



UNOstamps Newsletter

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edited by Maxim van Ooijen

Introduction

This is the twelfth issue of the UNOstamps Newsletter. It contains the newest additions to the UNOstamps website, news from the UN and the monthly quiz. There is also room for your comments.

Don't hesitate to give me your opinion on the Newsletter. Please send in comments, suggestions or even compliments. Remember you don't have to wait for the next issue to visit UNOstamps at www.unostamps.nl.

I was hoping to give you a longer Newsletter, but things turned out differently. The president of our local historical society died suddenly at the age of 79 and the rest of the board (including myself) is busy with changing addresses, answering letters, updating records, etc.

A question for you, reader of the Newsletter...

This twelfth issue completes the first year of the UNOstamps Newsletter. So it is time for some evaluation. I could really use your opinion. At the moment there are 80 subscribers and I would like to know what you think.

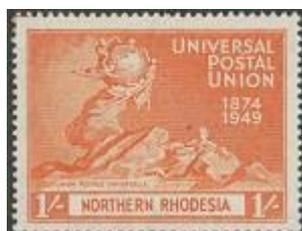
Should the Newsletter change? Once every two months? More news? Less news? No quiz? A more difficult quiz? Or should nothing change?
Please tell me at info@unostamps.nl.

New additions to UNOstamps in June 2008

Four new countries on the website this month. Actually they are 'old' countries, because they don't exist anymore. Because of all the international rumour about Zimbabwe I chose for some stamps from Southern Africa.

Ciskei

The homeland of Ciskei was made 'independent' by South Africa in 1981. As with the other three homelands it was not recognized internationally. The stamps of Ciskei are still in many stamp collections, including mine. Stamps for the International Youth Year and International Space Year are on the website.



Northern Rhodesia

The protectorate of Northern Rhodesia was one of the many British possessions in Africa. After being part of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland it became independent in 1964 as Zambia. Only one series on the site: the 'usual' UPU 75th anniversary issue.

Southern Rhodesia

It can't be an enormous surprise that Southern Rhodesia was just south of Northern Rhodesia. Also part of the Federation, it became Southern Rhodesia again in 1964 and Rhodesia in 1965. For this country there is also the UPU 75th anniversary series. However, this is the only series that does not have four stamps, but two.



Rhodesia

When Rhodesia changed its name it wanted to be independent as well. As it did not happen fast enough it declared itself a Sovereign Dominion with Elizabeth II as Queen of Rhodesia. In 1970 the country became a republic. After a decade of international isolation and internal struggle the country became Zimbabwe in 1980. There are three series in the collection.

Quick links to all new additions can be found on the page 'New on this website'.

Recent finds

This month not a stamp but a nice small envelope (11,5 x 7,5 cm) with a special UNESCO postmark that I bought recently. It is from a conference for the protection of art treasures in war time, that was held in the Peace Palace from 21 April to 12 May 1954.

The extra date stamp next to the special postmark is there because of a Dutch PTT rule that existed to, I think, somewhere in the 1990s. If the special postmark mentioned a period of two or more days, a 'normal' postmark had to be placed next to it to show on what date the stamp was cancelled.



United Nations News

San Marino 'dynamic contributor' to UN's work, says Secretary-General

6 June 2008 - Stressing that the reach of San Marino goes far beyond its size, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon today hailed the numerous contributions made by the small European nation to the work of the United Nations in fields ranging from the rights of the disabled to reform of the world body.

"San Marino is an excellent example of indispensable role played by small States," Mr. Ban said in a video message for an event on San Marino and international organizations.

"It is often among them that the United Nations - and its Secretary-General - can find the surest and most consistent support," he added.

Mr. Ban noted that as Chairman of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, San Marino spearheaded a "vibrant" campaign to end violence against women, and thereby provided support for his own campaign on the same subject.



The country was also among the first countries to sign and ratify the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its Optional Protocol, he said, pointing out that "this is a landmark instrument and the latest in long list of human rights conventions that San Marino has joined."

In addition, last year, the European nation organized an important event on Religions for Peace and Development with panellists representing the world's great religions, highlighting the priority the country gives to the religious dimension of the intercultural dialogue.

Mr. Ban also noted that San Marino - a "driving force" on UN reform - has co-facilitated the important working group on revitalizing the General Assembly.

"The country is a dynamic contributor to the work of the United Nations, and an eloquent advocate of human rights, development and peace," the Secretary-General said.

(source: United Nations Press Release)

Quiz

The eleventh quiz was easier than last month, because eleven people from nine different countries sent in an answer. The question was: where is this stamp from?

One contestant answered Netherlands. The right answer, however, is **Netherlands Antilles**.

The stamp was issued for the International Year of Sport and Physical Education 2005.

And the winner is: **José Cura from Portugal**.

The mint stamps are already in the mail.



Well, it is July and in the Netherlands the summer holidays start. It is time to leave your home and visit the south of France, Italy or some tropical island. On this stamp from one of the 72 countries on the website you see a beautiful island somewhere in a warm and blue ocean. I have erased the name of the issuing country.

The question is:

where is this stamp from?

E-mail your answer to info@unostamps.nl before 31 July 2008. All correct answers will be entered in the draw. The lucky winner will receive a special philatelic prize.

The prize consists of mint stamps from Falkland Islands (International Year for Human Rights), Papua New Guinea (International Year of the Child), San Marino (World Food Day 1981), Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (International Year of Peace) and Zambia (Child Survival and Development Revolution).



These beautiful stamps can be yours! Good luck! You can see the complete prize on the website.



United Nations Agenda July 2008

11 World Population Day



Visitors count

Up to 30 June 2008 UNOstamps has been seen by 1.318 visitors other than myself. 13 of these visitors came from an unknown country. There was no visitors from new countries, so the total stays at 94 countries. In 2008 people from 75 countries have already passed by the website. The top ten countries are (between brackets the results of 31 May 2008):

1. (1)	United States	239	6. (6)	United Kingdom	62
2. (2)	Netherlands	169	7. (7)	Germany	52
3. (3)	France	105	8. (8)	Lithuania	45
4. (4)	India	95	9. (9)	Belgium	36
5. (5)	Canada	63	10. (10)	Italy	30

Next issue

Newsletter nr. 12 will be issued on 6 August 2008. If you have a comment that you would like to share with the other readers, please send it before 31 July 2008. To unsubscribe from the Newsletter, just send an e-mail to info@unostamps.nl with the subject 'unsubscribe'.

