

Owen Sound Stamp Club

Chapter 191
Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

Next meeting; Wed. September 19th 2012 @ 7:00

From the President...



To begin this newsletter, I am happy to announce that our new meeting place is the *St. Mary's High School* cafeteria and we will be meeting there starting this month. The address for the school is 555 15th Street East which is located at the top of the hill, across from the church of the same name. There is lots of parking available in a few different locations. The closest one is the bus unloading lane which should hold from 6 to 8 vehicles. Another parking spot is also in front of the school. There is a paved parking area between the street and the sidewalk. If more parking is necessary, parking can be done on the opposite side of the street. I will have the club sign by the entrance which we are to use. The cafeteria is called "Hillyer Hall" and is the former gymnasium which is filled with lots of tables which we can organize in any form to suit the number of attendees at the monthly meetings. The hall is just inside the entrance from the bus lane.

It is also time to remind everyone that our stamp show is coming up on September 29th which will be held in the Memorial Hall of the Royal Canadian Legion, 1450 2nd Ave West. I will give more information at the meeting, but we will have lots of dealers coming because somehow we have become an interesting place for a show. I hope that the advertising will attract collectors from near and far. During the month of August, while we were away, several calls appeared on my call display, but no messages. After three missed calls, I decided to call the person back to see what the occasion for the calls was about. Well, you guessed it, it is about our show and this couple from Sault Ste Marie is coming and wanted to know who the dealers were for our show. They were very pleased to recognize some of the names and areas of philatelic material. We will spend some time at the start of the meeting to make the final arrangements for the show.

The remainder of the meeting will be time to peruse the circuit books that Tom Griffith will be bringing up. I asked Tom to bring the Burlington circuit books, but they meet on the same night, so we missed that club's books. I suggested that he try to bring some books from the Hamilton club but he wasn't sure if he could, so which circuit books come will be a surprise for everyone. See you on the 19th.

Phil Visser

President OSSC

NEW LOCATION!!!

Owen Sound Stamp Club 2012 Stamp Show Raffle
'Triple draw'



1st Prize - \$50 in coupons to be used at any dealer in the show.
 Draw @ 1:00, Winner for 1st prize must be in attendance.



2nd Prize - a Black 64 pg. stock book from Lighthouse - \$60 value

3rd Prize - LED Illuminated 3.2X Magnifier - \$30 value



Draws to be held on Sept. 29th 2012 at the
 O.S. Stamp Show at the Royal Cdn. Legion, 1540 2nd Ave W,
 Owen Sound. Winners need not be present for 2nd & 3rd prizes

OUR SEPTEMBER MEETING WILL BE HELD AT ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL

In Memorium...



Harold Stobbe; a long time Owen sound Stamp Club member died in mid-August just past. We have not seen Harold at a meeting for many years but he maintained his membership and we hope that he enjoyed his newsletter. I did have the opportunity to meet him at one of our 'Info Days' at the mall a few years ago, where he stopped by to talk about stamps.

Mr. Stobbe was a cofounder of Owen Sound Ledgerrock located near Shallow Lake. The limestone extraction and cutting company is very much a family company and a big supporter of community projects. With Harold's encouragement the company contributed \$250,000 to the MRI campaign and \$300,000 to the regional recreational centre. Rest in peace Harold Stobbe.

the Ed.

St. George, Part 2, St. George in England

By Ralph Wyndham

In Part 1, we looked at the legend of St. George. Well, at a couple of versions, at least and how widespread his appeal is around the world. Here in Part 2, we hear about the growth of his popularity in England and how the concept of St. George has changed there over the centuries.

In England, St. George's popularity took hold and grew during the Middle Ages. Many cities and towns established Guilds of St. George whose members carried a lot of political power. Many communities held St. George's Day celebrations that were a mix of religious devotion, civic pride and display of status.

The first dedication to St. George was a church in Fordington, Dorset, sometime before 900. The army of the first Crusade to invade the Holy Land in 1095 had St. George as its patron saint. In 1190, England and the city of London adopted the St. George's flag, a red cross on a white background, for their ships sailing into the Mediterranean to gain the protection of the Genoese fleet during the Crusades. (They had to pay the Doge of Genoa for this.) St. George's Day was named a feast in the kingdom of England at the Synod of Oxford in 1222.

King Edward III (1327-1377) firmly established the link between St. George and English royalty with the founding of the Most Noble Knights of the Garter. Members of the Order were some of the most influential men of their time. While the Order was dedicated to the Virgin Mary, St. George, and St. Edward the Confessor, it is most closely associated with St. George and its coat of arms prominently bears the arms of St. George.



St. George has a long history of appearing on behalf of England's fighting forces: during the First Crusade in



Celebrating the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's birth, this stamp depicts Henry V

At the Battle of Agincourt in 1415, King Henry V led a much smaller English army to a lop-sided victory over the French. It was reported that a vision of St.

George was seen on the battlefield. (Over the centuries, St. George's help in battle has been reported many times by armies of different nationalities.) Following the battle, St. George's Day was raised to the level of 'double major feast', along side Easter and Christmas. This episode in English history was further immortalized by William Shakespeare around 1599 in his play Henry V, when, in Act III, Scene I, Henry leads his army into the fray with the battle cry, "Cry God for Harry! England! And St. George!"



Many of Britain's rulers have embraced St. George. King Arthur (6th cent.) made St. George patron of his Knights of the Round Table. Edward III (12 cent.) did the same with his Knights of the Garter. Henry VIII, above (14th cent.) allowed St. George's Day to remain a

Henry VIII was perhaps the monarch who most firmly established St. George as England's patron saint. During his reign, 1509 – 1547, the arms of St. George became the flag of England, he issued coins depicting the saint and the dragon, used images of the saint on his personal suits and one of his

crowns, and maintained the Order of the Garter. As part of the Protestant Reformation, Henry VIII banned all but three religious holidays; among the three to survive was St. George's Day.

As patron saint of many local guilds, of many trades, of the ill, and of kings as well, St. George's influence reached all levels of English culture during the Middle Ages. The Reformation could not completely kill peoples' enthusiasm for St. George, it did, in a subtle way, cast him adrift from his roots as a Christian martyr and toward a more secular identity.

This shift in identity is reflected in *The Most Famous History of the Seven Champions of Christendom* written by Richard Johnson in 1597. In Johnson's retelling of St. George, George, being now born in Coventry, is a native son who marries the princess he saves. By mid-19th Century, St. George had been transformed into a chivalrous knight who righted wrongs and became representative of the English ideal of fair play. The chivalrous knight image led Lord Baden-Powell to adopt St. George as the patron saint of the Boy Scout Movement.

The battle between good and evil has not always gone in the saint's favour. The dark side of Britain's colonial and imperial power has tarnished the saint's armour in some peoples' eyes. I think the case can also be made that his secularization has been aided by the decline in religion's importance in modern times.

Where the Rainbow Ends, by Mrs. Clifford Mills, appeared in 1911. The play, with anti-semitic and racist overtones, became instantly popular and was performed by children at Christmas time for many years. A pair of orphans, forced to live with an evil aunt and uncle, summon St. George to help them. The saint initially appears as a pathetic old man, but when the girl asks him to help her as a damsel in distress, he transforms into a blond haired, blue eyed knight in shining armour. In a later scene, the children again summon the saint to rescue them from the Dragon King. St. George kills the king and reunites the children with their parents. The family takes him back to England where he can 'live forever in the hearts of the children of his race'.



Erosion of St. George's image, even within the Royal Navy, once the ultimate symbol of Britain's national pride, is illustrated in an incident in 2005. The Royal Navy stopped 12 of its warships from flying St. George's flag for fear of offending a visiting Turkish vessel. The irony of the move is that in addition to Turkey possibly being the saint's birthplace, St. George is patron saint of Istanbul and St. George's Day is also Turkish National Sovereignty Day.

The first definite reference to St. George appears in 494 AD. In an effort to sort fact from fiction in the lives of the saints, Pope Gelasius grouped St. George among those saints whose actions were truly known only to God. One thing is for certain, though: in terms of his appeal across so many cultures, and to so many people across so many centuries, St. George stands alone among them and remains important to people in many parts of the world today.

Edward I adopted the flag of St. George as the National Standard of England in the late 13th century. The Union Jack, above, adopted in 1801, superimposes the St.

Thanks Ralph Wyndham for another very interesting article.

On the Cover...London 2012



Canada Post has produced a pretty snazzy stamp to celebrate our participation in the London 2012 Olympics. The rowers paddle in unison their oars reaching beyond the metallic blue sheen of the water. The nose of the scull pierces the frame of the stamp and the vee of the wake accentuates the forward thrust. The ripples of the wake repeat over and over suggesting the steady rhythm of the strokes and giving a sense of depth to this bird's eye view. To add to the sense of forward motion the bright red maple leaf is turned on its side and supports the rowers on a path to victory. At least that was the plan!

When it comes to the summer Olympics Canada cannot be called a major player but when you consider our population and our climate – we do just fine. Canada won four medals in rowing at the 2008 Olympics in China. This year we won silver in both men's and women's eights. These long boats also have a coxswain who guides and encourages the eight rowers. So while we did not win in any of the singles, doubles and quadruple rowing events, we still end up with eighteen people with silver medals in rowing! Lesley Thompson-Willie, the coxswain of the women's eight has the honour to be the first Canadian to win medals in five Olympic Games. She has participated in seven of the summer games and it would have been eight if there hadn't been a boycott of the 1980 games in Moscow.

We also got a few medals in canoeing and kayaking. Adam van Koeverden earned a silver medal in men's 1,000 m kayak singles. He holds the world's record in this event and hoped to have taken gold.

We ended up tying our own medal count in China with a total of eighteen medals. Our only gold medal received headlines such as "MacLennan jumps for joy" as Rosannagh MacLennan won the top spot in women's singles on the trampoline.

The London Paralympics Games just ended on Sunday September 10th. Our last medal was a silver in wheel chair rugby. We ended up with thirty-one medals this year which is quite a bit less than previous summer paralympics. It is important to note that other countries are taking the Paralympic Games more seriously and are entering many more events. China has more people with disabilities than our entire population.

The Canadian 'London 2012' stamp was released on June 27, exactly a month before the opening of the games. There were no fancy souvenir sheets, just a booklet of ten self-adhesive stamps, a post card and an OFDC cancelled in Victoria.



Are these really the last of Britain's London 2012 stamp program!

As host of the games the Royal Mail has produced a whole host of stamps and stamp products. They produced a set of ten first class rate stamps in each of the three years leading up to the games. The thirty stamps were then put together on a single sheet. A set of four definitive stamps came out showing the symbols of the Olympic and Paralympic Games. Then on the opening day a souvenir sheet of four welcoming all to the games was issued. A month later another sheet welcomed people to the Paralympic games. They also promised to release stamps to celebrate each gold medal that team GB won. Now this got a lot of people upset because they were only released in a sheetlet of six of the same stamp! If you want to collect all of the gold medal winners it will cost you about £104. I see that they have also released stamps for gold medal winning Paralympians. Perhaps the grumbling was heard because these stamps are only in pairs and this whole set will cost around £40, which is at least somewhat cheaper.

So we're done, right? Not quite. I have just found out that another group of four stamps will be issued. The stamps depict the opening and closing of the games, the procession of the paralympians and Britain is the first Games host that is issuing a stamp in appreciation of the 70,000 volunteers whom they call 'games makers'! While I do think that Britain has produced quite enough stamps for the London 2012 games, I have to admit that that is a nice touch.

The Ed.

Coming Events...

- SEPT. 15, Toronto, ON
 Fall Postage Stamp Bourse, Yorkminster Park Baptist Church, 1585 Yonge St. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sponsor/Affiliate: North Toronto Stamp Club. For more information contact Herb, telephone 416-445-7720, email ntstampclub@yahoo.ca.
- SEPT. 22, Cobourg, ON
 COPEX 2012, Salvation Army Citadel, 59 Ballantine St. Show hours 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Eight dealers, member stamp displays, member consignment sales, food court, door prizes. Free admission and parking. Sponsor/Affiliate: Cobourg Stamp Club. For more information contact Malcolm Pacey, telephone 905-885-2697
- SEPT. 22, Cambridge, ON
 Cambridge Stamp Club Annual Stamp Show, United Kingdom Club, International Village Drive. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Ten dealers, club circuit books, snack bar, free parking. For more information contact Steve Klages, telephone 519-622-6204.
- SEPT. 29, Owen Sound, ON
 Owen Sound Stamp Show, Owen Sound Royal Canadian Legion, 1450 2nd Ave W. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., free admission. Sponsor/Affiliate: Owen Sound Stamp Club. For more information contact Phil Visser, telephone 519-376-6760, email psvisser@hurontel.on.ca.
- SEPT. 30, Dundas, ON
 27th Annual Golden Horseshoe Postcard Club Show & Sale, Dundas Lions Memorial Community Centre, 10 Market St. S. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. A multi-dealer sale of antique postcards and related items; several books about Canadian postcards will be available for purchase from the author; PowerPoint displays of postcards will be shown; dealers valuations on collections; free parking, free admission; and lunch counter. For more information contact Jon Soyka, telephone 905-388-5840, email jonsoyka@shaw.ca.
- OCT. 13, Brampton, ON
 Brampton/Mississauga Stamp & Coin Fairs, Fairfield Inn & Suites, 150 Westcreek Blvd. Hours: 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Free admission and parking, 36th year in business, with one million worldwide stamps in stock, plus covers, postcards, worldwide coins and currency notes, related supplies also available, many at discounted prices. For more information contact D. Jackson, email dejackson8138@gmail.com.
- OCT. 13, Guelph, ON
 GUELPHPEX 2012, Evergreen Seniors' Centre, 683 Woolwich St. Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sixteen-plus dealers, member displays, free admission and parking, door prizes, food booth, and silent auction. Sponsor/Affiliate: Guelph Stamp Club. For more information contact George Shepherd, telephone 519-242-4257, email ngshepherd@rlproyalcity.com.
- OCT. 20, Barrie, ON
 Barrie District Stamp Club Annual Stamp Show and Bourse, Army, Navy & Air Force

Club, 7 George St., (off Anne St. South). Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., free parking, free admission, 15 dealers. Sponsor/Affiliate: Barrie District Stamp Club. For more information contact Michael Millar, FRPSC, telephone 705-726-5019, email mmillar@apexia.ca.

- OCT. 20, St. Catharines, ON
Best Western Stamp Show, Niagara Room, Best Western Hotel, QEW at Lake St. Hours: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free parking and admission, specializing in the stamps and covers of Canada and the British Commonwealth. Sponsor/Affiliate: Roys' Stamps. For more information contact Roy Houtby, telephone 905-934-8377

Please note: September and October are busy months for stamp shows. Our listing of coming shows does not always include every show found on other listings. I try to include most shows within a few hours radius of Owen Sound. If you have particular interests or are travelling further afield, please consult other sources.

From the Editor...

WARNING: This meeting will be at St. Mary's High School. We are moving there now!

A number of us made out to Kincardine's Stamp Show on the 11th of August. Larry Crane was the lucky winner of the framed full page of personalized stamps created for the Kincardine Scottish Pipe Band's 100th Anniversary in 2008. See the coming events listing for more upcoming shows.

It's trivia time! I am sure many of you know a lot more about the recent Olympics than I do but I'll see if I can come up with a few questions for you. So sharpen your wits and your pencils!

The Owen Sound Stamp Show is coming up fast! Saturday Sept. 29th!!!
We hope that all our members will make it out to show to lend a hand and to have a good time. Many hands make light work! We'll need some members at the Legion early (8:00 to 9:00) to help set up tables and assist dealers. We need to set up exhibits (and we need exhibits to set up! Don't be shy!) Throughout the day we'll need people to **sell tickets**, greet people, **sell food and drinks and show covers**. We also hope that you will help by donating some sandwiches, drinks or treats and also an item or two for door prizes. (Door prizes are separate from the Triple Draw)

Food and drink supplies include Sandwiches, egg salad, salmon salad, ham and cheese. Treats such as doughnuts, muffins and cookies are popular and drinks include water, pop, juice and coffee. We still have napkins and plates from last year. Think about what you'd like to contribute and I will

have a list at the meeting that you can check off. Sandwiches are the items we need the most of. If each of us brings in a bit the burden is not heavy for any.

We'll see you on Wednesday.

Marion Ace, Editor OSSC



We are delighted to hear that Barb and Bill Shelson are getting their tee shirts too! If you would like to make an order, call

John Lemon at 519 375-7161.

Show off your stamp club and help to raise funds too!

Tee Shirts - SML \$16, XL- XXXL - \$17, Golf Shirts - SML \$20, XL- XXXL - \$25.

Owen Sound Stamp Club

Chapter 191

Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

The Owen Sound Stamp Club meets at 7:00 pm on the third Wednesday of each month in the cafeteria of St. Mary's High School (555 15 St. East). The main business of the evening is typically to trade, buy and sell stamps and philatelic material. An Auction is often held at 8:00 pm. There are presently about 25 active members whose interests cover just about everything at all levels, from beginner to expert.

Guests or new members are always most welcome. Annual membership fees: \$15; Junior- Free

Club Officers:

President: Phil Visser (519) 376-6760

RR #5., Owen Sound ON N4K 5N7

visserps@bell.net

Vice-Pres.: John Cortan (519) 395-5817

P.O. Box 295, Ripley, ON NOG 2R0

jcortan@hurontel.on.ca

Sec./ Treas: Bob Ford (519) 376-4788

721 8th Ave. E., Owen Sound, ON N4K 3A5

rob.darford@rogers.com

Editor: Marion Ace (519) 934-1998

P.O. Box 286, Tara ON NOH 2N0

marionace@bmts.com

