



A selection of the items discussed in this issue.



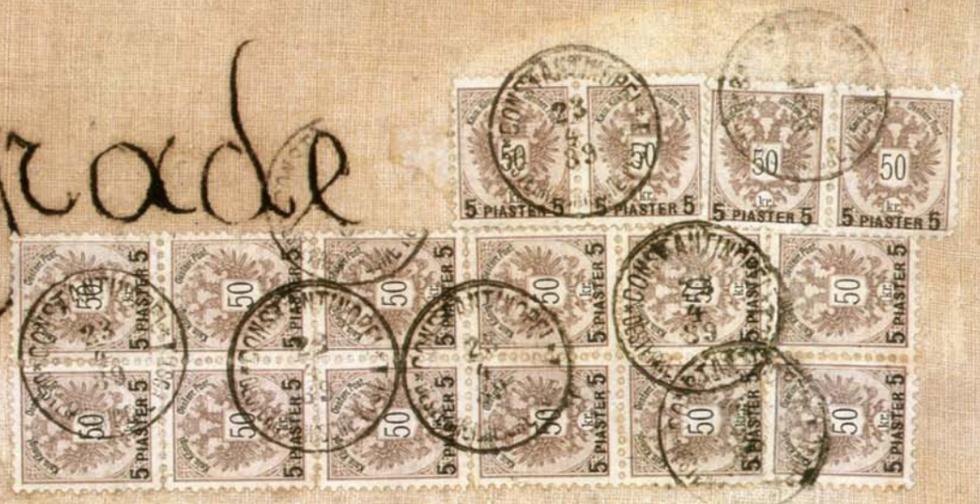
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Monsieur

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N^o 116



EDITORIAL 184

A gentle reminder that the “special offer” member’s price of £40 for “The Austrian Post Offices In The Levant” is only available for orders placed before the end of 2013. Contact the Librarian, or use the Order Form on the APS web site, <http://www.austrianphilately.com/publications/index.htm> If you are not yet a member why not join! Someone you know well deserves a copy for Christmas!

Everybody can make an exhibition of themselves, and several members used Autumn Stampex as a dress rehearsal, or a qualifying event, for London 2015. Results known to the Editor follow. *GOLD*: Joyce Boyer, “Austrian Airmails”. *Large Vermeils*: Colin Tobitt, “Austrian 1922-25-issue postage dues” and another with “Austrian postage dues after the 1938 Anschluss”; and Hans Smith, “The Austrian Post in the Levant (Handbook)”. *Vermeil*: Andy Taylor, “Austrian newspaper postage stamps.

It seems odd to be altering the top-of-page header to “Winter 2013” in the middle of an unprecedented July heat wave, but that’s the way AUSTRIA-production works ☺ You may also encounter curiously worded sentences, with some words or parts of words missing - this is caused by Fat Finger Syndrome! I have had to buy a new keyboard because the old one wore out, and the new keys are closer together than my fingers. I find I am pressing two keys at once, and when I delete the unwanted letters I sometimes accidentally also press the adjacent key to activate ‘overtyping mode’. This means that subsequent typing replaces what’s already there, instead of adding to it. This is Not Helpful.

Only in Vienna... Regular visitors will have noticed the enormous construction project as the Sudbahnhof and the Ostbahnhof are replaced by “*an unparalleled project in urban development - the construction of Vienna Central Station, scheduled for completion in 2015*”. One side effect is that Arsenalstrasse has to move. However Arsenalstrasse is the boundary between Bezirks 3 (Landstrasse) and 10 (Favoriten), and the boundary’s position has to be negotiated between the two local authorities. Addresses in Landstrasse are postcoded 103n - eg the Biedermeier Hotel at Landstrasser Hauptstrasse 28 is Wien 1030 - while in Favoriten it’s 110n - eg BSV Favoriten at Zur Spinnerin 37 is Wien 1100. There may be buildings that change Bezirk - and Town Hall - and postcode - and delivery office. Does this matter? If you’re Viennese, yes it does!

Underneath the APS activities that you see are a valiant band of people making it all happen. Some of them have been doing so for many years, and every year they get a year older. It’s not just Editing, Treasuring or Secretarying – unseen heroes or more usually heroines pour tea, stuff things in envelopes, bring the chocolate biscuits and the display frames, store boxes of books and journals, consult on web site design... Some day they will no longer be able to do so. Dear Member, I urge you to consider how you can help your Society continue to flourish, and have a quiet word with anyone on the committee. In particular, **the positions of Treasurer and Membership Secretary were not filled at the AGM**; both require a certain level of computer ability but do not let that deter you – speak with the President (contact info on the last page). **DO IT NOW!**

Andy Taylor, Editor

The contents list is on the next page; the inside front and back covers are explained on page 14.

News about members

We welcome Dr Andreas Myskiw of Austria.

We wave adieu to John Barbour; The American Research Library; T Duckworth; A Parsons; Edwin Muller; John Barefoot; and Graeme Sandie.

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Edited by Andy Taylor

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To join the Austrian Philatelic Society, email or write to the Membership Secretary (details on inside back cover; or visit the society’s web site at www.austrianphilately.com)

We offer various items (books, CDs, ties, etc) to buy. The actual stock is spread around the country in the houses of various committee members, and moves around from time to time. Mrs Joyce Boyer has kindly agreed to be the single point of contact for anyone who wants to buy anything we offer. Order from Joyce (and pay her where appropriate), and she will arrange for whoever holds the stock to send it to you. Full details of our offerings are on page 2, and on the inside back cover you will find Joyce’s contact details

If this journal is undeliverable, please return it to Mrs C Ralph, 41 Battle Road,
St Leonards on Sea, Sussex, TN37 7AA, Great Britain

***The Society’s web site on <http://www.austrianphilately.com>
is regularly updated and enhanced.***

THE APS BOOKSHOP

To purchase any of these items, contact the Librarian. If paying by Paypal remember to add the £1 fee!
NOTE!! If you pay by credit card, it will appear as “Team Track Trading

CDs

- ❖ *All CDs cost £10 or €15 including postage to anywhere in the world*
- ❖ “**The History of Austrian Revenue Stamps**” by Dr. Stephan Koczynski. Enhanced and published on CD in fully-text-searchable form. It is ISBN 978-0-900118-07-4.
- ❖ **1910 Post Office Index**. This is the “Verzeichnis der Post- und Telegraphen-Ämter in Österreich, Ungarn und in Bosnien-Hercegovina sowie der österreichischen Postanstalten im Fürstentum Liechtenstein und in der Levante”, published in Vienna in 1910. It lists all the Austrian post offices open anywhere at that date; with symbols indicating the facilities available at each. The CD contains pictures of the original pages, not text. It is ISBN 978-0-900118-08-1.
- ❖ **The Early Austrian Post Offices in the Ottoman Empire** – Hans Smith’s Presidential Display to the Society of Postal Historians on 10 April 2010

Books:

- ❖ “**The Austrian Post Offices in the Levant: Tchilinghirian and Stephen Revisited**”. by Hans Smith. Written in English and in full colour throughout, with over 200 A4 pages of text and illustrations and a comprehensive listing of all known postmarks of the consular offices. Price £50 (£40 to APS members **if ordered and paid for in 2013**).
- ❖ “**A Celebration of Austrian Philately**”: the APS 60th anniversary ‘Festschrift’. viii+162 pp A4 in full colour. ISBN 978-0-900118-05-0 Price **£15**
- ❖ “**The Pneumatic Post in Vienna**” now reprinted in one A4 volume, ISBN 978-0-900118-06-7 and now only **£32**
- ❖ **German/English Philatelic Dictionary**, published by the Germany Philatelic Society in the USA. This is the 2005 edition, 298 sides of A5, spiral bound, with appendix of abbreviations. Copies cost **£19.95**.
- ❖ *To all these add P&P: Levant £8, Pneumatic Post £6.50 to GB; all other books £3 to GB; everything at-cost to other destinations.*

Other items

- ❖ Back numbers of “Austria” are £1 each to members (£5 to non-members), subject to us having stock. Some may be facsimiles or second-hand originals. Postage extra at cost.
- ❖ Blue-covered binders for A4 issues of ‘Austria’ are available at £4.99 each and will comfortably hold 8 issues (or 10-12 with a squash). Postage at cost (it’s a “not-small Packet”), or delivery by arrangement.
- ❖ **Ties** are available in blue from the Librarian: ties £6.75; cravats are now sold out.
- ❖ **The remaining green binders for A5 issues of ‘Austria’ now only £2 each plus P&P.**

Advert:

“**The Postal History of the Anschluss, The German Annexation of Austria**” by Tony Hickey, Ian Nutley, David Taylor and Colin Tobitt. Copies are still available; contact the Librarian.

NOTES FROM OTHER JOURNALS

APS^{US}

Vol 13 Nr 3 July 2013: “Postal duty offences” (eg reusing stamps, unjustified use of free-post); The Mail Coach; Innsbruck postal history part 2.

ArGe Feldpost Österreich-Ungarn

Nr 113: The Pendel-Zug; “RPZAA”; Fieldpost numbered cancels part 4: 114; WWI pilot Raoul Stoislavljovic; Feldpostamt 2; the packet marking ‘Kann ausgefolgt werden ... K.K. Postpaketbewstellamt Wien’; telegrams to POWs; the 300,000 Jewish officers and soldiers in the k.u.k. army; etc.

ArGe Österreich

2013/3 Nr 103: Levant cancel forgeries (cont); the 1925 numbered stamps (with notes on rates and mixed-franking possibilities); Bosnia-Herzegovina 1900 issue part 2; the inland postcard rate rise from 8 to 10kr in 1918 part 3; Registration by Brandon part the last.

Czechout

Vol 31 Nr 3: (read on-line; copying and printing is disallowed; but it’s in full colour). News, awards etc; The underlined-R cachet mystery solved; The Saga of the Wallachian Pigeon Post; how Heinz Vogel escaped from Ostrava; questions and answers; new issues; etc etc.

Die Briefmarke

2013/7-8: Rates, 1750-1850; Thematic: Burgtheater; latest Automarken; early airmails; V-Post; new-issue-news; societies etc etc; 120 years of the Vienna Tauchvereinigung (Prof. Zimmerl is Obman).

2013/9: Thematic: X-rays; end of Golan fieldpost; proofs of the first postcard; new-issue-news including the new definitives; societies activities and events; book reviews; etc etc

Germania

Vol 49 Nr 3: The International status of Open Philately; names used for parts of today’s Germany since 1945; and much of considerable but exclusively German relevance.

Jugopošta

Nr 107 Sept 2013: Auctioneer still needed; engraver’s signs; ‘zombie stamps’ (counterfeits that will not go away, eg overprints on stamps that were invalid and withdrawn by the overprint’s date); Southern Sokol, the Serbian coat-of-arms issue of 1866; etc.

Stamps of Hungary

No. 194 Sept 2013: Obit: Karl Endrödi; Forgery alert: the strange story of the hand-stamp “K.K. BILKER QRNT AMT”; Questions and Answers; Hungary’s telegraph development part 2.

Südost-Philatelie

Nr 122 Aug 2013: Postal History of Macedonia; the ‘Postal War’ between Macedonia & Greece; “What does your Society do with your money?”; etc

To borrow any of these, consult the Librarian

Additions to Library:

Ref	TITLE	Comment	Pages	Author	Pub'd	Text
456	The Tasso Family and the European Postal System	1st International Convention June 2012	328	(Tarcisio Bottani)	2012	I(EG)
457	Das Gebühren- und Stempelwesen in Kärnten	Handbook of the stamping in Carinthia of documents, playing cards and newspapers in Carinthia from 1686 to 2002 [<i>most of the discussion applies equally to all of Austria</i>]	242	Carsten Mintert	2011	G

A scene at the Fest...

Martin Brumby putting up his display of Chimney Sweeps' Invoices and Receipts while Keith Brandon (Auctioneer) announces the preliminary results of the previous night's auction.



Have you ordered your copy of "The Austrian Post Offices in the Levant" yet?
Christmas is coming...

2013 NEW ISSUES (third instalment)

by Andy Taylor

Author's Notes

The information given here is face value ('c' is Euro-cents); issue date (first-valid, not the earlier on-sale); quantity printed; printing method; designer (and engraver if relevant); printer if not Österreichische Staatsdruckerei; and some details on the design. The illustrations are around life size, although blocks & strips are smaller. Many issues are also available in mini-sheets, as blackprints, as 'Buntdrucke' (ie printed in different colours from those issued) and so on. The descriptions are sourced from "Die Briefmarke" and the Post.at website.



Tag der Briefmarke 2013. 2€82 + 1€41; 22.08.2013; 640,002; Offset; Design: Hannes Margreiter. The day-of-the-stamp issue shows the Salzkammergut Lokalbahn with Salzburg Castle in the background. The borders of the miniature sheet (6 stamps) are decorated with rolling stock used on the railway. The Salzkammergut Lokalbahn (SKGLB), built like many other systems to the Army-specified 760mm gauge (so that in wartime both track and stock could be redeployed), opened in July 1891 between Salzburg & Mondsee, soon followed by the Bad Ischl-Strobl part. Both replaced tedious horse-wagon journeys, and were connected by steamboat and coach until the difficult Mondsee-Strobl part was ready. This railway was heavily used by

tourists, and its links with the lake steamers and the Schafberg rack railway made complex journeys easy. Indeed, it was such an integral part of the region, and so highly liked by the inhabitants, that it had its own song! The line was closed in September 1957 despite furious protests.

Inspired by this stamp, your Editor's colleague MA Rillen has updated and uploaded the article "A Salzkammergut Bummel"; you can find it at www.austrianphilately.com/bummel/index.htm or via the "Many articles about Austrian philately" link on the site's home page.



New "Costumes series": Gmunden. 62c; 23.08.2013; 812.000; Offset; Design Dr. Anita Kern; Printed by Joh. Enschedé Stamps B.V. This is the first stamp in a new series "Classic Costumes", reflecting tradition and that untranslatable term "Heimat". The German word "Tracht", applied to traditional and historic costume, comes from Old High German "traht" and Middle Low German "dracht" meaning simply "das, was getragen wird" = "that which is worn". The first of the series is from Gmunden; Gmunden lies on the Trauensee and since the 1800s has been a well-loved holiday resort; it's now also known for philatelic events and its historic, now modernised, tramway system. The stamp is also issued as a minisheet of 10.

150th anniversary of the Volunteer Fire Brigades. 90c; 7.9.2013; 250,000; combination-print; Design Dieter Kraus. The stamp shows an 1880s "water-waggon" equipped with a ladder, a reservoir, several fire-buckets etc. Austria has some 300,000 volunteer firefighters today, organised in 4,500 brigades. Many summer tourists will have encountered a usually-uproarious fund-raising fair!



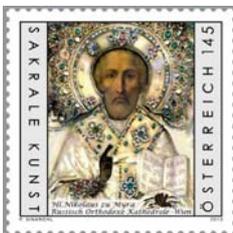
Block: Post-coach. 70c; 12.9.2013; 265,000; Offset; Design Gabriele Milewski. This is classed as 'the first in a new series of historic Post Coaches' although the WIPA-2008 issue (on the right) has a good claim to that honour (in your Editor's humble opinion). The design of the block is based on a painting from around 1830 entitled "Holiday Journey by the Express Coach" [Ferienreise mit Eilpost] and signed K. Schnorpfeil. This coach carried 4 passengers in elegant discomfort. Dr. Christine Kainz's book "Österreichs Post" has many illustrations of various post-coaches.





Waterproof mascara. 70c; 13.9.2013; 812,000; Offset; Design David Gruber; Printed by Joh.Enschedé Stamps B.V. This stamp, in the ‘Austrian Inventors’ series, celebrates the invention of waterproof mascara by Helene Winterstein-Kambersky. She came from a classical-music lineage and was a prize-winning singer; but became infuriated that stage makeup ran under the spotlights. After much research in her kitchen she discovered a waterproof mascara, and marketed it as “La Bella Nussy”. The family firm, Helene Winterstein Cosmetic”, continues in business today. The stamp is also issued as a minisheet of 10.

Englhofer Bonbons. 70c; 13.9.2013; 400,000; Offset; Design Michael Rosenfeld. The firm of “Zuckerlfabrik Englhofer” was founded in 1909 to make and sell “Bonbons” and remained in family ownership till 1977. The new owners, Storck GmbH, have widened the product range.



St Nicholas of Myra. 1.45; 20.9.2013; 35x35mm; Design: Prof Peter Sinawehl; combination-printing, offset-intaglio; 270,000 in sheets of 50. The design shows the icon of St Nicholas of Myra in the Russian Orthodox Cathedral in Vienna’s 3rd district. The cathedral, funded partly by Tzar Alexander III, was dedicated to St Nicholas in April 1899 and is a Peculiar of the Patriarch of Moscow. St Nicholas (270-343) was Bishop of Myra in Lycia; one of his best-known legends is his giving purses of gold to a pauper’s three daughters.

Madonna and Child, by Lorenzo Lotto. 1.70; 26.9.2013; 200,000; combination-printing; design Prof. Adolf Tuma. The original painting is in the Kunsthistorischen Museum in Vienna, nr GG101. Lorenzo Lotto was born in 1480 in Venice, studied with Titian and others, and died in 1557 in Loreto.



The New Definitives mentioned in Austria 182 and shown in colour on its cover were issued on 12 September. They are self-adhesive. All were designed by Teresa Hausgnost and printed in offset in quantities ‘as required’. Size: 32.5x40mm if portrait; 40x32.5 if landscape. As is common, some of the designs and face values previously announced have been replaced.

Your editor apologises for the low quality of some of the images on the next page. They have been taken from the Austrian Post web site, and extracting them has been akin to removing wisdom teeth. Perhaps, following a centuries-old tradition, they are worried that malevolent persons might download an image, print it on a sticky address label, and use it ‘to defraud the post’.

	Subject	Face	Sold as	Printer
	Goldenes Dachl	62c	Sets of 4	Joh.Enschedé
	Martinsturm	62c	Sets of 10	Joh.Enschedé
	Lindwurmbrunnen	62c	Rolls of 25 and of 100	Bundesdruckerei
	Bergkirche Eisenstadt	90c	Sets of 4	Joh.Enschedé
	Festung Hohensalzburg	90c	Rolls of 50	Bundesdruckerei
	Landhaus St Pölten	1.45€	Sets of 4	Joh.Enschedé
	Pöstlingsberg	1.45€	Rolls of 25	Bundesdruckerei

QUESTIONS – and ANSWERS!

In this ongoing series of articles, we show interesting covers submitted (usually by email) for explanations of their markings – and whatever comments are received when the Editor sends copies to ‘people who should know’. However others will have equally valid comments – don’t be shy, send them in!

Vienna to Frankfurt am Main



This cover featured on pp8-9 of the last issue. Joyce Boyer commented:

1 – the postage paid indicates it was a heavy, possibly bulky, letter.

2 – because of its size the post office in Vienna may have put it aside “niedergelegt” and passed it to the ‘foreign exchange office in Vienna’ for them to open and check to ensure that the contents did not include money or other items that could not be sent out of the country. It would then have been resealed with the labels. I have a few items from 1937/38 into and from Vienna with these labels; they are usually cancelled with a Vienna stamp and I think there are indistinct cancels on the labels at the bottom both to the left and right on the reverse of this cover.

3 – could the blue NON under the stamps actually be No 14, the room number at one of the hotels?

This is an enlarged scan of that marking, preserving only the blue crayon. It’s certainly plausible that it’s **No 14** written by a receptionist in a hurry.

Joyce added later: *I suggested it could be room 14 from my experience staying at a large hotel in Austria. I had a letter sent to me at the hotel; whoever received the mail wrote the room number on the envelope and it was put in the box below the room key to be handed over when I next collected the key. No would be shorthand for Nummer.*

Steve replied: [...] *Usually notes on covers mean something entirely different to the Austrian postal clerks and carriers than to the German-speaking public. My 92-year-old translator is from Germany and we know German German is different from Austrian German! [And ‘Postal Austrian’ is different from both of them! Ed.]*

Steve also noted that these comments by Joyce were the first he has seen on any of his articles. Like municipal buses, you get nothing for years, then three come at once – Dr Oscar Pongratz-Lippitt wrote:

The stamps on the letter (76g) show that it must have been fairly heavy: 40g for registration plus 36g for a letter weighing between 20 & 250 grams. The volume of the letter also explains why the back was so much damaged by opening for examination or putting the contents back afterwards. The size would give the authorities the impression that there might be something “interesting” inside, eg banknotes. The letter appears

to have been cancelled in Vienna on 16 (or 17) July; the next marking, on the back, is Frankfurt on 18 July, then Frankfurt again on 19 July (after the Munich address was added) and arrival in Munich on 20 July.

There was not enough time in Frankfurt to examine the letter; nor was there a need. In those times, countries forbade the sending of money *out*, but were content to have it sent *in*. So, the letter was inspected in Austria and the Devisenüberwachung stickers added – note how the German arrival mark is on top of the stickers.

These same stickers were used for the same purpose after WWII – perhaps using up old stock.

The handwritten *niedergelegt 20.7* (definitely not *wieder..*) would be applied by the porter at the Hotel 4 Jahreszeiten, then as now a luxury-class establishment.

And Herb Kucera writes from Canada to say “Definitely *Niedergelegt* not *Wiedergelegt*”!

On the move?

Letter, Berlin to Innsbruck, cancelled Charlottenberg 6 Aug 1922 at 4-5N (ie between 16:00 and 17:00) This is period 8 of the German inflation, so it should be franked 300, 400, 500pf according to weight, advised Rex Dixon. And indeed it carries a 3 mark adhesive. So why two Austrian dues, and what are the other marks?



The upside-down 5 kronen stamp is cancelled Innsbruck and the sideways one Kitzbühel. The cover was addressed to Innsbruck Hauptpostlagernd, where the poste restante fee of 5 kronen was applied, and then forwarded to Kitzbühel, where the fee was again 5 kronen. See the table on page 356 of Bernardini-Pfalz. Visible on the item, but not on the scan, is a diagonal boxed UNGULTIG over the ‘Innsbruck Due’; this is the standard Austrian practice when a money-to-pay item is transferred from one Post Office to another.

The addressee, comments Henry Pollak, seems to be “Herrn Stud für Günter Schild” - that is Mr. Stud is asked to pick it up for Mr. Schild at the post office. Mr. Schild is identified further as being from Innsbruck.

Charlottenburg Bayern Allee 6. Maybe Herr Schild had come for a hiking vacation and was staying in a B&B with Stud, who found the letter at the poste restante office in Innsbruck, told them that Schild had left for Kitzbühel, and the letter was sent on to poste restante there. This explanation is not totally satisfactory because Stud is not really a reasonable Austrian name but more likely an abbreviation for Student - but then there is no period for an abbreviation!

We think we can see Innsbruck 8th August on the bottom right due, and 11th from Kitzbuhel on the top left due, and 9th from Kitzbuhel on a separate cancel to the right of it. There's no cancels on the back, only a scrawled sender's address. [There's also a pencil 6/8/22 VII which looks like a British dealer's marking.]

So, our best interpretation is that the cover arrived in Kitzbuhel on 9th Aug; it was collected on the 11th; the due was cancelled then; and the pencilled 1.9 is unexplained.

A Klimt cover

This query came from a Japanese collector, who was particularly interested in Klimt items; he sought an explanation of the franking and markings on the cover shown on the next page. Easy, I thought, until I sought a second opinion. This cover carries the “Austrian Painters” set, FDC date 21 November 1932 (so it isn't a FDC). It was sent from Vienna to Germany, registered and express and by air!

These stamps were sold at double face value; the franking value of the set of 6 is 12 + 24 + 30 + 40 + 64 + 100 = 270g(roschen). I looked up the 'Foreign' postage rates. Normal postage was 50g for the first 20 grams plus 30g for each added 20 grams. Registration was 70g extra; express delivery was 80g extra; and the air mail surcharge was 20g for the first 20 grams, 40g for 50 grams, 80g for 100 grams. So an air registered express letter weighing 10 grams would cost 50 + 70 + 80 + 20 = 220 groschen; one of 40 grams (50 + 30) + 70 + 80 + 40 = 270g. So it was possible to send a 40 gram letter correctly franked with one of each stamp.

However, I checked with Joyce Boyer, who reminded me that until the Anschluss, post to Germany was charged at the INLAND rates. For this, normal postage was 24 g for 20 grams, 36g if over 20 and under 250 grams. Registration was 40g. Express delivery was 30g. Air mail was as before: 20g for the first 20 grams, 40g for 50 grams, 80g for 100 grams

So an air registered express letter weighing 10 grams would cost 24 + 40 + 30 + 20 = 114 groschen. A 100 gram letter, the max allowed by air, would be 36 + 40 + 30 + 80 = 186 g. So **it is not possible to send an in-period letter from Austria to Germany correctly franked with one of each stamp**. It is “a thing of philatelist creation” - and quite a nice thing too.



On the back. is this reddish cachet “Flug Ausgefallen / L’avion n’a pas eu lieu” ie ‘the flight didn’t happen’ – presumably that scheduled for 23/XII as written in pencil above.

The “morse code” is where a heavy-handed typist has transferred the underlining on the front to the back!

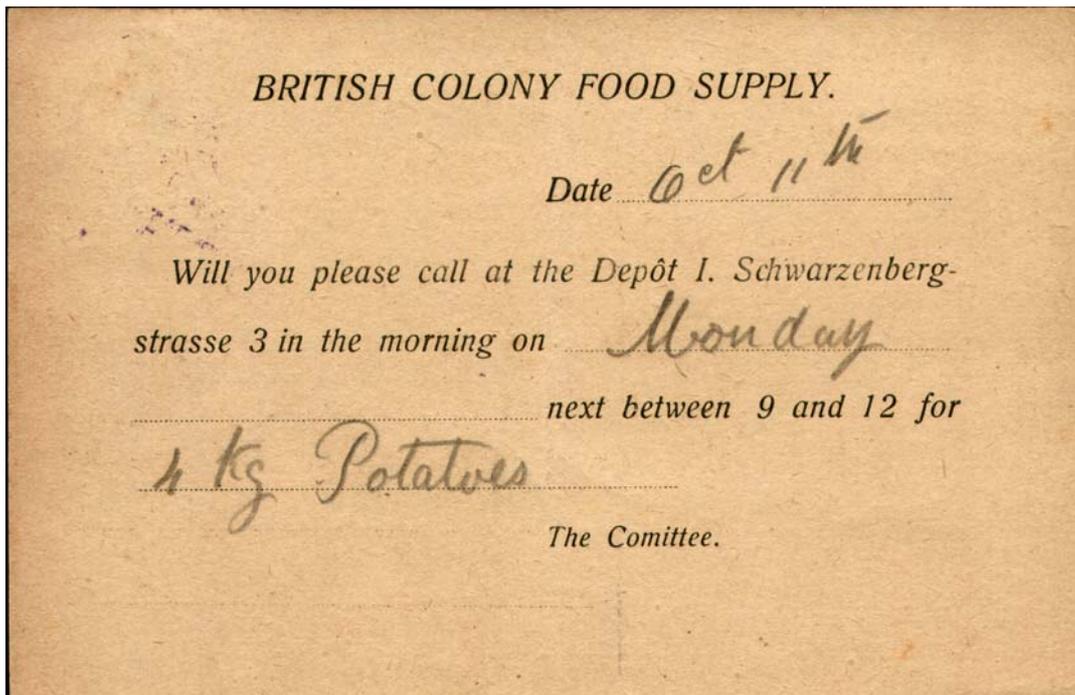
The adhesives are cancelled “1 WIEN 1 / 19.XII.32.13” (with some odd parts missing, eg on the top right stamp). The “1/1 WIEN 1 / a26.XII.32-7* / FLUGPOST”. There is no arrival mark on the back, but the large 461 - the German registration system number for the item – does suggest it arrived, although the marks on the back show it probably did so by train.



"I'm hungry"

After WWI, hunger was a major problem in the cities, since the farmers saw no reason to sell food in exchange for rapidly-depreciating money. Special arrangements were made for foreign residents.





Three interesting web sites:

[A] www.franzjosefmuseum.de shows a wide range of philatelic, political and social material based on a collection whose owners hope to find a suitable permanent building in Terezin to house this collection and put it on permanent display. My informant remarks that “the people there are very friendly and communicative although their English skills are somewhat limited”.

[B] Go to <http://www.austrianphilately.com/ausmag/index.htm> and read: “There are five cumulative indexes currently covering issues 1 to 179: an Index to stamp issues; an Index by subject; an Index of book reviews; an Index to APOs Abroad; and an Index to Biographies of People on Austrian Stamps. A contents list is provided for later issues awaiting indexing.” The on-line version includes the links. 'Subjects' goes up to 165 at present. It is not the world's best index - too many quirky article-titles, and too many separated entries – but it is more up-to-date than any paper version. As it is likely to be some 65 pages long, and will become out of date every time a new Austria is published, there are NO plans for a printed version.

[C] The *Treaty of St Germain*, referred to in a separate article, is available on line in several different language versions. A parallel-text French and German version is in the Staatsgesetzblatt, pp 995-1245, beginning here:

<http://alex.onb.ac.at/cgi-content/alex?aid=sgb&datum=1920&size=45&page=1077>

and an English page-image version exists on the Foreign and Commonwealth Office database, here (warning: 10Mb download):

<http://treaties.fco.gov.uk/docs/pdf/1919/TS0011.pdf>

The map is here (another 10Mb): <http://treaties.fco.gov.uk/docs/pdf/1919/TS0011-1.pdf>

It was this map that had to be used to determine the ‘nationality’ of Otzi the iceman! The Australian Treaties database has a plain-text version; you lose the layout but it’s searchable and a **much** smaller file:

<http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/sinodisp/au/other/dfat/treaties/1920/3.html>

I've never seen one as big as that before

The dust-jacket of "The Austrian Post Offices In The Levant" shows "the largest known franking from an Austrian Post Office in the Levant", of seventy-one 5-piaster-on-50-kr stamps. An even larger franking is known in Vienna... Mag. W Falter has most kindly sent me an extract of the Jerger catalogue (the 'Vienna' cover used to hang in a frame behind Dr Jerger's desk) and obtained for me a full-size superb-quality reproduction of the actual item which you will find on the inside front and back covers of this issue of 'Austria'. The reproductions in this short article are distinctly smaller than life-size!



The item is a registered letter in a roughly A3-sized linen envelope, sent from Constantinople to Demetrius Chilaïditi, a successful and philanthropic businessman who had moved from Alexandria to Vienna; even today he is remembered by the Greek Orthodox community of Vienna. It is franked with 385 piaster: seventy-seven copies of the 5-piaster-on-50-kr stamp; a block of 40, and a block of 20, and a block of 10, and 3 pairs, and a single. It is recorded as being offered in the 13th Dorotheum auction in February 1918 and has passed through several collections since.

And as with trams in Vienna, you wait ages for one then several come in stately procession...



This is the 71-piaster cover shown on the dust jacket of The Austrian Post Offices in the Levant.



A collector known to the Editor has this cover, franked at 66 piasters made up by 28 2-piaster and 2 5-piaster



This cover, also franked at 66 piasters with 33 2-piaster stamps, is illustrated in Ferchenbauer 2008 vol IV page 638; it is reproduced here by kind permission.

Are there any more out there? Can you explain the frankings?

Multiple-franking vocabulary

By Andy Taylor and friends.

This note seeks to help those puzzled by the descriptions used in German-language catalogues. There is however no Bundesgesetz or even Postverordnung prescribing these meanings. Caveat Emptor, and always check the actual item or its picture.



An item cancelled with more than one copy of the same value of the same issue and nothing else (eg a pair of 2 heller) is a **Mehrfachfrankatur**.



If you want it to have a large number (eg 10, or indeed 77) of copies of the same value of the same issue, you need a **Massenfrankatur**. Purists add that it must have no other stamps; realists go by the general impression it makes.



For an item with at least two stamps of the same issue but with different face values, eg 2h & 4h, ask for **Buntfrankatur**.

Mehrfachbuntfrankatur is used by Ferchenbauer for a Bunt with at least two copies of at least one value



Bunt overrides Mehr, so this cover with three of 1S and a 40c is a Bunt.

Massen overrides Bunt, so “10 copies of a 2h plus a 4h” is a Massenfrankatur.



The above are decidedly **Massenfankatur!**



This item is either a **(Mehrfach)buntfrankatur**, or a Philatelic Concoction, depending on your collecting tastes.

“America is a foreign country; they do things differently there”. This article will give an insight into the opportunities provided by a large country which holds numerous national-level exhibitions each year. Dr. Kuzych is also an APS member (hence eligible for European International competitions) and a regular ‘Austria’ contributor.

“LEMBERG” EXHIBIT WINS DIAMOND AWARD

By Inger Kuzych

For the first time ever, an Austrian-themed exhibit has won the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors (AAPE) coveted Diamond Award. Dr. Inger Kuzych’s display entitled “Lemberg: Cosmopolitan Crownland Capital of the Austrian Empire” earned the prize by winning a gold medal – the exhibit’s 10th – at the Columbus (Ohio) Philatelic Exhibition (COLOPEX), 7-9 June 2013.

The Diamond Award is granted to a multiple-frame exhibit that has been awarded 10 gold medals at US or Canadian national-level (World Series of Philately; WSP) Shows while remaining the property of one exhibitor. The AAPE is the world’s largest philatelic exhibiting organization with some 850 members worldwide – most in the US, but about 130 scattered about the globe. AAPE membership is a requirement for consideration at the time of receiving the AAPE Diamond Award. Dr. Kuzych is only the 73rd person to earn the Diamond Award.

[There is an alternate method of earning the AAPE Diamond Award: win six gold medals at national-level philatelic shows – *with six different multiple-frame exhibits*. It is difficult to say which route is the more difficult, but by far the vast majority of Diamond Award winners to date (82%) have chosen the route of earning 10 golds with one exhibit. Cost likely plays the decisive role, since creating just one gold medal exhibit can already be fairly pricey!]

The object of the Award is to recognize sustained excellence and to encourage higher frequency of exhibiting at national-level shows. The 10 gold medals must be won during a 10-year period. (Note that a couple dozen WSP shows take place in the US and Canada every year.) The Diamond Award can only be won once by an exhibitor and the stated aim of the Award is to pay tribute to the exhibitor and not the exhibit. Nonetheless, *de facto* the Diamond Award *does* honor the exhibit since it recognizes sustained excellence by a single exhibit “developed from an original concept through a logical evolution of content.”

A full list of awards won by “Lemberg” appears later. Two other gold medals won at national shows by this exhibit – at UKRFILEXP (Lviv, Ukraine) in 2006 and CHICAGOPEX in 2007 – did not count toward the Diamond Award total. The former award was at the Ukrainian National Exhibition, which is not a WSP (North American) show; the latter was an honorary award presented for exhibiting at the show’s Court of Honor.

About the Exhibit

While the “Lemberg” exhibit focuses mainly on the evolution of postal rates, it also highlights postal markings. The exhibit’s eight frames (128 pages) fall out into five parts. Virtually all of Lemberg’s pre-stamp period cancellations appear in Part I of the exhibit entitled “Pre-Stamp Austria (1772-1850).” The next section “Austrian Monarchy (1850-1867),” presents many outstanding covers bearing stamps from Austria’s first five postage stamp issues.

Part III, entitled “Austro-Hungarian Monarchy (1867-1914),” is the exhibit’s largest section and describes the tremendous expansion in postal services that took place in the five decades prior to the First World War. The penultimate section includes many exceptional materials from “The Great War (1914-1918).” A substantial portion of the display pages in this section are scarce materials from the world’s first regular airmail service that functioned between Vienna-Krakau-Lemberg in 1918. After this route was extended to Kyiv, Ukraine, it became the world’s first regular international airmail service.

The last portion of the exhibit, “The Flame of Nationalism (1918-1919),” deals with the breakup of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and the struggle for eastern Galicia and its capital of Lemberg. Both Poland and a hastily formed – and short lived – Western Ukrainian Government fought bitterly for control of the city in late 1918-early 1919. The exhibit concludes with some particularly rare materials from this struggle.

Scattered throughout the exhibit are covers linked to distinguished citizens of the city. Included are letters from or to an emperor, an empress, a Turkish sultan, a general, and members of the ecclesiastic hierarchy.

Future Plans

Dr. Kuzych hopes to exhibit/compete at the international level [*look for it at London 2015! Ed*], but such philatelic competitions occur far more infrequently and are not always convenient to attend. In the meantime he is working on a book that will feature all of the current exhibit pages as well as a great deal of additional Lemberg-related information. The volume will serve not only as a useful substitute for the many copy requests Dr. Kuzych receives, but will also function as a reference and guide to other aspiring philatelic exhibitors. Plans currently are for the book to be ready by the end of 2013.

LEMBERG: Evolution and Exhibiting History

Each of the exhibit's Versions below included major acquisitions of material and the reworking of considerable numbers of pages. Expansion from four to six and then eight frames highlighted Versions 2.0 and 5.0 respectively. A renaming of the exhibit accompanied Versions 2.0 and 6.0. Exhibitions shown **bolded** are national-level shows; others are local or regional shows.

Version 1.0 "Lemberg: Under Habsburg Rule" (four frames)

1994 – Ukrainpex, gold

Version 2.0 "Lemberg: The Postal History of an Austrian Crownland Capital" (six frames)

2000 – Ukrainpex, gold

2001 – Springpex, vermeil

Version 3.0 "Lemberg: The Postal History of an Austrian Crownland Capital" (six frames)

2004 – Springpex, gold and Reserve Grand

2004 – **NAPEX**, gold, APS Award of Excellence (pre-1900), and Virginia Philatelic Federation Award

2004 – **Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition**, gold and Postal History Society Posthorn Medal

2005 – **Plymouth Stamp Show**, gold and APS Award of Excellence (pre-1900)

2005 – **STAMPSHOW**, vermeil

2005 – **UKRFILEXP**, large vermeil

Version 4.0 "Lemberg: The Postal History of an Austrian Crownland Capital" (six frames)

2006 – **UKRFILEXP**, gold and Nikitchenko Award

2007 – Ukrainpex, gold and Grand Award

2007 – **CHICAGOPEX**, gold (Court of Honor)

2008 – **STAMPSHOW**, gold

2008 – **VAPEX**, gold and American Philatelic Congress Award for Excellence in Text

Version 5.0 "Lemberg: The Postal History of an Austrian Crownland Capital" (eight frames)

2010 – Springpex, gold, Grand Award, and Virginia Philatelic Federation Award

Version 6.0 "Lemberg: Cosmopolitan Crownland Capital of the Austrian Empire" (eight frames)

2010 – **ROYAL 2010 ROYALE**, gold

2010 – **BALPEX**, gold and Postal History Society Grand Award

2010 – **FLOREX**, gold

Version 7.0 "Lemberg: Cosmopolitan Crownland Capital of the Austrian Empire" (eight frames)

2012 – **ROPEX**, gold, APS Award of Excellence (pre-1900), and APS Award for Research

2013 – **COLOPEX**, gold, Postal History Society Posthorn Medal, American Philatelic Congress Award for Excellence in Text, Germany Philatelic Society Special Prize

2013 – Diamond Award presented by the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors for 10 gold medals earned at 10 national-level philatelic shows.

Note: APS is the American Philatelic Society, not the Austrian!

4. The Great War (1914-1918)

Military Command Markings

Personal Dispatch of the Austrian Army Field Commander



General Eduard von Böhm-Ermolli

18 January 1916, Lemberg to Vienna.

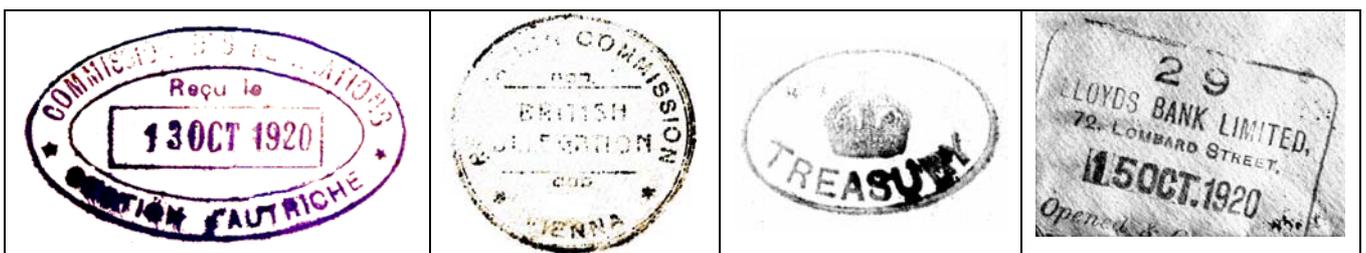
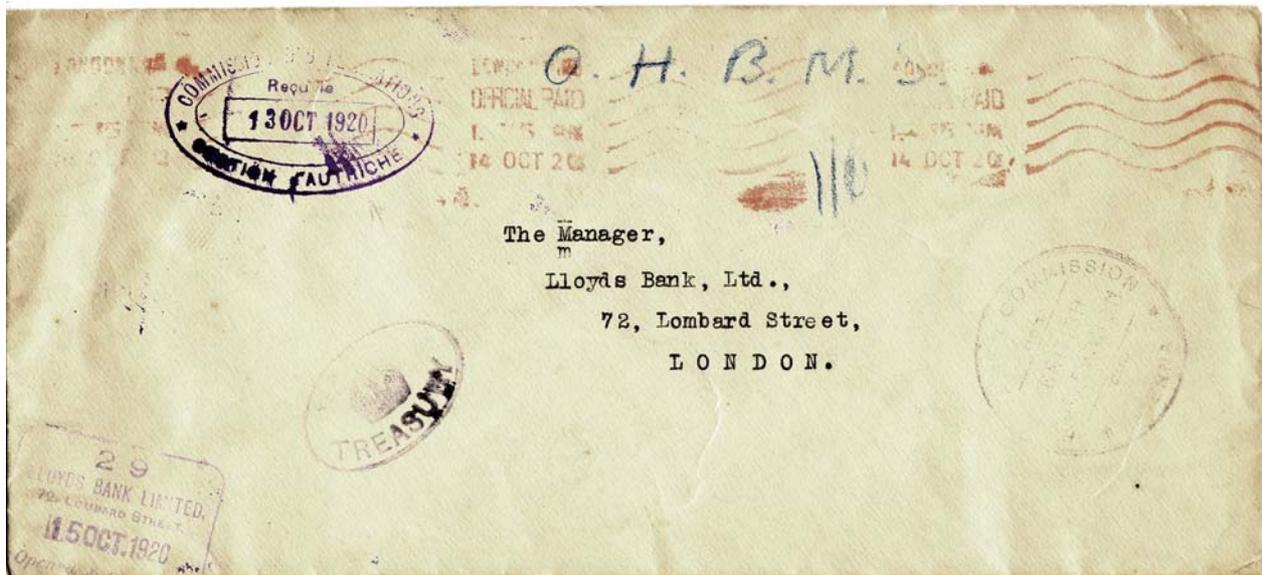
- Card written by General of Cavalry Eduard von Böhm-Ermolli – head of the army that liberated Lemberg the previous year – describing a visit to the troops in Lemberg by German Kaiser Wilhelm II.
- Obverse photo shows the General (on the right) meeting with the Kaiser.
- Card displays a violet “2nd Army Command” mark and a cancel of Field Post No. 108.

A page from the “Lemberg” exhibit showing a post card mailed by Austrian Gen. Eduard von Boehm-Ermolli, who headed up the liberation of Lemberg in 1915.

AN INTERESTING BRITISH CONNECTION TO THE TREATY OF ST GERMAIN-EN-LAYE

By Roger Morrell

Hunting through an amateur dealer's box of junk I recently came across this slightly crumpled cover, which is a nice little snapshot of history. It is an official UK government stationery envelope with an impressed oval coat of arms on the flap, and with the manuscript annotation OHBMS (On His Britannic Majesty's Service) on the address side. This term was traditionally used by British overseas agencies. It is addressed to Lloyds Bank, Lombard Street, London. To the lower right is a weakly inked circular cachet with the inscription REPARATION COMMISSION / BRITISH DELEGATION / VIENNA. At the upper left is an oval cachet in French reading COMMISSION DES REPARATIONS / Reçu le / 13 OCT 1920 / SECTION AUTRICHE. At the left centre is an oval Crown/TREASURY cachet, and in the bottom left corner is a Lloyds Bank receipt datestamp of 15 Oct 1920. Across the top of the cover is a London Official Paid machine meter mark in red of 14 OCT. 20. *Note: all the illustrations have been photoshopped so that the detail became visible. Ed*



This appears to be an item that emanated from a UK government official associated with the implementation of the terms of the Treaty of St Germain-en-Laye. Perusing the Treaty (the text is readily available on-line) makes quite interesting reading. It is pretty clear that Great Britain, as one of the delegates to the Commission, did not expect to benefit to a significant extent, perhaps only in having its small military observing presence paid for in supplies, but it did play a role in trying to ensure that the other Allies were recompensed (principally Serbia/SHS, Italy, Romania, and Russia). Unlike the Treaty of Versailles with Germany, actual sums are not mentioned, because the Commission had yet to evaluate what residual Austria could feasibly pay, bearing in mind that 90% of its former territorial area was no longer under its control. In practice, residual Austria was so impoverished that it paid almost nothing.

Presumably the letter was sent to the UK in the diplomatic bag, arriving at the Treasury only one day after having received the French-language Reparation Commission cachet. Treasury officials then forwarded it to Lloyds Bank through the UK Post Office after applying the Official Paid meter mark.

JOINT SOCIETIES MEETING, LATVIAN CLUB, BRADFORD, 17 August 2013

By Roger Morrell

Once again, Bradford Philatelic Society hosted the Joint Societies meeting, which is becoming the definitive annual event for member of the Austrian, Czechoslovak, Hungarian, Polish and Yugoslav Societies to mingle and learn from each other. Aply organised by Yvonne Wheatley and husband Richard, and despite the absence of several 'heavyweights' (as Yvonne put it) the numbers were around 25 with several new faces. Once again we were treated to full day of short displays covering a wide range of themes often with much overlap between participants' interests – an eclectic mix. Proceedings began with morning coffee, broke for an excellent buffet lunch prepared by Yvonne and Richard, and concluded with tea and an extensive range of home-made cakes. In order of presentation:

Peter Chadwick	The Eastern Silesian plebiscite 1920, covers and stamps from the Czech and Polish sides, with anecdotes and a request for more information on the Polish side.
Derek Walker	The Czech Army in the UK, WWII, following their migration around the UK, with covers and special cancellations.
Alan Berrisford	Inflation in Poland 1918-1924, giving examples of internal and foreign rates during this period, including complex frankings.
Richard Wheatley	The 1945 Czech War Heroes issue: foreign rate covers to the different zones in Germany and Austria, with a study of censorship.
Hans Smith	The Kingdom of Croatia: pre-stamp mail from Agram/Zagreb and Essegg/Osijek, both north of the Austro-Hungarian military border zone.
Edmund Jagielski	'Poczta Polska' overprints on Austrian and German stamps, 1918-19 including some scarce use on cover.
Keith Brandon	Hungarian pre-stamp mail: specifically negative town marks and combined marks with town name and 'franco' or 'recommandiert'.
Mervyn Benford	'A little light relief from Hungary': a display of illustrated sheets depicting ethnic themes shown on Hungarian stamps and postal stationery.
John Colton	Hungarian occupation stamp issues 1918-1920: including Baranya, Arad, and Romanian areas.
Derek Baron	Olomouc in Czechoslovakia: TPO cancellations during the Austrian period, and mail reflecting the expulsion of Nazi influences after WWII.
Reg Hindley	Russian-related aspects, including labels for the Franz-Jozef Land expedition, Czech Army in Siberia, Russian re-occupation of Ukraine and other areas.
Roger Morrell	Hungarian pictorial postal stationery, 1931-39, including overprinting of remainders for post office.
Rex Dixon	The German Occupation of East Silesia, 1938-39, showing how it was occupied at the same time as the takeover of Sudetenland.
Joyce Boyer	Austrian Stamp Exhibitions, WIPA 1965 and 1981, including publicity labels, special postmarks and stamp issues.
Andy Taylor	Tramcar mail in Hamburg, including cachets and special postmarks.
Peter Cybaniak	Ukraine temporary handstamps and cachets during the 1991 liberation, including free post given to military personnel.
Garth Taylor	Brno, Czechoslovakia: Commemorating the 1930s Grand Prix car racing circuit and the drivers taking part.
Mervyn Benford	Hungarian first inflation: covers and cards illustrating the progressive rise in rates in the period 1919-1925.
Alan Berrisford	The Russian postal system in Poland from 1865: postal history of the formerly Russian controlled part of Poland.
Malcolm Stockhill	The 1950 currency reform in Poland: mail with handstamped overprints of the new currency.

Roger Morrell	Paying for a telephone call at a Hungarian post office: so-called 'telephone tickets', including Croatian and Italian language versions.
	From John Whiteside's collection: Hungarian parcel cards from 1927-41, including the postal officials' concessionary rate for food parcels.

There was also ample time to discuss detail with experts, to trade stories about purchases, to view publications and auction lots, and simply to immerse oneself in the hobby and to learn. What better way to spend an indifferent August day? As Peter Chadwick put it in thanking Yvonne on behalf of everyone, 'it's one of the best meetings around', and many thanks to Yvonne for organising it. For those of you who missed it, there'll be another next year, same time, same place, so get it in your diaries before you start booking holidays!

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Varnish Bars Revisited

by Martin H. Brumby and Andy Taylor

A recent web-site query reminded us that there are people to whom things that “everybody knows™” are new and not known. “*The catalogue says these stamps have ‘varnish bars’ – what is that?*”



As the 19th century slid into the 20th, Austria began to change its postal system to the new currency (100 heller = 1 Krone) it had announced on 2 August 1892. Stamps were issued in it, with face values suited to the new postage rates; most rates were straightforward conversions of the old, but a few were increased. The Austrian Post, as always seeking something to worry about, thought that people might remove the cancellations from stamps and reuse them. Someone had the bright idea that if the stamps were printed with diagonal stripes of varnish, removing the cancels would also damage the stamp and make it unusable. Philatelists who have over-soaked the stamps, removing the varnish stripes and the design above them, will agree.

Experiments were begun using sheets of 1890, 1891, and 1899 issues. The State Printing Works applied to the sheets stripes (aka bars) of varnish (aka enamel) running from top left to bottom right at an angle of 45°; the stripes were 3½mm wide with 3½mm spaces between, giving part of 4 or 5 stripes per stamp, the stripes being printed over the existing design. The Postal Administration then took some old cancellers from their stores and experimented; they found that the cancelling ink did not ‘take’ on the varnish, but also failed to make much impression on the unvarnished paper. Eventually they found that if they used narrow bars and wide inter-stripe spaces, the cancellations became readable.

The first printing of striped stamps for issue was on 3 June 1901, with the stripes printed first and the stamp design added on top; they were sent to the Post Offices in September 1901, going on sale when the previous stamps ran out. The stripes now comprised a shiny part about 2¼ mm wide, and a contiguous dull part about 3mm wide (thus about 5¼mm wide in total), the spacing between stripes being 4¼mm, giving only 3 or 4 stripes per stamp.

It was found in use, however, that the width of the stripes was still too great, and the width of the dull part of the stripe was reduced, the shiny part staying at around 2¼mm wide. According to Müller (*Die Postmarken von Österreich*) “A paper was already used in 1902 in which the duller part of the stripe was only about 2mm, the total width of a stripe was now 4¼mm and the spacing between stripes 5¼mm” and “finally in 1903 the dull part of the stripe fell completely away, leaving only the shiny stripe, 2¼mm wide, the distance between stripes now amounting to 7¼mm.”



Three values from the 1902 issue. The 3h and 10h show well how the cancel ink does not ‘take’ on the varnish.

It is apparent that these statements have been picked up and quoted by the catalogue and handbook editors. Michel even prices three types of varnish stripes (5¼mm, 4¼mm, 2¼mm wide), and gives higher prices to the type II (4¼mm wide) striped stamps. In fact, as anyone who has attempted to separate these “three types” will agree, life is not quite that simple. For a start, the stripes, and especially the dull part, are not always easy to see, and the need to squint along the stamp, held up to the light, is a sure recipe for eyestrain. Attempts to measure stripe widths add frustration to eyestrain! Nonetheless, several points can easily be made.

Firstly, when considering the 1901 issue, stamps with dull and shiny stripes a total of 5¼mm wide, or with just shiny stripes 2¼mm wide, are clearly in a minority. Secondly, the majority of stamps have stripes with a dull part between about ½mm and 2mm wide. The exact 4¼mm total width of “Type II” is quite unusual. As Müller points out: “Since the reduction of the stripes took place gradually, it is not possible to draw a sharp boundary between the papers with the different widths of the enamel stripes ...”. Thirdly, the dull part is sometimes poorly

printed, giving a markedly uneven edge to the stripe. Fourthly, the sheets of paper printed with the varnish stripes were obviously randomly fed into the printing press to receive the design, as the dull part of the stripe may be found either above or below the shiny part. One wonders, in fact, how the dull/shiny stripes were printed. Presuming that the paper was passed through two machines to receive the dull and shiny parts, one would assume that cases of mis-alignment might occur. Shiny bars printed over the dull part would, presumably, not be obvious, but a gap between the two parts might exist?

By the law of unintended consequences, the varnish stripes tended to fall over the numbers of value in the corners of the stamps, making these difficult to see. The 1904 issue was also printed on striped paper; however the experiment was abandoned in late 1905. It's unclear if this was because the stripes didn't have the desired result, or they discovered that reuse of stamps wasn't actually a problem worth worrying about!

Perhaps the most interesting aspect of this fortunately short-lived experiment, however, is the special stamps for the Levant post offices. According to Müller and the other authorities, the Levantine issues paralleled the Austrian ones, i.e. the stamps issued in 1901 (Turkish currency at bottom, Heller values at top) initially had dull and shiny stripes totalling 5¼mm, and the dull stripes were reduced until finally only the 2¼mm shiny bar remained. The 1903 issue (Turkish values top and bottom) and 1903 and 1905 issues (Centimes) supposedly only exist with the shiny 2¼mm stripes. In fact, the 1901 issue seem mostly (all?) to be "Type II": that is, they have a more or less narrow dull band. But what is one to make of the 1903 issues (Turkish and French currencies) that still clearly have dull as well as shiny stripes? And what, indeed, of one 1 piastre stamp which has dull stripes wide enough (although irregularly printed) to qualify as a "Type I"? It seems clear that stocks of 'old' paper with the dull stripes were used up when the 1903 issues were printed.

Imaging the Varnish Bars



It is remarkably difficult to make a decent image of a stamp with varnish bars! A straightforward scan, especially of a mint stamp, fails to show the bars – as can be seen here.

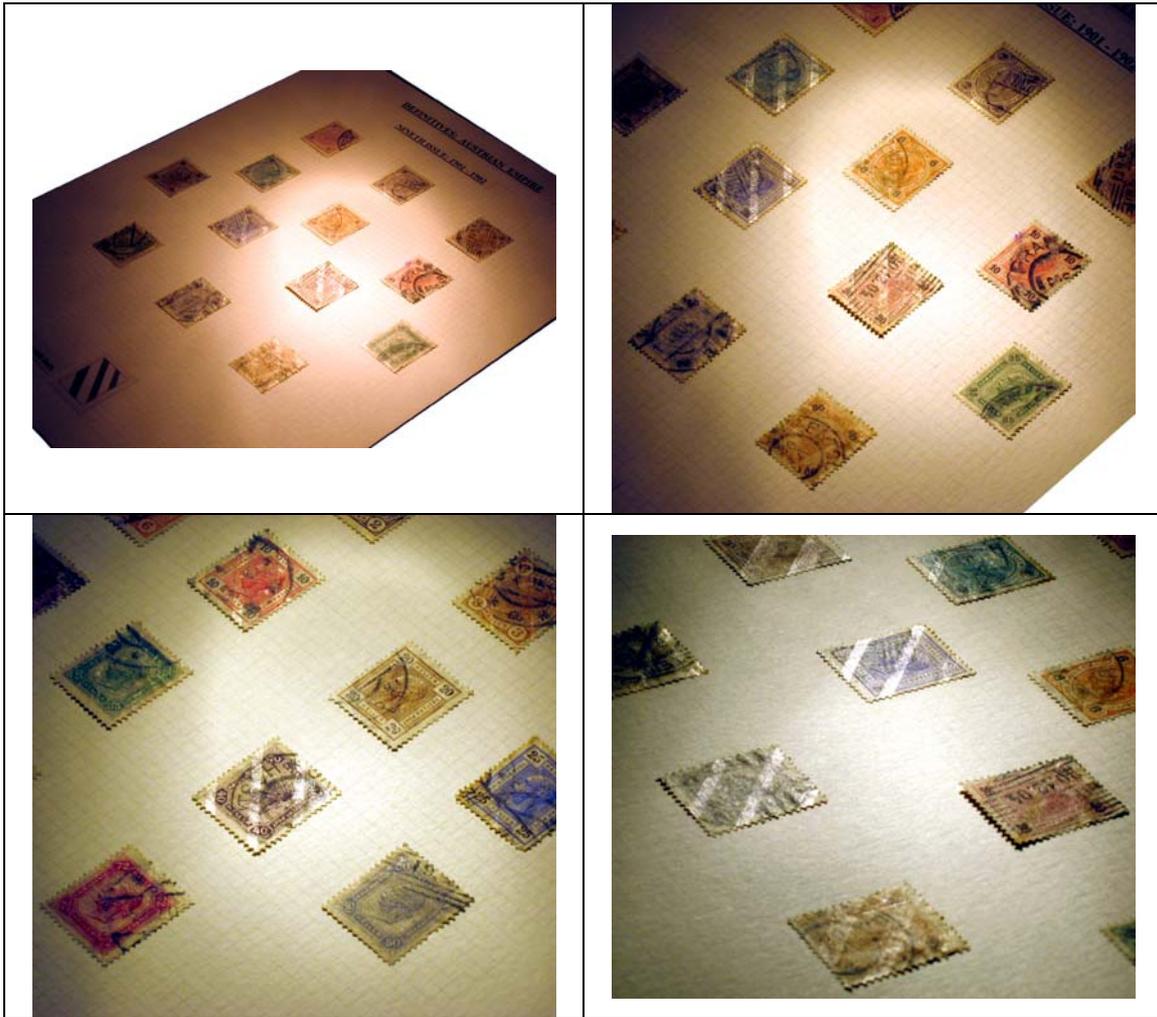
The bars show up well when looked at sideways, as is shown in the left-hand illustration below – however all detail of the stamps is lost. Using Photoshop to distort the image (right hand illustration) is no better.



One can fake the bars with photoshop but it looks faked!



Several attempts using natural sunlight at an angle produced nothing useful...



It seemed to me that I needed grazing-incidence light plus vertical light, and a decent camera, which I can't do at home! But I know a Society whose marvellous machine can...



A card to Kronstadt

by Keith Brandon

Following the article on return-to-sender labels by Douglas Muir in the last issue of **AUSTRIA**, readers may be interested in a postcard I recently found in the APS Packet.



It is a Czech-language souvenir postcard from the 1908 Jubilee Exhibition in Prague, cancelled on 11 October 1908 with the Exhibition special postmark. The message and address have faded over the years, and won't be visible in the illustration to this article, but I can just make out the destination town name **Kronstadt**.

The card was delivered to Kronstadt in the province of Bohemia (now Kunštát in the Czech Republic). The post office there did not recognise the address and speculated that the card was intended for Kronstadt in the Hungarian-administered province of Siebenburgen



(Transylvania, now Braşov in Romania). They postmarked the card **KRONSTADT / IN BOHMEN** on 13 October and marked it in manuscript **Siebenburgen ?**

A Hungarian **BRASSO** postmark of 15 October confirms the card's arrival in Braşov, but the addressee could not be found there either. On the picture side of the postcard is a green-on-white bilingual Hungarian / French label **Ismeretlen. Inconnu.**; more details on these is in Douglas Muir's article in *Stamps-of-Hungary*, March 2012.



Robert Elizabeth Stolz, the composer.

“A thematic study by Andy Taylor”. On reflection, perhaps not: Stolz had met Johann Strauss, knew Brahms and conducted Franz Lehár's *The Merry Widow*, so illustrating every link with an appropriate Austrian stamp would occupy a large book or an 8-frame competition entry. I'll restrain myself to an outline of his life and to a few of the over-50 special cancellations associated with his life and work.

Why ‘Elizabeth’? Why not! – there are many instances of an Austrian male having a middle name that in Britain would only be given to a female. The poet Rilke is in full René Karl Wilhelm Johann Josef Maria Rilke. The Czech painter, graphic artist and illustrator is Alfons Maria Mucha; the patron saint of Vienna is Klemens Maria Hofbauer – and Otto von Habsburg was christened Franz Joseph Otto Robert Maria Anton Karl Max Heinrich Sixtus Xavier Felix Renatus Ludwig Gaetan Pius Ignatius von Habsburg .



Robert Stolz was born the twelfth child of professional musicians in Graz on August 25, 1880. He began as a classical pianist (aged 7!), studied at the Vienna Conservatory, and worked at several opera houses before becoming a freelance composer and conductor. Meanwhile, after meeting Johann Strauss in 1899 Stolz started to compose operettas and songs. He married the singer Grete Holm

In 1914 he was called up, but was posted to the “Deutschmeister,” the most famous band of the Austrian army. He remarked that “it was typical of the old monarchy to go to the front in the dark days of its fall with antiquated, badly equipped armies, which were accompanied by the best bands of the world.” After WWI he worked mainly in cabaret, writing especially for his second wife Franzi Ressel. However they separated in 1923; he soon married Josephine Zernitz but that lasted only a year. Stolz fled to Berlin and started a new life – something he would have to repeat many times.



He started composing for sound films, eg “Zwei Herzen im Dreivierteltakt”, and wrote the music for forty more between 1930 and 1937. He was also politically active, smuggling Jewish families from Germany to Austria in the boot of his car. He returned to Austria in 1936. Schuschnigg’s radio address on 11 March 1938 was followed by a warning from his National Socialist brother that the Gestapo were looking for him. Stolz and his fourth wife, Lilli, fled to Switzerland, then on to Paris.

At the end of 1939 Lilli left him taking all his money and identity papers. He was interned at Colombe, where he caught pneumonia. He was saved by Yvonne Louise Ulrich, later nicknamed Einzi (‘the only one’) who bribed the guards to release him then arranged his passage to New York – following him there on a faster ship!

Stolz and Einzi began life again in the USA – with considerable success. Lilli reappeared but was repulsed and agreed to divorce Stolz, who married Einzi in 1946. Also in that year, Stolz returned to Vienna, where he lived for the rest of his life supported protected and managed by Einzi. He made many recordings of operettas, then started writing the music for the Vienna Ice Revue. After his death in 1975, Robert Stolz received the honour of a lying-in-state in the foyer of the Vienna State Opera House. He was buried near Johannes Brahms and Johann Strauss II in Vienna's Zentralfriedhof, and a statue to him was erected in the Wiener Stadtpark.

His widow Einzi devoted her remaining 35 years to aggressively and successfully promoting Robert Stolz music and memory. In Vienna she was known as “*Die lästige Witwe*” – and relished this recognition!

Selected operettas: Stolz’ first operetta was ‘Studentenulke’ in 1901, his last ‘Hochzeit am Bodensee’ in 1969, and amongst dozens of others ‘Im weißen Rößl’ (The White Horse Inn), jointly with Ralph Benatzky in 1930 and ‘Zwei Herzen im Dreivierteltakt’ in 1933 are famous.

Selected songs: from a lengthy list I note “Adieu mein kleiner Gardeoffizier” , “Das Lied ist aus” , “Du sollst der Kaiser meiner Seele sein” , “Hallo, du süsse Klingelfee”, “Ob blond, ob braun, ich liebe alle Frauen” and “Zwei Herzen im Dreivierteltakt”.

Honours and awards: Stolz received numerous honours and awards, from cities such as Vienna, Graz, Bregenz, Rotterdam, and Jerusalem. He received the Great Cross of the Order of Merit from Germany and a Professorship from Austria.

Memorials: In Vienna, Robert-Stolz-Park or -Platz lies between Opernring and Elizabethstrasse, opposite Goethe's statue; today it is a garden with a car park underneath but before 1978 the location was simply a continuation of Goethegasse. There is a Robert Stolz Memorial in the Stadtpark. Elsewhere, monuments, commemorative tablets, and so on are also in Bad Hall, Bad Ischl, Graz, Oberwart, St. Wolfgang, Trofaiach, and Wiener Neustadt.

Special Cancels: some show Stolz, some his music, some locations of commemorative events...





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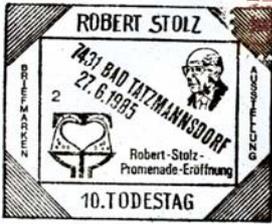



„ICH BIN IN GRINZING EINHEIMISCH“ von Robert Stolz



ERÖFFNUNG DER ROBERT STOLZ PROMENADE

Alfi Sedlacek

TRIESTE DOUBLE-CIRCLE POSTMARKS, 1837-52

by Keith Brandon

Introduction

Like many Austrian towns, Trieste used mainly straight-line postmarks in the eighteenth century and then oval postmarks after the Napoleonic interlude. However, in 1837 Austrian post offices were directed to use dated postmarks. Some postmasters continued to use their undated cancellers, applying a separate datestamp; others procured new cancellers which incorporated the date. The Trieste office responded with a new series of double-ring postmarks with date, including the year. There was no requirement for the date to include the year, but Trieste and a few other offices (such as Fiume and Agram) elected so to do.

Four different postmarks were introduced for ordinary mail, differing in the ornaments in their design, along with two more for registered mail. The series of double-circle postmarks extended into the postage-stamp era, and the inclusion of the year in the cancel enables loose stamps to be fully-dated. This article aims to identify these six postmarks, their variants and their usages. Müller catalogue numbers are used (see refs); those in the 1500s range are pre-stamp postmarks while 2900s are from the "Cancellations on Postage Stamps" handbook. A cancel recorded in both books has two numbers.

The first two postmarks



Two postmarks were introduced in 1837 with two distinct roles: for use on unpaid mail (fig 1, left) and on pre-paid mail (fig 2, right). The convention at the time was for unpaid mail to be postmarked in black ink and pre-paid mail in red. After the introduction of postage stamps on 1 June 1850, this distinction was redundant and black ink was generally used.



Müller 1575h (fig 1) is recorded in use from 1837 to 1851 in black ink. Blue ink has also been recorded for 1851 only. As well as conventional four-digit year-dates, a 183_ version is known on mail posted in 1840, and an 185_ version is known used in 1850 [the underscore signifies 'nothing there', ie the 4th digit is absent].



Fig 3 - An unpaid commercial letter with invoice dated 17 March 1838, addressed to Bruck a/d Mur and postmarked **TRIESTE / 17 MAR 1838**. Marked 14kr for the addressee to pay.

This first postmark is unrecorded in Müller's catalogue of postmarks on the first issues of adhesive stamps, and so it is assumed that usage ceased in the early months of 1850.

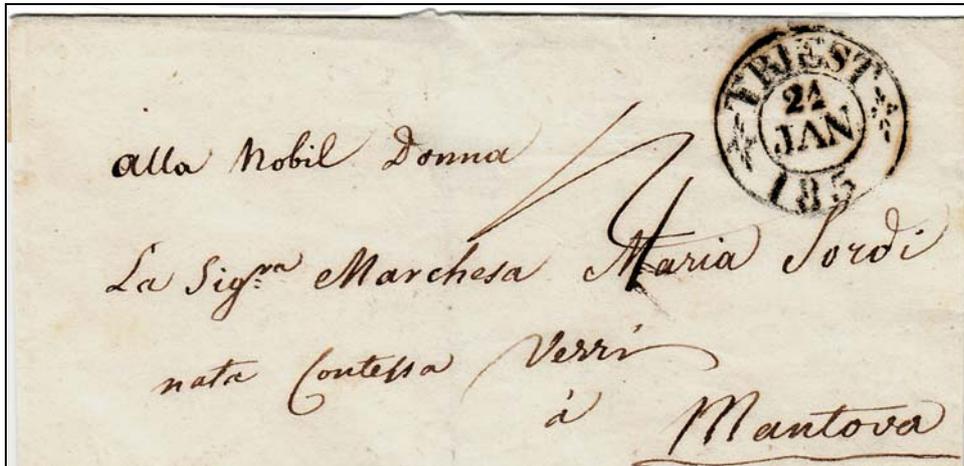


Fig 4 - Undated, unpaid cover to Mantova postmarked **TRIEST / 21 JAN 1850**. Assumed to be from 1850, from the last months of usage of this postmark.

The second of this pair of postmarks (Müller 1575i/2979b; fig 2) is inscribed **TRIEST / Franco** and is known, in red ink only, until the introduction of postage stamps. It is then recorded, in black ink only, until 1851. During this latter period, the year in the date is usually blocked out.



Fig 5 - Commercial mail to Genoa dated Trieste, 16 September 1837 and posted that day with red **TRIEST / Franco** postmark. Pre-paid 14kr to the border, and marked 13 dicesimi for the addressee to pay.

There was no postal treaty between Austria and Turkey at the time, and hence postage stamps could not be used on the next cover (Fig 6). Postage had, however, been pre-paid in cash. The letter was

therefore treated in the same way as Austrian mail from before 1 June 1850, and was postmarked in red ink, rare after that date.



Fig 6 - Cover dated Trieste, 17 September 1852 to Galata (Constantinople). Stamped **FRANCO** and postmarked with red **TRIEST / Franco** cancel. Known usage of this postmark is therefore extended from Müller's latest recording of 1851.

Mixed frankings of kreuzer- and soldo-denominated stamps were not supposed to be used because the two currencies were based upon different standards. Occasionally unpenalised examples escaped detection or were tolerated (Fig 7).



Fig 7 - Letter to Venice dated Trieste, 15 March 1852 bearing 3kr Austrian and 15 centes Lombardy & Venetia adhesives to make up the equivalent of 6kr. Postmarked black **TRIEST / Franco / 15 March** with year obliterated.

The Third Postmark



This postmark (Müller 1595j/2979c; Fig 8, left) fulfilled another role; as an arrival stamp on incoming mail. Müller’s earliest sighting was for 1841, but an example below (Fig 10) brings forward the earliest-known usage to 1839. Perhaps it was introduced in 1837 with the previous two marks. The postmark is characterised by a lower-case “Triest” and a different ornament. It is always found in red ink, irrespective of the paid / unpaid status of the letter.

Müller lists its use until 1851, together with an 18— variant with obliterated year digits (*balken*) which appears to have been used in 1852 (Fig 12, below). The 1851 version seems to have had the last two figures in the year replaced in a smaller type; compare figs 9 and 13. Fig 9 (right) shows early usage on a postage stamp, dated **19 JUL 1850**.



Fig 10 - 1839 cover from Ravenna with red arrival postmark on back **Triest / 20 DEC 1839**, two years before Müller’s first recording.



Fig 11 - Folded letter dated Kostainica, 16 August 1848, marked on arrival in Trieste with red postmark **Triest / 20 APR 184** with last digit missing from date-slug.

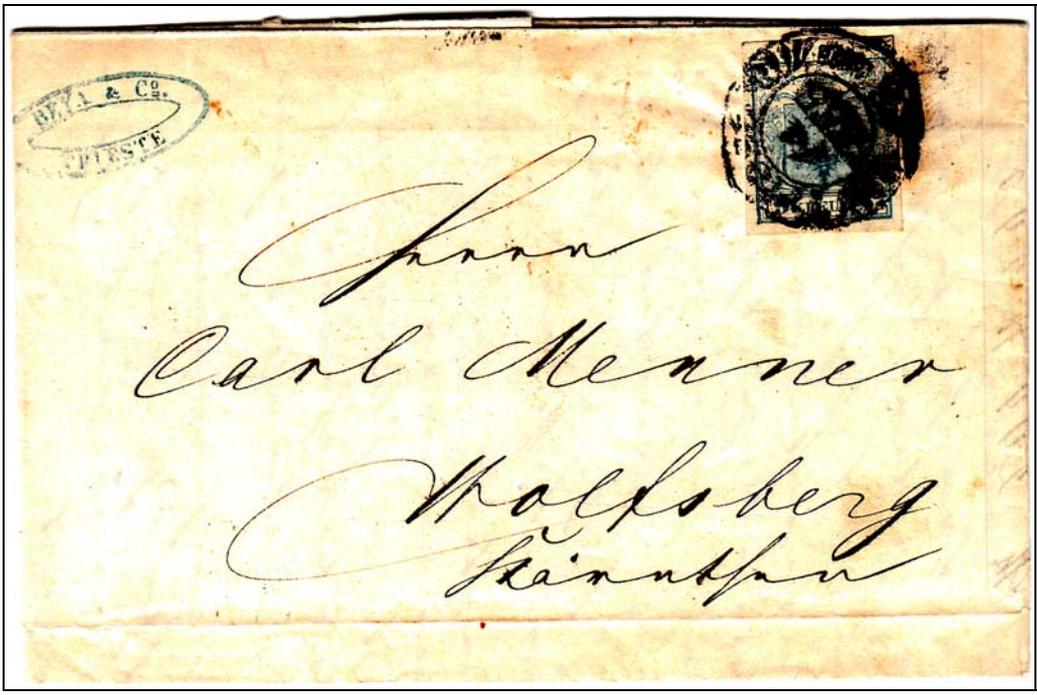


Fig 12 - Commercial mail dated Trieste, 10 February 1852 and addressed to Wolfsberg (Karinthia). Postmarked **Triest / 14 FEB 18—** (with balken).



Fig 13 – The postmark used in black as a transit mark on an 1851 letter from Como (Lombardy) to Ragusa (Dalmatia).

The Fourth Postmark



This postmark (Müller 15751 / 2979d, Fig 14, left) is recorded by Müller from 1847 to 1851. It was used initially (in black ink) to postmark unpaid mail, and then to cancel postage stamps. The ornament this time is a small six-point star.



Fig 15 - Commercial mail to Santa Maria Maddalena (Venetia) postmarked TRIEST / 23 MAI / 1847.

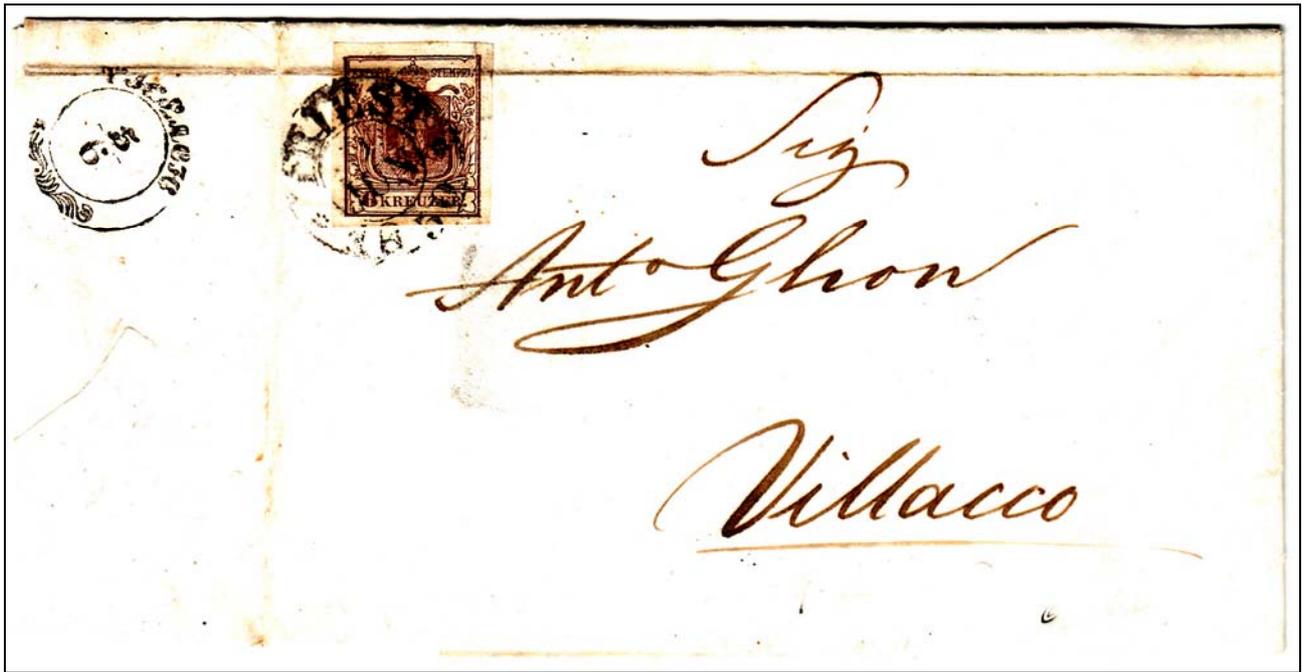


Fig 16 - Commercial mail postmarked **TRIEST / 3 JUN 1850**, the third day of postage-stamp usage in Austria. Addressed to Villaco (Villach) with very scarce arrival postmark **VILLACH / 5.6**.

The Registration Postmarks.



For reasons which are not obvious, Trieste used two combined town / registration postmarks in the early 1840s; one with a year-date (Fig 17, left) and one without (Fig 18, right). The variant with year (Müller 1575Rc; Fig 17) was first recorded for 1843, in black ink only, and its usage ceased before the introduction of postage stamps.

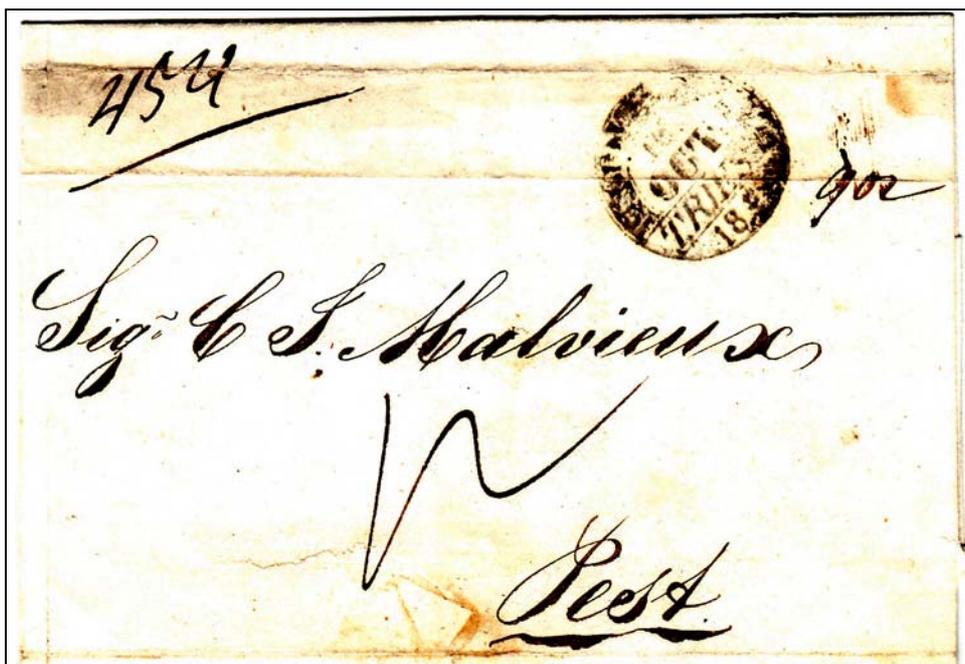
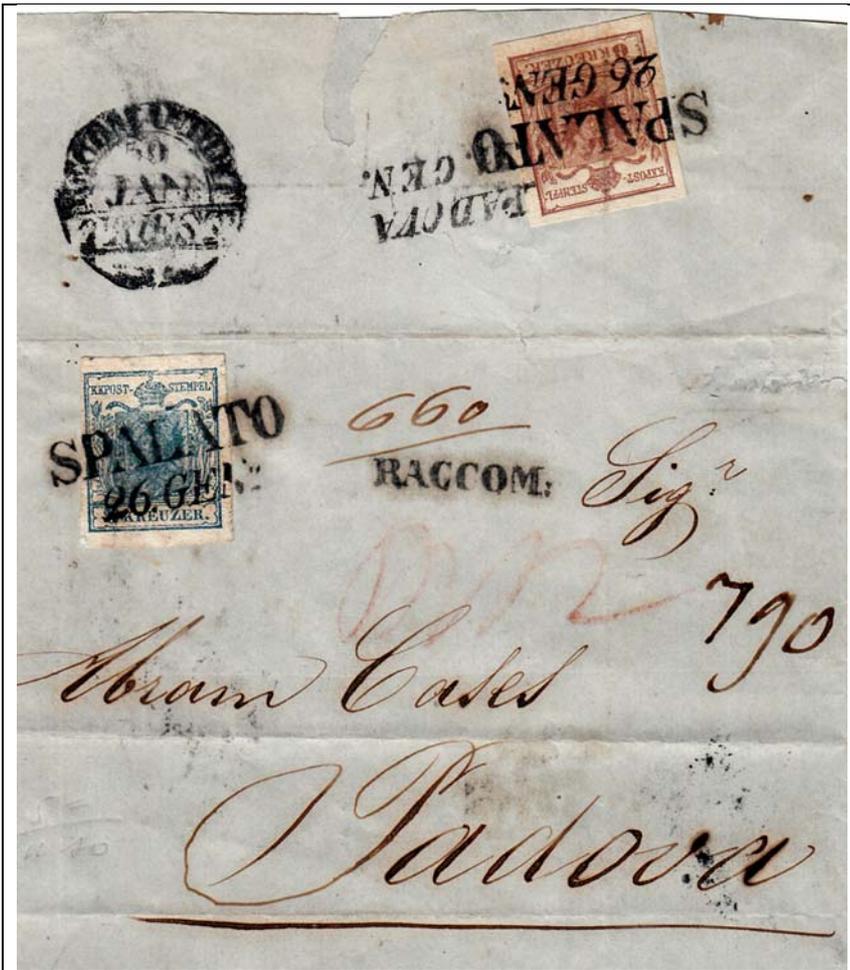


Fig 19 - Registered commercial mail to Pest dated Trieste, 16 October 1842, postmarked **RECOMANDIRT / TRIEST / 16 OCT / 1842**.

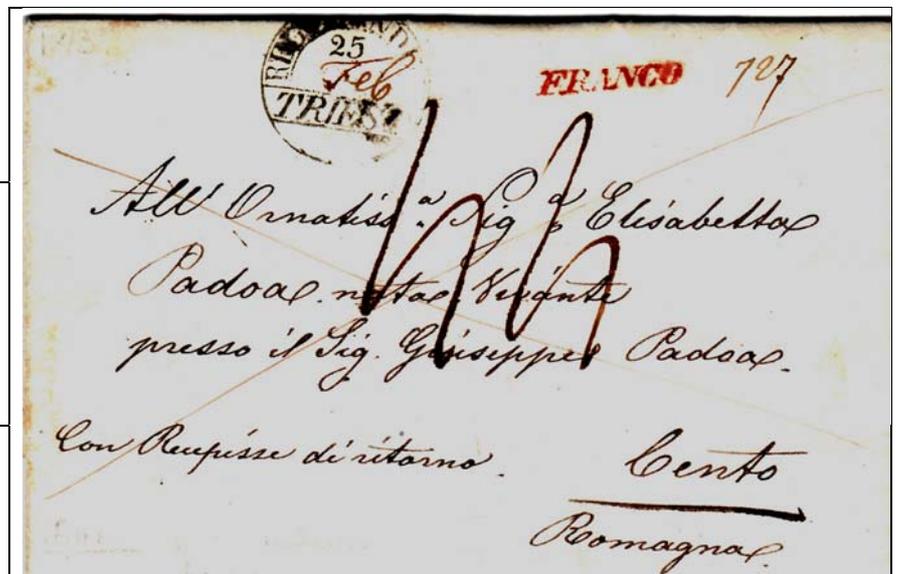


The second variant comprised the same design but with the lower segment left blank (Müller 1595Rb/2979Ra; fig 18). It is known in use from 1842 (in black ink only) and on the first issue of postage stamps (in black and, rarely, blue ink).

Fig 20 - Undated registered cover from Spalato (Dalmatia) to Padova (Venetia).

Postmarked **RECOMMANDIRT / TRIEST / 30 JAN** as the mail transited the port.

Fig 21 - Legal correspondence dated Trieste, 22 February 1843 to Cento in the state of Romagna and postmarked **RECOMMANDIRT / TRIEST / 25 Feb**. The month has been left out of the date-stamp and inserted in manuscript.



References

The catalogue references in this article are taken from the handbooks of Edwin Müller, all of which can be borrowed from the APS Library:

- “Handbook of the Pre-stamp Postmarks of Austria”, New York, 1960,
- Three supplements to the above published by “Die Briefmarke” in Vienna,
- “Handbook of Austria and Lombardy & Venetia Cancellations on the Postage Stamp Issues of 1850, 1858-59, 1860-61, 1863 and 1863-64”, 1961.

Fest Report – Coulsdon Manor

By Albrecht Mangai and Jablečný Koláč.

The 2013 weekend's events started with our 113th Auction, conducted by our Auctioneer Keith Brandon. Some £3500 worth of postal bids were already on "the book", but that didn't prevent lively bidding in the room for many of the lots. The airmail and inflation material was particularly popular, with the hammer often falling at more than double the starting price. Keith's provisional estimate is that final sales will be in excess of £5000 and will establish an APS record. An excellent dinner and many hours of philatelic discussion prepared us for the following day's displays.

Saturday's proceedings opened with congratulations to those who had entered Autumn Stampex and obtained awards above (or below) their expectations. The first display was by Martin Brumby on "Chimney Sweeps"; theirs was a highly-regarded profession in the Empire with strict medieval-guild-style regulations designed to prevent 'turf wars' and protect standards. They were also responsible for some building-regulation enforcement, notably the prohibition on having wooden joists and rafters protruding into the flue. Chimney Sweeps were – and are – regarded as bringers of good luck. The display showed invoices and receipts, mostly with pictures of Chimney Sweeps at work or repose, and of course with revenue stamps.



Keith Brandon was next, showing registered mail from the inflation periods. This had had small beginnings, later enhanced by judicious bulk purchases of collections. There are 14 periods, and in each postcards, letters of various weights, mail to local, inland and foreign addresses, added express and other fees, and so on lead to a large number of gaps to fill in a 'one of each' collection. The example is (part of) a registered envelope from the Finance Ministry sent locally within Vienna; a violet handstamp says that the recipient was to pay the postal charges of 7K50 for a local letter plus 10K registration totalling 17K50, to be shown by dues on the back.



Geoff Frost then showed us a wide variety of items, such as letters rejected because WWI had broken out, POW mail, cards showing Austrian Commanders, and mail from the British Occupation of Imst.

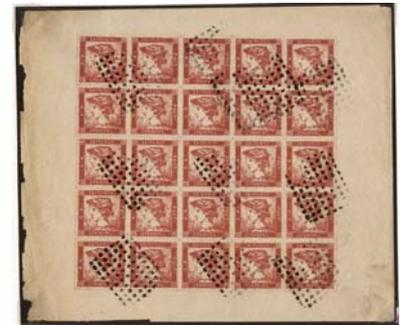
Joyce Boyer displayed Christkindl. She noted that the first cancel – the green fairy and Xmas tree – was only valid on inland mail, so used-to-abroad items are fakes; subsequent discussion concluded that black versions are at best dubious! Joyce also showed related items, eg the place itself, the special-bus ticket, and Kinderdorf material.

She explained that until the Euro was introduced, subscribers to the Austrian Post Office New Issues received each year a Xmas card with the previous year's Xmas stamp cancelled with the current year's Christkindl



cancel [this is the only way to obtain that combination]. However the 2001 Xmas stamp, face value 7 Schillings, was not valid in November 2002 so the then-current 51-cent had to be used instead. The changed practice continues.

Barry Clark then showed postcards of WWI military leaders, with extensive descriptions of their biographies. Many were signed by the man pictured – indeed some seemed to spend more time sending postcards to their friends than conducting the war!



Andy Taylor had been asked to bring his 80-sheet Stampex display on Newspaper Post, which he supplemented with a frame of Spiro Forgeries. He



asked for – and got! – suggestions for its improvement, including ‘use only one colour of paper not two’.

After a welcome coffee-break, John May showed us modern booklet panes; the booklets have to be dismantled for display. Each page contains three “Personal Stamps” – albeit issued by the Austrian Post Office – surrounded by more-or-less relevant vignettes.

Clive Murray produced a Work In Progress: Foreign mail for the inflation periods. As reported above at “Keith Brandon”, this is a much larger subject than it seemed at first (!) and Clive had highlighted many areas where his knowledge needed enhancing. Many positive suggestions were made!

The illustration also shows the frames used for the displays, which were kindly brought by Alan Berrisford. Alan showed a Brief History of Bukowina, “the forgotten corner of the Empire”.



Hans Smith followed, with “Disinfected Mail”. He explained the great pains Austria took in order to decontaminate mail, toasting it, washing it in vinegar, exposing it to sunlight, perforating envelopes with serried ranks of knives... In 1850 an Austrian scientist discovered that cholera, the disease that they sought to prevent, could not be

transmitted on paper, only in liquids. It took the bureaucratic mind five years to act on this discovery (nothing changes!) and even then they were not really convinced.



Geoff Richardson next showed us German booklet stamps used in Austria during WWII; Alan Berrisford displayed Bukowina TPOs (the illustration below is a wrapper for 32 newspapers sent to Stanisławów station for collection by the retailer); Geoff Frost as “Not in SG” had a series of unadopted essays by Wimmer, some press-release items with diagonal black bars, phone cards, definitives used as dues, and Franz Josef Land triangular “stamps” (actually a Friedl label); and Barry Clark some Bohemian TPOs accompanied by old and new maps of where they were.



Moravian TPOs
Stramberg - Stauding
430

PSC dated 20/11/1911 addressed to Velka Polom, it entered the postal system at Pribor - Stramberg (Stramberk) - Stauding (Studenka) TPO cancellation.

Location	Czech Version
Stramberg	Stramberk
Nesselsdorf	Koprnice
Dmoletz	Dmholec
Freiberg	Pribor
Kottnitz	Skotnice
Sednitz	Sednice
Stauding	Studenka

Stramberg - Stauding 430 TPO Route

The assembled philatelists then enjoyed an excellent buffet lunch.

In the afternoon, Tony Hickey delivered an engrossing historical lecture on “Prelude to Anschluss, 1919-1938”. It was copiously illustrated by 170 sheets of cards, vignettes, covers, and propaganda leaflets. An excellent talk, excellently presented.



This was followed by the Competition, where members are invited to show one 9-sheet frame on a subject loosely connected with Austria and beginning with a specified letter: for 2013 it was G. There were only four entries: Gurgltal; Gemeinde Gutschein; Graz City Post; and British Airways flights to Austria – the connection here being that all British civil aeroplanes have a registration number beginning with G! After a secret ballot, Gurgl and Graz tied for first place.



A Bourse rounded off the day, and much material changed hands. Dinner and discussions continued for quite some time!



Germany containing 4 copies of a newspaper, for a retired colonel who was ‘taking the waters’.

Sunday’s displays were begun by Colin Tobitt showing Gymnastics – luckily audience participation was not demanded. Formal Gymnastics were started in Prussia after the defeat by Napoleon showed the inability of the Prussian troops to work together; the first event was held in Berlin in 1811. Colin showed cards from gymnastic festivals held all over Austria. This was a German movement; other language groups soon developed parallel activities of which the best known is the Czech Sokol.

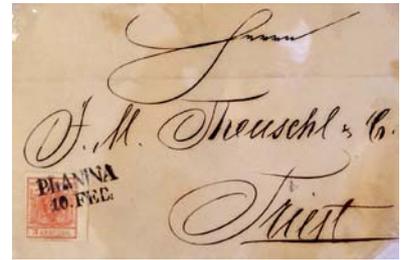
Next was Joyce Boyer with Öztal postal history – specifically the Langenfeld area. This was a quiet agricultural backwater until a sulphur spring was discovered in 1910 and a spa was opened. The illustration is of a wrapper sent from





Paul Taylor displayed “Anschluss: the first few weeks”, with mostly commercial covers rather than philatelic.

Hans Smith had {cough} years ago taken a holiday in Carniola aka Krain and accumulated numerous covers. He then put them in a box and didn't discover it till last year. Everybody wished they had similar



boxes! The postal organisation in Krain was first introduced by the invading French in 1805, and when Austria regained the territory they kept it going.

Andy Taylor produced a series of “Because I can” items, showing the more and more inventive ways the Austrian Post Office devises to tempt “one of each” collectors. Stamps printed on the same plastic as the world cup footballs, anyone? His electronic dissection of the Madagascar stamp raised not a few eyebrows!



John Bathard showed the Development of Austrian Railways; this was mostly done by a few forward-thinking men who tended to be Hungarian or Czech rather than German.



Keith Brandon displayed his Trieste Double Circles collection; there are 4 ordinary and 2 combined town-registration cancellers, all slightly different.



Geoff Richardson showed the post-war Landscapes series, each value both loose and on cover.



And finally, Clive Murray put up “Another Work in Progress”, inflation in the inland post; as for his previous display he requested and received many comments and suggestions.



Proceedings concluded with the Annual General Meeting, which will be reported on separately by the Hon Sec; and the “Post Mortem and Next Year” discussion at which “York, 3-5 October 2014” was agreed to.

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