

5. THE BICYCLE AT WAR.

5.1 THE BOER WAR 1899 - 1902 - The Siege of Mafeking.

The Boer War saw the bicycle's first significant wartime exposure and considered a success by Boers and British.

Cadet Sgt Major Warner Goodyear and General Baden Powell on stamps.



← Error, imperf



Note - Frame damage.

Initial "W" of designer Dr W A Hayes, between value tablet and photo.



← "H" of designer.

NB "broken" value tablet on right.

12 year old Sgt Major Warner Goodyear led Cadet Corps - delivered mail in the Town and to Outposts.

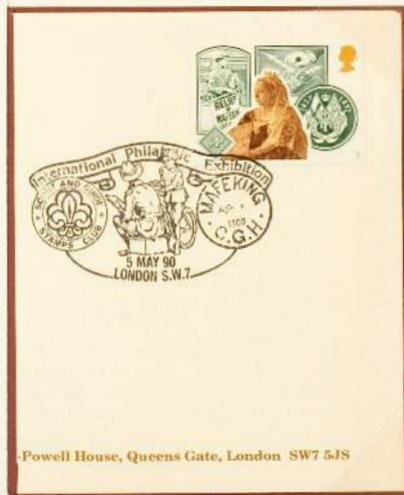
Relief of Mafeking 17 May 1900 front page news G.B.



Stamps produced jointly by Dr D Taylor & Dr W A Hayes Printed by Townshend & Son.



Local mail 1d per 1/2 oz.

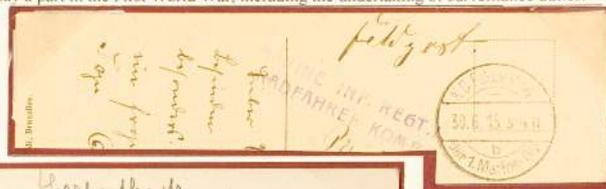


5.2 THE FIRST WORLD WAR 1914 - 1918.

Cyclists continued to play a part in the First World War, including the undertaking of surveillance duties.



Folding bikes used by troops



Above: cachet German Cyclists' Company Marine Infantry Regiment



Left: cachet German Cyclists' Co. No. 162 Card sent 24.08.1918.

Cachet on right:

"COMPAGNE CYCLIST SURVEILLANCE de la FRONTIERE FRANCO-SUISSE."

and in centre

"Le Commandant de La Compagnie"



5.4 THE SECOND WORLD WAR 1939 - 1945, **Swiss Troops.**

Despite the mountainous terrain, Switzerland maintained several Bicycle Units throughout the War.

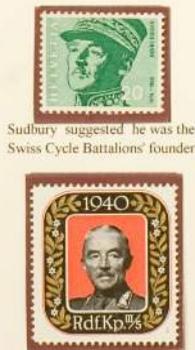


Above soldier stamp used by First Bicycle Company Sixth Battalion.

Below 39th Bicycle Company, with motto "One for all, all for one".



Below General Henri Guisan on stamp, for 3rd Co. 3th battalion.



Sudbury suggested he was the Swiss Cycle Battalions' founder.

5.4 THE SECOND WORLD WAR 1939 - 1945, **Swiss Troops.**

Switzerland remained neutral during World War II but maintained an Army to defend its neutrality.



RDF BAT 3
= 3rd Bicycle Battalion
The Chevron (inverted V) only worn by cyclists in the Swiss Armed Forces.

Below Card dated 22.9.39 on reverse, 3 weeks after out break of war

Above:
Love your Country - it is the best in the world.

Postage FREE for the Armed Forces but use of "soldier stamps" gave mail priority.

Below RDF.KP.II/4 = 2nd Company 4th Bicycle Battalion.



6.1 THE DELIVERY OF ORDINARY MAIL

Before the invention of the bicycle, mail was delivered by postmen on foot, on horseback or horsedrawn carriage.

Potential for mail delivery soon realised see *Bochum* stamps.



Postmen in Cretan uniform.



Bochum imperf
1888 local set.



Thurn & Taxis postal
service 1852 - 1867.

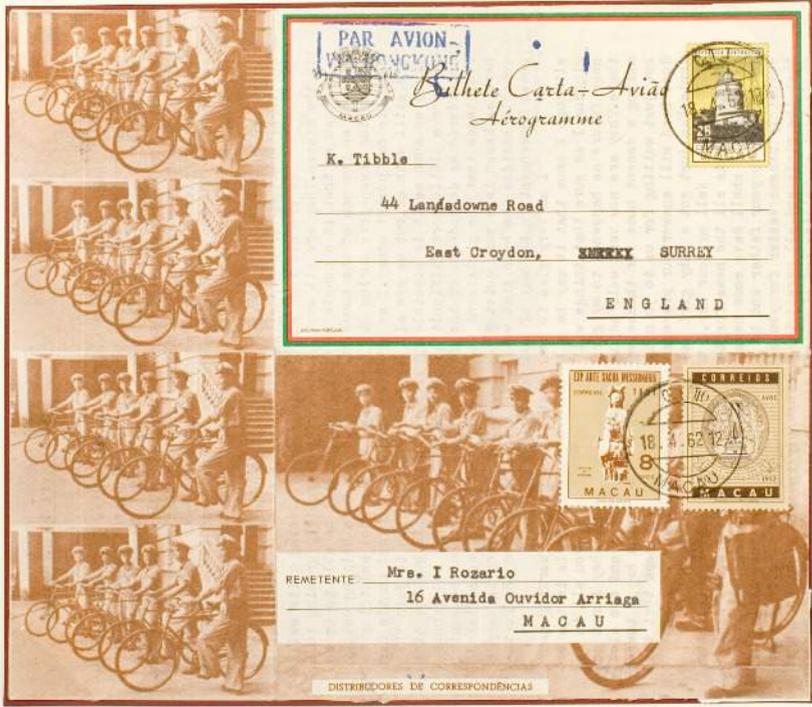


Bochum perf,
1888 local set.



City foot post 1863

Below Aerogramme with multiple scenes of Macau Postmen reporting for duty outside Post Office.

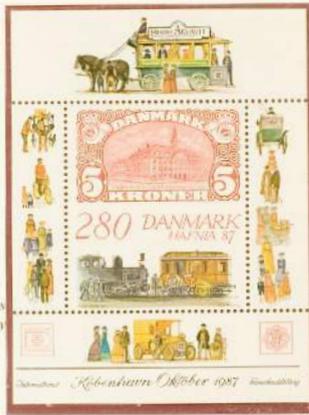


6.1 THE DELIVERY OF ORDINARY MAIL

The bicycle has played its part in the growth of postal services throughout the world.



Left:
1987
Greetings
stamps by
children.
Artist
Brigid
Tehan.



Miniature sheet issued for Exhibition "Hafnia 87"



Top left:
Free ticket
for entry to
HAFNIA '87
enclosed with
each
miniature
sheet.



NATIONAL FRIMERKEUDSTILLING VIBORG 89 TINGHALLEN 21.23 APRIL

Left Postmen
ready to go on
their rounds.

Below:
Front of the
postal stationery
card, on the left,
reduced in size.



6.1 THE DELIVERY OF ORDINARY MAIL

Postmen and postwomen carry heavy loads of mail on front and rear carriers of the bicycle, and on their back.



Left: Urban postman on bicycle.
Right: Rural postman on rail bicycle.



Service with a smile

Above: Rider does not look comfortable

Below: P.S. card plus stamp for U.K. rate.



Message on back "Present day postman typifying personal involvement - hallmark of Australian postal service for 175 years"



6.1 THE DELIVERY OF ORDINARY MAIL

All over the world postmen and postwomen are welcome for the news they bring from friends and relatives.



Attempt to under-cut P.O. Victoria, Australia c 1900. Pages of advertising were folded at the corner and a crescent shaped hole cut from envelope. The One Penny Postage imprint by Post Office appeared part on cover and part on every page of advertising book. Promoter sued for making profit - stock confiscated.

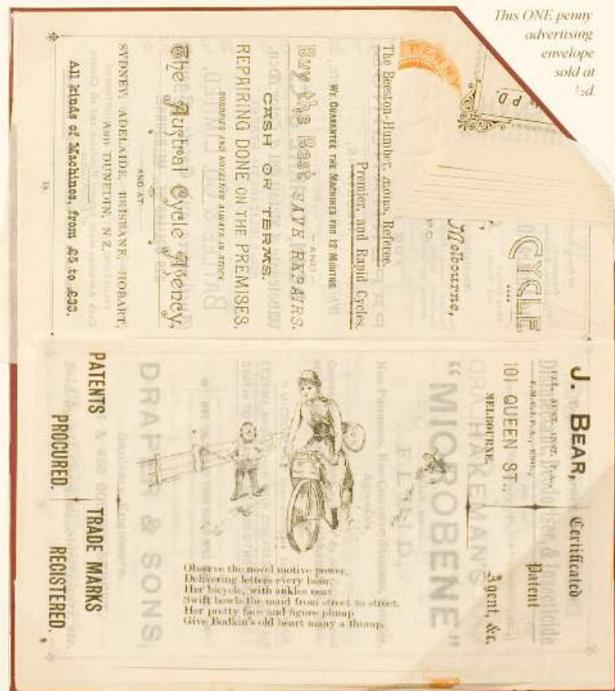


Postman in Europe. Following devaluation stamp overprinted "GROSZY" locally.



Above Postman in Africa

Below Postman in Asia



This ONE penny advertising envelope sold at 1/2d.

6.2 THE DELIVERY OF SPECIAL MAIL - Paris Pneumatic Post

Pneumatic post extended 1907 to suburbs, where cyclists (facteurs cyclistes spéciaux) delivered mail 1916-1960s.

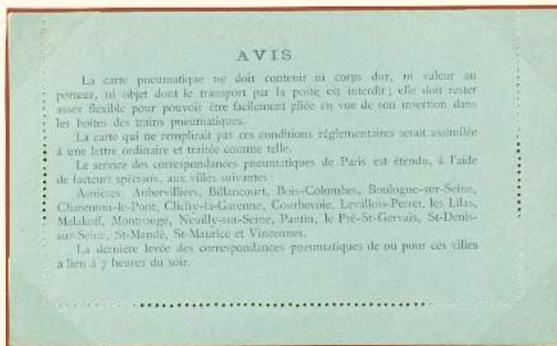


Reduced from: 30c Sower Letter-Card issued 1907.

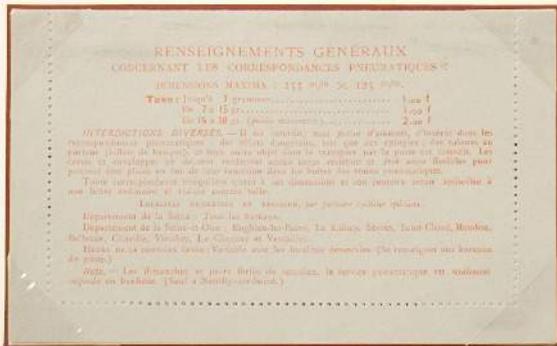


Reduced from: 1fr 60c Chaplain Letter-Card issued 1965.

Right: Back of 30c Letter-Card.



Wording refers to delivery in total of 19 locations in the suburbs by postmen - "facteurs spéciaux". From 1916, cyclists delivered pneumatic post in the suburbs.



Left: Back of 1fr 60c Letter-Card.

1fr 60c Chaplain letter-card issued 1965 was last printing to refer to delivery by cyclists.

"LOCALITÉS DESSERVIES par facteurs cyclistes spéciaux"

Below: Early hexagon network.



6.2 THE DELIVERY OF SPECIAL MAIL The personal touch

Postmen and postwomen keep in touch with local residents and require signatures for special mail.



Delivery of post - one of oldest services.



From painting by Michel Engels.



Mail for early air flights delivered by bicycle.



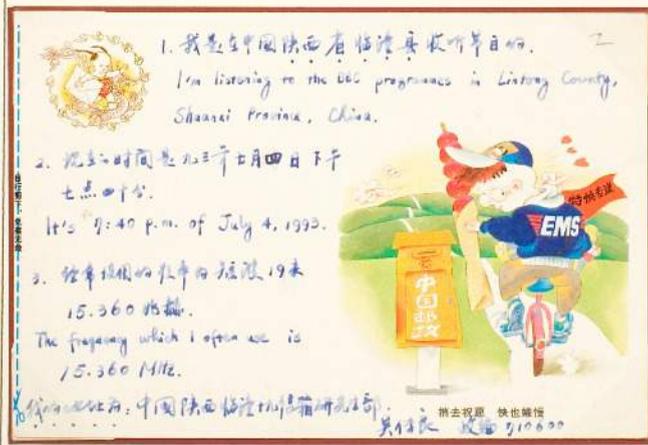
A smile for the postwoman



50th anniversary of the Savings Bank, a Post Office service

Delivery of Express Mail by bicycle

Reduced copy of front of card.



6.2 THE DELIVERY OF SPECIAL MAIL - Express mail

The bicycle has continued to be used for delivery of urgent mail both in cities and in rural areas.



Proof of stamp in use 1902-17.



Express stamps issued 1939.



Specimen of stamp issued 1947.



Sofia Express cancel 18.5.53 on back of cover.

Copy of front of cover, reduced in size.



The post must go through, however bad the weather.



6.2 THE DELIVERY OF SPECIAL MAIL - Special delivery.

At the start of the twentieth century the bicycle was the most useful means of delivering urgent mail



Error in 3rd word "iumediata" on 1899 proof and 1900 cover.



Handstamped "ULTRAMAR" by Portugal on receipt from LPU



Above Corrected version "iumediata". Below Specimen stamps 1929 from 3rd Pan American Postal Congress booklet.

