



THE KIWI



THE JOURNAL OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

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WHOLE NUMBER 339

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY WILL BE HELD AT THE UNION JACK CLUB ON
JANUARY 30TH, 2010 STARTING AT 14.00.**

THE SUBJECT OF THE MEETING WILL BE:

'MY FAVOURITE SHEETS'

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, SEE PAGE 2 OF THIS ISSUE OF *THE KIWI*

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

Annual Subscription £15.00

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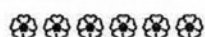
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ENCLOSURES:

With this issue of *The Kiwi*, the following should be enclosed: Subscription Renewal form, Membership/Programme card and a Booking sheet for the York weekend

If any are missing, please contact the Hon. Treasurer.

SOCIETY NEWS:

MEMBERSHIP NEWS:

NEW MEMBERS:

We welcome:

H. Jefferies, Hampshire
Mrs. J. Pedero, France
A. Taylor, Kettering

DECEASED

Warwick Delamore, Auckland, New Zealand

NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

The next meeting of the Society is entitled 'My Favourite Sheets'. It is hoped that those attending will contribute to the displays. We particularly want to encourage those who do not regularly show material to bring along philatelic material that we have not seen before. Previous members meetings have been most enjoyable and we expect to be the same.

The suggested maximum is about 30 sheets and preference will be given to new displays.

NEXT MEETING OF THE NORTHERN REGIONAL GROUP

The next meeting of the Northern Group will be held on February 13th, 2010 at St. Lukes Church, Orrell, starting at 12.00.

This will be a members meeting and those attending should bring along items to display, problem items to discuss or items for sale. Please bring along as much as you want.

A **reminder** that we now start at 12.00 and finish at 15.00.

SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER

For those members who have not yet renewed their subscription by returning the form enclosed in the last issue of *The Kiwi*, we wish to **remind you** that no further *Kiwis* will be sent until your subscription has been received.

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, i.e. £18 for UK and £21 for overseas))

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

MINUTES OF THE 58TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN HELD ON NOVEMBER 28TH 2009.

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed the 15 members present.

1. Minutes of the 57th Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the 57th Annual General Meeting had been published in the January 2009 issue of *The Kiwi* and were unanimously accepted as a true record of the meeting.

2. Chairmans Report and Review of 2009

The Chairman presented a review of the Society's activities during 2009:

The year has been another one full of activity for the Society. A notable event was the presence of Robin Startup in the United Kingdom in July to sign the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists.

There has been full programme of meetings held throughout the country. There have been six Society meetings in London: the first was a Workshop on Perforations. As with previous workshops, this provoked a lot of audience participation and discussion and debate although, in the nature of such discussions, more questions were raised than

answered. The March meeting was given to the biennial 12 sheet competition which was enjoyed by all the judges present! The May meeting was a departure as it involved the technology of collecting rather than the stamps. The subject was the use of computers in philately and all attending picked up a number of useful suggestions. For the July meeting we were delighted to welcome Margaret Frankcom and listen to her fascinating account of the early days of the settlement of New Zealand as derived from the letters written home by those involved. The last meeting was our annual trip outside London and was held at Ardingley. This was a members meeting and, as always, an interesting range of displays was forthcoming. In August, we had an additional meeting jointly with the National Philatelic Society. The subject was Overprints and Surcharges and Society members were well represented amongst the displays.

There has also been a full range of Regional meetings this year: the Midland Group seems to have re-established itself but the Western Group is now seeking a new organiser following the resignation of Paul North. Our thanks are due to all those who take the lead in organising the Regional meetings.

This year has also seen the launch of the Society's electronic discussion board. If the forum is to succeed, it is important that members access the facility and initiate and participate in the discussions underway.

In 2010, our regular philatelic weekend will be held in York in September. Arrangements are now well underway and further information will be published in *The Kiwi* as they become available. The 16 sheet competition will be held during the weekend and the services of an international judge have been obtained.

Next years programme is now complete and includes a meeting in May as part of the London 2010 International Festival of Stamps.

I can confirm that Autumn Stampex in 2012 will have the theme of Australasian Philately. This will be the centrepiece of our 60th Anniversary and is being organised in conjunction with the British Society of Australian Philatelists and the Pacific Islands Study Circle. Again, further details will be published as they become available.

The Society's Special Publication No. 4 should be published in the first quarter of 2010. It is entitled '*New Zealand Stamps Overprinted OPSO*' and has been written by Colin Capill. We are publishing and promoting this publication jointly with the RPSNZ. This year has seen the completion of the long running saga of the Chalon books with the publication of the Lee and Watts volume on CD and the imminent arrival of Bob Odenwellers version.

A Strategic Review group of five members has been set up. Working with the Chairman, the group will make recommendations about the future of the Society. The aim is to complete and circulate their report in time for next year's Annual General Meeting.

Membership has remained more or less steady with sad losses through death and infirmity being offset by new members. The current level is 283 of whom 54 reside outside the UK.

My thanks to all who have helped during the year by giving presentations or behind the scenes. Thanks this year to the Hon. Library Liaison Officer who has worked with the NPS to place our library list on the internet and has also efficiently overseen this years disposal of the journals, the last remaining portion of Library which was not transferred to the NPS. The Society greatly depends on the Hon. Secretary, the Hon. Packet Secretary and the Hon. Editor.

3. Financial Report from the Hon. Treasurer (Derek Diamond)

Copies of the Annual Accounts were circulated.

Financially, this year had been successful and the bottom line surplus was £2,000. This was well above expectations as the prediction had been a balanced out turn. The surplus had arisen because of an increased contribution from the Packet and an increased income from the auction, specifically £600 derived from lots donated for Society funds. Against this, there had been a decreased amount of interest received.

There was debate about the balance of £29,000. This was felt to be excessive by some present. The Treasurer said that he did not feel it particularly excessive in the current financial climate but noted that the Committee had previously requested views on how capital could be spent to promote New Zealand philately in the United Kingdom. Hopefully, the Review Group would include this in their deliberations.

The Treasurer confirmed that he did not recommend an increase in subscription for next year. However, he predicted that next year, income would be unlikely to increase significantly although expenditure will. The level of subscription needs to be kept under review.

The Treasurer also wished to thank John Smith for his usual sterling work as Hon. Auditor.

The report and accounts were unanimously accepted. Proposed: Michael Wilkinson, seconded: Dean Curtis.

4. Report from the Hon. Packet Secretary (Bernard Atkinson):

Bernard Atkinson presented his accounts to the meeting.

He reported that this year had been successful. Income has dropped by about 50% due to the lack of material available. He had maintained the contribution of £2,000 to Society funds this year but it was unlikely that this would be forthcoming next year.

This year, the cost of insurance had increased from £150 to £670. This had occurred after he had completed the proposal form and the insurance company had re-assessed the risk based on the number of members passing the packet on by hand rather than post. With the increase, it is uncertain whether the levy paid by those using the packet covered the cost of the insurance. Some further investigations will be undertaken. It was also noted that the packet is an important part of the Society's activities and needs to be maintained and supported.

Bernard concluded by requesting more material and exhorting all users to carefully follow the rules.

The Packet Secretary's report and accounts was unanimously accepted. Proposed: Keith Collins and seconded: Brian Stonestreet.

5. Report from the Hon. Library Liaison Officer (Michael Wilkinson):

Michael circulated copies of his report to the meeting.

He reported that the Society's collection of 125 books had now been catalogued and added to the NPS on line library listing. The Society books can be identified because they have an acquisition number in a sequence starting with 4 501. The NPS website www.ukphilately.org.uk/nps includes a guide to using the library and an online catalogue.

Work was continuing to integrate the Society's Journals. There was a difficulty with shelving the new journals and the shelves were full. However, the library was due to undertake a major refurbishment in the near future and they would be included during that process.

The sale of the surplus journals in June 2009 raised about £700. The items left unsold are being disposed of via e-bay.

Michael is also working on a Guide to all Society and NPS members to material relating to New Zealand and Pacific Island. It is hoped that this will be available in 2010.

6. Election of Officers of the Society

The outgoing committee had all agreed to stand for re-election:

President	John Smith
Vice President	Allan Berry
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)	Derek Diamond
Auctioneer	Alan Baker
Honorary Library Liaison Officer	Michael Wilkinson
Membership Secretary	Derek Diamond
Publicity Officer	Paul Wreglesworth
Meeting Reporters	Andrew Dove and Derek Diamond
Auditor	John Smith

Additional members of the Committee were proposed as follows:

Northern Group Secretary – Jack Lindley
Scottish Group Organiser – James Smith
Western Group Organiser – Vacant

The proposed Committee was elected unanimously. Proposed: John Stimpson and seconded: Tony Johnson.

7. Any Other Business

The Chairman reminded those present that replacements are currently being sought for a number of Officers of the Society.

The meeting closed at 11.55.

NOTES OF THE SOCIETY MEETING HELD AT ARDINGLEY ON OCTOBER 10TH, 2009

Before the Chairman for the meeting, Maurice Allen, could begin the displays there was a period of animated discussion among members who had found items among the 35 dealers present at the Stamp fair. This was followed by two items of Society news: first, that every member would receive a copy of the Mowbray auction catalogue containing most of Ernie Leppard's collection which was due for sale on November 7th in Wellington, Secondly, that the discs of the Lee and Watts book on the Chalons had arrived and were available on application to Derek Diamond.

The opening display was by **James Latham** who showed 48 examples of what are known as 'Tattooed Envelopes'. An example is shown in figure 1. These World War II covers were drawn by a New Zealand RACC driver – Stag Spooner – during his duty in Egypt and Italy. He was clearly a talented amateur cartoonist/artist. Other examples were drawn by his brother and examples from both are in the Wairarapa Archive in Masterton under the name of Horace Anderson to whom a series of these envelopes had been sent. This display caused real excitement as everybody present was seeing them for the first time.



Figure 1:A 'Tattoo' cover by Stag Spooner

Maurice Allen's display of postmarks of places visited by Anthony Trollope on his Otago journey in 1872 was an example of how Social Philately is a popular and fascinating aspect of our hobby.

Michael Wilkinson introduced us to the subtleties of what is an overprint and what is a surcharge with examples from King Edward VII to 1950.

Lewis Giles showed a small section of Maori War postmarks on stamps and explained their relationship to the 'Great South Road' which required 6,000 troops to defend it. He contrasted this research with a series of 'jusqua' covers from New Zealand to England, Sweden and Denmark.

Keith Collins showed a collection of diverse marginal markings on Second Pictorials including some not seen before and several for which no clear explanation was available.

Derek Diamond showed the results of his trying to find the King George V definitives in used multiples and, finally, **Graham Brown** illustrated the complexities of the Dominion Airways episode.

The meeting closed with a special vote of thanks to Maurice Allen who, for the second time, had provided a 150 sheet display of New Zealand philately to publicise the Society's presence at the ASPS Convention. There was no overlap between them! Well done and thank you, Maurice.

**NOTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE NORTHERN AND SCOTTISH GROUPS
HELD IN CARLISLE ON OCTOBER 24TH, 2009**

Eighteen members, including 2 from the North Eastern Region, met at the Hallmark Hotel, Carlisle. Sixteen members showed displays covering a wide range of NZ stamps and postal history topics:

- David Edwards:** 1988 Penguin definitive and the 1992 Panorama booklet.
- John Atkinson:** The Church stamps from the 1978-84 Christmas series matched with photographs and other illustrations of the churches concerned.
- David McGill:** Stamps and covers from the Antarctic Dependencies, including exhibition miniature sheets.
- Peter Brown:** 'Unusual definitives' postally used, plus examples of recent collector-unfriendly cancellations (with which we are all too familiar).
- Jack Lindley:** Parcel post labels and associated stationery including POW mail. Perfectly struck cancellations on 1920-30s parcels showed how it should be done!
- Bob Clark:** Plate blocks of the 2d, 4d and 5d values from the Second Pictorials showing varieties such as the disappearing vertical line on the 5d centre plate.
- Bill Black:** Unemployment relief stamps and CALs.
- Paul Wreglesworth:** The AR service (advice of the delivery of Registered letters) from its introduction in about 1890 to today.
- David Stalker:** CAL miniature sheets and covers issued for Tarapex 2008 and Timpex 2009 and examples of the unauthorised use of CALs on overseas mail.
- Stuart Potter:** Flight covers relating to the PanAm overseas mail service which started in 1938.
- John Studholme:** '25 Years Ago': the 1984 issues and the June 2009 Tiki set.
- John Hepworth:** Censored overseas mail during WWI and WWII.
- James Smith:** Philatelic Exhibition miniature sheets from 1956 to 1998.
- Keith Walker:** CALs issued by Universal Mail.
- Michael Kirwan:** KGV booklet stamps and the Field Marshal and Admiral issues.

Bob Clark took the opportunity to remind members of the Society's new **Discussion Board** which is accessible through the website and urged those who have not yet joined to do so.

Participants agreed that the displays had been excellent, the meeting a success and a repeat should be arranged for 2011. (The hotel has since been booked for **October 22nd, 2011**).

NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NORTHERN GROUP HELD ON NOVEMBER 14TH, 2009

Eight members were present with apologies from four others. The meeting was a members meeting and displays were as follows:

Gordon Mellor showed a range of WW1 items including several pieces from 1914 with Expeditionary Forces postmarks from Egypt. Postcards of the hospital ship Maheno and troop ship Minnetonka were also shown.

Stuart Potter displayed a number of airmail items including cards from four different 'Bernina' balloon flights in 1965. A selection of rates from the 1939-41 period followed including one cover to Switzerland stamped OAT (Onward Air Transmission) which was only added to the top cover in any bundle of letters.

John Atkinson shared the results of his research into the history and architecture of the churches that appeared on Christmas stamps between 1978 and 1984. Requests to the churches for information had been rewarded with facts, figures and photographs in every case except one. All attempts to find information regarding the church at Greymouth (1983) have so far drawn a complete blank.

Mike Hanson displayed some recent George V acquisitions which included an excellent range of shades on the 2d and 3d values including 3 striking examples with the upper row of perfs missing. Blocks with Litho watermarks were shown together with an intriguing block of the 1½d value with a single stamp patched in before perforating. Of particular interest to those present was a coil strip of 3 of the 1d Field Marshal issue, with end paper attached, with coil join and double gum not listed in Stan Kundin's book on coil stamps.

Dave Titley won the prize for the largest items ever displayed at our meetings. The first was a specimen Timaru debenture certificate with 58 coupons still attached. Share certificates for Golden Pah, the Tarara Gold Mining Co and Blagrove Gold Mining Co. were shown followed by a share certificate, from 1865, for the short lived Panama, New Zealand and Australian Royal Mail Co seeking to raise money to build 4 ships, Kaikoura, Rakaia, Ruahine and Maitaia. Dave also showed proofs of miniature sheets produced for Tarapex 2008 and Timpex 2009.

Paul Wreglesworth displayed a range of maritime mail material from the 1880s, with examples of Marine PO and other strikes applied to stamps from the second sideface period. This was followed by covers showing the range of cancellations used on the New Zealand - San Francisco route during the 1920s and 1930s. Finally, a range of more modern covers posted on board cruise ships, commercial or naval ships was shown.

The meeting closed at 15:00.

NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MIDLAND GROUP HELD ON OCTOBER 31ST, 2009.

The meeting was devoted to a series of displays from those members attending.

Ian Samuel started with 9 mixed sheets including a NZ-USA airmail which travelled via New Caledonia, Canton Island and Hawaii with a cachet on a registered cover to Jefferson City, Missouri, from Waipukurua. The letter was dated 16 JULY 1940 and carried stamps to the value of 4/4. Postal markings included NZ 31 consor marks in the obverse and reverse and San Francisco and Jefferson City receiving marks. He also showed a letter carried on the first direct airmail from NZ to London via Sydney on April 27th, 1940. Unfortunately, there were no receiving marks applied. Another interesting item was a postcard of Birmingham Victoria Law Courts used locally in Katikati with a ring cancel dated May 31st, 1906.

Mike Smith gave a display of New Zealand art on stamps saying that the NZ Post Office were particularly good at promoting NZ via their stamp issues. Included were the Rita Angus issues of 1983, Colin McCahon paintings in 1997, Peter McIntyre paintings in 1998 and the joint issue with Sweden in 2002 showing Artistic Crafts. Later in the afternoon, Mike gave a quick outline of the new non-value indicated (NVI) stamps including illustrations of the stamps, booklets and limited edition silver embossed stamps.

Wesley Cummings displayed some of his recently re-discovered collection of Cook Islands/Rarotonga issues including the KGV definitives (with some of the mixed perforation pairs) and the Admiral stamps.

Richard Gillam took us to Stewart Island with early covers and postcards. The trip started with pictures of Bluff Railway Station and harbour from where the boats sailed to Stewart island. Used items from Halfmoon Bay and Paterson Inlet were included. He also included two expedition covers to Campbell Island dated 1983 and 1986. The first cover had the cachet 'EXPEDITION CANCELLED DUE TO BAD WEATHER'.

Terry Hancox showed us a display covering some of the modern (post 2005) miniature and exhibition sheets where the re-printed sheet stamps look identical but the imprint date has been removed. He also showed an A4 size spiral bound book of his study of the 1933 'Pathway to Health' stamp showing full plating details and descriptions of the retouches on the plate.

John Potter showed a display of the 1940 Centennial issue covering issued stamps and covers, official overprints, censored covers and Centennial Exhibition labels tied to covers as well as a complete of the Wellington Exhibition labels.

Mike Smith gave a vote of thanks to all present who had contributed and commented on how pleasant an afternoon it had been.

The next meeting will be in February 2010 at a date to be advised when Wesley Cummins and Richard Gillam have agreed to give a joint display on 'Pacific Islands with a New Zealand Connection'.

A NEW CO-ORDINATOR FOR THE SCOTTISH GROUP

The co-ordinator of the Scottish Group for 2010 will be James Smith. E-mail address: jalexandersmith@tiscali.co.uk. ☎0131 663 7694.

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.

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NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Statement of Income and Expenditure for the year ending 30th September 2009

INCOME	2008	2009	EXPENDITURE	2008	2009
Brought Forward 1.10.08			Auction 08	3,846.85	5,764.82
Library Account		2,287.09	Kiwi Production:	3,894.09	4,774.06
Current Account		3,888.83	Meetings:		
Deposit Accounts	32,876.12	<u>29,000.00</u>	UJC & Regional	2,207.55	1,604.74
Interest: Deposits	1,332.39	701.24	Society Expenses:		
Packet A/c received	1,500.00	2,000.00	incl. competitions	214.11	450.64
Publications:.			Library	240.00	
Incl. Jnls. cds. etc.	142.36	1,259.73	Subscriptions etc.:		
Residential Meeting			ABPS		214.00
(Torquay)	747.55	327.55	N.Z. Federation		40.00
Kiwi Adverts & Inserts	1,085.00	840.80	Journal sale costs		161.20
Auction 08	4,366.10	6,758.00	S.G. Catalogues	480.00	<u>262.40</u>
Subscriptions -			Carried Forward 30.9.09		
incl. advance			Library Fund		2,287.09
payments and donations	4,009.00	3,954.12	Current Accounts		6,458.41
			Deposit Account	35,175.92	<u>29,000.00</u>
	<u>£46,058.52</u>	<u>£51,017.36</u>		<u>£46,058.52</u>	<u>£51,017.36</u>

Audited and found correct in accordance with the books, papers and statements produced to me

J.A.W.Smith FCIB, ACIS, Hon Auditor

NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN
PACKET ACCOUNT - YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER 30TH 2009

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Gross Income from Packet Sales	10,877.10	19,730
Deduct payments received but not yet remitted to owners 30.9.09	3,657.19	4,690
Add payments received and held over at 30.9.08	7,219.91	15,040
	4,689.78	2,275
	<u>11,909.69</u>	<u>17,315</u>
<u>EXPENDITURE:</u>		
Cheques to Members		
Postage, Telephone, Printing and Stationery.	8,933.30	14,610
Insurance 2008/2009	231.52	305
Advance payment of Insurance for 2009/2010	673.07	154
Total expenditure	<u>212.00</u>	<u>212</u>
Profit for year	10,049.89	15,281
	1,859.80	2,034
	<u>11,909.69</u>	<u>17,315</u>
<u>SUMMARY:</u>		
Balance brought forward 1.10.08		
Add adjustment 2007/8	245.78	212
Profit for year	186.05	
	<u>1,859.80</u>	<u>2,034</u>
Deduct Transfer to General Society Funds	2,291.63	2,246
	<u>2000.00</u>	<u>2,000</u>
Add amount due to Members 30.9.08	291.63	246
	3,657.19	4,690
	<u>3,948.82</u>	<u>4,936</u>
<u>REPRESENTED BY:</u>		
Current Account		
Less in Transit to General Fund	5,948.82	6,936
	<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>2,000</u>
	<u>3,948.82</u>	<u>4,936</u>

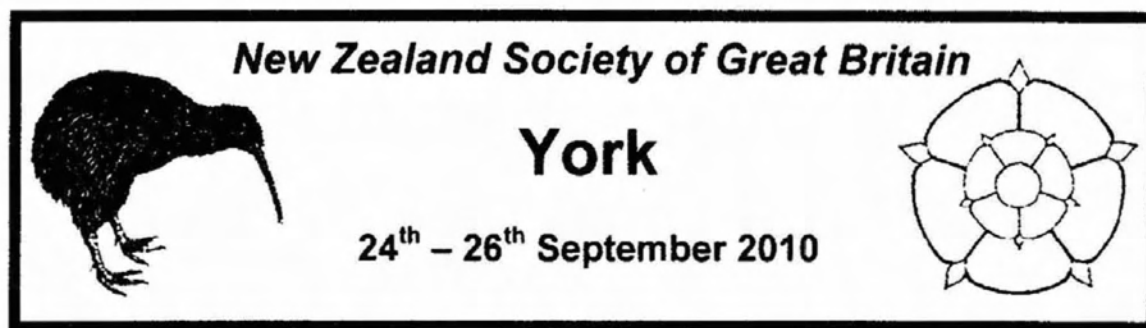
The Packet Account has been audited and found correct in accordance with the books and papers produced to me.
J.A.W. Smith, FCIB, ACIS, Hon. Auditor

WANTED - Books for circulation, preferably something to interest the discerning collector.

RULES - Please ensure that you follow the packet rules in every respect. Failure to do this could be painful and expensive for those at fault.

POSTAGE - Please make a special effort to use stamps and not labels for postage. Do not be put off by the counter clerks.

Packet Secretary



After the successful residential weekend held in Torquay in 2008 we move back to the north of England for our 6th biennial residential weekend, to the historic city of York.

York is a popular tourist destination so we are pleased to have been able to secure an exceptional venue. Situated within the walls of the old city and just a block away from the river Ouse the meeting will be held at:

Lady Anne Middleton's Hotel
Skeldergate
Cromwell Road
York
YO1 6DS

Tel: 01904 611570

There is no 'off season' in a city like York and the rate we have been able to negotiate with the hotel represents fantastic value for money. The rate is **£125 per person** which includes two nights B&B and the society dinner on the Saturday. Tea and coffee will be provided in the meeting room on each day.

Non residential attendance will be available for the Saturday by purchase of £15 of raffle tickets (to help defer costs) and dinner on the Saturday evening can be included for a payment of £20.

Running from Friday evening to lunchtime on the Sunday the programme, which is being coordinated by the Northern Group, should have something to appeal to everyone. As with previous events we hope to have well known dealers in attendance.

If you wish to attend you need to do two things:-

1. Register with:

STUART POTTER of the organising committee by phone or e-mail

Tel: 01625 432808

e-mail: potter571@btinternet.com

2. Book accommodation with the hotel:

Complete the enclosed form, and return it (with a deposit of £25) directly to the hotel. Early booking is recommended as we have a block of rooms reserved but once those are all taken we cannot guarantee the Society rate.

RESULTS OF THE ANNUAL SOCIETY AUCTION

Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£
A	36	12	5	82	15	149	65	219	30	279	24	339	4	379	8
B	3	13	6	83	15	150	85	220	45	281	27	340	4	380	3
C	12	14	6	84	10	151	36	221	13	284	20	341	15	382	5
D	3	15	18	85	15	152	22	225	28	287	35	342	6	383	6
F	7	16	13	86	15	153	30	226	110	288	23	343	5	384	6
G	8	17	16	87	15	168	5	228	30	292	60	344	5	385	6
H	4	18	12	91	65	170	30	229	6	293	36	345	5	386	15
I	2	20	12	94	5	171	7	230	14	294	20	346	5	387	3
J	1	21	11	97	36	172	5	232	50	295	27	349	75	388	4
K	1	22	11	102	45	174	15	235	5	301	18	350	25	389	10
L	2	23	10	105	85	175	30	238	40	304	4	351	6	390	6
M	2	24	27	106	35	176	7	239	13	305	15	352	29	391	16
N	46	25	120	110	30	177	41	240	7	306	6	354	20	392	26
O	46	27	8	112	22	181	13	241	25	307	11	355	11	393	11
P	5	29	19	114	25	185	10	242	5	308	9	357	4	394	6
Q	5	30	10	116	80	190	6	243	20	309	4	358	15	395	9
R	5	31	10	117	30	192	5	244	6	310	55	359	5	396	4
S	13	32	11	119	26	193	8	246	32	311	55	360	11	397	11
T	12	35	9	121	18	194	10	247	9	312	9	361	6	398	8
Ta	9	36	13	122	33	198	3	248	8	313	11	362	6	399	8
U	9	37	7	129	72	200	80	249	16	314	7	363	6	400	10
V	18	39	4	130	60	202	17	250	7	315	5	364	6	401	17
X	15	40	5	131	11	203	14	252	10	320	7	365	9	402	4
Y	11	42	4	132	30	204	11	254	20	321	10	366	6	409	30
ZZ	85	43	26	133	175	205	15	257	6	323	100	367	6	410	3
1	10	44	4	134	30	206	30	260	7	324	20	368	5	411	50
2	3	47	70	135	140	208	140	261	7	325	325	369	16	412	65
4	11	48	75	136	11	209	150	262	5	328	27	370	8	413	65
5	11	56	20	137	35	210	100	266	19	332	80	371	10	427	6
6	8	59	60	141	90	211	4	268	11	333	46	372	12	428	35
7	8	75	36	144	175	213	70	272	46	335	3	374	13		
8	47	79	100	145	90	214	180	276	90	336	13	375	13		
9	21	80	15	147	260	216	80	277	36	337	5	376	37		
11	3	81	15	148	60	218	30	278	21	338	3	377	11		

Lots not shown were unsold.

The auction on 28 November was successful. Total sales were approximately £7,000 compared to £6,500 in 2008. The number of lots and bidders was similar to last year. The Society thanks:

Alan Baker	: Auctioneer
Andrew Dove	: Compiling Auction catalogue
Lewis Giles	: Display of lots
Keith Collins and Brian Stonestreet	: Handling of lots during auction
Derek and Esmé Diamond	: Printing auction catalogues, recording auction and settling with vendors
John Stimson	: Collecting payments and sending lots to postal bidders

PROGRAMME FOR 2010

The programme for the London meetings in 2010 will be:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| *January 30 th | My Favourite Sheets | |
| **March 27 th | New Zealand Pre-stamp Post: a display by Paul Mazelis | |
| ***May 15 th | 1882 and All That: Robin Gwynn | To be held at London 2010 Festival of Stamps |
| *July 31 st | 1970 – 76 Pictorials | Dean Curtis to lead |
| September 24 th – 27 th | Society Weekend in York | To include the Biennial 16 Sheet Competition |
| **November 27 th | AGM and Auction | |
- * The meeting will start at 14.00 and be preceded by a Committee meeting.
** The meeting to start at 11.00
*** The meeting will be held between 11.00 and 14.00 and be held in the Islington Hilton Hotel which adjoins the Business Design Centre.

Further details will be published in *The Kiwi*.

INFORMATION RECEIVED:

INFORMATION RECEIVED

CHRISTMAS STAMPS CELEBRATE THE PAST AND PRESENT

7 October 2009



In the 49 years that New Zealand Post has been producing Christmas stamps, the central theme remains constant – the importance and relevance of Christmas. The 2009 Christmas six-stamp collection captures this through both traditional and contemporary perspectives.

Three traditional Christmas stamps feature nativity scenes by Wellington artist Stephen Fuller traditional nativity, while the three contemporary stamps represent what New Zealand children 'love about Christmas'. These contemporary images are the winning entries from New Zealand Post's Design a Stamp competition earlier this year.

'Although the story of Christmas may be the same across the world, most people have their own ways of celebrating and reflecting on this special time,' says Ivor Masters, New Zealand Post's General Manager Stamps. 'It is exciting to be able to combine both contemporary and traditional images and stories for this issue.'

The traditional designs follow the religious icon style, capturing three well known Christmas scenes. The 50 cent stamp shows three shepherds next to the manger where Jesus was born; Mary, Joseph and the new born baby Jesus are on the \$1.00 stamp; and the magi – Gaspar, Balthasar and Melchior – bearing gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh, are on the \$1.80 stamp.



The children's Design a Stamp images include a summer beach scene with a pohutukawa tree, a New Zealand pigeon wearing a Christmas hat, and a Christmas tree with presents and a child standing next to it.

The winning entry from the Years 7-8 features on the 50c stamp. The designer, Felix Wang (11) from ACG Parnell College Auckland says, 'New Zealand's Christmas is summer and I love to sit on a chair, enjoy the view and relax. Also lots of people called the pohutukawa the New Zealand Christmas tree.'

Dannielle Aldworth (10), of Wellsford School, Auckland, has her Years 4-6 section winning design on the \$2.30 stamp. Dannielle says, 'I love the New Zealand pigeon and I gave it a hat for Christmas.'

The Years 1-3 section winning entry is on the \$2.80 stamp, and was submitted by Apurv Bakshi (7) from St Andrew's College, Christchurch, who says, 'I love getting presents for Christmas.'

The two approaches are mirrored in two separate Christmas 2009 first day covers.

The stamps and first day covers were designed by: Traditional: Stephen Fuller, Wellington. Design a Stamp Competition: Communication Arts, Wellington. Design a Stamp first day cover: Stamps Business, New Zealand Post. All designs were printed in offset lithography by Southern Colour Print Ltd.

The stamps will be available from the usual outlets from 7 October 2009.

SNAP-SHOT INTO EXTRAORDINARY LIFE OF SIR PETER BLAKE

25 November 2009



A stamp issue commemorating the life of a famed Kiwi yachtsman and conservationist, the late Sir Peter Blake, is being released by New Zealand Post to coincide with the Voyager New Zealand Maritime Museum's exhibition, *Blue Water Black Magic – A Tribute to Sir Peter Blake*.

Sir Peter Blake (1948 – 2001) became a household name through numerous achievements. An extremely passionate New Zealander, Sir Peter achieved success at many different levels – as an inspirational leader, a skilled yachtsman, a sailing record breaker, and as an ardent environmentalist.

'We are very honoured to be able to recognise the lifetime achievements of Sir Peter through this special release,' said Ivor Masters, New Zealand Post General Manager Stamps.

New Zealand Post consulted with Lady Pippa Blake, Peter Montgomery, and the Voyager New Zealand Maritimes Museum in the development of the issue.

Each image is framed in the shape of a spinnaker with the stamps focussing on five aspects of Sir Peter's life.

The 50 cent stamp is a portrait of Sir Peter and recognises his leadership skills and his ability to empower those around him.

The \$1.00 stamp shows him at the helm of his 1989-1990 Whitbread *Steinlager 2* yacht in which he gained an unprecedented perfect record during the Fastnet Classic.

In 1994, Sir Peter and his co-skipper, Sir Robin Knox-Johnston were the inaugural winners of the International Sailing Federation (ISAF) World Sailor of the Year Award after breaking the world record for the Jules Verne Challenge. This feat is recognised on the \$1.80 stamp.

On the \$2.30 stamp he is pictured in 1995 with international sport's oldest trophy, the America's Cup, after he led Team New Zealand in bringing the Cup to New Zealand for the first time.

The \$2.80 stamp honours his work as an environmentalist, generating public awareness of environment threats, particularly to water. After creating his own organisation, blakexpeditions, and being appointed a United Nations Environment Programme Special Envoy in 2001, his journey was tragically cut short when he was shot and killed by pirates in the Amazon River.

The full *Sir Peter Blake* range includes the five stamps, miniature sheet, presentation pack and Limited Edition publication (only 2,000 worldwide). The presentation pack includes an imperforate miniature sheet which is also an adult entry ticket (valued at \$16.00) to visit the *Blue Water Black Magic – A Tribute to Sir Peter Blake* exhibition at the Voyager New Zealand Maritime Museum (Auckland) opening in December 2009. Only 4,000 miniature sheets have been produced.

The stamps, miniature sheet and first day covers were designed by Cue Design, Wellington and printed in offset lithography by Southern Colour Print Ltd of Dunedin.

Products will be available from the usual sources from 25 November 2009.

NEW ZEALAND POST CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF INTERNATIONAL ANTARCTIC TREATY

25 November 2009

In 1959, 12 nations including New Zealand, signed the Antarctic Treaty to ensure that Antarctica is used exclusively for peaceful purposes. New Zealand Post is issuing a series of Ross Dependency stamps to mark the Treaty's 50th anniversary.



'The Antarctic Treaty has increasingly attracted the support of other countries. Today, 47 countries representing more 80 per cent of the world's population are signatories to it,' said Ivor Masters, New Zealand Post General Manager Stamps.

The issue features five stamps and a first day cover that Mr Masters said will provide a permanent reminder of the international scientific presence on the frozen continent, and the value and importance of the work undertaken there.

Some of the milestones achieved since the Treaty took effect include the discovery of the ozone hole, the Antarctic Drilling Project (ANDRILL) and the development of the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Living Resources.

The 50 cent stamp features a map of Antarctica, with New Zealand's claim to the Ross Dependency in the forefront. The other four stamps recognise the key principles of the Treaty:

- \$1.00 stamp – Antarctica shall be used for peaceful purposes only;
- \$1.80 stamp – Freedom of scientific investigation in Antarctica;
- \$2.30 stamp – International cooperation in scientific investigation in Antarctica; and
- \$2.80 stamp – Preservation and conservation of living resources in Antarctica.

The stamp images are set against a backdrop of Antarctic mountains, each featuring a silhouette image including the outline of the continent, penguins, scientists, international co-operation and a seal.

The stamps and the first day cover have been designed by Inhouse Design, Auckland and printed in offset lithography by Southern Colour Print of Dunedin.

The products will be available for the usual outlets on 25 November 2009.

STAMPS SYMBOLISE CHRISTMAS IN NIUE

25 November 2009



People around the world celebrate Christmas in many different ways. In Niue it's often a time of thanksgiving and prayer, which is symbolised on a Niuean commemorative stamp issue, featuring a selection of stained glass windows from Niue's Ekalesia Millennium Hall and Lakepa Ekalesia Church.

The windows on the stamps were photographed by Niu Tauuvihi of Niue who is a Public Relations Officer, and Editor and Photographer for the Niue Government Online Bulletin, Tau Tala Niue.

'Historically, stained glass windows were designed for religious buildings and other significant settings, and incorporated images and narrative drawn from the bible,' Niu says.

'The images used on these stamps show windows from two very special buildings to the Niuean community, our Lakepa village church, and our Millennium Hall.'

The 30 cent 'Devotion to the Lord' stamp depicts a window from the Ekalesia Millennium Hall showing a man and his relationship with God. His slightly stooped posture signifies his devotion, while his upward-looking face demonstrates his love for, and adoration of, the Lord. The colours surrounding him represent the sea and land – two key elements of the Niuean environment.

The dove (the logo for Ekalesia Niue) is a messenger of peace and a symbol of God's redeeming love. Featured on the 80 cent stamp, this stained glass window in the Lakepa Ekalesia Church also signifies Reverend John Williams and his ship, the *Messenger of Peace*. They arrived in 1830 – the first ship from the London Missionary Society that plied the South Pacific.

The dove and chalice windows were reinstalled in the Lakepa Ekalesia Church in 1963, after the original 1926 building was destroyed by a hurricane. The chalice, set against a red background on the \$1.20 stamp, represents the vessel from which Christ drank at the Last Supper. The wine that it contained symbolised the blood of Christ, while the bread that sits at the chalice's base represents his broken body and the trials he suffered on Man's behalf.

The Ekalesia Millennium Hall, in Alofi, was officially opened on 22 December 2005. A multi-purpose facility, it provides a venue for a wide range of occasions, including the 39th Pacific Islands Forum in 2008 and the first Niue Arts and Culture Festival in April 2009. The stained glass window on the \$1.40 stamp, a mirror image of the 30 cent stamp, highlights Man's place as a steward of God's Creations.

The stamps, miniature sheets and first day covers have been designed by Stamps and Collectibles Business, New Zealand Post, Wellington and printed by the Collectables and Solutions Centre, New Zealand Post, Wanganui. The products will be available from Collectables and Solutions Centre, Wanganui from 25 November 2009.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

'THE NEW ZEALAND AIRMAIL CATALOGUE - JAMES A STAPLETON'

Third Edition edited by Mike Shand. Published by The Air Mail Society of New Zealand (2009). Available from House of Stamps, Private Bag 63 000, Wellington, New Zealand 6140. Pp. 96, fully illustrated. ISBN 0 9597787 8 0. Price \$56.50 inc. postage.

This new updated Airmail Catalogue is long overdue as the last printing, the 2nd, was published in 1994. The new volume has a glossy cover and is saddle stitched rather than in a plastic binding. Mike Shand, the new Editor, is to be congratulated on producing a very professionally printed colourful and easy to read volume.

In the fifteen years since the last edition was published, one would have expected to see a great change in the pricing of covers. This increase is reflected particularly in the earlier 'Pioneer Period', between 1919 and 1930, with increases of up to 100% in many cases. Emergency mail has also proved popular with a number of substantial increases. In the Introduction, Mike makes the valid point that the only 'correct' value for a philatelic item is the price paid by a willing buyer to a willing seller. For example, at a recent auction, a 1940 Emergency cover (across the Cook Strait) sold for \$575: the new catalogue value (Shand number 213) is \$75.

The content has also changed in that items where no mail was flown or none is thought to have survived/be available have been deleted. The pigeon Post section has also been removed as complete information about these flights is available elsewhere. It was interesting to see a new entry at Shand No. 1: '1911 London – Windsor First U.K. Aerial Flight addressed to N.Z.' The numbering system has also changed due to the deletions and new listings and items from the new edition will be numbered according to Shand numbers. Over 100 illustrations are included in the catalogue with many in colour. I was, however, disappointed that some of the cachets are no longer illustrated. In the Emergency Earthquake of 1931 section, much of the information (Pilots, Aircraft etc.) which was in the second edition has been deleted, again, I found this disappointing. I would suggest that collectors do not dispose of their copy of the second edition as it may come in handy!

More than 100 new entries of flights after 1994 have been added bringing the information right to date in February 2009. Overall, this is a superb tool for the Airmail enthusiast and a must for any collector of N.Z. Airmail material.

Lewis Giles

LEN JURY CATALOGUE OF NEW ZEALAND STAMPS 2010
40TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

Available from Len Jury, PO Box 4400, Auckland 1140, New Zealand . Price \$10.00. Available in the UK from Vera Trinder, price £6 + P&P.

A welcome arrival at this time of year, this is a modestly priced publication which provides a useful up to date checklist and an indication of value.

As always, it is well produced, fully illustrated in colour printed on glossy paper to give excellent reproduction. A good buy.

A.D.

'THE REV. W COLENSO TO FRANK FREE.... a history of the postal and telegraphic franking privilege in New Zealand'

Author: G. I. Robertson. Handbook No. 73. Pub. Postal History Society of New Zealand, P.O.Box 99-673, Newmarket, Auckland, New Zealand 1149. ISBN 978-0-908588-80-0. Pp. 88. Spiral bound. Fully illustrated in B&W. Price \$28.50 + P&P.

The latest publication in the PHSNZ series of Handbooks covers the interesting area of free franks although that I doubt that there are many specialists in the area. Many of us will have one or two items and wondered about its origin and the reason for its use.

This volume will give the answer and much more information beside. The first section describes the origin of the franking privilege in 1652 in the United Kingdom. It also describes its development in the United States. The second section gives an account of the use of the privilege during the period when New Zealand was considered as part of New South Wales. Thereafter, extensive extracts from the Government Gazette and other Ordinances describes the widening of its use and the extension to a variety of other official and semi official departments; for example, in 1866, the Governor was pleased to authorize James Hector, Esq. M.D. Curator of the Colonial Museum to frank and receive free of payment of postage.

The main section is taken up with listings of individuals and departments authorised to use the privilege and here, many fascinating general points of information are to be found: for example, Major Charles Heaphy VC was a Commissioner of Government Annuities before it became the Government Life Department.

I have insufficient knowledge to vouch for the completeness of the information but would thoroughly recommend this volume for the range and detail of information contained in it which makes it an interesting read for any student of postal history. A.D.

THE AMBURY STORY

Author Chas Lilley. Pub. Taranaki Philatelic Society, P.O. Box 628, New Plymouth 4615. Price \$30 + P&P.

The Ambury Shield is the trophy in a competition for Philatelic Societies in the North Island. This little publication is the story of the trophy but, more importantly, of the Ambury family. A member of the family, Alan Ambury, donated the shield for the competition. The book has been written by Chas Lilley, a New Plymouth stamp dealer, who by a coincidence, has premises which, in the 1890's were used by Ambury Brothers (Drapers).

The family came from Gloucestershire and emigrated to New Zealand in 1882. The book includes a number of interesting stories from the early days including that of a tragedy in 1918 when a member of the family lost his life in a climbing accident on Mount Egmont and was posthumously awarded the Albert Medal for his courage.

There are many illustrations both of the family and a weekend during which the competition was held.

A copy of the book has been donated to the Society library and will be available on loan.

A.D.

RECENT AUCTION REALISATIONS

During a recent visit to New Zealand, I had the pleasure of attending John Mowbray's annual Major International Stamp Auction. It was particularly notable because it included a large portion of the late Ernie Leppards collection. It was a great pleasure to view the sheets again and recognise so many that had been shown at meetings of the NZ Society. The auction was well attended by local collectors and, although a number of lots failed to sell, a higher percentage sold in the room than would have been the case in the UK.

Ernie's lots sold well. This was particularly the case with larger lots of military mail which included the meticulous and extensive research that Ernie always undertook.

Some realisations:

Lot No.	Description	Realisation
382	Collectn. of 137 covers from NZ Forces overseas in WWI (EWL.)	\$2,600
383	Collectn. 20 covers from Gallipoli campaign (EWL)	\$825
479	Chalon 1s Pelure paper with roulette 7. FU (SG89)	\$1,850
520	½d SSF on Maori newspaper	\$700
545	First Pictorials 1½d in khaki shade. Few toned perfs at top	\$1225
616	Second Pictorials: 5 different essay die proofs (EWL)	\$1,350
617	Second Pictorials: Five hand-drawn L.C. Mitchell essays (EWL)	\$2,000
676	1970 30c Mt Cook with 'blue sky' error (1 of 4 known)	\$2,600

727	1949 3d Royal Visit HMS Vanguard. Prepared for use but never issued. Four examples known	\$27,000
728	1952 Royal Visit 2d: 3 Waterlow Die proofs (EWL)	\$2,200
735	1953 Coronation strip of 7 with 70mm wide paper reel join (EWL)	\$1,150
758	1931 Smiling boys first day cover	\$2,400
762	1931 Health Red and Blue Boys: each bottom 4 rows of sheet: 40 stamps. Some gum toning	\$9,800
776	1996 Teddy Bear Error single sheet stamp	\$1,050
787	1907 1d Reefton Provisional	\$825
872	1902 1/0½d booklet (CP W2ay,x) (EWL)	\$3,000
895	2004 40c Festival 'Stuffed Kiwi' CAL. FU	\$2,500

PALMPEX 2010

In 2010, New Zealand's National Stamp Exhibition will be held in the Arena Manawatu, Palmerston North, between November 12th and 14th. Newsletter No. 1 and the prospectus have just appeared.

Entries from the full range of FIP qualifying classes are being sought including the 'Frugal' Class which was included last year and can include only low value stamps. A new class this year is the New Zealand Challenge which is aimed at New Zealand Resident collectors whose exhibits have been awarded a Gold or Large Gold award at an exhibition with FIP/FIAP patronage held in the years 2000-2009. Entry is by invitation and a special prize will be awarded to the winner.

The closing date for entry forms is July 31st, 2010 and notifications of acceptance will be announced on August 20th.

As with other national exhibitions, funding will be obtained partly by the sale of specially produced philatelic souvenirs. The first newsletter carries details of the first tranche which includes an overprinted 50c Narnia Miniature Sheet and two different CALs showing steam trains.

Copies of the newsletter, prospectus and order form for the souvenirs may be obtained from palmplex2010@inspire.net.nz.

The exhibition also has a website: www.stampsnz.co.nz/palmplex.

ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS:

AN UNOFFICIAL OVERPRINT?



Figure 1

Can anyone enlighten me as to the origin of the overprint?

GORDON MELLOR

I have recently acquired the stamp illustrated in Figure 1. It is a copy of the Second Pictorial 5d, watermark multiple NZ and Star, perforated 13-14x13½ (CPL8c). It has been cancelled in Auckland '22 NO 3'.

The point of interest is that it overprinted 'SERVICE'. I think that the postmark is on top of the cancellation but cannot be sure.

(The following article was first published in the *Australian Professional*)

FIRST TRANS-TASMAN ATTEMPT ENDS IN FAILURE

BRIAN PEACE FRPSL



Figure 1. The only surviving letter associated with the first Trans-Tasman flight

There was no official mail on board the Ryan monoplane *Aotearoa* when it disappeared over the Tasman Sea on 10 January 1928. An official mail was planned and the Note Printing Branch submitted a sample of the then current 1½d postage stamp overprinted 1st AUS-NZ AIR MAIL to the Postal Department on 23 December 1927. On 24 December the Branch submitted two sheets, each of 120 overprinted stamps, to the Department. In the event, the Postal Department elected not to proceed with an official mail as the status of the flight, using a single-engine land plane, was inappropriate.

Unofficial mail was carried. This included a letter from James Fairfax, Chairman of the Australian section of the Empire Press Union, to Sir George Fenwick, Chairman of the New Zealand Branch.

To my knowledge, the only surviving contemporary postal item is the above cover (Figure 1) prepared by J. R. W. Purves, addressed to himself and sent under cover to the Deputy Director, Posts and Telegraphs at Sydney. The cover was returned to Purves as there was no official mail and it received a backstamp timed at 5.30pm on 10 January by which time the aircraft was some 15 hours from take-off and the crew had probably perished.



Figure 2. The Aeroplane (from the D. J. White Collection)

The aircraft was a Ryan B-1 Brougham (Registration G-AUNZ) powered by a single 220hp Wright Whirlwind J5 radial engine and named *Aotearoa* (the Māori name for New Zealand meaning *The Land of the Long White Cloud*). It had a crew of two, namely Captain George Hood and Lieutenant John R. Moncrieff. They



Figure 3. Moncrieff (left) and Hood at Richmond Aerodrome, Sydney on the eve of their final flight (*RNZAF Museum*)



(*Alexander Turnbull Library, Wellington, New Zealand, Evening Post Collection (PAColl-0614) Ref: G-EP-5962-1/4*)

Figure 4. Laura Hood and Dorothy Moncrieff wait in vain at Trentham Racecourse, Wellington, for their husbands

took off from Richmond, New South Wales, at 2.45am on Tuesday 10 January and kept in touch using morse code transmissions. The last transmission was 12 hours and 8 minutes into the flight. A large group including their wives, had gathered at Trentham Racecourse in Wellington to await their arrival.

George Hood was the son of a Wairarapa settler, F. Hood, and was born in 1893. He left the farm to serve in the First World War, and returned to New Zealand with only one leg. Despite this, he was posted to the Territorial Air Force Reserve where he continued to be keenly interested in aviation.

John Moncrieff was a New Zealander by adoption. Born in Scotland in 1899, he came to New Zealand at the age of 16 and trained first as a motor engineer, later joining the infant New Zealand Air Force. He was rejected for active service flying in the First World War on account of his youth, but he joined an infantry unit in the later stages of the conflict and from there contrived to be transferred to the Royal Air Force, with which he served in France. On his return to New Zealand in 1919, he was, like Hood, posted to the Territorial Air Force Reserve and, here the two met.

The ill fated flight was originally conceived by Moncrieff, but the final plans were made and carried out by Moncrieff, Hood and a practising barrister and solicitor, Captain Ivan Louis Kight, whose life was preserved only by the fact that the plane which they eventually acquired could carry only two. Kight lost out on the venture by the toss of a coin. In spite of many discouragements, including finance, the difficulty of securing a suitable aircraft and fierce official opposition on both sides of the Tasman, the partners procured a Ryan monoplane, similar to the one used by Lindbergh in his Atlantic crossing, and the projected flight was announced on 23 December 1927. Test flights, apparently not over-exhaustive, were carried out, the Government ban was lifted, and the *Aotearoa* took off from Richmond, Sydney on 10 January 1928 on the 14 hour flight. It was a 1,450 mile hop to Trentham, Wellington, and the plane's communications equipment was only elementary, relying on morse code in which neither of the airmen was very proficient.

When it became apparent that the flight was overdue, a search was instituted. The planned route was illustrated on a map published in a number of newspapers at the time (Figure 5). The plan was to fly directly to Trentham (Wellington). This would have taken them over the tip of the South Island (Cape Farewell) and D'Urville Island in the Marlborough Sounds. The published map suggested that they were aiming for a landfall at New Plymouth which was misleading.

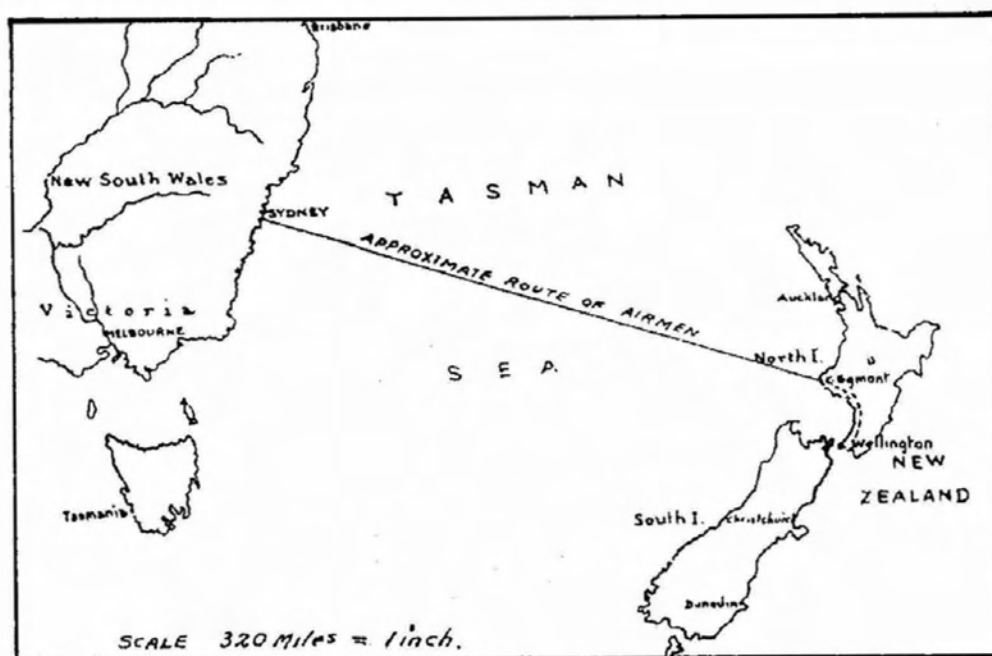


Figure 5. The route plan as published in contemporary newspapers

Several contemporary newspapers also published a map of the search area (Figure 6) showing the area of the Tasman Sea being covered by different ships. Unfortunately, the intended route was over Cape Farewell and so the areas covered by *HMS Dunedin*, the *SS Toia* and, particularly, *HMS Diomedé* were probably too far to the north.

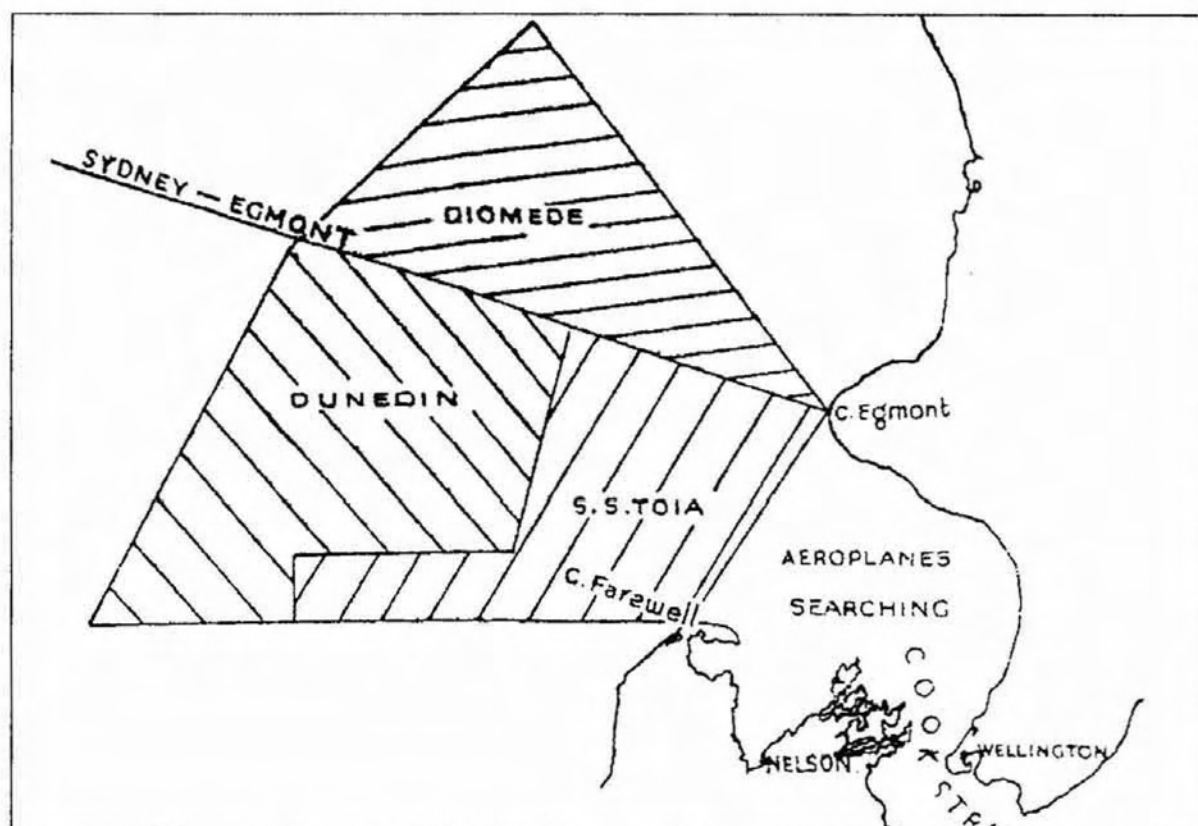


Figure 6. The search area

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8. *The Sun*, Christchurch: 11, 12 & 13 January 1928.
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10. *The Timaru Post*, Timaru: 11 January 1928.

ADVERTISING ON STAMPS – WHO WOULD THINK OF SUCH A CRAZY IDEA?

PAUL WREGLESWORTH

When Truebridge, Miller and Reich's tender to place advertisements on the underside of stamps was accepted by the New Zealand Post Office it looked as though it had every opportunity for commercial success. The adverts first appeared in February 1893 and were immediately met by a barrage of public criticism. Some of the comment that appeared in newspapers around the country (and abroad – see footnote) was so vitriolic that the whole project was doomed to failure and the contract was cancelled within just a few months.

New Zealand was neither the first or last country to consider using the backs of stamps to generate additional income through advertising. An initiative aimed at placing adverts on the backs of Australian duty stamps in 1889 did not progress beyond the trial stage and similar proposals in South America in the late 1890s came to nothing.

The South American venture was particularly interesting as it was one of a long string of money making ideas from a man by the name of Nicholas Frederick Seebeck. Born in Germany in 1857, he emigrated to the US in 1866. Eventually settling in New York, he opened a printing and stationery store and became active in the stamp trade publishing, when he was just 19, a catalogue: *'Descriptive Price catalogue of All Known Postage Stamps of the United States and Foreign Countries'*. By 1879 he had moved from selling stamps for collectors to printing stamps for, initially, the Dominican Republic and the Columbian state of Bolivar. This venture must have been met with some success, for, in 1884, he sold his stamp business and used the monies to buy into the Hamilton Bank Note Engraving & Printing Co.

Seebeck's brother-in-law was Ernest Schernikow who was later to work for Hamilton. However in 1889 he was the New York Consul for El Salvador and Honduras and he furnished Seebeck with letters of introduction which enabled him to visit South American and, ultimately, set up agreements with postal authorities in El Salvador, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua to print all their postage stamps – free of charge!

So where was the catch? Each country was to be supplied with all their postage stamp and postal stationery needs. All Seebeck asked in return was at the end of each year, or period of validity, the stamps would be demonetised and the remainders returned to him for sale to collectors. The plates would also be retained by Hamilton so that, if there were insufficient remaindered stamps, more could be printed. What Seebeck failed to realise was that collectors had a limited appetite for issues that seemed to be created specially for them – some of the values were postally irrelevant and new 'dated' sets were printed each year. The respective postal authorities were also unhappy with the bad publicity and the administrative problems created by the ever changing issues and a number terminated their contracts ahead of the agreed date.

Faced with the collapse of this line of business it seems that Seebeck had another idea – advertising on the back of the stamps! He arranged for some of the remaindered stamps to have adverts for well known companies printed on the underside. A block of nine images were prepared with adverts which included, from the U.S., Duke's Cigarettes, Kennedy's Crackers and Adam's Tuti fruit chewing gum, Stollwerk's Chocolate from Germany and the internationally recognised Pear's Soap and Beecham's Pills. Having prepared samples he approached several of the South American postal authorities with his proposal.

Perhaps the bad publicity surrounding the aborted experiment in New Zealand had reached the Americas, or maybe the respective postal authorities were still smarting from their previous encounters with Seebeck, but needless to say, nobody took up the idea.

Seebeck died in 1899, aged 42. The exact number of reprints for which he was responsible and the number made by someone else with access to the original plates, after his death is unknown.

Schernikow also became an officer of Hamilton and he is suspected of creating millions of reprints. The stamps which have become known as 'Seebecks' are widely available and are relatively cheap mint whilst genuine postally used examples are less common. His advert stamps do not seem to have progressed beyond the concept stage and all examples recorded show the same block of nine adverts. How many of the sample blocks Seebeck produced is not known.

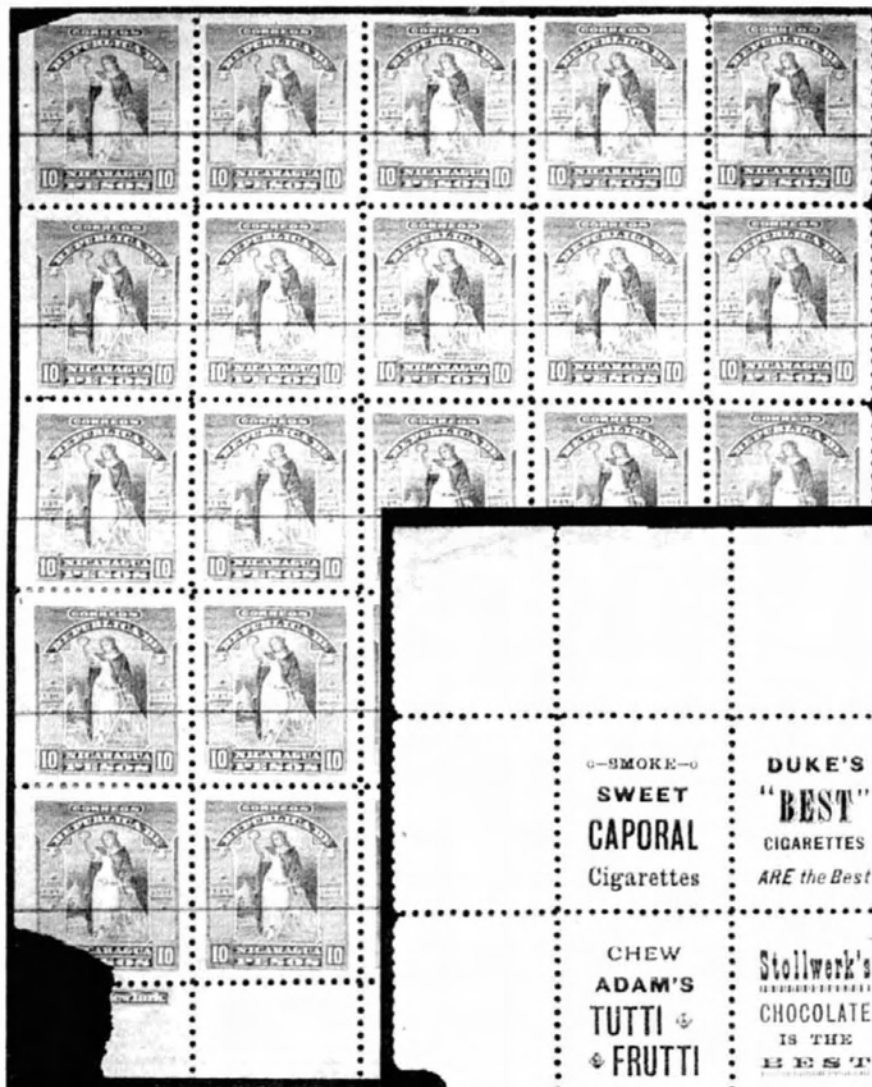


Figure 1. A block of 25 of the Nicaraguan 10 Peso stamp.

The stamp is inscribed 'UPU 1894' although Nicaragua had actually joined the UPU in 1882.

Figure 2. A pane of nine adverts was printed on the gummed side



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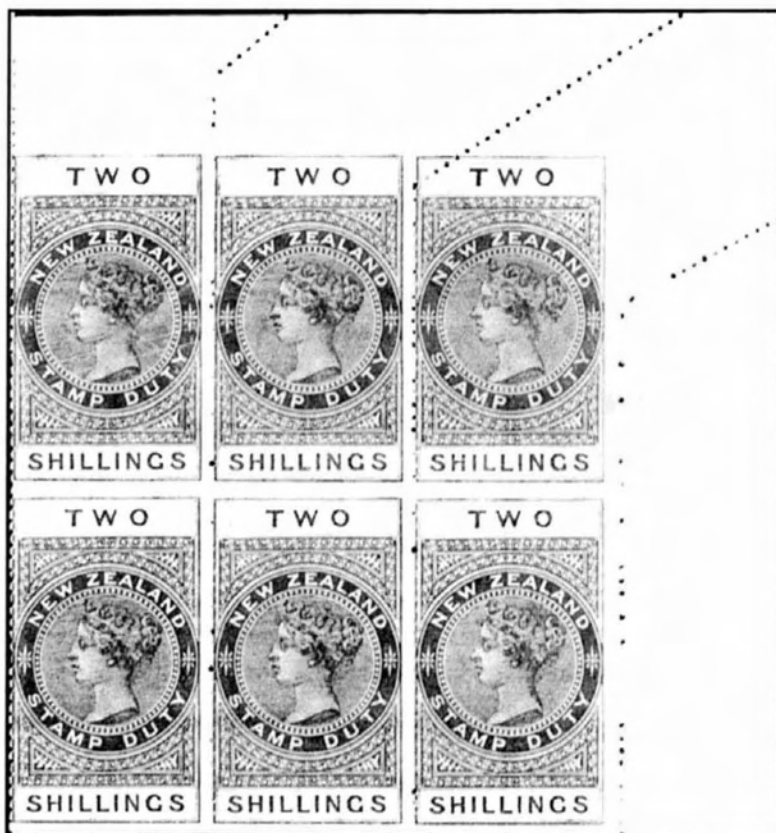


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