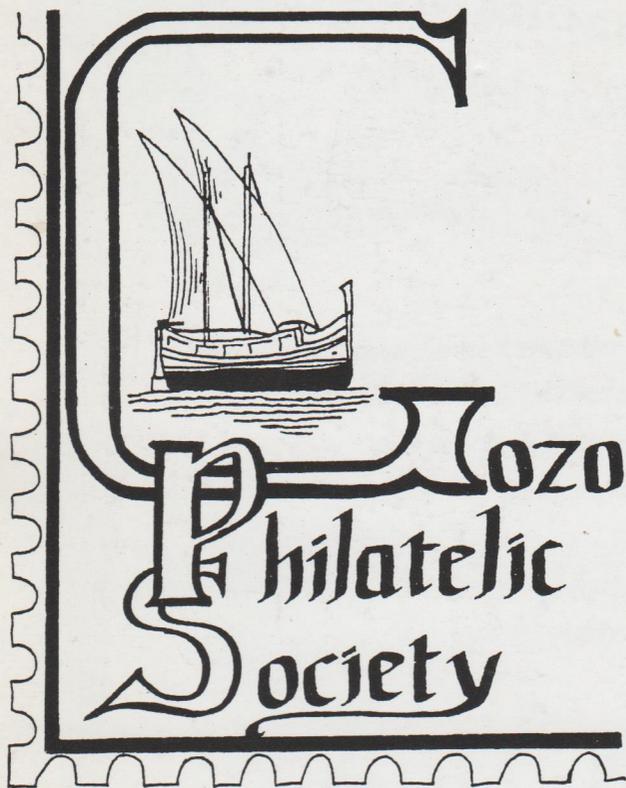
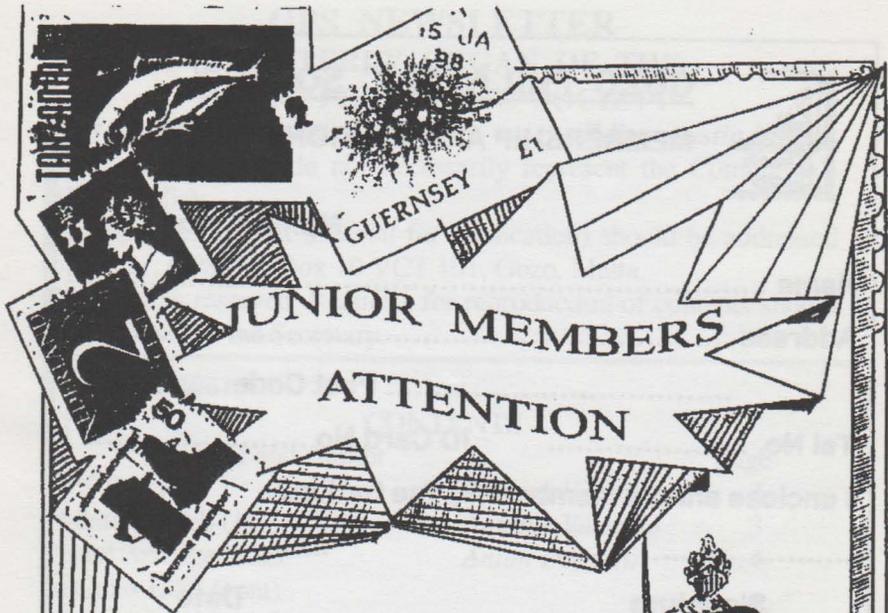


NEWSLETTER No. 4 ❖ Apr - June 2001



2/2001



**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.

G.P.S. Diary (4)

Antoine Vassallo (Secretary)

10th March 2001 - Committee decided on organization of exchange packets. Anton Said Micallef coopted to Committee.

March 2001 - Participation by members in Lent Exhibition.

21st March 2001 –Special FDC’s for {urdan Lighthouse 16c stamp.

24th March 2001 - Very successful Members’ Meeting at *Lunzjata*, concluded by Mass celebrated by our Chaplain. Prizes and Certificates for the Essay Competition were distributed.

17th April 2001 - We finally acquired a copy of the standard Handbook on Malta’s Stamps and Postal History (issued in 1980 by the Malta Study Circle). Since it has long been out of print, members can order photocopies (against a nominal charge). This is the list of chapters: 1) History and Topography; 2) 1530-1806; 3) Post Office 1806-85; 4) Maritime Mail; 5) Lazaretto; 6) Explanatory Marks; 7) GB used in Malta; 8) Postal rates; 9) Halfpenny Yellow; 10) 1885; 11) Village Marks; 12) Pictorial issue; 13) Edward VII; 14) Postmen’s Handstamps; 15) 1914-22; 16) POW Mail; 17) Forces’ Mail; 18) Melita; 19) George V 1926; 20) Air Mails; 21) George VI Definitive; 22) George VI Commemorative; 23) War Air; 24) 1956; 25) Elizabeth Commemorative; 26) Due; 27) Specimen; 28) Revenues; 29) Stationery; 30) PO’s; 31) Registration; 32) Handstamp Cancellations.

I take this opportunity to mention that copies of the MSC “Melita” Newsletter (and a slowly increasing range of other publications) are also available by contacting the Secretary. □

PHILATELIC WEB (1)

Antoine Vassallo

As an additional service for our members, we will be listing - in no particular order - some Internet sites (10 each issue) which should be interesting (and useful !).

www.allworldstamps.com	online catalogue from Stanley Gibbons
www.casb.co.uk	new issue details from over 60 administrations
www.stamps.fo	Faroese Post Office
www.groth.ch	World Wide Fund for Nature stamps
www.urchharris.com	new issue service
www.stanleygibbons.com	
www.colletorcafe.com	
www.stampcafe.com	online community
www.iomsales.co.uk	Isle of Man
http://stamps.about.com	Philatelic Newsletter

MEMBER WRITES FROM ENGLAND

Leslie Sutton has sent us an interesting letter. We are reproducing some extracts.

My intention was to cultivate contacts to extend my collection of Postal Cancellations by means of exchanges. I started collecting when serving at RAF Halfar and Luqa. My hometown of Nottingham hosts 15 stamp fairs, Derby 12; a good proportion of which I attend. I have a considerable accumulation of used Malta stamps, should any member wish to exchange. I was very impressed by the way the Newsletter was compiled. (Thank you !). I would very much appreciate obtaining permission to reproduce GPS Newsletter articles in the Nottingham PS's own newsletter. Our PS has 101 members and meeting attendance averages 40.

Members who are interested in corresponding with Mr Sutton are encouraged to contact the GPS Secretary. □

POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS IN GOZO 1887

(Part Two)

Anton F. Attard

It is interesting to note that according to these rules and regulations, Letter Carriers (Postmen) were expected to sell Post Office items such as stamps, Post Office Cards and Registered Envelopes, when on their beat.

Sorting

The Mails on arrival at the District Post Offices, are instantly opened and the correspondence contained therein, examined and checked with the "Letter Bills" accompanying the same. Each letter is then stamped and the whole contents of the mail sorted for Delivery.

Delivery

The Letter Carriers having received their charge from the Post Officer, arrange the same according to the order of their walk and instantly proceed to deliver the correspondence commencing with the Town or central place in which the Post Office is situated and afterwards with the nearest village in succession.

The Delivery at each village being completed, the Letter Carrier clears the Station Letter Box and Proceed to the next village to perform the same duty and so on until he has gone through the whole of his walk.

Collection

The correspondence thus collected is delivered to the Post Office of the District and the letters not delivered are endorsed by the Letter Carrier stating the cause for non-delivery and the whole are sorted for despatch by the next mail to Malta

retaining such Letters as may be found addressed to places in Gozo to be delivered by the Letter Carriers of the respective Districts.

Care to be taken that the Postage stamps be clearly obliterated before disposing of the correspondence collected either for Malta or Gozo.

Stamps &c

Postage Stamps, Post Office Cards and Registered Envelopes are sold at the District Post Offices and by the Letter Carriers along their route.

Rates of Postage

The rates of postage for letters, book packets and newspapers from anyone place to any other place within the limits of these Islands shall be charged according to the following scales:

Letters

Not exceeding half an ounce.....halfpenny.
Exceeding half an ounce but not an ounce.....one penny.
For every additional half ounce over one ounce.....halfpenny.
A letter posted unpaid will be charged on delivery with Double Postage and if insufficiently paid with double the deficiency.

Books

Book-packets, printed papers, commercial Papers, Patterns, or samples of merchandise for every half pound or fraction of a pound up to three pounds Halfpenny.

No packet exceeding three pounds is transmissible.

(continued on page 26)

What is the U.P.U.?

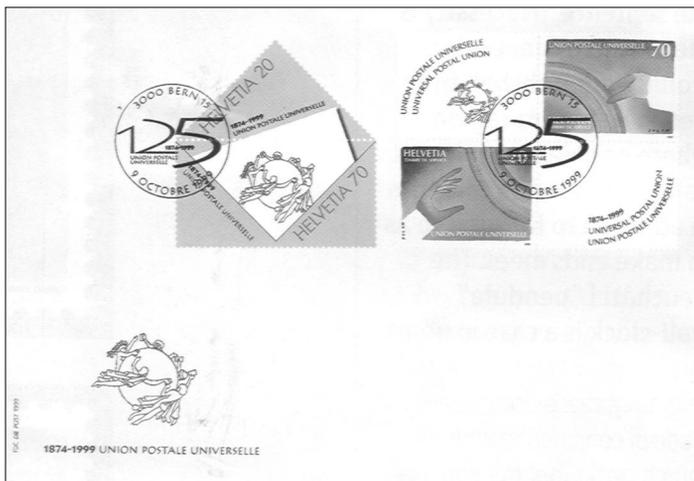
Anthony Grech



In September 1874 at the request of the Swiss Government, a National conference was held in Berne, Switzerland. The aim of this conference was to draw up a set of principles to govern the exchange of mail between countries. This conference gave birth to the Universal Postal Union, the U.P.U.

Naturally enough the U.P.U. International Bureau was set up in its birth place, Berne.

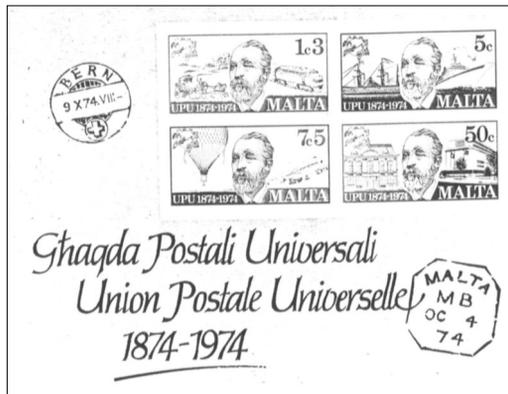
In spite of the huge economic and technological changes that characterise today's world, the U.P.U. can and is still fulfilling the role it was set up to do. This role is to provide a rapid, economic and reliable postal service to its member countries.



In addition the U.P.U. gives technical assistance and facilitates international co-operation on postal matter. This is the Universal Postal Union final goal, promoting and developing communications between peoples all over the world without distinction.

Malta is proud to be a member of this international organisation which is formed by more than 185 national postal administrations. The U.P.U. which is a specialised agency of the United Nations, celebrated its 125th anniversary in 1999. On this occasion Malta together with almost another 100 countries issued a set of commemorative stamps. But, perhaps one of the most beautiful Maltese set of stamps issued in conjunction with the U.P.U. is the one that commemorated the U.P.U. 75th anniversary in 1949. In its design one can find the U.P.U.'s history aim and goal.

As a conclusion to this article I would suggest especially to our young members to start a thematic collection of the U.P.U. anniversary stamps of every country. I am sure this will make a very attractive and interesting collection if it is accompanied by a short write up on each country involved. □



ANNUAL NEW ISSUE OF STAMPS

Emanuel Vella

If nowadays a person starts collecting stamps, he would find it very difficult to decide where to begin and which country or countries to collect. Today I am going to have a look at the stamps issued in 1999.

The number of stamps and souvenir sheets issued world wide in 1999 according to a new issue survey prepared by Michel-Rundschan - a famous German stamp magazine - was 16107 stamps. These stamps have a face value of \$7026 and it would cost about LM7000 maltese liri to buy them from stamp dealers.

From the 266 postal administrations listed in the survey, the eastern African nation of Tanzania tops the charts with the most stamps, the most souvenir sheets and the highest face value.

In fact below listed is a chart to substantiate the above.

Country	Stamps	Souv. Sheets	Face Value
Tanzania	511	70	\$274
Guinea	440	52	\$198
Liberia	430	46	—
Japan	310	5	\$169
Senegal	271	25	\$165
Guyana	259	36	\$162
Mali	286	6	\$109
Bhutan	249	34	\$128
Madagascar	258	23	\$117
St Vincent	246	23	\$113
Gambia	238	29	\$123
Nicaragua	230	29	\$121
United States	253	4	\$58

→

This chart of which only a small part was reproduced here puts Malta in the 83rd place with 55 stamps and souvenir sheets issued, just a place after Germany with 56 units and a place before Gibraltar with 53 units. Not all countries issued this big number of stamps. In fact Malawi, Scotland and Wales issued only 4 stamps each, while Afghanistan, Guatemala and Kenya did not issue any stamps at all.

The catalogue value of the stamps for the most expensive ones are as follows: Tanzania \$839, Liberia \$678, Guinea \$672, New Zealand \$544, Guyana \$507, Central Africa \$462, Senegal \$408, Madagascar \$379, Grenada \$373 and Nicaragua \$367.

1999 was the year when most records in stamps and souvenir sheets were broken. But it was not the year with the highest face value of stamps recorded. In fact the annual total of new issues during the last 10 years was as follows:

Year	Stamps	Souv. Sheets	Face Value
1991	9477	1364	\$ 6379
1992	9488	1288	\$ 5802
1993	10128	1300	\$ 7000
1994	10742	1121	\$ 7494
1995	11091	923	\$ 7012
1996	11422	1041	\$ 5737
1997	12251	1155	\$ 7545
1998	13394	1186	\$ 7281
1999	14745	1362	\$ 7026



HISTORY OF THE AUSTRIAN POSTAL SERVICE

Dear members and friends of the Gozo Philatelic Society,

As a member of the GPS of Austrian nationality, it will be a pleasure for me to introduce you the history of the Austrian postal service.

A few words before I begin with the history: The popularity of the Austrian stamps by collectors is worldwide. The policy of issue is not to issue great amounts. The quality of the prints are worldwide recognized as little pieces of art made by well known Austrian designers. These designers are also the designer of the new Euronotes used as legal currency from 2002 in the E.C.

A brief history of the Austrian postal system: Austria has been a member of the postal union since 1st July 1875. Till 1806 Austria was a part of the Holy Roman Empire. During this time the postal system was run by Thurn and Taxis in Germany and by Paar in Vienna for the Austrian territories. From 1751 onwards only postmarks were very common, then from 1790 the postmarks were replaced by hand written signs. After the constitution of the German alliance and the reorganisation of the postal system in 1818 it was mandatory to use postmarks.

On 1st June 1850 the first stamps were introduced. The Austrian Empire at that time consisted of the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, a part of Poland (Galicia), and the Ukraina, Romania, Slovenia, Croatia, Dalmatia, the coastland and the northern part of Serbia, Lombardy, Veneto and south Tyrol plus Austria as it is known today. Till 1920 Austrian stamps were also used in the principality of Liechtenstein.

The next big change in the Austrian postal system came out with the loss of Lombardy in 1859 and the loss of Veneto in 1866. This involved a change in the constitution. In 1867 the Austro-Hungarian Empire was established with an Austrian ➔

and a Hungarian postal system. Two independent postal systems and neutral stamps, except for the 50 Krone stamps with the Habsburg crown, were printed.

A special part of the Austrian postal service was in the Levant with 81 post offices mainly in ports and administered by the Austrian Lloyd, today better known as Lloyd Triestino. The post offices which were established in the Aegean Islands, Crete, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey, Romania, Egypt, Albania and Cyprus had uniform stamps and three different currencies were used, namely, the Florin, the Piaster and the Franc.

Bosnia Herzogewina was occupied by the Austro-Hungarian army in 1908, but the stamps issued had no written information on them, only numbers. This was done not to give any preference to any particular language or population.

The currency used until 1918 was 1 Krone = 100 Heller.

The Austrian postal service was also in China after the Boxer Rebellion in Peking from 1901 till 1917, working for a contingent of Austro-Hungarian soldiers. Austrian, Hungarian and stamps from Bosnia Herzogewina were used in this post office.

The Austro-Hungarian field postal service was working from 1914 to 1918 in Italy, Montenegro, Serbia and Romania.

From 1974 to date there are three Austrian field postal services running. One in Syria (Damascus), one in Cyprus (Lanarca), and one in the region of Kosovo. The stamps are the same like in Austria, only stamp marks are used.



UNITED NATIONS VIENNA

Vienna is the third main office of the United Nations after New York and Geneva. This so called “VIENNA INTERNATIONAL CENTRE” includes a Post Office with its own stamps valid only in the Centre. These stamps are printed with the same high printing quality, and the designers are mainly from third world countries.

The currencies used on Austrian Stamps are as follows:

Up to 1858:	1 Gulden = 100 Kreuzer
1858 - 1925:	1 Krone = 100 Heller
1925 - 1938:	1 Austrian Schilling = 100 Groschen
1938 - 1945:	Austria was included in the third Reich
1945 - 2001:	1 Austrian Schilling = 100 Groschen
2002 -	1 EURO = 100 cents

In the Levant:	The Florin, the Piaster and Franc.
In China:	Gulden, Forint and Krone.
Lombardy, Veneto:	1 Lira = 100 Centesimi and 1 Florin = 100 Soldi .

I hope that this brief history of the Austrian Postal Service was interesting and informative and would be successfully used by old and new members of the Gozo Philatelic Society. □

HANS KATZENSTEINER
GPS MEMBER
from Austria



Tag|rif mill-{\urnali ta' l-Img|oddi

mi|bur minn Anthony Grech

Posta bl-ajru g]al Tune\ u Tripli

Il-korrispondenza bl-ajru g]al Tune\ u Tripli issa tista' ti[i milqug]a sabiex tkun tista' tin[arr g]al dawk il-pajji\i. Jin]tie [li l-korrispondenza li tkun ser tintbag]at b'dan is-servizz tkun im]allsa minn qabel. Id-dritt preskritt tal-]las huwa 1s3d g]al kull nofs uqija jew frazzjoni ta' uqija.

*Mill-{\urnal "G]awdex"
Il-}add 28 t'April 1946*

Il-Posta bl-Ajru

{ie m]abbar uffi`jalment illi l-ittri li soltu jintbag]tu bl-ajru l-Ingilterra b'bolla ta' 6d mil-lum `l quddiem jistg]u jintbag]tu b'bolla ta' 3d. I\da dawk l-ittri li ji\nu uqija jibqg]u jintbag]tu b'bolla ta' 9d.

*Mill-{\urnal "G]awdex"
Il-}add 3 ta' Frar 1946*

Bolli

Irrid nixtri bolla sewda ta' Malta tal 10/- f`kundizzjoni tajba (Stanley Gibbons No 104). Noffri £10. George Xicluna B.P.A. 36 Mons Farrugia Street Victoria.

*Mill-{\urnal "G]awdex"
Il-}add 20 ta' Jannar 1946*

STAMP COLLECTING*Austin Masini*

It all began early in the history of postage stamps, and increased after the first lists were issued in 1861 by Oscar Berger-Levrault and Alfred Potiquet in France. In England, catalogues were published by Frederick Booty, J.E.Gray, and Mount Brown in 1862. Major collectors include the Austrian-Italian nobleman Philippe la Renotiere von Ferrari, the American president Franklin D.Roosevelt, Cardinal Spellman and Maurice Burrus, the Alsatian tobacco tycoon. One of the outstanding collections in Europe, very rich in British and colonial issues, was largely formed by Britain's King George V and passed on to succeeding monarchs. Another celebrated collection is the Thomas K. Tapling collection which was bequeathed to the British Museum. The postal museums of many European cities (for example, Berlin, The Hague, and Stockholm) also have fine collections. Today, the number of collectors around the world runs to millions, indeed, philately is one of the most popular hobbies. Unique and valuable stamps, apart from their aesthetic or financial appeal, are also records of history, geography, politics, art and many other aspects of civilization.

TYPES OF COLLECTING: From the earliest years most philatelists have preferred to collect by country, specializing in the issues of one or more nations. Since about the mid-1950's, however, many philatelists have become interested in topical collecting, acquiring stamps which illustrate certain themes or subjects. Among the wide range of pictorials are stamps devoted to art and music, sport, aviation, birds, flowers, literature, industry, ships and telecommunications.

Over 500 towns in Britain have a club or society for stamp collectors, and one of the most active clubs is the National ➔

Philatelic Society whose headquarters are in London. Many other countries have comparable organizations. In the United States, the American Topical Association, in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, is one of the specialized organizations of stamp collectors in the United States. It publishes a monthly magazine, *Topical Time*, as well as special handbooks. The largest general organization for stamp collectors in the western hemisphere is the American Philatelic Society, Inc (APS) in State College, Pennsylvania. The organization publishes *The American Philatelist*, a monthly journal.

Standard modern stamp catalogues are produced by, for example, Yvert and Tellier in France, Michel in Germany, Gibbons in Great Britain and Scott in North America. The catalogue most widely used by North American collectors is the Scott Standard Postage Stamp Catalogue. Now published annually in a four-volume set, Scott lists and prices every adhesive postage stamp ever issued. A specialized catalogue for US and United Nations stamps only, is also published annually. The Scott Publishing County has been producing philatelic catalogues since the firm was founded in 1863.

COLLECTING PROCEDURES: One of the attractions of stamp collecting is the ease of starting a collection. With access to enough incoming mail, especially from abroad, a person can build a collection without any expense. Literally tens of thousands of stamps, however, including many of the older issues, can be bought extremely cheap.

Little special equipment is required. A collector needs only an album to house the collection, some hinges or other types of mounts to attach the stamps to the pages, and a pair of stamp tongs with which to handle them. Stamps and accessories can be purchased easily. Nearly every city has a professional stamp dealer, and thousands of dealers operate exclusively by mail. ➔

Exchanging duplicate stamps is one of the greatest pleasures in philately. The best way to find trading partners is to join a school or other local stamp club. When collectors have accumulated a number of valuable stamps, they must take precautions for safe storage, preferably in a bank safety deposit box. If the stamps are in mint condition, they should not be overlapped; through changes in humidity, overlapping stamps may stick together and become seriously damaged. Collectors also should keep accurate written inventories of all their philatelic material. □

OMNIBUS ISSUES

An omnibus issue is any group of stamps, generally with the same design, released by a number of stamp-issuing authorities to mark the same occasion. The British Commonwealth has produced by far the greatest number of omnibus issues. The first was the George V Silver Jubilee series of 1935; another was the series released on July 29, 1981, to commemorate the wedding of Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer.

* * *

THE 1840 PENNY BLACK

Through Hill's efforts, on May 1, 1840, Great Britain released the world's first officially issued adhesive postage stamp, a one-penny denomination universally referred to as the Penny Black. The stamp features a portrait of Queen Victoria, which established a postal precedent in Great Britain. Since that time, all regular-issue stamps have portrayed the reigning monarch. Moreover, like the Penny Black, no subsequent British stamp has been inscribed with the name of the country.

* * *

QUIZ COMPETITION

Open to all Junior Members of the Gozo Philatelic Society

- i) What does U.P.U. stand for? Is Malta a member of the U.P.U.?
- ii) When was the set of stamps “Lighthouses In Malta” issued?
- iii) What is the name of the Lighthouse which is situated in Gozo?
- iv) According to Michel-Rundschan — a famous German stamp magazine — how many stamps were issued during year 1999?

Please send your answers on a separate paper together with your name, address and membership number by not later than 30th June 2001 to:

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

Prize

Small stockbook with some stamps.



PREVIOUS QUIZ COMPETITION RESULTS

Answers to above captioned competition which was published in G.P.S. Newsletter No 3 are as follows:

- i) February, Malta Carnival.
- ii) Marco Polo.
- iii) In Venice.
- iv) The Count of Milan — Francesco Alessandro Sforza.

PRIZE WINNERS:

G.P.S. Prize Winner of a small stockbook with stamps goes to Gabriella Buttigieg of Sannat, Gozo.

All other participants were given a consolation prize.

CONGRATULATIONS !!



Clarification about the Financial Statement **Newsletter (No 3 page 7)**

Like all reports presented at our AGM, this of course covered the whole period from the birth of the GPS (and not just the year 2000.)

GORDAN LIGHTHOUSE IN GOZO



Design : *George Vella*

George Vella

Lately, Maltapost p.l.c. had honoured the philatelic enthusiasts with a nice issue of a set of three topical stamps featuring the three main lighthouses of the Maltese Islands.

I felt that I should give more information, from printed references, about the Gordan lighthouse as it is to be found on Gordan Hill in Gozo. Thus the Gozitan philatelist shall be more informed about the subject.

From the official site plans one is to note that the name of the lighthouse is GORDAN and not GURDAN. In the official Malta Government Gazette of the mid-nineteenth century the name was also written as GIORDAN.



One is to note that the building of this lighthouse was through the initiative of Sir Adrian Dingli who was elected on the Council of Government in 1849 to represent the district of Gozo.

The last official keeper of the lighthouse was Mr Carmel Mercieca and his assistant Mr John Attard, both of Victoria. In 1994 this lighthouse started being lit automatically.



Information about the Gordan Lighthouse

I find it is intended to erect a Light House on the western extremity of Gozo, and I have been instructed to propose a short Ordinance for commuting the tonnage dues, to be paid by steam vessels. If you pass this Ordinance, it will become my duty, to urge the completion of the Light House as speedily as possible. I can scarcely conceive an object of deeper interest to Humanity, than that of erecting Beacons to guide the Mariner in danger, and happily the erection of such lights coincides with commercial interests.

I have observed with great satisfaction your desire to improve your Charitable Institutions. A proposal will be submitted to you, for carrying out still further these intentions, by the erection of New Buildings for a Lunatic Asylum, and a Poor House.

If you agree to their construction, I recommend you to come to an early decision regarding the sites you may yourselves prefer for these Buildings, in order that they may be begun without delay.

These two subjects will be brought before you to day. The subjects of the different Codes, in which you have a great interest, I hope will be proceeded with at our next meeting.

WM REID, *Governor.*

Malta, 18th December 1851.

ANSWER

To the above Address of HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR voted by the COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT OF MALTA on the 7th January 1852, and presented on the 8th January 1852.

The Members of the Council of Government have heard with satisfaction Your Excellency's wishes for the successful working of the Council under its recently introduced Constitution.

It will be the object of the Council to contribute towards realizing these wishes, by combining zeal in the discharge of its duties with temperance and caution, and by conducting its discussions in the spirit of Your Excellency's recommendations.

By such a course of conduct the Council hopes to ensure the result, desired by its members in common with Your Excellency, of affording as few occasions as possible for the exercise of the power reserved to the Queen in Council.

It accepts with pleasure and confident reliance Your Excellency's assurance of protection to the rights of all its members.

As a body of attached subjects of the Crown of Great Britain the Council of Government of Malta will never willingly lose sight of Imperial interests. At the same time it feels with Your Excellency that by striving to advance the interests of the Maltese people, it will be contributing to the best of its power to cement the union of Malta with England.

The Council entirely concurring with Your Excellency in the importance of providing Light Houses for the assistance of mariners and the benefit of commerce, will proceed without delay to consider the Ordinance by which among other objects it is proposed to raise funds for the erection and maintenance of a Light on the N. W. extremity of Gozo.

The Charitable Institutions of these Islands will at all times be subjects of the deepest interest to the Council; and the provision of the necessary buildings for a Poor House and Lunatic Asylum including the selection of an appropriate site, will receive its earnest attention.

Of the Codes referred to by Your Excellency, the Criminal Code to be introduced into these Islands has already been a subject of the long and careful deliberation of the Council: and it will not fail to give the same anxious attention to the farther proposed improvements in Jurisprudence which will shortly come under its notice.

Presented by { WM H. THORNTON.
DR A. DINGLI.

As deputed by the Council.

Mal. Gov. Gaz. No. 1725
Pages 1&2, 30/1/1852

GOVERNMENT NOTICE

His Excellency the Governor is pleased to publish for general information a report of the position of the Lighthouse erected on Cape Giordan in the Island of Gozo, with sailing directions.

Further notice will be issued, as to the revolution and the date on which the light will be shown.

Revolving light on Cape Giordan, Gozo (of Malta)

Stands in shore of the Cape a large half a mile on the Western extremity of a piece of table land and nearly two miles to the Eastward of Cape St Demetri, latitude $36^{\circ}4'$ longitude $14^{\circ}10'$ deduced from Raper's latitude and longitude of Cape St Demetri.

Its elevation is about 400 feet above the sea, consequently should be seen at a distance of 24 miles.

Its interval of revolution is *

It shews over an uninterrupted arc of the horizon of 253° (namely from $S\ 49^{\circ}\ W.$ (Magnetic) round by North to $S.\ 58^{\circ}\ E.$) to any vessel till within 3 miles of the shore and in many cases till close to the shore. At a greater distance from the shore it will shew itself to the Southward and Westward of the Islands as far round to the left as $S.\ 8^{\circ}\ E.$ but observe that between $S.\ 19^{\circ}\ W.$ and $S.\ 8^{\circ}\ E.$ land occasionally intervenes to obscure it.



Vessels bound to Malta from the Westward often sight the Island of Gozo on the Port bearing when they have been expecting to see it on the Starboard bearing, especially if the wind be from the N.W; this arises from two causes, first a S.E.ly. Set of the current and secondly from the assumption that the variation of the compass is $1\frac{1}{2}$ Points whereas it is only $13\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ or scarcely $1\frac{1}{4}$ Points.

The Light kept to the Southward of E.S.E. will lead Northward of the pitch of Cape St Demetri.

Run along the North side of Gozo, which is perfectly bold, at a convenient distance according to the wind and sea till St Elmo Light comes in sight, which will first be seen on a S.S.E. $\frac{3}{4}$ E. Bearing, then gradually haul to the Sourthward.

Ball's Bank has 6 fathoms on it and is reported to break in bad weather, at other times any vessel may pass over it; Cape Giordan Light kept in sight will give it a wide berth.

The shine Light kept in sight NW, by W. will lead well clear of the Island of Malta at from 4 to 6 miles according to your distance from the Light.

St Elmo Light South clears the St Georges Shoal and with it on this bearing you may run for the Harbour of Valletta. A day mark will be Zabbar Gate (the highest building on the Cottonera lines) in line with the Eastern angle of Fort St Elmo S. 5° E.

If hove to off Valletta waiting for daylight, there will be no danger of the Monsciar Shoal to any class of vessel as long as St Elmo Light be kept in sight.

To an observer 40 feet high (a 1st rates Poop) the light will be seen over the land bearing $N.42^{\circ}$ W. and this will clear the Monsciar Shoal 3 Cables.

(Signed) W. T. MAINPRISE
Master, H.M.S. Britannia

Malta, 23rd May, 1853.

<p><i>Mal Gov. Gaz. No 1769</i> <i>Pages 96-97 16/6/1853</i></p>
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Public Works and Buildings

5. And it is further enacted, that out of the said sum of £7,073 18 4 there shall and may be issued and applied any sum or sums of money not exceeding £1,658 to defray the expense of various public works and buildings, as hereinafter more particularly expressed, that is to say, any sum or sums of money not respectively exceeding £48 for constructing a semaphore on the tower of the palace of Valletta; £50 for converting three rooms in the Auberge d'Italie into an office, and communicating three coach houses. in Strada Zaccaria with the civil arsenal; £200 for incidental repair of houses becoming vacated, or for public buildings, or tenements, to prevent accidents; £8 for indemnity to the lessee of a government tenement in Gozo on its being resumed for the erection of schoolrooms; £426 for the construction of a lighthouse with two residences in Gozo; £111 for effecting certain works in the new orphan asylum; £110 for interior repairs in certain coast guard towers; £37 for repairing for the public service two ground floor rooms of the palace of Valletta; £25 for constructing a winding staircase in the building of the courts of justice; £16 for repairing and restoring several oil painting in the palace of Valletta, and £627 for rendering habitable a portion of the old prison.

Mal. Gov. Gaz. No.1763 Page 62 24/3/1853

...the pious foundations; £300 for constructing on the terrace of the university a chemical laboratory, and a classroom for the nautical school; £150 for completing the lighthouse at Gozo; £70 for petty casual repairs in government building; £100 for removal of the book shelves of the garrison library; £1,000 for constructing a building for primary schools at Gozo; £5,000 for commencing the construction of a lunatic asylum, and £600 for converting the palace at Notabile into a poor house.

Mal. Gov. Gaz. No. 1772 Page 135 15/7/1853



EIGHTH SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATE of EXPENDITURE for the year 1853, subject to the opinion of the Council of Government of Malta.

Head of Service N° 1. ESTABLISHMENTS.

	Fixed Establishment			Provisional and Temporary			Total.			Resolution in Council.
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
PORT DEPARTMENT, including Marine Police and Quarantine.										
<i>Keeper of the LIGHTHOUSE at Gozo</i>	36	0	0				36	0	0	N° 55.
OFFICE CONTINGENCIES.										
POST OFFICE.										
<i>For a further supply of SECURE LEATHER BAGS, GLAZED CASES and PARCHMENT LABELS required for the daily Post</i>							5	0	0	N° 56.

Head of Service N° 13. WORKS and BUILDINGS.

	Total.			Resolution in Council.
	£	s.	d.	
<i>COMPLETING the LIGHTHOUSE AT GOZO (in addition to £ 426 voted on the Sixth Supplementary Estimate of 1852)</i>	150	0	0	N° 57.

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From ta' Pinu's Square we can see, on the hill to the north, Gordan's Lighthouse. This was built in 1853 and, only up to a few years ago, was lit by 21 petroleum lamps. Now it has only one big lamp based on a system of lenses and lit by electric current. An automatic generator supplies electricity, should that furnished by the Government mains fail. An automatic bell indicates at once any trouble with the big lamp. This modern apparatus was installed by a French firm, Barbier Bernard et Turenne of Paris, in 1962. The light's intensity is 895,000 candles, the white flash appearing every 7.5 seconds. The lamp is at a height of 592 ft while the light itself is visible from a distance of 32 miles. The building is 69ft high. This lighthouse is mentioned by the Italian poet Gabriele D'Annunzio in one of his poems.

(A. Gauci "Gozo" - p. 108 - 1966) ➔

Malta and Adjacent Islands						
GOZO						
2050	- Gordan Hill. Summit	36 04-4 14 13-1	Fl W 7-5s	180	25	White tower on dwelling 22 fl 0-3. Sig Stn. Reduced range (T)
2051	- MĠARR. Main Breakwater.	36 01-5 14 18-1	Fl W 4s	2	1	
2052	-- Jetty. Head	36 01-5 14 18-0	F R	8	8	..
2053	- Xlendi Bay. Slipway. Head	36 01-9 14 13-0	F W	Column
COMINO						
2054	- Ras I-Irġieqa	36 00-3 14 19-5	F R	7	2	White concrete column

Admiralty List Of Lights
Page 194, Vol. E, 1973

(continued from page 5)

If it is posted unpaid, the charge is double the above amount, if partly paid, double the deficiency.

Articles sent by Book Post must not be closed in any way as to make examination difficult and the only covers admissible are such as are entirely open at both ends so as to admit of the contents being easily drawn out for inspection. A Book Packet may, however, be tied at the ends with string.

In order to secure the return of Book Packets which cannot be delivered, the names and addresses of the senders should be written on the outside of the packet.

No Book Packet may exceed 18 inches in length, 9 inches in width or 6 inches in depth.

In case any of the above rules be infringed the Packet will be charged for as letter Packet.

When owing to an unusually heavy influx of letters, Book Packets &c, the transmission or delivery of the letters would be delayed if the whole mail for the special District were dealt with indiscriminately, Book Packets may be kept back till the next despatch. □

(to be continued)

WHY COLLECT STAMPS ?

Michael Refalo

Is it healthy? A small boy, a middle aged man or even a pensioner spends a good number of hours of his time running after, looking for, buying, trading and collecting small pieces of coloured paper. Anyone who does not collect stamps will definitely see something strange in this pastime. It seems abnormal, more so by today's standards.

But collecting stamps can be - and is for those addicted to it - not only an enjoyable way to spend one's time but also a fruitful one.

Collecting stamps enables us to escape, even if for a short time, from the ordinary chores of life. Whether someone works or studies, a break from the routine activities of everyday life helps the mind to recharge its batteries. Collecting stamps, arranging them in albums, trading them, looking them up in catalogues with a view to trading or buying them and seeing one's album slowly being filled up, is not only immensely satisfying but it can also be a learning experience. We all know that there is no age limit to learning. No matter how much one knows however, can always learn more.

In this way stamp collecting becomes a fruitful activity. Whoever is the collector, whether young or old, can always find something new in stamps. Indeed, one could say that collecting stamps may serve as an introduction to a lifetime education. The great variety of subjects depicted on stamps are clearly revealed by just a cursory glance at any stamp assortment. ➡

➔ In order to prove this point to myself, I have taken out a big box of stamps - nothing of value, just the usual stamps which one receives through the post. Without looking into the box - but taking care not to cause damage - I have dipped my hands into the box and brought out on my desk a small number of these stamps. Then I started looking at each and every one of them in detail. The variety of subjects, the wealth of information available on those small pieces of paper was enormous. Apart from the usual faces of kings and queens (and even those may help one learn something), there were stamps about animals, flowers, famous people, scientific discoveries, historical events, anniversaries and commemorations. In the end I concluded that it would take about six months to study and learn more about each of the topics depicted on those few stamps. It became obvious to me that by the end of this period I would learn a large number of things which up to now are quite unknown to me.

It is in this sense that stamp collecting can be fruitful. If we can manage to convince the young, that stamp collecting has a value, and if parents and teachers become convinced that through stamps children can acquire knowledge of a wide spectrum of subjects, then the answer to the question chosen as title to this short essay will be obvious to all.

Stamp collecting is not only solely and exclusively an activity for elders; it is an activity through which the younger generation can find ways and means to broaden their field of knowledge. In the same way as the internet, television and newspapers can be the source of unlimited information, even stamps and other philatelic material can be an educational aid which should not be discarded.

Giving a value to one's hobby definitely makes it more attractive and enjoyable. □

REMAINING STAMP ISSUE
PROGRAMME FOR THE
YEAR 2001



MONTH	SUBJECT
June	Birds of Malta (Miniature Sheet)
August	Old Maltese Musical Instruments
September	Definitive Part III
October	Dogs
November	Christmas 2001



ADVERTS

It is worth noting that any advert pertaining philately will cost from Lm1.00c to LM2.00c respectively. However adverts pertaining to other matter will also be published on demand. Please contact the editor for prices of a quarter, half or full page.

ADVERT 1

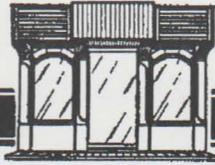
The Gozo Philatelic Society has for sale a limited number of a set of 8 cards (out of 100), bearing the last postmarks of the 2nd Millennium taken in Gozo at all Branch Post Offices and Sub Post Offices. The price per set is at LM2.50c for members and LM4.00c for non-members.

ADVERT 2

The Gozo Philatelic Society has also for sale a limited number of a set of 2 cards in colour (out of 250). These bear the special rubber hand postmark, dated 28th October 1998 taken in Victoria Gozo, to commemorate the 2000 years since the French surrendered in Gozo after 141 days of occupation. The price is at LM1.00c for members and LM2.00c for non-members.

ADVERT 3

Stockbooks with both local and foreign stamps are being circulated among members. Anyone interested to buy or just have a look at these stamps may contact Mr Anthony Grech. These are being sold at a relatively cheap price.



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