



CZECHOUT

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Welcome to the Christmas edition of **Czechout**. I would like to take this opportunity to wish a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all of our friends and members. While the temperatures dip outside, we have some interesting articles to read during the dark winter evenings. Colin Spong has allowed me to reproduce his excellent Bill Dawson lecture, which I found fascinating. There are book reviews and details of Bob Hill's recent visit to the Czech Republic amongst the new material contained in this issue.

Our next meeting will take place at the Czech & Slovak Club, West Hampstead on **14 January 2012** and will be "**Members' Displays**" (maximum 24 sheets).

Don't forget our Joint Meeting at York Racecourse with the Austrian Philatelic Society of Great Britain. This will take place on **21 January**. Please contact Yvonne Wheatley for further information, who will be happy to supply details.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Tony Moseley (Editor)

Opinions expressed in articles in Czechout are the sole responsibility of the author(s), and are not necessarily endorsed by the Editor or the Society.

NEWS & NOTICES

Translation Services

Two of our members have very kindly volunteered to assist with translations from the Czech language.

Michael Chant **meac@familychant.freerve.co.uk**

Vladimir Kralicek **Vladi.k@xtra.co.nz**

Please contact them directly by e-mail.

Only send short items please. Kindly bear in mind that both gentlemen spend time on behalf of the Society translating articles which can be printed in *Czechout*. This work will take precedence as all the members benefit.

We had a most kind e mail from Vladimir that this was his way of saying “thank you” for all the past help and friendliness that he has received through the Society. Vladimir is an asset to the Society and his help has been invaluable.

We thank both gentlemen for their willingness to give their time to this work.

If any other linguists would like to offer their services in translating Czech or other languages, particularly German, it will be much appreciated.

Apeldoorn 2011

The Vereniging voor Tsjechoslowakije, our Dutch sister society, has very kindly invited our Society to participate in the exhibition of Czechoslovak philately held in conjunction with the Postex exhibition taking place in **Apeldoorn, 19–21 October 2012**. On the last occasion, in 2007, we had eleven exhibits (please see *Czechout* 4/07 p94). Details are enclosed.

Congratulations

Rex Dixon is in the news and is to be congratulated on winning two gold medals at Habria '11, the Great Britain / Germany Bilateral exhibition held in Hanover.

His exhibits were:

Traditional – Deutsche Nothilfe 1924–1935 (the charity postage stamps for Germany Emergency Aid)

Postal History – German Postal Rates and Services December 1923 to May 1945.

Colour copies of Rex's collection of Deutsche Nothilfe formed the static display at the Royal Philatelic Society London in September.

**Minutes of the Meeting held Saturday 5th November 2011 at the
Czech & Slovak National Club, 74 West End Lane, London NW6
-Tony Hickey-**

At 2.30, after the AGM and a break for lunch, our Chairman Mrs Yvonne Wheatley opened The Society meeting by welcoming members back for the afternoon displays.

Before the start of the afternoon's proceedings our membership secretary Yvonne Gren announced that she had received an application for membership by Jack Rhind of Bermuda and asked those present to approve his appointment to the Society. This was agreed unanimously.

As all matters had been discussed at the AGM, Yvonne started the proceedings by introducing our speaker and fellow member Norman Hudson who in the first half displayed material relating to the artist A Mucha, and in the second the wonders of the Slovakian Tatra Mountains.

Norman began his beautiful display by giving us a brief insight into the life and times of **Alfons Mucha** (24 July 1860 – 14 July 1939). He told us that Mucha was a [Czech Art Nouveau](#) painter and decorative artist known for his distinct style. He then took us through his postcards and philatelic material showing us some of the many paintings, illustrations, advertisements, postcards and even bank note designs that Mucha had produced during his lifetime. Norman weaved us through the history of the time with anecdotes such as when Mucha happened to go into a print shop in 1895 where there was a sudden and unexpected need for a new advertising poster for a play featuring [Sarah Bernhardt](#), the most famous actress in Paris. Mucha volunteered to produce a [lithographed](#) poster within two weeks.

In the second half Norman displayed material relating to the **Tatra Mountains of Slovakia** such as stamps, postcards and postal stationery. With this material he took us through areas of summer walks, over waterfalls and through beautiful forest areas. Of course prominent in this display, and very important to the Slovak economy, were the skiing areas which were well represented. Overall the display gave us a good insight into an area that most of us were unfamiliar with.

After the displays Lindy Bosworth gave a well-deserved vote of thanks.

Yvonne formally closed the meeting at 4.30pm.

**Changes to the Society Auction Rules
-Auction Secretary Peter Williams-**

Please note that there has been a change to the rules, regarding unsold auction lots.

I am writing to inform you of a change in rules for all auction material, including the unsold items I hold for you and future material.

My aim is to make the auction a valued service from the Society. I devote a considerable amount of time and effort to each auction, but the last auction only had 12 bidders. Apart from organising the lots and preparing each catalogue, I take one day's holiday each auction day to finalise each auction, so that the successful lots are sent out on the Friday. Four years ago, there were more than double this number of bidders. The number of bidders and the value of bids has been falling for a number of auctions and I have been considering how to improve the situation. I have discussed this with others who are involved with philatelic auctions and it seems that good material does attract interest, even in these times of economic uncertainty.

Many philatelic auctions return unsolds after each auction, so that the auction has new items. I have decided that a wayforward is to concentrate on newer items. **The new rules will limit the number of times that items can go into an auction to two.** This will allow the auction to concentrate on more recent items. I will consider whether the auction should move to only accepting lots once and returning the unsolds after the auction.

If Items remain unsold after the second auction, then I will either:

- return the unsold lots to the vendor **at the vendor's cost** or dispose of the lots through a local auctioneer. I will put the lots together at my discretion to get the most interest from the auctioneer, and allocate proceeds, if any, on a reasonable allocation, again at my discretion.
- **“If the vendor asks for the lots to go into an auction, there is no guarantee that the lots will be sold at the reserve that the vendor has put on the lots”.**

I will not hold a January 2012 auction, as I have very little new material and I would like to reduce the volume of unsold items that have been in more than two auctions.

An April 2012 auction will depend on the amount of material that I have on hand under the new rules, that is , any new material and unsolds that have only been offered once.

I have announced this change in rules at the AGM. I will be sending you details of your unsold lots in due course and I will ask you what you want me to do with your remaining unsolds, returned to you or put into auction ?

As I have just changed the rules, I will allow the unsolds that I hold to be returned at my cost (contribution Always welcome of course)

I hope you understand the reasons for the changes. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

There will be a table at our **June Summer meeting**, where unsold auction lots can be seen on display and inspected.

Abstracts of Publications -Colin W Spong-

We have received the following journals, which will be available from the Society Library. Items of interest to members are:

- The Winter 2011 issue of **Austria** No.176.
 - ▶ Leoban to Berlin-Britz (Schweighofer); Philatelic Research – A Basic Guide (Beech); Two Interesting Austrian Lloyd covers (Darnell & Smith); Kraftgüterpost – an unusual cancellation (Boyer); Portofreie Rohrpost (Colomb); A Star is [re]Born (Boyer & Pollak); Austrian Cinderellas (Taylor); Splendour and Power: Imperial Treasures from Vienna (Mangai); Aerophilaely and the Sieges of Przemysl [1914-1915] Part 2 (Kupiec-Weglinski & Bator); “Pay-More Labels” (Taylor et al.)
- **The British Postal Museum & Archive E-mail's 04.10.11 & 01.12.11**
 - ▶ The BPMA announce that a small number of records from POST 91: *Buildings, Furniture and Fittings* have been digitised. From the philatelic collections *King George VI Overprints* are now available including postage due label overprints. From Monday 5 December a new series is launched on BBC Radio 4. *The Peoples Post*, a 15 part series, exploring the history of the postal service through the people that used and worked for it, broadcast at 1.45pm until 23 December.
- The June 2011 issue of **Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Tschechoslowakei**, Vol.42 Whole No.168. Douglas Baxter has kindly translated the list of contents for us.
 - ▶ Adolf Born, Caricaturist, illustrator and stamp designer (Müller); Emil Zatopek, The Czech running machine (Müller); Josef Hlavka, Czech architect and master builder (Müller); The Sudeten Corner Part 1: A guest contribution from Karl Bauer of the German Eastern Territories Study Group
- The Summer 2011 issue of **The Czechoslovak Specialist**, Vol 73. Whole Nos.625. No 3
 - ▶ New Czech Stamp Error Discovered –to be a Forgery? (Horvath); Stolen Stamps in Philanippon 91, Tokyo (Klein); For Beginners: The Philately of Czechoslovakia Part 5 (Freer); A Beginners Introduction to Plating the Hradčany (Wilson).

- The July & October 2011 issues of *Dylizans*, No 62/63
 - ▶ AGM reports; What's in your Philatelic Library? (Stockhill); 1946 Censor Marks (-); The Gdynia American Shipping Line [cont.] (Stockhill); 958 Glider Post (-).
 - ▶ Polish Navy in Great Britain 1939-1945 (-); The Bismarck Cinderella Label (-); The Gdynia American Shipping Line [cont.] (Stockhill).

- Nos 9 & 10/2011 issues of *Filatelie*, Vol 61. The English translation of the contents does not cover all the articles.
 - ▶ Motorcycle Sport [4] (Horák); The Post Office in Žamberk has existed for 175 years (Chládek & Kavka).
 - ▶ Rudolf Gilbert: 115 & 90 [Biography] [6] (Beneš); The Preserved status of Czech Rural post (Bejesta); Plate Faults on Czech stamps during the first half of 2011 (Brožová & Zedník); Motorcycle Sport [5] (Horák).

- The 5/2011 issue of *Merkur Revue*. The English translation of the contents does not cover all the articles.
 - ▶ First Anniversary of the Flight Prague-New York (Fritz); Repülő Posta 1918 in Hungary [2] (Květon); The Publication *Weipert Falzum* (Fritz); 60 Years of the 1951 Czechoslovak Spas issue (Fritz); Interesting Information from France (Fritz); Secret Engraved markings on Czech Stamps (Fritz); Obituary of Vítězslav Houška, chief editor of *Filatelie* (Fritz & Fischer); Forgery affair of Austria-Hungary State Notes (Šůla); Fortresses and castles on stamps from ČSR territory [18] (Fritz).

- The October 2011 issue of *NIEUWS* No 17
 - ▶ The 3K postage stamp issued to commemorate the opening of parliament [Diet] in CHUST 15.03.1939 ((Verleg); Ludvik Svoboda (Hemmes); The Hradschin 5 and 10 heller plate positions (Olsina & Bisschops).

- The December 2011 issue of *Stamps of Hungary* No.187.
 - ▶ A few remarks to Bavanište/Homokbálványos issues (Kobelbauer); More on 'Libellus' and other stamps (Jon Hawker); Censorship of Civilian Mail of WW1: Part 2: more on the Budapest Office (Morrell); Ferenc Bokros-Stamp Designer (Johnson); Ferenc Erkel, 1810-1893 (Morrell); A Puzzle of Stamp Invalidation (Morrell).

Book review by Brian Day

FLEEING FROM THE FÜHRER - Charmian Brinson & William Kaczynski.
Published by The History Press. ISBN 978 0 7524 6195 3. Price £17.99.

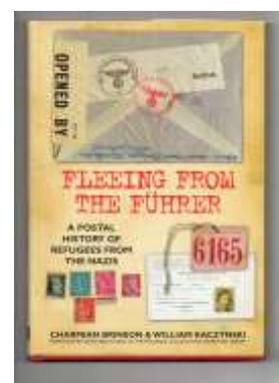
This book tells first-hand stories collected from many sources which peoples mostly experienced between the years 1933 and 1945, the Nazi era in Germany, and 1939 to 1945, the WW2 years, through a collection of postal history put together over more than twenty years by William Kaczynski, a man of German-Jewish extraction whose refugee parents brought him and his younger brother to safety in Britain just before the outbreak of the Second World War. His experience parallels the life stories of many political and Jewish families.

Professor Charmian Brinson a historian of the subject contributed with a balanced account of the facts.

Your reviewer as a young man met former refugees and worked with some but did not at the time realise how much persecution, imprisonment and death had been suffered by so many.

By the outbreak of War in September 1939 there were some 80,000 German speaking refugees in Britain, mostly from Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia.

Some events are already well-known to our Society members including the mass internment of aliens in Britain in 1940 when German invasion seemed imminent, including Nicholas Winton and the Kindertransport



movement which rescued thousands of refugees, the Isle of Man camps and of course those families or employers who took them under their wings.

I outline some of the many other cases which can be found in the book.

- The Quakers, based in Bloomsbury, London W.C.1 provided welfare for all displaced persons.
- Two charitable agencies, The Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HAIS) and the Jewish Colonisation Association (ICA or HICEM) which, respectively, provided services to emigrants to the United States and by the British fund based in Paris being responsible for Europe-based work relating to Jewish migrants. It later opened offices throughout Europe including neutral Lisbon, South America and the Far East.
- Incredibly HICEM with Nazi authorities was able to arrange for emigration of Jews from some German-occupied territories including Bohemia and Moravia.
- The International Red Cross through Raoul Wallenberg from Sweden arranged through its Legation in Budapest to issue 'Protective Passports' for temporary Swedish citizens preventing deportation to camps.
- Undercover Mail is widely detailed including mention of mail to secret addresses P.O. Box 111 for Bletchley Park of German Enigma machines fame and the Manhattan Project, America's atomic bomb project which used P.O. Box 1663 and P.O. Box 180 and rare covers are pictured.
- Varian Fry, an American journalist working in Europe enabled refugees by clandestine operations to avoid the French Vichy regime's rules and gathered some 15,000 Germans and Austrians to cross over the Pyrenees to Spain.

The book is well written it contains a varied collection of World War 2 postal history and it is recommended to collectors of the subject.

Book review by Lubor Kunc

Karel Holoubek: **Seznam revolučních přetisků 1944-45** (List of Revolutionary Overprints 1944-45), published in 2011 by Mr. Karel Holoubek, written in Czech language, softbound, b/w illustrations, 312 pages, price CZK 500,- / £18.00.

The book title says "List" but this book is really a monograph precisely describing the Czechoslovak revolutionary issues of 1944-45.

This period of Czechoslovak postal history is important not only for local stamp collectors, but it creates one of the fascinating areas of European WW2 postal history illustrating the fall of Germany and its axis allies in Central Europe. Czechoslovakia was a country in the centre of the region influenced by the situation in Germany, Austria, Hungary, Poland and the former Soviet Union. All of these influences were highlighted in the local "revolutionary" issues.

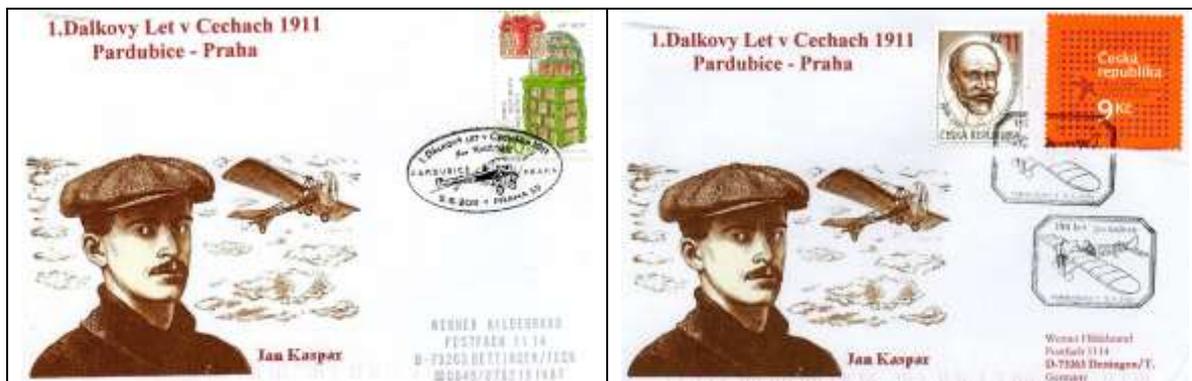
The book starts with semi-governmental issue of Chust 1944 (Carpatho-Ukraine) continues with the local overprints of German, Hungarian and Protectorate stamps from all Czech, Moravian, Slovak and Carpathian territories to finish with bogus issues and guerrilla fighters stamps. The author describes not only the stamp issues (including press runs, types of the overprints etc.), but he carefully checked the usage of the overprinted stamps/postal stationery and studied the local history to put the issues into a general history frame. This approach is very useful since it helps to sort out the real issues from "bogus" ones. A useful adjunct is the overview of the unknown overprints enclosed with the book.

Karel Holoubek has collected this stamp issue for many decades and this book is the compilation of all his knowledge.

100 Let Aviatiky v Čechách: More Jan Kašpar items -Tony Moseley-

Following the various commemorative covers and souvenirs, issued to celebrate the famous flight of **Jan Kašpar** (see previous 2011 issues of **Czechout**), further privately produced items have appeared for sale and can be easily found for sale by internet dealers.

A special cover exists, with the image of Jan Kašpar and his aircraft, titled “1. Dalkovy Let v Cechach 1911, Pardubice – Praha”. Quite interesting to note, that no Czech accents appear in the heading title of the cover. I obtained both of my examples from Germany, but I am currently unable to confirm where these items were produced or by whom. Two different examples are shown, with the oval cancel of Praha 59 and Pardubice 2. Images are not to scale and have been reduced (*Ed.*).



The next item is an A4-size glossy sheet, produced on heavy art paper, printed in a shade of old gold, with a view of a Kašpar's vintage monoplane flying over central Pardubice.

The sheet is individually numbered, this example being **4520110329** and carries both of the special commemorative postmarks issued to record this epic flight, tied to the 21 Kč Jan Kašpar issue.

The stamp and postmarks, have already been mentioned in more detail, in **Czechout** earlier this year.



First Czech – Slovak Philatelic exhibition at Vysoké Mýto 12–16 October 2011 -Robert J. Hill-

I have often been asked to a variety of locations to attend philatelic exhibitions, but never to speak. So when Lubor Kunč asked me to fill a half hour slot at the inaugural meeting of the joint Czech & Slovak Philatelic Societies it was just a matter of thinking what to talk about.

The meeting was to be held at Vysoké Mýto – which was to the right of the back of beyond as far as I was concerned until I realised how near that was to Pardubice and the home of my good friend Jan Dobrovolný and his charming wife Marta.

Arrangements were made and I joined Jan in Pardubice early on the Saturday morning and enjoyed their delightful hospitality before venturing on to the exhibition which was being held in the regional museum just beyond the main square in Vysoké Mýto. What a super place Vysoké Mýto is, not likely to go there again but really pleased I went to see it.



Venue of the meeting in Vysoké Mýto.

Bob Hill (wearing our Society tie) giving presentation.

There was a temporary post office inside the museum where you paid the 30 Kč entrance fee. I purchased a commemorative postcard, special envelope and both "A" and "E" value commemorative sheets. The exhibition was on two floors and ranged from many serious adult entries to some colourful attempts by children. There was something for everyone's taste and I found a display of Travancore especially interesting as was the display of Hradčany forgeries.

The meeting was due to start at 14:00 but a morning meeting ran over an hour late.

First to speak was Lubor as chairman of the Postal History Society of Czech Republic with a presentation on the aims of the Society followed by Czech Forces in Exile material.

After one or two (well four) IT problems I gave a two part Powerpoint talk covering firstly the five foreign (to the Czech and Slovak lands) Czech related societies and I was delighted when an attendee joined in and added information on the Hungarian Czech Society which I did not know – it had just had its 25th birthday. Then I gave further information from my own collection and Jan Dobrovolný's research on the Pardubice overprint issues by Dr. Eduard Kalman. It seemed to be well received and I am pleased I made the effort.

Having dealt with Postal History from the Czech and 'foreign' perspective the last speaker was Miroslav Bachratý from Bratislava, a member of the Union of Slovak Philatelists, whose PDF on the Control of the Postal Operations between Slovakia and the Protectorate (1939 – 1945) was a good example on how to deliver an interesting presentation.

Other than Jan & Lubor I managed to meet:

- Karel Holoubek (who is working on a book of postcards bearing liberation overprints by comparing his collection with the late, great Vladimír Markus, Ctibor Sobotka's listing and those recorded in the late Santa Eugenia Grau's book)
- Vít Vaníček FRPSL, FEPA Director and Vice President of Union of Czech Philatelists.
- Miroslav Ňaršík, Chairman of Union of Slovak Philatelists.
- Vladimír Mrva, Chairman, Committee of Postal History, Postal Stationery & Aero-philately, Union of Slovak Philatelists.
- Miloslav Fencl, Chairman of the Society of R-Label Collectors.

A long journey, but well worth making, thanks to Lubor for inviting me and Jan for getting me there. Thanks to both of them with their patient help in translating.

UNRRA 558 -Richard Wheatley FRPSL-

Sometimes the address on an envelope can make an item that much more interesting. This item is one such cover, for part of the address is "UNRRA 558". Not knowing what this stood for I looked it up on Google. It means:

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF & REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

This organisation was formed on 9 November 1943 with headquarters in London. Most of its work seems to have been directed to Poland, although USSR, and Germany benefitted along with most of the other countries over which World War 2 raged and brought turmoil to the civilian population.

The addressee in Prague and the sender in Port Said both seem to have been involved in UNRRA. They also appear to have been stamp collectors!



Despatch Port Said 24 MR 51, cleared Praha Customs 11 IV 1951

The envelope has been opened in Prague and a green customs (Douane) label affixed. This label states that nature of the merchandise was postage stamps. The letter was then resealed with the bilingual, French / Czech light blue resealing strip printed:

ECHANGE RECIPROQUE * EVIDENCNI KANCELAR
(reciprocal exchange * record office)

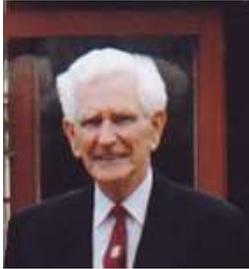
This label has been tied by a small circular customs cachet and initialled in blue pencil. There is also a violet coloured straight line cachet "Beze cla a devok", which means duty free.

In Czechoslovakia at this time there was strict control over the movements of currency and valuables to abroad. Stamps were deemed to be of value although they could be exchanged between collectors. A record was kept to ensure that it was indeed an equal exchange. This letter has gone through this control office in Prague.

The cover has been franked by Egyptian stamps with a total value of 37 mills, which is spot on; surface letter rate 22 mills plus 15 mills airmail surcharge.

THE BILL DAWSON MEMORIAL LECTURE, CPSGB WEEKEND 2011 AT YORK

How did we get to monographs -Colin W Spong FRPSL-



Firstly, I must say that I am greatly honoured to be asked to give this lecture in tribute to my friend and colleague Bill Dawson, and especially following in the footsteps of Bob Hill and Brian Day.

I begin by asking three questions:

What is a Monograph?
Why this Title?
Why and How Many?

To answer question one, my copy of the English Dictionary states “a paper, book, or other work concerned with a single subject or aspect of a subject.”

To answer question two, this title was chosen to compliment the Czech series of Monographs.

Question 3: The Committee felt, after receiving many queries from non-Czech-speaking members, that there was little available in the English Language, and it would be helpful to produce some publications covering the stamps and postal history of Czechoslovakia in all its aspects. To-date the Society has now published twenty-four monographs with others in the pipe-line. But do not fear I am only going to mention some of the issues in full detail!

How did we start?

As in all good stories, once upon a time - It all began when our first Life President George Pearson died in 1981; he was the last link between the first Czech Philatelic Society formed during the war with Czech & Slovak servicemen in 1942, of which he was a Vice President, and our present society. We felt that we should honour his memory both by an annual Competition and secondly with a Monograph on one of his specialist studies ‘the Masaryk issues’.

Although much of this study was either acquired by or left to the late Ernst Gorge, and whilst he also had a great knowledge of the subject, he was not a “writer” and when he started to enter competitions with this material it subsequently became known that some of the proofs and stamps displayed had once been in the Czechoslovak Postal Museum! These had been brought out by the Czech soldiers and presented to George for his help and kindness to them. [A number were returned I believe and others purchased by the Czech authorities.]

So we were back to square one; however, Alec Page came to rescue. He had recently formed a collection of the *Czechoslovak Army & Air Force in Exile* and felt it would make a suitable monograph. So he researched, photocopied and illustrated items from his collection. Alec also obtained copies of photographs from the Imperial War Museum Photographic Library and compiled and produced this on his photocopier. A foreword was written by Kay Goodman, as Chairman of the Society.

It was well received both in and outside the Society and was followed up with a Supplement with additional information the following year. It was not until 2002 with further research by Richard Beith & others, that it was replaced by Monograph 15, *The Postal History of the Free Czechoslovak Forces in GB 1940-1945*.

The second title does not appear in our list of publications. We had an enthusiastic Irish member, one George E Connolly, a member of both the GB & USA societies. One day he came up to Alec & I with a manuscript containing a short bibliography of Czech related articles. He had compiled this from many visits to the National Philatelic Library and covered philatelic literature for the years 1887 until 1982. Both Alec and I edited and produced it and once again Kay wrote a foreword.

It was not until some months afterwards that we were asked to withdraw it as it contained a number of errors! So with egg-on-our faces we did likewise. I cannot remember what we said to George. However, he continued to support our meetings but some years later disappeared leaving everything with his Czech wife.

About two or three years ago she contacted us, and it was presumed that he had died without ever returning home. A real and rather sad mystery.

In 1985 we had two publications. Roy Dehn had written a paper on the *Pošta Československá Overprints* for Gibbons Stamp Monthly, and after a suitable interval obtained permission for us to reproduce this. Roy was a foremost specialist in Czech and Italian philately and a member of the Royal Philatelic Society Expert Committee. Then out of the blue our Spanish member Juan Page, wrote to ask whether we would be interested in publishing his monograph on *Carpatho-Ukraine: The Postal Markings of the years 1938-45*. We said yes quickly! This study was in an early word-processor type – dot-matrix and as we were still at the electronic typewriter stage we decided to retain Juan's "dot-matrix" especially as at that time little had been written on Carpatho-Ukraine. In the past year we have published two fine monographs from Jan Verleg and Otto Hornung, which furthers our knowledge on this fascinating area of former Czechoslovakia.

It wasn't until 1987 that our next title appeared when with Committee approval I persuaded the France & Colonies Philatelic Society to join us in publishing Roy Reader's '*The Czechoslovak Army in France*'. Once again this was a success on a then little-known subject and eventually a supplement with new information appeared in 1992.

An idea arising from Juan's monograph was whether we could have a series covering the remainder of the Czech areas. As a start I invited Bill Dawson, who had a good collection of the Sudetenland, to write the first. Bill of course replied "who wants to know anything on my rubbish, besides its unpopular." He was correct as far as the subject, but we felt it would sell and after some encouragement he produced a monograph in 1988. The sales outside the society as well as to some of our own members contributed towards future monographs and brought a number of new members from the Germany & Colonies Philatelic Society. It was to be some years 2009 in fact, before we had anything on Bohemia & Moravia with John Hammonds & Rex Dixon's' notebook on Ron Hollis' collection.

In 1989 I was delighted to see my friend James Negus, former Librarian of the National Philatelic Society and a well known bibliographer of philatelic literature, who had joined the society, producing an *Index to Czechoslovak Philately 1950-1979*. At the same time Jiří Neumann's *The Occupation of Czechoslovak Frontier Territories by Beck's Poland-the Postal History View-point* was also published. I think the promotion of these two handbooks was due to Alan Knight who successfully approached both authors.

The indefatigable Alec Page came up with an Anthology on *The Field Post of the Czechoslovak & Allied Forces in Russia 1918-1920* in 1991 and then there was a gap until 1996 when Vladimír Kralíček, Alec Page and Hans Klein pooled their resources and produced the definitive study on *The 25th Anniversary of Czechoslovak Independence [The 1943 London Exhibition]*. This was an important study and the only regret so far is that we have been unable to discover the names and displays of the various collectors who exhibited at this event.

This was followed by Brian Day's *The Sokols in Philately, Postal, Commemorative Postmarks & Postcards*. This covered the history of a sporting movement that is part of Czech history.

Vladimír Kralíček and Alec Page co-authored the *Military Postcards of The Exiled Czech Forces in France & GB 1939-45* which appeared in 1999. This was to be the last time that Alec, who had been a force behind the production of the Society's monographs; would be involved as he died during the compilation. A special sub-committee, together with Vladimír saw it through to publication as a memorial to Alec.

The year 2000 saw a first on the *Hradčany stamps*. The author was Bob Bradford who had combined all the known information on the subject. The first of a series on the Liberation Issues appeared in 2004, Bob Hill's *The Liberation of Olomouc May 1945* opened the door to a subject which for once had a true historical and researched basis. He followed this up in 2005 with *Postal Arrangements Following the Liberation of Prague in May 1945*. It was dedicated to Bill Dawson and was published in combined English/Czech language; and promoted at a reception in the Czech Embassy who had given a grant towards its printing.

Brian Day produced a second monograph in 2003 on *Czechoslovak Field Post 1918-21*, a study which he had been working on for some time. At the Praga 98 Exhibition I noted in their catalogue an article on *The Czechoslovaks in the Middle East 1940-43* by Dr Vratislav Palkoska. I mentioned this to Otto Hornung, who happened to be a great friend of the author. This led to a combined monograph to include Otto's *The Czechoslovak Legion in Poland & Russia 1939-41* from personal experiences in both campaigns.

It was dedicated to Dr Palkoska who had died during preparation and who had been looking forward to seeing the finished work published in 2003.

Finally last year saw the publication of three handbooks *The 1923 Agriculture and Science Issue* by our American member Dr Mark Wilson, *Postmarks of the SO 1920 Plebiscite* by Jan Kypast & Zdeněk Filipek, translated by Bob Kingsley from articles in *Merkur Revue* and *Travelling POs in German-Occupied Sudetenland* by Dr Tony Goodbody & Cyril Kidd. A suitable monograph to end on as it is dedicated to Bill Dawson in whose honour these lectures are made.

A final Question and answer: How do we obtain the material for these publications? The answer is by seeking out members and other collectors, and translation of papers seen in Czech journals with permission of authors etc.

Now comes the commercial – if this talk has aroused any interest in these publications, I am glad to report that copies are still available at very reasonable prices and I know our Publications Officer, Rex Dixon, would be delighted to hear from you.

THE EDITOR'S CHOICE

Sudetenland rural post office: Trübenz über Mährisch Neustadt (Břevenec)

Many of the small “rural” post offices in the occupied Sudetenland territory handled very little mail due to their remote locations. It is quite plausible that the actual amount of mail handled at some of these post offices was only ever in single figures. For a variety of reasons, many of these cancels are thought to have existed, but examples did not survive the hostilities and have not surfaced to date. We see below a very scarce cover, which has been previously unrecorded. For more information, the excellent “České a Slovenské Poštovny 1900-1958” by Petr Gebauer and Jozef Tekel' is mandatory reading.



At first glance, the cover shown here appears unremarkable. It is a letter addressed to Zwittau (Svitavy) in the occupied East Sudetenland, from the small rural post office at Trübenz über Mährisch Neustadt (Břevenec).

However, this item, from my own collection, is the only known example of this cancel that has been found to date. It is listed as type D.1a, size 35mm x 10mm in the book by Petr Gebauer and Jozef Tekel'.

This example is undated at Trübenz, but bears the cancel of Mährisch Neustadt dated 21.12.1939.

NEW ISSUES**-Lindy Bosworth-**

Unless otherwise stated, Post Printing House, Prague prints the stamps and stationery for the Czech Republic and the Republic of Slovakia.

Slovakia – unless otherwise stated FDCs are printed by TAB. sro, Bratislava.

Printing: RD – rotary die stamping with multicolour photogravure
DS – die stamping from flat plates

Czech Republic**NVI stamps:**

‘A’ ordinary internal letter to 50g (currently 10 Kč)

‘E’ ordinary standard letter to 20g to European countries (currently 20 Kč)

‘Z’ ordinary standard letter by air to 20g to non European countries (currently 21 Kč)

31 August 2011**Nature Protection: Šumava UNESCO Biosphere Reserve**

Designers: Libuše and Jaromír Knotek

Engraver: Martin Srb

Printing: coloured offset with black DS in commemorative sheet of 4 stamps and 4 labels. FDCs printed DS

Design: typical scenery of the Reserve with flora and fauna found there.

Stamps:

10 Kč: *Tetrao urugalius* (Capercaillie); *Turdus torquatus* (Ring ouzel) and *Erebia euryale* (Large ringlet butterfly)

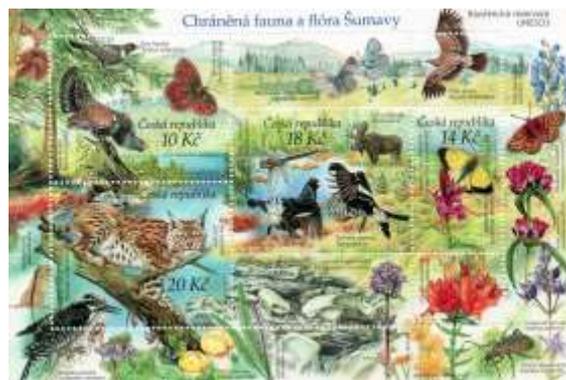
FDC: printed in green-blue with commemorative Prášily cancel. Cachet shows a river flowing through coniferous forest and the head of a *Falco peregrinus* (Peregrine falcon)

14 Kč: *Colias palaeno* (Moorland clouded yellow butterfly) and *Dactylorhiza traunsteineri* (orchid) **FDC:** printed in dark brown with a commemorative Kvilda cancel. The cachet depicts a *Bonasa bonasie* (Hazel grouse)

18 Kč: *Tetrao tetrix* (Black grouse); *Aeshna juncea* (Hawker dragonfly) and *Alces alces* (Elk) **FDC:** printed steel blue with a commemorative Stožec cancel. The cachet drawing shows the head of *Alces alces* (Elk)

20 Kč: *Lynx lynx* (Northern lynx) and *Picoides tridactylus* (Three-toed woodpecker). **FDC:** printed in red-brown with commemorative Borová Lada cancel. The cachet shows a reclining Northern lynx.

This Reserve is situated on the Austrian and Bavarian borders with the Czech Republic and includes the Bavarian Forest National Park. This commemorative sheet is the final one of a set of six featuring Czech Biosphere Reserves.



31 August 2011

2011 Men's European Volleyball Championships

**Designer:** Bc A Pavel Švejda**Printing:** multi-coloured offset in sheets of 50**Design:** silhouettes of two volleyball players**FDC:** printed offset in grey with commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet depicts a volleyball player serving the ball. Prague, Karlovy Vary and two Austrian cities hosted the initial four groups of pool games between 10 – 12 September with the final event held on 18 September in Vienna. Serbia were the victors with Italy 2nd and Poland 3rd.

31 August 2011

W A Mozart

Designer: Marina Richterová**Line drawing of stamp:** Martin Srb**Engraver:** (FDC cachet only) Milos Ondráček**Printing:** multi-coloured offset in booklets of 6 self-adhesive stamps.**Design:** Mozart conducting with the original score of his opera Don Giovanni and the Estates Theatre in the background. The illustration on the face of the booklet is from the issued stamp and the back cover gives details of the life of Mozart in Czech and English.**FDC:** printed DS in green-black with commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet drawing shows Commandatore from the opera Don Giovanni.

14 September 2011

František Alexander Elstner

**Designer:** Antonín Odehnal**Engraver:** Jaroslav Tvrdoň**Printing:** RD in sheets of 50**Design:** portrait of Elstner with his car against a background of sand dunes. Elstner (b Prague 11.4.1902 d Prague 8.9 1974) joined the Scout movement at 14 and became an active member for many years. He was also interested in motoring, setting up several motoring clubs and wrote for motoring magazines. Elstner went on several long distance test drives for cars. His activities were severely curtailed during the Communist regime.**FDC:** printed DS in blue-black with commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet drawing shows a car in the desert with a palm tree.

14 September 2011

Crafts: Historical Organs, Plasy

Designer: Pavel Dvorský**Engraver:** Jaroslav Tvrdoň**Printing:** multi-coloured offset in sheets of 50**Design:** a view of the organ in the Church of the Assumption of Our Lady in the Cistercian monastery at Plasy. It was built by the Czech organ builder Abraham Stark in 1688 with 29 registers. In the 18th and 20th centuries it was restored. From 2004 to 2006 it was restored and reconstructed to its original 1688 Baroque sound**FDC:** printed DS in dark brown with a commemorative Plasy cancel. The cachet drawing is a detail from the organ decoration of three angels playing instruments.

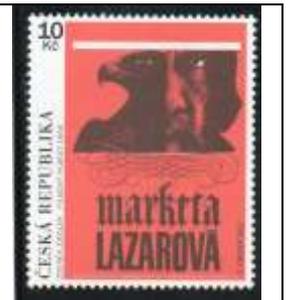
5 October 2011

World Post Day

**Designer:** Prof. Dušan Kállay**Linear drawing of stamp and engraver of FDC:** Miloš Ondráček**Printing:** multi-coloured offset with linear drawing in sheets of 35**Design:** a globe with flying pigeons holding letters and a herald blowing a trumpet. This annual event on 9 October commemorates the 1874 founding of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) whose original name was General Postal Union. The main aims of the UPU are to create uniform conditions for international mail services**FDC:** printed DS in black-violet with commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet drawing shows a winged horse flying through the clouds with a helmeted rider.

5 October 2011

Czech Film Posters: Une Femme Douce and Markéta Lazarová

Designer: Prof. Zdeněk Ziegler**Linear drawings and engraving of FDC:** Jindřich Faktor**Printing:** offset in sheets of 25**Une Femme Douce** – the film was produced in France in 1970. The poster was designed by the Czech painter and graphic artist Olga Poláčková. She was born in 1944, studied in Prague and has produced 76 film posters which have won a number of international awards**FDC:** printed DS in black with commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet drawing is from her husband's film poster for the Alfred Hitchcock film 'The Birds.'**Markéta Lazarová:** was a Czechoslovak film produced in 1966. The poster design was the work of Zdeněk Ziegler who was born in 1932. He began his career as a typographer and graphic designer and later designed books and film posters winning many awards for his work**FDC:** printed offset in black line drawing with ochre under-print and commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet drawing is from the poster for the film 'The Stolen Airship.'

5 October 2011

Definitive: Pat and Mat

**Designer:** Jan Chvojka**Printing:** multi-coloured offset in booklets of 10 self-adhesive stamps**Design:** The tinkers Pat and Mat from a popular TV series of bedtime stories for children. The characters are very clumsy but always have an optimistic outlook on life. The designer of the stamp has also written some of the scripts for the series. The booklet has a short text from the author on the inside and a picture of the two friends with a handcart containing parcels on the back**FDC:** printed offset with a commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet picture shows Pat and Mat driving a car

27 October 2011

Definitive: Gate with a Peacock

Designer: Karel Zeeman**Printing:** multi-coloured offset in sheets of 9 stamps and 12 labels**Design:** originally issued 26 January 2005 with face value 7.50 Kč (see Czechout No 1/2005 p22) Part of the sheet has blank labels for customer printing
No official FDC was issued.

27 October 2011

Definitive: Rose above Prague

**Designer:** Karel Zeeman**Printing:** multi-coloured offset in sheets of 9 stamps and 12 labels**Design:** originally issued on 26 March 2003 with face value of 6.40 Kč and in different colours (see Czechout No 2/2003 p59). Part of the sheet has blank labels for customer use
No official FDC was issued

9 October 2011

Works of Art on Stamps

Designers: taken from original art works**Engravers:** Vaclav Fajt (24 Kč); Miloš Ondráček (26 Kč) and Martin Srb (30 Kč)**Printing:** DS in sheets of 4. FDCs printed DS**24 Kč:** 'Lovers' (1965) by Jaroslav Vožniak (1933 – 2005). The work is in the Central Bohemian Gallery. Vožniak was a painter, lithographer and graphic artist experimenting with many different art styles**FDC:** printed in green with commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet design is a detail taken from the artist's series of paintings entitled 'Birds'**26 Kč:** 'Woman in Maize Field' (1910) by Josef Uprka (1861 – 1940). The original work is in the Joža Uprka Gallery. He was a painter and graphic artist working mainly in south Moravia where he painted the life, costumes, folk traditions of peasants and surrounding countryside**FDC:** printed in dark green with commemorative Veselí nad Moravou cancel. The cachet drawing is from Uprka's work with the title 'Man with a Jug'

30 Kč: 'Winter Landscape' (19th century) by August Bedřich Piepenhagen (1791 – 1868). The painting is in the Kodl Gallery. He originally came from Germany but settled in Prague as a master button maker although he was always interested in painting. He was a recognised landscape painter and sold many of his works although the income was insufficient to support his family.
FDC: printed in black with commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet design is from the artist's work 'Castle Ruin in the Forest'



9 November 2011

Definitive: Christmas



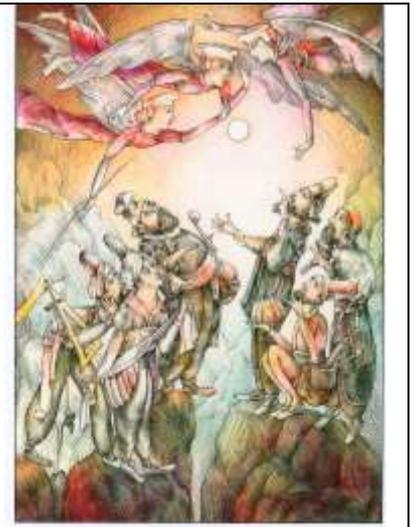
Designer: Prof. Dušan Kállay
Engraver: Miloš Ondráček
Printing: multi-coloured offset in sheets of 50
Design: the Nativity with Mary, Joseph, infant Jesus and the animals.
 No official FDC was issued.

Postal Stationery

Picture Postcard

14 September 2011 Christmas

Designer: Prof. Dušan Kállay
Linear drawing and engraving: Miloš Ondráček
Printing: multi-coloured offset
Design: the front of the card shows a group of craftsmen from Bethlehem looking into the sky at the bright star and angels heralding the birth of Jesus. It was based on the illustrations by the designer from a picture book 'The Christmas Fairy Story or Three Questions' from an original story by Lev Nikolayevich Tolstoy. The reverse of the card has an imprinted 'A' NVI stamp imprint with the same design as the definitive stamp issued 9 November 2011 (see above for details). To the left of the stamp is the Czech Post logo and a security hologram. The first line of the address is a continuous microprint 'Czech Post PTC, 2011'
 Retail price 12 Kč.

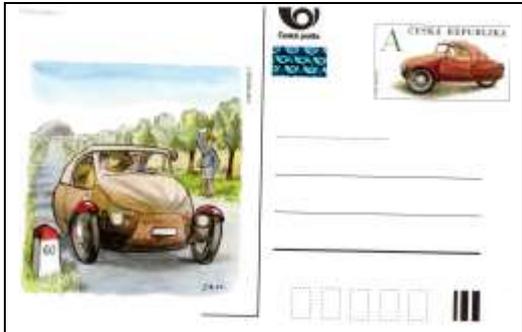


Commemorative Postcards

The following cards have the Czech Post logo and a security hologram to the left of the stamp imprint. The first address line is a continuous microprint 'Czech Post PTC 2011' Printing is multi-coloured offset.

31 August 2011

60th Anniversary of the Production of the Minicar 'Velorex.'

	<p>Designer: Jiří Bouda</p> <p>Design: imprinted 'A' NVI stamp with a picture of the three wheeled minicar.. The left portion of the card is illustrated with a 'Velorex' minicar on a country road passing a bollard with '60' on it</p> <p>Retail price 15 Kč.</p>
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31 August 2011

Czech Forest in Israel

Designer: Aleš Najbrt

Design: imprinted 'Z' NVI stamp in green with small white stars and inscription in Czech 'Czech Forest in Israel' The left portion of the card has a square of evenly spaced 7 x 7 green six pointed stars symbolising the Jewish Nation. After the establishment of the State of Israel, Czechoslovakia wished to found and finance a forest in the Negev Desert. The first planting was eventually begun in 2005

Retail price 26 Kč.

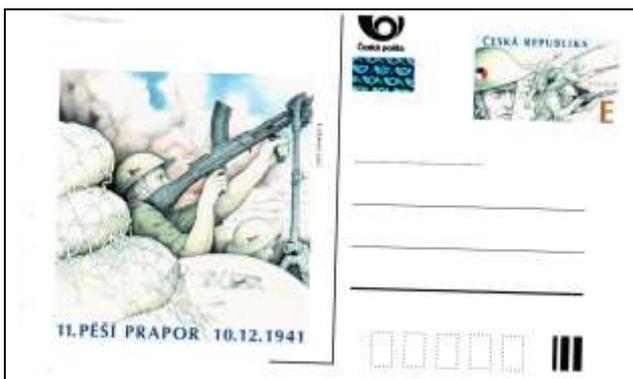
5 October 2011

First Czech-Slovak Exhibition at Vysoké Mýto

<p>Designer: (stamp) Prof Zdeněk Ziegler; (cachet) Organising Committee of the Exhibition</p> <p>Design: imprinted 'E' NVI stamp showing Mucha's work 'Morning Star' (issued on a postcard 23 June 2010, see Czechout 3/2010 p90). The left portion of the card has the logo of the Exhibition with the logos of the Union of Czech Philatelists and Union of Slovak Philatelists. A detail from a War Memorial completes the design</p> <p>Retail price 25 Kč.</p>	
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9 November 2011

The Battle of Tobruk

	<p>Designer: Karel Zemun</p> <p>Design: imprinted 'E' NVI stamp imprint showing soldiers firing from a barricade and a soldier with Czech national colours on his helmet. The left portion shows two Czech soldiers firing from a concealed position. The Czech 11th Infantry Battalion (East) was involved in the north African battle between October and December 1941</p> <p>Retail price 21 Kč.</p>
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Promotional Postcards

The following cards have an imprinted 'A' NVI stamp showing a posthorn. This was first issued 20 January 2011 (see Czechout 1/2011 p19).

31 August 2011. Sběratel 2011. 14th International Collectors' Fair. Held 8 -10 September in Prague.

31 August 2011. 90th Anniversary of the Philetalic Club of Jindřichův Hradec. Left portion of card has a post coach drawn by two horses within a stamp outline and relevant texts in Czech.

Slovakia

2 September 2011

23rd Biennial of Illustrations Bratislava 2011

Designer: Vladislav Rostoka

Printing: offset – Heidelberg Speedmaster

Design: an illustration from the book 'Tracy's Tiger' by Martina Matlovičová-Králová which won the Golden Apple prize in 2009

FDC: printed offset with commemorative Bratislava cancel. The cachet design is from another book illustration. The BIB Is an international competition held every two years in Bratislava for contemporary illustrations of children's books.



22 September 2011

Personalities: Michal Miloslav Hodža



Designer: Ivan Schurmann

Engravers: Rudolf Cigánik (stamp); Vierošlav Ondrejčka (FDC cachet)

Printing: RD

Design: portrait of Michal Miloslav Hodža (1811-1870).

After completing studies in Bratislava & Wien he spent most of his life as a Lutheran priest at Liptovský Mikuláš. During the 1830's he met many of the activists in the Slovak national movement. He promoted the cultural, linguistic and educational rights of Slovaks throughout his life

FDC: printed DS by Peter Trokan with commemorative Bratislava cancel. Cachet drawing is a collage of the church where he was pastor surrounded by motifs representing his contribution to the development of the nation.

14 October 2011

Nature Protection: Great Bustard

Designer and Engraver: Rudolf Cigánik

Printing: DS in sheets of 4 stamps with decorative surround

Design: a male Great Bustard displaying before a female. The decorative surround has a typical ground nest with eggs, young chicks and various plants which are the food of the bird. In blue at the foot of the sheet is the text 'SOS/Bird Life Slovensko'

FDC: printed DS by Peter Trokan The Great Bustard (*Otis tarda*) is a protected species throughout Europe and one of the heaviest flying birds. It was originally a bird of the Steppes but with increased agricultural and human activity declined rapidly. The Slovak population lives in two protected areas in the Danube Lowland.



11 November 2011

Christmas 2011: Folk Traditions



Designer: Marianna Varcholová
Engraver: (FDC cachet only) L'ubomír Žalec
Printing: offset – Heidelberg Speedmaster
Design: a traditional iced honey cake in the shape of a fish on a green background with stars
FDC: DS by Peter Trokan. The cachet design is a bell with a ribbon representing another traditional motif.

Postal Stationery

Promotional Postcards

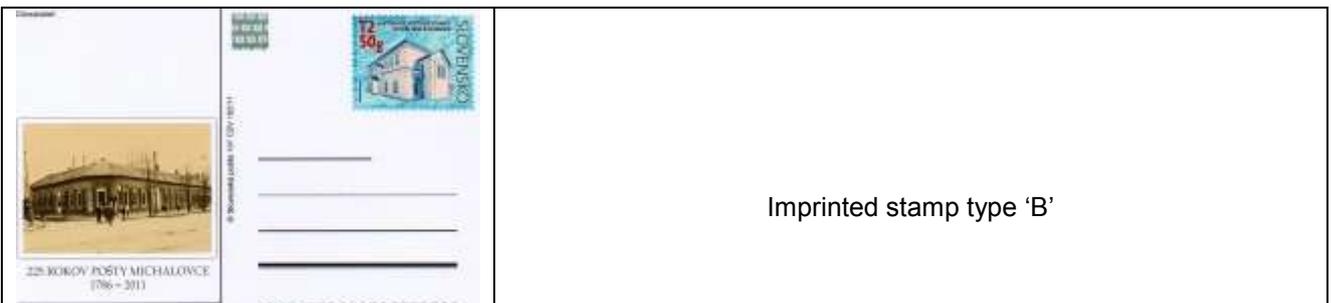
The following cards have an imprinted stamp and retail at 0.50 Euros, the cachet designs are by Adrian Ferda :on yellow background with seal of Trnava

- on light blue background and drawing of the historic Post Station Stráže nad Zvolnom
- on brown/grey background with a ceramic decorated plate from Pozdišovce

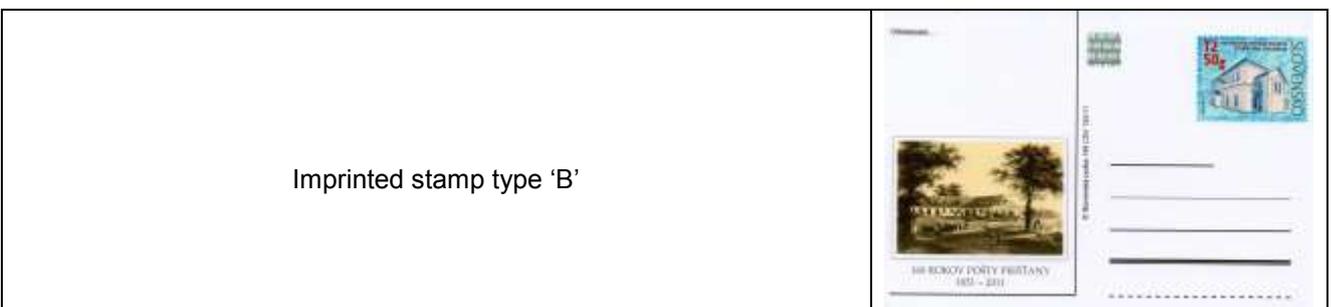
3 June 2011 (193 CDV 179/11) Bratislava Collectors Days 2011. Imprinted stamp type 'A'. Cachet has a hand canceller and text of the event (3 – 4 June 2011).

28 July 2011 (196 CDV 179/11) PhilaNippon '11. Imprinted stamp type 'A' The event was held in Yokohama from 28 July to 2 August 2011.

19 August 2011 (197 CDV 192/11) 225th Anniversary of Michalovce Post Office



3 September 2011 (198 CDV 192/11) 160th Anniversary of the Piešťany Post Office



6 September 2011 (199 CDV 192/11) World Championships in Wild-water Canoeing. Imprinted stamp type 'B' The event was held from 6 to 11 September 2011.

8 September 2011 (200 CDV 148/11) Collectors' Fair Prague. Imprinted stamp type 'C' The Fair was held 8 – 10 September 2011 in Prague.