

100 JAHRE VÖPH 2021
VERBAND ÖSTERREICHISCHER PHILATELISTENVEREINE

»DIE WÄHLERIN«, 13. FEBRUAR 1919
»WIENER BILDER«, 23. FEBRUAR 1919
PLAKAT: KARL M. STADLER, 1914

Die Wahlen in die Nationalversammlung.

90+45
ÖSTERREICH

1919 DURCHSETZUNG
DES FRAUENWAHLRECHTS
2019

1918 | 1919 | 1920 | 1921 | 100 JAHRE
2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | FRAUENWAHLRECHT



Nachnahme.
Remboursement.



Postkarte
Carte postale

150 Jahre Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht 1818-1968

A-5110 OBERNDORF bei Salzburg - Austria
Gedenkstätte im Entstehungsort des Weihnachtsliedes
„Stille Nacht - Heilige Nacht“
Commemorative chapel in the village where the carol
"Silent Night, Holy Night" was sung for the first time
Chapelle commémorative dans le village où fut chanté pour la
première fois le cantique de Noël • O douce nuit, ô sainte nuit •

52. Auflage/4

Absender:
Expéditeur:

A-
Postleitzahl - Code postal

Besuchet Österreich!
Visitez l'Autriche!

Postleitzahl - Code postal Bestimmungsort - Lieu de destination
Bestimmungsland - Pays de destination



A selection of the items discussed in this issue.
Journal of The Austrian Philatelic Society

AUSTRIA 208 – Autumn 2019 – Contents:

AUSTRIAN PHILATELIC SOCIETY HONORARY OFFICERS

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Edited by Andy Taylor

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Editorial 208



The AGM took place in Derby on Sunday 30 September and, John Anthony having retired, elected me to the post of President (as well as re-electing me as Editor and Treasurer). I thought those who don't know me might like this recent photograph; it was taken in accordance with the regulations for my new (red) passport earlier this year. I promise it won't appear again!

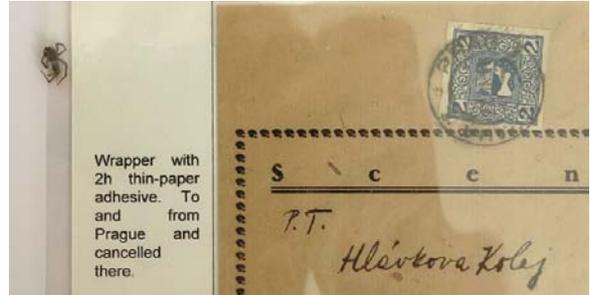
While we're looking at nasty pictures, do you have a display in protectors that hardly ever leaves its box? It may be worth

having an occasional look at it ☺



Another nastypic came with this emailed query. "Does anyone recognise the cancellation on this Austrian stamp",

asked someone. Well, I recognise the stamp: it's a 30 réis Brazilian Bulls Eye as issued in 1843. I can't see any good reason for it having an Austrian cancel!



Please note that following decisions made at the AGM in Derby (a) details of several Rules have changed, and a complete new set is included as an insert with this issue (b) the Officers' List on the inside back cover has changed.

Several of our members have died in recent times: Oscar Pongratz-Lippitt in December 2018, Cornel Fleming in January 2019, Richard Krueger in January 2019, David Cannings in March 2019 and John Scott in April 2019; we will be poorer for their loss.

The **Joint Societies Meeting**, for many years expertly masterminded by Yvonne Wheatley and held at Bradford, has decided to move to a more conducive venue just outside Leeds** which would ease the Wheatleys' organisational burden, and to hold two such meetings per year, perhaps making it the 'Northern Powerhouse' event of British philately. Further details from Keith Brandon; please register your interest with him - not least because lunch must be pre-booked!

** Now revealed as The Brown Cow, Selby Road, Leeds, LS15 7AY and booked for Saturday 18 April 2020.

Some back numbers of "Austria" have been put on the APS web site, in read-only format: go to <http://www.austrianphilately.com/ausmag/index.htm>

Small mystery...

Will whoever sent me these please make themselves known!



Andy Taylor

RAILWAY TPOs IN VORARLBERG BEFORE 1918

by Keith Brandon

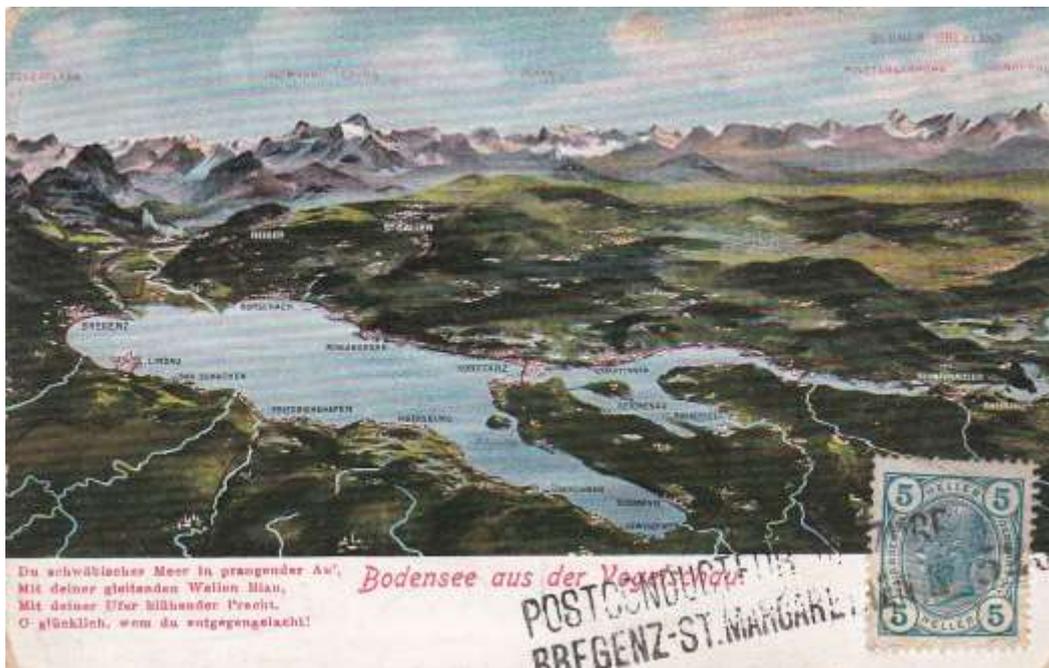
Background

This article concerns the markings of travelling post-offices and post-conductors in Vorarlberg, Austria's westernmost province, up to the First World War. But first some background about the early days of Vorarlberg's railways, which developed rather differently to those of Austria's other provinces.

The map opposite shows Vorarlberg bordering Switzerland (and Liechtenstein) to the south and west, and Bavaria to the north. Only in the south-east is there a common border with the rest of Austria, less than 20% of Vorarlberg's perimeter. Moreover, to get from Vorarlberg to the Austrian Tirol, one has to cross the Arlberg Massif, rising to 2800 metres and a natural barrier for centuries.

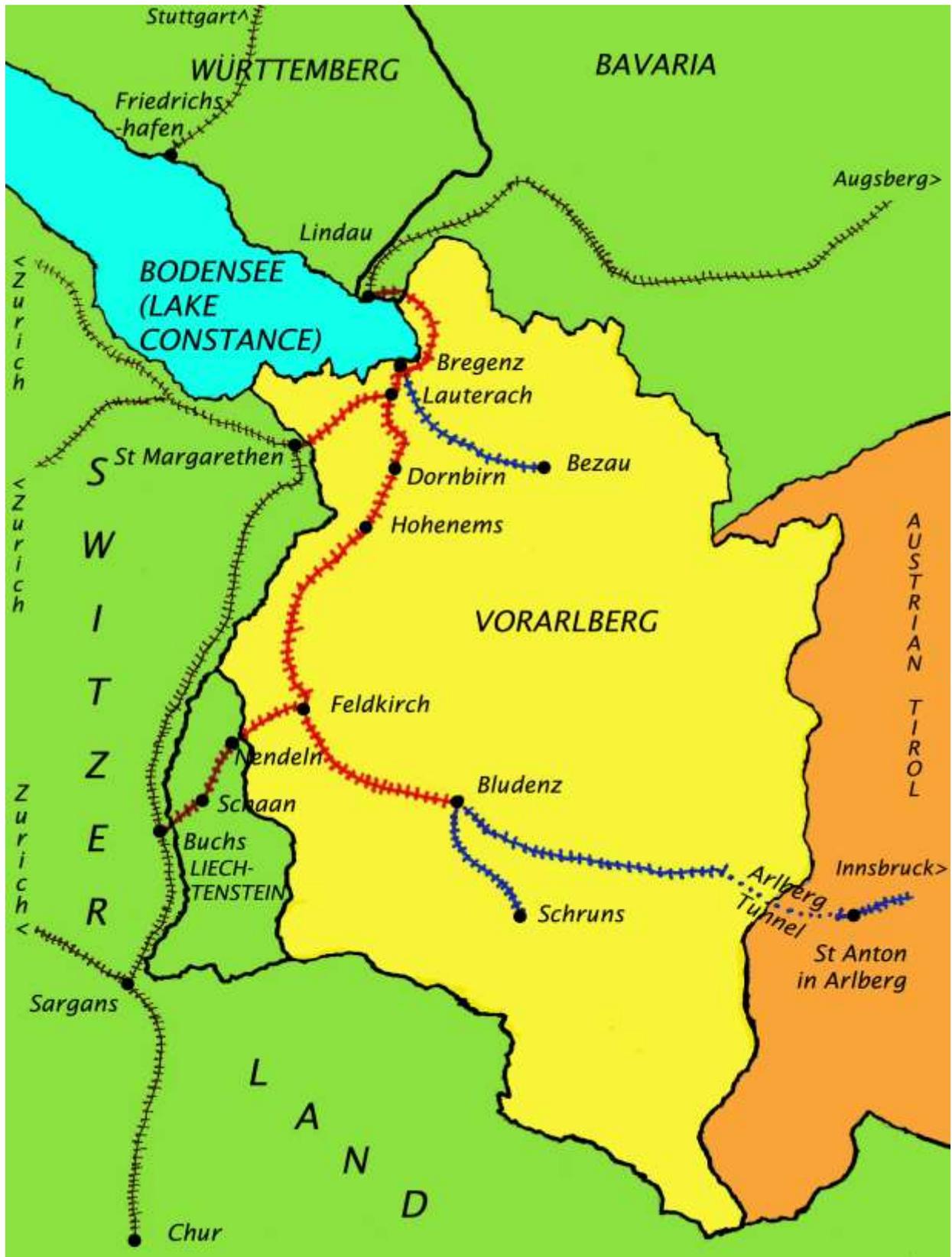
The River Rhine forms much of the border between Vorarlberg and Switzerland, on its way to Bodensee (Lake Constance). The low-lying Rhine Valley is where most of the population of Vorarlberg lived and where most of its industry was located. The main industry was textile manufacture, and this area was very much Austria's Lancashire.

The proximity to Bavaria and Switzerland, and the barrier of the Arlberg massif, meant that Vorarlberg's cultural and commercial relationships were largely with the neighbouring countries rather than with the rest of Austria. The postcard below shows the topography well. From the western end of Bodensee (Lake Constance), the German states of Baden-Württemberg and Bavaria are in the foreground; Switzerland lies on the opposite side of the lake; and Vorarlberg and the Rhine Valley can be seen at the far end. In the background are the Arlberg Mountains in eastern Vorarlberg.



When the railway-age came to Austria, development was rapid, but excluded Vorarlberg because at that time a railway engine that could cope with the Arlberg Mountains had not been invented. Nevertheless, there was great pressure from Vorarlberg industrialists, led by textile entrepreneur Carl Ganahl, to construct a railway within Vorarlberg, connecting the main centres of industry and with links to the Swiss and Bavarian railways. This gave the textile firms rail-access to their markets and suppliers throughout Europe. A link to the rest of Austria could come later.

VORARLBERG'S RAILWAYS



My thanks to Andy Taylor for technical assistance with the map.

After many setbacks, Ganahl and his supporters were rewarded by an Act of Parliament in 1869 approving the construction of the Vorarlbergerbahn, the Vorarlberg Railway. The line went from Bludenz via Feldkirch to Bregenz, and then to Lindau, just across the Bavarian border. Two branch lines, one through Liechtenstein, connected with the Swiss railway system. All these lines were opened in 1872.

The first train from Bregenz to Bludenz travelled on 30th June 1872. When it returned in the afternoon, it was reported that one could see on the nearby road the express stagecoach driving towards Feldkirch. The horses were decorated with little red and white flags, while the postilion, dressed in full uniform, had fixed a long, black, crepe mourning-ribbon to his hat. It was the last journey of the service.

It was always the intention that one day the railway would run east from Bludenz and cross the Arlberg to Innsbruck and the rest of Austria. Royal assent was given in May 1880 for the construction of the Arlbergbahn as it was known. Construction began the next month of the 10,250m long Arlberg tunnel, working from both ends and using mainly Italian labour. They met in the middle 3½ years later in November 1883.

The following September, test runs took place before the line was formally inaugurated in the presence of Emperor Franz Joseph on 20 September 1884. On the same day, the last mail-coach drove over the Arlberg Pass. Two further short branch lines, the Bregenzerwaldbahn (from Bregenz to Bezau) and the Montafonerbahn (from Bludenz to Schruns) were opened in the early twentieth century.

All these rail services hosted on-board postal operations for at least part of their lives. In Austria these could be either a Post Conductor or a full Travelling Post Office in a sorting-tender. The Post Conductor accepted and dropped off mail at stations along the way, but did little sorting. He had a canceller for stamping unpostmarked mail handed in. The TPO sorted and bagged mail on the way to the terminus. They also had a postmark for uncancelled mail, but of a quite different type to that of the Conductor.

The remainder of this article shows examples of cancellations struck on all the Vorarlberg TPO and Conductor services.

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The Vorarlbergerbahn: Bludenz-Lindau TPO

A TPO service operated on the Bludenz-Lindau line from 1 May 1873 to 30 April 1883, using the train numbers 45 and 46 in both directions.



2kr postal-stationery card to Feldkirch dated 14 October 1874 and postmarked **LINDAU-BLUDENZ F.P.A. 46**. Marked in manuscript *Bregenz 15/10* when put on the southbound train.



2kr postal-stationery card dated Bregenz, 29 October 1879, travelling south as far as Dornbirn and cancelled **BLUDENZ-LINDAU / F.P.A. 45** with the northbound canceller. (This happened at busy times when a second clerk was drafted in and both cancellers were used).

A new, dated postmark without the terminal-names was introduced on this service in c.1876, still using the train numbers 45 and 46. On 1 May 1883, these numbers were transferred elsewhere, and were replaced by numbers 61 and 62.



Bavarian 5pf postal-stationery card written in Lindau on 21 November 1882 and put on the southbound train as far as Feldkirch. Cancelled on board K.K. POST AMBULANCE / No.45 / 22.11.82.



2kr postal-stationery card from Bludenz to Dornbirn. Put on the westbound train and cancelled on board F.P.A. No.62 / 8.7.85.

The Arlbergbahn: Innsbruck-Lindau TPO

On 21 September 1884, the line was extended over the Arlberg to Innsbruck, still using the numbers 61 and 62. The new cancellers were inscribed **INNSBRUCK-LINDAU** to reflect the extension.



2kr postal-stationery card from Assling (East Tirol) to Dornbirn. Put on the westbound train in Innsbruck and cancelled **F.P.A. No.61 / 28.10.84**.



2kr stationery card dated 10 June 1896 from Carl Ganahl & Co put aboard the northbound train at Frastanz to Dornbirn. The industrialist Carl Ganahl had been the prime mover behind Vorarlberg's first railways. Cancelled **F.P.A. / INNSBRUCK-LINDAU No.62 / 10.6.96**. Early use of this double-ring postmark.

The Vienna-Vorarlberg main line

The number 15 main-line service from Vienna to Innsbruck was extended over the Arlberg to Buchs in 1893. In 1896 the western terminus was changed to Bregenz.



2kr postal-stationery card written in Bludenz and put on the westbound train to Dornbirn. Cancelled on board *K.K.B.P.* WIEN-BUCHS No.15 / 30.10.94.



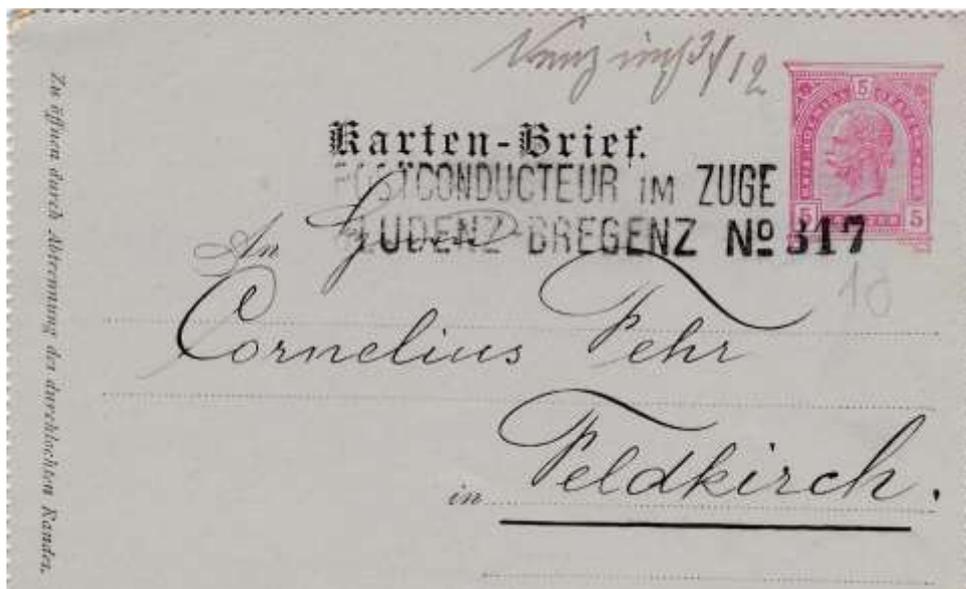
2kr postal-stationery card put on board the eastbound train at Bregenz for Dornbirn. The re-routing of the number 15 service to Bregenz had started earlier in the month, and a new canceller reflected the change of terminus. Postmarked *K.K.B.P.* BREGENZ-WIEN No.15 / 23.11.96.

The Vorarlbergerbahn: Bludenz-Bregenz Post Conductor

A post-conductor service between Bludenz and Bregenz opened in 1887 using train numbers 317 and 333 westbound and 318 and 324 on the return to Bludenz.



2kr stationery-card to Dornbirn written in Rankweil on 16 January 1889. Put on the eastbound train and marked in manuscript *Rankweil 17/1*. Cancelled **POSTCONDUCTEUR IM ZUGE / BREGENZ-BLUDENZ No.324** on board. Addressed to Feldkirch and received there the following morning.



5h letter-card written in Gaiss, 3 December 1892, and put on the westbound train to Feldkirch at nearby Nenzing. Marked in manuscript *Nenzing 3/12* and postmarked **POSTCONDUCTEUR IM ZUGE / BLUDENZ-BREGENZ No.317**.

The Vorarlbergerbahn: Bregenz-St.Margarethen Post Conductor

The branch-line from Lauterach to St Margarethen opened on 23 November 1872 and a post-conductor handstamp is known from 1887. Five different train numbers were used in each direction. In the early nineteenth century the on-board service was upgraded to a full TPO.



Picture postcard put on board the eastbound train at Lustenau station in September 1898 for Feldkirch. Cancelled on board **POSTCONDUCTEUR IM ZUGE / ST MARGARETHEN-BREGENZ No.513**.

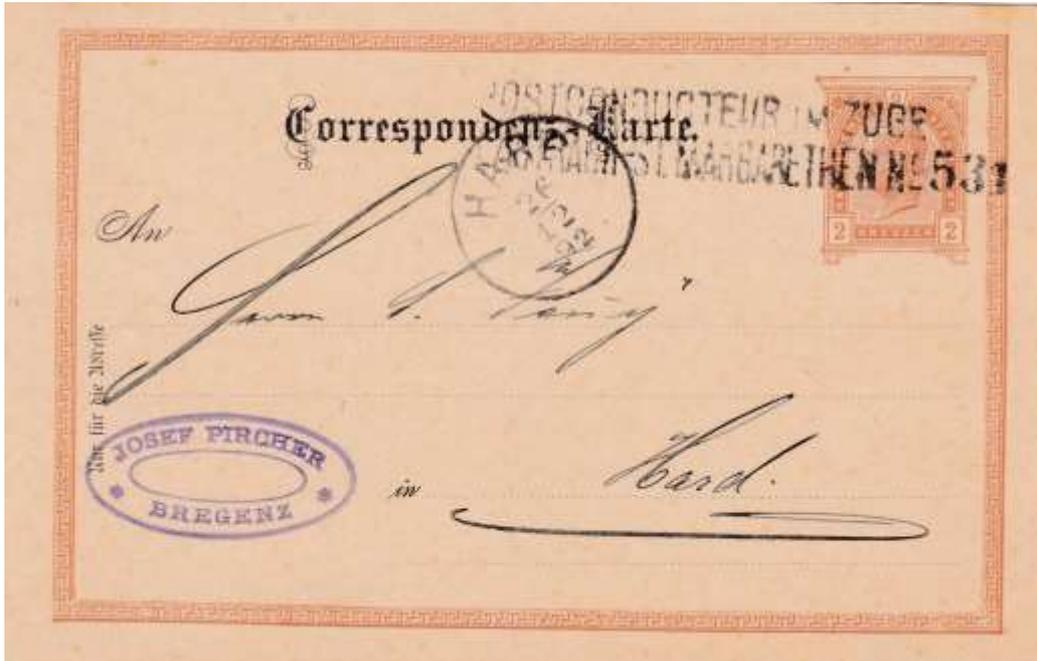
The 1905 postcard pictured on page 2 travelled in the opposite direction and was cancelled with the handstamp for train no. 523.



1915 postcard addressed to a member of the armed forces in Igls (Tirol) and therefore post-free. Written on 1 December 1915 in Lustenau, the first Austrian station on the line from the Swiss border-town St Margarethen. By now, the service had a full TPO and the **ST. MARGARETHEN-BREGENZ 531 / 30.11.15** cancel was used. Censored in Bregenz and put on the Innsbruck train.

The Vorarlbergerbahn: Lauterach-St.Margarethen Post Conductor

The branch-line from Switzerland to Lauterach opened on 23 November 1872 and linked up with the Swiss railway-system. This post-conductor service operated on trains starting and finishing in Lauterach, rather than the main terminus at Bregenz. The number 531 was used on the outward service; so far no number has been recorded for the eastbound trains.



2kr postal-stationery card dated Bregenz, 26 December 1892 to Hard, a few kilometres west. Hand-stamped POSTCONDUCTEUR IM ZUGE / LAUTERACH-ST MARGARETHEN No.531.

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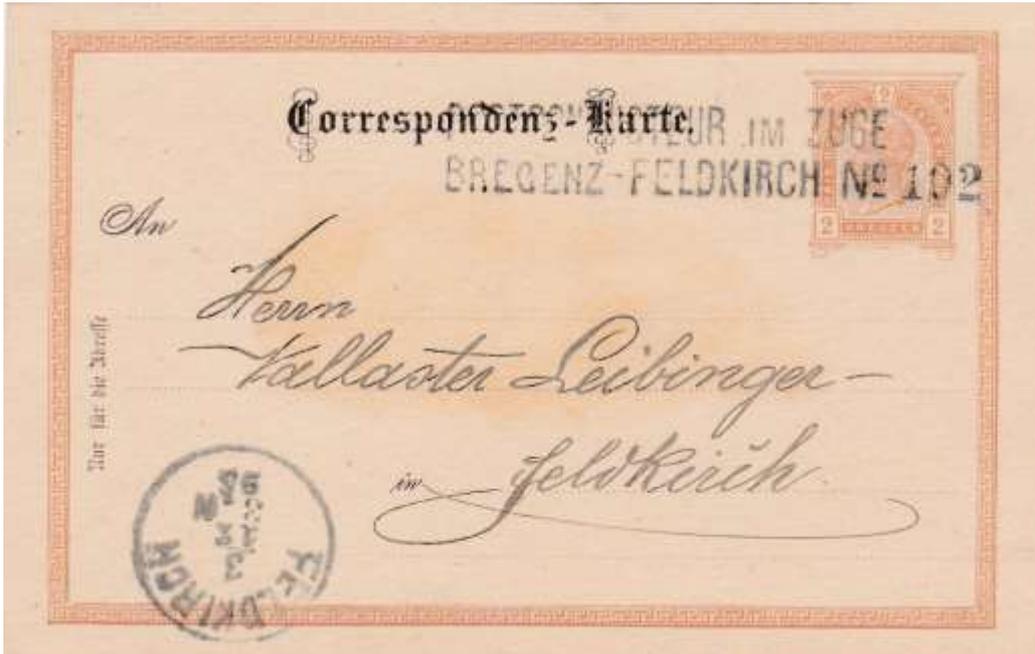
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The Vorarlbergerbahn: Feldkirch-Bregenz Post Conductor

A post-conductor service from Feldkirch to Bregenz commenced before 5 May 1886. It used the train numbers 1 and 101 from Feldkirch and 2 and 102 from Bregenz.



2kr stationery-card from Dornbirn to Feldkirch dated 3 December 1895. Hand-stamped **POSTCONDUCTEUR IM ZUGE / BREGENZ-FELDKIRCH No.102**.



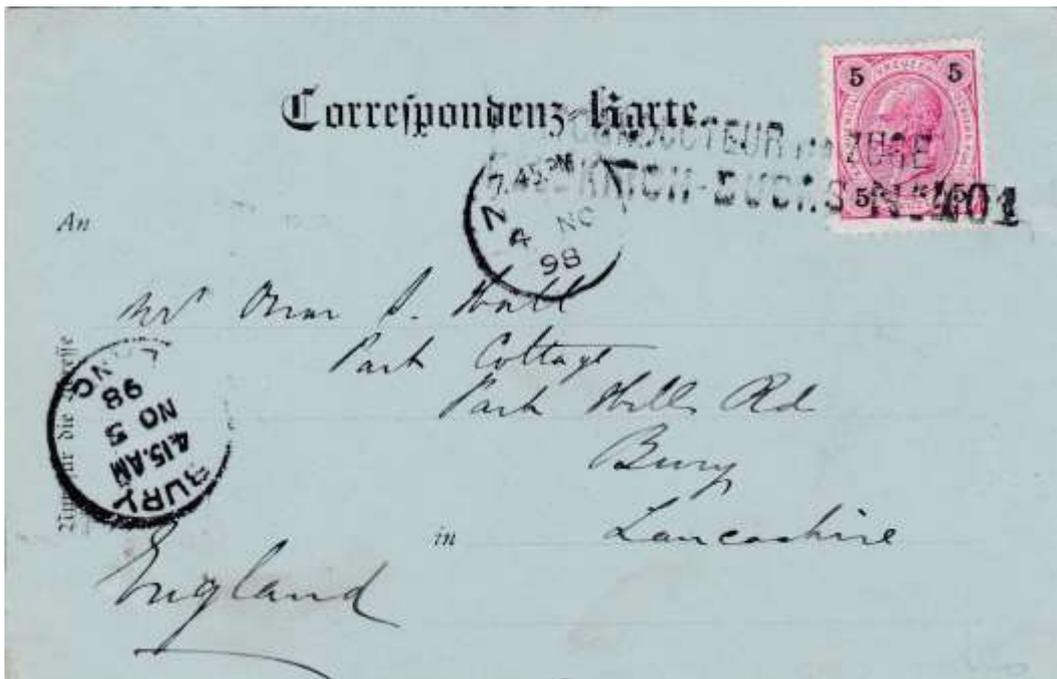
2kr stationery-card dated Bregenz, 18 September 1889, put on the southbound train and cancelled **POSTCONDUCTEUR IM ZUGE / BREGENZ-FELDKIRCH No.2** on its journey to Dornbirn.

The Vorarlbergerbahn: Feldkirch-Buchs Post Conductor

The short branch-line from Feldkirch to Buchs called at four stations in three countries; Feldkirch in Austria, Nendeln and Schaan in Liechtenstein, and Buchs in Switzerland. The line opened on 24 October 1872 as part of the Vorarlbergerbahn. The post-conductor service on board used several train-numbers in the 400s.



5kr letter-card from Schaan, Liechtenstein, dated 27 September 1894 and travelling two stops to Feldkirch. Hand-stamped **POSTCONDUCTEUR IM ZUGE / BUCHS-FELDKIRCH No.416**.



1898 viewcard to Bury, England, franked 5kr cancelled **POSTCONDUCTEUR IM ZUGE / FELDKIRCH-BUCHS No.401**. From Buchs the card would have continued on the Swiss railways.

The Arlbergbahn: Innsbruck-Bregenz Post Conductor

A post-conductor service between Innsbruck and Bregenz was initiated before 1886 and used the train-numbers 1, 101 and 317 on the outward journey and 2, 102 and 318 for the return to Innsbruck.



2kr postal-stationery card to Ulm postmarked **POSTCONDUCTEUR IM ZUGE / INNSBRUCK-BREGENZ No.317.**

The Arlbergbahn: Innsbruck-Buchs Post Conductor

The Innsbruck-Buchs conductor-service handstamp has been recorded from 1889 to 1891. The train-number used on the outward journey was 1/401. Returning to Innsbruck the number 402/2 took over.



2kr stationery-card to Bohemia dated Landeck, 7 August 1889 and travelling eastwards to change trains at Innsbruck. **POSTCONDUCTEUR IM ZUGE / BREGENZ-FELDKIRCH No.402/2. hand-stamp.**

The Bregenzerwaldbahn: Bregenz-Bezau TPO

The Bregenzerwaldbahn was a narrow-gauge railway operating for 35.5km from Bregenz into the Bregenz Forest as far as Bezau. Today only 5km remains as a heritage railway for tourists. The line opened in September 1902, and at the same time a TPO commenced, using train-numbers 294 and 295 in both directions.



Commercial cover put on the train at Wolfurt (just outside Bregenz) and travelling one stop north-east to Schwarzach. Hand-stamped on board **BEZAU-BREGENZ | 295 | 9.12.08**. (This appears to be in the wrong direction of travel).

The Montafonerbahn: Schruns-Bludenz TPO

The Montafon valley extends 38km south from Bludenz. The Montafonerbahn railway, opened on 18 December 1895, ran up the valley as far as Schruns. Unlike the other Vorarlberg railways, it has remained a privately-operated line. A TPO was introduced on 1 March 1907. The numbers 291 and 292 were used, but are known only with the SCHRUNS-BLUDENZ northbound inscription.



Picture-postcard sent post-free to a member of the armed forces stationed in Lambach, Upper Austria. Cancelled **SCHRUNS-BLUDENZ | 292 | 30.12.15**. According to Bock, the 292 canceller was not withdrawn until 1919, but his last-known usage was 1914. This example therefore extends the recorded usage by at least a year. Handstamp of the military censor in Bregenz.

References

- ❖ Rosé, Emil - "Vorarlberg Stempelhandbuch", Hohenems 2004,
- ❖ Boch, Gerhard - "Bahnpost in Nord- und Ost-tirol sowie Vorarlberg", Ettlingen 2005,
- ❖ Rosé, Emil - "Als die Eisenbahn nach Vorarlberg kam", article in "Die Briefmarke", November 2010.

COD LETTERS

By Andy Taylor ¹

A member asked, “Do you happen to know when the (orange or yellow) triangular stickers for COD replaced the little purple rectangular stickers? Based on what I have seen, I would guess around 1910, but I don’t know a reference. My earliest triangle is 1911.”

This article will use “COD” – Cash On Delivery – because it’s shorter than the alternatives such as “trade charges”! Also, I’ll omit the equivalent system used in the Hungarian part of the Empire. After considerable research and enquiry, the answer is simpler than I feared – 1st October 1907. Note that we’re discussing **COD in the letter post** – the Fahrpost was more innovative, introducing a similar function in 1860.

Article 7 in the treaty agreed to at the UPU Congress in Vienna ² in 1891 permitted the sending of “registered articles marked with trade charges up to 500 francs”; the amount collected to be sent to the sender by a money order less the money order fee and a collection fee of 10 centimes.

UPU Congress, Vienna, 1891 – article 7 of the treaty

1. - Les correspondances recommandées peuvent être expédiées grevées de remboursement jusqu’au montant de 500 francs dans les relations entre les pays dont les Administrations conviennent d’introduire ce service. Ces objets sont soumis aux formalités et aux taxes des envois recommandés.

2, - Le montant encaissé du destinataire doit être transmis à l’expéditeur au moyen d’un mandat de poste, après déduction de la taxe des mandats ordinaires et d’un droit d’encaissement de 10 centimes.

1. Die recommandirten Correspondenzen können in Verkehre zwischen den Ländern, deren Verwaltungen übereinkommen, diesen Dienstzweig einzuführen, mit Nachnahme bis zum Betrage von 500 Franken belastet versendet werden. Diese Gegenstände unterliegen derselben Behandlung und denselben Gebühren wie recommandirte Sendungen.

2. Der von dem Empfänger eingehobene Nachnahmebetrag ist dem Absender nach Anzug der Gebühr für eine gewöhnliche Postanweisung und einer Einzugsgebühr von 10 Centimes mittels Postansweisung zu übersenden.

1.-Registered articles may be sent, marked with trade charges up to the amount of 500 francs, to be collected on delivery, in the mails exchanged between the countries whose Administrations agree to introduce this service. These articles are subject to the formalities and rates applicable to registered articles.

2.-The amount collected from the addressee must be transmitted to the sender by means of a money order, after deducting the fee chargeable for said money order, and a fee of 10 centimes for collection.

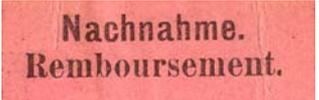
The 1892 Post u Telegraphen-Verordnungsblatt that gave effect to the UPU decisions ³ explained in elaborate detail to the Post Office staff what they had to do. On the second page at para 5 is stated:

Das Aufgabepostamt hat auf der Sendung außer dem Recommendationenklebezettel eine Nachnahmeklebezettel anzubringen, für welchen die neue Drucksorte Nr 4 verwenden ist.

The despatching Post Office is to affix on the item next to the registration label a COD-label, for which the new printed-item-4 is to be used.

[The previous Drucksorte 4 was for “Aufgabe= und Abgabe=Protokolle für amtliche Correspondenzen (Wien) !]

There are no illustrations in the PTVOB, but the COD-label must be “the little rectangular purple sticker” shown in Ferchenbauer 2008 vol II p426 and elsewhere.

		
Austrian “rectangular sticker” COD label	Austrian Fahrpost COD label for a “Colis Postale” small packet	Hungarian COD label

¹ Thanks are given to all those who helped prepare this article, including Mag. E. Sinnmayer, Henry Pollak, Douglas Muir, Martin Brumby, Keith Brandon, Roger Morrell.

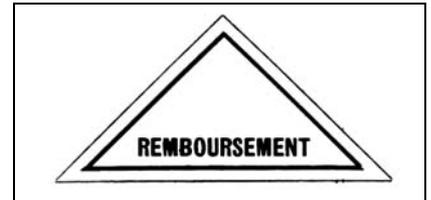
² French-Austrian version: 1892 RGB 097 (pp 533-610). The French is the Ur-text. “English” is from USA; the UPU Treaties are surprisingly difficult to locate and one has to take whatever can be found.

³ 1892 PTVOB Nr 62 dated 24 June and effective from 1 July.

The following UPU Congress was in Washington in 1897. Its Treaty contains as Section XIV “Registered articles marked with trade charges” The provisions for money-order repayment, fees etc are unchanged. The section (*extracted from the Australian version!*) begins as follows:

1. Registered articles marked with trade charges must be stamped or labelled with the word Remboursement.
2. The amount of the trade charges must be given in the currency of the country of destination on the face of the article, in Roman characters in words, and in Arabic figures, without erasure or interlineation. The sender must give his name and address below, likewise in Roman characters.

The next UPU Congress, in Rome in 1906, made the changes we are seeking. The relevant section of the treaty became XV “Registered Article, marked with Trade Charges” on pp 44-45. The Annex shows the required label, albeit in French and B/W printing – and it is triangular. In the British version it begins as follows.



1. Registered articles marked with trade charges must bear on the address side the heading “Remboursement”, written or printed in a prominent manner, and followed by the indication of the amount of the trade charge in the money of the country of destination, unless there are arrangements to the contrary between the Administrations interested. This amount is expressed in Roman characters, in words and in figures, without erasure or correction, even if certified. The sender must indicate on the front or on the back his name and address likewise in Roman characters.
2. Registered articles marked with trade charges must bear on the address side an orange-coloured label similar to pattern D annexed to the present Regulations.

A lengthy Post u Telegraphen-Verordnungsblatt ⁴ implemented the UPU decisions, with effect from 1 October 1907. The first paragraph on its 9th page says:

Hinsichtlich der Bezeichnung und Behandlung der rekommandierten Nachnahmesendung gelten die Vorschriften der Artikel XV des Ausführungsreglement zum Weltpostvertrage. Besonders zu beachten ist die Einführung von dreieckigen Klebezetteln von orangegelber Farbe mit der Ausschrift “Nachnahme Remboursement” (geänderte Drucksorte Nr 4) zur Bezeichnung dieser Sendungen. Diese Klebezettel werden im gesamten in- und ausländischen Verkehr zur Bezeichnung der rekommandierten Nachnahmesendung verwendet.

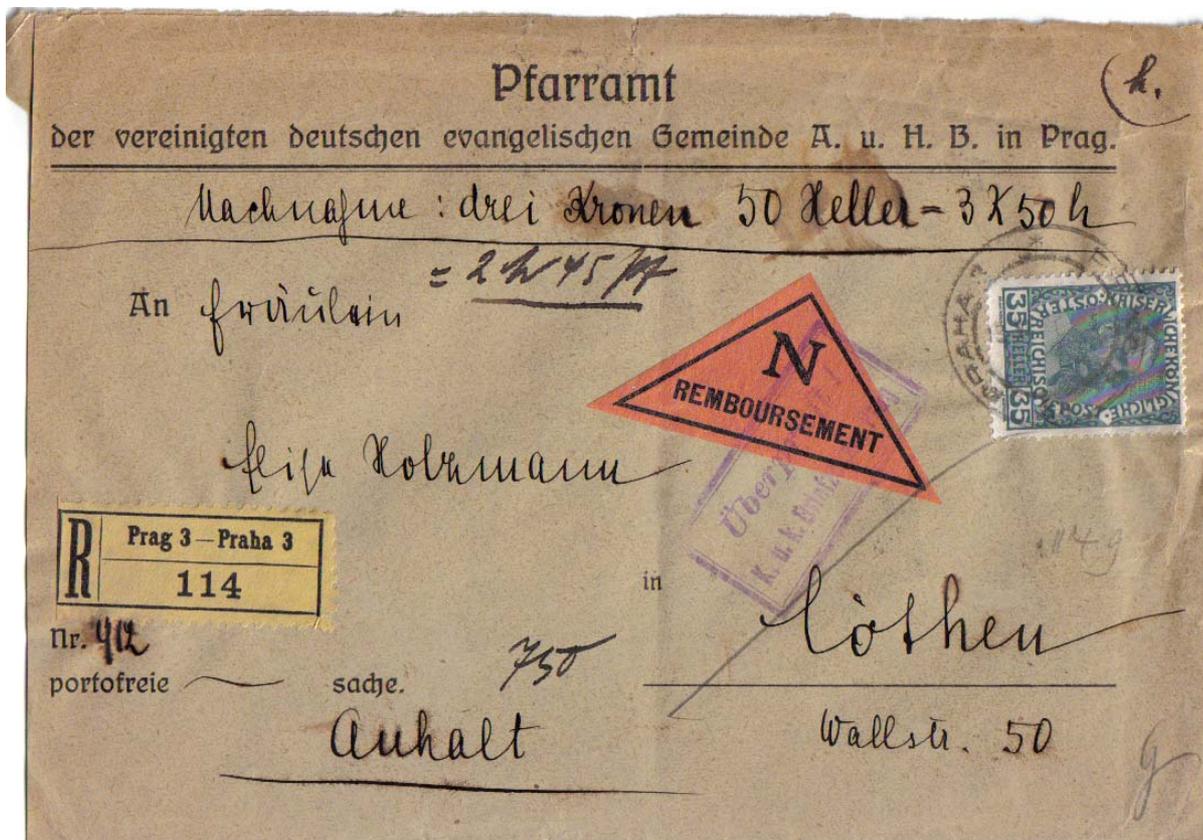
That is:

The marking and handling of registered COD mail follows the prescriptions of Article XV of the UPU’s Treaty. Specially noteworthy is the introduction of a triangular orange-yellow gummed label printed with “Nachnahme Remboursement” (an altered version of printed-item-4) to mark these items. This label is to be used for all inland and foreign COD-mail) to differentiate such mail.

⁴ 1907 PTVOB Nr 101



An early use of the triangular label! 1908 registered Nachnahme letter containing plans from a surveyor in Winzendorf (Lower Austria) to a customer in Stollhof near Innsbruck. The amount to collect, 42 Kronen, is written at bottom left. Franked 20h for second-weight postage (1907 tariff) plus 25h for registration; there was no charge for the Nachnahme service itself but the postal service took a commission on the amount collected.



COD letter from Prague to somewhere; censored so WWI era; official 'religious organisation' envelope with 'portofrei' [free-post] preprinted. Yet, 35H affixed. Clue: the COD amount of 3 Kr 50 H has been converted to

2M45pf – German currency. So the “Anhalt” must be the part of Germany. Hence ‘free postage’ isn’t available, nor is free registration.

A COD letter had to be registered. After 1.1.1900, the registration fee was 25 heller, and the letter rate was 10 heller to both Austria and Germany. Those numbers were correct until 1.10.1916, when the letter rate went up to 15 heller; registration stayed at 25 heller. For 3Kr50, the COD fee at this time was zero; so the correct amount for this COD letter is just the cost of registration plus regular postage: 25 + 10 = 35 heller.



Registered COD letter of 14.8.1916 from Vienna to Leipzig. Letter charge 10 heller, registration 25 heller. The 10 heller COD charge (“presentation fee”) was introduced only from 1.10.1916.

Austria 207: Korrections Korner

Q1. Page 12: why is there no mention of the first ‘n’ of Constantinopoli being missing? Is this the correct Italian spelling? **Ed:** According to pages 51 (top) and 56 of Hans Smith’s “APOs in the Levant”, the Italian name is indeed **Costantinopoli**, not Const...

Q2. Page 16: in the last lines of the caption, it is stated ‘no examples are recorded on cover or postal stationery’ but the next sentence states the item shown may be the only one known. I read this as a contradiction. **Ed:** Yes, I see what you mean. I think the answer is that this is the first publication in any literature known to the author; see his first paragraph on page 12.

Ed: On page 39 of issue 207, the top illustration is incorrect and my computer has eaten the correct one ☹

2019 NEW ISSUES (3rd 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. Austria Post seem to have adopted a minimalist approach to both the English and the German descriptive details on their website, so I supplement some descriptions from sources including Die Briefmarke and both English and German Wikipedia.



Another from the “because-we-can” department? “Emojis “Stamps & stickers”, released on 1.07.2019. (Nobody admits to having printed it!) This package includes four round emoji stamps, 2 at 80 cents and 2 at 90 cents, at a total value of 3€40, as well as two unique emoji stickers.



MAM soother. 2€30; 15.07.2019; 365,000; Offset; Robert Sabolovic & Christian Rukower; Enschedé. *Right from the start, design was an important element for the MAM baby products company founded by Peter Röhrig in Vienna in*

1976, which, having now sold more than 70 million baby products, is today one of the leading market participants in this sector.



50th anniversary of the first moon landing. 4€20 block; 20.07.2019; 150,000; Offset; David Gruber. *The literal “race to the moon” ended on 21st July 1969 when a man walked on the moon for the first time. Austrian Post is dedicating a spectacular block with a “glow in the dark” effect to this significant event.*

Included as a warning! 80 cent definitive of the coat of arms of Vorarlberg is now available in rolls of 2000. If you blithely order “one of everything”, you may receive this, and it’ll cost you €1600.



“125 years of the Gmunden tramway” 2€70; 23.08.2019; 215,000; Kombi-print; Peter Sinaweil; Enschedé.



One of the first electric railways in Austria is celebrating its 125th anniversary: still today the Gmunden tramway remains one of the region’s most important public transport networks, even being extended in 2018 to become the Traunsee tram. The tram may have trouble ascending the hill: someone has stolen the overhead wires! Some design details on the Post Shop’s picture have changed in the issued stamp; half the pantograph and the destination board wording were missing. A longer article on Gmunden, its philately, and its trams is planned for the next issue.

“Royal and Imperial Express Mail – the Mariahilf Line”. 2€10 block; 24.08.2019; 130,000; Offset ;Regina Simon; Enschedé. *This year’s mini sheet from the popular “Historical postal vehicles” series shows a Royal and Imperial Express coach just arriving in Vienna, set against a wintry backdrop.*



“Rowing World Championships in Linz-Ottensheim”. 90c; 26.08.2019 ;180.000; Offset; David Gruber; Enschedé. *From 25th August to 1st September 2019 the Rowing World Championships, one of the most important international events in the rowing calendar, will be held in Linz-Ottensheim for the first time.*



“Constantin Luser – Stille Post”. 80c; 27.08.2019; 250,000; Offset; Theresa Radlingmaier; Enschedé. *A work of art that is of particular relevance for Austrian Post is depicted on this year’s special stamp from the “Young art in Austria” series: “Stille Post” decorates the function room at the company’s new headquarters in the Post am Rochus. [Your Editor played a trombone when he was young, but not one like this!]*



6 September 2019 was a busy day for post offices and philatelists –five stamps were pre-issued (ie, on sale for those wishing to prepare FDCs etc, but not yet valid for postage).



Abbot’s staff, Abbey of St Lambrecht. 1€75; 13.9.2019; 140,000; Combination-print; Peter Sinawehl; Enschedé. *The Benedictine Abbey of St Lambrecht in Steiermark was founded in 1076 and rebuilt in the Barock style after a fire in the 17th cy.*

Centenary of women in Austria receiving the right to vote (irrespective of status, assets or income). 90c + 45c; 17.9.2019; 115,000 in blocks-of-1; offset; Anita Kern; Enschedé. *As in Britain, WWI radically changed perceptions of what women could do! They first voted in the Constituent National Assembly election on 16 Feb 1919. The block is 50x32mm.*



the Constituent National Assembly election on 16 Feb 1919. The block is 50x32mm.



Kamptal DAC (in the series Wine Regions of Austria). 80c; 19.9.2019; 360,000 in minisheets of 10; offset; David Gruber; Enschedé. *Kamptal in Lower Austria is perhaps most renowned for producing wine, especially Grüner Veltliner and Riesling; DAC is Districtus Austriae Controllatus, part of the framework of controls introduced after the 1985 diethylene glycol wine scandal. The Kamptal DAC, introduced with the 2008 vintage, permits 2 grades, classic and reserve, made from only two grapes: Grüner Veltliner and Riesling. The building glimpsed through the glass is Schloss Grafenegg.*

Stamps from 1890 (in the series ‘classic issues’). 2€30 + 80c; 27.9.2019; 130,000 in blocks of 2 (one of each value); offset; Anita Kern; Enschedé. *The 2€30 stamp shows a 2 Gulden, the 80c a 3 Kreuzer of the 1890 issue.*



Good times, bad times (in the series Austrian Photography). 90c; 27.9.2019; 160,000; offset; Regina Simon; Enschedé. *The design is from a series of photographs by the Russian emigré Anna Jermolaewa, now Professor of experimental art in Linz.*



All show a clock at “drei viertel drei” – almost time for honey with one’s afternoon tea.

MEETING REPORT

Joint Societies Meeting, Latvian Club, Bradford, 3 August 2019

It is hard to believe that this year was the 22nd joint event between the Austrian, Czechoslovak, Hungarian, Polish and Yugoslav Philatelic Societies, admirably organised by Yvonne and Richard Wheatley. This long-running fixture in the calendar remains very popular as a meeting of Central European collectors with a grand mix of short displays and a great opportunity to mix and discuss. This year was no exception, and despite a short delay in gaining entry to the venue owing to a misunderstanding over the key, a full meeting with 24 participants was achieved, completed and tidied away before Bradford Football Club emptied and filled the surrounding roads. In order of presentation the displays were:

Martin Brumby	Hungarian hyper-inflation parcel cards – a multi-frame exposé of how the parcel service was geared up during the 1945/6 period of hyperinflation with explanations of the parcel postal and tax charges.
Richard Wheatley	Czech covers into Austria in 1945/8 with supplementary censor marks, some of which remain unexplained.
Michael Waugh	First issues of Austria – selected from an auction purchase, showing all the types; plus Covers from, to and via Trieste - including some from Britain and India, Trieste being an early steamer transit point to the railway system of Europe.
Edmund & Richard Jagielski	Polish undercover mail via Lisbon – mostly heavily censored cards from the <i>Generalgouvernement</i> to Lisbon addresses in neutral Portugal, but typically destined for overseas ex-patriots, including the UK and USA.
Nick Coverdale	Yugoslavia stamp issues 1929-41 – a long held stamp stock written up.
Mervyn Benford	Hungarian official stamps – the introduction and use of official stamps during the Hungarian first inflation period 1921-24, with questions over some of the rules and processes involved.
Keith Brandon	Austrian ‘special services’ on letter mail pre-1918 – including ‘AR’ (advice of receipt), ‘ER’ (advice of recipient signature delivered to sender), ‘COD’ (cash on delivery) and <i>Postauftrag</i> (money collection – e.g. for newspaper/magazine subscriptions).
John Colton	Romanian occupation of Debrecen – the monogram overprint issues on Hungarian stamps.
Neil Ritchie	Independent Latvia 1919-1920 – how the state independent of Russia came about with Polish & Estonian help, and the first issues prepared, with provisional postmarks & covers.
Alan Beresford	Railway post in Austria – the transition from early <i>Postconducteur</i> markings on (mainly) postcards to numbered TPO postmarks in the 1900s.
James Hooper	Bohemia and Moravia stamps and postal stationery – with examples of year-dated stationery.
Roger Morrell	Local issues of Southern Hungary under the 1919 Serbian and Romanian occupations – officially sanctioned and speculative issues comprising mainly handstamp overprints on Hungarian stamp issues to celebrate anticipated new ‘ownership’ before the Treaty of Trianon.
Neil Ritchie	General Wrangel’s Refugee Post – documenting the White Russian exodus to Turkey in 1920 and the post system set up mainly to raise revenue from collectors.
Alan Berrisford	Provisional cancellations of Poland 1945-48 – the variety of ‘cancellations’ types varying from ‘John Bull’ crude styles and excised German types towards new Polish cancels.
Malcolm Stockhill	Postcards of the ‘ <i>Drei-kaiser-ecke</i> ’ – multifranked and postmarked commemorative postcards from Myslowitz /Myslowice celebrating the point in modern Poland where the former German, Austro-Hungarian and Russian Empires met Labels of the pre-war Polish Air Defence and Counter Gas League – raising funds in the run-up towards WW2 against the German threat.
Joyce Boyer	Post WW2 censorship in Austria – an explanation of the Zone system and their different approaches to censorship in the period 1945-1953 when the country was once again essentially unified.

Keith Brandon gave a vote of thanks to Yvonne and Richard for organising the event and supporting it with an excellent buffet lunch (that ham was to die for....) and afternoon cakes. It was an all-round very pleasant day despite the debacle at the start. The participants present supported the proposed concept of moving to a more conducive venue just outside Leeds** which would ease the organisational burden, and to two such meetings per year, perhaps making it the 'Northern Powerhouse' event of British philately.

** Now revealed as The Brown Cow, Selby Road, Leeds, LS15 7AY and booked for Saturday 18 April 2020.

Report by Roger Morrell, with photos by Richard Wheatley



Display discussions



Michael Waugh explains his interest in Trieste.



Alan Berrisford explains his Polish postmarks exhibit.



Joyce Boyer describes how private postal stationery envelopes imprints were fraudulently cut off and sold as miniature sheet imperfs!



Keith Brandon gives the vote of thanks to Yvonne for the meeting.

THE APS BOOKSHOP

To purchase any of these items, contact the Librarian.

NOTES: (1) If you pay by credit card, it will appear as “German Railway Society” or “GRS” on your card statement.

(2) Some emails to “library@austrianphilately.com” are ending up in her spam bucket: instead, please use “mjoyceb@uwclub.net”.

CDs

- ❖ *All CDs cost £10 or €15 including postage to anywhere in the world.*
- ❖ **“The History of Austrian Revenue Stamps”** by Dr. Stephan Koczynski. Enhanced and published on CD in fully-text-searchable form. It is ISBN 978-0-900118-07-4.
- ❖ **1910 Post Office Index.** This is the “*Verzeichnis der Post- und Telegraphen-Ämter in Österreich, Ungarn und in Bosnien-Hercegovina sowie der österreichischen Postanstalten im Fürstentum Liechtenstein und in der Levante*”, published in Vienna in 1910. It lists all the Austrian post offices open anywhere at that date; with symbols indicating the facilities available at each. The CD contains deep-cleaned 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. It is 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**. There's only 9 copies left of this important work, and there are no plans to reprint it. P&P £5 in UK, elsewhere at cost.
- ❖ **“A Celebration of Austrian Philately”:** the APS 60th anniversary ‘Festschrift’. viii+162pp. A4 in full colour. ISBN 978-0-900118-05-0. Price £10; P&P £3 in UK, elsewhere at cost.

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. Bulk orders by negotiation.

At a recent committee meeting, it was agreed that (a) some back numbers of *Austria* (selected from issues 127 onwards) would be made available via the APS website; and (b) that printed copies of back numbers will only be available for sale until copies run out.

Do you have a display or article or essay that you'd like to share with your fellow members but are too diffident about writing up for publication? Your editor would be delighted to assist! He can cope with almost all formats of words and pictures, and printed original texts varying from black-on-white to darker-grey-on-lighter grey. Hesitate no longer – get in touch, and make him happy and yourself famous!

200 years of Silent Night

By Joyce Boyer

In 2016 and again in 2018 the Austrian post office issued a stamp to mark 200 years of the carol we generally known as ‘Silent Night’. The reason for two anniversaries was that the words of the six-verse poem were written by Joseph Mohr in 1816 whilst curate of Mariapfarr, Lungau. Following his appointment as assistant priest at Oberndorf bei Salzburg he needed a carol for Christmas 1818 and asked his friend Franz X Gruber to put the words to music. One suggestion for this is that the church organ was in need of repair and Joseph Mohr wanted a simple tune he could play on the guitar. Whatever the reason the carol was first sung at St. Nicholas Church, Oberndorf on Christmas Eve, 1818.



The stamp issued in 2016 shows the opening stave of music and words. The 2018 stamp shows the ‘Silent Night’ chapel. The original church suffered much damage due to flooding and was moved with the whole village in 1906. The church was destroyed in 1913 and the Memorial chapel was built on the site of the altar of the original St Nicholas church between 1924 and 1937.

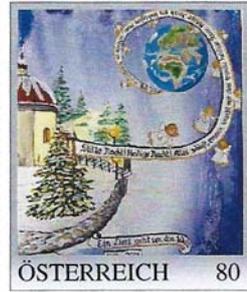
Over the years Austria and many other countries have issued stamps to celebrate the carol and the set of six issued by St. Vincent as their Christmas issue for 1979 are shown. These have the three verses from the carol as now sung on stamps 1, 3 and 5; the last line, which is normally repeated, is on stamps 2, 4 and 6. A miniature sheet was also issued with the stamps on a ‘starry night’ background with the music and illustrations of a composer and a guitarist.



Since Austria.post allowed ‘Personal stamps’ to be obtained in 2003 this has been the opportunity for philatelists, either as a group or an individual, to obtain a stamp or stamps to mark events and these anniversaries proved to be such an occasion.



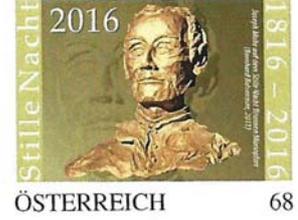
Issued by Austria Post in 2018 specifically for Oberndorf



Issued by Austria Post in 2018 specifically for Oberndorf

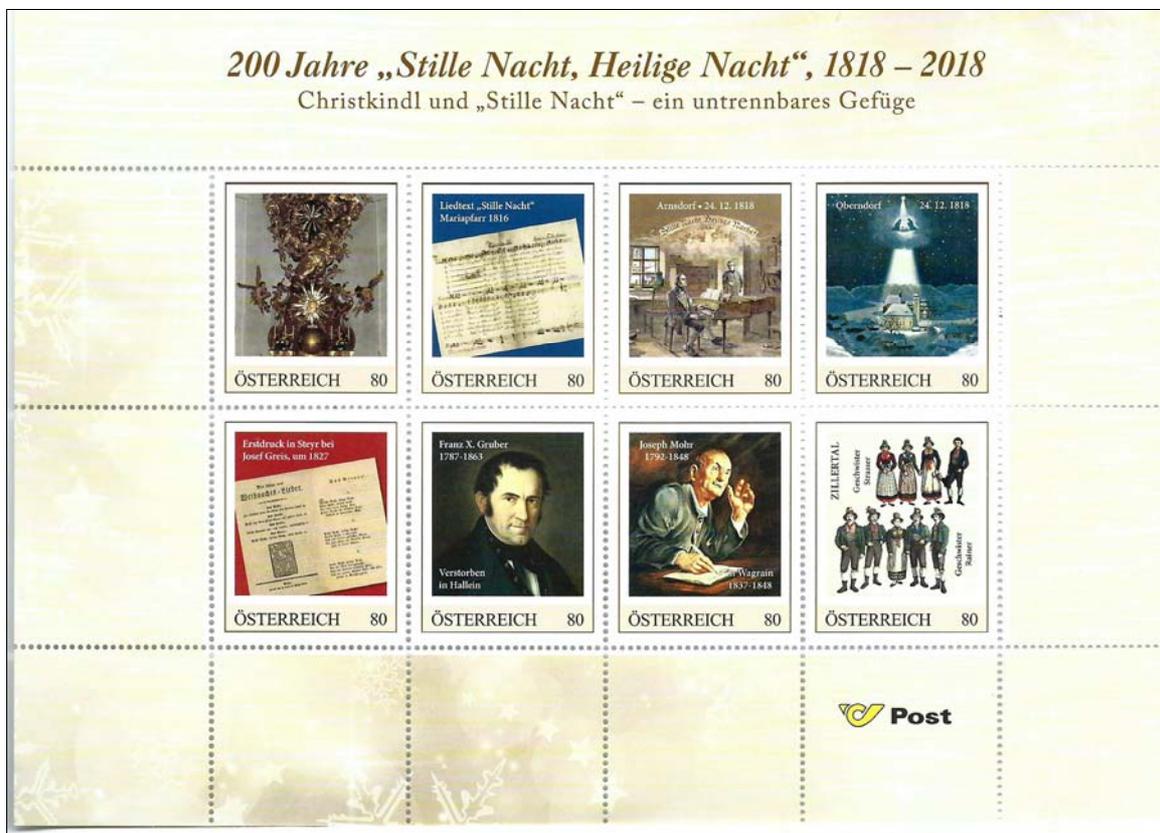


Obtained by the Silent Night Society in 2018



The Joseph Mohr personal stamp was obtained in 2016

The person responsible for the Christkindl personal stamps arranged to obtain a limited-issue ‘Marken Edition 8’ sheet of eight personal stamps in a folder to celebrate the 200th anniversary. The sheet, folder with reproduction of the carol in six verses, and an English translation of the explanation of the stamps provided by my contact Reinhold Pachernegg follow.



200 Jahre „Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht“, 1818 – 2018

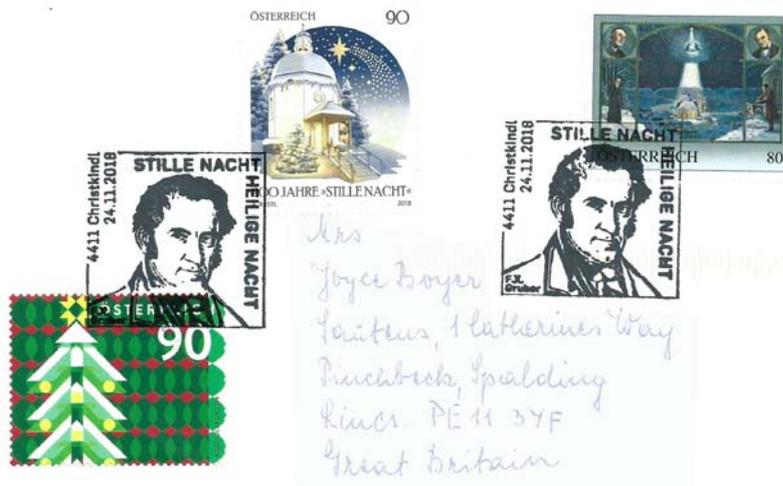
Mariapfarr – Arnsdorf – Oberndorf – Christkindlstadt Steyr – Hallein – Wagrain – Fügen/Zillertal



Release of postage stamps

200 year anniversary of "Silent Night" 1818-2018

<p>01 Pilgrimage Church Christkindl</p> <p>The picture shows a section of the altar featuring the "Christchild made of wax" inside the original trunk of a tree (place of recovery). At Christmas time, the Christchild and the Christmas carol "Silent Night" are inextricably linked to each other.</p>	<p>02 Mariapfarr</p> <p>In autumn 1815, Joseph Mohr arrived at Mariapfarr, where he took up his first post as an assistant priest. There he also wrote the text for the Christmas carol "Silent Night" in 1816, which was not performed until two years later when Mohr had recovered from tuberculosis.</p>	<p>03 Arnsdorf</p> <p>In 1818, Franz Xaver Gruber composed the music to Mohr's poem "Silent Night". The painting features an imaginative scene of the creation of "Silent Night" by Franz Kulstrunk, watercolour, about 1900.</p>	<p>04 Oberndorf</p> <p>F.X. Gruber bestowed his composition to Mohr on Christmas Eve 1818. On the same evening "Silent Night" was sung in the midnight Mass. Mohr, a tenor, sang the melody and accompanied the singing on his guitar, while Gruber, a bass, sang the second part.</p>
<p>05 Christkindl town Steyr First print</p> <p>A folder from Steyr titled "Four Beautiful New Christmas Carols" is known as the oldest print of "Silent Night" by Joseph Greis dating back to the time from 1827 to 1832. The text consists of all six verses in the same order as the autograph by Mohr and the four autographs by Gruber.</p>	<p>06 Hallein</p> <p>In 1835, F.X. Gruber was appointed choirmaster, lead singer and organist for the parish church of Hallein. His former house in which he lived until his death in June 1963 is situated opposite the parish church, where he is buried next to it.</p>	<p>07 Wagrain</p> <p>Joseph Mohr was transferred as parish priest to Wagrain in 1837. He cared selflessly for the poor and homeless. At his instigation a primary school and an almshouse were built. Joseph Mohr died at the age of 56 in Wagrain in December 1848.</p>	<p>08 Fügen/Zillertal</p> <p>The organist builder Karl Mauracher from the Ziller valley brought "Silent Night" to the Tyrol. From there the Rainer Family Singers from Fügen and the Strasser Family from Hippach made the song known to the world. Today it is sung in 350 languages and dialects worldwide.</p>



To add to the collection of 'personal stamps', the top right stamp of the sheet was adapted for a second stamp that included the faces of Gruber and Mohr - shown on this part cover with a special cancellation used at Christkindl on 24th November.

When written the poem and carol had six verses but the manuscript was lost and the modern version that we sing at Christmas comprises the first, second and last verse of the original. [In addition, the tune has been slightly altered – see appendix! Ed.] Some years ago I was at a stamp fair and a contact, who knew I collected Austria, drew my attention to the slightly crumpled envelope which I bought for 50p - more for an extra cachet on it rather than the stamp and cancellation [which I already had]. On checking it after returning home I found this Christmas card inside which depicts a copy of a manuscript of the complete carol held in Salzburg Museum and claimed to be in the composer’s handwriting presumably when he re-wrote it at a later date.



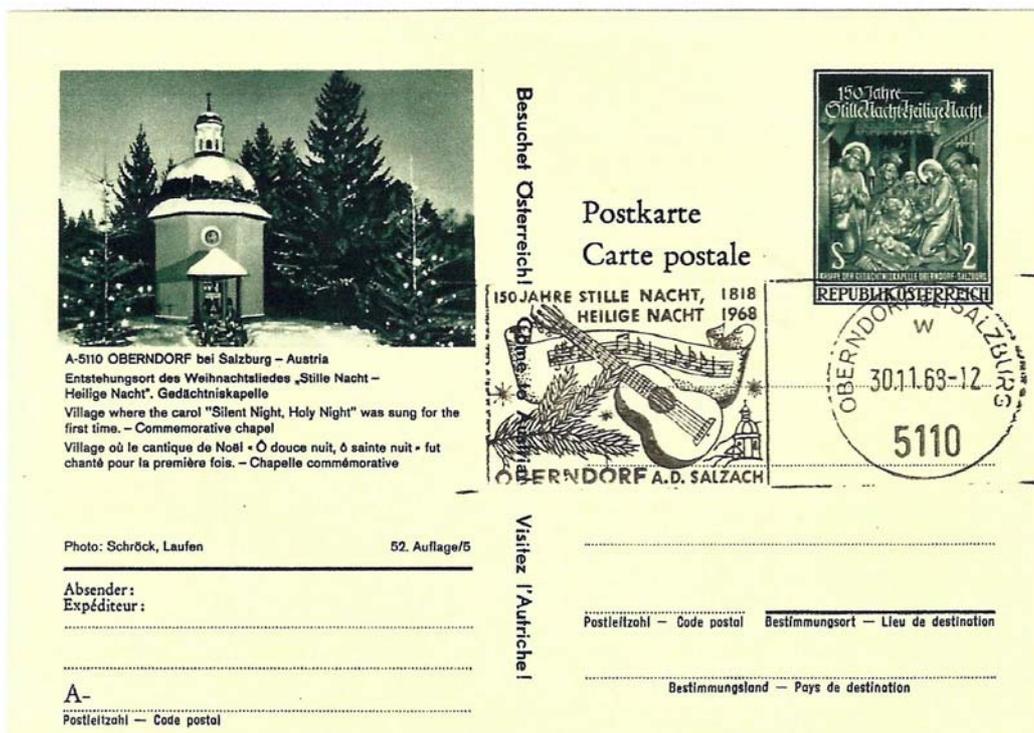
The Austrian Postal authority first celebrated the carol Silent Night on 18th December 1948 with the issue of a 60 groschen stamp depicting Franz Gruber and Josef Mohr to mark 130 years of the carol.



A large circular advertising cancellation was used at Oberndorf bei Salzburg that included the [translated] slogan “Origin of the song ‘Silent Night’ ”. I have this on covers dated between 1949 and 1964 and the clearest is shown below. An advertising cancellation marking 150 years of the carol (1818-1968) was in use as early as June 1967. Both examples are from balloon covers.



On 29th November 1968, a 2S stamp and a set of 18 pictorial commemorative postal stationery cards were issued to mark 150 years of the carol. Many special cancellations were available from the places pictured on the cards. The card shown depicts the Silent Night Chapel with the Oberndorf bei Salzburg cancellation but a full set can be seen on our website <http://www.austrianphilately.com/stillenacht/index.htm>



A second picture with the chapel was used on one of these cards and then for a number of view postal stationery cards in different colours for the different imprinted value stamps. The 3S card shown on the next page was cancelled on 24th December 1983 with a new advertising cancel.



On 27th November 1987 a stamp depicting both Gruber and Mohr was issued with the opening bars of the carol at the base. Although not stated on the stamp, it marked 200 years of the birth of Franz Gruber and this is recorded in three of the four special cancellations on this multi-franked cover. The fourth cancellation is that used at Christkindl for that year where the cancellation also included the music.



There was no stamp in 1992 when Josef Mohr reached the same anniversary but there were a number of special cancellations.



A postal stationery envelope imprinted with a 7S stamp depicting Mohr with guitar and Gruber with manuscript against a background of music was issued in 1998. The illustration on the envelope records that it was 180 years of Silent Night.



In 1969 the 'Silent Night' short-term post office, 8th to 24th December, was opened with its special cancellation and this still operates today. The pictorial cancellation usually has some connection with the church, chapel or the writers but occasionally does not and a few examples follow.



The Salzburger Lokalbahn [Salzburg Local Railway] have for many years operated some of their normal services as 'Christmas Specials' including the 'Silent Night' trip to Oberndorf. In 1989 the Salzburg Railway Collectors held an event and arranged for a specific train journey to Oberndorf to carry mail that would receive a special cancellation. This was obviously successful since similar journeys were made each year until 2013; in later years they also had their own 'personal stamp'. I believe the mail carrying journeys ended with the death of the organizer. The cancellation usually incorporated a train into the design and some are shown.



25. ADVENTFAHRT
mit der **Salzburger Lokalbahn SLB**
Ein Service der Salzburg AG

ÖSTERREICH 70

7.12.2013

ADVENTFAHRT mit der SLB
STILLE-NACHT-GEDENKSTÄTTEN

5110 OBERNDORF bei SALZBURG

Sonderpostamt & Ausstellung
OBERNDORF bei SALZBURG
SALZBURGER - EISENBÄHNER - PHILATELISTEN

SEPH

ADVENTFAHRT 2006
ÖSTERREICH 55

23. ADVENTFAHRT SLB
ÖSTERREICH 62

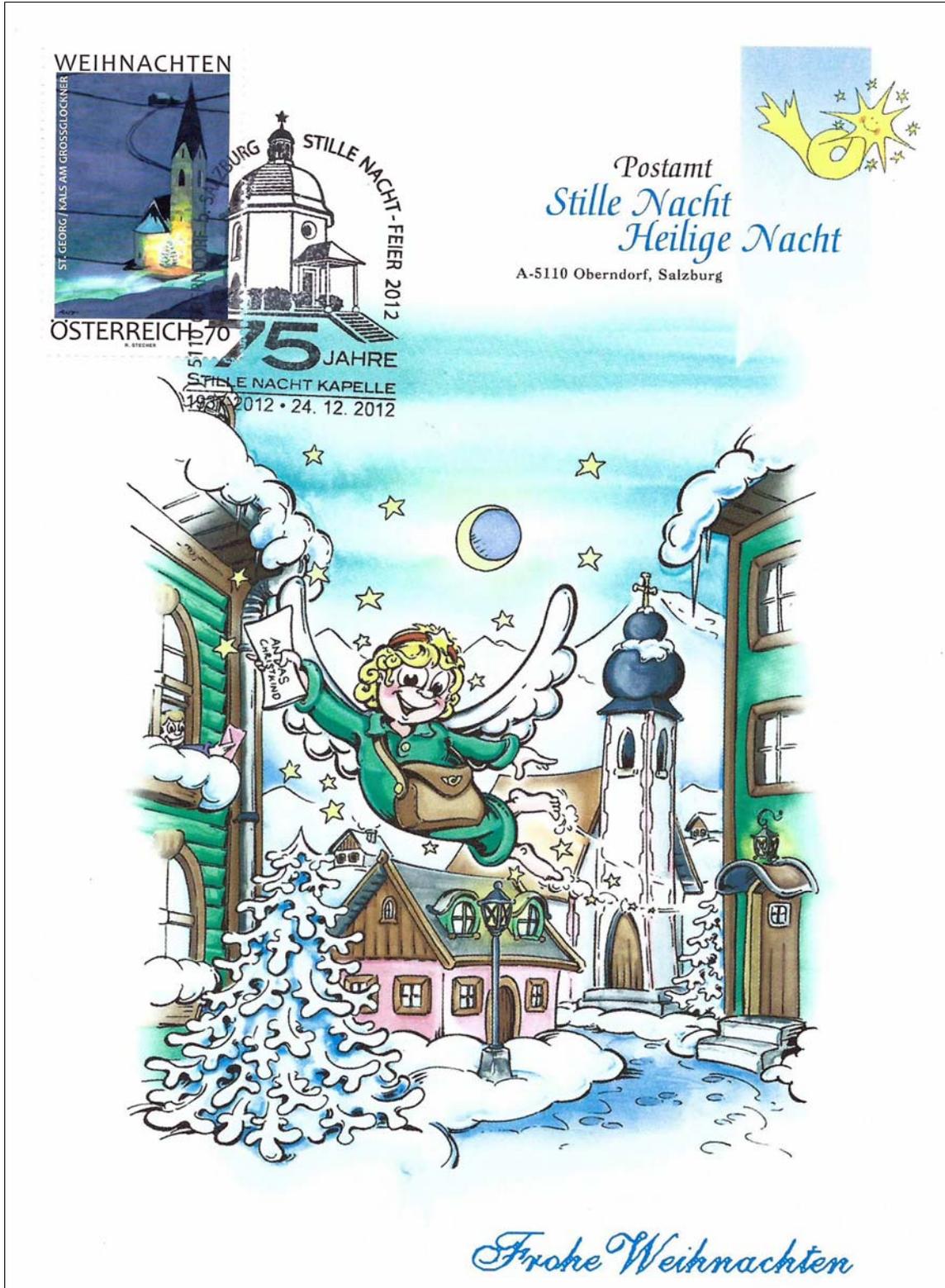
Weihnachten 1993
REPUBLIK ÖSTERREICH

BRIEFMARKENWERBESCHAU 2. E. PN.
175 JAHRE das LIED
Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht
Mit der SALZBURGER-LOKALBAHN
5110 OBERNDORF bei SALZBURG
zu den GEDENKSTÄTTEN
4.12.1993

190 Jahre
Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht
REPUBLIK ÖSTERREICH

ADVENTFAHRT
2.12.1989
mit der SALZBURGER LOKALBAHN
5110 OBERNDORF bei SALZBURG, EISENBÄHNER-PHILATELIE

For a number of years from 1997/98 the Austrian postal authority produced a special card for children that was available from Oberndorf and Christkindl and one is shown.



Austria.post has issued two ‘personal stamps’ for Oberndorf each year since 2005 together with a maxi-card for each design. In recent years ‘Automatic labels’ have also been available.



In this article I have kept to material connected with Oberndorf bei Salzburg. However there is much more to collect if one moves onto places associated with Josef Mohr and Franz Gruber together with other cancellations referring to the carol. As previously mentioned a section on the APS website is allocated to ‘Silent Night’ and more information and examples of cancellations will be added as time allows.

Andy's musical appendix

There's an interesting difference between what Gruber wrote and what we now sing. His original is in the manuscript version above, and a typical modern book of carols gives today's commonly-heard version. The crucial difference is in the 9th bar, boxed in red.

I've transposed the old version into the same key to make it clearer:

Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht

Franz Gruber 1818
Joseph Mohr 1816

"Old" "New"

A musician friend comments that the "new" version is, musically at least, more interesting although the notation wouldn't pass Grade 5 theory!



Subject: AR in Austria

Dear Mr Secretary,

I have been preparing country by country exhibits on post-GPU/UPU worldwide AR (avis de réception, advice of delivery, return receipt, acknowledgment of receipt, Rückschein, Retour Receptisse, Modtagselsbevis, ...), and in particular for Austria, downloadable from Richard Frajola's exhibit site

<http://www.rfrajola.com/exhibits.htm>

and explicitly for Austria <http://www.rfrajola.com/DH2019/DH10.pdf>

I wonder whether you would publicize this among the members of your society. Readers should probably also download the book on AR (<http://www.rfrajola.com/DH2019/1ar.pdf>), as it gives an overview of the subject. I also solicit corrections and additions for updated versions of the exhibits.

regards

David Handelman [rochelle2 <rochelle2@sympatico.ca>](mailto:rochelle2@sympatico.ca)

The Philatelistenklub Merkur Innsbruck's Schriftenreihe

The APS library contains a complete set of the Schriftenreihe series of booklets published by the Philatelistenklub Merkur Innsbruck. All are in German (nr 8 has some parts in English) and where appropriate are well illustrated. Column A is the PKMI number and column B the APS library number. All members can borrow them in the usual way.

A	B	Contents	Notes
1	---	(replaced by PKMI nr 12)	
2	459	Festschrift "65 years of PKMF".	Brief introductions; Deutsche Dienstpost Alpenvorland with list of cancels used and German-Italian placename list; brief history of PKMI; and Exhibition Guide. Pub. 1994; 68pp
3	460	JUBA-Telfs (27-29 September 1996)	„JUBA“ = Jugendbriefmarkeausstellung] Stamp exhibition and display by young people from many countries: event-guide; articles etc. Also article on Kinderlandverschickung (KLV: relocation of children from areas at risk of allied bombing to hotels and guesthouses in villages) with list of numbers vs locations. 70pp
4	343	Festschrift "Philatelistischen Salon Telfs" (26-28 September 1997)	25 years of ARGE ALP; Austrian Bezirk cancellations (the octagonal ones with a number that is not a postcode; an index of these numbers is included); Censorship by the civilian administration in Tirol and Vorarlberg 1914-1916. 80pp
5	--	(replaced by PKMI nr 12)	
6	344	Festschrift: "100 Jahre Innsbrucker Philatelistische Vereine".	Censorship in Voralberg 1914-1918; Local issues from Meran 1918-1920; Local issue with the Eagle overprint (and forgeries thereof); Occupation in North Tirol at end of WWI. Many b/w illustrations. 80pp
7	348	Tiroler Verwaltungsmarken.	Local tax stamps issued by the Land government for assorted taxes, for tobacco, for hospitals, and by the chamber of commerce. Town (Gemeinde) tax stamps without then with town name. Illustrated in colour. 40pp
8	380	Festschrift "75 Jahre Philatelistenklub Merkur Innsbruck".	Formal greetings; history of links between PKMI and (a) Societa Filatelica Trentina (b) Austrian Philatelic Society [articles in E&G by Boyer & Taylor]; 75 years of the PKMI (Moser); Censorship in Innsbruck 1914-18 (Schilling); the Illyrian provinces and the post in Osttirol & Oberkärnten (Schöpfer); the Innsbruck Post-Direktion in today's North Tirol (Jungwirth & Klieber); Airmail to & from Austria 1945-6 (Seebald). 120pp
9	383	Tiroler Sonderstempel 1885-2003.	A tabulation, with valuations and illustrations, of all the special cancellations used in the Tirol. Also has newspaper and decree notices concerning special cancellations up to 1945, and indexes by designer and by place. 146pp
10	402	Dienstanweisung für Postablagen.	The first issue (in 1900) of the regulations for Postablagen. 44pp. Details of everything! Appendix on how to handle different types of mail, and the applicable rates. The penalties for stealing letters. 1% commission for postage stamps sold.
11	408	Dienst-Instruction für die kaiserlich-königlichen Poststationen (herausgegeben 1863).	"How to run a Post Station" (in 1863). 141pp. Details of buildings, staff, horses, wagons; types of traffic eg Cariol, Staffete, Extra. Extensive coverage of what the Postmaster must and must not do.
12	328	Tiroler Werbestempel und im Anhang Tiroler Wellen- und Strichstempel.	Advertising & slogan cancellations, with points valuations. 161pp. Pulls together the material of #1, #5, #5.1, and Stohl.
13	425	Dienstbuch für den Postillion (1893).	The 1893 Instruction Manual for Postillions. Appendices include detailed regulations on uniform (the hat feather shall be 21cm high...) and the posthorn calls. No contents list. 75pp
14	440	Dienst-Unterricht für die Briefträger der k. k. Postämter (1880).	The duties of a Postman in 1880. 52pp This includes duties and conduct; preparation for delivery; delivery, especially 'special cases' such as 'addressee only', to a soldier, or to a firm; money or COD mail; general prohibitions eg mustn't take mail home! It has a full contents list.

Puzzling post – the answers

By: Richard Wheatley FRPSL

Readers may remember my plea for information in the Winter 2018 issue of Austria (pages 2 to 4), this was most rewarding. The librarian, Joyce Boyer, came up with a book from the library written by Richard Krueger which contained all the answers (Censorship of the Civil Mails in Occupied Austria 1945 – 1953 by Richard A Krueger, 2016) and I am most grateful to her.

Quite simply, this book tells us that all these query marks of mine are Supplemental Civil Censor Marks. So, they are extra censor marks of a minor nature, the reason for which has been lost in the intervening years – apart from one of the groups! I will explain these marks in the same sequence that they appeared in the Winter issue, with the Type numbers having been taken from the book by Krueger. Censorship of foreign mail in Austria commenced in December 1949 and ceased in August 1953.

Set 1. Large Capital letter, illustrated in Fig.1. Type VS-9.

This letter is about 12mm high, known letters A to Z, in red, violet, and green which is rare. In use from December 1949 until August 1953.

Set 2. Circle, with a letter and a numeral, illustrated in Fig. 2. Type VS-5a.

The circle is 18mm, with a capital V followed by a small numeral. Numbers 1 to 26, known in black, violet, plus shades of both. In use from February to June 1948. So, in use for a relatively short period.



1948 June 10, First Day Cover to celebrate the 11th Sokol Congress in Prague, to Vienna. Austrian plain brown censor resealing tape at left. Violet censor mark number 636 and Supplemental Civil Censor Mark V16, Type VS-5a.

Set 3. Small Capital letter, illustrated in Figs. 3 & 4. Type VS-6.

Letters A to Z in violet. Recorded from July 1948 until March 1949.

Set 3. Numeral followed by a lower-case letter, illustrated in Fig. 5 & 6. Type VS-13a.

Numerals recorded 1 to 31 and letters a to z. In use January 1951 until August 1953. Seen in violet, red, green and blue, they are all fairly common.

This Type VS-13a has been identified as serving a specific purpose. They were introduced as a result of complaints from the Vienna business community, who alleged that their mail was being delayed by the censor. The numeral refers to a day of the month in which the postal item left the office of the Vienna censor, and the small letter identifies the actual censor. Looking at Fig. 5, we see that the post card left Bratislava on the 13th and was passed by the Vienna censor (16f) on the 16th, so there was no delay at all.

When we look at Fig. 1 and 3 (plus three other similar items in my collection) we see that they are all addressed to, and sent by, the same two people. These two men were employed by their respective postal authorities, with the Czech man posting First Day Covers to his Austrian friend. One wonders if the exchange was reciprocal?

NOTES FROM OTHER JOURNALS

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

Die Briefmarke

2019/9: VÖPh personal-stamp minisheet of a Post Office shield; the wine-producing region of Kamptal; 150 years of the Postcard; Rocket Mail; review: postal history of the former Innsbruck Postal Directorate volume 2; new issues for August; the zero-Euro-banknote (it's actually a "highly-collectable tourist souvenir"!); extensive Societies news; exhibitions and events diary; etc.

Germania

Vol 55 Nr 3: Polish officer POW camps in WWII; The first four Germania booklets, Part 2; French WWII POW mail addressed to France 'c/o General Post Office Via Grande-Bretagne'; The Lighthouse stamps since 2004; German letter rates from 1 Jul 2019; etc.

Stamps of Hungary

No 218 Sept 2019: Timeline to Trianon, Part 3: 1 July 1919 to 30 September 1919; The Revolutionary Governing Council in Hungary, 1919; International Advice-of-Receipt – Some Questions; Payment of registration fees on recipient-pays official mail; etc etc.

Czechout

See www.czechout.org where you can read (but not copy or print) every issue including the latest.

Vol 37/3 (Sept 2019): On the Occasion of the 90th Birthday of Yvonne Gren; CPSGB Summer Meeting; Original Research: J. Rudiš-Jičínský; Smokestacks (on stamps); Book Reviews (I): The German Occupation of the Protectorate (II): Holubice.

The London Philatelist

Sept 2019: 12-page article on problems encountered in Hungary when on 1 June 1850 postage stamps and a radically changed system were introduced.

Book Review

"Dalmatia – a personal history of the Habsburg Empire" by Simon Winder. Pub. 2013; 550pp; ISBN 978-0-330-52278-6.

This enjoyable book traces the history of Central Europe and its surroundings from the Middle Ages to the end of WWI. It's probably not suitable as a first introduction to the topic, but it adds vast amounts of insight leavened with a wicked wit to a basic understanding gleaned elsewhere. Winder emphasises how the region is different from elsewhere – France, say, was for centuries ruled by a Frenchman while a Central European lived in constant fear of a passing army, an epidemic disease, or an invading horde obliterating his entire community.

An example is Pécs in Hungary. When part of the Roman Empire, it was a major wine producer called Sopianae. Hun raiders swept through around 400AD, and there is no evidence of any human habitation for the following 500 years. This seems to have happened over much of Central Europe – the people 'had softly and suddenly vanished away', and the Great European Forest swallowed up the ruins.

Winder's approach combines a sensitivity to different people's differing perceptions of the same places or events (a Czech's Vienna is not the same place as an Austrian's or a Scot's) with a keen eye for the ridiculous. Warning: do not drink coffee while reading it, lest a choice witticism leads to soaked pages; especially important if you borrowed your copy from the public library.

Andy Taylor

DERBY FEST 27th – 29th September 2019

As reported by Mauritius Adalbert Rillen.

Friday evening

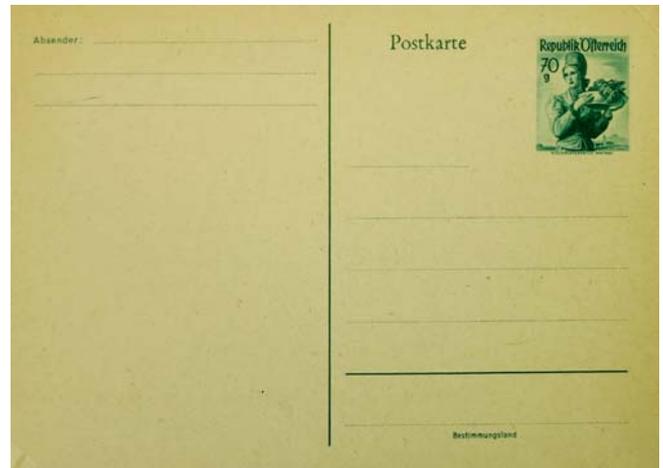
This was our second year at the Stuart Hotel in Derby. Proceedings started on Friday evening with the Auction of Stamps – or as it transpired the first chunk thereof: the number of lots exceeded the allotted time and some had to be postponed till the Saturday. Much banter in the bar was followed by an enjoyable dinner.

Saturday Morning Round One

Saturday’s proceedings were conducted by Colin Tobitt, half of the Festmeister Duumvirate. Geoff Richardson was recovering from an operation and had sent his apologies. We began by polishing off the residue of the Stamps Auction. The first round of displays was as is traditional begun by Alan Berrisford, showing a diverse selection of seriously impressive material mainly from Galicia. Next, Joyce Boyer displayed postal stationery cards with costumes-series imprints (there are no officially imprinted envelopes, only ones done to private order). Her greatest rarity was the 70 groschen card for mail from 1st Jan 1964 to Germany from Kleinwalsertal; such mail was paid in Austrian currency at the equivalent often-lower German postage rate. Cards printed for this purpose are headed Postkarte with Bestimmungsland at the bottom.



Joyce and Postal Stationery

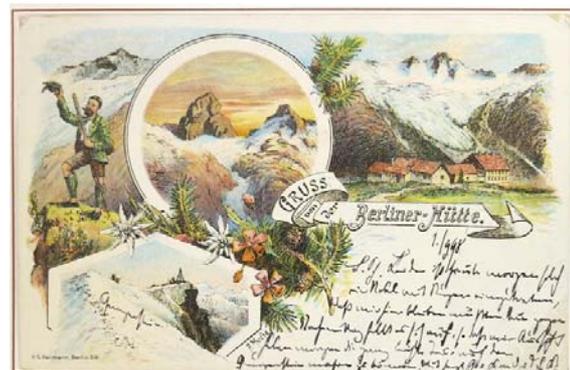


70gr Kleinwalsertal-Germany postcard

John May followed with Events of 1938. Clive Murray came next, presenting the Franc issues of Liechtenstein (from when it had transferred to Swiss postal supervision). Colin Tobitt then showed First Republic (1925-1938) Groschen Postage Dues: example on the left.



The round was to have concluded with Les Barnes and Post-WWI overprinted stamps but there were less frames than planned for (*Thou Shalt Not Block The Fire Exits*) so after a shuffle we also saw Keith Brandon’s display of cards of and from Hütte (mountain huts, mostly in N Tirol).



A coffee-break came next, before we settled down for the second round.

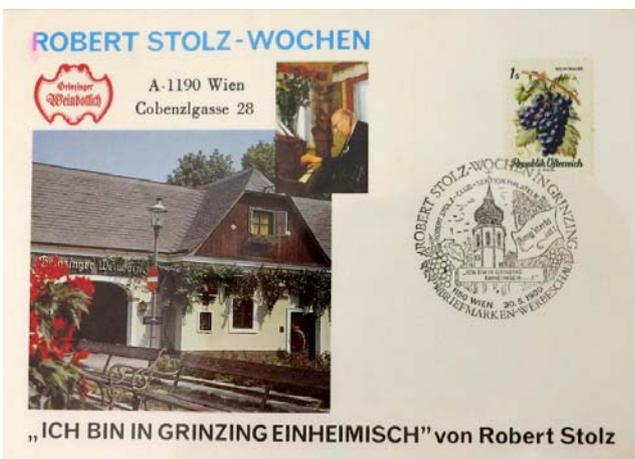


Saturday Morning Round Two

Keith Brandon began proceedings with mail cancelled on Adriatic Steamers, either by a travelling Post Office employee or a designated member of the crew. Nick Coverdale followed, with Post-WWII censorship in the 4 Zones, showing mainly French Zone. Hans Smith reminded us that Cattaro-the-place has the accent on the first ‘a’ while the head cold which he was developing had it on the second; he then displayed Old Letters from Cattaro from around the Napoleonic period.



Geoff Frost showed us some unusual not-really-stamps, eg the green WIPA-1933 reprint. George Janossy produced the “Der Österreichische Briefmarkenstich” book (all about Austrian engraved stamps) and examples thereof. Barry Clark displayed Part I of his Revenue Stamps display. Andy Taylor showed 4 frames from his Austria – Land of Music obsession. Paul Taylor followed with Groschen-period inflation, mainly multiply-franked. And lastly before lunch, Joyce Boyer gave us postal stationery 1945-1955 other than costumes-series; she explained the various malfeasances that led to the cessation of private printing.



Saturday afternoon

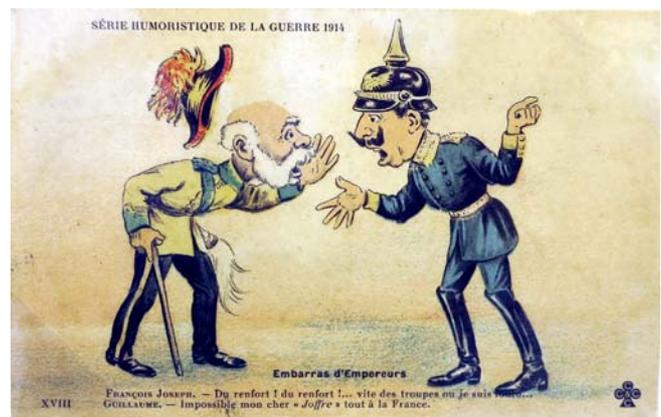
Lunch was followed by the **Book auction**, where books and journals from members and from the Library downsizing found new homes.

More displays followed. Geoff Frost kicked off with (some of) Vienna’s postmarks and pictures of where they were used. Barry Clark showed Part II of his revenues. John May produced Flight Covers with U.N. stamps cancelled at Wien 1400. Alan Berrisford showed more varied goodies, including a batch of Lemberg newspapers with 6kr fiscal cancels and control marks; this because they had been produced in court as evidence, marked paragraphs inside indicating a court decree. Colin Tobitt displayed more postage due usages: invalid stamps, redirection fees, etc. Clive Murray continued the theme with postage dues mostly on items sent to but rejected by a foreign addressee.



An innovation followed: “**Any Other Collection**”. This had been widely interpreted by those participating: was it any other Austrian philatelic collection, or any other non-Austrian philatelic collection; or any other Austrian non-philatelic collection, or what? So we marvelled at:

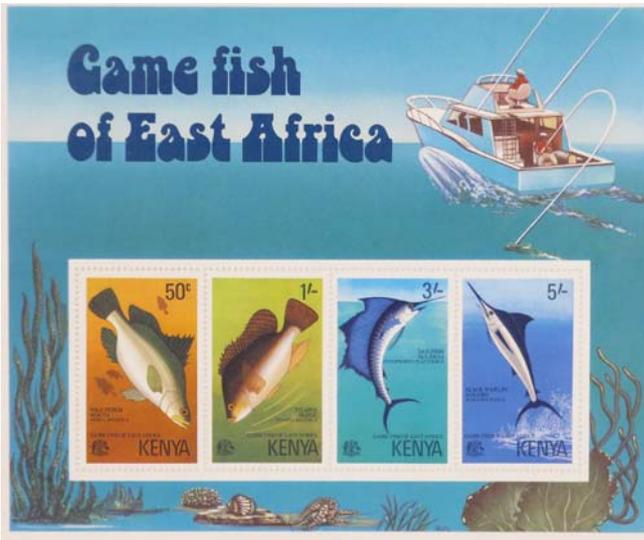
- Joyce Boyer Development, flourishing, and ultimate closure of the Pinchbeck Post Office
- David Bravery Franz Josef propaganda cards (cartoons, sometimes vicious, against him and his conduct of the war)



- Keith Brandon Austria-Italy postal treaty of 1861: mail from the 4 participating Italian states to Austria
- Andy Taylor A Transport Of Delight: photographs and official postcards of Vienna’s things-on-rails transport systems: U-bahn, S-bahn, Badnerbahn, Pferdebahn, and older trams trundling around the Ring.

Clive Murray Albania, 1912 – 1938

Colin Tobitt His first choice of his Wood collection (over 200 different kinds) wouldn't fit the frames, so he'd brought Kenya issues (chosen because as a child he found "Kenya-Uganda-Tanganyika" fascinating!)



The day concluded with a dinner, which left us speechless.

Sunday morning

John Anthony's Presidential Display was "The Austrian Netherlands – almost a century of Austrian control" given at John's invitation by Nick Martin, who showed over 150 examples from this period.

We were all amazed at this display of material that we'd neither seen nor even heard of, and thanked Nick Martin warmly.



After a coffee break, Martin Brumby showed us some of the immensely varied Austrian Netherlands fiscal documents, complementing what we'd just seen. The picture is three of the typical fiscal stamps.



Geoff Richardson's display of Bosnia-Herzegovina Postmarks was shown on his behalf by Colin Tobitt.

Proceedings concluded with the AGM – to be reported in its minutes – and the Partners' Feedback and Review. All present were pleased with the weekend, and the Festmeisters were asked to arrange a similar weekend in 2020 (it will probably be in the same hotel as this year).