

Owen Sound Stamp Club

Chapter 191
Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

Next meeting: Wed. July 21st 2010 @ 7:00

From the President...



A hearty welcome is extended to all the members of the Owen Sound Stamp Club as well as any guests that may come along. It is time again to extend well wishes and an invitation to come to the regular monthly meeting at the St George's church. The meeting begins at 7 PM and will occur on July 21st. I hope the forecasted heat wave will have passed us by, but if not, the meeting place is usually cooler than outside.

This month we will have a "Club Auction" where the members are able to bring extra philatelic material to find a new home in someone else's collection. Please don't forget to participate in the one page challenge and bring along items that may be of interest in the show and tell portion of the meeting. This is also a reminder that if you know of any fellow collectors in the area please invite them to come along for the evening.

I attended the Saugeen meeting earlier this month and came across a situation that affects interclub relations. As part of arranging meetings, I was attempting to have the circuit books from the Hamilton club come for our philatelic searches. Well, because of the argument about insurance, Hamilton has decided to withhold their circuit books from other clubs not participating in their insurance scheme. Although the Hamilton books won't be coming, the person hopes to bring books from either St Catharine's or Cambridge. That will occur later in the fall.

This concludes my space of the newsletter and I turn this over to our trusty and faithful editor. I hope you will be able to attend on the 21st and I'm looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Phil Visser
President OSSC

One Page Challenge...

June's topic for the 'One Page Challenge' was Canadian Art. I was the fortunate enough to win that round with a page about J.E.H. MacDonald's painting 'Mist

Fantasy'. I gained a lot of respect and fondness for this painting after creating a stained glass window based on it. The artist put colours together in ways I would never have dreamed of and in stained glass the result was stunning.

John Cortan was kind enough to supply me with a prize that included two used British Christmas aerogrammes. I collect British stamps and their Christmas and Machin items so I was very pleased! Thanks John.

For October let's do a page about scouting. This year a number of postal authorities are issuing stamps to celebrate 100 years of the Girl Guides (Girl Scouts), so this will give scouting enthusiasts a chance to show off their new stamps.

One Page Challenge Topics

July - Royalty

August - Postal Services

September - Follow the rules -

Cricket

By Ralph Wyndham



Sorting through my stamp accumulation, looking for a topic for this short article, I came across this English stamp depicting a cricket batsman. Cricket! Here's something most of us will not know much about. All I knew was the expression, 'that's not playing cricket', meaning someone is being unfair.

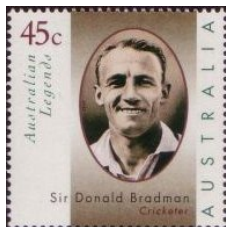
The game's origin is unclear but it did evolve in England and was popular there by the end of the 17th century. By the time the London Cricket Club produced the first basic rules of modern cricket in 1744, it had become popular with the aristocracy. Formed in 1787, the Marylebone Cricket Club was the sport's international governing body until 1993 when the International Cricket Council took on this responsibility.

The cricket field is a grass oval 160m (525ft) by 170m (550ft). Near the middle of the oval is the pitch. It is a flat strip of ground with a wicket at each end of it. The wickets, 20.12m (66ft) apart, consist of three wooden uprights, called stumps, and two small wooden blocks, the bails, that sit across the top of the stumps.

There are 11 players on each team. A coin toss determines which team will bat first. Two batsmen then take to the pitch, one standing in front of each wicket. An opposing player, the bowler, then throws (bowls) a ball to the batsman. The team at bat wants to hit the ball into the field to score runs. When the ball is hit into the field, each batsman runs to the opposite wicket and a run is scored. The fielding team wants to get the batsmen out to prevent runs scoring. A batsman is out, or

Issued in 1973
to celebrate 100
years of County
Cricket in
Britain, this

dismissed, if he misses the ball and it hits the wicket and the bails fall. A fielder may also retire a batsman by throwing the ball into the wicket before a running batsman can return to it. The most common out, like baseball, is the fly ball caught before it can hit the ground. A bowler may only make six bowls in a row and another bowler takes a turn. This is called an "over".



Australian cricket hero from the 1930s, Sir Donald Bradman, was honoured

What I find most confusing is the length of a cricket match; it is quite flexible. Perhaps it is my time-oriented North American mind that cannot grasp this. A full two-innings game (an innings – always with an 's' -- is complete when both sides have recorded 10 batsmen out) can last four or five days. The record of 9 days happened in 1939 when England had to accept a draw with South Africa because the team had to catch their ship for home! This form of the game is usually only used for international test matches. It allows time for lunch, tea, and water breaks. Other forms use time and/or a set number of overs to determine the length of an innings. 20/20 cricket, for instance, allows each team 80 minutes to complete 20 overs.

What may be unique to cricket is how the concept of the "the Spirit of the Game" is woven into the Laws of the sport and brings us back the expression 'not playing cricket'. This spirit involves cricket values like good temperament, patience and respect – respect for your opponents, your captain and team, and for the umpires and their decisions. The Laws state that the umpires are the sole judges of fair and unfair play. It is part of a team captain's responsibility to intervene when a teammate misbehaves. The great Australian batsman, Sir Donald Bradman said, 'It is the responsibility of all those that play the game (the custodians) to leave the game in a better state than when they first became involved.'

Cricket also has a rich terminology. Among my favorites are things like beamer, bouncer, Buffet bowling, corridor of uncertainty and googly (a type of bowling throw). There are quite a few animal references, too: cow corner, duck, ferret, rabbit and sticky dog.

The nations where cricket is biggest are former British colonies such as India, Pakistan, Australia and the West Indies. Former colonies still enjoy a chance to beat their former masters. India and Pakistan, bitter enemies, have even used cricket as an instrument of diplomacy.

Once you start looking, there are many stamps on the topic of cricket. It would make an interesting topical collection.

Congratulations to Ralph Wyndham for achieving gold medal status with the APS for his Saugeen Stamp Club Bulletins and thanks again to Ralph for an interesting article.



Celebrating 100 years of cricket rivalry

Ralph Wyndham included this cricket stamp for me to use with his 'Cricket' article if I wished to. The stamp celebrates 100 years of what later became known as test cricket. The rivalry began between England and Australia in the 1876-77 season.

Test cricket is considered to be the highest level of international cricket playing. It is essentially a regularly fought cricket battle between two countries. Five matches are usually played over five days at different locations. The series is played biennially and the countries alternate as hosts. In 1882 Australia won their first test match on British soil. The British loss was ridiculed by the press. The bottom line of this 'obituary' for English cricket in 'The Sporting Times' notes that "The body will be cremated and the ashes taken to Australia." Ivo Bligh, the captain of the English team, vowed to regain 'the ashes' on the team's next foray to



An obituary for English cricket in

Australia. When Bligh next played in Australia a group of Victorian ladies from Melbourne presented him with a small terracotta urn. One of the lovely ladies later became his wife. It may have been a perfume bottle, it may have contained the ashes of a lady's veil but most believe that the urn contains the ashes of a cricket ball.

Although the title fell in and out of fashion over the years the test match series is now known as the Ashes. The little urn remains in the Marylebone Cricket Club Museum no matter which country is its temporary champion. People often think that it is a trophy although it has never actually been presented to the winning teams. In these days of material goods, replicas of The Ashes urn are waved about at the matches. The winners are now presented with Waterford Crystal replicas which are likely far more exquisite than the original.



My interest in the subject of cricket was piqued when I found out that the English vs. Australian rivalry was called The Ashes. On a trip to Britain in 2005 I picked up a souvenir sheet of four stamps from a little Royal Mail Post Office in a village in Devon obviously depicting a sporting event. I don't follow sports much and certainly not cricket so I had no idea what the stamps were about. If you're wondering why England would issue a whole souvenir sheet celebrating their

victory at the Ashes, it helps to know that Australia had a winning streak from 1989 until the Brits managed to take back the Ashes in 2005.

So now I know that The Ashes is a biannual test cricket match between Australia and England (and Wales) and also a little urn that represents that rivalry. Thanks for piquing my interest Ralph!

Marion Ace

I hope that everyone will participate in this column. The 'spotlight' can be focused on anything philatelic. Whether you love it, hate it or you just have a story to tell, drop us a line. It can be a paragraph or two or a page or two. I'll need a good scan or photo of the

Coming Events...

- **AUG. 7, Kincardine, ON**
Kinex 2010, Royal Canadian Legion 219 Lambton St. Hours 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., free admission, eight to 10 dealers, sales circuit, displays, door prizes, lunch booth.
Sponsor/Affiliate: Kincardine Stamp Club. For more information contact John Cortan, telephone 519-395-5817 , email jcortan@hurontel.on.ca.
- **AUG. 7, Fenelon Falls, ON**
FENPEX 26 , Fenelon Falls Seniors' Club, 58 Murray St. Hours: 9.30a.m.-3.30p.m. Free admission and parking. Dealers, silent auction, displays, door prizes, lunch available, free items for Young Collectors..
Sponsor/Affiliate: Fenelon Falls Stamp Club. For more information, contact Lloyd McEwan, President, telephone 705-324-7577 705-324-7577 , email lmceewan@sympatico.on.ca.
- **AUG. 14, Toronto, ON**
Postage Stamp Show, St. Bonaventure Church Parish Centre, 1300 Leslie St. Hours: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free admission and parking. For more information contact 705-799-2008 .
- **AUG. 21, Burlington, ON**
BurlOak Stamp Fair, Burlington Seniors Centre, 2285 New St. Regular monthly show in our 16th year, held on the third Saturday of every month year round. Hours 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., between six and nine dealers, always new material, active buyers. For more information contact Michael P. Anderson, telephone 905-632-6057 email mpanderson@cogeco.ca.
- **AUG. 21, Bracebridge, ON**
Muspex 2010, Muskoka Riverside Inn, 300 Ecclestone Dr. Hours: 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tenth anniversary show, exhibits, 10 dealers, Canada Post, free parking and admission.
Sponsor/Affiliate: Muskoka Stamp Club. For more information contact Bruce Hughes, telephone 705-385-2020

From the Editor...

At our June meeting we decided to hold our September meeting at a local restaurant, possibly *Shorty's* just a block or so away. The meeting will be just a few days before our show (September 25th) so we'll be able to conclude some show business and have our 'One Page Challenge' along with a friendly meal. We'd like to have a 'One Page Challenge' display so please try to participate.

I'll likely put the roadside attractions stamps on your newsletter this month. I see that Ontario is represented by the Wawa Canada Goose. Summer is here and I'm extremely busy so there is no 'On The Cover' article. But hey, I managed to do a 'Spotlight' article.

The raffle tickets for the 'Stamp Collecting' StampImage by Will Van Veen are ready. Please help to support the club by purchasing some tickets. This year the tickets cost \$2.00 each or 4 for \$5.00. Phil Visser and myself will have tickets available.

The Kincardine Show is fast approaching on August 7th. Let's show some support for our local clubs.

Marion Ace, Editor OSSC

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The Owen Sound Stamp Club meets at 7:00 pm on the third Wednesday of each month in the basement of St. George's Anglican Church (corner of 10th St. E. and 4th Ave. E.). 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
pvisser@hurontel.on.ca

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
robford@log.on.ca

Editor: Marion Ace (519) 934-1998
P.O. Box 286, Tara ON NOH 2N0
marionace@bmts.com

