



Nova Scotia Stamp Club Newsletter

www.nsstampclub.ca

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THE TWO SISTERS



IDENTICAL FIRST DAY COVERS
THE WORLD'S FIRST CHRISTMAS STAMP
HAMILTON—GLASGOW SCOTLAND
DECEMBER 25, 1898

These identical first day covers are from the John Eldridge collection.

Best Wishes for a
Happy Holidays



Up and Coming

Every Saturday 4pm Auction
Seaside Book and Stamp

December 9 Club Meeting
Christmas Social,
Charity Auction



December 13 Stamp Fair
Burnside Motel, Dartmouth

January 10 Stamp Fair
Burnside Motel, Dartmouth

January 13 Club Meeting
Stamp Collecting and the Internet
Circuit Books

May 28 - 30 2004
Royal 2004 Royale
Lord Nelson Hotel, Halifax, NS

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The Royal*2004*Royale website:
<http://www.nsstampclub.ca/royal>

**A Hundred Years Ago
Posted in Advance for Christmas Day
Delivery - Great Britain**
Michael Peach

Last year in the December Newsletter, I described the experimental scheme in Rochdale for delivery on Christmas Day. Letter and cards could be posted between December 17 and 23, 1902 for delivery on Christmas Day 1902. In all 18,910 items were handled in this way and received a special hand stamp. The impetus behind the scheme came from Mr. John Phillips, the Surveyor (inspector) of Manchester. It was judged to have been a success and was extended to a further twenty seven towns in 1903. It must be noted that the scheme only applied for delivery in the local area.

In 1903 a special hand cancellation was again used. The various offices were identified by their telegraphic code. The illustration shows the Wakefield, WF, cancellation. There was a mixed reaction to the scheme. Five surveyors considered the scheme to have been a success, while no

less than 13 considered it a failure. Some of the towns were quite small, such as Clevedon with 178 postings, and the additional cost involved was negligible, in the case of Clevedon 5/3 (5 shillings and three pence, about 26 pence on the current decimal system). It was a resounding success in large City of Manchester, possibly due to the enthusiasm of Mr. Phillips. There were 250,000 postings at no additional cost.

The scheme was not tried in London. A number of objections had been raised by the Controller of the London Postal Service:

1. Mail must be stored for Christmas Day delivery and would then be added to the "normal" delivery.
2. Difficulty of obtaining a sufficient number of trustworthy temporaries.
3. There would be much extra work for sub postmasters at this busy time of year.

Obviously a national scheme would have been better than one restricted to local delivery in various towns and cities. However the scheme was again tried in 1904, but with only nine towns participating. All were in the north of England, except the midland city Leicester. There was dwindling success for the scheme in 1904 and 1905, and its demise was anticipated. However the enthusiasm of the surveyors of the Manchester and Liverpool Districts ensured that it was repeated in their areas in 1906. The sheer volume of Christmas mail eventually led to its demise, more about this later.

Stamp Oddities

A 2c stamp issued by the Virgin Islands in 1952 depicts the Island of Jost Van Dyke, a tiny Island west of Tortola. It was the birthplace of Dr. John Lettsom, the founder of the Medical Society of London, of whom it was written:

"I, John Lettsom, blisters, bleeds and sweats 'em; If after that they please to die I John Lettsom."



Collectin' Stamps

A feller isn't thinkin' mean,
Collectin' stamps;
His tho'ts are mostly good and clean
Collectin' stamps;
He doesn't knock his fellow men
O harbour any grudges then;
A feller's at his finest when
He's collectin' stamps.

The rich are comrades to the poor,
Collectin' stamps;
All brothers of a common lure,
Collectin' stamps;
The boy - the joy the reprints bring,
Can chum with millionaire and king
Vain pride is a forgotten thing
Collectin' stamps.

A feller isn't plottin' schemes
Collectin' stamps;
He's only busy with his dreams,
Collectin' stamps;
His livery is a benzine pan
His creed to do the best he can,
A Feller's always mostly man,
Collectin' stamps;

- Silas Weatherby



Early Canadian
Christmas Stamps.



Canada 1969

Nova Scotia Stamp Club Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

<http://www.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) which is released on the first week of the month.

Dues are \$15 per person or \$22.50 per couple (\$20 US) payable to:

John Harvey, Treasurer
46 Farquharson St.
Dartmouth, NS B2W 4A8

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or Jeff Parks, Layout Editor
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Advertising Rate: \$25 (CDN) per year

The Club website is maintained by Neil and Judy Bowlby. (bowlby@accesswave.ca).

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STAMPLAUNCH ROYAL 2004

There will be a stamp launch during Royal*2004*Royale. The stamps to be issued mark the exploits of shipping magnates Sir Samuel Cunard and Sir Hugh Allan. The stamp will be designed by the local partnership Page & Wood.

Sir Hugh Allan¹ was born in September 1810 in Saltcoats, North Ayrshire, Scotland, and died in Edinburgh in December 1882. Following a limited education, he joined a Greenock counting-house in 1823 and sailed for Canada on his father's, Alexander Allan, ship *Favorite* in 1824. He clerked in a Montreal dry-goods store and by 1827 worked in the shipping-house of James Miller.

Miller died in 1838 and was succeeded in business by the firm of Edmonston and Allan. In 1853 this firm began the construction of iron screw steamships, and their first vessel, *Canadian*, made her maiden voyage in 1855. The Allan line of royal mail steamships has contributed greatly to the prosperity of Montreal and of Canadian commerce.

Allan became a prominent Montreal financier. He was a director of the Montreal telegraph company, the Montreal warehousing company, the merchants' bank of Canada, the Mulgrave gold mining company, and for a short time of the Pacific railway. His railway interests came to an end when it came to light that he had funded the election campaign for John MacDonald (1815-91), a fellow Scot and Canadian Prime Minister, who had granted Allan the charter to build the Canadian Pacific Railway.

He was knighted in 1871, as Sir Hugh Allan of Ravenscraig (his home in Montreal), in recognition of his hospitality to the Prince of Wales, and his services to Canadian and British commerce.



Sir Samuel Cunard 1787-1865, was the Canadian pioneer of regular transatlantic steam navigation. The son of a United Empire Loyalist of a master carpenter and timber merchant, born in Halifax, N.S., he became a leading businessman of Nova Scotia and engaged in banking, lumbering, shipping, and shipbuilding enterprises. His fleet at one time numbered some 40 vessels. He was interested in the development of steam navigation and owned shares in the *Royal William*, the first Canadian steamer to cross the Atlantic (1833) from Canada to England.



In 1838 he formed the Cunard Company. Cunard presented the British admiralty with such a carefully considered plan for a line of steamships to carry the mails fortnightly between Liverpool, Halifax, and Boston that he received the contract. In association with others, he formed the British and North American Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, which in 1840 placed four steamships, the "Britannia," "Acadia," "Caledonia," and "Columbia" each of 1,200 tons register and 440 horse-power, into operation, thus establishing the first regular steamship service between the continents. This was the beginning of the noted Cunard Line that still exists today.



The prosperous company eventually absorbed Canadian Northern Steamships Limited and its principal competition, the White Star Line, owners of the ill-fated, *Titanic*. After that, Cunard dominated the Atlantic passenger trade with some of the world's most famous liners.

Cunard also owned a number of other companies in Canada. His coal company which he bought to fuel his liners is still one of Nova Scotia's major fuel companies. He also controlled logging ventures and at one point owned a seventh of Prince Edward Island.

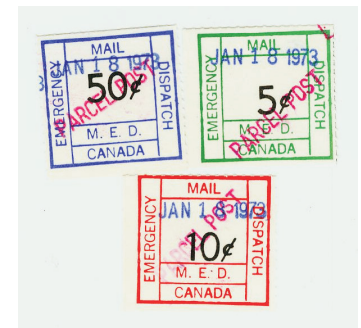
Mr. Cunard was created a baronet, 9 March 1857.

Christmas Seals

The Christmas stamp on your Christmas card may be accompanied by a Christmas seal, an idea conceived by a Danish postal clerk and first issued by Denmark in 1904 to raise money for tuberculosis. Sweden and Iceland followed with their versions later in the same year. In 1907, American Red Cross worker Emily Bissell followed the Danish Christmas seal success with a simple red and white seal to raise money to save her local TB sanatorium. It was so successful that in 1908 the American Red Cross ran the first national campaign. Since 1973, the Christmas seal campaign has been organized by the American Lung Association. Canada's first Christmas Seal campaign was in 1927. Since then, the Canadian public has provided funds for sanatoria, TB prevention, community programs, and research into preventing and treating lung disease.



Does anyone know anything about Metro Emergency (Mail) Dispatch stamps and postal strikes issued in British Columbia in 1973-74? -Dennis



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1. <http://www.famousamericans.net/sirhughallan/>
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EXHIBITING AT ROYAL 2004?

About a quarter of the available frames have now been taken. The prospectus and entry forms will be published in the January/February issue of the Canadian Philatelist, which will be mailed out around the middle of December. This is your last chance for submitting your entry before they come in from across the country. The space is **limited** and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Please contact Marty Zelenietz, 463-0687, exhibits chair, as soon as possible to reserve you space. There is a frame charge of \$12 per frame for two or more frames or \$20 for one frame exhibits. The fee for youth and junior classes will be \$3 per frame.

The forms will be available at the next club meeting or call Marty Zelenietz, 463-0687 or Michael Peach, 832-1662.

Do you know anyone who might like to make a donation towards Royal 2004? Please contact Michael Peach, 832-1662.

CHRISTMAS DRAW - ROYAL 2004 THE MILLENNIUM COLLECTION

There will be a final chance to purchase tickets for the Christmas Draw at the Christmas Social. The lucky winner will receive the 2000 Millennium Collection from Canada Post (value \$60), the runner up the 1999 Official First Cover Collection (value \$45) and the third winner the 2001 World Figure Skating Championships Medallion Set (value \$18). These would make good Christmas gifts, so why not buy some tickets before the draw, price 1 for \$2, or 3 for \$5. You can buy more than 3 tickets. Why not get some for each member of your family?

The winning tickets will be drawn at the Christmas Social, after everyone has had a chance to purchase more of them.

VOLUNTEERS ROYAL 2004

Lots of volunteers will be required during Royal 2004 for set up, registration on Thursday, lots of things during the show, and tear down on Sunday evening. Remember that the show is being sponsored by our club and a smooth running show will reflect credit on the club.

Please make a note of the volunteer dates,
Thursday 27 May to Sunday 30 May.

Fund Raising for ROYAL*2004* ROYALE

We are also looking for advertisers for the programme. The price of advertisements will be very reasonable, from about \$25 for a quarter page to a about \$100 for a full page. The prestigious spaces inside and outside the cover have already been allocated. If you can think of any names of potential advertisers, please contact Doug Gray 465-3268 DJGPS89@accesswave.ca.

The Nova Scotia Stamp Club - Royal 2004 Royale Pins with a deep blue, magenta or green background can be purchased at Club Meetings or Seaside Book and Stamp for C\$8. Mail orders are available C\$10 postpaid in Canada or US \$10 foreign postpaid (payment in cash or cheque) from:

NSSC Pin
33 Beech St.
Dartmouth, NS
B3A 1Y6



Ask Phil your philatelic questions. The Web site of the Collectors Club of Chicago has an amazing number of individually answered questions, maintained on a user-friendly database.

www.askphil.org

Donations of philatelic material is required for the Youth Table for Royal 2004. Please contact Elizabeth Soderro for more information.



The newsletter is now available electronically in Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format (pdf) via the club website www.nsstampclub.ca. At present there seems to be a bit of a problem viewing the file directly over the internet, however, if you right click on the file link, "Save Target As..." And save to your hard drive the file opens without complication. If you have any insight on why, please contact Jeff Parks (jl parks@accesswave.ca). The pdf file has been degraded to allow for smaller file sizes. If you wish to have the full resolution version, please contact Jeff.

Membership

New members have been accepted into the club putting us even closer to the magic 1000 number. David Jones of Nappean, ON collects Canada Post publications and ephemera (new issue posters) and is a RPSC & ASPPP member. You may recall an article written in the newsletter a few issues back about David. George Greenland, St. John's, NL, is the Chair of Royal 2006. Patrick Burns, Casilla, Salto, Argentina, collects NS Postal History - namely stampless and stamped covers, NS historical and military documents. He is a member of BNAPS, RSC, PHSC, Royal NS Historical Society.

Member number 1000 and the person who recruits the 1000th member will receive gifts suitable for the occasion. We are now only 5 people away from our 1000th member.

Worldwide Cover Box

Thanks to member's generosity, our "Worldwide Covers" box is full again. We now have a great selection of French stampless and early stamped covers and entireties - surely a bargain at 50 cents each, or 5 for \$2. This is worth checking out! We also have a wide variety of covers from around the world, all for the same low price NEW!!! - a second box of covers, exclusively from Canada and the US. Three for a buck, a lone loonie - what a deal!! Stock up while they last! All proceeds from cover sales go directly to the club.

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You know what to do.....