The Nova Scotia Post

The Monthly Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

September 2026
Volume 56 Issue 552

Up and Coming

NS Stamp Club - September 8
Museum of Natural History, Halifax , NS
Annual General Meeting
See Proposed Slate of Officers—page 4

Valley Stamp Club - September 12
Port Williams Community Centre.

Moncton Stamp Fair - September 12
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.

NSSC Stamp Fairs
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/

South Shore Stamp Club - September 26
New Life Christian Church, Elm St.
Bridgewater, NS

Stampex 2026 - October 24
Michelin Social Club
Bridgwater, NS

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

Dues

Annual dues are now owing. It is your responsibility to make sure your membership is current. Payments can be made by check to the address on page 2, in person (check or cash) at an NSSC meeting or event or by etransfer to treasurer@nsstampclub.ca.

The Queen's 100th Birthday

by Michael Peach

The Queen, the first daughter of the Duke and Duchess of York and granddaughter of King George V, was born on April 21, 1926, and became Queen on the death of her father, King George VI, on February 6, 1952. She would have celebrated her 100th birthday in 2026. Royal Mail did not allow this significant anniversary to be neglected. The British Post Office issued a series of eight first class stamps in chronological order showing the Queen against a background of a significant event of the period.

Figure 1



There was also a mini-sheet of four first class stamps illustrating the Queen's love of animals (Fig. 1). The top left is a 1936 picture of the Queen with her first corgi, Dookie. The top right shows her with another corgi at Balmoral Castle. The bottom two stamps have the Queen with horses. She was a well known owner of perigee horses. The background of the sheet shows the Queen with one of her cherished horses.



Figure 2

Figure 3

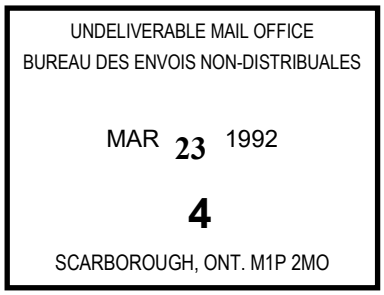


Several other countries with connections dating back to the British Empire, issued stamps. These included Australia (Fig. 2) and New Zealand (Fig. 3) that both issued mini-sheets. The Australian mini-sheet has three stamps showing stages of the Queen's life. The February 1952 Wilding portrait of

Continued Queen's on Page 4

#90 VIOLATED / BURNT MAIL

by Gary Steele



Dimension 49x37mm

Sans-serif letters, all caps,

with a bold '4' clerk number



Sometimes the actual mail item is not the most interesting thing even though it is the object of discussion. Case in point here where an envelope was placed in a mail receptacle and was either violated/burnt by persons unknown. Nothing much of interest is on the envelope other than water damage with the fading of the red meter applied.

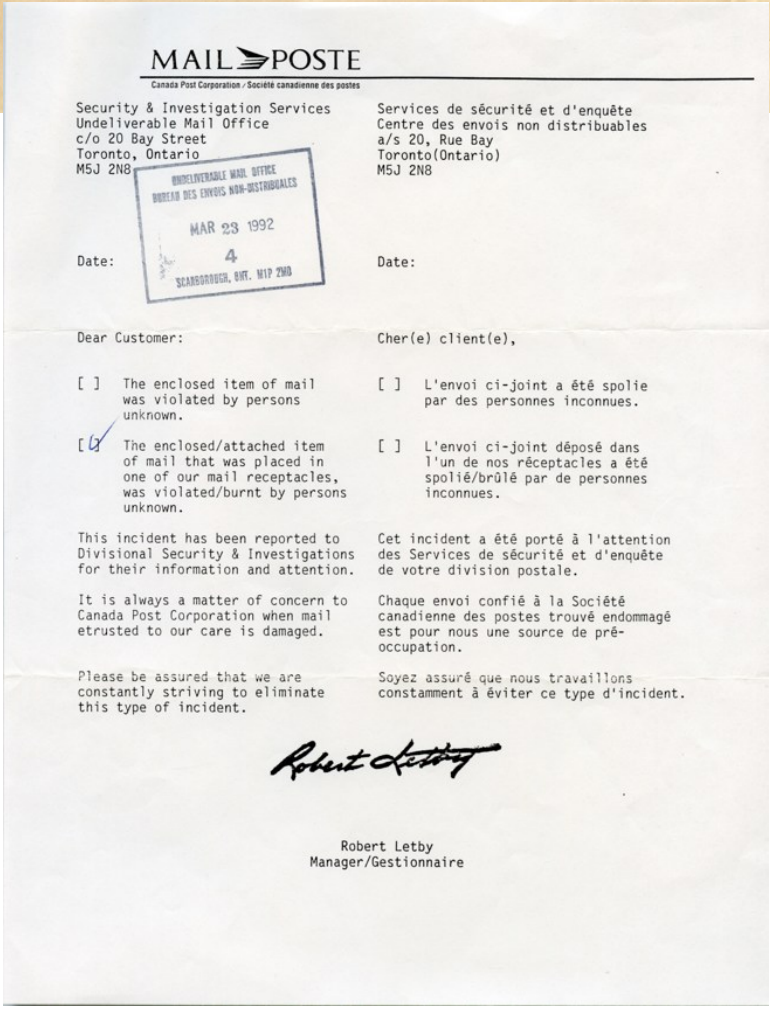
As a result, the March 1992 envelope caught the attention of the Security & Investigation Services of the Undeliverable Mail Office (UMO) known as the Dead Letter Office prior to 1954.

The handstamp applied to a Canada Post form letter is a newly reported item, thus an only known / reported copy up to this point. It is estimated that is was used between 1989 and 1996.

This handstamp having the number '4' above the city name, matches with others reported from #1 to #55. Only 23 out of the 55 numbers have yet to be found. Most are only known copies or only 3 to 5 reports known thus scarce to rare. The large range of numbers indicates the number of staff handling questionable mail for the whole country during this period. A slightly different handstamp used between 1994 and 1996 also has clerk numbers up to 55 with only 13 being reported to date, eight of which were recently found in one bunch of similar envelopes.

Most of these handstamps will never be found, however the story unfolds over time as new items come to light.





The Nova Scotia Post
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http://www.nsstampclub.ca/
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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 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

THE SAMSON

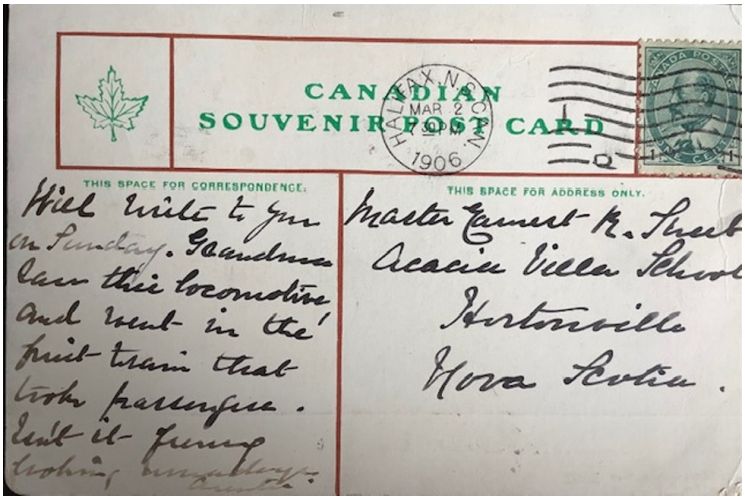
by Alan Matheson

The Samson locomotive was built in England at the Timothy Hackworth's factory in New Shildon, County Durham. It was exported to Nova Scotia, along with two other engines. Purchased in 1839 by the Albion Mines Railway Company, it was used to transport coal from Stellarton to Pictou. Later, carriages were added to carry passengers on this route.

The Samson remained in use in Nova Scotia, under various functions, until 1885 when it was sold and sent to Chicago for the National Exhibition of Railway Appliances. It was then stored for scrap until 1893 when it was saved and subsequently displayed at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair. The Samson was returned to Nova Scotia in 1927 and was put on display at the CNR Halifax Railway Terminus. It was then relocated to the Museum of Industry in Stellarton, restored and is still on display being the oldest surviving steam locomotive in Canada.

The postcard of The Samson was mailed from Halifax on March 2, 1906 to Hortonville NS. The writer of the postcard mentions that "Grandma went in the first train that took passengers".





MULTILINGUAL STAMPS

by Marty Zelenietz



I recently received a stamp order from a vendor in Israel. As per usual, I examined the stamps used to send the order: three attractive butterfly stamps, pretty enough to assuage my disappointment that he didn't use bird stamps. A closer look at the stamps from this 2011 issue (one is shown in Figure 1) started me thinking about how many languages were represented on each. In Latin script letters (let's say it's English, but not necessarily- more on that in a minute) we find "Israel" and the species name, but as with all flora and fauna, that binomial is in the Latin language. In Hebrew script, we find the country name, the service type ("michtav regile baretz," or "regular domestic letter"), the name of the butterfly, and the stamp designers. Rendered in Arabic is the country name and the service type. Four languages crammed on to one small stamp: I call that a truly multilingual accomplishment.



Israel has always issued multilingual stamps. The very first issue in 1948, produced before the transitional administration could agree on a name for the country, was inscribed "Doar Ivri" (Hebrew Post) in both Hebrew and Arabic (Figure 2). On each of the coins illustrated in the set, careful examination reveals an inscription in Paleo-Hebrew, indecipherable to a modern Hebrew speaker (hence the use of explanatory tabs in the bottom selvedge, a practice that continues to this day). The second issue of 1948, the Holiday Issue, was the first to carry the name of the country in Hebrew, Arabic, and Latin script characters.



If the name of the country appears as "Israel," why am I using the cumbersome phrase "Latin script" as opposed to the simpler "English?" Good question, with a ready answer. Until 1966, non-Hebrew text in the tabs was in French, not English, as was any service inscription or explanatory text on the stamps. We can see this on the 1957 150 prutah air mail shown in Figure 3.



Multilingualism in Israeli stamps was a carryover from the period of post-World War 1 British control of the region. The first issue of 1920 consisted of British Egypt Expeditionary Force stamps overprinted with "Palestine" rendered in Arabic, English, and Hebrew (Figure 4). The Hebrew overprint also carries the added abbreviation of "E.Y." for "Eretz Yisroael", "Land of Israel." This trilingual practice continued in the later regular British Man-

CONTINUED MULTILINGUAL on Page 4

MULTILINGUAL STAMPS... CONTINUED



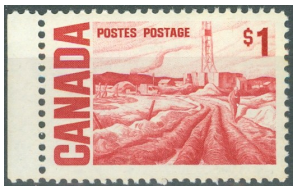
date issues of 1923 (Figure 5).

So how many languages can actually be found on a single Israeli stamp? One candidate might be the 1958 Human Rights issue (Figure 6), where the biblical phrase "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself" is rendered in English, French, Spanish, Russian and Chinese on the tab, as well as in Hebrew on the stamp. Add in the Arabic country designation on the stamp itself, and we have a total of seven languages. But as the stamp could be used without the tab, I guess this doesn't really qualify. A better candidate for multilingual king is the 1965 International Cooperation Year stamp (Figure 7), where we find "cooperation" in Spanish, English, Russian and Chinese, as well as the country name in Arabic and Hebrew, and the issue subject in Hebrew. Six languages on one stamp!





Canada, of course, is no stranger to multilingual stamps, having two official languages. Curiously, though, our first bilingual stamps were not issued until 1927, to mark the 60th anniversary of Confederation. Thereafter, stamps often carried elaborate bilingual explanatory inscriptions, but the minimal bilingual inscription of "Postage/Postes" were found on most issues, such as the $1 Oil Derrick from the Centennial issue (Figure 8). By the late 1990s, this had changed: the 1999 Quebec Bar Association stamp is French only (barring a microscopic "Postes/Mail" in the lower left corner), and in the same year the Canadian International Air Show set was monolingual English. Accelerating the move to monolingual stamps was the adoption of permanent postage indicated by the "P in Maple Leaf" symbol, negating the need for "Postage/Postes." Thus, the 2022 Canadian Pacific Travel Poster stamps (see the example in Figure 9) are arguably a monolingual issue, as the original posters were in English only.





Occasionally we do find multilingual (three or more languages) Canadian stamps, often where flora and fauna are concerned, or celebrating cultural diversity. The 1978 Peregrine Falcon stamp (Figure 10) is a perfect example of textual multilingualism: only five words, but covering three distinct languages (English, French, Latin). The annual Lunar New Year issues carry text in English, French, and Chinese (Figure 11).





What other languages can you find on Canadian stamps? Do other countries you collect have multilingual (three or more languages) stamps? Can you beat my six-language Israeli stamp? Bring your best contenders in for a massive Show and Tell at the September AGM, and share your knowledge with the Club.

PROPOSED 2026-2027 SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR ELECTION AT SEPTEMBER'S ANNUAL MEETING

by Past-President Jim Graham

President - Michael MacKinnon

Vice- President - Jeffrey Parks

Treasurer - Karen Galbraith

Secretary - Robert (Bob) Boehner

Director - Sean Weatherup

Director - Joseph Weeks

Not subject to election:

Past President - Michael Pierce

Appointed Director - Kevin Smith

Newsletter Editor - Jane Sodero

QUEEN'S 100TH BIRTHDAY... CONTINUED

the Queen facing left as was seen on many early stamps of her reign was used as the template for the four stamps on the New Zealand mini-sheet. Canada was significant by its absence in issuing a stamp for this significant anniversary.

Germany (Fig. 4) appears to be one of the few states without Empire connections marking the anniversary with a stamp. Years ago, there were royal connections, Kaiser Wilhelm was the nephew of King Edward VII.

