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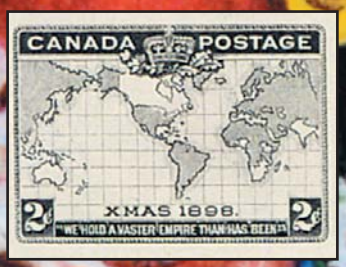

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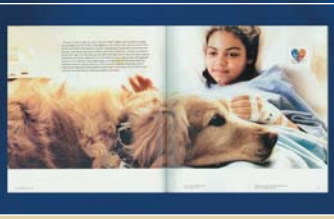

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Revue de La
SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE
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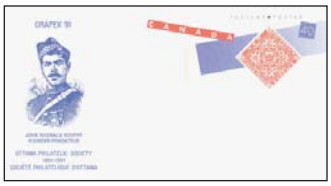
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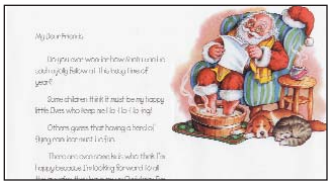
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THE COVER / PAGE COUVERTURE:

Although Canada's 1898 Map stamps were issued in anticipation of a 2-cent Imperial Penny postage rate, they have become better known as the world's first Christmas issue.

Illustrated on the cover are selected essays, including the "mystery essay" showing a 3-cent denomination, die and progressive plate proofs, and a block of "as-issued" stamps overprinted on the occasion of their Golden Jubilee.

Illustrations: Courtesy of Fred Fawn, and Canadian Postal Archives.

Bien qu'à l'origine les timbres-cartes de Noël aient été émis en anticipation du tarif postal impérial à 2 cents, ils sont davantage connus en tant que premier timbre de Noël au monde .

La page couverture illustre certains essais incluant « l'essai mystère », un timbre de 3 cents, épreuve finale en gamme de couleurs et un bloc de timbres « tels qu'émis » surchargé à l'occasion de leur jubilé.

Illustrations : gracieuseté de Fred Fawn et des Archives postales canadiennes.

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sodero@ns.sympatico.ca
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Editor – Éditeur
Tony Shaman, FRPSC
P.O. Box 43103, Eastwood Square, Kitchener, ON N2H 6S9
shaman@smokesignal.net

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

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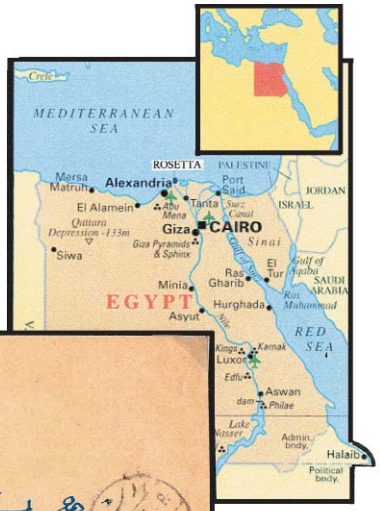
Transcribing Sounds

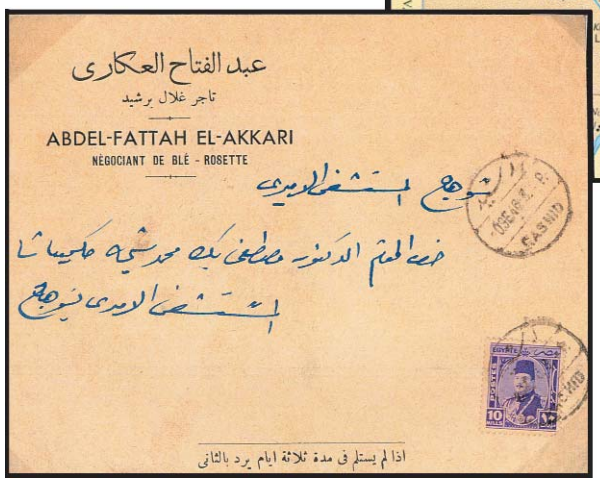
A Primary Source

By Michael Madesker, RDP, FRPSC

Rashid or El-Rashid, known to us as Rosetta, lies 33 miles east-northeast of Alexandria, Egypt. The town stands on the ruins of Balbitine or Balbitinium, an ancient village destroyed in 48 BCE by Julius Caesar at the same time as Alexandria. The town we know today as Rashid was founded around 870 CE. The famed granite tablet, The Rosetta Stone, was found two miles northwest of the town by a French soldier named Pierre Poushar, in 1798 during the Napoleonic Campaign.



A contemporary map of Egypt showing the location of Rashid, Rosetta.



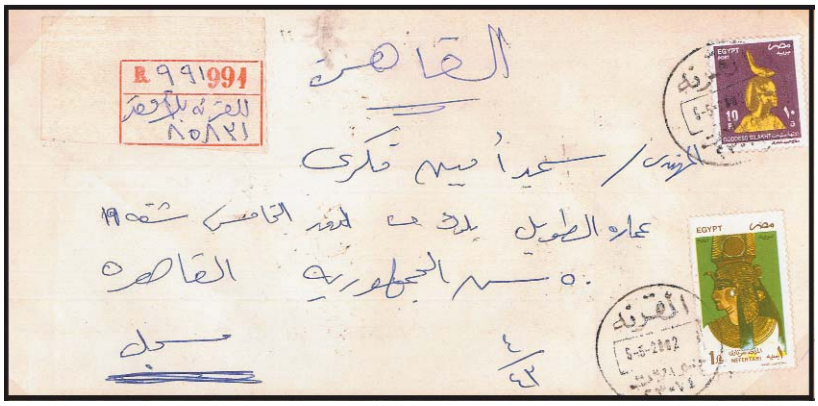
A mailing from Rashid to Alexandria on 20.9.1946 paying the exact local delivery rate of 10 milliems for same-day delivery.

Cover and philatelic information ex Samir Fikry.

***LEFT:* The Village of Deir-El-Medina. Photograph by N.C. Strudwick.**

***BELOW:* Cover from El-Qurna to Luxor dated 5.5.2002, and same-day delivery, paying 10 piastre rate plus 100 piastre registration fee.**

Cover and philatelic information ex Samir Fikry.



Egyptian scribes were, in general, charged with record keeping, communications, and administrative duties. A specially trained cadre engaged in decorating royal tombs including the transcription of the ruler's biography. It is their work, preserved until today, that forms the basis of our knowledge of the ancient world.

A village of scribes was discovered at Deir-El-Medina, El-Qurna, in the Valley of the Kings. The village dates back to between the 15th and 10th centuries BCE. Many tools of their trade discovered at the site allow us to judge the high level of sophistication of these artisans. Decorations on their tombs show the importance and esteem in which they were held.

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The Queen's Stamps, The Authorized History of the Royal Philatelic Collection

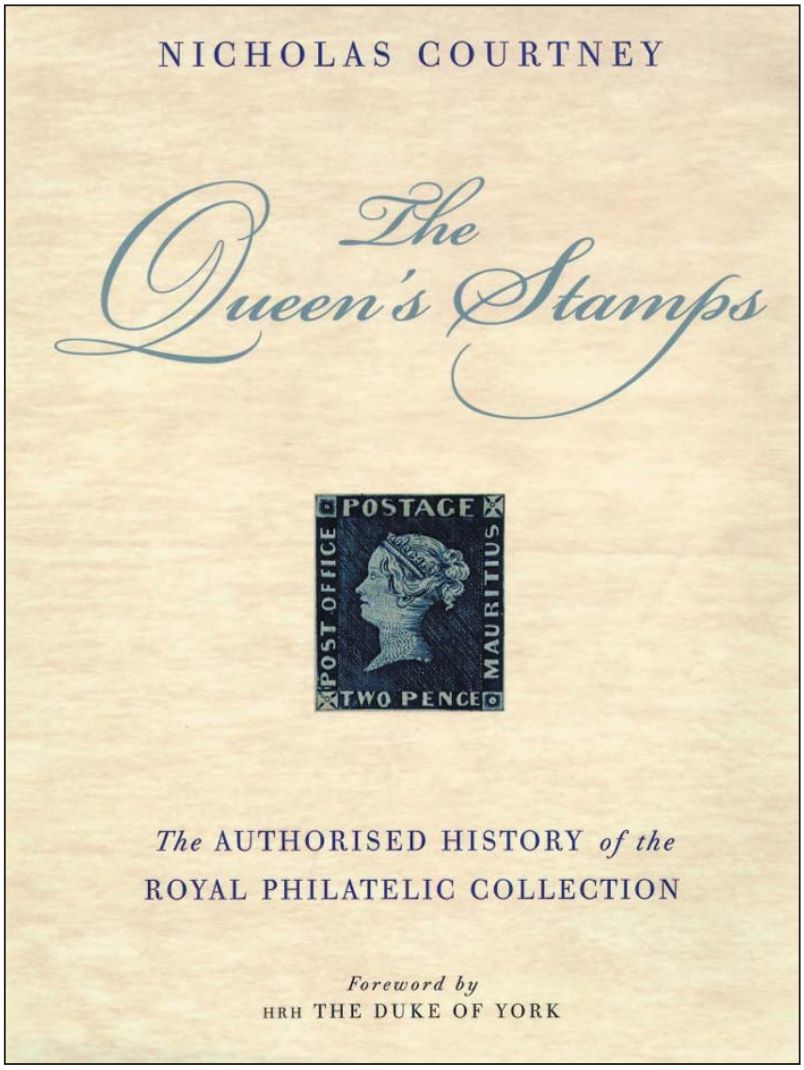
By Nicholas Courtney. (ISBN 0-413-77228-4) Methuen Publishing Ltd, 215 Vauxhall Bridge Rd, London, SW1V 1EJ. Hard cover cloth bound with dust jacket, 240 x 180 mm, 337 plus 14 pages. Price £25; $39.95 U.S.

The high degree of professionalism in the production of *The Queen's Stamps, The Authorized History of the Royal Philatelic Collection*, makes this book a pleasure to read. Philatelists who may have second thoughts about buying a publication authored by someone lacking a long list of philatelic credentials to his name can lay their fears aside: there is nothing amateurish about this work. Nicholas Courtney, an accomplished wordsmith, is the consummate professional when it comes to relating the story of the Royal Philatelic Collection whose beginning dates to the Victorian era.

It was Queen Victoria's second oldest son, Prince Alfred, who laid the foundation with his schoolboy stamp accumulation for what has arguably become the finest philatelic collection in the world. Although the collection spans the reigns of six British monarchs, it was unquestionably King George V, grandfather of the present Queen, who was responsible for assembling the bulk of the scarce, rare, and unique items in the collection. Courtney relates many of the absorbing tales about how these rare items found their way into the Royal Collection.

For instance, we learn of the intrigue that preceded the sale by public auction in 1904 of the Two Pence Post Office Mauritius stamp. The future king had his stamp advisor and philatelic curator John A. Tilleard attempt to purchase the stamp, a great rarity, from the auction house before the sale. His efforts failed because accepting a private offer it would be "a breach of faith," according the principles of the auction house. It was a set back for the Prince but he was not deterred. In a subsequent letter to Tilleard, he wrote: "...I am still very anxious to have the stamp," and proceeded to authorize Tilleard to bid up to £1,550 for it.

Collectors and agents from around the globe attended the sale and the Prince was up against stiff competition. Bidding anonymously on behalf of the Prince was his agent, J. Crawford, who was successful in obtaining the great rarity for £1,450. It was a record price paid for any stamp up to that time.



For collectors who like reading popular history, or stories about Britain's monarchs and their fabulous stamp collections, this book is for them.

A consummate collector, King George V seldom let an opportunity to add to his collection slip by. When asked what he would like as a remembrance of his visit to India for his Coronation Durbar in 1911, the King replied that he would like to visit the Postal Department archives. It may have been an offer that Indian postal officials regretted. The King spent considerable time there with a pair of scissors and there are now stamps in the Royal Collection that are no longer represented in New Delhi.

In addition to the book's 10 chapters and 15-page introduction, the work also includes appendices, a useful glossary – especially for novice collectors – a bibliography, and endnotes. A glaring omission is an index: it would have been useful for a work of this magnitude especially so because there are no chapter headings to guide the reader through the maze of information, much of it reconstructed by the author from archival material and the unrestricted access to the Collection.

A foreword by Prince Andrew, Duke of York and great-grandson of King George V, makes the argument that although it was his great grandfather who was the true philatelist, it is the later philatelic acquisitions, including those made during the present Queen's reign that have catapulted the Royal Philatelic Collection into "one of, if not the, finest in the world."

This competently researched work is recommended for philatelists who know nothing about the Royal Philatelic Collection and for those who want to learn more about it. The book sets a standard for popular history as told through postage stamps.

Most publications dealing with postage stamps and stamp collecting are written exclusively for philatelists. This one is not. Non-collectors can enjoy it as much as collectors. Readers need not be expert philatelists to be enthralled by the fascinating tales of the acquisition of rare stamps made possible by a near limitless supply of funds.

Faithfully reproduced stamps in full colour and a text printed on high-quality paper make this a publication that will not disappoint the most fastidious readers. Without question, collectors and non-collectors alike will be proud to add this publication to their bookshelves.

Tony Shaman

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Report From "España 2004"

By Dr. JJ Danielski

The World Philatelic Exhibition, España 2004, was held in Valencia between May 22 and 30, 2004. The show was organized under the auspices of FIP by the Spanish Post and Telegraph. The King and Queen of Spain agreed to accept the Presidency of the Honorary Committee. The authorities of Valencia offered the Centre for Arts and Science (La Ciutad de Las Artes y Las Ciencias) as the home for the show.

Some 20 years ago, a decision was made to reroute the River Turia in order to prevent the flooding of the city. The old river-bed was converted to parks, gardens, playgrounds, concert halls, etc. The Centre for Arts and Science represents likely the largest investment in the old bed of River Turia.

The Centre is a complex of five structures, namely: The Palace of Arts (currently under construction) that will house the scenic arts; L'Hemisferic with a planetarium and laserium where the latest sound and image technologies can be seen; The Prince Philip Science Museum housing exhibits relating to science and the newest technologies; and L'Oceanogràfic, a structure housing aquariums and other exhibits illustrating the marine world. On the Southern façade of the complex, there is a structure called L'Umbracle. At ground-level, there is a panoramic promenade with a tree-lined garden covered with open-work arc-space. Below, however, there are two levels of underground space used for exhibitions and parking. This structure, measuring 360 meters long and 60 meters wide, housed the exhibits. The Spanish proudly call this establishment the largest cultural-educational complex in Europe.

With each passing year we observe fewer FIP shows being organized. This results in the existing shows being grossly oversubscribed. España 2004 was planned for 3,500 frames. Having received over 1,400 applications for over 6,400 frames, the organizing committee decided to increase the number of frames to 4,000. Still, a large number of exhibits, some previously awarded with large vermeil, had to be turned down. There were 18 applications from Canada for 110 frames plus three applications for literature exhibits which do not require frame space to be accepted. Fourteen applications for 69 frames were accepted and seven for 41 frames rejected.

In today's world the cost of organizing any event is high. It is more and more difficult to find sponsors and fundraising requires a lot of planning and time. One of the by-products of this situation is raising entry fees. The Organizing Committee of Spain 2004 deserves praise for managing to keep the fees at a very reasonable 25 Euros per frame/entry.

According to official statistics the total number of accepted exhibits was 967. Their breakdown per class is as follows (number of Canadian exhibits appear in parentheses):

Court of Honour - 15(0), Championship Class - 17(1), Postal History - 154(2), Traditional - 140(4), Thematic - 100(1), Aero/Astro-philately - 57(1), Maximaphily - 15 (1), Postal Stationery - 31(0), Revenue - 19(0), Youth - 69(0), Open Class - 34(0), One Frame - 88(1), and Literature 224(3).

There were 15 exhibits in the Court of Honour; eight from Spain and one from each of the following countries: Monaco, United Kingdom, United Arab Emirates, Thailand, Israel, Colombia, Portugal and Italy. Bulletin #2 published the background information on exhibitors and the exhibits shown in this section.

The collection of HSH Prince of Monaco opened the Court of Honour. Among Spanish displays there were three that can hardly be called philatelic. Eduardo Escalada Goicoechea displayed the Documents from the History of the Spanish Postal Service, 16th-19th Centuries. Fernando Alonso presented 16th century letters with manuscript markings loaned from various archives (Simón Ruiz, church, university, etc). Finally, Antonio Cuesta showed Books and Documents from Spanish Philippines. Among others, the dated 1794 document entitled *News of the Sea Mailed Rates to Indies*.

The Spanish exhibits included: José Alberto Barreras - The Maritime Post During the Reign of Isabel II; Luis Alemany Indarte - The Spanish Colonies in Africa, and The First Issue of Brazil,

Germán Baschwitz Gómez - Private Spanish Postal Stationery; and Ángel Laiz - Postal Stationery from Spanish Colonial Cuba.

Otto Hornung from Great Britain presented his Postal History of Constantinople; Hugo Goeggel (President of the Inter-American Philately Federation - FIAF) from Columbia - The Pioneers of Airmail in Colombia and Its Development; Mohamed Aktar Sayeed from United Arab Emirates - India 1852 - 1855. Postage in the Sind District; Surajit Gongvatana from Thailand - Classic Siam; Nathaniel Yigal from Israel - Japan 1871 - 1876; Pedro Vaz Pereira from Portugal - Postal Stationery Ceres in Portugal; and Alberto Bolaffi from Italy - a selection of Royal letters of Fernando el Católico, Carlos V and Felipe II, the first recorded letters of Puerto Rico and Philippines, the Spain # 1 on cover dated Jan.1, 1850, etc.

The international jury consisted of 53 judges, eight apprentices and an expert team of three individuals. Mr. Koh Seow Chuan as FIP President was an Honorary President of the Jury, Mr. Fernando Aranaz actually presided over the work of the jury whereas Dr. Eliseo Rubén Otero (Argentina) was a FIP Consultant to Espana 2004. The remaining FIP Vice-Presidents Jos Wolff from Luxemburg and Raymond Todd (Australia), along with Hugo Goggel from Colombia were appointed Vice-Presidents of the Jury.

The composition of jury/expert team by countries represented was as follows: Spain - 11 judges, 1 senior consultant, 1 expert and 2 apprentices; Argentina - 3 judges; Australia, France and USA each - 2 judges plus 1 apprentice; Singapore - 2 judges; Canada, Israel, Portugal and Russia each - 1 judge and 1 apprentice. The countries listed below were represented by one person on the jury: Austria, Belgium, Brazil, China, Colombia, Korea, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Cuba, Czech Republic (expert), Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Holland, Honduras, Italy, Japan, Luxemburg, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Rumania, Turkey and Venezuela. Canada was represented by Denis Hamel who judged youth exhibits and JJ Danielski who was an apprentice judge in Postal History.

Seventeen exhibits competed in the Championship Class. Their break down by countries was as follows: three from Germany, two from Italy and Finland, and one from each of Australia, Belgium, Canada, Israel, Italy, Portugal, Rumania, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and USA.

The Grand Prix d'Honneur (the Best in Championship Class) went to Davit Franco (Turkey) for his French Post Offices in Ottoman Levant. The other nominees were: Ron Brigham (Canada) The Dominion of Canada; Large Queen 1868-1897; Ana y Marta Barreras (Spain) Spain's First Stamp 1850; and Saviero Imperato (Italy) Papal States.

The Grand Prix International was awarded to Samir Fikry (Egypt) for his Postal History of Egypt. The other nominees were: Jossi Tuori (Finland) for Classic Denmark 1851-1863, Omar Rodriguez (USA) for Classic Mexico: The First Stamp from Colonial Mail and First Hidalgos through 1867, and Daniel Ruiz Anguiano (Spain) for Strubel: Swiss Foreign Correspondence 1854-1863.

The Grand Prix National went to Antonio Cuesta (Spain) for Philippines 1776-1897. Pre-UPU Era, who was the only candidate.

There was also a Grand Prix for Youth class which went to Ruth Ordoñez Sanz (Spain) for Hunting: From Sport to Extermination.

Since a detailed Palmares for the show will be published elsewhere, here I would like to include a few comments. Ron Brigham's Large Queens received nomination for Grand Prix d'Honneur. The other Canadian exhibits were awarded with three Golds, three Large Vermeils, four Vermeils, two Large Silvers and one Silver.

John McEntyre won Gold again in the One Frame competition, this time for the 1859 Canada: the 17-cent high value. Ken Magee managed to get Gold again for his Ireland exhibit after receiving the Large Vermeil in Philakorea 2002. *The Canadian Philatelist* was able to maintain the Vermeil medal level from Bangkok. No doubt, the editor, Tony Shaman, has a big part in this achievement. Having improved the write-up of his exhibit after Bangkok, George Constantourakis was able to get his History of Maximaphily upgraded from Vermeil to Large Vermeil (the only LV in this class); he also received Felicitations. Finally, Lyse Rousseau's Darnell *Stamps of Canada Catalogue 2003* was upgraded from Silver Bronze in Bangkok to Silver. In general, Canadian exhibits performed very well considering the relatively small Canadian contingent.

Since España 2004 took place at the same time as the Royal Wedding, the official inauguration and presentation of the stamps/souvenir sheets issued on this occasion was included in the pro-

gram of the show. The framed souvenir sheet that was issued on this occasion was also handed over to judges, commissioners and exhibitors in place of medals.

During the show there were several conferences organized under the auspices of the Spanish Academy of Philately. Antonio Cuesta (Spain) delivered a lecture on the First Issues of the Philippines under the Spanish Rule. Yamil H. Kouri (USA) lectured on the use of Havana line marking by the Maritime Postal Company. José Manuel Rodrigez presented on Napoleonic Mail during the Spanish War of Independence 1808-1813. Finally, Fernando Alonso spoke about letters with manuscript markings shown in the Court of Honour.

There were also several seminars during the last three days of the show: R. Lesher and J. Amado y Sitja on Revenues, E. Thomassen and E. Consejo on Aerphilately, M. Cruz on Open Class, L. Salinas Trillo on One Frame, J.M. Grandela on Astrophilately, and B. Jimenez and J.R. Moreno on Thematic Philately.

Three Federations held their general assembly: AIEP (Association internationale des Experts en Philatelie), FIAF (Federacion Inter Americana de Filatelia) and FEPA (European Continental Federation).

As mentioned before, the exposition area was in the underground of the structure called L'Umbracle. L'Hemisferic hosted the Palmares Dinner and a cocktail party during lunch on May 24th. The official opening combined with the inauguration and presentation of the Royal Wedding souvenir sheet took place in the Meeting Hall of the Prince Phillip Science Museum.

There were no entry fees to the show. Public participation was modest. Most of visitors lined up to buy newly issued stamps and have them stamped with special cancellations.

Show organization was quite good. I was especially impressed with a group of volunteers working in the Bin Room who in spite of sleeplessness maintained good spirits and did their best to expedite the pick-up of exhibits. Although praise is due for all involved in the organization of this event, there is one individual I wish to thank individually – the always smiling and ready to help Luis Martinez de Salinas Trillo who was in charge of the commissioners. ✤

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Stanley Gibbons Great Britain Concise Stamp Catalogue

Published by Stanley Gibbons (Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hants, BH24 3SH); ISBN 085259-562-X. Soft cover, 400 pages, 160 X 210 mm; Retail price £19.95.

The 2004 version of the *Stanley Gibbons Great Britain Concise Stamp Catalogue* is considerably more than a mere listing of Great Britain's stamps form 1840 to mid-March 2004. Although the publishers use the term "concise" in the catalogue's title it is, in reality, a quite detailed piece of work. There is relatively little additional information that collectors specializing in the stamps of Great Britain would require, or need to refer to, in the day-to-day pursuit of their hobby.

Ending with a comprehensive list of booklets and booklet panes, the catalogue also includes a listing of Post Office Label Sheets, regional issues, postage due stamps, officials, and Royal Mail Postage Labels. All illustrations are in black and white.

Of particular efficacy, especially for beginner collectors, are several pages of generic philatelic information that deals with items such as paper types, perforations, printing errors, phosphor issues, gums, colour identification, coils, gutter pairs, se-tenant issues, watermarks, underprints, and similar information. Also covered are the firm's pricing guidelines for the stamps it sells and its guarantee and return policy. While not inexpensive at 19.95 British Pounds, the display advertisements interspersed throughout the front pages of the catalogue have not doubt helped maintain the price at this manageable level.

The catalogue illustrations are clearly reproduced and easy on the eyes; the print, although crisp, tends to be small and while not of concern to young collectors could have been somewhat larger for the benefit of older collectors whose eyesight may not be what it was once.

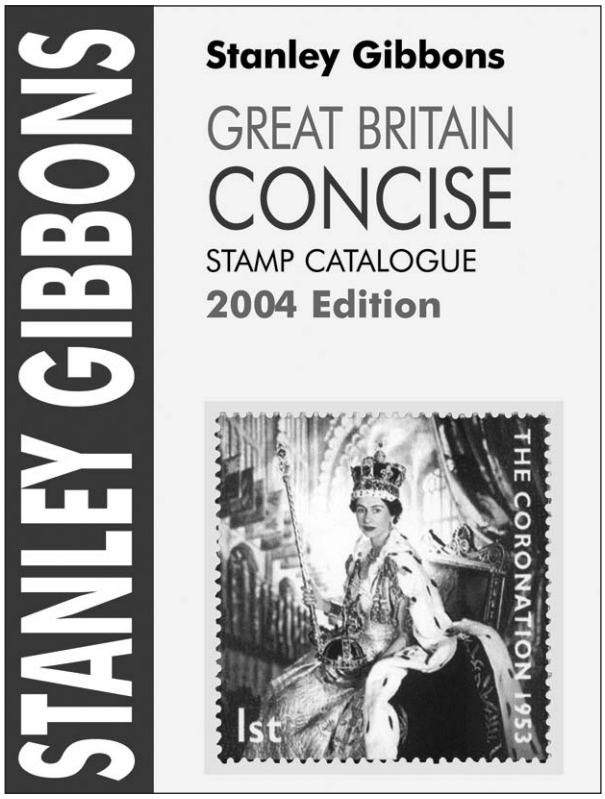
Measuring just 6 1/4 by 8 1/4 inches, the catalogue is small enough to make it convenient for collectors to carry it with them to stamp shows or to their neighbourhood stamp dealer. It also makes a handy checklist.

But the catalogue's real value is the extensive information and number of illustrations packed between its covers. For example, it features a helpful section on the decimal Machins and a guide of illustrated booklet panes to assist collectors in the identification of the numerous modern definitive stamps and other special issues.

Also appreciated by collectors will be the listings of missing colour varieties, phosphor bands on stamps, perforation and embossing errors, as well as inverted and reversed watermarks. And, for thematic collectors, the inclusion of a subject index of commemorative issues is a plus.

The *Concise* 19th edition, compact yet sufficiently comprehensive for the advanced collector, has proven its worth as demonstrated by the release of yearly updates since the first edition appeared in 1986. It is a work that advanced collectors of the stamps of Great Britain will not want to be without.

Tony Shaman



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Pole to Pole

By Ken Lewis

There are not many explorers who have ventured to both Polar Regions but one who managed this feat is Sir George Hubert Wilkins. Each expedition was undertaken by varied means of transportation: air, ship, and submarine. The article will deal with the man and his expeditions first followed by the details of the cover. These events are of such historical value and interest that they should be read first to give us a more in-depth understanding to the background of the cover.

Figure 1.

The Man

Hubert Wilkins (Figures 1 & 2) was born on October 31, 1888 at Mount Bryan East, South Australia, and was the last and 13th child of a sheep farmer. In his youth he had a passion for anything photographic, which never really left him. In 1908, as the worst Australian drought was taking its toll on farmers he decided to stow away on a ship to try and better himself. All he had was an address of the Gaumont Film Company in London, England. When he eventually got to London the Gaumont Film Company employed him as a war photographer for the Turko-Bulgarian War of 1912. By 1913 he had joined an expedition to the Canadian Arctic, led by Vilhjalmur Stefansson. Between then and 1917 he had learned to fly and in 1917 Wilkins returned to Australia and joined the Australian Flying Corps as a lieutenant. His superior officer was Captain Frank Hurley, who was the photographer of Mawson's and Shackleton's Antarctic Expeditions. During the First World War he received a bar for his Military Cross and Australian General Monash is quoted as saying he was 'the bravest man I have ever met'.

Figure 2.

In 1925 he proposed that he should lead the Australasian Polar Pacific Expedition and fly from Ross Sea, across King Edward VII Land to Graham Land. Sadly this expedition did not take place due to lack of sponsorship. Undaunted, he joined his friend Carl Ben Eielson in expeditions to the Arctic. These journeys earned them both places in the Aviator's Hall of Fame. During April and May 1928 he flew his Lockheed Vega monoplane from Point Barrow, Alaska to the Norwegian island of Spitsbergen. This journey covered 2,500 miles and took 20 hours and 20 minutes to complete; this meant that he was the first man to fly across the top of the world. Most of the journey was over uncharted territory. The rest of his life was involved with expeditions to the desolate polar regions of the world. After the Arctic adventure with a submarine, Wilkins was a broken man and never led another expedition. He ended his days testing winter survival equipment for the United States Army. When he died, his ashes were taken by nuclear submarine under the Arctic ice. It surfaced at the North Pole, where Vice Admiral James Calvert performed a short service and Wilkins' ashes scattered with great reverence to the intrepid explorer, aviator, photographer, etc.

The Antarctic

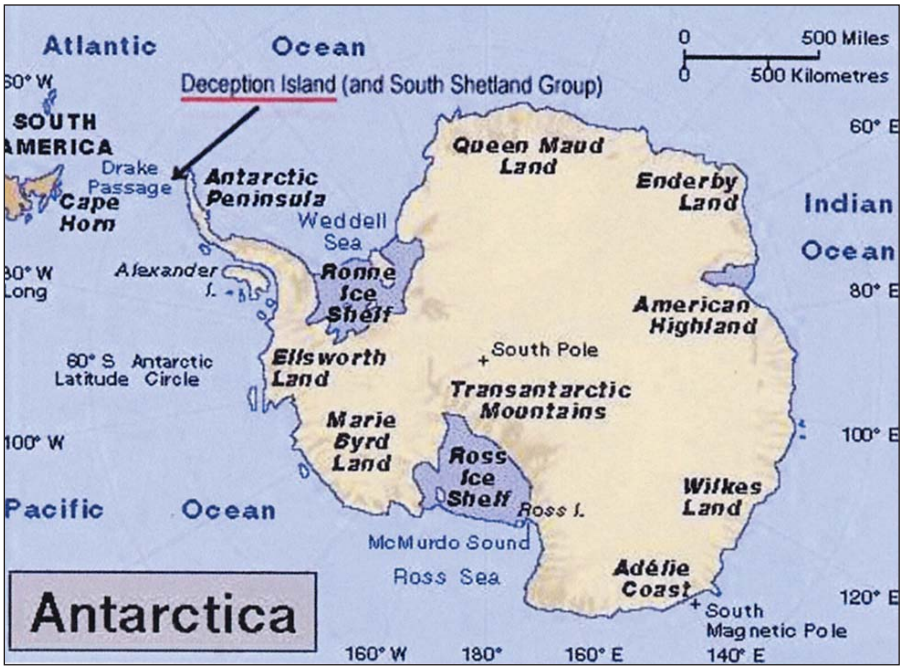

Figure 3.

The first expedition sailed from New York on September 22, 1928 to Montevideo, Uruguay. From Montevideo it departed in early October on the Norwegian Whaler *Hektoria* and set up their base camp on November 4. Accompanying Hubert Wilkins on this expedition were two of the greatest polar aviators, Joe Crosson and Carl Ben Eielson. They took along two Lockheed Vega aircraft, one of which was used by Wilkins on the pioneering flight from Point Barrow, Alaska to Spitsbergen. These aircraft were named *Los Angeles* (Alaska to Spitsbergen plane) and *San Francisco*. The ship made its first call at Port Stanley in the Falkland Islands and Wilkins got the authority from the British government to claim any new territories in the name of the British Empire. The next port of call was at Deception Island on November 6, 1928 where they set up a base camp.

Deception Island is ring shaped and is one of Antarctica's better known volcanoes. Its central harbour is, in fact, the 7 km caldera of the volcano, and is accessed by the entrance known as Neptune's Bellows. The caldera is the collapsed centre of a volcano that has been flooded by the surrounding sea. It had been used by the Chileans and Norwegians as a whaling station, only the rusting buildings remain having been abandoned a long time ago. The island is situated to the south-west end of the South Shetland Islands and to the north east of Graham Land Peninsula (Fig 3). To give it its correct position as - 62.97 S, 60.65 W, with a summit elevation of 576 metres. Volcanic activity keeps the water in the caldera at a Meditereanean temperature all year round.

It was on November 20, that a trial flight of the *Los Angeles*, flown by Eielson, which lasted 20 minutes, was completed. This is no great feat, but it was notably very historic being the very first flight of an aircraft in Antarctica. On December 20, Wilkins (*Los Angeles*) and Eielson (*San Francisco*) took off in difficult conditions and flew over Graham (Palmer) Land, along the western coast charting unknown territory for a distance of 600 miles to Hearst Land (Fig. 4). The areas were photographed using a Kodak 3A still camera and two cine cameras. Hearst Land was named after Wilkins' main sponsor the newspaper magnate, William Randolph Hearst. Once Hearst land had been reached they finished his survey and returned to base. This flight took a total of 10 hours to complete, and was of great importance not for what it had discovered but as a basis for future aerial surveys in the Antarctic. A second flight took place on January 10, 1929 over a similar course.

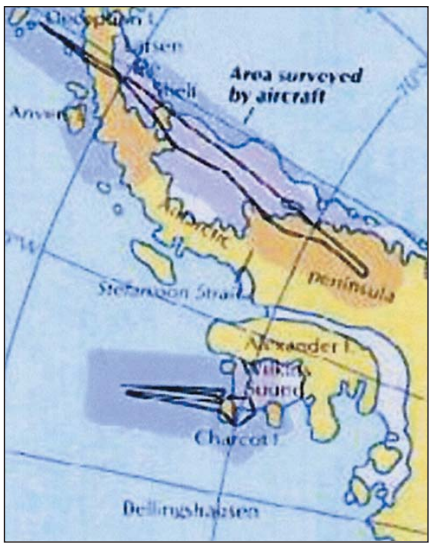

Figure 4.

The Arctic

In 1931 Wilkins purchased a surplus World War I submarine for one dollar and renamed it *Nautilus* for his next adventure to reach the North Pole beneath the ice. When sailing this newly acquired submarine across the Atlantic Ocean it continually kept breaking down and had to be towed to England. When undergoing repairs at Plymouth it was found to be in very poor condition and Wilkins was advised not to proceed with the venture. At this point he made essential repairs and sailed to Bergen in Norway for a full refit and conversion to prepare it for the expedition under the Arctic ice to the North Pole. Due to further problems the dive under the ice was delayed but eventually it did go under the ice. It managed to travel a few miles beneath the ice but their radio packed in when they surfaced and they could not tell the world that they were safe. The radio was repaired after about four weeks and the whole world breathed a sigh of relief to hear that they were safe. When they emerged from the ice their main sponsor, William Randolph Hearst (the newspaper magnate), refused to send a penny to Wilkins because he had not reached his goal. The submarine limped back to Bergen, Norway where she was scuttled. The media regarded this adventure a failure but the scientists revelled in its success as nobody had experienced what they had done and it advanced the scientific knowledge.

Cover Details

There were only a few covers (Fig. 5) carried on the Antarctic expedition and, according to *The Airpost Journal*, not many of these ended up in collector's hands. A few of these rare covers were to become even rarer when they were carried to the Arctic by the same explorer.

The cover has the one-penny Falkland Islands stamp tied with the postmark of Port Stanley on October 29, 1928 when they landed before beginning their expedition. These covers had the usual red, white and blue border and were flown on the aircraft whilst doing the survey. Two cachets reading 'Wilkins Antarctic Expedition Deception Island' were applied in green to this cover. An additional cachet was applied by the Submarine team and is in deep violet.

The expedition to sail under the Arctic ice started when the *Nautilus* sailed from New York across the Atlantic to Great Britain. An unknown number of these covers from the Antarctic had a 2-cent USA stamp cancelled 'New York G P O June 1 1931' with the letters 'G P O' replacing the number in the barred obliterator, and were carried by the submarine expecting to be transferred to the *Graf Zeppelin* at the North Pole. This meeting never took place due to delays in preparing the submarine for its adventure beneath the Arctic ice. The mail was taken to London, Great

Figures 5 (above) and 6 (below).

Britain where it was sent to the offices of the Wilkins-Ellsworth Trans-Arctic Submarine Expedition headquarters in New York. This cover has a British 1½d stamp and a postmark dated October 1, 1931. The receiver on the back (Fig. 6) is clear and dated October13, at the Times Square Station, New York. Also on the back are the mark of the London office dated October 1 and the same cachet, as used on the front, showing the submarine but this time in red.

The address of the Wilkins-Ellsworth headquarters has been stamped over the partially erased original address (from Antarctica) that appears to read: A. C. Roessler, 2 E Orange, N. J.

A. C. Roessler was a well-known stamp dealer, who was appointed to oversee the arrangements of the mail carried aboard the *Nautilus*. It has been reported that both he and Wilkins had co-operated on previous occasions, and this was a continuation of their association. Records show that Wilkins received $1,000 from Roessler, for carrying a number of covers on his 1928 flight, and the cover illustrated is one from the original 1928 flight that has been re-used for the second expedition.

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Conclusion

These expeditions had amassed a lot of scientific knowledge for the world, and paved the way for future adventures to the polar regions. He will always be remembered as the intrepid explorer because of his pioneering work in the north and south polar regions.

As mentioned previously, *The Airpost Journal* believes that these covers are so rare that they are not listed in any catalogues. Whether this will remain true is a matter for the catalogue editors and the few philatelists who have managed to include them in their collections.

Acknowledgements

Thanks must be made to Gary Pierson of the American Society of Polar Philatelists for permission to use the charts and pictures of Hubert Wilkins that illustrate this article.

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Bisected Pence and Decimal Stamps

By George B. Arfken and Charles G. Firby

The Pence Era

Canada's first issue of stamps had pence denominations. A 3d (3 pence) denomination featuring a beaver appeared on April 23, 1851. A 6d with Albert, Prince Consort came on May 12, 1851. Other denominations came later.*

The 3d stamp paid the postage on a domestic letter (up to ½ oz.), The 6d stamp paid the postage on a letter to the U.S. or double domestic letter rate (up to 1 oz.). Imagine a writer ready to post a domestic letter. He has no more 3d stamps but he does find a 6d stamp. Well, half of a 6d stamp should do the job of a 3d stamp. So he cut the 6d stamp diagonally making it obvious that he is using exactly half of the 6d stamp and stuck it on the envelope. That is a possible scenario for the bisect cover shown in Figure 1.

Table 21 of *Canada's Pence Era* [1] lists eight covers franked with bisected 6d stamps. Six of these eight bisect covers came from Quebec. Possibly the Quebec postmaster was influenced by the examples of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and P.E.I. Nova Scotia authorized the bisection of its three pence stamp in 1854. Indeed, bisection was fairly common in the Maritimes up through the 1870s. Bisects of some of the other value Canadian pence stamps are known. We will encounter bisects of the 3d value when covering Canada's Allan Line transatlantic packets.

Figure 1. A mourning cover from Quebec posted on March 1, 1860. Addressed to Sherbrooke, the cover was franked with a bisected 6d stamp. Backstamped Sherbrooke L.C. / MR 1 18.

Photo courtesy of Matthew Bennett Auctions.

The Decimal Era

On July 1, 1859, the Canadian Post Office went to a decimal system. The 3d domestic postage became five cents. The 6d postage to the U.S. became 10 cents. Some Canadians still thought that half of a ten-cent stamp should pay five cents postage. Table 1 lists the eight known bisected 10-cent Decimal covers. Since this stamp appeared in a variety of shades, we list the shade when it is known. The NO 5 60 cover may be rated due seven cents. This may mean that the postmaster rejected the usage of the bisect or possibly that the cover was double weight and was charged five cents plus a two-cent penalty. All of the other covers were accepted by the Post Office as paying the five-cent domestic rate.

The two covers with no origin or address listed are noted in Jarrett [2]. The Lennoxville NO 29 60 date stamp is a transit stamp, not an origin date stamp.

The earliest cover listed in Table 1 is shown in Figure 2. A bisected 10-cent chocolate brown decimal stamp paid the domestic five-cent rate on this cover. Addressed to Drummondville, Eastern townships, there are backstamps of Melbourne and Drummondville, C.E. JY 11 1859.

The last cover on Table 1 is shown in Figure 3. Here again a 10-cent decimal was bisected to pay the five-cent rate. The Lennoxville, C.E. NO 29 1860 date stamp is misleading. It is actually a transit stamp. There is a Brompton, C.E. NO 28 1860 backstamp. So the cover was posted in Brompton then went by rail to Lennoxville about 18 miles southeast. The

DATE	SHADE	ORIGIN	ADDRESS
JY 9 59	Choc. Brown	Quebec	Drummondville
JY 11 59	Black Brown	?	?
NO 28 59	Black Brown	R.P.O.	Brockville
FE 12 60		?	?
FE 15 60		Bowmanville	Whitby
OC 6 60	Deep Red Purple	Carleton	Paspébiac
NO 5 60		Barrie	Toronto
NO 29 60	Deep Red Purple	Lennoxville	Hatley

Table 1. Bisected Ten-cent Decimal Covers.

* The "d" in 3d and 6d comes from the Latin. A denarius was a small silver coin of ancient Rome. In the Roman Empire, a denarius was a gold coin.

Lennoxville postmaster stamped the cover and sent it on to Hatley about 18 miles southwest of Lennoxville. A 2002 road map shows Lennoxville very nicely but it took an 1875 Walker and Miles Atlas to show Brompton and Hatley.

These bisected pence and decimal covers are rarities bringing in thousands of dollars at recent auctions.

The Montreal postmaster was concerned about bisected stamps and wrote to the Postmaster General. The reply [3] by Deputy Postmaster General W.H. Griffin was:

23rd April, 1860

In returning the letter addressed to you, I beg to say that the moiety (one half) of a 10 cent stamp cannot be accepted in payment of a 5 cent rate.

I need scarcely remark to you as a Postmaster that if such a practice were permitted it would frequently happen that the half of an already used 10 cent stamp would be found to be sufficiently free from any impress of a cancelling stamp to be used again.

Here is the Post Office's objection to bisects. Half of a used stamp might be used to evade additional postage. Not all such attempts succeeded. Figure 4 shows a cover with a bisected 10-cent stamp treated as totally unpaid. This was a registered cover with the two-cent registry fee paid in cash.

Finally, it should be emphasized that a bisected stamp on piece is worthless. What is needed is proof that the bisected stamp actually was accepted as paying postage. Usually this means a complete cover with the bisect well tied across the cut edge.

Deputy Postmaster General Griffin's letter and similar letters did not stamp out bisecting stamps. Many covers with postage paid with a bisected stamp continued to appear through the 1870s. Large Queen and Small Queen bisects appear in a subsequent article. ✤

Figure 2. Posted in Quebec, July 9, 1859 and addressed to Drummondville, this cover was passed with a bisected 10-cent decimal.
Photo courtesy of Matthew Bennett Auctions.

Figure 3. From Brompton, C.E., November 28, 1860 to Lennoxville by rail and then on to Hatley.
Photo courtesy of Matthew Bennett Auctions.

Figure 4. This cover from Toronto, C.W., July 5, 1860, to Barrie, C.W. was charged as an unpaid double rate letter, seven cents per half ounce. The bisected 10-cent stamp was given no credit.
Courtesy of Horace W. Harrison.

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CANADA HOUSE to be part of the American Philatelic Centre

By Peter Butler

So, you're a philatelist! How does the following description sound as an ideal place to spend a few days enjoying to the fullest your hobby with other stamp collectors?

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• constantly changing displays of everything philatelic, from collections to perforation presses, from works of art and photography to postal history presentations

• and where is this philatelic paradise?

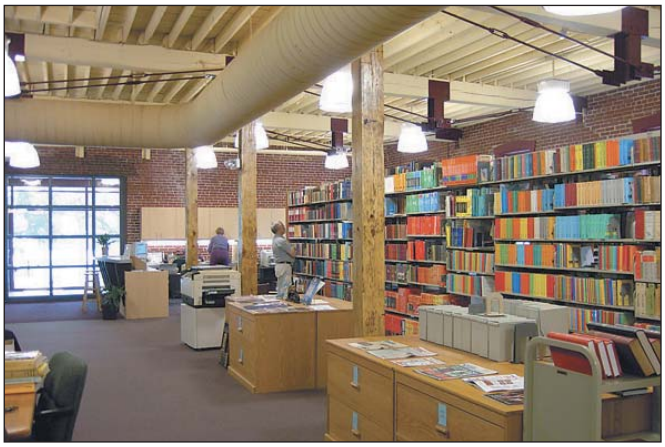
Yes it is a philatelic Valhalla if there ever was one and there are only a handful of readers who have been to this Mecca of the hobby! I am talking about the new American Philatelic Center, situated in Bellefonte, Pennsylvania. I was fortunate to have been invited to attend the grand opening and dedication ceremonies on June 26, and I would like to share with you my excitement at being a part of this historic event.

Perhaps you have seen pictures of the Match Factory in the philatelic press over the past few years. With the American Philatelic Society (APS) and the American Philatelic Research Library (APRL) bursting at the seams in their former space the decision was made to renovate a large set of industrial buildings which had been dormant for some time in a nearby town. You may also recall that the decision to undertake this challenging move and expansion was not greeted by all members of APS with the same enthusiasm as its Executive Director, Bob Lamb. There was, however, good support for the project and after a

great deal of debate, the Board approved the plan. Lamb said, at the opening ceremonies, that the divisiveness was probably a good thing and credited the success of the day's events in part, to the coming together of the opposing views to make the project a reality. And a success it most certainly was!

On the Friday evening, a sold-out community dinner was held out-of-doors in the beautiful setting of the Center. A fast-flowing stream borders the Match Factory property on two sides. The buildings, the renovated, old structures, the newly constructed corporate office spaces, and the yet-to-be-renovated building form an attractive backdrop for the other sides of the view. The dinner was the perfect event to build on the positive feelings of the Bellefonte community towards its new tenant. It was a great success and Lamb and his staff took every opportunity to build community spirit, cooperation and mutual respect in this new business relationship. Mayor Stan Goldman said it best when he proclaimed, "We cleaned up an area that was dormant for years. We made something happen. I don't think we could have found a better neighbour than the (American) Philatelic Society. We embrace them in our community."

The next morning saw hundreds of visitors come to the Center for the "Open House" tours of the newly renovated facility. At 2:00 p.m. the ribbon-cutting and dedication ceremonies took place. An historic plaque, recognizing the Match Factory's role in the specialty lumber industry, was unveiled. That evening, a fund-raising dinner was held to continue efforts to boost the building fund for the next phase of expansion and renovation. Donald Sundman, President of the Mystic Stamp Company, was the guest speaker and he called on all members of the philatelic community to come together now in a new spirit of cooperation and mutual support to ensure the growth and development of the hobby for future generations of collectors. The message was not lost on the audience and Sundman received enthusiastic applause for his comments.



On Sunday morning, there were no official events but many community people and APS members from out of town, continued to visit the complex. In the afternoon, staff began to welcome the Summer Seminar delegates that were registering for the week's sessions. Readers will recall my commentary in the July-August 2004 issue of *The Canadian Philatelist* of the APS Summer Seminar proceedings from 2003. After the excitement of the opening I was primed for another enjoyable time with collectors from across the country including three other Canadians! There was time, however, to spend a few hours at SCOPEX, the annual exhibition and bourse held by the State College Stamp Club. Total immersion in the hobby... that's what creates the memories of an unforgettable few days!

For readers unfamiliar with the Match Factory story, the following information may be of interest: This complex of buildings is located on six acres in Bellefonte. A beautiful green space behind the factory, Tallyrand Park, transforms the old industrial site into a tranquil and picturesque area in the centre of the town. The buildings, in total, cover approximately 30,000 square feet about half of which have been renovated to date. Eventually, APS will occupy 15,500 square feet and the APRL will occupy the remaining space.

There is a newly constructed wing that is home to several retail and professional businesses, including Hugh Wood Inc., the world's largest collectibles insurance company. This rental income is

key to the successful completion of the project in the years to come.

A good deal of the building remains to be renovated and will include classrooms, an auditorium, a museum for stamps and postal history and a restaurant. To date, $3.8 million has been spent on the renovations with a future building fund requiring more than twice that amount to complete the project. The decision-makers believe that project's completion looks secure owing, in part, to the generous donations of APS and APRL members.

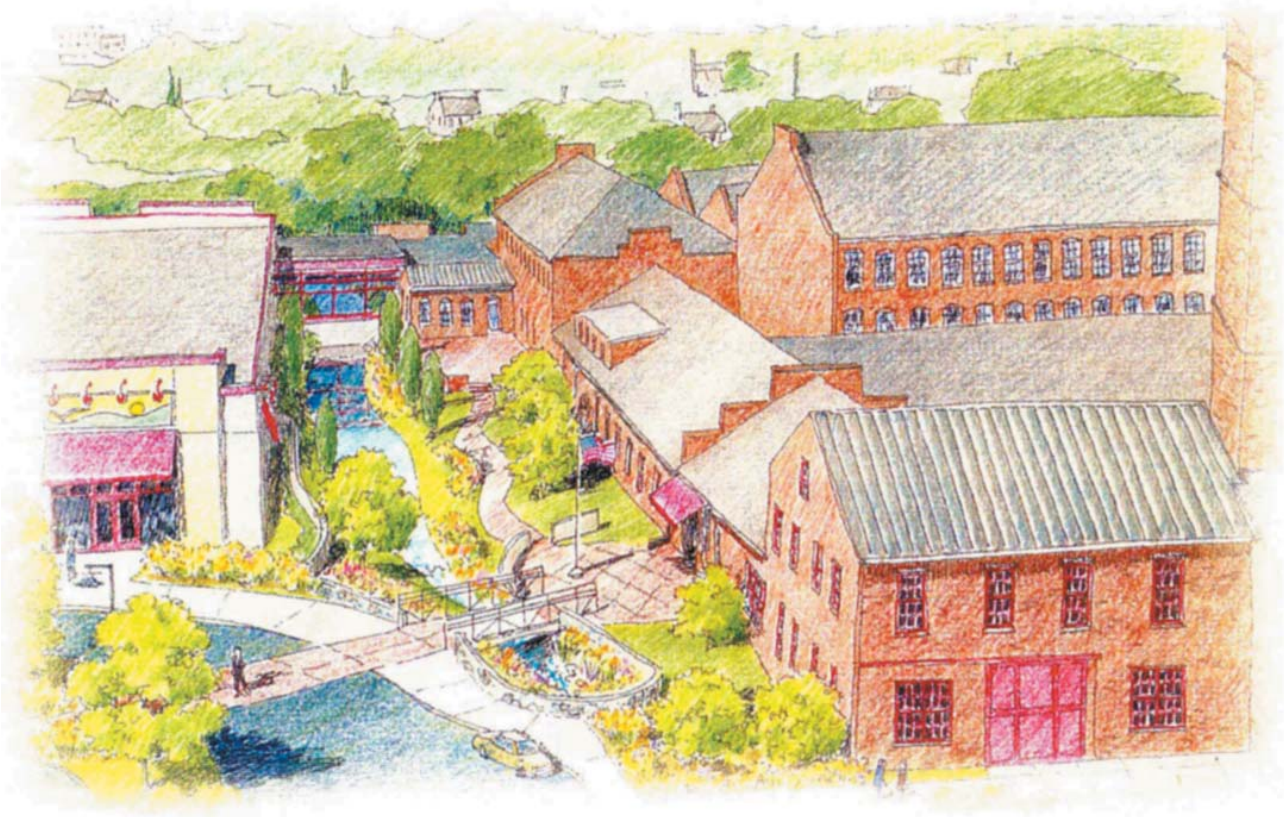
Closely aligned with this prediction that a secure funding program is in place to complete the remaining sections of the Center comes an exciting announcement for Canadian collectors that the President of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, Charles Verge, made on the weekend of the opening.

Our President has created an exciting initiative for Canadians to champion. It is a unique and very special Canadian presence at the newly opened Center and it will be called CANADA HOUSE. The structure, a conference/meeting room, will be a distinctive part of the complex. It will be a separate room, approximately 24 x 25 feet and will reflect the Canadian contribution to the world hobby and on the ongoing fine relationship Canadian collectors have with their colleagues and friends in the United States.

If you look at the Colorano Silk reproduction of the Match Factory complex, the future Canada House can be clearly viewed. Notice the stream that runs through the centre of the print. After flowing under the bridge, it runs under the glass-walled administration offices. Directly to the right of the offices you can see a separate building with three windows and a door facing the stream. That is Canada House. The patio in front of Canada House has already been built, and will be named after its benefactor, the St. Louis Stamp Club. The stream is spring fed: it is pure and watercress is growing on its banks. Can you envisage delegates to some future conference enjoying the meeting room, the view of the stream, and the patio outside? I can, and I pledge to be a project donor and to be present at the official opening.

And when might that be, you ask? I suggest that it will depend on how quickly the funds for such an undertaking can be realized. Here are a few considerations and facts as they presently stand. More details will be forthcoming from President Verge.

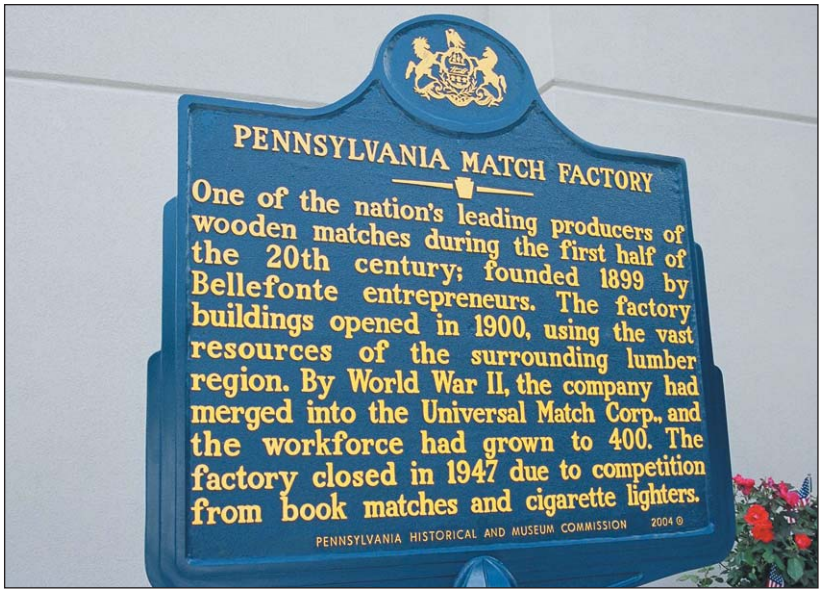
- The goal will be to raise $100,000 (CAN) to bring the renovation plan to reality
- A Fundraising Campaign will need to be established to reach that goal.
- President Verge has told us that there is a list of



corporate and individual donors already who are committed to contribute to the project.

• Over the next several months a representative group of stakeholders will be created to examine input from all interested partners as to the design and content of the room.

• Donations from Canadians and Americans will be sought. The former will be directed through the Foundation of the RPSC; the latter will be directed through the APS and tax receipts will be issued by both parties.



Finally, and on a very personal level, I would like to implore the leaders of clubs and societies of stamp collectors across Canada to discuss with their memberships the great opportunity this project affords us in creating a legacy to future collectors and the future of our hobby. We have an opportunity to make a statement about what matters to collectors, the continuation of our work to preserve philately. Personal pledges, the organization of fund-raising events, or donations from their club coffers, whatever the source. Canada House matters and you can help it happen.

Specific details of the project and how, specifically, you can contribute will follow in the next issue of *The Canadian Philatelist*. In the meantime spread the good news and plan your personal or collective donation to Canada House.

Finally, a big thank you is extended to President Charles Verge for initiating the venture, for entering into the discussions with the APS and for the vision of how Canada can become a meaningful part of the new and dynamic American Philatelic Center of the future.

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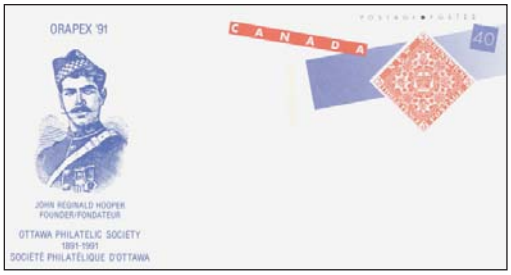
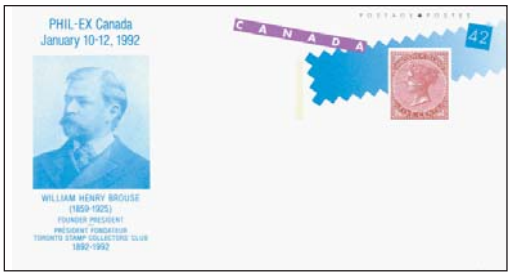
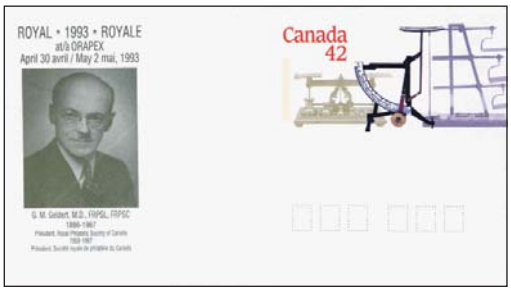
Special Postal Envelopes and Cancellations Used on the Envelopes For ORAPEX

By Joseph Monteiro







Introduction

Special postal envelopes are pre-printed stamped envelopes which have a private impression applied to the envelope. The impression other than the stamp is usually a name or address or symbol of a business or individual and sometimes depicts a picture of a commemorative event. Two different procedures formerly existed for obtaining these envelopes. In one case, the printer manufactured the envelopes and printed the stamps and private impression on the envelopes. In the other case, the customer supplied the envelopes and the printer printed the stamps and the private impression on the envelopes. The current procedure at the moment is the first. However, a certain minimum number of envelopes have to be printed before the Canadian Post Office will print special postal stationery.

The private parties that have engaged in this activity on a regular basis are:

a) The RA Stamp Club
b) The Edmonton Stamp Club
c) Other Private Parties

In this brief article, the special postal stationery and special postal cancellations that have been issued by RA Stamp Club in Ottawa shall be reviewed.

Special Postal Stationery

The practice of producing special postal stationery by the RA Stamp Club in Ottawa for Orapex began in 1991. Initially, until the early 1990s, special postal envelopes were provided at no cost to the RA Stamp Club. The special postal envelopes usually contain a small picture of the person honoured on the left of the envelope. A short history of the person honoured is often provided in the brochure printed for this particular occasion in early May. A list of the various special postal envelopes that have been printed are shown in the table on page 348. It should be noted that the practice of issuing envelopes existed long before 1991, as early as 1983, however, these envelopes cannot be classified as special postal stationery according to the above normally accepted definition. So far Orapex special postal stationery envelopes have appeared on four different series of regular postal envelopes as follows:

1) The World Philatelic Youth Exhibition Issue
2) The Postal Scales Issue
3) The Cities issue
4) The Birds of Canada Issue

Special Postal Cancellation

The special postal stationery is available either mint or with a special cancellation produced for the special occasion. Usually a special cancellation is used and in the last few years different cancellations on two separate covers are used. These cancellations are usually quite attractive. Sometimes as many as four cancellations existed and combinations and permutations of these cancellations may exist. It should be noted that when the cancellation or cancellations are shown at the side of both size envelopes in the table, the cancellations are used on both sized envelopes. There is more to these special postal envelopes for the specialist. Each of these envelopes are usually cancelled with one or two special cancellation. Most of these cancellation are quite attractive. These cancellations can be described as follows:

The World Philatelic Youth Exhibition Issue (1991)

Orapex 1991 - One cancellation: 1. ORAPEX 91 Books for May 3. The cancellation was applied to the No. 8 (New Brunswick) envelope bearing the picture of J. R. Hooper.

Dr. Geldert Envelope (1992)

Orapex 1992 - Two cancellations: 1. Jacques Cartier for May 2; and 2. Ships for May 3. The cancellation was applied to the No. 10 (Crowfoot Beam) envelope bearing the picture of Senator James A. Calder and the No. 8 (Quadrant scales) envelope.

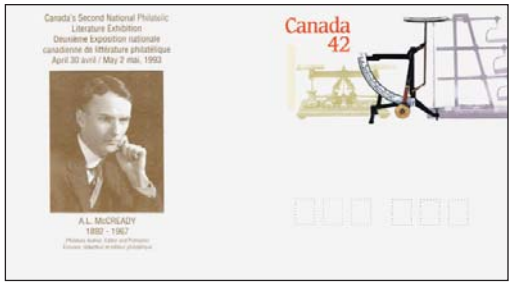
2 CNPLE 1993 - Four cancellations: 1. Popular Stamps 2 CNPLE May 2; 2. RPSC Royale May 1; 3. Beaver stamp Royale April 30; and 4. Orapex Royale May 1. The four cancellations were applied to the No. 10 (Crowfoot Beam) envelope and the No. 8 (Quadrant scales) envelope bearing the picture of A.L McCready.

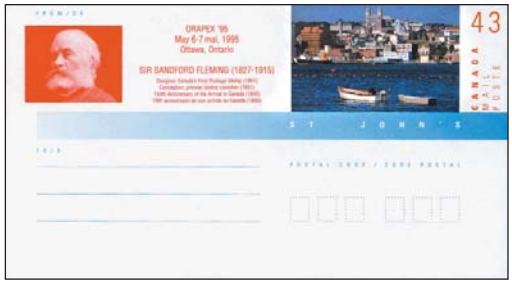
The Cities Special Postal Envelopes (1994-1995)

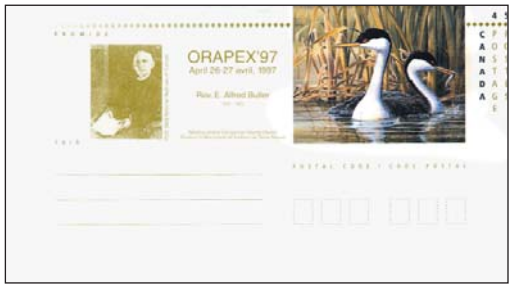
Orapex 1994 - Two cancellations: 1. N. Charles Sparks for May 8; and 2. V... for May 7. The cancellations were applied to the No. 8 (Regina) envelope and the No. 10 (Halifax) envelope bearing the picture of Nicholas Charles Sparks. The No. 8 envelope has both cancellations applied on it together.

3 CNPLE 1995 - Four cancellation: 1. Popular Stamps with 3 CNPLE for May 6. 2. Flag - 1945 Victory Europe for May 7. 3. 1945 Victory Europe for May 6; and 4. Orapex National Postal Museum 6&7 1995. The second cancellation was applied to the No. 10 (Fredericton) envelope bearing the picture of A.L. McCready. All four cancellations appear on the same envelope together.

Orapex 1995 - Three cancellations: 1. 1945 Victory Europe for May 6; 2. 1945 Victory Europe for May 7; and 3. Popular Stamps with 3 CNPLE for May 6. The cancellations were applied to the No. 8 (St. John's) envelope bearing the picture of Sir Sandford Fleming. The second cancellation was applied to the No. 10 (Fredericton) envelope bearing the picture of Sir Sandford Fleming.







The Birds of Canada Special Postal Envelopes (1996-2003)

Orapex 1996 - Three cancellations: 1. KOA for May 4; 2. ORAPEX for May 4 and 5; and 3. UNICEF ORAPEX 96 for May 6. The cancellations were applied to the No. 10 (Puffin) envelope bearing the picture of Frederick Jarrett. Cancellations 1 and 3 were applied to No. 8 (Pileated Woodpecker) envelope.

4 CNPLE 1997 - Two cancellations: 1. Castle - John Cabot for April 26; and 2. Popular Stamps with 4 CNPLE for April 26. The cancellations were applied to the No. 10 (Puffin) envelope bearing the picture of the Honourable George Carlyle Marler.

Orapex 1997 - Two cancellations: 1. Castle - John Cabot for April 26; and 2. Ship - John Cabot for April 27. The cancellations were applied to the No. 8 (Grebe) and No. 10 (Bluebird) envelopes bearing the picture of Rev. E. Alfred Butler. Both these envelopes also have both cancellation used together on one envelope.

Orapex 1998 - Two cancellations: 1. 2c Imperial Penny Postage stamp for April 25; and 2. 150 University of Ottawa or April 26. The cancellations were applied to the No. 8 (Finch) and No. 10 (Owl) envelopes bearing the picture of Sir William Mulock. The No. 10 envelope has both cancellations used together on it.

Orapex 1999 - Two cancellations: 1. 17c Canadian flag of Newfoundland stamp for April 24; 2. 14c Newfoundland Labrador stamp for April 25. The cancellations were applied to the No. 8 (Wood-

Value and Description Size 8 (Stamp Design) Size 10 (Stamp Design) Cancellation

1. 40¢ — Hooper for Orapex 1991
The World Philatelic Youth Exhibition Special Postal Envelopes New Brunswick
1. ORAPEX 91: 91-05-03

2. 40¢ — Sen. J. A. Calder for Orapex 1992
Postal Scales Special Postal Envelopes Quadrant Scales Crowfoot Beam Scales
1. ORAPEX 92: 92.05.02
2. ORAPEX 92: 92-05-03

3. 42¢ — A. L. McCready for 2nd CNPLE
Postal Scales Special Postal Envelopes Quadrant Scales Crowfoot Beam Scales*
1. CNPLE: 1993.5.02.
2. With four cancellations

4. 43¢ — Nicholas C. Sparks for Orapex 1994
Cities Special Postal Envelopes Regina Halifax
1. ORAPEX 94: 94.05.07
2. ORAPEX 94: 94.05.08

5. 43c. — A. L. McCready for 3th CNPLE
Birds of Canada Postal Envelopes Fredericton
1. ORAPEX 95: 95.05.07
2. With four cancellations

6. 43¢ — Sir Sanford Flemming for Orapex 1995
Cities Special Postal Envelopes St. John's
1. ORAPEX 95: 95.05.06
2. ORAPEX 95: 95.05.07
3. 3rd National Exhibition of Philatelic Literature : 6-V-1995

7. 43¢ — Sir Sanford Flemming for Orapex 1995
Cities Special Postal Envelopes Fredericton
1. ORAPEX 95: 95.05.07

8. 45c. — Frederick Jarrett for Orapex 1996
Birds of Canada Postal Envelopes Pileated Woodpecker
1. ORAPEX 96: 96.05.04
2. Two other cancellations

9. 45c. — George Carlyle Marler for 4th CNPLE
Birds of Canada Postal Envelopes Puffin
1. ORAPEX '97: 1997-04-26
2. 4th National Exhibition of Philatelic Literature

10. 45c. — Rev. E. Alfred Butler for Orapex 1997
Birds of Canada Postal Envelopes Grebe Blue Bird
1. ORAPEX '97: 1997-04-26
2. ORAPEX '97: 1997-04-27

11. 45c. — Sir William Mulock for Orapex 1998
Birds of Canada Postal Envelopes Finch Owl
1. ORAPEX '98: 1998.04.25
2. ORAPEX '98: 1998.04.26

12. 46c. — Collin H. Bayley for Orapex 1999
Birds of Canada Postal Envelopes Hairy Woodpecker
1. ORAPEX '99: 1999.04.24
2. ORAPEX '99: 1999.04.25

13. 46c. — Henry Heckler for Orapex 2000
Birds of Canada Postal Envelopes Warbler Blue Jay
1. ORAPEX 2000: 2000-05-06
2. ORAPEX 2003: 2000.05.06-07

14. 47c. — Major E.R. Toop for Orapex 2001
Birds of Canada Postal Envelopes Lapland Longspur Golden Eagle
1. ORAPEX 2001: 2002.05.05
2. ORAPEX 2001: 2003.05.06

15. ND — Ralph D. Mitchener for Orapex 2002
Birds of Canada Postal Envelopes American Goldfinch Scarlet Tanager
1. ORAPEX 2002: 2002.05.04
2. ORAPEX 2002: 2002.05.05

16. ND — Raymond A. Jamieson Q.C. for Orapex 2003
Birds of Canada Postal Envelopes American Goldfinch Scarlet Tanager
1. ORAPEX 2003: 2003.05.03
2. ORAPEX 2003: 2003.05.04

TABLE 1- Special Postal Stationery by the RA Stamp Club

pecker) envelope bearing the picture of Colin H. Bayley. It is interesting to note that the show was on April 23 and 24 and the cancellations were April 24 and April 25 (an error).

Orapex 2000 - Two cancellations: 1. 1840 One penny for May 6; and 2. 1840 One penny-Philately for May 6-7. The two cancellations were applied to the No. 8 (American Goldfinch) and No. 10 (Scarlet Tanager) envelopes bearing the picture of Henry Heckler.

Orapex 2001 - Two cancellations: 1. 1851 Three cent Beaver for May 5; and 2. RA 40th Exhibition for May 6. The two cancellations were applied to the No. 8 (Lapland Longspur) and the No. 10 (Golden Eagle) envelopes bearing the picture of Major (Ret.) E.R. "Ritch" Toop.

Orapex 2002 - Two cancellations: 1. Tulips and Windmill for May 4; and 2. Tulip and flags for May 5. The two cancellations were applied to the No. 8 (American Goldfinch) and the No. 10 (Scarlet Tanager) envelopes bearing the picture of Ralph D. Mitchener.

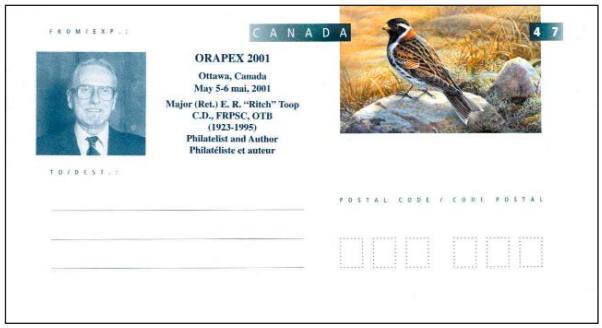
Orapex 2003 - Two cancellations: 1. Bi-plane for the May 3; and 2. Modern Jet plane for May 4. The two cancellations were applied to the No. 8 (American Goldfinch) and the No. 10 (Scarlet Tanager) envelopes bearing the picture of Raymond A. Jamieson Q.C.

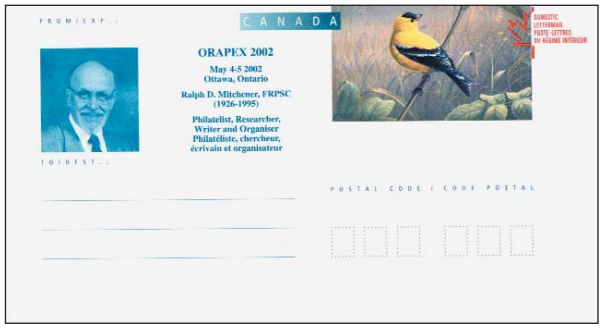
The illustrations on the envelopes will help identify the various types of covers that were issued.

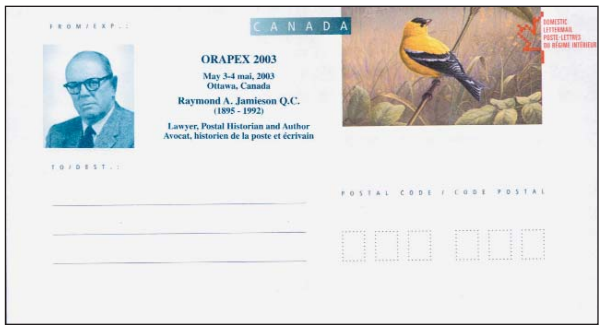
Concluding Remarks

Special postal envelopes are now accepted philatelic items that are listed under postal stationery in specialized catalogues on the subject. These listings concentrate on mint envelopes and not on cancellations used on the envelopes. As a result, they fail to catalogue the various envelopes that exist with different cancellations. This article attempts to fill that void. It should be noted that only the main cancellations used are indicated and combinations are not indicated.

* *I would like to acknowledge the assistance of Steve Mulvey from the RA Stamp Club for providing me with information and illustrations. He is not responsible for any errors or shortcomings in this article.*







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2. **Joseph Monteiro, *Definitive Postage Stamps of Canada (1953-2004)*, Volume V, 2004.**

1898 Map Stamp

The lower quarter sheet of the engraved Plate 5 proof of the Map Stamp, Lot 1833 from the ABN Co. Auction.

By Kenneth A. Kershaw & Fred Fawn

In the previous article in this series [1] a number of features of the secondary plate proof were established, but with the much larger number of positions now available, the pattern sequence of re-entry features and additional engraved changes can be extended and the previous findings fully confirmed. The auction catalogue of the *American Bank Note Company* archival material listed lot 1833 as "1898, 2¢ Christmas, Black plate proof on wove (85P), a bottom right comer block of 25 with imprint...".

Figure 1. The proof block, Positions 56-60/96-100.

Since 1990 this quarter sheet has been part of the Fawn "Imperial Penny Postage 1898" collection. These plate proofs were all originally listed in the ABN Co. catalogue with a number of Plate 4 full-colour proof blocks. The catalogue indicated neither Plate 4 nor Plate 5 on any of the blocks. A closer examination was made in 1991 - 1992, but without today's technology. The comparison of the engraved and full-colour quarter sheets, was made with the Canadian Postal Archives' full proof sheet of Plate 4. The various guide lines & dots, and particularly the buffed guide marks between the rows of stamps on both, were identical and it appeared that they came from the same printing base. The buffed lines between the rows correspond to pencil markings on the original plate lay-out held by the archives and their Plate 4 proof sheet. These distinctive buffed markings are not found on any of the various proofs held by the archives of Plates 1, 2, 3 or 5. Equally, the horizontal lines "between the rows" are quite distinctive and observed only on the archive Plate Proof number 4. The concensus at the time was that "these appear to be ink smudges possibly the result of an attempt to remove guide markings between each of the rows". However, the recent examination by Kershaw immediately showed the engraved proof was definitely Plate 5

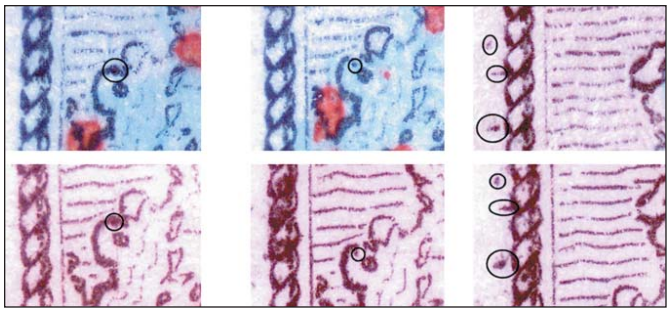

Figure 2. Guide dot configurations in positions 67 & 68, together with the pattern of marks in the left margin of position 76, just above the Tonkin Gulf. The upper scans are taken from Kershaw [2], from examples of the final printing. These are contrasted with the corresponding positions in the plate proof which match them closely. The marginal marks in position 76 are unique to the entire plate and solidly confirm the plate 5 status of this proof block.

Absolute identification of the Plate 5 status of this block of 25 stamps does however demand an exact examination of a number of replicate guide dots in

the Tonkin Gulf area scattered throughout the block. Recent aquisition of a final plate proof of position 100 also allows a remarkable comparison of the two proofs for this position. Methods used here follow those used previously with x's 60 scans from the QX3 computer microscope with images readily transfered to a selected computer file [2].

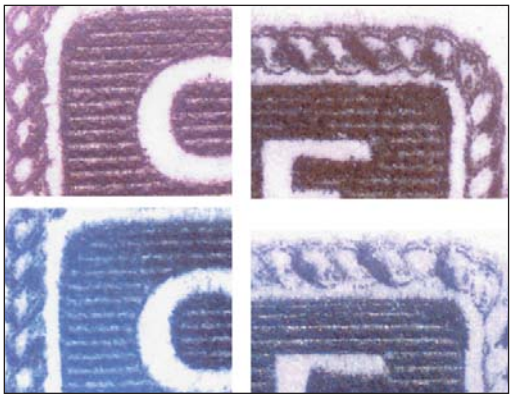

Figure. 3. A comparison of the strong cable re-entry in position 96, in the proof and commercial printings (above & below respectively). In the later commercial printings some wear is evident.

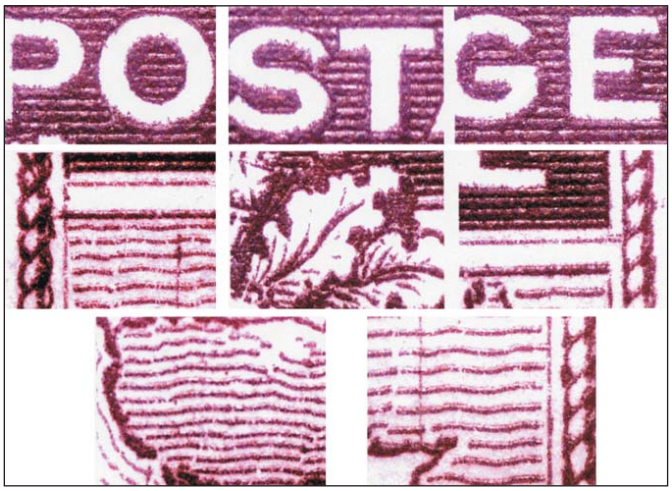

Figure 4. On closer examination the plate proof reveals an extensive re-entry in addition to the heavily doubled cable. The whole of the upper part of the image is doubled including the running title, with the neat-line above, & hatch lines in Asia & China, as well as the decorative leaves & crown.

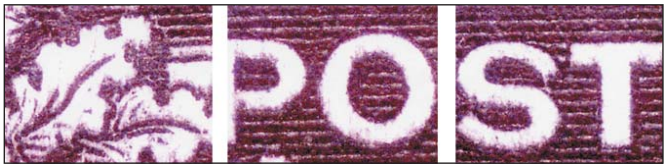

Figure 5. The equivalent, although less obvious doubling in the central leaf motif, as well as in "POSTAGE", in the commercial issues of position 96.

Confirmation of the Plate 5 Status of the Proof Block.

The guide dot in position 67 is just NW of Hainan Island in the Tonkin Gulf and is distinctive and clear (Fig. 2). Similarly, the guide dot in position 68 is large, just due N. of Hainan Island, and embedded in the coastline of China. The pattern of marks in the margin of position 76 are unique for the whole of Plate 5 and the exact match with the pattern in the proof block is unmistakable (Fig. 2). Additional confirmation of the Plate 5 status is also found in Figs. 10 & 11. These Plate 5 proofs were all originally listed in the ABNCo's archive auction catalogue mixed in with a number of Plate 4 colour proof blocks, perhaps creating some confusion as a result, with purchasers assuming that these also were plate 4 proof blocks. We have shown now irrefutably that all this material is Plate 5 and owners of the remaining material should be aware of this.

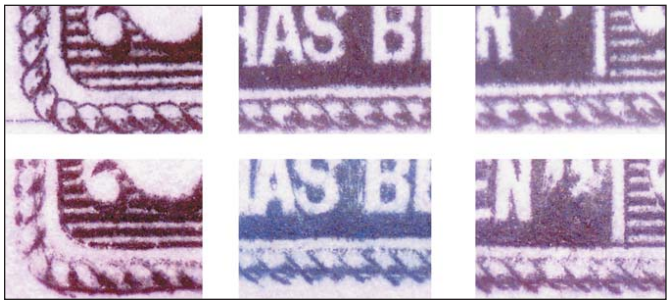

Figure 6. The re-entry in the lower cable in the proof block, position 98 above, with the equivalent lower cable from the later commercial printings below. The later printings show an additional clear re-entry in the extreme left lower cable, completely absent in the plate proof.

Re-entries

Two re-entries are present in the proof quarter sheet, positions 96 and 98. In position 96 there is a very strong re-entry at the top and right, with clear doubling, and with a doubled cable top left (Fig. 3). There is also extensive doubling throughout the entire upper half of the stamp. This is the most evident on the right-hand side, with doubling of the hatch lines in Asia, the right-hand cable, and the neat-line above China. In the central crown and leaves the doubling is less conspicuous (Fig. 4). Similarly, the doubling of the hatch lines in North America is faint. In the later commercial issues the doubling is still evident although very much less obvious. The doubling in "POSTAGE is still quite clear despite some wear as is the doubling in the veins of the decorative leaf (Fig. 5). This extensive doubling was, however, completely overlooked entirely by Kershaw [3].

Position 98 shows a more complex history, with only faint evidence in the proof block, of a re-entry in the lower cable towards the right-hand end. In the commercial printing though this re-entry is obliterated during the retouch to the lower cable but there is now a new re-entry lower left (Fig. 6). When the plate was extensively re-entered after it had worn so quickly, many re-entries were added to this lower right quarter plate. It is probably at this time the additional re-entry in position 98 was made. Other examples of these later re-entries are also given in Figs. 8 & 12-13.

Comparison of Positions 100 in the Secondary & Final

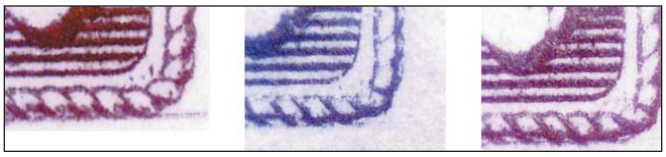

Figure 7. The plate proof, position 97 with guide line, is contrasted with the first commercial printing before re-entry in the centre, and with the final state, on the right. Both these later states have the strong re-touch line through the bottom of the lower cable, then curving up the right-hand cable.

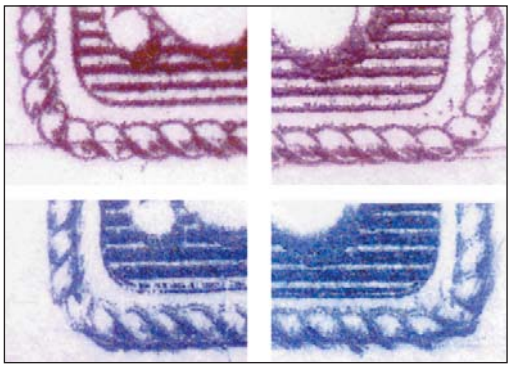

Figure 8. Plate proof position 99, with guide line, contrasted with the first commercial printing re-touched the length of the lower cable, and now heavily re-entered throughout the entire length of the lower cable, in this final commercial printing. [3]

Plate Proofs

In the secondary proof position 100 has a strong guide line running through the lower cable, very clearly seen on the left hand side. Again there is no evidence of any retouch line, and no tool mark below "WE". On the right, the guide line is again visible but the cable links are clean and simple.

In the final 4th state proof, printed after the numerous re-entries had been made, there is very obvious doubling lower left below the numeral box. There is also now a tool mark below "WE" which

is a diagnostic character of this position in the final issue. The retouch to the lower cable is very evident. On the right it is clear that many of the cable links have also been additionally strengthened with obvious strong as well as faint tool "spurs". This is particularly obvious under "HAS BEEN".

Absence of Lower Cable Retouches, and Presence - Absence of Spurs

Although it has been shown previously that there was no re-touch to the lower cable in these secondary engraved Plate 5 proofs [1], two additional characteristic examples are given above with the equivalent scans from the final commercial printing (Figs. 7-8).

In addition to the retouches to the lower cable there were also re-touches to isolated links of the cable in several positions. In position 67 these spurs are already in place, and in the later commercial printings they remain (Fig. 9). Similarly, cable tooling and the associated spurs in position 100 in the final plate proof has been also discussed above.

Plate Wear and the Final Series of Re-entries

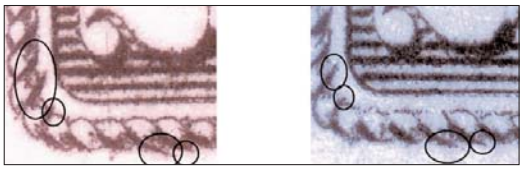

Figure 9. A comparison of the tool marks in the corner of position 67 in the plate proof with those in later commercial printing.

The evidence from the dated cancellations of Plate 5 Map stamps suggests that the initial commercial plate became worn remarkably quickly. The reason remains obscure but comparison with the current plate proof show how much wear occurred before the final series of re-entries was undertaken. Two examples are presented below from positions 86 & 89 where examples of the initial commercial printing as well as the final printings after re-entry are available for comparison (Fig. 10 & 11).

In position 86, the Tonkin Gulf area in the plate proof provides clear guide dots that provide additional evidence of the Plate 5 origin of the plate with clear crisp lines in this first state. In contrast, the first state commercial issue is extremely thin and as a result was one of the many positions re-entered to allow a stronger image to be available for the final commercial printing (Fig. 10). Position 89 in the plate proof similarly provides a clear dark image with the corresponding commercial printings much weaker (Fig. 11).

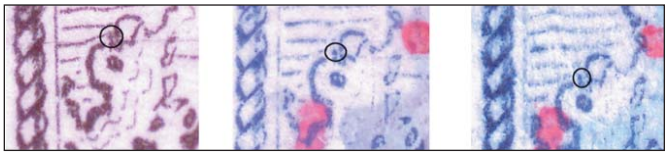

Figure 10. The comparative sequence in position 86 of plate proof, first state commercial printing, a final commercial printings showing the progressive plate wear and final doubling with the re-entry. The guide dot in China due north of Hainan Island again offers additional confirmation of the plate 5 origin of the plate proof. (After Kershaw 3).

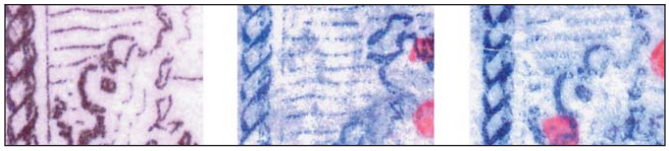

Figure 11. The comparative sequence of plate proof in position 89 with first state commercial printing, a final commercial printings, showing the progressive plate wear and final doubling with the reentry. The guide dot in China due north of Hainan Island again offers additional confirmation of the plate 5 origin of the plate proof. (After Kershaw 3).

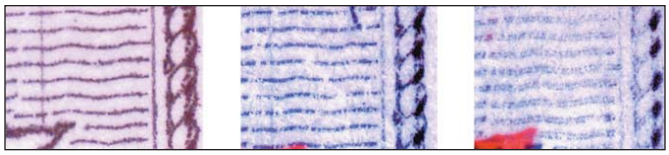

Figure 12. The comparative sequence of plate proof in position 59 with first state commercial printing and final commercial printings showing the progressive plate wear and final doubling after the re-entry.

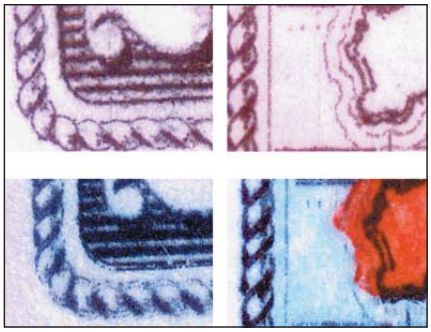

Figure 13. The first state plate proof (above) position 88, is crisp without any doubling at all and this position was not re-entered until the updating of the plate for the final commercial printing when the lower left corner was re-entered producing doubling in the cable as well as the lines of latitude. (After Kershaw 3).

There were a considerable number of late re-entries made to the plate in an effort to keep it viable and Kershaw [3] lists the following positions in the lower right quarter that were re-entered: Positions 56, 57, 59, 68, 76, 77, 86, 87, 88, 89, 96, 97, 98, 99 & 100. In addition to Fig. 8 above we provide two further examples: Firstly, position 59 with extensive doubling in the right hand cable and hatch lines of Asia. The position of the re-entry is somewhat unusual since mainly re-entries appear to be focused on the upper & lower corners where presumably wear to the plate was the most extensive and visually evident. Secondly, position 88 with superb doubling of the lines of latitude just west of Australia immediately above the re-entered corner (Figs. 12-13).

Discussion

The evidence provided here from this remarkable plate proof quarter sheet fully confirms the lack of re-touch strengthening to the lower cable reported in the first article of this series. It is clear that all the engraved proof blocks sold in the ABN Co. archive sale, including the first proof block described previously [1] as well as the quarter sheet described here, are all secondary plate proofs. Thus the primary proof is the first printing of the engraved plate which is carefully examined and any weakness marked on the proof sheet. This marked sheet is then returned to the siderographer and engraving changes made. A secondary proof is then printed and again this is checked for any remaining weakness. in the case of the plate 5 secondary proof here the lower cable was obviously considered unsatisfactory and the retouched lower cable then put in place. Presumably a "tertiary" proof was printed probably deemed satisfactory and the plate then printed commercially. Thus, the proof blocks from the ABN Co. sale are the secondary proof sheets with some re-entries but no cable re-touch below. The re-touched cables are all evident in the first commercial printing, but with apparently many unchanged positions centrally located and these positions will all be first state. There is, however, a precise sequence of change in the lower cable with the initial re-entries that produced the second state, the added re-touch line producing a third state, and then additional further re-entry sequences before the final commercial printing. This produces a fourth state in the some of the lower cable positions accompanied by the abundant re-entries in the central body of the plate which are then all second states. The comparison of position 100 in the two plate blocks used here show clearly this fourth state with the new re-entry at the lower right.

All we have to do now is find the missing position 91 from the secondary proof; if it still exists... What a find it would make!

However, we now have evidence from 8 out of the 10 positions in the lower row of stamps that we have documented, all showing the absence of a line re-touch through the lower cable. Thus, Kershaw [1] shows positions 92-94 without a lower cable re-touch line, and here in the lower right quarter sheet the identical lack of a retouch line through positions 96-100.

Accordingly, it becomes quite evident that position 91 which was missing from the original lower left quarter block sold in the ABN Co. sale would also lack a re-touch line in this secondary plate proof. The first commercial printing of position 91 we know already shows the major re-entry [2] and it is most unlikely that it was treated any differently from all the other positions on the lower cable. Thus, in the secondary proof the reentry would be there as a second state without a cable retouch. Subsequently position 91, the major reentry, is now seen as the third state after the lower cable re-touch had also been added. All we have to do now is find the missing position 91 from the secondary proof if it still exists. Sadly it had already been removed from the lower left engraved quarter plate proof sheet prior to the ABN Co. auction. What a find it would make!

The quarter sheet described here, is also pivotally important in that it provides conclusive evidence as to which of the re-entry positions in the lower right quarter were entered immediately after the primary plate was examined and this part of the plate only a two of these positions appear to have been re-entered. Subsequently extensive re-entering took place before the final commercial printing in an effort to upgrade its worn cable corners in numerous positions. The two re-entries only in this lower right quarter sheet block contrast with the 15 re-entries reported by Kershaw [3] for the corresponding lower quarter sheet in the final printings and thus 13 additional re-entries must have been made just before the final printings from the plate including position 100 as is clear above. The extensive re-entries and cable re-touch, in the bottom row of stamps points to a considerable level of weakness, which was also most evident in the block of 6 stamps described previously [1].

Again, this larger sample of the secondary plate proof provides an example of tool re-touches with attached tool slippage as spurs in isolated positions in the body of the plate. These were not seen at all in the proof block of 6 [1] but from the evidence seen here, it appears that some of these may have been added to other positions on the plate, and Kershaw [3] documents positions 10, 67, 72, 73, 85, & 96 all having spurs from tool slippage.

Finally, although we have only so far found, two examples of material from positions 96-100 from

the first commercial printing, the evidence reported here now enforces a re-adjustment of first, second & third state rank to these positions. Thus, position 96 occurs with the initial re-entry, the second state, without a re-touched lower cable initially, and commercial printings, with the re-touched lower cable in place, the third state. Position 97 similarly is also now known to occur as a second and third state. Position 98 would appear to have been re-entered initially, then had the lower cable retouched, and finally a second late re-entry, which represents second, third, & fourth states, comparable with other similar examples reported previously. [1]

So far we have not been able to recover any obvious examples from the first commercial printing of positions 99 & 100. Clearly in the proof quarter sheet there are no re-touched lower cables, or re-entries. In the final plate proof the lower left corner in position 100 is now strongly re-entered matching the final commercial printings. Accordingly position 100 occurs as second & third states only.

Hopefully in the future, additional examples of the Plate 5 proofs will surface and more information become available. However, it seems that the majority of the re-entries that were made in the body of the plate were all made just prior to the final printing and after rapid wear had occurred. All of the first printings we have so far recovered are simply identified by their lack of doubling [2] which supports this conclusion. It seems most probable at the moment that virtually all of the initial re-entries were restricted to the lower two rows of the plate whereas the majority of those in the body of the plate were all done during the final phase of plate re-entries just before the final commercial printing.

References

1. **A black and white plate proof of the MAP STAMP, Plate 5, reveals a number of State 4 positions, and points to an unrecorded state for positions 91, the Major Re-entry of Plate 5. K A. Kershaw, *The Canadian Philatelist,* Sept/Oct 2004.**
2. **The 1898 Christmas Map Stamp: The extent and sequence of re-entries to Plate 5. Ken Kershaw and Roger Boisclair, *The Canadian Philatelist* No. 318 Sept/Oct 2003.**
3. **Plating the Canadian Xmas Map Stamp of 1898. III. Positions 1-100, Plate 5. Kenneth A. Kershaw Ph.D; D. Sc; F. R. S. C.**

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Phone / Tel : (_____) _____

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Name of Gift Giver / Nom de donateur : _____

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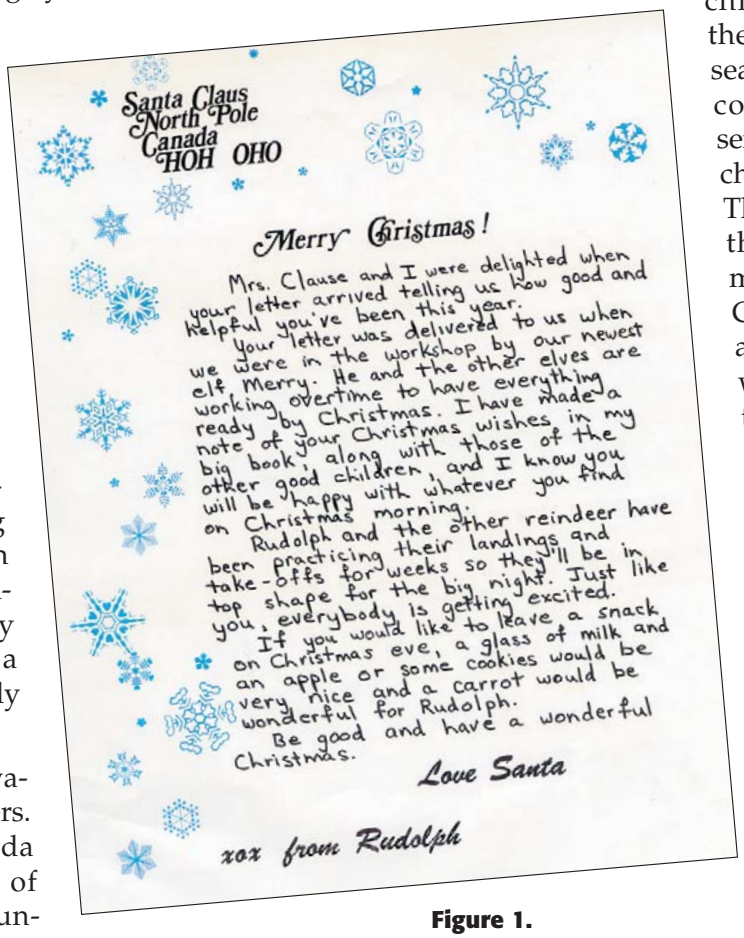
Canada Post partners with SANTA

By Nick R. Bocker

Children wrote letters to Santa asking for longed-for toys even before we learned of Santa's home at the North Pole from an 1869 poem by George P. Webster entitled *Santa Claus and his Works*. Those early "Dear Santa" letters, usually addressed to "Santa Claus" or "Heaven," or simply to a nearby large city or town, went largely unanswered.

Eventually, Department stores such as Eaton's and the Bay got into the act as another way of publicizing their toy departments in an effort to increase toy sales during the Christmas season. Post offices would send letters addressed to Santa to a nearby Department store where store employees would answer them on attractively illustrated letterhead depicting a holiday setting with Santa in the foreground engaged in some customary activity such as reading a letter from a child or busily building a toy.



Santa Claus
North Pole
Canada
HOH OHO

Merry Christmas!

Mrs. Clause and I were delighted when your letter arrived telling us how good and helpful you've been this year.

Your letter was delivered to us when we were in the workshop by our newest elf Merry. He and the other elves are working overtime to have everything ready by Christmas. I have made a note of your Christmas wishes in my big book, along with those of the other good children, and I know you will be happy with whatever you find on Christmas morning.

Rudolph and the other reindeer have been practicing their landings and take-offs for weeks so they'll be in top shape for the big night. Just like you, everybody is getting excited.

If you would like to leave a snack on Christmas eve, a glass of milk and an apple or some cookies would be very nice and a carrot would be wonderful for Rudolph.

Be good and have a wonderful Christmas.

Love Santa

xox from Rudolph

Figure 1.

The year 1982 marks a watershed for Santa reply-letters. It was the year that Canada Post, with the assistance of employee and retiree volunteers, affectionately known as "elves," launched its official Santa letter-writing program. With the help of these volunteers, the program grew faster than line-ups for a Harry Potter movie. Only one year after the program was launched, Canada Post volunteers mailed 80,000 letters to children in its York (Toronto) Division alone; by comparison, elves sent out a respectable 22,000 letters in the year that the program was launched. [1]

Twenty years later, the dedicated corps of volunteers had grown to more than 15,000 and answered over a million letters from all regions of Canada and from numerous foreign countries. [2]

Letters in more than two dozen languages arrive at Canada Post from children from around the globe each holiday season and the devoted corps of volunteers send reply letters in the child's own language. This widespread belief that Santa Claus makes his home in Canada should not be all that surprising when one considers the country's geographic location: its landmass extends past the North Magnetic Pole.

Canada Post, perhaps unwittingly, granted Santa Canadian citizenship when it introduced its unique postal code system in the early 1970s. When the post office assigned the H0H 0H0 postal code to Santa's North Pole residence his domicile in Canada became official. HO HO HO is a near-universal expression of happiness and cheerfulness and when people from around the globe see the H0H 0H0 postal code, the precise location of Santa's home whether on sea ice at the Geographic North Pole or at the North Magnetic Pole on Prince of Wales Island becomes a mute point.

In the early days of the Santa letter-writing program many volunteers sent replies written in longhand. The Crown corporation provided sample letters to assist volunteers in composing their replies but the letter's text was often penned by hand. [3] Al Arsenault, a 25-year Canada Post employee answered between 50 and 75 letters a season in those days. Eventually Canada Post supplied more pre-printed letters to speed up the process as volunteers needed only to address the envelope and, if they were so inclined, add a short note. "In recent years, I have been able to answer between 400 and 500," says Arsenault. "My record is 600." One volunteer from Prince Edward Island set a new personal record of 1,851 letters in 2002. [4]

An example of an early handwritten reply letter [5] is illustrated in Figure 1.

The early 1980's letters were plain in their appearance compared to the multi-coloured creations of later years with their elaborate and colourful artwork. One of the early pre-printed letters, which incidentally exists in three different but similar versions, were produced in monochrome by Canada Post. [6] A small illustration, showing Santa and Mrs. Claus decorating a door with a wreath, and the letter's header are printed in a dull shade of red on light blue paper stock (Fig. 2).

By the end of the decade, the letters had become quite ornate. The letters sent out in 1989 picture a Coca-Cola type Santa Claus, depicted in vivid shades of red, brown, tan, and blue, smiling warmly from behind a pair of spectacles. A row of elves drawn in vivid hues of red, green, yellow, and brown along the foot of the letter playing with a variety of toys completes the design (Fig. 3).

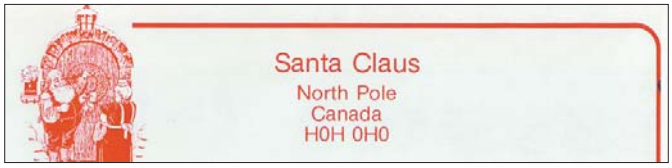


Figure 2.

Equally colourful is the 2003 letter. It was mailed in a cover illustrated with a corner card showing a smiling, half-hidden Santa behind a street letter box and a youngster being lifted up to the mailbox by an older companion to drop a letter, presumably addressed to Santa, into the mail slot (Fig. 4).

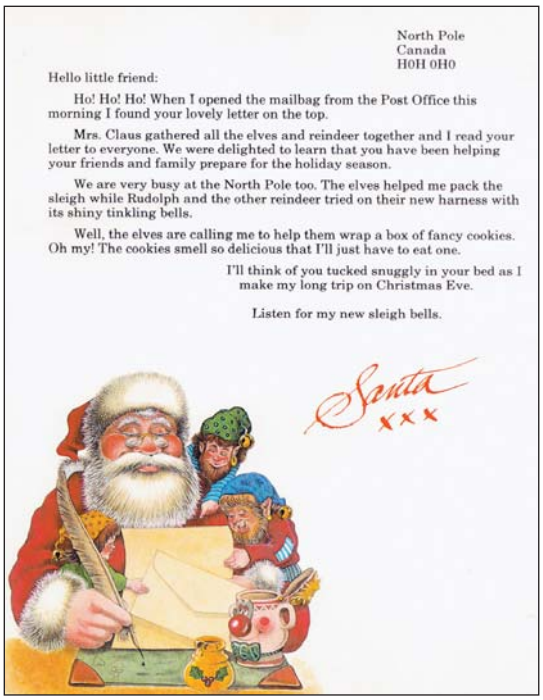
Figure 3.

Because reply letters are sent through the mail, Canada Post uses its permit mail system. Covers from the last several years have the permit number, 3130932, imprinted. Earlier ones omit the number and instead show only the "Letter Mail" and "Postage Paid" imprint. For several years, the boxed permit logo was augmented by additional artwork picturing a variety of "North Pole" thematic illustrations (Fig 5). Postal historians will be interested in the changing styles of these permit markings over the years since their introduction in 1982.

Although Santa reply letters have common holiday themes built around Santa, Mrs. Claus, elves, toys, and reindeer, each year's version differs in some respects from precious years. All the volunteers that provided information for this overview article emphasised the importance of not using the same letter for more than one season. To prevent letters from a specific year being sent in subsequent years, possibly to the same child, Canada Post requests

Figure 4.

Figure 5.



North Pole
Canada
H0H 0H0

Hello little friend:

Ho! Ho! Ho! When I opened the mailbag from the Post Office this morning I found your lovely letter on the top.

Mrs. Claus gathered all the elves and reindeer together and I read your letter to everyone. We were delighted to learn that you have been helping your friends and family prepare for the holiday season.

We are very busy at the North Pole too. The elves helped me pack the sleigh while Rudolph and the other reindeer tried on their new harness with its shiny tinkling bells.

Well, the elves are calling me to help them wrap a box of fancy cookies. Oh my! The cookies smell so delicious that I'll just have to eat one.

I'll think of you tucked snuggly in your bed as I make my long trip on Christmas Eve.

Listen for my new sleigh bells.

Santa
xxx

Figure 6. Above is English version, while the french version is shown below.

Pôle Nord
Canada
H0H 0H0

Mois des neiges

Mon petit chou,

Je suis tout heureux d'avoir reçu ta lettre, car je pense souvent à toi et j'avais hâte d'avoir de tes nouvelles.

De mon côté tout va comme sur des roulettes, même si je me lève très tôt pour travailler avec mes amis les lutins. Oh! Oh! Oh! Tu devines ce que nous préparons pour Noël, n'est-ce-pas?

Mon atelier déborde de jouets, de chansons, de gâteries de toutes sortes, et je vérifie chaque soir ma liste d'enfants sages que j'irai visiter la nuit de Noël.

Tu peux dormir tranquille, parce que ton nom est sur ma liste. Et je t'assure que j'ai bien hâte de t'embrasser et de voir comme tu as grandi!

Souris et fais de beaux rêves!
Je t'aime.

Père Noël
xxx

that unused letters at the end of each season be returned for destruction. As further assurance that children in one family do not receive identical letters, the Corporation produces up to three different letters for each season.

All these letters, not surprisingly, are produced in Canada's two official languages. The texts of the English and French letters are similar but they are not exact translations. Each version is an original composition (Fig. 6). In addition to the English and French letters, the Crown corporation produces similar versions in more than 25 foreign languages that volunteers can send to youngsters around the globe, explains Sandy Lough, Manager, Public Relations, Canada Post.

Letters that hinted at domestic problems in the child's home are culled and referred for special attention to someone who is trained to deal with troubled family situations. "Any sad-sounding letters had to be sent to a psychologist to be answered," says Karen Kelly, a letter-writing volunteer from Prince Edward Island.

"Sometimes we would receive letters from the most unlikely places," adds Kelly. She relates the case of a nursing-home resident who sent a letter to Santa. Kelly strongly advocates that volunteers not dismiss, out of hand, these types of letters. After confirming that the letter-writer was a nursing-home resident, Kelly sent a reply letter and subsequently learned that the incapacitated resident was simply thrilled to receive a reply to her letter to Santa. We tend not to think of our senior shut-ins warehoused in nursing homes and forget that someday we may end up there ourselves with very little to look forward to, according to Kelly. "Wouldn't you like to receive a reply, if faced with that prospect?" she asks.

For several years, Canada Post also provided its volunteer elves with reply letters designed for grade school classes. Although the artwork illustrating these letters is identical to those sent to individual children, the message is obviously different. For example, in one letter Santa informs the children how happy he and his elves are when an entire class gets together to write a letter. "Something else that

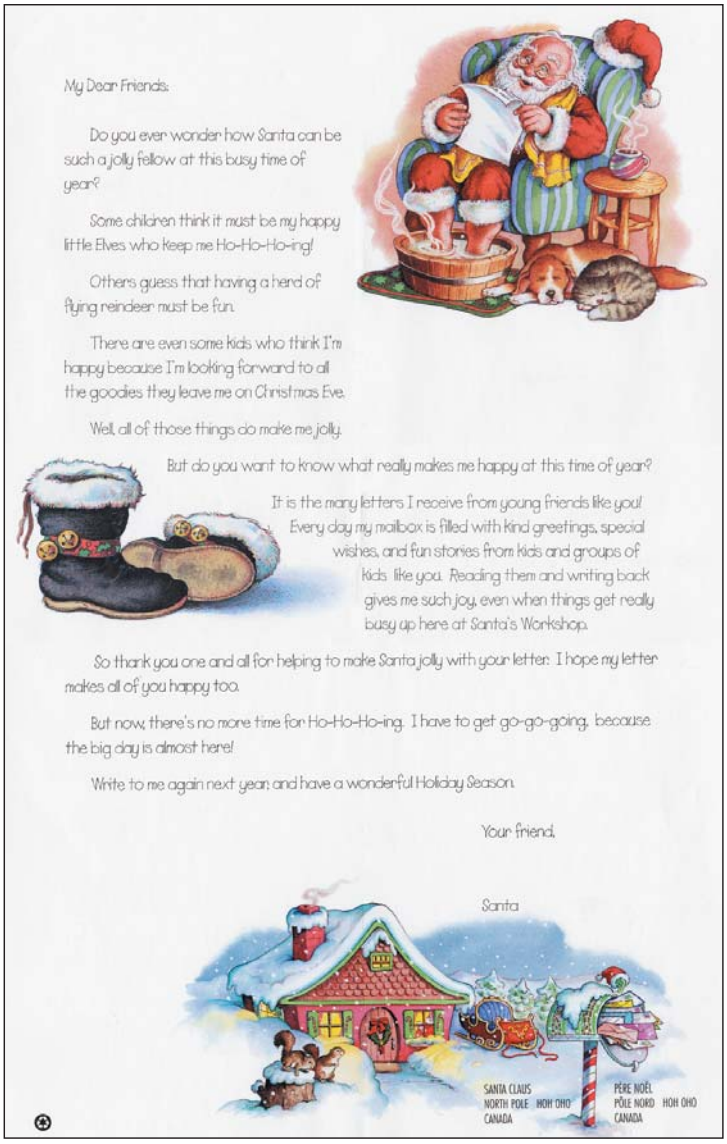
makes me happy is to see so many children asking for books," the letter adds. In another letter, Santa tells the class: "I hope you help out at home, especially at this busy time of year." What instantly differentiates these class letters from the individual ones is their size: they measure 10½ X 17 inches compared to 8½ x 11 inches for the normal size ones (Fig. 7). There are other significant differences between the classroom and individual style letters.

Unlike the French and English versions of letters going to individual youngsters, the classroom letters have identical messages probably because students in classes studying both French and English send and, therefore, receive replies in both languages. Reply letters destined for classrooms, like individual letters, are also produced in more than one version. The rationale is the same as that for individual letters: the danger of having identical replies sent to schools where children may have a brother or sister in another class who might also receive one of these letters.

With Canada Post's Santa letter-writing program now on firm footing in its third decade it is unlikely that a child's letter to Santa will go unanswered as happened in the years before Santa's home was established at his North Pole H0H 0H0 address. Nevertheless, this program could not function without the efforts of the 15,000-plus Canada Post volunteers who spend countless hours during the weeks leading up to Christmas making certain that every child who writes a "Dear Santa" letter receives a reply. We owe these dedicated elves our heartfelt thanks.

Season's Greetings to one and all!

Postscript: The Santa letter-writing program is an important part of Canada's cultural heritage and deserves a place in postal history. Without the assistance provided by several Canada Post Head Office employees in Ottawa, this article would not have been possible. Because volunteers operate much of the program some of its important aspects appear not to be well documented or readily available to researchers. In the years ahead, information about the program may become even more difficult to reconstruct. However, philatelists and postal historians are a resourceful lot and I am confident that they will rise to the challenge and unearth relevant details of a custom that has become a Canadian Christmas tradition.



My Dear Friends:

Do you ever wonder how Santa can be such a jolly fellow at this busy time of year?

Some children think it must be my happy little Elves who keep me Ho-Ho-Ho-ing!

Others guess that having a herd of flying reindeer must be fun.

There are even some kids who think I'm happy because I'm looking forward to all the goodies they leave me on Christmas Eve.

Well, all of those things do make me jolly.

But do you want to know what really makes me happy at this time of year?

It is the many letters I receive from young friends like you! Every day my mailbox is filled with kind greetings, special wishes, and fun stories from kids and groups of kids like you. Reading them and writing back gives me such joy, even when things get really busy up here at Santa's Workshop.

So thank you one and all for helping to make Santa jolly with your letter. I hope my letter makes all of you happy too.

But now, there's no more time for Ho-Ho-Ho-ing. I have to get go-go-going, because the big day is almost here!

Write to me again next year, and have a wonderful Holiday Season.

Your friend,

Santa

Figure 7.

REFERENCES:

1) **Letter of appreciation from Dawn Roper, Canada Post Corporate Communications, York Division, to volunteers, February 6, 1984.**
2) ***Performance*, October/November 2003, p.11.**
3) **Personal communication with Santa letter-writing volunteer, Al Arsenault, St. John, NB, April 26, 2004.**
4) **Communication with Karen Kelly, P.E.I., July 20, 2004.**
5) **Sample letter supplied by Angele Leganchuk, High Prairie, AB, July ??, 2004.**
6) **Letters: Courtesy of Jack Aldred, Toronto, ON, Canada Post Santa letter-writing volunteer.**

The following presentation was delivered by Michael Madesker, F.R.P.S.C., on the occasion of his signing the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists, philately's pre-eminent honour. The thoughts expressed here are as valid today as they were then. His address is being printed to mark his retirement from three terms for Youth Philately, 12 years as Chairman of the F.I.P. Commission.

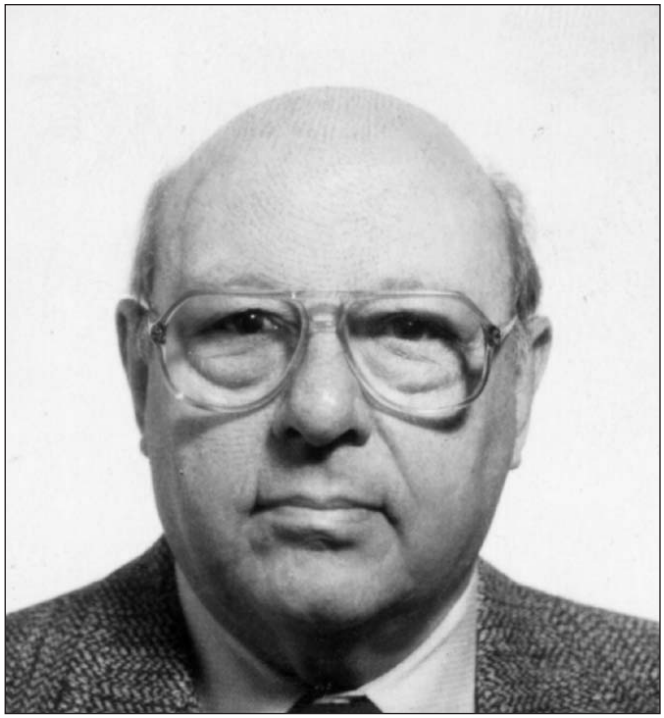
State of Youth Philately

In my vocabulary, the often used concept of comparing an easy task to child's play is a misnomer. Child's play is work involving a learning process, continuous development of skills, both, physical and mental. An adult, subjected to the same trials would be considered as upgrading his or her skills.

Respect for young people must include our understanding that they are people in transition, learning new skills, growing and strengthening their bodies, developing cognitive powers, learning to overcome adversity and, eventually, take our place in the theme of things. It is our responsibility to teach and guide these apprentices through the maze of our own knowledge while avoiding the pitfalls of our own errors. We must open the world to them rather than shackle them to our prejudices as stated facts. Hopefully, following this course, our descendants will be better people than we are.

Shielding young people from harm should not be tantamount to chaining them. Philately, in this context, while taken seriously, should be applied to young people considering their various levels of capabilities. Subjecting, at an early age, to regimentation will have the respondent turned away from the hobby. At early ages, arbitrarily assigned to those under 13, stamps and postal documents should be introduced as materials, building blocks of a project.

Stamps mixed with other media, defying philatelic orthodoxy, are acceptable as long as both deal with the subject at hand. Emphasis, in guiding these people, should be on cleanliness and accuracy with a gradual introduction to philatelic terms and rules. Some of the more advanced collectors, in this group, should be encouraged to enter local exhibitions where an appraisal of their work will find sympathetic guidance rather than a severe critique. With a fuller understanding of the principles of exhibiting, a young person will be ready to enter the ranks of junior philatelists and follow the rules of philatelic specialties.



Former F.I.P. Commission Chairman, Michael Madesker, RDP, F.R.P.S.C.

Formulating and planning a Youth Commission was begun by FIP in 1954. In 1958 the Commission came into being. Its first President, Mr. Hartwig Danesch, defined the new body, in his inaugural speech, in these terms: "Youth Philately is not a separate segment of philately like, perhaps, thematic philately or air mail philately,... rather that it merely deals with a classification by age, which as far as collecting is concerned extends into all fields of philately." The 1954 formulation of the Age Groups was based on universal academic criteria demonstrated through a person's ability to

express his or her views, identify and analyze a point of view, knowledge of mathematics, etc.

Age Group "A": 13 to 15 years old

Age Group "B": 16 to 17 years old

Age Group "C": 18 to 19 years old

Age Group "D": 20 to 21 years old

Recent advances in technology and educational techniques prompted a study in depth of the above configurations. As a result, the Commission is recommending to the 66th F.I.P. Congress in Madrid (held in October, 2000) to change the four groups into three to reflect current educational and employment realities. The new groups will be assembled as follows:

Age Group "A": 13 to 15 years old; remains unchanged

Age Group "B": 16 to 18 years old; adding 18 year-olds to former Group "B"

Age Group "C": 19 to 21 years old; a new formulation

This configuration will, in effect, eliminate the old Group "D" and create a new Group "C" incorporating 19, 20, 21 year-olds into one. This will reflect the reality of 19 year-olds and younger entering the work force and institutions of higher learning.

Provisions were made for those under 13, considered advanced, to enter international exhibitions within the Age Group "A" cognizant of the fact that they will be subject to restrictions on future advancement as is prescribed by F.I.P. Rules.

F.I.P. youth judges, until recently, came from the ranks of philatelists trained in the field as youth workers and advisers. Their understanding of the young mind, blended with experience in a chosen philatelic field, is unassailable. As of late, however, future international judges come into the fold with little or no experience working with the young on their collections. This phenomenon can be explained when one becomes aware of the sophistication and breadth of youth exhibits. Once confined, mainly to thematics and traditional philately, the new young collectors enter postal history, air mail and, yes, even revenues. The new judges are, usually, recruited at national exhibitions to judge a youth exhibit in their chosen specialty and through sheer fascination of what they see become involved in the complete field. These people are a definite asset to the whole area of philately, junior and senior, being able to prepare our young for the senior classes. Cross-accreditation further enriches the judging corps, one of the best trained in any exhibition.

In order to make sure that the new youth judges are up to the task, the F.I.P. Commission, in addition to the usual F.I.P. requirements, attached its own requirements. These requirements expect from the candidate a minimum of two years experience on the national level and attending a hands-on seminar. This culminates in an examination which one must pass before becoming an apprentice in the youth class. Being a youth judge is very demanding, much like child's play it requires constant growth, vigilance and improvement. The success of this rather severe regimen can be seen in the results achieved by former juniors entering senior exhibitions where they qualify for vermeil and large vermeil medals. We have even seen a few of our "graduates" obtaining gold medals at both, the national and international levels.

...they are people in transition, learning new skills, growing and strengthening their bodies, developing cognitive powers, learning to overcome adversity and, eventually, take our place in the theme of things.

Today we have a new phenomenon: Internet and e-mail. Where computers have initially cut into leisure time available to young collectors, these new technological advances have begun to reverse the trend. Young people, particularly in developed regions of the world, correspond with each other, exchange views and bring life back to their collections. It is becoming an increasingly important area for the F.I.P. Commission for Youth Philately and subject for an in-depth study. A soon-to-be-installed Website will be a tremendous help in our work to educate and advance young philatelists.

There are 56 countries, according to latest data, involved actively in youth philately. Activities range from guiding young collectors in their chosen fields to stratified programs. These programs divide young people into groups, from novices to the various levels of advancement. A member of a group, in order to advance from one level to another must take part in their levels of exhibitions and achieve a certain medal value. This type of pro-

gram depends heavily on a dedicated corps of volunteers, usually within a free-standing youth organization, and is often supported by a national organization and benefits from cooperation with national postal authorities.

In the stratified system, young collectors have the benefit of an organized program, acting much like a classroom. The young collectors learn their skills as a group and an imprint of this type of teaching can be traced to all the exhibits from a given system. This fosters an internal competition for more difficult subjects or better explanations of a subject rather than personal technical interpretation. The rules of composition, in these exhibits, are faithfully observed.

A common type of instruction given young collectors is on the club level with senior philatelists counselling the juniors. In this system, a young philatelist receives the benefit of years of experience and, likely, tutoring in a specialized field. There is less technical training and an increased requirement for personal input by the young philatelist. This system is used mainly in smaller communities and in less organized areas. The young collector has, therefore, less exposure to his or her peers and less competition on home turf. It is this group that generates most of the philatelic correspondence and stamp exchanges by mail. Whether it is through the internet, e-mail, or postal correspondence, they reach their peers and maintain an interest in collecting.

In the last few years we have encountered yet another player. Several countries, interested in promoting philately, rely on invited guests to present seminars and train youth workers. These workers are not always stamp collectors, in the conventional sense of the word, but are well versed in all the intricacies and rules of the game. This is the most interesting entry into the training field and one that is achieving astounding results. This method is a combination of home study, distance study and tutelage. The young collectors involved in it are avid correspondents, always eager for information. Those privileged to have presented seminars to these people are simply amazed at the depth of knowledge and maturity of the young collectors and the devotion of their tutors. Many of the highest junior awards, in the past three years, have come from this group.

One of the most frequently asked questions concerns the future of youth philately in our changing world. Human beings have been always gatherers. Evolving into an urban society has changed the scope of this activity but not the genetic influence. This will, undoubtedly, continue to evolve.

The changing moral values in the global society are bound to influence not only philately but all the phases of human life. We have seen, initially, a drop in collecting habits with the spread of material challenges following the end of the Second World War. Those that continued, have actually strengthened the field through study and research. Young people raised in affluent homes, in the industrial countries, had one thing in common with their impoverished peers in developing countries: sports. Collecting, albeit on a diminished scale, continued. Technological developments have further influenced our behaviour and habits. Yet, it is more difficult today to obtain a place in an international exhibition than it ever was.

Technological changes, a decade ago, caused yet another drop in young collectors coming into the fold only to be surpassed today by further advancements in electronic communications.

We have seen that countries without their own cadres of collectors not only found a way to bring philately in but have even excelled at it. Youth philately, today, is alive and well.

The collecting roller-coaster of very young people collecting, maturing and becoming junior collectors is familiar to all of us. A departure from philately on entering the work force or a school of higher education is a reality we all know well. Eventually, a proportion of these people, established in their occupations, return to philately. I have to be optimistic that this pattern will not change and possibly improve.

Youth philately, to echo and paraphrase my erstwhile mentor, Hartwig Danesch, only differs from senior classes in age classifications. Youth philately is intrinsically tied to the senior classes. We have a common future.

Please allow me, at this point, to draw your attention, once again, to the resiliency of the world's youth and their ability to perform and even surpass expectations. Succeeding generations, ours included, have been punctuated with destructive attitudes and wars. Let us trust that our descendants will build a better world not only philatelically but also physically and morally.

WASHINGTON 2006

Special room rates are available from seven different hotels within walking distance of the Washington DC Convention Center, site of the Washington 2006 international philatelic exhibition, May 27-June 3, 2006.

Initial reservations for hotel accommodations during W2006 have exceeded expectations, especially at the show's headquarters, the Renaissance Washington DC Hotel.

Here is the current list of properties offering discounts of up to 40% off regular prices for Washington 2006 visitors. Because the number of special-rate rooms in each hotel is limited, early reservations are advised.

Rates given are for single or double occupancy and are subject to the current 14.5% sales tax in the District of Columbia. Please note that parking fees, if any, are not included with these quotes.

Each * represents one city block from the Convention Center. All are within a half mile (1 km) radius of the site.

Renaissance Hotel:
999 9th Street, NW (*)
$169 per night

Grand Hyatt:
1000 H Street, NW (****)
$169 per night

Marriott at Metro Center:
775 12th Street, NW (****)
$149 per night

Four Points by Sheraton:
1201 K Street, NW (***)
$139 per night

Hamilton Crowne Plaza:
14th and K Street, NW (*****)
$119 per night

Red Roof Inn:
500 H Street, NW (****)
$115 per night

Wyndham Washington:
1400 M Street, NW (******)
$110 per night

Do not contact each hotel property asking for these rates, as they can only be booked through the W2006 Hotel Reservation Bureau, a separate organization handling room reservations.

You may go online at www.washington-2006.org to see up-to-the-minute room availability and make reservations. For people without Internet access, or who prefer not to register online, request a reservation form by mail from Washington 2006 and mail or fax the information to the Bureau. All reservation requests are on a first-come-basis and must include a credit card deposit. You will receive a confirmation typically in 24 hours if booked online or within 5-7 business days by mail. Cancellations and/or changes received up to March 27, 2006 will not be subject to a fee, otherwise a penalty will be incurred through the Hotel Reservation Bureau or selected hotel. Final payments will be settled with your hotel on arrival.

Read the complete deposit and cancellation policy online or accompanying the mailed reservation form before submitting it.

To receive a hotel reservation form by mail, send your request along with a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

Washington 2006 Hotel Reservations
PO Box 2006, Ashburn, VA 20146

Instructions on where to mail the completed form will be included.

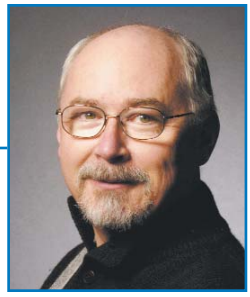
Although the exhibition has free admission, visitors must register in advance or in person to enter the hall. Advanced registration is preferred to avoid long lines at the show. Collectors should either register for the show online or request a separate show registration form to submit ahead of time.

Plan to attend
ROYAL*2005*ROYALE
Location: London, Ontario ▪
Date: May 27-29, 2005

PRESIDENT'S Page

la page du PRÉSIDENT

by / par Charles J.G. Verge



I write a bi-weekly stamp column for *The Ottawa Citizen*. I frequently receive correspondence or e-mails from readers asking a variety of questions. One such reader recently sent me a long list of questions seeking my advice on how to collect different types of Canadian stamps: self-adhesive, coils, souvenir sheets, se-tenant pairs and blocks, etc. I believe his last question might be of interest to our members. It has to do with living Canadians on stamps. My correspondent doesn't come out and say it but seeing living people on stamps is anathema to many collectors. As you will see by my answer, I'm all in favour. What are your views?

NHL All Stars – Doesn't this ongoing set violate the rule against honouring living people, other than royalty? If it's the All-Star game that is being honoured then why issue a set each year? The NHL was honoured in 1992 on its 75th anniversary. The All-Star game takes place every year, as does the Grey Cup, and various other sports awards that only warrant single issues.

This is a real debatable issue. First of all, there is no real and fast rule that says "no living people" nor, contrary to belief, is there a rule that says that we cannot honour a person on a Canadian stamp unless they have been dead for 10 years (except for deceased Governors General and Prime Ministers). The Americans have this steadfast rule and I presume most Canadians think that it also applies in Canada. It doesn't.

Back to living Canadians. The first living Canadian appeared on the Nursing/Health stamp of 1958 and since then many other living Canadians have appeared as models for generic people on stamps. The latest are the four soccer playing young ladies who appear on one of the two Athens Olympic Games stamps issued on July 28, 2004. They all are on teams located in Ottawa. Since the nurse – who was really a secretary who modelled for the nurse – I think

Toutes les deux semaines, j'écris une chronique philatélique dans le journal *The Ottawa Citizen*. Je reçois fréquemment des lettres ou des courriels de lecteurs qui me posent diverses questions. L'un de ces lecteurs me demandait récemment conseil sur la manière de collectionner différents types de timbres canadiens : autocollants, roulettes, feuillets, paires et blocs se-tenant... J'ai pensé que sa dernière question pourrait intéresser nos membres. Elle concernait les canadiens/canadiennes encore en vie figurant sur les timbres. Mon correspondant l'a dit à mots couverts mais la vue de telles personnes sur les timbres constitue un anathème pour de nombreux collectionneurs. Comme vous le constaterez d'après ma réponse, je suis complètement en faveur de cela. Qu'en pensez-vous?

Meilleurs joueurs de la LNH – Cette série continue n'enfreint-elle pas la règle qui interdit d'honorer des personnages vivants mis à part les membres de la royauté? Si c'est le match des étoiles qui est honoré, pourquoi donc émettre une série chaque année? La LNH a été honorée en 1992 pour son 75e anniversaire. Le match des étoiles a lieu chaque année, tout comme la Coupe Grey et d'autres tournois sportifs qui ne donnent lieu qu'à des émissions uniques.

Ceci constitue un véritable débat. Tout d'abord, il n'existe aucune règle qui déclare clairement "aucune personne vivante" ni, contrairement à ce que l'on croit ordinairement, il n'en existe aucune qui précise que nous ne pouvons honorer une personne sur un timbre canadien que si cette dernière n'est pas décédée au moins 10 ans auparavant (sauf pour les gouverneurs généraux et premiers ministres décédés). Les Américains ont adopté cette règle ferme et je présume que la plupart des Canadiens pensent à tort qu'elle s'applique également dans notre pays.

Revenons aux Canadiens vivants. Le premier est apparu sur le timbre de 1958 en hommage aux infirmières du Canada et depuis, de nombreux autres Canadiens vivants y sont apparus comme modèles de personnes génériques. Les derniers en date furent les quatre jeunes joueuses de soccer qui sont apparues sur l'un des deux timbres des Jeux olympiques d'Athènes émis le 28 juillet 2004. Elles font toutes les quatre partie d'équipes à Ottawa. Depuis l'infirmière – qui était réellement secrétaire mais qui a servi de modèle comme infirmière – je pense que plus de 50 Canadiens vivants sont apparus sur des timbres, y

there have been more than 50 Canadians who are alive and are on Canadian stamps including the eight astronauts in 2003 and Barbara Ann Scott, one of the four living people on the Petro Canada stamp of 2000.

I, for one, would like to see more living Canadians on stamps without forgetting those of the past. If you want the hobby to survive you must "go with the times". Postal patrons don't want dead politicians and old historical events. That's for stamp collectors who are nostalgic for the years of small numbers of stamps issued in large quantities that are of little value today. Postal patrons, and they buy 80% of the stamps, want Shania Twain, Bryan Adams, and Céline Dion; cute puppies and pussycats; pretty flowers and birds; and trains, ships and planes. They also want hockey players, astronauts and events they can remember. They want nostalgia. To me it is incomprehensible that we cannot put people like Oscar Peterson on a stamp: Austria did this year and he is not an Austrian citizen.

At this time, Canada Post's Stamp Advisory Committee members, and I am one of them, are struggling with this issue and I think you will see, in the future, more live Canadian icons on stamps and nostalgic type of things that are 25 and 50 years old, not 100 and 400 although many of these are very important to our history and will still be commemorated.

I am sure our editor would welcome letters giving your position on this question.

My best wishes to all our readers and members for Happy and Joyous Holidays with friends and family.

compris les huit astronautes en 2003 et Barbara Ann Scott, l'une des quatre personnes vivantes sur le timbre Petro Canada de 2000.

Personnellement, j'aimerais voir davantage de Canadiens vivants sur nos timbres, sans pour autant oublier ceux du passé. Si vous voulez que notre passe-temps survive, il faut nous "mettre à la page". Les usagers des postes ne veulent pas voir des politiciens disparus ni de vieux événements historiques sur leurs timbres. Ceci est plutôt du goût des philatélistes nostalgiques des années où un petit nombre de timbres étaient émis en très grandes quantités qui n'ont plus grande valeur aujourd'hui. Les usagers des postes – qui achètent 80 % des timbres – veulent voir Shania Twain, Bryan Adams et Céline Dion. Ils veulent voir de ravissants petits chiots et chatons, de jolies fleurs et de beaux oiseaux, et aussi des trains, des navires et des avions. Ils veulent aussi voir des joueurs de hockey, des astronautes et des événements familiers à leur mémoire. Ils veulent un peu de nostalgie. Pour moi, il est incompréhensible que nous ne puissions voir des gens comme Oscar Peterson sur un timbre. L'Autriche l'a fait cette année et il n'est même pas autrichien.

Le Comité consultatif sur les timbres-poste de Postes Canada – dont je fais partie – étudie actuellement cette question, et je pense que nous verrons à l'avenir de plus en plus de personnages vivants canadiens et des faits nostalgiques qui remontent à 25 ou 50 ans et non pas à 100 ou 400 ans, bien qu'un grand nombre d'entre eux soient très importants pour notre histoire et seront de toute façon commémorés.

Je suis sûr que notre Éditeur serait heureux de recevoir des lettres indiquant votre position par rapport à la question.

Mes meilleurs voeux à tous nos lecteurs et membres et passez tous d'excellentes fêtes de fin d'année en famille et avec les amis.

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

for the next issue of *The Canadian Philatelist* is November 1, 2004

LA DATE LIMITE

pour soumettre votre publicité pour
***Le Philatéliste canadien* est le 1 novembre, 2004**

Jim Szeplaki, 103 Lakeshore Rd., Suite 202, St. Catharines, ON L2N 2T6
(905) 646-7744 ext. 223 • fax (905) 646-0995 • jims@trajan.ca

LETTERS / LETTRES

Dear Mr. Phillips,

The subject of this letter concerns the participation of Canada Post at Canadian philatelic exhibitions. I wrote to you in October 2003 in my capacity as chairman of Vanpex 2003 asking for your assistance to secure the participation of Canada Post at this major Canadian philatelic event. At that time your answer to me was very courteous but negative, as you explained that this sort of decision has to be made on the local level, as it is their budget. Fair enough. I contacted the locals and they weaseled out as well!

Somewhere I read that Canada Post is our country's third largest employer and with your title of Director, Philatelic Products for Canada Post your voice and opinion surely must carry considerable weight.

I would like to ask you to go to bat for us at the appropriate management levels where policy is determined. Let me elaborate:

Philately is a wonderful hobby to millions of people and to Canada Post it is a serious business, so serious in fact that Canada Post has set up its Philatelic Products Center in Antigonish to be a stand alone business entity. I understand that the center has in excess of ¼ million collectors on its mailing list and its net annual revenue is $50 million-plus. My guess is that in excess of 90% of the stamp products sold through the Philatelic section will never be used to pay for actual postal services thereby making this branch practically a part of the mint!

As with any well run business, a portion of the gross sales revenue has to be put back into advertising and public relations and it is this last item where in my opinion Canada Post is amiss.

I would like to suggest that there ought to be a management policy by the Philatelic Products branch which supports an active presence at Canada's major stamp shows, these being The RPSC (Royal) show wherever it is being held, Orapex in Ottawa, the Edmonton Stamp Show and Vanpex in Vancouver. In addition there could be one or two other major stamp exhibitions and bourses such as BNAPEX and PIPEX, both of which alternate between Canada and the U.S.

Canada Post is looked upon as the standard bearer at these major shows and it's absence is definitely noted by the hundreds of collectors who partake in the various events and who come to spend money and get the latest Canadian issues in all of their many varieties (booklets, complete panes, FDC's, corner blocks, etc. etc.)

I attended PIPEX (Pacific International Philatelic Exhibition) in Vernon, B.C. this year (June 11 - 13) and there was a Canada Post table manned by two very pleasant young ladies. They told me that they were employees of the Penticton post office and that while their expenses (gas, meals, etc.) were reimbursed, their time was unpaid and donated by them.

I find the above a scandalous example of Canada Post's management practice and in practical terms it is totally impossible for show managers to run from one postal franchise outlet to another in the hope to find one where the employees or the manager will donate his or her time for a three-day show! Moreover, while I am not privy to the sales figures of the Canada Post tables for a three-day show, I would make a small wager that they will show an actual financial profit.

Enough said. Please help, as all parties concerned will benefit from a more enlightened policy in this matter.

With best regards,
Pete Jacobi

PS: This year we were successful in attracting Canada Post's attendance through the personal efforts of Mrs. Laura Liberty of Canada Post's Philatelic section in Vancouver.

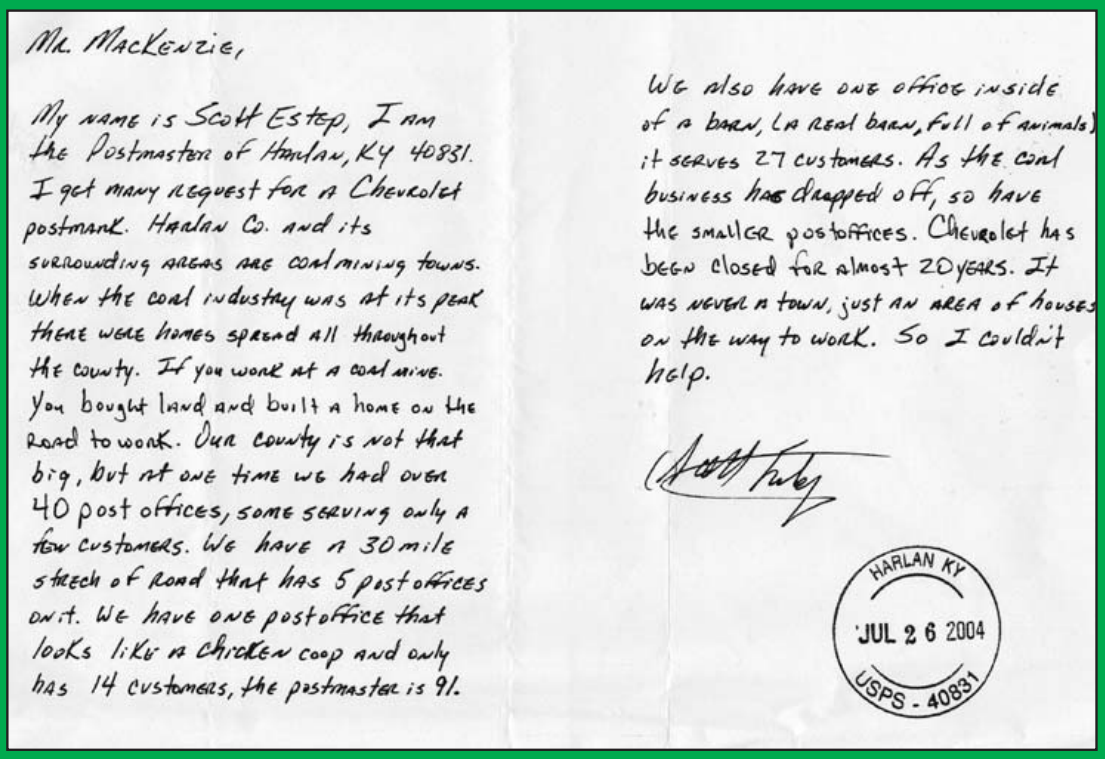
I welcome Mr. Lewis's comments (Letters: Sept/Oct 2004 issue of *TCP*) concerning the Society's use – or lack thereof – of postage stamps when mailing *The Canadian Philatelist*. The reason is quite simple. The RPSC benefits from a subsidy from the Department of Canadian Heritage to help defray the cost of mailing the magazine. This subsidy requires that, when mailing our publication, we print the information found on the upper right corner on the front page of the wrapper as an indication of the postage being paid. **cjgv**

Dear Editor,

I am working on a project to gain cancelled covers of United States place names pertaining to automobiles. One such place was Chevrolet, Kentucky, ZIP code 40831, as listed in the United States ZIP Code book of 2003.

The following is a copy of a letter I received (along with my uncancelled cover) from the postmaster in Harlan, Kentucky, ZIP Code 40831 which I find is a sample of philatelic trivia that may be of interest to other members. It is of special note because the Chevrolet post office has been closed for 20 years but is still in the Zip Code book while Harlan is no longer listed.

George MacKenzie,
Halifax, N.S.



Mr. MacKenzie,

My name is Scott Estep, I am the Postmaster of Harlan, KY 40831. I get many request for a Chevrolet postmark. Harlan Co. and its surrounding areas are coal mining towns. When the coal industry was at its peak there were homes spread all throughout the county. If you work at a coal mine. You bought land and built a home on the Road to work. Our county is not that big, but at one time we had over 40 post offices, some serving only a few customers. We have a 30 mile stretch of road that has 5 post offices on it. We have one postoffice that looks like a chicken coop and only has 14 customers, the postmaster is 91.

We also have one office inside of a barn, (a real barn, full of animals) it serves 27 customers. As the coal business has dropped off, so have the smaller postoffices. Chevrolet has been closed for almost 20 years. It was never a town, just an area of houses on the way to work. So I couldn't help.

HARLAN KY
JUL 26 2004
USPS - 40831

Dear Editor,

My name is Bob Hutchinson, RPSC 23486. I was fascinated by the William Canniff story because my grandmother, Ada Canniff, was born on the Canniff farm at Canniffton near Belleville in 1859. I remember, as a boy before the war, that she often talked about her childhood there.

I think William must have been her uncle and a brother of her father who was Jonas Canniff. If possible, I would like to know where you got the article. I have a lot of genealogical information about the Canniffs but just on my own ancestral line so it would be interesting to learn more of William's line. I'd appreciate any help you could give me on this.

Sincerely,
Bob Hutchinson.

Do we have any readers from the Belleville area with information about the William Canniff family line? ***- Ed.***

Hi Tony.

Have been intending for some time to tell you what a great product you are producing in *The Canadian Philatelist*.

I look forward to each issue and find much of interest to read, all professionally presented. I hope you remain editor for the next 100 years!

Cheers
Keith R. Spencer
Immediate Past President, RPSC

Thank you, Dr. Spencer, for your kind comments but 100 years as editor is a tad too long. President Charles will have my resignation in not more than 50 years. - Ed.

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 30, 2004: Barrie District Stamp Club. 43rd Annual Show on Saturday, October 30th, 2004 at Alladin's Banquet Hall located at 41 Essa Road, Barrie. 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission and sample free parking. 16 dealers, Canada Post booth/ Snack bar. For more information contact Marjorie Coakwell at (705) 323-9072.

November 6, 2004: KENTPEX 2004. The 74th Annual Stamp Exhibition of the Kent County Stamp Club will be held at The Wheels Motor Inn, corner of Richmond & Keil in Chatham, Ontario, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Free admission, stamps, postal history, philatelic supplies, many dealers, free parking. For additional information ccontact Paul McDonell, Exhibition Chair at (519) 354-1845 or pvmcdonell@aol.com.

February 26, 2005: Apex 2005 Ajax Community Centre,H.M.S. Ajax Room, 75 Centennial Road, Ajax, Ontario. Saturday, 10:00 am to 4 pm. 19 Stamp Dealers. Plenty of free parking. further information davidw@netscape.ca.

April 2, 2005: KAPEX 2005. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Peterborough Christian Fellowship Centre, 300 Milroy Drive, Peterborough, Ontario (northeast corner of Chemong Road and Milroy Drive, just north of the Portage Place Plaza). If there are any other questions, please call Mr. Rick Stankiewicz,(705)295-6158(KAPEX Co-ordinator) or stankiewiczr@nexicom.net.

April 9, 2005: 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, ON. 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 much more. For additional information 'phone Jim Oliver at 519-893-4092 or e-mail:jimoliver10@hotmail.com

April 30-May 1, 2005: OXPEX 2005. (56th Annual Stamp Exhibition) and OTEX 2005 (25th Annual All Ontario Tropical Exhibition), both sponsored by the Oxford Philatelic Society (RPSC Chapter #65) will be held at John Knox Christian School, 800 Juliana Drive, (Hwys. 401 & 59 North), Woodstock, Ontario. Featuring: Competitive Exhibits, Judges Critiques, 16 Dealers, Youth Area, a Canada Post Counter, Giant Prize Draws, Annual Show Cover, Snack Booth & Refreshments, Free Admission and Parking. Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For further information contact: Jim Watson, Show Chairman 2005, Box 20113, Woodstock, Ontario, N4S 8X8.

NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS NATIONALES

Oct. 29-31, 2004: BAYPEX 2004 - Napier or Hastings, New Zealand.

April 30-May 1, 2005: ORAPEX 2005. Ottawa's National Stamp Exhibition and Bourse, the 44th Annual Stamp Club Exhibition and Bourse 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 and exhibitors' entry forms, contact Major Dick Malott, CD, Retd, 16 Harwick Crescent, Nepean, Ontaior K2H 6R1. Tel: (613) 829-0280; fax: (613) 829-7673; e-mail rmalott@magma.ca. Admission and Parking are FREE.

May 27-29, 2005: ROYAL *2005* ROYALE: The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada's 77th Annual exhibition and convention will be held in London, ON. Further details yet to come. Dates and locations for upcoming years:

2006, Calgary, Alberta, September 29 - October 1
2007, Toronto, Ontario.
2008, Québec City, Québec.
2009, St. Catharines, Ontario.
2010, Available/disponible.
2011, Montréal, Québec.

July 2005: New Zealand 2005 National Stamp Show - North Shore City, New Zealand.

Sept. 2-4, 2005: BNAPEX 2005, the annual convention and exhibition of the British North America Philatelic Society, Fantasyland Hotel, Edmonton, AB. Members' exhibits; study group seminars; local tours; spousal activities, awards banquet; dealers' bourse etc. Contact: BNAPEX 2005, David Piercy, c/o Edmonton Stamp Club, Box 399, Edmonton, AB T5J 2J6; david.piercey@epsb.ca; (780) 437-2771 or view the Society's website: <www.bnaps.org>www.bnaps.org

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

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS INTERNATIONALES

April 21-24, 2005: Pacific Explorer 2005 World Stamp Expo, Sydney, Australia. Canadian Commissioner: Charles J.G. Verge, P.O. Box 2788, Station "D", Ottawa, ON K1P 5W8. Tel.: (613) 738-2770; Fax: (613) 738-7863; e-mail:verge@sympatico.ca. Deadline for entries was July 31, 2004.

May 27 – June 3, 2006: World Philatelic Exhibition under the FIP auspices WASHINGTON 2006. Bulletin # 1 and Entry Form available now (deadline for entries June 1, 2005) Qualifications for exhibits: vermeil at national level, Youth – silver-bronze, One Frame – 80 points, Open Class – commissioner's statement confirming quality of exhibit. Entry fee: US $55 per frame/entry. Youth Class – free of charge. Get in touch with your Commissioner today. Dr. John Powell, for Manitoba and West, 5828 143rd Street, Edmonton, Alberta T6H-4E8, tel: 780-435-7006, email:johnpowell@shaw.ca. Dr. JJ Danielski, for Ontario and East, 71 Gennela Square, Toronto, Ontario M1B-5M7, tel: 416-283-2047, email: jj.danielski@sympatico.ca

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-28226 Berangere Tremblay

I-28227 Andre St-Onge

I-28228 Gerald Matthews • INTERESTS: Canada

I-28229 Vic d'Obrenan, Calgary, AB
• INTERESTS: Canada and Barbados

I-28230 Robert Gillespie

I-28231 Colleen Moore, 100 Mile House, BC

I-28232 David Lu, Qingdao, Shandong
• INTERESTS: US & China

I-28233 Johanna Reymerink, Chemainus, BC

I-28234 Stephen Osborne

I-28235 Thomas Harden, Muscatine, IA
• INTERESTS: Canada, USA, Denmark, Netherlands, Iowa postal history

I-28236 Harvey Smail, Godfrey, ON
• INTERESTS: Canada, USA, New Zealand (mostly used)

I-28238 Maurice Bursey
• INTERESTS: plate blocks, singles of recent issues, selected classic

I-28240 Wendy Roper • INTERESTS: Canada

I-28242 Madhukar Belkhode

PHILATELIST SUBSCRIPTION

S-28239 Donald Peach, Toronto, ON
• INTERESTS: British stamps & British Carribean

S-28241 Odette Deme
• INTERESTS: les timbres de tous les pays

V.I.P. MEMBER (COMPLIMENTARY)

V- Christchurch (NZ)Philatelic Society Inc

DECEASED MEMBERS

Snels, Gus (I-25756), Acton, ON

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Most Requested Sales Circuit Books:

Canada, all periods- especially early, mint & used, fancy cancels, BOB, recent used, precancels, souvenir sheets, postal stationery

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COUNTRIES AVAILABLE

Australia	Leewards
Belgium	Malaysia
Canada	Malta
Central & South America	New Zealand
China	Rhodesia
France	Russia
Germany (West, East, States)	Scandinavia; Norway, Sweden & Denmark
Gibraltar	Turks and Caicos
Hong Kong	
Japan	U.S.A.

British Commonwealth (specify which part; Africa, BWI, Pacific etc)

See us at the shows

Winnipeg Coin and Stamp Show
Oct 23-24.
Marlborough Inn

Saskatoon Stamp Club
Oct 30-31
German Canadian Club
Concordia.

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

Meets every Wed., Sept. to June, at 7:30 p.m. in the Amenity Room, Grosvenor Building, 1040 W. Georgia St. Contact: B.C.P.S., 2955 West 38th Ave., Vancouver, BC V6N 2X2.

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

Meets the 3rd Mon.Sept. to June at 7 p.m. Short meeting at 8 p.m. at Allen Bradley Cafeteria, Dundas Street, Cambridge, ON. Two dealers, club circuit. Contact: Charlie Hollett, (519) 740-6657, 3-10 Isherwood Ave., Cambridge, ON N1R 8L5.

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 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: rugbyron@ nb.sympatico.ca

FUNDY STAMP COLLECTOR'S CLUB

Meets the 1st Thurs., except July and Aug., at 7 p.m. at the YMCA on Highfield St. Contact H.C. Terris at (506) 856-8513 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 PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 58 meets on the 2nd and 4th Tues. except July and Aug., at 7 p.m. at Christ Lutheran Church, 463 Highland Rd. Peterborough, ON K9H 5J8. Contact: Box 2222, Peterborough, ON K9J 2T0.

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: Alain Benitah, 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: Alain Benitah, Président, Case Postale 1, Pointe Claire/Dorval, QC, H9R 4N5.

LETHBRIDGE PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Chapter 57 meets on the 2nd Thur. at 7 p.m. except June to Aug. at the Canadian Western Natural Gas Co. building at 410 Stafford Dr. N., Lethbridge, AB T1H 2A9.

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 1st and 3rd Wed.at Senior Citizen Centennial Club, 54 Dominion St., Bracebridge, ON. (Except July, Aug., and Dec. - 1st Wed.) Contact Tom Anderson (President), 7 Sadler Dr., Bracebridge, ON P1L 1K4, (705) 645-3330.

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

Chapter 44 meets on the 2nd and 4th Wed. Sept. to May, at the Empire Living Centre, 425 Fraser St., North Bay, ON at 7 p.m. Contact: John Fretwell, R.R. 1, Callandar, ON P0H 1H0, (705) 752-1364.

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

RPSC Chapter #50, est. 1922, meets the 2nd Tues. Sept. to June at the Nova Scotia Museum. Contact: E. Sodero, 831 Tower Rd., Halifax, NS B3H 2Y1.

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

Meets the 4th Wed. except July and Aug., 7 p.m. at the Saint John High School, Canterbury Street, Saint John, NB. Contact: James Young, Sec.-Treas., 2278 Rothesay Rd., Rothesay, NB E2H 2K5.

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) 862-1903.

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.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Annual Meeting of the Members of THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA (hereinafter called the "Society") will be held at the London Convention Centre, London, Ontario, on Saturday, the 29^{8h} day of May, 2005, at the hour of 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon (local time) for the purpose of:

1. Receiving and considering the financial statements of the Society as at December 31, 2004 and the reports of the Directors and auditors thereon;
2. The Election of Directors and the appointment of auditors;
3. Considering, and if approved, ratifying, sanctioning and confirming all by-laws, contracts, acts and proceedings of the Board of Directors of the Society enacted, made, done or taken since the last annual meeting of Members of the Society; and
4. The transaction of such further and other business as may properly come before the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

DATED this 23rd day of September, 2004.
By Order of the Board,
H. Sutherland
Secretary

THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA

LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA

AVIS AUX MEMBRES

VEUILLEZ NOTER que le congrès annuel des membres de LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA (ci-après, la Société) se déroulera au London Convention Centre, London, Ontario, le samedi 28 mai 2005 à 10 heures (heure locale) avec à l'ordre du jour :

1. Réception et examen des relevés financiers de la Société en date du 31 décembre 2004 et des rapports des directeurs et vérificateurs sur le sujet;
2. Élection des directeurs et nomination des administrateurs;
3. Étude et, en cas d'approbation, ratification, autorisation et confirmation de tous statuts, contrats, actes et délibérations du Conseil d'administration de la Société qui auront été décrétés, passés, effectués ou arrêtés depuis le dernier congrès annuel des membres de la Société; et
4. Transaction de décisions comparables et d'autres questions devant être traitées avant la réunion ou son ajournement.

FAIT le 23 septembre 2004.
Par ordre du Conseil,
H. Sutherland

2004 PRESIDENT'S MEDAL GOES TO MICHAEL MADESKER

In 2000, The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada president, Charles J.G. Verge, instituted the President's Medal to honour individuals or organizations for their outstanding contribution to the hobby.

Verge "didn't think it would be awarded annually, but the vibrancy of our hobby has allowed me to make it an annual presentation." The 2004 medal goes to Michael Madesker, RDP, FRPSC, one of Canada's most respected collectors and philatelic organizers.

Madesker, who was president of the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie's Commission for Youth Philately until last September, was president of The RPSC from 1990-1993. He is the first and only Canadian president of a FIP Commission, a position he held since 1992.

During his term as president, our Society's journal took on its bilingual title: *The Canadian Philatelist/Le philatéliste canadien*. Madesker's contributions to philately both at home and on the international scene are numerous. An international judge, and eloquent spokesperson, and an exhibitor, Verge says "he has represented Canada and The RPSC with distinction."

Michael Madesker joins Kasimir Bileski, (2000) Denis Masse (2001) and Ron Brigham (2002) as recipients of the President's Medal. The 2003 winner was the Canadian Postal Archives.

EVIDENCE OF CHINA'S OLDEST POST OFFICE UNEARTHED

A letter written about 2,000 years ago and never delivered has provided evidence of China's oldest post office at a historic site near the famous Dunhuang Mogao Grottos along the ancient Silk Road. The letter written on a piece of silk was found during excavations in April 2002 in the Xuanquanzhi Ruins in China's Northwest Gansu Province.

The writer of the letter sent his greetings from the frontier of the Han Dynasty (206 BC-AD 220) in the remote western region to his friend in an inland part of China. The writer described the hard life in the border area and asked his friend to send him some goods.

According to archaeologists, the letter is the best preserved personal letter from the Han Dynasty. They have also unearthed wooden slips, paper and silk used to document the work of the local postal service, transportation activities, tolls and vehicles. They say there is enough evidence to believe that Xuanquanzhi was a comprehensive outpost for the postal service more than 2000 years ago.

(Source: Xinhua News Agency)

AMERICAN EXPRESS ® APPOINTED PACIFIC EXPLORER 2005 TRAVEL AGENT

PACIFIC EXPLORER 2005
WORLD STAMP EXPO
21 - 24 APRIL
SYDNEY AUSTRALIA

The Pacific Explorer International World Stamp Expo 2005 Organizing Committee announced today that American Express ® will be the designated travel agent for Pacific Explorer 2005, which will be held April 21-24, 2005, at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre Darling Harbour.

Malcolm Groom, the chairman of the Organizing Committee, said that he was delighted with the appointment. "We know we can rely on American Express ® to deliver a professional and competent service," Mr Groom said.

Inquiries regarding travel and accommodation should be addressed to Melanie Gitsos at Level 2, 233 Collins Street, Melbourne Vic 3000, Australia, telephone +61 3 9633 6432, fax +61 3 9633 6432, email: amextravel2@aexp.com. Further information on Pacific Explorer 2005 is also available at www.sydney2005.com.au.

Royal Philatelic Collection Exhibition Goes To The USA

The Royal Philatelic Collection has been on display at the Smithsonian Institution National Postal Museum, Washington since April 6, 2004.

The exhibition from The Queen's collection features material produced in the lead-up to the introduction of the Penny Black, Two penny Blue and the Mulready for use from 6th May, 1840.

Commenting on the exhibition, the Keeper of Royal Philatelic Collection, Michael Sefi, said: "This will be a rare opportunity for visitors and Washingtonians alike to see some unique and very special material from The Queen's collection."

Highlights include the "Kirkcudbright Cover" - in fact, a wrapper - bearing the largest multiple (10) of Penny Blacks known on first day of use, bought by Her Majesty The Queen in 2001. The unique block of 38 unused Two penny Blues from Plate 1 is also being shown.

Also included is the pre-Treasury Essay material, some of the Treasury Essays and material illustrating the development of the Penny Black, Two penny Blue and the Mulready envelopes and letter sheets.

The exhibition also illustrates the work undertaken in selecting a new colour for the Penny stamp, by showing some of the obliteration experiments and "Rainbow Trials", and goes on to display Penny Red printings from the "Black" Plates.

The stamps are shown with other rare stamps from the Collection, including: the "Post Office" Mauritius penny and two pence; British Guiana and Bermuda items; The Cape of Good Hope "Woodblock" errors of colour; as well as other "gems" from the Collection.

Some further notes on the Royal Collection:

Housed in St James's Palace, the Royal Philatelic Collection is the most comprehensive collection in the world of postage stamps devoted to Great Britain and the Commonwealth. The Royal Philatelic Collection is a private collection belonging to The Queen; it is not part of the Royal Collection, which she holds as Sovereign in effect in trust for the nation.

Much of the Royal Philatelic Collection is due to George V who, as an enthusiastic and expert col-

La Collection Philatélique Royale En Visite Aux États-Unis

La Collection royale de philatélie est exposée au Musée national des Postes de l,institut Smithsonian, à Washington, à compter du 6 avril 2004.

L'exposition de la collection de la reine met en vedette des articles produits dans la période qui a précédé l'émission du Penny Black, du Two penny Blue et du Mulready devant être mis en circulation à compter du 6 mai 1840.

Commentant l'exposition, le conservateur de la Collection royale, Michael Sefi, a déclaré : «L'exposition sera une occasion exceptionnelle, tant pour les visiteurs que pour les habitants de Washington, de voir des éléments uniques et très particuliers de la collection de la reine».

Le pli «Kirkcudbright», une bande contenant le plus grande multiple (10) de Penny Black au premier jour de mise en circulation, acheté par Sa Majesté la reine en 2001, est une des pièces de résistance. On y verra aussi le bloc unique de 38 Two penny Blue de la planche 1 inutilisés.

Les pré-essais du Trésor sont également du nombre tout comme certains essais du Trésor et d'autres articles qui illustrent la création du Penny Black, du Two penny Blue, des enveloppes Mulready et des feuilles-lettres.

L'exposition montrera aussi le travail effectué pour le choix d'une nouvelle couleur pour le Penny en présentant certaines expériences en oblitération et les «essais arc-en-ciel», de même que les impressions Penny Red des planches «noires».

Les timbres sont exposés avec d'autres timbres rares de la collection incluant : le Mauritius du «Bureau de poste» d'un penny et de deux pence, des pièces des Bermudes et de la Guyane britannique, les erreurs de couleur du «Bloc de bois» du Cap de Bonne-Espérance ainsi que d'autres «joyaux» de la collection.

Autres points intéressants:

La Collection philatélique royale, conservée au palais Saint-James, est la plus complète des collections dédiées à la Grande-Bretagne et au Commonwealth. Il s'agit d'une collection privée appartenant à la reine. Elle ne fait pas partie de la Collection royale que la reine conserve au nom de la nation en tant que souveraine en fonction.

C'est Georges V, collectionneur expert et passionné des années 1890, qui a monté la plus grande

lector from the 1890's, acquired a huge range of collections, rare stamps and artist's sketches for stamp design, mostly by purchase from dealers or auctions and partly through official presentations. From 1906, he decided to concentrate his collection on stamps (and their designs) of Great Britain and the Empire; the designs include a sketch of the 1840 penny black sent to Rowland Hill to show him how the stamp would look.

Since the First World War, material from the Royal Philatelic Collection has been put on public display in the United Kingdom and also exhibited at many of the major international stamp exhibitions. In the last five years, items from the Collection have been displayed at the International Stamp Exhibition at Earl's Court, as well as exhibitions in China, Monaco, Spain, Australia, Bulgaria and elsewhere both in the United Kingdom and abroad.

The exhibition is open from April 6, 2004 to January 11, 2005 and admission is free.

The National Postal Museum, housed in the Old Post Office near Union Station in Washington D.C., is one of a number of mainly Washington based museums, all part of the Smithsonian Institution.

partie de la Collection philatélique royale. Il a acquis une grande variété de collections, de timbres rares et d'esquisses destinées à la création de timbres. Il les achetait principalement de marchands, dans des encans, et en partie lors de lancements officiels. À partir de 1906, il se concentra sur les timbres (et leur conception) de Grande-Bretagne et de l'Empire. En fait de conception, on remarquera une esquisse de 1840 d'un Penny Black envoyée à Rowland Hill pour lui montrer à quoi ressemblerait le timbre.

Depuis la première Guerre mondiale, des articles de la Collection philatélique royale ont été exposés au public dans le Royaume-Uni et dans de nombreuses expositions internationales majeures. Ces cinq dernières années, on a pu en admirer une partie à l'exposition internationale de Earl's Court, en Chine, à Monaco, en Espagne, en Australie, en Bulgarie et ailleurs au Royaume-Uni, et à l'étranger.

L'exposition a lieu du 6 avril 2004 au 11 janvier 2005. L'entrée est gratuite.

Le Musée national des Postes, situé dans l'ancien bureau de poste, près de la gare Union Station, à Washington D.C., est l'un des nombreux musées de Washington, tous rattachés à l'institut Smithsonian.

You're invited to join The British North America Philatelic Society

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Contact the Secretary:

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BNAPS – The Society for Canadian Philately

PHSC

APS Affiliate 67;
PHS Inc. Affiliate 5A;
RPSC Affiliate 3

The **Postal History Society of Canada** was founded to promote the study of the postal history of Canada and its provinces. It publishes the quarterly **PHSC Journal**, whose contents range from fully-researched feature articles to items of current interest – from the pre-stamp era through postmark specialties and regional histories to modern mail mechanization.

Each year the Society holds meetings at shows across Canada. The Annual Meeting is held in the early summer, and is supplemented by Regional Meetings, usually featuring postal history seminars given by Society members. Eight different Study Groups are devoted to the detailed examination of various specialized aspects of postal history.

Membership dues are $25.00 per year, with a one-time admission fee of $1.00. For a membership application form please contact the Secretary, Dr. N. Wagner, 207, 525-11th Ave. SW, Calgary, AB T2R 0C9.

Major Richard K. Malott, CD Retd, FRPSC, AHF Receives The Metropolitan Air Post Society's "Gus Lancaster Award"

The Metropolitan Air Post Society (MAPS) is a society of 100 air mail history enthusiasts who share their interests at four meetings a year at venues in New York, Connecticut and Massachusetts. They produce a quarterly publication, *The Maps Bulletin*.

Their prestigious "Gus Lancaster Award" is given annually to a MAPS member who has consistently demonstrated his dedication to the advancement of aerophilately. Lancaster, a charter member of the society, was an ardent collector and promoter of aerophilately in all its forms and his efforts as editor of *The MAPS Bulletin* contributed greatly to the widespread popularity of collecting air mail covers, particularly airport dedication covers. The award is given in his memory.

No one is a better exemplar of the Gus Lancaster tradition than Major (Ret.) Richard K. "Dick" Malott, the 2004 recipient of the award. As President of the Canadian Aerophilatelic Society, Editor in Chief of the "*The Air Mails of Canada and Newfoundland*", (a volume of the American Air Mail Society's, "*Air Mail Catalogue*"), lecturer, exhibitor, and sponsor of numerous special aviation event commemoration covers – to cite but a few of his activities – Major Malott has been for almost five decades at the vanguard of those who have contributed to the further advancement of aerophilately.

The Metropolitan Air Post Society is proud to present the award this year to its distinguished member, Major "Dick" Malott.

Dick Malott (left) is presented the "Gus Lancaster award" from Col. Fred Dietz, president MAPS.

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The Philatelic Society For Greater Southern Africa

The PSGSA is a group for collectors with an interest in all aspects of the philately of greater Southern Africa, including all British areas, their predecessor and successor states.

The PSGSA is affiliated with the American Philatelic society and the Philatelic Federation of Southern Africa.

It publishes its award winning Journal, *The Forerunners*, generally three times per year. The contents are feature articles, literature reviews, a question-and-answer department and free member ads. In addition, the PSGSA provides a translation service for members. It also maintains a library from which members may borrow or get photocopies.

It is a worldwide society with members in over a dozen countries. International Representatives are present in many countries.

Dues are presently as follows: US $25; Canada airmail, $30; Europe/South Africa Airmail $30 and Rest of World by location.

To join, submit the appropriate amount and send to the Treasurer at the above address. Funds can be accepted in US$ checks, Sterling checks made out to R. W. Hisey, or currency in dollars or Sterling. We also accept Paypal at bobhisey@strato.net.

Anyone interested in joining the Society should also submit their name, address, e-mail address and collecting interests.

Further information can be obtained from our Website www.homestead.com/psgsa or

President: Alan Hanks, A.hanks@aci.on.ca.
Editors: Peter Thy, thy@geology.ucdavis.edu. or Bill Brooks, bbrooks@hss.co.sbcounty.gov
Librarian: Tim Bartshe, 13955 W. 30th Ave, Golden, CO 80401, timbartshe@aol.com.
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Treasurer: Bob Hisey, 7227 Sparta Rd., Sebring, FL 33875, USA. bobhisey@strato.net .

One New Face On The RPSC Executive

At the 76th National Philatelic Convention of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada held in Halifax May 28-30, members elected a new slate of officers to serve a two-year period.

After the votes were counted, one new face emerged to join incumbents in decision-making roles for Canada's national stamp organization. Peter Butler, who has been president of the Scarborough Stamp Club for the past four years got the nod of the members in the voting and replaces Leon Balian of Dollard des Ormeaux, Quebec on The RPSC board of directors.

Butler was "humbled, but thrilled to be among the movers and shakers in Canadian philately." He says "I am looking forward to the challenge of making a significant contribution to the hobby."

In January, Butler commenced the "Grassroots Philately" column for *Canadian Stamp News*, and he promises "to keep my focus on collectors and clubs to: improve communications, share resources, increase membership, and increase programs for beginner collectors and those adults thinking of returning to stamp collecting."

nouvelles SRPC

Exchanges / Demandes d'échange

Dear Friends,

My name is Joselito Pereira da Silva. I am Brazilian, 38 years old, married, and an administrator by profession. I have been a stamp collector for 23 years.

The reason for this letter is to contact collectors interested in exchanging stamps with me. I can offer stamps of Brazil and several other countries.

I look forward to hearing from interested collectors.

Respectfully,
Joselito Pereira da Silva
Rua Cicero Jacinto, 88 capable 102
Catolé - Campina Grande - PB
Cep 58104-550 Brazil
E-mail: zelitop@terra.com.br

Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue - Australia

Published by Stanley Gibbons (5 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hants, BH24 3SH); ISBN 085259-578-6. Soft cover, 136 pages, 210 X 297 mm; Retail price £19.95.

The second edition of Australia's one-country catalogue produced by Stanley Gibbons is a near all-colour effort. Only the earliest issues, from 1850 to 1885, with a couple of exceptions, are reproduced in black and white. Subsequent issues are printed in full colour. In addition to the stamps of Australia, the catalogue lists the issues of Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Christmas Island, Norfolk Island, Australian Antarctic Territories, and States and Dependencies.

A nice touch in this second-edition is the updated subject and design index for stamps issued since 1942.

The Australia section includes the colonial issues of New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria, and Western Australia. Also listed are the issues of the British Commonwealth Occupation Force (Japan).

Australia began issuing its ever-popular stamp booklets in 1913 and illustrated in full colour beginning with the 1952 issue are its Premium booklets up to and including the Rugby World Cup issue released on October 8, 2003. Postage due stamps and the official OS perforated issues round out the listings.

Printed on quality paper, the catalogue offers readers excellently reproduced full colour illustrations. The text is printed in easy-to-read type.

As a stamp retailer, Stanley Gibbons stocks many of the stamps listed in its catalogues. For that reason, the publishing arm of the organization has included a generic eight-page introduction that provides readers with information such as stamps prices, the firm's guarantee policy, its definition of a stamp's condition as well as philatelic information of a more technical nature. Particularly valuable for collectors are the illustrated examples of the five categories, poor, average, fine, very fine, and superb, that the firm uses to grade its stamps for condition of cancels, centring, gum, and margins.

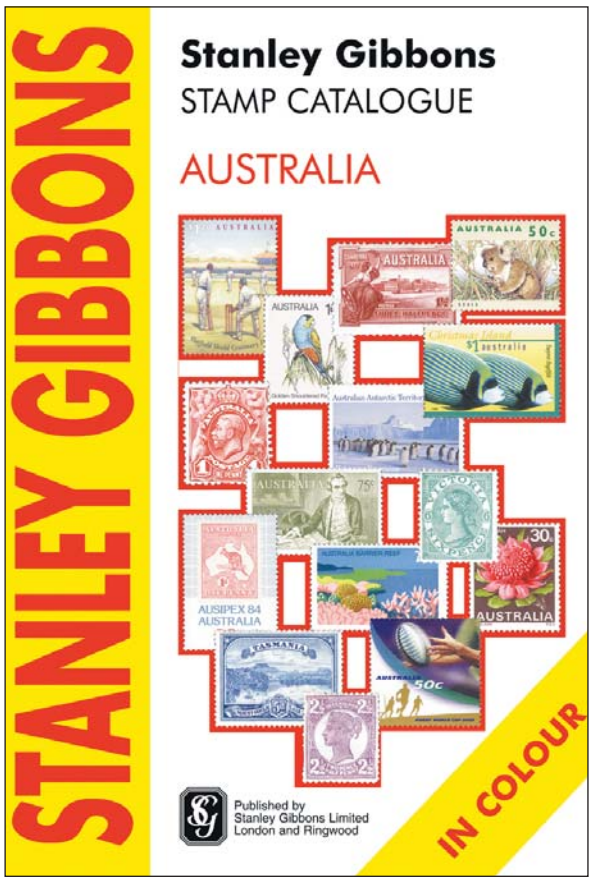
Only prices for mint and used copies are listed in the catalogue. These prices are for stamps in fine condition unless otherwise stated.

Stamps issued after 1952 were re-priced for this 2nd edition.

Attractively produced and printed, the second edition is proof of its popularity with collectors who want a specialized listing of the stamps of Australia beyond a simplified or general world catalogue.

At an affordable £19.95, it is a publication that we recommend for collectors specializing in the stamps, postmarks, and postal history of Australia, its States and Dependences as well as for collectors who are looking to broaden their collecting interests.

Tony Shaman



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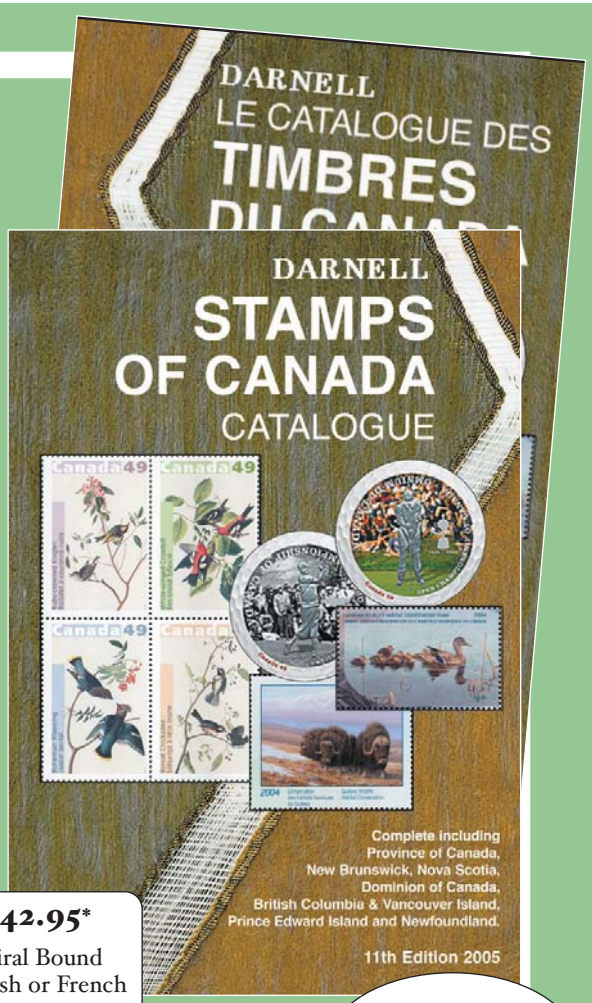

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ONE last word

UN dernier mot

by / par Tony Shaman

Although you may be reading this edition of *The Canadian Philatelist* as early as mid October, it is our Christmas holiday issue. Magazines are notorious for "beating the calendar" to give them the longest possible shelf life.

Getting the November-December issue of *The Canadian Philatelist* onto magazine shelves or into your mailbox at an early date also has a practical benefit for you: it lets you do some of your holiday shopping in the comfort of your home without being jostled about in crowded stores and malls. It allows you to give a year's subscription of *The Canadian Philatelist* to a friend or relative on your gift list in time for the holidays. And if that friend or relative is not a stamp collector, your thoughtful gesture may persuade them to become one.

You have heard it said many times before but it bears repeating: philately is one of the world's greatest hobbies. Why would you not want to share it with someone?

Giving a gift subscription to *The Canadian Philatelist* is both easy and affordable. By filling out the membership application printed on the wrapper attached to each issue and writing a cheque you will have made a gift that keeps giving all year long. Equally important, you will have helped expand a wonderful hobby that offers countless hours of enjoyment.

In keeping with the Christmas theme of this issue, we are using a number of seldom-seen pre-production Map stamp items, courtesy of Fred Fawn and the Canadian Postal Archives, to illustrate the magazine's cover. The Map stamp theme is given additional coverage in the magazine with an article authored jointly by Ken Kershaw and Fred Fawn.

Their Map stamp research continues to shed new light on the complex but fascinating methods used in the production of a stamp that is not only the first Christmas stamp but is also noted for a number of other firsts. They include being printed in more than one colour, using more than one printing method, a regular issue produced in large size,

Nous ne sommes qu'à la mi-octobre et voilà déjà l'édition de Noël du *Philatéliste canadien*. Les périodiques ont l'habitude de « devancer le calendrier » ce qui étire au maximum le temps qu'ils peuvent passer sur les présentoirs.

L'Arrivée hâtive du numéro de novembre-décembre du *Philatéliste* sur les rayons ou dans votre boîte aux lettres vous est aussi profitable : elle vous permet de faire un peu de magasinage de Noël à la maison sans que vous n'ayez à vous faire bousculer dans les magasins et les centres d'achat bondés. Voilà l'occasion d'offrir l'abonnement d'un an au *Philatéliste canadien* à un parent ou à un ami dont le nom est sur votre liste, et ce, à temps pour les célébrations. Et si ce parent ou cet ami n'est pas déjà philatéliste, votre geste attentionné l'incitera peut-être à le devenir

On vous l'a sans doute déjà dit à maintes reprises, mais cela mérite qu'on le redise : la philatélie est l'un des passe-temps les plus extraordinaires. Pourquoi ne pas le partager avec quelqu'un?

Offrir un abonnement cadeau au *Philatéliste canadien* est facile et abordable. Il suffit de remplir le coupon de demande d'adhésion, que vous trouverez sur la bande-enveloppe de chaque numéro et de faire un chèque pour que quelqu'un reçoive un cadeau de vous tout au long de l'année. Tout aussi important, vous aurez participé à l'expansion d'un merveilleux passe-temps qui procure des heures de plaisir.

Afin de coller au thème de Noël de ce numéro, nous avons illustré sa page couverture de pièces de pré-production du timbre-mappemonde rarement vues, gracieuseté de Ken Kershaw et des Archives postales canadiennes. Un article signé Ken Kershaw et Fred Fawn aborde le thème du timbre-carte.

Leur recherche jette un éclairage nouveau sur les méthodes complexes mais fascinantes de production de ce timbre, qui non seulement a été le premier timbre de Noël, mais a aussi été remarqué pour d'autres innovations. Par exemple : l'impression en plus d'une couleur pour laquelle on a utilisé plus d'une méthode, une émission ordinaire produite en grand format, des couleurs non conformes aux normes internationales,

not conforming to international colour conventions, the first issue not depicting a likeness of the reigning monarch after Canada became a country, numerous shades and printing varieties on a single issue, two recognized first-day-of-issue dates, and the first use of the abbreviation "Xmas" on a postage stamp.

Continuing the Holiday theme is a topic that I hope you will agree is an appropriate one for a philatelic journal such as *The Canadian Philatelist*: the Canada Post Santa letter-writing program. It was inspired, at least in part, by the recently introduced Display and Illustrated Mail Divisions exhibits classes that now permit this type of material to be entered in philatelic competition. These colourful letters may well find their way into competitive stamp shows as they are sent through the mail prepaid by permit mail stamps.

George Arfken deals with a topic, bisects, that is frequently written about but is still misunderstood because pertinent postal regulations are sometimes confusing to the public and not always interpreted consistently. As an aside, owning the covers used to illustrate his article would make any collector's "head spin."

The Transcribing Sound series of articles by Michael Madesker looks at how archaeology sometimes helps us in our understanding of ancient and long-forgotten languages. More specifically, he relates the role of Egyptian scribes in the preservation of a society's written records.

From the searing summer heat of Egypt, we jump to the globe's geographic poles and the adventures of Sir George Hubert Wilkins. An intrepid explorer, Wilkins, unlike other Polar explorers, was not content simply exploring just one pole. His objective was both and Ken Lewis tells us about it.

Between Sir George Hubert Wilkins and Santa Claus, we have the polar regions well covered in this, our holiday, issue. But we hope that you will find the other articles equally enjoyable and informative.

Although philately is a multi-factorial hobby that offers devotees much more than a one-dimensional theme as, for example, the coming holiday season that includes festivals such as Christmas, Eid ul Fitr, Festival of Lights, Hanukkah, Kwanza, and possibly others, we would be remiss if we ignored these noted celebrations that are of obvious importance to many people around the world.

Season's Greetings to one and all!

le premier, après que le Canada soit devenu un pays, à ne pas représenter un monarque en fonction, de nombreux tons et des variétés d'impressions pour une seule émission, deux dates reconnues d'émission premier jour et la première utilisation du terme « X-Mas » sur un timbre-poste.

Le thème du temps des fêtes se poursuit avec un sujet que vous trouverez sans doute opportun pour un périodique comme le *Philatéliste canadien* : le programme canadien de lettres au père Noël, inspiré, du moins en partie, par les nouvelles catégories d'exposition, telles le courrier illustré, qui permettent à ce genre d'élément de figurer dans les concours philatéliques. Ces lettres colorées se retrouveront peut-être dans les concours philatéliques puisqu'elles circulent dans les réseaux postaux pré-affranchies avec des timbres-poste autorisés.

George Arfken traite d'un sujet dont on entend souvent parler mais qui est toujours mal compris, les timbres coupés. En effet, le public ne comprend pas toujours bien les règlements postaux et ces derniers ne sont pas toujours interprétés de la même façon. En passant, posséder les enveloppes qui illustrent son article ferait « tourner la tête » de n'importe quel philatéliste.

La série d'article de Michael Madesker sur la transcription des sons s'intéresse à la façon dont l'archéologie nous aide à comprendre les langues anciennes depuis longtemps oubliées. Il nous parle particulièrement du rôle des scribes égyptiens dans la préservation des archives écrites de leur société.

De la chaleur cuisante de l'Égypte, nous faisons un saut aux pôles géographiques de notre globe terrestre avec les aventures de Sir George Hubert Wilkins. Intrépide explorateur, M. Wilkins, contrairement à d'autres ne s'est pas contenté de n'en explorer qu'un. Ken Lewis nous parle de son objectif de voir les deux pôles.

De Sir George Hubert Wilkins au père Noël, les régions polaires ont une bonne place dans notre numéro de Noël. Nous espérons que vous trouverez les autres articles tout aussi intéressants et instructifs.

Bien que la philatélie soit un passe-temps aux multiples facettes, qui offre à ses dévots beaucoup plus qu'un thème unidimensionnel, par exemple, le temps des fêtes qui approche avec Noël et les festivals, tels Eid ul Fitr, le Festival des lanternes, Hanoukka, Kwanza et d'autres sans doute, nous serions impardonnables d'ignorer ces fêtes qui sont importantes pour beaucoup de gens dans le monde.

Joyeux temps des fêtes à tous!

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Peter Butler, Toronto, ON pbutler@ilap.com

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P.O. Box/C.P. 929, Station/Succ Q, Toronto, ON M4T 2P1
Editor / Rédacteur, Tony Shaman, FRPSC, PO Box 43103, Kitchener, ON N2H 6S9 shaman@smokesignal.net
Advertising: Jim Szeplaki (905) 646-7744 ext. 223, jims@trajan.ca

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