



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



- 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

2016



SOCIETY of OLYMPIC COLLECTORS

SOCIETY of OLYMPIC COLLECTORS

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



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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
London 1908 Centenary	147
Dorando 1908 - 2008	148
Olympic Expo Beijing 2008	150
SOC Accounts for 2006	152
The 22nd Olympic Winter Games 2014 are awarded to .. Sochi !	153
London 2012 - Postage Paid stamp	165
Beijing 2008 - Recent and New Issues	166
Beijing 2008 - Advertising Postal Stationery	168
China Mobile	172
CNC	175
PICC	178
State Grid	182
Bank of China	185
Sinopec	188
Air China	189
Haier; Arawana, Milk	191
www.hthtoy.com; Volkswagen	192

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 2008 are:

U.K. £14.00; Europe, £17.00 (€ 24, \$US 35).

Outside Europe, £19.00 (€ 27, \$US 39, \$AU 42)

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

FRONT PAGE

Once again the end of an eventful year, and the prospect of a very busy 2008 just around the corner.

You will see in this issue news of the celebrations, events and souvenirs to celebrate the centenary of the London 1908 Olympic Games and in particular Dorando and the marathon that he made famous.

Printing was delayed to incorporate the information about Olympic Expo Beijing 2008 - note that submissions for entries are required by 15th February - it would certainly be nice to see some UK entries!

Subscriptions for 2008 are now due, and you will find the renewal form in the centre pages. In accordance with the Society policy of revising subscription rates every four years, we have undertaken a review and the revised rates are stated on the renewal form.

Rates have been revised to reflect two changes:

Firstly, postal rates. We saw a significant reduction in postal costs for UK subscribers following the introduction of pricing in proportion by Royal Mail, however the less advertised impact on rates to Europe has been far greater - we saved circa 12p per mailing in the UK, and lost circa 60p on mailing to Europe.

Secondly, colour printing. We intend to introduce colour to the centre pages (up to four pages per issue) where the material illustrated justifies this. The quality proposed can be seen on the order forms on the reverse of the renewal forms.

We will continue freeze rates for a four year period, however following recent exchange rate fluctuations we will review the Euro / US\$ equivalents annually. Payments by PayPal in £ sterling offer a means of the Society avoiding exchange costs.

We have held discussions with the London 2012 Organising Committee and an agreement establishing protocols under which we may produce souvenirs for Society members has been signed. Our meetings have been both friendly and productive, and we look forward to a successful relationship.

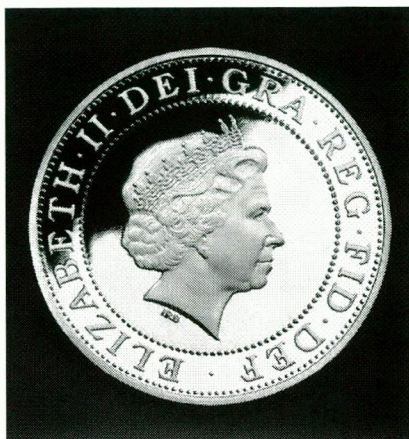
The electronic version of Torch Bearer used for printing has been produced in colour since 1998, and it is our aim to be printing a full colour journal by 2010. Revenue from souvenir sales that will now be possible following our agreement with LOCOG will be used to establish a colour printing fund.

Bob Wilcock has been working with the organisers of the Flora London Marathon, whilst completing his own book on London 1908, with some exciting results, that will see an SOC presence at the event, with a stand - full details in the next issue.

On behalf of the committee, I wish you all a successful and properous 'Olympic' 2008.

LONDON 1908 CENTENARY

2008 100th Anniversary of the 4th Olympiad Games London £2 coin



The London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games has finalised a deal with the Royal Mint to issue a new commemorative £2 coin for 2008 celebrating the centenary of the 1908 London Olympic Games.

The Royal Mint has struck a new commemorative £2 coin for 2008 with a specially designed reverse celebrating the centenary of the 4th Olympiad which was held in London.

The design that graces the reverse is by Royal Mint engraver, Thomas T Docherty, who chose as the central feature of his design a running track, an image that is readily associated with the Olympic Games. The anniversary date of 1908 is positioned within the track, with the words LONDON OLYMPIC CENTENARY encircling the design. The incuse edge inscription, THE 4TH OLYMPIAD LONDON, completes the design.

The Brilliant Uncirculated £2 coin is available displayed in an attractive folder rich in imagery and background information on the Olympic Games of 1908, including stories of some of the athletes of the 1908 Games.

The obverse bears the portrait of Her Majesty The Queen by Ian Rank-Broadley FRBS.

Background & History

The first modern Olympic Games took place in Athens in 1896, the vision of Baron Pierre de Coubertin. His dream was to bring together people of the world in a spirit of friendly competition where leading athletes could strive for victory and personal excellence. The Olympic Games have become the greatest sporting event in the world. The first time they were held in London was in 1908 at a purpose-built stadium in White City, London.

DORANDO 1908 - 2008

CELEBRAZIONI CENTENARIO OLIMPIADI LONDRA 1908



DORANDO 1908 - 2008

Via Lago Maggiore, 13 - 41012 CARPI (MO) ITALY - Tel. +39 059 650297 - Fax +39 059 651330

www.dorandopietri.it - info@dorandopietri.it

The centenary of the London 1908 marathon, and in particular the role of Pietri Dorando is being celebrated by his home town and region in Italy.

The Flora London Marathon are also playing a major role in the centenary celebrations.

SOC members are actively participating or contributing to both the Italian and British events.

The Italian organisers of 'Dorando 1908 - 2008' have arranged an extensive programme of events and commemorations, a number of which are reinforced by publications, philatelic items, coins or other collectibles.

A summary of the Italian programme includes:

28th October 2005, Carpi

1000 days before 24th July 2008 an electronic sign was installed at the Carpi turn-off of the A22 motorway which includes a digital daily countdown indicator to the centenary of the 1908 marathon.

20th October 2007, Carpi

Presentation of the programme for the Centenary Celebrations and of the book "The Race of the Century" - a 336 page work with 150 illustrations. A postmark was used to commemorate the event and a set of illustrated postcards produced.

22nd February 2008, Correggio

A novel inspired by Dorando's race, "The Marathon Runner's Dream" will be launched.

23rd February 2008, Correggio

An exhibition of stamps, philately and postcards arranged by the curator Gianni Galeotti, in conjunction with UICOS *(the FIPO representative in Italy)*.

This event will coincide with a planned stamp release, special postmark, medallion, and collectors' gold and silver 5 and 10 Euro coins.



15th March 2008, Carpi

An exhibition telling the story of sports clubs, organised by the Italian Union of Historical Sports Clubs, including that of Societa Ginnastica La Patria Carpi of which Pietri was a member.

16th March 2008, Carpi

The Italian Cross-Country Running Championship organised by the Italian Athletics Federation at Carpi's Giardino Golf Club will pay tribute to Pietri Dorando.

April 2008

A delegation of the Centenary Promotion Committee will be granted an audience with the Holy Father. The Bishop of Carpi being a supporter of celebrating the centenary of Pietri's Olympic Marathon because he represented an athlete who lived his human and sporting life as dictated by the Gospel.

April 2008, London

The famous silver cup awarded to Dorando by Queen Alexander, is currently held in a bank safe in Carpi. In 2008 it will travel to London for the Flora London Marathon, where events will be held to celebrate the 1908 Olympic marathon.

11th May 2008, Correggio

Teams of 43 runners will cover the 42 km 195m course of a marathon in relay.

May 2008, Carpi

The Giro d'Italia will visit the landmarks of Dorando's life, Carpi, Modena and the surrounding area. A third postmark will be issued.

24th July 2008, Carpi

A full day of events will mark the Centenary Day. A fourth postal cancellation will be used, and a monument titled "Dorando is the Winner" will be unveiled exactly one hundred years after Dorando crossed the finishing line at the London Olympic Games.

11th October 2008, Carpi

A technical - medical - scientific convention will take place considering the historical and cultural aspects of the marathon discipline.

The Granfondo long-distance cycle race will dedicate a special event to Dorando, who was an accomplished cyclist before becoming a runner.

12th October 2008, Carpi

A Centenary Marathon limited to 3000 entrants will be staged.

2008, Carpi

The annual awards ceremony for the Italian athletics season will be staged in Carpi, forming an ideal connection between the history, represented by Dorando Pietri, and the future of the sport. An appearance by Italian sportsmen and women who excelled at the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing will provide the climax of the event.

OLYMPIC EXPO BEIJING 2008

Information has recently been received from the Organizing Committee of Olympic Expo Beijing 2008.

The Regulations for the Philatelic Exhibition of "Olympic Expo Beijing 2008" includes the following:

Introduction

1.1 "Olympic Expo Beijing 2008" is being arranged, on the occasion of the Games of the XXIXth Olympiad Beijing 2008, to highlight the role of stamps and postal documents on sports and Olympics with the aim of promoting Olympism and the Olympic ideal all over the world.

1.2 The exhibition has the patronage of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), China Olympic Committee, the Beijing Organising Committee for the Games of the XXIX Olympiad (BOCOG) and China Post Group.

1.3 "Olympic Expo Beijing 2008" is a world specialised exhibition of Aerophilately, Maximaphily, Open Class (or Global Philately), Postal History, Thematic Philately and Philatelic Literature dedicated to Sports and Olympic Games, organised by China Post.

1.4 "Olympic Expo Beijing 2008" will be held at the Beijing Exhibition Centre, in Beijing from the 8th August to 18th August 2008.

1.5 The exhibition scale: 1000 - 1200 frames.

Conditions of Participation

3.1 Participation is open to all individuals who are members of philatelic societies affiliated to National Federations of Philately or affiliated to International Federation of Olympic Philately (FIPO).

3.2 Each exhibitor may submit a maximum of two entries. In the case of family members, a maximum of four entries allowed. The exhibitor must have owned the exhibit a minimum of two years prior to the exhibition.

3.3 An exhibitor may enter under a pseudonym, however the Organizing Committee and the Jury Presidium must be notified of the exhibitor's true name and address.

Exhibition Classes

4.1 The following classes will be offered at "Olympic Expo Beijing 2008":

4.1.1 The Olympic Games (includes Summer and / or Winter Olympic Games)

4.1.2 International Sports Events, World Championships and World Cups, Continental and Regional Games, etc.

4.1.3 History of the Olympic Movement, The IOC, The NOCs, Olympic anniversaries and special events (Sessions, Congresses, etc.)

4.1.4 Youth Groups covering the same subjects as listed of classes 1-3 above.

Age should be as of January 1st 2008

- a) Age 16-18
- b) Age 19-21

4.2 The text of the exhibits shall have to be written in English.

Size and Allocation of Frames

6.1 The display dimension of a frame are 100cm x 120cm. Each frame has a capacity of 16 pages (4 rows of 4 pages) with a standard size of 23cm in width and 29cm in height. Pages exceeding 23cm in width can be accommodated by overlapping. Pages exceeding 29cm in height have to be used with adhesive tape and the Organising Committee shall not be responsible for any damage while mounting or / and dismounting.

6.2 In the Competitive classes, 5 (five) frames will be assigned to each adult exhibit; the exhibits which have been previously awarded a Large Vermeil or above, can be assigned 8 (eight) frames.

6.3 Frames will be allocated in the Youth Groups as follows:

6.3.1 Age 16-18, minimum 2 (two) frames, maximum 4 (four).

6.3.2 Age 19-21, minimum 3 (three) frames, maximum 5 (five).

6.4 In Open class, 3 (three) to 5 (five) frames will be allocated.

Participation Fees

8.1 Participation in this exhibition will be free of charge.

The proposed time-scale for applications from exhibitors is tight, particularly as the nomination and confirmation of National Commissioners has not yet taken place.

Applications are required to reach the Organising Committee, by submission via the National Commissioner or Federation **no later than 15 February 2008**.

To facilitate any applications from SOC UK members interested in exhibiting, please forward initial expressions of interest to:

R K Farley, 3 Wain Green. Long Meadow, Worcester, WR4 0HP.

Overseas members should contact their National Philatelic Federation as soon as possible.

SOC Accounts for 2006

SOCIETY OF OLYMPIC COLLECTORS

Income & Expenditure Account for the Year Ended 31 January 2007

<u>Income</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Subscriptions	1269	1384
Adverts	163	0
Auction	1610	793
SOC Sales	1065	984
Packet Sales	368	454
Sundries	0	44
Interest	27	34
	<u>4503</u>	<u>3693</u>
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Insurance & Administration	246	204
Printing Torch Bearer	680	495
Distribution Torch Bearer	449	345
Auction	1447	423
Website	31	35
SOC Items Cost	484	666
Packet Sales	151	408
Surplus	1015	1116
	<u>4503</u>	<u>3693</u>

Balance Sheet As At 31 January 2007

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Bank Balance	6026	6312
Cash in Hand	683	0
Creditors	-711	-329
Debtors	1000	0
	<u>6998</u>	<u>5983</u>
Balance B/Fwd	5983	4867
Surplus/-Deficit	1015	1116
	<u>6998</u>	<u>5983</u>

2006 was another successful year financially. The creation of a surplus was due mainly to the sale of souvenirs (SmartStamps in particular), whilst the Auction and Packet are operated mainly as a service to members, they cover costs and contribute to funds.

The 22nd Olympic Winter Games 2014 are awarded to .. Sochi !

By Thomas Lippert

The 4th of July 2007 was a very special day for Olympic fans. The IOC met in Guatemala for its session and shortly after the opening the selection of the host city for the Olympic Winter games 2014 was the first important topic.

The original number of candidates was fairly high. There were experienced ones, but also new bidders, entering the long and expensive procedure - and then the first feelings of disappointment.



There were also initial activities in some cities, which did not lead to official candidatures, at least not on this occasion - for example Annecy, France; Reno/Lake Tahoe, USA; Tromsø / Romsa - Norway.



ANNECY 2014
**olympliquons
nous !**

In accordance with the official candidature rules seven cities submitted their files on time to the IOC and were considered as applicant cities .



The Spanish town of Jaca and Bulgarian capital Sofia were not making their first appearance on the list, and with Borjomi in Georgia and Almaty in Kazakhstan (probably better known as Alma-Ata) there were new names among the official bidders this time.

After the submission of the candidature files to the IOC (deadline was 1.2.2006) and checking by a special commission three other cities achieved the status of official candidate (Candidate Cities): Salzburg/Austria, Pyeongchang (Korea) and Sochi (Russia). A further evaluation followed by a commission headed by the Japanese IOC member Chiharu Igaya, accompanied by a visit to the cities and their proposed competition sites. The Candidate Cities then had the opportunity to answer questions posed by the commissions after studying their submitted files.

Four weeks before the session at which selection was due to take place, the final report of the commission was released. From comments in the report Salzburg and Pyeongchang were both ahead of Sochi.

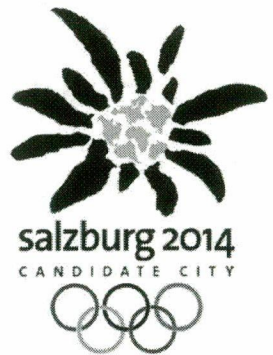
It should be noted that, all the material in the report was released to the public, and was accessible through the internet.

Memorabilia collectors know, of course, that for cities reaching the final round, it also means a new collectible for them. There is the obvious changed text – the Applicant City becomes a Candidate City – and, drawing greater attention, the Olympic rings are now added, which is only allowed after gaining this status.

Sochi's emblem had the most visible change. Mountains can be stylised in different ways. After becoming a candidate city, the skyline of the mountains is very similar to the share progression of a successful company.



The Salzburg logo is also worthy of attention. The Edelweiss is an iconic alpine plant and will be easily recognized. It's more difficult to notice that the middle of the blossom is formed by the five continents of our earth.



There are less striking changes in the logo of the Korean city.

The stages of the selection process can be summarized in the following way.

First Phase

28. July 2005

The NOC send their application of a city to the NOC.

27. – 30. September 2005

IOC - Seminar for the responsible people of the bidding cities (applicant cities)

1. February 2006

The bidding cities send their responses to the IOC questionnaire to the HQ in Lausanne.

February 2006

The bidding cities send observer delegations to the Winter Olympics in Torino.

April 2006

The IOC Commission evaluates the bidding documents from the candidates.

22. June 2006

Selection and announcement of the official candidates by the IOC executive committee (candidate cities)

Second phase

3. July 2006

Transfer of the bidding documents to the candidate cities/NOC for further details.

10. January 2007

Return of the finalized bidding documents (Candidature File) to the IOC

February / March 2007 The IOC evaluation commission visits the candidate cities.

4. June 2007

Publication of the evaluation commission's report.

4. July 2007

Selection of the host city at the 119th IOC-Session in Guatemala City.

When the result was announced by IOC president J. Rogge at 5 p.m. local time, in Germany – where the midnight hour just has begun – there were disappointed faces. Schönau at Königssee had been chosen as site for the bob, luge and skeleton races in the package presented by Salzburg.

Sochi did it in the second round of voting – four votes ahead of the Korean Pyeongchang. For most people it was surprising because of the lack of existing winter competition sites - except the region around Krasnaya Polyana which is already used by the alpine circuit in the world cup. Impressive computer simulations did have the hoped for result, supported by Russian president Putin and with the energy giant Gazprom in the background. The Russian presence was not restricted to the conference rooms, but could be seen throughout the city. A giant Ruslan-AN-124 freight airplane brought an artificial ice rink into the summer of Guatemala ...

There are items for collectors of different fields from these stages. Only a few can be represented here, with the focus on philately.

SALZBURG this time the nice meters from previous applications are missing, previously they were good for illustrating important steps during the candidacy.

Austria Post partially filled this gap. During the Olympic Winter Games – remember Bob Farley's report about the work of the special post-offices in TORCH BEARER V.23 p.38

- the postal administration issued in cooperation with the Austrian States Printers - Österreichische Staatsdruckerei (ÖSD) a personalized stamp which was sold for the first time on February 11th 2006 in the special post-office in the Austria House in Sestriere, i.e. in Italian territory.

The House was also used for promotion of the salzburg bid. Representatives of the bid committee were there for talks, shortly before they were reporting at the IOC session in Torino. Also for the bid Austria Post and ÖSD produced a personalized stamp. These stamps – like the later the medal winner stamps – are called „personalized stamps“, although they are not initiated by private people, but by the post itself.



Personalized issue of the „official“ kind in cooperation with the österreichische Staatsdruckerei (ÖSD): still a new concept at this time, there was one frame with 4 different face values (0,51 € / 0,75 € / 1,00 € und 1,25 €).

Together with the Austrian Olympic Committee the post supports the bid.

The illustrated stamp was used in the days up to July 2007 for the mail requirements of the bid committee - and was available to the collectors in the so-called „Meine-Marke-Abonnement“-according to the Austrian „Post.Philatelie“ issue of February 2006.

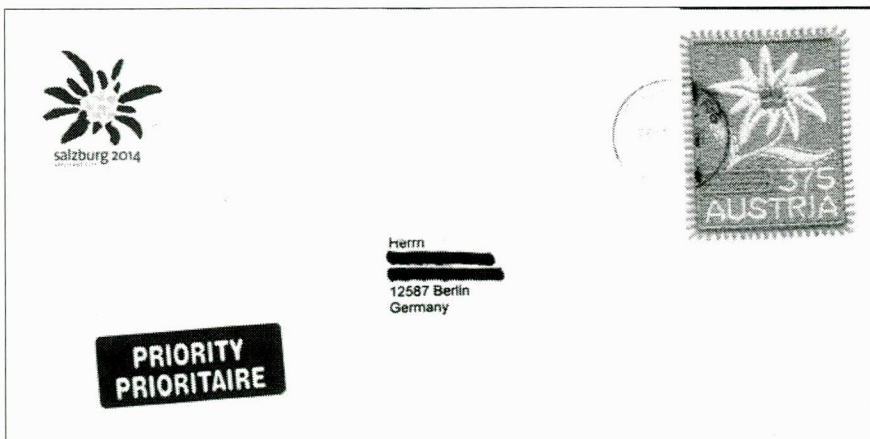


Personal stamps by private request were ordered for first flight mail. The German carrier Hapag Lloyd Express opened the route between Leipzig and Salzburg on Dec 15th, 2006. The cachets use the picture of Mozart (airmail collectors association APCD), the IMOS added a rubber stamp cachet reading „Noch 200 Tage bis zur IOC-Session in Guatemala“ (Still 200 days until the IOC session in Guatemala).

„With HLX into the bidding city of the Winter Olympics 2014“ – that’s the text of the personalized stamp



Airmail letter, prepared to be mailed with the first flight, but only two weeks later transported by the crew as co-mail (The German Post rarely use the inaugural flight of a new air line for mail operations, and then usually only from the Frankfurt/Main hub. That's why it has become common for airmail collectors nowadays, if there is no other way, to arrange such transportation by the crew in close cooperation with the airlines).



For the Christmas season's Mail 2005/6 the bidding committee still could not use the above personalized stamps. However an equally beautiful, although much more expensive (because of the 3,75 € face value), solution using a very special Austrian stamp - the textile stamp with the Edelweiss design, which is the centre piece of the logo. The business cover is decorated by the logo of the applicant city period.

Austria Post operates post buses. As a sign of support some of them received a special livery. One of the buses carried out tours in the planned Austrian / German Olympic area.



Hallo Freunde im Nachbarland, noch sind es nur wenige Tage bis zur Vergabe der Olympischen Winterspiele 2014. Am 4. Juli (Ortszeit) entscheidet sich in Guatemala City, ob es 2014 auch im Berchtesgadener Land olympische Wettbewerbe (Bob, Skeleton und Rodeln) geben wird. Zumindest noch bis dahin ist ein Postbus als Olympiabotschafter auf der Route Mondsee- Salzburg-Bad Reichenhall auch in Bayern zu bestaunen.

Am 5. Juli - kurz nach Mitternacht -- wissen wir mehr ! Auch wir drücken Euch die Daumen, Thomas Lippert



Freimachung  Post
Briefentgelt bezahlt/
Port Payé
Deutsche Post 



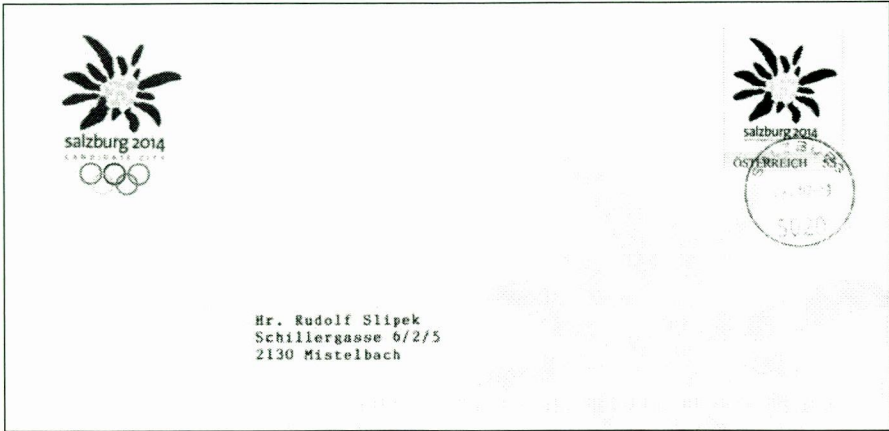
Wenn unzustellbar, zurück an Postfach 10 04 70, 53027 Bonn

Rudolf Slipek
Schillergasse 8/2/5
2130 MISTELBACH
Österreich

010 0100001 ANNA CRISTINA LIPPERT-BERCHTESGADENER POSTBUS

Modern postal technologies allowed this activity to be documented by private means, here, by a hybrid card called FUNCARD, an internet offering of the German Post.

The client sends his image and the text via internet to the post, where it is printed as a stationery card and forwarded to the addressee (in this case in Austria) in the traditional way by the postman.



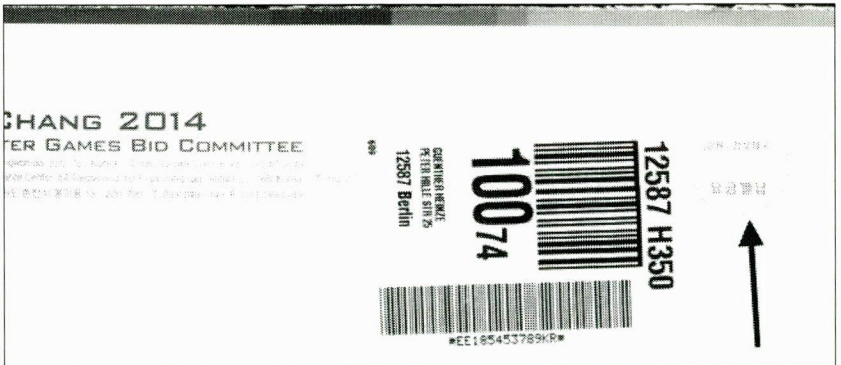
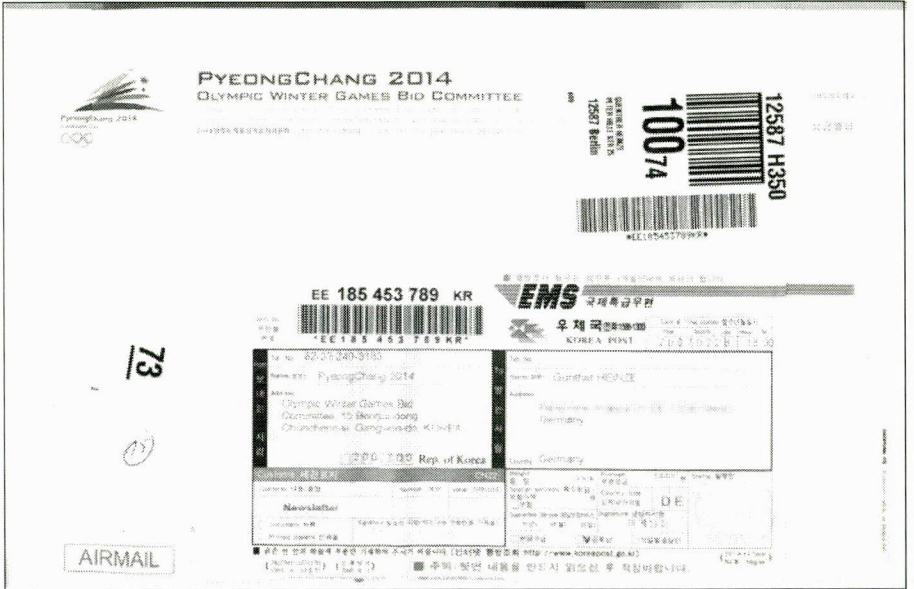
Business cover of the salzburg bid committe with the finalized logo, franked with the „official“ personalized stamp and postmarked on the official day of the decision (July 4th, 2007), even though the announcement arrived in Europe after midnight on July 5th, 2007.

PYEONGCHANG



Also from Korea Christmas season mail 2005/6 was delivered to important members of the Olympic family who could have some influence on the decision.

The illustrated business cover was sent from the committee's office in Seoul and franked by a postal meter (Post-Office Seoul City Hall). The cover with the imprint of the bid logo of the first stage is a postal document of the second attempt to host the Winter Olympics, but of less interest from the philatelic point of view, because there is no direct connection with the postal meter.



More interesting philatelically is the second business cover from the final stage. The postal imprint (see right above) is used by clients with bulk mailings. The delivery has been realized by EMS delivery.

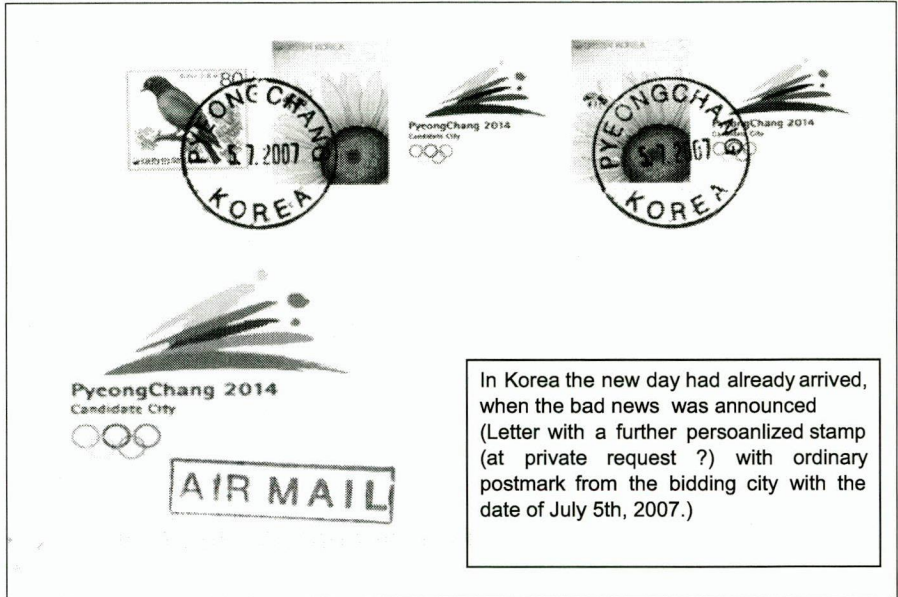
The postal imprint reads: Gangwon Province Post- Office / Postage Separately Paid

Two sheets with personalized stamps were officially released by the postal authorities and sold at the post-office in Pyeongchang.



The first sheet (14 stamps @ 250 Won) promotes the candidature and uses the logo of the bid and the slogan (New Dreams Pyeongchang) on some of the tabs.

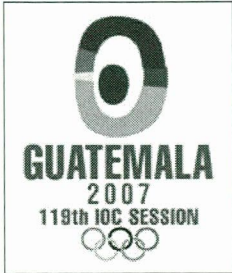
The second sheet (14 @ 220 Won) is dedicated to the group of supporters for whom a separate website was also maintained by the bidding committee. Website (www.dongsamo2014.com). The website is mentioned on the sheet.



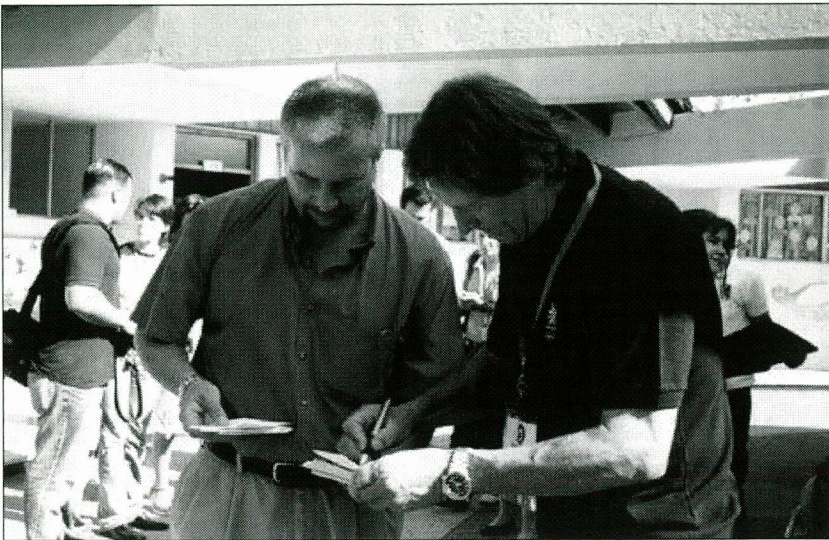
SOCHI



From a philatelic perspective, there is really nothing from the winning city. One business cover can be presented here, (illustrated previous page) but only because of an interesting detail which could possibly be used for a thematic exhibit (on IOC members, for instance).

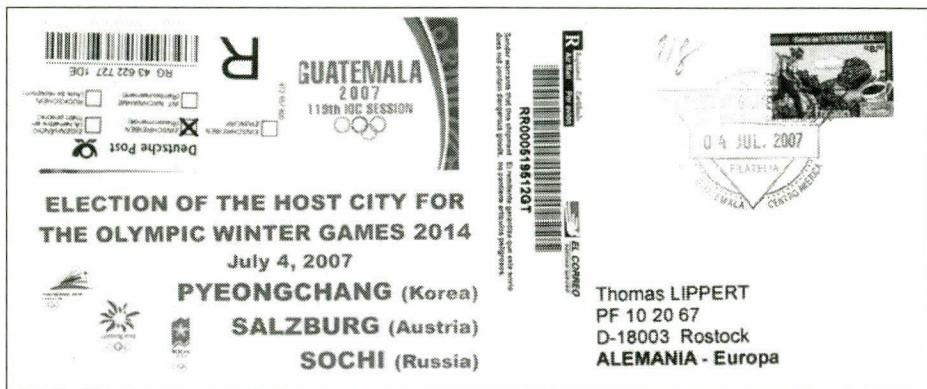


The olympic philatelic community had one reporter in Guatemala. During the session Günter Pilz had to fulfill special duties. He, as a teacher at the Instituto Austríaco Guatemalteco, received the Austrian delegation in his area with „his“ children

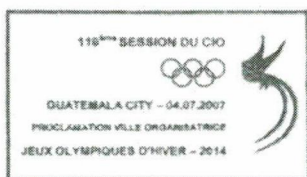


Günter Pilz and Austrain ski legend Franz Klammer: the down hill hero of Innsbruck 1976 could not leave without signing some prepared covers

Günter reported that there was no special postmark for this event - for the first time for many years. It should be noted, that there were plans for a special postmark. He had a discussion with the woman who designed such a postmark, but it could not be produced in tim
This was confirmed by Prof. Tröger, a stamp collecting member of the IOC, who with fellow IOC members searched for the facilities to create a philatelic souvenir. He added, that there was no spe booth of the post in the hotel and congress centre.



Covers with private imprints and postmarked on the decision day



The FIPO again used cachets for the session. Until now only these two have been seen. In the IOC headquarters in Lausanne a commemorative meter for the session was in use.

There was no facility or location for presenting the concepts of the different bidding cities, not even interesting details for example the Dream Program of the city of Pyeongchang and the surrounding region. There since 2004 young people from many countries, most of them without any winter experience, could get a first impression of what we call snow.



The bid documents are still accessible via internet for everybody. While there was immediate expression of joy on the website of Sochi, the website of Salzburg gave a less joyful impression, seeing that the selection of Sochi was based on a different philosophy to that they had promoted, but expressed its satisfaction about the positive feedback the city received from people worldwide.

The internet also mentioned Korean feelings. At the end of July 2007 there was no change to the website - since July 3rd, the pre-decision day.

Only on August 31st, 2007 was the website updated with the news: „PyeongChang For a 3rd Bid. Some discussions are said to be underway in South Korea over whether PyeongChang should bid again for the Winter Olympic Games. Any decision will not advance very far until the election of a new President for Korea in December and the subsequent selection of a new president for the Korean Olympic Committee in 2008.“

Then only three days later we could read : „At a press conference in the Gangwon Provincial Office on September 3, Gangwon Province Governor Jin-sun Kim announced that PyeongChang would apply for the 2018 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.“

(Thanks to my collector friends Park Yeong Kye, Dr. Günter Heinze, Rudolf Slipek, Alfred Friedrich, Ortwin Schießl, Prof. Chashik Shin, Prof. Walther Tröger, Ernest Fehr and Günter Pilz who by their contributions allowed this report).

LONDON 2012 - Postage Paid stamp

As a result of our correspondence with LOCOG during negotiation of the agreement that the SOC has now reached, and the 'eagle eyes' of Bob Wilcock, we can report that LOCOG are using hanstamped impressions with the text:

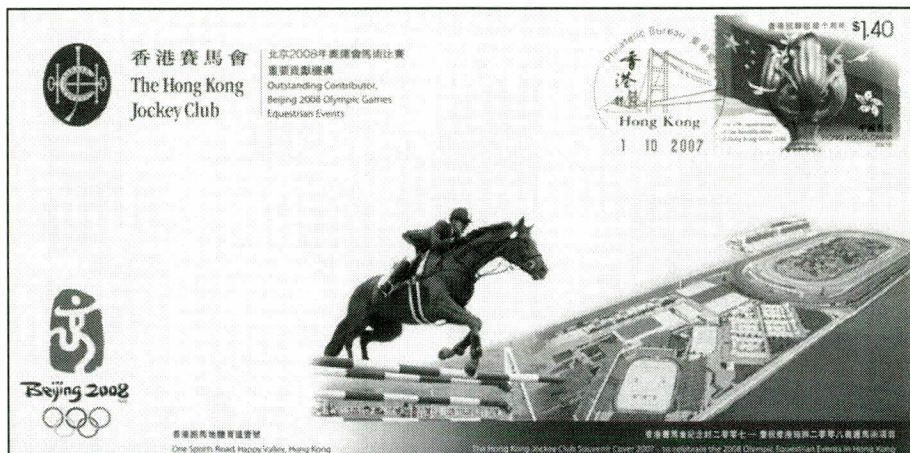
**ROYAL MAIL
POSTAGE PAID GB
HQ 2012**

Examples have been seen with '1' and '2' indicia for first and second class.



BEIJING 2008 - RECENT AND NEW ISSUES

From information provided by Ellis Kwan



A commemorative cover was issued on 1.10.2007 by The Hong Kong Jockey Club.

The reverse of the cover includes the following text:

Hong Kong's staging of the 2008 Olympic equestrian events is an honour and privilege for every citizen. The Hong Kong Jockey Club has specially designed this limited edition souvenir cover, featuring equestrian riders, to commemorate this historic occasion.

The Olympic equestrian events comprise three disciplines: Dressage, Jumping and Eventing. There will be individual and team competitions for all three disciplines; hence a total of six gold medals will be awarded.

As a world-recognised promoter of equine sports, The Hong Kong Jockey Club has committed itself to building the most advanced and challenging courses alongside its own all-embracing facilities to ensure that the 2008 equestrian events are remembered as the best in Olympic history.

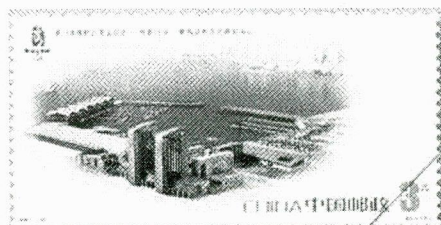
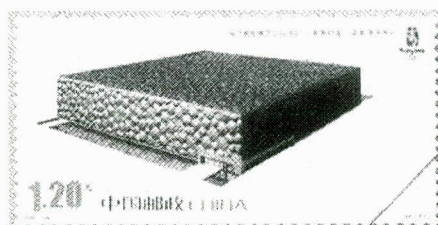
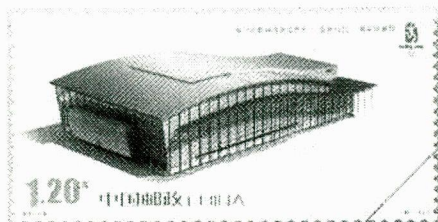
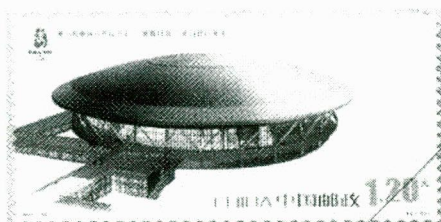
China Post will issue a series of 6 stamps and a souvenir sheet on 20th December, 2007.

The series is titled 'The Games of the XXIX Olympiad - Competition Venues'.

The stamps have denominations of 0.80 Yuan; 4 x 1.20 Yuan; 3.00 Yuan.

The souvenir sheet includes a pentagon shaped stamp of 6.00 Yuan showing the 'Birds Nest' stadium, the margin of the sheet shows a detail of the complex interwoven design.

20th December, 2007 - Competition Venues



BEIJING 2008 - ADVERTISING POSTAL STATIONERY

Following my article in the May 2007 issue of Torch Bearer, I eagerly anticipated finding a number of advertising stationery items during our visit to Beijing. Daily attendance at the Collectors Fair, with a number of trips to the nearby stamp market (a philatelic experience in it's own right), and the benefit of Ellis Kwan as translator only produced two items - both of which were already known to me. One of these being available in quantity was used as to produce the SOC souvenir as the pre-stamped card avoided the need to patiently stand in line to purchase stamps.

I was however armed with two booklets illustrating all of the stationery that I was aware of, and these proved very valuable in making dealers aware of what I was seeking. It was interesting that most of the dealers were excited by the existence of the booklets, and many wanted to obtain copies - a request that I was unable to fulfill as these were simply my draft copies.

The Collectors Fair did however present the opportunity to meet local Olympic and sport collectors, a number of whom offered their help in finding items to exchange / trade by mail.

It was also very interesting to note the number of such postal stationery items used within the exhibited displays - they provide a very colourful way of providing postal illustration for most themes (from subsequent experience, I would be amazed if such stationery could not be found to illustrate almost any conceivable theme). Many of the items in displays were produced in 2001-2002 shortly after the award of the XXIX Olympic Games to Beijing, and these are still proving elusive.

The majority of these advertising postal stationery items are produced in a standard format which is announced by China Post each year.

The three annual 'standard' items are postcard format; lettercard format; envelope (C5) format. The 'standard' designs all include a unique numbered panel as they also qualify as lottery entries. The lottery prizes range from modest cash prizes to special personalised stamp sheetlets (only available to lottery winners), the prize depending on the number of numbers matched.

2007年3月4日开奖，5-6日公布中奖号码。2007年3月15日至5月1日兑奖有效。中奖号码刊登在公布日的人民日报、中国邮政报及183网站(<http://www.183.com.cn>)上。兑奖时，领奖人须持此及有效证件领奖。号码涂损、无号、自行剪下无效。①

I 13 组



A typical lottery panel from a stationery item.

Once the annual formats are declared by China Post (usually this involves confirming the postal indicia design, and the order form). Interested customers submit their designs for the illustrated section of the stationery together with the quantities required. Price is based on quantity, but never reaches a level where the postal rate is being discounted.

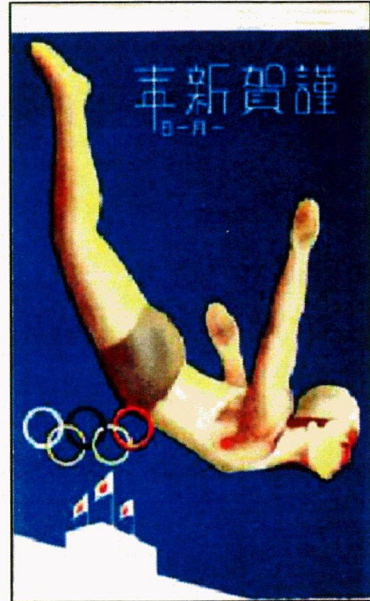
1940 Consolidated



TORCH BEARER

1940 TOKYO

THE GAMES OF THE XIITH OLYMPIAD



SOCIETY of OLYMPIC
COLLECTORS

Society of Olympic Collectors

Subscription Renewal : 2008

Please Note: Subscription Renewal is now due.

Payments to: Mr D Buxton, 88 Bucknell Road, Bicester, Oxon OX26 2DR

Please complete in CAPITALS

This section must be completed and returned, if paying by auction credit or by a third party.

Membership No.

Name:

Address:

.....

.....

.....

email:

Email may be published:

Annual Rate		
UK	Europe	US / World
£	£	£
14.00	17.00	19.00
	€	€
	24.00	27.00
		US \$
		39.00
		Au \$
		42.00

Y	N
---	---

Note: for Junior members under 18 years of age rates are 50% of adult.

Please make all payments payable to The Society of Olympic Collectors.

Cheques and PayPal payments are only accepted in £ Sterling.

To pay by **PayPal**, go to www.societyofolympiccollectors.com and follow the link.

Subscriptions for more than one year can be paid at the current rates.

Payment may also be made by: Money Order; Transfer of Auction credit; or to the Society Giro account - Account No. Post Giro CCP 35 619 5708.

Subscription Enclosed for :

year / years	£	€	US/Aus\$
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Payment method : {Please circle}

Auction credit	Giro Transfer	Cheque / Money Order	Banknotes	PayPal
£	£	£	£ € US\$ Au\$	£

Society Elections and Business

To allow us to conduct the annual business of the Society by correspondence.

Please submit any topics for consideration by the Committee below or on a separate sheet. Topics submitted will be published in T.B. together with responses where required. Responses may include the views of the Committee or a broadening of 'discussion' to the membership through T.B. or ultimately a ballot.

Elections are due in 2008, for the following Committee members / positions:

Committee members standing for re-election:		Support re-election	Support nominee
Bob Farley	{Chairman}	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paula Burger	{Secretary}	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brian Hammond	{Packet Manager}	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Andy Potter	{P.R.O.}	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mike Pagnamenos	{Web Manager}	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Details of Nominee(s)

.....

Please vote by either marking the appropriate boxes above, or against the following resolution:

"I support the enbloc re-election of those committee members of the S.O.C. standing for re-election in 2008".

Topics for discussion by the Committee:

Please list any topics by title only and attach details of the issue to be raised or views on a separate sheet.

.....

.....

.....

.....



Organising Committee. Imp
The Japanese Olympic Org
operated from facilities at the
Fig 1b: The back of a postcard

OFFICE
39, Boul. des Capucines
PARIS
Correspondance

CARTE POSTALE
Adresse

TOKYO XIII^e JEUX OLYMPIQUES 1940
EXPOSITION INTERNATIONALE

French postcard of the 'DIRECTION GENERALE DU
TOURISME CHEMINS DE FER DE L'ETAT JAPONAIS'
advertising travel routes to the Tokyo Games.

Inset, detail of the Olympic and Japanese flags by Tokyo.

Figure 2
Design shows flag of Japan,
red and white in centre, in
front of Olympic rings
28 x 45mm.

Figure 3
Design shows outline of a
mountain in blue above the
Olympic rings in their
correct colours
39mm diameter



Figure 6
Design shows lights on
Tokyo's famous bridge the
Hambashi with Mount Fuji
and rings in the background
Olympic text below
61mm.

Design shows lights on
Tokyo's famous bridge the
Hambashi with Mount Fuji
and rings in the background
Olympic text below
61mm.

Postage paid per copy	G.B. £5.00	Europe € 9.00	World US\$13.00	Total
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Name:
Address:

Postcode: **Country:**

Please send orders & remittance to: R.K. Farley, 3 Wain Green,
Long Meadow, Worcester WR4 0HP.
Please make cheques payable to Society of Olympic Collectors.
Alternatively payment may be made by Paypal to:
pay@societyofolympiccollectors.org Please make payment in Sterling.

The postal indicia are generally based upon the Chinese lunar year, as is clearly demonstrated by the 2007 indicia - Year of the Pig.

Following the initial production of items in 2001 - 2002, usually with the Beijing 'knot' logo in the design, it appears that a break occurred before production recommenced in earnest in 2005 after the licensing of major sponsors had taken place.

The postal indicia in the following table are those used on the 'standard' lottery type stationeries issued between 2005 - 2007.

Postcard	Lettercard	Envelope (C5)
<p>2005</p> 		<p>No envelopes with 2005 indicia encountered so far.</p>
<p>2006</p> 		
<p>2007</p> 		

My disappointment with the results of my searches in Beijing were short-lived. Within a few days of our return, a combination of contacts via ebay vendors and those met in Beijing were producing information and illustrations of stationery items on a daily basis. Over a period of a few weeks the number of items grew 100, 200, 300 ... with no signs of slowing! By late November, the number of items exceeded 1,000, and at the same time a greater understanding of these items was also developing.

Each of these advertising stationery items bears an identification number (with a few exceptions).

The number is usually in the format 200x-yyzz(BK)www

x is the final digit to designate the year.

yy is the two digit code for the Province in which the item was issued.

zz is the two digit code for the City in which the item was issued.

www is the four figure number for the specific series / design. In instances where stationeries are issued as a set the number is followed by (a-b)

a is the number of cards in the set. b is the number of the individual card.

湖南省岳阳市邮政信函广告分局发布 2007-1811(BK)-0050(3-1)



The reference number of the card illustrated is: 2007-1811(BK)-0050(3-1) which decodes as: 2007 issue, from Province 18, city 11. Series 50 consisting of 3 designs of which, this is number 1.

Cards with the same series number (0050 above) will be from the same advertiser - in this case China Mobile.

On a few occasions the (3-1) may be missed in the numbering, and a complete series of cards will display the same reference number. There are also a few occasions where the (3-1) is replaced by -1, -2 ... in these cases the number of designs in a series cannot be deduced from a single stationery.

The majority of these postal stationery items can be found as 'Specimen' printings, and the general claim from sellers is that such specimen or proof printings are restricted to 50 or fewer pieces.

Specimens can be identified in the following ways:

Generally (but not always) the postal indicia is invalidated either by a line striking through the value, or by an official cancel that confirms that the item has no postal validity. The official cancel takes different formats in different provinces, and may be struck in red or black.

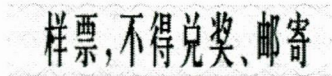
The lottery number panel has the numbers replaced with text.



'Cancelled' indicia, handstamp and text on a specimen lettercard - Province 05.



Cancel on a specimen lettercard - Province 31



Text on a specimen in the lottery number space.

On many of the specimen envelopes and some specimen lettercards seen, manuscript notation has been added such as '30-29', '15-1', which suggests that the actual printed quantities of these pieces is often far lower than 50.

Many of the postcards and lettercards are examples of advertising items that would have been produced regardless of the Olympic Games being staged in Beijing. They simply include the corporate logo of the advertiser with the Beijing 2008 logo as confirmation of their status as an official or licensed supporter / supplier of the 2008 Olympic Games.

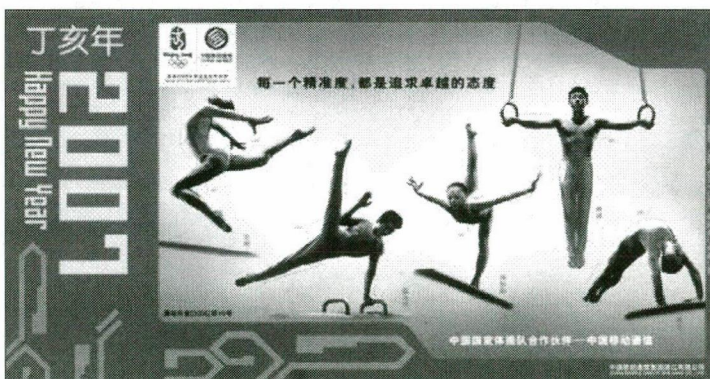
Postal stationery envelopes are commonly produced for commercial use, and the printing of envelopes for each province or office / branch of a corporation is not unusual.

The production of such postal stationery as an advertising medium is common practice in China. The following illustrations have where possible been selected to show designs with relevance to the Olympic Games, or to confirm that items exist from a particular sponsor / licensee.

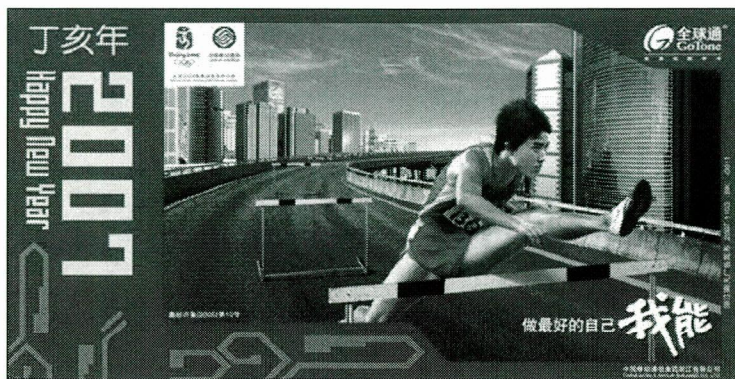
China Mobile



2006-2800(BK)-0558(4-4)



2007-1103(BK)-0008



2007-1103(BK)-0011



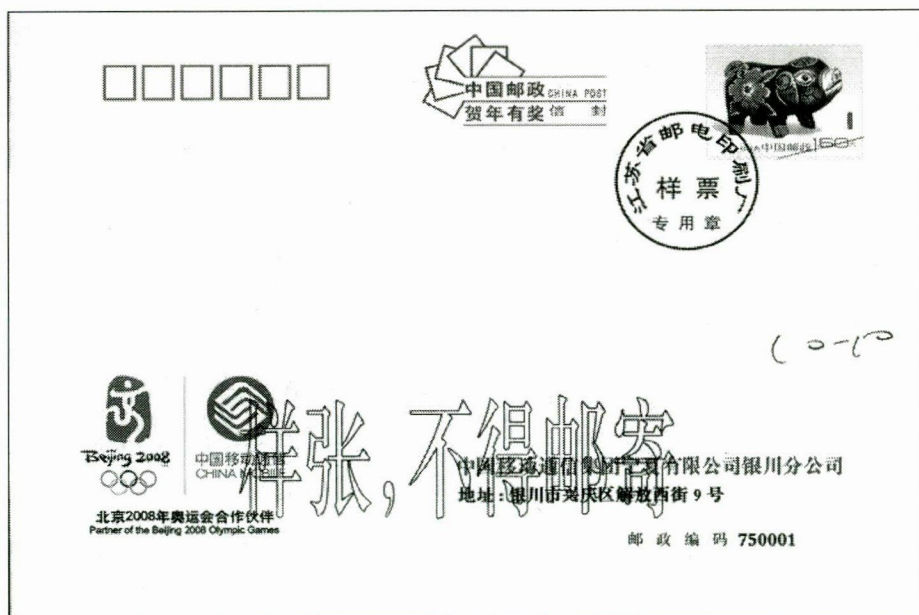
2007-0102(BK)-0028



2007-????(BK)-0093



2007-0511(BK)-0147



Specimen C5 envelope 2007-3000(BK)-0268

Note the manuscript 10 - 10 suggesting that this is example number 10 of 10

新年快乐

Beijing 2008

CNC 中国网通

北京2008年奥运会合作伙伴
OFFICIAL PARTNER OF THE BEIJING 2008 OLYMPIC GAMES

中国网通吉林省通信公司通化县分公司
吉林省通信管理局广告登记证号 2005-0103-0041-0004

2005-0705(BK)-0016

新年

通向2008

Beijing 2008 CNC 中国网通

北京2008年奥运会合作伙伴
OFFICIAL PARTNER FOR THE BEIJING 2008 OLYMPIC GAMES

中国网通
北京2008 奥运会固定通信服务合作伙伴

吉林省通信公司 吉林分公司 ●●●●

2005-0801(BK)-0058(6-3)

新年

从北极到南极，没有突破不了的禁区

中国网通 宽天下

Beijing 2008 CNC 中国网通

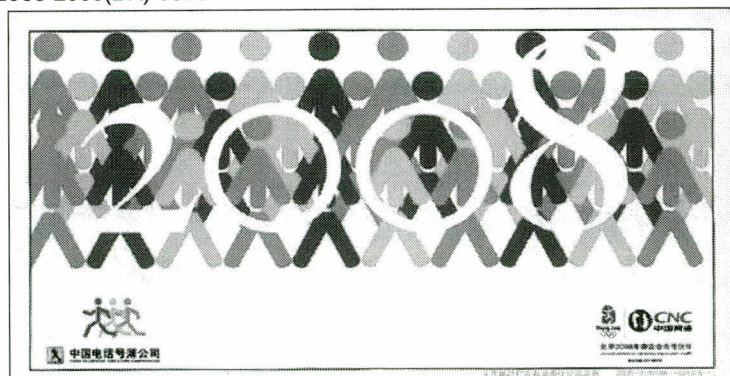
北京2008年奥运会合作伙伴

吉林省通信管理局广告登记证号 2005-0801(BK)-0058(7-6)

2005-0801(BK)-0059(7-6)



2005-2900(BK)-0076



2006-0100(BK)-0243(6-1)



2006-2300(BK)-1024(2-2)

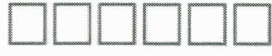
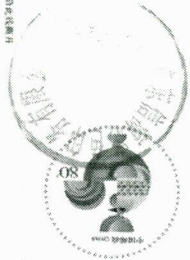
4DXK2P5 (30-29)
邮政编码

禁烟，不得兑奖、盖章

Specimen Lettercard
2005-1915(BK)-0015
Manuscript (30 - 29)

2005年12月15日发行的《北京2008年奥运会会徽》特种邮票，全套1枚，面值0.8元。
2005年12月15日发行的《北京2008年奥运会会徽》特种邮票，全套1枚，面值0.8元。
2005年12月15日发行的《北京2008年奥运会会徽》特种邮票，全套1枚，面值0.8元。

中国邮政



NCNC
中国网通

从北极到南极，没有突破不了的禁区

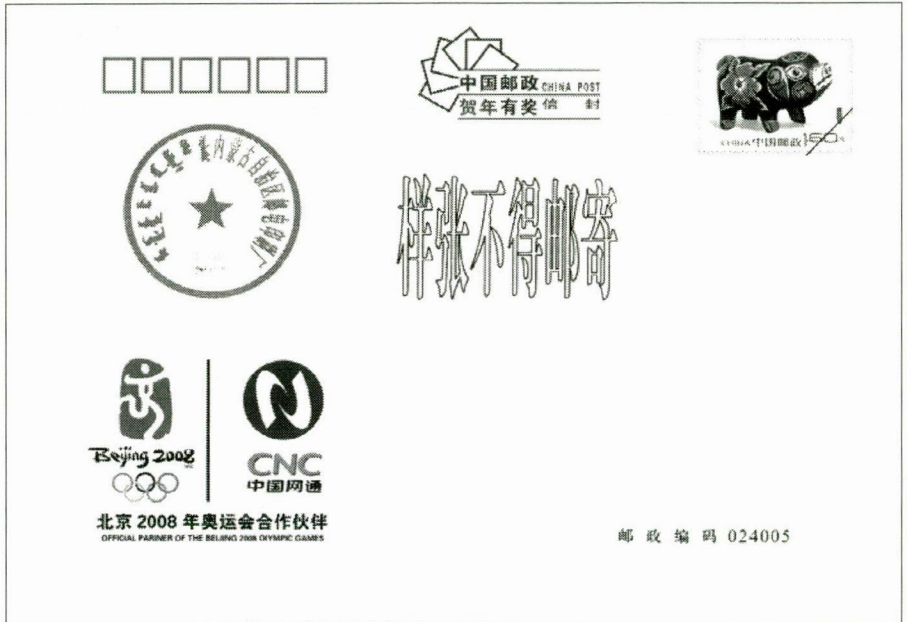
中国网 宽天下

2008年奥运会合作伙伴
OFFICIAL PARTNER OF THE BEIJING 2008 OLYMPIC GAMES

广东省阳江市邮政广告公司

Text: OFFICIAL PARTNER OF THE BEIJING 2008 OLYMPIC GAMES but no Beijing logo.





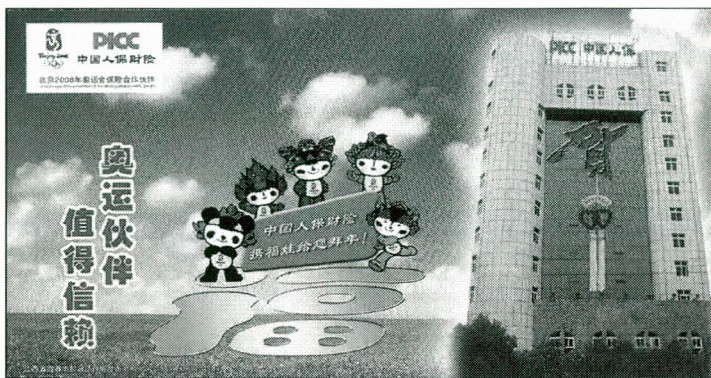
Specimen C5 envelope 2007-0504(BK)-0181

PICC - Property and Casualty Company Ltd, Insurance services



2006-1009(BK)-2025

Note that 2007-1003(BK)-2066 uses an identical design.



2007



2007-2306(BK)-0102



2007-0502(BK)-0001



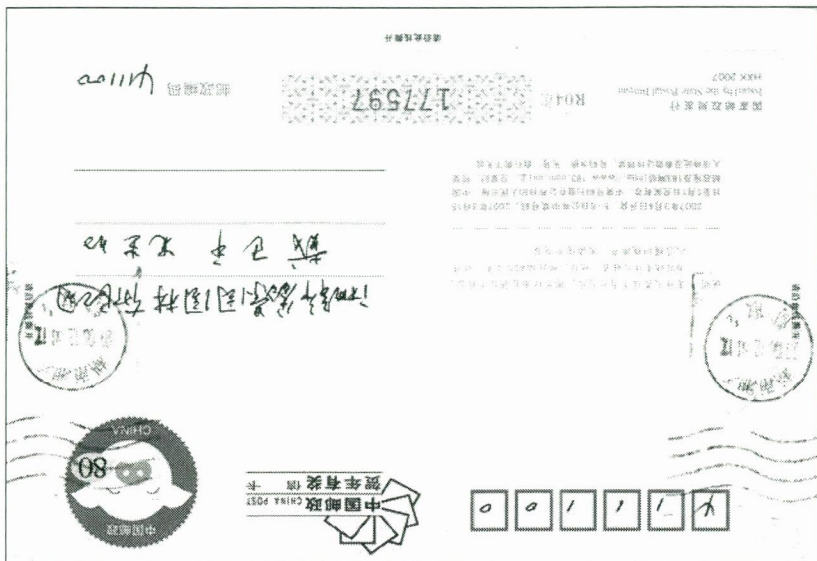
2007-0507(BK)-0004



2007-1406(BK)-0479



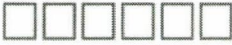
2007-1405(BK)-0263



Postally used lettercard
2007-1802(BK)-220.

The reverse (inside) of the lettercard is
also illustrated with the mascots



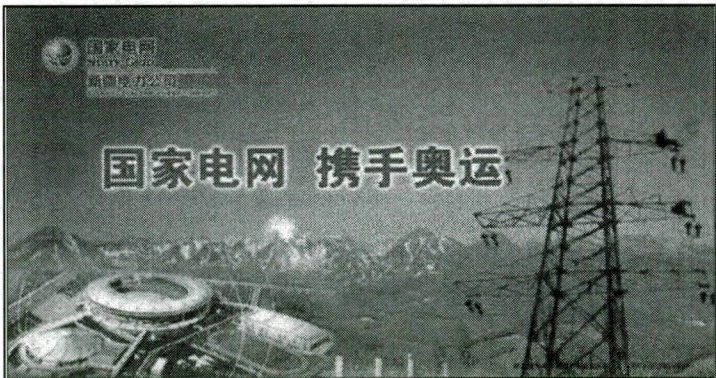


PICC 中国人民财产保险股份有限公司
PICC Property and Casualty Company Limited
宜丰县支公司
地址：江西省宜春新昌中大道136号
电话：0795-2765713 2765837 传真：0795-2768488

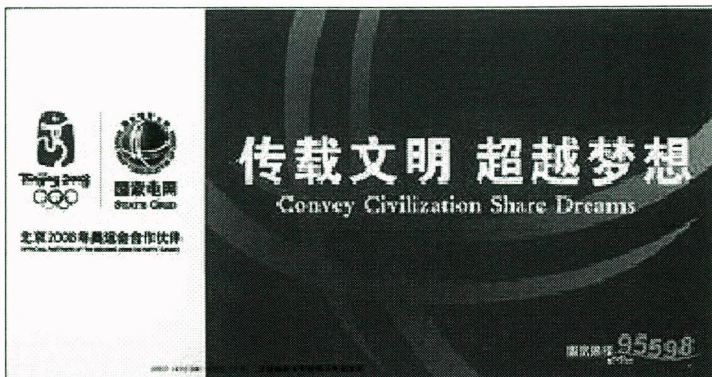
邮政编码 336300

Specimen C5 envelope 2007-1405(BK)-0072

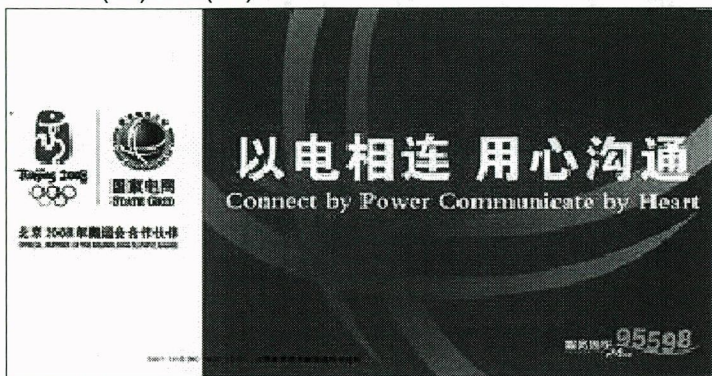
State Grid - Energy



'Powering the Games'



2007-1410(BK)-0033(1-3)



2007-1410(BK)-0033(2-3)



2007-1406(BK)-0453



样张不得邮寄



北京2008年奥运会合作伙伴
OFFICIAL PARTNER OF THE BEIJING 2008 OLYMPIC GAMES



国家电网
STATE GRID

江西南昌供电公司
JIANGXI NANCHANG POWER SUPPLY COMPANY

中国 江西省南昌市叠山路366号 电话: 0791-6249000 网址: <http://www.ncgd.com.cn>

邮政编码 330006

Specimen C5 envelope 2007-1401(BK)-0370

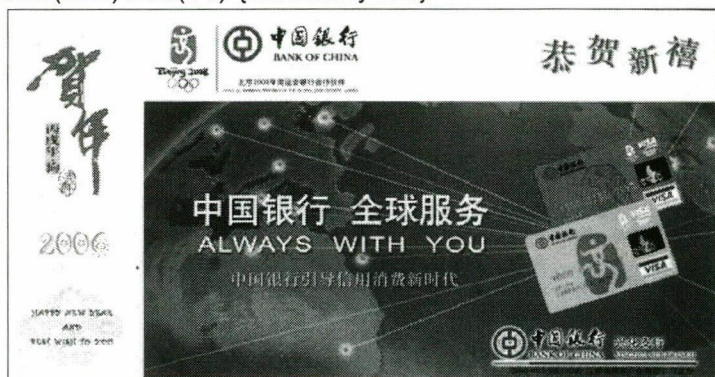
Bank of China - Financial services



2007-1410(BK)-0082



2005-(0601)-0023(4-3) {Not a lottery card}



2006-1011(BK)-0200



2007-1404(BK)-0099



Specimen C5 envelope 2006-2900(BK)-0132

Sinopec - Petrochemical partner



2007-0101(BK)-0123

2007-1105(BK)-0390 is a very similar design with additional white text beneath the fuel card illustration (telephone numbers).

100029



北京市朝阳区惠新东街甲六号

中石化办公厅 综合组 主任



中国石化集团西南石油局
中国石化股份公司西南分公司

地址：四川省成都市一环路北四段116号

北京2008年奥运会石化合作伙伴
BEIJING 2008 PETROCHEMICAL PARTNER

邮政编码 610081

Used C5 envelope 2007-2300(BK)-0068

Air China - Carrier



2008-0809(BK)-6002

This card also introduces the new 2008 postal indicia design.



Haier - Electrical goods (Official Sponsor)



2006-1502(BK)-0325

Arawana Brand - cooking oils

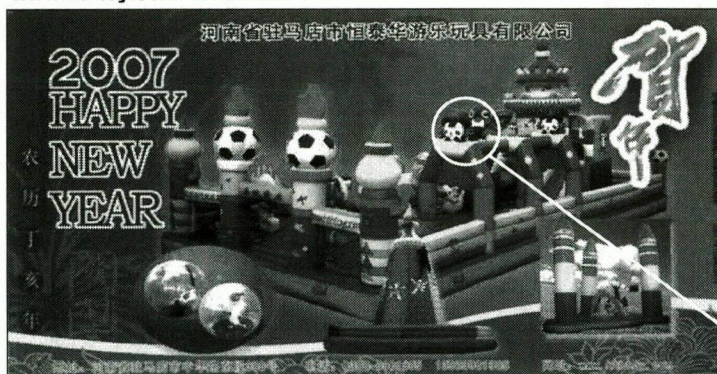


2007-0504(BK)-0302

Official Sponsor - milk

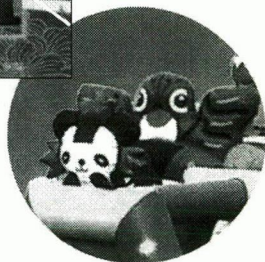


2006-0501(BK)-0186



2007-1615(BK)-0474

The toys illustrated include the 'Friendlies' - Beijing mascots.

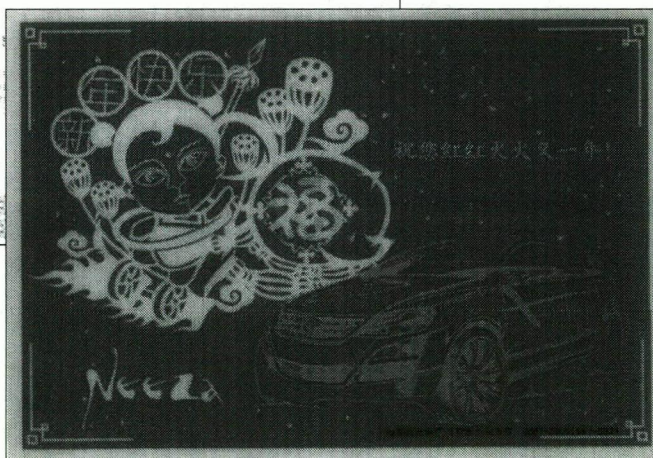


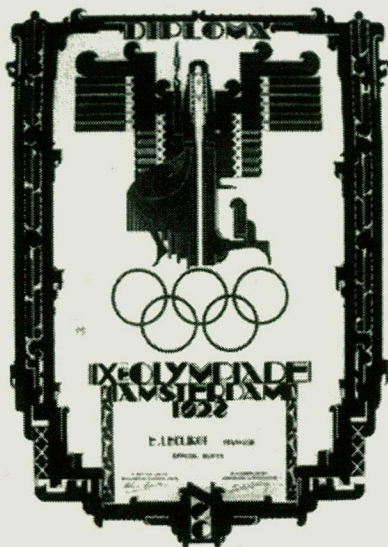
Volkswagen - Sponsor



This is a plastic faced lenticular (3D) card, with the sponsorship indicated on the reverse.

The card still bears a lottery number panel, but the indicia is not the standard lunar year design.





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