



# CZECHOUT

JOURNAL OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

VOLUME 32/4

DECEMBER 2014

WHOLE NUMBER 157



Lest we forget



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CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
 OF GREAT BRITAIN

**FREE CZECHOSLOVAK FORCES  
 IN FRANCE, 1939-1940**

A Historical and Philatelic Study



RICHARD BEITH

Monograph No. 26

2013

CZECHOSLOVAK PHILATELIC SOCIETY  
 OF GREAT BRITAIN

**THE CZECHOSLOVAK INDEPENDENT  
 ARMOURD BRIGADE IN FRANCE AND  
 THEIR RETURN HOME, 1944-1945**

A Historical and Philatelic Study



RICHARD BEITH

Monograph No. 27

2014

Two recent Society monographs each received a Vermeil Medal at the 2014 Autumn Stampex.  
 They may be purchased from the Publications Manager.  
 Reviews on page 8 of this issue.

**CZECHOUT**

Journal of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain  
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*The Committee Extends to Each and Every Member  
the Very Best of the Holiday Season  
and the Happiest of New Years.*

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## News & Notices

### New Members

The Society extends a warm welcome to the following new members: **Dennis Buss**, Petaluma, California USA; **Andries Tiesinga**, Bedum, The Netherlands; **Dave Foster**, Nottingham; **Robert Elliot**, Darlington; **George Pavlik**, Houston, Texas USA; **Michael Dillon**, Worksop; **Ronald John Gillard**, Bristol; and **Mauro Zelli**, Moyvalley, Ireland.

### Congratulations

Founding member **Eric Rogers** celebrated sixty years of Society membership this year, a remarkable achievement! The Germany & Colonies Philatelic Society has bestowed Honorary Life Membership on **Tony Bosworth**. **Lindy Bosworth**, **Richard Beith**, and **Edward Klempka** have been made Fellows of the Royal Philatelic Society London. **Valerie Kramer** has been appointed to the Society for Czechoslovak Philately's Board of Directors. The Society of Postal Historians named **Richard Wheatley** a Fellow.

**Richard Beith's** two monographs both received Vermeil Medals at the Autumn Stampex. One of the themes of the exhibition was *Germany and Colonies* and two of our members took part. **Rex Dixon** had four displays, one of which was *KLV Camps in Böhmen & Mähren* and **Peter Chadwick** showed *Mail of the East Silesia Plebiscite*.

**Jaroslav Verner** earned a Vermeil and **Ludvik Svoboda** a Silver at NOJEX in America. These two members were further honoured by receiving national awards. Jaroslav was presented with the *Posthorn Medal* for best postal history exhibit, the *Military Postal History Award* for the best military exhibit, and the *Auxiliary Markings Award* for the best exhibit with auxiliary markings. Ludvik took home the *Novice Award* for the best exhibit by a first-time exhibitor at a World Series of Philately show as well as the *Sterling Achievement Award* given to encourage beginners who have done well.

### Committee Changes

In September **Yvonne Gren** stepped down as Membership Secretary, a role now taken on by **Hans van Dooremalen**. Yvonne joined the Committee in 1981 as Librarian, becoming Secretary a year later, a role that then included membership. After 14 years as Secretary, for which she was made an Honorary Life Member in 1996, she then continued as Membership Secretary for a further 18 years. She combined this with being Chairman from 2007 to 2010.

This is altogether an amazing record for which the Society will be eternally grateful. Unfortunately, she was unable to be with us at the AGM, so Chairman **Rex Dixon** will present a small token of our appreciation when he next meets her.

At the AGM, **Colin Smith** was elected to the Committee.

### ABPS Philatelic Congress of Great Britain

The annual Philatelic Congress of Great Britain took place at Market Harborough in late July 2014. All those taking part and giving displays were Congress Medallists. The Society was represented by two members, **J Barry Horne** and **Yvonne Wheatley**. Barry was the Chairman of the 2014 Congress and he gave the presentation *Nyasaland: The Land of the Lake*. Yvonne gave a talk on *Czechoslovakia*.

All the displays were presented on PowerPoint with the material on display. At the conclusion of the Congress the representatives of Stanley Gibbons Ltd, a sponsor of Congress and who were in attendance, voted on the display which in their opinion was the best presented. This year the *SG Congress Cup* was awarded to our Honorary Treasurer, **Yvonne Wheatley**.

A new collector of Czechoslovak material, **Ron Gillard**, seeing the Congress advertised on the Internet and in particular the Czechoslovak display, was willing to travel from Bristol specifically for the display. We are delighted to welcome him as a new member. **Margaret Morris**, a friend of our Society, also participated in the Congress and gave a presentation on *Astronomy*.

### Dutch Society

**Hans van Dooremalen** reports that the next meeting of the Dutch society is on 21 March in Utrecht. If anyone is interested in attending, they should contact him (see inside back cover for contact information) and he will send them full details.

### Joint Societies Meeting in Bradford, 16 August 2014

The annual joint meeting of the Austrian, Czech, Hungarian, Polish, and Yugoslav Societies again took place at the Latvian Club in Bradford with a record participation of 27 members, some of whom travelled long distances. Hosted by **Yvonne** and **Richard Wheatley** at the Bradford Philatelic Society, a huge and varied array of material was on display over five rounds of one, two, and three-frame exhibits with short explanations by presenters. As usual, this attracted keen interest among participants, once again illustrating the big overlap of interests in Central European philately.

In order of display:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>Richard Wheatley</b>                    | <i>The Moravian exile settlement at Fullneck, near Pudsey: mail and postmarks.</i>  |
| <b>Keith Brandon</b>                       | <i>Pre-stamp mail of Laibach, Carniola province of Austria, now Ljubljana in Slovenia.</i>  |
| <b>Derek Baron</b>                         | <i>Olomouc, Moravia, including new acquisitions such as mail from Siberian exiles and an ID card.</i>   |
| <b>Dave Foster</b>                         | <i>Yugoslavia, 1918-1919 SHS overprints on Bosnia.</i>  |
| <b>Edmund Jagielski</b>                    | <i>Central Lithuania, the region around Vilnius claimed by Lithuania that became a puppet state supported by Poland after WWI, with stamp issues from 1920 to 1922.</i>                 |
| <b>Michael Waugh</b>                       | <i>Austrian Levant, stamps and postal history.</i>  |
| <b>James Hooper</b>                        | <i>Austrian court letters and receipts (Rückschein) 1918-1926.</i>  |
| <b>Derek Walker</b>                        | <i>German fieldpost letter labels including overprint varieties for the Aegean area.</i>  |
| <b>Alan Berrisford</b>                     | <i>Provisional postmarks on Polish mail 1944-1946.</i>  |
| <b>Peter Cybaniak &amp; Roman Dubyniak</b> | <i>'God punish England' labels and cachets on WWI civilian and fieldpost mail.</i>  |
| <b>Mervyn Benford</b>                      | <i>Hungarian Visszatért mail from the 1939-1944 re-occupation of territories lost after WWI as a result of the Trianon Treaty.</i>  |
| <b>Martin Brumby</b>                       | <i>Légrády Sándor: the Hungarian engraver: examples of his engraving work on revenue stamps 1926-1946.</i>  |
| <b>Rex Dixon</b>                           | <i>Austrian postal documentation: a variety of relatively modern forms and receipts for a variety of postal purposes.</i>   |
| <b>Nick Coverdale</b>                      | <i>German occupation of Slovenia: 1941 diagonal overprint issues on stamps and postal stationery, plus the Italian occupation Co.Ci. issues.</i>  |
| <b>Joyce Boyer</b>                         | <i>Austrian modes of transport: including balloons, gliders, on foot, reindeer.</i>   |
| <b>Colin Spong</b>                         | <i>Establishment of the puppet Slovak State in 1939: Slovenský Štát overprints on Czech stamps 1939, including covers and mixed franking.</i>   |
| <b>Nick Coverdale</b>                      | <i>First issues of Serbia: the newspaper stamps.</i>  |
| <b>Wojciech Kierstan</b>                   | <i>Alfons Mucha: the Czech art deco artist and stamp designer.</i>  |
| <b>Roger Morrell</b>                       | <i>Yugoslav parcel cards: the transition from Austrian, Hungarian and Bosnian wartime issues to a unified system, with an attempt to understand rates using Geoff Barling's tables.</i> |
| <b>Alan Berrisford</b>                     | <i>Polish currency revaluation 1950: local overprint types used on mail.</i>  |
| <b>Colin Spong</b>                         | <i>Nicholas Winton and exiled Czechs before WWII.</i>   |
| <b>Wojciech Kierstan</b>                   | <i>Czechoslovakia: stamps and covers of the scout delivery service in 1918.</i>   |
| <b>Dave Foster</b>                         | <i>Croatia, 1941-1945: a study of proofs of the Red Cross charity issue.</i>  |



*Edmund Jagielski and Derek Walker view Peter Cybaniak's and Roman Dubyniak's God Punish England display. On the right, Mervyn Benford, Nick Coverdale, Michael Waugh, and Roman Dubyniak.*

Side shows included a photographic record of the recent Hungarian Philatelic Society of Great Britain's 50th Anniversary display at the Royal Philatelic Society premises in London, the sale of Austrian and Czechoslovak Society publications, and shoe boxes full of Czech area postcards to browse through.

Once again, we were refreshed by a continuous supply of tea or coffee, and a wonderful array for buffet lunch and afternoon tea with plenty of time for chat and discussion. What better way to spend a happy philatelic day? Many thanks Yvonne and Richard! Same time (15 August), same place next year – put it in the diary now and don't let your holidays clash!

**Roger Morrell**

### **The Afternoon Meeting at the Czech and Slovak National Club London 13 September 2014**

After the excitement of the summer meetings at Maidstone and Bradford, our autumn season started at the Czech National Club with a committee meeting, a welcome to three new members, and a display by **Hartmut Liebermann** entitled *From the Kingdom of Bohemia to the Czechoslovak Republic*. The sharp-eyed amongst you will have seen the short taster in the September edition of *Czechout*, but the complete display covered a lot more ground. The main objective was a kind of illustrated history lesson – how the country came together beginning in the twelfth century, and how it changed up to 1918.

The Kingdom of Bohemia was formally established in 1198 by Ottokar I, who had his status acknowledged by Philip of Swabia, elected King of the Romans, in return for his support against the rival Emperor Otto IV. In 1204 Ottokar's royal status was accepted by Otto IV as well as by Pope Innocent III. It was officially recognized in 1212 by the Golden Bull of Sicily issued by Emperor Frederick II, elevating the Duchy of Bohemia to Kingdom status. The Hussite movement, seeking religious reform that started during the reign of Wencelas IV in the early 1400s and ended up with decades of warring, was also described.

These earliest periods were illustrated by historical characters and events depicted on modern stamps, but from the Habsburg inheritance of the kingdom in the 1550s, the Bohemian uprising of 1620, and the Prussian invasion of 1740, postal history dominated the display. The idea was to put each historical period into perspective, ending with the collapse of the Habsburg Empire and formation of Czechoslovakia in 1918.

Key elements of the display were postal items that were closely linked to the events themselves, such as those shown in September *Czechout*. Time itself proved to be a limiting factor, and as Chairman **Rex Dixon** commented at the end of the meeting in thanking him for an illuminating display, we hope Hartmut will return to give us a further lesson some time soon.

**Roger Morrell**

### Afternoon Meeting at the Czech and Slovak National Club 8 November 2014

Chairman **Rex Dixon** began the meeting with a summary of Committee reports. **Mark Wilson** donated several of his new books to the CPSGB's library which were accepted on behalf of the Society by **Lindy Bosworth**.

After lunch, **Keith Brandon** began with handouts of examples of early Austrian covers to accompany his display *Decoding Pre-stamp covers of the Austrian Empire*. Rather than a brief note stating the cover was from X to Y, a new level of understanding was revealed by deciphering the letters, phrases, addresses of senders and recipients, enclosures, and other inscriptions on the cover. Many covers from this time included text written in *Kurrent* German, the written lower case form of German Gothic.

Hitler had tried to abolish the use of *Kurrent* German to show that Germany was a modern international power, but had failed as many older Germans still used that format of writing. Another handout showed the different letters and numerals used throughout the period. Each cover had its own story, which Keith solved like a true detective.

Often the date stamps only showed the day and month, not the year. One cover only had the name of a royal personage, but his rank and location allowed the exact identification of the year. Some of this material has been published in the Austrian Society's magazine, but there is the promise of a book in the future, hopefully not too far off. The attention of all was held throughout Keith's informative explanations.

**Bill Hedley** thanked Keith for his display. He said that Keith had enlightened everyone studying early postal documents in central Europe and he hoped that more members would be encouraged to look at their covers in more detail.

**Peter Williams**

### Additions to CPSGB Library

1. Monografie No 40: *Bibliografický seznam článků zabývajících se obdobím ČSR 1918-1939* (list of articles published in *Filatelie*) includes CD ROM.
2. *Domazlice – National Heritage Town* (small booklet in Czech).
3. *Tagesstempelverzeichnis* (numerical listing of Bohemia and Moravia town cancels with types, in German).
4. *The Propagation of Original Second Negative Flaws in the Blue Dove Plates*, Mark Wilson.
5. *The Circles Design – A Comprehensive Survey*, Mark Wilson.
6. *Plating Guide for the Two Plates of the 1 Haler*, Evald Larsen and Jan Kolár.
7. *Plating Guide for the Two Plates of the 50 Haler*, Evald Larsen and Jan Kolár.
8. *Plating Guide for the Two Plates of the 60 Haler*, Jiří Krňák.
9. *Plating Guide for the Two Plates of the 80 Haler*, Jiří Krňák.
10. *Plating Guide for the 300 Haler Plate*, Zdeněk Ryvola.
11. *Plating Guide for the 1000 Haler Plate*, Zdeněk Ryvola.
12. *Zapomenuté Osudy, Zapomenuté Události Slaný and Slánsko in the 20th Century*. (Proceedings of an Historical Conference 2013 – Lost Destinies, Forgotten Events.) Articles in Czech with b/w illustrations including changes in the Czech Postal System 1918-1919.
13. CPSGB Mono 27: *The Czechoslovak Independent Armoured Brigade in France and Their Return Home 1944-1945*, Richard Beith.

**Lindy Bosworth**

### Cooperation Agreement with the Society for Czechoslovak Philately

Check out our sister organization, the Society for Czechoslovak Philately, at their website: [www.csphilately.org](http://www.csphilately.org) and through their Secretary, Tom Cossaboom at [KLFCK@aol.com](mailto:KLFCK@aol.com). Their publication the *Specialist* and our *Czechout* have little duplication in content. In addition, under a new agreement the two societies have arranged for payment of your SCP subscription to our CPSGB Treasurer without having to worry about foreign currency or sending it to the US. So why not have more fun, become a member of both societies!

## Reviews

**Free Czechoslovak Forces in France, 1939-1940: A Historical and Philatelic Study.** Richard Beith. 66p. CPSGB Monograph 26. 2013. £18.00. In colour.

The first five chapters layout the History leading up to 1940. Full of information with plenty of annotations as to source. This is the type of information that has often given me the edge as a postal history collector when purchasing covers. The other two chapters plus appendixes have page after page of postal history material in colour and fully described. This in itself is an excellent reference, and will assist in identifying items that some of us will have tucked away due to lack of information. Also one cannot be but envious of the Camp Agde watercolours which are even more impressive when seen close up.

**The Czechoslovak Independent Armoured Brigade in France and Their Return Home: A Historical and Philatelic Study.** Richard Beith. 54p. CPSGB Monograph 27. 2014. £18.00.

War by its very nature is extremely fluid – particularly when tying down units to specific locations – and to be able to do this correctly from written records is no easy task. Once again the author has shown his skill as a researcher in the initial chapters. Then follows the postal history aspect. Fully illustrated in colour with the required information including maps.

**Kenny Morrison**

### The Hradčany Series

Mark Wilson has translated, edited, and newly illustrated the next phase in his *Hradčany Study Series*, the Captioned Design. The books are in A4 format, in colour, and each contains 52 pages except for the 5 haler book which contains 134 pages. The titles so far are:

From the Initial Phase of the Captioned Design

- *Plating Guide for the Two Plates of the 3 Haler*, Zdeněk Ryvola.
- *Plating Guide for the Four Plates of the 5 Haler*, Stanislav Komberec.
- *Plating Guide for the Two Plates of the 25 Haler*, Václav Pellant.
- *Plating Guide for the Two Plates of the 40 Haler*, Václav Pellant and John Velek.

From the Final Phase of the Captioned Design

- *Plating Guide for the Two Plates of the 100 Haler*, Evald Larsen, Václav Pellant and Jan Kolář.
- *Plating Guide for the Two Plates of the 200 Haler*, Václav Pellant and Zdeněk Ryvola.
- *Plating Guide for the Two Plates of the 400 Haler*. Václav Pellant.

The last three denominations, the 10, 20, and 30 haler, are in preparation. Each book is complete and can stand alone. A companion volume, *The Captioned Design: A Comprehensive Survey*, is planned and will contain much useful supplementary information.

With the exception of the 5 haler book, the books lie flat and on each left hand page are the verbal descriptions of five stamps from Plates I and II. On the facing page these five stamps from both plates are illustrated side by side. Each illustration is enlarged to 60 × 50 mm. Indicators help to make it very easy to focus on the distinguishing features; no guesswork is involved. As there are four plates of the 5 haler, one stamp is assigned to each page with illustrations and descriptions of that position for each of the four plates.

Each book contains a visual index which compares the location of flaws on the plates. It illustrates, by way of diagrams, all the flaws and the position in the plate where you will find them. With the guides you should be able to plate every stamp in the Captioned Design once the series has been completed, even if you have never plated stamps before. The way these books are laid out makes them user friendly and are by far the easiest plating guides to follow.

A copy of each book is in our library. They are available as print-on-demand titles. Enquiries should be made of the Honorary Treasurer.

**Yvonne 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 Autumn 2014 issue of *Austria* No 187.

Austrian Postal Firsts (Kuzych); The 1839 Austria-Tuscany Convention (Becker).

The June 2014 issue of *Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Tschechoslowakei* Vol 45, Whole No 180. Member Douglas Baxter has kindly translated the list of contents for us.

Catapult mail involving Czechoslovakian participation part 1: North America (Wilhelms); The Sudeten Corner: [part II], A guest contribution (Dr. P. Gebauer & K. Bauer, Ed: by Klemn); Currency Reform in Czechoslovakia in 1953 – a political retrospective (Osthues); Personalised Stamps from the Czech Republic Pofis Nos 727-729 (continued) & Pofis 781-784 (Pfrötzschnner).

The Spring & Summer 2014 issues of *The Czechoslovak Specialist* Vol 76, Nos 1 & 2. Whole Nos 636-637. Getting Started with Czech Revenue Stamps (Kramer); SCP Couponed Stamps (Svoboda); Czech Postage Stamps Score in the World (Translated: Harris).

Historical Year 1918 (Kunc); The Great War starts and the Bohemian Connection (Valasek); Reminiscing [Liberation of Eastern Czechoslovakia] (Holoubek); The SCP Commemorates its 75th Anniversary (Svoboda); How I came to collect Czechoslovak Stamps (Verner).

The July 2014 issue of *Dylizans* No 74.

Lublin 1918 POLSKA POCZTA Overprint Forgeries (Gough); Polish Forces in Scotland (Beith); Bolesław II, The Bold, King of Poland 1076-1079 (Stockhill); General Maczek's Armoured Units in World War II [Part 2] (Niebrzydowski).

Nos 8, 9, 10 & 11 of *Filatelie* Vol 64, 2014. The English translation of the contents does not cover all the articles.

Czechoslovak territorial army battalions from Italy 1918-20 [4] (Špreňar); A Fake of Mucha's Hradčany drawing in foreign auction (Beneš); Postal Service in Great War 1914-18 [1] (Kramář).

Fakes of Austrian Stamps, old and new, primitive and good (Kopřiva); Hradčany 15h overprinted SO 1920 (Vrba); Postal Service in Great War 1914-18 [2] (Kramář); Music above war (Kunc).

Postal Service in Great War 1914-18 [3] (Kramář); Military Field Post corps postmarks with a sporty theme (Petrásek).

Forgotten combination of the PČ 1919 overprint class A (Vrba); Postal Service in Great War 1914-18 [4] (Kramář).

The No 4, 2014 issue of *Merkur Revue*. The English translation of the contents does not cover all the articles.

Introduction to new catalogue Československo 1918-1939 (-); Registered Airmail in Austria-Hungary 1918 (Květon); Stamps of the Krakow issue (Štefek & Kypast); Our philatelic experts and officers (-); Art on Slovak Stamps (Vančo).

The November 2014 issue of *Nieuws* No 23. (New title **Pošta Česko-Slovenská**)

Airmail rates in the First Republic (Sanstra, van Dooremalen & Taylor); Plating of the 30h Hradčany (Jonkergouw); SO 1920 Czech-Polish postmarks (Sevenhuijsen).

The June & September 2014 issues of *Stamps of Hungary* Nos 197/198.

Special edition for the 50th Anniversary Exhibition at the Royal Philatelic Society London, 22.5.2014: List of members with their exhibits.

A Hungarian Field Post Card of WW2 (Kennett); Field Post WW2 [pt 2] (Benford); Two More Hungarian Field Post Cards of WW2 (Kennett).

## The Field Post Exhibition at Prague Postal Museum Roger Morrell

It may make you all a bit envious, but I had the good fortune to go on business to the annual meeting of an ISO standards committee in Prague at the beginning of September. You may be a bit less envious when I tell you that it involved sitting in an unheated concrete building while it tipped with rain solidly for three days, with a maximum daytime temperature of just 12-14° C. And they say Britain has poor summers!

However, I did take the opportunity to visit the Postal Museum, which was closed the last time I was there while recovering from the big flood of 2000. Fortunately it was open on my free Sunday afternoon, and even more fortunately, it was only a few hundred metres from my hotel. A particular reason for going was to see the temporary exhibition of the field post of WWI that had been put together by our member Lubor Kunc and some Czech colleagues in centennial commemoration of the outbreak of the war.

The exhibition was in the main hallway and in much of the first floor library and display areas. There was a single-sheet English guide. In the hallway an introductory frame in both Czech and English set the scene (*see next page*), and other frames contained field post cards and letters from both the army and the navy, and postal materials such as instructional paperwork, call-up papers, and contemporary photographs of the handling of the field post. Despite the description of the items being only in Czech, a little knowledge of what one was looking at made the story clear.

Once I had negotiated the stairs to the upper level (I set the alarm off with my Prague guidebook, much to the amusement of the security men – my guidebook was a chuck-out from my local library that still had the security tag inside – and was instructed by mime to hold it well above my head as I walked past the sensing units), the story was continued, mostly with poster displays focused on various aspects, including more photographic material, sending parcels and telegrams, censorship, prisoner-of-war mail from Russia and Italy, fieldpost cancellations, the Czech army in Siberia, and so on.

I met up with Lubor for coffee after my interminable meetings, and told him how much I had enjoyed his exhibition. He explained that this era of Czech history was not widely known about by the modern generation, nor taught in schools, and his purpose was to ensure that the role of the Czech nation in the Austro-Hungarian army and navy was commemorated. Here's hoping the locals appreciate his efforts.

Coincidentally, on the day after my meetings, the Sběratel collectors' fair opened in the show grounds outside Prague. What's more, the sun was now shining for the first time as it warmed up a bit. Judging that between travelling both ways to the far end of the recently extended Line C metro (station Letňany) followed by a 10-minute walk, I could just manage a couple of hours there before dashing back for my bag and off to the airport, I decided to give it a go. I arrived before the fair opened to quite a crush of folks. Once inside the main entrance there were a couple of stalls one could browse while waiting for the main hall to open, but once inside the main hall it was a shuffle



Výstava v Poštovním muzeu

POŠTA ZA  
VELKÉ VÁLKY

*Pišu Vám z fronty...*

14. 5. – 14. 9. 2014



MUZEUM  
POŠTOVNÍ  
MUZEUM



round, waiting patiently (I think I need some Czech elbows) until a slight gap appeared enabling me to worm in to view a box or two of postal history. All the time there was a background noise of chinking as other punters rifled through boxes of old coins, lumps of polished minerals, phone cards, postcards, and you name it. Some of the old hands have commented to me that the fair's not what it was for philately, but postal material still made up about a third of the total area, and there was plenty to look at when one got a chance. It would have been nice to have had a bit more time to work up some elbow room, but then I might have been tempted to spend more money.



*Introductory Frame in English and Czech.*



*Shuffling into Hall 3 housing the main Collectors' Fair.*

## Perfin Stamps with Special Reference to the Present-Day Territory of the Czech Republic Dai Pring

I blame my interest in perfins on CPSGB Packet Manager Bob Allard who slipped a few perfins into a Society packet a few years ago. The stamps themselves were of no great interest but I thought the the holes punched in them might be of significance. A search of *Czechout* offered no information but soon a club auction enabled me to purchase the first edition (1972) of Vojtech Maxa's catalogue *Perfins of the Territory of Czechoslovakia*. I was hooked and thought that I might at last accumulate a decent specialist collection. As I learned later it was not to be as inexpensive or easy as I initially thought!

Perfins are stamps perforated with the initials or emblems of businesses as a security device. The term comes from *perforated initials*. An earlier term, which is no longer used, had been *SPIF* (Stamps Perforated with the Initials of Firms). The term perfin was first used by an American, Mr Hallock Card, in his 1944 edition of the *Homestead Hobbyist* and was soon widely accepted.

In 1840 when the first Penny Black was produced a pint of gin cost two pence, a quart of beer one penny, a cheap meal around two pence and the same would get a shared bed in a lodging house. An errand boy's wage was often not more than a penny a day and so it is not surprising that dishonest office workers and errand boys supplemented their meagre wages with the theft of postage stamps.

Many perfin collectors will know of the case reported in the *Manchester Examiner* on 21 February 1868 when a provision dealer, John Howarth, was charged with receiving 7,820 stamps at the value of £35 19s 2p from errand boys and junior clerks in exchange for bread and cheese. It should be noted that at that time the Post Office undertook to repurchase unused stamps and so this form of theft proved particularly lucrative.



*The German House, Brno.  
Postcard franked with a stolen perfin?*



The above is a postcard sent from Brno but stamped with a Viennese perfin used by Fischer and Sonnensheim, a money institute. Was this theft by an employee on holiday to Brno?

The resale of stolen stamps was a considerable concern for many businesses and other organizations. In 1859, the Oxford Union Society was the first to be given permission to overprint their stamps by adding an emblem or inscription to the stamp subsequent to the original printing. By 1867, over 60 businesses favoured *underprinting*, printing the firm's name on the gum on the underside of the stamp. This proved to be an insecure method as the underprinting would be washed off when the stamps were first wetted before use.

Although Sir Henry Bessemer (1813-1898), who invented the first process for producing steel inexpensively when aged only 20, had suggested perforating revenue stamps instead of embossing them, it is generally accepted that the first successful attempt to prevent pilfering was the perforating machine patented in England in 1858 by a former painter and decorator, Joseph Sloper. His machine,


which was originally intended to prevent a cheque's being altered or presented twice, used a roller with projecting points which punched holes in the paper according to the desired design, usually initials. The pin arrangement was called the *die*. It is probable that businesses already using his invention to cancel cheques also started perforating stamps. By 1869 official permission for stamps to be perforated was granted in Great Britain. More important was the fact that the Post Office refused to buy back stamps with perfin.



Above: Ordinary hand-stamp and a Sloper perfin machine.  
Left: Joseph Sloper.

Other countries soon followed suit and on 8 April 1877 *Post Verordnungsblatte*, decree no 2318, authorised the use of perfin in what was then the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Then in 1886 *Permit 0012* enabled their use on full postal covers, post cards, postal orders and parcel bills. At first the perforators were single hand-stamps but soon machines perforating five, ten, or more stamps at a time were developed.

**Cummins No. 53 Postage Stamp Perforator**



Specifications:	Capacity Per Stroke
Weight, net . . . . . 22 lbs.	2 or less initials on each stamp, 100 stamps per stroke, size of 10, (see diagram)
" head . . . . . 48 lbs.	"
Blade . . . . . 5 x 37 1/2 in.	4 initials on each stamp, 100 stamps per stroke, size of 10, (see diagram)
Height . . . . . 9 in.	5 initials on each stamp, 100 stamps per stroke, size of 10, (see diagram)
Length of handle 14 1/2 in.	6 initials on each stamp, 100 stamps per stroke, size of 10, (see diagram)
from Center of Foot.	
Finished in Rock enamel and Nickel	

The Perforations made by this machine conform to the requirements of the Post Office Department, U. S., Holes not over 1/32 inch in diameter. Total space not over 1/5 inch square.

**CUMMINS PERFORATOR CO.**  
4749 Ravenswood Avenue  
CHICAGO, ILL.

Although at first perforated stamps were considered damaged and many covers with perforated stamps ended up in the waste bin, and because the stamps themselves were often simple definitive issues of little interest to the casual collector, interest in them grew quite slowly. By the early 1970s Vojtech Maxa had interested other philatelists in perfin and with the help of their identifications, in collaboration with the U.S. Perfin Club, Maxa collected over 700 perfin. These were collated in the first edition of *Perfins from the Territory of Czechoslovakia 1972*. The first Czech study group was formed in 1974 and by 1975 it had over 120 members and published its own bulletin, edited by Maxa.

The perfin may be found containing one or more initials, full names, and somewhat less frequently geometrical figures, numbers, abstract forms, and complex designs. For the perfin collector it is the rarity of the perfin which is of prime importance.

*The Cummins Model 53, a perforator from Chicago, USA.  
Stamps were hand-fed, ten at a time, into the device.  
The Model 53 went out of service in 1956.*

The relative difficulty in building a decent collection will be apparent when we see the number of different perfins already identified: for Great Britain 23,500, for Germany 12,600, and for the United States perhaps some 6,000. Maxa suggests the following ratings:

- A – the most common 200 + copies known
- B – 100 to 200 copies known
- C – 50 to 99 copies known
- D – 25 to 49 copies known
- E – 6 to 24 copies known
- F – 5 or fewer copies known



*Left: Assicurazioni General v Tertsu (Insurance), Prague 1900-1930 – Category A.  
Centre: Svoboda Publishing and Printing House, Prague 1945-1951 – Category C.  
Right: Matador (unknown) Prague 1929-1938 – Category D.*

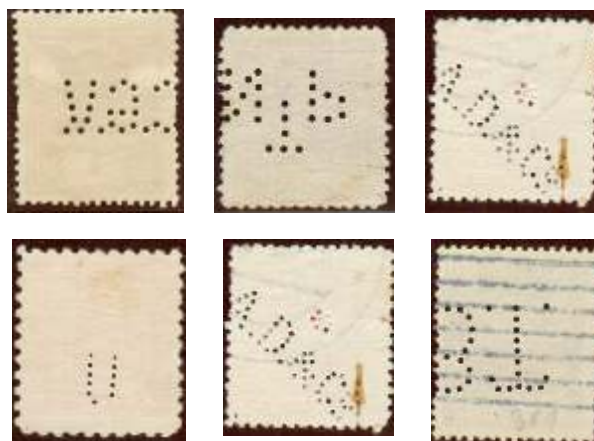


*Krejci a spol (Exports), Zatec 1930-1938 – Category E.*



*Herz (unknown), Brno 1916-1925 – Category F [rare].*

The rather tedious task of perforating the stamps usually fell upon an office junior who often fed the stamps into the perforator in a haphazard or perfunctory manner. Thus perfins may be found face up, face down, inverted, at an angle (either because of a deliberate die design or through carelessness) or have doubled or incomplete impressions.



*Examples of flawed perfins.*

Close on 1,000 different perfins have been identified as originating in the lands that now make up the Czech Republic, many identified as the result of research by Maxa, Fejtek, and Janáček. Around 690 different perfins have been found on Austrian stamps up to 1918, but nearly 230 of them disappear after the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.



*Firms that perished with the Austro-Hungarian Empire.*

*Left: Tormarystwo wzajemnych ubezpie (Insurance), Brno 1899-1918 – Category B.*

*Centre: Akciová pojišťovna (Insurance), Prague 1904-1918 – Category C.*

*Right: Vit Furth & Son (Chocolates), České Budějovice 1904-1919 – Category D.*

The new Czechoslovak Republic inherited over seventy percent of the existing Austro-Hungarian industries intact, much of which was situated in Bohemia and Moravia. The new nation ranked tenth in world industries almost overnight. Many of the industries that survived used their old dies on the new Czechoslovak stamps.



*Same die used on Austrian and Czechoslovak stamps.*

*Blass & Bondi (Spirits & Yeast), Čáslav 1904-1936 – Category B.*

For the years 1918 to 1938 a further 300 perfins have been identified, but the 1929 Wall Street crash, the annexation of the Sudetenland, and finally the creation of the Nazi Protectorate of Bohemia & Moravia meant many businesses disappeared altogether. The annexation of the Sudetenland in October 1938 meant that firms operating there used German stamps, mostly of the Hindenburg type. Once the rest of Czechoslovakia had been annexed, over 120 companies switched to either Bohemia & Moravia or German stamps.



*Czechoslovak dies used on German stamps.*

*Left: Josef Riedel (Glass products), Dolní Polubný 1899-1944 – Category A.*

*Centre: Moric Schnitzer (Textiles), Varnsdorf 1929-1944 – Category D.*

*Right: E J Weinmann (Coal merchant), Ústí nad Labem – Category A, [poorly punched, artificial perfin display].*

On 9 May 1945 the Czechoslovak Republic was restored but the Communist Party came into power in 1948. By 1949 90 percent of Czech industry had been nationalised. Fewer than 40 businesses continued to use perfin after the war and that number soon dwindled. By the 1950s perfin usage had declined dramatically and was replaced by metered mail.

Only the Orbis publishing house continued to use perfin into the 1970s and is one of the few perfin to survive in relatively high numbers, making it possible, for example, to study destinations, perfin positions, and stamps with worn or broken pins.



*Missing and worn pins on the Orbis company die 1926-1974.*



What then are the possibilities for the collector of perfin from the Territory of Czechoslovakia? For me it is first to collect a perfin and then to find as much as I can about the business itself, their geographical location and how they were affected by the political upheavals in 1918, 1938, and 1945. Others may choose to collect entires or perfins relating to companies dealing in certain products or to collect perfins of a particular person or city. Another person might collect flaws, errors, or perfins with damaged or missing pins. Then again, one might simply seek to collect a particular perfin found on as many different stamps as possible. The possibilities are limited only by one's imagination and the material available.



Entires: A postcard and cover, both Category A. [Stamps enlarged as insets to better display perfin details.]

## The 1920 President Masaryk Issue

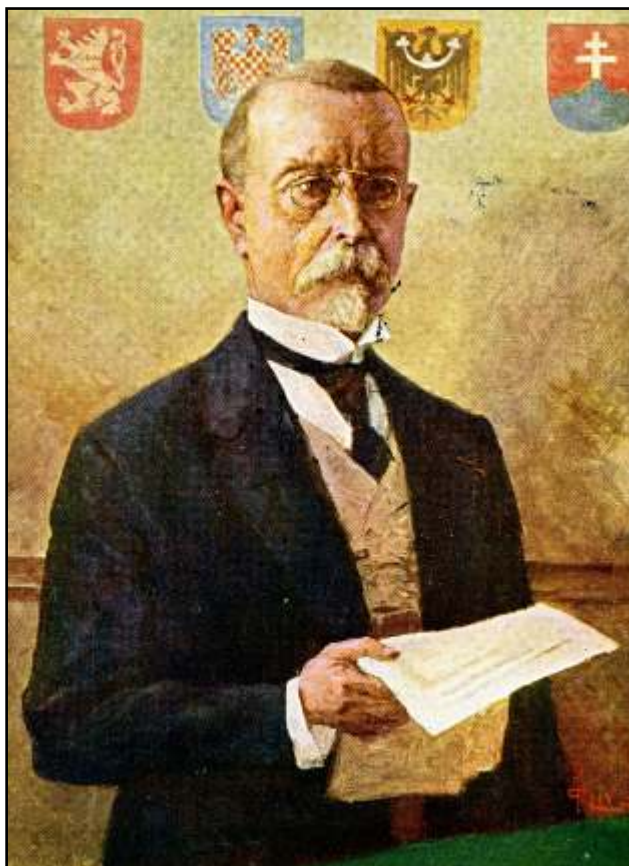
### Reg Hounsell

*The aim of this article is to enhance the details published in stamp catalogues, to provide a ready source of information in English, and is supported by information taken from the specialist Czechoslovak publication Monografie Československých Známek, Díl 2. Unless stated otherwise, pictures and stamp scans are from my own collection and are reproduced full size: 23 mm wide by 32 mm high.*

### Introduction

On 7 March 1920, on the occasion of the seventieth birthday of President Masaryk, the Czechoslovakia Postal Authorities issued two stamps of 500 and 1000 haler values bearing his portrait. These were intended to replace the same values in the Hradčany design. A further stamp of 125 haler value was introduced 23 September 1920. The stamps were printed and perforated by the Czech Graphics Union of Prague.

The intricate design, by Max Švabinský, was taken from his woodcut design showing a longer portrait of President Masaryk, prints of which hung in most Czechoslovak school rooms. The engraving in steel was by the master engraver Eduard Karel, who worked for the printing firm that produced the stamps.



*Reduced size scan of Švabinský's woodcut from a postcard published by VK (No. 1397). The full picture also showed a military helmet and map of Czechoslovakia on a table.*

Although for many collectors this outwardly seems a simple and dull issue, behind the three basic stamps lays much of printing interest: proofs, bright colour trials, the SO 1920 and Red Cross overprints, and unissued values that featured a smaller size stamp.

Only the lowest value 125 haler appears frequently on covers. The 500 and 1000 haler values tend to be found mainly on high value cash and insurance packages, or on postal stationery items such as parcel cards.

To explore this issue fully, I strongly advise studying the Czechoslovak publication *Monografie Československých Známek, Díl 2*, pages 148 through 184. A translation of pages 148-157 by Mark Wilson is available on the Society for Czechoslovak Philately's website [www.csphilately.org](http://www.csphilately.org).

### 500 and 1000 Haler Stamps

An uncertainty surrounds the issue date of the 500 and 1000 haler. Whilst the official release date of 7 March – given in the ministry of Posts and Telegraphs notice of 10 March – coincided with President Masaryk's 70th birthday, an earlier official Post Office notification gave the release date as 21 January 1920. However, it is possible that this date was when the printed sheets were distributed, but were not yet made available to the public.

These higher value stamps were printed using a typographical method and printed on un-watermarked paper colour-toned with an underprint, whilst the lower value was printed on a white chalky paper. It is highly likely that the printer applied the higher value's underprint by lithography.



The colour toning can be seen on issued stamps varying from a light to a dark grey on the 500 haler value, although the majority of stamps seen have been light grey-blue; and a light brown on the 1000 haler value. However, examination of many stamps indicate that any darker toned sheets were from the later printings that came near the end of the production run. Of importance to note on these impressions and issued stamps is that Max Švabinský's name appears at the bottom left of the stamp, whilst the engraver, Eduard Karel, has his name at the bottom right, with both inscriptions in small letters.

appears at the bottom left of the stamp, whilst the engraver, Eduard Karel, has his name at the bottom right, with both inscriptions in small letters.

*Right: The proof printing clearly shows the colour toning wash on these 500 haler stamps. Note the uncoloured portion in the lower selvage.*

*Below: Die proof of the 500 haler on gummed stamp paper (two-thirds actual size).*



Whilst few colour trials of the 500 haler value are seen, many black prints and colour trials of the 1000 haler value can be found. Only those that have both the designer's and the engraver's name are from the original trials in the preferred printing method.



*Typographic colour trials of the 1000 haler.*

**Issued 1000 Haler Value – Plate Damage**

The plate damage seen in the top two stamps of the block below is identical to the photos published in the *Monografie*, Part 2, on pages 156-157 and is almost as bad as that described with the plate proof. Therefore, this block must come from the bottom right corner of sheet of 100 subjects. This can be further verified by the diagonal line visible on stamp 100 in the lower illustration.

*Top left: Position 89 – spot above the ear, glasses, and under the collar.*

*Top right: Position 90 – double spot over ear and damage to the letters of Slovenská, and near the right side of the stamp.*



*Left: Confirmation of the damaged plate can be seen in the black engraver's trial reproduced here at 78% actual size.*

Position 100 also shows plate damage in the form of a diagonal line in the right side of the cameo.

**The Proposed Second Issues**

In Bulletin 25 of the Ministry of Posts and Telegraphs, article 83, dated 18 June 1920, it was announced that a stamp of 50 haler value would be issued in light blue, in the same design as the 500 and 1000 haler President Masaryk stamps, but with a reduced image size of 19.5 mm × 27 mm. Printing was to be by intaglio method on an offset machine.

It was during this period that differences in the printing method wanted by the engraver, Max Švabinský, the Printers, and the Postal Authorities led to Eduard Karel's being released from the company after serving for 21 years!

Although many trial single and multiple impressions of the 50 haler value were made in various colours using photogravure and letterpress printing methods, this value was not released. However, many examples were preserved, including full sheets of 100 stamps with tally numbers under the bottom row. An example from my collection (below), printed in green.

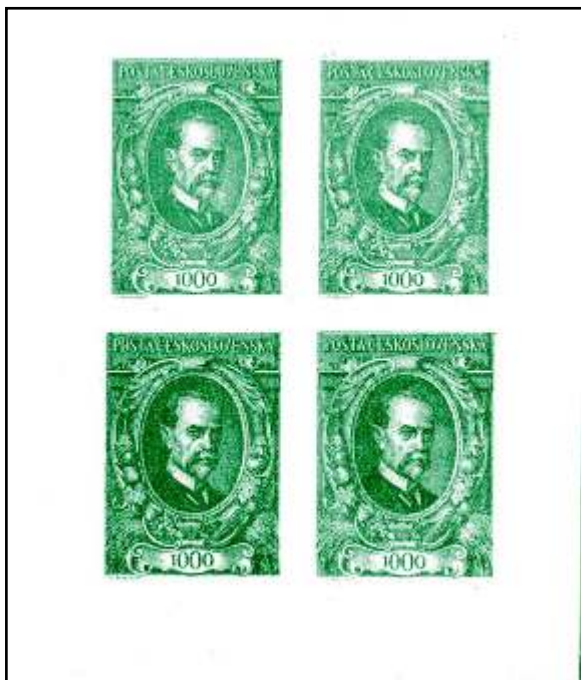


*Die proof (reproduced at 66% of full size) struck on gummed stamp paper.*



*Block from the lower left corner of a full trial sheet printed in green (66% actual size).*

*Right: 50 haler transfer die proof (actual size).*



*Left: Proof sheet of 1000 haler, second issue, produced by photogravure. The green ink was actually the colour later chosen for the never issued 1200 haler.*

A later Bulletin, No. 45 of the Ministry of Posts, dated 7 August 1920, announced that “since there have been some changes in the postal fees, several new stamps are to be issued”. Included in Sections 3 and 4 of the bulletin were values to be issued in the *Portrait of President Masaryk* design, including a 125 haler blue, with other colours to be later announced for 1000, 1200, and 2000 haler values. When released, that later notice stated that the colours were to be the 1200 haler in green and the 2000 haler in carmine. No information was given as to the new 1000 haler’s colour. It is very noticeable that the 125 haler and all these later trial printings do not have the engraver’s name in the bottom right hand side.



*Single impressions in various colours of the proposed 1000 haler second issue. Due to the change in printing method, the engraver’s name no longer appears.*

A number of impressions were taken of the announced 2000 haler value. The 1000 haler master die was altered to a 2000 haler value and several impression were made. After repair, further impressions were taken. Trial printings by typography and photogravure were made, mainly in carmine, using gummed stamp paper.



*2000 haler trials in carmine.*

*Unfinished die proofs of the un-issued 1200 haler value. Note the incomplete coloured wash at the bottom of the left side illustration.*



The new high values were never issued due to a change in policy, announced in Bulletin No. 23 in 1921, whereby posted parcels were paid for in cash so that receipt cards no longer needed to have stamps affixed, although a signature and CDS were still applied.

Thus the 125 haler was the only other value to be issued, but it was printed using cheap letterpress techniques. The date of issue was nearly two months after the registration fee and foreign basic letter rates changed. The table on page 24 shows that between 1 August 1920 through 31 December 1921, the 125 haler value was ideal for paying registration and the basic foreign letter rate.

### Summary of Prepared and Released Stamps

Value	Colour	Paper	Printing Method	Number Printed	Date Issued	Withdrawn
125	Grey-blue	White	Typographic	17590000	23 September 1920	31 January 1923
	Ultramarine			Unknown		
500	Dark grey	Grey-blue wash	Typographic with lithographic wash	525000	7 March 1920	
1000	Dark brown	Light brown wash		500000		
Value	Purpose	Overprint Colour	Overprint Method	Number Printed	Date Issued	Withdrawn
125	Red Cross	Red	Typographic	650000	15 Dec 1920	14 Jan 1921
500	SO 1920				5000	Prepared for use but never issued to the public.
1000		Black				

### Summary of Proposed Values Not Issued

Value	Colour	Paper	Printing Method	Bulletin No.	Bulletin Date	Size
50	Light blue	White	Offset	25	18 June 1920	18.5 × 27 mm
1000	Ultramarine		Photogravure	45	7 August 1920	23 × 32 mm
1200	Green					
2000	Carmine					



Examples of the three values' use on postal stationery (parcel cards).



Examples of the 125 haler value paying registration and supplementing airmail values on foreign airmail letters. (75% of actual size).

### Relevant Postal Rates During the 1920 Masaryk's Use Period

Period	Use	Letter Rate	Postcard Rate	Registration Fee	Express Fee
15 March 1920 to 31 July 1920	Domestic	30	20	50	60
	Foreign	50			**
1 August 1920 to 31 Dec 1921	Domestic	60	40	125	60
	Foreign	125			50
1 January 1922 to 15 April 1939	Domestic	100	150	200	100
	Foreign	250			250

\*\* Although only beneficial in Czechoslovakia, the use of the domestic express fee on foreign mail was common, especially from later 1920 when airmail service began. Its use enabled expediting mail to railway stations and airports to avoid missed connections.

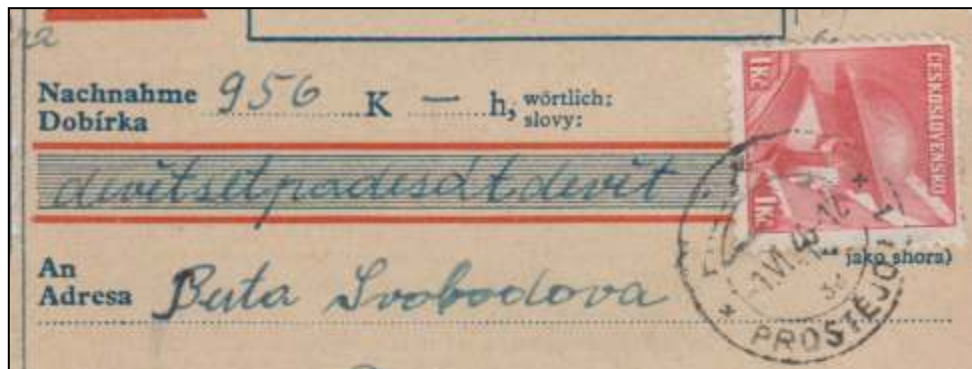
As was said earlier, the above table shows that between 1 August 1920 until 31 December 1921, the 125 haler stamp was ideal for paying registration or basic foreign letter tariffs. For full details of rates, readers should study the tables and notes found in the catalogue *Specializovaná příručka pro sběratele československých známek a celin* published in Prague in 1988, pages 531-539.



## Correspondence

**Richard Wheatley** writes that while reading his article “Three Parcels To or From Frývaldov” in last month’s *Czechout*, keen-eyed member **Heinz Kumpf** spotted a discrepancy. In *Figure 3* on page 23, the digits written on the card are 956, but the textual rendition of those numbers reads *devětset padesát devět* (959). This number may be parsed as follows: *devět set* (nine hundred), *padesát* (fifty), and *devět* (nine).

To match the figures, the text should have read *devětset padesát sest* (956). It appears the clerk repeated the initial word *devět* (nine) in error, substituting it for the correct word *sest* (six).



*Wheatley.*

*Detail showing discrepancy between figures and textual amounts.*

## Queries

**Clyde Ziegeler** asks if anyone else has seen an item posted at the small packet rate in Bohemia & Moravia similar to the illustration below. This is the only example he has seen in over thirty years of collecting.

**Wojciech Kierstan** wonders if anyone can shed light on the significance of the bluish **SO** appearing on this 1935 Masaryk stamp? The perfin, **P-S**, is that of Meva in Praha-Smichov.



*Kierstan.  
Blue SO.*

*Ziegeler.*

*Prag to Chotěboř 23.1.1945.*

*Parcels up to 2000 g, 400 K. Rate applied from 1.10.1940 to end of occupation.  
(Prior to 1.10.1940 there was no provision for small packets.)*

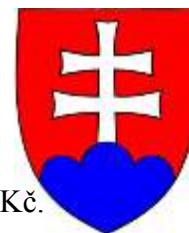
### Printing Techniques



**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 – 13 Kč.  
**E:** ordinary standard letter to 20 g to European countries – 25 Kč.  
**Z:** ordinary standard air letter to 20 g to non-European countries – 30 Kč.



## New Issues – Czech Republic

### Lindy Bosworth

#### 28 May 2014 Definitive NVI 'A' For Children: Jů and Hele



**Designer:** Stanislav Holý.

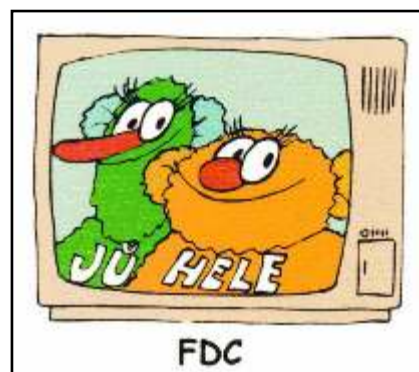
**Graphic arrangement:** MgA Matěj Holý.

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

**Design:** the puppets Jů and Hele sitting on the ground with the puppet Muf flying in the air.

**FDC:** printed multi-coloured offset with a commemorative Prague cancel. The cachet shows a television set with the two puppets on the screen.

The 2014 *For Children* issue commemorates Stanislav Holý (1943-1998), a Czech painter, graphic artist, illustrator, and creator of the puppets Jů and Hele. From 1960 he focused on comics with the main character of Mr Pip. Holý is best known for Czech Television *Studio Kamarád* (Friendship Studio) dedicated to children. He created many other puppet characters together with studio props freely based on the US *Sesame Street* series. The graphic arrangement of the issue was undertaken by his son.



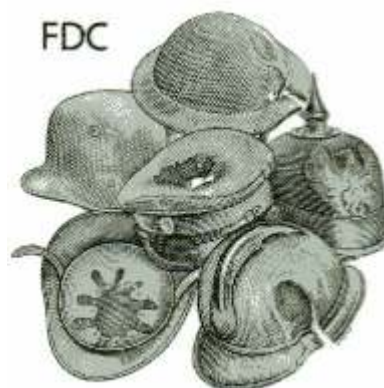
#### 11 June 2014 Victims of World War 1 (See cover for stamp images)

**Designer:** Jan Maget.

**Engraver:** Václav Fajt.

**Printing:** multi-coloured offset in a commemorative souvenir sheet of two stamps and three coupons. **Design:** war themes with flags of some participant nations, sovereigns of the Central Powers, and faces of young men. A thin border gives information of the participant countries, battle grounds, enlisted men, and losses.

**FDCs:** printed Waite in black-green with commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet designs depict a) portraits of war heroes against a double-headed eagle background and a lion in front, and b) military helmets and hats.



The First World War (1914-1918) was known as the Great or World War until 1939. The assassination of the heir to the Austro-Hungarian Empire, Archduke Franz Ferdinand d'Este, in Sarajevo on 28 June 1914 was the event which began a chain reaction with Austria declaring war on Serbia on 28 July 1914. The conflict was initially between two coalitions – the Allied Powers (Great Britain, France, and Czarist Russia) and the Central Powers



(Austria-Hungary and Germany) but as the war progressed other nations joined the conflict. By the end of the war only Spain, Switzerland, the Netherlands, and the Scandinavian countries remained neutral. The battles took place on many fronts in Europe with over 60 million men mobilized between 1914 and 1918. The Navies of the two coalitions were also involved and for the first time in history aircraft were utilised. The war ended with the surrender of the Central Powers and a ceasefire on all fronts at 11:00 on 11 November 1918 with the formal ending occurring with the signing of the Treaty of Versailles in 1919.

### 3 September 2014 Václav Zapadlík – Czech Cars – Škoda II.



**Designer:** Václav Zapadlík.

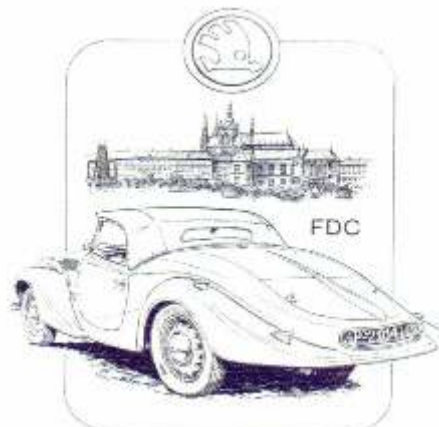
**Printing:** multi-coloured offset in booklets of 8 self-adhesive 'A' stamps (2 different designs).

**Designs:** Booklet front cover: four cars – Škoda *Popular* 1935; Škoda *Popular* 1939; Škoda *Tudor 1101* 1947; and Škoda *Rapid* 1937. The right half of the back cover has a self portrait of the designer, his facsimile signature, and biographical notes in Czech and English. The left portion gives a bar code, security hologram, logo of the Czech Post, and details of the postage in Czech and English.

**Stamps:** a) Škoda *Popular Monte Carlo* 1938; b) Škoda *Superb 3000* 1941.

**FDCs:** printed offset in blue-violet. a) Cachet drawing has a rear view of the Škoda *Popular Monte Carlo*, a panorama of the Prague skyline in the distance, and the Škoda logo. The commemorative Praha cancel is a silhouette of the car. b) Cachet drawing has a rear view of a Škoda *Superb 3000* with the castle of Mladá

Boleslav in the distance. The commemorative Mladá Boleslav cancel has a front view of the car. This is a continuing series of issues on veteran vehicles from the work of Václav Zapadlík. Previous issues 5 September 2012: *World Cars* (self-adhesive booklet stamps); 12 June 2013: *Historical Transport* (three stamps), and 4 September 2013: *Škoda I* (self-adhesive booklet stamps).



### 3 September 2014 Personalities: Karel the Elder of Zierotin



**Designer:** Karel Zeman.

**Engraver:** Jaroslav Tvrdoň.

**Printing:** Wifag in sheets of 50.

**Design:** a portrait of Karel the Elder of Zierotin.

**FDC:** Waite in red brown with a commemorative Brandýs nad Orlicí cancel. The cachet design depicts the coat of arms of the Zierotin family with the arms of Moravia above.

Karel the Elder of Žerotin (Zierotin) was born in Brandýs nad Orlicí on 15 September 1564 and died in Přerov on 9 October 1636. He studied at the Czech Brethren School in Ivančice and later at evangelical schools in Strasbourg and Basel. Between 1578 and 1587 he studied law, theology, and languages, then travelled around Europe establishing contacts with many politicians. After the death of his father in 1583 he inherited the Brandýs nad Orlicí estates and became a member of the Czech Estates Society. Later he inherited other estates through the deaths of various family members. He was a protector and secular head of the United Brethren in Moravia and a follower of Jan Amos Komenský, whom he commissioned to draft the Žerotin genealogy and also funded his studies for two years.



FDC

Emperor Rudolf II became his enemy after he fought in France in 1591 on the side of the Huguenots and King Henry IV of Navarre. He led the Moravian cavalry in the wars against the Turks. As a member of the Moravian Provincial Court and eventually the regional director of finance he was an important political leader. As leader of the Estates opposition he was falsely accused of defaming the king. After the trial in which he was exonerated he was removed from office and lived in seclusion.

After the Battle of the White Mountain in 1620 he was one of the few non-Catholics who retained their estates. As a philanthropist he tried to assist the victims of recatholicization in Bohemia and Moravia and supported the Unity of Brethren in moving their printing press and library out of the country. His remains were re-interred in the Žerotin crypt in Bludov Church.



### 15 October 2014 Definitive: Bouquet

**Designer:** Jiří Slíva.

**Printing:** multi-coloured offset in sheets of 9 stamps and 12 labels for personalized printing.

**Design:** the NVI 'A' stamp shows a bottle of wine with a bunch of flowers in the neck. The nine main labels and two side labels depict a flamingo drinking from a glass of wine. The upper right label has the head of the Gorgon Medusa and glasses of wine.

**FDC:** printed multi-coloured offset with a commemorative Prague cancel. The cachet drawing shows a man carrying a large bunch of grapes on a stick over his shoulder.



FDC

## New Issues – Slovak Republic Lindy Bosworth

### 13 June 2014 Definitive – President of the Slovak Republic



**Designer:** Vladislav Rostoka (drawing) from a photograph by Tomáš Benčík.

**Engraver:** Martin Činovský.

**Printing:** Wifag

**FDC:** printed offset by Kasico, a.s., Bratislava with a commemorative Bratislava cancel. The cachet design is concentric circles in light and dark blue with text (the Presidential oath) and the Slovak national symbol at the centre.

**Design:** portrait of the President.

President Andrej Kiska was inaugurated on 15 June 2014 after standing for the office as an independent, non-party candidate. He was born on 2 February 1963 and graduated from the Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Bratislava University. Until 1990 he worked as a designer in Poprad, then spent eighteen months in the USA. On his return he founded his first company and later was co-founder of Tatracredit s.r.o. which implemented various loan systems to become the largest of their kind in Slovakia. In 2005 he sold his shares in the companies to focus on charitable works. The non-profit organisation *Dobry Anjel* (Good Angel) which he co-founded in 2006 provides help to families with children suffering from life-threatening health problems. There is also a similar organisation in the Czech Republic. Andrej Kiska is married with four children.



### 29 August 2014 70th Anniversary of the Slovak National Uprising



**Designer:** Jozef Jankovič.

**Printing:** offset – Heidelberg Speedmaster.

**FDC:** printed offset by Kasico a.s., Bratislava with a commemorative Banská Bystrica cancel. The cachet design shows the two towers of the castle buildings and the town coat of arms.

**Design:** based on the SNP memorial of 1969 in Banská Bystrica *Obete varujú* (Victims Warn Us) by the sculptor Jozef Jankovič.

The Slovak National Uprising was a movement against fascism and the takeover of Slovakia by Germany during World War Two. The headquarters were in Banská Bystrica in central Slovakia. Preparations began in December 1943 for the uprising in the Spring of 1944. The main object was a military one against Nazi Germany to change the position of Slovakia as a puppet state of Germany and to bring it into the Allies camp. The second tactic was armed resistance at all costs to prevent Germany invading Slovakia. On 29 August 1944 the Germans tried to invade Slovakia and this was the signal for the uprising. Slovak army soldiers numbering 60,000 along with nearly 15,000 partisans took part. The central part of Slovakia held out for nearly two months but the uprising was suppressed by the end of October 1944 with dire consequences for those involved. Many, however, took to the Slovak mountains to continue the fight until the end of the war.



## 19 September 2014 Beauties of Our Homeland: Wedding Palace in Bytča



**Designer:** Robert Brun.

**Engraver:** Jozef Česla.

**Printing:** Waite + offset.

**FDC:** Waite in grey-blue with commemorative Bytča cancel. The cachet design is one of the windows of the palace with its ornamental surround.

**Maxi-card** was issued.

**Design:** an exterior view of the Palota (Events Hall) within the castle premises.

The Wedding Palace (Palota) is one of the most significant late Renaissance buildings built in the Kingdom of Hungary. It stands within the castle grounds as a rectangular two-storey building with an impressive hall on the first floor.

An inscription over the main entrance records *Palatone George Thurzo, princenarum regalium and advisor to His Imperial Highness built this palace out of paternal love for the wedding feast of his beloved daughters (if God let them live so long) in 1601*. George Thurzo married twice and of his nine children five daughters and one son lived to be adults. The five daughters were all married in Bytča. The palace was to be a place for entertainment but it also became the venue for social and political life. Reconstruction work has been carried out and the Palace is now open as a museum.



FDC



## Officers and Committee

*All officers and Committee members serve the Society voluntarily and without compensation.*

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## Membership Benefits

<b>Meetings</b>	Four meetings each year in London, one in Yorkshire, and one elsewhere.
<b>Publications</b>	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.
<b>Library</b>	The Society maintains a comprehensive library of books, journals, and reference items available to UK members only. Postage both ways paid by the borrower.
<b>Auctions</b>	Regular auctions with a varied range of reasonably priced items. Prospective vendors should contact the Auction Secretary.
<b>New Issues Service</b>	Contact the Librarian.
<b>Circulating Packets</b>	Stamp and postal history packets available to members in the UK only. Apply to the Packet Secretary.
<b>Accessories at Trade prices</b>	Members may order accessories, album leaves, and philatelic books at a substantial saving. Delivered direct. Contact the Treasurer.
<b>Data Protection Act</b>	Members are advised that their details are stored electronically for use on Society business only, <i>e.g.</i> , for address label printing.

## Payments

Sterling cheques drawn on a UK bank payable to the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society of Great Britain (CPSGB); current bank notes in pounds sterling, US dollars, or Euros. Payments may also be made by US dollar cheques or paid to a Euro bank account, by credit card or PayPal (a small surcharge applies). Please contact the Treasurer for details.



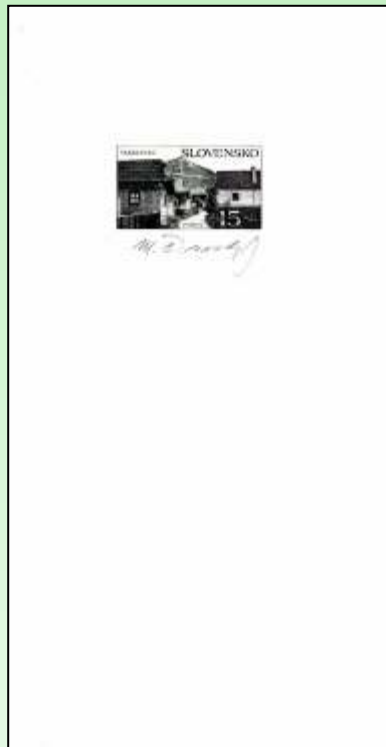
Souvenir Card  
148 × 103 mm



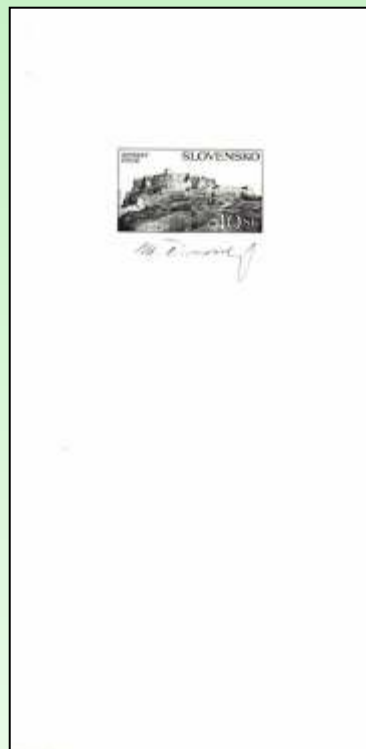
Albín Brunovský  
105 × 145 mm



*Crown of Thorns*  
110 × 232 mm



*Vlkolinec*  
105 × 210 mm



*Spišsky Hrad*  
105 × 210 mm



*Waterfall*  
105 × 210 mm

### **Martin Činovský – Slovak Stamp Designer and Engraver**

Several limited edition souvenir cards were designed for the 50th anniversary exhibition of CPSGB held at Spring Stampex 2003. A few copies of these cards are available together with various artist's proofs signed by Martin Činovský. A booklet of the artist's work, beautifully colour-printed in English and Slovak, is also available. Actual size of the 19 page booklet is 195 x 240 mm.

If you wish to purchase any of the above items at £5 each, contact Librarian Mrs D Bosworth.  
(See inside back cover for contact details.)