

# BC Philatelic Society Newsletter

Bringing stamp and postal-history collectors together since 1919

The BC Philatelic Society — Always on-line at www.bcphilatelic.org

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## Stamp war for the Falkland Islands and Canada's first Christmas stamp (Part 1 of 2) — by Virgil Soh



▲ The Falklands celebrated their centenary that year by issuing the legendary Centenary stamps on January 2, 1933

bcstamps.co.uk | stampboards.com | mapstamp.org | en.mercopress.com | The Guinness Book of Stamps Facts & Feats by James Mackay





A Argentine Postal Authorities was unaware that the December 1898 issue of the two cent Canadian commemorative a.k.a. the Xmas Map Stamp or the world's first Christmas stamp was issued almost 4 decades prior to their one peso map stamp!

A In response, Argentine's one peso map stamp clearly showing the Falklands as part of Argentine's territory was issued on January 1, 1936

In recent years, Argentina has issued stamps showing the Falkland Islands as part of its territory. The practice began January 2, 1933, when the Falklands issued its legendary Centenary stamps, which were refused by the Argentine Republic. A "postage-stamp war" ensued, with Argentina charging postage due fees on Falklands mail franked with Centenary stamps. In 1982, the Falklands War, war between Argentina and the United Kingdom, resulted over the long-standing dispute over the sovereignty of the Falklands Islands.

On January 1, 1936, Argentine Post issued a onepeso map stamp clearly showing the Falklands as part of Argentina's territory. In February, British Foreign Minister Anthony Eden stated in the House of Commons: "The British Ambassador at Buenos Aires had been instructed to protest against the inclusion of the Falkland Islands in this map stamp of Argentine Territory, and to inform the Argentine Government that HM Government cannot admit the claim that the Islands are Argentine property."

In 1944, the postage-stamp war shifted to the Antarctic. Britain arranged for the overprinting

of eight values of the 16 Falklands definitive stamps, issued in 1938, for use in other islands of the Falklands Archipelago: Graham Land, South Georgia, South Orkneys, and South Shetland. In 1946, a joint issue of the Falklands Dependencies appeared, showing a map of the Polar Regions with British territory delineated, including, of course, the Falklands.

Argentina retaliated, issuing stamps depicting maps of Argentina and what it claimed to be its Antarctic territories. The first of these, issued in 1947, commemorated the 43rd anniversary of the first Argentinian Antarctic mail. In 1954, a stamp honoured the Orcadas del Sur — the South Orkneys.

Antarctic territorial claims were suspended under the terms of the Antarctic Treaty of 1961, but both sides continued to attack each other philatelically. British sovereignty is shown on present day stamps of South Georgia, British Antarctic Territory, the Falklands and its dependencies. In 1964, Argentina issued a set of three stamps featuring maps of the Antarctic and the Islas Malvinas (the Falklands) with Argentinian maps superimposed.

# this issue

- Stamp war for the Falkland Islands and Canada's first Christmas stamp
- The Philatelic Friends Exchange Circuit meets in Cyprus
- Marianne stamps get a new look



And more...

When Argentina issued its 1936 one-peso map stamp, they apparently didn't realize that Britain's territorial claim of the Falklands appeared on a Canadian stamp issued

38 years earlier. That was the December, 1898 issue of the two-cent Canadian commemorative known as the world's first Christmas stamp and called by collectors the Map Stamp or the Imperial Penny Postage stamp. Our next issue will cover this stamp and its interesting history.

## The Philatelic Friends Exchange Circuit meets in Cyprus — by Rob Chew

Recently, I met up with some of my stamp collector friends in Cyprus. I belong to an organization called the Philatelic Friends Exchange Circuit (PFEC). It's a place where members can meet others who have an interest in exchanging used stamps. The PFEC was founded in 1984 in the United States and is currently headquartered in the Netherlands. Each year, members have the opportunity to attend the annual general meeting at a selected location. In 2007, I flew to Jersey to meet up with some of these PFEC members face-to-face for the first time.

So what happened at this year's PFEC meeting in Cyprus? Part of the time was spent sightseeing and visiting tourist attractions, while the rest of the time was devoted to philately. We spent one day in the Cypriot capital of Nicosia where we visited the Cyprus Philatelic Museum. On a another day, our group met up for dinner at a local restaurant. That's when we held a stamp exchange tombola (similar to a raffle), discussed plans for next year's meeting location, and had a question & answer session regarding members & their stamp exchanges.

It was great seeing everyone, and I look forward to future meetings...as long as my budget allows for overseas travel. For anyone interested in meeting new stamp exchange friends, please visit the PFEC blog at www.pjgpolderman.wordpress.com









hotos: Robert Chew

#### Marianne stamps get a new look — by connexionfrance.com

ew postage stamps went on sale July 16 with a new-look Marianne, whose features have been inspired by Femen protester Inna Shevchenko.







Image: http://www.stampmagazine.co.uk

Revealed in a ceremony at the Elysee by President Hollande, the stamp was designed by David Kawena and Olivier Ciappa. Mr Hollande chose the final design with the help of school students across France who had chosen the short list of three designs.

Mr Ciappa said that he had already received threats on Twitter about his design, which echo threats over his recent photo exhibition against homophobia, and politician Christine Boutin, of the Christian Democrat party, has called for a boycott of the stamp.

The stamp comes in 15 values and 15 colours and 630 million stamps have been printed in strict secrecy by La Poste's printworks at Boulazac in Dordogne over the past two months. In all, the printworks print nearly three billion Marianne stamps a year.



Grande Marianne de Gandon," designed and engraved by Pierre Gandon, and issued by France on March 12, 1945.

http://www.stampboards.com

#### **BC PHILATELIC:**

- Please exhibit at VANPEX 2013! Exhibits Chair Martine Mercier and Geoff Carter, chair one-page exhibition chair, both need applications! Download your applications at www.bcphilatelic.org.
- Philatelic Daffyinitions by BC Phil President Bob Ingraham:

Gum — What stamp collectors do to food after spending time and money on their hobby rather than on dental hygiene.

Criminal Offence — Theft of a stamp collection.

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