



Bulletin

The Newsletter of the West Toronto Stamp Club
www.westtorontostampclub.org

The Club meets at
Fairfield Seniors' Centre
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B. Timberg, Editor

President Sid's Message

Observing collectors viewing the many outstanding exhibits at CANPEX 2018, hunting for interesting cancellations at the two circuit book events this month, learning about Large Queen papers and enjoying an email exchange regarding an interesting local post lot sold at our recent auction, convinces and reassures me that the hobby is alive and well.

Your participation and interest indicate that WTSC members not only appreciate the opportunities to delve into the hobby in different ways but also have in common the joy of the hunt, the research and the story behind the stamp or cover.

Learning and sharing is fundamental to the hobby. Consider sharing your interest and passion by participating in the upcoming Learning Workshop – Royalty - the Crowning Touch. A two- or three-minute sharing around the table is always most interesting and informative.

As well, be sure not to miss this month's Discussion Group session when David McLaughlin will present and share his expertise on the 1897-1898 Maple Leaf Issue of Canada.

Above all, as the days grow shorter and the nights colder, take time to enjoy the hobby on your terms; take the needed personal time to pursue your philatelic goals. Yes, I am talking to myself as well. I must get busy and write up my key ongoing philatelic projects, and start turning my philatelic stuff into a more organized collection.

Looking forward to another great month at WTSC.

WTSC Christmas Dinner

This year's Christmas festive get together and dinner will take place on **Friday, December 7** at the **Canadiana Restaurant, Six Points Plaza**. Plan to arrive between 6 and 6:30; dinner is at 7. Please come and share in the festive spirit as we visit with fellow club members and their significant others while enjoying a delicious meal together. The cost is \$35 per person, like last year. There will also be a cash bar and donated prizes. Sign up during the upcoming meetings or contact Sid at sidmensinga@gmail.com

November Activities

Meetings are held on Tuesday evening unless otherwise specified. Doors open at 6:30, meetings start at 7:30.

Nov 6 ~ Learning Workshop (starts 7 – 7:15)
Royalty – A Crowning Touch

Nov 13 ~ Regular Meeting

Club circuit books, exchange of information, show & tell, and auction

Nov 20 ~ Discussion Group

Guest speaker **David McLaughlin** will present on the **1897-1898 Maple Leaf Issue of Canada**. David scored 96 and received a Large Gold for his exhibit of the same name at the Royal 2018 Royale in St. Catharines in June. The exhibit received five special awards including the Grand Award.

Nov 27 ~ Regular Meeting

Club circuit books, exchange of information, show & tell, and auction

Congratulations to Members

To Mark Stelmacovich for scoring 83 and receiving a Vermeil in May at the World Stamp Championship Israel 2018 for his exhibit "Ukrainian Provisional Postage Stamps".

To Don Hedger and Garfield Portch who exhibited at the Royal 2018 Royale in June. Both earned Large Vermeils. Garfield scored 82 for "Canada's Cartier Quadricentenary Issue of 1934" and Don 80 for "Epic of Vimy – A Canadian Pilgrimage".

Board of Directors

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Learning Workshop

The title of our second Learning Workshop of the 2018-2019 season on Tuesday, November 6, at 7 pm is **Royalty – A Crowning Touch**.

Like any subject, not everyone is a fan, but notwithstanding, the topic is tops for many collectors.

Are you keen on a particular Royal family – a king, a queen, an emperor, a czar, a pharaoh, a prince, a princess, a duke, a duchess, or those from any one country?

Beyond an individual's images on definitives and commemoratives, the subject can be broadened to include coronations, engagements, weddings, new arrivals, a royal visit, crown jewels, mourning – well, you get the idea.

As part of the Commonwealth of Nations, Canada has issued numerous royalty stamps, first featuring Queen Victoria and her husband, Prince Albert, on two of the first definitives in 1851, followed by her throughout the 19th century, then depicting her descendants.

Leaping ahead, young Princess Elizabeth was featured at age six on a 1932 6-cent Newfoundland definitive (below left). She was first depicted on a Canadian commemorative in 1935 (below middle), 17 years before she succeeded her father, King George VI, as our Queen. Her son and successive heir, Prince Charles, has not been on a Canadian stamp, but in recent years, his eldest son, Prince William, and his wife Kate, the Duchess of Cambridge, were featured on several commemoratives.



Above right, 2018 "P" for Permanent Postage 85-cent commemorative issued to mark the 65th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's coronation in 1953.

In addition to stamps, there are plenty of First Day Covers and postcards to brighten up album pages. Even further, some collectors have acquired correspondence, ranging from rare signed letters, to ones bearing the signature and an official mark on an accompanying cover from an aide, thanking the writer for a note.

Books, which in some cases are plentiful, provide worthwhile related information and images, which can be a welcome addition to discussions.

With all that in mind, come one and all to our next get-together.

We will be amused.

Ian

Additional royalty images include ...



Left, 1981 Australia first day cover with two stamps commemorating the marriage of Prince Charles and his first wife, the late Princess Diana. Right, Russia stamp commemorating the 80th anniversary of the assassination of Tsar Nikolas II (1868-1918), with se-tenant label featuring an image of him with his slain family.



Left, black-bordered mourning commemorative in set issued by Belgium after Queen Astrid died in a car accident in 1935 at age 29. Right, 2015 Letter on Buckingham Palace stationery signed by Mary Morrison, Lady-in-Waiting to Queen Elizabeth, thanking a woman for best wishes "sent on the occasion of Her Majesty's eighty-ninth birthday" and birth of granddaughter Princess Charlotte.

Coming Events

The following events in the GTA might be of interest to members.

CAS – The Canadian Aerophilatelic Society is holding its annual **Toronto Day of Aerophilately** at the Greene Foundation from 11:15 – 4 on Sunday, November 4. There will be displays, trading and plenty of excellent conversation. For more information please contact Dick McIntosh at mcintosh47@sympatico.ca

Coming Events (cont'd)

Toronto Postcard Club – The TPC's monthly meeting on Thursday, November 15 will discuss **Politics on Postcards**. For time and location, please see <https://torontopostcardclub.com/postcard-meetings/>

GHRG - The Golden Horseshoe Regional Group of BNAPS will meet in Ancaster on Saturday, December 1. Guest speaker **Derek Smith** will talk about **St. John, New Brunswick Postmarks**. For time and location, see <http://www.bnaps.org/regional.php>

Universal Postal Union (UPU)

The United States has threatened to withdraw from the 144-year old Universal Postal Union, the intergovernmental agency that makes the postal system run smoothly worldwide. To understand why, go to

<https://www.vox.com/2018/10/19/17996378/trump-china-universal-postal-union-treaty>

Neil Armstrong Family Auction

The memorabilia of astronaut Neil Armstrong is up for auction (November 1 - 3). Some items are philatelic in nature. In case anyone is interested, the link to the auction house is <https://www.ha.com/>

Canada's History Magazine

Your editor was pleased to see mention of stamps in the August-September 2018 issue of Canada's History magazine, formerly The Beaver. In "Treasures of Canada: Museum Artifacts are a Gateway to the Past", author Mark Collin Reid includes a description (see below) of the threepenny beaver stamp.

By the way, the stamp fits the theme of this month's learning workshop – Royalty – A Crowning Touch – even though it does not have an image of a royal.

"The threepenny beaver stamp, issued in 1851, was not only Canada's first postage stamp but was also the first stamp in the world that did not feature the image of a head of state. Designer Sandford Fleming instead chose the industrious beaver – a decision that speaks to the desire by British North Americans to nurture a proto-Canadian national identity. However, the stamp also bears symbols that illustrate the Province of Canada's enduring connection with Britain. The stamp features the royal crown of England on a cushion of heraldic flowers: the English rose, the Scottish thistle, and the Irish shamrock. The VR monogram of Queen Victoria also overhangs the representation of the beaver. Fleming is best known for being the inventor of standard time. *Courtesy Canadian Museum of History*"

