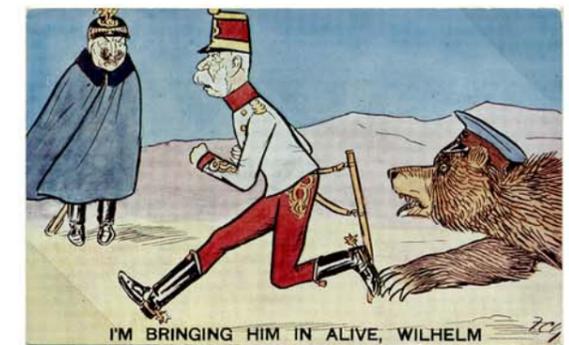


A selection of the items discussed in this issue.



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Edited by Andy Taylor

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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 her (address on IBC) and pay her, and she will arrange for whoever holds the stock to send it to you. Full details can be found on the “Bookshop” and “Officers” pages.

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.

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Note the changes!

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A word from the President

There are three important matters that I want to bring to your attention. Firstly, in September we heard the sad news of the death of our former Chairman Henry White, at the age of ninety-four. An obituary will be found on page 2, and a Tribute Display is planned for next year's "Fest" weekend.

On a more cheerful note, I am delighted to advise you that Andy Taylor has been awarded Honorary Life Membership of the Society. An appreciation appears on page 35.

Thirdly, I must return to our urgent need for a Treasurer. We have now split the roles of Treasurer and Membership Secretary in the hope of attracting a candidate for the reduced Treasurer role. Full details will be found on page 18. **One of you has to step forward for this role or the Society will have to close down next year.** Ask not what your Society can do for you but what you can do for your Society. Please.

May I take this opportunity to wish you and your families a merry Christmas and good health in 2016.

Keith

Editorial 192

I discovered this admonition in Baedeker's Southern Germany and Austria, 1891 edition, and thought it might be an interesting contrast to now-a-days... "*English travellers often give trouble by ordering things almost unknown in German usage; and they are apt to become involved in disputes owing to their ignorance of the language. They should therefore endeavour to acquire enough of the language to render them intelligible to the servants, and should try to conform as far as possible to the habits of the country.*" So when asked what you wish to drink, do not request a large warehouse ☺

Congratulations to: **Peter Chadwick** (Large Gold for *Unpaid Chargemarks of Uniform Penny Post 1840-1853*) and **John Pitts** (Gold for *Austria-Hungary: the China Station*) both at the National Stamp Exhibition at York, 17-18 July 2015; and to **Johannes Haslauer** who obtained a Large Gold in Class I at Gmunden 2015 with *Salzburg – Vom Erzbistum zum Herzogtum*. With his assistance, parts of this exhibit will appear in 'Austria'.

And **congratulations to Joyce Boyer**, who has been awarded the VOePh "**Goldene Ehrenzeichen**", presented to her at the Philatelistenklub Merkur Innsbruck. The 'Pin' and a picture from the presentation are shown on the cover; Joyce's report is on a later page.

News from Vienna: Ophila has ceased trading; Herr Schlosser has died; Dorotheum's stamp ober-the-counter sales have moved across the road to nr 20 Dorotheergasse.

And we wish Herb Kucera a happy 85th birthday!

Andy Taylor

HENRY GEORGE WHITE, 1921-2015

Henry White was born in Worcestershire in 1921, graduated from Leeds in 1941 with a First in colour chemistry and was soon 'conscripted' into what became ICI Dyestuffs Division. He retired from that at age 57. It was said he achieved his ambition and drew his ICI pension slightly longer than he had worked for them!

His first foray into Austrian philately was during the war, and he joined the ASCGB in September 1962. He was member nr 344, and at his death only 3 members remained with earlier numbers. Henry was at various sometimes-overlapping times secretary, packet secretary, and chairman.

The APS was well represented at Henry's funeral, which was a Civil or Humanist service, so different from normal but a very fitting tribute to and celebration of Henry's life. In his tribute

Andrew, Henry's son, included mention of his stamp activities including his Vienna postmarks project.

Henry financed the APS Anniversary Personal Stamp, and took great delight in overhearing the many attempts to guess who had done this!



A search of "all Austrias from 127" reminded us that Henry had numerous special interests, including but certainly not limited to:

- 1933 WIPA labels
- Anschluss and Third Reich
- Bosnia & Herzegovina
- Costume series
- Hesshaimer
- Buildings series
- Kleinwalsertal and Jungholz
- Postal stationery
- Vienna post offices
- Vienna pre-philatelic
- Vienna time-zones
- The slogan-type cancellations of Austria 1938-1945
- The composition of the inks used in some Austrian stamp issues.
- A sensible and useable classification of Austrian cancellations

Spontaneous tributes from members and others included:

- ❖ A traditional Gentleman, an endangered species of which there aren't many left.
- ❖ A sad loss. He was one of the last of the old guard.
- ❖ A gentle and agreeable man who really did know what he was talking about.
- ❖ One of the Greats.

It is intended to devote a session at the 2016 Fest to displays inspired by Henry's collecting interests. Anyone wishing to contribute is invited to contact Mrs Joyce Boyer.

THE LEVANT BOOK: AMENDMENTS

Hans Smith and Andy Taylor

Several people in several countries have helpfully submitted queries on some details in Hans Smith's book "*The Austrian Post Offices in the Levant*". Here is a list of amendments and explanatory notes. If there were to be a reprint or a second edition, they would be incorporated.

page xi footnote 3: did we mean German?

Some authorities say the Austrian Lloyd was based on the German Lloyd. The latter commenced its insurance activities (on the lines of Lloyd's of London) in the 1830s, so the footnote is strictly speaking correct as it stands. However the German Lloyd began its ship-owning activities in 1867 while the Austrian Lloyd Steam Navigation Co. (the Lloyd's "Second Division") was formed in 1835. To avoid any misconceptions, delete the words "on the lines of the German Lloyd, itself". The footnote will then read:

³ The First Division acted as an insurance pool, inspired by the Lloyd's insurance market in London. The Third Division gathered and published shipping news and printed newspapers.

page xii para 1 line 7: Turkish?

This statement is correct. The Turks applied strong pressure on the Austrian Government and the Lloyd in the 1880s.

page xviii para 2 line 2: should '1850' have been '1750'?

No. All contemporary accounts mention the dangers of maritime transport in the Eastern Med. before 1850.

page xxv para 3 last line and page xxvi (full) para 2 line 3: should this be 'accession .. to the General Postal Union' with perhaps a note or footnote that the GPU became the Universal Postal Union in 1878?

Yes. The text should be amended to read 'the General Postal Union', with the footnote as proposed.

page xxvi para 1 line 2: Österreichisches Werth should be österreichische Währung (cf the decree printed below it).

Yes, it should.

page xxix: the Italian for Sarajevo is Saraglio not Saraevo.

So it is. Saraevo is the Croat.

page xxix: Why do Bosnia and Herzegovina have red numbers while all the rest are black?

Because these two are countries, while all the rest are places.

page 24: Cancellation type 2 (Mostar with year) is an Austro-Hungarian Field post cancellation, handed (by its maker?) to the postal administration on 12 Aug 1878: see Pongratz-Lippit's Handbuch Bosnien-Herzegovina, 1st edition, pp 28 & 93.

This is a consular datestamp not a military datestamp and is in line with the consular datestamps issued to other consular offices during the period concerned. The similar datestamps issued to certain field post offices all identify themselves as such – eg having "KK Milit. Post 13" around the top of a circular cancel with "Mostar" at the base and the date in 3 lines in the middle. No evidence has been seen for field post use of the cancel listed in the book.

Stamped Paper used in the Austrian Empire during the period 1803—1817

Adapted from articles by the late John Whiteside

Introduction

During this period the Tax System was governed by the Patent of 5th October 1802 (Reichsgesetzblatt 577). This came into force on 1st. January 1803 and remained operative until 31st. December 1817. The 1802 Patent had 14 levels of tax, from 3 kreuzer to 100 gulden. Contrast the 1762 Patent it replaced, which had only four levels of tax! Stamped paper was issued for all these taxes in two distinctly different types.

It should be noted that this 1803-1817 Patent applied only to the so-called Austrian Crown Lands. Hungary and other areas administered from Budapest such as Slovakia, Transylvania and Croatia did not have a Documentary Tax System until 1850. The Tirol, Vorarlberg and Salzburg were under Bavarian domination at this time.

In 1809, Austria declared war on France, with disastrous results. The French occupied much of the Empire from May to October 1809 and some parts remained under French or Bavarian control until 1814. In consequence, from 1810, stamped paper had to bear a Control mark as well as the value impression.

It is thus a period of great variety and interest. The prime source of information is “Stempelsignetten-katalog von Oesterreich-Ungarn” by Ladislav Hanus, published in Prague in 1930 (APS Library nr 377), which devotes 40 pages to the various issues in this period, many of which are considered below.

The Stamped Paper

There were two totally different types in parallel use: “**Vorratsstempel**” which was pre-stamped paper supplied from stock from Vienna; and “**Erfüllungstempel**” paper stamped on demand at the provincial tax offices.

Vorratsstempel

These had circular stamp impressions, an outer ring printed in black containing the value within which there was a colourless embossed design. Each of the 14 values was in a different design. They were printed on specially manufactured, watermarked paper with a distinctive design for each value. The sheets of paper were greenish in colour, about 470x370mm.

The upper right half of the sheet bore the watermark, consisting of the value in double-lined letters and figures, below which was a pictorial symbol and beneath this 1803 in double-lined figures. The left half of the sheet was un-watermarked save for a small reversed number towards the bottom left corner. These appear to be random and. not related to the paper value; those so far seen are 1, 2, 3, or 6. The stamp impression was applied to the top right of the sheet on the watermarked portion and the sheet was then folded vertically to give 4 sides of paper, the first two being watermarked and the back two the plain part. The pictorial designs of these watermarks are:

| | | | | | |
|------------|------------|-----------|---------|------------|--------------|
| 3 kreuzer | Fish | 1 gulden | Archer | 20 gulden | Two stars |
| 6 kreuzer | Two fishes | 2 gulden | Twins | 40 gulden | A large star |
| 15 kreuzer | Crayfish | 4 gulden | Swan | 80 gulden | Eagle |
| 30 kreuzer | Scales | 7 gulden | Peacock | 100 gulden | Lion |
| 45 kreuzer | Dog | 10 gulden | Horse | | |

The distribution of this paper from Vienna to the provinces was hampered by security problems because of the disturbed state of the Empire. From 1807, new designs for the lower values were prepared. The dies were sent out to the provincial stamp offices that produced them. These were on various types of ordinary paper, not the special watermarked stock. The 3 kr, 6 kr and 15 kr appeared in 1807, the 30 kr in 1808 and finally the 45 kr and 1 fl in 1810. The latter were only used in Prague and are rare.

Erfüllungstempel

These were diamond-shaped around a circular central portion containing a colourless embossed design. The black printed outer part bore the value and one or two code letters which denoted the provincial stamp office at which they were struck. There were 10 of these, the code letters being:

| | |
|-----------|---|
| W | Vienna; for Lower Austria. |
| LI | Linz; for Upper Austria. |
| G | Graz; for Styria. |
| K | Klagenfurt; for Carinthia. Closed in 1813, transferred to Graz. |
| LA | Laibach; for Carniola. Lost to the Kingdom of Illyria in 1809. |
| Gö | Görz; for Istria. Closed in 1807, transferred to Laibach. |
| P | Prague; for Bohemia. |
| B | Brünn; for Moravia. |
| KR | Krakau; for Western Galicia. Lost to the Duchy of Warsaw in 1809. |
| L | Lemberg ; for Eastern Galicia. |

The Erfüllungstempel may be found struck on all kinds of paper. All 14 values should exist for each of the 10 stamp offices, though the higher values, especially the top three, are exceedingly rare from some offices.

The war of 1809

Austria declared war on Napoleon on 9th. April 1809. The Austrian armies advanced into Bavaria, which was one of Napoleon's main allies, but they were defeated at the Battles of Abensberg and Eckmühl. During May, the French occupied Upper and Lower Austria, Styria, Carinthia and Carniola, entering Vienna on 12th. May. Western Galicia was also lost to the forces of the Duchy of Warsaw. Further French advance was temporarily halted at the Battle of Aspern, but on the 5th. July the main Austrian army was crushingly defeated at Wagram, after which an armistice was signed at Znaim (Znojmo) in southern Moravia on 11th. July.

Austrian officials were very successful in removing stocks of stamped paper, the stamping dies, and sometimes the stamping machinery and transporting them to safety ahead of the advancing French armies. In consequence, the French, who carried on the Austrian Tax System, had to produce new stamped paper for the areas they controlled. This was not introduced until 1st. September. The Peace of Vienna was concluded on 14th. October. The occupied areas were immediately handed back to Austria, except for Carniola, Istria, Dalmatia and parts of Carinthia. These became part of the French-controlled Kingdom of Illyria. The French Occupation stamped paper thus had a very short life of about 6 weeks. The designs, all circular, are characterised by very prominent numerals. In its simple form, used during the occupation of 1st Sept. to 14th Oct.1809, this paper is rare. However it can be found used with a special control mark in the Kingdom of Illyria until 1st October. 1811.

Control Stamps

The occupation and the subsequent recovery of the occupied provinces had caused tremendous problems for the Tax System. It was decided that further control of stamped paper was required. A Decree of 28th. Jan. 1810 laid down that, from 1st. April 1810, documents were to be on paper that bore a Control Stamp in addition to the value stamp. During the intervening two months, paper stocks could be brought in for exchange or for control stamping, but thereafter all uncontrolled paper would be invalid.

The Control Stamps consisted of a black printed ring with the legend K.K. OESTER. CONTROLSTEMPEL, within which was an embossed centre showing the name and number of the Provincial Stamp office. The numbers were 1=Lemberg, 2= Brünn, 3= Prague, 4= Klagenfurt, 5=Graz, 6=Linz and 7=Vienna. The offices at Görz, Laibach and Krakau do not now appear as they were under foreign control. In 1814, the Lemberg mark was replaced by a new one in which the outer ring reads CONTROLSTEMP and the embossed centre is now a capital L. The Control Stamps remained in use to the end of the Patent on 31st. Dec. 1817.

Remarks

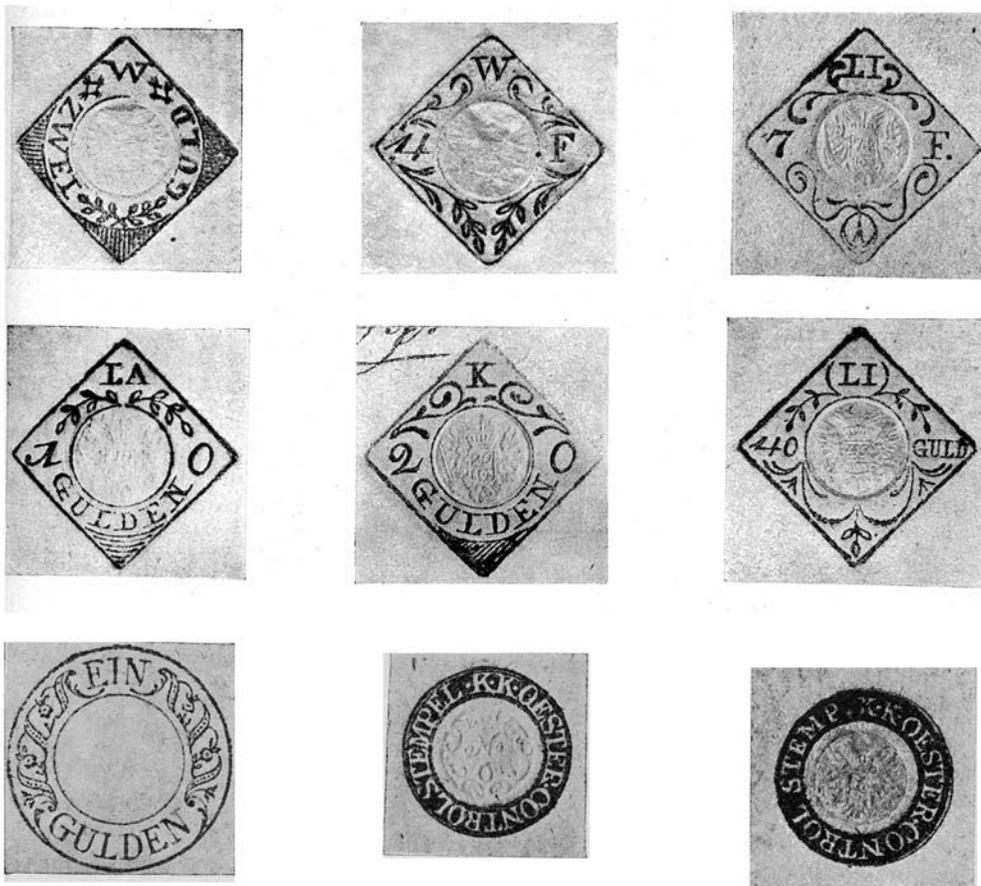
Up to 1809, examples of the circular Vorratsstempel are preponderant. However, after the introduction of the Control Stamps in 1810, the reverse applies: the diamond-shaped Erfüllungstempel are now predominant. The reason for this appears to be that it was a fairly common practice to re-stamp the Vorratsstempel paper at the

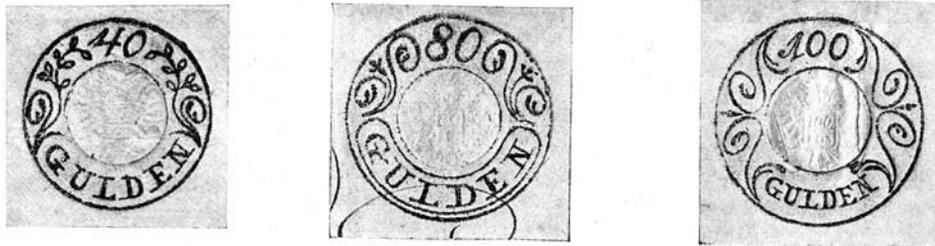
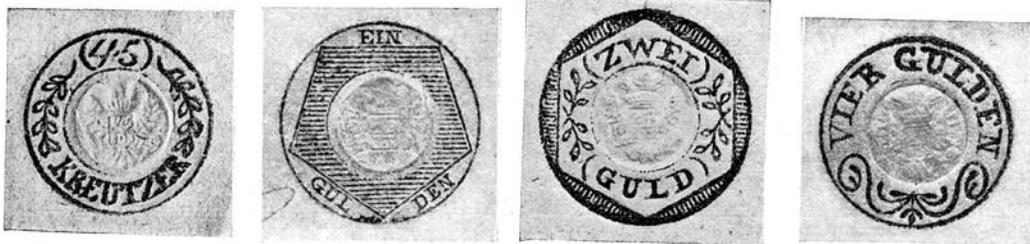
provincial tax offices with the Erfüllungsstempel dies. The watermarks now become very significant, since they indicate what the paper was originally for and hence if it has or hasn't been 'redeployed'.

The Patent of 1802 established an ad-valorem scale of duties on money transfer documents such as receipts or loan agreements. In this scale, 6 kreuzer was the duty on a transfer of 25 to 100 gulden. But the Patent also set out taxes on a variety of other documents that were not concerned with money transfer. Documents on 6 kreuzer paper can be rather interesting in a social-history sense. This was the tax levied on what may be broadly described as any form of testimonial. Typical examples are a Guild certificate testifying to 36 weeks apprenticeship to a master cabinet maker; a Declaration by a householder in Vienna that a widow has resided in his house for the past 15 years working as a laundress; an Army discharge certificate; and a School graduation certificate signed by the director of a High School. Items such as these provide a closer insight into daily life than many of the financial and legal matters usually recorded in documents on stamped paper.

The stamped paper and tax system described above ended on 31st Dec. 1817, when it was replaced by a new Patent that operated from 1818 to 1835. This replacement was urgently needed for two reasons. Firstly, the provinces returned from foreign occupation in 1814 needed to be fully reintegrated into the Imperial Tax System and secondly, the problems that had arisen from the operation of two parallel currencies (Conventions Münze and Wiener Wahrung) needed to be clarified.

Here and on the next page are some typical examples of what can be found on documents.





MAKING A GOOD IMPRESSION

The Österreichische Staatsdruckerei today

A request to Österreichische Staatsdruckerei for an overview of their current stamp production methods resulted in a list of the unusual methods available to them to meet the varied demands of their customers and “achieve a very good impression”. Their web site <https://www.staatsdruckerei.at/> also summarises their activities. The stamp business itself is one of their oldest businesses and they are proud to produce stamps with a very high reputation.

ÖSD have produced postage stamps since Austria’s first issue of 1850, and are renowned for line-engraving and offset printing. Numerous technical innovations first appeared in their output, eg the first Hologram stamp. They now produce for about 60 countries all over the world (e.g. Maldives, Liechtenstein, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Iceland, Åland.....)

- ❑ Traditional printing in offset
- ❑ Combination of printing-methods offset and intaglio
- ❑ Printing of personalized stamps for the Austrian Post.
- ❑ Stamps with special finishings: thermography, hot foil and 3D-embossing
- ❑ Stamps with a filling of seeds
- ❑ Stamps with a very fast producing procedure



A seedy business...



This is an oblique view of the 2-stamp sheet issued on 24 Jan 2009 showing Benvenuto Cellini's Saliera (salt cellar) made between 1540 and 1543 while the artist was in Paris. The design is embossed in 22 carat gold foil. The issued stamp is better known face-on:



29 June 2008 UEFA EURO 2008 CHAMPION – SPAIN
 29. Juni 2008 FUSSBALL-EUROPAMEISTER 2008 – SPANIEN



GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS™ – FASTEST PRINTING OF A POSTAGE STAMP
 GUINNESS WELTREKORD – „DIE SCHNELLSTE BRIEFMARKE DER WELT“

The Guinness Book of Records lists ÖSD for the fastest printing of a stamp in 2008. This is a Personalised Stamp Sheet (OK, the middle two rows are labels) and shows how these can have a different image in every position.

Corrections corner

In 'Austria' 71 (Spring 1985) page 26, the Wiener Neustadt stamp of 27 May 1966 is described as “printed with black, red, gold, and greyish-brown ink”. No green is mentioned, which is odd considering the grass on the top right and bottom left shields! I have now received a copy of the relevant Verordnungsblatt (thanks, E.S.), which states that it actually used black, grey, red, green and gold. Stamps are known with the gold missing, and the red appears to have been used underneath the gold as well as by itself.

Austrian artillery units in Danzig 1915

Bernd Marczinke ♦

At the beginning of the First World War the Austro-Hungarian Army (*K.u.K = Kaiserliche und Königliche Armee*) strengthened fortresses on the Belgian and French borders with Mortar Batteries nos. 3 and 4 from Krakau and nos. 7 and 8 from Wippach-Görz. Mortar Battery no. 7 was deployed from 11 December 1914 in the area of Nieuport on the Flemish coast and no. 8 was in the vicinity of Ypres from 10 November. The K.u.K. Army possessed a very powerful 30.5cm mortar, which unlike the the first German type (the so-called 'Big Bertha'), was not tied to the rail network.

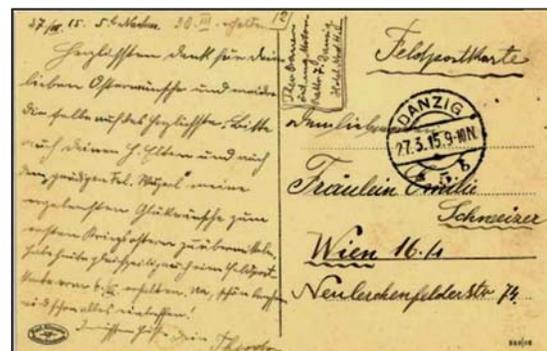
In early 1915 the mortar batteries were transferred to the Eastern Front. Field post items sent by the gunnery crews and support personnel indicate that some at least of these mortar batteries were temporarily stationed in Danzig on their way to the front.

The guns used ammunition such as the normal 385Kg high explosive shells made from nickel-steel to penetrate hard targets, and 300Kg shrapnel for 'soft targets'. There were several variants of the 30.5cm mortar such as the M16 capable of swivelling fully 360° on a centrally-pivoted gun carriage, which through simplified engineering and reduced weight was much simpler to assemble and dismantle. Gun-transporters were specially constructed, designed by the chief constructor of the Austro-Daimler Works, Ferdinand Porsche. The Škoda Works manufactured 72 units of the 30.5cm mortar. Two type M16s were still in use by the German Army in 1941 at the siege of Sevastopol.



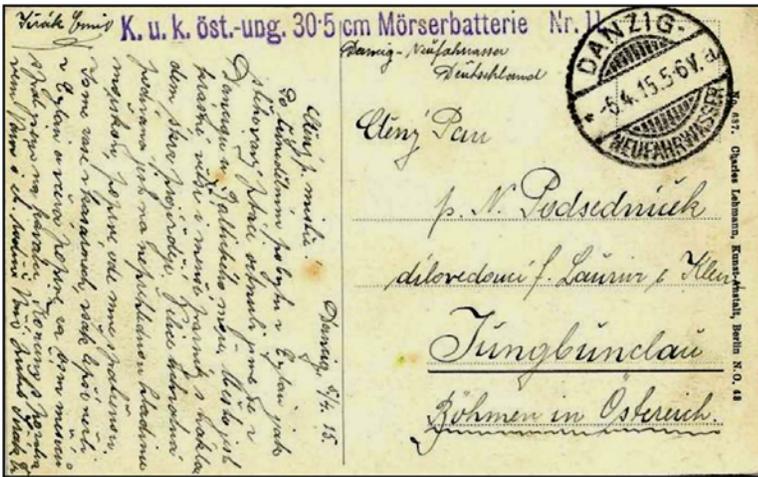
Austro-Hungarian 30.5cm mortar (sieg howitzer) in the First World War.

Postal items are known sent by Austro-Hungarian artillery units deployed in Danzig, DanzigNeufahrwasser, as well as Marienburg from the middle of February to early April 1915 including some from the *K.u.K Österr. Motor-Mörser Batterie 8/8* and the *K.u.K. Festungs-artillerie-bataillon Nr. 8*.



Two field post cards sent from Danzig on 25 & 27 March 1915 to Vienna by the same sender. The use of the field post has not been validated with an army unit stamp on either card. In addition the lack of a Danzig originating postmark on the earlier card resulted in the addressee having to pay 10h postage due. On the later one, the Danzig postmark seems to have been sufficient for the card to have been treated as field post also in Vienna. Manuscript address details: "Theo Bauer, öst. Ung. Motor-Battr. 7 Danzig, Hotel Nord"

♦ Adapted by Giles du Boulay from an article published in The Danzig Philatelist No. 28 (Oct-Dec 2013), by kind permission of the author. Deconstructed and reset by Andy Taylor because of file format problems.



A field post card sent from Danzig-Neufahrwasser on 6 April 1915 to Jungbunclau in Bohemia with the violet unit stamp of the K.u.K. öst.-ung. 30.5cm Mörserbatterie Nr. 11.

A field post card sent from Danzig on 9 April 1915 by Vormeister Fritz Manner with the (faint) unit stamp of the K. UND K. FESTUNGSARTILLERIEBATAILLON N° 8 30.5 cm Mörserbatterie Nr.8. 'Vormeister' was a rank used in the Austro-Hungarian artillery equivalent to a corporal in the infantry.



The postcard below is one of a number known from the Mortar Battery no 8 dating from July 1915, once deployed in the area of Rawa-Ruska in the Ukraine.



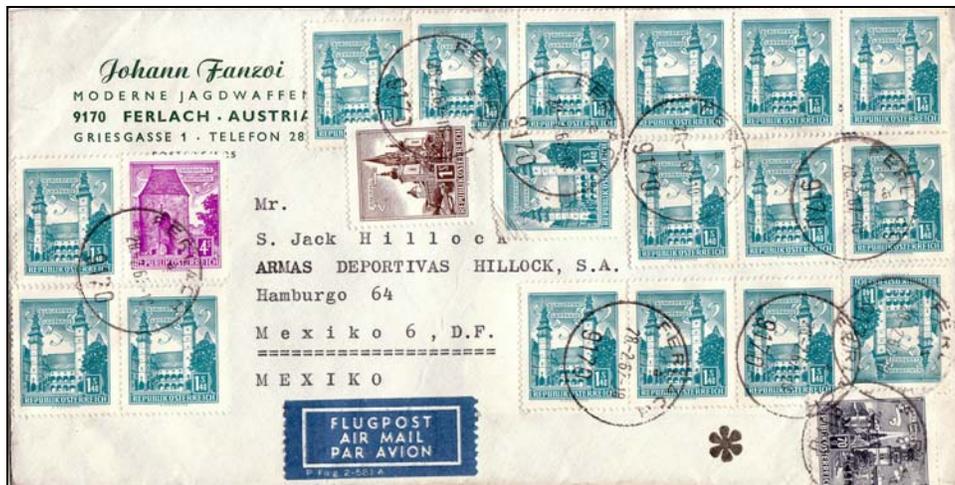
A field post card sent from the Rawa-Ruska area on 6 July 1915 to Marburg, with the letter-stamp of the K. UND K. FESTUNGSARTILLERIEBATAILLON N° 8 30.5 cm Mörserbatterie Nr.8.

STARS BEFORE YOUR EYES

By Andy Taylor, with thanks to Steve Schweighofer.

Stars in various colours can be found on air mails sent from Austria from the 1950s to the 1990s. These have been described and discussed in articles in Austria 167 page 56ff and 176 page 27. They signify that the postage paid on the item equals (or exceeds) the amount due for the item taking into account its weight, shape, destination etc. Postal clerks thus know not to waste time checking the item, as it has already been done.

After the articles were published, the question arose: why are they all to North America? Was that the only destination checked? No, is the answer; they were all to-America because that's where the collection was started. [How many postcards from Austria to Australia do you find at York Fair?] The principle collector, Steve Schweighofer, later expanded his search to cover the world, and now has examples of starred letters sent to Argentina, Great Britain, Guatemala, Kenya, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Senegal and South Africa! All these are now on the APS web site at <http://www.austrianphilately.com/asterisks/index.htm> and two photogenic examples follow: Guatemala & Mexico. [The stars have been emphasised.]





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2015 NEW ISSUES (second 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; printer; and sometimes 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 Post.at website**

has now resumed providing information in English – yippee!



500th birthday of St Teresa of Avila. 1-€70; 28.3.2015; 200,000; Offset-Stich; design: Dieter Kraus; printed by ÖSD.

Austrian National Library. 68c; 18.4.2015; 300,000; offset; design: Anita Kern; printed by ÖSD.



Eurovision Song Contest Vienna 2015. 80c; 24.4.2015; 350,000; offset on silver foil; design: ORE Marketing and Creation; printed by Enschedé. Dark red on black, so see front cover.

Maria Schell (in the series Austrians in Hollywood). 68c; 24.4.2015; 550,000 in sheetlets of 10; offset; design: Kirsten Lubach; printed by Enschedé.



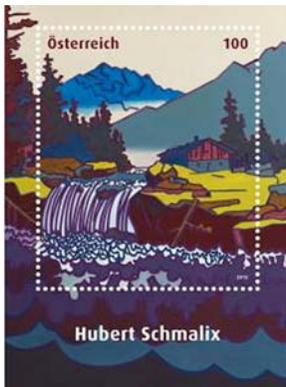
Liaunig Museum (Modern Architecture series). 68c; 26.4.2015; 300,000; offset; design: Silvia Moucka from a picture by Alexander Rendi; printed by ÖSD.

Tuxer Tracht (in the Classic Costumes series). 68c; 2.5.2015; 550,000 in sheetlets of 10; offset; design: Anita Kern; printed by Enschedé. Tuxertal is in the Tirol near Mayrhofen.



175 years of Postage Stamps. 2-€20; 7.5.2015; 150,000 blocks-of-one 100x80mm; offset; design: Anita Kern; printed by ÖSD. Features James Chalmers, Laurenz Koschier and Rowland Hill; issued in time for London2015!

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| <p>1834</p> <p>James Chalmers, Verleger, Buchhändler und Druckereibesitzer aus Dundee, Schottland, druckt 1834 kleine aufklebbare Zettel mit Wertstempeldruck.</p> | <p>1836</p> <p>Der Österreicher Laurenz Koschier macht der Regierung 1836 den Vorschlag der Einführung von Briefmarken. Die Idee verschwindet in der Schublade.</p> | <p>1840</p> <p>Der britische Postreformer Sir Rowland Hill gilt als Urheber der Briefmarke. Die erste »One Penny«-Marke erscheint am 6. Mai 1840 in London.</p> |
| <p>175 Jahre Erste Briefmarke der Welt »One Penny Black« 1840</p>  <p>1850: 1. Briefmarke Österreichs</p> |  <p>1840: 1. Briefmarke der Welt</p> |  |
| <p>D 175 Jahre Briefmarke</p> <p>SL</p> <p>Österreich 220</p> <p>ONE PENNY</p> | | |



Hubert Schmalix (in the Modern Art series). 1€ 7.5.2015; 150,000 blocks-of-one 60x80mm; offset; design: Hubert Schmalix; grafik: Peter Ledl; printed by ÖSD. The picture is “After the rain”.

Europa 2015 – old toys – Matador. 80c; 7.5.2015; 300,000; offset; design: Gustav Assem; printed by ÖSD.



Steyr Puch IMP 700 GT Coupé (in the Cars series). 1€ 29.5.2015; 200,000; offset; design: David Gruber from a photo by Wolfgang M. Buchta; printed by ÖSD.



Jugend für gesunde Ernährung (youth for healthy nutrition); 68c + 20c; 3.6.2015; 200,000; offset; design: Jakob Hansbauer; grafik: Dieter Kraus; printed by ÖSD.



200th anniversary of the Congress of Vienna. 68c; 9.6.2015; 300,000; offset; design: Nikolaus Schmidt; printed by ÖSD.



Tag der Briefmarke 2015. 2€88 + 1€44; 18.6.2015; 480,000 in sheetlets of 6; offset; design: Kirsten Lubach; printed by ÖSD. The stamp shows the Danube bridge at Tulln.



Hare (*‘lepus europaeus’*, in the game & hunting series). 1€60; 19.6.2015; 200,000; Offset-Stich (Etch-Art by ÖSD); design: Kirsten Lubach; printed by ÖSD.



Kelchvelum (in the Diocesan Museum, St. Pölten; from the series Austrian sacred art.) 1€ 19.6.2015; 200,000; offset-Stich (Etch-Art by ÖSD); design: Peter Sinaweil; printed by ÖSD. This is a piece of velvet ornamented in gold, silver and petit-point, part of a collection given by Maria Theresia to the Institute for English Girls.



450 years of the Spanish Riding School. 80c; 26.6.2015; 300,000; offset; design: Marion Füllerer after a photo by Michael Rzepa; printed by ÖSD.



Michael Rzepa; printed by ÖSD.

Churches in Austria - Rankweil Basilica. 68c; 21.08.2015; 300,000; design: Kirsten Lubach; printed by ÖSD. Rankweil Basilica is a stop along the famous Santiago de Compostela Path, which crosses the whole of Europe and ends in Spain.



Historical postal vehicles - Cariole carriage letter post. 1€ 27.08.2015; 170,000; design: Regina Simon; block issue; printed by Cartor Security Printing. Image and useful Official Essay below.

Modern art in Austria - Anton Faistauer - Woman with a dark hat.

68c; 28.08.2015; 300,000; design: Regina Simon; block issue; printed by ÖSD.

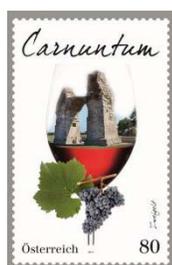


Historical postal vehicles - Cariole carriage.



Descriptive essay from the OPost web site! From the “Historical post vehicles” series, this Austrian Post stamp block shows a cariole carriage, a light carriage used by the post for local deliveries. In the early days of the mail under Maximilian I, only horseback messengers were used, but towards the end of the 17th century the first horse-drawn carriages entered operations, and could also be used to transport passengers. Under Maria Theresa and Joseph II, finally, a regular mail service and the first express mail carriages were set up to serve important cities in the surroundings such as Prague and Trieste. These mail carriages had fixed routes, departure times and fares, and enjoyed certain privileges over private carriages, allowing them to be faster on cross-country routes. For the distribution of letters within cities, private delivery services were founded, such as the Kleine Post in Vienna. The postal service within the capital and residential city of Vienna was reorganised in 1830 under the Imperial-Royal Senior Postal Administrator Ritter Maximilian Otto von Ottenfeld. With the approval of the High Imperial-Royal General Court Chancellery of 18 August 1830, the Kleine Post, set up in 1772, was dissolved and the Vienna City Post created. Its aim was to facilitate correspondence between the residents of the city, to accelerate the distribution of letters and mail arriving in Vienna and to make it more convenient for those living further away from the Imperial Post Office to mail letters and post, as Adolf Bäuerle set out in his book “Was verdankt Oesterreich der beglückenden Regierung Sr. Majestät Kaiser Franz des Ersten?” in 1834. For this purpose, the city of Vienna and the suburbs were divided into six main districts, which in turn were divided into 46 delivery districts, which included the 73 “Imperial-Royal Letter Collections”. Each main district was given a Branch Post Office, while responsibility for overall management was placed in the hands of the City Post Administration in Wollzeile in Vienna. The Branch Post Offices, not all of which were located in Vienna, and the City Post Administration were linked by small horse-drawn carriages, given the name cariole carriages. They were light and manoeuvrable, having only two wheels and drawn by a single horse, and hence were only intended for the distribution of letter post. The name derives from the French word “cariole” for a cart. These light one-horse carriages were also used at an early stage in towns and rural regions for delivering post, using the term “cariole post”. Until the arrival of the railways, the mail carriage remained the most important means of transport both for passengers and for letters and packages. In local urban traffic, the cariole carriage was finally replaced by the mail van and mail bicycles and mopeds.

Austrian wine regions – Carnuntum. 80c; 05.09.2015; 500,000; design: David Gruber; printed Joh. Enschedé



Stamps. This stamp (issued in sheets →) commemorates Carnuntum, “the place where wine and culture come together” and one of the smallest wine-producing areas in Austria. The area comprises three areas of hills east of Vienna and south of the Danube, ideal for cultivating wine thanks to the Pannonian climate and the soil conditions. Wine has been cultivated and consumed here since the age of the Celts. The symbol of the region is the Heathens’ Gate, once part of a splendid building dating from the 4th century A.D. protecting a statue of Emperor Constantine II. This arch is no stranger to the APS... the two photos shown below were taken in colour but in winter, so they look black/white!





200th anniversary of the birth of Don Giovanni Bosco. 150c 12.09.2015; 200,000; Offset-Stich (Etch-Art by ÖSD); design: David Gruber according to a motif by the Austrian artist Sepp Buchner; printed: ÖSD. Austrian Post is dedicating a commemorative to this founder of religious orders on the occasion of the 200th anniversary of his birth.

20 years of Alp-Adria philately. 80c 18.09.2015; 550,000; offset; design: Regina Simon; printed: Joh. Enschedé Stamps B.V. The Alps-Adriatic Philately Working Community set itself the task 20 years ago of

promoting philately and intensifying philatelic competition peacefully and amicably, with account being taken of the individual conditions of the member countries. The aim was to encourage contact between philatelists of the various countries, to exchange information about events of interest, and to provide mutual assistance for philatelic projects. In addition, joint efforts were to be made to encourage enthusiasm for philately among young people.



Modern architecture in Austria - Haas House, Vienna. 68c 19.09.2015; 300,000; offset; design: Silvia Moucka after a photo by Julius Silver; ÖSD. The Haas House is at the corner of Stock-im-Eisen-Platz in central Vienna, directly facing St Stephen's Cathedral; it is celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2015.

Photographic art in Austria - Gregor Schmolz. 68c 19.09.2015; 300,000; offset; design: Gregor Schmolz, graphic Regina Simon; printed:

ÖSD. From the "Photography in Austria" series, this commemorative shows "Vexations" by Gregor Schmolz, who is frequently referred to as the "Monsieur Surrealist" of Austrian contemporary art



125th anniversary of the birth of Friedrich Kiesler. 80c 22.09.2015; 300,000; offset; design: Anita Kern after a photo by David Harris; printed: ÖSD. The Austro-American architect, designer, painter and stage-set designer was born on 22 September 1890 to a Jewish family in Czernowitz.

Lederhosen – the stamp is leather with Swarovski buttons!! 6€30; 24.09.2015; 150,000; design: D. Swarovski KG, Wattens, Tirol; printed: D. Swarovski KG, Wattens, Tirol in "Alcantara Laserschnitt mit XILION Flat Backs in Golden Shadow". Face value 6€30 is for an international Maxi-Brief sent economy; this is 324x229x20mm up to 500 grams, a box which will just take this year's issues of 'Austria'. A commemorative in the form of a pair of Alpine lederhosen made of Alcantara leather decorated with Swarovski crystals.



DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!

Following a successful weekend in 2015, the APS annual APS "Fest" Meeting will again be held in Peterborough, on 9 to 11 September 2016. Full details will be in the next issue, but meanwhile please reserve the date.

VACANCY

HONORARY TREASURER for the AUSTRIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY.

The impending retirement of John Anthony creates a vacancy for this important and essential role on the APS Committee. **(Please note: this vacancy no longer includes the role of Membership Secretary, which has been filled separately).**

The incoming Officer will have the opportunity to work in parallel with John for a sufficient period to ensure an effective handover. The role has been running smoothly for a number of years, and the new incumbent will inherit functioning systems.

A short list of duties follows. A more detailed list can be obtained from John Anthony or Keith Brandon.

- receive and pay out money on behalf of the Society, and control and reconcile the bank account, credit-card account and Pay-pal accounts,
- maintain an accurate and detailed set of accounts for income and expenditure, and achieve their approval from the Honorary Auditor,
- provide the Committee with appropriate and timely financial data for business judgements,
- prepare a Treasurer's Report for the AGM pack, and present these at the AGM,
- contribute to Committee discussions on a wide variety of Society matters.

The role does NOT include preparation of the Auction and Exchange Packet accounts, which are done by the relevant Officers.

The job-holder should have some experience of compiling simple accounts, and be proficient at using computer spread-sheets. Attention to detail is essential. For practical reasons (such as banking), the individual should be UK-based.

The new Treasurer will be appointed by the Committee at a time that suits all concerned. He/she will then stand for election at the following AGM. Please apply as soon as possible to the Chairman (Colin Tobitt) or the President (Keith Brandon).

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Austrian Philatelic Society held at the Bull Hotel, Peterborough, on 13 September 2015 commencing at 11 am

1. **Present:** Keith Brandon (President, in the chair), Colin Tobitt (Chairman), Geoff Frost (Secretary) and 16 members (minutes taken by Nick Coverdale).
2. **Apologies received:** Barry Clark, John Anthony and Martin Brumby.
3. **Minutes of the AGM held on 14 September, 2014:** Nick Harty stated that he had apologised for his absence from the 2014 AGM. With this amendment, the minutes were accepted as an accurate record (proposed by David Bravery and seconded by Colin Tobitt).
4. **Matters arising from the minutes:** Nick Harty noted that there was a reference to Joyce Boyer objecting to the minutes of the previous AGM as being insufficient and incomplete. The Secretary said that he had taken note of this and Joyce Boyer said that this was no longer an issue.
5. **President's report:** Keith Brandon had included in his report that, sadly, six former members had died since the last AGM. He also had to report that in addition Henry White had died earlier that week at the age of 94. Henry had been one of the earliest members of the Society and had held a number of positions, including Packet Secretary, General Secretary and Chairman. He had been a very committed and helpful member. His funeral was to take place the following Monday in Evesham. The President led a minute's silence in memory of those members.

He also highlighted the medals won by members at London 2015 and, especially, the VÖPh awards received by Joyce Boyer and Andy Taylor, to whom he added his own congratulations.

Finally, the President offered his thanks to Colin Tobitt and Geoff Richardson for organising the Fest weekend and to Alan Berrisford for supplying the frames. He was also pleased to note that two members (David Bravery and Nick Coverdale) had volunteered to stand for election respectively as Publicity Officer and Secretary. On the same theme, he re-emphasised the need for a new Treasurer to fill the impending vacancy, otherwise the Society might no longer be viable in the future.

6. **Chairman's report:** Colin Tobitt's report was noted.
7. **Secretary's report:** Geoff Frost's report was noted. As outgoing secretary he was thanked for all his work for the Society.
8. **Treasurer's Report and accounts:** the Treasurer, John Anthony, was unable to be present so the President took any questions on his behalf. The key points of the report were that no increase in subscriptions was being proposed and that there was a healthy cash surplus. The report and accounts were accepted (proposed by Andy Taylor and seconded by James Hooper).
9. **Membership Secretary's report:** as above, John Anthony was unable to be present, and his report was noted.
10. **Auctioneer's report and financial statement:** Keith Brandon reported that it had been a good year, dominated by sales of material from the estate of Les Taylor. A "dividend" of £1750 had been paid to the main account. The financial report was accepted (proposed by Geoff Richardson and seconded by Paul Taylor). Geoff Frost proposed a vote of thanks to the Auctioneer, seconded by Nick Harty.
11. **Packet Superintendent's report and financial statement:** Barry Clark was unable to be present. A key point from his report was that during the year a sum of £1500 had been transferred to the main account. The financial report was accepted (proposed by Colin Tobitt and seconded by Len Barnes).
12. **Editor's/Webmaster's report:** Andy Taylor's report was noted.

13. **Librarian's report:** Joyce Boyer's report was noted with her added plea to members to make more use of the library.
14. **Publicity Officer's report:** Hans Smith emphasised the need to provide him with material when it was still "hot off the press" in order to interest the press and philatelic publications. He asked members to give their support to David Bravery, his proposed successor. Joyce Boyer noted that Stamp and Coin Mart and other philatelic magazines often published news of philatelic societies and suggested to David Bravery that he should send a report of the Fest weekend to the former publication. The President thanked Hans Smith for all his work as Publicity Officer.
15. **Resolutions:** none
16. **Election of officers:** nominations had been received as follows (all those nominated had agreed to their nomination):

| Role | Nominee | Proposer | Seconder |
|----------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| President | Keith Brandon | Barry Clark | Joyce Boyer |
| Chairman | Colin Tobitt | Andy Taylor | Barry Clark |
| Secretary | Nick Coverdale | Keith Brandon | Andy Taylor |
| Packet Secretary | Barry Clark | Joyce Boyer | Keith Brandon |
| Treasurer | John Anthony | Keith Brandon | Andy Taylor |
| Membership Secretary | John Anthony | Keith Brandon | Andy Taylor |
| Librarian | Joyce Boyer | Nick Coverdale | Keith Brandon |
| Editor | Andy Taylor | Barry Clark | Joyce Boyer |
| Auctioneer | Keith Brandon | Nick Coverdale | Joyce Boyer |
| Publicity Officer | David Bravery | Keith Brandon | Andy Taylor |

It was proposed by John Bathard and seconded by James Hooper that a block vote should be made and this was accepted. Nick Harty duly proposed the election of all nominated officers and this was seconded by Geoff Richardson. All nominated members were therefore duly elected.

17. **Appointment of Auditor:** John May was proposed by Joyce Boyer and seconded by Colin Tobitt and duly appointed. John had previously stated that this would be his final year in the role of Auditor. The President thanked John for his work to date in that role.
18. **Matters raised by the Committee:** none
19. **Reports and financial statements of local groups:** nothing to report.
20. **Any other business:** the President noted that the Society occasionally awards Honorary Life Membership. Before the death of Henry White there had been 5 such members, the others being H Pollak, B Madeley, J Dutton and R Zimmerl. The Committee would now like to propose Andy Taylor as a Life Member. The President outlined Andy's contributions to the Society – Treasurer from 1990 and later Membership Secretary, Editor from 1999, and organiser of the Society's 60th Anniversary display at Stampex. He had always been willing to fill in as and when necessary. The proposal was duly accepted and Andy thanked members for the honour bestowed upon him.

The meeting closed at 12 noon.

**Treasurer wanted – apply to to the
Chairman (Colin Tobitt) or the President
(Keith Brandon).**

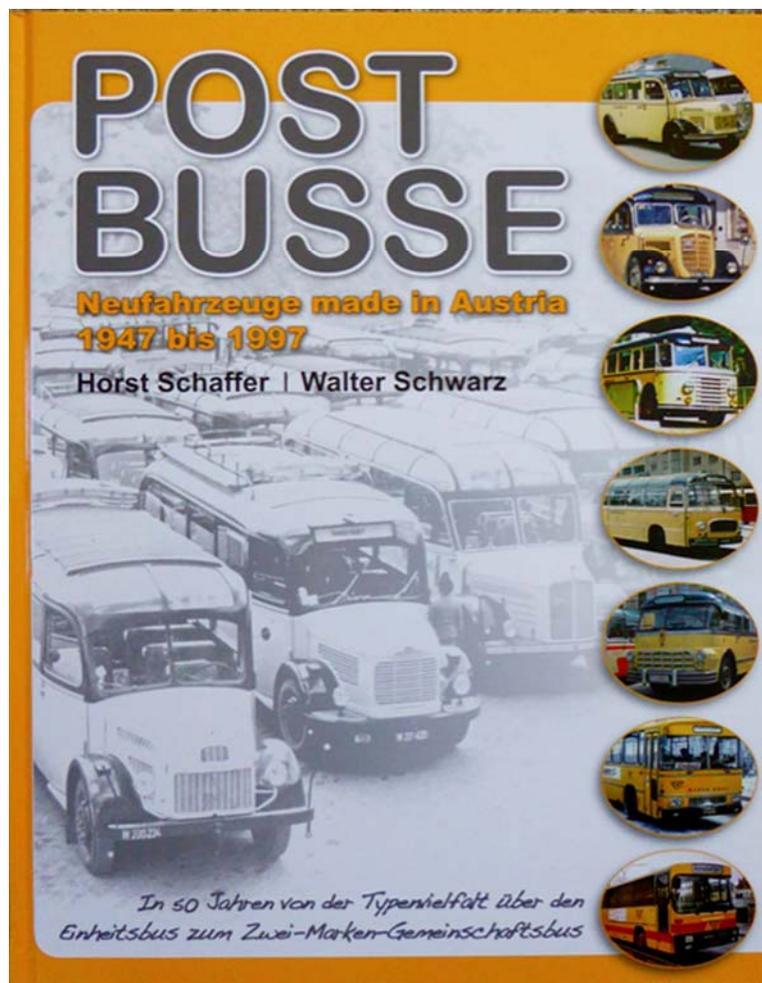
NOTES FROM NEW ZEALAND

New Book

Austria Post has issued several stamps over the years (for example, ANK 1043, ANK 1193 and ANK 1745) in recognition of the important role that post buses have played in transporting mail, particularly in the mountainous rural parts of the country. In 2007, the 100th anniversary of the post bus service was marked by the publication of a Marken Buch.

A new book has recently been published that comprehensively chronicles the history of post buses made in Austria during the Second Republic. *Post Busse "Neufahrzeuge made in Austria 1947 bis 1997"*, by Horst Schaffer and Walter Schwarz covers the 5,700 buses made by the Gräf & Stift, ÖAF, Perl, Österreichische Saurer-Werke, Steyr Daimler Puch and Lohnerwerke vehicle companies for Austria Post during those 50 years. The authors have assembled a wealth of photographs, technical drawings and histories of the various companies. The coffee-table sized 364-page volume is rounded off with a time-line of the Austrian post bus service from 1907 to 2010, photos of examples of number plates used on the vehicles and illustrations of the various logos used by Austria Post on post buses from 1946 to the present day.

The book is self-published by the authors, Horst Schaffer and Walter Schwarz and beautifully printed by Ing. Kurz GmbH. It came out on 1 December 2014 but does not appear to be still available from Amazon. I bought my copy via Ebay.



[The Austrian Post Office offers for sale a wide range of die-cast model postal vehicles – 21 in the current printed catalogue and 29 on line! See also the 'Album' section of 'Die Briefmarke'. Ed.]

Misaligned Parliaments

Reading through some back numbers of 'Austria' recently, I came across a number of articles on the stamps of the First Republic and some discussion about the higher-value 'Parliament' stamps. (Austria 179 and 180). Checking an accumulation of such stamps, I soon confirmed Alex Meikle's observation about the misalignments that can be found in the two-colour values in which the centres can be set overly high or low within the framed area, or to the left or right of the central point of the frame. I also found that in some cases ink from the printing of the plates with the central design seems to adhere to the granite paper used for all the Parliament stamps, bar the 50Kr value.



The right hand stamp shows a particularly noticeable example of the centre being misaligned to the left, so much so that there is an easily recognisable gap between the right hand part of the frame and the central design of the Parliament building.

The left hand stamp illustrates how traces of red-brown colour can be seen both within and outside the framing vignette.

Mark Ebury

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Report on the Joint Societies Meeting in Bradford, 15 August 2015

With a total complement of 25 enthusiast philatelists and postal historians with Central European interests from the Czechoslovak, Yugoslav, Austrian, Hungarian and Polish Societies, once again the Joint Societies Meeting was a great success, thanks in no small part to Yvonne and Richard Wheatley who organised the day, prepared the food and drinks and acted as masters of ceremony. Marred only by the fact that Bradford City were playing at home that afternoon, requiring a getaway a little earlier than usual, eighteen participants displayed one, two and three-frame exhibits on a wide variety of topics, from pre-stamp mail to some recent creations. In order of display, over four rounds we were treated to:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Alan Berrisford | Poland: provisional postal markings after WWII, including those prepared with 'John Bull' printing sets, some lasting in use to 1948. |
| Joyce Boyer | Austria: 'An introduction'; a generic look at Austrian postal history including the decorative <i>Schnörkelbrief</i> and a focus on her favourite, Innsbruck. |
| Richard Wheatley | Stamp exchange with Eastern Europe after WWII – trials and tribulations of dealing with the regulations and the authorities. |
| Edmund Jagielski | Poland: The Polish army on the eastern front in WWII, fighting with the Russian army, aiding the re-occupation of Poland. |
| John Pitts | Austria: Przemyśl siege mail from 1914/15; examples of the cachets on field post mail and linking items to the various flights. |
| Garth Taylor | Flags of the oppressed nations: USA stamps during WWII supporting the nations of the world suppressed by Axis powers. |
| Hans Smith | Austrian occupied Russian Poland, 1914-8, including the formation of 'independent' Poland in 1916, with covers and censor marks. |
| Peter Cybaniak and Roman DUBYNIAK | Czech army in the Ukraine 1914-1920, formed from Czech nationals in Kiev, and fighting on the Russian side. Mail to and from the units. |
| Rex Dixon | German annexation of northern Slovenia (southern Styria, parts of Karinthia, etc.). Postmarks from towns and villages, many renamed. |
| Michael Waugh | Dalmatian miscellany, from Trieste to Kotor, from Napoleonic times to modern. |
| Andy Taylor | Austria: Uncut pane of miniature sheets celebrating the Staatsoper (State Opera) centenary; and a tale of fiscal dealings when a lass got married and moved from Innsbruck to Salzburg in the 1700s. |
| Martin Brumby | Northern Slovenia/Untersteiermark – a compilation of postmarks from towns and villages in this region of pre-1918 Austria. |
| Roger Morrell | The re-formation of Yugoslavia, 1944-5, with provisional overprints on wartime occupation issues, and local issues for contested regions in Istria before the zonal partition of Trieste. |
| Malcolm Stockhill | Polish East Silesia: issues for the plebiscite of 1920 with examples on cover. |
| Keith Brandon | Pre-stamp mail of Kaschau/Kassa/Kosice in Slovakia showing the variety of markings. |
| John Pitts | 1993-6 hyperinflation in the shortlived Srpska Krajina (Serbian Krajina, the Croatian/Bosnian border region centred on Knin), showing examples of rampant inflation on covers to the UK. |
| Wojciech Kierstan | Stamps from Polish POW camps in Germany; a Czech miscellany including 'the secret marks' on Bohemia/Moravia issues and Alfons Mucha, the art nouveau artist and stamp designer |

- Derek Baron Postage due markings on mail from and to Olmütz/Olomouc in Czechoslovakia; and the rather nasty story behind the ‘Moravian Regiment’s liberation of Olomouc’, 1945.
- Joyce Boyer Austrian Zeppelin mail before and after WWI, with flight cachets and arrangements for Austrian stamps to be used
- Alan Berrisford TPO marks from pre-war Czechoslovakia; examples of the numbered cancellations.

There was plenty of time for viewing and discussion, with a good break for lunch. Peter Chadwick voiced our thanks for the excellent spread provided by Yvonne and Richard. As usual, we all saw material that we hadn’t seen before, and we all learned something new. As Yvonne commented, this year there was a shift towards the usually under-represented parts of Central Europe, particularly Yugoslavia and Poland, compared with previous years. This variety makes it one of the best general meetings of the year, and there were all the usual interconnections with the turbulent history of the region, as well as networking opportunities. And, thanks again to Yvonne, it’s going to happen next year too! So make space in your diary now!

Roger Morrell



Left to right: Richard Wheatley, Roman Dubnyiak, Edmund Jagielski and Andy Taylor study Wojciech Kierstan’s display.

NOTES FROM OTHER JOURNALS

It has become necessary for the committee to review how we hold the 'Other Journals' regularly sent to the Society and reviewed in 'Austria. For many years they were held in the library but some years ago, due to lack of space, they were distributed between various officers. However the space problem has again arisen and whilst we have found suitable storage for some journals it has been decided that others will in future be held only in electronic format. The decisions have been made taking into consideration the lack of demand from members to see the journals. Those listed may still be borrowed by asking the librarian. Other interesting journals and books will still be noted but not retained.

- ❑ APS (US): Retained, most only as PDFfed scans.
- ❑ ARGE Oesterreich: Retained, most only as PDFfed scans.
- ❑ ARGE Sud-Oest: Retained in full on paper.
- ❑ Bolletino: Retained in full on paper.
- ❑ Die Briefmarke: Retained in full on paper.
- ❑ Germania: Retained in full on paper.
- ❑ Int. Bos + Herz: Retained in full on paper.
- ❑ Jugoposta: Retained in full on paper.
- ❑ Stamps of Hungary: Held only as plain-text PDFs.
- ❑ Wiener Ganzsachen: Retained, most only as PDFfed scans.

Die Briefmarke

2015/5: 2014's prettiest and unsightliest stamps; job advert: Dorotheum seeks experts; Thematic: Stamps from no-longer-existing European countries; the Postzahlungsanweisung; left-right errors in latest definitives; unofficial methods for cross-zone post-WWII mail; new issues; the 1915 charity issue (2); Südtirol cancels 1918-28 (iii); youth, societies, shows etc.

2015/6: the Meran Emergency Post of 1918; Thematic: man's oldest friend; Congress of Vienna; Spanish Riding School; obituary of Dr Hellwig Heinzl; etc etc.

2015/7&8: Gmunden2015; toys; requisition letters; thematic: lighthouses; thirties-era summer picture postcards; WIPA prettiest-2014-stamp prize winners: Spain, Hungary; Luxembourg; new issues; London2015 report; youth, societies (many having special MeineMarke), shows etc; Klapperpostbote presentation to Andy Taylor; yellow stripe on new definitives; and much more.

Germania

Vol 51 Nr 2: gothic-alien-fraktur vs latin-alien-antiqua type and handwriting (useful tables); Auktionshaus Christoph Gärtner expansion; etc etc.

Vol 51 Nr 3: insufficiently franked international mail (the 'green slip' system, also used in Austria); the war in 1915, illustrated by coloured postcards; gothic/fraktur part 2; and as always other articles, immaculately produced, of strictly Germany interest.

Jugopošta

Nr 113 March 2015: Complexities of parcel post history; Montenegro wrappers: frequency; etc

Nr 114 June 2015: auction suspended until auctioneer found; more on parcel post history plus the tariffs; Fiume 1918-19 (J Pitts); etc

Stamps of Hungary

No 201 June 2015: The telegram sheets of Hungary (ii); Hungary to Australia pre-1900; Carpatho-Ukraine in 1939; Baranya postal stationery ; etc.

No 202 Sept 2015: The postal history of Fiume, 17/11/1918 –15/4/1919, by John Pitts; A new classification of the tax notice forms of Hungary, Part I; etc etc.

ArGe Österreich

2015/2 Nr 110: ZIG envelopes; money order forms; a Prag pneumatic postcard (2); the first Austrian postcard classified by imprint-position; Swiss border mail in 1938; etc etc.

2015/3 Nr 111: express letters and cards in Vienna, 1945-6; ditto in Kärnten; misdirected mail of the Austrian empire (original by Keith Brandon); express delivery and pneumatic mail in Vienna, 1941-1945.

Bollettino Prefilatelico e Storia Postale

Issue 185: articles (all in Italian) include Svaliggi di corrieri al Ponte di Tara; La posta granducale sulle strade ferrate; Gli uffici di posta estera in Roma; Il servizio postale militare in Piemonte al tempo di Vittorio Amedeo II - La Guerra della Grande Alleanza (1687-1697); Richiesta accordata per una nuova tassazione per le lettere in ricezione nell'ufficio di Fosdinovo.



ArGe Feldpost Öst.-Ung

2015 June Nr 121: news; Q&A; “Austria-Hungary’s Last War”: July-September 1915, lavishly illustrated; Italy declares war; medical assistance to Serbian POWs; a new look at Przemyśl; mail from American volunteers; etc.

Czechout

See www.czechout.org where you can read (but not print unless you are a CPSGB member) every issue including the latest. The September issue included Sir Nicholas Winton Interview; the 25 Haler Dove; Nationalized Circular Date Stamps in Early Czechoslovakia; and Postal Stationery Inland Cards from 1922 by James Hooper.

Postal Stationery

(Journal of the United Postal Stationery Society) Nr 57/4: the Austrian Postal Mandate service (by Andy Taylor); etc etc.

Additions to the Library

| Ref | TITLE | Comment | Pages | Author | Pub'd | Text |
|------|--|--|-------|--------|-------|------|
| 462e | RuE Dalmatien | (als Oesterreichisches Kronland 1886-1918) | 88 | (HS) | 2014 | G |
| 462f | RuE Boehmen | (als Oesterreichisches Kronland 1886-1918) | 500 | (HS) | 2014 | G |
| 462f | RuE Kuestenland | (als Oesterreichisches Kronland 1886-1918) | 96 | (HS) | 2014 | G |
| 462g | RuE Bosnien-Herzegowina und vom Sandschak Novi Pazar | (als Oesterreichisches Okkupationsgebiet 1903-1918 bzw. 1903-1908) | 92 | (HS) | 2015 | G |

A continuation of the series of books on Registration Labels; all titles begin "Rekozettel und Einschreibebelege" (RuE).

Book Reviews

“European Stamp Issues of the Second World War: images of triumph, deceit and despair”

Written by David Parker. 256pp plus 46pp of colour illustrations. Pub. The History Press. ISBN 978 0 7509 5915 5. Hardback, 9½x6½ inches, dust-cover. £25**

My first impressions of this book are the high quality of the printing and of the illustrations. The author’s career is in teaching and lecturing in History, especially late 19th and early 20th centuries, and he provides a comprehensive introduction to the period from the 1930s until the end of the war followed by a long chapter on the Third Reich. His evident distaste for the Nazis shows clearly in the wording of almost every paragraph.

The book describes the stamps and overprints issued by (or for) 22 European countries from France to Russia and Norway to Greece, as Hitler’s armies invaded, occupied, Aryanised, oppressed, defended and eventually vacated them. Background details, sometimes lengthy, are given for many of the designs. Most countries have their own chapter, although the Baltic States and Yugoslavia cover their component states. There is no chapter on Great Britain (because it only issued innocuous definitives) nor on Austria (because after the Anschluss it used ordinary German stamps, although the 1946 Anti-Fascist series is mentioned in the Conclusion). The author thoroughly explains the propaganda aspects of the designs.

The layout takes a little getting used to. The pages have a very wide inner margin and a very narrow outer margin, although this may be to accommodate the illustrations. For each chapter, the illustrations are numbered sequentially – so Denmark has 7.1, 7.2 ... 7.7 – and each is referred to in the text. The B/W ones are placed as close to their text as feasible; but the coloured ones are for understandable reasons placed all together in a 46-side section between pages 160 and 161 and captioned only with their number. At the end of each chapter is a list of all the illustrations with extensive details.

I think this book would be particularly suited to someone beginning to collect one of the countries covered and seeking historical background and context for the stamps. It would not replace a conventional catalogue.

**** The book is available at the special price of £20 including UK P&P until 31 Jan 2016: telephone The History Press on 01235 465500, ask for Direct Sales, and state the offer code of HPAPS.**

Andy Taylor

2015/16 Austria Specialised Netto Catalogue

The last Austria Specialised Netto catalogue I bought was that for 2012/13 so when offered the 2015/16 catalogue ‘hot off the press’ I acquired it. The catalogue costs €39.90 retail.

The first thing I noticed was that the pages now had a coloured border at the top to mark the different sections for example the First Republic is green whilst Euro value issues are yellow. As usual there are extra pages to take account of new issues - 608 against 560. I have not checked the values in details but have noticed some small increases for used pre WWII issues.

The major change in the catalogue is in respect of the first issue stamps beginning with enlargements to show the differences between Type I and Type III printings. This is followed by six pages with illustrations of both the Austrian and Lombardy and Venetia issues showing what to look for to decide what paper and which printing your stamp is. Next there are six pages on the 9 Kreuzer stamp listing and illustrating some of the differences or flaws from various printing plates. [Library books 22, 24, 25 and 427 give more information on this issue; see also the Index to Austria which lists the many articles on it.]

The section listing personal stamp material in books and some sheets issued by Austria Post has been considerably enlarged but does not include all such issues. The main sections not included compared with 2012/13 are the Post WWI overprints on Austrian stamps, rocket mail, and AUA first flights. Although I have added this latest edition to my personal reference library I will still keep the earlier one for reference to the sections no longer included.

Joyce Boyer

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VÖPH AWARD TO JOYCE BOYER

Before I visited the Innsbruck Merkur Philatelic Klub during my holiday I had been told that I would have ‘a surprise’ and what a surprise it turned out to be! I suppose I should have had an idea since during the meeting in London at which Andy received his award from VÖPh [*see last issue of Austria*] the remark ‘It’s your turn next’ was made to me but I ignored it.

However I discovered that the remark was correct and the surprise was I had been awarded the ‘Goldene Ehrenzeichen’ pin and certificate by VÖPh. This award is normally made in recognition of long-term membership of an Austrian stamp club but can also be given at the discretion of VÖPh in recognition of other services. I have been a member of the Merkur Klub for many years, but not the usual number for the award, but they asked if the award could be made in recognition of these years and also my work in helping to found and foster the partnership between the APS and Philatelistenklub Merkur Innsbruck

In accepting the award I thanked the members of Merkur saying that the response to my first enquiry was welcoming and that from our very first visit Tony and I had always been made very welcome at what is a very friendly Klub.

Joyce Boyer

[See colour picture on the cover. Ed.]

HERWIG RAINER REVISITED

By Octavian Tăbăcaru

I have been no stranger to the K.u.K Feldpost, for the last 35-40 years, for three main reasons:

I was lucky to start early, as my first Kuk FELDPOST item was given to me as a present by a fellow collector in my native city, Braşov, whose name is linked to an ancient Dacic fortress, Brassovia, that rose on Mount Tâmpa above the modern city. The place at the foot of the mountain was chosen by the Saxon colonists in Transylvania, who named their city KRONSTADT - the city of the Crown. The Hungarian administration eventually took the old Romanian name and adapted it in pronunciation, spelling it Brassó (stress on the 'ó'). The Teuton Knights even contributed to the region with the famous castle of Bran, which has now been returned to Dominic von Habsburg, inheritor of Princess Ileana, daughter of King Ferdinand and Queen Maria of Romania, who owned the castle - and were sovereigns of my homeland during WW 1.

In the mean time, the fortress of Brassovia was dismantled by another Romanian prince, Ioan de Hunedoara, known in Hungary as Huniady Janos, father of King Matei Corvin (Mathias Corvinus). Pity they did not have fieldpost service at the time!

Apart from the other ethnicities of Transylvania (which fell under Habsburg occupation in 1699, almost simultaneously with the Ottoman pachalyk of Buda - i.e. Hungary - and some Banat and other land strips) there were some half a million Romanians fighting in the Imperial Army during WW 1. Obviously, there is some mail left around here, both from them and from other Transylvanian military. And from Banat. And from Bukowina. And from occupied Romania! And from Italy, and Galicia, and from the sea and river crews... So, I was very soon won for the exciting new field of collecting and study, and only the sky seemed to be the limit... Yummy!

An old version of the Tranmer catalogue was soon on my desk - believe me, it was an adventure those days to get a copy. Without it, I am not sure whether my collection would have grown so interesting... So, I started checking my newly formed collection against it. And, much to my surprise and excitement, I noticed there were items in my collection displaying cancels that Tranmer seemed not to have even heard of!

Now, when Mr. Herwig Rainer issued his first edition of catalogue back in 1996, well, that was great news for me! The "Tranmer-unknown" items started filling certain places. But there was more to it! Rainer seemed to offer answers to some other minor details I had noticed and which had puzzled me - the type varieties - and also offered new horizons, teaching me on those newly (for me) discovered "*Expositur*" postal branches. So, I started again to recheck my collection for Type 1, Type 2 etc. varieties and *Expositur* presentation points.

And it happened again. Again, new types in my collections - and even a few *Expositur* indications in the sender's addresses - remained unchecked against the Catalogue. Moreover, the new combination of technology, i.e. scanner-laptop (which Mr Herwig Rainer was unfortunate not to enjoy at the time of his first catalogue edition) allowed me to study the cancels on the laptop screen, much enlarged, to compare the cancel geometry, to build a data base of different information details etc.

Making a balance about six months ago, I was surprised to notice there were more than 60 new cancel types that Rainer had not described, there were 4 types of cancels in some cases where he had described only three etc. Even the famous FPA 7 showed off a nice second variety! Plus, the Internet and the gracious efforts of passionate authors and collectors, archivists, institutions, clubs etc. made a trove of information available that allowed me to gain a wider and more complex vision. In short, there was some work to do. So, as I am a retired man with some more time to spare, I started doing it in full.

I am re-writing the Rainer Holy Book! Or, rather, I am writing a new catalogue on the same topic, having as main bibliographic and comparative material the Rainer book. Ideally, it should be illustrated in full with all cancel specimens existing, even the non-circulated ones, all *expositur* details etc etc. I have made a quick survey, and it seems there are over 2200 positions to be filled in - or, rather, 2300 considering my recent new discoveries, that in the mean time are drawing close to 100. Thanks to my collector-friends throughout the world, there is power in numbers! I already have about 2000 of those cancels to illustrate, but there are still over 300 missing. Not enough to discourage me but enough to be a pain in my neck.

I am hereby producing a couple of pages from my catalogue so one may gain an educated idea of what the catalogue will look like. By my calculations, it will amount to ca 1000 pages in full colour, and it could be ready to go to print somewhere in the Spring of 2016. But I still would like to try and illustrate it with ALL existing cancels and leave not many blanks in it.

Hello, I need your help. I would like to invite any collector or connoisseur in the Kuk Fieldpost “numbers” field willing to help to contact me at the following e-mail address: **octavian500198@yahoo.co.uk**

Your gracious contribution will be gratefully acknowledged in the catalogue. Plus, there will be smiles, nice thoughts, pleasant memories, kind feelings, and prayers to God, on the Christmas Eve, for everybody. Angels would smile on you from above ...

Oh! I almost forgot it - and there will be reduced prices for whoever would kindly help - or just maybe for whoever would like only to preorder one copy (no advance payment required), through the Club channels, plus autographs and dedications.

And there will be, of course, my eternal gratitude.

Octavian Tăbăcaru.

PS. for anybody who would like to know more on my work, I invite you to visit the following page on the Internet: **kukfeldpost.yolasite.com**

Octavian's article is 1½ sides long, so I've extracted the illustration for FPA106, followed by the whole of FPA5. Editor.



FPA 106 -

în Italia, pe frontul Isonzo.

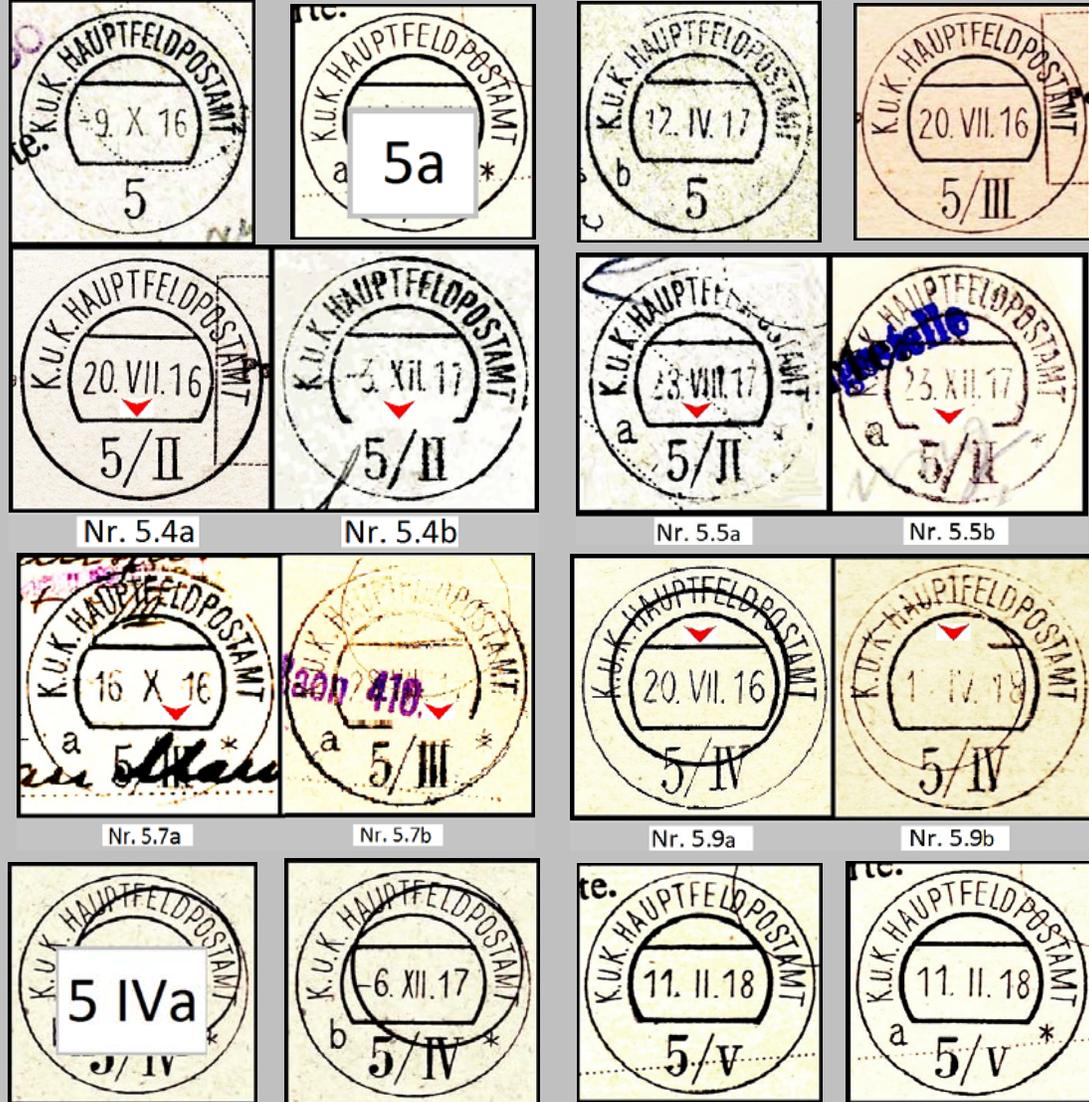
in Italy, on the Isonzo front.

O.P.M. / F.P.O. / F.P.A. Nr.

5

STAMPILE / CANCELS:

Sursa: materialpostal - circulat, specimene de arhivă / Source: circulated fieldpost mail - archive specimens



Nr. 5.4a

Nr. 5.4b

Nr. 5.5a

Nr. 5.5b

Nr. 5.7a

Nr. 5.7b

Nr. 5.9a

Nr. 5.9b

CATALOG / CATALOGUE:

P = puncte / points; Q = coeficient / coefficient

| Nr. | Text | Tip Type | Data / Date | P = |
|--------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----|
| 5.1 | K.u.K. HAUPTFELDPOSTAMT 5 | H (112a) | 08.1916 > 4.11.1918 | 15 |
| 5.2 | K.u.K. HAUPTFELDPOSTAMT 5a | H (112c) | 08.1916 > 4.11.1918 | 100 |
| 5.3 | K.u.K. HAUPTFELDPOSTAMT 5b | H (112c) | 08.1916 > 4.11.1918 | 150 |
| 5.4 | K.u.K. HAUPTFELDPOSTAMT 5 / II | H (112d) | 08.1917 > 07.1918 | 100 |
| - 5.4a | > - linia inferioară intactă; | - bottom line intact; | | |
| - 5.4b | > - linia inferioară ruptă ; | - bottom line broken | | |
| 5.5 | K.u.K. HAUPTFELDPOSTAMT 5 / IIa | H (112f) | 08.1917 > 07.1918 | 40 |
| - 5.5a | > - linia inferioară intactă; | - bottom line intact; | | |
| - 5.5b | > - linia inferioară ruptă ; | - bottom line broken | | |

| | | | | |
|--------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----|
| 5.6 | K.u.K. HAUPTFELDPOSTAMT 5 / III | H (112d) | 07.1916 > 07.1918 | 150 |
| 5.7 | K.u.K. HAUPTFELDPOSTAMT 5 / IIIa | H (112f) | 07.1916 > 07.1918 | 100 |
| - 5.7a | > - linia inferioară intactă; | - bottom line intact; | | |
| - 5.7b | > - linia inferioară ruptă ; | - bottom line broken | | |
| 5.8 | K.u.K. HAUPTFELDPOSTAMT 5 / IV | H (112d) | 10.1917 > 07.1918 | 150 |
| 5.9 | K.u.K. HAUPTFELDPOSTAMT 5 / IVa | H (112f) | 10.1917 > 07.1918 | 150 |
| - 5.9a | > - linia de sus intactă; | - top line intact; | | |
| - 5.9b | > - linia de sus ruptă ; | - top line broken | | |
| 5.10 | K.u.K. HAUPTFELDPOSTAMT 5 / IVb | H (112f) | 10.1917 > 07.1918 | 150 |
| 5.11 | K.u.K. HAUPTFELDPOSTAMT 5 / V | H (112d) | 01.1918 > 07.1918 | 300 |
| 5.12 | K.u.K. HAUPTFELDPOSTAMT 5 / Va | H (112f) | 01.1918 > 07.1918 | 300 |

Utilizat la Comandamentul armatei a 7-a (7. **Armeekommando** și, respectiv, 7. **Generalkommando**); Iunie - Iulie 1918 > Comandamentul general al armatei 4. (4. **Generalkommando**). Din Iulie. 1918, înlocuit de FPA 444.

Bucovina, Transilvania, Galiția, România.

Inf. Rgt.

Used at the High Command of the 7-th Army (7. **Armeekommando** and subsequently, 7. **Generalkommando**); June - July 1918 > the 4-th Army General Command (4. **Generalkommando**). From July 1918, replaced by FPA 444.

27, 69, 100,

Bukowina, Transylvania, Galizia, Rumania.

| Date | Localizare / Location | | Q = |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|---|-----|
| August 1916 - Apr. 1918 | BU; TR; | 7. Armeekommando : Bucovina, Transilvania (> România: 10.1916 - 15.04.1918) | x 1 |
| Apr. - Jun. 1918 | BU; TR; RUM; | 7. Generalkommando (Expositur Cernăuți / Czernowitz) | x 2 |
| Jun. - Jul. 1918 | BU; GA; | 4. Generalkommando (Expositur Cernăuți / Czernowitz) | x 4 |



Austrian Levant: The blue cancellation of Cefalonia in italics.

This article was originally written for the Gazette of the Association of Postal History of Friuli Venezia Giulia by Marzio Mocchi, who has kindly translated it for us from the Italian.

It's always a great pleasure to enjoy rarities, of which we always hope to find some more. Usually we must refer to the pages of the scant existing literature. Sometimes one may read something which is contradictory, maybe just in small details, but sometimes we are unfortunately led to the greatest confusion.

This is the case for the cancellation of Cefalonia. A short historical introduction may help to frame age and location. We are at Argostoli, Cefalonia, Ionian Islands – a small port where an Agency of the Austrian Lloyd was active since 1853. The year is 1864 when the Austrian offices in the Levant were supplied with stamps of the IVth and Vth issue of Lombardy-Venetia.

The greatest part of the Austrian offices in the Levant was based in the Agencies of the Austrian Lloyd. They used their own handstamps for commercial purposes, such as for cancelling a bill of lading or a delivery order. Having at the same time the role of postal office, obviously that handstamp was utilized to cancel correspondence too, at least until the day when the Postal Administration supplied the offices with new postal handstamps. Well, let's examine now the cancellation of Cefalonia.

We know that the first “commercial” stamp used in Cefalonia was the one copied here below:



This hand-stamp is one of the standard type that the Lloyd's Agent used on all commercial documents, such as a bill of lading or a delivery order; but also on all the correspondence that passed by the Agency. This use was common until the beginning of the 1860s.

But in 1864 there was used in Cefalonia another hand stamp, copied below. All agree on the character in “italics” but the problem comes about the original identity of the cancellation. On Vol. 4 of “Austria Post Offices Abroad” Mr. S. Tchilinghirian shows the cancellation as shown below on the left hand side. However, Mr Umberto del Bianco in Vol. 3 of “Lloyd Austriaco ed annullamenti marittimi dell’Austria Ungheria” shows the cancellation as shown below on the right hand side. Look at the initial letter C.

Letter C → *Cefalonia*



In the letter C, the upper part of the stroke doesn't run through the vertical part and ends in a little round blob. You note, of course, that the cancellation has no oval frame. Now we display a copy of the cancellation of Cefalonia on a stamp.

Letter C →



You may see that there are two evident differences: The first is that the name Cefalonia is in an oval frame. The second difference is in the initial letter C. In the upper part the stroke does not stop before the vertical but it crosses it and then goes up. This stamp has indeed two cancellations, and on both of them the letter C is evident as well as the diversity with those copied hereabove.

But, let's go ahead...maybe on the information regarding the postal material available we may all agree.

Unfortunately also in this case we find big inconsistencies. Mr. S. Tchilingirian, and consequently the Sassone catalogue, doesn't say anything original but refers to Mr Müller saying that **“one cover (is) known with 15 Soldi of Lombardo Veneto 1863 (RRR)”** but he doesn't say more, for instance which and how many loose stamps are known.

Mr Umberto del Bianco gives a lot of historical data and he explains with many particulars the fact that he believes that at Cefalonia there never were stamps of Lombardo-Veneto but only a very limited stock of stamps of Austria, in kreuzer, and only 15 kreuzer of the 5th issue. This little stock was held personally by Mr. Giorgio Sava, who in Cefalonia had various roles: Consular agent, insurance broker and ship's agent.

Recently, Mr. R. Simmermacher certified the existence of the cancellation of Cefalonia on only 2 stamps of 5 kreuzer and 3 stamps of 15 kreuzer and he added that **“no letter with such a cancellation is known”**. Somehow it matches with the thesis of Mr. Umberto del Bianco by confirming that all known stamps are **in Kreuzer and not in Soldi**. It looks like that the thesis of Tchilingirian-Sassone-Mueller is considered outdated. So, only on Austria and not on Lombardo-Veneto.

Recently an auction in Athens sold a Greek stamp of 40 lepta bearing the cancellation of Cefalonia. Copy of it here below.



Also on this stamp the cancellation is in italics and in blue, like on the stamp of Austria above. The only difference is that on this stamp of Greece there is no oval frame. Another headache??

%%%%%%%%%

LONDON 2020 INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION

There will be a major stamp exhibition at the Business Design Centre in Islington, London from Saturday, 2 May 2020 until Saturday, 9 May 2020. This will be a full international exhibition with competitive classes in Traditional, Postal History, Thematic, Revenue, Postal Stationery, Aerophilately, Open, Literature and Youth.

To ensure that as many exhibitors as possible can be accepted, the frames will be used twice during the week with exhibits being swapped on Tuesday, 5 May.

A website has been established at www.london2020.co [yes, 'dot co' not 'dot com'] which will be developed as preparations for the exhibition progress.

The UK-based Philatelic Traders' Society (PTS) is fully supportive of the exhibition and is coordinating booth sales on behalf of the organising committee. Anyone interested in taking a trade stand can follow a link on the website.

ANDY TAYLOR - OUR NEWEST HONORARY LIFE MEMBER

by Keith Brandon, President

I have great pleasure in advising you that your Committee has granted Andy Taylor the status of Honorary Life Member. This is a rare accolade, awarded to Members who have provided exceptional service to the Society. We now have five Life Members.

Andy was born in 1943 in Aberdeen, Scotland. After obtaining a university degree in Natural Philosophy, he joined ICI in 1965 as a specialist in Instrumentation and Computers. He worked for them in various research and production roles in the north-east before retiring in 1999. His other interests included Honorary Secretary of the trade-union which represented ICI's managerial and professional staff and Chairman of the local LUPUS group, a charity which assists those with auto-immune disease. Andy is married to Margaret, and they have a son and two grandchildren.

Like many of us, Andy dabbled with stamps in his early teens but then developed other interests. His interest in stamps was rekindled when his young son received some British FDCs, but Andy soon developed a preference for Austrian stamps while on holiday in that country. His main philatelic interests now include the special stamps and regulations used by the Austrian Newspaper Post and for Newspaper tax, and he has won international medals for both these subjects. He also collects the postal history of Kitzbühel and the use of mobile post-boxes on tramcars.

Andy Taylor may be best-known to Members as the Editor of our journal AUSTRIA and the Newsletter (since 1999), but his contribution to the APS over the years goes much further than this. He joined the Society in the mid-1980s and became Treasurer in 1990, later adding the role of Membership Secretary. He gave these positions up in 1999 when he became Editor. He has since written or edited many of the articles that have appeared in AUSTRIA (under various noms-de-plume!) and has co-written with Colin Tobitt the book "The Pneumatic Post in Vienna". He has also edited for publication the other books and CDs that the Society has published in the last decade.

Andy has developed and maintains the APS website, vital for publicising the Society and attracting new Members. He was the main organiser of the APS displays both to the Royal Philatelic Society in 2004 and at Stampex in 2008, on the occasion of our 60th Anniversary.

All our current and recent Officers have worked hard for your Society, but there is no-one that has made a greater all-round contribution to the APS over the last twenty years, and your Committee was very pleased to formally recognise this.



Left: Andy stirring things up in 1946, two years before APS was founded.

Right: Andy at London 2015, where he received a gold medal and Best-in-Class for his Austrian Newspaper Tax exhibit.



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 now appear as “Modelmania” on your card statement.

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-Herzegovina 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. ISBN 978-0-900118-09-8
- ❖ **“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**.
- ❖ **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 £5, 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.
- ❖ The blue-covered A4 binders for Austria are now sold out.
- ❖ **Ties** are available in blue from the Librarian: ties £6.75; **cravats (the last one!) also £6.75**.
- ❖ **The few 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.

PETERBOROUGH FEST REPORT

Andy Taylor

Friday Evening

The now-traditional **Grand Auction** took place. Less high-value material had come forward than in 2014, but 123 items including an extensive selection of books attracted much interest both in postal and in-room bids. Both the “selling-price to reserve ratio” and the “fraction of lots sold” were better than are achieved by several commercial auctions!

Saturday morning displays: round one



← Where is everybody? We're supposed to start in 5 minutes!

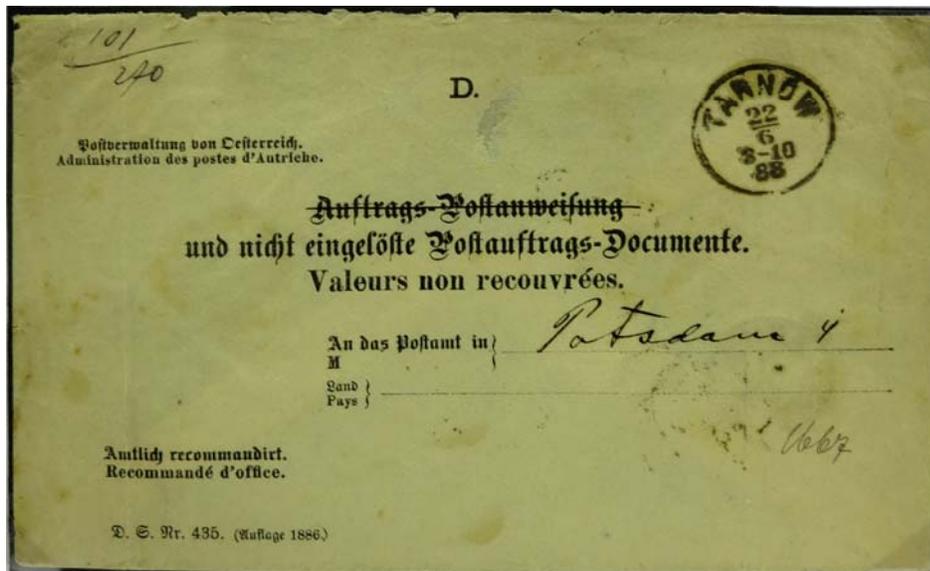
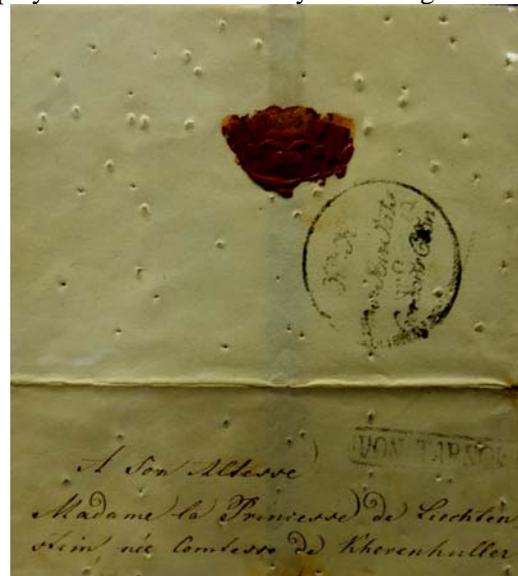


The Festmeister, Geoff Richardson, welcomes the participants. →

Once all the displays for the first round had been mounted, each displayer described what they had brought.



Alan Berrisford kicked off the proceedings with “**odds and ends**”, which he described as a mixture of new-to-us material. Included were parcel forms and cards; postauftrage including the unusual envelope for returning the documents when the addressee refused to pay; covers “disinfected” with a Rastel that punched holes in them “to let the miasma out”; and railway station postbox cancels.



This envelope is returning the “supporting papers” on 22 June 1888 from Tarnów to Potsdam in Germany, the original addressee having failed (or refused) to pay the sum demanded. The “D” possibly means that this envelope was specially created for Austria-Germany traffic; it is type 435 of the 1886 issue and no such envelope exists in the 1880 list-of-forms.

Colin Tobitt came next, with the **1945 Soviet ‘eagle arms’ stamps**. These were variously printed from metal or rubber plates. Many shades and varieties and several complete sheets of the high values were displayed.



Joyce Boyer showed 3 frames of **Sellraintal**. She had accumulated much of the material when buying other items, then obtained the rest at Merkur Innsbruck. Sellraintal is a narrow valley – flat farming land is so valuable that the cemetery is on top of the mountains! Until recently the population was low and there were many Postablage. Before 1939 there was only one post office plus four postablage; then one postablage was upgraded to full post office and another closed. Today only the two post offices.

Vojvodina in World War II

Vojvodina is the part of Serbia which lies north of the river Sava and the Danube. It consists of three parts: **Srem** between the Sava and the Danube, **Bačka** between the Danube and the river Tisa, and the Serbian **Banat** east of the Tisa.

When the axis powers attacked and divided Yugoslavia in April, 1941, the three parts of Vojvodina were assigned to **three different countries**: Bačka to Hungary, the Banat to German occupied Serbia, and Srem to the Independent State of Croatia (Nezavisna Drzava Hrvanska, NDH).

Most of Vojvodina was liberated by Partisan troops in late 1944.

This exhibit documents Vojvodina's postal history during World War II.

It starts with the last months before the division of Yugoslavia, then covers the history of each of the three parts, with particular weight on the transition to the new administrations. At the end the liberation of Vojvodina is illustrated, including Partisan mail and the use of provisional Yugoslav stamps and stationery.

--- Limit of present Great Thurgau, (no longer a part of Vojvodina)

| CONTENTS OF THE EXHIBIT: | |
|--|----|
| Introduction | 1 |
| 1 Before the division of Yugoslavia | 3 |
| 2 Bačka returned to Hungary | 24 |
| 3 The Banat under German occupation | 24 |
| 4 Srem in the State of Croatia (NDH) | 16 |
| 5 The liberation, Partisan military mail | 12 |
| | 80 |

For all three areas, the various provisional measures after the quick change of sovereignty in 1941 are highlighted. Special commemorative cancels and provisional numbered cancels used in Bačka, provisional stamps and stationery (overprints on Yugoslav issues) used in Banat (Serbia) and Srem (NDH), and modified postmarks with Cyrillic text removed in Srem.



David Bravery followed, with new material on the **Bay of Cattaro**, especially its early depiction. Pre-1850 material preceded submarine items – the Bay was a base, and many postcards of submarine captains were shown. Geologically, the Bay is a Ria, a drowned river system, not a fjord.

Geoff Richardson showed items of the **Buildings** series with the “**symbolzahlen**”, the small numbers (eg 1-2-3-4-5) found in the bottom left margin.

Nick Harty reminded us of the real history of the **Wollersdorf** “fireworks factory”, which began as a munitions factory and became a detention camp for right-, later left-, wing political prisoners in the 1930s. He had spent many days researching details of the inmates in the State Archives in Vienna. (Illustration on next page)

And finally, **Andy Taylor** had brought the **Lombardy-Venetia** portion of his **Newspaper Tax** display, for those who couldn't see it at London2015.



The describing being accomplished, the displays could be viewed...



Saturday morning displays: round two



After a coffee-and-chat break, the participants settled down and the second round began.



Alan Becker (left) started this round with **Fiume Maritime**

John Bathard followed with the **Austrian Railway**, mainly the Kaiser Ferdinand Nordbahn. Austria was a leader in the introduction of steam traction.

Clive Murray showed us **Postage Dues of the Austro-Hungarian Empire**, on internal and incoming foreign mail. He invited comments on concept and detail, and during the viewing session received many!



Clive Murray's map



The Meran Emergency Post, 1918



Andy Taylor presented the 1916-onwards portion of his **Newspaper Post** display, previously viewable at London2015 by those with caving headlamps.

Geoff Richardson followed with **Third Reich Used In Austria**, mainly the commemorative and special issues such as Winterhilfe.

Geoff Frost (right) ended this round with **Austrian Italy**, concentrating mainly on the stamps.

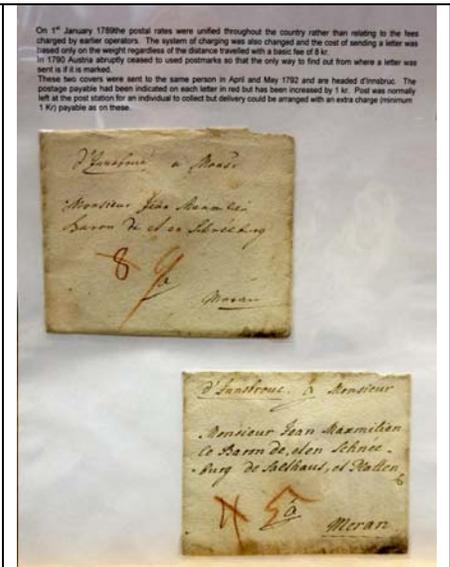




Martin Brumby displayed a wide range of items from various parts of **Untersteiermark**.



Paul Taylor showed the beginning of the **interwar inflation period**. He speculated that the Deutsch-Oesterreich overprints might have served to invalidate the flood of 'liberated' ex-empire material from across the new borders.



Joyce Boyer had been asked to give "an overview of the Austrian postal system" to her local society, and showed us the Innsbruck-based result – mainly the earlier portion, including a Schnorkelbrief.

Saturday afternoon

After a leisurely lunch, everybody settled down to await the longer displays of the afternoon.



For his **Presidential Display**, Keith Brandon presented 180 sheets from his Trieste collection, covering the period up to the First World War. He placed the emphasis on Trieste's role as a commercial city, Austria's main port and home of the Austrian Lloyd Shipping Company.

Examples of eighteenth-century and Napoleonic mail were followed by pre-stamp and classic-period mail sent both inland and abroad. A section on the railway-links to Trieste was followed by a description of the activities of the Austrian Lloyd Company. Port-arrival markings and ship-borne TPOs featured next. Keith finished up with mail from Trieste's sub-post-offices, including a solution to the Trieste 4 mystery; it was a telegraph-only office located in the Stock Exchange.



Registered mail to Vienna cancelled with the TRIESTE-METKOVIC 32 TPO postmark used by the Dalmatia Shipping Company.

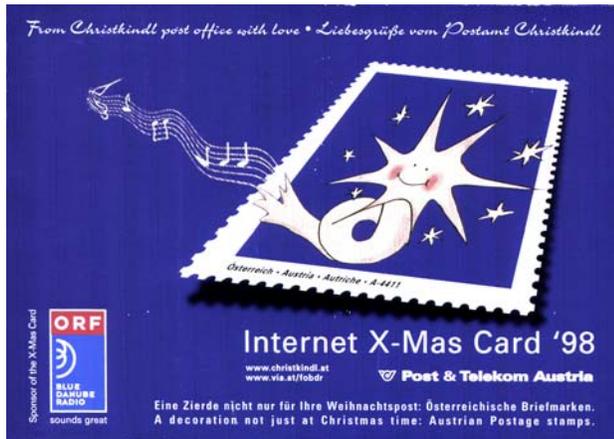


Parcel-card from Jaffa to Chicago with a spectacular franking including 32 x 1 piastre adhesives. Bears the octagonal handstamp of the TRIESTE 8 post-office in the Free Port

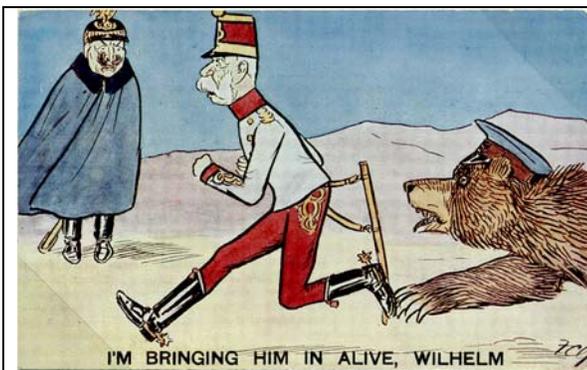
Nick Harty, making a welcome return, presented “**the other Christkindl display**”. This wasn’t “one of each in catalogue order including the green one”, but instead arose when he needed a display to interest young people in stamp collecting. He showed all the varied diversity of Christkindl-related items: telecards, internet cards, selvedge imprints on the Beautiful Austria series, Personal Stamps in droves, machine stamps likewise, Postbus tickets – there are 14 pages so far in the Netto Specialised catalogue! The Xmas Markets in Vienna are formally Christkindl Markets so material from them is also relevant.



The front and back of a 1998 “internet card” are shown next. These had to be applied for, on-line, at exactly midnight Austrian time each day. A limited number were available to the first applicants to get through!



Participants avidly discussed the material presented to them.



The **Competition** was as usual “9 sheets on a topic whose name begins with a prescribed letter in English or German”. This year was ‘P’, and **David Bravery** was the clear winner, presenting **Franz Joseph Propaganda Cards**, mostly unfavourable. [I hope to feature these in an issue of Austria. Ed.]

The day closed with the **Bourse**, where members tried and in many cases succeeded in selling enough surplus material to meet their incidental expenses ☺

Sunday morning displays

| | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| | | | | |
| <p>Paul Taylor continued his Inflation theme with overprinted banknotes, and the kronen-schilling transition with mixed frankings.</p> | <p>Geoff Richardson displayed the Day Of The Stamp issues from the Anschluss period.</p> | | | <p>James Hooper showed a variety of Rückschein items, including the uncommon RSc. Some of the rates were difficult to explain!</p> |



John May introduced us to the **vending machine stamp**, a new collecting field that like many others seems to be expanding unnecessarily.

Andy Taylor produced the **definitives used from 1945 up till today**, including the latest self-adhesive series, some of which are only issued in rolls (luckily strips-of-five are available to collectors!).



Clive Murray showed various **airmails**, and **inflation material** including postage dues from unusual places.

Alan Berrisford displayed “**more odds and ends**”: TPOs from areas in the East; many of the routes were mainly for transporting troops. Several cancels are recorded for offices overrun by the Russians before the canceller reached them. The larger offices are catalogued at low pointage values, but are nevertheless very rare.

Colin Tobitt produced unusual items relating to **the 1921 Salzburg Plebiscite**. The first printing has never been seen on a properly postally-used cover! He showed the “Salzburg bull” overprint which isn’t catalogued.

James Hooper showed items from **Udine** where the postmaster had sought permission to introduce a faster service and organised overprints. More of some place names were used in the overprint plate than of others, so some overprinted stamps are rarer than the rest. Since Vienna hadn’t replied to his request he went ahead, but after a few hours of sales the Official Prohibition arrived!

Geoff Frost displayed **unusual postage due covers**, including a 1 Schilling due, genuinely and correctly used in 1938 on an incoming item from Rangoon!

Andy Taylor exhibited prints of some pages from the 96%-complete **Second Issue of the book on the Pneumatic Post**. This will be published as a full-colour web site on a CD, since the selling price of a printed book would be well over £100 due in part to the number of free copies required. For various reasons it still wasn’t quite ready, but since such a work can never be 100% complete he would set himself a deadline of Xmas 2015.

Sunday morning: AGM

The displays were followed by the Annual General Meeting, the minutes of which are separately reported.

Sunday morning: Participants and Partners Feedback

After the AGM, the partners of those attending joined the meeting for a review of the highlights and improvement areas for next year. It was agreed to arrange the **2016 Fest in the same hotel on 9-11 September**.