

THE NOVA SCOTIA POST

The Monthly Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

May 2025
Volume 54, Issue 540

UP AND COMING

Valley Stamp Club - May 3

Port Williams Community Centre
Presenter: Jeff Newbery "A cruise down the Danube and postal adventures along the way"

Moncton Stamp Fair - May 10

10 - 3pm, 100 War Veterans Ave,
Moncton, NB

The Fundy Stamp Club will hold a Silent Auction which will run from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and a Live Auction at 1:30 p.m.

NS Stamp Club - May 13

Presenter: Keith MacKay "A Postal History Quest", Auction

South Shore Stamp Club - May 24

New Life Christian Church, Elm St.
Bridgewater, NS

NOVAPEX 2025 - August 22-23

Regional Level Exhibition and Bourse

Check out the status of other events at
www.rpsc.org/shows.php or
www.csdaonline.com/shows

New Members

Welcome to the new members who have recently joined the club ...

- 1144 Scott Isenor
- 1145 Mike Robicheau
- 1146 David Eveleigh
- 1147 Stephen White
- 1148 James MacLellan

WELCOME ALL!

BODY BAGS 3: ROYAL MAIL AND ISRAEL POST

by Marty Zelenietz

In my final installment on body bags, I wrap up (pun intended) looking at two items, one from the UK and the other from Israel. The UK entire (it contains the damaged mail item) dates from 1998 and was sent within Edinburgh. The clear plastic bag has overall dimensions of 264 mm by 172 mm. Black and red text, set on a white background measuring 200 mm by 149 mm (Figure 1) contain the usual apology for the damaged contents and contact information for follow-up action. The other side of the bag is clear, showing the damaged item (addressed to Spectrum Crossword, Scotland on Sunday, ...) and, along the sealing flap, the legend "Britton Mailing, Postal Envelopes Southend (01702) 468976." Holding the bag up to light, one can see a small enclosure in the damaged cover. The curious thing about this piece is that it is still sealed: the recipient never opened the body bag to get at the damaged letter's contents. Perhaps



Figure 1

there was a time-limited response period for puzzle solutions, and the delay due to damage caused the item to come in after the deadline. Another mystery- how did this piece come into my hands?

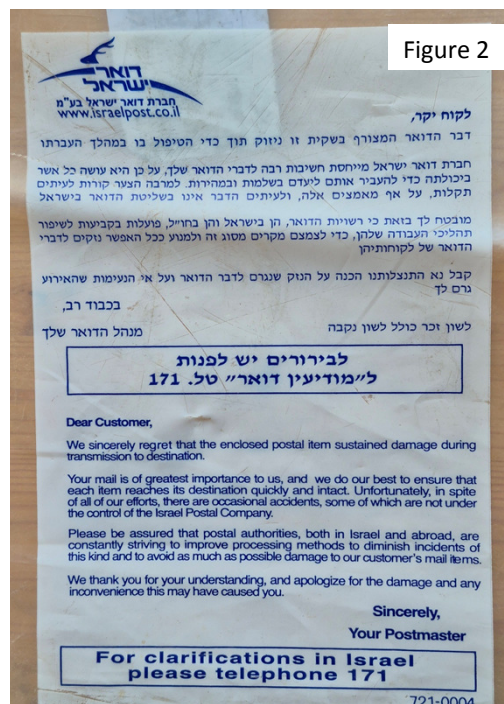


Figure 2

My final body bag is from Israel. It is a large, heavy plastic bag with overall measurements of 500 mm by 327 mm. A white background (220 mm by 150 mm) contains a bilingual message (Hebrew and English) in blue text (Figure 2). The bag has been opened. The contents consist of a much torn and folded parcel wrapper bearing a number of labels and directives (Figure 3) that trace an ill-fated voyage.

The parcel was sent small packet, air from Calgary on 21 March, 2011, at a cost of \$19.95 (partially covered white Canada Post mailing label). On arrival in Israel, it received a red and white security warning label with text in English, Russian, Hebrew and Arabic. The English text reads:

Body Bags continued on Page 4

LEGIONNAIRE MYSTERY MAN CONTEST: A REAL MYSTERY

by Gary Steele

DEAD LETTER OFFICE
BUREAU DES REBUTS

10 X 1949

No. 3

OTTAWA, CANADA.

DEAD LETTER OFFICE
BUREAU DES REBUTS

11 X 1949

No. 8

OTTAWA, CANADA.

Sans-serif, all caps,
proofed Jan 11 1948Month in Roman nu-
m e r a l s
46mm x 35mm, Ma-
genta ink, blue ink

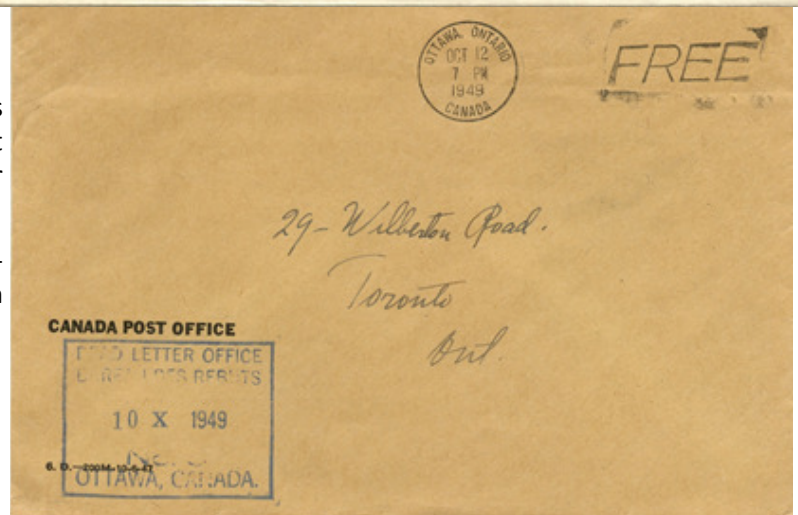
Some mysteries are solved when you have all the pieces of the puzzle. Attached are two separate items from the Ottawa DLO with handstamp #3 an OKC, and the #8 also rare with Magenta ink - the first that I have seen.

On Oct 2, 1949, a letter with 3 x 1c War Issue stamps was mailed in Toronto to the General Wingate Branch 256, Canadian Legion 127 Yonge St.

It was marked "Non-transmissible by the Post Office" probably due to a lottery regulation. A No. 3 DLO handstamp was applied dated Oct 10, 1949 by the Ottawa Office (not the Toronto DLO). It was then apparently handled on Oct 11 and a No. 8 DLO handstamp was applied to the reverse. On Oct 12, it was placed in a DLO return envelope and received a FREE cancellation. This envelope was mailed to 29 Wilberton Road, Toronto, Ont.

All the pieces of the puzzle are here, but still remains why was the front of the DLO Return envelope by Canada PO dated Oct 10 1941? Maybe done ahead of time to be more efficient? Or just a wrong date applied.

Of note is that the General Wingate Branch 256, Royal Canadian Legion in Toronto closed its doors in 2018 having been in operation since 1914.

**The Nova Scotia Post**

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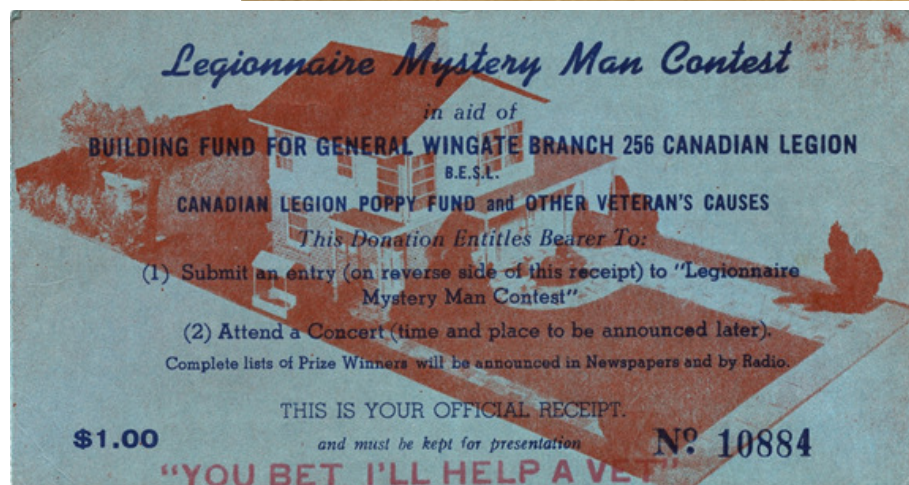
<http://www.nsstampclub.ca/>
webnews@nsstampclub.ca

Nova Scotia Stamp Club meets at 7:30 p.m. on every second Tuesday of the month (except July and August) at the Nova Scotia Museum, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax, N.S. The club publishes a monthly newsletter (except summer) released in the first week of the month.

E-Membership is C\$10 per person or C\$15.00 per couple.

Print Membership is C\$15 and C\$22.50.
Foreign mailings available at a premium.

Send **membership applications** to...
NS Stamp Club c/o Jeff Parks
102 Birch Bear Run,
Lewis Lake, NS B3Z 4B8



BITS AND PIECES

Royal Mail celebrates the Masters

Jack Forbes shared that Royal Mail created a special postmark used between April 15th and 17th to celebrate Rory McIlroy's Masters win.



Intro to Exhibiting

Jane Sodero notes that due to the cancellation of the April club meeting, the planned round table at the May meeting about exhibiting has been cancelled. Jane asks that if anyone is interested in participating in an introduction to exhibiting before NOVAPEX, to please contact her directly (jmfsodero@hotmail.com). Depending on interest and availability, we will look at alternative times and meeting locations for this event.

Royale 2025 FILEX – Montreal, QC April 25 – 26, 2025

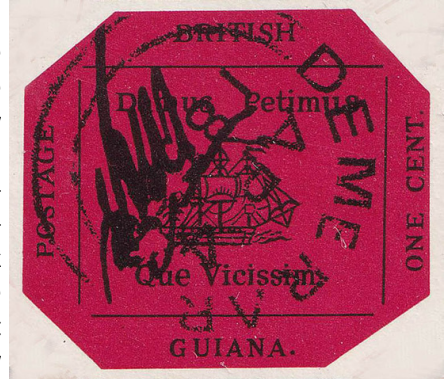
The annual exhibition of the Royal Philatelic Society and celebration the 60th anniversary of Fédération québécoise de philatélie (FQP) took place in Montreal on April 25 and 26, 2025. A distinguished group of judges: Sam Chiu, Toronto; Bernard Jimenez, France; Peter McCann, US and John Moore, Australia, reviewed national-level exhibits from Canada, the United States and Australia including four exhibits from Nova Scotia Stamp Club members. See the insert for a list of NSSC member exhibits and showing.

In addition to a number of interesting presentations and society meetings, the Royal also hosted the annual meeting of the Fellows of the RPSC. This year saw the election of two new fellows – Jean Wang and John Wilson, both from Toronto. Wang and Wilson have made significant contributions to philately in Canada with their participation in various clubs and societies. In addition, Wang is an accomplished exhibitor at both the national and international levels while Wilson has served as a philatelic judge since 2007.

WORLD'S MOST VALUABLE STAMP

by Michael Peach

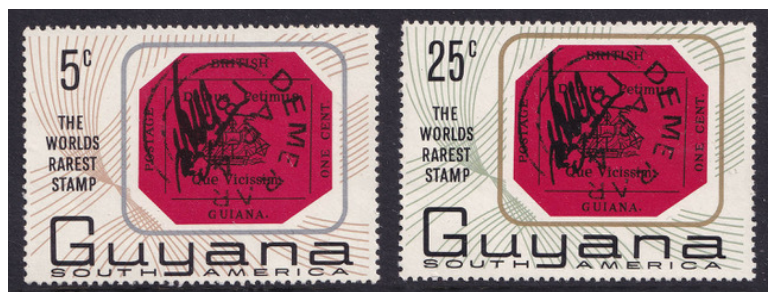
The 1856 British Guiana one cent magenta is the world's most valuable stamp with only one copy known to exist. The used stamp, postmarked DEMERARA AP 4 1856, was initialed E.D.W. (postal clerk Edmond D. Wight) and the corners are cut. In 2021, it was purchased by Stanley Gibbons at Sotheby's New York June auction for \$8,367,000. It can be seen at the Stanley Gibbons shop on the Strand, London.



In 1865, after only ten percent of an anticipated delivery of British Guyana stamps had arrived and to keep the mail moving the local postmaster authorised the emergency issue of three stamps, 1c magenta for newspapers, two 4c stamps one magenta and one blue for letter postage. The stamps feature a sailing ship and the colony's motto *Damus Petimus Que Vicissim* (We give and expect in return). The postmaster was not pleased with the design and to avoid forgery ordered the stamps to be autographed by the postal clerk. The stamps were used for about eight weeks.

The one cent magenta was largely unknown until 1873 when 12-year-old Vernon Vaughan, living in British Guiana found it among his uncle's papers. He sold it for six shillings to Neil McKinnon, a local dealer. The McKinnon collection was sold by Glasgow dealer Robert Hill. It was initially offered to prominent dealer Edward Pemberton and subsequently, due to Pemberton's procrastination, to various other dealers. Thomas Ridpath, a Liverpool dealer, recognising its rarity, acted rapidly and purchased the collection for £120. He later sold the stamp to Philipp von Ferrary for about £150. After Ferrary's death in 1917, the entire Ferrari collection was taken by France as war reparations, and subsequently changed hands several times before being purchased by Stanley Gibbons.

In 1967 to honour this stamp Guyana issued two stamps, 5c and 25c, showing the 1c Magenta in the stamp-on-stamp format.



VIRTUAL PRESENTATIONS - MAY 2025

Compiled by Ann Miller

You can register for the event via the host's website. Most of the groups listed have past presentations available to view through their websites, or YouTube. Times listed for the ATLANTIC (ADT) zone.

American Topical Association

May 6, 8 pm, Wayne Youngblood, "The Most Pernicious of Album Weeds: Modern Postal Counterfeits".

Auxiliary Markings Club

May 13, 8 pm, Gregg Redner "The UPU Postal Return Labels of Yugoslavia".

British Empire Study Group (BESG)

May 15, 6 pm, Charles Oppenheim, "What philatelists should know about copyright".

Collectors Club of New York

May 7, 6:30 pm Bernard Biales, "Lion and the Serpent- Royal, Provincial, United Colonies, and United States Posts 1775-6".

May 21, 6:30 pm, Ed Kroft, "Some Postal History Gems of Holy Land Philately".

Learning About Stamps Online

May 20, 9 pm, Paul Booth, "A Brief Overview of the British Machine Definitives".

North Toronto Stamp Club

May 15, 8 pm, , "TBA".

Postal History Society of Canada

May 20, 7 pm, Various presenters "Under the Covers— Exploring Canadian Postal History".

Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC)

May 12, 8 pm, Stamp Talk, Gregg Redner "Collecting Auxiliary Labels and Markings".

Royal Philatelic Society of London (RPSL)

May 13, 12 pm, Hans Van Der Horst, "Liberation of the Netherlands".

LAND & SEA: WHY PEOPLE COLLECT STAMPS

If you haven't seen it already please watch the Land & Sea episode [Why People Collect Stamps](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gYc43-B9PwO) that features Atlantic Canadian collectors at the Royal 2024 Royale in Fredericton.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gYc43-B9PwO>

BODY BAGS CONTINUED...

Dear Citizen- for your security!!! Do not open this parcel before verifying if you were expecting a parcel from this return address. Should you have any doubts, please inform the postal employee.



Figure 3

A white label with red and black text assigns an internal tracking number to the parcel, and stuck to this is a smaller yellow label with red and black text indicating that notification was sent from the Rehavia Branch P.O. in Jerusalem. Finally, a darker yellow "Reason for non-delivery" label with black and red text shows that the parcel went unclaimed. The intended recipients had returned to Canada by the time the parcel arrived.

The parcel, which at this point must have suffered some damage, was returned to Calgary, as evidenced by the label on the back of the body bag (Figure 4). I honestly don't know how intact the parcel was when it made it back to Canada- were the



Figure 4

contents still there, or just the wrapper? I suspect the former, although the baby clothes contained would have no longer fit my grandson!

Being objects of postal history that document the less-than-successful transmission of the mail, body bags are eminently collectable and can add another dimension to your collection.

Royal 2025 FILEX – Montreal, QC April 25 – 26, 2025

NSSC Member exhibits:

Exhibitor	Exhibit Title	Award	Special Award
John Hall	The Canadian National Parks Stamps. Rates, Fees, Usages 1979-1990	Large Vermeil	RPSC Award for Excellence - Title Page. APS Medal of Excellence post-1980. Elizabethan Study Group White Queen award.
Michael Mather	Boston Machine Cancel Trials Used in Great Britain 1897-1907	Gold	
Michael Mather	London Cancels - Development during the Victorian Period	Large Gold	APS Medal of Excellence pre-1900.
Jean Jacques Tillard	Les entiers postaux pêcheur et goéland à SPM 1909-1918	Large Gold	APS Medal of Excellence 1900 – 1920.
Jean Jacques Tillard	SPM, le type 'Groupe' 1892-1908	Large Gold	Grand Award. Best exhibit by an APS member.