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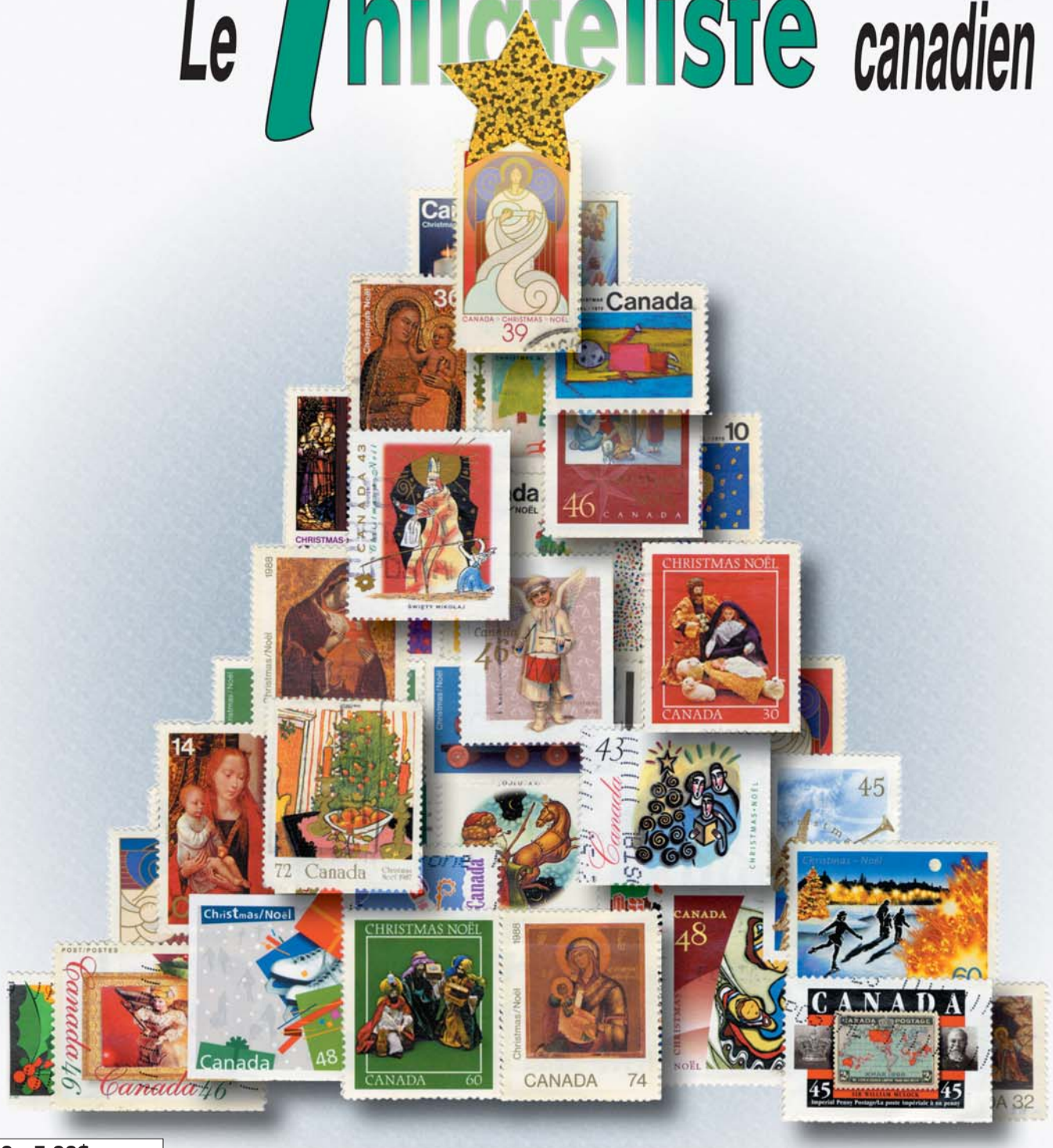

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Revue de La SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA

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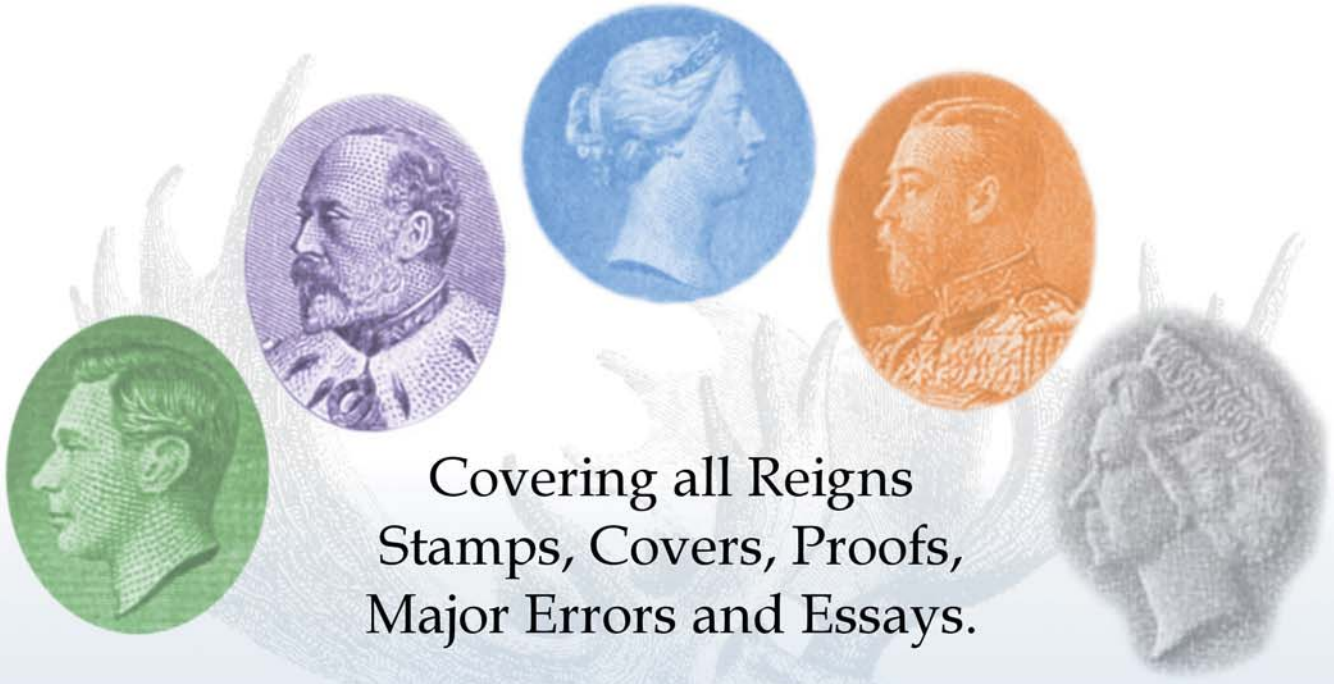

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The Cover / Page couverture:

Adhesive stamps can serve purposes other than prepayment of postage or filling empty spaces in an album. In the early days of stamp collecting, individuals used stamps to decorate their walls; today, the artistic use of stamps is frequently seen in collage creations. Richard Logan of Ottawa transformed a number of Canada's Yule-theme adhesives into a colourful Christmas tree depiction to illustrate our cover for this year's Christmas issue.

Les timbres gommés peuvent avoir une autre mission que le paiement anticipé de frais postaux ou le remplissage d'espaces dans un album. Les timbres, aux premiers temps de la collection, ont servi à décorer des murs; aujourd'hui, leur utilisation artistique prend souvent la forme de collages. Ainsi, Richard Logan d'Ottawa a-t-il transformé des timbres de Noël canadiens en un arbre de Noël multicolore pour illustrer la page couverture du numéro de décembre de cette année.

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Box 2788, Station D, Ottawa, ON K1P 5W8
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255 Cortleigh Blvd Toronto, ON M5N 1P8
ted.nixon@mercer.com

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Directors – Les Directeurs
Peter Butler,Toronto, ON pbutler@ilap.com
François Brisse, Beaconsfield, QC fsbrisse@sympatico.ca
Raymond Ireson, Roxboro, QC
Ken Lewis, Swansea, UK theoldtimer@ntlworld.com
Kenneth Magee, Clinton, ON kmagee@tcc.on.ca
J. Graham McCleave, FRPSC, Fredericton, NB
mccleave@nbnet.nb.ca
R. F Narbonne, FRPSC, Carleton Place, ON
George Pepall, Kitchener, ON pepall@rogers.com
Dr. David Piercey, Edmonton, AB
dpiercey@epsb.ca
William G. Robinson, FRPSC, Vancouver, BC
Elizabeth Sodero, FRPSC, Halifax, NS
sodero@ns.sympatico.ca
Ann Triggle, FRPSC, Clarence, NY (USA) atriggle@buffalo.edu

Editor – Éditeur
Tony Shaman, FRPSC
P.O. Box 43103, Eastwood Square, Kitchener, ON N2H 6S9
tshaman@rogers.com

Associate Editor – Éditeur Associé
Grégoire Teyssier, Trois Rivières Ouest, QC,
gteyssier@hotmail.com

National Office – Bureau National
Andrew D. Parr, Executive Director / Directeur exécutif
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Tel/Tél: (416) 979-8874
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The RPSC's YOUTHPHIL CLUB

We've just started the RPSC's Youthphil Club and already we have made some contacts. It seems unbelievable but the YPC is, firstly, for adults. Yes, that's right! But not simply any sort of adults: Only the those that care about youngsters who are the future of our hobby. We will try, over the next months, to set up a virtual space where anyone who serves young philatelists will get some help. They will receive information and the energy needed to continue volunteering.

How does it work? If you're a RPSC member, it's totally free. If you're not yet a member, maybe you should consider becoming one.

The YPC will have a column in each *TCP* issue with a lot of information about what's going on in youth philately, updates, and so on. We will publish a quarterly release (themes announced below) with more philatelic information and suggestions regarding activities and exhibitions. With the YPC, you can contact other adults sharing your interests. Everything will be available by mail (send your name and address to the following address) or by Internet (send your email).

September 2005.....Apples and Philately
November 2005.....Santa Claus
January 2006.....St. Valentine's Day
April 2006.....World Cup Soccer

This column was written in August, which is why we do not have any information about local

Le Club TimbroJeunes de la Royale

Le Club n'en est qu'à ses débuts mais déjà nous avons établi certains contacts. Le Club TimbroJeunes, qu'à l'interne nous appelons TJ-ze club, s'adresse d'abord, avant tout et presqu'uniquement aux animateurs ou responsables de clubs jeunesse ou de groupes de jeunes. Notre objectif est d'en faire un espace virtuel d'aide au bénévolat que vous faites auprès des jeunes philatélistes.

Comment fonctionne TJ-ze club? Si vous êtes membre de la Royale, vous n'avez qu'à faire parvenir vos coordonnées à l'adresse indiquée dans cet article. Si vous n'êtes pas encore membre de la Royale, il serait bon d'y penser. Avec le membership, tout est gratuit.

TJ-ze club c'est un article et des infos dans chaque numéro du *CP*, c'est un magazine quatre fois par année (thèmes et dates de sortie plus loin) et la possibilité d'échanger avec d'autres responsables de clubs jeunesse. C'est la façon d'être informé de ce qui se passe dans ce merveilleux monde de la philatélie jeunesse au Canada.

septembre 2005.....les pommes
novembre 2005.....le Père Noël
janvier 2006.....la St-Valentin
avril 2006.....la Coupe du monde de soccer

Comme cet article a été préparé au mois d'août, nous n'avons pas eu le temps de recevoir de l'information sur les différentes expositions qui vont se tenir au Canada dans les prochains mois.

exhibitions dates. However, you can check the list of all future exhibitions in *TCP*.

As of now, the most important exhibition for our youngsters will be BELGICA 2006. We are preparing a trip to Brussels in November 2006 where we will accompany some Canadian young philatelists to the exhibition. If you want to join us or to get some information about that trip, contact us at the following address :

Yvan Latulippe
326 Jean-Guy
St-Joachim-de-Shefford, QC
J0E 2G0
yvan.latulippe@sympatico.ca

The year 2005 ends on a positive note. We hope that 2006 will be as energizing and stimulating as the past year. HEALTH, HAPPINESS and SUCCESS are our wishes to you. We hope they will follow you through the next year.

Happy New Year!

Vous pouvez toutefois consulter la liste publiée dans le *CP* sur les expositions à venir.

L'exposition la plus importante pour nous reste BELGICA 2006, qui se tiendra à Bruxelles au mois de novembre 2006. À ce sujet, nous organisons un voyage afin d'amener des jeunes et des adultes en Belgique pour assister à une exposition philatélique de calibre international. Si vous désirez vous joindre au groupe ou obtenir de l'information à ce sujet, vous pouvez communiquer à l'adresse suivante :

Yvan Latulippe
326 Jean-Guy
St-Joachim-de-Shefford, QC
J0E 2G0
yvan.latulippe@sympatico.ca

Vous pouvez recevoir les documents par courrier ou par internet.

L'année 2005 s'achève sur une note encourageante. Souhaitons-nous une année 2006 tout aussi stimulante et énergisante. SANTÉ, BONHEUR et SUCCÈS vous suivent au long des 12 prochains mois.

Bonne et heureuse année 2006

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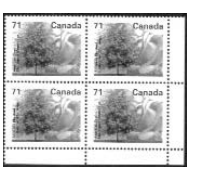

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RPSC Elects Director From Wales

At the 77th National Philatelic Convention of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC) held in London, Ontario May 27-29, members re-elected seven directors and one newcomer to serve a two-year period.

François Brisse, Beaconsfield, QC; Raymond Ireson, Roxboro, QC; John Keenlyside, Vancouver, BC; R.F. (Hank) Narbonne, McDonalds Corners, ON; J. Edward 'Ted' Nixon, Toronto, ON; Elizabeth Sodero, Halifax, NS; and Ann Triggle, Clarence, NY are joined by Ken Lewis, Swansea, Wales.

The RPSC Board of Directors features 16 members, eight of whom are chosen annually. Incumbents who still have a year to serve are President Charles J.G. Verge (Ottawa), 2nd Vice-President Rick Penko (Winnipeg), Peter Butler (Toronto), Kenneth Magee (Clinton, ON), Graham McCleave (Fredericton), George Pepall, (Kitchener), John M. Powell (Edmonton), and William G. Robinson (Vancouver).

Ken Lewis, who joins the RPSC team for the first time, has a keen interest in Canadian philately. He takes over the director position left vacant when Frank Alusio did not re-offer. Lewis, a mechanical engineer by profession, first started collecting stamps as a youth, but returned to the hobby in recent years with much enthusiasm for the challenge of research that is particularly present in collecting postal history.

RPSC President Charles Verge announced Ted Nixon and John Keenleyside will retain their respective positions of 1st Vice-President and Treasurer on the executive. Raymond Ireson will continue as director of medals and awards; Elizabeth Sodero will direct the society's slide program, while Ann Triggle will be the American Philatelic Society liaison and Hank Narbonne will have duties as dealer liaison.

Verge is "especially pleased to welcome Ken Lewis" to the Board. He is "a keen philatelist" who will bring considerable expertise to the group. The president is also "happy to have so many returnees whose dedicated work in the past has enabled the RPSC to make positive strides in many matters pertaining to the hobby." He said it is the first time Canada's national stamp organization had directors from both the United States and Great Britain at the same time.

APS Summer Seminar Was A Success

The 2005 American Philatelic Society Summer Seminar on Philately was a successful week-long learning adventure for more than 60 students and 10 instructors.

The seminar is unique in the hobby, offering detailed instruction in specific philatelic focus areas through a combination of lectures and workshops. This year's participants chose one of five major courses offered:

"Exhibiting – A Hands-On Workshop" with Jeff Shapiro as instructor; "The Liberty Series" with Ken Lawrence, Tony Wawrukiewicz, and David Eeles; "The Washington/Franklin Issues" with Dennis Gilson, George Fekete, and Carol Hoffman; "U.S. Revenues" with Ron Lesher; and "Stamp Technology" with Wayne Youngblood. Courses featured in-class discussions, question-and-answer opportunities, and informal, hands-on workshops.

The week began with a Sunday dinner and Herb Trenchard, renowned philatelic researcher, as the Guest Speaker. Herb's slide presentation about "Collecting Philatelic Memorabilia" showed seals and labels issued at stamp shows over the last 125 years.

Mornings began with Early Bird Electives. Early Bird speakers included Herb Trenchard, expanding on his dinner speech about "Philatelic Souvenirs"; Bob Lamb, talking about "Illegal Stamps"; and Peter Butler with a program titled "One-Page Exhibit: Successful in Attracting New Exhibitors?"

For the not-so-early birds the morning began with a General Session, before the Major Classes began. Speakers at the General Sessions were Jeff Shapiro: "The Ramblings of a PHat PHilatelist," Wayne Youngblood: "Modern Postal History," Ron Lesher: "The Progressive Era: The Use of Taxation to Safeguard Our Food Supply," and Tony Wawrukiewicz: "Important Elements of Exhibiting."

Afternoon electives included Irv Miller: "Buying & Selling at Auction," Mercer Bristow: "Expertizing Stamps," Jerry Lifsey: "Adventures in Advertising Booklet Stamps," Barb Boal: "Scanning Stamps & Covers," Tony Wawrukiewicz: "Postcards," Clark Frazier: "How to Spot Fakes & Forgeries on the Internet," and Bill Lehr, "Collecting U.S. Postal Stationery Beyond the *Scott Specialized Catalogue*."

At the Thursday evening dinner, Seminar participants were enthralled by Rob Haeseler and his slide presentation on "Unabomber Postal History."

While Seminar students were slaving in the classrooms, the Stampless Others – those who accompany APS Summer Seminar participants – were spending the week vacationing. The Stampless Others could be spotted touring Bellefonte, shopping at the local malls, and, yes, even eating ice cream from the Penn State Creamery – rated one of the ten best ice creams nationwide by the New York Times.

The 2006 seminar is tentatively scheduled for June 4-9, immediately following Washington 2006. For more information please contact Janet Houser at jehouser@stamps.org or 814-933-3820

A.L. McCready Award for Philatelic Literature

J.E. (Ted) Nixon, president of The RPSC Philatelic Research Foundation has announced the establisliment of a new philatelie literature award to be administered by the Foundation.

Nixon said "the A.L. (Mac) McCready Award will be made annually for the best philatelic research published during a given calendar year." Eligible publications will be handbooks, special studies, or annuals. The work must be a Canadian publication, a publication by a Canadian in another country, or a publication on a subject relating to what is now Canada published by any writer anywhere in the world.

Articles in magazines, auction catalogues, dealers' price lists, and exhibition catalogues will not be eligible for this award.

Only publications in English and French will be considered. Evaluation will be conducted using criteria that will examine treatment of contents; originality, significance, and depth of research; technical matters; and presentation. The award will be selected by a panel of three members who will be appointed by the RPSC Philatelic Research Foundation.

Arthur L. McCready was one of Canada's foremost pioneers in philatelic literature. A newspaperman in eastern Ontano, he was editor of the *Cobden Sun* for 30 thirty years. His major philatelic undertaking was the purchase of *Popular Stamps* in 1939. He turned what was little more than a stamp dealer's trade and price list into one of the country's most successful journals.

Between 1942 and 1947 when *The Canadian Philatelist* was born, *Popular Stamps* served as the RPSC journal. McCready also published several well known philatelic catalogues and handbooks. Charles J.G. Verge, President of The RPSC and a fan and promoter of Mr. McCready said "Mac McCready gave "unflagging service to philatelic literature, and to his worldwide list of subscribers which continues as a legacy for Canadian philatelists today."

A.L. McCready was inducted into the American Philatelic Society's Writers' Unit 30 Hall of Fame at a special breakfast held during CAPEX '96 in Toronto.

Verge said the new award that will bear his name "justly honours the name of one of Canada's greatest philatelic literature personages."

Ted Nixon said "to have a significant philatelic literature award in Canada, not only pays tribute to one of our great writers, but also will reward present contributors to the hobby for their scholarly work."

The award will consist of a specially prepared sculpture mounted on a plaque. The first award will be made next year for material published during 2005. Prospective award nominees will need to send one copy of their publication to the McCready Award Committee, c/o RPSC, P.O. Box 2788, Station 'D', Ottawa, ON K1P 5W8.

Prix A.L. McCready en littérature philatélique

Le président de la Fondation de recherche philatélique de La SRPC, J.E. (Ted) Nixon, a annoncé la mise en place d'un nouveau prix en littérature philatélique qui sera géré par la Fondation.

Ted Nixon a déclaré que le Prix A.L. (Mac) McCready serait décerné une fois par an à la meilleure recherche philatélique publiée dans une certaine année civile. Ce prix s'appliquera aux monographies, aux recherches spéciales et aux publications annuelles. L'ouvrage devra être publié au Canada ou effectué par un Canadien expatrié, ou devra traiter de la philatélie de ce qui est géographiquement le Canada aujourd'hui et, dans ce cas, pourra être publié par n'importe quel auteur n'importe où dans le monde.

Les articles de magazines, catalogues de vente, tarifs de négociants et catalogues d'exposition ne peuvent concourir pour ce prix.

Seules les publications en français et en anglais seront prises en compte. L'évaluation se fera en fonction de critères examinant le traitement du contenu; l'originalité, l'importance et la dimension des recherches; les éléments techniques; et la présentation. Le prix sera sélectionné par un comité de trois membres nommés par la Fondation de recherche philatélique de La SRPC.

Arthur L. McCready fut l'un des plus grands pionniers de la littérature philatélique. Homme de presse dans l'Est de l'Ontario, il fut éditeur du Codben Sun pendant 30 ans. L'un de ses plus grands accomplissements fut le rachat de *Popular Stamps* en 1939. Il transforma ainsi un petit journal de commerce et de prix pour négociants en timbres-poste en l'un des journaux philatéliques les plus réputés du pays.

Entre 1942 et 1947, lorsqu'est né *Le Philatéliste canadien, Popular Stamps* constituait le journal de La SRPC. McCready a également publié plusieurs catalogues et guides philatéliques bien connus. Grand amateur et prôneur des ouvrages de McCready, le président de La SRPC Charles J. G. Verge déclare que Mac McCready a offert un service sans relâche à la littérature philatélique et à sa liste d'abonnés de par le monde, et tous les philatélistes canadiens continuent aujourd'hui à en profiter.

A.L. McCready a été intronisé au Temple de la renommée des Auteurs de l'American Philatelic Society lors d'un petit déjeuner spéciale CAPEX 96 à Toronto.

Charles J.G. Verge a ajouté que le nouveau prix McCready honore avec justice le nom de l'un des plus grands personnages de la philatélie au Canada. Et Ted Nixon de poursuivre que le fait d'avoir maintenant au Canada un prix important pour la littérature philatélique rend non seulement hommage à l'un de nos grands auteurs, mais récompensera aussi les amateurs d'aujourd'hui pour leurs oeuvres savantes.

Le prix se présentera sous la forme d'une sculpture spéciale montée sur une plaque. Le premier sera créé l'an prochain pour un écrit publié en 2005. Les futurs candidats sont priés d'envoyer un exemplaire de leur publication au Comité du Prix McCready, a/s La SRPC, C.P. 2788, Succursale D, Ottawa, ON K1P 5W8.

Rare Stamp Price Index Shows Rise of 103% Over Last 7 Years and Increase of 10,199% Since 1954.

With the *Financial Times House Price Index* showing its weakest reading for 6 years, and the *Halifax* forecasting a decline in house values for 2005, it is encouraging to report that the prices of rare stamps continue to rise strongly.

The anniversary of the *Stanley Gibbons GB 30 Rarities Index*, which coincides with the publication of the 2005 Edition of the Company's *Concise Great Britain* catalogue, shows the stamp market to be in very good health.

The *GB 30 Index* lists Great Britain rarities, and gives an accurate picture of the market for the scarcest items. Stamps included in the *Index* represent examples of the type of classic material recommended by the StanIey Gibbons Investment Department to its clients. Such stamps are considered to be the most likely to show consistent returns over the medium to long term, as demand from collectors exceeds what, in many cases, is a very scarce supply.

Fourteen stamps out of 30 in the *Index* have risen in price by 100% or more since 1998. Most notably, an unused 1903 l0d dull purple & carmine official (SG O40) has seen an increase in value from £5,000 in 1998 to £20,000 in 2005 (300%), as this area of philately has undergone a rerating by collectors. Another example, the 1882 £1 brown-Iilac (SG 136) has risen from £36,000 to £75,000 (an increase of 108%) over the same period, as its scarcity – only a handful are known in investment grade condition has become fully appreciated by philatelists.

An investment of £423,500, representing one of each stamp comprising the GB 30 Rarities Index in 1998, would have risen to £861,000 in 2005 (an increase 0f 103.3% over 7 years) and provided an average return of 10.7% per annum, far outweighing the returns available from bank deposit interest rates or the UK stock market during this period.

For the first time Stanley Gibbons has also backtested the GB 30 Index to 1954. This demonstrates the phenomenal long-term investment performance of rare stamps over the last 50 years. The total *Index* has grown from £8360 in 1954 to £861,000 in 2005, a remarkable increase of £852,640 or 10,199% over the period, producing an annual increase of 9.5% over 51 years. The biggest single mover is the 1851 2d violet-blue (SG l5aa) up from £10 to £14,000, a rise 0f 139,900%.

The Company's other price indicator; the *SG100 Stamp Price Index*, also continues to outperform traditional investments. The items which make up the SG100 are those 'most frequently traded' and the *Index* therefore gives a very accurate picture of the state of the market for the more popular stamps. The *SG100 Index* has risen to 403.87, growth of 63.6% since 1998.

News of Washington 2006

Major new pages are available for viewing on the Washington 2006 web site.

Under "About the Show" you will find a "Great Rarities" page. It features unique philatelic items expected to be on display at the show.

The growing list includes Sweden's 3 skilling banco colour error; the inverted Jenny plate block and other position blocks; the Dawson Hawaiian Missionary cover; the U.S. 1847 proof panes; and the Alexandria, VA "Blue Boy" on cover. Further items will be added to this page as they become known.

The "News Updates" section holds several new pages.

"For the Media" is a page specifically designed as the one-stop for members of the press and others to find basic details about the show.

The "Graphics and Ads" page is where anyone can find a variety of logos, images, brochures and ads for use on web pages and in print media.

Anyone who has been to an international philatelic exhibition before knows a major highlight is the participation of philatelic bureaus selling their newest issues at face value. To publicize their specific issues honouring W2006, check out the "Stamp releases" page.

Already there is an image and details of the first U.S. souvenir sheet to be issued at W2006, and info on the advertising text on some panes of stamps. Other stamp images will be added as countries notify us about their issues.

Check it out at: www.washington-2006.org/.

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THE 1965 STANLEY GIBBONS ESSAY

By Michael Peach

In 1965 the British definitive stamps were the Wildings; the decimal currency was still in the future. The first low-value Machins were issued on June 5, 1967 and the high values on March 5, 1969. Prior to the Machins, the possibility of having a series of pictorial definitives had been raised. As part of their campaign for pictorial definitives Stanley Gibbons produced a series of essays in the spring of 1965. The various designs show British scenes and achievements: the ½d The Hovercraft, 1d Sailing, 1½d White Horse, Berkshire, 2d The Tower of London, 2½d Jodrell Bank Radio Telescope, 3d Canterbury Cathedral, 4d Exports, 5d Sheep, 6d The Houses of Parliament, 9d Windscale Atomic Reactor, 1/- The Trooping of the Colour, and 1/3 The Queen arriving for the State Opening of Parliament*. The blue stamps were designed by Jock Kinneir, and printed in photogravure by Harrison and Sons Limited.

The designer must have been quite a clairvoyant as all the topics, except the White Horse, Berkshire, have been featured on stamps since then. The 1966 series of British Technology stamps, issued on September 19, showed some of these achievements, the 4d The Jodrell Bank Radio Telescope, the 1/3 The Hovercraft, and the 1/6 The Windscale Atomic Reactor. Although export is not specifically mentioned the 1967 EFTA (European Free Trade Association) set features Air Freight and Sea Freight. Canterbury Cathedral is the 5d value in the 1969 British Architecture series. The Palace of Westminster, Houses of Parliament, is shown in the 1973 set marking the 19th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference. British sailing ships were the theme of a 1975 series. The Tower of London was depicted on the 9p value in the 1978 British Architecture – Historic Buildings set. Welsh Mountain Sheep in Snowdonia are featured on the 39d stamp of the 1992 The Four Seasons – Wintertime issue. In 1992 the 40th Anniversary of the Accession

series had stamps for the Trooping of the Colour, as well as the State Opening of Parliament. The Trooping of the Colour was also the theme of a series issued in June of this year.

The face value of the stamps is only indicated by the numeric figure, the d for penny being omitted. Maybe another preview of things to come as none of the current country definitives have a p for pence, but the regular definitives still have a p after the value. In accordance with standard policy the 1/- and 1/3 stamps showing the Queen, do not have a profile of the Queen to identify the country.

Although the minisheet cautions that the stamps were a private production and not commissioned by the Post Office for authentic stamps, examples can be found of their use for postage. The cover shown has the ½d, 2d, 4d, and 1/3 stamps for a total of 1/9½ (21½p), and is cancelled with an Oxford slogan cancellation, May 10(?) 1965, for an event in Oxford June 24 to July 4. The basic letter rate in 1965 was 4d.

**** Using the old monetary system 12 pence (d) was one shilling, designated as 1/-, and 1/3 was 15d.***

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ROYAL *2005* ROYALE *in Retrospect*

By Frank Alusio, FRPSC

Jury Panel Selection: A Responsible Undertaking

At the recent Royal *2005* Royale held in London, Ontario my participation entailed attending The RPSC Board of Directors meetings (my last). I was an exhibitor and an observer as I am at most exhibitions.

In my estimation, the philatelic exhibition and bourse made for the best national show I have attended in many years. The venue was superb. The ambiance gave me the feeling that I was attending an international exhibition: spacious rooms to move around in, optimum lighting, and easy access from and to my hotel. The organizing committee is to be commended for the delivery of such a well-planned endeavour.

Now back to the heading.

Exhibits

Before travelling to London, I obtained the listing of all the philatelic exhibits off the Website but I had no information about the composition of the jury panel.

In perusing the exhibits listing, I noted that there were 92 exhibits in competition, broken down into the following Classes/Divisions:

Class/Division	Exhibits	Thematic
Postal	34	None
Thematic	5	5
Display	7	1
Illustrated Mail	1	None
Revenue	2	None
One Frame	19	3
Youth to age 12	10	10
Youth ages 13-15	9	9
Youth ages 16-18	3	3
Youth ages 19-21	1	1
Cinderella	1	None
Total	92	32

Analyzing the number of the thematic exhibits (my specialty) I resolved that 32 exhibits were thematic, which represent 35 per cent of the 92 exhibits.

Jury Composition

Based on this wide variety of exhibits, which is typical of national exhibitions, one would think that at least one member of the jury would be accredited in the Thematic Class. To my knowledge, and based on the brief profile of each judge, it appears that none of them was accredited in Thematic philately, Revenue, or in the New Divisions. What I knew for certain was that two of the judges were FIP accredited, specializing in Aerophilately/Astrophilately.

Judges Critique

I attended the judges' critique to learn what the judges would discuss with the exhibitors. I could not believe what I was hearing. The discussion appeared akin to one of soccer officials addressing baseball players. I will pick three specific examples to illustrate my point:

Case 1 - There was a revenue exhibit, mounted by a well-known exhibitor who is also a FIP Juror, that has garnered FIP gold medals a number of times. Sadly, his exhibit was downgraded not one, but two levels to a national silver. The exhibitor, needless to say, was devastated not only by the results but by the outrageous comments he received from a judge

who had no knowledge about revenue stamps. This gives the judging community a bad reputation and a lack of credibility.

Case 2 - There was a One-frame exhibit which was entered as a Display exhibit. The exhibitor asked for some constructive comments and received the following explanation: "Your exhibit contains some non-philatelic items". "Excuse me?" the exhibitor replied: "Being a display exhibit, aren't mon-philatelic items allowed in this division?" The judge replied: "We evaluated it as a postal exhibit. "Didn't anyone on the jury panel read the title page or the synopsis? This is outrageous.

Remember the principal role of the judge is to "encourage" and not "discourage" the exhibitor.

Case 3 - The last case was a multi-page thematic exhibit with a long track record of international level awards assembled by a well-known exhibitor who is also a FIP juror. The time came when the exhibitor asked the jury panel for comments. There were three answers given by a Judge:

"The presence of a postal item on the Manhattan Project was not there. "Wrong! The item on the Manhattan project, which operated from Oak Ridge, Tennessee, was in the exhibit.

"The sequence of the first and second printing of the Dag Hammarskjold UN stamps is displayed incorrectly. "Wrong! The way they were mounted was correct.

"Postal items documenting the clean-up by the Australian team after the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan are not there." Wrong again! The worldwide study groups (one in Europe and one in Japan) that deal with this specific theme have not recorded any postal evidence of this clean-up operation.

In addition, during the judges' critique session, I personally asked the jury if the exhibitors would receive the scoring sheet. The reply was in the affirmative but to my astonishment the sheets were handed out to the One-frame, Youth, and Display exhibits only. Why not to the others?

What have we learned?

As a responsible exhibitor and judge, I do not think this episode should go unnoticed. It would be detrimental to our hobby.

In fairness to all exhibitors, and to avoid hard feelings between exhibitors and judges and embarrasment to the jury panel, I would recommend that in the future the jury panel for national level exhibitions be assembled by a committee that is knowledgeable in identifying, selecting, and recommending a well balanced jury capable of evaluating all the Classes/Divisions exhibited at a national exhibition. Each judge should evaluate exhibits using the appropriate scoring sheet and make it available to the exhibitor. This will tell the exhibitor not only the weakness and strength of his or her exhibit but also in what range (low, middle, high) the specific award fell for that particular exhibit.

I sincerely hope that the experience in London is not repeated any time soon. I am well aware that judges do not have enough time to look at frames. On the other hand, judges do not know more than the exhibitors themselves about the material unless they happen to be collecting the very same topic, which is not likely, in most cases. Above all, judges must be absolutely sure of their ground before making comments such as, "the item is not there!" It is less dogmatic to say something like, "I did not see it in the exhibit." Remember the principal role of the judge is to "encourage" and not "discourage" the exhibitor.

Let's all play the same game!

Here is a brief, very simple, coordination process which I personally learned a couple of years ago when I was invited to a similar exhibition in Europe.

Committee Set-up

The Organizing Committee and the National Federation (The RPSC in Canada) appoint their representatives (Exhibits Coordinator, RPSC Representative, and Jury Coordinator) who will form the Exhibits/Jury Committee.

The Exhibits Coordinator prepares a letter, under the Organizing Committee letterhead, and mails it to as many prospective exhibitors

as is reasonably feasible and invites them to participate. (This gives a personal touch to the process)

Each member of the Exhibits/Jury Committee must have experience in such undertakings. The Committee must have a sense, or a record, of the different entry classes submitted in previous national exhibitions; i.e. percentage of Traditional, Postal History, Thematic, and so on.

The Jury Coordinator and The RPSC Representative identify, select and recommend a well-balanced jury with an experienced leader capable of evaluating all the Classes/Divisions presented in a national exhibition. Each Judge should be known by his/her specialty accreditation. These individuals must acquaint themselves with the latest scoring sheets to be used. (Recommended by the National Federation.)

Each exhibit entry, along with a title and synopsis page, on which the exhibitor has indicated the Class of the exhibit is mailed to the Exhibits Coordinator.

The Committee evaluates all the entries by accepting or rejecting them, and an official list by Classes/Division is finalized. The list, as well as the title page and synopsis, is forwarded to each judge for pre-evaluation groundwork. The Exhibits Coordinator also provides each judge the scoring sheets to be used with instructions that each exhibitor is to receive a copy of the evaluation.

Exhibits Evaluation

Prior to the evaluation of the exhibits, the jury confirms with the Exhibit Coordinator that each exhibit is properly allocated in its Class and Division. At the same time, the jury panel agrees on the scoring sheets to be used.

Judges Critique

Judges are introduced by name and specialty accreditation. Judges are to be courteous, sympathetic, and above all make certain that the advice that they give to exhibitors is well thought out. Above all, they must never take the attitude that because "I am a judge, I know more than you." In most cases it is the other way around.

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Thematic Stamps Catalogue: Golf

ISBN 84-95615-26-6. Published by Groupo Afinsa, Dr. Puig, 33 (Apartado de Correos 271) E-08202 Sabadell, Barcelona, Spain. E-mail:domfil@afinsa.com Internet:www.domfil.com Soft cover, 72 pages, 170X240 mm; Retail price 19 Euros.

If you love the game of golf, either playing it or watching it on television, you will love the 1st edition of Domfil's catalogue dedicated to stamps and other philatelic items depicting golf and golf-related topics.

This all-new, all-colour catalogue includes the stamps of 94 postal administrations from around the globe. It should meet the needs of thematic collectors with an interest in the game of golf as depicted on postage stamps. An alphabetical index by country of issue makes this work easy and pleasurable to use.

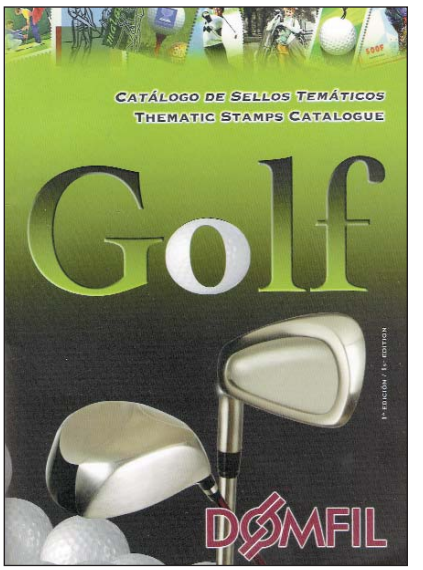
Prices for the 350-plus listed stamps are given in euros and in U.S. dollars.

Collectors who have been hesitant about forming a thematic collection of "golf on stamps" due to lack of information available on the subject will find this publication helpful. Where a stamp issue, for instance, commemorates a golfing event anniversary, the listing is accompanied by a brief description giving the relevant details being commemorated along with a description of the illustration depicted on the stamp.

The text is printed in Spanish and English. As is commonplace for Domfil catalogues, corresponding numbers for stamps listed in *Yvres & Tellier, Michel, Scott*, and *Unificato* catalogues are shown.

In addition to a listing of individual stamps, this new work also depicts stamp blocks, miniature, and souvenir sheets, all in full colour.

The catalogue's numbering system for the listed stamps is unique to Domfil: each stamp's identification number consists of the first three letters of the name of the issuing country, the last three numbers of the year in which the stamp or set of stamps was issued, and the order position of the stamps within the year. For example, the set of stamps released to commemorate the centenaries of the Canadian Amateur Golf Championship and of the Royal Canadian Golf Association, released on June 6, 1995, is numbered CAN-995-13/17.

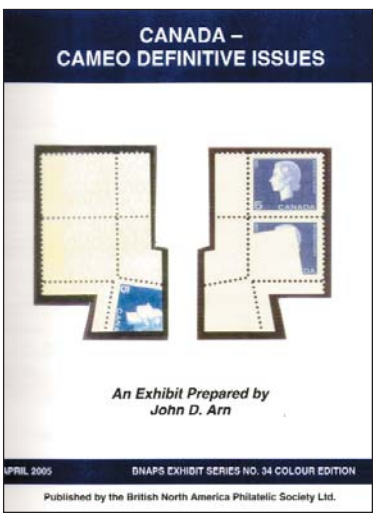


At a price of 19 euros, the all-colour catalogue is a worthwhile investment for all lovers of golf and philatelists contemplating the formation of a collection or exhibit of stamps depicting a sport that is embraced enthusiastically around the world.

Tony Shaman

Canada – Cameo Definitives issues

By John D. Arn. (ISBN: 0-919854-54-0) Spiral Bound, 152 pages, 8.5 x 11 inches. BNAPS Exhibit Series #34, 2005. Published by the British North America Philatelic Society. Colour Version: $C99.50; Black & White Version: $C35.95. Shipping extra. - Credit card orders will be billed for exact amount of shipping plus $2 per order; for payment by cheque or money order add 10% in Canada, 15% to the US, 20% overseas. GST is payable for Canadian orders. BNAPS members receive a 40% discount from retail prices. Available from Ian Kimmerly Stamps, 112 Sparks Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5B6, Canada; Phone: (613) 235-9119. Internet orders can be placed via www.iankimmerly.com/books/



John D. Arn's *Canada - Cameo Definitive Issues* is the 34th volume in the Exhibits Series published by BNAPS. The Society's initial venture into reproducing, in hardcopy format, exhibits entered in competition by BNAPS members began in 2002.

Because these exhibits, reproduced in full colour, permit stamp enthusiasts to peruse them at their leisure rather than being forced to examine them during the relatively brief time they are on display at a show, they have proven popular with collectors but especially with potential exhibitors. There is simply too much information to be absorbed by individuals limited to the examination of these exhibits while they are still in their frames on the exhibition floor. The reproduction of these award-winning exhibits in book form gets around this drawback.

Despite the relatively short time that the Cameo issues were in regular use – less than five years – combined with the fact that the issues were limited to the five low values only, the Arn exhibit provides a wealth of visual and textual information.

It is noteworthy that these stamps were in use during the period that the Winnipeg tagging experiments were in full swing. The exhibit, not surprisingly,

is replete with examples, on and off cover, of those early mail-sorting procedures. Included in the exhibit is the Winnipeg tagging Type Chart to give readers a better understanding of how Canada Post applied its experimental tagging. Actual tagging examples on blocks and strips of field stock stamps complement the chart.

But the Arn exhibit goes much beyond the inclusion of ordinary, garden variety, tagged stamps. It includes, as you might expect of an award-winning exhibit, rare and possibly unique items. A tagging shift where the tag bar was shifted 9 millimetres to the left of where it should be, thereby leaving the stamps to its right untagged, is an example.

The exhibit also includes numerous other examples of seldom – or never – seen stamps and covers. Major mis-perforations, pre-printing paper folds, extra wide spacing of the "G" (Government) overprints are some of the rare items that Arn has managed to accumulate for his outstanding exhibit.

A number of typing errors, "Probisher" for Frobisher and "uaing" for using, that a little more care in proofreading might have avoided may temporarily distract readers, but they do not detract from the overall efficacy of an otherwise well-planned and well-executed work.

The exhibit includes all the elements that judges look for in an exhibit, including the requisite title page that explains what the viewer can expect to see. More importantly, Arn then proceeds to show what he has promised.

Because of the way that the book is laid out, the pages in the original exhibit, enumerated on the title page, do not correspond to the pages in the book. This discrepancy may be somewhat confusing and disconcerting to readers until they realize that the reference to the page numbers on the exhibit's title page is not an index to the page numbers in the book.

All areas of the exhibit are strongly represented to give readers a good idea of what judges expect in a top-ranking exhibit. In addition to a strong showing of each of the 1-to 5-cent values, the exhibit includes "make-up" rates, miniature panes, coils, booklets, and, of course, covers. Readers will learn to appreciate that modern covers, with their corner card imprints, permit franking, machine and handstamp cancels, foreign destinations, and mixed franking, can be every bit as enjoyable to collect as much older material.

Perhaps therein lies the exhibit's strength: modern material can compete with 19th century philatelic items. Arn has demonstrated that recent-era stamps and covers, that many collectors frequently gloss over, have the right stuff for an award-winning exhibit. And this work, carefully executed by BNAPS and its agents Hal Zimmer and Auxano Philatelic Services, shows us how.

Tony Shaman

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Stanley Gibbons Great Britain Concise Stamp Catalogue

Published by Stanley Gibbons Publications. (Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire, BH24 3SH); ISBN 0-85259-592-1. Soft cover, 456 pages, 210 X 160 mm; Retail price 24.95 British pounds.

The 2005 edition of *Stanley Gibbons Great Britain Concise Stamp Catalogue* is a nearly all-colour work (only a small portion of the stamp booklets section remains in black and white) that will serve the needs of most collectors of the stamps of Great Britain. Also included in this latest work are Britain's regional issues, postage dues, official issues, postal fiscal stamps, booklets, and post office label sheets.

As part of Stanley Gibbons "One-Country" catalogue series, this work is sufficiently comprehensive to satisfy the needs of all but the most highly specialized collectors, such as those whose interests are limited to a single stamp or a single issue. For all others, the detailed information outlined in the catalogue's 450-plus pages will suffice.

For example, 11 pages are devoted to the Decimal Machin index and the Machin Booklet Pane guide. Data pertaining to the Queen Elizabeth II decimal currency issue, initially released in 1971, takes up another 10 pages.

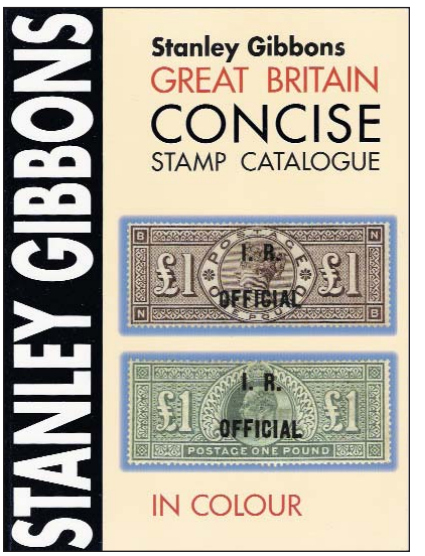
A comprehensive contents page makes this catalogue a pleasure to use, to say nothing of the time it saves finding a particular issue or the numerous stamp varieties from the 1840 Penny Black to the Centenary of the Magic Circle issues released in March 2005.

Thematic collectors will find the 10-page Design Index invaluable. Some care in its use by North American collectors is required, as they will not, for instance, find a listing for soccer, Great Britain's most popular sport. The reason, of course, is that the sport of soccer is known as football in Great Britain and throughout most of the rest of the world. Only North America is the odd man out when it comes to the appellation for this worldwide sport.

All listings are priced for both unused and used stamp issues. Because the publisher is also a stamp retailer, a full explanation of the company's pricing policy is outlined in the introduction for the benefit of buyer and seller alike. This introductory index, covering such topics as paper types, printing errors, colour identification, se-tenant combinations, specimen stamps, multi-value coil strips, gutter pairs, miniature sheets, presentation and souvenir packs, and similar information, is intended to avoid unnecessary misunderstanding between buyer and seller. But it does more than that.

The catalogue is really a primer, explaining many of the basics underpinning our hobby. For example, readers are treated to an explanation of the finer points of perforation measurements, phosphor issues, gum descriptions, colour errors, and similar topics.

A further feature that is sure to please users of this catalogue is the extensive picturing of issues: each different stamp design is illustrated for quick and easy



identification. As a further aid to users, it lists every basic stamp including those with different watermarks or different perforations. Even stamps showing graphite lines or phosphor bands are listed. Essentially, no basic information required by collectors of the stamps of Great Britain is overlooked.

Because of the catalogue's comprehensiveness, the 2005 edition will more than adequately serve the needs of collectors. Printed in near full colour for the first time in its 20 year history, this latest work provides reliable information in an easy-to-use format that adds to the enjoyment of the collecting experience.

Tony Shaman

Prince Edward Island Philately 1794-1873

By Martyn Cusworth. (ISBN: 0-919854-56-7) Spiral Bound, 192 pages, 8.5 x 11 inches. BNAPS Exhibit Series #35, 2005. Published by the British North America Philatelic Society. Colour Version: $C120; Black & White Version: $C39.95. Shipping extra. - Credit card orders will be billed for exact amount of shipping plus $2 per order; for payment by cheque or money order add 10% in Canada, 15% to the US, 20% overseas. GST is payable for Canadian orders. BNAPS members receive a 40% discount from retail prices. Available from Ian Kimmerly Stamps, 112 Sparks Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5B6, Canada; Phone: (613) 235-9119. Internet orders can be placed via www.iankimmerly.com/books/

Martyn Cusworth's *Prince Edward Island Philately 1794-1873* is the 35th volume in the British North America Philatelic Society exhibit series. As with other books in this series, it will prove to be a useful addition to philatelic libraries of individuals intent on improving their chances of earning higher awards at the national and international levels of competition.

Given the small geographic area of Prince Edward Island, and a correspondingly tiny population for the period covered in this exhibit, it is noteworthy that Cusworth was able to accumulate the quantity of philatelic material that he has with most of it much above the norm in quality. The original exhibit that Cusworth assembled earned a Gold award at BNAPEX 2001 in Ottawa along with the Novice Award as it was the first time that it was entered in competition at a British North America Philatelic Society exhibition.

Although the publication has no index or table of contents, the combined title and synopsis page provides an outline of the illustrated material as reproduced from the expanded exhibit entered in competition at BNAPEX 2004 in Baltimore where it again took a Gold medal. This revamped exhibit was expanded with the addition of 40 pages of new material.

Pages three through 48 consist of stampless covers, including several rare and unique transatlantic items, in addition to the many scarce and seldom-seen early circular handstamps that date from shortly after the introduction of the Island's first cancelling devices in 1814. This section of the publication also includes cross-border covers and mail to destinations such as California.

Pages 49 to 164 covers the adhesive postage stamp era. Readers are also introduced to several PEI die essays. Illustrated, among others, is the "brown on tan" essay without lettering or the value tablet. Also illustrated are essays of the unissued 6-pence value on black India paper and a copy of the claret

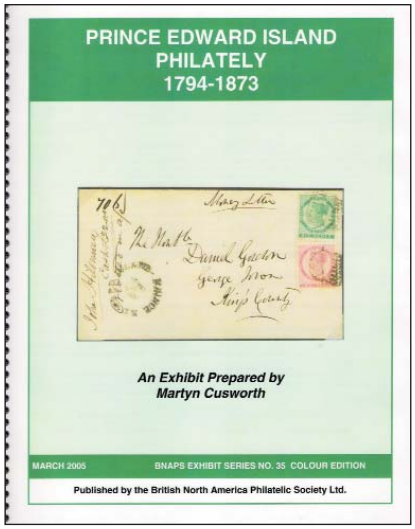


plate engraved essay which also exists, in rose, blue, and green but are not shown. This section of the exhibit also contains many noteworthy "as issued" adhesives together with numerous attractively hand stamped and registered covers.

Material shown on pages 166 to 181 (page 165 inexplicably illustrates a number of stamps with forged cancellations) consists of items illustrating postal relations with other jurisdictions, notably Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, the Provinces of Canada, Great Britain, United States, and France.

Fakes, forgeries, and other bogus items complement this outstanding exhibit.

Although the introduction of a different font style for this section is unexplained, it may suggest that these last six pages may have been added after the main section of the exhibit had been completed, or was prepared separately from the other pages. Of course, this use of a different style of fonts in no way detracts from the efficacy of this work.

This reproduced exhibit is particularly useful at this juncture because the material was dispersed at public auction some months ago. The publication, therefore, remains the only readily available resource in one single, convenient place for much of the surviving philatelic material of Prince Edward Island.

Tony Shaman

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The Nova Scotia and New Brunswick Pence Bisects and Quadrisects

By George B. Arfken, FRPSC & Charles G. Firby

On August 1, 1854, the letter rate to the U.K. was reduced from 15d to 7½d cy (6d stg). There was no way to pay that ½d by stamps. Finally, on October 19, 1854, Nova Scotia Postmaster General Woodgate issued Circular No. 6 to all Postmasters[1]:

To remedy the inconvenience which is said to be experienced by the Public, since the reduction of the Packet Postage, in consequence of there being no 7½ Postage Stamp, by which to prepay letters to England, I have considered it expedient for the present to allow half Stamps to be used with those now in use, in the hope of being thus enabled to obviate, to some extent, the want of accommodation complained of, and I have therefore to request that you will acquaint parties who may apply to you for Stamps, that they can now, and until further notice, Prepay Letters to England, by using a 6d or two 3d stamps, together with half a 3d stamp; said stamp to be cut diagonally, and the half to be equivalent to 1½d.

The Threepenny Stamps only are to be used for that purpose.

That wonderful first sentence (132 words, 14 commas and one semicolon) authorized diagonal bisects of the 3d stamp to help pay the 7½d rate. There was no authorization for bisecting the other pence stamps. Nevertheless, writers in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick bisected all the stamps apparently with enthusiasm. We have recorded almost 1,000 Nova Scotia and New Brunswick pence covers[2]. Included in these 1,000 are more than 250 bisects. These are not isolated "favour" covers. Covers franked with bisected stamps were simply accepted as a de facto policy. We find no record of a cover rejected or marked More-To-Pay because of an unauthorized bisect.

We start with an authorized bisect. Figure 1 shows a 7½d cover from Pictou, July 11, 1860, to Newcastle on Tyne, England. The required 7½d was paid with a yellow green 6d and a bright blue 3d bisect. This is exactly what Postmaster General Woodgate authorized.

Figure 1. A 3d bisect helped pay the 7½d rate on this cover to England. The cover was carried out of Halifax, July 12, 1860 on the Cunard *Europa*. *Courtesy of Warren S. Wilkinson.*

Sixty of these 3d bisect covers from Nova Scotia to the United Kingdom have been recorded. Incidentally, there is no record of the New Brunswick Postmaster General ever authorizing a 3d bisect for this obvious need. There were still more 6d bisects used to pay the

Figure 2. This Cape Breton cover could have been paid with a 3d stamp. The writer chose to pay the postage with a bisected 6d and this was accepted. *Courtesy of Frederick R. Mayer.*

domestic 3d rate, 69 in Nova Scotia and 29 in New Brunswick. Figure 2 illustrates this usage with a cover from Whycocomaugh, C.B. to Baddeck, C.B., April 1, 1860. A bisected dark green 6d paid the basic 3d per ½ oz. rate. Note that Postmaster General Woodgate had not authorized bisecting 6d stamps. That didn't stop the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick writers. They reasoned that if you could bisect one stamp, you could bisect all the stamps – and they did just that.

A question: Are these Nova Scotia and New Brunswick 6d bisect covers philatelic? A widely accepted definition of "philatelic" that can be traced back to Allan Steinhart[3] and probably much earlier is:

A cover is "philatelic" if it is constructed and sent through the mail for the purpose of creating a philatelic (collectible) item.

There were probably many reasons for paying a 3d rate with a 6d bisect, including the sheer joy of cutting up a piece of government paper but there is little chance that these bisect covers were deliberately constructed to create collectible items. Few if any people were collecting stamps in the 1850s and no one was collecting covers as postal history. The enclosures, maybe, but not the covers. So, these 6d bisect covers are NOT philatelic. We might better say that they were a way of life of the Maritime writers. Incidentally, this way of life persisted in the Annapolis valley of Nova Scotia through the Large Queen Era[4] and into the early Small Queen Era.

The bisecting process continued with double rate covers. Figure 3 shows a double rate New Brunswick cover (up to one ounce) paid with a

Figure 3. The 6d postage on this double rate New Brunswick cover was paid with a bisected one shilling. *Courtesy of Warren S. Wilkinson.*

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1/- (one shilling) bisect. The stamp is a reddish purple, quite different from the violet of the Nova Scotia 1/-. Posted in Chatham, N.B., April 7, 1859, the cover was addressed to Dorchester. There is a Bend of Petitcodiac AP 8 transit stamp. This town would later be renamed Moncton.

Canada also faced the problem of bisects. The Canadian Post Office Department took a firm stand against bisects pointing out that accepting bisects could open the gates for fraud[5, 113], [6, 57]. Deputy Postmaster General Griffin explained Canada's position[7, 30C]:

14 July 60

In reply to your letter of yesterday, I beg to say that the half of a postage Stamp cannot be accepted as of any postage value what ever.

In the hurry of business the operation of cancelling is frequently very partially effected, and were a different rule permitted, a considerable portion of stamps used might be made to serve the purposes of prepayment a second time.

Canadians were asked to pay 7½d packet postage for letters sent via the Allan Line. Canada solved the payment problem by issuing the green 6d stg - 7½d cy stamp. Only three covers to the U.K. with Canadian 3d bisects are known. Only eight Canadian covers with bisected 6d stamps are known. This is well under 1 recorded bisect cover per 100 recorded 3d beaver covers.

A few Maritime writers took the bisects one step further. They bisected the bisects creating quadrisects. From Nova Scotia we have recorded a single one shilling quadrisect and one 6d quadrisect. New Brunswick has supplied four one shilling quadrisects and two 6d quadrisects. Figure 4 shows the Nova Scotia one shilling quadrisect paying a 3d rate. The cover was posted in Baddeck, C.B. February 5, 1858 and addressed to Halifax.

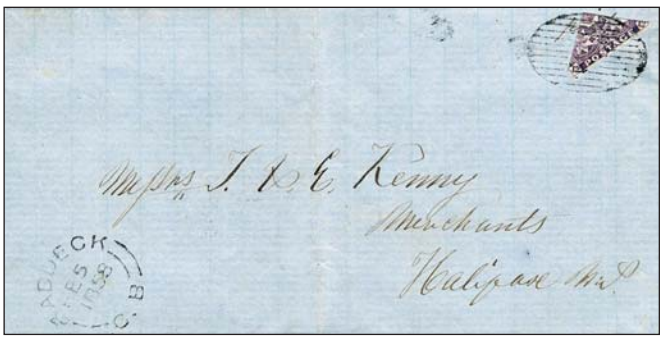

Figure 4. A one shilling quadrisect took the place of a 3d on this cover from Baddeck to Halifax. This usage was definitely not authorized. Also, the Baddeck date stamp was supposed to go on the back. The appearance on the face of the cover is unusual. *Courtesy of Frederick R. Mayer.*

ENDNOTES

[1] ***The Postage Stamps of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia*, N. Argenti, London, 1962, Quarterman Publications, 1976.**

[2] ***The Pence Covers of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, 1851 - 1860*, Arfken and Firby, in press.**

[3] **A 2 Small Queen Bisect - Philatelic?, George B. Arfken, *BNA Topics* 45, 20-23, July-Aug. 1988.**

[4] ***The Large Queen Stamps of Canada and their Use, 1868 - 1872*, H.E. & H.W. Duckworth, Toronto, 1986.**

[5] ***Canada's Pence Era*, Arfken, Leggett, Firby and Steinhart, Toronto, 1997.**

[6] ***Canada's Decimal Era*, Arfken, Leggett, Toronto, 1996.**

[7] ***The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada* Vol. 2. W.S. Boggs.**

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BNAPS – The Society for Canadian Philately

"There are no bad girls and boys, just bad environments"

FATHER EDWARD J. FLANAGAN

By Richard Logan

The founder of Boys Town in Omaha, Nebraska was born in Ballymoe, Ireland on July 13, 1886. At age 18, following elementary and secondary school, he set sail for America to seek his dreams. However, his future was not in the secular style he had envisioned, but as a priest. He enrolled at Mount Saint Mary's College in Emmetsburg, Maryland that same year. Two years later he received his Bachelor's degree. Even with degree in hand, he knew there was something missing.

His mother's advice "to follow his heart" prompted him to seek out his parish priest for advice. It was not long after that he enrolled in St. Joseph's Minor Seminary in Dunwoodie, New York – a conduit for young Irish and Italian men with a calling to the priesthood. Following his studies there, he returned to Europe to pursue his Novitiate and Major Seminary studies in Rome, then on to Innsbruck in Austria where he was ordained in 1912.

His American bishop immediately assigned him to an Irish immigrant parish on the plains in O'Neil, Nebraska. He became assistant pastor at St. Patrick's Church. Four years later, parishioners openly wept when he was transferred to another Irish parish 170 miles southeast of the city of Omaha – also named St. Patrick's.

That was where Father Edward J. Flanagan first came into contact with extreme poverty. It moved him to establish and operate a shelter for unemployed men called the "Workingman's Hotel." At that time he was also concerned with an alarming number of homeless boys who had either run away from home or had been left orphans.

Nebraska winters are known to be harsh and many parents died or were incapacitated by injury or sickness during those cold months. And life expectancy was much shorter then. Add to that the number of men who had gone off to the First World War where many paid the supreme sacrifice. Other men abandoned their families and the ranks of homeless children mushroomed.

Father Edward J. Flanagan

Orphaned and abandoned boys would find their way to the big city to seek food and shelter and would go to any length to survive.

Boys Town, Nebraska.

Father Flanagan could see the patterns developing that led young and vulnerable youth to turn to crime due to their environments and circumstances not of their own making.

These young men found in Father Flanagan a friend who cared for their physical well-being as well as their spiritual welfare. Their dire needs inspired Father Flanagan to open a home in 1917 for homeless boys to complement the shelter for unemployed men.

Using his ever-growing network of contacts and with the help of Archbishop Jeremiah Harty, Father Flanagan found an old Victorian home that had been owned by a German family. Because of the war, the family had fallen into disfavour in the neighbourhood and abandoned the home. Father Flanagan borrowed $90 from a friend and he leased the home for a month from the bank. On December 12, 1917, he cleared the snow from the entrance and turned the vacant house into something full of grace - Father Flanagan's Boys' Home.

Five boys moved into the home in downtown Omaha. Immediately, boys began to come in off the street. Within two months, 25 boys were under Father Flanagan's care.

Thanks to the insightful vision of Archbishop Harty, he freed Father Flanagan from his duties at St. Patrick's and assigned him to concentrate all his energy into the new endeavour. In addition, he assigned two nuns and a novice from the Sisters of Notre Dame to assist Father Flanagan. And the Archbishop himself helped in any way he could, except for direct financial assistance.

Father Flanagan accepted these terms and set about looking after the growing number of boys who were coming to the home. In reality, he did not have a clue how he would finance this undertaking but he trusted in God's providence.

The good father then ingratiated himself with anyone who could help him with the boys' home. Bakers would give him bread and dough to make bread; one farmer gave him a cow so the boys would have fresh milk; clothing was donated as well as furniture; utensils; and food galore – even musical instruments.

Though there were a few boys that dropped out, most of them adapted well to their new family and the joy of working together. They helped Father Flanagan make it work. In fact, the more boys there were, the more cohesively things ran as peer pressure helped them mature.

Father Flanagan's Boys' Home was building a reputation as a rehabilitation centre rather than one for incarceration; for self-government; and as an alternative educational facility that helped boys become successful. In addition, the boys learned about and received generous amounts of love, care, patience, and understanding.

By 1921 there were already 1,300 boys from 17 States who had been helped at Father Flanagan's Boys' Home. That year, friends helped him buy a small 10-acre farm just a few miles north of Omaha. However, it was not large enough for the growing needs of the community and he sold it. He took the funds from that transaction to purchase Overlook Farm, a 160-acre spread, ten miles west of Omaha. On October 22, 1921, the boys voted to change the name from Father Flanagan's Boys' Home to "Boys Town."

Like a thriving city, Boys Town became independent as year by year it grew in esteem, population and prestige. Graduates of Boys Town spread the word as well and in 1936, Boys Town became an incorporated village of the State of Nebraska.

If there was anyone not familiar with Boys Town, that would change in 1938 when Hollywood stars Spencer Tracy and Mickey Rooney – both Irishmen – agreed to screen Father Flanagan's story with the hit film *Boys Town*, for which Tracy won an Academy Award for his portrayal of Father Flanagan. He donated his "Oscar" to Boys Town and it is still on display there to this day. In 1941, a sequel, *Men of Boys Town* was released conveying the message to countless more Americans. This was a good thing and a bad thing: it meant greater recognition and more donations to Boys Town but Father Flanagan was swamped with attention, interviews and requests that greatly cut into his time with the boys.

Spencer Tracy as Father Flanagan. *Boys Town* is a film classic based on the true story of Father Flanagan.

At the end of the Second World War, Father Flanagan's fame and accomplishments had spread worldwide and the international exposure prompted him to travel to Asia and Europe.

It was while he was abroad on May 14, 1948 that he suffered a heart attack. His heart, so full of love for so many, was too big to contain all he had given to God's children and it literally burst. He died just after midnight on May 15, 1948. He was brought back home to be buried in his beloved Boys Town.

Little did Father Flanagan ever dream that his caring for a few would multiply to the numbers being served today.

To more accurately reflect that its clientele is now about 50% girls, the organization's children voted to change their name to "Girls and Boys Town" in August of 2000. The village of Boys Town in Nebraska and its buildings, however, retain the "Boys Town" name.

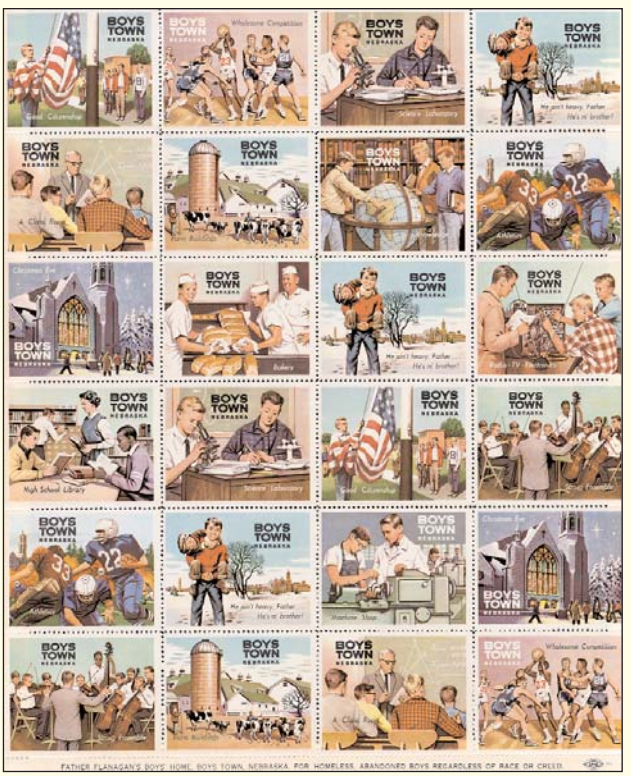
Last year, a record number of children – 41,906 – received help, healing and hope from Girls and Boys Town's direct-care programs at 16 sites in 12 States and in the District of Columbia. More than 230,000 children and families were helped through the Girls and Boys Town National Hotline and more than 1.1 million more were served through outreach and professional training programs.

The typical Girls and Boys Town youth had been in two to three foster homes before coming to Boys Town. They have a history of juvenile delinquency and test two to three years below their normal Grade level in school. Most have been neglected and abused by their families. Eighty percent of the children come from single parent homes. Over half of all girls and 30% of the boys have been sexually abused. One in five have considered suicide; 63% have severe mental health problems.

Despite the considerable challenges these youngsters have experienced, Girls and Boys Town has been successful in turning their young

DONATIONS OF STAMPS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE.

Girls and Boys Town is one of the few charities in the United States which actually promotes stamp collecting. The Leon Myers Stamp Centre is a museum and office located at the Visitor Centre in Boys Town, Nebraska. The Stamp Centre promotes stamp collecting among youth and adults and supports Girls and Boys Town programs by selling donated stamps.



Stamps used to raise funds. The residential and educational costs per child is $49,000 US per year. Two thirds of this amount must be raised by donations; the remainder comes from State grants.

The Original Father Flanagan's Boys' Home

Girls and Boys Town™

lives around. An eight-year study by in-house researchers found that 83% of all residents graduate from high school or earn an equivalency diploma.

Girls and Boys Town continues to monitor the progress of its alumni after graduation. Twenty-five percent enrol in higher education; another 25% enrol in employment training programs. In total, over 92% of graduates are enrolled in school or employed two to three years later.

In keeping with its famous trademark: "He ain't heavy Father... he's m' brother," Girls and Boys Town stresses cooperation, a family orientated philosophy and responsibility for self and others. The trademark dates back as far as 1921 when Home resident Howard Loomis was photographed being carried by another boy, Jim Edwards. The original statue, done in soft sandstone, is housed at Girls and Boys Town National Headquarters in Nebraska. Today, Girls and Boys Town utilizes an updated version of "two brothers" and a similar rendering with two girls in its logo.

The US Postal Service issued a four-cent stamp in July 1986 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Father Flanagan's birth. The stamp was part of the Great American Series, which honours outstanding Americans.

Issued in 1986 to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Flanagan's birth

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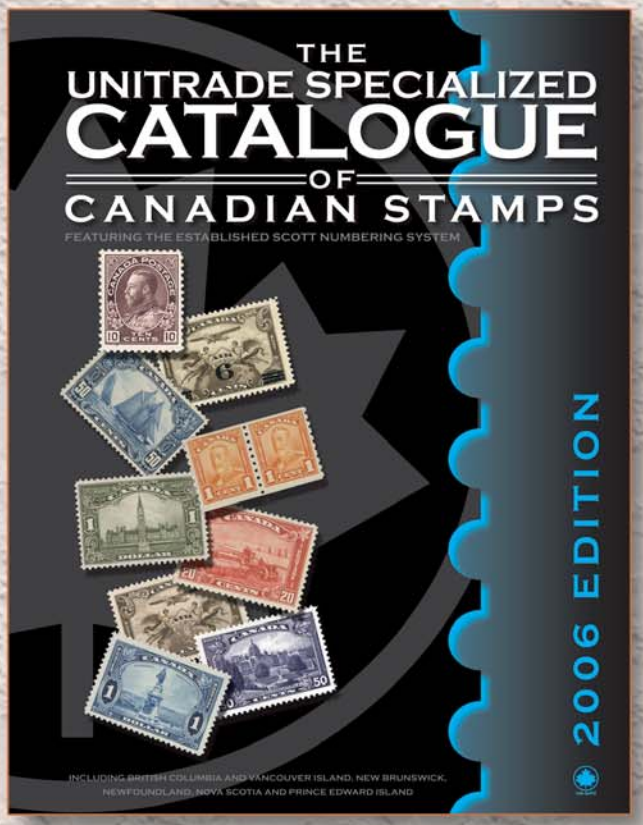

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Postal Records of Irish Famine-Based Emigration to Canada

By George Nicholson

During the early 19th century, Ireland was affected by two serious famines. The first occurred in 1821-1822 and the other, the Great Famine, lasted from 1845 to 1849. The surviving postal items of those periods can tell us something about those times.

The 1822 Famine

The 1822 famine,[1] thought to have been caused by heavy rains in the autumn of 1821, affected the west of Ireland most severely. At the height of the crisis about a million people were dependent on relief schemes. A central relief committee had been formed to distribute aid to local committees and an English Committee for Distressed Districts had been established. Killala, Co. Mayo, was one of the hardest hit areas and a letter (Figure 1), sent from the Liverpool Branch of the Committee to the Bishop of Killala, contained £50 aid.

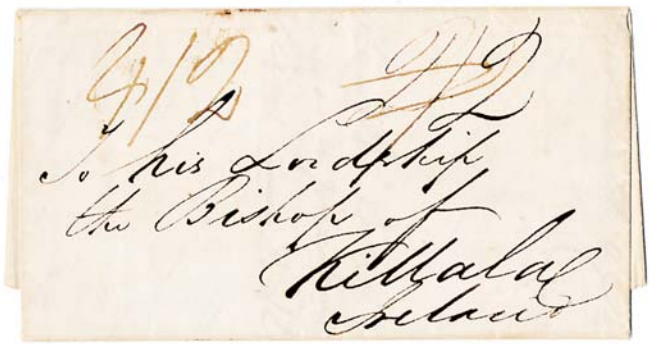


Figure 1.

The letter was mailed on June 9, 1822 at Liverpool and passed through Dublin the next day. It stated in part:

By direction of the Committee existing here for the relief of the distresses in Ireland, you have enclosed a Bank Note for Fifty Pounds for the purpose of being applied in aid of the distressed peasantry in Killala and the neighbourhood.

The Committee requests your Lordship ... to unite with you in this work ... they will be much obliged by your communicating as far as you can, the way in which this little aid will be dispensed. Be pleased to acknowledge the receipt to Your Lordship's Very Humble Servant ...

The rating for the letter is as follows:

Liverpool to Holyhead (104 miles)	- 9d
Conway and Menai Bridge fees	- 2d
Holyhead to Dublin crossing	- 2d
Total	- 1/1
Double Letter Charge due to two sheets	- 2/2
Dublin to Killala (176 miles)	- 1/-
Double Letter Rate	- 2/-
Grand Total	- 4/2

The Peter Robinson emigration

The 1822 Famine caused great hardship and created a desire for emigration both on the part of the beleaguered tenants and their landlords who wished to move many of their tenants off the land. Fortunately Upper Canada was looking for people at that time to settle its backwoods and Peter Robinson, a brother of the Attorney General for Upper Canada and a key member of the Family Compact that ruled the Province, travelled to Ireland. His mission was to convince the British authorities that emigration was beneficial to both the mother country and the colonies by relieving population pressure in one and creating settlement in the other. Robinson went to Cork and in 1823 brought 568 emigrants to Upper Canada, where they settled in the Bathurst District of the Ottawa Valley (near Perth, about 60 miles south west of Ottawa). The success of that party encouraged Robinson to return in 1825 when he brought out 2,024 who settled in the Peterborough area (about 60 miles north east of Toronto). Although many people were suspicious about the motives for encouraging emigration, there was a huge desire to leave Ireland and one surviving postal item from 1825 contained a petition for a family to be taken to Upper Canada.

Figure 2.

The letter (Figure 2), dated May 2, 1825, was addressed to Mr. Robinson, Cork, Superintending Gentleman of the Embarkation of Emigrants to Upper Canada. It was sent from the Gort area in South Co. Galway and contained the following:

Cork, Received 5th May, 1825
Gort, May 2nd, 1825

Sir,

Pardon the liberty I take in addressing you on the following occasion – having seen in the publick prints that you are the Gentleman who is superintending the Embarkation of Emigrants for Upper Canada – I beg leave to request you'll have the goodness to let me know is there a place among the numbers already enrolled – for a man a Native of this town of the Established Church who can be well recommended – having a family of a Wife and Six Children – if your convenience to take him I expect your kindness in letting me know by Letter – and what time the family should be in Cork – have the goodness also to say what luggage he may be allowed to take.

Direct to Edward Kiley,
Gort
I am Sir Your Very Humble Servant,
Thomas Hibson

The handwriting is in a flowing style, presumably written by Edward Kiley, whereas the signature of Thomas Hibson is in a more stilted form. It appears that Kiley wrote it on behalf of Hibson, who may have been either illiterate or a poor writer and merely added his signature. The first four ships of the 1822 emigration sailed on May 10th, just five days after the letter arrived, and the last ship sailed on May 21st. Neither Hibson nor Kiley appear on the list of emigrants who came over.

The 9d postage, covering a distance between 65 and 95 miles in Ireland, was paid as indicated by the red marking. No doubt it was a wise decision to prepay the postage so that Robinson would receive the letter in a favourable frame of mind and would not dismiss it without giving it due consideration.

Peterborough, which up to that time was called Scott's Plains, was renamed after Robinson's first name. Each family was assigned seventy acres with an option to buy another thirty acres for 10 British pounds within the next 10 years. They were also supplied with various tools and other supplies needed to clear the land and to survive until the first crop came in. The Irish emigration is commemorated in several plaques along the Peterborough waterfront (Figure 3).

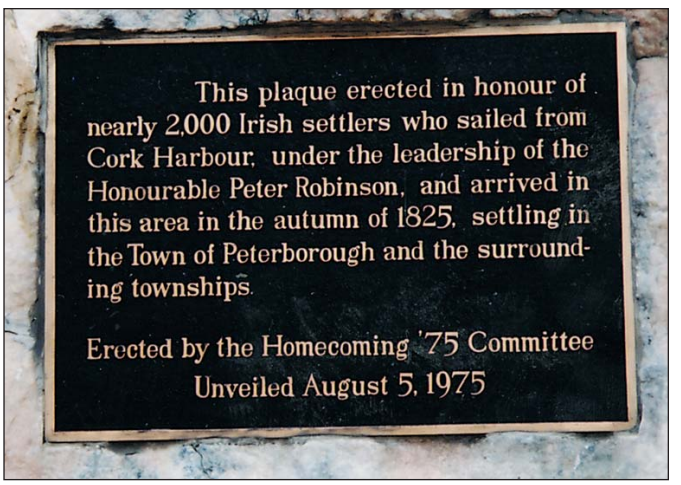


Figure 3.

The Great Famine

From 1845 to 1849 Ireland experienced its worst famine now known as the Great Famine, due to its severity. The parasitical fungus Phytophthora infestans blighted and destroyed the potato crops upon which the mass of the population depended for survival. It resulted in a population decline of approximately one fifth. About a million and a half people died and over a million emigrated, mostly to the United States.

Arrival at Grosse Ile, Québec

Emigrants to Canada typically arrived at quarantine stations such as Grosse Ile, just upriver in the St. Lawrence from Quebec, or at Partridge Island in the harbour of Saint John, New Brunswick. The former, which was the main immigrant reception area, had been established

during the 1832 cholera epidemic. It became a National Historic Site in 1984 and the Irish emigration of 1847 is recounted in three monuments. One honours the physicians who died there. The second is a large Irish Cross installed by the Ancient Order of Hibernians in 1909, and the third, an Irish Famine Memorial, was erected in 1997 in the presence of the President of Ireland on the 150th anniversary of the famine.

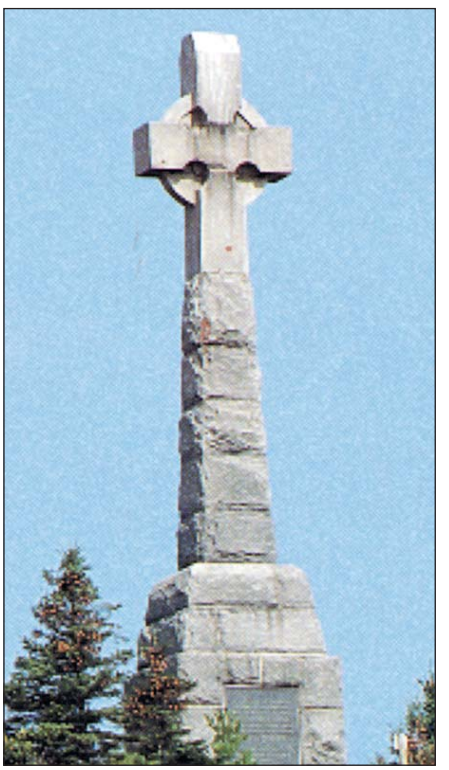
The cover (Figure 4) contains a letter written by Captain Michael Johnstone of the ship *Avon* at Grosse Ile on July 14, 1847[2]. The *Avon* had left Cork on May 19th and arrived at Grosse Ile on July 12th after a 54-day passage. The ship had 550 steerage passengers and two cabin passengers, and the letter indicates that 130 had died during the voyage. In his letter, the Captain was asking for men to be sent from Quebec to clean the ship as some of his crew were too ill to do it. The ship was not released from quarantine until July 25th, so clearly it was in a horrendous condition and a classic example of what became referred to as "coffin ships" due to the high death rates that occurred on their voyages.

The *Avon* was the 227th ship to arrive at Grosse Ile that summer and one of eight that came on the same day with another nine having arrived on the previous day. Because passage to British North America was generally cheaper than to the United States many emigrants went there first and then moved on to the United States. Johnstone's letter is addressed to Pickersgill and Tibbits, a marine-based business in Quebec. Most likely the company would have loaded the *Avon* with timber for the return voyage to Britain as that was the typical cargo on the eastward crossing with the ships then returning westward with emigrants. The letter has no postal markings on it so that it would have been sent from Grosse Ile to Quebec by one of the small ships and ferries that plied regularly between the two places.

Inquiries about life in North America

With the hard times in Ireland and the substantial early 19th-century emigration to Canada, it is not surprising that those left behind and their children were interested in conditions there and naturally made inquiries about this from their relatives who had settled in their new homes. One such letter (Figure 5), mailed on May 27th, 1847, was sent by a young man in Belfast to his uncle in North Williamsburg (West of Cornwall, Ontario) in Canada West. North Williamsburg is a few miles North of what was then West Williamsburg but was renamed Morrisburg about 1851 after James Morris a prominent local resident who became the Province of Canada's first Postmaster General after the transfer of the Post Office from Britain to the Canadian colonies.

Figure 4.



Celtic Cross at Grosse Île

Figure 5.

The lengthy letter from Josiah McDonald to his uncle Mr. John Irwin, a teacher, asked for any copies of Mercantile Papers to be sent to Belfast so that he could know how the American markets are rating as provisions were very dear in Ireland. The letter continued:

Could you let me know by return of next mail to England if America would be a good place for a young man to try his fortune in. I have about 15 months of my time to serve. My mind is bent on going out to America if my time was in. There is nothing doing as money is very scarce in this Kingdom. .... Let me know also what is the annual salary of a young man in your part of the country or if you know in the States. I wish you would give me a brief outline of America in your next epistle.

As well the letter conveys the news that:

Daniel O'Connell, the Liberator of Ireland as he is called is dead. He died at Genoa on his way to Rome for the good of his health on the 15th of this month.

It comments on Famine conditions in Ireland especially in and around Belfast as follows:

There is no other strange news in this country. Only that a great portion of the population of Ireland are in a state of Destitution. Fever is raging dreadfully in this town and neighborhood carrying off great numbers of the inhabitants.

The writer was a young man, about to finish his apprenticeship, and clearly interested in coming to North America. 1847, known as "Black '47", was the worst year of the famine and naturally enough the young man was using the resources of relatives to get information on opportunities in both America and Canada. He was literate and well enough off to pay the cost of the postage, clearly denoted by the Paid mark applied in Dublin and the amount shown in red ink.

The letter is rated 1/2 which was the Trans-Atlantic postage at that time for letters sent by the Cunard Line. It originated in Belfast on May 27, 1847, passed through Dublin the next day, May 28th and arrived in Liverpool the same day as shown by two Liverpool transit mark backstamps. It would have crossed the ocean on board the *Cambria* which left Liverpool on June 5th, arriving in Halifax on June 15th and in Boston on June 17th. The 1,834-ton paddle wheeler *Cambria* was in service for Cunard from 1845 to 1867[3]. Although there are no transit marks to confirm the route, it most likely went through Boston as the provision of a "Closed Mail" system had begun in April 1845 for passage of mail through the United States to Canada. This was because the Boston-to-Montreal route was faster than that between Halifax and the Canadas due to the poor condition of the latter.[4] The letter has two backstamps showing delivery at West Williamsburg on June 21st and at North Williamsburg the next day. The notation on the lower left corner of the cover indicates that it was to be left in care of Mr. Bell, the Postmaster at the Four Corners, presumably the cross roads where the post office was located. This would have been Mr. Walter Bell, the first Postmaster of that office, who held the position from its formation on February 6th, 1841 to his death on February 8th, 1860[5].

Conclusion

The items shown above are postal reminders of tragic times in 19th-century Ireland that provided a large number of immigrants for the Canadian provinces. Searching for a better life, the immigrants struggled and laid the foundations of the emerging Canadian nation. Surviving postal items help tell their story and explain the prevailing conditions of the times.

Endnotes:

1. **MacKay, Donald, *Flight from Famine: The Coming of the Irish to Canada*; McClelland & Stewart, Toronto, 1990 provides excellent information on the 1822 famine and the Peter Robinson emigration.**
2. **I must thank our President, Charles J.G. Verge who found this item.**
3. **The Website www.theshipslist.com is an excellent source of information on Trans-Atlantic shipping.**
4. **Arnell, J.C., *Steam and the North Atlantic Mails*, The Unitrade Press, Toronto, 1986.**
5. **Source: www.collectionscanada.ca/postal-archives.**

CANADA POST to the Rescue

By Nick R. Bocker

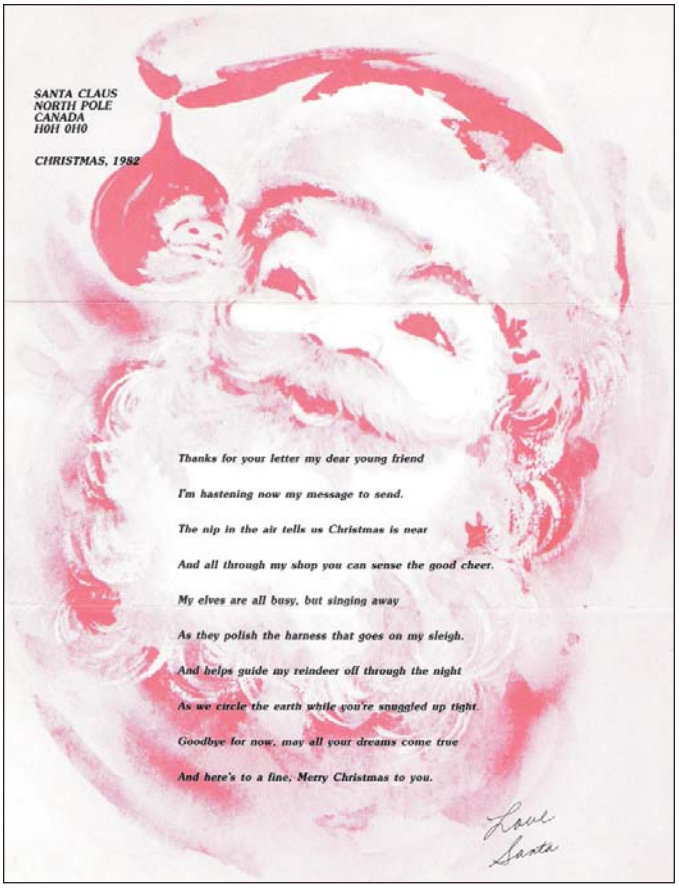


Figure 1.

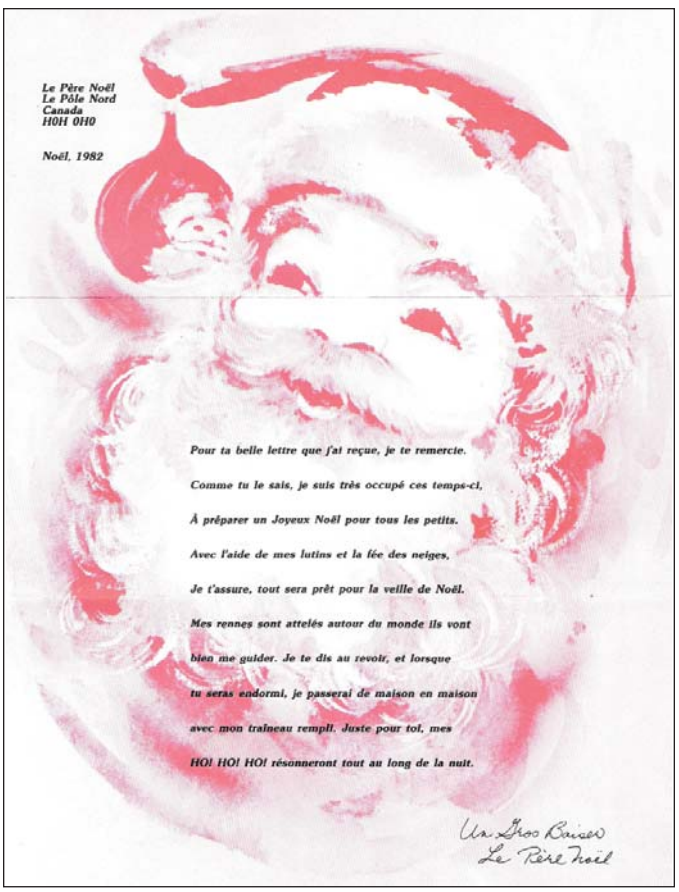


Figure 2.

When the T. Eaton Company and other major department stores in the 1960s stopped their long-standing tradition of responding to letters that children had written to Santa Claus, most of the children's letters ended up in the Undeliverable Mail Office. Very few youngsters received replies to their Santa missives after Eaton's ceased its practice of acknowledging these letters in 1967. Its final letter version began with the salutation "Ho-ho-hello little friend" and closed with "Your loving Santa at Eaton's".

Fortunately, that sad state of affairs ended with an appeal in the January 1972 edition of *Communication*, the then official organ of the Post Office. It solicited suggestions on how to better deal with the significant numbers of Santa letters that ended up as undeliverable mail. Post Office employees answered the call.

For the 1972 Christmas season, for example, postal employees at Belleville, Ontario, began penning replies to children's letters that they received at their office. Another early participant responding to youngsters' Santa letters was Roy McIntyre who at the time worked out of the Brampton, Ontario, post office as a supervisory letter carrier. And in 1973, Post Office employees in Montreal took up the letter-writing cause when they responded to about 2,000 letters from area youngsters who had written to Père Noël.

The Post Office Department did not officially get involved in those early efforts and employees of the Department used their personal funds to purchase postage stamps to mail the Santa letters to children. But in 1982, as a new Crown Corporation, Canada Post came to the rescue when it launched its official Santa Letter-Writing Program.

The Corporation's first national letter, in English (Fig. 1) and French (Fig. 2), was drafted on red coloured stationery featuring a smiling, youthful-looking Santa with a Christmas ornament dangling from the tip of his fur-lined, floppy cap. As far as is known, only a single version of the 1982 letter was drafted. Presumably, if two youngsters from one family wrote Santa a letter, they would receive identical replies.

That practice proved unsatisfactory from Canada Post's point of view and the following year, in 1983, it prepared four different letters that letter-writing volunteers, "known as "elves," could use. Three of the letters were versions that volunteers sent out to children before Christmas; a fourth, the "after Christmas" version (Fig. 3), was sent to youngsters whose letters did not reach Santa's home at the North Pole in time for the volunteers to send the reply-letter to reach these children before Christmas Day.

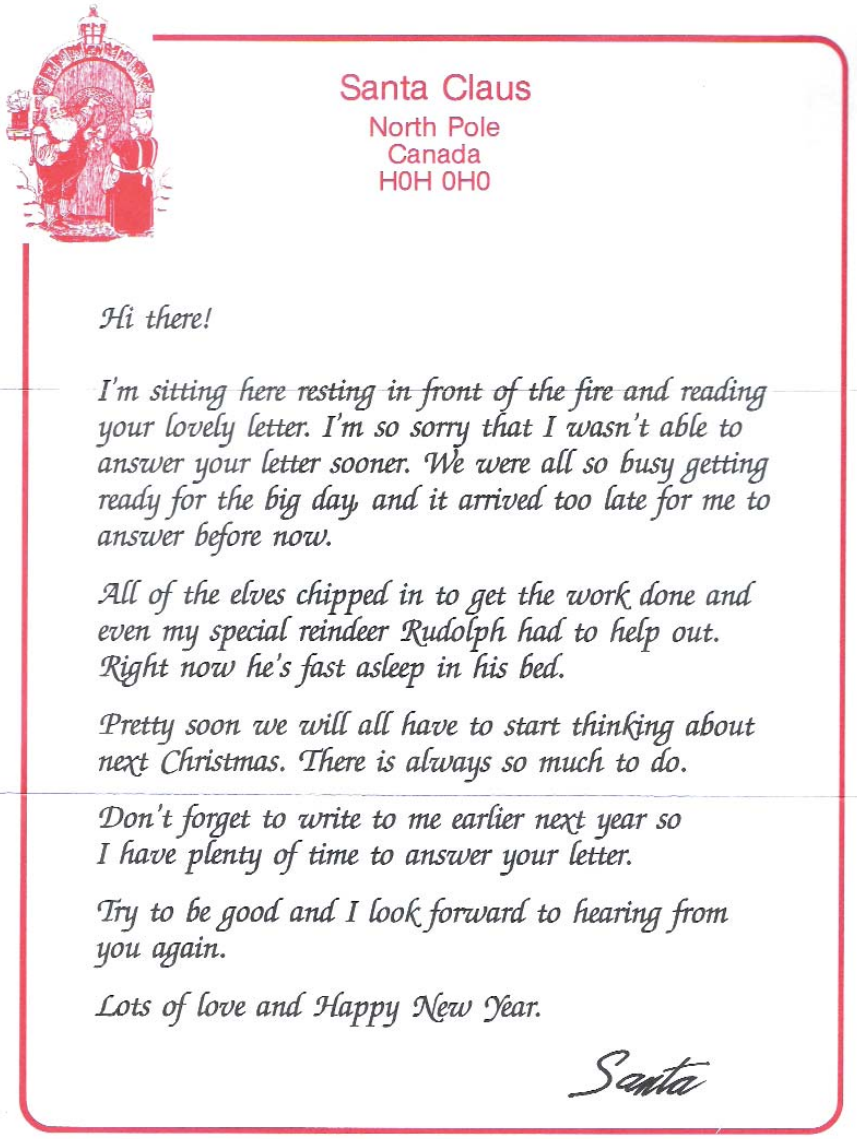


Figure 3.

Figure 4.

Figure 5.

The Santa Letter-Writing Program adds some attractively designed collectible material for philatelists to pursue. Because covers enclosing a letter from Santa to a girl or boy are imprinted with an official Canada Post permit mail impression (Fig. 4), they are of immediate interest to postal stationery enthusiasts.

To make these covers even more attractive for collectors, some of them are embellished with a Christmas-theme illustration that somewhat resembles a handstamp cancellation. The covers used in 1983, for example, have the words NORTH POLE - LE PÔLE NORD inscribed within a circle reminiscent of a circular date stamp but without the date; the 1987 cover features a stylized, large snowflake with NORTH POLE - PÔLE NORD appearing between a double circle, similar to the old-style double ring cancelling device.

As a bonus for collectors, these H0H 0H0 "Santa" covers also feature a different corner card design (Fig. 5) each year or, at least, it may be for most years. Frequently, but not always, these cover designs have themes similar to the header illustrations on the letters themselves.

If the covers and letters have identical, or very similar designs, we can deduce that they were used in the same year. Unfortunately, this inference is not an ironclad rule as there are indications suggesting that Canada Post used some of its envelope designs for more than one year, that is, covers with identical corner card design were used for mail sent out in more than in a single year. We know this from the artwork on letters enclosed in these envelopes because it differs substantially from the corner card design.

From the limited information that can be gleaned from examining the various types of Santa letter-writing stationery, we have learned that not only did Canada Post introduce new artwork to decorate its letters each year, it also printed anywhere between one and four different letters each season with each version printed in both official languages.

Although no definitive information is available from Canada Post on the specific number of different letters printed for each Christmas season, it appears that for the last several years three different letter versions, two "before Christmas" and one "after Christmas" has been the norm.

Children writing letters to Santa has been popular for more than 150 years but for much of that time they did not receive replies from jolly, old St. Nick. Department stores, though, did a creditable job answering those letters before Canada Post became involved in 1982 when its Santa Letter-Writing Program raised a long-standing tradition to a new level.

Canada Post volunteers now send well over a million letters to youngsters each Christmas season. These letters and covers are considered as collectible items by postal historians, permit mail enthusiasts, and postal stationery devotees. Due to their attractive corner card designs, these H0H 0H0 covers are also sought after by thematic collectors in their quest for the different collecting elements required in the formation of competitive, thematic exhibits.

There seems little doubt that the Canada Post Santa stationery will eventually take its place alongside the older T. Eaton Company Santa letters and covers as collectible material to enhance thematic collections and award-winning exhibits at all levels of philatelic competition.

Editor's note: In the interest of documenting details pertaining to the T. Eaton Company and Canada Post Santa Letter-Writing Programs, your editor will be happy to receive any available information or other particulars that readers may have about these programs and want to share with fellow collectors.

Some items from Lyse's desk...

Aero Club of Canada,
Special flight, Tête-bèche
Very rare!

We were cleaning up the office the other day and Lyse came across these gems on her desk.

Queen Victoria
SPECIMEN
Fabulous!

Newfoundland
Pitcher plant
6 1/2 p, ORANGE
A beauty!

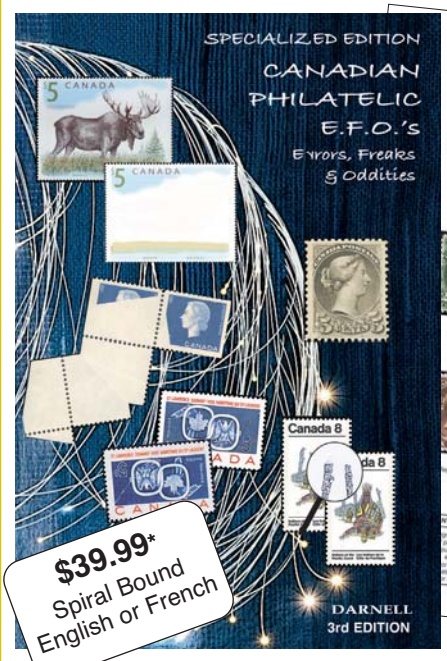
Atlantic Walrus
Block of 4, slater, perf. 13 3/4 x 13
Very rare!

Cycling
Missing inscription
WOW!

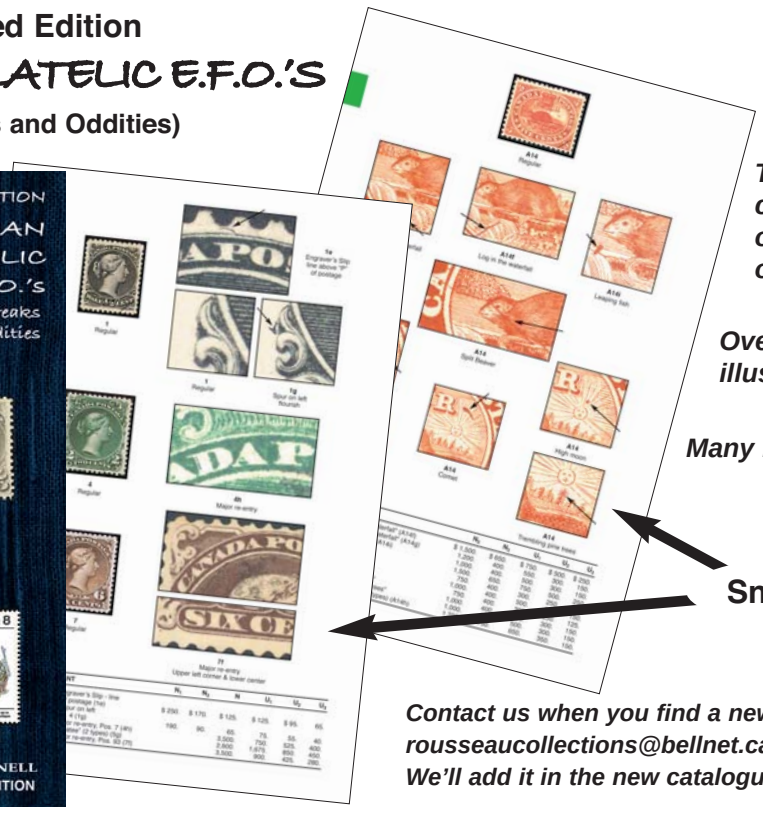
Next week
we'll do my desk...

Christmas 1994
Never officially released
Incredible!

Specialized Edition
CANADIAN PHILATELIC E.F.O.'S
(Errors, Freaks and Oddities)



$39.99*
Spiral Bound
English or French



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LET ME OUT

By Ken Lewis

In 1849 Richard Candlin, who had already been incarcerated since 1817 and was trying to clear his name, sent this entire letter from the Queen's Bench Prison in London (Figure 3). The following article details a little about the sender, Queen's Bench Prison, the letter and the route that the letter took from Candlin to Mrs. Jones.

Richard Candlin

Richard Candlin was sentenced to a term of imprisonment for debt in 1817 and was immediately put into his local jail at Montgomery in North Wales. Fourteen years later he was moved to the Fleet Prison, situated in London. After spending 11 years at that facility he was transferred, under the order of the Lord Chancellor, to the newly rebuilt Queen's Prison, also in London. At the Queen's Prison he was to serve another 19 years of his sentence. According to a report printed in *The Times*, a London newspaper, dated Wednesday December 15, 1852, Richard Candlin still was in debt for the sum of £261, equivalent to about £12,500 in today's money (approx CAN $28,125). Considering that in 1852 the average annual wage was in the neighbourhood of £35, or 2 shillings (24 pennies) per day, this debt was a substantial amount. In addition to this sentence for debt, Candlin had an attachment from the Court of Chancery for contempt of court.

Candlin sent this letter to a Mrs. Sarah Jones who was helping him in his quest for freedom. Freedom came in 1861 when Candlin was released under the Insolvent Debtors Acts, as detailed in the Queen's Bench Prison, and returned to his home in Llanyblodwell where he died one year later.

The Queen's Bench Prison

Originally called the King's Bench Prison, it was known for being both filthy and overcrowded as well as having the reputation of one of the most hated prisons in England. Because of the filth and overcrowding frequent outbreaks of typhoid fever were commonplace. The walls were built so high that even the topmost windows had no view of the outside world while the Marshall lived in well-appointed apartments built on the outside of the prison. In 1840 the King's Bench Prison, which had been rebuilt on its original site at Borough Road in Southwark, was opened and renamed the Queen's Bench Prison. Until the middle of Queen Victoria's reign, when arrest for debt was abolished, it remained exclusively a place for debtors. In 1862 the Queen's Bench Prison as the last of all the debtor prisons was finally closed. All the prisoners were freed and their debts were absolved under the Insolvent Debtors Acts and since 1862 the prison has been used to house ordinary prisoners. In 1872 it was renamed Southwark Convict Prison and was finally demolished in 1880.

The exact prison location can be seen in the street map shown in Figure 2. It was surrounded by the Great Suffolk Road to the north, Southwark Bridge Road to the west, Borough Road to the south, and Newington Causeway to the east. Linking Southwark Bridge Road with Borough Road is

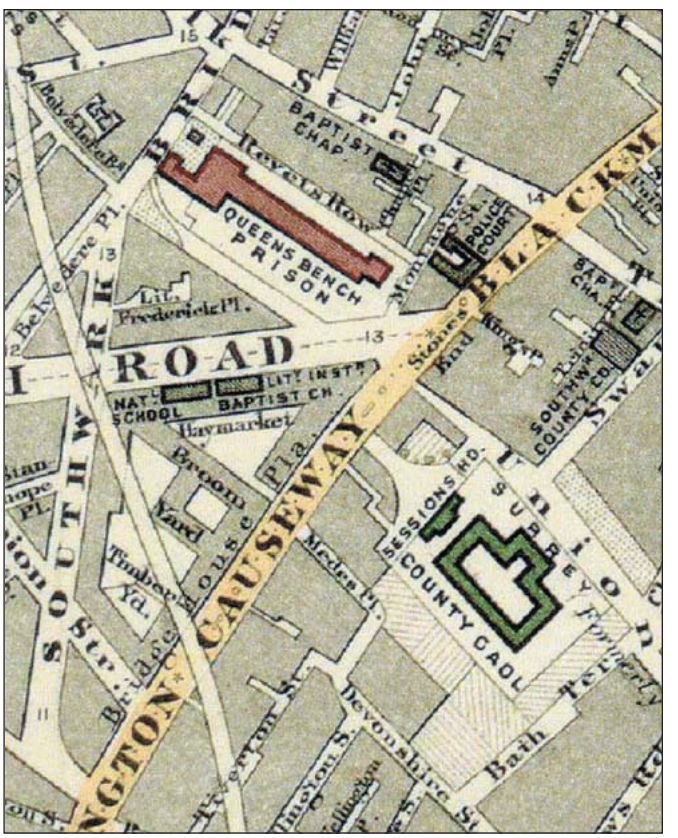

Figure 2.

Belvedere Place where the Penny Post Receiving House for the prison was situated. Scovell Road, Collinson Street, and Stone's End Street were built on the land previously occupied by the prison.

Until 1877, when it came under the control of the Home Office, the King's (subsequently Queen's) Bench Prison was a profit-making institution. Prisoners had to pay for their keep to the Marshall and his jailers, and those prisoners unable to pay were simply neglected. The standard fare supplied was bread and oatmeal gruel, whereas long-term prisoners (those serving over three weeks) had the standard fare plus potatoes and soup. This standard fare was reported as being "scientific starvation" and could be avoided by those with money by paying their jailers "*sua vitas*" (gentle keeping). More affluent prisoners could, by paying a large sum of money, serve their sentence within a three-mile radius of the prison walls. Debts (to the jailers) accumulated while in prison had to be satisfied before the prisoner could be released, and all prisoners who had served their time had to pay a release fee. Otherwise they would remain in prison. Many debtors preferred to remain in prison until they died because death cleared all debts and whatever property and possessions they owned remained in the prisoner's family.

Because the prison had its own supply of fresh water from a number of deep wells within the grounds, the cholera epidemics of 1849 and 1854 had scarcely affected those inside the prison. In fact no prisoner died of cholera during these outbreaks while hundreds of ordinary Londoners were dying from the disease.

Fleet, Tower of London, and Queen's Bench Prisons were classed as Royal Prisons and debtors of the Crown were held in these institutions. The accommodation in these Royal prisons ranged from foul to comfortable; the latter was usually reserved for prisoners of high-ranking social standing.

At the time, there were two types of prisoners: felon, and convict. A felon was confined, usually for relatively short periods, to the local county jail by local courts. These were owned and operated by county and borough magistrates, whereas convicts were those confined by the higher courts and detained at convict prisons owned and run by the national government. Over the years, the words felon and convict have lost their differences in meaning but in the 19th century there was a definite distinction.

Figure 1.

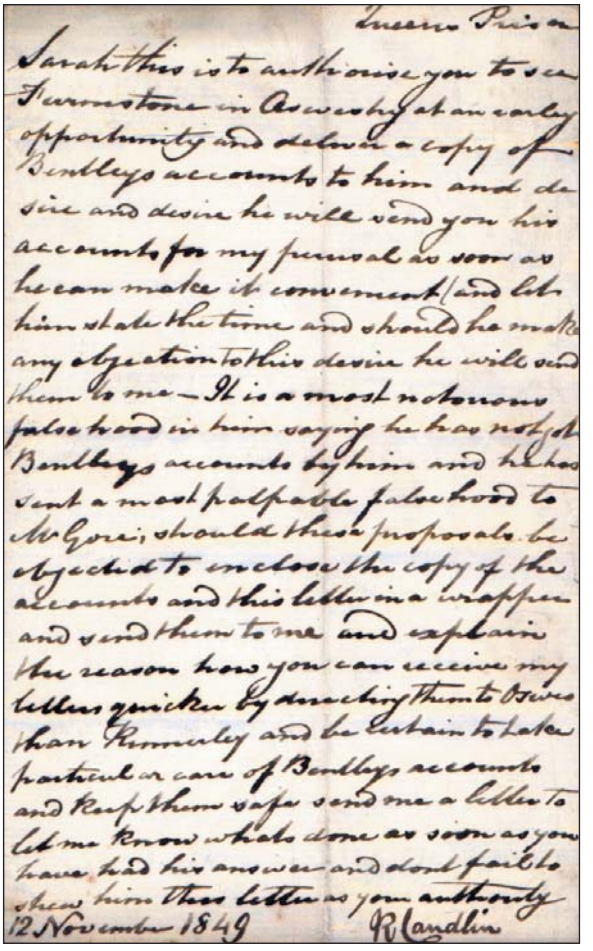
Queens Prison
Sarah this is to authorise you to see Turnstone in Oswestry at an early opportunity and deliver a copy of Bentleys accounts to him and desire and desire he will send you his accounts for my perusal as soon as he can make it convenient and let him state the time and should he make any objection to this desire he will send them to me – It is a most notorious falsehood in him saying he has not got Bentleys accounts by him and he has sent a most palpable falsehood to Mr Gore; should these proposals be objected to enclose the copy of the accounts and this letter in a wrapper and send them to me and explain the reason how you can receive my letters quicker by directing them to Oswestry than Kinnerley and be certain to take particular care of Bentleys accounts and keep them safe send me a letter to let me know when done as soon as you have had his answer and dont fail to shew him this letter as your authority
12 November 1849 R Landlin

Figure 3.

The Letter

This was addressed to Mrs Sarah Jones, Shop Knockin, Post Office Kinnerley, Oswestry (Note: handwriting was applied by another hand) Shropshire. Figure 1.

The letter contained the following message (Figure 3):

Queens Prison

Sarah this is to authorise you to see Turnstone in Oswestry at an early opportunity and deliver a copy of Bentleys accounts to him and desire he will send you his accounts for my perusal as soon as he can make it

concernment and let him state the time and should he make any objection to this desire he will send them to me. It is a most notorious falsehood in him saying he has not got Bentleys accounts by him and he has sent a most palpable falsehood to Mr Gose; should these proposals be objected to enclose the copy of the accounts and this letter in a wrapper and sent them to me and explain the reason how you can receive my letters quicker by directing them to Oswestry than Kinnerley and be certain to take particular care of Bentleys accounts and keep them safe send me a letter to let me know what's done as soon as you have had his answer and don't fail to show him this letter as your authority.

12 November 1849
R Candlin

The Route

According to GPO (General Post Office) records and the minutes of the PMG (Post Master General) the King's Bench Division applied to have its own Penny Post Receiving House. This request was granted and an office was opened and established in 1820 at Belvedere Place, Southwark, London. This receiving house was recorded in the town list of 1824 as the receiving house for the King's Bench Prison. All mail from prisoners in this prison went through this office, and received the postage paid mark 'Belvidere [sic] Place/1 D PAID' in blue at the top right.

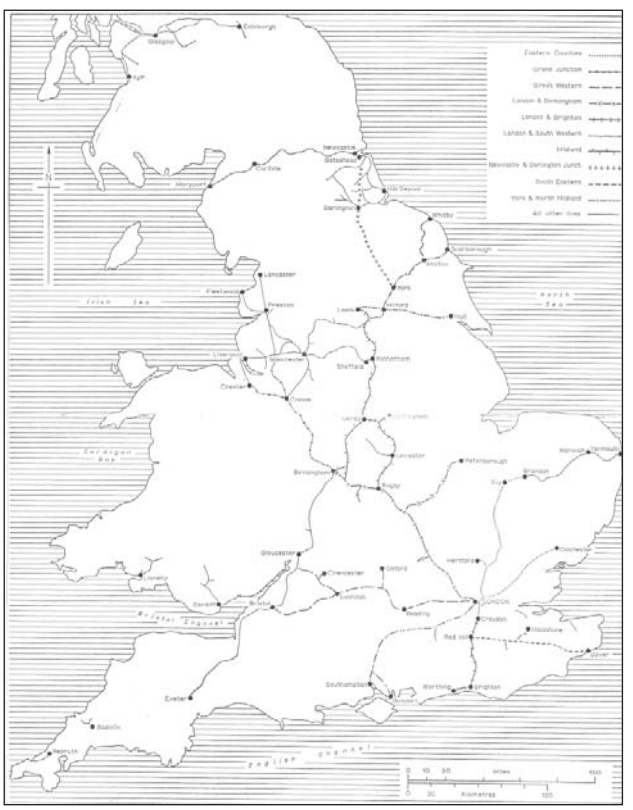

Figure 4.

Belvedere Place is situated on the left side of a triangle with Southwark Road on the right, Borough Road as the base to the southwest of the prison. The faint red paid mark, at the centre of the address, reads 'PAID/E/12NO12/1849', with the index 'E' indicating that this letter was received by this Penny Post office during the evening of November 12, 1849. From this receiving house the letter was taken to Euston Station and put on the 'Evening Northern Railway' where the Inland Office applied a black cachet at the top part of the address and it reads 'E/NR' (the cachet used on the morning run was in red). This cachet was used on mail, which could not be put in regular bags, most probably because there were only a few letters being sent. The London & Birmingham Railway carried the mail between Birmingham and London and was just one of the companies used by the Grand Northern Railway Post Office to carry mail to and from the north of England and London. A map showing both the railway routes and their operators in 1845 is illustrated in Figure 4. The train stopped at Birmingham Station (renamed Curzon Street in 1852) and disembarked passengers, luggage and mail.

The route this letter took is as follows: The letter left the General Post Office at 8:00 p.m. to travel the 2 miles and 2 furlongs (time allowed was 18 minutes with a tolerance of 10 minutes for waiting time) to catch the train at Euston Station. At 8:30 p.m. the train left Euston and took 59 minutes to reach Watford 17¾ miles from London. It took another 45 minutes to reach Tring (13¾ miles from Watford); a further 26 minutes to reach Leighton Buzzard (8½ miles from Tring); 39 minutes to arrive at Wolverton (11¾ miles from Leighton Buzzard); 33 minutes to reach Blisworth (10 miles from Wolverton); 23 minutes to Weedon (7 miles from Blisworth); 46 minutes to Rugby (14 miles from Weedon); 35 minutes to Coventry (10¾ miles from Rugby); and 60 minutes to Birmingham Railway (Curzon Street) Station (18¼ miles from Rugby) arriving at 2:30 a.m. the next morning. The total mileage covered on the railway was 112¼ miles (at an average speed of 25.9 miles per hour) plus another 1¾ miles to the Birmingham Post Office from the station, making 114 miles in total.

In 1849 a survey showed that the average speed attained by the day and night mails to Birmingham from London was 23½ and 21 miles per hour respectively. From Birmingham the train continued on its journey to its terminus at Liverpool with

Figure 5.

mail being sorted for the various destinations on its route.

Any mail that arrived at Birmingham station was collected and taken to the Birmingham sorting office where a transit stamp reading 'Birmingham/NO13/1849/A' was applied with the 'A' indicating that this letter arrived in the morning. Figure 5 shows the rear of the entire containing the receiver and transit marks. From Birmingham the letter travelled by stagecoach the 43 miles to Shrewsbury where it received the transit mark reading 'Shrewsbury/NO14/1849/B', and most probably where the postal clerk inserted the name of Oswestry into the address (done in a different hand from the sender's).

A departure transit mark reading 'Shrewsbury/NO14/1849/D' was applied when it was sent on its 18-mile journey by the afternoon stagecoach to Oswestry (passing through Nescliff) where it received the transit mark reading 'Oswestry/NO15/1849/A' upon its arrival. Oswestry was the main distribution centre for the region and the letter was sent on the 10-mile trip to Nescliff (now named 'Nescliffe') where it received an undated transit mark. At Nescliff, it was transferred the three miles to the Kinnerley post office where it got its receiver mark, again undated. It is unusual to have an undated receiver on mail but these two undated marks of Nescliff and Kinnerley are not recorded in Whitney's book. When it reached the post office at Kinnerley, the letter was delivered to the addressee's shop one mile away in the nearby hamlet of Knockin.

Conclusion

This letter has a background of mystery and intrigue. Although the letter's route has been traced from the time it left the prisoner until it was delivered to the addressee, most of these markings are in themselves reasonably common but putting them all together with the letter and the background of the sender make this an interesting piece of postal history. It gives a rare insight into what happened to debtors in the early 19th century. Most probably, after being in jail for almost 44 years, Richard Candlin was one of the first to be released when the Queen's Bench Prison (the last debtors jail) finally closed in 1862.

It must be remembered that Candlin was brought to justice while each county was responsible for making its own arrangements for a police force. In 1856 all the police forces in England and Wales were amalgamated and came under government control, thereby ending the responsibility of each individual county.

While doing this research an anecdote was unearthed that may add a bit of Victorian life to this article. It was included in *Leaves of Life* by Montagu Williams as follows: A nobleman friend of Montagu who, because of his debts, to enable him to avoid arrest, was forced to stay at Montagu's home. This immunity came about because their home was at The Cloisters, Windsor, and debtors could not be arrested within the precincts of a Royal Palace. During this time the debtor was able to go freely into London, but only on Sundays between the hours of Midnight to Midnight when all arrests for debt were stayed on this day. He was caught when he overstayed his visit and arrested in the early minutes of Monday morning.

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Thanks must be made to the following:

Tony Booth of Doncaster, South Yorkshire for his substantial help and confirmation of railway facts; Leicester University Press for its kind permission to reproduce the map of the railway system in 1845 from the book British Transport by H. J. Dyos and D. H. Aldcroft, Leicester University Press (1969); Mrs. M. I. Hicks for supplying the stagecoach information; and John A. Strachan of the British Postmark Society.

Prestige Booklets and Stamps from
DOWN UNDER

By Joseph Monteiro

Introduction

On January 1, 1901, the six separate colonies of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania and Western Australia formed a federation to become the Commonwealth of Australia. The Federation resulted in the inauguration of a General Post Office. But is was not until 1911 that a public competition was staged to provide the first Commonwealth stamp design of Australia. Since then, Australia has issued numerous colourful and attractive stamps. The year 2004 marks the bicentenary of the European Settlement of Tasmania and the 50th Anniversary of Mawson Station, the oldest continuously operating station inside the Antarctic circle.[1]

This article will take philatelists through the journey of Australia's exciting stamp program for the year 2004. We will pay special attention to Australia's prestige booklets, review the commemorative stamps of Australia and the Australian Territories together with other products of special interest.

Prestige Booklets

Six prestige booklets were issued by Australia Post describing fascinating tales and photographs ranging from bridges to anniversaries and pets. Each of these prestige booklets contain stamps in unique format found only in these booklets.

a) Landmark Bridges (March 2, 2004): The Landmark Bridges show a diversity of construction materials and styles ranging from the stone bridge of earlier times to the architectural wonders of current times. "The prestige booklet includes five panes of four stamps each. The panes are interleaved with text and images of the five bridges featured in this issue. The stamp panes each feature a four stamp block of a single design, and one four block pane for each stamp in the issue. The blocks of four stamps of a single design are exclusive to the booklet."[2]

b) 1954 Royal Tour Jubilee (April 13, 2004): To commemorate the birthday of Queen Elizabeth II and the 50th Anniversary of the Queen's Royal Tour to Australia, Australia Post released a stamp on April 13, 2004. Its design is based on the portrait taken by Dorothy Wilding for the 1954 issues. This stamp is featured in this prestige booklet. "The prestige booklet features five stamp panes of four stamps each (face value $10.00). The panes are interleaved with pages of text about, and images of the 1954 royal tour. Each of the five panes features a different decorative border. ...prestige booklets are outstanding value for money. This prestige booklet would make a lovely and thoughtful gift for someone with an interest in the monarchy or Australian history, or just to show someone that you are thinking of them."[2]

c) Eureka 1854-2004 (June 29, 2004): The third prestige booklet is on the 150th Anniversary of the Eureka Stockade. It commemorates years of dissatisfaction and rebellion on the Victorian goldfields and the

desire for representative and responsible government. "The prestige booklet comprises four stamp panes interleaved with colour illustrations and text telling the story of the stockade. The stamp panes are two pairs of 50c stamps, one pair of $2.45 stamps, and one se-tenant pair."[3] The 50c stamps features the Eureka flag and the $2.45 stamp shows the image of Peter Lalor the man who led the diggers at the stockade. The booklet contains interesting photographs and details of the Eureka Riot of October 17, 1854.

d) 150th Anniversary of Railways in Australia (September 7, 2004): To commemorate the 150th Anniversary of Railways in Australia, Australia Post issued a prestige booklet in conjunction with other stamps. It takes one back to September 12, 1854 when the first steam propelled train on rails made its trip from Melbourne to Sandridge. "The prestige booklet will have five stamp panes, each with a block of four x 50c stamps. These single design stamps are exclusive to the booklets, and each pane's border will be unique. Interleaved with the stamp panes will be pages of text about, and images of trains."[4] The five stamps show the trains used on specific

routes: Melbourne-Sandridge 1854; Sydney-Parramatta 1855; Helidon-Toowoomba 1867; Kalgoorlie-Port Augusta 1917; and Alice Springs-Darwin 2004.

e) Cats and Dogs (September 21, 2004): The final two prestige booklets issued by Australia Post in 2004 are dedicated to domestic cats and dogs. The history of domestic cats goes back to 2000 B.C. appearing on Egyptian frescoes. The history of dogs goes back even further. The first domesticated dogs were bred from the wolf species, Canis familiaris. Both cats and dogs are not native species of Australia and are believed to have been brought into Australia by European settlers. "The dogs prestige booklet has five stamp panes and a sheet of 20 stickers. The stamp panes are interleaved with pages of text about dogs in general and dogs in Australia. ...The stamp panes are: one block of four Westies; two blocks of four mixed Westies and Labs; one block of four Labs; and one pair of Jack Russells. Each pane has a unique border and some of the blocks are unique to the Dogs prestige booklet. The Cats prestige booklet has five stamp panes and a sheet of 20 stickers. The panes are interleaved with pages of text about cats in general and cats in Australia. The panes in this prestige booklet are: one block of four Ezzie, one block of four Tinkerbell, three mixed blocks of four (Ezzie and Tinkerbell). Some of the blocks are unique to the Cats prestige booklet."[4]

Commemorative Stamps

a) Australian Legends (January 23, 2004): As part of the Australian Day Celebration, Australia Post pays tribute to Australian legends by issuing a special stamp or stamps. In 2004, Dame Joan Sutherland was selected as the Australian legend, one of the world's greatest opera singers. The two stamps were printed in a sheetlet of ten stamps. They were printed by SNP Sprint on Tullis Russell paper and were perforated by a 13.86 x 14.60 perforating gauge. The size of each of the stamps is 37.5mm x 26mm. The size of the sheetlet is 101mm x 156mm. Besides the stamps printed in sheetlet format, the stamps were also issued in a booklet of 10 stamps and cheque book format (20 booklets of 10).

b) Tasmania 1804-2004 (February 3, 2004): To commemorate the 150 Anniversary of Tasmania, Australia Post issued a set of four stamps. The design of the stamps show: Chestnut House (50 cents), Shell necklace (50 cents), Mount Wellington and Hobart Town from Kangaroo Point ($1) and Mountains upon Mountains-South West Tasmania ($1). The four stamps designed by Lynda Warner were issued in modules of 50 (2 panes of 25) with no text in the gutters. They were also issued as a miniature sheet. They were printed by SNP Sprint on Tullis Russell paper and were perforated by a 13.86 x 14.60 perforating gauge. The size of each of the stamps is 37.5mm x 26mm and the size of the miniature sheet is 135mm x 72mm.

c) Landmark Bridges (March 2, 2004): To capture Australia's history, past and present, through its Landmark Bridges, Australia Post released a set of five 50-cent stamps in March. The stamps show designs of: Ross Bridge, Tasmania; Lockyer Creek Bridge, Queensland; Sydney Harbour Bridge, New South Wales; Birkenhead Bridge, South Australia; and Bolte Bridge, Victoria. The stamps designed by Gary Domoney were issued in modules of 50 (2 panes of 25) with a decorative text in the gutters. They were printed by SNP Sprint on Tullis Russell paper and were perforated by a 13.86 x 14.40 perforating gauge. The size of each of the stamps is 37.5mm x 26mm. Besides the stamps in sheet format, the stamp or stamps are available in other formats: a roll, a booklet, a cheque book and a prestige booklet. The self-adhesive roll (100 stamps) and booklet were printed on B90 and B100 paper, respectively. The stamps issued in booklet format consisted of ten stamps (10 x 50 cents) and the stamps issued in cheque book format consisted of 20 booklets of ten.

d) Celebrate (March 16, 2004): The 50-cent Celebrate stamp depicts the Southern Cross as a symbol of Australia's celebratory feeling. It can be used in Australia Post's Personalized Stamps™ service. This stamp designed by Brian Sadgrove was issued in modules of 20 with no gutter. It was printed by SNP Ausprint on Tullis Russell paper and was perforated by a 14.4 x 14 perforating gauge. The size of the stamp is 30.55mm x 30mm. The tab size is 20mm x 30mm.

e) Renewable Energy (March 30, 2004): To draw attention to the importance of renewable energy production, Australia Post issued a set of four 50-cent stamps in March. The four stamps show designs of sustainable energy production:

solar, wind, hydro and biomass. The stamps designed by Sean Pethick were issued in modules of 50 (2 panes of 25) with a decorative text in the gutters. They were printed by SNP Sprint on Tullis Russell paper using lithography and were perforated by a 13.86 x 14.60 perforating gauge. The size of each of the stamps is 37.5mm x 26mm. The stamps were issued on both gummed and self-adhesive paper. Besides the sheet format, the stamps were available in a roll of 100 and were printed on B90 paper.

f) 1954 Royal Tour Jubilee (April 13, 2004): In April, Australia Post commemorated the visit of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II with the release of a stamp. To celebrate this gala event, arches were built, decorations erected and fireworks were set off. This 50-cent stamp designed by Hannah Mattner was issued as a sheetlet of ten with a decorative border. They were printed by SNP Sprint on Tullis Russell paper and were perforated by a 14.6 x 13.85 perforating gauge. The size of each of the stamps is 26mm x 37.5mm. In addition to the sheetlet, a prestige booklet was also issued (described earlier).

g) Nature of Australia: Rainforest Butterflies (May 4, 2004): The final issue of the dazzling butterfly or rainforest nature stamps were released by Australia Post in May. The butterflies on the stamps are all found in the Daintree region of the Wet Tropics. The designs of the stamps show: red lacewing (5 cents), blue-banded eggfly (10 cents), the cruiser (75 cents), and the Daintree rainforest ($2). The stamps designed by Wayne Rankin were issued in modules of 50 with no gutter. They were printed by SNP Sprint on Tullis Russell paper using lithography. The 5 cents, 10 cents and 75 cents stamps were perforated by a 14 x 14.4 perforating gauge and the $2 stamp was perforated with a 14.4 x 14 perforation gauge. The size the former group of stamps was 30mm x 25mm and the size of the latter stamp was 50mm x 30mm.

h) Australian Innovations (May 18, 2004): To celebrate the spirit and culture of Australian innovations five stamps were issued by Australia Post in May. The design of the stamps depict: Black box flight recorder (1961); ultrasound imaging (1976); racecam TV sport coverage (1979); baby safety capsule (1984); and polymer banknotes (1988). The five stamps designed by Mike Heine were issued in modules of 50 (2 panes of 25) with no decorative text in the gutters. They were printed by SNP Sprint on Tullis Russell paper and were perforated by a 13.86 x 14.60 perforating gauge. The size of each of the stamps is 37.5mm x 26mm. Besides the sheet format, the stamps were available in a booklet of 10 x 50 cents and a cheque book of 20 booklets which were printed on B/0 100 paper.

i) Bon Voyage (June 1, 2004): To capture the mystique and allure of 20th century ocean liner travel, Australia Post issued a set of four stamps. The design on the stamps give a glimpse of tourist ship advertisements from their original posters to evoke a sense of romance and excitement. The four stamps (50c, $1, $1.45 and $2) designed by Melinda Coombs were issued in modules of 50 (2 panes of 25) with no text in the gutters. They were printed by SNP Sprint on Tullis Russell paper using the lithographic printing process and were perforated by a 14.6 x 13.85 perforating gauge. The size of each of the stamps is 26mm x 37.5mm. The self-adhesive stamps were printed on B100 paper. Besides the stamps in sheet format, the stamps were also issued in booklet format (10 stamps) and cheque book format (20 booklets).

j) Eureka 1854-2004 (June 29, 2004): Australia Post commemorated the Anniversary of Eureka 1854 with the release of two stamps (50 cents and $2.45) and a miniature sheet with both stamps. The 50c stamp features the Eureka flag and the $2.45 stamp depicts the image of Peter Lalor. The two stamps designed by Janet Boschen were issued in modules of 50 (2 panes of 25) with no text in the gutters. They were printed by SNP Sprint on Tullis Russell paper and were perforated by a 13.86 x 14.40 perforating gauge. The size of each of the stamps is 37.5mm x 26mm. In addition to the stamps issued in the above format, a prestige booklet was also issued together with a miniature sheet containing the two denominations.

k) Australian Impressions (July 13, 2004): The Australian Impression issue pays tribute to Australia's unique wildlife and its love affair with the beaches. The design on the stamps depict the Koala ($1), the Little penguin ($1), the Clown anemonefish ($1.45), and the Main Beach, Gold coast Queensland ($2.45). The four stamps designed by Belinda Marshall were issued in modules of 50 with no gutter. They were printed by SNP Sprint on

Tullis Russell paper using the lithographic printing process. The $1 stamp was perforated by a 14 x 14.4 perforating gauge and the $1.45 and $2.45 was perforated by a 14.4 x 14 perforating gauge. The size of the $1 stamp is 30mm x 50mm and the size of the $1.45 and $2.45 stamps is 50mm x 30mm.

l) Olympic Games (August 3, 2004): To commemorate the Olympics and Paralympic Games in Athens, Greece in August and September respectively, Australia Post issued three stamps. The designs on the stamps depict swimming, athletics and cycling. The stamps (50c and 2x$1.65) designed by Chris Shurey were issued in modules of 50 (2 panes of 25) with no text in the gutters. They were printed by SNP Sprint on Tullis Russell paper using the lithographic printing process and were perforated by a 13.85 x 14.6 perforating gauge. The size of each of the stamps is 37.5mm x 26mm.

m) Coastlines (September 6, 2004): Four stamps depicting Australian coastlines were issued on September 6. They depict the panoramic Australian coastline and are part of a yearly series of International Post stamps. The stamps issued are on: $1.20-Entrance Beach, Broome Western Australia; $1.80-Mt. William National Park, Tasmania; $2.40-Potato Point, Bodalla, New South Wales; and $3.60-Point Gibbon, Eyre Peninsula, South Australia. The stamps designed by Lynette Traynor were issued in modules of 50 with no gutter. They were printed by SNP Sprint on Tullis Russell paper using the lithographic printing process and were perforated by a 14.6 x 13.87 perforating gauge. The size of each of the stamps is 42.63mm x 18.75mm.

n) Anniversary of Railways in Australia (September 7, 2004): To commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the Railways, Australia Post issued five se-tenant 50-cent stamps. Specific routes were: Melbourne-Sandridge in Victoria; Sydney-Parramatta in New South Wales; Helidon-Toowoomba in Queensland; Kalgoorlie-Port Augusta from Western Australia to Southern Australia; and Alice Springs-Darwin in Northern Territory. The stamps designed by Ned Culic were issued in modules of 50 (2 panes of 25) with a decorative gutter. These stamps were printed by SNP Sprint on Tullis Russell paper using the lithographic printing process and were perforated by a 13.86 x 14.6 perforating gauge. The size of each of the stamps is 37.5mm x 26mm. In addition to the sheet format, a prestige booklet, a booklet of 10, a cheque book of 20 booklets of self-adhesive stamps and a roll of 100 self-adhesive stamps were issued. The booklet and roll stamps were printed by SNP Sprint on B100 and B90 papers, respectively.

o) Treasures from the Archives (September 7, 2004): "To launch its new series Treasures from the Archives, which highlights items from the National Philatelic Collection, Australia Post has created its first Jumbo Stampo, the size of a miniature sheet. It features the £2 Kangaroo and Map stamp, the highest value in the first Australian Commonwealth series." This $5 stamp was designed by Hannah Mattner and was issued in modules of 10. In addition to the above format, the stamp is also available in cheque book format containing 20 stamps. It was printed by SNP Sprint using the lithographic printing process and was perforated by a 14.285 perforating gauge. The gummed stamp was printed on Tullis Russell Paper and the self-adhesive stamp was printed on B 100 paper. The size of each stamp is 105mm x 70mm.

p) Cats and Dogs (September 21, 2004): Australia Post issued five stamps (4 x 50 cents and $1), a miniature sheet and a prestige booklet on domestic cats and dogs. The 50c stamps depict 'Ezzie' a black and white cat, 'Tinkerbell' a ginger and white kitten, 'Max' a Labrador Retriever puppy, and 'Bridie' and 'Lily' West Highland terriers; and the $2.45 stamp depicts the Jack Russell Terrier 'Edward'. The stamps designed by Jo MurË were issued in modules of 50 (2 panes of 25 for the $1; and 1 pane of 25 for the cats and 1 pane of 25 for the dogs) with no text in the gutters other than traffic lights. They were printed by SNP Sprint on Tullis Russell paper and were perforated by a 14.6 x 13.85 perforating gauge. The size of each of the stamps is

26mm x 37.5mm. The miniature sheet contained one stamp of each denomination. In addition, to the gummed stamps there were also self-adhesive stamps printed on B 90 paper (2x5x50 cents and 1x5x$1). Besides stamps in sheet format and self adhesive stamps, a booklet of 10x50 cents (cat and dogs) and a cheque book of 20 such booklets were issued. In addition, Australia Post also issued sheetlets of: cats (5x50 cents); dogs (5x50 cents); and Jack Russell (5x$1). All of these sheetlets appeared in cheque books containing 20 of each.

q) Australian Gold Medallists (August 13-29, 2004): To honour the winners of gold medals in the Olympics at Athens, Greece in 2004, Australia Post issued a gold medallist stamp. There were 17 gold medallist stamps with the picture of each of the medallist: Ian Thorpe, Jodie Henry and team, Sara Carrigan, Petria Thomas, Suzanne Balogh, Ian Thorpe, Jodie Henry, Anna Meares, James Tomkins and Drew Ginn, Grant Hackett, Petria Thomas and team, Chantelle Newberry, Graeme Brown and team, Ryan Bayley, Graeme Brown and Stuart O'Grady, Ryan Bayley, Michael Brennan and team. The 50 cents gold medallist stamps were designed by Lisa Christensen. The stamps were printed by SNP Sprint on Tullis Russell paper in sheets of 10 x 50 cents and were perforated by a 14.25 perforating gauge. The size of each of the stamps is 35mm x 35mm.

r) Australian Heroes of Grand Prix Racing (October 13, 2004); To pay tribute to its heroes of Grand Prix racing, Australia Post issued a set of five stamps (5x50 cents). The stamps designed by Symone Lambert were issued in modules of 50 (2 panes of 25) with no decorative gutter. The designs depict: Mick Doohan, Wayne Gardner, Troy Bayliss, Daryl Beattie and Gary McCoy. The stamps were printed by SNP Sprint on Tullis Russell paper using the lithographic printing process and were perforated by a 13.85 x 14.6 perforating gauge. The size of each of the stamps is 37.5mm x 26mm. In addition to the sheet format, a booklet of 10, a cheque book (20 booklets) with self-adhesive stamps and a roll of 100 self-adhesive stamps were also issued. The booklet and roll stamps were printed by SNP Sprint on B/C100 and B/C90 papers, respectively.

s) Christmas (November 1, 2004): To pay homage to the birth of Christ, Australia Post issued a set of three stamps (45 cents, 50 cents and $1). The designs show the virgin and child, the angel and the shepherds, and the three wise men. The designs were the artistic work of Jeanette Fallon. The stamps were printed by SNP Sprint on Tullis Russell paper using the lithographic printing process in modules of 50 (2 panes of 25) with no decorative gutter. The 45-cent and 50-cent stamps were perforated by a 14.6 x 13.86 perforating gauge and the $1 stamp was perforated by a 13.86 x 14.60 perforating gauge. The size of the former stamps are 26mm x 37.5mm and the size of the latter stamp is 37.5mm x 26mm. In addition to the sheet format, a booklet of 20 x 45 cents self-adhesive stamps was issued and a sheetlet of five $1 self-adhesive stamps was also issued. The self-adhesive stamps were printed on B100 paper.

Stamps of Australian Territories

a) Lunar New Year (January 6, 2004): To bring in the New Year, a set of 14 Lunar New Year stamps were issued. The stamps were designed by Luis Chiang. The 50-cent and $1.45 Monkey stamps were issued in modules of 50 (2 panes of 25) with decorative text in the gutters. They were also issued as a miniature sheet. The 10 cents, 15 cents and 25 cents stamps (four of each) were issued in sheetlet format only. They were printed by SNP Sprint on Tullis Russell paper using the lithographic printing process and were perforated by a 13.86 x 14.60 perforating gauge. The size of each of the stamps is 37.5mm x 26mm, the size of the miniature sheet is 70mm x 106mm and the size of the sheetlet is 210mm x 170mm.

b) AAT Mawson Station (February 13, 2004): To commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the establishment of Mawson Station on Antarctic Territory, Australia Post issued a set of four stamps. The designs of the four stamps were on: the Naming Ceremony, the contemporary view of Mawson station, the living caravan with de Havilland Beaver aircraft in the background, and the Auster Penguin Rookery. The four stamps (2 x 50 cents, $1 and $1.45) were designed by Sean Pethick and were issued in modules of 50 (2 panes of 25) with no text in the gutters. They were printed by SNP Sprint on Tullis Russell paper using the lithographic printing process and were perforated by a 13.86 x 14.60 perforating gauge. The size of each of the stamps is 37.5mm x 26mm.

c) 50th Anniversary of the Queen's Visit to Cocos (Keeling) Islands (March 16, 2004): To celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II to Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Australia Post released a set of four stamps and a miniature sheet. The stamps (2x50c, 1x$1 and 1x$1.45) and miniature sheet with the four stamps were designed by Melinda Coombs. The stamps in sheet format have no special text in the gutter. They were printed by SNP Sprint on Tullis Russell paper using the lithographic printing process and were perforated by a 13.85 x 14.6 perforating gauge. The size of each of the stamps is 37.5mm x 26mm and the size of the miniature sheet is 135mm x 72mm.

d) Christmas Island Underwater (July 13, 2004): The Australian Territories released a special sheetlet of 20 stamps featuring various fish and marine life found around the island. The colourful stamps designed by Jo MurË were issued as a sheetlet of 20 with a decorative selvedge. They were printed by SNP Sprint on Tullis Russell paper and were perforated by a 14.4 x 13.86 perforating gauge. The size of each of the stamps is 26mm x 37.5mm and the sheetlet size is 156mm x 176mm.

Stamps and Products of Special Interest

a) Lunar New Year - Hong Kong Overprint (January 30 to 3 February 2004): To mark Australia's participation in Hong Kong's 2004 exhibition, Australia Post overprinted the Lunar New Year miniature sheet issued on January 6, 2004.

b) Tasmania 1804-2004 - Paris Overprint (June 26-July 4, 2004): To mark Australia's participation in the Salon du timbre Paris, France, exhibition, Australia Post overprinted the Tasmania 1804-2004 miniature sheet issued in January 2004 with the exhibition logo in gold foil.

c) 50th Anniversary of the Queen's Visit to Cocos (Keeling) Islands - Singapore Overprint (August 28-September 1, 2004): To mark Cocos (Keeling) Islands' participation in the Singapore 2004 World Stamp Championship exhibition, the miniature sheet commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Queen's Visit to Cocos (Keeling) Islands, issued in March 2004, was overprinted with the exhibition logo in gold foil.

d) Tasmania 1804-2004 - Beijing Overprint (October 28-October 31, 2004): To mark Australia's participation in the Beijing China exhibition, Australia Post overprinted the Tasmania 1804-2004 miniature sheet issued in January 2004 with the exhibition logo in gold foil.

e) 2004 Annual Collection of Australian stamps: The 2004 Annual Collection showcases all the gummed stamps and miniature sheets issued throughout the year with their respective stories. Exclusive to this year's collection is the Australian Gold Medallists stamp sheetlet. It comes in both the Deluxe Edition and the Executive Edition.

f) Australia Post's Engraved Stamps: Australia Post's Engraved Stamp book Transport and Communications was released on April 21, 2005. It contains 32 proofs in dark green from original stamp die proofs. A limited edition of 2,500 copies were to be produced.

g) Other Products: Besides the above mentioned philatelic products, Australia Post also issued various other products such as post cards, aerogrammes, stamped stationery, SES souvenir sheets, books and numerous numismatic products from the mint. For additional information, please refer to their Stamp Bulletin, cited in the Bibliography, a source of valuable information.

Concluding Remarks

In summary, 2004 was a memorable year for Australia's philatelists. In particular, events such as the Olympic Games in Greece, Athens, the 150th Railway Anniversary, the 200th Aniversary of Tasmania, the 150th Eureka Anniversary, and the 50th Anniversary of Mowat Station in the Antarctic Territories dominated the philatelic program. There were also other events which led to a number of colourful and vibrant issues such as the rainforest butterflies, impressions, coastlines, cats and dogs, and others. There are a number of philatelic products sold in 2004 by Australian Post that merit special attention particularly, their prestige booklets, stamps overprinted for special events by Australia Post or special interest groups, the 2004 Collection of Australian stamps with an exclusive gold medallist sheetlet and the limited edition fourth book on Australia Post's engraved stamps.

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Transcribing Sounds

Braille Alphabet

By Michael Madesker, RDP, FRPSC

ST. LUCY, Gr. Forteini, 285-304 CE, was born to a Roman father and a Greek mother during the reign of Diocletian, 284-305, in Syracuse, Sicily. The family were Christians living under a king known for his harsh treatment of their co-religionists. Her father died while she was still a child, leaving the family in comfortable circumstances. Raised by her mother, Eutydia, Lucy took a vow to devote her life to God and distribute her wealth to the needy. Her resolve was strengthened when Eutydia was healed of a debilitating illness after a pilgrimage to the grave of a saint. Mindful of her vows, she refused to marry a local youth who claimed that she was betrothed to him. Accused in front of the Governor of Sicily, Paschasius, of practicing Christianity she was sentenced to servitude in a brothel. Soldiers, having difficulty in carrying Lucy away, set fire to her. The flames were miraculously doused and the soldiers tore out her eyes and cut her throat with a sword. Witnesses to this horrible scene claimed that Lucy regained her sight before dying.

Church of Santa Lucia in Venice – the burial place of St. Lucy

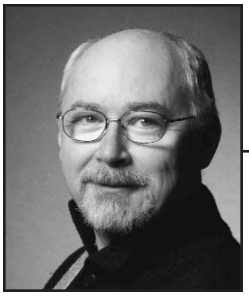
The name Lucia is derived from the Latin "lux" for light. St. Lucy's life cannot be verified and the story may have been adapted from many similar ones told in antiquity of virtuous virgins. She has, nevertheless, captured the admiration of adherents of the Christian faith, whether Catholic, Orthodox or Protestant. St. Lucy is tbe Patron Saint of the blind, those afflicted with eye illnesses, and ophthalmologists. Her feast day is on December 13.

ST. MARIE MARGUERITE d'YOUVILLE, 1701-1771, was a Canadian born into an impoverished family. Her mother, Marie-Renee Gaultier, raised her and her five siblings following the untimely death of the father. She received only two years of schooling with the Ursulines of Quebec City.

Married at 21 to Francois d'Youville, she bore six children by age 29 when Francois died, leaving her destitute. With a deep sense of duty, and trust in providence, she worked not only to support her children but also to assist those in greater need than her own. Two of her children died in infancy and the surviving two sons became priests. Marguerite shared her accommodation with a blind woman and soon three young women joined them in taking vows to help the destitute. The year was 1737 when Marguerite, unwittingly, founded the nucleus of the future order of the Sisters of Charity, known better as the Grey Nuns of Montreal because of the colour of their habits.

In 1745 Marguerite d'Youville was appointed Director of Charon Brothers Hospital in Montreal, serving mostly the poor of Montreal. Tbe hospital burned down in 1765 and Marguerite, by then in poor health, set out to rebuild it. She died in 1771 shortly after the new facility reopened for service.

In 1861 the Grey Nuns founded the Institut Nazareth in Montreal as a co-educational school for blind children. They added music to their curriculum in 1876. The Institute trained several acclaimed musicians. It also maintained a technical school with piano tuning as one of the main subjects. In 1971 the Institute merged with the Institut Louis-Braille operated by the order of St-Viateur under tbe name of Institut Nazaret et Louis Braille.



by / par Charles J.G. Verge

PRESIDENT'S Page

la page du PRÉSIDENT

An old guard ... A new guard.

In the last year or so, several of our senior philatelists have passed on. These are the people who made an impact on our hobby. Don Wilson from Newfoundland and Labrador, Fred Black from Prince Edward Island, JJ MacDonald from Nova Scotia, Bernard Lavallée from Québec, Alan McKanna and Gus Snels from Ontario and Dr. John Powell from Alberta were examples of individuals who believed that being a member of a hobby meant that they should serve the hobby as well as reap its benefits. As members of the Board of Directors of The RPSC, Editors, Treasurers and Committee and Show Chairs they made a difference. For this, and many other achievements, they were all elected Fellows of our Society. It is sad to note that Dr. Powell was the first Board member of The RPSC to die in office since 1967 when the then president, Dr. Mac Geldert, passed on. Our sincerest condolences go to all their families.

Hopefully others will feel the same sense of selflessness and take on responsibilities in managing our hobby. Already many different individuals have succeeded Alan McKanna in his various treasurer roles and I am pleased to announce that Dr. David Piercey of Edmonton, Alberta, has agreed to be the Chair of The RPSC's Judging Programme and that the Board of Directors has elected him to complete Dr. Powell's term as Director.

It's time for a new group of people to get involved. Many of us, and I include myself in this group, have been running many aspects of our hobby and sometimes we have been at it for too long. I encourage the management of our clubs and societies to review their tenure, ensure succession planning and bring in new blood. New blood is like new growth: it brings new life, new ideas and a resurgence in our hobby. For my part, I will not be seeking re-election as a Director of the Society when my terms ends in September 2006 and, by extension, will not be eligible for election to the Presidency. I will remain on the Board of Directors and Executive as Immediate Past President during the term of office of my successor. I encourage those of you who feel able and willing to get involved, run for office, and volunteer for committees. There are many ways to be of service. Your hobby needs you.

Une vieille garde ... une nouvelle garde

Plusieurs de nos éminents philatélistes sont décédés dans la dernière année. Ce sont les personnes qui ont eu un impact sur notre passe-temps. Don Wilson de Terre-Neuve et Labrador, Fred Black de l'Île-du-Prince-Édouard, JJ Macdonald de la Nouvelle-Écosse, Bernard Lavallée du Québec, Alan McKanna et Gus Snels de l'Ontario et John Powell de l'Alberta croyaient dans le plus profond d'eux-même qu'être participant dans un passe-temps voulait dire qu'être de service à ce passe-temps était aussi important que d'en retirer les bénéfices. En temps que membres du Conseil d'administration de La SRPC, rédacteurs-en-chef, trésoriers et Présidents de comités et d'expositions, ils ont marqué positivement notre passe-temps. Pour ce volontariat et plusieurs autres rôles ils ont tous été élu Fellows de notre Société. Il est tragique de noter que le Dr. Powell est le premier membre du Conseil d'administration de La SRPC a mourir pendant son terme d'office depuis 1967 lorsque le Président du temps, le Dr. Mac Geldert, est décédé. Nos sincères sympathies sont offertes à toutes leurs familles.

Espérons que plusieurs autres membres auront le même sens de dévouement et prendrons en main les rênes de la gestion de notre passe-temps. Au moment ou j'écris plusieurs personnes ont succédé aux différents postes de trésorier tenus par Alan McKanna. Il me fait aussi grand plaisir d'annoncer que le Dr. David Piercey d'Edmonton, Alberta, a accepté la présidence du Comité des juges de La SRPC et que le Conseil d'administration l'a élu pour compléter le terme de Directeur du Dr. Powell.

C'est le temps qu'un nouveau groupe d'individus prennent la relève. Plusieurs d'entre-nous, et je m'inclus dans ce groupe, sont chargés de la gestion de notre passe-temps et, fréquemment, depuis trop longtemps. J"encourage la gestion des clubs et des sociétés à revoir leur longévité d'office, à planifier la succession et introduire du nouveau sang dans l'équation. Le nouveau sang est comme les nouvelles pousses, il apporte une nouvelle vitalité, de nouvelles idées et un regain d'enthousiasme dans notre passe-temps. Pour ma part, je n'ai pas l'intention de me représenter comme candidat au Conseil d'administration lorsque mon terme d'office finira en septembre 2006 et, en conséquence, je ne serai pas éligible au poste de Président. Je demeurerai sur le Conseil d'administration et l'Exécutif en temps que Président sortant pendant la règne de mon successeur. J'encourage tous ceux d'entre vous qui se sentent capable de s'impliquer, de se présenter à des postes électifs et de s'offrir comme volontaire. Il y a moultes façons d'être de service. Votre passe-temps a besoin de vous.

MEMBERSHIP *Report* *Rapports de* MEMBRES

NEW MEMBERS / NOUVEAUX MEMBRES

The following applications were received and are herewith published in accordance with the Constitution. If no adverse reports are received within 30 days of publication, applicants will be accepted into full membership. Any objections should be sent to the National Office, P.O. Box 929, Station Q, Toronto, ON M4T 2P1.

Les demandes d'adhésion ci-dessous ont été reçues et sont publiées en conformité avec la constitution. Si aucun commentaire n'est communiqué au Bureau national, (C.P. 929, Succursale Q, Toronto, ON, M4T 2P1) d'ici 30 jours, les adhérants seront acceptés comme membres.

(M) minor - activity guaranteed by parent or guardian / mineur - activités philatéliques garanties par un parent ou un tuteur.

INDIVIDUAL / INDIVIDUEL

I-28345 Robert Booth
• INTERESTS: Canada and Br. Comm.

I-28347 Robert Piper
• INTERESTS: Canada 1840-1940 Provinces

I-28348 Michael Rixon
• INTERESTS: Canadian Postal History

I-28349 Tony Szapira
• INTERESTS: Canada, Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, France, Germany

I-28350 Michael Ferris
• INTERESTS: British Commomwealth, Europe

I-28351 David Warren
• INTERESTS: BWI Keyplates 1870-1912

I-28352 Randy Matter
• INTERESTS: Canada Mint & Used

I-28354 William Leonard

I-28355 Daniel Kirk

I-28356 Charles Kuehn

I-28357 Paul Laska

I-28358 Gwyneth Hambley

I-28359 M. Kelly

I-28361 Christopher De Haer
• INTERESTS: Modern Canada, GB and Australia

RESIGNED MEMBERS

Brock, Allan (I-27977)
Day, Valentine (I-28195)
Dionne, Bernard (I-27987)
Eusanio, Sylvio (I-27981)
Gibson, W.H. (I-28053)
Henry, Robert J. (I-27534)
Hourihan, Robert L. (I-19704)
Jenkins, Evan (I-27857)
Lamburge, Angele (I-27938)
Mitchell, Donald. R. (I-27663)
Nygren, Ron (I-27988)
Rogers, Keith (I-25384)
Syberg-Olsen, Ebbe (I-20121)
White, Robert (I-24459)
Williamson, Vera (I-27951)

DECEASED MEMBERS

Dubois, Norman (L-19620), New Minas, NS
Kaempf, Bernie H. (I-26010), Vernon, BC
MacDonald, John J. (I-7538), Halifax, NS
Powell, John M. (I-22427), Edmonton, AB
St-Ours, Lucien (I-27962), Raxton Falls, QC

URGENT NOTICE! Read This

If you are reading this right now, like thousands of others, you have just proven that advertising in *The Canadian Philatelist* gets attention.

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The Canadian Philatelist
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THANKS FOR THE INFO

Dear Sir or Madam:

I had the chance to read through a copy of *The Canadian Philatelist* recently (July/August 2005 issue). What an enjoyable read.

I have a question now.

We, the board members of the North Bay & District Stamp Club, have been trying to encourage our members to think about exhibiting various parts of their collections. There has been quite a bit of apprehension on their part. When I read the article, "OK, I Agree to Exhibit – How Do I Prepare My Collection," by Kimber Wald, I thought this would be a good place to start.

So I am writing to ask permission to photocopy this article and distribute it to the club members for their perusal.

I await your response.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Deb Desjardins
Secretary/Treasurer

Mr Wald and The Canadian Philatelist are pleased to allow members of the North Bay & District Stamp Club to use Kimber Wald's article as a primer on how to prepare an exhibit for competition - Editor.

PLEASE HELP IDENTIFY

Dear Editor:

I have been sent this (shown below) from a friend in the UK to see if I can tell him what it is. My guess is that it is a meat ration coupon, possibly from 1941 – hence the "41" – but I may be wrong on that. I also need to know if the local drop letter rate in 1945 was still 1 cent, which would account for the fact that the letter is not rated up postage due.

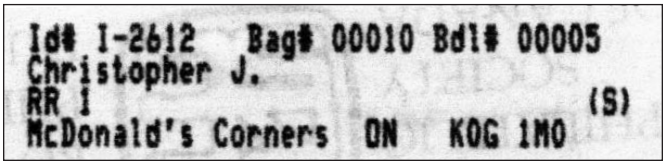
Cheers,
Mike.
(Michael Millar, FRPSC).

Responses to Mr. Millar's enquiry may be sent to him at his mailing address at: 292 Shanty Bay Rd, Barrie, ON L4M 1E6. His e-mail address is: mmillar@cois.on.ca - editor

THE WONDERS OF THE MAIL NEVER CEASE!

Dear Editor:

The addressing (shown below) without any last name still got *The Canadian Philatelist* to my rural mailbox.


Id# I-2612 Bag# 00010 Bdl# 00005
Christopher J.
RR 1 (S)
McDonald's Corners ON K0G 1M0

There are four other Chris' within a mile or two on the same rural delivery route. How is it possible?

I attribute my good luck to our dedicated mail carriers. This is a tribute to "Old Dependable," Bill Jackson, the first to deliver mail to RR 1. (There is no RR2).

Today his grandson travels the same roads, bringing the best service to our mailboxes.

Keep up the good work!
Chris Anstead

CHANGES APPROVED

Dear Editor,

The change (reduction) in font sizes has not, in my humble opinion, affected in any shape or form the excellent job you are doing as editor.

As a contributing writer, I will consider it a privilege and honour to "relinquish" my copyrights to the magazine and thereby become a true stakeholder in its fortunes. Your thoughts that go into the continued improvement of the magazine make me just a very junior partner.

In congratulating you on the Vermeil Medal at Pacific Explorer 2005, I take exception to your reference of the Large Silver at Singapore 2004 as a possible beginning of a "Slippery Slope." It reminded me of a situation in the 1960s where I had dropped two medal levels between an international and a national exhibition.

One of the judges, referring to the discrepancy, during the national judging critique, remarked that in cases of this nature the medal level is more a reflection of the jury panel's knowledge, or lack thereof, than that of the exhibitor.

Thank you for the pleasure of having you guide our publication.

Best wishes,
Michael Madesker

Thank you, Michael, for your kind words. I must reiterate what I have said before: The production of our journal is a team effort with numerous individuals contributing to its improvement. I am simply blessed to be surrounded by a group of talented people who have dedicated themselves to make it the best magazine that it can be.

European History 101

Dear Editor:

I received today the October issue of *The Canadian Philatelist*, and what a great read it is!

There is a small error, which I should point out to you, just as a matter of routine.

In the pen ultimate paragraph I read: Bosnia and Herzegovina became part of Yugoslavia, a new country. The other territories of this new entity were Serbia, Montenegro, Slovakia...

The new territory was Slovenia. Slovakia became part of Czechoslovakia.

Cordially,
Fred Stubens

Thank you, Fred, for writing. This is the kind of error that your editor should have picked up and he deserves 40 lashes with a wet noodle. - Editor

Crack The Code

Dear Editor:

I wondered if you saw this fascinating article that ran in the NY Times: www.nytimes.com/2005/08/15/national/15stamps.html

It's about the history of this bizarre coded language that is conveyed through the positioning of postage stamps on envelopes. Apparently, for those in the know, you tilt the stamp one way and it says one thing; tilt it another way, and it says something else.

In any case, I'm a researcher collecting more information on the topic and I wondered if you knew anything about it. Particularly interesting is the existence of these rare turn-of-the-century postcards featuring decodings of this language of stamps.

If you or any of your colleagues know more about this, I know stamp buyers and book publishers who are interested.

My e-mail address is: jeremycooper2@yahoo.com

Thank you for your help.
Jeremy Cooper

RPSC News

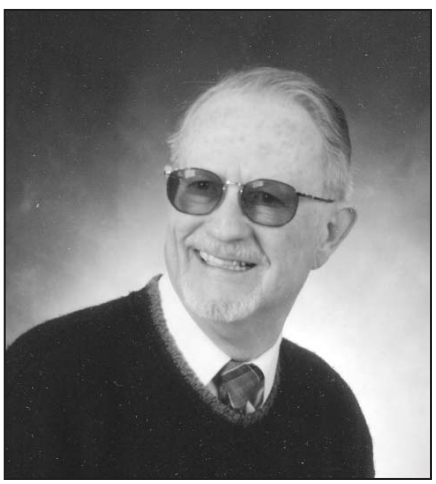
In Memoriam

John James MacDonald, FRPSC (1925 - 2005)

John James MacDonald, JJ, passed away on July 7, 2005 in his 80th year. He entered St. Francis Xavier University as an exceptional 15 year old, and graduated in Chemistry. He completed his studies with a Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of Toronto. In 1949 he returned to his Alma Mater as an Assistant Professor of Chemistry, and there he remained for his entire career, retiring as Academic Vice-President. He was involved in a wide range of scientific, educational and community activities, such as Chairman of the Board of St. Martha's Hospital, Antigonish, during a major renovation, and spearheaded the re-design of the Antigonish Golf and Country Club, a major endeavour. St. Francis Xavier University honoured him with a Doctor of Laws honoris causa.

He was active in the affairs of numerous philatelic societies, including The RPSC, of which he was a long-time director. He was elected a Fellow 1987 in recognition of his contributions to stamp collecting in Canada. His collecting interests included the stamps and postal history of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. After having collected Nova Scotia stamps and proofs, he turned to the covers of Nova Scotia, and their postmarks. The culmination of this was his definitive book, *The Nova Scotia Post: Its Offices, Masters and Marks, 1700-1867* published in 1985. This was recognized with medals at Ameripex '86, Chicago, and CAPEX '87, Toronto. The numbering system he developed for the identification of Pre-Confederation Nova Scotia postmarks is now the standard reference. He was awarded the Geldert Medal in 2001, for his article "Charles Connell and His Stamps – The Stamp's Survival", *The Canadian Philatelist*, 51 [2000], 211-2 & 256-9. Intrigued by the notoriety of Postmaster Charles Connell of New Brunswick, who substituted his own portrait for that of Queen Victoria on the 5-cent stamp of 1860 (Scott #5), JJ sought out and indeed acquired a remarkable number of specimens, which had somehow been circulated despite the fact that the stamp had never been officially issued. In the course of time, he became one of the leading authorities on the subject of this controversial rarity. His exhibit The Connell Stamps of New Brunswick received the Best Exhibit Award at the 1987 BNAPS Convention. He received the Frank W. Campbell Award of the Postal History Society of Canada for major contribution to the study of BNA postal history.

He served as editor of *The Canadian Philatelist* 1997-1999, during its transition to the current format. He was an



honorary co-chairman of Royal *2004* Royale.

His last exhibit, One Hundred Years over the Waters, Mail by Ship in and around Nova Scotia from mid-18th to mid-19th Century which was awarded a Gold at BNAPS '97 and Novapex '97, will be in the Court of Honour at Novapex '05.

JJ leaves his wife, Jane Gordon; sons, John James, Ronald, Alan; daughters, Nancy, Anne Louise, Jana, Margaret; stepchildren, Jeremy, Rachel and eight grandchildren. He was predeceased by his first wife, Mary Lou.

Dr. John Martin Powell, FRPSC (1933 - 2005)

Our good friend, John Powell, passed away August 4th. A life-long stamp collector, his loss is keenly felt by his family, friends and the philatelic community. John battled heart disease for many years, and at the end, cancer, but he and Margaret led remarkably active and productive lives even in the face of great uncertainty.

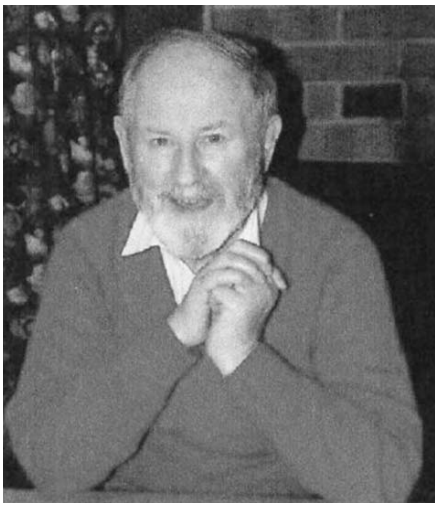
John's contribution to our hobby in Edmonton, in Canada and beyond is substantial. Inspired by his father, John began collecting stamps at age 5 and carried on for over 65 years. He had a great many collecting specialties including Iraq, Aden and India sea ports, Arctic postal history, London squared circles and more. John held membership in 25 societies, read every journal and newsletter meticulously and co-authored, with John Ross, a major book, *The Revenue Stamps of Iraq*.

Many times President of the Edmonton Stamp Club and its Show Exhibits Chairman in perpetuity, John is responsible for the outstanding reputation of the Edmonton Spring National and for having inspired many local and youth exhibitors including his daughters, Elizabeth, Ruth and Helen. He worked tirelessly to encourage young collectors and as a Royal Director and its Judging Program Chairman, John is responsible for the expansion of National level shows, the development of international judging relationships and the development of many new judges in Canada. He is presently organizing judging seminars in heaven.

John's philatelic accomplishments are no surprise: they mirror the outstanding productivity of his professional life. John was born in Hampton, Middlesex, England where his parents were members of the Royal Horticulture Society and inspired his lifelong interest in related areas. John obtained his BA in Plant Geography from University College, London and, after arriving in Canada in 1956, earned graduate degrees, focusing on climatological and environmental issues, from McGill and UBC.

In addition to his career with Canada's Department of Forestry, John and Margaret were active and productive members in numerous scientific and naturalist groups in Alberta. A prolific researcher and writer, John authored over 130 books and publications, often in partnership with his wife, Margaret.

John's gentle, patient and kind ways, complemented by his diligent, methodical and dependable approach to subject matter and his outstanding work ethic



and enthusiasm are important legacies that have enriched us all.

John is survived by his wife and partner, Margaret and their three daughters and families - Elizabeth, Ruth and Helen as well as his brother Graham in New Brunswick and sister Jennifer in Scotland. To honour John's contributions to our hobby, a memorial award to be given annually, has been established. Contributions, made out to the Edmonton Stamp Club and marked "Powell Award" may be sent to the Edmonton Stamp Club, P.O. Box 399, Edmonton, AB. T5J 2J6. - ***KRS***

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS

Here is your opportunity to reach thousands of collectors for the princely sum of $3 (GST included).

The minimum rate for a classified ad has been reduced from $5 to $3 effective immediately. See page 387 for full details

SPECIAL NOTICE TO AUTHOURS OF *THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST*

The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada is moving towards the implementation of a new database management system for its membership with the capability of on-line distribution of *The Canadian Philatelist* to its readers and to universities, libraries, and other educational institutions effective January 1, 2006. For this purpose, The RPSC has assumed copyright for all articles and other material published in *The Canadian Philatelist* starting with the January-February 2006 (Volume 57, No. 1) issue. From January 2006, authors may use any article, or part thereof, submitted by them and published in *The Canadian Philatelist* without fee and/or without further permission from The RPSC.

AVIS SPÉCIAL AUX AUTEURS DU *PHILATÉLISTE CANADIEN*

La Société royale de philatélie du Canada prépare la mise en place d'un nouveau système de gestion des données pour ses membres. Ce système permettra la distribution en ligne du *Philatéliste canadien* à ses lecteurs, aux universités, aux bibliothèques et aux institutions à vocation éducative, dès janvier 2006. À cette fin, la SRPC s'assuré les droits d'auteur sur tous les articles et tous les autres éléments qui seront publiés dans *le Philatéliste* à compter du numéro de janvier-février 2006 (Volume 57, No 1). Dès lors, à partir de janvier 2006, les auteurs pourront utiliser, en tout ou en partie, des articles qu'ils auront soumis, et qui auront été publiés dans *le Philatéliste*, sans frais et sans autre permission de la SRPC.

nouvelles SRPC

Exchange / Demandes d'échange

Dear editor:

I'm looking for an exchange partner in Canada. Please publish my address.

Thank you!

Daniela-M. Fuerstenwerth
Selliner Weg 12
D-24226 Heikendorf
Germany

CHAPTER MEETINGS

AJAX PHILATELIC SOCIETY

RPSC Chapter 163 meets the 2nd and 4th Thurs, Sept. to June at the Ajax Public Library, 65 Harwood Ave. S., 6-9 p.m. Contact: Richard Weigand, 6 Carter Cr., Whitby, ON L1N 6C4. (905) 430-2637. E-mail: richard.weigand@sympatico.ca.

AMICALE DES PHILATÉLISTES DE l'OUTAOUAIS (APO)

Les membres de l'APO, chapitre 190 de la SRPC, se réunissent tous les jeudis de début septembre à fin avril, de 18h30 à 21h00. Les réunions ont lieu au Châlet Fontaine, 120 rue Charlevoix à Hull (Québec). Carte de membre 20 $ (10$ pour les moins de 16 ans). Vendeurs, encans, exposition.

Members of the APO (Chapter #190) meet every Thurs. from Sept. to the end of April, 6:30 to 9 p.m. in the Châlet Fontaine, 120 Charlevoix, Hull, Québec. Membership $20 ($10 under 16). Dealers, auctions, show and bourse. Contact: A. Bossard, 5-1160 Shillington, Ottawa, ON K1Z 7Z4; (613) 722-7279; e-mail: isabelle.alain @sympatico.ca

CLUB PHILATÉLIQUE "LES TIMBRÉS" DE BOISBRIAND

Section adulte: Tous les lundis soir de 19h. à 21h. Section junior: Tous les samedis de 9h. à 11h; au Centre socio-culturel de Boisbriand, 480 rue Chavigny, Broisbriand, QC, J7G 2J7; information: Louis-Georges Dumais (450) 979-7371; Jacques Charbonneau (450) 430-6460.

BARRIE DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Chapter 73 meets the 2nd Wed. except July and Aug. at 7:30 pm at101 Ardagh Road, Barrie, ON. Table auction at every meeting. Contact: Marjorie Coakwell, PO Box 2, Orrillia, ON L3V 6H9, (705) 323-9072.

BRAMALEA STAMP CLUB

RPSC Chapter 144 meets the 1st Sun. Oct. to June 2-4 p.m. and the 3rd Tues. year round 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Terry Miller Recreation Complex, Williams Parkway (between Dixie Rd. and Bramalea Rd.) Brampton, ON. Contact: Bramalea Stamp Club, Box 92531, Bramalea, ON L6W 4R1.

BRANTFORD STAMP CLUB

RPSC Chapter 1 meets on the 1st and 3rd Tues. Sept. to May, and the 1st Tues. in June, at the Woodman Community Centre, 491 Grey St. ON at 7 p.m., short business meeting at 8 p.m., followed by a program. Circuit books, five dealers. Contact: Secretary, Box 25003, 119 Colborne St. W., Brantford, ON N3T 6K5; (519) 753-9425

BRITISH COLUMBIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meetings occur Wednesday nights at 7:30 PM from Sept. to June, at West Burnaby United Church, 6050 Sussex Ave., Burnaby BC, near the Metrotown Skytrain station. See our website at www.bcphilatelic.org for details of meeting times and locations. For more information call Bob Ingraham, President, at (604) 694-0014.

BROCK/PRESCOTT STAMP CLUB

Meets the 3rd Wed. Sept. to May at 7 p.m. at Wall Street United Church, 5 Wall St., Brockville, ON. Contact Roy Brooks at (613) 342-7569.

CALGARY PHILATELIC SOCIETY

(Chapter 66) Regular meeting: 1st Wed. except July and Aug., 7 p.m. Auctions on 3rd Wed. of month except Dec., 7:30 p.m. Kerby Centre, 1133 7 Ave. SW. Contact: Calgary Philatelic Society, PO Box 1478, Station M, Calgary, AB T2P 2L6.

CAMBRIDGE STAMP CLUB

Chapter 4 - Meets on the 1st Friday of the month [all year] at the Allan Reuter Centre - 507 King Street, Cambridge; and on the 3rd Monday of the month [September to June] at the Allen Bradley Plant (Cafeteria) - 135 Dundas Road, Cambridge. Visitors welcome. Information: Mr. Ron Adkin, 1736 Briarwood Dr., Cambridge, ON N3H 5A7; (519) 650-5136.

CANADIAN AEROPHILATELIC SOCIETY

RPSC Chapter 187, yearly membership for Canadians $20 Cdn, for Americans $22 Cdn. and for all other countries $25. No formal meetings, but members join the RA Stamp Club meetings at the RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr., Ottawa, ON at 7:30 p.m. every Mon. except June to Aug. Contact: Brian Wolfenden, 203A Woodfield Drive, Nepean ON K2G 4P2. (613) 226-2045.

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ISRAEL PHILATELY

Chapter 76, Jan Bart Judaica Study Group, meets on the 2nd Wed. except July and Aug., 7 p.m., at Lippa Green Bldg., 4600 Bathurst St., Willowdale, ON. Contact: Joseph Berkovits, 33-260 Adelaide St. E., Toronto, ON M5A 1N1. (416) 635-1749.

CANADIAN FORCES PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets the 1st and 3rd Wed. Sept. to May 8-9:30 p.m. Dempsey Community Centre, Ottawa, ON. Tom Barber (613) 736-9741.

CANADIAN FORCES BASE TRENTON STAMP CLUB

Chapter 89 meeting on the 1st and 3rd Wed. Sept. to June at the Trenton Seniors' Club (Club 105) at the corner of Bay and Campbell Streets at 6:45 p.m. Contact: G.A. Barsi at (613) 394-2024, M. Leedham at (613) 392-7462 or S. Taylor at (613) 393-4316.

COBOURG STAMP CLUB

Chapter 106 meets the 2nd and 4th Wed. of each month at 7 p.m. in the Salvation Army Citadel, 59 Ballantine St. Trading, speaking, competitions, presentations and annual exhibition and sale in Sept. Contact: Michael Hunt at (905) 885-7074 or e-email dorahrh@eagle.ca.

COLBORNE STAMP CLUB

Chapter 205 meets on the 2nd and 4th Tues. Sept. to May at 7 p.m. in the Seniors' Drop-In, Vourneen "Buff" Jack Memorial Centre, 14 Victoria Square. Contact: Box 1073, Colborne, ON K0K 1S0.

COLLINGWOOD - GEORGIAN BAY COIN & STAMP CLUB

Chapter 168 meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at the Wasaga Beach Library, and on the 4th Tuesday of the month at the Collingwood Library. Meetings are from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

CREDIT VALLEY PHILATELIC SOCIETY - MISSISSAUGA

Chapter 67 of The RPSC meets on the 1st and 3rd Wed. at 7 p.m. in the Texaco Room of the Port Credit Branch of the Mississauga Library, located in the southwest corner of the public parking lot west of Stevebank and north of Lakeshore Road. Contact Bob Laker (905) 608-9794.

DELTA STAMP CLUB

Club meetings on the 2nd and 4th Tues. Sept. to May at 7:30 p.m. at the Beach Grove Elementary School, 5955 17A Ave., Tsawwassen, BC. Contact Keith Meyer, President, #7-1100-56th St. Delta, BC V4L 2N2.

EAST TORONTO STAMP CLUB

Chapter 12 meets the 1st and 3rd Wed., except June to Aug., at Stan Wadlow Clubhouse, Cedarvale Ave. Contact: Sec. Raymond Reakes, 188 Woodmount Ave., Toronto, ON M4C 3Z4. (416) 425-1545.

EDMONTON STAMP CLUB

Edmonton's Chapter 6 meetings held every other Mon., Sept. to June at 7 p.m., at St. Joseph High School cafeteria (use north entrance), 10830-109 St. Contact: Box 399, Edmonton, AB, T5J 2J6. Keith Spencer (780) 437-1787 or e-mail ameech@telusplanet.net.

ESSEX COUNTY STAMP CLUB

Chapter 154 meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month (except no second meeting in July, August and December), at 7:00 p.m. at 5050 Howard Ave, Windsor, ON. Contact: David L. Newman, President, at 1165 Wigle Ave, Windsor, ON, N9C 3M9. Tel.: (519) 977-5967. E-mail: lacumo@cogeco.ca.

FENELON STAMP CLUB

The club meets on the second monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at Fenelon Falls Baptist Church on Colbourne Street in Fenelon Falls. For more information, contact President, Harry Pearson, at (705) 324-5269 or write to 5 Heritage Way - Unit 5, Lindsay, ON, K9V 5Y6.

FRASER VALLEY PHILATELIC CLUB

Meets at 7 p.m. on the 3rd Monday, except holidays, at Abbotsford Senior Secondary School, 2329 Crescent Way. Contact N. Holden at (604) 859-9103.

FREDERICTON DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Chapter 148 meets the 1st and 3rd Tues, Sept. to May at 7:30 p.m. at the Hugh John Fleming Forestry Centre, 1350 Regent St. Contact Ron Smith, 12 Chateau Dr., McLeod Hill, NB, E3A 5X2, (506) 453-1792, e-mail: rsmith0225@rogers.com

FUNDY STAMP COLLECTOR'S CLUB

Meets the 1st Thurs, except July and August, at 7 PM at the CN Pensioners Centre, 1 Curry Street. Contact Mike Leighton at (506) 389-8083 or PO Box 302, Moncton, NB E1C 8L4

GREATER VICTORIA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 32 meets on the 3rd Fri. at 7:30 p.m. at the Windsor Park Pavilion in Oak Bay. Circuit books, auction and special programs prevail. Contact Don Dundee, 928 Claremont Ave., Victoria, BC V8Y 1K3, (604) 658-8458.

HAMILTON STAMP CLUB

Chapter 51 meets at 6 p.m. on the 2nd, 4th and 5th Mon., Sept. to June except holidays, and 2nd Mon. of July, at Bishop Ryan secondary school, Quigley Rd. and Albright St. Contact: Clare Maitland (Secretary), Box 60510, 673 Upper James St., Hamilton, ON, L9C 7N7; e-mail: stamps@hwcn.org or online at: www.hwcn.org/-ip029

INSURANCE AND BANKING PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN - CANADIAN BRANCH

Chapter 82 meets on the 3rd Thursday of the month (except July, August and December) at 5:30 p.m. Location: 320 Bay Street (southwest corner of Bay St and Adelaide St), 13th floor, Toronto, ON, M5H 4A6. These are the premises of Canaccord Capital Corporation. Contact: Don Peach, Secretary of the I&BPSGB/CB, 83 Nymark Avenue, Toronto, ON M2J 2H1.

KAWARTHA STAMP CLUB

The Kawartha Stamp Club, meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month (except July and August) at 6:30 p.m. at the Immanuel Alliance Church, 1600 Sherbrook Street West, Peterborough, ON K9J 6X4. Contact Marie Olver at 705-745-4993 for more info.

KELOWNA & DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Chapter 90 meets on the 1st Wed. Sept. to June at 7 p.m. at the Odd Fellows Hall, 2597 Richter St., Kelowna, BC. Contact: Box 1185, Kelowna, BC V1Y 7P8.

KENT COUNTY STAMP CLUB

Chapter 7 meets 4th Wed. except July, Aug. and Dec. in the library of John McGregor Secondary School, 300 Cecile, Chatham, ON, at 7:30 p.m. Contact: Secretary, Allan Burk, 43 Sudbury Dr., Chatham, ON N7L 2K1.

KINCARDINE STAMP CLUB

Chapter C-196 meets the 1st Wed. in the back of the Anglican Church on Russel St. at 7:30. Contact the club at Box 192, Kincardine, ON N2Z 2Y7 or call John Cortan at (519) 395-5819 or e-mail jcortan@hurontel.on.ca

KINGSTON STAMP CLUB

Meets 7-9 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Mon. Sept. to May at the Ongwanada Resource Centre, 191 Portsmouth Ave. Free parking and wheelchair access. Consignment table, auctions, bourse, OXFAM, and trading. Contact President Bob Chadwick, 31 Abbey Dawn Drive, Bath, ON K0H 1G0. Tel: (613) 352-1052.

KITCHENER-WATERLOO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 13 meets the 2nd Thurs. Sept. to June at Albert McCormick Arena, Parkside Dr., Waterloo. Contact: James Oliver, P.O. Box 43007, Eastwood Square PO, Kitchener, ON N2H 6S9, (519) 893-4092.

LAKEHEAD STAMP CLUB

Chapter 33 meets the 2nd Wed. and last Fri. Sept. to June at the Herb Carroll Centre, 1100 Lincoln St., Thunder Bay, ON. at 7:30 p.m. Contact: Secretary D. Lein, 232 Dease St., Thunder Bay, ON P7C 2H8.

RÉUNIONS DES CLUBS MEMBRES

LAKESHORE STAMP CLUB – CLUB PHILATÉLIQUE DE LAKESHORE

Chapter 84 meets at St. John the Baptist Church, 233 Ste-Claire Street in Pointe-Claire, on the 2nd and 4th Thurs. Sept. to June at 7:30 p.m. Contact: François Brisse, President, PO Box 1, Pointe Claire/Dorval, QC, H9R 4N5. / Le chapitre 84, se réunit tous les jeudis du début septembre à fin juin, à 19h30. Les réunions ont lieu à l'Église St. John the Baptist, 233 rue Ste-Claire à Pointe-Claire. Information: François Brisse, Président, Case Postale 1, Pointe Claire/Dorval, QC, H9R 4N5.

LETHBRIDGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 57, The Lethbridge Philatelic Society, meets on the second Thursday of the month (except June, July or August) at 7 p.m. in the community room of Save on Foods, 1112 2nd A Ave N, Lethbridge, AB

MEDICINE HAT COIN &STAMP CLUB

Chapter 146 meets the 2nd and 4th Tues. at 7:30 p.m. in the Dot Wilkinson Room (SW door) of Westminster United Church, 101 6th Street SE. Contact: Manfred Sievert, 18 Cochran Dr. NW, Medicine Hat, AB T1A 6Y7.

MIDDLESEX STAMP CLUB

Chapter 204 meets every other Fri. Sept. to May, at 7 p.m. in the basement of St. Martin's Church, 46 Cathcart St., London. Meeting at 8 p.m. Contact Patrick Delmore at (519) 675-0779.

MILTON STAMP CLUB

Chapter 180 meets on the last Mon., except Dec. at 7 p.m. at Hugh Foster Hall (beside Town Hall) in Milton, ON. Silent auction every meeting. Contact: Milton Stamp Club, 425 Valleyview Cres., Milton, ON L9T 3K9; (905) 878-1533 or (905) 878-9076, or e-mail: alman@ globalserve.net.

MUSKOKA STAMP CLUB

Meets the first Wednesday of each month at Bracebridge Public School, 90 McMurray Street, Bracebridge, ON.(Location for July & August will vary). Contact Tom Anderson (President) 7 Sadler Drive, Bracebridge ON P1L 1K4; (705) 645-3330; e-mail eltomander@sympatico.ca

NELSON STAMP CLUB

Meets on the 3rd Thurs. except Dec. at 7 p.m. at #105-402 W. Beasley, Nelson, BC V1L 5Y4.

NORTH BAY & DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

The North Bay and District Stamp Club meets every second and fourth Wednesday of the month, September to May at Empire Living Centre, 425 Fraser Street, North Bay at 6:30 PM. Visitors are always welcome. Contact person is Deb Desjardins, 606 Tackaberry Drive, North Bay, P1B 9L1; telephone number 1-705-840-1700; email address grammadee54@hotmail.com

NORTH TORONTO STAMP CLUB

Chapter 5 meets on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from January to June and from September to November. Meetings are held at Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, 1585 Yonge Street, one block north of St. Clair Avenue. Stamp sales circuit opens at 6:30 p.m and meetings start at 8:00 p.m. Contact Herb Letsche, tel: (416) 445-7720, fax: (416) 444-1273, or e-mail: ntstampclub@yahoo.ca.

NORTH YORK PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 21 meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month from September to the 1st Wednesday in June, and on the 3rd Wednesday of July and August. Meetings are held from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the Skaters' Lounge at the Carnegie Centennial Arena, 580 Finch Avenue West (1 1/2 blocks west of Bathurst), Toronto, Ontario. Meetings feature a convivial atmosphere, speakers, auctions, a sales circuit, and a number of dealer members. Membership is only $10 per year. Ample parking is free. For more information, contact Art Halpert, tel. 416-643-2020 (days), 416-499-4406 (evenings/weekends), e-mail ahalpert@sympatico.ca

NOVA SCOTIA STAMP CLUB

We invite you to join us at a monthly meeting on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm in the auditoriam - lower level (except July & August). Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer St., Halifax, NS B3H 3A6, www.nsstampclub.ca.

OAKVILLE STAMP CLUB

Chapter 135 meets the 2nd and 4th Tues. at 7 p.m. in the cafeteria, St. Thomas Aquinas Secondary School, 124 Margaret Dr.. Contact: Oakville Stamp Club, Box 69643, Oakville, ON L6J 7R4.

OTTAWA PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 16 meets every Thursday at 7:30pm, September to June at the Hintonburg Community Centre, 1064 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario. Contact: Richard Logan, President, 213 Beech Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1Y 3T3 or dicklogan@rogers.com

OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB

Chapter 191 meets the 3rd Wed. at 7 p.m. at St. George's Anglican Church, 149 4th Ave. E. Trading, auctions, circuit books. Contact Robert J. Ford, 721 8th Ave. E., Owen Sound, ON N4K 3A4.

OXFORD PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 65 meets 1st and 3rd Thurs. Sept. to May, at Knights of Columbus Hall, behind St. Rita's Catholic Church (Dundas St. E.) Woodstock, ON. Trading and junior program at 7 p.m., regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. Speakers, mini auctions, prizes, contests, dealers. Contact: Gib Stephens, P.O. Box 20113, Woodstock, ON N4S 8X8.

PENTICTON AND DISTRICT STAMP CLUB

Chapter 127 meets the 1st Sunday of each month, from Sept. to May, from 2-4 p.m. at the Penticton Library Auditorium, 785 Main St. Contact: Dorothy Karslake (Secretary), 203-22 Abbott Street, Penticton, BC V2A 4J2.

PERTH STAMP CLUB

Meets the 2nd and 4th Wed. Sept. to June, 7:30 p.m. in McMartin House, Gore Street. Contact Gus Quattrocchi (A.J.), 69 Harvey St., Perth, ON K7H 1X1.

R.A. STAMP CLUB – OTTAWA

Chapter 41 meets every Mon., except June to Aug. at 7:30 p.m. at the R.A. Centre, 2451 Riverside Dr., Ottawa, ON K1H 7X7. Contact: (613) 733-5100.

REGINA PHILATELIC CLUB

Chapter 10 meets the 1st and 3rd Wed., Sept. to May, 7-10 p.m. at Sheldon-Williams Collegiate Library, 2601 Coronation St., Contact: Box 1891, Regina, SK S4P 3E1.

ROYAL CITY STAMP CLUB

Chapter 104 meets on the 2nd Thurs. except July and Aug., 7 p.m. at the New Westminster Public Library, 716-6th Ave., New Westminster, BC. Contact: Box 145, Milner, BC V0X 1T0. (604) 534-1884.

SAINT JOHN STAMP CLUB

Saint John Stamp Club meets at 7:00 pm the fourth Wednesday of each month, except July and August, at the Atlantic Superstore, Millidgeville. Visitors and new members welcome. Please call 849-2250 for more information

ST. CATHARINES STAMP CLUB

Meets on the 1st and 3rd Tues. Sept. to June at Holy Cross secondary, St. Catharines, ON. Contact: Stuart Keeley, 15 Baxter Cres., Thorold, ON L2V 4S1, (905) 227-9251,.stuart.keeley@sympatico.ca

ST. JOHN'S PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets 2nd and 4th Wed., except July and Aug. at 8 p.m. at Marine Institute. Contact: J. Don Wilson, 11 Elm Place, St. John's, NF A1B 2S4, (709) 726-2741.

SARNIA STAMP CLUB

Chapter 45 meets on the 4th Sunday of the month, September through June, with the exception of December which is held on the 2nd. Sunday. Meetings are held at the Kinsmen Club of Sarnia at 656 Lakeshore Road in Sarnia, Ontario, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Activities include circuit books, silent auction, and dealers. Contact: Doug Fox at 1849 LaSalle Line, RR4, Sarnia, ON N7T 7H5. Telephone: (519) 332-0378.

SASKATOON STAMP CLUB

Chapter 80 meets the 2nd and 4th Mon. Sept. to May, 7-9 p.m. at the Saskatoon Public Library - Rusty McDonald Branch, 225 Primrose Dr., Saskatoon, SK S7K 5E4. Contact: secretary: Doug Smith, (306) 975 7600; e-mail: douglasmichaelsmith@shaw.ca.

SCARBOROUGH STAMP CLUB

Chapter 223 meets the 1st and 3rd Tues. Sept. to June at 7 p.m. at Cedarbrook Community Centre, Contact Don Beaumont, 22 Gregson Street, Ajax, ON L1T 3Z9.

SIDNEY STAMP CLUB (SIDNEY, BC)

The Sidney Stamp Club meets the 2nd Sat. except July and Aug., at the Sidney Regional Library, Nell Horth Room, at 2 p.m. Sales circuit, presentations, and auctions. Contact: (250) 479-6513.

LA SOCIÉTÉ PHILATÉLIQUE DE QUÉBEC

La S.P.Q. tient ses réunions régulières les premiers et troisièmes mercredis du mois au sous-sol de l'église St-Rodrigue, 4760 1ère avenue, porte no 10, Charlesbourg. Les réunions ont lieu de 19h à 22h. Information, écrire à: S.P.Q., C.P. 2023, Québec, QC G1K 7M9

LA SOCIÉTÉ PHILATÉLIQUE DE LA RIVE SUD

Société membre No. 19. Réunions régulières tenus les 2e et 4e lundis débutant en septembre pour se terminer le 2e lundi de juir. De 19h30 à 21h00. Centre culturel, 100 ouest, rue St-Laurent, Longueuil, QC. Secrétaire Bernard Dansereau.

SAUGEEN STAMP CLUB

Meets on the 1st Tues.at the Hanover Library Complex, 451 10th Ave., Hanover, ON. Contact: PO Box 11, Clifford ON, N0G 1M0. E-mail pkritz@log.on.ca, Club President Peter Kritz, RR3, Hanover, ON N4N 3B9, (519 364-4752, Club Secretary Jim Measures, PO Box 11, Clifford, ON N0G 1M0, (519) 327-8265

STRATFORD STAMP CLUB

Chapter 92 The Stratford Stamp Club meets on the 4th Thursday from September to June (except December when it meets on the 3rd Thursday), 7pm at the Stratford Kiwanis Community Centre, 111 Lakeside Drive, Stratford, Ontario. There is something of interest for all ages from beginner to the advance collector.Visitors are always welcome. For information please send inquiries to the following address: Stratford Stamp Club, Suite 273, 356 Ontario Street, Stratford, ON N5A 7X6

SUDBURY STAMP CLUB

Chapter 85 meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, September through June at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are held at the Delki Dozzi Playground Fieldhouse. Slides, presentations, auction. Contact: Edward O'Callaghan at P.O. Box 2211, Station A, Sudbury, Ontario, P3A 4S1.

THE PHILATELIC CLUB OF MONTRÉAL

Chapter 122 meets on the 3rd Thurs. at 7:30 p.m. at Le Manoir, 5319 Notre Dame de Grace. Contact: Lloyd Slaven, 1079 Emerson Cres., Chomedy, QC, H7W 1H6; e-mail: lslaven@macten.net.

TORONTO HARMONIE STAMP CLUB

Chapter 94 meets on the first Monday of the month, except July and August, at 7:30 p.m. in a member's house. New members or visitors are always welcome. For further information, call Joachim (Jake) Doehler at 416-438-4862.

TRURO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets the 2nd Thurs. Sept. to June at 7:30 p.m. at the Sobey'scommunity room, Prince St.,.for a general meeting followed by a program and auction. Fourth Thurs is trading night.

UNION DES PHILATÉLISTES DE MONTRÉAL

Le chapitre no. 3 de la Société se réunit à 19 h 00 tous les 2es et 4es mardis de septembre à juin au 7110, 8e avenue, Montréal, QC, H2A 3C4. Visiteurs bienvenus. / Chapter 3 meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Tues. from September to June at 7110 8th Avenue, Montreal, QC, H2A 3C4. Visitors welcome.

VANCOUVER ISLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 52, meets at 7:30 p.m. on the 4th Thurs. at St. Aidan's Church Hall, 3707 St. Aidan's St., Victoria, BC. Contact R. Clarke, Sec., Vancouver Island Philatelic Society, 205 - 651 Jolly Pl, Victoria, BC, V8Z 6R9.

WEST TORONTO STAMP CLUB

Chapter 14 meets 2nd, 3rd and 4th Tues. except July and Aug., 7:30 p.m. at Fairfield Seniors' Centre, 80 Lothian Ave., Etobicoke, Auctions, dealers, speakers, study group, annual exhibition. Contact: 331 Rathburn Rd., Etobicoke, ON M9B 2L9. Frank Alusio, (416) 621-8232.

WINNIPEG PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Meets at 7 p.m. on the 1st and 3rd Thurs. except July and Aug. Deaf Centre of Manitoba, Meeting Room, 285 Pembina Hwy. Contact: Rick Penko, 3793 Vialoux Dr., Winnipeg, MB R3R 0A5, e-mail rpenko@escape.ca.

COMING EVENTS / CALENDRIER

To have your event listed in this section of *The Canadian Philatelist*, please send all details to The RPSC National Office, P.O. Box 929, Station Q, Toronto, ON M4T 2P1. Details may be faxed to (416) 979-1144 or e-mail to info@rpsc.org. Information will not be accepted by telephone. THIS IS A FREE SERVICE OF THE RPSC.

Pour que votre événement soit listé dans cette section *du Philatéliste canadien* veuillez envoyer tous les détails au Bureau national de la SRPC, C.P. 929, Succ. 'Q', Toronto, ON M4T 2P1. Les détails peuvent être faxés au (416) 979-1144 ou par poste-électronique à info@rpsc.org. Aucune information ne sera acceptée par téléphone. CECI EST UN SERVICE GRATUIT DE LA SRPC.

REGIONAL EVENTS / ÉVÉNEMENTS RÉGIONAUX

October 29, 2005: The Barrie District Stamp Club – 44th Annual Stamp Show from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Aladdin's Banquet Hall, 41 Essa Road, Barrie, ON. Free Admission and parking. For your convenience the snack bar will be open all day. We expect 16 dealers. Two silent auctions. Contact: Show Chairman, Derek Dalton at (705) 792-0672.

November 5, 2005: KENTPEX 2005. the Kent County Stamp Club will hold it's 75th Annual Stamp Exhibition and Bourse. The Exhibition will take place Saturday at the Wheels Motor Inn at the Corner of Richmond Street and Keil Drive in Chatham, Ontario.

January 14, 2006: BRANTFORD STAMP CLUB SHOW at the Woodman Community Centre, 491 Grey Street (at James Avenue) Brantford, Ontario. 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. 15 dealers, sales circuit, exhibits, lunchroom & draws. For more information contact George Speers 519-759-6594 or gspeers@worldchat.com

Feb. 18, 2006: NIPEX 2006 Stamp Exibition and Bourse is sponsored by the Niagara Philatelic Society will be held at Stamford Lions Club Hall, 3846 Postage Rd., Niagara Falls, Ontario . Hours are 10-5 Free admission. Further information from Ed Yonelinas email: stamps@canada.com

March 18, 2006: 57th annual OXPEX 2006, and 26th annual OTEX 2006, both sponsored by the Oxford Philatelic Society will be held at John Knox Christian School, 800 Juliana Dr. (Hwys 401 & 59 North), Woodstock, ON from 9:30 am - 4:30 pm. Featuring competitive exhibits, judges critique, 16 dealers, youth area, Canada Post counter, prize draws, annual show cover, and snack booth. Free admission and parking. For more info contact Jim Watson, Show Chairman 2006, Box 20113, Woodstock ON, N4S 8X8

Saturday, April 22, 2006: Stampfest, the Kitchener-Waterloo Philatelic Society annual show and bourse will be held at the Community Christian Reformed Church 1275 Bleams Road, at Fischer-Hallman Road, Kitchener, Ontario. Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Featuring an exciting dealer bourse, exhibits, free parking, free admission, hourly and special draws, stamp pull, lunch counter, and other surprises. For additional information 'phone Jim Oliver at 1-519-893-4092 or e-mail:jimoliver10@hotmail.com

NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS NATIONALES

Nov. 11-13, 2005: Vanpex05 will be held at the Executive Airport Plaza Hotel and Conference Centre, 7311 Westminster Highway, Richmond, BC. The show schedule is; Friday: noon - 8pm; Saturday: 10am - 5pm; Sunday: 10am - 4pm, The show features a 190-frame exhibit and 31 bourse tables. We welcome exhibits with military or wartime themes in celebration of the Year of the Veteran and the 60th anniversary of the end of the Second World War. Direct exhibit enquiries to Bob Ingraham, Exhibits Chair, at 604-694-0014 or b.ingraham@shaw.ca. For bourse information, contact Jim Miller at 604-999-3551 or jmillerltd@shaw.ca See our website for more information on bourse tables and exhibiting at www.bcphilatelic.org.

Nov. 17-20, 2005: New Zealand 2005 National Stamp Show, Auckland, New Zealand. Canadian Commissioner: John Keenlyside, 622-470 Granville St., Vancouver, BC V6C 1V5.

May 6-7, 2006: ORAPEX 2006, Ottawa's National Stamp Exhibition and Bourse, the 45th Annual Stamp Exhibition and Bourse with over 40 dealers, will be held in the Curling Rink at the RA Centre, 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, Ontario. Times: Saturday from 10 am to 6 pm, and Sunday from 10 am to 4 pm. For dealers' bourse data, exhibitors' entry forms and other information, please contact Major Dick Malott, CD, Retd, 16 Harwick Crescent, Nepean, Ontario K2H 6R1. Tel: (613) 829-0280; fax: (613) 829-7673; e-mail rmalott@magma.ca. Admission and Parking are FREE.

Sept. 29 - Oct. 1, 2006: ROYAL *2006* ROYALE: The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada's 78th Annual exhibition and convention will be held in Calgary, AB. Further details yet to come. Dates and locations for upcoming years:

2007, Toronto, Ontario.
2008, Québec City, Québec.
2009, St. Catharines, Ontario.
2010, Windsor, Ontario
2011, Montréal, Québec.

Nov. 2-5, 2006: KIWIPEX 2006 - Christchurch, New Zealand.

May 5-6, 2007: ORAPEX 2007, Ottawa. Details to follow at a later date.

May 3-4, 2008: ORAPEX 2008, Ottawa. Details to follow at a later date.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS INTERNATIONALES

May 27 – June 3, 2006: World Philatelic Exhibition under the FIP auspices WASHINGTON 2006. Bulletin # 1 and Entry Form available now. Commissioner Dr. JJ Danielski, for Ontario and East, 71 Gennela Square, Toronto, Ontario M1B-5M7, tel: 416-283-2047, email: jj.danielski@sympatico.ca

Oct 7-13, 2006: Màlaga Spain. Espana 2006, World Philatelic Exhibition under F.I.P.Auspices. Commissioner: Charles J.G. Verge, P.O. box 2788 Station D, Ottawa, ON K1P 5W8. E-mail: verge@sympatico.ca. Tel: (613) 738-2770, fax: (613) 738-7863.

Nov. 16-20, 2006: Brussels. BELGICA 2006 World Championship of Youth Philately, plus three competion classes for adults: Thematic, Open Class, and One Frame Class. www.BELGICA2006.be. Info available from Canadian Commissioner Yvan Latulippe, 326 Jean-Guy, St-Joachim-de-Shefford, QC J0E 2G0 Canada. E-mail: yvan.latulippe@sympatico.ca

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The "Saints" (Lucia, Helena Vincent, Kitts), Br. Guiana

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German Canadian Club
Concordia

November 5-6
Winnipeg
Marlborough Inn

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ONE last word

RPSC News
Nouvelles SRPC

UN dernier mot

by / par Tony Shaman

There is probably no holiday, religious or secular, that post offices around the globe commemorate with greater dedication than Christmas.

Not only do many postal administrations roll out their new Seasonal stamp issues, a significant number go beyond merely producing the usual adhesive emissions. Special thematic cancellations rank right up there with adhesive stamps. Who among us has not at one time or other sent away for those special covers cancelled with place names such as Bethlehem, Santa Claus, Snowflake, Noelville, Garlands, Christmas Island, or St. Nicolas?

Some Yule-theme strikes, such as the well-known Christkindl, Austria, cancellations are world famous; others are less well-known but equally collectible. Because of the rich assortment of Christmas-theme postage items produced by postal administrations in many parts of the world, Yule-theme devotees have catapulted the topic to the top of thematic philately.

The list of Christmas-theme philatelic items appears endless as new, and ever more attractive, material is being produced year after year to satisfy the demands of collectors.

Your editor, for example, has for several years been sending away for the attractively designed handstamps, available in red and green inks, from the Christmas Island, Nova Scotia, post office. Despite being philatelically inspired, I count these Christmas Island covers among my favourite Yule-theme items.

That is the beauty about our freewheeling hobby. No one can dictate to us what to collect. An eclectic assortment of unrelated Yule-theme material may not win a top award at a high-level show – but then one never knows, given the ever-changing and evolving judging regulations that in the last few years have been sanctioned by The RPSC and implemented for national and higher level shows. But more about competitive exhibiting in the next issue.

Because of the extensive existence of Christmas-theme collectible material, there is surely something that will catch the fancy of collectors with even a remote interest in this particular area of philately. Besides the usual adhesive stamps, and cancellations already mentioned, there are Yule-theme first day covers, souvenir sheets, imperforate issues, post cards, Christmas seals, postal stationery, corner

Aucune fête, tant religieuse que séculière, n'est sans doute célébrée avec autant d'empressement par les bureaux de poste partout dans le monde que Noël.

Non seulement de nombreuses administrations postales lancent-elles de nouveaux timbres de Noël, mais beaucoup vont encore plus loin. C'est ainsi que certaines oblitérations thématiques arrivent à égaler les timbres-poste gommés. Qui d'entre nous n'a pas, un jour ou l'autre, mis du courrier à la poste pour obtenir les magnifiques oblitérations où se retrouvent des noms comme Bethléem, Père Noël, Flocon de Neige, Noëlville, Garlands, Christmas Island ou Saint Nicolas?

Certaines oblitérations dédiées au thème de Noël, par exemple, la fameuse Christkindl d'Autriche sont mondialement connues; alors que d'autres, moins réputées, sont tout aussi intéressantes à collectionner. En raison du riche assortiment d'articles produits sous le thème de Noël par les administrations postales en de nombreux endroits du globe, les collectionneurs ont catapulté le sujet au sommet de la philatélie thématique.

La liste de ces articles semble autant nouvelle que sans fin. De nouveaux produits toujours plus attrayants font leur apparition chaque année afin de satisfaire aux demandes des philatélistes.

À titre d'exemple, votre éditorialiste, pendant de nombreuses années, a effectué des envois simplement pour obtenir les jolis tampons manuels en encres rouges et vertes du bureau de poste de l'île Christmas, en Nouvelle-Écosse. En plus de posséder leur propre beauté philatélique, ces plis se rangent parmi mes articles de Noël préférés.

La beauté d'un passe-temps à peu près exempt de contraintes comme le nôtre, la voici : personne n'a à nous dicter ce que nous devons collectionner. Un assortiment éclectique d'articles disparates sur le thème de Noël ne remportera peut-être pas le premier prix d'une exposition de haut niveau - mais encore, en tenant compte de l'évolution des règlements et des changements fréquents sanctionnés par La SRPC ces dernières années, et appliqués à des expositions nationales et de niveau supérieur, on ne sait jamais. Nous en apprendrons davantage sur les expositions concours dans notre prochain numéro.

Compte tenu du grand nombre d'articles à collectionner émis sous le thème de Noël, la corde sensible de tout collectionneur finira bien par être touchée, même si ce thème ne l'enthousiasme pas trop. En effet, en plus des oblitérations et des timbres gommés déjà mentionnés, il y a les plis premier jour de Noël, les feuillets commémoratifs, les émissions non dentelées, les cartes postales, les sceaux de Noël, le papier à

blocks, print errors, plate proofs, perforation varieties, se-tenant pairs and similar items that are eminently collectible.

Living in a time when farmers provide us with every type of food we can imagine and grocery store shelves are groaning with every delectable sustenance imaginable, it is difficult to appreciate the suffering that the Irish people affected by the Potato Famine endured in the 1820s and again in the mid-to-late 1840s. George Nicholson takes us back to those dark days in his article entitled Postal Records of Irish Famine-Based Emigration to Canada.

In the last issue Michael Madesker introduced us, as depicted on postage stamps, to the alphabet for the blind invented in the 19th century by Louis Braille. Numerous postage stamps have been issued over the years commemorating this notable achievement and in this and subsequent issues we will feature a number of articles on the topic.

In two previous issues we featured articles dealing with the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick pence issue by George Arfken. The article in this edition entitled, The Nova Scotia and New Brunswick Pence Bisects and Quadrisects, penned jointly by Dr. Arfken and Charles G. Firby, is the third of four parts. The last article in the series will appear in the next issue.

Featured in this issue is also an account relating the depressing days of British debtor prisons by Ken Lewis. How fortunate we are to be living in the 21st century. Or are we?

We have also included a short Yule-theme piece by Nick R. Bocker along with other timely information for your holiday reading pleasure.

Season's greeting to one and all!

lettre de Noël, les coins datés, les erreurs d'impression, les planches complètes, les variétés de dentelure, les paires se-tenant et d'autres articles éminemment dignes de collection.

À une époque où les agriculteurs nous fournissent tous les genres de nourriture possibles et où les tablettes des épiciers ploient sous la masse de tous les aliments imaginables, il est difficile d'évaluer la souffrance que les Irlandais ont vécu lors de la famine due à une maladie de la pomme de terre dans les années 1820 et vers le milieu et la fin des années 1840. George Nicholson nous ramène à cette sombre époque dans son article intitulé « Postal Records of Irish Famine-Based Emigration to Canada ».

Dans le dernier numéro, Michael Madesker nous a présenté, tel que décrit par le timbre-poste, l'alphabet pour les aveugles inventé au 19e siècle par Louis Braille. Nombre de timbres ont été émis au fil des ans pour commémorer cette découverte remarquable. Le présent numéro et les numéros subséquents consacreront quelques articles à ce sujet.

Dans les deux numéros précédents, George Arfken signait un article sur les émissions de pence du Nouveau-Brunswick et de la Nouvelle-Écosse. Dans celui-ci, il co-signe avec Charles G. Firby le troisième article de la série : «°The Nova Scotia and New Brunswick Pence Bisects and Quadrisects°» (Les timbres coupés en deux et en quatre de la Nouvelle-Écosse et du Nouveau-Brunswick). Le quatrième et dernier article paraîtra dans le prochain numéro.

Toujours dans le présent numéro, Ken Lewis nous propose un récit qui relate l'époque déprimante des prisons britanniques où on enfermait les débiteurs. Quelle chance de vivre au 21e siècle! Ne croyez-vous pas?

Nous avons aussi inclus un court texte, encore une fois sous le thème de Noël, par Nick R. Bocker, de même que d'autres renseignements opportuns qui s'ajouteront au plaisir de vos lectures du temps des fêtes.

Bon temps des fêtes à tous!

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As usual, color images are available to those who e-mail me with requests (napoleon@voyager.net).

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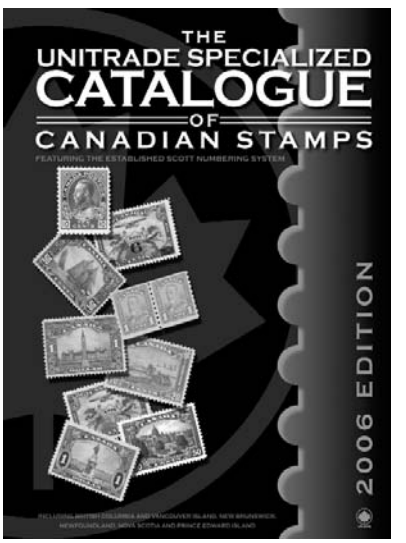

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