



Dear Friends of the Harry Sutherland Philatelic Library,



The library is still open by appointment from 11 to 3 on Monday, Tuesday or Thursday, contact Lee Ann at 416-921-2073 or info@greenefoundation.ca. The last appointments of the year will be on Tuesday, 20 December 2022. After that we will be closed for the holidays until Tuesday, 3 January 2023. Our next open Saturday will be 10 December from 10 until 4. For this day only you can either make an appointment by the previous Thursday or drop in. Masks will be required and the number of people in the library will be strictly limited.

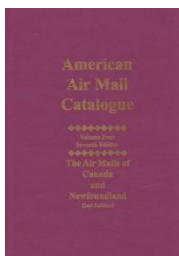


In library news: our long-time library director, Sheila Moll, has recently retired. She was the one who hired me to catalogue our library collection. She worked tirelessly to set up the library system, directing all of the work. We will continue to benefit from the wisdom she showed in selecting methods for organizing and cataloguing the many unusual items found in a philatelic collection. Thank you Sheila for all that you

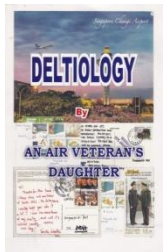
have done to make the library the welcoming and useable place that it is today. We now have a new library manager, Emily McKibbin.



In other library news: this is the last edition of the monthly *Friends of the Harry Sutherland Philatelic Library*. From now on it will be published every two months starting in February. You will still receive a fix of all topics library and philatelic. The photograph above is an old one of the journals, auction catalogues and Scott. The one at left is the Canada section with the monarchs at left and postal markings and transport of mail at the right.



We are very pleased to have a copy of the brand new, second edition of *Air Mails of Canada and Newfoundland*, volume 4 of the *American Air Mail Catalogue*. The American Air Mail Society generously donated this copy to the library and it was hand-delivered during the Canadian Aerophilatelic Society meeting at the Greene Foundation, thank you! We also have another new book, donated by the author Varsha Babu:



Deltiology By an Air Veteran's Daughter. This has a bit of a story behind it. As you know, I have been a member of PostCrossing for almost a year now (<https://www.postcrossing.com/>). When this correspondent found out that I work at a philatelic library she offered to donate a copy of her book to us. It is the story of how and why she joined PostCrossing and what happened. At first she did not have internet access as she lives in a small village in the south of India. It was originally a school project and was later published as this book. I also did not expect to get a postcard



from the Emirates show from a German stamp collector living there when he got my name. The stamp is also interesting: the Hope Mars Mission from 2020. The card was sent in May of 2022.



For the holiday season I am featuring Unitrade 1585-7. *The Collection of 1995 Stamps* says: “This year a distinctly Canadian interpretation of the Christmas story was discovered in the magnificent basilica at Sainte-Anne-de Beaupré, Québec.



The scenes highlighted on the stamps – the Nativity, the Annunciation and the Flight into Egypt – were taken from the capitals of three of the church’s 22 columns. They represent a mere glimpse of the 88 biblical scenes translated into stone by Émile Brunet.”



The basilica is one of the oldest pilgrimage sites in North America, located only 20 minutes from Québec City, for more information see: <https://www.quebec-cite.com/en/businesses/sainte-anne-de-beaupre-shrine>. They hold daily mass and have a boutique with online ordering.



Toronto’s First Post Office (<https://townofyork.com/>) and Toronto Letter Writers Society are presenting a holiday open house from 10am to 4 pm on Sunday, 4 December. The event is free. They also have a presentation on the evening of the 8th: the Tales of Christmas Past. And do not forget that their author series continues. Click on Events to find more information about all of these.



Friend Michel Houde found another interesting piece: this time about 4 women who left behind their normal lives to work at the UK Antarctic Heritage Trust post office, see <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-hampshire-63125638> for more. They process more than 80,000 cards each year and also count Gentoo penguins.

He also found an unusual video about a “cute” mailman entertaining a cat: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GUYPPwOVzLA>. This has to be the first time I have ever heard of such a thing, an amusing couple of minutes.



If you want a more literary bent to your information, I found an article about letters: <https://lithub.com/the-magic-and-risk-of-a-handwritten-letter/>. This is an especially good place to visit if you like best of the decade lists. The Literary Hub has 11 of them, from novels and essays to film and TV adaptations. There is even one for

books more of us should read and a guess of which ones will be read in 10 years.



Friend Bill Aaroe found another online site with out of copyright old books: www.forgottenbooks.com. He found the *Distribution List for Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta* which lists post offices and details RPO routing. We have a few of these in our collection. The book at left (*Coffin’s Directory of Philatelic Frauds*) is in our section for Who’s Who. It was published in 1887 in Freeport, Maine (now the home of L.L. Bean’s). There

may not be a large amount of post office-related material, however there could be some interesting items for any or all of us just like on <https://www.canadiana.ca/>, <https://archive.org/> and <https://www.gutenberg.org/>. Have fun!



This is an old story now, from 2017; still a good story. Newmarket created a “story pod” to be placed in their central square. The best article is: <https://www.dwell.com/article/torontos-story-pod-doubles-as-a-lending-library-and-community-hub-7d6af6b6>. You can also check it out on the Newmarket website: <https://www.newmarket.ca/storypod>. What a wonderful idea.



From a library to a post office: well, it used to be post office, This is another find on Atlas Obscura: <https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/tintagel-post-office>. This cottage was built in 1380 in Tintagel and is now a museum, you can see the post box in front of the building. The roof is wavy and the building is showing its age, however you can still visit and dress in Victorian garb if you want to be authentic to the period of the post office.



I like to include an amazing library as often as possible in the newsletter; this one is not exactly a library, it is the Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec, see the website at: <https://www.banq.qc.ca/>. You do need to have French to get the most out of their site, however I have included only a few items in the newsletter for those of you who do. Check out

the calendar, they host a wide variety of activities for adults and children, including showing Avatar on December 9th. The site is well worth a look.



I have searched far and wide for appropriate holidays in December and January. This one is the Jolabokafloð, the Icelandic Yule Book Flood, there are websites for those interested in the idea: <https://jolabokaflo.org/>

or <https://www.jolabokaflo.info/> and here is an article that explains it: <https://www.treehugger.com/icelanders-give-books-christmas-eve-4858313>.



Many of these other holidays are also related to books. To illustrate them I am using these university stamps (Unitrade 1941-4) from 2002. My favourite holiday is that 10 December is Dewey Decimal System Day. Most public libraries use this classification scheme and although we do not our worldwide collection is based on similar ideas. See: <https://www.goguardian.com/blog/celebrating-dewey-decimal-system-day> for more information.



The 16th is Jane Austen’s birthday and the 21st is both Crossword Puzzle Day and National Short Story Day (<https://bookstr.com/article/national-short-story-day-five-books-on-crafting-short-stories/> or <https://booktrib.com/2021/12/21/national-short-story-day-listen-to-your-literature-with-these-podcast-highlights/>) , what a

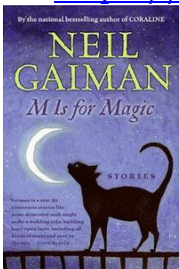
way to read without making a big time commitment. January 2nd is Science Fiction Day (my personal fav), celebrated on Isaac Asimov’s birthday and the 3rd is John Ronald Ruel Tolkien’s birthday. The week of the 8th to 14th is Universal Letter Writing Week to encourage everyone to write an actual letter and post it with a stamp.



January 9th is National Word Nerd Day and the 10th is Poetry at Work Day. The 18th is both Winnie-the-Pooh Day, celebrated on the birthday of A.A. Milne, and Thesaurus Day. The 25th is Library Shelfie Day this year. The 23rd is Handwriting Day so the best day to make your lists on paper and not your computer, phone or tablet. The 27th is Family Literacy Day in Canada, See this website for more: <https://abclifeliteracy.ca/all-programs/family-literacy-day/>. Less serious holidays include December 12th is National Maple Syrup Day, the 13th is Cocoa Day. And did you know that Christmas Day is also A'phabet Day (that is no "L" day, get it? noel. I know a bad pun). The 27th is the day to make cut-out snowflakes. January is Creativity Month so try to find the time to do something creative if you aren't going out to enjoy the cold. January first is "Z" Day, for those who come last in the alphabet, maybe we should just be anti-alphabetical for the day. Finally, on the 4th Earth is at Perihelion: <https://www.space.com/earth-closest-to-sun-perihelion-2022>.



While Willow Walks ... the column capitals edition
 One of the things that I noticed for the first time when I was walking to work every day was the very large number of columns in the city. Most of them are very plain and really just there to hold up the architecture. More surprising was the number of Ionic columns. The two examples above left are among the best I found although there were many more small copies. Above right is one of the few Corinthian capitals that I saw, while at left is part of the H.H. Fudger house partial columns. The house is quite spectacular, it has been divided for other purposes now. You can find more information about this house at: <https://www.acotoronto.ca/building.php>.



I want to end off with a New Year's wish from Neil Gaiman and Brainy Quote (<https://www.brainyquote.com/>). "I hope that in this year to come, you make mistakes. Because if you are making mistakes, then you are making new things, trying new things, learning, living, pushing yourself, changing yourself, changing your world. You're doing things you've never done before, and more importantly, you're doing something." At left is the cover of his book *M Is for Magic*.

Keep well and safe,
 Willow, Librarian

library@greenefoundation.ca

Harry Sutherland Philatelic Library

<http://www.greenefoundation.ca/library.htm#about>, <https://15758.rmwebopac.com/>

Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation

Newsletters: <http://www.greenefoundation.ca/library.htm#friends>