



# TORCH BEARER



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## 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 to Volume 24, and £2.50 per issue, from Volume 25 except Vol.25 issue 4b which is £4.00, 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 March, June, September and December. Articles or adverts for inclusion in a particular issue should be sent at least two months in advance.

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**MEMBERSHIP OF THE SOCIETY OF OLYMPIC COLLECTORS**

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

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

All applications should be made to the Secretary.

Subscription rates for 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**.

**Notice for participants in the International Packet**

Please ensure that the Packet is forwarded as soon as possible, and that the Packet Manager is informed when passed on.

Notification of mailing is very important to track the Packet.

New email for Packet Manager: [brian-hammond1@sky.com](mailto:brian-hammond1@sky.com)

## FRONT PAGE

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To all of those who have renewed their membership without the need for reminders, welcome to the first issue of Torch Bearer for 2009.

2008 proved to be a very active year for Olympic collectors, and for any members trying to base a collection on Beijing 2008, it will be remembered for many years to come - material still appears daily. I am certain that 'completeness' is out of the question for Beijing 2008, but the opportunities to create a really interesting collection are almost limitless.

2009 should be one of the 'quiet' years for an Olympic collector, but please see page 48 and the inside back cover. A number of events have already been announced, and the approach of the 2010 Olympic Winter Games will certainly keep a number of us busy.

Canada Post began their Olympic programme in January (reported this issue), and from the pre-release reports it appeared that a relatively frugal programme of ten definitive stamps would be instigated. The issue of ten stamps has however been used to create numerous varieties with coil, booklet and miniature sheet formats, varying adhesives, varying 'perforations', and stationery items. If you want to be complete on these issues, now is the time to contact Canada Post.

This issue also includes a new feature 'Miscellany of commercial Olympic related mail', which is intended to become a regular feature - as material permits. We have been fortunate in securing a primary source for such material, but other interesting commercially mailed items will be included. Please check your incoming mail as a number of 2012 partners and sponsors are now using the 2012 logo on their business mail. The most common seem to be envelopes from BT, EDF and Scottish Widows Insurance. We have an objective to record these items, and reports from members are essential in making this possible - please send photocopies or scans of items to either Bob Farley or Bob Wilcock.

Our publishing efforts in 2008 seem to have been well received by members, and the majority of our fund-raising efforts are directed towards future publications, or increasing use of colour printing in Torch Bearer.

The International Packet now provides a service to over 30 members. At the time of introduction, the main objective of the packet service was to offer a benefit to participating members and to ensure the service was open to our international members. Our use of copies has overcome the risks and insurance costs of mailing the packet to international members. If you would like to join the circuit, please contact Brian Hammond - you can become a regular member on the circuit, or a regular or occasional vendor, all are welcome.

The approach of London 2012 should provide us with some exciting opportunities, and SOC should be well positioned to provide information to our friends and colleagues in other FIPO Societies.

Vic Manikian has provided a single sport based article in this issue. We must have other single sport enthusiasts in our ranks - please get the creative juices flowing and promote your sport through our pages.

## OLYMPIC AIR MAIL - THE EARLY YEARS

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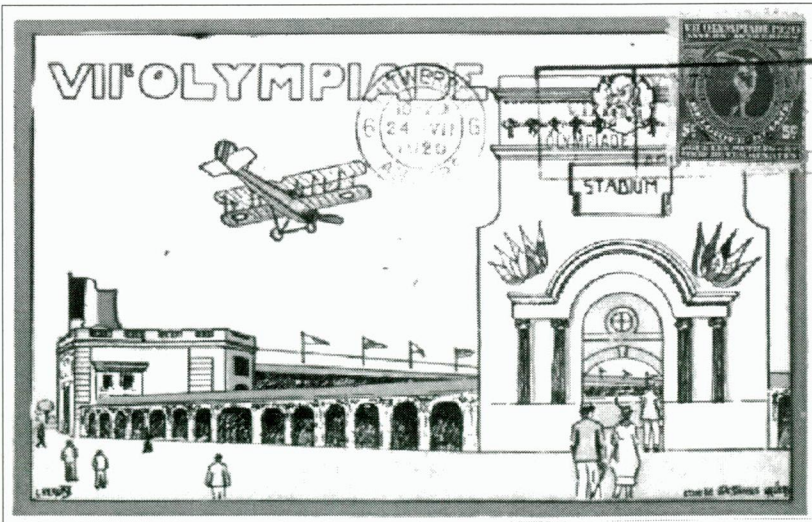
Thomas Lippert

When the Olympic movement was re-born in the mid eighteen-nineties, aviation was also entering a new stage of development. After successful flights with lighter than air balloons, decades earlier, attempts at flight with planes "heavier than air" were being realized by Otto Lilienthal and others.

In the following years the Olympic movement considered aeronautical skills as sports, and when the Olympic games had their second edition in Paris in 1900, the sportsmen with their balloons could compete from the Olympic base in the Parc Aérostatique de Vincennes in the environ of Paris. It would not be correct to say just "in Vincennes", because in the distance flight competition starting on October 9th, 1900, Count Henry de la Vaulx was winner with a flight of over 1925 km in 35 hours and 45 min that took him to Russia. As a result, the locality called Rorostychew became a part of the history of both the Olympic Games, and the World Exhibition Paris 1900 – but is it still remembered?

In 1908 it had been planned that an airship should pass over the White City Stadium in London (this was cancelled because of an explosion involving the airship). The opening of the Deutsches Stadion (German Stadium) in Berlin-Grünewald in June 1913 for the cancelled Olympic Games of 1916 included similar plans involving an airship. Postcards record these plans and events - but no real airmail has been found.

When the Olympics could again be celebrated after WW I in Antwerp airmail items were still absent, although planes had trialed early airmail routes.



Postcard of the Olympic Games 1920 with special stamp and Olympic machine postmark: Over the Olympic city of Antwerp planes of the military squadron could be seen- demonstrating the skills of the pilots..

In 1924 the Olympics were again held in Paris. In 1900 the Parc Aérostatique de Vincennes was the launch point for balloons, this time planes were the attraction for spectators on June 8th and 9th, 1924. Both dates were Olympic competition days, and although the aeronautic demonstrations were not part of the Olympic programme on this occasion, more than 200.000 visitors enjoyed the demonstrations - this time also supplemented by special airmail flights to the airport of Le Bourget , Paris.



Airmail cover with the 25 C Olympic stamp and vignettes for the Meeting of Vincennes, mailed on June 9th , 1924 during the Olympic Games in Paris from Vincennes to Le Bourget – a document of the first airmail activities of philatelists associated with the Olympics.

Amsterdam hosted the Olympians in 1928. Aviation had been made remarkable progress, and the city was the destination or a stop for several airmail lines. Airmail items provide some of the most beautiful philatelic items from the Olympic Games in 1928. The existence of an airmail service had a very practical impact for foreign journalists allowing fast mailing of their reports to their newspapers.

A Swiss bank had an interesting public relations idea. It sent an Olympic marathon greeting card as registered airmail with a set of Olympic stamps and postmark to its clients. This is worthy of a special mention because approximately 500 such cards were mailed, reason enough, to describe this as the first organized Olympic airmail delivery. It is probable that only a fraction of the number mailed ever came into the possession of collectors.



Registered airmail card with the Olympic handstamp ("N2") in black and the complete Olympic set from the last day of the Olympics, August 12th, 1928: The card with the registration label from the Amsterdam Central Station has been transported to Switzerland by the airlines KLM and BALAIR.

Aviation, and the development of passenger flights was in an embryonic stage, and still did not offer a solution to the transport of sportsmen. There was no change to this situation in 1932, when the Olympic Games were hosted in Los Angeles. At this period of the development of aviation in the United States transport of the US post's airmail items by contract, and aeronautical sportsmanship were in the foreground.

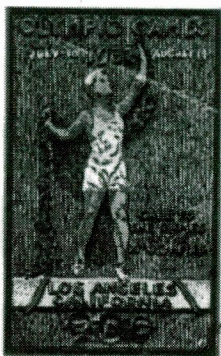
Coincidentally the inauguration of the extension of the Contract Airmail Route 33 with the appended route from Phoenix to El Centro and San Diego fell on the first day of sale the Olympic stamps. The stamps were only sold in Los Angeles and immediate surrounding area. The enthusiasm of collectors was demonstrated when they purchased the Olympic stamps soon after midnight in the GPO at Los Angeles, "flew" in their car over 211 miles to El Centro and a further 121 miles to San Diego to reach both cities in time for the flight – and to have the covers signed by both postmasters, the pilot and the cachet maker.



Aerophilatelists include special cachets in their collections to commemorate airport dedications and special events. One such cachet illustrates another example of enthusiasm. The Junior Chamber of Commerce of Los Angeles organized a flight by a group of planes to visit Portland and the Canadian city of Vancouver. The flight would invite people to the Olympic Games two months later. The flight included the Olympic diving medallist of 1928, Georgia Coleman, who in August 1932 became the Olympic champion in diving (and received an additional silver medal). The philatelic commemoration of this Olympic Air Cruise (the official name for the event) has not previously been considered in the philatelic story of the Los Angeles Olympic Games 1932 !

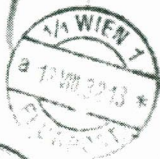


Cover with the Welcome cachet for the Olympic Air Tour (correctly it should be named Olympic Air Cruise): The planes reached the Swan Island Airport on March 30th, 1932, after disruption by bad weather conditions, and then left for Vancouver, B.C.



OPENING DAY  
Xth OLYMPIAD

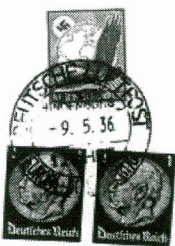
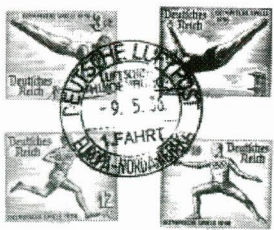
Handwritten initials or scribble.



Miss Herly Fried,  
IX Mendlergasse No. 3  
Vienna, Austria.

Last but not least: airmail was sent from the highly acclaimed Olympic Village. Although overpaid the cover was not declared as airmail, but has been handled inside USA and Europe as airmail - see the airmail arrival postmark from Vienna.

The Olympic Games Berlin 1936 can be viewed in two different ways: on the one hand generally misused for nazi propoganda, on the other hand, excited German spectators and members of the public celebrating the games - and a feast for Olympic collectors. Never before had there been Olympic competition sites so well served by postal services.



Mit Luftschiff nach Nordamerika.

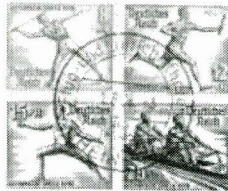
Marshall H. Hancock.  
116 Nassau Street  
New York, N. Y.

From March 1936 an airship with the registration D-LZ129 named "Hindenburg" entered into service. 3500 German marks have been paid by the Reichspropagandaministerium (Reichs ministry for propaganda) for the Zeppelin to be decorated with the Olympic rings. For this reason even the early flights could be legitimately considered as connected with the Olympics. Once again, there are two sides to the story: the journeys as Olympic ambassador are one side; a special 3-day-trip in March 1936 over Germany as election propaganda for the Nazi party the second.

The first great trip took the LZ129 over the Atlantic to North America. The journey started in Friedrichshafen at May 6th, 1936. There are some covers franked with the complete Olympic Games set, which was issued on May 9th. How the stamps came aboard the airship before this date can only be assumed. Literature notes that the stamps may have been from a post office in Halle/Saale, which sold them in advance from May 5th by mistake.

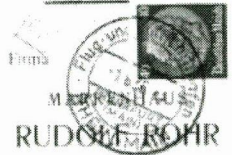
The start of official Olympic airmail - as generally accepted - was the special roundtrip flight of the LZ129 from Frankfurt/Main to Berlin (including a cruise over the Olympic Stadium). Over the famous airport, Berlin-Tempelhof, twenty postal bags - with about 120.000 pieces of mail (!) - were dropped. To process this volume of incoming mail, every available postmark of the office needed to be used for arrival markings - a good field for philatelic research.

The treaty mails which were sent via Frankfurt/Main and then flown with the roundtrip flight, before delivering to the addressee are very attractive. Some of these are very rare.



Bitte sorgsam zu behandeln

Einschreiben



Berlin NW 7

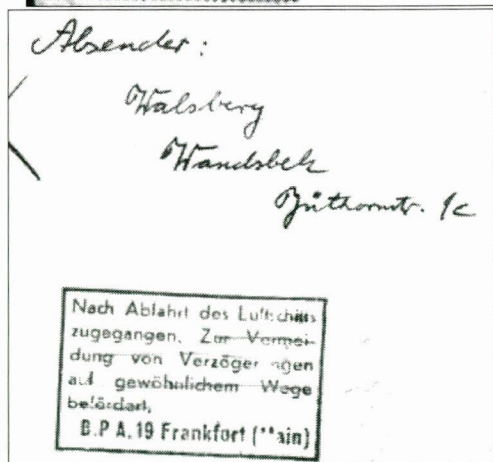
Friedrichstraße 131 d

MARKENHAUS RUDOLF ROHR  
BERLIN NW 7, FRIEDRICHSTRASSE 131 d

Dealer's cover with an Olympic sheet (first day: August 1st, 1936 !) and a box cachet (registration not allowed, railway post-office 19 Frankfurt/Main)- dealers received their ordered material in advance to allow them to prepare their covers.

No less interesting are items which have been mailed from special post-offices in some Olympic premises, that operated before the official opening of the Olympic Games, for example the temporary post office in the Olympic Village. Mail from these offices could have been carried by the Olympic flight, but also because they were in operation from an earlier date, mail could have been carried on the Zeppelin flights to South America before the Olympic Games, and to North America during and soon after the Olympics.

For example the 7th North America flight was originally planned for August 15th, the penultimate day of the Games, but the Reichspost changed the planned date to facilitate fast transmission of the final press photographs of the Olympic Games to New York.



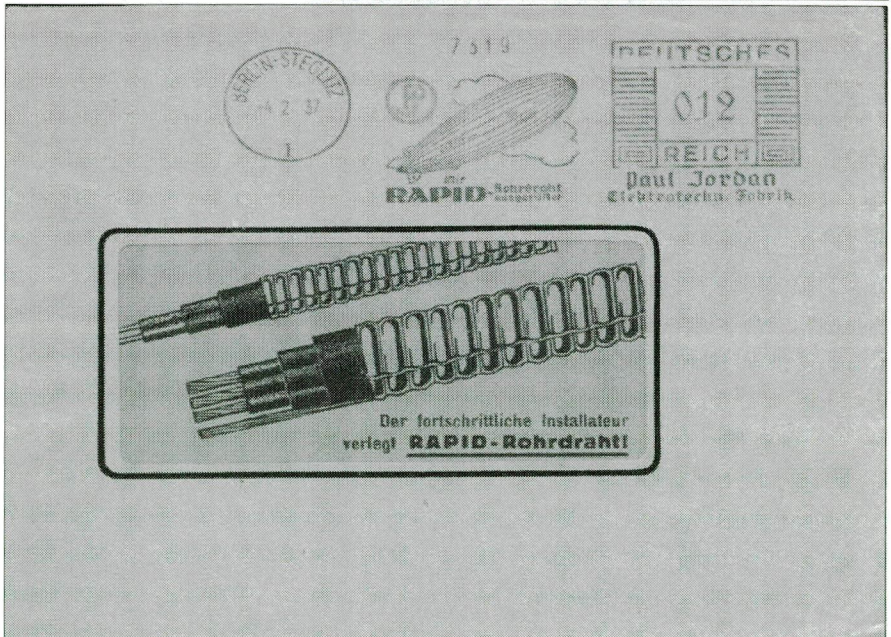
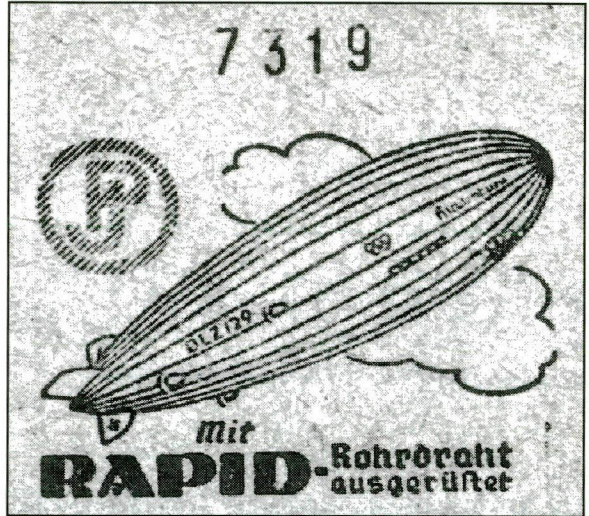
Postcard from a mobile Olympic post-office mailed on the last day (August 16th, 1936):

Although the airship departed the next day shortly after midnight, the card could not reach the flight in Frankfurt. As a result it was delivered by the subsequent 8th airship flight to North America. A box cancel on the back explains the late arrival. Only very few covers mailed from the Olympic Games are known from this flight.

The dirigible LZ129 continued in service with the Olympic rings decoration until the winter of 1936, when some refurbishment was carried out. During these works the Olympic decoration was removed.

The catastrophe at Lakehurst in May 1937 saw the destruction of this airship.

Rare meter showing the airship with Olympic decoration used by one of the suppliers of materials used in the construction of the airship - in this instance wire: The wire of this supplier was alleged to have played a major part in the disaster according to the theory of constructor Dr. Eckener.



Air traffic played a greater role for these Olympics than ever before. Not only did the airships transport passengers in higher numbers, but planes played a remarkable transport role across the country. There were special Olympic timetables for air traffic – a sought-after collectible for Olympic memorabilia fans. The German airline DEUTSCHE LUFTHANSA had its own Olympic ambassadors with a fleet of JU-52 in Olympic livery, but airmail collectors have not recorded any special Olympic flights.



One of two special Olympic meters which were used by LUFTHANSA offices.

Sporting flight meetings around Berlin were included in the spectacles staged in the Olympic area, and provided an opportunity to demonstrate aeronautical skills. The respect of the I.O.C. for aeronautic sports is demonstrated by the facts that the IOC gave its "Aeronautical Prize" to the Swiss pilot Hermann Schreiber for his first crossing of the Alps in a glider, and that gliding was included as a sport in the proposed programme for the Olympic Games Helsinki 1940, which had to be cancelled due to WWII. No airmail items exist to demonstrate the latter fact, but a stamp essay for the proposed Olympic set for Helsinki with a glider design exists.

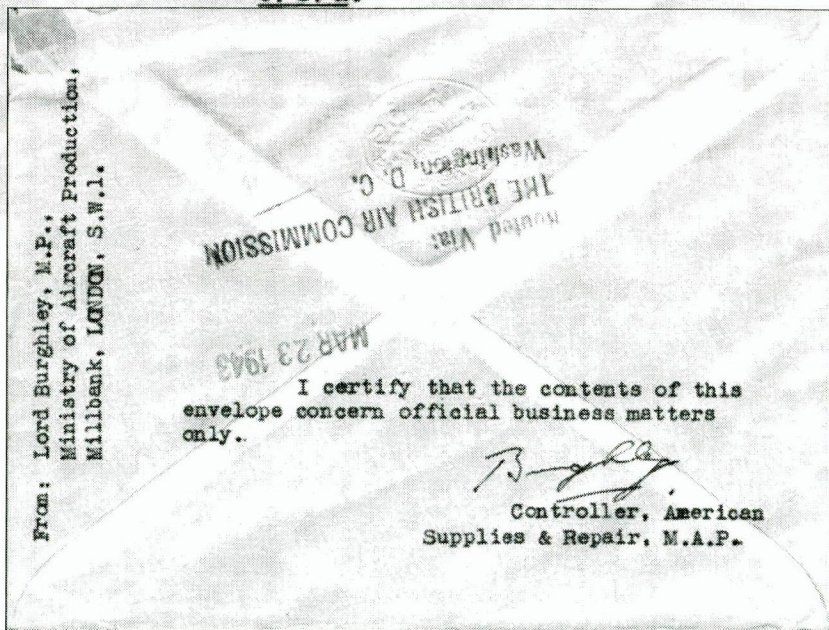
The interruption of the Olympic Games ranks only as an insignificant side-effect in comparison with the full impact of WWII and the consequential loss of millions of lives. The war also had a direct impact on sportsmen, in curtailing their opportunities to train and compete, and of course the sportsmen had no option but to participate in the hostilities, however a few documents exist that allow collectors to report this period.

The Olympic Games survived WWII, and it was the sender of the following illustrated letter, who played an important role in ensuring their continuation. Lord Burghley became chairman of the organizing committee for the LONDON 1948 Olympic Games, which signalled a new start in a world that had experienced many political changes.

BY FERRY COMMAND - URGENT

Ref: CASR/44

F. W. Musson, Esq.,  
British Air Commission,  
1785, Massachusetts Avenue,  
WASHINGTON, D.C.,  
U. S. A.



Courier mail from GB to USA in 1943, transported by FERRY COMMAND units which flew newly constructed war planes to Europe: The cover was sent by Lord Burghley, Olympic winner from 1928 (400m hurdles) and later to become a high ranked IOC official. From a philatelic point of view the name of the sender can be considered for thematic content because the privilege of free franking results from the personal status of the sender or his function/position.

The development of Olympic airmail included the transport of some Olympic flames from Greece to the host countries, airlines of host countries became official Olympic sponsors, and equally important, the swift transport of sportsmen from their home countries to the Olympic Games grew

with the development of the air traffic technology. Initially, in many instances mail was also carried. In the last twenty years, this has changed significantly, and most airmail covers offered to collectors are only documents to commemorate the departure of a National team.

Fortunately the increased use of air transport has not led to any plane crashes involving Olympic teams as occurred with some individual sports – for example - the Italian soccer team of Torino in 1949.

Airmail items that have been involved in a crash, and with Olympic connections can be found.



Greeting mail from Czechoslovak team members, sent from the Melbourne Olympic Village: On the last leg it was aboard the CSA Ilyushin-12B plane on flight OK 548 from Zurich to Prague, when the plane crashed near Wasterkingen/CH shortly after departure.

Aerophilately has accompanied the Modern Olympic Games from their earliest days, and because of this, philatelic items sent by airmail are able to report and record Olympic history. Airmail items provide an attractive chapter in the story of Olympic Philately.

Credits:

Laurentz Jonker; Registered Mail of the 1928 Amsterdam Olympic Games; Supplement of the Journal of Sports Philately, Spring 2006

Ten Planes Fly Into Local Airport Together; in: The Vancouver Sun, Tuesday May 31st 1932, page 2

## CANADA POST - VANCOUVER 2010

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Extracts from an article published in Canada's Stamp Details (Vol. XVIII No 1; January to March 2009)

To mark Canada's role as Host Country of the world's most celebrated sporting event, Canada Post issued five PERMANENT™ domestic rate stamps showcasing 2010 Winter Games sports. This vibrant stamp set features curling, snowboarding, freestyle skiing, bobsleigh and ice sledge hockey.

The stamps issued to mark this upcoming event feature athletes in action, with a strong emphasis on movement. "We were inspired by Olympic imagery of the 1940s and 1950s, particularly the highly romanticized silk-screened posters of the era," explains John Belisle, Creative Director of Signals Design Group in Vancouver. "We started with basic sketches of athletes in action and, to give the design a contemporary spin, we layered the images." These layers of transparencies capture the movement of the athletes. Belisle adds, "We've carried this sense of motion onto the souvenir sheet, where we've created movement by winding the pattern of the Vancouver 2010 colour scheme." Blues and whites worked into the stamp designs convey the feeling of snow and ice.

According to Liz Wong, Manager of Stamp Design and Production at Canada Post, this stamp issue really speaks to the dynamism of the upcoming Games. "Its energy reflects Canada's excitement to be hosting this world-class event," she explains. "As these stamps make their way from coast to coast, they'll help spread the Olympic and Paralympic Spirit and build anticipation for the arrival of the world's athletes, officials and sports enthusiasts."

**Ice sledge hockey**—Ice sledge hockey was invented at a rehabilitation centre in Stockholm, Sweden, in the 1960s. The sport made its Paralympic debut at the Lillehammer 1994 Paralympic Winter Games.

**Snowboard**—Inspired by skiing, surfing and skateboarding, snowboard is an exciting addition to the Olympic winter sports family. The sport made its Olympic debut at the 1998 Olympic Winter Games in Nagano, Japan.

**Freestyle skiing**—Freestyle skiing involves aerial manoeuvres performed while skiing downhill. Moguls were added to the official program of the Albertville Olympic Winter Games in 1992, and aerials made their first appearance at the Olympic Winter Games in 1994 in Lillehammer.

**Bobsleigh**—Though sleds have been used for centuries as a mode of transportation, bobsledding was not born until the late 19th century, when the Swiss attached a steering mechanism to a toboggan. In 1924, a four-man bobsleigh race took place at the first Olympic Winter Games in Chamonix, France.

**Curling**—Though Canada is recognized as the major home of curling today, the game was actually developed in Scotland. It was included in the program of the first Olympic Winter Games and, after a lengthy absence, made its way back into the official Olympic program for the 1998 Nagano Games.

Stamp Specifications

Denomination: 5 x PERMANENT™ domestic stamps

Design/Illustration: John Belisle, Kosta Tsetsekas

Dimensions: 23.25 mm x 20.25 mm (horizontal)

Gum Type: Pressure sensitive

Paper Type: Tullis Russell

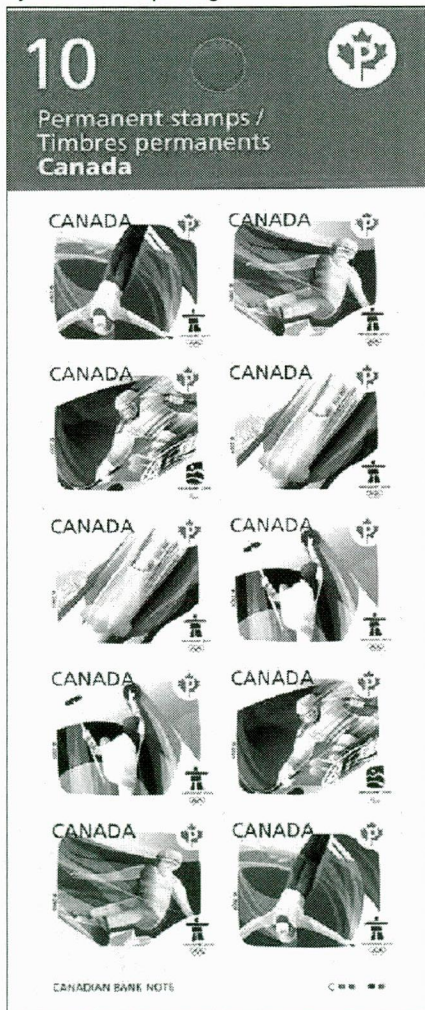
Perforations: Simulated perforation

Printer: Canadian Bank Note

Printing Process: Lithography in 5 colours

Tagging: General, 4 sides

Quantity: Continuous printing



Left: Booklet of 10 'Sports stamps'.





The booklet of 10 'Sports stamps' has been issued with 24 different covers. The covers are numbered 1/24 - 24/24, each has a 'Did you know?' panel with an interesting Canadian Olympic fact.

**Cover of the booklet of 30 'Sports stamps'.**

30 Permanent stamps / Timbres permanents Canada

Canada Post / Canada

**VANCOUVER 2010**

The Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games are fast approaching. Canadian athletes, hopefuls and fans are looking for the best information for their world class event. As the Official Supplier to the 2010 Winter Games, Canada Post is proud to play an active part as one of the nation's historic moments. We wish all of our Canadian athletes the best in their endeavours at the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

**For more information, visit [vancouver2010.com](http://vancouver2010.com)**

**17 days of Olympic Games Events**  
February 12 to 28, 2010

**10 days of Paralympic Games Events**  
March 12 to 21, 2010

Email: [info@vancouver2010.com](mailto:info@vancouver2010.com)  
Phone: 604-273-8888

Alors que les Jeux olympiques et paralympiques d'hiver de 2010 à Vancouver approchent à grands pas, les espoirs sportifs du Canada s'accroissent à perfectionner leurs techniques en vue de leurs compétitions d'élite internationales.

À titre de fournisseur officiel des Jeux d'hiver de 2010, Canada Post est fier de contribuer activement à l'un des moments historiques de notre pays. Nous souhaitons tout le succès possible aux athlètes canadiens qui prendront part aux Jeux olympiques et paralympiques d'hiver.

**Pour plus de renseignements, consulter le site [vancouver2010.com](http://vancouver2010.com).**

**17 jours de célébration des jeux olympiques,**  
du 12 au 28 février 2010

**10 jours de célébration des jeux paralympiques,**  
du 12 au 21 mars 2010

**Canada Post issues for Vancouver 2010.**

12.01.2009 Olympic and Paralympic Sports;

12.01.2009 Olympic and Paralympic emblems and mascots.

**Except:** Miga design and Emblem / mascot sheet - 12.02.2009.

Value	Design	Coil Self adhesive	Booklet Self adhesive	Ex miniature sheet, gummed	Booklet of 6 stamps	booklet of 10 stamps	Booklet of 30 stamps	Miniature sheet of 5 stamps	Postal stationery card
Permanent	Freestyle skiing	X	X	X		Two sets	Six sets	One set	X
Permanent	Sled hockey	X	X	X					X
Permanent	Bobsleigh	X	X	X					X
Permanent	Curling	X	X	X					X
Permanent	Snowboarding	X	X	X					X
Permanent	Olympic emblem	X		X		One set			
Permanent	Paralympic emblem	X		X					
0.98 \$	Miga	X	X	X	X			X	
1.18 \$	Sumi	X	X	X	X			X	
1.65 \$	Quatchi	X	X	X	X		X		

The 'Sports' miniature sheet with gummed stamps



Olympic and Paralympic emblems and mascots capture the values and essence of the Games and represent the people, geography and spirit of their home country. While this task can seem daunting in a country as diverse as Canada, the Vancouver Organizing Committee for the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games has introduced a vibrant set of emblems and mascots that accomplish this goal with flair. As an Official Supplier to the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, Canada Post will issue five definitive stamps showcasing these dynamic symbols.

### The Emblems

Of the two PERMANENT™ domestic rate stamps, one features the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games emblem, which is a contemporary interpretation of the inukshuk—a traditional Inuit sculpture that provides guidance to travellers. The other features the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic Winter Games emblem, an image that embodies the harmony between athlete, the sport and the environment.

The blue and green colour scheme in the stamps' background represents the Vancouver 2010 Sea to Sky theme—a concept linking the scenic coastal city with Whistler's majestic ski slopes. An added dash of creativity makes these domestic definitives extra special. Danielle Trotter, Manager of Stamp Design and Production at Canada Post, explains, "For the first time ever, two different stamps will alternate throughout the same coil."

### The Mascots

The Vancouver 2010 mascots—Miga, Quatchi and Sumi—were inspired by British Columbia's iconic geography and are rooted in Aboriginal legend. Together, they capture the spirit of Vancouver and Canada.

**Sumi\***, an animal guardian spirit, is the Vancouver 2010 Paralympic mascot and is found curling on the oversize denomination stamp.

**Miga** is a sea bear who transforms from orca whale to white Kermode bear. She shows off her ski tricks on the US rate stamp.

**Quatchi**, a shy, adventurous sasquatch, plays hockey on the international rate stamp.

\*NOTE: Issue date for the oversize denomination stamp, souvenir sheet of five and associated official first day cover: February 12, 2009. The date for the oversize denomination stamp issue differs from the other stamps in this series to mark the one-year countdown to the start of the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Emblem coil stamps.



The simulated perforations on the mascot stamps vary between the coil and booklet issues.

**left:** Coil:  
irregular, "perf 8.1 - 9.6"

**Right:** Booklet:  
consistent, "perf 9.2"



Stamp Specifications  
Design: VANOC/COVAN  
Design/Illustration: Meomi ©2005-2007,  
VANOC/COVAN  
Gum Type: Pressure sensitive  
Paper Type: Tullis Russell

Perforations: Simulated perforation  
Printer: Lowe-Martin  
Printing Process: Lithography in 5 colours  
Tagging: General, 4 sides  
Quantity: Continuous printing



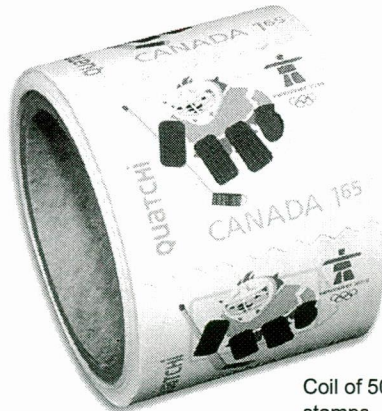
Coil of 100 stamps.



Coil of 50 stamps.



Coil of 50 stamps.



Coil of 50 stamps.

6 x 98¢

\$ 588

Stamps / Timbres  
United States /  
États-Unis



LOWE-MARTIN

•••••

www.canadapost.ca  
www.postescanada.ca

VANCOUVER 2010  
EXPOSITION INTERNATIONALE  
DU MONDIAL DES JEUX OLYMPIQUES



Miga

Miga is a young sea bear who lives in the ocean with her family pool, out past Vancouver Island near Tofino, British Columbia. Sea bears are part killer whale and part bear. Miga is part Kermode bear, a rare white bear that only lives in British Columbia.

Miga est une jeune ours de mer de l'océan avec sa famille, au large de Vancouver, près de Tofino, en Colombie-Britannique. Les ours de mer sont partie orque et partie ours. Miga est partie ours Kermode, un ours blanc ne vit qu'en Colombie-Britannique.

Design : VANOC / COVAN  
Illustration : Meoni TM&MC © 2005-2007, VANOC / COVAN



CANADA POST

Booklets of six stamps for the Mascot designs.

6 x \$118 ● \$ 708

Stamps / Timbres  
Oversized Mail /  
Courrier surdimensionné



•••••

6 x \$165

\$ 990

Stamps / Timbres  
International



LOWE-MARTIN

•••••

www.canadapost.ca  
www.postescanada.ca

VANCOUVER 2010  
EXPOSITION INTERNATIONALE  
DU MONDIAL DES JEUX OLYMPIQUES



Quatchi

Quatchi is a young sasquatch who comes from the mysterious forests of Canada. Quatchi is shy, but loves to explore new places and meet new friends. Although Quatchi loves all winter sports, he's especially fond of hockey. He dreams of becoming a world-famous goalie.

Quatchi est un jeune sasquatch qui vient des forêts mystérieuses du Canada. Quatchi est timide, mais il adore explorer de nouveaux endroits et rencontrer de nouveaux amis. Même si Quatchi aime tous les sports d'hiver, il aime surtout le hockey. Il rêve de devenir un gardien de but célèbre de par le monde.

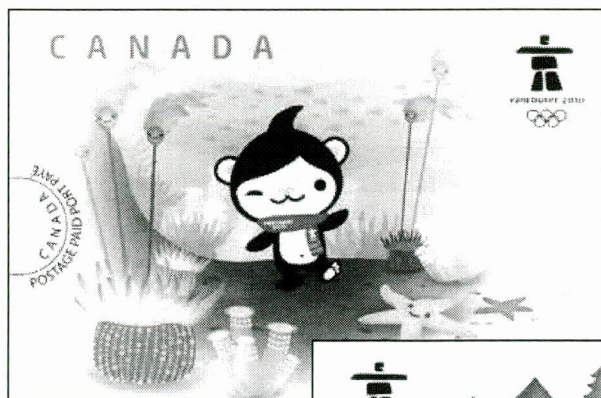
Design : VANOC / COVAN  
Illustration : Meoni TM&MC © 2005-2007, VANOC / COVAN



CANADA POSTES  
POST CANADA

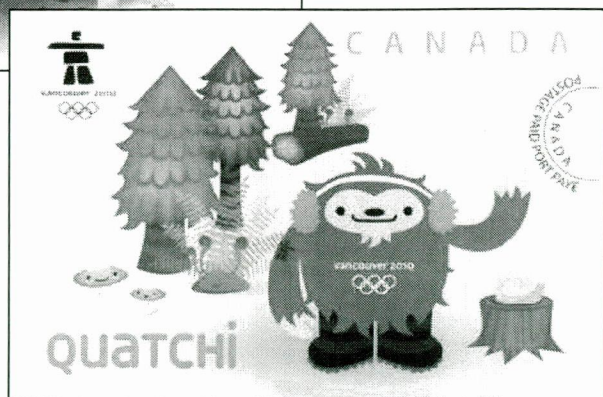


T.M. & © 2009-2010 CANADA Post. Design: SANDY EDGAR Illustration: Miroslav



The 'Emblems and Mascots' miniature sheet with gummed stamps

Examples of the postal stationery cards.

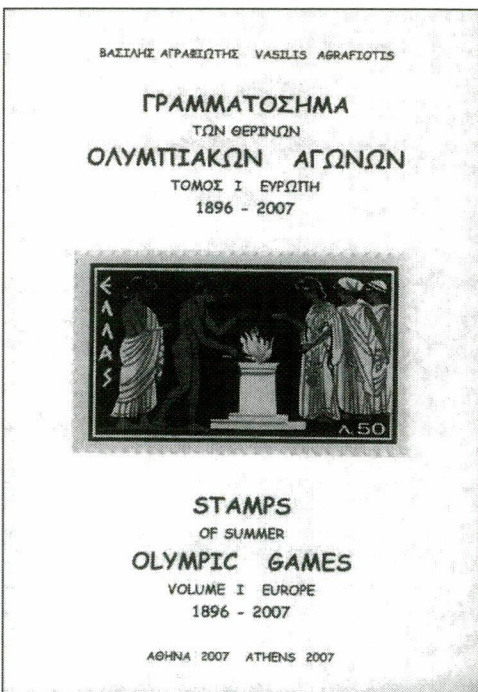


## Book Review

### Stamps of Summer Olympic Games: Volume 1: Europe 1896-2007 by Vasilis Agrafiotis, Athens 2007

This book is a bright, all colour listing of stamps relating to the Olympic Games, ancient and modern, issued by European countries, compiled by SOC member Vasilis Agrafiotis. It is in both Greek and English throughout, and every stamp mentioned is illustrated in colour. The countries are organised by region of Europe and are helpfully listed on the back cover, so it is not difficult to find your way about. Michel, Scott and Yvert numbers are given for each stamp, but not Stanley Gibbons.

The stamp listing is extended to usefully include Olympic-related stamps—I had missed the Jacques Rogge stamp in the famous Belgians sheet of 2004 for example. Miniature sheets and stamp booklets are included, but there is just occasional reference to postal stationery and postmarks. The listing extends to local issues, including the Scottish locals, and some other Cinderella items such as exhibition sheets. If you collect the ancient Games you will find this book quite helpful: the main extension is to include stamps depicting sporting and other scenes from ancient Greece. However the Olympic connection is not always apparent, and is frequently not explained, which is a pity.



There is no coverage of Winter Olympic and Paralympic stamps, though there are brief details of those Games held in European countries, but as a listing for the summer Games and the ancient Games it is very comprehensive.

With 288 A5 pages and a stiff card cover, it is not perfect, but is still a good reference book. It costs €45, postage paid in Europe, directly from the author, Vasilis Agrafiotis, Gymnastiriou 3, Athens 17235, Greece. Payment may be made by PayPal to [agrafiotisv@yahoo.gr](mailto:agrafiotisv@yahoo.gr). You may also e-mail for more information and postage outside Europe. If you would like to see the book before purchasing a copy please contact our librarian, Kenny Cook; Vasilis has kindly donated a copy to the library. The next volume, Africa, will be ready shortly.

Bob Wilcock

## Miscellany of commercial Olympic related mail.

SOC have received items from the mail of a well-placed source that enables us to provide illustrations of recent commercial items of Olympic related mail. A number of these confirm current usage of meters etc that may already be known to collectors., but some are new items, or even surprises.

### Olympic organisations



CONI (Italian Olympic Committee) meter used on a European Olympic Committees envelope.



Olympic Council of Ireland meter.



International Paralympic Committee, franking from Germany



Henri Didon franking from Lausanne.

### Vancouver 2010

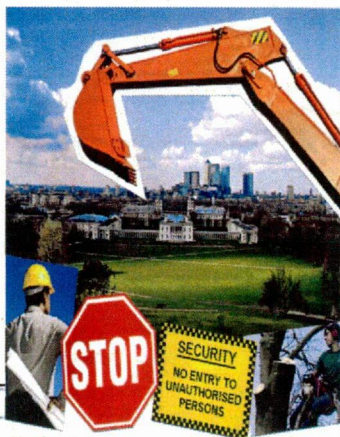
Envelope franked by computer generated postal indicia.  
Address label on reverse, with handstamps.



### London 2012

A very interesting 'smiler' label produced by **NOGOE** (No to Greenwich Park Olympic Equestrian Events) - an organisation seeking to relocate the 2012 equestrian events.

NOGOE advocates that a full 'Strengths and Weaknesses' analysis be carried out to review the decision to use Greenwich Park for the equestrian events, including consideration of the environmental impact and legacy, and the local economy should prolonged closure of the park be necessary. for construction.



For details of NOGOE visit:  
[www.nogoe2012.com/](http://www.nogoe2012.com/)



Advanced Mail  
Second Class  
AAAH-ASRG-RRTZ



YOUR STATEMENT IS ENCLOSED



Advanced Mail envelope from EDF Energy with 2nd class Postal Paid Impression.



Mail from the 'Madrid 2016' bid office, with their striking logo (enlarged inset)  
For details of the bid, visit:  
[www.madrid2016.es/en/paginas/home.aspx](http://www.madrid2016.es/en/paginas/home.aspx)

## 'BITS AND PIECES' - From the press

From the **Daily Express**, Friday February 20, 2009

### Our oldest Olympic medallist dies at 92

BRITAIN'S oldest Olympic medal winner has died at the age of 92.

Cyclist Harry Hill took bronze in the 4,000 metres team pursuit event at the 1936 Berlin Games.

Coming from a poor Manchester family, he cycled 200 miles to join his fellow Olympic hopefuls in London before flying to Germany because he did not have enough money for the train fare.

He spent his return fare on an Olympic souvenir jacket and had to cycle home again.



### Missed

His son Hedley, 63, of Bury, Greater Manchester, said: "Cycling was his life. He was never happier than when he was on a bike." "He was a wonderful father and will be greatly missed." Harry won dozens of trophies in a professional career full of endurance feats. In 1937 he became the first person to cycle 25 miles in an hour on an indoor track. He later opened a garage with his brother, Robert, and in 1976, at 60, he celebrated his retirement, by cycling across America and back.

Harry died of pneumonia after falling at his home in Bury.

His wife of over 50 years, Daphne, died in 2000. He leaves five children, nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.



**SOLD BY CHERRYSTONE £14,255**

From **STAMP MAGAZINE**, MARCH 2009 -  
AUCTION HIGHLIGHTS

### **POLAND 1956 - Inverted vignette**

It's not only the GB market that is currently thriving on modern errors.

Attracting keen interest at Cherrystone's sale was Poland's eye-catching 1956 Olympic Games 20g. with its central vignette of boxers inverted.

Fresh and unmounted mint, it was a very fine example of this rarity, of which only 14 are known to exist.

It duly trounced the impressive \$16,675 which had been fetched by a similar copy in November 2007.

## **BEIJING 2008 - Beijing International Media Centre**

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The Beijing International Media Centre (BIMC) was established as a facility for the non-accredited press attending the 2008 Olympic Games. The provision of such a facility has become a regular feature of recent Olympic and Winter Olympic Games, generally offering a full range of cultural and touristic information / opportunities to media representatives, with access to information regarding Olympic events and achievements, and 'hot desk' work stations.

In addition, BIMC offered a low cost (high quality) buffet dining facility 24/7, at a fixed price per visit, numerous help desks and volunteers as translators and helpers.

Satellite premises operated at other Olympic host cities, including Tianjin and Qingdao, but these did not have dedicated postal facilities.

Accreditation to access the BIMC was more stringent than usual requiring written application via the Embassy of the P R China, and despite regular chasing to establish the status of my application via the Embassy and with BIMC, and I am convinced that my application was only successful following the intervention of a member of the Olympex staff. It appeared that Thomas Lippert had his application processed within the designated system without undue delay. I was certainly anxious by the time that my journalist visa was granted, only five days before departure, and still requiring a day trip to London to collect it.

Checking in to the BIMC was a priority on arriving in Beijing, and after a minor problem requiring a new photograph for my pass (Thomas did not have a problem), all the effort required to obtain accreditation was forgotten as we toured the facilities available to us.

### **BIMC Temporary Post Office**

BIMC provided the first opportunity to visit a temporary post office within the Olympic infrastructure, and hopefully gain information about how such temporary offices would operate.

The post office was located close to the exit from BIMC, but just beyond the direct route to the exit, as a result it did not enjoy passing trade. The premises were on the ground floor and shared a sales area with a souvenir outlet.

Throughout the hotel complex being utilised for the BIMC and the registration, information and sponsor areas a number of advertising boards gave directions to the post office and advertised the services available with the operating hours.

Some aspects of these advertisements and the details of services and operating hours were later found to be erroneous. In particular 'personalised postal stationery cards' were advertised, but not available at this post office. The opening hours were also curtailed on days, either as a result of lack of demand or lack of stock.

Once located, the temporary post office appeared to have all of the facilities of a regular post office. There were two postal counter positions at the end of the space, one of which was manned at all times, the second only being used for 'rushes' of customers. There was an extensive souvenir sales counter to the right offering philatelic souvenirs and postal items.



The entrance to the temporary post office at the BIMC



One of the postal counters at the BIMC.

Equipment from front to back included:

VDU, scales, banknote counter, franking meter.

In front of the scales there are the hand-held bar code reader and Visa PIN operated terminal.

The stock of stamps available was very limited (no Olympic designs) as the franking meter could cater for postal needs.



The philatelic sales counter. Stock was replenished daily, with many items being exhausted as the Games progressed. New items such as the venue folders and Medal Winner folders were added daily.



Thomas Lippert with members of the China Post BIMC team. Some of these staff were also present at other philatelic sales outlets on other days, including the China Post sales table that appeared in the People's Palace Hotel.

Initial impressions were very good, and after engaging with the staff this impression was further enhanced as all of the staff attempted to answer questions and assist in fulfilling our requests.

Two items that particularly caught our attention were a China Post leaflet '2008 Beijing International Media Center Post Office Service Guide', and business cards for the BIMC Post Office. This certainly raised hopes that similar items may be available at other temporary post offices. Sadly this hope was not realised, and BIMC post office seems to have benefited from the foresight and initiatives of local staff, for which postal historians and collectors should be very grateful.

Communication in english was initially restricted to two or three members of staff, but on subsequent visits, most staff members became more confident and showed varying levels of language skills. Communication only became an issue when a 'rule' was being enforced or explained to us, and often we were guilty of choosing not to understand.

2008  
BIMC

中国邮政  
CHINA POST

2008 北京  
国际新闻中心邮局  
业务指南

2008 Beijing International Media Center  
Post Office Service Guide

中国邮政 china post

POST OFFICE

BIMC

服务项目 Services

出售 For sale: 奥运邮品 Olympic postal products

首日封 First day cover

纪念封 Commemorative cover

明信片 Postcards

邮寄邮件 Mailing: Letters and parcels

营业时间 Business Hours: 9:00-22:00

服务热线 Service Hotline: 82029780 82022627

2008 北京国际新闻中心邮局  
2008 Beijing International Media Center Post Office

As BIMC temporary post office was part of the Olympic infrastructure, it was fully equipped to accept Visa and was therefore the most convenient for mailing parcels or bulky items during the Olympic Games to maintain a stock of currency.

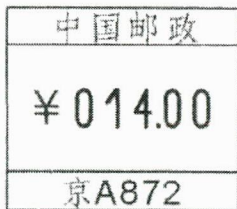
Legitimate mailing of parcels and packages produced copies of the appropriate receipts and an introduction to the processes and forms, although the security scan on entering the BIMC led to some interesting bag searches and queries when carrying boxed Olympex medals for mailing!

The BIMC temporary post office was equipped with three handstamp dies. These were identified by the numbers 11, 12 and 13. In general, dies 11 and 12 were used at the two counter positions (die 13 being the 'hammer' to apply the other cancels). The right hand counter was open most often, and usually utilised die 11.

The counter clerks were usually very helpful, and subject to the length of queue, usually met requests to use a specific die.



Each counter position was also equipped with a computer terminal and printer capable of producing meter strips of any value and printing receipts etc. Franking meters could also be printed direct to postal items of suitable thickness.



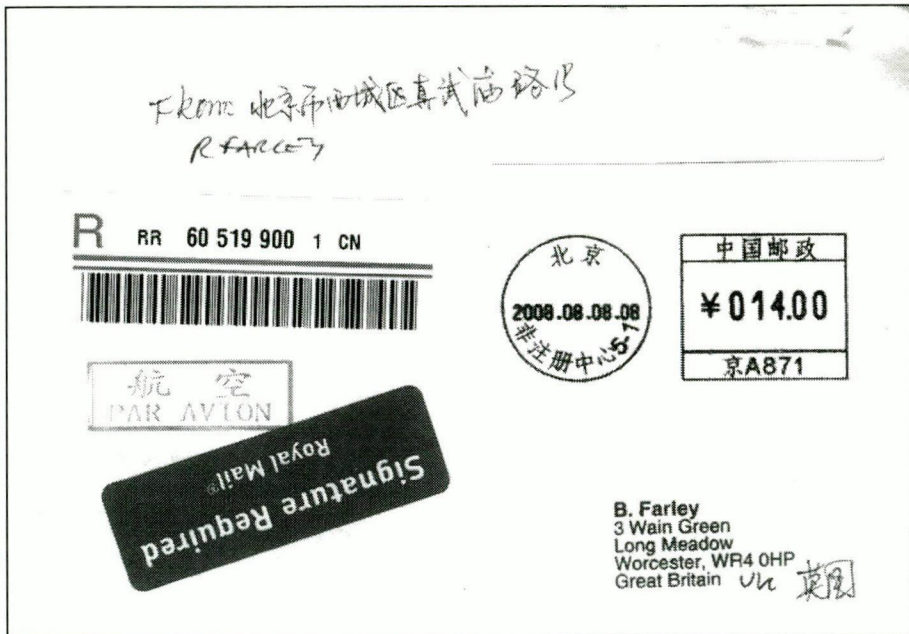
The meters were identified as:  
 A871 (5-1 being counter 1);  
 A872 (5-2 being counter 2).  
 Meters were printed in blue.  
 A 'rule' applied at this office which was certainly not universal, prohibited the mixing of payment by franking meter and stamps on the same item.

Two other 'rules' that we first encountered at this office were:

Firstly, that items mailed to an address in China must be addressed in Chinese script - this was a generally recognised requirement at most post offices. Logic supports the fact that items for local delivery that may be initially sorted by the postcode may only be further sorted by local delivery personnel who may not understand the Latin alphabet. (How many Royal Mail delivery men would be able to understand an address written in Chinese?).

Again, staff were helpful. To enforce the rule, they kindly addressed our items by hand until we could make arrangements for labels.

Secondly, *{illustrated below}* that the sender address on registered items should appear on the face of the item. This 'rule' was not consistently applied at the BIMC post office, and was not raised elsewhere. The inclusion of the senders details on the reverse was usually accepted. Again, when enforced, staff were kind enough to add the appropriate details in Chinese script.



An issue similar to this second 'rule' regarding the position of sender and intended recipient addresses was encountered on a number of occasions. Typically the delivery address is added at top left directly under the postcode, with senders address / details at bottom right.

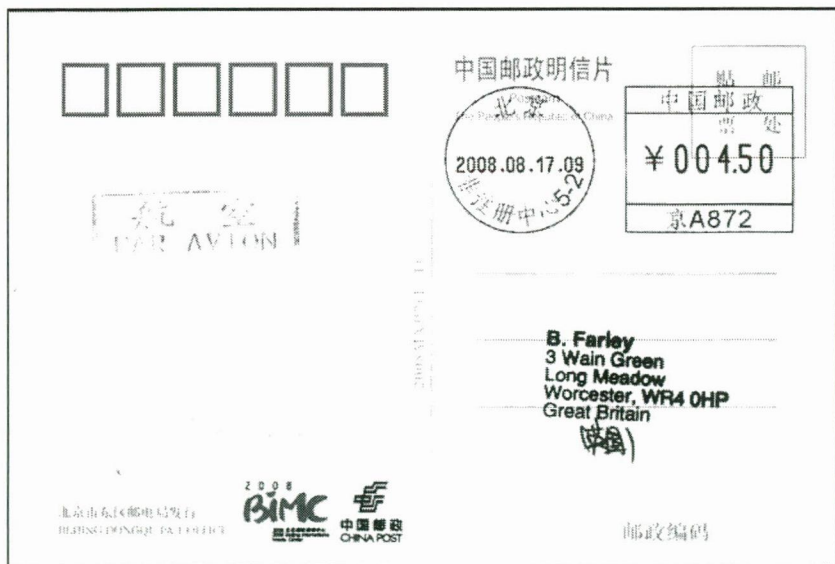
Whenever this situation arose we were careful to add 'Sender:' by the details at bottom right.

Cachets were also available at the BIMC post office. In common with many of the Beijing post offices, cachets for the Bird's Nest 08.08.2008 (opening day), the Water Cube 09.08.2008 (first day of competition) and the Torch Relay 06.08.2008 (arrival day in Beijing) were available.

In addition there was a cachet for BIMC. An ink pad with red ink was provided for the public to add the cachet to items at the counter - many items had the cachets applied without being mailed.



From about the 16th August, a postcard produced by China Post, showing the BIMC was also available at the post office - initially requests for copies of the card were met with one or two copies, by the 20th, a request resulted in more than 20 copies being given.



**Signature Required**  
Royal Mail®



中国邮政
¥ 014.00
京A872

R RR 60 519 903 2 CN



航空  
PAR AVION

京邮210 北京 国际、港澳邮件收据  
Receipt for item  
2008.08.02 15  
非注册中心02

挂号 Registered 保价 Insured  
\* 寄件人姓名 Name  
寄达地 Destination 重量 Weight (g)  
\* 605199032CN 英国  
 信纸 Printed matter  
 印刷品 Printed matter  
 小包 Small packet  
 印刷品专袋 M bag  
\*  盲人读物 Blind literature  
保价 (保值) 金额 Insured value  
元 yuan  
 航空 by air 0.00  空运水陆路 by surface 0  
资费 Charge  
保价费 Insurance fee  
\* 航空 贴票 Stamp  
收寄日期 Date of Posting 14.00 保价费 0.00 重量 8g  
李春



A Registered letter  
franked with meter  
A872, with receipt.

The 'postmark' on the  
receipt is computer  
printed.

BIMC post office offered a full range of postal services.

Registered Mail

Receipts for registered mail were computer printed, including the circular 'postmark'. The 'postmark' identifies the counter position - in this instance counter 2, which corresponds with the meter designation of 5-2.

Note that the sender address details have been allowed on the back of the envelope.



**EMS** 京城邮政特快专递



全国统一  
服务电话 **11185** 北京市邮政速递总公司

EMS 京城特快专递邮件详情单

北京特快专递 注册中心

条形码: \*E T 5 1 0 1 7 9 4 5 8 C N\*

收寄日期: 2008年 08月 17日 11时

寄件人姓名: 北京东城文博大街11号  
2008年11月新刊100 B11C  
Cipen

收件人地址: 中国北京西城区兵工厂路  
号

收件人姓名: 中国理工大学  
收件人单位: Robert FALLEY 720B  
联系电话: 010 20635655

资费说明: 资费 (元) 合计: 12.00  
其它费用: 0.00  
收件人签收: [ ] 收件时间: [ ]

时限要求:  当日  次日 (二小时)  次日 (四小时)

交寄人签名: [Signature]  
经办人签名: [Signature]

服务电话: 11185

北京 2008.08.17 11  
注册中心 EMS 502

Receipts for EMS mail were also computer printed on multi-part documents. An enlarged detail of the printed 'postmark' with EMS designation is inset above.

In Beijing, 'next day' means before midnight of the following day as we found when this envelope arrived at the hotel after 10:00 p.m. on the 18th.

VISA receipts from BIMC post office

中国银行 VISA  
BANK OF CHINA

歌华开元酒店 邮局  
Ge Hua Kai Yuan Hotel Post Office  
2008/08/17 09:37:46  
<000452>  
VISA  
\*\*\*\*\*8600C 11/04

消费 SALE

金额 / AMT RMB256.50

请量支付上述款项  
I ACKNOWLEDGE SATISFACTORY  
RECEIPT OF RELATIVE GOODS/SERVICES

PIN VERIFICATION  
NO SIGNATURE REQUIRED

MID: 821687185000000/TID: 20083675/UP: 001  
BATCH: 000012  
STAN: 000029/APP: 023613/REF: 023001000029  
AID: A0000000031010/TC: A9F0215204050000

谢谢 / THANK YOU  
VISA AND BANK OF CHINA ARE  
PROUD SPONSORS OF THE BEIJING 2008 OLYMPIC GAMES

持卡人存根 / CARDHOLDER COPY

歌华开元酒店 邮局  
Ge Hua Kai Yuan Hotel Post Office

The identification address on VISA receipts from the BIMC post office is printed as:

'Ge Hua Kai Yuan Hotel Post Office'

This refers to the permanent address of the hotel which formed the central building of the BIMC during it's period of operation, and was the common name by which the address was known to local postal staff and taxi drivers.

VISA card acceptance was not common in China Post offices, and it was very apparent that staff operating in the Olympic post offices had been given recent training in the acceptance of VISA payments. Despite the authorisation process being by chip and PIN, and a printed statement 'NO SIGNATURE REQUIRED' a signature on the vendor copy of the receipt was often requested.

One interesting but predictable problem that arose at the BIMC post office related to the date used on handstamps.

The temporary post office at the BIMC was administered by the local District post office, for administrative purposes the sales and postal operation at the counters of the BIMC post office were effectively remote counters of the District post office.

When a specific date was required on a postmark (06.08.2008) to align with the torch relay cancel, and the request was after 7:00 p.m., onto a registered cover, staff were insistent that the postmark must be dated 07.08.2008 because the time was after the closing time of the District post office for business on the 06.08.2008, and the guaranteed delivery time of 'next day' would not be met, as there would be no further collection that day.

The importance of the date rather than the delivery period was stressed, but the staff were very reluctant to cancel with a date of 06.08.2008.

The potential problem was resolved, and a telephone call from the District post office (having traced a number themselves) at 11:15 p.m. to the hotel room, offered apologies, and confirmation that the requested date was applied. This must rate as at least 12 on a scale of 1-10 for customer service!

# WINTER OLYMPICS - BOBSLED SPORT

Vic Manikian

The sport of bobsledding began in 1877 in Davos, Switzerland, when someone thought to add a steering wheel mechanism to a sled. The first bobsled club was organized in St. Moritz, Switzerland in 1897. (Fig. 1)

Bobsledding was initially a sport for the wealthy, who competed at exclusive alpine resorts.

In 1923, the Fédération Internationale de Bobsleigh et de Tobogganing (FIBT) was founded and in 1924 bobsledding became an Olympic event when a four - man race took place at the first Winter Games in Chamonix, France.



Fig. 1. Early Swiss vignette.

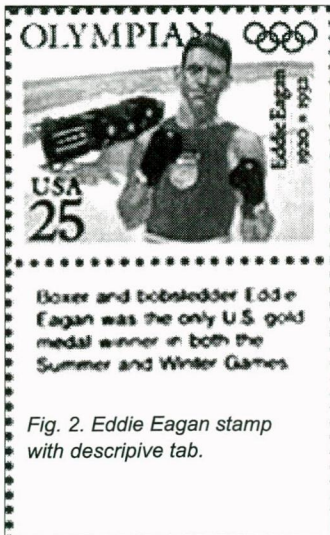


Fig. 2. Eddie Eagan stamp with descriptive tab.

In 1932, a two - man bobsled race was added to the events at the Winter Olympics in Lake Placid, New York.

A bobsled appears in the background of a U.S. 1990 25¢ Olympic stamp that pictures Eddie Eagan. Eagan is the only person to win a gold medal in both the Summer and Winter Olympic Games. He won a gold medal for boxing in the light - heavyweight division at the 1920 Summer Games in Antwerp, Belgium. In 1932 as a member of the U.S. bobsled crew, he won a gold medal at the Winter Games in Lake Placid (Fig. 2).

Fig. 3. Four-man bobsled from Germany.



The first stamp issued to commemorate an Olympic Games with a bobsleigh in the design was issued by Germany for the 1936 Games in Garmisch-Partenkirchen. The design shows a typical bobsled of the time, being very open, and the steering wheel is clearly visible. (Fig. 3)

The popular sport of bobsledding is a frequent topic on stamps. One of the earliest stamps to show bobsledding is the 31 - leu stamp of Romania issued in 1951 (Fig. 4).

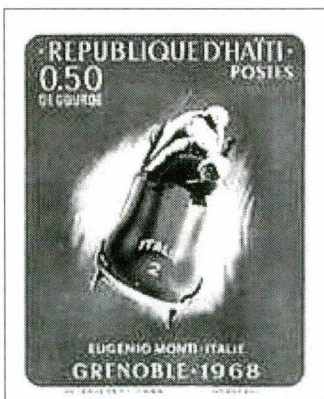
*Fig. 4 Four-man bobsled from Romania.*



Modern, bobsleds are aerodynamically designed to fly down a mile - long ice - covered track at close to 100 miles per hour. Modern bobsleds have a steel frame and a carbon-fibre hull that is closed at the front and open at the back.

The body is mounted on four highly polished steel runners. Bobsleds no longer have steering wheels. To steer the bobsled the driver pulls on ropes connected to the runners.

Teams include a pilot and brake - man in the two - man race. Two pushers are added for the four - man event. (Fig. 5).



*Fig. 6 Grenoble medal winner issue from Haiti.*

The United States issued a set of stamps in 1972 that includes a value to honor the Winter Olympic Games held in Sapporo, Japan. The 8¢ stamp features a stylized design representing bobsledding. (Fig. 7.)

*Fig. 7 USA bobsled issue for the Sapporo Games.*



The benefits of adding pushing power and weight by the use of powerful athletes was soon realised, and led to regulation of the total combined sled and crew weight.

Bobsleigh World Championships are held each year, with the exception of years in which an Olympic Winter Games is celebrated.

These championships are well documented by philatelic material.

CHAMPIONNATS DU MONDE DE BOB



23 AU 31 JANVIER 1965



Fig. 8.  
St. Moritz, 1965.  
Slogan cancellation.

Fig. 9  
Alpe d'Huez, 1967.  
Slogan cancellation.

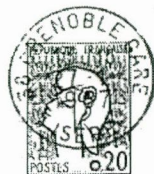
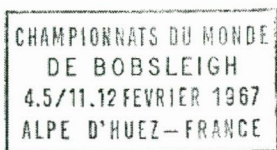
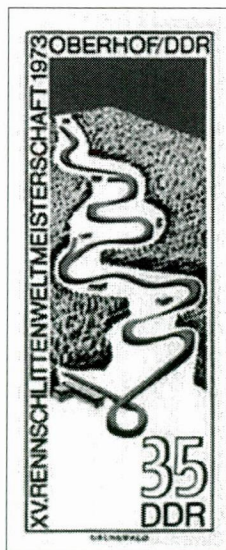


Fig. 10  
Altenberg, 1991.  
Miniature sheet.



Bobsled tracks have also been featured in stamp designs. (Fig. 11)

Fig. 11  
Oberhof, 1973



In the 1980's media attention was drawn to bobsled events as a number of nations joined in international competition. The realisation that athletic pushers and a skilled driver did not need to come from an Alpine environment, tempted a number of nations to form bobsled crews.

The arrival on the international circuit of the Jamaican Bobsleigh team (Fig. 12) was topical during the XVth Olympic Winter Games in Calgary, and led to the popular film Cool Running.



*Fig. 12 Jamaica Bobsled Federation*

In the 1980's media attention was drawn to bobsled events as a number of nations joined in international competition. The realisation that athletic pushers and a skilled driver did not need to come from an Alpine environment, tempted a number of nations to form bobsled crews.

The arrival on the international circuit of the Jamaican Bobsleigh team was topical during the XVth Olympic Winter Games in Calgary, and led to the popular film Cool Running.

The history of bobsledding as an Olympic event does not support the media opinion in the 1980's. Mexico, Belgium and the Netherlands were early competitors - none of which are known for their icy mountainous slopes.

Throughout the 1990's the number of nations competing in the bobsled competitions continued to grow, the growth was further fuelled by the political changes that resulted in a number of new sovereign states. The impact of the break-up of former unions into constituent nations is very marked after 1992.

Olympic Games >	1924	1928	1932	1936	1948	1952	1956	1960	1964	1968	1972	1976	1980	1984	1988	1992	1994	1998	2002	stamps	Fig's.	
Belgium								N														
France								o														
Great Britain																						
Italy								B												Y		13
Switzerland								o														
Austria								b												Y		5, 14
Argentina								s														
Germany								i														
Germany East								e												Y		3, 10
Germany West								i												Y		11
Luxembourg								g														
Mexico								h														
Netherlands																						
Poland								e														
Romania								v												Y		4, 15-19
USA								e												Y		2, 7
Czechoslovakia								n												Y		20-21
Liechtenstein								t												Y		22-23
Norway								s														
Sweden																						
Canada								h												Y		24-25
Soviet Union								e														
Spain								l												Y		26
Japan								d												Y		27
Yugoslavia																				Y		28
Taipei																						
New Zealand																						
Bulgaria																				Y		29-30
Monaco																				Y		31-32
Netherlands Ant's																						
Jamaica																				Y		12
Virgin Islands																						
Unified Team																						
Latvia																				Y		33
Ireland																						
Puerto Rico																						
Australia																						
Russia *																				Y		34
Hungary																				Y		35
Ukraine																						
Greece																						
Armenia																						
Bosnia Hercegovina																				Y		
Trinidad & Tobago																						

Olympic Games v	1924	1928	1932	1936	1948	1952	1956	1960	1964	1968	1972	1976	1980	1984	1988	1992	1994	1998	2002	stamps	Fig's.
Country																					
American Samoa																					
San Marino																				Y	37
Brazil																				Y	38
Croatia																					
Slovakia																					

Russia \* includes participation as the Soviet Union, and the Unified Team.

**Table showing the nations competing in the bobsleigh events at the Olympic Winter Games. 1924 - 2002.**

Final column indicates if a stamp with a bobsled design has been issued by the country.



Fig. 13 Italy World Championships, 1966.



Fig. 14 Austria, Olympic Games, Innsbruck, 1964.



Fig. 15 Romania, Olympic Games, Grenoble 1968.

Romania is one of the most prolific countries for the issue of stamps and miniature sheets with bobsled designs.

A bobsled design is included in many of the Romanian sets of stamps issued to commemorate the Olympic Winter Games.

Romanian bobsled crews have participated in the Olympic Winter Games since 1928 and were only absent from the competitions in 1948 and 1952.

Only Switzerland, Italy, Great Britain and the USA have competed in bobsled events at a greater number of Olympic Games. It should be noted that Great Britain, and incredibly Switzerland have not issued stamps with a bobsled theme, although there Swiss cancellations exist (Fig. 8).



Fig. 16 Romania, Olympic Games, Innsbruck 1976.

Fig. 17 Romania, Olympic Games, Lake Placid, 1980.



Fig. 18 Romania, Olympic Games, Albertville, 1992.



Fig. 19 Romania, Olympic Games, Lillehammer, 1994.





Fig. 20 Czechoslovakia, Olympic Games, Grenoble, 1968.

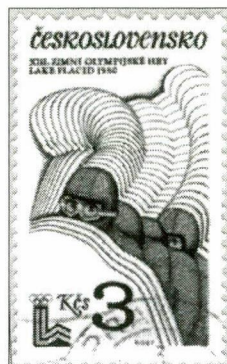


Fig. 21 Czechoslovakia, Olympic Games, Lake Placid, 1980.

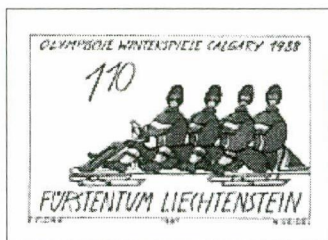


Fig. 22 Liechtenstein, Olympic Games, Calgary, 1988.

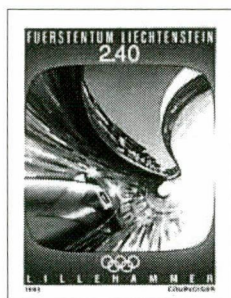


Fig. 23 Liechtenstein, Olympic Games, Lillehammer, 1994.

Liechtenstein offers unique designs with their cartoon design and the 'driver's eye view' of a bobsled track.



Fig. 24 Canada Olympic Games, Calgary, 1988.



Fig. 25 Canada Olympic Games, Albertville, 1992.



Fig. 26, Spain, Olympic Games, Grenoble, 1968.

Fig. 28, Yugoslavia, Olympic Games, Sarajevo, 1984.



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Fig. 27, Japan, Olympic Games, Sapporo, 1972.

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Fig. 29, Bulgaria, Olympic Games, Calgary, 1988.

Fig. 30, Bulgaria, Olympic Games, Albertville, 1992.



Fig. 31, Monaco, Olympic Games, Innsbruck, 1964.

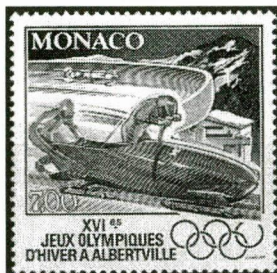


Fig. 32, Monaco, Olympic Games, Albertville, 1992.



Fig. 34, Russia, Olympic Games, Albertville, 1992.



Fig. 35, Hungary Olympic Games, Albertville, 1992.

Fig. 33, Latvia, Olympic Games, Lillehammer, 1994.



Fig. 36, Bosnia Hercegovina, Olympic Games, Nagano, 1998.



Fig. 37, San Marino, Olympic Games, Cortina, 1956.



Fig. 38, Brazil, Olympic Games, Salt Lake City, 2002.

**Reference:**

American Topical Association, PO Box 97, Arlington, Texas - ATA Checklist

**Partial Bobsled Philatelic List**

- Fig. 14 Austria, Olympic Winter Games, Innsbruck 1964
- Fig. 5 Austria, Olympic Winter Games, Innsbruck, 1976
- Fig. 36 Bosnia Hercegovinia, Olympic Winter Games, Nagano 1998, miniature sheet
- Fig. 38 Brazil, Olympic Winter Games, Salt Lake City 2002
- Fig. 29 Bulgaria, Olympic Winter Games, Calgary 1988
- Fig. 30 Bulgaria, Olympic Winter Games, Albertville 1992, miniature sheet
- Fig. 24. Canada, Olympic Winter Games, Calgary 1988
- Fig. 25 Canada, Olympic Winter Games, Albertville 1992
- Canada, Olympic Winter Games, Vancouver 2010, ex booklet and coil
- Canada, Olympic Winter Games, Vancouver 2010, miniature sheet
- Fig. 20 Czechoslovakia, Olympic Winter Games, Grenoble 1968
- Fig. 21 Czechoslovakia, Olympic Winter Games 1980
- Fig. 3 Germany, Olympic Winter Games, Garmisch-Partenkirchen 1936
- Fig. 10 Germany, Bobsled World Championship, Altenberg 1991
- Fig. 11 German Democratic Republic, Oberhof 1973
- Fig. 6 Haiti, Olympic Winter Games, Medal Winners, Grenoble, 1968
- Fig. 35 Hungary, Olympic Winter Games, Albertville 1992
- Fig. 13 Italy, bobsled championships, Cortina 1966
- Italy, Olympic Winter Games, Turin 2006
- Fig. 12 Jamaica, bobsled team 1988
- Japan, Olympic Winter Games, Sapporo 1972
- Fig. 27 Japan, Olympic Winter Games, Sapporo 1972, miniature sheet
- Fig. 33 Latvia, Olympic Winter Games, Lillehammer 1994, miniature sheet
- Fig. 22 Liechtenstein, Olympic Winter Games, Calgary 1988
- Fig. 23 Liechtenstein, Olympic Winter Games, Lillehammer 1994

- Fig. 31 Monaco, Olympic Winter Games, Innsbruck 1964  
 Fig. 32 Monaco, Olympic Winter Games, Albertville 1992  
 --- Monaco, IOC Session, 1993, from booklet  
 --- Monaco, Olympic Winter Games, Lillehammer 1994, miniature sheet  
 --- Monaco, Olympic Winter Games, Nagano 1998  
 --- Monaco, Olympic Winter Games, Turin 2006  
 Fig. 4 Romania, 9th World Univ. Winter Games, 1951  
 Fig. 15 Romania, Olympic Winter Games, Grenoble 1968  
 --- Romania, Olympic Winter Games, Grenoble 1968, miniaure sheet  
 Fig. 16 Romania, Olympic Winter Games, Innsbruck 1976, miniaure sheet  
 Fig. 17 Romania, Olympic Winter Games, Lake Placid 1980, miniaure sheet  
 Fig. 18 Romania, Olympic Winter Games, Albertville 1992, miniaure sheet  
 Fig. 19 Romania, Olympic Winter Games, Lillehammer 1992  
 Fig. 34 Russia, Olympic Winter Games, Albertville 1992  
 Fig. 37 San Marino, Olympic Winter Games, Cortina 1966  
 Fig. 26 Spain, Olympic Winter Games, Grenoble 1968  
 Fig. 7 USA, Winter Olympic Games, Sapporo 1972  
 Fig. 2 USA, 1990 Olympian, Eddie Eagan  
 Fig. 28 Yugoslavia, Olympic Winter Games, Sarajevo, 1984

Members are invited to submit illustrations of additional bobsleigh items for publication.

## **MUCH WENLOCK 2009**

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2009 is the bicentenary of the birth of Dr. William Penny Brookes, and the Wenlock Olympian Society are arranging events between the 8th and 13th. Of August, 2009 to commemorate this anniversary.

Events will include guided tours of the historic trail around Much Wenlock, and an Exhibition by the Society of Olympic Collectors.

Invited visitors will include representatives of the I.O.C., LOCOG and the BOA.

On Saturday 8th August, the programme will include a Dinner, for which places are available. Cost will not exceed £25.00 per person.

A service will be held on Sunday to commorate the birth of Penny Brookes.

2009 is also the 25th anniversary of SOC, and we would be delighted to see a number of our members at the exhibition and dinner - SOC has been associated with Much Wenlock throughout it's 25 years, and will provide a fitting opportunity to celebrate our anniversary.

Accommodation in the area may be limited over the weekend of 8-9th August as a special team sport event is also amongst the proposals.

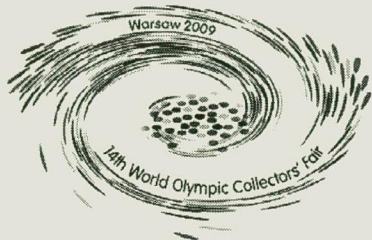
**Any member interested in attending the dinner should contact Bob Farley as soon as possible to allow places to be booked, as numbers will be limited.**

## 2009 Olympic Events



**March 19-21, 2009**

10<sup>th</sup> International Olympic Collectors' Fair, Cologne. 20th to 22nd March 2009  
German Sports & Olympic Museum



**14th World Olympic Collectors' Fair**  
**Olympic Centre, Warsaw**  
**29-30-31 May 2009**

Philately Exhibition called "The Prestige Olympic Philately" between 15th and 31st of May 2009.

**An event in celebration of the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Polish Olympic Committee**

**October 2, 2009**

FINAL 2016 VOTE - 121st IOC Session and Olympic Congress in Copenhagen, Denmark



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CANDIDATE CITY

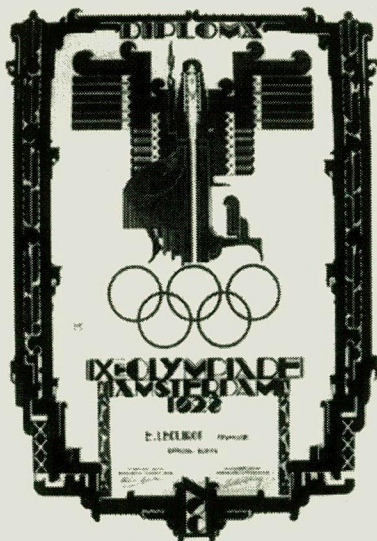


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