The Nova Scotia Post

The Monthly Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

May 2026
Volume 55, Issue 550

Up and Coming

Valley Stamp Club - May 2
Port Williams Community Centre.
Presentation: Kelly Bourassa "Ethiopia"

Orapex 2026 - May 2 and 3
Nepean Sportsplex, Ottawa, ON

Moncton Stamp Fair - May 9
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 12
Show and Tell. Auction.
Presentation: Jeff Parks "Digital Resources"

South Shore Stamp Club - May 23
New Life Christian Church, Elm St.
Bridgewater, NS

Royal*2026*Royale - June 12-14
98*th* Convention of the *Royal Philatelic Society of Canada*
Waterloo, ON
See Page 4 for details

NSSC Stamp Fairs
July 26 , Sept 13, Nov 15
9 am-3 pm

East Dartmouth Community Centre
Live Auction at 1:30 pm

BNAPEX 2026 Valleyfield - Sept 17-20
Hôtel MOCO Valleyfield
Salaberry-de-Valleyfield, QC
https://bnaps.org/bnapex/bnapex2026-Valleyfield/

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

Bicentenary of Public Railways

by Michael Peach

By the early 19th century railways had been developed to move coal around in the collieries. Initially, the coal wagons were hauled by horses or stationary steam engines and subsequently by steam locomotives on a fixed track. The infrastructure was all in place for the development of a public transport system.

Stockton and Darlington Railway in northern England was the world's first public railway hauled by a locomotive, rather than being horse drawn or using stationary steam engines. The line was part of a system that was used to transport coal with horse drawn wagons. The first train left Stockton on Tees in the morning of September 27, 1825. It was hauled by Locomotion 1 built by George and Robert Stephenson. The train left carrying between 450 and 600 people, most travelling in empty wagons but some on top of wagons full of coal. Brakemen were placed between the wagons, and the train set off, led by a man on horseback with a flag. The average speed was about 8 mph.

To mark the bicentennial of this momentous day, Royal Mail issued six stamps with British locomotives over the years and a mini-sheet featuring the Stockton and Darlington Railway Company, with four first class stamps. The stamps depict the Opening of the Railway in 1825, Locomotion No, 1 in Darlington ca. 1890, the Centenary of the S&D 1925 and Replica Locomotion No. 1, 1975. Below the stamps there is a drawing depicting a few of the 40 wagons.

The opening of the S&D had wide ranging effects contributing to the Industrial Revolution and the development of national rail networks. The gauge of the colliery railway 4 feet 8½ inches has become the international gauge and is used in most countries around the world.

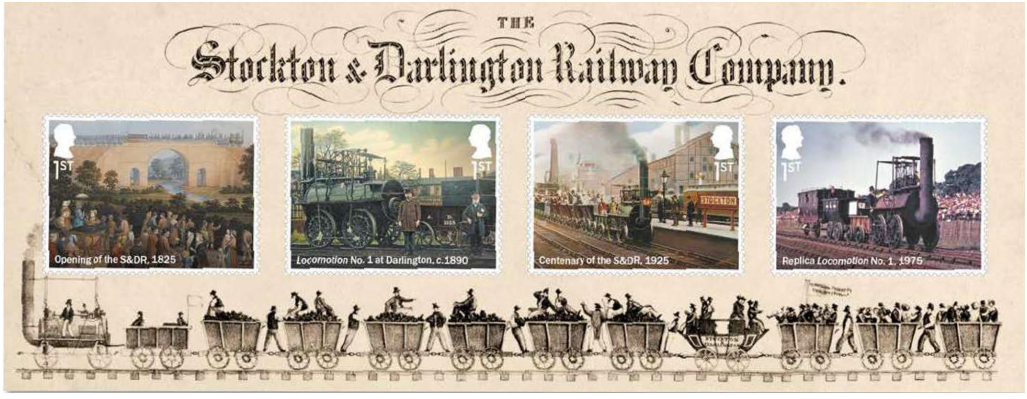


Fig. 1: The Stockton and Darlington Railway Company (S&D) minisheet

CANADA POST DEPARTMENTAL HANDSTAMPS #30

by Gary Steele



Circle 37mm.
No proof known.

In Canada from 1951 until 1989, Parcel Post was also known as 4th Class mail. According to Chung and Machum's *Postal Rates and Fees of the Elizabethan Era in Canada 1952-2002*, the only 4th Class parcels which could be registered were Ballot Boxes. Money Packets, which could resemble parcels, were considered 1st class mail.

In Figure 1 is a Ballot Box tag from the Returning Officer for the Electoral District of Palliser mailed to Calgary, Alta. Palliser encompassed a large area mainly to the north of Calgary. Dated Oct 20 1972 at Beiseker, Alberta with $2.15 of Centennial stamps, it passed through the Registration Section Calgary 2, Alta. per the rubber circle date handstamp on the NOTICE / AVIS side.



Figure 1

The breakdown for $2.15 appears to be for any PO in the Same Zone for 4th Class rate zones of Alberta, B.C., & Yukon of 50 cents registration fee plus $1.65 for a weight over 11lb. to 12lb. Per the Canada Gazette Part II Vol 106, No. 2 1972 reposted by Andrew Liptak on the www.Postalhistorycorner.blogspot.com.

The federal election was held on the October 30, 1972 so, presumably, this was for advanced ballots. Ultimately, the election saw the re-election of Conservative, Stanley Schumacher, in the Palliser riding with over 64% of the vote while the Liberals under Pierre Trudeau won the election with 109 of the 264 federal seats over the Conservatives led by Nova Scotian, Robert Stanfield.

In addition to the Ballot Box tag, I have included a Registered Special Delivery cover with a single $1.00 Centennial stamp handled by the Registration Section in Downsview, Ont. on April 13, 1972 (Figure 2).



Figure 2

As the name implies Registration Section handstamps were mainly applied to Registered mail but not all registered mail making these fairly scarce. Some from the larger cities are more common however there are different types making the challenge more fun.

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Jane Sodero - Editor
Jeff Parks - Graphic Design

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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

KUDOS TO JANE SODERO

by Jeff Parks

We are very proud to let you know that our Editor, **Jane Sodero,** has recently been awarded a special "all women" Mount Allison University **Grace Annie Luckhart Sesquicentennial Pin**.

The Pin, created by the Mount Allison Federated Alumni Board, marks the 150th anniversary of Grace Annie Lockhart's achievement as the first woman graduate of Mount Allison and the first female in the British Empire to earn a university degree in 1875.

Mount Allison's announcement stated, "This special recognition celebrates alumnae whose lives and work reflect that legacy — women who have made meaningful contributions through leadership, service, innovation, and community impact.

The recipients represent generations of Mount Allison women who have carried forward a tradition of determination, curiosity, and public purpose, continuing Mount Allison's enduring legacy of advancing women's education throughout Canada and beyond."



Jane's biography that accompanied the announcement was also sourced from the Mount Allison website.

"In a field long dominated by men, Jane Sodero ('93) has emerged as one of the most respected and influential voices in Canadian philately. A lifelong stamp collector, exhibitor, and scholar, she has built an international reputation as a national-level philatelic judge, and advocate for the future of the hobby.

A graduate of Mount Allison's Class of 1993 with a Bachelor of Arts in Canadian Studies, Jane went on to complete a Master's degree in Urban and Rural Planning. Her professional career in municipal planning across Atlantic Canada reflected her deep commitment to community, history, and place — themes that also define her philatelic work.

Elected a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada in 2024 — an honour granted to only a select few — Jane has served as Vice President of the Society, President of the RPSC Philatelic Research Foundation, Canadian Commissioner to an international stamp show, and jury member at national exhibitions in Canada and United States. Through these roles, she has championed youth engagement and supported women exhibitors across Canada and the United States.

By pairing scholarship with leadership and advocacy, Jane has strengthened a cultural tradition while ensuring it remains vibrant, inclusive, and relevant for generations to come."

DOUBLY MISSENT

by Marty Zelenietz

I have previously explored in these pages mail addressed to Nova Scotia that was missent to other places.

This piqued my interest in missent mail in general, and spurred the examination of other missent covers that have come my way. The 174x124 mm cover illustrated here has the honour of being doubly missent before it arrived at its intended destination.

Addressed to a post office box in Wabag, Enga Province, Papua New Guinea, the cover was sent from the village of Przywory in southern Poland on December 18, 1997. Given the mailing date and the nativity scene sticker on the back, it likely contained a Christmas greeting card.

The cover's tortured journey to the Highlands of PNG is reflected by the 45x8 mm two-line handstamp "MISSENT TO AUSTRALIA/ BRISBANE 4013." Below the handstamp is the manuscript marking "From N.Z." Apparently, the cover was first sent to New Zealand, then to Australia, and eventually found its way to Enga, no doubt delivering the Christmas greetings well into the new year. There are no backstamps on the cover, nor are there any handstamp markings from New Zealand, the only indication of its detour to the land of the Maori being the manuscript notation apparently added in Brisbane.

1997 must have been a bad year for finding Papua New Guinea on the map - I have another cover addressed to the same P.O. Box in Wabag, sent from Germany, with a two-line handstamp "Missent to/Oslo, Norway." Strange. Every missent cover has its own story to tell.



VIRTUAL PRESENTATIONS - MAY 2026

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 are for the ATLANTIC time zone. Association headings contain a link to their website.

Auxiliary Markings Club:
May 12, 8 pm, David Bree, "Missent markings of Canada". Link available here: https://www.postal-markings.org/.

British Empire Study Group:
May 14, 7 pm, "The fascinating story of Self-adhesive postal stamps with Frank Slack - You do not have to lick them to love them."

Collectors Club of New York:
April 29, 6:30 pm, Nigel Mohammed, "The Lithograph Provisionals of Trinidad, 1852-1860".

Learning About Stamps Online:
May 27, 9 pm, Live broadcast from Boston. Link: https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/j31xC2fQlqxAjBsiobVXQ

North Toronto Stamp Club:
May 21, 8 pm, Arnie Janson "A Variety of Varieties, Volume 4".

Philatelic Specialists Society of Canada:
May 20, 8:30 pm, Ken Pugh, "Dr. Robert Bell and his associations with the leading scientists and politicians of his day".

Postal History Society of Canada:
May 19, 7pm, David Hodben, "Canada's Stamp #1 - Laid or Not?".

Royal Philatelic Society of Canada:
May 11, 8 pm, Stamp Talks, Chris McFetridge, "Small & Large Queens".

May 18, 8 pm, Stamp Panel, No Program for Victoria Day.

Royal Philatelic Society of London:
May 5, 11 am, Alan Moorcroft, "Winch Brothers, Philatelists, Stamp Specialists and Connoisseur".

May 7, 12 pm (noon) The President's Display "The British West Indies Packet Service".

Society of Australasian Specialists / Oceania:
May 21, Bruce Haynes, "Western Australia WWI Censorship". Contact Steve Zirinsky szirinsky@cs.com.

West Toronto Stamp Club:
May 5, 8 pm, Learning Workshop, "Anything and everything related to the letter 'L'".

May 19th, 8 pm, Discussion Group, Show and Tell, "What is this doing in my collection?"

FQP STATE OF PHILATELY SURVEY

The Fédération Québécoise de Philatélie (FQP) has launched the General Statement of Philately in Canada, a national consultation and reflection initiative aimed at better understanding the current state of our hobby, its challenges, and opportunities for future development.

The objective of the survey is to paint an accurate and up-to-date portrait of philately, identify its challenges and prospects, and formulate concrete proposals for its development and promotion.

The FQP is funding and leading the project, in collaboration with the research cooperative L'Escabeau, with the goal of gathering input from as many stakeholders as possible: clubs, collectors, dealers, volunteers, exhibitors, and enthusiasts.

You can assist this important project by passing this notice on to as many collectors, members and dealers as you can.

The first step is to register to receive the survey questionnaire. Registered participants will receive the survey later. Please add your voice and encourage others to add theirs.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd3RlX5O4A3vgfK4VDtBVxFPbZKzAtVESJSST9JS4-pnHvJkQ/viewform?usp=sharing&ouid=108063284240405118082

