



# Nova Scotia Stamp Club Newsletter

May 2006  
Volume 35, Issue 9  
Number 362

## **UP AND COMING**

Every Saturday 4pm Auction  
Seaside Book and Stamp

### **May 9 Club Meeting**

St. Pierre & Miquelon Collection -  
Gordon Smith; Circuit Books

### **May 6 Moncton Stamp Fair**

Park House Inn, Main Street, Moncton

### **May 6-7 Orapex 2006, Ottawa**

**May 13 Stamp Fair & Auction**  
Burnside Motel, Dartmouth

**May 18 Friends of Philately**  
Bloomfield School, Halifax

**May 27 Kermesse - Stamp Table**  
IWK Grace & Gorsebrook JHS

**June 10 Stamp Fair & Auction**  
Burnside Motel, Dartmouth

### **June 13 Club Meeting Last of 05/06**

Fakes and Forgeries - Dave Harvey  
and Carmichael Wallace; Auction

**September 9 Stamp Fair & Auction**  
Burnside Motel, Dartmouth

**Sept 15-17 Novapex 2006**  
Atlantic Canada's Premier National  
Exhibition, Dartmouth Sportsplex

**Sept 30-Oct 1 Royal\*2006\*Royale**  
Calgary Philatelic Society

## **Stanley Gibbons Pictorial Essays**

By Michael Peach

This year, 2006, is the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Stanley Gibbons Ltd. In the centennial year 1956 Gibbons attempted to persuade the Post Office to introduce pictorial definitive stamps. The first and only low value British the definitive stamps of the reign of Queen Elizabeth were the Wildings. One of the 1956 essays with seven low value stamps is shown. Unfortunately my original is not sufficiently clear to identify all of the images. Despite much favourable publicity the suggestion did not find favour with the Post Office. Not to be discouraged in the Spring of 1965 Stanley Gibbons produced another series of essays. The various designs show British scenes and achievements: the ½d The Hovercraft, 1d Sailing, 1½d White Horse, Berkshire, 2d The Tower of London, 2½d Jodrell Bank Radio Telescope, 3d Canterbury Cathedral, 4d Exports, 5d Sheep, 6d The Houses of Parliament, 9d Windscale Atomic Reactor, 1/- The Trooping of the Colour, and 1/3 The Queen arriving for the State Opening of Parliament\*. The blue stamps were designed by Jock Kinneir, and

printed in photogravure by Harrison and Sons Limited. The first low value Machins, replacing the Wildings, were issued on 5 June 1967 and the high values on 5 March 1969. Decimal currency was still in the future.

The designer must have been quite a seer as all the topics, except the White Horse, Berkshire, have been featured on stamps since then. The 1966 series of British Technology stamps, issued on 19 September, showed some of these achievements, the 4d The Jodrell Bank Radio Telescope, the 1/3 The Hovercraft, and the 1/6 The Windscale Atomic Reactor. Although export is not specifically mentioned the 1967 EFTA (European Free Trade Association) set features Air Freight and Sea Freight.

A new approach to  
**British Definitive  
Postage Stamps**



Designed by Jock Kinneir FSIA  
for Stanley Gibbons Limited  
and printed in photogravure  
by Harrison & Sons Limited

Spring 1965

NOTE: The above are only private productions and have not been  
officially commissioned by the Post Office for public use.



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## Pictorial Essays... Continued



Canterbury Cathedral is the 5d value in the 1969 British Architecture series. The Palace of Westminster, Houses of Parliament, is shown in the 1973 set marking the 19<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference. British sailing ships were the theme of a 1975 series. The Tower of London was depicted on the 9p value in the 1978 British Architecture – Historic Buildings set. Welsh Mountain Sheep in Snowdonia are featured on the 39d stamp of the 1992 The Four Seasons – Wintertime issue. In 1992 the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Accession series had stamps for the Trooping of the Colour, as well as the State Opening of Parliament. The Trooping of the Colour was also the theme of a series issued in June 2005.

The face value of the stamps is only indicated by the numeric figure, the d for penny being omitted. Maybe another preview of things to come as none of the current country definitives have a p for pence, but the regular definitives still have a p after the value. In accordance with standard policy the 1/- and 1/3 stamps showing the Queen, do not have a profile of the

Queen to identify the country.

Although the minisheet cautions that the stamps were a private production and not commissioned by the Post Office for authentic stamps, examples can be found of their use for postage. The cover shown has the 1/2d, 2d, 4d, and 1/3 stamps for a total of 1 1/2 (21 1/2p), and is cancelled with an Oxford slogan cancellation, 10 May (?) 1965, for an event in Oxford 24 June to 4 July. The basic letter rate in 1965 was 4d.

\* Using the old monetary system 12 pence (d) was one shilling, designated as 1/-, and 1/3 was 15d.

## May 16th is Census Day in Canada

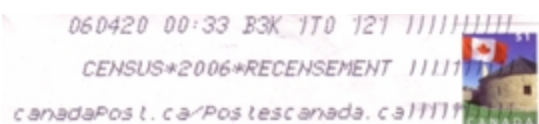


The FDCs shown above are for the Canadian Census stamp (Sc 542 - shown left) issued June 1, 1971 for the 100th anniversary of Census taking in Canada (1871-1971). These were some of the many cachet designs that were available from several companies for this issue. The 6c stamp was released in 100 stamp panes, as was typical of the time.

The Canadian Census occurs in May or June every 5 years. **May 16, 2006** is Census day in Canada. With respect to new

laws for freedom of information and privacy protection, and as a concession to genealogists for the release of the 1911 census data - previously designated under the law, Statistics Canada is adding a consent request to have your 2006 data publicly released in 92 years. The Census is a valuable research tool. Please check the yes box so that future researchers and your descendants can know who you are.

The image below shows a recently cancelled 51c "flag over" stamp indicating 2006 as a Census year.



**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 C\$15 per person (US\$20 US or International) or C\$22.50 per couple payable to :

Nova Scotia Stamp Club  
102 Birch Bear Run  
Lewis Lake, NS B3Z 4B8

[webnews@nsstampclub.ca](mailto:webnews@nsstampclub.ca)  
Newsletter address as above.

Advertising rate for the newsletter or website is \$25 (CDN) per year.



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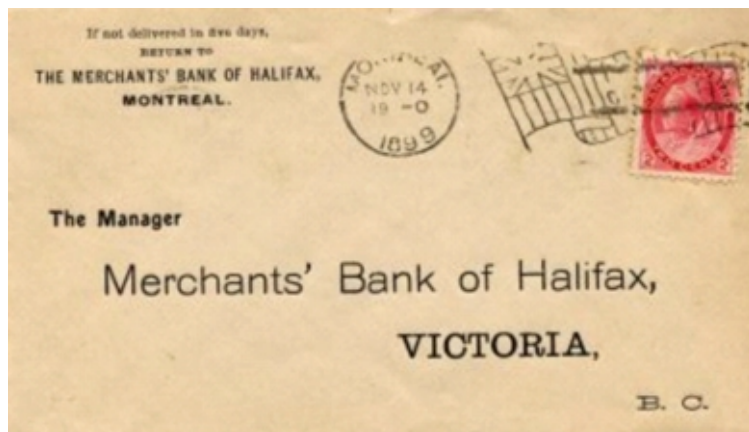
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## Cover Story

by Jeff Parks



The Merchants' Bank was formed by a group of Halifax merchants in 1864 as a private commercial bank to finance fishing and timber operations and enhance trade in eastern North America with Europe by offering short term credit. Following incorporation in 1869 and a name change to the Merchants' Bank of Halifax, and the Bank started an expansion into other parts of Nova Scotia, PEI and New Brunswick through the 1870s and 1880s. By 1882 there was a agency in Bermuda, providing that country with it's first paper note, and by 1898 an office in Havana. In 1887 a branch was opened in Montreal, which by then was the financial centre of Canada, and the Bank continued with its westward expansion.

By 1900 the name of the Bank no longer fit its geography and the name was changed to "The Royal Bank of Canada" in 1901. From it's beginnings on Halifax's Bedford Row, the Bank's head office was moved to Montreal in 1907, eventually settling on St. James Street.

Another Nova Scotia based bank - Union Bank of Halifax - was purchased by The Royal Bank in 1910. Today RBC is Canada's largest bank with 1300 branches and offices in 30 countries.

The envelope is franked with a two-cent carmine Queen Victoria "numeral" stamp (Scott 77) with a flag cancel and CDS dated Nov. 14, 1899 in Montreal. The back shows a Victoria, British Columbia receiving cancel dated Nov. 19, 1899.

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## Stamp Oddities

In 1907 Switzerland issued a new definitive series showing William Tell's son holding a crossbow and an apple pierced by an arrow for values 2, 3 (Sc. 127 shown below left), and 5c.

By the 13th century, the Austrian Hapsburgs had taken over much of Switzerland. William Tell was a legendary Swiss hero who defied to salute, as per the law, to the hat of Gessler, Austrian governor of Uri, which had been placed on a post as a sign of imperial Austrian power. His punishment was to shoot the apple off his son's head, which he did with success having been an expert archer. Gessler noticed that Tell had placed a second arrow in his belt prior to shooting the apple. When asked it's purpose Tell replied that had he missed and shot his son the second arrow would not have missed the governor's heart. For his insolence he was put in prison from which he later escaped and incited a revolt which overthrew the hated Gessler.

After release of the stamp series, archery experts pointed out that the bow on the weapon was incorrectly shown behind the main bar, so in 1909 the stamp (Sc. 147 - 2nd from left) was redesigned showing the bow in the correct position. However on the redesign the bow string was shown in front of the barrel. In 1910, the stamp was again reissued with the corrected bow string and other changes in detail. (Sc. 150 - 2nd from right). Changes in design were evident in various denominations through to 1930.

A portrait of William Tell himself was used for values between 10c (Sc. 167 - below right) and 30c from 1914 to 1930.

The U.S. Maximum Card depicting the Founding of Switzerland (1291-1991) stamp issued February 22, 1991 shows the Altdorf statue of William Tell and his son.







### Newsletter Articles

If you have an item (article, cover, show & tell) for the newsletter please contact Jeff for details at:

[webnews@nsstampclub.ca](mailto:webnews@nsstampclub.ca)

Unless of a timely nature, items will be printed on a first come basis. The dead-

### Cover Box

Covers are available at the monthly meetings. In our "Worldwide Covers" box - a bargain can be found at 50 cents each, or 5 for \$2. The Canada and the USA covers are a real deal at 3 for a loonie (\$1)!! All proceeds from cover sales go directly to the club.

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This image above of a large format envelope, provided by Denis Bedley, shows an unorthodox placement of 4 \$1 Loon stamps in the corners of the envelope and an overambitious use of 1c stamps (47 in all) accompanying two 25c definitives. Seems like someone in DFO had to much time on there hands!!!

### Notes from the April Meeting

The April meeting of the NSSC was held on April 11. Out of town member David Jones dropped in and presented a very interesting discussion on postal ephemera and philatelic collaterals. One could sense David's passion for the subject in his delivery of the material.

As is typical, a monthly draw was held which is always entertaining in itself because it draws out comments of "some people's luck"!! A small auction of about 35 lots was conducted by Stan and Jeff to cap off the evening.

No Executive Meeting was held in April.



# NOVA PEX 2006

NOVAPEX 2006

Sept 15-17, 2006

Dartmouth Sportsplex

Novapex 2006 will be a regional/national show. This means that exhibits can be judged at the national or regional level. It will be the only national exhibition in the east since Royal 2004, and we hope that as many members as possible take this opportunity to exhibit at the national level. There will be space for 160 frames, and we expect that there will be several out of province exhibits. We already have some out of province dealers coming. **Please make a note of the date.**

### Exhibiting at NOVAPEX 2006

It is not too late to think about your exhibit(s) for Novapex 2006. We already have over 30 frames allocated, many are from out of province exhibitors. Exhibits can be submitted at the **National** or **Regional** level. The usual Novapex is a regional level show is available for first time exhibitors or those who do not want to enter a nationally judged exhibit. At the national level, the exhibits must have received at least a silver at a regional show. In accordance with standard procedures, there is a frame charge for national level exhibits. Details are in the Prospectus which is available on the website, club meeting or by writing the stamp club (page 2). We hope that as many of you as possible will have exhibits at Novapex 2006, particularly at the national level. We need to make Novapex an outstanding success.

Any queries, please contact Marty, [ze-len@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:ze-len@ns.sympatico.ca) or 463-0687.



Quite a catch — A large-mouth mailbox!!