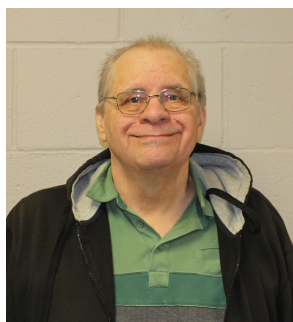


Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 20th, 2017 @ 7 PM
Hillyer Hall, St. Mary's High School, 1555 15th Street East, Owen Sound

From the President



The Owen Sound Stamp club will have its Christmas party on Dec 20th at our usual meeting place. Please bring items for the President's funny munny auction. If you can please bring treats for our party. Thank you. Our January meeting will showcase, as usual, the stock of our resident dealer, John Cortan. In February we will ask members to bring in a part of their collection to share with others. May everyone have a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Larry Crane
 President
 OSSC

Editors Note

It is time to renew your dues for the upcoming year. Please help keep the club going.

From the Editor

Phil Visser

Here we are at the end of the year already. My, how time flies and many things have happened during these past months. This concludes my first full year as editor and it is an opportunity to extend my thanks to all for the cooperation I have received during this year. The words of encouragement have been gratefully received and taken to heart.

This edition is slightly different containing a number of smaller articles and things from the last meeting. I need to mention a person who has had a significant part in this edition, Mr Stan Wichens. I can think of at least three things further in this newsletter that he has ties to. Thank you Stan!

This month section of **Looking For...** is really a clarification on one of last months requests. It would be nice if more members took the opportunity to share their search needs and thus make the newsletter and club a happening place to be.

It little bit more on the Christmas side of the upcoming meeting. Of course the various treats that members are enjoying at home during the family gathering are always appreciated by those who are able to attend this meeting. I will bring the apple cider along for liquids and if anyone else would like to add to that and therefore have a choice of drinks, those contributions are gratefully received as well.

As the year comes to an end, I would like to extend my best wishes for safety and enjoyment during the Christmas holiday season. May you be filled with peace and hope for the upcoming year. I am certainly looking forward to the family gatherings to enjoy whatever those unscripted moments will bring.

There are a few things included in this months club news section. One surprising outcome of producing this newsletter is that it is shared with a number of other organizations, including the Canadian Stamp News. We received a "shout out" from that paper when it urged their readers to have a look at the Owen Sound Stamp Club website. Congratulations go to Randy Rogers who made our present website into an appealing site that may set a guideline for other clubs when they develop a website.

And now the story teaser scan!



Figure 3 A special Christmas flight cover from The Netherlands to Indonesia made in 1933.

Airmail

By Stan Wichens and Phil Visser

At our last meeting, I had the pleasure of sitting beside Stan and in the conversation; a common interest connected the two of us. History can be a very board topic but the last newsletter perked an interest in him and he shared the “Christmas” tin and its contents that had come into his possession. Somehow, the conversation steered itself to airmail and first flights.

One of Stan’s collecting interests is the “Boys Own Annual.” Earlier this year he had shared the story of “Winnie the Po” from the 1917 edition of this publication. That little addition to the article confirmed that I had the correct information for that particular story. I have to admit that I initially ran into a brick wall when the internet (Wikipedia) failed to provide information about the publication as written above. However, changing the search words and adding the publishers name and voila, information! So it is appropriate to share some background about the publication.

While this article is referencing the “Boys Own Annual,” the publication actually started off as a weekly edition called the “Boys Own Paper.” Published during the school year, thus from fall to summer, the annual edition was first printed in 1879. In 1913, the publication changed to a monthly printing schedule which continued until it stopped printing in 1967. Due to paper rationing, the publication was not printed during the WW 2 years after 1941.

The topic of airmail was explained in Volume 63 of the Boys Own Annual. This particular story is titled “Birthplaces of Air Power” which introduces the three airfields that contributed to British mastery of the air. These three airfields are Sheppey, Brooklands and Hendon. It is from this last airfield that the first official airmail service delivered a letter from Hendon airfield to Windsor, addressed to King George V. This delivery occurred in blustery weather on September 9th, 1911. The pilot for this flight was Gustav Hamel. The distance of the flight from Hendon to Windsor Castle was a mere twenty miles

Further along in the story, there is an explanation

that the Royal Mail officials handed the pilot a twenty pound bag of mail to deliver. To signify acceptance of the mail, the pilot signed a receipt and loaded the bag onto the aeroplane. When the plane arrived at Windsor Castle, it was greeted by other Royal Mail officials to witness the safe arrival. From that point forward, the concept of airmail continued and is now an established part of the worldwide delivery of mail.

According to *Holmes’ Specialized Philatelic Catalogue of Canada and British North America* airmail service didn’t begin until near the end of the First World War. It seems the date of this service between Toronto and

Ottawa was August 26th, 1918. The service was actually sought to provide mail service to remote communities without regular ship or train service. Those providing the service printed and affixed stamps on the envelopes they transported. Those private airmail stamps are listed in the *Unitrade Specialized Catalogue of Canadian stamps*.



Figure 4 From the collection of S.W.



Figure 5 Copied from Google Images

According to the *Holmes Specialized Catalogue*, the rarest Canadian air mail stamp is the one shown here. This stamp was issued for a proposed flight from London, Canada to

London England. Only 100 stamps were printed. Ultimately, the flight was unsuccessful, and therefore the stamps affixed to the mail were lost at sea. Holmes reports that “only four copies are known to exist.” Apparently one is affixed to a cover that failed to make the flight before it left London, ON.

One of the fascinations with air mail is that the letter will arrive at its destination much earlier than by other means of travel (ships for trans oceanic destinations). Air mail can have many specialty areas, and so is not limited to just Canada or any

one country. The cover shown on the front page is just one which travelled by air from the Netherlands to present day Indonesia. Besides crashes at sea and the loss of the mail, other hazards exist with air mail, such as crashes on land. I saw on a popular stamp website a cover that had been recovered and charred by the fire from the crash but was ultimately delivered to its destination. In conclusion, I am sure there is more to this topic than what is presented here, but it needs a person who is able to shed light on this particular field of philately.



Figure 6 A 1st Flight cover from Montreal to Saint John and then on to the US. From the collection of S.W.

Reperforated?

By Phil Visser



Figure 7 Although the picture is fuzzy, the key thing to see is the perforations

One of the ways I fix my stamp habit is to visit eBay. Recently, while going through my speciality area, the Netherlands, I came across this particular scan. It drew my attention immediately. It looks like an ordinary stamp, and indeed, a quick scan of the Scott's Catalogue will suggest that it is a common stamp, with no significant value.

Unfortunately, that is one of the limitations of a "general catalogue," and specialty items are simply outside of the scope of Scott's or Stanley Gibbons "Stamps of the World."

When the use of postage stamps was introduced in 1852, there were three different rates. The rates were based on the distance that the letter was to travel. For a distance of 30 kilometres or less the rate was 5 cents, distances from 30 to 100

kilometres had a rate of 10 cents, and finally, distances greater than 100 kilometres the rate was 15 cents. Foreign destinations had higher rates than those just mentioned. Some 64 million 5 cent stamps were printed and the 10 cent stamp had almost 22 million stamps printed. It is easy to see that anyone can accumulate many copies of either stamp of these two stamps. A further context is that this stamp was in use from 1867 to about 1872.

This particular stamp is from the third set of stamps issued by the Netherlands. To the specialist collector, and thus outside the realms of the general catalogues, there came to light two different "Types" for each stamp, Type 1 and Type 2. Besides the plate Types, other areas of specialization appeared, because there were also five different perforations used for each Type. At this point we get into why this stamp attracted my attention. Of all the Types and Perforation varieties, there are only 4 which have significant catalogue value. This 10 cent stamp was one of the potential varieties I was searching for to plug the hole in my collection.

Of course, other collectors will and have tried to make a financial gain by making counterfeit stamps or altering a stamp in such a way as to increase its value. For instance, this can be done by counterfeiting an overprint, or removing an overprint so that the stamp is at a greater value and hence a gain for the seller. So then we get to the marketplace principle of "caveat emptor" or buyers beware.

In order to compare this above illustration with the real thing, here is the same stamp, but a Type 2 printed version. The spacing between the stamps on the printed sheet was very small, so to get a perfectly centred copy is very difficult and thus the perforations enter the design usually on two sides of the stamp. The above picture does not have any space whatsoever on any side and thus it is my humble opinion that this stamp was reperforated to



Figure 8 Compare these perforations and their position to the previous Figure.

get the higher value. Oh yes, the price difference, from €15 for the ordinary, and more common, Type 2 stamp to €2,000 for the Type 1 stamp. Nice mark up!

Club News

The November meeting was joined by 19 members. Jim Brett, the Club Circuit Book manager from the Saugeen club brought those books along for the members to continue expanding their collection, and also fill the holes in their collection. Due to a flu, President Larry was unable to come to the meeting, but Vice President John ably filled in for Larry. It is was good to see Al Roos come to the meeting. My time was filled in with conversations with Stan Wichens and his son-in-law Mike Crans as well as finding Dutch cancels a special someone had brought along in case there might be something I could use for my collection. Thank you!

November Show and Tell

To start off this portion of the meeting, Randy Rogers reminded everyone of the upcoming GRVPA Club Circuit Book Fair to be held in Cambridge. That was the Saturday following the meeting. Since the Fair had already occurred and it was now November, Chris Tschirhart shared that the day was fairly successful with sales from our own Circuit Books.



Stan Wichens brought along this block of four. It is Unitrade #709 and to the casual eye, it looks quite normal, right? Well look again.

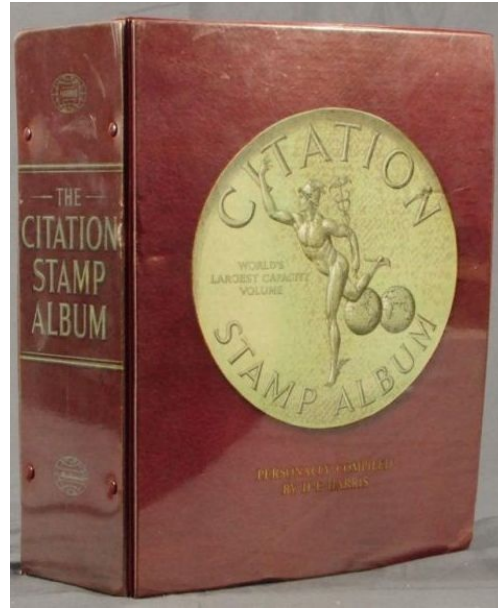
The stamp actually shows 3 faults or printing errors. The perforations are shifted from the

normal position, Secondly, there is a colour shift and lastly, the inscription of “Canada” is also too low. These differences come about because of the multiple times the sheet was feed through the printing press.

Looking For...

Last month Randy Rogers made a request for three Harris Citation Stamp Albums, no pages or stamps

and preferably in good condition. This lead to some confusion and so here is a picture of what Randy is looking for.



Randy also mentioned that he collects precancels from the United States, Canada and Belgium. If anyone can help Randy out in this area of his collection, please bring them along.

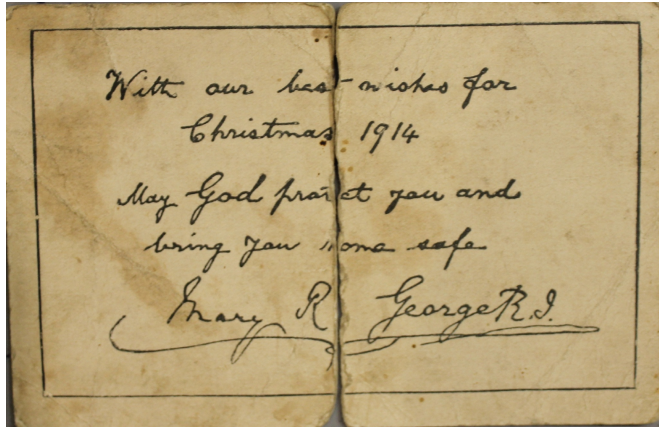
1914 Christmas Card

At the end of last months newsletter, I included a picture of a gift we had received many years ago. It contained a Christmas Card from the Royal Family to those serving in the armed forces of the British Empire.

Stan Wichens brought along the original Christmas Card, unfortunately, also in two pieces, but I was



able to photograph them and here is the front and back of the card



Upcoming Shows

JAN 6 '18 Scarborough Stamp Show

Cedarbrook Community Centre, 91 Eastpark Blvd., Toronto (Scarborough), ON, M1H 1C6
Buying and selling stamps; up to 4 dealers; five and ten cent club books too; free parking; 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Phone: 416-460-3970 Email: jmerelaid@gmail.com

JAN 12 '18 2018 Unipex Stamp & Coin Show

January 12, 2018 to January 14, 2018
Montecassino Hotel, 3710 Chesswood Dr., North York, ON, M3J 2W4
The 19th Annual Toronto Stamp and Coin show, featuring the best dealers in both stamp and coin collecting. Come check us out, it's a great place to buy and sell your collection, or shop for all your collecting needs such as albums, supplements, dealer cards, stock sheets and more!
Phone: 416-242-5900
Email: unitrade@rogers.com
Web: <http://www.unitradeassoc.com>

JAN 13 '18 Brantford Stamp Club Annual Show

Branlyn Community Centre, 283 Brantwood Park Rd., Brantford, ON, N3P 1N9
NEW LOCATION! Doors open at 9:30 a.m. and close at 3 p.m. 15+ dealer bourse, stamp exhibits in several categories, special categories for junior and novice collectors, silent auctions, club circuit books,

door prizes, refreshments available, free admission and parking.

Phone: 519-751-3513 Email:

pjames@execulink.com

JAN 20 '18 Burloak Stamp Fair

Burlington Seniors Centre, 2285 New St., Burlington, ON, L7R 1J4
Hours: 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Twenty-one years of regular monthly shows on the third of Saturday of every month. Six to nine dealers, active buyers, and always something new.
Phone: 905-575-2950
Email: bas6stamps@gmail.com

JAN 20 '18 69th Cathex

Grantham Lions Club, 732 Niagara St., St. Catharines, ON, L2M 7W7
Sponsored by the St. Catharines Stamp Club, the show will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Exhibits, 12 dealers, youth area, club circuit books. Free admission and parking. Wheelchair accessible. A lunch counter is available. For more information contact David Hillier Phone: 905-641-2318
Email: fancycancelhillier@gmail.com
Web: <http://stcatharinesstampclub.ca>

JAN 27 '18 Scarborough Stamp Show

Cedarbrook Community Centre, 91 Eastpark Blvd., Toronto (Scarborough), ON, M1H 1C6
Buying and selling stamps; up to 4 dealers (dealer inquiries welcome); five and ten cent club books; free parking; 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Phone: 416-460-3970
Email: jmerelaid@gmail.com

FEB 3 '18 Bramalea Stamp Club Annual Show

Judith Nyman Secondary School, 1295 Williams Pkwy., Brampton, ON, L6S 3J8
The show is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., featuring 10 dealers, silent auctions, exhibits, free stamps for beginners., Plenty of free parking, door prizes, snack bar and is wheelchair accessible.
Phone: 905-792-3526
Email: bobthorne70@gmail.com
Web: <http://www.bramaleastampclub.org>

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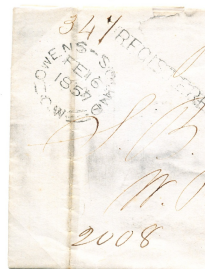
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When you have a chance, why not visit the club web site at www.owensoundstampclub.org. Feedback is always important to keeping this means of connecting up to date. To end this edition of the newsletter, here is a picture of the presentation of the Vander Heyden Award. Due to an illness, Vice President John Lemon made the presentation to yours truly.



Brief Postal History of Owen Sound

The year 2017 represents the 150th anniversary of Canada as a country, but also the 160th anniversary of the City of Owen Sound. This page will show some different ways that Owen Sound could be identified as a community in Canada over the first 100 years of its existence as a city.



To the left is a cancel of "Owen's Sound," which was the first cancelling device in use from 1846-56. The city name was changed to Owen Sound in 1856, but the Owen's Sound cancel was used for a number of years after.



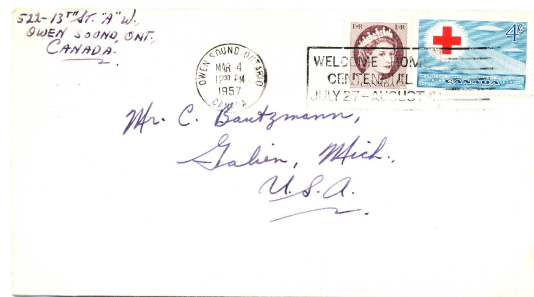
Two number cancels were used to identify the City of Owen Sound in the late 1880's. The four ring cancel "26" and the two ring number "44" are difficult to find in a clear and complete condition.



Precancelled stamps saved the sender some postal costs. This overprint was only on used on two stamps, this one as well as the 1 cent Admiral issue. The money order number "3975" was also only used on two different stamps.



Owen Sound was the terminus for the Toronto & Owen Sound railroad. This post-card traveled on the railroad south-bound to Toronto.



This letter was mailed bearing a slogan cancel celebrating the 100th anniversary of the incorporation of the City of Owen Sound. The dates of the home coming celebration are July 27th - August 4th.