



Since 1935

Bulletin

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

The Club meets at
Fairfield Seniors' Centre
80 Lothian Ave., Etobicoke, ON
416-394-8687

Club Year 2025/26 - Vol. 91
Issue 3 - November 2025



Chapter 14



Chapter 148

PRESIDENT SID'S MONTHLY MESSAGE

Recently I was able to add two books to my personal philatelic library: "*Atlantic Mails - A history of the mail service between Great Britain and Canada to 1889*" published in 1980 and "*Stamping Around or 'The Life of a Stamp Collector'*" published in 2004. Both books, though not new publications, are invaluable additions, bringing me both pleasure and opportunities to know more.

J.C. Arnell's book the *Atlantic Mails* not only details the story and complexity of Canadian transatlantic mails but also provides detailed maps and comprehensive sail and steam packet lists by year and shipping line. The lists provide the names of ships and the dates of departure and arrival from and to various ports. If you can acquire this used book, be sure to jump at the chance. In the meantime, it's available at the Harry Sutherland Library at the VGG.

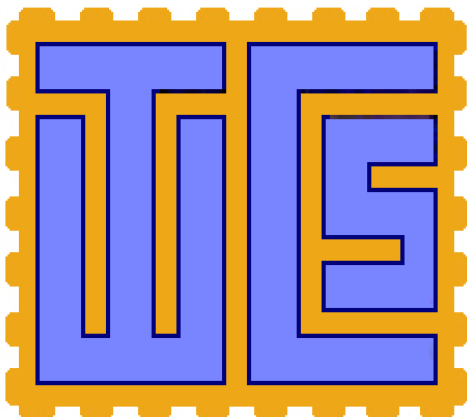
"Stamping Around" is a most pleasurable read, providing insight into the life and philatelic world of WTSC member #324 Fred Jarrett, OC, RDP, FRPSC, OTB. The "Dean of Canadian Philately" and author of *Stamps of British North America* and many articles in *Canadian Stamp Collector*. Reading this book, (Yes, its also available at the VVG) I am sure you would agree that the words of reflection found in this book continue to ring true today.

- "Soaking, sorting, counting and playing with stamps is good therapy"
- "Our Hobby brings companionship to the lonely, adventure to the adventurer, consolation and forgetfulness to the bereaved, relaxation to the busy mind"

What books have you recently added to your personal library that would be of interest to fellow club members? Send me a few lines that could be included to next month's bulletin. Santa might well want to look for them and place them under the Christmas tree for others in the club.

Have you signed up for WTSC Christmas 2025 Festive Get Together & Dinner **Tuesday December 16th** - to be held the at the Canadiana Restaurant, Six Points Plaza? The cost, subsidized by the club, is **\$40.** per person. (tax & tip included). You can sign up during the upcoming meetings or contact Sid at sidmensinga@gmail.com
Payment can be made in cash or by E-Transfer E-TRANSFER: president@westtorontostampclub.org

NOVEMBER PHILATELIC OPPORTUNITIES



Nov. 4 - LEARNING WORKSHOP, 7 p.m. via Zoom, "**American Topical Association (ATA) awareness night.**" An opportunity to share and to learn "the how to" of topical collecting and the resources available.

Nov. 11 - Auction & Circuit Book evening - In-person - Fairfield Centre. Prior to the auction a short PowerPoint presentation highlighting Single page exhibiting will be shared

Nov. 19 - DISCUSSION GROUP, 7 p.m. via Zoom, **David Hobden** will present a new research project discussing the paper used in the printing of Canada's first stamps in 1851.

Nov. 25 - Auction & member/vest pocket dealer tables - In-person - Fairfield Centre.

FROM YOUR MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR

To date well over half of our membership has renewed their membership. If you have yet to do so, you are encouraged to stop reading and do it now.

Club Dues payment of \$20 can be made by e-transfer, by cheque or cash at one of our in-person meetings.

Details are as follows:

E-TRANSFER: The WTSC email for e-transfer is: *president@westtorontostampclub.org*

CHEQUES: Make your cheque payable to WEST TORONTO STAMP CLUB and send it to:

*West Toronto Stamp Club
c/o Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation
10 Summerhill Avenue
Toronto, Ontario M4T 1A8*

If for some reason you wish to no longer be a member, please let me know and your name will be removed from future notifications.

Thanks, and looking forward to hearing from you.

Ted Swain
Membership Director
membership@westtorontostampclub.org



WTSC CIRCUIT BOOK PROGRAM

The Circuit Books did extremely well at the Oxford Philatelic Society Circuit Book Fair - October 25.2025.

Congratulations to Janice and Ted and the team for the many extra hours they dedicate to the success of this club program.

Your Circuit Book team travels to the **Hamilton Stamp Club Fall Fair** this coming weekend.

FALL FAIR 2025 **Hamilton Stamp Club**

**Friday November 7
& Saturday November 8**

**Bishop Ryan High School
1824 Rymal Road East
Hamilton Ont. LOR 1P0**

Friday, November 7

Voice Auction - 6:30 pm
Viewing - 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Guest Sales Circuits - 5 pm - 9 pm

Saturday, November 8

10:00 am - 4:00 pm
15 Stamp Dealers * Silent Auctions
Guest Stamp Club Circuit Books
Free stamps & prizes for students
Web Site: www.hamiltonstampclub.com

<https://www.google.com/maps/search/1824+Rymal+Road+East?entry=gmail&source=g>

GOOGLE IMAGE VS STAMP IDENTIFIER- stamp identification a report

by WTSC
member Douglas Hill

This past year I compared the performance of Stamp Identifier with Google Images.
My findings are attached. Despite what someone might say, Stamp Identifier is still free. On the opening screen, the trick is to scroll down past the two paid options and select "continue with ads."

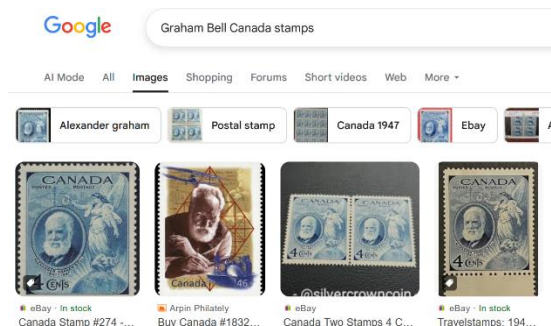
Conclusion: Since both programs are free, Google Images works best, but Stamp Identifier is more portable, use both programs.

Feature	Google Images	StampIdentifier
Works on	Computer	iPhone
Cost	Free	Free with ads
Portable	Works on all computers	iPhone
Image capture	Flatbed Scanner	Snapshot with smartphone May need to mount camera for stability
Sources of possible matches offered	Arpin Philately, eBay Hip Stamp, etc.	Only Colnect
Finding stamp info	Need to check one or two possible matches	First possible match has correct info
Identify one stamp from a block of four different	Scan block and crop	Cover other stamps and photograph the one
Catalog Numbers	Scott	Scott, and sometimes Michel, Yvert
Test success with 20 Canadian stamps	Found 20 of 20 Identified 19	Found and identified 15 of 20.

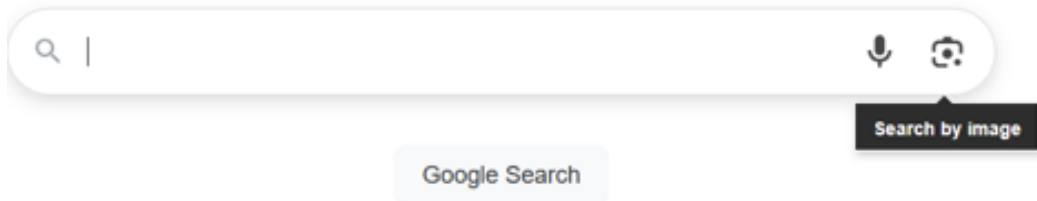
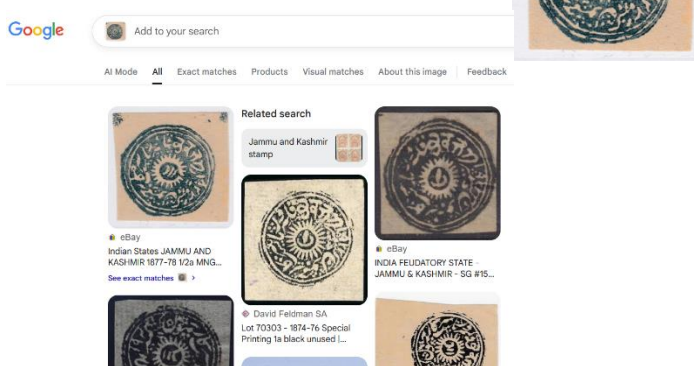
And submitted by WTSC member Michel Houde **GOOGLE IMAGES** – find images based on a description or based on a scan of an image. <https://www.google.com/imghp?hl=en>

Example: Based on a description. “Graham Bell Canada stamps”. **Example: Based on a scan of an image.**

RESULT



RESULT



WTSC ANNUAL EXHIBITION CHANGES - To further broaden opportunities for members to participate and experience the joy and fun of exhibiting, the following have been agreed to.

1. Now that we are Chapter 148 of the ATA, Topical exhibiting excellence will be recognized.
2. A presentation on single page exhibiting will be made to the members and changes will be highlighted.
3. The WTSC Annual Exhibition will take place Tuesday, **March 24th. instead of in May.** This change will enable WTSC's best 3 single frame exhibits to be selected to participate in the interclub "Garfield Portch Ontario Club Single Frame Competition" to be held at *Hilton Mississauga/Meadowvale Hotel on April 11-12, 2026.*



SINGLE PAGE EXHIBIT CHANGES

1. Can be submitted virtually by distance members
2. Page size changes
8 ½ /11 or 11 /17

New Scoring!

- Title – 1 point
- Story – 4 points
- Elements (any type, ideally 3) – 5 points
- Use of more than 3 types of Elements – 2 points
- How well does the topic fit a one-page exhibit – 3 points
- Knowledge & Quality of material - 5 points
- Creativity & Presentation – 5 points

Total points are out of 25.

WTSC MEMBERS EXHIBITING EXCELLENCE



BNAPEX 2025 Vernon

BNAPEX 2025 Vernon 19 – 21 September

Multi-frame Exhibit- Vermeil - Ken Pugh – “Dr. Robert Bell of the Geological Survey of Canada.” Congratulations to Ken on his exhibiting success and his ongoing research/study of Dr. Bell.

Ken is also Canada's leading expert on fakes and forgeries. <https://kenphughphilately.wordpress.com/>



At the Recent CPSGB Convention **Bill Burden** was awarded the “**Members Trophy**” for – “Scratching the Surface - Admiral Plate Flaws”.



If you are interested in Admirals and constant plate varieties of steel engraved stamps, be sure to check out Bill's most informative website <https://www.wgburden.com/>

WTSC MEMBERS EXHIBITING EXCELLENCE- continued

Congratulations to WTSC members who achieved exhibiting excellence at **CANPEX 2025**

EXHIBIT AWARDS

Large Gold

Jean Wang	Smokes for the Troops: British and Canadian Tobacco Funds in WWI
Ken Snelson	Selected Covers Showing Rationalization of RLO Ambulance Envelopes –c1897 to c1925
	UK International Postage Due Letter Mail: Formative Years of Postal Union –The First 25 Years

Gold

Ted Nixon	1880-98 Newfoundland Issue – BABNCo Printings
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Vermeil

Ann Miller	Princess Elizabeth Stays In Malta: The 1950 Malta "Royal Visit" Issue
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Large Silver

Gregg Redner	Belgian Single Rate Internal Imprimé Mail: 1838-1914
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SPECIAL AWARDS

Royal Philatelic Society of Canada

<i>Award for Excellence – Material</i>	
Ted Nixon	1880-98 Newfoundland Issue - BABNCo Printings

American Philatelic Society

<i>Pre-1900 Medal of Excellence</i>	
Ken Snelson	UK International Postage Due Letter Mail: Formative Years of Postal Union –The First 25 Years
<i>1900-1940 Medal of Excellence</i>	
Jean Wang	Smokes for the Troops: British and Canadian Tobacco Funds in WWI

American Topical Association

<i>Single Frame Award</i>	
Jean Wang	Smokes for the Troops: British and Canadian Tobacco Funds in WWI

Auxiliary Markings Club Award of Excellence

Ken Snelson	UK International Postage Due Letter Mail: Formative Years of Postal Union – The First 25 Years
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British North America Philatelic Society

<i>Best BNA One Frame Exhibit</i>	
Jean Wang	Smokes for the Troops: British and Canadian Tobacco Funds in WWI

Postal History Society of Canada

<i>Ritch Toop Best Military Exhibit</i>	
Jean Wang	Smokes for the Troops: British and Canadian Tobacco Funds in WWI

DECEMBER LEARNING WORKSHOP

Starting at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2025 via Zoom, the topic for our third virtual Learning Workshop of the 2025-2026 season is: **"What do you value in your collection-collections, and why?"**

Regardless of whether you have a thorough collection of a country's definitives and commemoratives including varieties, revenues, Special Delivery, Registered, postage dues, airmails, war tax, and, possibly, fakes, forgeries and counterfeits, scores of attractive covers and postcards, or albums filled with stamps featuring colourful themes, a particular gem or two often stands out.

Whether inherited, received as a gift or via a trade, found in a dealer's bargain box, bought at an in-person or online auction for a reasonable price or at a cost worth the investment due to rarity or attractiveness, once belonging to a prominent collector, or acquired via unusual circumstances, it may generate a fun tale to tell.

Regardless, there are bound to be stories worth sharing. On the flip side, having been unable to acquire a special item may provide an interesting, ironic subject.

Such memories may also serve as a worthwhile lesson for others seeking treasures.

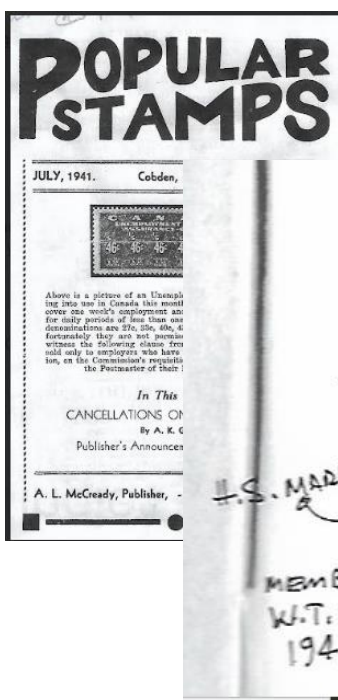
On a final note, there comes a time when you will decide to dispose of a collection, having completed it as much as possible, in order to pursue other topics, or to provide space on a bulging bookcase.

Having reached that inevitable decision, are there any stamps or covers you wouldn't consider disposing of, for a special or myriad reasons? That choice could also make for a good story to share.

With all this in mind, please join us at the appointed hour as we share images and stories that speak to what we value and why. - Ian Robertson

LOOKING BACK

Just a little history, submitted by WTSC Member Don Hedger



The TSCC is the second oldest Stamp club in Canada. Common today, as it was in earlier years, *collectors were members of various clubs as was H.S. Marley (WTSC member 94).* - Don's Uncle



Sask., well-known writer of precancel articles are both in the armed forces.

ONLINE PHILATELIC LEARNING & ENJOYMENT. This month be sure to check out the postal archives at

<https://hub.catalogit.app/toronto's-first-post-office>



OTHER PHILATELIC OPPORTUNITIES



ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY OF CANADA: Virtual ZOOM sessions Registration in advance required. <https://www.rpsc.org/>

STAMP TALKS

November 10 - John Moore - Canadian Centennial Issues

STAMP PANELS

November 17 - VGG- 50 years and Growing - [Natalie Mitchell, Ingo Nessel, David McLaughlin]



November 15 Winter Bourse at Yorkminster Park Baptist Church

November 20 @ 7 pm Chris Robinson, Around the World in 72 Blobs (Email- NTSC.President@gmail.com for a link.

LOOKING AHEAD

Canada's Largest Postcard Show

44th TORONTO POSTCARD CLUB SHOW

Sunday, February 22, 2026
10:00am to 5:00pm

JAPANESE CANADIAN CULTURAL CENTRE
6 Sakura Way, Toronto, M3C 1Z5
DVP-Eglinton Ave. E, opposite Aga Khan Park
Full Details at www.torontopostcardclub.com

\$10.00 ADMISSION




Kitchener-Waterloo Philatelic Society since 1955

98th RPSC Convention & Exhibition
98e Congrès et Exposition de la RPSC

Royal * 2026 * Royale

hosted by / présentée par
KITCHENER-WATERLOO PHILATELIC SOCIETY

June 12-14, 2026
10 am - 4 pm daily

Waterloo Memorial Recreation Complex
101 Father David Bauer Drive, Waterloo, On N2L 0B4

Competitive Exhibits • Dealers • Social Events
President's Reception and Awards Banquet
Youth & New Collector Booth • Fully Accessible Venues
Free Admission • Entrée libre


Waterloo

DELTA HOTELS
WATL00T
WATERLOO

WTSC MARKETPLACE: FREE/FORSALE/WANTED

WANTED

1. Looking for Scott number 33 for plate collection. Contact David Bray dbray12traditions@gmail.com
2. WANTED: Queen Elizabeth II era Canadian covers 1950's - 1980's. Registered, special delivery, auxiliary markings, foreign destinations, anything unusual. Email Ingo at b62hkg@yahoo.ca if you have some for sale or trade.
3. WANTED - Straits Settlements with clear company hand stamps.
SEE: <https://michelhoude.com/BMSM/Index.html> email: mjrhoude@gmail.com
4. WANTED- German "Germania" stamps of any wmk. nowmk. overprint, surcharged from Germany, and all the regions, countries occupied by Germany. Please contact Vijay at vijaystamps@gmail.com.
5. If you are burdened with an excess of used Canada Admirals, I may be able to help. I am always looking for Admirals in quantity to further my research on plate flaws. Contact wgburden@mac.com for details. Thanks.

FOR SALE

1. I have the following Brigham Auction catalogs w/ dates of sale ~ fully illustrated in colour, a definitive study of each issue, for those who collect the following issues:

Large Queens ~ 1868-1897	Feb. 22, 2014
Late Victorian Issue ~ 1897-1902	June 6-7 2014
Admiral Issue ~ 1911-1931	Mar. 6-7 2015
Geo. V / Edward VIII / Geo. VI 1917 -1935	June 13 2015
Small Queens ~ 1870-1879	Apr. 6 2016

Quebec Tercentenary 1908	Jan 23 2016
MacDonald / Cartier Centenary 1914	
QE II 1953 - 1995	

Edward VII 1903-1911 / QEII 1953 - 1995 Jan 23 2016

Contact Don Hedger at e/m < don.hedger@gmail.com > for price & availability

2. Scott Catalogue 2017 ~ 6 Volumes (complete) in excellent shape *best offer*. Delivered to Club or pick up. contact ~ Don Hedger < don.hedger@gmail.com >

How will you make use of this opportunity in during the 2025/26 stamp club year?
Ads for the monthly Bulletins must be submitted by the Monday of the last week of the month.

REMINDER TO WTSC MEMBERS: **Ad space is free.** Send to sidmensinga@gmail.com

