15/03/2024

Philatelic Issue - The Malta Railway 2024 (*1883-1931*)

Ninety-three years ago, the Malta Railway passed into history. The train, at times also referred to as "Il-Vapur tal-Art", was the first mechanised overland public transport service to be introduced in Malta. Station buildings, tunnels and street names remind us that there was once a railway. On 21 March 2024, to commemorate this important part of our heritage, MaltaPost proudly issues a sheet of 4 stamps portraying various visuals related to the Malta Railway. The €0.38 stamp shows the train on Għeriexem bridge awaiting its return trip to Valletta. The €1.00 stamp depicts the train passing through Ħamrun Station on its return trip from Mtarfa to Valletta. The train crossing the wooden bridge at Valletta Porta Reale Station is shown on the €2.50 stamp and the fourth stamp, with a value of €2.88, shows the train at Birkirkara on its journey to Mtarfa Museum Station. All monochrome photographs, taken between 1883 and 1931, were coloured digitally by artist Edgar Vella and are courtesy of The Malta Railway Foundation.

The stamps will be issued in a sheet of 10, with each stamp measuring 31mm x 44mm, a comb perforation of 13.9 x 14.0 and bearing the Maltese Cross watermark. The sheets measure 185mm x 118mm and were produced by Printex Ltd in the offset process. The issue consists of 200,000 of the €0.38 stamp, 20,000 of the €1.00 stamp, 20,000 of the €2.50 stamp and 15,000 of the €2.88 stamp.

These stamps will be available from all Post Offices in Malta and Gozo from Thursday 21 March 2024. Orders may be placed online at www.maltaphilately.com or by mail from the Philatelic Bureau, MaltaPost p.l.c., 305, Qormi Road, Marsa, MTP 1001; by telephone 2596 1740 or via e-mail info@maltaphilately.com

15/03/2024

Ħarġa Filatelika - Il-Ferrovija ta’ Malta 2024 (*1883-1931*)

Tlieta u disgħin sena ilu, il-Ferrovija ta’ Malta għaddiet fl-istorja. Il-Vapur tal-Art, kif kienet magħrufa il-ferrovija, kienet l-ewwel servizz ta’ trasport pubbliku mekkanizzat fuq l-art li ġie introdott f’Malta. Bini ta’ stazzjoniet, mini u ismijiet ta’ toroq ifakkruna li fl-imgħoddi kien hemm ferrovija f’Malta. Fil-21 ta’ Marzu 2024, biex jitfakkar dan il-wirt kulturali Malti, MaltaPost qed tipproduċi erba’ bolli ġodda li jaġħtuna viżwal relatat mal-ferrovija antika ta’ Malta. Il-bolla ta’ €0.38 turi l-ferrovija fuq il-pont tal-Għeriexem qed tistenna l-vjaġġ lura lejn il-Belt Valletta. Il-bolla ta’ €1.00 turi l-ferrovija tgħaddi mill-Istazzjon tal-Ħamrun fil-vjaġġ tagħha ta’ ritorn mill-Imtarfa għall-Belt Valletta. Il-ferrovija għaddejja min fuq il-pont tal-injam fl-istazzjon tal-Belt Valletta tidher fuq il-bolla ta’ €2.50, u r-raba’ bolla, b’valur ta’ €2.88, turi l-ferrovija fl-istazzjon ta’ Birkirkara fil-vjaġġ tagħha lejn l-istazzjon tal-Mużew ġewwa l-Imtarfa. Ir-ritratti monokromi, meħuda bejn l-1883 u l-1931, ġew ikkuluriti b’mod diġitali mill-artist Edgar Vella u ntużaw bil-kortesija tal- Malta Railway Foundation.

Dawn il-bolli ser jinħarġu f’folji ta’ għaxra. Kull bolla hija ta’ daqs 31mm x 44mm, b’perforazzjoni ta’ 13.9 x 14.0 u għandha “watermark” bis-salib ta’ Malta. Kull folja hija ta’ daqs 185mm x 118mm u ġiet stampata minn Printex Limited bi proċess offset. Il-ħarġa tikkonsisti f’200,000 bolla tat- €0.38, 20,000 bolla tal-€1.00, 20,000 bolla tal-€2.50 u 15,000 bolla tal-€2.88.

Din il-ħarġa filatelika se tkun għall-bejgħ mill-Fergħat Postali f’ Malta u Għawdex mill-Erbgħa 21 ta’ Marzu 2024. Ordnijiet jistgħu jsiru onlajn fuq https://www.maltaphilately.com/ jew bil-posta mill-Philatelic Bureau, MaltaPost p.l.c., 305, Triq Ħal Qormi, Marsa, MTP 1001 – telefon 2596 1740 – email info@maltaphilately.com