

CALGARY PHILATELIST

Issue 78

June 2006



Queen Elizabeth II looks over some Crown Agents stamps in 2002. Pages from the Royal Philatelic Collection will be exhibited in Calgary this year from September 29 to October 1 at the Royal 2006 Royale. This is the first time that the Queen's Exhibit will be shown in western Canada. (Photo copyright 2004 by H.M. Queen Elizabeth II. Used by permission.)

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The CPS was founded in April 1922 by Dr. Edward George Mason. It is Chapter 66 of the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada, Chapter 1360 of the American Philatelic Society, and Chapter 91 of the American Topical Association.

A cumulative subject index from issue #1 to date for the CALGARY PHILATELIST exists but because of its length is too long to be published in this bulletin. A copy can be had for free from the editorial address at Box 6830.

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by Dale Speirs

Lost Letters: Public Behaviour.

The lost letter technique is used to test the behavioural psychology of the general public. People may hesitate to tell an interviewer that they don't like a particular ethnic or religious group, but if they find a lost letter addressed to that group, their true feelings will emerge with no one around to watch them.

One question asked by researchers was whether or not the return of lost letters would be affected by their value. A 1948 study in various eastern USA cities and dates used two types of lost letters, one with a trivial message and the other with a message but additionally containing a lead slug about the size of a 50-cent coin [39]. Postcards were also dropped as a control. 85% of the no-coin letters were returned, 54% of the coin letters, and 72% of the postcards. A 1993/94 study at George Washington University (Washington, D.C.) used lost letters containing \$10 cash and a note that it was the return of a loan [45]. 56% of the letters were returned when dropped in classes of economics students, but only 10% from non-economics students.

Lost letters have been used to study deviant groups [50]. Not surprisingly, letters addressed to deviant groups have lesser return rates in general [59]. Rural areas were less likely to return such lost letters than the cities, which have more tolerance to diversity. A 1993 lost letter project showed that only 5% of letters were returned if supporting gay/lesbian groups [52]. However, a 2000 study in California that used letters addressed to the Gay Marriage Foundation dropped in public and church parking lots had no difference in return rates between church and public areas, although twice as many neutral address letters were returned [53].

In Utah, the issue of abortion was tested by dropping postcards [54]. They were addressed to the Committee for Free Abortion offering to donate \$200 to that cause if someone would come by and pick it up, likewise to a Committee Against Free Abortion, and a control with just a personal message not mentioning abortion. 28% of pro-abortion postcards were returned, 38% of anti-abortion cards, and 46% of neutral cards. In Florida, although urban areas have lower lost letter returns in general than rural areas, this was reversed for letters using pro-abortion addresses [55].

A 1972 lost letter experiment used postcards with a survey about legalizing marihuana in which the postcards had already been filled in by the supposed sender [56]. The total return rate was only 23%. The postcards were most likely to be returned if marked 'disapprove' or 'strongly disapprove' to the survey.

A lost letter experiment in two Florida cities studied homelessness, with 1,008 letters dropped [57]. The addresses used the phrases “End homelessness” (119 returned), “Veterans homelessness” (133 returned), “Youth homelessness” (128 returned), and “Lesbians homelessness” (95 returned).

Misdirected letters used in Ulster show return rates from violent Catholic areas are influenced by religion of addressee, but not so with other areas [41]. It works both ways. Misdirected letters to English households had a 90% return rate if an English name, but only 44% if an Irish name [42].

Lost Letters: Political Predictions.

Lost letters were tested in Bangkok, Singapore, and Hong Kong in 1968 at the height of the Cold War. They were written in Chinese and addressed to Tokyo [35]. Pro-Taiwan letters were returned more often than pro-People’s Republic of China letters. A study published just after the first American invasion of Iraq in 1991 used lost letters to determine the attitudes of Europeans and Americans to an address of an American citizen [51]. Rates of return showed no difference, indicating no prejudice against Americans as individuals, as opposed to the American government.

During the impeachment trial of American President Bill Clinton, lost letters were used to gauge his support [62]. 56% of letters addressed to a control address were returned. Letters addressed to the Committee to Support the Impeachment of President Bill Clinton had a 20% return rate, while the Committee Opposed to the Impeachment of President Bill Clinton had a 44% return rate.

[to be continued]

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TEAM CALGARY WINS BRONZE
by Peter Butler

The Calgary team that entered the AmeriStamp Expo Single Frame Team Competition in Toronto on April 7 to 9, placed third, a very respectable finish given the competition. There were nine teams from Australia, France, USA and Canada. The winning team was from the prestigious Collector's Club of New York and a group from California, called Geezer's Tweezers, came second. I do hope the Calgary team will be encouraged to exhibit their one-framers to advertise the annual competition and to encourage more clubs to enter next year's competition in Riverside, California.

Team competition involved five individuals with each entering a 1-frame exhibit. Three of the exhibits had to be new, that is, they could not have been shown at any national or international level show. Exhibits, moreover, had to all be of different types, such as traditional, special studies, revenue, thematic, or display. Scoring used the standard single-frame score sheet of national level shows. Team exhibits were judged in the regular 1-Frame class and were eligible for all applicable individual awards. The team winner was determined by the highest aggregate score among all the teams.

by Leanteri Polvikoski

Designs For Anarchist Postage Stamps by Clifford Harper (1997, landscape format paperback) was a disappointment to me. It contains 16 cinderella designs of famous anarchists, with a brief foreword and even briefer capsule biographies. The cinderellas are shown as minisheets, but not actual labels themselves, just printed directly on the page. The basic label design is the same for all of them, with only the portrait varying. The labels and portraits are linocuts. Not too interesting.



A better book of cinderella stamps is **Stamps Of Mass Destruction And Other Postal Disasters** by James Cauty (2005, landscape format paperback), which not only shows numerous varieties of cinderellas and postcards in full colour, but also includes an actual mini-sheet of cinderellas. These artistamps include various famous religious paintings with the subjects taking a cellphone call, and, the ones that got Cauty into trouble with British Post, assorted Machins with the Queen wearing a gas mask. Police apparently investigated

the artistamps titled "5-11", showing a passenger jet suiciding into the Big Ben clock tower of the British parliament buildings.

England's Mail by Philip Beale (2005, trade paperback) is a look at how the mails were carried in England between Roman and Tudor times, after which a public postal system developed. Beale considers who actually carried mail and how they were paid (or not paid; English kings were not good debtors). The popular belief that after the Romans left there was a collapse of roads and communications is not accurate. Much mail was carried, and the roads were heavily used. One medieval English king was caught in a traffic jam when his entourage was stopped by a procession of 200 merchant carts coming through the intersection on a cross road. Mails were carried either by special messengers who went direct, or from post to post by riders who changed horses at each post inn. The main problem in carrying the mails was a constant shortage of post horses, made worse by refusal of British monarchs to pay a decent fee for them. Another myth dispelled was about literacy. In Tudor times, 60% of the population were literate, and business mail was quite common. This book is more for the academics and advanced postal historians.

PART TWO

compiled by Dale Speirs

Aviation,		
flying boats	1979 17	1979 35
gliders	1999 46	
helicopters	1991 40	1998 45
	1999 46	2005 50
kite	1999 46	
military	1942 6	1943 7
	1959 5	1980 17
	1980 35	1981 17
	1993 43	1994 43
	1999 46	
monoplanes	NL1943 7	1928 5
	2005 50	
organizations, ICAO	1955 5	
parachutes	1995 43	
passenger	1942 16	1943 17
	1946 17	1951 7
	1964 7	1964 8
	1978 14	1981 35
	1987 36	1996 45
propeller, variable-pitch	1986 34	
trans-Atlantic	NL1919 3	NL1919 100
	NL1921 35	NL1923 60
	NL1928 15	NL1931 100
	NL1933 450	
water bombers	1979 17	
Awards, Nobel Prize	2004 49	
, Order of Canada	1977 12	1992 42
, Victoria Cross	2004 49	
Bacon, Lord	NL1910 6	
Baldwin, Robert	1927 20	
Balloons	see under Aviation, balloons	
Banks	see under Financial institutions	
Banting, Frederick	2000 46	
Beliveau, Jean	2001 47	
Bell, Alexander Graham	1947 4	2000 46
Bennett, Richard	1955 4	1973 5
Bennett, W.A.C.	1998 45	
Bernier, Joseph	1977 12	
Bethune, Norman	1990 39	
Beverages, alcoholic	1986 34	1997 45
Bicycling	see under Sports or Leisure activities	
Billes, J.W. and A.J.	1997 45	
Binoculars	see under Telescopes, binoculars	

Biology, animals			bird, kingfisher	1995 45	
antelope, pronghorn	1990 45		, kinglet	2004 49	
bat	1995 45		, lark	2005 50	
bear, black	1996 45		, longspur	2001 47	
, grizzly	1989 76	1997 800	, loon	1957 5	1998 45
, polar	1953 2	1972 25		2000 46	
	1995 45	1998 100	, murre	2003 48	
	2003 125		, osprey	2000 46	
, short-faced	1994 43		, owl, stylized	1970 6	1993 86
beaver	1851 3	1859 5	, eastern screech	1998 45	
	1950 10	1951 15	, great horned	1986 34	
	1954 5	1982 30	, partridge	2003 48	
	1988 25	2001 47	, pelican	1994 43	
bird			, penguin	2002 48	
, general or stylized	1980 35		, petrel	2003 48	
, blackbird	1999 46		, plover	2005 50	
, bluebird	1997 45		, ptarmigan	NL1897 12	2001 47
, brant	2003 48			2005 50	
, chickadee	2004 49		, puffin	1996 45	
, chicken, domestic	1982 10	1996 45	, raven	1971 6	
	1999 46	2000 46	, sandpiper	2005 50	
	2005 50	2005 145	, sparrow, Ipswich	1969 10	
, prairie	1980 17		, Lincoln	2004 80	
, cormorant	2003 48	2005 50	, white-throat	1969 6	
, crane, sandhill	1999 46		, tanager	1997 45	
, whooping	1955 5	2003 48	, tern	2001 47	
, crossbill	2004 49		, thrush, hermit	1969 25	
, dove, peace	1999 52	1999 95	, warbler	2000 46	
, stylized	1986 34	1990 39	, waxwing	2004 49	
	2003 48		, woodpecker	1996 45	1998 45
, duck, mallard	1988 37	1992 42	bison	1972 8	1981 35
, pintail	1995 45			1999 46	2002 125
, eagle	2001 47		butterflies	see under Biology, insect, butterfly	
, falcon	1977 12	2005 200	caribou	NL1897 4	NL1919 1
, finch	1998 45			NL1919 2	NL1919 3
, flycatcher	1998 45			NL1919 4	NL1919 5
, gannet	1954 15	1997 45		NL1919 6	NL1919 8
, geese, unidentified	NL1933 5			NL1919 10	NL1919 12
, Canada	1946 7	1952 7		NL1919 15	NL1919 24
	1963 15			NL1919 36	NL1923 9
, domestic	1997 45			NL1932 5	NL1937 7
, snow	1986 34			1956 4	1977 12
, goldfinch	1999 46			1990 80	1995 45
, goshawk	1999 46			1998 45	
, grebe	1997 45		cat, domestic	2004 49	
, griffon	2002 48		cattle	1942 8	
, grouse, spruce	1986 34		circus animals	1998 45	
, gyrfalcon	2002 65		conodonts	1991 40	
, heron	1986 34	1997 45	cougar	1977 12	2005 50
, hummingbird	1996 45		cuscus	2002 48	
, jay, blue	2000 46	2001 47	deer	2000 105	2005 50
, gray	1968 5			2005 100	
, kestrel	1996 45		dinosaur	see under Biology, reptile, fossil	

dog, domestic	NL1894 0.5	NL1932 14
	NL1937 14	
	1957 5	1967 1
	1988 37	2004 49
, search	2005 50	
, sled	NL1931 15	
	1978 14	1988 37
	1995 45	2002 65
	2004 souvenir sheet	
elk	1988 74	
fish, general	1963 3	1977 12
	1986 34	
, fossil	1991 40	
, cod	NL1866 2	NL1880 5
	NL1932 1	NL1937 1
, goldfish	2004 49	
, halibut	1997 45	
, salmon	NL1932 10	NL1937 10
	1992 42	1993 43
	1998 45	
, shark	1997 45	
, sturgeon	1997 45	
, trout	1998 45	
, tuna	1997 45	
, whitefish	1980 17	
fox, red	1988 6	2000 60
frog	1994 43	
goat, domestic	2003 125	
, mountain	1956 5	
guanaco	2002 48	
hare, varying	1988 5	
horse	1927 20	1928 20
	1935 10	1946 8
	1951 7	1963 5
	1975 8	1979 17
	1980 35	1982 35
	1985 34	1986 34
	1989 38	1991 40
	1993 43	1996 45
	1997 45	1998 45
	1999 46	2001 47
	2002 48	2002 125
	2004 140	2005 200
insect,		
butterfly	1988 37	1995 45
invertebrate, corals	2002 48	
, fossil	1990 39	
, lobster	1998 45	
, oyster	1992 42	1998 45
	1999 4	
, sea scorpion	1990 39	
, squid	1990 39	
, trilobite	1990 39	

FRAME REPAIR AND SUMMER SOCIAL

by Don Wilson

On Saturday, August 19, rain or shine, there will be a working party to repair, re-box, and mark the exhibit frames in order to get them ready for Royal 2006 Royale. This will be done in my garage from 13h00 to 18h00. Afterwards there will be a social and barbeque. Hamburgers supplied, potluck salad or dessert, BYOB and lawn chairs. My address is 1405 - 5 Street NW (Rosedale district, east of SAIT).

ROYAL 2006 ROYALE ONE-PAGE EXHIBITS

by Dave Russum

A major goal of Royal2006Royale should be to attract new and former collectors to our hobby. One way to achieve this is to illustrate the vast range of interesting, educational and fun ways to collect stamps and postal history. Under the theme "Why Collect?", I want to encourage as many members of the CPS, CAPE, BNAPS and the collecting community in general to prepare one-page exhibits for this show. These will be displayed in the reception area and will hopefully provide a lasting impression for our visitors. This is not about exhibiting the most expensive stamps, but using your imagination to create a single page that you think will be of interest to other people. The letter that arrived in the mail today might make a good exhibit or one page from your main collection, or something from the shoebox that you squirrelled away and have never been able to put to good use. My record so far is 7 minutes and \$1.95 to create an exhibit but I have an idea that should break my record. If you have never exhibited this is an excellent opportunity to try. For more information, contact me at russumd@telusplanet.net or telephone me at 284-4775.

ROYAL 2006 ROYALE YOUTH ACTIVITIES

by Ron Tabbert

Members of the CPS are invited to provide donations of stamps for youth who attend Royal 2006 Royale. Obviously topicals and more interesting commemoratives off paper are preferred, but all donations will be put to good use. A minimum of 50 giveaway bags is planned. Supplies and other donations are also welcome. Bring them to Marge Hunt or Jim Senecal at club meetings. If you have questions, you can contact me at Box 959, Golden, British Columbia V0A 1H0, or relich@redshift.bc.ca, or telephone (250)344-5939.

WHAT HAS CHANGED?
by Hugh Delaney

We hear a great deal of moaning and groaning about the state of our passion and hobby, as if current conditions are unique. There are loud lamentations by observers that the Internet will replace mail, and that the young do not find collecting interesting. Our time and space are not very different from the beginnings of collecting in the 19th Century, when it comes to the introspection of what ails philately. The following insights are from the December 1891 issue of the CANADIAN PHILATELIST, in an article entitled "Why are we philatelists?" by "J.C.". It seems that "the sky is falling" syndrome is not exclusive to the present day, 115 years later.

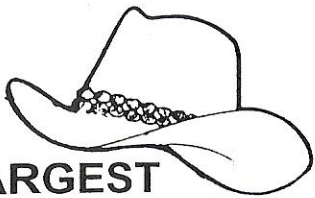
"Some people sneer at the stamp collector, and we perhaps hear the word "crank" bandied about, but have those who so sneer ever summed up the benefits gained by this fascinating pursuit? Is it not better than the sensational novel, or the soul-killing daily papers, or the dawdling in drawing-rooms, or attempts to kill time we sometimes see? We would not urge the giving up one's time to the neglect of known duty, but many an hour otherwise perhaps wasted can be pleasantly and profitably spent in this pursuit, and the exhibition of the collection to friends often gives much pleasure and information. I had intended to keep out all reference to the money value, but the question of dollars and cents will come up, and postage stamps are like diamonds, always rising in value, if not to such an extent, yet sometimes with leaps and bounds."

SEEN IN THE LITERATURE

Wolfe, J.M., et al (2005) **Cognitive psychology: Rare items often missed in visual searches.** NATURE 435:439-440

Authors' abstract: *"Our society relies on accurate performance in visual screening tasks; for example, to detect knives in luggage or tumours in mammograms. These are visual searches for rare targets. We show here that target rarity leads to disturbingly inaccurate performance in target detection. If observers do not find what they are looking for fairly frequently, they often fail to notice it when it does appear."*

[Editor's comment: This also applies to stamp collectors sorting through kiloware in search of rare varieties. Even today, the occasional invert or other rarity is still found in a picked-over mixture.]



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NOTE TO INTERNET VIEWERS: Unless stated otherwise, telephone numbers are area code 403. Alberta is on Mountain Time. Any advertiser can be reached through the CPS e-mail at calphilso@shaw.ca, but please allow time for forwarding to offline members.

WANTED: used Greece 2003 and 2004 Olympic related stamps and covers (other than FDCs), CTO and special cancels considered. Cash or Canadian coins in trade. Phone Gordon at 249-1094.

WANTED: USA stamps, MNH, VF. Singles, sets, and sheets between 1980 and 2004. Paying face value plus exchange rate and GST. Call Bob at 257-1942 or email bob.dahl@shaw.ca

FOR SALE: Stamps of Australia, fine used. Up-to-date issues of the last couple of years, stamps and miniature sheets, good selection. Also have stamps and covers of Norfolk Island. Call Michael Teekens at 286-7927

WANTED: Collector of stamps, books, and history. Special interest in submarine material. Contact Wayne at 295-3275 or kingwi@shaw.ca

FOR SALE: Canadian plate blocks and mint stamps at face value. Call Henning at 271-2596.

WANTED: Canadian military covers and postcards with hospital ships (white with red crosses). Contact Jon Johnson at 253-8411 or jcjperfins@hotmail.com

WANTED: Tanna Tuva, especially covers. I used to have a few and now starting over. Phone Keith at (780)437-1787 (Edmonton)

WANTED: Owl stamps worldwide. Cash or trade. Call Pat at 238-3435.

WANTED: Advanced collector of World Wildlife Fund (anything with the panda logo) stamps, postally-used covers, FDCs, postcards, maximum cards, even cookie cans. Top dollar paid! Phone Jan at 251-1769.

WANTED: Private collector pays cash for larger stamp collections. Phone Willi at 239-2273.

TRADE: Need automotive work done on your car? Let's trade my labour for your stamps that I need. I am a licenced mechanic with 20+ years experience. Phone Doug Kollar at 547-3838.

FOR SALE: Ukrainian and Russian stamps new and used. Also Ukrainian FDCs and special cancels from 1991 to date. Call Andy at 236-2037.

WANTED: Stamps and covers from China to 1949, People's Republic of China, and Taiwan. Special interest in overprints and bulk lots. Prefer postally used. Call Penny at 686-2662 or pkborrowman@yahoo.ca.

WANTED: Calgary Stampede philatelic memorabilia. I collect all phases of this fascinating field. You may have just the cover or cancel I need. Cash or generous exchange. Call Ed at 274-0021 or harrise@shaw.ca

FOR SALE OR TRADE: Worldwide collections (mounted) by country. 30 to 50 countries still available. Also lots of individual stamps catalogued per Scott for trade. Call Joe at 277-7006

WANTED: 1986 USA series of 35 Presidents (Scott #2216 to 2219), postally used. Call Milt at 243-0412.

WANTED: Canadian stamps, mint or very fine used. Call Arnie at 279-5957.

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MEETINGS AND SPECIAL EVENTS FOR 2006

May	17	Auction
June	4	Sunday bourse
	7	Election meeting
	21	Auction
August	4	Deadline for September bulletin
	19	Frame repair working party and BBQ
September	6	General meeting
	6	Deadline for October bulletin
	20	Auction
September 29 to October 1		Royal 2006 Royale
October	4	General meeting
	18	Auction
November	1	General meeting
	1	Deadline for December bulletin
	15	Auction

MEETINGS and AUCTIONS are at the Kerby Centre, 2nd floor, 1133 - 7 Avenue SW, at 19h30. Auction lots should be in before 19h30 to allow bidder viewing

FRAME REPAIR WORKING PARTY, followed by social and BBQ. 13h00 to evening at Don Wilson residence. For details, phone Don at 284-4479.

ROYAL 2006 ROYALE is at the Coast Plaza Hotel, 1316 - 33 Street NE. Details from Janice Brookes at 251-1769.

SUNDAY BOURSE is at Palliser Community Centre, 2323 Palliser Drive SW, from 10h00 to 16h00. Details and table rentals from Bill Szaroz at 337-3260.

CALGARY REGIONAL GROUP OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA PHILATELIC SOCIETY meets second Wednesdays. For details about meeting places and times, contact Ed Harris at 274-0021.

CALGARY ASSOCIATION OF PHILATELIC EXHIBITORS meets fourth Wednesdays. For details, contact Jim Taylor at 238-3698.