



April – June 2011

No. 44 - 2/2011

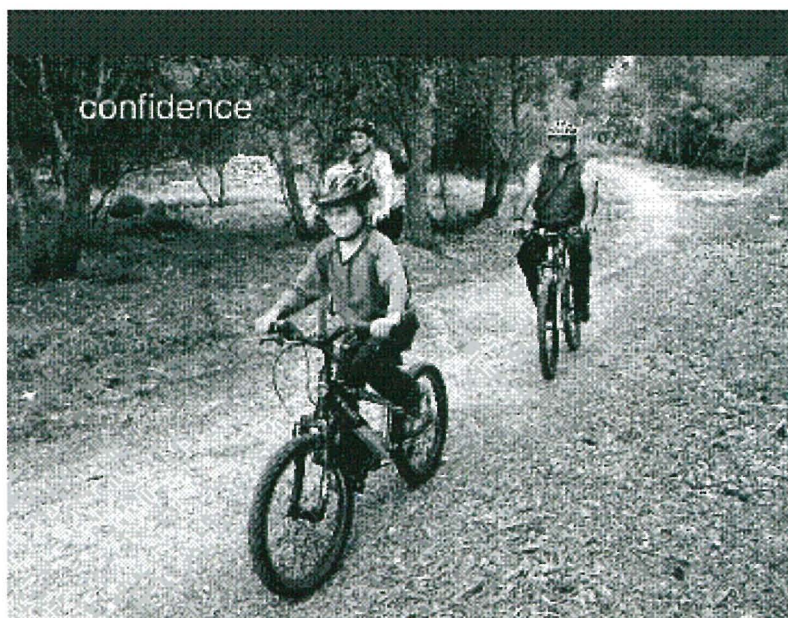
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GPS NEWSLETTER
Quarterly Organ
of
THE GOZO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

First issued on February 12, 2000

Editor: Austin Masini

Opinions expressed do not necessarily represent the Committee's official policy.

Correspondence (and material for publication) should be addressed to: Editor, GPS, PO Box 10, VCT 1000, Gozo, Malta.

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GOZO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Founded on September 3, 1999

For "the promotion of the hobby"

"the provision of a point of reference" and "co-ordination"

Postal address: PO Box 10, VCT 1000, Gozo, Malta.

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GPS DIARY (43)

Antoine Vassallo (Secretary)

- March 6, 2011:** First Sunday monthly Members' meeting at Victoria Scouts HQ.
- March 7, 2011:** The GPS is represented at MaltaPost meeting for Maltese philatelic societies, as noted in "MaltaPost News".
- March 9, 2011:** Anthony Grech prepares cover for Cittadella "Landscape Treasures" stamp.
- March 23, 2011:** Committee meeting discusses next Covers and other events.
- March 26, 2011:** Anthony Grech prepares cover for Fontana centenary handstamp.
- March 2011:** First full-colour Newsletter.
- April 2, 2011:** Meeting between Lina Gauci, Anthony Grech, Samuel Masini and Antoine Vassallo to continue upgrading our website.
- April 3, 2011:** First Sunday monthly Members' meeting at Victoria Scouts HQ.
- April 12, 2011:** GPS project accepted in EcoGozo scheme
- April 14, 2011:** Anthony Grech prepares cover for Gozo Civic Council 50th anniversary handstamp.
- April 18 - 24, 2011:** Participation in John Paul II Exhibition in Seminary Hall.
- April 27, 2011:** Committee meeting discusses next activities and decides Traditional Philately theme for November Exhibition: "Nature & Nurture".
- May 1, 2011:** First Sunday monthly Members' meeting at Victoria Scouts HQ.
- May 7 - 8, 2011:** Participation in Nadur "Mayfair".
- May 8, 2011:** Final Members' meeting at Victoria Scouts HQ before Summer break.
- June:** Exhibition set up at Folklore Museum during *Lejlet Lapsi*.

Although this may be considered repetitive, we should note that *Arbeitsgemeinschaft Malta eV* have again featured GPS covers in their periodical *Il-Maltija* (nr 17).

A Maltese member is preparing a study about AMB perfins: those who can offer scans are invited to contact us.

The MALTA STUDY CIRCLE is inviting articles for its periodical "Melita". Anyone having something of interest to say can contact us.

Maltese Snakes

(Nathaniel Refalo)

Only four species of snakes exist in Malta. Of these, only two are indigenous, with the other two probably having been accidentally introduced to the Maltese Islands. All Maltese snakes form part of the family *Colubridae*. This family consists of diurnal and crepuscular species, which contrary to most snakes, have a round pupil, with some exceptions. The four members of the snake population in the Maltese Islands differ regarding the scales found around the eyes and the number of scales which the main part of their body has. Maltese philately, as of yet, has only featured two species. However, the snake has also been featured as a symbolic part of numerous occasions, as part of the caduceus.

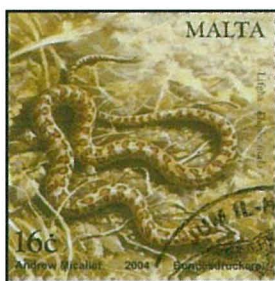
Cat Snake *Telescopus fallax/fallax* Serp/Teleskopu

The cat snake is one of the introduced snake species of the Maltese Islands. It has been suggested that it was introduced to Malta during the First World War along with shipments of firewood. Since the most frequent encounters with this animal are from the Floriana, Marsa and Paola area, this is likely to be true. However, since it is quite a shy species, it is also possible that it is actually indigenous, and is more widespread around the Maltese Islands. This snake can grow up to about one metre long, and is generally greyish or pale brown. Its dorsal area contains several dark brown spots and several alternating series of brown transverse bars. Ventrally, it is greyish white with fine grey specks. It is distinguished from other snakes by the presence of a loreal shield directly bordering the eye, which unlike that of other Maltese snakes, has a vertical pupil. Its head is also quite flat when compared to those of other snakes. It generally lives in rocky habitats, where, not liking extreme temperatures, it can easily regulate its body temperatures. A nocturnal hunter, like other snakes it feeds on small reptiles and mammals. To neutralise its prey, it coils itself around it and then bites it to kill it

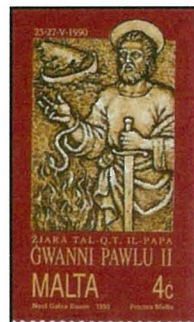
using poison. The poison apparatus, which acts through back teeth found in the upper jaw, is quite primitive, and therefore, the venom is only lethal to small animals. Once its prey is dead, the cat snake often swallows it whole. Like most snakes, it lays eggs in July, in a clutch of between seven to eight eggs.

Leopard Snake *Elaphe situla (leopardina)* Lifgha

The leopard snake is one of the few indigenous snakes of the Maltese islands, and is linked to the same viper which reputedly bit St Paul after his shipwreck on the islands. Common tradition holds that after this episode, all Maltese



snakes became non-poisonous. This is not true, but no alarm, for the poison found in Maltese snakes is only lethal



to small animals. Maltese philately has featured St Paul and the unfortunate snake several times, often in association

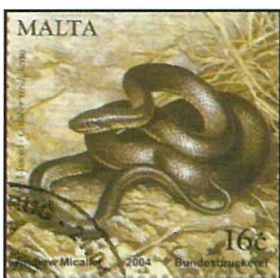
with religious occasions. This snake is quite colourful, being of a greyish or yellowish colour with several black-bordered reddish transverse spots. It also possesses a black mark on its nape. Its dorsal area is generally white, but often checkered with black. The leopard snake can grow up to one metre long, but despite being one of the most common snakes in the islands, it is not commonly encountered. It is generally to be found in valleys near trees, or in garigue habitats among stones and vegetation, where it generally forages for prey at twilight, with its favourite food being lizards,



geckos, frogs, small rodents, small birds and even small snakes. After the mating season, two to seven eggs are laid.

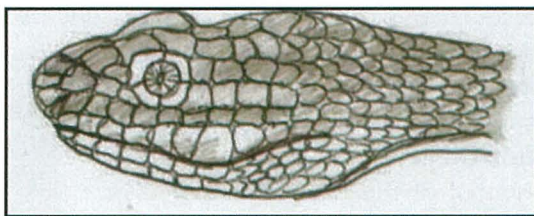
Western Whip Snake *Coluber viridiflavus /carbonarius* Serp Iswed

This is the most common snake in the Maltese Islands, and also the largest, being able to grow to as much as two metres long. It is generally of a black colouration, with a slight greenish tinge.



Its ventral side is light grey, and sometimes yellowish. The western whip snake exhibits a colour change depending on its age, with juvenile snakes having an olive-green head until their fourth year. The difference in colours has led past naturalists to mistake its species as two subspecies, *carbonarius* and *viridiflavus*.

Generally, this snake is to be found in dry areas among stones and vegetation, where, epitomizing its class, it prefers to bask in the sun. However, it has been encountered in other habitats of the Maltese Islands, such as in cracks. It generally feeds on other reptiles, as well as small rodents, frogs and large insects. Being able to climb trees, it can also feed on bird chicks. It is quite active during midday, and if cornered, defends itself valiantly. The western whip snake mates at around March,



and the female lays a clutch of five to fifteen eggs in June or July. The young hatch about six to eight weeks later. Like some reptiles, it hibernates during winter.

Algerian Whip Snake *Coluber florulentus algerius* Serp Algerin/ Serp Ahdar

As its name suggests, the algerian whip snake is likely to be an introduced species which has naturalized itself over time. It is not found anywhere else in Europe, but besides Malta, it is also found in northwest Africa, and like the cat snake, it has been suggested that it was introduced during the First World War with firewood shipments. However, unlike the cat snake, it is said to be spatially limited to the northeastern part of Malta, and is actually considered rare. It is generally greyish, orange or lightly brown, with transverse black bars at intervals, especially on its head, and a black spot under the eye, which is round. Its ventral side is white. Its lateral sides may contain several spots. Like other Maltese snakes it can grow up to one metre long. This snake is active at dusk and feeds on the usual prey of most snakes: small mammals, reptiles and birds. It is often found in cracks. Among human habitation, it lives in derelict houses and fortifications.

The Caduceus

Besides showing these snakes as part of definitive sets, Maltese philately has also featured the snake as part of the caduceus. The caduceus, consisting of a staff around which two snakes are intertwined, is a symbol from Greek mythology which was associated with the gods Hermes and Aesculapius. It has since been adapted for several reasons. Medical organizations such as the WHO have adapted the caduceus as their symbol. However, the caduceus, as the symbol of the Hermes, the god of commerce and trade, has also been used as a symbol of work and commerce. In Maltese philately, it has accompanied stamps featuring the Maltese Chamber of Commerce, the GRTU and the WHO.





All native snakes have been protected by the Reptiles Protection Act since 1992. However, as with most Maltese reptiles, snakes still suffer, both directly and indirectly, from habitat destruction by humans, too much road traffic, pollution country fires in summer and the invasion of foreign species. Even though Maltese snakes are harmless to humans, like those of the rest of the world, they are often victims of unfounded fears and prejudices. It is surprising how in the 21st century, snakes are sometimes blamed for things like leprosy, fevers and even infant malnutrition!

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Sultana J. & Falzon V. (1996, reprint 2001). (eds.), Wildlife of the Maltese Islands. Environment Protection Department (reprint: Birdlife Malta & Nature Trust).

<http://www.shadowservices.com/nature/Maltese/biology/snakes.htm>, (Accessed on February 12, 2011)

<http://www.timesofmalta.com/articles/view/20100814/opinion/close-ups-of-maltese-nature-14> (Accessed on February 12, 2011)

Not just PAPER (3)

examples of unusual stamp production

(Antoine Vassallo)

French Polynesia was not the first territory to issue scented stamps, but it surely offers an incredible range! I feature two flowers today.

On August 23, 2006, a photo by P Bacchet was reproduced on a multicoloured stamp – prominently labelled *frangipanier* (French for frangipani). The frangipani tree is among the most beautiful flower-producing tropical trees; its fragrant flower is also used as a medicinal ingredient. The name comes from a 12th century legendary Italian (surnamed Frangipani) who produced a most popular perfume: when, four centuries later, European travellers in the Caribbean discovered a tree with a flower that had the same fragrance, the name was an obvious choice. A member of the *Apocynaceae* family, the tree can reach 10 metres in height – while the flower itself is about 2.5 cm broad and may be red, pink, purple, white or yellow. The tree blossoms at the beginning of the rainy season. The tree can be found in all the islands of Polynesia, growing well in the rich soils of high islands but also in the salty soils of atolls.



The frangipani flower is considered as the symbol of the freshness and beauty of women; so it is used to make delicate *leis* and also to decorate the hair. The essential oils it contains, which are rich in

purifying and moisturising actives, are used to cleanse the skin.



French Polynesia's national flower is less well-known: *Gardenia Taitensis* is in fact endemic, with an unforgettable fragrance which assimilates various others. *Monoï Tiare* (or, in French, *Tiare Tahiti*) was shown on September 17, 2008 – in a stamp based on a photo by B Soyeze-Bernard. (*Senteur* simply means “scent”). This shrub belongs to the *Rubiaceae* family: its

white regular flowers stand out against the glossy deep green leaves. But fragrance and beauty are not its only assets since it is prominent in the list of traditional medicinal plants, being used in preparations against numerous aches and wounds. And then there is Monoï oil: in Tahitian, the word actually means scented (or sacred) oil. It is obtained by mixing the flowers with grated coconut pulp, the concoction is then left in the sun until the fine and delicate oil appears on the surface. It is popular for skin and hair care. A stronger – and more “exclusive” – alternative is based on freshly cut buds in coconut oil.

as always, readers are invited to send comments or even contributions

PHILATELIC CENTENNIALS

*glances – and longer looks – at
events from a hundred years ago*

(Antoine Vassallo)

2- Malta posthumous KE7



King Edward VII

Although King George V had already succeeded his father to the throne in May 1910, five additional Malta definitives showing the Edward VII portrait were issued during 1911. They included monochrome 2d and 2½d (substituting the bi-coloured versions), as well as 4d and 1/- in changed colours. We also had a “chalky paper” 5/- in green and red on yellow (to replace that issued under Queen Victoria in 1886).



Various King Edward VII stamps

This Emil Fuchs design was first used for Maltese stamps in 1903 (but the British series is “his” too). According to the

Grove Dictionary of Art, he was born in Vienna in 1866 and died in New York in 1929. Fuchs can be described as an Austro-American sculptor, medallist and painter. He studied at the hometown *Akademie der Bildenden Künste* (under the sculptor Edmund Hellmer) and at the Berlin *Akademie* (under Schaper and von Werner). On winning the Rome Prize in 1891, he stayed there before settling in London in 1897. He exhibited at the Royal Academy the following year and received numerous commissions from society and aristocratic patrons.

The Fuchs sculptural oeuvre consists of large groups, portrait busts, statuettes and memorials in marble, bronze and silver. Both his painted and sculpted portraits were immensely fashionable in Britain at the turn of the century; he was taken up by the royal family, for example executing a coronation medal for Edward VII (silver and bronze, 1902). He brought to the British medal the soft-edged decorative style then popular in Austria, to which he always remained faithful. After World War I he moved to New York, where he continued working until his death. By then he had published his autobiography "With Pencil, Brush and Chisel".

I finally note that George V (by Australian Bertram Mackennal) was only introduced in 1914!



Two stamps from part of a set of King George V introduced in 1914

PROMOTING GOZO THROUGH PHILATELY WINDMILLS IN GOZO

(Anton F Attard)

In October 2003, Malta Post issued a set of three stamps featuring Windmills of Malta and Gozo. The 11c stamp featured the windmill at St. Michael's Bastion in Valletta; the 27c stamp was supposed to feature Ta' Kola Windmill, at Xaghra, but unfortunately the picture shown is not the one indicated; and the 45c stamp featured Tax-Xarolla Windmill at Zurrieq.

This set of stamps reminds us of the centuries old craft milling of wheat and barley by several types of mills, the most prominent of which are, of course, windmills, now in total disuse, with one exception, Ta' Kola Windmill at Xaghra, now a folklore museum.



The island of Gozo with its wavy countryside dotted with hills, small villages dominated by church domes and bell towers, has other beautiful and characteristic objects and buildings, although very often in these busy times of ours we scarcely take any notice of them. However, in the past they played a very important part in the daily life routine of this small island.

I am referring to the traditional windmills where our fathers took their cereal products, wheat and barley, to grind them into flour, meal flour and bran, both for their own use and to feed their animals.



Ta' Kola Windmill - Xaghra

Nowadays all windmills have stopped operating but their particular building is still there visible from afar and easily recognizable, a large quadrangular building with a superimposed large round tower containing the stairwell and which used to contain also the traditional machinery to grind wheat and barley.

Now these windmills can no longer function with the exception of two: Ta' Kola Windmill at Xaghra and Ta' Randu Windmill at Qala. Due to the existence of

these two windmills we can still learn and appreciate how windmills used to function and operate in their heyday.

In Gozo the first windmills, eight of them, were built during the times of Grand Masters Ramon Perellos Roccaful and Antonio Manoel de Vilhena. These were built at public expense. Other private windmills were built afterwards.

Animal driven mills

Before the advent of windmills we used to have animal driven mills, known as "tal-Miexi", that is, they were driven by a walking animal, going round and round: a mule, a cow, a stallion or a horse, or even by a donkey and a mule, one animal working and the other resting. These animal operated grinding mills were older than windmills. One such Government owned grinding mill is ...



Ta' Randu Windmill - Qala

(Continued on page 24)

stamp terms used in PHILATELY (34)*(Emanuel Vella)*

New Guinea: This large Pacific Island north of Australia is divided into three parts, each of which has at different times had its own stamps. The Western half was Netherland New Guinea (q.v.) formerly part of the Netherland East Indies and now part of Indonesia. The south-eastern part is Papua, formerly known as British New Guinea; and the north-eastern part is the Territory of New Guinea, a former German colony which came under Australian mandate after the First World War. Since 1952 the later two have been combined in the joint Australian administration of Papua-New Guinea, for which many attractive stamps have been issued. In philatelic parlance "New Guinea" usually refers to the territory of New Guinea. When Australian forces occupied this territory in 1914, stamps of the German Colonial period were overprinted G.R.I. with new values. In 1915 Australian stamps overprinted "N.W. Pacific Island" were introduced. New Guinea had its own issues from 1925 to 1942 when the civil administration was suspended as a result of the Japanese invasion, which was afterwards repulsed. Australian stamps were then used until the appearance of the first issue for Papua-New Guinea.

New Haven: Issued one of the USA's "Postmasters" stamps in 1845.

New Issue Service: Probably the best way of keeping a collection up to date with new issues with the least minimum of trouble and expenses is to subscribe to a reliable new issue service. By means of this service the dealer or Post Office agrees to supply all issues of the chosen country or countries while the collector agrees to accept and pay for the issues at face value together with

an agreed percentage of the face value. New Issue services are available for stamps of most countries both mint and used. Some countries also supply booklets, aerogrammes and even special post-marks. In many cases the subscriber can choose from a wide range of facilities like varieties, officials, postage dues, commemoratives, miniature sheets etc. By joining such a service the collector makes sure of receiving all the new issues he requires.

New Orleans: City of Louisiana where Confederate “Postmasters” issued stamps during America’s Civil War.

New Republic: (Neiuwen Republiek) Former Boer republic of South Africa which had its own primitive stamps from 1886-88. Later it was incorporated in the Transval.. Since 1903 it has formed part of Natal, which is now a province of South Africa. The New Republic was situated in the Zulu territory.

New Smyrna: Town in Florida, where Confederate “Postmasters” Provisional were issued during the American Civil War settlement during 1864-95. Its first issue was a 10 centine value bearing the head of Napoleon III and drawn by a Sgt Trequerat. It was superseded in 1862 by French general colonials which were overprinted and surcharged in 1881. Tablet keytypes followed in 1892. First distinctive definitives appeared in 1905.

New Constitution: To signify the granting of wider political freedom and responsibility , various British Colonies have been so inscribed or overprinted. E.g. Jamaica 1945-6, Domenica, Malta etc.

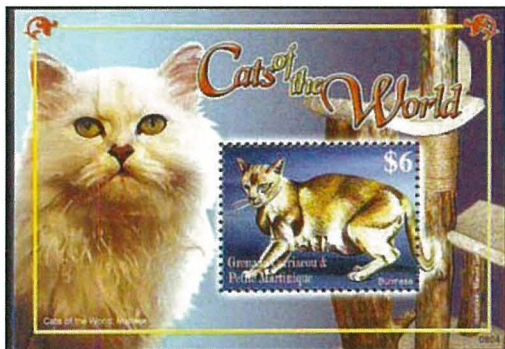
(to be continued)

MALTA OVERSEAS

local connections on foreign stamps (11)

(Antoine Vassallo)

You are invited to send write-ups (or even just suggestions) about other foreign stamps with themes or designs related to Malta



One of the most popular thematic subjects is the animal kingdom, cats being very prominent. In April 2008 **Carriacou & Petit Martinique** (the two Caribbean island dependencies

– joined as a “Constituency” with local autonomy and a specific Minister - still often called Grenada Grenadines) participated in the Cats of the World “omnibus” through two miniature sheets, one with six stamps and the other with a single \$6 stamp. This latter sheet features a Burmese cat on the stamp and what is captioned as a Maltese on the selvedge or border.



Maltese cat is a name that is often given to any domestic cat of indeterminate breed whose fur is completely (or primarily) grey or blue. The fact that many similar – non-pedigreed - cats roam around Malta (but probably

in many other countries!) may have given rise to the use of this “nationality” adjective in this context. There are in fact several cat breeds that always produce fur in this range of coloration. Especially in the United States of America, “Maltese” is – indiscriminately – any short-haired bluish-grey cat.



This domestic cat terminology for blue fur has also produced an alternative name for the blue tiger, reported mostly from the Fujian Province of China: the “Maltese tiger” (which surely has no connection with Malta!) has bluish fur with dark grey stripes.

"The Maltese Cat" is moreover the title of a short story by Rudyard Kipling, in this case the “cat” being a pony (as horses are called in the sport of polo): a gray brought from Malta (which, originally a beast of burden, became a polo success). Although this story is based in India, it includes a reference to the (Marsa) United Services Sports Club (often described as the nursery for many outstanding Navy polo players).



Special Handstamp Cancellations Related To, And Stamped In Gozo Part 8

(George Vella)

This is a continuation of Parts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7 of special handstamp cancellations which were stamped in Gozo to commemorate special events connected with the island of Gozo. These were issued by Maltapost since 1969.

B.P.O. = Branch Post Office.

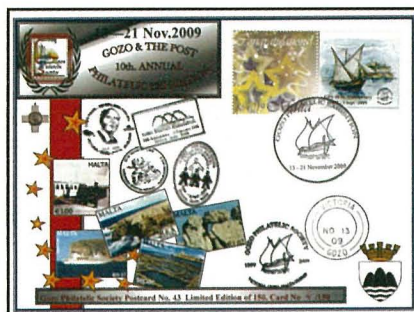
T.B.P.O. = Temporary Branch Post Office

[No.] = JB 2004 Stamp Catalogue, page 143.

HANDSTAMPS ARE TO SCALE & SCANNED FROM ORIGINALS.



39. [...] 13 to 21-11-2009 10th Anniversary of the Gozo Philatelic Society Exhibition, at the Ministry for Gozo Exhibition Halls, as an extension of Victoria B. P. O., Gozo. Designed by Anthony Grech, 35 mm dia.





40. [...] 4-10-2010 25th Anniversary of the Ghaqda Hbieb Tal-Presepju, Ghawdex Malta, at Victoria B. P. O., Gozo. Designed by George Vella, 30x37 mm.



41. [...] 13-11-2010 Gozo Philatelic Society 11th Exhibition, at Victoria B. P. O., Gozo. Designed by Anthony Grech, 40x45 mm.



42. [...] 21-12-2010 50th Anniversary of the St. George's Basilica Altar Consecration, at Victoria B. P. O., Gozo. Designed by Paul Muscat, 29x45 mm.

POST HASTE (13)

*continuing an irregular series about the interesting
story of the Post*

(Antoine Vassallo)

The largest (?)

“The United States Postal Service delivers more mail to more addresses in a larger geographical area than any other post in the world.” (usps.com 2010)

(A) Beginnings

Thirteen English colonies grew up on the North American seaboard between 1607 and 1775. But parallel developments had also begun by Holland and Sweden, particularly in the area which is now New York: the Dutch settled here in 1625, calling it New Netherland (and the city on Manhattan Island, New Amsterdam). The British drove both out in 1664, naming it New York (since King Charles II gave it to his brother the Duke of York).

The earliest extant letter is dated August 8, 1628 from “*Manhates in Nieuw Nederlandt*” and mail to Europe from Boston was the subject of local legislation in 1639. 1673 saw the establishment of a short-lived overland inter-colonial service but regular official posts date from 1692 (under patent to Thomas Neale). Direction from London (under the Crown monopoly) then resulted from a 1711 Act.

Post-riders carried the mail on land and small private ships by sea between New York and Boston; the 1753 appointment of Benjamin Franklin as Postmaster-General for North America (jointly with William Hunter) brought improvements. The first handstamps appeared and an overland route established (1763) from New York to Quebec. People resented the high rates

charged for letters - one of the possible causes of the Independence War! At the 1775 Philadelphia Congress Franklin was elected postmaster-general to control inland mails – among the first revolutionary acts against Britain. The states in rebellion maintained a boat service with France.

In 1782 the postal service was made a central government monopoly and within seven years there were 75 postoffices. Though post-riders remained on most routes, some stage-coaches began operating. After Britain recognized the United States of America following the War of Independence (1775-83), the new country gradually expanded westwards.



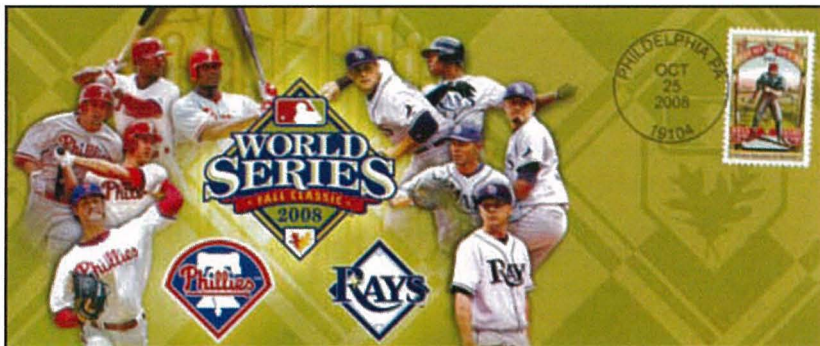
with acknowledgements to Rossiter & Flower's Stamp Atlas

E & O not E (25)

*glances at stamps with design or printing mistakes
(well-known or obscure)*

(Antoine Vassallo)

(the last article should have been numbered 24)



On July 16 2008 the United States Postal Service issued a 42 cent stamp to commemorate the centenary of the famous baseball song “Take Me Out to the Ball Game” (one of well over fifty featuring this sport). South

Carolina’s Avery Dennison printed Richard Sheaff’s design adapted from a circa-1880 example of a “trade card” (produced for advertising by tobacco companies featuring players, which later developed into collectibles).

Although neither Jack Norworth (who was inspired by a sign riding a subway train) nor Albert Von Tilzer (who set the words to music) had attended a game prior to writing the song

in 1908, it became the unofficial anthem. Traditionally sung during the seventh-inning stretch of a baseball game, fans are encouraged to sing along. In fact it was selected as one of the 365 top "Songs of the Century".

The stamp was used on a cover produced three months later (on October 25) to honour the "World Series" between the Philadelphia Phillies and the Tampa Bay Devil Rays. For the record, the Phillies (managed by Charlie Manuel) won 4-1. The World Series has been the annual championship series of the highest level of professional baseball in the United States and Canada since 1903, concluding the postseason of Major League Baseball. In spite of its name, it is played as a best-of-seven playoffs between the League Championship Series winning clubs from MLB's two circuits, the American and National Leagues.

A quite unusual error cropped up: the city was spelt incorrectly on the postmark or canceller: "Phildelphia" instead of Philadelphia (missing first "a"). You do not need to be a philatelist to notice this mistake!

- Please note that members can contact the Secretary for free temporary loan of various philatelic publications - a list will be shown in a future issue.
- We welcome letters asking for help regarding stamp identification etc. Anything published will merit a philatelic gift! And Juniors will receive a memento in any case!

(continued from page 13)

mentioned in the report made by Giliberto Abbate in A.D. 1240 and used to be found in the administrative *Castello* or fortified tower situated in the heart of the town of Gozo, now called the Citadel. Animal driven mills were more common than windmills and could be found nearly everywhere. They used to be installed in large rooms built for that purpose. These rooms are easily recognizable because they were roofed by large semicircular arches rising up straight from the ground. Similar grinding mills were sited in large natural caves. When animal driven grinding mills fell into disuse and were dismantled most probably there remained only *in-nasba*, the place where the millstone rested, a large rectangular stone looking like a table and resting on four smaller stones. Such an animal driven grinding mill can be seen at the Folklore Museum in the Citadel.

The Advent of Windmills

Wind is stronger than animals. The idea of building windmills was copied from the Spanish island of Majorca. We should not forget that Grand Master Perellos, during whose times the first windmills were built, was a Spaniard. The first windmills in Gozo were built at the expense of the Government of the Order. There was one in each village, with the exception of Zebbug, so much so that five of them are still Government property even to this day. These are: “Ta’ Kola” Windmill, Xaghra; “Ta’ Sufa”, at Nadur; “Tax-Xewkija”, at Xewkija; “Ta’ Santa Dminka”, in Rabat; and “Ta’ Qasam San Gorg” at the outskirts of Rabat.

At times one could still see the coat of arms of the Gran Master during whose times the windmill had been built. It is also said that when these windmills were being built workers were brought over from Malta to expedite matters regarding the building programme of windmills and some of them even married in Gozo.

(to be continued in next issue)

FOR SALE

- Capitulation of the French Special hand stamp cards (set of 2).
Limited Edition of 500 cards.

€ 2.50

- A commemorative Registered Cover from Victoria Gozo Post Office to commemorate two Gozitan Patriots namely:-Sir Adrian Dingli & Arch Saverio Cassar.
Limited Edition of 100 covers. **(Less than 10 left).**

€ 4.50

- A Commemorative Card showing Guzeppi Grech known as Zeppu Kola, the last owner of the Xaghra Windmill doing maintenance work. Limited edition of 200 cards.

€ 2.50

- Card to commemorate the 7th Gozo Philatelic Exhibition (3 to 12 November 2006) including the 8c Christmas stamp and cancelled with the Christmas First Day of Issue hand stamp
Limited Edition of 100 cards. **(Less than 10 left).**

€ 1.50

- Special card issued on the occasion of the TOY STAMP issue. Cancelled on the first day of issue at Xaghra Post Office featuring the “POMSKIZILLIOUS MUSEUM OF TOYS” found in Xaghra Gozo.
Limited Edition of 75 cards.

€ 1.75

- Special “In Memory” card hand stamped at Gharb Sub Post Office on the occasion of the celebration of the Holy Eucharist held at Ta’ Pinu Shrine, for the repose of the soul and in memory of Mr Anthony Fenech, a great philatelist and a sincere friend of the Gozo Philatelic Society.
Limited edition of 160 cards.

€ 1.75

- Card in the form of a First Day Cover on the issue of the re-printed 1c stamp depicting the *Sempreviva* of Gozo. This stamp was officially issued in Gozo later than in Malta. (19.10.2006).
Limited edition of 160 cards.

€ 0.50

- Registered cover commemorating the issue of the Comino Tower stamp. Postmarked with the First day of issue handstamp from Ghajnsielem S.P.O.
Limited edition of 75 covers. **(Less than 10 left).**

€ 2.50

FOR SALE

- Cover issued on the occasion of the 2005 Christmas set stamp issue with a personalized stamp of Chev. Paul Camilleri Cauchi - the stamp set designer. These covers are individually signed by the artist himself. Limited Edition of 130 covers. **€ 2.50**
- Card to commemorate the 50 years of Europe. Cancelled with the special handstamp issued for the occasion during the festivities held at Nadur Gozo. Limited edition of 75 cards. **€ 2.50**
- Registered Hand Coloured cover to commemorate the issue of two stamps depicting Gozo Balconies (one at Victoria and the other at Gharb). The covers were hand stamped with the First Day of issue Post-Mark. Limited edition of 75 covers. **€ 2.50**
- Card commemorating the GPS 8th Annual Exh. 2007 and the launching of the GPS website. Limited edition of 100 cards. **€ 1.50**
- Set of two cards with first day of operation hand-stamp of the new Post Offices at Xlendi and St Lawrence. Limited edition of 75 cards each. **€ 2.50**
- Card commemorating the 125 Anniv from the Call of Our Lady of Ta' Pinu to Karmni Grima and Frangisk Portelli. Each card is cancelled with a special handstamp issued by MaltaPost and stamped at the National shrine on Sunday 22 June 2008. The card has an embossed metal image of Our Lady of Ta' Pinu. Limited edition of 1000. **(Only 10 left).** **€ 3.00**
- Card commemorating 5th Gozo Philatelic Exhibition and 5th Anniversary of the GPS. Limited edition of 400 cards. **(Less than 10 left).** **€ 1.50**
- Set of 2 registered covers commemorating Karolina Cauchi and Patri Manwel Magri (Gozo Benefactors). Limited edition of 30 covers. **(Less than 5 left).** **€ 5.00**
- Card commemorating the 9th GPC Exhibition. Limited edition of 100 cards. **(Less than 10 left).** **€ 1.50**
- Card commemorating the 10th Anniversary of the Gozo Tourism Association. Limited edition of 75 cards. **€ 2.00**

NB: Each Card or Cover is individually numbered.

- Malta stamps in mint condition are also available at 2/3 catalogue price.

Those interested may contact:
Mr Anthony Grech on Tel No. 21553338

Members' Meetings

are held regularly on the **1st Sunday** of the month
(resuming after the summer)

September 4, October 2, November 6 and December 4

from 9.00am to 11.00am

at Victoria Scouts HQ (Triq Santa Dminka).
exchange, purchase, information etc.

Entrance Free!

All Juniors will receive a gift of free stamps

2011 PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

This year's annual philatelic exhibition is envisaged to take place between the second and third week of November, i.e. November 11 to 20, 2011.

The title chosen for this year's event is "Nature and Nurture". (to take care). This occasion has become quite popular both with local philatelists and quite amazingly also with foreign ones.

More details in next issue.



**103 Charity Street Victoria
Gozo, Malta VCT 1204**

Tel: 21556453
Fax: 21560110

Anyone interested to buy stamps at a very low price, can contact us at the above address.



The JB Catalogue of Malta Stamps and Postal History

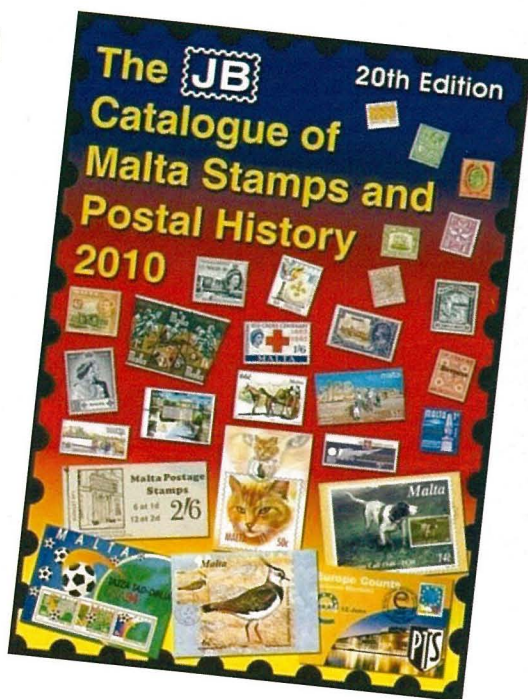
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