



# CZECHOUT

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Editor: Tony Moseley

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Vol. 29/3	CONTENTS	September 2011
	News and Notices	48
	Abstracts of Publications – Colin W Spong	52
	Report on Joint Societies Meeting Bradford – Roger Morrell	53
	Stolen Rarities – Hans Klein	55
	Midpex 2011 – Tony Moseley	56
	Horní Bříza 1945 – Bob Hill	57
	Czechoslovakia Grand Prix – Dr. Garth A Taylor	59
	The Editor's Choice – Německý Brod, 8.5.1945	63
	New Issues (Czech)	64
	New Issues (Slovak)	66

Welcome to my third edition of **Czechout**.

Already the autumn leaves are falling and the September issue of *Czechout* is here. In this issue, we cover a variety of subjects, including Garth Taylor's research on Brno Grand Prix, plus reviews on new publications, alongside our regular features.

Don't forget our next London meeting will be the AGM on **Saturday 5 November** at 12 noon. In the afternoon **Norman Hudson** will display **Alfons Mucha** and **The Tatra Mountains of Slovakia**. This will be at our normal venue at the Czech and Slovak National Club in West Hampstead.

The first London meeting of 2012 will be on **14 January**. Members are invited to bring along up to 24 sheets.

The following **Saturday 21 January** will be a joint meeting with the Austrian Philatelic Society at York Racecourse. Ask Yvonne Wheatley (contact information opposite) for details.

**Tony Moseley** (*Editor*)

Following our recent meeting held elsewhere, our London meetings will now revert to our normal venue: the Czech & Slovak National Club, 74 West End Lane, West Hampstead, NW6 2LX.

**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****Society Weekend in York, 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> July 2011**

-Tony Hickey-

Members of the Society, wives and friends met in the Knavesmire Manor Hotel in York for what turned out to be a wonderful weekend. The Hotel was excellent, the food superb and the company scintillating. Our weekend started on the Friday with a visit to the York Stamp Fair, probably the best Stamp Fair in the United Kingdom, with British, Dutch and German dealers. In the evening Yvonne welcomed us to the Society Weekend which was followed by a magnificent meal. Later over coffee in the lounge we were able to informally discuss our day's acquisitions.

On the following day after breakfast, the programme started with a display by Edward Klempka on the Czech Army in Siberia and the Ukraine in the 1<sup>st</sup> World War and mail from Czechs in exile during the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War. We were informed that the Czech Army in Russia consisted of ex-prisoners of war that were recruited, under very favourable terms, to guard the railways against insurgents of the Red Army. We were treated to a vibrant display of stamps; covers; censored mail and vignettes, much of which was very rare indeed. In the second half Edward introduced us to mail to and from the Czech Army in exile, with again some fabulous material, much of which we have never seen before. We all agreed that fine Edwards display was supplemented with clear precise descriptions of his material, coupled with wonderful anecdotes of the times. After a resounding show of appreciation by our members, Brian Day gave a vote of thanks.

After coffee there was a "Workshop on Literature". Members could discuss books and/or websites that they had found useful. It was obvious from the outset that most of us thirst for knowledge on our chosen subject but we don't first see if the Society Library has the information that we desire. This was borne out by our librarian Lindy Bosworth who has very few requests to borrow books from the society's very extensive collection. Several of our members had brought with them books that they had found interesting with subjects that included the Hapsburg Monarchy until 1912, Czech Airmails of 1930, Munich 1938, Pre Stamp Austria, Czech Postal Rates of 1950, The German Occupation of Austria 1938, Czech and Slovak Catalogues, A Map of Hungarian Military Districts and Airmail Monthly Magazines. Without fail all of us thought that this was a very useful seminar.

After lunch entries for the George Pearson Trophy and the Francis Pettit Salver were mounted and later secretly scored by those present.

This was followed by members' displays which included The Apple Tree of Gablonz, Space Research, postage Dues, The Czech Army in Exile in WW2, Postal Stationery pre 1900, Jasina, the Last Outpost of Czechoslovakia, Slovakia 1939-45 Postal Stationery, Some Aspects of Slovakia, 1934 Postal Stationery, Slogan Cancels, Civil Censors of Moravia 1914-18, 3 Colour Cancels, Hradčany and lastly the 1<sup>st</sup> Republic. As you can see there was a wonderful array of subjects.

After a sumptuous dinner Colin Spong gave us the Bill Dawson Memorial Lecture. Colin entertained us with graphic descriptions of people that he has met during his time editing our Monographs. His clear imagery along with photographs and quotes brought to life many of the characters that most of us had only heard about. It was a really good talk and I for one would love to hear it again.

In the morning of our last day Keith Brandon was invited to talk on how to decipher early Austrian pre-stamp covers. This was a scintillating talk which aroused those little grey cells. Keith brought to life pre-stamp covers that, in his words, look rather uninteresting. This is mainly due to us not being able to read the old German writing. Keith took us through how to decipher the script, with the aid of a list of the old German alphabet, how to identify the sender by studying of the seal on the reverse, to recognise the area that the letter was sent to and the precipitant. Keith's display and presentation was so interesting he brought this little known area of collecting into a new light.

Keith's talk was followed by two more members' displays of Postal Censorship in Czechoslovakia in the Munich Crisis and Olomouc.

Yvonne then announced the winners of the two competitions as follows:

**The George Pearson Trophy**                      **Tony Moseley** for his display of Provisional German Propaganda Cancels, Postcards and Local Overprints from the Glass-Making Region of Northern Bohemia – October 1938.

**The Francis Pettit Salver**                      **Richard Wheatley** for War Hero Stamps of 1945–1948.

Yvonne's last task on the Sunday morning was to thank us all for supporting this residential weekend and to wish us all a safe journey home. In return those present thanked her and Richard profoundly for organising such a successful and enjoyable weekend.

### **The George Pearson Trophy and Francis Pettit Salver Competitions held at our York Weekend 2011**

Yvonne Wheatley

I am delighted to report that both competitions met with good support. There were six entries for the Trophy competition and three for the Salver. As the number of entries required for the competition to be valid is now three, both competitions could be held.

**Tony Moseley** was the worthy winner of the George Pearson Trophy with his entry *Provisional German Propaganda Cancels, Postcards and Local Overprints from the glass-making region of Northern Bohemia – October 1938*.

I am particularly pleased that Tony won as he supported both competitions last time they were held, but as he was the only entry in the Salver competition, that competition could not be held.

The winner of the Francis Pettit Salver was **Richard Wheatley** with *War Hero Stamps 1945–1948*.

All the entries were of a high standard and I hope those members who were not successful this time will enter again. It will be good to receive even more entries in 2013.

I would also like to congratulate **Roy Reader** for winning the Bill Dawson Literature Award 2009 – 2010 with his worthy article *The 1944 CSR Overprints on French Stamps* *Czechout 2/2010* page 47.

#### **Congratulations to:**

**Les Percy**, who won the Social Class for his entry *Thomas Garrigue Masaryk, The First President of Czechoslovakia* in the Phoenix Trophy Competition, an inter-society competition, where he represented Matlock.

**Jan Verlag**, who was awarded the Silver Society Pin by the Society of Czechoslovak Philately in the Netherlands to honour him for devoting his knowledge and experience to the Society.

**Bill Hedley**, who entered HUNFILA, a Hungarian exhibition with participation from the neighbouring countries plus a few foreign exhibits, and whose entry, *Postal Service Development in Hungary before 1900, with special reference to Pozsony and its environs*, won a Gold Medal and a special prize, a huge vase. His next goal is to extend it to eight frames and we wish him every success with his endeavours.

On Saturday 15 October 2011 **Bob Hill** will be delivering a lecture entitled **Revolutionary Issues 1944 – 1945** to the Postal History Society of the Czech Republic at Vysoké Mýto Regional Museum. This is part of the first Czech – Slovak Philatelic Exhibition referred to in *Czechout* 1/2011 page 3. It is a great credit to our Society to have been asked to deliver this lecture.

**Lubor Kunc**, the Chairman of the Postal History Society of Czechoslovakia, will be speaking at the same event on the subject of **Field Post of Czechoslovak Forces in France, GB and Czechoslovakia 1944 – 1945**.

We wish both our members every success with their deliberations which we are sure will be well received.

Our Application Form for Membership has been translated and will be included in the programme of the day's events.

The Editor would like to apologise for an error appearing in the last issue of *Czechout*. I stated that Richard Wheatley had won the **Aero Philatelic Shield**. This should in fact have read **Richard Beith**.

My humble apologies to both gentlemen (Ed.)

Congratulations to **Garth Taylor** on winning the **Barlow Trophy** for the best display by a member of Loughborough Philatelic Society during the 2010 – 2011 season.

Garth has also been appointed President of the Loughborough Philatelic Society for 2011 – 2012.

### Reminder

We have been invited to join in the celebrations of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the foundation of the Hungarian Society for Czechoslovak Philately in Budapest on 8 October 2011. Full details appear in *Czechout* 2/2011 at page 24. One of our members is interested in attending and would like another member of our Society to join him as a travelling companion. If you are interested please contact the Chairman.

### Czechoslovak First Republic Machine slogan cancels

**Steven Friedenthal** a member of the Society for Czechoslovak Philately in America, has prepared a booklet illustrating the machine cancels used during the First Republic. Hopefully our webmaster will be able to put the booklet on our website.

We are grateful to Mr. Friedenthal for making the information available to us and in exchange he hopes that our members may be able to add further information.

Hard copies are available at nominal cost plus postage. Details from the Chairman.

### New members

**Yvonne Gren** informs us that the Society has recruited several new members, during the last few months. A warm welcome to:

**Vaclav (John) Adamec** from Llantwit Major, Vale of Glamorgan

**Nicholas G.M. Coverdale** of Whitehaven, Cumbria

**Roger H. Green** of Ratlinghope, Shrewsbury

**Jeremy Griffiths** of Wincanton, Somerset

**David Venables** of Oldbury, West Midlands

**John Leonard Whiteside**  
**9.1.1939 – 23.5.2011**

Colin W Spong

It was with sadness that I heard of John's death; we had been friends for many years since we first met at the Leicester 1975 Philatelic Congress of Great Britain. I think it was the fact that when he discovered I had been in the RAF in Driffield and used to go into Bridlington at weekends. A chance remark that a family who had welcomed me into their home, had introduced me to a good friend of theirs, the local chemist Mr Maynard Whiteside, cemented our friendship.



John was a single man, who lived on his own terms and was Yorkshire through and through. Apart from Yorkshire County Cricket Club, there were two other important sides to John's life: his family and his abiding passion for philately.

John was born in Bridlington on 9 January, 1939, the son of Maynard and Ivy Whiteside. He and his younger brother, Peter, were brought up in this attractive seaside resort and John attended Bridlington Boys Grammar School. From an early age, he demonstrated a ready felicity with numbers and he went on to concentrate on science subjects and to read Chemistry at Manchester University. He specialised in the extraction of gas from coal and, on graduating, worked as an engineer in Birmingham. As the impact of the discovery of North Sea Gas changed the nature of the industry's supply network, John's mathematical skills once again came into play and he became a works study specialist at an engineering firm in Leeds, living first in Harrogate and later Leeds. By the end of his career, he was an acknowledged expert in pension and redundancy arrangements, the essential person to retain in a constantly downsizing firm.

He had an encyclopaedic knowledge of history, postal history, rates and many aspects of what some people call the back of the book collecting. He jointly authored significant papers and was generous with helping many with their queries with great detail and accuracy. John could be single minded, stubborn but admirable with it. He did not always suffer fools gladly, but would always come up with an answer to their questions. He formed a number of significant collections including Afghanistan, Danzig, Sudetenland Commercial mail, India Revenues, French Bureaux de Passe; and was a member of many societies over the years, Czechoslovak PS, France & Colonies, Germany & Colonies, India Study Circle but gradually in the last years he concentrated on interests with the Austria PS, Hungarian PS and Revenue Society apart from being a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society and the Society of Postal Historians

For many years he used to drive his Robin Reliant down to Sussex and stay with Pat and myself combining it with many displays, until ill health forced him to give up driving. John's death was quite sudden. Although his health was failing in his last year, he was still able to attend the Society of Postal Historians conference at Buxton as recently as late April. His death from a heart attack was unexpected and, perhaps mercifully, without an overlong period of suffering. So that I shall miss those monthly phone calls, made on his terms, he liked to use his BT weekend slot!

I thank John's nephew Andrew Whiteside for kindly letting me use some of the early details of John's life

### **A Note from your Auction Secretary – Peter Williams**

A member's recent comment has prompted me to remind all members that there is a range of services available to you all before and after each auction.

I prefer to look at items before bidding for them. There is a risk that bidding for an item "unseen" may result in the receipt of an item that was something other than you thought. The item may be defective or not exactly what you wanted.

You can contact me by e-mail, phone or letter to request details of any lots that interest you. Contact details are in Czechout (the inside front cover) and on the internet. I can send colour scans by e-mail free of charge, or by post for a nominal charge. Try to avoid the last couple of days before the auction as I plan to complete a draft "sort" so that the Friday is devoted to packing and posting - the most time consuming activity. This allows me to send the items to everyone on Friday so that you can receive them on Saturday - Post Office deliveries willing (that means you Wombourne Post Office).

In the past I have selected a number of higher valued items for scans. For the last auction, I provided scans on request. This allowed members to customise their requests. For example, do you want to see the front and reverse of a cover? Where the lot is large, I will select key items to give a flavour of the whole. If you are interested in particular items, let me know.

I would like to remind all members that if you are unhappy with your lot, for whatever reason, then there is a **no quibble refund policy**. Simply let me know why you wish to return the item so that I can advise the vendor and return it to me for a full refund or reduce your payment by the amount of the lot.

Our auction is one of the largest and most frequent amongst the specialist societies. Many have higher minimum value lots that I have – members have expressed favourable opinions on this in the past.

I have reduced the number of lots recently as I can only offer what I am offered. If lots are resubmitted, there is at least a 20% reduction in the reserve to attract interest.

Have you any areas that no longer interest you? Do you know of any fellow collectors who are thinking of disposing their collections of anything from the Czech lands?

The auction is for you, the members.

### **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 Autumn 2011 issue of *Austria* No.175.
- ▶ John Leonard Whiteside 9.1.39-23.5.2011 [obituary] (Brumby); My Favourite Cover (Ralph); Vienna to Wiener Neustadt (Schwaighofer); Official Letters and Official Messengers (Jungwirth); Personal Collectors of Letters, Official and Private Postmen (Jungwirth); The Most Daring of All Imperial and Royal Post Routes (Jungwirth); The Kahlenbergbahn (Anthony); Otto von Hapsburg: 20.11.1912-4.7.2011 [obituary] (-); "Arrived Damaged" (Schaper); Aerophilately and the Sieges of Przemysl [1914-1915]: Part One (Kupiec-Weglinski).

- **The British Postal Museum & Archive Newsletter** 26 August 2011
  - ▶ An announcement commemorating the World's First Scheduled Aerial Post, at the BPMA, in their *Treasurers of the Archive* exhibition. An A5 postcard depicting the 1911 Aerial poster in a limited edition of 200 will be on sale. A brand new postcard pack featuring airmail themed images is also available; as well as a beautifully produced reproduced Airmail leaflet are available in an inclusive gift set for only £5. [[www.postalheritage.org.uk/survey](http://www.postalheritage.org.uk/survey)]
  
- Nos 6, 7 & 8/2011. issues of **Filatelie**. Vol 61. The English translation of the contents does not cover all the articles.
  - ▶ Rudolf Gilbert: 115 & 90 [Biography] [3] (Beneš); Czech Post network optimisation-drama of several acts [2] (Bejsta & Gebauer); (Not only) Austrian-Hungarian field post in Albania [1] (Kunc); Motorcycle Sport [1] (Horák).
  - ▶ Rudolf Gilbert: 115 & 90 [Biography] [4] (Beneš); Czech Post network optimisation-drama of several acts [3] (Bejsta & Gebauer); (Not only) Austrian-Hungarian field post in Albania [2] (Kunc); Motorcycle Sport [2] (Horák); Almost forgotten retouches – Hradčany Red Cross overprint (Folprecht).
  - ▶ Rudolf Gilbert: 115 & 90 [Biography] [5] (Beneš); New common stamp Wolfgang A. Mozart (-); Motorcycle Sport [3] (Horák); Simple forgery tools: copy machine and hypodermic needle (Beneš); Printing techniques and colour shades recognition (Beneš).
  
- The 3 & 4/2011 issue of **Merkur Revue**. The English translation of the contents does not cover all the articles.
  - ▶ Repülő Posta 1918 in Hungary [1] (Květon); Austria-Hungary and Europe after World War I, [Part IX end] (Štefek et al); Unusual paper of the 4Kčs airmail stamp PRAGA 78 (Fritz); ; International Reply Coupons of B & M [Part 2] (Příkazaský); The Prague overprint: small coat of arms. Review of Special Catalogue (Fritz); 90th Birthday of Jiří Antonín Švengsbir (Fischer); Review: List of Revolutionary Issues 1944-45 [Seznam revolučních přetisků: Karel Holoubek. 2011]; Fortresses and castles on stamps from ČSR territory [16] (Fritz).
  - ▶ Repülő Posta 1918 in Hungary [2] (Květon); International Reply Coupons of B & M [Part 3] (Příkazaský); Rare proofs of Slovakia (Šablatúra); 75th Birthday of engraver Miloše Ondráčka (-); "Zodiac" by Alphonse Mucha – Czech & Austrian issues (-); The 2010 postage stamps of Slovakia (Fritz); Architect Antonin Wiehl and his work on stamps of Czechoslovakia (Fritz & Brendl); Ivan Strnad in the stamp production of Czechoslovakia ((Fischer); Fortresses and castles on stamps from ČSR territory [17] (Fritz).
  
- The September 2011 issue of **Stamps of Hungary** No.186.
  - ▶ John Leonard Whiteside 9.1.39-23.5.2011 [obituary] (Brumby); Otto von Hapsburg: 20.11.1912-4.7.2011 [obituary] (Morrell); Letters to the Editor re the Homokárványos issues (Czirók et al); and "ELMA and LEHE" (Endroedi et al); Censorship of Civilian Mail of WW1: Part 1: Introduction and the Budapest Office (Morrell);

### Report on Joint Societies Meeting in Bradford, 20 August 2011 -Roger Morrell-

This annual event at the Latvian Relief Fund venue, hosted by Bradford Philatelic Society and organised by Yvonne Wheatley, currently Chairman of the Czechoslovak PS of GB, was bigger than ever, with several new faces, but also with the absence of John Whiteside who will be remembered for his excellent and enthralling contributions in the past. Representatives were present from the Austrian, Czech, Hungarian, Polish and Yugoslav Societies, most of who contributed to six rounds of one, two and three-frame displays. Certainly a strong characteristic of the event is the interrelatedness of the displays and of the interests of members of the different Societies, often thought-provoking and providing a forum for asking questions. In the middle of the day there was a break for an excellent buffet lunch organised by Yvonne and husband Richard, and tea and cakes to finish with. Many thanks to them for organising this always popular and varied event.



*Yvonne Wheatley introduces a round of displays at the Latvian Relief Fund venue*

In order of presentation the displays were:

Roger Morrell	WWI Austro-Hungarian Danube and Weichsel Flotillas – shore stations, boat cachets
Pat Rothnie	Danzig – Polish Post Offices after WWI set up to ensure continuity of mail to Poland
Rex Dixon	WWII mail from 'Südostpreussen' (SE Prussia) - centred on Zichenau/Ciechanów as the German advance pushed eastwards
Keith Brandon	Prestamp postmarks of Prag – from the 1760s to 1792, then a break to 1818
Joyce Boyer	Airmail into Austria, 1946-58 – noting the absence of a domestic airline until 1958
Mark Lendon	Romanian Occupation of Hungary, 1918 – Transylvania and Arad overprint issues on Hungarian stamps
Edward Klempka	Romanian occupation of part of the Austrian province of Bukovina, 1918 – stamps and scarce covers from Sniatyn
Andy Taylor	Telegrams in Vienna in the 1800's – use of the pneumatic system for delivery
Richard Wheatley	Czech airmail covers from 1946-50 – Czech heroes issue, but puzzles over the rates used, all information gratefully received
Yvonne Wheatley	Early covers from Northern Hungary, now Slovakia
Edmund Jagielski	WWII Woldenberg Camp mail – impressive display of complete issues from this prisoner of war camp in Poland
John Anthony	WIPA 1933 – stamps, postal stationery and labels from possibly the world's most successful philatelic exhibition
Derek Baron	WWI hospital mail from the Olomouc region in Moravia – a major convalescence area for soldiers from the Eastern Front
Garth Taylor	19 <sup>th</sup> century revenues on documents from Brünn/Brno district – receipts & similar.
Brian Madeley	Austro-Hungarian Military Post, WWI – stamps, postmarks and covers
Alan Berrisford	Poland 1944-5 – postal history from the period of Russian Liberation
Nick Coverdale	First issues of Serbia – locally printed newspaper stamps and first postage issues printed in Vienna
Mervyn Benford	Uses of postage due stamps in Hungary – postage due markings before and after the issue of postage due stamps in 1903, including some puzzling charges
Derek Walker	WWI German censored mail – cachet numbers, various locations (e.g. 'Ag' for Wien).
Martin Brumby	Government issued Hungarian bills of exchange – from the 1920s and 1930s, varieties and explanations for their use

Barry Clarke	Austro-Hungarian Field Marshalls from WWI – postcards, signatures on fieldpost cards and biographies
Rex Dixon	Mail from children's camps in Germany in WWII – children, usually in whole classes, evacuated from cities to countryside hotels for safety
Peter Cybaniak	Carpatho-Ukraine 1939 Postcards and the short-lived stamp issue.
Barry Clarke	Donau Dampfschiffahrts Gesellschaft (DDSG) issues – a fine display of stamps and covers from mail carried by the Danube steamer company in the 1860s and 1870s
Edward Klempka	Poland postal stationery from 1859 - rarely seen early postal stationery under Russian administration
Andy Taylor	Oddities in the Austrian postal system – curious charging practices as evidenced by postal documentation
Roger Morrell	WWI civilian mail censor marks from Budapest – varieties of marking on foreign destination mail

### Stolen Rarities -Hans Klein-

■ **STAMPS STOLEN AT PHILANIPPON, TOKIO 5 YEARS AGO:**

The following stamps "disappeared":

- 4 K Pošta Československá 1919 overprint on granite paper, unused;
- 50/50 h Postage due error overprint, used.

An award of DM 5.000,— will be paid to the person who will be successful in returning these stamps to the owner.




■ **BRIEFMARKEN WELCHE IM JAHRE 1991 IN TOKIO VERSCHWANDEN:**

- Eine 4 K Pošta Československá 1919 Überdruck auf Faserpapier, ungebraucht,
- ein Exemplar des Fehlgedrucks 50/50 DOPLATIT, gestempelt.

Wer dafür sorgen kann, dass diese zwei Marken dem Inhaber wieder zugestellt werden, wird eine Belohnung von DM 5.000,— erhalten.

■ Uvedené dvě nejzácnější čs. známky, které byly před pěti lety odcizeny z exponátu na Světové výstavě v Tokiu, nebyly dosud nalezeny. Osoba, která by uvedla stopu neznámého pachatele a známky by byly nalezeny, obdrží odměnu ve výši 5000,— DM.

Information to / Berichte an/ Informaci je třeba podat na:  
J. L. KLEIN, Stoepiaan 9, Apt. 1, 2243 CV WASSENAAR, Netherlands

Recently, I saw an announcement in a philatelic magazine that again, a stamp exhibition would take place in Japan.

This of course brought back to me the very unpleasant experience I had – when participating at Tokyo Philanippon 1991, two of my stamps: a 50/50 Postage Due error overprint and a 4 K granite paper Posta 1919 were stolen.

The philatelic press warned against buying these stolen stamps, but neither of these stamps ever resurfaced on the open market or appeared at auction. Experts like Pavel Pitterman, Jan Karasek, Fischmeister, Hefer, a.o. promised to be alert, but many of them are now no longer amongst us. As many of the younger collectors will never have heard about this theft, I think it will be useful, after twenty years, to warn potential buyers. . .

Enclosed is a photocopy of an advertisement in a 1996 issue of Merkur Revue. I sent the same letter to our German, Czech and Dutch stamp friends. Maybe these two treasures will once again show up. . . ?

## Midpex 2011 -Tony Moseley-

A summer day at Midpex seemed like a good idea to me. Especially as the event was taking place near Leamington Spa in Warwickshire, an hour away from my home. I decided to go and see the Czechoslovak War Memorial in Leamington town centre, then head off in search of bargains, at the dealer's tables.

The Warwickshire Exhibition Centre, the venue of Midpex, is located south of Leamington in open countryside. The building lies in a natural hollow, just off the main road and is not immediately visible from the main road. This caught me out and I missed the turning, but soon I was back on the right route.

The Exhibition Centre is quite spacious and was crammed with stamp dealers and members of various Philatelic Societies with their tables. I arrived with my 1938 Rumburg material, to display on our Society stand, where our Chairman Yvonne Wheatley was busy holding the fort. We were soon joined by HRH King Edward VII (alias Colin Searle) who regularly visited nearby Warwick Castle, one hundred years ago.

Several of our Society members attended during the day, to help at our table. Bob Bradford, Peter Williams, Norman Hudson, myself, Richard and Yvonne Wheatley were all present. As a Society, we were very well represented. I apologise, if I have left anyone out!

I think it is fair to say, that everyone enjoyed themselves in the sunshine. The dealers had enough stock, to please everybody and I managed to find a few "gems" during the day.



Our Chair and your Editor meeting Colin Searle dressed as His Majesty King Edward VII.

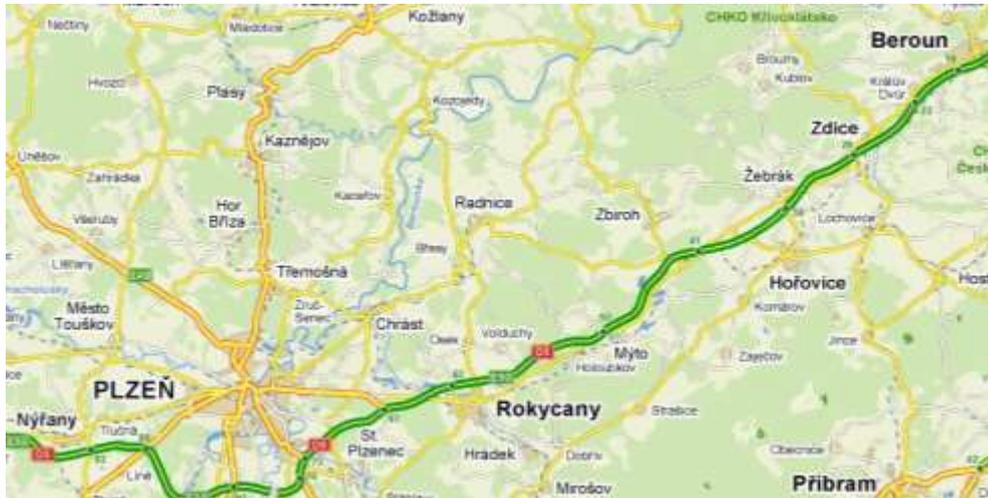
# Horní Bříza



Original text & black & white images by:  
Translated & colour images by:

Karel Holoubek, Hradec Králové  
Robert J Hill

First written mention of the town was around 1180 and the local Monastery followed around 40 years later. Horní Bříza's appearance changed little over the years until the great fire in 1865 which was soon followed by the construction of the railway line. In the 1880's Kaolin deposits were discovered and a mining entrepreneur called Johann Fitz helped exploit the resource. Because of the Kaolin find, ceramic goods manufacturing soon followed and the surrounds rapidly expanded to accommodate the workforce.



The area around Plzeň was liberated by the American Army on 5<sup>th</sup> May 1945.

*The following was produced and signed by Mr A. Pavlíčko of Prachatic:*

The origins of the manufacture of this overprint can be traced to illegal (as far as the occupying forces were concerned) meetings of the National Committee (Národní Výbor – NV) in Horní Bříza, during late March and early April 1945. My father, Alois Pavlíčko was a member of NV and he had been the Postmaster in Horní Bříza since the spring of 1937. In this post he had managed to ensure adequate communications between the NV, its members and other localities. The idea behind the overprint was to deface the emblem of the Protectorate, show new found freedom and express the joy of liberation.

I was then 15 years old and my father dedicated his efforts to producing an overprint. There was little material to be had and it was risky to hold anything that was against the Protectorate so my father applied his mind to finding a viable solution that would satisfy the ideals expressed by the NV. Initial thoughts went towards the making of blocks of metal in large quantities to form a printing plate, however it was obvious that military operations were getting closer to the town and in the haste it was decided to resort to a rubber hand-stamp. My father was aware from the start that long-term use of rubber hand-stamps led to degradation although this could be moderated by using ink without oil as an ingredient.



Fig. 1  
1.50 k stamp with blue overprint.

To date nothing has been published about the hand-stamp. After use my father kept it for a short period to prevent illegal usage. The hand-stamp is derived from a pre-war child's Post Office game which included a hand-stamp showing the State Emblem (1929 - 1931) and the word Československo. For the intended purpose this was very handy. The design fitted the Protectorate stamps in use at that time and the shape of overprint was decided during April 1945 (Fig. 1).

Overprinting stamps started on 5<sup>th</sup> May 1945 at the post office in Horní Bříza and was immediately applied to all denominations held at the post office. Each stamp had its overprint applied individually, quite a task. This was a small gesture but it worked. The stamps were on sale not only at the post office, but also at the tobacconist in the city, and the cafeteria of HOB (the ceramic manufacturing plant). It was also applied to stationery and postcards (both single & double). The Hitler head series of stamps were overprinted as were the St Vitus' Cathedral set.



Newspaper stamps were not overprinted until the second half of May when they were produced as a loyalty emblem at the newspaper office (Fig. 2).

Fig. 2  
20 h Newspaper stamp.

Overprints were produced in different colours. They were two reasons for this: to provide a suitable contrast to the colour of the postage stamp; the acute shortage of inks without an oil base. The colours applied I do not remember now, nor do I recall whether any records were kept on the types and quantity of stamps overprinted. I also do not know if there was a written authorization to sanction the execution of this overprint.

So overprinting started on 5<sup>th</sup> May and continued on and off until 15<sup>th</sup> May when all available stock was exhausted. However overprinted stamps were used after this date - I believe until the 23<sup>rd</sup> May. The overprints were postally used from 5<sup>th</sup> May and the cancellers at the office were modified at the workshops of HOB on this date. Mail was taken by a postman to Plzeň, sometimes with the help of the local police (Fig. 3 & Fig. 4).

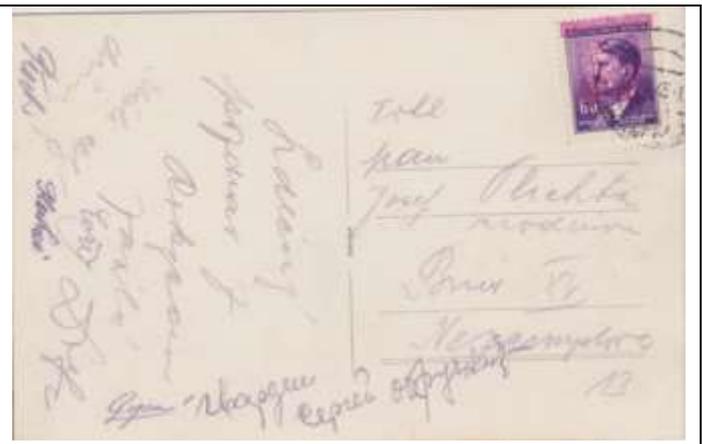


Fig. 3  
Postally used cover, correctly franked 1.20 k, cancelled on 5th May with modified **b** canceller.

Fig. 4  
Black & white postcard of the square in Rokycany sent to Brno on 11<sup>th</sup> May with modified **a** canceller.

Stamps in possession of the population had overprints added to them when they were handed in at the postal counter or collected from selected mailboxes. Other locations produced different overprints and members of the public who had the head of Hitler defaced in other ways (cork or rubber stamp) had their correspondence accepted. A considerable amount of stamps were sold to members of the NV and the local Partisans during May.

The overprint was destroyed in early June 1945, when it was much worn. All stamps held by the post office in Horní Bříza were returned for credit.

## VELKÁ CENA MASARYKOVA (Czechoslovakia Grand Prix)

-Dr. Garth A Taylor-

During the 1930s the Czechoslovakian Grand Prix was held at the Masaryk circuit in Brno. Of these seven GPs four have been celebrated with the issuing of special hand stamps in 1933, 1934, 1935, and 1937. Figures 1,2,3 and 4 show the four hand stamps issued to commemorate these four races.



Fig.1



Fig.2



Fig.3



Fig.4

Several code letters and different inks were used the table below gives the control letters and colours used for these various hand stamps.

Year	Code letters	Colour
1933	None	Black
1934	None	Green and Blue
1935	a, b and c	Green
1937	a, b, c and d	Blue
1937	c	Black

Below are examples of the 1934, 1935 and 1937 hand stamps on cover and cards.



1934 hand stamp in green



1935 code b hand stamp in green



1937 code c hand stamp in blue

### History of the races

The 1933 race was held over seventeen laps of the 29.142 Km circuit (Fig 4) and the race was won by Louis Chiron driving an Alfa Romeo who completed the 17 laps in 4hours 50min and 22.8 secs. Antonio Brivio (Fig 5) completed only 4 laps.

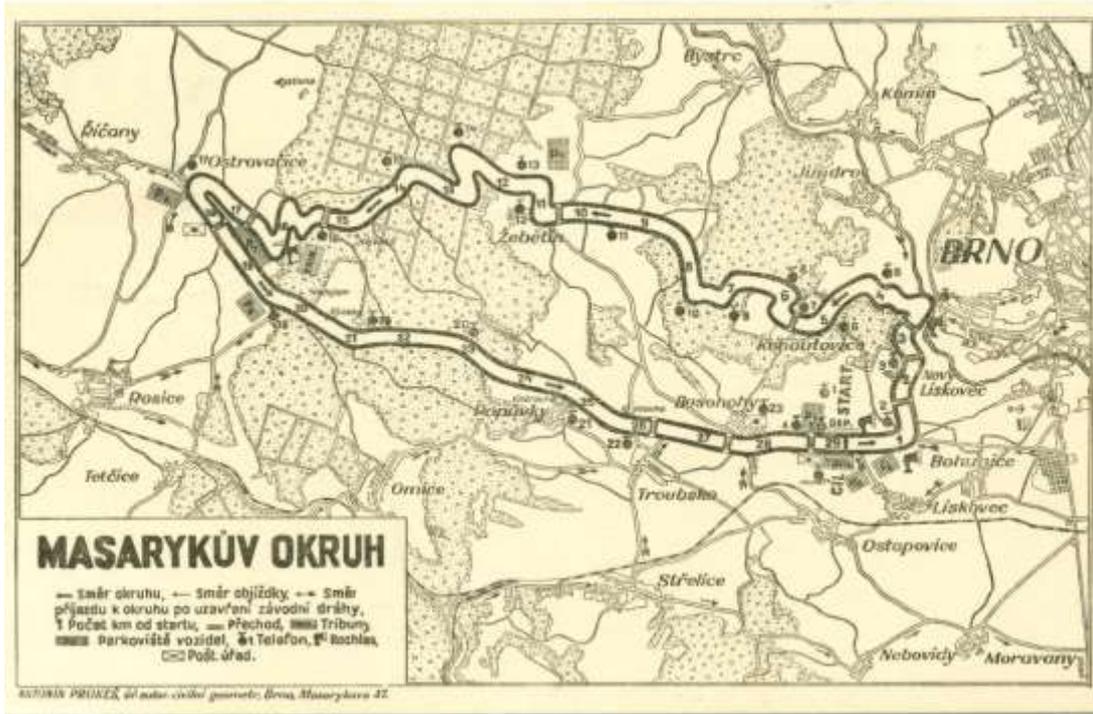


Fig 4



Fig 5

The 1934 race again over 17 laps and was won by Hans Stuck driving an Auto Union in a time of 3 hrs 53min 27.9secs. Tazio Nuvolari (Fig 6) finishing third driving a Maserati 3mins 46.2secs behind the winner.

The 1935 race again over 17 laps was won by Bernd Rosemeyer driving an Auto Union in a time of 3hrs 44min and 10.6 secs. Tazio Nuvolari (Fig 6) was second 6mins 37.8secs behind with Antonio Brivio (Fig 5) fourth 8mins 1.4secs behind the winner.



Fig 6



Fig 7

In 1937 the race was reduced to 15 laps and was won by Rudolf Caracciola (Fig 7) in a time of 3hrs 9mins 25.3secs driving a Mercedes-Benz. Tazio Nuvolari (Fig 6) driving an Alfa Romeo finishing 5<sup>th</sup> completing 14 laps and Antonio Brivio (Fig 5) also driving an Alfa Romeo finishing 6<sup>th</sup> also completing 14 laps.

A special folder (Fig 8) was produced for the 1937 race which also shows the route of the track.



Fig 8

No more races were held in the 1930s with the final Grand Prix race being held in 1948 won by Peter Whitehead of the United Kingdom driving a Ferrari.

## THE EDITOR'S CHOICE

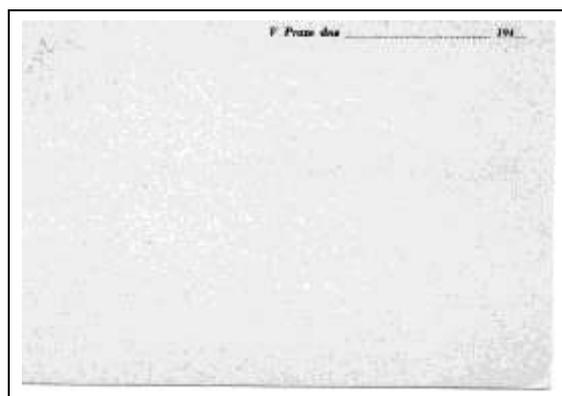
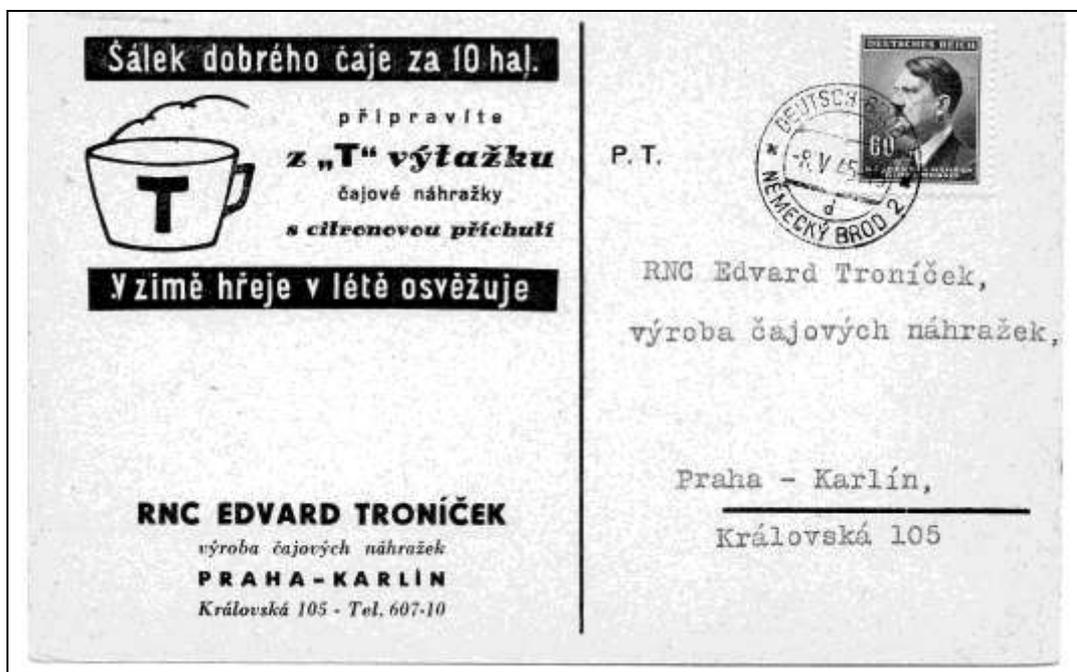
### The day the Russians arrived! – 8 May 1945 Německý Brod

At first glance, this Czech-language card from a company in Deutsche Brod (Německý Brod, now renamed Havlíčkův Brod) selling tea seems unremarkable. This postcard is interesting for several reasons. The date 8 May 1945 is significant, as the Red Army were operating nearby. This town was bypassed by combat units belonging to the 4<sup>th</sup> Guards Army of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ukrainian Front (Petrov), who were advancing at speed towards Prague. The German garrison held on, before surrendering to rearguard elements on 10 May 1945.

The card is personally addressed to the owner of the tea company, in Prague. No message is written on the reverse side. Why would anyone go to the trouble of sending a blank card, with the Russians on the doorstep? This may in fact be some kind of prearranged signal, indicating that liberation was close and that the business had survived the German occupation. With the end of the war in sight, it is difficult to speculate the purpose of this item, some seventy years later. No indication is shown, that the card ever reached Prague.

60h franking (internal postcard rate) with 1942 Hitler head issue. B-lingual German cancel DEUTSCH BROD 2 – NĚMECKÝ BROD 2, -8.V.45.15. "d".

Note, Deutsch Brod – Německý Brod was a German-speaking enclave, with a high proportion of miners. Since 1945, when the German speakers were expelled, the town has been renamed Havlíčkův Brod. The word Brod means "ford" in the Czech language.



## 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

15 June 2011

#### Young Animals



**Designers:** Libuše and Jaromír Knotek **Engraver:** (FDC only) Martin Srb **Printing:** multi-coloured offset with linear drawing in sheets of 50.

**Design:** a family of European hamsters. The European hamster (*Cricetus cricetus*), a relative of the vole, is nocturnal, hibernates in underground chambers in winter and feeds on grain, seeds, insects and young nestlings. The female can produce 2 - 5 litters per year with 3 – 12 young in each.

**FDC:** printed DS in brown black with commemorative Praha cancel. The cachet drawing has an adult with two young hedgehogs. A booklet with strip of five stamps was issued. The cover has the same design as issued stamp. The back cover gives details of the animal and philatelic information.

15 June 2011

#### European Florists Championship – Europa Cup 2011

**Designer:** Vlasta Matoušová

**Engraver:** (FDC only) Miloš Ondráček

**Printing:** multi-coloured offset with linear drawing in sheets of 50.

**Design:** an Ikebana of mainly red callas. These championships take place every four years in one of the member countries of the European Federation of Professional Florist Associations (Florint). It was formed in Strasbourg in 1956 with the first competition in 1967. It will be held in the Czech Republic for the first time from 31 August to 5 September 2011. **FDC:** printed DS in blue black with commemorative Haviřov cancel. The cachet drawing is an arrangement of lilies.



**Postal Stationery**

**Commemorative Postcards**

**15 June 2011: 20 Years of Czech Republic Police Force**

	<p><b>Designer:</b> Jan Ungrád</p> <p><b>Printing:</b> coloured offset</p> <p><b>Design:</b> imprinted NVI 'A' stamp in blue with '20' in white. Within the '0' is the police logo. To the left is the Czech Post logo and a security hologram. The first line for an address is a continuous micro-text 'Česká pošta, PTC, 2011'. The left portion of the card shows the various branches of the police, the police logo and relevant texts. (Retail price 15Kč).</p>
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**15 June 2011: 575<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Basel Compacts**

<p><b>Designer:</b> Pavel Dvorský</p> <p><b>Printing:</b> coloured offset.</p> <p><b>Design:</b> imprinted NVI 'A' stamp with the coat of arms of Jihlava and a silhouette of its church. The left portion of the card has a view of medieval Jihlava where the Compact was first accepted in Bohemia. The Compact was an Agreement between the Basel Council and representatives of Hussite Bohemia in 1436 and brought about a religious settlement. The Compact remained in force until 1568. (Retail price 15Kč)</p>	
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**Picture Postcards**

**22 June 2011 Architecture – Cloisters 2011** This is the 18<sup>th</sup> set of 8 cards in the series numbered A193/2011 to A200/2011. Issued in three formats a) with coloured picture of the church and text Retail price 120Kč b) as a) but with an additional black outline drawing of the building. Retail price 128Kč c) as b) with FDC Praha cancel. Retail price 136Kč

Each card has an imprinted NVI 'A' stamp - Coat of Arms.

	<p><b>Designs</b> are from photographs by Aleš Veselý (Brno) and Roman Maleček (remainder).</p> <p><b>Printing:</b> multi-coloured offset.</p> <p><b>Designs:</b> a) <b>Prague</b> – the former Minorite cloister founded 1232 with the Church of St James the Greater.  b) <b>Bechyně</b> – the former Franciscan cloister founded in 13<sup>th</sup> century with the Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary.  c) <b>Kolín</b> – the monastery of the Capuchins with the Holy Trinity Church.  d) <b>Kosmonosy</b> – the former Piarist's monastery with the Holy Cross Church.  e) <b>Brno</b> – the former Dominican monastery founded between 1228-30 along with St Michael's Church.  f) <b>Šternberk</b> – the former Augustinian cloister founded in the 14<sup>th</sup> century with the Church of the Annunciation of the Virgin Mary.  g) <b>Horní Lomná</b> – the monastery of the order of Barefooted Carmelites built 1894-96 with the neo Gothic Holy Cross Church.  h) <b>Znojmo</b> – Louka, the former Premonstratensian monastery with the Church of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary and St Wenceslas founded in 1190 and completed in the early 13<sup>th</sup> century.</p>
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## Slovakia

3 June 2011

Stamp with Additional Printing Coupon

	<p><b>Designer:</b> Nátalia Gončárová and Adrian Ferda</p> <p><b>Printing:</b> offset – Heidelberg Speedmaster in sheets of 8 stamps with 8 personalised coupons.</p> <p><b>Design:</b> a stylised plant in flower with NVI 'T2 50g' The coupon has the text '20<sup>th</sup> year of the magazine Fifík.' The stamp is from an entry in the national annual art competition as part of "Month of Children's Creation". This was an organisation for physically and mentally handicapped children whose first co-founder and chairman was Professor Karol Ondreička. Fifík is the magazine displaying the art of these young people. Art work from the organisation has been used in hospitals, for book illustrations and reproduced as mascots for the Olympic and Paralympics Games.</p> <p><b>FDC:</b> printed offset with commemorative Bratislava cancel. The cachet is another stylised flower.</p>
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**6 June 2011 Historic anniversaries: 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Memorandum of the Slovak Nation**

**Designer:** Igor Piačka

**Engraver:** Rudolf Cigánik

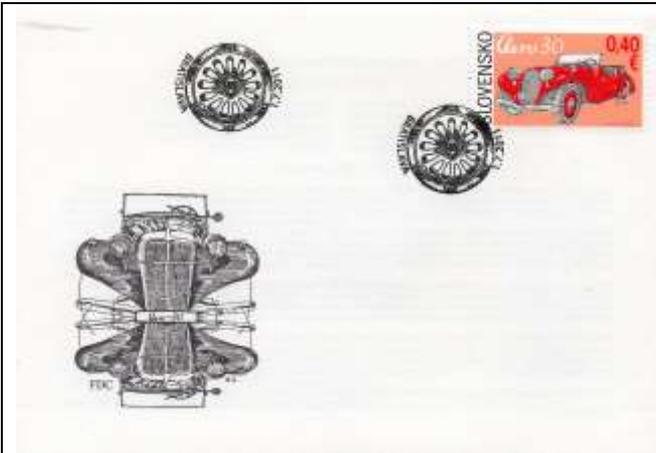
**Printing:** DS and offset in commemorative sheets of 1 stamp

**Design:** stamp has portraits of S M Daxner and J Francisci and between them a chained young man representing Slovakia with an angel representing freedom tearing the chains. The sheet has several portraits of men present at the Martin Assembly held 6-7 June 1861. The lower part of the sheet has a winged figure walking forward into the future of a free Slovak nation. The National Assembly of 1861 in Martin drew up a memorandum to obtain some autonomy within the Austro-Hungarian Empire and for acknowledgement of their identity. This was not recognised by the Hungarian Diet or Emperor. The ideas were the basis of political programmes until 1938.

**FDC:** printed DS in grey-brown with a commemorative Martin cancel. The cachet drawing portrays an eagle as a symbol of freedom and independence with a group of people.



**1 July 2011**

**Technical Monuments : Veteran Motor Cars**


**Designers:** Marián Komáček (0.40 Euros) Peter Augustovič (0.80 Euros)

**Engravers:** František Horniak (0.40Euros) L'ubomír Žálec (0.80 Euros)

**Printing:** RD

**Designs: 0.40Euros:** a two-seater Aero 30. This two cylinder, two stroke car was produced in Prague gaining the nickname 'Czech Jaguar'. It was a popular model. An attempt to revive the car factory in 1947 failed. The cars are now collectors' items.

**FDC:** printed DS in black with commemorative Bratislava cancel. The cachet is a face on view drawing of an Aero 30.

**0.80Euros:** a Tatra 8 model which was produced from 1936 to 1950. With its modern design lines, comfort and advanced engine it was a new concept in car manufacture. It was exported to many parts of the world.

**FDC:** printed DS in black with commemorative Bratislava cancel. The cachet design has two engineer's drawings of the model.

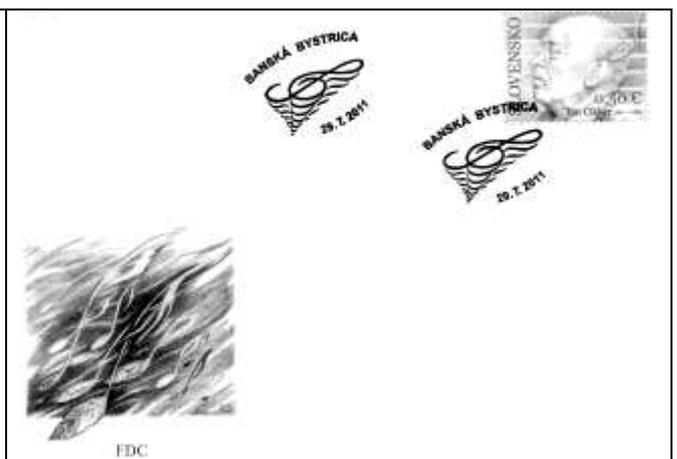
**29 July 2011**

**Personalities: Ján Cikker**

**Designer:** Katarina Slaninková

**Printing:** offset – Heidelberg Speedmaster.

**Design:** portrait of Ján Cikker. He was born on 29 July 1911, studying composition, conducting and the organ at the Conservatory, Prague and later in Vienna. He taught theory of music in Bratislava but is remembered for his orchestral, chamber, vocal, choral compositions and operas. He was awarded many national and international honours and died 21 December 1989 in Bratislava. **FDC:** printed offset in grey with commemorative Banská Bystrica cancel. The symbolic cachet drawing shows musical notes and leaves.



Postal Stationery

Postcard for Promotional Use

	<p><b>19 May 2011 (192 CDV 192/11)</b></p> <p><b>Designer:</b> Peter Augustovič</p> <p><b>Design:</b> imprinted T2 50g NVI stamp (inland, second class, weight to 50g) with the text Historic Post Stations – Stráže nad Zvolnom. A drawing of the building is on a light blue background. A security hologram is to the left of the imprint. The left portion of the card is blank. Retail price 0.48Euros.</p>
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<p><b>4 June 2011 (194 CDV 192/11) The Most Beautiful Slovak Postage Stamp for 2010.</b></p> <p>Imprinted T2 50g NVI stamp as for CDV 192 above. The left portion shows the winning stamp – Madonna and Child from the Art series 26 November 2010.</p>	
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	<p><b>29 June 2011 (195 CDV 192/11) Opening of the Cultural Tourist Routes via Magna.</b></p> <p>Imprinted T2 50g NVI stamp as for CDV 192 above. The cachet at left shows an old carriage drawn by two horses in front of a low building and the text 'Magna Via'.</p>
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