



KGVI Herald Dispatch

Bulletin of the BNAPS George VI Study Group

October 2020

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Post & Mail Issue 40

As members will be aware, **Ken Lemke** published Issue 40 of the Post & Mail in mid-August. **Peter McCarthy** wrote an excellent synopsis of Issue 40 in his “*Study Group centreline*” column in the Oct-Dec 2020 issue of BNA Topics (p 70).

Ken relinquished his role as BNAPS President at of the Society’s AGM that was held “virtually” on 06 September with **Ron Majors** taking up the Presidency for the next two years. **Ken** of course will stay involved as BNAPS Past President as well as other roles within the Society, but writes to say that he will have more time to devote to George VI Study Group activities. He hopes to have enough material on hand to publish Issue 41 of the Post & Mail before year end and asks that members contact him if they have items they would like to share with other members.

zoom, zoom ... Zoom!

With the restrictions introduced to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, many organizations have turned to holding virtual meetings. Members will recall the note in HD v1n3 about the BNAPS Newfoundland Study Group holding their first Zoom meeting in June which featured a presentation by **Richard Judge** that identified a possible explanation for the 1939 \$1 Chateau Ramezay “aniline” ink variety.

Well, not to be outdone, the Newfoundland SG Zoom meetings in July and August featured presentations by **Chris Hargraves** reviewing research he, with the assistance of other study group members, has assembled on Air Mail forwarded through Botwood to the UK between 1939-1945 and, in the second presentation, the forwarding of Newfoundland surface mail to Sweden via an “air delivery” service from the UK during WW II. Both presentations are posted on the BNAPS Newfoundland Study Group Newsletter links in the HW Harrison Online Library on the BNAPS website.

Reading through the Q3 and Q4 BNA TOPICS reveals numerous other Study and Regional Groups are organizing Zoom meetings. An interesting feature of some of these meetings is the open invitation for any BNAPS member to join regardless of their membership status with the host group.

As noted in an email circulated to George VI Group members in mid-September, **Ken Lemke** has undertaken to act as our Zoom-master for our study group. **Ken** has received positive responses from some of our members but feels it would be helpful if another two or three members could contact him via email (kwlemke@sympatico.ca) to register their interest. Hopefully we can organize our inaugural GVI Zoom before the holiday season sets in - so drop Ken a line and lend your support to this imitative.

Members in the News

Doug Lingard was among three new Recipients of the 2020 BNAPS Hall of Fame Award. Among other roles within BNAPS over the years, **Doug**, as VP – Study Groups, convened the founding meeting of the George VI Study Group held at BNAPEX 2003 in London, Ontario. Meanwhile, **Gary Steele** was re-elected this year to serve on BNAPS’ Board of Directors. **Gary** volunteered and has continued to serve as our GVI Study Group Chairman since its founding in 2003. Congratulations to both **Doug** and **Gary** for their service to the Society and well deserved recognition.

The Herald Dispatch Bulletin is circulated bi-monthly to BNAPS George VI Study Group

Copies of the Herald Dispatch and the Study Group’s Newsletter – the Post & Mail – are posted on its website - www.kgvi.ca

Notes & items for future Herald Dispatch editions should be forwarded by email to Stephen at stephen.prest@gmail.com



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We get Mail

Regarding the mystery cover illustrated in HD v1n3, **Mike Street** wrote to say **Doug Hannan** had provided the Military Mail group with a fulsome explanation of the likely providence of the Avalon F.M.O. cover with Dominion of India stamps affixed. Upon receiving **Doug's** notes, **Brian Livingstone** wrote to indicate his appreciation for the information he received from **Doug** and others. The long and short of the story is that the cover is quite philatelic in nature and that a number of examples exist. The bisected India stamp on the cover is cancelled with an Indian Army FPO Postmark – someone spent some considerable effort have the envelope eventually postmarked in such a manner!

So, what's on eBay at the moment

Following inquiries from **Mike Street** regarding a short-paid cover that appeared in the August BNAPS eLetter, Editor **Philip Atelic** provides excerpts from Canada Post Publications in the October eLetter that track changes in exchange rates used for postage due purposes during the George VI period. Of note, the reduction in exchange rate from 5 to 3 centimes per one cent Canadian occurred in July 1947 as **Mike** previously reported in articles appearing in Post & Mail Issues 30 and 31. **Philip's** research reveals that Canada Post introduced a minimum charge of 10 centimes for outgoing mail to other countries in 1951.

A quick look at eBay reveals a currently listed cover that was mailed from Montreal Oct 30 1949 to Switzerland franked with a 1948 4¢ Princess Elizabeth which short-paid the letter rate to UPU foreign countries by 1¢. The 2¢ double deficiency postage due was determined to be T 6 centimes at the 3 centime per 1¢ Canadian exchange rate.

Switzerland's corresponding exchange rate for postage due purposes in 1949 was 40 Swiss francs per 25 centimes. As such, the postage due would have been 9.6 or 10 Swiss francs rounded up. The 20 Swiss francs actually collected might indicate the Swiss postal regulations called for a minimum level of postage due to be paid a few years in advance of Canada adopting such a policy.



Time to get more Involved

As with most organizations, the George VI Study Group and BNAPS generally rely on volunteers to keep things going. **Gary, Ken, Simon** together with stalwart regular contributors to the Post & Mail have formed the backbone of our study group for more than a decade but, as we approach 20 years of existence, we hope others will be able to step forward to lend a hand.

A great place to start will be to become a GVI Zoom participant. Even though I am based in New Zealand, it is amazing how this technology allows me to participate in meetings around the world. Your GVI Study Group leadership team look forward to saying hello to many of our members, many of whom we have never had the pleasure of actually meeting. Until our first Zoom then - Take Care and Stay Well.