



# Owen Sound Stamp Club

## P hilatelic O wen S ound T imes

Next Club Meeting: March
March 2006

Some of you might remember a series of articles by Peter Broadfield (“Aussie Pete”) about getting set up to use eBay to buy (and sell) stamps through the Internet. Well, a few weeks ago I took the plunge and tried my hand by putting in some bids. I have to say that, so far, everything has gone smoothly with the goods being delivered promptly and just as advertised.

Coincidentally, the latest *Canadian Stamp News* includes an article by Victor Wilson discussing the impact of eBay on stamp trading. Over the years Wilson has been using the service, he has found that prices for any particular item are pretty stable, that high-end pieces rarely sell, while collections and unsorted lots almost always do. He concludes by suggesting that stamp trading is as vigorous today as ever BUT the mechanisms for such trading are changing.

To my way of thinking, the biggest change that eBay is bringing to the stamp market is in the setting of prices. As I write this, there are some 800,000 stamp lots listed on eBay which include

950 Penny Blacks and 70 Bluenoses.

Looking further at the Bluenoses, closing prices for used examples seem to be generally \$10-20 – which suggests that the 2002 Unitrade value of \$45 (fine) and \$90 (very fine) is rather more than a bit optimistic.

Talking of trading, Bob Pike is desperate to get new, filled, circuit books from club members! You must all have good stamps that really don’t add to your collection and that someone else would appreciate. Charles will be bringing empty books to the next meeting so you can make the most of this circuit.

*Bob Watson*

**Mai!!!** \_\_\_\_\_

Hi Bob,  
 Since you brought monetary items in last odds and sods. Here are two more:

**Iceland:** As of February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2006 the AURAR designation on Icelandic stamps has disappeared. Thus the value will be expressed as 50 instead of 50.00. This is a result of Government directives which took effect October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003. Coins in values of 5, 10 & 15 Aurars, are rendered invalid from that day onwards ( 1 Island Krona was 100 Aurars).

**Denmark.** In the article about the wavy line definitives of Denmark (October 2005), I mentioned that, since they were introduced in 1905, they were the second oldest running definitives, only surpassed by the Norwegian’s Post-horns issued in 1872. I took this from a Danish info brochure. The Danes are now eating their words. It appears that a Sudanese stamp issued on March 1<sup>st</sup> 1898 is the second oldest definitive and still used as recently as in 2003. Its the one with the vignette of a postman on a camel (Scott# 9/16), which makes Denmark’s the third oldest.

*Charles van Rompu*



**Stamp of the Month...** \_\_\_\_\_

Seeing as Charles mentioned it, here is the design used for the second longest running definitive. It really is a fine design and, to my mind, it is way more interesting than either the Norwegian “post-horn” or the Danish “wavy line” definitives.

As Charles says, the stamp first appeared in 1898 and was based on a drawing by one Captain E. A. Stanton who was a surveyor/cartographer working for the British Army in Sudan at the time. Stanton had created something of a reputation for “illustrating” his maps with pen-and-ink sketches of oases, wells, and other points of interest and this brought him to the attention of Lord Kitchener, governor of the region. Kitchener gave Stanton five days to come up with a stamp design and the “Camel Postman” was the result. Actually, the model was a sheik with whom Stanton was acquainted who was persuaded to don war kit (rifle and spears) and ride his camel through the desert with saddle bags stuffed with straw.

The resulting image has become an icon representing Sudan on stamps, banknotes and coins for over a century.

**L**inn's World Stamp Almanac Millennium Edition, issued in 2000, lists the following stamp issuing entities in the Caribbean as "Active":

**Anguilla** (1967-). A small island in the Caribbean, formerly attached to St. Kitts – Nevis – Anguilla. British control re-established in 1971.

**Antigua** (1862-). Situated in the Eastern Caribbean S.E. of Puerto Rico. Became the independent state of Antigua-Barbuda in 1981.

**Aruba** (1986-). Southernmost of the Islands of the Netherlands Antilles, situated east of Curaçao N. of Venezuela. Has issued its own stamps since 1986.

**Bahamas** (1859-). 700 Islands and 2,000 islets in the Atlantic Ocean. British since 1647. Independent 1973. Banking and tourism are the main resources.

**Barbados** (1852-). British Colony until independence in 1966.

**Barbuda** (1922,1968-). Small island in the Leeward group in the West Indies. Barbuda is a dependency of Antigua.

**Bequia** (1976-) Nearest neighbour of St Vincent. N. of Trinidad and S. America. Followed the stamp issue proliferation trend set by the Grenadines of St. Vincent.

**Bermuda** (1948-). Island group in West Central Atlantic Ocean. British colony since 1609. Was granted internal self-government in 1968. In a 1995 referendum, voters chose to retain their colonial status.

**British Virgin Islands** (1866-). Eastern part of the Virgin Islands group of the West Indies SE. of Puerto Rico. The 30 eastern islands were under Dutch control until 1666, when they passed to Britain. Until 1956, they were administered as part of the Leeward Islands colony. In 1956 they became a crown colony and, in 1967, an Associated State.

**Caicos Islands** (1981-). Northwestern most six principal islands of the Turks and Caicos Islands. Stamps overprinted "Caicos Islands" appeared in mid 1981 followed by purpose-inscribed issues in 1983.

**Canouan Island** (1976-). Part of St Vincent–Grenadines.

**Cayman Islands** (1901-). Three Islands in the Caribbean, NW of Jamaica. British colony. Since 1970, the Cayman Islands have become a tax-free haven for banking.

**Cuba** (1855-). The largest island of the West Indies, located south of Florida. Under Spanish rule from 1511-1898, when the Spanish-American War resulted in the U.S. assuming trusteeship of the island. An independent Cuban republic was formed in 1902. In 1959, the repressive Batista government was overthrown and replaced by the Communist regime of Fidel Castro.

**Dominica** (1874-). Dominica was a British Crown colony 1833-1968, an Associated State 1968-1978, and became independent in 1978.

**Dominican Republic** (1865-). Occupies two-thirds of the Island of Hispaniola. Enjoys relative stability and economic progress since 1966.

**Grenada** (1861-). British Colony until independence in 1974.

**Grenada-Grenadines** (1973-). A small group of Islands administered by Grenada. Since 1973 Grenada has issued more than 2,000 different stamps of the Grenadines.

**Haiti** (1881-). Politically still very chaotic.

**Jamaica** (1860-). Discovered by Columbus in 1494, under Spanish rule till 1655, became independent August 6th 1962.

**Mayreau Island** (1976-). One of the St Vincent Grenadines.

**Montserrat** (1876-). An island in the Leeward group in the West Indies. A separate crown colony.

**Mustique Island** (1976-). One of the St Vincent Grenadines.

**Netherlands Antilles** (1873-). Consists of Curaçao, Bonaire, Saba, St Eustatius and St. Maarten (the later shared with France (Saint Martin)). They were originally occupied by Spain, but were under Dutch colonial control since 1634. In 1954 they were made an integral part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

**Nevis.** (1861-1890, 1980-). One of the Leeward Islands. From 1890 to 1956 stamps of the Leeward Islands were used. Issues of St. Kitts-Nevis were also used 1903-1952 and replaced by St Christopher-Nevis –Anguilla, issues after 1952. Nevis again started to issue its own stamps in 1980. In 1983 it became independent in a federation with St. Kitts, but still issues its own stamps.

**St. Kitts** (1980-). As St. Christopher, St. Kitts used its own stamps from 1870-1890. These were replaced by general Leeward Islands issues from 1890 till 1956, which were used concurrently with stamps inscribed "St. Nevis" 1903-1952 and "St. Christopher-Nevis Anguilla" 1952-1980. St Kitts is an associated state in the British Commonwealth, federated with Nevis but maintaining its own stamp issues since 1980.

**St. Lucia** (1860-). British Colony until independence in 1979.

**St. Vincent** (1861-). British Colony until independence in 1979.

**St. Vincent-Grenadines** (1973-). A small group of islands administered by St Vincent, including: Bequia, Mustique, Canouan and Union Island. A host of expensive topical issues were produced for the Grenadines, Bequia and Union Island during 1984-1988, almost exclusively for collectors.

**Trinidad and Tobago** (1913-). British Colony until independence in 1962. One of the most prosperous of the Caribbean states.

**Turks & Caicos Islands** (1900-). British Crown colony.

**Union Island** (1976-). Southern-most significant island of the St. Vincent–Grenadines.

The foregoing is only a listing of active stamp issuing states in the Caribbean and West Indies, to which I added the Bahamas and Bermuda. It should be realized that in the past many more states issued stamps such as **Martinique** and **Guadeloupe**, which places are now using the stamps from France. I hope that this listing may be helpful in your search for stamps for the display in our show in May. Hope to see you on March 15th.

From the President ...

Happy St. Patrick's Day! Well this is an opportunity to bring in any interesting material you might have squirreled away with shamrocks, special cancels etc., that have any thing to do with Ireland or St. Patrick.

Bob Pike will be sending up a slew of approval books for everyone to peruse, so don't forget your want list.

Plans and arrangements for our annual show are coming along very well indeed and I will update every one as to the details at the meeting. Anyone who is preparing an exhibit for the show and is in need of advice or direction please attend this meeting and talk to us about it.

I am looking for some one to help out in promoting membership in our stamp club, if any one would like to help out in please see me at the meeting or call me and we can get together for coffee and see what we can do.

I will be preparing about 25 lots for a club auction this weekend if any one else would like to bring material along for disposal please feel free to do so.

Alan M. Charlesworth

From the Internet ...

A Yemeni collector has burnt over 5000 Scandinavian stamps, some of which date back to 1841, in the latest wave of protests following the publication of cartoons in a Danish newspaper, which have offended Muslims world wide.

An expensive Swedish collection was among the stamps burnt, according to the collector, who is now threatening to burn the stamps of any country whose media insult the prophet Mohammed. He is now apparently busy sorting through his collection in readiness.



Easy mistake: confusing Brigitte Bardot with Ingrid Bergman.

The Caribbean ...



Bearing in mind that the theme of our show this year is the Caribbean, here is a map just to remind you where all those delightful islands lie.

**West Indies:** chain of islands extending from Florida to Venezuela. They consist of three main island groups: The Bahamas; the Greater Antilles, and the Lesser Antilles.

**Greater Antilles:** refers to the larger islands (Cuba, Hispaniola, Jamaica, and Puerto Rico). Hispaniola is divided into Haiti and Dominican Republic.

**Lesser Antilles:** All the smaller islands.

Next Meeting ... Wed. Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm

We will be having a selection of books from the Peninsular Circuit and there will be an auction too. As always, if you should have any philatelic items to trade or sell, bring them along.

**Upcoming Events:**

**Mar 11 (Sat):** Oakville Stamp Club will be sponsoring Oakpex 2006 at St. Paul's United Church (east of the 4th Line on Rebecca St.), Oakville. Free admission and parking. Hours: 10–5.

**Mar 18 (Sat):** Oxford Philatelic Society is hosting OTEX/OXPEX 2006 at John Knox Christian School, 800 Juliana Drive., **Woodstock**. Dealers, exhibits, youth area, prize draws, refreshment booth, Canada Post counter. Free admission and parking. Hours: 9:30–4:30.

**Mar 18 (Sat.):** North Toronto Stamp Club is hosting its Annual Postage Stamp Show and Bourse, at the Cedarbrook Community Centre, 91 Eastpark Blvd., **Scarborough**. 24 dealers, club sales circuit, Canada Post, refreshments. Free admission and parking. Hours: 9–4.

**April 1 (Sat.):** London Philatelic Society is hosting LONPEX at 114, Ramada Inn, 817 Exeter Road, **London**. Stamp bourse, non-competitive exhibits, 12 stamp dealers, and club circuit. Hours: 10–5.

**April 7-9 (Fri.-Sun.):** CSDA/GTAPA/RPSC/AAPE are hosting AmeriStampExpo at Queen Elizabeth Building, Exhibition Place, **Toronto**. Workshops/seminars, Champion of Champions competition, one-frame championship, one-frame open competition and multi-frame competition, with divisions for Display, Thematic, Illustrated Mail, Cinderella, and Postcard categories.

**April 8-9 (Sat.-Sun.):** Sudbury Stamp Club is sponsoring the Sudbury Stamp Show at Tom Davies Square (Foyer), Sudbury. Hours: 10–4 (both days).

Stamp on the Envelope ...

Canada Post's all-Ontario March offering features a series of four colourful stamps of gardens in full bloom – a most welcome sign that spring is just around the corner!

The release of this series coincided with the opening of the Canada Blooms Garden Show in Toronto and also has been linked with the centenary of the Ontario Horticultural Association.

While the flowers are the central part of the design, garden fauna has been included most effectively.

<i>Series:</i>	Gardens	<i>Illust.:</i>	Jeffrey Domm
<i>Title:</i>	Flower Garden	<i>Printer:</i>	Lowe-Martin
	Shade Garden	<i>Paper:</i>	Tullis Russell Coatings
	Rock Garden	<i>Process:</i>	Lithography (8 colours)
	Water Garden	<i>Gum:</i>	Self-stick
<i>Issue date:</i>	8th March 2006	<i>Tagging:</i>	General, 4 sides
<i>Denom:</i>	51¢	<i>Size:</i>	28 mm × 44 mm
<i>Layout:</i>	Booklet of 8 stamps	<i>Perf.:</i>	Kiss cut
<i>Design:</i>	Debbie Adams	<i>Prod.:</i>	6,000,000
<i>Phot.:</i>	Andrew Leyerle		

**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 10<sup>th</sup> St. E. and 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

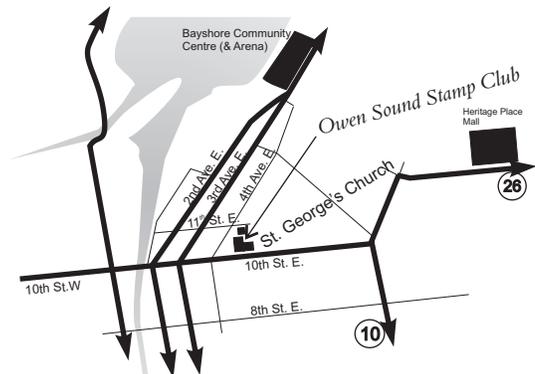
Annual Membership fees: Full: \$10; Family: \$15; Junior: Free. In addition, all members and visitors are asked to contribute \$1 each meeting which is passed directly to St. George's Church in appreciation for allowing us to use their room.

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.

**Club officers:**

- President: **Alan Charlesworth** (519) 371-0581  
1521 7th Ave. W., Owen Sound, N4K 5L1  
email: a.charlesworth@sympatico.ca
- Vice-Pres.: **Charles van Rompu** (519) 538-4673  
305 Trowbridge St. W., Meaford, N4L 1K8  
email: Cvanrompu@aol.com
- Sec./Treas.: **Bob Ford** (519) 376-4788  
721 8th Ave E., Owen Sound, N4K 3A5  
email: robford@log.on.ca
- Editor: **Bob Watson** (519) 376-1270  
327 11th St. W., Owen Sound, N4K 3S9  
email: bobwatson10@sympatico.ca



**OSSC Library:**

Books in the OSSC Library are available for loan to any member (but please return at the next meeting).

Present holdings include:

- Postage Stamp Catalogue* - Scott (2000)
- Catalogue of Canadian Stamps* - Unitrade (2000)
- Concise Catalogue of Great Britain Stamps* - Stanley Gibbons (2004)
- Catalogue of Canadian Stamps & Supplies* - CWS (2005)
- Canadian Errors, Freaks, and Oddities* - Darnel
- The Edward VII Issue of Canada* by G.C. Marler (Nat. Postal Mus., 1975)
- The Admiral Issue of Canada* by C.C. Marler
- Canadian Fancy Cancellations of the Nineteenth Century*
- Numerous journals (still only partly sorted) including:  
*The Canadian Philatelist* (RPSC); *Scott's Monthly*; *Topical Times* (J. of the American Topical Association); and *Details* (Canada Post).