



Owen Sound Stamp Club

P hilatelic O wen S ound T imes

Next Club Meeting: July 20th

July 2005

While casually following a discussion between stamp-collecting gurus on the Internet, I was astonished when one suggested that there was little more to be learnt about early British stamps. When a second concurred pointing out that books had been written on the different fonts used for the corner letters of those first stamps and every scratch on every plate had been described in detail, I caught myself wondering if this could really be so.

Knowing how history is full of cases where eminent people have declared that knowledge on some matter “may now be considered complete” only to have their theories promptly turned upside down by some precocious student, I would be most hesitant to ever suggest that there really was nothing more of significance to be learnt of anything – let alone a stamp printed 150 years ago.

However...

looking through the OSSC Library copy of “The Edward VII Issue of Canada” by G.C. Marler, one might be forgiven for thinking that it would be tough to find something new in that series.

So maybe those guys were right and there are series/issues that may be considered “done” – at least until someone finds some angle to work on that no-one has thought of before.

Of course, there is no doubt that there are many, many interesting series to be found that are far from being “done”. Indeed, the consensus in the afore-mentioned discussion was that new philatelic discoveries were most likely in definitives from the “middle period” (1900–1950) of not particularly philatelically popular countries. These stamps tend to be less expensive so that comprehensive collections can be assembled at not too great a cost.

Stamp of the Month...

So, opening my album at random, I am faced with a page of stern looking gentlemen in very uncomfortable-looking apparel. Knowing nothing of any of them, I began looking through my encyclopaedias and soon found that the history of Latin America is far more complicated than simply a succession of military coups.

As Spain occupied/colonised its share of the New World in the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries, it maintained tight control over the administration of the region. In 1795, Spain chose to ally itself with France during the Napoleonic era (the losing side) and contact with the colonies was greatly curtailed for twenty years or so.

As the European conflict came to a close, a somewhat weakened Spain tried to re-establish control over its American possessions. These efforts met with considerable resistance and, by the mid 1820's, virtually all the Latin American colonies had achieved independence – though not



Scott#403–1912
Manuel José Arce

without some struggle.

In 1825, the former Mexican districts of Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Costa Rica formed the Federal Republic of Central America in 1825. The first president of this Federation was one Manuel José Arce.

Arce (1786–1847) was a nephew of the politically active vicar of San Salvador, José Delgado, and had earlier been imprisoned for leading insurrections against Spanish rule.

He ruled the Federation with the support of first the liberals and later the conservatives before alienating both sides and resigning in 1827.

Over the next fifteen years he led several unsuccessful insurrections after each of which he would retire to Mexico to await forgiveness. He was finally allowed to return to El Salvador in 1845 and, presumably, kept his peace until he died two years later.

From the President ...

Alan Charlesworth

Hot Hot Hot !!!

June and July have been very hot and sunny which is not the best weather for our beloved hobby. I have had a great deal of trouble staying inside when I can play in the garden.

What has this got to do with stamp collecting you ask, well it is my main excuse for not writing a more interesting and informative message. However I did put together a 20 lot auction for this meeting. Any one wishing to bring additional

lots to the meeting are free to do so.

Let me remind all of you stampers that the church basement is a wonderfully COOL Place to get out of the heat for a couple of hours. In addition to this months auction approval books will be available at the meeting.

Well I am having trouble thinking of anything else to say this month, I hope you don't mind too much ,see you at the meeting! .

Auction ...

Lot#	Description	CV	EST	Min Bid
1	350 different Hungary	\$70.00	\$10.00	
2	125 Romania	\$25.00	\$4.00	
3	File with 40-50 used 17cent flags plus some mint US etc.	\$10.00	\$2.00	
4	Canada Post "The young reader" art print	\$30.00	\$3.00	
5	Canada Post set of Bird prints	\$25.00	\$5.00	
6	Lot of mint United Nations Flags 16 values	\$6.50	\$3.00	
7	Cuba 1967 Christmas 15 stamps used		\$2.00	
8	Australia Post Pack Aviators		\$1.00	
9	Australia Post Pack Performing arts		\$1.00	
10	Australia Post Pack 1984		\$1.00	
11	Australia Post Pack 1980 birds	\$6.50	\$3.00	
12	Australia Post Pack 1979 birds	\$3.00	\$1.50	
13	Australia Post Pack 1981 Animals	\$3.00	\$1.50	
14	Australia Post Pack 1973 Marine life		\$1.00	
15	stock card of mint Jamaica		\$3.00	
16	1 stock card of US Stamp EXHIBITION LABELS (1926, 1936, 1938, 1939)		\$15.00	
17	Photo album with 300 stamps		\$8.00	
18	Vintage Smiles and Chucles chocolate box (many glasines; stamps, covers, 1950 easter seals)		\$5.00	
19	Vintage Whitmans Chocolate box with many stamps		\$10.00	
20	Beautiful collection in specialty album of 60 + WWFDC		\$35.00	

OSSC Library ...

As mentioned earlier, the OSSC Library does hold a copy of: "The Edward VII Issue of Canada" by G.C. Marler, published by the National Postal Museum(1975).

With a chapter on General Observations and a chapter for each of the seven denominations it is hard to believe that there is anything more to be said about this series. For each value, there is a comprehensive description of varieties, plate numbers, production figures, along with order numbers and production dates.

The book is beautifully produced, well illustrated and, in spite of the detail, easy to read.

Just to remind you, books in the OSSC Library are available for loan to any member (but please return at the next meeting).

Books presently held include:

2002 Catalogue of Canadian Stamps – Unitrade¹

2005 Catalogue of Canadian Stamps & Supplies – CWS

Canadian Errors, Freaks, and Oddities – Darnel

"The Edward VII Issue of Canada" by G.C. Marler, published by the National Postal Museum(1975).

Numerous journals at present only partly sorted including:

The Canadian Philatelist (J. of the RPSC)

Scott's Monthly

Topical Times (J. American Topical Association)

Details (Canada Post)

¹ donated by Don Nicoll

If anyone should have spare copies of Canada Post "Details" for 2000 #1 & 2; and 2001 #4, they would be much appreciated by the OSSC Library to complete their collection of this journal.

What's New ...

Charles van Rompu

About a year ago – on May 21st, 2004, to be precise – Slovenia issued a stamp which, I assume, escaped the attention of two of our members who are interested in and collect topicals.

The stamp, a 218 SIT (approx. \$1.40), designed by Arnold + Vuga and printed by DELO Tiskarna, d.d, Ljubljana in 70,000 pieces (25 per sheet) shows: "The Miller and His Wife".

The one member is myself, and since I do mills, this is obvious. The second one however is undoubtedly still asking himself, what do I have to do with it?

The answer is in the following story and the picture of the stamp.

The story is taken from: The Bulletin #51, a magazine, announcing new Slovenian stamps issued by Pošta Slovenije, d.o.o.

Beehive panel paintings as a unique form of rural arts in the Slovene Alpine area achieved their greatest flowering in the second half of the 19th century.

Apiaries with painted panels were not only open-air galleries, but also outdoor classrooms displaying paintings with many different motifs. The early paintings mostly depicted the scenes from the Old and New Testaments, the saints, and other religious motifs.

During the golden age of beehive painting between the 1820's and 1880's, secular motifs – both imaginary and factual ones – were added.

Panel paintings also depict historical and war motifs, scenes from village life



and fêtes, animals, various professions and the work associated with them etc.

Paintings incorporating imaginary scenes include images of Gypsies, Turks and exotic animals, scenes satirizing tailors, shoemakers and hunters and those mocking female weaknesses.

The beehive panel on the stamp was painted in 1869. It is displayed in the Carinthian Regional Museum in Slovenj Gradec as a part of the Carf collection.

It shows a miller and his wife. Millers had a general reputation of being dishonest.

The miller depicted on the panel greets a man and invites him to his mill, while miller's wife thumbs her nose at him behind his back, ridiculing human stupidity.



Some detail about the stamp: Format 40.32 × 28.80 mm, 4 colour offset.

First Day cancellation in 2380 Slovenj. Gradec on May 21st 2004.

Cancel has a BIG bee in it, obviously for "bee collectors".

Hope you all have a good summer. See you on the 20th.

Stamps as Investments ...

For years it has been common wisdom that investing in stamps *could* be worthwhile but was definitely risky unless you really knew what was what in the world of philately. Typical advice from all but the most devious dealers would be "go for quality, not quantity".

A while back, Stanley Gibbons decided to create an index of valuable British stamps and see how their values changed over time. It was felt that such an index might provide a useful yardstick for investors.

The latest update to the index has recently been released and in the accompanying press release, Stanley Gibbons points out that fourteen stamps out of thirty in the Index have risen in price by 100% or more since 1999 [Note: 100% would be equivalent to about 12%/annum].

While this might sound pretty good, there are a couple of things that might be worth bearing in mind before trading the house for a mint block of 1840 tuppenny blues.

First off, if you're a bit of a cynic like myself, it could cross your mind that Stanley Gibbons not only compiles the index, but also sells the material it is indexing, and sets the prices to boot.

Secondly, what is the usual offer you might expect from a dealer if you were to try to realize your investment stamps? When you get to the high value stuff, it might be a bit better than the usual 25–50% (if you are very lucky) but it will certainly knock a big hole in that 100% gain and likely leave you considerably out of pocket if you were stuck with a mere 50% gain.

So, looks like we are back to the other bit of common wisdom which is that collecting stamps really should be its own reward!

New Great Britain Rarities Index

No	SG No.	Description	Condition	Cat 1999	Cat 2005	Increase	% Inc
1	5	1840 2d. blue	Unused	£6,000	£12,000	£6,000	100%
2	15 aa	1851 2d. violet-blue	Unused	£7,500	£14,000	£6,500	86.7%
3	88	1862 9d. Bistre (Hair lines, Plate 3)	Unused	£6,750	£12,000	£5,250	77.8%
4	91	1862 1s deep green (Plate No. 2 = Plate 3)	Unused	£12,000	£18,500	£6,500	54.2%
5	99	1867 10d. red-brown (Plate 1)	Used	£13,000	£25,000	£12,000	92.3%
6	109 pl.10	1869 6d. Mauve without hyphen (plate 10)	Used	£13,000	£19,000	£6,000	46.2%

Next Meeting ... Wed. June 15th at 7:00 pm

As noted on p.2, the main feature at the upcoming meeting will be an auction along with some circuit books.

As always, if any member has any material to sell or trade, bring it along!

Upcoming Events:

July 23 (Sat.): Stamp Show at St. Bonaventure Church Parish Centre, 1300 Leslie St., **Toronto**. 18 Dealers. Free admission.
Hours: 9-5

Aug 6 (Sat.): Kincardine Stamp Club is holding its annual show at the Canadian Legion Hall, Lambton St., **Kincardine**. Nine dealers, sales circuit, door prizes, silent auction. Free admission.
Hours: 10-4

Aug 13 (Sat.): Collingwood-Georgian Bay Coin & Stamp Club is hosting its annual Show and Bourse at the Leisure Time Club in Collingwood. Tokens, coins, paper money, stamps, postcards, sportscards, trade dollars, militaria, CTC coupons. Light refreshments will again be served by the Leisure Time Club. Free parking and admission.
Hours: 9-3

Aug 13 (Sat.): Stamp Show at St. Bonaventure Church Parish Centre, 1300 Leslie St., **Toronto**. 18 Dealers. Free admission.
Hours: 9-5

Aug 27 (Sat.): Stamp Show at St. Bonaventure Church Parish Centre, 1300 Leslie St., **Toronto**. 18 Dealers. Free admission.
Hours: 9-5

Aug 27 (Sat.): Muskoka Stamp Club is hosting MUSPEX 2005 at Muskoka Riverside Inn, 300 Ecclestone Drive, Bracebridge. Exhibits, dealers, door prizes. Free admission.
Hours: 10-4

In Case you were Wondering ...

philately: the collection and study of postage stamps [Mid-19th century. From French philatélie, from Greek philos "loving" + ateleia "exemption from tax," ultimately from telos "tax"; from the freedom from charges that a stamped letter provides.]

When a Monsieur Herpin, a French stamp-collector, was looking for an impressive and learned-sounding term for his hobby, he was hampered by the fact that the Greeks and Romans did not have postage stamps, and therefore there was no classical term for them. So he decided to go back a stage beyond stamps, to the days of franking with a postmark. In France, such letters were marked with the words *franc de port* "carriage-free." The nearest he could get to this in Greek was ateleia, and from it he created philatélie, the English form of which made its first recorded appearance in 1865.

Microsoft Encarta Reference Library 2004.

OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB
Chapter 191
Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

The Owen Sound Stamp Club meets at 7:00pm on the third Wednesday of each month in the basement of St. George's Anglican Church (on the corner of 10th St. E. and 4th Ave. E.). The main business of the evening is typically to trade, buy, and sell stamps and philatelic material. An auction is held at 8:00pm.

There are presently about 20 active members whose interests cover just about everything at all levels from beginner to expert. New members are always most welcome.

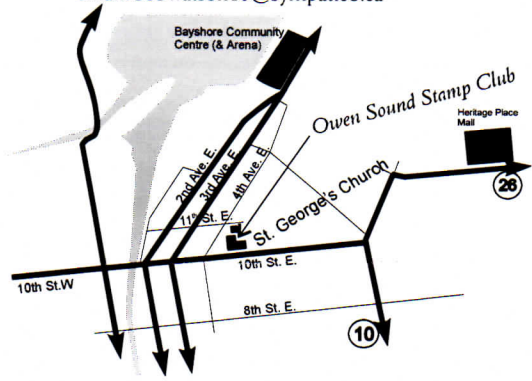
Annual Membership fees: Full: \$10; Family: \$15; Junior: Free. In addition, all members and visitors are asked to contribute \$1 each meeting which is passed directly to St. George's Church in appreciation for allowing us to use their room.

The OSSC Newsletter is distributed monthly to members of the Owen Sound Stamp Club. Opinions expressed by contributors to this newsletter are those of the named author and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Owen Sound Stamp Club (nor of the editor).

Contributions are always most welcome. If any reader has news, information, opinions, or announcements that might be of interest to the OSSC membership, please contact the editor.

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Stamp on the Envelope ...

Taking a bit of a step back to a series issued earlier this year, we have Canada Post's final set of reproductions from Audubon's classic *The Birds of America*. (Previous sets in this series were issued in 2003 and 2004).

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|---|--|
| Series: Audubon's birds | Print.: Lowe Martin |
| Title: "Horned Lark" | Process: Lithography (10 colours) |
| "Piping Plover" | Paper: Tullis Russell Coatings |
| "Stilt Sandpiper" | Gum: PVA |
| "Willow Ptarmigan" | Tagging: General, 4 sides |
| Issue date: 23 rd March, 2005 | Size: 48 mm × 27.5 mm |
| Denom: 50¢ | Perf.: 12½ × 13 |
| Layout: Pane of 16 stamps | No. 6,000,000 |
| Des.: Rolf Harder | |