

SOS Signal

Stamps on Stamps Collectors Club

The Stamp Whispers, the Letter Speaks

by Martin Hirschbühl

Of tangible benefit:

- Enclosed for your collection is a complimentary mint copy of a recent Falkland Islands issue reproducing its first stamp. This new issue has been obtained through the effort of Martin Hirschbühl, SOSCC's notorious "self-importer" and aficionado of isolated islands and places.

Inside this issue:

The Stamp Whispers, the Letter Speaks	2
QE II Cinderella	5
Hungerstamps	5
New Issues	6
An Interesting Cover	7
Classifieds	7
More New Issues	8

Please allow me to introduce you to a special and precious type of SOS I have always loved most: I call them "chameleon stamps". No, it has nothing to do with holograms or other nowadays stuff! They don't change their color, but only their status or homeland. Like in fairytales, sometimes a simple German or British stamp turns out to be a colonial rarity having both philatelic and historical (or commercial) value.

(Continued on page 2)

Going through my SOS collection, only a few such gems can be found. The largest group are reproductions of British stamps with numerical postmarks, enabling us to classify them as being used in the Bahamas (A05), Belize (A06), Montserrat (A08), St. Vincent (A10) or Jamaica (A49). And, of course, don't forget the Guyana stamps of 1980 (not shown at right).

The use of British stamps in Ascension, featured on two similar SOS, seem to be very different with a circle-date-postmark instead of a numerical-killer. The latest British stamps "used abroad" to be found on a SOS is a pair of George VI 6d with a Tristan da Cunha provisional Bar cancellation of the early 1920's, during Sir Ernest Shackleton's explorations.



QE II Cinderella by Wesley Shellen

The 50th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's reign was celebrated by the Crown Agents with an Omnibus issue of Golden Jubilee stamps and souvenir sheets from many nations. A traveling exhibit called "The Queen's Stamps" in April and May showed a small but impressive sample of the Royal Philatelic Collection. The souvenir booklet from the exhibition contained a cinderella souvenir sheet

showing a 1946 photo of a young Princess Elizabeth looking at an album from the royal collection. The same photograph was used on Jubilee stamps from South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands. The stamp exhibit included priceless gems such as original essays for the world's first stamp, the Penny Black. Also shown were several first day usages of

(Continued on page 5)

The Stamp Whispers, the Letter Speaks

by Martin Hirschbühl

The British mainland is represented here with Jersey's UPU 1974, showing a classical cover of 1852, mailed in Jersey around a centenary before the author's birthday. It was recently discovered that the color of Jersey's first letter-box was red, not green as shown on the stamp, another amusing "Error-SOS"...



"Both of these items are now benchmarks in the postal history of the Channel Islands."

Guernsey features an occupation bisect of the British two pence centenary stamp, used as a provisional penny postage, probably influenced by so-called "philatelic needs".



Both these items are now landmarks in the postal history of the Channel Islands.

Prior to the issuance of their own stamps, many countries around the world were using foreign or mainland stamps. Early Imperial Austrian stamps with postmarks of "Pesth" (now Budapest) or "Pressburg" (now Bratislava) on a recent Slovakian SOS are just two examples of a period long ago. It reminds me of the Latin sentence "Sic transit Gloria mundi" (Bogey fans translate it "as time goes by").



The principality of Monaco first used Sardinian stamps up to 1859. After Napoleon III sacked the Côte d'Azur as a waraid-bonus, they were replaced by French stamps, remaining in circulation for at least 25 years, maybe longer, after the issue of their own stamps in 1885.



It seems that French-Monaco joint frankings still have been possible as reproduced on Monaco's Philexfrance '99 SOS.



"San Marino, the world's oldest,...."

San Marino, the world's oldest existing republic, presents a Sardinian 5c stamp with both circle and bar-stamp of Rimini and S. Marino. On the SOS they kindly embossed the head of Vittorio Emanuele, like on the original stamp. Grazie tanto!



My journey through Europe ends with an Imperial Ottoman stamp, used in 1871 in the later Turkish part of Cyprus. This Greek-Turkish conflict has been boiling for a long time.



The Stamp Whispers, the Letter Speaks

by Martin Hirschbühl



Another “hot spot” of the Ancient Osmanian Empire was Palestine (now Israel). The SOS sheetlet features not only Turkish, Palestine and Israel stamps or labels, but also an Imperial Austrian postcard surcharged for use in Turkey, with a “Jerusalem” postmark. What a brilliant item for every Judaica collector (and for SOS guys too, or course)!



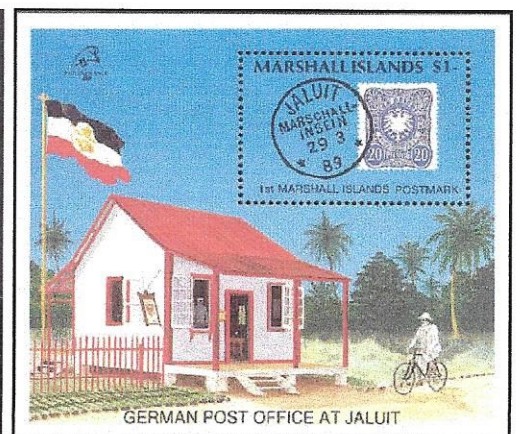
Going back to the colonies, a nice B64 postmark on Mauritius 6d is shown here on Seychelles, and the first Cayman Islands oval dated handstamp on a Jamaican stamp, both appearing on a SOS one century later.



The German colonies only existed for a short period, but long enough to leave some philatelic tracks. The same old common 20 Pfennig Blue Eagle of the former Reichspost is now reproduced on Marshall Islands, Papua New Guinea and Tanzania, with different postmarks of each region



Of unique interest is Palau's se-tenant block. First they were using German stamps, later Marshall-Insel overprints, finally Karolinen definitive stamps. This is a real appetizer, inviting us to dive deeper into this colorful postal history.



The Stamp Whispers, the Letter Speaks

by Martin Hirschbühl

A wartime naval letter of 1943 is depicted on a Tuvalu SOS, and two similar "First Civilian Mail" letters from the Marshall Islands and Palau. Both of them proved that one could once send a letter halfway around the world for just 2 cents postage. Unbelievable!!



Finally, here are two examples that don't quite qualify to be real chameleons. Did you know that Norfolk Island was a former part of Van Diemens Land, or that the Solomon Islands once had New South Wales stamps in use? I really wish they wouldn't forget to print the postmarks, too, on their SOS.

At the end of the day, I wish for me and the benefit of all my SOS collecting colleagues that more countries would issue additional appealing stamps-on-stamps incorporating postal history into their designs. I hope you agree.....?



A classical Samoa letter of 1881 from Apia to San Francisco with additional US postage documents the foreign use of US stamps. Issued for the Samoan stamp centenary in 1977.

The wide range of French stamps used in their colonies is represented with only one service stamp of Polynesie (French stamps with Papeete postmark).



"Both of them proved that one could once send a letter halfway around the world for just 2 cents postage. Unbelievable!!"

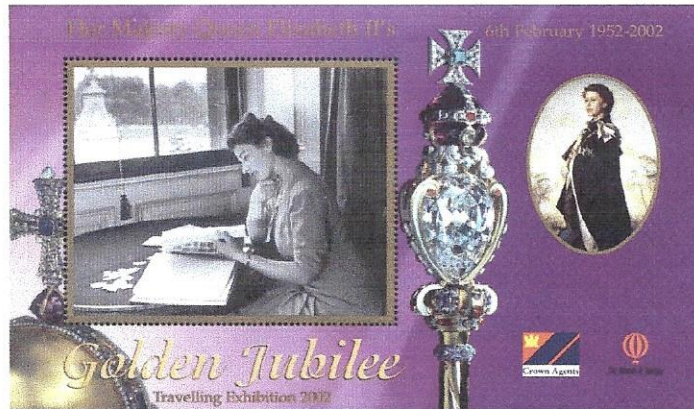


QE II Cinderella by Wesley Shellen

“Queen Elizabeth certainly has NICE stamps, thanks mainly to her father’s and grandfather’s passions for philately”.

the Penny Black, including the Kirkcudbright cover, a fabulous May 6, 1840, folded letter with a block of ten of the stamps! Other frames of the exhibit contained rarities such as three 1848 Hamilton, Bermuda "Perot" postmaster's provisionals on different colored papers, a British Guiana cover with two 1850 "Cotton Reel" stamps, and proofs from other royal jubilee issues such as the 1897 Canadian Diamond Jubilee set honoring Queen Victoria.

Queen Elizabeth certainly has NICE stamps, thanks mainly to her father's and grandfather's passions for philately. Fortunately, for the rest of us who are not of royal descent, we have stamp-on-stamp versions of many of those same great rarities that we can afford to collect.



Hunger Ephemerals by Michael Merritt

I enjoy looking out for peripheral material for my SOS collection almost as much as finding new stamps-on-stamps themselves. (Stamps-on-stamp safes, for example.) This week the United States Postal Service delivered a delightful item to my mailbox: The attached scan shows a postal card supporting the National Association of Letter Carriers' Food Drive, "Stamp Out Hunger."

The card includes numbered instructions 1 through 3, each portrayed on a separate simulated postage stamp...and, as any member of our club must have immediately noticed, each of these simulated postage stamps portrays one or more copies of the full postal card, and hence of the three simulated stamps! One of the four embedded images is included as a separate attachment.

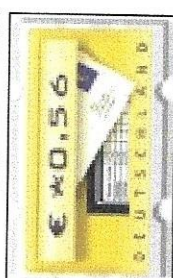
I wonder, do any club members collect similar ephemeral items? I encourage you to share your favorites via the *SOS Signal*.



New Issues by Lou Guadagno

(new on list= *)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Values</u>	<u>Stamp Reproduced</u>	<u>Reason for Issue</u>	<u>Scott #</u>
✓ 02 04 15	Barbados	.10-2.00\$	Barbados #1	150th Anniv., Barbados Inland Post (4v-1sos)	1024-7
✓ 02 04 26	Bulgaria	* 25, 65 st	Bulgaria #1909 modified; other tbi	Bulgarian Stamp Designers	To come
✓ 02 07 05	Canada	* 48c	Canada #77	Centenary, Postmasters and Assistants Asoc.	To come
✓ 01 10 00	Dominican Rep	5\$P	Dominican Republic #193	Stamp Day (this is also a SUG)	To come
✓ 02 04 04	Germany	* € 0.56	Germany #2144	Machine Vended Postage	To come
✓ 01 10 16	G.B.-Isle of	29-50p	GB #MH1, 300, Isle of Man #3, 8	HAFNIA 2001 (Overprint on 900)	To come
✓ 02 02 22	Hong Kong	* 3 x ppd	Designs as HK #653-5 modified	Hong Kong Stampex 2002 (postal cards)	To come
✓ 01 08 25	Hong Kong	1.80-3.10\$	HK #66, China #tbi, 893	160th Anniv., Hong Kong Post (Bklt pane 4v)	To come
✓ 01 10 09	Hungary	10ft	SY-Portions of unidentifiable stamps	World's Largest Stamp Mosaic Attempt	3775
✓ 01 11 23	Hungary	* 150ft	Hungary #1	130th Anniv., State Printers	3778
✓ 02 01 26	Italy	€ 0.41	Italy-Parma #1	150th Anniv., Stamps of Parma	2476
✓ 02 06 01	Italy	* € 0.41	Italy-Modena #9	150th Anniv., Stamps of Modena	To come
✓ 02 08 08	Liechtenstein	90, 130fr	Liechtenstein #B9, 156 + 22 others	90th Anniv., Stamps of Liechtenstein (2v)	To come
✓ 01 05 14	Monaco	2.70fr	Monaco #1952	50th Anniv., Prince Rainier III	To come
✓ 01 12 04	Panama	5b	Panama #4 (or 7)	18th UPAEP Congress	883
✓ 02 04 30	P New Guinea	* ???	PNG #tbi; BrNG #tbi	Centenary First Stamps of PNG (6v + S/S)	To come
✓ 02 06 10	Romania	* 10,000L	Moldavia #4, 1, 2	50th Anniv., Int'l Dealers Assoc (S/S 4v-1sos)	To come
✓ 02 06 15	Romania	* 2 x 3,000L	Moldavia #1 modified, #10	50th Anniv., Int'l Dealers Assoc (2 envelopes)	To come
✓ 02 06 03	San Marino	* 4 x 1.24	SM #1, 7, 11, 15, 17	125th Anniv., Stamps of San Marino S/S (4v)	To come
✓ 02 04 13	Saudi Arabia	* 3r	SA #912, 1261, 1279 + many others	20 Years of Achievements-King Fahd S/S	To come
✓ 01 10 19	Surinam	3750-5250sf	Surinam #648, Curacao #29	Stamp Day (S/S-2v)	1262-3
✓ 02 03 01	Ukraine	15k	Ukraine #100	10th Anniv., Modern Stamps of Ukraine	459
✓ 02 03 01	United Nations	* 80c	SY-symbolic stamps	Definitive	817
✓ 02 06 13	Vatican City	* € .41, .52, 1.03	Roman States #11,25; Vat City #2	150th Anniv., First Stamps of Papal State (3v)	To come
✓ 01 10 24	Yugoslavia	15d	Yugoslavia #2494 partial, others tbi	75th Anniv., Int'l Federation of Philately (FIP)	2537



Canada #77

Italy-Modena #9

Germany #2144

San Marino #1, 7, 11, 15, 17



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SOSCC News by Bill Critzer

Let's honor our authors of the last two years. No one is more indebted to these stalwarts than your editor and these folks have a prominent place in my SOSCC Authors' Hall of Fame. Why not burn a little midnight oil and join them in sharing your philatelic knowledge and pleasures with your SOS colleagues world-wide?

Harry Skallerup

Wesley Shellen

Boris Politziner

Donald Mitchell

Michael Merritt

Alf Jordan

Richard B. Howard

Martin Hirschbühl

Lou Guadagno

Bill Critzer

Gaston Barrette

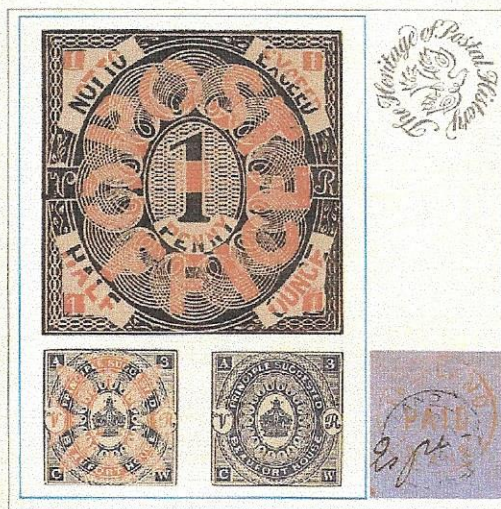
Welcome to our new members: Robert Adams, Montreal, QC Canada; Bruce L. Johnson, Indianapolis, Indiana; Stephen Klein, Mansfield, Ohio; William Gregg Mullinax, Tokyo, Japan; G. Van Den Heuvel, Eindhoven, Netherlands.

A generous donation from Life Member Harry Skallerup has been gratefully received.

Ask me about the SOSCC Master Checklist.

When the British treasury sponsored a competition in 1839 to find the best design for labels or wrappers to prepay postage, the response was overwhelming. Over 2600 proposals were submitted—although only 49 related to the adhesive postage stamp—and the ingenious ideas ranged from the impossible to the practical. Charles Whiting was closely associated with Rowland Hill in his campaign for postal reform and Whiting subsequently made his mark as a designer and producer of postage stamps.

The essays submitted by him for the Competition were produced by the Congreve method of printing, which enable security printing of an intricate design to be produced in two colors, in one operation, additionally embossed if required. One of the designs shows the principle of corner lettering adopted for use on the Penny Black.



Essays for Postage Stamps, by Whiting, London, 1839.



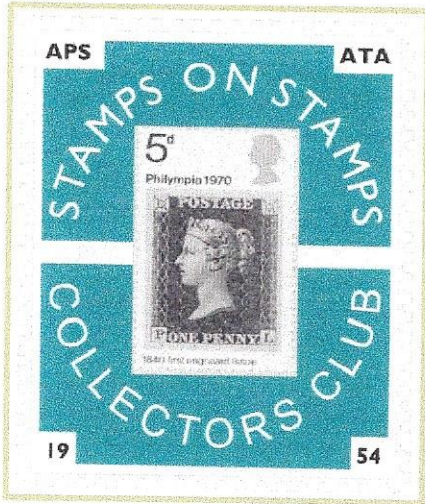
The SOSCC was founded in 1954. It is a non-profit philatelic organization serving a worldwide membership and is open to persons interested in stamp on stamp designs, stamp anniversaries and related topics. Dues are \$9 per year for members residing in North America and \$12 elsewhere.

Officers serve without compensation and are reimbursed only for expenses incurred on behalf of the club. You are cordially invited to associate with us. Please contact the Secretary Treasurer or use our website for more information or to become a member.

Stamps on Stamps Collectors Club
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More New Issues by Lou Guadagno



From upper left counterclockwise:
 Bulgaria 4220, 4221
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 Vatican City 02 06 13
 Liechtenstein 02 08 08