

The Bulletin

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MARCH 2021

**From an article that was in Gary Lyons cover letter for Eastern Auctions March 10th Auction Cat.
Submitted by Dave Pugh**

World War II and the Gold Supply

Did you know that during World War II England sent all its gold to Canada for safekeeping? It was mostly carried by ship to Halifax, from where it would be transferred by train to Ottawa for storage in the Bank of Canada's vaults. *Operation Fish* was the largest movement of physical wealth in human history – equating to over \$160 billion in today's dollars.

Sending the gold to Canada meant it would be safe if England were invaded and could be used to buy military equipment and supplies from the US. Without this ability to buy materials, Britain would have experienced greater difficulty in the early part of the war.

The first shipment arrived in the spring of 1939 when King George VI and Queen Elizabeth visited. £30 million in gold was secretly carried on two Royal Navy ships that accompanied the royals.

The first wartime shipment involved the light cruisers (HMS Emerald and Enterprise), the cruiser Caradoc, and two battleships (Revenge and Resolution). Each ship carried £2 million in gold bars. They arrived in Halifax on October 16, 1939. Despite huge losses in the Battle of the Atlantic, some 3,500 Allied merchant ships and 175 Allied warships, every gold shipment sent made it safely to Canada.

Some other European countries, such as France, Norway, Belgium and the Netherlands also sent gold to Canada for safekeeping. All told, Canada stored 186,332 gold bars and over 8 million ounces of gold in other forms (mostly coins). The Bank of Canada did not charge our Allies for safeguarding this huge quantity of gold and none went missing. In England the emptied Bank of England vault was turned into a staff canteen during WWII.



Upcoming Meetings

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Saugeen Stamp Club
Cancelled

Kincardine Stamp Club
Cancelled

Owen Sound Stamp Club
Cancelled

Guelph Stamp Club
Cancelled

KW Philatelic Society
Cancelled?

Check with the club
before going to its meet-
ing. It may be cancelled.

ONE PAGE EXHIBITS

UPCOMING TOPICS

NEXT MEETING -

Design a Covid
Stamp

NEXT MEETING + 1 -

Airmail

NEXT MEETING + 2 -

Flowers

NEXT MEETING + 3 -

My Favourite Stamp

Message from the President

Hello, Hello, Hello – it has now been a long year since we have been able to come together to talk about and/or exchange stamps for our collections. Most important, we have not been able to socialize with friends who share a common interest... after all we are social animals and need to meet with friends to discuss mutual interests and everyday events. We have been guided through the previous 11 or 12 months to keep everyone safe & healthy from the effects of the COVID-19 virus. I do hope everyone has followed their good senses and managed to remain in good health. I know you do not wish to be reminded but that is the only way we will get through this current world crisis and back to something we can call normal. Reminder – since it has been a long year, should you have changed your home address and/or email address – please notify either David Pugh or the bulletin editor for updating. It appears the number of infections is dropping but we do have some time before we will be able to gather to share our hobby. There has been an idea raised to have a fall show. If the current situations should change, we may decide to have the show on somewhat of a short notice. As you work on your collection exhibit, please keep this thought in mind. The Royal Philatelic Society of Canada (RPSC) has issued a short survey to explore the clubs which have a social media presence – the only presence we have on social media is the listing on the RPSC page. We have not ventured into ZOOM meetings & online auctions. I believe many members may be limited by their internet connections or lack of internet. Another factor may be the catchment area of our club – from London to Owen Sound – with many members in rural areas. I know personally that ZOOM does not function well from my home in Brussels. The Bulletin editor would welcome any stories or information members would like to share with fellow members. Contact Bulletin Editor Diane Jarvis. Since we have been isolated from meeting for a year now, members may have philatelic material to move to new homes – send a note to the bulletin editor for inclusion in the next scheduled bulletin. (being in the bulletin will ensure the message will be available to all members. KEEP WELL & SAFE – we shall get through this and return to what will become a normal life again. Members are encouraged to keep in touch with other family and friends to make sure they are coping with the changes in their everyday life.

From the Desk of Joe Trauzzi

Please join us for our next StampTalks - Telling Stories with Postcards.

When: Mar 8, 2021 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Webinar Speaker - Elizabeth Hisey

Elizabeth has been involved with the hobby for over 20 years. Elizabeth was one of the founding members of the Women Exhibitors, she is the Immediate Past President, and current Treasurer. She is an APS Accredited Chief Judge. Currently she is Chairman of the Committee for Accreditation of Exhibitions and Judges, an APS Committee. Elizabeth is also a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London and sits on the Council of Philatelists at the Smithsonian National Postal Museum in Washington D.C. Her exhibiting covers Illustrated Mail, Display, Postcards and Postal History. She has judged in Australia, U.K. and Canada. She and her husband Bob (another well known philatelist) live in Sarasota FL.

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_FJ-RnH25SzagaP9FHCbXJA

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Another Measured Moment.....

Remembering Tasmania

At Christmas, I usually think of Tasmania where I twice visited relatives at Christmas and went swimming “Out of Doors” on Christmas day. My relatives live on the north coast of Tassie, from Launceston to Stanley. Hobart, the capital is in the south about 150-200 km. or 126 miles away.

The first overland mail service between Launceston and Hobart was begun on 23 October 1816, in their spring. There were no roads through the wilderness between the two major towns of the colony, called “VanDieman’s Land” at that time, and the mail carrier, traveled on foot, carrying only: the mail, a musket, and enough food for the trip. Robert Taylor was the first courier to carry mail between the two settlements, and provided the service once every two weeks. The cost for that service was 1/- if less than an ounce and 2/- if over an ounce. In 1820 the service was increased to weekly, and additional couriers were hired.

To get a feel for the wilderness, Taylor had to travel through, the picture on an old Post Card can give us some idea.

Obviously, that was long before postage stamps. Similar to Canada, Australia’s early stamps were issued by each of the various states, and Tasmania was third after New South Wales and Victoria. VanDieman’s Land (Tasmania) first issued their stamps in November 1853, and their 1899-90 scenic series is one of the earliest such sets and is much sought after.



Notices:

1. Dues are due – only \$10.00 to cover the Bulletin expenses. Peter Kritz is acting treasurer for the time being and your cheque can be mailed to him at the following address.

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RR 3

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Saugeen Stamp Club

Chapter 220, Royal Philatelic Society of Canada
Chapter 1538, American Philatelic Society
Chapter 21, Grand River Valley Philatelic Association

Website: <https://www.rpsc.org/chapters/saugeenstampclub/>

Meeting: St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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News to pass along.....

- At the Owen Sound Zoom meeting, it was mentioned that Gerd Fehler's spouse passed away, This has not been confirmed and there are no further details at this time
- The Hanover Post had an obituary for another former member, Joseph Grove, who had passed away on Feb.7. He has not been a member for quite a few years.
- Further news from Dieter; he is doing better than the last update. But Margot has been in hospital but has recently been moved to Durham Hospital
- Several of our members attended the Owen Sound Zoom meeting. The meeting was well attended and was very interesting. Several short presentations were made Although some of our members do not have access to or reliable internet it was put forth that we may also benefit from zoom meetings. If this would be of interest please let Walt, Peter or Diane know and we will try to put something together.
- The Grand River Valley Philatelic Association is calling an Annual General Meeting for March 9 via Zoom. The meeting will start at 7pm and is open to all GRVPA clubs and their members. During the meeting we will be conducting elections for the following positions: President, VP (East), VP (West), VP (Liaison), Treasurer and Secretary. The election will be by anonymous (The meeting host will be able see votes) poll via Zoom and open to all members in attendance. Anyone that wishes to run for an executive position will need to submit a nomination request to Leigh Hogg at leighh@belmontvillagefinancial.com with the email title as GRVPA Elections 2020. A simple email with your name and the position you wish to run for, will suffice. Please volunteer!
- In addition to the elections, we are asking all clubs to submit the names of two directors for the GRVPA board. It is hoped that the directors can attend the board of directors' meetings, held quarterly. Under the present circumstances the meetings will be held by Zoom. After the pandemic is over, future meeting may be held in person, via Zoom or a combination thereof.
- I would like to thank members of the club for their generous offerings of items for the Bulletin. The items have been varied and interesting and I believe we have all benefited from these submissions. I would encourage anyone else to forward anything they would like to share. When we can't get together at least we can keep in touch with what we are up to in our collections or interests.



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Let us know your wants and needs!!