



## Round Shaped Stamp

This 80-yen value stamp is one of the stamps released on "20th Century Museum Series, No.11". These stamps were released by Japan in 2000. The stamp design shows a portrait of Shotokutaishi partly taken from the ten thousand-yen bank note. In 1985, ten thousand-yen bank notes were issued in order to meet the demand of large transactions and to simplify bank management. A historical figure, Shotokutaishi was adopted for the portrait on the bank note and a temple, Horyuji Yumedono was adopted for the watermark design in the center of the bank note. ●



## COMIC CHARACTER

On 16-3-2002 France released 2 stamps featuring two famous comic-strip characters Boule and Bill. The creator of these characters Jean Roba born in 1930 and grew up in the Brussels suburbs. He was drawing from the age of 3 and later worked with engravers, printers and painters on stained glass. He joined the editorial staff of the magazine "Spirou" to illustrate a story by Peyo. Then he published one joke a week. Thus were born, in 1959, the characters of Boule and Bill. ●



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## Garden Stamp of New Zealand

New Zealanders love their gardens, and to celebrate one of our favourite pastimes New Zealand Post has created a series of stamps featuring six flowers that are bred locally. Each of the flowers selected in this vibrant collection is either an award winner or holds some special significance for New Zealanders. To create the individual stamps, designer and artist Lindy Fisher created one beautiful overall image forming a bouquet, which can be fully appreciated through the miniature sheet.



As a series they present an overall effect of visual delight, while as individual stamps they invite appreciation of the finer detail.

The species are Camellia (40c), Siberian Iris (80c), Daffodil (90c), Chrysanthemum (\$1.30), Sweet Pea (\$1.50) and Petunia (\$2.00). The stamp set was issued in 2001.

## 150 Years of Brazil's City

On 19.3.2002 Brazil released this stamp to commemorate 150 years of Sao Jose Do Rio Preto. It was founded in 1852 by a group of farmers who had come from Southern Minas Gerais in search of rich soil and water for their crops, as well as pasture for their cattle. In the watershed of the small Preto river, which used to be covered by deep forests and was the former place of pilgrimage for



the Guarani Indians, the pioneers laid the foundation of their cottages, cut down the trees, ploughed the rich soil and planted the seeds of the future city of Sao Jose do Rio Preto. In the typesetting of the stamp the artist used a photograph taken by Edson Baffi showing midtown Sao Jose do Rio Preto as it is seen from the municipal dam which, in addition to supplying water to the city is also a meeting and leisure place for its people. ●

## WORLD TEACHER'S DAY

Kingdom of Bahrain participated with the rest of the world in celebrating the world teacher's day on 5th October, 2002. On this occasion the Postal Directorate released a set of 2 commemorative stamps depicting the emblem of the occasion and headed by the portrait of His Majesty Shaikh Hamed Bin Isa Al-Khalifa King of Bahrain. ●



## Norfolk Island Museum

The Norfolk Museum has joined with Norfolk Post to produce a new stamp issue featuring 4 very precious items. The items featured are : Lead crystal Salt cellar, a mug that once belonged to the leader of the Bounty Mutiny, Medicine Cups that were found during the excavation and a stoneware jar found during excavation. These stamps were issued on 5th April, 2005. ●

