



# ***THE KIWI***



## **THE JOURNAL OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN**

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**WHOLE NUMBER 269**

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE LONDON CENTRAL CLUB,  
16 - 22, GREAT RUSSELL STREET, LONDON WC1B  
ON JULY 25TH, 1998 STARTING AT 2 P.M.

THE SUBJECT IS: MARGINAL MARKINGS - WHAT ARE THEY AND WHAT ARE THEY FOR?  
THE MEETING WILL BE LED BY DEREK DIAMOND.

DETAILS WERE GIVEN IN THE MARCH ISSUE OF *THE KIWI* - PLEASE CONTACT DEREK.

### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Membership.....	62
Editorial Note.....	62
Notes of Meeting held May 30th, 1998.....	62
Inaugural Meeting of the Midland Group .....	64
A.B.P.S. - Membership Cards .....	65
Our Man in New Zealand .....	65
An Available Run of <i>The Kiwi</i> .....	66
Old Issues of <i>The Kiwi</i> required .....	66
Information wanted about Treasury Dept. Envelopes .....	66
"Stamp '98" .....	66
Forthcoming Auction .....	67
Re-Opening of the British Library Philatelic Collections .....	67
1996 Teddy Bear Health Stamp .....	67
News Release: Memorial Statues, A New Beginning, Stay in Touch, N. Z. Rarest Stamp, reissue of 1898 Pictorials .....	69
Publications Received .....	72
The Purdon Letters .....	73
Response to "A Colour Changeling" .....	73
Militia Volunteer Mail (Part 2) .....	74
Statement from a New Zealand Stamp Dealer .....	77
New Zealand Post Policy on New Issues .....	78
The Scenic Self Adhesive Marlborough Sounds Error .....	78
Good News .....	79

The Society is affiliated to The Association of British Philatelic Societies and The New Zealand Philatelic Federation. Annual Subscription £12.00

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**SOCIETY NEWS:**

**MEMBERSHIP**

**NEW MEMBERS:**

We welcome:

A. R. Ballard, 30, Chalcroft Road, London SE13 5RF

Commander M. Bilhaut, 32, Rue Henri Laloue, 72439 Pirmil, France. FRPSL and French representative of the Royal Philatelic Society of London.

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Ian MacInnes, 4, Garafad, Staffin, Skye, Scotland IV51 9JT (Previously Zimbabwe)

**LAPSED:**

A.J. Askew, D.S. Chiswell, R.W.F. Cook, T.H. Froud, S. Froud, N.J. B-Leacock, D. Reilly

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**EDITORIAL NOTE**

Later in this issue, readers will note the Press Release describing the extraordinary events surrounding the release of a significant additional supply of the 1996 Teddy Bear Health Stamps. One can only hope that, at the very least, New Zealand Post commit themselves not to place further contracts with these printers.

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**NOTES OF MEETING HELD ON MAY 30TH, 1998**

**SUBJECT: THE 1898 FIRST PICTORIALS ISSUE: PRESENTED BY ERNIE LEPPARD AND DEREK DIAMOND.**

Alan Baker opened the meeting at 14.00 with 15 members present. He welcomed a new member, Mike Wilkinson, and Robin Gwynn who is visiting from New Zealand. Robin extended greetings from the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, of which he is President, and the New Zealand Philatelic Federation. He reassured everybody that Volume VIII of the Handbook is now at the printer and will be published soon.

Derek Diamond started the afternoon (or would have done had his train not been delayed) by discussing the origins of the issue. He said that he believed that there were at least four reasons for the radical change in stamp design evidenced by this issue. First, there was an increasing public desire for a set of stamps reflecting the Colony's growing identity. Secondly, there seems to have been an inferiority complex with regard to Australia and, specifically, New South Wales, who had recently produced a set of pictorial stamps. Thirdly, the New Zealand Government was keen to promote immigration and tourism. Fourthly, the Postmaster-General, the Honourable Joseph Ward, appears to have been unusually imaginative and innovative. Robin Gwynn suggested two further factors: the recent Columbus set issued in the U.S.A. and the failure through too tight a specification of the competition to design the Second Sidefaces.

The decision to sanction the issue was made in 1894 and a Public Competition to design the new stamps was launched in March, 1895. Specifications for the size and values were in the leaflet circulated. Derek showed some of the 2,400 designs entered. A five man expert committee selected the winning designs and an example of the publicity leaflet sent to Postmasters to advise them of the issue due on March 24th, 1898 was shown. Interestingly, two of the successful designers, Hamilton and Luke, were, apparently, resident in Melbourne although the original competition leaflet invited entries from those resident in New Zealand.

He also raised the interesting question as to why only one or two first day covers are known and showed stamps used in April, 1898.

Ernie Leppard then displayed some Die proofs, a set of Die Proofs from the Dirty Workshop Book, Presentation copies with different cancellations and a complete set of 31 Waterlow Trade Sample Miniature Sheets.

Moving on to the issued stamps, a wide range of the printing, perforation and paper variations and varieties of the ½d Mount Cook, including scratched in and printed Plate Numbers were next.

An interesting study collection of the sheet markings of the different plate markings of the 1d. Lake Taupo proved the combinations of the three Frame Plates and Four Centre Plates to be found.

Thereafter, Ernie showed each value in turn with an illustrated discussion of the various printings, Printers, perforation and paper changes. Included were: distinguishing marks of the four 1d White Terrace plates; an example of the rare 1½d Khaki shade; plate markings of the 2½d; examples of the 4d showing that, due to paper shrinkage, stamps printed on Vertical Mesh paper are a different size from those printed on Horizontal Mesh; an example of the Perkins Bacon printing of the 1/- with Plate 8.

Derek Diamond interjected to describe the life history of the 4d with inverted centre: this will be the subject of an article in a future issue of *The Kiwi*.

Derek then took up the story of the use of the stamps. He illustrated the development of Official Usage starting with unstamped mail and progressing through the O.P.S.O. overprint with two examples used on cover to a display of the stamps overprinted "Official". Included was a scarce strip of four of the 5/- stamp with an upright watermark. There were also three of the "Reefton Provisionals". They were, apparently, provided to the local police force by the Post Office and were produced by applying a Greymouth Paid cancellation to the stamp and then writing "Reefton" in red ink across the stamp. There was, subsequently, an interesting discussion about their status and whether they were ever officially issued.

Thereafter, Derek showed a range of Officials used on cover, advertising envelopes and stamps fiscally used on legal documents and receipts.

The afternoons' display finished with Ernie showing examples of stamps used on Travelling Post Offices and those overprinted for use in Aitutaki, Niue and Penrhyn Island.

A vote of thanks was given by John Woolfe and the meeting closed at 16.10.

## INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE MIDLAND GROUP

The first meeting of the Midland Group was held on April 18th, 1998, at Carrs Lane Church Centre, Birmingham. The meeting opened at 14.00 with twelve members and one guest present.

Bernard Symonds opened proceedings by welcoming everybody and saying that the attendance had exceeded his expectations. There was discussion about the Group. It was agreed that there would be two meetings a year and, initially, they would be held in Birmingham. Notification of dates and subjects of future meetings would be through *The Kiwi* rather than personally. The next meeting would be on September 26th, 1998: this would be a full meeting of the Society.

The subject of the Meeting was "a maximum of 18 sheets from each member".

Geoff Wragg started with a display of Postal Fiscals. They were first issued in 1867 and comparatively little attention was paid to consistency of production. Accordingly, a wide range of papers, watermarks and perforations are found. Many examples were shown. Also on display were some ultra High Values, including one for £1,897 on its original document from 1923.

Brian Cartwright showed Airmails. Starting from 1930, his exhibits included examples of the Dominion Airline label in different versions and an example of a cover flown by Fl. Lt. W. H. Lett who was not allowed to raise a charge in addition to the Post Office and so offered to autograph the envelopes for a fee of 6<sup>d</sup>; he also announced that he would only carry autographed letters!

Eric Lewis started by showing some of the forms and documentation associated with Box Holders. The rest of his display was a fascinating range of advertising envelopes and other material including a leaf sent as a card (Fig. 1). His last sheet was a copy of Campbell Patersons Newsletter which was in a damaged envelope addressed to himself after being involved in the crash of the BOAC Lockheed Constellation "Belfast" on March 13th, 1954 in Singapore.

John Potter showed a specialised collection of the 1977 Postfix Provisionals. The Postfix machines had been introduced a few years earlier and were unable to handle the larger size Rose Definitives in 1977: accordingly, the 3<sup>c</sup> and 4<sup>c</sup> Moth Definitives were overprinted as no excess supplies of the 7<sup>c</sup> and 8<sup>c</sup> were available. Their currency was short as the postage rate was increased within five months of their release. John's display covered all aspects of the issue.

Andrew Dove showed examples of mail with Troopship Cancellations from the First World War. He asked an interesting question as to the scarcity of some covers.

John Hicks started by showing the first eight issues of *The Kiwi*: he noted that his name, along with that of Eric Lewis, were featured as in the membership list in Vol.1 No. 1. Subsequently, he showed a display of Military Mail, starting with the Boer War and finishing with information about the 400 foot Kiwi carved into the chalk hillside above Bulford Camp in Wiltshire.

Lawrence Kimpton showed Airmails from 1930. Notable were three covers from the Pan American Survey Flights of 1937 with the cachet printed in black. Usually, the cachet was in Purple or Blue and Pan American undertook the printing in Black themselves. He also showed covers flown by the short lived Airline: British Commonwealth Pacific Airlines which only existed between 1948 and 1954.

Bernard Symonds pre-empted the July meeting of the Society by showing Marginal Markings. His display started with an example of the Jeffrey's forgery of the 1/- Chalon which had a margin and a clenched fist above the stamp. Thereafter, his display covered a range of markings from Plate Dots on the K.G.Edward VII to Bar Codes on the most recent issues.

Roger Cummings shown a nearly complete plating of the first setting of the 1<sup>d</sup> Adson. He explained his fascination with the issue and the number of different values, perforations and settings available.

Mike Smith displayed a specialised collection of the 45<sup>c</sup> Rock Wren. The stamp was issued in sheet form, in coils and in booklets. The coils were initially produced by SprintPak but the

contract was taken over by Leigh Mardon. The quality of coil production fell dramatically with the coil joins particularly suffering.

Harry Fox showed 15 sheets of Airmails illustrating the development of the airmail service between New Zealand and Great Britain. An interesting item was a New Zealand cover with a Great Britain K. G. V. ½<sup>d</sup> postage stamp with a dated cancellation. Apparently, Francis Field, a pioneer Airmail collector, had a special understanding with his local Post Office allowing this addition to be made to each cover he received to document the date of receipt.

Lastly, Ian Samuel showed the full range of the very attractive "Purdon" covers which were reported in *The Kiwi* (1). He requested any further information as to their provenance.

Thanks were expressed to Bernard for bringing the Group together and the meeting closed at 16.45.



Fig. 1

Reference:

1. Samuel I. "Purdon Covers". *The Kiwi* (1998) Vol. 47. No. 1. Pp. 17 - 19

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#### ABPS MEMBERSHIP CARDS

Readers will be aware that an article was published in the last issue of *The Kiwi* describing the benefits of membership of the Association of British Philatelic Societies. Within the article was a comment that a membership card was enclosed. Unfortunately, some copies were mailed without cards. Our Secretary has obtained a small further supply. If any members who did not receive a card desires one, can they please write to the Editor and, if still available, one will be forwarded in the next copy of *The Kiwi*.

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#### OUR MAN IN NEW ZEALAND

For many years, members may have noted that listed in the Officers of the Society there is the position of "Representative in New Zealand - John Watts" and perhaps wondered who he is and what he does. I have lived in New Zealand for more than twenty years and prior to taking up residence in this country, I filled the position of Honorary Chairman having joined the Society in 1969.

I am here to give assistance to any of the members related to philatelic fields. If you are planning to come to New Zealand and you might like to attend meetings of particular stamp clubs, I can advise when meetings are held. I would also be willing to give advice about accommodation or other travel advice.

In 1990, I arranged the first meeting of the Society in New Zealand when we were able to bring together members from both sides of the Equator.

Often I read in *The Kiwi* that members have visited New Zealand (note the past tense); sometimes, they are people who I know have similar collecting interests to myself and it could have been beneficial to both of us to compare notes. They might be chasing a particular item and it is possible that I could point them in the right direction given my local knowledge.

So, please remember that you have a member in New Zealand who is here to provide a service. I will be pleased to hear from you.

My address is: P.O.Box 40 - 376 Glenfield, Auckland, New Zealand. Tel./Fax 0064 9 444 2156.

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#### AN AVAILABLE RUN OF *THE KIWI*

A past member of The New Zealand Society of Great Britain has a run of *The Kiwi* Magazines available. The run is between 1973 and 1985. No payment is requested but interested parties would be expected to bear postage costs.

Any interested members, please respond to the Editor: first come, first served!

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#### OLD ISSUES OF *THE KIWI* REQUIRED

The Society of Australasian Specialists/Oceania (SAS/O) is one of the largest organizations devoted to Pacific Philately, outside the Pacific region. It's Library is large but lacks early copies of *The Kiwi*. They would be interested in acquiring copies of the Journal published prior to 1965, that is, Issues number 1 to 69, Volumes 1 to 13.

If any readers have issues available, can they please advise details and cost to The Editor who will forward the information to SAS/O.

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#### INFORMATION AND MATERIAL WANTED

Alan Green is seeking examples of mint and used envelopes produced by Waterlow & Sons for the New Zealand Treasury Department between 1877 and 1884. The envelopes are embossed with the Printers' name near the flap.

Although he would to purchase examples, he would also be grateful for information about the material, dates of useage and the size and wording of the Waterlow imprint and other identifying marks.

Communications, please to: Alan Green, 13 Redhill Road, Harrogate,, North Yorkshire, HG1 3JQ.

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#### "STAMP '98"

ERNIE LEPPARD

I have recently returned from "Stamp '98" which was held between April 23rd and 26th, 1998 at Wembley. "Stamp '98" has now become a regular annual event and, this year, was sponsored by the British Philatelic Trust and Stanley Gibbons. For the first time, the Exhibition invited competitive entries. This year entries in all traditional classes were on the subject of "Birds".

I was delighted to see the amount of New Zealand material on display; almost all thematic entries included New Zealand stamps. Specifically, there were two displays on the subject of "The Kiwi" and an entry from Jeff Long in New Zealand showing the first 6d. value of the 1898 Pictorials. This exhibit won a Large Vermeil medal and a special prize as the best entry from a member of a Bird Stamp Society.

The theme for next year's competition will be "Railways and TPOs". Surely, this is a subject in which there is a mountain of New Zealand material. Look in your albums and start preparing your entry!

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### **COMING EVENTS:**

#### **FORTHCOMING AUCTION**

Warwick and Warwick Ltd. are holding an auction on July 1st, 1998 which contains a good section of New Zealand and Australia. Any interested members can write or phone for a free copy of the catalogue: the contact address is:

Warwick and Warwick Ltd., Chalon House, Scarbank, Millers Road, Warwick CV34 5DB.  
Telephone number 01926 - 499031.

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#### **RE-OPENING OF THE BRITISH LIBRARY PHILATELIC COLLECTIONS**

The world famous 1,000 frame permanent philatelic exhibition at the British Library reopens on June 8th, 1998. Closed since the end of October last year for the move of the philatelic Collections to the new British Library building at St Pancras, the exhibition includes much material not exhibited before and remains the best permanent display of world classic philatelic material.

A leaflet detailing the collections and services available may be obtained from "The British Library, Philatelic Collections, 96, Euston Road, London NW1 2DB". Alternatively, information may be viewed on the British Library Website @ <http://www.bl.uk/>

Much material of interest to New Zealand collectors will be on permanent display however researchers may view material not on display, by appointment. A British Library Reader's Pass is required.

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### **SPECIAL FEATURE:**

#### **1996 TEDDY BEAR HEALTH STAMP**

There follow a News Release from New Zealand Post published on April 16th, 1998 and a statement which was subsequently released by the New Zealand Stamp Dealers Association inc. on April 17th, 1998. They speak for themselves.

#### **NEWS RELEASE**

#### **THE RECALLED 1996 TEDDY BEAR HEALTH STAMP**

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

New Zealand Post issues the Children's Health stamps annually as a fundraiser for Children's Health Camps, who help children with a variety of physical, emotional, and behavioural needs.

In May 1996 New Zealand Post withdrew and replaced an incorrectly depicted illustration of a child in a child's car restraint seat, following feedback by Plunket. The incorrect illustration was on the 40 cent Children's Health Stamp, which was due for release on 5 June 1996.

New Zealand Post recalled and destroyed all stamps, and replaced them with a correct depiction.

The stamps were recalled only three weeks before issue date, which meant that some of the stamps had already been distributed to post Shops. A small number of the 40 cent stamps were inadvertently sold over the counter in Rotorua and Auckland.

The recalled stamps were then noticed by philatelic collectors and have become a sought after collectable. It is believed that there are up to 1000 of these incorrect stamps in circulation. These are currently valued at around \$2500 per stamp.

#### RECALLED 1996 TEDDY BEAR HEALTH STAMPS DISCOVERED

New Zealand Post today announced the discovery of more 1996 40 cent Teddy Bear health stamps, that were recalled from sale in May 1996.

Stamp printers Joh Enschede of the Netherlands had gifted 402 miniature sheets and 195 single 40 cent stamps of the recalled Teddy Bear design to their employees and customers by mistake. Each miniature sheet contained two 40 cent Teddy Bear stamps and two 80 cent stamps.

"At the time the stamp was recalled, New Zealand Post requested that Joh Enschede destroy all plates, film, and printed stamps," said Mr Russell Watson, General Manager Stamps Business Unit, New Zealand Post.

"However due to an oversight by the printer, the miniature sheets and stamps were released."

"Joh Enschede are known as 'security' printers, therefore we were very disappointed that this mistake occurred and have been given reassurances by Joh Enschede that any remaining miniature sheets and stamps in their possession will be sent back to New Zealand Post by secured means for destruction."

Mr. Watson said that because the miniature sheet was never sold over a Post Shop counter, it was not officially issued, and so would not be recognised as part of the genuine stamp issue.

"We believe it is important that stamp collectors and philatelic enthusiasts are aware of the additional stamps, and we would also like to reassure them that New Zealand Post has taken steps with their printers, to ensure this will not happen again," said Mr Watson.

New Zealand Post uses a select range of specialist stamp printers from around the world with printer choice based on a number of factors including quality, security, price and service. "Security is therefore of prime importance, and we regret that this situation has occurred," says Mr Watson.

#### STATEMENT FROM THE NEW ZEALAND STAMP DEALERS ASSOCIATION (INC.) ON THE SUBJECT OF THE "TEDDY BEAR" HEALTH ISSUE.

This association is extremely concerned at the announcement today by New Zealand Post regarding the "Teddy Bear" miniature sheets and stamps.

Several months ago, dealers in New Zealand were approached by overseas collectors and dealers to see what dealers here would pay for a 1996 Health Miniature Sheet featuring the Teddy Bear - i.e. the original design which had been withdrawn and replaced. From the pattern of calls, we believed that the callers did not have the material but that it was being offered and it was subsequently traced to an auction house in the Netherlands. We alerted New Zealand Post to the situation and they commenced an investigation into the matter. We assumed that the miniature sheet (s?) had been recovered by them and regret that New Zealand Post's enquiries have taken so long to be finalised. We have been advised that unbeknown to New Zealand Post, the printers have a normal gifting policy of stamps issued by them!

In 1996, after the first "Teddies" had appeared - purchased legitimately on the market - New Zealand Post advised us and, subsequently collectors were informed of the numbers of missing stamps. These were 961 ordinary version and between 200 and 500 of the self - adhesive version, the latter being 5 boxes which had not been accounted for. The market for these stamps - based on this information - has boomed with prices rising from an initial \$400 to over \$2,500 in less than 2 years. This announcement must give rise to concern to both dealers and collectors who, in good



faith, have sold or purchased this material recently. Fortunately, there appears little evidence of downwards pressure on prices so either the "benefit" material has not been released or any additional quantities are being accepted by the market.

The numbers now reported as being "dished - out" by the Security Printers means that there could be up to 999 more of the normal issue available (195 plus 2 from the Miniature Sheets). The Miniature Sheets are - as noted by New Zealand Post - not an official issue so the market for this should be limited and, likewise, there should not be a market for the 80c stamp. Some of the recipients might elect to keep the Miniature Sheets intact as a talking point or even as being marketable and it is conceivable that a reasonable percentage would hold onto their sheets. Nevertheless, any fortunate employee or customer of Enschede could simply tear up the Miniature Sheet to get the two 40c Teddy Bears.

New Zealand Post is, apparently, convinced that the difficulties in getting the "benefit" material back are unsurmountable despite it belonging (presumably) to New Zealand Post. The news that they have been given reassurances by Enschede "that any remaining miniature sheets and stamps in their possession will be sent back to New Zealand Post by secured means for destruction" causes us further concern. What action was taken to "destroy all plates, film and printed stamps" at the time of recall? We have been advised by Mr. Watson that there was an oversight at Enschede regarding some stock - and human errors do occur - although we wonder what stock control systems were in place. It is not that long since another firm of "Security Printers" made one lot for the stamp - issuing country and one lot for the owner of the firm! We hasten to assure collectors that this is hardly the case in this instance but that happening should have alerted other printers and their customers. It appears that these "benefit" issues were given out before the destruction order. We have been advised that New Zealand Post have tightened up their contracts with Enschede.

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### **INFORMATION AND PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED:**

#### **NEWS RELEASE**

#### **TURKEY AND NEW ZEALAND JOIN FORCES FOR STAMP ISSUE**

As a token of friendship and goodwill, and to cement relations between the two nations, a joint Memorial Statues stamp issue will be released in Turkey and New Zealand on March 18 1998.

The two stamps depict memorial statues remembering the fallen.

*"With Great Respect to the Mehmetcik"*, (40 cents) depicts a wounded ANZAC soldier being carried to a first aid post by a Turkish soldier in 1915. Designed by Professor Tankut Oktem, the statue has become a symbol of universal peace. It was erected in Canakkale graveyard on the Gallipoli peninsula in 1995.

*"Mother with Children"* (\$1.80) was created by Lyndon Smith in 1964. It depicts a family group. The mother is holding the family together during the absence of her partner on active service. Comforting her young daughter, she is supported by her growing son. This statue, a permanent memorial to New Zealanders who have fallen in past conflicts, is the focal point of the Hall of memories at the National War Memorial in Wellington.

Wendy Riley, New Zealand Stamps Business Unit Marketing Manager acknowledged the importance of this issue. "The Memorial Statues stamp issue signifies the strong bond and goodwill that exists between the two countries, yet also recognises our shared history."

"Also 1998 is a significant year for Turkey - it is the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Turkish Republic and the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of (Mustafa) Kemal Ataturk, its founder and first president".

Mr. David Cox, Dominion President of the New Zealand Returned Services' Association praised New Zealand Post and the Postal Company of Turkey for their efforts. "I'd like to

congratulate the two postal organisations for initiating this special act of mutual remembrance, which also reflects the goodwill and friendship that now exists between two former foes."

The New Zealand first day cover and stamps are designed by Dianne Prosser of Wellington and printed by Southern Colour of Dunedin. They can be purchased from Post Shops, Stamps Sales Centres and the Stamps Centre from 18 March 1998

#### CELEBRATION OF NEW ZEALAND'S MULTI-CULTURAL SOCIETY FOCUS OF LATEST STAMP ISSUE

"A New Beginning", which looks at the nationalities that have made New Zealand their home, is the topic of New Zealand Post's latest stamps issue, to be released 18 March 1998.

Leading up to the year 2000, New Zealand Post is releasing a series of "Millennium" stamp issues focusing on our country's development and history over the centuries. "A New Beginning" is the second in this series, which follows on from "The Discoverers" issue released in February 1997.

"The series of Millennium stamp issues celebrates important milestones of New Zealand's past, and chronicle the transformation that has taken place in this country to the present day," said Wendy Riley, Marketing Manager, New Zealand Post Stamps Business Unit.

"With the impending new century so close, and New Zealand one of the first places in the world to greet the new millennium, we felt it relevant to feature the people that have given this land its life and character

"It is an opportunity for everyone to reflect on the people who have shaped New Zealand and contributed to our heritage and history".

The people featured on the stamp issue include The Maori (40 cents), British/European Settlers (80 cents), Fortune Seekers (\$1.00), Post-war British/European (\$1.20), Pacific Islanders (\$1.500, and Asian Arrivals (\$1.80).

Each stamps reveals different aspects linked with the people that have settled in New Zealand, such as the tall ships that British/European settlers sailed on to New Zealand in the mid to late 1800's; a sluice used when gold was discovered and mined by prospectors in Otago in the 1800's; and the diversity of Asian nationalities, including Chinese, Indians, Koreans, Japanese, and Taiwanese, who have settled here in the last two decades.

The stamps and first day cover were designed by Terry Crilley in Blenheim, and printed by lithography by Southern Colour Print of Dunedin. They can be purchased from Post Shops, Stamp Sales Centres and the Stamp Centre in Wanganui from 18 March 1998.

#### 'STAY IN TOUCH' WITH NEW GREETINGS STAMPS AND CARDS

The hongi, kiss, 'high five' and hug are just some of the greetings expressed on New Zealand Post's latest stamp issue to be launched on Wednesday 15th April, 1998.

'Stay in touch' is the theme of the Greetings stamp booklet with the ten, 40 cents stamps featuring some of the traditional ways New Zealanders choose to greet and express their feelings to one another.

"Quite apart from the designs, the stamps themselves symbolise staying in touch as they'll be used by people when sending letters" says Wendy Riley, Marketing Manager, New Zealand Post's Stamp Business Unit.

"People have so many choices in the way they communicate these days. You can send a letter by mail, or use a fax machine, pick up the telephone or say hello via a computer using e-mail or the Internet," says Ms Riley.

"Yet, nearly 160 years after the postage stamp was first used, receiving and opening a letter, or postcard is still as enjoyable and personal for the recipient as ever and New Zealand Post is

making it easy for people wanting to keep in touch by introducing a range of greeting cards to match each of the ten stamps." The cards can be purchased at any Post Shop.

The stamps and first day cover were designed by Colenso Communications Ltd., Wellington and printed by Southern Colour Print of Dunedin.

#### NEW ZEALAND'S RAREST STAMP COMES HOME

New Zealand's rarest and most valuable stamp, the 4d Lake Taupo Invert, the only one of its kind known to be in existence, has been brought back to this country by New Zealand Post.

Mr. Russell Watson, New Zealand Post Stamp Business Unit General Manager said that bringing the stamp back home to New Zealand was an historic occasion.

"We're proud to bring such an important part of our heritage home. An opportunity like this only ever comes along once in a lifetime, and as a part of this country's culture it is something that we were keen to bring back," said Mr. Watson.

The 4d Lake Taupo Stamp was first issued in August 1898. The issue was printed many times over the next decade, but for one single sheet of 80 stamps printed in 1903, the stamp design featured a picture of Lake Taupo printed in error - with the lake pictured upside down.

Mr. Watson said that as far as he was aware the few stamps that were issued all disappeared on general postage. "One single stamp still exists, postmarked in Picton in 1904, which New Zealand Post now owns," said Mr. Watson.

The rare stamp was purchased in England for about \$120,000 by New Zealand stamp dealer Mr John Mowbray, acting on behalf of New Zealand Post.

"Although it is difficult to put a price on a rare piece of New Zealand's history such as this stamp, this was a prudent purchase with the final amount paid being under the asking price," said Mr. Watson.

Mr. Mowbray, who liaised with the vendor in England to complete the sale said that the rare stamp first came to the attention of himself and New Zealand Post last year.

"Having the world famous stamp back in New Zealand is a great boost to the philately world, and a very good deal for New Zealand Post," said Mr. Mowbray.

"The error was never actually discovered until 1926 by a collector in the United Kingdom. Also in comparison a 4d Lake Taupo stamp without the error is worth only \$3.00".

New Zealand Post will put the unique 4d Lake Taupo Invert stamp on display to the general public for the first time in August, at a stamp exhibition to be held in New Plymouth.

#### CENTURY - OLD PICTORIAL STAMPS BROUGHT TO LIFE AGAIN

New Zealand Post is releasing the 1898 Pictorials Centenary stamp issue on 20 May 1998 to mark 100 years since New Zealand launched its first pictorial stamps on 5 April 1898. Up until that time, New Zealand stamps had featured an image of Queen Victoria.

The 1898 Pictorial stamps were seen as a tentative step by New Zealand to assert its own emerging identity, and the first time this country used a stamp to market itself to the world as a tourist destination. They were also among the first pictorial stamp issues in the then British Empire.

The subjects covered on the 1898 Pictorials Centenary issue are varied, with denominations (changed for modern times) ranging from the 40 cent and \$1.80 stamps.

The depictions include picturesque scenes of New Zealand including Mount Cook, Lake Tekapo, Pembroke Peak in Milford Sound, both the White and Pink Terraces (destroyed in the Tarawera eruption), Lake Wakatipu, the Otira Gorge, and Milford Sound. Other depictions included the Brown Kiwi, the Huia (the now extinct native bird), Maori war canoes, and Keas and Kakas.

Wendy Riley, Marketing Manager of New Zealand Post Stamps Business Unit, said the issue symbolised the recognition of the country's scenic beauty as an asset for attracting tourist interest.

"At the time this was considered to be a subtle but effective marketing initiative to promote travel to a country which was recognised for its beauty but was till considered small, exotic, and "down below" the equator," said Ms Riley.

"The century-old Pictorials stamp issue has an interesting history. In 1894, the New Zealand Government approved the issue of a new set of postage stamps that were to be 'symbolical of the land'. A competition was held to decide the images, resulting in more than 2,400 submissions, from which 14 stamps were issued."

Also, from the same family of stamps comes the 4d Lake Taupo Invert stamps, this country's rarest and most valuable stamp of which only one is known to exist in the world. This unique stamp was recently purchased by New Zealand Post in England.

The stamps were designed by Ross Jones of Watermark, Wellington who also produced the two first day covers. The stamp designs have been faithfully reproduced although using a different technique. The original stamps were printed by intaglio process, while the Centenary issue is printed by Lithography by Southern Colour Print of Dunedin.

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## REVIEWS

The 'Chalon' Issues of New Zealand (1855 - 1873), by Ken W.J.Lynch. Published by KWJL Publication, P.O.Box 274, Auckland 1, New Zealand. ISBN 0-473-04740-3. Available from A.G.Visini Stamps, 467, Lake Road, Takapuna, Auckland 9, New Zealand. Price NZ\$25-00, plus NZ\$4-50 postage and packing in New Zealand.

There is no doubt that a book is required to cover the classic stamps of New Zealand. There is also no doubt that any such book will repeat much information published in other philatelic books, magazines and journals over the many years that the issue has been studied. It would require the co-operation of many collectors throughout the world to ensure its accuracy and many may doubt if such co-operation could be secured.

The present book, although having an ISBN number clearly shown, is identified in the footer zone of all pages as a pre-production issue of 1997. The book gives a somewhat idiosyncratic history of New Zealand, a section on Sovereignty and a brief life of John Richardson. There is no such information on Davies, the other printer involved with the issue. The rest of the publication is basically a catalogue of the issue, but there is no indication as to how the author has arrived at the values given.

There is also a Glossary of terms used and a Bibliography, the latter deficient in that a number of the publications listed in the profuse footnotes throughout the book are not repeated here, as should be the case.

The publication is on A4 paper, paginated in sections, with clear covers and a slip binder. I doubt if any serious student of the classic issues of New Zealand will learn anything from the present work. Whether or not it will advance to a work of definitive value we will have to wait and see.

The 1998 New Zealand Post Offices Cancellation and Postmark Guide, compiled by Richard Wooders. Published by New Zealand Philatelic Brokers Ltd., P.O.Box 80-226, Green Bay, Auckland, New Zealand. Available from the publishers price NZ\$100-00, plus NZ\$20-00 postage and packing overseas - NZ\$5-00 within New Zealand. Credit cards accepted.

This is an A4, metal ring bound, unpaginated book, starting with an introductory page, eight pages of Editors Message throughout which are scattered pictures of small post offices, four pages illustrating the various types of postmark that have been in use in New Zealand, with examples mostly on the One Penny Field Marshal stamp - the compiler's admitted interest - and seventeen

pages, all but one carrying eight pictures of small post offices. There follows an alphabetical listing of post offices with identification of district, type of office, opening date, closing date and a note of the various postmarks used with an indication of their scarcity.

This is the second edition of the book and the compiler states that Telegraph Offices and their cancellations have been included. There is a Bibliography of a sort entitled 'Suggested Further Reading', which makes your reviewer immediately suspicious of the book's value. It lists New Zealand Post Offices, by R.M.Startup, giving a date of publication of 1977. Surely a compiler who terms himself a professional philatelist must be aware that there are much later editions of this work, notable that of 1993. Similarly, the pioneer work of the late Frank Watters on telegraph offices and his publication of 1973 on the subject, is not listed at all.

There is no doubt that dealing in the material so listed must help in the compilation of such a work, particularly since the firm handled at least two of the definitive collections of the postmarks of New Zealand. How accurate it is in this respect must be left to those who purchase and use it.

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**RESPONSES TO PREVIOUS ARTICLES:**

**THE PURDON LETTERS**

**GEORGE R.GIBSON**

I was interested to read the article by Ian Samuel describing his collection of covers illustrated by Mrs. M. Purdon.(1)

I, too, have a small collection these letters. Ian's description of his covers fits mine exactly and I found his story of his efforts to find the Purdon's fascinating.

My collection was purchased in the United States of America during my residence there in the early 1970's. Interestingly, the collector from whom I purchased the covers later offered to repurchase the covers at any price.

My collection consists of 43 covers ranging in date from 1950 to 1960. Interestingly, it includes 5 covers from the South Sea Dependencies.

As a matter of added interest, I also bought a small collection of hand-painted covers which were sent from Mr. Herbert Duke in Whangaparaoa to his friend, Mr. J. F. Brooks in the United States of America between 1947 and 1952. The quality of these covers is far below that of the Purdon covers, nevertheless, I would be most grateful for further information about either of these correspondences.

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**RESPONSE TO "A COLOUR CHANGELING"**

**ROB TALBOT**

Rob says that he is responding to Mr. T. Froud's article in *The Kiwi* (1).

I fear that Mr. Froud's testing of the 1984 24c. Antarctic Research stamp was insufficiently rigorous. I have exposed a mint copy of the stamp to the sun in Auckland. The right hand half was covered (vertically) and the stamp was left on the windowsill of my eighth floor flat in Auckland.

The result was a stamp which showed the letters "New Zeal" in olive-green and the remainder of the bottom line "AND 24c." in chestnut (the original colour). There is also some fading on the left of the stamp but the sky has not changed colour from chestnut to olive-green.

The sky has not faded as it was printed in the normal four colour process whereas the base lettering was printed in a special fifth colour.

Reference:

1. Froud T.H. "A Colour Changeling?". *The Kiwi*. (1998). Vol. 47.No.1.P.16

**ORIGINAL ARTICLES AND READERS QUESTIONS:**

**MILITIA VOLUNTEER MAIL (Part 2)**

ALLAN P. BERRY

Figure 11 shows a cover from the Palmerston Rifles. This has been franked with the signature of J. Grant, Capt. P.R. and is datestamped N.Z. PALMERSTON 20 FE 93 1. I can find no mention whatsoever of this unit, nor of J. Grant, and I would very much appreciate details.

Figure 12 shows a cover with the cachet NEW ZEALAND \* PERMANENT MILITIA No. 1 Service Company / DUNEDIN. struck in purple. It is datestamped DUNEDIN N.Z. 3.AM 20 JE 01. In the *New Zealand Official Year-Book* for 1899, six Officers are shown as serving in the New Zealand Permanent Militia No. 1 Service Company. A No. 2 Service Company is also listed, but no location is given for either. A similar listing is shown in the *New Zealand Official Year-Book* of 1901.

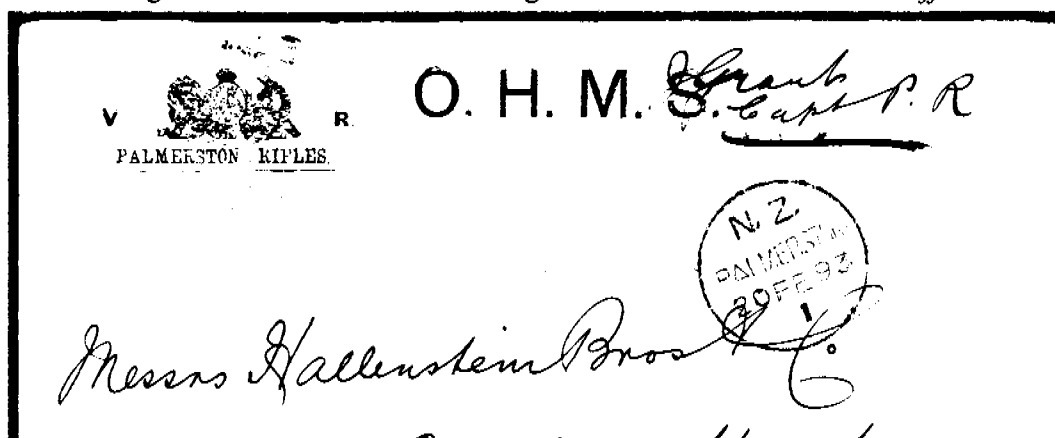


Figure 11

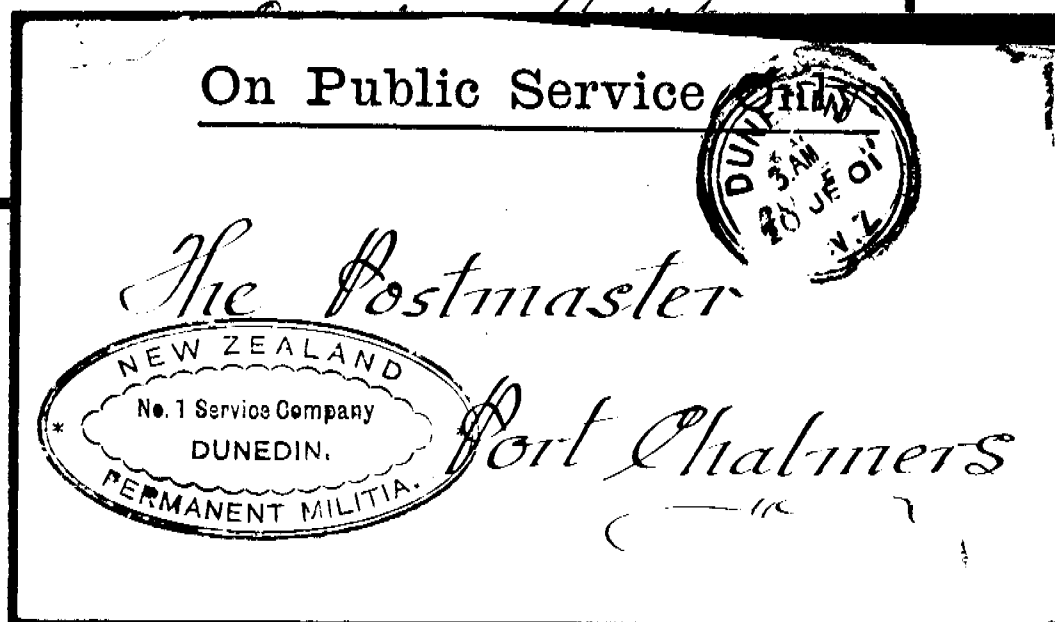


Figure 12

The South Island as a whole, with Otago in particular, was involved in the raising of contingents to serve in the South African War. The first cover with connections to this war is illustrated at Figure 13. There are two straight line cachets on the cover in sans-serif capitals. One reads OTAGO AND SOUTHLAND CONTINGENT, the second CHAIRMAN. The cover has the frank signature of J.M.Kempthorne, about whom I have been able to gather no information. The cover is datestamped DUNEDIN N.Z 5AM 9 FE 00. There is an interesting reference to the Contingent in *The Taieri Plain - Tales of Years that are Gone*, by Margaret S. Shaw and Edgar D. Farrant, published by the Otago Centennial Historical Publications in 1949, at page 201. There it is stated that in February, 1900, local residents subscribed to provide horses and equipment for four

men selected for the Otago and Southland Contingent for the South African War. If any member can provide further information it would be much appreciated.

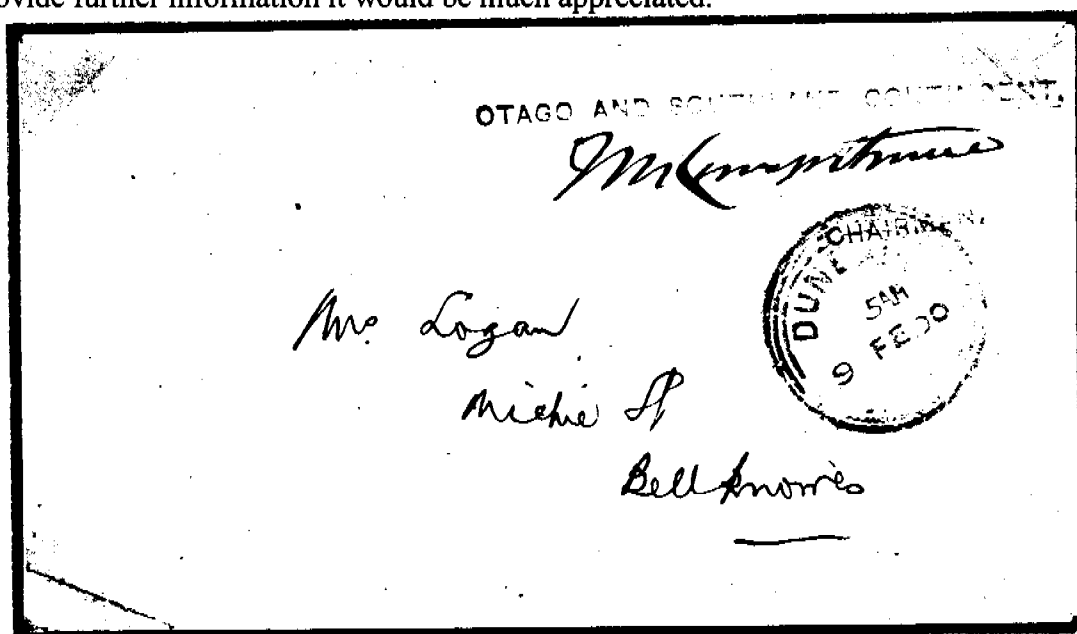


Figure 13

Figure 14 shows a cover from the Sixth Contingent, dated DUNEDIN N.Z 10.PM JA 1 01. There is no frank signature. The cover is somewhat of an anomaly. According to page 31 of *History of the New Zealand Military Postal Services 1845 - 1991* by R.M.Startup and Edward B. Proud, the Sixth Contingent used the Military Post Office Newtown Park N.Z. FREE frank at Newtown Park, South Wellington, from 15th to 30th January, 1901.

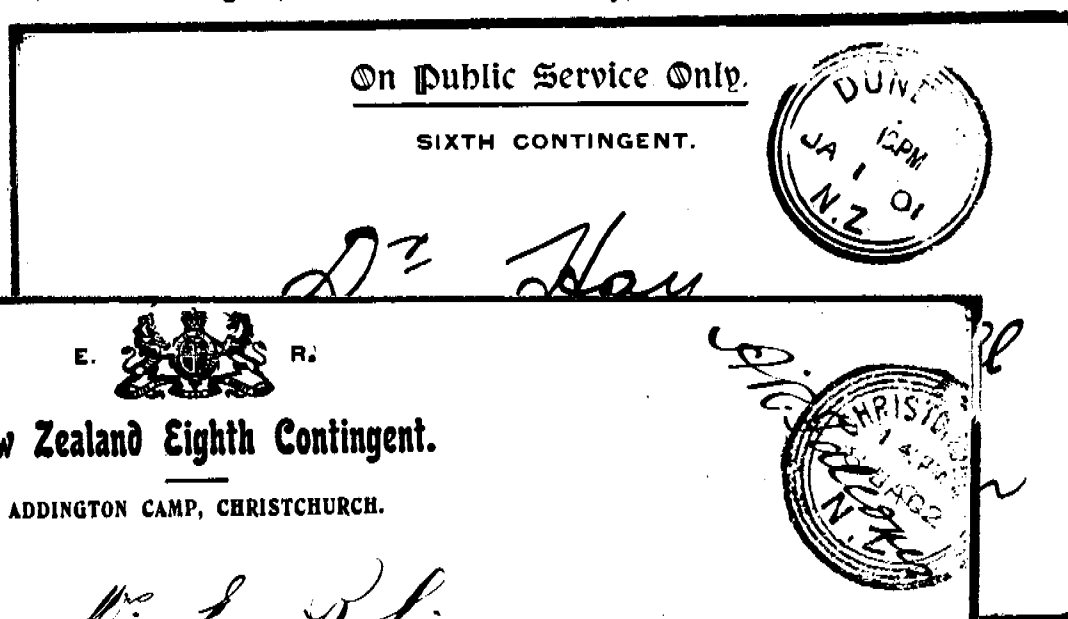


Figure 14

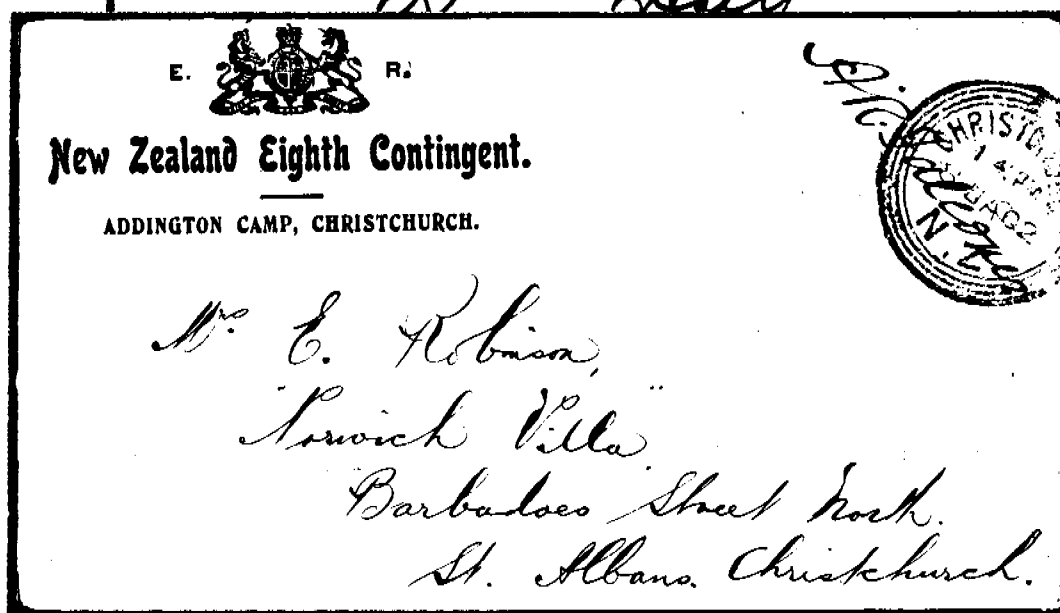


Figure 15

The cover is dated fourteen days before the FREE frank came into use and it is from Dunedin in the South Island, many miles from Wellington in the North Island. Other franked mail to Dr. Hay is known and the date - New Year's Day, if not New Century's Day - suggests that it might be philatelic.

Figure 15 shows a cover from the Eighth Contingent, datestamped CHRISTCHURCH N.Z 1 45PM 8 JA 02. This cover has the frank signature of A.R.Falconer. I can find no reference to a person of this name, although there is a Captain J.Falconer listed in No. 2 Service Company of the New Zealand Permanent Militia in the Year-Book for 1902. According to page 30 of *History of the New Zealand Military Postal Services 1845 - 1991* by R.M.Startup and Edward B. Proud, the Eighth Contingent used the Military Post Office Addington N.Z. FREE frank at Addington showgrounds, Christchurch, from 9th January to 8th February, 1902. Note that this cover is dated one day before the FREE frank came into use, which probably accounts for the presence of a frank signature.

Figure 16 shows a cover from the Ninth Contingent which carries the Military Post Office Forbury N.Z. FREE frank, used at Forbury Park racecourse, Dunedin, from 11th February to 19th March, 1902, according to page 31 of *History of the New Zealand Military Postal Services 1845 - 1991* by R.M.Startup and Edward B. Proud. It is datestamped DUNEDIN N.Z 9AM 6 MR 02. It is addressed overseas and has an additional One Penny Universal affixed, which was almost certainly not required, in view of the free frank also present on the cover.

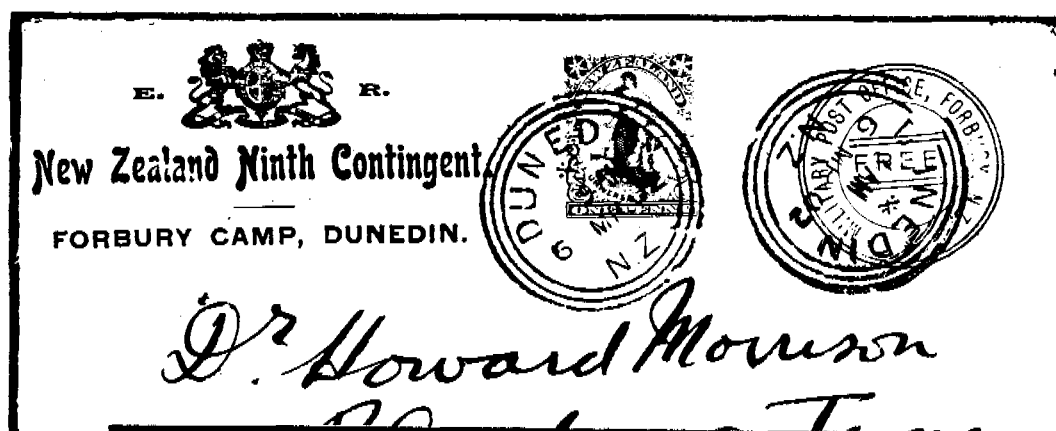


Figure 16

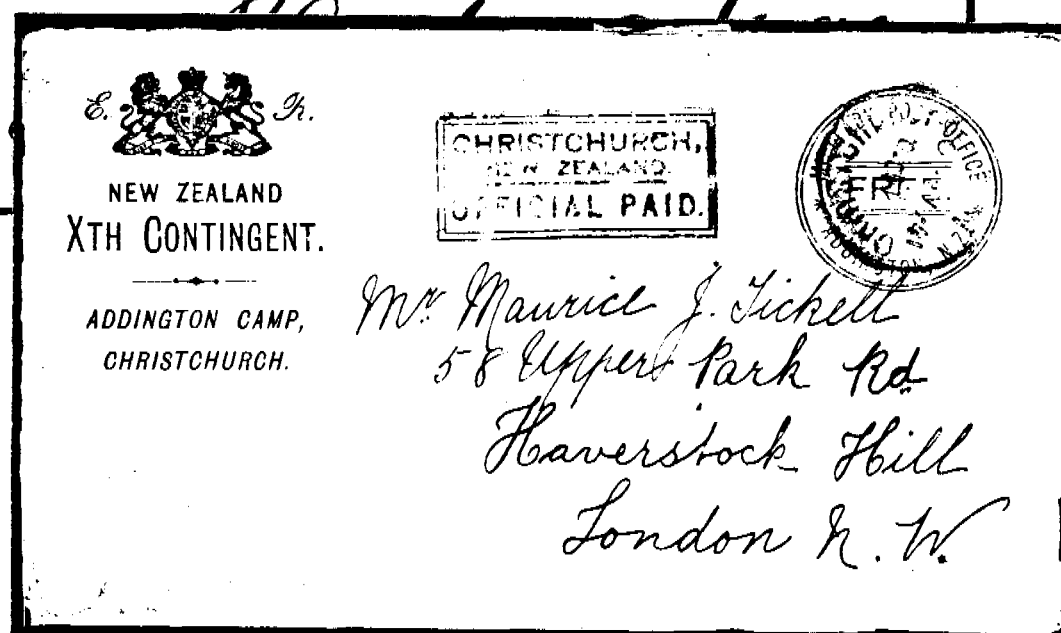


Figure 17

Figure 17 shows a cover from the Tenth Contingent, also addressed overseas. It carries the Military Post Office Addington N.Z. FREE frank, used at Addington showgrounds, Christchurch,



from 4th to 22nd April, 1902, according to page 30 of *History of the New Zealand Military Postal Services 1845 - 1991* by R.M.Startup and Edward B. Proud. It is datestamped CHRISTCHURCH N.Z. ? 17 AU 02, and it is also impressed with an early example of the Christchurch OFFICIAL PAID, cachet struck in black.

This last series of four covers raises certain questions. Were there any specially printed covers for the First to the Fifth and for the Seventh Contingents? If so, I would very much appreciate details, particularly if clear photocopies can be provided.

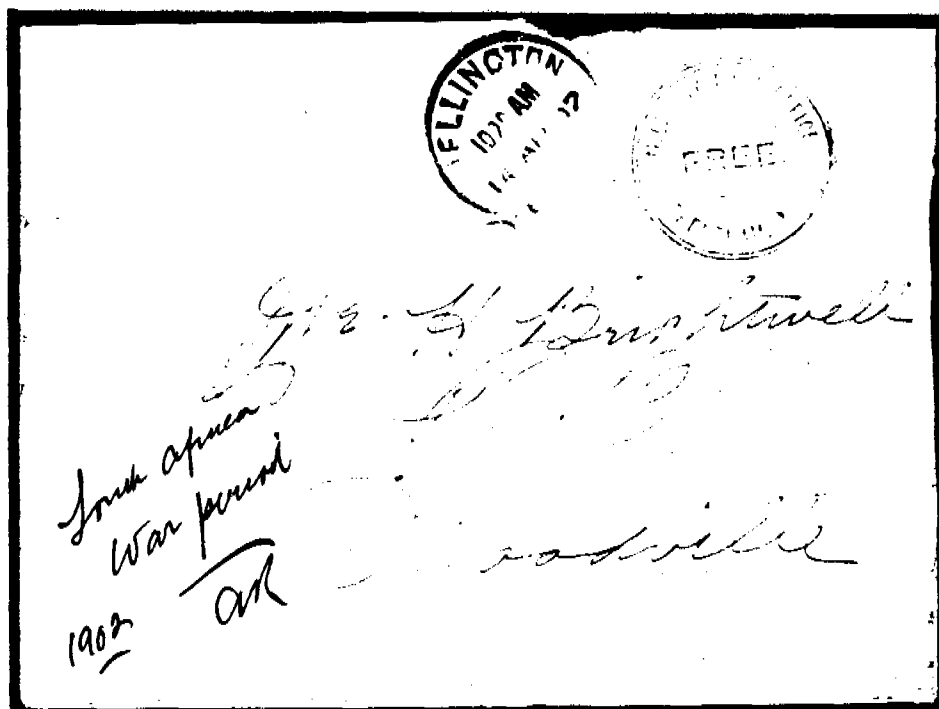


Figure 18

The records tell us that New Zealand sent ten contingents to the South African War, of which the last two arrived too late to see much service. The cover illustrated as Figure 18 carries the Military Post Office Trentham N.Z. FREE frank and is datestamped WELLINGTON N.Z. 1020 AM 14 AU 02. The tenth contingent is reported at pages 31 - 32 of *History of the New Zealand Military Postal Services 1845 - 1991* by R.M.Startup and Edward B. Proud to have been at Trentham racecourse, Upper Hutt, Wellington, from 4th to 14th April, 1902, during which time mail had this frank applied. This is therefore the latest date on which mail from a Boer War contingent could have been posted from this location. The Tenth Contingent sailed on two ships, arriving at Durban on 17th and 26th May, 1902. The dates of use of the FREE frank and of arrival in South Africa would suggest that the section at Wellington sailed first and that from Christchurch followed eight days later.

If any reader can provide further information on any of the covers discussed, I would be pleased to hear from them, through our Editor.

#### STATEMENT FROM A NEW ZEALAND STAMP DEALER

EDITORS NOTE: the following statement was published by a New Zealand Stamp Dealer, Don Ion from Rotorua, in a recent Action Catalogue. No doubt, his view will be controversial, particularly with New Zealand Post. I would be pleased to hear from any readers with views to express.

"A number of N. Z. P. O. items including CD - ROM's, Year Books, Presentation Packs, Year Packs, Special Edition Books, "Points" Issues and other items of doubtful philatelic use are condemned by Don Ion Ltd. as purely items of speculation and of no philatelic value. Some

advertising of these is decidedly suspect and our company has no hesitation in issuing A BUYERS BEWARE NOTICE on all these. Our estimated reselling value on these is similar to the phonecards debacle and whereas you as gullible public may be able to resell later at between 1/4 and 1/100 of original cost. We realise risking condemnation and action from N. Z. Post and N. Z. S. D. A. for issuing this statement. Our company even goes further in the total condemnation of all unnecessary stamps that have little postage use and that stamp collecting is a hobby and not a collection of prepared books. A further thought is to stop buying completely future new issues in any form and try to complete your collection to a certain year or theme."

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NEW ZEALAND POST POLICY ON NEW ISSUES

JOHN B. HUNT

I am a rather simple person and, hence, a simple New Zealand Stamp Collector. Whilst I have a special interest in some areas, I generally try to keep my "New Issues" up to date with mint sets, Presentation Packs, Miniature Sheets, and First Day Covers.

I have had a Standing Order with New Zealand Post for the past twenty years. During this time, I have read of people 'giving up' New Issues as they felt that they were being "exploited as collectors". However, I have "kept the faith" and continued: I enjoyed the completeness that I have achieved as well as the design of the issued stamps.

Recently, however, New Zealand Post have issued several Special Miniature Sheets for Exhibitions etc. On a number of occasions, only one of these special sheets has been made available on First Day Cover. Am I, therefore, to assume that the sheets are merely labels and not to be regarded as stamps intended to be sent through the post? If so, why are any examples available on First day Cover?

I wrote to New Zealand Post raising my concerns and reproduce the response below:

"Dear Mr Hunt

Thank you for your letter regarding First Day Covers and Miniature Sheets.

The reason for not producing both Miniature Sheets on a First Day Cover is to keep costs down for collectors.

When two miniature Sheets are produced for an International Exhibition, only one Miniature Sheet will be available on a First Day Cover.

Blank Miniature Covers can be purchased from our Stamp Centre, Private Bag 3001, Wanganui.

Yours sincerely,

Debra De La Haye

Stamp Production Manager"

We should, apparently, be grateful that some F.D.C.'s are not issued to keep costs down to collectors. So, why issue more than one sheet in the first place? I really do not think that the suggestion that I should purchase blank First Day Covers and Miniature Sheets from New Zealand, attach the one to the other and then return them to the country of origin is likely to work!

Am I alone in my concerns or are they shared by other collectors?

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THE SCENIC SELF ADHESIVE MARLBOROUGH SOUNDS ERROR

ALLAN P. BERRY

The first report of this error appeared in *Captain Cook* (1). It appears that early in 1998, New Zealand Post Limited re-issued the set of six self-adhesive scenic stamps that first appeared in coil form on May 1st, 1998, in booklet form. As the booklet contains ten stamps, it followed that four of the designs would have to appear twice. The duplicated designs are Mt. Egmont/Taranaki, Fox

Glacier, Lake Matheson and Tory Channel, Marlborough Sounds. The new booklets were printed by Southern Colour Print, apparently, 24 panes were printed on a large printing sheet.

The error occurs on the same stamp in all affected booklets. Tory Channel, Marlborough Sounds appears in the bottom left hand corner stamp of the pane; Tory Channel appears on the centre stamp of the bottom row of the pane (Figure 1).

In *Stamping Around* (2), Steven McLachlan states that the error first came to his attention in Early March. Evidence quoted suggests that New Zealand Post Limited knew about the error for several months but, nevertheless, allowed the booklet containing the error to remain on sale.

At the Thames Post Shop, where now most of the writer's mail is posted, the booklets were not on open sale late in April. Their place had been taken by the new Greetings Stamp Booklet. A correspondent in England had asked specifically that the scenic stamps be used on the mail as they are uncommon used - a rate of \$1.80 cannot be made up from the booklets. On asking if one booklet was available, the lady kindly went to the stock and found a new, unopened, packet of twenty booklets, the wrapper being a piece of plain white paper fixed with adhesive tape. These were observed to be in two batches of ten, turned end on to each other. The top one was passed over and found to contain the error. The rest were inspected and it was found that one batch of ten all had the error, the other batch were normal. Therefore, the full batch was purchased - after all, the normal can be used for postage.

In response to a telephone enquiry, Warwick Paterson of Campbell Paterson Limited estimated that about 4% of booklets are affected. Steven McLachlan suggests one in 20 affected, but also points out that, if the reported layout of the printed sheet before guillotining is correct, the true ratio will be one in 24. That figure would agree almost exactly with the 4% affected that has been suggested. It does not explain why all ten booklets in one batch should be affected and allow my lucky purchase.



Figure 1

#### References:

1. Wilson JF, "Unannounced New Stamp issued by N.Z. Post" *Captain Cook* (1998). Vol. 26 No. 3. P23.
2. McLachlan S. *Stamping Around* (1998) April. No.3 P.1.

#### GOOD NEWS

JOHN L. WATTS

So often during the time of war, the delivery of a telegram caused an acute feeling of foreboding to the recipient. A wife or mother answered the door to the telegram boy thinking the worst. However, there were times when the downcast expression could change to one of joy. A telegram such as the

one illustrated as Figure 1 could induce such a response. Sometimes, the telegram warned of the return of a serviceman who had been wounded or announced the routine return of a contingent of servicemen from the Middle east or other theatre of war.

The telegram is headed "Confidential" as any detail of the means of transport could be of assistance to the enemy. There is also a "GOOD NEWS" cachet at the head to reassure the recipient. Interestingly, the radio provided the second method of communication with each telegram being assigned to a particular group to allow details of transport to be promulgated.

<p>GM 9 AM WELLINGTON CONFIDENTIAL /1</p>	<p>CONFIDENTIAL</p> <p>GOOD NEWS.</p> <p>MR. J. BRANDON 4 GONVILLE AVENUE WANGANUI</p>	<p>DATE-STAMP TELEGRAPH OFFICE N.Z. 10 JUL 43 WANGANUI</p> <p>Rec'd at</p> <p>By <b>WN</b></p> <p><b>NEW ZEALAND POST-OFFICE TELEGRAM.</b></p> <p>1984 GNR J. D. BRANDON</p> <p>will be arriving</p> <p>very shortly from Overseas. When more definite information is available the day of his arrival in home town will be announced over the air at end of usual news sessions and after the radio announcement. the time of arrival will be obtainable on inquiry at local Army Office, Post Office, or Railway Station. Listen for radio announcement to holders of telegram No. <b>TWO</b></p> <p>DEFENCE</p> <p>Tel. 142. 41,500 pads/11/41-120311</p>
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Figure 1