

1999



2303 The first commemorative stamp of the year issued on February 19, 1999 was a multicoloured 7S value to commemorate the Northern World Ski Championships for 1999 which were held at Ramsau at the foot of the Dachstein mountains from 18 to 28 February. They were billed with the motto 'A Green World Championship with a balance between sport and nature'. The stamp shows an impression of a cross-country skier (Langläufer) designed by Christian Ludwig Attersee, engraved by Prof Wolfgang Seidel and printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (corn-flower blue, yellow and dark red-lilac) in an impression of 2.8 million; comb perforated 13¾:14.



2305 A further release in the series 'Natural Beauties of Austria' was a 7S multicoloured stamp issued on March 19, 1999. The stamp portrays the Stinkl rock in the Bohemian forest of Upper Austria. It was designed by Peter Sinawehl, engraved by Gerhard Schmirl and printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (light cobalt-blue, yellow and yellow-brown) by the State Printing Works of Vienna in an impression of 2.9 million; comb perforated 13¾. The history of this area is recorded back to the 13th century, and after the First World War it was the boundary between Austria and Czechoslovakia.



2306 Also on March 19, 1999 a 6.50S multicoloured stamp was issued in the series 'National Customs and Folklore Treasures'. The stamp shows the Hafnerberg station; one of the points on the traditional walking pilgrimage 'The Holy Way' between Vienna and Mariazell. The stamp was designed by Maria Schulz, engraved by Prof Wolfgang Seidel and printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (turquoise-blue, grey-black, yellow, purple and red-lilac) by the State Printing Works of Vienna in an impression of 2.4 million; comb perforated 13¾. The church 'Our dear Lady at Hafnerberg' was built between 1729 and 1745 but there has been a monument there to Our Lady since 1653.

2307 The centenary of the Austria Patent Office was celebrated by issuing a 7S multicoloured stamp on April 16, 1999. The stamp design is a symbolic depiction of the Patent Office and was designed by Dr. Karl Pach, engraved by Prof Werner Pfeiffer and printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (turquoise-blue, straw-yellow, crimson, ultramarine-grey, chamois and black) by the State Printing Works of Vienna in an impression of 2.8 million; comb perforated 13¾:14. The Patent Office has become a centre for studying information with over 49 million patent documents and is recognised as a World class databank on facts and technical matters.



2308 A 13S multicoloured stamp depicting Schönbrunn palace was issued on April 16, 1999 in a new series 'Cultural Patrimony of worldwide renown - UNESCO'. The stamp design shows a view of the south side of the palace with Neptune's fountain in the foreground. The stamp was designed by Peter Sinawehl, engraved by Prof Wolfgang Seidel and printed in both recess (dark violet-brown) and photogravure (cream, light cobalt-blue, yellow, light grey, lilac, brown-ochre and dark blue-grey) at the State Printing Works Vienna in an impression of 2 million; comb perforated 13¾. There

has been a palace at Schönbrunn since the 14th century but the current building was laid out by Johann Bernhard Fischer von Erlach in 1696. It has been host to many historical matters in addition to being the Emperor's summer residence. With over 1400 rooms it has even garrisoned Napoleon's army and was the home for the British administration for the ten years of occupation after the Second World War.

2309 Also issued on the same day in the series 'Austrian Champions' was a 7S multicoloured stamp on the 90th anniversary of the foundation of 'SK Puntigamer Sturm Graz' football club. The stamp shows the Club logo and an aerial view of their stadium superimposed on an action shot during a game. The stamp was designed by Hannes Margreiter and printed in photogravure (turquoise-blue, straw-yellow, lilac, green, ultramarine and black) at the State Printing Works Vienna in an impression of 2.8 million; comb perforated 13¾. SK Sturm Graz were Austrian champions in 1998 and have been champions of Styria 11 times. They were also quarter finalists for the UEFA cup in 1988, 1991 and 1995.





2310 To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Austrian General Sport Federation, a 7S multicoloured stamp was issued on May 7, 1999. The stamp depicts a snowboarder imposed on an allegorical logo and was designed by Peter Konkolits, engraved by Robert Trsek and printed in both recess (violet-blue) and photogravure (cornflower-blue, red, yellow and silver) in an impression of 2.8 million; comb perforated 13¾. It's unclear which way is up!

2311 A 14S multicoloured stamp was issued on 7 May, 1999 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the foundation of the Council of Europe. It is the first time that two currencies have been used on the same stamp; in addition to the 14S value it has the 1.02 Euro value below. The design shows the European Parliament building at Strasbourg and was designed by Mag. Valentin Wurnitsch. It was printed at the State Printing Works Vienna in photogravure (dark violet-blue, dark yellow-green, green-blue, rose, dark grey-green, crimson-red, grey-blue and black) in an impression of 1.8 million; comb perforated 14¼:13½.



2312 Also on 7 May, a 6.50S multicoloured stamp was issued in the series 'Hunting and the environment' entitled 'How to provide the partridges with their breeding habitat'. The design shows a pair of breeding partridges with their young family. The stamp was designed by Mag. Valentin Wurnitsch and printed at the State Printing Works Vienna in photogravure (turquoise-blue, yellow, pale purple-red and black) in an impression of 2.3 million, comb perforated 14.

2313 This 7S commemorative stamp was issued on May 28, 1999 on the centenary of the birth of Karl Jenschke (1899-1969), designer of the Steyr Baby models 50 and 55 - Austria's answer to the German Volkswagen. The stamp was designed by Prof Johannes Kral and printed in photogravure (grey-brown, scarlet, grey-black and black) in an impression of 2.8 million by the State Printing Works Vienna; comb perforated 14¾x13½.



2314 Also issued on May 28, 1999 was an 8S value in the series Altes Kunsthandwerk - a carved relief in marble of Saint Martin on horseback in the Parish Church of Peuerbach, Upper Austria. The stamp was designed and engraved by Prof Werner Pfeiler, printed in both recess (carmine-brown) and photogravure (bright cobalt blue and bright orange) in an impression of 2.3 million; comb perforated 13¾.

2315 A pair of stamps were issued on June 4, 1990 commemorating two musicians from the same family: Johann Strauss the father on the 8S value and Johann Strauss his son on the 7S value. The occasion is the 150th anniversary of the death of Johann Strauss the father and the centenary of the death of his son. Both stamps were designed and engraved by Prof Otto Stefferl and printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (8S value - light violet, violet and gold; 7S value - light violet, lilac-pink and gold) at the State Printing Works Vienna; comb perforated 13¾. The impression for the 8S value was 2.4 million.



2316 Father Strauss's 7S value had an impression of 2.9 million.



2317 The new Man Roland 700 offset printing press (see below) was used for the first time for a 7S value to commemorate the 125th anniversary of professional charitable service in Austria, issued on June 4, 1999. The stamp was designed by Prof Otto Stefferl and printed in photogravure (magenta, cyan, yellow, black and silver) by the State Printing Works Vienna in an impression of 2.8 million; comb perforated 13¾.



2318 June 18, 1999 saw a 7S value to commemorate 150 years of a national police force in Austria. The design shows rural policemen in traditional uniforms of the period of their formation. It was designed by Auguste Böcskő engraved by Maria Laurent and printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (ultramarine, yellow, crimson and gold) by the State Printing Works Vienna in an impression of 2.8 million; comb perforated 13¾.



2319 The now-annual issue for Europa 1999's theme of maintaining Nature's natural resources shows the animal world of the national park Donauauen. The stamp was designed by Adolf Tuma, engraved by Prof Wolfgang Seidel and printed in both recess (violet-black) and photogravure (turquoise-blue, yellow, crimson-lilac and glimmer-blue) by the State Printing Works Vienna in an impression of 2.9 million; comb perforated 13¾.

Issued on 18 June.

2320 The 1999 miniature sheet for the series Briefmarke and Philatelie featured K and I. (This was the design shown with its separation negative and colour proofs to the ASCGB party when they visited the State Printing Works December 1998. See photos below!) The stamp was designed and engraved by Prof Otto Stefferl, printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (orange-red, brown-violet, grey-ultramarine, yellow, blue, silver and gold) by the State Printing Works Vienna in an impression of 3.8 million; comb perforated 13½. June 18, 1999.





2322 A 6S50 commemorative stamp was issued on September 17, 1999 to mark the centenary of the Graz Opera. The stamp which shows the steel fire curtain was designed by Marianne Siegl, engraved by Gerhart Schmir, and printed in both recess (crimson) and photogravure (pale-brown, ochre-brown, orange-brown, lilac-brown, pink-lilac, crimson, ochre-yellow and gold) by the State Printing Works Vienna in an impression of 2.3 million; comb perforated 13³/₄.



2323 A 7S value was issued on September 17, 1999 for the International Year of the Aged. The design shows a retired couple sitting on a bench and was designed by Adolf Tuma, printed in photogravure (ultramarine, straw-yellow, purple red-lilac, yellow-orange and black) by the State Printing Works Vienna in an impression of 2.8 million; comb perforated 13³/₄.



2324 And a 9S value was also issued on September 17, 1999 in the series Ancient Arts and Crafts; it shows a wooden sculpture of St. Anne with Mary and the child Jesus. The stamp was designed and engraved by Prof Werner Pfeiler, printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (turquoise-blue, chrome-yellow and crimson) by the State Printing Works Vienna in an impression of 2.3 million; comb perforated 13³/₄. The statue is at the Parish Church of St. George at Pürgg in Styria.

2325 The third stamp in the series “Welcome to Vienna WIPA 2000” was issued on September 17 as a miniature sheet of four 32S commemorative stamps (then the rate for registration) each with a surcharge of 16S for philatelic funds. The stamp shows mail being delivered to an aircraft for onward carriage. The stamp was designed by Prof Hannes Margreiter, engraved by Prof Wolfgang Seidel and printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (grey-black, ultramarine, pink, reddish-ochre, chamois and black-brown) by the State Printing Works Vienna in an impression of 1.5 million; comb perforated 14x13³/₄.





2326 A 6S50 value was issued on the occasion of the 14th Austrian Trades Union Congress on October 22, 1999. The allegorical stamp design was produced by Caroline Pflug and was printed by photogravure (red, light-grey, dark-grey and black) by the State Printing Works Vienna in an impression of 2.4 million; comb perforated 13¾.

2327 The 25th design in the Modern Art series was issued on October 22, 1999. The 7S stamp shows the work Café Girardi - a portrait of the artist's "lokal" Friedrichstraße (*Now seems to be at Girardigasse 9, 1060 Wien.*) The stamp was designed by the artist Prof Wolfgang Herzig, engraved by Prof Wolfgang Seidel and printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (yellow, purple red-lilac, ultramarine-grey and yellow-brown) at the State Printing Works Vienna in an impression 2.9 million; comb perforated 13¾.



2328 An 8S commemorative was issued on October 22, 1999 in the series National Customs and Folklore Treasures; the stamp shows the Pumpkin Festival in Lower Austria. The stamp was designed by Maria Schulz, engraved by Prof Wolfgang Seidel and printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (grey-black, turquoise-blue, yellow, purple and red-lilac) by the State Printing Works Vienna in an impression of 2.4 million; comb perforated 13¾.

2329 A 7S stamp was issued on November 12, 1999 to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the founding of the National Institute of Geology. The stamp shows an elevation of the Institute building with three fossils in the foreground. The stamp was designed by Marianne Siegl, engraved by Prof Wolfgang Seidel and printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (red-brown, scarlet, chamois and dark blue-grey) in an impression of 2.8 million; comb perforated 13¾.



2331 A 7S value was issued in the series National Customs and Folklore Treasures on November 12, 1999 featuring The Pummerin - the Big Bell of St. Stephen's Cathedral. The stamp, designed by Maria Schultz, was engraved by Prof Wolfgang Seidel and printed in both recess (black) and photogravure (grey-black, turquoise-blue, yellow and crimson-pink) in an impression of 2.9 million; comb perforated 13¾.

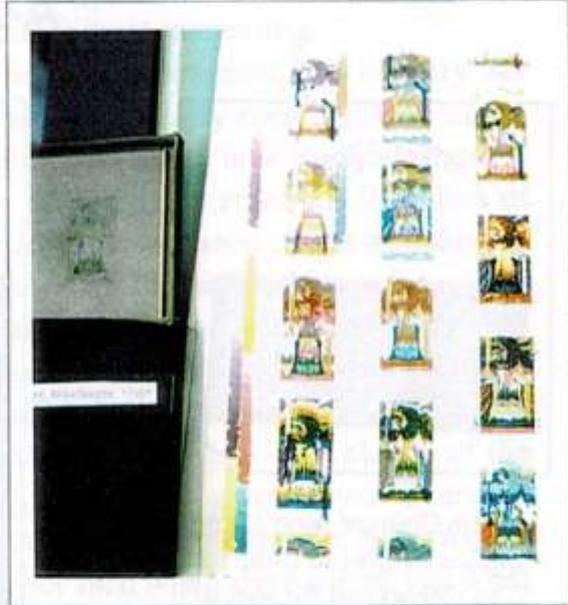
2332 The final issue for 1999 is the annual Christmas stamp and is a 7S value issued on November 26, 1999. The design is taken from a picture of the Nativity on the high altar of the Parish Church at Pinkafeld in Burgenland. The stamp was designed by Prof Sepp Buchner, engraved by Prof Wolfgang Seidel and printed in both recess (dark crimson-brown) and photogravure (greenish-yellow, ultramarine, purple red-lilac, yellow-brown and gold) by the State Printing Works Vienna in an impression of 13 million; comb perforated 13¾.



The MAN Roland 700

A new state of the art offset multicolour printing press was installed at the State Printing Works in Spring 1999. One of its first commissions was to print the commemorative stamp "125 anniversary of professional charitable services" released on May 21 1999. The press is a MAN Roland 700, it has the fantastic performance of being able to print 15,000 sheets per hour (740mm x 1049mm). This is 250 sheets per minute or 4 sheets per second. Its operation is controlled by computers which monitor colour and quantity of the inks and also the register of each process. Besides printing securities, bank savings books, stamps for UNPA and vignettes it also prints the Philatelic Journal "Die Briefmarke". The Editor, Richard Zimmerl, was extremely proud that it is printed on the same press as the stamps it writes about.

AUSTRIAN STATE PRINTING WORKS.



Day of the stamp 1999 - colour trials with master die on left of picture.

Above Lothar Nowak of the ÖSD making a point about separation artwork with Colin Tobitt

Below Editor holding master die with artwork on table - Colin Tobitt, Lothar Nowak, Hans Smith, John May and Treasurer Andy Taylor looking impressed!





Above: Lothar Nowak explaining the use of the reducing pantagraph which reduces the artwork 7 to 1 to obtain the master die. Looking impressed: Geoff Frost, James Hooper and Tony Boyer.

Upper right: close up of printed web showing end of good sheet with following sheet showing run out or dry print of one of the colours.



Right: Checking the positioning of the perforations on a double sheet of stamps being produced for Lichtenstein. This machine is one of the later computer controlled comb perforators installed at the printing works.

