



TORCH BEARER



1924
 1928
 1932
 1936
 1940
 1944
 1948
 1952
 1956
 1960

1964
1968
1972
1976
1980
1984
1988

1992
 1994
 1998
 2002
2006
 2010
 2014

50th Anniversary of Melbourne 1956.



1896

1900
 1904
 1908
 1912
 1916
 1920
 1924
 1928
 1932
 1936

1940

1944

1948

1952

1956

1960

1964

1968

1972

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

CHAIRMAN AND EDITOR :	Bob Farley, 3 Wain Green, Long Meadow, Worcester, WR4 0HP, Great Britain. rfarleysoc@aol.com
VICE CHAIRMAN :	Bob Wilcock, 24 Hamilton Crescent, Brentwood, Essex, CM14 5 ES, Great Britain. bob@toward.freeseve.co.uk
SECRETARY :	Miss Paula Burger, 19 Hanbury Path, Sheerwater, Woking, Surrey, GU21 5RB Great Britain.
TREASURER AND ADVERTISING :	David Buxton, 88 Bucknell Road, Bicester, Oxon, OX26 2DR, Great Britain. david.buxton@ukf.net
AUCTION MANAGER :	John Crowther, 3 Hill Drive, Handforth, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 3AP, Great Britain. olcrow3@btinternet.com
DISTRIBUTION MANAGER, BACK ISSUES and LIBRARIAN :	Ken Cook, 31 Thorn Lane, Rainham, Essex, RM13 9SJ, Great Britain. kenny@rainham3.freeseve.co.uk
PACKET MANAGER	Brian Hammond, 6 Lanark Road, Ipswich, IP4 3EH brian.hammond57@ntlworld.com
WEB MANAGER	Mike Pagnamenos admin@societyofolympiccollectors.org
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.

CONTENTS

Front Page	146
Olympia and it's cancellations	147
Sapporo 1972 Mascots ?	154
XII Olympiad 1940 - Helsinki	155
Postal Stationery with an Olympic theme	166
Innsbruck 1964 - Postal stationery - Part 1	168
Notices	183
1956 Melbourne - 50th Anniversary, 2006	184

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 2007 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**.

**Remember the Society auction and exchange packet when
disposing of your duplicate material.**

- The Managers would be pleased to receive your lots.

Take the opportunity to reach fellow Olympic collectors

FRONT PAGE

I must open with an apology for the late publication of this issue of Torch Bearer, virtually all of the potential influences on timely publication conspired to make early publication impossible. [Apologies in advance, that proof reading has also been very limited].

My own commitment to life outside S.O.C. had to take priority both as a result of personal issues, and an unprecedented workload in my employment. These circumstances can usually be foreseen, or at least mitigated, but in this instance as I had also exhausted submitted articles, the situation was worsened - it was of no help to have a few free hours, a longer continuous period is necessary to create articles.

Whilst I can try to control or predict personal commitments, I do need some of you to submit articles or material to assist in timely publication.

Holiday, seasonal and New Year greetings and wishes will seem out of place by the time you receive this issue, but all of your committee trust that you will have enjoyed the holiday, and enter the New Year in good health, and looking forward to gaining enjoyment from your hobby.

The following letter appeared in the Winter 2006 issue of the Journal of Sports Philately - the publication of our fellow F.I.P.O. Society in the U.S.A.

Italian Turin Olympic stamps not FIPO-approved

Have read with interest and satisfaction the last number of the Journal [Summer 2006]. Thomas' article was excellent and does in fact reflect the postal history at Turin.

HOWEVER, FIPO MUST BRING TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COLLECTORS THAT THE ITALIAN STAMPS ISSUED IN 2005 AND 2006 WERE NOT APPROVED BY THE IOC. CERTAINLY, THEY ARE LEGAL FROM THE POSTAL POINT OF VIEW, BUT CONSIDERED ABUSIVE BY IOC/PHILATELY. A claim is under consideration and we sincerely hope that a settlement will be found; if not, the stamps will be declared to the UPU as abusive.

The medallists' stamps have become very popular after FIPO in partnership with Australia Post, launched them in 2000. In 2006, besides Austria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Belarus, and Australia launched medalists' stamps, approved and authorised by IOC/Philately.

Please bring the above letter to the attention of your readers.

Cordially yours,

Manfred Bergman.

Lausanne, Switzerland.

You will notice that this issue is reduced to 44 pages. This is to keep within the 100g. Weight band for the new PIP in the U.K. , as the subscription form would take us over-weight.

As a result, I cannot put my own thoughts on the above letter in this issue, but I would be very grateful for opinions from the membership - just consider very carefully all of the potential implications to our hobby, if host nation stamp issues become branded as 'abusive'.

OLYMPIA AND ITS CANCELLATIONS

The original article of this title written by our founder Franceska Rapkin, was published in The Stamp Magazine, August 1980. Content reflects circumstances at that date.

The article has been extended and supplemented for completeness and to reflect the outcome of the uncertainty at the time it was written.

At dawn, before the heat of the day has warmed the archaic stones and the tourists from all over the world fill the air with their chatter, it is easy to realise why the sanctuary of Olympia was regarded as a sacred place in ancient times. Long before the Olympic Games were formalised in 776BC, the grove was a place of worship to the ancient gods of Greece, and the ruins of the most recent temple of Hera are, in fact, those of the second temple built on the site, the earlier one dating to circa 1150BC, one of the earliest shrines in all Greece. With the early morning sun glinting through the olive trees, and a wraith-like mist still clinging to the weathered columns, it does not take much imagination to conjure up the ghosts of long-dead athletes and to hear in the mind the crowds cheering Coreobus, the first man to feel the victor's wreath on his brow at the first recorded Olympic Games.



figure 1.

The ancient Olympic Games lasted for nearly 11 centuries and were considered of such importance to the Greek world that a four-year span of time came to be known as an olympiad. They were finally discontinued in 393AD on the orders of the Roman emperor Theodosius, who promised Ambrogio, the Bishop of Milan, that he would uphold the sanctity of the church, quash all pagan rites within the empire, and spread Christianity wherever possible. Earthquakes tumbled the ancient shrines, the silt from the Apeos and Kladeus rivers covered all that remained of the site, and Olympia, the valley, the sanctuary and the games, slept for 15 centuries. Brutal, gory displays took the place of the noble contests of the Greeks, and hunting and jousting were the sporting highlights of the Middle Ages.

Olympia, the fantasy of the past, began to intrigue men again after the discovery and the translation of the poems by Pindar and the travelogues of Pausanius, and the sanctuary lived again in the minds of men inspired by the poetry and prose of the ancient writers. Ernest Curtius, a German archaeologist, visited the buried temples of the sanctuary in 1838, but it was not until 1875, when he returned backed by German money, that he started a systematic excavation of Olympia, hidden in some places under 16ft of silt. It took six years for him to carry out only a partial excavation, and although further areas were uncovered by the Germans in 1935, it was not until the Greeks themselves started excavating in the 1950s that the whole sanctuary was at last completely uncovered. An early discovery of Ernest Curtius, and considered to be one of the most important finds at Olympia, was the statue of the Nike of Pionios. The reconstruction of the beautiful statue of the winged goddess of Victory was used for the 5 Drachma value of the set of stamps issued in 1896 to commemorate the first modern Olympic Games in Athens.

It is perhaps easiest to see the heritage that has been handed down through the intervening centuries in the stadium itself. The track is exactly 192.27 metres (200 yards) long, the width is such that 20 athletes could compete at the same time, and at the start, stone slabs set into the earth had slits cut into them for toes and fingers to be inserted to give the runners a good 'push-off', much the same as today. The stadium had a capacity for over 40,000 spectators and athletes, and even if there were no tiers, the rake of the banked earth was such that a clear view could be had of the arena from any position.

Another who was inspired by the tales of Pausanias and Pindar was Pierre de Coubertin, the French baron, who made his life's work the revival of the Olympic Games. At a meeting held in Paris in 1894, many of the world's leading philanthropists and sportsmen decided that it would be possible to revive the Games, and Greece was chosen as a natural venue for such a venture. At the time, a revival at Olympia itself could not be contemplated, as it was remote and difficult to reach except by donkey cart over bad roads, which were little better than primitive tracks. The site finally chosen was the Herodius Atticus stadium in Athens, originally built in the sixth century BC, and the new stadium was built on its ruins.

In April 1896 when the first modern Olympiad was held in Athens, Olympia had no post office of its own, so there are no cancellations from this period that bear the name 'Olympia' either from the sanctuary or from the village, and the Games in Athens are commemorated only by the stamps. A post office was opened at Olympia village on September 15, 1899, and this is still the only post office near the site. The first postmark was in use for approximately ten years and was a double ring cancel with a diameter of 24mm. (figure 1). When one considers the small population of the village, with little passing trade and even fewer tourists, it is not surprising that this is one of the rarest of all the Olympia cancellations. Much easier to find is the second cancellation (figure 2) which was in use until the 1920s. The cancellation made up of a broken circle (figure 3) was that used by the telegraph office, and was only very rarely used to cancel postage stamps. During the 1930s, the double ring canceller with a diameter of 29mm. (figure 4) was in use, and this postmark is often found in conjunction with stationery prepared for the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin.

In April 1896 when the first modern Olympiad was held in Athens, Olympia had no post office of its own, so there are no cancellations from this period that bear the name 'Olympia' either from the sanctuary or from the village, and the Games in Athens are commemorated only by the stamps.



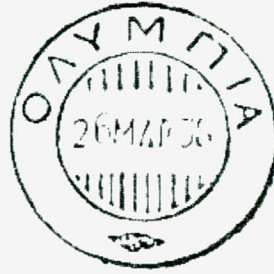
figure 2.

A post office was opened at Olympia village on September 15, 1899, and this is still the only post office near the site. The first postmark was in use for approximately ten years and was a double ring cancel with a diameter of 24mm. (figure 1). When one considers the small population of the village, with little passing trade and even fewer tourists, it is not surprising that this is one of the rarest of all the Olympia cancellations. Much easier to find is the second cancellation (figure 2) which was in use until the 1920s. The cancellation made up of a broken circle (figure 3) was that used by the telegraph office, and was only very rarely used to cancel postage stamps.

figure 3.



figure 4.



During the 1930s, the double ring canceller with a diameter of 29mm. (figure 4) was in use, and this postmark is often found in conjunction with stationery prepared for the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin.

Fire ceremonies had played a part in ancient Greek's sacred rites, and although a fire had sometimes burned in a brazier at earlier modern Olympiads, it was only in 1936 that a torch relay from the archaeological stadium at Olympia to the modern stadium in Berlin was introduced. The flame was lit on July 20, by means of the sun's rays, by 20 Greek maidens in flowing robes, and then by human chain through Greece, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Austria and



figure 5.

From 1939, a special cancellation was used at all Greek archaeological sites, with only the symbol being changed to suit the site. These had a diameter of 29mm. and that of Olympia incorporated a torch as its symbol (figure 6). This cancellation with the date July 17, 1948 is much sought after by Olympic collectors, for on this day the flame was again lit for the 14th Olympiad in London from July 29 to August 14. It was a time of austerity and economy, and although the Games were again held after two Olympiads had been cancelled because of the war, no arrangements for celebrations were made at the ancient site for the torch ceremony, and no special handstamp was prepared. Once lit, the flame was carried by armoured car to Athens and thence by air to London.

In 1952 a campaign was launched throughout Greece to encourage tourism, and several of the more important archaeological sites used a cancellation similar to that used at Olympia with, again, a diameter of 29mm. (figure 7). In that year, the 15th Olympic Games were held in Helsinki, Finland, from July 19 to August 3 and, again, no special cancellation was used at Olympia to commemorate the lighting of the flame. However, for the next Olympiad, held in Melbourne, Australia, in 1956, a special cancellation was again used (figure 8).

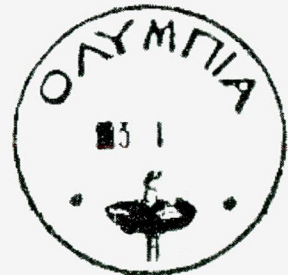
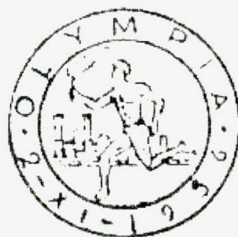


figure 6.

figure 7.



figure 8.



As in 1936, it was used only for the one day, on September 2, and it had a diameter of 24mm., smaller than most of the other Olympia commemorative cancellations. The flame was carried to Athens, and from there travelled by Qantas Airlines to Australia. A total of 2,000 numbered covers cancelled with the handstamp accompanied the flame on the flight, and these were subsequently cancelled on their arrival in Australia. The 17th Olympiad was held in Rome in 1960, and again a special handstamp was used for one day only at Olympia to commemorate the lighting of the flame on August 12 (figure 9). In 1964, the 18th Olympiad was held in Tokyo and the cancellation used at Olympia is illustrated in figure 10.



figure 9.



figure 10.



figure 11.

Near to the archaeological site, there are now three museums. The oldest dates from 1886 and until recently housed most of the important finds from Olympia, including the Nike, and the statue of Hermes by Praxiteles. Most of these treasures have now been moved to the new archaeological museum, less than 200 yards away. The third museum at Olympia is that dedicated to the modern Olympic Games and contains paintings, photographs, medals, documents and a comprehensive collection of postage stamps relating to the modern era. It was officially opened on September 3, 1961, and although no special postmark was used to commemorate the event, a special handstamp has been used annually since 1961 when the Congress of the International Olympic Academy is in session. Most of the cancellations incorporate the head from the statue of Hermes by Praxiteles (figure 11), one of the best known of all early Greek classical sculptures.



figure 12.

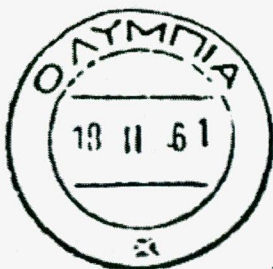


figure 13.

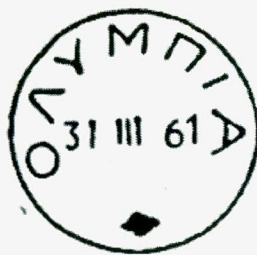


figure 14.

Pierre de Coubertin died in Paris in 1937, and in his will he requested that, although his body should be buried in France, his heart should be buried at Olympia. The following year his wife carried out his request and took his heart for interment at the ancient site. One of the rarest Olympia cancellations is that shown in figure 12. It was used for one day only on March 26, 1963 to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the day that Pierre de Coubertin's heart was placed in the urn at Olympia.

Over the years, several different cancellations of a non-commemorative nature have been used at Olympia, some with the name written only in Greek characters (figures 13 and 14), while another cancellation used in the early 1960s used both Greek and Roman characters for the name (figure 15). More recently, the name on the cancellation has been changed to Ancient Olympia (figure 16). The earlier cancellation has a diameter of 30mm. while the one in use in July 1979, when I visited Olympia is somewhat smaller with a diameter of only 24mm. (figure 17).

At the time of writing, the outcome of the Moscow Olympics was uncertain. Several nations had indicated that they would follow the lead of the United States of America and boycott the games if Russia did not withdraw her troops from Afghanistan.

The route from Olympia to Moscow is 4,836km long. Plans for carrying the torch, again by human chain, had been drawn up well in advance: the flame was to be lit with the help of the sun's rays on June 19 and Greek runners would carry the torch for the first 1,136km through Athens, Patras, Corinth, Thebes and Salonika to the Greco-Bulgarian border, following pretty much the same route as that used in 1936. Here Bulgarian runners would take over the flame for the next 865km through Sofia, Plovdiv and Plevan. On July 1, the Bulgarian-Rumanian border would be reached and for the next 577km Rumanian athletes would take the torch via Bucharest, Ploiesti, Focsani to Iasi at the Soviet border.



figure 15.



figure 16.



figure 17.

On July 5, the flame would be on Russian soil for the first time, where for the first 371km it would pass through the Moldavian Socialist Soviet Republic, and through the capital, Kischinow. After this, Ukrainian runners would carry the torch for the next 1,117km, via Kiev and Charkow. Before reaching the outskirts of Moscow and the last 47km of the journey, the flame would cross 697km of the USSR, to arrive in Moscow on July 18, then burn at the Executive Committee of the Moscow City Soviet until the following day, when it would be taken by the final runner to the Lenin Stadium in time for the opening ceremonies.

Whatever the outcome of the Moscow Olympiad, it could well be that the Games may return to Olympia. The suggestion of Konstantin Karamanlis, the Greek Prime Minister, that the Games should be returned for all time to Greece, at a site near to that of the ancient stadium at Olympia, is worth considering. If the Olympics are to survive to celebrate their centenary, let alone the 11 centuries they survived in ancient times, then politics and excessive nationalism must be eliminated from the contest, because in such an atmosphere it is impossible for the athletes to participate in the spirit which Pierre de Coubertin intended. In pre-historic times, Olympia was a sacred site, where strife did not exist. Perhaps Mr Karamanlis had the right idea when he suggested that a new Olympic site at Olympia should be considered international ground so that war and politics could not interfere with what should be a happy gathering of the world's athletes in sporting combat.



Postal stationery card with additional franking, showing concurrent use of the cancels in figures 14 and 15 during December 1960. Note also the boxed Registration mark with manuscript number.



Innsbruck 1964

The ceremony for the lighting of the Olympic Flame at Olympia has been marked by a special handstamp on most occasions. A selection of the designs used until 1988 are illustrated.



Grenoble 1968



Mexico 1968



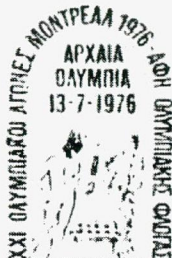
Sapporo 1972



Munich 1972



Innsbruck 1976



Montreal 1976



Lake Placid 1980



Moscow 1980



Sarajevo 1984



Calgary 1988

SAPPORO 1972 Mascots?

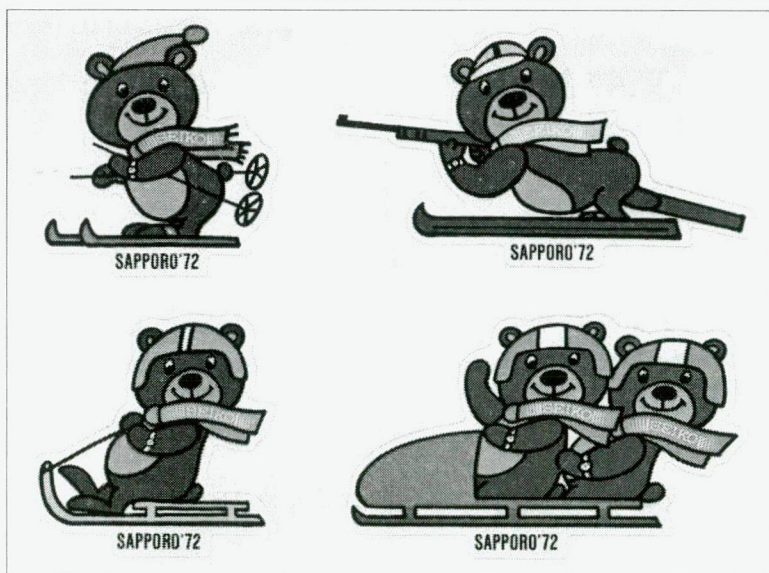
The Olympic Winter Games held in Sapporo were the last Games that did not have an official mascot as part of the marketing strategy.

It appears that SEIKO were ahead of the field as these self-adhesive stickers demonstrate.

This little 'bear' character wears a scarf with the name SEIKO during all of his sporting poses - he also wears a wristwatch for obvious reasons.

Each of the sporting figures are die-cut for removal as individual stickers.

The sheet as obtained, is 470 x 193mm, and has been separated for illustration.



XII OLYMPIAD 1940 - HELSINKI

The following article is compiled from material submitted by members. It seems from the level of responses and submissions received from members, that the XIIIth Olympic Games are a topic of particular interest.

Special thanks to Edwin Parrash for his contribution which also provided the outline for the article.



Helsinki - Host City for the XIIIth Olympic Games.

On July 31, 1936, Helsinki were lost their bid to host the XII Olympic Games to Tokyo by a vote of 36 to 27, but due to involvement in the Sino-Japanese war, Japan withdrew from the organisation of the Olympic Games.

The Olympic Games were then awarded to Helsinki in July 1938.

Publicity label for the Helsinki bid, in French text, used in advance of the original 1936 vote.

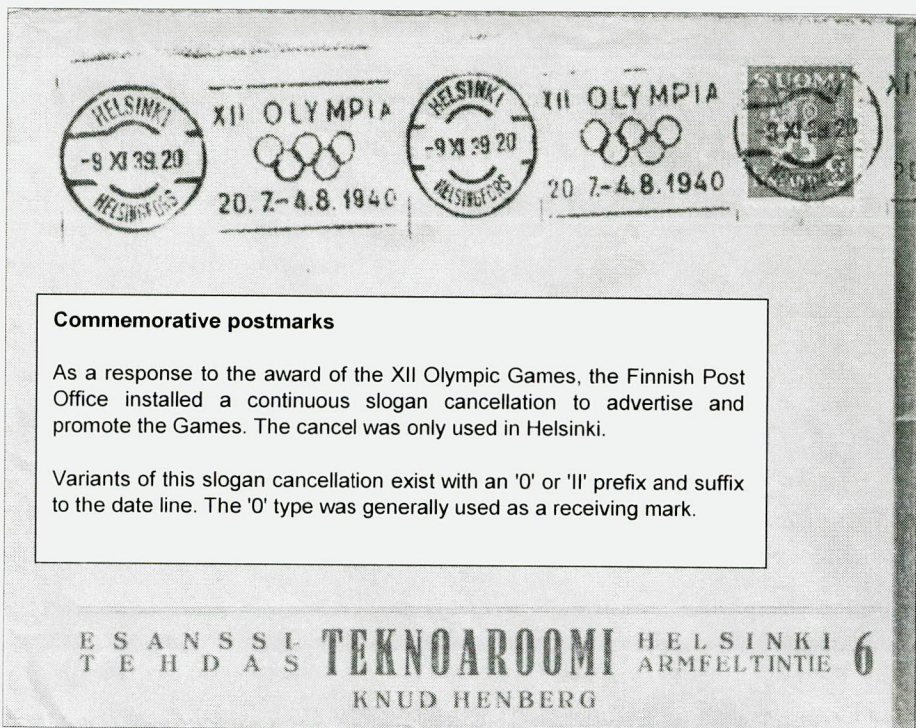


Vignettes / labels

Rectangular (design 56 x 32mm).
Blue and red printing on gummed paper.

Versions in four languages:

- German;
- French (illustrated);
- Swedish;
- English.

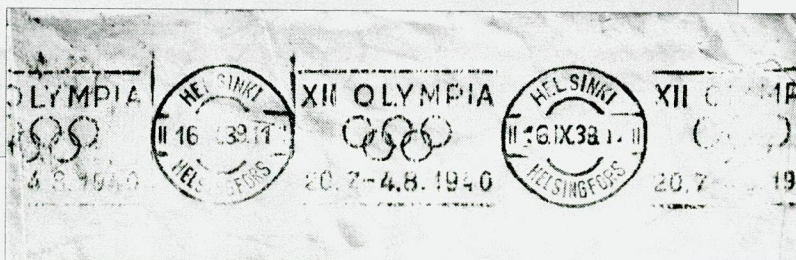
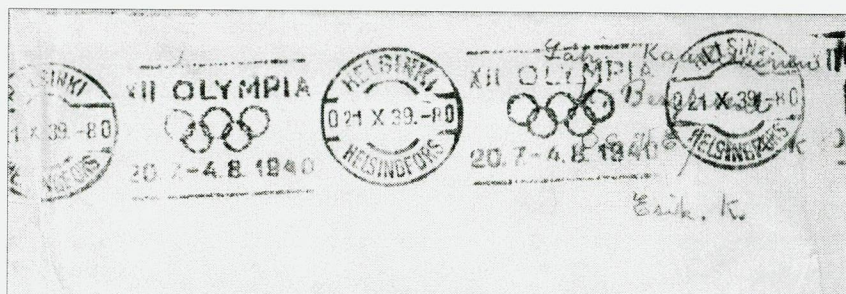


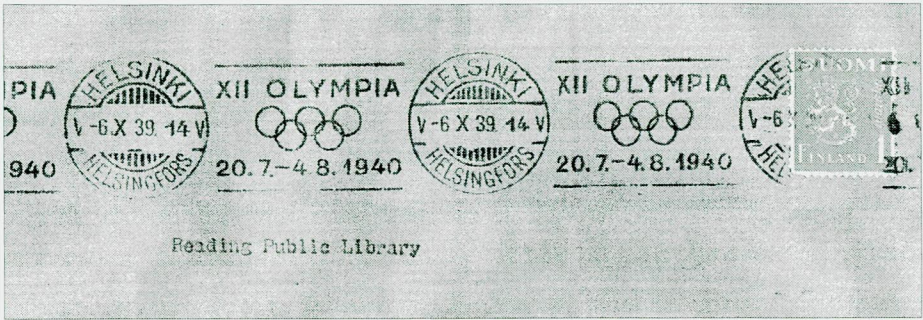
Commemorative postmarks

As a response to the award of the XII Olympic Games, the Finnish Post Office installed a continuous slogan cancellation to advertise and promote the Games. The cancel was only used in Helsinki.

Variants of this slogan cancellation exist with an 'O' or 'II' prefix and suffix to the date line. The 'O' type was generally used as a receiving mark.

ESANSSI TEHDAS **TEKNOAROOMI** HELSINKI 6
 ARMFELTINTIE
 KNUD HENBERG





HELSINKI machine cancel with bar shading to segments above and below date, 'V' prefix and suffix.

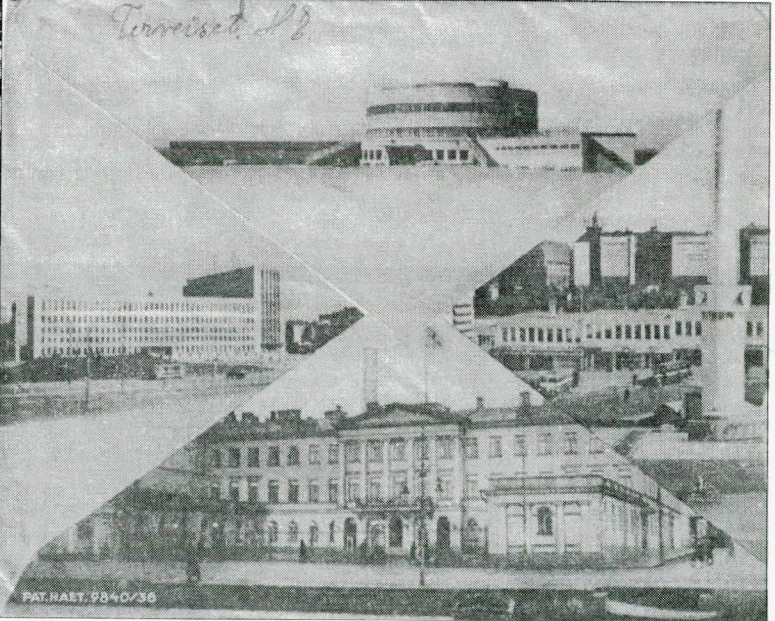
Both Edwin and the vendor from whom he purchased the item from consider that this cancel appears scarce because it was used on 'Third Class' mail. This illustration is a detail from a Bank of Finland Monthly Bulletin and is on brown wrapper type paper.

Commemorative covers

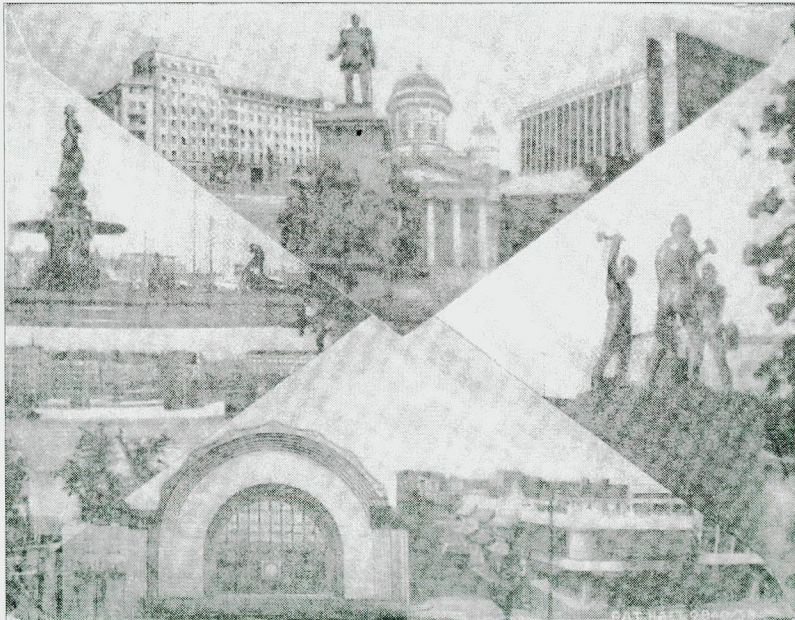
Promotional covers, with overall illustrations were also introduced for general / commercial use. The front of this cover shows the Olympic Stadium with it's distinctive tower.

A number of variant illustrated backs exist, and the Stadium front also appears at different scales.





The backs of two promotional covers, one with famous statues, the other with views of prominent buildings in Helsinki.



A further example of an illustrated cover specifically for use by Stiller Company.



Tarkastettu 20. 10. 39 ann. as. N:o 348 nojalla.
 Kansainvälinen yleisurheilun maailmanmestaruuskilpailut, Helsinki, 1938.



Heimtag

Tarkastettu 20. 10. 39 ann. as.
 Kansainvälinen yleisurheilun maailmanmestaruuskilpailut, Helsinki, 1938.

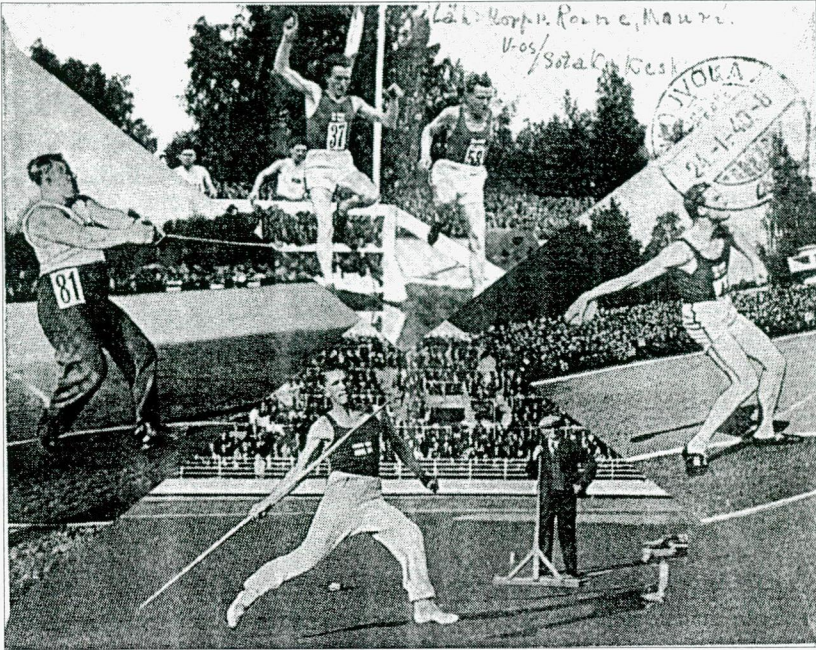


Fräulein Elfriede Schuster.

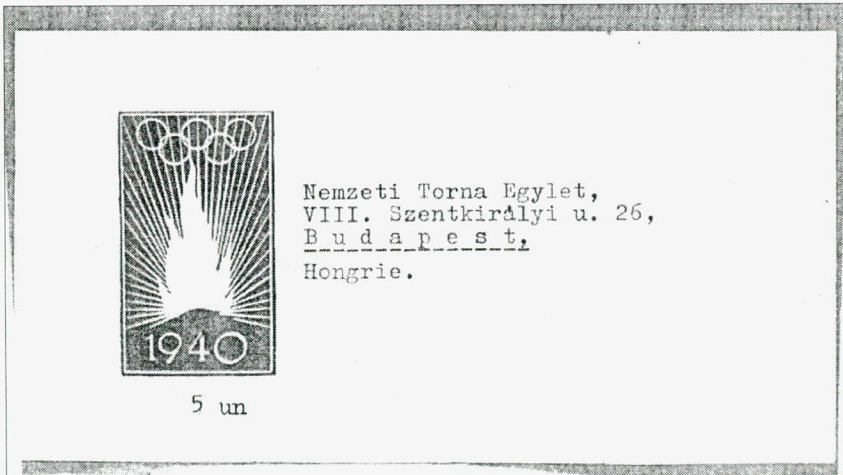


Widen / Bayr. Ostm.
 Wäthstr. 12.
 Deutschland.

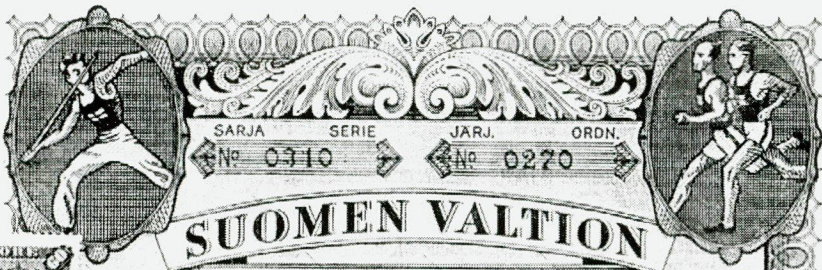
Illustrated 'athletics' cover with scenes depicting the events in which Finland excel. Postal use with German censor labels.



Unobstructed view of the back of the athletics cover shown on the previous page.



Helsinki 1940 mailing label correctly used on a fragment of package wrapper.



SUOMEN VALTION FINSKA STATENS

OLYMPIA **OLYMPISKA**
KINTO-OBLIGATIONSLOAINA • PREMIEOBLIGATIONSLOAN
KAKSISATAAMILJONNAA MARKKAA • Å TVÅHUNDRAMILJONER MARK
JOSTA TAMÄ OBLIGATIO MÄÄRÄLTÄÄN • VARAV DENNA OBLIGATION Ä

SEXTIO
ORB
7

KAKSISATAA

200

TVÄHUNDRA

MARKKAA
ON OSA.

MARK
ÄR EN DEL.

Obligation osallistuu vuosina 1939-1943 yhteensä kymmeneen voittojen arvontaan. Viimeisen arvontan jälkeen maksetaan tästä obligatiosta luovutusta kaksisataa (200) markkaa.

Obligationen deltagar under åren 1939-1943 inalles i tio utlottningar av vinster. Efter den sista utlottningen inlöses denna obligation med tvåhundra (200) mark.



Helsingissä, joulukuulla 1938.

Helsingfors, i december 1938.

Matti Rauha

J. W. Mäkelä

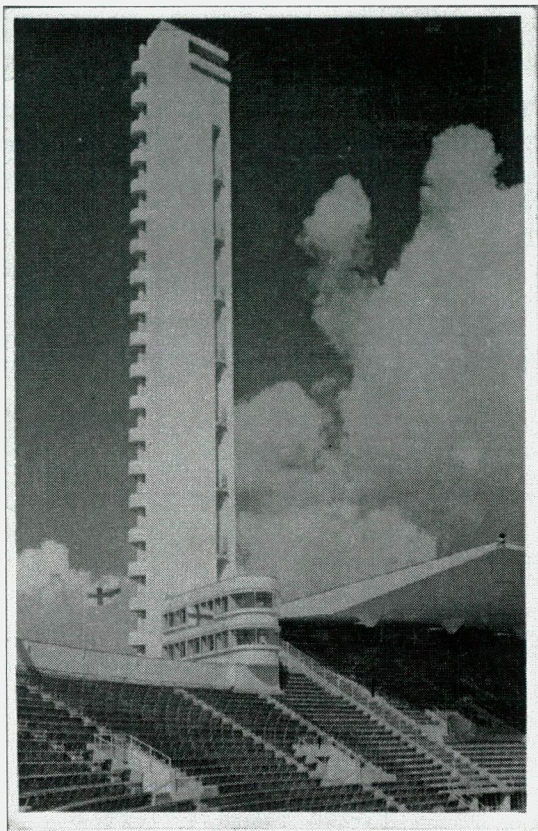
SARJA SERIE
No 0310

JÄRJ. ORDN
No 0270

1938

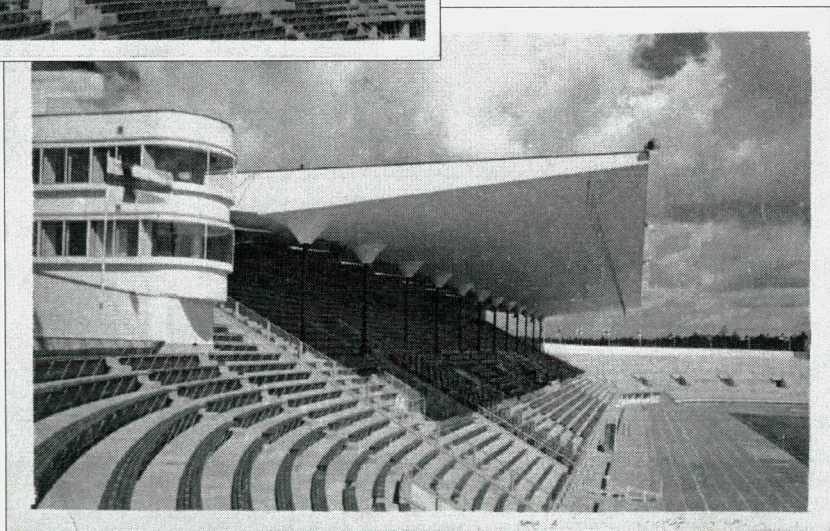
SUOMEN PANKIN SETTELIPAINO

Helsinki 1940, 1938 Bond issued to assist funding of the XIIth Olympic Games.



Postcards

A number of real photographic postcards showing scenes of the Stadium, and its distinctive tower are found postally used during the period that the Organising Committee were in operation.





Vignettes / labels

Following award of the Games to Helsinki, new vignettes were produced.

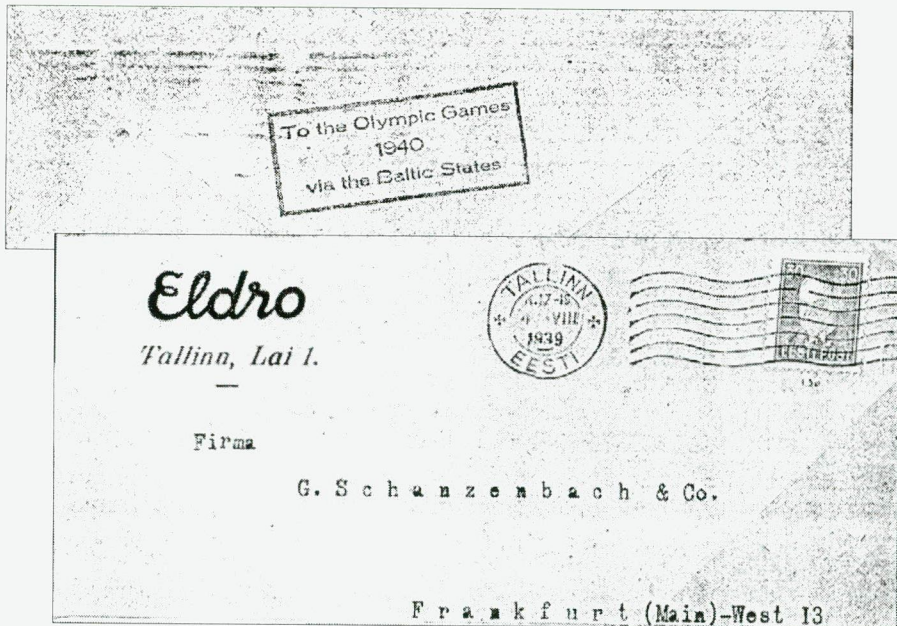
Circular (42mm diameter), blue printing and embossed on gummed paper.

Versions in eight languages:

- German;
- French;
- Swedish (illustrated);
- Finnish;
- English;
- Spanish;
- Italian.

Regional Impact

The Baltic States recognised the potential commercial and touristic opportunities presented by the Olympic Games being awarded to Helsinki.

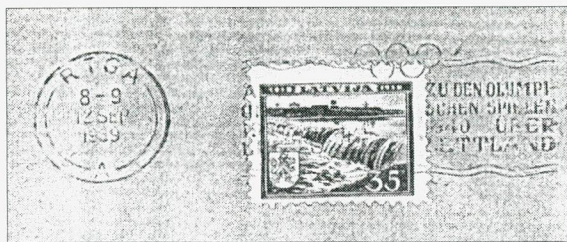


To the Olympic Games / 1940 / Via the Baltic States

A private handstamp, drawing attention to the upcoming Games. Used on the back of a cover from Tallin in Estonia in August 1939.



A slogan cancellation was used in Latvia urging people to go to the Games via Latvia. 'AUX JEUX / OLYMPIQUES / 1940 VIA LA / LETTONIE' Dater letter C It has been used on this card in January 1940, mailed from Riga to Hannover, Germany. There is also a fine strike of the German censor marking used in Königsberg.



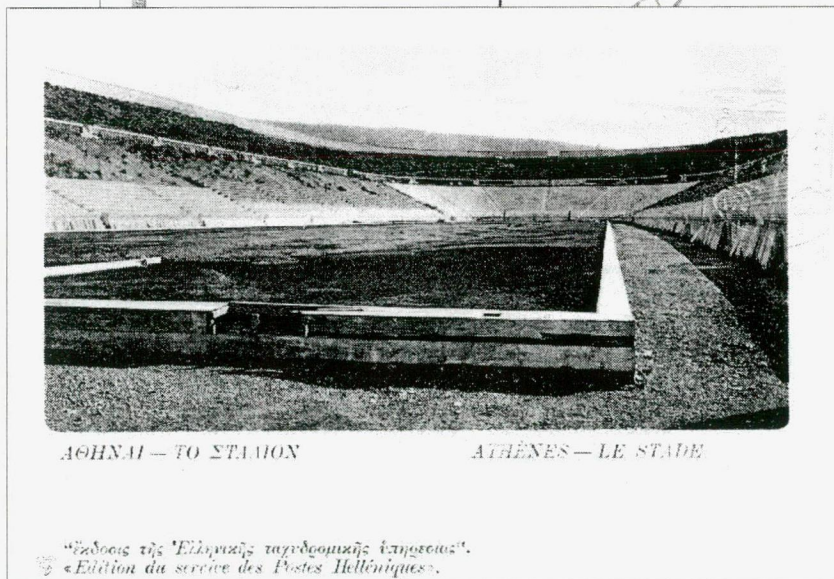
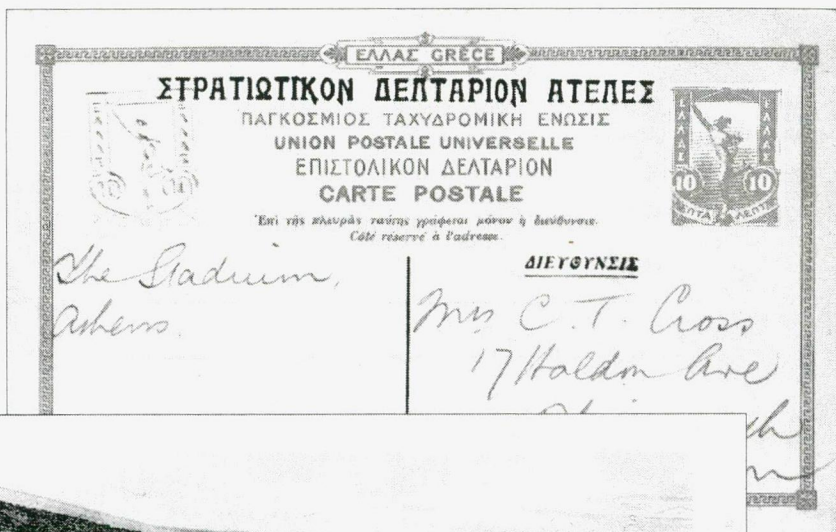
The Riga slogan cancellation used in September 1939 with dater A.

Promotional vignette - multicoloured.
 'To the Olympic Games 1940 via the Baltic States'. 40 x 65mm.



Further material from members would be welcome to enable expansion of the information in this article.

POSTAL STATIONERY WITH AN OLYMPIC THEME



Postal stationery can be defined as as a postal item pre-paid for transmission, where the imprint of the postal value indicia is printed at the time of production.

Common items of postal stationery include:

- Pre paid postal cards;
- Pre paid envelopes;
- Pre paid airmail envelopes;
- Pre paid air letter sheets (aerogrammes);
- Pre paid packaging in the form of sachets or cartons.

Initially, postal stationery was offered as a convenience. The ability to purchase both the material for correspondence in the form of a card or a letter sheet, and pay for the cost of mailing at the same time negated any need to stock letter writing materials.

For security reasons, the designs printed on some early postal stationery were quite elaborate, or included secondary features such as embossing to avoid forgery.

By the 1890's, postal stationery items were being produced to commemorate events, or act as tourist mementoes - illustrated postal stationery cards developed in parallel with illustrated postcards.

Postal stationery items have been produced by the postal administrations of host nations of the Olympic Games since 1924, and continue to play a part in most philatelic programmes.

Postal stationery can be categorised in a number of ways, the most obvious being the type of postal item - letter, card, envelope, package etc.

Possibly the second most obvious would be the market to which it applies:

- universal freely available for use by all;
- official for use by the postal administration;
- printed to order, for use / sale by the client instructing printing.
- special purpose, distributed for reply etc.

In more recent times, as a result of licensing by postal authorities for a vast array of services, many other items exist. As an example, in many countries, business reply mail can be created by printing a design and permit number so that the mail cost is charged to the recipient - from a large total print run, postal costs are only paid for the mail that is actually transmitted, and the printing is carried out without the involvement of the postal authority.

The recent expanding use of Postally Paid Impressions operates in a similar manner with varying degrees of control by the postal authority which may be insistence on a permit or licence number, or design control of the postal indicia.

Items directly produced by the postal authorities will general be recorded, and as such will become known to collectors, although those for official (commercial) use are rarely notified, and recording is dependant on the sharing of knowledge between collectors.

Over a series of articles, it is intended to review postal stationery items of all types, in the hope that interest may be stirred in this interesting philatelic area. Postal stationery can be a very rich source of material for a thematic collector.

The 10 Lepta postal card, issued by the Hellenic Post Office and illustrated on the previous page shows a view of the Stadium in Athens, and could clearly find a home in an Olympic collection, although it was not issued to directly commemorate an Olympic Games.

Future articles will not follow a strict chronological order, they will follow a random pattern, trying to offer a balance of previously published and 'new' information.

INNSBRUCK 1964 - Postal stationery - Part 1

To commemorate the IXth Olympic Winter Games, Austria Post issued a series of 7 commemorative stamps on November 11, 1963. The figure skating design of the 1.80 Sch. Stamp was also used as the postal imprint for postal stationery cards.

In total, 69 postal stationery cards were issued, with imprints as series 37, 38 and 39, all were issued with the aim of promoting Austria as a tourist destination, with a headline text of 'Come to Austria!' in English, German and French.

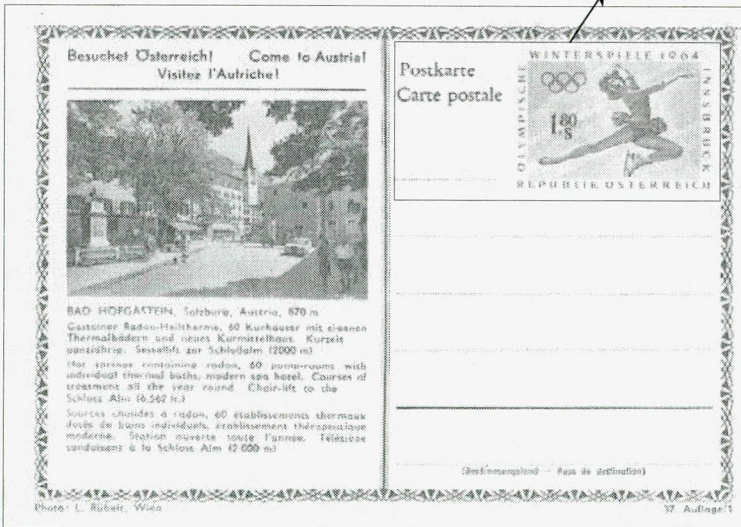
Each card bears a view of a location with tri-lingual explanatory text on the address side.

The backs of the cards are blank for messages. These Olympic cards continued the usual Austria Post policy of issuing series of postal stationery cards each year.

The cards are on relatively thin stock, which means that used examples in good condition are very difficult to find.

These cards are described or listed in a number of publications, but they are rarely illustrated.

All printing is in a single colour, with significant variations in the shade of the basic magenta. The card is buff coloured.

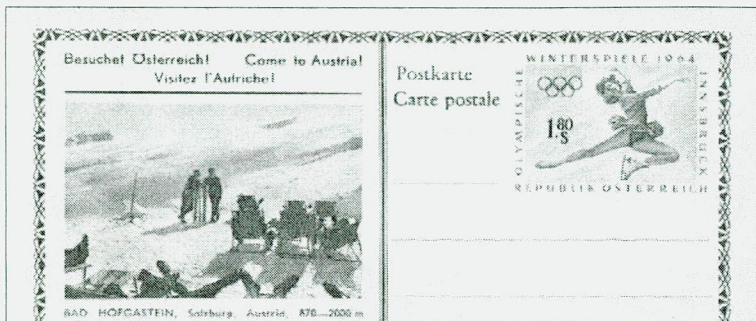


Series 37

Imprint: 37.1

BAD
HOFGASTEIN,
Salzburg,
Austria, 870 m.

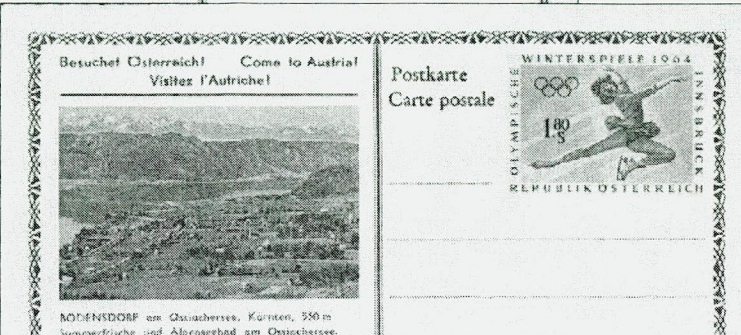
All cards of the
series have the
same basic
format.



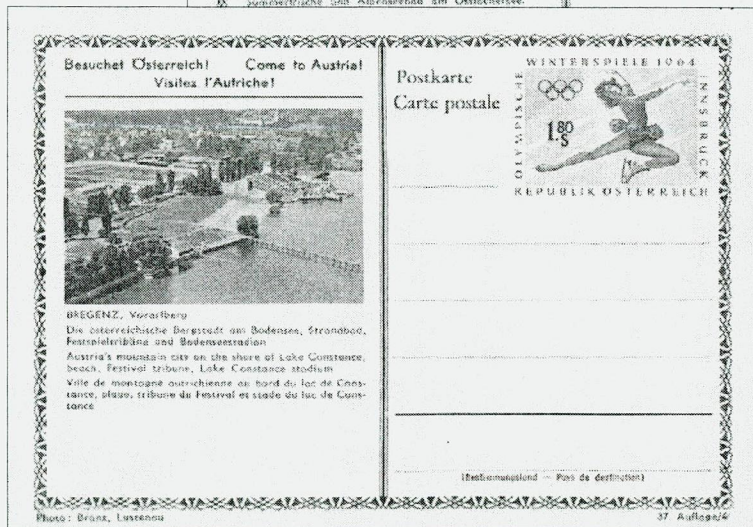
BAD HOGCASTEIN, Salzburg, Austria, 870-2000 m

Winterort und Winter-
großste Skifahrer-
Ebnen, Fenschlitten,
Wintersport sind
Exzellente skisport, ch
marline, numerous are
Sports d'hiver et sur
descendentes aménagees
a cordons et, rochers en

Photo: Siegfried W. Jäger



NOUDERSDORF am Ossiachersee, Kärnten, 550 m
Sunnewerke und Albenwand am Ossiachersee.



BREGENZ, Vorarlberg

Die österreichische Bergwelt am Bodensee, Stronobad,
Festspieltribüne und Sporthallen
Austria's mountain city on the shore of Lake Constance,
beach, Festival tribune, Lake Constance stadium
Ville de montagne autrichienne au bord du lac de Cons-
tance, plage, tribune du Festival et stade du lac de Cons-
tance

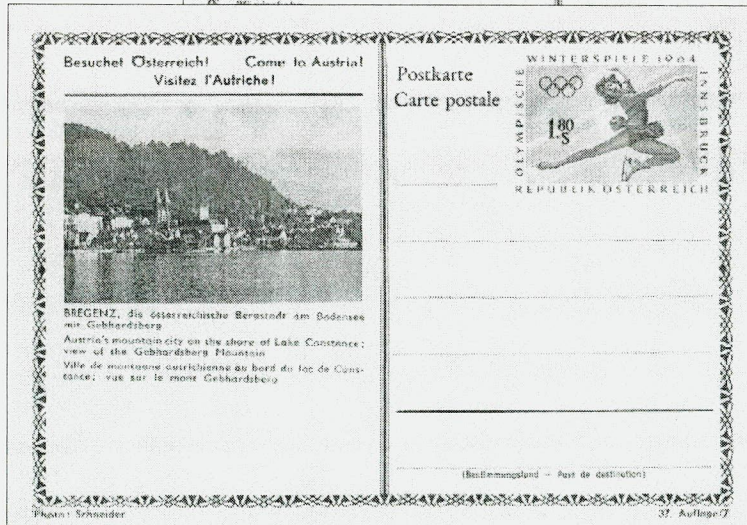
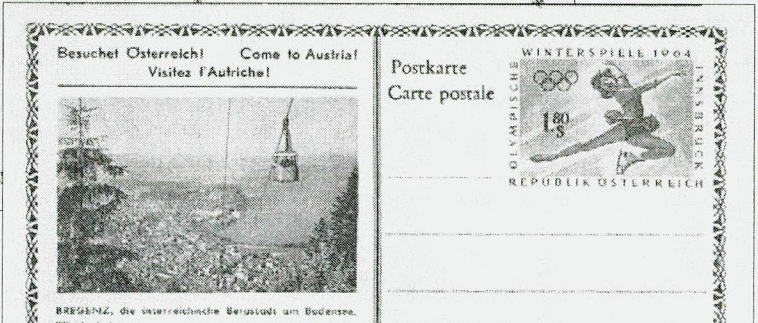
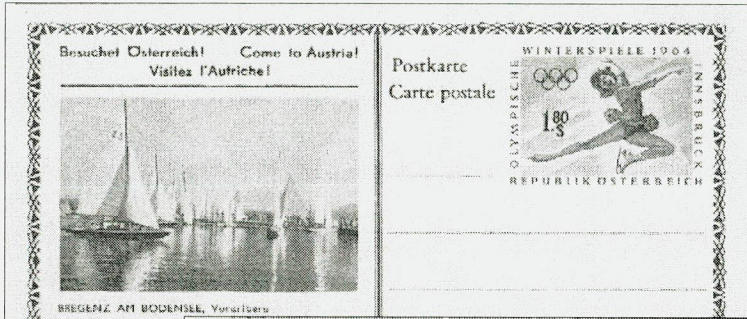
Photo: B. Brant, Lustenau

37. Auflage/4

Top: 37.2 : BAD HOGCASTEIN, Salzburg, Austria, 870-2000 m.

Mid: 37.3 : BODENS DORF am Ossiachersee, Kärnten, 550 m.

Bottom: 37.4 : BREGENZ, Vorarlberg.

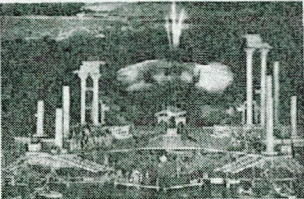


Top: 37.5 : BREGENZ AM BODENSEE, Vorarlberg.

Mid: 37.6 : BREGENZ

Bottom: 37.7 : BREGENZ

Besuchet Österreich! Come to Austria!
Visitez l'Autriche!



BREGENZ
Nächstliche Festspiele auf der Rosenbühne auf dem Bodensee
Festival performance a l'air oux on Lake Constance
Représentation scénique sur la scène s'étoilé

Postkarte
Carte postale




Photo: Bronz, Lustenau

Besuchet Österreich! Come to Austria!
Visitez l'Autriche!

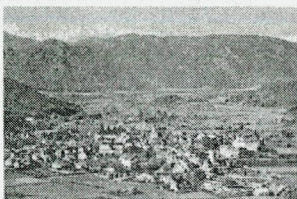


FELDKIRCH, Vorarlberg, Austria, 457 m
Mittelalterliche, malerisch gelegene Stadt aus dem

Postkarte
Carte postale




Besuchet Österreich! Come to Austria!
Visitez l'Autriche!



FELDKIRCHEN, Kärnten, 560 m
Mittelpunkt des Berg- und Seenlandes Kärnten
Holiday resort in the heart of the district of mountains and lakes of Carinthia
Villégiature au cœur de la région des lacs et des montagnes de Carinthie

Postkarte
Carte postale



(Bestimmungsland) pays de destination

37. Auflage/9

- Top: 37.8 : BREGENZ
Mid: 37.9 : FELDKIRCH, Austria, 457 m.
Bottom: 37.10 : FELDKIRCHEN, Kärnten, 560 m.

Besuchet Österreich! Come to Austria!
Visitez l'Autriche!



MARIA WÖRTH-REIFNITZ-DELLACH-SEEKIRN
am Wörthersee, Kärnten, 446 m.

Luftkurort, Alpensees
Golfplatz, Tennis, W
See-bäder, Beachcl
Climatic health resor
summer holiday reso
skiing, fishing, W
Tennis: Play to Oxi
Station climatique s
après-ski Terrain
chasse, pêche, Sérvi
ing de Wörth. Saut

Photo: Gröndler, Salzburg

Postkarte
Carte postale

WINTERSPIELE 1964
OLYMPISCHE
1,80
S
REPUBLIK ÖSTERREICH

Besuchet Österreich! Come to Austria!
Visitez l'Autriche!

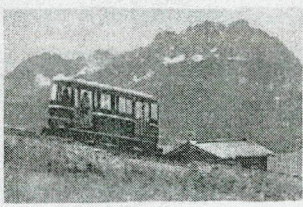


PÖRSCHACH am Wörthersee, Kärnten, Austria, 446 m.

Postkarte
Carte postale

WINTERSPIELE 1964
OLYMPISCHE
1,80
S
REPUBLIK ÖSTERREICH

Besuchet Österreich! Come to Austria!
Visitez l'Autriche!



ST. JOHANN IN TIROL, Autriche
Sommerfrische und Wintersportplatz am Fuße
des Wilden Kaisers und des Kitzbüheler Horns,
moderne Strandbäder, Übungsfeld, Tennisplätze,
après-ski Lodge
Summer holiday resort and winter sports centre
at the foot of the Wilder Kaiser and Kitzbüheler Horn
Mountains, modern facilities, ski-lift, tennis courts,
important traffic-junction
Station estivale et centre de sports d'hiver au pied
des monts Wilder Kaiser et Kitzbüheler Horn,
facilités modernes, remonte-pente, terrains de tennis,
important nœud routier

Photo: Zechner, St. Johann in Tirol

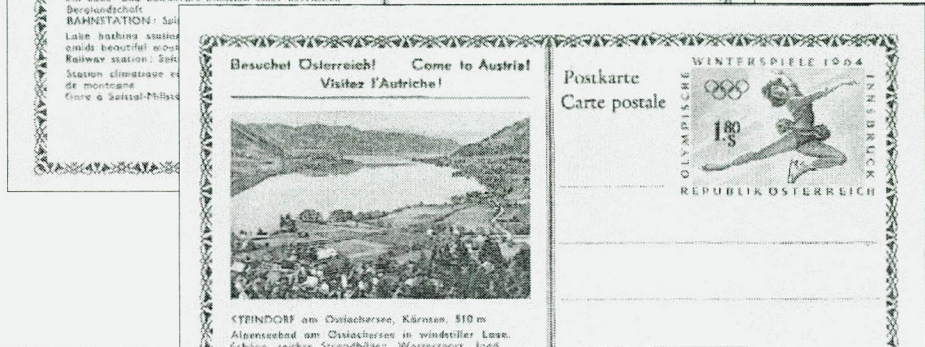
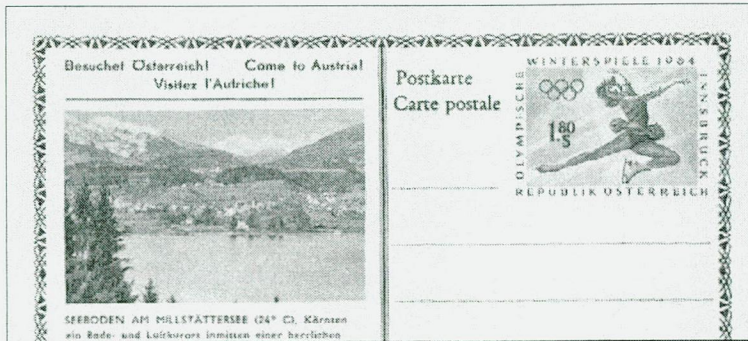
Postkarte
Carte postale

WINTERSPIELE 1964
OLYMPISCHE
1,80
S
REPUBLIK ÖSTERREICH

(Bestimmungsland — Pays de destination)

37. Auflage/13

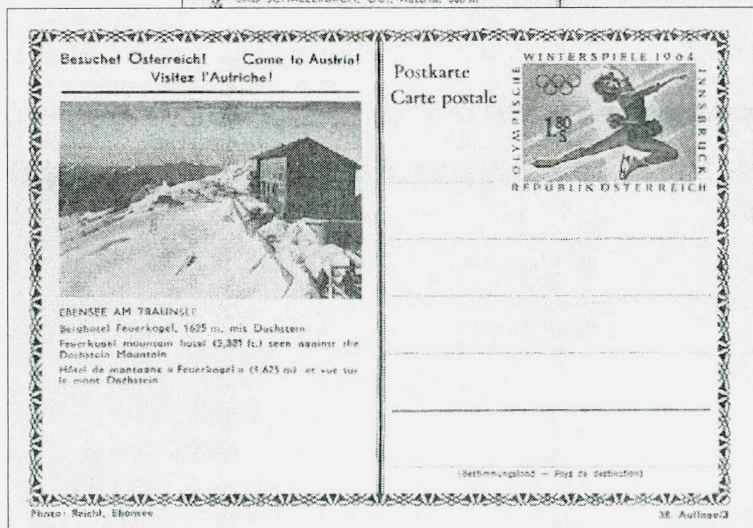
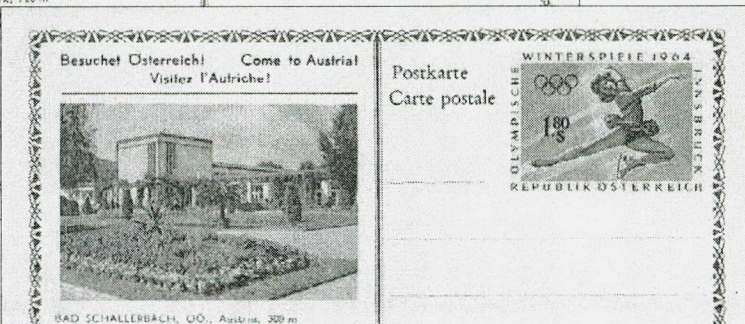
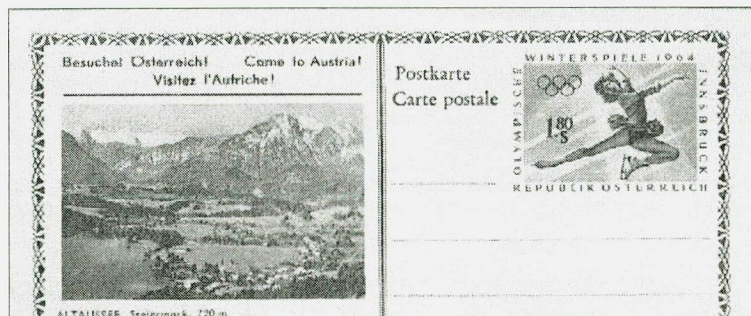
Top: 37.11 : MARIA WÖRTH-REIFNITZ-DELLACH-SEEKIRN
Mid: 37.12 : PÖRSCHACH
Bottom: 37.13 : ST. JOHANN IN TIROL



Top: 37.14 : SEEBODEN AM MILLSTÄTTERSEE

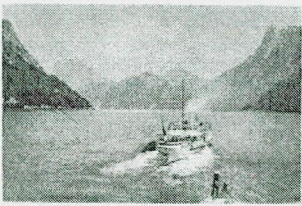
Mid: 37.15 : STEINDORF

Bottom: 37.16 : VELDEN AM WÖRTHERSEE mid AUGSDORF und SCHIEFLING




- Top: 38.1 : ALTAUSSEE
Mid: 38.2 : BAD SCHALLERBACH, OÖ
Bottom: 38.3 : EBENSEE AM TRAUENSEE

Besuchet Österreich! Come to Austria!
Visitez l'Autriche!



EBENSEE AM TRAUENSEE
Dampferfahrten von Ebensee
Steamer tours on
l'In bateau à vapeur

Postkarte
Carte postale



WINTERSPIELE 1964
OLYMPISCHE
1.80 S
INNSBRUCK
REPUBLIK ÖSTERREICH

Besuchet Österreich! Come to Austria!
Visitez l'Autriche!



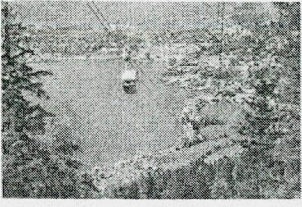
EBENSEE AM TRAUENSEE
Seilbahnstation und Bergahotel auf dem Kreuzkogel

Postkarte
Carte postale



WINTERSPIELE 1964
OLYMPISCHE
1.80 S
INNSBRUCK
REPUBLIK ÖSTERREICH


Besuchet Österreich! Come to Austria!
Visitez l'Autriche!



GMUNDEN, Salzkammergut, OÖ., Grünberg-Seilbahn
Größte Wanderwee zum Loosdache.
Größtes Alpenpanorama mit Dachsteinblick
Eine Fahrt zum Gipfel des Kreuzkogel hoch über dem
Traunsee ist unvergesslich schön.
Grünberg-Mountain-cable railway — Well-kept paths
to Loosdach Lake, magnificent Alpine panorama, view
of the Dachstein Mountain. The trip to the Grünberg
summit overlooking Traun Lake is an overwhelming
experience.
Téléphérique du mont Grünberg. — Agréables sentiers
vers le lac de Loosdach. Magnifique panorama
de haute montagne avec vue sur le mont Dachstein.
L'ascension, par téléphérique, du sommet du Grünberg
surplombant le lac de Traun est une révélation.

Photo: Brandt, Gmundener

Postkarte
Carte postale



WINTERSPIELE 1964
OLYMPISCHE
1.80 S
INNSBRUCK
REPUBLIK ÖSTERREICH

Österreich
36 Auflage 63

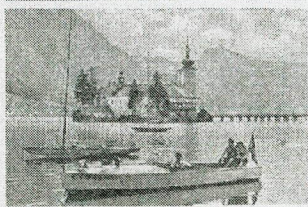
Österreichs schönste Post- und Ansichtskarten
38 Auflage 63

Top: 38.4 : EBENSEE AM TRAUENSEE
Mid: 38.5 : EBENSEE AM TRAUENSEE
Bottom: 38.6 : GMUNDEN

Besuchen Österreich! Come to Austria!
 Visitez l'Autriche!

Postkarte
 Carte postale

WINTERSPIELE 1964
 OLYMPISCHE
 1,80 S
 REPUBLIK ÖSTERREICH



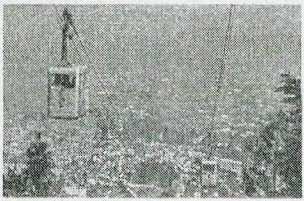
GNMUNDEN am Traunsee, Salzkammergut, OÖ.
 Märchenes Naturszen
 Seilbahn auf den G
 ideales Standquartier
 Magnificent lakebed
 Grödeners Mountain
 ideal centre for auto
 Plage magnifique, st
 téléphérique conduis
 (1000 m).
 Excellent centre de
 an auto

Photo: Archiv

Besuchen Österreich! Come to Austria!
 Visitez l'Autriche!

Postkarte
 Carte postale

WINTERSPIELE 1964
 OLYMPISCHE
 1,80 S
 REPUBLIK ÖSTERREICH

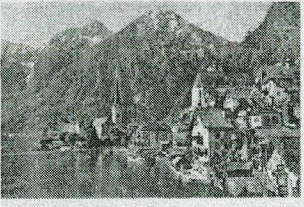


Salinestadt HALLEN, Salzburg, Austria
 Sommerfrische mit Korasstift am Ostrand der

Besuchen Österreich! Come to Austria!
 Visitez l'Autriche!

Postkarte
 Carte postale

WINTERSPIELE 1964
 OLYMPISCHE
 1,80 S
 REPUBLIK ÖSTERREICH



HALLSTATT am Hallstättersee, Oberösterreich
 Der interessanteste Ort des Salzkammergutes
 Dachstein — Salzhöhler — Museum
 The most of interest of the Salzkammergut district
 Dachstein Mountains — salt mine — museum
 Le bourg de la région du Salzkammergut aux attraits
 multiples: le mont Dachstein — la saline — le musée

(Bestimmungsland — pays de destination)

Photo: Grandler, Salzburg
 38. Auflage/9

Top: 38.7 : GNMUNDEN
 Mid: 38.8 : Salinestadt HALLEN
 Bottom: 38.9 : HALLSTATT

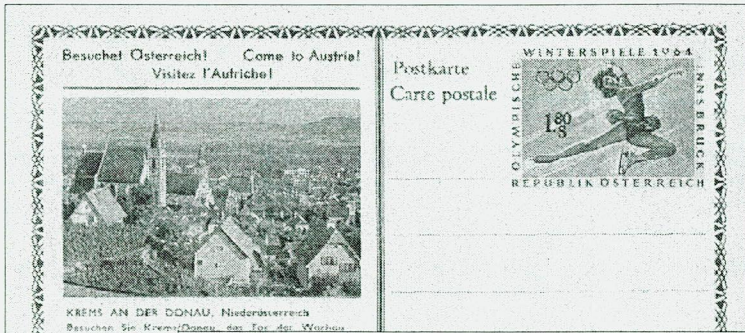
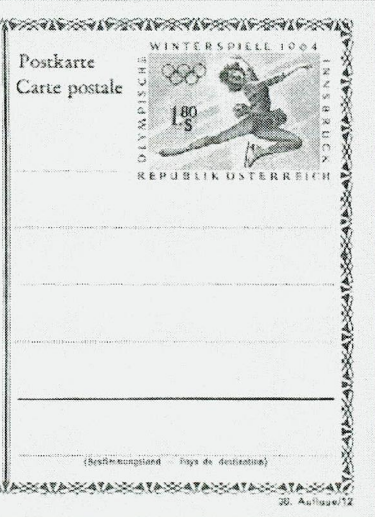
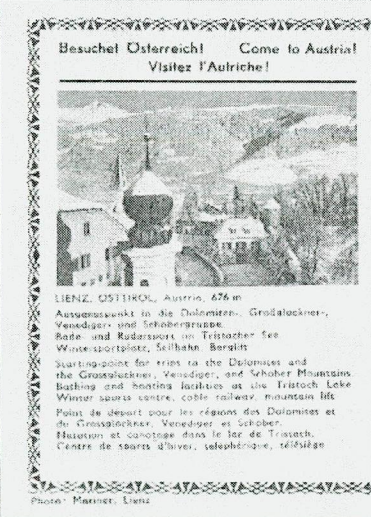


Photo: Fritz Tene, Wien



- Top: 38.10 : KREMS AN DER DONAU
Mid: 38.11 : LANGENLOIS, NÖ
Bottom: 38.12 : LIENZ, OSTTIROL

Besuchet Österreich! Come to Austria!
Visitez l'Autriche!



DOLOMITENSTADT LIENZ, Osterr.
der neue Wintersportort der Südalpen. Gondelbahn
und Seilbahn, Eislaufen, Schlittschuhlaufen, Skilaufen
Veranstaltungen
Lienz (base Teröll) est
sports centre in the
Alps, sking, rind, et
Lienz dans les Dolomites
de sports d'hiver de
et télévise, piscine
saunas

Postkarte
Carte postale



Besuchet Österreich! Come to Austria!
Visitez l'Autriche!

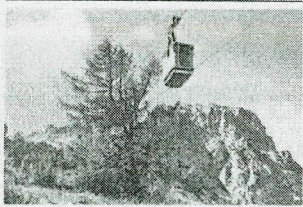


MILLSTATT AM SEE, Kärnten, Austria, 500 m
Lufkurort, Alpinseebad,
große Strandbad mit Sprungturm, Wassersport, Tennis

Postkarte
Carte postale




Besuchet Österreich! Come to Austria!
Visitez l'Autriche!



Obertraun, OÖ., DACHSTEINSELBAHN
Aufstieg zum 2100 m hohen Krippenstein am Dachstein-
plateau. Herrliche Fernsicht
Dachstein Mountain cable railway, Obertraun
Station point, to the 6,890 foot Krippenstein rising
from the Dachstein plateau. Magnificent view
Station inférieure Obertraun du téléphérique de la
montagne de Dachstein
Point de départ pour le Krippenstein (alt. 2100 m),
élévation dans le plateau du Dachstein. Admirable
panorama

Photo: Westmiller, Linz

Postkarte
Carte postale



(Stammungskarte) nur zu distanzieren

38. Auflage/14

- Top: 38.13 : DOLOMITENSTADT LIENZ
Mid: 38.14 : MILLSTATT AM SEE
Bottom: 38.15 : Obertraun, OÖ., DACHSTEINSELBAHN

Besuchet Österreich! Come to Austria!
Visitez l'Autriche!

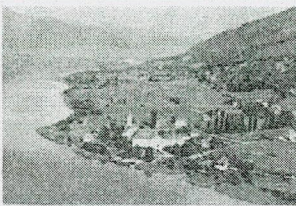


Obertraun, OÖ., SKIGEBIET KRIPPENSTEIN (2100 m)
am Dachsteinmaierau
Sichere Schilddauer im Mittelland
Gelände mit 3 Tälern
Krippenstein 16.600 ft
plateau snow and
ski-lifts, courses in 3
Tälern de ski de l'
alt. 2100 m au 16.
Assuré d'un matériel
téléphérique à 3 tra

Postkarte
Carte postale



Besuchet Österreich! Come to Austria!
Visitez l'Autriche!



OSSIACH am Ossiachersee, Kärnten
Besuchet das schöne Alpenteehd Ossiach

Postkarte
Carte postale


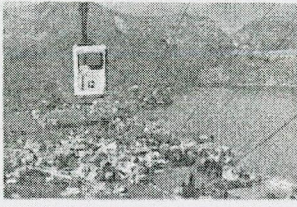



Photo: Westmaier, Linz

Besuchet Österreich! Come to Austria!
Visitez l'Autriche!



ST. GILGEN am Wolfgangsee, Salzburg, 540 m
Lustkurort und Alpenteehd, Wasserteilschulen,
Tennisplätze, Seilbahn auf das Zwölferhorn (1522 m)
Merktliche Skisteten bis ins Tal
Climatic health resort and lake bathing station,
Courses in water skins, tennis courts, cable railway
to summit of Zwölferhorn Mountain (4,993 ft.)
Excellent ski runs leading right down into the valley.
Station climatique et balnéaire, écoles de ski, courées
cours de tennis, téléphérique de mount Zwölferhorn
(1,522 m). Magnifiques descentes conduisant jusqu'au
fond de la vallée

Postkarte
Carte postale




(Bestimmungspreis - Prix de destination)

Photo: Gastberger, St. Gilgen

Postkarte
38 Auflage/17

- Top: 38.16 : Obertraun, OÖ., SKIGEBIET KRIPPENSTEIN
- Mid: 38.17 : OSSIACH
- Bottom: 38.18 : ST. GILGEN am Wolfgangsee, Salzburg, 540 m.

Besuchet Österreich! Come to Austria!
Visitez l'Autriche!



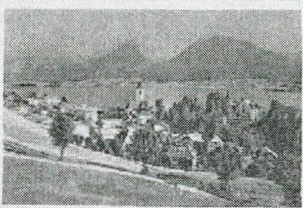
ST. GILGEN am Wolfgangsee, Salzburg, 540 m
Lichtkurve und Alpinrodelbahn, Wasserski-schulen,
Tennisplätze, Seilbahnen
Meritliche Skigebiete bei
Climate health resort
Courses les winter ski
to summit of 4,766 ft
Excellent ski runs for
Station climatique et
courses de tennis, et
11 322 m. Magnifique
fond de la vallée.

Photo: Gastberger, St. Gilgen

Postkarte
Carte postale

WINTERSPIELE 1964
OLYMPISCHE
1,90 S
INNSBRUCK
REPUBLIK ÖSTERREICH

Besuchet Österreich! Come to Austria!
Visitez l'Autriche!

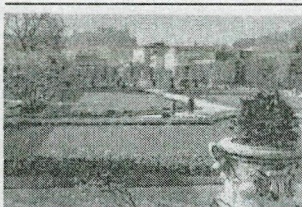


ST. WOLFGANG am Wolfgangsee, 550 m, Austria
Perle des Salzkammergutes, malerisch gelegen.

Postkarte
Carte postale

WINTERSPIELE 1964
OLYMPISCHE
1,90 S
INNSBRUCK
REPUBLIK ÖSTERREICH

Besuchet Österreich! Come to Austria!
Visitez l'Autriche!



SALZBURG
schön zu jeder Jahreszeit
Beautiful at any time of the year
vous enchante en toutes saisons

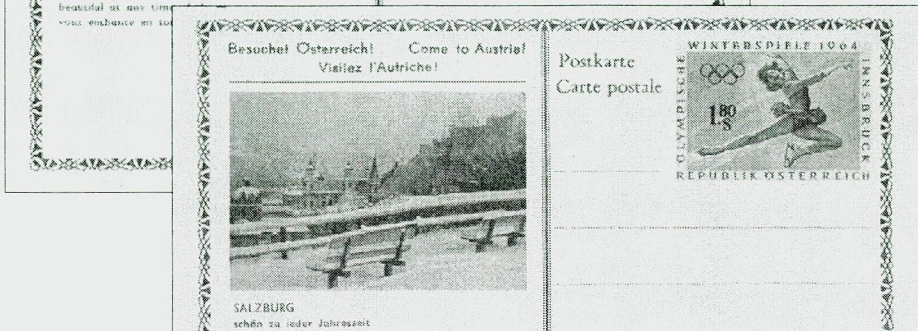
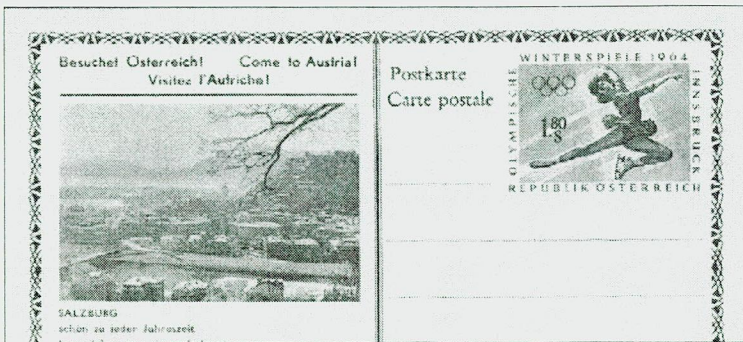
Postkarte
Carte postale

WINTERSPIELE 1964
OLYMPISCHE
1,90 S
INNSBRUCK
REPUBLIK ÖSTERREICH

(Bestimmungsland - Pays de destination)

38. Auflagen/21

- Top: 38.19 : ST. GILGEN am Wolfgangsee, Salzburg, 540 m.
Mid: 38.20 : ST. WOLFGANG am Wolfgangsee, 550 m.
Bottom: 38.21 : SALZBURG




Top: 38.22 : SALZBURG

Mid: 38.23 : SALZBURG


Bottom: 38.24 : SATTENDORF - ANNENHEIM - STÖCKELWEIN-
GARTEN AM OSSIACHERSEE

Besuchet Österreich! Come to Austria!
Visitez l'Autriche!




SPITAL AM PYHRN, OÖ., 647 m
Beliebter Wintersportort, Sommerfrische an der Pyhrnbahn mit der berühmten Wurzer-Abseilbahn, Bad und Skilifte
Popular winter sports situated on the Pyhrn Wurzer-Ahn cable car
Centre de sports d'hiver sur la ligne de téléphérique célèbre

Postkarte
Carte postale




Besuchet Österreich! Come to Austria!
Visitez l'Autriche!



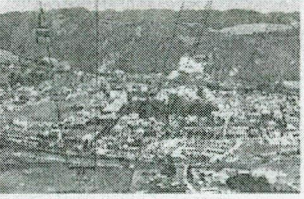
SPITAL AM PYHRN, OÖ., 647 m
Beliebter Wintersportort, Sommerfrische an der Pyhrnbahn mit der berühmten Wurzer-Abseilbahn.

Photo: Oth

Postkarte
Carte postale



Besuchet Österreich! Come to Austria!
Visitez l'Autriche!



SEITTL-MILLSTÄTTERSEE, Kärnten, 556 m
Seilbahn auf den Goldack (2137 m), zweitgrößte Seilbahn Österreichs, einer der schönsten Aussichtsbahnen Kärntens
Goldack Mountain cable railway (7.038 ft.), second largest cable railway system of Austria. Magnificent view from the summit of Goldack Mountain
Téléphérique du mont Goldack (649 m), deuxième plus haute téléphérique de l'Autriche. Le sommet du Goldack offre l'un des plus beaux panoramas de toute la Carinthie

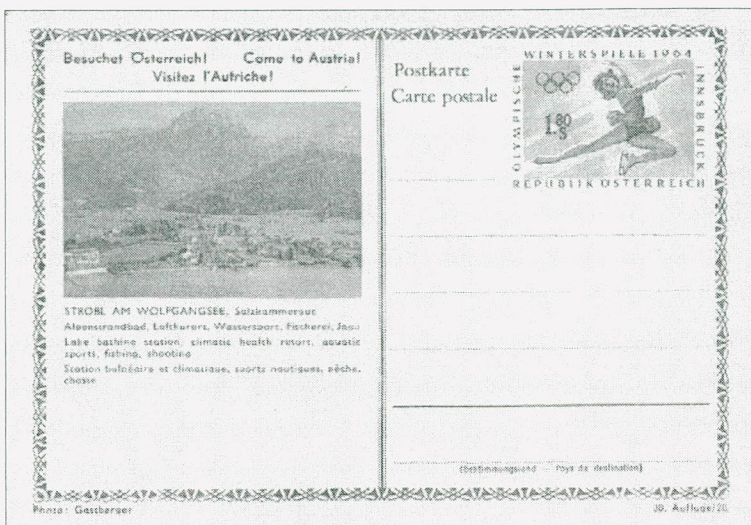
Postkarte
Carte postale



(Bestimmungsland — Post du destination)

38 Auflage/26

- Top: 38.25 : SPITAL AM PYHRN, OÖ.
- Mid: 38.26 : SPITAL AM PYHRN, OÖ.
- Bottom: 38.27 : SPITAL-MILLSTÄTTERSEE



Above: 38.28 : STROBL AM WOLFGANGSEE

The postal stationery cards in series 39 will be listed and illustrated in a future issue.

.....

NOTICES

Olympic Games Melbourne 1956 An Overview of Philatelic Items and Ephemera

by
Uwe Krüger and Bob Wilcock

This 64 page full colour book has unfortunately been held up at the printing stage for reasons beyond the control of the authors.
We hope to let you have full details, and an order form in the February Torch Bearer.

Are you interested in Tennis and Philately?

Pascal Bedenes, a member of AFCOS and SPI has created a website dedicated to Tennis & Philately with a clear index to access information on the philatelic aspects of major tennis championships world-wide.

Visit Pascal's site at:
<http://perso.orange.fr/afcos-tennis/>

1956 Melbourne - 50th Anniversary, 2006

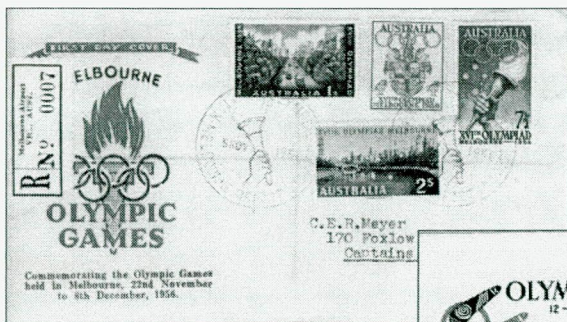
Bob Wilcock

On 22 November 1956 the first Olympic Games to be held in the southern hemisphere were opened by His Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh. A proud moment for the whole of Australia.

Philatelically the Postmaster General's Department of Australia gave us the fullest philatelic programme since Berlin 1936. A 2 shilling blue publicity stamp (the rate for international airmail) was issued on 1 December 1954, and reissued in green on 30 November 1955. On 31 October 1956 the principal set of 4 values was issued, and on 12 November 1956 an aerogramme:



Wider pre-Games publicity was afforded by a programme of advertising slogan postmarks from Melbourne and eight other cities, at intervals from 1 December 1954 to 27 November 1956. During the Games 14 temporary or mobile post offices were opened, each offering registration facilities with special labels, and between them 52 pictorial cancels. Olympex '56 was the first full philatelic exhibition recognised as part of the Olympic programme, and there were two special handstamps available there.



Below: Cover registered at Olymplex post office.

Above: Cover registered from Melbourne Airport Olympic post office; image courtesy of an SOC member.



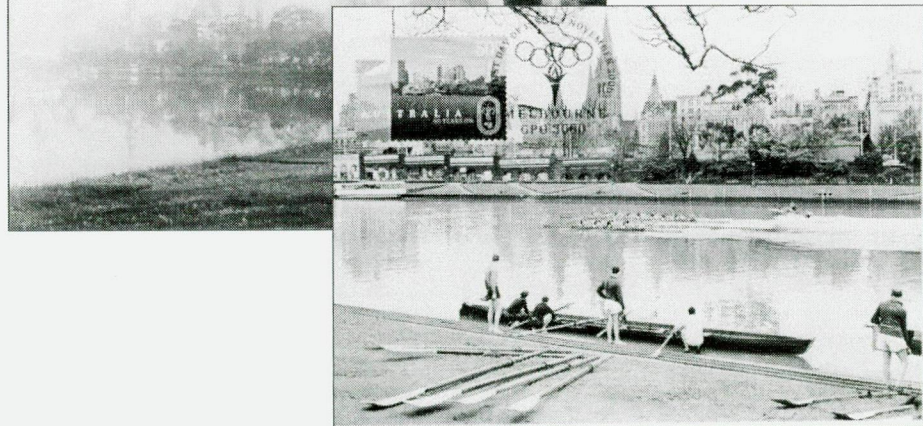
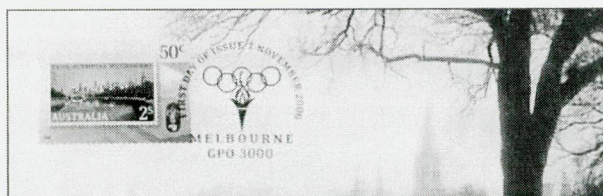
Some 17 other countries issued stamps at the time of the Games, most notably Sweden, to mark the equestrian events held in Stockholm because of Australia's strict quarantine laws, and the Dominican Republic, who issued a set just after the Games showing medal winners from previous Olympics, and then three subsequent sets depicting Gold Medallists from Melbourne.

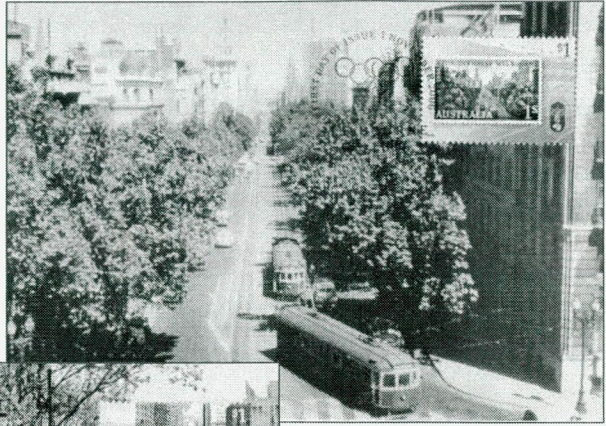


Over the years since 1956 getting on for 100 medal winning athletes and teams have been honoured on stamps. Australia honoured sprinter Betty Cuthbert, swimmers Dawn Fraser and Murray Rose, and hurdler Shirley Strickland in their Olympic Legends set of 1996, so it is not surprising perhaps that for their stamps to mark the 50th Anniversary, issued on 1 November 2006 they chose to honour Melbourne. The se tenant 50c stamps show the view of Melbourne over the River Yarra, today, and as depicted on the 2/- stamp of 1956. The \$1 stamps show Collins Street as it was and is.

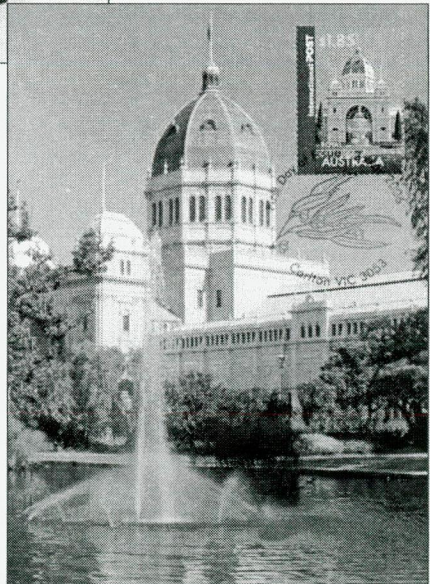


The first day postmark includes the Torch and Olympic Rings taken from the original slogan postmark, and there are four post-paid maximum cards with black and white views of the Yarra River and of Collins Street. One card shows rowing, which is slightly confusing perhaps. The rowing events in 1956 did not take place on the Yarra river, but at Lake Wendouree, Ballarat, a short distance out of Melbourne.





Earlier in the year Australia Post issued a stamp that is easy for Olympic collectors to overlook. It was issued on 2 May 2006 and depicts the Exhibition Building, which was the venue for weight-lifting, wrestling and basketball in 1956. There was also a pre-paid maximum card.

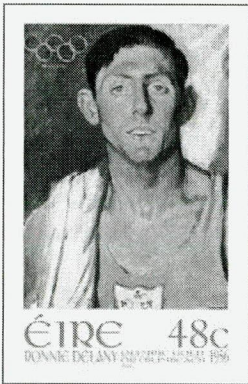


It has been left to Iceland and Ireland to honour the 50th Anniversary of the winning of Olympic medals.

The first Icelander to win an Olympic medal was Vilhjálmur Einarsson, born 1934. He won the silver medal in the triple jump in 1956. At the Melbourne Games Vilhjálmur Einarsson accomplished the greatest achievement in Icelandic sports history.



In the second round he jumped 16.25m (later changed to 16.26m) and set an Olympic record in triple jump. The record did not last long because the Brazilian Da Silva beat it later in the Games (Da Silva's Gold is commemorated on a Brazilian stamp issued in 2002).



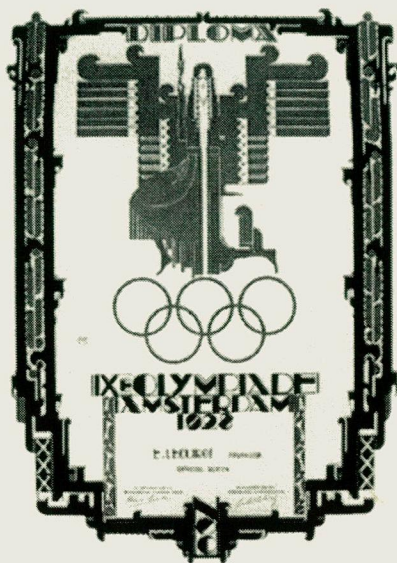
Ron Delaney's triumph in the 1500 metres is marked by an Irish stamp issued on 16 August 2006. Fifty years ago Ronnie Delaney overcame home favourite John Landy on the last lap to win the Gold Medal, setting a new Olympic record in the process. The stamp features a painting by Dr. Thomas Ryan RHA, painted in 1957 upon Ronnie's return to Dublin. The painting depicts Ronnie in front of Irish tricolour adorned with the Olympic rings.

Ron Delaney was one of the 320 1956 Olympians present at the 50th Anniversary celebrations in Melbourne. Other Gold Medallists included Al Oerter (Discus) and Pat McCormick (Diving), and all 13 of Australia's living Gold Medallists.

Over the weekend of 18-19 November the Victorian Olympic Council hosted an exhibition "Melbourne - 50 Years On" highlighting Melbourne's development since 1956. A welcome reception hosted by the Lord Mayor of Melbourne was held on 18 November for all 1956 Olympians & their guests.

'56 returns to the 'G' was the Golden Anniversary Celebration at the Melbourne Cricket Ground for the public to enjoy. '56 Returns to the 'G' saw elements of the Opening and Closing Ceremonies such as the military bands, John Landy reading the Oath, and Ron Clarke relighting the Cauldron, and of course the 1956 Olympians! There was also ethnic, cultural and artistic entertainment. A gold coin donation was all it cost to re-live the spectacle and be a part of history.

There was a full day of public and community activities at the Olympic Village Festival in Heidelberg. On Monday 20 November there were golf and wine-tasting events for Olympians, 21 November saw celebrations at Ballarat, and on 22 November Fencing Olympian and former Chairman of the World Bank, Mr James Wolfensohn, was the keynote speaker at an exclusive breakfast at 7 am at the Town Hall. During the day a plaque was unveiled at the Olympic Museum at the MCG, and celebrations concluded with a sell-out black-tie dinner held in the prestigious Palladium Room at Melbourne's Crown Casino Complex. As always in Australia, Melbourne celebrated in style!



Olympic Games Memorabilia

Auctions

Want List Service

Appraisal Service

Exhibit Service

Always buying, selling & accepting consignments:

Torches, Winners' and Participation Medals,
Pins, Badges, Diplomas, Posters, Official Reports,
Programs, Tickets, Souvenirs.

Three Auctions per Year - Catalogs available.

Ingrid O'Neil

Sports & Olympic Memorabilia

PO Box 872048, Vancouver WA 98687 USA

Tel. (360) 834-5202 ♦ Fax (360) 834-2853

www.ioneil.com ♦ ingrid@ioneil.com



OLYMPIC COLLECTORS AUCTION

Philatelic • Numismatic • Phonecards • Postcards • Posters • Pins • Badges
Medals • Torches • Tickets • Programs • Official Reports • Bid Books

By Olympic Collectors for Olympic Collectors

No commission charges for buyers • Low commission charges for vendors

On the Internet at www.coubertin.com