

THE KIWI

Hon. Secretary,
Mrs. M. Erskine,
12, Elliot Road,
London. N.W. 4.



July/August,
1953.
Volume Two
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THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Notes from The Secretary.

The Committee craves the indulgence of members for any delay in publishing this issue of "The Kiwi". Mr. Erskine, who has been a tower of strength to the Society, has been very seriously ill in hospital. I am very pleased to announce an improvement in his condition and, by the time you receive this he should be out of hospital, but he will have to remain in bed for some time at home. During this anxious period the work of the Hon. Secretary will be carried on by the Committee whenever possible and, I would appreciate all enquiries being addressed to me at 42, Irvine Road, Colchester, instead of to Mrs. Erskine for the time being.

Next Meeting.

This will be held on Wednesday, 16th September, at the Kingsley Hotel, Bloomsbury Way, W.C.1., nearest underground station Holborn (Kingsway), at 6.30 p.m. prompt. A Display and Talk will be given by H. Gordon Kaye who is an authority on the "Full Faces". Members can be sure of a very interesting and enjoyable evening and so do please make every endeavour to attend and bring a guest along as well.

New Members.

We are pleased to welcome to our circle the following new members: Charles A. Waterford, 24, Beechwood Avenue, Ruislip, Mx. Charles Edward Calderari, The Chimes, Winslow, Bletchley, Bucks. and G.B. Talbot, P.O. Box 12, Kikagati, Uganda.

I am sure that Mr. Talbot would welcome correspondence from members who collect the stamps of this territory which could be to their mutual advantage.

Subscriptions.

There are still a few members who have not yet paid their 1953 subscriptions which is now nine months over-due. If you had a RED CROSS on your May/June "Kiwi" and have not yet paid, the Committee must assume that you no longer desire membership of the Society and will instruct the Packet Secretary to delete your name from the packet circulation.

Club Packets.

Packet No. 8 is in circulation and No's 1 & 4 have been broken up and returned to their owners which leaves six packets in circulation to the value of over £1,200. Nearly enough material is to hand for packet 9 which should go out in a week or so.

Will members make sure that the correct address of the member to whom the packet is being sent is given on the wrapping. Recently a member had to travel two miles to the post office to confirm that he was the bona fide person to receive the registered packet because the wrong street number had been entered in the address by the sender.

After some delay, through the loss of 250 club books in the post, another consignment is to hand. They contain twice as many pages as the previous books and are a ld. cheaper at 3d. each and I hope are to your satisfaction. A supply will be included in circulating packets or they can be obtained from the Packet Secretary.

A supply of gummed labels bearing the Packet Secretary's address in case of non-delivery is being included in future packets for addressing to the next member.

New Zealand Handbook.

Two copies of "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand" Vol. II are for disposal to the first two bidders over £4.10.0. Send your bids and remittances to the Treasurer at 42, Irvine Road, Colchester. They are intended for the benefit of members at a reasonable price and not for resale at a profit.

Auction July 1953

Forty seven lots went under the hammer of that genial personality Noel Turner and for whose services we are most grateful. Only 10 lots were unsold and 8 lots went to postal bidders. The value of the material sold was £24.13.6. which was considered satisfactory taking into account that the Auction was held when the holiday season was in full swing.

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DO YOU WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT STAMPS?

How they are made, bought, stocked and sold,
and how to study them?

IF SO

You are invited to a series of talks to be held
at 3, Berners Street, London, W.1 during the next
six months.

The British Philatelic Association is providing a course
of 12 lectures for those interested in this subject, between
October and March. The lectures will be held from 5.30 to
7 p.m. on Wednesday at fortnightly intervals.

Accommodation makes it necessary to limit the number
attending to 30 and it is therefore advisable to forward
applications at the earliest possible moment in order to
avoid disappointment.

The lectures will all be given by eminent and qualified
philatelists and will be as comprehensive as possible. It is
hoped to include an official G.P.O. film illustrating the
production and distribution of British stamps by the Post
Office, as well as lectures on the methods of printing,
incorporating the display of the actual recess and letterpress
plates and master dies together with other material.

To cover expenses, those attending will be asked to
contribute at the following rates:-

Whole Course - 10/- for members of the B.P.A. or
their employees.

20/- for non-members.

For a single lecture - 2/6d. for members and non-members.

All applications to be addressed to :-

The British Philatelic Association,
3, Berners Street,
London. W.1.

PICTORIALS OF 1898

by

ALBERT A. HARD.

Early in the 1890's the New Zealand public were constantly prodding the Government to replace the drab "side face" issues of the 1870 and 1880's with stamps depicting the scenic attractions of New Zealand.

Eventually public pressure was so great that the Cabinet, at a meeting held on 28th December 1894 decided to bow to popular opinion and instructed the Secretary of the G.P.O. (Mr. W. Gray) to call for competitive designs and offer prizes for those selected. In the Government Gazette prizes of £150 and £100 were offered for designs for a set of eleven values, with no mention of the Queen's head being included. The wording being "The design of each stamp must include a representation of characteristic or notable N.Z. scenery, etc" to be sent under a nom de plume by July, 1895. Later it was decided to include two extra values, the ½d. and 9d, the latter because that was the rate for parcels to places outside N.Z.

Approx. 2,400 designs were submitted from which the following awards were made:-

½d.	H.W. Young	of	Auckland
1d.	J. Gant	"	Wellington
2d, 3d, 9d.	1/-	..	W.R. Book	"	"
4d, 6d, 8d.		..	E. Howard	"	Melbourne
2½d. 5d.	2/-, 5/-	..	E.T. Luke	"	"

a total of 13 designs.

The P.M.G. stated that the designs "are so excellent that the engraving should be entrusted only to the best engravers and the most modern principles applied in producing the stamps" and, he had already decided that the engraving should be done in England.

The Agent General got in touch with De la Rue & Co. who reported that "while the designs were satisfactory the printing of them by the surface process employed at the Government Printing Office in Wellington would not give satisfactory results".

The question of costs were receiving consideration and, after a discussion on the relative merits of surface and recess processes of printing it was decided to adopt the latter as likely to do justice to such high-class designs.

While the argument with De la Rue & Co. had been going on, Waterlow & Sons had been approached and they prepared two types of specimen dies, one for surface printing and the other for steel plates as had been used for the "Full Faces". Luckily for N.Z. the Premier, the Rt. Hon. R.J. Seddon was in London and the Agent General passed the buck to him. He soon settled the argument, considering the steel plate work infinitely superior to the surface printed job, and cabled the Cabinet back in N.Z. who instructed Waterlow & Sons to go ahead with the preparation of dies.

It was intended to issue the new set on January 1st 1898 and because of shortage of time instructions were given to have the first printings done in England. This date was not kept and the stamps were eventually issued on April 5th 1898.

Coming on to a market used only to the drab Colonial stamps of the period, the Pictorials caught on and soon became a best seller, and into the frenzy of buying came the announcement that an "error" had been made in the 2½d. The Government decided to sell stamps with the "error" as the plate had already been made, and a new plate was made with the name "Wakitipu" corrected to "Wakatipu". Those who speculated in the stamps found to their cost that because so many copies of the "error" were sold, the stamp with the correct spelling is much scarcer.

On July 9th 1898 the Audit Dept. pointed out that the printing and issuing of stamps in England was against the law and the stamps were withdrawn from sale in London in November, 1898. This meant that the printing of further supplies would have to be done in N.Z.

The Government Printer pointed out that instructions had not been carried out by Waterlow's and asked that corrections should be carried out when the new plates were made. He said that nearly 24 million 1d. stamps were used in N.Z. the previous year and to print the 1d. in two colours would take 44 weeks and a decision was reached to print the 1d. in one colour and the 4d. in two.

The transposition of the designs of the 1d. and 4d. was effected in 1900. In March of this year it was decided that to conform with the Postal Union the ½d. should be green, the 1d. red and the 2½d. dark blue. The blue of the Wakatipu 2½d. was close enough and it was decided to alter the ½d. and 1d. This brought about a change in the 6d. which was originally green to red, the ½d. from purple-brown to green and the 2d. from lake to shades of purple, violet and mauve to bring out the detail of the design more clearly. A change was also made in the size of the ½d. and 2d. designs by contracting the

borders, the vignette remaining as before, in order to fit the watermarked paper.

Also in 1900, pending the preparation of new plates for the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 2d. values a provisional issue of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 2d. values of the previous Queen's head design was made on Waterlow paper with the double line N.Z. and star watermark sideways.

In 1901 a new value was added to the series, the $1\frac{1}{2}$ d. which was to be khaki and symbolises N.Z.'s response to the Empire's call for troops to serve in the South African War.

In 1902 the thin "Cowan" paper with a new single line N.Z. and star watermark was introduced, at first all values excepting 2d. perforated 11, the 2d. being perforated 14. In July of this year, owing to shortage of stock of this paper, a small issue of the 6d. was made printed on paper watermarked Lisbon Superfine once in a sheet and again in March 1903 the 2/- stamp appeared on vertically laid paper without watermark, perforated 11.

In 1906 the perforating machines in use at the Government Printing Office were 3, all rotary machines, 2 gauging 14 and the other 11. The work performed by these machines had for some time been unsatisfactory and new wheels were obtained, all gauging 14. This accounts for the last issue of the Pictorials in 1906-7 being perforated 14.

The 1898 Pictorials were partly replaced in 1907 by the redrawn small pictorials as the plates became worn and were due for renewing. The size was reduced so as to standardise with the size of the "Penny Universals".

The $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. Wakatipu remained in use until replaced by the $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. K.G.V. Head type. The 2/- Milford Sound was replaced by the 2/- stamp duty type in 1912 and the 5/- Mt. Cook until it was sold out in June 1913 was then replaced by a 5/- stamp duty type.

In the next issue of "The Kiwi" I hope to describe some of the interesting re-entries which are to be found in this issue.

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A PHILATELIC TOUR OF NEW ZEALAND - Part 1.

by

H.L. BARTROP.

Our first sight of New Zealand after crossing the Tasman Sea was at sunset when the lighthouse at Cape Reinga suddenly flashed its beacon light around the sky. It was here - I recalled having read - that the spirits of dead Maori departed from New Zealand and let themselves down into the sea by clutching the roots of a great tree, there to continue life as they made their way back to Hawaika, the ancestral homeland, along the ocean bed. The name means literally the place of leaping. Here too at the most northern tip of New Zealand migratory birds congregate for their long flight over the ocean. We could see also the light from North Cape lighthouse, and soon we rounded that point and sailed down the east coast in calm water toward Auckland harbour. It was now quite dark so we turned in to our bunks thankfully to escape from the great waves which had tossed our ship about on the Tasman Sea. Next morning, as soon as I awoke, I could see the great mountains and cliffs of North Auckland and I recalled that here the Maori immigrants of 1350 made their landfall and named New Zealand Aotearoa - the long white cloud, or the long white brightness. Probably the land at first appeared to be a long bright cloud to them. Soon we were sailing into Auckland harbour with the sun sparkling on the water and I was told the Maori name of this harbour is Waitemata. Wai means water, te means the, and mata means surface but I was told the translation is really "the sparkling water". Here a dream of a lifetime became reality, and we set foot on New Zealand soil. What a tumultuous welcome we received! I declared my stamp collections and showed the Insurance Policy, so an entry was made in my passport and I passed through customs. So many places look beautiful from the sea, but closer contact dispels illusions - notably Port Said! Not so at Auckland. It is a really beautiful city and very hilly. From our Hotel lounge we had a grand view of the harbour and could look across to the Memorial Museum building on a high hill in the midst of a beautiful domain. It was December 23rd and we just had time for a hurried tour of the shops before they closed for Christmas. It was midsummer in New Zealand and after a traditional Christmas dinner of turkey and plum pudding we went to a beautiful bay named Mission Bay to see how people enjoy themselves in New Zealand at Christmas time. There they were bathing or sun-bathing and everyone was merry in the strong sunlight. We imagined our folk at home around a fire and I just longed for all the people we could see to experience a Christmas Day at home. Our first visitor was Campbell Paterson who very kindly took us in his car for a tour around Auckland. He took us on

the great north road up to the bush and showed us our first glimpse of the Ponga tree fern, and New Zealand flax - rarehula as the Maori called it - or phormium tenax, from which the Maori made their beautiful cloaks, waist mats, fishing lines, ropes, etc. He showed us a great Kauri pine tree and then took us to a narrow part of the isthmus from which we could see the Tasman sea on one side and the Pacific Ocean or Kiwa as the Maori named it on the other side. We bought some strawberries and he took us to his beautiful home to tea. There he has a garden in which native trees and plants thrive and a little path leads down to a stream. In his garden he showed us a lancewood tree, the branches of which slope downward until the tree has forced its way up through the bush into the clear light above, when the branches rise upward. From his front garden we could look across to Onehunga jetty. This is not pronounced "one hunger" but "Ohnayhoonga". It means:- One = beach and hunga = company of people, or o = the place of, and nehunga = burial; or according to another authority it means rich alluvial soil, so you will see it is by no means easy to find a correct translation of Maori place names! Probably you have seen the Onehunga postmark with 4 above and A beneath the name on an early Queen stamp.

I had a peep into Campbell Paterson's "sanctum" and a preview of his new loose-leaf catalogue, and then he took us back to Auckland. The following evening he came to dinner with us and looked through my albums. Our next visitor was Mr. Brodie - Frank Godden's Agent - with his Father who is a greatly respected veteran dealer. I shall never forget his remark as he removed one of my less reputable Chalon Heads and put in a very fine replacement with the postmark below the Queen's face:- "I like to see her peepin' over the top"! They are a grand couple, Messrs. Brodie and son and they taught me a lot. Then the Secretary of the Auckland Philatelic Society - Miss Penk - paid a visit. She told me all about their plans for the great 1955 Centennial International Exhibition in Auckland. That will be a very great event in New Zealand Philatelic history, and Miss Penk is the Secretary of the Exhibition Committee. They are planning, working and collecting funds ahead for that great event. Would it not be a grand idea to send them a combined donation from members of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain? I will start with £1. Who will send me a donation? I will forward the money to Miss Penk and ask our Secretary to acknowledge donations in the Kiwi bulletin. We shall have more detailed news of the Classes in which you can compete later on. Maori people were to be seen everywhere around Auckland. It was so strange to see a signboard indicating the bus to Papatoetoe. Toetoe is a swamp-rush used for house thatching and papa means level ground. Remuera a suburb of Auckland means: remu = lower end or hem and wora - burnt; named after an incident which occurred long ago. Then we went to Otahuhu, the postmark is often seen on early Victorian stamps with 5 above and A below. The British Headquarters were nearby during the second Maori war and the name means: the home of Tahuhu, a chief of olden times.

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I should very much like to have gone to Waitangi where the famous treaty was signed, but there was not time. The name means: wai = water and tangi = weeping or making much noise. As each Maori chief signed or made his mark on the Treaty, Capt. Hobson shook hands with him and said; "He iwi taki tatou" which means - we are one people. The land over which the city of Auckland and suburbs stands was called by the Maori: Tamaki - Makaurau. It means Tamaki of a hundred lovers and Tamaki means battle so it refers figuratively to the many battles between tribes for possession of this very desirable district. In Auckland Railway Station there is a statue group of Kupe, his wife Hine te Aparangi, the Magician Pehakourangi in their canoe Matahuria in which they discovered New Zealand about 950 A.D. On the north-east coast above Auckland you will find Hokianga on the map, this means to return to the beginning and is the traditional returning place of the explorer Kupe. The postmark Hokianga was dated 1842 which could not be altered and I have a photograph of a letter postmarked Auckland 19th May 1851, Russell 24th May 1851 and Hokianga 7th June 1842. Russell in the Bay of Islands was the original seat of Government in New Zealand. It is quite a climb up Queen Street to the New Zealand Stamp Company's Shop owned by Mr. Savill of Christchurch where Mr. Matt Johnson was the Manager. He very kindly gave me a book of Railway Station names, and their meanings published nearly twenty years ago by N.Z. Railways to enable employees to answer the questions of passengers who might want to know meanings of Maori names. Matt Johnson has a very fine collection of Tonga Island stamps and is a real stamp enthusiast. Last but by no means least, there is the famous firm of Pim and Co. Their lift is inside one entrance and it was out of order so I searched for their stairway and after climbing three flights of stairs I found them. Kindly courtesy I have experienced everywhere in New Zealand but nowhere to a greater extent than in Messrs. Pim's offices. Apart from business house reviews and price lists there is no stamp magazine published in New Zealand. In Auckland there is surely one of the loveliest rose gardens in the world. The museum in the midst of a most beautiful garden domain on a high hill is equal in my opinion to any in the world, and the Maori exhibits - beautifully displayed - kept me happily occupied in study for days and days.

From H.L. Bartrop, "Northcot", Highworth, Swindon, Wilts, to whom donations for the New Zealand 1955 Centennial International Exhibition should be sent.