



Edmund Hebeis

Zwei Edelweißblum



AUSTRIA 205 – Winter 2018 – Contents:

page	
1	Editorial
2	Puzzling post-WWII marks from Vienna
5	Franz Taborsky
7	Bookshoppe
8	Empire's End Eilmarken
16	Derbyfest report, competition winner, displays etc
24	The change from the Schilling to the Euro
36	History of the Schilling to Euro Exhibit
38	2018 New Issues, part 2
41	Notes from other journals; book review
42	A registered express question
43	A Kaplitz bisect?
44	"Seen elsewhere" - Thonet from Czechout and Rats from Vienna
IBC	Officers & Aide-memoire

Edited by Andy Taylor

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Editorial 205

The members of the Arbeitsgemeinschaft Österreich e.V. have rallied round and formed a committee with Roman Bukovansky as Obman, so their society will continue operating. Congratulations!

Post am Rochus received a State Award for the excellence of its architecture →

Rex Dixon writes that the system of camps to which children were evacuated in the 1940s was called Kinderlandverschickung, abbreviated KLV, and a camp was a KLV-Lager. My report on page 37 of Austria 204 was close, but not correct.



ÖSTERREICH 135

Rats! Or should that have been Räte (as my big Collins suggests)? Definitely not Ratten since that's either rodents or aspiring ballerinas at Prince Orlofsky's party. Much merriment has been created in Vienna and elsewhere by looking up Rats in various on-line dictionaries – Duden, Langenscheid etc – and discovering that it has several meanings, mostly derogatory, and none being 'councils'. As an interjection, Rats! translates as either Nonsense! or Cobblers! depending on the formality of one's speech. Editorial giggling may be audible ☺. However, it should have been **EU-Ratspräsidentschaft** – ie, they've split the word in the wrong place. See also the last page ☺

A typical question received from our web site. My reply is below; is it right?

Jerry Piotrowski asks:

Hello, I am a collector who recently purchased an item of postal history. I am having trouble interpreting the handstamp in the lower left of the cover. I understand the Portofrei portion but am having trouble interpreting the text below that. I believe it might refer to a postal regulation from the year 1881. Is there any chance someone might have either a clearer strike or preferably an English translation of the text. Also I notice that at the upper right the dated canceller reads Wien Rotes Kreuz Auskunftsbureau rather than just Wien. Was it common for agencies to have cancelling devices specific to their organization?



Andy Taylor replied: "Amtl. Milit. Sanitats#ngel. Handels-minist. Z2399 / Postverordnungsblatt 16 vom Jahre 1881."

Official military medical something (not angel!) / Ministry of Trade document 2399. / PVOB nr 16 of 1881.

The 2399 is the serial number of some document in the ledger of the Ministry; invaluable if you are in the Austrian State Archives in Vienna but useless otherwise. It is not usual for PVOBs to have Z-references; it could be the instruction to the Post Office (which was subservient to the Trade Ministry) to do something.

I don't have that PVOB; I suspect it's one of umpteen regulations stating who or what bodies were entitled to free postage.

The canceller is of a Post Office handling mail from this bit of the Red Cross - it would have been staffed by Post Office employees, not Red Cross ones although it could well have been a room in their office. It's listed in the Book of Post Office Cancels: "Stohl A2460" open from 4.8.1914 till 1922. Your cancel gets 30 brownie points so it's medium rare.

Andy Taylor

Puzzling post-WWII marks from Vienna

By Richard Wheatley FRPSL

In sorting through a quantity of post WW2 covers (1948 – 1952), I came across three sets of letters / numerals on them for which I would appreciate an explanation. Six of the seven envelopes have been opened by the censor and re-sealed with a plain brown paper tape.

Set 1. Sans serif capital letter 11mm tall struck in violet. Czechoslovakia to Wien I (International Zone). Circular violet censor cachets 114 or 236; the enclosed compliments cards also received these.

B On First Day Cover (FDC) 18 December 1949. Franked two stamps for Child Welfare Fund

C On FDC 21 June 1950. Franked two stamps for 130th birth anniversary Bozena Nemcova (**Fig. 1**)

Set 2. Violet 19mm dia circle, enclosing a 10mm tall capital letter followed by a 5mm tall number. From Czechoslovakia

V12 To Wien XV 8 March 1948

V15 To Wien XV 12 March 1948 (**Fig. 2**)

V24 To Wien XV 21 May 1948

The above three are post cards from a stamp collector. Wien XV is in the French Zone. Censor violet cachet numbers 390, 167 and 747.

V16 To Wien I 10 April 1948

V4 To Wien I 20 May 1948

These two are FDCs, franked with commemorative stamps for the Sokol Congress, and the Centenary of the Assembly at Kromeriz. Censor violet cachet numbers 236 and 42

Set 3. Four covers with three different types of letters/numerals.

Y Violet sans serif capital letter 5mm tall. From Czechoslovakia to Wien I. On FDC 28 October 1948. Franked by the two stamps issued for the 30th Anniversary of Independence. Censor violet cachet number 168. (**Fig. 3**)

P Violet sans serif capital letter 5mm tall. From Czechoslovakia to Wien VII (U.S. Zone). On commercial envelope 25 November 1949. Censor violet cachet number 194. (**Fig. 4**)

16f Green serif numerals and letter, 4mm tall. From Czechoslovakia to Wien XV (French Zone). 3Kcs postal stationery card uprated by the two Dove Peace Conference stamps. Censor violet cachet number 189. (**Fig. 5**)

24u Red sans serif numerals and letter, 4mm tall. From the Netherlands to Wien I. Commercial envelope franked 2 x 10 cents definitive stamps. Censor violet cachet number 92. (**Fig. 6**)



Fig. 1

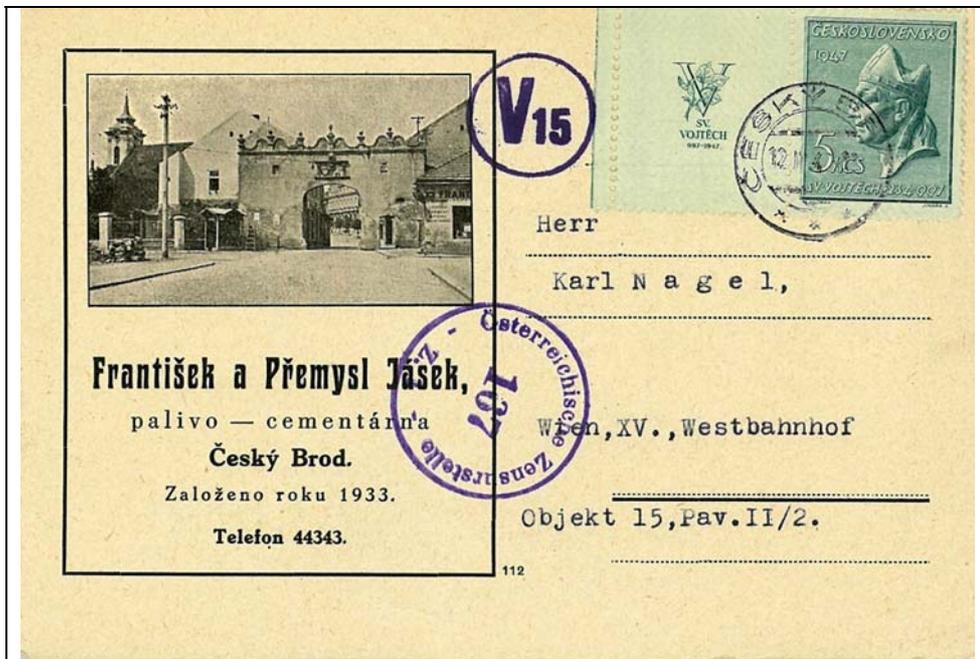


Fig. 2



Fig. 3

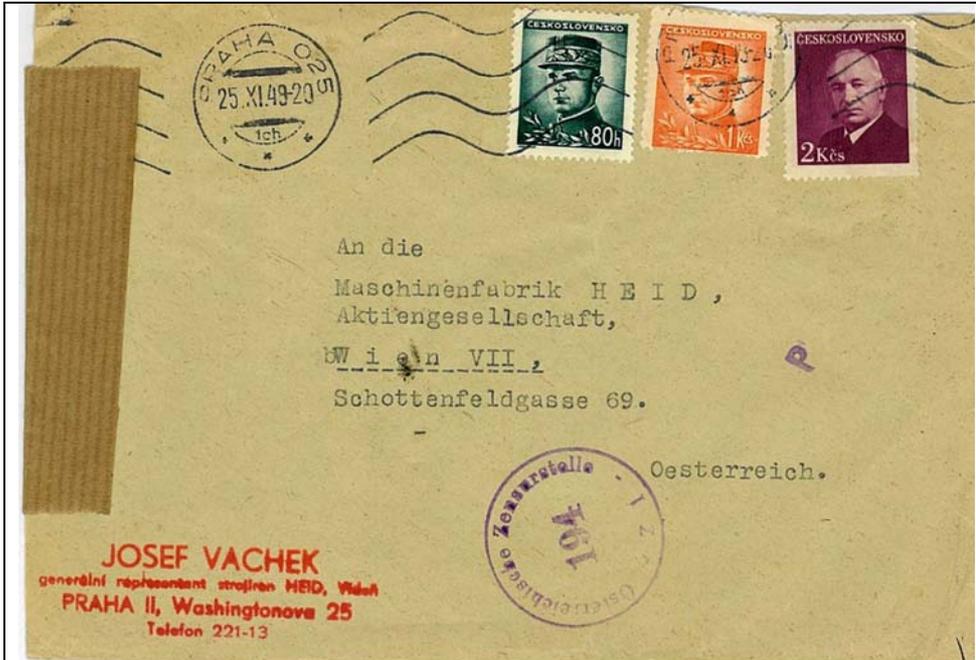


Fig. 4



Fig. 5

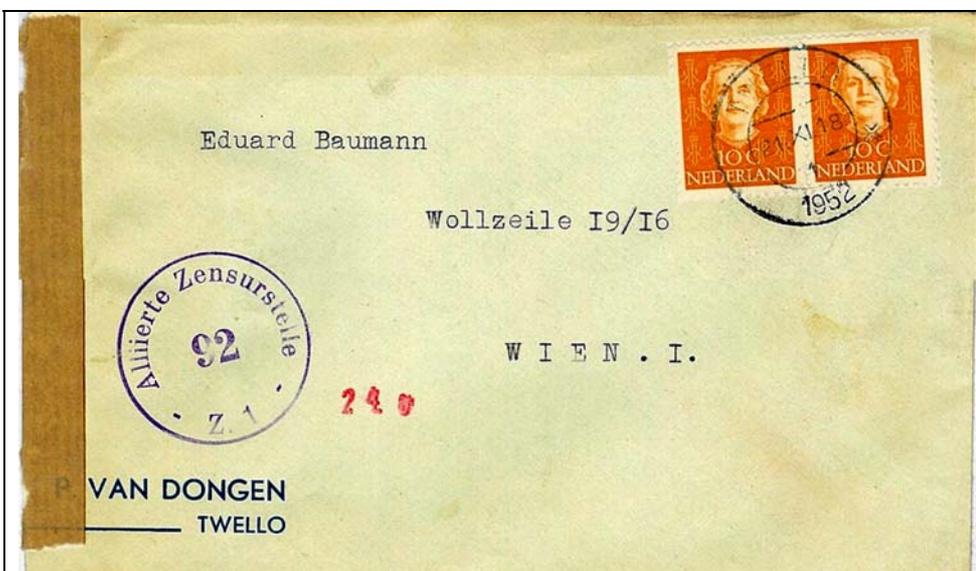


Fig. 6

Franz Taborsky



Some time ago, this postcard appeared on a Viennese antiquities web site. It was described as *six bars hand-written on a great staff, being the beginning of Franz Taborsky's waltz D' Weanaleut'*; he had signed the card, which also had a small litho portrait of him and the title "Kapellmeister d. Deutschmeister-Schützenkapelle". Taborsky was stated to be a violin-maker and composer, born in 1870 and dying in 1955. Googling 'Taborsky' found a sales list on another antiquities site offering a 1906 hand-written letter from the composer Carl Michael Ziehrer (1843-1922) to "Kapellmeister Franz Taborsky".

Further research (thanks, Otto and Richard!) revealed an intriguing story. Franz Taborsky was appointed as Kapellmeister of the Deutschmeister-Schützenkorps in 1904; he was never Kapellmeister of the Infanterieregiment Nr. 4 Hoch- und Deutschmeister, a post held by Carl Michael Ziehrer from 1885 to 1893 and Wilhelm Wacek from 1894 to 1918. Indeed, there is no record of Taborsky having ever been a military bandmaster. By 1915 Taborsky had been succeeded by August Bozak. A short news article in the middle of page 7 of the Vienna Reichspost for Fri 16 July 1915 ^[1] reports Bozak as conducting the Deutschmeister-Schützenkapelle at a Red Cross concert arranged by Fräulein von Ehrenstein at the convalescent home in Dornbach and attended by 300 wounded soldiers plus an assemblage of the great'n'good.

A half-page article on page 6 of the Wiener Kronen Zeitung for 3 Jan 1943 ^[2] reports Taborsky's reminiscences as the 73-year-old musician (now a music dealer in Mozartgasse in the IVth district, off the Wiedner Hauptstrasse) looked back on his long role in Vienna's musical life, associating with composers still famous today and with his Kapelle providing music for Vienna Mayor Dr Lüger's formal banquets.

He also submitted his waltz D' Weanaleut' for the Festschrift produced in 1906 as part of the ceremonies to dedicate the Deutschmeister monument at Donauwörth. The score of the beginning thereof is shown in the book by Dr. Friedrich Anzenberger ^[3] on *The Music of the Hoch- und Deutschmeister in the Danube Monarchy*. Intriguingly, it differs in many respects from the version on the postcard! The book lists three pieces by Taborsky:

- *Deutschmeister-Kameradschafts-Marsch* (dem Deutschmeister-Veteranen-Verein gewidmet)
- *Deutschmeister-Schützen-Marsch* (1902)
- *D' Weane Leut'!* Walzer (zur Einweihung des Deutschmeister-Denkmal 1906 in Wien; dem Deutschmeister-Schützenkorps gewidmet)

And now for the philatelic relevance ☺

¹ <http://anno.onb.ac.at/cgi-content/anno?aid=rpt&datum=19150716&seite=7>

² <http://anno.onb.ac.at/cgi-content/anno?aid=krz&datum=19430103&seite=6>

³ https://books.google.at/books?id=NOzZCwAAQBAJ&pg=PA78&lpg=PA78&dq=Kapellmeister+Franz+Taborsky&source=bl&ots=G DJLqJBnu&sig=gJAGial9kY5zdSpe8tQtq0Obopg&hl=de&sa=X&ved=0ahUKewjEnb_V_5jcAhXRdewKHxgeDHcQ6AEIMzAB#v=onepage&q=Kapellmeister%20Franz%20Taborsky&f=false

This envelope was sent express from Graz to Wien on 14 Feb 1916, addressed to Herr F Taborsky, Musik-Direktor.



Note the "Express zu zustellen" (deliver by express) written on the front in a different hand from the address. The letter rate was 10h, the express fee 30h, so it was 10h underfranked. Graz cancel timed 10 am. Graz didn't levy postage due; maybe they noted the lack of an Express label and treated it as an overfranked letter.

Somewhere along the route the cover received 20h of postage dues, calculated as "double the deficiency". These are cancelled **WIEN 53**, possibly when Kapellmeister Taborsky paid up. [That usually means that the cancelling office had put the dues on the item; if it's transferred to another office for whatever reason the first set of dues are marked UNGULTIG to keep the books straight.]



Up to 31.7.1911, un- or partially-franked mail found in a red (pneumatic) box was handled as “surface mail” and delivered as such. Postage Dues were levied if appropriate. Items treated as “Pneumatic mail” had to be fully stamped, and are not found with Postage Dues. Then, however, ordinance RGB 127/1911 of the k.k. Department of Commerce (dated 28.6.1911, republished as PuTVBl 91/1911) announced that from 1.8.1911, insufficiently stamped pneumatic mail would be accepted, and be charged double the missing amount, which the addressee would pay. Completely unstamped mail would continue to be handled as surface mail. Pneumatic mail from 1.8.1911 was as a rule fully stamped; “postage-due” items are infrequent and rarely found. [The rules changed again on 1.10.1916.]

The item has been treated in Vienna as an underfranked pneumatic item, so it was entitled to be pneumatically forwarded and taxed at twice the deficiency [10h letter + 30h pneu = 40h, franked 30h, deficiency 10h, due 20h]. Office 10/2 (76) is at Südbahnhof, where the letter would have arrived; and Wien 53 is office Wieden III at Belvederegasse 17 – and is the next station on a pneumatic line.



THE APS BOOKSHOP

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The postage rates in the UK usually go up around the end of March each year. If you’re considering placing an order, this could be a good time to do so!

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- ❖ *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 cleaned-up pictures of the original pages, not searchable text. It is ISBN 978-0-900118-08-1.
- ❖ “**Rohrpost**” – **the pneumatic post in Vienna**. Second completely revised edition, now in web-site format in full colour with numerous added appendices. ISBN 978-0-900118-10-4.

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. ISBN 978-0-900118-09-8 Price **£50. Only 13 11 10 copies left!** P&P £5 in UK, elsewhere at cost.
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- ❖ **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. Bulk orders by negotiation.

Empire's End Eilmarken

Printed matter express adhesives, 1916-1922

The 1916 Postordnung (RGB 317) introduced a new service: express delivery of printed matter, which began on 1 October 1916. Details are given in sections 55-56 of the Postordnung. The item had to be flat not rolled, fully franked, and sent to an inland address (which included Bosnia, Herzegovina, Germany & Liechtenstein). A surcharge of 2h was applied irrespective of the item's weight, payment thereof was shown by a red **triangular** stamp. For items up to 50 grams, the normal postage was 3h and a green triangular 5h stamp was also issued to pay both charges. No triangular stamp = no express handling! The new stamps, and a description of the design, were announced in Postverordnungsblatt (PVOB) 1916/79 Nr 82 of 24 Sept, sales beginning on 1 October.



The triangular stamps were printed head-to-tail, with 8 rows of 13 stamps; however since $8 \times 13 = 104$ while the currency is $1\text{Kr} = 100\text{h}$, the right-hand 4 stamps in the bottom row were omitted. See Ferchenbauer II p.319. This example could either be the express sending of 4 newspapers, or a later using-up of the stamps for ordinary postage.



The illustration on page 319 of Ferchenbauer II shows that this mint pair plus blank triangle comes from the left-hand side of the printed sheet.

The designer's name – Alfred Cossmann – is cunningly concealed below the value digit! [Sorry: my "digital microscope" distorts colours.]



The triangular shape irritated the users, so the design was rearranged into a rectangular shape, and these were used from May 1917 as the triangular stamps ran out. PVOB 1917/35 Nr 31 of 14th May gave the details. The existing triangular stamps remained valid till 31st October 1917, and could be exchanged for new ones at Post Offices during November.

On 1st September 1918, as part of a general rates rise, the postage rate for an inland postcard with an imprinted stamp was raised from 8h to 10h to match the rate for an adhesive-franked card. The original red triangular 2h stamp was resurrected on the same date and used to officially uprate the 8h postal stationery card to the new rate of 10h. PTVOB 1918/48 gives the details. Later, the rectangular 2h was also thus used.



The post-war Austrian government amalgamated Post and Telegraphs, so it was PTVOB 1918/67 that announced on 2nd December 1918 that "until new stamps were ready" all existing stamps would be diagonally overprinted with **Deutschösterreich**; those already 'out there' remained



valid and would be used up. The printed sheets had been arranged as 8 columns of 13 rows, presumably to fit the available paper. Since $8 \times 13 = 104$, the middle 4 positions of the bottom row contained St Andrew's Crosses – so stamps with crosses are found. The earliest recorded usage of these Deutschösterreich express stamps is May 1919 (does any reader have an earlier example?) The overprinting had many imperfections, described below.

In 1919 Posts and Telegraphs were separated again. By the end of 1921 the express surcharge had risen to 50h, and the rectangular red 2h Deutschösterreich overprinted stamp was further overprinted with 50, as described in PVOB 1921/59 of 26th November. Kroiss quotes *Die Postmarke* as stating that the stamp sold out immediately, hence genuinely-used examples are rare. He illustrates the use of ordinary adhesives as a substitute.



The first example is cancelled in Vienna on 21.2.1922, so could be genuine. The second is St. Polten on 15.3.1922, and there is no combination of printed matter rates at that date that comes to 7½Kr to which to add an express surcharge. A numerical possibility is using the 50h express surcharge stamp plus the 7½Kr to pay 8Kr for a 200-gram flat printed-matter item!



Mödling, 17.2.??

PVOB 1921/64 of 22 Dec announced the redesigned “Posthorn and arrow” 50k design, which would replace the previous D-Ö overprinted stamps as these were used up. Plausibly-cancelled specimens exist.



14.2.1922

However, on 1st May 1922, the inexorable rise of inflation saw the end of the printed matter express delivery stamp.

The stamps

Nr	Face	Issued	Description	Notes
217	2h	1.10.1916	Red triangle on yellow paper	The paper is creamy-yellow throughout; shades are found. Perforations include 11½, 12½, and the higher-priced 11½x12½ and 12½x11½; imperfections between pairs exist. Proofs exist in other values eg 3h, 6h and in other colours.
218	5h	1.10.1916	Green triangle on yellow paper	
219	2h	15.5.1917	Red rectangle on yellow paper	
220	5h	15.5.1917	Green rectangle on yellow paper	
252	2h	15.5.1919	#219 with diagonal overprint Deutschösterreich	A wide range of faults are found in the overprint position, and of damage to the capital D – see later.
253	5h	15.5.1919	#220 with diagonal overprint Deutschösterreich	
254	50h	15.12.1921	#252 further overprinted ‘50’	Overprint in blue-black ink.
417	50h	21.12.1921	Rectangle: arrow & posthorn	Printed in sheets of 80 (says PVOB 1921/64) by typography, in lilac ink on yellow paper

The dates

The various references give (as usual!) different dates for the introduction and invalidation of the stamps. Some at least of this is confusion between decision, announcement, printing, issue to Post offices, and first-use dates.

Nr	face	Introduction				Invalidation			
		Netto	Karasek	F'bauer	Kroiss	Netto	Karasek	F'bauer	Kroiss
217	2h	1.10.1916	1.10.1916	1.10.1916	1.10.1916	31.10.1920	28.2.1918	28.2.1918	End 2.1918
			1.9.1918	1.9.1918	1.9.1918		14.1.1920	31.10.1920	14.1.1920
218	5h	1.10.1916	1.10.1916	1.10.1916	--	28.2.1918	28.2.1918	28.2.1918	--
219	2h	15.5.1917	15.5.1917	5.1917	5.1917	31.10.1920	14.1.1920	31.10.1920	14.1.1920
220	5h	15.5.1917	15.5.1917	5.1917	5.1917	31.10.1920	31.10.1920	31.10.1920	31.10.1920
252	2h	15.5.1919	12.1918	--	5.1919	31.10.1920	14.1.1920	--	14.1.1920
253	5h	15.5.1919	12.1918	--	5.1919	30.4.1922	30.4.1922	--	30.4.1922
254	50h	15.12.1921	1.12.1921	--	31.12.1921	30.4.1922	30.4.1922	--	30.4.1922
417	50h	21.12.1921	1.1922	--	(but see note)	30.4.1922	30.4.1922	--	30.4.1922

#217 was resurrected on 1.9.1918 to officially uprate the 8h-imprinted postal stationery card to 10h, the existing rate for franking with adhesives, because the “8h concession” ceased on that date. The inland postcard rate rose to 25h on 15.1.1920; #217 probably remained valid as a component of ordinary franking but few ordinary senders would wish to do this!

Note: Kroiss records Die Postmarke as suggesting that the actual issue of 254 and 417 was in February 1922.

The rates

[for inland printed matter only]

Period	From	To	Express surcharge	Postage for 50 grams	Express + postage	Registration
--	1.10.1916	11.11.1918	2h	3h	5h	25h
1	12.11.1918	14.1.1920				
2	15.1.1920	14.4.1920	5h	10h	15h	60h
3	15.4.1920	31.1.1921	10h	20h	30h	120h
4	1.2.1921	31.7.1921	10h	40h	50h	2K
5	1.8.1921	30.11.1921	20h	80h	1K	5K
6	1.12.1921	30.4.1922	50h	2K	2K50	10K

Further reading:

- Eilmarken von Österreich 1916-1922, by Karasek (APS Lib #79)
- Belege der Österreichischen Inflationszeit 1918-1925, by Kroiss (APS Lib #303)
- Ferchenbauer’s Handbook, vol 2, pp 315-310 (APS Lib #41-II)



23.1.1919: Köflach to Frankfurt in Germany; inland rates; dual-language canceller; 2h triangle uprating.

1919 Deutschösterreich overprints



Stamps with St Andrew's Crosses, so from second-bottom row of the printed sheet.

Many imperfections can be found in the positioning of the **Deutschösterreich** overprint; and the capital **D** seems to have been especially prone to damage



Left: a high overprint, with a gap of 2.2mm between the bottom of the **D** and the thin green line above the **O O H**. Right: a low overprint, only 0.2mm above the thin line. This gap comes in all sizes, from 2.5mm to minus 0.2mm!



The overprint also varies in its left-right alignment.



A selection of damaged **D**s:



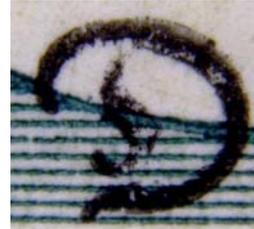
Extraneous piece in middle



Extraneous piece in middle



Bottom of main stroke detached from the rest



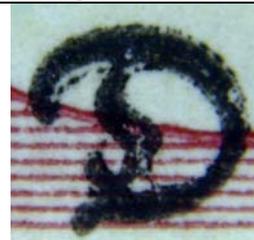
Top & bottom of main stroke damaged



Leading edge of **D** broken off; main stroke damaged

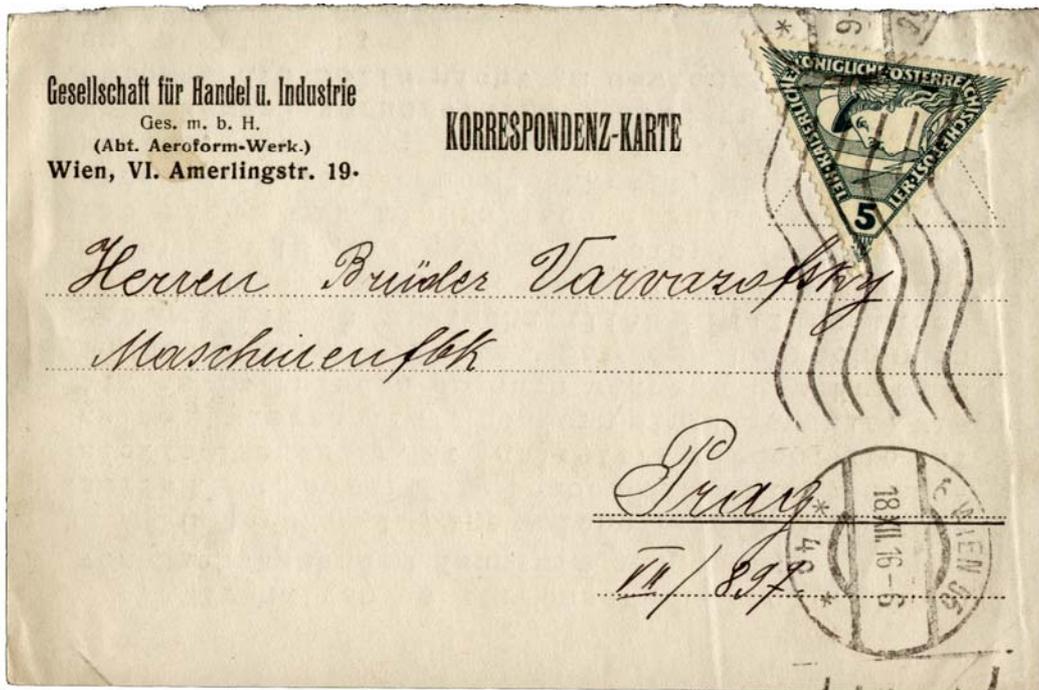


Chip missing from bottom of **D**; extraneous piece in middle

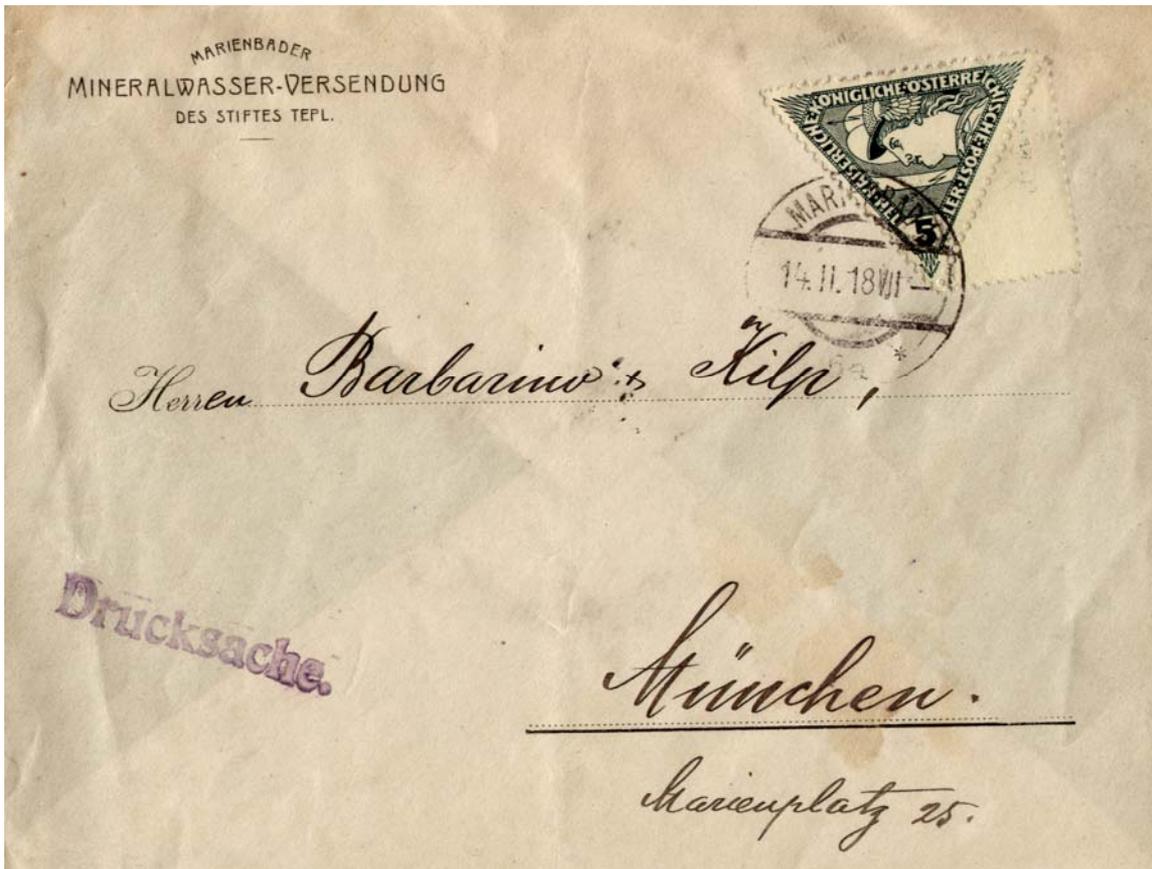


Main stroke damaged; whole letter looks vertically squashed

Examples



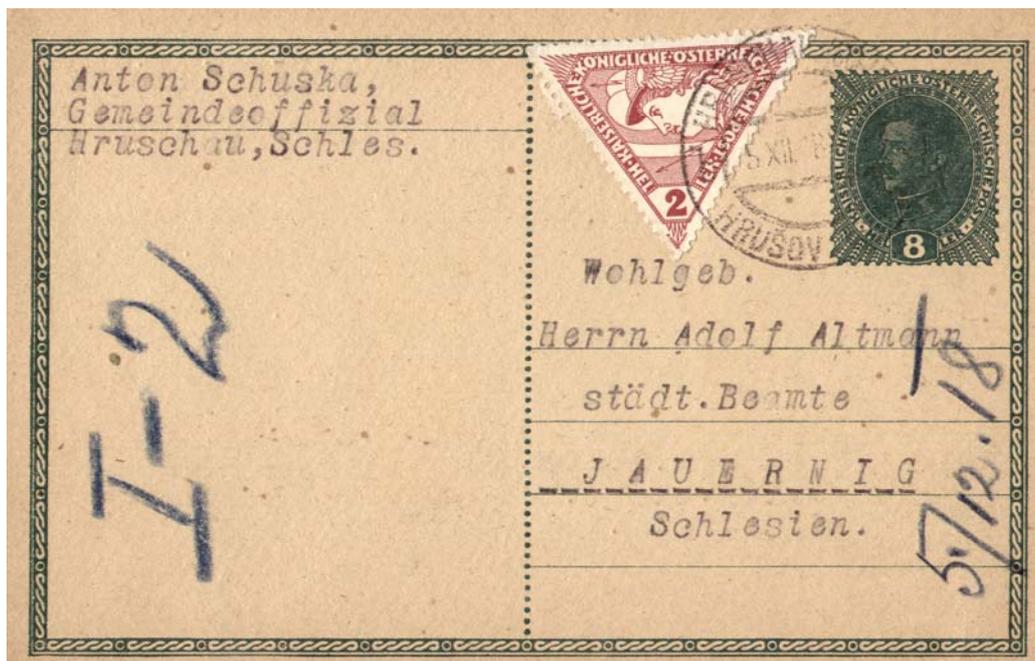
18.12.1916: Vienna to Prague. Combined 3h post and 2h express surcharge paid by 5h Eilmarke.



14.2.1918: Marienbad to Munich. Combined 3h post and 2h express surcharge paid by 5h Eilmarke, valid because Austria treated Germany as 'inland'. (Envelope's raggy edges electronically trimmed off)



22.9.1918: Freiwaldau to Vienna. 2h triangle used to uprate imprinted-8h card to the new 10h rate.



5.12.1918: Hruschau to Jauernig, both in Silesia so by then in Czechoslovakia. Dual-language canceller; 2h triangle uprating: all as if still Austrian. Message (in German) includes “we now belong to the Czechoslovak state – hopefully Wilson will change that”. (Spoiler alert - he didn't.) Yvonne Wheatley comments: “Austrian stamps could be used in Czechoslovakia until 28 February 1919 and postal stationery until 14 October 1919. Changing the dual-language cancellers began immediately but took a long time to convert in some areas because of resistance from the local population. There is no cut-off date because the existing ones continued to be used until there was a replacement.”



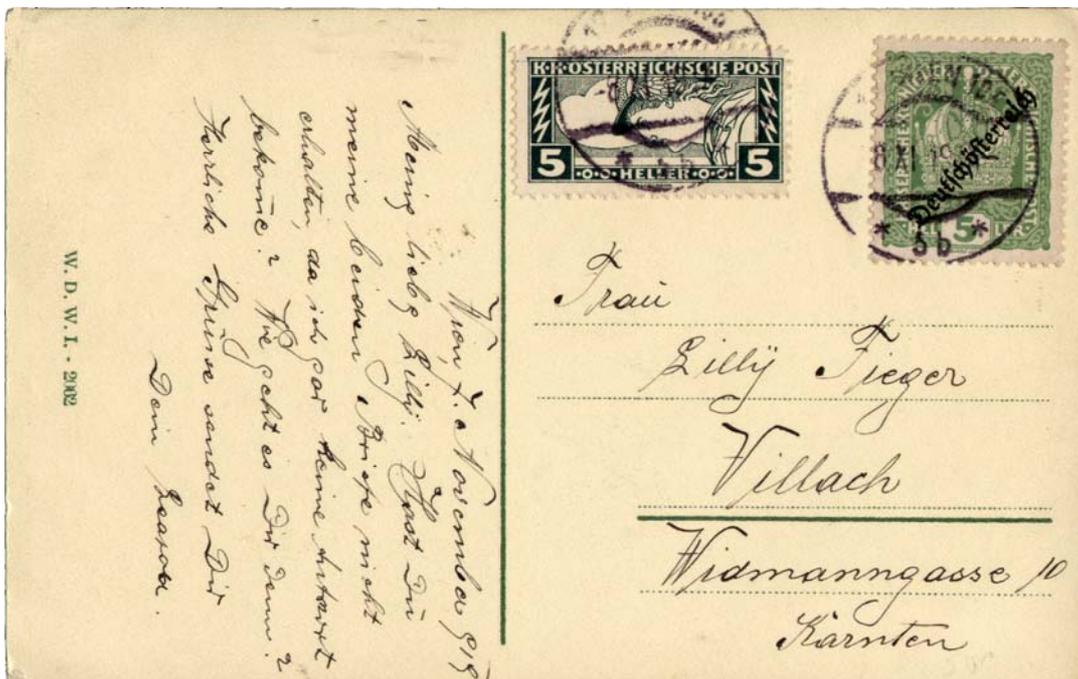
12.1.1919: Prague (to Prague). Dual-language canceller; 2h triangle uprating. YW's note applies.



13.1.1919: Pöchlarn to Freilassing. 2h rectangle used to uprate imprinted-8h card.



29.4.1919: St Johann to Vienna. 2h rectangle used to uprate imprinted-8h card.



8.11.1919: Vienna to Villach. 5h rectangle express stamp plus 5h Deutschösterreich overprinted definitive to pay the 10h postcard rate.

DERBY FEST 21-23 September 2018

The perils of technology! Some of you may be old enough to recall Marie Lloyd's music hall song *Oh! Mister Porter, whatever shall I do? / I wanted to go to Birmingham / And they're taking me on to Crewe*. One member told his satnav to take him from London to Derby; it decided to go via Hull. And your Editor had carefully Google-viewed his route, noting the wording on the sign at which to leave the Brian Clough Way – only to discover that road works had removed not only the verge but also the signpost!

Friday 18:00

Proceedings started on Friday evening with the Auction of Stamps – the Books were also available to view although their auction was on the Saturday. Dinner followed, where the Festmeister had thoughtfully provided each member with a card bearing their name and menu choice, in case they had forgotten one or indeed both.



Saturday Morning Round One

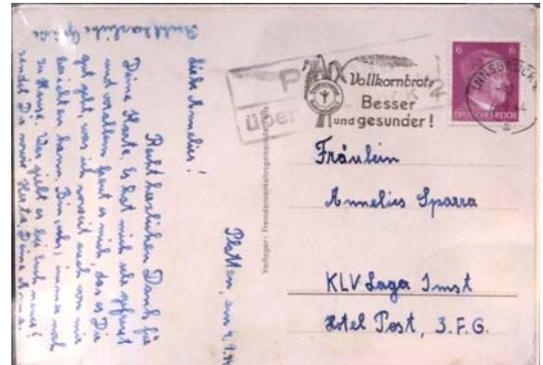
Saturday began more-or-less on time. After a brief welcome from Geoff, Alan Berrisford started the displays with a selection of TPOs from different parts of the Empire, with both Postconductor and TPO cancels.



Next, Joyce Boyer showed us “Jungholz – the other enclave”. The sole road access is via Germany, since it joins the rest of Austria only at a point on the summit of the 1635m high Sorgschrofen. In 1950 when the German and Austrian rates diverged, mail to West Germany went at German rates while mail to the rest of Austria and elsewhere was franked at Austrian rates and carried through Germany back into Austria for sorting.

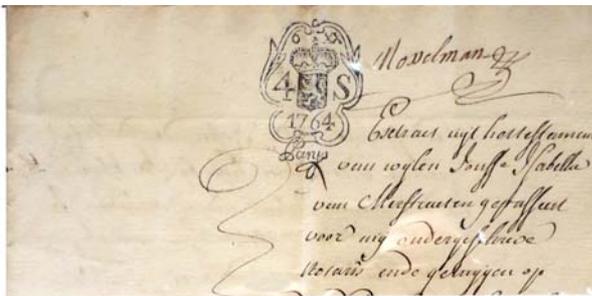


Nick Coverdale had acquired a bundle of letters from the Sparer Family of Innsbruck, posted during the 1938/45 period. Some were to a daughter at a KLV camp (Kinderlandverschickung - meaning "evacuation of children to the countryside") in the Hotel Post in Imst, while others were to the family's home address. This card was written to her by her mother from Platten, in the main Inn valley west of Innsbruck, and posted at the Postablage at Pettnau which is about 2½km away (or perhaps collected by the letter-carrier). The Postablage cancel is Kühnel's nr 1072d, a boxed Pettnau / über Innsbruck 2.



Martin Brumby showed us some Austrian Netherlands fiscal imprints on documents – this is the Low Countries not Holland. They were not only rare, but also are inconvenient sizes for display!

Clive Murray displayed Prisoners of War mail, mostly from WWI.



AUSTRIAN NETHERLANDS - FISCAL SIGNETS
DUCHY of BRABANT

Extract from the Testament of Pieter-Dominicus Mosselman (?) (1698-1763), Dean of the Butcher's Guild in Brussels. Two sheets of folded paper 15"x12", each with 1764 4 Sol signets of Brabant (Crowned shield with Brabant Lion. "6" at top refers to 6years after Seven Years War peace treaty of 30 Dec. 1758; & "XX" to 20yrs of Marie-Thérèse's reign)

Wmk. 70 x 105 mm. Crowned frame with Lion of Brabant Wmk. 145 x 12 mm (sideways) "SEGL J764"



Geoff Richardson showed Third Reich Parcel Cards used in Austria, illustrating the various charges made at different periods. These included 15pf for delivery; 10pf for insurance; 20pf for COD; 60pf for express delivery; 50% surcharge for bulky or inconveniently-shaped items such as poles or light-bulbs (marked SP); and 100pf for Urgent.

A coffee-break came next, during which your editor was shown an unusual item: a coil end from the Buildings series 50g small-format stamp, printed by Harrison; the roll being for use in vending machines.



Saturday Morning Round Two

Keith Brandon had us all at sea with Austrian Maritime mail, mainly Lloyd TPOs. At first this was cancelled on arrival (*per Vapore...*), then for a short period beginning in 1840 VLA (*Vapore Lloyd Austriaca*) cancels were applied on the ships. The card shows the Dalmatia Line's steamship TRIESTE embarking passengers in the port of Zara (Zadar).



Andy Taylor produced some of his Spectacular Postage Dues

John May outlined the influence of Austria on the Principality of Liechtenstein.



John Bathard gave us a change from the usual fare, with a thematic collection of Bosnian & Herzogovinan railways.

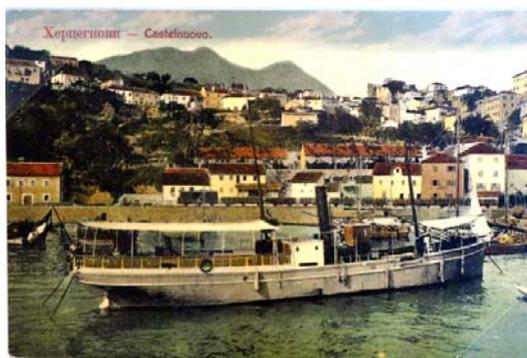


Colin Tobitt's display was given in memory of Dragan Udovicic, and consisted of the First Definitive Issue of 1919/21 including many colour varieties collected long before they were recently catalogued, and many other desirable items.

George Janossy showed mail from the period before Buda, Pest, Óbuda and other adjacent settlements were merged into the city of Budapest on 1st January 1873. He had letters from the period of development of Hungarian governance, signed by famous people such as Ferenc Deák and Lajos Kossuth.



David Bravery displayed items from the Bay of Cattaro and the many places around it.



The card shows the S.S. Kotor (identified from an original photo in the local museum) moored at Castelnovo. From 1892 she maintained a regular service carrying mail, passengers and cargo to ports around the bay of Cattaro. The card was posted at Zelenika to Vienna around 1912.

Joyce Boyer produced Balloon Mail, beginning with the Kinderdorf covers produced to finance homes for the numerous post-WWII orphans. As Austria was forbidden to operate ‘flying machines’, the early flights were done by the Swiss. At first there were flights at Easter and Autumn; then special flights for special events were added – and then Christkindl, children’s cancer research, New Year’s Eve for Pro Juventute...



Especially interesting was the right-hand cover below, posted by balloon at the special 1-cent rate for “material for the blind”. To comply with the regulations, the enclosure slip was ‘printed’ in braille.



Time to view the displays...





Saturday afternoon

The **Competition** for “9 sheets on a subject beginning with ‘F’” was decisively won by David Bravery with a display entitled “FURTHEST SOUTH” which related to the small coastal strip of land between the Bay of Cattaro and the Montenegrin border. It was the southernmost extent of the A/H Empire. David was presented with the customary bottle.

The **Book auction**, a new venture for us, went well and will probably be repeated. Books came from members, and from the downsizing of the Library.

More displays followed.

Geoffrey Richardson kicked off with special cancels, mainly from Philatelic Exhibitions.

Clive Murray showed the period 1918 – 1921 when Austria administered Liechtenstein’s Post.



Joyce Boyer shared some of her recent Innsbruck Acquisitions, with many unusual markings from the 19th century. Innsbruck to Meran, 15 March, probably 1854. 1kr lemon yellow type III.

[Cancel on back shown as inset to save space! Ed.]

John May displayed Battleships, or rather, items associated with them.



Alan Berrisford's second display was Court Delivery items, with perf and colour variations. Dues invalidated – the bird had flown!



Andy Taylor's Ordinary Postage Dues included many of the weird and wonderful ways whereby the Austrian Post used dues to extract cash from its customers!



Colin Tobitt showed the Republican Arms stamps from 1920-21, with different papers, flaws, varieties, perms etc.

In the block below, the bottom right stamp has an apostrophe after the left-hand 7.



He continued with a new way to look at modern commemoratives, noting that Austria tended to have a series on, say, alpine flowers with a few issues on each of many years. Instead of a display ordered by date, such stamps were more attractive if arranged thematically. This he had done.

Sunday morning

In his 2-round President's Display, Keith Brandon told the story of "The Austrian Registered Post from 1789 to 1918". In some 300 sheets, Keith described the introduction of the first official tariff for registered mail in 1789 and the developments thereafter. He concentrated on the ways in which registered mail was marked and the role of receipts in the system. Many compliments were overheard! Some selected items are shown overleaf.

Proceedings concluded with the AGM – reported in its minutes – and the Partners' Feedback and Review. All present were pleased with the weekend, and the Festmeisters were asked to repeat it at the same venue in 2019.



The change from the Schilling to the Euro

By Joyce Boyer

Austria joined the European community in 1995 and was one of the countries to accept the Euro as the national currency from 1st January 2002. This exhibit shows how the Austrian Post Office dealt with the transition of the national currency from the Schilling to the Euro.

Following hyper-inflation in the early 1920s, Austria introduced the schilling made up of 100 groschen as a new currency on 1st January 1925. Replaced by the German Reichsmark during the Anschluss period from March 1938, the schilling was re-instated on 1st October 1945. Post WWII inflation led to the schilling being revalued in December 1947.

All schilling and groschen value stamps issued after December 1947 remained valid for postage until 30th June 2002. From 1st October 2001 the Austrian post office offered a service to exchange stamps of values no longer in everyday use e.g. groschen or low schilling values for stamps in the current series.

The Euro became a 'Financial World Currency' in 1999 and on 1st January 2002 an actual currency when coins and notes came into circulation. There was an agreed rate of exchange between a country's existing money and the Euro - for Austria this was 13.7603 schillings equalled €1. In Austria both monies could be used until 28th February. The Austrian post office agreed that schilling stamps could be used until 30th June.

The Austrian postal authority decided not to introduce dual currency schilling/euro stamps but they did issue three 'No value indicated' postal stationery envelopes in June 2001 for either Inland or European postage.

The change from the schilling to the euro caused a number of problems for the Austrian post service as shown in the exhibit. Although a fairly recent happening, some of the material is difficult to find. 1st January is a public holiday in Austria and with 30th June 2002 being on a Sunday [when post offices are normally closed] any material with these dates has to be philatelic.

The exhibit is divided into three sections:-

1: Frames 1-4 The run-up to the euro including information made available to the public, non-value and December 2001 mail.

2: Frames 5-12 January - June 2002 The introduction of the Euro currency including the euro stamps issued on 1st January, early frankings and mail with all-euro frankings for other than the basic rate. Mail franked with euro-only stamps for this period is difficult to find. Mail with mixed schilling/euro frankings using stamps and showing the different ways in which large and small post offices indicated that additional postage had been paid

3: Frames 13-16 June - July 2002 The end of the schilling validity period including mail from the last days of schilling usage and early frankings from the Euro only period.

The limited period covered by the exhibit enable the major features to be shown in one frame. Much of the information used has been obtained during visits to the Philatelisten Klub Merkur in Innsbruck and BSV Favoriten in Vienna, and from friends in Austria.

Editor's Note. This article is in part an experiment in turning a display into an article with the minimum of reformatting. However, considerable unexpected efforts had to be made to convert data from one file format into another – “all PDF files are equal but some are more equal than others”. The author has selected whole and part sheets from the 16-sheet original to produce a 12-page article.

Telling philatelists and the public

At WIPA2000 (Vienna International Philatelic Exhibition) the Austrian Post Office provided a leaflet (below left) giving advance information to collectors about the proposed new Euro stamps. In 2001 a leaflet (below right) was made available to the public giving information about the new currency and stamps, including dates of availability and periods during which both currencies could be used – for money it was until 28th February 2002 and for stamps it was until 30th June 2002.

Gute Nachrichten für Philatelisten



Die österreichische Briefmarke

Euro-Marken kommen –

Auch nach der Einführung des Euro als Zahlungsmittel wird jedes Mitgliedsland der Europäischen Union seine Briefmarkenpolitik selbst bestimmen. Eine Vereinheitlichung von Briefmarken ist mit Ausnahme der Wert- und Währungsbezeichnung nicht vorgesehen.

Es wird also keine überall gültigen „EU-Marken“ geben; die Briefmarken sollen auch weiterhin für jenes Land werden, in dem sie erscheinen.

Einer guten und von den Philatelisten geschätzten Tradition folgend, dass österreichische Dauermarken in ihrer künstlerischen und drucktechnischen Gestaltung den Sondermarken nicht nachstehen, wird die Österreichische Post mit Einführung des Euro ab 1. Jänner 2002 eine neue Dauermarkenserie mit Euro-Aufdruck ausgeben.

Unser Bemühen findet seinen Niederschlag auch darin, dass nur die Besten unserer Markenkünstler mit der Gestaltung von Dauermarkenserien beauftragt wurden und werden.

Post bereitet Euro-Umstellung von Briefmarken vor

Bei der Post laufen die Vorbereitungen für die Umstellung auf den Euro ab 2002 auf Hochtouren. Zur Orientierung der Post-Kunden wurde im Bereich Briefmarken die geplante Vorgangsweise für den Umtausch bereits jetzt festgelegt.

Umtauschmöglichkeit ab 1. Oktober 2001
Die österreichischen Euro-Marken erlangen ab 1. Jänner 2002 Gültigkeit. Der Umtausch von Schilling-Marken in österreichische Euro-Marken startet schon ab 1. Oktober 2001 in allen Postfilialen und ist dort voraussichtlich bis Juli 2002 möglich.

Nach Ablauf dieser Übergangsfrist ist ein Umtausch der Marken nicht mehr in allen Postfilialen möglich, sondern nur mehr über eine zentrale Servicestelle der Post, die rechtzeitig bekannt gegeben wird. Mit der vorgesehenen Umtauschregelung will die Post die zeitgerechte und kundenfreundliche Abwicklungsmöglichkeit für alle Post-Kunden im Inland sicherstellen.

Ein Umtausch beim Sammler-Service ist nicht vorgesehen.

Im Interesse unserer Kunden ist derzeit geplant, im ersten Halbjahr 2002 die parallele Verwendung von Schilling- und Euro-Marken zuzulassen. Diese Mischfrankaturen sind einzigartige Zeitdokumente der Währungsübergang und begehrten nicht nur Briefmarkensammler.

Die Post bringt allen was.

Der Euro kommt.

Bereiten wir uns jetzt darauf vor.



Post.at

Was erwartet Briefmarken-Sammler?
Schilling-Briefmarken:
Mit der Einführung österreichischer Briefmarken in Euro-Währung ist das Sammelgebiet "Republik in Schilling" abgeschlossen. Dieser Meilenstein bietet eine große Chance auf Stabilisierung des Philateliemarktes in Österreich und verspricht gute Aussichten auf Wertsteigerungen von Sammelmarken in Schilling-Währung.

Die letzte Chance: Schilling-Marken können Sie nur noch bis 31. Dezember 2001 kaufen.

Euro-Briefmarken:
Die neuen Euro-Dauermarken sind dem Ferienland Österreich gewidmet.

ATS 2,- = EUR 0,20



ATS 1,- = EUR 0,10



ATS 10,- = EUR 1,00



ATS 10,- = EUR 1,00



ATS 10,- = EUR 1,00



Tipps zu den Briefmarken:

- Wer jetzt noch Schilling-Marken sammelt, hat Chancen auf mögliche Wertsteigerungen.
- Falls Sie nicht sammeln, vertreiben Sie Ihre Schilling-Marken bis 30. Juni 2002.
- Die beste Zeit für den Umtausch von Schilling-Briefmarken in Euro-Briefmarken ist etwa ab März 2002 – nach der Bargeld-Umstellung.

Hier die Euro-Termine im Überblick:

Bargeld
Ausgabe Startpakete 19.12.

Gültigkeit Bargeld
Schilling: [Timeline from 19.12.2001 to 28.2.2002]

Automatische Umstellung der Giro- und Sparkonten auf Euro
19.12.

Briefmarken
Verkauf Briefmarken Schilling: [Timeline from 19.12.2001 to 30.6.2002]

Gültigkeit der Briefmarken
Schilling: [Timeline from 19.12.2001 to 30.6.2002]

Hilfreiche Informationen direkt bei Ihrem Postamt oder unten:

Österreichische Post AG
Internet: www.post.at
E-Mail: zsm.office@post.at
Euro-Office-Post: 065555-3523

Österreichische Postparcels AG
Internet: www.psk.at
E-Mail: kundenservice@mail.psk.co.at
PSK-Serviceleistungen: 0180-200-000 zum Ortsnetz
Mo bis Fr von 7 bis 21 Uhr / Sa von 8 bis 18 Uhr

Ihr Postamts-Team

Every home should have one

To enable people to check the new Euro rates of postage, this “Tarif Converter” was sent to every household in December 2001. While the wheel rotates to give details of inland rates, foreign rates and other services (eg the registration fee) are shown inside or on the back.

Ihr Post-Tarifrechner. 2001 

Tarif im Griff.

Im Inland sind Ihre Sendungen konkurrenzlos schnell und sicher unterwegs.

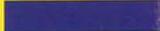
	Gewicht		Tarif
Tarife Inland	bis 150 g	ATS €	12,- 0,87

Was die neuen Post-Tarife jetzt alles bringen

- Ein vereinfachtes, klar verständliches Tarifsysteem
- Weniger Tarifstufen, mehr Leistungen, mehr Übersicht
- Die Sicherheit, dass die Post auch in Zukunft Österreichs führender Zustell-Dienstleister bleibt

Briefe 

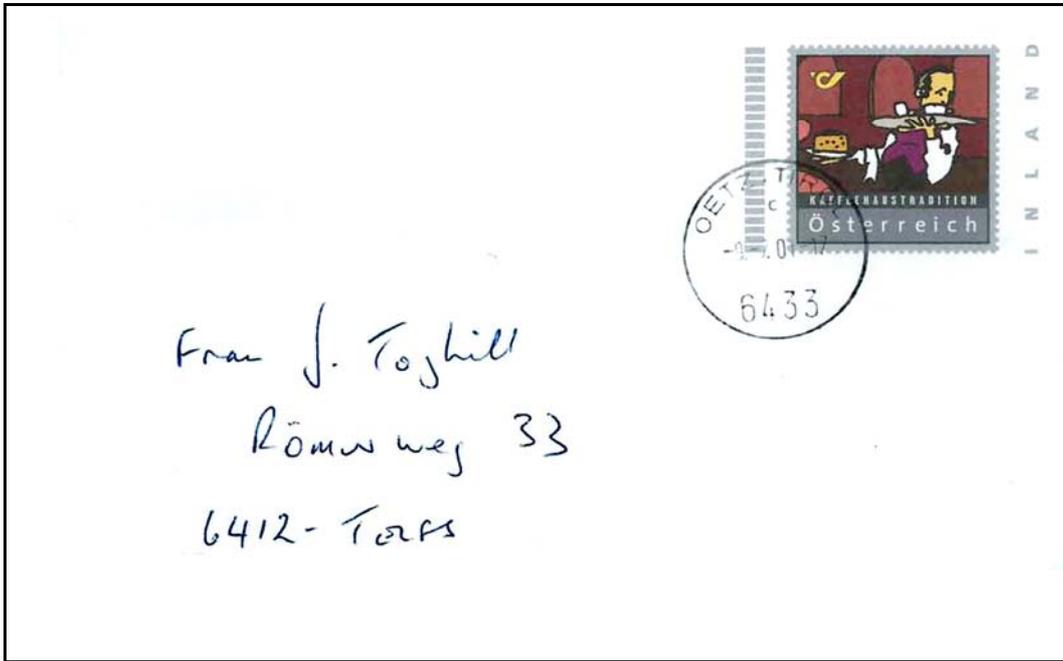
EMS 

Pakete 

So geht's: Um schnell und einfach zu ermitteln, was Ihre Postsendung kostet (ATS/€), drehen Sie bitte die Tarifscheibe in die Richtung der gewünschten Versandart bis im entsprechenden Fenster das Gewicht Ihrer Postsendung aufscheint. Tarife für Auslandssendungen, Zusatzleistungen und Extras finden Sie auf den folgenden Seiten.
*Sendung zum Standardentgelt
An einen Haushalt. Postentgelt bar bezahlt

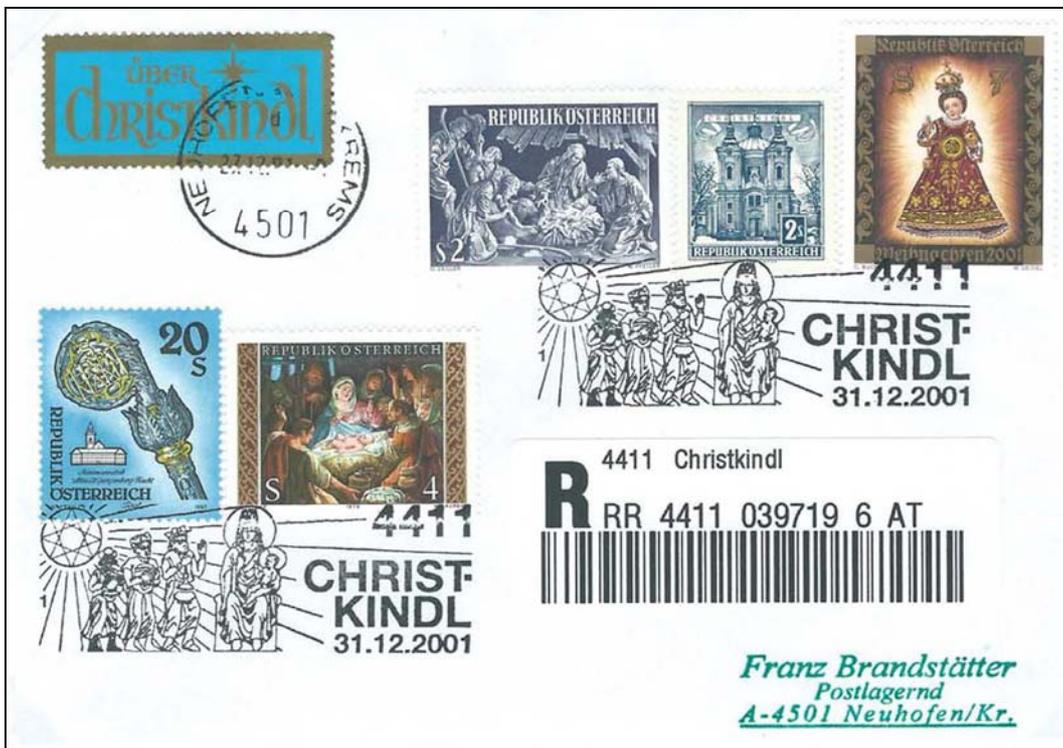
The run up to the Euro

The Austrian postal authority decided not to introduce dual-currency schilling-Euro stamps, but they did issue a set of “no value indicated” postal stationery envelopes in June 2001 for use either for Inland or European postage – the so-called BonusBrief. These came in DL size, either plain or with window, and C6; an example used in July 2001 is shown.



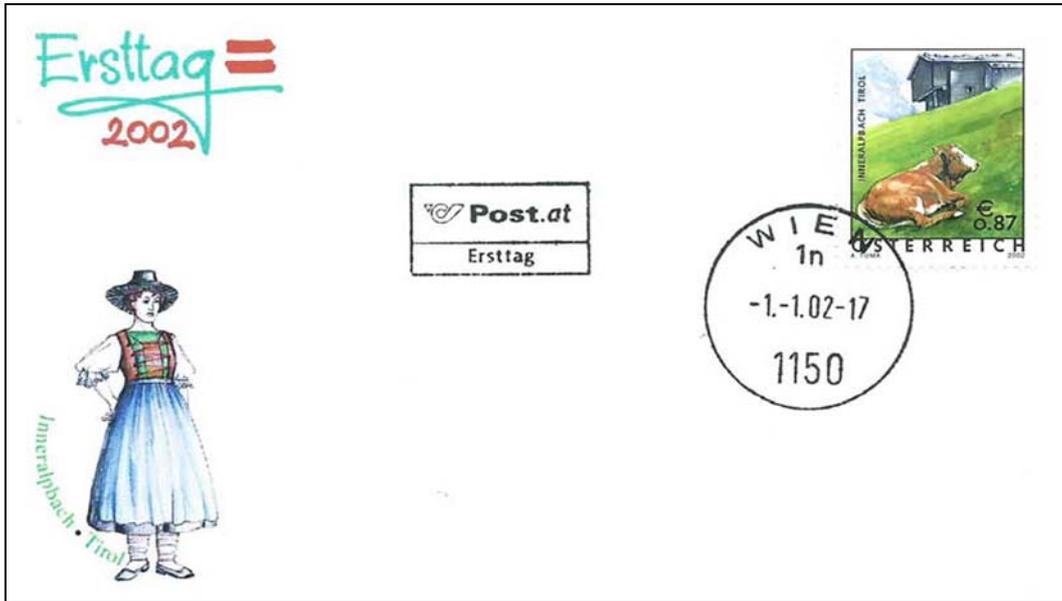
December 2001

This letter was sent on 31st December, officially the last day of the schilling. It has been franked with 7Sch for postage and 28Sch registration fee, using a variety of stamps.



1st January 2002

In late December 2001 the Austrian postal authority issued a set of five definitive stamps, a postal stationery card, and a special commemorative stamp all valued in Euro currency. These were sold at some larger post offices, which enabled people to prepare their First Day Covers.



The set of five Euro definitive stamps issued on 1st Jan 2002 would pay the following rates:

- 51 cents for basic weight letters in Austria and priority letters to Europe [previously 7Sch]
- 58 cents for second weight (ie up to 50 grams) inland letters [8Sch]
- 73 cents for second weight non-priority letters to Europe [10Sch]
- 87 cents inland letters up to 100 grams [12Sch]
- 2€03 – the registration fee.

Frohes Fest per Post.

The cost of postage in respect of most of the other rates could be made up with two or more stamps – eg the 50 grams priority rate to Europe cost 1€02, made up by two 51 cent stamps; and the same to Overseas cost 1€45 made up by 58 cents + 87 cents. For small value makeup stamps an Ergänzungsmarke (explained below) was used; one is shown on this card.

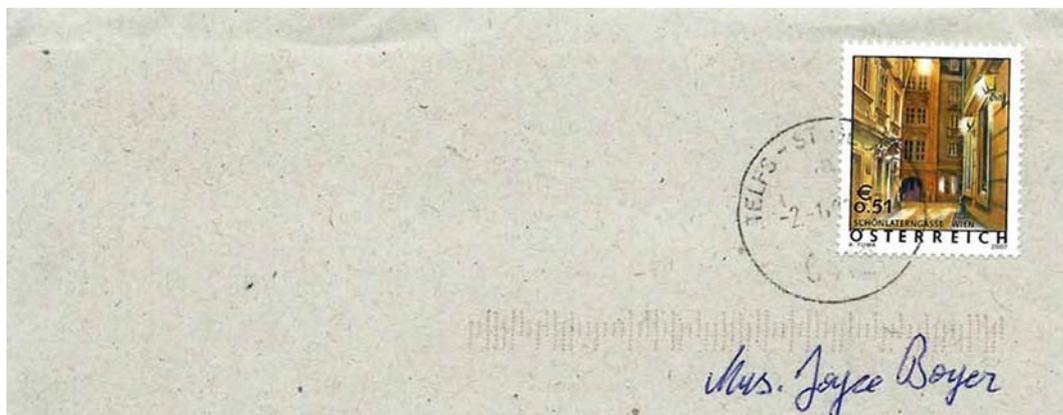
1st January 2002

The first Euro-value special stamp depicting a 1 Euro coin and the countries in the currency union, with the official first day cancellation from Vienna. It has a montage of schilling coins printed on the reverse which in theory should have disappeared when the stamp was used – but this didn't necessarily happen; see mint and used examples below.



2nd January 2002

January 1st was a public holiday in Austria, as in many parts of the world, and therefore Post Offices were generally closed – meaning that the first day on which ordinary mail franked with a Euro stamp could receive a cancellation was 2nd January 2002. The letter below was cancelled on the 2nd.



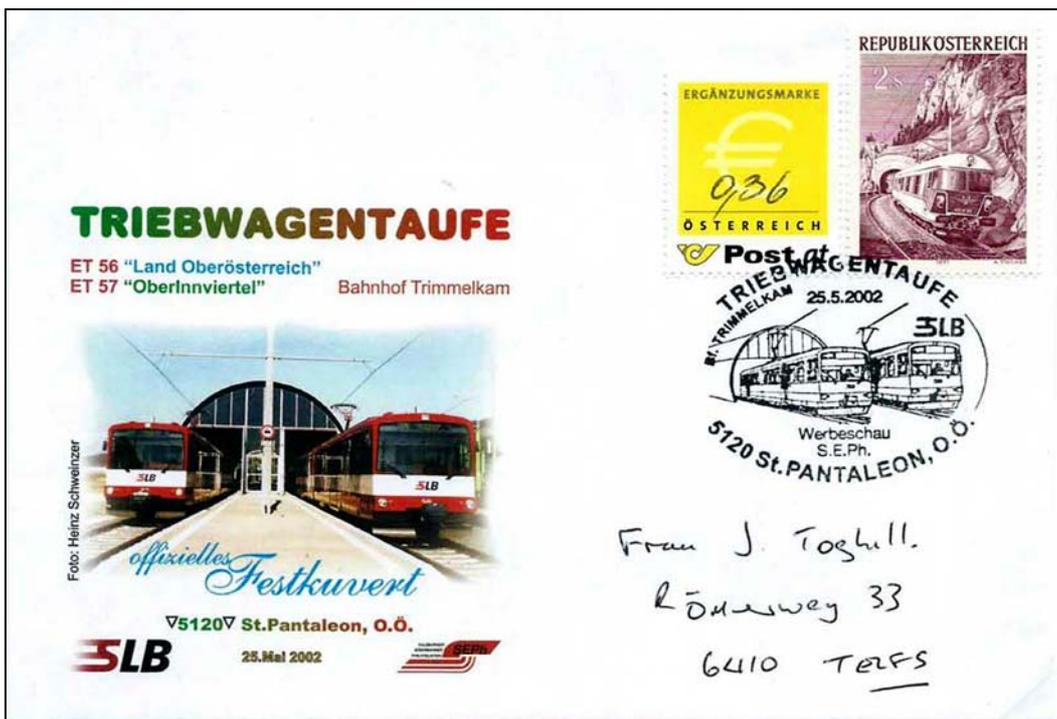
Mixed frankings with label

There were two ways to overcome the lack of small-value stamps needed to make up the postage if the schilling franking did not pay the full postage; the method used depended on the size of the Post Office. Most offices were linked in to a computer system and these printed 'OPAL' labels for the total or additional postage, the sender paying cash for this over the counter. The counter clerk established the euro-value of the schilling stamps from a table provided, and printed a label for the balance.



Mixed frankings with Ergänzungsmarke

Small village Post Offices which were not connected to the OPAL system were issued with sheets of yellow 'Ergänzungsmarke' labels with a self-carbonised back sheet. If additional postage was payable, the amount charged was calculated from a table provided and written on the label, with the amount being automatically recorded on the back sheet for accounting purposes. The customer passed over her item of mail and the amount due, and the counter clerk affixed the label. This cover shows 2Sch in stamps plus 36 Eurocent label making 51 cents inland postage.



Mixed frankings with stamps

This letter has been correctly franked with mixed schilling/euro stamps. The charity surcharge of 8Sch on the WIPA 1981 stamp is ignored and its 16Sch with the 12Sch pays the 28Sch registration fee. The special issue 0€51 stamp pays the normal postage.



Payment with Euro stamps

It was not always possible to make up the correct postage using Euro stamps. This cover uses five 51-cent stamps, overpaying by 2 cents the postage of 51 cents plus registration fee of 2€03 for a 20 gram inland registered letter.



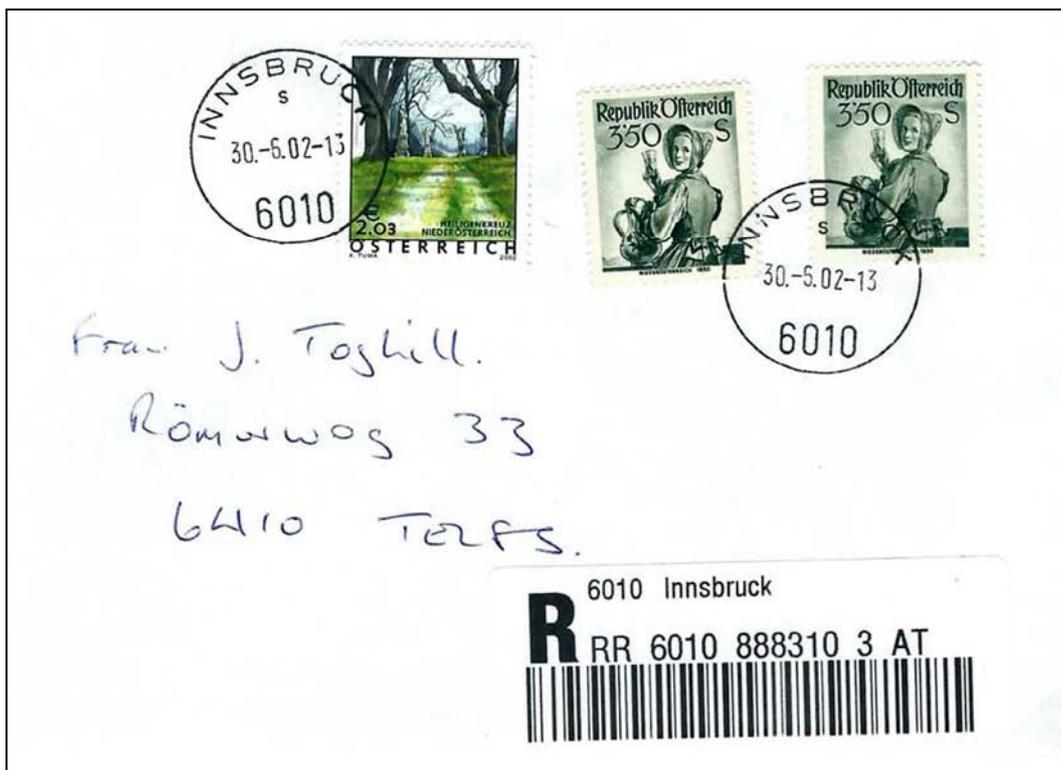
Last normal days of schilling or mixed franking

The last official day for the validity of schilling/groschen stamps was 30th June 2002. That was a Sunday, and since most Austrian Post Offices are closed on both Saturday and Sunday the last day of general use for both schilling-only and mixed schilling-euro stamps was Friday 28th June. This card was posted at the village of Sautens in Tirol.



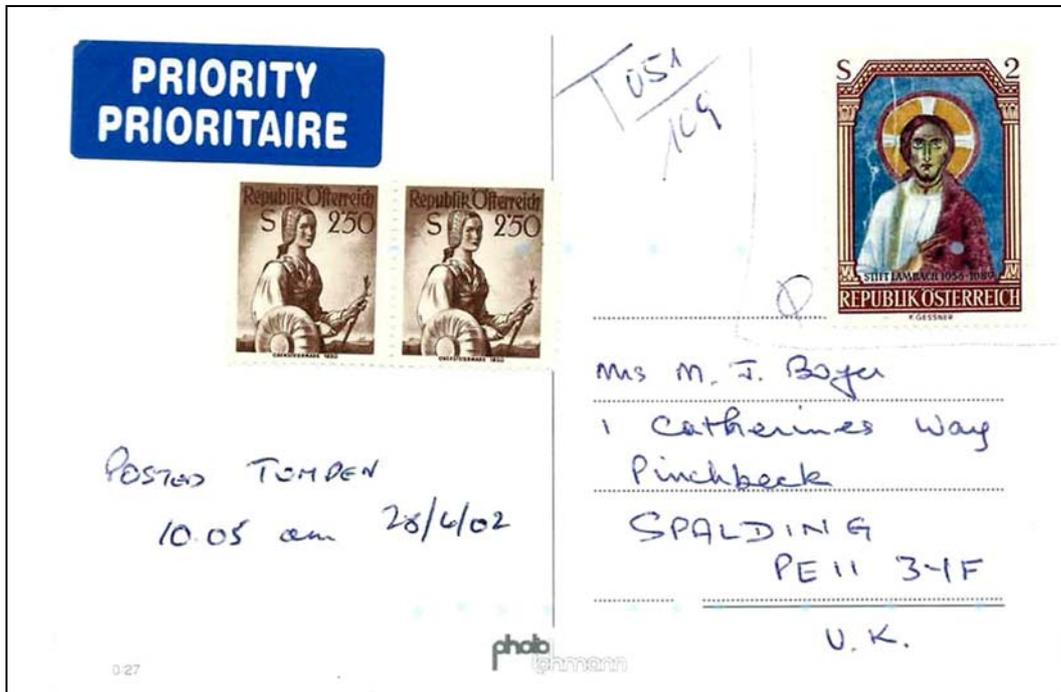
Last official day of shilling or mixed franking

The main post office in Innsbruck was open on Sunday 30th June. People visiting the post office could obtain a 'last day cancellation' on items posted there with schilling or schilling/euro mixed frankings, for example:

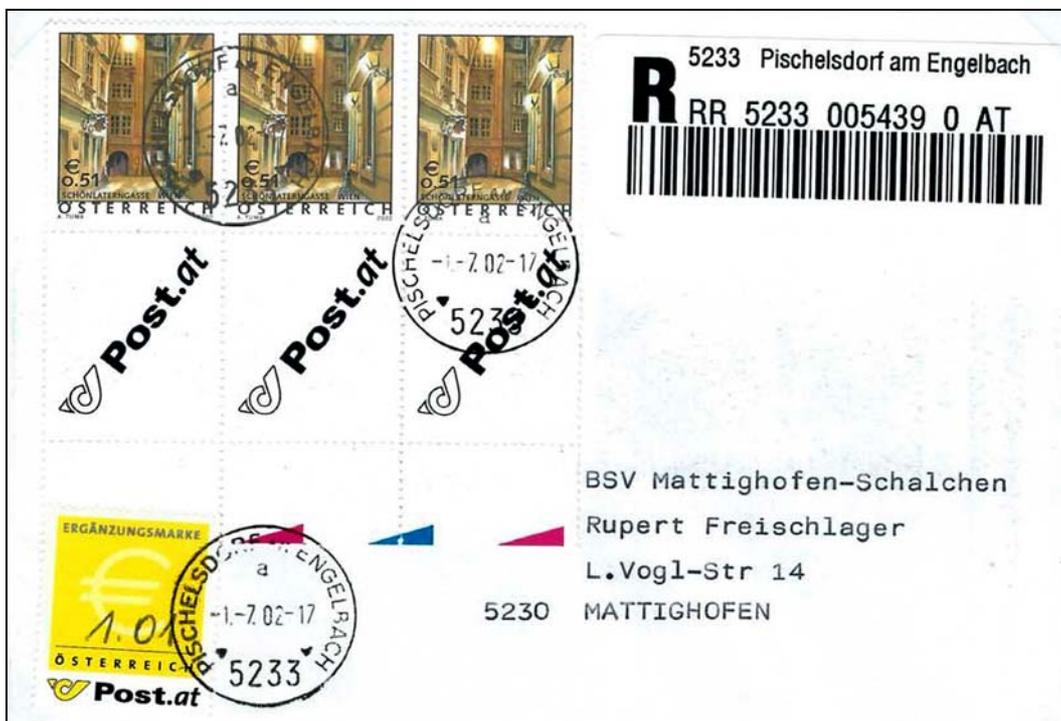


1st July 2002

A problem arose where a post box was cleared on Friday 28th June and then on Monday 1st July. The card was posted in a rural post box and missed the Friday collection. On Monday the stamps were no longer valid for postage, and they have not been cancelled. A surcharge for unpaid postage has been noted on the card – postage 0€51, charge 1€09 – but this was not collected because of the doubt as to whether it was strictly due.

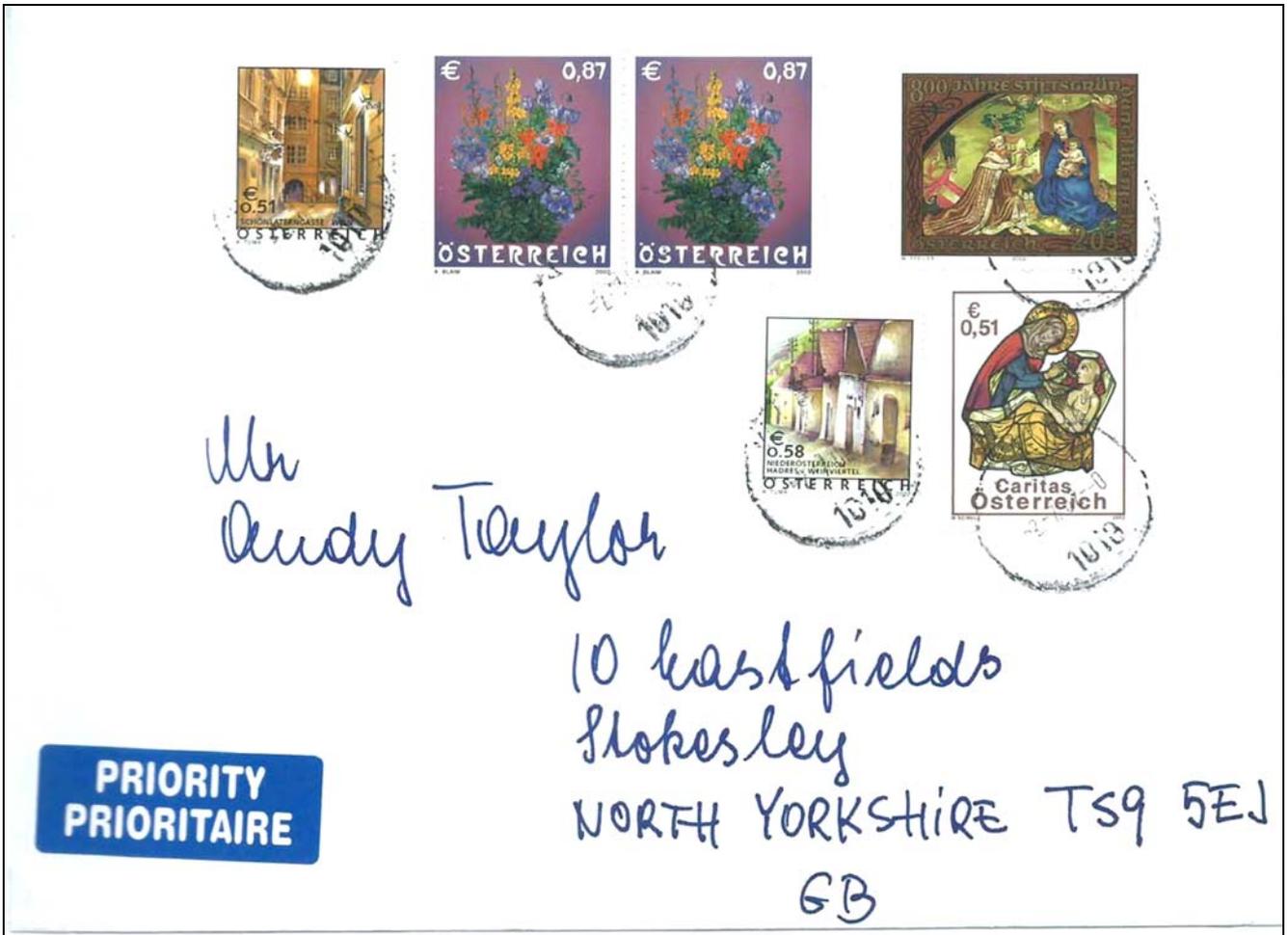


Registered basic weight letter posted 1st July. Total cost of postage was 2€4 of which 1€3 has been paid using three stamps, and the balance of 1€1 by using an Ergänzungsmarke.



2nd July 2002

A variety of special stamps plus two definitives totalling 5€37 have been used on this cover sent on 2nd July 2002. They pay (most of) the cost of sending a book weighing up to 500 grams as Priority mail to the UK. The correct postage should have been 5€45 but there is no indication that additional postage was due.



The Ergänzungsmarke ceased to be valid for use on 1st June 2003, but all euro value stamps continue to be valid for postage (November 2018).

The Editor comments that since this cover was sent to him by the late Dr C Kainz, perhaps the postal clerk didn't dare query the franking!

History of the Schilling to Euro Exhibit

When it was announced that the Euro would become an ‘actual currency’ on 1st January 2002 the Austrian Postal authority had to make plans for how they would introduce this with regard to the issue of new stamps, and also how the change could take place since it would not be possible to change all stamps overnight. They also had to consider how they would notify everybody of the changes and new rates of postage.

Because I wanted to have mail from the change-over period, I asked friends in Austria to send me covers for the Last day of the Schilling and First day of the Euro. To this I added more covers when I was on holiday in June/July 2002 for the actual Last days of use for the schilling or mixed currency stamps.

This material plus other items I had received formed the early pages in my ‘Modern Austria’ display [Euro material] to other philatelic societies. In January 2017 the Mid Anglia Philatelic Society, of which my local Spalding & District Stamp Club is a member, announced that the 16 page competition for the King’s Lynn trophy would be Postal History. I thought that I would see if I could create an exhibit of 16 pages on the Schilling to the Euro topic although I realised that as ‘Modern postal history’ it might not do well. It was awarded a vermeil medal. The writing up of material is quite different for competition than for showing to other philatelists – an example of this follows**. Words should be the minimum needed to provide the information since judges do not have time to read everything. This is why the opening page containing a plan of the exhibit is essential and should give as much details as possible since this is sent to the judges in advance of actual judging so that they are aware of what they will see and can, if they wish, research the topic.

My experience with this exhibit has been that the judging is not consistent. This may be partly based on what the individual likes or how they write-up their own exhibits. There are two schools of thought for the opening page/plan – one says ‘there must be a philatelic item on the first page’ whilst others disagree, saying the plan is the most important thing. With a one-frame exhibit there is little room for both. This exhibit may have suffered because this subject is Foreign rather than Britain and Commonwealth or that it is too modern, although at earlier exhibitions I have received the comment that ‘It is good to see modern postal history on display’.

I had learned that entries were needed for the Northern National competitions to be held at the York Stamp and Coin Fair in July 2017 and offered it. I was pleased to again be awarded a vermeil medal and received some very positive encouragement to continue with the exhibit together with comments as to how it might be improved. The exhibit has had two further outings and at both it was marked for a large silver medal. After Spring Stampex in February 2018 I again received positive help, re-wrote the opening page to stress some points and added some different material. However on its last outing at the Northern National at York in July 2018 the judges expressed the view that whilst they liked the exhibit it would never get a higher mark so I have decided to break it up and merge it back into the ‘Modern Austria’ display. Before doing this I offered it to our editor for an article in ‘Austria’. In order to reduce the 16 page exhibit to 12 pages for Austria some pages have been merged showing only one item rather than two; but this does not change the story.

Joyce Boyer

** The lower cover on page 10 of the original display (the upper cover is at the bottom of the 8th page of this article) is only referred to for the mixed schilling/ergänzungsmarke [“2Sch20 in stamps plus 2€34 to pay 2€54 for postage and registration fee”] but when replaced in my Kühtai collection there will be the additional information “For many years there had been a ‘Winter only’ post office in Kühtai to handle mail from the many visitors for skiing [there are few summer holiday visitors] but the Austrian postal authority decided that winter 2001/02 would be the last year with final closure on 19th April 2002. This is therefore a ‘Last day of the Post Office’ cover”. It needs this explanation for its inclusion in the general display.



A late relic of the Schilling/Euro change.

In my exhibit covering the Change from the Schilling to the Euro I mention the issue of 'Bonus Briefs' in the summer of 2001. These postal stationery envelopes did not have a printed value but an indication of their use – Inland or Europa – making them valid for use both before and after the change of currency on 1st January 2002. Today, 27th October 2018, I received a mailing of items bought on Ebay in a Bonus Brief marked Europa indicating that these are still valid for and pay the correct postage, although issued when that cost was 7Sch or 51 euro cents! Today it would be 90 cents.

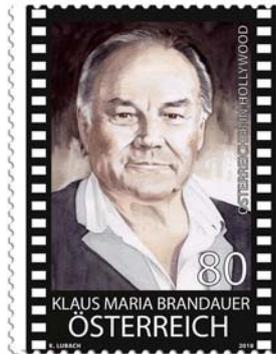
Top: cover sent from Oetz on 9.7.2001; bottom: cover sent from Schorfling am Attersee on 25.10.2018



2018 NEW ISSUES (2nd instalment)

by Andy Taylor

The information given here is face value ('c' is Euro-cents); issue date; quantity printed; designer; engraver if any; printing method; printer; and sometimes details on the design. Many issues are also available in mini-sheets, blackprints, 'Buntdrucke' (ie printed in different colours from those issued) etc.



Klaus Maria Brandauer. 80c; 20.09.2018; 350,000; Kirsten Lubach; Offset; Enschedé. "From Bad Aussee to Hollywood". To celebrate his 75th birthday, the actor Klaus Maria Brandauer is now being honoured with an illustrated portrait on a commemorative stamp in the "Austrians in Hollywood" series.

Saint Erentrude. 1-€75; 21.09.2018; 160,000; Kombi; Peter Sinawebl; Enschedé. St. Erentrude, also known as the "mother" of the province of Salzburg, died 1,300 years ago. This engraved stamp from the "Religious art in Austria" series is dedicated to her. She came from a noble family from Worms and followed her uncle, St. Rupert, to Salzburg. He had Nonnberg Abbey built below the



Hohensalzburg fortress for his niece who became the first abbess. Like Erentrude, her fellow nuns were also of noble birth and well-educated. The nuns' work was dedicated to the care of the poor and sick as well as the upbringing and education of adults and children, especially girls.



Styrian hat. 6-€90; 22.09.2018; 140,000; Design and embroidery by Hämmerle & Vogel. The Styrian suit was already a popular item of clothing in Styria in the 19th century – famously worn by Archduke Johann. The grey loden jacket with its dark green trim is traditionally accompanied by a Styrian hat. This is primarily manufactured from dark grey or dark green woollen felt or animal hair; the hat band is likewise usually dark green and is decorated with a "Gamsbart" (made from the greyish black hair from the neck of a chamois buck) or feathers.

The traditional Vorarlberg company Hämmerle & Vogel, with its headquarters in Lustenau, has been in the embroidery business for 60 years. International clients such as Chanel and Oscar de la Renta rely on the company's expertise – as does Austrian Post.

Every Styrian hat stamp takes around 6,600 stitches and 33 metres of embroidery thread to make. The hat, in the special "Styrian green", is made of exclusive merino sheep's wool thread produced by the company Schoeller from Hard in Vorarlberg. This "Shaminah" merino wool thread impresses with its 14.5 micron wool fibre, the finest and highest grade of wool fibre that exists. The sheep's wool used for this comes from a number of Australian farms which have been awarded "Bluesign" certification for their sustainable textile production. The Gamsbart decoration is made of two twisted black and grey threads. The hat is affixed to an ecru background with guipure lace perforations.

100 years of airmail. 90c + 45c block with surcharge; 06.10.2018; 115,000; Anita Kern; Offset; Enschedé. This stamp is the first of a Miniseries marking the 100th anniversary of VÖPH (the Federation of Austrian Philately Associations) in 2021, who will receive the 'minimal' surcharge as was done for various past WIPAs. With aircraft already having been used to transport field post during the First World War, 1918 marks the start of civilian airmail.



30th anniversary of "Vier Pfoten" (= 4 paws). 90c; 12.10.2018; 230,000; Marion Füllerer; Offset; Enschedé. 4 paws is an animal rescue organisation; the stamp shows a rescued bear.



Congratulations bouquet. 80c; 14.10.2018; 700,000; Roland Vorlauffer; Offset; Enschedé. A philatelic floral greeting, the congratulations stamp is a colourful adornment for any letter. There is no value printed on the stamp, but it is valid for the standard inland rate. Stamps of this type have previously been issued for various occasions, as a “thank you”, for example, or as a stamp for sending expressions of sympathy.

Weststeiermark, in the series “wine regions of Austria”. 90c; 18.10.2018; 340,000; David Gruber; Offset; Enschedé. Issued in minisheets of 10. This year’s wine stamp features the Blue Wildbacher grape.



150 years of the Crown Prince Rudolf Railway - The route to the south. 1.35; 20.10.2018; 250,000; Peter Sinaweil and Kirsten Lubach; Offset; Enschedé.

This stamp commemorates the third railway line to traverse the Austrian Alps after the Southern Railway over the Semmering Pass and the Brenner Railway in the west. The railway from St. Valentin to Tarvisio, also known as the Crown Prince Rudolf Railway, was intended to connect the centres of the iron industry in Upper Austria,

Styria and Carinthia to the Southern Railway, which ran from Vienna to Trieste. The intention was to divert transit traffic from Germany and Bohemia to the Rudolf Railway via additional access routes in order to increase utilisation. The newly founded “*k. k. priv. Kronprinz Rudolf-Bahn Gesellschaft*” (Imperial and Royal privileged company of the Crown Prince Rudolf railway, or KRB for short) was granted a concession to build the railway. The engineer Franz Kazda adapted the route to match the terrain, taking it through the valleys and over the Schober Pass, the lowest crossing over the Alpine ridge. On 15th August 1868 the first section of the route from St. Valentin to Steyr was finally opened. A continuous journey, lasting 14 hours, along the full 407 kilometres to Tarvisio became possible from 1873 on. However, a connection to the privatised Southern Railway company was not established due to objections by the latter. The economic conditions meant that the hoped-for transport levels were never achieved, as a result of which the KRB was nationalised in 1884. Today it is part of the Austrian national railway network. The commemorative stamp shows the KRB 6 Knittelfeld, one of the oldest goods engines operated by the KRB.



300 years of Viennese porcelain 1718–2018 4.20; 24.10.2018; 185,000; Karin Klier; Offset with “UV- varnish”; Enschedé. When Europeans discovered how to make porcelain, one of the first makers was the Wiener Porzellanmanufaktur under the management of the Hofkriegsrat (central military administrative authority) agent Claudius Innocentius du Paquier. On 27th May 1718 Emperor Charles VI signed a special privilege granting the manufactory a monopoly throughout the empire. In 1721 the factory moved to the street whose name still bears witness to this today: Porzellangasse in Vienna’s 9th district. After the privilege expired, Empress Maria Theresa took the business under Imperial ownership in 1744. Since then, every piece made has borne the cobalt blue and white striped shield under the glaze as the trademark of Viennese porcelain.

The Viennese Porcelain Manufactory closed its doors in 1864. In 1923 investors from the group around Josef Hoffmann, the great designer and founder of the Wiener Werkstätte, became aware of the rich heritage and opened the “Neue Wiener Porzellanmanufaktur Augarten” in the Baroque park of the same name. Since that time the Augarten factory has continued the traditional craft and the tradition of artistic innovation. The special stamp is the first to have a denomination of EUR 4.20 (for a medium-size inland priority packet). Its design shows a printed classic Baroque style teacup with painted embellishment.



Vienna University of Economics and Business – Library. 2.70; 9.11.2018; 250,000; Karin Klier; Offset; Enschedé. As part of the “Modern architecture in Austria” series, Austrian Post presents the library of Vienna University of Economics and Business (WU), which impresses with its unusual design. This University moved in 2013 to the WU campus between the Messe Wien, the Prater and the Krieau racetrack.



800 years of Schlägl Abbey. 80c; 11.11.2018; 350,000 in minisheets of 10; Kirsten Lubach; Offset; Enschedé. In 2018, Schlägl Abbey in Upper Austria's Mühlviertel region celebrates its 800th anniversary. The Abbey was founded at the start of the 13th century, originally as a Cistercian monastery. After the monks left the establishment because of the inhospitable living conditions, the abandoned abbey was taken over by the Premonstratensian Order from Bohemia a few decades later. Arguments over the re-establishment of the abbey resulted in the foundation charter being dated to 1218. Schlägl Abbey had a successful brewery for over 400 years.

Christmas 2018 – Christmas tree. 90c; 16.11.2018; 750,000 in rolls and in smaller strips for philatelists; Age de Carvalho; Offset; Enschedé. The modern graphic design of the tree on this



Christmas stamp is especially attractive.



Christmas 2018 – 200 years of “Silent Night” 90c; 23.11.2018; 1,450,000; Anna Rastl; Offset; Enschedé. On Christmas Eve “Silent night, holy night” rings out around the world in many different languages. 200 years ago it was sung for the first time in the church in Oberndorf in the province of Salzburg.

Christmas 2018 – vintage – young girl with cat. 80c; 30.11.2018; 2,500,000 in rolls; Anita Kern; Offset; Enschedé. The designer of this delightful Christmas design is not known, but it was published for the first time on a picture postcard



printed by the postcard publishing company Raphael Tuck & Sons in England in 1914. This London publishing company was founded in 1870 by Raphael Tuck (sic!), who was born in the Polish city of Wroclaw in 1821, and specialised in greetings cards and picture postcards. It enjoyed its most successful period in the Victorian era.



Christmas 2018 – religious – the birth of Christ, Maria Rast. 80c; 30.11.2018; 2,800,000; Dieter Kraus; Offset; Enschedé. The stamp shows a section from the ceiling fresco of the pilgrimage church of Maria Rast in Hainzenberg above Zell am Ziller. The church is located close to the Gerlos Pass road which links Oberpinzgau in Salzburg to Zillertal in the Tyrol. Zell am Ziller still belongs to the archdiocese of Salzburg, which is why this connection via the Gerlos Pass has long been considered important; it was also an important transport route in the period when gold was still being mined at Hainzenberg, which continued into the 19th century.

And since it's that time of year, I bring you from the range of over 90 Marken-Produkte that Opost have produced this year, the First Round Christmas Stamp, sold in packets of 4 different designs with 2 stickers.



Thanks and greetings to Philatelistenklub Merkur Innsbruck!

NOTES FROM OTHER JOURNALS

Note that the items below the * are not retained long-term by the Society, although copies may be available for a short period.

Die Briefmarke

2018/9: run-up to VÖPh centenary; problems with the EU-Rats stamp design; the U.E. cancel in Lombardy; on what day is undelivered mail sent back?; new issues; news snippets; 150th anniversary of Vienna Stamp Exchange Society; club news; future events; etc etc.

2018/10: Post-büchel; Numiphil 2018; rare postal stationery; pre-stamp express mail; new issues; Austrian grape types; the emergency post of Meran (Nov 1918) part 1; etc etc etc.

2018/11: Centenary of the Austrian Republic; the first registration labels of the Austrian Republic; the Faroes; new issues including the Xmas ones and an extensive selection of christmassy Personal Stamps in booklets, books and sheets; the Xmas arrangements for Christkindl & Oberndorf; the emergency post of Meran (Nov 1918) part 2; seven sides of society news; etc etc.

Germania

Vol 51 Nr 3: The German occupation of Lundy; insufficiently-franked international mail; Baltic Germans; WWI:1915; print & handwriting in pre-1945 Germany part 2 (with extensive illustrations of Sutterlin and Fraktur script in cancellations); “which Germania was issued when” lists; questions and illustrated answers; etc.

Vol 51 Nr4: Postcards from the 1933 Deutscher Almanach and a KdF.-Kalender; A quiet wedding in 1788; Print and handwriting in pre-1945 Germany part 3; The German Peasants’ War and its tragic end; etc.

Vol 52 Nr 1: German medieval sculptures and Tilman Riemenschneider; Judaica uncovered 4: Mail to and from Holocaust victims; Print and handwriting in pre-1945 Germany part 4 ; etc etc.

Vol 54 Nr 3: WWI:1918; reminders of Katyn; Postage-due part 8, with checklist of circumstances; etc etc.

Some of these are a few years old; I found them in a “review these” pile hiding under something else. Ed.

ArGe Österreich

2018/3 (Nr 123): Dispenser stamps; Kaplitz bisect; 1945 posthorns (ii); Franz Taborsky; ‘Bohemian’ correspondence cards; setting-up of a philatelic section in the Landesmuseum Ferdinandeum in Innsbruck.

Stamps of Hungary

No 214 September 2018: News & notes; the Franklin D Roosevelt issue of 1947; Cirkvenica vs crikvenica; Porto Provisionals; “Penalised for a rivet”.

Jugopošta

Nr 127 September 2018: Adriatic shore stations of the KuK Kriegsmarine during WWI; etc etc.

* * * * *

ArGe Feldpost Öst-Ung

Nr 131 (Dec 2017): Qs&As; A-H’s Last War: Oct-Dec 1917; POW mail from Africa: Egypt; the Chinese Artillery; extracting information from a correspondence; sending books to POWs in Russia; privately-printed Feldpost cards; etc etc. All lavishly illustrated.

Nr 132 (April 2018): Where Bessarabia is; A-H’s Last War: Jan-April 1918; pre-WWI flight pioneers; Dr Halmay Béla, a Hungarian soldier (in English!); Lower Austria in WWI; Army Oberkommando telegrams; ideas for their 2018 tour; etc etc.

Nr 133 (July 2018): summer tour itinerary; Fischamend to Sweden by balloon in 1914; on the literary trail of former POWs in Russia; POWs in Japan and their eventual return; 1915-16 mail from POWs in Russia to Romania; “overfranking is forbidden”; book reviews; etc.

Czechout

See www.czechout.org where you can read every issue including the latest.

Vol 36/3 (Sept 2018) News and notices; Impressions of Praga 2018; New publications; Qs & As; Miloš Ondráček, master engraver; The story behind the stamp: General Heliodor Píka, 1897–1949; New issues; etc.

The Christkindl Handbook

The handbook for Christkindl collectors was revised in 2012 with up-dates being issued in 2014, 2016 and again this year. This provides details of the latest cancellations for normal and balloon mail and other regular items – personal stamps including blocks of eight, machine stamps including faults in printing, registration and uber Christkindl labels, Kinderbrief and Christmas cards. There is a new section for items carried on an historic old bus from Garsten replacing the post coach that is no longer used.

There are a number of pages of amendments to previous material mainly in respect of the sponsors of balloon mail. The illustrations are in colour for the first time and they have reprinted the page for the first cancellation in 1950/51 showing the colour and again emphasising that the cancellation has been ‘forged’.

Because the library edition of the original book had rarely been borrowed the committee decided in 2012 not to purchase the revised edition. I have my own copy, now up-to-date, and am happy to answer questions. If anyone wishes to obtain a copy of the book please contact me and I will let you have full details of publisher and contact name.

Joyce Boyer

A REGISTERED EXPRESS QUESTION

Northern Group Representative Keith Brandon has sent us this postcard in the hope that someone can help him understand the franking.



The 8h postal-stationery card has been uprated with a further 85h and sent registered and express. The card is clearly dated 8 August 1917 by the sender and is postmarked the same day at Janow bei Lemberg (Galicia). The sender is ordering ten bottles of wine from a vineyard at Särospatak, near Tokaj in Hungary.

At this time, the 1916 postal-tariff was in operation. According to this tariff, the charges should have been 8h postage (special-rate for an imprinted stationery-card) plus 25h for registration plus 30h express fee, a total of 63h. Is the franking of 93h simply an over-franking in error by the sender or is there another explanation for the extra 30h on the card?

A Bisect from Kaplitz



This is the right hand half of an inland packet card. It is marked “1.-” at the top and franked with a pair of 50 heller adhesives legibly cancelled 1/1 WIEN 12 and dated 7 Jan 1919 - so Inflation Period 1. On the back are two different types of cancel from KAPLITZ/KAPLICE which was in south-west Bohemia –by 1919 in the independent country of Czechoslovakia (Cz). The “you have a parcel” Aviso fee has been charged by a bisected 10 heller 1916 Austrian postage due. Votoček lists both Kaplice cancels – the place is #954; the single circle is type E171; the double is G117; both are known from the 1890s onwards.

Is this item genuine?

The rate for an inland parcel up to 5kg (the weight is on the left hand half) until 14 January 1920 was 1K. Hungary, Germany, SHS and Cz were handled as internal, at least until 14 Jan 1920.

The Aviso fee in Austria until 14 Jan 1920 was 5h; then 10h. They are also found in SHS and Cz. There are a significant number of localities in 'Austrian' areas of SHS and Cz recorded where bisects were used semi officially and 'genuinely'. Doubtless they have been comprehensively faked or done by favour. One is sceptical about bisects “in principle” but the usage above is certainly amongst the most likely to be genuine.

Note that, at least in theory, the parcel card stayed with the postal authorities for an indeterminate period and then was junked or sold in large batches as kiloware (“Scartieren”). This means that there was little incentive to make philatelic frankings at the time, but items which for whatever reason didn't pay for an aviso charge with postage dues at the time can be ‘decorated’ with one years or decades later.

So: the frankings are correct, and the item is very probably genuine.

Seen elsewhere ☺

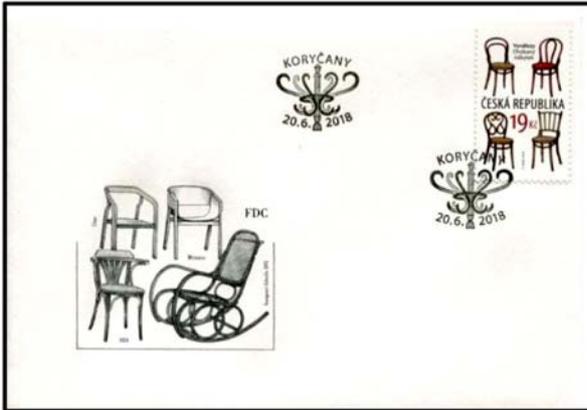
Czechout

September 2018

25

20 June 2018 Inventions: Curved Furniture

Designer: Pavel Sivko **Engraver:** Bohumil Šneider (FDC cachet only) **Printing:** multi-coloured offset in sheets of 50 **FDC:** DS in black with commemorative Koryčany cancel. The cachet depicts four examples of chairs using curved wood. **Design:** stamp - shows four examples of traditional bent wood chairs.



A factory was established in 1861 by Michael Thonet and his sons at Bystřice pod Hostýnem using wood from the surrounding beech forest to manufacture furniture. One of their earlier models, designed in 1876 as Chair no. 18 is still made today.

'Bent' wood uses a process of placing rods or planks of wood in steam kilns for various lengths of time which enables the wood to be bent to shape. The 'bent' wood pieces are stained before being finally assembled as an item of furniture. Beech wood has the best bending capacity although other woods are also used. The Thonet enterprise employed about 2000 workers by 1871, producing

some 300,000 items. Thonet was a benevolent employer setting up vocational woodworking schools, kindergartens, musical activities and supporting the construction of the railway. Today the joint stock company trades as Ton (Továrna Ohýbaného Nábytku – Bent Furniture Factory) and still produces a number of the original designs.



DER ZWEITE KLEINE UNTERSCHIED



ÖSTERREICH 135

Der erste Blick täuscht katastrophal! Da war etwas Anderes gemeint...!

Denn schlägt man im Langenscheidts Schulwörterbuch Englisch nach, so erhält man unter **rat** als Einzahl/Singular zu **rats** folgende Übersetzungen:

Ratte, (*politisch*) Überläufer, **rats**: Quatsch!

Im Bechtermünz-Lexikon der Englischen Umgangssprache Slang wird's noch viel genauer = ärger = schlimmer = peinlicher (ISBN 3 927 117 32 3 auf Seite 332):

rat: 1. Ein Abtrünniger*), ein Überläufer, ein Deserteur*), ein Streikbrecher

2. (old) ein Geistlicher

3. (old) ein Betrunkener in der Ausnüchterungszelle

4. (back slang: a star) ein Stern daher

5. ein Polizeispitzel, ein Verräter

6. als Zeitwort/Verbum: überlaufen, verraten

rats! *intj.* Quatsch!, Blödsinn! (*intj.* = *Interjektion* = *Ausrufungswort*)

*) ist diese Marke vielleicht eine versteckte Anspielung auf den Brexit??

Ein ungenannt bleibender britischer Redakteur lieferte per Internet eine spontane Übersetzung, die hier nicht wiedergegeben werden kann (Sch---EU!).

Insgesamt: Nicht nur für einen Briten an Peinlichkeit unübertroffen!