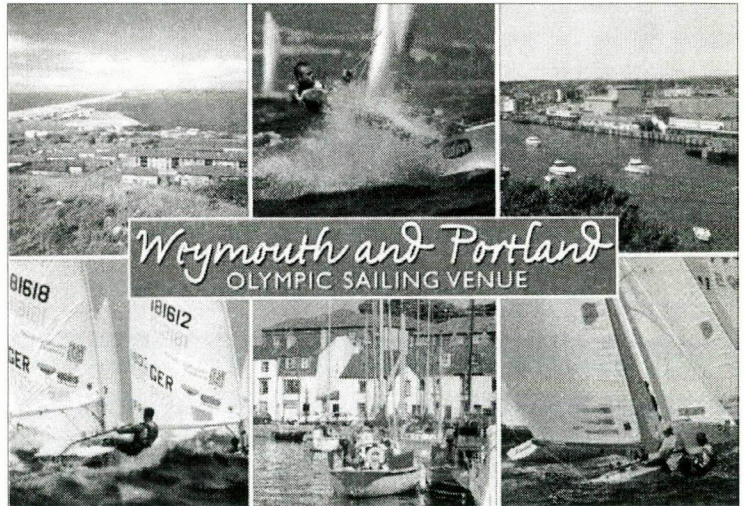
Thanks go to Andy Potter, who discovered two postcards from this series on a recent trip to the south coast.

The postcards are published by J. Salmon Ltd, Sevenoaks, Kent.

Andy initially found a single copy of the 49er class card (10/54/08/71) and a number of copies of the Laser class.

Whilst awaiting a response from the publishers to a query regarding the number of cards included in this series, an opportunity to visit Weymouth (just an hour or so detour!) arose.

Details of the cards available are based on those found in racks at a number of locations including the Post Office and Office of Tourism, the latter having copies of all designs listed. The reference numbers on the cards are sequential, so this appears to be the full series.



Above:
10/54/08/68

Left:
10/54/08/71

Common 'headline' text to all of the cards:

WEYMOUTH BAY AND PORTLAND HARBOUR

Host of the 2012 Olympic Sailing Regatta

- 10/54/08/66 multi-view Situated at the heart of the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site, Weymouth Bay and Portland Harbour have been chosen as the venue for the sailing events in the 2012 Olympic Games. This exposed site provides excellent sailing in all conditions and both the British Olympic and Paralympic Sailing Teams regularly train here.
- 10/54/08/67 multi-view Many national and international sailing events are held at the Weymouth & Portland National Sailing Academy which is recognised as having the finest small boat sailing waters in the country. Weymouth Bay and Portland Harbour have been selected to host the sailing events at the London 2012 Olympics.
- 10/54/08/68 multi-view Officially opened in June 2005, the Weymouth & Portland National Sailing Academy has been selected as the venue for the London 2012 Olympic sailing events. Weymouth Bay and Portland Harbour are recognised as among the finest small boat sailing waters in northern Europe, and many international championships are held here.
- 10/54/08/69 multi-view Weymouth and Portland are situated at the western end of the English Channel which offers excellent facilities for sailing in all conditions. The National Sailing Academy provides a permanent training base for both the British Olympic and Paralympic Sailing Teams, and has been chosen to host the sailing events at the 2012 Olympics.
- 10/54/08/70 The 49er class of dinghy, with its large sail area, requires great sailing skills especially in a strong breeze. Essentially a high performance skiff, it is flat, 16 foot long, with a crew of two, and capable of achieving speeds in excess of fifteen miles an hour.
- 10/54/08/71 The most widely-owned small dinghy in the world, the Laser is a single handed sailing craft known for its responsive handling. It became an Olympic class boat in 1996 and is one of the most popular racing classes.
- 10/54/08/72 The first dinghy of the modern Olympic era, the 470 has competed at this level for the last thirty years. Able to accommodate light and medium weight crews, this two-person technical and tactical boat can be sailed by both men and women.
- 10/54/08/73 The oldest and one of the most successful of the Olympic classes, the Star has been used in competitions since 1932. Suitable for everyone from beginners to experienced sailors, the Star has a sail area of 26.5 square metres and a crew of two.
- 10/54/08/74 Designed in 1949, the Finn class of heavyweight dinghy has competed in every Olympics since 1952. A fast single-hander, it is skilfully designed so that competitors can adjust the rig to suit their individual size and weight.
- 10/54/08/75 The fastest boat that competes in the Olympics, the Tornado reaches exhilarating speeds of up to 35 knots. Manned by a crew of two, this catamaran is challenging to sail because of the need to maintain stability at speed.

2006 OLYMPIC COMMEMORATIVES FROM BELGIUM

Ivo Van Damme (February 21, 1954 – December 29, 1976) was a Belgian middle distance runner.

Born in Brussels, he switched his sporting attention from football to athletics at the age of 16. In 1973, he placed fourth in the 800 m. of the Junior World Championships.

The following season, he suffered from illness, but returned strongly. In 1976, he won the European indoor title over 800 m, and was a favourite for a medal at the 1976 Summer Olympics in Montreal.

By close margins, he placed second in both the 800 and 1500 m, finishing behind Alberto Juantorena and John Walker, respectively.

His Olympic performances were his last on the world stage, as Van Damme was killed in a car accident shortly after.

In 1977, a memorial competition was inaugurated in Brussels to remember him, the Memorial Van Damme. It has become one of the major track and field meetings of the season and celebrates its 30th. anniversary in 2006.



In Memory of Ivo Van Damme

24 April 2006

Five 800m. athletes from the era of Ivo Van Damme

John Walker; Alberto Juantorena; Ivo Van Damme; Sebastian Coe; Steve Ovett.

Designed: Myriam Voz/Thierry Martin(MVTM)

Value : € 0,52 for each stamp - (not sold separately - Price € 2,60

Format : 166 mm x 100 mm Printing process : héliogravure

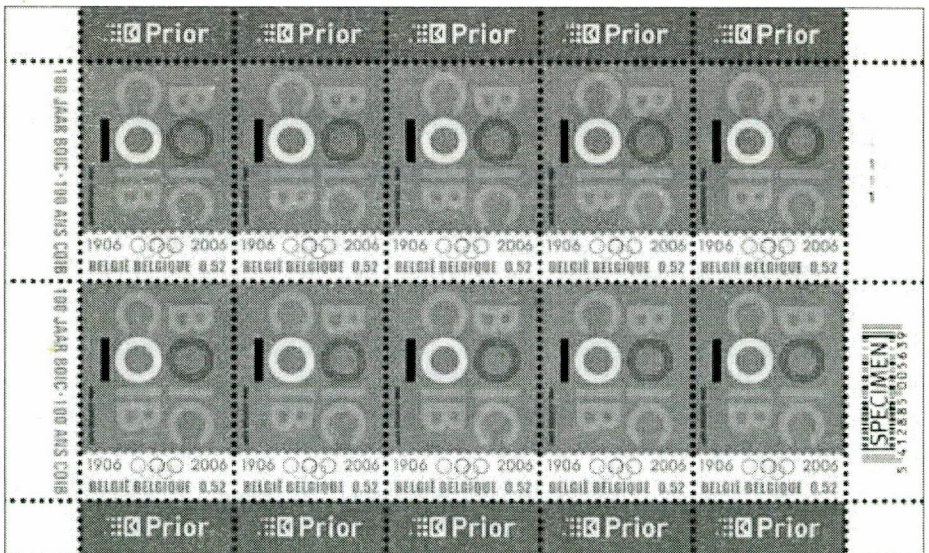
Perforation : 11 1/2 Paper : polyvalent phosphorescent

On Saturday 18th. February, 2006, the *Comite Olympique et Interfederal Belge (COIB)* celebrated it's centenary.
 On that date, the Belgian sporting world met at the Ravenstein Hotel Brussels, just as the CIOB had met 100 years earlier.

A presentation of the achievements and most historic moments in the history of the CIOB was witnessed by numerous sporting personalities, Olympic medallists and sports administrators.

The celebration in February signalled the start of a programme of activities throughout 2006 including the issue of the commemorative stamp illustrated, the creation of a special lottery ticket and the publication of a book on the 7th. December "100 years of the CIOB".

One of the special events of the Centenary year will be a parade of Olympic athletes at the opening ceremony of the 30th. Memorial Van Damme on 25th. August. More than 800 Belgian Olympians including some 40 medallists will participate in this parade at the King Baudouin Stadium.



Centenary of the Belgian Olympic Committee

06 June 2006

Value : € 0.52 Priority

Printing process : héliogravure

Perforation : 11 1/2

Designer : Clotilde Olyff

Format : 27.66 mm x 40.20 mm

Number of panes : 4

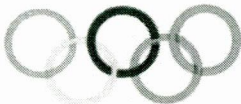
Paper : polyvalent phosphorescent

Olympic Games Melbourne 1956

An Overview of Philatelic Items and Ephemera

by

Uwe Krüger and Bob Wilcock



The Lord Mayor, Councillors

and

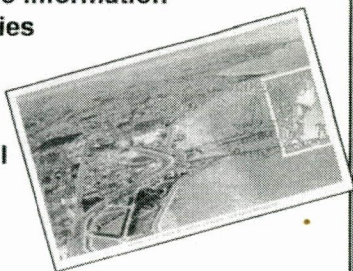
Citizens of Melbourne

Cordially invite you to come to Melbourne for the

Olympic Games, 22 Nov. - 8 Dec. 1956

Let Uwe Krüger and Bob Wilcock be your guides - click this image for your journey back in time!

- * 50+ A4 pages in full colour – all the basic information
- * Stamps from Australia and other countries
- * Medal-winners on stamps
- * Commemorative and slogan postmarks
- * The Torch Relay
- * Olympic post offices and registered mail
- * Commemorative covers
- * Postcards
- * Postage meters
- * Ephemera ... etc. etc.



Plus

- * A CD-Rom – 300+ pages, with supporting information, larger illustrations, extra detail for advanced collectors and specialists



To be published November 2006

** Special Price for SOC members **

Full details and order form in November's Torch Bearer

BEIJING 2008 - Postmarks and cachets November 2005

The launch of the Friendlies and the 1000 day countdown to the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games produced approximately 80 postmarks or cachets. A number of the designs have been illustrated in the following articles: vol. 22 p.194, vol. 23 p.28. Further designs that have been reported are shown below:



2008北京奥运会吉祥物
2008.11.12
浙江舟山



2008北京奥运会吉祥物
2008.11.12
浙江舟山



福娃晶晶

北京2008年奥运会吉祥物
北京欢迎你





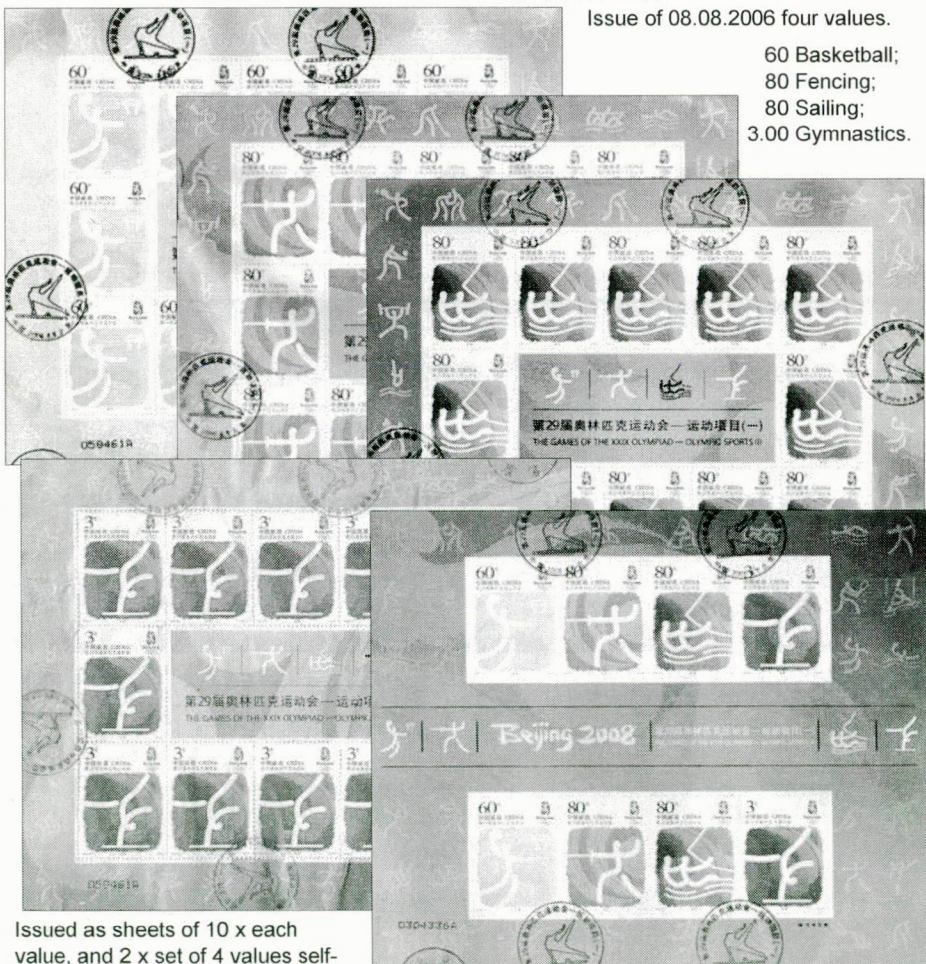
2008年北京奥运会
倒计时1000天





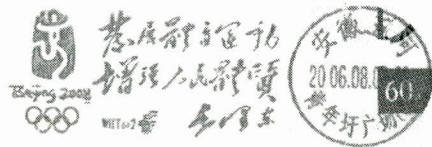
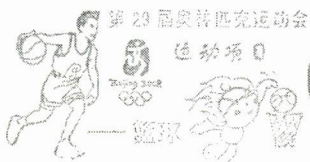
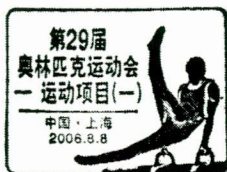
Issue of 08.08.2006 four values.

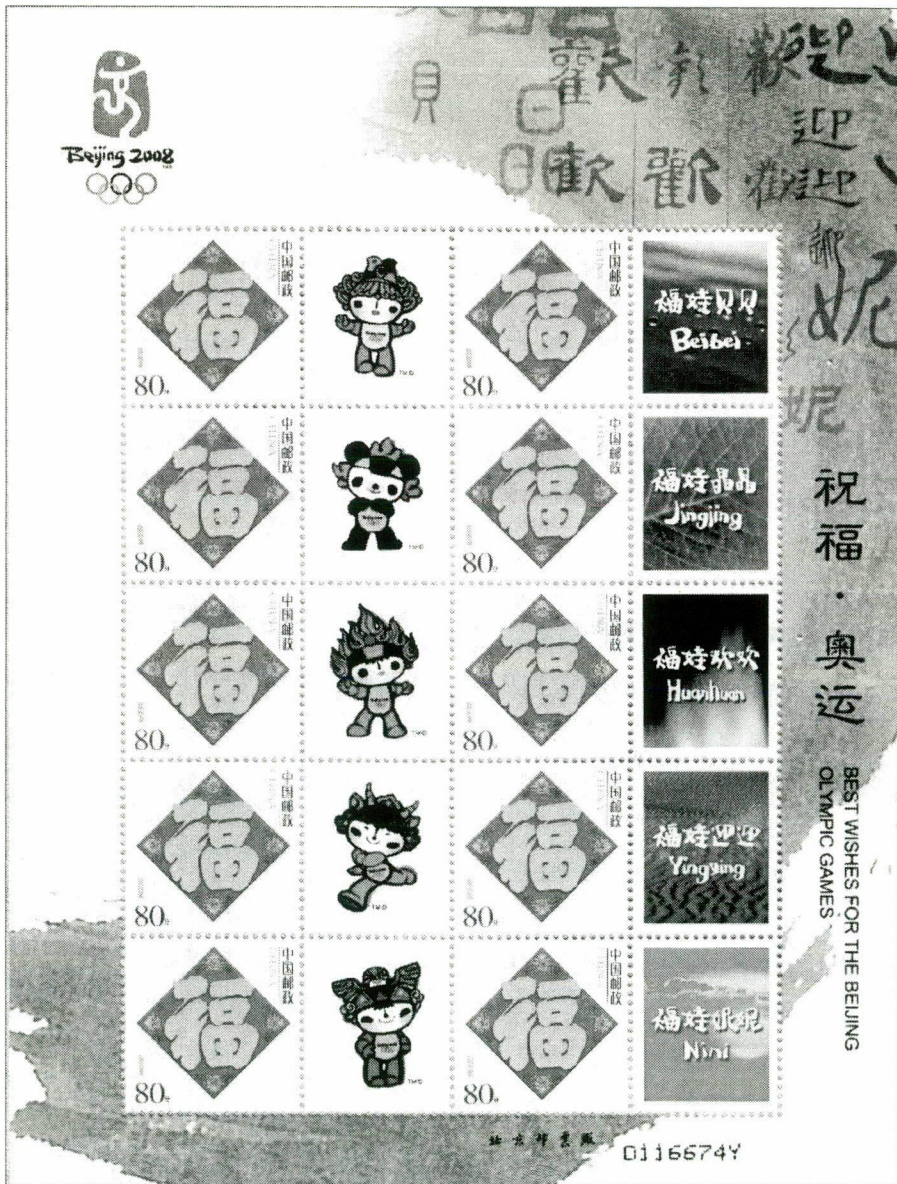
- 60 Basketball;
- 80 Fencing;
- 80 Sailing;
- 3.00 Gymnastics.



Issued as sheets of 10 x each value, and 2 x set of 4 values self-adhesive.

A small selection of the cancellations used in conjunction with the stamp issue of 08.08.2006. Over fifty postmarks have been reported as associated with this issue.





'P' stamp sheetlet with attached labels showing the five 'Friendlies' and their names in Chinese characters and English.



第29届奥林匹克运动会
吉祥物运动造型集锦

The collection of sport poses of the Mascots for the Games of XXX Olympic

福五环
Five Friendlies
and the Five Olympic Rings



中国邮政



体操
Artistic Gymnastics

80.



中国邮政



蹦床
Trampoline

80.



中国邮政



足球
Football

80.



中国邮政



小轮自行车
BMX

80.



中国邮政



击剑
Fencing

80.



中国邮政



皮划艇静水
Canoe/Kayak Flatwater

80.



中国邮政



马术
Equestrian

80.



中国邮政



铁人三项
Triathlon

80.



中国邮政



帆船
Sailing

80.



中国邮政



手球
Handball

80.

北京邮票厂

0656924Y

'P' stamp sheetlet with attached labels showing the five 'Friendlies' participating in Olympic disciplines 'The five friendlies and the Five Olympic Rings'. Four sheets were issued, 3 x 10 stamps with labels, 1 x 8 stamps with labels.

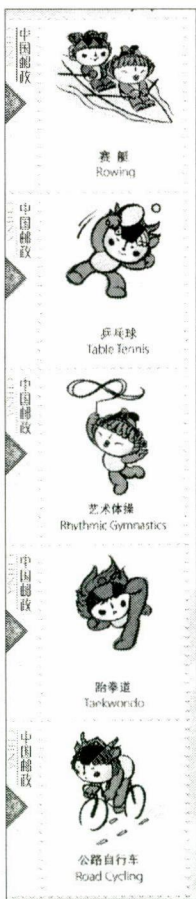
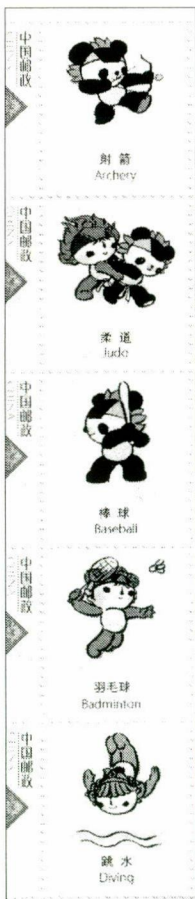
Artistic Gymnastics;
Football;
Fencing;
Equestrian;
Sailing;

Trampoline;
BMX;
Canoe/Kayak Flatwater;
Triathlon;
Handball.

Labels from the second sheet of 10 stamps + labels.

Archery;
Judo;
Baseball;
Badminton;
Diving;

Rowing;
Table Tennis;
Rhythmic Gymnastics;
Taekwondo;
Road Cycling.



Labels from the third sheet of 10 stamps + labels.



Shooting;
Beach Volleyball;
Modern Pentathlon;
Volleyball;
Basketball;

Athletics;
Synchronised Swimming;
Wrestling;
Mountain Bike;
Track Cycling.



Labels from the fourth sheet of 8 stamps + labels.

Weightlifting;
Hockey;
Boxing;
Water Polo;

Swimming;
Canoe/Kayak Slalom;
Softball;
Tennis.



80 Beijing 2008 logo, with 'Dancing Beijing' label.

Printed in sheets of 15 stamps and labels (3 x 5).

80 Beijing 2008 logo, with 'Hour Glass' countdown label.



A substantial number of postal stationery items that relate to the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games have been released by China Post since 2001. Photocopies or scans to assist in compiling a list for publication would be welcomed.

Remember the Society auction when disposing of your duplicate material. - The Auction Manager would be pleased to receive your lots.

Take the opportunity to reach fellow Olympic collectors

OMEGA - Official Timekeeper of The Olympic Games

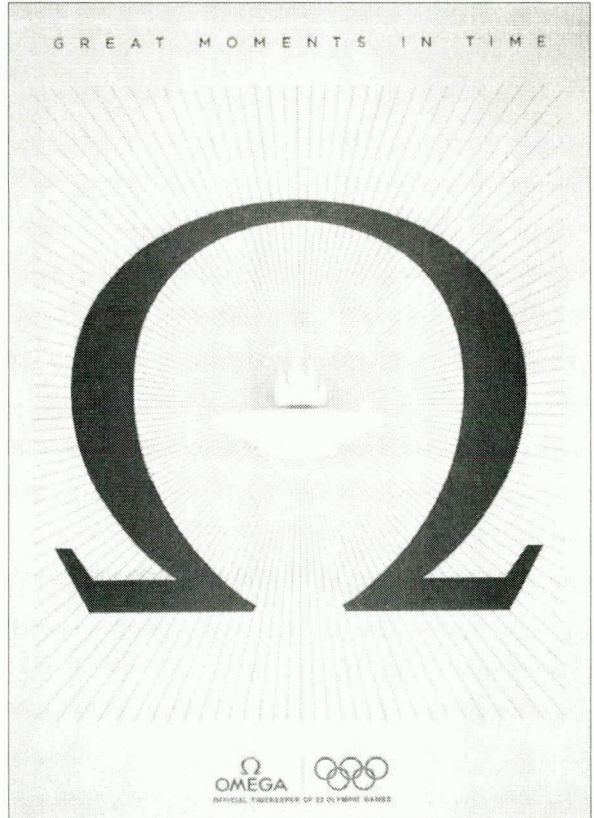
To commemorate their 74 year relationship with the IOC, Omega adopted a theme of 'Great Moments in Time', for their marketing material at the 2006 Winter Olympic Games in Turin.

Models of their timepieces and timing equipment related to the Olympic Games were displayed in an arcade off Via Roma.

Many of these classic timepieces assembled from the extensive stock of original spare parts held by Omega were also offered for sale as very exclusive limited edition pieces - The Olympic Collection.

The theme was evident throughout the Omega marketing material, including a folder of thirteen A5 format postcards.

The 'title' card - Great Moments in Time is illustrated to the right.



The backs of all the cards have the dates of the Omega involvement with the Olympic Games as a divider between the message and address sections, running from bottom to top: 1932 1936 1948 1952 1956 1960 1964 1968 1976 1980 1984 1988 1992 2004.

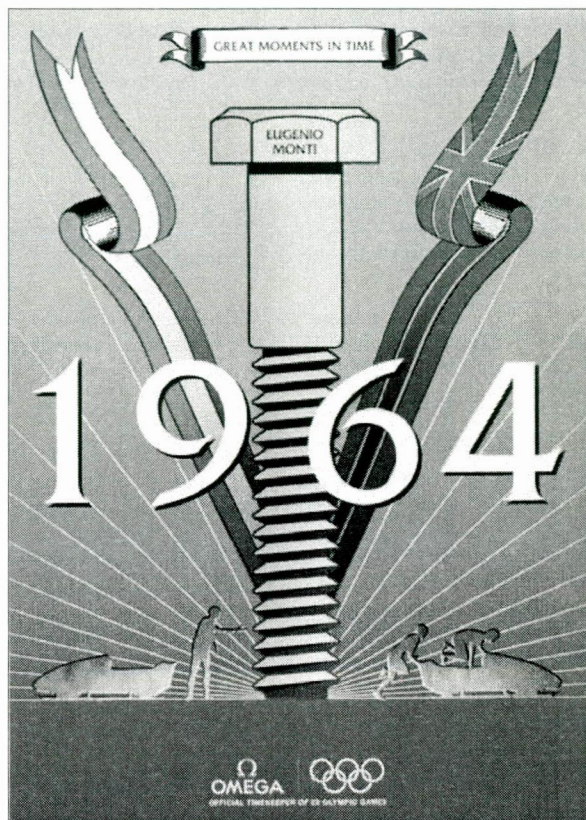
The following text is common to all the cards:

Omega has been the Official timekeeper at 22 Olympic Games. A partnership forged on the shared desire to record for future generations the valiant attempts of the young men and women of the world to go Faster, Higher and Stronger.

The remaining twelve postcards in the folder, commemorate memorable events from twelve individual celebrations of the Winter Olympic Games:

1932 Lake Placid; 1936 Garmisch-Partenkirchen; 1948 St. Moritz; 1956 Cortina d'Ampezzo; 1964 Innsbruck; 1968 Grenoble; 1976 Innsbruck; 1980 Lake Placid; 1984 Sarajevo; 1988 Calgary; 1992 Albertville; 2006 Torino.

The memorable events selected as Great Moments in Time cover a wide range of topics. The 1964 Innsbruck postcard is illustrated.



1964, INNSBRUCK

In a selfless act of true sportsmanship, Italian team captain Eugenio Monti offered the British team a bolt from his own sled to repair their damaged axle. The British took the gold, putting the Italians into bronze medal position.

The subjects of the remaining postcards are:

1932

For the first time ever, events were officially measured to within 1/10th of a second using the Omega Chronograph. To celebrate the 2006 Olympic Winter Games, 300 Chronographs have been assembled using the original mechanical parts stored since 1932.

1936, GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN

Despite finishing last in the final event of the alpine combined, Diana Grdon-Lennox received a standing ovation. She had just completed the last two runs of the competition with a broken arm and only one pole.

1948, ST. MORITZ

Unable to compete for five years due to WWII, Birger Ruud returned as assistant coach of the Norwegian ski jump team. Bad weather forced Ruud to take the place of a nervous and inexperienced young jumper. Sixteen years after winning an Olympic gold medal, he took the silver.

1956, CORTINA D'AMPEZZO

Sailer finished an incredible 6.2 seconds ahead of his nearest rival in the giant slalom. A gap so large that he was convinced the clocks had malfunctioned. However, they had performed flawlessly and recorded the greatest margin of victory in the history of Olympic Alpine Skiing.

1968, GRENOBLE

In 1968, Marielle Goitschel took the gold medal in the slalom ahead of her sister Christine. It was not the first time the sisters had taken gold and silver in the same event. In the previous Olympic Games, it was Christine who had won the gold medal and Marielle the silver.

1976, INNSBRUCK

In the final agonising kilometre of the 50km cross country race, Juha Mieto risked disqualification by stopping to help an exhausted Bill Koch. Mieto literally caught Koch as he was collapsing and then pushed his competitor up and over the final steep hill.

1980, LAKE PLACID

No one gave a group of American college students a chance against the hardened professionals of the Soviet team. At full-time the score stood at 4 - 3 and the U.S. Hockey Team had ended thirty years of Soviet domination and performed the unforgettable 'miracle on ice.'

1984, SARAJEVO

The first day of the ice dancing competition was Valentine's day. British pair Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean danced magically to Ravel's Bolero. On this symbolic day of love their passionate performance was awarded an unprecedented twelve perfect six scores by the judges.

1988, CALGARY

Wolfgang Hoppe insisted his injured teammate Dietmar Schauerhammer be allowed to compete in the 4-man bobsleigh. The team missed out on gold by 0.07 seconds. Later Wolfgang told Dietmar. "It's better to win the silver medal with you on the team than to win gold without you."

1992, ALBERTVILLE

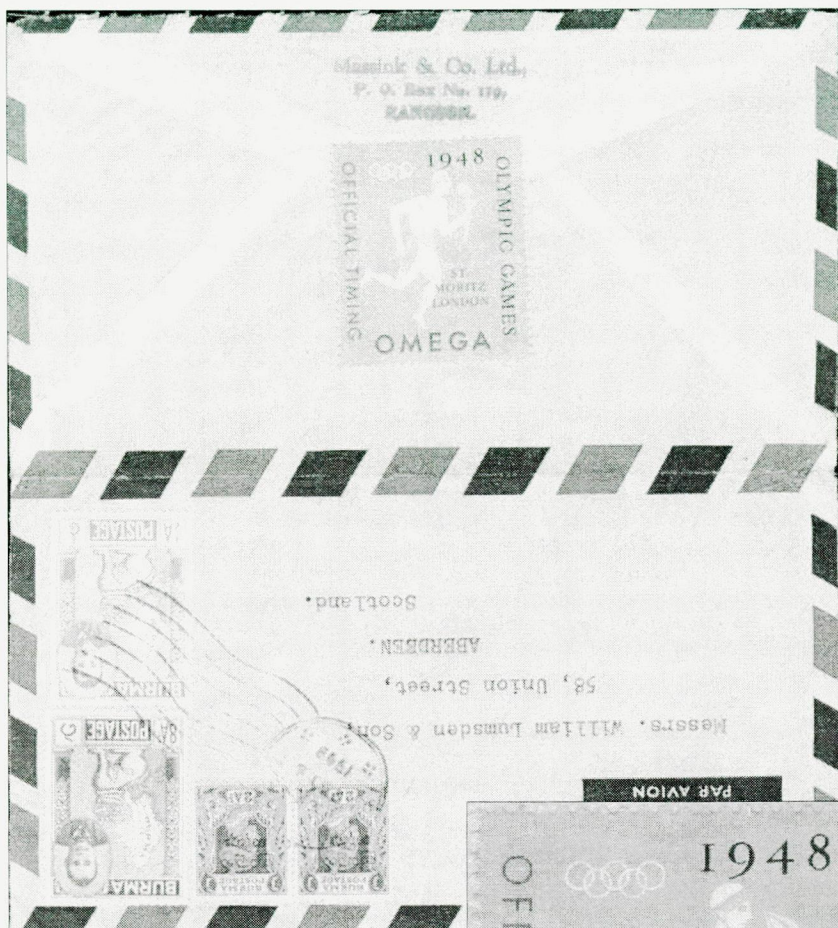
Bjorn Daehlie perfected the art of winning Olympic medals. A total of 8 gold and 4 silver in his career. The most successful winter Olympian of all time. On his way to winning 3 gold medals in Albertville, the eccentric Norwegian crossed the finish line in the relay skiing backwards. Afterwards he said: "I did it for the fans and as a tribute to the teammates that had skied before me."

2006, TORINO

Since 1932 Omega timing devices have recorded the greatest moments of more than 15 000 athletes. Torino represents the 22nd time Omega is the Official Timekeeper of the Olympic Games. To commemorate this partnership Omega has created the Olympic Collection.

It would be very challenging for the collector to try to assemble postal material to illustrate the involvement of Omega with the Olympic Movement.

Vignettes, stickers, meter marks, commercial envelopes and postcards are all potential sources of material, but for the earlier Games such items are not easy to find.



Cover from Bob Wilcock's collection promoting the status of Omega by use of an Omega Official Timing vignette for the 1948 Olympic Games St Moritz and London - their first official involvement at an Olympic Games in London.

The vignette appears to have been applied by the sender in Rangoon, Burma.



IOC AND OMEGA EXTEND PARTNERSHIP TO LONDON 2012

The IOC and Omega, the Official Timekeeper of the Olympic Games, announced in London in May the extension of their partnership to include the London 2012 Olympic Games.

Omega, Official Timekeeper for the Beijing 2008 and Vancouver 2012 Olympic Games, brings to six the number of worldwide partners who have already committed to the London 2012 Olympic Games.

IOC President Jaques Rogge welcomed the announcement and Omega's continued commitment to the Olympic Movement.

"Turin was a magnificent Games, not just for the athletes and the Olympic Movement, but for our partners. Omega's contribution to the Games was significant - in ensuring accurate and reliable timekeeping," Rogge said. Our relationship with Omega goes back to 1932, when the IOC turned to a single company to provide official timekeeping at the Olympic Games. Today, Omega works closely with all our technology partners to provide seamless technology support to the Organising Committee."

Omega President Stephen Urquhart said, "We are delighted to return to London as Official Timekeeper of the Olympic Games. London represents a wealth of tradition and a confident vision of the future. We are pleased to bring our own valued traditions and confidence to London 2012, and look forward to helping the city prepare to host the Olympic Games."

For IOC Marketing Commission Chairman Gerhard Heiberg, the announcement of the Omega partnership to include the London 2012 Games shows the strength of the Olympic marketing programme. "We currently have 12 worldwide partners for the Beijing 2008 Olympic Games, and six of those have extended to Vancouver 2010 and London 2012," Heiberg said. "The knowledge and expertise our partners bring to an Organising Committee is invaluable, especially our technology partners such as Omega."

Worldwide Partners confirmed for Vancouver 2010 and London 2012 are: Coca-Cola, Atos Origin, GE, McDonalds, Omega and Visa.



Above: IOC President Jaques Rogge and Swatch Group CEO Nick Hayek at the Omega boutique at the Royal Exchange in the City of London.

2012 Roadshow - July 2006.

{The trials and tribulations of creating postal souvenirs}

The 2012 Roadshow was announced on the internet and via press releases, with the itinerary published in the last issue of Torch Beare.

This provided the first scheduled multi-date event in the U.K. since the Olympic Games were held in 1948, and presented an opportunity to create some postal souvenirs.

To understand the obstacles that are encountered in producing such items in the U.K., it is necessary to have some knowledge of a number of the problems that will be encountered regarding, cost, practicality and feasibility.

Selecting the type of item:

The options available are relatively limited, particularly when the period for preparation is short. Obvious options include:-

- a) Commemorative handstamps;
- b) 'Smilers' ('P' stamps);
- c) Franking meters;
- d) SmartStamps.

All of these would require authorisation of any design using Olympic devices or marques, and the time required to obtain permission would reduce the time available for design and placing an order, which seriously influences or even excludes options a), b), c), as the time required for production of dies or printing could not be catered for.

Commemorative handstamps also have other drawbacks, in that they are only available at the Regional Centres on a 'mail-in' basis, and are purely philatelic, with no postal need or use. They are also very expensive, and once sponsored, freely available to anyone amking them impractical unless produced in commercial quantities.

'P' Stamps require production time, and whilst they perform service in payment of the postal rate, they are purchased at a significant premium, and if they perform genuine postal service they are liable to the normal abuses of the postal delivery service. If used for the production of 'philatelic' covers by mail-in, they do not perform any postal need.

Franking meters, have a high initial cost for preparation of die(s), but do fulfill the criteria of postal use.

SmartStamps offer an opportunity to overcome all of the above problems, but if specific dates are required for commemorative purposes, valid postal copies can only be produced on the day before the imprint (mail by) date required.

The Society of Olympic Collectors have led in the use of commemorative SmartStamps, and each new 'issue' is sought by Olympic collectors and postal historians.

As we have reviewed the options available for the production of postal souvenirs on a regular basis, the only practical option was immediately recognised as d) SmartStamps.

Relating the items to the Roadshow and London 2012.

Having identified SmartStamps as the only practical option, further consideration was given to exactly how postal souvenirs could be created that actually relate to the 2012 on tour roadshow.

We decided, that we would attempt to commemorate the 'launch', the 'conclusion', and where practical, visits to locations with direct significance to the 2012 Olympic Games.

The original expectation being that we would manage to produce souvenirs for:

Trafalgar Square (launch), Weald Country Park (Mountain bike), Dorney Lake (rowing), Old Trafford Manchester (Football and conclusion).

To create items that would be specific to the visit of the roadshow at these locations, we would attempt to mail items at the nearest post office to the venue, and obtain their handstamp or other postal marking on the covers.

This is where the use of SmartStamps provides a secondary advantage. As a general rule, post offices will not apply their handstamp to mail items - cancellation is achieved by the sorting process. Requests for use of the handcancel are generally refused (although many of the smaller offices encountered during this exercise were extremely helpful and understanding). If an envelope is presented with a stamp paying postage and the use of a handstamp is requested and refused, the postal clerk is operating within their remit, and training - agreement to meet such a request is the exception rather than the rule.

If however, a cover is presented with a SmartStamp and stamp combination to pay postage, the situation is different. SmartStamps are treated in the same way as franking meter mail because their validity is 'time restricted' there is no requirement for them to be cancelled for the purposes of fiscal protection. The use of a 2nd class SmartStamp with a stamp to create the 1st class rate, creates a need for the stamp to be cancelled, and this cancellation should occur manually as the item enters the mail stream, because it will not be cancelled in the sorting process - in this way, we are able to request counter handstamps by handing the item over the counter.

Considering designs.

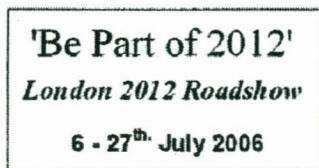
Initial considerations were restricted to two options:

- 1) Use of an approved design or designs;
- 2) If no response was received, the use of a design that would not infringe copyright or the Olympic Act, but with 'linkage' to the roadshow (For example 'Society of Olympic Collectors / Trafalgar Square / July 6th, 2006).

Approval was sought from The Organising Committee for London 2012, and just as we were fearing the worst (no response), an email was received and agreement was reached to the use of a specific text., and the bus on our SmartStamps with only days to spare.

SmartStamp designs:

SS-L1



SS-L1 uses the agreed text (taken from the advance publicity), and was first used at Trafalgar Square on 06.07.06 at the launch of the Roadshow.



Be part of 2012
 London 2012
 Roadshow
 6 - 27th July 2006

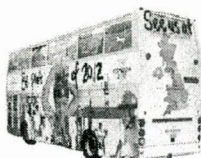


SS-L2

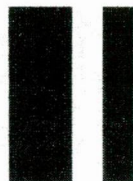
SS-L2 uses the agreed text, in the style used by the Roadshow and an image of the front of the bus - (taken as it departed Trafalgar Square on 06.07.06), and was first used at Birmingham and Much Wenlock on 10.07.06.

SS-L3

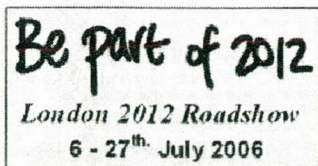
Be part of 2012



6 - 27th July 2006



SS-L3 uses part of the agreed text, in the style used by the Roadshow and an image of the side and rear of the bus - (taken as it departed Trafalgar Square on 06.07.06), and was first used for Weald Country Park on 13.07.06.



SS-L4

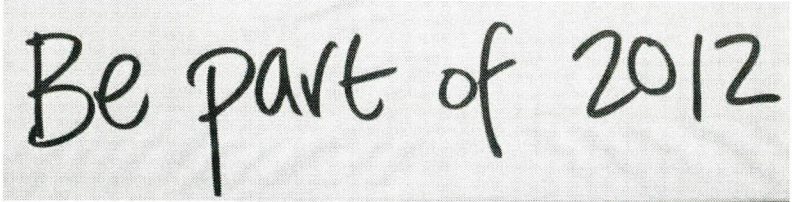
SS-L4 uses the agreed text (taken from the advance publicity), but in the style used by the Roadshow, and was first used at Newcastle on 21.07.06.

Developing the Plan

On 05.07.06, SmartStamps were printed in design SS-L1, direct to envelopes, and onto tapes. Covers were prepared for 2nd Class upgraded to 1st class with a 9p definitive stamp; 1st class, and Airmail.

Bob Farley and Bob Wilcock arranging to meet in Trafalgar Square on the 06.07.06 for the launch of the Roadshow.

This was an 'easy' start to our Roadshow campaign - we knew the exact location of the launch and the nearest post office.



Be part of 2012

The Launch

All went well at Trafalgar Square, we took photographs of the font style on the publicity banners for future use, and of the Roadshow bus after unveiling.

We listened to the official unveiling and the addresses given by the assembled dignitaries.

And of course we mailed the covers.



'Be Part of 2012'
London 2012 Roadshow
6 - 27th July 2006



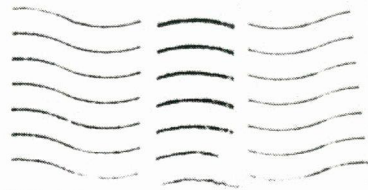
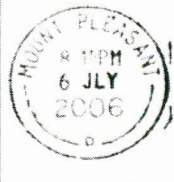
Trafalgar Square
24/28 William IV Street
London
Greater London
WC2N 4DL



2nd Class SmartStamp SS-L1, uprated to 1st Class with 9p. Definitive.
Cancelled 'TRAFALGAR SQUARE WC2 N'



A significant proportion of all items mailed received a wavy line machine cancellation from MOUNT PLEASANT.



'Be Part of 2012'
London 2012 Roadshow
6 - 27th July 2006



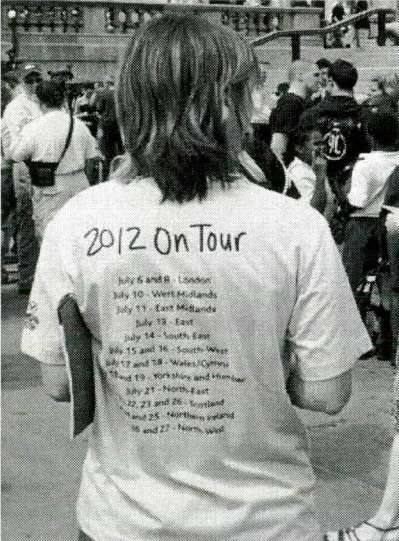
1st class and Airmail SmartStamp SS-L1. Mailed at Trafalgar Square Post Office.

'Be Part of 2012'
London 2012 Roadshow
6 - 27th July 2006



Our plans for all further dates during the Roadshow, included an intention to mail covers at the nearest post office to the location of the 2012 Olympic venue that the Roadshow was visiting. This intention may sound simple, but in reality relied on knowing exactly where the venue was located, and then tracing the nearest post office.

The first part of this conundrum was solved by searching the internet for the venue addresses, with their postcode (not always an easy task!).



The location of the post office was easy to establish after finding an excellent web-site <http://www.postoffice.co.uk/portal/po/finder?catId=7800129> where a list of the ten nearest post offices is produced with directions and a map simply by entering the postcode of the venue.

{left} In addition to photographs of the bus, the launch at Trafalgar Square provided an opportunity to photograph the back of a commemorative tee-shirt worn by one of the staff, which was incorporated in the design of the cachet on future covers.

{below} The bus departing Trafalgar Square.



Venues at which items were mailed.

06.07.06 Stratford, London E15. Olympic Park for 2012.



Area P.O. :

Stratford
26/28 The Broadway
Stratford
London
Greater London
E15 4QS



2nd Class SmartStamp SS-L1,
uprated to 1st Class with 9p.
Definitive.
Cancelled:
'STRATFORD LONDON E.15. K'

Venues / locations at which items were mailed.

- 10.07.06 Birmingham. Villa Park - Soccer venue for 2012.
- 10.07.06 Much Wenlock. Historic Olympic association.
- 13.07.06 Brentwood. Weald Country Park - Mountain Bike venue for 2012.
- 14.07.06 Eton Wick. Dorney Lake - Rowing venue for 2012.
- 15.07.06 Portland. National Sailing Academy - Sailing venue for 2012.
- 17.07.06 Cardiff. Millenium Stadium - Soccer venue for 2012.
- 21.07.06 Newcastle. St. James Park - Soccer venue for 2012.
- 27.07.06 Manchester. Old Trafford - Soccer venue for 2012.

Covers were also produced and mailed on 22.07.06 to commemorate the visit of the Roadshow to Scotland. Hampden Park - Soccer venue for 2012, but for logistical reasons these could not be mailed in Glasgow.

Changes to SmartStamp

- Two changes in the printing of SmartStamps were introduced in 2006.
- Prints on Friday, are dated as Mail By the following Monday (formerly Saturday), so that Saturday and Sunday dates are no longer available.
- Upgrade to V3.0 on 20.07.06 which introduced a new indicia - special delivery 9.00am.

10.07.06 Birmingham, Villa Park - Soccer venue in 2012



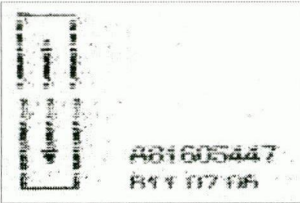
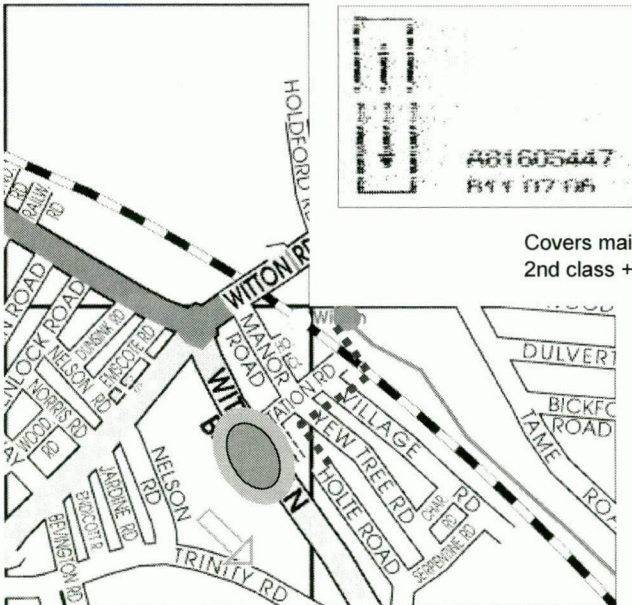
Be part of 2012
London 2012
Roadshow
 6 - 27th July 2006



Post Office : Witton
 30/34 Manor Road
 Witton
 Birmingham
 West Midlands
 B6 6RH



2nd Class SmartStamp SS-L2,
 updated to 1st Class with 9p.
 Definitive.
 Cancelled:
 'WITTON BIRMINGHAM 6 B'



Coding mark applied to
 the back of one Airmail
 item:
 B11.07.06 - one day
 after mailing

Covers mailed at Witton, Birmingham:
 2nd class + 9p; 1st class; Airmail.

{left} Location map -
 The Stadium and post
 office with route.

10.07.06 Much Wenlock. A Birthplace of the Modern Olympic Games.

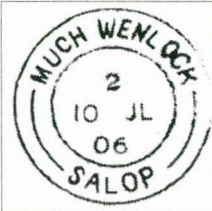


Be part of 2012
 London 2012
 Roadshow
 6 - 27th July 2006



Post Office :

Much Wenlock
 9 High Street
 Much Wenlock
 Shropshire
 TF13 6AA



2nd Class SmartStamp SS-L2,
 uprated to 1st Class with 9p.
 Definitive.
 Cancelled:
 'MUCH WENLOCK SALOP 2'



The Roadshow bus in the centre of Much Wenlock.'

13.07.06 Brentwood. Weald Country Park - Mountain bike venue in 2012

Be part of 2012



6 - 27th July 2006



Nearest P.O. :

Brook Street
Brook Street
Brentwood
Essex
CM14 5LZ



2nd Class SmartStamp SS-L3 label,
uprated to 1st Class with 9p.
Definitive.
Cancelled:
'BROOK STREET BRENTWOOD M'



A13703881
CM13.07.06

Coding mark applied to the back
of most covers CM13.07.06

{right} 33mm. Diameter sticker produced by
Essex County Council. - white text on brown.
The same design as an imprint is used by
Essex on promotional material.

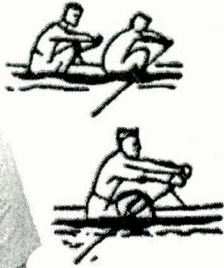
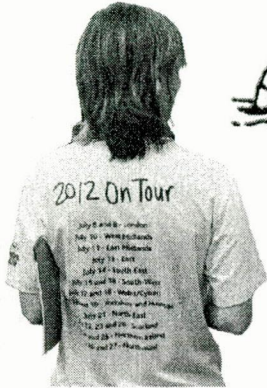


Be part of 2012
 London 2012 Roadshow
 6 - 27th July 2006

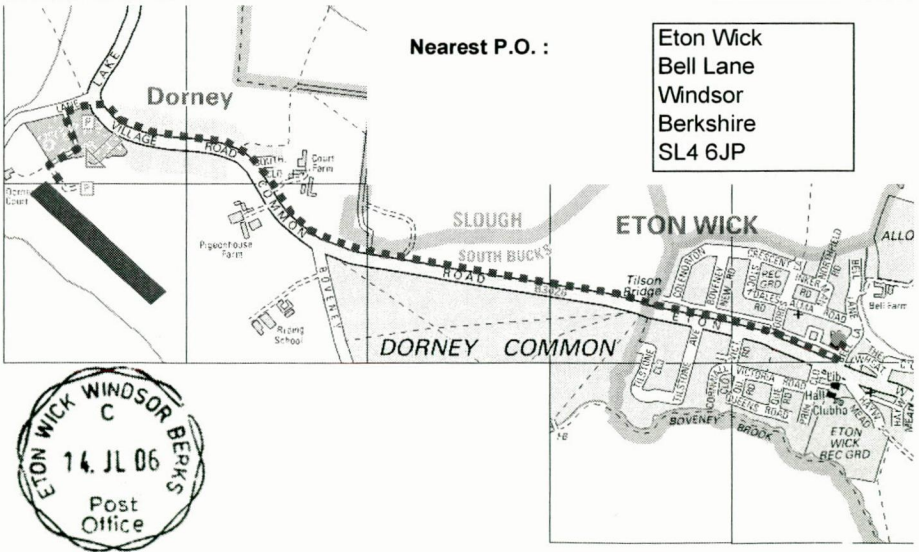
£0.23
 2XL9 2E3L

 POST BY
 14.07.06

2
 ROYAL MAIL
 POSTAGE PAID GB
 SmartStamp.co.uk



2nd Class SmartStamp SS-L4 ,
 updated to 1st Class with 9p.
 Definitive.
 Cancelled:
 'ETON WICK WINDSOR BERKS C'



15.07.06 Portland. National Sailing Academy - Sailing venue in 2012

'Be Part of 2012'

London 2012 Roadshow

6 - 27th July 2006

£0.44
1EUB 2C0X



POST BY
17.07.06



ROYAL MAIL

POSTAGE PAID GB
P16 Avion







Airmail SmartStamp SS-L1, mailed at Portland.

Nearest P.O. :

Portland
79 Fortuneswell
Portland
Dorset
DT5 1NP

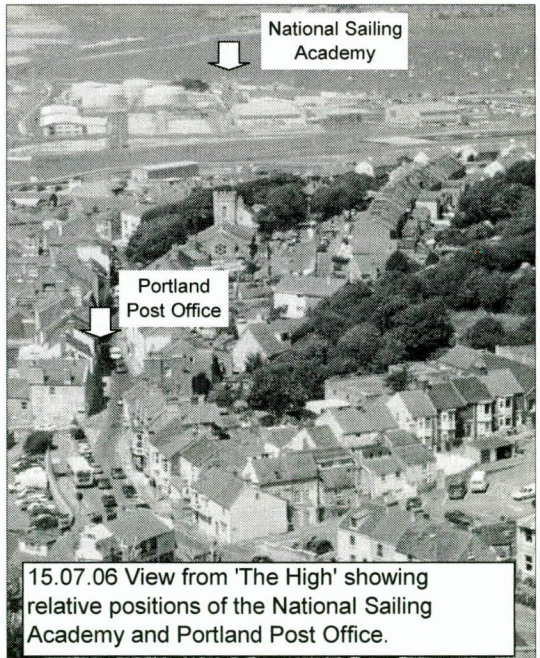




Note:

The printed 'Post By' validity dates of SmartStamps was modified in 2006 to allow postage printed on Friday to be mailed before close of the next 'working day'. As a result SmartStamps cannot be printed with Saturday or Sunday (and Bank Holiday Monday) dates.

The clerk at Portland kindly agreed to cancel the airmail covers to confirm posting on Saturday 15.JL.06.



17.07.06 Cardiff. Millenium Stadium - Soccer venue in 2012

2012 On Tour

Be part of 2012
London 2012
Roadshow
6 - 27th July 2006

£0.23
SE98 3X3L
POSTAGE FROM
17.07.06

2
POST BRENNHOL
ROYAL MAIL
TALWYD Y POST FF
POSTAGE PAID GB
SmartStamp.co.uk

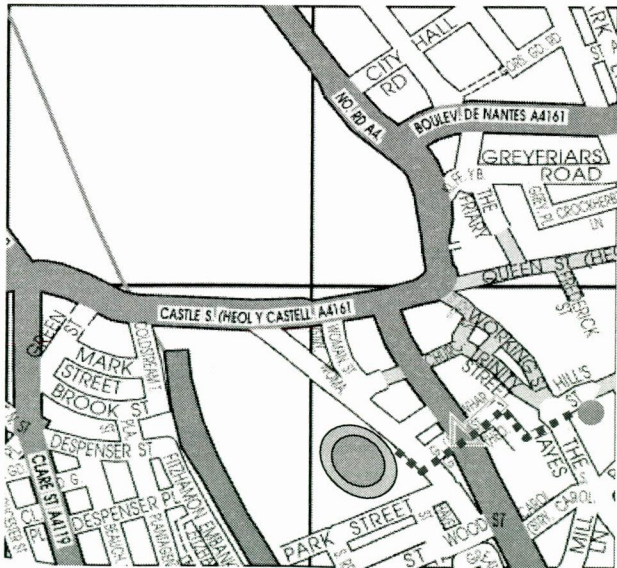
2012 On Tour

July 6-8 Cardiff
July 10-12 Newport
July 11-13 East Ham
July 13-14 Hull
July 14-16 Stoke
July 17-19 London
July 20-22 London
July 23-25 London
July 26-28 London
July 29-31 London

2nd Class SmartStamp SS-L2 Welsh language , uprated to 1st Class with 9p. Definitive.
Cancelled:
'THE HAYES CARDIFF L'

Nearest P.O. :

The Hayes
2-4 Hills Street
Cardiff
South Glamorgan
CF10 2SJ
Note:
This Post Office is
scheduled to relocate
and will close on August
9, 2006



21.0706 Newcastle. St James Park - Soccer venue in 2012

Be part of 2012

London 2012 Roadshow

6 - 27th July 2006

£0.23
3UCE 1L7C



POST BY
21.07.06



ROYAL MAIL

POSTAGE PAID GB
SmartStamp.co.uk







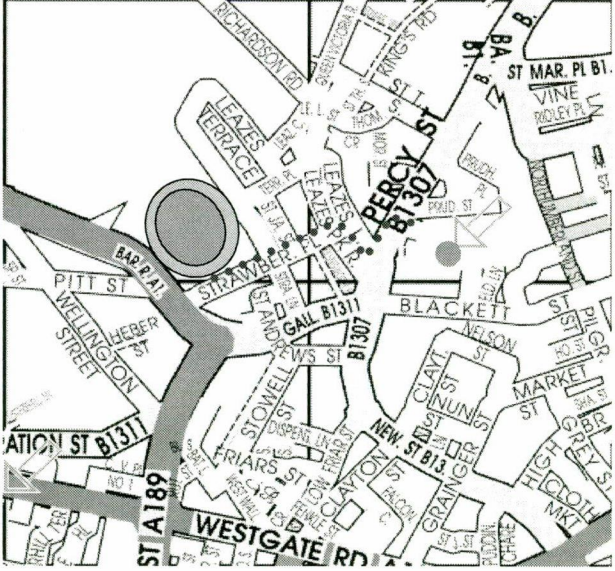




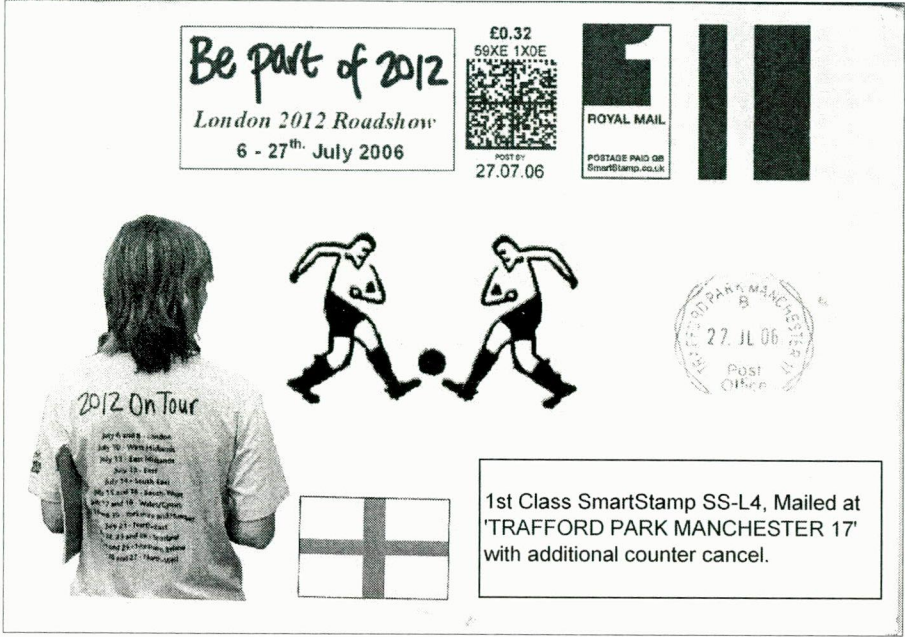
2nd Class SmartStamp
SS-L4 , uprated to 1st
Class with 9p. Definitive.
Cancelled:
'NEWCASTLE CITY D'

Nearest P.O. :

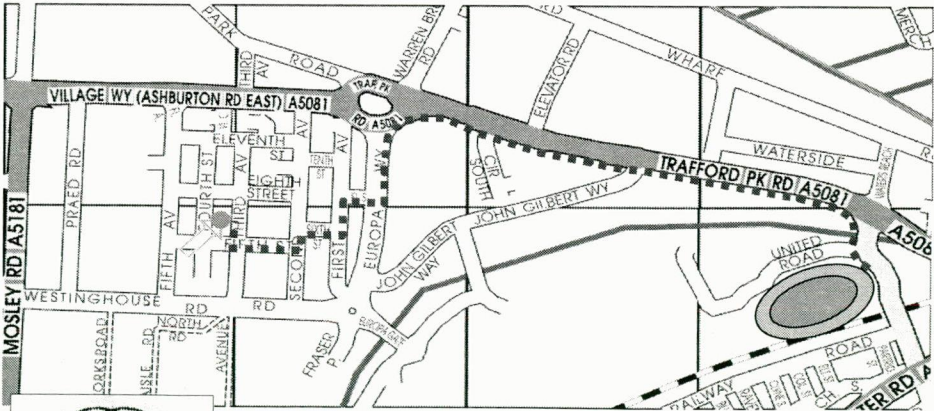
Newcastle City
24-26 Sidgate
Eldon Square
Newcastle Upon Tyne
Tyne and Wear
NE1 7AB



27.07.06 - Manchester. Old Trafford - Soccer venue in 2012



Post Office :

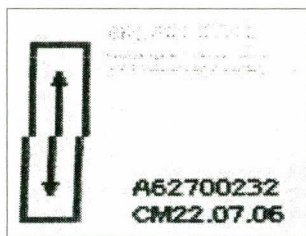


Trafford Park
450 Third Avenue
Manchester
M17 1FB

In this instance the post office with the most relevant name and postcode was selected in preference to the nearest.

Covers not mailed at a venue

23.07.06 Glasgow. Hampden Park - Soccer venue in 2012



The Roadshow visited Scotland on the 22nd. and 23rd. July, 2006.

The itinerary included Edinburgh, Perth and Aberdeen on Saturday 22nd., and Stirling and Glasgow on Sunday 23rd.

SmartStamps printed on Friday, Saturday or Sunday of the tour weekend all bear the Monday 'Post By' date of 24.07.06.

As Post Office counters do not operate on Sunday, it was not possible to obtain a local counter handstamp. The coding mark 'CM22.07.06' confirms mailing on Saturday coinciding with the visit of the Roadshow to Scotland.

Covers were eventually mailed from a greater number of post offices than originally envisaged. This was a result of a number of factors, mostly related to being able to justify working within striking distance of the various venues on the correct dates, or the date falling on Saturday, allowing a visit outside working hours. With cooperation between Bob Farley, Bob Wilcock and John Crowther, our postal commemoration of the 2006 Roadshow exceeded any expectations during initial planning. After over 2500 miles of delivering mail to post offices, there is one major regret - we did not manage to prepare any items for Lea Valley, the Canoe Slalom venue. At the time we were not anticipating such good overall coverage.



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