



The Nova Scotia Post

The Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club

September 2011

Volume 41, Issue 414

UP AND COMING

Sept 13 Club Meeting
AGM, Slide Show, Members stock

Sept 15 Friends of Philately
Bloomfield School, Halifax NS

Sept 17 Brunpex 2011
Rotary Club House, Moncton, NB
(See page 4)

Sept 23-24 Novapex 2011
Dartmouth Sportsplex (see page 4)

Oct 1 Moncton Stamp Fair
Moncton, NB

Oct 11 Club Meeting
Auction, Program TBA

Oct 20 Friends of Philately
Bloomfield School, Halifax NS

Travelling? Check out other shows
at www.rpsc.org/shows.htm

NOVA PEX 2011

September 23 - 24, 2011

www.nsstampclub.ca/novapex11.htm

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Forty Years Ago - A Postal Strike

by Michael Peach

This year's Canadian postal strike and lockout brings to mind the first national post office strike in Great Britain. It began on 20 January 1971 and ended on Monday 8 March.

The strike overlapped decimal day, 15 February 1971. The low value Machin definitive new currency stamps, with values indicated by p, were issued on decimal day. The high values have been issued previously on 17 June 1970. The official first



day covers although cancelled 15 February, have Posting delayed by the Post Office strike 1971 stamped on them. A few of the smaller offices remained open for local delivery, where the postal workers did not go on strike or had gradually returned to work. Genuine locally cancelled FDCs can be found.

Back in 1971 there was no internet, no ATMs, very few, if any, cell phones, and not every British household had a land line telephone. In order to mitigate some of the consequences of the strike, the government announced the suspension of the Post Office monopoly to deliver mail. As many as 400 private companies, organizations and individuals were licensed by the Post Office to provide local, national and international deliveries. The companies either issued, and cancelled, their own stamps, or simply applied a cancellation. Some stamp collectors and dealers took the opportunity to provide philatelic material for collectors.

Covers, probably all philatelic, are shown of four different companies:

.....continued page 2

1. Pre-decimal Day: unsealed cover to Rotterdam by Europa Mail, a licensed postal service, 9 FEB 1971, reposted in Rotterdam on 9 II 1971. The charge was 2/6 (two shillings and six pence, or 30 pence). This was a substantial mark up from the Post Office rate, 9d.

2. Decimal Day cancellation: the unaddressed cover has an Overseas Mail stamp, 40p, showing a plane. The stamp had originally been issued at 8/- (8 shillings, or 96 old pence) and is presumably for airmail, as there is a similar stamp showing a ship, having a value of 5/- or 25p.

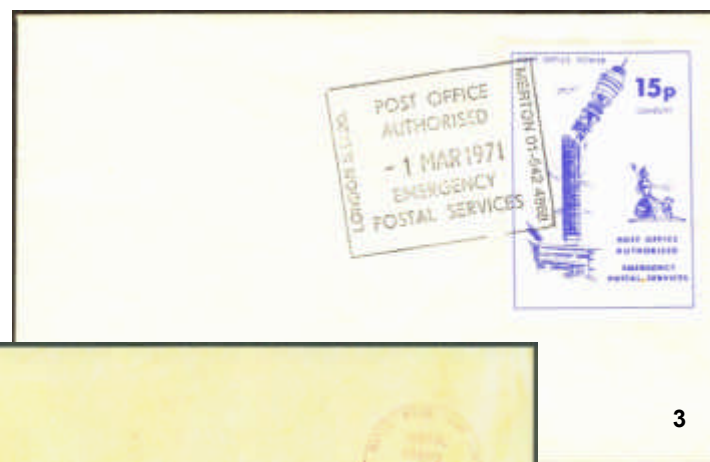
3. Decimal Stamp: this emergency mail was provided by Merton. The cover, for delivery within the London area, has a blue 15p stamp showing a broken Post Office Tower with Britannia looking away and was cancelled 1 MAR 1971. The Post Office inland second class rate was 2½p and the first class 3p, so there was a considerable mark up.



1



2

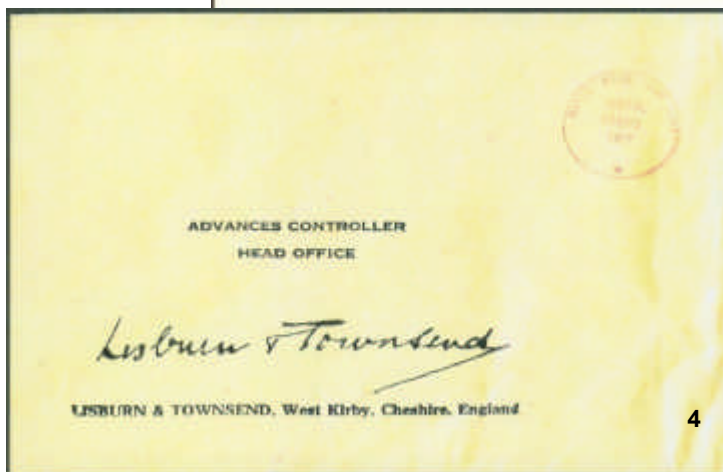


3

4. No Stamp: cover used locally in West Kirby, Cheshire. There is a faint red cancellation, Martin Mills Local Post, Postal Strike 1971, with no date.

Several of these stamps and covers can be seen on the web at the address below and can be found on eBay.

After the strike was over, the licenses of all the private delivery companies were terminated.



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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.

http://www.stampcommunity.org/topic.asp?TOPIC_ID=7121&whichpage=1

Cover Story**by Glen Stephens**From www.glenstephens.com (used with permission)

Bernie Manning is a well known Victorian collector, and created global interest with his large 257-page "Volume 1" work of "*Queensland Numeral Cancels*". The even thicker "*Volume 2 - The Town Datestamps*" - the circular cancellations right up the Kangaroo period - has recently been published.

As a perfect example as to why you might be wise to buy this work, take a look at the old cover below that I found recently in a grotty box from an estate.

It is only a cover front actually, and in less than stellar shape as can be seen, with foxing on the common stamps, so I did not give it a second glance really.

Commercial, it is addressed to the Editor of the "*Nord-Australische Zeitung*", the German language newspaper in very nearby Brisbane, and mailed August 2, 1882. It was accompanied by all kinds of other no-account rubbish, and that fistful all were tossed into my next junk carton, which sits on the floor next to my desk.

I just toss in things of limited interest, (to me!) or things far too hard to sort out or research in there etc - and offer it on stampboards when full, for \$100-\$150 or so.

Generally I do not get time to look up or sort out, anything other than the screamingly obvious. Anyway, being a lazy sod I seldom look up postmarks.

Luckily, on my desk, I had Manning's great new 270 page book. I thought I'd look up to see if that Mount Cotton cancel type with the "Flueron" period stops after the name was "Rated" - as they often are on that design cancel.

I assumed "Mount Cotton" itself was a common Queensland postal marking, as this cover has the cds, the "249" numeral cancel twice, and the two-line Registered handstamp.

Being so wildly overdone, I deduced the clerk was cancel

mad, and imagined lots of Mount Cotton would be around, if they were that zealous.

Flicking through the book, I saw no mention of "Mount Cotton" circular cancels of ANY kind. Then I looked under "Mt. Cotton". Also zero. Went to the "cancels not yet seen" page and zippo again.

Weird. Now this really had my interest raised a few notches.

I got out Manning Volume 1, which records the Queensland NUMERAL cancels, to see what office numeral '249' resolved to, and discovered that Manning and all the Qld students did not know the answer to that either!

Finally, I went to the superb listing on stampboards.com of all the 2 line Queensland Registered handstamps - tinyurl.com/MtCotton

"Mount Cotton" does not exist?!

Even on that list, we find that the "MOUNT COTTON" 2 liner is not to be seen. Never been recorded by anyone it seems or even guessed to exist.

So here we have an item with a superb strike of the 2 line Registered cancel - never sighted before.

Also a good dated strike of the "Mount Cotton" cds that also has never been seen by anyone it seems, and the rare Queensland numeral "249" that we now can allocate without any doubt to Mount Cotton.

Each on their own are choice pieces for any Queensland cancel collector, even on loose stamps.

The TRIO of cancels all on one cover is clearly "The Holy Grail" to any serious Exhibitor or collector.

I have since sold this cover to Manning and it will appear on front of Volume 3 "*The Registered and Instructional Markings*".

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Classifieds**Hayden Collection**

There is still a some material in Mrs. Barbara Hayden's collection that she donated to the club for it's benefit. Countries (mint and used) include: Canada, United States, Great Britain, Australia.

If you wish to review and/or purchase any of this material contact Jeff Parks 876-0099.

For Sale from Club Member. Canada MNH VF plate blocks, souvenir sheets and collections. Face + 15%. No shipping charge. David Jones, 184 Larkin Dr., Nepean, ON K2J 1H9
shibumi.management@gmail.com

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LOOKING FOR COVERS franked with official, coils and booklet stamps of the Canada KGVI Postes-Postage Issue to both domestic and foreign destinations. Contact Jeff Parks at
jeff.parks@ns.sympatico.ca

Amanda Lewis has begun a business selling stamps and supplies - more details will follow in future editions. You can contact Amanda at ARL1964@yahoo.ca.

The Fundy Stamp Collectors Club**Presents****BRUNPEX 2011****Saturday September 17 2011****10 am to 4 pm****Rotary Lodge, Centennial Park****St. George Blvd, Moncton, NB**www.fundystampclub.ca/brunpex.html**Dealer Bourse****Auction****Door Prizes****Free Admission****Saint Pierre et Miquelon 2011
Deemed a Success**

The "Saint Pierre & Miquelon 2011" FIAF sponsored philatelic exhibit was held on June 2-4 in the "Salle des Fetes" and was a great success. Four international judges were on hand for the qualification of exhibits and conferring of awards. Thirty-six exhibits in over 110 frames were shown at the event. This included four youth exhibits

The exhibition was the first of its kind in the archipelago with frames being lent for the show from the St. John's and Nova Scotia Clubs.

SPM Stamp Club President and NSSC member Jean-Jacques Tillard was the Champion of the show for "Les vignettes postales de SPM 1885-1892" and he received gold awards for a second multi-frame and three single frame exhibits.

Other NSSC member participation included Loic Detcheverry (gold) for "La pêche à SPM au début du siècle dernier", and Jane Sodero (gold) for "The postal markings of Guysborough, NS 1838-1937".



Novapex is coming!
Novapex is coming!

Only weeks away, the Annual exhibition and bourse of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club is a Regional show presented in the same format as previous years. The show will include about 50 frames, including the one Frame Competition, numerous Dealers, Youth Table, Group meetings and an Awards Banquet. The two day event is being held at the Dartmouth Sportsplex beginning at 2pm (Exhibit and dealer setup at 11 am) and continues to Saturday until 4 pm.

Membership

David Gorsline, #1052 has been accepted as a member of the club.

Mr. Barry Zolkivski, Truro, has applied to be a member. His collecting interests are Worldwide.

Mr. Frank Leaman, would like to attend one of our meetings, but doesn't have a drive. He lives in the downtown area of Dartmouth, maybe someone would offer to bring him. His phone number is: 465-3793.

DUES

It's that time of the year again. Dues become payable as of June 30. Invoices will be sent out in October. If you are unsure if you have paid already please contact Jeff Parks to confirm. In an effort to save time and paper only one invoice and one reminder (December) will be issued. Cut of is December 31.

Newsletter Articles

Send me your articles and cover stories now. Unless of a timely nature, items will be printed on a first come basis. Thanks for all those who have contributed in the past we look forward to hearing from you again. **The deadline for the October issue is September 30, 2011.**

Dartmouth Sportsplex, Common Room**Friday Sept. 23 and Saturday Sept. 24**

Volunteers are always needed and appreciated for the many aspects of hall setup and tear-down. Assistance at the club table, front desk or youth table on Saturday. Please contact John Hall or the newsletter if you have interest in helping out.

The Awards Banquet will again be held at MacAskill's Restaurant. The menu has a couple of entrees which cordon bleu or salmon. Tickets are \$45 each and are available from Martin Farrell at the September meeting up to the Friday of Novapex. You should reserve early so as not to be disappointed.