

The Bulletin

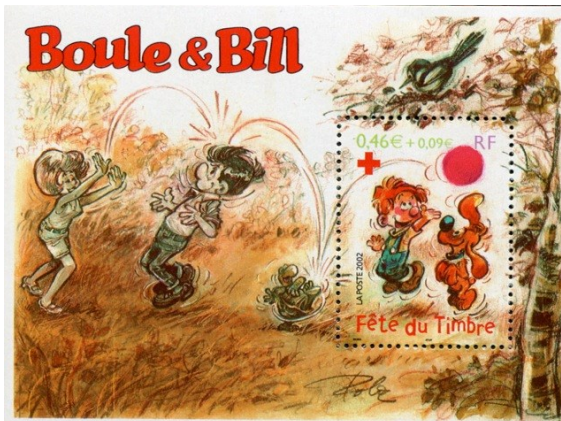
VOLUME 20, No. 1

JANUARY 2017

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BOULE ET BILL

The *Boule et Bill* stories, created in 1959 by the French writer-editor Jean Roba, are a sort of European *Peanuts*. They relate the homely adventures of a seven year old boy, Boule, and his cocker spaniel Bill, as well as Boule's family, which included a tur-



tle called Caroline! They were comical in nature, and showed a fairly normal family living normal lives. Most of the gags happen in or around the family home, but also include family

holiday trips, usually to a beach. For twenty-five years they were one of the most popular Franco-Belgian comics, and continue to a lesser degree today.

France issued this setenant pair of stamps (Scott # 2878 & 2879), one of which is a semi-postal, and a souvenir sheet (Scott #2879a, above), on March 16 2002.



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UPCOMING MEETINGS:

- SAUGEEN STAMP CLUB,
Tuesday January 3
- KINCARDINE STAMP CLUB
Wednesday January 4
- KW PHILATELIC SOCIETY
Thursday January 12
- OWEN SOUND STAMP CLUB
Wednesday January 18
- GUELPH STAMP CLUB
Tuesday January 17
- GRVPA Directors Meeting
Tuesday January 10

One Page Exhibits—

upcoming topics:

January: Ontario

February: Birds

March: TBA

THE PRESIDENT'S COLUMNWALT BERRY

Friends in the Saugeen Stamp Club have completed another successful year – meeting the first Tuesday of the month year-round. The St Matthews Lutheran Church facility appears to be a good fit for the meetings. Both membership and attendance has been outstanding – drawing members from many parts of the surrounding areas in all types of weather. All club members readily step up to ensure all the little things are done for the benefit of all.

Thank you to everyone for your attendance and participation.

The Christmas (December meeting) was another opportunity to share our favourite hobby during the President's funny money auction and the social time with special treats brought in to share with others.

Wishing all a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and a safe holiday season. May the new year bring good health and happiness to family and friends.

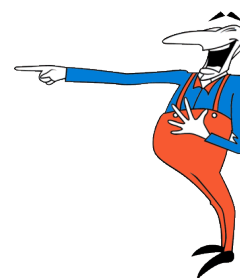
PS – as the winter weather comes across our area, remember to check whether the meeting has been cancelled due to poor driving conditions. While we like to see everyone come out, it is best to be safe at home when the winter conditions are un-

Q: What sits on the bottom of the cold Arctic Ocean and shakes?

A: A nervous wreck.

Q: How do you know if there's a snowman in your bed?

A: You wake up wet!



What's coming up...

See the Grand News for complete information on the following shows:

January 13 2017—Unipex Stamp & Coin Show, Downsview

January 14 2017—Brantford Stamp Club Annual Show

January 21 2017—68th Annual CATHEX—St. Catherines SC

March 18 2017—OXPEX/OTEX oxford Philatelic Society show

May 2016—Saugeen Stamp Club Annual Show



ANOTHER ‘MEASURED’ MOMENT.....Jim Measures

MONTSERRAT

In the late 1990s a volcano erupted and covered Montserrat with ash, causing most of the people to be evacuated. Only a small area at the north end of the island were safe for the few inhabitants who remained. Today the country is largely back to normal and philatelists will know that they never stopped issuing stamps, a major source of revenue for such a small poor country.



Montserrat is one of the small island nations that I visited in 1968 while with a friend who was working with CUSO in Antigua. As can be seen on the 1/- stamp shown here, the coastline is mostly high cliffs—there is little flat land on the island. It is only a twenty minute flight be-



tween the islands, and with the airport located along a beach at the base of a mountain, it is a rather ominous experience to fly into Montserrat in a small plane—the pilot flies directly at the mountain and then makes a sharp turn to land on the airstrip.

With only 12,000 people on the island there is only one hotel, and one guest house, where we stayed. It was very informal, our room key being a “skeleton key”. Told that dinner was at 6pm, and assuming that service *began* then, we wandered into the dining room at 6:10pm—and found the other guests waiting for us! We were told politely but firmly that we were late!

Of course I had to go to the Post Office, a small frame building where custom-



ers stood outside to deal with a clerk through a window. I saw pictures of the Post Office taken after that volcanic eruption, and ash was up to the top of that window!

Wanting to see the sights, we hired the only taxi on the island. We saw cocoa beans growing in trees, and visited “La Soufriere” - a valley where foul-smelling sulphur steam was constantly issuing from

cracks in the ground. This was the site of that volcanic eruption, no longer visited by tourists, who do continue to purchase postage stamps!!

Saugeen Stamp Club

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

Meeting at St. Matthew's Evangelical Lutheran Church
356—9th Street
Hanover, Ontario
Use 11th Avenue entrance

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We are on the web!
[http://
saugeenstampclub.webplus.net/
index.html](http://saugeenstampclub.webplus.net/index.html)



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GRVPA NEWS...

Check out the latest *GRAND NEWS* for information about our fellow clubs, and their meetings and shows.

The next GRVPA Directors meeting is January 10 2017.

A Philatelist's Psalm

Erma V. Berkley

Stamp collecting is my hobby, I shall not be bored.
It maketh me do research in far places;
It causeth me to correspond with odd people;
It keepeth me alert:
It leadeth me into areas of understanding for curiosity's sake.
Yeas, though I live through a winter of inclement weather,
I will fear no boredom, for my stamps are with me;
Their beauty and their history they intrigue me;
They provideth me a means of escaping from the tensions of my responsibilities;
They filleth my house with books.
My cash runneth lower.
Surely interest and knowledge shall follow me all the days of my life,
And I shall be listed in the ranks of the philatelists forever.



ROYAL OAK STAMPS

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Let us know your wants and needs!!