

THE JOURNAL OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN ISSN 0964 7821

VOLUME 55, NUMBER 6, NOVEMBER 2006

WHOLE NUMBER 320

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY WILL BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 11TH 2006 AT THE UNION JACK CLUB, SANDELL STREET, LONDON
THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WILL START AT 11.00
VIEWING OF THE AUCTION WILL START AT 12.45 AND THE AUCTION AT 14.15
THE AGM AGENDA IS ON PAGE 124 OF THIS ISSUE OF THE KIWI

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ENCLOSURE

With this issue of *The Kiwi* is included a personalised subscription renewal form except for those members who have already paid. If it is missing, please contact the Hon. Secretary.

SOCIETY NEWS:

MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS:

We welcome:

B. Dean, Lincolnshire

G. Minshall, Massachusetts, USA

S. P. Saville, Bradford

NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

The next meeting of the Society will be held at the Union Jack Club, Sandell Street, on Saturday, November 11th, 2006. The meeting will start with the Annual General Meeting at 11.00. The Agenda follows this notice. The Annual Society Auction will follow the AGM. Viewing of the Lots will start at 12.45 and the Auction will start promptly at 14.15.

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.

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54TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF

THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Notice is hereby given that the 54th Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain will be held at the Union Jack Club, Sandell Street, London on Saturday 11th November 2006 commencing at 11.00.

AGENDA

- 1. Minutes of the 53rd Annual General Meeting (Published in *The Kiwi* Vol. 55 No. 1 P. 3).
- 2. Presidents Report and Review of 2006.
- 3. Financial Report from the Honorary Treasurer.
- 4. Report from the Honorary Packet Secretary.
- 5. Report from the Librarian.
- 6. 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
- 7. To elect a Committee
- 8. 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 the members for all Officers of the Society, having obtained the agreement (in writing) of the member so nominated.

KEITH C. COLLINS, HONORARY GENERAL SECRETARY

** Please note a Vice Chairman was not appointed from the elected Committee Members at the last Committee Meeting in July 2006.

NEXT MEETING OF THE NORTHERN REGIONAL GROUP

The next meeting of the Northern Regional Group will be held at the usual venue, St. Luke's Church, Orrell, on November 11th, 2006, starting at 13.30.

This will be a Members Meeting and all those attending are invited to bring along Items of Interest: these can be stamps, covers, cinderellas, postcards, trade cards, ephemera etc. In fact, anything to do with New Zealand.

NOTES OF THE SOCIETY PHILATELIC WEEKEND HELD IN COVENTRY FROM SEPTEMBER 29TH TO OCTOBER 1ST, 2006

The members were welcomed on Friday evening by the organiser of the weekend, Bernard Symonds. The philatelic content of the weekend started after a buffet meal with a display of Coventry Postal History by Ian May, a well known student of the subject. What followed was an extraordinary review of the subject and also an exemplary display of postal history. Ian explained

that he started collecting postal history after he realised that one or two covers filled sheets much more rapidly than his first choice subject, GB line engraved stamps.

The first part covered general postal history from 1583 to the mid 19th century. The first letter shown was dated August 8th, 1583 and came from the Corsini correspondence: this was followed by a Civil War letter posted about one week after King Charles I had raised his standard in Nottingham. There followed a wide range of letters including those sent in the early days of the penny post and the preceding universal 4d post and even some ephemera such as tickets given in receipt for toll fees. A number of examples of the distinctive Coventry Maltese Cross which was only in use between October 15, 1842 and December 1844 were also included.

The second part covered the local post with rare examples of the locally made handstamps and an interesting envelope which had been charged at the universal 4d rate although the local postage rate should have been 1d. The last sheet contained a newspaper wrapper addressed to Nelson in New Zealand. Bernard thanked Ian for the display noting that as the subject started 250 years before New Zealand was colonised, the volume of material available was no great surprise. It had made an excellent and enjoyable start to the weekend.

Because of the volume and variety of subjects included in the displays, this report will focus on a few which appealed to the reporter as presenting particular points of interest. During the weekend, the following displays were given:

Don Scregg Christchurch Exhibition (126 sheets)

Len Jury Auckland Exhibition (16 sheets)

Jack Lindley Dunedin and 1940 Exhibitions (27 + 27 sheets)

Bernard Atkinson Aspects of Exhibition Philately (18 sheets)

John Studholme Thematic Display on The Kiwi (16 sheets)

John Buchanan Health Stamp First Day Covers (27 sheets)

Stan Kundin The Queen Elizabeth II 1953 Definitive Stamps (126 sheets)

Neil Jones Chalons (18 sheets)

Andrew Dove King George V – Arriving at the Final Design (18 sheets)

Lawrence Kimpton Airmails – the British Canadian Pacific Airline (27 sheets)

John Potter Postafix Coils (27 sheets)

John Hepworth Postal Stationery (45 sheets)

Maurice Allen Thematic Display on Penguins (16 sheets)

Len Jury Taranaki Post History (66 sheets)
Harold Howard Ashburton Postal History (36 sheets)

Andrew Dove New Zealanders in the Boer War (27 sheets)
Bernard Symonds Agricultural Advertising Covers (9 sheets)

Maurice Allen Travelling Post Offices (27 sheets)

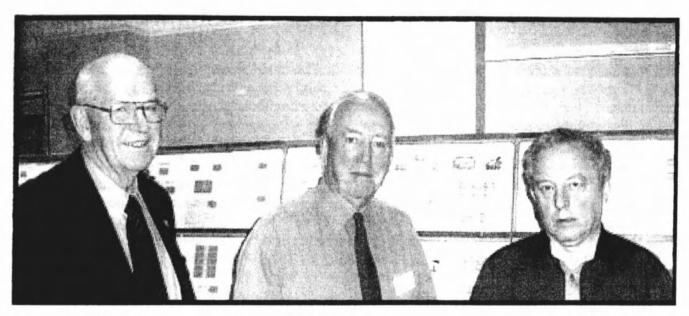
Alex McCulloch 1970 Pictorials (27 sheets)

Bernard Symonds Thematic Display on Rugby Football (18 sheets)

Bernard Symonds The NZ Perfin used by the High Commission on GB stamps

(9 sheets)

Stan Kundin Training and Test Stamps (16 sheets)
Paul Wreglesworth Alternative Postal Operators (36 sheets)



Len Jury

Don Scregg At the Coventry Weekend

Jack Lindley

The first display was by **Don Scregg**. This year, 2006, is the centenary of the great Christchurch Exhibition in 1906. As part of the celebrations, the Annual National Stamp Exhibition is to be held in Christchurch this year. Don's 128 sheet display will be entered in the Open Class at Kiwipex. The original Exhibition was opened for 5½ months in all. The original idea had come from one of New Zealand's greatest Prime Minister, Richard Seddon, who had persuaded Parliament to give £1,000 in 1904 to cover the set up costs. Unfortunately, Seddon died on a trip to Australia shortly before the exhibition opened. The scale of the exhibition gives it a claim to have been the greatest ever held in the Southern Hemisphere: for example, the main prefabricated building spanned a total of 14 acres.

The first frame covered items issued before the exhibition opened. In all, there were 28 Committees charged with responsibility for the event and one was for publicity. They published the labels which were widely used on letters although rarely tied to the cover. The rarest is label Number 6 which was attached to an Art Union ticket after a corner had been torn off. Don showed a full range of these attractive items including an intact No. 6 on original ticket.

The second section concerned the four stamps: each value was illustrated by Die and Plate proofs as well as the issued stamps in conjunction with shades and varieties. Amongst the 6d Die Proofs was one acquired from the Baillie Collection which combined the 3d vignette with the 6d frame. This has not been recorded previously and the reason for its production is unclear.

The third section described the cancellations used at the Exhibition. The specially produced canceller was damaged the day before the official opening but was recut and re-used: as always, the New Zealand Post Office was reluctant to waste anything. The repaired canceller developed progressive wear over the 6 months of the exhibition and examples of the 4 stages of damage were shown. The Secretary of the Organising Committee, E.J. Righton (the villain of the 1d Claret story) was given franking privileges. A facsimile of his signature on the envelope replaced stamps. Two such envelopes were shown: one to a New Zealand address and the other to a United Kingdom address which had an 'Official Christchurch' cachet applied as no arrangement could be made through the UPU for the signature to be valid overseas.

The last section described the companies and countries exhibiting and started with an application form. The Empire provided much support and the Canadian and British exhibits were

the largest and most prominent. The British produced a 378 page booklet to describe their contribution. There was also a section of statues which were brought from Italy. A story was told of a statue of Apollo upon which a tea-lady hung a notice advertising her adjacent emporium. She was instructed to remove the sign and, in the ensuing struggle, the statue suffered significant damage!

Len Jury followed with the Auckland Exhibition. He said that he was some way behind Don in the depth of his collection but he was working on it. The issue came about at the request of the Auckland Philatelic Society. The request was made only 1 month before the Exhibition opened and there was no chance to produce a complete series so an overprint was used. This causes problems nowadays with the ready availability of scanners and potential for forgeries.

Like Christchurch, Auckland had pre-publicity labels but they are extremely rare. Some small labels were shown on an envelope advertising T.H. Garland Ltd. – Garland was also a member of the Organising Committee.

Most usage of the stamps seen is philatelic: commercially used covers are desirable. Because the set was not distributed to countries through the Universal Postal Union, it was only valid for use within New Zealand or to Australia. Some covers to overseas addresses had ordinary stamps affixed in addition to the special issue and some were surcharged on arrival.

The survey of Exhibitions was continued by **Jack Lindley** who showed stamps, covers and postcards from the Dunedin and Centenary Exhibitions. Each seemed to produce large amounts of cards featuring the attractions. Jack also showed souvenir booklets and official programmes of each. **Bernard Atkinson** conclude the Exhibition theme with a variety of material. The first cover was a New Zealand lettercard which had been issued at the 1909 Imperial International Exhibition showing the NZ Prime Minister, Sir Joseph Ward. New Zealand again participated in the 1924 Wembley Exhibition and used special meters valued at 1d or ½d on their stand.

John Studholme illustrated the frequent use of the Kiwi on New Zealand stamps. Although it is native to New Zealand, it is rarely seen as it is nocturnal. It is now widely recognised as a symbol of New Zealand and this seems to have dated from the late 19th Century when the South Canterbury Battalion and Hastings Rifle Volunteers began to display the bird on their badges. In 1887, the recently opened Auckland University College included 3 kiwis in their coat of arms.

Stan Kundin showed the 1953 Queen Elizabeth definitive series. He commented that much of the material was quite readily available although some pieces, especially proof material was rare and difficult to obtain. There is a huge volume of material available, for example, there about 6-700 counter coil variations. The set has many flaws and most require a magnifying glass to visualise them. This can be a little tedious for those not enthusiastic about the issue. As well as this display, he had an 8 frame exhibit showing the middle values with all their flaws and variations. When he had shown this in competition, it had been awarded a Gold medal but he had been warned about bringing it again.

The display began with some James Berry photographic essays and included a number of other die and plate proofs including the rare se-tenant booklet pane plate proofs of which a maximum of only 14 can exist. First Day covers are comparatively common for both the ordinary and Official stamps but it is unusual to see an example with both. The 1½d was issued on December 15th, 1953, because of a shortage of stamps for Christmas Cards. FDCs were produced at the time but the stamp is often included in those used for the release of the remainder of the stamps on March 1st, 1954.

The middle values were fully covered with examples of the interpanneau pairs with the burrelé engraving to the blank paper as there was concerned that attempts might be made to use the watermarked paper to forge stamps. There were also examples of the rare 1/- Centre Die 1b which appeared late in the life of the issue when De la Rue produced a new centre plate using a second

impression from the transfer roller. The vignette was only used for a small printing of the 1/which appeared in 1958 and was not widely distributed.

Lawrence Kimpton showed a part of the collection concerning the British Commonwealth Pacific Airline (BCPA) upon which his recent book was based. The airline came into being as a result of an agreement between Australia, Great Britain and New Zealand in 1946 to fill the gap created in trans-Pacific transport when Pan American Airlines ceased operating the route after the attack on Pearl Harbour. To start with, 4 DC4s were chartered from Australian National Airlines and the first flights were between Sydney and Vancouver. From the start, there was conflict with America as no agreement could be reached to allow Pan American Airlines to access Australia and New Zealand. As a result, although BCPA flights refuelled in the USA, passengers could not disembark and had to travel on to Canada and catch a flight back to their ultimate destination. Operations ceased in 1954 when Australia withdrew from the agreement as Quantas was actively competing for the route. TEAL bought the BCPA planes and started a service between NZ and Fiji.

The second morning started with two postal displays: the first by Len Jury on Taranaki and the second by Harold Howard on Ashburton. Len's had been awarded a Gold Medal at the recent Adelaide Stampex. The area around Taranaki varies from urban New Plymouth to an isolated hinterland. The postal history reflects this as many of the postmarks are extremely rare as the settlements disappeared in the 1920s when insufficient men returned from the Great War to farm the land. The meeting was conducted on a guided tour of the area with fascinating stories about many of the settlements as well as the postal items on show, as well as the geography, there was also a family connection as the cover with a Motinui cancellation had a picture of a camellia bred by one of Len's relatives.

Some vignettes particularly appealed:

The post office at Lepperton started by using a manuscript cancellation, a new metal datestamp was provided but it was destroyed by fire in 1926. When a replacement canceller was provided, the black ink ran out and the postmaster used red rubberstamp pad ink which gave rise to purple postmarks but also proved to be corrosive and seriously damaged the metal of the stamp.

A letter from Stratford posted in July 1897 carrying a slogan stating: 'One of 600 letters stolen from Stratford P.O. and subsequently recovered'. Only 3 have survived.

Bell Block had a manuscript cancellation for one day when the Postmaster died unexpectedly and the key to the Post Office could not be located.

Stan Kundin gave a small display of training and test stamps. The first examples were used to test Dickie's stamp vending machines and are widely known. However, more recently, the Post Office have used obsolete stamps, booklets and other postal stationery to train new postmasters in their training schools such as the one in Christchurch. Stamps to be used are cancelled and defaced to prevent their use for post. Only a small number have come onto the market and Stan's display contained examples of all known items.

The last display was by **Paul Wreglesworth** who showed a range of material issued by Alternative Postal Operators. The story is complicated and still evolving. When New Zealand Post lost its monopoly, about 60 companies registered with the Government to provide postal services. Many of these have now de-registered and there are only 15 still on the list with 4 or 5 actively providing a service. Interestingly, Pete's Post which started in New Plymouth is now spreading nationwide and is posing a treat to New Zealand Post in some areas.

A wide range of 'postage stamps' have been issued although these have been of variable quality. The most interesting feature from Paul's viewpoint is that the 'stamps' have been used as an advertising medium. The analogy with the Second Sideface Adson's is clear and it is interesting

to speculate whether the companies using the new medium will prove as transient. One of the sideroads of his collection is to obtain details about these companies.

A heart felt vote of thanks was given to Bernard Symonds for all his hard work in organising a most interesting and successful weekend. The meeting closed at 12.30 on Sunday.

NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WESTERN REGIONAL GROUP HELD ON SEPTEMBER 16TH, 2006

Evan Williams, our Chairman, welcomed 8 members and 1 guest to our second meeting. Apologies were received 1 further member. Before the displays, a discussion took place regarding attendance etc. As a result, we agreed that our next meeting would take place in March or April next year.

Alan Deal opened with 10 sheets of New Zealand Independent Posts with First Day Covers carrying a 40 cent stamp and some with 'gold' stamps that were only issued in Wellington and Auckland. We saw copies of the politically inspired 'Len Jury' stamps and part 2 of 'Alternative Postal Operators. Alan went on to tell us how many and varied stamps and cachets had already been created by these operators.

Peter Lay came next with 8 sheets of Air Mails with several FDC cachets and pilots signatures.

Russell Spence showed a superb collection of Military Postal History and explained that his main interest lay in the logistics and routes of the World War I period. He explained about the requisitioning of passenger liners and the numbering from 1 to 111. We saw about 20 sheets of outstanding material with covers from Gallipoli, France and New Zealand Hospitals in Cairo, Malta, Salonika and the United Kingdom.

We then broke for tea and biscuits provided by Shirley North.

The afternoon re-commenced with **John Painter's** 15 sheets of Postage Dues. Another fascinating display going back to 1862 and including examples of the later duplicate docket system. We were shown examples of perforation and watermark errors. One Postcard impressed the writer: a card from Wanganui to Auckland with the correct half-penny stamp but carrying a 'Deficient Postage' demand for sixpence! Several theories were put forward for this seeming error but John would be pleased to find out more.

Brian Hunt continued with 10 sheets of the London Printings of the 1898 Pictorials. We were let into the mysteries of the Pirie and Cowan papers, gum colours and perforation varieties. A mouth watering display which could be seen as a preview of the forthcoming book.

Ron Barber showed 22 sheets of Newspaper stamps and explained their history, the wood block die and the 'P's – Paper, Plates and Perforation'. We saw examples of the three different papers, the 10 o'clock flaw and also newspaper stamps on covers contrary to regulations. Ron concluded with 'Austin Walsh' cards as described in 'New Zealand – A Philatelic Miscellany'.

Paul North gave a showing of 18 sheets of Greymouth Postal History starting with the 'Grey River' strike and covers showing a variety of the town's postmarks, cancellations and including a gold mining postcard and Air Mails.

Evan Williams brought up the rear with a wonderful display of Air Mails starting with a 1930 Christchurch to Dunedin flown cover signed by George Bolt. We were then treated to covers relating to the First Air Travel Limited, McGregor, Mercer and a First Day Cover to England on November 10th, 1931. The display finished with crash covers, Kingsford-Smith and Ulm signed covers and material to and from Papua New Guinea.

The meeting closed at 16.25 and all those present agreed that they had seen very good and diverse material and those not present did not know what they had missed.

NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NORTHERN REGIONAL GROUP HELD ON SEPTEMBER 9TH 2006

Ten members were present including Dennis Chandler, a long time member of the Society who was visiting the Northern Group for the first time. Apologies were also received from three members.

This was our Annual Competition and judging was carried out by all members present.

There were nine entries covering the following topics: 1898-1907 Pictorials, The Story of Sunday Island Mail, Between Two Rivers (the Postal History of Ashburton), Alternative Postal Operators, Booklet Panes – 1d Universal to King George V, The Kiwi, The Dunedin Exhibition and two entries on King George V Lettercards. The results were as follows:

Winner:

Don Scregg: Dunedin Exhibition

Runner-up:

Stuart Potter: Story of Sunday Island Mail

Third Prize:

Harold Howard: Between Two Rivers

Again, the standard of the entries was excellent.

After the results had been announced, the members showed items on the subject of the 90's - either 1890s or 1990s.

John Atkinson: Stamps showing flowers and trees from the 1990s.

Stuart Potter: From the 1890s, a cover saved from the wreck of the Wairarapa dated OC 22 94, and maps showing railways. From the 1990s, Philex 91 leaf mail, a Riviera Principality cover and a range of other covers.

Don Scregg: Imperial Penny Postage including covers from various countries, Tattersall covers and ephemera.

Jack Lindley: Covers with Second Sidefaces and, from the 1990s, commemoratives including examples of colour separations.

John Hepworth: Postal Stationary from the 1890's including Registered envelopes, postcards, lettercards and envelopes. Also, the 1898 Pictorials with proofs from the ½d to the 2/- and some examples of the Waterlow trial sheets of nine.

The members congratulated themselves on a successful session and the meeting closed at 16.15.

INFORMATION RECEIVED:

MEDIA RELEASES

Colourful Health Stamps push the 5+ A Day fruit and vegetable message

3 August 2006

New Zealand Post's latest children's health stamp series, issued today, aims to promote the importance – to the whole New Zealand population, young and old – of eating the 5+ A Day way by having at least five servings of fruit and vegetables every day.

And, according to tradition, sales of the stamps will help raise funds for Children's Health Camps around the country.

The five striking stamps, featuring tomatoes, oranges, onions, kiwifruit and red cabbages, reinforce the '5+ A Day the colour way' message which encourages people to eat fruit and vegetables of different colours to ensure they receive a mega-portion of healthy nutrients.

The launch of the stamps was to be celebrated at Parliament (West Foyer, Beehive) today at 12.30 pm. Health Minister Pete Hodgson was set to join a group of children from the Otaki Health Camp to check out the stamps and sample a range of fresh fruit and vegetables.

According to Paula Dudley of the 5+ A Day programme, this year's stamps push an extremely important dietary and health message at a time when attention is increasingly focused on preventing obesity and promoting healthy lifestyles.

'The 5+ A Day message is simple and easy to apply – with a minimum of three servings of vegetables and two servings of fruit a day in colours of the 5+ A Day stamps, people get the vitamins, minerals and phytochemicals they need to stay healthy and fit. Simple as that.'

The message is passionately supported by Dr Fiona Inkpen, Chief Executive of Children's Health Camps: 'Children's nutrition is important to overall health and the best a parent can do for their children is to encourage them to eat 5+ A Day and enjoy fun physical activities.'

New Zealand Post Stamps General Manager Ivor Masters says New Zealand Post happily agreed to this year's health stamps theme. 'The stamps are colourful and lively – and they obviously push a message that's crucial to the wellbeing of all of us.'

Children's Health Stamps play a vital role in helping New Zealand's younger generation. Each Health Stamp sold carries a surcharge that is passed on to help run Health Camps. This year the 45-cent stamp carries a 5-cent surcharge while the 90-cent stamp carries a 10-cent stamp.

Children's Health Camps were originally set up in New Zealand in the early 20th century in response to concerns about children suffering from tuberculosis and malnutrition. Today the camps address a very different range of needs, but remain highly relevant in their contribution to the health and wellbeing of New Zealand children.

Dr Inkpen says New Zealand Post's ongoing support 'helps the camps to help some of our most vulnerable young people to grow in confidence, and build fulfilling and resilient lives for themselves'.

The stamps and first day covers were designed by Cue design, Wellington, and printed by Southern Colour Print. The stamps are available from the usual NZ post outlets from August 3rd 2006.

THERE'S THE RUB - NEW GOLD RUSH STAMP REVEALS HIDDEN NUGGETS

7 August 2006

New Zealand Post's latest – and interactive – stamps issue commemorates the gold rush years that proved crucial to the development of New Zealand as a nation in the 19th century.

Prospectors in their thousands flocked to New Zealand from around the world after gold was discovered by Gabriel Read in Otago in 1861. Successive 'rushes' on the West Coast and in the Coromandel further raised international interest in New Zealand and attracted further waves of people seeking their fortune.

And purchasers of the 45-cent stamp in the new series may experience a gold rush of their own – if they give it a rub.

For the first time New Zealand Post has produced a stamp using heat-sensitive thermographic ink – which means that if you rub the 45-cent stamp, the heat from your finger will magically reveal gleaming nuggets in the pan of the 1880s prospector depicted in the photograph.

New Zealand Post Stamps Manager Ivor Masters says the interactive stamp is a 'fun way of appreciating our history'.

'The gold rushes had a dramatic impact on this small, young and geographically remote country – for example the population of Dunedin alone almost trebled in less two years. It was a

fascinating time in our history – and some of new Zealand's best-known businesses got their start during the rushes'.

Apart from the 45-cent, the rest of the Gold Rush series comprises stamps carrying historical photographs from around the country:

- 90 cent an image of the settlement at Kuranui Creek, Thames, a year after gold was first discovered in the area.
- \$1.35 Chinese prospectors at Tuapeka, Otago
- \$1.50 the last Otago gold escort at Roxburgh in 1901 complete with driver, Bank of New Zealand staff, and Police escorts.
- \$2.00 an image of the bustling Dunedin waterfront.

For stamp collectors and history buffs, New Zealand Post is also releasing a Limited Edition Gold Rush pack (only 2000 to be sold world-wide). Individually numbered and authenticated, the packs include a numbered and gold-foiled imperforate miniature sheet, a gold-foiled first-day cover, colour separations of the \$2 stamp, plate blocks of each stamp denomination — and a complete set of stamps.

The stamps and first-day covers were designed by Cato Partner and printed by Southern Colour Print of Dunedin. The products will be available from the usual outlets from 6 September 2006.

If you:

Need a new challenge

Have decided for any reason that you are not getting the satisfaction from your New Zealand stamp collection that you used to and would like to try a new subject/issue

- Would like a valuation on your collection carried out by experienced staff from the worlds leading New Zealand dealers
- Simply need some good advice about what to do next with your collection

Then contact us for a confidential chat and – if appropriate – a free valuation and offer.

Remember that our advice is free, draws on a wealth of experience and is given with the confident knowledge of the New Zealand market over the past 60 years as it stands at present.

For a friendly discussion, simply phone Derek Redshaw, 76 Hermitage Road, St Johns, Woking, Surrey 201483 833 147 or Warwick Paterson in Auckland, (toll free) 0500 893 975.

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WITHDRAWN STAMPS APPEAR ON THE MARKET

Examples of the withdrawn Maori Performing Arts stamp issue have started to appear on the market. It seems that some copies had already been distributed to customers before the decision to cancel the issue was made.

At present, the price asked seems to be about \$2,000 - \$2,500 per stamp although I notice that Len Jury's next sale has a complete set with copy invoice estimated at \$13,500 and a coil stamp on backing paper estimates at \$2,000.

A complete list of the stamps thought to be in circulation is:

Gummed Stamps: 3 x complete set, 1 x complete set used, 4 x \$2, 4 x first day cover, 6 x plate imprint blocks.

Self – adhesive stamps: 2 x 45c stamp mint, 1 x 45c stamp used, 1 x 45cent dispenser box, 11 x stamp booklets.

Other Products: 3 x Presentation Pack mint, 48 x first day envelopes

I understand, also, that forgeries are beginning to appear. Perhaps this is not surprising with the ready availability of scanners etc. but anybody being offered copies should be wary.

No doubt, the situation will develop and I would be most grateful if any members with further information about availability of these 'escapes' could communicate to the Hon. Editor.

AWARDS TO MEMBERS:

Congratulations to the following members who have won awards at recent International Exhibitions:

Adelaide Stampex (August 18-20, 2006):

Allan Berry - Patriotic Covers used in NZ during and after World War II: Large Silver

Len Jury - Taranaki Postal History: Gold

Len Jury - NZ Numeral Cancels: Gold and Special Award

Allan Berry/David Beech - NZ & Dependencies - A Philatelic Bibliography: Large Vermeil and Special Award

Washington 2006 (May 27th – June 3rd, 2006):

Robin Gwynn - Maritime Disaster Mail: Gold with Felicitations

Len Jury - NZ 1920 Victory Issue: Vermeil

Paul Wales - 1970 Pictorial Issue of New Zealand: Large Silver

Allan Berry/David Beech - NZ & Dependencies - A Philatelic Bibliography: Vermeil

A LIST OF NEW ZEALAND POST OFFICES

ROBIN STARTUP

A list of New Zealand Post Offices, that is of post shops and post centres that sell postage stamps, accept items of mail for despatch, and deliver mail by counter or private box delivery, is now readily available to the public for the first time in over 18 years.

Having compiled the three editions (latest 1994) of 'New Zealand Post Offices' for the Postal History Society of New Zealand, I have frequently had enquiries about a list of current 'offices', so know that there is a demand out here.

The new list of about 831 names in alphabetical order has been prepared by New Zealand Post to provide the new postcode numbers for all counter mail delivery outlets. The list has been prepared on a spreadsheet (XLS) basis with columns:

Outlet Name

City/Town Name

Postcode

(Operators) Trading Name

Address

The list is currently available to be downloaded or printed from New Zealand Post's website:

Go to www.nzpost.co.nz

On the right side of the page click on 'address and postcode finder'

Next click 'listings of Postshop, Postcentre &Community Mail box postcode'

On the next page to appear, go down to the heading 'Counter Delivery Post Code' and click the colour bar that is shown.

The spreadsheet will now appear.

If you want to print the list out, change the setting to landscape format and the printout will appear in two page sets for a total of 44 pages.

In looking at the list I have noted that:

Rotorua Books & More is shown as Rotorua South, Hastings Books & More is shown as Hastings North and the new Cathedral North post shop is shown as Cathedral Square North.

New (franchised) postshops, upgraded from post centres since last March are: Garnett Avenue (Hamilton), High Street (Christchurch) and Waterloo (Lower Hutt). New postcentres, handling mail, since March are: Christchurch Polytechnic and, in Hamilton, Horsham Downs. The Springfields post centre in Rotorua has changed its name to Springfield Heights.

The proposed Triton Plaza postshop on North Shore is not listed.

Be aware that there are another 200 post centres, mainly in city and suburban areas that sell postage and have a posting box outside but do not deliver mail.

My thanks to New Zealand Post for their assistance.

A NEW AWARD FOR NEW ZEALAND PHILATELY

The New Zealand Philatelic Federation has announced the creation of a new award in 2006 to recognise outstanding service to New Zealand philately. It will be called the New Zealand Medal of Philatelic Excellence. The award has been endowed by Allan Berry in memory of his late wife Elizabeth. The medal contains the image of a lighthouse in recognition of the unique Government Life stamps.

The qualification for the award is that the recipient must have given outstanding service, must already have received the New Zealand Philatelic Federation Award of Honour and be resident in New Zealand.

The first medal was awarded to Robin Startup by the President of the New Zealand Philatelic Federation, Jenny Banfield, at the Manawatu Convention on June 17th, 2006. Medals were also awarded to Dick Armstrong, Gerald Ellott and Keith Griffiths at the Auckland Philatelic Society Annual Exhibition on July 8th, 2006.

PUBLICATION RECEIVED

Stanley Gibbons Commonwealth Stamp Catalogue NEW ZEALAND

Pub. Stanley Gibbons Ltd. Product code R2876(06). A4 size flatbound with full colour illustrations. Pp. 74. ISBN 085259-609-X. Price £14.95

The first edition of this catalogue was published in 2003 and contained 53 pages. The second edition which became available on July 28th, 2006 has expanded considerably. This is partly due

to the number of stamp issues in the past 3 years but, more importantly, because of a number of welcome additions.

The catalogue starts with the usual preamble and helpful glossary of stamp terms and this is followed by a listing of the stamps. A new addition is an alphabetical index to stamp designs from 1946: useful if you are trying to put a series in order. Booklets, Officials, Life Insurance etc. are fully covered. The major addition for this edition is the inclusion of pre-independence issues of the former dependencies.

As always, the book is well produced and the reproductions excellent. This is to be recommended for all collectors of New Zealand and Dependencies.

THE SALE OF THE JOHN WOOLFE POSTAL HISTORY COLLECTION

John Woolfe's postal history collection was sold at Spink on October 3rd, 2006. There were 635 lots of which 523 sold (82%). The auction room was not particularly full, but there was much interest worldwide with book and telephone bidders taking many lots. An innovation was the facility to bid on line. This appeared convenient for bidders but it seemed a little slow and seemed to lower the tempo.

The morning session included a total of 299 lots with 269 selling. The first 168 lots were prestamp with many descriptions including the phrase 'only 2 or 3 known'. Lot 1 was the second earliest letter remaining in private hands, sent from Keddee Keddee (now Kerikeri) by the missionary, Rev. James Kemp, to England in 1820 and fetched £4,800 (estimate £1,000-£1,200). Lot 4 was a letter written in 1827 from the ship 'L'Astrolabe' when it was exploring the Thames Estuary: the only surviving exploration mail and fetched £4,800 against an estimate of £1,000 -£1,200. This section contained many rare items which fetched twice the estimate.

The remainder of the morning was concerned with the Chalon Period and, as with the prestamp, it is difficult to believe that there was a better collection in existence. Again, there were many major rarities including the 1/- bisect on cover (realised £12,000) and one of two known covers posted in 1856 from New Zealand to London carried via Talcahuano and Panama (realised £3,800). One of the last known covers from the Second Maori War in private hands fetched £5,000 and the only two known examples of Chalons still on newspapers fetched £1,900 and £3,000.

The first part of the afternoon continued with the Chalons theme with detailed studies of rates and routes. A spectacular 1867 cover to Germany with fifteen 6d and three 1/- stamps was sold for £3,000 and the only known Chalon cover to British Columbia which also had a MIS-SENT TO/MELBOURNE-VICTORIA mark fetched £4,800. The next section included Goldfields marks which were popular with estimates being exceeded and a range of manuscript cancellations where interest was significant. This was followed by the Maritime Cancellations where the early covers were popular with the only known Marine Post Office cover with a Chalon cancellation from June 1870 reaching £2,000 but a number of the later covers did not attract any interest.

The last part was John's Military Mail with the section of the South African War proving popular with every lot selling, many over estimate. This included the Tuckey letter which was the subject of a recent article in *The Kiwi* and went at £480. The sale finished with World War I Troop and Hospital ships. Interest in this part was patchy with the unusual and rare selling above estimate: two cards with the rare 'Loose Letter' cancellation fetched £250 and £280, the rare manuscript 'H.M.N.Z.T. 63' £250 and a fine strike of a Hospital Ship 'Ebani' canceller £300. There was limited interest in the Troopship cancellations with a number remaining unsold.

In all, the sale realised £510,165 excluding the buyers premium of 15%. The occasion was a fitting tribute to a discerning and knowledgeable philatelist who would, I am sure, be delighted that his treasures have passed on to other collectors who will appreciate and value them.

NEW ZEALAND 1901 - 2000

New comprehensive 2006 general list for mint and used. Including:

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Tel. 01952 825941
e-mail: ianperry@beeb.net



ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTION:

A VISIT TO THE ARCHIVES - PART 2

DEREK DIAMOND

As I indicated in my previous article (1), I was able during my visit to the Te Papa philatelic archive to resolve two problems in my own collection which have significance for the story of the First Pictorial Issue. These two discoveries as I rather grandly called them, relate to the two stamps that were issued in 1902 and 1903 – that is over 100 years ago! This is surely a great encouragement to those of us enjoy researching philately and it helps to confirm that it is sensible to include unresolved questions in the text of the forthcoming book on the First Pictorial Issue.

The first problem concerned a copy of the fivepence on Cowan watermarked paper (CP E13c) which shows a clear line of almost horizontal dots in the design at the head of Otira Gorge (see Figure 1). They are clearly visible without the aid of a magnifying glass and despite my looking at hundreds of other examples of this stamp this remains the only copy that I have ever seen. This stamp (one of a block of four) came from the collection of Michael Burberry who was seriously engaged in researching the First Pictorial issue whilst a senior member of the New Zealand Society in the 1970s and the illustration shown was drawn by him. The questions I had been unable to answer for the last 35 years were: was this a plate flaw and, if so, what position did it

occupy on the plate which has 10 rows of 12 stamps? Now I know the answers – yes, it is a plate flaw and it occurs only once on the sheet in row 3 number 8. The answers were obtained by examining a complete proof sheet of the stamps in the issued colour that was in the archive and in case I was challenged, I took a photograph. The proof sheet has the sheet number 34, is initialled in manuscript JNC and is, of course, totally without perforations. I shall now renew my hunt for further examples and if I strike really lucky, somewhere someone will identify this flaw on an imperforate plate proof in private hands. Until then I am justified, I believe, in referring to my copy as the only one known so far!

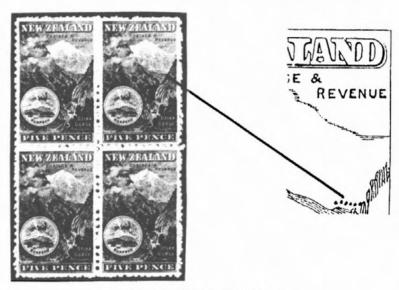


Figure 1: 5d Row 3 Stamp 8

However, as is often the case with research, the answer to one question suggests another. How was this very visible plate flaw created and why was it not removed? Here we are in the realms of conjecture – my guess is as follows. Because the row of dots is clear and regular (not random) I think that it is deliberate and it was not removed because it in no way confuses the design – indeed, it is even possible to imagine it as an enhancement of the design! If you have an alternative view, please write a letter to our Editor.







Figure 3: Plate No. 2

My other 'discovery' required even more good fortune than the above and is probably more significant in philatelic terms. According to the Campbell Paterson catalogue, the two pence (small size and purple) issued in December 1902 on Cowan watermarked paper (CP E6b) is known with hand drawn plate numbers in the bottom selvedge. During the last 30 years, I have been able to find the three plate numbers listed by CP, namely 2, 3 and 4. These are all right-reading numbers

and must, therefore, appear on the plate as mirror-images, except that as the number 2 is drawn by two short parallel vertical lines it will look the same on the plate and on the printed sheet. The most obvious question that arises is: what happened to Plate Number 1?

The answer seems to be that Plate 1 was identified by a short single vertical line, again hand drawn, and, because I have only seen one example in 35 years, was the least frequently used of the 4 plates. Only a year or so ago when examining an 1898 collection of a fellow member of the Society, I found what I believed was the first ever discovered example of a hand scratched Plate 1 (Figure 2). To me, it looked in all respects correct: the colour, location in relation to the stamp and its shape and size were very comparable to the Plate Number 2 marks (Figure 3). My fellow philatelist was highly sceptical that this was the 'missing' Plate 1. How could I convince him and others, including perhaps the Editor of the Campbell Paterson catalogue? Here again, the archive came to the rescue. As you can see from the photograph that I took (Figure 4), the relevant part of the sheet in the archive matches exactly the item that I had located:

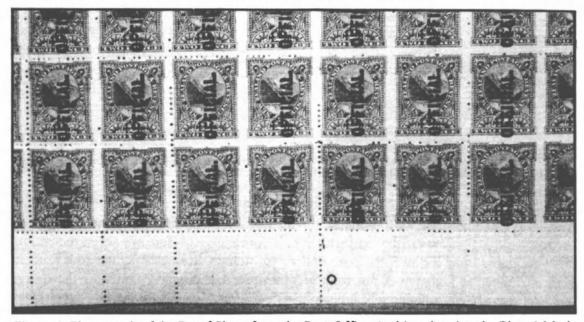


Figure 4: Photograph of the Proof Sheet from the Post Office Archive showing the Plate 1 Mark

There was however one difference. The archive sheet shows one of the circles used in registering the sheet in the printing or perforating process. In fact, there are 3 of these circles located in the bottom selvedge. Also in the archive was an entirely similar example with a hand-drawn number 3 but on a sheet overprinted 'Official' with circles on the top and bottom selvedges. So far, none of the hand-drawn plate numbers that I have seen have the adjoining circle. This creates a new problem: which came first, the plate number or the registration circle? The only examples of the registration circle in the lower selvedge that I have seen are on the stamps engraved by Perkins Bacon and, thus, are not really part of this story about the two pence stamp, printed from plates made by Waterlow and Sons. However, both the Waterlow and Perkins Bacon plates were used by the Government Printer so perhaps all these marginal markings were created by the printer and not by the plate maker. This hypothesis fits the existing evidence best and, hopefully, someone will produce further supporting evidence.

Reference:

1. Diamond, D. 'A Visit to the Archives - Part 1'. The Kiwi (2006). Vol. 55 No. 5. Pp. 115-6.

The image of the sheet number (Figure 5) is from the New Zealand Post Museum Collection / Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa and is reproduced with their kind consent.

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