



The Nova Scotia Post

The Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Stamp Club



UP and COMING

December 08 Moncton Stamp Fair, RC Legion, 100 War Veterans Ave, Moncton NB 10 am - 1 pm.

Dec 11 Club Meeting, Christmas Charity Auction and Social

Dec 20 Friends of Philately

Travelling? Check out the time and place of other shows at www.rpsc.org/shows.html or www.csdaonline.com/shows

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

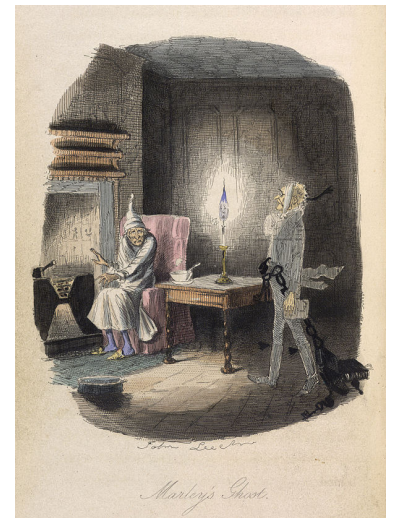
by Jeff Parks

Charles Dickens' (1812-1870) timeless classic *A Christmas Carol* was first published on 19 December 1843. It sold out by Christmas eve and was in the 13th edition by the end of 1844. During this period, the British were experiencing a nostalgic interest in Christmas traditions, including carols and evaluating newer customs such as Christmas trees and cards. Dickens painted Christmas as a family-based festival of generosity and kindness in a time when middle class expectations were on the rise. He was influenced by the experiences of his own youth and by the Christmas stories of other authors. Dickens had already written three Christmas themed stories and went on to write four more, but *A Christmas Carol* was certainly the best known. The treatment of the poor and the ability of a selfish man to redeem himself by transforming into a more sympathetic character are the key themes of the story.



In 1993, the Royal Mail dedicated its Christmas stamps to commemorating the 150th anniversary of the novella with five Quentin Blake designed stamps. The stamp designs (left) include Bob Cratchit and Tiny Tim (19p), Mr. and Mrs Fezziwig (25p), Scrooge (30p), The Prize Turkey (35p) and Mr. Scrooge's Nephew (41p). This is not the only depiction of scenes from the book. Royal Mail and other commonwealth countries have also commemorated scenes from the story.

St Vincent released a 6c stamp (top right) in 1987 depicting the 175th anniversary of Dickens birth. The design shows a book open to a page with Dickens on the left and an illustration of the Fezziwig's Ball on the right.



Gibraltar issued a £2 stamp in 2012 commemorating the 200th anniversary of Dickens birth, using John Leech's illustration (above) of "Marley's Ghost" from the 1843 first edition. Leech was a caricaturist who also drew cartoons for Punch magazine.

Jersey also released an eight-stamp set (left) of *Christmas Carol* scenes in 2012: Ba Humbug! (45 p); Marley's Ghost (55p), Ghosts of Christmas Past (60p), Present (68p) and Future (80p), Bob Cratchit and Tiny Tom (88 p), A Merry Christmas and all! (40p), and The End of It (50p).



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A CHRISTMAS CAROL CONTINUED

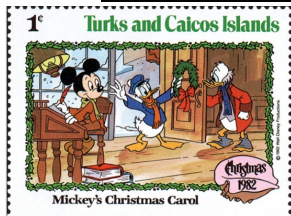
Christmas one and all! (40 p), and The End of it (50p).

Ascension Island released a £1.25 stamp of the prize turkey and three other denominations of the novella's themes in 2012.



On a lighter side, was the 1982 6-stamp set issued by

Turks and Caicos Islands of Mickey's Christmas Carol. This 1c stamp shows a scene in Scrooge's office of Mickey, as Cratchit, working at his desk when Scrooge's nephew drops in.



Likely, you have never read the book, more likely you have seen at least one of the classic movie renditions (Alastair Sim (1951) comes to mind as the stand out Scrooge) or the uncountable number of cartoons, shows, plays, varieties, and movies based on the book's plot. Regardless, *A Christmas Carol* is likely one of the best known and most referred of all Christmas stories, excepting of course the true Christmas story.

A Merry Christmas one and all!

The Nova Scotia Post

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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) which is released on the first week of the month.

Membership is C\$15 per person (C\$20 US, C\$25 International) or C\$22.50 per couple. Send **new memberships** to...

NS Stamp Club c/o Jeff Parks
102 Birch Bear Run, Lewis Lake, NS B3Z 4B8

Membership renewals are sent to...

NS Stamp Club c/o John Harvey
46 Farquharson St, Dartmouth, NS B2W 4A8

Stamp Oddities

One hundred and twenty years ago this month, imperial penny postage was introduced - allowing Canadian letters to pass to anywhere in the British Empire for one British penny - 2¢ Canadian. Postmaster General William Mullock played a pivotal role in negotiating the new rate from the former 5¢ rate. The new rate was accepted by Great Britain, Canada, Newfoundland, Cape Colony, and Natal. Australia and New Zealand accepted the penny postage rate in 1905 and it was extended to America in 1910. Imperial penny postage ended in Great Britain in 1918.

The December 7, 1898 issued 2-cent stamp features a Mercator map of the world with the countries of the British Empire displayed in red - centred on Canada, Queen Victoria's crown is at top, and the phrase, "We hold a vaster empire than has been" at bottom. This line comes from Welsh poet Sir William Morris, who wrote "A Song of Empire", published as the Jubilee Ode in June 1897 for the Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee.

It was Canada's first multicolour stamp, produced in three colours and by two different processes in Ottawa by the American Bank Note Company. It was until then the most expensively produced stamp in Canada. It is known for its major color varieties involving the colors of the ocean and land (Scott 85-86). It is generally referred to as the "Map Stamp"

But why does it say "Xmas 1898."? The rate went into effect December 25, 1898. One story says that Postmaster General Mullock developed the stamp and proposed that it be issued on November 9 to "honour the Prince," meaning the Prince of Wales. But when Queen Victoria asked "what Prince?" in a displeased manner, Mullock realized the danger, and answered "Why, madam, the Prince of Peace." Whatever the real reason, despite the lack of Christmas themed images on the stamp and the fact that it is tagged with "XMAS 1898", there's no doubt that Canada can claim it as the first Christmas postage stamp.



Two varieties of what is considered the world's first Christmas stamp,

MARCOPHILATELY FUN #8



CHRISTMAS SEALS CANADA

by Dennis Bedley

Christmas Seals are labels placed on mail during the Christmas Season to raise funds and awareness for charitable programs and are particularly associated with lung diseases such as tuberculosis. In the philatelic world, Christmas Seals are regarded as Cinderellas.



In the early 1900 tuberculosis was greatly feared, especially for its harmful effects on children. In 1904 Eniar Holbell, a Danish postal worker, developed the idea of adding an extra charitable stamp on mailed holiday greetings during Christmas. The funds raised could be used to help children stricken with tuberculosis. The plan was approved by the King of Denmark Christian IX and Danish postmaster. The world's first seal was issued in 1904 bearing the likeness of the Danish Queen and the word "Julen" (Christmas): over 4 million were sold the first year. During the next six years enough funds were raised to build the Christmas Seal Sanitorium in Kolding, which opened in 1911.

Not long after Denmark issued the first Christmas Seals, Sweden, Ireland, and other European countries followed suit. Seals were introduced in the USA in 1907 and in Canada in 1908. Interested people in Toronto and Hamilton began the Canadian Campaign with Saint John NB, and year by year other cities across Canada joined in. By 1927 a national seal was developed.

The Christmas Seal campaign has, over the years, played an important role in public health, with the seals supporting sanatoria and prevention measures. The seal have paid for millions of Canadians to have chest X-Rays and TB tests. As a result thousands of TB cases were discovered before the disease spread to others.



The earliest TB seal I have in my Cinderella collection is from 1931 (Fig 1) tied to a Sc#166 on a Christmas postcard cancelled on Dec 23, 1931 at Nokomis Sask. Official recognition of the importance of the Christmas Seal campaign for public health was demonstrated by slogan cancels used by the post office, endorsing the project. Below are some examples of slogan cancels relating to TB seals from 1959 and 1961.



STAMP OUT TUBERCULOSIS BUY CHRISTMAS SEALS cancelled Dec 24, 1959 at Kitchener, Ont. (Figure 2).

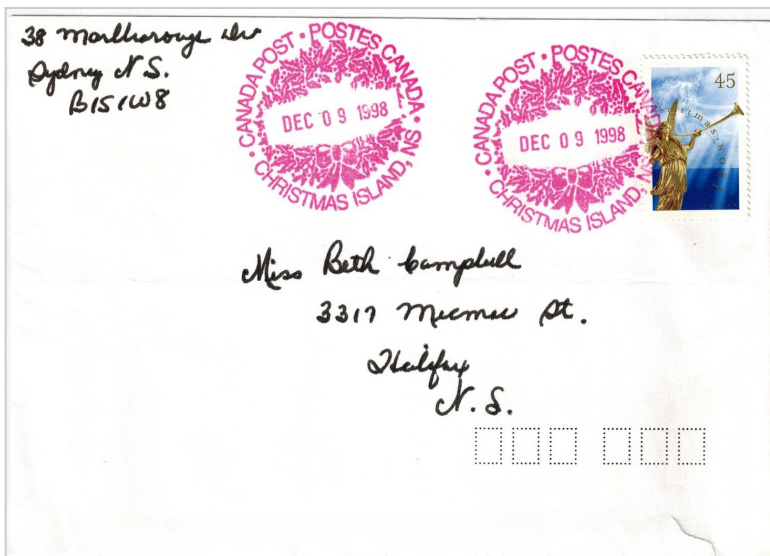


BUY CHRISTMAS SEALS FIGHT TUBERCULOSIS cancelled Dec

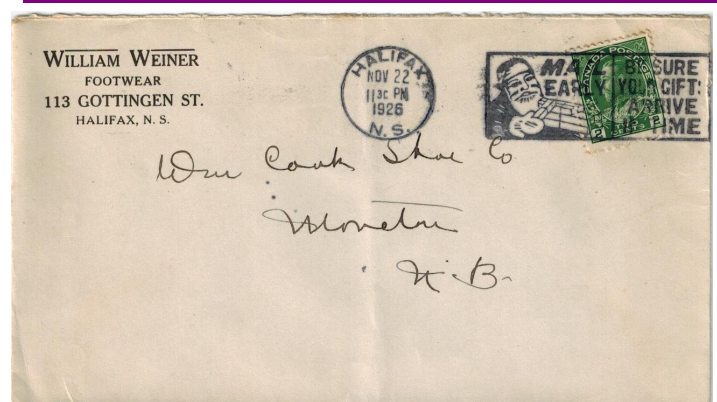
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CHRISTMAS CHEER

from Dennis Bedley



Dennis shared these two seasonal covers with the Post. The left one is from 1998, postmarked Christmas Island, NS. The lower one is an Admiral (#107) showing a late usage in 1926, canceled with Santa and the slogan "Mail Early: Be Sure Your Gifts Arrive in Time."



CLUB NEWS

Our annual **Christmas Cheer Charity Auction** and social will be held on December 11th. Please bring items to donate for the auction - both philatelic gems and non-philatelic treats are welcome. And bring lots of cash to bid up the items and raise money for Feed Nova Scotia and the Salvation Army. You can also bring tasty items to share at the social following the auction.

The 11th will be a jam-packed night, as it will also feature a presentation by Michael Pierce on "What Christmas Means to Me" and a wicked-good quiz by Heather MacKenzie. You are sure to have a good time.

The Club is exploring dates in September for Novapex 2019. It will be a regional (local) show. We will return to the East Dartmouth Community Centre, a place that received rave reviews after Novapex 2018. The Executive is discussing the possibility of this regional show being a one day event, with set-up the night before. We'll keep you posted on developments. Although we already have lots of volunteers for the various tasks associated with organizing a show, we are still looking for an overall Show Chairperson. If you want to know what is involved, or if you just outright want to volunteer, contact Guy Jeffery: guyjeffery@gmail.com, or Sean Weatherup: sweatherup@eastlink.ca.

The Club is also looking for someone to take on the position of Promotion Director. We need someone who will promote the club through contacting local media and perhaps administering our new Facebook page. Because of potential liability issues, we have severed our relationship with the former Facebook page that bore our title, and is now rebranded as Nova Scotia Stamps. If you are interested in media (print, radio, TV, social), and want to help promote the Club, get in touch with Guy or another member of the Executive.

The Edmonton Alberta stamp club is hosting their national level Spring show on 24 & 25 March, 2019. If you are planning on being west in the new year, or are interested in exhibiting, check out their website at www.edmontonstampclub.com.

The Canadian Bible Society is looking for buyers of used Stamps in Nova Scotia and has reached out to the club for interest. They conduct a used stamp program which encourages supporters to collect stamps and drop them off at one of their regional offices across the country. Stamps are sold to collectors, and the proceeds are used to support their national program to provide Bibles to men and women in prison. The Atlantic Regional Office recently relocated to Truro, hence the search for a buyer within the province. Contact **Tracey Jardine**, Regional Coordinator - Atlantic: TJardine@biblesociety.ca

GLORIA MUNDI REVERSE 1912



A 'Private Post Card' of the Gloria Mundi series, Tuskent N.S. MR 7 12 N.S. split ring, and Head of Jordan River N.S. MR 7 12 split ring, bearing one cent Admiral, - nice - but when turned over! An



original watercolour of a horse's head beautifully rendered. Just one of those little bonuses. (Head of Jordan River office closed in 1913).

DUES

John Harvey is collecting dues for the 2018-2019 season. Please pay promptly. See page 2 for his address or pay at the next meeting. If you no longer wish to maintain your membership please let us know.

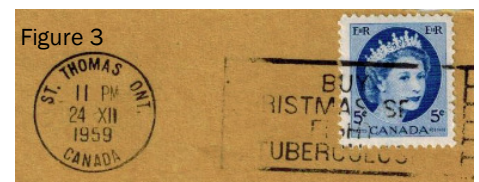
NEW MEMBER

For the first time in a while we have received an application for a new membership from **Clem Royer, Lucasville NS**. Clem says he collects "anything Canada, stamps, covers, albums literature".

by Elizabeth Sodero

CHRISTMAS SEALS CONTINUED

24, 1959 at St Thomas, Ont (Figure 3).



CHRISTMAS SEALS HELP PROTECT YOUR HOUSE (HOME ??) FROM TUBERCULOSIS Simcoe, Ontario Dec 13 1961 (Figure 4).



THE LAST WORD

