



# Owen Sound Stamp Club

## P hilatelic O wen S ound T imes

Next Club Meeting: May 18<sup>th</sup>
May 2005

Just finished reading a book (*“The Meaning of Everything”* by Simon Winchester) about the compiling of the Oxford English Dictionary. For those not familiar with the OED, it is a huge reference work intending to not only define every word in the English language, but provide quotes exemplifying each nuance of meaning.

A bit of a dry read one might suppose, but somehow or other Winchester has made his book interesting from beginning to end.

Has this got anything to do with stamps?

Well, it seems to me that the making of the OED and the major stamp catalogues indeed have quite a lot in common – especially in the way they are compiled and kept up to date. While both are commercial ventures, both also rely extensively on amateur enthusiasts for the raw data. The Stanley Gibbons catalogue includes a note in the preface that “the editor ... is interested in finding reliable local correspondents who will verify and supplement official data ...”. In the case of the OED, the actual list of words along with millions of quotations citing these words came from an army of volunteer readers of books

and papers old and new (leaving the editors to select the most appropriate quotation(s) and write the definition).

In his book, Winchester expresses a certain wonder that thousands of people from every walk of life should freely give of their time and energy to work on the great project.

Would this happen today?

You bet it would! Just take a look around the Internet and you will quickly find thousands of informative articles about all kinds of subjects – including stamps and postal history. The great majority of these are written with no commercial end in view and simply to share knowledge.

One day, someone will take it upon themselves to be an editor who will work on putting together the “Complete Stamp Catalogue” – and what a reference that will be!

### Stamp of the Month... \_\_\_\_\_

Browsing through my “Nordic” album I couldn’t help but notice that just about every Finnish pictorial stamp I have could have been designed for Canada!

There are stamps showing skiers and bears, radio telescopes and marshes and small boats tied up at docks. And rivers winding through forested hills, and hydro dams.

Seems to me that the scene depicted in this particular stamp [Scott #567:1977] could so easily have been sketched by someone sitting on the shores of Lake Huron, not too far from Oliphant, perhaps, though it would have to have been a few years back.

Actually, the title of the stamp is “Windowless Sauna” in one catalogue and “Smoke Sauna” in another and there probably weren’t too many of either of those on the Bruce Peninsula.

Nice stamp, all the same.



### In Case you were Wondering ... \_\_\_\_\_

An “exploded” booklet is one that has been taken apart whereas an “unexploded” one is in the form it was issued. Booklets may well be exploded for display purposes – especially the old style ones that were stitched together.

**Burelage** (adjective: **burele**) is a design of fine lines printed on the face of a stamp (and other security papers) to discourage counterfeiting or to prevent the cleaning and reuse of a stamp.

The first Danish square stamps (1851–63) had a burelage of wavy lines and some stamps of Queensland have a burele band on the back (also called **moire**).



From the President ...

Alan Charlesworth

**S**OS Help! Help! Help! Please people, we need some extra help at our annual show this year. Charles who usually contributes a great deal of time has developed a health problem and will not be able to fulfill his normal role at the show. If you can spare even a couple of hours to help at the reception desk or at the end of the day to help pack things up we all would be most grateful. Please let me know at this weeks meeting.

In regards to Unitrade catalogues, it seems that there will not be any available for some time. Unitrade has been very unclear

as to their plans and situation (as per usual). I will have a refund for those who prepaid at this meeting if they want it or if they want to wait for 2006 books I will hold on to the money.

I was speaking to John McTavish this past week and he will be staying here in Owen Sound but at a new place of residence and hopes to be back attending meeting soon. I know we all have missed him and hope to see him soon.

Charles get well soon too.

Postal History ...

**T**he Canadian Archives have recently made available on the Internet about 26 000 pages of official administrative directives from some 675 documents concerning the Canadian Post Office [http://phila.collectionscanada.ca/index\_e.asp] originally published between 1759 and 1900. These include: the annual Canadian Official Postal Guide (1863 to 1900), administrative circulars (1812 to 1900) and a few federal government publications.

The database allows users to not only consult the original documents online but also to search the documents by word, phrase and/or date.

The Post Office Guides make interesting reading and include a mass of data of interest to postal historians of the Victorian era.

Apart from listing all the Universal Postal Union member countries (often by names not used today) and postage rates for Canada and overseas, there is a comprehensive list of goods prohibited by various countries. These include (from the 1900 Guide): "books of social-democratic or socialist tendency" by Germany, "arms, opium, sulphur, saltpetre, and lead" by Tangier, and "fresh meat" by Greece. Bearing in mind that parcels for Europe were routed through New York for weekly sailings, the last does not seem unreasonable.

Other publications issued in 1900 include a circular to all postmasters explaining the introduction of "stamp books" (Scott# BK1 valued at \$2500 in Unitrade 2002) made up of twelve 2¢ stamps which would be sold for 25¢ with the extra cent helping to defray the costs of binding, etc.

**CANADA OFFICIAL**

**POSTAL GUIDE**

COMPRISING

*Examined 1953*

*Shawcross*

*1953*

*The Chief Regulations of the Post Office, Rates of Postage and other information, together with an Alphabetical List of Post Offices in Canada.*

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REVISED AND PUBLISHED ANNUALLY  
(WITH QUARTERLY SUPPLEMENTS)  
BY AUTHORITY OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL.

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**JANUARY, 1900.**



OTTAWA  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING BUREAU  
1900

Price in Paper 25 cents. Yearly Subscription including Supplements 40 cents.

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# The Show

## Sponsors

Details of sponsorship are still coming in. To date we are most pleased to be able to say that Canada Post has (as with previous shows) provided generous support as have Canada Wholesale Supply (CWS) and Lighthouse.

## Participating Dealers

**Alan  
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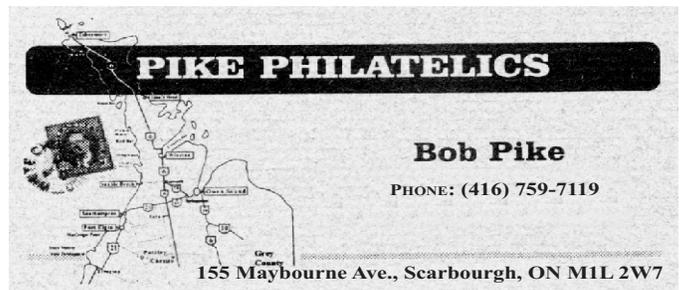
Phone: (905) 632 6057

email: michael@parcelsplusinc.com



**Bob Pike**  
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**Bob Pike**

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*Jim Allen*  
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12 Ambrose Ct., Markham, L3P 4N3  
(905) 472-3599  
[perfplus@sympatico.ca]

Next Meeting ... Wed. May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm

We will be having a selection of books from the Peninsula Philatelic Circuit for this meeting. As always, if any member has any material to sell or trade, bring it along!

**Upcoming Events:**

**May 29 (Sun):** Owen Sound Stamp Club will be holding its annual Show & Bourse at the Bayshore Arena in **Owen Sound**. 10 dealers, silent auction, lots of displays!!  
Hours: 9-4

**May 27-29 (Fri.-Sun.):** The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada is holding ROYAL \* 2005 \* ROYALE at the London Convention Centre, 300 York St., **London**. 350 frames of exhibits, 50 dealer booths, seminars, meetings, and philatelic displays, including Canada's most famous printing error.  
Hours: Fri: 10-5; Sat: 10-5; Sun: 10-4.

**June 4 (Sat.):** The North Toronto Stamp Club will be holding its Summer Postage Stamp Bourse at St. Bonaventure Church Parish Centre, 1300 Leslie St., **Toronto**. 22 Dealers; sales circuit; silent auction. Free parking and admission  
Hours: 10-4.

**June 4-5 (Sat., Sun.):** The Sudbury Stamp Club will be holding their annual Stamp Show in the Foyer, Tom Davies Square, **Sudbury**. Dealers, exhibits, refreshments. Free admission.  
Hours: Sat. 10-5; Sun. 10-4.

**June 11 (Sat.):** Stamp Show at St. Bonaventure Church Parish Centre, 1300 Leslie St., **Toronto**. 18 Dealers. Free admission.  
Hours: 9-5

Stamp on the Envelope ...

The stamp on the envelope this month is one of a pair jointly issued by Canada and Ireland to celebrate "biosphere reserves" in our respective countries.

A "biosphere reserve" is a UNESCO concept that comprises a "model ecosystem in which humans and nature can live in harmony".

Ireland has two such reserves, of which Kilarney National Park is one, while Waterton National Park in Alberta is one of thirteen in Canada.

It is interesting to note that the artists of both countries have chosen to interpret their subjects without any sign of human habitation whatsoever.

Series:	Canada/Ireland Joint Issue	Illustr.:	(a) Jeff Spokes
Title:	(a) Waterton Lakes National Park, Canada	Print.:	(b) An Post
	(b) Kilarney National Park, Ireland	Process:	Lowe Martin
Issue date:	22nd April, 2005	Paper:	Lithography (9 colours)
Denom:	50¢	Gum:	Tullis Russell Coatings
Layout:	Pane of 16 stamps	Tagging:	PVA
	Souvenir Sheet of pair	Tagging:	General, 4 sides
Des.:	(a) Xerxes Irani	Size:	48 mm x 30 mm
	(b) Finbarr O'Connor	Perf.:	12½ x 13
		No.:	5,000,000

**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. 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.

**Club officers:**

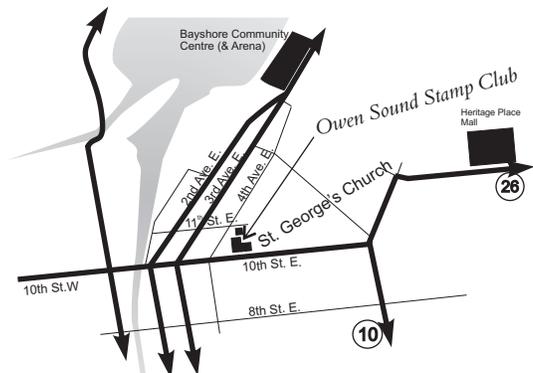
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from: Mekeel's Weekly Stamp News - March 18, 1911

**The Philatelist In Love.**

The normal young man is generally desirous of meeting a girl of the right stamp, yet the Figaro advertisement below wears the air of novelty.

A collector of postage stamps, possessing 12,544 specimens, desires to contract a marriage with a young lady, also a collector, who has the blue Mauritius stamp of 1847. No other need apply. - Youth's Companion.