



UNOstamps Newsletter

nr. 20 - June 2009

issued by UNOstamps - Netherlands
edited by Maxim van Ooijen

Introduction

This is the twentieth issue of the UNOstamps Newsletter. It contains the newest additions to the UNOstamps website 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. And leave a message in the guestbook while you're there.

Five weeks

Although the last Newsletter was issued in May and this one in June, they are actually almost five weeks apart. These five weeks have given me the chance to get my collection in order. I have put all new stamps and sheets in the right place in my albums and I have bought a lot of new additions for my collections.

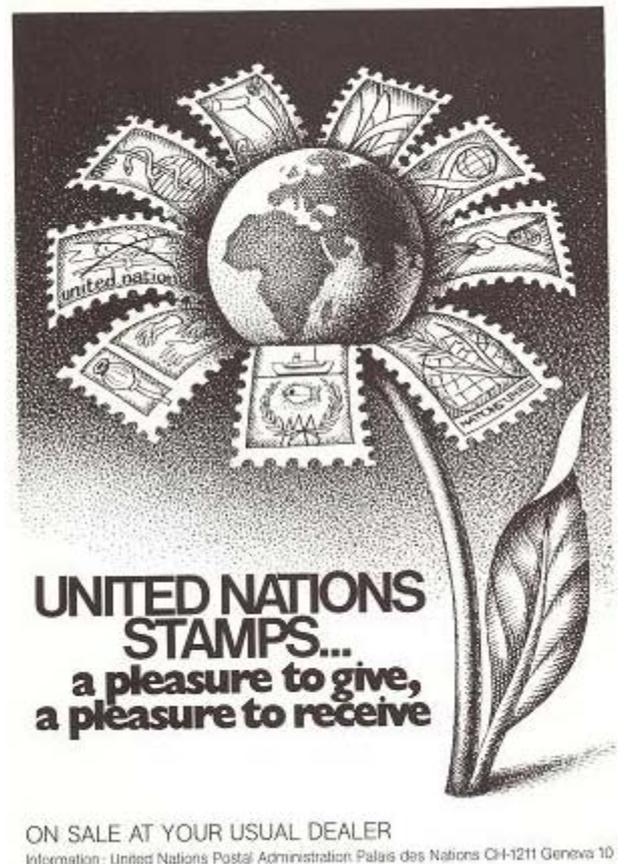
Now my collection has grown to some 7.500 series, souvenir sheets, small sheets, post cards, envelopes, booklets and other items. On top of that I have hundreds of first day covers, special postmarks, presentation packs and philatelic souvenirs. Those I still have to catalogue, because I really don't know any more what I have bought over the years.

In the Newsletter of June you will find the latest additions to the website. One nice addition is the advertisement you see here. It was in the catalogue of a stamp exhibition from 1979 that I bought through the internet. I have more catalogues like that somewhere in my collection of books. Maybe they have UNPA advertisements in them as well. If they do, you will see them appear on the website.

Of course there is a new quiz this month. Try to find the answer and win some nice UN related stamps!

I'm still very busy with all sorts of other activities, so unfortunately this Newsletter contains no UN news. I hope to share some with you in the next edition.

I hope you enjoy reading the Newsletter. And don't forget to visit the website! (And the Guestbook.)



Advertisement from the United Nations Postal Administration in the catalogue of the stamp exhibition Amsterphila 1979 in Amsterdam.

New additions to UNOstamps in May-June 2009

Three new countries were added to the website since the last Newsletter, bringing the total to 83 countries. Also there is a new magazine, two new books, a new UNPA Blue card and lots of new stamps from Belgium. There is one new comment and I have received three new awards for my website.

Furthermore I have checked all links in the country pages to make sure there are no dead links. Also the three links-pages (general, philatelic and personal) have been checked and updated.

Spanish Sahara

In 1884, Spain claimed a protectorate over the West African coast from Cape Bojador to Cap Blanc. Later, the Spanish extended their area of control. In 1958 Spain joined the previously separate districts of Saguia el-Hamra (in the north) and Río de Oro (in the south) to form the province of Spanish Sahara. Since the departure of the Spanish in 1975, the territory has been disputed and it is still one of the unsolved problems for the United Nations. Only one stamp with a UN theme was issued, for the centenary of the UPU in 1974.



Reunion

In the 1640s, Réunion was occupied by the French, displacing the Portuguese, who in 1513 had been the first European arrivals on the island. The island became prosperous during the 18th century. Réunion was ruled as a colony until 1946 when it was granted the status of an Overseas Department of France, under which it is an integral part of the French State. Only one stamp with a UN theme was issued, for the centenary of the UPU in 1974.

British Indian Ocean Territory

In 1965 the British Indian Ocean Territory, in the heart of the Indian Ocean, was formed comprising the six island groups in the Chagos Archipelago, formerly administered by Mauritius, and three island groups purchased from the Seychelles: Aldabra Islands, Farquhar Islands and Desroches Islands. When Seychelles became independent in 1976 the purchased islands were returned. BIOT since then only consists of the Chagos Archipelago with Diego Garcia as its main island. The other islands of Chagos are uninhabited. Only one series with a UN theme has been issued until today, for the International Year of the Ocean 1998.



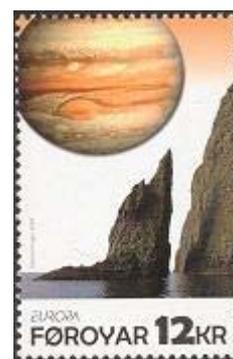
New stamps

I have added the latest stamps from Belgium and Faroe Islands. Also there is the image of a small sheet from Slovakia, that was still missing from my collection. Fortunately I could buy at from the Slovak Post at the Briefmarkenmesse in Essen. These stamps are new to the website:

Belgium: Institute of Tropical Medicine Antwerp (stamp and small sheet, 2006), Queen Fabiola (souvenir sheet, 2008), Universal Declaration of Human Rights 60th anniversary (stamp and small sheet, 2008), Lily Boeykens (stamp and small sheet), International Year of Astronomy (souvenir sheet, 2009), World Heritage (souvenir sheet, 2009). In the League of Nations section there is a new stamp for Marthe Boël (issued together with the stamp for Lily Boeykens).

Faroe Islands: International Year of Astronomy (stamps, 2009).

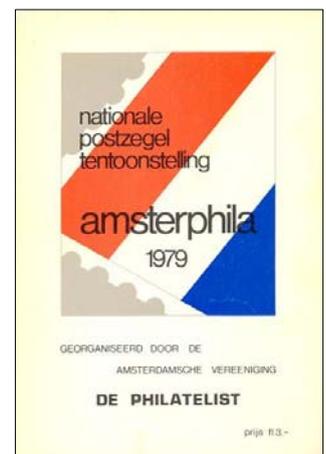
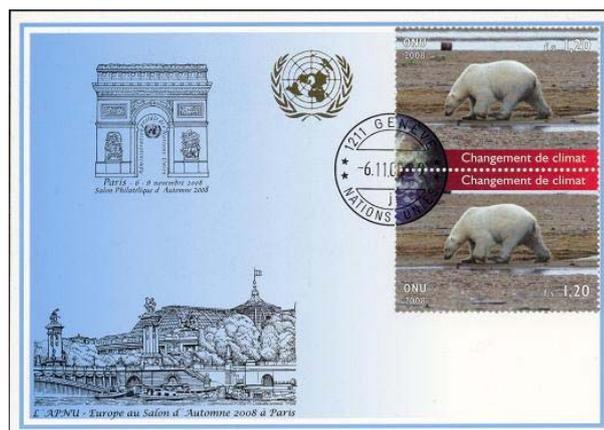
Slovakia: Solidarity with Asia (small sheet, 2005).





New book, magazine and Blue card

Newly added to the website are the catalogue for the Amsterphila 79 stamp exhibition in Amsterdam, the latest issue of The Journal of UNPI (nr. 190) and the Blue card for the Salon Philatélique d'Automne in Paris, November 2008.



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

Quiz

For the nineteenth quiz I had to send all readers a reminder. This helped. A record number of twenty-two people from thirteen countries sent in an answer. The question was: what International Year is this stamp for? Two contestants gave the wrong answer. The right answer, however, is International Book Year. The stamp was issued by Belgium in 1972.



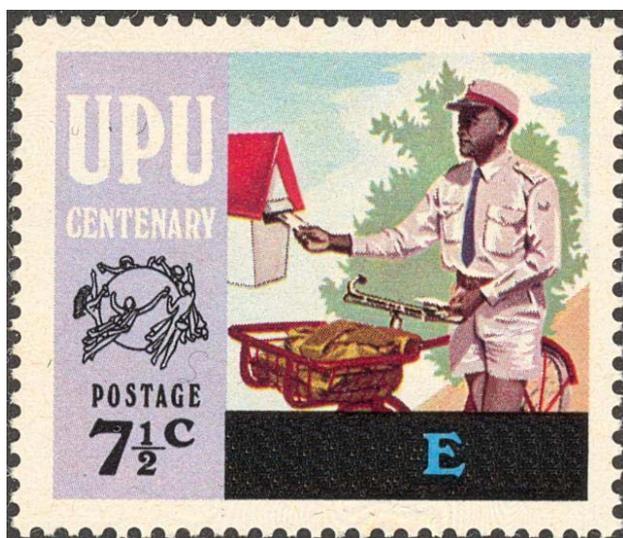
And the winner is: **Rammy Molcho** from Israel. The mint stamps are already in the mail.

In 1874 the Universal Postal Union was founded during a conference in Berne, Switzerland. That means that in 2009 the UPU is 135 years young.

One stamp (from one of the 83 countries currently on the website) issued for the Universal Postal Union is shown here. I have erased the name of the country almost completely.

The very easy question is:

where is this stamp from?



E-mail your answer to info@unostamps.nl before **30 July 2009**. All correct answers will be entered in the draw. The lucky winner will receive a special philatelic prize. The prize consists of stamps dedicated to the UPU and Heinrich von Stephan from **United Nations Geneva, Universal Postal Union, Cambodia, Netherlands Antilles and Nicaragua**. All these can be yours! Good luck! You can see the complete prize on the website.

United Nations Agenda June-July 2009

1	June	World Milk Day
4		International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression
5		World Environment Day
12		World Day Against Child Labour
17		World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought
20		World Refugee Day
23		United Nations Public Service Day
26		International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking
26		United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture
11	July	World Population Day

Visitors count

Up to 31 May 2009 UNOstamps has been seen by 1065 visitors other than myself. 41 of these visitors came from an unknown country. In 2009 people from 68 countries have passed by the website.

The top ten countries are (between brackets the results of 28 February 2009):

1. (1)	France	151	6. (6)	Belgium	61
2. (2)	United States	117	7. (7)	Canada	41
3. (3)	Netherlands	110	8. (9)	Germany	31
4. (4)	United Kingdom	106	9. (8)	Italy	29
5. (5)	India	70	10. (10)	Bangladesh	23

One reader asked me if this top ten will change in the near future. Well, I think that the first four countries will stay ahead of the rest. Although, the last two years most visitors came from the United States. This year surprisingly France has a clear lead. So anything can happen.

What you can't see is that the position of Bangladesh in the top ten is not yet certain. The country is closely followed by Malaysia, Spain and Lithuania.

If you want your country to get into or remain in the top ten, the only thing you'll have to do is visit www.unostamps.nl. As the French say: simple comme bonjour!

Next issue

Newsletter nr. 21 will be issued on 5 August 2009. If you have a comment that you would like to share with the other readers, please send it before 30 July 2009. To unsubscribe from the Newsletter, just send an e-mail to info@unostamps.nl with the subject 'unsubscribe'.