



THE KIWI

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Affiliated to The Association of British Philatelic Societies

The New Zealand Philatelic Federation

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WHOLE NUMBER 264

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD AT ST. LUKE'S CHURCH HALL, ORRELL,
ON SEPTEMBER 27TH, 1997 STARTING AT **1.30 P.M.**

JOHN WATTS FROM NEW ZEALAND WILL GIVE A DISPLAY ON:

"THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE HEALTH CAMP MOVEMENT"

(Full directions on page 82: If you can go, please give Jack Lindley a ring on 0161-705-1074)

CONTENTS

Directions to Orrell	82
Membership	82
Presentation to A. Gardiner	82
N.Z. Philatelic Literature Exhibition	82
Publicity Officer	82
Meeting held July 26th	82
Northern Regional Meeting Notes	83
Midpex	84
Speaker wanted	85
Display to Local Society	85
Midland Group	85
2ND Pictorial Study Group	85
Annual Society Auction	85
Hampex '97	86

Reviews of Publications	86
News Release	88
A Problematic Postmark solved	91
Education Department Stationery	91
A Problem Airmail Cover	93
Found Open/ Officially Sealed	96
Bisected stamps- Pernicious Weeds or Philatelic Curios?	96
Airmail between South Africa and New Zealand	99
Green Honour Envelope Registered To New Zealand	99

SOCIETY NEWS:

NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

DIRECTIONS TO ORRELL ST. LUKE'S CHURCH HALL

BY CAR: Leave the M6 at Junction 26 - ignore the M58 -take the exit for Orrell and Billinge. Turn left at the traffic lights onto the A577 for about half a mile. Turn left again at the traffic lights into Moor Road. After a further half mile, turn left again into Church Street for about a quarter of a mile. When the road splits at the Station Hotel, take the right fork. 100 yards up is St. Luke's Church - park in the church car park.

BY RAIL: Trains run regularly from Wigan Wallgate Station to Orrell - please check times. On arrival, leave the station and turn right - St. Luke's Church is about 200 yards away.

MEMBERSHIP

LAPSED IN ERROR:

A.G.Rosser, 21, Fairford St., Barry, S. Glamorgan, CF63 1BY

PRESENTATION TO ALAN GARDINER

Readers will recall that the award of the ABPS 1997 Award of Merit to Alan Gardiner was reported in the last issue of *The Kiwi*. The award was presented by John Smith at Salisbury on July 2nd. In his address he thanked Alan for all his work for philately at Regional, Specialist and Local level. He especially singled out the amount of work undertaken for the New Zealand Society of Great Britain. In his reply, Alan thanked those who had nominated him for the award and sent the Society his warm good wishes and wished it well in the future.

FIFTH NEW ZEALAND NATIONAL PHILATELIC LITERATURE EXHIBITION

We were delighted to learn that *The Kiwi* under Allan Berry's Editorship was awarded a Silver medal at this prestigious Exhibition which was held under the patronage of the New Zealand Philatelic Federation at St. Andrew's hall, Church Street, Palmerston North on June 28th, 1997. A fitting and well deserved tribute to mark the ending of his term of office as Editor.

PUBLICITY OFFICER

The Committee is delighted to announce that Paul Wregelsworth has agreed to become the Society's Publicity Officer. Paul comes from Macclesfield and is well known to Society members. He will be raising the Society's profile during the coming months.

MEETING HELD SATURDAY, JULY 26TH, 1997

Alan Baker opened the meeting at 14.30 with 17 members present and apologies from a further four. He said that the afternoon's subject was Commemoratives and that he would start with the Christchurch Exhibition issue and he would be followed by other members displaying later issues.

He explained that the Christchurch Exhibition had opened on November 1st, 1906 and closed on April 15th 1907. The set of commemorative stamps had only been on sale at the Exhibition. They were the first commemoratives issued in New Zealand, The Exhibition had been strongly supported by the premier, Richard Seddon, but, unfortunately, he had died before the opening.

A sub-committee had been appointed in February 1906 to oversee the stamp issue. They had eventually adopted four designs from the same artist, L.J.Steel. Originally, it was proposed that each stamp should be in one colour but eventually, the 3d and the 6d were issued in two colours. Alan commented on the wide range of proof material extant: he displayed a range including a bi-colour composite Die Proof for the 3d.

The Exhibition generated a wide range of ephemera and two used letter cards were shown. Publicity labels were also produced: the first in 1905 and six more before the opening of the Exhibition. Examples of all seven were shown. They were printed locally although the quality of production varied. The last in the series was a memorial to Richard Seddon.

A series of 10 postcards was shown illustrating the deterioration of the Exhibition cancellation during its use. The display finished with a showing of postcards with pictures of the Exhibition.

Ernie Leppard then displayed the 1940 Centennial issue. He started by showing the publicity labels for the Centennial Exhibition: the Maori Maiden and the much scarcer National Carillon. He then showed some of the original artists drawings: three by James Berry and one by L.C.Mitchell. Little proof material is available from this issue although some photographic essays of Berry's designs were shown. Plate proofs of the 2d and 3d exist and examples were shown.

Thereafter, Ernie showed a comprehensive display of the issued stamps with Plate Blocks and varieties and many examples used on both Airmail and Military Mail. Examples of envelopes produced in the U.S.A. were included.

Lew Giles displayed examples of miniature sheets overprinted to commemorate Philatelic Exhibitions. There was some debate as to whether the sale of these items was purely for commercial benefit or whether they had any real philatelic value.

Bernard Atkinson showed a commemorative medal produced for the Christchurch Exhibition.

Andrew Dove displayed the 1946 Peace Issue. Each value had a specific theme and examples of some of the original photographs from which these themes were drawn were shown. There followed a review of paper, perforations and watermark, including two examples from the part sheet of 4d, found in the early 1970s, with the watermark inverted. The full range of blurred centres was shown and the display finished with 4 blocks of the 3d proving the pairing of the different Frame and Centre Plates.

John Smith rounded off the afternoon with his favourite Commemoratives from the early Elizabethan era. He started with the Coronation issue and included an example of the 3d with paper join. Later in his display, he showed a block of the 8d from the 1962 Centenary of the Telegraph with perforating pins extending into the left hand margin disproving a contrary statement in Volume 6 of the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand's Handbook.

The meeting closed at 16.20.

A.F.D.

NORTH OF ENGLAND REGIONAL MEETING

J. LINDLEY

At the Orrell meeting on Saturday 31st May, 1997, fifteen members were present and apologies were received from another four. At this meeting, our member, Don Scregg explained how he had used his computer to enhance the presentation of his collection. His talk was illustrated by items from his own collection.

Don started by showing two collections: the first was a collection of commemorative displayed on Hagner leaves and the second a collection of First Day Covers mounted in an album. Both methods are attractive but make it difficult to fully describe the items shown and to display varieties and other supporting material.

The next display was of a collection of postal history ranging from the pre-stamp era to the Second Side Faces issue. This was supplemented by a collection of Airmail material. The display had been considerably enhanced by the addition of information typed onto paper and added to the display sheets.

Whilst Don was engaged in adding typewritten information to his display collection, he read an article by Christine Earle in "The Stamp Magazine". This article highlighted the usefulness of the computer as an aid to stamp collectors. He was inspired to purchase a new computer. Linked to his purchase were a colour printer and Fastform software package.

Using his new package, Don prepared a display of 1d Dominion for our competition which was held five days after he received his new equipment. He won First Prize!!

Don then illustrated the versatility of the software: it holds a wide range of fonts, colours, sizes of print and borders. He explained how he used the range of facilities available.

He displayed a collection which he had already prepared of the 1970 High Values. He showed further collections of 1d Universals and Travelling Post Offices which would be processed through the computer in due course.

Currently, he is working on the 1d Map Stamp. He showed us examples of the different types and explained how they could be distinguished.

The display and talk were excellent with a wide variety of material shown. It provided much food for thought about the application of computers to Philately. No doubt, a number of our members will be thumbing through catalogues and magazines at this very moment - please let us know how you get on!!

The meeting closed at 16.30.

The next meeting will be held on September 27th at 1.30 at Orrell. It will be a full meeting of the Society: full details are given on pages 81 and 82 of this issue.

ADVANCE NOTICE OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING OF THE NORTHERN GROUP

The November Meeting will be held on November 15th, 1997. This will be our Competition Day. The Competition will be judged by Dr. Andrew Dove, the Editor of *The Kiwi*. Dr. Dove will display his collection of King George Vth. Please make sure that we have lots of entries for the Competition.

MIDPEX 1997

Members will be aware that the Society was represented at Midpex '97 in Coventry on June 28th, 1997. The meeting was very well supported with 61 Specialist Societies represented. Each Society mounted displays of their areas of interest and there was much rare and fascinating material to be seen. The New Zealand Society of Great Britain displayed exhibits of: philatelic material relating to the Christchurch Exhibition; New Zealand Booklets; One Penny Universal; Designs, Proofs and Stamps relating to Royal Visits to New Zealand; postal history of the Royal New Zealand Navy and the development of the design of the Recess Printed King George Vth issue. There were also 40 Dealers present with a wide and interesting (i.e. expensive) range of material.

The members of the Society manning the stand were delighted to meet a large number of members from the Midlands and North who do not usually attend London Meetings. Apart from the, obviously, enjoyable social contact, much fascinating information was exchanged. The next meeting is planned for 1999 and following this successful meeting, your Society will be there.

SPEAKER WANTED

We have received a request from the Cheltenham Philatelic Society to provide a member to display New Zealand philatelic material to them in the 1998/9 Season. The Society meets between September and May on the 1st. and 3rd. Wednesdays of the month. Most dates are still available. The Meeting commences at 7p.m for 7.30p.m. Can any members who can help contact Keith Collins at the address on the front of the *Kiwi*.

DISPLAYS TO LOCAL SOCIETIES

Mrs. Sylvia Parnell will be giving a display of "STAMPS AND POSTAL HISTORY OF NEW ZEALAND" to the Peacehaven, Saltdean and District Stamp Club on Monday, 24th November, 1997. The Club meets at the United Reform Church Hall, Buckhurst Road, Telscombe Cliffs, Brighton. The meetings start at 7.30 p.m.

MIDLAND GROUP

Bernard Symonds of Rugby is keen to start a Regional Group for members who live in the Midlands. His initial thought is that it would meet somewhere in the Rugby/Coventry area. He is looking to hold an inaugural meeting early in 1998. He will be contacting members who live in the area in due course to see how much interest there is. Further details will be published in *The Kiwi* as they become available.

SECOND PICTORIAL STUDY CIRCLE

Are any members interested in joining a Second Pictorial Study Circle? I am aware that there are a number of members who collect this fascinating issue in depth and perhaps there are those who would like to find out more. If you are interested, please contact Keith Collins at the address on the front of this *Kiwi*.

ANNUAL SOCIETY AUCTION

Our Auction last year did not attract the usual number of lots so I am hoping that members will participate this year by seeking out their surplus material for a bumper sale.

This will be held on Kiwi Day, Saturday, 29th November, 1997. Members who wish to place items in the Auction should note the following instructions:-

1. A list of your Lots, typewritten or in block letters please, should be prepared, giving a brief description of each Lot - e.g. U.M. = Unmounted Mint; F.U. = Fine Used, etc.
2. State your realistic estimate of the market value and reserve for each Lot. This is a must. If you have no reserve, please say so. Estimates for Lots should not be below £4-00.
3. All Lots must be mounted on card ready for display. A space about one inch square should be left at the bottom right hand corner for the insertion of the lot number.
4. Lots may be sent to the Auctioneer with your list, but in any case must be in my hands prior to the Auction. The Auctioneer will acknowledge receipt of lists and Lots. Lots handed in on the day of the Auction must have their Lot numbers clearly shown.

5. The Auctioneer is:-

L.Giles, 66, Bower Mount Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME16 8AT

Lists must reach the Auctioneer by Saturday, 27th September, 1997, so that the Catalogue can be printed in time for distribution with the November issue of 'The Kiwi'.

6. Commission is 10% of sales, and all postage, poundage, insurance, etc. is payable by the vendor. There is a lotting fee of 20p per Lot. Lots which comprise books, periodicals, boxes of stamps and other bulky items cannot be accepted unless the vendor undertakes to deliver and collect from the auction room, or, if sold, to deliver to the purchaser direct.

An analysis of previous Auctions suggests that modern Lots, such as First Day Covers, unless unusual, have a poor rate of sale and would be better disposed of through the Society's Exchange Packet.

APPEAL

Each year it has been the practice of many generous members to offer items, both philatelic and general, to be auctioned on behalf of Society's funds. This is much appreciated. Do please see what you have surplus to your requirements. No matter what it is, we will be delighted to receive it, preferably by 25th September, 1993, so that it can appear in the catalogue, otherwise at any time up to 2.00 p.m. on Kiwi Day.

Do remember to bring your catalogue to the auction. Copies available in the room will cost £1-00.

COMING EVENTS:

HAMPEX '97

The HAMPSHIRE PHILATELIC FEDERATION CONVENTION STAMP FAIR will be held in Winchester on October 25th., 1997.

The Fair will be held at The King's School, King's Road, Winchester. From the M3, turn off at Junction 11 onto the B3057, past Sainsbury's to a roundabout joining the A3090: turn right and King's Road is on the left. It opens at 10 a.m. and closes at 4.30 p.m.

The New Zealand Society of Great Britain will be present and our representatives will be delighted to see members and anybody else interested in New Zealand stamps.

LONDON INTERNATIONAL STAMP AND COVER SHOW

Steven Zirinsky from New York has asked me to inform members that he will be at above show. He has a considerable stock of New Zealand including Postal history, stamps and back of the book material (including railway and Life Insurance stamps). He is to be found at Booth 105 and would be delighted to see any members of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain.

INFORMATION AND PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED:

REVIEWS

Reining in the Dinosaur - The story behind the remarkable turnaround of New Zealand Post, by Vivienne Smith. Published by New Zealand Post Limited. 232 pages, illustrated, ISBN 0 473 04389 0. Available from New Zealand Post Stamps Centre, Private Bag 3001, Wanganui, New Zealand. Price NZ\$24.95 plus postage. Credit Cards accepted.

On seeing the title and sub-title of this new publication, your reviewer anticipated reading a self justification and apologia for all the actions taken by the management of New Zealand Post

Limited when that company was formed ten years ago. However, the author has not worked for the company and was briefed to give a 'warts and all' story of what happened.

The result is a fascinating account of recent history, showing how the old Department of Post and Telegraphs was broken up into its three components - Post, Banking and Telecom - and how Post had to become a viable, profitable company, operating in a largely unprotected market. The loss of Post Offices by closure, the shedding of many staff, the purchase of modern mail handling equipment and changes in management philosophy are all covered, with reasons given.

One incident sticks in the memory and is a good example of the many described in the book. A manager tells of his frustration in getting mail sorted and to the airport for its onward journey, only to find that the mail bags were left on the tarmac by the air line as it was more profitable for it to carry other goods. Now, New Zealand Post has its own aircraft and is not dependent on other carriers.

Any collector interested in modern New Zealand postal history should obtain a copy of this book. It will provide a background to the genesis of the various services provided and in some cases, their demise, although little of their manifestation as markings on mail carried.

New Zealand Beer Duty Stamps Handbook, by A.S.Craig and G.W.Turner. Published by Alan S. Craig, P.O.Box 1313, Hamilton, New Zealand. 86 pages, illustrated. Price £15.00 including postage - United Kingdom cheques accepted.

Although the availability of this book was notified in the last issue of *The Kiwi*, a copy was not received in time for it to be properly reviewed. The publication is a combination handbook and auction catalogue. So far as can be seen, the vast majority of the Lots are illustrated, the rare items by colour photocopy. The book gives the background to the introduction of the Beer Duty and goes on to describe the various issues, printings, papers - in fact, all philatelic details, including a list of brewers operating during the period of use of the Beer Duty stamps and illustrating some their cancellations. There is also a good list of references.

There is no doubt that this book is an essential publication for any with interest in New Zealand fiscal stamps. Your reviewer must again express his dislike of ring bound publications, while appreciating that any other format would substantially increase the cost of production.

New Zealand Beer Duty Stamps, by G.I.Robertson. Available from the author at P.O.Box 77-050, Auckland 3, New Zealand. 40 A4 pages, illustrated. A contribution towards the cost of production and postage would be appreciated - United Kingdom cheques can be banked in New Zealand bank accounts and a sum of £10-00 is suggested by your reviewer.

This handbook arrived totally unexpectedly from the author, with a covering letter saying that it had never been published and would never be published. However, it also stated that copies would be sent to any interested collector. A copy was sent to the authors of the publication reviewed above and the information contained was used. Nevertheless, this book should also be obtained by all interested in the subject, as the Acts setting up Beer Duty and its variations are reproduced in full as well as various notifications from the New Zealand Gazettes. The illustrations are by photocopy only and are of a somewhat poor quality. It is also ring bound. These are minor criticisms of a very useful back ground book.

Airmails of New Zealand Volume 3 - International Airmails 1940 - 1970, by Robin Startup. ISBN 0 9597787 6 4. Published by the Airmail Society of New Zealand Inc., P.O.Box 29144, Fendalton, Christchurch, New Zealand. Price NZ\$54-00, plus NZ\$18-00 EconomyAir

postage to the United Kingdom. Payment may be made by credit card or by personal cheque in your own currency for the New Zealand equivalent.

This is a long awaited book. It is hard bound, 278 A4 pages long, with many black and white illustrations of covers and maps showing the routes taken by air mails. It follows on from Volume Two and covers air mail services from the flying boats of the second world war through to the jet age with which we all now live. The problems of air mail communications during war time are covered in full, together with details of inaugural flights over many routes. The importance of mail flown out of and into New Zealand to and from personnel serving overseas during the war is highlighted, as are communications concerning Prisoners of War. There is important information concerning air mail rates not found anywhere else.

The burgeoning of air travel after the war is reflected in the number of first flight covers described. Not every flight described is of such a nature. The author on one page tells of two mercy flights to remote islands for medical emergencies on which mail was carried - one to Chatham Islands, the second to Kermadec Islands - and on the same page notes the date when second class mails from America were first delivered to New Zealand by air. Such is the detail of the book.

One cannot praise this book highly enough. For any with even the remotest interest in the subject, it is an absolute must. Students of the usage of the Second Pictorial Definitives, the Centennial Commemoratives and King George VI Definitives will find it most useful, as will those students of other countries whose airmails were flown into New Zealand.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

The British Occupation of German Samoa - A postal history 1914 to 1921, by Nigel Sawyer. Distributed as a supplement to The Newsletter of the Fellowship of Samoa Specialists, Volume 13, number 2, June, 1997. Enquiries to Dr. Guy Hamilton, 12, Bulwer Street, Perth 6000, Western Australia.

This is a 26 A4 plastic ring bound monograph covering all aspects of the postal history of Samoa for the period given. It will be of interest to those who collect overprinted New Zealand stamps. There are excellent illustrations and an extensive list of references. Very highly recommended.

NEWS RELEASE

ANGLERS HOOKED ON LATEST STAMP ISSUE.

Trout fishing, enjoyed in abundance by anglers as trout thrive in New Zealand's clean, clear waters, is profiled on New Zealand Post's latest stamp issue, Fly Fishing, releases on 18th June, 1997.

Alan Hollows, New Zealand Post Stamp Business Unit said that Fly Fishing was as interesting topic to feature as it recognises that New Zealand had justifiably gained a reputation for being a trout fishing haven.

"New Zealand's trout fisheries are internationally renowned and attract many local and overseas anglers each year. The relatively small size of the country, together with the proliferation of suitable waters, means that excellent fishing is available virtually throughout New Zealand," said Mr Hollows.

The fly fishing issue beautifully illustrates the trout species and their distinguishing features, and to complement the trout, four of the most popular and successful artificial flies used to entice these fish are also depicted.

The four species of trout and flies featured include the Rainbow Trout with Red Setter fly (40cents), Sea-run Brown Trout with Grey Ghost fly (\$1.00), Brook Trout with Twilight Beauty fly (\$1.50) and the Brown Trout with Hare & Copper fly (\$1.80).

"Trout fishing has been popular in this country since last century, when the fish were introduced to New Zealand from the Northern Hemisphere, and have thrived here since then," said Mr Hollows.

Trout can grow to nearly 10 kilos in weight, however any trout which exceeds four kilos is considered a real prize. Fish weighing between one and two kilos are a more usual catch by fly fishers in New Zealand.

The Fly Fishing stamps and first day cover were designed by Joanne Kreyll of Wellington and printed by Southern Colour Print of Dunedin by lithography. The stamps were available from 18th June 1997.

YOUNG ARTISTS PROMOTE HEALTHY LIVING THROUGH 1997 HEALTH STAMPS.

New Zealand Post's 1997 children's health stamps went on sale on 18th June, featuring winning designs by young New Zealand artists.

Three designs were selected from thousands entered in New Zealand Post's Design a Stamp competition last year which invited young New Zealanders to design a stamp around the "Healthy Living" theme.

Eight year old Georgia Dumergue's dye and pastel drawing is of herself horse riding on the waterfront and is featured on the 80 cent stamp (plus a five cent donation). Eleven year old Anita Pitcher used a vivid mosaic technique for her design of a person collecting fruit from a tree, which is used on the 40 cent self-adhesive stamp (plus a five cent donation). Seventeen year old Fern Petrie's watercolour shows a child playing on an uncrowded beach, and is the image for the 40 cent gummed stamp (plus a five cent donation).

New Zealand Post's Stamps and Business Unit's Vivienne Merito said these stamps remind us all about teaching our young people the importance of healthy living.

"All three of the young artists communicate images of health and vitality in their designs; they're all about Kiwi kids being active and enjoying our wonderful natural environment," said Ms Merito.

"We encourage all New Zealanders to be advocates for good health for our young children by buying this year's Health stamps. The simple act of posting a letter with a Health stamp spreads the healthy living message, and supports Health Camps around the country," says Ms Merito.

"The annual income from the sale of Health stamps provides substantial assistance for Children's Health Camps and we are grateful for New Zealand Post's continued support." says Ron Turner, Children's Health Camp Board executive director.

Health stamps raise money by carrying an additional 5 cents charge which is donated to Children's Health Camps. Each year, over \$100,000 is raised for New Zealand's seven Children's Health Camps, which are attended by about 3,000 children annually between the ages of 7 and 11 years old.

The camps help children with physical, emotional or behavioural problems by offering a range of specialist services which focus on the individual needs of each child.

Last year, funds raised from Children's Health stamps were used on a variety of resources and projects at Health Camps. These included a hobbies room, computer equipment for education and recreation, books, confidence course activities, and children's cooking facilities. Funds raised from this year's stamp issue will be used on similar projects including equipment and facilities to develop self confidence and increase personal skill levels, and adventure playground equipment.

"We encourage New Zealanders to support children's health with us by buying Health Stamps. It's a small price to pay to support a very worthwhile cause, and every stamp purchased helps; all the money raised goes directly to the Children's Health Camps," said Ms Merito.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The New Zealand Post Stamps Business Unit wishes to advise its customers of two major changes in the Wanganui Philatelic Bureau.

The first announcement is one of sadness for all collectors of New Zealand stamps. Long-time manager of the Bureau, Basil Umeroa, has decided it is time to retire from New Zealand Post and seek other challenges. It is with regret that we wish Basil farewell, as he has provided many collectors with a Bureau service that is unrivalled anywhere in the world.

You will still feel Basil's presence over the next few months, as we exhaust stocks of order forms and stationery that carry his famous guarantee!

I am sure you will join with me in wishing Basil and his wife Patsy, every success in the future and thank them for a job well done.

The second announcement is one that is aimed to help the hobby here in New Zealand. All around the world, Postal Administrations are endeavouring to bring people either into, or back to, the wonderful hobby of stamp collecting. This effort is particularly aimed at young people. Many administrations have moved away from the word "philately" and are using the simple title "stamps", and you will have noticed our logo has used that title for several years now.

It is timely therefore to announce a change in name for the Philatelic Bureau. The New Zealand Post Philatelic Bureau will be known as the

New Zealand Post Stamps Centre.

This new identity will be phased in over the coming months, and will begin to appear on our communications to you. It will help give New Zealand Post the opportunity to promote the hobby in a positive way, and give a new, more modern image.

These changes will not mean any reduction in the level of service you currently receive from Wanganui. In fact our programme of continuous improvement should see service levels get even better as time goes on.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to explain these changes to you, and I thank you for your continuing custom.

Kind regards, R.R. Watson.

Russell Watson, Stamps General Manager.

SPECIAL DATESTAMPS



A permanent pictorial date stamp was available to postmark mail at Sky Tower Observation Deck Post Box in Auckland from 3rd August, 1997.

RESPONSES TO PREVIOUS ARTICLES:

A PROBLEMATIC POSTMARK - A QUESTION ANSWERED.

ROBIN STARTUP

Further to the question posed in the last issue of *The Kiwi* (1) about a postmark with the letters "AAITU", I can confirm that this office, a telephone office, is listed in the 1994 edition of "New Zealand Post Offices" but, unfortunately, it is shown with only one "a" instead of two. I am sorry if this caused David some difficulty. The office is REREWHA KAAITU. It was open between June 1st 1955 and July 21st 1962 and was located on a lake of the same name to the south east of Rotorua. The name means: "to flow on one side" and may refer to the outlet. As a telephone office, mails would not have been accepted for despatch but it would have been possible to send telegrams and make telephone calls - these would have been shown on cards by ordinary postage stamps. As David's nice item is an official stamp, it could have come from a telegram sent by the local school which could have used official stamps on their mail.

Figures 1 and 2 show impressions of the datestamp on issue and return.

Reference:

1. Goodgame D., "A Problematic Postmark - a Question Posed". *The Kiwi*. (1997) Vol.46. No.4. P.74

Thanks, also, to Mr. S.P.Riddell of Edinburgh who also solved the problem.



Figure 1



Figure 2

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT POSTAL STATIONERY

ROBERT SAMUEL

Andrew Dove's article on the apparent late use of a Department of Education postcard (1) highlights an interesting feature of these cards, and their associated envelopes. Late uses of the

kind noted by Dr. Dove are not at all uncommon. Indeed, late uses are so frequent as to make it very difficult for us to establish the correct dates of issue for many of these items, particularly in the King George VI period.

I recall that, in 1952, I was in Standard VI at the Waimate Primary School, then aged about 12. I was a very enthusiastic collector even at that early age, but lacked the philatelic knowledge that was to come in later years. In that year, while passing one of the school's rubbish tins, I noticed a large envelope bearing a printed stamp featuring King George V. I recovered the stationery item from the rubbish tin, but with youthful philatelic naivety, cut the printed stamp from the envelope. This envelope would have been issued in 1930 - perhaps even earlier - and here it was used in 1952. But I now have an even later use in my present collection, a 1d King George envelope issued in 1927 and postmarked 1954!

There are several reasons for these late usages. Firstly, schools seem to carry fairly good stocks of both the cards and envelopes - and I suppose that, as happens in many offices, those on the top of the pile were used first. Hence, an item from an old printing could remain hidden at the bottom of the pile, or in some teacher's desk, for many years - perhaps, even decades. The other reason is that Government Departments were not charged double for deficient postage, only the amount of the actual deficiency. Even if the item had been demonetized many years earlier (as was the case of the King George V stamps and postal stationery) there was little to be gained from charging deficient postage to the addressee, unless the addressee happened to a private individual where double deficient postage was charged and there was some profit to the Government. The Post office seems to have conveniently overlooked the "rules" when the addressee was a Government Department (and particularly if collection of the ½d or 1d involved a long walk, and waiting time, for the postman). Examples of deficient postage on mail addressed to a Government Department are of some scarcity. I cannot recall ever seeing a Department of Education envelope or postcard assessed for deficient postage, even where this was warranted. Dr. Dove's postcard, in fact, shows the reverse - the postage overpaid rather than underpaid. Perhaps, in the eyes of the Post Office the "overs" compensated the "unders".

Reference:

1. Dove, A, "Education Department Postal Stationery". *The Kiwi* (1997), Vol.46. No. 4. Pp. 79-80

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT POSTAL STATIONERY

ALLAN P. BERRY

I was particularly interested to read the article by Andrew Dove in the last issue of *The Kiwi* (1).

R. D. Samuel in his New Zealand Postal Stationery Catalogue (2) lists the Department of Education Postcards. The card illustrated is the first type, classified by Samuel as AX.1a. He lists a number of printings as follows:

- (a) [22,000/2/27 - 14997
- (b) [30,000/10/27 - 10411
- (c) [60,000/5/28 - 1997
- (d) 60,000, 5/29 - 2158
- (e) [40,000/10/30 - 11575
- (f) [20,000/10/32 - 7965
- (g) [20,000/3/33 - 13889
- (h) [20,000/11/34 - 11618

(i) [50,000/10/35 -10588

(j) Without printing order number

There is an anomaly in this listing, as Samuel's listing of the ½d. 1935 Pictorial "Official", classified by him as AX.3a, shows a printing order number 50,000/10/35 - 10588, which is the same as (i) above. I do not it likely that a print number would be repeated and, looking at the dates, I suspect that the latter listing is the correct one.

The next card listed in chronological order id the 1d. King George V (Field Marshal) postcard, classified by Samuel as AX.2a, with a note that it was issued just prior to the postage rate reduction in June, 1932. Samuel states that few schools would have received supplies and it is possible that stock which had not been issued to schools was returned to the Post Office for a refund of postage. According to Samuel, there is only one print order for this card, listed by him as:

(a) [20,000/2/32 - 13016

Looking at the print order numbers, it is clear that there was a constant need for these cards. So far as I am aware, no one has studied their dates of use, with the possible exception of the 1d. King George V (Field Marshal), AX.2a, where records may have been kept by collectors in view of the card's rarity. My own copy of AX.2a is cancelled NETHERTON - N.Z. - 2.JE.37.2 - over five years after its printing.

Of my examples of AX.1a, I can record the following:

[30,000/10/27 - 10411 Used TE KUITI, 13 AU 28 5

[60,000/5/28 Used WAITOMO CAVES, 21 FE 33 2 (nearly five years after printing)

60,000,/5/29 - 2158] Used TE KUITI, 12 OC 31.

This card has an additional ½d. cut-out from another, similar, Department of Education Postcard glued to the left of the imprinted stamp, The cut-out is tied to the card by the cancellation.

[20,000/3/33 - 13889 Used DUNEDIN, 31 MAY 1945. (nearly 12 years after printing!!)

I do not suggest that one can see a pattern from these dates nor can I offer an explanation. It is particularly interesting that the card which I have with the longest time between printing and use was used through a chief Post Office, rather than from a small local Post Office. I hope that other members will write recording dates and places of use so that, if there is a pattern, it can be discerned

References:

(1) Dove A., "Education Department Statationery". *The Kiwi* (1997), Vol. 46. Pp.79 - 80.

(2) Samuels, R.D. New Zealand Postal Stationery Catalogue, Part 1 - Postcards.(1988). Shades Stamp Publications.

A PROBLEM AIRMAIL COVER

GEORGE BRANAM

In further reference to "A Problem Airmail Cover" (1), although I am still unable to provide any documentation for the route or the rate, two covers from New Zealand to the U.S.A provide a possible clue to the rate, which previously appeared to me to be 3d overpaid.

From the introduction of Pan American airmail service to Manila in November 1935, Honolulu had been connected to mainland U.S.A. by air service. As Douglas Walker indicated in *The Airmails of New Zealand*, a letter from the U.S.A. to New Zealand which missed the steamer at Los Angeles had a margin of four days by using this new air service to catch up with the steamer at Honolulu. Once the air route extended to Hong Kong, in April 1937, an even faster option existed through connecting with Imperial Airways and Qantas to Australia, and then across the

Tasman Sea by ship. The rate for this service from the U.S.A. to New Zealand was set at seventy cents. The New Zealand Post Office set a rate of 4/6 for service in the reverse direction.

Prior to encountering the covers illustrated as Figures 1 and 2, however, I had not seen evidence of New Zealand mail being directed to Honolulu by surface to connect with air service there to and within mainland U.S.A. An even greater saving of time by this combined surface-air service would apply than in a westerly direction.

The cover illustrated as Figure 1 is dated at Wellington on the 12th June, 1939, and demonstrates that such a service did exist. The cover is endorsed "Air Mail Honolulu - U.S.A." and an air mail etiquette has been attached. The postage paid is 1/6. Figure 2 is similarly, superscribed "American Airmail via Honolulu" with "-U.S.A." added in pencil. It is dated at Dunedin on 8th December, 1939. The postage rate paid, however, is 1/9. It seems probable that the rate was increased in the general realignment of rates on October 1st, 1939. Perhaps a reader with access to a file of the New Zealand Post and Telegraph Official Circulars can confirm these rates.

In 1939 this service was not an unattractive alternative for mail to the U.S.A., particularly for commercial letters such as these, to gain time through air service from Honolulu to the destination. It provides a possible basis for the 1/9 postage rate paid on the problem cover of January 7th, 1941, for the external portion of the rate to England. In January, 1941, however, direct Pan American airmail service was available all the way from New Zealand to England at a 5/9 rate, and the slower Horseshoe route, part air, part sea, which had replaced the Empire air route would, probably, at a cost of only 1/6, have been faster than surface transport over the Atlantic and a large part of the Pacific. Thus while these new covers may throw some light on the rate applied to a 1941 cover to England, they do not explain why anybody would want to send a letter by such a route.

Reference:

(1) "A problem Airmail cover" *The Kiwi* (1997). Vol. 46. Pp75 76

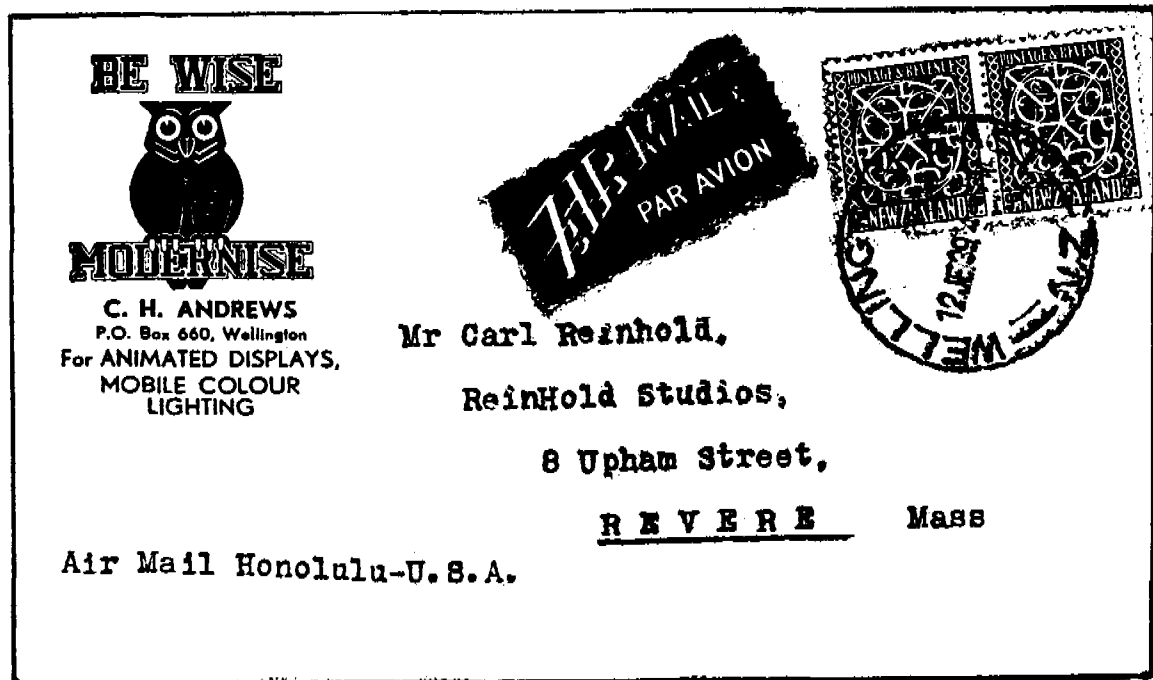


Figure 1

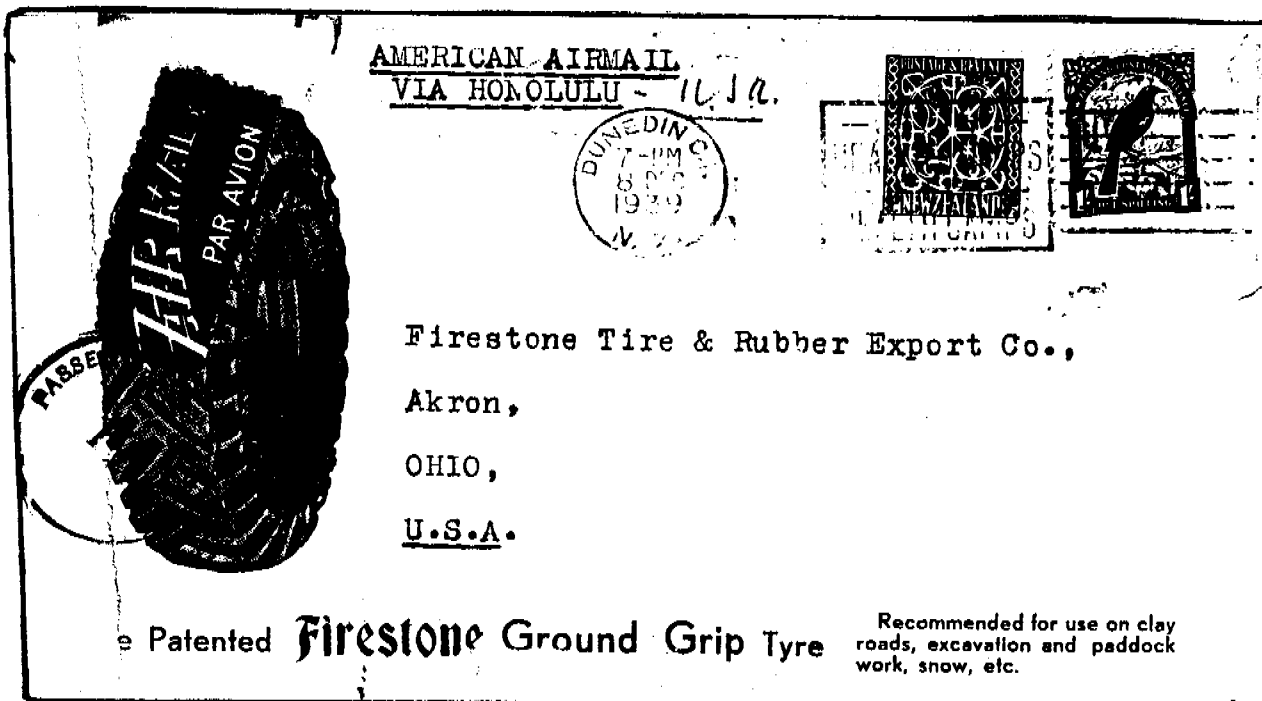


Figure 2

A PROBLEM AIRMAIL COVER

ALLAN P. BERRY

According to *Airmails of New Zealand, Volume 3, International Airmails 1940-1970*, George Branam has made the correct suggestion concerning the routing of the cover discussed in the July issue of *The Kiwi*.

The war in Europe worsened on 10th May, 1940, when Nazi German Forces invaded Holland and Belgium. Within a week of the British Expeditionary Force being forced to withdraw from Dunkirk to England, Italy joined the war on the German side on 11th June, 1940. As a result of the route being now over hostile territory, the London to Cairo section of the BOAC Empire Air Service was suspended and New Zealand's through air mail service with Great Britain was cut within six weeks of its start.

New Zealand Postmasters were advised of the suspension of the air service on 14th June, 1940, and were told that the practical alternatives to sea transport for the full distance were:

- (a) Auckland - Honolulu by sea, Honolulu - New York by air, New York - Great Britain by sea, at 1/9 per half ounce.
- (b) Auckland - Honolulu by sea, Honolulu - Lisbon by air, Lisbon - Great Britain by sea, at 4/- per half ounce.

Thus the cover illustrated can be explained by the 1d being paid for air mail within New Zealand and the 1/9 for service (a) above.

In his comments on the Cover, George Branam points out that the rate was greater than that for the well known and well used Horseshoe Route. According to *Airmails of New Zealand, Volume 3*, the route that became known as the Horseshoe Route was not introduced until 16th July, 1940, for which the rate was 1/6.

The next note of interest from the book is dated 6th March, 1941. This states that the Schedule of Air Mail Charges, No.7, distributed to Postmasters on that date, advised that, due to the impossibility of making suitable connections at Honolulu, mails for the "surface to Honolulu air to New York", or "air to England" service would no longer be accepted. Thus, the service outlined at 9A0 and (b) above lasted 265 days. It is surprising that covers demonstrating it have not surfaced before now. I wonder if there are any showing the more expensive rout via Lisbon. We wait and see.

FOUND OPEN / OFFICIALLY SEALED

GEOFF GOODENS

Following the recent article by Ron Ingram (1) on the "Found Open/Officially Sealed" labels and stickers, I illustrate an example from my collection (Figure 1). The cover, which is registered, is cancelled at Hamilton on ?1 - 11 - 1962. It bears a label which is similar in size to that shown in Figure 6 of the previously mentioned article. It carries the number marking of "Mail 76]. There are, however a number of significant differences:

1. The border is a series of blue squares.
2. The wording, although the same, is in a different typeface.
3. The two crowns in the top corners are of a different design.



Figure 1

Reference:

1. Ingram R., "Found open/Officially Sealed" *The Kiwi*. Vol.46. No.4. Pp. 70 - 73

ORIGINAL MATERIAL AND READERS QUESTIONS:

BISECTED STAMPS - PERNICIOUS WEEDS OR PHILATELIC CURIOS?

PAUL WREGELSWORTH

From time to time examples of bisected stamps used on piece appear on the market. In general, they attract little more than passing interest. They are, almost invariably, "fabricated" and, as such, can be placed in the same category as most other forgeries. They are covered by the definition of "Album Weeds", a term attributed to the Reverend R. B. Earée (1), but adopted in the first volume of *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand* (2) to describe "all the rubbish that has been fabricated to deceive the Post Office or the collector." However, some of these items do have a certain novelty value.

My attention was drawn recently to a number of examples of bisected Queen Victoria stamps from the 1882 Second Sideface definitive issue which were being offered for sale by two different vendors (Figure 1 to Figure 4).



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4

The characteristics of these were as follows:

Value	Postmark	Date
2d	Wellington	5 April 1899
1d	Greenmeadows	22nd June 1897
4d	Kuripuni	22nd June 1897
6d	Kuripuni	22nd June 1897

It is very unlikely that any of these were genuinely used to pre-pay postage. According to *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand* (3), the only occasion where a stamp from the Victorian era has been used legitimately was when the 1/- Full-Face Queen was used bisected at Dunedin.

Examples of the 1882 Sidefaces have been reported bisected and used on original envelope (3) but the general view is that these exist "per favour" or through a lack of knowledge of the regulations by a postal official. The 2d value detailed above probably falls into the "favour" category as it is on part of an envelope with a clear Wellington, "A" Class, datestamp.

It is the other three values, all from the same vendor that I found particularly intriguing. All three are affixed to what appears to be thin brown paper, not obviously a type that might be used for envelopes or wrappers of that period. They are tied by "A" Class datestamps. Although, apparently, originating from two different offices, Greenmeadows and Kuripuni respectively, all

three examples are postmarked on the same day, 22nd June 1897. Coincidence, perhaps, were it not for the fact that each is tied to a similar, and unusual, type of paper.

Greenmeadows lies 4 miles to the south-west of Napier and Kuripuni is just to the south of Masterton. Both are in the North Island but are about 150 miles apart. Hardly neighbouring offices!! Is it conceivable that someone might travel that distance in the hope that they might persuade a postal official to apply a postmark to part of a postage stamp attached to a piece of brown paper?!

A further element of intrigue is that more than one of these "items" has been previously used. In the case of the 1d value, this is not just a mark on the edge of the stamp, it bears a full strike of Napier and the date is 1897. One penny would have been the cost for a local letter and it is not impossible that the stamp was used, in combination with another, on a letter to somewhere else in the country. It is, however, more likely that the perpetrator lived in the Napier area and prepared his bisect from a stamp, removed from local mail.

It seems difficult to believe that, even if the respective postal officers at Greenmeadows and Kuripuni were uncertain as to the postal regulations, they would not have noticed the fact that the stamps had been previously cancelled. There remains a possibility, therefore, that the postmarks were not applied at a Post Office but are themselves forgeries.

Forging of postmarks is discussed briefly in the *Postage Stamps of New Zealand Handbooks* (4,5) and by R. S. Craddock (6). They are consistent in their assertion that the forging of postmarks during this period was unusual as most early New Zealand stamps are more valuable unused than used creating little stimulation cancellations. Where forgeries do exist it is generally to impart some suggestion of genuineness to cleaned fiscal or pen cancelled stamps. That clearly does not apply to these stamps. The postmarks applied to these bisected stamps also appear to be consistent with the detail set out in Craddock's book.

So what can we conclude? The last three examples each appear all appear to have genuine postmarks yet the end products are so obviously spurious (previously used stamps, unusual paper and not on entire envelopes). It is difficult to imagine that these could have been prepared with any intent to pass them off, for financial gain, as a genuine example of a bisected stamp postally used. Is it possible, however, that the originator was "testing the system" and seeking to show that it was possible to get a postal clerk to apply a postmark to just about anything as a favour? The practice was not restricted to one postal district as evidenced by examples from two offices a considerable distance apart. The test-pieces, if I can call them that, were intended to be conspicuous so that there was no risk of being accused of attempting to defraud the Post Office.

The 150 mile distance between the offices remains a puzzle. Presumably, the person responsible was confident that he would be successful in getting his material stamped it would be a tremendous journey to make, in 1897, on the off-chance. Perhaps he knew the offices well. Perhaps this was a journey he or she made reasonably regularly.

It is, of course, all speculation; there may be a very much simpler explanation. June 22nd, 1897 is very close to the date of Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee (she acceded to the Throne on June 20th 1837) - is there a link there? We shall never know the full story whether you regard them as amateurish forgeries or philatelic curios I, personally, find them absolutely fascinating.

References:

1. Earée, Rev. R. B. "Album Weeds, or how to Detect Forged Stamps". Published by Stanley Gibbons Ltd., 1906
2. The *Postage Stamps of New Zealand* Volume I (1938). Published by The Philatelic Society of New Zealand. Pp. 664-678

3. The Postage Stamps of New Zealand Volume II (1949). Published by The Philatelic Society of New Zealand. Pp. 395-396
4. The Postage Stamps of New Zealand Volume III (1955). Published by The Philatelic Society of New Zealand. Pp. 540-541
5. The Postage Stamps of New Zealand Volume IV (1964). Published by The Philatelic Society of New Zealand. P. 502
6. Craddock R. S. "'A' Class and Allied datestamps of New Zealand". Published by The Postal History Society of New Zealand, 1976. P.287

AIRMAIL BETWEEN SOUTH AFRICA AND NEW ZEALAND

MIKE SHAND

Following the two articles published in *The Kiwi* about the First United Kingdom Aerial Post to the United Kingdom (1,2) I thought it would be interesting try and see how many examples remain of another airmail service within the Empire.

The cover illustrated in Figure 1 was posted at the 1936/7 British Empire exhibition in Johannesburg and addressed to Levin. Airmail anywhere in the world for ½d seems quite a bargain.

One cover is illustrated in Volume 2 of the N.Z.Airmails (3) but I am only aware of one other example. Do any other members have examples?

References:

1. Leppard E.W.P., First United Kingdom Aerial Post to New Zealand, 1911. *The Kiwi*.46. (1) 16 -18
2. Leppard E.W.P., First United Kingdom Aerial Post to New Zealand, 1911. *The Kiwi*.46. (3) 56-57
3. "The Airmails of New Zealand - Volume Two, the Overseas Flights 1928-1940." (1986) Published by The Airmail Society of New Zealand, Christchurch Inc.

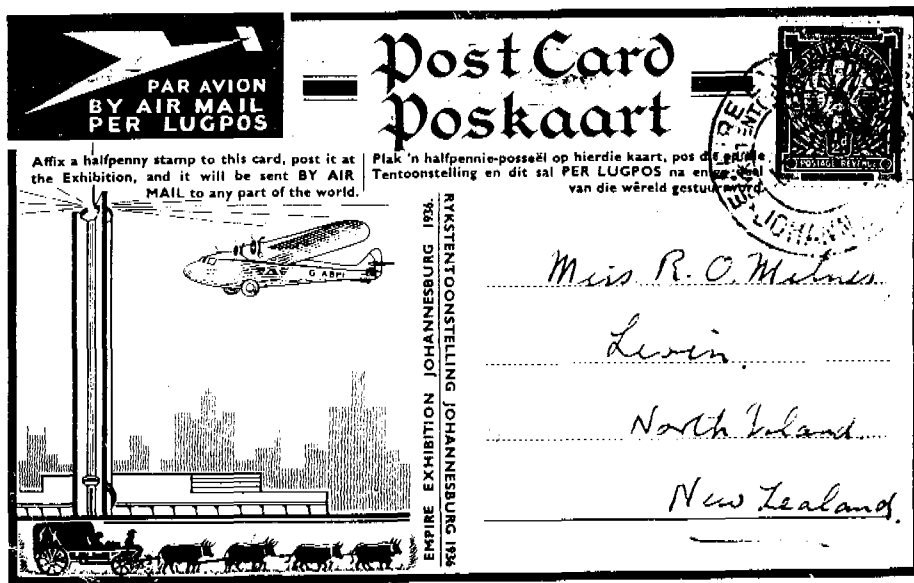


Figure 1

GREEN HONOUR ENVELOPE REGISTERED TO NEW ZEALAND

MICHAEL LOCKTON

The system of Honour Envelopes was introduced in the British and Imperial Forces during the First World War in an attempt to speed mail by avoiding the need for censorship at regimental

level. The writer had to certify on his honour on the envelope, inter alia, that there was nothing enclosed which could be of use to the enemy if the letter were to fall into the wrong hands. There are many varieties and printings of these envelopes, which, with their usage, is my present field of interest.

These envelopes were not allowed to be used for Registered Mail, yet it appears that the item illustrated (Figure 1) below passed through all authorities to the addressee without any form of interference. It is addressed to Wellington, New Zealand, is franked with a 10 millimes Egyptian definitive stamp which has been cancelled in violet N.Z. MILITARY POST OFFICE / JAN 19 1916 / EXPEDITIONARY FORCE (Firebrace type NZ 18 M) (1). The same cancellation has been applied to and ties the registration label (Firebrace type NZR 1) (2) to the cover. In the top left hand corner there is a strike in green of a cachet reading CAMP COMMANDANT / 3 / BASE DETAILS (Firebrace type NZM 2) (3) with initials APC added. These markings identify the place of posting as Cairo. The cover is backstamped WELLINGTON / NZ / 14.MR.16 4.30 P.M / REGISTERED and PETONE / 15.MR.16 7-AM / N.Z.

Although as can be seen Firebrace records Registration Labels for use by New Zealand Forces, I am given to understand that such mail is rare. For an Honour Envelope to be so used is rare in the extreme - I know of only two other examples. If any reader can provide any further information, I would be pleased to hear from them, through the Editor.

References:

1. Firebrace J., "British Empire Campaigns and Occupations in the Near East, 1914 - 1924".(1991) Pub. Christie's Robson Lowe. P. 191.
2. Ibid.. P. 274.
3. Ibid., P. 372.

