



THE KIWI



THE JOURNAL OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

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WHOLE NUMBER 298

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY WILL BE HELD ON MARCH 29TH, 2003 AT THE UNION JACK CLUB, SANDELL STREET, LONDON.

THE BIENNIAL TWELVE SHEET COMPETITION WILL BE HELD.

THE COMPETITION RULES MAY BE FOUND ON PAGE 32 OF THIS ISSUE OF *THE KIWI*.

ENTRIES MUST BE HANDED TO AN OFFICER OF THE SOCIETY BEFORE 14.00

THE COMPETITION WILL BE JUDGED BY BRIAN SOLE.

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The Society is affiliated to: The Association of British Philatelic Societies, The New Zealand Philatelic Federation and the Midland Federation

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CORRECTION

The telephone number of the new Scottish Group organiser, David Edwards, is shown incorrectly on the reverse of this years membership card. The correct number is that given in the last issue of *The Kiwi*: 0131 667 8802.

SOCIETY NEWS:

MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS:

We welcome:

I. Brennand, North Yorkshire
W. Holman, Paignton, Devon
J. Potter, Beckenham, Kent

RESIGNED:

B. Babister, A. Barrett, J. Skilling, A.B. Thomas, A.J. Wise.

NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

The next meeting of the society will be the biennial 12 sheet competition. The idea of this competition is to encourage members who do not compete regularly to have a go.

We are fortunate to have obtained the services of Brian Sole to judge the competition. Brian is an experienced judge and will give valuable feedback to entrants.

Please bring along recent acquisitions, problem items or just items of interest to entertain everybody whilst the judging is taking place.

NEXT MEETING OF THE MIDLAND REGIONAL GROUP

The next meeting of the Midland Regional Group will be held at the Carr's Lane Meeting Rooms on April 6th, 2003 starting at 14.00. John Smith will show **Definitives 1938 - 1960**.

We look forward to seeing as many of there as possible.

NEXT MEETING OF THE SCOTTISH REGIONAL GROUP

The next meeting of the Scottish Regional Group will be at ASPG at Dewars Centre, Perth on April 26th, 2003. Meet in the Bar/Refreshment Area at 12.30.

NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOCIETY HELD AT THE UNION JACK CLUB ON JANUARY 25TH, 2003

The meeting included the Annual General Meeting and a display led by Bernard Conway of the "1970's".

MINUTES OF THE 51ST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN HELD ON JANUARY 25TH, 2003

The Chairman opened the meeting at 13.00 with 18 members present.

1. Minutes of the 50th Annual general Meeting:

The minutes of the 50th Annual General Meeting as published in the January, 2002 issue of *The Kiwi* were accepted as a true record of the meeting.

2. Report and Review of 2001 from the President:

Ernie Leppard presented his review of the Society for the last year:

"2002 has been a busy and, in many ways, a remarkable year in the life of the Society as it celebrated its 50th Anniversary. The January meeting was used to put together the material that we hoped would be up to standard for the display to the Royal Philatelic Society of London in March. On the day, it was a quite outstanding presentation of extracts of collecting interests and each in its own right an award winning display. At about the same time, we launched our first special publication, SP 1, a sterling work put together by our Chairman and Editor. The publication was well supported by the philatelic trade and we are grateful to them. April saw our Secretary, Keith Collins, display his Second Pictorial collection for the first time, well worth a repeat some time. - members may now beleaguer him with enquiries, addressed to the resident expert! July saw an experiment with a plating workshop, again a full afternoon of interesting material with queries expounded and some solved. October brought forth a foray into the West Country, by the invitation of Jos Gregson, using his magnificent house overlooking the Bristol Channel for a members meeting - again, a full and quite superb meeting with a series of short displays covering a wide range of topics. We then come to our three day 50th Anniversary meeting in November at the Union Jack Club. Over 60 attended the Saturday evening dinner but even more attended the displays and the competition. The weekend was fully reported in the January 2003 *Kiwi*. This put the seal on a magnificent 50th Anniversary Year.

The Anniversary was also celebrated in New Zealand at Northpex. A celebratory breakfast was held which was attended by about 50 people. John Woolfe showed Maritime Post Offices in Samoa, Goldfields and Missent handstruck markings. Warwick Paterson hosted an evening meal for members of the Society which was attended by 16 people and was much enjoyed.

During the course of 2002, an excellent series of articles on different aspects of New Zealand philately, written by members of the Society, have appeared in Gibbons Stamp Monthly. We have to thank Paul Wreglesworth, our publicity officer, for this project which has already benefited the Society with a number of new members.

For the coming year, Special Publications 2 and 3 are underway. A splendid programme has been lined up, fully supported by our three Regional Groups in Scotland, the North West and Midlands. Bernard Symonds will organise our full Society meeting in September at the Royal Show Ground in the Midlands.

The Kiwi magazine continues to excel under its Hon. Editor who somehow manages to attend and report on nearly all meetings.

I must, in closing this, our 50th Anniversary Year, commend the excellent work done by committee members and thank the members for their support of the New Zealand Society for the past years and express the hope that we will enjoy the coming years half as much."

In a short discussion after the report, disappointment was expressed that there had been no Annual Auction. Those present were reassured that there was one in the programme for the Autumn meeting this year.

Alan Baker expressed the appreciation of the members for the committees efforts which contributed to make the 50th Anniversary year such a great success.

3. Financial Report from the Hon. Treasurer:

Copies of the Annual Accounts were circulated.

"The Treasurer reported that the accounts as presented represent some of the extra expenditure for our 50th anniversary year. It is significant that *The Kiwi* production takes up the whole of the subscription income. Interest on our deposit accounts is now much lower and are also nett of tax paid of £198. This year the costs of the meetings are considerably increased as they include Carlisle in last October, the RPS meeting in March and our Regional meetings which are essential for a national Society. A significant increase has been the charging by the Union Jack Club of VAT on everything including tea and coffee. I have drawn £2,000 from our deposit account and with £2,000 passed from the Packet account and I estimate that this should cover the extra expenditure on our 50th anniversary celebrations (including SP1). As we still have sufficient reserves, I feel that the subscription should remain at £14 for 2003 with a discount of £2 for those making early payment.

The Report and Accounts were accepted unanimously, Proposed: L. Giles, Seconded: T. Stephens.

4. Report from the Hon. Packet Secretary:

Copies of the Annual Packet Accounts were circulated.

"A very few members are still retaining the packet longer than the prescribed time allowed. This causes much additional work and lengthens the time that material is in circulation. There have also been instances of substitution of material - one instance was extremely serious. Please make sure that you check all books for unsigned spaces as soon as you receive them even if the contents are of no interest. **Please be vigilant.** At the time of writing this report, I urgently require more material and have, consequently, had to reduce the number of packets out on circuit. If there are members who would take a packet containing only Postal History, Postcards, Postal Stationery and Booklets could they please indicate this on the back of their return slips."

In discussion following the report, Bernard Atkinson made the point that although the number of people taking the packet has remained fairly constant, the nett income has fallen over the years: in 2000 it was £21,000, in 2001, £18,000 and in 2002, £12,500. He felt that this was partly due to there being insufficient material available but also that unsuitable material was also on offer. Experience showed that earlier material, back of the book items and Postal History sold well. Only about one third of members took the packet: more would be welcome.

The Report and Accounts were accepted unanimously, Proposed: B. Symonds, Seconded A. Baker.

5. Election of Officers of the Society:

The outgoing committee made the following nominations:

President	Ernie Leppard
Vice Presidents	Allan Berry, Tom Hetherington, John Smith
Chairman (E)	Derek Diamond
Vice Chairman	Vacant
General Secretary(E)	Keith Collins
Editor of <i>The Kiwi</i> (E)	Andrew Dove
Packet Secretary	Bernard Atkinson
Treasurer (E)	Ernie Leppard
Auctioneer	John Woolfe
Librarian	John Woolfe
Membership Secretary	Derek Diamond
Publicity Officer	Paul Wreglesworth
Meeting Reporters	Andrew Dove & Derek Diamond
Representative in New Zealand	John Watts
Auditor	John Smith

Committee members: Northern Group Secretary (Jack Lindley), Midland Group Organiser (Bernard Symonds), Scottish Group Organiser (David Edwards) and David Piggott.

There being no other nominations, the above were elected unanimously. Proposed: M. Allen, Seconded: A. Baker.

7. Any other business:

7.1 The Programme for 2003 was confirmed as:

January 25th:	AGM and the 1970s'.
March 29th:	12 sheet competition.
May 31st:	Edward VII and 1d Dominion (led by Michael Wilkinson)
July 26th:	Instructional Markings (led John Woolfe)
September 27th	Regional Meeting in the West Midlands (members displays)
November 29th	AGM and Auction

7.2 Any suggestions for the 2004 programme were requested: please forward to Keith Collins.

7.3 Keith Collins requested volunteers to take on the organisation and running of regional groups in the West Country and Yorkshire. Our Regional Groups are becoming an increasingly important part of the Society and these two geographical areas are the obvious big gaps. If any more Regional groups can be initiated, the Committee will help the startup by ensuring that good displays are available.

7.4 Paul Wreglesworth thanked Bob Clarke for his efforts on the Society's behalf in running the website. Those who have visited it have praised the content and the links to other philatelic sites.

7.5 Derek Diamond presented the certificate for the Gordon Kaye Trophy to Paul Wreglesworth.

The AGM closed at 13.55.

The second part of the afternoon was given to a display of the 1970's led by Bernard Conway.

He started by explaining that the 1970 definitive issues exemplify the maxim that if there is a mistake available, a postal administration will make it. The first mistake concerned the issue: the

decision to 'go decimal' was made in the early 60s but when the time came in 1967, the New Zealand Post Office was unprepared and the 1960 set was re-issued with decimal denominations.

During the currency of the issue, some major changes of interest occurred:

- The end of watermarked paper. No issues after 1973 were printed on watermarked paper.
- To booklets: the 1970 issues were the last to be made up from specially printed sheets of the definitives.
- Stamp vending machines ceased to be available in 1978.
- The last counter coils were from the 1970 definitives.

In total, there were 21 basic values in the set, designed by 5 different designers and printed by four different printers in three different countries. The first value issued was the 10c which appeared on March 12 1970 to coincide with a Royal Visit. The lower values were issued in September 1970.

Five months later, postal rates increased. This had the effect of rendering all values with a ½ cent obsolete. This, apparently, also caught the Post Office by surprise and it soon became apparent that the supplies of the 4d were insufficient. Luckily, there were large stocks of the 2½c left and these were overprinted 4c. The unused sheets were held at Harrisons in London in either perforate or imperforate sheets and in New Zealand as perforated sheets. The imperforate sheets were overprinted by the photogravure method and the perforated by letterpress. The reason for the difference was that some of the margin was trimmed from the sheets during perforation and this made it impossible to grip the sheets for the letterpress.

About 75% of the overprinted stamps have flaws. These arise from a number of causes such as damage to the overprint plate, faulty inking or careless handling of the sheet. A particularly interesting reason for flaws was the application of a coat of Gum Arabic to the overprinting plates when they were not being used. Careless cleaning resulted in dust remaining and causing printing flaws.

In 1975, the low values were replaced by the Rose definitives. The plan was to use the 7c and 8c for the Postfix machines. Unfortunately they proved to be too large! Seventeen months after their issue, the 3c and 4c moths were overprinted but unfortunately the paper proved too thick and the joins in the coil meant that the coils did not work properly. In 1978 special definitives (1c, 2c, 5c and 10c) for the Postfix machines were created by using the right hand side of the 10c Royal Visit stamp.

After explaining the background, Bernard gave his display which admirably illustrated the points made.

Michael Smith followed and concentrated on the 4c on 2½c overprint. He showed examples of the double overprint, one albino and the grossly misplaced overprint which resulted in the 4c at the bottom left corner and the bars at the upper right. He explained that, at the time of the lower values issue, he worked in the Birmingham Telephone Exchange. By a coincidence, Enid Hunter, designer of the three lower values, had worked in the Wellington Telephone Exchange. Working from this connection, he wrote to her and was delighted to receive an autographed cover.

Maurice Allen showed a working collection of flaws on the Photogravure printings which illustrated the carelessness with which the issue was produced.

John Smith displayed obvious flaws including missing colours and major perforation misplacements. Another surprising mistake was in the value blocks of the 5c where the sheet value was originally shown as \$12 when it should have been \$10: the original and corrected blocks were shown.

Paul Wreglesworth started with the Philatelic Bulletins from 1968 in which the design competition for the new issue was discussed. He also showed the original artwork for the 2½c. The rest of the display was devoted to explaining the complexity of the different printings of the 23c and 50c. The differences were well illustrated and made an interesting sequence. Last was the 10c with the range of different papers, gums and printings including the rare Plate B12a3a which was rare as most sheets were used for booklets.

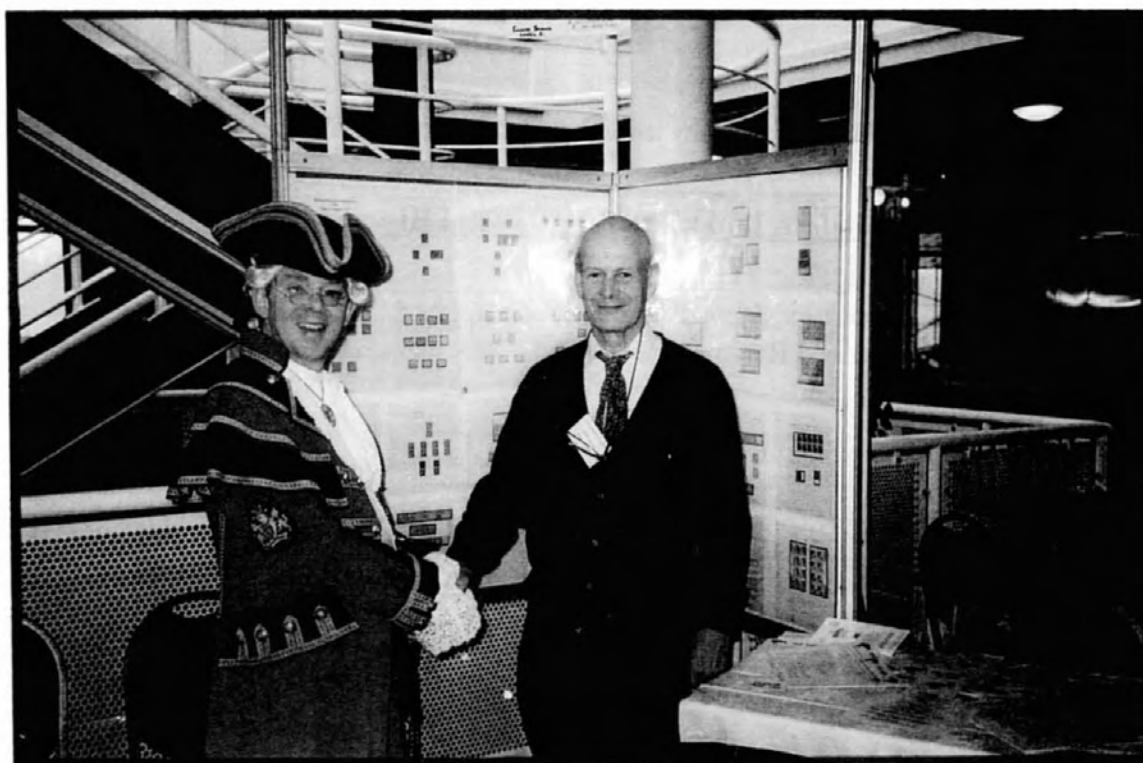
Frank Monaghan reviewed the coils of the issue. A most unusual official repair of a coil caused some discussion as to the method of repair and its relation to the perforating process. Two coil leaders illustrated the ability of officials to use whatever was to hand. The 8d 1967 Flag stamp was issued as a coil but the correct coloured leaders were not available so spare 10c Royal Visit leaders were used and the correct coil value overprinted. When the 8d John Dory stamp was issued as a coil, the correctly coloured leaders were available and used but they had been designed for the 8d Flag stamp which was larger than the new stamp and, therefore, there more stamps in the new coil necessitating the overprinting of the new coil leaders as well.

David Bradbury showed a plating study of the 1977 Silver Jubilee miniature sheets which had been undertaken by Jim Shaw working from a registration sheet on display at Panpex '77.

Bernard Symonds finished the afternoon with booklets from the period including a 3d pane with a partial offset of the reverse.

Derek Diamond thanked all those who had taken part for a most enjoyable afternoon and the meeting closed at 16.00.

THE SOCIETY STAND AT CHESTER 2003



Bernard Symonds mans the Society's stand at Chester 2003

12 SHEET BIENNIAL COMPETITION

The competition will be held at the Union Jack Club, Sandell Street starting at 14.00 on Saturday March 29th, 2003.

RULES:

- All classes are open to all members, no material is restricted, but see (e) below.
- Members may submit one or more entries in each class. Each entry must comprise 12 sheets.
- Sheets shall not exceed 295mm high x 245mm wide. Each sheet shall be in a protective sleeve numbered on the back in order in which they are to be displayed. A descriptive sheet containing not more than 80 words should be placed behind the first sheet.
- Each entry must be the sole property of the member and all writing and mounting must be the work of the member except in the case of disability preventing this.
- Any entry which has been awarded a prize (winner or runner-up) in the previous competition may not entered in this competition in substantially the same form.

CLASSES:

		Winner	Runner up
Classic	QV & First Pictorial	Stacey Hooker Cup	Paua Bookends
Modern 1	KEVII, KGV, 1d Universals, 1d Dominion & 2nd. Pictorials	Noel Turner Trophy	John Evans Trophy
Modern 2	KGVI to Present day	Kiwi Shield	Paua Musical Box
Postal History	Inc. Aerophilately & Postal Stationary	John J Bishop Trophy	Barton Bowl
Open Class	To include: Thematics, Ephemera, Cinderellas and any display with at least 50% philatelic content	David Forty Salver	Campbell Paterson Trophy

TROPHIES:

There will be five classes with a trophy awarded to the winner and runner-up in each class.

MARKS:

Classes: - Classic, Modern 1, Modern 2, and Postal History:

Philatelic Knowledge and Personal Study	30pts
Treatment, Originality and Importance	25pts
Relative Condition and Rarity	25pts
Presentation	20pts
TOTAL	100pts

Open Class:

Presentation	25pts
Originality	20pts
Development and Treatment	20pts
Philatelic Knowledge	20pts
Relative Condition	15pts
TOTAL	100pts

PLEASE NOTE:

All entries should be handed to an officer of the Society before 14.00 on the day of the competition. There are NO postal entries.

THE ANNIVERSARY WEEKEND - FOOTNOTES

Derek Diamond writes:

"I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all those members who wrote to wish the Society a happy 50th anniversary and to those who wrote to express thanks to me and my colleagues for organising the weekend. There are too many of you to reply individually. Also, the Society is immensely grateful to the hundred plus of you who supported the raffle which raised over £500 towards the cost of the weekend. All the prizes were posted promptly to those not actually present for the draw at the Anniversary Dinner and Mr. Ruggles, who won the valuable first prize, tells me that he is still recovering from the shock of his first ever raffle win! With support like this from our members, the Society will continue to flourish."

Stan Kundin writes:

"As an invited guest for this great occasion, I want to thank the officers, members and especially the Committee for extending a warm welcome to this member from the Colonies. The accommodations and the venue for the programme at the Union Jack Club were outstanding as were the periods after the scheduled activities spent in the lounge getting acquainted and 'talking stamps' with fellow members.

It was somewhat distressing to be handicapped by discomfort due to torn knee ligaments. Dr. Allan Berry, a retired Veterinarian, and, until that moment, a close personal friend, considered that I should be 'put down' but cooler heads prevailed. With the occasional 'happy pill', some over the counter medications and short breaks of bed rest, I was able to take part in the scheduled events.

The members displays as well as the programmes presented by Len Jury and Robin Gwynn were extremely informative and contained outstanding material rarely seen. The One Frame competition also showed material that would have rated high awards in any national level show in America, or anywhere else for that matter. I especially remember the Anniversary Dinner for the fantastic menu and sparkling conversation although I must admit to having some hazy recollections towards the end, due no doubt to the excellent wines and Port working in conjunction with the medication I had been taking.

In summing up my experiences, it was the best 'stamp weekend' that I have ever had and I am glad that I delayed knee surgery to take part. For those unable to attend, I can only extend my sympathy; you missed a fantastic experience. I only hope the committee will keep me in mind for the 75th Anniversary festivities."

INFORMATION RECEIVED:

FUTURE NEW ZEALAND STAMP EXHIBITIONS

New Zealand Philatelic Federation Inc. has approved the following National Exhibitions:

2003	WELPEX 2003	Wellington	7 - 9 November 2003
2004	BAYPEX 2004	Napier or Hastings	29 - 31 October 2004
2005	NORTHPEX 2005	North Shore	July 2005
2006	KIWIPEX 2006	Christchurch	2 - 5 November 2006

Two prospectuses have been received:

Welpex 2003 will include all FIP qualifying classes. The closing date for entries is June 4 2003. For further information, contact WELPEX 2003, PO Box 2146, Wellington, New Zealand.

KIWIPEX 2006 will open on the 100th Anniversary of the opening of the 1906 Christchurch Exhibition and will include the Kiwi Challenge. This is a new concept wherein collectors create a new display of the Postal History of a Colony in the next 4 years. KIWIPEX is also seeking supporting members and will produce a number of philatelic souvenirs. For further information, contact KIWIPEX 2006 PO Box 18 914, Christchurch, New Zealand.

MEDIA RELEASES

COIN COMMEMORATES THE QUEEN'S GOLDEN JUBILEE

18 December, 2002

New Zealand Post is issuing a commemorative coin on behalf of the Reserve Bank of New Zealand to celebrate the Queen's 50th anniversary of her accession to the throne.

Ivor Masters, General Manager, New Zealand Post Stamps Business said the Queen's Golden Jubilee coin is unique to New Zealand and is a fitting tribute to a long and distinguished reign.

"Queen Elizabeth II is part of New Zealand's heritage and represents our place in the Commonwealth. The coin is a celebration of her 50 years as Queen."

To commemorate the Queen's Golden Jubilee, the British Royal Mint has established a dedicated coin programme for 12 countries in the Commonwealth and each country has developed its own coin design.

The New Zealand silver-frosted proof coin was designed by Robert Lowe and depicts an image of the Sceptre with the Cross - a key part of the Coronation ceremony and Royal regalia.

The coin's obverse, designed by Ian Rank-Broadley, features the Queen's portrait in sterling silver and highlighted in 22-carat gold.

The coin will be available from New Zealand Post Stamps Centres in Auckland, Wanganui and Christchurch and from New Zealand Post Stamps website: www.stamps.co.nz

NEW ZEALAND POST CELEBRATES THE DEFENCE OF THE AMERICA'S CUP

20 December, 2002

New Zealand Post is celebrating the defence of the America's Cup by releasing a special stamp issue on 8 January 2003 featuring the extraordinary yachts and crew of Team New Zealand.

Stamps General Manager Ivor Masters says that New Zealand Post, as the official licensee of Team New Zealand stamps, is extremely proud to be celebrating Team New Zealand's efforts to defend the America's Cup for the second time.

"Team New Zealand's defence in 2000 was the only successful defence outside the U.S.A. in the Cup's 150 year history. We certainly wish Team New Zealand all the best in their attempts to gain a hat trick and retain the 'Auld Mug'."

The issue includes three stamps - 40 cent, 80 cent and 90 cent - which feature two Team New Zealand yachts racing on Hauraki Gulf. The stamp denominations are domestic letter prices and reflect the huge nation-wide interest in the race.

"New Zealand came alive in 2000 when it last hosted the America's Cup, and we are delighted to be recognising the 2003 defence," Mr. Masters said. "New Zealanders can get behind Team New Zealand by posting them around the country."

Last October, New Zealand released the 'America's Cup' issue which contained three stamps featuring Team New Zealand's Black Magic racing against Italy's Luna Rossa during the successful 2000 defence, to coincide with the start of the Louis Vuitton Cup.

'Team New Zealand - The Defence' stamps were designed by CommArts Design in Wellington and printed by Southern Colour Print in Dunedin.

STAMPS CELEBRATE YEAR OF THE SHEEP

16 January, 2003

New Zealand Post will honour one of the country's national icons in its latest stamp issue 'Year of the Sheep', which will be released on 5 February 2003.

This is the seventh consecutive year that New Zealand Post has produced a stamp issue marking the Chinese Lunar Calendar and what better subject than the humble sheep.

"The five stamps are all illustrations of sheep scenes that New Zealanders are familiar with - in the high country, at mustering, in the yard and shearing," said Stamps General Manager, Ivor Masters.

"As well as being a kiwi icon, sheep are vital to our economy, so it is appropriate that we recognise the Year of the Sheep with a special stamp issue.

"New Zealand's sheep population numbers about 44 million and the nation is the world's second largest wool producer and exporter," Mr Masters said.

Last year New Zealand Post marked the Year of the Horse with an issue depicting six of New Zealand's top racehorses in their competitive environment.

The stamps were designed by Denise Durkin of Wellington and printed by Southern Colour Print in Dunedin.

REVIEW OF PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

Maritime Disaster Mail

Authors: Norman Hoggarth and Robin Gwynn. Published: Stuart Rossiter Trust Fund (2003) c/- Robert Johnson, 65 Manor Park, Redland, Bristol BS6 7HW, England UK. ISBN 0 9530004 4 3. Price: £37.50 + P.+P. UK £7.39, Airmail: Europe £8.25, Zone 1 £16.86, Zone 2 £18.91 - Surface Mail £8.10. Pp. 362, 260+ B & W illustrations.

This publication was previewed in the last issue of *The Kiwi* and now that it has arrived, it does not disappoint. Starting with an unnamed ship which sank in January 1776, the book gives a comprehensive review of all wreck mail through to the *Centaure* in October 1990. The Appendix covers the markings applied to mail seized during the World Wars.

Although the whole world is covered, New Zealand wrecks are all included and constitute a surprisingly large number of the disasters.

The book is profusely illustrated throughout with black and white illustrations. Many of the illustrations are described as 'the only known cover'. Where the strike is not available, on a number of occasions, a computer generated image of the strike is shown. Where possible, pictures of the vessels involved are also included.

Postal History requires extensive research. The extent and the meticulous nature of that undertaken for this book are evidenced by the Bibliography shown by the list of abbreviations and, more importantly by the full page list of acknowledgements which records assistance from all over the world.

This a specialised area and may be too specialised for some readers. If you have any interest in the subject, however, there is no doubt that this is now the definitive publication on the subject and

although, no doubt, new debates and discoveries will surface, it will remain so for the foreseeable future.

Recommended.

NOTE ON A NEW PUBLICATION

The last issue of *The Kiwi* contained a review of "New Zealand Pictorial and Special Event Date Stamps 1882-2002" by Tom Lee and John Watts. The review was by Gerald Elliot as I had not yet received a copy. I am pleased to say that I have now received my copy and I fully endorse all the comments in Gerald's review. The reason that there was a delay was that demand had exceeded expectations and a reprint had to be arranged. More importantly, the authors took the opportunity to incorporate new information revealed as a result of the initial publication of the book.

An even more useful book now.

Ordering details remain unchanged.

ORIGINAL ARTICLES:

A NEW HOSPITAL SHIP MARKING

EDDIE WEEKS

I was very interested to read the article on the New Zealand Hospital Ships in *The Kiwi* (1) and look forward to seeing the results of the survey.

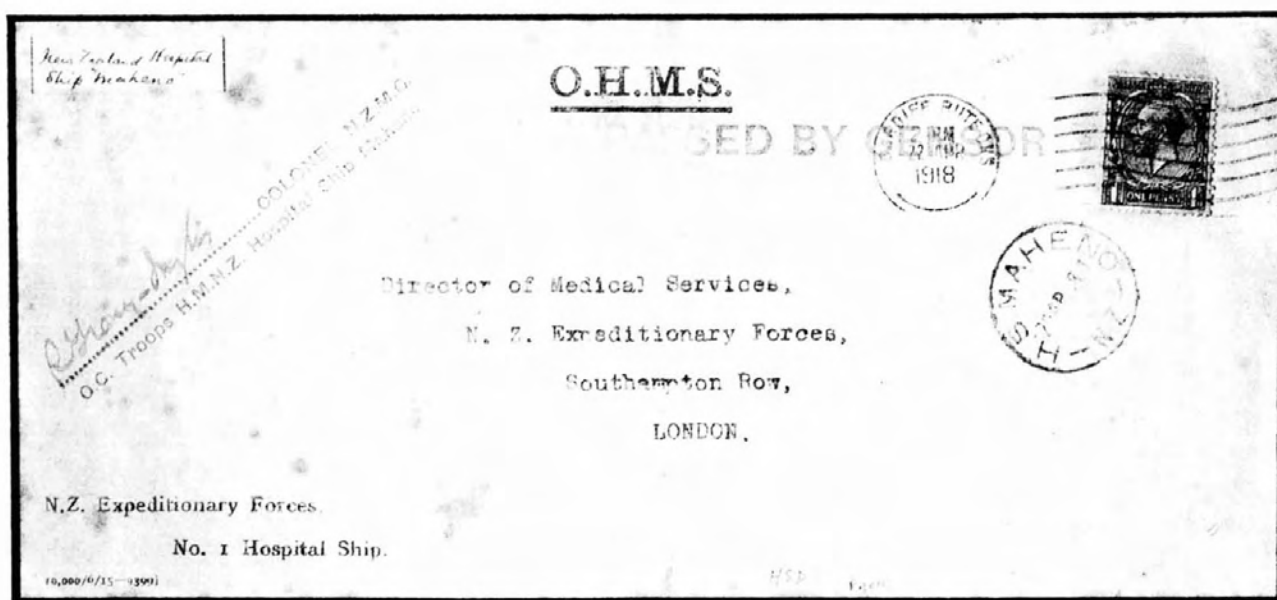


Figure 1 The Entire Front (Reduced to 75% of actual size)

The cover illustrated in Figure 1 carries what I believe is a previously unrecorded cachet. Unfortunately it is only a front but would appear to be an official communication between the O.C. the medical staff on the ship and the Director of Medical Services for the NZ Expeditionary Force in London.

As well as the new cachet, the front carries a 'J' Class Maheno postmark dated 20 AP 18 and Cardiff Bute Docks cancelling a UK KGV 1d stamp dated 22 APR 1918. This would fit with John Murrs' listing of the Mahenos Fourth Commission (2). This shows the Maheno as being in Avonmouth between 31 April and 3 May so it is entirely conceivable that it was in Cardiff on 22 April.

The envelope is official stationery and this front would lend support to the suggestion that this official stationery and the 'J' Class handstamp were available for use by the staff rather than passengers.

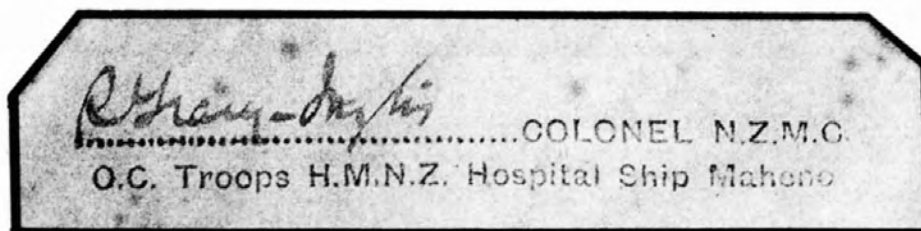


Figure 2 The Marking (Increased to 125% of actual size).

The new cachet is shown magnified in Figure 2. I am unable to be certain about the signature but it appears to be R (?Gray)-Inglis. Can anyone tell me who was in charge of the medical staff?

References:

1. Woolfe J & Dove A "New Zealand Hospital Ship Handstamps". *The Kiwi* (2001). Vol. 50. No. 4. Pp. 85-87.
2. Murr J "*The Maheno and the Marama and the White Fleet*" Pub. Postal History Society of New Zealand (1999). Handbook No. 45. ISBN 0-908 588-57-7.

THE PENNY UNIVERSAL DESIGN

NICK JONES

If you look at a copy of the 1d Universal, you will see that there is a boat pictured on the left side as you look at it. I believe that the ship shown is probably the steamer "Duchess" (Figure 1) which was, in fact a ferry boat built in 1897 by Mackie and Thomson of Glasgow. Her engines were supplied by another Glasgow firm, Muir and Houston.

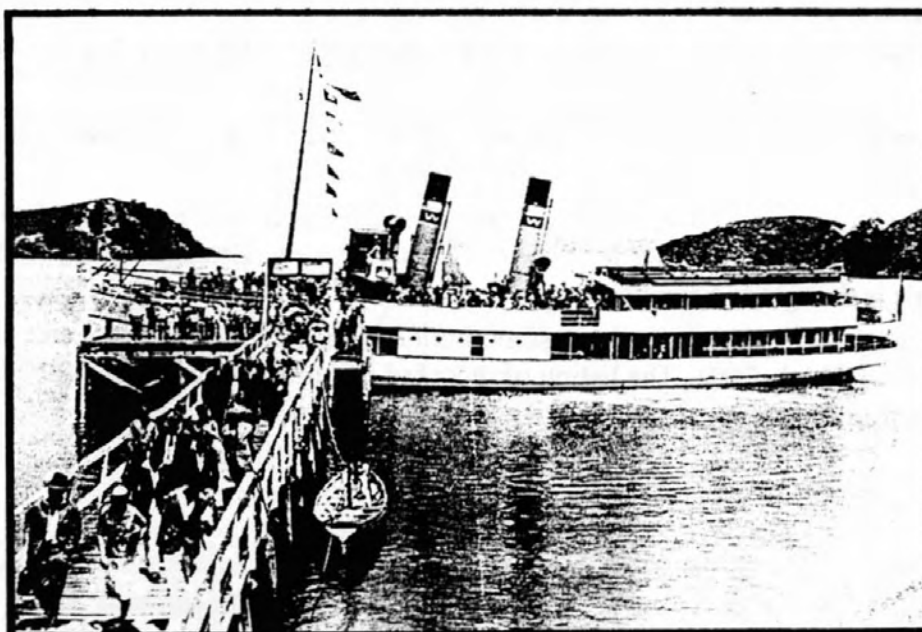


Figure 1. S.S. Duchess: Eastbourne Ferries and Duchess S.S. Coy, Auckland

She was constructed for Wellington Harbour Ferries Ltd. but registered by what seems to have been an ancillary company named the Duchess Steam Ship Company Limited of Auckland.

Her dimensions were 133ft. 6in. in length and 26ft. 10in. in the beam. Her tonnage is a little unclear being recorded as 308 tons in one publication and 314 tons gross (137 tons nett) in another.

After many years in service as a Wellington ferry, she was bought by the Eastbourne (Wellington) Borough Council for their Eastbourne Ferries Ltd., and continued as a ferry until being transferred to Auckland Harbour. I cannot find details of these purchase and transfer dates.

She did, however, continue to work throughout both World Wars and was eventually broken up in 1946, her 50th year.

NEW ZEALAND WORLD WAR I HOSPITAL SHIPS

JOHN WOOLFE AND ANDREW DOVE

This is a report with the initial results on the survey into the markings used on the two First World War New Zealand Hospital Ships, "Maheno" and "Marama". The initial request was published in *The Kiwi* of July, 2001 (1).

The response was excellent. Not only did we receive replies from all the major collectors known to us in the New Zealand Society of Great Britain but also, thanks to Ernie Leppard, replies from collectors belonging to the Forces Postal History Society. Apart from material in dealers stock, I believe that we have information about more than 70 % of surviving items.

The major disappointment was that the effort to push people into categorising handstamps into purple or violet reddish/bluish strikes was unsuccessful. Some collectors insisted that their strikes were mauve or magenta. Although this may be strictly correct, it means that it has proved impossible to judge if the actual colours varied or whether differences are a matter of peoples perceptions. As I have not seen all the reported items myself, all that I have been able to do is to put in a category of purple/violet and hope to clarify the issue later.

Since the original request, there has been a further article by Tony Aris in Captain Cook (2). He makes some interesting observations but unfortunately, he is not a member of our Society and examples in his collection are not included in these results.

Thanks to Gerald Elliott, we were provided with photocopies of the late John Murr's collection on which his book was based (3).

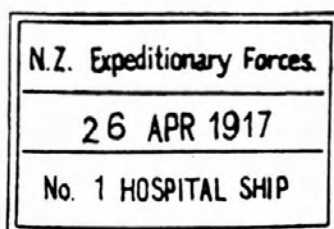
A few of the responders expressed reservations about the accuracy of Murr's voyage records but, at this stage, these have not been investigated further.

Peter High, of the Forces Postal History Society, drew our attention to the existence of a two volume publication: "The Voyages of His Majesty's New Zealand Ships "Marama" and "Maheno". This is thought to have been published in 1917.

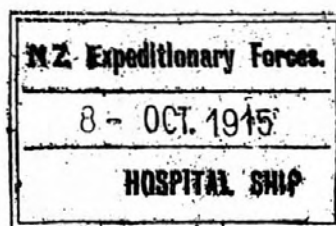
In the following two sections are listed some initial comments. The figures refer to the original article in *The Kiwi* of July 2001. The listing of recorded examples follows the comments and show the date ranges for each colour strike.

1. THE HOSPITAL SHIP MAHENO:

MH1 and MH1a



MH1



MH1a

We have been taken to task by a member who says that her example differs from our illustration and that it must be a different handstamp. Unfortunately the example in the original

article was taken from Firebrace (4). On closer examination, it would appear that the top line of wording is a hand-written approximation. Hopefully, the example used here, (an exact photocopy) will clarify the matter.

Aris suggests in his article that the fact that the 'No. 1' was omitted in MH1a but that it later appears again leads him to suspect that the later copies were from a different or second handstamp. As will be seen from the list, such examples are reasonably frequent. No other respondent has suggested different typefaces. It may be that there were originally two handstamps as we suggested with the Marama but there is no direct evidence at present.

Examples recorded:

MH1

	Purple/Violet	Blue	Blue-Grey	Grey
	5/8/15-8/10/15			
		20/6/16-24/8/16		
	14/10/16			
		27/1/17-1/2/17, 15/11/17		8/6/17
	23/12/17			
		4/2/18		
			16/7/18	
Total Recorded	22	8	8	8

MH1A

	Purple/Violet
	8/10/15-15/11/15
Total recorded	6



MH2



MH2

Six examples have been notified to us, more than many commentators have suggested. Hopefully, Murr's suggestion that the H.S. Maheno had no J Class handstamp is finally dead and buried. It is slightly less common than the Marama 'J' class but not significantly so.

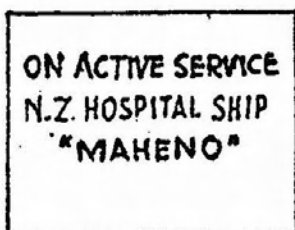
Examples Recorded:

MH2

	Black
	16/5/18-13/4/19
Total Recorded	6



MH3 & MH3a



MH3



MH3a

It seems to be accepted now that these were the same marking depending on the angle and depth of the strike. It is interesting that the earliest marks are type MH3a so it does not seem to be an issue of the outer box wearing away to produce MH3a.

Examples Recorded:

MH3

	Blue	Grey
	23/6/16-1/2/17	
		8/6/17
Total Recorded	3	1

MH3a

	Purple/Violet	Blue	Grey/Black
	14/2/16-?/4/16	24/2/16-24/8/16, 12/2/17	13/4/16
		4/2/18	
			22/10/18
Total recorded	2	7	2



MH4



MH4

This remains the most elusive of all the Hospital Ship markings. Only one example in purple and one in blue were recorded.

Examples Recorded:

MH4

	Violet	Blue
	15/12/18	?/9/17
Total Recorded	1	1



MH5

PASSED BY CENSOR

MH5

This censor marking has been mostly found in red with a few strikes in black, blue and blue-grey.

Examples Recorded:

MH5

	Red	Black	Blue/Grey	Blue
	14/2/16-12/2/17			
	23/12/17			
	13/4/18			15/11/17
			16/7/18	4/2/18
		27/12/18		
Total recorded	12	1	1	2
+ 2 examples with colour unknown				



MH6

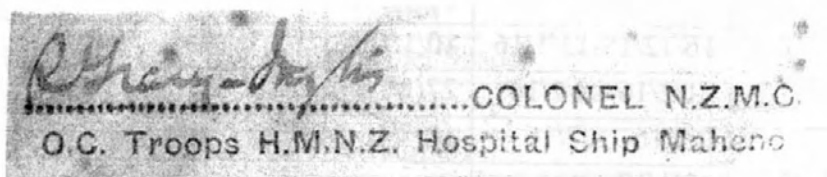
PASSED BY CENSOR.....

MH6

No respondent has reported this type of mark used on the Maheno and it seems that, despite previous literature, each ship had its own type of censor mark.



MH7



MH7

A new marking has been reported recently. It is described elsewhere in this issue of *The Kiwi* (5). We have numbered it MH7 for future reference.

Example Recorded:

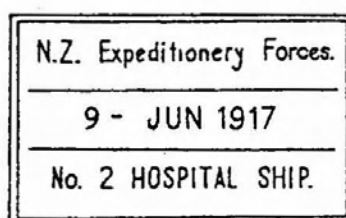
MH7

	Blue
	?20/4/18
Total Recorded	1



2. THE HOSPITAL SHIP MARAMA:

MR1



MR1

As expected, nobody has reported even seeing this handstamp never mind owning one. It seems probable that this was mis-reported or mis-interpreted by Firebrace who makes the only report.



MR2



MR2

It seems certain that there were at least identical or almost identical handstamps. The existence of two different coloured marks on at least three dates (and no reported mixed colour strikes) seems to indicate that two handstamps were available. This is a new observation and any comments would be appreciated.

Examples Recorded:

MR2

	Red/Pink	Black/Grey Black	Purple
		10/12/15	
	16/12/15-12/1/16	10/1/16-21/1/16	
	21/2/16-28/2/16	27/1/16-16/6/16	
	9/6/16-15/7/16	10/7/16-24/8/16	
	10/1/17		
			20/4/17
	10/1/18?		
Total recorded	22 + 1 undated	28 + 4 Undated	1 + 3 undated
+ 1 Blue undated and 1 Blue-Black undated			

Note: 10/1/16: 1 Red and 1 Black
 12/1/16: 1 Red and 1 Black
 10/7/16: 2 Red and 2 Black



MR3



MR3

Members reported 10 examples. This would seem to accord with most collectors' impression although many dealers have repeatedly stressed their rarity (i.e. 1 or 2 known)

Examples Recorded:

MR3

	Black
	9/2/18-9/12/18
Total recorded	10



MR4



MR4

Three distinct colours were reported. The existence of two colours on the same day in November, 1918, suggests there were two similar handstamps but the evidence is inconclusive.

Examples Recorded:

MR4

Red	Purple/Violet/Shades	Black
10/7/16-6/12/16		8/7/16-24/8/16
	10/9/16 (purple)	
	18/12/16-31/12/16 (Purple/magenta)	
	21/5/17-10/6/17 (Purple/magenta)	
	1/10/17 (Purple)	
	19/3/18 (Mauve)	
	8/6/18-10/9/18 (Purple/mauve)	
	9/11/18-9/12/18 (Violet)	9/11/18
Total	10 + 1 undated	10 + 4 undated
+ 1 undated in blue		

In particular: 1 violet and 1 black dated 9/11/18

MR5



MR5

Two examples were recorded on cover. It appears that this strike may have been used in 1917 & 1918 as an administrative datestamp.

Examples Recorded:

MR5

	Mauve
	10/7/16-25/9/16
Total Recorded	2

MR6

H.M.N.Z.H.S. MARAMA.

MR6

The only example recorded is in Murr (3).

Example Recorded:

MR6

	Mauve
	21/9/18
Total Recorded	1

MR7

H.M.H.Z. HOSPITAL SHIP MARAMA

MR7

Two recorded: ?/10/16 illustrated on cover in Murr (3) and on a piece of document dated 19/12/18. Both strikes in mauve/purple.

Aris (2) believes that MR6 and MR7 may be unofficial (or even spurious) marks. The jury is still out on this suggestion but the report of a second example of MR7 probably makes this less likely.

Examples Recorded:

MR7		
	Mauve Purple	Purple
	?/10/16	19/12/18 (on piece of document)
Total Recorded	1	1



MR8

PASSED BY CENSOR

MR8

The large 'PASSED BY CENSOR' marking has not been reported by any correspondent. It would appear that the reference in Firebrace (4) to its use in 3 colours on the 'Marama' may have been based on incorrect information.



MR9

PASSED BY CENSOR.....

MR9

Aris (3) states that he believes that there may have been two similar marks but with differing lengths of dots. This appears to be new suggestion and, unfortunately, we did not ask respondents to our survey to count the dots!

Examples Recorded:

MR9			
	Red	Blue	Black
	10/1/16		27/12/15-15/1/16
	21/2/16-28/2/16		
		29/2/16	
	20/3/16-3/4/16		
			19/4/16-16/6/16
Total Recorded	14 + 1 undated	1	11

In particular: 10/1/16: 1 Red and 1 Black



CONCLUSION

It is hoped that further information and debate will result from this summation of the results of our survey. In the future, information obtained will be included in a proposed society monograph on both the World War I Troopships and Hospital ships.

In the meantime, acknowledgements, in no particular order, are given to the following respondents:

New Zealand Society Members:

Bernard Atkinson, Ken Bracey, George Branam, Gordon Darge, Andrew Dove, Gerald Elliott, George Gibson, Ernie Leppard, DJHL, Mrs. S.L. Parnell, Robin Startup, John Woolfe.

Forces Postal History Society Members:

Andy Gould, Peter High, Tony Walker and Eddie Weeks.

References:

1. Woolfe J & Dove A "New Zealand Hospital Ship Handstamps". *The Kiwi* (2001). Vol. 50 No. 4, July 2001. Pp. 85-87.
2. Aris AT "Maheno, Maheno and The White Fleet" Captain Coqk (2002). Vol. 30 No. 3 April 2002 Pp. 17-22.
3. Murr J "*The Maheno and the Marama and the White Fleet New Zealand Hospital Ships World War One*". Pub. Postal History Society of New Zealand, PO Box 99-673, Newmarket, Auckland, N.Z. (1999). ISBN 0-908 588-57-7
4. Firebrace J "*British Empire Campaigns and Occupations in the Near East, 1914-1924 A Postal History*". Pub. Christie's Robson Lowe (1991). ISBN 0-85397 439X.
5. Weeks E "A New Hospital Ship Marking". *The Kiwi* (2003). Vol. 52. No. 2. Pp. 36-37

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Readers with an interest in Postal History will be aware of the excellent range of publications sponsored by the Postal History Society of N.Z. It can be difficult to compile a full set partly because of the scarcity of some of the early books but also because many of the items do not carry the date of publication or any indication of their place in the series. Accordingly, the following list is published with the kind permission of the Editor of The Mailcoach, The Journal of the PHSNZ.

LIST OF PUBLISHED HANDBOOKS

No.	Title	Author	Pub.	Pps.
1	Illustrated Handbook of NZ Registration Labels 1908 - 1965	Campbell ID	1965	82
2	Squared Circle Cancellations of New Zealand	Robinson AJ	1976	28
3	Postal Stationery of New Zealand	Ed. Startup RM	1966	80
4	New Zealand Post Offices (1967 Edition)	Startup RM	1967	148
5	NZ Stamps with Perforated Initials	Samuel RD	1968	52
6	1970 Supplement to Illustrated Handbook of NZ Registration Labels	Campbell ID	1971	48
7	NZ Registration Markings	Voyce AH	1971	66
8	NZ Telegraph and Telephone Offices	Watters F	1973	76
9	NZ Postal Slogans	Startup RM	1976	160
10	Register of NZ Registration Labels Type N & P	Campbell ID	1974	56
11	Register of NZ Registration Labels Type A - L	Campbell ID	1976	88
12	Register of NZ Registration Labels Type M	Campbell ID	1976	29
13	New Zealand Post Offices (1977 Edition)	Startup RM	1977	255
14	Cumulative Index to The Mailcoach 1964 - 1974	Rush & Potter	1977	39
15	NZ Cancellations	Marshall AR	1978	108
16	Squared Circle Cancellations of NZ	Capill C	1980	33
17	NZ Parcel Roller Cancellations	Robertson GI	1981	61
18	NZ Skeleton Relief Datestamps	Jackson A	1981	150
19	"A" Class & Allied Datestamps of NZ	Craddock RS	1982	290
20	New Zealand Postal Manuscripts	Marshall AR	1983	296
21	New Zealand Postcards. Rates and Regulations to 1939	Jackson A	1984	36
22	NZ Routes and Rates to 1874	Elliott GJ	1986	

23	Postage in Cash	Startup RM	1985	52
24	Burton and Muir and Moodie Postcards	Jackson A	1985	59
25	Cumulative Index to The Mailcoach 1964 - 1984	Lawson G	1985	72
26	NZ Registration & Insurance Labels	Campbell ID	1985	48
27	NZ Universal Towndies 1925-1984	Lawson G	1985	84
28	1984 Supplement to New Zealand Post Offices	Startup RM	1984	45
29	Censored in the Pacific	Startup RM	1988	30
30	Register of NZ Labels Type N7c etc	Dale LG	1991	85
31	Box Link	Startup RM	1991	103
32	Under Canvas	Breen AI & Startup RM	1993	123
33	NZ Post Offices	Startup RM	1994	281
34	Of Kauri & Gold	Lawson G	1993	83
35	Frank Collectibles	Startup RM	1995	80
36	Around the Hauraki Gulf	Lawson G	1996	54
37	Library List	Foote CF	1997	80
38	Universal Meters	Foote CF	1998	41
39	Index of Suffix Letters	Dale LG	1998	24
40	Inkjet Printer Cancellations of NZ	Eriksen A	1999	60
41	NZ Airgraph Services 1942 - 1945	Griffiths KA	1999	87
42	Register of NZ Insured Mail Labels Type V	Dale LG	1999	38
44	NZ Inkjet Postal Cancellations Catalogue	Startup RM	1999	106

LIST OF PUBLISHED STUDIES

No.	Title	Author	Pub.	Pps.
1	Bougainville Police Runner Mails	Voyce AH	1975	13
2	NZ Postage Meter Notes	Startup RM	1975	11
3	NZ Relief Datestamps	Jackson A	1975	17
4	New Zealand Registered Mail User Cachets	Bree, Campbell, Startup	1975	24
5	Cook Islands Early Postal History	Howard White FB	1975	22
6	NZ Mails to England via Brindisi	Elliott GJ	1976	17
7	XII British Commonwealth Games	Lawson G	1975	13
8	Information Stamps	Startup RM	1977	17
9	Our Daily Mail	Millar JH	1980	25
10	NZ Postage Stamps Used Overseas	Startup RM	1970	16
11	Receiving Post Offices	Startup RM	1967	10
12	Index to Suffix Letters	Dale LG	1983	18

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No.	Title	Author	Pub.	Pps.
1	Through Gorge and Valley	Startup RM	1974	84
2	Chatham Islands Postal Services	Startup RM	1974	49
3	Wellington & Its Postal History	Startup RM	1980	14
4	Postal History of the Manawatu	Startup RM	1982	17
5	Canterbury - Tales of the Mails	Startup RM	1983	37
6	Marlborough - Notes on Early Post Office History	Startup RM	1983	24

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