

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 Birżebbuġa on Friday, 18th October, 1985.

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The date-stamp which was replaced was withdrawn from use at the above mentioned Sub-Post Office on the closing of business on Thursday, 17th October, 1985.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

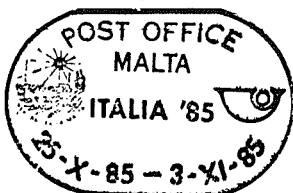


Fig. 4

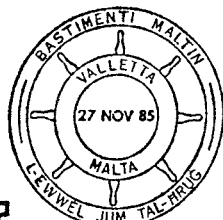


Fig. 7



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"