

1966

THE POSTAL CODE ISSUE OF 14TH JANUARY 1966

A postal, or zip, code was introduced in Austria on 1st January 1966. In this, the Austrian Postal Administration was following the example of other European states such as the two parts of Germany, France and the Principality of Liechtenstein. The concept of such codes, known in German as “Postleitzahlen”, is, of course, to facilitate the sorting and delivering of post. To publicise this introduction of a postal code system, a 1.50 schilling black, red and light yellow stamp was designed by Karl Gessner and printed, by the photogravure process, in an impression of 30 million pieces. It was comb perforated 12, in sheets of 50 stamps.



The simple design shows a relief map of Austria with the first numbers of the 4-digit postal codes placed in their correct geographical locations; 1. Vienna; 2. Upper Austria; 3. Lower Austria; 4. Salzburg; 5. Tirol; 6. Vorarlberg; 7. Burgenland; 8. Styria and 9. Carinthia. The stamp was issued in unlimited quantities and for some months was deliberately sold at the post office counters instead of the 1.50S Building Issue stamp depicting Rabenhof.

THE P.T.T. CENTENARY ISSUE OF 4TH MARCH 1966



On 5th March 1866, the Emperor Franz Joseph nominated Maximilian Ritter von Löwenthal as the Director of the Postal and Telegraph Division in the Ministry of Commerce and Economics with the title of a “General Director”. The P.T.T. issued a 1.50 schilling black/cream stamp to celebrate this centenary. It was designed by Otto Zeiler, to depict the building of the General Postal Directorate in Vienna with the church of St. Barbara on its left and the Dominican church of St. Maria Rotunda on the right. The postal coat-of-arms are also included in the design which was engraved by Georg Wimmer and printed by a combination of recess and offset in an impression of 3.5 million stamps; comb perforated 14i : 13i.

As mentioned above, the design shows the P.T.T. building in Vienna 1011, Postgasse No. 8 as seen from another building in which the Federal Police Directorate is housed. Two parts of this complex are to be seen on the left; previously they belonged to the old Jesuit college. In the upper part on the left was the library of this college; this was the site of the postal savings bank from 1885 to 1906 before it moved to Otto Wagner’s new building. On the right is the doorway of the Dominican church of Sancta Maria Rotunda built by command of Ferdinand III in 1631 in the Roman style. The small church of St. Barbara, whose facade is to be seen on the left, was erected by the Jesuits in 1572. After the order was suppressed in 1775, it was occupied by the Uniate (Catholic) Greeks and had its facade altered to the present state in 1852. Of the present-day building of the General Postal Directorate only a small part is visible on the stamp.

THE MARIA EBNER-ESCHENBACH ISSUE OF 11TH MARCH 1966



The 50th anniversary of the death of the Austrian writer, Maria von Ebner-Eschenbach was marked by issuing a portrait stamp designed by Adalbert Pilch, engraved by Otto Steffler and printed in recess as a 3 Schilling maroon stamp in an impression of 3.5M. pieces; comb perforated 14¼:13½.

Her first works were plays, notably Maria Stuart in Schottland, Doktor Ritter and Richelieu Ende, all produced in Vienna theatres. From plays she turned to writing humorous and psychological stories and novels, chiefly of life in Bohemia and among the Austrian aristocracy. Her first story, Der Spätgeborene, was a complete success, the first of many. In 1881 the publisher Ebhardt issued a collection of her stories, Neue Erzählungen. The sad story of a faithful dog, Krambambuli, was published in 1883, and was followed by Der Muff, Zwei Komtessen, Reserl, Wieder die Alte, Das Gemeindegeld, Ihr Traum und Unsühnbar. Up to the time of her death she maintained a diary about Franz Grillparzer, who she had revered all her life. She was born on 13th September 1830 at Schloss Zdislawitz bei Kremsier and died on 12th March 1916 in Vienna.

THE VIENNA PRATER ISSUE OF 19TH APRIL 1966

The bicentenary of the Vienna Prater was commemorated by a 1.50 schilling myrtle-green stamp. It was designed by Otto Zeiller to depict the Prater landscape and the Giant Wheel (Riesenrad), and engraved by Alfred Nefe. 3 million stamps were printed; comb perforated 14:13i.



The deerpark of the Prater was first opened to the public by Josef II in 1766. The part between the Ausstellungsstrasse and the Haupt-Allee is the Volks-Prater or Wurstel-(Buffoon)-Prater; an amusement-park started in 1603 with numerous restaurants. The Giant Wheel (210 feet high) was erected in 1897 and affords a good view of Vienna and the Marchfeld. A roundabout, called the “Ringelspiel zum Chineser” was built about 1830 whilst a “Lilliput” railway (15” gauge) ran along the Haupt-Allee to the Rotunda which was built for the International Exhibition of 1873. However, the eastern part of the Prater

is still parkland with much timber. From the Lusthaus one skirts the racecourse and the Freudenau Winter-Harbour to reach the Praterspitz whence a motor boat crosses the Danube to the island of Lobau or goes through the Danube Canal to the Marien-Brücke.

THE JOSEF HOFFMANN ISSUE OF 6TH MAY 1966



The tenth anniversary of the death of the Austrian architect, Josef Hoffmann (1870-1956), was commemorated by issuing a 3S blackish brown portrait stamp bearing the inscription “Founder of the Vienna Workshop”, was designed by Adalbert Pilch, engraved by Alfred Nefe and recess printed in sheets of 50 in an impression of 3.5 million stamps; comb perforated 12:12.

Josef Franz Maria Hoffmann was born on 15th December 1870 at Pirnitz bei Iglau in Moravia, and in 1892 went to study architecture at the Vienna Academy. In 1898, together with Gustav Klimt, he founded the Vienna Secession School of Art and Architecture. However, he left this in 1908 to found an “Artistic Schow” to promote his own architectural ideals and finally, in 1922, he also founded the “Vienna Workshop”. His main work dates from this period; the colony of villas in Vienna XIX, the Palais Stoclet in Brussels and the Purkersdorf Sanatorium. He also designed flats in Vienna XIX, the Palais Primavesi in Vienna and the Town Hall at Ortalsburg in East Prussia. He died in Vienna on 7th May 1956.

THE WIENER NEUSTADT ISSUE OF 27TH MAY 1966



A provincial art exhibition entitled “Wiener Neustadt 1440-1493” was held in that city. In its honour a special commemorative stamp was designed by Adalbert Pilch, to depict the city arms, engraved by Alfred Fischer and both recess and photogravure printed in an impression of 3.5 million stamps; comb perforated 141:13i. This 1.50 Schilling black, red, gold and greyish brown stamp

Wiener Neustadt itself had been founded in 1194 and by the 15th century had become the strongest Habsburg fortress in Lower Austria, surrounded by a great wall 12m. high and 2.5 Km. in length. The years of the exhibition are the regnal years of the Emperor Friedrich III and its theme was that of Gothic art in that period. On 11th June 1452, the Emperor conferred the arms, depicted on the stamp, upon the Mayor, Knights and Council of the city. The first and fourth quarters consist of the Imperial Double Eagle crowned on the neck with an Imperial Crown in silver, all on a golden field. The second and third quarters consist of the old city shield comprising a city gate of two towers with the Austrian shield between the towers. Around this shield, on the stamp, is the inscription “Landeskunstaussstellung-Wiener Neustadt 1440-1493”.

THE NATIONAL BANK ISSUE OF 27TH MAY 1966



The 150th anniversary of the foundation of the Austrian National Bank was commemorated with a 3S sepia, deep green and light drab stamp. It was designed by Roman Hellmann to depict a single headed eagle above the initials ÖNB (the emblem of the bank), engraved by Rudolf Toth and printed in a combination of recess printing and lithography in an impression of 3.5 million stamps in sheets of 50; comb perforated 14:14. Very appropriately, the stamp was actually printed by the National Bank Printing Works using paper for the printing of paper money.

The official text of the blackprint traces the origins of the National Bank to a City Bank in Vienna, founded in 1705, which was taken over by the State which, in 1811, gave it the right to issue a new paper currency; “Vienna Currency”. After the end of the Napoleonic Wars, the Minister of Finance, Count Stadion, advised the Emperor Franz I to found a “Privileged Austrian National Bank” to assume the right to issue banknotes based on a silver currency. The patents to found this bank were issued on 1st June 1816 and hence the dates on the stamp “1816 ... 1966” to denote that it celebrated its 150th anniversary.

THE ANIMAL PROTECTION SOCIETY ISSUE OF 16TH JUNE 1966



To commemorate the 120th anniversary of the foundation of the Vienna Animal Protection Society, in 1846, a 1.80 Schilling stamp (black and light yellow) was issued. It was designed by Adalbert Pilch, to depict the head of a mournful Foxhound puppy, engraved by Rudolf Toth and printed by both the recess and lithographic processes in an impression of 4.2 million stamps; comb perforated 12.

The founder of this Society was the Austrian poet Dr. Ignaz Franz Castelli (1781-1862) who announced in the Vienna newspapers of 10th March 1846 that he had called into existence the “Lower Austrian Society against the mistreatment of Animals”. In 1852 its name was altered to the “Wiener Tierschutzverein”. The first home for animals was opened in Mariahilf in 1896 and, in 1902, a large “Animal Protection House” was built in the Ottakring in Vienna. On 22nd June 1935, the Federal President opened a new building in Altmannsdorf with a parkland of 15,000m². Here the number of animals looked after has risen from 3 or 4000 to 8 or 10,000 per year. This animal reserve is staffed by qualified veterinary surgeons and the Society is the equivalent of the R.S.P.C.A. From 12th to 17th June 1963, Austria acted as host to the World Congress of the Animal Protection Societies.

THE ALPINE FLORA SET OF 17TH AUGUST 1966

Flowers on stamps are always a popular thematic subject and the 1948 Austrian set has become a classic in this field. Now, it was decided to issue another set to depict Alpine Flora. It was designed by Professor Carlos Riefel, engraved by Rudolf Toth and printed in six colour offset lithography by the firm of Rosenbaum Brothers in Vienna in sheets of 50 stamps; comb perforated 15. For such a colourful set, 12 special colours were supplied by Hartmann Bros. of Vienna plus a black by Lorilleux-Lefrance S.A. of Bern. The paper used was Esparto Base and the gum was a synthetic resin.



1.50S: Columbine. The Latin name is “*Aquilegia vulgaris* L” (L = Linné) and the German name is “Gewöhnliche Akelei”. This genus has 5 coloured sepals and 5



1.80S: Turk's Cap; in Latin “*Lilium Martagon* L” and in German “Türkenbund” or “Turban” from its appearance. As



2.20S: Wulfenia. The German name is the same although once known as the “blue flower of Carinthia” since it was discovered on the Gartnerkofel in 1779 by

petals each terminating below in a horn-shaped spur or nectary. 4.5 million printed.



3S: Globe Flower. The official German name is "Trollblume" but the Tirolese call it "Butterkügele" and the Swiss "Rolla" from its colour and shape (Trolls inhabited mountains!). The Latin name is "*Trollius europæus* L.". 3.5 million

the Latin name indicates, it is really a type of lily. 4.2 million



4S: Orange Lily. In German it is called "Feuerlilie" whilst in Latin it is "*Lilium Bulbiferum* L. to indicate that it is a lily that bears "Bulbs". This sub-type is common in Austria although another sub-type lacks them. 3.5 million

F.X. von Wulfen. Hence its Latin name "*Wulfenia carinthiaca* Jacq. Wulfen". 3.5 million



5S: Alpine Anemone. In German the name is almost the same: "Alpenanemone"; the Latin name is "*Pulsatilla alpina* (L.) Delarbre. Carl Linnaeus (1707-1778) first discovered this plant but the botanist Delarbre placed it in the group of pulsatilla (Kuhscelle-cowbells). 3.5 million

THE WELS FAIR ISSUE OF 26TH AUGUST 1966



A 3 Schilling ultramarine stamp was issued to mark the first International Wels Fair. It was designed by Otto Zeiller, to depict the main building of the exhibition complex in front of which may also be seen a flower clock. The stamp was engraved by Georg Wimmer and recess printed in sheets of 50 in an impression of 3.5 million stamps, comb perforated 12:12.

The city of Wels, in Upper Austria, has an important trade and industrial centre located on the Traun on the borders of the Welser Heide. The first local industrial exhibition was held in 1878 and an exhibition complex gradually grew up there. The biennial fairs took place until 1912 and then there was a ten year gap caused by the First World War. Next, in 1924, an agricultural and industrial fair was held which was visited by 160,000 people. By 1938 the numbers attending had risen to 400,000 visitors. After a break due to the Second World War, the fairs were resumed in 1948 and by the 1950 fair there were 516 exhibitors and 550,000 visitors. By 1954 over a million people visited the fair and after that record the fair grew in extent every time. This led to the decision to hold a truly international exhibition in 1966.

THE PETER ANICH ISSUE OF 1ST SEPTEMBER 1966



The 200th anniversary of the death of Peter Anich, the Tirolese peasant cartographer, was commemorated by issuing a portrait stamp designed by Adalbert Pilch to depict the cartographer against a background of a globe and books, engraved by Alfred Nefe and recess printed, in sheets of 50, in an impression of 3,650,000 stamps; comb perforated 14¼:13½.

Peter Anich (1722-66) was born in the small village of Oberperfuss, west of Innsbruck, of a poor peasant family. At the age of 19 he took over the farm from his father and, some years later, sought instruction in astronomy at the University of Innsbruck. Completing his studies, Anich was commissioned to make a celestial globe for the Innsbruck Academy and he followed this with a terrestrial globe. In 1760 he began to survey the whole of the North Tirol and, in 1763, he submitted his completed maps to the government. At this time his health started to deteriorate and he commenced his survey of the South Tirol with an assistant, Blasius Hueber, in 1765. In the swamps south of

Bolzano both suffered from severe attacks of fever and had to return home. Anich never fully recovered and died on 1st September of the following year.

THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH CONGRESS ISSUE OF 19TH SEPTEMBER 1966



The 15th International Congress for Occupational Medicine (i.e. Health at the Workplace) was held in Vienna during September 1966. A special 3 schilling black and red stamp was issued in honour of this Congress. It was designed by Otto Stefferl to depict a suffering worker, stripped to the waist and holding his right arm across his eyes. The stamp also features the symbol of medicine; the staff of Aesculapus in the form of a serpent. The stamp was engraved by Georg Nimmer and printed in both recess and offset lithography in an impression of 3.5 million in sheets of 50; comb perforated 14¼:13½.

In the context of this Health Congress, the Institute of Medical History of the University of Vienna, together with the Vienna Chamber of Labour, staged an exhibition at No. 25 Währinger Strasse to demonstrate the historical development in Austria of Occupational Medicine. Austria has devoted many medical resources to the protection of the health of the workers at their place of employment and, after the war, established a special department at the University of Vienna specifically to teach this important branch of medicine.

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY ISSUE OF 28TH SEPTEMBER 1966

A special set of stamps was issued to honour the Austrian National Library. Designed by Adalbert Pilch to show motifs of the main collections, it was engraved by Rudolf Toth (1.80 and 3S), Alfred Nefe (2.20S) and Alfred Fischer (1.50S) and printed in both recess and lithography in sheets of 50 stamps. The recess was in black, whilst the lithography was in parchment, yellow, red, blue and gold. The stamps were comb perforated 13½:13¾ and the numbers printed were 1.50S: 4.5M; 1.80S: 4.2M; 2.20S: 3.5M; and 3S: 3.5M.

The Austrian National Library, formerly the Imperial Court Library, had its beginnings in the Middle Ages. The first permanent library was established by the Emperor Ferdinand I (1531-64) and the first Imperial Librarian, a Dutchman Hugo Blotius, was appointed in 1575. The central part of the present building, the so-called State Hall, was built by the Emperor Charles VI (1711-49) to the plans of the celebrated architect Johann Fischer von Erlach. With its frescoes, marble pillars, rich gilt and stucco-work, it is claimed to be one of the finest library halls in the world. The Library comprises seven departments - Printed Books, Manuscripts, Music, Maps, Papyrus, Portraits and the Theatre Collections. The four stamps are based on motifs from these collections.



1.50S: Theatre Collection. Three characters and part of a stage set for a play by Terence, the Roman writer of comedies (from a wood engraving).

1.80S: Map Collection. The head piece of the famous atlas created by the cartographer Willem Blaeu in 1662.



2.20S: Pictures and Portraits Collection. A watercolour by Anton Stutzinger showing the former seat of the Diet at Herrengasse in Vienna.



3S: Manuscripts Collection. One of the most valuable illustrated manuscripts in the collection, the "Livre du cuer d' amours espris" of the Duc Rene d' Anjou; an allegorical romance.



THE 'SAVE THE CHILDREN' FUND ISSUE OF 3RD OCTOBER 1966



A special 3 schilling black and pale blue stamp was issued in honour of the Austrian Society "Rettet das Kind" (i.e. "Save the Child"). It was designed by Adalbert Pilch to depict the idealised head of a young, sorrowful girl, engraved by Alfred Nefe and printed in both recess and offset lithography in sheets of 50, in an impression of 3.5 million stamps, comb perforated 14¼:13½.

Although the U.N.O. organisation "Save the Children" Fund was only founded after the Second World War, and the Austrian Society itself only in 1956, this stamp also recalls the fact that, after the First World War, hunger was widespread in Austria. A Swedish Society "Rädda Barnen" then provided much needed food and aid for the starving Austrian children. Now that Austria, in 1966, a decade later, was in a much better position to aid the unfortunate children of other countries, this stamp was issued to remind Austrians that funds for that purpose would always be needed. Catastrophies would occur without warning and the Society would be available to provide aid. A "Day for the Children of the World" was established and the Minimundus village on the Wörthersee, founded in 1959, was a source of considerable funds.

THE FRUITS ISSUE OF 25TH NOVEMBER 1966

These "fruit" stamps were originally intended to be a new definitive set. However, the idea gave rise to much criticism even before it was released, and consequently only 5 million were printed of each value. The criticisms raised included the "fruit salad" appearance of the finished stamps, so many other countries had also printed stamps featuring fruits, the designs had no defined borders, they were too small and too hard to distinguish, and that, in any case the fruits shown were in no way peculiar to, or even typical of, Austria itself. As a result, no further printings were made and the issued stamps were sold as definitives and were then replaced by the earlier Architectural Monuments series which were formerly slated for gradual withdrawal. The stamps were designed by Professor Carlos Riefel and were printed in multi-colour photogravure in sheets of 100 stamps; comb perforated 13:13½.



50g: Strawberries. German: Erdbeere, Latin: *Fragaria x Ananassa*



1S: Grapes. German: Weintraube, Latin: *Vitis vinifera*.



1.50S: Apple. German: Apfel, Latin: *Malus domestica*.



1.80S: Blackberries. German: Brombeere, Latin: *Rubus fruticosus*.



2.20S: Apricots. (Austrian) German: Marille, Latin: *Prunus armeniaca*.



3S: Cherries. German: Kirsche, Latin: *Prunus avium*.

THE 17th STAMP DAY ISSUE OF 2ND DECEMBER 1966



This 3S + 70g multi-coloured stamp was designed by Adalbert Pilch, to depict a 16th century postal messenger, as given in the Ambraser Heldenbuch. It was engraved by Alfred Fischer and printed, by both recess and lithography, in an impression of 3.25 million stamps (in sheets of 50) and comb perforated 13½:13¾.

THE LINZ UNIVERSITY ISSUE OF 9TH DECEMBER 1966



The inauguration of the “High School for Social and Political Economy” in Linz was the occasion for issuing a 3S red, gold, silver and grey stamp. It was designed by Karl Gessner to depict the coat-of-arms of this Technical University. It was engraved by Georg Wimmer and printed, by both recess and photogravure, in an impression of 3.9 million stamps (in sheets of 50), comb perforated 14¼:13½.

The University was constructed about 6km to the north east of the centre of Linz at the foot of the Mühviertler Berge on a site of 18 hectares. The building was started in the summer of 1964 and the main parts were completed in September 1966. The official opening took place on 8th October 1966. Originally constituted by a federal law of 30th June 1965 to concentrate on social and political economy, a further federal law of 15th July 1966 extended the curriculum to include law. The first Pro-rector of the Technical University of Linz was Dr. Rudolf Strasser who wrote the blackprint text.