



THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

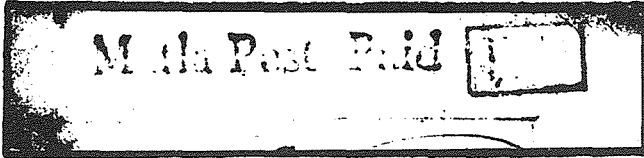
THE PSM MAGAZINE

Two collections of

MALTA

The "David Abramson" collection of POSTAL HISTORY letters from 1690, two eighteenth century letters from Knights of Malta, 1761 MARSEILLE DE MALTHE three letters from Lord Nelson, 1799 to Sir John Acton, prime minister of Naples, 1803 to the Governor of Malta, 1804 on board H.M.S. Victory. 1799 a letter to Nelson at Minorca from Lord Keith. Campaign letters from Capt. (later Sir) William Hoste on H.M.S. Amphion 1809 - 1837 including one from Lissa. Malta Handstamps complete including the only recorded example of the 1839

Malta Post Office



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THE PSM MAGAZINE



Silver-Bronze ESPANA '84 & AUSIPEX '84
Silver-Bronze ISRAPIL '85 & PHILTEMA '85
Editor: Dr. A. Bonnici, Asst. Editor: V. Mercieca
Casa Bonnici, Sir Augustus Bartolo Street,
Ta' Xbiex, Malta. Tel. 38437

Vol. 15 No. 1

Twentieth Anniversary Edition

March 1986

Editorial

WE ARE TWENTY YEARS OLD



In March 1966 a small group of Maltese and Foreign Residents encouraged by the efforts of the late Mr. L. Frank, Dr. Albert Ganado, the late Mr. Boris Darmanin and Dr. Charles Cassar, met at the Catholic Institute Floriana where the first meeting was held. Mr. Louis Frank was elected President Dr. Albert Ganado Secretary and Mr. Boris Darmanin Treasurer.

Dr. Charles Cassar, Mgstre Dr. J. Soler, Dr. J.H. Mercieca and Mr. C.J. Whelpdale were elected Committee members.

These gentlemen were the pioneers of our Society and from this column I salute them. If it were not for their efforts our Society would not have been the strong, virile, enthusiastic Society it is today.

The first humble newsletter, in the form of a trial stencilled 18 page copy of type written script, measuring 17 × 17 cm was issued in Autumn of 1966, the Editor being an English serviceman Mr. D. Browning appointed on the 8th July 1966. Following this newsletter another stencilled 18 page type written newsletter was issued in the Spring of 1967 named as Vol. 1 No. 1.

Chevalier E. Cremona was responsible for the design which was printed in black and is still being used today, though over the years it was printed in various colours. Chevalier E. Cremona during the September 1966 meeting was elected Honorary life member of the Society a gesture which was intended to show the high regard felt for the Chevalier in Philatelic circles.

Mr. Browning unfortunately was transferred to do Service Duty in Cyprus in 1967 and contact with him has been lost. Vol. 1 No. 2 which was the first printed edition was published in the Summer of 1967 by Mr. Barrie Commons, appointed on the 12th April 1967. Mr. Commons was ably assisted by his wife and they remained in office up to the 18th April 1968. He was succeeded on the 19th April 1968 by Dr. Edwin Aquilina M.D. assisted in the Summer of 1968 by Mr. Paul A. Pace as Assistant Editor. Mr. Ivan Sant followed Dr. Aquilina as Editor on the 8th March 1973 and was responsible for issuing the Autumn 1973 Issue Vol. 4 No. 1. The years 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973 were rather turbulent years, the Society only being able to issue one issue per year. However a new lease of life was injected in the magazine by the appointment of Mr Nick Cutajar on the 24th October 1974 who again began to publish the magazine regularly, his first publication being Autumn 1974 Vol. 4 No. 2 ably assisted by Mr. S. Stanaway, who soon went back to the U.K. and was succeeded by Mr. J. Farrugia as Assistant Editor. Unfortunately because of pressure of work Mr. Nick Cutajar had to give up the Editorship in 1980 and Mr. Albert J. Tabone was appointed in his stead on 27th January 1981. In 1982 Mr. Tabone gave up the Editorship and I was appointed issuing Vol. 11 No. 3 which was really the work of Mr. Tabone. My first issue assisted by Mr. J. Farrugia was Vol. 12 No. 1 since then Mr. Farrugia because of pressure of work gave up the Assistant Editorship and I am now assisted by Mr. Vincent Mercieca. During these years the Magazine has been one of the means by which Maltese Philately was explored, and won a Bronze-Gilt Medal at VIIth Malta Philatelic Exhibition, Prag 1978, Philaseridca 1979, Norwix 1980.

Now that it has taken the role of a Research Magazine further success was registered by winning Silver-Bronze Medals at the FIP Exhibition of Espana 1984 Ausipex 1984 Isrephil 1985 and Philtema 1985.

The December 1984 Issue, was dedicated to the Centenary of the Statutory Establishment of the Malta Post Office 1885 – 1985, and it was highlighted by having four full pages of colour reproductions. This was indeed an achievement for our Society.

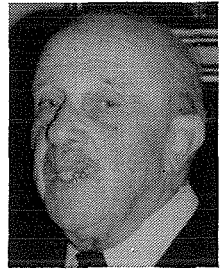
Today our Magazine is found in most Philatelic Libraries, and is mailed to members in the U.K., America, Canada, France, Germany, Holland, Italy, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, The Emerates, Australia and New Zealand.

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From the President's Desk

Dr. J.H. Mercieca

After having befittingly celebrated the Tenth Anniversary of its foundation in 1976, it is indeed with good reason that the Philatelic Society in Malta, is again, this year, appropriately commemorating and marking the TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY of its first Meeting, at the Catholic Institute, Floriana, on the 7th March 1966, when it was founded, and those philatelists and stamp lovers, who, in different ways, have contributed to its survival and continued welfare have every right to be proud to see their Society attain its twentieth birthday.



It is indeed a great encouragement and truly a source of much satisfaction to find the SOCIETY registering progress in the different spheres of its formation.

Surely one of the healthiest signs of its existence is to see the membership, both local as well as overseas, constantly on the increase, though unfortunately not yet at the desired level.

Thanks to the selfless disposition and the sustained efforts of a number of its members as well as to the helpful contribution of extraneous persons, who have willingly given lectures, displays etc at our monthly meetings, the Society's activities have also markedly improved.

Since the TENTH ANNIVERSARY celebrations we have also seen the Philatelic Society in Malta taking its place amongst the National Philatelic Societies of the world and becoming a member of the big international family of Philatelists – the FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE PHILATELIE. It is with much pleasure that I record that the good and friendly relations with the MALTA STUDY CIRCLE of London have indeed further strengthened, in fact since 1983 the CIRCLE has held two meetings in our country.

Yet another noteworthy advancement has since then been recorded in the Society's Magazine, both with regards to its production and contents and also to the regularity and punctuality of its publication according to schedule and this all goes to the credit of its present editor.

Another change for the better has recently taken place with regard to the premises for our meetings which as from the beginning of 1986 have been moved to the Sports Centre in Floriana from the Catholic Institute, where all the Society's meetings have been held since the Society's foundation.

In this connection I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to thank the Directorate of the Catholic Institute for having during the twenty years of the Society's life placed at our disposal suitable accommodation for our Meetings.

My sincere thanks and appreciation go to all members, both local as well as overseas, for the continued support they have given the Society as also for their letters and expressions of encouragement which have no doubt spurred the Society to added improvements.

As I have already done in 1976 – then fifteen years ahead – I again right from now express my sincere augury for 1991 – now in five years time – that the Society will in that year celebrate with yet more pomp its Silver Jubilee, to which we all, with happy anticipation, very much look forward. If the interest in the life and running of our Society we have shown during the past twenty years be maintained and possibly improved upon and guided by the same spirit of collaboration and esprit-de-corps, we shall indeed, happily and successfully reach together this important date of the Society's Silver Jubilee.

A Society is born: March 7, 1966

by Dr. Albert Ganado

The 1960s brought to our shores thousands of foreigners who had decided to make Malta their second home. One of these settlers was Dutch-born LOUIS FRANK, a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society, who had travelled extensively in Europe and Australia. He was the proud owner of a specialised collection of the Netherlands and a fine selection of Jean de Sperati and other forgeries. His philatelic interests included classics of Europe and Australia and soon extended to Malta.

Louis discovered that, although there were several stamp collectors in Malta, a philatelic society did not exist. He approached a couple of friends who joined hands to remedy this omission and THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF MALTA was immediately formed. The promoters were: Louis Frank, Boris Darmanin (a legal procurator), Charles G. Cassar (a doctor of medicine) and Albert Ganado (a doctor of law).

Together they drew up a Statute and called a meeting of philatelists for the 7th March 1966. On that day, at the Catholic Institute in Floriana, the new Society was born. Forty founder members approved the Statute and the first Committee was elected, composed as follows:

President: Mr. Louis Frank
Secretary: Dr. Albert Ganado
Treasurer: Mr. Boris Darmanin
Members: Dr. Charles G. Cassar
Dr. John H. Mercieca
Mag.te Dr. Joseph Soler
Mr. Charles Whelpdale

On the 8th July 1966, Mr. David Browning was appointed Editor of the Society's Newsletter. The Statute was amended on the 3rd October 1966 to make the Editor of the Newsletter an "ex officio" member of the Committee. In the following years, several amendments to the Statute were introduced to meet the changing needs of the Society. The Statute in its present form is being published in this special number of the Magazine for the information of members.

Towards the end of 1969, the Committee decided to set up an Exchange Branch to organise the exchange of stamps between members. On the 1st June 1970, the Committee gave its final approval to the Rules of the Exchange Branch which were published and circulated to members. Since that date, Mr. Anthony Fenech has been the Exchange Superintendent.

On the 29th December 1971, Mr. Louis Frank resigned his Presidency of the Society as he had decided to leave permanently for the south of Spain. He was succeeded as from the 7th February 1972 by Dr. John H. Mercieca, who has occupied the post ever since.

Louis Frank died at Marbella, Spain, on the 13th November 1973 after a short illness, on the eve of his eightieth birthday. He is still remembered with affection and gratitude by those who knew him. He was commemorated at the

Annual General Meeting held on the 4th February 1974 by the writer of these notes, and his "curriculum vitae" in the philatelic world was published in Volume 5, No. 1 of the Society's Magazine.

The Magazine started publication as a "Newsletter". Mr. Browning produced a stencilled trial number of the Newsletter in "Autumn 1966", soon after he became Editor. Meantime, Chevalier Emvin Cremona, prepared a simple attractive cover for the Newsletter and the first number of Volume 1 came out in the spring of 1967 with the new cover. From the second number, the Newsletter started being printed instead of stencilled. The last number of the "Newsletter" was published in Spring 1968 (Vol. II, No. 1). From then onwards (Summer 1968, Vol. II, No. 2) the name was changed to "Magazine".

The cover underwent no change until Spring 1973 (Vol. 8, No. 2). As a result of a new law which restricted the use of "Malta" in unofficial publications, the Society had to change its name to "THE PHILATELIC SOCIETY". The words "of Malta" had to be deleted from the cover; eventually, from the Spring 1980 number, (Vol. 10 No. 2) they were replaced by the words "THE PSM MAGAZINE". The present Editor is Dr. Alfred Bonnici who took over on the 7th July 1982. Before that date, there were six different Editors altogether who carried out their duties with alternate fortunes.

The contents of the number of the Newsletter-Magazine published between 1967 and 1977 were grouped in a Ten Year Index and published in Autumn 1977 (Vol. 7, No. 3).

Besides the Exchange Branch and the Magazine, the Society organised other activities during its twenty years of existence. Monthly meetings were held regularly every year between October and June at which exchange sessions were held, and displays were given, occasionally by guests from overseas. Other activities included auctions, discussions and film shows of philatelic interest.

Since 1976, the Society has been organising a vote-a-stamp competition on a worldwide basis inviting participants (including non-members) to vote the best stamp issued by the Malta Post Office during the previous year. For many years the competition has been run by Mr. Vincent Mercieca, the Society's Public Relations Officer. A number of local members have been participating and winning awards at international competitions held under the auspices of the *Federation Internationale de Philatelie*. This has been rendered possible by the affiliation of the Philatelic Society to FIP which took place in 1975.

Close ties have been established with the Malta Study Circle in London and in the last few years groups of members of the Circle have visited Malta and enjoyed the hospitality of the Society. Mr. Hadrian Wood keeps up a liaison with the Circle for the Society.

Through the dedication of those who had the interests of philately at heart, the Society has passed from strength to strength during these twenty years. Occasionally, it has had its failings, verging at least once on near-crisis, but luckily they were all overcome, and today the Society is functioning more smoothly and punctually than ever before.

As time rolls by, those of the older generation shall have to pass on the flag. May it be carried loftier than ever by those who will come after!

AWARDS AT EXHIBITIONS

by
GODWIN SAID

The National Philatelic Exhibition held in Malta during 1971 helped pave the way for Maltese collectors to commence taking part in International Exhibitions, held under the patronage of the Federation Internationale de Philatelie (F.I.P.). This has been done over the past 15 years and from the list shown hereunder one can see that the level of success has been consistent throughout the years.

Having served as Commissioner for all the International Exhibitions held so far I can safely say that the entries of our members as well as those of the Society itself have always been met with interest and praise both by other overseas commissioners as well as by visitors and collectors.

The list includes awards gained in various Classes, by foreign and Maltese members of our Society as well as by other local collectors. No doubt our participation in such activities helps support Maltese Philately extensively.

Year	EXHIBITION	EXHIBITOR	AWARD
1970	Stampex 70	Messrs. E. Said	Bronze Silver
1971	Malta Philatelic Exhibition	Godwin Said	Gold
		Messrs. E. Said	Silver Gilt
		William Falzon	Gold
		Anthony Fenech	Silver
		Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Bronze Silver
		Roger Aquilina) Special)
		Charles Spiteri Mallia) Commendation)
		Giuseppe Pace	Silver
		Daisy Formosa	Bronze Silver
		Carmel G. Bonavia	Bronze Silver
		Ray J. Walley) Special)
		Carm. Scicluna Bonnici) Commendation)
	International Stamp Exh. 'RSA 10'	Messrs. E. Said	Bronze Silver
1972	Stampex 72	Messrs. E. Said	Bronze Silver
1973	Stampex 73	Messrs. E. Said	Bronze Silver
	Malta Philatelic Exhibition	Carmel G. Bonavia	Gold
		Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Silver
		George Dougall (UK)	Bronze Gilt
		George J. Parkes (UK)	Bronze Gilt
		Daisy Formosa	Bronze Gilt
		Anthony Fenech	Special Commendation
		Mgr. Joseph Lupi	Special Commendation
	Indipex 73	Godwin Said	Silver
	Polska 73	Godwin Said	Silver
1974	Stampex 74	Godwin Said	Bronze Silver
	Malta Philatelic Exhibition	Anthony Fenech	Gold
		Godwin Said	Silver
		Lawrence Muscat	Bronze Gilt
		Alfred Caruana Ruggier	Bronze Silver
		Dr. Robert Naudi MD	Bronze
		Lawrence Saliba	Stock Book (1st Prize)
		Lawrence Saliba	Stock Book (2nd Prize)
		Joseph G. Agius	Stock Book
	Stockholmia 74	Messrs. E. Said	Silver

Year	EXHIBITION	EXHIBITOR	AWARD
1975	Stampex 75 Arphila 75 Stampex 75 España 75 Malta Philatelic Exhibition Wien 75	Godwin Said	Bronze
		Godwin Said	Bronze Silver
		Messrs. E. Said	Bronze Silver
		Godwin Said	Bronze
		Dr. Edwin Aquilina BSc MD	Gold
		G.A. Coates (UK)	Silver
		Alfred Caruana Ruggier	Bronze Gilt
		Carm. Scicluna Bonnici	Special Commendation
		William Stafrace	Special Commendation
		Marika Micallef	Stock Book
		Joseph G. Agius	Stock Book
		Harold Abela	Stock Book
		Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Large Vermeil
		Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Silver
		Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Vermeil
1976	Aerophilia 76 Frankfurt Hafnia 76	Messrs. E. Said	Bronze
		Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Gold
1976	Hafnia 76 Italia 76	Messrs. E. Said	Bronze Silver
		Dr. Ant. J. Abela Medici	Gold
1977	Malta Philatelic Exhibition Amphilex 77 Amphilex 77	Dr. Ant. J. Abela Medici	Silver
		Carm. Bonnici Scicluna	Bronze Gold-Plated
		Joseph Bugeja	Bronze Gold-Plated
		Lawrence Muscat	Bronze Gold-Plated
		Dr. Ant. J. Abela Medici	Silver Gilt
		Nick A. Cutajar	Silver Gilt
		Messrs. E. Said	Silver Gilt
		Philatelic Society of Malta Magazine	Bronze Gold-Plated
		Brian Abela	Stock Book
		Joseph G. Agius	Stock Book
		Joseph Bonett	Stock Book
		Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Large Vermeil
		Godwin Said	Silver
		Messrs. E. Said	Bronze
		Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Large Vermeil
1978	Prage 78 Italia 78	Messrs. E. Said	Bronze
		Godwin Said	Silver
1979	Vebileph 79	Messrs. E. Said	Silver
1980	Norwex 80 London 80 Malta Philatelic Exhibition	Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Large Vermeil (+ Special Prize)
		Godwin Said	Vermeil
		A.C. Eastgate (UK)	Silver
		Messrs. E. Said	Silver
		Philatelic Society (Malta) Magazine	Bronze
		MILEX (UK)	Gold)+ Special
		Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Large Vermeil) Prize
		Mrs. I. Hands (UK)	Silver
		J.W. Turnbull (Australia)	Silver Bronze
		L.S. Wheeler (UK)	Bronze
		Godwin Said	Vermeil
		G.A. Coates (UK)	Silver
		A.C. Eastgate (UK)	Silver
		P. Lazzarini (Italy)	Silver
		Messrs. E. Said	Bronze
Messrs. E. Said	Diplomas (2)		
Philatelic Society (Malta) Magazine	Diploma		
Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Gold		
Rev. Fr. Patrick G. Abela	Bronze Gilt		

Year	EXHIBITION	EXHIBITOR	AWARD		
1980	Malta Philatelic Exhibition	Mario Dimech	Bronze Gilt		
		Lawrence Muscat	Bronze Gilt		
		Messrs. E. Said	Silver Gilt		
		Dr. Ant. J. Abela Medici	Silver		
		Messrs. E. Said	Bronze Gilt		
		John A. Trory (UK)	Bronze Gilt		
		Dr. A.J. Abela Medici	Silver Gilt		
		Carm. Scicluna Bonnici	Silver		
		Rev. Fr. Patrick G. Abela	Bronze Gilt		
		Alex Gauci	Stock Book		
		Gregory Bonello de Torella	Stock Book		
		Kenneth Abela	Stock Book		
		Alex Parnis	Stock Book		
1981	Philatokyo 81	Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Gold		
		Godwin Said	Vermeil		
		Messrs. E. Said	Silver Bronze		
		Philatelic Society (Malta)			
		Magazine	Diploma		
		Messrs. E. Said	Diploma		
		Godwin Said	Vermeil		
		Messrs. E. Said	Silver Bronze		
		WIPA 81		Godwin Said	Vermeil
				Messrs. E. Said	Silver Bronze
1982	Philexfrance 82	Godwin Said	Vermeil		
		Messrs. E. Said	Silver Bronze		
	Philterna 82	Messrs. E. Said	2 Certificates)		
			2 Souvenir Medals)		
		Philatelic Society (Malta)	1 Certificate)		
		Magazine	1 Souvenir Medal)		
		Messrs. E. Said	Silver		
1982	Milano 82	Messrs. E. Said	Silver		
		Messrs. E. Said	Certificate		
		Philatelic Society (Malta)			
	Canada 82	Magazine	Certificate		
		Joseph Fenech	Certificate		
	Belgica 82	George Said	Certificate		
		Godwin Said	Vermeil		
1983	Tembal 83	Messrs. E. Said	2 Certificates		
		Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Silver Bronze		
1984	España 84	Messrs. E. Said	Diploma.		
		Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Gold		
	Ausipex 84	Godwin Said	Vermeil		
		Messrs. E. Said	Silver Bronze		
		Philatelic Society (Malta)			
		Magazine	Silver Bronze		
		Godwin Said	Large Vermeil		
		Messrs. E. Said	Silver Bronze		
		Philatelic Society (Malta)			
		Magazine	Silver Bronze		
		1985	Philterna 85	Messrs. E. Said	Silver
				Philatelic Society (Malta)	
	Israphil 85	Magazine	Silver Bronze		
		Godwin Said	Vermeil		
		Philatelic Society (Malta)			
	Roma 85	Magazine	Silver Bronze		
		Dr. Alfred Bonnici MD	Vermeil		
		Godwin Said	Vermeil		

Disinfection

by Dr. A. Bonnici

Part 8.

In Vol. 14 No. 1. April 1985 Issue I reproduced the declaration issued by Alexander Macaulay on the 4th November 1804, wherein it was expressed that a Public Health Committee was being formed. The following reproduction is the First sitting of the Committee of the Public Health wherein the rules regulating Quarantine were published for the first time:

COMITATO DI SALUTE PUBBLICA PER LE ISOLE MALTA, E GOZO.

SUA PRIMA SEDUTA 7 NOVEMBRE 1804.

- I** Signori Componenti il Comitato di Salute Pubblica nominati per deliberazione di Sua Eccellenza il Regio Sig. Commissarj delli 5 del corrente Novembre avendo oggi per la prima volta tenuto congresso, e considerando se stessi dietro all'avuto incarico responsabili in avvenire di qualunque sinistro accidente riguardo alla Sanità che mai seguisse per loro colpa hanno stimato molto congruente di conferire prima di tutto sull'attuale stato di Sanità o di mal essere in queste Isole.
- II** Protomedico, e Medico Maltesi, il Dottor Franklin Inglese rassicurati per l'esperienza, e tutti gli altri Signori per la pubblica voce esclusiva fianche del più remoto sospetto di contagio hanno senza esitanza veuna convenuto godersi attualmente in queste Isole la più perfetta sanità scevra fianche di quelle piccole indisposizioni, che in certe stagioni sogliono periodicamente ricorrere in ogni Contrada.— In conseguenza di ciò il Comitato propone di avanzarsi a Sua Eccellenza la preghiera, che ordini si Commissarj di Sanità di prevenire di questa circostanza le Deputazioni di Salute di Napoli, e della Sicilia per loro informazione e regolamento, essendo questa corrispondenza molto conveniente tra Paesi così vicini.
- SI** è quindi passato a diverse questioni relative alle precauzioni da prendersi in avvenire non parendo in circostanze così allarmanti sufficiente l'osservanza degli usi regolamentati; e restò a pieni voti risoluto sotto la riserva dell'approvazione di Sua Eccellenza.
- 1** Che niuna Nave, o Vascello di qualunque sorta procedendo da Ponente si ammettano in Porto approdandovi pel solo oggetto di purgarvi la contumacia, ma capitando sieno immediatamente licenziati.
- 2** Che tutte le provenienze da Malaga, Gibraltar, Cadice, e simili luoghi già infetti alle quali non osti il disposto nell'Articolo precedente sieno trattate con tutto il rigore come le provenienze di Levante portanti patente brutta.
- 3** Che le provenienze da tutta la costa delle Spagne fino a Lisbona ancorchè non vi sia verun sospetto d'infezione nel luogo della partenza si assoggettino a trenta giorni di Contumacia, quindici de'quali consumino in Lazaretto, e nel corso degli altri quindici giorni possano passare nel Porto generale, e quivi attendere al discarico de'loro effetti non suscettibili, con quelle cautele bestiali che si sogliono praticare colle provenienze di Levante quando han patente netta.
- 4** Che durante la Contumacia si diano a tali Legai due Guardiani a bordo.
- 5** I Legai che vengon da Livorno finchè si avranno notizie migliori devon essere trattati come se fosser partiti da Malaga ec.
- 6** Le provenienze da tutte le altre parti, e costa dell'Italia compresa quella che è bagnata dall'Adriatico si assoggettino a dieci giorni di Contumacia. Livorno è nel centro quasi della costa occidentale dell'Italia, non è in conseguenza mal'impiegata questa piccola cautela.

- 7 Per le provenienze dalla Sicilia bastan sette giorni d'osservazione.
- 8 Tutte le provenienze dal Nord compresa l'Inghilterra non e quando si continuerà e non aversene alcun sospetto s'assoggettano ad un'osservazione di quarant'otto ore.
- 9 Che non sieno esentati da questo rigore i Vascelli di guerra di qualunque descrizione.
- 10 Che si prendant le opportune misure acciocchè qualunque sbarco in alcuna parte di queste Isole, ad eccezione del G. Porto in Malta, e del Mizarro nel Gozo sia assolutamente impedito anche alle Barche pescheresche, ed alle Barche che passano, sortite dal Grao Porto, quante volte queste ultime non saran munite d'un permesso in iscritto de' Commissarij di Sanità.
- 11 Che sia proibito a qualunque Barca dentro questi Porti di trasportar viveri a vender e qualunque Nave, ed altro Legno esistente in alcun dei due Porti senza pratica.
- 12 Che i Pescatori ritornando dalla pesca fatta in alto mare non possano scendere in Terra nè comunicare con alcuno prima d'essere ragionate da uno de' Capitani di Porto.
- 13 Che sia permesso al minor numero possibile di Barche esser di notte tempo fuori de' limitanti per essi stabiliti; E quelle Barche che avranno tale permesso dovranno essere munite d'un polizino sottoscritto dai Commissarij di Sanità, e dell'Intendente di polizia i quali dovranno astenersi d'accordar tale permesso, se non a Barcajuoli de' quali potran comprometterci.
- 14 Che il numero de' Soldati di guardia in servizio dell' Officina della Sanità sia competentemente aumentato.

I Sig. del Comitato pregano Sua Eccellenza di prender sotto la sua considerazione il prodotto delle loro riflessioni, e di considerarle come un risultato della loro buona intenzione di servir la loro patria, e di corrispondere alle lodevoli premure della medesima Eccellenza Sua.

Il Marchese Mario Testaferrata = Barone Saverio Gauci Commissario di Sanità = Dr. Vincenzo Azopardi Commissario di Sanità = Dr. Franklin = Gregorio Mattei = Edmund Noble = Dr. Fisico Giuseppe Ciaja = Il Cav. Paolo Sceberas Bologna = Dr. Luigi Caruana Protomedico, e della Deputazione della Salute Maestro.

Si eseguisca

**Il Regio Commissionario
ALEXANDER JOHN BALL**

Committee for Public Health
for the Island of Malta and Gozo.
Its first sitting 7th November 1804.

The members composing the Committee for Public Health, appointed by declaration of His Excellency the Royal Commissioner of the 5th November, having met today for the first time, and considering themselves by their appointment responsible in the future, for any adverse happening regarding Public Health, that could follow through their fault, have decided it would be useful to take stock of the present state of health and illness prevailing in these Islands at the moment.

The Chief Physician, the Maltese Doctors, and the English Man Dr. Franklin through their Medical experience, and all the other Gentlemen through Public opinion, exclude even the most remote suspicion of infection, and have without hesitation agreed that the most perfect health is being enjoyed in these Islands, at the moment without even those small indispositions that in certain seasons habitually recur in every area. Consequently the Committee propose to request his Excellency to order the Commissioners of health to inform of these circumstances the Committee of Health of Naples, and of Sicily for their information and action. This relationship being very convenient between neighbourley countries.

After the various questions were raised and the following agreed upon unanimously, subject the approval of His Excellency related to the precautions to be adopted in the future, as it does not appear that the observance of the usual regulations are sufficient in a crisis.

1. That no ship or vessel of any sort, coming from the East, with the sole intention of doing

Quarantine, was to be admitted in the harbour, but to be sent back immediately.

2. That all arrivals from Malaga, Gibraltar, Cadiz, and other infected places, to which the previous article does not apply shall be treated with strictness, like all arrivals from the East, bearing an unclean bill of health.

3. That all arrivals from Spain up to Lisbon, even though there is no suspicion of infection in the place of their departure, must be subjected to Thirty days Quarantine, fifteen of which to be spent in the Lazaretto and the other fortnight, allowed to be spent in the main harbour, and here unload the non infective merchandise, undergoing all the precautions that are taken, with arrivals from the East that have a clean bill.

4. That during Quarantine two guards shall be placed on board the vessel.

5. Vessels that arrive from Leghorn until better news is forthcoming shall be treated as if departing from Malaga. etc.

6. All arrivals from other parts and the coast of Italy including the Adriatic shall be subject to ten days of Quarantine. Leghorn is nearly in the centre of the West coast of Italy and therefore this small precaution is not badly invoked.

7. For all arrivals from Sicily seven days observation are sufficient.

8. All arrivals from the North including England, until no suspicion shall arise, shall be subject to 48 hours observation.

9. That warships of any descriptions shall not be exempt from these limitations.

10. That the necessary measures be taken to prohibit the disembarcation in any part of these Islands in Malta and Migiario Gozo even to fishing vessels, and to the commuting boats coming out from the Main Harbour, if they are not covered by a written permit by the Commissioner of Health.

11. That it shall be prohibited to any boat within these harbours to carry victuals and to sell to any vessel or any other ship, lying in these two harbours without pratique.

12. That fishermen returning from fishing on the high seas shall not be allowed to and nor communicate with any one, before being heard by one of the Captains of the harbour.

13. That it be allowed to the least possible number of boats to stay during the night outside the perimeter established to them, and those boats that are allowed, shall have a pass signed by the Commissioner of Health and by the Superintendent of Police, who shall refrain from granting such permission except to boatmen, to which they can accord trust.

14. That the number of soldiers on guard serving the Offices of health shall be adequately increased.

The members of the Committee pray His Excellency to consider the outcome of their ideas, and to consider them as the result of their good intention to serve their native land, and to cooperate with the praise worthy ideas of His Excellency.

Signed: Marchese Mario Testaferata – Barone Saverino Gauci, Commissioner of Health. Dr. Vincenzo Azzopardi Commissioner of Health; Dr. Franklin Gregorio Mattei, Edmond Noble, Dr. Giuseppe Ciaja, Cavalier Paolo Scicluna Bologna, and Dr. Luigi Caruana, Chief Medical Officer, The above was approved by Alexander John Ball.

Officio de'Capitani di Porto li 17. Aprile 1813

E' permesso al Latore dalla presente di
portarsi con barcajuolo di Sanità a *salare un pontone*
vicino li Bastimenti in Contumacia.



Il Capitano di Porto.

L. Schembri

Specimen permit issued by L. Schembri Captain of the Port on the 17th April 1913, stating that bearer was allowed in the company of a Dep. of Health Boatman – to go on board a barge near the ship in Quarantine.

On the 12th September 1806 instructions were issued by Francis Laing Acting Public Secretary, for Commanders of Vessels under Quarantine.

At that time the Principal Office of the Quarantine Service was called the Superintendent General of the Quarantine Department and Captain of the Lazzaretto. He was a very important man and exercised extensive Powers. His word was final in matters connected with the administration of the Lazaretto and the control of the Quarantine harbour and anchorage. Because of his authority the Superintendent resented interference from the Highest Officers and conflicts often arose between the Superintendent General of the Lazzaretto and His Majesty's Commissioner in Valletta.¹

INSTRUCTIONS FOR Commanders of Vessels *Under Quarantine.*

ALL Vessels subject to the Performance of Quarantine are to hoist a yellow Flag before they enter the Port; and Commanders neglecting so to do are liable to a Fine of 200l.

ALL Vessels, subject to Quarantine, entering the Port of Vallette are immediately to go into the Inner Harbour and Anchor under Corradine; or in such place as shall be pointed out by the Captain of the Port; and they are, on no pretence whatever, to Moor in any other Situation, unless compelled by Stress of Weather, and in that case to shift their Birth the instant the Weather moderates.

ALL Vessels waiting for Convoy at this Port, and coming from Places that subject them to Quarantine, are, if they remain in the Port of Vallette, to Anchor under the Corradine, and take a Guardian from the Health Office; such as do not wish to incur the Expence of a Guardian, are to Moor in the Harbour of Marsamuscetta, near the Lazzaretto, subject to the usual Restrictions of that Port.

THE Boats of Vessels in Quarantine are always to keep a yellow Flag, or Pendant flying, when they pass to and from the Lazzaretto, or Barrier, and the Boats belonging to the Vessels performing Quarantine, are to be Chained to the Vessel, and to be secured with a Lock at Sunset; the Commanders will be responsible for any breach of Quarantine that may happen for want of this precaution.

NO Person in, or belonging to, any Vessel, shall presume to go on Shore, or on Board any other Vessel, on any pretence whatever, until Visited by the Health Officers, and the Commander of any Vessel will be liable to the Punishment annexed to the Breach of Quarantine if he suffers any Person to enter his Vessel and quit her before the Captain of the Port has Visited her, or while he is under Quarantine.

THE Commanders of Vessels unloading at the Lazzaretto, are to be careful to Land every species of Goods, Cloathing, and Merchandizes, in Order that they may be Fumigated; and any Person concealing even the smallest Quantity of Effects on Board or on Shore, is liable to the punishment of DEATH in conformity to the Law of Malta and all Accomplices and Receivers of such Goods are rendered liable to the same Punishment.

THE Commanders, and all Persons on board Vessels performing Quarantine, are to pay strict Obedience to the Orders they receive from the Health Office, or Captain of the Port; and any Person going out of the prescribed Limits, or going on Board any Vessel, without Permission from the Health Office, or committing any act that may endanger the public Safety will on conviction suffer DEATH by the Law of Malta, and all Irregularities and Disorders committed on board any Vessel under Quarantine or disobedience of any part of these Instructions will be punished by the Quarantine Laws of this Island.

COMMANDERS of Vessels are to Answer faithfully to such Questions as shall be put to them by the Physician of the Health Office, relative to the Health of any Person on board, and all Commanders of Vessels are to make a Report to the Health Office on the appearance of any Sickness or Disease on board during the time they are performing Quarantine.

SHOULD the Commander, or any Person on board Vessels performing Quarantine, be desirous of Medical Aid, he is first to apply to the Protomedico of the Health Office, who will Report his Case; and Permission must be obtained from the Health Office before any other than the Physician of that Office be permitted to go a-longside the Ship.

**By Order of HIS MAJESTY's Civil Commissioner,
FRANCIS LAING,
Acting Public Secretary.**

Vallette, 12th September, 1806.

During this period Malta was free from Plague until 1813. The revision of preventive measures against diseases gave rise to a most comprehensive set of regulations published by General Oakes.²

These regulations were consolidated subsequently in a special ordinance³ which has now been embodied in the laws of Malta.⁴ The Oakes regulations came out at a most opportune time because soon after publication an epidemic of plague hit the Island.

References

1. & 4. The Quarantine Service and the Lazzaretto of Malta by Profs. Galea.
2. Regulations for the Performance of Quarantine in Malta. N.D.
3. The Fourth Sanitary Ordinance (Infections Diseases Ordinance of 1908).

“The OAKES”

REGULATIONS

FOR THE

Performance of Quarantine

A T

MALTA.

I. **A**LL Ships and Vessels as well His MAJESTY'S Ships of War as all others coming from, or having touched at any place from whence it shall by the Board of Health have been adjudged and declared probable that the Plague or any other Infectious Disease or Distemper may be brought, shall upon their arrival in the Harbour of Malta be obliged to perform Quarantine in such place or places, for such time and in such manner, as shall from time to time be directed by His Excellency His MAJESTY'S Civil Commissioner through the medium of the Health Officers.

And all Ships Vessels and Boats receiving any Person, Goods, Wares and Merchandize, Packets, Baggage, Books, Letters or any other Articles whatever, from or out of any Ship or Vessel so coming from, or having touched at such suspected place as aforesaid, are liable to the same Quarantine, whether such Persons, Goods or other Articles shall have come or been brought in such Ships or Vessels, or that such Persons shall have gone or Articles have been put on Board the same, either before or after the arrival of such Ships or Vessels at the Island of Malta.

And that until such Ships Vessels and Boats, Persons, Goods, and other Articles as aforesaid, shall have respectively performed and shall be duly discharged from such Quarantine no such Person Goods or other Articles as aforesaid or any of them, shall come or be brought on Shore or go or be put on board any other Ship, Vessel or Boat in order to come or be brought on Shore unless in such manner and in such Cases as they shall be directed and authorized by the Superintendent of Quarantine and under the immediate Inspection of one of the Captains of the Port or the Captain of the Lazaret.

And all Commanders, Masters and other persons on Board any such Ship Vessel or Boat so liable to Quarantine, and all Persons who shall have any intercourse or communication with them, or any of them shall perform Quarantine accordingly, under and subject to all the Pains, Penalties, Fine, Forfeitures and Punishments, as well Pains of Death as others to which they are by the Law of Malta subject, for any escape or attempt to escape or any other Breach of Quarantine Regulations.

II. Upon the arrival of any Ship or Vessel liable to Quarantine the Captain of the Port (together with the Medical Attendant when it shall be thought necessary) shall go off to such Ship or Vessel and at a convenient distance keeping to Windward and in the presence of the Officers, Crew and Passengers mustered

(The above is the first page and page 15 is the last page of a 16 page document.)

TARIFF OF HEALTH OFFICE FEES.

SHIPS IN QUARANTINE.	Scudcs.	Taris.	Grains.
Guards and Guards Boats (per Day)	2	6	
Health Office Fees for every Ship under 50 Tons	10		
above 50 and under 100 d ^o .	15		
above 100 and under 150 d ^o .	20		
above 150 and under 200 d ^o .	25		
above 200 d ^o .	30		
Certificate under Seal	2	6	

All Vessels in Quarantine waiting for Orders or Convoy to pay according to the above Tariff, or (per Day)	5		

MERCHANDIZE.			
A Cargo or part of a Cargo received into the Lazaret } to pay One per Cent. }			
Guards and Guard Boats per Day	2	6	
Health Office Fees	10		

All Merchandize (not landed in the Lazaret) which shall have undergone Quarantine on Board Vessels from places subject to Quarantine, to pay <i>when admitted to Pratique</i>) Half per Cent. whether such Merchandize be Landed Transhipped, or remaining on Board.			

Ships having foul Bills of Health, and all Merchandize on Board of them to pay double.			

Upon the Expiration of the Quarantine of Merchandize in the Lazaret, Seven Days will be allowed for their removal; after which time, one or two Shillings per Week will be charged for every Bale (according to its size) remaining in Store,			

Cattle Landed from Vessels in Quarantine.			
For every Bullock	1		
» » Horse	2	6	
» » Sheep		3	
» » Pig		3	

PERSONS PERFORMING QUARANTINE IN THE LAZARET.			
For every Room occupied (Guards & Guard Boats per Day)	2	6	
Health Office Fees	10		

All the above Fees to be Credited to Government, and no other Fee or demand is to be made by the Officers of the Quarantine Department,

Approved

H. OAKES,

His Majesty's Civil Commissioner.

The Philatelic Society

Constitution

- n.6.11.78 1. The Society shall be known as The Philatelic Society.
2. The objects of the Society shall be:
- (a) To promote philately and the study of postage stamps and postal history;
 - (b) To facilitate the exchange of stamps among members;
 - (c) To promote the intensive study of stamps and postal history by the formation of study circles within the Society;
 - (c) To form and/or co-operate with kindred bodies in the formation of a reference library for the use of members;
 - (e) To hold regular meetings of the members and to arrange exhibitions, competitions, displays, reading and discussions of papers on philatelic subjects and to undertake and contribute to the increase of the study and practice of philately in general.

Membership

3. All persons whose name appears on the Society's Register of members at the date of the adoption of these Rules shall be deemed to be duly elected members of the Society.

4. All nominations for membership of the Society shall be in writing in the form prescribed by the Committee and shall be signed by the nominee and two members of the Society. Such nominations shall be placed before the Committee who may require such other information, reference, or recommendations as it shall deem fit. The Committee may elect to membership any person so nominated.

Junior Members

5. Candidates for membership under the age of twenty-one years may be admitted to membership subject to the written guarantee of parents or guardians to accept responsibility for the safe-keeping of any of the Society's exchange books or other property which may come in the possession of such member during minority. A Junior Member shall not be entitled to hold office during minority.

Management

6. The business and affairs of the Society shall be governed and managed by the Committee.

Committee

n. 5.2.68 7. The Committee shall consist of:

President

Treasurer

Secretary, and

Seven other members,

A member may hold more than one office but he may not thereby hold a plurality of votes.

8. The Officers and Members of the Committee shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Society and shall hold Office for one year or until their successors are duly elected, but they shall all be eligible for re-election. Such elections shall be by secret ballot, conducted at the Annual General Meeting. All nominations for Officers and Members of the Committee shall be done at the meeting.

Vacancies in the Committee

Subs.

13.1.75

9. (a) If any member of the Committee fails to attend three consecutive meetings without requesting the Committee to be excused, he shall automatically forfeit his seat, and the Committee shall, at the earliest opportunity, record this fact and inform such member that his appointment has lapsed.

9. (b) Any vacancy in the Committee occurring between an election and another of the Committee shall be filled by the remaining members of the Committee first preference being given to the member who at the last election polled the highest number of votes among those who failed to get elected.

Quorum

10. (a) At Committee meetings four shall form a quorum.

10. (b) At Annual or Special General Meetings one-third of the members shall form a quorum; provided that if no quorum be present within fifteen minutes from when the meeting was due to start, there shall be a second convocation after another fifteen minutes at which the members present shall form a quorum.

Honorary Members

11. The Society may at any General Meeting, on the recommendation of the Committee, elect as an Honorary Life Member any person who, in the opinion of the Committee, has rendered meritorious services to philately. Provided however, that there shall not at any time be more than five Honorary Life Members. Upon election, an Honorary Life Member shall enjoy all the rights, powers and privileges of Membership, including the right to election as an Officer or Member of the Committee.

Duties of Officers

12. *The President*, and, in his absence, the Vice-President, shall preside over all meetings of the Society. If both are absent, the meeting shall choose one of those present to preside. The person presiding the meeting shall have a casting vote, in addition to his own original vote.

The Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Society, keep a detailed Minute Book of proceedings and read minutes at every meeting. He shall also prepare, under instructions of the Committee, a full report of the year's activities for presentation at the Annual General Meeting. He shall also keep an up-to-date Register of Members and shall keep the Treasurer fully informed of the names and addresses of new members as they enrol. He shall

hand all subscriptions and other monies received by him to the Treasurer at the earliest opportunity.

The Treasurer shall have control of the funds of the Society, pay promptly all accounts passed by the Committee and submit at the Annual General Meeting a duly audited Statement of Receipts and Expenditure and Balance Sheet for the information of members. He shall arrange for all receipts to be regularly banked to the credit of an account opened in the name of the Society with a Bank appointed from time to time by the Committee. He shall also present an Interim Statement of the Society's financial position at each Committee Meeting and produce the Bank Pass-book for inspection as and when required.

Auditors

13. (a) The Committee shall annually appoint two Honorary Auditors who shall audit the Books of Accounts and the Statement of Receipt and Expenditure and Balance Sheet kept or prepared by the Officers of the Society. The Auditors shall report on such books of account, financial statements and balance sheets at the Annual General Meeting.

(b) Every Officer of the Society shall, on demand, produce to the Auditors any records, books or statements of account kept or required to be kept by him and shall furnish all explanations or informations which the Auditors may require.

Subscriptions

am. 4.2.74

Subs. 3.1.77

am. 14.1.85

14. The annual subscription for membership shall be:

- (a) Lm1.50 for persons residing in Malta;
- (b) £2.25 sterling for persons residing in the U.K.
- (c) U.S. \$3.75 for persons residing in any other country.
- (d) Lm0.25 for Junior Members.

All subscriptions shall be paid in advance by the thirty first January of each year.

The new subscription rates shall take effect as from the 1st January 1977

The Committee shall from time to time establish the annual subscription rate payable by overseas members on the basis of the annual subscription fee paid by local members and taking into account the official rate of exchange of foreign currency in relation to the Maltese lira, as well as postage expenses involved.

In 1983 the Committee adjusted the subscription rates as follows:

- (a) Lm1.50 for persons residing in Malta.
- (b) £4 for persons residing in U.K.
- (c) U.S. \$7 for persons residing in U.S.A.
- (d) Canadian \$9 for Canadian members.
- (4) Australian \$7 for Australian member.
- (f) 10,000 Italian lira for Italian members.

- (g) 17 DM for German members.
- (h) 14 SF for Swiss members.
- (i) 50 FF for French members.

Termination of Membership

15. The Committee may accept the resignation of any member who shall give notice of such intention in writing.

16. Any member who fails to pay the annual subscription fee within three months of its falling due shall cease to be a member of the Society.

17. The Committee may by a two-thirds majority terminate the membership of any member who, in the opinion of the Committee, has been guilty of conduct unbecoming a member of the Society. Notice of the charge and an opportunity of being heard before the Committee shall be given to a member before any decision to terminate his membership is taken. Provided that a General Meeting may, at the request in writing of the member whose membership has been terminated, appoint a Committee consisting of nine members to review his case. The decision of this Committee shall in all cases be final.

Alteration of rules

18. A special meeting held in accordance with Rule 20 of the Annual General Meeting may deal with any special business, including suspension or alteration of any of these Rules, subject to notice of motion in writing signed by five or more members being furnished to the Secretary prior to the previous monthly meeting and shall be notified to members present at such monthly meeting. No motion submitted in pursuance of any such notice shall have any effect unless passed by simple majority of the members present in person.

Monthly Meetings

19. Regular Monthly Meetings of the members of the Society shall be held only from October to June on the day, at the hour and at the place appointed by the Committee from time to time.

Special Meetings

20. The Committee may from time to time call Special General Meetings and may submit to members such business or motions as it may deem fit. Upon a request signed by not less than one-third of the members, the Committee shall call a Special Meeting to deal with such other motion or business which the Committee may determine. The Committee shall determine the time and place when and where such meetings shall be held, provided, however, that such meetings shall not be held earlier than one calendar month and not later than three calendar months following the notification to members at a General Meeting of the Society.

Bye-Laws

21. The Committee shall have the power to frame, alter or repeat bye-laws when deemed necessary, provided they are not inconsistent with any of these Rules:

Dissolution

22. The Society shall not be dissolved unless determined by a two-thirds majority of the total membership at a Special General Meeting of which not less than one month's notice must be given to all members. In the event of the Society being wound up at any time, the Committee shall have full power to dispose of the assets at its discretion and divide the proceeds after payment of all just debts, equally among the existing members.

Disposal of deceased members' collection

23. The Committee shall, when requested to do so, advise persons deriving title from a deceased member upon the advantageous disposal of such member's collection of stamps or other philatelic material.

Patrons

am. 8.7.66

24. The Committee may seek for the Society the Patronage of any distinguished person or persons.

Annual General Meetings

25. The Annual General Meeting shall be held not later than the thirty-first January in each year. The business of the Annual General Meeting shall be dealt with in the following order:

- (a) Reading and adoption of the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting;
- (b) Presentation of the Annual Report of the Secretary, financial statements and the Auditor's Report;
- (c) Election of Committee;
- (d) The making or alteration of Rules of which due notice has been given;
- (e) Any other business of which due notice has been given.

Judicial Representation

26. The President and the Secretary shall represent the Company in judicial proceedings.

Editor and Staff

added

3.10.66

27. For the purpose of issuing any periodical publication, the Committee shall appoint an Editor and staff, who shall perform the functions assigned to them by the Committee. The Editor shall "ex-officio" be a member of the Committee, in addition to the members elected in accordance with Rule 7 hereof.

(N.B.) The above Rules were approved at the Foundation Meeting of the Society held on the 7th march 1966, and they incorporate amendments made in the General Meeting on the 8th July, 1966, 3rd October, 1966, 5th February, 1968, 4th February, 1974, 13th January, 1975, 3rd January, 1977, 6th November, 1978, and 14th January, 1985.

Malta & Cyprus

by Godwin Said

A display from the Royal Philatelic Collection was shown recently in London at the headquarters of the Royal Philatelic Society by the kind permission of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

The material chosen gave a fairly complete representation of the stamps of Cyprus and Malta.

The Malta Collection was moderately specialised as regards the first ½d stamp. Unusually there was a selection of used stamps and also a fine assembly of covers. These were added to the collection to facilitate the dating of the shades of the various printings of this rather difficult stamp. In fact it was on this basis that E.D. Bacon published the full list of the shades of the various printings in the London Philatelist for October 1929 (Volume 38, Number 454), pages 219–226. This was connected with the display of Malta from his Collection on 17 October 1929 at 41 Devonshire Place. This listing has stood the test of time extremely well and is very close to that of the present day, as listed in the PSM by Dr. A. Bonnici vol 8 no 2, which was acknowledged by Stanley Gibbons in their 1979 Commonwealth catalogue.

It is interesting to recall that J. Speranza, a founding member of the R.P.S., wrote on the shades of the early printings of the first ½d in the Stamp Collectors Magazine for 1866–67 and R.B. Yardley contributed an important article which ran in the London Philatelist for the year 1921. For those who may be unaware of this, the pages from Speranza's diary recording the meeting at which the R.P.S. was formed are in the display case mounted on the far wall of "their Small Library".



Unique-marginal MINT Pair of the very rare 1878 Perforation variety 12½ × 14 reproduced by kind permission of Mr John B. Marriott Curator of H.M. Q. E. II collection.

Frame
Number

MALTA

1. *1860 (1 December)*: die proof and no watermark ½d on blued paper overprinted 'SPECIMEN', Mint block of four, and used on cover obliterated 'M'.
1861 (November): no watermark on white paper ½d buff and pale buff; ½d brown-orange block of six.
2. *1863 (June)*: Watermarked Crown CC ½d buff including block of four, used JU 4 63, used strip of four and two examples on cover fronts.
1864: ½d bright orange; *1867* ½d brown-red block of nine
1868 (November): rough perforation 12½d ½d buff-brown two blocks of four and an example of cover DE 16 68.
3. *1870 (April)*: ½d dull orange block of four, strip of four and two examples on covers.
1871 (May): clean cut perforation 12½d including an example on piece MY 19 71.
1872 (May): ½d orange-buff, three on covers the first MY 8 72.

However the yellow tends to disappear and the shade is subject to alterations especially when the stamps are immersed in water. The four stamps on the last but one row of the page are probably so affected, but could be the 187 2 orange-buff shade.

4. 1875 – 77: ½d yellow-buff and pale buff with blocks of four and six and a range of covers between MR 20 77 and MR 10 79.
1878 (July): perforated 14 × 12½ ½d yellow-buff with a block of four, a pair with the very rare perforation variety 12½ × 14 and a used example JY 2 78. There is also a fine range of covers; those of SP 21 78 and OC 19 78 with the code letters D and E above the date are worthy of notice.
5. 1880 (April) and 1881 (April): perforated 14 ½d bright orange-yellow block of twelve and ½d yellow block of six, with another block of six in an intermediate shade probably a paler shade of the bright orange-yellow; the used example of the bright orange-yellow AP 19 80 and the yellow in a strip of three on piece AP 30 81 are possibly the earliest known dates of these shades.
1882 (February): Watermarked Crown CA ½d orange-yellow including a plate number pair and 1884 (September) ½d red-orange block of four together with an upper half sheet.
6. 1885 – 90: with ‘SPECIMEN’ stamps, plate number pieces, 1d printed on the gummed side and 4d pair imperforate.
7. 1899 – 1901: including 2/6 imperforate proof in brown overprinted ‘Specimen’ and 10/- blocks of four.
1902: 1d on 2½d surcharge double, one of the surcharges being the ‘PNNEY’ error and also a used block of six with double surcharge.
8. 1903 – 04: ½d – 1/-; 1904 – 06: ¼d – 1/-.
9. 1907 – 11: ¼d – 5(- universal colours including 5/- blocks of four.
10. 1914 – 22: ¼d, ½d, 1d, 2d, 2½d, 6d all in blocks of four with plate Number 2 on more noticeably blued paper than many such varieties in the catalogue: 3d purple on yellow white back single overprinted ‘SPECIMEN’ and a plate number block of four without the overprint – this was unissued as the supply of 3d King Edward VII was sufficient at last until 1920.
12. 1917 – 18: War Tax issue again including the ½d on bluish paper.
1919: 2/6, 10/- with a proof of the latter in red-brown on thick paper and a block of four of the issued stamp.
1921 – 22: with 2d plate proof in carmine on unwatermarked paper, 2/- with Crown flaw in block of four and 10/- block of four.
- 13-14. 1922: Self-Government issues.
- 15-17. 1922: issue with De La Rue artist’s sketches and master die proof for the low denominations; 1923 – 24 colour changes and new denomination. These issues contain 6d, 1d, 1½d blocks showing Plate Number 3 from a special printing made for the Collection.
18. 1926: ‘POSTAGE’ issue, with 3d inverted overprint.
19. 1926 – 1927: including Waterlow artist’s sketches and 1/- die proof.
20. 1928: ‘POSTAGE AND REVENUE’ overprints.
21. 1930: Waterlow artist’s sketches showing the introduction of the word ‘REVENUE’, the amendment hand painted and the essays overprinted ‘SPECIMEN’.

22. 1937: Surcharged issue with Bradbury, Wilkinson, De La Rue and Waterlow artists' essays including the accepted design; a series of fifteen colour trials printed from the master die; 2½d, 6d, 1/- with extra flagstaff.
23. 1925: type-set Postage Due issue – a representation with the tête-bêche pairs and 2½d with '2' of '½' omitted.
24. 1938: King George VI definitive issue and 1950 Royal Visit issue artists' sketches.

Frame
Number

CYPRUS

25. 1880: ½d including Plate 19 block of four; 1d Plate 174 unused and Plate 184 used; Plate 208 overprint double and pair, one without overprint; Plate 218 overprint double; Plate 220 unused and used.
26. 1880: 2½d, 4d, 6d, 1/- with 4d, 6d unused blocks of four and 1/- used block of four.
1881: Essay of surcharge on 1d Plate 201 overprinted 'SPECIMEN'; surcharged 'HALFPENNY' 18mm, 16mm and 13mm with the double surcharge on Plate 205 and treble surcharge on Plate 215 on the last named; surcharged '30 PARAS' double one inverted on Plate 220 unused, and used pair.
27. 1881: definitive issue, De La Rue artist's designs, the imprimatur set imperforate, unused examples and ½pi, 1 pi in blocks of four.
1882: 'Postal Surcharge' stamps used on Letter Bills from Sub Post Offices.
28. 1882 – 86: 30 pi. and 12 pi. approved designs, ½pi. emerald-green single and pair, plate number blocks of all denominations and 12 pi. imperforate imprimatur.
29. 1882: Watermark Crown CC overprinted '½ ½' or surcharged '30 PARAS' locally, including the latter in a block of four; De La Rue '½ ½' overprint narrow setting marginal single; wider setting unused and large '1' at left used; Watermark Crown CA De La Rue overprint wider setting large '1', large 2, and small '1' varieties the former two in a block of twelve.
30. 1894 – 96: colours changed, with plate number pieces and 18 pi, 45 pi each in a pair with Plate Number 3 and each in a block of four.
31. 1902 – 04: a selection including 45 pi pair with Plate Number 1 and a block of four.
1904 – 10: Watermark Multiple Crown CA.
32. 1912: with 4 pi, 6 pi, 9 pi, 12 pi on bluish paper.
1923: 10/-, £1 in plate number blocks of four.
33. 1924 – 28: 'Postage and Revenue' series including £1 Watermark Multiple Crown CA and £5 Watermark Multiple Crown and Script CA both in plate number blocks of four.
34. 1928: 50th Anniversary issue with ten approved Bradbury Wilkinson artist's sketches.
35. 1934: Waterlow artist's sketches for the 11 denominations.
36. 1938: Waterlow artist's sketches for the twelve designs of the definitive King George VI issue.
- 37-42 1955 – 60: definitive issue of the present reign and 1960 Cyprus Republic' issue including artist's sketches, rejected and approved colour proofs and the various printing of the issued stamps.

Essay – The 1922/26 ‘Melita’ Issue

By Dr. A. Bonnici



To commemorate the granting of Self-Government in 1921, a new set of stamps was issued. A design competition had been called for, and the design submitted by E. Caruana Dingli was accepted for the ¼d to 6d and £1 value and that by G. Vella for the 1/- to 10/- values.

However E. Caruana Dingli was not happy with the engraving of his design and protested in no uncertain manner in the "Popolo di Malta" of August 1922 stating "The execution leaves much to be desired my original was copied by hand, and alterations were introduced resulting in a totally different effect from that originally intended. For instance the following portion of the mantle behind the figure has been suppressed the luminous sky meant to symbolize the dawn of a new era, and at the same time to put the figure in semi-silhouette is short of the required intensity, the St. Elmo lighthouse looks like a beehive on the Mosta dome by the sea shore. If the original had been reported by photographs and then engraved the effect would have been more artistic and the personal technique would have been preserved". "As regards the size and colouring of the stamps, I have not been consulted on the subject".

The above "photographic Essay 2d value", is sunk into a card (89 × 114mm) bearing the letter E on the top right hand corner and manuscript date 13th October 1921 on the top left hand corner. It is one of eight essays lettered A to H. The approved ones being C, G, and H. It is in Sepia, with some hand painting of the central vignette in chinese white.

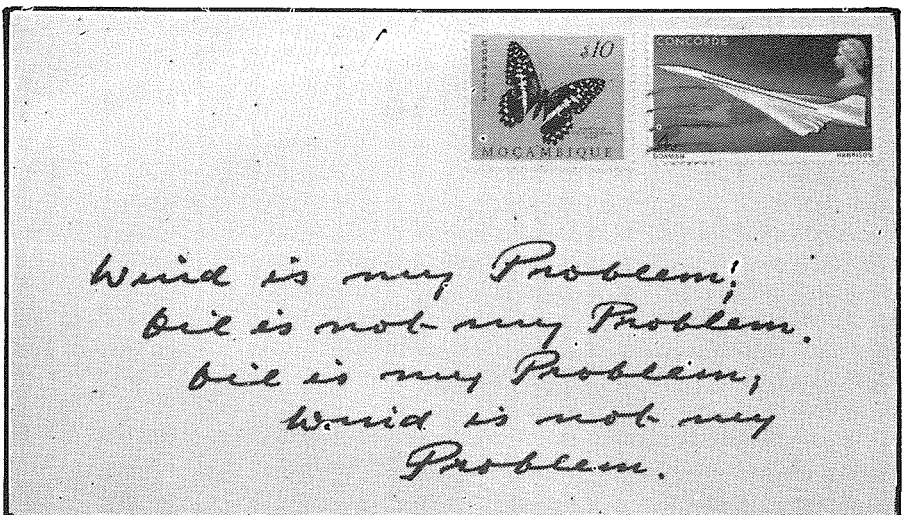
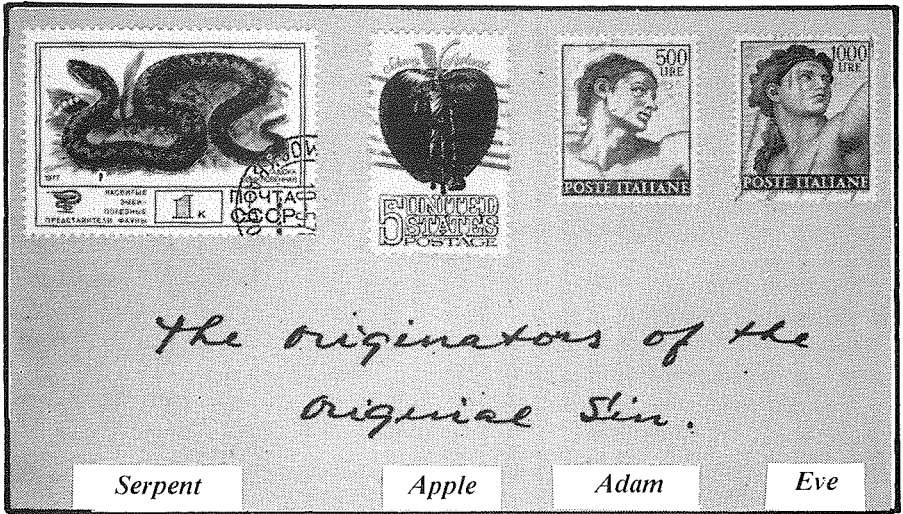
Symphony In Stamps

by Peter Paul Vassallo

Philately is a great asset for the State; being so it is also a sanctuary for the businessmen, forgers and robbers.

But Philately in its splendour is also a sanctuary for the Student and Hobbyist. I humbly belong to the latter.

In order to divert at least for a while, the evil done by evil doers to our splendid hobby and to consume some of the fruit given to us by this hobby I beg to present to you in serial form my Symphony which I hope you will enjoy seeing.



The Delivery Charge Marks, 1816 – 1849

by Dr. Giovanni Bonello

Mail from overseas was, during the earlier period of British rule, either unmarked, or had carefully written manuscript instructions indicating what charge was to be levied on delivery. Hand stamped charges were later introduced.

This article contributes new information about the Delivery Charge straight line markings. A. How many types? B. When did they originate and how long were they in use? C. How were they stamped? D. The unrecorded ones.

A. HOW MANY TYPES?

This was illustrated in my article in “A new type of Delivery Charge Marks” in the December 1985 issue of the PSM Magazine, page 10. The Malta Study Circle Handbook lists two types of Delivery Charge Marks¹. I believe it may now be stated that there are *three* types:

(1) *Maltese currency*: The earliest charge marks were in the traditional Maltese currency – *Tari* and *grani*. These were used up to late 1825, (latest recorded: Oct. 30, 1825) and were indicated by a capital “T” followed by the sum due.

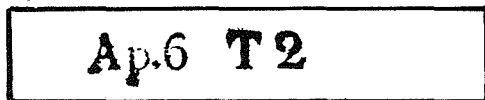
(2) *Intermediate type*: When the charges were converted to sterling currency, the amount due was indicated in pence – but instead of the standard sterling notation, the postal authorities first used a capital “P” for pence. This was only in use for a short transitional period, early in 1826²

3. *Sterling currency*: From 1826 to the end of use, the charge marks were indicated in sterling notation – “d” for pence, and, where applicable, “s” for shillings.

B. When did they originate and how long were they in use?

First day of use

Figure 1:



I believe I can say with reasonable accuracy that the Delivery Charge Marks were first used on April 6, 1816. This pushes back by eight years the first date recorded in the M.S.C. Handbook.

I have examined the Correspondence-Books kept by a foreign merchant active in Malta in the second decade of the 19th century. No letter before the 6th April, 1816 bears any delivery charge handstamp, while most of the letters after that date are stamped with the Delivery Charge Mark. This proves fairly conclusively that April 6, 1816 was the first day of use.

How long were they used?

From 1816, the Delivery Charges Marks had a long lease of life. The M.S.C. Handbook records the latest use as December 11, 1847.

I have seen later ones, including a 2d. handstamp dated January 2, 1849. Thirty three years of interrupted use!

C. How were the handstamps put together?

Every marking shows the date (the month, usually abbreviated) and the day, followed by the charge to be exacted.

It is obvious that the whole was assembled from single moveable type slugs, assembled and held together in some sort of holder.

From an examination of the imprints (all those in Maltese currency, all those of the intermediate type, and the sterling currency ones *up to 1831* (I am virtually certain that the type font is identical to that used in the Grand Masters' old printing press.

It is therefore reasonable to assume that the Postal Authorities "borrowed" some of the moveable lead type from the Government Printing Press, and used it to produce the makeshift handstamps which could be altered according to need.

After 1831, the uniform, fairly large type Font was discarded, and various other faces, of different sizes, were employed. I cannot say whether the type used in those later handstamps also originated from the Government Printing Press. This possibility needs further investigation.

The stamp was applied with considerable pressure, as in several cases the imprint embosses two or more sheets under the surface sheet. This would seem to indicate that something more than mere manual pressure was applied – was the stamp pressed with a levered device?

D. The unrecorded marks

The M.S.C. Handbook (1980) records the following denominations: T.2; T.2.10; T.4; T.4.10; T.9.

The first Supplement, published in 1985, added T.3; T.5.10; and T.6.

I am pleased to add nine unrecorded values – eight in maltese currency and one in sterling.

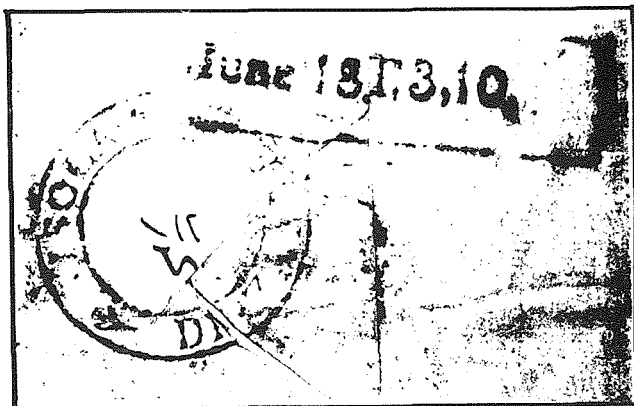
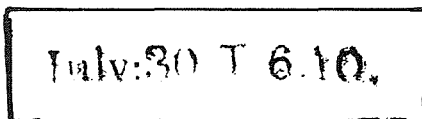


Figure 2a

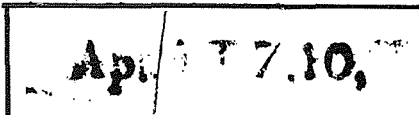
T.3.10: A letter in Greek from Zante to Malta, handstamped June, 18 (1822). The Delivery Charge Mark in this, and all the others, is in black; the letter also has a circular "Isola di Zante" handstamp in red and an embossed disinfection wafer with a fouled anchor (Figure 2a).

Figure 2b



T.6.10. A letter in English, dated June 22, 1824, from Alexandria and handstamped on July 30 (1824). The traces of an oval embossed disinfection wafer are visible (Figure 2b).

Figure 2c



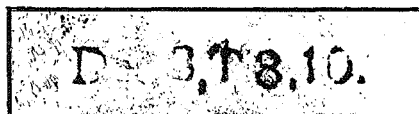
T.7.10. A letter in Italian, dated February 22, 1825, addressed to Sig. Michele Agius, Valletta, Strada Saluto. It is handstamped April 6, (1825) and bears a faint impression of an oval disinfection wafer (Figure 2c).

Figure 2d



T.8. A letter in Greek, handstamped November 20 (1816). On the front is a large circular stamp "Isole Ionie(?)" (Figure 2d).

Figure 2e



T.8.10. A letter in Italian from Alexandria dated November 6, 1819, and handstamped December 3, 1819. Besides the owner's seal is the oval disinfection embossed wafer (Figure 2e).

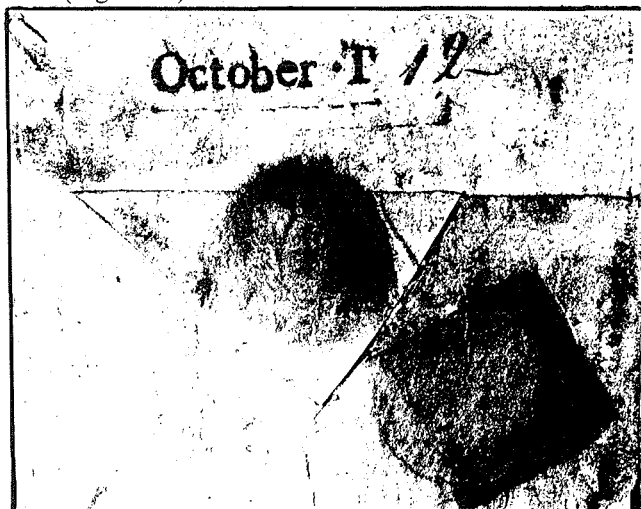


Figure 3a

T.12. An 1816 letter in Greek postmarked October (without day). The month and the "T" are handstamped and the "12" is added in manuscript. The letter has a circular handstamp "Isole Ionie" on the front, the sender's seal and the oval disinfection wafer seal on the back (Figure 3a).

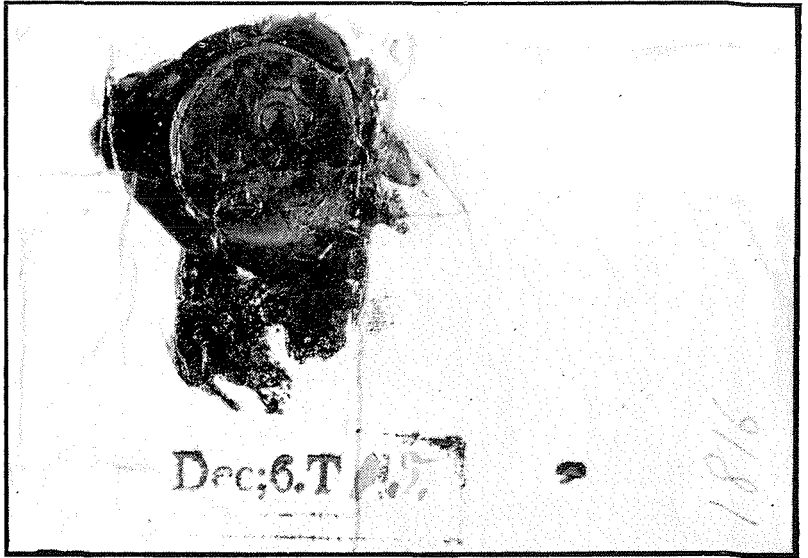


Figure 3b

T.15. A letter in Greek, originally with bulky enclosures, postmarked December 6 (1816). The date and the “T” are handstamped, and the “15” is added in manuscript. The letter has a perfect oval red wax seal “La Sanita di Malta” with a fouled anchor (Figure 3b).



Figure 3c

T.17. A bulky letter in Greek, once containing enclosures, postmarked May 2, (1816). The month and the “T” are handstamped, and the 17 is manuscript. There is a brownish circular handstamp on the Front: “Isole Ionie”; the sender’s personal seal and the oval disinfection wafer seal are on the back (Figure 3c).

It would seem from the above that the Maltese-currency handstamps now recorded are the following:

A. Date and charge fully stamped:

T.2	T.5.10
T.2.10	T.6
T.3	T.6.10
T.3.10	T.7.10
T.4	T.8
T.4.10	T.8.10
	T.9

Not recorded T.5; T.7; t.9.10.

B. Date and T stamped, change in manuscript:

T.12
T.15
T.17.

NOTIFICAZIONE.

La Tariffa de' dritti di Posta ora in forza per l'Ufficio della Posta di Malta, cesserà di aver vigore li 25 corrente, dalla quale data si agirà dietro la riformata Tariffa, pubblicata qui appresso.

Tariffa dei dritti di Posta esigibili dal Governo sopra tutte le lettere ricevute nell' Ufficio della Posta di Malta, o da questa inviate per l'estero.

<i>Sulle Lettere inviate all'estero o qui ricevute.</i>	S	T	<i>Sulle Lettere Profumate nell' Ufficio di Quarantina.</i>	S.	T.	G.
Ogni lettera singola . . .	0	2	Ogni lettera singola . . .	0	2	10
Ogni altra Lettera sotto il peso di un' Oncia . . .	0	3	Ogni altra lettera sotto il peso di un' oncia . . .	0	4	10
Un'oncia e meno di due onc.	0	6	Un'oncia e meno di due onc.	0	9	0
Due oncie	1	0	Due oncie	1	6	0
Al di sopra di due oncie, sei tari per oncia, o per qua- lunque parte di essa . . .			Al di sopra di due oncie, tari otto per oncia, o per qua- lunque parte di essa . . .			
			a' di 20 Maggio 1819.			

Figure 4: Government Notice of May 20, 1819, showing the extra 10 grani levied for disinfection.

Why the additional 10 grani levy?

A perusal of the Government notice of the 20th May, 1819 shows that the fractional 10 grani were levied “sulle lettere profumate nell’Ufficio di Quarantina” (Figure 4).

This does not, however, seem to be the invariable rule. A few letters – admittedly before 1819 – were definitely disinfected, but do not have the additional 10 grani disinfection tax. This is evident on the higher postage rates. While all the letters taxed with the additional 10 grani are disinfected, not all disinfected mail carries the additional 10 grani levy.

A New Sterling Currency handstamp

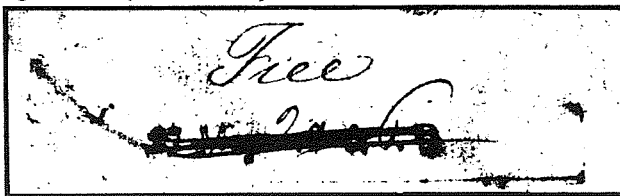


Figure 5: The unrecorded charge mark in sterling currency: 2s. 6d.

The M.S.C. Handbook indicates that the highest recorded sterling Delivery Charge Mark was the one shilling and three pence (1s.3d).

I am reproducing part of a strange parcel wrapper showing a handstamp “27 May (blank) S (blank) D.

The figures in front of the S and D were added in manuscript: 2S. 6D. The whole was then crossed out and “Free” written on top in manuscript! There is a brown sender’s seal and a damaged red wax disinfection seal. (Figure 5).

Postal rates

Government Notices indicating postage rates and changes thereof are published in Chapter 6 of the M.S.C. Handbook³.

The Government Notice dated December 24, 1839, altering some changes, seems to have escaped notice (Figure 6).

NOTIFICAZIONE.

Sua Eccellenza il Governatore si compiace di ordinare, che dal di 1. Gennaro 1840, i dritti di Posta da essere esatti per conto del Governo di Malta su tutte le lettere che si consegnano dall' Ufficio della Posta dell' Isola, saranno regolati uniformemente alla seguente scala :

Su lettere non eccedenti $\frac{1}{2}$ oncia	1. Denaro
superiori a $\frac{1}{2}$ oncia, e non eccedenti	1. oncia	2.	—		
1. „ „ „ „	2. „	4.	—		
2. once „ „ „	3 once	6.	—		
3. „ „ „ „	4. „	8.	—		

e così progredendo proporzionalmente.

a' di 24 Dicembre 1839.

Figure 6: An unpublished postal tariff dated December 24, 1839.

“Free”

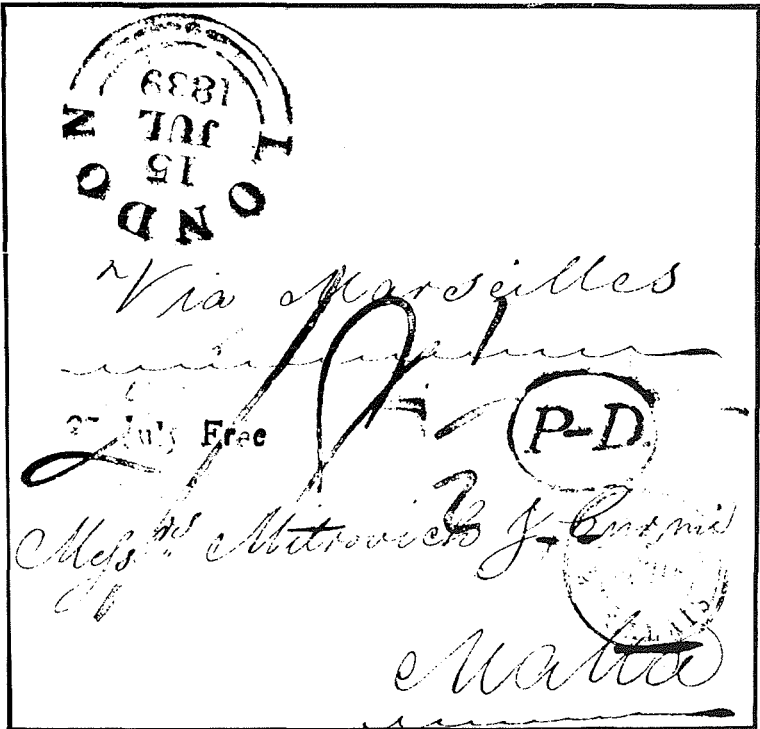


Figure 7

The “Free” straight-line handstamp is well known. As a historical curio, I am publishing a letter handstamped “Free” written by Giorgio Mitrovich (1794 – 1885) the father of the Maltese patriotic movement, commemorated and portrayed in the 8c stamp issued in Malta last year. He is writing to his firm “Mitrovich & Curmi” from his London address: No. 1, Crescent Place, Regent’s park, on July 15, 1839 (Figure 7).

“French Postage”

The M.S.C. Handbook states that “some letters from France in 1837 and 1838 have added beneath the straight line marking a further sum in manuscript followed by “French Postage” and the two amounts totalled in manuscript.”⁴

I am reproducing one such letter postmarked 8 June (1837) and charged “4d” and “2 Francs, French postage” (Figure 8).

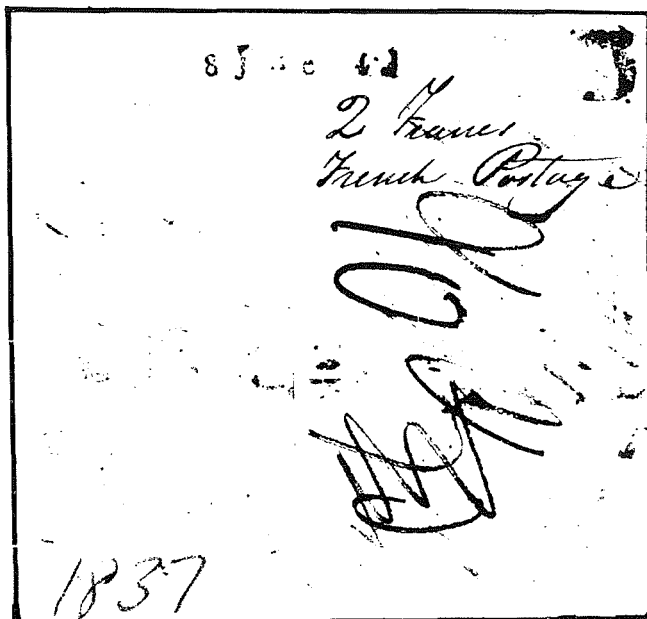


Figure 8: A sample of a straight line delivery charge mark to which is added the extra “French postage” charge.

Notes:

¹ page 56.

² published in the December 1985 issue of this magazine, page 10.

³ page 71 et seq.

⁴ page 56.

EVERY MEMBER SHOULD TRY AND ENROL A NEW MEMBER.

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The Treasurer

Mr. Mario Dimech

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New Street in Ghenba Str.,

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The "BOITE MOBILE" Mark of Malta

by Dr. A. Bonnici



The Cover has been reproduced by kind permission of Christie's Robson Lowe.

The Boite Mobile (Milestone) Mark sent from the General Post Office London on the 15th October 1857 was used in Malta in 1858 having the following characteristics:

Height 19.½ mm Width 19.0 mm inscription in four lines.
MALTA – MB – Month and Day – YEAR.

This cachet was normally struck in black on the front of letters posted on Packet Ships. Since the early 1820 period, Malta became a very important centre for commerce and consequently a considerable number of ships plying the Mediterranean routes called on Malta. Articles 15 and 16 of the Anglo French Postal convention of 1843 provided for the collection of mail which was posted on board ships either prior to departure or during the voyage. Arrangements were made with the owners of private ships entrusted to deliver mail for a letter box to be placed against the main mast of each "Packet" or in a most conspicuous place to receive such letters as the Public wanted to deposit in between the closing of the mails and departures of vessels entrusted with their conveyance. The "Movable Box" was called so because it was to be immediately consigned to the Post Master who opened it, and took out the letter and returned it to the Agent who brought it. This was the original rule which did not include the use of a special Posting Mark at the Malta Post Office, as was the case of certain British Channel Ports. But in 1856 there was a new agreement containing new specifications and from this period the principal ports for landing the Maritime "Boites Mobile", applied marks of a particular type for identification purposes, in the case of Malta as illustrated in the cover above. The earliest date recorded of use of this cachet is the 10th July 1858 and the latest 30th August 1879.

Great Britain Stamps Used in Malta

by Anthony Fenech

Continued Part 7 (concluded)

A Notice "Discontinuance of Use at Malta of Postage Stamps of The United Kingdom" was released by Roger Duke, H.M. Postmaster, at The General Post Office, Valletta, on the 8th December 1884. This Notice was reproduced on Page 15, of the last issue of The P.S.M. Magazine. In fact Great Britain stamps ceased to be used in Malta, after December 31st, 1884, when all postal matters of the Island passed under the control of the local authorities. It was stressed in this Notice that all letters bearing "Imperial stamps" posted after the 31st December, 1884, will be treated as unpaid and charged on delivery. However, a piece is known dated 1 JA 85 showing GB 2½d with Malta 1885 ½d green and 1d rose.¹

However, on some occasions after 1884, postage stamps of the United Kingdom did not prove "useless" for the prepayment of postage on correspondence posted in Malta or Gozo. In fact some Great Britain stamps may be found bearing cancellations of The Malta Post Office. These British stamps fall mainly under two categories – Maritime and Military Mail.

Mail posted on "High Seas" or on board ships at the Grand Harbour was franked with Great Britain or other foreign stamps from countries such as Algeria, Austria, Egypt, France, Gibraltar, Italy, the Italian Levant and Colonies, and Turkey, which were cancelled with a Malta or Valletta or G.P.O. handstamp. Besides, until the 1930s, the straight line handstamp PAQUEBOT was also applied on the Cover or Postcard to identify its being posted on board the ships. Great Britain stamps² such as:

Queen Victoria	1887 – 92	2½ purple/blue Jubilee Issue; 5d dull purple and blue (Duty Plate 1);
King Edward VII	1902	½d dull blue green Wmk Imperial Crown; ½d pale yellowish green Wmk Imperial Crown; 1d scarlet Wmk Imperial Crown;
King George V	1912	1d bright red (scarlet) Wmk Imperial Crown; ½d green Wmk Royal Cypher; 1d vermilion (pale rose-red) Wmk Royal Cypher 'Simple' 1d scarlet Wmk Royal Cypher 'Multiple' 1½d red-brown Wmk Royal Cypher 2d orange-yellow and bright orange Die I Wmk Royal Cypher

are known cancelled by any of the following Valletta cancellations:

- The single ring VALLETTA (C.O.)/MALTA with time and date in one line – diameter 29mm;
- The single oval VALLETTA/MALTA (Both types) with time and date in one line and measuring 32mm × 24mm;
- The Double ring VALLETTA/MALTA with Maltese crosses as spacers, time above date at centre and diameter 30mm;
- The single ring with arched MALTA and code letters A to R and diameter 20mm;
- The single ring with arched MALTA, with code letters but diameter 22mm;
- The single ring with arched MALTA, no code letters, diameter 24mm;
- The Maltese Cross in single ring with G.P.O., in the inner circle with no date – diameter 27mm;
- The Bar Cancellation with MALTA in between five horizontal bars;
- The Bar Cancellation with the central bar across MALTA.

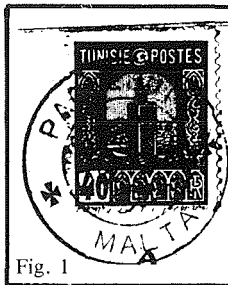


Fig. 1

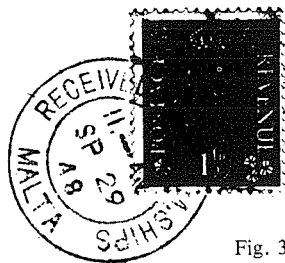


Fig. 3

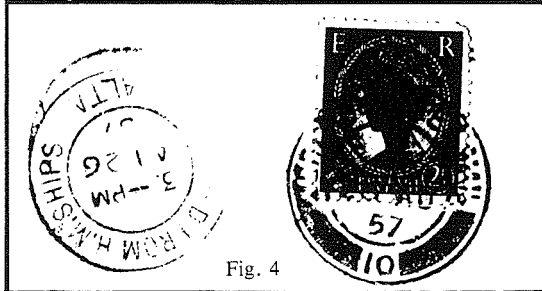


Fig. 4

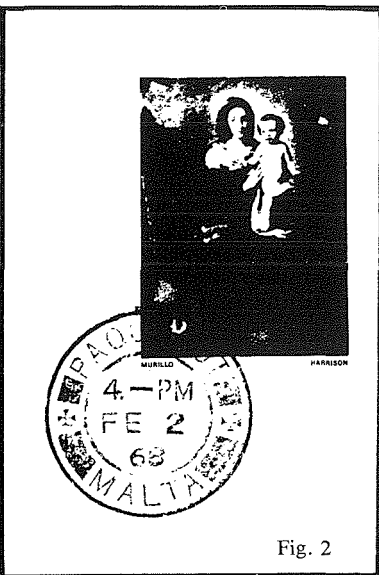
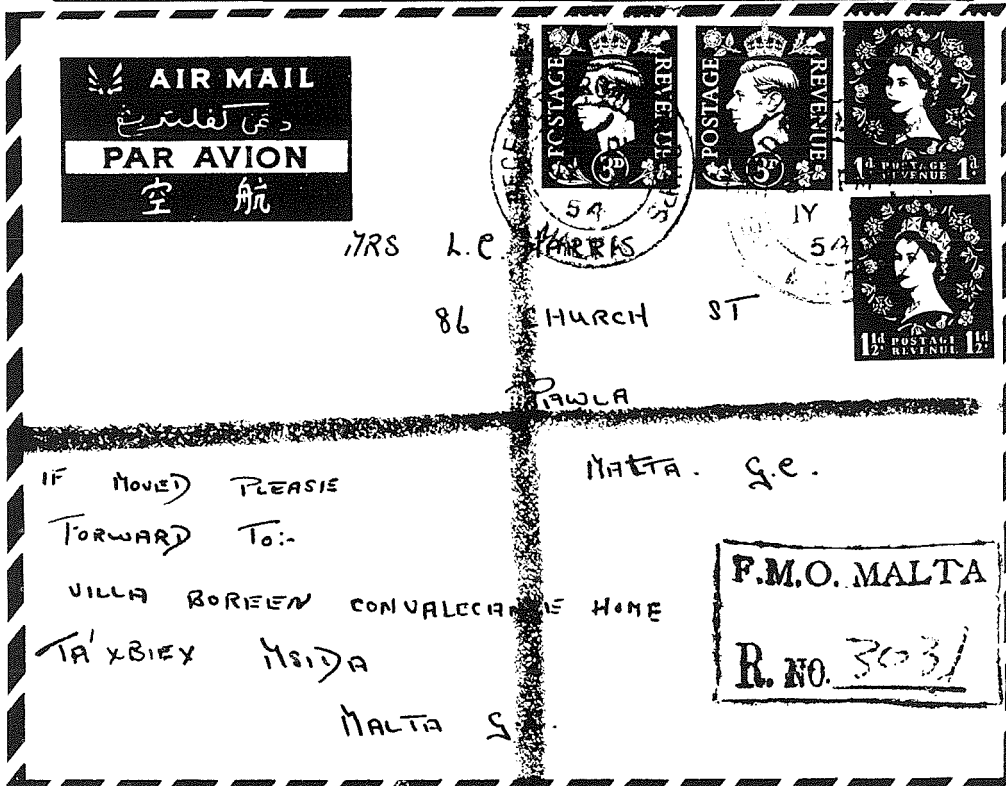


Fig. 2



A Registered Cover from HMS Forth in Msida Creek, having G. VI & Q.E. II Definitives, cancelled by RECEIVED FROM H.M. SHIPS MALTA (9 JY 54) and Naval Registration cachet F.M.O. Malta in violet.

After the 1930s, until very recently, Great Britain stamps, mostly King George VI Definitives, as well as Queen Elizabeth, Wildings and Machins, and other foreign stamps are known cancelled with PAQUEBOT, MALTA circular date stamps. Two types of this canceller are known, one with Maltese crosses, used in the 1930 (Fig. 1), and the other with Maltese crosses and killer blocks used after 1936. (Fig. 2)

Military Mail from the H.M. Forces in Malta, was dealt mostly by the Army, Naval or Forces Post Offices, and mainly received their cancellations. Occasionally, such mail was handled by the Malta Post Office, and the Great Britain stamps would of course, be cancelled by The Malta Post Office cancellers.

In 1931, two cancellers inscribed "RECEIVED FROM H.M. SHIPS/MALTA, with time and date slugs³ were used at the G.P.O., Valletta, to cancel Malta as well as Great Britain stamps on mail from the Fleet Mail Office, at St. Angelo, and which had not been cancelled previously or on mail that had been received from H.M. Ships. (Fig. 3) Letters from British naval personnel, bearing Great Britain stamps, may be found with strikes of these handstamps, if not previously cancelled by the British Fleet Mail 10 double ring circular date stamp. (Fig. 4)

One finds of course, odd occasions when Great Britain stamps or postal stationery did inadvertently pass through The Malta Post Office, but very often such items were noticed and consequently not cancelled, but taxed accordingly.

In the P.S.M. Magazine, Vol. 12 No. 4, a full list of Great Britain stamps known to exist with the "M" Cancellation was given. In this final instalment of the Great Britain Stamps used in Malta series, I thought it would be fitting to give a complete list of Great Britain Stamps known obliterated with the various types of the A 25 series. Here's the complete List which I had contributed to Said's Great Britain Used in Malta Section, as published in Said's Catalogue of MALTA – Postage Stamps and Postal History in 1982.⁴ The following Great Britain stamps are known to exist with the "A 25" cancellation:

- 1870 – 79 ½d rose-red (Plates 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 19, 20)
- 1880 ½d deep green Wmk Imperial Crown
- 1880 ½d pale green Wmk Imperial Crown
- 1884 ½d slate blue Wmk Imperial Crown
- 1841 1d red-brown (Imperforate)
- 1854 1d red-brown Die I (blued paper) Wmk Small crown Perf. 16 Plates 1, 8.
- 1855 1d red-brown Die II (blued paper) Wmk Large crown Perf. 14
- 1857 1d rose-red Wmk Large Crown Perf 14
- 1861 1d rose-red Alphabet IV Plates 50, 51
- 1862 1d rose-red Alphabet II Reserve Plate 16
- 1864 – 79 1d rose-red (Plate Numbers 71 – 224, with the exception of Plates Nos. 75, 77, 126, 128, 211; whilst Plates 112, 133, 221 to 224 are very rare).
- 1880 1d venetian red
- 1881 1d lilac/pale lilac (14 dots)
- 1881 1d lilac/shades (16 dots)
- 1887 – 79 1½d lake-red (Plates 1, 3)
- 1880 1½d venetian red
- 1884 1½d lilac

- 1841 2d blue (Imperforate)
 1855 2d blue Wmk. Large Crown Plate 5 Perf. 14
 1858 – 69 2d blue (Plates 7, 8, 9, 12, 13, 14, 15)
 1880 2d pale rose
 1880 2d deep rose
 1884 2d lilac
 1875 2½d rosy mauve (blued paper) Plates 1 and 2
 1875 – 76 2½d rosy mauve (Plates 1, 2, 3)
 2½d rosy mauve (error of lettering LH-FL for LH-HL – Plate 2)
 1876 – 79 2½d rosy mauve (Plates 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17)
 1880 – 81 2½ blue (Plates 17, 18, 19, 20)
 1881 2½d blue (Plates 21, 22, 23, 25)
 1884 2½d lilac
 1862 3d carmine-rose (Plates 2 and 3)
 1865 3d rose Plate 4
 1867 – 73 3d rose (Plates 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10)
 1873 – 76 3d rose (Plates 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20)
 1881 3d rose (Plates 20, 21)
 1883 3d lilac (3d on 3d)
 1884 3d lilac
 1857 4d rose/rose-carmine
 1857 4d rose/rose-carmine with thick glazed paper
 1862 4d red (Plates 3 and 4)
 1865 – 73 4d vermilion (Plates 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14)
 1876 4d vermilion (Plate 15)
 1877 4d sage-green (Plates 15, 16)
 1880 4d grey-brown (Wmk. Large Garter Plate 17)
 1880 4d grey-brown (Wmk. Crown Plates 17, 18)
 1884 4d dull green
 1880 5d indigo
 1884 5d dull green
 1854 6d violet (Embossed)
 1856 6d lilac (Plates 3 and 4)
 1862 6d lilac
 1865 – 67 6d lilac (Wmk. Emblems Plates 5 and 6)
 1865 – 67 6d lilac (Wmk. error – three roses and shamrock) Plate 6
 1867 6d lilac Wmk. Spray Plate 6
 1867 – 70 6d violet (Plates 6, 8 and 9)
 1872 – 73 6d buff (Plates 11, 12)
 1872 6d chestnut Plate 11
 1873 6d grey (Plate 12)
 1873 – 80 6d grey (Plates 13, 14, 15, 16, 17)
 1881 – 82 6d grey (Plates 17, 18)
 1883 6d lilac (6d on 6d)
 1884 6d dull green
 1876 8d orange
 1862 9d straw (Plate 2)
 1862 9d bistre (Plate 2)
 1865 9d straw (Wmk. emblems; Plate 4)
 1867 9d straw (Wmk. spray; Plate 4)
 1883 9d dull green
 1867 10d red-brown (Plate 1)
 1847 1/- (Embossed)
 1856 1/- green
 1856 1/- green (thick paper)
 1862 1/- green
 1862 1/- green “K” Variety in lower left corner in white circle (stamp KD)
 1865 1/- green Wmk. emblems (Plate 4)
 1865 1/- green Wmk. Error (three roses and shamrock) Plate 4
 1867 – 73 1/- green (Plates 4, 5, 6, 7)

- 1873-77 1/- green (Plates 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 - large coloured letters in the corner)
 1880 1/- orange-brown (Wmk. spray; Plate 13)
 1881 1/- orange-brown (Wmk. Crown; Plates 13, 14)
 1884 1/- dull green
 1867 2/- blue (dull, deep or pale blue; Plate 1)
 1867 2/- cobalt (Plate 1)
 1867 2/- milky blue (Plate 1)
 1880 2/- brown (Plate 1)
 1867-74 5/- rose or pale rose (Plates 1 and 2)
 1882 5/- rose or pale rose (blued paper)
 1882 5/- rose (white paper) (Plate 4)
 1883-84 5/- rose (blued paper)
 1883-84 5/- rose (white paper)
 1878 10/- grey-green (white paper Wmk. Malt. Cross)

POSTAL FISCALS

- 1871 1d purple Wmk. Anchor
 1881 1d purple Wmk. Orb

References:

- (1) M.S.C. Study Paper 35 - 1983 "GB Used in Malta" Page 35 - 8.
- (2) My contribution to Said Catalogue - Malta Stamp Catalogue 1982; MALTA - Postage Stamps and Postal History pp. 249, 250.
- (3) The M.S.C. MALTA - The Stamps and Postal History 1576 - 1960 Handbook, compiled by the Malta Study Circle, Edited by R.E. Martin, p. 188.
- (4) Said 1982 Catalogue of Malta - Postage Stamps and Postal History pp. 245 - 249 from an original list drawn up by the author.

Detailed Information about:

by J. Farrugia

- 40th. Anniversary Of The United Nations Issue** X
Maltese Personalities Issue..... Y
Christmas 1985 Issue..... Z

Issue	X	Y	Z
Date of Issue	26-7-85	3-10-85	10-10-85
Values	4c, 11c, 31c	8c, 12c	2c + 1c, 8c + 2c, 20c + 3c
Stamp Size	43mm x 21.5mm	29mm x 47mm	29mm x 47mm
Designer	Donald Friggieri	Raymond Pitre	Ganni Bonnici
Printers	Printex Ltd.	same	same
Process	Lithography	same	same
Perforation	13.3 x 13.8	13.6 x 14	13.6 x 13.8
Watermark	Maltese Crosses Sideways	same	same
Paper	Chalk Surfaced	same	same
Gum	P.V.A.	same	same

Colours:

- Issue X - 4c Blue, Yellow, Grey, Black.
 11c Violet, Yellow, Grèy, Black.
 31c Green, Yellow, Grey, Black.

Issue Y - The colours of all these stamps were produced by the four colour process.

Issue Z - The same as for issue Y.

Colour checks in the form of coloured discs 3mm in diameter are seen in the right hand margin, next to the last stamps of the two bottom rows, in each Pane, of each value, of issue X, but next to the last stamp of the bottom row, in issues Y and Z. Colours from top to bottom, correspond to the colours used for Pane numbers from left to right, on all Panes, of all values, in issues X, Y and Z.

Cumulative totals of progressive columns of stamps, are seen in top and bottom margins, printed in black in all Panes, of issues X, Y and Z.

Printed Sheets:

Issue X - Each value consisted of Panes A, B and C. Each Pane has forty stamps, made up of four rows of ten stamps. All values are of the horizontal format.

Issue Y - Each value consisted of Panes A, B and C. Each Pane has forty stamps, made up of eight rows of five stamps. All values are of vertical format.

Issue Z - Exactly the same as for issue Y.

Plate/Pane numbers:

These are seen under the first stamp of the bottom row, in all Panes, of all values, of issues X, Y and Z.

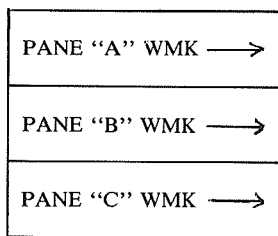
$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Issue X -} & \quad 4c = 1A \times 4, 1B \times 4, 1C \times 4. \\
 & \quad 11c = 1A \times 4, 1B \times 4, 1C \times 4. \\
 & \quad 31c = 1A \times 4, 1B \times 4, 1C \times 4. \\
 \text{Issue Y -} & \quad 8c = 1A \times 4, 1B \times 4, 1C \times 4. \\
 & \quad 12c = 1A \times 4, 1B \times 4, 1C \times 4. \\
 \text{Issue Z -} & \quad 2c + 1c = 1A \times 4, 1B \times 4, 1C \times 4. \\
 & \quad 8c + 2c = 1A \times 4, 1B \times 4, 1C \times 4. \\
 & \quad 20c + 3c = 1A \times 4, 1B \times 4, 1C \times 4.
 \end{aligned}$$

Perforation of Margins:

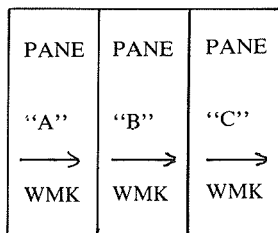
Issue X - The top margin of Pane A, in all values, is imperforate, whilst the top margin of Panes B and C, in all values is fully perforated. The left hand, bottom and right hand margins, of Panes A, B and C, of all values, are also fully perforated.

Issue Y - The top margins, of Panes A, B and C of all values are imperforate, whilst the left hand, right hand and bottom margins of these same Panes are all fully perforated. Markings or cutting lines were seen in the left hand margin of Panes A, of all values, next to the first stamps, of the top and bottom rows. Also in the right hand margin of Panes C, of all values, next to the last stamps of the top and bottom rows.

Issue Z - Exactly the same as for issue Y.



(a)



(b)

From a study of all details given, the Printed Sheet of each value, before cutting into Panes, would look as follows:

Issue X - All values as in figure (a).

Issue Y - All values as in figure (b).

Issue Z - All values as in figure (b).

Looking at the Printed Sheets as shown, stamps of all values, of the three issues, would be seen the right way up. Hence watermark is sideways in all values of issues X, Y and Z. Perforator ran from top to bottom in figures (a) and (b).

Imprint Blocks:

“PRINTEX LIMITED MALTA” is seen under the last stamp of the bottom row, in all Panes, of all values, of issues X, Y and Z. Letters are 1mm high and printed in black. An Imprint Block of four will also include the colour checks, in all values of the three issues.

By 12.45pm on the first day of issue, sales amounted to Lm26,533 for issue X, Lm12,882 for issue Y and Lm22,366 for issue Z.

Stamps were to remain on sale up to 6-1-86 for issue X, 11-4-86 for issue Y, and 14-2-86 for issue Z.

Special hand-postmarks incorporating motifs, symbolizing international co-operation (issue X), a line drawing of a pen and a scroll (issue Y) and symbolizing a star (issue Z), were used on the first day of issue.

MALTA – A DIARY

October – December 1985

by J. Farrugia

3-10-85

The “Maltese Personalities” set issued to-day. A special hand-postmark was used on the first day of issue. (Fig. 1)

7-10-85

A machine stamp cancelling slogan reading: “Ċensiment '85 – Għal Ġid Tagħna Lkoll”, was used, on and off, from the 7th October to the 15th November, 1985, at the Central Mail Room.

The slogan means: “Census '85 – For The Benefit Of All”.

9-10-85

A special hand-postmark was used at the Philatelic Counter, of the G.P.O. from 8.00a.m. to 12.45p.m. and at the Central Mail Room, from 8.00a.m. to 7.30p.m., on Wednesday, 9th October, 1985, to mark World Post Day.

The hand-postmark incorporating the emblem of the Universal Postal Union, is inscribed: “World Post Day – The Post – The World At Your Door – 9-10-85 – Valletta – Malta”. (Fig. 2)

10-10-85

The “Christmas 1985” set issued to-day. A special hand-postmark was used on the first day of issue. (Fig. 3)

10-10-85

A machine stamp cancelling slogan worded: “Jum Dinji Ta’ L-Ikel – 16 Ta’ Ottubru 1985”, was used from the 10th to 16th October, 1985, at the Central Mail Room.

The slogan means: “World Food Day – 16th October, 1985”.

18-10-85

A new metal hand date-stamp was put in use at the Sub-Post Office Birzebbuga on Friday, 18th October, 1985.

The date-stamp is inscribed “Birzebbuga SPO – Malta”.

The date-stamp which was replaced was withdrawn from use at the above mentioned Sub-Post Office on the closing of business on Thursday, 17th October, 1985.



Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3



Fig. 5

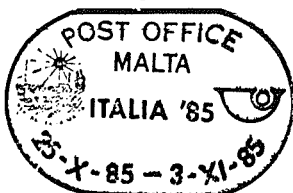


Fig. 4

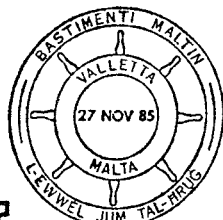


Fig. 7



Fig. 6

25-10-85

A commemorative card was issued on the occasion of the participation of the Malta Post Office in the "Italia '85" World Philatelic Exhibition, which was held in Rome from the 25th October to the 3rd November, 1985.

The postal card has imprinted thereon an appropriate motif and a 30c + 6c stamp reproducing in one whole composition the three Christmas 1985 stamps.

The card was available for sale at 36c from the G.P.O. and from all B.P.O.s and S.P.O.s from the 25th October to the 3rd November, 1985, unless stocks were previously exhausted.

The postal card was available for sale with the stamp cancelled with a special hand-postmark inscribed "Post Office Malta - Italia '85 - 25.X.85 - 3.XI.85" and incorporating a line drawing of the Emblem of Malta and the Postal Horn. (Fig. 4)

The postal card was also available for sale in mint condition.

In the case where the stamps on the postal card are cancelled with the above mentioned hand-postmark, it could have been sent through the post at no extra charge, provided that it was posted during the period 25th October - 3rd November, 1985.

Postal cards cancelled with the "Italia '85" hand-postmark posted after the 3rd November, 1985, should have additional stamps affixed thereon to cover the required postage. These stamps will be cancelled with the normal metal hand-postmark.

28-10-85

New inland post regulations which were published in the Govt. Gazette of 18th October, 1985, came into force on the 28th October, 1985.

The new regulations include regulations relating to inland post, some of which have been in effect since 1924. They have been included in one document and updated according to the U.P.U. convention and the procedures of to-day's international post. The new regulations include improvement in the service and postal efficiency by various changes, such as in applications for redirection, conditions for the registration of newspapers for these to be forwarded by post at a reduced rate, the validity period of money orders, sub-post offices opening hours, postal articles addressed to blind people and conditions of posting of printed matter.

28-10-85

The P.M.G. notified that a Sub Post Office was to be opened at Zebug Stationery, Sciortino Street, Zebug, Malta, on Monday, 28th October, 1985.

A hand metal date-stamp inscribed with the words "Zebug SPO – Malta" will be used at this Sub Post Office. (Fig. 5)

The telephone number at this Sub Post Office is 646076.

1-11-85

A machine stamp cancelling slogan reading: "Ghinu T-Tfal Fil-Bżonn – Użaw Il-Bolli Tal-Milied" was used, on and off, during the period from 1st November to 24th December, 1985, at the Central Mail Room.

A line drawing of a star is also incorporated in the slogan.

1-11-85

In the Govt. Gazette of the 29th October, 1985, by means of Notice No. 634, it was notified that: With reference to the arrangements made by Govt. Notice No. 493 of the 13th August, 1985, the PMG notifies that the Post Office Counters and the Mail Section of the Victoria Branch Post Office which were temporarily transferred to 139, Republic Street, Victoria, Gozo and 15, Sannat Road, Victoria, Gozo, respectively, will be transferred back to 129, Republic Street, Victoria, Gozo, with effect from Friday, 1st November, 1985.

7-11-85

The PMG notified that a special hand-postmark was to be used on the occasion of the participation of the Malta Post Office in Philatelia '85 which was to be held in Cologne, West Germany, from the 7th to the 10th November, 1985. The postmark is inscribed as follows:

"Malta Post Office – Philatelia '85 International Stamp Fair – 7–10 November 1985 – Cologne". (Fig. 6)

The postmark, which also incorporates the emblem of the above mentioned exhibition, was used on the 7th, 8th and 9th November, 1985, at the Philatelic Counter, General Post Office, from 8.00a.m. to 12.45p.m. and at the Central Mail Room, Castille, from 8.00a.m. to 6.30p.m.

An identical postmark was used at the Malta Post Office Stand at "Philatelia '85".

22-11-85

A machine stamp cancelling slogan worded: "Health Education Week – 22–29 Nov 1985 – Gawdi Sahhtek" was used, on and off, from the 22nd to the 29th November, 1985, at the Central Mail Room.

27-11-85

The third set in the series of "Maltese Ships", issued to-day. Maximum Card No. 6, also issued with this set. A special hand-postmark was used on the first day of issue. (Fig. 7)

10-12-85

In to-day's Govt. Gazette the PMG notified that a set of three postage stamps and a souvenir sheet, incorporating the three stamps, will be issued in 1986, on the occasion of the final tournament of the 1986 FIFA World Cup Competition, which is to be held in Mexico in May/June 1986.

The selection of the designs of this set will be made after a public competition open only to Maltese citizens.

10-12-85

In to-day's Govt. Gazette the PMG notified that the 2c stamp of the current Definitive Postage set has been reprinted by Printex Limited.

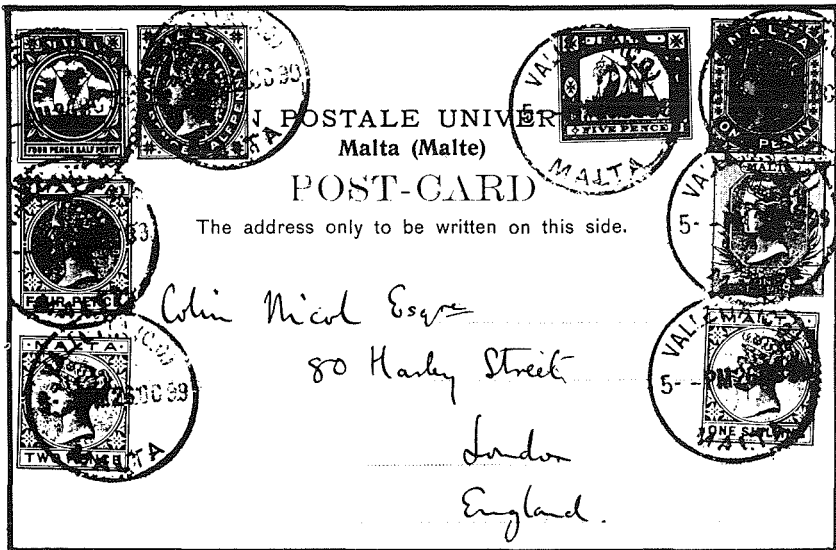
This stamp was available for sale at the Philatelic Counter of the GPO.

26-12-85

A machine stamp cancelling slogan reading: "1 Jan '86 – Jum il-Paċi – Peace Lab Malta" was used, on and off, from the 26th to the 31st December, 1985, at the Central Mail Room, Valletta. A motif symbolizing friendship and peace is also incorporated in the slogan.

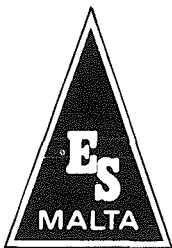
"Donated by Messrs. Thomas De La Rue (Malta) Limited"

MALTA POSTAL HISTORY



MALTA U.P.U. Malta Post-card. Undivided back. "Bigli Hospital and Fort St. Angelo" published by John Critien, Malta. Dated 26.10.1899. Sent from Auberge de Baviere addressed to England, with complete Queen Victoria 1885 Definitive issue together with 1899 4½d and 5d. (Said Cat. Nos. 10/15 & 17/18) Price: Lm90

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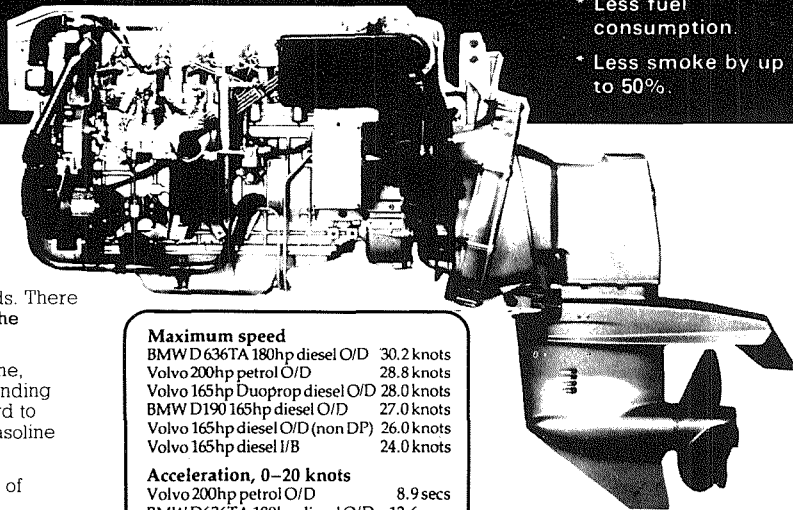
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Volvo 165hp Duoprop diesel O/D	28.0 knots
BMW D190 165hp diesel O/D	27.0 knots
Volvo 165hp diesel O/D (non DP)	26.0 knots
Volvo 165hp diesel I/B	24.0 knots

Acceleration, 0-20 knots

Volvo 200hp petrol O/D	8.9 secs
BMW D636TA 180hp diesel O/D	12.6 secs
Volvo 165hp Duoprop diesel O/D	18.0 secs
BMW D190 165hp diesel O/D	22.3 secs



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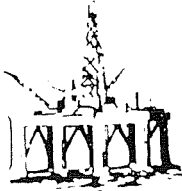
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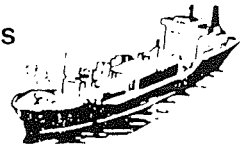
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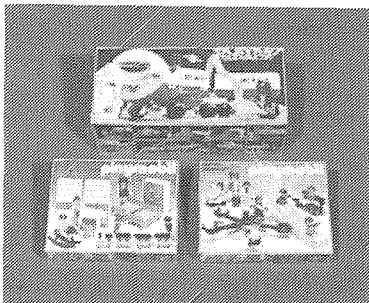
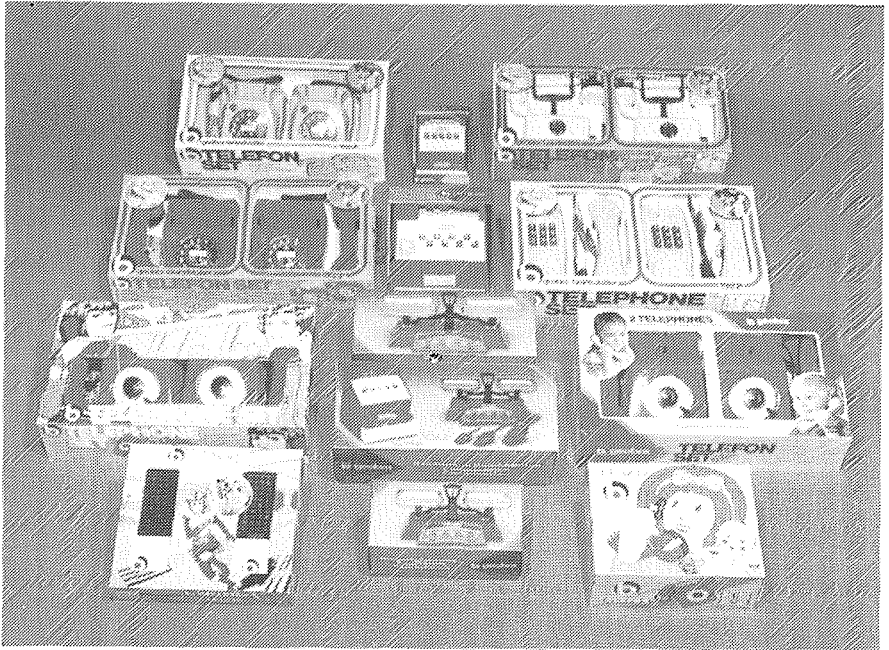
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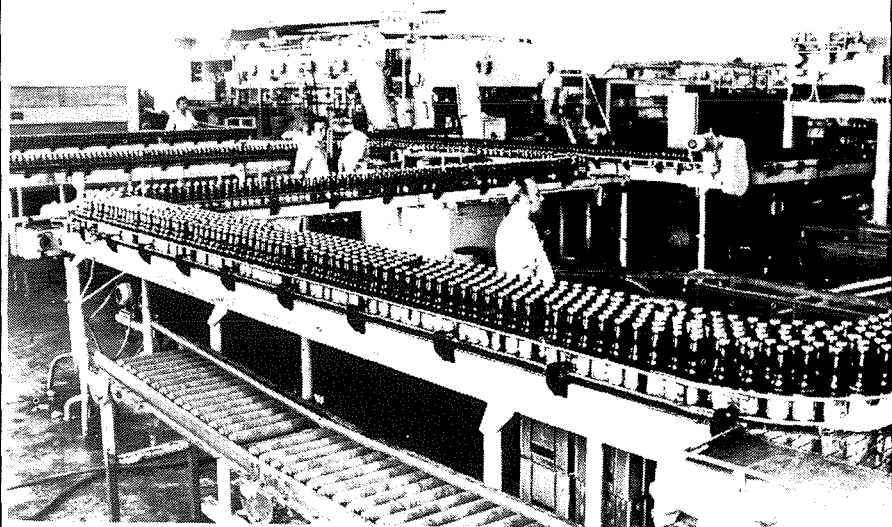
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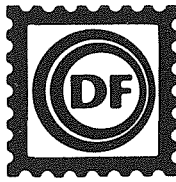
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