

# The Elizabethan II Study Group Newsletter

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# **Canada Post 2011 Stamp Program Announced**

Canada Post released the 2011 stamp program on April 28, 2010 (last year, they announced the 2010 program on May 19, 2009 — getting earlier every year!). If you visit the Canada Post **Facebook** page on the internet (www. facebook.com/canadapost), you can also view a video of the stamp program announcement (great idea Canada Post!).

### New stamp issues in the 2011 program

- The Zodiac series, a first for Canada Post, will feature images of the traditional Greco-Roman zodiac. The first stamps in this issue will depict four popular sun signs (Aries, Taurus, Gemini and Cancer).
- The 100th anniversary of Parks Canada will be honoured, celebrating a century of world leadership in the stewardship of natural and historic treasures.
- Miss Supertest III marks the glory of the Canadian hydroplane racer, three-time-winner of the Harmsworth Cup.

#### **Continuing series**

- A fourth Mental Health fundraising stamp will be issued in support of the company's cause of choice. The booklet of 10 stamps sells for an additional dollar, which is donated to the Canada Post Foundation for Mental Health. Sales of the three previous issues of this stamp raised more than \$500,000 for the Foundation.
- The first commemorative issue of the year will be two stamps that mark the Year of the Rabbit. This will be the third issue in the popular twelve-year Lunar New Year series.
- The spotlight will shine again on Canadian Recording Artists including singer Ginette Reno, singer-songwriter Robbie Robertson and folk singers Kate and Anna McGarrigle.
- The Art Canada series features paintings by influential Canadian First Nations artist Daphne Odjig.
- As part of Black History Month, two stamps pay tribute to Canadian baseball Hallof-Famer and youth advocate Fergie Jenkins, and journalist Carrie Best, founder of The Clarion, one of the first black-owned newspapers in Nova Scotia.
- The Canadian Roadside Attractions series will close with a trip to Atlantic Canada that features the Shediac Lobster, the Oxford Blueberry, the O'Leary Big Potato and the Glover's Harbour Giant Squid.
- The gardening season will be highlighted with two stamps depicting warm and vibrant sunflowers.
- A salute to Canadian Innovations features stamps depicting the pacemaker, the electric oven and the electric wheelchair.

Other stamps feature the Canadian flag, baby animals, architectural details, methods of mail delivery, Christmas, the International Year of Forests, and Chemistry. Since 1851, more than 2,350 Canadian stamp issues have been released.

### **Dues Notice**

A special thanks to all of those members who responded promptly with their dues renewal included with the previous issue of the *Corgi Times*.

The notice was included in the last issue, at the last minute, because we were already into the next postage rate "bracket". Rather than pay extra for this issue as well, we figured that including the dues notice an issue earlier than normal, would save the club a few dollars.

A red X here \_\_\_\_ indicates that this will be your last issue of *Corgi Times*. Please take a minute and send in your 2010/11 dues now.

### 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.

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Annual Dues

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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.

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# 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...

## **▶** Favourite Stamp Issue?

Every once in awhile I'm sure you have seen a new stamp issue and said, "wow, what a great design!". Such is the case for me with the recent release of the five Canadian Geographic Wildlife Photography Contest stamps issued May 22 ... wow, what a great group of stamps!

These stamps were released in a self-adhesive booklet of 10 and a wateractivated gum souvenir sheet of 5. Even though I truly love these stamps, I still don't think there was a need to issue them in a souvenir sheet format.



The five stamps feature the winning entries in last year's Canadian Geography Wildlife Photography Contest. The souvenir sheet also includes images of the runners-up in the lower right corner. One image in particular, is my personal favourite — the five birds in their nest ... inside a fire hydrant!

# Corgi Times

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# **Study Group Business**

❖ New member

David Klus (BC) C. Lloyd Tancock (NS)

Deceased members

Douglas Casey (NS) Paul MacDonald (GA) John Tucker (ON)

# **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.

2010

BNAPEX 2010: Sep 3-5, 2010 in Victoria, BC

website: http://www.asch.ndirect.co.uk/bnapex2010

ESG meeting is scheduled for Saturday at 1 PM

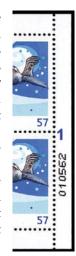
# This and That

Just a few random items to pass along...

- Canada Post CEO, Moya Greene, is changing jobs. Since 2005 she has been head of Canada Post; she is moving to Great Britain to become the chief executive of Royal Mail starting in July 2010, becoming the first woman ever to head the British postal service. Her salary of just under £500,000 makes her Britain's bestpaid female civil servant.
- Thanks to all of our members who have already sent in their dues renewal for the upcoming year. As of June 4, only 25 members are left to renew. Hopefully the "red X" on the first page of this issue will encourage this group of members to renew as soon as possible.
- Is the membership of the ESG aging? If the "Deceased members" listing at the top of this page is any indication, it is. I can't recall ever having more than one entry in this unfortunate category in a given Corgi Times, let alone three!
- My term on Canada Post's Stamp Advisory Committee
  has come to an end. The three years that I spent
  attending these meetings (three a year) were by far
  the most interesting time I have spent as a stamp
  collector. I took my role very seriously and hope that
  my contributions were worthwhile.
- The deadline for my completing the 2011 Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian Stamps is fast approaching it needs to be sent to the printer by the end of June, just a few weeks away as I write this. This will be the sixth edition I have had the pleasure to edit.
- ESG member Harold Houston sent an e-mail a month ago that he too has a 4¢ Cameo cello-paq with the Centennial logo on it. We illustrated these in the last Corgi Times. Nice find Harold!

• 2010 has now seen a couple of newsworthy stamp issues by Canada. The first was the surprise "Canada Strikes Gold" issue honouring Canada's first gold medal winner on Canadian soil. This issue generated a lot of positive collector interest, particularly those trying to create their own first day covers.

The second newsworthy issue is the recently issued Marine Life stamps; a joint issue with Sweden. These stamps were printed by Sweden Post. It turns out that Swedish booklets print "cylinder numbers" (either a blue 1 or blue 2) and "control numbers" (6-digit black dot matrix), each on about 1 in 10 booklets. Sometimes these numbers combine together on the same booklet. In addition, 1 in 50 booklets has a counting tab on the front cover. All of the above has resulted in a tremendous amount of collector interest in this issue ... and the news has not yet been reported in the press (until now). I, for one, have spent way too much on this issue!



Awhile back I had a message through my father that the only stamp dealer with a store front remaining in Winnipeg had something of interest to show me. On one my about-weekly trips to the "big city" I stopped in at North Main Stamp Company. I was shown several large multiples of the 6¢ orange Centennial with four-digit (5955 and 5959) fluorescent numbers. He felt the numbers were post office outlet numbers and were placed on the stamps as the postal authorities had been tipped off that a stamp robbery was to take place. It seems that the a temporary postal clerk inadvertently sold several panes!

Canada Post 2010 Stamp Program
Issue dates are subject to change by Canada Post. Shaded entries are changed/new from the last time we presented this list.

Lunar New Year: Year of the Tiger (2 stamps)  • Permanent™ (57¢) (pane of 25)  • \$1.70 souvenir sheet  • uncut press sheet	2348 2349
<ul> <li>Prepaid Postcards (1 of each design @ \$1.79 each)</li> </ul>	
Commemorative Envelope: Le Devoir (100th anniversary)	
Rate-change definitives  • Permanent™ (57¢) Queen (booklet of 10)  Permanent™ (57¢) Flag over Historic Mills (5 designs)  • self-adhesive booklets of 10 and 30  • \$2.85 gummed souvenir sheet of 5	2365 2351–55 2350
Flowers  • P (57¢) Striped Coralroot (coil of 100)  • \$1.00 Giant Helleborine (coil of 50 and booklet of 6)  • \$1.22 Rose Pogonia (coil of 50 and booklet of 6)  • \$1.70 Grass Pink (coil of 50 and booklet of 6)  • \$4.49 gummed souvenir sheet of 4  • P (57¢) Striped Coralroot (coil of 5,000)	2357 2358/62 2359/63 2360/64 2356 2361
Vancouver 2010 Olympic & Paralympic Winter Games (2 stamps)  • 57¢ (2 designs) in self-adhesive booklet of 10  • \$1.14 gummed souvenir sheet of 2  • Prepaid Postcards (1 of each design @ \$1.79 each)	2367–68 2366
57¢ William Hall — Black Heritage Month (pane of 16)	2369
57¢ Roméo LeBlanc (pane of 16)	2370
<ul> <li>57¢ Canada Strikes Gold!</li> <li>self-adhesive booklet of 10</li> <li>\$1.14 gummed souvenir sheet of 2</li> </ul>	2372 2371
Celebrating our Olympic Spirit  • 57¢ (2 designs) in self-adhesive booklet of 10  • \$1.14 gummed souvenir sheet of 2	2374–75 2373
African Violets (2 designs)  • Permanent™ (57¢) in self-adhesive booklet of 10  • \$1.14 gummed souvenir sheet of 2  • Prepaid Postcards (1 of each design @ \$1.79 each)	2377–78 2376
\$1.70 Canada-Israel, 60 years of friendship (self-adhesive booklet of 6); joint issue with Israel	
Four Mohawk Kings (4 designs)  • 57¢ in pane of 16  • \$2.28 souvenir sheet of 4  • \$2.28 souvenir sheet of 4, with 'London 2010' overprint	
Canadian Navy (100th anniversary)  • 57¢ (2 designs) in self-adhesive booklet of 10  • \$1.14 gummed souvenir sheet of 2	
Marine Life: Sea Otter and Harbour Porpoise; joint issue with Sweden  • 57¢ (2 designs) in booklet of 8  • \$1.14 gummed souvenir sheet of 2	
Canadian Geographic Wildlife Photography Contest  • 57¢ (5 designs) in self-adhesive booklet of 10  • \$2.85 gummed souvenir sheet of 5	
57¢ Rotary International in Canada (100th anniversary) • self-adhesive booklet of 8 • Prepaid Postcard (@ \$1.79)	
ing details are from Canada Post's online Postal Guide (updated Jan 11/10)	
Commemorative Envelope: Saskatchewan Roughriders (100th anniversary)	
Art Canada: Prudence Heward (2 stamps)	
Roadside Attractions, part 2 of 3 (4 stamps: SK, MB, ON, QC)	
Girl Guides of Canada (100th anniversary)	
Cupids, NL (400th anniversary)	
	Permanent* (574) Flag over Historic Mills (5 designs)  • Self-adhesive booklets of 10 and 30  • \$2,285 gummed souvenir sheet of 5  • Prepaid Poscards (1 of each design @ \$1.79 each) Flowers  • P (574) Striped Coralroot (coil of 100)  • \$1,00 Giant Helleborine (coil of \$0 and booklet of 6)  • \$1,22 Rose Pogonia (coil of 50 and booklet of 6)  • \$1,22 Rose Pogonia (coil of 50 and booklet of 6)  • \$1,270 Grass Pink (coil of 50 and booklet of 6)  • \$1,49 gummed souvenir sheet of 4  • P (574) Striped Coralroot (coil of \$,000)  Vancouver 2010 Olympic & Paralympic Winter Games (2 stamps)  • \$76 (2 designs) in self-adhesive booklet of 10  • \$1,14 gummed souvenir sheet of 2  • Prepaid Poscards (1 of each design @ \$1.79 each)  574 William Hall — Black Heritage Month (pane of 16)  574 Romdo LeBlanc (pane of 16)  574 Canada Strikes Gold!  • self-adhesive booklet of 10  • \$1,14 gummed souvenir sheet of 2  Celebrating our Olympic Spirit  • \$77 (2 designs) in self-adhesive booklet of 10  • \$1,14 gummed souvenir sheet of 2  African Violets (2 designs)  • Permanent* (574) in self-adhesive booklet of 10  • \$1,14 gummed souvenir sheet of 2  • Prepaid Postcards (1 of each design @ \$1.79 each)  \$1,70 Canada-Israel, 60 years of friendship iself-adhesive booklet of 6); joint issue with Israel  Four Mohawk Kings (4 designs)  • \$76 in pane of 16  • \$2,28 souvenir sheet of 4  • \$2,28 souvenir sheet of 4  • \$2,28 souvenir sheet of 4  • \$1,14 gummed souvenir sheet of 2  Aritical Four Mohawk Kings (4 designs)  • \$76 in pane of 16  • \$1,14 gummed souvenir sheet of 5  • \$76 in gane of 16  • \$1,14 gummed souvenir sheet of 5  • \$77 (5 designs) in self-adhesive booklet of 10  • \$1,14 gummed souvenir sheet of 5  • \$78 Rotary International in Canada (100th anniversary)  • elf-adhesive booklet of 8  • \$1,14 gummed souvenir sheet of 5  • \$79 Rotary International in Canada (100th anniversary)  • elf-adhesive booklet of 8  • \$71,48 gummed souvenir sheet of 5  • \$79 Rotary International in Canada (100th anniversary)  • elf-adhesive booklet of 8  • \$79,

# 2010/01 Quarterly Pack

by: Robin Harris

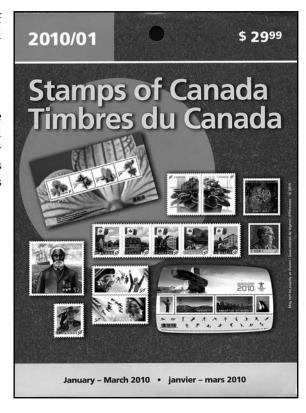
Canada Post released the January to March 2010 Quarterly Pack of stamps in mid-April. This particular pack has a couple of surprises and also a couple of questionable self-adhesive stamp formats.

#### Surprise!

• the three flower **booklet** singles supplied in the pack have die cutting that is inverted compared to the same stamps released earlier in booklets of 6. The single stamps supplied in the Quarterly packs start with a peak at the upper left (backing paper contains some form of printing from backside of booklet); single stamps from booklets of 6 start with a valley at the upper left.



Top: singles from 2010/01 Quarter pack Bottom: singles from booklets of 6



• the four flower **coil** singles supplied in the Quarterly pack have consistent rounded tips (backing paper is 'plain'), starting with a peak at upper left; stamps from the full rolls of 50/100 have inconsistent sawtooth tips.

On page 66 of the last *Corgi Times*, we noted that the excessive amount of souvenir sheets issued from January through June 2010 have added a considerably number of varieties and price to the stamp program (a minimum price of \$59.80 to obtain each single issue [with souvenir sheets] compared to just \$24.99 if no souvenir sheets had been released). The above seven stamps from the 2010/01 Quarterly pack just added another \$8.41 to this total.

### **Questionable Formats?**

- the January 12 Vancouver/Whistler Olympic Games issue was originally released in a self-adhesive booklet of 10 stamps. The 2010/01 Quarterly pack supplied these as *two single stamps*. Why not a vertical pair? This issue just begs to be collected as a vertical pair.
- The February 22 Celebrating our Olympic Spirit was originally released in a self-adhesive booklet of 10 stamps. The 2010/01 Quarterly pack supplied these as a vertical pair. Why not a horizontal pair, since the design concept was purposely configured in a horizontal format as the design flows from the left stamp to the right stamp? Very, very odd choice.
- why did the 2010/01 Quarterly pack cover show a gold foiled 'Vancouver' souvenir sheet even though the pack only included the 'normal' issue? Of course, in small print on the front package, just to the right of the illustration it does say "May not be exactly as shown".





2010/10 Quarterly pack singles

# **Canada's Elizabethan Experimental Tagged Stamps**

by: M. Zatka

A little known part of modern Canadian stamp history is the fact that the Post Office Department (eventually renamed "Canada Post" when it became a separate Crown Corporation) produced, and in some cases had issued, experimental or trial stamps for the purpose of evaluating new technology or testing new marketing ideas. These were not trials conducted by security printers for their internal purposes, but actual stamps or products made for internal testing purposes by the post office, and also for testing of public reaction to such new products. This article will cover the trials that led to the first Canadian "tagged" stamps, while a later article will focus on more modern trials.

The Post Office Department ("POD") announced in November 1961 that a trial of automatic mail segregation and cancelling will begin in early 1962 in Winnipeg, to assess the merits of using automatic "facer" canceller machines to locate and position stamps on envelopes for cancelling. This would require the use of stamps overprinted, or "tagged", with a special ink to allow the machine to detect and automatically cancel the stamps. Volume of mail continued to grow during the 1950s in Canada, and the post office was eagerly looking for a way to significantly speed-up cancelling of letters, instead of continuing to manually hand-cancel all letters and envelopes.

Unbeknownst to most collectors, the interest in tagging stamps for some form of mechanized handling began as early as 1955 in the research department of the POD. All of this information was obtained from National Postal Archives records, and a significant amount of research was done by several individuals whom I deeply thank for their efforts – without their work this story would have likely never come to light!

In the mid 50's, interest was primarily focused on adding some special material to the paper used for stamp production that would allow it to "glow" (or phosphoresce) after exposure to ultraviolet light. While the overprinting of stamps using other special inks was also considered, it was felt at the time that the cost of the extra printing step would be prohibitive. Considerable correspondence took place between the research departments of the Reed Research Company in the US, the E.B. Eddy Company in Ottawa - a paper manufacturer ("EBE"), and the POD to evaluate what paper additives could be used that would allow Canadian Bank Note Company ("CBN"), the security printer used by the POD at the time, to test gum and print stamps on. Despite work by the US Post Office, with support of the Reed Research Company, to develop and successfully use paper that was surface coated with fluorescent material on US stamps, this was ultimately not considered acceptable by the POD in Ottawa. Correspondence as to why this conclusion was reached does not appear to have survived.

By the late 1950s, the development focus seemed to shift to only the EBE and the CBN who continued to look for suitable fluorescent and phosphorescent inks that could be

applied to the surface of the printed stamps instead of paper doping. Correspondence also began with the Great Britain Post Office ("GPO") who at that time was already well on its way to developing phosphor coatings for its own stamps. Minutes of meetings held between EBE, CBN and the POD in mid-1959 indicate that attempts would be made to produce test stamps in Canada that could be tested on the experimental facer-canceller machine that had been developed for the GPO by Elliott Brothers (London) Ltd. Samples of two phosphor inks that were being considered by the GPO were provided to CBN for further evaluation for use on Canadian stamps. Ongoing correspondence with the GPO in late 1959 led to the following being decided by the POD:

- graphite markings on the backs of stamps would not be used in Canada and only phosphor recognition would be used, and
- two vertical tagging bars would be used on the current 1c, 2c, 3c and 5c stamps, while only one would be used on the 4c value.

Sample tagged stamps were produced by CBN and sent at the same time to the GPO for their evaluation as to how the POD expected to apply the phosphor bars etc. They included stamps tagged with two different phosphor inks that came from CBN's research department, as well as with the two GPO phosphor inks received by CBN earlier in the year. Interestingly, also sent at the time were samples of reply cards, official OHMS envelopes, and some stamped envelopes where the POD was also considering adding phosphor bars for automatic detection and cancelling. These latter items were never released with tagging for general or POD use, so the idea must have been rejected at some point. None of these test items appear to have survived.

Testing by the GPO in 1960 confirmed that both Canadian tagging inks sent on the sample stamps were detectable in the facer canceller machines in Southampton, but that the ink was not as strong as the ink used by the GPO. Caution was also passed on to the POD as to the width and location of the phosphor bars selected by Canada, as experience gained by the GPO showed that printing and perforating inaccuracy prevented the bars from being located only in the unprinted space between the designs, i.e.: margins. For this reason, phosphor bars of 3.5 and 8mm width had been chosen by the GPO, in part printed over the actual stamp image.

Based on these recommendations, POD notified CBN that they desired to have the 1c, 2c, 3c and 5c stamps overprinted, or "tagged", with 8mm vertical bars centered across the vertical margin space between the stamps, in effect producing two bars on each stamp, and a single 3.5mm bar in the centre of the 4c stamps. Some thought was also given to overprinting commemorative issues with phosphor bars, but only to the extent that a cost estimate was requested from CBN for overprinting the various stamp sizes then used for commemorative issues with phosphor (Canadian

commemorative issues with tagging were released only several years after the first issue on definitives).

In January 1961, the Post Office Department indicated that it expected to have the British facer canceller equipment delivered to Winnipeg, the site of the full-scale test, by October 1, 1961, and that production of the tagged stamps was to commence in April of the same year and be completed by July 1. Based on the stamp samples with different intensities of phosphor ink received by the POD earlier, the suggestion was made to reduce the amount, or intensity, of the phosphor ink on the stamps so as to not discolour the appearance of the stamps themselves. A further comment was added that if the discoloration could not be sufficiently prevented with Canadian phosphor ink, then the British ink would have to be used. Additional recommendations were also made specific to sending additional test samples of overprinted stamps with Canadian phosphor ink to the GPO for testing in the facer canceller "SEFACAN" machine, recently built and installed at Southampton, to confirm how well the machine detected the phosphor ink and cancelled the stamps. To assist with determining the appropriate level of phosphor ink required on the stamps, CBN supplied the POD in February 1961 with five sheets each of the 4c and 5c stamps, each overprinted with a "light", "medium" and "heavy" level of phosphor ink. An invoice exists proving delivery of these sheets to the POD as shown in Figure 1. All were produced with Canadian phosphor ink as the stamps fluoresced and phosphoresced yellow under long-wave ultraviolet light, while the British tagging ink in trial at the time phosphoresced blue under short-wave UV light.

Some of these sheets were then shipped to Great Britain for testing on the test facer-canceller machine in Southampton (a total of 1,000 stamps was sent). All of the various tagging levels were tested. dummy envelopes bearing the test stamps processed by the machine were provided by the British Post Office to the POD in late March. Results indicated that the light output of the phosphor ink on the stamps with "medium" overprinting, once irradiated, was approximately the same as that of the phosphor ink used by the GPO, and that the decay rate of the emitted light was at the minimum limit of





what the equipment would reliably detect. As a result, the recommendation of the GPO was to use the "heavy" coating to ensure the phosphor was properly detected by the automatic canceller. All except two of the tested dummy envelopes were properly cancelled – all 1,000 stamps were used in the test. Several sample copies of the test envelopes have survived and are retained in the Postal Archives in Ottawa – the remainder was destroyed by the GPO.

This left the POD with a problem, in that the Canadian tagging material tended to discolour the paper once applied, especially in the "heavy" overprint version. There appears to be a gap in the surviving correspondence, as a decision must have been made sometime in mid 1961 to use a different, possibly British, phosphor ink instead of the Canadian version for the main production run of tagged stamps that went on sale on January 13, 1962, in the Winnipeg area. This is due to the tagging on the released stamps phosphorescing blue instead of yellow with no fluoresce at all, and reacting to UV light in the long-wave range and not short-wave as does the British phosphor "Lettalite B" that had been considered earlier by the POD. Perhaps future research will add to this explanation.

A valuable piece of information, and very important for collectors, is that some of the latter test stamps produced by CBN for the Post Office Department and referenced in the invoice in Figure 1, have survived destruction. In early 1970s, the remaining quantities of these stamps were turned over to the Philatelic counter on Front Street in Toronto to be used up in regular sales. Their difference from normal tagged stamps was noticed by one individual who bought all that were available. The stamps remained unreported for several decades, until they were sold through the owner's estate when the individual passed away. Less than 100 copies are believed to exist of each type, and while their existence is not widely known, they occasionally surface through private treaty sales or in auctions. I would consider them a must for any serious collector of tagged Canadian stamps as they are documented pre-cursors to the stamps issued on January 13, 1962.

# **Counterfeit Lighthouse and QE II Booklets**

by: Leopold Beaudet

Someone offering you untagged Lighthouse stamps? Better take a closer look. You may be getting more than you bargained for. Or less, depending upon your point of view.

As was widely reported in 2006-2007 [3] [4] [5] [6] [7] [10], the following three booklets were counterfeited to defraud Canada Post:

- Booklet of six \$1.05 Deer stamps issued on 28 December 2000.
- Booklet of ten 49¢ QE II stamps issued on 19 December 2003.
- Booklet of six \$1.40 Maple Leaf stamps issued on 19 December 2003.

Two more counterfeit booklets have recently been found on PERMANENT<sup>TM</sup> stamps (those with the "P" denomination):

- Booklet of ten Lighthouse stamps. Two versions of this booklet were issued by Canada Post, the
  initial version on 27 December 2007 with the house on the left on the Pachena Point Lighthouse
  stamp and the revised version (correct scene with house on the right) on 1 May 2008 [9]. The revised
  version was the one counterfeited.
- Booklet of ten QE II stamps issued on 12 January 2009.

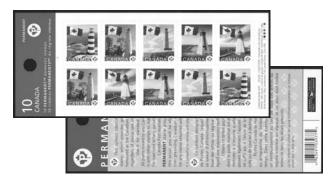


Figure 1. Front and back of the genuine 2008 Lighthouse booklet with the revised Pachena Point Lighthouse stamp.



Figure 2. Front and back of the genuine 2009 QE II booklet.

The genuine booklets, printed by Canadian Bank Note Co. (CBN), are illustrated in Figures 1 and 2. Most serious collectors of new issues will have little trouble distinguishing the counterfeits from the genuine. The three major differences are:

- The counterfeit booklets have no phosphor tagging.
- The paper on the face of the counterfeits is noticeably shinier than the Coated Papers paper on the genuine booklets.
- The details of the stamp designs are much coarser on the counterfeits than on the genuine. This is visible to the naked eye in the blue areas of the design on the Lighthouses booklet and is readily apparent under a 10 times magnifying glass on both booklets.

These characteristics allow even used singles to be readily identified. There are several other, more subtle differences. Those common to both counterfeit booklets include:

### 1. Half tone lithographic screen

On lithographic stamps, each colour is rendered as a series of dots to produce the lithographic shading in the design. The counterfeiters used older technology, a mesh screen through which each colour is photographed. Depending upon how fine it is, a mesh screen produces 200 to 300 dots per inch. The dots vary in size, but they form rows that are apparent under a good magnifying glass. Each colour is photographed at a different angle through the mesh to ensure that the rows of dots don't line up with each other. The rows are obvious in the magnified illustration of the counterfeits in Figures 3 and 4. By contrast, CBN and Lowe-Martin Group use a computer-generated stochastic half-tone screen. A stochastic screen uses tiny, randomly scattered dots all of the same size (10 microns in the case





Figure 3. The magnified view of the Pachena Point Lighthouse stamp shows details on the genuine (left) that are completely missing on the counterfeit (right). The rows of blue and red dots in the sky are obvious on the latter.





Figure 4. The detail on the Queen's face, hat, and background on the genuine (left) contrast with the rows of dots formed by the mesh screen on the counterfeit (right).

of Lowe-Martin Group) to achieve the lithographic shading. The genuine stamps on the left side of Figures 3 and 4 show very fine details in the stamp design that the counterfeiters had no hope of reproducing with a mesh screen.

### Microprinting

The Lighthouse and QE II designs both feature black microprinting. On the Lighthouses, the lighthouse location is printed in a dark area of the design. On the QE II design, the microprinting is on the rim of the Queen's hat. As shown in Figures 5 and 6, there is no microprinting on the counterfeits due to the limitations of the coarse half-tone screens.



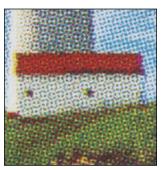


Figure 5. The microprinting on the genuine Cap-des-Rosiers Lighthouse stamp (left) is just a blob on the counterfeit (right).





Figure 6. The microprinting on the genuine QE II stamp (left) is a bunch of blue and red dots on the counterfeit (right).

#### 3. Maple leaves on the back

The shading in the maple leaves on the back of the booklets is smooth and continuous on the genuine booklets. It consists of rows of dots on the counterfeits (Figure 7). The difference is again due to the type of lithographic half-tone screen used.

#### 4. Canada Post logo

The Canada Post logo on the back of the two counterfeit booklets varies from the genuine. The black wing in the logo has three horizontal "fingers". The horizontal lines are straight on the counterfeits but lightly tapered on the genuine booklets (Figure 8). The counterfeiters must have redesigned the logo rather than reproducing it. Although small, this difference is a dead give-away because commercial enterprises usually attach great importance to their corporate logo and take pains to have it reproduced exactly as originally designed.





Figure 7. The continuous colouring of the maple leaves on the back of the genuine booklets (left) becomes rows of dots on the counterfeits (right).



Figure 8. The horizontal "fingers" in the wing on the Canada Post logo are gently tapered on the genuine (left) but straight on the counterfeit (right).

#### Kiss cut

Although there are differences, the simulated perforation kiss cut on the counterfeits is impressively close to the genuine (Figure 9).

#### Paper fluorescence

The counterfeits are much more fluorescent than the genuine on the front, but less fluorescent than the genuine on the back.

Figure 9. The differences in the kiss cut on

the genuine (top) and counterfeit (bottom) are minor.

The Lighthouse booklet has additional differences:

#### Legend at right

There are variances in the legend at the right end of the booklet. On the second line, the genuine has a semi-colon after "Bash" and a space before the semi-colon at the end of the line. On the counterfeit, there is a colon after "Bash" and no space before the semi-colon at the end (Figure 10). The font on the counterfeit is slightly smaller than on the genuine.

### Line on back

On the back of the booklet, the line between the bar code and the Canada Post logo goes to the edge of the booklet on the counterfeit but stops short on the genuine (Figure 11).

I understand that the existence of the Lighthouse counterfeits was known since November 2009. In the June issue of *Philatélie Québec*, Richard Gratton reports that the QE II counterfeits were in circulation since the beginning of this year [8]. Ken Pugh has also recently published information about them. John Jamieson of Saskatoon Stamp Centre has acquired examples. Used counterfeit stamps have been reported on mail with Toronto and Montreal postmarks.

The three counterfeit booklets reported in 2006 were produced with stochastic half-tone screen technology, and they were tagged. This suggests that the counterfeiters of these three booklets had access to more sophisticated printing facilities than the individuals responsible for the two booklets described in this article. On the other hand, the kiss cut of the more recent booklets is very similar to the genuine whereas the kiss cut of

had difficulties matching the typography on the booklets, and they both made typos.

CANADIAN BANK NOTE DESIGN / CONCEPTION : Gottschalk+Ash International PHOTOS : (left column / colonne de gauche) : Charles W. Rash ; David Nunuk | First Light; Mirek Weichsel; Mike Grandmaison | All Canada Photos ; Chris Mills C • • • • • • • CANADIAN BANK NOTE DESIGN / CONCEPTION : Gottschalk+Ash International PHOTOS : (left column / colonne de gauche) : Charles W. Bash : David Nunuk | First Mirek Weichsel ; Mike Grandmaison | All Canada Photos ; Chris Mills C • • •

Figure 10. On the genuine Lighthouse booklets (top), the legend has a semi-colon after "Bash" and a space before the semi-colon at the end of the second line.



Figure 11. The line between the bar code and the Canada Post logo stops short of the bottom on the genuine Lighthouse booklet (top), but runs to the edge on the counterfeit (bottom).

One assumes Canada Post is aware of the latest counterfeits because the cancelling and sorting machines at the mail processing plants would reject stamps without tagging. A quick check of the microprinting on the rejects would reveal their true nature.

the 2000 \$1.05 Deer booklet was noticeably different. The counterfeiters did have some problems in common: they both

Canada Post introduced measures (microprinting, simulated perforations, and intricate designs in the tagging) to make counterfeiting more difficult after the booklets discovered in 2006 [2] [9]. This may have made the recent counterfeits easier to detect, but it obviously didn't deter the counterfeiters. Nor did it prevent resellers or the general public from buying and using the counterfeits. While the countermeasures may have helped philatelists and Canada Post security, they are not things the public would look for even if they were sensitized to the fact that counterfeits existed.

Ken Pugh has reported the existence of counterfeit flower coils [1], but they were amateurishly produced (colour laser printing, no tagging, no kiss cut) compared to the booklets.

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# Self-Adhesive Stamps: How Are They Made? And a Rare Find

by: Arnold Janson, Burlington, Ontario

After reading some of the issues regarding self-adhesive stamps, an article on self-adhesive stamps and how they are printed is hereby presented as a "a contribution to philately knowledge". A rare "non-postal issue" find is presented that helps illustrate the printing procedure.

Mint copies of Canada #1878, the 47¢ "Maple Leaf" self-adhesive coil stamp have been found in an unusual format:

- Horizontal diecut strip of 3 stamps (issued as vertical coil)
- Without the pressure sensitive adhesive
- With the PVA water-soluble release agent



The best way to illustrate how these came to exist is to describe the process of how self-adhesive stamps are made:

A finished self-adhesive stamp consists of a "four-layer" construction.

- Stamp paper on top; with stamp image
- 2. A water-soluble "release agent" between the stamp paper and the adhesive; permits the removal of used stamps from an envelope; in the case of #1878, it is a PVA coating
- 3. Pressure-sensitive adhesive: permits attaching the stamp to an envelope without water being required
- 4. Silicone-coated backing paper: serves as the carrier for the stamp

The sequence of events to produce this four-layer construction consists of 4 steps:

- 1. Stamp paper is printed with stamp image
- 2. The water-soluble release agent is applied to the stamp paper.

Note: the order of these two steps can be reversed, i.e. the stamp image can be applied to paper with the water-soluble release agent already applied.

3. A thin layer of pressure-sensitive adhesive (an aqueous emulsion) is applied to the surface of the siliconecoated backing paper. The backing paper with the aqueous emulsion adhesive is then fed into an oven to remove the water, leaving the adhesive behind on the backing paper.  Upon exiting the oven, the stamp paper with the release agent is laminated to the cured adhesive on the backing paper producing the final "four-layer" product.

Most pressure-sensitive stamps are printed on sheetfed presses with very heavy backing paper (80 lbs. per ream). The printed sheets are then diecut and folded into booklets. The reverse side of the backing paper is also printed and serves as the booklet cover.

Coil stamps are produced on a lighter backing paper (40 lbs. per ream) because the heavier backing cannot be rolled into tight reels. The 47¢ coil stamps (#1878) were printed by Ashton-Potter in late 2000 or early 2001 on their Web Offset Litho press (with an added Intaglio print station that was not used on this stamp). These stamps were printed in a web (or roll) format because they were destined for use as coil stamps. The pressure-sensitive adhesive was applied to the backing paper and the final diecutting was done at Ashton-Potter's Buffalo NY facility. It is not known which Ashton-Potter facility did the actual printing of the stamp images.

Ashton-Potter produced these stamps on a web that was approximately 20" wide with 5 strips of 3 stamps printed across the web. This 20" wide web would be slit into 5 smaller webs, each approximately 3.5" wide. These narrower 3.5" webs would then be diecut as per the above photo. The excess on the sides of the 3.5" wide rolls would then be removed and the rolls slit, ultimately producing 3 coils, each one stamp wide by 100 stamps, ready for the consumer.

Three examples are known to exist. The reasons these finds are rare are:

1. They have the PVA water-soluble release agent but are missing the pressure-sensitive adhesive.

During the manufacturing process, during step 3 described above (20" wide web), the pressure sensitive adhesive was not applied correctly and some localized areas of the backing paper did not receive the adhesive. When the 20" wide roll exited the final lamination step i.e. creating the final four-layer product, all appeared to be correct. But, as this 20" wide roll was cut into the 5 strips of 3 and then diecut, the smaller diecut pieces that did not have pressure-sensitive adhesive to hold them onto the backing paper fell off the web.

2. They are in horizontal strips of three - instead of in vertical strips.

# Marine Life — Joint Issue with Sweden

by: Robin Harris, with reports from Mirko Zatka, Georg Gerlach, Andrew Chung, Brian Cannon

Canada Post joined forces with Sweden to issue a pair of stamps, that share the same designs, as a joint issue on May 13, 2010. Canada's issue consisted of two designs in a water-activated booklet of 8 stamps and a water-activated souvenir sheet of 2. Sweden issued four designs in a booklet of 4 stamps. All of the stamps, including Canada's, were printed by Sweden Post Stamps.

SACTIS - LIVER OF REF.

WAS CITES - LIVER OF REF.

Physical Armonic Principal

CANADA 57

CANADA 57

Canada's two formats produced four different stamps due to different security-type perforations. The souvenir sheet includes a "maple leaf" punched out between the pair of stamps, with "elliptical"-type perfs on the sides; the booklet pane includes the "elliptical" perfs punched out *between* the two designs.

On the surface, that would seem to be it for this issue. However — on the day the stamps were issued — it quickly became apparent that there were a lot more varieties to be collected.

This issue has proven to be one of the most fascinating Canadian commemorative issues *ever*.







Canada's booklet pane of 8, with 'plain' selvedge at right

Sweden's booklet pane of 4 designs

There are three other printing characteristics included on this issue, printed by Sweden Post Stamps, that have produced a number of varieties:

- as is typical on Swedish booklets, a cylinder number "1" or cylinder number "2", in blue on this issue, can appear on the right-hand selvedge of the pane. The interval of these is not known.
- as is also typical on Swedish booklets, a black, 6-digit dot-matrix style control number (the Swedes call it 'KN' [1]) can appear on the right-hand selvedge of the pane. The interval of these is not known.
- a 2x10mm black (or grey-appearing if under-inked) "counting tab" spans the fold of the booklet cover starting at the lower right corner of the front. It is believed this variety occurs on 1 in 50 booklets.

All three varieties can be found in combination with the others! This produces at least 13 different booklets, a couple of which are extremely difficult to find (i.e. very scarce).

To make this even more interesting, the 6-digit control number has been found on the selvedge opposite the stamp in the *top row*. Until this discovery, all of the known numbers were seen beside the *lower right* stamp. This variety has not yet been reported in combination with the blue 1 or 2 or counting tab. That doesn't mean these don't exist; they just might. I would be most interested in hearing from you if you have any of these.



Various selvedge markings at right side of booklet pane (images at actual size)

# Packaging/Distribution

From reports I've heard, these booklets were bundled in packages of 25 booklets, each bundle having a brown slip of paper wrapped around them. Two booklets would then be grouped together and plastic-shrink wrapped.

There seems to be no rhyme or reason (or pattern!) as to the distribution of these varieties. We know that the stamps were printed *and bundled* by Sweden Post Stamps. Based on the evidence reported by several collectors from across Canada, it seems like the various varieties were randomly grouped into bundles, in some as-yet determined "pattern".

Personal visits to dozens of post offices in Winnipeg and surrounding areas, and the subsequent perusal of hundreds of booklets, confirms the above "random" distribution. A bundle of 25 might have a couple of "blue 1's" or it might have a "blue 1" and a "blue 2" or it might have a couple of "blue 1's with 6-digit control number" or it might … (well, you get the picture). If you are lucky you will find a counting tab with a blue 1 or 2, or even with a 6-digit control number.

#### **Counting Tabs**

As noted earlier, it is believed that the black counting tab appears on 1 in 50 booklets. The examples I have seen have been on the top booklet in a bundle of 25.

ESG member Andrew Chung, who attended The Royal show in Windsor, ON at the end of May, reports that the Canada Post outlet who attended the show had a bundle of 25 that contained *two* booklets with a counting tab (at the bottom of the bundle).

A couple of 'counting tab' booklets that I have found in my visits to post offices were not found in the bundle(s) presented to me ... they were actually sitting in a pull-out booklet display case resting on the counter. Don't forget to look at *all* of the booklets that an outlet might have.





Booklet cover with 'counting tab' at lower right (black and under-inked (light grey appearance)

The counting tab, as noted earlier, is generally black (sometimes very black). In many cases, due to under-inking, the counting tab will appear "grey". ESG member Brian Cannon passed along an example of a counting tab that is "white". This example is so faint that all one can really see is the indentation (I hope the picture at right turns out well when printed here).



#### "White" counting tab

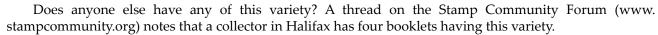
#### **Control Number**

The 6-digit control number is yet another story. A bundle might have 2 or 3 or more of these. Generally the numbers will be consecutive. That is, **010569** and **010570** were found in the same bundle of booklets. This means that the booklets do not count individual panes but some other multiplier. If 2,200,000 stamps were printed, that makes 275,000 panes. If the control number range is 0 to about 90,000, then 275,000 / 90,000 = 1 in 3 booklets has a number. My experience shows that these control numbers are closer to 1 in 10 booklets or so.

One outlet I went to in Winnipeg had two booklets that had the combination of 6-digit control number *and* blue 2 (nice find!). However, the control numbers in this bundle were **000857** and **089378**. These numbers are nowhere near being consecutive!

#### A New Find

On yet another visit to a post office in Winnipeg, a search of their bundle of booklets resulted in the find of three booklets having the 6-digit control number. Nothing odd about this, except that the numbers were placed on the selvedge to the right of the stamp in the *top* row, rather than the *bottom* row. The rest of the pane appears to be "normal", so this does not seem to be a miscut pane.



The three booklets that I have of these are **@5155**, **@5156** and **@5157**. The four as reported from Halifax are numbered **@5251**, **@5288**, **@5293**, and **@5294**. Interesting pattern?



### **Combo Numbers**

A booklet with a combination blue cylinder (1 or 2) *and* a 6-digit control number are not that common. With that said, as more and more collectors become aware of these varieties and pick these up, *to save*, from their local post offices, the supply may eventually outweigh the demand!

Members of the Stamp Community Forum have been posting information about the 6-digit control numbers found in combination with the blue cylinder number (1 or 2) in hopes of finding a pattern. The chart at right is a summary of just some of these "combination" booklets. Except for a couple of numbers, so far the blue 1 appears with *low* 6-digit control numbers and the blue 2 appears with *high* control numbers. Interesting?

## "The Holy Grail"

The ultimate booklet to find is one that has a counting tab *with* either a blue cylinder number 1 or blue cylinder number 2 *and* a 6-digit control number.

I have heard of only one of these being found so far (in Alberta).

# **Scarcity / Patterns?**

As was noted earlier, when you browse through a bundle of booklets, there seems to be no regular pattern as to the sequence of control numbers or cylinder numbers. A couple of collectors have had the chance to look through several un-opened bundles and have taken this opportunity to jot down exactly what they have seen. The results of one such study, from ESG member Georg Gerlach, are reported here.

6-digit control numbers			
with blue cylinder			
1	2		
000901	000627		
001155-57	000648		
010562	000857		
010569	002874		
010570	004438-40		
013043 •	<b>008082</b> –8 <b>4</b>		
013045	008172-73		
013046	011211-12		
013921	089378		
014765	089609-10		
014768	089930-31		
	089935-36		
	090657		
• w/counting tab	092464-65		
	092473-74		
	092570-71		
	092608		
	092820		
	099849		
	099902-03		

Summary of Marine Life Booklets (5 packages of 50 each viewed May 30, 2010 by Georg Gerlach in Alberta) Location of cylinder numbers (1 or 2), Control numbers (#), and Counting tabs (\*)

Wrapped package of 50 Pkg # 3845			
Bundle A	bklt#	Bundle B	
	1	# *	
2	2	1	
	3		
	4		
	5		
#	6		
1	7	2	
	8		
	9		
	10		
	11	#	
2	12	1	
	13		
	14		
	15		
#	16		
1	17	2	
	18		
	19		
	20		
	21	#	
2	22	1	
	23		
	24		
	25		

Wrapped package of 50 Pkg # 3471			
Bundle A	bklt#	Bundle B	
	1	2 #	
	2		
	3		
2	4		
	5		
	6	1	
	7		
	8		
	9		
#	10		
1	11	2 #	
	12		
	13		
2 #	14		
1	15	2	
	16		
	17	1	
	18		
	19		
2	20		
	21		
	22	2 #	
	23		
#	24		
1	25		

Wrapped package of 50 Pkg # 3407				
Bundle A	bklt#	Bundle B		
	1			
	2			
#	3	1		
1	4			
	5			
	6			
	7			
	8	1		
	9			
2	10			
	11			
	12			
	13	2 #		
# *	14			
1	15			
	16			
	17			
	18	1		
	19			
2	20			
	21	2 #		
	22	*		
	23			
*	24			
1	25			

Wrapped package of 50 Pkg # 3410				
Bundle A	bklt# Bundle			
	1	2		
	2			
	3	1		
	4	*		
1	5			
	6			
	7			
	8	2		
	9			
	10			
	11			
2	12	#		
	13	1		
	14			
	15			
#	16			
1	17			
	18			
*	19			
	20	#		
	21	1		
2	22			
#	23			
1	24			
	25			

Wrapped package of 50 Pkg # 3434				
Bundle A	bklt#	Bundle B		
	1			
	2	2		
	3			
	4			
	5			
	6			
2	7			
	8	2		
	9			
	10			
	11			
	12	#		
	13	1		
	14			
2	15			
	16			
	17			
#	18	2		
1	19			
	20			
	21	#		
	22	1		
	23			
	24			
2	25			

### Left Selvedge Widths

It seems the left selvedge can come in varying widths, ranging from 6mm (the norm?) to 9½mm. Has anyone else seen anything as wide at 9½mm (or wider)?

### **Related Material**

If you are collecting this issue, don't forget the joint Official First Day Cover prepared by Canada Post (illustrated). This cover contains a pair of Canada's stamps (from the booklet pane) and a pair from Sweden's booklet (this pair will always have a straight edge at the top).

Sweden also issued a joint first day cover which has a pair of Canada's stamps and the block of four of Sweden's issue.

#### Conclusion

Have we seen the end of the number of varieties to be found on this issue? After several weeks of exhaustive study by several collectors across the country, one would think that there are no more surprises on this fascinating issue.

#### Reference:

1. Jay Smith & Associates website; http://www.jaysmith.com/Enews/2008-04-01\_E-News.html

# Marine Life booklet variety checklist

Selvedge (right side)

Pane with control number in bottom row

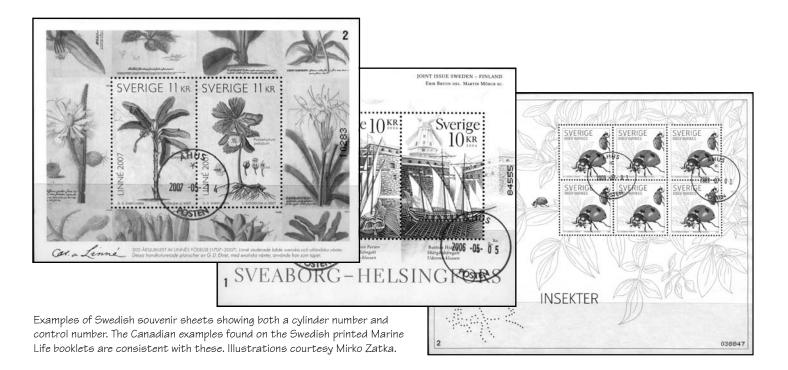
Booklet cover	Plain	blue 1	blue 2	control #	blue 1 & #	blue 2 & #
plain						
counting tab						

Pane with control number in top row

Tane that control named in top to the						
plain	n/a					
counting tab	n/a					

 $\Box = exists$ 

[I have a bought way too many of these booklets and have a few extra booklets to get rid of, containing the cylinder and/or control numbers. E-mail first if you are interested, at \$5/booklet, plus postage.]



# **Postage at Face**

The Elizabethan II Study Group has recently purchased a large amount of older Canadian postage at a discount from face value. This will save us a bit of money over the next several issues in the mailing the *Corgi Times*. However, as a result, we have quite a bit of 1¢ to 17¢ denominated stamps.

If an ESG member is interested in buying some low-value postage *at face value without GST* in lots of \$25 or \$50, primarily from the 1960's and 1970's (duplication guaranteed!), please contact our treasurer, Ron Rush, at 30 Forest Hill Cr., Fonthill, ON LOS 1E1, Canada (e-mail: elsieron@yahoo.com).

# Elizabethan II Market Place

Classified listings in the Market Place are \$1.00 for 25 words. Additional words are 5¢ each. Camera ready display ads (preferably 300dpi, black and white tiff scans) pertaining primarily to the Elizabethan era will be accepted at the following rates: ½ page \$5.00; ½ page \$8.00; ½ page \$15.00 and a full page at \$30.00. 25% discount for four consecutive insertions of the same ad.

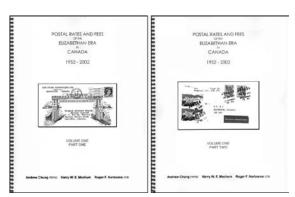
Full payment must accompany ad. Payment in Canadian funds to: Elizabethan II Study Group. Mail to Editor: Robin Harris, PO Box 104, Seddons Corner, MB R0E 1X0, Canada.

# **Postal Rates Books**

As an Elizabethan II Study Group member you can pick up these valuable reference books at a much reduced price below retail. The chart notes the various pricing for both Volume I and Volume II. Send your order to: Robin Harris, PO Box 104, Seddons Corner, MB R0E 1X0 Canada.

	Volume I Domestic	Volume II USA & Int'I
ESG members	C \$62.95 US \$62.95	C \$34.95 US \$34.95
Non-members	C \$89.95 US \$89.65	C \$49.95 US \$49.95
Postage:		
Canada	C \$10.00	C \$10.00
USA	US \$13.00	US \$13.00
Int'l (surface)	US \$16.50	US \$16.50
	(502 pages)	(275 pages)
	Nov 2004	Apr 2007

Exchange rate subject to change



Postal Rates and Fees of the Elizabethan Era In Canada 1952–2002



Postal Rates and Fees of the Elizabethan Era From Canada 1952–2005