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Revue de LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA



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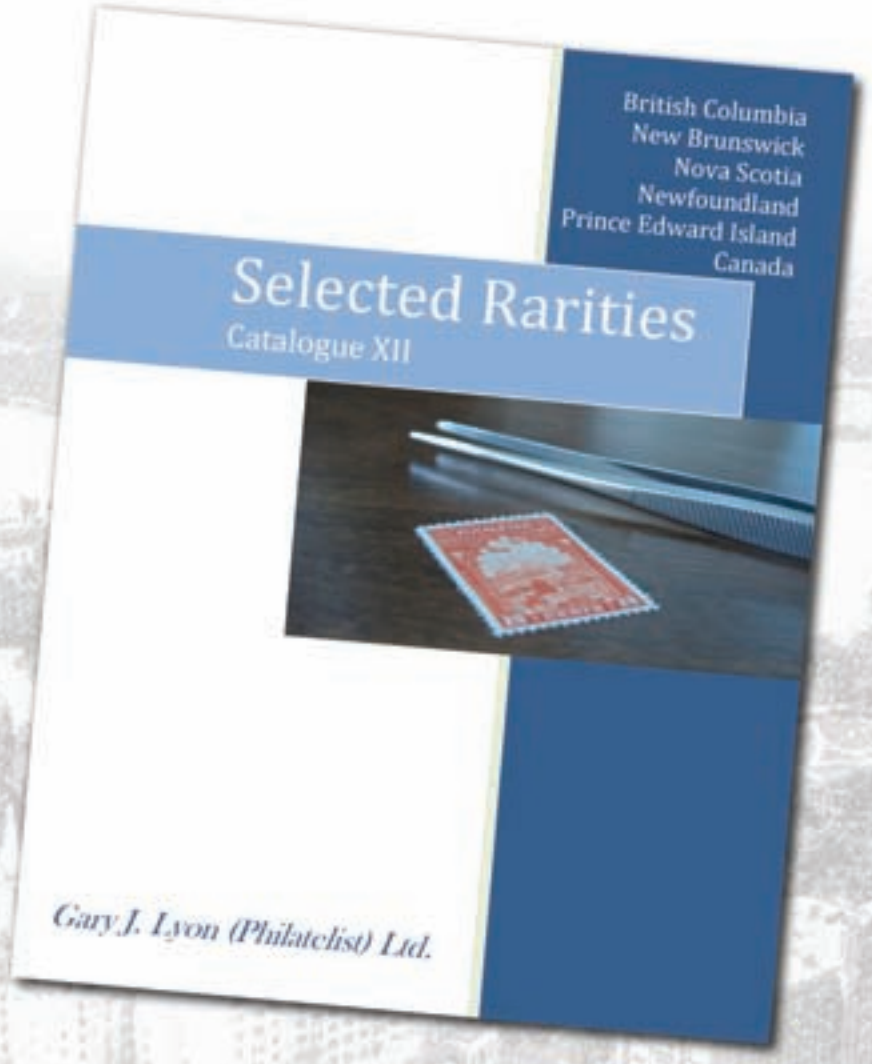
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LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA

The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC) is the successor to the national society founded in 1887. Membership in the Society is open to anyone interested in stamps. Whether you are a beginner or an advanced collector, The RPSC offers a number of services that will be of interest to you. Here are just a few:

THE CANADIAN PHILATELIST **-** The international award winning bi-monthly magazine of The RPSC, it provides stamp collectors information and news – for members and from the members. Each year, the author of the best article published in *The Canadian Philatelist* receives the Geldert medal.

SALES CIRCUIT - The Sales Circuit is a useful method of disposing of surplus material and acquiring other material for your collection. Details on request.

ANNUAL MEETING - An annual convention held in a different locale each year provides an ideal opportunity to meet friends, exchange ideas, and get advice on your collection or exhibition at which exhibitors can qualify for international shows. You will also get a chance to visit a dealer bourse and attend interesting and informative seminars.

GROUP INSURANCE - Group insurance is available for members to obtain coverage for their personal collections. Chapters can arrange third party liability coverage to protect the club and its events. Both policies have substantially lower premiums than non-members would pay for similar packages. Details are available on both types of insurance, upon request, from the National Office.

CHAPTERS - The RPSC has a network of local clubs across Canada. Chapter meeting details are published in The Canadian Philatelist. A great way to network with other collectors in your area.

THE INTERNET - The Society has a Web site www.rpsc.org where members can find out about the latest developments, coming events and link up to many other stamp collecting sites. As a member, your e-mail and Web site address can be added.

OTHER SOCIETIES - As the national society for stamp collectors, The RPSC works in partnership with many other societies and associations, such as the Canadian Stamp Dealers Association and Canada Post Corporation.

CANADA POST - The Society maintains a Canada Post Liaison Officer to represent the Society, its members and chapters. Members may raise issue of mutual interest with Canada Post Corporation through the National Office.

Join The RPSC!

La Société royale de philatélie du Canada (SRPC) est le digne successeur de celle fondée en 1887. Tout individu intéressé par la collection de timbres-poste peut en devenir membre. Que vous soyez un collectionneur débutant ou chevronné, la SRPC vous offre une gamme de services qui sauront vous intéresser. En voici quelques-uns:

LE PHILATÉLISTE CANADIEN - Cette publication bimestrielle, primée au niveau international, offre aux membres des informations et des nouvelles sur le monde philatélique rédigées par ses membres. Chaque année, la médaille Geldert est décernée à l'auteur du meilleur article publié dans Le philatéliste canadien.

CARNETS DE TIMBRES EN APPROBATION - Ils sont disponibles sur demande. C'est une façon facile de disposer de matériel en surplus ou d'acquérir des nouvelles pièces pour sa collection.

RÉUNION ANNUELLE - Un congrès annuel se tient dans différentes parties du pays. Une exposition de niveau national fait partie intégrante du congrès et permet à l'exposant de se qualifier pour les expositions internationales. De plus vous pouvez y visiter les tables de négociants et assister à des conférences.

ASSURANCES - les membres peuvent obtenir une assurance-groupe afin de protéger leurs collections personnelles. Les chapitres peuvent souscrire une assurance responsabilité vis-à-vis des tiers pour protéger le club et les évènements qu'il organise. Les primes pour les deux polices sont de beaucoup inférieures à ce qu'un non-membre paierait pour un contrat similaire. Vous pouvez obtenir des renseignements sur ces deux types de police en vous adressant au Bureau national.

CHAPITRES - Des clubs locaux au Canada constituent un réseau où les membres de La SRPC reçoivent un accueil chaleureux. Les renseignements sont publiés dans Le philatéliste canadien.

L'INTERNET - La SRPC a un site Internet www.rpsc.org où les membres obtiennent les informations à date, les événements philatéliques à venir et peuvent accéder à plusiers autres sites philatéliques. Vous pouvez, en tant que membre, y ajouter vos adresses courriel et site web

PARTENARIAT - La Société a des ententes avec plusieurs autres sociétés et associations philatéliques, notamment l'Association canadienne des négociants en timbres-poste et la Société canadienne des postes (SCP).

POSTES CANADA - La SRPC a un agent de liaison pour représenter La Société, ses Chapitres et ses members. Les members peuvent soumettre des questions d'intérêt commun aux deux Sociétés. Vous pouvez également obtenir des renseignements auprès du Bureau national.

Devenez membre La SRPC

ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA
SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA

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Les renseignements contenus dans le présent formulaire seront utilisés à seule fin de communication par le Bureau national de la SRPC, les directeurs de la Société et ses représentants. La Société publie le nom de chaque personne qui fait une demande d'adhésion dans *Le Philatéliste canadien* afin que les membres puissent exprimer leur objection, le cas échéant. Ces renseignements ne seront jamais vendus ou transmis à des publicitaires. Si vous avez des questions, veuillez vous adresser au Bureau national au 1-888-285-4143

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Journal of The
ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA

Revue de La
SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE DE PHILATÉLIE DU CANADA

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the cover / page couverture:

The Isle of Man Post Office was quick off the mark with a miniature sheet picturing Prince William and Kate Middleton commemorating the couple's October 19, 2010 engagement. Canada Post along with many other postal administrations around the globe have followed suit with a plethora of philatelic issues to mark the young couple's engagement and wedding.

Prince William's depiction on postage stamps began shortly after his birth on June 21, 1982 and up to the time of his engagement his likeness has appeared on over 100 stamps. The Royal Wedding has resulted in the release of many more issues to enhance a potential Prince William Collection that for many philatelists will be a pleasure to accumulate.

Le bureau de poste de l'île de Man s'est hâté de produire une feuille miniature représentant le prince William et Kate Middleton afin de commémorer leurs fiançailles le 19 octobre 2010. Postes Canada, et bien d'autres administrations postales de par le monde, ont suivi avec une profusion d'émissions philatéliques soulignant les fiançailles et le mariage du jeune couple.

Le prince William a commencé à figurer sur les timbres peu après sa naissance, le 21 juin 1982, et au jour de ses fiançailles,plus de 100 timbres le représentant avaient été émis. Le mariage royal a généré l'émission d'encore plus de timbres qui contribueront à constituer une collection potentielle sur le prince William, que de nombreux philatélistes collectionneront avec joie.



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EDITOR'S notes
notes du RÉDACTEUR

by / par Tony Shaman, FRPSC

There are probably very few, if any, hobbies that are better served by a body of literature than philately. I cannot think of any philatelic specialties, plating studies, postmarks, cancellations, postal history, print varieties, topical and thematic issues and the many other collecting specialties that do not have a great many excellent reference publications associated with them. Name them and they have likely been documented in a handbook or written up somewhere.

But there are always exceptions. For example, are any readers aware of the existence of a more-or-less comprehensive list of the double ring handstamps used in the late 1820s? Or the early double split circles without the province indicated? If so, how extensively were these handstamps used in those post offices? Is anyone currently working on a compilation of such a list? Where would one even look to begin assembling such a list?

Page 7 in the *Holmes* catalogue, 11th edition, pictures several of each of these two types of cancellations. Most of the depicted examples are shown with manuscript dates although some have typeset dates that were ostensibly provided by local printers to assist postmasters in resolving mail dating problems. According to *Holmes*, more than 100 Canadian post offices were provided with the double circle handstamps; split ring devices were ostensibly sent to 89 other post offices in 1829.

York and Bytown are believed to have been among the earliest post offices using the double circle cancellers. *Holmes* also refers to a St. John, NB, double circle strike dated 1788 on an entire find in a public archive. It does not specify which archive but the cancellation is presumably one of the earliest known split circle strikes.

Several readers have inquired about these enigmatic, early handstamps. We would be happy to hear from readers who may be able to shed some light on the topic. Any information received will be shared with readers in a future issue of your magazine.

In this issue, Richard Logan takes a look at filial piety and its history in China. Because of its unique role in Chinese life, filial piety plays an integral part in China's great religions: Buddhism, Confucianism and Daoism.

To commemorate the Royal wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton, Michael Peach has accumulated a selection of related philatelic items to illustrate his timely article. It includes information about Britain's Royalty that may not be common knowledge except perhaps to

Sans doute très peu de passe-temps, sinon aucun, n'est aussi bien documenté que la philatélie. Je ne peux imaginer aucune spécialité philatélique, études des plaques,cachets, oblitérations, histoire postale,variétés imprimées, émissions thématiques ou autre spécialité à collectionner sur laquelle il n'existe pas de nombreuses et excellentes publications de référence. Nommez-en une et vous trouverez de la documentation à son sujet dans un manuel ou ailleurs.

Mais il y a toujours des exceptions. Par exemple, quelqu'un sait-il s'il existe une liste, exhaustive ou non, des oblitérations manuelles à double cercle utilisées à la fin des années 1820? Quelqu'un a-t-il des renseignements sur les premiers doubles cercles brisés où le nom de la province n'était pas indiquée? Si oui, à quel point ces oblitérations manuelles étaient-elles utilisées dans les bureaux de poste? Quelqu'un a-t-il entrepris de compiler une telle liste? Où faudrait-il commencer les recherches pour le faire?

La page 7 du catalogue *Holmes*, 11e édition, présente plusieurs de ces deux types d'oblitérations. La plupart des exemples donnés sont accompagnés de dates manuscrites, mais d'autres dates ont apparemment été composées par des imprimeurs locaux qui aidaient les maîtres de poste à régler leurs problèmes de datation. Selon *Holmes*, plus de 100 bureaux de poste canadiens étaient équipés d'un oblitérateur manuel à double cercle; ces instruments auraient été envoyés à 89 autres bureaux de poste en 1829.

Nous croyons que ceux d'York et de Bytown ont été parmi les premiers à utiliser ces appareils. *Holmes* fait aussi référence à une frappe à double cercle de St John, N.-B., datée de 1788 sur un entier trouvé aux archives publiques. Il ne précise pas à quelle archive, mais cette oblitération semble être l'une des plus anciennes frappes à double cercle brisé connues.

Plusieurs lecteurs nous ont posé des questions sur ces vieilles oblitérations manuelles énigmatiques. Nous serions heureux que quelqu'un fasse la lumière sur le sujet. Tous les renseignements que nous recevrons seront transmis aux lecteurs dans un numéro ultérieur de notre revue.

Dans le présent numéro, Richard Logan se penche sur la piété filiale et son histoire en Chine. En raison de son rôle unique dans la vie chinoise, la piété filiale est partie intégrale des grandes religions de ce pays : bouddhisme, confucianisme, taoïsme.

Dans un autre ordre d'idées, pour commémorer le mariage royal du prince William et de Kate Middleton, Michael Peach a rassemblé une sélection d'articles philatéliques qui illustrent son récit, fort à propos. Vous y trouverez des renseignements sur la royauté britannique qui ne sont pas très connus, sauf peut-être

individuals with a keen interest in the monarchy and its machinations. We hope you will find the piece as enjoyable as we did.

Longtime author George Arfken writes about covers addressed to unusual destinations and franked with Small Queen issues. As usual, his article is illustrated with seldom-seen covers that would enhance any collection.

The lifeblood of any publication is the addition of new authors to its pages and we are pleased to introduce two individuals who have submitted articles that they are eager to share with fellow readers.

Postal historians and wartime mail enthusiasts will find Michael Deery's short treatment of World War II postal protocol violations fascinating and informative. His reference to Britain's "Lord Haw-Haw" radio broadcasts is a bonus.

H. F. Shurvell, Emeritus Professor of Chemistry and Adjunct Professor, Art Conservation Program, Queens University, is the lead author of the article explaining a different method of watermark detection. Although not many Canadian stamps are printed on watermark paper, collectors will find the discovery by Shurvell and his two co-authors innovative and educational.

We are pleased that both our longtime and our new authors continue to share their research and discoveries with readers of *The Canadian Philatelist*. ✉

de ceux qui s'intéressent vraiment à la monarchie et à ses pratiques. Nous espérons que cet article vous plaira autant qu'il nous a plu.

George Arfken, un auteur chevronné, nous parle de plis adressés à des destinations inhabituelles et affranchis avec des timbres petite reine. Comme d'habitude, son article est illustré de plis rarement vus qui rehausseraient n'importe quelle collection.

L'ajout de nouveaux auteurs constitue un élément vital pour toute publication. Nous sommes donc heureux de présenter deux personnes qui ont soumis des articles et qui sont impatientes que leurs collègues philatélistes les lisent.

Les historiens de la poste et les passionnés du courrier en temps de guerre trouveront fascinant et instructif le court article de Michael Deery sur la violation des protocoles postaux pendant la Deuxième Guerre mondiale avec en prime une référence aux émissions de radio de « Lord Haw-Haw ».

H. F. Shurvell, professeur émérite de chimie et professeur auxiliaire dans le programme de conservation des œuvres d'art de l'Université Queens est l'un des coauteurs de cet article qui explique une méthode différente de détection des filigranes. Peu de timbres canadiens ont été imprimés sur du papier à filigrane; la découverte de H. F. Survell et de ses deux coauteurs sera donc novatrice et instructive pour les collectionneurs.

Nous nous réjouissons que nos auteurs, nouveaux et de longue date, continuent de communiquer leurs recherches et leurs découvertes aux lecteurs du *Philatéliste canadien*. ✉

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Do you have stamp-collecting friends who are not members of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada? Provide their name and address or pass along this copy of *The Canadian Philatelist* to them. Have them complete and return the information below. Place your name and RPSC member number (found above your name on the address label of this magazine) in the "referred by" area. For every new member you recruit we'll credit your next year's membership with $5.00.

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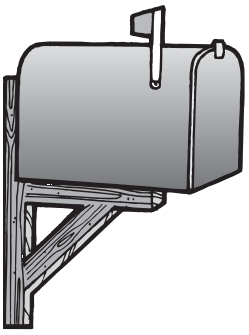
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in the MAILBOX
dans la boîte aux LETTRES

Dear Editor:

I have just received your latest (Jan/Feb 2011) *Canadian Philatelist* and found it interesting, but one article touches on an area about which I have some knowledge "New Zealand Pictorial Issue—1935."

Unfortunately, in the initial descriptive text there are some errors, with many more in the table that lists the stamps.

The Kiwi shown on the 1d stamp is not the "smallest member of the rattle group," but is a "ratite," a probable typo on someone's part, or perhaps even a spell-checker making an unnecessary correction. The 2d Whare is orange, not red. Also, the 4d Mitre Peak stamp is not "black and white" but "black (centre) and dark brown (frame). Both of these are correctly shown in the table.

The statement "Mount Cook is shown in light green colour" on the 2/- Captain Cook at Poverty Bay stamp is completely wrong. Poverty Bay is on the east side of the North Island and Mt. Cook is on the southern half of the South Island; the two are more than 500 miles apart. Further, the officers shown on the stamp are to the left, not the right, of Capt. Cook.

The table listing the various printings (page 42) is lacking a number of refinements that make it misleading. One of the perf heads used for the larger stamps is correctly described as 13--14 x 13½ while another is 14--13 x 13½, but he doesn't mention those. These perf designations are not misprints. The perf on the long side starts off at 13, changes to 13½ at midpoint, and then becomes 14 at the other end, or vice versa. Many of the items designated "Y" do not have both coarse and fine paper, the coarse appearing only during later wartime production. The original issue of the 4d is only 14 comb, not 14 x 13½ as shown. The 9d comes originally as 14 x 14½ (not the "blanket" designated "Y" or "coarse and fine 14 x 13.5" that he shows), and although the 9d appears in multiple watermark as 14 x 15, it also appears as 14 x 14½ (="T"), which he shows as "V" (13½ x 14), which was never used on the 9d. (I don't have time to go into all the other inconsistencies, but the basic list is not at all useful and is misleading at best.) Trying to construct a table that lists all the stamps of this issue is a daunting job, due to the delightful complexity of the printings.

The author's conclusion about the issue is based more on the impact of its design as compared with the earlier pictorials. The main body of the article deals with the design elements and little else, so I suppose that is his orientation, perhaps from a thematic aspect. As he notes, the First Pictorials did indeed have an interesting visual and design impact, but that issue from 1898 to 1907 was very limited when it comes to covers. High values were used either for packages or telegrams. That is because the rates during the period were almost nonexistent, other than the basic ones, with ½d for printed matter, 1d (replaced by the Penny Universal) was for letter mail, the 2d for Australia, the 2½d for the UPU overseas rate and the 3d for registry. A number of us with major collections of the First Pictorials have conducted a census of covers with 6d or more postage (usually comprising multiple weight and registry) and have only barely cleared a total of 100.

My exhibit of the 1935 Pictorials is a traditional one and is in nine frames, which I showed in San Diego at Sandical this past January. I now plan to take it apart to create a postal history exhibit from it.

All the best,
Robert Odenweller
Bernardsville, NJ

DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY?
Here's your opportunity to express your views towards previously-run articles, shows, or anything related to philately. Send your letters to:
Letters to the Editor, P.O. Box 46024 RPO Laurentian, Kitchener, ON N2E 4J3
email: tshaman@rogers.com.

AVEZ-VOUS QUELQUE CHOSE À DIRE?
Nous vous offrons l'occasion de faire connaître vos impressions sur des articles passés, des expositions ou n'importe quel autre sujet d'intérêt philatélique.
Écrivez à l'éditeur, B.P. 46024, RPO Laurentian, Kitchener, ON, N2E 4J3
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Scenes from ROYALE*2011*ROYAL



Gary Misener and Chuck Colomb, co-chairs, holding a strip of stamps while Francis Scarpaleggia cuts the strip and declares the show open.



Award, the ATA First Place Youth, and the AAPE Youth Grand Champion award, in front of his exhibit on "Owls".



Edgar Rouleau, mayor of Dorval, arriving at the Welcome Table manned by Michèle Cartier, David Schurman, Judith Schurman and Ada Colomb.



Fédération québécoise de philatélie volunteers ready to entertain the Westpark school visitors.



Barbara Heffell receiving her Vermeil medal for her "A View of the Blind" postcard exhibit, from Stéphane Cloutier.

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The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists

NEW RDPs SIGN ROLL IN PORTSMOUTH

The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists was established in 1921 by the Philatelic Congress of Great Britain with the approval of His Majesty King George V, who was the first Signatory. An invitation to sign the Roll is regarded as the world's pre-eminent philatelic honour.

Not including the newly elected RDPs, 352 philatelists from 40 countries have achieved this distinction. There are at present 74 Signatories from 24 countries including 16 from Great Britain, 10 from the USA, six from France, five from Germany, four from Italy, and four from Switzerland.

At a recent meeting of the Board of Election, comprising Patrick Pearson (Chairman), Tomas Bjäringer, Christopher Harman, Alan Huggins, Rolf-Dieter Jaretzky, Jane Moubray and Robert Odenweller, with Christopher King, Secretary to the Board in attendance, the members unanimously decided to ask Gavin Fryer FRPSL (United Kingdom), Koichi Sato FRPSL (Japan), and Ray Todd OAM FRPSL (Australia) to sign the Roll.

The Signing Ceremony was scheduled for Friday 17th June at the Portsmouth Guild Hall during the 2011 Philatelic Congress of Great Britain, which is to be held in Southsea from 16th - 19th June.

Tanna Coffee Stamps

Vanuatu Post is commemorating one of the country's important export crops, roasted coffee, on four postage stamps. Released on March 23, 2011, the stamps will remain on sale for a two-year period.

The Tanna Coffee Development Company was established in 1982 but has now been sold to private investors. Currently about 550 farmers produce just over 50 tons of coffee of which 30% is being exported overseas.

Approximately 500,000 coffee trees have been planted on Tanna and another 100,000 on adjoining islands. The island of Tanna itself is located southeast of Port Vila, the nation's capital.

Vanuatu coffee beans are grown 100% organically, according to the tagline printed on each of the four stamps.

For more information about these stamp releases, contact Vanuatu Post at its Web Site www.vanuatupost.vu or e-mail: philatelic@vanuatupost.vu



Plis du "Bal" de l'Ile Maurice.

En février, Michael Sefi, Gardien de la Collection royale de philatélie, fit une visite aux Collections philatéliques de la British Library. Les circonstances de sa visite étaient d'assembler en un même lieu les seules enveloppes du "Bal" connues de l'Île Maurice. Seulement trois existent, une dans la Collection Royale de philatélie, une dans la Collection Tapling à la British Library et une autre prêtée à la British Library par son propriétaire, monsieur Vikram Shand. Les plis du "Bal" portent ce nom parce qu'ils sont tous affranchis par un exemplaire du un penny "Post Office" orange-rouge de l'Ile Maurice de 1847 et on croit que ces timbres ont été apposés sur les enveloppes pour envoyer les invitations ou les cartons d'invitation pour un Bal organisé par Lady Gomm, l'épouse du Gouverneur, et tenu à la Résidence du Gouverneur le 30 septembre 1847. C'est la première fois que les trois enveloppes se retrouvent en même temps au même endroit.



Michael Sefi (left) and David Beech of the British Library with the three "Ball covers"

Mauritius Ball Covers

In February, Michael Sefi, the Keeper of The Royal Philatelic Collection, visited the British Library Philatelic Collections. The occasion for his visit was to bring together the only three known Mauritius "Ball" envelopes, one from the Royal Philatelic Collection, one from the British Library's Tapling Collection, and one that is currently on loan to the British Library that belongs to Mr Vikram Chand. The "Ball" covers are so called because they each bear an example of the Mauritius 1847 "Post Office" issue 1d orange-red and are understood to have been used to send invitations or admittance cards for a Ball being given by Lady Gomm the wife of the Governor at Government House, Port Louis on 30th September 1847. This is the first time that all three surviving Ball covers have been together in the same place since their original mailing in 1847.

Turtles of Vanuatu

Vanuatu has released four 100 vatu denominated stamps to draw attention to the endangerment of two of its most commonly found sea turtles: the Hawksbill and Green species. All sea turtles are considered endangered by conservation groups such as the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

Local Vanuatu villages are assisting organizations such as CITES by tagging and monitoring these reptiles. Information is being collected to plan on how best to manage and conserve the turtle populations in the archipelago.

Greatest danger to the survival of these beautiful creatures, apart from traditional harvesting, is commercial fishing, pollution, set fishing nets and the destruction of their beach nesting areas.

Pacific countries, including Vanuatu, are striving to protect these species with measures such as stricter enforcement of existing legislation, bans on taking turtles or their eggs during nesting season and passing laws against the sale of turtles or turtle products.

For more information about the stamp release, contact Vanuatu Post at its Web Site www.vanuatupost.vu or e-mail: philatelic@vanuatupost.vu

The stamps will remain on sale from January 26, 2011 for a period of two years.



Estonia Introduces the Euro

By Herb Kucera
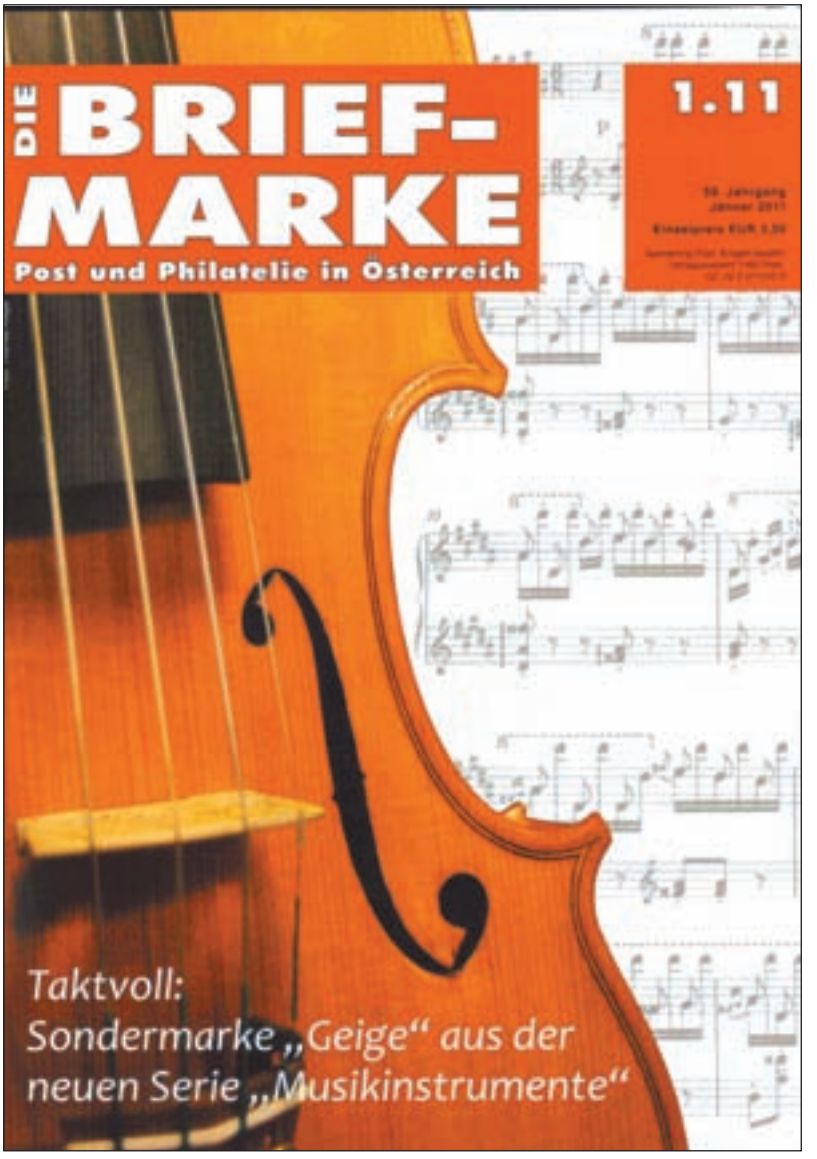
On January 1, 2011, Estonia adopted the Euro as its currency. Estonian stamps issued from now on will all be denominated in Euros. Actually, Estonia had been contemplating entry into the Euro Zone for some time. The actual entry was postponed several times. All stamps issued after January 14, 2006 show their values in both Krooni and Euros. Those stamps will be valid for use by themselves or in combination with the new Euro stamps. Earlier stamps with the value shown only in Krooni were invalidated on January 15, 2011 and can no longer be used.

New fiscal stamps are not yet available and will be introduced after the existing stock is used up. The value of the older fiscal stamps will be converted at the official rate of one Euro equaling 15.6466 Krooni.

As in all other countries using the Euro, paper bank notes are of a common design. However, each country does mint its own coins. One side of the coins has a common design but the obverse differs from country to country. For example, Estonia has chosen the same design for every coin denomination consisting of a map of Estonia and the word 'Eesti', Estonian for Estonia.

Beginning January 1, 2011, all automatic banking machines will disburse bank notes in denominations of 5, 10 and 50 Euros. The Estonian State Bank will exchange Krooni bank notes at the official rate of exchange noted above. There are no restrictions on the amount of money that can be exchanged or a time limit during which the exchange must be completed.

Courtesy: *Die Briefmarke*



Haiti Philatelic Society

The Haiti Philatelic Society is pleased to announce the release of its second monograph, Special Study No. 2, entitled "Early Air Mail of Haiti". Authored by Peter C. Jeannopoulos, this publication is important for anyone interested in the aerophilately of Haiti. The work is a result of research by the author which has yielded new discoveries concerning early Haitian experimental airmail flights conducted by United States Marine Corps pilots in the 1920s. Jeannopoulos carefully documents his findings versus those which have been noted in existing literature and presents his observations in a comprehensive, concise manner. The study itself spans 28 pages, with 18 pages in full color illustrating various early flights, and carefully details the newly identified discoveries.

Jeannopoulos' latest research work began as a result of his study of flight cachet markings observed on Haitian experimental air mail covers. A previously unidentified flight cachet was found on several of them. As his research efforts progressed, the author also determined that recorded dates were not accurate for another more common cachet from that period.



While the scarcity of the newly identified cachet has not been established, this publication should assist collectors to check their collections and report their findings. Using existing catalog cachet identifications for convenience, the author has designed the new finding as "Type 3A".

This newly released monograph is divided into four segments: Part I -- Aerophilatelic Errors and Ambiguities; Part II – Type 3 Airmail Cachet; Part III – A New Discovery – Type 3A; and Part IV – 1925 Airmail Covers

For further information about the Haiti Philatelic Society contact the Society's Secretary-Treasurer, Wally Deltoro at 5709 Marble Arch Way, Alexandria, VA 22315, or at the e-mail address u007ubi@aol.com.

The Yellow Fautu

The Pitcairn Island Philatelic Bureau has released a miniature souvenir sheet, and two individual stamps, picturing the endangered yellow fautu to commemorate its participation at Indipex 2011.

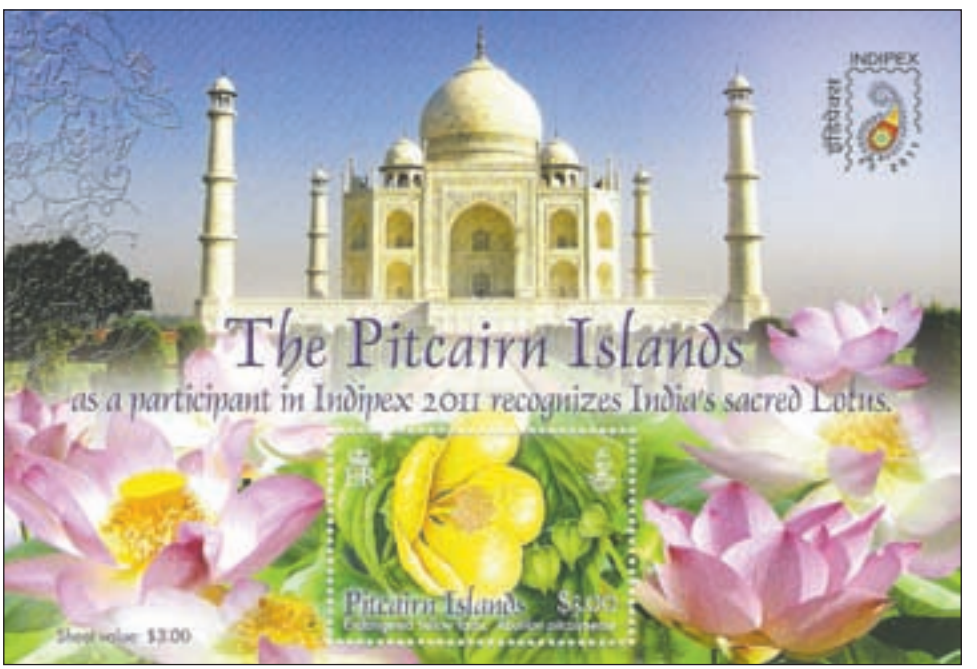
First discovered in 1934 on Pitcairn Island by two American botanists, the yellow flowering shrub is making a slow comeback on the South Pacific Island. A search in 1991 and again in 1997 failed to turn up even a single specimen of the elusive flower and it was believed to be extinct. It was not until 2002 that a Pitcairn resident ran across a single flowering plant.

Cuttings and seed from the lone plant were taken to the Island's nursery where it was grown with some difficulty. Further cuttings were taken to England in 2003 where they failed to produce seeds.

In 2008, a cutting was shipped to the National Botanical Gardens in Dublin, Ireland, for propagating and in 2009 the new plant produced flower buds. More cuttings were taken and sent to places such as Kew in an effort to ensure the plant's survival.

Plants have now been reintroduced to Pitcairn in an effort to reestablish them in the wild. It remains on the list of critically endangered plant species.

For more information about this miniature souvenir sheet and stamps, contact the Pitcairn Islands Philatelic Bureau, P.O. Box 27404, Marion Square, Wellington, NZ, or e-mail: stamps@pitcairn.gov.pn



Geldert Medal for 2010 Awarded to Nino Chiovelli

George Pepall, President of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC), has announced that Nino Chiovelli of Edmonton, Alberta has been awarded the Geldert Medal for 2010. The Geldert Medal is given annually for the best article or series of articles in *The Canadian Philatelist*, journal of the society.



Chiovelli was chosen the Geldert winner for his article "Canadian Food Mail Program" which was published in the March-April 2010 issue. It was one of 20 eligible items. The jury chose Chiovelli's article for its originality and the emphasis placed on a little known area of philately.

On hearing of his success, Nino Chiovelli said, "I was totally surprised and was completely unaware that the Geldert Medal existed." When he was asked why he chose to write such a story, he said "I am a retired postal clerk and have been familiar with the program for many years." He admitted articles "have been written about the program," but this is an "important piece of information for air mail collectors and generalists" that may have been missed.

Unfortunately, Chiovelli does "not have any original CFMP material. He said his goal was "to inform the philatelic arena of the program" which the Geldert Medal Selection Committee considered he did with informed expertise.

Nino Chiovelli collected stamps when he was a youngster, but "then dropped out" until he started piloting hot air balloons in the 1970s and 1980s when people asked him to carry covers on various flights. "That started me on the highly specialized trail of collecting Trans-Atlantic, Trans-Pacific, and around-the-world 'carried-on-board flight covers.'" He has also helped the Aerophilatelic Society and some balloon clubs in producing covers.

La médaille Geldert 2010 est décernée à Nino Chiovelli

George Pepall, président de La Société royale de philatélie du Canada (SRPC) a dévoilé le nom du gagnant de la médaille Geldert pour l'année 2010, Nino Chiovelli, d'Edmonton, en Alberta. Cette médaille est accordée chaque année à l'auteur du meilleur article ou de la meilleure série d'articles parus dans *Le philatéliste canadien*, la revue de la société.

M. Chiovelli a été déclaré gagnant de la médaille Geldert pour son article « Canadian Food Mail Program » (Le programme Aliments-poste), paru dans le numéro de mars-avril 2010. Le jury l'a choisi pour son originalité et parce qu'il mettait l'accent sur un domaine peu connu de la philatélie.

Lorsque nous lui avons fait part de son succès, Nino Chiovelli a déclaré : « J'ai été tout à fait surpris et j'ignorais complètement l'existence de la médaille Geldert ». Lorsque nous lui avons demandé pourquoi il avait choisi de rédiger un article sur ce thème, il a répondu : « Je suis un commis des postes à la retraite et je connais le programme depuis longtemps, tout en admettant que, d'autres articles ont été rédigés sur le même sujet, mais il s'agit d'informations importantes que les collectionneurs qui s'intéressent à la poste aérienne et les généralistes n'ont peut-être jamais obtenue ».

Malheureusement, M. Chiovelli ne possède pas d'objets originaux du programme. Il a affirmé que son but était « d'informer le monde philatélique sur ce programme », et le comité pour la médaille Geldert a estimé que, ce faisant, il a démontré posséder une expertise éclairée.

Nino Chiovelli a collectionné les timbres lorsqu'il était jeune, mais a « laissé tomber » jusqu'à ce qu'il commence à piloter des montgolfières dans les années 1970 et 1980 et que des gens se mettent à lui demander de transporter des plis lors de ses vols. « C'est ainsi que je me suis lancé dans le domaine très spécialisé des plis transatlantiques, transpacifiques et internationaux transportés par voie aérienne. Il a aussi aidé la Société d'aérophilatélie et des clubs de montgolfières à produire des plis.

On the importance of collectors sharing their hobby with others, he said "it is that research that supplies both the vocal and printed information that gives vibrancy to the hobby." He added "sharing research is a magnet that will draw people to the hobby as it does open the door to adventure."

George Pepall said "it is important to congratulate Geldert Medal winners because they are an inspiration to others and a wonderful example for the hobby." He said "the 2010 winner has presented a little known area for the collectors, and it should motivate aerophilatelists especially." He added "because Nino Chiovelli was prepared to share his expertise with collectors, it is an immense benefit to *The Canadian Philatelist* and other philatelic publications." Pepall announced the award at the ROYALE*2011*ROYAL in Dorval, Quebec in May.

The Geldert Medal was established in 1967 by Phyllis Geldert in memory of her husband Dr. George M. "Mac" Geldert, FRPSC and RPSC president (1958-1967).

The Geldert Medal selection committee consists of RPSC members Michael O. Nowlan, Chair; Cimon Morin and Kevin O'Reilly. ✉

Sur l'importance d'échanger avec les autres dans notre passe-temps, il a affirmé que « c'est la recherche qui appuie l'information orale et écrite qui fait vibrer notre passe-temps. Il aussi ajouté que faire connaître nos recherches aux autres est un aimant qui attirera les gens à la philatélie, car cela ouvre une porte sur l'aventure ».

George Pepall a affirmé, « il est important de féliciter les gagnants de la médaille Geldert, car ils sont une source d'inspiration pour les autres et un magnifique exemple pour notre passe-temps. Et, le gagnant de 2010 a présenté un domaine peu connu des collectionneurs, ce qui devrait motiver surtout les aérophilatélistes. Parce que Nino Chiovelli a désiré communiquer son expérience avec des collectionneurs, *Le philatéliste canadien* et d'autres publications philatéliques en ont grandement profité. M. Peppal annonça l'attribution de la médaille au congrès ROYAL*2011*ROYALE à Dorval, au Québec, en mai.

La médaille Geldert a été instituée par Phyllis Geldert à la mémoire de son mari, George M. « Mac » Geldert, FRPSC, ancien président de La Société royale de philatélie du Canada (1958-1967).

Le comité de sélection pour la médaille Geldert est composé des membres suivants de La SRPC, Michael O. Nowlan, président, Cimon Morin et Kevin O'Reilly. ✉

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Potential donors should contact the Foundation President, Robert S. Traquair, directly (416-921-2077) or call the RPSC National Office (1-888-285-4143) or in writing at 10 Summerhill Ave., Toronto, ON, M4T 1A8, to discuss the type of material intended for donation and the process for receiving a charitable donation receipt.

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Les personnes intéressées à faire un don peuvent s'adresser au président de la fondation, Robert S. Traquair, directement au 416-921-2077 ou au Bureau national au 1-888-285-4143, ou par écrit au 10 Summerhill Ave., Toronto, ON, M4T 1A8, afin de discuter des articles à donner et de la démarche à suivre pour obtenir un reçu pour don de charité.

RARE DESTINATIONS for Small Queen Covers

By George B. Arfken, FRPSC

During the 1850s Canada's overseas pence-franked letter mail was limited to the United Kingdom and France. In the 1860s Canadian correspondence widened with more letter mail going to more different countries. It was in the 1870s, 80s and 90s that Canadian letter mail started going almost all over the world. Canada joined the Universal Postal Union (UPU) effective August 1, 1878, and this was a major boost for correspondence. Here we look at Small Queen franked covers addressed to unusual or rare destinations. For 10 of the destinations considered, the number of Small Queen covers to a given destination is probably no more half a dozen. The remaining destination is special and will be discussed below.

The Carribean

Guadeloupe. Figure 1 shows a 16¢ pre-UPU Small Queen cover to Guadeloupe, West Indies. The cover, posted in Arichat, N.S. on October 13, 1876, was endorsed "Via Halifax" for Cunard's Halifax - Bermuda - St. Thomas route. However, the next sailing on that route was Oct. 30 so the cover was sent via New York and from there to St. Thomas. There is a St. Thomas NO 7 76 backstamp. Another ship picked up the cover at St. Thomas and delivered it to Guadeloupe, hopefully to the British Consul. The red 15¢ is a Canadian accountancy mark crediting the U.S. with 15¢. Guadeloupe was a rare destination at this time because it was French.



Figure 1. A cover for a ship captain in Pointe a Pitre, Guadeloupe from Arichat, N.S., October 13, 1876. Courtesy of Firby Auctions, Menich Collection.

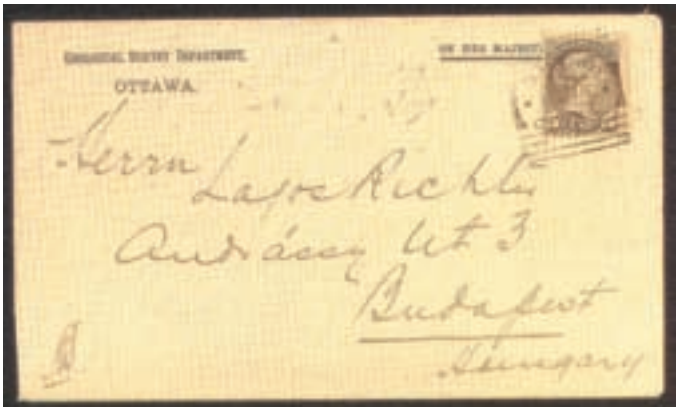


Figure 2. From Ottawa, December 15, 1893, to Budapest, Hungary. Courtesy of Firby Auctions, Arfken Collection.

Europe

Hungary. The cover of Figure 2 is addressed to Budapest, Hungary. The cover is printed "On Her Majesty's Service" and could pass free within Canada but not free in international mail. The 5¢ Small Queen paid the UPU postage. There are London DE 28 93 and Budapest 93 DEC 30 backstamps. Mailed in Ottawa December 16, 1893, the cover took 12 days to reach London and two days more for Budapest.

Africa

Madagascar. Turning to Africa, one of the rare destinations is Madagascar. Figure 3 shows a 10¢ cover (up to 1 oz., double the 5¢ per ½ oz.) sent to Madagascar. The great powers of Europe had decided that Madagascar belonged to France and the French military forces were occupying and pacifying the island.

The 1895 cover reached London on August 31, 1895. It was turned over to the French mail system and carried out of Marseilles by the French packet *Yangtse*. After transiting the Suez Canal and the Red Sea, the *Yangtse* offloaded the cover at Tamatave on the east coast of Madagascar. The destination, Tananarivo was in the highlands southwest of the port. Delivery failed and the cover marked RETOUR A L'ENVOYEUR was returned



Figure 3. Posted in Bloomfield, Ont., August 21, 1895, and addressed to Tananarivo, Madagascar, Africa. There are military MADAGASCAR 7 AVRIL 96 and BLOOMFIELD, ONT. backstamps. Returned, fourteen months for the round trip. Courtesy of Firby Auctions, Arfken Collection.

by French packet. A backstamp 19 SEP 96 marks the return trip.

Notes: 1. The 3¢ Small Queen on the right is a replacement.

2. The endorsement "via Calcutta and Yokohama" is total nonsense.

Natal. The British colony of Natal was about 1500 km sailing distance up the Indian Ocean coast from Cape Town, South Africa. Figure 4 shows an 1890 15¢ Small Queen cover to Natal. Canadian mail to Natal went via London and Cape Town. The postal rate since 1878 had been 15¢ per ½ oz. for both Cape Town and Natal. In January 1890 the rate was reduced to 12¢ per ½ oz. for Cape Town but not for Natal. Perhaps the almost 1000 miles distance from Cape Town to Natal was a factor in leaving Natal at 15¢. So the five 3¢ Small Queens paid the correct postage. The red 30 is a Canadian credit to the U.K. for 30 centimes or 6¢.

Natal Joined the UPU in July 1892 and this is the only pre-UPU Canadian cover to Natal that has been reported.



Figure 4. Posted in North Brookfield, N.S., October 2, 1890 and addressed to Port Natal (renamed Durban). Courtesy of Firby Auctions, Arfken Collection.

The Route to India

Aden. In the 1880s the British route to India was: across the channel to France, through the Mt. Cenis tunnel to Italy and south to Italy's Adriatic port of Brindisi. From the French channel port to Brindisi, the cover went by rail. Then came a ship to Egypt, through the Suez Canal and south the length of the Red Sea to Aden, an important coaling stop. Beyond Aden, some ships went to Bombay (and no further). Other ships skipped Bombay and went to Ceylon, an important transfer point.

A cover to Aden is shown in Figure 5. This was UPU mail and Britain had imposed a 5¢ per ½ oz. UPU authorized surtax to cover some of the expense of this long route. The 10¢ rate to Aden began August 1878 when Canada accepted UPU rates and regulations and continued through December 1891 when Britain stopped imposing UPU surtaxes. The cover reached Aden on November 1, 1887. Delivery failed and the cover was sent first to the U.S. Dead Letter Office, MAR 28 90, and then to the Canadian DLO, AP 11 1890, a 2½ year round trip.



Figure 5. A UPU surtax cover to Aden. This cover was mailed in Winnipeg, October 6, 1887 and addressed to Aden, Arabia, Asia. Delivery failed and the cover was returned. Courtesy of Firby Auctions, Menich Collection.

Afghanistan. Britain was engaged in the Second Afghan War in 1878 - 1880 to limit Russian influence in Afghanistan and to block a perceived threat to British India. The war was concluded when a treaty was signed on May 26, 1879. However, the British resident in Kabul (authorized by the treaty) was assassinated on September 3, 1879 and British troops returned to Kabul. Only four Canadian covers to Afghanistan have been reported, all of them to H. Martin Sandbach. Figure 6 shows the latest of these four. All of the covers were endorsed "via Brindisi". This was the fast route to India and the Canadian postage required was 15¢, by special permission of the UPU. All four covers were franked only 10¢, for the slow route but may have gone via



Figure 6. From Toronto, March 14, 1880, and addressed to H. Martin Sandbach Esq. R.A., Bombay. The cover was redirected to Cabul (Kabul), Afghanistan. Courtesy of Firby Auctions.

Brindisi anyway because of general support of the military effort.

This cover was originally addressed to Bombay, India and was redirected to No. 4 Huzara Mountain Batty, 2nd Div., Cabul (Kabul) Field Force. The cover went to northwest India (now Pakistan) by rail and was then carried into Afghanistan by army mail service.

Ceylon. The Peninsular & Oriental ships coming from Aden that did not stop at Bombay, continued on to Galle, Ceylon. This was the transfer point [1]. Mail was unloaded here and transferred 1. to ships going up India's southeast coast, the Calcutta Line, 2. to ships going to Hong Kong, 3. to ships going to Australia and 4. to Ceylon mail for Ceylon addresses.

Before 2004, Ceylon would not have been in a rare destinations list for Small Queen covers. No Small Queen covers to Ceylon had been reported.



Figure 7. Posted in South Zorra, Ont. [3], July 26, 1878, and addressed to Kandy, Ceylon, E. Indies. Kandy is an historic Buddhist city in central Ceylon, now Sri Lanka. There is a Kandy SP 20 78 backstamp, 56 days transit time. Courtesy of Longley Auctions.

Then in 2004, 19 Small Queen covers appeared, 12 pre-UPU and 7 UPU [2]. So now Ceylon is a scarce destination but not a rare one. It's included here as a special case. Figure 7 shows a cover to Ceylon dated July 26. 1878. The cover is franked with four 5¢ and one 2¢ Small Queens for a total of 22¢. All 12 of the preUPU covers carried 22¢ postage. This is interesting because the Canadian rate to Ceylon had dropped from 22¢ to 16¢ in April 1877. Transit via Brindisi was 4¢ more but this cover did not ask for transit via Brindisi. It simply paid an obsolete rate.

Burma. Figure 8. shows another military cover, this one to Burma. The cover came on the *P.&O.* steamer that stopped a Columbo, Ceylon, was transferred to the Calcutta Line [4] and offloaded at Calcutta. From Calcutta the cover went to Rangoon either by local ship or by military mail. The cover, an EN4 franked with 7¢ in Small Queens, paid the UPU surtax rate of 10¢, in effect from August 1878 through December 1891. Before that time the Postal Guide didn't list Burma. Starting in August 1878 all Canadian mail for India and Aden, Ceylon and Burma went via Brindisi. This is the only Canadian cover to Burma paying this 10¢ UPU surtax rate so far reported.



Figure 8. Posted in Montreal, December 20, 1887, and addressed to Rangoon, Burma. There is a Rangoon JAN 23 1888 backstamp giving a transit time of 34 days.

Pacific Ocean and South

Fiji. Canada had completed a transcontinental railway to Vancouver in 1885. This made Vancouver an ideal port for ships going to 1. Japan and China and 2. New Zealand and Australia [5]. Canadian packet service to New Zealand and Australia was initiated August 15, 1893. This route included a stop at Fiji for taking on coal. This cover, Figure 9, was endorsed for the Canadian packet *Aorangi*. It was late usage of the 5¢ Small Queen franking. The 5¢ Maple Leaf had been issued three months before this cover was posted.



Figure 9. Posted in Vancouver, March 10, 1898, and addressed to Suva, Fiji. Courtesy of Firby Auctions, Arfken Collection.

Tasmania. The postal rate to Tasmania had been 15¢ per ½ oz. since October 1882. The rate was reduced to 12¢ on January 1, 1889 two month before the cover of Figure 10 was posted and the cover was overpaid 3¢. There are backstamps: Victoria, B.C. MR 7 89, San Francisco, Cal. St. Shp APR 7, Hobart, Tasmania MY 6 89 and New Town, Tasmania MY 6 89. So, after a month's wait for a ship, the cover went from San Francisco to Hobart and New Town in 29 days. The transpacific packet may have delivered the cover at Melbourne, Victoria. A local ship carried the cover from Melbourne to Hobart.

Tasmania is far away from Canada. One of the reasons for including it here is that, along with Afghanistan and Burma, Tasmania is a candidate for the longest mail route from Canada. Check it out. The longest mail route may depend on whether you start from Halifax or from Vancouver.

Rarotonga, Cook Islands. The Cook Islands form a self-governing state in free association with New Zealand. There are 15 small islands with Rarotonga being largest. Rarotonga is about 1200 miles northeast of Auckland, New Zealand.



Figure 10. Mailed in Regina, Assa on March 4, 1889 and addressed to New Town, Tasmania. The cover was sent to San Francisco and just missed the packet that sailed in early March. Courtesy of Firby Auctions, Arfken Collection.

The registered cover, shown in Figure 11, was paid a 5¢ non-UPU rate and a 5¢ registry fee with the 2¢ EN9 and 8¢ in Small Queens. The Cook Islands were not in the UPU at this time, 1896, but Canada, in the January 1893 Official Postal Guide, had declared: *The letter rate for all destinations beyond Canada and the United States is 5 cts. per ½ oz.*

The cover was sent via England, red 7 FEB 96 London transit and Auckland, 20 MR 96. The blue cross lines were added in London to emphasize registration.



Figure 11. A registered cover to Rarotonga from Toronto, January 24, 1896. The cover reached Rarotonga on April 16, 1896, 83 days in transit. courtesy of Firby Auctions, Arfken Collection.

This has been a sample of Small Queen covers to rare destinations and only a sample. There are other countries. Be on the lookout for covers to the Scandinavian countries, Eastern Europe and Spain. There are literally hundreds of Small Queen covers to New South Wales and Victoria, Australia but few, if any, to Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia. ✉

Endnotes

[1] The transfer port was changed from Galle to Colombo in 1882.

[2] Victor Willson has given a list of these 19 covers by month and year in the December 2004 issue of *Beaver Chatter*, the newsletter of the Prairie Beaver Regional Group of BNAPS.

[3] South Zorra was located about 4 miles north and a little west of Woodstock. The author is grateful to Robert C. Smith for the location of the no longer existing South Zorra.

[4] The Calcutta Line, Galle/Columbo - Madras - Calcutta, had been a branch of the P.&O. until 1882. The P.&O. dropped this route but the Line continued as an independent, private operation.

[5] *Canada's Pacific Maritime Mails* by Alec Urwin and Gray Scrimgeour, 2008, treats mail to Japan and other Asian countries in Volume 1 and mail to Australia and New Zealand in Volume 2.

Rideau Hall



By Peter Butler, FRPSC

By the time you read this piece, the excitement about the Royal Wedding and the variety of great philatelic elements that were available from Canada Post will have subsided considerably. The story of the Royal Wedding stamps unveiling however will continue to be vividly remembered for a long time by those Royal Philatelic Society of Canada members who were invited to attend the event at Rideau Hall.

In late March, President George Pepall received a phone call from the Governor General's office asking if The RPSC would like to have 20 invitations to the unveiling of the Wedding stamps at Rideau Hall on April 29th. George responded with an enthusiastic "Yes" and immediately set out to spread the word to Chapter contacts in order to extend the invitation to those members who were interested. In less than a week, 19 names had been recorded, so the response to Rideau Hall was placed. Official emails were sent out to the 19 members to be shown upon entering the Hall, at 9:45 a.m. for the unveiling on April 29, 2011.

There were several interest groups in attendance at the celebration, all with a history of patronage from the governor general. Deepak Chopra, President and CEO of Canada Post and

His Excellency the Right David Johnston warmly welcome the audience of about 200 guests and spoke of the significance of the event.

Governor General David Johnston congratulated the creative people at Canada Post for their efforts to mark the occasion. He said, "As symbols of love and loyalty, the stamps are eloquent. At once, they affirm Canada's commitment to the Crown and, on a human level, they symbolize one of the most joyous occasions in life, the joining of two people in marriage."

Deepak Chopra told us, "Canada Post creates stamps to celebrate our country and our history, our heroes, achievers and personalities, our passions and our culture. For this reason, our stamps often mark milestones in the reigns of our monarchs and members of their families." The accompanying photograph shows both gentlemen unveiling the stamps.

Following the ceremony both Johnston and Chopra visited with guests freely. We all shook hands with the governor general. The photograph shows him chatting with President George Pepall. Our president and I were both able to speak with Deepak Chopra for several minutes about The RPSC and its programs. Both gentlemen knew about our Society and were interested in hearing about our efforts to expand the membership in "Canada's National Stamp Club."

The significance of the Wedding stamp issue was clearly brought home by Jim Phillips, Director of Stamp Products, when he explained, following the unveiling, that it was the first time that Canada Post had issued Details devoted to a single set of stamps and "a treasure trove of Royal philatelic collectibles." It was also the first time that two official first day covers (of the two stamps and the souvenir sheet) were distributed at an unveiling, two weeks prior to them being issued to the general public. A special request from Rideau Hall initiated the change in procedure. He also made mention that pre-orders through Antigonish, Nova Scotia, had been the highest ever in the history of the mail order program. With over 16 million stamps printed, Canada Post expects the sales to set records.



After the formal part of the event, guests were invited to tour the main floor of Rideau Hall and visit the recently renovated solarium. There were guides in all the rooms providing an interesting and historic commentary. Personally, I was enthralled with the number of Canadian paintings displayed in the rooms. In the front entranceway, there was a gallery of paintings depicting all the governors general. In the reception room, there were historic paintings of Victoria and several prominent armed forces leaders and other royalty. It was a wonderful ending to the morning of witnessing the unveiling, hearing the speeches, meeting the dignitaries, touring Rideau Hall and receiving the early copies of the OFDCs, shown proudly at three club meetings prior to the issue date, commemorating the Wedding Day of His Royal Highness Prince William and Miss Catherine Middleton. ✉

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The Royal Wedding

By Michael Peach, FRPSC



The world was watching the pomp and pageantry as Prince William married Catherine Middleton in Westminster Abbey on Friday 29 April last. They officially became the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge.

All British Coronations since 1066 have been held in Westminster Abbey. The Prince's great grandparents, later King George VI and Queen Elizabeth, were married there on 26 April 1923, and his grandparents, then Princess Elizabeth and Lieutenant Phillip Mountbatten and now Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Phillip, on a dull November day in 1947.



His parents Prince Charles and Lady Diana Spencer were married in St. Paul's Cathedral on 29 July 1981. The Abbey is officially the Collegiate Church of St. Peter Westminster and is a Royal Peculiar under the personal jurisdiction of the Queen.

The official reception was hosted by the Queen at Buckingham Palace, followed by a private dinner hosted by Prince Charles.

Prince William has been featured on stamps of many countries, but not Canada. British stamps were issued to mark his 21st birthday in 2003 and he appeared on the mini-sheet of stamps to mark his great-grandmother's, the Queen Mother, 100th birthday.

Canada issued a stamp to mark the wedding of Princess Elizabeth and Phillip Mountbatten, but did not mark either of the two weddings of his father, Prince Charles.

The Canadian Royal Wedding stamps were unveiled on 16 April by the Governor General, David Johnston, and Canada Post President and CEO, Deepak Chopra, at a ceremony in Rideau Hall on 15 April. There are two stamps, 59¢ for the domestic rate and $1.75 for the international rate. The 59¢ stamp shows a picture of the couple when their engagement was announced last November,



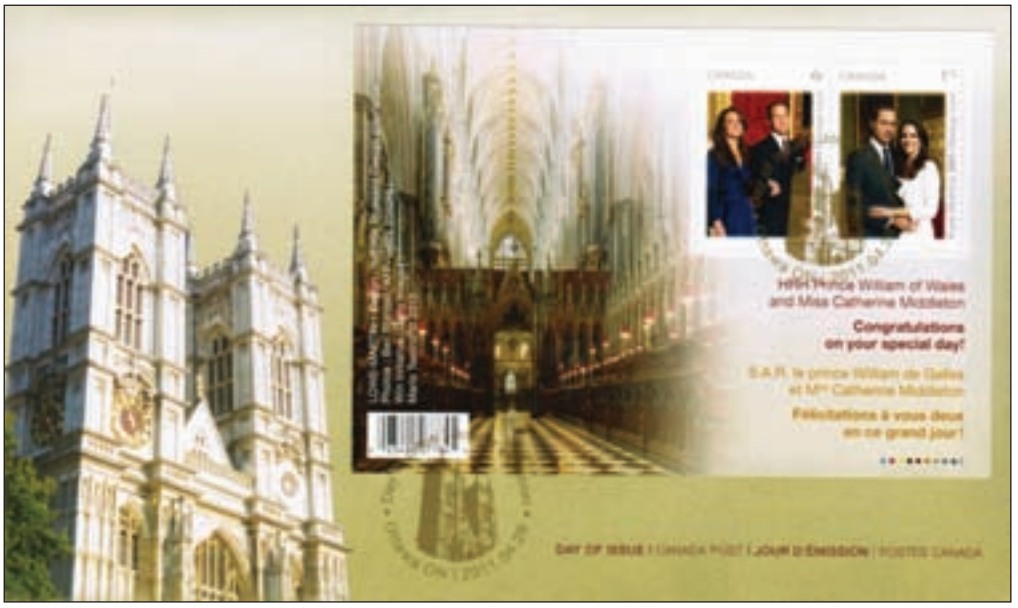




and the $1.75 stamp has Mario Testino's official engagement portrait taken in the Council Chamber of St. James Palace. The stamps are available in booklets of 10. There is a mini-sheet of both stamps with a background of Westminster Abbey. The front of the Abbey is shown on one of the official FDCs of the mini-sheet. The other FDC has Prince William's Coat of Arms. Canada Post also issued a domestic rate postcard and an envelope with the 59¢ stamp and a pane of 16 stamps, eight of each value. A limited number of the mini-sheets were overprinted in gold foil with Prince William's Coat of Arms. The stamps were originally slated to be issued on 2 May, but after this became Election Day, it was rescheduled for the Wedding Day, 29 April. Two first day covers were listed on eBay on the unveiling day, 15 April, but did not sell. The two different covers had been given to each participant at the unveiling.

Other countries have issued two commemorative stamps and a mini-sheet. The two British stamps, 1st class inland, 46p, and £1.10, airmail to 20g, were issued on the Queen's birthday 21 April. They were also available in a mini-sheet of four stamps. The £1.10 stamp has same formal image as the Canadian $1.75 stamp, while the first class stamp shows a different informal image, also taken by Mario Testino who was Princess Diana's favourite photographer and was one of the invited guests. The description on the min-





sheet is bilingual English and Welsh. There is a short video about the production of the British stamps on the web, http://www.stampmagazine.co.uk/news/article.asp?a=7998. New Zealand used the same two images as the British for its two stamps, both issued at the standard rate to the U.K., $ 2.40, on 23 March. There was an error in the original New Zealand presentation pack, giving Prince William's birthday as 21 May 1982, rather than 21 June. This was rapidly corrected. Australia issued two stamps both with the same design on 12 April, 60¢ for the domestic rate and $2.25 for the international rate to the U.K. The stamps show a formal portrait taken at the announcement of their engagement. The official FDC was cancelled at Williamstown, Victoria. The city was named after William IV, the last monarch of that name to rule the British Empire (1830-1837). Australia issued a *Capturing the Moment* sheetlet of 10 domestic rate stamps on 4 May, featuring a portrait of the couple from the wedding day.

The stamps of Niue, released on 23 March, are quite different. The se-tenant pair of stamps has an engagement portrait of the couple, with perforations in middle giving two single stamps. There was also a mini-sheet. These stamps evoked considerable critical comments. The perforations separate the couple, and in order to use just one stamp the couple must be torn apart: not a good omen for the marriage. The stamps have two different denominations, Prince William's stamp having the higher value.

An omnibus issue for nine countries, produced by CSACO Philatelic, successors to the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau, was released on 30 April. The mini-sheet with one stamp shows the couple the announcement of their engagement and is similar to the Canadian domestic rate stamp with a different background.

Many other countries have issued stamps to commemorate the wedding, and dealers are offering collections of these, commemorative covers, etc..

Australia Post issued an *Instant Stamp Sheetlet* of 10 domestic rate 60¢ stamps on 4 May, featuring the newly married couple on the balcony of Buckingham Palace. Although this was the first stamp issued after the wedding, it refers to the couple as H.R.H. Prince William and Miss Catherine Middleton in the frame, rather than the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. ✉

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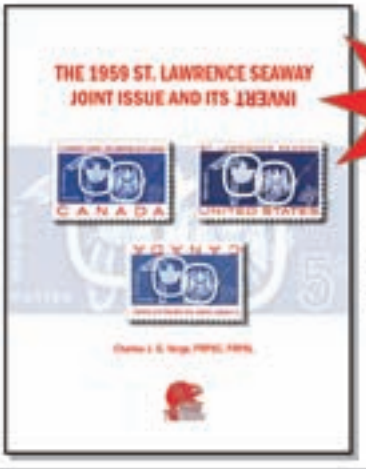


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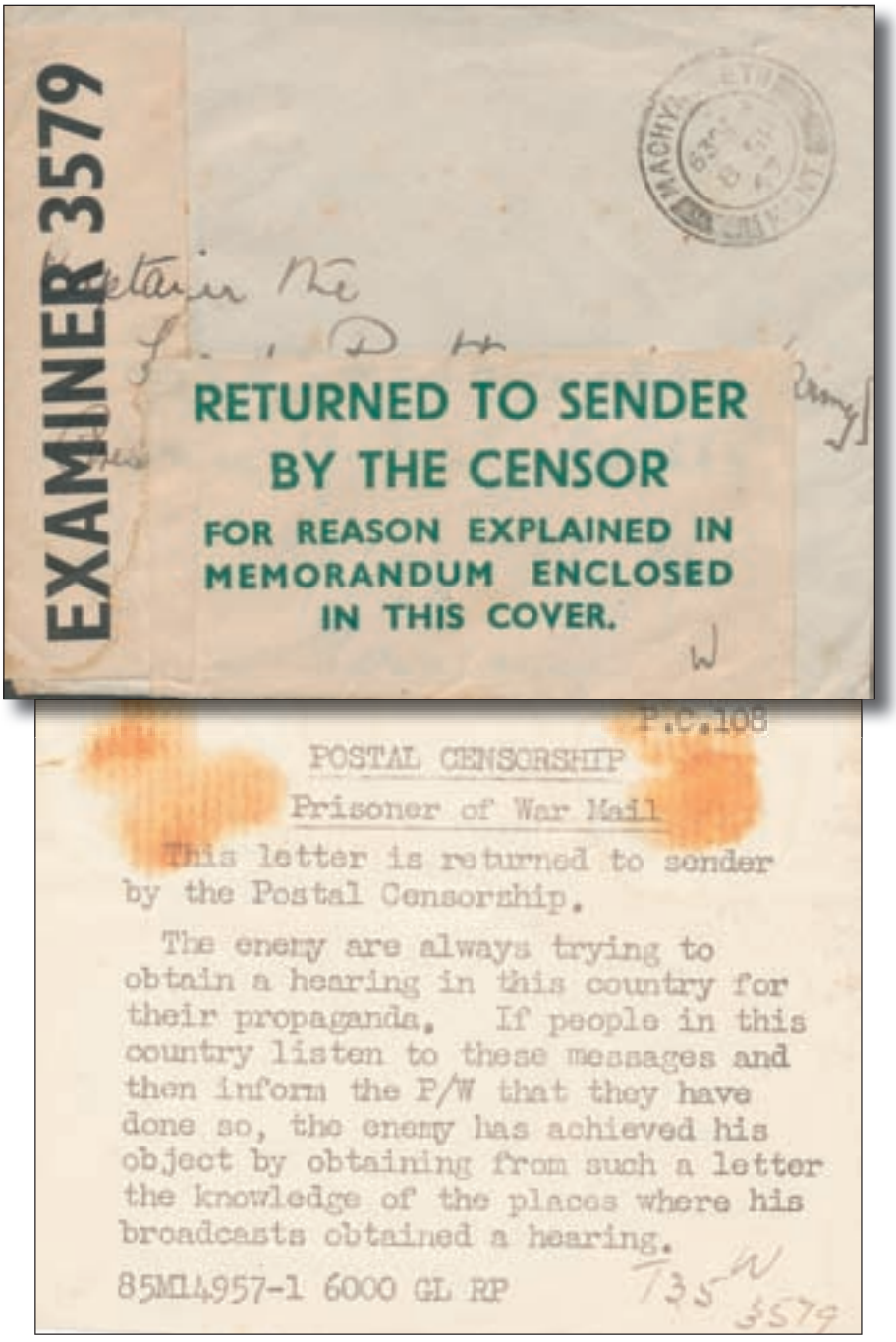
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Returned to Sender

By Michael Deery



World War II postal history is indeed fascinating and collecting mail that violated postal protocol offers an additional challenge. In most cases, such mail would be stopped. The illustrated cover is an interesting example of Word War II postal protocol violations.

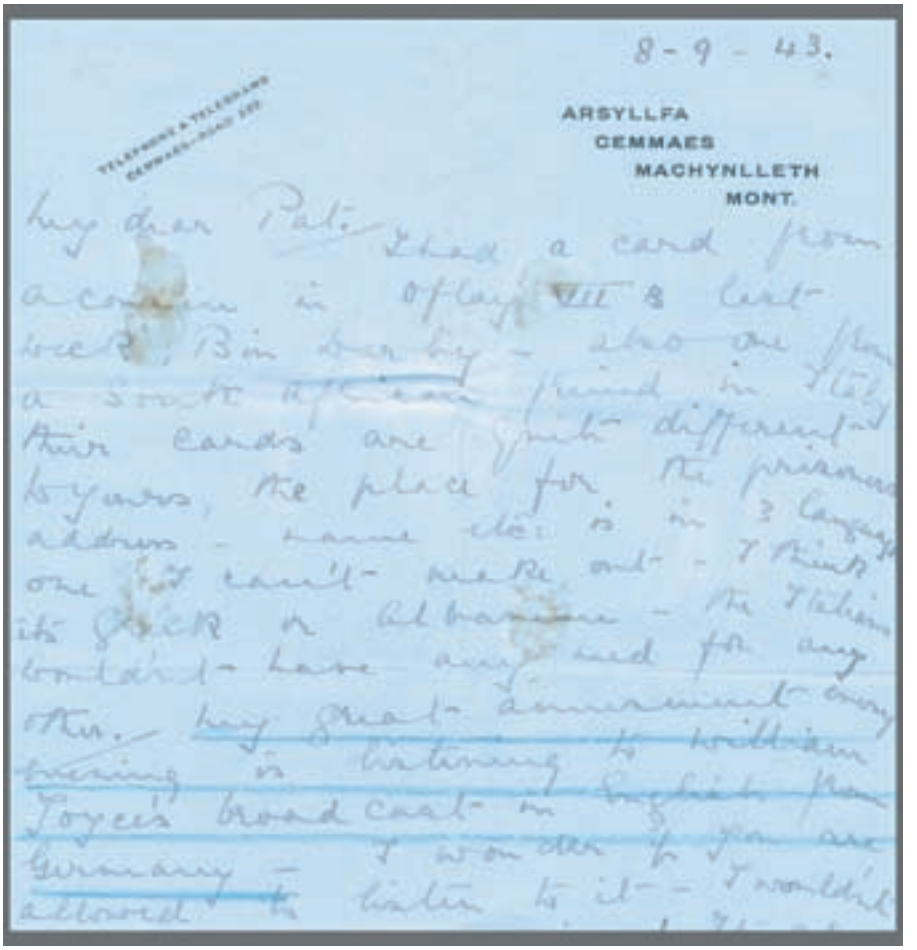
The cover was posted from Wales on September 8, 1943 to a German prisoner of war camp in Germany, censored in England (PC90, #3579) and a green-on-white memorandum label (PC 23) secured to the front of the cover indicating that a Memorandum (Form) was included explaining why the letter was returned.

Great Britain form P.C.108 indicates that the information in the letter could be used as propaganda by the enemy, in this case Germany, hence the censor identified the problem, enclosed the form and returned the letter to the sender. The form is very scarce and generally unknown - unrecorded in the key reference resource: *P.C. Forms And Memoranda* by Walker and Morenweiser.[1]

As a bonus, the letter referred to by the Memorandum/Form was enclosed and included the sensitive information, underlined by the censor, which states: "My great amusement...is listening to William Joyce's [i.e. Lord Haw-Haw] broadcasts in English from Germany. I wonder if you are allowed to listen to it. I wouldn't miss it for anything!"[2]

A short explanation should be given regarding Joyce's broadcasts. In 1939, just before war broke out, William and Margot Joyce traveled to Germany and began making English language propaganda broadcasts for German radio. They became known as 'Lord and Lady Haw Haw' earning a certain notoriety for alleged traitorous statements.

This cover, along with its contents (the letter and Form P.C. 108), is just one example of World War II mail that violated mail protocol and was "Returned to Sender". ✉



Endnotes

1 Walker, John W. and Konrad Morenweiser, British Empire Civil Censorship Devices, World War II, United Kingdom. See Chapter 5, P.C.-FORMS AND MEMORANDA, 1991.

2 From enclosed letter dated 8-9-43 to German P.O.W. camp.

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Watermarks on EARLY CANADIAN STAMPS

By J. Robertson, J. O'Neill and H.F. Shurvell



Figure 1. Watermarked stamps from the 1868 Large Queen issue.



Figure 2. The reverse sides of the stamps of Figure 1.

Most countries especially the UK printed their early postage stamps on watermarked paper with the same individual watermark on each stamp. With two rare exceptions, stamps of Canada were never printed on watermarked paper. The rare exceptions are found in the series of stamps known as the "Large Queens" first issued in 1868. The watermarks were the names of the papermakers and covered only a small area of a sheet. One watermark reads: "E. & G. Bothwell, Clutha Mills," while the other in script lettering appears only on the 15-cent value printed in 1876 and reads: "Alexr Pirie & Sons."

The stamps shown in Figure 1. each have parts of one or two letters of the complete Bothwell watermark. They are very hard to see, as illustrated in Figure 2.

A method known as beta-radiography used in the Art Conservation program at Queen's University was used to observe these watermarks more clearly. The method uses a plate made from a thin sheet of acrylic polymer impregnated with carbon 14, an unstable isotope of carbon, which emits very weak beta radiation. This radiation can be used as a kind of weak x-ray, to image watermarks that are difficult or impossible to see by other means.

To acquire an image, the subject paper is sandwiched between the "beta plate" and a sheet of x-ray film, and left for 30 to 60 minutes. The beta rays pass through the paper and create a latent image on the film. The film is then developed in



Figure 3. The radiograph of the stamps of Figure 1.

a darkroom, and the result is a clear reproduction of the watermark. Figure 3 shows the radiograph of the stamps of Figure 1. The full watermark is shown in Figure 4.



Figure 4. The full Bothwell watermark.

Both the Bothwell and Pirie watermarks were mysteries until the middle 1930s when Canadian philatelists researched the origin of the papers used to produce the 1868 Large Queen issue.

As early as 1870 *The Philatelist*, an English magazine for stamp collectors, had an item stating that some stamps of the 1868 issue of Canada were watermarked with the papermaker's name. It was found that Scottish papermakers Alex Pirie and Sons in a village near Aberdeen, Scotland made the watermarked paper with script letters that was supplied to the Dominion of Canada.

The source of the more common Bothwell watermark was more difficult to trace. The trail led first to the Clydeside in Scotland where the name Bothwell is fairly common. Also, the old name for the river Clyde was Clutha. It was then discovered that paper suppliers Andrew Whyte and Son of Edinburgh had a warehouse in Bothwell Street, Glasgow, in the middle of the last century and had sold paper to the Dominion Government of Canada. A letter from the firm stated that the name E. and G. Bothwell, Clutha Mills is an artificial name; E for Edinburgh, G for Glasgow, Bothwell for the street where the warehouse was located, and Clutha for an old name of the river Clyde. Since the Whyte organization were not papermakers, they had their paper made for them by W. and J. Somerville of Gloucester. ✉

Note: much of the information in this article was taken from the book: *Canada's Postage Stamps*, by Douglas and Mary Patrick, McClelland and Stewart Limited, Toronto 1964. Revised edition, 1965.



The Blue Penny Museum, Mauritius

By Patrick Draper

A while back my wife, Jane, made a lucky purchase at Sears. Lucky, I say, because with it she won a foreign trip for two! The prize limit was so generous that it covered the cost of a visit to the faraway island of Mauritius.

Why did we choose that location? There were two reasons. One: there was an International Conference on Chemical Education being held there, and as I was a CEGEP Chemistry instructor I was interested in attending it. Two: to visit the Blue Penny Museum and feast my eyes on two of the world's most valuable stamps! This was truly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to kill two birds with one stone.



But first, a word or two about the island. Mauritius is the Central Island of the Mascarene group, situated in the Indian Ocean about 20° south of the equator and nearly 500 miles east of Madagascar.



It is 38 miles long by 29 miles wide and has an area of 720 square miles. Its capital is Port Louis, on the northwest coast. The island is volcanic, shaped like an oyster and fringed by coral reefs.

The climate is maritime sub-tropical, with only two seasons — hot from November to April and cool from May to October. The average temperature at Port Louis during the hot summer months is 31°C, and in the cooler winter months it is 25°C. Heavy rains and cyclones occur during the hot season.

And so now ... on with my story ...

We reached the island after an eleven-hour flight from Paris. Oddly, the island's international airport is at the opposite end of the island from Port Louis. The drive from the airport to the capital takes just over an hour and we were introduced to what we soon recognized was a prevalent Mauritian problem: traffic jams! But we were eventually settled into our comfortable hotel accommodations and, in due course, all set to explore our surroundings.

Tourist guide books gave us some background history of the island, which was really fascinating.



The island was first visited by the Portuguese in 1510, but they made no attempt to settle it. Finding the island still uninhabited in 1598, the Dutch named it after their head of state, Maurice (Maurits) of Nassau. After two attempts to settle the island, made in 1638-1658 and again in 1664–1710, the Dutch abandoned it.



It then became the haunt of pirates.

It was during the Dutch tenure of the island that the DODO bird, emblem of the island, became extinct by the year 1681.



In 1721 the French East Indian Company sent a party to occupy the island which they renamed Ile de France. Under the company's rule, which lasted from 1721 to 1767, progress of the settlement was slow.



Port Louis was founded in 1736 and was used as a base for attacking the British in India.

During the Seven Years War, from 1756 to 1763, a further attempt to use it as a base for attacking the British again failed. In 1767 the French Ministry of Marine took over the administration and a new era began.

However, it was not to last. In November of 1810 the British captured Mauritius, restored its Dutch name and occupied it as a crown colony.

From a commercial and military outpost it was then transformed into a plantation colony, with sugar as its sole product. Ever since then sugar has been the mainstay of the island's economy.







Initially the sugar industry labour force consisted of slaves from Africa and Madagascar, but then slavery was abolished in 1835, and the slaves were replaced, at once, by indentured Indian Labourers.



Thus we now encounter a mix of African, Asian and European cultures in the population of about 1.2 million. When the British took over in 1810 English became the official language, and while many people in the business and tourist worlds speak English, in language, laws, and customs the island has remained largely French (or rather, French Creole).



As a holiday destination, Mauritius has much to offer. A taxi can be hired for a modest sum and in a couple of days one can cover quite a lot of the island, seeing the rugged mountainous interior, with waterfalls, a genuine rain forest and the stunning coastline, not to mention beaches like you wouldn't ever believe!









One can also take in botanical gardens, and bird sanctuaries, old sugar mills (highly recommended) and small towns and villages, where the vibrant French Creole culture provides lively bars and restaurants.



There is much to see and do away from the resorts, with activities appealing to almost every interest.

But now I'm going to take you with me on a stroll downtown Port Louis to visit the main focus of our trip to Mauritius ... The Blue Penny Museum.



This stamp features the post office from the days when the first Mauritius stamps were issued.

Incidentally, did you know that the first British Colonial stamps were issued by Mauritius on September 21, 1847? They were the fifth state in the world to issue postage stamps! And until 1859 their postal issues were printed locally. More about this later ...



The old main post office is an impressive Victorian building dating from 1870.

The GPO has moved to a rather soulless modern building on Victoria Square near the main bus station, while the historic GPO has been redesignated "Port Louis Waterfront".



The main public office of the old GPO is closed and stripped of its fixtures and fittings, but it still houses the Philatelic Bureau where there is an operational full-service post office and a philatelic counter to cater to the philatelists' needs.

The historic waterfront of the port is named the 'Caudan' and it has been developed with many deluxe hotels, restaurants, boutiques, shopping malls and other tourist facilities. It also houses the undisputed philatelic 'jewel in the crown' of Mauritius ... The Blue Penny Museum.





In 1993 a consortium of wealthy Mauritius merchants, spearheaded by the Mauritius Commercial Bank Ltd., which was established in 1838, banded together and acquired mint copies of the first two stamps issued by the colony in 1847. The cost was roughly $U.S. 2.5 million ... not exactly chicken feed!

This postal museum already existed, but to house these gems and other philatelic treasures, the Blue Penny Museum was opened in 2001.





Here, you will find a fascinating display of ancient maps, prints, old nautical instruments, and books that document the history and settlement of the island.

The postal history of Mauritius is also displayed through messages, postal covers and a complete collection of locally produced stamps. As mentioned previously, the first stamps were issued on September 21, 1847, and a good number of the penny value were used by Lady Gomm, the Governor's wife, to send out invitations to the ball she was hosting at Government House on September 30th.





But now lets take a close look at Mauritius No. 1 and No. 2. They were engraved on copper by a talented watchmaker named Joseph Barnard, who was honoured on a stamp issued in 1991, to mark his 150th birth anniversary.



But due to an unfortunate oversight, he inscribed the stamps POST OFFICE, instead of the intended POST PAID.

Here are those two gems ...





A single plate contained one example of each value.

It is generally agreed that fifteen examples of No. 1 have survived (including two unused) and twelve of No. 2 (including four unused). Most are now in permanent museum collections.

In June 1848 the stamps were re-engraved, correctly described as POST PAID. Copies of that issue are still not easy nor inexpensive to come by today.

But here I am, back in the museum to feast my eyes on these ultimate gems of philately...

The collection is displayed in a darkened room with only the display cases illuminated. Because of the fragile nature of the paper and ink, these two gems are illuminated for just two minutes on the half hour. Just before the appointed time, a security officer ensured that we were in position to see the treasures the moment they were lit up. Since we were the only two at the display, we had ample time to view the two stamps before the light was again turned off until the next showing.

Although we can see many philatelic gems at the large international stamp shows, the opportunity to view this display in its local context made the experience very special.

For further information, a Google search of the Blue Penny Museum will provide useful links.

A parting word on that delightful island ...

After being a British Crown Colony for 158 years, Self Government was attained in 1967. In the following year Mauritius achieved independence and it became a Republic in 1992. ✉









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WHAT'S NEW IN HONG KONG STAMPS?

By Joseph Monteiro

I. Introduction

That Hong Kong stamps are popular collectors' items is something that I learned from the unbelievably long line-ups for stamps during my visit to Hong Kong in 1996. The 2011 programme can be described as interesting and innovative. Though simple, the artistic designs reveal the unique drawings, gentle and refreshing to the eyes, which are characteristic of Chinese culture. There are the usual Lunar New Year stamps, the Mainland Scenic Series, the Children Series together with issues on a number of centenaries to satisfy the tastes of the most demanding collectors. Hong Kong Post states: "The 2011 series brings retrospect and outlook into one with innovative design and striking new features, making it an ideal choice for both dedicated philatelists and admirers of Hong Kong."[1]

In this article I will describe the programme for 2011 and the technical details of the stamps issued in 2010. I will also mention other items that may be of interest to philatelists.

II. Stamp Issues for 2011

1. Lunar Series -Year of the Rabbit (22/01/2011)

Hong Kong Post has planned a quadruple set to conclude the final year of the third Lunar New Year series, the 'Year of the Rabbit'. The rabbit, often considered an adorable pet, is bound to melt the hearts of most people. This final issue has some interesting features even from the philatelic perspective. The quadruple issue is briefly indicated hereafter.

- A. Four mint stamps ($1.40, $2.40, $3 and $5).

Each stamp displays the rabbit and will be issued in panes of 25 stamps. The stamps are perforated and have one elliptical perforation on each vertical side. A souvenir sheet containing each of the four values will also be issued as will an imperforated stamp sheetlet containing the $5 stamp.

- B. A Gold and Silver stamp sheetlet depicting the Tiger and Rabbit stamps ($50 and $50).

The stamps in the sheetlet are perforated and printed using lithography and embossing with hot-foil using genuine 22K/24K gold foil and 99.9% silver foil.

- C. Four stamps ($10x4) of the last four lunar new years (ox, rat, tiger and rabbit) on 'flock paper'. The four stamps are perforated and issued in panes of 16 stamps with four images of each animal on a pane.
- D. Twelve stamps ($1.40x12) of one animal from each of the twelve lunar years. Each stamp in the sheetlet is perforated and has one elliptical perforation on each vertical side. The red and gold tone on the background of the sheetlet predicts a prosperous year for 2011.

2. Centenary of Powered Flight in Hong Kong (18/03/2011)

To celebrate a century of aviation excellence, Honk Kong Post plans to issue a sheetlet containing two stamps ($3).







3. Volunteerism (29/03/2011)

To coincide with the 10th Anniversary of the International Year of Volunteers, Hong Post plans to issue four stamps ($1.40, $2.40, $3 and $5) and a sheetlet containing the $5 stamp. The four stamps are perforated and printed in panes of 25. The stamp in the sheetlet is perforated and is the first heart-shaped stamp issued by Hong Kong to indicate the spirit of selfless love shown by volunteers.

4. Green Living (14/04/2011)

To remind everyone of the need to preserve our beautiful planet for future generations, a set of four stamps ($1.40, $2.40, $3 and $5) and a sheetlet in the form of a leaf containing a $5 stamp have been



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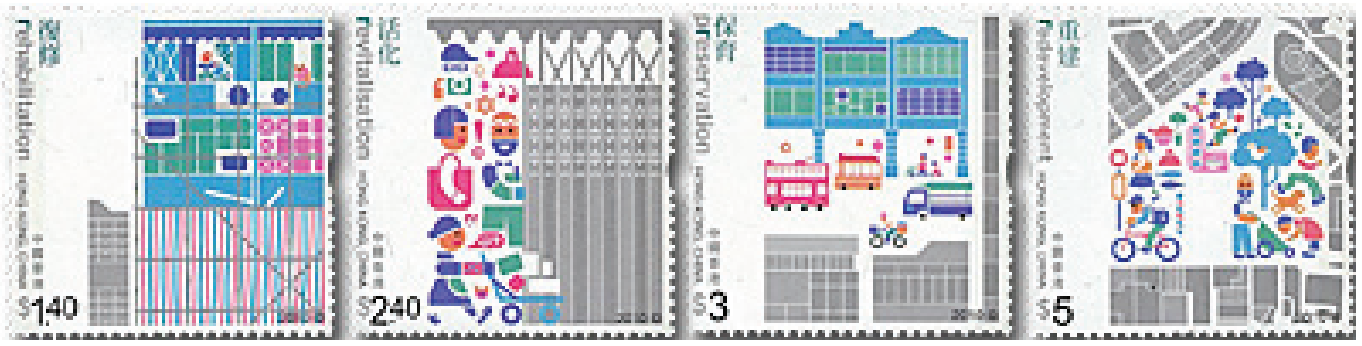
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planned for release by Hong Kong Post. The four stamps are perforated and printed in panes of 25 in gentle and refreshing visual colours.

5. 150th Anniversary of Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce (26/05/2011)

To pay tribute to Hong Kong's General Chamber of Commerce, Hong Kong Post will issue a set of four stamps ($1.40, $2.40, $3 and $5) and a souvenir sheet on its 150th Anniversary. The stamps depict the four major milestones in the Chamber's distinguished history. The stamps will be printed in panes of 25 stamps and perforated with one elliptical perforation on each vertical side. The souvenir sheet will contain one stamp of each of the four values.

6. Children Stamps (28/06/2011)

To encourage the fun in stamp collecting, as well as to use it as an educational tool, Hong Kong Post plans to issue a set of five stamps ($1.40, $1.80, $2.40, $3 and $5) and a souvenir sheet. The five stamps are printed in panes of 25 stamps and are perforated. The souvenir sheet contains one of each of the above stamps and stickers.

7. Mainland Scenery Series No. 10: Dunhuang Grottoes (02/08/2011)

As part of the mainland series, Hong Kong Post will issue the final stamp sheetlet containing one stamp ($10) to highlight the aesthetic achievement of the awe-inspiring Dunhuang Grottoes. In addition, a souvenir pack will be issued containing the ten stamp sheetlets in the series as black prints ($60).

8. Tamar Development Project (To be announced)

To represent Hong Kong's promising future, Hong Kong Post will issue a stamp sheetlet containing a $10 stamp. The design of the perforated stamp shows two views of the state-of-the-art landmark at different times of the day juxtaposed with a foreground showcasing its exciting diversity.

9. Centenary of the University of Hong Kong (15/09/2011)

To mark the 100th anniversary of the University of Hong Kong, its post office will issue a set of six stamps ($1.40, $1.80, $2.40, $2.50 $3 and $5), a stamp sheetlet containing one $5 stamp and a prestige booklet containing three stamp sheetlets.

10. Centenary of Xinhai Revolution (10/10/2011)

To commemorate the centenary of the Xinhai revolution which brought an end to thousands of years of dynastic rule in China and spawned a new era, Hong Kong Post will issue a set of four stamps ($1.40, $2.40, $3 and $5) and a stamp sheetlet containing two stamps ($5 x 2). The stamps are printed in panes of 25 and are perforated and have one elliptical perforation on each vertical side.

11. Hong Kong, China -Romania Joint Issue of Handicraft (24/11/2011)

As part of the Joint Issue of stamps with other countries, Hong Kong Post will issue two stamps ($5 x 2) with Romania and a souvenir sheet containing the two stamps. Each of the stamps will be issued in panes of 25.

12. Hong Kong Museums Collection -Hong Kong Cultural and Historical Series (06/12/2011)

To showcase some of Hong Kong's finest collections in its local museums that epitomize its historical and cultural lineage, Hong Kong Post will issue a set of six stamps ($1.40, $1.80, $2.40, $2.50 $3 and $5) and a stamp sheetlet containing one of each of these values. The stamps are printed in panes of 25 and are perforated. Each stamp has an elliptical perforation on its vertical sides.

Besides these planned stamp issues, Hong Kong Post also plans to release a number of other products that I will mention briefly.

III. Technical Details of the Stamp Issues for 2010

1) Year of the Tiger:

The first issue of Hong Kong to begin the Lunar Year in 2010 was the heroic tiger. The tiger is one of the most admired and feared of all cats, known for its grace and strength. It has been hunted over the centuries for its fur and body parts, which can be sold as an aphrodisiac. The Hong Kong Post issued

four basic values displaying four breeds of tigers in four different postures: sprinting, patrolling, gazing and lounging. The four values are: $1.40, $2.40, $3.0 and $5.0. They were also available as a souvenir sheet with all four stamps. In addition, there was the usual imperforate sheetlet with a $5 stamp. The stamps were designed by Bon Kwan and printed by Cartor Security Printing, France using the lithographic process. These stamps were printed in panes of 25 and the size of the stamps is 28mm x 45mm and the size of the souvenir sheet and sheetlet is 135mm x 85mm. As icing on the cake for this issue there is the gold and silver sheetlet containing two $50 stamps. It is embossed and hot-foiled with genuine 24K and 22K gold as well as 99.9% silver. Austrian State Printing House, Austria, printed this sheetlet. The stamp size is 37.5 mm x 51 mm and the size of the stamp sheetlet is 135 mm x 90 mm. These stamps were released on February 6, 2010.

2) Mainland Scenery Series No. 9 Fujian Tulou:

On March 18, 2010, Hong Kong Post released the 9th issue of the series Fujian Tulou. This remarkable housing district has been added to UNESCO's World Heritage list in 2008. Fujian Tulou is a unique, large housing district in the mountains, built using an old method of construction cylindrical in shape. "The stamp depicts the bird's eye view of Tulou, whereas the stamp sheetlet shows a cluster of Tulou set amongst terraced greenery with a structural drawing on the right, projecting the historical architecture from different angles."[2] The stamp sheetlet contains one $10 stamp with one elliptical perforation on the vertical sides. The stamp was designed by Arde Lam and printed by Cartor Security Printing, France using the lithographic process. It is printed on paper with security fibres with one elliptical perforation on each vertical side. The size of the stamp is 45 mm x 28 mm and the size of stamp sheetlet is 140 mm x 90 mm.

3) Hong Kong's Participation in Expo 2010 Shanghai China:

On April 27, 2010, Hong Kong Post commemorated its participation in Expo 2010 in Shanghai China by issuing a set of four stamps in a format of 25 stamps per pane. The four values are $1.40, $2.40, $3.00 and $5.00. In addition, the four stamps were issued in a stamp sheetlet with the four stamps. The design of the stamps display the dynamism of Hong Kong. The stamps were designed by Wong Chun-hong and printed by Cartor Security Printing, France using the lithographic process. They are printed on paper with security fibres and perforated with a 13.25 comb and one elliptical perforation on each vertical side. The size of the stamp is 45 mm x 28 mm and the size of the stamp sheetlet is 135 mm x 85 mm. In addition, a souvenir sheet with a block of four souvenir sheets was also issued and printed by Beijing Postage Stamp Printing House, the People's Republic of China. These stamps were printed on paper with UV visible security fibres and perforated with a 13.3 x 12.25 comb and one elliptical perforation on each vertical side.

4) Hong Kong Post's Participation in London 2010 International Philatelic Exhibition:

On May 8, 2010, Hong Kong Post commemorated its participation in London's 2010 International Philatelic Exhibition by issuing a souvenir sheet with a $10 stamp. This mega philatelic event occurs every ten years in London, England. The stamp was designed by Colin Tillyer and printed by Cartor Security Printing, France using the lithographic process. The stamp sheetlet is printed in red, white and blue, the colours of the Union Flag. The silhouettes of landmarks in Hong Kong and London symbolize harmonious ties between the two cities. The stamp was printed on paper with security fibres and perforated with a 13.25 perforating gauge with one elliptical perforation on each vertical side. The size of the stamp is 45 mm x 28 mm and the size of the stamp sheetlet is 130 mm x 75 mm.

5) Characteristic Streets in Hong Kong:

Hong Kong has many streets with individual character, a melting pot where East meets West and traditions of the past meet those of the present. To bring attention to these characteristics, Hong Kong issued a set of six stamps. The six stamps consists of 2x$1.40, 2x$2.40 and 2x$3.0. They depict: Pottinger Street, Nathan Road, Hollywood Road, Temple Street, Des Voeux Road West and Stanley Market. Each of these stamps was issued in a format of 25 stamps per pane. The stamps were designed by Gideon Lai and printed by Cartor Security Printing, France using the lithographic process. They were printed on paper with security fibres and perforated with a 13.75 perforating gauge with one elliptical perforation on each vertical side. The size of the stamp is 35 mm x 35 mm. In addition, the six stamps are available in a souvenir sheet. The size of stamp sheetlet is 140 mm x 90 mm. These stamps were released on June 24, 2010.

6) Biodiversity:

To promote an awareness to ecological balance, the United Nations has declared 2010 the International Year of Biodiversity. Accordingly, Hong Kong Post has dedicated the issues of four stamps to the living creatures inhabiting Hong Kong. The four stamps

bear the following values: $1.40, $2.40, $3.00 and $5.00. Each of these stamps was issued in a format of 25 stamps per pane. The stamps were printed by Leung Kam-hung and printed by Joh. Enschede B. V., the Netherlands, using the lithographic process. They were printed on paper with security fibres and perforated with a 13.35 x 14.25 perforating gauge with one elliptical perforation on each vertical side. The size of the stamp is 45 mm x 28 mm. In addition, the four stamps also appear as a souvenir sheet. The size of the stamp sheetlet is 135 mm x 85 mm. The stamps and sheetlet were released on July 15, 2010.

7) Definitive Stamp Sheetlet, Professor Charles K. Kao, Nobel Prize in Physics:

To congratulate Professor Charles K. Kao on his award of the 2009 Nobel Prize in Physics, a definitive stamp sheetlet was issued. The Nobel Laureate was known as the "Father of Fibre Optics" for his distinctive contribution to global communications. The stamp was designed by Bon Kwan and the stamp sheetlet was designed by NG Shuk-mei. The stamp sheetlet was printed by Joh. Enschede B. V., the Netherlands, using the photogravure process. It was printed on paper with security fibres and perforated with a 13.25 perforating gauge with one elliptical perforation on each vertical side. The size of the stamp is 28.5 mm x 33.5 mm and the size of the stamp sheetlet is 130 mm x 75 mm. The sheetlet was released on September 21, 2009.

8) Centenary of Railway Service in Hong Kong:

In celebration of Hong Kong's centenary of the railway, Hong Kong Post issued a set of six stamps. The six stamps designed by Clement Yick bear the following values: $1.40, $1.80, $2.40, $2.50, $3.00 and $5.00. It was issued in panes of 25 and as a souvenir sheet and its perforation is 13.6 x 13.25 with one elliptical perforation on each vertical side. The design on the stamps, printed by Joh. Enschede B.V., the Netherlands, shows six different models of the trains that have served Hong Kong in the past. The size of the stamps is 28 mm x 45 mm and the souvenir sheet size is 180 mm x 85 mm. The milestone in its railway history was also celebrated with the issue of a sheetlet with one $20 stamp to display special printing effects to make the stamps more valuable to train hobbyists and philatelists. Its perforation is 13.25 x 13.25 with one elliptical perforation on each vertical side. The $20 stamp size is 37.5 mm x 51 mm and the sheetlet size is 135 mm x 85 mm. The stamp was printed using the lithographic process on paper with security fibres. There was also a prestige booklet with three stamp sheetlets containing two stamps each. The stamps were released on September 28, 2009.

9) Children's stamps - Hong Kong in My Eyes:

On October 21, 2010, Hong Kong Post issued a special set of stamps featuring the winning pieces of the Children's Stamp Design Competition of 2009 - Hong Kong in My Eyes. The winning pieces were presented in a set of four stamps capturing the beauty of Victoria Harbour, a variety of delicacies and the festivity of a dragon dance in colourful paint. The four values issued in a pane format of 25 stamps were: $1.40, $2.40, $3.00 and $5.00. The stamps were designed by Man Hei-chun $1.40, Tan Ying-jun $2.40, Soong Tsz-yu $3.00 and Yvette Chantal Yao, $5.00 and printed by Cartor Security Printing, France using the lithographic process. They were printed on paper with security fibres and perforated with a 13.33 x 13.5 comb with one elliptical perforation on each vertical side. The size of the stamp is 35 mm x 28 mm. In addition, the four stamps were also available in a souvenir sheet. The size of the souvenir sheet is 135 mm x 85 mm.

10) Redevelopment of Old Areas:

On November 11, 2010, Hong Kong Post issued a set of four stamps to highlight rehabilitation, preservation, and redevelopment in contrasting colours. The redevelopment project involves maintaining the characteristics of old districts while invigorating them with modern elements in terms of heritage. The four values in this issue are: $1.40, $2.40, $3.00 and $5.00. The stamps were issued in a pane format with 25 stamps. In addition, a souvenir sheet was also issued containing the four stamps. The stamps were designed by Benny Lau and printed by Cartor Security Printing, France using the lithographic process. They were printed on paper with security fibres and perforated with a 13.75 comb with one elliptical perforation on each vertical side. The size of the stamp is 350mm x 35 mm. In addition, the four stamps were also available in a souvenir sheet. The size of the souvenir sheet is 150 mm x 85 mm.

11) Lighthouses of Hong Kong (replacing Hong Kong, China - Quatar Joint Issue):

On December 29, 2010, Hong Kong Post issued stamps depicting five surviving pre-war lighthouses. Lighthouses have played an important role in maritime nations. The five lighthouses are: Cape D'Aguilar, Old Green Island, New Green Island, Tang Lung Chau and Waglan. The five values in this issue are: $1.40, $1.80, $2.40, $3.00 and $5.00. In addition, a souvenir sheet was also issued containing the five stamps. The design of the stamps shows a



map and a compass in the upper half of the backdrop and the latitude and longitude coordinates at the bottom with the lighthouse in the centre. The stamps were designed by Jason Chum and printed by Joh. Enschede B. V., the Netherlands, using the lithographic process. They were printed on paper with security fibres and perforated with a 13.5 x 13.25 comb with one elliptical perforation on each vertical side. The size of the stamp is 28 mm x 45 mm. In addition, the four stamps were also available in a souvenir sheet. The size of souvenir sheet is 150 mm x 85 mm.

12) Postage Due Label Reprint:

The 20 cent postage due label stamp was reprinted with a new prefix "FH" in the selvedge margin. It was released on May 18, 2010.

13) 2006 Definitive Stamps Reprint:

The 2006 Hong Kong Definitive stamps were reprinted. The reprint is identified with a prefix "FJ" in the selvedge margin. The denominations of the reprint are: 10c, 20c, $1.40, $1.80, $10.00, and $20.00. The design of the reprinted stamps was the same as the 2006 stamps. The stamps were released on May 18, 2010.

IV. Other Products

Besides the stamps, Hong Kong Post will also issue its Prepaid post card series - Year of the Rabbit and Tamar Development Project, Amazing Asian Animals (Air Mail), and Prepaid Postcard (Airmail); Postcard -Year of the Rabbit; Maxim Card -Year of the Rabbit; Stamp Albums -Deluxe Version, Ordinary Version. and Annual Stamp Pack; and attractively designed First Day Covers. In addition, there are ten types of gifts ranging from a souvenir card to a photo frame. Some of these may be of interest from the philatelic perspective.

V. Concluding Remarks

The programme for 2011 looks like an exciting year for collectors of Hong Kong stamps. It has several issues to mark the centenaries of several historic milestones. It also draws our attention to important themes for a better world, such as promoting volunteerism and living green. Stamps are an important way of making us more aware and reminding us of the problems that we face in a world where many of us get carried away with the hustle and bustle of daily life and are too busy to pay attention to these broad global concerns.

There are also specific items that should attract the attention of philatelists. I like the following issues: The Year of the Rabbit, the Gold and Silver stamp sheetlet; the Flock sheet pane; and the twelve stamp sheetlet; the International Year of Volunteers heart sheetlet; Green Living stamp sheetlet; Mainland Scenery Series No. 10: Dunhuang Grottoes, souvenir pack containing the 10 sheetlets; and the Hong Kong University prestige stamp booklet.

Ways in which the post office can improve its philatelic programme are continuing to use more interesting techniques of printing or combinations and providing gifts that are of more interest to philatelists such as, for example, imperforate sheetlets, cancelled specimens, other commemorative cancelled specimens or specially produced souvenir sheets with stamps not sold over the counter or imperforate sheets. New Zealand Post provides examples of a range of these items.

Other areas that the Hong Kong Post office could exploit are developing exclusive products for sale. Australia Post does this and so does the Royal Mail. But in doing so, the post office should not price the products so high as to remove all potential profits from such products that dealers tend to make from the sale of limited edition specialized products. If priced too high, investors and dealers tend to look elsewhere to invest. Pricing at the value of the stamps that could be used in alternative ways, for example, for postage or slightly above, stimulates the development of these items as collectables. A good example of this is Canada Post, which prices its special items such as printer's sheets at face value. ✉

Bibliography/Footnotes

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2. **2011 Overseas Mail Order Service Application Form, Hong Kong Post, October 2010.**

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4. **2010** *Overseas Mail Order Service Guide*.

5. **2010** *Overseas Mail Order Service Application Form*, **Hong Kong Post, October 2009.**

FILIAL PIETY



By Richard Logan

There is an old Chinese saying "Grain is stored against famine; children are reared as support in old age." In the eyes of the Chinese, children are their most valuable asset – more precious than anything else.

Why do the Chinese give such esteem to their children? The answer lies in "filial piety."

During the four thousand years of China's recorded history, filial piety –Hsiao Ching – has been the foundation of Chinese religious, social and ethical life. Literally translated, it means "to support one's parents well." Due to its overwhelming importance, each of China's great religious traditions – Buddhism, Confucianism and Daoism – appropriated and popularized its understanding of it. In fact, Hsiao Ching's appeal extended well beyond China to all of East Asia. While it is not known who actually wrote the original treatise, it is attributed to a conversation between Chung - ni – Confucius – and his disciple Tseng Tzu at the home of The Master about 400 BC.

Through daily morning and evening audiences, sons and daughters were to nourish their parents, obey their instructions, anticipate their wishes and ensure their comfort. This service did not end with death. Rather, it intensified. For three years, a son or daughter was supposed to serve the parents' spirits through mourning rituals. He or she would dress in rough-crafted clothes, live in a shack near the parent's tomb and forego meat, alcohol, music and sex. Following the conclusion of these rites, the son or daughter continued to serve the dead by preserving the patrimony and producing heirs – acts that ensured that the ancestral sacrifices would continue.

During the third century BC, Confucians assimilated Hsiao Ching to the lord/retainer tie. They argued that since in a larger sense a ruler parents







his people through the care he lavishes on them, a retainer should serve his ruler as he would his father. Consequently, by definition, a filial child should also be a loyal subject.

Following China's unification by the Qin Dynasty in 221 BC, imperial governments found Hsiao Ching's hierarchy-affirming message to be irresistible. Hence, dynasty after dynasty lavished prizes on outstanding filial children. By the fourth century, each officially sanctioned dynastic history devoted a chapter to the previous era's filial paragons. In the Tang Dynasty, unfilial behaviour, such as failing to sufficiently nourish one's parents or marrying while mourning them, became punishable by law.

Buddhists discovered that to appeal to Chinese sensibilities they had to emphasize filial piety. Therefore, they stressed that their religion best served one's parents because it saved them from the torments of having to expiate their sins in a place of suffering and delivered them directly to Buddhist heaven. Daoists likewise insisted that mastery of the immortality arts would not only secure salvation for oneself but also for seven generations of one's ancestors.

By the late Imperial Period, the overwhelming emphasis placed on filial piety led to increasingly extreme manifestations. In the early part of the twentieth century, leading intellectuals such as the founder of modern Chinese Literature, Lu Xun, condemned filial piety as an impediment to modernization and westernization. The Great Leap Forward of the 1950s and the Cultural Revolution of the 1960s and 1970s of the Maoist Regime tried even harder to destroy filial piety. Still, the concept held on.

Family life in China has undergone radical changes in the post-Maoist era from the beginning of the 1980s to the present day, and the tradition of filial piety is strained. China with the world's largest and perhaps fastest-aging population has no equivalent to Medicare and Old Age Pensions. Relocation is dispersing families, women are pursuing careers outside the home and the birth rate has plunged.

The figures are staggering: nearly 150 million people or ten per cent of China's 1.5 billion are older than sixty and that figure will rise to more than 400 million by 2050, a quarter of the population, according to the China National Committee on Aging. The situation is even more severe because 90 million children born under China's strict one child policy have no siblings to share the responsibility of caring for parents. While the policy has curbed China's population by an estimated 400 million, the ratio of workers to retirees will decrease from twenty to one in the 1980s to two point five to one in 2020. Obviously, a social safety net will have to be established.

Stories about exemplary filial piety abound in Chinese folklore. *The Twenty Four Stories of Filial Piety* were chosen and compiled by Kuo Chu-yeh during the Yuan Dynasty. Even today, these stories form an important part of orthodox Chinese virtue.

In 1970 and 1971, sixteen stamps honouring filial piety were issued by the Republic of China based on the familiar twenty-four stories:



Scott 1666 – Old Laitzu of the Chou Dynasty, in order to show his parents that seventy years was not old age, amused them by dressing like a child and stumbling around with his water buckets.



Scott 1667 – A young man named Yien Tsu of the Chou Dynasty disguised himself as a deer by wearing its skin in order to get milk from deer to feed his sick mother. When caught by hunters, the young man explained the story to them.

Scott 1668 – A nine-year-old boy named Huang Hsiang of the Han Dynasty used a fan to cool the bed for his father during summer and warmed it with his own body in winter.

Scott 1669 – Wang Hsiang of the Tsin Dynasty showed filial piety to his stepmother who was ill by breaking the ice to catch two fishes for her meal.



Scott 1670 – Chu Hsiu-chang of the Sung Dynasty was the son of a concubine who was forced to marry another man by his father's wife when Chu was seven years old. He could never get his mother out of his mind so at age fifty-seven he abandoned his job as a high-ranking official and started a long journey to find her. They were reunited when the mother was over seventy and he welcomed her into his own home.

Scott 1671 -- Emperor Wen of the Han Dynasty attended personally to his mother's illness for three years, refusing to let anyone else do it for him. He tasted every medicine himself before giving it to his mother.



Scott 1672 -- When six years old, Lu Chi of the Han Dynasty went with his uncle to see a high official named Yuan Shu. He kept two oranges from the refreshments offered him, putting them up his sleeve so that he could take them home to his mother. However, when leaving, the oranges accidently fell to the floor. Questioned, the boy explained his purpose and the official, valuing his virtue, praised him.

Scott 1673 – At the age of fourteen, Yang Hsiang of the Tsin Dynasty was working with his father in the wheat fields when suddenly, a tiger pounced upon his father. Yang Hsiang, without consideration for himself, jumped on the beast's back and choked the tiger with his bare hands so effectively that the tiger released his hold on the father and ran away.



Scott 1726 – Yu Hsun, despite an evil father, cranky mother and a juvenile delinquent brother, lived a virtuous life. Heaven, moved by his exemplary life, sent elephants to plough his fields and birds to pull up the weeds. Emperor Yao, hearing of Yu Hsun's piety, arranged the marriage of his two daughters to him and appointed his nine sons to serve him. The emperor finally abdicated and invited Yu Hsun to be emperor.

















Scott 1727 – Tsai Hsun, a boy of the Han Dynasty, lived during the breach of peace of the Wang Meng usurpation and a devastating drought. He was captured by bandits as he was picking mulberries with two baskets. Questioned by the bandits, he said that the ripe berries were for his mother and the unripe ones were for him. Impressed, the bandits freed him.

Scott 1728 – Tseng Sun, a disciple of Confucius, was away from home collecting firewood when a guest arrived. The mother became concerned when her son did not soon return and bit through her fingers, thinking this action would send a message to Tseng Sun. He appeared instantly after having felt a severe pain in his heart.

Scott 1729 – Kiang Keh of the Han Dynasty carried his widowed mother on his back to flee lawlessness. He was forced to join the bandits; however, he was freed when they learned of his piety. He settled in Hsia Pei in Kiangsu and worked in the fields to support his mother.

Scott 1730 – Tse Lu, another Confucius disciple, ate wild vegetables as food while seeking rice for his parents in far away places. He carried the rice home on his back. Following his parents' death, he attained high rank and riches; however, he said that to have his parents and suffer poverty was far better than riches without parents.

Scott 1731 – Meng Chung of the Three Kingdom Dynasty lost his father while still a young man. During one winter, his aging and sick mother wanted soup from bamboo shoots. After failing to find bamboo shoots in the market, since none are available in winter, he went to a bamboo grove and miraculously found bamboo shoots from which he made soup and his mother returned to good health.

Scott 1732 – Tung Yung of the Han Dynasty sold himself into slavery to obtain money to give his father a proper burial. He later met a young woman who consented to marry him. They worked hard in his master's home and earned enough to purchase his freedom.







Scott 1733 – Tze Chien, a disciple of Confucius, was subjected to poor treatment by his stepmother, who provided warm clothes for her own children but only clothes of reeds for Tze Chien. As such, he was unable to carry out his father's orders to drive a cart on cold winter days. He explained the problem to his father and the father threatened to divorce the cruel stepmother. Whereupon Tze Chien remarked, "With a stepmother only one son wears clothes of reeds; without a stepmother, three sons will suffer from the cold." Upon hearing this kind reply, the stepmother repented and treated Tze Chien as her own son. ✉

More of Those Elusive

By Ernie Wlock

STRAIGHT EDGES

Here we show both Harvesting Wheat stamps, Scott No's. 175 and 203, the overprint issue. Both issues have eight straight edge sides. Also shown are two Special Delivery stamps, E-2 with two straight edges, positions #2 and #6 as well as Air Mail issue #C-9. The Canada Goose (booklet #39) has four positions, 4, 5, 7 and 8 with straight edges. ✉

PART PERFORATES / STRAIGHT EDGES - PART II



#175: Harvesting Wheat



#E2: Special Delivery





#203: Harvesting Wheat Regina, Overprint



#C9 - Booklet #39: Air Mail Stamps Canada Geese near Sudbury, ON



Royale REVIEW



RPSC Executive



Marilyn Melanson accepts 50-year medal on behalf of James Gray to be presented at a club meeting in Nova Scotia.



The smiling faces of your new directors looking forward to serving the membership for the coming year and beyond. Back row, left to right: François Brisse, David Piercey, Michael Nowlan, Ken Magee and Rodney Paige. Front row, left to right: David Oberholtzer, Peter Butler, George Pepall, Frank Alusio and Marilyn Melanson. Absent: J.J. Danielski, John Beddows and Robert McGuinness.



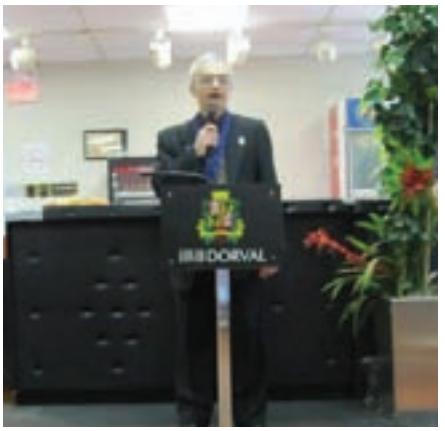
Newly elected Fellow John Walsh.



Newly elected Fellow Michael Peach.



Newly elected Fellow David Oberholtzer.



President George Pepall welcomes attendees at the opening ceremonies of ROYALE*2011*ROYAL in Dorval, Quebec.



The head table at the Saturday evening awards banquet. Notably absent is President George Pepall who was occupied at the podium extending a warm welcome to everyone.



Unveiling the pair of 59-cent domesitic rate stamps are President George Pepall and Geneviève Latour. An official first day cover, compliments of Canada Post, was presented to everyone attending the opening ceremonies.



Reserve Grand award winner for his entry Les entiers postaux aux types Alphée Dubois et Groupe à St-Pierre et Miquelon is Jean Jacques Tillard, right. Tillard's two other single frame entries both earned Gold awards.



Geneviève Latour, Canada Post Manager, Regional Communications, explains the significance of the images on the pair of se-tenant stamps depicting a dog team pulling a sled with mail and a barrel outfitted with a sail and rudder known as a "ponchon."



Smiling for the camera are Peter Butler, RPSC director at National Office with spouse, Susan.



The choice philatelic material available at the dealer bourse no doubt kept collectors happily looking for new items to augment their collections. In the foreground is Robert Lemire (left) in serious discussion with Hank Narbonne.



Bill Barrell of Great Britain appears more than pleased to be offering his stock of philatelic items to his customers on this side of the pond.



With magnifying glass in hand, Dr. Jim Watt, foreground, appears well prepared to examine his potentail purchases before laying out cold cash.



Michael Millar, left, celebrating his 50-year membership in The Royal, was presented with his 50-year pin at Dorval. Sitting with Michael at the Saturday evening awards banquet is newly minted Fellow David Oberholtzer who is also the treasurer of our Society.



Not everything is fun and joviality at ROYAL conventions. Shown here are Brigiite Charest, the able translator who makes sure that the French text in the magazine is correct and François Brisse, Associate Editor, discussing magazine content with President George Pepall.



Senior Fellow in attendance at the 2011 Convention is Michael Madesker, left, also wearing his 50-year membership pin. At the table with Michael is Royal Vice President Frank Alusio.

Transcribing Sounds

by Michael Madesker, RDP, FRPSC

Sign Language:

Hearing Impaired in the Arts: Musicians



Music is defined as the art of combining vocal and/or instrumental sounds to express emotions or feelings. Music is heard by people through sensations caused by vibrations of the air reaching our ears. On November 26, 2001, at the 87th Scientific Assembly of the Radiological Society of America, Dr. Dean Shibata, a Professor at the University of Washington, presented a paper in which he related that: *The perception of the musical vibrations by the deaf is likely every bit as real as the equivalent sounds, since they are ultimately processed in the same part of the brain*. The findings explain how deaf people can enjoy music and even, in some cases, become performers. His study was conducted using an MRI, magnetic resonance imaging, on 10 students of the National Technical Institute of the Deaf in Rochester, N.Y. who participated in musical productions and comparing it with 11 volunteers with normal hearing. At musical performances the Rochester School provides the audience with balloons, held at fingertips, in order to "feel" the sound vibrations.

The Iowa School for the Deaf in Council Bluffs, teaches its pupils in the handbell choir through the visual use of colour-coded notes. Students "hear" the music by feeling the vibrations of the bell. This applies equally to students with some hearing impairment and those who are profoundly deaf.



Bedrich Smetana, 1824-1884, was a founder of the Czech nationalist movement which found its expression in music. He lost his hearing in 1874 as a result of syphilis and this affected his creativity.

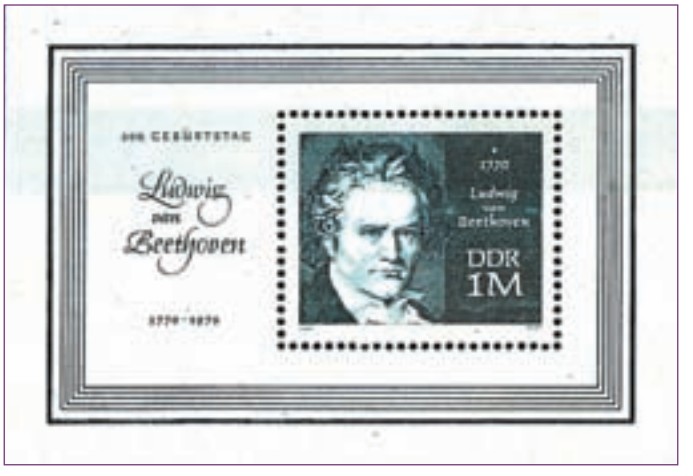
Smetana was instructed in violin by his father, a proficient amateur musician, and a number of local teachers in his native Litomysl. While studying in Prague he was encouraged by Liszt to open a music school. From 1856 until 1860 Smetana was a conductor and music teacher in Goteborg, Sweden but, motivated by nationalistic leanings, returned to Prague. His patriotic opera, *The Brandenburgers in Bohemia*, produced in 1866, propelled him to fame and the success he was seeking. Appointed Chief Conductor of the National Theater, he was able to stage his second opera, *The Bartered Bride*, which established his international reputation.

In addition to his eight operas, Smetana composed chamber and choral music as well as songs. One of his greatest works was a cycle of nationalistic tone poems collectively known as *My Vlast, My Country*. The *Moldau*, a part of this work, is most familiar to audiences around the world.

Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770-1827 , is considered to be the greatest musician in history. He continued to compose even after becoming aware of his hearing difficulties in his early twenties. He suffered from otosclerosis, a fixation of the bones of the middle ear.

Beethoven perfected his piano technique under the tutelage of Neefe and was slated to become a concert pianist. His "debut" as a composer was at 13 with the publication of three piano sonatas. A native of Germany, Beethoven settled permanently in Vienna in 1792 where he continued to study under Haydn, Salieri and others. He earned a living as a concert pianist and became the darling of concert goers with clever improvisations and virtuosity. His increased deafness drove Beethoven into depression and, at the same time, into increased productivity.

Between the years 1802 and 1805, Beethoven wrote *Fidelio*, his only opera, the first of eight symphonies, several quartets, violin concertos and five piano concertos. Following this high period of creativity he worked only intermittently until 1817 when, although completely deaf, his creative genius once again took over with the composition of *Missa Solemnis* as well as a great number of piano sonatas and string quartets. At the end of this period Beethoven composed the *Ninth Symphony* with the magnificent choir in the final movement. He never heard it played.



by "Napoleon"

Alaouites Open O

The 1925 "ALAOUITES" overprint on the Syrian 1 piaster stamp includes a printing variety. In the variety, the "O" is broken at the right and looks like a "C." In the 2002 Scott™ Catalogue, the stamp with the normal overprint catalogued at $0.65 (US) mint hinged (MH) or used. The Yvert et Tellier™ colonies catalogue lists the variety at 18.75 times the base value, either MH or used. Thus one could estimate a catalogue value about $12 (US).

The full-stamp image uses a white circle to show the location of the variety. The detail shows the break in the "O." ✉





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

Advantages of clubs being chapter members of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

- Access to RPSC insurance plan
- Opportunity to order sales circuit books
- Chapter copy of *The Canadian Philatelist* (TCP)
- Access to network of certified exhibit judges
- Access to inventory of slide programmes
- Publication of club's meeting and contact details in *TCP*
- Networking opportunities with neighbouring chapters
- Link to RPSC website, with website development support
- Eligibility to hold a national exhibition and convention
- Access to all member services of our national office

Avantages d'un club d'être membre chapître de La Société royale de philatélie du Canada

- Accès au régime d'assurance de La SRPC
- Possibilité de commander les carnets du circuit des ventes
- Un exemplaire du Philatéliste canadien (LPC)
- Accès à un réseau de juges d'exposition agréés
- Accès à un répertoire de programmes de diapositives
- Publication dans LPC des réunions des clubs et des coordonnées des personnes à contacter
- Possibilité de réseautage avec les sections régionales voisines
- Lien vers le site Web de La SRPC et aide au développement de site Web
- Admissibilité à la tenue de l'exposition-congrès national
- Accès à tous les services aux membres offerts par le Bureau national



PRESIDENT'S page
la page du PRÉSIDENT

by / par George Pepall, FRPSC

The RPSC acknowledges sponsorship of this page by MICHAEL MADESKER, RDP, FRPSC, FRPSL
Cette page du Philatéliste canadien vous est offerte gracieusement par MICHAEL MADESKER, RDP, FRPSC, FRPSL que la Société remercie.

It's the morning after the history-making federal election of May 2nd as I write this piece. With the nation's birthday falling close to when you will receive this issue of *TCP*, it seems appropriate to consider briefly the 'Canada' part of our Society's title of 'The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada' and how it affects the way we conduct our Society.

The election results were widely summarized in the media as having brought 'stability through change'. We can all hope that that is the case, regardless of how we voted, or how we reacted to the final tally. We on the RPSC Executive see our short term goal in the same light. In conjunction with the directors, we are making incremental '*changes*' to the way we do the business of our Society, making it a bottom-up operation without throwing out any of the traditions or practices that make our organization diverse, democratic and therefore '*stable*'.

We directors are a bit like cabinet ministers, trying our best with limited resources to offer real and important services to a wide range of individual members. Each has a portfolio, or two or three, for which he or she is accountable to the members and chapters. We submitted reports at the AGM in May to prove that accountability.

Our individual members are the voters. They determine the outcome of our work when they react to our efforts to promote and use the benefits of membership, and when they renew their memberships faithfully each year. Beyond that, they bring energy and personality to our hobby by participating in club meetings and shows, and by interacting with fellow RPSC members. Without them, we simply don't exist as a Society.

Our 85 chapters are like ridings scattered across this enormous country. Large and small, older and not so old, they are defined by their members according to what they expect and want from their hobby.

Our affiliated organizations and study groups resemble the provincial and municipal governments. Part and parcel of what we do, they are our allies in promoting the hobby and delivering services to collectors, as governments at all levels do across the country.

Je rédige cet article alors que nous sommes le lendemain matin des élections fédérales historiques du 2 mai. Comme l'anniversaire du pays est assez près du moment où vous recevrez le présent numéro, il me semble approprié d'examiner la partie « Canada » du nom de notre société ainsi que sa portée sur la manière dont elle est dirigée.

Les résultats de cette élection ont été abondamment résumés dans les médias comme étant « la stabilité par le changement ». Nous espérons tous qu'il en sera ainsi, peu importe comment nous avons voté ou comment nous avons réagi au comptage final. À la direction de La SRPC, nous voyons notre but à court terme sous le même angle. En collaboration avec les directeurs, nous faisons des « changements » dans notre façon de diriger les affaires de la société, soit par une approche ascendante sans toutefois nous départir des traditions et des pratiques qui rendent notre organisation diversifiée, démocratique et dès lors, « stable ».

Les directeurs que nous sommes ressemblent un peu à des ministres du cabinet. Nous essayons de faire de notre mieux avec des ressources limitées pour offrir des services réels et importants à un large éventail de membres. Chacun détient un portefeuille sinon, deux, ou trois, pour lesquels il doit rendre compte aux membres et aux sections de clubs. En mai, nous avons remis des rapports à l'assemblée générale annuelle attestant de notre responsabilité.

Quant à nos membres individuels, ils constituent l'électorat. Ils catalysent le résultat de notre travail lorsqu'ils réagissent à nos efforts en vue de promouvoir et d'utiliser les avantages de l'adhésion et lorsqu'ils renouvellent fidèlement leur adhésion chaque année. En outre, ils confèrent de l'énergie et de la personnalité à notre passe-temps en participant à des réunions de clubs et à des expositions, et en interagissant avec les autres membres de La SRPC. Sans eux, nous n'existerions pas en tant que société.

Nos 85 sections de clubs sont comme des circonscriptions disséminées dans ce vaste pays. Grandes ou petites, âgées ou moins âgées, elles sont définies par les membres selon ce qu'ils attendent et veulent de leur passe-temps.

Nos organisations affiliées et nos groupes d'études ressemblent aux gouvernements provinciaux et aux administrations municipales. Parties et parcelles de ce que nous faisons, ils sont nos alliés pour faire la promotion de la philatélie et fournir des services aux collectionneurs, comme les gouvernements à tous les échelons dans le pays.

The American Philatelic Society, the Fédération Internationale de Philatélie and other worldwide philatelic organizations offer opportunities to take philately to its highest levels, through competitive exhibiting and specialized offerings at large, out-of-country shows.

I could go on with the analogy, but I'm confident that you get my point. The hobby of stamp collecting and philately is like the country itself: complex, diverse, evolving, and not easy to manage. It means something a little different to every citizen, yet its core activities are the same for each. Those include acquiring, learning, sharing, volunteering, and, for so many people to whom we can all be grateful, leading. It also means taking an interest in one another. That's the way we do things in Canada.

As a member-voter, please don't forget to exercise your franchise regularly.

Happy Canada Day, Fellow Collectors, or for the traditionalists, Happy Dominion Day!

Warm words of sincere thanks are due to Chuck Colomb, Gary Misener and the whole Lakeshore organizing committee for the wonderful Royale convention you put on for us in May. We won't soon forget it. Thank you all! ✉

L'Amercan Philatelic Society, la Fédération internationale de philatélie et d'autres organisations philatéliques de par le monde offrent des possibilités d'élever la philatélie à ses plus hauts niveaux par des expositions-concours et des volets spécialisés dans de grandes expositions internationales.

Je pourrais poursuivre l'analogie, mais je suis certain que vous avez compris mon propos. Le passe-temps que constituent la collection et la philatélie est comme le pays lui-même, complexe, diversifié, évolutif et difficile à gérer. Il revêt un sens différent pour chaque citoyen, mais ses activités de base sont les mêmes pour tous. C'est-à-dire, acquérir, apprendre, partager, faire du bénévolat et pour tant de personnes à qui nous devons toute notre reconnaissance, diriger. Cela signifie aussi, s'intéresser les uns aux autres. C'est ainsi que nous faisons les choses au Canada.

En tant que membre votant, s'il vous plaît, n'oubliez pas d'exercer votre droit régulièrement.

Bonne fête du Canada, compagnons collectionneurs et pour les traditionalistes, bonne fête du Dominion!

Une pensée chaleureuse et des remerciements sincères à Chuck Colomb, à Gary Misener et à tout le comité organisateur du Lakeshore pour le magnifique congrès Royal, qu'ils ont mis sur pied pour nous en mai. Nous ne l'oublierons pas de si tôt. Merci à tous! ✉

MEMBERSHIP report / Des nouvelles de nos 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.

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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 1-888-285-4143 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 1-888-285-4143 ou par courriel à info@rpsc.org. Aucune information ne sera acceptée par téléphone. CECI EST UN SERVICE GRATUIT DE LA SRPC.

REGIONAL EVENTS / ÉVÉNEMENTS RÉGIONAUX

AUGUST 6 AOÛT, 2011
The Fenelon Stamp Club's FENPEX 27 will be held from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm at 58 Murray Street, Fenelon Falls ON. Dealers, silent auction, door prizes, free stuff for kids. Bright new air conditioned building, lunch available. Free admission and parking. More information available from Lloyd McEwan lmccewan@sympatico.ca.

AUGUST 20 AOÛT, 2011
MUSPEX 2011 Stamp Show and Exhibition sponsored by the Muskoka Stamp Club will be held from 9:30 am to 4:00 pm at the Muskoka Riverside Inn, 300 Ecclestone Drive, Bracebridge, Ontario. Exhibits, 10 dealers, door prizes with free parking and admission. Come visit beautiful Muskoka. For further information please contact Bruce Hughes at brucestamper1@sympatico.ca.

SEPTEMBER 17 SEPTEMBRE, 2011
BRUNPEX 2011, the 12th Annual Stamp Bourse of The Fundy Stamp Collectors Club, will be held from 10 am to 4 pm at the Rotary Lodge, Centennial Park, St. George Blvd., Moncton, NB. Ten dealers, silent/live auction, wheelchair access, free admission and parking. More information available from Rod Allison at (506) 855-1656 or rallisn606@rogers.com or from the club's website at www.fundystampclub.ca.

SEPTEMBER 17 SEPTEMBRE, 2011
MIDDPEX 2011 exhibition and bourse sponsored by the London & Middlesex Stamp Club, from 10:00am to 4:00pm at at the Argyle Mall, 1925 Dundas St., London, Ontario. 100 frame judged exhibit open to all. 18 dealers. Free admission & parking. Wheelchair accessible. Exhibition rules & entry form at www.middlesexstampclub.com Email Patrick at patrickjdelmore@hotmail.com

SEPTEMBER 17 SEPTEMBRE, 2011
Owen Sound Stamp Club 16th Annual Show and Sale at the Royal Canadian Legion, 1450 2nd Ave. W., Owen Sound, Ontario. Note: New Location! Times: 10 am to 4 pm. 8 dealers, door prizes, free parking and admission, exhibits and free stamps for kids. For more information call Phil Visser at 519-376-6760 or email psvisser@hurontel.on.ca.

SEPTEMBER 23-24 SEPTEMBER, 2011:
VANPEX 2011, the annual exhibition and bourse of the British Columbia Philatelic Society, will be held in the Community Room of the West Burnaby United Church, 6050 Sussex Avenue, Burnaby, B.C. Hours: Friday 10 am to 6 pm, Saturday 10 am to 4 pm. Free admission and parking. More information at www.bcphilatelic.org or e-mail Derren at verdraco@uniserve.com.

SEPTEMBER 24 SEPTEMBRE, 2011:
Copex 2011 sponsored by the Cobourg Stamp Club will be held from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm at The Salvation Army Hall, 59 Ballantine St., Cobourg ON. Exhibits, 8 dealers, club consignment sales, prize draws, lunch counter. Free admission and parking. More information from Harold Houston at hhouston@cogeco.ca.

OCTOBER 22 OCTOBRE, 2011:
The Barrie District Stamp Club's 50th Annual Show and Dealer Bourse will be held from 10 am to 4 pm at the Army, Navy & Air Force Veterans in Canada Club, 7 George Street, Barrie, ON. Free admission. Information from Dave Hanes at dhanes@sympatico.ca.

NATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS NATIONALES

SEPTEMBER 2-4 SEPTEMBRE, 2011:
BNAPEX 2011 sponsored by the British North America Philatelic Society will be held from 10 am to 5 pm on Friday, 10 am to 5 pm on Saturday and 10 am to 3 pm on Sunday at the Clarion Resort Pinewood Park Hotel in North Bay, ON. Featuring 14+ dealers, 160 frames of exhibits, study groups, awards banquet, etc. Show is open to all. Free admission for youth and BNAPEX registrants. More information from John Beddows at (705) 495-3134 or at jlw@onlink.net or from the BNAPS web site at www.bnaps.org.

MAY 5-6 MAI, 2012:
ORAPEX 2012, Ottawa's National Level Stamp Show, the 51st Annual Stamp Exhibition and Bourse with over 40 dealers and 150 frames of exhibits, will be held from 10 am to 6 pm on Saturday and 10 am to 4 pm on Sunday, at the RA Centre Curling Rink, 2451 Riverside Dr., Ottawa, ON. Free admission and parking. Dealers please contact Stéphane Cloutier at cloutier1967@sympatico.ca. Exhibitors please contact Brian Watson at brian150@sympatico.ca. General information is available from Robert Pinet, Publicity Coordinator at (613) 745-2788 or pinet.robert@gmail.com.

JUNE 1-3 JUIN, 2012
The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada's 84th Annual Exhibition and Convention in Edmonton, Alberta. Details to follow at a later date.

MAY 4-5 MAI, 2013:
ORAPEX 2013, Ottawa. Details to follow at later date.

MAY 3-4 MAI, 2014:
ORAPEX 2014, Ottawa. Details to follow at a later date.

INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITIONS / EXPOSITIONS INTERNATIONALES

JULY 28-AUGUST 2, 2011
PHILANIPPON 2011, a FIP World Exhibition in Yokohama, Kanawaga, Japan. Canadian Commissioner: Alexandra Glashan, 2230 avenue de Clifton, Montreal, QC, H4A 2N6. Tel.: (514) 486-4671 and e-mail com.canada@hotmail.com

OCTOBER 19-25, 2011
MEDELLIN 2011, the first international philatelic exhibition organized by the Club Filatelico de Medellin under the auspices of the Federacion Filatelica Colombiana (FEFILCO) in the Chamber of Commerce in Medellin, Colombia. The exhibition is in the process of obtaining FIAF auspices and FIP recognition. Canadian Commissioner: JJ Danielski, 71 Gennela Square, Toronto, ON, M1B-5M7, Tel. (416) 283-2047, and email: jjad@rogers.com.

JUNE 18-24, 2012
INDONESIA 2012, World Stamp Championship and Exhibition under the Patronage of FIP and auspices of FIAF to be held at the Jakarta Convention Centre. Canadian Commissioner: George Constatourakis, 2115 Girouard Ave, Montreal, QC, H2A-3C4, Tel. (541) 482-2764, and email: geo.constant@sympatico.ca.

NOVEMBER 2-4 NOVEMBRE, 2012:
IPHLA 2012 an International Exhibition for Philatelic Literature, including digital media and websites, will be held in Mainz Germany. Infomation and entry forms at www.iphla.de or from Wolfgang Maassen at w.maassen@aijp.org or +49 2163 49760.

AUGUST 2-14, 2013
THAILAND 2013, a World Stamp Exhibition under the Patronage of HRM Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn organized by Thailand Post Company Ltd with collaboration of the Philatelic Association of Thailand at the Royal Paragon Hall Exhibition and Convention Centre, Bangkok, Thailand. The exhibition obtained patronage of FIP and auspices of FIAP. Canadian Commissioner: Sammy G. Chiu, FRPSC, P.O. Box 1108, Station "B", Willowdale, ON, M2K-3A2, Tel. (416) 845-3382, and email: chiusam@hotmail.com.

For a better turnout, have your club's event listed here. Please submit your show information at least eight weeks prior to the publication date that you want your first listing to appear.

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British North America specialized section is vol. II. price Cdn $85; via Xpresspost North America. price: Cdn $100; via Int'l Airmail Worldwide. www.nfldstamps.com, (709-685-0560) 9 Guy Street. St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada A1B 1P4 *v62n06*

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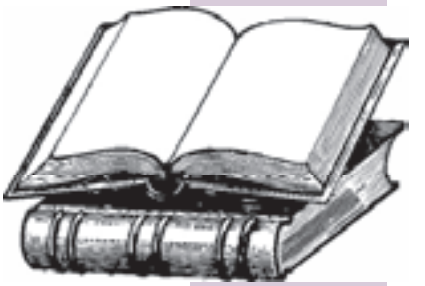
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STAMP CATALOGUE NORTH AMERICA

Published by Stanley Gibbons (7 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire, Great Britain, BH24 3SH). 2011. ISBN 10:0-85259-783-5 and ISBN 13:978-0-85259-783-5. Glossy soft cover, 608 pages; 240X170 mm. Retail price 49.95 British pounds. Orders can be placed by telephone: +44(0)1425-472363 or by e-mail:orders@stanleygibbons.co.uk or Internet:www.stanleygibbons.com

Stamp Catalogue North America is an all-new publication. It brings together for the first time the stamps of the major countries of North America and related areas of interest to collectors. For example, included are listings of the stamps of Bermuda, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Canal Zone, St. Pierre & Miquelon and United Nations (New York Headquarters). One notable exception is Mexico.

The United States section is expansive and includes such items as the U.S. Postmasters' Provisional Issues, Commemorative Panels and Letter Carriers' Stamps and Confederate States of America.

Of interest to collectors will be the notes preceding each country's listings. These notes cover such topics as the early issues, changes in currency and historical information.

Included in the listings are major print varieties, perforation measurements, watermarks, shades, overprints and major errors. As such, it will satisfy the needs of beginner and advanced collectors alike. Booklets are listed and priced. Explanatory notes are provided for the experimental United States machine labels first going on sale on August 28, 1989.

Topical and thematic collectors will be pleased with the inclusion of design indexes for Canada, United States, St. Pierre & Miquelon and the United Nations (New York). The guide to help collectors make better use of the catalogue's features is another thoughtful aspect as are its Feature Listings, outlining for collectors what is included in the catalogue, and the International Philatelic Glossary of commonly used philatelic terminology in five languages: English, French, German, Spanish and Italian.

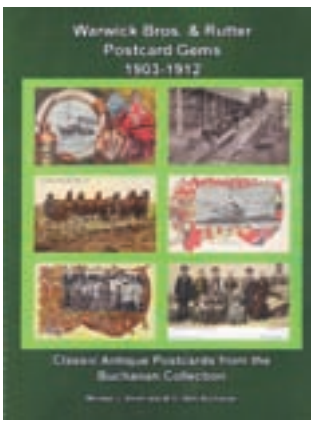
New issue listings have been updated as follows: Bermuda to June 2010; Canada to July 2010; St. Pierre & Miquelon to April 2010; United States of America to April 2010; and United Nations (New York) to February 2010.

Multiplier factors are given for covers to 1945 for Bermuda and Canada; U.S. cover prices to 1888 are individually listed, where available.

This new work, intended to meet the needs of novice and advanced collectors, has met its objectives. As a bonus, the editors have included two informative articles. One deals with the first Queen Elizabeth definitive stamps of Bermuda; the other examines the Fourth Bureau definitive issues of the United States.

For collectors whose philatelic interests are restricted to the stamps of North America, the money spent to purchase this publication is a good investment.

Tony Shaman



WARWICK BROS. & RUTTER POSTCARD GEMS 1903-1912

By Michael Smith and W.O. (Bill) Buchanan. 2011, soft cover, 106 pages, 8½ by 11 inches. ISBN 978-0-9731924-5-2; retail price $39.95 postpaid. Available from Mike Smith, 182 Newgate St., Apt. 3 Goderich, Ontario N7A 1P6 or by e-mail at: msmith67@rogers.com

Completeness is something that many collectors dream about. Most never achieve it but some come close. One of these is W.O. (Bill) Buchanan. He managed to assemble more than 7,300 Warwick Bros. & Rutter Postcards, within striking distance of the 7,300-plus cards known to exist.

Buchanan's story is one of dedication to the hobby and author Mike Smith brings it to life in the current "Gems" book, a companion publication to *The Warwick Bros. & Rutter Picture Postcard Handbook 1903-1912* released in 2007. (See *TCP*, January/February 2008, Vol. 59, No. 1.)

Bill Buchanan began his collecting career as a philatelist at the tender age of eight and eventually became a member of the Postal Specialists Society of Canada and an honourary life member of The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada.

A bank manager by profession, Bill began his involvement in deltiology by collecting bank buildings depicted on postcards. In 1977 he became one of the founders of the Toronto Postcard Club and immediately volunteered to become the club's archivist, a position that he held for 40 years.

It took Buchanan more than four decades to form the premier Warwick Bros. & Rutter Postcard collection in existence. The gems of this collection are illustrated in the current publication. Many of these postcards are reproduced in full colour to add to the visual appeal of this work, which is divided into seven parts: the introduction, sections one through five and an appendix.

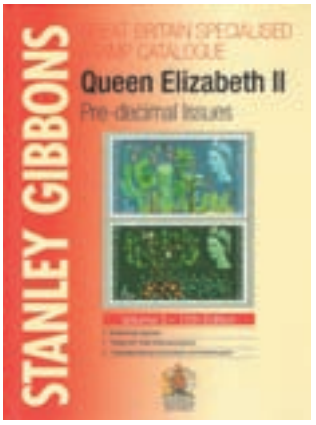
The introductory remarks fill in readers about the remarkably successful Warwick organization, its temporary setback due to a fire in downtown Toronto, the people behind the company and its comeback, stronger than ever.

Sections one through five, the main body of the publication, list the series of postcards divided into the following categories: Fancy Postcards; Canadians on the Move; Canadians at Work and Play; Men in Uniform; and Great Characters & Cultures. The appendix is a compilation of fancy cards that were unlisted in the 2007 publication, some corrections from the previous work plus a listing of three new series of fancy cards that were incorrectly listed in the regular view card sections in the 2007 handbook.

As a reference work, this new volume serves as a companion publication to the 2007 edition although it more than stands on its own as a visual treat especially for aficionados of Warwick Bros. & Rutter postcards. Equally important, informative notes accompany a number of cards illustrated in this book.

This work serves as an historical reference for what is believed to be the most comprehensive collection of Warwick Bros. & Rutter postcards ever assembled and as such deserves a space on the bookshelves of all lovers of fine postcards.

Tony Shaman



QUEEN ELIZABETH II PRE-DECIMAL ISSUES

Published by Stanley Gibbons (7 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire, Great Britain, BH24 3SH). 2011. ISBN 10:0-85259-778-9 and ISBN 13:978-0-85259-778-1. Hard cover, 322 pages; 245X175 mm. Retail price 39.95 British pounds. Orders can be placed by telephone: +44(0)1425-472363 or by e-mail:orders@stanleygibbons.co.uk or Internet:www.stanleygibbons.com

The 12th edition of the *Queen Elizabeth II Pre-Decimal Issues* catalogue is essentially an all-new publication. Redesigned with a larger footprint than its predecessor, it features a user-friendly case binding that allows the volume to lie flat while it is being used. The additional use of a second colour, an eye-appealing pale blue, adds to the catalogue's ease of use. And, like the *Queen Elizabeth II Decimal Issues* catalogue, it is also printed in a two-column format to provide more information per page.

Listings, besides the definitive issues, include commemorative and special issues, postage dues, regional releases and booklets. And needless to add, for a catalogue of this high caliber, this updated work also lists watermark varieties, print errors, constant flaws, cylinder blocks, imprimaturs, paper changes, graphite and phosphor bands, including the various phosphor wavelengths.

The catalogue is divided into seven major sections: Preface and Introduction; Wilding issues; Machins; Special issues; Regional issues; Postage Due stamps; and Appendices.

Of special interest to collectors will be the comprehensive notes preceding each section. General notes introducing the Wilding section, for example, take up eight pages and cover topics that include information on the phosphor trials, phosphor colour identification, phosphor band widths, phosphor printing on both sides, application of phosphor bands and phosphor reaction. This level of detail is an example of the in-depth study that users can expect from this well researched publication.

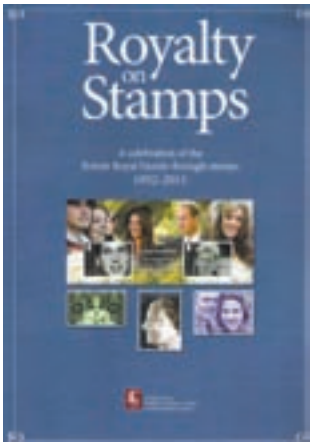
For instance, with paste-up and advertiser voucher copy books now listed and priced, the information now available to booklet collectors has increased substantially. Also provided for the first time are details of the pound, shilling and pence denominated Machin colour trials produced in anticipation of the decimal currency issues.

Colour trials that are known to exist are listed.

A "Further Reading" list is included for readers desiring further information about any of the aspects covered in the catalogue.

This newest edition contains all the information and technical data likely needed by even the most advanced collectors of the pre-decimal issues released between December 1952 and November 1970. The publication's many new features make it an indispensable addition to the toolkit of collectors of the Queen Elizabeth II pre-decimal issues. It is a publication that is much more than an ordinary stamp catalogue: it is an advanced study covering one of the most popular collecting periods of British postage stamps.

Tony Shaman



ROYALTY ON STAMPS: A CELEBRATION OF THE BRITISH ROYAL FAMILY THROUGH STAMPS 1952-2011

Published by Stanley Gibbons (7 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire, Great Britain, BH24 3SH). ISBN 10:0-85259-799-1 and ISBN 13:978-0-85259-799-6. Glossy soft cover, 88 pages; 296X210 mm. Retail price 8.95 British pounds. Orders can be placed by telephone: +44(0)1425-472363 or by e-mail:orders@stanleygibbons.co.uk or Internet:www.stanleygibbons.com

Collectors of postage stamps depicting members of Great Britain's Royal Family will be thrilled with the Stanley Gibbons publication released to commemorate the occasion of Prince William's engagement to Kate Middleton. Although the volume is essentially an anthology of articles about stamps depicting Royal Family members extracted from the archived material of *Gibbons Stamp Monthly*, it also provides a previously unpublished article by former *GSM* editor John Holman.

An introduction by current *GSM* editor, Hugh Jefferies, gives a brief overview of the articles, each marking an auspicious event related to stamps issued during the reign of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

In addition to the Holman piece dealing with the stamps and related postmarks of Prince William, the volume includes a further 21 previously published articles. Authors whose works were selected for this commemorative magazine style publication include Peter Jennings, FRPSL, and other well-known philatelic writers such as John Woolford, Paul Brittain, Bernard Towler, James Watson and Hugh Jefferies, among others. More than 500 illustrations augment the textual material.

Selecting 20 representative articles from the thousands contained in the archives marking memorable events in the lives of the Royal Family over the past 58-odd years could not have been a simple task. But, clearly, the editor has succeeded admirably.

A sampling of the selected articles touches on events such as the Queen's 50th anniversary of her coronation in 1953; stamps depicting the Queen Mother, penned as she approached her 100th birthday; Royal weddings, past and present; the 70th Birthday stamp issued to honour HM The Queen and printed in 1996; a survey of the 1977 Silver Jubilee; the stamps commemorating the Royal Silver Wedding anniversary in 1972 and the 1953 Coronation stamp issues. The remaining articles are equally educational. For devotees of the stamps of The Royal Family who do not possess a run of *Gibbons Stamp Monthly* magazines, this is an ideal opportunity to acquire a publication that nicely summarizes many of the key events in the lives of The Queen and her family.

Royalty on Stamps is a publication that collectors with an interest in the stamps of the Royal Family will not want to be without. It will also serve as a keepsake to commemorate the engagement of the young couple, William and Kate, destined to become King and Queen someday.

Tony Shaman



COMMONWEALTH STAMP CATALOGUE EASTERN PACIFIC

Published by Stanley Gibbons (7 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire, Great Britain, BH24 3SH). 2011. ISBN 10:0-85259-801-7 and ISBN 13:978-0-85259-801-6. Glossy soft cover, 184 pages; 240X170 mm. Retail price 16.95 British pounds. Orders can be placed by telephone: +44(0)1425-472363 or by e-mail:orders@stanleygibbons.co.uk or Internet:www.stanleygibbons.com

This second edition of the *Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue Eastern Pacific* is the first reprint in four years and includes significant changes from its predecessor publication. It includes, for instance, the stamps of Pitcairn Islands, to make it a more inclusive catalogue. Also included in the listings are the stamps of the Eastern Pacific postal administrations of the Cook Islands, Niue, and Samoa. The Cook Islands section also lists the stamps of the New Zealand Dependencies of Aitutaki and Penrhyn.

Included in this new edition are comprehensive prices of all stamps from the early independent Kingdom issues of Samoa, dating back to 1977, with accompanying notes on the identification of forgeries and reprints of the Express issues. Also listed are the stamps of the German Post Office in Samoa and German stamps cancelled in Apia, as are the New Zealand stamps that were used at Pitcairn from 1927 to 1940, prior to the time that Pitcairn Islands had its own stamps issued.

Following the lead of the other regional catalogue series, its dimensions have been reduced with a proportionate increase in page numbers. The smaller size makes it handier to carry around and serve as an instant reference and price guide.

Cook Island includes listings to November 2010; Aitutaki to November 2008; Penrhyn Island to October 2008; Niue to November 2009; Pitcairn Islands to February 2010; Samoa to March 2010.

For cover collectors, the "multipliers" given at the beginning of each country for covers up to 1945 are a useful feature, as

are the listings and prices for watermark varieties, plate flaws, major print errors, perforation varieties, shades, official issues and booklets. Stamp prices are given for mint and used copies in fine condition although readers need to be aware that prices are subject to change without prior notice. Stamps in superior condition will command a premium over quoted prices.

These regional catalogues, now numbering about two dozen, are excellent alternatives to the much higher priced worldwide publications. For collectors with an interest in the stamps of the Eastern Pacific island groups, this all-new and much expanded publication cannot be beat for price and quality.

Tony Shaman



STAMP CATALOGUE PART 9 PORTUGAL & SPAIN

Published by Stanley Gibbons (7 Parkside, Christchurch Road, Ringwood, Hampshire, Great Britain, BH24 3SH). 2011. ISBN 10:0-85259-798-3 and ISBN 13:978-0-85259-798-9. Glossy soft cover, 520 pages; 240X170 mm. Retail price 39.95 British pounds. Orders can be placed by telephone: +44(0)1425-472363 or by e-mail:orders@stanleygibbons.co.uk or Internet:www.stanleygibbons.com

The 6th edition of the Stanley Gibbons Portugal & Spain Catalogue, Part 9, in the publisher's series of foreign country and groups of countries catalogues, is the first reprint in seven years. It is the only catalogue published in English covering all the stamps of Portugal and Spain in a single volume.

Part 9 is a comprehensive work and includes, besides the stamps of Portugal and Spain, a detailed listing of stamps of former colonies, offshore islands and overseas provinces. The stamps of no fewer than 44 of these regions are listed. Included, for example, are the stamps of such esoteric places as Elobey, Annobon and Corisco, Ifni, Rio Muni, Cape Juby, Fernando Po, Tete, Miguel and Kionga among others. It is obvious that it is a catalogue for collectors specializing in the stamps in use in any of the areas that at one time came under the political influence of Portugal or Spain. Listed are the stamps of Cuba and Puerto Rico up to their independence, for instance. The stamps of the Azores and Madeira, including the stamp booklets, have their own listings separate from those of Portugal.

All major stamp printings are listed, including perforation varieties, watermarks, shades, overprints and major print errors. Machine label listings for Spain and Portugal have been updated.

Included also is the ever-popular International Philatelic Glossary listings of commonly used philatelic terms in English, French, German, Spanish and Italian as is a seven-page exposition entitled General Philatelic Information and Guidelines to the Scope of Stanley Gibbons Foreign Catalogues. Covered in this section are such topics as stamp printings, papers, perforations, gum, watermarks, colours, luminescence, coils, booklets, fakes and forgeries, pricing and the publisher's guarantee policy.

Catalogue users will appreciate the comprehensive Table of Contents and the extensive Index covering the stamp listings from the African Colonies to Zaragoza.

This updated and all-encompassing 6th edition is destined to be a winner with collectors. At 39.95 pounds it is a reasonable alternative to the worldwide catalogues for philatelists looking for a listing restricted to their areas of collecting interest.

Tony Shaman

in MEMORIAM / NÉCROLOGIE

William J. "Bill" McCann

Bill McCann died peacefully on October 18, 2010 at the Toronto General Hospital, in his 90th year. Bill was a longtime member of British North America Philatelic Society, of the BNAPS Golden Horseshoe regional group, and of the North Toronto Stamp Club. Before retirement, he was a tool- and die-maker with CCM (Canadian Cycle & Motor Co. Ltd.) in Weston, Ontario. Over the years, Bill astutely purchased both Canadian booklet stamps and Canadian postal stationery, and became a successful dealer in these two specialties. Bill compiled the *Standard Catalogue of Canadian Booklet Stamps*, which had three editions— and he used to say he was working on a new edition. These books are the most complete source of information about Canadian booklets and booklet panes. Bill was a true philatelic character, and always had a joke or a story to tell. As Ted Kerzner said, "he never failed to say what was on his mind and didn't worry about the words he chose to express himself—ever!" It was always an enjoyable experience to visit Bill's table.

Gray Scrimgeour



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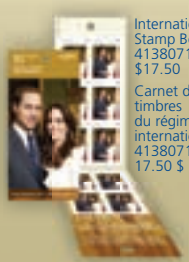
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$1.18

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403808145
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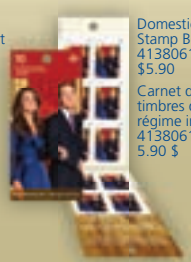
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