



BNAPS NEWFOUNDLAND STUDY GROUP NEWS

Edition #28 – May 11, 2025



Chairman & Editor: Malcolm Back, 97 Stuart Street, Stouffville, ON, L4A 4S4, mback1217@rogers.com

Treasurer/Circulation: Martin Goebel, 13 O'Mara Place, St. John's NL, A1A 5B7, goebel@nf.sympatico.ca **Page 1**

From the Editor: Our 200th issue of the Newsletter is pretty much done. Just a reminder though, I still need articles for the Newsletter. Please consider writing something: a recent acquisition, a favourite cover, a favourite stamp issue, etc.

Newfoundland Study Group ZOOM Session: May 17 at noon DST.

Below you will find the meeting invitation. See you then. If not beforehand

Topic: We are pleased to announce that this month's ZOOM presentation will be given by the winner of two gold medals for his exhibits at last year's BNAPEX in Kingston. It was his first time exhibiting at a BNAPEX! Our guest speaker will be Blair Ashford, whose presentation is titled, "Beyond the Album: Turning Your Collection Into An Exhibit"

Time: May 17, 2025 12:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85985981981?pwd=4eWeya5wQcLzbyuj7Zf0evXWggjmob.1>

If attending by telephone:

Meeting ID: 859 8598 1981

Passcode: 530518

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/u/kceeLxyAZF>

ORAPEX in Ottawa 2025

ORAPEX was a great show but unfortunately, the venue does not support ZOOM.

Blair Ashford with the aid of his wife Karen gave a great talk on the "The Dead Letter Office of St John's Newfoundland". It was well attended and some discussion was stimulated after the presentation.

Perhaps we can persuade Blair to give this talk at a future ZOOM meeting.

The Dead Letter Office of St. John's Newfoundland

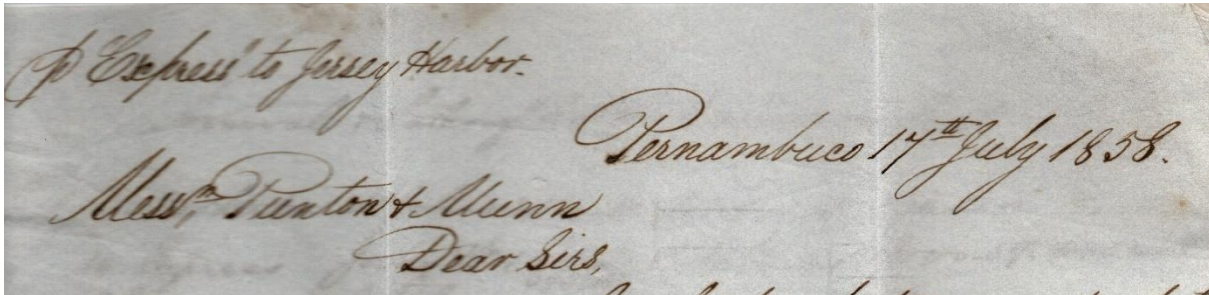
Blair Ashford specializes in Newfoundland postal history, with a focus on marcophily and postal operations. In this presentation, he will explore the Dead Letter Office (DLO) in St. John's, Newfoundland, discussing its operations, markings, and significance. By showcasing key items from his collection and elements of his original research, Blair aims to provide new insights into this overlooked aspect of postal history. This talk serves as a foundation for his upcoming single-frame exhibit, and he welcomes feedback to help refine the final display.

A letter from Pernambuco to Harbor Grace from 1858.

by Klaus Wehlt

Recently I was able to acquire some pre-philatelic covers from or to Newfoundland at a British auction. I would like to present them here one by one.

I'd like to begin with a letter from Pernambuco (now Recife), Brazil to Harbor Grace to the company Punton & Munn. The letter was written on July 17, 1858 and probably sent as a captain's letter on the ship *Express* to Jersey Harbor.



A letter from Pernambuco to Harbor Grace from 1858.

- conclusion

My first thought was that Jersey Harbor meant the port of Jersey City in the USA, but Malcolm pointed out to me that there was a now abandoned fishing settlement of that name on the south coast of Newfoundland near Harbor Breton

The letter was probably transported by boat from Jersey Harbor to St. John's and handed over to the post office there. On the backside of the letter, we find the split-ring postmark "St. John's Newfoundland AU 26, 1858".



The letter was sent as an unpaid letter from St. John's to Harbor Grace, which is why the large 3 postmark was struck on the front of the letter. This is a late use of this postmark. Robson Lowe lists the period of use as 1854 to 1857.¹⁾ In addition, the split-ring postmark "Harbor-Grace AU 27, 1858" is struck on the front of the letter as the arrival postmark

Literature used:

- 1) Robson Lowe; The Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps, Vol. V, 1973