



The Nova Scotia Post

The Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

June 2010

Volume 39, Issue 403

UP AND COMING

Every Saturday 4pm Auction
Seaside Book and Stamp

June 5 Douglas J. Gray
Open House Show, Dartmouth

June 8 Club Meeting
Closing Meeting - Auction

June 17 Friends of Philately
Bloomfield Centre, Halifax

Novapex 2010 September 24-26
Dartmouth Sportsplex, Dartmouth



In the Navy

by Jeff Parks

The Royal Canadian Navy was formed on May 4, 1910, at the time of the Anglo-German naval arms race. The Canadian parliament looked to the new navy to help preserve "the security of commerce, the safety of the empire, and the peace of the world."

Last month I brought forward an article on the corvette HMCS La Malbaie, depicted on a 20c GVI war issue from the 1942. Of course, my interest in things Navy made me wonder what else there was out there in the philatelic world that depicted Canada's Navy on stamps and postal items. What I found could fill many volumes and a collection onto itself. However, I will provide an over view of a few of the items of commemoration by Canada Post of the Canadian Navy on it's 100th anniversary.

As discussed in the aforementioned article, and in addition to the stamp depicted above, the \$1 Destroyer stamp of the same series was also issued in 1 Jul 1942. The stamp series was issued to promote Canada's substantial contribution to war work. The destroyers of the day were of the Tribal Class that bore the names of native tribes of Canada, such as the HMCS Iroquois.

The next issue to pay tribute to the navy came in 1985 to commemorate its 75th anniversary. The 34c stamp design features naval personnel wearing work uniforms from three time periods: a gunner's mate from HMCS Niobe (left); a World War II officer in duffel coat (right); and an enlisted person in the new summer-white dress uniform (middle).

Starting in 1991, Canada Post issued a 50th anniversary series commemorating Canada's achievements and sacrifices during WWII. The Battle of the Atlantic lasted throughout the war and Canada played a significant role. On Sep 16 1939 two RCN destroyers escorted the first convoy from Halifax. The 43c stamp of the series (1993) depicts an Allied convoy under attack at night with a Canadian corvette firing on the sub. A second stamp was issued in 2005 to mark the 60th anniversary of the end of Battle of the Atlantic. This 50c stamp shows a "convoy of vessels on the horizon, a supply ship has just been torpedoed. Survivors from another torpedoed ship struggle in life boats and in the sea. A sailor lookout is on high alert as a Canadian Navy corvette springs into action. But a German U-boat has already set its sights on its next target, the corvette."



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.....continued page 2

Navy continued

The Naval Reserve was commemorated in 1998 with the issue of two stamps (previous page) depicting the corvettes HMCS Shawinigan, which was torpedoed off Sydney in 1944 with the loss of all hands, and HMCS Sackville, which survived the war and is now a floating museum piece stationed in Halifax.

The final stamps in this story are those two that were released in May 2010 to commemorate the Navy's 100th anniversary (below). The stamps define both periods a sailor and ship from 1910 and 2010. The Navy today protects "our country from threats as diverse as terrorism, illegal resource exploitation, pollution violation, narcotics trafficking, illegal immigration", and defending those in need around the world through its allied responsibilities and humanitarian efforts.



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, US\$25 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

Advertising rate for the newsletter or website is \$50 (CDN) per year.

Literature on the web

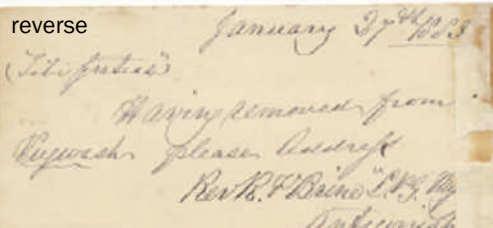
Free Downloads

I recently came across a website with free downloads for several philatelic books that have long been out of print. They are mainly related to British topics, such as Litchfield's *Guide Lines to the Penny Black*, Fred Melville's *The Mystery of the Shilling Green*. The website is www.philatelics.org. It is well worth a look.

Back issues of *The Canadian Philatelist*, and some of its predecessors, such as the *Halifax Philatelist* 1887 -1889, can be seen at the RPSC website, www.rpsc.org under the Canadian Philatelist tab.

BNAPS also has their collection of *BNA Topics* journals online dating from 1944 to 2003. bnatopics.org. The site also has a search engine and a separate Table of Contents, constructed from scans of the TOC of each issue.

Michael Peach



Stamp Oddities

NOT JUST FOR GOLFERS

For people attuned to the world of golf, Amen Corner refers to a stretch of three very tough holes (11, 12 & 13) at the Augusta National Golf Club, where The Masters Golf Tournament is played annually. These holes have been the undoing of many golfers in quest of the famous Green Jacket that is presented to the winner each year.

The Union Postale Universelle Canada Post Card (UPU Rate of Two Cents) pictured here was selected for the ANTIGONISH JA 30 83 postmark that it displayed. On further examination it was noted that the card was sent to a book seller, Marshall Brothers, at 3 AMEN CORNER Paternoster Row, London, (England), and was sent by a clergyman, Rev. R. J Brine who was relocating to Antigonish from Pugwash. Despite a lot of war-time bombing damage, Amen Corner is still in existence, situated in an area just in back of St. Paul's Cathedral in the heart of London.

Jack Forbes

Dumb Cancels: British Style

by Michael Peach

Dumb cancellations are defined as obliterations which bear no indication of the office of origin. An early example was the British Maltese Cross cancellation. During the two world wars these were applied to naval mail for security reasons to conceal the port of entry. In Canada during the Second World War the name was removed from the machine dater dies.

I recently found the cover shown addressed to well known London stamp dealer Oswald Marsh. It has four green King George V ½d stamps with Downey heads cut out from postcards, to pay the inland postage, 2d/3oz in 1921. The right three stamps have a Universal machine cancellation, London E.C. SEP 21 1921. The stamp on the left missed and has an eight bar dumb cancellation.

The dumb cancellations were used during the First World War to conceal the location of the Home Fleet, when not at one of the chief naval ports.^{1,2} The cover addressed to another London stamp dealer H. Edgar Weston, with two green Edward VII ½d stamps cut out from envelopes also has an eight bar dumb cancellation, but clearly indicates that it was passed by a censor during the war. Edgar Weston mailed packs of stamped covers to Lieutenant-Commander R.L. Clayton for posting back individually.

Another cover to Howard Marsh with a red George V 1d Mackennal head scarlet stamp also has a dumb cancellation. Oswald Marsh's business was located at 1 Exeter Street during the Great War, and Howard was probably one of his relatives. This cover could have been mailed from one of the ships of the Home Fleet during the War when the letter inland rate was 1d.

How did this cancellation come to be applied at the London E.C. office in 1921? It is obviously tied to the two stamps on the left and the left stamp was not added later. This cancellation is one of several types of dumb

cancellations that were used on newspapers at the Newspaper Branch of the London Inland Section that had missed the regular cancellation, or on some printed matter.³ This usage is not mentioned by Whitney² although Alcock and Holland¹ mention an early canceller at the Newspaper Branch with short thick bars.

The Newspaper Branch was at St. Martins-le-Grand, London E.C.. Was one of the eight barred dumb canceller still available for use at the London E.C. office in 1921, or did Oswald manage to obtain one?



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1. R.C. Alcock and H.C. Holland *The Postmarks of Great Britain and Ireland* R.C. Alcock Ltd. 1940.
2. J.T. Whitney *Collect British Postmarks*, 7th Edition., British Postmark Society 1997.
3. C.N. Fernau *London postmarks used on printed matter and parcels from 1860* Great Britain and Commonwealth Philatelic Society (Switzerland) 1998.

Novapex 2010

Only 116 more sleeps

Novapex 2010, a National level show, will be held September 24 to 26, 2010 at the Dartmouth Sportsplex. A silver award at the Regional level is required to enter, however the regional show will be available for new entries. It is a good time to start planning your exhibit. If you are interested in assisting with the planning and development of the show, please let the Club executive know. Details are available on the club website at...

www.nsstampclub.ca/novapex10.html

The deadline for exhibit application submissions is fast approaching - 11 August, 2010. Please enter early to avoid disappointment. For more info on exhibiting contact the Exhibits Chair, Sean Weatherup sweatherup@eastlink.ca

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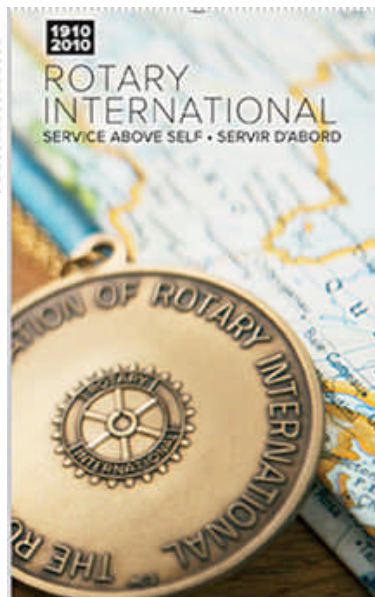
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Some recent **New Issues** from Canada Post. A Marine life Booklet depicting a sea otter and Harbour porpoise was issued on May 13. On June 18 the Rotary International commemorative booklet will be released.



Atlantic Canada's National Stamp Exhibition



Hosted by the
Nova Scotia
Stamp Club

NATIONAL / REGIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION AND BOURSE

September 24 - 26, 2010	Friday	2:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Dartmouth Sportsplex	Saturday	9:30 am - 5:00 pm
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia	Sunday	9:30 am - 3:00 pm

Exhibits	Dealer Tables
Souvenirs	Seminars
Youth Activities	Awards Banquet
Canada Post	Draws

...and More

For more information, visit our website
www.nsstampclub.ca/novapex10.htm
or contact
Michael Peach, tel. 1-902-832-1662
100 Lake Drive, Bedford, NS, B4A 1H9

Dues Payable July 1

Now that you were forewarned, our next years dues become payable on July 1. Pay early. As mentioned, it is both time consuming and costly to send out multiple reminders. Dues largely pay for the newsletter production. Save a tree and receive the newsletter on-line. Contact the editor for details.

The Nova Scotia Post Needs You!!!

Send me your articles and cover stories now. web-news@nsstampclub.ca. **THE CUPBOARD IS STILL BARE!!** Unless of a timely nature, items will be printed on a first come basis. **The deadline for the September 2010 issue is August 28, 2010.**