



O.S.S.C.

# Owen Sound Stamp Club

# Newsletter

Next Club Meeting: May 15<sup>th</sup>

May 2002

## 2002 Stamp Show & Bourse

The Owen Sound Stamp Club will be holding its Annual Stamp Show & Bourse on Sunday, June 2nd, between 9:00 am and 4:00 pm at the Bayshore Arena and Community Centre (as usual). The theme for the exhibition is "Canada & our Northern Friends" and it will be interesting to see how this is interpreted by those who are doubtless working hard to put together their displays. There will be ten dealers in the Bourse including three newcomers to our venue.

All in all, lots for all to see and do and the organising committee look forward to seeing you there!

*Bob Watson (President)*

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### Northern Country wrap-up ...

This is the seventh and last look at stamp programs from our Northern Friends. So far we looked at Greenland (D-A), Iceland (N), Faroer (F), Denmark(A), Åland(J) and Sweden(M). Let's now look at a few we did not feature so-far:

**Finland** is the only country of all our Northern Friends, which changed from MARKS to EURO'S on the first of January 2002. As a result thereof they had to issue a full slate of new stamps. Eleven new definitives were released on January 1<sup>st</sup>. They vary from the Heraldic Lion, The Finnish Flag, Landscapes, Flowers, Trees and the Swan, all in the new Euro valuations.

A €0.60 Easter Witch, a 4x 0.60 Mini-sheet to commemorate the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Elias Lönnrot, plus another 4 x 0.60 mini-sheet showing the Old Town of Rauma were all issued on March 6<sup>th</sup>.

April 15, was chosen for the release of the "Europa" stamps with the Circus motive, and also for a 5 x 0.60 Booklet, *The Gulf of Finland: Today's Environment*. All this activity was followed on May 3<sup>rd</sup> when the last of the Nordic series was issued. Finland choose the "SIBELIUS MONUMENT". If all goes well we will have all the Nordic Issues on display at the Show on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

We should pause here for a second, Jean Sibelius, who lived from 1865-1957, is best known for his work "FINLANDIA", which he wrote in 1899. This tone-poem illustrates the emotions of a nation in musical form as it moves forward to its independence. Valse Triste, The Swan of Tironella and the Karelis Suite, together with many of his symphonies are his

legacy to this world. The Sibelius Monument is a collection of stainless steel pipes, pointing heaven-wards and echoes are born in the hollows of these pipes as the wind goes over them, thus giving Sibelius' music a visual form. The monument was designed by Eila Hiltunen and unveiled in 1967. To satisfy those who felt it was too abstract, a small sculpture, representing Sibelius head is attached to a granite rock outcrop near the abstract.

**Norway:** on April 12<sup>th</sup> two Nordic stamps were issued depicting Contemporary Art. They are valued at 7.50 and 8.50Krøna and showing brass monuments. Their Europa contribution will follow later in the year on September 20<sup>th</sup>

**Sweden:** In closing, a sad note. On January 28, of this year, in her 95<sup>th</sup> year, the world-famous Swedish Author of Children's books, Astrid Lindgren passed away. Her works were translated into over eighty languages..

You may still remember some of here best-loved characters: Pippi Longstocking, Karlsson on the roof, Emil in Lönneberga, Madicken, Lotta and the Brothers Lionheart. Sweden produced a mini-sheet in her memory which contain a portrait of Astrid, surrounded by six of her best known fictional characters, each valued at 5 Kr.

Please, you all come to the show and enjoy the warmth of your (not only) Northern Friends but also the support we got from : the United Nations, two of the Baltic states, Spain Liechtenstein, Luxembourg and many others.

BE THERE!

*Charles van Rompu*

## Dealers at our Show...

We are pleased to announce that the following dealers will be attending our 2002 Show and Bourse. I'm sure that members and visitors alike will find lots to choose from – so come early and take your time!

Don Nicoll  
**D. & R. Stamps & Coins**  
 RR 3 Hepworth  
 ON N0H 1P0  
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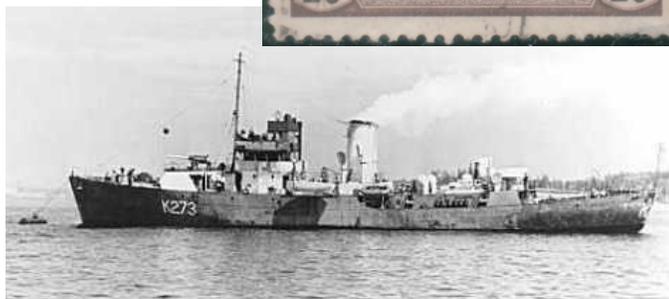
**Alan**  
**Charlesworth**  
 Owen Sound

## Canadian Warships on Stamps

While trying to find out a little more about the destroyer portrayed on the \$1 George VI “War Series” of stamps (#262), I thought it would be interesting to compile a mini-topical collection of “Canadian Warships” on stamps. Well, it turned out that such a collection would fit onto one page with room to spare — as far as I have been able to determine, there are just four Canadian warships that have been illustrated.

The first of these is the HMCS La Malbaie, otherwise known as “Corvette under construction” (Scott #260). Of course, strictly speaking the picture is of a ship that would *become* HMCS La Malbaie, but let’s not be too picky here.

HMCS La Malbaie (K273) was a Flower class corvette of just over 1000 tons, and a maximum speed of 16 knots. She was built by Marine Industries Ltd. of Sorel, Quebec, and



A photograph of HMCS La Malbaie after she was completed.

launched in October, 1942 (shortly after the stamp was issued)

HMCS Sackville (K181) depicted on Scott # 1762:1998 was also a Flower class corvette but built in Saint John, New Brunswick, and launched in May, 1941.

Both these ships were built as convoy escorts and served on the North Atlantic. Both were decommissioned shortly after the cessation of hostilities but HMCS Sackville was recommissioned in 1985 as Canada’s Naval Memorial. This last survivor of Canada’s wartime corvette navy is open to the public



alongside a jetty in Halifax Harbour, Nova Scotia.

Just as a reminder: corvettes were small warships used primarily as convoy escorts to protect merchant shipping from submarine and aircraft attack. They were relatively lightly armed, slow (but manoeuvrable) and, by all accounts, extraordinarily

uncomfortable in all but the calmest water. The Flower class design was based on a whale-catcher and many were built in both British and Canadian shipyards during WWII.

Se-tenant with HMCS Sackville (704), is the much more recent Maritime Coastal Defence Vessel, HMCS Shawinigan, built in 1996 by Halifax Shipyards Ltd. of Halifax, Nova Scotia and still very much in service. HMCS Shawinigan is much the same



size as the Flower class corvettes and has a similar top speed.

The fourth Canadian warship to be featured on a stamp is the River class destroyer, HMCS Saguenay, on a Barbados stamp (#879) as part of a series noting ships that have played a part in Barbados’ history.

I have found two very different accounts of HMCS Saguenay’s story. One has the ship patrolling the Caribbean for the duration of the War.

The other tells how the ship survived both a torpedoing by an Italian submarine in 1940 and a collision with a merchantman off



Cape Race in 1942. In the collision her depth charges were set off, and most of her stern was blown away. After this, she could never be repaired well enough for sea duty, and she spent the rest of the war as a training ship at

Cornwallis, NS. Further investigation is required!

So, what about the \$1 destroyer?

Apparently, when the 1942 “War” series was being put together, it was intended to include one of the two Canadian Tribal class destroyers (HMCS Iroquois or Athabaskan) then under construction in Great Britain. Although construction of both ships had begun in 1940, neither was commissioned until after the stamps were issued and it has been confirmed that the artist actually used a photograph of HMS Cossack (L03) as the model. Cossack was also a Tribal class so could be considered a pretty good indication of what the Canadian ships would look like at sea but no false claims on my pages!



Incidentally, Cossack had an impressive war record but had been sunk in action 8 months before the stamp appeared.

Bob Watson

## Next Meeting: May 15<sup>th</sup>.

D. & R. Stamps & Coins (Don Nicoll) will be bringing a selection of his 7 million (!) stamps to the May meeting.

## Upcoming Events

**June 2:** The OSSC's Annual Show and Bourse will be at the Bayshore Community Centre on **2<sup>nd</sup> June**. The theme of the exhibition will be "Canada and our Northern Friends".

Look forward to seeing you all there!

## Auction Report

As Don Nicoll is bringing his stamps, there will not be an auction at the May meeting.

The following were among the lots presented for auction at the last meeting:

|  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| Canada #1-ST "Stick 'n 'Tick" label . . . . .          | Not Sold          |
| Canada #2-ST Pair of "Stick 'n 'Tick" labels . . . . . | Sold for: \$4.00  |
| Scott's catalogues - v.1 1993, v2-4 1992 . . . . .     | Sold for: \$1.00  |
| Canada #1790b Orchids sheet . . . . .                  | Not Sold          |
| Canada #610 Kreighoff block w/ door frame var. . . . . | Not Sold          |
| Scott catalogue 1953 . . . . .                         | Sold for: \$2.00  |
| Canada #492 cancelled plate block . . . . .            | Not Sold          |
| Canada #498 cancelled plate block . . . . .            | Not Sold          |
| Canada centennial booklet . . . . .                    | Sold for: \$2.00  |
| USA bundle of covers . . . . .                         | Sold for: \$3.25  |
| Canada box of assorted stamps (6000+) . . . . .        | Sold for: \$13.00 |
| Canada Winnie the Pooh sheet. . . . .                  | Sold for: \$1.75  |
| Canada \$8 Grizzly (used) . . . . .                    | Sold for: \$4.00  |
| Gambia assorted stamps on pages. . . . .               | Sold for: \$5.00  |
| Canada 1979 year collection . . . . .                  | Sold for: \$9.00  |
| Åland 4 max. cards . . . . .                           | Not Sold          |
| Jersey 9 FDCs . . . . .                                | Sold for: \$8.50  |
| Canada bird prints . . . . .                           | Sold for: \$7.00  |
| Ireland 1999 year collection . . . . .                 | Sold for: \$10.00 |
| Iceland 2 souvenir sheets . . . . .                    | Sold for: \$5.50  |

## 2002 Show Sponsors

As usual, Charles van Rompu has done a great job in persuading numerous organisations to support our show. At the time of writing, the list of Show Sponsors includes:

- Canada Post
- Canadian Wholesale Supplies
- The Faeroes
- Greenland
- Ireland
- Isle of Man
- Latvia
- Werzeichen Stelle Der Regierung [Principality of Liechtenstein]

A full list will be included in the show programme.

Some of the above have provided philatelic items that will be offered for sale at the Show in a silent auction, some have provided literature, first day covers and other philatelic material

**Harry Carbert** is interested in Canadian postal stationery and would pleased to hear from anyone with such material for sale. 986-2936.

# OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB

## Chapter 191

### Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

[www3.sympatico.ca/rhwatson/stampclub](http://www3.sympatico.ca/rhwatson/stampclub)

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 30 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. Georges'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.

For further information, contact any Club officer:

- |                    |   |                |
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