

53
Austrian



Stamp Club

THE AUSTRIAN STAMP CLUB
of Gt. Britain

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Essex. Gt. Britain.

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ALL A.S.C. members are also members of the
VERBAND ÖSTERREICHISCHE PHILATELISTEN-VEREINE

to whom the Club is affiliated.

Universitätsstrasse. 8; Wien. IX/71. Austria.

Your subscription to this organisation is
deducted from your A.S.C. subscription.

The Verband Magazine "Die Briefmarke"
is available at 32 Ost. Schillings per annum.
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The A.S.C. offers you.- Bulletin-Packets-
New Issues-Cheap Publications-Meetings-
Library (no lists of books, requirements
must be specified) Expert Advice-Publicity
of your queries in the bulletin-Contact
with fellow specialist.

The A.S.C. requests.- That you make full use
of all facilities, post packets promptly,
pay your dues on time, support all efforts
by a hard working Committee to improve our
Club, send books for the packet at least
twice a year.

Austrian Stamp Club of Gt.Britain.

Bulletin No.53. Editor K.Tranmer. 8 Billet Close, Hornchurch,
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VERBAND
ÖSTERREICHISCHER
PHILATELISTEN-
VEREINE
1961

Mr.Tranmer wishes to express his sincere thanks to all those members who sent him greetings for Christmas and the New Year. His message for the year 1962 reads" Although I have withdrawn from many of those functions which I have performed in the past 7 years, it appears that many of our old members have not forgotten the efforts of the past, and I was touched that so many people wrote to me and sent their good wishes for 1962". Many of our new officials are in office for the first time, and I hope they will receive the support they deserve from all our members.

President.

Report on the Auction.

We had quite a large gathering for our last meeting in 1961. Almost all the lots sold, but mainly to those members present, the number of postal bids was very small, and had little effect on the bidding. Unsold lots were sent out in the last packet and have now sold, at we may add more than the auction estimation. We do feel that our Provincial members missed a fine opportunity to acquire some useful material, and considering the trouble we went to for keeping members fully informed so that they could take a share the result was disappointing. However it was fine to see so many old and new faces at the meeting, and we feel sure that our new Chairman, Allen Edwards, will have no further problems here.

Packets.- We still need a good supply of material for 1962. A lot of those members who receive a packet every two months for quite a number of years have not once offered anything for the circuits. Some of the material offered to us by non-member dealers is often of very poor quality, at very high prices so that we have to refuse it. We firmly believe that no dealer in the whole country can offer you a regular selection of various Austria over a period, one reason many new members join us is not to increase a knowledge of Austrian stamps but simply to get a supply of material. If we had more true specialists as opposed to straight stamp collectors we could not meet the demand. If you have anything for sale offer it to the A.S.C. first, keep it to the Club, and get the best results at no trouble to yourselves.

Report from the Chairman.

With this report I would like to record a warm welcome to Mr. J. Littlewood of 32, Park Road, Ilford, Essex. Who has taken on the duties of assistant editor.

There is a well known proverb that "Many hands make light work" and I do not think that as a club we can ever get too much assistance from our fellow members to help to further the aims of the club.

A few of the way's we can all make a contribution to the club are by articles for the bulletin, work on translations, sending material for the club packets and auctions, displays by both old and new members.

A tentative programme has been made, thanks to Mr. K. Tranmer, and details will be published when the dates have been confirmed.

The next London meeting will be on Wednesday the 7th February 1962, when a display will be given by Mr. L. Scadden.

Report on Last meeting.

We regret that due to inclement weather the last meeting was very poorly attended the display was Austria 1920 period plate flaws and varieties by Wing Commander I. Clark.

We hope that matters will improve for all future meetings, and that we shall have the opportunity of inspecting Commander Clark's collection another time.

Note for New Members.

Any new members who missed the first part of the article on the "Origin and History of the Postal Card" by Frank S. Schanzer and who would like this part may obtain same by writing to Mr. J. Littlewood, and enclosing a stamped addressed envelope.

Ariadne.

Ariadne, the daughter of Minos King of Crete and of Pasiphaë his consort, was born, according to Greek legend, in the royal palace at Knossos in Crete about the year 1400 B.C. When Theseus, son of Aigeus King of Athens, came to Crete to kill the Minotaur she fell in love with him and provided him with a sword and a ball of thread to guide him through the labyrinthine maze in which the Minotaur lived. Theseus killed the Minotaur and fled away from Crete taking Ariadne with him. They came to an island called Dia or Naxos and there, Theseus warned by the god Dionysus (c.v.) in a dream deserted Ariadne, whilst she was sleeping on the shore, and sailed away first to Delos then to Athens. Ariadne was in great despair when she awoke but, ere long, Dionysus, with his entourage of satyrs and maenads, arrived to make her his wife with rites of bacchanalian revelry. The scene after her marriage to Dionysus is shown on this stamp as it is depicted on the large painting: "The Triumph of Ariadne" which was painted by Hans Makart (c.v.) in 1873 and which now hangs in the Austrian Gallery of the Upper Belvedere. Zeus the father of the gods, granted Ariadne whose name means 'very holy'-divine honours and immortality whilst the crown of Thetis which was her bridal gift, was later set amongst the stars as the Corona Borealis. In Athens the festival of Dionysus and Ariadne was kept every year in the autumn whilst in Rome the pair was identified with Liber and Libera: the wine-god and goddess. (cf. Ovid. Fasti III.459). The various myths relating to Ariadne have been reviewed by R. Graves in "The Greek Myths" 98. and related to the more recent discoveries regarding the Cretan Civilisation. (Ref5. Vol1. p875; Ref6. Vol1. p660; Ref7 Vol2 p341.)

Verband Österreichischer Philatelisten
Vereine.

Vienna VI, Universitätsstrasse 8.

The recent Exhibition of the Verband of Tag der Briefmarke 1961 in the Hofburg Palace Vienna, marks 40 years of the foundation of the organisation.

We remind all members that they are also members by affiliation to the V.O.Ph.V. your subscription is deducted from your ASC subscription. Their Library-Expert Committee are available to the ASC member, and the funds derived from the stamp Tag der Briefmarke help to provide us with sufficient funds for our annual exhibitions up and down the country. They also publish the "Briefmarke" with a page for ASC members in English, this appears each month, and a specimen copy will be sent against I.R.C. together with the subscription rates, also payable with International Reply Coupon.

The affiliation was transacted by Keith Tranmer in 1958 when the ASC visited Vienna and since that time we have been free from financial worries that marked the previous 10 years. We urge all members to make use of the Verband by subscribing to their journal, and writing to same in English or German. They have a difficult period at the moment to provide funds to keep up the high standard of their journal. The ASC subscription is at present day value merely a token and is the same as was charged in 1948. Serious collectors pay many times this amount to subscribe to Auction catalogues, so why not spend the little extra you save to subscribe to the Briefmarke. The market guide for Austrian stamps (Dorotheum Auctions) is well worth the outlay even if you dont read German, this is a regular feature a child could understand, especially if you combine the summary with the Netto Catalogue. If our good will visit materialises you will see something of this vast organisation in action, ask anyone who went in 1958. Every year we have an invitation to the congress in Vienna, expenses paid, but unfortunately we have no official apart from the President who maintains relations with them. (Ability to speak German is a must) and he (Ability to attend)

ORIGIN AND HISTORY OF THE POSTAL CARD

By

Frank S. Schanzer. Continued.

A moderate degree of nobility in 1885, which entitled him to the little word "von" in front of his name. Heinrich von Stephan. Nevertheless his original brain child, the postal card, was not accepted by his government, when he first suggested it in 1866.

Germany has honored its first postmaster General at several occasions, on stamps as well as on postcards. Some of these commemorative items are mentioned here, although no claims are made that this list is a complete one. The following stamps and postcards are known to the writer, in connection with Heinrich von Stephan:

In 1924 Germany issued a set of four commemorative stamps (10; 20, 60 and 80 pfennig) with portrait of Stephan.

In 1931 a special 8 pfennig postcard was issued in commemoration of Stephan's 100th birthday. It carries his portrait on the left side surrounded by a laurel wreath. The years 1831-1931 and the facsimile of his signature are seen underneath.

In 1947 Germany issued two stamps, 24 and 75 pfennig (Scott 578-79) to commemorate Stephan's 50th death anniversary. The stamp shows his portrait. A commemorative postcard with the same stamp imprinted, but a 12 pfennig value, was issued at the same time.

In 1949 a single 30 pfennig stamp was issued in Germany to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Universal Postal Union (U.P.U.). It shows the General Post Office in Berlin and the Guild House in Bern, Switzerland, superimposed by the portrait of von Stephan.

In 1956 another single stamp was issued, celebrating Stephan's 125th Birthday. It shows only the value "20" superimposed by Stephan's signature and surrounded by the words "Heinrich von Stephan, Founder of the Universal Postal Union, born January 7th 1831." To be continued.

Packets by Hand.

To avoid delay during the strike and to save postage in certain districts we have started hand delivery of the Packets, if you desire to jump the postal list on those packets specified be sure that no member is left out.

The recent packet to Manchester has two members missed completely.

Proposal for visit to Austria 1962:-
In conjunction with the Verband a small party to visit Innsbruck, Graz, Klagenfurt & Vienna to give a display at each town or city, the principle idea is not to show off stamps, but to show our interest and to meet associate members of the Verband, and of course have a holiday. Cost-Fares £20-Hotel & Food etc £30 for two weeks. Interested parties send a postcard to the Secretary at least 6 members wanted.

WANTED.

1. AUSTRIA 1850, Anything unusual.
2. Covers bearing the cachets or
Mss endorsements of forwarding
agents, any country, any period.
3. World War two covers addressed
C/O "P.O. Box 506, Lisbon, Portugal.
and also covers bearing Portuguese
stamps having "Box 506" as return
address.

Write to :- Ken Rowe,
Apt 307, 42 Saranac Blvd,
Toronto 19, Ontario, Canada.

Field Post Stamps 1915

By Keith Tranmer.

Following the attractive series of Bosnia Herzegovina pictorials in 1906-12, the artist, Professor Moser, and the engraver, Ferdinand Schirnbock, then produced the 1912 "Militärpost" set. This shows portraits of the Emperor Franz Josef in four different frames with values from 1 heller to 10 kronen. This last value was not released until 1914, and had a very short life. With the outbreak of World War I the need arose for a series of stamps for use in territory administered by Austrian Occupation authorities. The postal service was run by the K.K.Feldpost, i.e. Kaiserliche-Königliche Feldpost (Royal & Imperial Field Post). On April 28th 1915 stocks of the Bosnia 1912 Militärpost series were overprinted at the State Printing Works in Vienna K.U.K. Feldpost diagonally. This series without watermark and still in perforation $12\frac{1}{2}$, remained in use only until a regular series was completed. On July 1st, 1915, a new permanent series was ready similar to the 1912 Bosnia issue but without name in the bottom panel.

At this time as was the custom certain persons at the Imperial Court and various Ministers of State were presented with "Favour Prints" of the new series and these included (among the overprints) varieties which were never issued in the ordinary way. The varieties included such "errors" as follows (all in sets): (1) K.U.K. Feldpost overprint on imperforate stamp; (2) normal stamps perforated $12\frac{1}{2}$ (but with overprint inverted); (3) Feldpost overprint inverted; (4) Feldpost overprint double; (5) K.U.K. overprint double; (6) both Feldpost and K.U.K. inverted; (7) with Feldpost overprint only (K.U.K. omitted). Any of the values of the normal set on cover are hard to obtain and those which exist are generally the low values.

Literature.-

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Those in stock C.W.O.-No money for those on order., a postcard
is sufficient if you wish to reserve one.

To the above may be added later.- Austria 1945-obliterations
on the Hitler Heads 8/6 post free., & Austrian F.P.O.s 1914-18
(2/- post free) We will accept orders, but cannot as yet
supply. If you have a subject which you wish to cover write
and tell us about it, we may be able to suggest a book and
obtain it for you, please state if you can read German.

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Wanted.- Austrian U-Boat Mail 1914-18. Ten pounds offered for
each example, for those numbers required to complete collection.
Must be genuine article, no philatelic items required.

Write.- K.Tranmer.

Wanted.- Austrian Black prints, first of the series, exchange
only. Wilcox. 54 Desford Rd. Liverpool.

Wanted Good lot of Austria 1924-1936 mint or used. "Offers"
W.I.P.A. Sheet. (£50-offered) apply J.Littlewood.

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Those members who are willing to display at London Meetings
please inform A.Edwards who will arrange dates. This includes
those Provincial members who are in "Town" any time.

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Those members who require used new issues will obtain them in the
packets. If you wish to subscribe to the New Issue Service send
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AUSTRIAN EMPIRE AND AFTER 1918 LET ME KNOW
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PRE PHILATELIC ITEMS ETC.

ROBERT HOGEN.

15, MONTAGUE ROAD, RICHMOND,
SURREY. ENGLAND.

Member of the A.S.C. since 1948.

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