

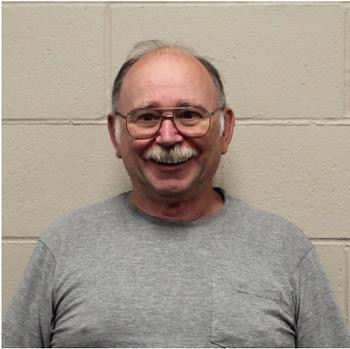
# Stamps on the Bay



The Voice of the  
Owen Sound Stamp Club

## Meeting Cancelled due to Health Safety

Volume 1, Edition 9, October 2020



### From the President

Hello Everyone, hope this little memo finds everyone healthy and safe. We still have that old Covid 19 Virus around and makes it so we can not enjoy having any of our meetings. But then again we are not the only ones, that are limited to what they can do. Thus it

makes it difficult to have our monthly meetings, so again our OCTOBER MEETING IS CANCELLED.

On the lighter side of things, I was travelling down to Hanover last week, and I was totally in awe of what Mother Nature had done with her brush. The country side was so beautiful with all the different colours of leaves from the different trees, along the way. Totally amazing how she can get so many different colours together with her paint brush.

I also noticed so many different wild animals that were so close to the road. Long time since I had seen so many wild rabbits, foxes, possums, wild mink, and even a couple of ground hogs. But best of all there was a small herd of deer grazing in the corner of a field and watching me as I travelled by them. I also noticed the amount of different wild birds that were out as well. The bees were out in numbers and the funny thing was they were not interested in trying to sting me. Just going about their own way. I guess that the cancellation of a lot of the Airlines and less cars on the road there is a lot less pollution in the air and all the wild life now are starting to wonder closer to the small towns and cities, as well as being closer to man kind.

See "**President**" on Page 2

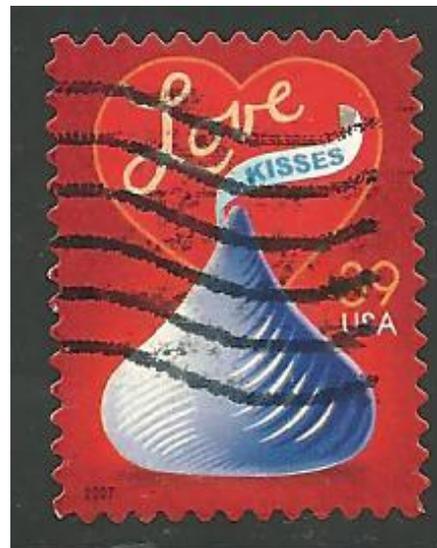
### Editors Greeting

Last months newsletter contained a teaser scan of Netherlands #53. The tie in with the newsletter story can be found in the "Show and Tell" section where the Cinderella stamp of the "Neerlandia Fabriek van Melkproductun" was written about. A close inspection and comparison will provide the viewer with key differences, but the cancellation on the bottom of the stamp does make we wonder if this Cinderella stamp passed as a postage stamp thus saving the sender 2 Guilders and 50 cents postage. Some effort is made to find something that ties in with each edition, hopefully of interest to readers.

This months edition is again full of different topics. There are three articles as well as another "Show and Tell" share for readers to go through. Last month there was a mention of hosting a virtual meeting for club members. I have participated in several such meetings with different levels of success and enjoyment and have heard of virtual stamps shows and exhibitions, these coming more from our southern neighbours. Is there an interest within our club to try something like this? If so, contact me or the executive and perhaps a "meeting" can be attempted in the future.

Adapting to the new reality has taken different forms. John Lemon makes mention of just such an adaptation one person has done recently. From my view point, the adaptation was a very beneficial way of filling in some holes in my collection of modern Canadian stamps. For many years I had ignored the post year 2000 stamps because of the great number of stamps issued every year. That perspective melted after becoming editor of this newsletter and finding stamps to write stories about each newsletter started to include the modern stamps. A few years ago the want list moved from 100+ to 1,300+ stamps with the edition of the post 2000 stamps. Now a couple of years later the want list has declined to 900+ stamps with every year adding 50 or 60 more stamps to the search list. Slow and steady goes the race is a familiar saying which applies to my collection.

Here is a challenging image to see which part of the newsletter this stamp applies to. Cheers and stay healthy until we are able to meet again in the future.



## "President" continued from Page 1

A few of us had a phone call from one of our dealers, Mr. Peter Wheatley, who was coming to Owen Sound staying at a local motel. He was trying to get some stamp collectors, to come to him and look over his stock, and see what they wanted to buy. Peter said he was going to try this idea again in the spring if things did not clear up.

That's all for now, stay healthy and stay safe.

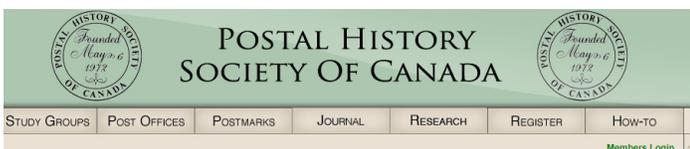
John C. Lemon

## A Local Mystery

By Phil Visser

Over the last decade or so, a popular game for large gatherings was the Murder Mystery. It was a means of getting people to collaborate, meet each other and generally have a good evening. Variations on the theme has also occurred, for instance the time of an Annual General meeting of Mariners where we had a person come into the meeting at the end of the meal to announce that a ship grounding and oil pollution had just occurred. We had to solve how we would respond to the media and all the others clamouring for information, solutions to the event and communicate with the ship to determine what was needed.

Now having full access to the Postal History Society of Canada website (PHSC), an exploration of what information was available to members of the PHSC. A hot button at the top of the page is "Research." Once there, another option is "Postal History Links." Being curious, following this link brought me "National Archives: Postmasters and Post Offices." A common saying is "Curiosity killed the cat" and yes that link was also clicked on. That brought the researcher to the Library and Archives Canada website.



Once in that deep, a search of the "Data Base" prompted a search on Owen Sound. The final search on Owen Sound brought up some forgotten information as well as some unknown information. For instance, Owen Sound post office is well known, but there was also an Owen Sound - Brookholm substation and then there have also been four other substations.

But this article is referring to the Owen Sound Post Office, and so the archives show that the Post Office was established July 6th, 1846. The Archives list Stan Hay as a Postmaster, but gives no date of appointment or date of vacancy but then lists George Brown as postmaster having a date of appointment of 1853 and the date of vacancy of September 1868 with the reason for the ending of the role of postmaster as "death." That reason for change in postmaster is understandable and would seem rather ordinary.

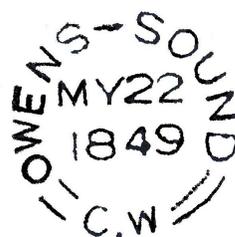
While in the process of sorting through my stamp room, a book written by Andrew Armitage titled "Owen

Sound: The Day the Governor General Came to Town & other Tales" was found. All told there are about twenty-five short stories with the information gleaned from old newspapers and other documents. These stories have been originally published in the Owen Sound Sun Times. Taking a few minutes away from sorting, a few stories were read with some interest.

Writing requires something of interest to make the reader want to continue reading, and so it was with the story "Murder Forever a Mystery." "As the sailing craft was beating (tacking is the nautical term) its way northwards a Mrs. Ogilvie recognized George Brown as the man at the tiller (steering rudder)". Naturally, the curiosity bug made it necessary to continue reading. It turns out that Mrs. Ogilvie is the last person to see Mr. Brown alive!

What happened to Mr. Brown? It seems that Brown was a friend of a Captain Fothergill, who had cleared land near Colpoy's Bay and needed to pay the men who cleared the land. With a wad of cash he returned to Wiarton with friend Brown and two other companions. Three days after their departure from Owen Sound, concern was expressed about the non arrival of Fothergill, and a search was started. Despite a number of searches, only the dead body of one of the four adventurers was found on White Cloud Island, but that was not the deceased Postmaster. Thirty years later, two sailors from a tug put ashore on Griffith island in search for Indian artifacts. It was these two gentlemen that discovered the three bodies of the lost adventurers. The skeletons were exhumed and brought to Wiarton. Because Mr. Brown was known to have a larger than normal head, and by this means one of the skeletons was identified as that of George Brown. And so, continues the mystery of how Mr. Brown came to his end.

This is simply a story about the early history of the Post Office in Owen Sound. Continuing though, my collection of Owen Sound postal history shows the first hammer being used for cancellation in this scan. Note that the early name of this community was "Owens



Sound" but the name was changed to Owen Sound when the Town of Owen Sound became incorporated in 1856. A name change also required the change of the cancelling hammer at the Post Office. This new hammer is shown in the accompanying scan.

Another useful feature of the PHSC web site is the "Postmarks" hot button. A search of the early postmarks link lead to a record of when the various cancelling hammers have been used. For some hammers a "proof strike" date is provided and wherever possible, the Earliest Recorded Date (ERD) and Latest Recorded Date (LRD) is provided. It is an interest to find the Owens Sound cancel on cover and the PHSC website gives a last recorded date of October 6, 1866.

According to the Grey Roots Museum, Owen Sound became an incorporated town in 1857. With the incorporation also came a change in name with the

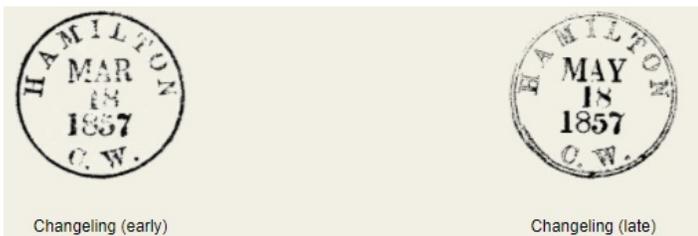
dropping of the letter “s” from Owens so that we have the name that is more familiar today. As a result, there was need for a new cancellation hammer. See the accompanying scan to see this new hammer. This



hammer has received the nickname of “changing” because as the hammer was used, the metal tended to wear out changing from a solid letter to a hollowed-out letter. This does not appear to be the case with the covers in my collection. Look at the scan below to see an example of the early and late version of this cancellation

hammer.

According to the PHSC website, the changing cancel



for Owen Sound has an ERD of July 4, 1856. Continuing with the postal history of the cancel, the LRD is given as 1867c. It is assumed that the “c” following the year means about (or circa) 1867. A question remains then why is there a difference in the date of incorporation with the use of the new cancellation hammer? But another question is also tied to the name change, why was the “Owens Sound” cancel also used to approximately the same year of 1867?

Tying all the pieces of information together from above, a question can be asked if Mr. George Brown, the first postmaster, was at odds with another person about the name change of this fair city. One solution in tying the information together is to find covers using the two different cancel hammers to a closer date of the known death of Mr. Brown. Alas my own collection shows the latest usage of both cancel hammers is the summer/fall of 1865.

Boggs in his reference books suggest the use of different cancel hammers is commonplace because old and new hammers would be readily available to do the job as needed. That may be the case, but the putting together the death of Mr. Brown and the end of the latest know date of usage are simply too much of a coincidence to just overlook. So the search continues while the mysteries remain.

#### References

Owen Sound: The Day the Governor General Came to Town & Other Tales; A. Armitage; Boston Mills Press

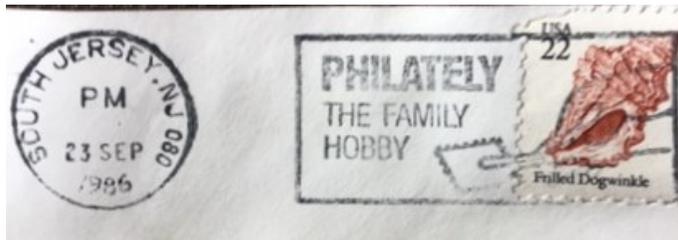
<https://www.postalhistorycanada.net/php/index.php>

<https://greyroots.com/story/town-city-1920-act-incorporate-city-owen-sound>

The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada; W.S. Boggs; Quarterman Publications Inc.

#### Show and Tell

Promoting our hobby has taken many forms over the years. From Stamp Shows or Exhibitions to special covers to the postal authorities recognizing that a significant number of stamps are being collected by various individuals. Trevor Ham sent the following picture along and so it is shared here with club members. Are there other forms of promoting our hobby? Love to hear or see what members are able to find for the November edition of Stamps on the Bay.



Following along in the theme of cancellations (the previous story and above picture) here is another scan and cancellation I received on a letter over the last few weeks. Looking at the fancy cancel, there is a



ship in the centre of the cancel as well as an anchor above it. This fancy cancel originates from Port Colborne, Ontario. Port

Colborne is the western terminus of the Welland Canal where the Canal joins with Lake Erie. It is a familiar sight for me, having transited the Canal more times than I can number, but this cancel has found a home in my watercraft collection. Alas, considering the number of letters that pass through the Mississauga Postal Centre, it is remarkable (or not) that a particularly interesting cancel would be overprinted at the Mississauga terminal. Oh well, it is what it is.



#### Useful Links

##### Country Specific References - China and Great Britain

by Randy Rogers

This month's edition of Useful Links continues our focus on the Country Specific reference material that can be found on our club website.

Use the following menu choices to find the links mentioned in this article:

#### CHINA

[Links](#) » [Reference](#) » [Countries](#) » [China](#)

First up is the *Postal Savings Stamps* link. Here, on the *Stampboards.com* Postage Stamp Chat Board<sup>1</sup> you can find visual selection of Chinese Postal Savings

Stamps assembled by a poster from Toronto.

If you have ever sorted through a lot of Chinese stamps you have likely encountered stamps similar to these often “unidentified” stamps.



“I have spent a few days with my new *China Stamp Society Specialized Catalogue of China to 1949*, and my little lot of China postal savings stamps with all the different overprints. My collection is certainly not complete, but I have many of the more common ones that I have seen posted as “unidentified” stamps. Postal savings stamps are not listed in the main catalogues like Scott or Stanley Gibbons. So I hope that this thread will help people identify some of their Chinese stamps with overprints.”<sup>2</sup>



Next in the China section we find a link to detailed descriptions of the *Manchurian Local Overprints* on stamps of Manchukuo 1946-1947.

“On 8th August 1945 Soviet Union declared war on Japan and invaded the state of Manchukuo. The state was quickly over-run by Russian, Nationalist Chinese and Communist Chinese Troops and a great amount of chaos ensued until the Communists gained full control in 1947.



From the start of hostilities in 1945 until the decisive victory by the Communists in 1947 special measures had to be taken (often at a local level) by postmasters, to ensure the continuation of postal services and to provide revenue to pay themselves and their staff. The only stocks of stamps



available were those provided by their former employers the Government of Manchukuo. Postmasters made “Chops” out of various materials and

overprinted the stamps they had. These chops usually read “Chinese Republic, Temporary Use” or similar.”<sup>3</sup>

For the collector trying to identify and catalogue these overprinted stamps, especially if you can’t read Chinese, the information located here is invaluable. You can also find on this site lots of information on the postage and revenue stamps of Manchukuo.

### Great Britain

[Links » Reference » Countries » Great Britain](#)

First up in this section is the *King George V Silver Jubilee* link<sup>4</sup> to a site that is dedicated to the 1935 Silver Jubilee omnibus stamps of King George V of Great Britain.



Here you can find many interesting articles about this issue, widely held to be the finest of Commonwealth omnibus sets. There is information on postal rates, covers, post marks, counterfeits, and more. You can even email your Wants List to the authors to see if they can fill some gaps in your collection.

Next is the *Queen Elizabeth Wilding Stamps* link. This site contains lots of useful information on the Great Britain Wilding Postage stamps issued 1952-1967 during the reign of Queen Elizabeth II.



“The stamps cover an interesting time in the British postal service because of the introduction of mechanization in handling the mail. This resulted in experimental substances being applied to allow recognition by the machinery. The stamps also had three different watermarks, and those watermarks can be upright, inverted or sideways. There were NO Wilding stamps issued on unwatermarked paper.

The stamps were issued in sheet form, in booklets - including se-tenant panes - and in different types of coils for sale from machines. They had substances added to aid mechanization in the form of graphite lines, phosphor bands with graphite lines, and then phosphor bands - in three different forms - and some were even used abroad overprinted.”<sup>5</sup>



Last, but not least, for this month is the *UK Tax Code Stamps*<sup>6</sup> link. The British government started to tax luxury goods during World War II. The Tax Code stamps had no monetary value and served no other purpose than to indicate to retailers the income tax that was charged on the sale.



Perhaps you have encountered some strange looking labels like these along your philatelic journey. Visit this site to find out more about these Tax Code stamps issued between 1940 and 1968.

Until next month, stay safe and check out the links mentioned in this month's article.

Footnotes:

1. <https://www.stampboards.com>
2. <https://www.stampboards.com/viewtopic.php?f=13&t=37026>
3. <http://www.manchukuostamps.com/ManchurianLocalOverprints.htm>
4. <http://www.silverjubileestamps.com/>
5. <http://www.earsathome.com/ewild.html>
6. <http://45-sleeves.co.uk/UK/taxcode/tax-uk.htm>

### Confusing Philatelic Terms

By Phil Visser

Several years ago, I purchased a collection from a retired colleague. The collection was that of her father and consisted of stamps from the middle to late 1800's to about the 1930's. Several useful additions were added into my collection, but there was one surprising find. The scans below show what was discovered.



This was something new and was found out after soaking the stamps to remove hinge remnants and or leftover envelope paper. After soaking, the stamps are usually placed

face down on a piece of paper to partially dry. From previous mishaps this is found to be useful so that any residual glue from the back of the stamp won't stick to the drying paper. When it came time to put the damp stamps into the drying/pressing book, here was a stamp that had a design facing up! This unusual occurrence led to flipping the stamp over to find that there was also a design on the "front" of the stamp.

Surprised at this very unusual event, the stamp was put away in the duplicate envelope. Curiosity made for a reappearance and realizing that this stamp would be an asset to another collector, it was listed and sold on

eBay. No further thought about this strange stamp entered my mind until recently.

Somewhere in the recesses of my mind, the term "kiss print" popped up. However, trying to list the stamp accurately for the eBay sale, a search through L.N. Williams' book "Fundamentals of Philately" revealed that "kiss print" was not the correct term at all. While "kiss print" is a philatelic term, it refers to a stamp that has been printed twice on the same side of the stamp. The definition was supported and illustrated in Boggs' book "The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada." Williams does go on further to define "Set-Off" in the chapter on Printing Problems and Varieties, Chapter 7, page 173. This definition states..."This term is used correctly to designate an additional unintended impression or part impression of the stamp design on the face or back of a stamp, caused by wet printing ink coming into contact with the surface that bears the additional impression."

Kiss Print is the light touching of the press on the same side as the first printing, while "set-off" is the light touching of wet ink onto another sheet of stamps. Light touching is the similarity between the terms, however how the touching happens is completely different. Williams' book show examples of both having the wet ink come in contact with the front of the stamp design on a Nigerian stamp and a complete and perfect transfer front the wet ink onto the back of another stamp. The "set-off" is not mentioned in catalogues as they are considered to be spurious and therefore not a constant variety which the catalogue compilers are seeking to be listed as a variety of a particular stamp. Should anyone find a "set-off" stamp in their pile of duplicates or even in a collection, a special place and mention should be made in the collection so that the unique find can be of interest to the philatelic nerd.

A recent idea and research project lead for a search through duplicate small Queen issues of Canada. This search revealed this half cent small queen illustrated below, both front and back side. Fellow club member



Jim Molineux also shared scans of the two-cent small Queen (shown on page 6) so that others may see what a set-off stamp may appear like. Should

anyone have such a stamp in their accumulation, please feel free to share a scan with other readers through this newsletter. A final plea is extended out to members that if they are willing to assist in the research on small queen stamps, please let me know and arrangements can be made to further the project along.

References:

Fundamental of Philately; L.N. Williams; American Philatelic Society, Revised Edition 1990

The Postage Stamps and Postal History of Canada; W.S. Boggs; Quarterman Publications Inc; Revised

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### Conclusion

Here is the last page of this months edition of "Stamps on the Bay." Some interesting articles for a reader to learn more about the hobby as well as keeping in touch with fellow club members. It is amazing what resources are available online when searching philatelic information. Randy's "Useful Links" is a great series of information, but there is more! For instance, while researching the article on "Confusing Philatelic Terms" a Google search on "Kiss Print Philatelic" brought to this website <https://worldstampsproject.org/catalog/>. A little further down the page is the heading "Coincidental Varieties." The first variety shown is the "Set-Off" stamp and it is the same stamp number as illustrated in the article above, and yes the website scan is different than what was sold on eBay a number of years ago. Hopefully readers are able to explore and expand knowledge of philately. Please share anything of interest discovered, and as editor, assistance can be given to anyone who may feel shy about contributing to this newsletter.

### Soapbox

This month provides no hot topics to pitch, but a few things to share. Below are the two scans from Jim Molineux of the two cent small Queen stamp that has the "set-off" print on the back side of the stamp. It is really easy to just assume that the stamp is thin and what is seen is the front of the stamp through poor quality paper. A careful inspection shows that the wide margin on the back of the stamp does not match the image of the front of the stamp. Not only that, the image of the Queen is shifted to the North West (top left) and that there is another margin at the bottom and then even part of the next stamp design at the very bottom of the back side. It takes a careful eye to note the differences between the front and back of a stamp to recognize what has happened to that particular stamp. Originally, the first discovery seemed a once in a life time find, but the recent finds suggest that a "set-off" probably occurs more frequently than thought.

