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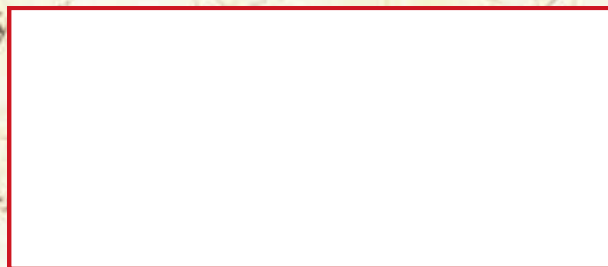
Netherlands Philately

Magazine of the American Society for Netherlands Philately

Volume 39/2



American Society for Netherlands Philately
Founded in 1975



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NETHERLANDS PHILATELY

Magazine of the American Society for
Netherlands Philately; **Volume 39/2**

January 2015

Editor's message

First of all I want to wish everybody a Happy New Year and a healthy and joyful 2015 for you and your family. In front of you is the second magazine of the season. A bushfire is going on in the Adelaide Hills and the smoke is clearly visible from my garden. It was 42 degrees Celcius when the fire started and it has currently winds up to 110 km a hour. So you realize that these are not the best conditions for the (volunteer) firefighters who are battling this fire. When you sit inside you don't notice much of the fire, except that it smells a little bit as if someone in the neighborhood has the fireplace on.

What is new in the land of philately? Well for me I received my exhibit results back from New Zealand. More of that exhibit further down in the magazine since it is a brilliant example of why you should not exhibit in New Zealand as a first timer or highly experienced exhibiter. For the sake of promoting philately, I wished I could bring it more positive, but simply I can't. This hurts my hart since there is a decline in people interested in philately.

I gave one of my presentations and it was received with a great positive reaction. The presentation was about the fur collar issue and given the detailed complexity of this issue it is difficult to present the different possibilities in a highly specialized collection to people who know absolutely nothing about the issue. Unfortunately there were no Netherlands collectors interested in becoming an ASNP member....yet. I will not throw in the towel yet!

There rest me one more thing to say. This year, 40 years ago the first magazine of the ASNP was issued and we will celebrate that later in the year with a special edition. See more about this later in this magazine.

All the best from Adelaide and enjoy your magazine,
Alex

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Website: www.asnp1975.com

ASNP is founded in 1975 by
Paul van Reyen

Netherlands Philately is
published 6x per year by
the American Society for
Netherlands Philately

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for Netherlands Philately (opinions ex-
pressed in the various articles in the Maga-
zine are those of the authors and not neces-
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ASNP is affiliate No. 60 of
APS Advertizing rates per
issue are:
\$50 for a full page,
\$30 half page and
\$20 for a quarter page.

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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.

Financial Report 2013

One of the important things the membership has to be informed about, but due to special editions and lack of time of the editor, not published, mea culpa for that. However as you will see we are financially sound, so no worries there.

The financial report for year ending 12-31-2013 is as follows:

Starting balance = \$ 6594.86 (12-31-2012)

Deposits = \$ 2635.92

Expenses = \$2222.98

Ending balance = \$7007.80 (12-31-13)

Breakdown of Deposits:

\$1735.92 from dues and donations

\$ 900.00 from advertising revenue

Total = \$2635.92

Breakdown of expenses:

Printing = \$1285.30

Postage = \$ 820.60

Web/Program = \$ 49.50

Supplies = \$ 40.46

Bank Fees =\$ 27.12

Total expenses = \$2222.98

We also have \$2075.93 in a certificate of deposit so the total assets of ASNP are \$9083.73

As you can see ASNP is on a fine financial footing.

Also the ASNP has set up a PayPal account for the payment of dues and advertising payments at russian_tomcat@yahoo.com. \$1055.92 was deposited to ASNP in this manner. Hopefully, we can have more members utilize this function as it saves time and expense for both the Membership Secretary, the Treasurer and the Society.

Special edition of Netherlands Philately

In August of this year we will start on our 40th volume of Netherlands Philately as part of the societies 40th anniversary. To celebrate this the society wants to issue a special edition that reflects the diversity of members within the society.

To turn this in a success I want to ask you as members to write a minimum of one page (more pages are most welcome) about your interest in Netherlands and/or Colonies philately or a nice philatelic story about an item or items you researched. We did a great job last year with our Netherlands East Indies specials, so why not turning it into a excellent job and show the world why Netherlands and/or Colonies philately is so interesting!

Closing date for this special issue is 31 June 2015!!

Exhibit Report Baypex 2014

by Alex Nuijten

Baypex 2014 was hosted in Hawke's Bay, located on the east side of the north island of New Zealand. Hawke's Bay is best known for its Art Deco architecture with incorporated Maori motifs and design elements. Just for that it is worth to visit Hawke's Bay.

Baypex 2014 was a national exhibition with the Australasian Challenge, a team competition between exhibitors from each of the Australian States, including ACT and Te Ika-a-Maui (North) and Te Waipounamu (South) Islands of New Zealand. Unfortunately, I was the only one with a Netherlands-philately related exhibit.

Overall the exhibit looked well organized, and was well-attended by philatelists from Australia and New Zealand. Plenty of philatelic souvenirs to buy and add to your collection. With these souvenirs the influence of the Art Deco style came back and as well the wine and coastal life styles. Beside the souvenirs there were plenty of dealers to spend enough money to tell to your partner.... "No sweetie I haven't spend that much at all!" O darn...I just hope my wife doesn't read this.

Unfortunately, behind the screens it went less smooth. The most important thing during an exhibition is a well-prepared and organized team in the so called "bin room". If this fails then you are in for a nightmare. This nightmare became reality at Baypex 2014. Items that should be returned with the exhibit are usually listed on a tick-off list that can be simply checked. For a relatively large amount of exhibitors not all items were returned. In fact I received my exhibit back with only the tick-off list, jury report and an entry form for an exhibit in New Zealand in 2015. The other items that should have been included were not ticked-off and nowhere to be seen. I was happy to see 100% of my exhibit back, but my medal ended up with an exhibitor on the east coast of Australia. Fortunately, that person was thoughtful enough to mail it to me after having done some detective work. My certificate for entering the exhibit was replaced since no one knew where it had ended up, and I'm still waiting for the exhibit catalogue and the results booklet in which I'm not even mentioned, just like several others exhibitors. Only thanks to the South Australian commissioner for the exhibition did I got my exhibit back safely. He had a tough job under strange conditions and did it well given the circumstances.

The result was not good enough to qualify me for New York 2016. So I entered Sydney 2015 to see if I can qualify. Now I don't care much about the result as long there is a reasonable commentary attached for improvements. The jury members in the Netherlands and Australia do know me for this, sometimes all too well, since I love teaching a lesson or two to the jury when I can.

Unfortunately, the jury report I received at Baypex had comments 100% the opposite of all other jury reports I have received for this exhibit in the past. The Baypex report also contained comments that are incomprehensible, even after soliciting the help of an Australian qualified postal history judge. This was really the last disappointment I was in for. Other exhibitors told me that their jury reports also contained comments that were 50-100% opposite of their previous reports.

In the end of the day participating in a national exhibit in Australia or New Zealand costs you around \$40 to \$50 a frame (16 pages) and you may expect a little bit back for that amount of money you put in to promoting philately. Especially when you have an exhibit of 4 to 8 frames!

If someone would ask me again to exhibit in New Zealand on a national level with the present judges qualification system, then I would say seriously..... No Way!

The mystery of a letter found in the street in 1938

by Hans Kremer

When I saw this colorful 1938 cover I noticed the handwritten note “Gevonden Emmastraat te den Haag” (Found in the Emmastreet in The Hague), a yellow train stamp with a “NED. SP. / 6 AUG 1938 / LEIDEN H.S.G.C.” railway cancel, and a “BRIEVENBUS” marker, it definitely piqued my interest.



What happened here?

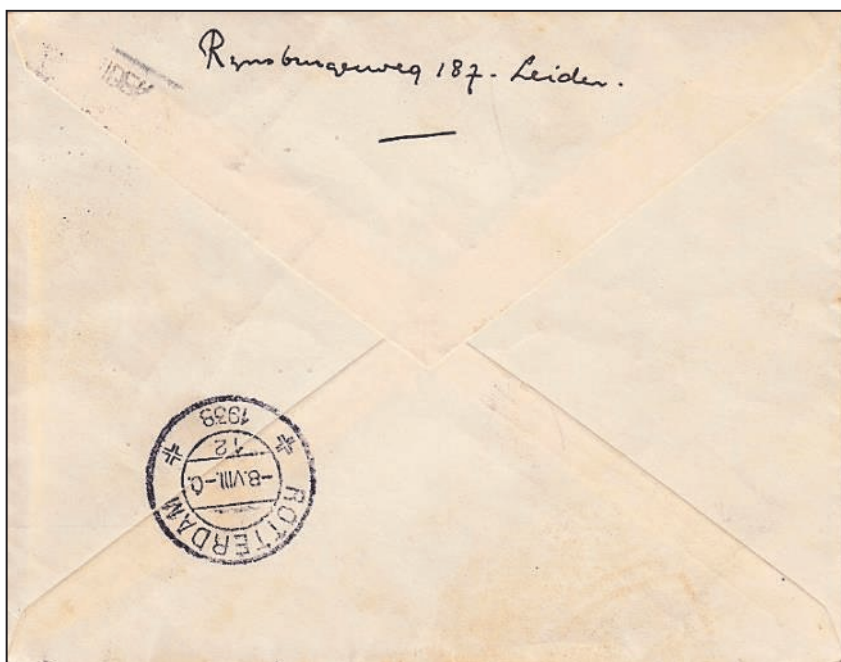
The cover was sent from Leiden to Rotterdam in August 1938. It has a total of 15 cents in stamps on it. This is the sum of 5 cent regular mail plus 10 cents for the EXPRES service.

The yellow 10 cent train stamp was put on letters dropped off at a railway station or handed over directly to the train's conductor, this to speed up delivery of the letter, in this case addition to the Express service paid for. The Dutch railways (Nederlandse Spoorwegen (N.S)) had their own stamps for this purpose. According to the regulations the train stamp should have been put on the back-side of the cover, nevertheless it went through with it being applied to the front of the cover.

The rectangular train cancel shows August 6, 1938 at Leiden H.S.G.C.

What did H.S.G.C stand for? Some people thought that “H.S” stood for Hollands Spoor, but that is the name of a train station in the Hague, not a railway company, so that was questionable.

Through some ‘Googling’ I came up with the name of a Leiden ‘sub train station’ called Station Heerensingel (originally called Nieuwe Station), which could explain the “H.S.”. (Of philatelic interest, this railway station was designed by Karel de Bazel, the same person who designed the stamps of the 1913 Jubilee issue.) The station was the end station for the Hoofddorp-Leiden H(ollandse) E(lectrische) S(poorweg) M(aatschappij) line.





Train (with mailcar) on the Hoofddorp-Leiden H.E.S.M. line.



Leiden: Nieuwe Station (Heerensingel)

After 1936 the station was ‘down graded’ to a freight station, but presumably one still could hand over a letter, at a cost of 10 cent, to the train’s conductor who then would hand it over the PTT (probably at Leiden’s main train station). From there the PTT would then be responsible for the express delivery of the letter.

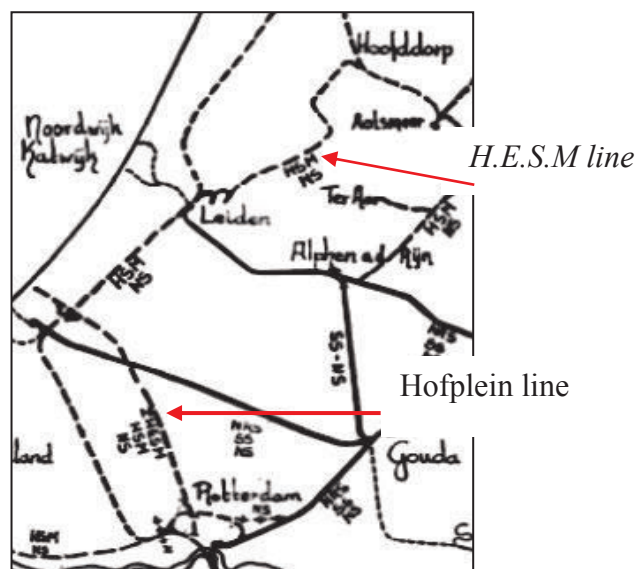
“G.C” stands for Goederen Comptoir (Counter for Goods).

Since the letter was addressed to Rotterdam one would expect it to be a relative trouble free journey, since there was (and still is) a direct rail connection between these two cities.

Why then was this letter taken off the train in The Hague, and subsequently lost in the Emmastreet? The letter was addressed to “Jericholaan 38b , Rotterdam (O)”. The “O” refers to Oost (East). There was a train station in the eastern part of Rotterdam, called Hofplein. It had a direct connection to Scheveningen (The Hague’s beach resort town), bypassing The Hague’s main train stations, but stopping at the “Laan van Nieuw Oost-Indie (NOI)” station, which is also on the main Amsterdam-Leiden–Rotterdam line. Maybe the letter was taken off at the Laan van NOI station, with the intend to put it on the Hofplein line train, which might have sped up the transmission of this letter. During the transfer the letter might have gotten ‘lost’ and was found on the Emmastreet in The Hague.



Laan van NOI railway station(1940)



As I noted before the letter was mailed on August 6, 1938 (a Saturday). Strangely enough the sender wrote “7 Aug 1938” on the front of the envelope (compare the hand writing to sender’s hand written address on the back of the card). If he figured that the letter wouldn’t make it on the 6th anyway, he might have written August 7 on it , to make it appear to the receiver as if the letter was sent that day (it was an Express letter, indicating that there was some urgency to get the letter to its destination)

When the letter was found in The Hague it was dropped off in a mailbox. The Postal employee, following postal regulations, put a BRIEVENBUS marker on it indicating that the Express letter was not handed over at the counter, but was found in a mailbox.

The letter received a shortbar cancel “s Gravenhage 15 7.VIII.19. 1938”; this would be 7 p.m on Sunday, August 7, 1938. From there it went with the regular mail on the direct train from The Hague (Hollands Spoor station) to Rotterdam’s main station. It arrived there “8.VIII.-0”, which is right after midnight Sunday (early Monday morning). The letter would then be delivered at the earliest opportunity on Monday.



This is the story I put together, but it is mainly built on assumptions, others might have a different idea. Piet Miesyerus, who I consider to be one of the most knowledgeable Dutch railway mail expert and who confirmed that the “H” in “H.S.G.C” stood for Heerensingel, feels that, more likely, this cover is ‘maakwerk’ (Made to order).

What do you think?

Refs:

Piet Miesyerus, Personal contact

<http://www.stationsweb.nl>

http://nl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spoorlijn_Hoofddorp_-_Leiden_Heerensingel

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hofpleinlijn>

Ir. J. W. Sluiter, Beknopt Overzicht van de Nederlandse Spoor- en Tramwegenbedrijven, E.J. Bril. Leiden. 1967

Dutch Charity in Maastricht during WWI

by Hans Kremer

The Netherlands were neutral during WWI, but that did not mean that they weren't involved in other ways.

After German troops, on August 4, 1914, crossed the Belgian border just South of the Dutch-Belgian border, the first wave of Belgian refugees fled North, crossing into the Netherlands at the small town of Eijsden, near Maastricht. There they were provided with lodging and food by the local people. The driving force behind this aid was the wife of the mayor of Eijsden, Countess de Geloës - de Lannoy. As more and more people fled Belgium and soldiers were taken prison on both sides of the conflict, the services were expanded and it included sending letters and packages to people left behind, but also to the prisoner of war camps. Just locating ordinary people and prisoners of war was also one of the things the volunteers took on.

There was such a demand for these services that a more streamlined operation was desirable. In the spring of 1915 this led to the founding in Maastricht of the 'Internationaal Liefdewerk voor Gewonden en Krijgsgevangenen' (International Charity for the Wounded and Prisoners of War).



"Liebeswerk" letter sent Dec. 1915 from Maastricht to Mecheln(?)

Some information about this organization can be found in the digitized newspapers of that time, but for the comprehensive story I recommend the publication by Hans van Lith (see references). I had my copy shipped by www.bol.com in the Netherlands.

At the height of its operation there were about 250 volunteers in the Maastricht based organization.

Sending these packages and correspondence was expensive so ways were found to save expenses. The organization managed to get qualified for free mailing privileges, saving themselves a lot of money. If one realizes that in total about 2,000,000 (!) packages were sent, one can see the savings thru free mailing. During the time of operation they also handled 69,000 requests for information, of which around 29,000 were successfully answered.

Another saving (in time and money) came about when part of the Maastricht railway station was made available to the 'Liefdewerk' organization. All (care) packages could be put together there and also shipped from there. Packages coming from other places also had to go through the Liefdewerk office and had to be checked for illegal contents before being sent on. Packages could not weigh more than five kilograms and items such as newspapers, and weapons were prohibited. Each package was accompanied by a form (front and back (rotated 900) of the French version are shown here).

If the card was not returned no new package would be sent.

Je soussigné,.....
originaire de.....
domicile avant guerre.....
régiment, Cie, Bon.....
profession.....
prisonnier à.....

reconnais avoir reçu, en bon état, le.....
de la part de.....

un colis contenant:

Signature lisible:

Récépissé du colis n°..... expédié le.....

KRIEGSGEFANGENEN-KARTE

Veuillez retourner de suite soigneusement complété le présent récépissé.

Bitte diese Empfangsbescheinigung baldigst sorgfältig ausgefüllt hierhin zurück zu senden.

REMARQUES.....

INTERNATIONALES LIEBESWERK

FÜR KRIEGSGEFANGENE

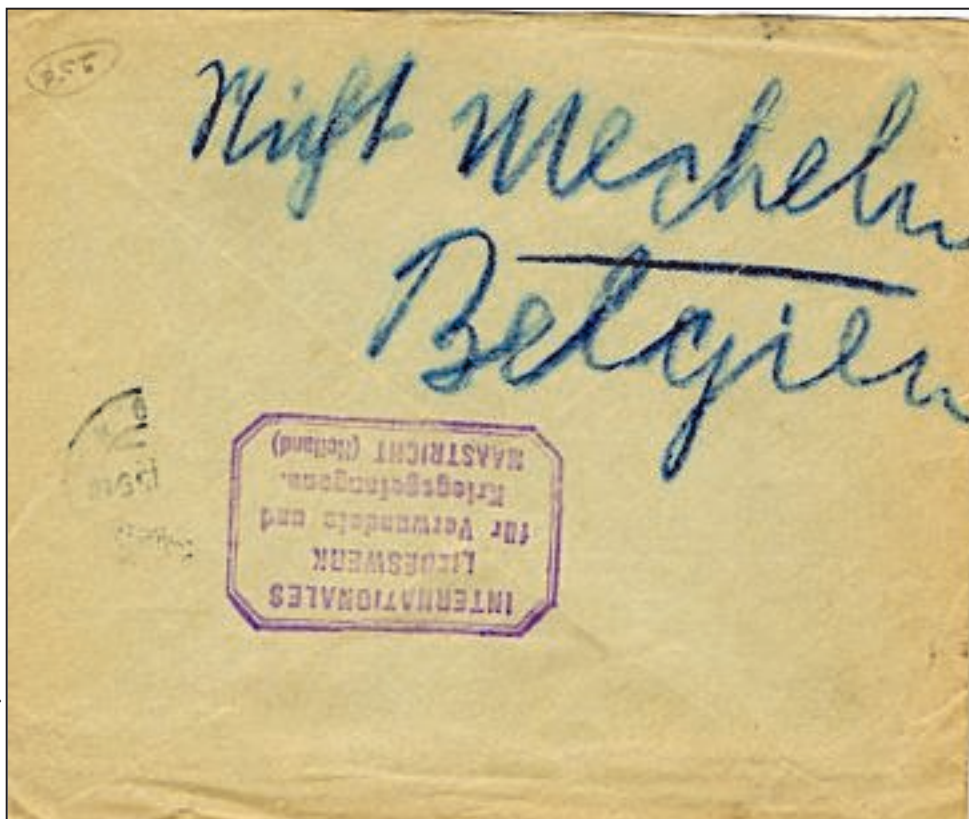
(Französische Abteilung)

MAASTRICHT S. S.
(HOLLAND).

Front and back of form to acknowledge receipt of a package (courtesy Hans van Lith)

Now let's have a look at the cover shown on the first page. The text of the cover is in German. Since the 'Liefdewerk' volunteers were dealing with many nationalities sub-groups were set up and their postal stationery reflected this. The cover shown here is the German version.

The cover was sent from Maastricht on December 5, 1915 and addressed to "die Kommandantur des Kriegsgefangenenlagers Mecheln, Deutschland". At the top right is a two line marker "Kriegsgefangene/Prisoniers de Guerre" (Prisoners of War). We must assume that the letter was intended for an Allied prisoner of war who most likely was expected to be found in a German prisoners of war camp. However, on the back of the cover is a hand written note "Nicht Mecheln" ("Not Mechelen"), where Mechelen is Flemish/Dutch for the German name Mecheln). There is also a small town of Mechelen in the Netherlands but I don't believe it is referenced here.



Back of 1915 Liefbeswerk letter

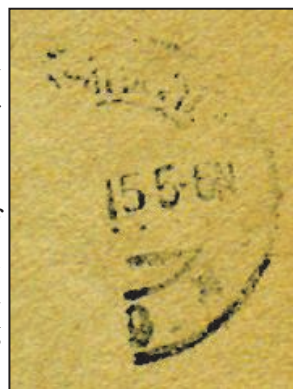
So what happened to this letter? It must have contained a letter most likely asking for information about a prisoner of war, but who put on the "Nicht Mecheln Belgien" hand written note on the back of the letter? Was it a postal employee who knew there was no such a town and/or camp named Mecheln in Germany, although it clearly says "DEUTSCHLAND". Mechelen is however a medium size town in Belgium, well known to any Dutch postal employee I would think. I believe the letter was indeed forwarded to Mechelen in Belgium.

In Mechelen was the "Hulpkantoor van het Belgisch Inlichtingsbureau voor Krijgsgevangenen en Geïnterneerden" (Sub-office of the Information office for Prisoners of War and Internees). Also in Mechelen was the Predikherenklooster (a monastery) which already in 1809 was converted into a military hospital (lazareth) (refer to "Lazaret 3" on the front of the cover). But since we were most likely dealing with an allied prisoner of war that person would not be in Belgium. The letter was then sent back to Maastricht.

On the back is a partial postmark, which I read as "Maastricht 9". This was a hammer cancel used for packages and also often for incoming mail. Only about half the cancel is shown, Was there a stamp that has been removed? Why was it canceled after arriving back in Maastricht ? Maybe it was a postage due stamp on returned letters?

We'll never know exactly what happened here I'm afraid, unless somebody has an idea.

One might wonder why was the Red Cross not involved? One has to realize that the Dutch citizens had to act quickly and there was no time to contact the Red Cross and get their machinery going. The Red Croons was a bit of a bureaucracy at that time; no decisions were made quickly. However, as the workload of Liefdewerk increased (the number of packages being sent had grown dramatically) the question of oversight came up. The Dutch Minister of Finance asked the Red Cross to get involved, making sure that everything was done correctly. The Liefdewerk organization in Maastricht and the local chapters (Belgian, French and Russian sections) that had been set up in The Hague tried to keep their independence but by the end of 1916 they had to accept the Red Cross as the supervising organization. An elegant solution was found for the Liefdewerk correspondence. They kept their own letterheads and envelopes but the Red Cross hand printed its logo on it.



*Maastricht 9 longbar
cancel (?)*



*Maastricht 9,"used
Oct.5, 1910 thru March 20,
1916*



Liefdewerk letter with Red Cross logo sent August 10, 1917 from Maastricht to Bangor, Wales. Notice President Countess de Geloës' handstamp.

This article shows again that with some effort a lot can be learned about Dutch history.

Refs:

- 1: Hans van Lith, Twee miljoen pakketten (over internationaal liefdewerk), Soesterberg, Uitgeverij Aspekt, 2011
- 2: A. van de Ven & W.M. Wassenaar, Nederlandse langebalkstempels, Ermos Rijnwoude, 1997
- 3: <http://poststempels.nedacademievoorfilatelie.nl/index.php>
- 4: Hans van Lith Personal contact
- 5: Cees Janssen, Personal contact



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The Advertising cancels of the Lisse |National Flower Exhibition “Keukenhof”

by Franklin Ennik

The first Dutch advertising cancels were issued in 1919 to draw attention to the Postal Giro Service which allowed postal patrons to maintain a savings account at the Post Office and to conveniently make payments through the postal service. This was followed up with special hand cancels that placed city events, exhibitions, commercial products, vacation destinations, services, etc., before the public eye. The cancels could be requested by any municipality or company from the Dutch Postal Authority (PT or later PTT) and the cost of production and maintenance of the cancel was borne by the advertiser. One of the more famous advertising attempts that ultimately backfired was the Blue Band Margarine postal slogan of September 1924 that generated industry-wide complaints from competitors.

An important improvement came in 1925 with the introduction of automatic franking machines which sped movement of mail and provided labor saving benefits. And, the various advertising slogans could easily be added to the automatic franking machine cancels. The combination of these special, large round hand advertising cancels and the slogan, machine flag cancels provided a seemingly endless variety of collecting types for postal history collectors.

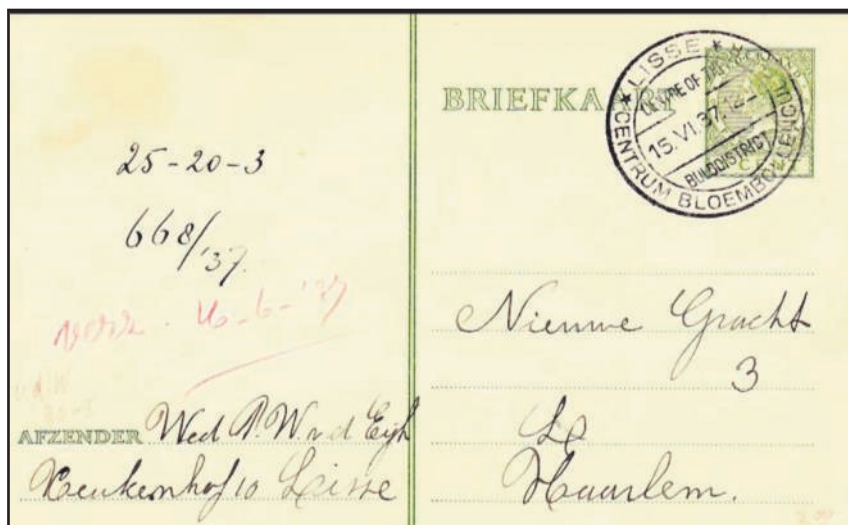
Among the early advertising cancels were the yearly notices bringing attention to the Dutch flower bulb industry which already had worldwide notoriety; the first of which was in 1926 with “*LISSE Centrum Bloembollencultuur Centre of the Bulbdistrict*”. The large round hand cancels used for many years all indicated this similar message, as shown on this post card cancel of June 15 1937. Because of its English text this style cancel was held back from 1942 until 1946.

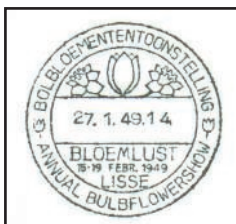
The “*Lisse Nationale Bloemententoonstelling “De Keukenhof”*” or Lisse

National Flower Exhibition “Keukenhof” is now held every year in Lisse, located a few Km. northeast of Leiden, and is a major springtime tourist attraction in the Netherlands. The flower park is located on the grounds



of a 17th century estate now known as the Castle Keukenhof. The separate garden was initiated in 1949 by the then mayor of Lisse as a showcase flower exhibit and as a means of promoting the Dutch flower bulb export industry. The garden features an unprecedented variety of flowering bulbs in astounding colors for public viewing. Thousands of visitors coming from all over the world enjoy a multicolored landscape that changes every year. The Keukenhof garden exhibit is open annually from about mid-March to about mid-May and varies according to the growing season of the garden’s landscaping.





The second cancel with the inscription: Bolbloementoonstelling Annual Bulbflowershow Bloemlust was issued for use in spring 1949.



The third cancel with the inscription: Keukenhof National Flowershow was issued for use during spring 1950 followed at times by a very similar cancel during 1951 through 1955.



In 1956 the PTT authorized a fourth, special hand cancel to be used on mail sent from the temporary postal facility set up in the garden park while the exhibit was open. This cancel design was used again during the exhibit in 1957. In 1961 the cancel design shown here was again issued but the words Lisse and Keukenhof are positioned slightly lower.



Since the year is illegible on the card shown here, we cannot determine the exact mailing year of the card, but will assume that it is 1956 based upon the unbroken (upper) double ring of the cancel..... and, that the post card rate to Germany in 1956 was 5 cent. This large, LISSE-KEUKENHOF cancel format was in use at the annual exhibitions from 1956 until 1966.

For subsequent exhibitions the PTT issued various cancels with just a line drawing with a white background of the center “castle and tulip” figure.

Thereafter, machine slogan, flag cancels similar to this one announced the annual springtime event.



References:

Jos M.A.G. Stroom. De bloembollenstempels van Lisse. De Postzak. Nr. 208: 167-190. mei 2010.

<http://poststempels.nedacademievoorfilatelie.nl>

O.M. Vellinga. Afstempelingen. Nederlandsch Maandblad voor Philatelie 5(65):86-87. mei 1927

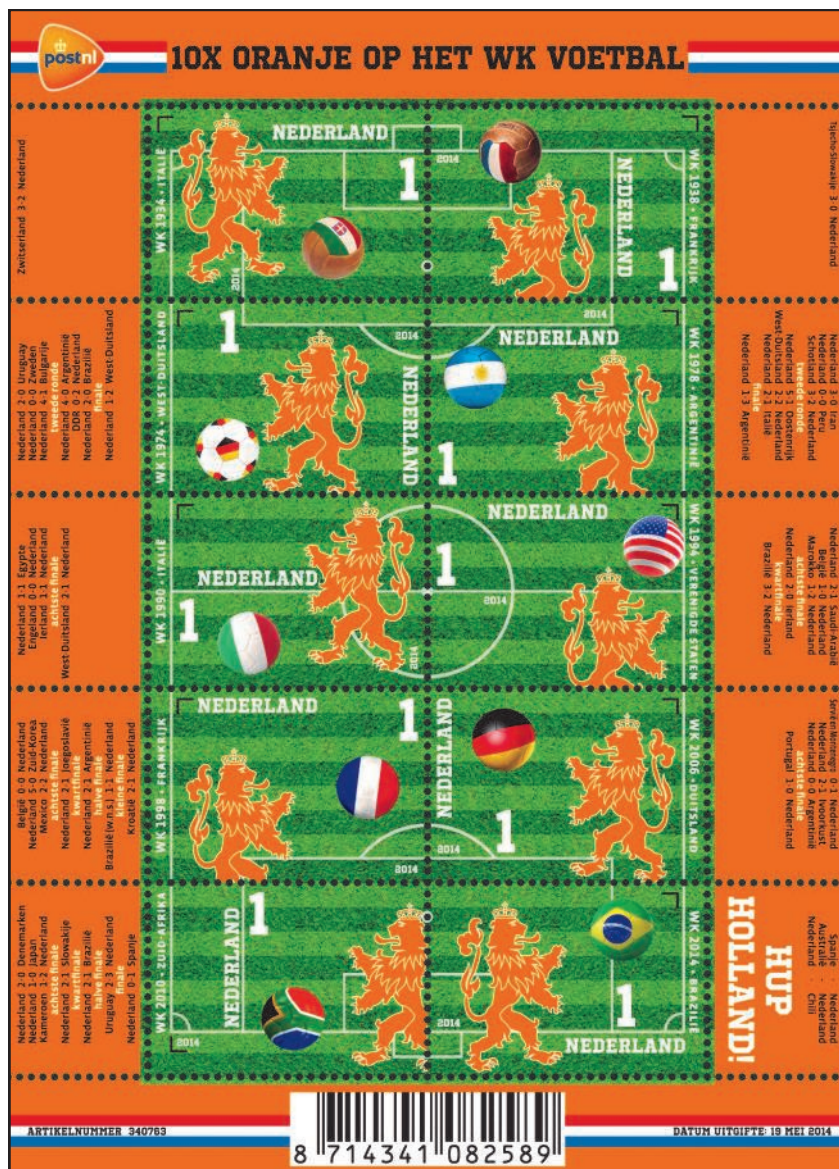
Afstempelingen. Reclame advertentie stempels. Nederlandsch Maandblad voor Philatelie 10(82):193-194. oktober 1928.

Recent Issues

10x Orange at the World Cup 19 May 2014

The stamp sheetlet 10 x Orange at the World Cup looks at the ten times the Dutch team participated in the World Cup. Each of the ten stamps with the rate Netherlands one shows a different host of the World Cup: Italy in 1934 to Brazil where the tournament takes place in 2014. The stamp sheetlet 10 x Orange at the World Cup PostNL wants to do a favor to the many millions of Orange fans who this year will follow the matches of the Dutch team on television or on the spot.

The background of the ten stamps on the 10 x Dutch Team at World Cup stamp sheetlet comprises a classic football field with the familiar chalk lines for the side and back lines, the middle line, center circle, the penalty area, the penalty spot and the quarter circles at the corner flag. The football field has those light and dark strips that are the result of the different mowing directions. The perforations are applied in such a way that the top strip of each stamp is light green and the bottom is dark green. Each stamp is devoted to a different World Cup in which the Netherlands has participated: 1934 in Italy, 1938 in France, 1974 in West Germany, 1978 in Argentina, 1990 in Italy, 1994 in the United States, 1998 in France, 2006 in Germany, 2010 in and 2014 in Brazil. The years and host country names are stated alternately to the left and right on the stamps, just outside the chalk lines. A football is depicted on each stamp in the colors of each host country's flag. The Orange lion with crown is next to this. The lion and the football are in different positions on each stamp, as are the year and the rate 'Nederland 1'. The Dutch team's results at each World Cup are stated on the sheet edge next to each stamp. The group stage fixtures are included next to the stamp for this year's World Cup in Brazil. The top edge states title of the sheetlet, embedded in a pennant with the colours of the Dutch flag. The same colours recur on the bottom sheet edge. Octin Sports (Typodermic, 2008) and Vista Sans (Emigre, 2005) fonts are used for the typography.



Technical Details

Stamp size:	36 x 25 mm
Perforation:	14 ½ : 14 ½
Paper:	normal with phosphor tagging
Gum:	synthetic
Printing:	offset
Circulation:	350,000 sheetlets
Printing house:	Cartor Security Printing, France
Print colors:	yellow, magenta, cyan, black and orange

Boundless Netherlands 2014 - Japan

14 July 2014

Spread all over the world are countries with which the Netherlands has had historical ties for centuries. These special relationships are the subject of the series Boundless Netherlands, issued since 2008. Successively, the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba (2008), Brazil (2009), Suriname (2010), South Africa (2011), Indonesia (2012) and Belgium (2013) made their appearance.

This time, the relationship between the Netherlands and Japan receives attention. We have maintained a good trading relationship with Japan for four centuries. Both countries have also shared culture and knowledge. Three sheetlets commemorate these themes. The sheets contain the same six unique stamps, only the position on the sheet and the contents of the sheet margin differ.

The six postage stamps with the rate International 1 are intended for the transmission of priority mail worldwide to 20 grams. While the Beautiful Netherlands series, a longstanding series that puts local history and the cultural wealth of interesting Dutch towns and villages in the sun, the Boundless Netherlands series leaves our country behind, and gives a new vision of well-known and lesser-known historical ties with different countries, showcasing surprising facts about these countries and the Netherlands.

Three 'The Netherlands and Beyond: Japan' stamp sheetlets have been issued, each with its own theme: culture, knowledge and trade.

Each sheetlet comprises the same six different stamps, two per theme.

- The culture stamps depict two paintings in which the Japanese influence is clear: Vincent van Gogh's the Courtesan from 1887, and George Breitner's The Red Kimono from 1893.
- The stamps that focus on exchange of knowledge portray two scientists: the Japanese Hollandophile Ōtsuki Gentaku (1757-1827) who knew everything about the Netherlands, and Philipp Franz von Siebold from Bavaria (1796-1866) who sent large ethnographic and natural history collections to the Netherlands from Japan.
- The stamps on trade relations contain images of the Netherlands' unique role in Japan as a consequence of the arrival in Japan of the ship "De Liefde" in 1600. This later resulted in 2.5 centuries of exclusive economic relations, with the most important link being the island of Deshima in the bay of Nagasaki.

A detail of each image is depicted literally in the center of each of the six stamps. The image is framed within an origami model, the result of the famous Japanese paper-folding technique. A continuous diamond structure is placed behind the images with smaller-sized versions of the origami models being repeated within this. These models are placed over the images and are printed in gold. The priority logo is located on the tab next to each stamp, together with a short description of the image.

The stamp sheet title is given both in Dutch (Roman alphabet) as well as Japanese (kanji characters) on the top sheet edge, separated by the PostNL logo. Larger details of the images are repeated per theme on the bottom sheet edge. The stamp sheet title is stated again to the left of the images, including a short explanation of the theme.



Sheet A



Sheet C

The Dutch text can be read from top to bottom, as is usual in Japanese writing. This also applies to the typography on the stamps themselves. The two origami models associated with the theme concerned appear on the bottom right of the stamp sheet.

The font used is Museo Sans by Jos Buivenga (2008), a fresh, contemporary font selected by the design agency because it works well within a clear design with lots of white and remains legible in small letter sizes.



Sheet B

Technical Details

Stamp size:	36 x 25 mm
Perforation:	14 ½ : 14 ½
Paper:	normal with phosphor tagging
Gum:	synthetic
Printing:	offset
Circulation:	sheet A: 155.000 sheets B and C: 33.000
Printing house:	Cartor Security Printing, France
Print colors stamp:	yellow, magenta, cyan, black and

12½ Year Anniversary Royal Wedding 2 August 2014

The stamps PostNL has traditionally issued stamps with images of Dutch monarchs and other members of the Royal Family, including stamps commemorating weddings and wedding anniversaries, for example the 25th wedding anniversary of Queen Juliana and Prince Bernhard (design Sierk Schröder, 1962) and the 25th wedding anniversary of Queen Beatrix and Prince Claus (design Tons of Bragt, 1991). A stamp was also issued for the wedding of King Willem-Alexander and Queen Maxima (draft Linda van Deursen and Armand Mevis / photo Bart Marijnen, 2002).

The 12,5 Years of Royal Marriage stamp sheet was designed by Harmine Louwé from Amsterdam. Various photographs were used for the stamps, each depicting a striking moment in the lives of the copper wedding anniversary pair. These moments are:

- Willem-Alexander's story to the press regarding his marriage proposal
- Willem-Alexander and Máxima with their three children on bicycles
- the Royal pair on a visit to New York opposite a photograph of their three daughters
- Willem-Alexander and Máxima as supporters during the Winter Olympics in Sochi
- a double portrait of Máxima (photograph by Erwin Olaf) and Willem-Alexander (photograph by Koos Breukel).



Part of the photograph and/or the accompanying text runs across the perforations of each stamp. The colors of the Dutch pennant and flag are on the top edge next to the sheet title and the dates, 2 February 2002 - 2 August 2014. The colors orange-red-white-blue also return on the left, right and bottom tabs.

The use of vertical and horizontal shadow effects achieves a layered look spread across the stamp sheet, which also recurs on the top sheet edge. There, part of the typography is depicted on blocks that are placed on top of each other. Four fonts are used for the typography: T-Star Pro (2002, Michael Mieschler) for the text of the stamp with the double portrait and on the stamps of Willem-Alexander and Máxima in New York and Sochi, Helvetica Neue (1957, Max Miedinger and Eduard Hoffmann) for the text with the marriage proposal stamp, Arnhem (2002, Fred Smeijers) for the text on the top edge and for the stamps of the family on bicycles, and Adobe Garamond Pro (2000, Robert Slimbach) for the rate 1 indication on all stamps.

Technical Details

Stamp size:	36 x 25 mm
Perforation:	14 ½ : 14 ¼
Paper:	normal with phosphor tagging
Gum:	synthetic
Printing:	offset
Circulation:	140,000 sheetlets (each)
Printing house:	Cartor Security Printing, France
Print colors stamp:	yellow, magenta, cyan and black

Dutch World Heritage

11 August 2014

The stamps on the sheet UNESCO World pay attention to the Dutch World Heritage by the UNESCO list.

These nine cultural and natural heritage sites are unique in the world. They tell the extraordinary story of the Netherlands and the Dutch in the field of water management and civil society (country) design. The Dutch World Heritage Sites are:

- Schokland and Surroundings (1995)
- the Defence Line of Amsterdam (1996)
- Windmill Network at Kinderdijk-Elshout (1997)
- Willemstad (1997)
- the Ir. D. F. Wouda gemaal (1998)
- Beemster polder (1999)
- the Rietveld Schröder House (2000)
- the Wadden Sea (2009)
- the center of Amsterdam (2010).

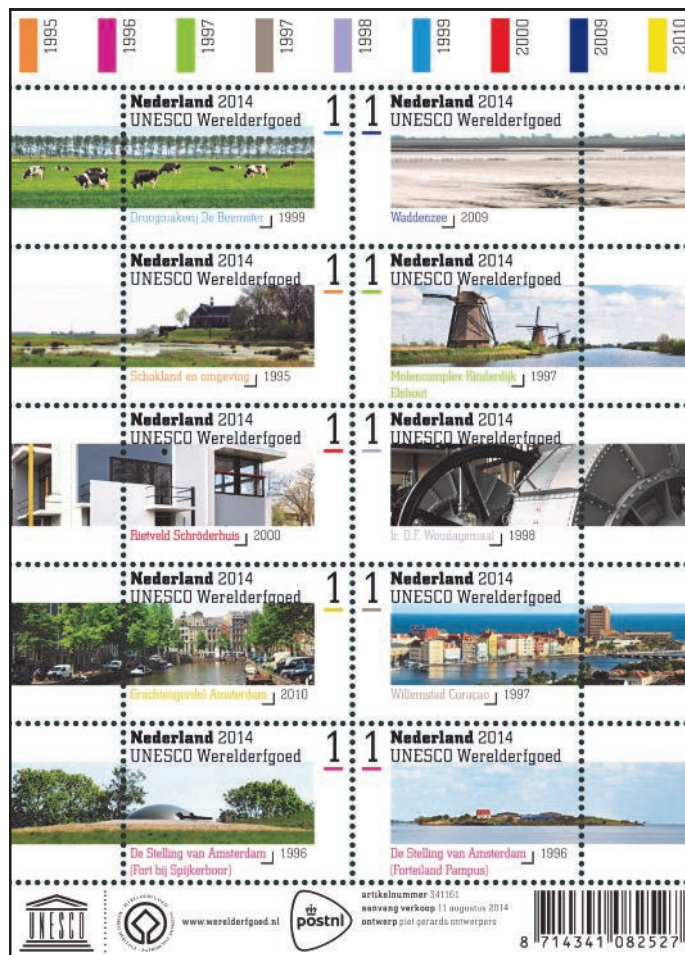
The numbers in brackets indicate the year that the monuments have been added to the list.

The piece consists of ten stamps with the rate Netherlands 1 for domestic destinations and 20 grams.

The issuance of the stamp sheetlet UNESCO World is an initiative of TNT, in collaboration with Foundation Werelderfgoed.nl and the National Heritage Board.

Each of the ten stamps on the UNESCO World Heritage stamp sheet focuses on one of the Netherlands' World Heritage sites. The Netherlands has a total of nine World Heritage sites, which is why the Defence Line of Amsterdam appears on two stamps.

A panorama photo is depicted on each stamp with the image continuing onto the tabs next to the stamp. The rate and name of the stamp sheet can be read above each photo. The name of the World Heritage site concerned and the year it was awarded this status are stated below each photo, separated by the value indication.



The color of the typography below the photo corresponds with the color of the line below the rate indication 1 and with the color of the bars on the top sheet edge. The bars illustrate the years in which the Dutch World Heritage sites were placed on the UNESCO list. The bottom sheet edge contains the UNESCO, World Heritage Site List and PostNL logos.

Pieter Gerards Ontwerpers designed the UNESCO World Heritage stamp sheet.

Technical Details

Stamp size:	36 x 25 mm
Perforation:	14 ½ : 14 ½
Paper:	normal with phosphor tagging
Gum:	synthetic
Printing:	offset
Circulation:	115,000 sheetlets
Printer:	Cartor Security Printing, France
Print colors:	stamp yellow, magenta, cyan and black

175 years Dutch railways

8 September 2014

In 1839 the Dutch Iron Railway Company (HIJSM) took the first railway line in the Netherlands in use, between Amsterdam and Haarlem. PostNL commemorates 175 years of railways in the Netherlands with ten different stamps with the rate Netherlands 1.

The issuance of this stamp is an initiative of TNT, in cooperation with the Dutch Railways and the Railway Museum in Utrecht.

The 175 years of Dutch railways' stamp sheet comprises a collage of images including trains, locomotives, rail yards, NS logos, rail signals, station clocks, destination signs, timetables, a train ticket, a railway bridge and old and new railway stations.

These images are applied in layers, on top of stylized infrastructure images – such as rails, rail yards, overhead lines, connection diagrams and stretches of track – in various monochrome colors. The oldest image is an engraving of a section of railway line between Delft and Rotterdam from 1847, while the memorial year receives attention through photos of two new railway stations, opened in Arnhem and Rotterdam in 2014.

Most images run across onto other stamps, onto the adjacent tabs and onto the sheet edges. This means that each individual stamp comprises collages of two, three, four and sometimes five images. The anniversary logo is included on the top sheet edge, together with the title of the sheet and the PostNL logo. The tabs left and right of the stamps offer space for a short description of the most important images.

BaldingerPro (2011) by André Baldinger is the font used for the typography.



Technical Details

Stamp size:	36 x 25 mm
Perforation:	14 ½ : 14 ½
Paper:	normal with phosphor tagging
Gum:	synthetic
Printing:	offset
Circulation:	179,000 sheetlets
Printing house:	Cartor Security Printing, France
Print colors:	stamp yellow, magenta, cyan, black and gold

Dutch DJ's 6 October 2014

The stamp Dutch DJs focuses on five world-renowned DJs from the Netherlands: Afrojack, Armin van Buuren, Dash Berlin, Tiësto and Hardwell.

Netherlands has been a leader for many years in the field of electronic dance music. Last year's DJ Mag Top 100 - the world's leading rankings for DJs - had more Dutch in the top ten than any other nationality.

The stamp Dutch DJs was issued on October 6, just before the Amsterdam Dance Event 15-19 October 2014. During this annual festival, two thousand DJs performed in eighty clubs and other venues. Each year approximately 300,000 visitors from around the world attend the festival.

About the design

The Dutch DJs' stamp sheet comprises two times five different "Nederland 1" rated stamps for destinations within the Netherlands. The five illustrations of the DJs are based on portrait photos in which they look directly at the audience. The photos were processed by the designers using appealing highlight colors evocative of a stage atmosphere during a dance event. The details have been removed from the faces – but they are recognisable from the variation in dark and light tones.

Each DJ has been given his own background light effects: V-shape for Afrojack, a halo for Armin van Buuren, circles for Dash Berlin, star-shape for Hardwell and chequered diamonds for Tiësto. The sheet edges and the tabs next to the stamps display a pattern of red and purple diamonds reflecting the audience atmosphere at a dance event. White and yellow stars are spread across the stamp sheet, as reference to spotlights and other event lighting.

The HTF Champion Gothic (Jonathan Hoefler, 1990) font is used for the rate indication typography and Futura (Paul Renner, 1927) for the DJ names and other text.

Music

A hidden chameleon code has been added to the stamps; this invisible code can be read on a smartphone using the CEE App (free download available in the App Store and Google Play). Five music clips from recent tracks can be heard after scanning the stamps, one from each DJ.



Technical Details

Stamp size:	25 x 36 mm
Perforation:	14 ½ : 14 ½
Paper:	normal with phosphor tagging
Gum:	synthetic
Printing:	offset
Circulation:	325,000 sheetlets
Printer:	Cartor Security Printing, France
Print colors stamp:	yellow, magenta, cyan and black

Day of the Postage Stamp

17 October 2014

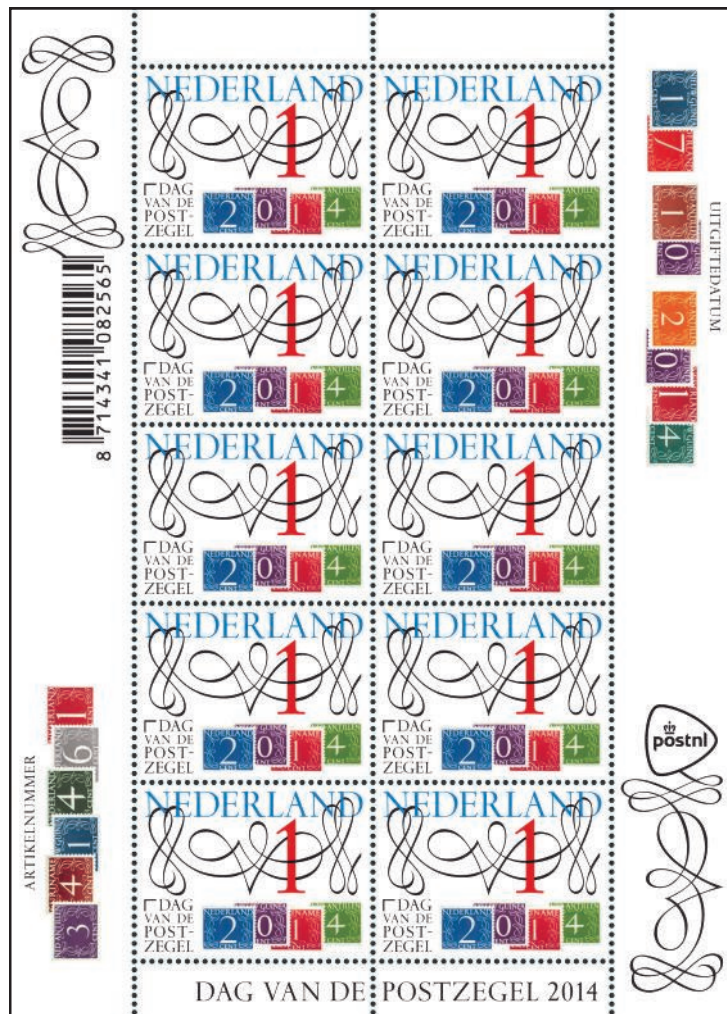
Day of the Postage Stamp is an annual international event that will be celebrated in 2014 by philatelic Netherlands on 17 October. This happens to include exchange fairs, exhibitions and other special events. PostNL pays attention to this year's event by issuing the stamp Day of the Postage Stamp 2014, inspired by the famous number stamps from 1946 by Jan van Krimpen. The piece consists of ten stamps with the rate Netherlands 1. PostNL also issues a first-day-envelop, a stamp booklet and a prestige booklet. The prestige booklet is the sixth in a series on the history of permanent stamps in the Netherlands. Day of the Postage Stamp, part of the National Stamp Show Postex 2014 from 17 to 19 October in the America hall in Apeldoorn. This major philatelic event is aimed at the collector and the whole family. Postex is organized by the Foundation Postex (Dutch Association of stamp collectors) in collaboration with the Joint Steering Committee Events (GSE), a partnership of the Royal Dutch Association of Philately Societies (KNBF), the Dutch Society of Stamp Dealers (NVPH) and TNT. The issuance of the stamp Stamp Day 2014 is a joint initiative of TNT and the GSE. GSE annually determines the theme of the issue.

The design of the stamp Day of the Postage Stamp 2014 pays homage to the number stamps by Jan van Krimpen from the period 1946-1962. In the center of these stamps Van Krimpen put a fancy shaped number to indicate the value of the stamp. The dashing and symmetrically built arabesques (garlands) on the sides of the number mark were derived from the country name (the Netherlands, New Guinea, Antilles and Suriname).

The Day of the Postage Stamp 2014 sheet designed by Ingmar Birza builds on the arabesques. These are rotated 90 degrees and now run the entire width of each stamp, in which they are interwoven with the typography of the Netherlands and the rate indication 1.

Bottom left is the reason of issue (Day of the Postage Stamp) in block form, with four additional partially-overlapping and staggered Van Krimpen stamps forming the year (2014). The Van Krimpen arabesques return on the sheet edges of the stamp: top left connected with the barcode, right under the logo of PostNL.

Also used for the issuance date and the item number on the sheet margin are Krimpen-stamps with the same iridescence, height and overlap. The tabs at the bottom of the sheet repeat the reason for issuance. For typography Ingmar Birza used a Van Krimpen font; the Spectrum from 1952.



Technical Details

Stamp size:	30 x 40 mm
Perforation:	14½ : 14½
Paper:	normal with phosphor tagging
Gum:	synthetic
Printing:	offset
Circulation:	80,000 sheetlets
Printer	Cartor Security Printing, France
Print colors stamp:	yellow, magenta, cyan and black

Child welfare stamps

3 November 2014

On the sheet kinderpostzegels 2014 five works of art depicted in the collection of the National Museum, showing scenes of children from different times, in different poses and in different situations.

PostNL issues since 1924 child welfare stamps to raise money for projects aimed at the welfare of children. This is done by an allowance of now 0.32 cents per stamp. The proceeds of all benefits go to the projects of the independent Foundation Kinderpostzegels Netherlands.



Foundation for Children's Welfare Stamps Netherlands is committed to children, both in the Netherlands and abroad, to give a chance for a better life. To enable this support, the foundation organizes the Children's Stamp Campaign. Every year, in September, more than 200,000 students in grades 7 and 8 go along the doors to sell children's stamps and cards. In November they visit their customers again to deliver all orders.

The 2014 Children's Welfare Stamp sheet comprises five 'Nederland 1' class stamps. Each stamp depicts a work of art from the Rijksmuseum collection.

The stamp on the right, a black and white photo of a skater in the Vondelpark, is twice the size of the other four stamps. The two stamps on the left bear images of children playing on the beach and of a young girl lying down wearing a white kimono.

The middle two stamps bear images of donkey-riding on the beach and of a girl being distracted by her brothers while she is trying to play the piano. The PostNL and Foundation for Children's Welfare Stamps Netherlands logos are printed on the sheet edge. The Children's Welfare Stamp motto (Let Children Learn) is also included here as well as an invitation by the Rijksmuseum to compile your own collections on their website.

Neuzeit S (Linotype-Hell AG, 1966) is the font used for the typography. The year, the Children's Welfare Stamp name and surcharge are positioned diagonally across the stamps, with the rate indication and value indication positioned horizontally.

Technical Details

Stamp size:	4x 36 x 25 mm 1x 36 x 50 mm
Perforation:	14½ : 14½
Paper:	normal with phosphor tagging
Gum:	synthetic
Printing:	offset
Circulation:	3,980,000 sheetlets
Printer	Joh. Enschedé Security Print, Haarlem
Print colors stamp:	yellow, magenta, cyan and black

December Stamps

18 November 2014

Each year PostNL brings new December Stamps with which consumers and businesses can mail each other Christmas and New Year cards at advantageous rates. A sheet with twenty December Stamps 2014 costs € 11.80 this year.

If you buy three sheets of the customer gets a special gift: the Christmas special of the Good Food Book, a wonderful cookbook with four festive menus of leading Dutch chefs: Ramon Beech, Ron Blaauw, Ronald Kunis and Niven Kunz. Also, the December Stamps are associated with a special action with chance to win great prizes including a Vespa Scooter, iPads and mini PostNL travel bags.

With the December Stamps 2014, PostNL makes it possible for everyone to send a card in the Christmas and New Year period to family, friends and relations at a special rate. The special December rate of € 0.59 per stamp is valid from November 18, 2014 to January 6, 2015.

The sheets are also issued this year with the special logo's of Trekpleister and Kruidvat.

The twenty unique stamps in each December 2014 sheetlet were designed by the Smel Agency in Amsterdam. The stamps display cheerful, stylish miniature scenes offset against a warm colored background. On each stamp, the designers have illustrated familiar December symbols as a mini-story. Ranging from Christmas ornaments to fireworks, from skating fun to Christmas mail, from the traditional Dutch dumpling (oliebal) to the mistletoe – each familiar theme has been designed using a contemporary pictographic language.

The stories on the stamps are connected with each other using common pictographic elements such as the snowflake, the asterisk, thin lines and a color transition in the background. The main subject on each stamp is generally drawn in silhouette shape, while the secondary figures are finely detailed.

The Sacha Rein Aldo SemiBold font, a modern, round and friendly letter was used for the typography.



Technical Details

Stamp size:	25.3 x 20.8mm
Perforation:	slit
Paper:	normal with phosphor tagging
Gum:	self-adhesive
Printing:	offset
Circulation:	7,360,000 sheetlets
Printing house:	Joh. Enschedé Security Print, Haarlem
Print colors:	stamp yellow, magenta, cyan and black

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