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BNAPS Topics Editor

Suddenly, on February 4, 2006, the editor of the BNAPS *Topics* journal, David Handelman, was asked to resign. This came as a surprise because *Topics* has evolved into a very fine journal under David’s editorship, including the addition of colour in recent issues.

BNAPS President Charles Livermore requested this resignation, which became effective February 9, 2006. The new editor is Hendrik Burgers. The BNAPS website includes the following announcement:

“About our new editor. Hendrik Burgers (Henk) was born in The Netherlands and immigrated to Canada ... His editorial experience includes a term as editor of the *Canadian Philatelist* and then for a time as as editor of our Military Mail Study Group’s newsletter.” ♣

BNAPS Internet Study Group

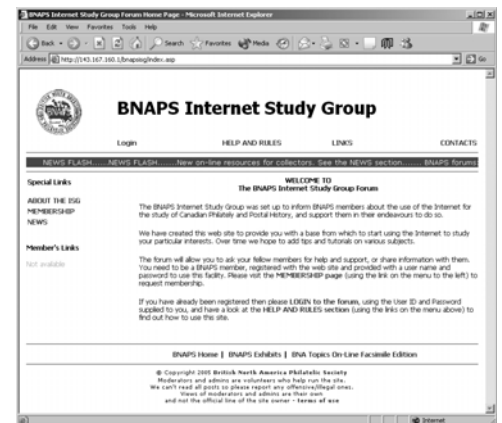
A BNAPS Internet Study Group (ISG) has been set up to inform BNAPS members about the use of the Internet as an aid to their research, and support them in their endeavours to do so.

A web site is available to provide you with a base from which to start using the Internet to study your particular interests. Over time it is hoped that tips and tutorials on various subjects will be added.

Of particular interest is the *Forums* section where some thirty different forums are available that act like individual newsgroups, each devoted to a specific aspect of BNA philately.

There is an **Elizabethan forum** and we encourage you to become a (free) member of the ISG and share your questions, insights, and discoveries.

Website URL:
<http://143.167.160.1/bnapsisg/index.asp>



King Kong

King Kong will appear on a stamp issued by Canada Post this year!



The stamp is being issued to honour Fay Wray; one of four stamps in a block featuring “Canadians in Hollywood” (two other subjects are expected to include Lorne Greene and John Candy). As illustrated, the stamp includes an image of King Kong atop the Empire State Building. ♣



Law Society Flaw Revisited ... 61

Who are We?

We are the Elizabethan II Study Group under the auspices of the British North America Philatelic Society (BNAPS) — *The Society for Canadian Philately*.

Our journal, the *Corgi Times* is published 6 times a year.

With the exception of the 1967–73 *Centennial Definitives*, we study all aspects of Canadian philately during the Elizabethan era.

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Please make cheques payable to "The Elizabethan II Study Group" and send to Robin Harris, Editor at the address listed to the right.

Articles with *no* by-line are written or compiled by the Editor. All articles are ©2005 by the author and/or the Elizabethan Study Group.

Canada Post News

Do we like more stamps being issued by Canada? Sure we do! Every new issue is a part of the Elizabethan era — right up our alley. Here is what Canada Post is up to these days...

Updated 2006 Canada Stamp Program

The World Association for the Development of Philately (WADP) website is reporting a number of issue dates for this year's stamp program. There appears to be a couple of surprises:

6 Jan	Lunar New Year (Year of Dog) [11]
12 Jan	Queen Elizabeth II
3 Feb	Olympic Winter Games
8 Mar	Gardens [4]
3 Apr	Birthday
20 Apr	Canadian Labour Congress
26 Apr	McClelland and Stewart
11 May	Canadian Museum of Civilization
26 May	Canadians in Hollywood [4]
28 May	Champlain Surveys the East Coast (joint issue with USA)
15 Jun	Vancouver Aquarium
28 Jun	Snowbirds-Canadian Forces [2]
30 Jun	Atlas of Canada
6 Jul	Lacrosse Championship
19 Jul	Mountaineering
3 Aug	Duck decoys [4]
16 Aug	Society of Graphic Designers of Canada
23 Aug	Wine and cheese [4]
12 Sep	Opera [4]
29 Sep	Endangered species [4]
20 Oct	Macdonald College
1 Nov	Christmas [4]
19 Dec	Definitives [11]

There is no mention of the Dorothy Knowles stamps scheduled for April 7th.

For some reason, 11 stamps are listed for the Year of the Dog issue when in fact only 2 were issued.

The planned release of new definitives next December means that the postal rates will go up again, but why 11 stamps? ♣

Corgi Times

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Back Issues:

Sample or single issues C\$3.50, US\$3.00 each.
(Six issues per volume) Vol I through V C\$17/vol, US\$13/vol; Vol VI C\$21, US\$16; Vol VII C\$18.50, US\$14; Vol VIII to XIII C\$20/vol, US\$15/vol

Corgi Times is produced with WordPerfect® for Windows. Manuscripts should be submitted to the Editor at the address above. Electronic format is preferred but not required. Scanned illustrations (300dpi, colour, actual size, JPEG or TIFF, black background), if available, should be sent as separate files from text files.

Study Group Business

New members

Bob Finlay (UK)
Gregory M. Spring (UK)

E-mail changes/additions

Bob Finlay
bobfinlay@silverson.co.uk
Gregory Spring
g.m.spring@asch.co.uk

Colour in *Corgi Times*

Feedback has been positive from the handful of members who have sent comments about the addition of colour to the *Corgi Times* journal — thanks to all who sent an e-mail or letter.

On-Line Tagging Database

A searchable, on-line database of all reported Canadian tagging errors (untagged, one-bar, etc.) is a new resource available on the internet.

Your editor Robin Harris developed the database on his website (www.adminware.ca/tagging) based on the data accumulated by ESG member Del Peters and pricing information put together by ESG member John Jamieson.

As of mid-February 2006, there are nearly 1,600 entries in the database. Over 800 images of tagging errors, extracted directly from Del's album pages, show the tag bars overlaid on the stamps.

Each error listing includes link(s) to pop-ups illustrating the tagging error type, and as noted above, an image of the stamp with overlaid tag bars showing the location of the error (where available).

The database will be constantly updated, based on reports of new finds.

The database is currently free to all users. A printed book, for those who wish a hard copy document to carry around with them, may be developed down the road. ♣

Planning Calendar

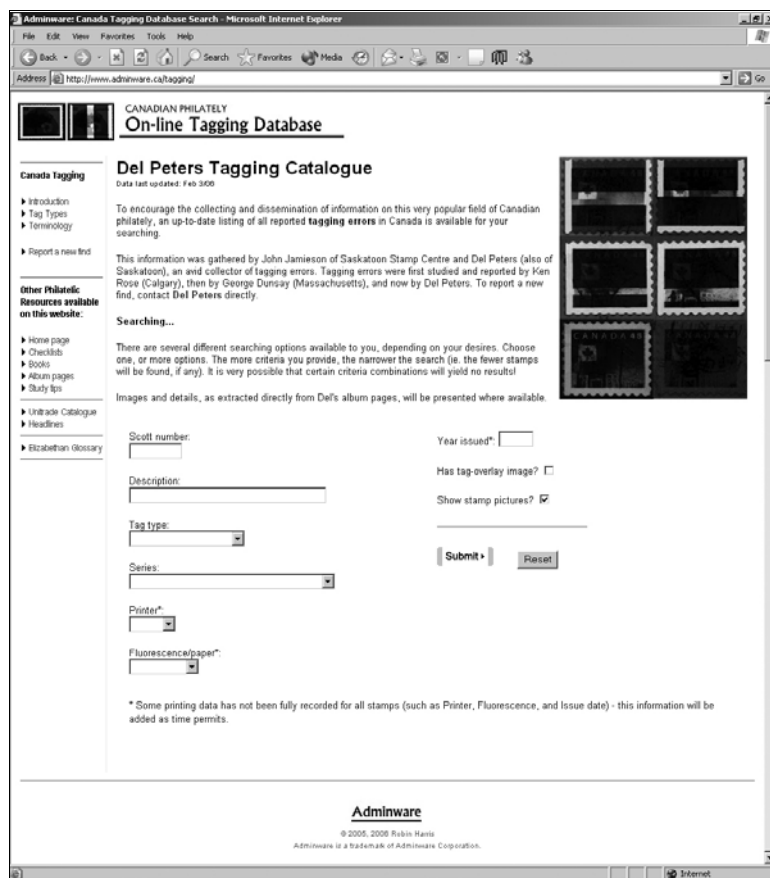
This is a listing of major exhibitions and bourses with a large content of both Canadian Exhibits and Canadian dealers. Minimum listing criteria: two day event; 1000 page exhibition; 18 dealer bourse with 50% offering Canadian material.

The goal is to list events far in advance to encourage either exhibiting or attendance and preferably both.

2006

May 6–7: **ORAPEX 2006**. RA Centre, Ottawa, ON.

Sep 1–3: **BNAPEX 2006**: Sudbury, ON



On-line Tagging Database

www.adminware.ca/tagging

Partial Canada Post 2005 Stamp Program

Issue dates are subject to change by Canada Post. Shaded entries are changed/new from the last time we presented this list.

Issued	Description	Scott#
Aug 2	50¢ Saskatchewan Centennial	2117
Aug 15	50¢ Oscar Peterson (1925–) < single < souvenir sheet	2118 2118a
Aug 15	50¢ Deportation of Acadians from the Maritimes (250th anniversary)	2119
Sep 2	50¢ Polio Vaccination (1955–2005)	2120
Oct 1	50¢ Youth Sports (4 designs)	2121a–d
Oct 13	50¢ Big Cats — Cougar and Leopard (joint issue with China) < pair < souvenir sheet	2122–23 2123b
Oct 20	Definitives [pane of 16 and souvenir sheet of 4] < \$1 White-tailed Deer < \$1 Atlantic Walrus	1696 1697
Nov 2	50¢ Christmas — Snowman (booklet of 12)	2124
Nov 2	Christmas, featuring Creches < 50¢ booklet of 12 < 85¢ booklet of 6 < \$1.45 booklet of 6	2125 2126 2127
Dec 19	Rate-change definitives — booklets < 51¢ Flag over ... (5 designs in booklet of 10) < 89¢ Yellow Lady's Slipper (pane of 6) < \$1.05 Pink Fairy Slipper (pane of 6) < \$1.49 Himalayan Blue Poppy (pane of 6) Rate-change definitives — coils < 51¢ Bergamot Blossoms (roll of 100) < 89¢ Yellow Lady's Slipper (roll of 50) < \$1.05 Pink Fairy Slipper (roll of 50) < \$1.49 Himalayan Blue Poppy (roll of 50) Definitives [pane of 16 and souvenir sheet of 4] < \$2 Sabre Island Horse < \$2 Peregrine Falcon	

Partial Canada Post 2006 Stamp Program

Issue dates are subject to change by Canada Post. Shaded entries are changed/new from the last time we presented this list.

Issued	Description	Scott#
Jan 6	Year of the Dog < 51¢ single < \$1.49 souvenir sheet < two \$1.49 postal cards (non-denominated) — one for each postage stamp design	
Jan 12	51¢ Queen Elizabeth II, 80th birthday	
Feb 3	51¢ Winter Olympics: Speed Skating and Skeleton	
Mar 8	51¢ Gardens (4 designs)	
Apr 3	51¢ Birthdays	
Apr 7	Art Canada (Dorothy Knowles) < 51¢ single < \$1.40 souvenir sheet (51¢ and 89¢ stamps)	
Apr 21	\$1.49 Queen Elizabeth II, 80th birthday (souvenir sheet of 2)	

Scott Re-numbering

by: Robin Harris

The latest *Scott Stamp Monthly* includes numbering for the recently issued \$1 Wildlife stamps of October 20, 2005. Scott has placed these two stamps in with the other high-value Wildlife definitive issues. In order to do so, some re-numbering has taken place, as noted in the chart below.



Description	Issue date	Old number	New number
55¢ Maple Leaf	Dec 28/98	1692	no change
73¢ Maple Leaf	Dec 28/98	1694	1693
95¢ Maple Leaf	Dec 28/98	1696	1694
\$1 Loon	Oct 27/98	1697	1695
\$1 Deer	Oct 20/05	—	1696
\$1 Walrus	Oct 20/05	—	1697

The new \$1 and \$2 definitives come in panes of 16 and souvenir sheets of 4. Full panes of 16 were not initially available in post offices on the first day of issue. Reports suggest that this was due to a plentiful supply of existing \$1 Loon and \$2 Polar Bear stamps. Full panes could be ordered directly from the National Philatelic Centre and have since become available across Canada.

There is a subtle difference between the stamps found on the panes of 16 and the stamps from the souvenir sheet: under normal lighting conditions, the phosphor tagging on the pane of 16 is “shiny” (i.e. visible to the naked eye), while the tagging on the souvenir sheet is “dull” (i.e. not visible). ❁



A stamp news group on the internet (Virtual Stamp Club) is reporting that the new \$2 Wildlife definitives will also be inserted into the same group of numbers resulting in the following number changes. These have not been confirmed with Scott!

Numbers removed to be added/changed

Description	Issue date	Old number	Suggested#
\$2 Falcon	Dec 19/05	—	1698
\$2 Horse	Dec 19/05	—	1699
\$2 Polar Bear	Oct 27/98	1698	1700
\$5 Moose	Dec 19/03	1699	1701
\$8 Grizzly Bear	Oct 15/97	1700	1702

4¢ Oyster Farming Reprint

As expected, the 4¢ Oyster Farming Traditional Trades definitive (Sc. 1676) has been reprinted by Canadian Bank Note — we heard about this the day the last *Corgi Times* was mailed! The panes include a UPC barcode in either the top or bottom selvedge.

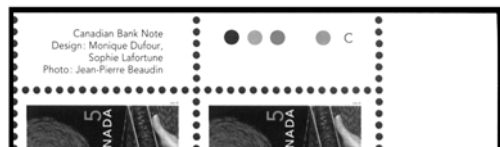
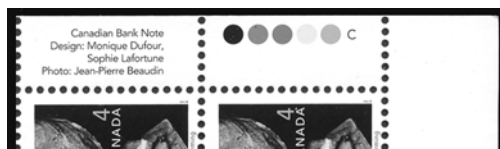
Interestingly, the colour dots found in the corner inscriptions of the new 4¢ stamp are significantly larger than those found on the other Traditional Trades reprints (1¢, 2¢, 5¢, 10¢, and 25¢).



4¢ Oyster Farming: CBN printing with UPC barcode in top selvedge



UPC barcode in bottom selvedge



Top 4¢ Oyster Farming: CBN printing
Bottom: 5¢ Weaving: CBN printing

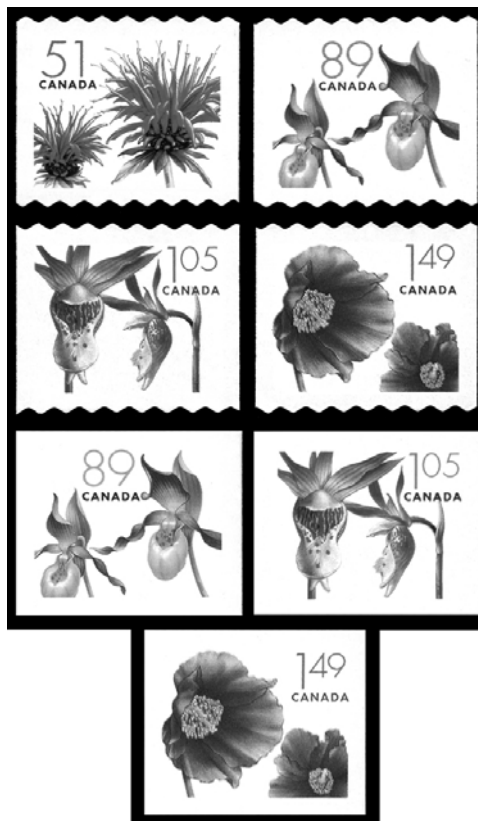
Rate Change Flower Definitives

by: Robin Harris

New definitives were issued December 19, 2005 in anticipation of the rate change on January 16, 2006. Thankfully, the 51¢ Flag over ... booklet of 10 only comes with *one* cover design (compared to the 25 cover types available on the 50¢ booklet). However, an “extra” value in the Flower series subtracts from your pocket book.

A brief look at the new rates provides the reason for these four new flower designs (four issued in coil format and three issued in booklet format):

	Standard		Non-standard and Oversize		
	up to 30g	up to 50g	up to 100g	up to 200g	up to 500g
Canada	51¢	89¢	\$1.05	\$1.78	\$2.49
USA	89¢	\$1.05	\$1.78	\$2.99	\$5.98
International	\$1.49	\$2.10	\$3.49	\$5.98	\$11.98



Coil "Wrappers"

by: Andrew Chung, Robin Harris, Mirko Zatka

An interesting sideline to the coil rolls that have appeared over the past year or so are the "wrappers". Wrappers isn't quite the right word as the clear plastic self-adhesive label does not surround the entire roll. These have appeared in slightly different formats. Two different sized UPC numbers were used. The "large" numbers (2mm tall) were initially used. The smaller sized numbers (1½mm tall) appeared in the Fall of 2005.

Denomination	"Large" UPC numbers	"Small" UPC numbers
50¢ Red Calla Lily	 10 peak: "F over R" & "F over O" inscription	 10 peak: "F over O" inscription
		 8 peak only
85¢ Yellow Calla Lily	 10 peak: "F over R" & "F over O" inscription	does this one exist?
\$1.45 Blue Iris	 10 peak: "F over R" & "F over O" inscription	 8 peak only

The type of diecut (10 peak vs 8 peak) and type of inscription is noted: do other combinations exist?

Notice that the 50¢ roll had a *third* UPC barcode "wrapper". This one, which appeared around November, has a colour-coded bar (in red) denomination indicator at the start of the sticker. All of the previous stickers had a solid white bar. Colour-coded stickers have not been reported on the 85¢ or \$1.45 coils. Do they exist?

Thanks to Mirko Zatka for passing along the scans of the large and small size UPC codes. I scanned the 50¢ colour-coded sticker. *All* stickers are a clear see-through plastic; the images were scanned on either a dark or light backing paper.

For the record, illustrated at right are the "wrappers" for the current set of coils that were released December 19, 2005. They continue the theme of a colour-coded denominational bar at the start of the sticker. However, a third size of UPC number has been used! The 51¢ sticker has a "medium-sized" UPC number (about 1¾mm tall), whereas the other three values have reverted back to the large-sized number (2mm tall). Do small-sized number exist? ♣



UPC "wrappers" for Dec 19/05 coil stamps

Recent FDCs Produce New Varieties

by: Andrew Chung and Robin Harris

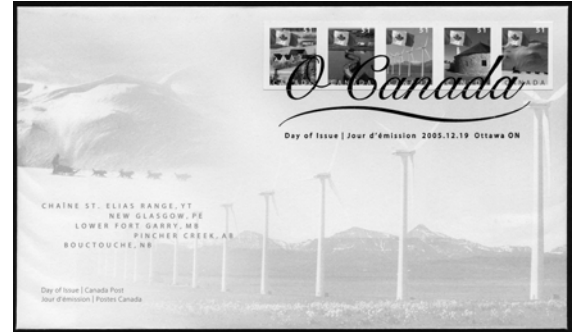
Two First Day Covers released by Canada Post in the past couple of months have produced varieties of stamps that are *not* found on mint copies of the same stamps.

51¢ Flag over ..., Dec 19, 2005

In this instance, the pane of ten 10 stamps has rouletting between the second and third column of stamps. The FDC does *not* have this rouletting, and, I suspect, if you were to soak and remove the strip of five from the FDC, it likely is not die cut fully through the stamps. This would produce an *intact* strip of 5 stamps.



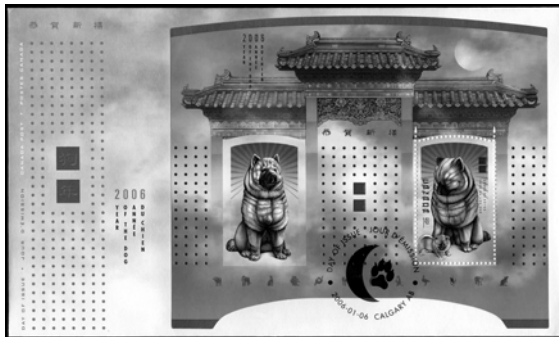
Top: FDC strip of 5 without rouletting between second and third stamp
Bottom: mint strip of 5 with rouletting



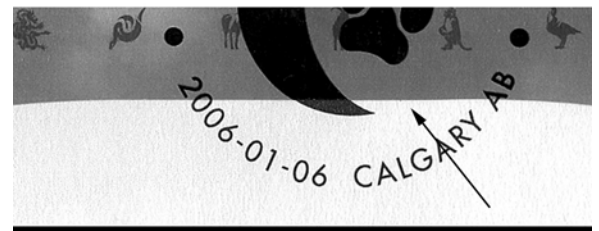
Flag Over ... FDC

1.49 Year of the Dog Souvenir Sheet, Jan 6, 2006

The mint souvenir sheet contains a UPC barcode on a small tab at the bottom of the pane, which can be removed along a fine rouletting line. The FDC does not have this UPC barcode ... but the tab was not *torn* from the pane either as there is no indication of any rouletting on the FDC. This suggests that a different cutting machine was used to produce the panes for the FDC.



Year of the Dog FDC



Top: mint souvenir sheet with rouletted UPC barcode tab
Bottom: detail of bottom of FDC with "straight cut"

It will be interesting to see what mint variety is included in the Quarterly Pack and the Annual Collection. Will they represent the "normal" mint panes or will they be from stock created for FDCs? We need to wait until about mid-April before the Quarterly Pack is released. Stay tuned! ♣

Miscut 49¢ Coil

by: Leopold Beaudet

A dramatic miscut coil variety on the Ashton-Potter (Canada) printing of the 49¢ coil was offered on eBay in February 2005 by David Winstone, a dealer from Great Britain. It sold for US\$75 (about CA\$92). The variety is certainly eye-catching. It is so striking that one wonders how it escaped the quality control of the printer and found its way to a post office and into the hands of a lucky letter writer.

Aside from being miscut, the stamps seem normal. The colours, tagging, and die cutting are all in their usual position with respect to each other. One can see the long, shallow “tooth” in the die cutting in its normal spot in the gutter separating the left and right stamps. So, whatever caused this variety happened late in the production process, at the point where the web of paper was guillotined to produce the individual rolls of coils.

The miscut coil does exhibit one other significant anomaly. It is quite a bit wider than a normal coil. The variety is 25 mm wide as opposed to 20 mm for the normal coil. This difference puts the variety in an entirely new light.

Ashton-Potter mounted the normal coils in a thick cardboard holder for shipment to post offices. The cardboard has two rectangular holes into which the roll of stamps was inserted and a smaller circular hole at the top to allow postal outlets to display the rolls on a peg. The width of the rectangular holes is about 24 mm. This is about 1 mm narrower than the miscut coils! Obviously, the variety didn’t leave the printer’s premises in the normal packaging. Given that the variety is so striking, perhaps the quality control department at Ashton-Potter did do its job after all. In which case, the variety reached the philatelic market without going through Canada Post.

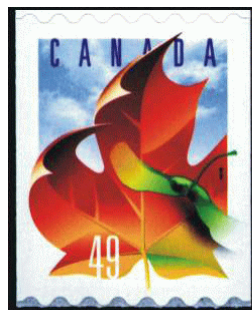
Most Elizabethan variety collectors are aware that the original Ashton-Potter went bankrupt in 1993. Most collectors are also aware that a large amount of “variety” material from the old Ashton-Potter (mainly imperforates, but also printing proofs and other material) started appearing on the philatelic market in 1995, after the bankruptcy. Ian Robertson wrote an article in *Canadian Stamp News* that dealt primarily with unissued imperf Fruit Tree definitives but also mentioned other imperf material from Ashton-Potter, apparently all printer’s waste [3]. David Handelman wrote an editorial deploring printer’s waste in *BNA Topics* [2] prompted, I suspect, by the amount of Ashton-Potter material appearing on the market.

Some of the imperforate material from the old Ashton-Potter is listed in the current Unitrade [7] and Darnell [5] catalogues. The 1999 edition of the Unitrade catalogue printed a cautionary note about imperforates of the 1992 low value Berry and 42¢ Flag definitives [6]:

“A few imperf. pairs of Nos. 1350, 1351, 1352, 1353, 1354, 1355 and 1358 have been seen by the editors. Most are creased due to mishandling and are thought to be of clandestine origin. Quantity and value have not been established.”

The reference to “clandestine origin” was dropped in the next edition.

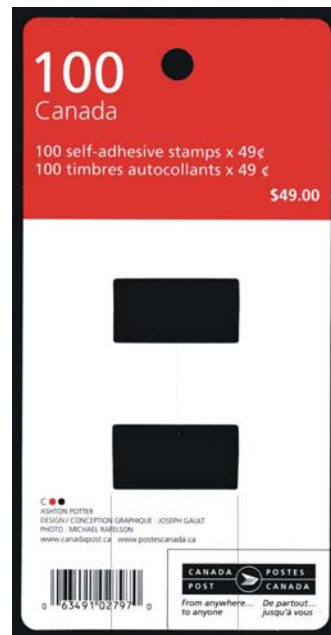
It appears that printer’s waste from printers other than the old Ashton-Potter is also finding its way to the philatelic market. Examples include the subject of this article from Ashton-Potter (Canada) and proof material, such as the Narwhal proofs described in [1], from British American Bank Note Co. This poses a dilemma



Normal 49¢ coil from Ashton-Potter (Canada).



Miscut 49¢ coil from Ashton-Potter (Canada).



Miscut 49¢ coil from Ashton-Potter (Canada).

to collectors of legitimate varieties (that is, varieties that do come through postal outlets). How does one determine whether a major error is legitimate or waste material?

Note that there are other ways in which printer's waste gets to the philatelic market besides the printer's "back door". One example. In 2000, Ian Robertson wrote about printer's waste that Ashton-Potter (Canada) had shipped for destruction to KMS Peel Incinerator in Bramalea (near Toronto) [4]. According to Ian Robertson's report, police recovered stamps with a face value of \$220,000 that had been "rescued" by an incinerator employee.

I would like to thank Andrew Chung who first pointed out the anomaly in the width of the miscut 49¢ coil and its implications.

References

1. Leopold Beaudet, 1968 Narwhal Variety, *Corgi Times*, Vol. 13, No. 2, pp 24-25.
2. David Handelman, Editorial: Error - or printer's waste, *BNA Topics*, Vol. 58, No. 2, Apr.-June 2001, p 3.
3. Ian S. Robertson, Smuggled out the back door, *Canadian Stamp News*, Vol. 23, No. 7, 18 Aug. 1998, pp 1, 10.
4. Ian S. Robertson, Cops lick plot to sell stolen stamps, *Canadian Stamp News*, Vol. 25, No. 3, 20 June 2000, pp 10, 15.
5. Lyse Rousseau, *Darnell Stamps of Canada Catalogue*, 11th edition 2005, Emanuel Darnell Publishing Inc., 2004.
6. *Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps*, 1999 edition, The Unitrade Press, 1998, p 319.
7. D. Robin Harris, editor, *The Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps*, 2006 edition, The Unitrade Press, 2006. ♣

A Canadian First

by: Robin Harris

There are two different kinds of die cutting on the self-adhesive 2005 Christmas Snowman stamp issued November 2, 2005.



Peak at upper left



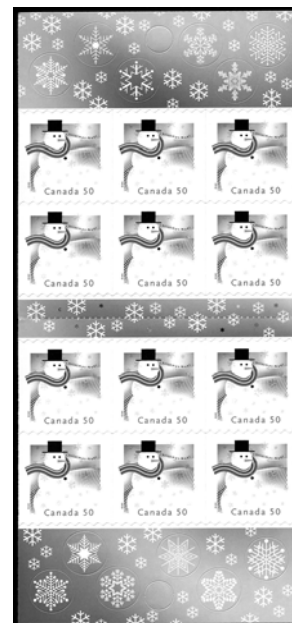
Valley at upper left

The three stamps found in the first and third rows of the pane start with a "half peak", followed by a valley, peak, valley, peak, etc.

The three stamps found in the second and fourth rows of the pane start with a "half valley", followed by a peak, valley, peak, valley, etc.

Thus, out of the booklet of 12, six have one die cut variety and the other six have the opposite die cut variety. This 'feature' of different die cut varieties has been seen on self-adhesive United States stamps for many years but this is the first time it has occurred on the *same* pane of a Canadian stamp.

Other Canadian stamp *designs* can be found with inverted die cuts, but these were due to different formats or different printings: 46¢ Petro-Canada (Sc. 1867), 60¢ Red Fox (Sc. 1879), \$1.05 White-tailed Deer (Sc. 1881), 65¢ Jewelry (Sc. 1928), \$1.25 Sculpture (Sc. 1930). ♣

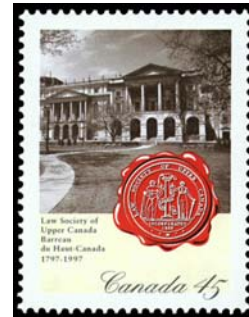


1997 45¢ Law Society Plate Flaw Revisited

by: Leopold Beaudet

In the Nov.-Dec. 1998 issue of *Corgi Times*, I wrote about a “nick in seal” plate flaw on the 1997 45¢ Law Society of Upper Canada commemorative [Bea]. The flaw occurs on the black plate on stamp 4/1 (that is, row 4, column 1) of the pane of 20 (4 rows by 5 columns). It was discovered by Raynald Fournier, and is listed in the 2006 Unitrade catalogue [Uni].

I thought this flaw was a secondary flaw (that is, constant on all panes on the plate) because it occurred on everything I examined, philatelic panes, field stock, and first day covers, until one day I stumbled across some post office panes without the flaw. Was the “nick in seal” really a secondary flaw? If so, how could these post office panes exist? Possible answers include:



1. The “nick in seal” developed on the “master pane image” (the image used to produce all the panes on the plate) for the black plate part way through the replication process. Some panes on the plate would show the flaw and others not. If so, it is indeed a secondary flaw but it would not occur on every pane on the plate.
2. The stamp was printed from more than one set of plates. The flaw developed on the master pane image between the production of one black plate and the next. Here also the “nick in seal” would be a secondary plate flaw.
3. The “nick in seal” occurred on the plate itself (and hence would be a tertiary flaw) in which case it would almost certainly be constant on just one pane on the black plate. This possibility is unlikely, given the prevalence of the flaw.

Three possibilities. Which one is correct? Having examined the plate proofs of this stamp transferred from Canada Post to Library and Archives Canada (LAC), I now know the answer.

LAC has the following sets of plate proofs: wet trap, production approval (first and second pass), and progressive. The wet trap proofs were signed off by a Canada Post design manager on 26 February 1997 and the production approval proofs on 3 and 4 March 1997. The stamps were issued on 23 May 1997. The progressive proofs are not normally signed off. They consist of several sheets, each printed by one plate or a subset of plates to show how each colour contributes to the stamp design. The types of proofs and the proving process are described in [Cha].



So, which explanation is correct? The plates have six panes for a total of 120 stamps. The wet trap and production approval proofs show no sign of the “nick in seal” flaw on any of the six panes, but the flaw is present on all six panes of the progressive proofs. It appears the second possibility is the one that occurred. At least two sets of plates were produced. One set, without the flaw, was used to print the wet trap and production approval proofs, and the other set, with the flaw on the black plate, was used to print the progressive proofs and likely the majority of the print run given the prevalence of the flaw.

References

- [Bea] Leopold Beaudet, “Plate Flaw on Law Society of Upper Canada”, *Corgi Times*, Vol. 7, No. 3, Nov.-Dec. 1998, pp 62-63.
- [Cha] Margaret Chartrand, “The Making of a Stamp”, *Performance*, Vol. 12, No. 1, Mar.-Apr. 1997. Reprinted in *Corgi Times*, Vol. 6, No. 1, July-Aug. 1997.
- [Uni] D. Robin Harris, editor, *The Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps*, 2006 edition, The Unitrade Press, 2006. ♣

Golden Jubilee Issue Produces Two Major Errors

by: Joseph Monteiro

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Introduction

The Golden Jubilee issue of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has resulted in two major errors both of which will undoubtedly be given status in all major catalogues on Canadian stamps. For the lucky finders it could certainly result in gold.

The Golden Jubilee commemorated the historic event of Queen Elizabeth II's fifty years as Monarch. Her Majesty, Elizabeth Alexandra Mary was born on April 21, 1926 in London, England. She was the first child of the Duke and Duchess of York, who became King George VI and Queen Elizabeth in 1936. She married Lieutenant Philip Mountbatten on November 20, 1947 and was coronated on June 2, 1953 at Westminster Abbey. She is the fourth British monarch to celebrate a Golden Jubilee.

Two Major Errors

Fully Imperforate Errors: The first major error is a fully imperforate error of the Golden Jubilee issue. On January 2, 2002, Canada Post issued a 48-cent stamp to commemorate Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II's Golden Jubilee. The stamp is designed by Gottschalk + Ash International. The design features two images, the maple leaf, a traditional symbol of Canada and the Queen. It is meant to symbolize Canada's support and best wishes to Her Majesty on this special occasion. The stamp was printed by Ashton Potter in panes of 16 stamps using lithography in eight colours on Tullis Russell Coatings paper and was perforated with a 13+ perforation gauge. The stamp is tagged on all four sides and PVA is used as the gum. The marginal inscriptions appear at the top and bottom of the pane in each corner. On the sides of the pane in the top and bottom corner appear a design of the Maple Leaf (six per block of four).

This fully imperforate stamp has their selvedge with the inscriptions on it, in other words, it appears on philatelic panes. It was brought to my attention by Gary Lyon of Eastern Auction Ltd. Their pamphlet states:

"Recently news of an exciting new major error reached my office. The 48¢ commemorative (Scott #1932) issued for the Golden Jubilee of the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II's had been discovered completely imperforate. I was eventually successful in purchasing all five sheets that were found. The quantity available to collectors is obviously very small, because each sheet contains only sixteen stamps. Therefore, the total find produces a mere twenty blocks (or forty pairs), making it one of the very scarcest modern era imperforate errors. Demand from Canadian collectors is sure to be high." [1]

Though only five panes of stamps were found' it is likely that six panes or twenty-four blocks were printed and the seller retained one for his collection.

Partially Imperforate Errors: The second major error is a partially imperforate error of the Golden Jubilee issue. It was recently offered for sale by Eastern Mail Sale. The newspaper described it as follows:

"* 1932 48¢ Golden Jubilee left margin mint pair with a rare major imperforation error, the right hand stamp is imperforate .as is at the left, light wrinkling as do all of the only four known examples, VF NH showpiece.....Photo Est. 1750.00" [2]

Given that this stamp was perforated by Ashton-Potter which uses a T-comb perforator, stamps with a missing perforation on one side or three sides have occurred in the past. This is because a one-comb T-perforator, perforates three side of every row or column with each strike. From the photo it appears that the stamp is missing perforation on three sides on the right hand stamp and on the left vertical side of the left stamp. Regardless, it is a partially imperforate error as it has vertical perforation on the left side of the right stamp and on three sides of the left stamp. The error also reveals that the sheet of stamps were perforated from the side rather than from top to bottom or vice versa. This partially imperforate stamp has their selvedge with the inscriptions on it, in other words, it appears on philatelic panes.

If the left stamp is truly imperforate on the left side, it implies that the perforator missed more than one strike. The first two missing strikes leaving the selvedge and right stamp imperforate and the next missing strike leaving the left stamp partially imperforate on the left side. If the left stamp is not truly partially imperforate then this type of error on the right stamp is not very unusual.

Though only four imperforates are known to exist, it is likely that more of this error should exist given the format in which the stamps were printed. A printing format of two rows and three columns should result in eight such errors and a printing format of three columns by two rows should result in twelve such errors.

Concluding Remarks

In sum, the above misperfs are quite noteworthy in that not many of them exist. The partially imperforate error is scarcer than the fully imperforate error. This is reflected in the estimated price at which these errors were offered for sale. The first was estimated at \$750 and the second is estimated at \$1,750. The estimates are unquestionably based on the number of errors that the auctioneer believed existed though typically fully imperforate stamps are estimated at a price much more than partially imperforate errors.

Bibliography

1. "Best Buys from the Boss # 100," Eastern Auctions Ltd.
2. "Eastern Mail Sale, December 14th 2005, p. 13. ♣

Year of the Horse Major Error

by: *Joseph Monteiro*

Introduction

The January 2005 *Eastern Mail Auction* offered a newly discovered error for a sale. It is unusual in that it is both imperforate and it differs in design from the stamp sold over philatelic counters. These characteristics typically raise questions as to whether these errors are genuine errors or essays that were created during the printing process.

Major Error

On February 12, 2002, the arrival of the new moon saw the dawning of the new Chinese New Year, the Year of the Horse. To celebrate this event, Canada Post released two stamps on January 3, 2002, a 48-cents stamp and a souvenir sheet with a \$1.25 stamp. The error referred to here is from the souvenir sheet. The souvenir sheet stamp was designed by Up Inc., Toronto and printed by Ashton Potter using 8-colour lithography and foil stamping and embossing. It was printed on Tullis Russell Coatings paper and is tagged on four sides. It has a perforation of 13+. Canada Post printed 1.7 million souvenir sheets.

The stamps shows the design of a horse with its neck turned back. Horses are symbols of vitality, progress and speed towards success. It is believed that horses bring wishes of prosperity and health and in Asian art, horses connote force and strength. The error that was offered for sale was described as follows:

1208 * 1934 \$1.25 Year of the Horse souvenir sheet, the sheet is imperforate and is printed with black lines over the design, it also shows differences of design with the issued sheet including the absence of the animal symbols at upper left, a rare item, VF NH, an identical sheet recently appeared in a U.S. auction with an estimate of \$3,500.00 US Photo Est. 1750."

The above description indicates that the stamp in the souvenir sheet is imperforate and the design of the stamp has black lines on it, in the form of cross-hatch which appear as small squares. In addition, the design outside the stamp on the souvenir sheet is also different in that it does not have the zodiac animals depicted on the border and the white inscription on the borders is also missing. This means that it is an imperforate error with a design that is not the same as the regular souvenir sheet sold by Canada Post. A picture, worth a thousand words, should convince any reader that it is different from the souvenir sheet sold without the error.

It is typically difficult to guess what caused this error or how many of them exist. I suspect, in the absence of further information how it occurred that it was either an essay. It is also not known how many of these errors were found. The offering of this error in the US and now by Eastern suggests that possibly more than one exists.

Concluding Remarks

In sum, this new error is interesting but whether it will make catalogue status is yet to be seen. This often deters philatelists from purchasing such items as there is doubt whether this is a genuine error and whether it was sold by Canada Post.

Bibliography

1. Eastern Mail Sale, January 25th, 2006, p. 19/p. 28. ♣

\$1.05 White-Tailed Deer

by: Robin Harris

A new ... and unique ... printing of the \$1.05 White-tailed Deer stamp has just been reported.

The stamp was first issued December 28, 2000 and was in use throughout 2001 for the then \$1.05 International postal rate for 0–20grams. It was issued in both coil (rolls of 50) and booklets (panes of 6).

It has taken five years for this new printing to come to light. The variety exists on the booklet pane version of the stamp design. Only nine (9) booklets of six stamps each were purchased in November 2005 in a post office near Ottawa. This results in only 54 stamps reported to date.



There are two essential differences:

	Original	New printing
Printing method	Lithography	Lithography (different style)
Die cut	8 1/2 (10 peaks)	9 1/4 (11 peaks)

The thickness of the new booklet feels like it is a bit thicker. Is this due to an extra layer of paper found between the stamps and cover? When held up to a bright light bulb, the paper manufacturer's initials (JAC) and logo can be seen as a 'watermark' (illustrated at right). The location of the 'watermark' varies and can appear in different locations on different booklets. This 'watermark' was not seen on the initial printing of these booklets.

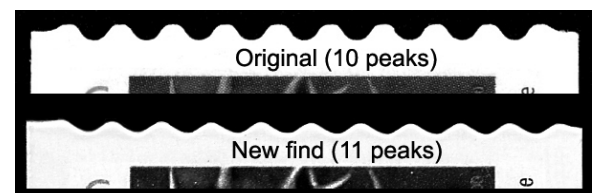
The lithography used on the original printings produces small dots of ink in a honey-comb pattern that are easily visible under 10 power magnification. The lithography used on the new printing results in colour that appears 'solid'. As a result, the new printing appears to have darker colours.

One report we have heard is that during 1999 and 2000 Ashton-Potter was producing 'experimental' printings to test the self-adhesive gum. It is not known for sure if this happened, and if it did, which stamp issue(s) were used for testing. This particular new find falls into this period (albeit a bit late) and includes the 'extra watermarked-type' centre paper.

This is a *major* new "perforation" variety and is quite likely more scarce than the 44¢ Walrus definitive rare perf of 1989 (Sc. 1171) which now catalogues at \$550 for a single stamp.

If you have any additional information or have found any examples of these in your travels, we would certainly like to hear about them.

✦



Canada Post wins Chinese stamp award

from: Canada Post

Canada Post's 2004 Lunar New Year stamps celebrating the Year of the Monkey, won the Best Souvenir Sheet Prize in the annual Best Foreign Stamp poll in Beijing. Canada Post also received the Best Participant Prize for the same issue. The award is voted on by members of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries. The CPAFFC presented the award to Zengyue Liu, the Canadian Embassy's Cultural Relations Officer, on December 9, 2005 at a ceremony in Beijing.

The stamps were designed by Louis Fishauf based on two original watercolour illustrations by Anita Kunz. Mr. Fishauf is a graduate of the Ontario College of Art and has designed many other stamps for Canada Post, including the Superheroes (1995) and Supernatural Creatures (1990) sets. He has done design and art production for major Canadian magazines (including *Chatelaine* and *Saturday Night*) and his work has been featured in many design publications. Illustrator Anita Kunz, also a graduate of the Ontario College of Art, has produced cover art for many magazines, including *Rolling Stone*, *The New Yorker*, *Sports Illustrated* and *Time*.



The stamps encompassed an impressive array of printing techniques and styles, including lithography in nine colours, foil stamping and embossing. The monkey figures were stamped with a clear holographic foil to suggest magical capabilities and were embossed to provide additional dimension. Canada Post's Lunar New Year issues are perennial best-sellers and often sell-out... as the Year of the Monkey issue did. ♣



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Fuzzy Prints

by: *Andrew Chung, Robin Harris, Mirko Zatka*

A couple of “printing differences” have been appearing on the current set of Flower definitives (illustrated on page 56). They say a picture is worth a thousand words...

89¢ Yellow Lady’s Slipper (booklet): different shades and “fuzzy” CANADA /inscription at right



MONIQUE DUFOUR, SOPHIE | MONIQUE DUFOUR, SOPHIE | MONIQUE DUFOUR, SOPHIE |

1.05 Pink Fairy Slipper (coil): “fuzzy” 1⁰⁵ at right



It is not known what the cause of these “fuzzy” differences are. Perhaps it is simply a matter of over inking? The result is some “fuzzy” looking denominations and colour dots in the inscriptions, and some darker/bolder text. ✦

Articles Wanted!

Time for our “annual” pledge for articles — although we can use articles at any time throughout the year!

Please pass along any Queen Elizabeth II-era articles on Canadian stamps — large or small.