



MALTAPOST ISSUES A NEW STAMP SET - FUNGI

The natural fashion of fungi which are found in Malta and Gozo, have been chosen to feature on this set of five stamps.

The set, designed by Stephen Mifsud, with face values of Euro 0.05, Euro 0.12, Euro 0.19, Euro 0.26, Euro 1.57, are 35.0mm x 35.0mm in size, with a perforation of 14.28 x 14.28 (comb). The stamps are offset printed on Maltese Crosses watermarked paper by Printex Limited, and are available in sheets of ten.

Stephen Mifsud is a dedicated fauna enthusiast with a particular passion to local species. His website, MaltaWildPlants.com, is a detailed database which describes in detail the wild flowering plants growing in Malta with hundreds of different species of plants which are found in the various habitats throughout the Maltese islands.

The five examples chosen by the artist for this issue are *Laetiporus sulphureus* (Euro 0.05), *Montagnea arenaria* (Euro 0.12), *Pleurotus eryngii* (Euro 0.19), *Inonotus indicus* (Euro 0.26), *Suillus collinitus* (Euro 1.57).

Fungi are a group of organisms and micro-organisms that are classified within their own kingdom, the fungal kingdom, as they are neither plant nor animal. Fungi draw their nutrition from decaying organic matter, living plants and even animals. Many play an important role in the natural cycle as decomposers and the return of nutrients to the soil. Fungi are even used for medical purposes, such as in penicillin.

These stamps are available as First Day Covers, in mint or cancelled format, and as Souvenir Folders and Presentation Packs. The stamps will be on sale from 27th March 2009, at all MaltaPost branches in Malta and Gozo, the MaltaPost Mobile Unit, and the Philatelic Bureau (tel. 2596 1747, e-mail philately@maltapost.com). Additional information on this and other issues is available on the MaltaPost website www.maltapost.com.

MALTAPOST TOHROG SETT GIDID TA'BOLLI - FUNGI

Il-faxxinu naturali ta' faqqiegh li jinstab f'Malta u Ghawdex, intghazel ghal dan is-sett ta' hames bolli.

Is-sett, iddisinjat minn Stephen Mifsud, b'valuri ta' Euro 0.05, Euro 0.12, Euro 0.19, Euro 0.26, Euro 1.57, ghandhom daqs ta' 35.0mm x 35.0mm, b'perforazzjoni ta' 14.28 x 14.28 (comb). Il-bolli huma stampati bil-process offset minn Printex Limited fuq karta bil-watermark ta' Slaleb ta' Malta, u jistghu jinkisbu f'folji ta' ghaxar bolli.

Stephen Mifsud huwa entuzjast dedikat tal-fawna, b'passjoni partikulari ghal-ispeċji lokali. Il-website tieghu, MaltaWildPlants.com, hija database dettaljata li tiddiskrivi fid-dettall pjanti u fjuri selvaggi li jikbru f'Malta, b'mijiet ta' speċi differenti li jinstabu f' abitati varji f'kull part ital-gzejjer maltin.

Il-hames eżempji maghzula mill-artist ghal dan is-sett huma *Laetiporus sulphureus* (Euro 0.05), *Montagnea arenaria* (Euro 0.12), *Pleurotus eryngii* (Euro 0.19), *Inonotus indicus* (Euro 0.26), *Suillus collinitus* (Euro 1.57).

Fungi (faqqiegh) huma grupp ta' organismi u micro-organismi li huma klassifikati fi klassi ghalihom, il-klassi tal-fungi, peress li la huma pjanta u lanqas animal. Il-Fungi jieħdu n-nutrizzjoni tagħhom minn affarijiet organici, pjanti kif ukoll animali li jkunu qed jitmerru. Hafna ghandhom rwol importanti fic-ciklu tan-natura, bit-tfettiġh u r-ritorn tan-nutrienti fil-hamrija. Il-Fungi huma wkoll uzati ghal skopijiet ta' medicinali, bhal ma huwa l-penicillin.

Dawn il-bolli jistghu jinxtraw bhala First Day Covers, ittimbrati jew minghajr timbri, u bhala Souvenir Folders u Presentation Packs. Il-bolli jkunu ghal bejgh mis-27 ta' Marzu 2009, fil-ferghat kollha ta' MaltaPost f'Malta u Ghawdex, mill-Mobile Unit, u mill Bureau Filateliku (cemplu 2596 1747, email philately@maltapost.com). Aktar tagħrif dwar dan is-sett u hargiet ohra jista' jinkiseb mill-website ta' MaltaPost www.maltapost.com.