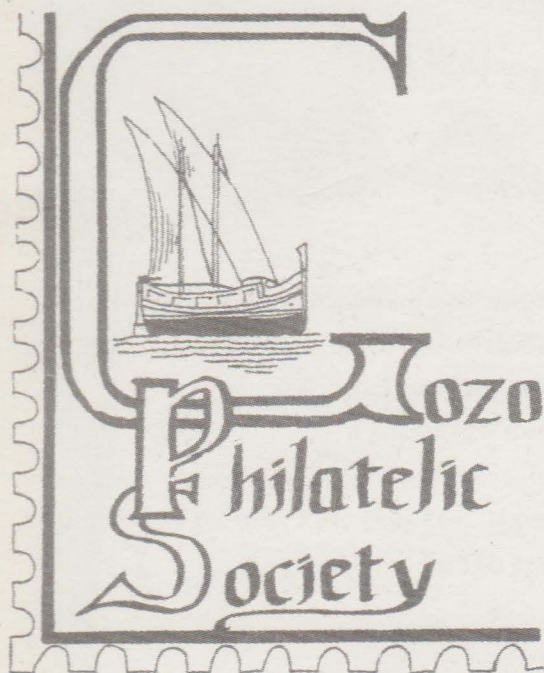
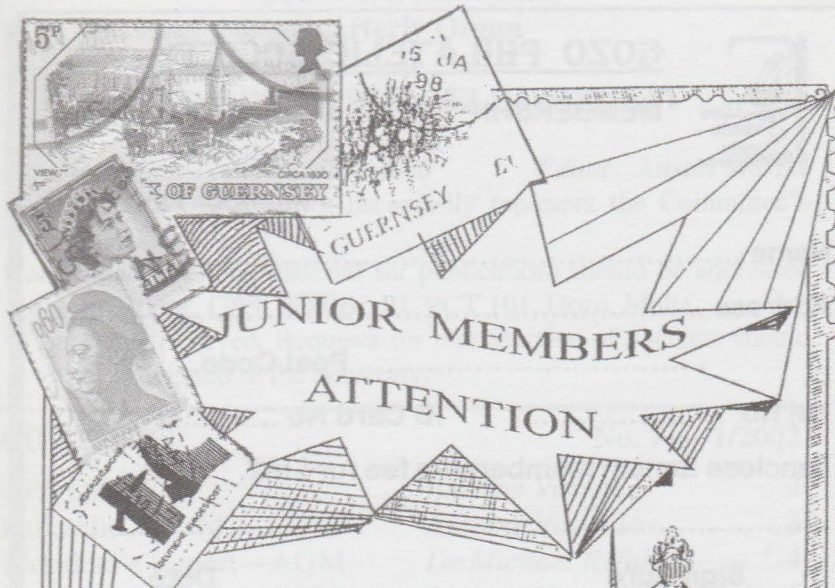


No. 7 January– March 2002 - 1/2002

# NEWSLETTER



*NEWSPAPER POST*



**JUNIOR MEMBERS  
ATTENTION**

*Introduce a new member to the  
Gozo Philatelic Society  
and you both receive  
a pack of 50 stamps.*



**MEMBERSHIP FEE:** Only Lm1.00 yearly for Junior Members  
Lm2.00 yearly for Senior Members

**ENROLL NOW!**



## GOZO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Member No. ....

Name .....

Address .....

..... Post Code.....

Tel No. .... ID Card No .....

I enclose annual membership fee for Lm2.

.....

Signature

Date

Being under 16, I enclose Lm1 for Junior membership  
(Date of Birth.....)

.....

Signature

Date

Introduced by..... Member No .....

I acknowledge receipt of membership application from

.....

with relative fee of .....

An official receipt and membership card will be issued  
later.

.....

(signed obo Gozo Philatelic Society)

Date



**GPS NEWSLETTER**  
**Quarterly Organ**  
**of**  
**THE GOZO PHILATELIC SOCIETY**

*First issued on 12th February 2000*      *Editor: Austin Masini*

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

Correspondence (and material for publication) should be addressed to: Editor, GPS, PO Box 10, VCT 101, Gozo, Malta.

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**GOZO PHILATELIC SOCIETY**

***Founded on 3rd September 1999***

For "the promotion of the hobby"

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

*Postal address: PO Box 10, VCT 101, Gozo, Malta.*

## GPS DIARY (7)

*Antoine Vassallo (Secretary)*

**25th November 2001** - Successful Members' Meeting at the Victoria Scout Group H.Q. (St. Domenica Street) which offered opportunities for stamp exchange etc, especially for our Juniors. During this activity GPS President Dr Refalo distributed prizes and Participation Certificates relating to our Second Philatelic Exhibition, referring again to the excellent level.

**15th December 2001** - Last meeting of the second committee and decision about AGM date.

**18 - 31 December 2001** - Co-ordination of exhibits from members at the first Christmas Card & Stamp Exhibition held at the Gozo Lending Library.

**December 2001** - Participation in annual Christmas Exhibition organized by the Crib Society at the Exhibition Hall.

**2nd January 2002** - Notice of 2nd Annual General Meeting sent to members.

**22nd January 2002** - Notice from the Press Registrar regarding our Newsletter registration.

**27th January 2002** - AGM held at Scout H.Q. (as part of another well-attended Members' Meeting). Besides being presented with reports from the President, Secretary and Treasurer (carried in this issue of the Newsletter), the members present approved an amendment to the GPS statute. (Pl vide on page 8). There being exactly eleven nominations for the Committee, no voting was necessary. Visits to schools and participation on the media have continued during this period.

**2nd February 2002** - First meeting of the new committee, during which, posts were assumed as follows: Not Michael Refalo - President, Frank Masini - Vice President, Antoine Vassallo - Secretary, Anthony Grech - Membership Secretary, John Muscat - Treasurer, George Vella - PRO, Austin Masini - Newsletter Editor, Rev Fr George Farrugia - Chaplain, Anton Said Cremona - Auditor, Anton V Said Micallef - School Co-ordinator and Emanuel Vella - Exchange Organizer.

## PHILATELIC WEB (4)

*Antoine Vassallo*

Here are another ten Internet sites, hopefully interesting and useful — but again in no particular order! You are invited to recommend others.

<a href="http://www.philaticmusic.com">www.philaticmusic.com</a>	<b>Thematic from Music Circle</b>
<a href="http://www.posta.hr">www.posta.hr</a>	<b>Croatian stamps</b>
<a href="http://www.stamps.org">www.stamps.org</a>	<b>American Philatelic Society</b>
<a href="http://www.jerseypost.com">www.jerseypost.com</a>	<b>Stamps from the Channel</b>
	<b>Island of Jersey</b>
<a href="http://www.askphil.org">www.askphil.org</a>	<b>Help among our hobby</b>
<a href="http://www.gov.im/stamps.com">www.gov.im/stamps.com</a>	<b>Stamps for the Isle Of Man</b>
<a href="http://www.topicalsonstamps.com">www.topicalsonstamps.com</a>	<b>Thematic collecting</b>
<a href="http://www.laposte.fr">www.laposte.fr</a>	<b>French stamps</b>
<a href="http://www.guernseypost.com">www.guernseypost.com</a>	<b>Stamps from the Channel</b>
	<b>Island of Guernsey</b>
<a href="http://www.auspost.com.au">www.auspost.com.au</a>	<b>Australian stamps</b>

## MEMBERS ATTENTION!!!

### (FORTHCOMING EVENTS)

Saturday 13th April 2002 At Dar Il-Lunzjata

**1.00pm Onwards** Members Meeting

*(Exchange, buying and selling of postage stamps)*

**4.30p.m.** Holy Mass at Lunzjata Chapel

\* \* \*

Pasta Night at Easter Time

*(You will be informed of the date later on)*

\* \* \*

*All members & friends are invited to attend for both activities.*

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2002

### *PRESIDENT'S REPORT*

#### **SMALL PAST, BIG FUTURE**

When a small group of middle aged men - of whom I was one - met for the first time, three years ago, in a picturesque valley in Gozo one Saturday afternoon with the declared intention of forming the Gozo Philatelic Society, one of the declared intentions then was to attract youngsters to the hobby.

Within a short space of three years the GPS has managed not only that! This last year has confirmed that what was planned three years ago could be done. We have attracted young adults to our Society as well as older ones. This has been done through the efforts and enthusiasm of my Committee members but it is also due to the fascination which stamps always offer.

Our Annual Exhibition held in October at the Exhibitions Hall of the Ministry for Gozo has been a great success not only from the point of view of organization but also from that of attendance. We have had a constant flow of students who were guided throughout the exhibition by some of the committee members who explained to them the basic facts about philately. These have been followed up by visits to individual schools where, again,. Some of the committee members have explained to students how to organize the stamp album, what and how to collect stamps and other interesting and useful facts about stamp collecting. ➤

During this year we have also managed to put on a more solid

basis our magazine. Our editor takes great pains to ensure that this is issued regularly and that it contains interesting material for all our members. Indeed, I can say that this has become a very important means for us to keep in contact with each other and to lay the basis for further expansion of our Society.

However, our success during so short a period should serve to push us further. There are many other challenges ahead. I want to mention just one. The GPS could serve as a focal point for Gozitan stamp collectors whether these reside on Gozo or elsewhere. The GPS should strive to make contact with those Gozitan stamp collectors who reside in other countries. This will not only be of benefit to them but also to us. Through such contacts we will be able to offer greater help to those collectors who require it and to offer them the possibility of meeting with, discussing, exchanging, selling and buying stamps from other countries and to learn, or at least acquire further information, on the philately of other countries.

I am sure that the in-coming Committee will deal with this and other issues, so that it keeps alive among our members, interest in philately and the enthusiasm which has marked our short past. Looking back over the last year I can say that the GPS has a bright future ahead of it. But this can only come through, if the enthusiasm and dedication which has been the hallmark of our members remains and is instilled in others.

I wish to conclude by proposing a vote of thanks to the outgoing Committee and wishing the new one the same success for the coming year. □

*MICHAEL REFALO*



SECOND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
(27.01.2002)

*SECRETARY'S REPORT*

I am happy to be able to report another successful year, with membership now quite near the two-hundred mark!

Various activities were organized, as reported chronologically in our quarterly Newsletter (which has developed into an attractive periodical). These included preparation of special Covers, participation in specialized exhibitions, Members' Meetings, *Lunzjata* Mass, a Pasta Night and School visits.

The Second GPS Philatelic Exhibition (opened by Minister Giovanna Debono on 13th October in the main Exhibition Hall) has to be mentioned specifically because of the quality and quantity of exhibits (as declared by the Judging Panel) and the continuous stream of visitors (and applicants for membership!) The sponsors were again The Bank of Valletta. It does seem that this has already become an established event and so we have rebooked the Hall from 19th October 2002.

The new committee will surely have to decide about additional display space, as well as a central location for regular members' meetings. The latter would offer the opportunity for exchange and sale of stamps, perusal of publications and general help in our hobby.

These "problems" of success would surely not have come about had it not been for the strong team making up your Committee, especially the enormous volume of time and effort offered by a couple of members! Besides the ten that returned

from the First AGM, a further member was co-opted so that the outgoing Committee is made up of : President Dr Michael Refalo and (alphabetically) Canon George Farrugia Chaplain, Anthony Grech Membership Secretary, Austin Masini Newsletter Editor, Francis Masini Vice President, John Muscat Treasurer, Anton Said Cremona Auditor, Anton Said Micallef School Co-ordinator, Antoine Vassallo Secretary, Emanuel Vella Exchange Organizer and George Vella Public Relations Officer.

Internationally-renowned philatelist Mr Anthony Fenech accepted the official designation of Consultant, while long-standing collector Mr George Scicluna was nominated Life Member of our Society. Besides unofficial and sub-committee discussions, we had seven official Committee meetings (between 27th January and 15th December 2001) during which we covered a wide range of items but have had to leave certain decisions to the incoming committee. The updated statute was distributed with Newsletter No 5.

Besides increasing stamps and other items available for sale, we are trying to expand our services by coming to an agreement with Mr Joe Buttigieg of the Sliema Stamp Shop for supplies of accessories.

We retained the Malta Study Circle membership, also helping in their publications.

I must express thanks for all those who co-operated during these months including the Cultural Council, Schools and the Victoria Scout Group.

Various members have been offering stamps for distribution, also as competition prizes. Others are publicising our hobby

(and the Gozo Philatelic Society) through their participation on Community Radios and the use of other media. Mr Alvin Scicluna of Citadel Video (and others) have given good coverage to our activities; we were actually even “displayed” during MIDPEX in Coventry (thanks to one of our overseas members).

I finally encourage members to actively participate in our activities and possibly contribute to our Newsletter (which has this week been registered at the Press Registry). You may be interested to know that, during our international contacts, we managed to be in a position in future to exchange arrangements with other periodicals - even regarding contents. □

ANTOINE VASSALLO

### AMENDMENT TO STATUTE

Following unanimous approval during the AGM, article 5.3 of the GPS Statute now reads:

*“The AGM shall commence at the time stipulated in the Notice, but members who arrive late cannot be refused attendance.”*

Consequentially, the last six words of 5.7 were deleted.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR YEAR 2001**  
**(From 1st January 2001 To 31st December 2001)**

*prepared by John Muscat and audited by Anton Said*

**INCOME**

Opening Balance	LM 103.00c
Membership Fees	LM 310.00c
Exhibition Sponsorship - BOV	LM 150.00c
Newsletter Adverts	LM 50.00c
Pasta Night activities	LM 38.00c
Sale of albums, cards, stamps, etc.	LM 130.96c
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>LM781.96c</b>

**EXPENDITURE**

Printing and Posting of 4 Newsletters	LM 190.00c
Secretarial and PRO expenses	LM 45.00c
Vouchers, trophies and prizes for participants	LM 140.00c
Purchase of dup. paper & other stationery	LM 30.00c
Purchase of stamps from U.K.	LM 45.00c
Purchase of postage stamps	LM 13.08c
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>LM463.08c</b>

**Balance at Bank as on 31st December 2001**    **LM318.88c**

## MAILCOACH LETTERS

*Ilona Masini*



Before the railway was invented the only means to transport post was a heavy mailcoach drawn by four horses. These mailcoaches, although very difficult to handle, travelled across Europe, the American Great Plains, across the Australian deserts and even provided postal service for the remote Siberian settlements.

Nowadays letters can also be carried by mailcoach. In fact collectors pay extra sums of money to send their letters by this ancient and slow means of transport. Special mailcoach services are also operated to commemorate anniversaries of cities, to promote special events, large agricultural activities and folk festivals. In Austria and Germany alone, philatelists have made an agreement with the local government which permits a certain number of letters to be carried by these historical vehicles. It is worth noting that one of the longest modern mailcoach service started to operate in Poland to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the birth of the great astronomer - Nicholas Copernicus. The mailcoach travelled through a large part of the country visiting cities that had played an important part in Copernicus life and career. In fact from this single route alone, a collector could gather some twenty different postal documents.

Anyway, despite all the promotion given in philatelic magazines and regardless of the fact that this kind of letters are legitimized by postal authorities, these letters represent nothing, but philatelic gimmicks. These practically have no collector's value, although the selling price may be quite high.



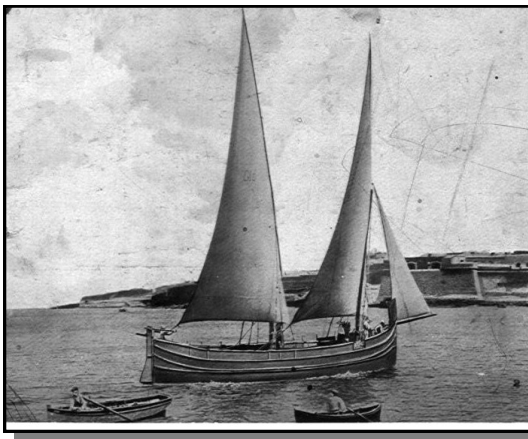
## Stamp Issue Programme For The Year 2002

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>MONTH OF ISSUE</u>
1. WWF - Seahorse	January 2002
2. Malta's Film Industry	February 2002
3. Antique Furniture In Malta	March 2002
4 Europa 2002	May 2002
5. Moths and Butterflies	June 2002
6. Maltese Cuisine	August 2002
7. Cacti and Succulents	September 2002
8. Personalities	October 2002
9. Christmas 2002	November 2002



8. **Churchill:** 8.1 **2d** Map of Maltese Islands.  
8.2 **1/-** same design.
9. **Queen’s Visit:** **3/-** Outline map of Maltese islands.
10. **Local Commems****10d** Outline of Maltese islands.
11. **Independence Anniversary:**  
**2d** Memorial to those killed during 1919 riots. (including a Gozitan from Xaghra)
12. **Literary Centennials:**  
**1/6** Gozitan historian Agius De Soldanis.
13. **Religious Commemorations:**  
13.1 **2d** “St Joseph” at Qala parish church.  
13.2 **10d** same design.

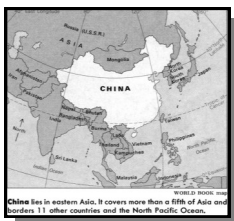
**Members are invited to contribute suggestions**





## **THE CHINESE POSTAL MUSEUM HISTORY**

Research by *Austin Masini*



### **SECTION I**

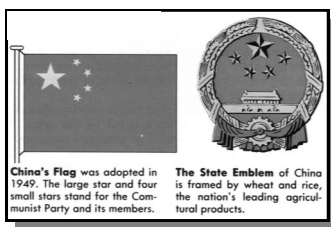
As soon as you come to the second floor, of this Museum you will find yourself entering a tunnel of time. You will be able to view the long history of the evolution of postal service in China from the ancient mailtrain sporting station system to the mail route linking Asia and Europe in the Yuan Dynasty, plus the vivid illustrations of mail-conveying stories and anecdotes.

China was one of the earliest countries to begin a communication system. Confucius once said, "News of deeds travels faster than the mail." These words provide the evidence that some 2500 years ago during the Don-Chou Dynasty, China already had a highly efficient postal system. The exhibition on the second floor "Postal History Section I" commences with Confucius world and shows the evolution of postal systems and artifacts of correspondence from the Chou Dynasty to the late Ching Dynasty in China's history.

Well known stories are presented with paintings, artifacts and tableaux. For example, Tang Min-hung, an emperor of the Tang Dynasty, secretly ordered mailman of an early "Pony Express Service" to bring fresh litchi from western China to the capital in order to please his favourite princess. Furthermore, envelopes used to protect documents delivered by horse during late Ching Dynasty, objects related to the development of Taiwan's postal services and postage stamps issued by Governor Liu Min-Chun are also on display to bring back to the visitors the difficult times our ancestors lived in.

There are other items in the exhibition which vividly show the diligence of the forerunners of postal workers and the difficulties they confronted. For instance, you will find ►

background information relating to the modern postal service set up by Sir Robert Hart in 1896, the process of the central government's take-over of Taiwan's postal system when Japan ended its colonization of the island in 1945, along with photos showing the hardship of the mailmen's task. Items regarding ancient communication, such as various types of letters written on bamboo, wooden tablets and clay seals which were used in old days to ensure the confidentiality of the correspondence as well as letters written by famous literates, are also important exhibits in this section.



## SECTION II

On the third floor visitors can learn how the modern postal service has been developed and modernized since its founding, from the exhibited objects and various equipment used in the past. For

example, the bas-relief shown above illustrating the remarkable working spirit of the postal workers, was taken from the central design of a stamp to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the modern postal service in China.

China's modern postal service was founded in 1896 and the General Post Office was set in Beijing. For a hundred years, the efforts made by each generation of postal workers have contributed to the growth of the postal enterprise, especially the contribution which all former devoted General Postmasters gave, cannot be left unrecognised.

Mailmen did not wear uniforms until the state-run china became stable and prosperous. Nowadays, mailmen wear green uniforms delivering mail in the streets and alleys. Their diligent image has won them the title of **“green clothed angels”**. □

(source internet <http://www.us.sis.gov/html/post00.1htm>)

## THE WORLD CUP

*Emanuel Vella*



During June the Football World Cup Finals will be played in Japan and Korea. At present 32 nations are preparing for this year's event. These nations will play in the world's greatest football competition. This tremendous spectacle will be commemorated by many countries with the issuing of stamps and other philatelic material.

The World Cup know its beginning to a French lawyer, Jules Rimet who for years dreamed of holding a World Football Championship Competition. His life-long ambition was achieved in 1930 when the first football world cup competition was played in Uruguay.

In tracing back this historic event it should be noted that the title "World Football Champion" could only be accorded to the nation who had won the Olympic Games Football Competition; which at that time was open to all nations. But in those days the Olympic Games were for amateurs only and so many nations' best footballers were disqualified from competing in the football competition.

Uruguay who won the Football Competition of the 1904 Olympics commemorated this event by a publicity postmark. The first World Football Championship organised by F.I.F.A. (Federation Internationale de Football Association) was staged in Uruguay in 1930 as agreed during the Congress in

*continued on page 22*

## **QUIZ COMPETITION**

*Open to all Junior Members of the Gozo Philatelic Society*

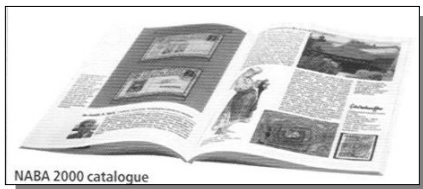
- i) Where is China's Modern General Post Office situated and in what year was it founded?
- ii) What are Chinese mailmen called?
- iii) Who designed the Gozo Philatelic Society Logo?
- iv) What was the only means to transport post before the railway was invented?

Please send your answers on a separate paper together with your name, address and membership number by not later than 30th April 2002 to:

*The Secretary  
Gozo Philatelic Society  
P.O. Box 10, Victoria Gozo VCT 101*

### **Prize**

An attractive packet of different European Stamps generously donated by Mr Hans Katzensteiner.



## **PREVIOUS QUIZ COMPETITION RESULTS**

Answers to above captioned competition which was published in G.P.S. Newsletter No. 6 are as follows:

- i) Canada in 1898.
- ii) 3rd November 1964. Three Stamps. Envin Cremona.
- iii) Christ the Child. Austria.
- iv) Year 1950

### **PRIZE WINNER:**

GPS Prize Winner of a special Handstamp dated 19.12.2000 (*First Christmas of the Millenium*) from Christ the Child Church in Austria goes to Nicholas Apap of Fontana Gozo. (Member No. 86)

*(This set was generously donated by Mr Hans Katzensteiner who is also one of our members.)*

**CONGRATULATIONS !!!**



**Please note that copies of various philatelic publications are available for free temporary loan to members by contacting the Secretary.**

## POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS IN GOZO 1887

### Part Five)

(Anton F Attard)

*(Continued from the previous number)*

This is the concluding part of our interesting document regarding the postal history of the Island of Gozo. It deals mainly with the duties of Letter Carriers, as Postmen were then called. It is interesting to point out that Gozo was then divided into two Postal Districts, that of Victoria and the other one of Mgarr. There was a Postman for each district, but Gharb had the Courier of the village, and Comino, the Marine Police, to deliver their mail. It appears that the amount of mail to be delivered was extremely small, so much so that Postmen were strictly prohibited not to carry the mail in their pockets! At that time Postmen could also be illiterate! However, Postmen not adhering to rules and regulations could be fined and eventually dismissed from the service as disciplinary measures. Among the rules to be obeyed by Postmen there was the wearing of an Armlet on their left arm and the refraining from frequenting coffee shops while on duty.

### *Duties and Instructions of the Letter Carriers*

1. The Letter Carriers are to arrange the Letters & c. which they themselves are to deliver before leaving the Office, and to be as quick as possible in delivering the same following the Route prescribed to them.
  - a) The Route of the Victoria District commences with the Victoria Town and afterwards the Villages of Zebbug, Kercem, Garb and Sannat are visited in succession.
  - b) The Route of the Mgar District commences with Mgar, and afterwards Fort Chambray, Gajn Sielem, Kala, Nadur, Xaghra and Xeuchia. ►

c) Garb has a special Letter Carrier, the Courier of the village and Comino Island, the Marine Police.

2. They are to clear the Letter Boxes, on their route, daily, except on Sundays and other Holidays.

The Letter Carriers are not permitted to take charge of any Letters & c. which may be tendered to them while on their walk. Correspondence & c., cleared from the Letter Boxes alone, are to be conveyed by them to the Post Office of their District.

3. Having gone round the prescribed Route, they are to return quickly to the Office and give back such Letters & c. as they may have failed to deliver stating the reason of non-delivery which reason is to be endorsed on each letter not delivered, by the Officer receiving it, should the Letter Carrier be illiterate.

Undelivered Letters & c. are, on no account, to be taken home by the Letter Carriers, but must be endorsed by them stating reason of non delivery, and handed over at the completion of their walk, to the Detached Post Officers of their District. Undelivered Book-Packets, Newspapers and Printed matter are to be treated in all respects as Letters. Letters are not to be put under doors, or dropped into areas of houses even if the Letter Carriers be requested to do so by the addressees.

4. The Letter Carriers while on duty are to wear the prescribed Armlet on the left arm above the elbow, and to carry the prescribed Pouch slung across from the right shoulder to the left hip, and are to be clean and proper in their person.

All letters are to be carried in the “Pouch” or “Bag” and under no circumstances are Letters & c. to be carried in a Coat or Trousers Pocket. ➤

5. The Letter Carriers are to sell stamps, registered Letter Envelopes and Post Cards along their route, and for this purpose they are to be supplied with a small credit stock of stamps & c. (not exceeding 5s/-) by the Detached Post Officers who are to take care that Letter Carriers have the necessary stock in hand, every morning, before starting on their tour, and that they give an account of their sales, and stock remaining, on returning to the Office.
6. The Letter Carriers are to bear in mind that the Public must invariably be treated with proper respect, and that they must always wait a reasonable time for their “knock” or “ring” to be answered, before “knocking” or “ringing” a second time.
7. Loitering on the way, or entering into a Caffe or into any other Public house, for refreshments while on duty, is strictly prohibited. Quick step and evident expeditious habits should be the distinguishing qualifications of the Letter Carriers.
8. The Letter Carriers are to obey respectfully the directions they may receive from their Superiors, bearing constantly in mind, under any provoking circumstances, that disobedience of orders, or acts of insubordination, will not be tolerated in the performance of public duty and will therefore be repressed by “mulcting” and eventually by “dismissal”. ◻

*Extract from the Regulations of the General Post Office*

*(Signed) F.V. Inglott - Postmaster*

*Approved by H.E. the Governor.*

*See min of 24th October 1887 on 5132 on Ref Bk Vol.1 Fol 97.*

*P. Office*

*(Signed) F.V. Inglott*

*(True Copy of the Original in the General Post Office.)*

3 Dec 1887

F.V. Inglott - Postmaster



*from page 16*

Barcelona in 1929. To publicise this event the Uruguayan postal service issued a series of four different machine cancellations which are extremely rare to find. As there were no stamps issued, one has to fall back on these cancellations together with privately printed and unofficial stationery issued to commemorate this championship.

The second World Football Championship was staged in Italy in 1934. When Jules Rimet introduced the World Cup Competition he had expressed his desire that it should be a global affair with the competition being staged alternatively, once in South America and the following one in Europe, naturally if the playing facilities were of the required standard.

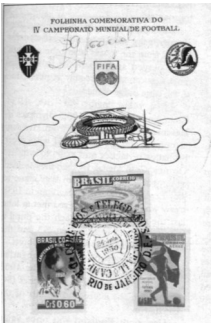
As the second world cup was played in Italy the Italian postal systems issued three different sets to commemorate this event. On the 24th May 1934 they issued a postage/airmail set (S.G. C 174 - 8) and A 65 - 68). Then on June 5th 1934 Italy issued a set for Italian colonies (S.G. 76 - 87). Finally the Aegean Islands - which were colonies of Italy - issued the same set as Italy but with different colours and overprint (S.G. 60 - 68). Besides these sets, Italy issued also three publicity postcards and a fourth postcard prepared for the F.I.F.A. Congress held that year in Rome. This World Cup was won by Italy and after the final, two publicity postcards were issued by Italy. One showing the teams lined up before kick-off and the other showing the victorious Italian squad.

The next Football World Cup Championship was held in France in 1938. France was chosen because of the success by Italy and because Jules Rimet was French. Surprisingly it was only the host nation France, which would have any philatelic

recognition for the championship. This was 1.75 franc value S.G. 612 which was issued on 1st June 1938. The only other philatelic material was a publicity machine cancellation issued in the town of Lille to publicise the forthcoming match on June 12 1938 between Hungary and Switzerland which Hungary won by two goals to nil.

During the second world war the world football championship did not take place. The Jules Rimet Cup was retained by Pozzo - Italian coach - who hid it from the German occupiers and eventually this football's most precious prize was smuggled over the border to Switzerland where it remained in safe keeping until the end of hostilities.

The next football world cup was held in Brazil. From that time onwards a lot of countries began issuing stamps to commemorate this event. In 1950 Brazil issued three postage stamps (S.G. 797 - 9) plus souvenir cards to publicise this event. The number of special cancellations is too numerous to mention.



The next competition was held in Switzerland. It issued one stamp (S.G. 552) on March 15, 1954, together with other countries which issued stamps to commemorate also this event.

Malta issued the first set and miniature sheet to commemorate the World Football Championship in 1978. The finals were played in Argentina. The Maltese set which was designed by Antonio Degiovanni consisted of a miniature sheet and the same stamps were also issued singly; 2c, 11c and 15c. The cost of the miniature sheet was 28c. ➤

Four years later the World Football Championships were played in Spain. Malta again issued a miniature sheet. The issue consisted of three stamps and were designed by Richard J Caruana.

In 1986 the finals were held in Mexico. Malta again issued a miniature sheet designed by Tony Bugeja. The set was released on 30th May.

For the 1990 World Football Championship, the Malta Post again issued a miniature sheet designed by Tony Bugeja, the same artist who designed the previous miniature sheet. This time the finals were held in Italy.

The 1994 W.F.C. were held in the U.S.A. Again Malta issued a miniature sheet designed by Frank Ancilleri. The stamps were of 5c, 14c and 30c denominations.

In the year 1998 the Malta Post Office again issued a miniature sheet consisting of three values. The sheet was designed by Richard J. Caruana.

As it was said before, this year's finals are being played in Korea and Japan. This is the first time the final are being staged in two different countries. Malta again is going to issue stamps to commemorate this great world event. □



## **FOR SALE**

Capitulation of the French Special hand stamp cards (set of 2). (*Timbru speċjali ta' Kapitulazzjoni ta-Frañċiżi f'Għawdex*) Lm1.00c

Packets of "Davo" hinges (1000). (*Pakketti tal-1000 hinges "Davo"*) Lm0.75c

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Davo Stock Books with Maltese Coat of Arms. ("*Stock Books*" *Davo bl-arma ta' Malta*) Lm9.75c

Millenium hand stamped cards (8). (*Set ta' 8 kartolini ttimbrati bl-aħħar timbru tal-millenuju wahda għal kull posta f'Għawdex*) Lm2.50c

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Mr Anthony Grech on Tel No. 553338



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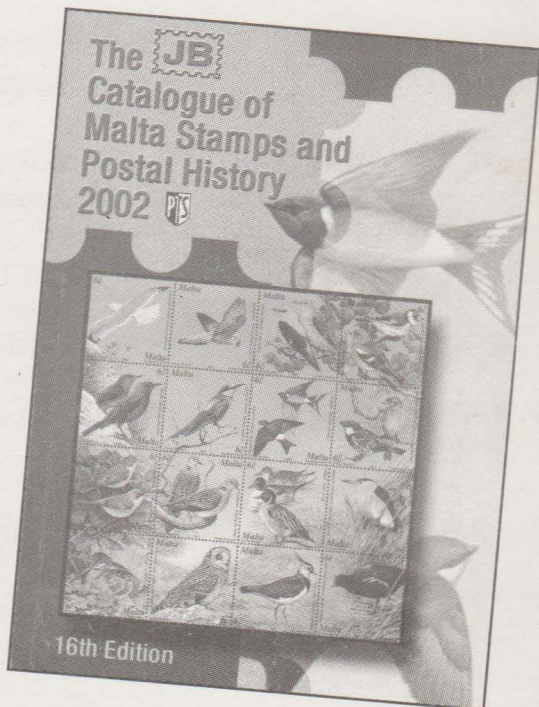
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