



CZECHOUT

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WHOLE NUMBER 152



Worthing Residential Weekend
June 2013

DIAMOND JUBILEE YEAR 1953-2013

CPSGB Publications

Detailed catalogue and postal charges available from the Publications Manager.

Monographs

- No. 3: *The Pošta Československo Overprints*, by Roy A. Dehn. 47p. 1985, reprinted 2000. £6.50.
- No. 4: *Carpatho Ukraine: Postal Markings, 1938–1945*, by Juan E. Page. 42p. 1985, reprinted 2000 with improved maps. £7.50.
- No. 6: *The German Occupation of the Sudetenland, 1938*, by W. A. Dawson. 71p. 1988, reprinted 1994. £9.00.
- No. 7: *Index to articles on Czechoslovak philately, 1950–1979*, by James Negus. 15p. 1989, reprinted 2000. £1.50.
- No. 8: *Occupation of Czechoslovak Frontier Territories by Beck's Poland from the Postal History View-Point*, by Jiří Neumann. 43p. 1989, reprinted 1999. £7.50.
- No. 9: *The Field Post of the Czechoslovak & Allied Forces in Russia 1918–1920*, compiled by W. A. Page. 55p. 1991, reprinted 1994. £8.50.
- No. 10: *The 25th Anniversary of Czechoslovak Independence: The 1943 London Exhibitions*, by V. J. Kralicek and W. A. Page. 50p. 1996, reprinted 2003. £10.00
- No. 11: *The Sokols in Philately: Postal, commemorative postmarks & postcards*, by Brian C. Day. 69p. 1996, reprinted 2003. £12.50,
- No. 12: *Military Cards of the Exiled Czechoslovak Forces in France and Great Britain, 1939–1945*, by V. J. Kraliček and W. A. Page. 30p. 1999. £7.50.
- No. 13: *The Hradčany Issue, 1918–1920*, by Robert Bradford. 34p. 2000. £7.50.
- No. 14: *The Liberation of Olomouc May 1945: Postal arrangements including local and revolutionary overprint issues*, by Robert J. Hill. 42p. 2004. £10.00.
- No. 15: *The postal history of the Free Czechoslovak Forces in Great Britain, 1940–1945*, by Richard Beith. 90p. 2002. £12.50.
- No. 16: *The Czechoslovak Legion in Poland and in Russia, 1939–1941, and, Czechoslovaks in the Middle East, 1940–1943*, by Dr Vratislav Palkoska and Otto Hornung. 46p. 2003. £12.50.
- No. 17: *Czechoslovak Field Post, 1918–1921: A study of postal activities*, by Brian C. Day. 135p. 2002. £22.50.
- No. 18: *Postal Arrangements Following the Liberation of Prague in May 1945*, by Robert J. Hill. 92p. 2005. £16.50.
- No. 19: *Bohemia & Moravia: A Collector's Notebook*, by John Hammonds, edited and additional research by Rex Dixon, based on the Ron Hollis Collection. 76p. 2009. £9.00.
- No. 20: *The Early Postal History of Carpatho-Ukraine, with particular reference to the Usage of the First Postage Stamps of Austria*, by Otto Hornung. 34p. 2007. £12.50
- No. 21: *Carpatho Ukraine: Postal History and Stamps 1786–2000*, by Ing. J. Verlag. 230p. 2007, 2nd enlarged edition 2008. Ask whether in stock before ordering.
- No. 22: *Postmarks of the SO 1920 Plebiscite*, by Oldřich Tovačovský et al, translation by Robert Kingsley 66p. 2010. £15.00.
- No. 23: *The 1923 Agriculture and Science Issue (Hospodářství a věda)*, by Mark Wilson. 29p. 2010. £7.50.
- No. 24: *Travelling Post Offices in German-occupied Sudetenland: An anthology*, by Dr Anthony M. Goodbody and Cyril Kidd. 30p. 2010. £7.50.
- No. 25: *Compendium of 1944–1945 Liberation Overprints*, by Karel Holoubek, additional material and translation by Robert J. Hill. 314p, plus a CD with colour illustrations throughout. 2012. £17.50.
- No. 26. *Free Czechoslovak Forces in France, 1939-1940*, by Richard Beith. 66p. 2013. £15.00.

Other Publications

Bulletin No. 9: English translation of the text of *Monografie* No. 13 *Czech Postmarks from the Beginnings to 1918*, edited by C. Wackett. An essential companion to the *Monografie*. 39p. 1977, format revised 1985, reprinted 1996. £4.00.

Fundamental Philatelic Terminology: A vocabulary in Czech/ German/ English, by Vladimír Bernásek. Translations of almost 500 Czech philatelic terms, 15p. 1989, re-mastered with minor corrections 2001. £1.50.

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Editorial

Your editor had the pleasure of joining the society's Residential Weekend at Worthing in June and wishes to express his pleasure at the warm welcome extended by all who attended. Meeting so many members for the first time and putting faces to names added greatly to the event. The displays and presentations opened new areas of philatelic interest while conversations with those present helped create a fuller understanding of the broad scope of Czechoslovak philately in Britain.

I of course enjoyed meeting everyone, but especially Yvonne Wheatley and Yvonne Gren, who did so much to encourage me as editor and helped me to get me through my first few issues; Rex Dixon, who spent so much time meticulously proofreading each issue of *Czechout* and providing advice about my now second language, British English; Lindy Bosworth and Colin Spong, who provide meaty columns for each issue; and so many others who have been so helpful in making my editorship a pleasant and productive experience. I wish there were room here to thank every person by name. Please know that I am grateful to every one of you for showing me so many kindnesses.

Knowing I am a stamp person and not a postal historian, Reg Hounsell called my attention to his two stamp-only displays which I greatly appreciated. The biggest surprise for me had to be the marvellous display of money order forms by Roger Morrell, a topic I did not even know existed. And, as a special bonus, I received my very first CPSGB certificate for my talk on digital philately.

If you have not participated in a Residential Weekend, be sure and sign up for the next one. One could not find more congenial company nor more interesting displays. Colin Spong and Yvonne Gren did an outstanding job of organizing the event.

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News & Notices

Auction Update

The auction in Worthing was very successful. I had bids for forty-four lots before the weekend. A further twenty-four lots also went on the auction day. I hope that many of you took the opportunity to view the scans of all of the lots on the website.

The auction was surprising in the number of what the public sector in the UK call “Lessons Learnt”, so please pay attention, particularly those of you at the back!

1. The Society has the full auction list on our website, so if you happen to mislay your paper copy and you have access to the Internet, you can find it there, together with scans of most of the lots. As always, if you want further information, such as scans of other items in larger lots, or you want details of the reverse of items, please contact me, by email, phone (I have a filter system to avoid Microsoft engineers, Payment Protection calls, and Personal Injury calls etc., so just leave a short message and I will get back to you if I am not in), or even by post.
2. All cheques should be made payable to the Society and sent to the Treasurer. The proceeds are for the Society and vendors, not me.
3. My “No Quibble Return” applies to the complete lot. If you are not happy with your lot in all or in part, for whatever reason, I am happy to accept it back, **in its completeness**. All I ask is a short explanation so that I can pass that on to the vendor. I do not allow bidders to pick and choose items from a lot. (If the lot remains unsold and a member had asked for a particular item, then I am happy to contact the vendor and ask whether the vendor agrees to that offer.) I understand that bidding in a postal auction puts the bidder at some risk, so the No Quibble Policy applies to be fair to both the vendor and bidder. I try to catch obvious poor quality items, but I do not have the time to look at the reverse of all stamps to check whether they are unmounted, mounted, or no gum mint. This applies in particular to collections, where there may be a range of condition. I try to take this into account in the valuation, or comment in the description. If I get it wrong, the No Quibble Return policy applies.

Constant Auctioneer (with apologies to Dorothy Parker), Peter Williams.

Midpex 2013

The Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain had a Society stand at the Midpex event on Saturday, 6 July 2013. For only the second time, Midpex was held at the Warwickshire Exhibition Centre at Radford Semele, a few miles east of Leamington Spa. It primarily attracts collectors from the English Midlands but, being in central England, it is relatively easy to reach from all points of the UK compass.



Tony Moseley and Yvonne Wheatley at Midpex
Photograph by Norman Hudson

Midpex has been held every two years since 1997. The 2013 event was therefore the ninth. Promoted this year as *The Midlands' Largest Stamp Show*, Midpex has regularly had national recognition as “THE exhibition for specialist societies”. Consequently, the number of the UK’s philatelic societies supporting the event has usually been excellent. This year, forty-one specialist societies had stands at the event ranging alphabetically from the Alba Stamp

Group to the West Africa Study Circle. This year our Society had a table between the Netherlands Philatelic Circle and the British West Indies Study Circle. Thanks to Society members such as Yvonne Wheatley, Tony Moseley, Rex Dixon, and Bob Bradford, the stand, consisting of a well-stocked table and an eye-catching two-frame display, was staffed throughout the event's opening hours.

Australia 2013 World Stamp Expo

This International Exhibition took place in Melbourne from 10 to 15 May 2013. The exhibition was staged in the prestigious Royal Exhibition Building. With 684 exhibits it was one of the largest International Exhibitions held in recent years. Our Australian member, Ross Wood, was a member of the jury. Four of our members participated with the following results:

Bill Hedley *Postal Services in the Habsburg Kingdom of Hungary to 1900 with Special Reference to Pozsony and its Environs*. Gold with Special Prize for Treatment.

Richard Wheatley *Netherlands East Indies Mail 1789-1877*. Large Vermeil.

Alfonso Zulueta *Afghanistan, Amanullah Period, 1919-1929*. Large Vermeil

Hans van Dooremalen *USA: The Foreign Postal Card of 1879*. Vermeil.

Wim Tukker *Australia Pre-Decimal Air Letters and Aerogrammes*. Vermeil.

Congratulations to them all.

Czech exhibits of note were:

Vit Vanicek *Czech Republic – Postal History of Czech Lands*. Gold.

Kenichi Takaka, Japan *Hradčany Issue 1918-1919*. Gold.

György Lóvei, Hungary *Currency Reform 1953*. Large Vermeil.

György is the President of Mabéosz Cseh és Szlovák Szekciója, the Hungarian Czech-Slovak Society and he has contributed an interesting article on Currency Reform 1953 for December's *Czechout*.

Congratulations

Hans van Dooremalen received a gold medal at the Belgian Provincial Exhibition in Nieuwpoort for his *Branch Post Offices at Brno* which we saw at the Worthing Weekend. **Bob Bradford** came second in the Postal History Class at Swinpeex with *Cilicia Censor Marks*.

ABPS Congress Medal 2013 Awarded to Yvonne Wheatley FRPSL

Yvonne Wheatley joined the Worthing Philatelic Society in 1964 and later became Hon Secretary. She took on other officers' posts in that society and also joined the Goring on Sea Philatelic Society.



Yvonne was made an Honorary Life Member of the Worthing Philatelic Society but later on she moved from the South Coast to Leeds, joining that society in 1981 where she has held most of the officers' roles. Yvonne became Hon Treasurer in 1995 at the Bradford and District Philatelic Society, followed by Vice President and later President.

Yvonne organized three conventions for the ASPS and later represented Bradford and District Philatelic Society on the Management committee of the Yorkshire Philatelic Association. She signed the Roll of Distinguished Yorkshire Philatelists in 1999.

At the national level Yvonne attended many Congresses and co-organized one in Worthing in 1978. That year saw Yvonne being presented with an Award of Merit, given in the first year it was inaugurated. She is now the senior holder of this award. Yvonne served on the Melville Committee for two years, on the BPF Council, as an Apprentice judge at Stampex and BPE, and also a volunteer for Stewarding Duty between 1970 and 1980. At Harrogate in 2008 Yvonne and her husband, Richard, worked as joint organizing secretaries for the ABPS Exhibition and Fair held there.

Yvonne's greatest philatelic contribution at the national level is her work carried out in various posts such as Press Officer, Joint Editor, Hon Treasurer, and Chairman for the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain which she joined in 1971. She has organized regional meetings for the Society, joint one-day meetings with other societies, and she served on the Editorial Board of *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, the journal of the Society for Czechoslovak Philately in the USA.

On the international scene Yvonne has acted as GB Commissioner from 1998 to 2010 for ten exhibitions in various European countries. At London 2010 she was a member of the core team attending to the Commissioners from overseas arriving with exhibits for the Exhibition.

Member News

Richard Beith visited the Aberdeen Philatelic Society of Scotland on 11 April to give a 160-sheet *Czech and Slovak Evening*.

For the pre-coffee display he started with an introduction to Czechoslovak history from 1918 and a brief discussion of the various boundary changes. The first sheets displayed covered the Velvet Divorce of 1 January 1993 and souvenirs of the BRNO 2005 exhibition. He continued with three more short displays: souvenirs of the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra's tours of the British Isles in 1937 and 1938 including postcards sent back to Prague by homesick musicians; airmail acceptances from the 1930s to Africa, India, Australasia and the Far East carried from such transfer points as Athens, by Imperial Airways, Air France, and the Dutch airlines KLM and KNILM; and finally, a short study of postal censorship of international mails to and from Czechoslovakia during the 1938 Munich crisis.

After the coffee break he showed a single topic, *The Czechoslovak Army-in-Exile in Great Britain from 1940*. Richard had adopted an Open Philately concept for this display and included period and modern photographs, concert programmes from the Brigade Band and Choir and souvenirs of modern commemorations, as well as a broad range of postal history material including international mails to and from the Army-in-Exile. Reference was made to contributions made by Czech and Slovak soldiers from Great Britain to the assassination of Heydrich and to the Slovak National Uprising. This display had been awarded a Gold Medal at the national exhibition PERTH 2012.

Report of the Society Weekend Held Friday to Sunday, 7 to 9 June 2013 at the Chatsworth Hotel, Worthing

The Chatsworth Hotel proved to be an excellent venue for another in the series of the Society's two-yearly residential weekends. It was all but on sea front and not far from the pier and the shops. Although old-fashioned in some respects it was very comfortable, the food was good, and we were well looked after. The meeting room was of a good size and the lighting was so good that nobody thought anything about it.

The Chairman, **Yvonne Wheatley**, warmly welcomed us after Friday's cream tea, with an especial welcome to new member David Luckhurst and his wife, Jane. Without doubt, the one who had travelled furthest was our editor, Mark Wilson from Arizona; it was a great opportunity for members to meet him and for him to meet all those he had had email correspondence with. She also welcomed two couples from the Netherlands.

Yvonne immediately thanked **Yvonne Gren** and **Colin Spong**, who had organised the weekend. Their attention to detail ensured that the whole programme went very smoothly and kept to schedule. After going through some housekeeping matters, **Yvonne Gren** gave details of five prospective new members:

Edward Klempka from Burley-in-Wharfedale

Robert Coles from Cornwall

James Koukl from Tyler, Texas USA

John Ahmad from Sunderland

Robert Holland from Bradford

whose applications were readily endorsed and formally accepted.

We immediately launched into two displays before dinner:

Colin Spong *Slovakia*, ranging from church letters of the 1700s through the 1915 and 1918 agreements in Cleveland and Pittsburgh to the Slovak State during WWII.

Yvonne Gren *East Silesia*, arranged chronologically rather than geographically, with many items related to Fred's association with the area.

After dinner there were two further displays:

Tony Bosworth *Bohemia & Moravia, the beginning and the end*, from the political events of September 1938 to 'protection' in March 1939 (the end of the beginning); and then the assassination of Heydrich (the beginning of the end) to the liberation.

Reg Hounsell *What a waste!*, a light-hearted look at the concept of waste, from the early sale of 125,000 sheets of printers' waste (the waste is that they were all broken up without a proper record being kept) through to overfranking (waste of sender's money).

Saturday morning commenced with the following displays before coffee:

Richard Wheatley *The War Heroes stamps*, with an impressive range of ephemera associated with Pravoslav Řídký, killed in 1943 in Tripoli; and postal history showing registered letters, the censorship of mail of Germans not yet expelled, and mail censored on arrival in Germany and Austria.

Hans van Dooremalen *Branch post offices in Brünn (Brno)*, a branch PO being one that did not deliver mail. He only included those active before 1918, i.e. offices 3 to 11.

After coffee **Lindy Bosworth** was invited to give the fourth **Bill Dawson Lecture**, *A Philatelic Journey*, in which she recounted her philatelic life. An important milestone was a visit in 1959 to an uncle in Karlovy Vary. In due course she got hooked on Czechoslovak philately, visiting each of the international Praga exhibitions and forming fine collections of them. She joined the society almost by chance, but that changed her collecting life. And the rest is history ...

There were two more displays before lunch:

Brian Day *Alfons Mucha*, with many cards and vignettes.

Rex Dixon *Children's evacuation camps (Kinderlandverschickungslager) in the Protectorate*, telling the story of the more than 500 'camps' established in hotels, guesthouses, schools, etc. Before giving his display, Rex showed the two 1953 coronation scrapbooks he had formed when a young boy, the sixtieth anniversary having been marked earlier in the week.

By request, **Heinz Vogel** recounted his family's escape from Ostrava soon after the German occupation, when he was aged 11.

The **George Pearson Trophy** competition was held after lunch. The result was close:

1st **Reg Hounsell** *Printing of the Hradčany issues*

2nd **Hans van Dooremalen** *Registered postcards*

3rd **Tony Moseley** *Sudetenland*

The results of the **Francis Pettitt Salver** competition were:

1st **Yvonne Wheatley** *Revaluation of the currency in 1953*

2nd **Richard Wheatley** *Registration labels after liberation*

3rd **Yvonne Gren** *Black prints of the Czech Republic*

The winner of the **Bill Dawson Memorial Award** for the best article in *Czechout* during 2011–12 was then announced: **Norman Hudson**, *Václav Havel (1936–2011): a personal tribute*.

Richard Beith presented a seminar on *Social Philately and Open Class Exhibits*, using a two-frame exhibit on Dvořák and an in-progress display on Czechoslovak airmen in the West as examples.

There were three further displays before and after the tea break:

David Luckhurst *1918–48: Masaryk and Beneš*, a history shown through cards, souvenirs and postal history.

Garth Taylor *2nd airmail issue: the stamps and their usage*. He raised a query: the literature shows that the airmail fee to much of Europe was reduced from 2.50 K to 1.50 K on 5 June 1930; however, he showed three commercial covers from April 1929 already with the new rate.

Yvonne Wheatley *Allegories: the stamps and their usage*, a superb display based on her recent award-winning exhibit.

Mark Wilson gave a talk on *Digital Technologies and Philately (no computer-speak!)*, in which he discussed the use of high-resolution scans to illustrate flaws; the ability to compare allegedly identical stamps by overlaying them in various ways; and the printing of both album pages and the journal itself. This was followed by a long discussion. At a later session (on Sunday morning) he demonstrated the facilities offered by his new *Interactive Indexes to Czechout*, which all who have played with it so far have been mightily impressed – our congratulations go to Mark for the sheer effort and imagination that has gone into its construction. The DVD containing the Indexes will shortly be placed on sale; it is highly recommended.

Throughout the day our dealer members **Ctibor Sobotka** and **Mrs Ans Breebaart** ran a sales table, which proved very popular.

After dinner Yvonne welcomed guest speaker **Susan Oliver** and her husband **Chris** for the evening's main entertainment, a presentation called *Fun Filately*, a surprising and diverse potpourri of material from all over, including much from the waste-paper basket. It was appreciated by all.

Sunday morning was devoted to more displays.

Roger Morrell *Czech money orders from the Austrian period*, an extensive and erudite display of a philatelic backwater. Some of the postal money orders and postal mandates were postal stationery with an imprinted stamp, but many were not so there is no catalogue for them.

Reg Hounsell *Airmails: a survey*, from the very start through to the 1951 issue.

After coffee, a successful 100-lot auction was conducted by **Peter Williams**. There were many room bidders, but postal bidders also got a large proportion of the lots.

Yvonne Wheatley closed the proceedings before noon, extending our thanks in particular to Yvonne Gren and Colin Spong for a wonderful weekend and to the Shoreham Stamp Club for loaning the frames. All that remains is for someone to volunteer to organise the next such event in 2015.

Worthing Residential Weekend Photo Album

- Photos by Richard Wheatley -

Opening Cream Tea



Lindy Bosworth



James Hooper



Mark Wilson



Tony Bosworth

At Citbor Sobotka's and Mrs Ans Breebaart's Sales Table



Garth Taylor, Roger Morrell, Peter Williams.



Roger Castle, David Luckhurst.

Presenters



Rex Dixon



David Luckhurst



Yvonne Wheatley



Richard Beith



Heinz Vogel



Reg Hounsell



Roger Morell



Brian Day

Awards and Certificates Presented by Colin Spong and Yvonne Wheatley



Yvonne Gren, Colin Spong



Susan Oliver, Colin Spong



Yvonne Wheatley, Richard Beith



Reg Hounsell, Colin Spong



Lindy Bosworth, Yvonne Wheatley



Hans van Dooremalen, Colin Spong

The following members, partners, and guests, were also present: **Sue Castle, Ian and Mavis Hay, Felicity Hooper, Pat Spong, Vivienne Taylor, Gemmy van Dooremelen, Louisa Jakeman,** and of course our photographer **Richard Wheatley.**

Abstracts of Publications

- Colin W Spong-

We have received the following journals, which will be available from the Society Library. Items of interest to members are:

The Summer 2013 issue of *Austria* No.182

Not quite as it seems [a Vienna 1945 cover] (Koláč); Missing parcels or contents during WW I (Morrell); The Puzzle of the Fahrenes Postamt Label of the 1850s (Brandon & Friends); Italy leaves the Triple Alliance: The Austrian response (Moskoff & Gayle); Austrian Return to Sender Labels (Muir); Before Lemburg: The Development of the Mail System in Central Europe and the Beginnings of the Postal Service in Lwow [Lviv] (Kuzych).

The British Postal Museum & Archive Newsletter Spring/Summer 2013.

The Great Train Robbery - The untold story from the closed investigation files. Author Andrew Cook writes about his new book on this infamous 1963 crime (Cook); Mail Rail Archives Open Day - 14 September, which focuses on material related to the PO Underground Railway [Mail Train] (Dafer); GPO Britain in Pictures (Devereux & Harnett); Bringing Records into the light (Tantony); The PO & the Tardis [the history of Police Boxes that many might know as the Tardis from the Doctor Who TV Series] (Bunker); The Bloomsbury Group & the PO [twentieth century artists, writers & intellectuals] (Jennings).

The March 2013 issue of *Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Tschechoslowakei*, Vol.44 Whole No 175. Member Douglas Baxter has kindly translated the list of contents for us.

Dušan Kállay - illustrator and stamp designer (Müller); Special Fair Flights: Leipzig-Prague-Leipzig (Müller).

The Spring 2013 issue of *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, Vol. 75. No 2. Whole No 632.

How Stamps are Engraved (Hodková); Presidential initials on Protectorate stamps (Hirsch); Otto's War (Beith); Seventieth Anniversary of Lidice (Rhoades); Postcards with Liberation Overprints 1944-45 (Holoubek).

The April 2013 issue of *Dylizans*, No 69.

Solidarność stamps how to sort them (Stockhill); MIESZKO I: Prince of the Polanians [922-992] Reigned from 966 (Stockhill); Polish Schools in Palestine and Egypt 1942 to 1947 (Niebrzydowski).

Nos 5, 6 & 7 2013 of *Filatelia*. Vol 63. The English translation of the contents does not cover all the articles.

German Field Post in Slovakia for Polish Campaign (Gebauer); 125 years of Prague Tube Post and its future [1] (Šmíd & Hák); Moscow 1945 Issue - 2k value (Vychron); Mobile Post Offices [Autopošty] 1937-1944 [Part 3] (Horák & Bulant); Creation of Thematic exhibits (Horák); Mail boxes are also part of philately (Beneš); History of the Post Office - Kyšperk - Orličné - Letohrad (Chládko).

Visit Czech-Austrian History in Postal Museum at Vyšší Brod (Kavka & Kramář); Hradčany 3h - repair of the first printing plate (Folprecht); 125 years of Prague Tube Post and its future [2] (Šmíd & Hák).

Vyšehrad Kodex 1970 - green instead of gold? (Beneš); Late usage of Hungarian Stamps (Maleček); Forger of his own Overprint - Josef Horner (Dusbábek); Czechoslovak Forerunners (Weissenstein); Attractions of protectorate of Bohemia & Moravia (Beneš).

The Nos 2 & 3 2013 issues of *Merkur Revue*. English translation of the contents does not cover all the articles.

Genesis of the Order of the White Lion - Part 1 (Jedlička); Austrian 10k postage stamp issue of 1908 (Květon); Rare Austrian cover from Moravia 1850 (Klim).

Miniature sheet [St George & Dragon] Victory issue 1945-1946, New twenty-fifth plate (Fritz); "SO 1920" differing '2' on thirteenth field (Filipek); "TGM 1920" Postal use in the third rate period (Květon); Genesis of the Order of the White Lion - Part 2 (Jedlička).

The June 2013 issue of *Stamps of Hungary* 193.

Hungary's Telegraph development during the KuK period 1847-1918 with particular regard to philatelic viewpoint with coverage of formular use - Part 1 History (Pieper); The Second issue of the 'Kurhaus auf der Hohe Rinne' - a little dot brings it into view (Jahnke).

Book Reviews

At our Weekend in Worthing our Editor, Mark Wilson, made a significant gift to our library. He presented our Librarian, Lindy Bosworth, with three titles he had translated from the original Czech. When these original works were produced, a considerable amount of study and detail went into the books.

Mark has brought these studies to a wider audience by making them available to the English-speaking world. Regrettably, these translations cannot be marketed because the necessary copyright consent has not been obtained. Further strenuous efforts are being made to overcome this problem.

Our members in the UK are able to borrow the books from our library. Unfortunately it is not possible to extend this privilege to our members overseas but it is worth coming to England to view them!

It is gratifying to know that that Mark regards our library as a safe depository for his books. It is an added benefit of membership to be able to consult these volumes.

Mark plans to produce further titles. He recently completed a study of the 5 heller Dove issue, an original work available as the Society's first print-on-demand title (A4, twenty pages). Enquiries should be made to the Chairman, Yvonne Wheatley.

Mark is very keen that his work should not be lost. He is exceedingly willing to make it available to anyone interested in the typographic stamps of Czechoslovakia.

Following this example of the importance of sharing information, the Committee has agreed that the *Interactive Index*, which Mark produced, will now be linked to the latest available *Czechout*. This is an experiment for our Diamond Jubilee Year and will be reviewed by the Committee next year to decide whether the practice will continue. Take a look at the website: www.czechout.org.

Yvonne Wheatley

The Dove (Holubice). Part I: History; Part II: Plate and Other Flaws

Together the two works number forty A4 pages (nine in colour) and comprise a translation of pages 185 to 255 of *Monografie II* by Jan Karásek (1971). The books are complete in themselves with the illustrations from the original work alongside the text. The history deals with the origin of the stamp, the dates of issue, and the printing – including the printing of the booklet issues. The two types of the 20 heller and 25 heller are clearly explained and all perforations are dealt with. The comprehensive survey of the plates and their markings facilitates the identification of the plates. Trial prints, black prints, forgeries, and printer's waste complete Part I. Part II deals with plate faults and retouches and methodically deals with each value in turn.

Agriculture and Science 1920

This is a translation of the study by František Žampach, Jan Karásek, and Pavel Pitterman (1988) in twenty-seven A4 pages (b/w). The origin and production are dealt with fully using helpful diagrams. Once the production of the printing plates has been explained, the plate variations and flaws can be appreciated. These are explained for each value.

The Agriculture and Science Issue 1923. Part I: Technical History; Part II: Plate Flaws

Together the two works comprise 70 A4 pages (b/w). This is a translation of the study by František Žampach, Jan Karásek, and Pavel Pitterman (1990). These volumes follow the familiar pattern of the origin of the stamp and production of its printing plates. It continues with the type and subtypes of the stamps. This is followed by the plate flaws and retouches for each type, value by value.

Aleksander Stocki: Enigmatic Philatelist. Roy E. Reader, George K. Kay

A new revised and enlarged edition has been produced of this book first reviewed by Colin Spong in the June 2004 issue of *Czechout*. Stocki was a Polish army officer whose lifetime of philatelic activity included producing Polish Army letter seals, postage-due labels, date-stamps, field postcards and commemorative items while in Scotland in World War II. At the time he had some links with the Czechoslovak Army in Britain and this today manifests itself particularly in the joint appearance of his letter seals and Czechoslovak date-stamps on philatelic cards and covers of the period. £14, post-free (<http://www.royreader.plus.com>).

A Solution to the Problem of the Cachet - Bill Hedley and Roger Morrell -

Readers will recall an article in *Czechout* in March 2009 (no. 134) by the late David Holt concerning the use of the **R**. cachet on mail during the Nazi occupation period, 1940-44. Following the disposal of David's philatelic estate, a dealer acquired his collection of this material, and some enquiries were subsequently made concerning not only the value ascribed to such items, but also whether David's interpretation was correct.

In his original article, David had considered that the **R**. cachet was applied by the Gestapo in Vienna to printed paper items destined for the Protectorate. In addition, sometimes a roller cachet was also applied, such as that shown in the lower of the two newspapers from Cracow shown in his Figure 4. However, because all the items should already have been censored in their place of posting (which was very probably restricted to within the German dominated or sympathetic areas of Europe), David could not see why they would be re-examined in Vienna en route to their destination addresses, such as in Figure 1.

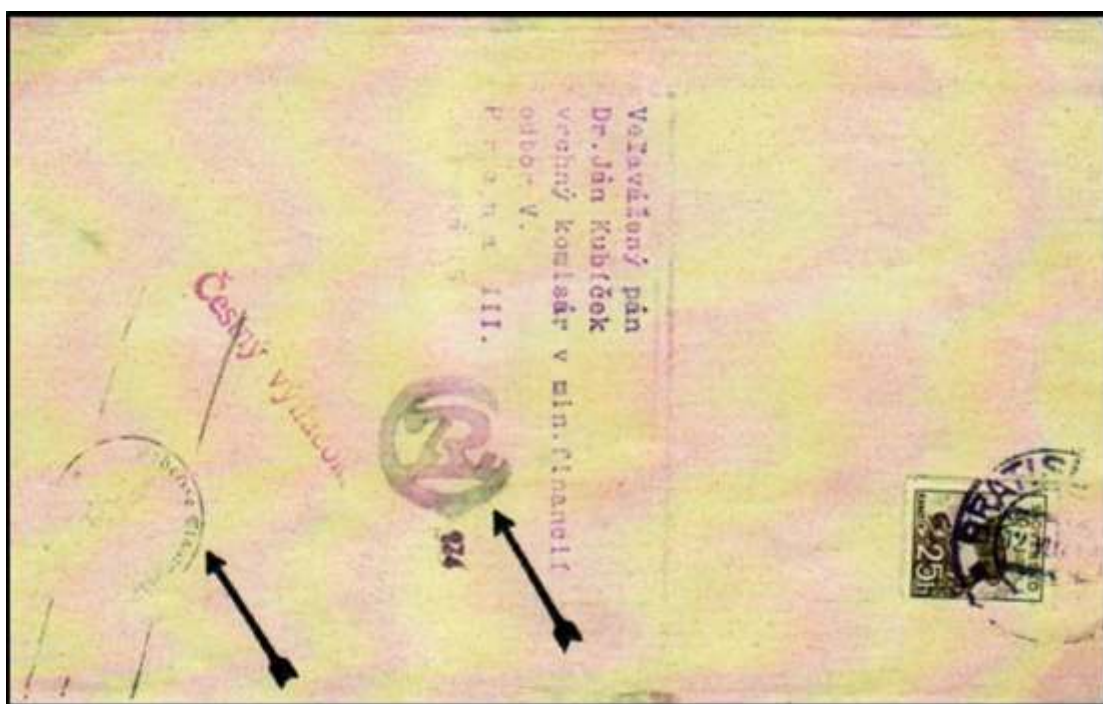


Figure 1: From David Holt's collection – wrapper from Bratislava censored in Vienna (roller cachet arrowed) and addressed to Prague where the **R**. cachet in black (arrowed) was used. There is also a violet cachet Čestný výtlačok, which translates as honorary/courtesy copy; 12.VII.1941.

A response to enquiries through a chain of contacts was obtained from Hans-Hermann Paetow, who is President of the Arbeitsgemeinschaft (ARGE) Zensur (German Working Group on Censorship), ARGE Protektorat Böhmen und Mähren (Working Group on the Protectorate of Bohemia & Moravia), and their foremost expert on Bohemia and Moravia. He says that:

Much nonsense has been written in exhibits about this cachet. The underlined R with dot in a circle has nothing to do with the Gestapo in Vienna or Bratislava. This cachet, of which there are three similar versions, is a check mark of the postal newspaper office in Prague, and the **R**. stands for the Czech word *registrace* or *registered*, meaning that the recipient was registered to receive foreign newspapers and printed matter. We have not been able to find a written notice of this either in the Official Gazette or in an official instruction for the postal newspaper service. However, the information is correct [1]. I have mail of this kind from Bulgaria, Croatia, Liechtenstein, the General Gouvernement (Poland), the Netherlands, the Baltic States, Switzerland and Slovakia. I attach two of my items for you to look at. (Figures 2 and 3).



Figure 2: From Herr Paetow's collection: a wrapper from Zagreb, Croatia to Moravská Ostrava censored en route in Vienna, 31 October 1941.



Figure 3: From Herr Paetow's collection: Printed matter envelope franked with an official stamp from Vaduz in Liechtenstein to Olmütz, censored in Cologne (letter c in the OKW cachet), with R cachet in black; 29.XII.1941.

Further information has arrived from another contact, M Bachraty of Bratislava, who has an exhibit on *EXPONET*. He confirms that the R cachet was used in Prague by the ČTK (Česka Tisková Kancelář or Czech Press Agency). He has referred us to a short article (in Czech) on the Burda auction house website [2] prepared by a Vilém Bulant who searched the Czech archives for 1939/40 for information about the marks Z, R, in a circle, and R, on its own. The documents found included a September 1939 instruction from the Press Department of the Council of Ministers to the Postal Directorate at Prague 7 to surrender all but specifically excluded foreign magazines to the ČTK, and a note of a telephone conversation that items inspected will be marked with a Z in a ring. A press release to post offices was made on 9 October 1939. On 29 March 1940, a further post office order was issued noting that periodic and non-periodical printed matter published outside the Reich and the Protectorate was to be subject to ČTK censorship, even if it had already been censored by elsewhere by an official body.

Single items were to be routed to Praha 7 post office, while parcels declared as containing printed materials and accompanied by a dispatch note (parcel card) were to be routed via Praha 16 post office. On 6 December 1940, the ČTK informed the Department of Transport Postal Directorate that from 10 December 1940, the **R** in a circle cachet would be used on all items cleared by the ČTK. This letter is illustrated on the website. The text refers to the release of items after press screening being marked with the cachet. A letter issued by the Department of Transport Postal Directorate to post offices, dated 7 December 1940, informs of the use of this mark. In addition, any printed materials found not to have this mark must not be delivered to addressees, but must be sent in special envelopes to Praha 7 post office.

There are some exceptions to this requirement and the general public are not to learn of this practice. The author comments that because the cachets were made of rubber and wore quickly with heavy use, there are a number of variations, including the one without the circle. There is no mention of the **R** meaning *registrace*.

With this information we can make better sense of the use of these cachets:

- They appear only on wrappers or printed-paper envelopes, remembering that single-sheet ‘newsheets’ often came folded in an open envelope;
- They all come from outside Bohemia/Moravia and the German Reich;
- They would mostly have been censored at a German office on first entry into the Reich – which one depended on the route. They might conceivably be censored in Vienna as David Holt originally suggested, but only such items that would have been routed via Vienna anyway, e.g. the Bratislava item in Figure 1. These offices were run by the *Oberkommando der Wehrmacht* (OKW), not the Gestapo, until 1944 when they were taken over by the SS, the latter then being in charge of press censorship;
- The system was introduced during 1939 as a check process that the incoming ‘foreign’ magazine or newspaper was approved for delivery, and such items would be marked with the **Z** cachet. From 10 December 1940 a wider range of incoming printed matter was subject to this procedure, and the **R** cachet was introduced.

However, the archival material unearthed by Mr Bulant makes no comment or suggestion that the recipient had to be on an approved list, or registered, for receipt of such mail. Had that been the case, somewhere there must have been a list of such registered persons (or persons who were not to receive such mail). Since the ČTK process was not supposed to be public knowledge, it is unlikely that individuals would have had to apply for permission and be vetted before they could receive such mail. This aspect remains to be completely resolved, as does exactly what the **Z** stand for – could it mean *zkoušet*, ‘to examine’?

As to value, items with these marks seem to be relatively common and command typically ten to fifteen Euros depending on the originating territory and the franking used. Strikes in red are said to be worth more (the instruction was to use black ink!). Nonetheless, it’s an interesting insight into the handling of mail.

Acknowledgements

Thanks are due to Jan Jaap de Weerd of Nancy, France, who commented on this article and who forwarded the query to Wolfgang Vogt of the German ARGE Zensur; he in turn passed it to Hans-Hermann Paetow for his expert opinion. Thanks are especially due to the last-named for permission to include photos of two interesting items from his collection. Thanks are also due to Mr Bachraty of Bratislava for further information and the link to the Burda website.

Notes

- [1]. In a subsequent communication, Mr Paetow confirmed that his information on this came directly from a Czech collector who had been party to this process during the last war.
- [2]. <http://www.burda-auction.com/cz/sberatelstvi/odborne-clanky/show/2/cenzurni-razitko-“z”-a-“r”-v-krouzku/>.

It Never Happened! - A J Bosworth FRPSL -

On 15 March 1939 Constantin von Neurath was appointed to the position of Protector of Bohemia and Moravia, but he was not considered by Hitler to be strong enough in controlling the Czechs and was sent on 'sick leave'. He was duly replaced in September 1941 by the efficient, single-minded, and totally ruthless Reinhard Heydrich. From the beginning Heydrich set out his policy: *Collaborate and Prosper, or Resist and Perish*. His brutal administration soon bore fruit, because industrial production in the Protectorate ran at its highest level ever, thus making a huge contribution to the German war effort.

A decision was made in Britain to assassinate Heydrich and six Czechoslovak patriots were trained for the task. On 27 May 1942 three of the group ambushed him on his way to his office and on 4 June he died from his wounds.

One year later a special church service took place in Heydrich's memory for which a special programme and souvenir sheet were issued. Subsequently, many facsimile souvenir sheets were produced, both during and after the war, many of them of a dubious nature. A classic example of one of the more inventive publications is as follows.

The souvenir sheet below (postmark dated 30 May 1943) commemorates the ceremony honouring Reinhard Heydrich in the town of Pilsen inscribed:

ZU EHREN DES GEFALLENEN GENERALS REINHARD
HEYDRICH WIRD DIE KLATTAUER STRASSE IN
REINHARD-HEYDRICH-STRASSE UMBENANT.
AUS DIESEM ANLASSE FINDET AM SONNTAG, DEN
30. MAI 1943, UM 11 UHR IM BEISEIN EINES VERTRETERS
DES HERRN REICHSPROTEKTORS EINE
FEIERSTUNDE STATT.



“To honour the fallen General Reinhard Heydrich, Klattauer Street will be renamed Reinhard Heydrich Street. The ceremony is to take place at 11 a.m., Sunday, 30 May 1943 in the presence of the representative from the office of the Protector of Bohemia and Moravia”.

Why is this souvenir sheet dubious?

The ceremony never took place, there is no Klattauer Street in Pilsen. and no street was ever renamed Reinhard Heydrich Street in that town at any time.

I found the sheet in a Prague stamp fair along with a lot of similar 'facsimiles' of Heydrich souvenir sheets. I thought it was unlike any others that I had so I bought it (quite cheaply). When I later examined it I realised that the CDS was fake, and upon further investigation on the web I ascertained that there was no ceremony, and no Klattauer Street.

The ‘Stamps’ of the Wallachian Pigeon Post - Richard Beith -

This is the story of a modern cinderella issue from the east of Moravia. Visiting the area with fellow members of the Dvořák Society of Great Britain in May 2002, we came to Hukvaldy, the birthplace



of the composer Leoš Janáček (1854-1928). We climbed up to the best vantage point in the area, the ruined remains of Hukvaldy Castle, having paused to pat the bronze reincarnation of one of Janáček’s most famous operatic heroines, *The Cunning Little Vixen*. Relaxing in the café usefully located in the ruins, I spotted packets of stamps for sale, at about 60 pence each, alongside the postcards and tourist guides. These contained two different sets of cinderellas of the *Pigeon Post of the Wallachian Kingdom*. Wallachia is part of eastern Moravia, adjacent to the Czech/Slovak border. It is claimed that the name of the region reflects the arrival in earlier centuries of herdsmen from what is now Romania (Figure 1).

A set of five full colour cinderellas showed amusing events in Wallachian history such as *The Wallachian Conquest of Mont Blanc* and a picture of a traditional hot air balloon basket represented *The Return of the First Wallachian Cosmonaut* (Figure 2). The second set of eight values showed more conventional tourist views of the region in well printed sepia, three of these are shown illustrating the Stramberk Tower, the Holešov Synagogue and Zamek Zlin (Figure 3). Each packet contained a slip of paper with the address of the

Figure 1.



Figure 2.



Figure 3.

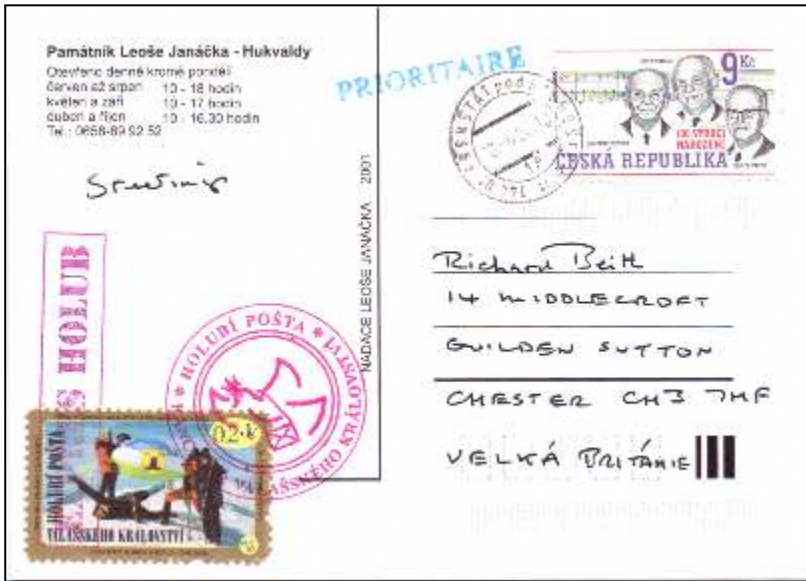


Figure 4.

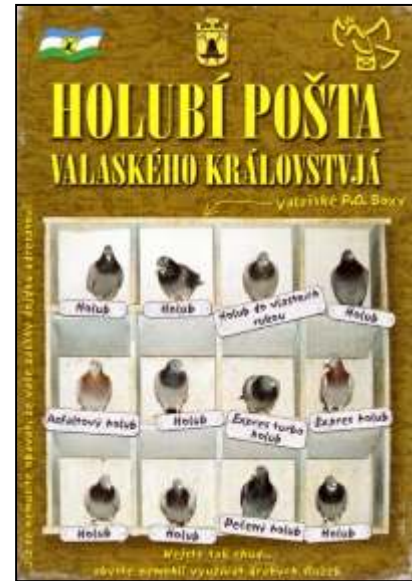


Figure 5.

kingdom: Valašské Království, Dolní 494, 74401 Frenštát pod Radhoštěm, Czech Republic. So the kingdom has a regular Czech postcode and a web address: www.valaske-kralovstvi.cz. Perusal of this Czech language slip of paper seemed to indicate that the kingdom would process mail for one so I prepared two postcards franked with the then correct Czech stamp for overseas mail (9 Kč) and sent them to the given address asking for the pigeon post treatment and including some current Czech stamps and a low denomination Czech banknote. A few days later the cards came through my letter box complete with a Mont Blanc cinderella cancelled with a boxed straight line *EXPRES HOLUB* (Express Pigeon) and a circular cachet showing a pigeon with mail bag (Figure 4).

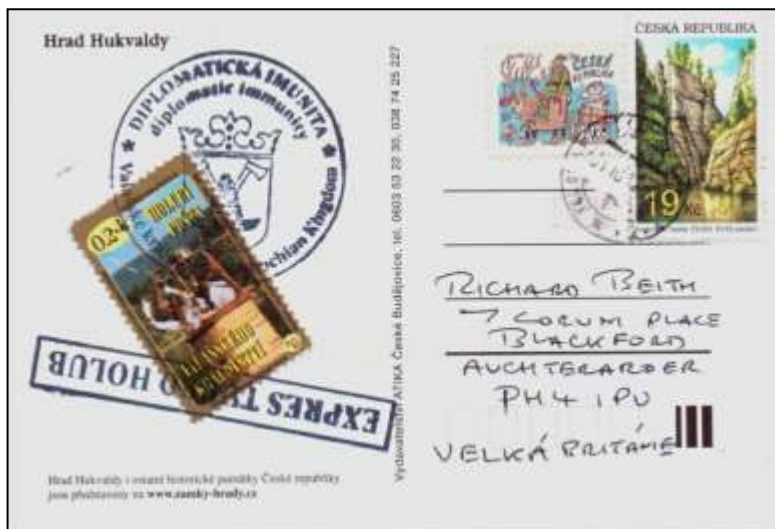


Figure 6

By the next day's post I received a ninety-six page well-printed English language booklet entitled *How and Why You Should Emigrate to the Wallachian Kingdom*. This made it clear that the whole object of these cinderellas was to promote tourism in Wallachia and to encourage visits to this historic and romantic region. Are there any mail-carrying pigeons? Almost certainly not as although a postcard of the pigeons shows them in their post office boxes (Figure 5), these include a baked or roast pigeon (*Pečený holub*) as previously noted by Holoubek and Horvath. [1]



Figure 7.



Figure 8.



Figure 9.

Ten years later, in 2012, I wondered if these pigeons were still flying. A similar request to the above address with cards stamped at today's greatly increased overseas postal rate confirmed that the pigeons were still active and flying even faster – *EXPRES TURBO HOLUB* (Figure 6). In addition, I received a letter from Tomáš Harabiš, alias Minister of Foreign Affairs of The Wallachian Kingdom, thanking me for my interest in his domain (Figure 7). Two further series of previously unknown cinderellas were enclosed. One set of six, five in vertical format and one in landscape format, showed animals (Figure 8) and happy country people. A final set of eight, all in landscape format, showed further views of tourist sites such as Hrad Lukov, Hodslavice and Vizovice (Figure 9).

Acknowledgment: This has text has been developed from an earlier article which appeared in *The Cinderella Philatelist*, October 2003, pp. 177-179.

Reference: [1] Holoubek K. and Horvath S., 'Wallachian Kingdom', *The Czechoslovak Specialist*, Vol. 64, No. 2 (March-April 2002).

The Vogels' Escape from Ostrava - Heinz Vogel -

In her *East Silesia* display at the Worthing Residential Weekend 8 – 10 June, Yvonne mentioned her late husband Fred Gren's connection with Karviná, Tony Bosworth touched on Ostrava in his *Bohemia and Moravia* display, and Richard Wheatley's *Heroes* highlighted Staff Captain P Řídký who originated from Ostrava and escaped to Poland from where he made his way to England to continue his fight to liberate Czechoslovakia. These three events, in their different ways, brought back memories of how I came to England with my parents just before the outbreak of WW II in 1939. When I mentioned this to Yvonne she suggested that I might like relate my story to the meeting. This, then, is a more considered version of the five-minute version I related at Worthing.

On that 14 March 1939 evening when the Germans arrived in Ostrava, I was eleven years old. I have no personal pictorial records of that event, only memories of the soldiers in their open-top lorries and half-track vehicles towing enormous cannons, and a postcard for my stamp collection from my auntie Bertl. Three years later my Aunt Bertl, together with her teenaged children, Edith and Paul, were murdered at Treblinka.



Commemorative postmark: *The Town of the Black Diamonds thanks the Führer – Day of Liberation.*
Message reads: *Best Greetings – Auntie Bertl 17 III 39.*

Not much happened at first, except that by the next morning all road traffic had changed over to the right hand side. There were no cheering crowds, as had been seen in Austria a year earlier, neither was there any panic in the streets. Everyone expected bad times ahead – especially the Jews and political opponents. The notorious Nuremberg Laws were not immediately applied in the Protectorate. The Holocaust, and the Final Solution, had not at that time been formulated so most Jewish families settled down, *keeping their heads down* and expecting bad times.

In any case, there were not many places abroad willing to take them. Britain, for example, expected a £50 guarantee for anyone wanting to come here. Those who did have contacts or friends abroad got out as quickly as possible.

There were, however, others – socialists, communists and opponents of the German National Socialists – who knew that the concentration camps had been set up largely for them. For those the immediate outlook was grim and many of them went into hiding immediately.

One of these was my father, Alfred, who, apart from being Jewish, had been active in the German (speaking) Social Democratic Party (Deutsche Sozialdemokratische Arbeiter Partei) under the leadership of Wenzel Jaksch. As such, he was in great danger. He therefore immediately *disappeared*

to Prague from where he could review the situation. When nothing dramatic happened in the first couple of weeks he returned home to Ostrava to plan his escape.

Looking at the map of Czechoslovakia after the notorious Munich Agreement, one finds that the Poles, by occupying some parts of the Republic to which they felt they were entitled, actually made escape from Ostrava rather easier than might otherwise have been the case.

My father joined a group to be guided across the nearby Polish border at night. At first everything went as planned, as they got past the German border guards, but when the Polish guards discovered them, they were turned back. This then became a dangerous situation, as they now had to get past the



Territorial losses in the years 1938 - 1939
Obr. 2 Územní ztráty v letech 1938—1939

Germans on the way back, who would not have looked kindly on them. My father returned home in the early hours of the morning – shattered by the experience. He tried again a few days later but soon turned back on his own as he realised they were taking the same route again.

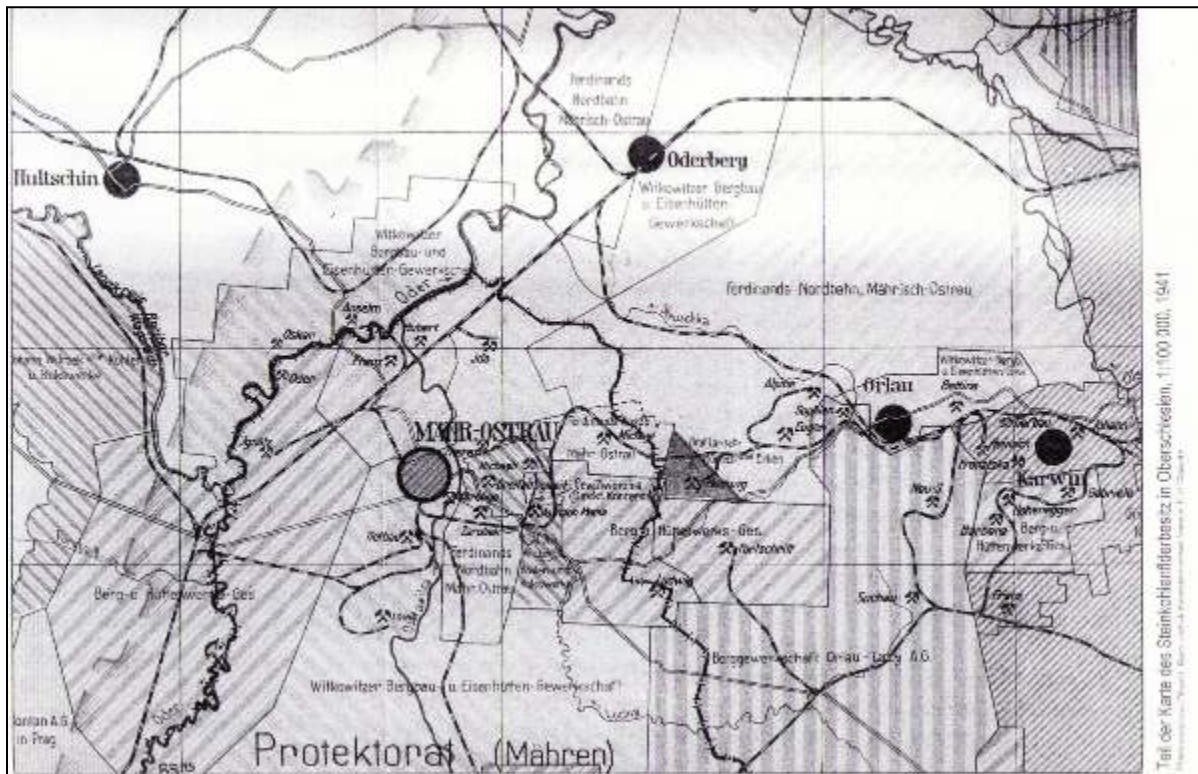


Map showing the 1939 borders between the Bohemia and Moravia Protectorate and Poland. Note the Ludwig mine on the border between Radvanice and Petřvald.

It was now April 1939, and things were bound to change for the worse before very long. Fortunately Alfred now found a much more promising escape route – once again thanks to the Polish occupation of the Ostrava neighbourhood, and specifically the coal mines.

These maps demonstrate the somewhat confused situation in the area during this period, as a result of which a number of coalmines were now crossing the Polish borders – underground – by 1939.

The escape route involved picking up escapees at their home and transporting them to a mine on the Czech side – probably the *Ludwig* mine. The story of this is described by Ina Boesch in her book



German 1941 map showing the coalfields of Upper Silesia.

Grenzfälle: Von Flucht und Hilfe – Fünf Geschichten aus Europa [1]. There they were taken by underground train to the Polish side where a car waited to take them to inland Poland away from unhelpful border guards. And that is how he finally got out and finished up with some relatives at Biala-Bielsko.

Once in Biala, Alfred sent a message to my mother, Ethel, telling her to join him there by crossing the border in broad daylight to avert suspicion. And so, on this pleasant April afternoon, my mother and I said good-bye, or rather *au revoir*, to all our relatives – grandmothers, aunts, uncles, cousins etc and left, little knowing that we would never see any of them again.

The Ludwig coal mine near Radwanice on the 1938/9 border of Polish occupied Czechoslovakia, through which Alfred made his escape in April 1939

I had already informed my teacher not to expect me at school as we were about to go away for *an extended holiday*. “A very good idea!” he replied knowingly.

We took the Karviná tram, which now only went part way, to the border. From there we headed for the footpath through the woods towards the Polish border.



Once again, the German guards were not interested in anyone leaving, but a couple of 100 metres further on, the Polish guard had different ideas. My mother had briefed me to keep out of the way while she tried to persuade the guard that we had been visiting relatives in Ostrava and were just returning to our home – on the Polish side. He, however, was not inclined to accept her story so, after nearly an hour, and fed up ‘playing’ on my own, I joined them to find out what was going on. Seeing me, the guard enquired whether I was her son and, when Ethel confirmed this, he looked at us for a moment and in his own words told her to get - - - - out of there and never try that trick again.

Very much relieved, my mother grabbed me by the hand and we ran down the road – now in Poland – to a small inn where she asked for shelter and help. There we were ushered into a back room, to await the arrival of a delivery van which would take us inland to be reunited with my father in Biala-Bielsko.



Montrose College, 1940.

From there we made our way to Kraków where Alfred's party gathered refugees before transporting them on to Britain, Sweden, or Canada where they had organised their reception. Thus, finally, we embarked on the Polish MS *Sobiesky* liner on 17 June 1939, arriving at Dover on 20 June and then to a splendid refugee hostel, Montrose College, in Margate, Cliftonville.



On the way to France, May 1940.



Returning to England after the defeat of France, July 1940.

When war broke out, my father joined the Czech Army, went over to France in May 1940, in time to join the retreat (largely on foot) to Sète, near Marseilles, from where he was lucky to get back to Liverpool in late July.

The rest is my life.

What? Where? When?

New Queries

Mike Ellis of Kent collects all sorts of philatelic items from the reign of King George V, including letter seals. While the seal on this cover was of interest, his curiosity was aroused by the association named in the return address. What was (or is) *Řád Česká Caledonie, č. 182 Č.S.P.S* and why does its preprinted stationery have a manuscript return address?



Yvonne Gren responded:

I put Mike in touch with David Muhlena, the Director of the National Czech and Slovak Museum and Library in Cedar Rapids, Iowa USA (www.NCSML.org), who told Mike a branch of a Czech fraternal insurance organization, *Česko-Slovenská Podporující Společnost* commonly known by its acronym, *CSPS*, printed his envelope. He said the *Řád Česká Calodonie č. 182* was the local chapter, often called a lodge, in Caledonia, Wisconsin. The organization is still active in the US as *CSA Fraternal Life* (www.csafraternallife.org). Apparently the main office supplied the lodges with letterhead to which local information could be added by hand.

From **Richard Beith**:

The card shown below, actual dimensions 13.5 cm wide × 21.0 cm tall, appears to be the front of a souvenir folder of some kind. The left hand edge shows signs of being separated from a folded item.



Dated 21. V. 1938 there is a trilingual inscription including *The day of readiness and power of [the] Czechoslovak Army*. It bears an Agde postmark from two years later, 21.5.40 and a faint red ink hand stamp: *Velitele náhradního telesa PLK. PECH. KAREL JANOUC* and the signature of Colonel Janouch.

The significance of 21 May 1938 is that it was the day when President Beneš acted with more determination than usual and ordered a partial mobilisation of his army. The reason given was strong reports of German troop concentrations on the Czechoslovak border. Unfortunately there were no troop concentrations, the reports were completely false, perhaps a Soviet plant. There is a good discussion of this event in Igor Lukes, *Czechoslovakia between Stalin and Hitler* (New York & Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1996), especially pages 143 to 172. This mobilization only served to make Hitler even angrier!

The questions must be: Has anyone seen a similar item before? Was it produced in 1938 or in France in 1940? What was the wartime history of Colonel Janouch? I think he came to the UK after June 1940. All thoughts welcome.

Trev Bishop of Exeter, Devon, found an unusual item in a recent purchase he described as a blue-green 100h Mucha postage due stamp. Unable to find it listed in his catalogues, he wrote *Czechout* to ask what it was.

Mark Wilson responded: The stamp you have is likely a trial print, mentioned on page 297 of volume 4 of the *Monografie československých známek* (Monographs on Czechoslovak Stamps). Its colour is there described as blackish-green (which does resemble blue) and looking at your image I believe that to be its colour. Since postage due stamps were applied by the post office, its cancellation is likely a forgery – I cannot imagine a postman applying a trial print to a cover under any circumstances. On the other hand, a collector may have taken the item to a post office for a favour cancel. In any event, it is an interesting piece.



Mark Wilson in the June issue of *Czechout* asked why the 2010 Czech Republic *World Ice Hockey Championships* stamp remained unlisted in *Stanley Gibbons*.

Barry Horne responded: I have a copy of the 2009 list of proposed issues for 2010 and it does not appear, so that is probably what *Gibbons* worked from. As an additional issue, it could have been missed.

Yvonne Wheatley spoke to Clare de la Feuillade (cfeuillade@stanleygibbons.com), the *Stanley Gibbons* Foreign New Issues Editor, and discovered the stamp had never been received by the firm. SG will contact the Czech postal administration to rectify this omission.

Printing Techniques



RD: rotary die stamping with multi-colour photogravure.
DS: die stamping from flat plates.

Czech NVI Stamps with Current Rates

A: ordinary internal letter to 50 g – 10 Kč.
E: ordinary standard letter to 20 g to European countries – 20 Kč.
Z: ordinary standard air letter to 20 g to non-European countries – 21 Kč.



New Issues – Czech Republic - Lindy Bosworth -

15 May 2013

Technical Monuments: The Fláje Dam



Designer: Adolf Absolon.

Engraver: Martin Srb.

Printing: rotary recess in dark green in sheets of 30.

FDC: printed DS in black with commemorative Fláje cancel. The cachet is from a technical drawing of the dam.

Design: the Fláje Dam.

Booklets: of 8 stamps and 4 labels. The labels depict a wooden church and three features of the dam construction – concreting process, aerial crane ways and wooden form work. Labels printed in RD with light yellow photogravure.

The Fláje Dam was built between 1951 and 1963 in the Kušne Hory (Ore Mountains) region bordering Germany. The waters of the dam flow into the nearby border dam of Rauschenbach, Saxony, and there is also a 12 km long tunnel supplying water to the outskirts of Most. The construction, a pillar-style valley dam, is unique in Czech Republic although there is another such dam in Switzerland.

The design on a granite base incorporates 35 pillars combined with two pillars into an upstream face containing the water. Local materials were used in the construction with a Moldova Cableway set up between the quarry and the nearest railway 12 km away. The dam holds over 22 million cubic metres of water. The village of Fláje was demolished during construction although the small wooden church was dismantled and relocated in nearby Český Jiřetín where it is still in use. During the 2002 floods the Dam was crucial in reducing the effects of heavy rainfall.

15 May 2013

Prague Castle: Paola Caliari, Veronese – Portrait of Jakob König



Designer and Engraver: Miloš Ondráček.

Printing: DS in sheets of 4.

FDC: printed DS in brown with commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet shows a portrait of the artist from a seventeenth century drawing.

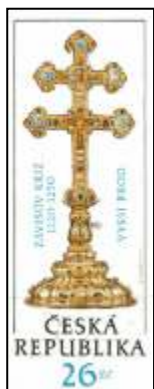
Design: portrait of the goldsmith and antiquarian bookseller Jakob König by Paolo Caliari painted between 1565-80. The original art work is displayed in the Prague Castle Picture Gallery. This issue is in the resumed Prague Castle series. The first issue was 31 August 1964.

Jakob König was a German goldsmith who worked in Italy for Emperor Rudolf II (1552-1612). Rudolf was a collector of art works, had an interest in many new scientific ideas including astrology and alchemy. The Court at

Prague became an international forum of new ideas.

Paola Caliari (also Cagliari) born Verona 1528, died 19 April 1588. He was known as Veronese from his birthplace but adopted the name of Caliari. He studied with a local master following a more traditional conservative Renaissance style. The early Venetian paintings are contrasting compositions of dark and light. Caliari with Titian and Tintoretto were considered the three greatest artists of the time.

29 May 2013

Záviš' Cross – Vyšší Brod

Designer and Engraver: Miloš Ondráček .

Printing: DS in yellow, ochre, red, blue and black in sheets of 5.

FDC: printed DS in black-brown with a commemorative Vyšší Brod cancel. The cachet drawing is a detail of the medallion from the reverse of the cross.

Design: the Záviš' Cross.

The Cross was probably fashioned between 1220 and 1230 AD and has been used as a reliquary since the early Middle Ages. Originally it had a wooden core but this was replaced with silver plate in 1775. Today the two-barred golden cross is 70 cm high and 28 cm wide but was originally 44.5 cm tall until a base made of silver gilded with gold was added in the mid nineteenth century. The figure of Christ was also added later. The cross is studded with 44 precious stones and 174 pearls. The base has 39 precious stones with 31 pearls from the Vltava river. The entire cross of silver is covered with Arabian gold leaf and decorated with filigree. The back of the cross is decorated with enamelled medallions with portraits of saints with their names in Ancient Greek and cover the relics. The *Rožmberk Chronicle* mentions one of these relics as a piece from Christ's cross. The Chronicle also records that Záviš of Falkenštejn bequeathed this reliquary to the monks of the Cistercian monastery in Vyšší Brod.

The cross was moved from the monastery to St Vitus Cathedral Treasury, Prague Castle shortly before the annexation of the Sudetenland in 1939. At the end of the war the cross was taken by the Nazis to salt mines in Salzburg, Austria and hidden with other art treasures from Europe but returned by the Americans after the end of the war. It was placed on the National Cultural Heritage List in 2010 as one of the most precious gold artefacts in the Czech Republic and one of the most precious church historical items in the world.

29 May 2013

For Children: Definitive – The Mole and the Rocket

Graphic arrangements: Zdeněk Miler and Otakar Karlas.

Printing: multi-coloured offset in booklets of 10 self-adhesive stamps.

FDC: printed multi-coloured offset with commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet design depicts Mole standing on the ground admiring the Rocket.

Design: Mole flying on the Rocket. The booklet face has *Dětem* (for children) in red.

Zdeněk Miler (1921-2011) was a Czech film director, author of children's cartoons and illustrator of children's books who created the popular *Krtek* or *Krteček* (Mole or Little Mole) character. He began his career as an artist in Zlin Film Studios but in 1945 joined the Barrandov Studio of Jiří Trnka. There are about fifty cartoons of *The Mole* series all of which are silent except the first. In this first cartoon the short exclamations of Mole and his friends were voiced by Miler's small daughters.

5 June 2013 Second Official Issue of Personalised Stamps: *Primátorky ČSOB Pojišťovny*

Printing: in sheets of 5 x 5 self-adhesive A stamps with two labels at each end of a strip of five. Each strip has a different label. No FDC, first day sheets or first day cancels were issued.

Design: stamp - a rowing eight with the logo and date of the event. The upper part of the sheet shows various rowing eights with the logo and dates of the event.

Labels: dedicated to the five rowing clubs of Prague – Český veslařský klub Praha; Veslařský klub T J Bohemians Praha; Veslařský klub Slavia Praha; Veslařský klub Blesk and Veslařský klub Smichov with their flag and name. Primátorky ČSOB Pojišťovny are traditional boat races under the auspices of

the Mayor of the City of Prague and began in 1910 as competitions between the rowing clubs of Prague.

Over the years the event has expanded and since 2000 it is open to foreign participants. The competitions took place this year from 7 to 9 June. Most events, on the River Vltava, Prague are over a 2 km course starting at Veslařský ostrov (Rowing Island) and finishing between Železniční most and Palackého most (Railway and Palacky Bridges). The major event of the competition is the Prague Mayor's Eights and was held for one-hundredth time in 2013. When the first event was held a pledge was made by the municipal authority of Prague to donate a perpetual challenge trophy – Mayor's Trophy – with an inscribed slogan *Siliné mládeži – spore vlasti* (to the strong youth – a pillar of our homeland) and nine medals for the winning crew. There would be no entrance fee for competitors or spectators. To celebrate the centenary of the Mayor's Eights there was an exhibition of historic photographs in the Rafting Yard, Raš Embankment during the competition.

12 June 2013 **Joint issue with Slovak Republic: 1150 Years since the Arrival of SS Cyril and Methodius.**



Designer: Prof. Dušan Kállay.

Engraver: Miloš Ondráček.

Printing: DS in brown-black with offset of one stamp in a souvenir sheet.

FDC: printed DS in black-brown with commemorative Velehrad cancel. The cachet drawing is from a ninth century fresco in the Basilica of St Clement in Rome entitled *Christ's Descent into Limbo*.

Design: SS Cyril and Methodius facing Jesus Christ with angels and SS Paul and Clement. Below the stamp is a scene from a fresco in the Basilica of St Clement in Rome portraying the arrival of SS Cyril and Methodius in Rome during the burial of Pope Nicholas I. The sheet has texts written in the Glagolitic alphabet from the Assessment Codex in the Vatican Library.

SS Cyril (born Constantine) and Methodius were brothers from Thessaloniki, Greece and became known as Apostles or Missionaries to the Slavs. They created the Glagolitic alphabet and introduced the Old Church Slavonic language into the liturgy in Great Moravia. Constantine was born in 827 and died in Rome in 869. He became a professor of philosophy in Constantinople adopting the religious name Cyril after joining a monastery in 855. Methodius was born in 813 and died in Moravia in 885. He began his career as a civil servant but later joined his brother's community as a monk. The brothers arrived in Great Moravia in 863 after a request by Prince Rostislav of Great Moravia to the Byzantine emperor for priests to celebrate mass in the Old Church Slavonic language. They began their mission but were called to Rome in 867 by Pope Nicholas I to explain why they were preaching in a language not permitted by the Church. At that time only Hebrew, Greek and Latin were allowed. During the brothers' journey the pope died and Cyril convinced the new pope of the benefits of preaching in Old Church Slavonic. This was formally authorised with the issue of a papal bull. Cyril became seriously ill whilst in Rome and died there in 869. Methodius returned to Great Moravia where he continued his mission. Bulgaria and the Vatican also produced a commemorative issue for the event.

26 June 2013 **130 Years of Postal Banking Services**



Designer: Adolf Born.

Engraver: (FDC only) Bohumil Šneider.

Printing: multi-coloured offset in sheets of 50.

FDC: printed DS in black with a commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet drawing shows a postman astride a horse blowing a post horn.

Design: a horse pulling a postal carriage.

The Imperial and Royal Postal Savings Office Bank was established on 12 January 1883 with the idea of using post offices as branches of the scheme. The Postal Savings Bank was formed in the newly independent Czechoslovakia on 20 November 1918 but its role was taken over by a new institution – Postal Cheque Office in March 1919. After re-organisation of the scheme the name Postal Savings Bank was again used from 23 September 1930 and it continued to function during the 2nd World War. After 1950 the Postal Savings Bank's activities were stopped

with assets transferred to the Czechoslovak State Bank and 'peoples' money Institutions. After the fall of socialism the Postal Savings Bank was re-founded on 20 November 1990. Today the bank is part of ČSOB with the Czech Post as its main distribution network.

12 June 2013 Historical Transport Vehicles: Motorcycle Čechie 33 – Böhmerland and Railcar (Draisne) Tatra 15/30.



Designer: Václav Zapadlík.

Engraver: (FDC only) Bohumil Šneider.

Printing: multi-coloured offset in se tenant sheets of 50.

FDCs: printed DS in brown-black with commemorative Praha cancels. The cachet drawings have a) a portrait of A H Liebisch and the motorcycle Čechie 33 – Böhmerland b) the rear view of the railcar with, above, Tatra's logo and a view of Prague Castle.

Designs: a) a motorcycle Čechie 33– Böhmerland

b) a railcar Tatra 15/30. Two maximum cards were issued.

Albin Hugo Liebisch (1888-1965) began firstly to build custom motorcycles. The first workshop in Krásná Lípa was set up in 1925 to build Čechie-Böhmerland motorcycles. The motorcycles with three seats and a 600 cc engine were popular with small families as a cheap alternative to expensive cars. In 1931 Liebisch began mass production in an old agricultural machines factory and by the end of that year some 3,000 machines had been produced. Together with Porsche, Liebisch was the first in the world to use aluminium wheels for his machines. From 1925 until World War II, five basic models were produced: a *Langtouren* model, a short model, a long four-seat model built for the military, a 350 cc model, and a 700 cc model with two stroke engine. Today only some seventy-five Čechie-Böhmerland motorcycles have survived with about half of them in good condition. A well restored machine would fetch a minimum of one million Kč today.

The Tatra 15/30 is a unique four-seat engine driven railcar mounted on a four-wheel undercarriage. It has a front-mounted engine and a rear-wheel drive with a two-speed gear. The maximum speed is 80 kph. The special feature of this railcar is its swivelling base allowing it to turn by 180° without the need of a turntable or sidings making it capable for use on a single track between two stations. The model depicted on the stamp is in the Technical Museum, Prague and was used in the Oscar winning film *Trainspotting* directed by Jiří Menzel.

26 June 2013 Definitive Booklet with 'E' value stamps: Franz Kafka



Designer: Marina Richterová.

Engraver: (FDC only and linear drawings) Miloš Ondráček.

Printing: multi-coloured offset in self-adhesive booklets of 6.

FDC: printed DS in black with a commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet drawing depicts a beetle in a geometrical form to represent Kafka's writings and his philosophies of Space and Time.

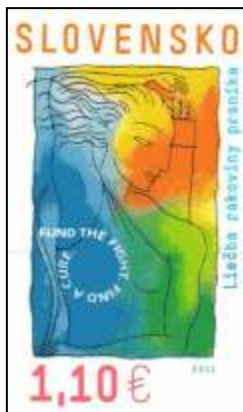
Design: the booklet cover has the name *Franz Kafka* within a block design. The reverse of the booklet has the Czech Post logo and security hologram with biographical details in Czech and English of Franz Kafka and Marina Richterová. The theme of the stamp and FDC is: injustice - timelessness - transformation. The right portion of the stamp has a partial portrait of Kafka with a small clock face

on his jacket. The left part depicts a beetle as a symbol of transformation.

Franz Kafka (1883-1924). His parents were middle-class German-speaking Jews and Franz was the eldest of their six children. He preferred to communicate by letter and wrote many to his family and friends. The complicated relationship with his father and his Jewish background influenced his writings. Only a few short works were published in his lifetime. His unfinished works and other writings were published by his friend Max Brod after his death.

New Issues – Slovak Republic - Lindy Bosworth -

12 April 2013 Breast Cancer Treatment



Designer: Vladislav Rostoka.

Printing: offset – Heidelberg Speedmaster.

Design: an outline drawing of a female torso on a blue, green, yellow, orange and red background. The outline was first drawn by the US illustrator Whitney Sherman.

FDC: printed offset in bright blue by Kasico, a.s., Bratislava with a commemorative Bratislava cancel. The cancel and cachet designs are based on the daffodil as the day of issue is Slovak Daffodil Day 2013.

Breast cancer is the most frequent malignant disease amongst women especially in the industrialized countries of Europe and North America. The origin of the disease is still unknown but early diagnosis and treatment has reduced the number of fatalities. An international project *Breast Cancer Research Stamp* was created

to raise funds to support research and treatment of the disease with the first stamp issued in USA in 1998. There are many other worldwide fundraising charities to promote awareness, research and treatment with the daffodil as a universal symbol

26 April 2013 Technical Monuments: Historical Mills – Windmill in Holíč



Designer and Engraver: Ľubomír Žálec.

Printing: rotary recess.

Design: the Dutch style windmill at Holíč.

FDC: printed offset in orange-brown by Kasico, a.s., Bratislava with a commemorative Holíč cancel. The cachet drawing shows the mill in its landscape.

During the nineteenth century there were more than five thousand water mills in Slovakia but only about twenty windmills. These windmills were used in flatter areas especially the Eastern Slovak lowlands. One of these windmills in the Dutch style is at Holíč near the border with the Czech Republic. It was built in the 1880s by František Sláma from Jevičko and in use until 1926. The stone cylindrical body tapered upwards and originally had a revolving cap enabling the sails to face into the wind automatically. In heavy weather the cap could be locked. The gears and vertical axle were of oak to power the upper running mill stone. The lower bedstone had a hole for feeding flour into bags which was separated from the bran by a horizontal vibrating sieve. After 1926 the mill gradually deteriorated until a local hunting association made use of it. The mill is no longer able to function as the sails are fixed into the external wall and the revolving cap replaced with a metal roof.

9 May 2013 Europa 2013: Postal Vehicles



Designer: Marián Komáček.

Printing: offset on Heidelberg Speedmaster.

Design: a Škoda 125 postbus.

FDC: printed coloured offset by Kasico a. s., Bratislava with a commemorative Banská Bystrica cancel. The cachet design shows a postman in uniform of the 1920s with a Škoda 125 postbus in the background.

A booklet of six self-adhesive stamps was issued. The logo of Pofis and slogans in Slovak *Thank you for your trust* and *20 Years Slovak Post* are on the inside front cover. The outer front cover shows the post bus and text *Europa 2013 : Postal Vehicles*. The back cover gives details of the Slovak Post. No separate FDC was issued for these booklet stamps.

In Czechoslovakia during the 1920s there was an increase in the use of postal vehicles for post and public transport. By 1927 there were 326 vehicles covering routes of some 2650 km. The fleet of

vehicles was almost exclusively domestically produced by Praga and Laurin & Klement (Škoda from 1925). The Škoda 125 was a four-cylinder, water-cooled, 30 hp engine with a top speed of 60 km per hour and fuel consumption of 10-15 litres of petrol per 100 km. The bodywork was made by the Sodomka Company, Výsoké Mýto, who produced their first bus body in 1928.

31 May 2013 Joint Issue with Korea: Folk Traditions



Designers: Kamila Štanclová (and FDC designs and cancels) and Eunkyung Park.

Engraver: Rudolf Cigánik.

Printing: DS and offset.

Designs: a) a young dancing couple dressed in ceremonial folk costume from the Podpoľanie area of Central Slovakia b) a Pansori chanter and drummer in traditional folk costume.



FDCs: printed DS in black by TAB s.r.o. with commemorative Bratislava cancels. The cachet drawings show: a) detail of a girl's lower skirt hem from the upper Liptov region; b) an open fan, traditionally decorated from Korea.

Slovakia, a small country at the crossroads of cultural movements in Europe, has a diverse folk tradition of song, music dance and costume. The Lúčnica Art Ensemble represents this heritage. It gave its first public performance in 1948 and since then has performed both at home and abroad. Today the Ensemble has three parts: a twelve-member orchestra with a quartet of singers who perform sometimes as a separate group, a choir, and a dance group. Performances are given in traditional handmade folk costumes from the various regions of Slovakia.

Pansori was designated a National Intangible Cultural Art of Korea in 1964 as it was threatened by rapid modernisation and since November 2003 is on the UNESCO list as a *Masterpiece of the Oral Tradition and Intangible Heritage of Humanity*. Pansori is derived from the Korean word *pan* - a place where many people are gathered together, and *sori* - song. It is a form of story-telling performed by a vocalist and a drummer characterised by expressive singing, stylised speech and gestures.

7 June 2013 Postage Stamp with Personalised Coupon: The Zodiac



Designer: Adrian Ferda.

Printing: offset – Heidelberg Speedmaster.

Design: the face of the sun surrounded by the twelve symbols of the zodiac and in an outer ring their pictorial signs. The stamp-sized coupon has the logo of HC Slovan, Bratislava. This is a professional ice hockey club founded in 1921 and nicknamed the *Sky Blues*. They joined the International Kontinental Hockey League in 2012. The labels

can be personalised by individuals, companies, clubs and commercial enterprises.

FDC: printed offset by Kasico, a.s., Bratislava. In deep mauve with a commemorative Bratislava cancel. The cachet design has three concentric circles – the inner one blank, the middle with the twelve symbols of the zodiac and the outer circle has their twelve pictorial signs

12 June 2013 Joint issue with Czech Republic: 1150 Years since the Arrival of SS Cyril and Methodius.



Designer, Engraver and Printing: see above - Czech New Issues for 12 June 2013. The Slovak issue has the denomination as Euros 1,60 and country name, Slovenska.

FDC: as for Czech Republic but with a commemorative Nitra cancel.

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Membership Benefits

Meetings	Four meetings each year in London, one in Yorkshire, and one elsewhere.
Publications	Members receive the quarterly journal <i>Czechout</i> which includes articles of interest on Czech and Slovak philately and helps members to keep in touch with Society affairs. The Society publishes <i>Monographs</i> on wide-ranging topics containing original research.
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