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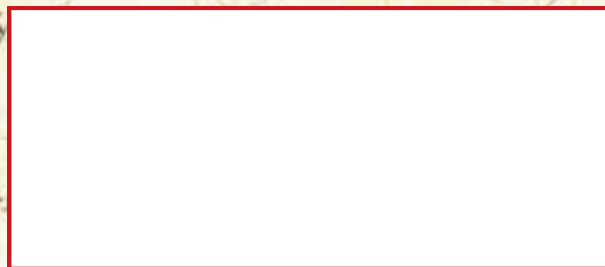
Netherlands Philately

Magazine of the American Society for Netherlands Philately

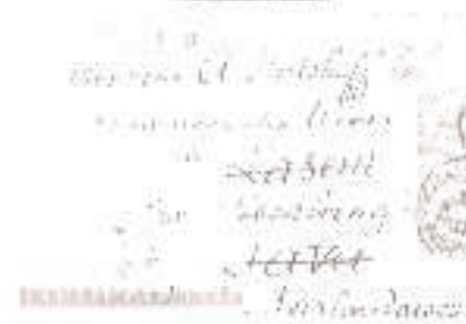
Volume 36/1



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NETHERLANDS PHILATELY

Magazine of the American Society for
Netherlands Philately; **Volume 36/1**

December 2011

Editor's message

G'day Dear Members,

This is your first magazine of the new season. A double thick number to make up for the loss of the September issue of the magazine. Due to my emigration to Australia I was not able to get the September number finished on time. This means that this year not 6 but 5 issues of the Netherlands Philatelist will be in your mailbox, of which one is a double thick number. For most members, the dark cold days are in front of them and they probably won't mind the extra reading material.

I have arrived safely in South Australia in the Adelaide region and started slowly to settle into the Aussie life style. The last few months a lot of things have happened to me as editor and for the ASNP club itself. Unfortunately we have lost two well-known members, George Vandenberg and Erik Roos. In this magazine you will find more information about them.

I hope you will enjoy reading the new magazine and remember, if you have an article for us or want to write one let me know, as I'll be happy to publish it!

Alex Nuijten

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Magazine Notes

Our Magazine is the business card of our society. With modern technology available, a full color magazine is warranted.

Potential authors are asked to send in full color scans (at 600 dpi) of their illustrations. I would like to receive the text in MS Word. Keep in mind that you clearly state where each illustration belongs in the article.

Contact the Magazine editor in case of questions.

In Memoriam George Vandenberg

After fighting pulmonary fibrosis for about five years George Vandenberg passed away on September 21, 2011 at the age of 81.

George was born in Amsterdam, The Netherlands on August 18, 1930. He was the second of five sons born to Alberta (Langedyk) and Jacobus Vandenberg. George's adventurous spirit inspired him to emigrate to San Jose, California in 1952. Not long after he arrived in the U.S. he was drafted! George entered the army and trained at Fort Ord, CA.

He was subsequently assigned to the 4th Infantry Finance Corp in Frankfurt, Germany. This fortunate assignment allowed him to visit his home and family in Amsterdam on his leaves. He became reacquainted with Claire Kok, whom he had known since he was 16. They married in February 1955 and returned to San Jose.

George began his career as an accountant at the Continental Can Company. In 1962 he became an accountant for the San Jose Unified School District. By 1984, he had become the Assistant Superintendent of the Budget-Fiscal Services Department. During this period, the district experienced some difficult times, including facing bankruptcy. George's knowledge and leadership, along with the efforts of many others, brought the district safely through. He retired in 1992.

In retirement his zest for life, knowledge and adventure expanded as he and Claire traveled the world together. He never failed to send postcards and loved sharing his photos and stories with all of us. George loved his family and friends. He was always the life of the party during celebrations; playing the piano, adding fun and encouragements to all.

George was a co-founder and active member of the Netherlands Philatelists of California for 40 years, as well as a long time member of ASNP. George served the ASNP, not only as an author (airmail to and from the Dutch East Indies was his specialty) but especially as Treasurer from September 1996 till September 2005. Due to his financial acumen the negative cash flow of the ASNP was turned around, resulting in solid reserves. George served as ASNP Governor from September 2006 till September 2010, when he resigned due to his steadily deteriorating health.

There is no greater compliment than to call George a great friend and mentor, always concerned about the well being of his family and friends. We are blessed to have known George and we will miss him greatly.

Claire and family are in our thoughts in these sad times.

(Hans Kremer)



In Memoriam Erik Roos

After a valiant struggle with cancer for the last 3 years, Erik Roos passed away on August 4, 2011. Erik reached the age of 67 years.

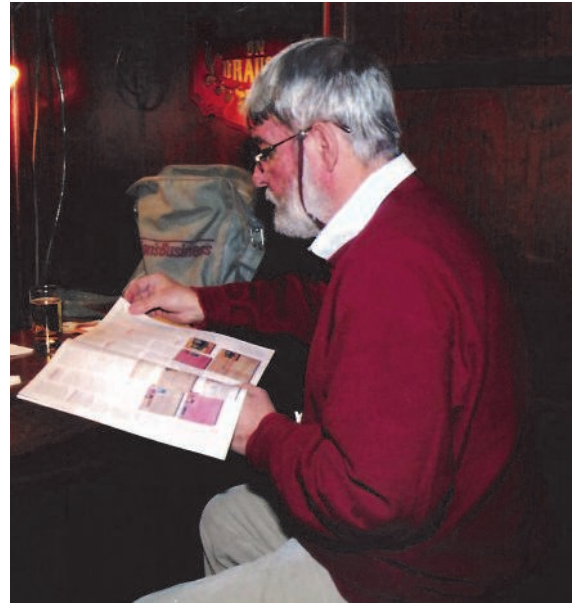
Erik was for the last year one of the backbones of the editorial team to help out with the turn-over of the magazine and translations needed to give the members a readable new magazine. Together with his best friend and partner Sandy they worked out translations for our magazine.

From the beginning Erik told me about his personal situation and I never made that a problem. His good ideas and sharp comments helped me to turn the magazine into what it is now. I never had the chance to meet Erik in real life but what was most important is that Erik enjoyed the involvement to the ASNP magazine and to put a part of himself in it!

We will miss Erik and his contributions to the ASNP magazine.

Our condolences go out to his best friend and partner Sandy, their two sons, three grandchildren and his brother.

(The Editor)



Digital back issues of the Netherlands Philatelist

Our previous editor Hans Kremer has scanned another 15 volumes of the Netherlands Philatelist and converted them to PDF. The volumes covered are 11 through 25.

The plan is to have them available to everybody on our website by mid January, 2012:

<http://asnp1975.com/index.html>.

Cancels from the French Masson Company for the Dutch mail.

Why produced then, intended for which offices, and used till when?

Part 5, final part

by Hotze Wiersma, in collaboration with H.J.W. van Kesteren

Translation by Ben H. Jansen

A few more examples of the use of the Masson cancel during the first period.

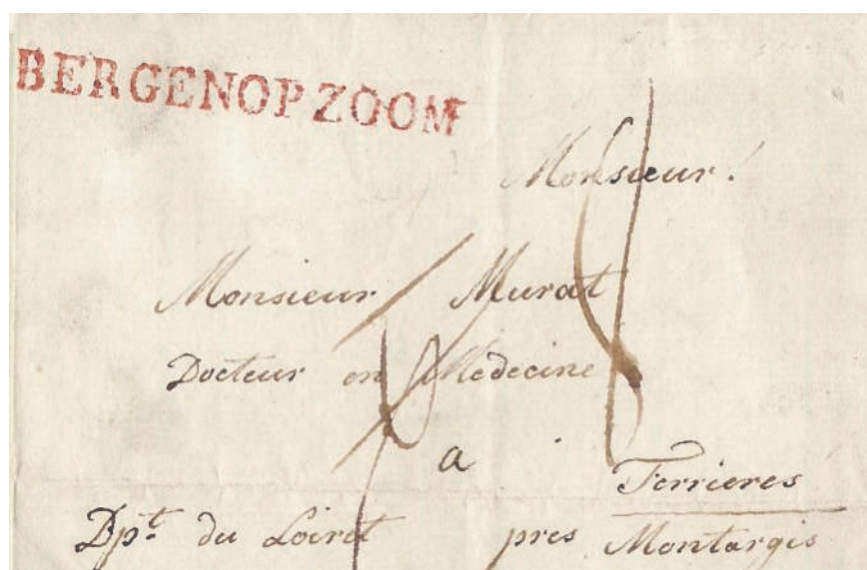


Figure 28: 1809. From post office Bergen op Zoom to France. It is remarkable that no region cancel was placed on this unfranked letter.



Figure 29: 1810. The Masson cancel of Breda on an unfranked letter to Zierikzee. The recipient had to pay 4 stuiver. The French sender wrote his function and initials at the bottom left. In France in 1810, this was an indication for freedom of port. This was introduced in the Netherlands in 1811.



| Spelling Masson | Period 1 color | Used 1809-1811 | Status > 1811 | Period 2 color | Used later than November 1813 |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| BAARTWYK** | bl | 1809-1810 | po | rd | 1814-1826 |
| BEVERWYK | n.p.k. | - | po | bl | 1813*-1827 |
| DOESBURG | n.p.k. | - | po | bl | 1814-1822 |
| EINDHOVEN | rd | 1809-1810 | po | rd | 1814-1825 |
| GEERTRUIDENBERG | n.p.k. | - | po | n.p.k. | - |
| GRAVE | bl | 1809-1811 | po | bl | 1814-1817 |
| HATTEM | n.p.k. | - | po | bl rd | 1814-1828; 1829 |
| HEUSDEN | bl | 1809-1811 | po | bl | 1814-1819 |
| KAMPEN | n.p.k. | - | po | bl | 1814-1824 |
| OUDENBOSCH | bl | 1810 | po do | bl | 1838-1842 |
| ROSENDAAL | n.p.k. | - | po | n.p.k. | - |
| SCHOONHOVEN | bl | 1811 | po | bl rd | 1813*-1825; 1829 |
| THOLEN | bl | 1809-1810 | po | bl | 1815-1825 |
| THIEL | n.p.k. | - | po | bl | 1815-1820 |
| TILBURG | bl | 1809-1810 | po | bl | 1815-1824 |
| VEERE | n.p.k. | - | po | n.p.k. | - |
| VOORBURG | bl | 1809-1810 rs | do | n.p.k. | - |
| VOORSCHOTEN | bl | 1809-1811 | do | rd | 1842-1848 |
| WAGENINGEN | bl | 1809-1811 | po | bl rd | 1814-1823; 1825-1829 |
| WOERDEN | bl | 1809-1811 | po | bl | 1813*-1822 |
| WOUDRICHEM | bl | 1809-1810 | po | bl rd | 1814; 1815-1826 |
| ZALTBOMMEL | bl | 1809-1810 | po | bl | 1815-1828 |
| ZEVENBERGEN*** | bl | 1809-1811 | po | n.p.k. | |
| ZIERIKZEE | bl | 1809-1811 | po | bl | 1815-1816 |
| ZUTPHEN | bl | 1810 | po | n.p.k. | - |
| ZWAMMERDAM | n.p.k. | - | do | n.p.k. | - |

Table 2. Sub offices. bl = black; rd = red; po = post office; do = distribution office; n.p.k. = no print known; rs = reverse side.

*The offices Beverwijk, Schoonhoven and Woerden used the Masson cancel as early as the last month of 1813.

**A cancel is known from Baardwijk of July 20, 1809. That is well before August 1.

***Zevenbergen was demoted from post office to distribution office towards the end of 1813.

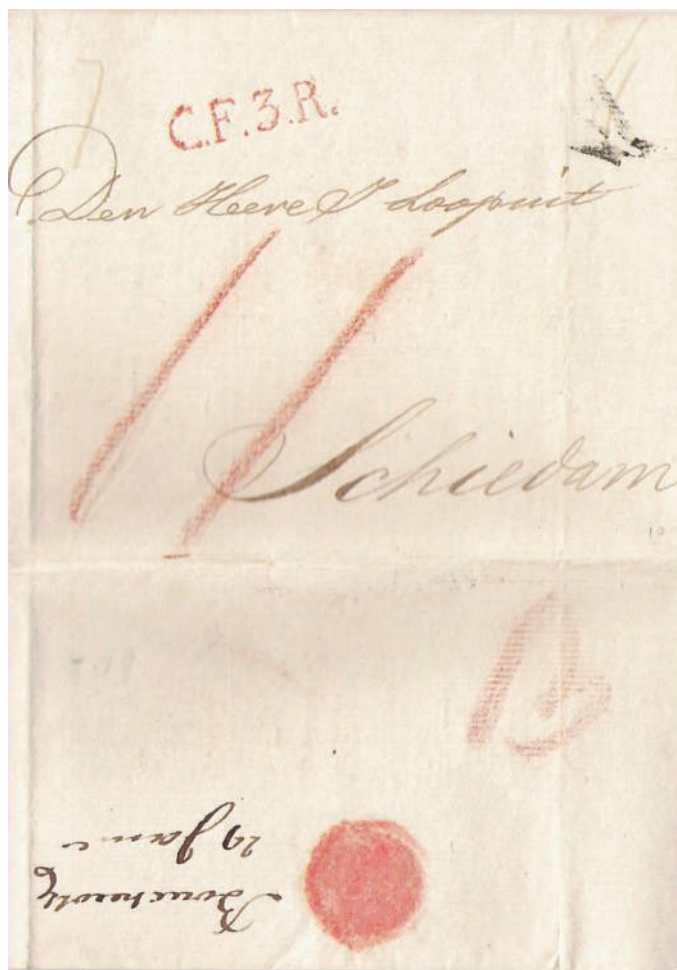


Figure 33: 1809. The triangular cancel in the upper right hand corner is from Paris. The region cancel C.F.3.R. is the French counterpart of the Dutch regions. Very remarkable is the B of Breda written in chalk. This is a pre-cursor of the border markings.

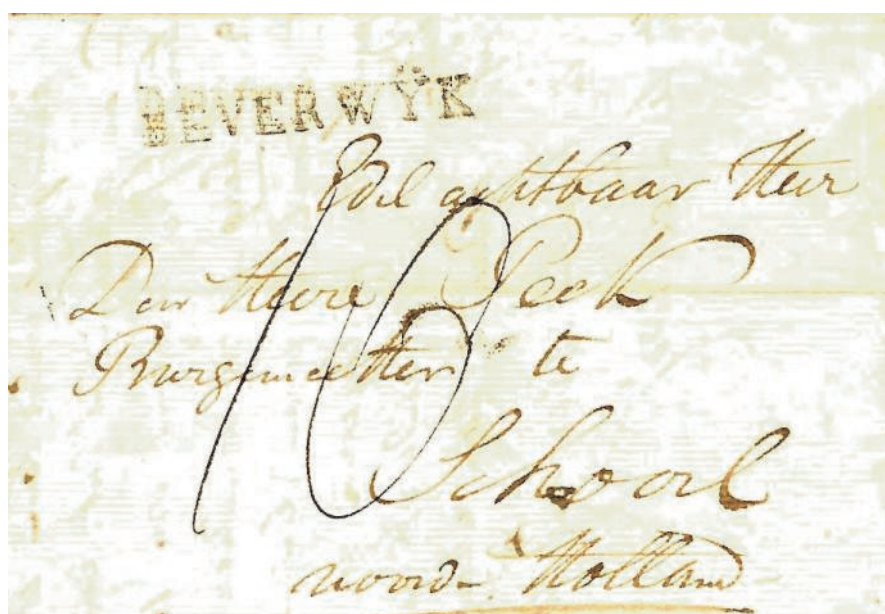


Figure 34: 1826. A letter packet from post office Beverwijk to Schoorl. The rate is remarkable because the single rate was applicable for letters to municipalities, regardless of weight.

Some comments with Table 2

There is not a single print known of the Masson cancels of the sub offices Geertruidenberg, Rozendaal, Veere and Zwammerdam. Till 1829, Geertruidenberg has always used the complete department cancel of 1811.

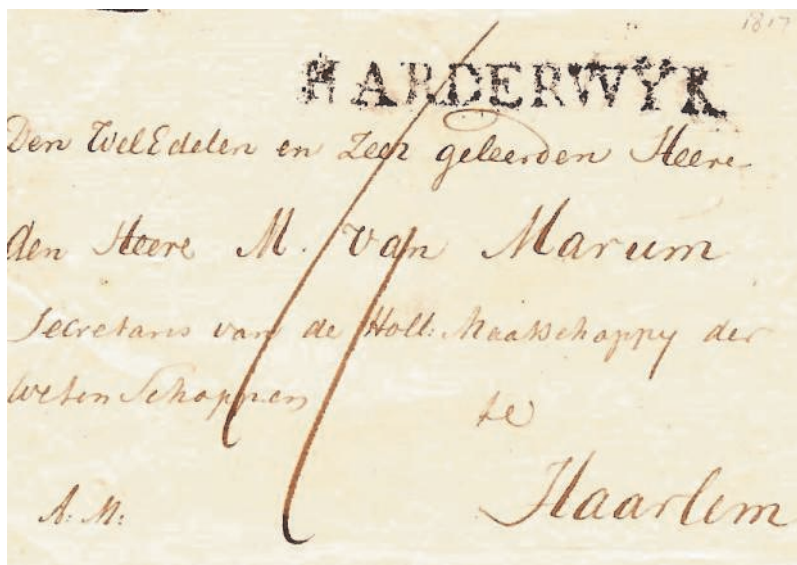


Figure 35: 1817. Harderwijk was a branch office till April 1, 1811, and became a post office afterwards. Just like Dirksland, Harderwijk had the privilege to use the Masson cancel for its own use prior to 1811. After 1813, the Masson cancel continued to be used till 1829.

Zwammerdam, in its capacity as distribution office, has used the old cancel from before 1800 (K 15) till 1850. Subsequently, Zwammerdam became an entreposte (till 1803), sub office (till 1811) and distribution office (1811-1850). Characteristic for the shape of the old cancel of Zwammerdam is the character W, which is formed by two V characters.

ZVWAMMERDAM

Figure 36: Zwammerdam's cancel in use as early as prior to 1800.

Apparently, based on present knowledge, five sub offices did not use the Masson cancel during first period, but did use it after 1813 as post office: Beverwijk, Doesburg, Hattem, Kampen, and Tiel. None of these offices had a cancel available dating from before 1809.



Figure 37: 1814. Post office Kampen. Rate 2 stuiver (in ink) plus 1 stuiver (in chalk) for the delivery man, to Hasselt (in Overijssel).

Voorburg and Zevenbergen were distribution offices during the second period of use. Prints of the Masson cancel from these offices are known only from the first period of use. Also, Zuthpen used the Masson cancel after 1813; for several years, this office used the department cancel and had no longer a need to use the cancel with the wrong character Z.

| Masson spelling | Resorting with main office | First period color | Usage 1809-1811 | After 1813 | Second period color | Usage after Nov. 1813 |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| ALBLASSERDAM | Dordrecht | n.p.k. | - | do | rd | 1838-1850 |
| ALMELO | Zwolle | n.p.k. | - | po | rd | 1813-1817 |
| ASSEN | Zwolle | n.p.k. | - | po | bl rd | 1815-1827; 1829 |
| DIRKSLAND | Brielle | bl | 1809-1810 | po | bl | 1815-1827 |
| ENKHUIZEN | Hoorn | bl | 1809-1811 | po | n.p.k. | - |
| ENDSCHEDE | Zwolle | bl | 1809-1810 | po | bl | 1814 * ¹ |
| GOEDEREDE | Dirksland/Brielle | bl | 1809-1811 | do | bl rd | 1847-1850 |
| HARDERWYK | Amersfoort | bl | 1809-1810 | po | bl rd | 1815-1827; 1827-1829 |
| HELLEVOET | Brielle | bl | 1809-1810 | po | n.p.k. | - |
| HELMOND | Eindhoven | bl | 1809-1810 az | po | bl rd | 1820-1827; 1828 |
| HERKINGEN | Dirksland/Brielle | bl | 1809-1810 | do | n.p.k. | - |
| LEERDAM | Gorinchem | bl | 1809-1810 az | po | bl n.p.k. zw zw rd zw g.a.b. rd zw zw zw | 1816-1827 |
| MAASSLUIS | Schiedam | rd | 1809 | po | n.p.k. | - |
| MIDDELHARNIS | Dirksland/Brielle | bl | 1809-1810 | do | bl | 1838-1850 |
| OLDENSAAL | Zwolle | n.p.k. | - | do po | bl rd | 1825-1830; 1831-1846* ² |
| OELTGENSPLAAT | Dirksland/Brielle | bl | 1809-1811 | do | n.p.k. | - |
| OOSTERHOUT | 's-Hertogenbosch | n.p.k. | - | do | bl | 1838-1840 |
| OUDORP | Dirksland/Brielle | bl | 1809-1811 | do | n.p.k. | - |
| OUDETONGE | Dirksland/Brielle | bl | 1809 | do | rd | 1841-1849 See also Table 4 |
| SOMMELSDYK | Dirksland/Brielle | bl | 1809-1810 | do | ! | after 1850 see also Table 4 4 |
| STADAAN'T HAR- INGVLIET | Dirksland/Brielle | n.p.k. | - | do | bl | 1838-1840 |
| VLAARDINGEN | Schiedam | bl | 1809-1811 | po | bl | 1816-1824 |

Table 3. Branch offices and imprints of the Masson cancels. bl = black; rd = red; do = distribution office; po = post office; n.p.k. = no print known.

*¹ and *² Enschede and Oldenzaal used the Masson cancel specifically as border offices, on the reverse side of letters.

Some comments with Table 3

Of the 12 offices that had, or gained, the status of post office during the second period of use, eight used the Masson cancel, including Enschede and Oldenzaal. Usage of the Enkhuizen, Hellevoetssluis and Maassluis cancels is known only during the first period, prior to April 1, 1811. These three offices still used the complete department cancel in 1814, and after that the cut department cancel.



Figure 38: 1810. Registered letter from branch office Ouddorp (according to the sender a Royal Post Office – ‘Koninglijk Postkantoor’) by way of the branch office Dirksland to the post office Brielle and on to Groningen. Registering was done in the old-fashioned way with a chalk cross and a registration number. Ouddorp itself probably did not have a ‘Charge’ cancel. To calculate the rate, the number of travelling hours between the post offices Brielle and Groningen was used. The port numbers 2 (behind the 7) and II were noted for the initial segments of the trip between Ouddorp-Dirksland and Dirksland-Brielle.

Ooltgensplaat, or Oeltgensplaat as Masson spelled the branch office in the first cancel of this town on Goree Overflakkee.

Figure 39: 1809 Letter of the month of the wine (October) in 1809, during the rpeiod of the Kingdom Holland. From branch office Ooltgensplaat to branch office Dirksland. Magnificent cancel imprint, and earliest known, of Ooltgensplaat. The rate is indicated as two ‘stuiver.’ In the letter, a military person requests horses and carts from the citizenry for military purposes. Ooltgensplaat had long been of military interest.



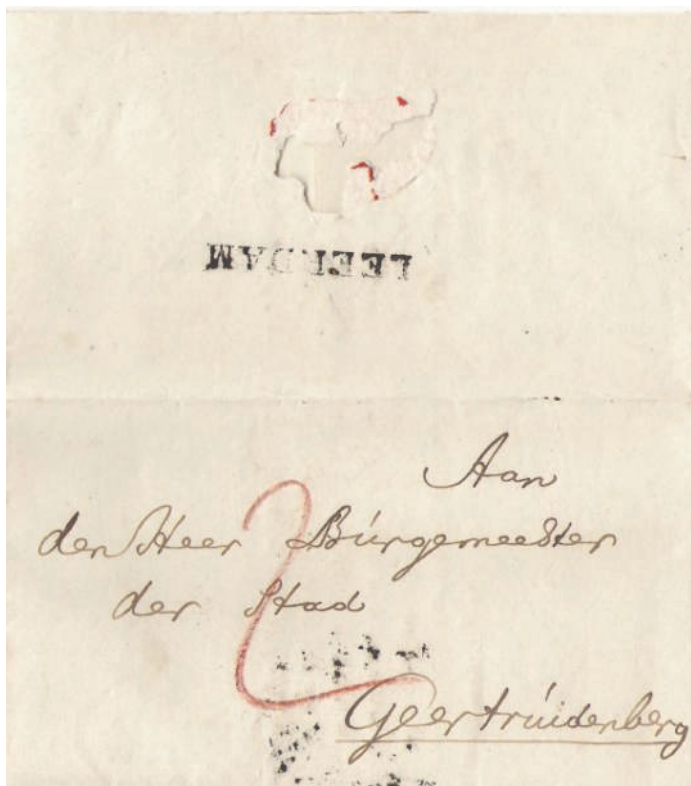


Figure 40: 1809. Letter from the branch office Leerdam to the sub-office Geertruidenberg in Brabant. Leerdam canceled as the subsidiary office on the back.

OLDENZAAL

Oldenzaal was a branch office from 1809 till 1811, distribution office from 1811-1832, and then became a post office. In 1831, Oldenzaal, while a distribution office (!), also became a secondary border office. Usage of the Oldenzaal Masson cancel by the distribution office is known from 1825-1830, and after that from 1831-1846 as border office on incoming letters from Germany. It is probable that Oldenzaal requested the Masson cancel from Zwolle, the head office in 1809.

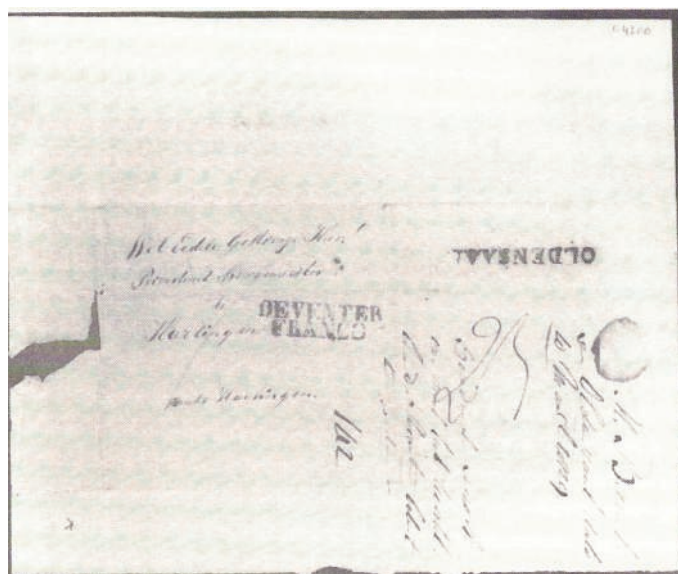


Figure 41: March 10, 1829. Letter mailed 'franco' from the distribution office Oldenzaal by way of the post office Deventer to Harlingen. Paid in advance with 25 cents (see backside). That money accompanied the letter in cash from Oldenzaal to Deventer.

OOSTERHOUT

The distribution office Oosterhout used the old Masson cancel from 1838 till 1850. Usage predating 1811 is unknown. Apparently, Oosterhout received the cancel from the main office 's-Hertogenbosch.

ALBLASSERDAM AND FOUR DISTRIBUTION OFFICES ON GOEREE AND OVERFLAKKEE

A number of distribution offices used the Masson cancel after 1838. Alblasserdam requested the cancel from the main office Dordrecht. The distribution offices Goederede, Middelharnis, Oude Tongen and Stad aan 't Haringvliet might have saved the old cancel used during the first period of usage.

| Spelling by Masson | with main office | status 1809 | status > 1813 |
|--------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
| 'SGREVELDUINKAPEL | 's-Hertogenbosch | bo | do |
| BOSKOOP | Alphen | bo | do |
| DELFTSHAVEN | Rotterdam | bo | do |
| DENBOMMEL | Dirksland | bo | do |
| HELDER | Amsterdam | bo | mo |
| DIEREN | Arnhem | bo | do |
| HASSELT | Zwolle | bo | do |
| HEREVEEN | Zwolle | bo | mo |
| HETLOO | Amersfoort | bo | - |
| KETSHEUVEL | 's-Hertogenbosch | bo | do |
| KOUDEKERK | Alphen | bo | do |
| LOONOPZAND | 's-Hertogenbosch | bo | do |
| MEPPEL | Zwolle | bo | mo |
| NIEUWETONGE | Dirksland | bo | do |
| OORSCHOT | 's-Hertogenbosch | bo | do |
| OOSTERWYK | 's-Hertogenbosch | bo | do |
| OOTMARSSUM | Zwolle | bo | do |
| OUDEWETERING | Alphen | bo | do |
| RAAMSDONK | Zevenbergen | bo | do |
| RHYNZATERWOUDE | Alphen | bo | do |
| SNEEK | Zwolle | bo | mo |
| STEENWYK | Zwolle | bo | do |
| STELLEDAM | Dirksland | bo | do |
| WESTERSCHELLING | Amsterdam | bo | do |
| TEXEL | Amsterdam | bo | mo do |
| VALKENSWAARD | 's-Hertogenbosch | bo | do |
| VLIELAND | Amsterdam | bo | db |
| WAALWYK | 's-Hertogenbosch | bo | db |
| WADDINGVEEN | Alphen | bo | db |
| ZWARTSLUIS | Zwolle | bo | db |

Table 4 Branch offices for which no prints of the Masson cancel have been found. Bo=branch office, do=distribution office, mo=main office.

SOME COMMENTS WITH TABLE 4

Den Helder, Heerenveen, Meppel, Sneek and Texel were branch offices prior to April 1, 1811, and all five became post office in 1811. In case of Texel, that had to do with the stationing of mariners on the island. However, Texel was demoted to distribution office during the end of 1814. In its capacity as distribution office, Texel did not have to place postal markings, but continued to use (perhaps as a sign of dismay) the complete departmental cancel, and later also the cut one.

Meppel used the complete department cancel as late as after 1820. Den Helder, Heerenveen and Sneek cut their department cancels in 1818, 1815 en 1814, respectively.

No use of the Masson cancel is known for Heerenveen. In Korteweg, Heerenveen is included in K19 with dimensions 51 x 5.5. This must refer to the cut departmental cancel. Prior to 1811, Heerenveen was a branch office of Zwolle. Also, the Masson spelling differed from the one on the offer, namely HEREVEEN.

SOME EXAMPLES OF MASSON CANCELS ON LETTERS FROM POST OFFICES DURING THE SECOND PERIOD OF USAGE.



Figure 42: 1814. From the post office Woerden by way of Sneek to Woudsend. Rate of five 'stuiver' changed to ten 'stuiver' because of the weight being 11 gram.

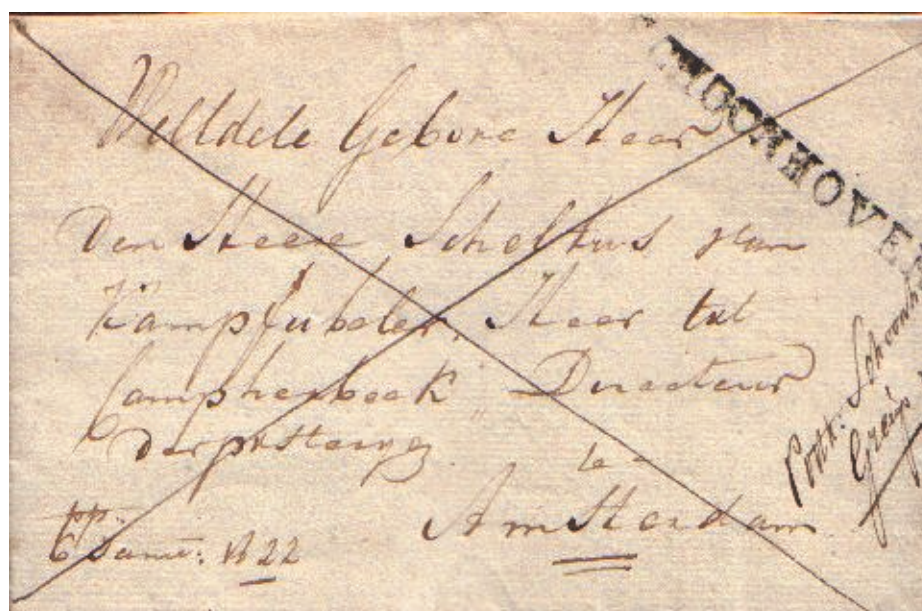


Figure 43: 1822. Second period of usage Schoonhoven-Amsterdam. Mailed free of charge.

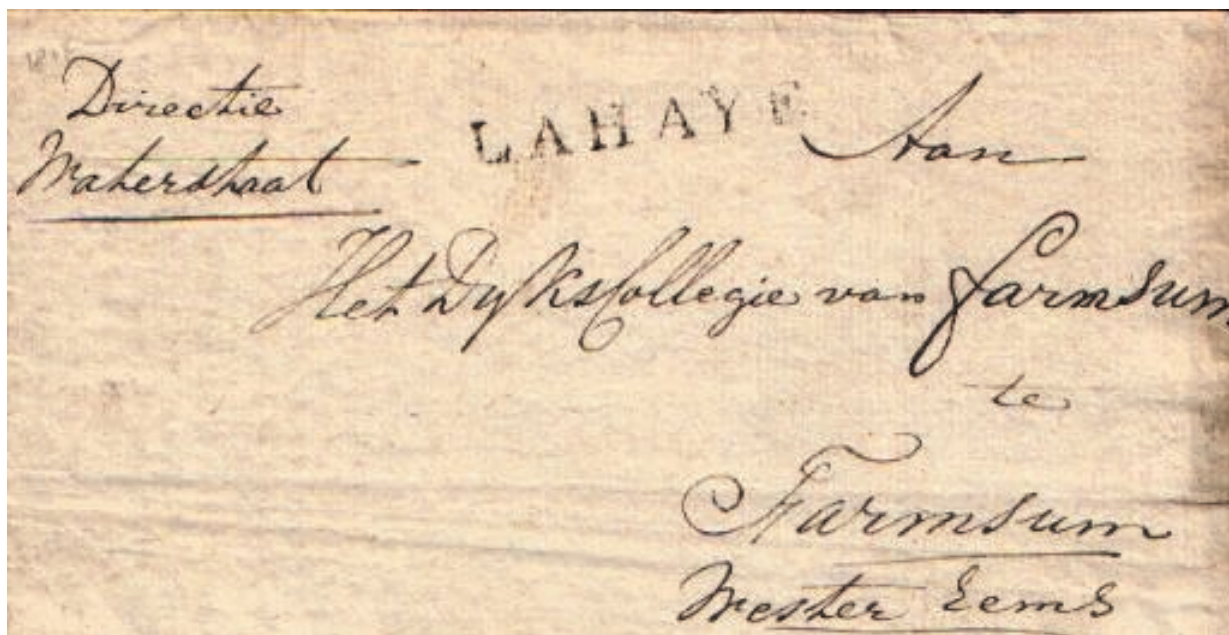


Figure 44: LA HAYE Masson cancel of the second period of usage. Size 43 x 5.5. Free of charge letter to Farmsum, in 1814.

Often times there is confusion regarding distinguishing the Masson cancel of The Hague and the department cancel with P.P., which was cut. As shown in Figures 45-47, the location of the dots above the 'Y' allow for clear recognition of the two types.

LAHAYE

Figure 45: Masson cancel. Dimension is 43 x 5.5.

P.H.P.
LAHAYE

Figure 46: Complete department cancel for franked letter. The dots above the 'Y' are separated from the character.

LAHAYE

Figure 47: Cut cancel. Separated dots. Dimension is 43 x 5.5.

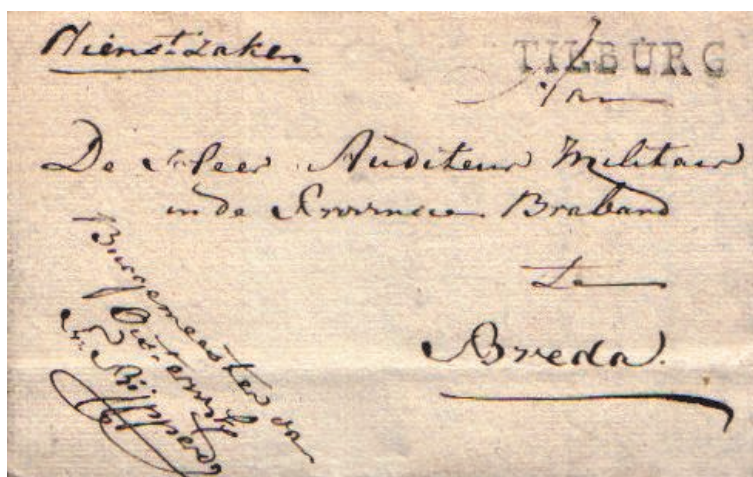


Figure 48: 1816. Tilburg from the second period of usage on a port-free letter from Oisterwijk to Breda.



Figure 49: Leeuwarden 49 x 4.5. Listed in Kortweg as Leeuwarden 1, 50 x 5, Masson cancel. This is not a Masson cancel but the cut department cancel (K lzn).

SOME EXAMPLES OF LATE USAGE OF MASSON CANCELS ON LETTERS FROM DISTRIBUTION OFFICES.

Kortweg mentions in his catalogue on page 111 that seven distribution offices used the Masson cancels. These are: Alblasterdam, Middelharnis, Oldenzaal, Oosterhout, Oude Tonge, Sommelsdijk en Voorschoten. Den Bommel and Goedereede can be added to this sequence. Thus there are five offices on Goeree and Overflakkee that are known to have (re) used the Masson cancel after 1883.

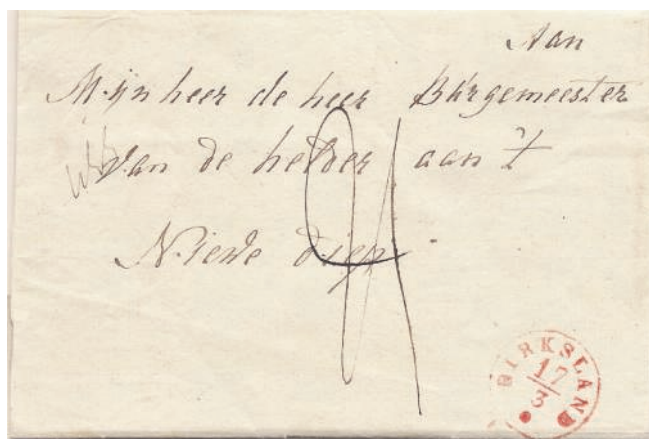


Figure 50: Front and back of a letter from 1840 from Den Bommel to Nieuwediep (now part of Den Helder). The letter travelled by way of Dirksland to Hellevootsluis-Brielle-Rotterdam-Amsterdam to Den Helder. The date cancels show that the letter could be delivered within two days.



Figure 51: The distribution office Middelharnis does the same by way of Dirksland to Brielle.



Figure 52: 1850. The date cancel of Dordrecht shows July 31, 1850 as day of departure. Alblasterdam uses the Masson cancel for one more month, when it receives a new name cancel with a different size.

USE OF MASON CANCELS AFTER 1850

The postal law of September 1, 1850 provided a new impulse to the postal developments in the Netherlands. The distribution offices vanished. A number of distribution offices became post offices. New were the hundreds of auxiliary offices with a letter collector and name cancels provided by the postal service. Yet there were two auxiliary offices that, after more than fifty years, continued to use the Masson cancels of 1809 to cancel letters or post cards. The two offices were Oude Tonge and Sommelsdijk, both on Goeree and Overflakkee. Characteristic for Sommelsdijk is the letter 'Y'.

| spelling Masson | With post office | period | color |
|-----------------|------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| OUDETONGE | Dirksland | 1863-1873 | black, blue, green |
| SOMMELSDYK | Dirksland | 1863-1873 | green |

Table 5. Auxiliary offices that continued to use the Masson cancel after 1850.

OUDETONGE

Figure 53: The OUDETONGE cancel from Paris, dating from 1809, had to be used again after 50 years by the auxiliary office.

SOMMELSDYK

Figure 54: The same applied to Sommelsdijk.

OVER VIEW

Table 5 summarizes the usage information of the Masson cancels for the main, sub and branch offices, as well as for the situation after January 1, 1814, when there were only post and distribution offices. Postal institutions established after August 1 have not been considered.

| As of 1-8-1809 | | | | After 1813 | | | |
|----------------|--------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------|----------------------|-------------------|
| | number | Mas- son known | Masson unknown | As of 1-1-1814 | number | Mas- son known | Masson unknown |
| post office | 28 | 26 | 2 | po | 23 | 18 | 5 |
| | | | | po → do | 5 | 2 | 3 |
| sub office | 26 | 17 | 9 | so → po | 23 | 18 | 5 |
| | | | | so → do | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| branch office | 52 | 16 | 36 | bo → po | 16 | 8 | 8 |
| | | | | bo → do | 36 | 7 | 29 |
| total | 106 | 59 | 47 | total | 106 | 53 | 53 |

Table 6. Post-offices, sub-offices and branch-offices as of August 1, 1809. po = post office; sk = sub office; bo = branch office po → do: post office was changed to distribution office, etc.

Het Loo was a branch office, became the office Apeldoorn in 1809/1810, first as branch office, then in 1811 a distribution office, and post office in 1815. Baardwijk was post office till 1825.

Oudenbosch and Zevenbergen were changed from post office to distribution office effective December 1, 1813. Texel was still a post office in 1813, but became distribution office in 1814.

Veere was transformed from a post office to a distribution office on February 1, 1818.

| 1st period of usage | 2nd and 3rd period of usage | Number as of April 1, 1811 |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Post office remains | Post office | 28 |
| Sub office becomes | Post office | 23 |
| Sub office becomes | Distribution office | 3 |
| Branch office becomes | Post office | 14 |
| Branch office becomes | Distribution office | 38 |
| | | |
| Total | | 106 |

Table 7. Change in status of an office during the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd period of usage of a Masson cancel. Masson cancels were delivered to 106 different offices. Prior to April 1, 1811, there were three types of offices: main office, sub office and branch office. This was reduced to two categories: post offices and distribution offices. The final group of about 250 offices became an auxiliary office in 1850. The numbers were: post office, 28; sub office, 26; branch office 52; total, 106.

USAGE TO FRANCE

The direct cause for the production of the Masson cancels was treaty ('Traktaat') between France and Kingdom Holland concerning the border exchange of letters. In the preceding tables, no separation was made between the usage of Masson cancels during the first period of usage, August 1, 1809 to April 1, 1811, for domestic letters and for letters to France. Too few data have been collected to do so at this point in time. Perhaps the web-site of Po & Po might be the right portal to collect reports by collectors about cancels known on letters to France, together with the year and date.

At present, Masson cancels on letters to France are known from the following 12 towns: Alkmaar, Amsterdam, Baartwijk (sub office), Bois le Duc, Dordrecht, Groningen, La Haye, Maassluis (branch office), Middelburg, Rotterdam, Zuthpen, Zwolle. At that time, the Southern Netherlands, i.e., Limburg and the former Staats-Vlaanderen, were part of the French empire.

WHICH OFFICES EXISTING PRIOR TO 1811 USED THE MASSON CANCEL ONLY AFTER 1813?

The Treaty of 1809 determined that main offices and sub offices could use the Masson cancel on their own. The Masson cancels for the branch offices were ready for usage at the main office. The exceptions have been described above: Dirksland with the branch offices on Goeree and Overflakkee. Multiple letters dating prior to April 1, 1811 with the varying cancels have been found. Oude Tonge and Stad aan 't Haringvliet are not yet known from the first period of usage. However, both are known from these distribution offices after 1813. Harderwijk was an exception as well.

Masson cancels from the first period of usage are known from the branch offices Enkhuizen and Enschede. It is not clear if these cancels were placed at the main offices Hoorn and Zwolle, respectively, or that they were already used at the branch offices at that time. Enschede became post office in 1811, and usage of the Masson cancel on the backside for border mail is known after 1813.

Enkhuizen 1809-1811 -

Enschede 1809-1811 and 1814 as border office

It seems that there were a few other offices that could use the Masson cancel on their own after 1813. That were the post offices Almelo and Assen, which both belonged to Zwolle. Apparently, these offices did ask Zwolle during or after 1813 to send them the Masson cancel.

| | | |
|--------|---|-----------------------|
| Almelo | - | 1813-1817 post office |
| Assen | - | 1815-1829 post office |

Usage of the Masson cancel during the second period of usage is known from three other offices. Alblasserdam must have received the cancel from the main office Dordrecht. Usage is known from 1838.

The cancel Oldenzaal was delivered to Zwolle in 1809 by the central mail service, but usage in Oldenzaal is known from 1825 only, when Oldenzaal was still a distribution office, and resided under Almelo. Oldenzaal also used the Masson cancel on the back of letters that arrived across the eastern border. Finally, some Masson cancels are known from the distribution office Oosterhout, also as of 1838. In 1809, Oosterhout belonged to the jurisdiction of 's-Hertogenbosch.

| | | |
|--------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Alblasserdam | - | 1838-1850 distribution office |
| Oldenzaal | - | 1825-1830 distribution office |
| | | 1831-1846 border office/post office |
| Oosterhout | - | 1838-1840 distribution office |

SUMMARY

The Masson cancels were introduced in 1809, by the Treaty with France, for all main and sub offices for the exchange of letters between Holland and France.

- Usage for domestic mail is not excluded by the Treaty, nor in the instructions to the postal workers.
- It is the first cancel that was distributed centrally to all national offices.
- In collector circles, this type of cancel is referred to with the name of the French manufacturer Masson.
- A number of branch offices has used the Masson cancel on their own, especially for domestic mail.
- The instruction in the Treaty that a main office could place a cancel of the branch office concerned on a letter to France was not followed.
- The Masson firm also delivered additional cancels in 1809 for franked and registered mail and for undeliverable mail.
- For the first time ever, the color of the cancels was centrally mandated.
- The Masson cancels for the 'rayons' (regions) were the first Dutch cancels for the border exchange of letters to facilitate the accounting of unfranked letters, the post reimbursement.
- The Masson cancels were not allowed to be used during the French period of April 1, 1811 till the end of 1813.
- After the end of 1813, there were still 58 post offices and distribution offices that used the Masson cancels.
- In 1873, the two auxiliary offices Oude Tonge and Sommelsdijk were the last to say goodbye to the Masson cancels.

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FIGURES

Figure have been used from several collectors, others come from scans from auction catalogues. Yet others were provided by the Museum for Communication, Ad de Doede, Frans Jorissen, H.J.W. van Kesteren, Jaap Rodenburg and Hotze Wiersma.

Kinderpostzegels

Netherlands child welfare stamps 1924

by Dave Rothery

Background

In 1923 it was decided that an annual charity stamp would be produced. The first set of stamps was the so called Tooropzegels, after the designer Jan Toorop. However, the sales of these stamps were very disappointing; two-thirds were unsold and had to be destroyed. The charity surcharge on each stamp was 5 cents.



1923 Culture Fund Set (Tooropzegels)

In March 1924 Mr H de Bie, the future chairman of the Dutch Association for Child Protection, wrote a commentary entitled "The failure of charity stamps". He identified three reasons for the poor sales; firstly the stamps themselves, secondly the unclear purpose and thirdly the lack of advertising. He compared the Tooropzegels with the Swiss Pro Juventute stamps, which were "so much fresher and more attractive in terms of stamps". Moreover, the purpose was mentioned on the stamps: "Pro Juventute", which is the Latin phrase "For The Children". He hoped that charity stamps would be tried again in 1924, but with better advertising and a clear purpose.

The 1923 Tooropzegels raised only 18,000 Guilders, compared with the 1923 Swiss Pro Juventute stamps that sold nearly 7 million and raised 375,000 Swiss Francs (nearly 200,000 Guilders).



1923 Swiss Pro Juventute

It was de Bie's aim that Child Protection should be the Dutch equivalent of the Swiss Pro Juventute. In July 1924 the Government decided that the money raised from an annual charity stamp should go to the benefit of children to give a clear purpose for the charity surcharge - the beginning of a long tradition which continues to this day.

Design

It was originally proposed that the stamps would show an image of the 15 year old Princess Juliana, but this was rejected by Queen Wilhelmina. The next proposal was the coats of arms of the Dutch Provinces, as was being used on the Swiss stamps (see above), but there was insufficient time to develop this idea. [The coats of arms proposal was subsequently used for the 1925 to 1928 sets.]

Instead, a design by painter and stamp designer Georg Rueter was used. The design is a child's head between two angels. The model for the child was Georg's eldest daughter, Maria. All three values have the same design, but with slight differences in the leaves displayed in the lower corners.

The purpose of the stamp was also included - "Voor het Kind" - "For the Child".



1924 Netherlands Child Welfare

Charity Surcharge

The Association for Child Protection considered that a charity surcharge the same as on the Tooropzegels (at 5 cents on each stamp) was too high and would deter people from buying the stamps. The Post Office thought that most of these stamps had actually been bought by stamp collectors so could not be sure that the surcharge had actually been a major factor.

Nevertheless the Post Office had no objection to the surcharge being reduced to 3 cents on the 2 cent stamp and 2½ cents on the 10 cent stamp. The Association for Child Protection considered that a 3 cent surcharge on a 2 cent stamp was still too high and asked to reduce it to 2 cents, to which there was no objection.

The Association for Child Protection also proposed a 7½ cent stamp (inland postcard rate) with a surcharge of 2½ cents. However the Post Office thought the public might confuse this with the 10 cent letter rate. A 3½ cent surcharge was finally agreed.

Three values were therefore produced, each with a differing surcharge:

| Value | Colour | Surcharge | Rate |
|---------|--------|-----------|---------------------------|
| 2 cent | Green | 2 cents | Inland printed matter |
| 7½ cent | Brown | 3½ cents | Inland postcard rate |
| 10 cent | Red | 2½ cents | Long distance letter rate |

The surcharge was not printed on the stamp image; this did not occur until 1949.

Printing

The stamps were printed in photogravure in sheets of 100 (10 x 10) stamps.

They were comb perforated 12½.

The image size is 18 x 22mm, and the stamp size 21 x 25.5mm.

Use

The stamps were issued between 15th December 1924 and 15th January 1925. They were initially valid for an indefinite period, later reduced to 31st December 1935.

Proceeds

The stamps raised a total of 56,723.32 Guilders (58,890.48 gross with costs of 2,167.16), more than three times that of the Tooropzegels the year before. The proceeds were divided amongst various institutions, child custody and children in Government care.

League of Nations - World Child Welfare Charter

The League of Nations was formed as a result of the Paris Peace Conference at the end of World War I. In 1924, the League of Nations adopted the World Child Welfare Charter, which endorsed the Declaration of the Rights of the Child drafted by the International Save the Children Union in Geneva in 1923.

They were:

- 1). The child must be given the means requisite for its normal development, both materially and spiritually.
- 2). The child that is hungry must be fed, the child that is sick must be nursed, the child that is backward must be helped, the delinquent child must be reclaimed, and the orphan and the waif must be sheltered and succoured.
- 3). The child must be the first to receive relief in times of distress.
- 4). The child must be put in a position to earn a livelihood, and must be protected against every form of exploitation.
- 5). The child must be brought up in the consciousness that its talents must be devoted to the service of its fellow men.

It would not be unreasonable to suppose that there was a connection between the World Child Welfare Charter and Mr H de Bie's aim for these child welfare charity stamps.

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The 1940/41 Dutch East Indies Red Cross covers

by Hans Kremer

Covers similar to the one shown here show up regularly on Ebay and in philatelic auctions. They generally sell for about \$15.



*Figure 1 Red Cross cover sent December 1940 from the DEI to the Netherlands
Postage 15 cent plus 20 cent airmail surcharge = 35 cent. This paid for Batavia to its destination in The Netherlands*

The history of this type of cover has recently been published in some detail in the Dutch philatelic literature (see Refs).

Since our readership is mainly made up of members not fully proficient in reading Dutch, I thought it might be a good idea to discuss the subject here.

It all started in May 1940 after the German invasion of the Netherlands and it basically ended with the Japanese invasion of the Dutch East Indies in the spring of 1942.

Soon after May 10, 1940 the 'Contactbureau Indië Nederland' (C.I.N.) was set up by the Netherlands Indies Red Cross (NIRK) to re-establish the contact between the Dutch East Indies and the Netherlands. For this purpose the International Red Cross in Geneva, Switzerland, would be used as a go-between.

As early as May 22, 1940 a 'contact form' was available at all D.E.I postoffices. On this form one had to fill in the name and address of the sender (in the D.E.I) as well as the addressee in the Netherlands. 70,000 of these filled out forms were hand carried to the IRC in Switzerland in August 1940; The IRC used the form 61 to send the requests to the Netherlands. 60,000 of them were returned with a reply (limited to a maximum of 25 words), see fig. 2

Soon (12 September 1940) after the start with the initial forms for requests from DEI a formal agreement was made with the Int. Red Cross in Geneva, which set up the procedures for future correspondence between the D.E.I and the Netherlands.

Some of the details were published in the Indische Krant of September 13, 1940. It said, among other things:

"From now on anybody can exchange family messages with anybody in the Netherlands or in other occupied countries. This can be done directly with a so-called mail-message, through the services of the International Red Cross in Geneva. Within a few days Red Cross forms and envelopes will be available for a couple of cents at all postoffices and sub-postoffices. Such forms should be filled out here (i.e. the D.E.I) and together with a 17 1/2 cent replycoupon (also available at the postoffices) be put in the special envelop, which will make it possible for the Int. Red Cross to pass on this information to its final destination. The envelop has to be franked with 35 cent and will be sent via airmail to Geneva.

The Int. Red Cross will attach a short note explaining to the addressee that he/she can use this form (using the back of the form) to send a reply to the sender in the D.E.I. All forms will be censored by the Algemeene Censuurdienst (General Censor Services) in Batavia and then passed on to the postal services. Internees should ask for these forms through their Camp Commander." (Fig. 4)

COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
Palais du Conseil Général
GENEVE (Suisse) KNI 15954
JR

DEMANDEUR — ANFRAGESTELLER — ENQUIRER

Nom - Name ADRIAANSE
Prénom - Christian name - Vorname P.M.
Rue - Street - Strasse Bondowoso weg 12.
Localité - Locality - Ortschaft Batavia
Département - County - Provinz Java.
Pays - Country - Land

Message à transmettre — Mitteilung — Message
(25 mots au maximum, nouvelles de caractère strictement personnel et familial) —
(nicht über 25 Worte, nur persönliche Familiennachrichten) — (not over 25 words,
family news of strictly personal character).

Verzoeken per omgeende aan ommezijde een korte mededeeling te willen geven omtrent het welzijn van U en Uw familieleden.

Date - Datum 24.9.40

DESTINATAIRE — EMPFÄNGER — ADDRESSEE

Nom - Name ADRIAANSE en gezin
Prénom - Christian name - Vorname Lambertus Josephus
Rue - Street - Strasse Kluizweg 666
Localité - Locality - Ortschaft HOOFDDORP
Province - County - Provinz N.H.
Pays - Country - Land Holland

ANTWORT UMSEITIG. **RÉPONSE AU VERSO.** **REPLY OVERLEAF.**
Bitte sehr deutlich schreiben. Prière d'écrire très lisiblement. Please write very clearly.

Figure 2 First form 61, sent September 24, 1940 from Geneva to Hoofddorp in the Netherlands

RÉPONSE ANTWOORT REPLY

Message à renvoyer au demandeur — Mitteilung an den Antragsteller zurück-zusenden — Message to be returned to enquirer.

(25 mots au maximum, nouvelles de caractère strictement personnel et familial) — (nicht über 25 Worte, nur persönliche Familiennachrichten) — (not over 25 words, family news of strictly personal character)


*Ghele familie gezond, zaak redelijk,
voedsel taerikend.
Bominslag een Augustus twintig
meter achter huis, schade kwart mille,
niet verzekerd.
Hartelijke groeten aan allen.
Best Harry.*

Date: *7 October 1940*
Datum:

14 OCT 1940

Bitte sehr deutlich schreiben. Prière d'écrire très lisiblement. Please write very clearly.

Figure 3 Back of Figure 2. Sent back from The Netherlands to the DEI October 7, 1940

 NEDERLANDSCH-INDISCHE ROODE KRUIS
TJIKINI 65 - BATAVIA-CENTRUM

VERZOEK - REQUEST - REQUETE

aan het CENTRAAL BUREAU van het INTERNATIONALE ROODE KRUIS
to the INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS COMMITTEE
au COMITE INTERNATIONAL de la CROIX-ROUGE

Palais du Conseil Général — Genève (Suisse).

VERZOEKER — ENQUIRER — DEMANDEUR

Naam/Name/Nom _____
Straat/Street/Rue _____
Plaats/Locality/Localté _____
Land/Country/Pays _____

BERICHT — MESSAGE — MESSAGE

(ten hoogste 25 woorden, uitsluitend beknopte familieberichten)
(not over 25 words, family news of strictly personal character)
(25 mots au maximum, nouvelles de caractère strictement personnel et familial)

Date/Date/Date _____
Geadresseerde — ADDRESSEE — DESTINATAIRE

Naam/Name/Nom _____
Straat/Street/Rue _____
Plaats/Locality/Localté _____
Land/Country/Pays _____

Dit formulier is een gefrankeerd enmag te zenden aan het Bureau International de la Croix Rouge — Palais du Conseil Général — Genève (Suisse) onder insluiting van een internationale antwoord coupon, verkrijgbaar bij alle postkantoren.

Please send this form to the International Red Cross Committee — Palais du Conseil Général — Geneva (Switzerland) in a stamped envelope, enclosing an international Reply Coupon to cover postage expense.

Prière d'envoyer ce billet sous enveloppe affranchie au Bureau International de la Croix-Rouge — Palais du Conseil Général — Genève (Suisse) en ajoutant un Coupon Réponse International.

ANTWOORD AAN REPLY OVERLEAF REPONSE AU VERSO
ONMEZIJDE Please write very clearly. Prière d'écrire très lisiblement.

Zeer duidelijk schrij-
TEN N.V.P.

GENORMALISEERD. 6330-40

Figure 4 Later version of form 61. Used October 1940 thru February 1941

In short:

- The Red Cross in Geneva would act as a go-between
- A number of employees of the Dutch Red Cross would be set up in Geneva
- The Red Cross '25 words forms' (the unofficial name of Form 61) should be used
- Preprinted airmail envelopes (which became available as per October 14, 1940) were to be used to forward the filled-in forms.
- (In Geneva), the DEI RC forms would be transferred to the official Form 61 of the IRC. These forms would be bundled and passed on to the Red Cross in The Hague, which would in turn pass on the forms to the addressees.
- Addressee would fill out the 'reply back' and return to the Red Cross in The Hague
- Red Cross would bundle the letters and forward to Geneva, then Batavia and from there to the original sender.



Figure 5 Envelop used by Red Cross in The Hague to forward letter to addressee in The Netherlands. No postage required since the 35 cent (see fig 1) already been accounted for.

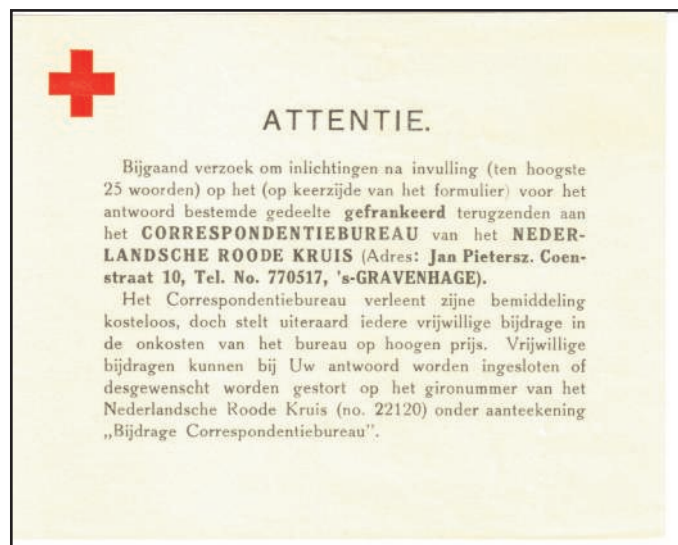


Figure 6 Insert of Fig.5



Figure 7 Envelop used to return form from the RC in Batavia to the addressee.

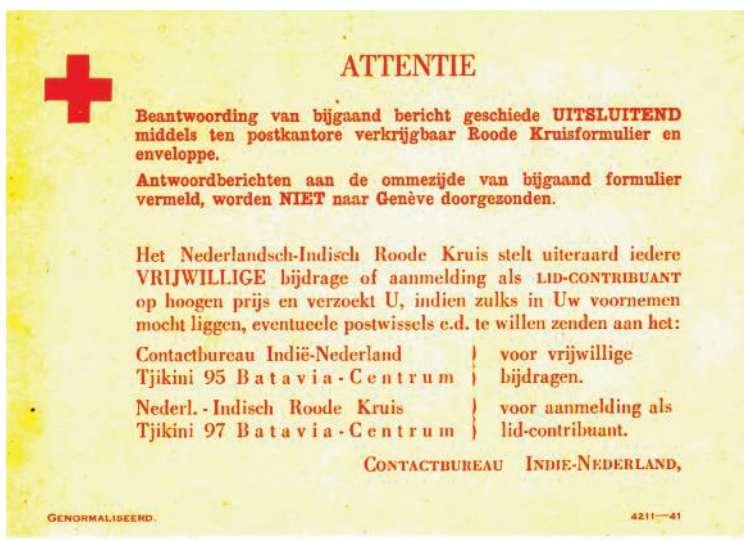


Figure 8 Insert of Fig. 7

I would like to thank Hans van der Horst for supplying me not only with the large majority of the illustrations, but also for giving me the background information related to the illustrations.

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Hans van der Horst - Personal communication, 2010-11

Netherlands Philately, Vol. 36, No. 1

Parcel Post Control Marks

by Richard Wheatley

Some years ago I bought a biscuit tin crammed full of Netherlands Indies used stamps from about the period 1910 to 1930. These stamps turned out to have been cut off parcel post address cards, so they were on small pieces of card, with postmarks from all over the archipelago. It was very time consuming working my way through the pile of stamps, but well worth the effort, for I found quite a number of difficult to find postmarks. In the end I had a nearly full tin of stamps and I tried selling them, but to no avail!

It was just as well that I did not sell them, for some time later I looked at the stamps again and I noticed on the reverse of a small quantity, some numerals within a circle. Eventually I found these mentioned in the book "Poststempels Nederlands-Indie 1864 - 1950" by P.R. Bulterman. There it states that these numbers were an administrative control mark used on parcel post address cards. They were recorded from 1921 to 1923 with numbers 1 to 12, probably used at Batavia or Weltevreden on foreign parcels.

From my biscuit tin hoard I had found six parcel card clippings with numbers on the reverse (Fig. 1), the stamps on them are either low value Numeral, the Queen with Ship, or the high value Queen with Palms.



Fig. 1, parcel card clippings

Subsequently I purchased a complete parcel post address card bearing one of these numbers - but on the front! (Fig.2). It is interesting to note that the stamps have been cancelled by the Soerabaja Pakketpost (Parcel post) circular date stamp, and that it has an acceptance label of Soerabaja Oude Hospitaalstraat. The card is addressed to Seattle and the sender has put the contents down as "a tin of meat", no doubt some Javanese delicacy not available in the U.S.



Fig. 2, parcel card

Here are the details of the items that I have found:

| NUM-BER | DETAIL | TOWN | POSTMARK | DATE | COMMENT |
|---------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|---------|------------------|
| 1 | 18mm circle | Madioen (Java) | Short bridge | 2-12-16 | Bestellerstempel |
| 3 | Double circle | Soerabaja (Java) | Long date bar | 19-3-27 | complete card |
| 4 | Double circle | ? | Long date bar | 4-5-21 | |
| 6 | Double circle | ? | Long date bar | 3-11-21 | |
| 8 | No circle | Kepahiang (Sumatra) | Long date bar | 28-6-21 | Bestellerstempel |
| 10 | Double circle | Pontianak (Borneo) | Long date bar | 9-11-21 | |
| 10 | Double circle | Moearaaman (Sumatra) | Long date bar | 9-11-21 | |

The double circles marks all measure 25/13mm diameters and are struck in black.

From this listing of seven items we can now draw some conclusions. These control marks were probably used at Batavia and Weltevreden, however, it is evident from the list that the larger post offices also had their own control marks and that the smaller post offices used a Bestellerstempel (postman's mark). The date of use can now be extended, from December 1916 to March 1927. They were in use throughout the Netherlands Indies.

I seem to recall hearing that prisoners held in jail were given the boring task of clipping the stamps from the parcel post address cards, which were then sold to stamp collectors. I guess this made a welcome change from sowing mail bags!

Johan van Oldenbarnevelt

From hero to beheaded statesman

by Hans Kremer

Recently I found a so-called maxi-card depicting a stamp of Johan van Oldenbarnevelt attached to a postcard showing his beheading in 1619. Why did his life end this way?



Fig. 1, Johan van Oldenbarnevelt Maxicard, 1983

Johan van Oldenbarnevelt (September 14, 1547, Amersfoort – May 13, 1619, The Hague) was a Dutch statesman, who played an important role in the Dutch struggle for independence from Spain.

Van Oldenbarnevelt studied law at Leuven, Bourges, Heidelberg and Padua, and traveled in France and Italy before settling in The Hague. He was a moderate Calvinist, so he supported Willem van Oranje Nassau in his revolt against Spain.

In 1576 he obtained the important post of pensionary of Rotterdam, an office which carried with it official membership of the States of Holland. In this capacity his industry, singular grasp of affairs, and persuasive powers of speech speedily gained for him a position of influence.



Fig. 2 Johan van Oldenbarnevelt, NVPH 1281, 1983

He was active in promoting the Union of Utrecht (1579) and the acceptance of the countship of Holland and Zeeland by Willem van Oranje. He was a fierce opponent of the policies of the Earl of Leicester, the governor-general at the time, and instead favoured Maurits (Maurice) of Nassau, a son of William. Leicester left in 1587, leaving the military power in the Netherlands to Maurits.

On March 16, 1586 he became Land's Advocate of Holland for the States of Holland, an office he held for 32 years. This great office gave to a man unbounded influence in a many-headed republic without any central executive authority.

His task was made the easier by the whole-hearted support he received from Maurits van Nassau, who, after 1589, held the Stadholderate of five provinces, and was likewise Captain-General and Admiral of the Union. The interests and ambitions of the two men did not clash, for Maurits' thoughts were centered on the training and leadership of armies and he had no special capacity as a statesman or inclination for politics.

In 1601 Johan van Oldenbarnevelt launched the revolutionary idea of merging the competing trading companies that were set up in various ports in the Dutch Republic into one big United East India Company (Verenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie), the VOC. The VOC was founded as a joint-stock company with a founding capital of 6.5 million Dutch guilders and granted the monopoly on the trade "East of the Cape of Good Hope".

The first rift between Maurits and van Oldenbarnevelt came in 1600, when Maurits was forced against his will by the States-General, under the Advocate's influence, to undertake an expedition into Flanders to eliminate the pirates operating out of the ports of Dunkirk and Nieuwpoort, which ended in victory at the Battle of Nieuwpoort.

Van Oldenbarnevelt, who had the support of the States of Holland and the majority of burgher regents throughout the country, was for peace with Spain, provided that free trade was assured.

Maurits and his cousin Willem Lodewijk, stadholder of Friesland, including the military and naval leaders and the Calvinist clergy, were opposed to a truce with Spain, on the ground that the Spanish king would merely seek an interval of repose in which to recuperate his strength for a renewed attack on the independence of the Netherlands.

For some three years the negotiations went on, but on 9 April 1609, a truce for twelve years was concluded. All that the Dutch asked for was directly or indirectly granted, and Maurits felt obliged to reluctantly approve the favorable conditions obtained by the firm and skillful diplomacy of van Oldenbarnevelt.

The immediate effect of the so-called '12 year truce' was a strengthening of Oldenbarnevelt's influence in the government of the Dutch Republic, now recognized as a free and independent country; external peace, however, was to bring with it internal strife.

During the Truce, two factions emerged in the Dutch camp, along political and religious lines. On one side were the Arminians, whose prominent supporters included Johan van Oldenbarnevelt and Hugo Grotius. They tended to be well-to-do merchants who accepted a less strict interpretation of the Bible than did classical Calvinists. They were opposed by the more radical Gomarists, supported by Maurits. In 1617 the conflict escalated when republicans pushed the "Sharp Resolution", allowing the cities to take measures against the Gomarists. Prince Maurits accused van Oldenbarnevelt of treason, and had him arrested in August 1618.

Van Oldenbarnevelt was, with his friends, kept in strict confinement until November of that year, and then brought for examination before a commission appointed by the States-General. He appeared more than sixty times before the commissioners and was allowed neither to consult papers nor to put his defense in writing.

On 20 February 1619, van Oldenbarnevelt was arraigned before a special court of twenty-four members, only half of which were Hollanders, and nearly all his personal enemies. This hearing was in no sense a legal court, nor had it any jurisdiction over the prisoner, but the protest of the Advocate, who claimed his right to be tried by the sovereign province of Holland, whose servant he was, was disregarded.



Fig. 3 The Beheading of Johan van Oldenbarnevelt (1619)

It was in fact not a trial at all, and the packed bench of judges on Sunday, 12 May 1619, pronounced a sentence of death. On the following day the old statesman, at the age of seventy-one, was beheaded in the Binnenhof in The Hague. Such, to use his own words, was his reward for serving his country forty-three years. Van Oldenbarnevelt's last words to the executioner were purportedly as follows: "Make it short, make it short."

As can be read on the Johan van Oldenbarnevelt stamp his motto was: "nil scire tutissima fides", which means "To know nothing is the safest faith".

When reading all of this it's maybe not surprising that Maurits has never been honored with a Dutch stamp, although in 1913 there was a proposal to put him with William of Orange and Frederik Hendrik on the 1913 Jubilee series. The idea got shot down, but a Maurits design can be found in the *Handboek Postwaarden Nederland* on page B2-4.



Fig. 4 Design for Maurits stamp (1913); not issued



Fig. 5 Prince Maurits on 1998 Mauritius stamp

However, Maurits is shown on a 1998 stamp of Mauritius, which by the way is named after him, although Maurits was never there.



Fig. 6 Prince Maurits on 1985
Luxemburg stamp

Luxemburg in 1985 also issued a stamp showing Maurits, so one could make the argument that philatelically Maurits outscored van Oldenbarnevelt 2 ½ :1!

The postcard on the first page of this article is a detail of a much larger etching. The complete text along the top reads “Ivstitie aen Ian van Oldenbarnevelt Geschiet” (Justice is done to Johan van Oldenbarnevelt).

About 50 years later the De Witt brothers met a fate, similar to van Oldenbarnevelt, at a location only about 1000 feet away from the Binnenhof.

In case you are wondering who the six people in the etching are, they are:
Top row L to R:

Johan van Oldenbarnevelt and Johannes Uyt den Boogaarde

Bottom Row l to r:

Adolff van Wael, Gillis Van Ledenberg, Rombout Van Hoogerbeets, and Hugo Grotius

In a future article I'll write about Stadtholder William III, who thru his lack of intervention is held responsible by some for the lynching of Johan and Cornelis de Witt. This took place about 50 years after van Oldenbarnevelt's execution.



Fig. 7 Claes Janszoon Visscher, The decapitation of Johan van Oldenbarnevelt, 1619. Etching. 378 × 622 mm, Rijksmuseum Amsterdam

Ref:

<http://en.wikipedia.org>

Gert Holstege c.s, Handboek Postwaarden Nederland, Gelegenheidszegels 1913 Eeuwfeest, page B2-4, Johan Enschedé, Ongoing Publication

Postpakketverrekenzegels

What is this about?

by Hans Kremer

Recently somebody asked me if I knew anything about two Dutch 'TE BETALEN / PORT' (postage (due) to be paid) stamps. The stamps in question are the 11 and 15 cent overprints shown here.



Intuitively the first place to look for these stamps would be in a Dutch stamp catalog and then under the subject "Portzegels". Under 1924 you'll see a similar stamp, it is one of a set of four such overprints mentioned. They are 4, 5, 10, and 12 ½ cent overprints. Two of these, the 4 cent and 12 ½ cent denominations were overprinted on copies of the 1899 -1921 fur collar issue, the 4 cent over the 3 cent olive green and the 12 ½ cent over the 5 cent red.



No mention of the 11 and 15 cent denominations. Why would that be?

I did the usual Google search on the Internet, but since most of the older Dutch philatelic literature is not scanned in (yet I hope), not much was found.

Next I contacted the ASNP Librarian, Paul Swierstra, asking him to see if he could find any information about these stamps. Within three days I found a nice envelope in my mailbox with an index of everything he had found,

plus copies of those finds.

Since the 11 cent overprinted had the 22 ½ cent fur collar issue as its base and the 15 cent overprints the 17 ½ cent fur collar issue let's look at the usage of these two denominations.

It turns out that we have to go back to 1921 for the reason the overprinted stamps came about. As per March 1, 1921 there was no use for single 17 ½ cent stamps anymore. Up to then 17 ½ cent was the rate for a letter of the second weight class (20 to 40 grams) to Belgium. Per 3-1-1921 this was changed to 25 cent. However, the 17 ½ stamps were not taken out of circulation because 35 cent (2x 17 ½) paid for a registered letter to a foreign country (20 cent plus a 15 cent registration surcharge). As per 1-1-1922 no more 17 ½ cents were produced by the P.T.T., but of course there still were quite a few around.

The 22 ½ cent fur collar issue, from 11-1-1919 till 3-1-1921, could be used for express letters within the Netherlands, but after that it lost its purpose.

Thus the PTT ended up with unsold stamps and the Dutch, being frugal people, did not want to destroy these 'left overs'. They were used as base for red 10 cent overprints as shown here. This however, did not take care of all the surplus stamps, so in 1924 it was decided that when new postage due stamps were needed to again use these (and some other) surplus stamps. Thus were born the postage due overprints of 1924.



However, at the P.T.T it was noticed that of the 11 and 15 cent overprints the supply was somewhat limited compared to the other denominations. To avoid undesirable speculation with these stamps the P.T.T decided to use them 'internally'. They were only used at postoffices in Amsterdam, 's Gravenhage (The Hague) and Rotterdam and then only to be used on form Model 88, which accompanied returned or forwarded packages. These forms remained the property of the P.T.T so it assured them that they controlled the destiny of these stamps.

Not much was known about this new set of two overprinted stamps, not even to most of the P.T.T employees employed at the three postoffices mentioned.

This all changed drastically on October 29, 1925 when canceled versions of the 11 and 15 cent 'postage due' stamps were auctioned off by the P.T.T. This was the first time the general public (including the stamp collectors) heard about these stamps. The Bond (organisation of Dutch stamp collectors) asked for a clarification from P.T.T. The Bond recommended its members not to buy these stamps (in 1926 this recommendation was retracted), and also not to describe these stamps as 'postage due' stamps.

Belangrijk Bericht

De Bondsvoorzitter deelt, in verband met den verkoop op de laatste Rijksveiling van tot dien, ook hem onbekende zegels van 11 en 15 cent op resp. 17½ en 22½ cent, mede, dat binnenkort zal verschijnen een officieele mededeeling van het Hoofdbestuur der Posterijen en Telegrafie omtrent de totstandkoming van deze zegels; dat deze zegels naar zijn meening en volgens philatelistische opvatting geen (te betalen) portzegels zijn; dat hij de verzamelaars aanraadt deze zegels, in afwachting van hovenbedoelde mededeeling, niet te koopen.

Nog zij medegedeeld, dat het Bondsbestuur over deze aangelegenheid op 15 November j.l. in spoedvergadering bijeenkwam. Het resultaat dezer vergadering wordt vermeld in het December-nummer.

The P.T.T.'s response was printed in the Maandblad voor Philatelie of December 16, 1925, outlining the history of these stamp as I described it above.

The Bond had objected to calling these stamps 'postage due stamps' since their use was solely for returning or forwarding postal packages. The Bond came up with the name "postpakketverrekenzegels", a typical long Dutch word, made up of three parts: pakket=package, verreken=to be paid, and zegel=stamp. It's hard to come up with a one worded English name for these stamps.

Since the Bond is in control of the Dutch stamp catalog, these stamps are found under 'Postpakketverrekenzegels' and not under 'portzegels'. Over the years several prominent stamp collectors have suggested putting these stamps onder the "Portzegels" chapter of the catalog but sofar this hasn't happened yet. Traditions are hard to break!

As mentioned these stamps were auctioned off by the P.T.T but only as used and cut out copies from the Model 88 forms. However, in the "Nederlandsche Postzegel & Muntveniging" auction of March 28, 29 and 31, 2008 this unique item was auctioned off. It is the only known cover with a complete set of the Postpakketverrekenzegels on it. It was sold for € 3,600. Complete cover, franked with 74 ½ cent, made up of 'postverreken' stamps of 11 cent (5x), and 15 cent, plus postage due stamps of 4 and ½ cent; cancel 's Gravenhage P.P. Zaanstraat 12-8-1924 (this would be December 8, 1924 in U.S terminology).

Netherlands Philately, Vol. 36, No. 1

Magazine & Book Reviews

Note: In general only those articles with philatelic subjects related to the Netherlands and its (former) Overseas Areas are discussed here; many other articles of interest appear in these publications. Only those publications with new information are discussed.

***Digital scans** can be made available to anyone interested in a particular article.*

Contact your magazine editor for this service, see the e-mail adress under The Board.

Magazine Reviews

Maandblad Filatelie

Language: Dutch.

Maandblad Filatelie- Brouwer Media-, P.O.Box 20, 1900 AA Uitgeest, The Netherlands.

Supscription € 27,= /yr., € 47,05 for foreign countries, free to members of Dutch philatelic societies, who are member of the KNBF.

Website: <http://www.defilatelic.nl/>

May 2011

In this issue there is a nice variety of articles. This year is the 125th anniversary of the "3-October Vereeniging Leiden". Willem Hoogendoorn writes about the history of Leiden as far as it is depicted on various stamps and other postal items. Not only the events of October 3, 1573 are discussed, but also Leiden's University and the Pilgrim Fathers are subjects of the article. - Frans Hermse gives his annual overview of the Christmas and New Year's mail. Some of us might look at it as covers destined for the thrash can, other, like Mr. Hermse get many hours of pleasure studying the postage and variety of cancels. Mr. van der Vlist (the Fakes and Forgery expert) talks about some unique covers from Curacao from 1808 and 1833-1836. Discussed are the various cancels and postal rates. They both are deemed real originals adding to what has been written about these in Julsen and Benders Postal History of Curacao (available through the ASNP library)

- A follow-up to the story in the March Filatelie about M.C. Escher.

June 2011

Frans Storm van Leeuwen writes in this issue about the Dutch Military Postal Organisation. He describes how it works and for which peace force it is allowed to send mail or not! Dimitri Rentenaar writes about the First KLM flight from Amsterdam to Budapest (via Prague and Vienna).

July/August 2011

Dr. Albert Louis writes about a new and rare feature of the second issue of the Netherlands, specifically the second plate of the 10 cent, which was written about by J.F. Cleij in his standard book about this issue. In the first E of "Nederland" is a small dot visible, see (adjusted) image below.



All collectors are asked to check their collections to see if they have a stamp that bears this feature and report that to him.

Han T. Siem writes about the postal stationary “verhuiskaarten” send from the Dutch East Indies to foreign countries. A hard to find object he claims as he found only 3 examples in the last 10 years.

September 2011

Frans Hermse presents a two-page story about the history of the Dutch mail. From being a state property in 1799 till the latest name change to PostNL earlier this year. Gert Holstege writes in a short article about a parcel piece, send from the Netherlands to New York (USA), franked partially with revenu stamps which is against the postal regulations.

October 2011

An article by Dimitri Rentenaar reports about the first KLM flight from Amsterdam to Shanghai in September 1948.

Netherlands Philatelists of California

Language: English.

Membership dues are US \$ 12,= for corresponding USA and Canada based members; US \$ 17,= for regular members attending the monthly meetings, and US \$ 18,= for international corresponding members. Secretary/Editor: Frank Ennik, 3168 Tice Creek Dr. # 3, Walnut Creek, Ca 94595-3772

E-mail: Ennik123@att.net

Website: <http://www.angelfire.com/ca2/npofc/>

April 2011

In this issue there are two interesting articles by our well-known member Hans Kremer. The first one describes a postal stationary card with additional franking to make up the rate. Hans explains perfectly what the reasons where for this additional franking. The other article goes about Princess/ Queen Juliana’s first stamp and the background of this issue.

May 2011

May stood in for the theme Juliana during it’s meeting and this was clearly visible in their magazine. A lot of small but interesting pieces on

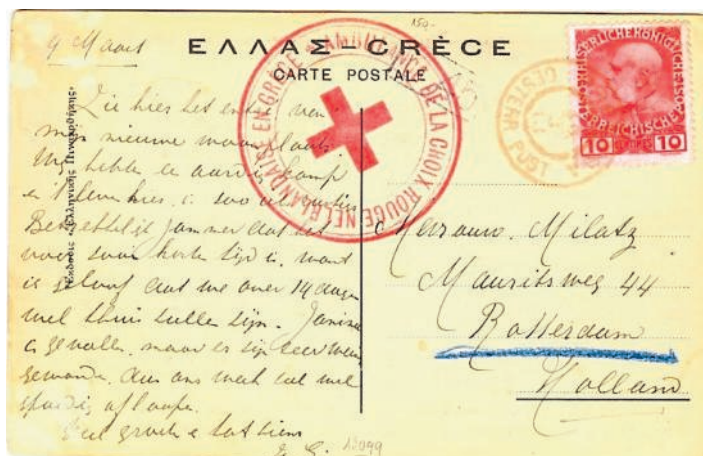
The magazine ends with a small article but interesting article about priority printed matter 1928-1946 written by Hans Kremer.

June 2011

This issue contains a small but good story of a NVPH Nr. 1 stamp on cover and marked as insufficiënt. Arno Kolster explains why. This issue is closed by an article by Hans Kremer about the The Bickerdike ‘wavy flag’ cancel of 1904/05.

July 2011

Two interesting articles where published in this issue. Dutch Red Cross Ambulances in Greece in 1913 written by Hans Kremer, tells the story behind Balkan countries sending mail with a big red postmark on it referring to the Dutch red Cross Ambulances.



The second article, VENLOO-MAASTRICHT, an enduring error, also written by Hans Kremer, discusses the large round train postmark VENLOO-MAASTRICHT with the wrong spelling: **CIHT** instead of **ICHT** on the end.



August 2011

This issue contains one large interesting story about the Pilgrim Fathers (and Mothers)....Where it all began! Written by Franklin Ennik. The story goes about the journey they took from Holland, via England to the new world (the USA).

September 2011

This issue contains three interesting articles. One, by Hans Kremer, discusses the Krag continuous machine cancel of the 1930s designed by Willem Rozendaal. The article tells the story of the postmark design and presents information about the designer him self.

The Pilgrim Fathers (and Mothers)... A follow up (from the August edition) is a small story that catches up with a Pilgrim Fathers (and mothers) painting pictured on a postcard.

The magazine ends with a story titled: Last Post Office to Close. As of this year, the Netherlands no longer has any post offices. The last one of it's kind (for now at least, as one never knows if they will come back one day) stood in the city Utrecht. Hans Kremer and Paul Swierstra wrote about this building and old memories.

October 2011

In this issue there is one article written, by Hans Kremer. It's called; Sluitzegel (Seal) for Juliana and Bernhard's 'ondertrouw' (notice of intended marriage). It tells the interesting story behind this seal.

November 2011

This issue contains one interesting article that goes about two 'Nachtuur' (Overnight) cancels on one picture post card. The article is written by Hans Kremer and tells the story about a postcard receiving an overnight cancel from 's-Gravehage and Amsterdam on the same date.

De Aero Philatelist

Language: Dutch.

The Aero Philatelist is issued four times a year by "De Vliegende Hollander". Secretary: W. van der Helm, De Kolk 13, 3931 WN Woudenberg, The Netherlands. E-mail: w.vanderhelm@veteranen.nl Subscription is € 27,50 for foreign countries. Many issues of the "De Aero Philatelist" includes a substantial auction section of interesting airmail covers and/or related items.

Website: <http://www.de-vliegende-hollander.com/>

The third magazine of this year stood in remembrance of the 75 years of existence of the society "De Vliegende Hollander." This was celebrated with a special edition of the magazine, containing much more articles than normal! The (translated) titles of the articles of relevance to our collection area are:

- With the "Snip" to the West
- The postal pigeon flight
- Fire (damaged) letter
- Crash mail
- "Apartelingen" (Oddities)
- The Abel Tasman flight
- Attempts towards airmail transport in the Netherlands
- P.T.T. Lairmail propaganda: The propellor cancel
- Air field Waalhaven
- The first experimental KLM airmail flight (Galway) Dublin-Berlijn of October 22/23 1932
- The KNILM-Koninklijk Nederlandsch Indische Luchtvaart Maatschappij (Royal Dutch Indies Airline Company)
- KLM test flights in 1928 en 1929 to the Dutch Indies and back.
- Crash flight Douglas DC-2 PH-AJU "Uiver"
- Fokker flies 100 years
- Airmail Suriname
- Hidden postal boxes

Postaumaat

Language: Dutch.

This is the magazine of the society Postaumaat of the Netherlands. They study coil stamps and booklets issued worldwide. Subscription is € 25,= / yr. for members in the Netherlands and € 35,= / yr. for foreign countries. Secretary: H.A. Wolf, Anna van Burenstraat 25, 2351 RM Leiderdorp, The Netherlands. E-mail: secretaris@postaumaat.nl

Website: <http://www.postaumaat.nl/>

In this issue new discoveries are mentioned of stampbooklets. Also the newly-issued prestige booklets and the so-called "Hangblokjes" are mentioned. Also new discoveries and newly-issued vending machine stamps are discussed. Something new for collectors are personalised vending machine stamps. Also the new cancel machine (Sosma) of PostNL is discussed.

Recent Issues

Basic Range: Going Green 1 September 2011

The 'Going green' stamps illustrate and describe some of the fine green initiatives being undertaken by the Netherlands. PostNL is thus underlining the importance of green initiatives for a liveable future. The stamps show positive mottos, tips and tricks to encourage us in 'going green' in our everyday lives. They include the following themes: new way of working, reducing energy consumption, using alternative energy sources, insulating homes, LED and energy-saving lighting, and organic food production.

Two stamp booklets and three first day covers (NVPH) will be issued alongside the sheetlet of ten different stamps and two sheetlets of five identical stamps.

The issue 'Going green' consists of three stamp booklets: one of ten different stamps for the Netherlands, one of five identical stamps for Europe and one of five identical stamps for outside Europe (World). Graphic designer Gesina Roters created twelve illustrations for this issue. The illustration on each stamp symbolises a particular aspect of environmental awareness. The illustrations are drawn by hand and combine images and words. Each one consists of a simple 'iconic' symbol, which on closer inspection is built up of typography: a phrase that gives a powerful context to the whole. Each stamp has a plain background with a subtle transition of colour. This transition of colour can also be seen in some of the illustrations themselves.

Sub-themes of the 'Going green' stamps

Ten stamps for the Netherlands

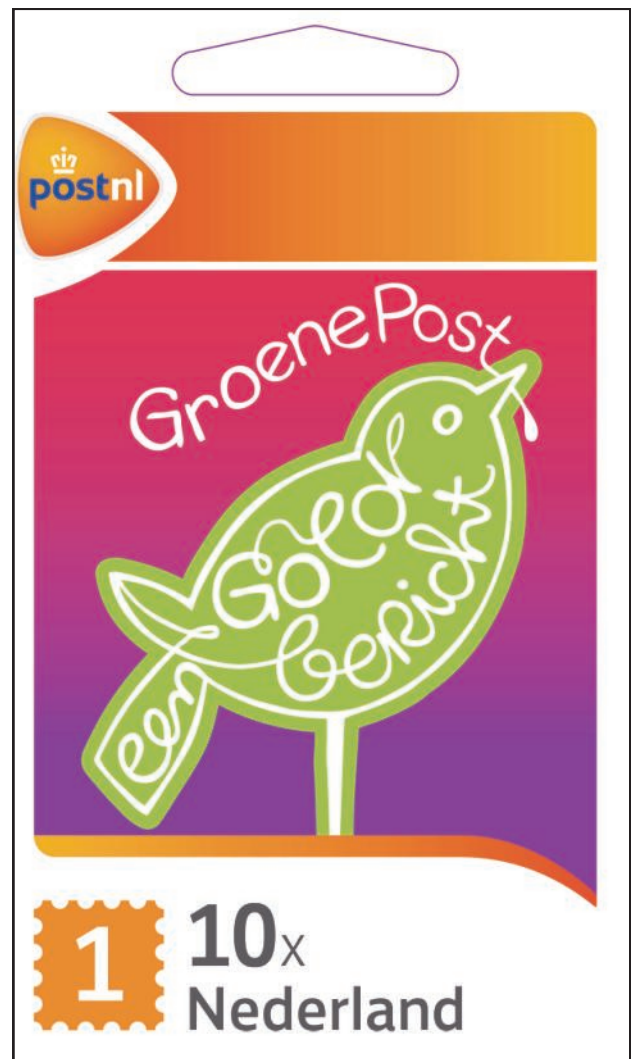
Nice and clean with less water and electricity.
The Netherlands is building on a sustainable future (going green).
Green post is good news.
Organic is good for people and animals.
Green energy has the wind behind it (sun, water, bio).
Insulation for a green climate.
New way of working: green profits for people and nature.
Travel-awareness gives the environment a break (climate-neutral).
Recycling gives new life.
Race ahead with electric transport (hybrid).

Five stamps for Europe

Europe gives green light.

Five stamps for outside Europe (World)

Think green for a green world.





Technical Details

Stamp size : 20.8 x 25.3mm/25.3 x 20.8mm
 Perforation : slit
 Paper : normal with phosphor tagging
 Gum : self-adhesive
 Print process : A: offset
 B, C and D: photogravure

Printer : Walsall Security Printers, UK

Stamp types

A: 10 for the Netherlands

NVI 1 : nice and clean with less water and electricity
 NVI 1 : the Netherlands is building on a sustainable future; going green
 NVI 1 : green post is good news
 NVI 1 : organic is good for people and animals
 NVI 1 : green energy has the wind behind it
 NVI 1 : insulation for a green climate; energy label
 NVI 1 : new way of working: green profits for people + nature
 NVI 1 : travel-awareness gives the environment a break; climate-neutral
 NVI 1 : recycling gives new life
 NVI 1 : race ahead with electric transport

Product code : 310961

B: 5 for Europe (five identical priority stamps)

NVI Europa 1 : Europe gives green light
 Product code : 310963

C: 5 for the World (five identical priority stamps)

NVI Wereld 1 : think green for a green world
 Product code : 310965

D: 50 for Europe (fifty identical priority stamps)

NVI Europa 1 : Europe gives green light
 Product code : 310964

Stamp print colors : yellow, magenta, cyan and black



Personal stamps 2011 in silver

19 September 2011

The year 2011 sees the 100th anniversary of Circus Herman Renz, founded by Arnold van der Vegt of Rotterdam and still travelling around the Netherlands under the same name today. In recognition of its 100th anniversary, the circus is presenting a special show this year under the appropriate name “Celebrations”. The 100 years of Circus Herman Renz sheetlet pays tribute to a rich circus tradition in the Netherlands.

In addition to the stamp sheetlet featuring 10 different stamps, two stamp booklets, two first day covers (NVPH) and a theme book will also be issued.

The 100 years of Circus Herman Renz stamp sheetlet features 10 different stamps with the non-value indicator “Nederland 1”. Each stamp displays a characteristic aspect of circus life through an illustration of a circus performer or animal. Together, the 10 stamps then go to make up a larger illustration of a traditional circus tent against the backdrop of a night sky. This illustration takes up the whole of the stamp sheetlet.

The 10 stamps themselves contain illustrations of the traditional representatives of circus life: a fire-eater, a contortionist, a clown, an elephant, a balancing act, acrobats, a lion, a human pyramid, a circus horse and a high-wire act.

The illustrations are set against uniform backgrounds of pastel pink, green, blue and yellow. The stamps are arranged in two rows of five, with the border of the circus tent’s canopy edging the top of the stamps, both on the top and on the second row.

Over the years Circus Herman Renz, which is one of the largest circuses in Europe, has been under the leadership of four generations of the Van der Vegt family. The founder of the circus took the name Renz from one of the best-known circus businesses of 19th century Europe. At the end of the 20th century, Circus Herman Renz became best known for the clowns, Bassie and Adriaan. They used the circus as the setting for their TV shows and also regularly performed in the ring. Circus Herman Renz currently employs 85 people of 12 different nationalities and gives around 350 shows per year in 40 cities and towns throughout the Netherlands.



Technical Details

| | |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| Stamp size | : 36 x 25mm |
| Perforation | : 13 : 13 |
| Paper | : normal with phosphor tagging |
| Gum | : synthetic |
| Print process | : offset |
| Print run | : 282,000 stamp sheetlets |
| Printer | : Lowe-Martin Group, Canada |
| Stamp type | : sheetlet with 10 different stamps |
| Product code | : 311261 |
| Print colors | : yellow, magenta, cyan and black |

Personal stamps 2011 in silver
10 October 2011



The first silver stamp, the Silver Surprise Stamp, was issued in the Netherlands in 2001 to coincide with the retirement of the Dutch guilder. Now, exactly ten years on, PostNL is issuing the first Silver Personal Stamp, intended for use with registered mail. To mark the introduction of this new product, PostNL has designed a special issue of the Silver Personal Stamp for collectors and other interested parties. The stamp features an image of the 17th century naval hero, Piet Hein, famous for the capture of the Spanish “Silver Fleet”.

To coincide with the issue of the Silver Personal Stamp on 10 October 2011, it will also be possible for anyone to make their own Silver Personal Stamps using their own colour or black-and-white image. The stamps can be made by visiting www.zilverenpostzegel.nl and cost € 34.95 each. The cost includes an attractive gift box.

In addition to the stamp, a stamp booklet and a first day cover (NVPH) will also be issued.

Graphic designer Bart de Haas of The Hague designed a new frame for the Silver Personal Stamp. It measures 1 x 3cm at the bottom of the stamp and contains the words “Nederland” and “aangetekend” (registered) in matrix letters.

The customer’s own image can be positioned on the Silver Personal Stamp in a space measuring 23 x 26mm. On the Silver Personal Stamp for Piet Hein, a bust of the naval hero is positioned in this space above the frame. A warship at sea (Hein’s flagship the “Amsterdam”) can be seen in the background. The engraving used originates from the archives of the National Maritime Museum in Amsterdam.

The Silver Personal Stamps will be “struck” by the Royal Dutch Mint in Utrecht. The method of production is therefore quite different to that for normal stamps. A special technique known as stamp minting will be used. It will even possible for Silver Personal Stamps to be made with an image in colour.

Technical Details

| | |
|---------------|------------------------|
| Stamp size | : 28 x 38mm |
| Perforation | : slit |
| Material | : silver .999 |
| Gum | : self-adhesive |
| Print process | : n.a. |
| Print run | : 250,000 stamps |
| Printer | : The Royal Dutch Mint |
| Product code | : 710440 |

Postcrossing.com, a platform for postcard enthusiasts around the world, has proved a tremendous success in just a short space of time. During the past few years, postcrossing.com has helped people who sign up to the website send and receive millions of real postcards. The postcrossing.com stamp sheetlet, to be issued on 14 October 2011 casts the spotlight on this initiative with ten stamps for international mail.

In addition to a stamp sheetlet featuring six different stamps, a stamp booklet and a first day cover (NVPH) will also be issued.

The postcrossing.com stamp sheetlet features ten stamps: five with the non-value indicator Europe 1 and five with World 1. Four of the ten stamps are repeated, making six different designs. The sheetlet comprises a collage of over fifty different images, which also run into the margin and over the perforations.

The non-value indicators on the stamps have been placed on a white background surrounding by a frame with the same length-width ratio (2:3) as a traditional postcard. The images on the mini cards are a true-to-life rendering of postcards on sale all over the world, including tourist attractions (such as Big Ben, the Taj Mahal and the Eiffel Tower), people in traditional costume, cute and amusing animals (like a chimpanzee dressed as a cowboy) and curious vintage photos (such as a Victorian romance).

The Priority logo has been positioned next to each stamp in the margin, which also features the postcrossing.com slogan in English (send a postcard and receive a postcard back from a random person somewhere in the world) and Dutch (stuur een ansichtkaart en ontvang er een terug van iemand ergens op de wereld).

Postcrossing.com is an initiative conceived by Paulo Magalhães from Portugal, an avid postcard sender and receiver. In 2005, he launched a website for mail enthusiasts – postcrossing.com – that provides members with random addresses so that they can send another member a postcard.

The postcard recipient registers the delivery on the website and the computer then makes the sender's address available to others who want to send a card. This means that a member only receives a card if he or she sends one.

The postcrossing.com concept is attractive in that a receiver never knows from which country a card will arrive. It is always a surprise. Hundreds of thousands of people have signed up to the website and many millions of postcards have been sent.

“Deceptively simple” is how Garech Stone describes the postcrossing stamps. With the apparent randomness with which the pastiches of traditional postcards have been scattered over the stamp sheetlet the designers are making a tribute to a threatened form of communication.

Garech designed the stamp sheetlet together with his twin brother Declan Stone. Originally from Ireland, the two designers are now based in the Netherlands, working since 1999 under the name The Stone Twins. “Incidentally, there is a link between us coming to the Netherlands and stamps,” explains Garech. “We both studied visual communication in Dublin at the time when the Netherlands was considered the mecca for designers, partly due to the high standard of bank note and stamp design. That certainly influenced our decision to relocate here and is an extra reason for us being so thrilled that PostNL commissioned us to design these stamps.”

Declan found the briefing, to bring postcrossing.com to life through images, very clear. “But that’s only the start. For copyright reasons we were not allowed to use real postcards so we designed over fifty cards ourselves, inspired by the ones we grew up with in our youth. We also visited tourist shops to see what kind of postcards were on sale. In some cases we went to great lengths, such as in our search for the perfect Mater Dolorosa for a religious “postcard” with plenty of support from Leiden University.” Designing the stamps brought another challenge with it, adds twin brother Garech. “Postcards like these often have kitschy photos and bad typography, which we had to imitate, in a fun way of course.”

The positioning of the postcards on the sheet appears to be random, scattered at different angles and sometimes overlapping. “That’s no coincidence,” says Declan. “We wanted to express how postcrossing.com users find the postcards they receive on their doormats. I realise this is happening less and less with the growing popularity of texting and e-mailing. It is such a pity that we are losing a means of communication that you can really touch and feel. In that respect our design is also a celebration of the role mail plays in contact between people and the special part postcrossing.com has in stimulating that through a combination of traditional postcards and an online social network.”



Technical Details

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Stamp size | : 36 x 25mm |
| Perforation | : 13 : 13 |
| Paper | : normal with phosphor tagging |
| Gum | : synthetic |
| Print process | : offset |
| Print run | : 313,000 stamp sheetlets |
| Printer | : Lowe-Martin Group, Canada |
| Stamp type | : sheetlet with 10 Priority stamps in six different designs |
| Product code | : 311361 |
| Print colors: | yellow, magenta, cyan and black |

Day of the Postage Stamp 2011
14 October 2011

The Day of the Postage Stamp is an annual international event and this year philatelists in the Netherlands will be celebrating it on 14 October. The day will be marked by stamp marts, exhibitions and other special gatherings for philatelists. PostNL will be marking this year's Day of the Postage Stamp by issuing a sheetlet of ten identical stamps dedicated to the Wilhelmina stamps of 1947-1948.

In addition to the stamp sheetlet, a stamp booklet, a prestige booklet and a first day cover (NVPH) will also be issued. The prestige booklet is part of the series issued by PostNL to draw attention to the history of permanent stamps. The first booklet in the series was issued in 2009.



The stamp features an image of Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands, based on a preliminary sketch made for the Wilhelmina stamps issued in 1947 and 1948.

The typography for the stamp was designed by Bart de Haas of The Hague.

The stamp sheetlet is also unusual in the fact that Iriodin® (a special ink based on mica and metal oxides) was used during the printing process. This special ink was used for the stamp's background colour and gives it a striking visual effect with the image of Queen Wilhelmina set off in eye-catching relief.

Technical Details

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Stamp size | : 30 x 40mm |
| Sheetlet size | : 121.8 x 170mm |
| Perforation | : 13 : 13 ¼ |
| Paper | : normal with phosphor tagging |
| Gum | : synthetic |
| Print process | : offset |
| Print run | : 147,000 stamp sheetlets |
| Printer | : Joh. Enschedé Security Print, The Netherlands |
| Stamp type | : stamp sheetlet with ten special identical stamps |
| Product code | : 311461 |
| Print colors | : black, purple, lilac and Iriodin® (transparent) |

Child Welfare Stamps 2011

8 November 2011

The theme for the Children's Stamps 2011 is "Give children a safe home". It applies to both Dutch children living in environments which are not safe, and to children in other countries, such as those living on the streets because they have no home or family to turn to. The theme for this year's Children's Stamps is illustrated on the sheetlet by a photograph of children playing together at "building" a house.

Each year PostNL issues a new series of Children's Stamps and this year the charity surcharge on each stamp is 23 euro cents. The proceeds from the charity surcharge will go towards funding projects run by the Foundation for Children's Welfare Stamps Netherlands.

In addition to the stamp sheetlet featuring six different stamps, a stamp booklet and a first day cover (NVPH) will also be issued.

The Children's Stamps 2011 stamp sheetlet comprises six Children's Stamps with the non-value indicator 1. A photograph of six children playing together extends across the stamp sheetlet. They are using large and colourful strips of paper to set out the contours of a house on a white background beneath them.

The children were photographed from above and positioned in such a way that one child is featured on each of the stamps. The children are all sitting or lying on the ground, each in a different position. Each individual child is clearly distinguished by the colourful clothing he or she is wearing. The children are all of different ages and, without making them recognisable, enough of their faces can be seen to give them character.



Technical Details

Pieces of green paper can be seen on the edge stamps, illustrating plants around the outside of the house. The selvage offers space for the logo of the Foundation for Children's Welfare Stamps Netherlands and its slogan ("for children, by children") and for the theme for the Children's Stamps 2011 ("Give children a safe home").

| | |
|---------------|---|
| Stamp size | : 36 x 25 mm |
| Perforation | : 14 ½ : 14 ½ |
| Paper | : normal with phosphor tagging |
| Gum | : synthetic |
| Print process | : photogravure |
| Print run | : 4,770,000 stamp sheetlets |
| Printer | : De la Rue, UK |
| Stamp type | : sheetlet with six different stamps with surcharge |
| Product code | : 311560 |
| Print colors | : yellow, magenta, cyan and black |

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