



THE KIWI



THE JOURNAL OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

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WHOLE NUMBER 314

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY WILL BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 26TH 2005
AT THE UNION JACK CLUB, SANDELL STREET, LONDON STARTING AT 11.00 WITH
THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FOLLOWED BY THE AUCTION STARTING AT 13.30
FURTHER INFORMATION IS ON PAGE 112 OF THIS ISSUE OF *THE KIWI*

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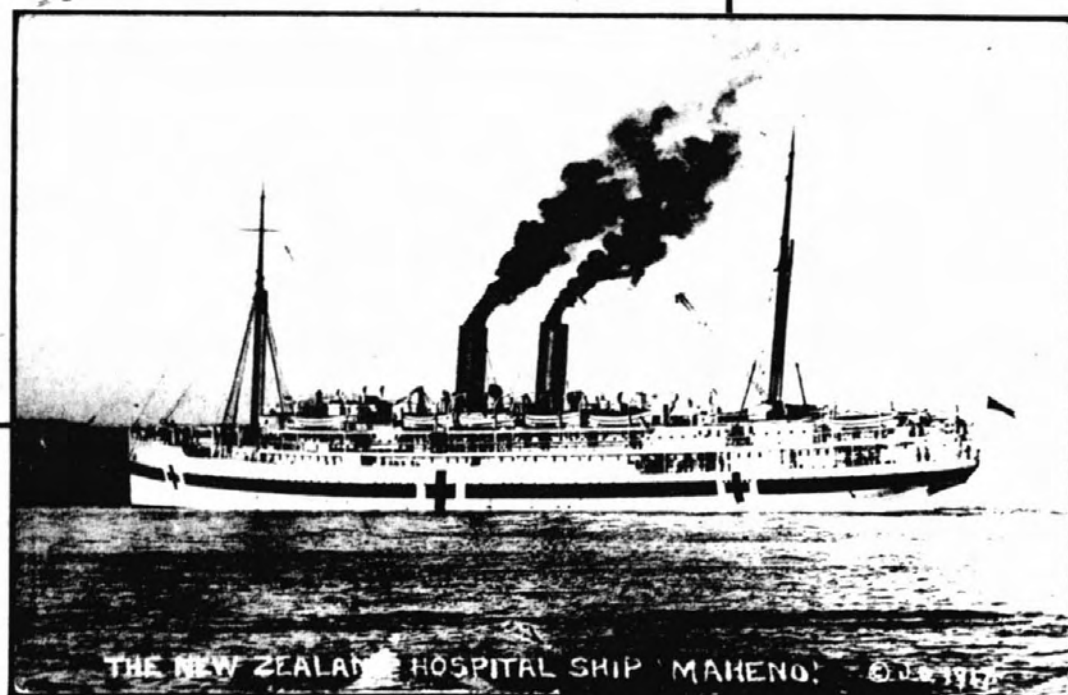
The Society is affiliated to: The Association of British Philatelic Societies, The New Zealand Philatelic Federation and the Midland Federation **Annual Subscription £15.00**

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ENCLOSURE

There are two enclosures with this issue of *The Kiwi*:

- ❖ The Annual Society Auction list
- ❖ The Annual Subscription Renewal Form for 2006

If either is missing, please contact the Hon. Secretary.

SOCIETY NEWS:

MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS:

We welcome:

G. Dads, North Devon
A. James, Warrington
B.T. Maynard, Kent
M.J. Shaylor, Lincolnshire

DECEASED

T. Stephens, Emsworth

AN IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PACKET CIRCUIT MEMBERS

Some unscrupulous individual(s) are swapping mounted for unmounted stamps and fine used for spacefillers. This is causing a severe problem as it not only adds to costs but, more importantly, means that some contributors are seriously considering not putting top class material in the packet. Please be diligent about checking the packet when you receive it and report any such instances immediately the Packet Secretary.

NEXT MEETING OF THE NORTHERN REGIONAL GROUP

The next meeting of the Northern Group will be held at St. Luke's Church, Orrell on November 12th, 2005 starting at 13.30.

This will be our Annual Competition with 12 page entries. Members can enter as many times as they wish.

Also, can those attending bring along 'Latest Acquisitions and Items of Interest' to display after the competition.

NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

The next meeting of the Society will be held at the Union Jack Club, Sandell Street, on Saturday, November 26th, 2005. The meeting will start with the Annual General Meeting at 11.00. The Agenda for the meeting follows this notice.

The Annual Society Auction will follow the AGM and start promptly at 13.30. There will be time to view the Auction lots after the AGM.

53RD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Notice is hereby given that the 53rd Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain will be held at the Union Jack Club, Sandell Street, London on Saturday 26th November, 2004, commencing at 11.00 a.m.

AGENDA:

1. Minutes of the 52nd Annual General Meeting (Published in *The Kiwi* Vol. 54. No. 1. P. 3)
2. President's Report and Review of 2005.
3. Financial Report from the Hon. Treasurer.
4. Report from the Hon. Packet Secretary.
5. To elect:
 - i) A President
 - ii) Vice Presidents
 - iii) A Chairman
 - iv) **A Vice Chairman**
 - v) An Honorary General Secretary
 - vi) An Honorary Editor of "*The Kiwi*"
 - vii) An Honorary Packet Secretary
 - viii) An Honorary Treasurer
 - ix) An Honorary Auctioneer
 - x) Other Officers of the Society

6. To elect a Committee.

7. Any Other Business proper to the Annual General Meeting of which due notice has been given in writing to the Honorary General Secretary.

Nominations are invited from Members for all the Officers of the Society, having obtained the agreement (in writing) of the member so nominated.

KEITH C. COLLINS, HONORARY GENERAL SECRETARY

** Please note that the Vice Chairman will be appointed from the elected Committee Members at the next Committee Meeting which will be held in January, 2006.

EARLY NOTIFICATION OF A SPECIAL MEETING TO BE HELD IN 2006

We are delighted to announce that a special meeting of the Society will be held at Royal Philatelic Society of London on **June 10th, 2006**. Joseph Hackmey will be displaying his International Award winning collection of New Zealand '**Chalons**'.

Further details will be published closer to the time.

NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOCIETY AND THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH WEST AND SOUTH WALES GROUP HELD IN TAUNTON ON SEPTEMBER 24TH, 2005

Derek Diamond welcomed those present to the inaugural meeting of the new Regional Group for members in the South West of England and South Wales. The first part of the afternoon was occupied with a business meeting to agree the future running of the group. It was agreed that Paul North would act as Secretary of the Group and that 2 or 3 meetings would be held in 2006. Thereafter, there would be further discussions as to the frequency of the meetings and the best venue. The first meeting would be held in February in Taunton. Full details will be published in *The Kiwi* and members living in the locality will be individually informed of coming events.

The philatelic part of the meeting opened with 26 people present: 17 from the South West, 5 from other parts of the country and 4 guests from the Taunton Philatelic Society. Local members had been asked to bring along items of interest and they started the displays.

Peter Favier went first and explained that he has recently started to collect Health Stamps. He published a query in a recent issue of *The Kiwi* regarding about 750,000 copies of the 1929 stamp which appeared to be missing from the Post Office numbers of stamps produced, sold and destroyed. He had received no response to the question and remained puzzled. He told the story of the issue of the first Health stamp which was notable because 6 days before it was due to be issued, the Post Office increased the order from 2 to 4 million stamps. Not surprisingly, this caused significant production problems. It also appears to have been a brave step as the total population of New Zealand at the time was only 1.4 million and 50% of the cost of the stamp went to charity.

Later, Peter showed a photocopy of list of sales of Health Stamps split into the number sold in each Hospital District and wondered if anybody knew why they had been divided in this way.

Neil Jones showed the Victory Issue of 1920. He included essays and proofs which illustrated the range described by Len Jury in his display in 2002 and subsequent article in *The Kiwi*. Interestingly, Neil showed nothing that contradicted the suppositions Len put forward about the format and availability of the coloured proofs.

Alan Deal entertained with some recent issues including the self-adhesive do-it-yourself set which had sufficient space for the sender to draw their own picture on the stamp and the NZ native food booklet which included illustrations and recipes for mountain oysters, huhu grubs and possum paté. He also had examples of the slogans illustrated in *The Kiwi* indicating that delivery had been delayed because of insufficient postage and the local ANZ Bank issue. He finished by showing a letter that he had received that day from a private post franchisee in Hawke's Bay informing him that from November 2005, the franchisees will be working together to allow delivery nationally via their own network rather than passing mail for outside their area to New Zealand Post.

Neil Jones followed with a run through of the Chalons starting with the story of the Alfred Chalon's original portrait. The portrait was painted in 1837 and, subsequently, Cousins made an engraving. The route by which the design was transferred from Chalon's painting to the stamp is debated. It seems that the direct source was probably the engraving by Cousins in 1838. The display covered a number of the early perforations and finished with an example of Jeffrey's forgery with the usual heraldic emblem at the top of the print.

After a break for refreshments, the meeting continued with a series of displays from visitors to the area. **Keith Collins** led by returning to May, 1935. On May 1st, the new Definitive series (Second Pictorials) was issued, on May 4th, 3 new Airmail stamps appeared and on May 7th, 3 stamps commemorating the Silver Jubilee of KGV went on sale. This represented a total of 20 stamps. Combined with the new stamps were a large number of associated items including pictorial covers, private FDCs, commemoratives pamphlets and lettercards. In total, more than 40 new items were produced in 3 months in a country with a population of 1.5 million people which

was trying to recover from a major recession. It seems surprising that there was sufficient philatelic interest to justify this excess. It may be that the aim was to try and reinvigorate the tourist trade by distributing them widely around the world.

Michael Watkinson showed a commemorative booklet printed in 1855 by De la Rue with images of New Zealand's best stamps and a medal awarded to Ernest Dale for a competitive entry in the 1955 Centenary Stamp Exhibition held in Auckland.

Andrew Dove showed a selection of the 1946 Peace issue. The original suggestion for the set was made in 1941 and it was specified as 'Peace' not 'Victory' as in 1920. The majority of values were recess printed by Waterlows and have much interest for specialists as many of the impressions were re-entered or retouched. He showed some of the original photographs from which the designs were taken. Of note was the view of the Glacier through the Chapel Window used for the 9d. This design was voted the best stamp design in the world in the 1950s. A number of the values occur with a blurred which is thought to have occurred because the Centre Plate was printed twice with the first print albino. The ink from the second print 'bled' giving rise to the blurring.

Bernard Symonds was next and showed coils starting with the original 1d Universals which were supplied by Dickie for a machine of his own design. Subsequently, other machines were designed and the stamps sold from them may be distinguished by pattern of the larger holes between the stamps. Subsequent issues were made available in this form and ended with the 1978 Queen's Head stamps which had to be produced to fit the machines as the new Rose Definitives were too large.

The other coil issues were for use in Post office counter machines. These have numbers on the selvage between stamps to allow the counter clerk to keep track of the number of stamps sold. The first issue for the counter machines was the Second Pictorials although the numbered joins are extremely unusual. The coils were enclosed in a leader which had the value of the roll printed on it. Over the years, there are a number of occasions on which old leaders were used and the value manually corrected. These leaders and tails are very collectable although difficult to display.

Bernard also showed a small thematic on the subject of Rugby - dear to the collective New Zealand heart!

The last display of the afternoon was by **Don Scregg** who started with some pictures of the early planes used to carry mail. Included was a photo of the plane used by Guy Lambton-Menzies who flew the first flight across the Tasman from Sydney to the West Coast. Unfortunately, on arrival he attempted to land in what appeared to be a field but was actually a swamp! The plane identification letters were ABCF which was assumed by the locals to stand for Aussie Bastards Can't Fly. Thereafter, there were a number of the 1931 experimental flights and Cinderellas including a cover carried by Kingsford-Smith in 1931 which was franked by a 2/- First Pictorial stamp which had previously been used fiscally.

The second part of the display was Don's 16 sheet entry on the Christchurch Exhibition which won a Diamond award in the RPSNZ Marcel Stanley competition this year. There were many gems including the Cinderellas used and tied to covers, a card with the rare straight line 'Posted at the Top of the Tower' and an example of the datestamp which was scarcely used as it broke on October 30th. There was also a whimsical card in the shape of two shoes with a message 'from a sad and lonely soul' written on it.

Derek thanked all of those who had contributed to a varied and very interesting afternoon and wished the new Regional Group a long and happy life. He also thanked Tony West of the Taunton Philatelic Society for the loan of the display boards. The meeting closed at 16.30.

**** Post meeting note:** the next meeting of the South West and South Wales Group will be held at St. John's Church Hall, Taunton on February 25th. Full details in the next issue of *The Kiwi*.

**NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MIDLAND GROUP HELD IN BIRMINGHAM ON
SEPTEMBER 17TH 2005**

Bernard Symonds opened the meeting by announcing that as well as the meeting to be scheduled in April, the group would host the biennial philatelic weekend at Rugby. Further details will be published as they become available.

The afternoon's display was given by the Society Chairman, **Derek Diamond**, whose talk was about New Zealand, a Land of Philatelic Tradition and Innovation. This report describes the main themes of his display: each theme was fully illustrated with a wide range of philatelic material and, if appropriate, ephemera.

He started by commenting that there seemed to be cycles in New Zealand philatelic endeavours since the first stamps were issued in 1855: his display would cover a number of issues from the past 150 years and that he was confident that by the time he came to the present, most of those present would be in tears!

The first issue covered was the Chalons. The set was named from the artist, Alfred Edward Chalon, who painted the famous portrait of Queen Victoria in 1837 which became one of the iconic images of the British Empire. The representation of the monarch is found on issues of banknotes and stamps from Nova Scotia to the Bahamas and Tasmania between 1848 and 1861. The surprise is that it does not seem to have been considered for use on the 1d Black in the 'mother' country. The story of the stamp was told through the 2d value which was one of the original series as it represented the local postage rate. At the time, it was possible to post a letter to the UK without pre-paying the postage in the expectation that it would be paid by the recipient. Nonetheless, it was necessary to pay the local rate of 2d. The result is that the stamp is found on cover comparatively often illustrating a wide range of postal usages and services. In the early days of the post, the demand for stamps would normally be low except when a bag was about to close. Because of this varying demand, some local offices developed their own ways of separating the stamps. The resulting serrates and roulettes were replaced by the first perforations in 1862.

The next two issues, the First and Second Sidefaces continued the traditional theme but, in 1898, an extraordinary innovation occurred with the issue of a set of stamps, the First Pictorials, which had pictures of the country to attract tourists and did not feature the Queen's head. They remained on sale for about 12 years and their changes provide much specialist interest. The initial supply was printed in London by Waterlow & Sons. Later, the supply was printed in New Zealand from plates supplied by Waterlow. By the time that the size had to be changed to accommodate the new comb perforating machine, the NZ Government had had enough of Waterlow and commissioned the new smaller plates for the 3d, 6d and 1/- from Perkins, Bacon & Co. These new plates carried numbers on them, starting with 1. These numbers ran in sequence through to the 4d KGV plate 44. The selection displayed contained many varieties and rare items illustrating the use of the stamps as well as production methods. The point was made that it is extremely difficult to find some stamps used on cover – especially Officials – although their catalogue value does not reflect their scarcity.

The next 2 issues, definitives for KEVII and KGV reverted to traditional type and were illustrated by attractive used blocks of 4. In 1929, the next innovation wave started with the first of the annual Health Stamp issues. The appearance of these was due to 3 women: first, Dr. Elizabeth Gunn who was an army doctor in the First World War and whose concern at the physical state of recruits drove her to start the Health Camps, secondly, Dr. Ada Paterson, a schools medical officer, who suggested that New Zealand follow Denmark in issuing stamps which would carry a

surcharge for a specific charity – in Denmark, it was for Christmas charities – and, thirdly, Nellie Jones, a nurse who featured on the first and second stamp issues.

After this diversion, tradition reasserted itself with the definitive sets for KGV and QEII. There were some hiccups around the start of the new reign. The future Queen was on her way to visit New Zealand when she ascended the throne and had to return home. One of the stamps which was prepared to commemorate the visit was used as the 1/6 value in May 1953 Coronation issue. The first new definitive was not issued until December 1953 and the main set was placed on sale in March 1954. The traditional lack of foresight was apparent in 1958 when the standard rate was increased from 1½d to 2d and there were insufficient supplies of the 2d stamp. The solution was to recall the old 1½d and overprint the remainders.

The last phase of innovations was on April 1st 1987 when New Zealand Post Office monopoly on carrying mail ceased. Since then, collecting has been an unpleasant experience for most philatelists as the variety of licensed operators have been free to issue labels as they wish and it is hard to keep track of the companies concerned let alone the labels available. Derek briefly discussed the debate as to whether these labels should be accorded catalogue status and Warwick Paterson's clear view that they should not be. Although there is sympathy with the logic that they should, in truth it is hard to see how anybody can keep track and, if the numbers produced continue at the present rate, few will be able to afford them.

Lawrence Kimpton gave a vote of thanks from those present. He commented that this was an unusual and very interesting way of approaching a philatelic display which ensured a wide range of material was shown. Each section had been illustrated with scarce material which contributed to overall story. As far as he could see, no-one was crying but everybody present had had a fascinating afternoon and had seen much of interest.

**NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NORTHERN GROUP HELD ON SEPTEMBER
10TH 2005**

Ten Members were present including a new member, Tony James, who had only been a member of the Society of 10 days. The theme of the day was ISLANDS. The displays were:

Brian Stonehouse showed stamps from the Cook Islands including King George V 2 perf pairs, Admirals and the first Decimal definitives. He finished with covers from Fanning Island, Pitcairn Island and Raoul Island in the Kermadecs.

Paul Wreglesworth showed a Great Barrier Island cover and covers addressed to PONUI and MOTUIHI Islands in the Hauraki Gulf.

John Hepworth showed examples from the Dependencies including Aitutaki King George V and First Pictorial overprints and more New Zealand stamps, including Arms and Queen Victoria issues, overprinted for use in Niue, the Cook Islands and Samoa. These were followed by the first issue of the Tokelau Islands, Great Barrier Islands cinderellas and the stamps privately printed for the General Grant Expedition to the Auckland Islands.

Stuart Potter illustrated the postal history of the Kermadec Islands starting with letters from the yacht 'Ngataki' dated 1935 with the cachet '*SUNDAY ISLAND MAIL / NO STAMPS AVAILABLE / PER YACHT NGATAKI*'. Next was mail carried by the ketch 'Yvonne' franked with the Cinderella produced for the island. After this, there was a series of covers starting with one dated 10 AU 37 from the Meteorological Station and others dated 1938, 1939 and an Apollo 14 Splashdown cover.

Jack Lindley explored the Chatham Islands starting with the stamps issued to commemorate the islands, postmarks used on the island, airmail covers to and from the islands and specially illustrated Health covers produced for use on the islands. He finished with a series of covers from the Cook Islands showing mainly New Zealand stamps overprinted for use in the islands.

Aubrey Halpern showed Ross Dependency covers.

John Atkinson chose to look at transport to and around the islands by showing the 1984 Early Coastal Vessels set and giving the history of the ships featured.

Tony James showed a recently issued item, the 45c Coffee Cup stamp with an inverted die cut.

Jack expressed thanks to all those who had contributed to a fascinating afternoon and the meeting closed at 16.30.

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Society publications are now available:

SP 1: *Aspects of Collecting New Zealand Stamps.*

SP 2: *Index to The Kiwi Volumes 1 to 50.* Printed and CD Version.

SP 3: *The Kiwi Volumes 1 - 50.* Full text on CD

Price: SP 1: £10 inc. P. & P.

SP 2 & SP 3, £30 in UK and £35 overseas airmail inc. P. & P. (Society members will receive a 40% discount)

Payment accepted in NZ\$, US\$ or £St. All orders to:

New Zealand Society of Great Britain
9, Ashley Drive,
Walton-on Thames,
Surrey KT12 1JL

INFORMATION RECEIVED:

AWARDS TO MEMBERS

Congratulations to Paul Wreglesworth who was awarded a Vermeil medal and the National Philatelic Society Award for the Best First Time Entrant for his display of the Second Sideface Issue at Autumn Stampex 2005.

And to Allan Berry who won a Large Silver medal with his exhibit of New Zealand Government Department Printed Franks at Taipei 2005.

INFORMATION RECEIVED

MEDIA RELEASE

New Zealand Post Celebrates 150 years of stamps

In 2005 New Zealand Post celebrates 150 years of one of the most useful and enduring payment methods – the stamp. In 1855 New Zealanders were able to pay for postage in advance for the first time, a development that opened up communication channels both within New Zealand and the rest of the world.

To celebrate such a significant anniversary, New Zealand Post has issued a superb collector's album entitled New Zealand Collection: 150 Years. This album tells the fascinating story of New Zealand's development since 1855, as depicted through stamps.

New Zealand Post Stamps General Manager Ivor Masters said he was delighted to present the New Zealand Collection.

'This album displays the work of generations of New Zealand stamp designers. These were Kiwis who were passionate about stamps and stamp design, and who made a distinctive mark on the history of our country.

'It is a landmark publication and an absolute 'must have' for collectors worldwide.'

The New Zealand collection includes fifteen stamps issued in three instalments spanning the years 1855-1905, 1905-1955 and 1955-2005. The 15 stamps are presented in ten-stamp sheets, and one sheet of all 15 stamp designs. Individually numbered these sheets are only available by purchasing the Collection.

Additionally each 5-year section starts with a unique gold-printed first day cover, also individually numbered. A special sheet commemorating the first 1855 one-penny stamp, meticulously reproduces the stamp using the original intaglio printing process.

The album can be purchased from New Zealand Post retail outlet PostShops and Books and More stores as well as regional stamp centres, selected retailers, the Wanganui Stamps Centre and www.stamps.co.nz, from July 2005.

PROPOSED FUTURE NEW ISSUES BY NEW ZEALAND POST 2005

October	King Kong
	Christmas
November	NZ 2005 Issue
	Ross Dependency (Preservation of Historic Huts)
December	'The Lion, Witch and the Wardrobe' film based on the book by C.S. Lewis

2006

January	Year of the Dog Issue
February	Hawkes Bay Earthquake Commemorative Issue
March	2006 Commonwealth Games in Melbourne
April	The Queen's 80 th Birthday (Joint issue with Jersey)
May	<i>Washington</i> Exhibition issue
June	Maori Performing Arts
July	Renewable Energy
August	Health ('five fruit/veges a day')
September	Gold Rushes
October	Summer Festivals
November	Ross Dependency (50 th Anniversary of Hilary's transcontinental trip)
	Christmas
	And, no doubt, an issue to commemorate <i>Kiwipex 2006!</i>

NEW ZEALAND 2005 NATIONAL STAMP SHOW

By the time this is published, this year's National Stamp will be about a month away. Bulletin No. 5 is now available and may be viewed via North Shore Philatelic Society website: www.welcome.to/nsps. The announcement in the last Bulletin of the issue of two new stamps seems to have caused some difficulty as they should have been called 'Customised Advertising

Labels'. This error is corrected in the latest version. The limited edition of 6.500 of these labels is selling well and there are only a few se-tenant pairs left.

Information about the Chairman's Cocktail Reception, North Shore Society Breakfast and the Palmares Dinner are included as are details of the full sightseeing programme.

We understand that a good representation from the New Zealand Society of Great Britain will be attending. We wish the Exhibition well.

FORTHCOMING NEW ZEALAND PHILATELIC EXHIBITIONS

The latest New Zealand Philatelic Federation (Inc.) News Release includes the proposed programme for the next few years:

NEW ZEALAND 2005	November 17-20, 2005	North Shore Events Centre
KIWIPEX 2006 (FIAP Support)	November 2-5, 2006	Christchurch
NORTHLAND 2007	March 31- April 1, 2007	Whangarei (Traditional, Postal Stationery, Open, One-frame)
TARAPEX 2008	Aug/Sept?	(Incorporating the Australasian Challenge)
TIMPEX 2009	Sept. 2009	Timaru

PUBLICATION RECEIVED

The Postal History of World War II Mail between New Zealand and Switzerland.

Authors: Robin M. Startup, FRPSL, FRPSNZ and Charles J. LaBlonde, CpPhH. Pub. jointly by the Postal History Society of New Zealand and the American Helvetia Society. A4 Spiral bound.

Pp. 130. Available from The Treasurer, PHSNZ, P.O. Box 2121, Stoke, Nelson, New Zealand.

Price NZ\$25 + postage.

The fog and confusion of War gives rise to complications in many areas. One of these in the Second World War was the maintenance of communications between those on opposite sides and, as the War developed, with Prisoners of War. The way that Switzerland and the International Committee of the Red Cross were able to provide this vital service is documented in this book.

The scale of the operation is shown by the fact that by the end of the War, the Central Agency of the International Committee of the Red Cross had compiled a card index of the location of individual POW's, civilian internees and displaced persons with 36,000,000 entries. Not surprisingly, the ways of the getting the mails through were also complex and changed as the War progressed. The complexity is reflected in Appendix A of the book which gives a Summary of N.Z. to Switzerland Postage: detailing each rate from Free (for POW surface mails) to 6/3 (airmail to POWs between 20/7/40 to 8/9/40): there are 35 different rates with 3 special additional charges.

The book is divided into 8 sections: New Zealand, Switzerland, The International Committee of the Red Cross, Mail – New Zealand to Switzerland. Mail Switzerland – New Zealand, New Zealand Censorship, Switzerland Censorship, Integrated Chronology – The War & The Post. There are also 3 Appendices, New Zealand Postal Rate summary, Switzerland Postal Rate summary, General Post Office Pamphlets P2280E and P2327B, and a full Bibliography.

Overall, this an admirable book. It clearly explains a complicated subject in a readable way. It is copiously illustrated with, I think, all the routes and rates included. It is an essential addition to the bookshelf of any collector of the period and thoroughly to be recommended.

SOME CHANGES IN OWNERSHIP TO POSTAL OUTLETS

ROBIN STARTUP

The background to the present situation is as follows: New Zealand Post Ltd., as a State owned enterprise, some years ago created a chain of franchised postshops which were primarily book and stationery shops. Some post offices (as here in Masterton) became the basis of a new Books and More Postshop. In other towns, branch new shops were created. For example, in Napier, a new bookshop – with postage and similar facilities – opened about 100m along the same street as the former Chief Post Office, itself now a bookshop. The franchise chain was financed by New Zealand Post and NZ's major bookstore chain, Whitcoull's, each with 50% of the ownership.

Later, New Zealand Post bought out Whitcoull's interest meaning that the 'owner's' interest in the chain was all held by New Zealand Post. New Zealand Post has now decided that selling books is not part of its core activity and from 1 September has sold its ownership to the PaperPlus franchise chain – Whitcoull's main competitors. The Postshop/Kiwibank segment of the Books & More chain will continue to operate and the name Books & More will remain in use.

MOWBRAY'S BUYS STIRLING & CO.

(This information is taken from the September 2005 issue of Captain Cook, The Newsletter of the Christchurch (N.Z.) Philatelic Society (Inc.))

It was reported in the *Christchurch Press* that Mowbray Collectables are buying the stock of Stirling & Co for a quoted million dollars. The stock is described as a 'collection' which included two of New Zealand's first stamps reputed to be worth up to \$10,000 each. The purchase was announced at the Annual Meeting of Mowbray's on the 9th of August. The Managing Director, John Mowbray, said the 'huge' collection was too good to pass up. It is believed to be among the largest stamp stocks in Australasia and contained remnants from Wilcox Smith and Laurie Franks. The bidders for the stock were given just one day to go through Stirling's building which was described as 'chock-a-block' with stamps. There was no stock list and the last inventory was eight years ago but the purchaser had seen two Full Face Queens and no doubt much else. Mowbray is also buying the Stirling name which would add another brand to their business. They intend to dispose of the best of the collection through their normal auction and sales channels.

**PRESS RELEASE FROM THE BRITISH LIBRARY
RARITIES AT THE CLICK OF A MOUSE**

March 31 2005

New website features 80 highlights of the British Library's philatelic collections.

A selection of the world's rarest and most fascinating stamps is now available online for philatelists to explore at the British Library's expanded Collect Britain site. 80 items, many of them from the renowned Tapping Collection, can be viewed as high quality images at: <http://www.collectbritain.co.uk/collections/philatelic/>

'Philatelic Rarities' allows users to explore items either as large images or using a zoom facility. Each item is accompanied by detailed explanatory notes, providing the historical context and philatelic importance of stamps on display.

Among the Library's treasures now online are rarities such as the 1d and 2d Mauritius 'Post Office' issue of 1847, the British Guiana 1850-51 4 cents lemon-yellow. Of special interest are the essays or artwork for the first postage stamps of New South Wales the 1d and 3d 'Sydney Views'

instead of blue, the France 1853-61 1 franc carmine in a tête-bêche pair (a pair with one upside down) and the 'entire' (a folded and stamped letter) from Bombay to Venice bearing two copies of the India 1854 4 annas with the head of Queen Victoria inverted which is unique thus.

Historically important items include the proof sheet of tax or revenue stamps issued in America as a result of the British Stamp Act of 1765. So unpopular was this tax that it was abandoned only months later, but relations with the American Colonies had been greatly damaged, contributing to the background of the War of Independence in 1775.

David Beech, Head of Philatelic Collections at the British Library, welcomed the launch of the new site: 'It is really great to have examples of some of the world's philatelic rarities available to view on the Collect Britain web site at the British Library. Many of the images can only be seen at the British Library.'

The 'Philatelic Rarities' resource sits within the British Library's Collect Britain website www.collectbritain.co.uk funded with money from the New Opportunities Fund. The site contains over 90,000 images and 250 hours of sound recordings.

RESPONSE TO A PREVIOUS ARTICLE:

THE CELEBRATION DINNER MENU: MEMORIES OF A PHILATELIC CHILDHOOD WARWICK PATERSON

I was interested to read Mike Shand's article on the Centenary Stamp Exhibition of 1955 (1). The dinner menu with its autographs brought back lot of memories. A lot of those present were names that I heard often throughout my childhood and probably even met as visitors to our home, or at the various stamp society meetings and shows that I attended with my father (CP). A number of them later became personal friends and clients themselves when I became fully assimilated into the family business in the mid 1960s.

Here is a list of names and comments which follows the order of signatories starting at the top left moving down, then top the top right. I have added a few comments, personal and otherwise, about as many individuals as I can.

1. Mrs. R.A. Dexter. wife of R.A. Dexter.

2. R.A. Dexter. This is Arthur Dexter, a well-known Auckland philatelic identity and source of much of the specialist information on the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth II issues, a lot of it gained by sheer legwork around the Post Offices in the Auckland region through his personal contacts in the Auckland Philatelic Society as well as in the Auckland trade. He was often mentioned in the Newsletter of the time and Arthur had a keen obsessive approach to specialisation in moderns and used to write voluminous articles all in a sort of schoolboy script. The Dexter family had been very active in motor racing and speed-trials at Muriwai Beach and other places during the 1920's and the name is closely associated with early flying in Auckland to which many airmail enthusiasts would attest. I think that the family business was the Dexter Motor Company.

3. Campbell Paterson. Needs introduction from me.

4. M.M. Paterson. My mother, Marie Paterson.

5. A. Paterson. Annie Paterson, my grandmother. She came to New Zealand from Scotland with her family (including CP) in 1914, just after the outbreak of war, if I remember aright. I have an original copy of the CP Catalogue as it was issued in 1953, which is inscribed "To mother, with due appreciation for the original idea", dated October 1952.

6. G.V. Linnell. Geoff Linnell, a farmer from the Kaipara Harbour and close friend of CP's. Also a very keen collector of early New Zealand including postmarks. His original collection was sold to CP Ltd. in return for an allocation of shares in the new Company in 1949. He became a

shareholder and remained a director of the Company for a number of years. Visits to Geoff's sheep farm were an occasional event and I remember working there on one occasion for a week or so, dipping sheep. The Linnells were and are a large family in the Kaipara area, especially around Kaiwaka which is about 80 miles north of Auckland.

7. Bernard J. Cox. A mail order seed merchant from the Palmerston North area. His extensive use of the basic rate of postage meant that he was able to cajole the Post Office staff to allow him to buy counter coil pairs of the issues which were current while he was in business. Particularly, this covered the 1960 and 1967 Pictorials and, for many years, he was the major supplier to CP Ltd of stocks and sets of this specialised area. The most difficult thing about Bernie was that he had difficulty in keeping a record of what he had sent you in coils, as you always found out too late that he did not keep count!

8. J. Keatley. Jack Keatley, a member of CP staff for many years and a native of Thames. Jack was an active philatelist for many years and a client of CP Ltd and also a prominent member of the local philatelic society. A friendly, urbane man and a typical 'Kiwi' who became close friends with many CP clients.

9. B. Keatley. Jack Keatley's wife.

10. Patricia Purves. Bill Purves' wife.

11. J.R.W. Purves. Bill Purves, legendary Australian philatelist from Melbourne and leading light for a lot of his life in the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria. Bill was a senior lawyer in Melbourne in a well-known firm of barristers and specialised in the law relating to the Australian States, on which he had an encyclopaedic knowledge. His vast knowledge extended also to New Zealand philatelic material. I visited him once at his home and such was the aura of the man that I was somehow left with the feeling that I had visited royalty. His first comment to me – which I took as a compliment – about the specialist basis of CP Ltd. was a friendly 'at least you are not a philatelic grocer – too many of those, eh'. You could not help liking him.

12. H.R. Harmer. A well known London auctioneer of whom my inadequate knowledge, no doubt, can be filled in by many members of the Kiwi Society in the United Kingdom.

13. K.J. McNaught. Another eponymous New Zealand philatelist and scientist in New Zealand. Ken McNaught laid the groundwork for much of the specialist postal history and philately in the 1930's, 40's and 50's and beyond. A generous man who shared an enormous amount of information. A request directed to Ken would be quickly followed by the return of three or four pages of closely scrawled notepaper, giving dates and individual discoveries important to New Zealand philately. I always maintained that the response to your prized discovery in the 1d Universal issue, would quite likely be countered by Ken's mildly triumphant 'I first saw one of these while sorting bulk on the 5th December 1939'. Exaggeration? Probably, but not too much so. This man had one of the finest minds ever applied to New Zealand philately. He was a long-standing research scientist at Ruakura Agricultural Research Station at Hamilton, where he lived. He was the brother of Colin McNaught, the stamp dealer in Wellington. Regarding Ken, I once found a copy of 'Philately from Australia', the quarterly journal of the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria. Writing about the die states of the 1d and 2d values of the New Zealand Second Sidefaces, Bill Purves said 'that in the first place, in the summer of this year, I had the pleasure of spending two evenings with Mr. K.J. McNaught, one of the best known younger students of New Zealand stamps. As a scientist, Mr. McNaught has brought a trained mind to bear on philatelic problems and he has already made his presence felt, particularly by his new work on the 'advertisements' and also by the study of certain related papers. He has been amusing himself with some of the Second Side Face problems, in particular the 1d plate in which (for what I now term) the die 2's and die 2a's are both found. Knowing I had considerable experience in the study of surface-printed stamps, Mr. McNaught, (quite pleasantly) pumped me very nearly dry on this

subject and I gave him what I could. However, when Mr. McNaught left, though greatly interested in this subject, I had no remote idea of taking it up again. That idea was solely the result of a visit from Mr. R.J.G. Collins, certainly the greatest living expert of New Zealand stamps. Of Ray Collins all who meet him, bear witness to a terrific enthusiast. He too came to me with the idea of my confirming (or otherwise) his own ideas in relation to certain aspects of production and he ended up getting me so 'steamed up' that I decided to take up these 'Second Side Faces' afresh for myself. Since that time I flatter myself with my own findings and suggestions having in turn, further steamed up Ray and his friends with the result that new and quite sensational discoveries have already invaded New Zealand.....'

14. H.J. Moore. A very familiar name but not someone that I remember a great deal about.

15. R.J.G. Collins. The legendary Ray Collins and original producer of the 'Postage Stamps of New Zealand, Volumes 1-6' (The Handbooks). Muriel Collins, his late wife, once told me that he used to dictate the text of handbooks while he walked around the house as in a trance, drawing on his extensive memory. Muriel took the notes and the result was the unparalleled information that we have today.

16. Frederick Walker. Well known and long time United Kingdom specialist and Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society of London. Again, UK specialists may remember and be able to fill in more information about Fred Walker than I can. Not personally known to me.

17. D.A. McCurdy OBE, VD. Not known to me except that I believe that he was largely in control of postal services for the New Zealand Army during the First World War.

18. Signature not recognised.

19. P. Collas. This was Phil Collas, a native of Melbourne and prominent philatelist in the Royal Philatelic Society, Victoria. I remember Phil as a tall, genial Aussie who took me in hand on one trip to Melbourne and 'made possible' a private tour of the Commonwealth Bank Printing Works, where for the first time I saw a full-scale multi-colour photogravure press (the Rembrandt machine) in full cry. Like many philatelists, particularly those of the old school, he left an enduring impression with me of warmth and generosity.

20. D.G. Naish. Doug Naish, a Wellington accountant and expert on the issues of the Pacific Islands. Doug was also very much involved in the publication aspects of the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand for many years.

21. P.B. Sutcliffe. Name familiar but not known to me.

22. D. Nolan. A notable Auckland collector and well known to CP. I never knew him personally.

23. R.H. Burns. Not known to me.

24. John J. Bishop. The well known Auckland dealer and postal history specialist - as well as philatelist. Jack Bishop had worked in Pim & Co. with CP during the 1940's and both must have left at a similar time to start their own businesses. Jack Bishop was heavily involved in organised philately as well as in the trade. Although I remember him visiting our house while I was a pre-school youngster, I did not really get to know him until we were colleagues in the philatelic trade in Auckland after the mid-60's.

25. Not known to me.

26. R.F. Savill. Another member of the philatelic trade in Auckland. I only came to know him personally after the 1960's.

27. Not known to me.

28. Campbell Watts. Campbell was extremely active in the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand and was, at about the same time, Director of Stamps Branch in Wellington for the New Zealand Post Telegraph Department. He therefore became a copious source of information about

stamp issues – and, in some cases, varieties. A quiet and rather retiring man, he was also heavily involved in the writing of the handbooks.

29. Laurence E. Vernazoni. Another member of the stamp trade who collaborated with Ray Collins starting 'Verne Collins and Company Ltd.' in Christchurch in 1919. Verne Collins produced the original 'New Zealand Stamp Collector' which was later taken over by the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand as well as the first pocket catalogue of NZ Stamps. Laurie was a likeable and entertaining character who was said to have been thoroughly frustrated by the tendency of his partner, Ray Collins, to disappear into a back room and sort vast quantities of 1d Universals in the name of philatelic research. The most memorable quote from Laurie was when CP himself gave a speech at the Centennial Exhibition about the place of catalogues and their importance, a subject on which CP considered himself an expert. When he mentioned the small number of specialist catalogues which were available (two at the time, I think), Vernazoni professed outrage in a good humoured way and CP had to add a comment 'well-er-two and a half then'. Vernazoni then penned a verse which still sticks in my mind which went as follows 'half a cat, half a cat, half a cat onwards unlike all the other ones sales by the hundred'.

30. J.A. Fleming. Not particularly known to me, but one of the original shareholders in Pim & Company with Frank Walrond. Fleming was not an experienced philatelist when he took up the trade and later, after leaving the Company, went overseas and became an international diamond trader. I believe that Frank Walrond went to Southern Rhodesia and I only met him once on his return to New Zealand during the 1970's.

31. J.W. Grant. A prominent South Island collector and, I think, farmer. A specialist in King George V issues.

32. S.E. Clinkard. A well-known Auckland collector and identity.

33. Name not known to me.

34. ?Cowell. Auckland collector.

35. S.R. (Ran) Dacre. A leading member of the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand who was a Christchurch lawyer and a major collector of the Second Sideface issues and contributor to the Handbooks. He was always a warm friend to CP Ltd. He was a ready source of information to me and I eventually purchased his Second Sideface collection.

36. Ran Dacre's wife.

37. A.J. Ambury. Alan was a Hamilton dealer who was most notable for the fact that he had lost a leg during the war in a bomb incident.

38. F.H. Jackson. A specialist from Dunedin and student of the Railway Travelling Post Offices and WWII Military Mail.

39. G. Brown. Not known to me.

40. C.F. Lumley(?). Not known to me.

41. Not known to me.

42. Leon L. Wolfe. A doctor and neurologist who spent most of his life in Canada. He remained a major collector of New Zealand issues until relatively recently A long-term client of CP Ltd.

43. H. Ambury. I assume was the wife of Alan Ambury (see. No. 37).

44. K.R. Soward. Ken Soward was another keen Auckland philatelist who was very active in the local Philatelic Societies.

45. H. Fletcher-Cole. Dr. Fletcher-Cole was, like many of his generation, a keen specialist in the early issues of New Zealand. A doctor from the Whakatane area, he was still very active until the time of the 1967 National Exhibition in Whakatane. He was notable for experiencing a heart attack and driving himself to hospital. Another friendly and very helpful collector.

46. E. McNaught. Ella McNaught was the wife of Ken McNaught.

47. H.J. Moore. (signed twice: see 14 above)

48. A.B. Chappell. Not known to me except as an active Auckland collector.

49. V. McFarlane. Val McFarlane was a well known Auckland personality and prominent collector in the local stamp societies. He was a leading light in the organisation of the 1955 Exhibition. A large man physically and in personality.

50. E.G. Murray. Not known to me.

51. L. Franks. A well known Christchurch collector and proprietor of Laurie Franks Ltd. Author of 'All the Stamps of New Zealand'.

52. Not known to me.

53. J. Reg. Walker. Most notable for authoring the seminal work 'New Zealand The Great Barrier Island 1898-99 Pigeon Post Stamps'. This book was published by The Collectors Club of New York. He was the son of Johnny Walker, the owner of Auckland's iconic dealers in birds and animals. Reg was a 'pigeon fancier' at the same time as the two pigeon services were operating at the end of the 19th century. He was very active in Auckland philatelic circles and it is fair to say that the work he did on the pigeons and the stamps is the reason that they – theoretically non-official and a thoroughly peripheral area – are listed in the CP Catalogue today and considered as one of the world's first airmail stamp issues.

Well, there it is. I have dictated this off the top of my head like some latter day less exalted Ray Collins. I could have gone on much longer with anecdotes and comments: seeing the card brought back many memories. To the best of my knowledge, all those who signed the card are now deceased.

Reference:

1. Shand M 'The Centenary Stamp Exhibition' *The Kiwi* (2005). Vol. 54 No.5. P.105

ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTION:

A STRANGE COINCIDENCE

JACK LINDLEY

Early in 2004, I acquired the cover shown in Figure 1. It is addressed to a Prisoner of War, Trooper R. Gowland. The cover is postmarked in Wellington and dated 5 NO 1915. It is franked with a circular *Post Office / P.C. / Prisoners of War* mark which suggests that it was routed through London. On the reverse is a handwritten inscription 'If not found please return to Miss E McCarthy Land Tax Dept. Wellington'.

Presumably, he was one of the twenty-five New Zealand soldiers taken prisoner in August 1915 following the attack of Chunuk Bair. Most of those captured were wounded and it is recorded that those wounded and not killed by the Turkish troops were taken to dressing stations and thence to hospitals. The standards of care given in the hospitals varied considerably according to the attitude of the Turk (or German) in charge. In the Maltese Hospital in Constantinople, prisoners were forced to share mattresses and only rudimentary treatment provided. Six of those captured succumbed to wounds or disease (1).

In August 2004, one of the members of my local philatelic Society went to Turkey to tour the Gallipoli battlefields. He asked if I wanted any pictures of the area. Naturally, I said yes. On his return, whilst flicking through the pictures that he gave me, I noticed one of a gravestone upon which the name looked familiar (Figure 2). The photograph was taken in the British WWI War Cemetery in Scutari. As you can see, it is of Trooper Gowland. The only difference being that on the envelope his army number is recorded as 13/689 whilst on the gravestone it is 13/687. Nevertheless, I believe it must be the same person and that he was one of the six who died whilst in captivity.

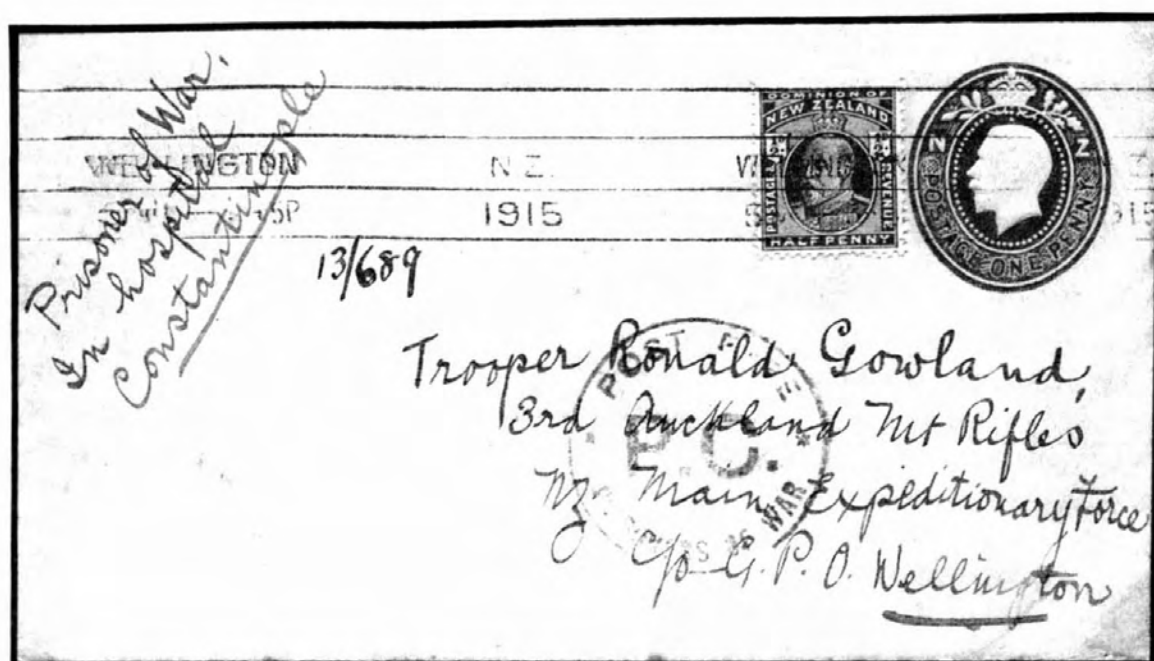


Figure 1

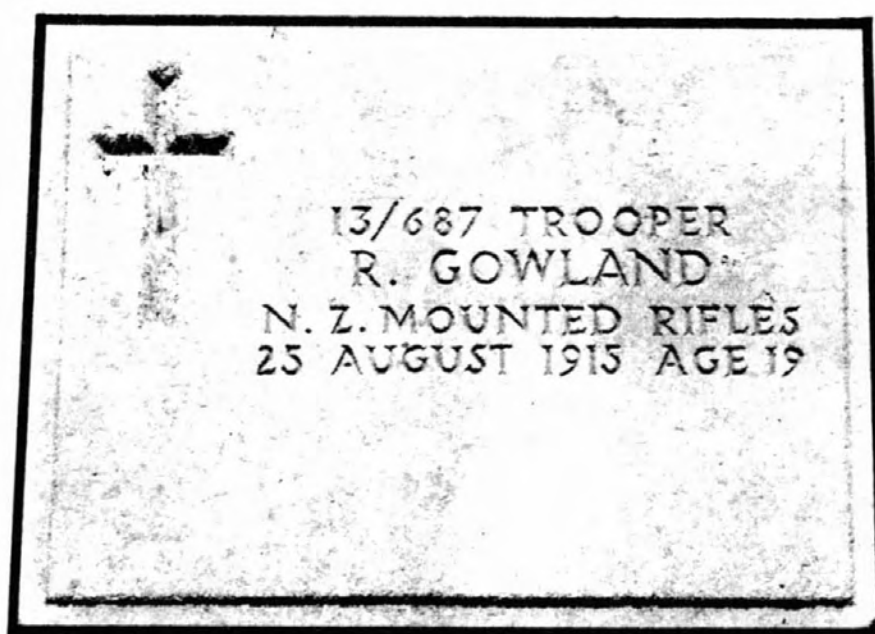


Figure 2

Presumably Miss McCarthy was a friend of Trooper Gowland and it is interesting that news of his death does seem to have reached her nearly 3 months after the event. It is also interesting to speculate how this envelope was treated: as there is no marking indicating the addressee's death on the cover, presumably it was returned to sender enclosed in another envelope which has not survived.

Reference:

1. Ed. McGibbon I. 'The Oxford Companion to New Zealand Military History'. Pub. Oxford University Press (2000). P. 430.

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