



THE KIWI



THE JOURNAL OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

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WHOLE NUMBER 315

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 28TH 2006
AT THE UNION JACK CLUB, SANDELL STREET, LONDON STARTING AT 14.00.

**PAUL WREGLESWORTH WILL GIVE A DISPLAY OF
THE SECOND SIDEFACES**

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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 Membership Card
- ❖ The Annual Accounts

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

SOCIETY NEWS:

MEMBERSHIP

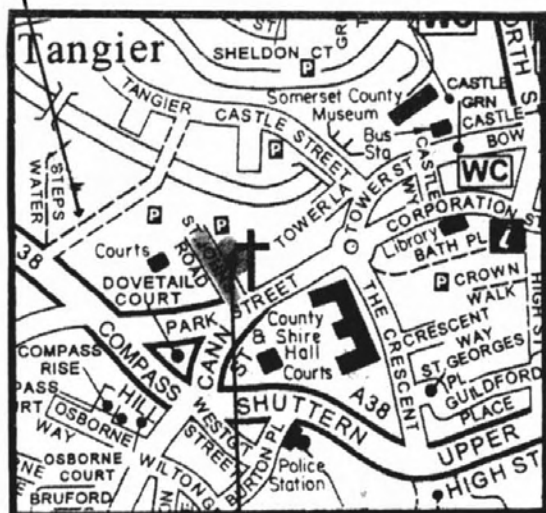
NEW MEMBERS:

We welcome:

R. Jackson, London
I. Clare, Oxfordshire
E. Williams, Wiltshire
E. Williams, Somerset

FIRST MEETING OF THE WESTERN REGIONAL GROUP

Car Park



Church Hall

The first meeting of the group will be held at St. John's Church Hall, Taunton on Saturday February 25th, 2006 starting at 13.30. The first part will be 'A Philatelic Look at the Chatham Islands' by Paul North. For the second part of the afternoon, all those attending are asked to bring along a small display of their choosing to introduce themselves and their collecting interests to each other.

The location is shown on the attached map. There is very limited parking at the Church Hall but there is a large Tesco's adjacent with plenty of parking and the 'Tangier' public car park in Castle Street just behind the hall.

For further information, contact Paul North

☎ 01392 877054

NEXT MEETING OF THE NORTHERN REGIONAL GROUP

The next meeting of the group will be held at the usual venue at St. Luke's Church, Orrell on February 18th, 2006 starting at 13.30.

This is a members meeting so please bring along any items of interest of a theme of your own choosing.

MEETINGS OF THE NORTHERN GROUP IN 2006

During 2006, the Group will meet on February 18th, May 20th, September 9th and November 11th. All the meetings will be at the usual venue at Orrell.

MEETINGS OF THE SCOTTISH GROUP IN 2006

In 2006, the Scottish Group will meet at the ASPS Congress in Perth on Saturday, April 22nd and at John Studholme's house in Longniddry on Saturday June 17th. Both meetings will start at 12.30. A further meeting will be arranged in the autumn.

NEW CONVENOR FOR THE SCOTTISH REGIONAL GROUP

From January 1st, 2006, the Convenor for the Scottish Regional Group will be Bill Black, 27, Ash Grove, Boghall, Bathgate, West Lothian EH48 1LS. ☎ 01506 652492.

MINUTES OF THE 54TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN HELD ON NOVEMBER 26TH, 2005

In the absence of the Chairman, the Hon Secretary opened the meeting at 11.00 with 12 members present.

Apologies had been received from Michael Wilkinson.

He welcomed those present to the meeting and informed them that an extra meeting had been arranged for next year on June 10th at the Royal Philatelic Society of London premises when Joseph Hackmey will show his award winning collection of Chalons.

He also reported that membership had held up well with about 300 copies of *The Kiwi* being sent all over the world. A notable event this year had been the establishment of a group based in the West Country: this would be known as the Western Regional Group. The only remaining geographical area without a group is now the North East. Any members who live in that area and would be interested in setting up a regular meeting, please contact the Hon. Secretary.

1. Minutes of the 53rd Annual General Meeting:

The minutes of the 53rd Annual General Meeting as published in the January, 2004 issue of *The Kiwi* were unanimously accepted as a true record of the meeting.

Proposed by John Woolfe and seconded by Brian Stonestreet.

2. Matters arising:

The question of holding meetings on Sundays had been raised at the previous AGM. This had been discussed at a Committee Meeting but it was felt that the difficulties of transport would severely limit the number of those attending.

Similarly, the suggestion had been made that extra meetings might be held for which those attending would pay a fee. Unfortunately, the cost of hiring suitable premises was prohibitive.

The awards of trophies for the 12 sheet competition had been revised: the winners of each of the five classes would be awarded one of the more portable trophies. The winners and runners up would also receive a commemorative certificate. The less portable trophies (such as the greenstone chunk) would be honourably retired.

3. Report and Review of 2005 from the President:

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

“We start with a review of the main society meetings which started in January with a members meeting on Military Mail excluding World War I and World War II as either of these require a full meeting to cover them. The displays included the Maori, Boer, Korean and Vietnam Wars as well as other military events. All the campaigns were fully illustrated by covers. Our 12 sheet competition on April 2nd was notable for both the quality and presentation of the entries. No longer can a straightforward run out of the catalogue expect to win at competitions. In addition, we had just about a complete exposition of the RTPOs of New Zealand. May brought a special meeting from John Watts, our representative in New Zealand, who excelled with 10 frames of differing themes. In July, Mike Wilkinson led a meeting on problems which devoted itself almost entirely to colours and shades. The meeting was well supported by those present. In September, we had our annual excursion to the country for a full meeting in Taunton. This led to the formation of the new Western Regional Group which will be led by Paul North. In addition, in July, we had a joint meeting with the Cinderella Stamp Society at the British Philatelic Centre. Both Societies showed Cinderella Labels to which New Zealand has made a significant contribution.

Our Society now consists of London, Scottish, Northern, Midland and West Country Groups all of whom hold meetings of excellent quality and ensure that the members receive direct benefit from membership. All meetings are reported in *The Kiwi* which continues to contain excellent articles and follow ups with information generated. For next year, our London programme is published with meetings covering the Second Sidefaces and First Pictorials. Each meeting will be led by respective specialists whom I trust our members can test and confound with conundrums. Our biennial weekend will be in the Midlands and will be organised by Bernard Symonds. I hope that as many of you as possible will attend.

Our Chairman is working on a publication about the First Pictorials and hopes to involve other specialists during the coming year. The aim is to publish this in 2007.

It remains for me to wish the Society continues to be successful in the coming year and will also be well supported by the members.’

4. Financial Report from the Hon. Treasurer:

Copies of the Annual Accounts were circulated. The Treasurer reported:

“In previous years we have always shown the Society and the Packet deposit accounts separately. This year, we have merged the two and received additional interest as a consequence. It has also saved the complex task of allocating the separate interest to the different accounts. This years accounts also show the conclusion of the Edinburgh 2004 meeting which has spanned two years in the accounts. Last year, the Auction list was photocopied externally and this copying absorbed most of the profit of the Auction. This year, the Chairman has printed them on his computer and effected a significant saving.

The costs this year are increased especially with rise in the cost of the meetings, but these are, of course, essential to the Society. Colour copy in *The Kiwi* is a great expense which we can only afford on special occasions with worthwhile subjects. To balance the costs, we have had some extra income from raising the annual subscription and the advertisements have offset some of our costs.

It remains for the AGM to agree the recommendation that the annual subscription remain at £15 during 2007. The subscription form will be circulated before the next AGM.'

The Report and Accounts were accepted unanimously. Proposed: Lewis Giles. Seconded: Paul North.

5. Report from the Hon. Packet Secretary:

Copies of the Annual Packet Accounts were circulated. The Packet Secretary reported:

"Sales have been down this year on last although still satisfactory and I have been able to transfer £1500 to the Society general funds. There have been particular difficulties with delayed and lost packets. Currently, there is insufficient material to send out another packet.

"Vendors have reported that some items have been swapped and this has caused some contributors to have second thoughts about submitting further selections.

"Again, I urge members to follow closely the instructions from insurers which are contained in a letter accompanying each packet. Finally, all members should carefully check the books on receipt and inform me immediately of any discrepancies. It is essential that we exclude the rotten apples."

In discussion following his report, the Packet Secretary observed that he was particularly keen to receive stamps for the packet as they were lighter and, on occasions, the expense of postage was a disincentive to some who took the packet. He also said that straightforward material issued between 1950 and to date did not appear to sell particularly well. Anything unusual went and the key to a successful book was in the pricing.

The Report and accounts were unanimously accepted. Proposed: by Brian Stonestreet. Seconded: Paul Wreglesworth.

6. Election of Officers of the Society:

The outgoing committee made the following nominations:

President	Ernie Leppard
Vice Presidents	Allan Berry, 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	VACANT
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

(E) denotes membership of the Executive Committee.

Additional members of the Committee were proposed as follows:

Northern Group Secretary (Jack Lindley), Midland Group Organiser (Bernard Symonds), Scottish Group Organiser (Bill Brown), Western Regional Group Organiser (Paul North) and Michael Wilkinson.

The proposed Committee was elected unanimously. Proposed: Brian Stonestreet. Seconded: Michael Thomas.

7. Any other business:

7.1 The **Programme for 2006** was confirmed as:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| **January 28th: | Second Sidefaces led by Paul Wreglesworth. |
| *March 11th: | 16 Sheet Competition judged by Alan Griffiths. |
| *May 27th: | Advertising Covers and Stamps: A Members Meeting. |
| ***June 10th | Chalon Heads by Joseph Hackmeyer |
| **July 29th: | First Pictorial Issue led by Derek Diamond. |
| September 29th to October 1st: | A Philatelic Weekend in Coventry. |
| *November 11th: | AGM and Annual Auction |

* The Meetings indicated will start at 11.00.

** The meetings so marked will be preceded by a Committee Meeting.

*** This is a special extra meeting and will be held at the Royal Philatelic Society of London building in Devonshire Place starting at 13.00.

There was discussion about the date of the AGM and auction. It was felt that the Remembrance weekend was not ideal. The Hon. Sec. will try and change it.

7.2 Ernie Leppard told the meeting that our member, Frank Parkinson had written a series of publications giving detailed plating information about the 1d Universals and 1d Taupo. Full details will be found later in this issue of *The Kiwi*.

7.3 Thanks were expressed to Rob Davey for his assistance in devising a suitable advertisement for insertion into Sotheby's forthcoming sale of Sir Gawaine Baillies's New Zealand collection.

7.4 Two members noted that they had recently received cheques from Sotheby's/Christies. This refund had been as a result of the anti-Trust legal action in America. The result of the companies illegal action had been to fix the buyer's premium at an unnecessarily high level.

7.5 Any suggestions for the 2007 programme were requested: please forward to Keith Collins.

7.6 The launch of the Chalon's book written by John Watts and Bob Odenweller had been delayed for technical reasons. No price had yet been publicised in this country but all sales would be handled by the RPSL and anybody interested is advised to contact them to go onto the waiting list.

7.7 The AGM closed at 12.15.

NOTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE SCOTTISH AND NORTH OF ENGLAND GROUPS HELD IN CARLISLE ON 29TH OCTOBER 2005

Sixteen members and two guests attended the meeting. There were five rounds with members displaying a wide range of interesting and varied material and several members gave a display in more than one round. This was the last meeting organised by Bob Clark as Bill Black is taking over as Scottish Co-ordinator for 2006. The displays were as follows:

David Stalker: new and controversial 'draw it yourself' postcard stamps. Later, he showed a full range of the 2005 Commemoratives.

Bob Clark: blitz perforations of second pictorials including plate blocks and shift markings. Later, he showed overseas airmails addressed to from New Zealand up until the attack on Pearl Harbour.

Stuart Potter: a range of unique hand-painted illustrated covers from the 1930s.

Peter Brown: New Zealand definitives 1975-82 with plate blocks from the different printings.

John Studholme: Life Insurance stamps and associated literature including official covers that he was given when he visited the Government Life Offices in Christchurch and which he used on mail to the United Kingdom.

Bill Black: New Zealand Antarctica and Ross Dependency from 1957 to present. Later, he showed special event first day covers.

Harold Howard: Ashburton Postal History, photographs, pamphlets and a range of postmarks from Queen Victoria onwards.

Jack Lindley: the Centenary of the Telegraph issue with varieties including missing colours and perforations after a corner had been folded over. This was followed by a wide range of early telegraph and telegram envelopes together with telegrams.

Paul Wreglesworth: ship covers and paquebot cancellations from pre-stamp days until the present together with pictures of the ships involved.

Ken Andison: King Edward VII used definitives and second pictorials with varieties.

David Stalker also had several small NZ Christmas stamp jigsaws for members to fit together.

A most enjoyable afternoon with much of interest. Thanks to all who brought material along.

NOTES OF THE NORTHERN GROUP MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 12TH 2005

Eight members were present with apologies being received four more. This was our Annual Competition and the judges were Jeff Hook, our previous Hon. Secretary, and Richard Simmons.

There were eight entries for the Competition covering stamps, postal history and postal stationery. The results were as follows:

Winner	Don Scregg	Labels of the Christchurch Exhibition, their postal use before and during the Exhibition
Runner Up	Paul Wreglesworth	2nd Sideface 1d: a study of the Plate 7 flaws
Third	Stuart Potter	The Trans-Tasman flight of 3rd December 1933

Again, the standard of the entries was excellent.

After the results were announced, the members showed items of interest as follows:

Don Scregg: Christchurch Exhibition, the 1d and 6d gutter pairs, envelopes and photographs of the demolition of the towers.

Jack Lindley: Comic postcards, mostly with Bonzo, showing advertising for BIG TREE petroleum on the reverse. A cover dated 1 JA 01 with 2nd Sidefaces and not a 1d Universal. A selection of Official mail including Treasury Franks.

Stuart Potter: Hand illustrated covers by artists including Crome, Purdom and Duke.

Paul Wreglesworth: an unusual presentation pack for the 1960 Pictorials and a photograph used as the basis for the 6d 1935 Second Pictorials.

John Hepworth: colour separations of the \$1.80 Scenic Walk stamp and a Chalon cover dated MR 10 1860 from New Plymouth with a 2d Imperforate.

Another good meeting which closed at 16.15.

AUCTION REALISATIONS

The realisations for the 2005 auction are shown below. The provisional total is about £3,500 with about £135 for Society funds. Recent items and 'Officials' did not sell well (as usual). Thanks to all those who entered lots and/or bid in the sale. Any lot not shown did not sell.

A	0.50	26	4	85	9	257	13	374	4.50	450	16
C	-	27	1	86	13	268	60	375	5	451	6
D	4	28	1	88	5.50	269	8	376	5	452	6
E	0.50	29	1	89	14	274	320	378	12	454	9
F	-	30	1	92	3.50	280	45	379	11	455	6
G	0.50	31	1.50	93	6.50	284	15	380	10	456	12
H	0.75	32	8	94	6	293	21	383	15	457	14
I	0.50	33	1	95	10	302	55	386	14	459	20
J	0.50	34	1	97	5	304	30	387	6	460	20
K	0.50	35	1	98	20	305	30	389	8	465	6
L	6	36	1.50	100	8	307	22	390	20	466	6
M	3	37	1	101	4	310	7	392	4	467	11
N	3	38	0.50	115	32	312	15	393	9	468	55
O	3	39	4	116	3	313	8	394	8	469	15
P	0.80	40	0.50	119	15	314	12	396	6	470	35
Q	18	41	0.25	121	6	319	30	397	5	472	35
R	0.25	42	1	122	130	321	15	400	20	473	4
S	2	43	0.50	123	27	322	10	403	10	474	4
T	0.25	44	1	129	8	323	20	405	7.50	475	4
U	2	45	0.50	145	9	324	10	407	20	477	3.50
V	0.25	46	7	146	25	325	13	408	18	478	8
W	3	47	6	156	4	326	14	411	15	482	9
X	0.10	48	8.50	163	4	327	12	416	10	483	2.80
Y	10	49	16	166	4	328	10	418	15		
Z	3	50	0.50	169	6	331	8	422	12		
AA	15	51	18	170	13	332	10	423	12		
BB	40	52	1	174	5	334	10	424	10.50		
CC	4	53	17	177	4	335	7	425	18		
DD	10	54	14	179	18	336	18	426	18		
EE	5	56	6	181	8	337	16	427	29		
1	10	57	6	182	8	338	11	428	60		
2	22	58	8	185	125	339	19	429	6		
3	20	60	25	186	125	340	11	430	8		
5	9	62	4	187	8	341	9	431	15		
6	26	65	4	189	9	342	7	432	13		
8	14	66	3	202	18	344	13	433	12		
9	5	67	2	204	42	347	9	434	8		
11	10	68	10	209	8	348	6	435	3		
13	4	69	7	218	14	349	5	436	12		
15	4	70	8	225	8	350	4.50	437	4.50		
16	8	71	6	230	21	351	7	438	8.50		
17	7	73	2	232	20	364	10	439	16		
18	3	74	10	233	10	365	7	440	10		
19	0.50	75	4	236	225	366	10	441	13		
20	3	76	10	240	35	367	12	443	6		
21	2.50	78	6	241	70	368	20	444	7		
22	8	79	18	245	100	369	14	445	7		
23	32	80	15	246	6	370	16	446	5		
24	1.50	81	20	251	18	371	18	447	6		
25	1.50	82	25	253	8	372	9	449	4		

PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Society publications are now available:

SP 1: *Aspects of Collecting New Zealand Stamps*. (Out of Stock)

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:

MEDIA RELEASES

New Zealand National Stamp Show



A special pictorial date stamp was issued to commemorate each day of the New Zealand 2005 National Stamp Show to be held in Auckland 17 – 20 November 2005.

New Zealand Post to Debut Stamp Series Inspired by Universal Pictures' *King Kong*

19 October 2005

October 19, 2005 - New Zealand Post Stamps General manager Ivor Masters today announced the release of a special series of stamps to celebrate Universal Pictures' December 14th release of *Kong Kong*, the three-time Academy Award® winner Peter Jackson (*The Lord of the Rings Trilogy*). The five stamps feature actual images from the movie, which have been personally approved by Peter Jackson, and are expected to be hugely popular with *King Kong* fans, film buffs and collectors of all ages.

'This stamp issue gives a taste of the intense emotion that the movie promises to bring and contributes to the excitement that is growing, in New Zealand and throughout the world, as the *King Kong* movie release date approaches,' Mr. Masters said.

'We are delighted once again to recognize the talent of New Zealand's film industry, so evident in Peter Jackson's magnificent vision for this classic adventure story, with these five innovative and vibrant stamps.'

A special Collectors Pack, produced to complement the stamps, reinforces New Zealand Post's reputation for pushing the creative boundaries of stamp presentation. When opened, the pack

brings the most exciting imagery inside to life by emitting the spine-tingling roar of King Kong. The roar, taken from the actual sound effects created for the film, introduces sound to stamp products for the first time in New Zealand.

The 45-cent stamp features the striking face of King Kong, the 25 foot primate who was captured in the wild and brought to civilisation, only to meet with a tragic fate. Maverick film maker Carl Denham is pictured on the 90-cent, and the face of the heroine - out-of-work actress Ann Darrow - is on the \$1.35.

The \$1.50 stamp depicts Jack Driscoll, the sensitive playwright from New York who becomes the film's unlikely hero, and the \$2.00 captures the hero and heroine, Jack and Ann, together.

The stamps and first day cover were designed by Saatchi & Saatchi, Wellington and printed by Southern Colour Print. The full range of collectibles, including a miniature sheet, souvenir cards and bubblebags, is available from the usual outlets from 19 October 2005.

The Tale of Christmas Captured in Stamps

1 November 2005

New Zealand Post's 2005 Christmas stamp follows the long tradition of celebrating the joy of Christmas, by presenting scenes from the ancient yet enduring story of the birth of Jesus.

Stamps General Manager Ivor Masters said that he was delighted to present the beautiful series of Christmas stamps, which when joined together depict the full nativity scene in all its wonder.

'Christmas stamps have been issued by New Zealand Post every year since 1960, and the nativity has been a consistent theme over this period.

'Earlier Christmas stamps presented images by the great European artist, such as Rembrandt and Durer. This year's stamps, designed by Aucklander Anton Petrov, are both local and contemporary, but they maintain the wonderful imagery and rich colouring for which nativity scenes are so renowned.'

The baby Jesus graces the 45-cent stamp, pictured on a straw-lined crib in the glorious reds and golds that so epitomize the festive season. This is followed by a 90-cent stamp featuring Mary and Joseph, who had been forced to travel 160 kilometres from Nazareth to Bethlehem immediately prior to the birth.

The \$1.35 stamp depicts a shepherd, and the \$1.50 the three wise men, who also journeyed a considerable distance to celebrate the baby's birth. Finally the \$2.00 stamp displays the star of Bethlehem, an enduring symbol of Christmas.

The Christmas stamps and first day cover were printed by Southern Colour Print. They are available from the usual outlets from 2 November 2005.

New Zealand Post Presents Snapshots of Antarctic Beauty

1 November 2005

New Zealand Post's 2005 Ross Dependency stamps depict the wild beauty of Antarctica, as seen through the lens of five talented Kiwi photographers.

The special stamps, which have been produced annually since 1994, may only be used for postage from New Zealand's territory in Antarctica.

Stamps General Manager Ivor Masters said that this year five professional New Zealand photographers were asked to submit their personal favourite photos of the ice-bound continent.

'The resulting selection is not only stunning from an artistic perspective, but gives a glimpse into life on one of the most desolate and fascinating places on earth,' said Mr Masters.

'Antarctica has clearly captured the imaginations of each photographer whose work features in the issue, and when you look at the remarkable scenery and wildlife in these images, it is easy to see why!'

The 45-cent stamp displays a photograph of Lake Chad in Dry Valleys, which was taken by renowned photographer Craig Potton during his visit to the area in 2002. The lake's glacial surface presents a striking contrast to the blue night sky.

The issue also features three images of Antarctica's extraordinary wildlife - the Emperor Penguins (on the 90-cent), the endangered Fur Seal (on the \$1.35) and the distinctive and beautiful Minke Whale (on the \$2.00). A photo of Captain Scott's Hut, taken by veteran Antarctic photographer Colin Monteath, graces the \$1.50 stamp.

The Ross Dependency stamps and first day cover were designed by CommArts, Wellington and were printed by Wyatt and Wilson. They are available from the usual outlets from 2 November 2005.

COMING EVENTS

THE SALE OF THE SIR GAWAINE BAILLIE PHILATELIC COLLECTION

Readers may be aware that the stamp collection formed by Sir Gawaine Baillie is being sold by Sotheby's. So far, five of the scheduled ten sales have been held and have realised about £9.7m.

One of the largest sections of the collection, after G.B., is New Zealand and this is scheduled to be sold on February 15th, 16th and 17th. Viewing will be on February 10th, 13th, 14th and the morning of the 15th.

Sotheby's publicity for the sale contains the statement '*This group represents an exceptional study and overall is probably the best and most extensive ever compiled*'. There will be more than 1,000 lots which will cover the whole of the 150 years of New Zealand Philatelic History. Sir Gawaine only collected mint stamps and the collection starts, of course, with mint copies of SG. 1, 2 and 3. The First Pictorials are strong with many of the essays submitted in the design competition. Coverage of the Penny Universal is comprehensive with more than 150 lots. The King George V is strong with many of the rare perforation varieties. Commemoratives begin with an interpanneau pair of the 1d Claret of the Christchurch Exhibition issue and continue right through to the rare modern missing colour varieties.

This promises to be a truly once in a lifetime sale. The catalogue will be published about one month before the sale and may be purchased for £30 from Sotheby's, telephone 020 7293 6444. Email: Cataloguesales@sothebys.com. The sale reference number is L048406. Expert enquiries about the sale may be made to richard.ashton@sothebys.com. General enquiries may be made to Elizabeth.allen@sothebys.com.

When the catalogue is published, it will also be loaded onto the Sotheby's website (www.Sotheby's.com) with abbreviated descriptions but every lot is illustrated. The description on the web is only bullet points so prospective bidders need the full catalogue for condition reports etc.

We understand that if you intend to bid in the sale, there is a registration process that has to be undertaken before the sale date. Details will be contained in the catalogue.

KIWIPEX 2006

2nd - 5th November, 2006

Kiwipex 2006 is a New Zealand National Stamp Exhibition, with FIAP support, that will be held under the patronage of the New Zealand Philatelic Federation at the Christchurch Convention Centre next year.

The *Approved Regulations for National Exhibitions* will apply to the exhibition. As well as full range of competitive classes, the exhibition will include the King George VI Colonial Postal History challenge and a special class to celebrate the 1906/07 Christchurch International Exhibition. All entry forms must be received by **31 May 2006**.

The next Newsletter is expected shortly and will, no doubt, contain details of more special offers as well as details of other events planned whilst the exhibition is going on.

Further information will be published as it becomes available. The prospectus, newsletters and entry form is available on the Kiwipex website: www.newzeal.com/kiwipex.htm.

NORTHLAND 2007 NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION

The 2007 New Zealand National Stamp Exhibition will be held in Whangarei between 30th March and 1st April, 2007. Whangarei is the most northerly city in New Zealand and has a semi-tropical climate. The exhibition will have competitive classes covering Traditional Philately, Postal Stationery, an Open Class and One Frame as well as invited displays illustrating Northland Postal History.

For further information, contact the Secretary; Monica M Comrie, Suester Road, RD 9, Poroti, Whangarei, New Zealand. Email: john-monica@xtra.co.nz.

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'STAMPED: CELEBRATING NEW ZEALAND'S POSTAL HISTORY'
AT
TE PAPA, THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NEW ZEALAND, WELLINGTON
LEWIS GILES

Stamped, the name of the Exhibition at the Museum of New Zealand – Te Papa (our home) in Wellington celebrates the 150th Anniversary of the Postal Service in New Zealand, has been open since July 2005 and will close in January 2006.

I managed only one day in Wellington viewing the exhibition and could easily have spent several days there. The layout and clarity of the displays was superb, starting with early London postal history on which the New Zealand Postal service was based. The earliest mails were carried by courier, usually Maoris who knew the countryside. Mail from England and to England was shown with examples of the rates charged and the routes taken. By 1850, two thirds of mail leaving the country was sent to the United Kingdom. Some unique examples of ship letters were on display which were on loan from John Woolfe.

Soldiers letters from the Maori Land Wars period between 1862 and 1873 were on display as was material from both World Wars. There was a section of censored mail from Somes Island.

The discovery of gold in Otago in 1861 had a great influence on the postal system and, of course, by this time New Zealand had its own postage stamps. The Chalon Heads were displayed in full with clear descriptions of the methods of perforating and printing the stamps. At this point, I should mention the Queen's display, which as well as Chalons, had a section on the Penny Black and included the famous Kircudbright cover showing a block of 10 stamps on cover used on the first day of issue.

Moving on to the next section, this illustrated the growth of railways and their influence on speeding up the movement of the mails with examples of railway stamps and markings. The arrival of the aeroplane was demonstrated by the first letter flown by J.W.H. Scotland on March 6th, 1914. This was followed by a section of the Pioneer airmails from 1919 through to the emergency earthquake mail at Napier in 1931. The flights of Charles Kingsford Smith and C.T.P. Ulm were featured as was a section on the Pigeongram service to Great Barrier Island.

The displays of stamps covered the Chalon period in great detail. The First and Second Sidefaces included full sheets of the 2/- and 5/- in perfect condition. Essays from the competition for the 1898 First Pictorial stamps were on display together with a full range of the issue, the highlight being the only known copy of the 4d with the centre inverted. Every issue of stamps were on display right through to the modern stamps where the stamps were shown in conjunction with design studies from the artists. A section was devoted to the work of the designers Bock, Berry and Mitchell. Memorabilia was also to be seen in the form of old Posties bicycles and uniforms alongside the latest post boxes.

During the course of the morning that I was there, an interesting talk was given by Bob Gibson, a member of Wellington Stamp Club and an official representative from the New Zealand Federation to the Te Papa exhibition. He walked us around the exhibits highlighting some of the more unusual items. In the afternoon, Robin Gwynn gave a lecture explaining how the exhibition was put together.

Finally, my own comments on this magnificent exhibition. It was undoubtedly the best exhibition of stamps and postal history that I have ever seen combining a depth of philatelic knowledge in selecting the exhibits and the expertise of the Museum curator and his staff in displaying the material to best advantage. I would hope that a permanent record is retained of the exhibition for future reference.

RESPONSE TO A PREVIOUS ARTICLE:

THE MENU

Two further signatures have been identified from the menu illustrated in *The Kiwi* of September, 2005. Mike Shand believes that number 18 is Wilfred Peers, one of the founding members of the New Zealand Air Mail Society. Robin Startup is able to identify number 34 as Eric Cowell, a well known Auckland barrister and solicitor who regularly wrote a column on Pacific Philately for the 'Western Stamp Collector' in the United States, at that time, the second greatest philatelic periodical circulation – about 33,000. He was also one of the founders of the Postal History Society of NZ and a gentleman.

ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTION:

A PLEA TO ALL MEMBERS:

The First Pictorial Issue

After a period of debate, Ernie Leppard and myself have concluded that there is so much knowledge about this issue that is not in the standard references such as the S.G. or C.P. catalogues or is hidden in obscure articles and handbooks that it is time to pull it together in a new monograph with – we hope – the help of others. We aim to be comprehensive – ranging from the essays produced in response to the design competition of 1895 through the various printings, the Waterlow & Sons sample stamps, the overprints, fiscal use and the postal history of the period 1898 – 1907.

We regard the halfpenny Mount Cook as an integral part of the First Pictorial Issue but we shall exclude the Penny Universal about which much has already been published.

If you are willing to collaborate in this project, please let me know by letter or email. Such participation can range from writing one part of one of the proposed eleven chapters and appendices to a careful description of an unusual proving piece or cover. The more information that is made available to us at this stage, the more useful will be the eventual publication. – which will hopefully be available by the end of 2007.

Ernie and I look forward to your support.

Derek Diamond

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THE INTRODUCTION OF THE FIRST PICTORIAL ISSUE

ERNIE LEPPARD

The processes whereby New Zealand came to adopt, produce and print the First Pictorial Issue in 1898 has its own interesting story which has been revealed from a number of sources over the years.

The first mention of a projected pictorial issue is in the Report of the Postmaster-General to the House of Representatives dated 13 July 1895 (1), which states:

Stamps:

A new issue of stamps has been decided upon, for which designs have been invited. It is intended that each stamp shall be a representation of characteristic or notable New Zealand scenery or genre.

Further information is contained in the reports of 27 August 1896 and 13 September 1897:

Prizes were offered last year for a series of designs for postage stamps representing New Zealand subjects. Over two hundred sets, numbering about 2,400 single designs were received....

The engraving of the stamps from the designs finally selected by the Postmaster-General will shortly be put in hand, and it is believed that, when completed, the series will compare favourably with the stamps in use in any part of the world.

The new issue of postage stamps is now being engraved in London. Some delay has been occasioned owing to a discussion having arisen as to the respective merits of the surface and recess processes of printing, but it has finally decided to adopt the latter process as the only one likely to do justice to such high class stamps.

The stamps arrived after a voyage on the S.S. Ionic, with the Postmaster-General reporting on 2 July 1898:

Stamps:

The new postage stamps which were in the course of manufacture for some time previous, were brought into use on 5th April last. As the initial supply (printed in London by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons, Ltd.) was restricted, the entire withdrawal of the old issue will not take place until the special machinery, which has been ordered, is received by the Government Printer, and the printing of the stamps in the colony is in full operation.

Beyond some adverse criticism of the colours selected in London for several of the values, there has been little else but praise for the new issue, which in respect to design and printing, will take a very high rank among the postage stamps of the world.

An error was unfortunately made in engraving the plate to the twopence halfpenny stamp, "Wakatipu" being misspelt "Wakitipu", but this has since been corrected. The keen demand by collectors for the "error" necessitating a minimum quantity only being sold to any one applicant. Through a misunderstanding in London the design intended for the fourpenny stamp was adopted for the penny stamp, involving a costly process of double printing for the denomination more largely used than any of the others. Instructions have already been given to rectify this as early as possible. Another matter of considerable importance is that future issues are to be printed on watermarked paper. The colours of several of the stamps will be changed to brighter tints as soon as printing is done in the colony. In the meantime the transposition of the designs for the penny and fourpenny labels will carry with it changes in colour as follows: One penny from brown and blue to lilac, fourpence from rose lake to brown and blue, and ninepence from lilac to rose lake.

The following is a detailed description of the new stamps:-

One halfpenny (Lilac-brown):- View of Mount Cook, in oval frame on shaded background, surmounted by curved inscription, "Postage and Revenue", and at top by label with ornamental "border containing New Zealand" in coloured letters on white ground. Central design is flanked by sprays of ranunculus and celmisia, below which on each side are small oval labels surrounded by scrolls, and bearing figures of value on white ground, the value in words being in straight label at foot.

One Penny (Light Brown with Blue Centre):- View Lake Taupo, with Ruapehu in background, and cabbage palm in left foreground, surrounded by semicircular labels containing "New Zealand" in white letters on colour above, and "Postage and Revenue" in coloured letters below.

Value in words in straight label at foot, broken at each lower corner by square containing figures of value. Ornamented spandrels.

Twopence (Wine red or Claret):- View of Pembroke Peak, Milford Sound, surrounded by oval bank with inscription in white, "New Zealand Postage and Revenue." Figure of value at base of design, with ornaments on each side. Value in words at foot, in straight label, full width of stamp. Sides and top of stamp are enclosed along dotted border of Greek design, and ornamented spandrels.

Twopence halfpenny (Antwerp Blue):- Oblong (horizontal). View of Mount Earnslaw and head of Lake Wakatipu, with Phoriatum Tenax, Toitoe, and cabbage palms in the foreground. Inscription "New Zealand", in white, "Postage and Revenue" in colour at top of stamp, Value in figures only, enclosed in Scroll Ornament springing from lower right corner, and bearing name of locality (misspelt "Wakatipu"). Name "Mt. Earnslaw" in left-lower corner.

Threepence (Light Brown):- Central design, a pair of huias on branch surrounded by circular border, inscribed "New Zealand Postage and Revenue" in white letters on colour, broken at lower corner by Egyptian ornamentation. Value in words at bottom, divided in centre by shield of solid colour with figure "3" in white. Upper spandrels are filled in with similar labels, bearing figures of value placed obliquely.

Fourpence (Rose Lake):- View of White Terrace, Rotomahana, in oval dotted border, flanked by sprays of tataramoa, and broken at base on each side by bands containing inscription "Postage", "Revenue". Name of colony at top of stamp, and value in words at foot, in straight labels.

Fivepence (Brown Lake):- Oblong (vertical), View of Otira Gorge, with snow peak in background. Name in lower right hand corner, also small circular view of Mount Ruapehu superimposed upon left foreground. Inscription, "New Zealand Postage and Revenue" at top of stamp, and value in words at base, in straight label.

Sixpence (Sap Green):- Representation of kiwi regardant surmounted with semicircular band of solid colour, bearing words "New Zealand" in white letters, and supported with oblique labels "Postage" and "Revenue" on left and right respectively. Value in words only at base of stamp, in straight label. The corners of the design, which has a distinctive appearance resembling a horse shoe, are filled with ornamental scroll work on shaded ground.

Eightpence (Steel Blue):- Large outline figure "8", supported by fern trees and cabbage palms on shaded background. Within the upper portion of the figure is an Imperial crown, and the lower portion a view with Native War Canoe over the word "pence" at base of figure. The lower corners of the stamp contain circles with figures of value in white, the upper corners being bevelled, and filled with scallop ornaments. The words "New Zealand Postage and Revenue" are inscribed upon the curves of the large figure which forms the central device.

Ninepence (Lilac):- Oblong (horizontal). View of Pink Terrace, Rotomahana, with tree fern and nikau palms at sides. The legend "Postage and Revenue" at base of picture. Value in white figures in coloured circles at each corner. "New Zealand" in arched inscription above, and value in words below, in straight label, both white letter on colour.

One Shilling (Orange Red):- Representation of pair of kakas on branch, in colour on white background within fancy frame having arched label "Postage" above, with "and Revenue" below. Name of colony at top of stamp, and value in words at bottom, in straight labels. Value in figures in circles at lower corners, above the bottom label.

Two Shillings (Blue Green):- Oblong (horizontal). View of Milford Sound in fancy frame, with title below label, and clump of cabbage palms on left hand side above scrolled circle enclosing value in figures. The words "New Zealand Postage and Revenue", in white letters at top of stamp.

Five Shillings (Vermilion): - Oblong (vertical). View of Mount Cook, with name in white label. Inscription, "New Zealand Postage and Revenue" above, and value in words at foot, white letters on coloured ground.

All the stamps are printed on white-wove unwatermarked paper, and perforated 14 to 15. The rectangular stamps measure about 18mm, and the oblong stamps 33mm by 20mm, or say 1223/16 in., by 15/16 in. by 13/16 in.

During the year it was decided to issue a pictorial post-card to enable residents and visitors to send souvenirs of New Zealand to their friends in places beyond the colony. The cards are stamped 1d and 1½d and were sold at a fraction the face value to cover the cost of production.

The scenic representations on the cards comprise views of Mounts Cook and Egmont, the Otira Gorge, the Waikite Geyser, which were executed in chromo-lithography by Messrs. Waterlow and Sons (limited), of London.

Further reports of the Postmaster General are dated 13 July 1899.

Penny Postage: The question of universal penny postage has been more or less under consideration for some time.....

New Postage Stamps: The printing of the new postage stamps is now being done by the Government Printer. For the present the colours used in London are being continued but those of the halfpenny, penny and twopence-halfpenny labels will shortly give place to the colours selected by the Washington Conference - namely, green, red and dark blue respectively. The designs and colour of the penny and fourpenny values have been transposed, and the colour of the two penny changed from claret to violet. Watermarked paper has been used for the halfpenny, and the twopenny stamps, and the similar paper is to be procured for the other varieties.

A 1½d postage stamp die is now being engraved.

The Contract:

As De La Rue had been given the previous stamp contract for the Second Sideface issue of 1882. The Postmaster, as previously mentioned, had discussed the merits of Recess and Surface printing. The New Zealand Premier, Sir Richard Seddon, when he was visiting London had seen the recess printing operation of Waterlow and Sons Ltd. and had advised on the merits of using the method for printing this issue. An article in Stanley Gibbons Monthly Journal of 1903 (2) states:

.....the (New Zealand) Agent-General.... submitted the designs direct to Messrs. De La Rue without calling for tenders. Messrs. De La Rue considered the designs very satisfactory, but not adapted for printing by letterpress or surface process, and that to give the best results they must be done by copper plate process. The Agent-General cabled to the Colony to that effect and wrote on 10 December hoping that the suggested change in the method of production would be made. Subsequently he forwarded a copy of a memo on the comparative merits of the two systems, together with a copy of a confidential report on the printing of the English Postage Stamp.

The opinions that the recess process only was suitable for the designs was concurred in by the authorities at Somerset House and by Messrs. Waterlows.

On receipt of the cable gram, the Stamp Office were of the opinion that unnecessary difficulties were being raised, and that there was no reason why the dies should not be engraved and the work carried out as ordered. A reply was therefore sent to the effect that, if De La Rue could not do them in this style, other firms should be approached, and pointing out that excellent dies could be produced in America.

In the meantime De La Rue returned the design and specifications to the Agent-General as only adapted to be produced by the Copper plate process. It would be possible (they say) to give a satisfactory rendering of them by the surface process, and as we see that this

process is indispensable, it will be necessary for you to have considerably modified designs prepared.

All this was taking place between September 1896 and March 1897 and, as a result, the government Printer was asked to report on the matter. His memorandum dated 17.3.97 considers the relative merits of surface and recess printing and the consequences of new machinery being needed in New Zealand. His conclusion was that the Government should order 'a steel die engraved in the best possible manner, of one of the larger stamps and sent here. We can make the necessary plates for that denomination, and print from this. From the result of that sample the Government will be able to decide whether it was desirable to have the others engraved in the same manner.'

This was duly done but it was Waterlow's who were asked to undertake the work and, on 14 July, 1897, they sent the Agent-General a die and proof impression of the 2½d and a proof of the 5d. The two original proof items commissioned by the Government Printer to examine the quality of Waterlow's copperplate recess printing method are reproduced in the Sotheby's Midas Sale catalogue of 11 December 1989 and are numbered 2405 and 2406.

That partly explains why Waterlow's had not obtained the contract rather than De La Rue, but it does not explain why De La Rue made no attempt to obtain the contract themselves. They had already started to print Pictorial stamps whilst all this was taking place and could easily have sent proofs of the Tonga 1897 issue to the Agent-General as a sample. This was the first Pictorial issue printed by De La Rues which had captured the contract from the Government Printer in Wellington.

'The House that Thomas Built' (3), Lorna Houseman's account of the story of De La Rue, gives no details of this particular incident although Chapter XV paints an interesting picture of the 'dictatorship' of Sir Thomas Andros De La Rue and his complacent attitude in ignoring the challenges of other firms. She goes on to say 'these warning signs should have wiped the complacent smile off the Company's face.' There was no lasting guarantee that the eye of the Crown Agents or, indeed, of the Inland Revenue, would not wander to other Printers. The Crown Agents were already much taken by Waterlow's copperplate printing stamps. When the Colonies began to look longingly in the direction of copperplate printing, De La Rue's response was framed in the way that a lazy and overbearing Governess might deal with difficult children. The Crown Agents were told that they must continue with letterpress without more ado as Sir Thomas Andros considered the Letterpress printing (with Dr. Muller's fugitive inks) had been good enough for De La Rue's previous contracts. He, for one, could see no reason why the status quo should not continue. To call his attitude a 'folie de grandeur' might at this stage be to exaggerate but there can be no doubt that he was over-confident of his firm's capabilities and superiority.

If De La Rue's were thought imperious, so too were Waterlow's as Colin Hoffman explains in his history of the company (4).

In 1810, James Waterlow, a law writer, realised that it would be better to reproduce legal documents by lithography instead of writing them by hand. He opened a shop in Birchin Lane in the City of London and the business flourished.

Waterlow's had expanded into printing postage stamps by 1852 and, as the business expanded, more members of the family entered the company. The four sons of James joined the partnership and branches opened at Westminster and London Wall. By the 1860s, Birchin Lane had become 'the site of a stamp bourse and embryo philatelists were drawn there at the dawn of their hobby.'

The younger members of the family were already experienced in the art of printing. Alfred and Walter, the eldest sons, were apprenticed to the firm. Sydney, the third son who was born in 1822, was apprenticed at Harrison's, the Crown Printers, and later worked in Paris. He was Lord Mayor on London from 1872-73 and also served as a Member of Parliament between 1868 and 1885.

In 1876, James died and the company became a limited liability corporation. In 1877, owing to a difference of opinion on business matters, the brothers decided to divide the business. Alfred, the eldest, with his sons and Layton, an old member of the firm, formed Waterlow Bros. and Layton retaining the Birchin Lane organisation. The new company, Waterlow and Sons Ltd, with Sir Sydney Waterlow Bart. as Managing Director, carried on the business at London Wall, Finsbury Market and elsewhere. For 43 years, the two companies flourished in competition although in 1920, they were re-united under the name of Waterlow and Sons Ltd.

In 1921, De La Rue managed to attract a team from Waterlows. One of the team was Albert Gronow who knew of a clandestine agreement to carve up the market in the printing of Treasury Notes. It had been agreed between Edgar Waterlow and Stuart de la Rue that if the government gave the contract for the next English banknotes to De La Rue (to be printed by letterpress), De La Rue would slip Waterlows a shilling for every 1,000 notes printed. If, on the other hand, Waterlow's were asked to print them (by copperplate), they would pay 6d per 1,000 to De La Rue. This differential was justified as copperplate production was more expensive than letterpress. To their joint chagrin, neither won as the next contract went to Waterlow Bros. and Layton who would print it by a third, newer and cheaper process called 'photogravure'.

In the event, in 1920, Waterlow & Sons bought Waterlow Bros. & Layton who were still printing English banknotes by photogravure. Gronow reminded Stuart De La Rue of the secret agreement. A claim was made and rejected and the matter went to court. The case was finally settled on 10 April 1923 with De La Rue being awarded £120,000 in compensation.

The case was famous for revealing the long standing arrangement for De La Rue to have 'the home and Colonial Territory' and Waterlows 'the Foreign Market'. Having virtually won his case, Stuart De La Rue was about to leave the witness box when he looked across at the Waterlow contingent and made an appalling blunder. He really could not understand, he said, why Waterlow's should have begrudged paying for their side of the bargain over the English currency notes when De La Rue always honoured a similar promise for keeping out of their monopoly. It then emerged that as far back as Sir Thomas Andros' time (Chairman 1898-1911) there had been a private arrangement between the head of De La Rue and the head of Waterlow. De La Rue were to have the home and colonial territory and Waterlow the foreign market. If, by mistake, a De La Rue tender for foreign stamps was accepted, compensation was duly made to Waterlow. Sir Thomas Andros invariably entrusted his younger son, Stuart, with the task of carrying round the money in a Gladstone bag from Bunhill Row to Great Winchester Street where he placed it in the hands of Edgar Waterlow himself! The rest of the Waterlow family knew nothing of the arrangement.

This explains why the contract for the First Pictorial issue went firstly to De La Rue and they were not concerned if it then went to Waterlows as they would be paid in any event.

Waterlow and Sons Ltd. survived this verdict but were not so fortunate in the early 1930's when they were 'conned' into producing bank notes for the Bank of Portugal. Although they believed that the printing had been officially authorised, this was not the case and the Bank suffered a significant loss when the unauthorised notes were put into circulation. The Bank sued Waterlows and won. In 1932, the House of Lords upheld the verdict and ordered Waterlows to pay £610,392. The company never really recovered from this blow and, after its problems were compounded by new printing methods, it was finally sold to De La Rue in 1960.

References:

1. Ed. Samuel RD, Compiled Collins RJG *'Extracts from the Appendices to the Journals of the House of Representatives to Postal Affairs 1860 - 1926'* Pub. Philatelic Foundation Christchurch Inc, Christchurch (1997).
2. Hamilton Prof. A *'The Pictorial Issue of New Zealand Stamps 1898'*. Gibbons Stamp Monthly Journal. Dec 31st 1903.
3. Houseman L *'The House that Thomas Built'*. Pub. Chatto & Windus, London (1962).

4. Hoffman C. 'The House of Waterlow's'. Waterlow Study Circle Journal (1999). Whole No. 44. P. 6-8.

Further Reading:

Hubbard Rev. D. 'De La Rue and New Zealand' Waterlow Study Circle Journal. July 1993. Whole No. 31.

MAIL PROCESSING CHANGES FROM 2006

ROBIN STARTUP

As readers will know, mail processing (cancelling, coding and sorting) is centralised in a 'hub' and peripheral mail processing centres using Toshiba culler-facer-cancellers, AEG coder-sorters, or Integrated Mail Processors (IMPs) – the postage being cancelled with ink jet computer-controlled cancellations with the envelope being marked in the lower right front corner with a bar-code.

New Zealand Post is concerned that only about 40% of New Zealand is sorted automatically compared with 80% in Europe. The New Zealand equipment, installed over the past 15 years is already outdated and, further, 40% of machine-sorted mail has to be resorted by hand.

To improve the position, New Zealand Post is spending \$35 million on new technology to further automate the metro mail centres, regional mail centres will ship machine readable mail to the metro centres and the existing four-digit postcode will be made the key element in addressing. Metro mail centre buildings will be upgraded or replaced with purpose-built buildings or more appropriately located sites.

The change programme has been indicated as:

February 2006

Wellington MSC (at Petone) will bring the new machinery into use and train their people in its use. It is possible that letter mail posted at Nelson and Blenheim will be shipped here for processing.

Mid 2006

Manawatu MSC in Palmerston North will bring their new machines into use. Letter mails from the Taranaki and Hawkes Bay Mail Centres will be sent here – a large proportion is already sent to Manawatu for coding and sorting.

Late 2006

Christchurch MSC occupies new buildings close to the airport and city by pass highways and their new machines are brought into use. Mail from Ashburton and Timaru is already processed here but West Coast mail which is currently concentrated on Greymouth could now be moved here.

Waikato MSC occupies new buildings in the southwest of the city and new machines introduced. Letter mail from Rotorua and Tauranga MSCs, already shipped here for coding and sorting, will now be fully handled as will mail from Taupo MSC and possibly as far afield as Whakatane and Gisborne MSCs.

Dunedin MSC, which currently uses a Toshiba CFC, will now be fully equipped, and it will take latter mail from Invercargill, Queenstown, Wanaka and Oamaru MSCs.

Late 2007

Auckland MSC and South Auckland MSCs will be merged in a new building near the airport with their new equipment being introduced. Most letter mail posted in the region from Cape Reinga south is already centralised on Auckland and it is probable the Dargaville and Whangarei postings will be directed to Auckland.

The regional Mail Centres will largely be retained to process locally mail that cannot be machine processed, such as packages and parcels, though no longer handling letters. However, it is possible that the small peripheral centres will be reduced to being postal delivery branches only.

The present day four-digit postcode was introduced in 1977 and was laid out in a Northland – Southland sequence with codes allocated to distribution centres, such as 5901 for Masterton street delivery, 5915 for private box delivery, 5920 for private bag delivery and 5921 for rural delivery. The system has been thoroughly examined and along with the introduction of new processing machines new levels of accuracy in coding will be introduced. There are, for example, five streets named Hui Street in the Wellington region and it is proposed to give each their own code so the machines can tell them apart. There is room for postcodes to be allocated to individual private box sites, rural delivery areas, and greater distinction for suburban residential areas.

We should hear more about all this as the year 2006 progresses.

A NOTABLE ANNIVERSARY
A HAPPY 75TH TO THE AIR MAIL SOCIETY OF NEW ZEALAND



On 16th September, 1930, a meeting was held in a house in Cashmere, a suburb of Christchurch. At the meeting, Mr. Wilfred Peers gave a talk on airpost collecting in New Zealand and elsewhere and ventured the opinion that it was a 'necessity to have a Society in the country'.

Although New Zealand seems to have been lagging behind the rest of the world in developing Government funded airmail services, the remarks show considerable prescience and the Society came into being more than a year before the series of survey flights was commissioned.

The Society was formed with twelve foundation members. Within a year, the number had grown to 52 members, eleven meetings had been held, an Exchange Packet put in place and a decision taken to publish a Handbook on the Pigeon Posts and Air Mail Flights of New Zealand (to be written by the ubiquitous R.J.G. Collins). By this time, too, an Expert Committee had been constituted and was functioning. The anticipated Handbook was published in 1931.

Since then the Society has gone from strength to strength and has a number of significant publications to its credit including the three volume definitive work on New Zealand Airmails. An

interesting monthly Newsletter is also sent to all members. This has now reached 652 issues and since September 1980 has been produced and circulated by Alan Tunnicliffe.

We wish it well and extend our hopes for many happy returns.

FINDING WAIHO GORGE

EVAN WILLIAMS



Is it not strange how fate touches us all? Like most boys at the time, I started a stamp collection at school. Then I began a life in the newspaper industry, discovered girls and beer and stamps faded into obscurity.

Twenty five later, I found myself in hospital and flat on my back for several weeks, looking at the ceiling and bored to tears. The only diversion was the chap in the next bed. His wife used to bring him in large bags of stamps and he spent all day sorting through them, occasionally commenting about phosphor and Machin and other things that I did not understand.

It seemed like a good crack to me so I joined him and that was the rebirth of my stamp collecting. Now, almost thirty years later, Tony Osmond is President of the Taunton Stamp Club and still a dear friend.

My collecting covered just about everything until my eldest son went to live in New Zealand and then, naturally, that country became the centre of my attention. I have visited 'God's Country' on several occasions and have, in fact, travelled far more extensively there than I have in Great Britain.

Preferring older stamps, I decided that my collection would terminate in 1967 when decimal currency was introduced. Then fate stepped in once more. Life had not been kind to me and a certain lady called Lesley-Ann. We had both lost our spouses and somehow discovered that we had a great deal in common and enjoyed each other's company. Lesley is now my partner and, bless her, she encouraged me to extend my New Zealand collection up to the Millennium. As a result of this, it now occupies six albums rather than just two.

Following this, by giving me two books about New Zealand airmails, she opened the can of worms that is now my obsession.

I really enjoy collecting New Zealand stamps but, when I obtained my first New Zealand airmail cover and was able to trace it through one of the books published by the Airmail Society of New Zealand, I was hooked. To be able to learn of the aircraft, the pilot, the departure and arrival points, the times of departure and arrival, the route, the amount of airmail carried and any particular irregularities associated with the flight was sheer bliss.

I joined the Airmail Society of New Zealand and have come to 'know' and admire the feats and courage of the pioneer pilots such as Bolt, McGregor, Kingsford-Smith, Ulm et al.

At the Taunton Stamp Club, I learned of a proposed meeting of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain here in the town. Lesley and I attended that meeting which, in fact, was the inaugural meeting of the South West and South Wales Group and I have subsequently joined the Society.

One of my acquisitions had been a special survey flight cover flown by the Westland Aero Club between Hokitika and Okuru in the South Island on September 28-29, 1932. My cover travelled on the second day as part of the return journey from Waiho Gorge to Hokitika, flown by Arthur Nancekivell in the Simmonds Spartan biplane ZK-ABU that he had recently purchased. This aircraft, just three months earlier, had been the first to land on the Waiho Gorge glacier, described at the time as a remarkable feat.

Wanting to know the locations of all the various landing sites, I searched in vain for Waiho Gorge. I knew that it must be on the West Coast somewhere between Hokitika and Okuru but my maps did not show it and nor did those in Taunton Library.

Here was my chance, a meeting of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain. Several of those present were born there and someone was bound to know! But, no-one did: Waiho Gorge seems to have been a pretty obscure place. I think that I had decided that I would just have to keep my eyes open and wait until more information was forthcoming and then, once again, fate showed up.

Following the business portion of the meeting, members were invited to entertain those present with displays of New Zealand material. One was Andrew Dove who showed the 1946 Peace issue.

Attention was drawn to the 9d stamp, depicting a view of the Franz Joseph Glacier through the Chapel Window. This stamp was voted as best design in the world in the 50s.

We were invited to peruse the displays and, having walked up the Franz Joseph Glacier, I have always been interested in that particular stamp. In my collection I have it mint, used and on cover and have handled it many times.

Yes, it is a lovely stamp, and as I had a really good look at it, I peered closely at the tiny lettering at the bottom, and it leapt out and hit me like a left hook in the eye - 'SOUTHERN ALPS FROM CHAPEL WINDOW - WAIHO GORGE'.

SOME REFLECTIONS FOLLOWING A PERUSAL OF OLD PHILATELIC LITERATURE

KEN LYNCH

One of my pastimes is perusing philatelic literature. As more is produced this becomes more onerous and it becomes more difficult to be sure what has already been published on a particular subject. Whilst engaged on this never ending task, I occasionally come across snippets pertinent to the New Zealand Society of Great Britain. I thought that I would pass on a couple of recent findings.

RETURN OF MR. STACEY HOOKER.

Mr. F. Stacey Hooker requests me to inform the Members that he has returned from his trip round the world, and shall be glad to hear from his Philatelic friends again. Mr. Stacey Hooker is still open to purchase **Imperforated Pairs** of the stamps of all Countries, as he only collects stamps in this state.

Figure 1. Note about F. Stacey Hooker from the Herts. Monthly Report

The first is about F. Stacey Hooker, a Founder Member and the Second President of the Society. The note appeared in *The Monthly Report of The Herts Philatelic Society*, Vol. 4. P. 125. I am almost certain that it was the April [1911] issue as, on the same page as this snippet, the 15th May is mentioned as the future and 21st March as the past.

Two things strike me: first, Stacey Hooker must have been quite elderly when the Society was formed. If he was, say, 30 years old in April 1911, he would have been about 70 years old when the Society was formed.

170STAMP CO

:: NAMES YOU KNOW ::

No. 5. G. B. Erskine

One of the most remarkable things about Mr. Gerald Brian Erskine is that at an age when many people would be thinking of retiring Mr. Erskine takes on more and more responsibility in both his own line of business, general publishing, and in philately which he so ably serves as president of the British Philatelic Association. Prior to his present term as president, he was chairman of the Council for three years, where his fellow members of the Council quickly came to appreciate his ability in dealing with tricky points without incurring opposition.


Behind a breezy approach to life in general, and philatelic matters in particular, there is the real G. B. Erskine with its penetrating mind and remarkable powers of persuasion.

He has been a collector for a good many years and records that when he was six his parents decided to live in London and so he went along too. Five years later he received his first selection of stamps on approval from the old-established firm of Butler Bros., in Clevedon, Somerset, the attraction being a free collecting outfit! W. S. Lincoln, of Holles Street, and Bright, of the Strand—names now but memories to everybody—were real people to Erskine who patronised them as a boy.

His parents intended “finishing him off” on the Continent but, says Mr. Erskine, “I did not like it, I left without permission (this sounds so much better than ‘I ran away’)”. Our hero comes to the surface again in Montreal after twelve months at sea in a tramp steamer. His present publishing activities include a trade journal for hotel keepers and this was born from his early experiences where he combined the duties of dish-washer in a large hotel with journalism designed to teach him how to become a newspaper proprietor. Mr. Erskine says: “My Canadian dish-washing experiences prompted me to start a trade journal for hotel keepers; realising that, sooner or later, every hotelier is reduced to washing his own dishes. (I knew one who *had* to do so—the night I walked out in Montreal.)”

Getting back to philately, it remains to be recorded that Mr. Erskine, beyond his B.P.A. activities, is a Member of Congress, of the Junior Philatelic Society, the Society of Postal Historians and a founder-member of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain. The latter is indicative of his specialist interests and many societies have enjoyed a visit from Mr. Erskine with his display of New Zealand stamps and the way things are going many other societies will have that pleasure in the future.

K.F.C.



“Gerry” Erskine

Figure 2. G.B. Erskine from *The Stamp Collector*

Alternatively, I have already had to compromise with *The Philatelic Journal of Great Britain* and show the second Editor. Mrs. Erskine appears to have had a large part in the production of *The Kiwi* when she was Secretary and I wonder whether anybody has a picture of her.

Secondly, there seems to have been a significant change or broadening in his collecting interests between this time when he was in the market for “Imperforate Pairs” and 1952 when, in the May issue of *The Kiwi*, he writes in an article on the Chalons ‘A study of my own collection of over 4,000 Chalon Heads reveals’.

The second snippet is about another very early member, G.B.(Gerry) Erskine who, with his wife, Margaret, was one of the early stalwarts of the Society. Gerry Erskine was Vice-President between 1954 and 1955 and edited *The Kiwi* in 1956. Margaret was the first Secretary between 1952 and 1957, President between 1958 and 1960 and Vice-President in 1961 and 1962.

It is nice to reflect on an earlier age of stamp collecting. Over the last decade or two, many philatelists and postal historians have become more interested in exhibiting than in the social side of the hobby. I understand that Societies, such as The Herts Philatelic Society, used to meet over a meal. Many will be familiar of the reprints of the Chalon stamp produced for the menu card. Personally, I believe that it would be appropriate to try and recapture this aspect of membership of the Society.

Finally a plea.

In my Chalons book, I have tried to preface the bibliographic entries for as many Journals as possible with a picture of the first Editor. I wonder, therefore, whether any reader can supply me with a (hopefully good quality) photocopy of a picture of R.F. Lees - first Editor of *The Kiwi*.

THE PENNY UNIVERSALS

FRANK PARKINSON

I would like to take the opportunity to advise your readers that my studies of the Penny Universal have progressed well and that I am now able to supply a written record of my findings to those interested.

After correspondence with Patrick Brownsey, the Curator of the Philatelic Collections at Te Papa, the National Museum of New Zealand, I discovered that they had a number of complete sheets of the Penny Universal in the Archives. Subsequently, I spent a week in Wellington studying sheets of the Waterlow W2, Local Plates 1, 2 and 3 and the Reserve Plate.

As a result, I have now been able to provide recognition marks for all stamps on the Waterlow W2 plate and to describe all the recognisable marks on the other plates. Interested collectors will notice that many more re-entries are listed than are to be found in the Handbooks of New Zealand Philately.

Unfortunately, there is no complete sheet of the London Plate in the Archive and so I will have to borrow block material to progress further. Although most of the more prominent marks are already included in my study, I still have many stamps showing characteristic marks that should be able to be positioned.

You will understand that printing and assembling the booklets is quite an expensive pursuit so I will charge a small fee for each one:

London Plate (46 pages)	\$30.00 + postage
Reserve Plate (46 pages)	\$30.00 + postage
Waterlow Plates (126 pages)	\$50.00 + postage
Local Plates (62 pages)	\$40.00 + postage
Universal Booklet Plates (30 pages)	\$40.00 + postage
Dominion Booklet Plates (73 pages)	\$45.00 + postage
1898 1d Taupo (35 pages)	\$30.00 + postage

Te Papa also had complete sheets of Dot, Royle and Surface Plates but I did not have time to examine them in detail. I am planning another week in Wellington to undertake this – perhaps I will even have time to visit the museum itself this time.

There are still many stamps in the Waterlow W1 plate that have recognisable markings. can anyone with blocks of this stamp please let me know.

I will be sending copies of the publications to The New Zealand Society of Great Britain so it will be available in the library.

I attach a sample of the information available for interest.

Can anybody who is able assist with block material or who wants copies of the booklets please contact: Frank Parkinson, Apt. 502, 424 Remuera Road, Auckland, New Zealand. ☎64-9-5201895, Fax 64-9-5244704, e-mail: frankparkinson@clear.net.nz.

Lines in top of letters				Lines in base of letters		
Letters	Plate	Row/no.		Letters	Plate	Row/No.
EP	1	2/17		NEP	1	1/24
NE	1	4/24	Also base	NE	1	2/19
OEP	1	7/17		OEP	1	4/24
ONE P	1	9/18		ONE	1	10/8
NE	1	9/24		ON	1	10/9
ONE	1	10/7		NE	2	1/5
ONE	1	10/9		NE	2	1/17
ONE P	2	6/2		NE	2	1/19
NE P	2	7/16		N	2	1/24
ONE	2	10/16		N	2	2/15
ONE PE	3	6/14		NEPE	2	2/24
Re-entries not to top or base of value letters				N	2	3/8
Letters	Plate	Row/No.		N	2	4/2
Ret	1	1/16		ON	2	4/10
Ret	2	1/1		NE	2	4/13
Ret	2	6/17		NEP	2	4/18
Ret	2	8/1		ONE NY	2	5/20
Ret	2	8/4		N(PE)	2	5/23
Ret	3	6/2		N	2	6/1
Guidelines in Value Letters				ONE P	2	6/21
ONE	1	3/20		NE NNY	2	7/12
E	1	5/5		NY	2	8/4
Y	1	9/17		NP	2	9/11
NE	2	5/2		N	2	9/22
E	2	5/3		NE	2	10/10
NNY	2	5/4		ON	2	10/11
ON-NY	2	10/17		NP	3	2/1
ON-NY	2	10/18		NEP	3	3/1
ON-NY	2	10/19		NEP	3	5/24
ON-NY	2	10/20		2ND N	3	7/19
O	2	10/21		O	3	10/20
ON-NY	3	3/5		N	3	10/24
O,E	3	3/6		Doubled vert. guidelines in Plate 2		
NY	3	3/20		1/3 - F	2/17 - T	5/11 - T
ONPY	3	4/18		1/4 - F	3/1 - M	5/20 - T
PEY	3	4/20		1/7 - T	3/5 - TM	8/13 - M
NP	3	4/21		1/16 - T	4/1 - T	8/23 - M
OEY	3	4/22		1/24 - B	4/5 - M	9/6 - T
NNY	3	6/15		2/14 - F	5/9 - T	9/18 - T
O	3	8/14				
O	3	9/13		F-Full	M-Middle	T-Top
N + 2ND n	3	10/18		B-Bottom		

THE 1935 PICTORIAL ISSUES AND ASSOCIATED POSTAL RATES WITH DATES OF PRINTING OF VARIETIES (Part 6): January 1943 – June 1944

ROBERT P. ODENWELLER

February 1943 6d printed on multiple watermark paper issued

2 April 1943:

Airgraph to U.K. (civilian) introduced.

	Fee per airgraph
Airgraph to U.K.	10d

24 April 1943:

N.Z. to N.Z. Prisoners of War. Reduction in preprinted air letter forms rate.

	Fee	Notes
Airletter to POW	1/-	per airletter (preprinted)

12 July 1943:

N.Z. Forces in Egypt to New Zealand. Rate reduced. Mail was sent by sea to Australia and by air to New Zealand. In practice, a large quantity of this mail did not receive air carriage in Australia or came to New Zealand having been carried throughout by sea.

	Letters	Notes
Forces mail - part air to New Zealand	3d	per ½ ounce

22-23 July 1943:

Darwin to Calcutta portion of Horseshoe Route substituted by Perth - Kegalla (?Lake Koggala) (Ceylon) - Karachi. No civilian mail on first flight.

October 1943: 9d of September 1941 overprinted Official issued.

13 December 1943:

N.Z. to N.Z. Forces. Airmail introduced for naval and mercantile marine personnel. Senders were not required to indicate a routing on the air letter cards as they were despatched by New Zealand or American military postal services by the most advantageous means available, air transit being used when possible. Restrictions were eased on 26 June 1944.

	Letters	Notes
Air mail letters to Naval forces	6d	per ½ ounce
Air letter cards to Naval forces	3d	sold at 2 per 1d

1944

'1944' 6d of February 1943 and 2/- of October 1942 overprinted Official issued.

9 June 1944:

N.Z. Forces Middle East to New Zealand. 'All Air' Air letter card introduced. These had been available on a restricted basis from 8 October 1943 and from now, 'ordinary' air letter cards could be sent to New Zealand. Each man was restricted to one card per week. Every fourth week, the soldier was permitted to use one privilege air letter card in lieu of the ordinary card.

	Letters
Forces Air letter card to New Zealand	3d

KGV prices high!

In the successful November auction, featuring substantial New Zealand, competition was particularly fierce for fine KGV material; for example, a collection of 29 plate blocks, 1915-30 (est. £1,400) sold for £2,530.



Can we help YOU build – or sell – YOUR Collection?

Contact Ken Baker or Ian Kellock



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