



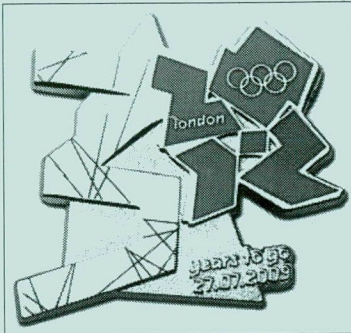
# TORCH BEARER



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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 2009 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

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Welcome to the latest issue of Torch Bearer.

In this issue, you will find a number of articles that relate to recent or current events, the IOC Congress in Copenhagen is represented by Brian Hammond's review of previous congresses, London 2012 is reported through recent events and the long awaited and delayed stamp issue.

We also have articles that relate to the period during which the revival of the Olympic Games was being attempted, and in particular the contribution and influence of Dr. William Penny Brookes.

The 'message' delivered by the guest speakers at the Much Wenlock dinner to celebrate the bicentenary of Brookes birth, that the relevance of the Wenlock Olympian Games and their founder, should be spread 'far and wide', could be used as an inspirational mantra as London 2012 approaches.

It would also seem prudent to revisit the original intentions of the benefactors and founders of the Modern Olympic Games - Zappas, Brookes, de Coubertin and others.

- Has their vision been achieved?
- Would they approve of the current format / commercialism of the Games?
- Would they recognise the Modern Games as the quadrennial event they envisaged?

You will see that for this issue, I have again been placed in the position of author rather than editor for much of the content. I am sure that many members must have more free time than I have enjoyed over the last few months, so once again, please put pen to paper or exercise the keyboard and participate in your society journal.

Due to both commitments and health issues, we have found it increasingly difficult to hold committee meetings during recent times, and it has been difficult to form a quorum, which has resulted in events being managed by smaller working groups. Whilst this has not influenced our ability to participate in events, it is not an entirely satisfactory situation.

For this reason, we are seeking potential additional members for the SOC Committee, as we can anticipate increased activity as 2012 approaches. Any members interested should initially contact an existing committee member (addresses / contact details inside front cover). We are interested in anyone who is prepared to actively participate. Specific skills are not required, although a basic ability to listen to a committee debate and form a reasoned opinion is essential - if you qualify for jury service you would be of value!

The committee does not meet regularly, and meetings are usually at weekends - either at an event or at a home, in London or the Home Counties.

SOC are considering a number of projects as London 2012 approaches, and a series of recent and current meetings with third parties is likely to result in outcomes that can be reported in the near future.

I would welcome contact from any members who will be visiting Vancouver for the Games.

## London 2012 'Open Weekend'

---

### Open up!

Open Weekend, supported by BP, is an annual UK-wide celebration counting down to the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Launched in 2008, it features hundreds of culture, arts, sporting events - and much more.

London 2012 Open Weekend 2009: Open up! 24 – 26 July.

Following the success of the 2008 events, the London 2012 Open Weekend returned to celebrate art, culture, sport, and everything that makes up the London 2012 Games. The three-day celebration featured 800 events held by around 500 organisations across the UK. Thousands of people enjoyed the chance to do something different, to try something new, inspired by London 2012.



Shortly before the London 2012 Open Weekend 2009: Open up! 24 – 26 July. , the above artwork appeared on the London 2012 website to publicise the event.

Permission was sought and obtained to produce a commemorative SmartStamp. A high resolution file was supplied by LOCOG - the first occasion that we have been granted use of a design with the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic logos.

Postally used SmartStamp covers using the Open Weekend artwork for the SmartStamp and the cachet are available to members at £2.00 per cover.

Orders to: R Wilcock, 24 Hamilton Crescent, Brentwood, CM14 5ES

Please add postage: UK - 50p (1-5 covers), Europe £1.00 (1-3 covers), World £1.50 (1-3 covers).

## **Celebrating the Bicentenary of the Birth of William Penny Brookes**

---

Bob Farley

The Wenlock Olympian Society first contacted the S.O.C. inviting participation in the celebrations for the bicentenary of the birth of William Penny Brookes in 2007, with initial thoughts about the potential events that would take place. S.O.C. were also asked to consider ways in which we could participate in the proposed events or suggest others.

The economic downturn, and the fact that the date clashed with the anniversary of the opening ceremony of the Beijing Olympic Games impacted on some of the events that required private sector participation and finance, and on the attendance of some invited guests, but this did not have any obvious detrimental effect on the events that were staged. In fact the celebration dinner was well attended and the venue, and places available were changed and increased to meet demand.

The key speakers at the dinner, Sir Philip Craven MBE IPC President and Jonathan Edwards CBE of LOCOG both mentioned their belief that the story of Much Wenlock should be spread far and wide, and they were amazed that such an important part of sporting and Olympic heritage had only become known to them in recent years.

Much Wenlock opens it's arms to embrace and welcome visitors at such events, with a very high proportion of the population lending their support and enthusiasm.

S.O.C. committed to staging an exhibition during the celebrations, and thanks to the assistance and participation of Bob and Ruth Wilcock, John Crowther, David and Rennie Buxton, Mike Pagomenos, and Thomas Lippert, we were able to mount a fifty frame exhibition in conjunction with Honav UK (Official pin licences for 2012).

I feel quite guilty about inviting Thomas to 'participate', and stay with us, without clarifying that his stay would include one day travelling to Suffolk to collect frames, one day erecting frames and mounting exhibits, and two days actually taking part in the celebrations. My guilt is offset by the fact that we are still on speaking terms and he thoroughly enjoyed the whole of his stay (including the drive-through visit to much of England).

The exhibition was well attended not by numerous visitors, but by visitors who took their time, and stayed to speak with us as they signed the visitors book on leaving.

As the Olympians were holding their AGM during the weekend, we received a number of Olympian visitors which offered the opportunity for some very interesting conversations.

Bob Wilcock provided the second S.O.C. contribution to events by delivering narrated power-point presentations of the 1908 Olympic Marathon and the 1908 Olympic Games. These presentations are a 'must' for all those interested in the 1908 Olympic Games, so please watch out for future opportunities to view them.

Overall, our participation certainly raised the profile of the S.O.C. and we have many friends in Much Wenlock.

Wenlock Olympian Society produced a souvenir postcard for the Bicentenary of William Penny Brookes:

A 1st class SmartStamp was produced for mailing the commemorative postcard:

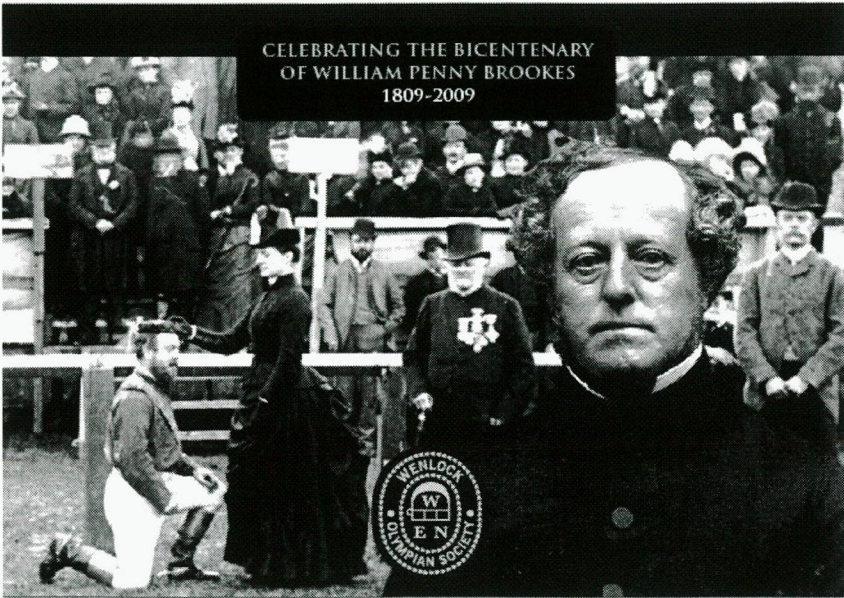
The card is available with three different quotations from Brookes on the reverse at a cost of 50p. per card.

The 1st Class SmartStamp is available fixed to the postcard at a cost of £1.50 each.

The SmartStamp was also used in conjunction with the postcard by the Society of Olympic Collectors, 2nd Class uprated to 1st Class and postally used to create a souvenir on 13th August, the actual bicentenary date at a cost of £2.00 each.

Please add postage: UK - 50p (1-5 covers), Europe £1.00 (1-3 covers), World £1.50 (1-3 covers). *Each postcard counts as 1 cover for postage..*

Orders to: R Wilcock, 24 Hamilton Crescent, Brentwood, CM14 5ES



*W.P.B. 1809*



1809 - 2009

£0.36  
594U XA1A  
Specimen  
POST BY  
06.08.09



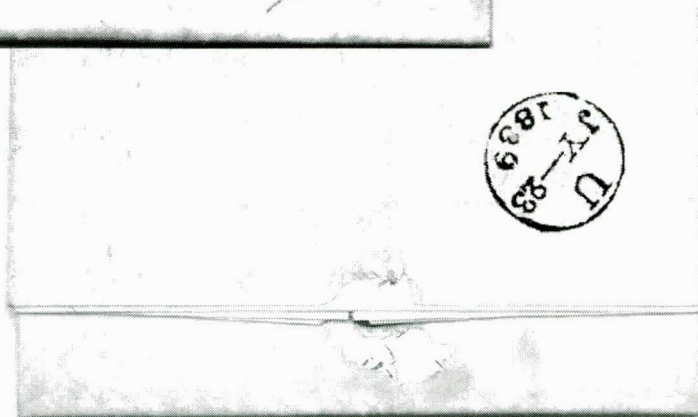
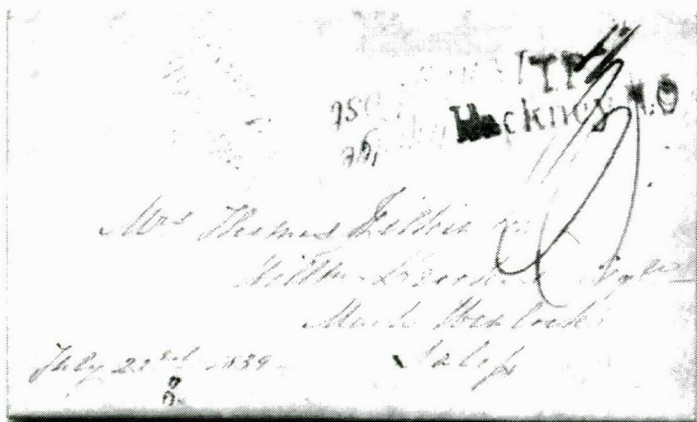
## Postal History of the Brookes Family

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Mike Pagomenos

*All of the images used in this display are from a collection of nineteenth century entires and covers posted by members of the Brookes family.*

This neatly cross-written, pre-philatelic entire was posted to Mrs Thomas Wilkinson, care of William Brookes, in Much Wenlock and dated July 20, 1839. Posted from Hackney it bears Hackney and 'Ironbridge Penny Post' cancels and receiving postmark on the reverse.



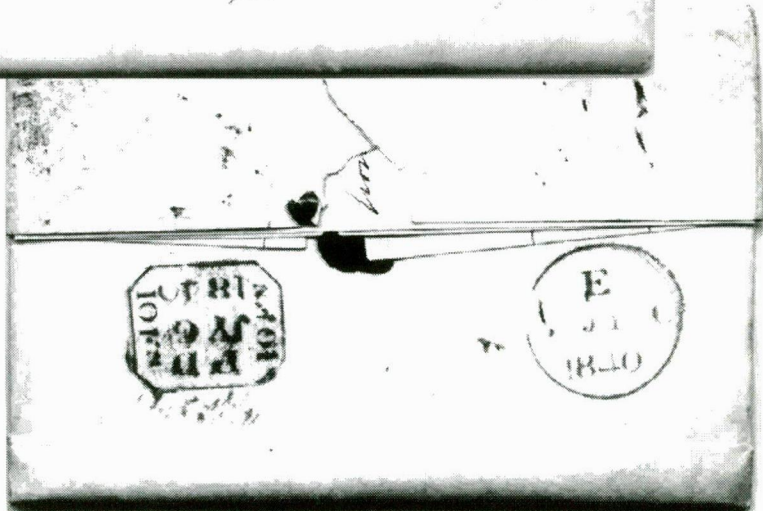
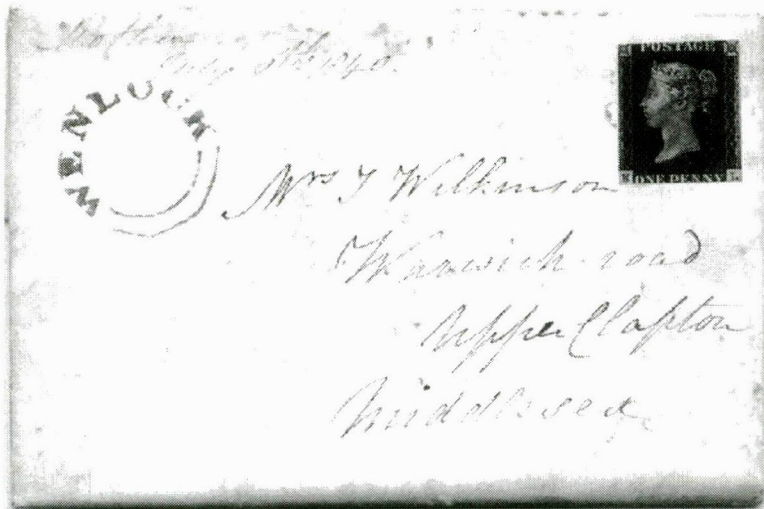
An 'entire' is a letter that has been folded in to the shape of an envelope and is usually sealed with a wax seal for privacy. This letter begins 'My dearest Annie' and mentions 'William'.

*Anne Brookes married Thomas Wilkinson on August 14, 1838 in Much Wenlock. Anne Brookes was born before July 15, 1820. She died in 1900. [Ref. 1 and 2]*

The neatly cross-written, cost saving message of the July 20, 1839 entire, which clearly demonstrates the skill needed by both the writer and the recipient.

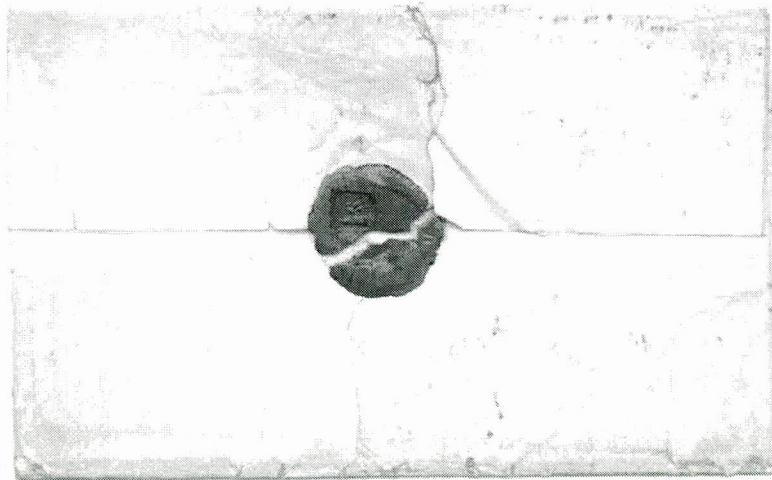
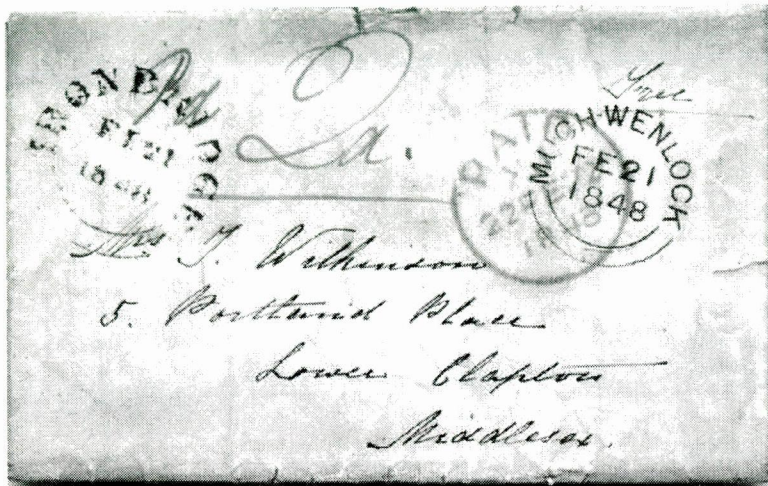
The handwriting is a cursive script, likely from the 19th century. The text is written in a 'cross-writing' style, where each line of text is written over the previous one, starting from the right margin and moving left. This technique is used to save space and reduce the number of sheets of paper. The text is difficult to read due to the overlapping and the cursive style. The paper is held in a dark frame, and the background is white.

This neatly cross-written entire was posted to Mrs T. Wilkinson, in Upper Clapton, by her mother Mary Brookes, from Much Wenlock, and dated July 6, 1840. Early use of the 1d black postage stamp, tied with faint Maltese Cross cancel, and clear undated Wenlock postmark. Two receiving marks can be clearly seen on the reverse.



The letter has the full signature of Mary Brookes. She advises Anne to 'take daily moderate exercise' and 'kiss baby ... be sure to let her tumble about as much as possible on the carpet on those days ... she cannot be taken out for it gives such strength to the spine'. The baby is likely to be Mary Anne Marie Brookes (daughter of Anne Wilkinson).

A home-made envelope, letter is missing, 2d postage paid on delivery by Mrs T. Wilkinson in Lower Clapton, posted from Much Wenlock on February 21, 1848. Clear dated Much Wenlock and Ironbridge postmarks. Red wax seal on reverse.



Anne Brookes had three brothers and one sister. The oldest was her brother William Penny Brookes (Dr Brookes) who founded the Wenlock Olympian Society in 1860. [Ref. 3]

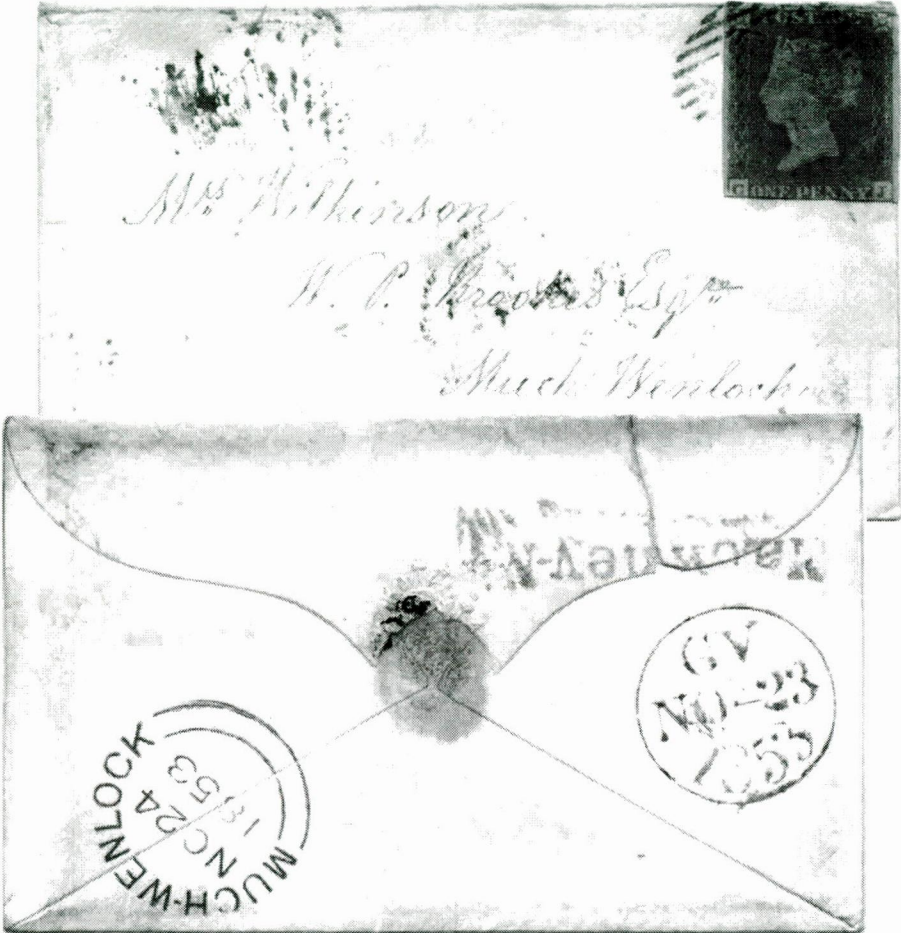
A cover with 2d posted paid on delivery by Mrs Wilkinson in Lower Clapton, posted from Much Wenlock on February 1, 1850 with dated Much Wenlock and Shiffnal postmarks.



Note the tidy little black wax seal on the back. The Brookes family used a number of seals over the years. These had different designs and regular recipients could recognise who the letter was from just by looking at the seal.

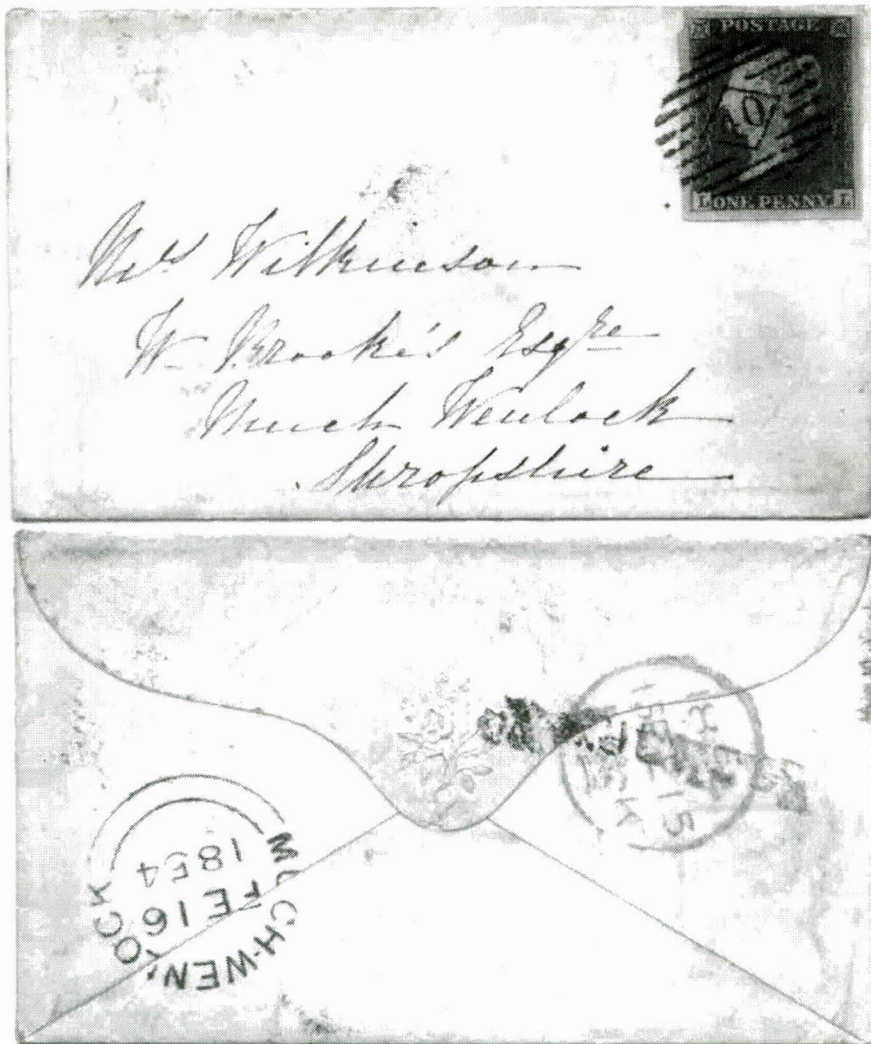
The postal history displayed here is part of private collection of Brookes' family postal history. A similar collection can be found in The National Archives.

A cover posted to Mrs Wilkinson, care of W.P. Brookes in Much Wenlock, from Hackney on November 23, 1853. Imperforate 1d red-brown postage stamp tied with faint spoon cancel. Clear Hackney and Much Wenlock postmarks on the reverse.



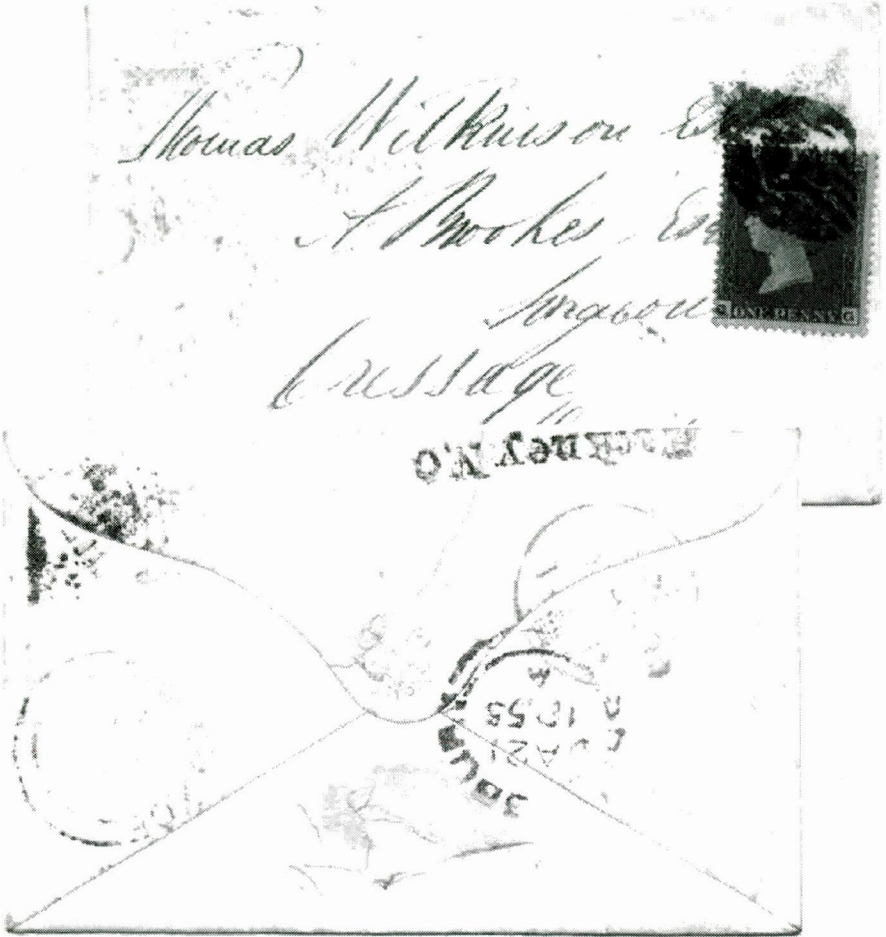
It is interesting how many different locations Mrs Wilkinson has received mail at. The Brookes family very much enjoyed communicating by post. They were prolific letter writers. Mary Brooke's husband was a doctor, as was her son William Penny Brookes and his brother Andrew Goode Brookes. Their privileged education is evident in their cross-written letters. They could write a one-page letter in very neat writing with no mistakes and no crossing out and then turn the page through 90 degrees and write over the entire page again. The recipient would read the letter in the same way. They did this to save postage since two pages doubled the postage cost. The same page could be used a third time by turning it through 45 degrees.

A cover posted to Mrs Wilkinson, care of W. Brookes, Much Wenlock, on February 15, 1854 from Hackney. An imperforate 1d red stamp tied with spoon cancel. Dated Hackney and Much Wenlock postmarks on reverse.



Dr Brookes founded the Wenlock Agricultural Reading Society (in 1841) to help local people read. In 1850 he formed The Olympian Class of that Society to help local people to improve their physical fitness. In 1859 he renamed The Olympian Class to Wenlock Olympian Games (the same year that the first modern revival of international Olympic Games was held in Athens, Greece). [Ref. 3 and 4

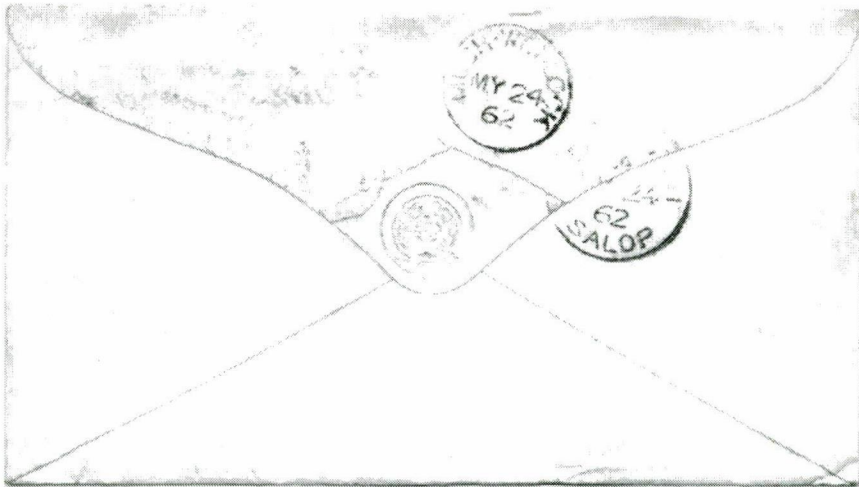
A cover posted to Thomas Wilkinson, the husband of Anne Wilkinson, care of Andrew Goode Brookes, her brother in Cressage, near Shrewsbury, in 1855. Perforate 1d red stamp tied with smudged spoon cancel. Hackney, Shrewsbury and Cressage postmarks on the reverse.



Dr Brookes adopted events from the 1859 Athens Olympic Games programme in to future programmes of the Wenlock Olympian Games. The first man to be listed on the honorary roll of the Society was one of the first modern international Olympians from the 1859 Games. He was Petros Velissariou from Smyrna in the Ottoman Empire. Other Olympians had travelled from the Ottoman Empire to Greece to compete at the 1859 Games from Macedonia and Crete. Macedonia reunited with Greece in 1912, Crete became part of Greece in 1913 and was an independent country before that. [Ref. 3 and 4]

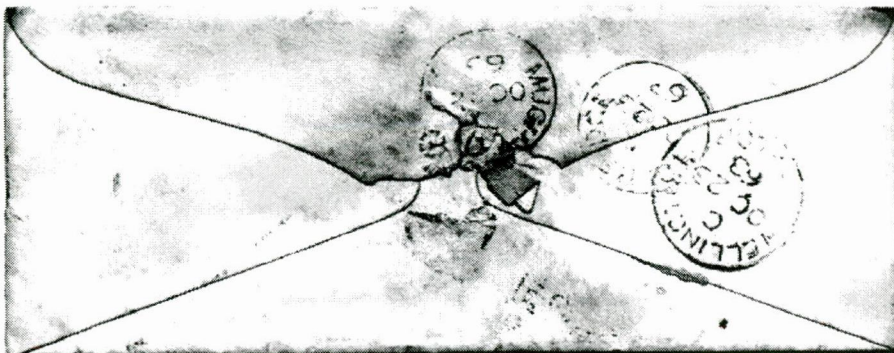
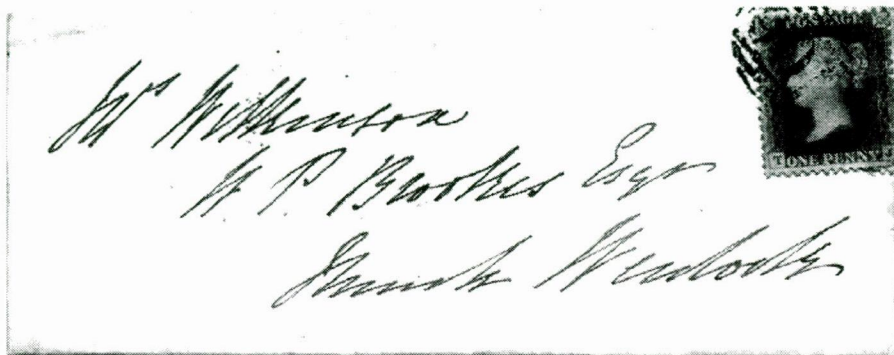
Cover addressed to Mrs Thos. Wilkinson, care of W. P. Brookes. Posted from London by Dr Brookes in his own handwriting. Perforate 1d red stamp tied with clear London postmark dated May 23, 1862.

Much Wenlock and Bourton sub post office postmarks on reverse.



Dr Brookes co-ordinated the first British national Olympic Games at Crystal Palace in 1866. W.G. Grace, the famous cricketer, was first in the hurdles event. It was the first major sports event to be held outside Greece to resemble an Olympic Games without a stadium. The first modern international Olympic Games to be hosted at a stadium was held in Athens, Greece in 1870. [Ref. 1 and 4]

This neatly cross-written entire was posted to Mrs T. Wilkinson, in Upper Clapton, by her mother Mary Brookes, from Much Wenlock, and dated July 6, 1840. Early use of the 1d black postage stamp, tied with faint Maltese Cross cancel, and clear undated Wenlock postmark. Two receiving marks can be clearly seen on the reverse.



Dr Brookes invited Baron Pierre de Coubertin of France to visit Much Wenlock in October 1890. [Ref. 1 and 3] The Baron was inspired by him and the Wenlock Olympian Games and later integrated some of his ideas in to the format of future Olympics. Ideas from the 1859, 1870, and 1875 international Olympic Games in Athens were also incorporated by the Greek organising committee in 1896.

#### References



1. William Penny Brookes and his Olympic Connection, by M. Furbank, H. Cromarty and G. McDonald, published by the Wenlock Olympian Society, 1996. [ISBN 09528682-0-2]
2. <http://homepages.rootsweb.com/~nvjack/ancestors/b3467.htm>
3. The Modern Olympics, A Struggle for Revival by David C. Young, published by The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1996. [ISBN 0-801805374-5]
4. URL: <http://www.zappas.org/>, Date accessed: 29/07/09.

# MONTREAL 1976 - COMPETITION POSTCARD

Bob Farley

A recent purchase of a postcard for the 1976 Montreal Olympic Games, has proven to more interesting than expected.

The card was advertised as a competition entry postcard, over-franked with 25c. 'Athletics' stamp.

	
Nom <i>Mr L &amp; M.</i> Adresse <i>35 Paton Rd</i> Ville <i>Toronto</i> Province <i>Ontario</i> Pays <i>Canada</i>	<b>Concours "droit d'achat"</b> <b>Special "right-to-buy" Ticket Drawing</b> Cojo 76 Casier postal 7603 Succursale A Montréal, Qué. H3C 3L4

Je souhaite participer au concours "droit d'achat" de 2 billets pour les cérémonies d'ouverture ou de clôture des Jeux olympiques de 1976 à Montréal. Je m'engage en outre à respecter les conditions suivantes:

- Je réside au Canada
- J'ai affranchi cette formule de participation d'un timbre-Jeux olympiques (minimum 8¢ + 2¢)
- J'ai indiqué mon code postal
- J'ai posté le tout avant minuit le 15 novembre 1975

Je reconnais que seul le hasard déterminera les gagnants du concours "droit d'achat"

Si je gagne, je paierai les billets au prix officiel en cours (de \$40 à \$8 le billet, selon la section dans le Stade olympique)

### Doublez votre chance!

Les Postes canadiennes offriront aux 25 premiers gagnants de chacune des régions postales (Maritimes, Québec, Ontario, Ouest) l'un des prix suivants:

- Répliques en or des timbres olympiques
- Répliques en argent des timbres olympiques
- Répliques en bronze des timbres olympiques
- Répliques en métaux précieux (or-argent-bronze) des timbres olympiques
- Monnaie olympique

\* Collections-souvenir, coffrets-souvenir et affiches sur les timbres olympiques.

Please enter my name in the special "right-to-buy" drawing for 2 tickets to opening or closing ceremonies of 1976 Olympic Games in Montréal. In order to be eligible, I have met all the following conditions:

- I am a Canadian resident
- I have affixed an Olympic Action Stamp on this "Entry Card" (minimum 8¢ + 2¢)
- I have indicated my postal code
- I will mail this "Entry Card" before midnight November 15, 1975.

I will accept "luck of the draw", i.e. 2 tickets to opening or closing ceremonies

I accept to pay official price for tickets (from \$40 to \$8 per ticket depending on the location in the Olympic Stadium)

### You can be a double winner!

If yours is among the first 25 "Entry Cards" picked in any of the four main postal regions (Ontario, Québec, Atlantic Provinces, Western Provinces) you will also win one of the following prizes offered by Canada Post:

- Olympic Stamp Sculptures – gold set
- Olympic Stamp Sculptures – silver set
- Olympic Stamp Sculptures – bronze set
- Olympic Stamp Sculptures – combination set (gold, silver and bronze)
- Olympic Coin Sets
- Olympic Stamp Souvenir Collection, Souvenir Case and Poster.

The card is pre-addressed to: Special "right-to-buy, Ticket Drawing, Cojo 76, Casier postal 7603, Succursale A, Montréal, Que H3C 3LA

This address and the Montreal logo at top right confirm that the card has official status.

The bilingual text on the reverse of the card explains all:

Please enter my name in the special "right-to-buy" drawing for 2 tickets to opening or closing ceremonies of 1976 Olympic Games in Montréal. In order to be eligible, I have met all of the following conditions.

- I am a Canadian resident.
- I have attached an Olympic Action Stamp on this "Entry Card" (minimum 8c + 2c)
- I have indicated my postal code.
- I will mail this "Entry Card" before midnight November 15, 1975.
- I will accept "luck of the draw", i.e. 2 tickets to opening or closing ceremonies.
- I accept to pay official price for tickets (from \$40 to \$8 per ticket depending on the location in the Olympic Stadium)

The text goes on to offer a number of Canada Post souvenirs to the first 25 entries drawn in each of the four main postal regions.

Such items (competition entries) often appear on the market after draws are complete when entries are passed to charities, however I am not aware of copies of this card regularly appearing on the market, so it is likely that the entry cards were destroyed after the draw.

This particular example has probably survived because it is postmarked 31 XII 1975, and so failed to qualify as a draw entry.

The over-franking appears to be compliant with the 'minimum 8c + 2c' requirement, but the stamp is actually from the wrong issue. Compliant entry cards with apparent over-franking would be very interesting as the additional 'postage' would be justified by the condition of entry, so the search for a 'correct' entry card begins!

It is interesting to note that the "right-to-buy" draw does not mention how many tickets will be allocated in this way, but entrants commit to pay the official price for tickets.

Was this really an opportunity to win a ticket, or an attempt to find committed buyers at a time when progress on building works and financial shortfalls were raising doubts about the Games taking place?

I would be interested to hear from anyone with a 'used' copy of this card.

# VANCOUVER 2010 STAMP BOOKLETS

The booklets of 10 self adhesive 'sports' stamps were first reported in Volume 26, Issue 1, Page 14., and it was mentioned that there are 24 different covers with Olympic 'Did you know?' panels.

On the following pages the text of these panels is given in full, with a few selected illustrations.

These booklets will be of interest to collectors of earlier Olympic Winter Games as they offer a number of opportunities to introduce new facts into a thematic collection with philatelic material.



Olympic Fact 1/24

## Did you know?

During the Vancouver 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, there will be 17 days of Olympic events (February 12-28, 2010) and 10 days of Paralympic events (March 12-21, 2010).

Olympic Fact 2/24

## Did you know?

Since 2006, the Canadian Freestyle Ski Team has been known as the Canada Post Freestyle Team.

Olympic Fact 3/24

**Did you know?**

Canada Post is the title sponsor of the Canadian Freestyle Ski Team - winner of the Nations Cup for the past three years. The Nations Cup is awarded to the national freestyle ski team earning the most points in all freestyle disciplines throughout the FIS World Cup season.

Olympic Fact 4/24

**Did you know?**

Two World Cup events are being hosted in Canada in 2009. Known as the Canada Post Freestyle Grand Prix, one is taking place at Ski Mont Gabriel, QC, and the other at Cypress Mountain, BC.

Olympic Fact 5/24

**Did you know?**

Canada Post is the title sponsor of the Canadian Freestyle Ski Team. The team will be competing in the aerial, mogul and ski cross events at the Vancouver 2010 Olympic Winter Games.

Olympic Fact 6/24

**Did you know?**

Figure skating was first introduced in the summer program of the London 1908 Olympic Games.

Olympic Fact 7/24

**Did you know?**

In 1924, a team of 12 Canadian athletes travelled to Chamonix, France, for International Winter Sports Week, which officially became the first Olympic Winter Games. The team included two figure skaters, one speed skater and the nine players of the Toronto Granites Hockey Team. At the competition, the Granites won gold against the U.S. team, defending Canada's 1920 title - won by the Winnipeg Falcons

Olympic Fact 8/24

**Did you know?**

The first Olympic Winter Games opened on January 25, 1924, when some 260 athletes congregated at Chamonix, France, at the foot of Mont Blanc in the French Alps, to participate in what was billed as International Winter Sports Week.

Olympic Fact 9/24

**Did you know?**

At the St. Moritz 1928 Olympic Winter Games, the University of Toronto Graduates Hockey Team scored a total of 38 goals in three shutout matches, winning gold.

Olympic Fact 10/24

**Did you know?**

Canada sent 59 athletes to the Lake Placid 1932 Olympic Winter Games. The team had 13 top performances and won a total of seven medals - more medals than any country except for the U.S. and Norway.

Olympic Fact 11/24

**Did you know?**

At the St. Moritz 1948 Olympic Winter Games, Canada's first world champion figure skater, Barbara Ann Scott, won the hearts of the world, taking an impressive lead in compulsory figures and dazzling judges with her free skating routine. Scott became the first North American to win an Olympic gold medal for figure skating.

Olympic Fact 12/24

**Did you know?**

Lucie Wheeler brought home Canada's first alpine skiing medal, a bronze, in the downhill event at the Cortina d'Ampezzo 1956 Olympic Winter Games.

Olympic Fact 13/24

**Did you know?**

At the Squaw Valley 1960 Olympic Winter Games, Anne Heggtveit became the first Canadian to win a gold medal for alpine skiing when she crossed the finish line 3.3 seconds ahead of her nearest competitor.

Olympic Fact 14/24

**Did you know?**

At the Innsbruck 1964 Olympic Winter Games, the Canadian bobsleigh team was dubbed the "Intellectual Sled" because its members included a Harvard MBA graduate, a plastic surgeon, a geologist and a teacher. The team raced to a gold-medal finish.

Olympic Fact 15/24

**Did you know?**

Fresh from her 1967 World Cup Championship win, alpine skier Nancy Greene took gold in the giant slalom and silver in the slalom at the Grenoble 1968 Olympic Winter Games. Greene skied the courses with such ferocity that she earned the nickname "The Tiger."

Olympic Fact 16/24

**Did you know?**

Canada's only medal at the Sapporo 1972 Olympic Winter Games was a silver, won by figure skater Karen Magnussen (left).



Olympic Fact 17/24

**Did you know?**

At the Innsbruck 1976 Olympic Winter Games, Canadian figure skating champion Toller Cranston won a bronze medal, speed skater Cathy Priestner won silver, and 19-year-old Kathy Kreiner (shown below) won gold in the giant slalom.



Olympic Fact 18/24

**Did you know?**

The Canadian men's ski team, the "Crazy Canucks," earned a place on the podium at the Lake Placid 1980 Olympic Winter Games when Steve Podborski (right) won bronze. He was the first North American male to win a medal in alpine skiing.



Olympic Fact 19/24

**Did you know?**

At the Sarajevo 1984 Olympic Winter Games, Canadian speed skating sensation Gaétan Boucher added two gold medals and a bronze to his collection. His medal count, which included a silver from the Lake Placid 1980 Olympic Winter Games, made him at the time Canada's most decorated winter Olympian.

Olympic Fact 20/24

**Did you know?**

In 1988, Calgary hosted the first Olympic Winter Games to be held on Canadian soil. The Games saw the Canadian team finish with a record 19 top-eight finishes. The team also recorded three firsts, six seconds and five thirds in curling, short-track speed skating and freestyle skiing - all considered demonstration sports at the time.

Olympic Fact 21/24

**Did you know?**

France served as the backdrop to the best-ever showing by Canada's Olympic winter athletes, at the Albertville 1992 Olympic Winter Games. With seven top three finishes, the team won more medals in more sports than ever before, while the Canadian hockey team ended a 24-year absence from the podium, earning silver.

Olympic Fact 22/24

**Did you know?**

The Nagano 1998 Olympic Winter Games were marked by rain, fog and a mild earthquake. Also unique to the Nagano Games was a first-place tie in the bobsleigh event - a first in Games history. After four runs, Canada's Pierre Lueders (left) and Dave MacEachern shared gold with the Italian team.



Olympic Fact 23/24

**Did you know?**

At the Salt Lake City 2002 Olympic Winter Games, the Games program expanded from 68 to 78 events. On the final day, Canada bested the U.S. men's hockey team, bringing home hockey gold for the first time in 50 years. Not to be outdone, the Canadian women's hockey team also defeated the U.S. team to bring home gold.

Olympic Fact 24/24

**Did you know?**

At the Torino 2006 Olympic Winter Games, Canada finished third overall, with 24 medals - its best-ever performance at an Olympic Winter Games. Canadian Olympians also earned more than a dozen fourth-place finishes - which bodes well for Canada's performances at the upcoming 2010 Winter Games in Vancouver.

## Philatelic History of the International Olympic Congresses

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Brian Hammond

This year the 13th International Olympic Congress is to be held in Copenhagen, Denmark from the 3rd to the 5th October 2009.

The five themes of this year's congress are:

- 1] The Athletes
- 2] Olympic Games
- 3] The structure of the Olympic Movement
- 4] Olympism and Youth
- 5] The digital revolution.



Fig 1.

### 1894 in Paris:

Re-establishment of the Olympic Games.

The first congress took place in Paris from the 16th to the 24th of June 1894.

It resulted in the first item of Olympic philatelic material a round seal [Fig 1].

Six more congresses were held over the next twenty seven years without any philatelic material being produced. These were held in the following cities, with the listed themes:

**1897**, 23rd to the 31st of July in **Le Havre**: Sports hygiene and pedagogy

**1905**, 9th to the 14th of June in **Brussels**: Sport and physical education

**1906**, 23rd to the 25th of May in **Paris**: Art, literature and sport

**1913**, 8th to the 10th of May in **Lausanne**: Sports psychology and physiology

**1914**, 15th to the 23rd of June in **Paris**: Olympic regulations

**1921**, 2nd to the 7th of June in **Lausanne**: Olympic regulations

1925, 29th May to 4th June in **Prague**: Sports pedagogy – Olympic regulations.

Congress number eight took place in Prague Czechoslovakia from the 29th May to the 4th June 1925. While this conference was about Olympic regulations the major item was the resignation of the founder of the modern Olympic games Baron Pierre de Coubertin and the nomination of Count Baillet-Latour as his successor as president of the IOC.

The first Olympic Congress postal stationery was issued for this event. [A set of five special cards with wording in one of the five Olympic colours] [Fig 2].



Fig 2.

In addition a special hand stamp was in use from the 24th May to the 26th of June 1925 and a machine cancellation advertising the congress. [Fig3/4].



Fig 3.

Fig 4.



Three stamps were overprinted in black  
Congres Olymp Internat in half circle with  
the word Praha1926 below [ Fig 5]

Fig 5.

1930, 25th to 30th of May in Berlin: Olympic regulations.

The ninth congress was held five years later in Berlin Germany from the 25th to the 30th of May 1930. The congress considered the Olympic regulations.

A special hand stamp, card and register label were used [fig 6,7,8].



Fig 6.



Fig 8.



Fig 7.

**1973, 30th September to 4th of October in Varna:**  
 Sport for a world of peace – The Olympic Movement and its future

After a long gap the tenth congress was finally held at Varna in Bulgaria between the 30th of September and the 4th of October 1973. It considered the role of sport in a world for peace and the future role of the Olympic movement.

Bulgaria issued a set of two stamps and a miniature sheet [Fig 9].

The miniature sheet was issued in 3 formats: Perforate as on the cover in [Fig 13], Imperforate with serial number [Fig 10], Imperforate in changed colours with serial number [Fig 11].

Special congress cancellations on a congress first day cover. [Fig 12/13]

Fig 9.

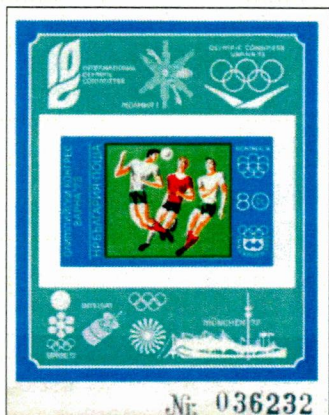


Fig 10.

Fig 12.



Fig 11.





Fig 13.

**1981, 23rd to 29th of September in Baden-Baden:** The future of the Olympic Games – International cooperation – The future Olympic Movement

The 11th congress took place eight years later in Baden-Baden Germany from the 23rd to the 29th of September 1981. Its theme was united by and for sport and considered the future of the Olympic games and International cooperation.

The 84th session of the IOC also took place in Baden-Baden during which the vote took place to select the host for the 1988 Winter Olympic games and reports were received from Los Angeles host of the 1984 summer games.

Figs 14-21 illustrate material associated with this congress.



Fig 14.

*Handstamp from Hungary.*



Fig 15. Postal stationery from Germany.



Fig 16. Flight cover from German to Canada, with 'Calgary' cachet.



Fig 17. Flight cover from German to Japan, with 'Nagoya' cachet.



Figs 18-20. Cachets for Cortina, Falun and Sarajevo.

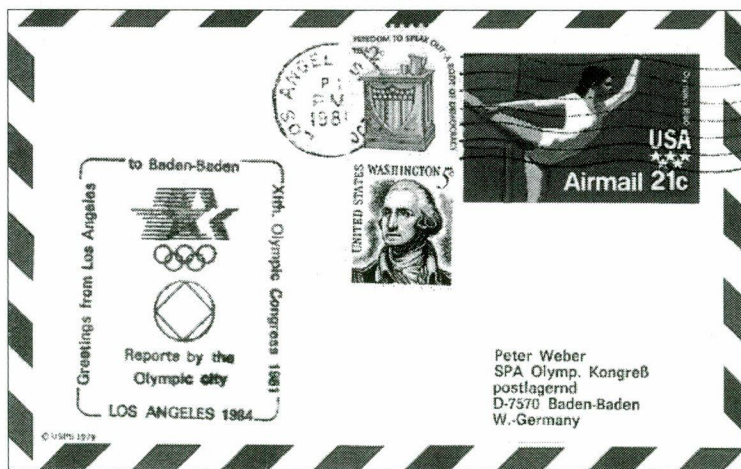


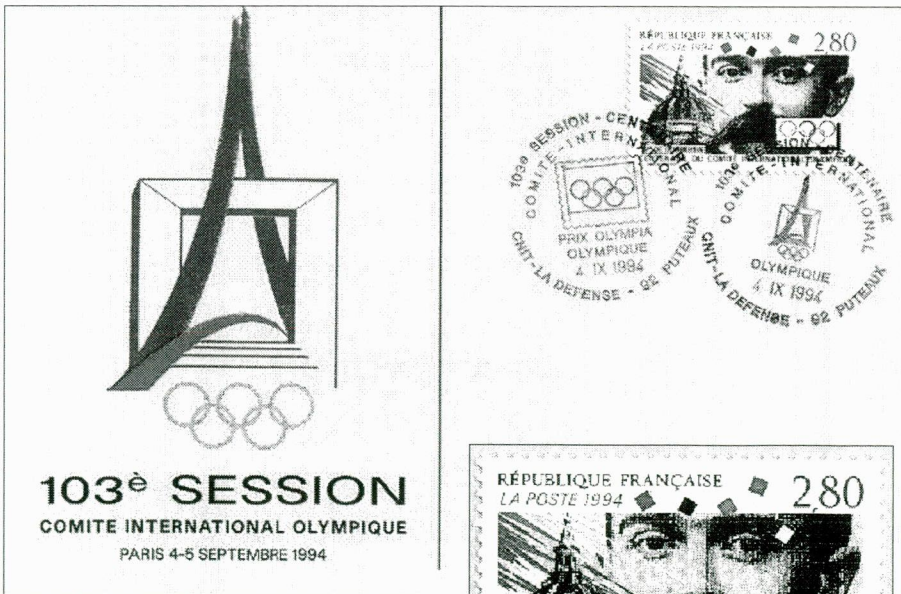
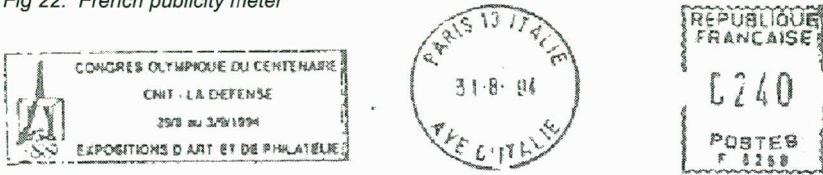
Fig 21. Postal stationery with cachet for the presentation of LA 1984 reports.

**1994, 29th August to 3rd of September in Paris:**

The Olympic Movement's contribution to modern society – The contemporary athlete – Sport in its social context – Sport and the mass media.

Congress number twelve was held to celebrate the centenary of the founding of the modern Olympic games in 1894. Paris hosted this congress as they had the first one. It took place between the 29th of August and the 3rd of September, 1994. The theme was the congress of unity. It considered the Olympic movements contribution to modern society, sport in its social context and the mass media. The debate on the contemporary athlete was to change the role of athletes in the IOC. As this congress was also the centenary of the IOC many countries issued stamps and cancellations. I have limited this to items produced by the host France and The IOC. France issued a stamp, five hand stamps and a franking meter. The IOC issued a franking meter and postcards. [Figs 22-30]

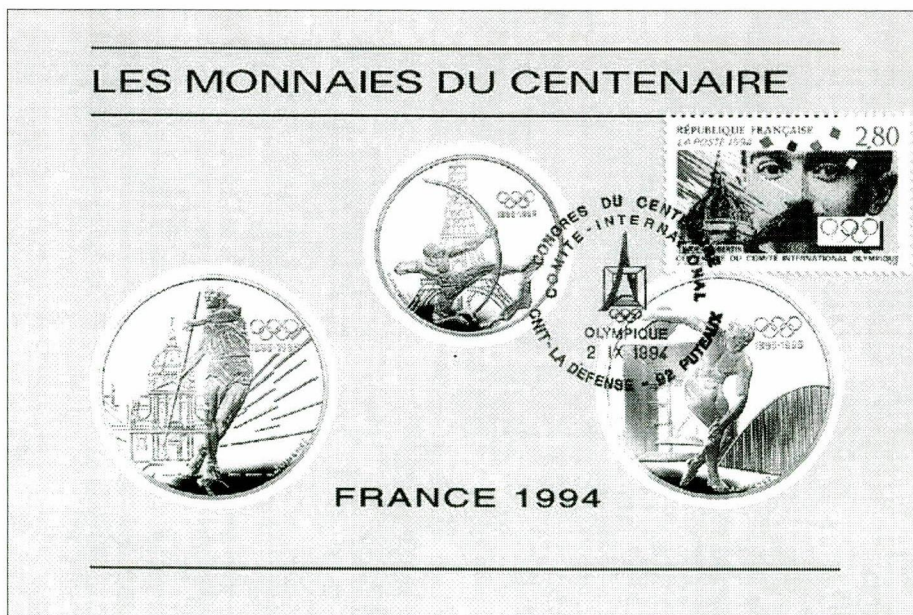
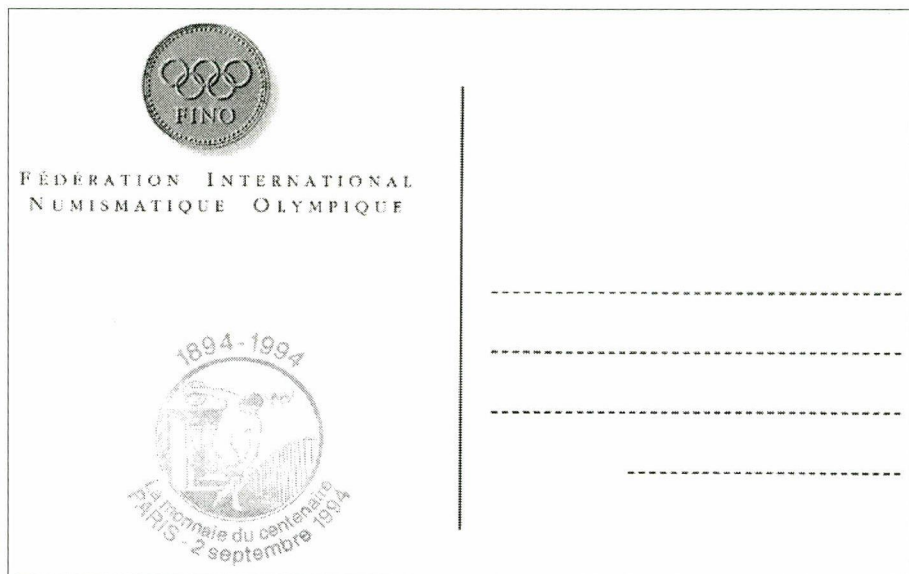
*Fig 22. French publicity meter*



*Fig 23. 103rd Session postcard.*

*Fig 24. Stamp issue for the Centenary of the IOC..*

Fig 25. FINO postcard.



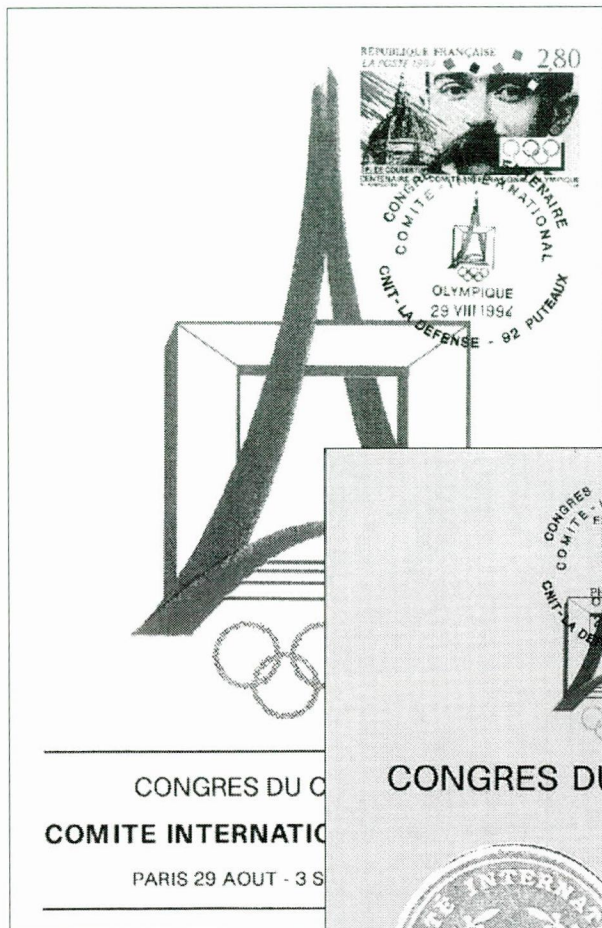


Fig 26. *Congres du Centenaire postcard (1)*

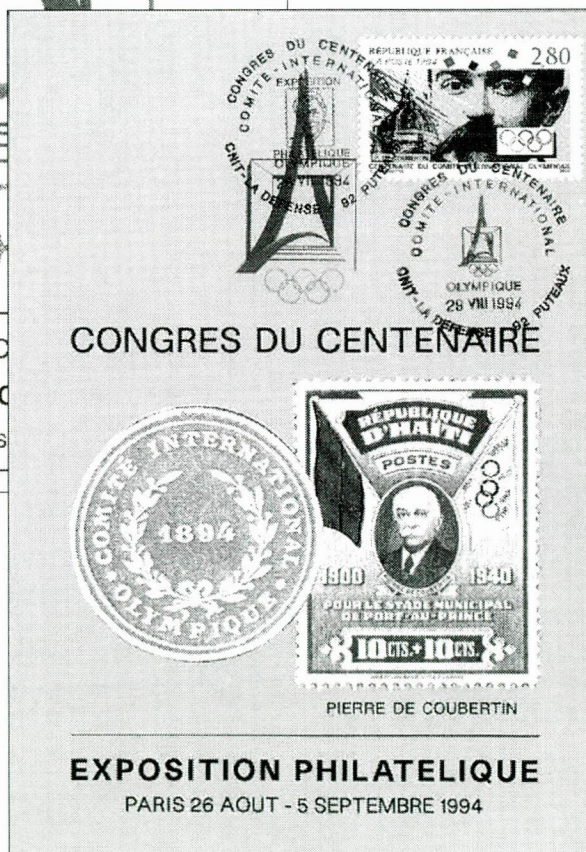


Fig 27. *Congres du Centenaire postcard (2)*

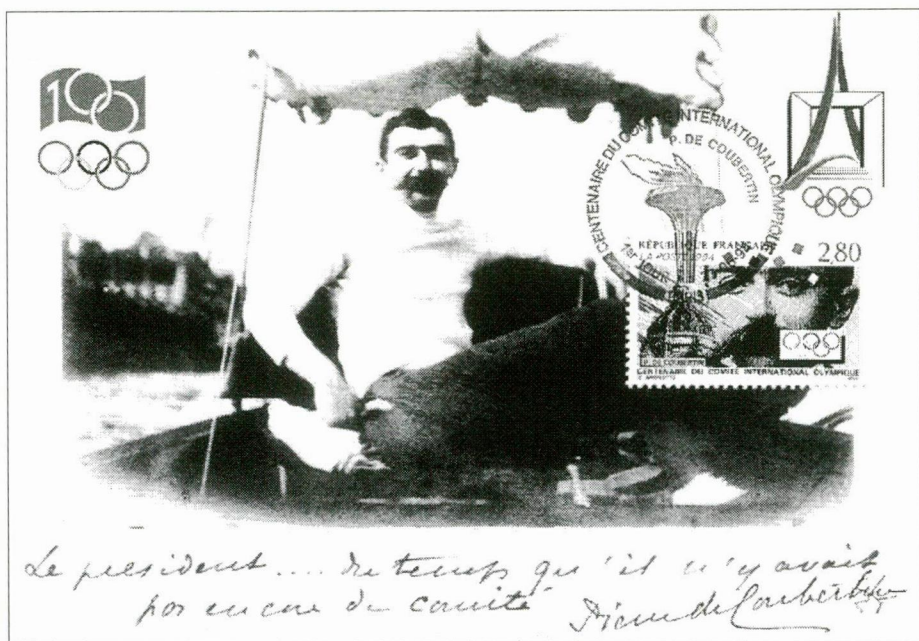


Fig 28.  
IOC souvenir postcard

Notre fondateur peu avant  
la création du C.I.O.

*Our founder in his own words  
"in the days before there was a committee..."*

... Cent ans plus tard, je me réjouis  
de vous accueillir à Paris au Congrès  
Olympique du Centenaire du 29 août  
au 3 septembre 1994. A bientôt.

*... One hundred years later, I look forward  
to welcoming you to the Centennial  
Olympic Congress in Paris from  
29th August to 3rd September 1994.  
See you soon.*

Le 23 juin 1994

  
Juan Antonio Samaranch  
Président du  
C.I.O.

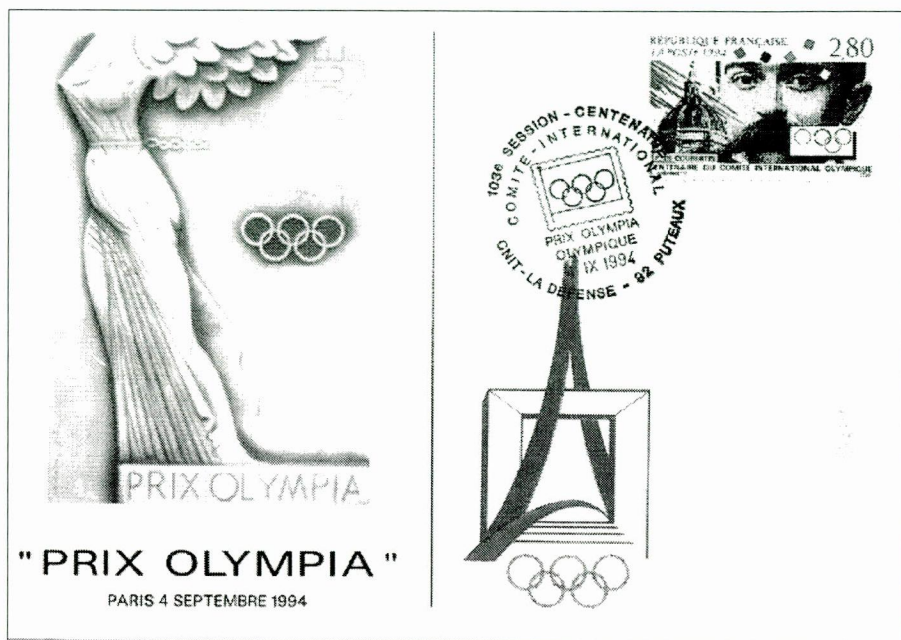


Fig 29. Prix Olympia souvenir postcard

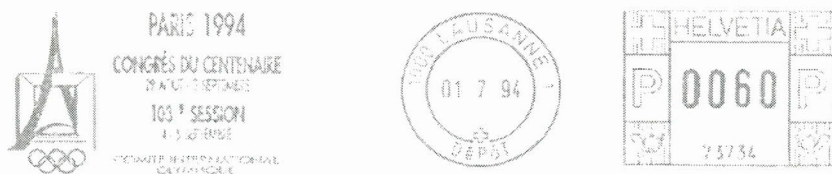


Fig 30. Swiss publicity meter

## **Oldest British Olympic medallist dies at 100**

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Shortly after distribution of Torch Bearer Volume 26, Issue 1, an email was received from our Olympian member Eric Halls, drawing attention to the fact that the article 'Bits and Pieces from the Press' (Page 26) had inadvertently focused on an erroneous report from the Daily Express.

Eric pointed out that in naming Harry Hills as the oldest British Olympic Medallist, the Daily Express (and the regional newspapers on which the report appears to be based), had overlooked Godfrey Rampling, a silver medallist in 1932 and gold medallist in 1936.

Godfrey Rampling, the father of actress Charlotte Rampling would celebrate his 100th birthday in May 2009. He was also invited to Much Wenlock for the AGM of the Olympians, and the dinner to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of Dr. William Penny Brookes.

Godfrey did celebrate his 100th birthday, but sadly passed away in June 2009.

Numerous obituaries appeared in the press, and the text of the Daily Telegraph tribute is reproduced below:



**Godfrey Rampling: Olympic athlete**

British athletics has always been renowned for producing talented 4x400 metre relay runners, and perhaps its most memorable victory came in the 1936 Olympics in Berlin, when an inspired leg by Godfrey Rampling, in front of Adolf Hitler, helped to defeat both the American and the German teams.

This was Rampling's last international race and suitably the pinnacle of the career of someone who was hailed by Harold Abrahams, winner of the 100 metres in the "Chariots of Fire" Olympics of 1924 and later athletics correspondent of The Sunday Times, as "the most gloriously heaven-sent quarter-miler I have ever seen".

Rampling, ideally built for the event at 6ft 1in (1.85m) tall and just under 12 stone (76kg), won a relay silver medal in the 1932 Olympics, was the Empire Games individual 400-metres champion in 1934 and in Berlin ran his lap in 46.6 seconds, a performance that even now would put him in contention for a place in the British 4 x 400-metres team.

This is particularly true given that he did not race on all-weather tracks and wore unwieldy spikes. His preparation was also limited. He once re-called: "Training was a complete farce. When I felt like it, I ran round a cricket ground or sprinted up and down in short bursts. Then I would run for about 600 yards for so-called stamina training. The Americans were astounded at our lack of training."

Brought up in Greenwich, Rampling was coached at the Royal Military Academy as a youngster by Walter George, the celebrated miler who had run the distance as a professional in 4 min 12.75sec in 1886. After winning the Army 880-yards title in 1930, Rampling concentrated on the 440 yards/400 metres for the rest of his career. In 1931 he won his first AAA (national) title and running against France recorded 48.0 seconds, the fastest by a European that year, and in two relays against Germany, twice showed that he was superior to Adolf Metzner, later to win the 1934 European title.

In one relay, Rampling was timed in 46.6 seconds. However, a septic tooth brought on a blood disorder that winter and prevented him from making an even stronger bid for a medal at the 1932 Olympics, when Abrahams believed that he would have challenged the two top Americans, Bill Carr and Ben Eastman. He still did 48.0 seconds to equal his best 400 metres time in just failing to make the individual final. However, with a quartet including Lord Burghley, whose character was featured in the film *Chariots of Fire*, he got a silver medal in the relay.

Rampling recovered fully from his blood disorder only in 1934, when he won the Empire Games 440-yards title on a soggy White City track in 48.0 sec, breaking the British record which had stood since 1908. Later that day he anchored the English 4x440-yards relay team to victory.

By this time, Rampling was fully involved with his career in the Royal Artillery and he missed much of the 1935 season because of his duties as an army officer.

However, he returned for the 1936 Olympics, finishing second in the AAA Championships, but just failed to make the individual final in Berlin. However, in the relay he was at his best, despite some haphazard preparation. As Rampling himself admitted in later life: "I remember saying one day, 'Look here, chaps, we ought to practise some baton-changing'. But we soon got bored and packed it in."

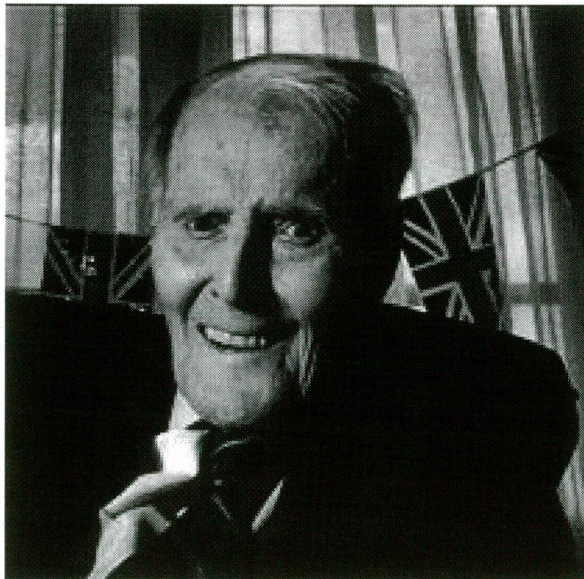
The Americans left out Archie Williams and James LuValle, the gold and bronze medallists from the individual event, something that they had also done in previous Olympics, believing that they needed fresh runners.

Rampling took over eight metres down on the second lap but handed over to Bill Roberts, having done 46.6 seconds to give Britain a three-metre lead over the US. He recalled: "I never felt so good as that day. I just seemed to float round the track, passing people without effort." Britain eventually finished two seconds clear of the US in a European record of 3 min 09.0sec, and the race was a highlight of Leni Riefenstahl's distinguished film of the Games.

Rampling retired from the Army in 1958 with the rank of lieutenant colonel and, in his later years, had a particular interest in golf, captaining the Stanmore club.

One daughter, Charlotte, the film actress, survives him. His wife and another daughter predeceased him.

Godfrey Rampling, Olympic athlete, was born on May 14, 1909. He died on June 20, 2009, aged 100



## 2012 London - 2009 Olympic and Paralympic Stamp Issue

First-class stamps which champion the different Olympic and Paralympic sports at the London 2012 Games were unveiled on the 25th. August, 2009..

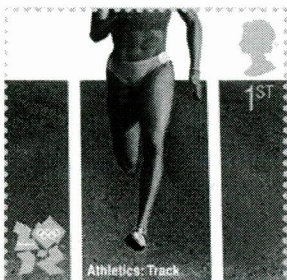
Events ranging from track athletics to the Paralympic sport of boccia are among the first 10 sports being showcased in the stamp designs that go on sale on 22 October.

Royal Mail is launching 30 stamps to mark the 30th Olympiad in the run-up to the London 2012 Games. Artists are designing images of 20 more sports for stamps that will go on sale in 2010 and 2012.

Julietta Edgar, Royal Mail's head of special stamps, said: "We hope these stamps play their part in the countdown to the Games, but also to highlight both the sporting and cultural legacy of this wonderful event."

London 2012 chairman Lord Coe said: "It is a huge honour to have stamps created in celebration of the Games and we look forward to working with Royal Mail over the next three years".

"These stamps will be a wonderful way to celebrate the London 2012 Games and mean that the whole country can get involved in this fantastic festival of sport between now and 2012."



Track athletics collage by Nathalie Guinamard.



Diver by illustrator Julian Opie.



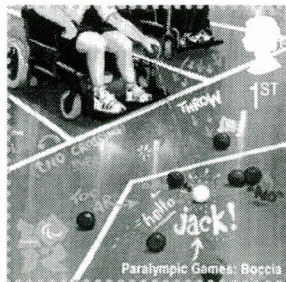
Paralympic archery by George Hardie.



Paralympic dressage by Andrew Davidson.



Weightlifting by Guy Billout.



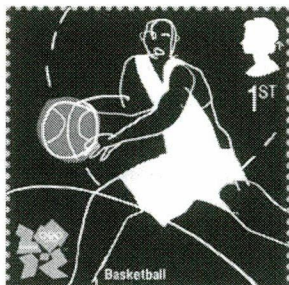
Boccia is illustrated by David Doyle.



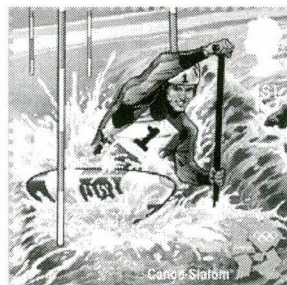
Badminton by David Holmes.



Judo by Paul Slater.



Basketball by Huntley Muir.



Canoe slalom by John Royle.

Aquatics is the collective term for four Olympic water events: swimming, water polo, diving and synchronised swimming.

Archery has been a Paralympic sport since Rome 1960.

Para-equestrian dressage became a Paralympic sport at the Atlanta 1996 Games.

Boccia is unique to the Paralympic Games, where it is played by wheelchair athletes with severe cerebral palsy and related neurological disorders

The sport of judo was first introduced at the 1964 Games in Tokyo, Japan.

Slalom canoeing made its Olympic debut in 1972 in Augsburg, in the former West Germany.

The ten stamps are printed on two se-tenant sheets. Each individual design is therefore available in vertical strips of five. These will be available by mail order from Tallents House (ie for the price of five stamps (£1.95))

**Presentation Pack M18** – Olympic and Paralympic Games - Price: £4.40

The fully illustrated presentation pack contains the ten Olympic and Paralympic Games stamps. Inside former Daily Mail sports news editor Ian Cole takes a look at each of the sports featured. The pack was designed by True North and printed by Walsall Security Printers.

**First Day Envelope** - Price: 30p

### **First Day Cover**

Mail Order Price: £4.95 UK for the stamps.

The First Day Cover Envelope was designed by True North. The envelope is printed by Dobson and Crowther. The filler card is designed by True North and features facts about each of the sports featured on the stamps by Ian Cole. It is printed by Fulmar Colour Printing Company Ltd.

### **Stamp Cards - Price £3.90 the set**

Ten postcards bearing enlarged images of each of the Olympic and Paralympic Games stamps go on sale about a week before the stamp issue date. Printed by Fulmar Colour Printing Company Ltd.

### **Commemorative Sheet - Price £13.50**

The Commemorative Sheet features all ten Olympic and Paralympic Games stamps alongside labels containing information about each sport is also available. Designed by True North and written by Dave Warriner, the Sheet looks at what it takes to be an Olympic competitor, focusing on some of the sports featured on the stamps and the various venues where the action will unfold.

### **Olympic Countdown Coin Cover - Price £17.50 (to be confirmed)**

Royal Mail and the Royal Mint are issuing a 15,000 limited edition and numbered Coin Cover marking the countdown to the London 2012 Olympic Games, the first in a series of 'Countdown' coin covers to be issued in the run up to the Games.

The cover contains all ten Olympic and Paralympic Games stamps and a Countdown to London 2012 £5 coin. The stamps are cancelled with a special Stratford E12 postmark.

The brilliant, uncirculated coin features the sport of swimming on the reverse side with a special design by Royal Mint engraver Claire Aldridge and the London 2012 Olympic logo. The obverse of the coin features the portrait of HM the Queen by Ian Rank-Broadley.

The accompanying filler looks at developments at the site for the Olympic Games and the wonderful moment in July 2005 when London clinched the bid. The card opens up to reveal features on London's Olympic Games history and the an insight into the Olympic Park the Games' venues and the all important Olympic Games legacy, which will see the site transformed into Europe's largest urban park.

### **Postmarks**

Two different pictorial 'first day of issue postmarks' are available for every new stamp issue.

Unstamped Royal Mail First Day Cover envelopes (price 30p) will be available from Post Office? branches and philatelic outlets approximately one week before issue. Collectors who hand in or post covers at main Post Office? branches will receive the pictorial BADMINTON, GLOS first day postmark.

Alternatively, collectors may send stamped covers for the first day of issue to Royal Mail, Tallents House, 21 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9PB, quoting reference FD09 17 (Tallents House) or to any Special Handstamp Centre quoting reference FD09 18 (BADMINTON, GLOS pictorial postmark) FD09 18NP (non-pictorial).

## Honav UK - Official 2012 Olympic Pins

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On Monday 27th July 2009 to celebrate 3 Years To Go until the Opening Ceremony of the London 2012 Olympic Games, Official London 2012 Licensee Honav is releasing a unique, highly collectable 3 Year To Go Lapel Pin. Only 3,000 pieces will ever be made.

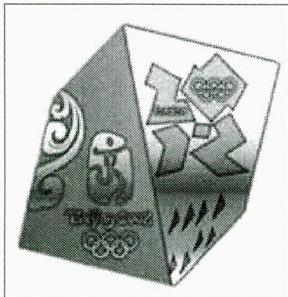
The 3 Year To Go pin will only be available at a few exclusive retailers and through promotions. The remainder of the pins have already been distributed to top British athletes and officials. Previous Games have seen rare countdown pins like this one achieve a second hand value of many times the original retail price.

For London 2012, Two thousand and twelve different pin designs will be released to the public and many will be limited edition. These designs will represent London, the UK, and every part of the London 2012 Games – from culture to sport, from the environment to education. Some of the designs will be limited to only 2,012 pieces, so very few people will be able to collect all the designs.

Recognising the unique significance of this pin, Professor Jack Lohman, Director of the Museum of London officially accepted this piece of Olympic history into their Museum's collection at 3pm on the afternoon of 27th July. Museum of London tells the story of the World's greatest city and its people, spanning 450,000 years. There was also an all-day display of Olympic memorabilia in the Museum.

Pins and pin collecting are part of Olympic culture. Each Olympic Games sees thousands of different pins designed by organising committees, sports teams, media and national teams. At each Games pins become known as the 'Official Olympic Currency', and fans trade millions of pins for other pins, tickets or even food and taxi rides, both out and about, and in Olympic Pin Trading venues.

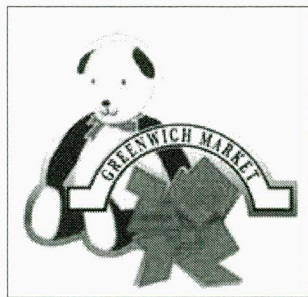
In future, 2 and 1 Year To Go Countdown Pins will be released to form a set.



2008 - 2012 Handover



Flower day



Greenwich Market

## Open House, London - O.D.A. Tour the Olympic Park

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Bob Farley

The Olympic Delivery Authority participated in the annual 'Open House London' event for the third time on September 19th and 20th, by arranging their 'Tour the Olympic Park' event.

The previous tours in 2007 and 2008 attracted 2,000 and 3,000 visitors. The 2009 event was fully subscribed with a record 4,000 places available.

Those who attended in 2008 were notified of the 2009 event by mail and advised of the numbers for telephone booking. The web booking facility of previous years was not available. Booking proved quite stressful, and it took in excess of 30 calls over three days to make initial contact, but seats were eventually secured.



*A 'postcard' quality ticket for Tour 22 on Sunday 20th September, 2009.*

Regular attendees of the tour will be familiar with the format of the event which has operated every year:

- Arrive at the Score Leisure Centre, Leyton, register and obtain tickets;
- View the exhibition and / or take refreshments;
- Attend a welcome presentation;
- Board the coach for the guided tour;
- Back to base, with the opportunity to visit the exhibition or depart.

For 2009, the quality of the exhibits were far higher with models and schematics of most venues (each attended by some knowledgeable staff). This reflects the fact that most planning and design issues have progressed to the stage where there can be confidence about the final structures.

The welcome presentation was also shorter reflecting the increased frequency of tour departures, and mainly consisted of a short film allowing some certainty about the duration.



*The Main Stadium, Olympic Park - 20th September, 2009 with Canary Wharf in the background. The top half of the structure is to accommodate temporary seating during the Olympic Games.*

The main reason for attending is of course to see the progress within the Olympic Park, and it is worth recalling the construction stages in 2007 and 2008:

In 2007, the progress was mainly below ground, and therefore not visible. Chambers and tunnels had been constructed in readiness to divert existing services and for the installation of new services. Demolition of existing structures was underway. Decontamination of soil was just commencing. Clearance and reinforcement of the banks to waterways had started.

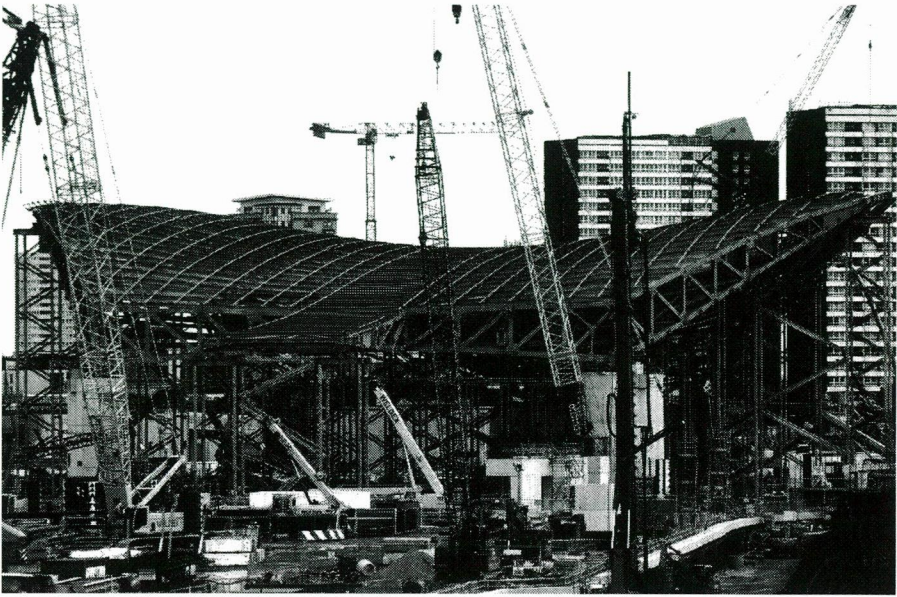
In 2008, progress was visually obvious. Demolition was complete allowing a clear view of the site. The Aquatic Centre was being excavated. The lower tier of the Main Stadium was about one third complete. Waterways were clearly defined and cleared.

In 2009, progress is very noticeable, and the construction prevents any clear view of the overall site. Much of the construction relates to infrastructure with countless bridges (and temporary bridges) criss-crossing the site. The external shell of many of the key venues and structures are at advanced stages, most are ahead of programme the most obvious are:

- The Main Stadium;
- The Aquatics Centre;
- The first blocks of the Olympic Village;
- The IBC/MPC;
- The Energy Centre.

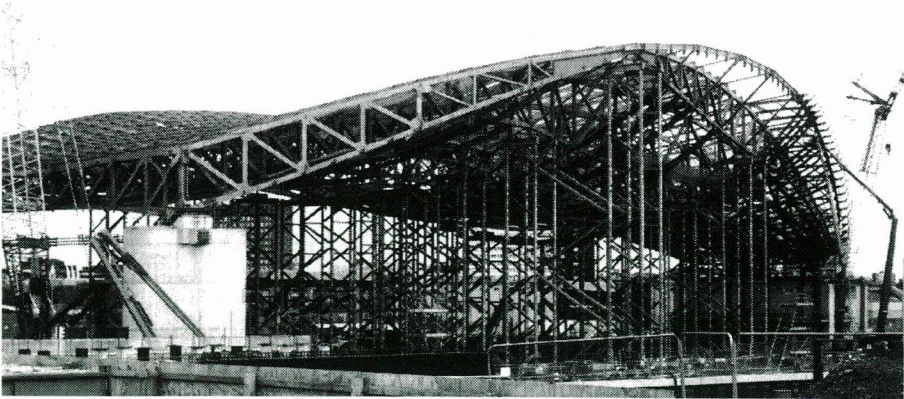
The commercial developments by Westfield, Marks and Spencers, and John Lewis that will form the entrance area for the public are also well advanced.

The continued progress with decontamination and the improvement of the waterways is not not so obvious, but was drawn to the attention of visitors by the guides.



*Taking photographs was permitted for the first time on the 2009 tour.*

*The views above and below show the activity surrounding the construction of the roof to the Aquatics Centre. The roof structure will be near complete before the supporting tressles are removed so that it can be lowered into place.*



Numerous publications were available in the exhibition area. Many of these will provide essential background information to the 2012 Olympic Games. Whilst the publications are all carefully prepared and vetted for accuracy at the time of publication, the content is often overtaken by events, in particular the ongoing attempts to relocate some disciplines to alternative venues.

The majority of these publications are available in the publications section of:  
[www.london2012.com](http://www.london2012.com)

### Booklets

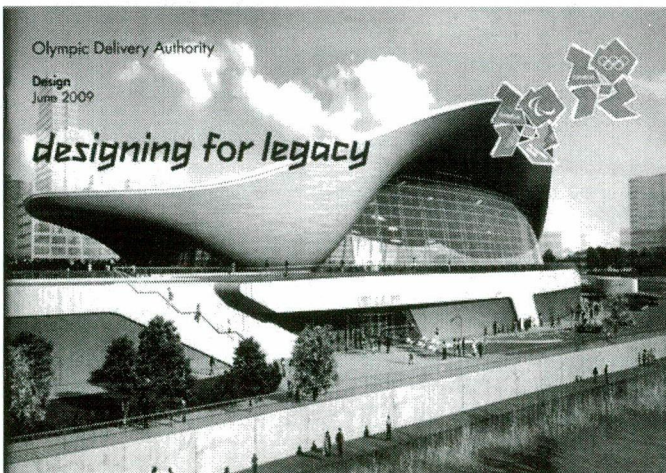
July 2008	Community commitments, working together. <i>O.D.A.</i>
February 2009	The latest news from London 2012 - News. <i>O.D.A.</i>
June 2009	Design, designing for legacy. <i>Olympic Delivery Authority (O.D.A.)</i>
June 2009	The latest news from London 2012 / Issue 10 - Your Park. <i>O.D.A.</i>
July 2009	London 2012 Annual Update - seeing is believing. <i>London 2012</i>
July 2009	The big build: structures. Milesstones to 27 July 2010. <i>O.D.A.</i>
August 2009	It's Big. <i>O.D.A.</i> **

### Brochures (folded sheets).

February 2008	London 2012 planning update. Olympic Park Energy Centre. <i>O.D.A.</i>
April 2008	London 2012. Broxbourne White Water Canoe Centre. <i>O.D.A.</i>
September 2008	Parklands and Public Realm planning update. Green. <i>O.D.A.</i>
July 2009	Your London 2012 Legacy. <a href="http://www.legacynow.co.uk">www.legacynow.co.uk</a>
August 2009	Welcome to the Olympic Park. Explore. <i>O.D.A.</i>

\*\* It's Big, is aimed at a younger readership and is presented as an A3 format magazine containing features on the 2012 Olympic venues, sports and construction programme. It also contains scrapbook pages and a puzzles section.

It will be of particular interest to collectors as it includes an inserted A4 sheet of stickers.

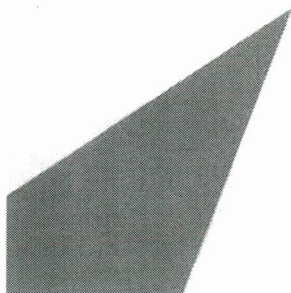
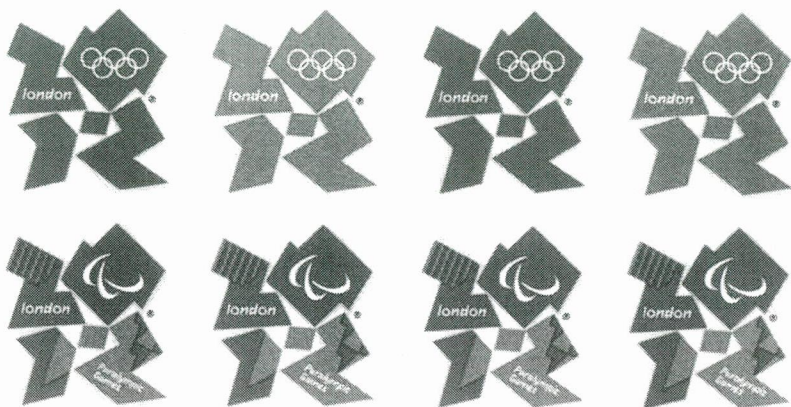


*Designing for  
legacy*

*One of the many  
booklets produced  
by the Olympic  
Delivery Authority.*

# stickers

Start decorating your scrapbook pages now and get the buzz going.



*i'm ready*

*get involved*

*i'm part  
of it*

*2012*

*get set!*

*it's big*

*join in*

## Qingdao Olympic Sailing Centre - Postal Stationery

*Bob Farley (material via Shaoqi Wu)*

The Qindao logo appeared as a postal indicia on stationery envelopes in 2004 and the original series of commemorative envelopes was reported in Torch Bearer.

Recently it has become apparent that this indicia has seen widespread use between 2004 and 2009, with over 300 items reported to exist. The number appears so high because when the printing of such stationery is approved, a unique item reference is allocated, and in the case of corporate orders with printed return / originator addresses, each address requires a separate printing and a new reference number. For example, a Bank which orders envelopes of the same design but with differing branch addresses printed on them, will effectively create multiple items as each address is treated as a new item.

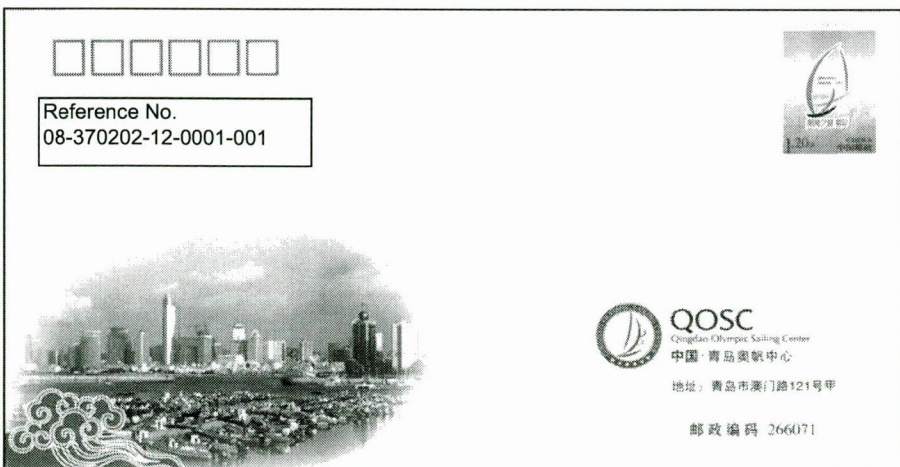
Of the many items now seen, one particular series of envelopes is of special interest as they relate to the Qingdao Olympic Sailing Centre - a venue of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games.

The back of each envelope is inscribed with the text below. Date of issue is not known but the text refers to the sailing events having been held, suggesting post-Games.

The reference numbers of the envelopes are also in the 'new' 2009 format (which actually appeared in late 2008).

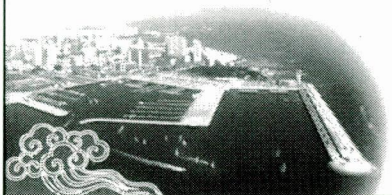
### **Text from the reverse:**

Qingdao Olympic Sailing Center is located at the former Beihai Dockyard on the Fushan Bay at the Eastern New Zone of Qingdao, adjacent to the May 4th Square and Macao Road, with an overall land area of 45 hectares. The 29th Olympic sailing competitions and the 13th Paralympic sailing competitions have been held here in 2008.





Reference No.  
08-370202-12-0001-002



**QOSC**  
Qingdao Olympic Sailing Center  
中国·青岛奥帆中心

地址：青岛市澳门路121号甲

邮政编码 266071



Reference No.  
08-370202-12-0001-003



**QOSC**  
Qingdao Olympic Sailing Center  
中国·青岛奥帆中心

地址：青岛市澳门路121号甲

邮政编码 266071



Reference No.  
08-370202-12-0001-004



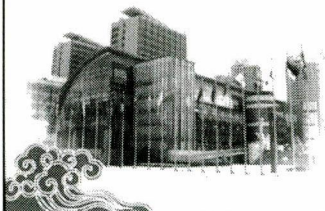
**QOSC**  
Qingdao Olympic Sailing Center  
中国·青岛奥帆中心

地址：青岛市澳门路121号甲

邮政编码 266071



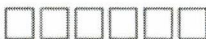
Reference No.  
08-370202-12-0001-005



**QOSC**  
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中国·青岛奥帆中心

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Reference No.  
08-370202-12-0001-006



**QOSC**  
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**TOKYO 2016**  
CANDIDATE CITY



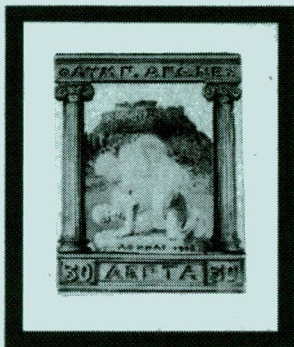


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