



THE KIWI

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The New Zealand Philatelic Federation

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VOLUME 46, NUMBER 2, MARCH 1997

WHOLE NUMBER 261

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, 22ND MARCH, 1997,
AT THE CENTRAL CLUB HOTEL,
16 - 22, GREAT RUSSELL STREET, LONDON, WC1B 3LR
STARTING AT 2.30 P.M.

THE ANNUAL COMPETITION WILL TAKE PLACE, DETAILS OF WHICH MAY BE
FOUND ON PAGES 8 AND 9 OF THE LAST ISSUE OF *THE KIWI*
MEMBERS ARE ASKED TO BRING NEW ACQUISITIONS AND QUERIES

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NEW EDITOR FOR *THE KIWI* - AN OUTSIDER'S VIEW

IAN McQUEEN

My qualifications for writing to the editorial committee are sparse: I am not a member; I don't, except for one album of covers, collect New Zealand; but I am a friend and admirer of Allan Berry (aren't we all?); I do read the magazine regularly; I have reviewed it frequently over the past decade; and I have even contributed a few comments and illustrations.

So you need an editor. Of course you do. It may be Allan's fault that you cannot easily find one. The trouble is that he has served you too well. He is one of the most distinguished and able editors anywhere in philately. It is hardly surprising that nobody feels capable of matching his achievements. But someone must try, and he or she ought to start soon, before Allan departs for New Zealand.

Allan was probably exaggerating when he wrote that the society was bound to fold if it has no journal. But reflect: more members read *The Kiwi* than ever attend a meeting. The journal is the sticking plaster which binds the membership worldwide. For many members it must be the only link with the society. Lapsed subscriptions, leading to a smaller and less effective society, will be the consequence of having no magazine.

Everyone hopes that some brave person will soon volunteer. After surviving the initiation, he or she will enjoy it. Perhaps the first few numbers will not quite reach the standards which Allan has set. Never mind: I, as a reviewer, will not criticise; nor must the membership, until the new editor has had time to settle in. Furthermore, if the new editor wishes immediately to stamp his personality and authority upon *The Kiwi* and haul it into the 20th century before it is too late, he could consider printing it on A-4!

EDITORIAL

KEITH C. COLLINS

I am sure that the majority of you read *The Kiwi* from cover to cover.

How many of you gave more than a passing glance to the list of Officers of the Society in the January 1997 issue? As you read you may have wondered why some names appear more than once, in fact one appears three times. This is not because an elitist clique is trying to take over the Society, but by the Membership's reluctance to join the Committee.

However, there has been a miracle. Not one but two members have volunteered. Andrew Dove and Paul Wreglesworth, both of whom have many commitments on their time, but are nevertheless prepared to give some of it to the Society.

Andrew Dove has agreed to take over as Editor of *The Kiwi*. I am sure that all of you will join me in wishing him every success for the future. Perhaps the time is right for those of you who always planned an article for *The Kiwi* to send your copy to the NEW EDITOR.

The Committee welcome Andrew and Paul, thanking them for offering their time. How many others will follow their lead?

A NOTE FROM THE NEW EDITOR

It is a daunting and exciting prospect taking over such a well established institution as *The Kiwi*. I am looking forward to the challenge. I have been a member of the Society for about 20 years

(with a break when I lived in New Zealand) and the time has obviously come for me to take a more active role.

My own collecting interests are King George V, Military Postal History and the 1946 Peace issue. I am looking forward to learning about all other issues.

Luckily, Allan Berry will be available to help me get into the swing of things. For the time being, can you continue to send copy to him, please.

ANDREW DOVE

MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS. We welcome

John R. Buchko, Box 434, Slave Lake, Alberta, Canada, T0G 2A0
D.C. Piggott, 34, Hangleton Valley Drive, Hove, East Sussex, BN3 8AP
L.W.F. Wheeler, Apple Trees, 61, High Street, Graveley, Huntingdon, Cambs., PE18 9PL
C.K. Folland, Chapel Cottage, Turville Heath, Henley-on-Thames, Oxon., RG9 6JU

RESIGNED

N.R. Dawe, 40, Brockstone Road, St. Austell, Cornwall, PL25 3DP
F. East, 41, St. Neots Road, Eaton Ford, Huntingdon, Cambs., PE19 3BA
J.H. Gerrard, 28, Pine Dean, Great Bookham, Surrey, KT23 4BT
Wayne Menuz, 2854, Cherry Avenue, San José, CA 95125, USA.
W. Peacock, 50, Castleview Road, Slough, Berks., SL3 7NQ
G. Vaughan, 23, Challenge Close, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 4RT
D. Walton, 64, Millbeck Green, Collingham Green, Nr. Wetherby, West Yorkshire, S22 5AG

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

B. Babister, 121, Weymede, Byfleet, Surrey, KT14 7DJ
(previously of 9, More Lane, Esher.)
B.N. Cartwright, 38, Leicester Street, Leamington Spa, Warwicks., CV32 4SE
(previously of Andover, Hants.)
A. Gardiner, 6, Milford House Nursing Home, Milford Mill Road, Salisbury, Wilts., SP1 1NJ
(previously of 34, Hulse Road, Salisbury.)

MEETING HELD SATURDAY, 25TH JANUARY, 1997

BRITISH SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIAN PHILATELIST - THE NEW ZEALAND
CONNECTION

Our Chairman, Alan Baker, opened the meeting, advising members that Ernie Leppard was unwell and unable to attend, the members sending him best wishes for a return to good health.

Alan then passed the meeting over to the British Society of Australian Philatelists under their President Bill Legg.

Bill opened the displays with his own showing of Airmails, particularly thos across the Tasman to New Zealand. He, however, started with a most unusual example of a Great Britain 1911 Coronation Airmail Post Card addressed to New Zealand.

Then followed examples of flights by Ulm and Kingsford Smith in the early 1930s with associated unofficial and official cards and envelopes produced for these early flights. An interesting example had a late fee handstamp for reasons unknown. Mail was also shown from the aborted Southern Cross Flight where the New Zealand return mail had to be sent by sea.

Bill ended with examples of covers from the MacRobertson Air Race, the early horseshoe route and finally, Kingsford Smith's Xmas mail flight which was so delayed, return mail from the U.K. did not leave until early January.

Phil Bassett then took over to show various Australian stamps connected with King George VI. He started with First Day covers and scarce plate blocks of the 1d. and 2d. values (the numbers being normally guillotined off), followed by examples of State Government perfined stamps designed to discourage employee fraud but which may well have encouraged illicit sales to the stamp trade.

Then followed the remaining values with examples of paper and perforation changes and plate cracks in the perf guide holes ending with the high value stamps of the King and Queen in Coronation robes, perhaps to excuse the fact that no Coronation set had been issued.

Then we were shown the 1940 Airmail services issue and the sad fact that all three people depicted had died in the war. Phil followed up with War Surcharges, Replacement definitives and specimens, ending, as a final thought, with Cinderellas used on Australian Wine Bottles which he thought was a subject he wished he could be sponsored to research.

We were then privileged to see part of Guy Linfield's collection of early Victoria stamps and covers. Examples of early pre-stamp mail were displayed and then the first "Half-Length" stamps prepared locally by Ham and then Campbell and others during the Private Contract Period together with their associated Butterfly postmarks and then Barred Ovals. "Queen on the Throne" printings of Perkins Bacon and Emblems produced locally by Calvert followed and then the scarce Registered and Too Late stamps both on and off Cover. Your reporter was much impressed by the quality of the display. It would be very difficult, if not impossible, to assemble such choice items today.

The final display was provided by Bob Emery who showed Australian First World War mail starting with the joint Anzac Force in Egypt and Gallipoli before transferring to France. All items were registered and displayed many different types and settings of the registration etiquette labels. Such items, although scarce, are available. An interesting query raised was why the equivalent New Zealand do not seem to exist. Neither Bob nor your reporter can recall seeing such. The final item was a label for a Registered Cable which may be the only one reported.

Our President, John Smith gave the vote of thanks and the meeting closed just before 5 o'clock.

J.W.

NORTH OF ENGLAND REGIONAL MEETING.

At the Orrel meeting on Saturday, 16th November, 1996, eleven members were present and apologies were received from seven. The new Chairman, Geoff Wragg, took the chair. The first part of the meeting was spent fixing the dates for 1997 and discussing the topics for these meetings. The dates for 1997 were confirmed as 15th February, 31st May, 27th September and 15th November, these being different in two cases from the last report. The meeting then went on to some of the entries displayed in the competition where the member explained and discussed the entry in more detail. The entries shown were New Zealand Airgraphs, presentation copies of the Queen Victoria Second Sideface issues, the Queen Elizabeth II Middle values and a thematic entry of the Chatham Islands.

After the break there was a short discussion on what to do with your collection if it has to be sold either by yourself or your relatives. The members put forward a number of ways, some from their own experiences.

Recent acquisitions were then shown as follows. Tom Hetherington showed some early Kiwis, slot machine issues and postcards of the First World War with cancellations of the New Zealand Army Post Offices. Aubrey Halpern showed maxi cards from the Ross Dependency and New Zealand/United States of America joint Antarctic covers. John Percival showed the 1960 Definitive issue, including plate blocks, varieties and coil pairs. Paul Wreglesworth showed missing colours from the 1970 Definitive issue and varieties of the Queen Victoria Second Sideface issue. Richard Simmons showed King George VI plate blocks. Tom Latto showed pictures of the Chatham Islands, early air covers of the islands and a new source of illustrated Health covers. The Secretary showed the 1996 Health Teddy Bear error and the Chairman ended the meeting by showing a complete sheet of the ½d Green, Mount Cook, originally prepared for the Dickie Trials.

The next meeting will be held on 15th February 1997 at 1.30 p.m. at Orrell. The members are asked to bring sheets of their own choice on any topic of New Zealand, initially six, more if time permits.

J. LINDLEY

A NOTE FROM THE PACKET SECRETARY

Wanted for the Exchange Packet - your surplus New Zealand stamps, postal history and postcards. Turn your unwanted items into cash. This will enable you to further your current interests. Straight forward issues from the 1950s through to the late 1980s are not selling well. However, there is always a demand for the unusual items - that is, plate blocks, errors, back of the book items, etc. Please make the effort to send in one or two books at least.

REVIEWS

The Wine Post Handbook 1982-95, by Geoff Weston. Published by Westons Winery Publications, 25, Forresbank Avenue, Wakari, Dunedin, New Zealand. Price NZ\$35-00, plus postage - air mail NZ\$15-00; economy mail NZ\$10-50; surface mail NZ\$8-00. Payment may be made by equivalent sterling currency cheque or bank draft.

This is a 30 page, printed one side only, A4 size booklet describing the Cinderella issues prepared by Westons Reserve Winery. To quote from the introduction:-

The Wine Post stamps are unique to Westons Reserve Winery and are issued only from there. They are for the promotion of our wines and the winery, they are fixed to mail and packages sent abroad, and for local deliveries of wine and mail as well as for philatelic collectors.

It is refreshing to see such a clear cut statement, no fudging or masking of the purpose. The various issues are described in detail and illustrated in colour with a note that due to difference in the paper used for the book, the shades may not truly reflect those of the issued labels. The legend of Aken-Re and the WineBird from the Pharaohs of Egypt is given, as a depiction of the Fabulous WineBird carrying Aken-Re to safety from Pharaoh Narmer is used as part of the design of many of the labels. One wonders if this will attract the Bird Stamp Collector - although other themes may also be found. For those who collect the Cinderella issues of New Zealand this will be a most useful addition to the library.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

1977 Len Jury Catalogue of New Zealand Stamps, published by Len Jury Ltd., at P.O.Box 4400, Auckland, New Zealand. Price NZ\$10-00 posted - credit cards accepted.

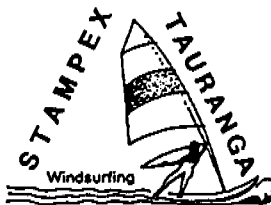
This is the 27th year of publication of this small format, simplified catalogue of New Zealand Stamps. As before, the illustrations of the stamps are reduced in size but they are in full colour which appear remarkable true to the real thing. There is also a 1981-96 Australia price list and one or two Cinderella items are also listed. A useful catalogue for the simplified collector - fulfilling its purpose exactly.

SPECIAL DATESTAMPS

STAMPEX TAURANGA



24 JANUARY • 1997



25 JANUARY • 1997

STAMPEX TAURANGA

Fun with Philately



26 JANUARY • 1997

STAMPEX TAURANGA



27 JANUARY • 1997

Four special date stamps were issued to commemorate the Stampex Tauranga exhibition held at Baycourt, Tauranga from 24th - 27th January, 1997.

AUPEX '97

AUPEX '97 is a New Zealand National Stamp Exhibition organised to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Auckland Philatelic Society. It will be held at Harrahs Sky City Convention Centre, Cnr. Victoria and Federal Streets, Auckland, November 12 - 16, 1997.

Bulletin No. 1 has just been received. It contains details of the planned events during the Exhibition, Exhibition Regulations and an Entry Form. As the New Zealand Society of Great Britain is affiliated to the New Zealand Philatelic Federation, members are qualified to enter. Anyone interested should write to the Secretary:-

The Secretary, Nic Hendy, AUPEX '97, P.O.Box 60-027, Tititangi, Auckland, New Zealand.

THE BRITISH LIBRARY PHILATELIC COLLECTIONS MOVE TO St PANCRAS

The Philatelic Collections will move to the new British Library building at St. Pancras during November, December, 1997, and January, 1998. This will be the largest move of philatelic material ever and in order to achieve this in a safe and orderly manner all services (including information services) will be closed for this period. They will reopen (with the exception of the exhibition) on

2nd February, 1998, at St. Pancras. During the period of closure all communications will be acknowledged and will be replied to in February, 1998, or sooner if possible.

The philatelic exhibition, presently in the Kings Library gallery, will close between November, 1997, and early April, 1998, when it will reopen with new exhibits/material at St. Pancras.

Our address until 30th November, 1997, is:-

The British Library,
Philatelic Collections
Great Russell Street
London, WC1B 3DG

Telephone: 0171-412-7635/6
Fax: 0171-412-7745
E-mail: philatelic@bl.uk

Our address from 1st December, 1997, is:-

The British Library,
Philatelic Collections
96, Euston Road,
London, NW1 2DB

Telephone: 0171-412-7635/6
Fax: 0171-412-7745
E-mail: philatelic@bl.uk

For further information about the British Library moves to St. Pancras and details of the Philatelic Collections, see the British Library web site Portico: <http://www.bl.uk/>

DISPLAYS TO LOCAL SOCIETIES

Allan P. Berry will be giving a display of the stamps and postal history of the Government Life Insurance Department to the Hayling Island and District Philatelic Society on Friday, 30th May, 1997. The Society meets at Hayling School, Church Road, Hayling Island, and the meetings start at 7.30 p.m.

NEWS RELEASE

NEW ZEALAND CATTLE MOO-VE IN ON FIRST STAMP ISSUE FOR 1997

Rural New Zealand is the theme of New Zealand Post's first 1997 stamp issue featuring Cattle of New Zealand, released on 15th January.

New Zealand Post's David Kennett says the breeds highlighted on this stamp issue have proved to be among the best dairy and beef producers for this country.

"Farming and agriculture has been a strong influence on New Zealand's culture, with our dairy and meat products industries enjoying a well-deserved reputation for quality throughout the world."

The three dairy breeds and three beef breeds depicted include the Holstein-Friesian (40 cents), Jersey (80 cents), Simmental (\$1-00), Ayrshire (\$1-20), Angus (\$1-50) and the Hereford (\$1-80).

The stamps depict images New Zealanders' can identify with, and show cattle in their natural New Zealand farm surroundings including the milk shed, beside electric fences, parading on Show Day and grazing on various terrains.

Cattle farming in this country began in 1814, and by 1882 the first refrigerated cargo of meat and dairy products left New Zealand.

"Cattle in New Zealand now number nearly nine million, and contribute to the economy immensely," said Mr. Kennett.

The Cattle of New Zealand stamp issue coincided with the Chinese New Year - The Year of the Ox. To commemorate the Lunar New Year, the stamps were produced with a gutter strip through each sheet featuring the lunar calendar ox.

Cattle of New Zealand stamps and first day cover were designed by Lindy Fisher of Auckland and were printed by the House of Questa in England. They were available at New Zealand Post retail outlets, Philatelic Sales Centres and the Philatelic Bureau from 15th January, 1997.

LATEST STAMP ISSUE EXPLORES THE DISCOVERERS.

New Zealand Post's latest stamp issue 'Discoverers' was released on 12th February, 1997. The first of a regular release of stamp issues leading up to the Year 2000, the Discoverers stamps feature six of New Zealand's early Discoverers.

"New Zealand will be one of the first places in the world to see the sun rise in the year 2000, so it's an appropriate time to reflect on our heritage and history," said Russell Watson, General Manager, New Zealand Post, Stamps Business Unit. "The Millennium series of stamps will celebrate important milestones of our past, chronicling the changing face of New Zealand over the centuries."

The six brave voyagers depicted on the first stamps of the Millennium series include: James Cook (40c), Kupe (80c), Maui (\$1-00), Jean de Surville (\$1-20), Dumont d'Urville (\$1-50), Abel Tasman (\$1-80).

A close look at each stamp will reveal depictions of different aspects linked with each of the famous individuals portrayed, such as the first ever complete map of the New Zealand coastline, produced by James Cook, shown on the 40c stamp, one of three anchors that was lost by Jean de Surville during his voyages on the \$1-20 stamp and the portrayal of Maui, a Maori Mythical figure, on the \$1-00 stamp.

The Discoverers stamps and first day cover were designed by Red Cactus Design of Wellington, New Zealand and the stamps were printed by Southern Colour Print of Dunedin, New Zealand.

Another new stamp exploded onto the scene in February with the Mt. Ruapehu \$10-00 Definitive issue. The new definitive stamp, on sale from 12th February, 1997, features Mt. Ruapehu in eruption during 1996 and replaces the \$10-00 Little Brown Kiwi. The stamp with it's distinctive border of volcanic rocks was designed by Red Cactus Design of Wellington, New Zealand and printed by Joh Enschede of the Netherlands by lithography.

QUESTIONS OF HEALTH.

ALAN BAKER

1 - 1965 Piwakawaka (Fantail)

Health is important to everyone, but none more than the New Zealand philatelist. Over the 67 years during which New Zealand has issued annual health stamps, the styles, the designs, the values, the printers, the printing methods and almost every other aspect of stamp production you care to mention have been changing; and with them there has been an almost unlimited prospect of varieties and errors.

For many years I have had in mind a series of occasional articles, not so much about the common varieties which are already well documented, as drawing attention to some of the more unusual

matters which I have come across. These may be of factual interest, or may present problems which I find difficulty in solving, but to which other collectors may see obvious explanations.

The first subject comes into a problem category, and concerns the 1965 4d + 1d Piwakawaka. This was the higher value of the sixth bird issue and was printed by Harrison and Sons in four colour photogravure - yellow, brown, green and black.

It was printed in sheets of 120 units, in six rows of twenty, and the Post Office instructed that this issue should be printed and perforated in composite blocks to include the 6 unit miniature sheets. On the main sheets traffic lights in the four colours appeared to the right of stamp 20 in row 6, and plate numbers beneath stamp 4 in row 6.

It is the plate numbers which provide the problems. The normal plate block shows plate numbers 1A1A1A from the brown, yellow and black cylinders but no plate number from the green. I have never seen a plate block with four numbers and this is confirmed by the CP catalogue (T37b with 1A1A1A) and by Volume VI of *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand* at page 228 which also refers to 1A1A1A for the 4d + 1d. Why did the green cylinder have no number? The only explanation seems to be that the green plate number was not added at the hand planning stage and that this was a simple human error. Has anyone ever seen a green plate number?

A few years ago I acquired a plate block which goes one stage further. It has only the brown plate number, both the yellow and the black numbers also being missing in this case. There seems to be no trace of the numbers on the paper, the only other unusual feature on the block being a green smear beneath RR of HARRISON under stamp 1, which seems to be some extraneous ink on the paper with no relevance to the plate numbers.

How did this strange variety come about? I find it difficult to see a reasonable explanation. If the pressure on these cylinders was not fully set up, this would have affected the bottom row of stamps as well as the plate numbers and there is no indication of this. It is also highly improbable that two cylinders would have been so poorly set up in the same way. There might have been some foreign matter on the paper at the time of printing which blocked off these plate numbers, and became removed later, leaving the sheet blank at this point; but this seems a tall story.

I have seen no evidence of the layout of the composite block. If there were more than one main sheet in the block, it would be possible that only one sheet had the omissions under discussion. But even then there would be many copies extant.

Has anyone another copy with the same omissions? Has anyone any other explanation of this most unusual occurrence?

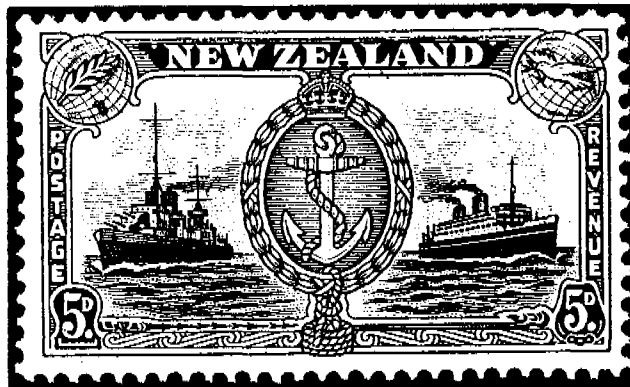
Obviously there must be an explanation, but it escapes me. I was in touch with both Harrison and Sons and the New Zealand Post Office after I had acquired the block, but no record seems to exist and no immediate solution comes to mind.

1946 PEACE ISSUE - 5d. VALUE

E.W.P. Leppard.

At the society auction on 30th November, 1996, a late lot for the society funds was a full sheet of the 5d. value, 8x15 impressions, 120 stamps with the imprint of Waterlow & Sons Ltd., in the bottom margin under the 4th and 5th stamps. The stamp features the HMNZS Achilles and the MV Dominion Monarch. Looking to see which plates, frame and centre, it was printed from I am in a bit of a muddle.

The frame plate flaws are Row 7/3 doubling to frame lines and Row 8 and 10 most of the stamps contain retouching which is frame plate 42794. For the Centre plate we have the Row 4/3 re-entry and the 'trailing aerial' scratch line at Row 8/1, the plate number is not quoted in Volume II of The Postage Stamps of New Zealand.



Stamp as issued.

The other frame plate in Volume II is numbered 42850 with its centre plate numbered 42792. Turning to the Die Proof Book of Waterlow & Sons Ltd., Part 1, by Colin Fraser and Robson Lowe - copy as below - we find for the 5d. value 2 frame plates and 2 centre plates but numbered - frame 52854 and unnumbered centre plate with the second combination frame 42794 with centre 42792. One or other of the two books, Volume II of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand or the Die Proof book is in error with their numbering and both do not record the centre plate used.

I would be inclined to think the numbering in the Die Proof book is the one in error as this shows the frame plate number 42854 being shown twice as the 5d. value and again as the 6d. value whilst the frame plate number 42850 shown in Volume II of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand is not listed in the Die Proof book at all.

For the 6d. value both Volume II of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand and the Die Proof book agree with the two frame plates numbered 42853 and 42854 and the two centre plates as 42851 and 42852. It might serve a purpose to look at other countries plate numbers by Waterlow & Sons, to see if there is a continuing sequence of the numbering.

Quite a few years ago in *The Kiwi* volumes XVII Number 6 and XVIII number 1 of November 1968 and January 1969, Phil Evans, one of our distinguished ex-Presidents, was looking at queries for the 3d. Airforce value when he bet 10/- to society funds that no one would find cross combinations of the two frame plates and two centre plates. He was immediately proved wrong and had to pay considerably more than the 10/- to buy the piece proving him wrong.

The point is can anyone show cross combinations of some of the other plates - i.e. the 5d., 6d., etc. which all use 2 frame and 2 centre plates, and try to set the record straight of which frame numbers were used by the 5d. value.

Of the two ships in the design, by James Berry, HMNZS Achilles is well known for its exploits at the Battle of the River Plate, perhaps less well known, in fact a wartime secret, was that in 1943 it had the bottom blown out during a refit in Portsmouth harbour when someone left welding

cylinders on overnight, lighting next morning. Some 29 dockyard workmen were killed and 60 injured in the explosion. The repairs and refit took over twelve months to complete.

The MV Dominion Monarch was nicknamed the Dominion Maniac by its crew as the port holes were only three feet above the waterline. Leaving port someone always managed to forget to close the port holes and swamped the crews quarters. A fast ship, one of only three allowed to travel out of convoy during the war, the others being the Queen Elizabeth and the Mauritania, their speed, up to over 30 knots, could outpace any submarine.



The original design by James Berry subsequently amended.

		Die No.	Roller No.	Proof No.	Plate No.
1d.	F	17471	13908	16192	42725,42790
	V	17478	13909	16194	42724
3d.	F	17473	13954	16193	42798,42856
	V	17480	13958	16147	42796,42883
4d.	F	17475	13953	16194	42795,427287
	V	17484	13957	16145	42788,42789
5d.	F	17474	13952	16195	42854,42794
	V	17483	13955	16143	? ,42792
6d.	F	17477	13965	16196	42853,42854
	V	17481	13960	16146	42851,42852
8d.	F	17472	13886	16197	42752,42855
	V	17479	13887	16143	42763
9d.	F	17476	13929	16198	42723,42878
	V	17482	13956	16141	?

Schedule of the Waterlow & Sons Ltd. plate numbers from the Die Proof book by Colin Fraser and Robson Lowe

None of these plate numbers were shown on the issued sheets and can only be deduced from flaws and re-entries.

FOUND OPEN / OFFICIALLY SEALED

PAUL WREGLESWORTH

The cover illustrated at Figure 1 was posted on 24th February, 1896, from Methven to The Union Bank in Christchurch. It bears four 1d. Queen Victoria Second Sideface definitive stamps, paying the rate for a letter between half and one ounce. Somewhere en route the envelope was damaged - given the weight indicated by the postage paid and the size of the envelope, the contents

must have been a tight fit, possibly contributing to the splitting of the envelope. It has been intercepted by an official within the post office who has resealed the envelope and in doing so, has covered the damage with an official label.

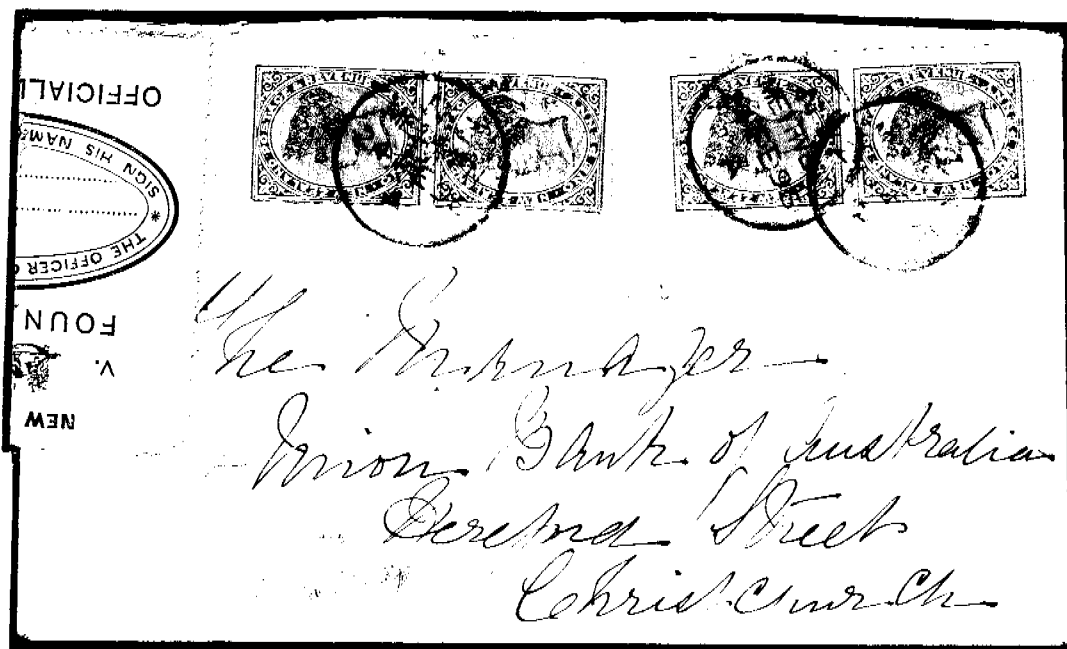


Figure 1

The label, illustrated at Figure 2, is white, perforated on all four sides and measures approximately 5.5 cm x 6 cm. In the central part of the label is a printed oval section and around the outer part of this is inscribed THE OFFICER CLOSING THIS MUST SIGN HIS NAME IN THE CENTRE. The label has been signed/initialled twice.

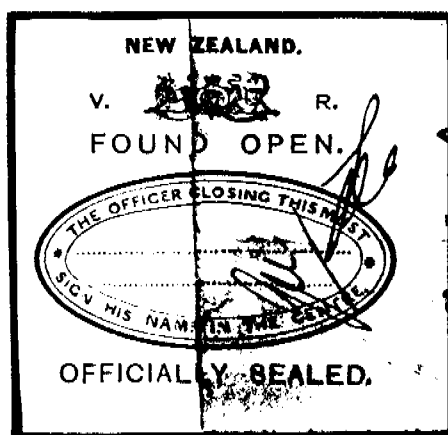


Figure 2

The envelope is backstamped on receipt in Christchurch and has the usual Union Bank receiving stamps. Both are dated 24th February, 1896.

This is the first example of this label that I have seen, although I have seen one auction lot - wreck mail - which appeared to be describing a similar item from about the same period. Unless I am looking in the wrong place, I can find no reference to these labels in any Volumes of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand. I would be interested to hear from anyone who can shed further light on these labels and their period of use.

CINDERELLA CORNER

CENTENARY OF FREEMASONS GRAND LODGE OF NEW ZEALAND

JOHN WATTS

Freemasonry can be traced back in the United Kingdom to 1717 and as the British Empire was established across the world the Freemasons Lodges were established in the territories under its control. Some of the Lodges were through traveling dispensations or warrants issued to Lodges attached to regiments serving in the outposts of the Empire and others to Freemasons who emigrated in search of gold or followed other commercial interests. Historical records show that with the arrival of the 73rd Regiment of Highlanders in New South Wales late in 1809, Freemasonry became active in Australia. The first permanent warrant was issued in New South Wales in 1820 under the Grand Lodge of Ireland in Sydney. With the dispensation of the Sydney Freemasons in 1843 a Lodge was established in Auckland under the Irish Constitution.

Freemasons who arrived that were members of the English Constitution were keen to have Lodges established in New Zealand and an advertisement in 'The Colonist & Port Nicholson Advertiser' dated 9th August, 1842, asked brethren to attend a meeting at the Southern Cross Hotel to consider applying for a warrant to hold a Lodge in Port Nicholson. The outcome of this meeting was an approach to the Freemasons of New South Wales, South Australia and Van Diemens Land who had the authority of the Grand Lodge of England requesting permission to hold Lodge meetings in the infant village of Port Nicholson in the Province of Wellington.

Permission was granted with a charter finally arriving from Grand Lodge in England in July, 1846, for the New Zealand Pacific Lodge Wellington. From the establishment of the original Lodge, Freemasonry spread rapidly through New Zealand, a Lodge was established in Lyttelton in 1851, Christchurch in 1852 and Auckland in 1855, all under the English Constitution.

Because of the time it took to communicate with the 'Old Country' and obtain dispensation and warrants for new Lodges to operate, dispensation was in many cases obtained from Australian Lodges, which showed close affinity between the two new countries. At a later stage under the English Constitution the Wellington Pacific Lodge was granted permission to issue dispensations and a number of new Lodges were established in this manner.

Freemasonry under the Scottish Constitution in both Australia and New Zealand was slow in becoming established in comparison to Freemasonry of the other Constitutions, the first New Zealand Scottish Lodge being established in Dunedin in 1861.

It is interesting to note that French Freemasonry became active in New Zealand first in 1837 with a meeting being arranged on a ship of the French Navy at Port Levy, Banks Peninsula, and then in 1843 the 'Le Rhin', part of a French fleet, arrived in Port Nicholson and among the visitors who went aboard were members of the New Zealand Pacific Lodge. Several of the crew were members of an irregular Lodge formed at Akaroa a few weeks before under the Grand Orient of France.

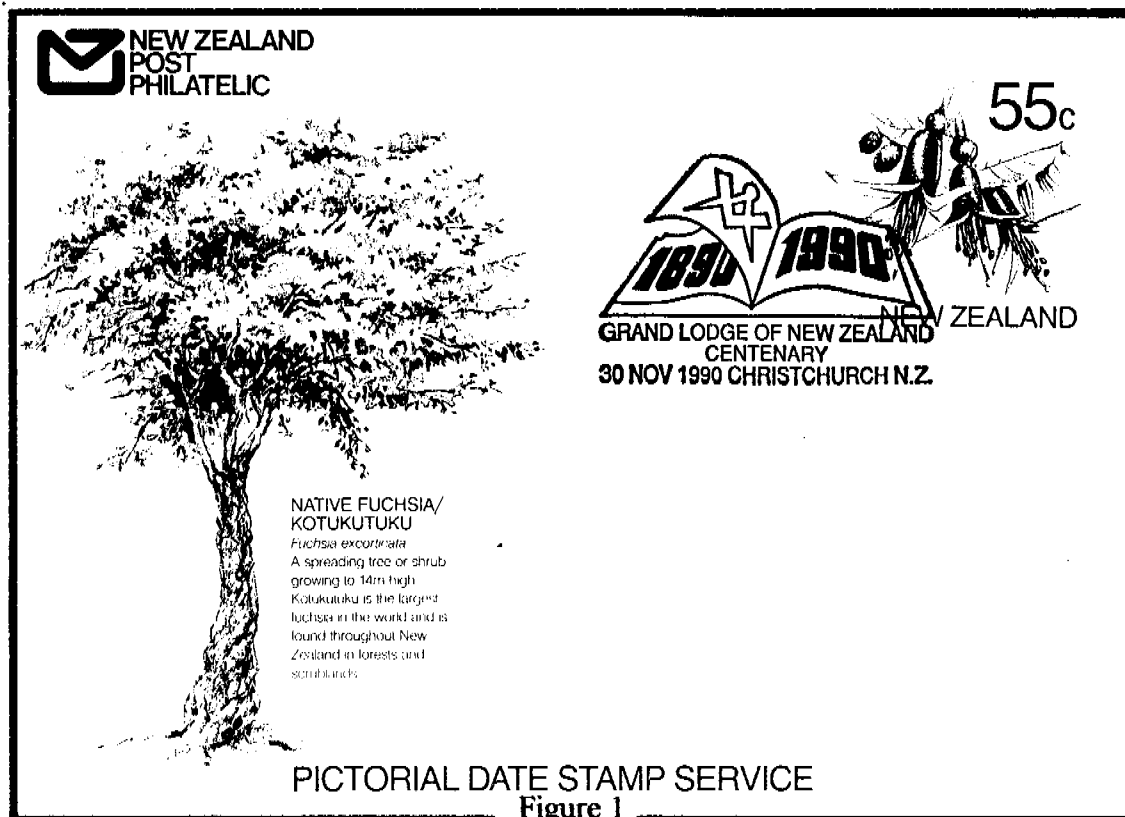
The popularity of Freemasonry continued to grow throughout New Zealand and by the end of 1889 one hundred and seventy Lodges had been established. However, concern was being voiced by many Freemasons that the three different Constitutions with their separate District and Provincial Grand Lodges caused the Craft to be over and possibly badly governed bringing about conflicting interests and often unseemly competition for candidates.

It was noted that by 1888 United Grand Lodges had been established in South Australia, New South Wales and Victoria and moves commenced to bring about the same type of unified organisation in New Zealand. The New Zealand Herald of 11th April, 1889, printed details of a Masonic meeting attended by 200 brethren called to discuss the subject of an independent Grand Lodge for New Zealand.

Following considerable activity at the grass roots of Freemasonry throughout New Zealand a two day convention was held in Wellington in September, 1889. The outcome was a signing of a solemn 'Declaration and Agreement' by official representative of 74 Lodges to 'Unite in Constitution The Grand Lodge of New Zealand'.

Approaches were made to Lord Onslow, the Governor of the Colony, who was a Past Grand Warden of England, to be the first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand. He declined after reference to The United Grand Lodge in England, so the honour fell to Henry Thompson who was Canterbury's District Grand Master and had been active in the craft since 1857. He had also been Mayor of Christchurch in 1887 and a Member of Parliament from 1881 to 1884.

The Grand Lodge of New Zealand was established at a Convention held in Christchurch in April, 1890.



In November, 1990, the Centenary of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand was celebrated at a Convention held in Christchurch. New Zealand Post made available a special pictorial datestamp,

illustrated at Figure 1, on 30th November, 1990. It incorporated the logo that was included in the special Cinderella items and in the Pitney Bowes machine marking used on correspondence from the Grand Lodge in 1990.



Figure 2

Figure 3



Figures 2 and 3 show the sheets of labels that were issued to celebrate the centenary. They are perforated single comb 11 x 11. One sheet shows a colour photograph of boating on the River Avon outside the Christchurch Town Hall where the Convention was held. The other sheet has the Grand Lodge of New Zealand Coat of Arms in colour. Each label has a value of NZ\$1-50, sheets selling for NZ\$6-00, profits going to raise money for Freemasonry charity funds.

For students of New Zealand history, it is interesting to note that during the formative years of New Zealand, the following Prime Ministers were associated with Freemasonry:-

Sir Harry Atkinson; John Ballance; Sir Francis Dillon Bell; Sir George Grey; Thomas Mackenzie; Richard Seddon; Sir Robert Stout and Frederick Whitaker.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH H.M. CUSTOMS AND EXCISE.

GRAHAM TURNER

The following are letters exchanged between myself and H.M. Customs and Excise.

To H.M. Customs and Excise.

I have recently received a Stamp Collection Album form New Zealand, from the New Zealand Post. I have had to pay £12-05 to receive it, including £10-85 'Value Added Tax'. The charge from the New Zealand Post was NZ\$79-00 plus NZ\$20-00 postage. My credit card charge was £43-10. This is equivalent to NZ\$2-29 = £1-00

The value on the green form is NZ\$79-00, equal to £35-11. This puts the VAT rate at 30.9%. Is this a special rate? This is well above the rate of 17.5%, which I understood was the only rate apart from Zero used in the U.K. and I have to pay a Post Office clearance fee.

The invoice was removed from its pocket. More seriously, the package was opened. May I ask for what purpose? Does not the Post Office trust the New Zealand Post? Or is there some other motive. I have not yet opened the package and will not do so until I hear from you.

H.M.Customs and Excise replied.

Thank you for your letter ... concerning the importation of philatelic material from New Zealand. The enclosed leaflets (Notice 143 VAT 701/8/85) explain the liability to VAT and you should be aware that this applies to both private collectors and dealers.

The VAT charge is generally assessed on the basis of the declared or invoice value, inclusive of handling and postage. Current exchange rates are used when values are not in sterling.

The charges in your case were assessed as follows.

Exchange rate: 2.2474

Basis of value: Invoice value \$99-00

Value for VAT: £62-01	VAT @ 17.5%	£10-85
	Post Office clearance fee	<u>£ 1-20</u>
	Total	£12-05

However as a result of the information you have supplied I have re-assessed the charges as follows:-

New value	\$55.85		
Value for VAT	£24-85	VAT @ 17.5%	£ 4-35
		Post Office clearance fee	<u>£ 1-20</u>
		Reassessed charge	£ 5-55

The appropriate refund of £6-50 being overpaid VAT, will be forwarded to you as soon as possible. If you do not agree with the decision in this letter, you can ask for a Departmental review, Your request should be in writing and set out the reasons why you do not agree with the decision. It should be sent within 45 days of this letter. Please write to

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of the review by Customs and Excise you can then appeal to an independent tribunal. Notice 990 gives further details about your rights and

about the appeals procedures and this can be obtained from your local Customs and Excise Advice Centre.

I can offer no prizes for solutions to the mathematical puzzles in the H.M. Customs & Excise letter would be interested in the answers.

I wonder if any other member of the Society has had similar experiences.

FINDINGS FROM FILES
A LATE COMPLAINT ABOUT PAPER

ALLAN P. BERRY

This particular story starts with a letter from the New Zealand High Commission to the Controller, Post Office Stores Department, dated 2nd October, 1946. It reads:-

"We have just received a communication from Messrs. Thos De La Rue & Co. Ltd., reading as follows:-

'May we refer to the New Zealand Government watermarked postage stamp paper which we are using for your postage stamp order No. 27. We find the ink soaks through the paper to some extent. This may be due to the straw furnish of the paper, and we would therefore suggest that when re-ordering this paper you should stipulate with the mill that the paper is made with esparto furnish.'

"Since this paper was made as long ago as 1942, this seems a strange matter to be raised after such a long period. Similar paper was supplied to Bradbury's, but we have not received any similar complaint from them. Would you kindly let me have your remarks."

The reply is dated 11th October, 1946. It reads:-

"With reference to your letter of the 2nd inst. regarding Messrs. De La Rues complaint of the stamp paper supplied for Order No. 27. I am surprised to find that they attribute the trouble to 'the straw furnish of the paper'. The last record I have on the subject shews that you changed over in 1941 to rag and wood furnish, and if that specification has been maintained there should be no straw in the paper.

"In regard to the suggested remedy, i.e. esparto, this material produced spots in the paper, which Messrs. S.Jones & Co. stated in 1939 were quite unavoidable in an esparto paper. There is some evidence however, that De La Rues get on well with Esparto whilst Bradburys are quite happy with rag. Waterlows use Rag and Wood for recess-printed values and make no complaint. Harrisons suffer from the ink going through the paper, but their ink is a thin spirit ink and they blame thin patches in the paper and deep watermarking.

"On the whole, I think the trouble is probably transitory. If De La Rues consider it serious enough, perhaps they could submit samples for examination, when the whole question could be investigated. I have a suspicion that it is an attempt to get you to change over to their favourite type of paper and that in referring to straw they are just guessing."

The next document on the file, in date order, is a copy of a letter sent by De La Rue to the New Zealand High Commission, dated 30th October, 1946. This reads:-

"With reference to my interview of some days ago with your ... while you were away, I would like to inform you that we are still carrying out investigations into the trouble we have had with the paper for the stamps which we are printing for you.

"Our investigations to date have revealed that the colour has been showing through on all orders we have produced for you during the past few years, but that naturally it was more noticeable when a darker colour was used. I will admit that the question was not raised earlier, but this does not overcome the fact that the trouble did exist.

"We are conducting trials with several other types of paper and we hope to be able to make some constructive suggestions to you in the near future.

"In the meantime we are doing all in our power to overcome the trouble from the printing angle, but I feel bound to tell you beforehand, that this will not be the full remedy.

"With regard to your kind agreement to accept half sheets of stamps, I have given instructions that half sheets will be included in each delivery rather than saving them until the very end and making a complete delivery of half sheets. The percentage of work that we will have to deliver in this manner is not much. It will certainly be less than 10% for each denomination. Naturally I am unable to give you full figures until all the work has been printed, but we are hoping that the position will improve as the order proceeds.

"In accordance with your request I would inform you that, on completion of the present order for stamps, our paper stock will be 131 reams 148 sheets, size 22½ x 21."

The final document on this section of the files is a somewhat cryptic letter from the Post Office Stores Department to the New Zealand High Commission. It is dated 26th November, 1946, and reads:-

"I return herewith your correspondence regarding the complaint made by De La Rue's concerning our stamp paper, together with a copy of their last letter.

"I will act on your advice to approach Messrs. Samuel Jones regarding the matter, and will let you know what transpires."

I am very grateful to the National Postal Museum for allowing access to these files, and for permission to publish extracts from them.

AN ESCAPED PRISONER OF WAR

J.G.A. LATHAM

With regard to the article written by E.W. LEPPARD of the above title, published in *The Kiwi*, Volume 46, number 1, January, 1997, at page 19, I think the author may have missed a point here.

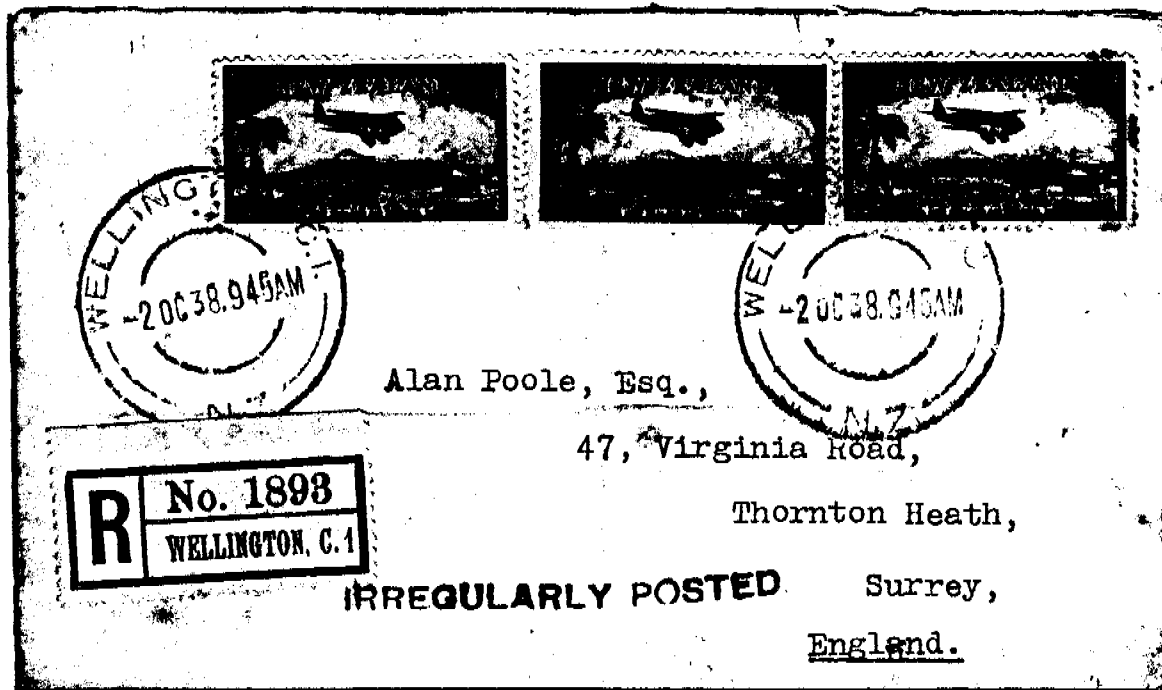
Major Straker arrived in Switzerland on 12th November, 1943, and one assumes that he was at Wil, St. Gallen until he was repatriated. The card illustrated filled in on 27th January, 1944, must have been to set the paper work straight - it was sent to the Agence Central on 29th June, 1944, as he was on his way home and did not need identification. The 1 AOUT 44 stamp can only be the date the documents were brought up to date in the P.O.W. Agency. Had Major Straker been staying in Switzerland between 29th June and 1st August, 1944, he would have needed the card.

A.V.2 MARKING

Following the publication of the article of this title by E.W. LEPPARD, published in *The Kiwi*, Volume 45, number 4, July, 1996, at pages 78 - 80, through the courtesy of ROBIN STARTUP is shown at Figure 1 on page 39 is an illustration, actual size, of the A.V.2 form, alias Mail 36, in use in New Zealand early in the 1960s. All these A.V.2 forms are based on examples whose format was agreed at the Universal Postal Union Convention for Air Mails (Ottawa 1957).

IRREGULARLY POSTED

KEITH COLLINS



The cover illustrated above presents a number of problems. It carries a full set of the second type of air stamp issued in New Zealand, addressed to England and cancelled on 2 OC 38. It is therefore not a First Day Cover. Following the cancellation of the stamps, a registration label has been affixed, which is tied by the IRREGULARLY POSTED cachet struck in red. There are blue lines indicating registration, but no evidence to suggest whether these were put on by the sender or by a post office employee. There are no other markings on the cover.

Why a postage rate of 10d.? Is the cover philatelic, trying to provide the addressee with a set of the stamps fine used? Did the sender intend to register the cover by handing it in at the post office, but mistakenly drop it in a letter box from which it was retrieved and treated as registered by the post office? Answers would be appreciated, through our Editor.

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