



# ***THE KIWI***

**JOURNAL OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN**



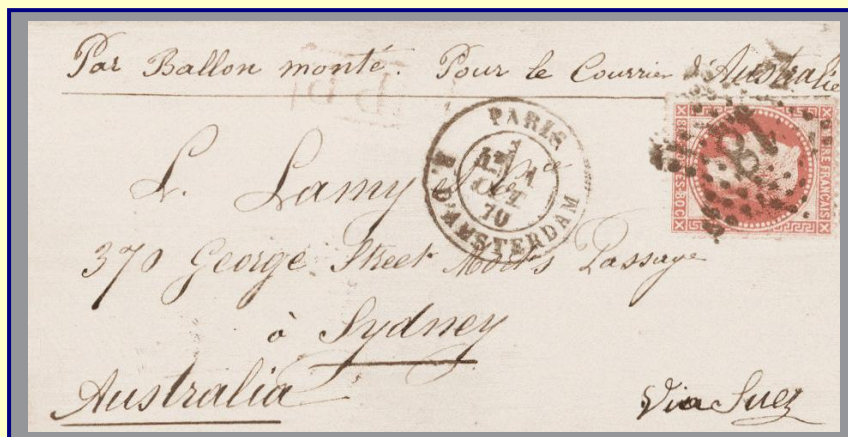
*4d George V - bright violet  
(A discussion of shades - page 47)*

VOLUME 67 NUMBER 2  
WHOLE NUMBER 388

MARCH 2018



## Superb material for the discerning



The above cover was an example of the world's first airmail and is the only known Paris ballon post cover addressed to Australasia. In 2009 Mowbrays Australia sold this 1870 Siege of Paris ballon monté cover for NZ \$238,625 – then a record Australasian price for a philatelic item.



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[mowbray.stamps@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mowbray.stamps@xtra.co.nz)  
[www.mowbraycollectables.co.nz](http://www.mowbraycollectables.co.nz)

## THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

### Honorary President

Keith C. Collins

### Honorary Chairman

John Stimson

Mead Cottage

Boulsters Lane, Maidenhead, SL6 8TJ

☎07710-336064

e-mail: john.m.stimson@gmail.com

### Hon. General Secretary & Librarian

Michael Wilkinson

121 London Road,

Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 1BH

☎017-32456997

e-mail: mwilkin799@aol.com

### Honorary Membership Secretary

Mrs Esmé G. Diamond

9 Ashley Drive, Walton on Thames,

Surrey, KT12 1JL

☎01932-223280

e-mail: esmegdiamond@mac.com

### Honorary Treasurer

Paul Woods

57 Grosvenor Drive, Whitley Bay,

Tyne & Wear, NE26 2JR

☎07446-936840

e-mail: pvdw1958@yahoo.co.uk

### Hon. Packet Secretary

Professor John Hepworth

2, Carnoustie Close,

Fulwood, Preston, Lancashire, PR2 7ER

☎01772-861709

e-mail: j.d.hepworth@tinyworld.co.uk

### Hon. Editor of *The Kiwi*

Paul Wreglesworth

37 Blakelow Road,

Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK11 7ED

☎01625-420694

e-mail: kiwieditor@gmail.com

### Webmaster

Bob Clark

nzsgb1@googlemail.com

Website: www.nzsgb.org.uk

### Representative in New Zealand

John Watts

jlwatts463@gmail.com

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*The Society is affiliated to: The Association of British Philatelic Societies  
the New Zealand Philatelic Federation  
and the Association of Scottish Philatelic Societies.*



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## EDITORIAL

Please, please, please, if you have not already done so, renew your membership otherwise we cannot afford to send you any further copies of *The Kiwi*.

Of course we hope that you will find something of interest in each and every issue. If we are not covering your areas of interest then please let me know and we will try and do something about it. Of course articles, from half a page to eight pages, will be very welcome - larger pieces can be split over more than one issue.

On the opposite page you will find booking details for our next residential weekend which we are holding in the historic city of Bath. We have a full weekend of events planned and of course the city offers many attractions for partners and family members. We have a block of rooms set aside but please let Michael Wilkinson know, as soon as possible, if you want to reserve one.

Sadly we lost one of our most active members, Bernard Atkinson, last June. Bernard had an extensive philatelic library which Jos Gregson is now cataloguing, ready for sale. More information in due course.



### THE KIWI - ADVERTISERS IN THIS ISSUE

ADVERTISER	PAGE	ADVERTISER	PAGE
Mowbray Collectables	Inside Front Cover	Mowbray Collectables	68
Steven Zirinsky	49	Classic Stamps Ltd.	Inside Back Cover
Ashford Stamps Ltd.	49	Auckland City Stamps	Back Cover

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Full Colour	£90	£75	£75	£60	£50	£40

### NZSGB - CURRENT SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Membership rates are £20 (within the UK) and £25 (overseas) - with printed copy of *The Kiwi*.

Members who prefer to receive an electronic version of the journal (*e-Kiwi*), downloadable from the Society's web-site, as an alternative to the paper copy pay £20 regardless of country of residence.

Payment can be made by various means including PayPal ('gift' option). Details from the membership secretary [esmegdiamond@gmail.com](mailto:esmegdiamond@gmail.com) or via the web-site.

### Is this the last copy of *The Kiwi* you will receive?

Members should have received at least one reminder concerning membership renewal. If you want to continue to receive *The Kiwi* then please act promptly or you will not receive the next issue.

If any of your details (address, e-mail etc) have changed please let the Membership Secretary know.

If you wish to change from paper to e-version of *The Kiwi*, or vice versa, do let us know.

# SOCIETY NEWS

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### New Members:

A warm welcome to:

P Whyte, Auckland, New Zealand



## RESIDENTIAL WEEKEND 2018 - BOOK NOW!



### LANSDOWN GROVE HOTEL BATH

*28<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018*



We have been holding our residential weekends since 2000 when we gathered in Chester. Each one has proved very popular with members and we are pleased to be able to announce that planning for the next weekend, for members and partners, is well under way and the venue and dates are shown above. Bath is a UNESCO World Heritage City and the main attractions are within easy reach from the hotel.

The philatelic attractions include displays, a guest speaker, the biennial 16 sheet competition and a gala dinner. The detailed programme will be posted on our website at [www.nzsgb.org.uk](http://www.nzsgb.org.uk) as it takes shape.

Bath is a very popular tourist destination and we have been able to secure accommodation at very favourable rates. A block of rooms has been reserved and these are available for booking now (see below).

The full weekend rate will be £265 for a single person and £165 per person for couples. This includes two nights bed and breakfast, a contribution to meeting room hire, morning and afternoon refreshments and the gala dinner on the Saturday evening.

**Booking will be handled through the Society and NOT directly with the hotel.**

To reserve accommodation for the weekend a deposit of **£25 per person** should be sent to:

Michael Wilkinson  
121 London Road  
Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 1BH

Cheques should be made payable to 'The New Zealand Society of Great Britain'

A day rate and alternative packages will be available for those unable to attend the full weekend.

For further details, or if you have any questions about the weekend please contact Michael.

A raffle will be held on the Saturday, which helps to defray some of the costs. Members have been most generous in previous years in securing items for prizes. If you can help in any way please contact Michael.

**Put the dates in your diary now and start preparing your entry for the 16 sheet competition.**



## FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

### NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

The next meeting of the Society will be held on Saturday **31 March 2018**

at the **Union Jack Club**, Sandell Street, London, SE1 8UJ

11:00 - Members Items of Interest and Recent Acquisitions

14:00 - Maritime and Naval Mail

This is a popular subject area and it is hoped that members will bring relevant material for display including early ship mail, marine post offices, paquebot and naval mail.

### MIDLAND REGIONAL GROUP

The next meeting of the Midland Group will be held in the Autumn (**date to be arranged**) at the usual venue, St Anne's Church Hall (behind the Church) Parkhill, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8DU starting at 14:00. Will members please bring along some items of interest or a mini display.

Group Contact: - Ian Samuel ☎ 0121 449 0849

### NORTH OF ENGLAND REGIONAL GROUP

The next meeting of the North of England Group will be held on Saturday **12 May 2018** at St. Luke's Church, Lodge Road, Orrell starting at 12:30. Members to display new acquisitions or items of interest.

Group Contact: - Jack Lindley ☎ 0161 705 1074      e-mail: lindleyjack@aol.com

### SCOTTISH REGIONAL GROUP

The next meeting of the Scottish Group will be an informal gathering, at 13:00 on Saturday **21 April 2018** at the ASPS Congress in Perth. Meet in the café on the balcony of the Dewars Centre, Glover Street, PH2 0TH.

Group contact: - Adrian Philbey ☎ 0141 562 5817      e-mail: adrian.philbey@ed.ac.uk



### THE SOCIETY WEB-SITE AS A RESOURCE FOR MEMBERS

***The Kiwi*** (now downloadable in pdf format)

- \* Vol. 1-62 (1952-2013) available to all in pdf format.
- \* Vol. 63-66 (2013-17) available to members only.  
- **password required - contact the editor of *The Kiwi*.**
- \* Vol. 67 (current year) - available to *e-Kiwi* subscribers.



Society web-site: [www.nzsgb.org.uk](http://www.nzsgb.org.uk)

# MEETINGS HELD

## NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD, IN LONDON, 28 JANUARY 2018

Our meeting on 27 January was full of flaws, errors and oddities even before counting the members present! The material shown ranged from the subtlest of colour shifts, through dramatic missing or extra printing and eccentric patterns of perforation, to the outright odd. There was some debate about how the more spectacular items had evaded the printers' and the Post Office's quality checks. But we were glad that they had so we could appreciate material that was not only intrinsically interesting and in some cases rare but which also set challenges of interpretation which, if correctly solved, helped to explain features of the production process. It is always helpful to know what is "normal" since some abnormalities can leave apparently viable and credible stamps.

Flaws (and re-entries) are perhaps the most gentle varieties to study, and can repay careful scrutiny by defining consistent attributes of individual stamp positions on the printing plates for earlier issues, and in some cases help show how these evolved during the lifetime of an issue. Flaws of many issues are well documented, but renewed interest and ever-improving techniques mean that new flaws continue to be found many years, sometime decades, after an issue. It is debatable whether 'flaw', implying something imperfect, remains the best term when we can distinguish every stamp, with none the exemplar of perfection. Stamps with mistakes in the printed text - for example the 1985 'Cristmas' stamp - are, however, undoubtedly flawed.

Colour varieties are perhaps the most numerous and varied. Minor differences in shade, especially on early stamps, reflect differences in the ink and paper used and the intensity of the printing, and cannot really be considered errors. They were of no consequence to the producers or users of the stamps, though they now help us to deduce, for example, the dates of different printings. More dramatic, however, are colours wholly or partly omitted or doubled, displaced from their intended positions, and printed or offset on the back of the stamp.

The same fate can befall overprints and surcharges. And stamps can pick up assorted marks and smudges, such as doctor blades flaws, by contact with inked parts of the printing machinery, and specks caused by extraneous matter preventing ink reaching the paper.



*A spectacular missing colour, including the sheet value, on the 4c 1970 stamp.*

Several notes of caution are needed. For example, colours can change or be made to change over time by exposure to light, fumes and moisture. And stamps which appear to be missing sometimes several colours can in fact be colour separations or proofs never meant to show all colours. The 3d Kowhai from the 1960 Pictorial issue is a prime example, where copies advertised as 'three colours missing' have been shown to be

one of a series of colour separations, printed intentionally only in blue, and, at some point, separated from the other single colour printings in the series.

Perforation errors come in many forms – missing, multiple, misplaced to varying degrees, and mangled in all directions due to paper folds between printing and perforation. Many such errors affect not only



*the 5d sideface stamp of 1882 has a prominent white line flaw at Row 10/6 in the bottom left pane of the sheet.*



*Normal and error (missing black) 18c 1970 definitive.*





*A spectacular perforation error on the 3c value from the 1967 definitive issue.*



*Missing design due to paper folds from the 1882 sideface issue (above) and the 1970 pictorials (right).*



*Three examples of partial offsets of colour (left) on the ½c and 6c values from the 1970 definitive series.*

traditionally perforated sheet stamps but also the die-cut self-adhesive stamps issued, often in booklets, since 1996.

Oddities shown were many and various. A cover sent without charge, On Public Service Only, from the Deputy General of Militia and Volunteers to the Commander of volunteers at Rangitikei, was dated 1863, when the first Native Land Courts were starting to determine the tribal ownership of land. A Wage Tax, with stamps as receipts, was introduced in 1931 to raise funds for unemployment relief and later other social security benefits. An unfortunate moth had been impaled during printing of an 18c stamp from the 1969 Captain Cook issue. In 1987-88 the Lions Club of Gisborne, the Auckland downtown Post Shop and Hertz car rentals were amongst those making up unofficial booklets of Health and Christmas stamps until the Post Office stopped them, offering instead a free plastic wallet in which customers could keep their stamps!



In 1990 the North Otago Philatelic Club promoted its exhibition with Cinderella sheets depicting the fine buildings of Oamaru. Postmarks were also a source of many oddities, with text and dates inverted and figures transposed or incorrect.



*Date stamps seemed to be a constant problem for postal clerks in the latter part of the 19th century! A series of duplex cancels from Napier with the 3 of 83 inverted through the latter part of June, finally corrected sometime in July, and a 3d sideface with the post office name, 'Arnold', inverted in 1891.*



*Mitre Peak - lost in the mist due to this error on the 4d 1935 pictorial.*

Exhibitors: Many thanks to Keith Collins, Andrew Dove, Lewis Giles, Terry Hancox, Lorraine Maguire, John Stimson and Paul Wreglesworth for bringing material to display; also to John Biddlecombe, Alexander McCulloch, Mike Cooke, David Stalker, Brian Stonestreet and Paul Wales for sending scans of items to augment coverage of the theme of the meeting.

## COMPETITIVE AWARDS TO MEMBERS

Congratulations to those members who enjoyed success at:

The **Royalpex 2017 Stamp Show**, held in Hamilton, New Zealand, 24-26 November 2017.

Exhibitor	Subject	Cat.	Frames	Mark	Award
Andrew Dove *	New Zealand Definitive Stamps Showing the Head of King George V	Traditional	8	93	LG+SP
Klaus Möller	The New Zealand Chalon Issues	Traditional	5	78	V
Lindsay Chitty	The New Zealand First Pictorial Issue 1898	Traditional	5	83	LV
Stephen Schumann	New Zealand Postal Stationery 1876-1940	Postal Statnry.	8	93	LG+SP
Lionel Savins	The Department of Education Postcards of New Zealand	Postal Statnry.	5	84	LV+SP
Andrew Gould	New Zealand Chalon Paper Pleat Studies	Adult Devpt.	1	68	V

\* Andrew Dove was one of three individuals representing the Royal Philatelic Society, London (RPSL) in the 'Royal Challenge' competed for by the RPSL, the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand and the Royal Philatelic Society of Victoria (Australia).

## NEW ZEALAND POST - STAMP ISSUING PROGRAMME FOR 2018

The programme announced by New Zealand Post for this year is as follows. The proposed issue scheduled for June has yet to be finalised. The dates shown are indicative only and may be subject to change.

January 10	2018 Year of the Dog
January 25	New Zealand in Space
February 7	New Zealand Cycle Trails
March 7	Wahine 50 Anniversary
April 4	WW1 1918 Back from the Brink
May 2	Reconnecting New Zealand
June 6	Keep an eye out for this issue!
July 4	Kiwiana
August 1	Round Kiwi
September 5	Predator Free 2050
October 3	Armistice
November 7	Christmas 2018
November 14	Ross Dependency and the Annual Album
Further details of past and upcoming issues can be found on the NZ Post website ( <a href="https://stamps.nzpost.co.nz">https://stamps.nzpost.co.nz</a> )	

On 7 February New Zealand Post issued a set of six stamps, and a miniature sheet, to celebrate the strategic network of cycle trails set up around the country following a summit in 2008.



**Technical Details:** Stamps and miniature sheet designed by Strategy Creative, Wellington, New Zealand.

Printed in four process colours and unique special colour by Southern Colour Print Ltd, Dunedin by offset lithography.

Paper is 'Tullis Russell' 104 gsm red phosphor gummed stamp paper and perforations gauge 14.4 x 14.

# A DISCUSSION OF ‘A DATING STUDY OF GV SHADES’

*Robert Clark*

## Introduction

In 1990 and 1991 a series of four articles, by Dr. Graeme White, was published in the *Campbell Paterson Newsletter*. Entitled ‘A Dating Study of GV Shades’. They dealt in depth with the shades of the 4d violet, 5d, 6d and 1/- values of the George V definitive issue. The complete set of the *Campbell Paterson Newsletter* has been scanned by fellow New Zealand Society of Great Britain member John Biddlecombe and, with the permission of Auckland City Stamps/Campbell Paterson Ltd, they have all been uploaded to the society website ([www.nzsgb.org.uk](http://www.nzsgb.org.uk)) and so the set of articles is now publicly available. The main purpose of this article is to publicise their presence as I believe that they would be of great interest to collectors of George V definitives and their existence seems to be little known.

Part 1 of the study deals with the 4d violet and 4d purple (Ref. 1), Part 2 with the 5d (Ref. 2), Part 3 the 6d (Ref. 3) and Part 4 the 1/- (Ref. 4). The *Campbell Paterson Catalogue of New Zealand Stamps* gives a detailed listing of the shades of the 6d value and has, in the past, acknowledged that it was based on Dr White’s study (Ref. 5).

White’s study looked at more than 20,000 used stamps and, from that, obtained 4,200 copies that had “indisputable year dates and no obvious discolourations”. Several dealers and philatelists made stamps available for review.

I discuss two issues below, but collectors will find other points of interest in Dr White’s study.

## The 4d violet

I have never been happy with the catalogue listing of the 4d violet ‘Plate 20’. Apart from the very highly catalogued Deep Bright Violet (aniline), only two shades are listed – bright violet and dull violet. The stamps in my collection fall into three distinct shade categories and examples are shown here (Figures 1a, 1b and 1c).



**Figure 1a:**  
*bright violet.*



**Figure 1b:**  
*pale violet.*



**Figure 1c:**  
*dull violet.*

*all images at 150% of original*

Dr White’s introductory paragraph states: “I recently saw a specialised 4d collection that was two-thirds wrong because one unlisted but common shade was taken to be a catalogued shade. Thereon, everything else had been ‘force-fitted’ ...”.

He lists three ‘Plate 20’ shades plus two varieties:

“Bright violet:

Moderately variable, intense colour is distinctive, to early 1920. Variety Aniline bright violet ...

Pale violet:

A light colour, sometimes deepened with a trace of brightness, limited variation. Variety Aniline pale violet ... known from Dec. 1919.



Dull violet:

Known from Nov. 1920, a wide gradation of ‘flat’ colours, early trace of reddish pigment weakens towards dulled purple pigments with wearing plate (1924-26).”

In his table of dated shades White gives separate figures for perf. 14x13½ and perf. 14x14½, but I have amalgamated them as the perforations do not seem significant in this case. He shows the bright violet to be used from 1916-1920 and recorded 31 dated copies, but none of the aniline variety. He listed 20 copies of the aniline pale violet in 1919-1923 and 24 copies of the pale violet in 1920-1922. The dull violet is the most common shade with 202 dated copies from 1920-1927. The official overprint has 25 dated copies, all dull violet and in the years 1925-1930.

Apart from the highly catalogued ‘Deep bright violet (aniline)’ there would therefore appear to be three, commonly available, distinct shades which I believe correspond to my examples in Figure 1. He reports that the pale violet shade has an aniline variety, but that of course has no connection with the highly catalogued variety which is discussed in detail in a *Campbell Paterson Newsletter* (Ref. 6).

### The 5d pale ultramarine

*The Postage Stamps of New Zealand* gives the following information about the 5d pale ultramarine (Ref. 7):

“Early in 1930, the colour was changed to pale ultramarine and the first sheets had the 14x14½ comb perf. on the top five rows and the 14x13½ perf. on the bottom five rows ...

Subsequent printings in the pale ultramarine shade were perforated 14x13½ throughout the sheet.”

The *Campbell Paterson Catalogue* gives May 1930 as the date of issue for both perforations.



image at  
150% of original

**Figure 2:**

5d pale ultramarine  
with ‘16 AP 30’ postmark.

A copy of the 5d in the pale ultramarine shade, perf. 14x14½, is shown here (Figure 2), dated ‘16 AP 30’, i.e. in the month before the date given in the *Campbell Paterson Catalogue*. Many years ago, I wrote to their Working Office about this and enclosed the stamp. They confirmed that it was the pale ultramarine shade, but said that the date was likely just an error by the postal clerk. I was therefore gratified to read, in Part 2 of Dr White’s study (Ref. 2), that the 5d pale ultramarine perf. 14x14½ had been noted dated January 1930. The *Campbell Paterson Catalogue* date of May 1930 would therefore seem to be in error.

Moreover, the study notes occurrences of the 5d pale ultramarine perf. 14x13½ from May 1929 which suggests that the first issue was perforated 14x13½ throughout the sheet.

The study also reported that the 5d steel blue, perf. 14x13½, had been noted dated 19 November 1930, significantly earlier than the date of March 1932 given in *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand* (Ref. 7), or December 1931 given in the *Campbell Paterson Catalogue* (Ref. 8). According to the Government Printing Office Records researched by F Jackson (Refs. 9 and 10), there were printings of the 5d value in August 1930 and in February, March and April 1931, but no further printings until November 1932. Jackson comments in his article that the printing dates did not appear to tally with *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand* issue date of March 1932.



## Conclusion

Apart from the detailed *Campbell Paterson Catalogue* listing of 6d shades, Dr White's study seems to have been lost to posterity. With the general availability of the study, via our website, it is to be hoped that this will change.

## Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Andrew Dove for helpful comments and for copies of Jackson's articles.

## References:

1. White G, 'A Dating Study of GV Shades, Part 1', *Campbell Paterson Newsletter*, vol.42, no.3, pp3-9, October 1990.
2. White G, 'A Dating Study of GV Shades, Part 2', *Campbell Paterson Newsletter*, vol.42, no.4, pp4-8, November 1990.
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5. Paterson C, 'George V (Recess)', *Campbell Paterson Catalogue of New Zealand Stamps*, Temp Page K7, 2008 Revision.
6. Paterson W, 'King George V 4d Aniline Bright Violet', *Campbell Paterson Newsletter*, vol.57, no.5, pp5-6, Dec. 2005.
7. Collins RJG and Fathers HTM, 'Stamps with the Portrait of King George V: First Type', *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand*, p313, pub. The Philatelic Society of New Zealand, Wellington, New Zealand, 1938.
8. Dolphin A, 'George V (Recess)', *Campbell Paterson Catalogue of New Zealand Stamps*, Temp Page K6, 2015 Revision.
9. Jackson F, 'Government Printing Office Records', *New Zealand Stamp Collector*, vol.60, no.4, pp107-111, Dec. 1980.
10. Jackson F, 'Government Printing Office Records', *New Zealand Stamp Collector*, vol.61, no.1, pp13-17, March 1981.

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# NEW ZEALAND 1946 PEACE HALFPENNY

## – TWO CENTRE PLATES INDEED

*Paul McTaggart*

In a previous article in *The Kiwi* (Ref. 1) Andrew Dove considered the New Zealand 1946 Peace ½d centre plate printing and demonstrated, through analysis, that there are two ‘states’ of the centre plate.

Furthermore, Andrew put forward the theory that these two ‘states’ were in fact two separate centre plates. This proposition was further supported by providing information concerning the differing centre plate printer’s guideline lengths at Row 7, Stamp 1 (Row 7/1) together with a range of constant marks or flaws (although small and sometimes hard to detect). Andrew identified which of these could be positioned relative to each of the guide lines.

The summation of Andrew’s study was that there could have been one plate with two ‘states’, however, his findings were more consistent with there being two distinct plates rather than a single plate with two ‘states’. Andrew concluded that without hard evidence the ‘two plate’ theory could not be proven.

I have now shown that the theory of two centre plates is correct (Ref. 2). The two centre plates for the ½d value of the 1946 Peace issue are numbered 42724 and 42726. These centre plate numbers were verified during my visit to the New Zealand Post Museum Collection at Te Papa (Te Papa Collection) in May 2017.

### States and Plates

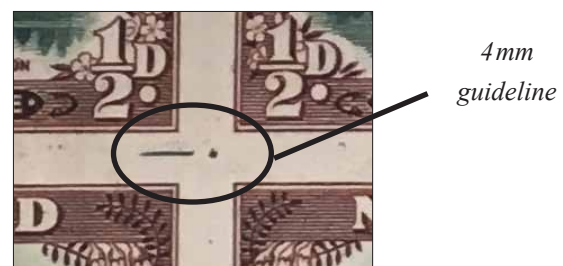
After reading Andrew’s article regarding the ½d centre plate I returned to the Te Papa Collection in June 2017 with the goal of determining if these two numbered centre plates could be linked to the two ‘states’ set out in Andrew’s article.

The approach taken was to measure the length of the printer’s guideline (a line and dot in the colour of the centre plate at the bottom right of Row 7/1, on the left side of the sheet), then cross check against flaws noted by Andrew, in his article, in an attempt to correlate these ‘states’ with the different centre plate numbers.

In his article Andrew defined centre plate ‘State 1’ as having a printer’s guideline (including the dot) 5 mm in length (Figure 1a), and ‘State 2’ a guideline (including the dot) 4 mm long (Figure 1b).



**Figure 1a:** ‘State 1’.



**Figure 1b:** ‘State 2’.

Along with the measured length various flaws were noted associated with each of the guidelines. These are summarised below (Table 1).

‘State’	(Green) Printer’s Guideline Length	Flaws/marks
1	5 mm (including line and dot)	Row 6/1 and Row 9/1
2	4 mm (including line and dot)	Row 6/2, Row 8/4 and Row 9/2

**Table 1:** Centre plate printer’s guideline lengths and associated flaws/marks.

The relative position of the flaws identified by Andrew Dove for the two ‘states’ are shown below (Figure 2).



**Figure 2a:** ‘State 1’.



**Figure 2b:** ‘State 2’.

As outlined in my previous article in *The Kiwi* (Ref. 2) there are three proof sheets of the 1946 Peace ½d value held in the Te Papa collection. These proof sheets have the frame/centre plate combinations shown below (Table 2):

Te Papa Proof Sheets	Frame Plate No.	Centre Plate No.
Proof Sheet 1	42725	42724
Proof Sheet 2	42725	42726
Proof Sheet 3	42790	42724

**Table 2:** *Te Papa proof sheets showing frame/centre plate combinations.*

From measuring the length of the green printer’s guidelines it was observed that centre plate 42724 had a 4mm guideline (including the dot) (Figure 3) and centre plate 42726 had a 5mm guideline (including the dot) (Figure 4).



**Figure 3:** *Te Papa Proof sheet 1 - Row 7, Stamps 1-2, Centre Plate 42724.*  
(showing 4mm guideline below right corner of Row 7/1).

Therefore, from the printer’s guideline markings and their measurement the following ‘state’ to plate information was confirmed relative to the work that Andrew had previously undertaken. This is summarised below (Table 3).

Centre Plate No.	Guideline Length	Alignment to ‘State’
42726	5 mm	‘State 1’
42724	4mm	‘State 2’

**Table 3:** *Correlation of centre plate numbers with printer’s guideline length.*



However, as a further verification step the author also proceeded to check for the flaws/marks that Andrew had identified to see if there was any correlation with marks on the proof sheets.



**Figure 4:** *Te Papa Proof sheet 2 - Row 7, Stamps 1-2, Centre Plate 42726.  
(showing 5mm guideline below right corner of Row 7/1).*

The following flaws were verified against each of the centre plates held in the Te Papa collection and correlated with the ‘states’ assigned in Andrew Dove’s article (Table 4).

Te Papa Proof Sheets	Centre Plate No.	Guideline Length	‘State’	Flaws Verified
Proof Sheet 1	42724	4mm	‘State 2’	Row 8/4
Proof Sheet 2	42726	5mm	‘State 1’	Row 9/1
Proof Sheet 3	42724	4mm	‘State 2’	Row 6/2, Row 8/4

**Table 4:** *Correlation between Te Papa proof sheets, centre plate number and ‘state’ (as defined by Andrew Dove).*

While not all the flaws/marks identified by Andrew Dove were present on the Te Papa proof sheets there was enough consistency of those flaws present to support the key measurement of the printer’s guidelines and to align these to the work that Andrew had done.

When you look carefully at the guidelines for the two centre plates there are some differences that can be noted. With the 5mm guideline (centre plate 42726) there is a more noticeable gap between the end of the line and the dot which follows. This is the main factor leading to the different guideline lengths. Also, the lead in for the line on the left has a more noticeable ramp up.

The block shown opposite (Figure 5) is from Te Papa Proof Sheet 2 and has a 5mm guideline. The sheet was printed from Centre Plate 42726 in combination with Frame Plate 42725.

### Difficulty with the verification of issued perforated stamp blocks

For students wishing to categorise and verify centre plate sheet numbers from issued printings of the 1/2d there will always be a degree of difficulty as the perforations frequently cut across the centre plate guideline markings (often totally obliterating the dot), making it difficult to measure these accurately.

Therefore it is recommended that the length of the printer’s guideline is used, together with verification of the position of flaws, to more accurately confirm the centre plate number.

### Conclusion

From the analysis that has been done by Andrew Dove and the findings set out in this article, from further study of reference material in the Te Papa Collection, we now have a positive means of identifying the New Zealand 1946 Peace 1/2d centre plates. Students with suitably sized blocks which include stamps from Row 6-9, Stamps 1-4, should be able to cite both frame and centre plate numbers for the block with confidence.





Figure 5: Rows 6-8 Stamps 1-2, Frame Plate 42725 and Centre Plate 42726.  
(showing 5mm guideline below right corner of Row 7/1).

#### Acknowledgement:

Once again, the author would like to thank Patrick Brownsey for allowing access to the New Zealand Post Museum Collection at Te Papa and for permission to reproduce the images taken by the author during his visit to the Te Papa Collection.

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# NEW ZEALAND'S ALTERNATIVE MAIL SERVICES

## PART 5: FASTWAY POST

*Klaus Møller and Tony Ward*

### Introduction and Background

The first article in this series (Ref. 1) provides a general introduction and a background to the subject and parts 1 to 4 (Refs. 1,2,3 and 4) describe earlier alternative mail providers. Part 3 (Ref. 3) introduces the de-regulation of the postal system in New Zealand from 1 April 1998; covered by the Postal Services Act 1998.

*Editors Note: In the interest of space not all the items illustrated in this article are shown at their original size.*

### 9. FASTWAY POST:

This was another postal operator that started business soon after the Postal Services Act 1998 came into force. But, unlike many of its early competitors, it is still in business.

#### *Early Days:*

Fastway Post has its roots in the courier firm Fastway Couriers, which was established by Bill McGowan in 1983 in the city of Napier, Hawke's Bay, on the East Coast of the North Island (Refs. 5 and 6). Right from the outset this was a highly successful company, which has been attributed to its multi-tiered franchise concept. Today it has extensive operations in Australia, New Zealand, Ireland, Northern Ireland, and South Africa, with 63 regional and 1,200 local courier franchisees in its network.

Bill McGowan was therefore ideally placed to expand the business by including a postal service when the Postal Services Act 1998 came into force. Fastway Post was initially set up as a subsidiary of Fastway Couriers and became registered as an Alternative Postal Operator on 30 June 1998 (Ref. 7).

Initial promotional activity included a major advertising campaign, numbered souvenir cards depicting a familiar face (Figure 1), together with extensive letterbox drops.



**Figure 1:** One of the numbered souvenir cards produced as part of Fastway's advertising campaign. The reverse of the card (inset right) has one of their self-adhesive stamps cancelled on the first day of issue, 31 August 1998.

Once again, a franchise concept was used. The initial franchisees were 15 stationers, stores and pharmacies in the Hawke's Bay area, who not only sold a wide range of packaging, stamps and prepaid envelopes to customers, but also accepted items for delivery, either directly across the counter or deposited in a red and white plastic Post Box located outside the store (Figure 2). From here the items were delivered to the recipients either by the parent courier network or (when more appropriate) by New Zealand Post, with whom Fastway Post had established an access agreement.

Fastway Post met stiff competition from New Zealand Post and other early Alternative Postal Operators – for example Pete's Post, which commenced operations in Hawke's Bay in 1999 (Ref. 3). This hindered the fast expansion that had been planned, but the business still grew steadily by expanding its geographic coverage throughout the country. In December 1998 Fastway Post had opened 60 outlets in the North Island, and by July 2003 the company had 128 outlets covering the whole country.



**Figure 2:**  
*One of Fastway Post's distinctive red postboxes.*

### ***Philatelic:***

Fastway Post issued its first stamp on the first day of operation of the new company (Figure 3a). It was a red, black and white self-adhesive stamp, depicting one of the company's postal identifiers – a 'galloping' and happy postman carrying a letter, in the centre of two concentric circles between which were printed the words "Fastway Post New Zealand Ltd.". It is interesting to note that the words "New Zealand" (usually reserved for New Zealand Post) were permitted in this case, as they are an integral part of the company name.



**Figure 3a:**  
*The first stamp.*



**Figure 3b:**  
*Price increased to 40c.*



**Figure 4:**  
*A booklet cover with advertising for one of the franchisees.*

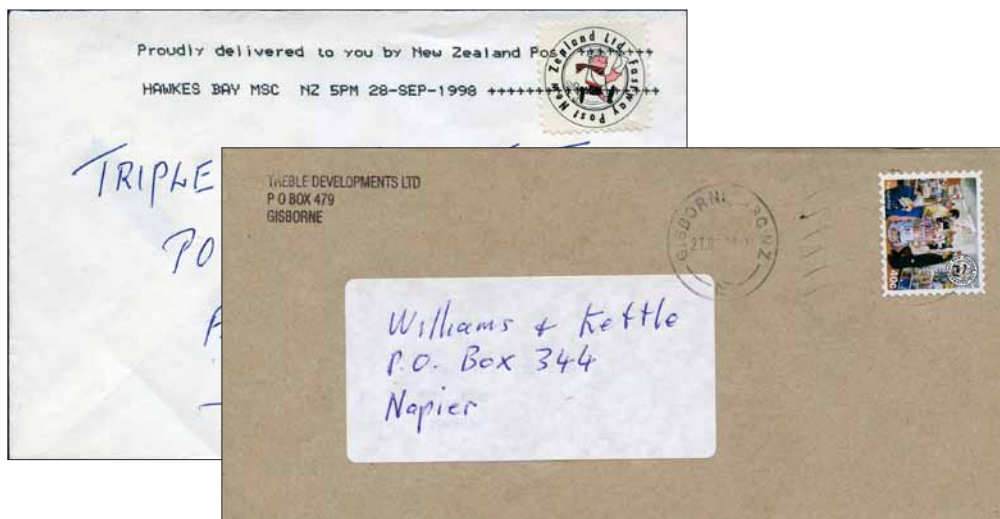
This stamp was first issued in rolls of 100, but booklets of ten soon followed – initially issued by some of the franchisees and carrying their own promotional advertising on the cover (Figure 4), later also by the company itself (Ref. 7). The stamp had no denomination, but was initially sold for 35c. The price was reduced to 30c for a short period before Christmas in 1998 as a promotional special, but soon afterwards it was raised to 40c (Figure 3b). Postal usage is shown on page 58 (Figure 6).

New 40c stamps were produced in booklet and roll format (Figure 5). Initially, one stamp was required to post a standard letter anywhere in New Zealand, two for 'Fast Post' delivery, and three for a large envelope. An example of the postal usage of this stamp is shown on page 58 (Figure 6).





**Figure 5:** 40c self adhesive stamps, for national delivery, in coil format.



**Figure 6:** Examples of early Fastway Post stamps used commercially in 1998 and 2001.



**Figure 7:** 35c self adhesive stamp issued to cater for local delivery within Hamilton and Napier.



**Figure 8:** The 90c stamp was issued in late 2000, for large letters. It was available in two forms - self adhesive or gummed (shown here).

In August 2000, Fastway Post introduced a new 'Across Town' service costing 35c for a standard letter posted and to be delivered within the neighbouring cities of Napier and Hastings only. A new stamp was issued to mark this service (Figure 7). In December of the same year the company issued another stamp (Figure 8) to be used for a new 90c rate for large envelopes.

Other stamps were also issued as from the second half of 2000. *The Tasman Catalogue* (Ref. 8), which was published for the first and only time in 2004, lists 36 different stamps issued by Fastway Post. Most of these had scenic images. Some were gummed while others were self-adhesives. The perforation gauge varied, apparently depending on the printer that produced the stamps and whether they were gummed or self-adhesives (Ref. 7).





**Figure 9:** Many of Fastway Post's stamps had scenic images such as this 45c booklet featuring New Zealand mountains and peaks. This was one of the first to show a date of issue in the lower margin (enlarged right).



Fastway Post either didn't initially appreciate the potential of the philatelic market, or chose not to exploit it. However an uncanceled First Day Cover was produced on the first day of operation, 31 August 1998.

In 2003, on the occasion of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its parent company 'Fastway Couriers', a limited edition of 1,000 attractive gummed 40c stamps was produced (Figure 10). Half were used on First Day Covers.



**Figure 10:** 1,000 40c stamps were issued in 2003 to commemorate the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its parent company 'Fastway Couriers'. The special cancel used on covers is shown (right).



**Figure 11:** An undated 90c booklet featuring the native Kereru. The outside of the folding booklet showed postal rates that applied at that date (rate panel shown right).

An undated booklet of 90c stamps is shown above (Figure 11) together with the postal rates (right) which were printed on the outside of the booklet.

These Postage Rates Apply	
<b>Medium envelope</b> up to 120mm x 235mm	
Post	45c
Fastpost	90c
<b>Extra large envelope</b> up to 260mm x 385mm	
Post	90c
Fastpost	\$1.35c

More stamps have been issued since 2004, mainly to cater for changes in domestic postal rates and for use on overseas letters and postcards. (Figures 12 - 15).



Figure 12: Strips of high value self-adhesive stamps for use with international mail.



Figure 13: A \$1.50 Fastway Post stamp used on a postcard in 2008.



Figure 14: A strip of \$1.90 'Kiwi Holiday' stamps issued by Fastway Post.

Fastway Post did not just use stamps, but also offered pre-paid and pre-printed envelopes right from the outset. An example is shown on the opposite page (Figure 15). The company also used self-inking date stamps to cancel its mail at an early stage (Ref. 7).





**Figure 15:** *An example of a Fastway Post pre-printed and pre-paid envelope.*

### ***Legal Matters:***

Fastway Post signed an access agreement with New Zealand Post before it commenced operations. Under the terms of this agreement (Ref. 7):

- New Zealand Post delivers Fastway Post's mail.
- Fastway Post orders its stamps directly from New Zealand Post in batches totalling NZ\$50,000 in value (NZ\$20,000 for pre-paid envelopes).
- Stamps are sold through Fastway Post outlets.
- Mail can be posted in either Fastway Post or New Zealand Post street mailboxes, but not over the counter at New Zealand Post shops.
- Fastway Post commits to sell at least 5 million items (stamps and pre-paid envelopes) per year.
- Fastway Post is responsible for ensuring that the correct amount of postage is placed on each item that is to be delivered by New Zealand Post.

As is not unusual in a highly competitive environment, there was some legal wrangling between Fastway Post and New Zealand Post in the early days. This concerned such matters as using similar colours on livery, postulated anti-competitive pricing, and unfairly low volume discounts (Ref. 7).

### ***Nowadays:***

Fastway Post still operates as an independent Alternative Postal Operator, offering postal products and national and international delivery services - including the supply of stamps, pre-printed and personalised pre-paid envelopes, and parcel boxes (Ref. 9).

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# A FAREWELL TO HEALTH STAMPS

## - PART TWO

*John Watts*

The second part of this Health stamp story covers the time of New Zealand's involvement in the second World War with many of its men-folk fighting overseas.

The country held its head high when, in September 1941, King George VI gave his approval for the New Zealand Division of the Royal Navy to be renamed the 'Royal New Zealand Navy'. On 8 December 1941 New Zealand was at war with Japan and, with the fall of Singapore in February 1942 and the threat from Japan getting closer the decision was made, on 3 December 1942, not to withdraw the 2<sup>nd</sup> New Zealand Division from the Middle-East back to the Pacific area.

It was in 1940 that approximately 170 evacuees set sail from Britain for the safety of New Zealand, amongst their number was Derek Diamond, late President of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain.

The health stamps of the early 1940's were characterised by designs focusing on children and in 1943 sales were given a major boost with a design which combined both youth and royalty when Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret were featured. This was to be the first time that the New Zealand Post Office produced a stamp in triangular format.

Some years earlier two of New Zealand's most eminent philatelists, Ray Collins and Campbell Watts (both of whom signed the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists), when discussing the question of the health issues expressed the opinion that because of the worthy nature of the objective for which these stamps were sold any means of increasing sales should be considered. Both agreed that a triangular stamp with a portrait of the Royal Princesses could not fail to be popular. The suggestion was passed on to James Berry who, at that time, was showing a keen interest in unusual stamp designs.

Berry submitted a sketch design showing a Maori boy in a Rotorua pool (Figure 1a). Unfortunately, although the Director General of the Post and Telegraph Department expressed his personal approval, the Government Printer raised certain technical problems and some postal officials thought that separation of triangular stamps from sheets could cause embarrassment to stamp clerks. These objections were sufficient to defer any immediate consideration. But persistence ultimately won out with the result that permission was obtained from Buckingham Palace for the portraits of the Princesses to be used.



**Figure 1a (left):** *Berry's unadopted design for the 1943 issue.*

**Figure 1b (right):** *A subsequent essay featuring Princess Elizabeth.*

The 1943 designs, the 1d value showing Princess Margaret and the 2d Princess Elizabeth, were based on portrait photographs taken by Dorothy Wilding with the addition of a spray of oak and manuka.

Due to war conditions, the printer, Messrs, Bradbury Wilkinson and Co., were unable to consider the producing the stamps in two colours.

Both values were printed in sheets of 120 stamps (6 rows of 20) and the paper used was Wiggins Teape 'Royal Cypher' grade paper which was a war-time half rag, half wood-pulp paper, showing a distinctive mesh.





**Figure 2:** *Watermark viewed from the reverse side.*



**Figure 3:** *Perforation error - imperf between pair.*

Because of the arrangement of the stamps on the sheet the multiple 'NZ and Star' watermark appears upright on half of the stamps and inverted on the other half (Figure 2).

A perforation error exists in both values. The diagonal perforations are missing from the top left corner of the sheet resulting in one pair imperf between (Figure 3). A sheet of the 1d value was sold in Christchurch and a block of 4 of the 2d, with selvedge, from the corner of the sheet, was used on a Health stamp souvenir cover posted at Greymouth, with a 23 May 1944 date stamp.

Predictions made by Ray Collins that triangular stamps would be popular was amply justified, sales of the two stamp values combined was 6,472,797.

The 1944 issue design by James Berry was again based on Dorothy Wilding photographs with the printing once more undertaken by Messrs. Bradbury Wilkinson & Co., with one of the printer's artists designing the border. Again a very popular royalty issue with sales of the two values combined of over 6,000,000.

With WWII having ended in 1945 the theme chosen for the 1946 issue was intended to indicate that members of the armed forces were now turning their thoughts to peacetime pursuits and in particular were extending a helping hand to children. James Berry was chosen as the artist once more and, to give him some assistance with this theme, a rough stile was built by the postal authorities on the roof of the G.P.O. Wellington. A soldier in battledress, wearing a typical New Zealand felt hat, was photographed alongside the stile.



**Figure 4:** *A Berry essay (left) and the final design (right) for the 1946 issue.*

The first Berry design portrayed a young boy being helped up a ladder to view a sunshine scene, but a preferred design was issued showing a young girl being helped over a stile by a sergeant to a cliff top pathway (Figure 4).

The 1949 issue almost coinciding with the 21<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the first Health issue and it was decided to link the design with that first stamp by portraying a nurse, this time holding a child (Figure 5). Two constant

flaws have been reported on the 1d value (Figure 6). One, at Row 6/8, is known as the ‘Wristwatch flaw’ and the other, at Row 4/1, as the ‘Bandaged Thumb flaw’, quite a coincidence considering the nursing theme!



**Figure 5:** *The 1949 issue featured a nurse.*



Row 6/8  
‘Wristwatch’ flaw.



Row 4/1  
‘Bandaged Thumb’ flaw.

**Figure 6:** *Two notable flaws on the 1949 1d value.*



**Figure 7:**  
‘No dot’ flaw.

But a flaw found on the 2d value is more interesting because it is a design rather than printing error. There is a small irregular shaped mark under the foot of the ‘HEALTH 1D’ and some extension of the shading to the right of the figure ‘1’. It is believed that, when touching-up the impression, the engraver did not realise that the uncoloured dot under the ‘D’ was part of the design and he lined it out. There was keen demand for this ‘No dot’ variety (Figure 7) and, as a consequence, there were attempts to paint out this dot on normal stamps. It is possible that copies of this ‘forgery’ exist in some collections.



**Figure 8:** *The 1950 Issue.*

The 1950 issue again had Royalty as its subject, showing Princess Elizabeth and an infant Prince Charles (Figure 8). The original suggestion came from Mr RSPhillips of Rangiora who, not being an artist, contacted James Berry who agreed to collaborate on a design, starting with Phillips’ rough sketch. The original design was based on a photograph by the ‘Photo Centre Ltd.’, Park Lane, London, but, as the prince would be a year older when the stamps were printed, an up-to-date portrait photograph was taken by ‘Marcus Adams Ltd.’. This allowed for a new design that would give the printers time to produce the stamps. The printers, ‘Harrison & Sons’, were supplied with watermarked paper from ‘The Guard Bridge Paper Co.’, the bulk of which was supplied in large rolls, but there were also three smaller rolls, which had to be joined

together to form a large roll. Because of an oversight the second of the small rolls was turned round so when joined the stamps printed from this section had inverted watermarks; both values were affected.

A further variety occurred due to at least one sheet of the 1d value being printed on the join between the rolls, producing stamps printed on double paper. Normally when printing occurs on a paper join the sheet is marked ‘WASTE’ and the relevant sheet destroyed. It was missed on this occasion and three horizontal pairs from the joined part of the sheet have been reported.

The 1950 issue proved very popular with sales of the two values combined coming to just over 12.3 million, twice that of the 1943 Royalty issue.

In 1951 the design (Figure 9) was again a joint work between Berry and Phillips who chose a health-giving pastime as the theme - ‘Sailing’. The subject was the ‘Takapuna’ class sailing dinghy, an original New Zealand design. This was the first purely pictorial design for a Health stamp since that for 1933.



**Figure 9:** *The 1951 Issue.*

However there was a less obvious, yet deeper, story involving the choice of these vessels as the subject for this stamp and the involvement of youth. This class of boat had been used, since 1926, for the New



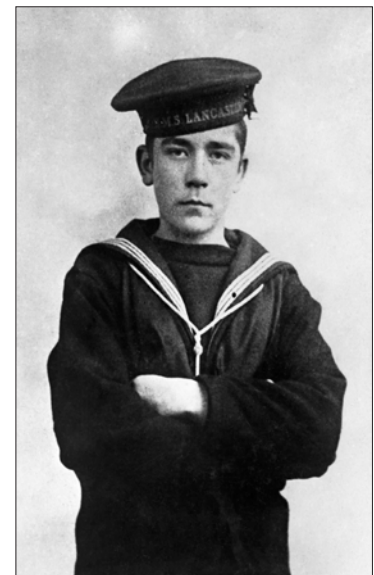
Zealand National Inter-Club Competition. To qualify the two boy crews were required to be under the age of 19, on 1 January the year of the race, and their combined weight was not to exceed 17 stone. The winning team was awarded the 'Cornwell Cup' named in honour of John Travers Cornwell VC (Figure 10).

John Cornwell enlisted in the Royal Navy, aged 15, and as a 'Boy Seaman First Class' was serving as a sight setter for one of the guns on HMS *Chester* at the Battle of Jutland in 1916. Aged just 16 he was mortally wounded early in the action, but nevertheless "remained standing alone at a most exposed post, quietly awaiting orders till the end of the action, with the gun's crew dead and wounded around him". As a result of his bravery he was recommended for a posthumous Victoria Cross.

Many of the boys, who have been Cornwell Cup winning race crews over the years, later gained fame by winning Olympic Gold Medals.

The 1951 issue received further publicity in 1959 when covers, with stamps overprinted to celebrate the opening of the Auckland Harbour Bridge, were sold privately (Figure 11). The significance being that Takapuna City was at one end of the bridge and Auckland City the other.

From 1952 Health stamps were only used for postal purposes and the word 'revenue' was omitted from the design.



**Figure 10:**

*John Travers Cornwell VC.*



**Figure 11:** *The 1951 Health stamps overprinted, in 1959, to commemorate the opening of Auckland Harbour Bridge.*

In 1955, for the first time, three stamps were issued. The Dominion Publicity Panel of the Health Camp Federation submitted the design theme which incorporated the official seal, which had been protected in 1953 by a special Act of Parliament.

The design produced by E Mervyn Taylor was in the form of a medallion surrounded with sprays of kowhai flowers, and foliage, which is the national flower of New Zealand. Essays in 'large' and 'small' format are shown below (Figure 12).

An outstanding error occurred with the 3d value. When the corner of one sheet became folded underneath, after the frame had been printed, the centre of the medallion at Row 10/6 was totally omitted. An impression of what this unique error would have looked like can be seen below (Figure 13).



**Figure 12:** *Essays for an unadopted 'large' format and the 'small' format used for the 1955 issue.*



**Figure 13:** *An impression of the Row 10/6 'missing centre' error.*



The Health Camp Board, in 1956, enquired of the Post Office if it was advisable and practicable to produce booklets of Health stamps, they were informed that the idea was practical, but a doubtful economic venture.

After further consideration the Board realised that the additional cost of producing booklets was not warranted, but they were in favour of producing Health stamps in Miniature Sheets of six stamps which could be used for sale drive, house-to-house and through Woolworths' stores. It was estimated that 32 sheets, including selvedge, could be produced from the normal 22in x 21in sheet of paper.

The 1957 stamps were designed by L Cutten (2d value) and LCMitchell (3d value), both featuring water activities. The initial order for the miniature sheets (Figure 14) was 80,000 which were printed on Wiggins, Teape 'Royal Cypher' paper with multiple 'NZ and star' sideways watermark. However the Post Office later placed an increase order for, 45,000 of the 2d value and 40,600 of the 3d value miniature sheets. The printer, Waterlow & Sons Ltd., did not have sufficient stock of the Wiggins Teape paper to meet this extra order so the Post Office decided to divert some of the stock of Guard Bridge paper, with an upright multiple 'NZ and Star' watermark, being held by Harrison & Sons to Waterlow & Sons to complete the order.

Due to the different watermarked papers this created a collectable variety with 36% of the 2d and 34% of the 3d values in the issued miniature sheets had the upright multiple 'NZ and Star' watermark.



**Figure 14:** *The 1957 Miniature Sheets.*



**Figure 15:** *Example of 'Croxley' cover sold in Woolworths' stores.*

The Post Office's Bulletin stated that "the miniature sheets will not be on general sale at the Post Office counters but through Woolworths' stores and the Health Camp Federation". This caused considerable consternation among stamp dealers who questioned the ability of these two operations to market the stamps.

Following criticism of their initial policy the Post Office announced that the miniature sheets would be available from all main centres, larger suburban and country offices, so there would be ample coverage.

Transparent covers for the miniature sheets were donated by 'Croxley' and the example shown above (Figure 15) was suitable for sheets issued in 1958, 1959, 1960 and 1961. They were re-printed if the postage rate changed and a larger size was required for the 1957 and 1964 miniature sheets.

From 1959 to 1966, with the exception of 1963 - when the subject was once again based on a Royal Portrait, there was a bird theme to the stamps. Designs were based on photographs of birds on display at the Dominion Museum, Wellington. Maori language was used for most of the bird names. For reasons it is difficult to fathom there was a considerable number of printing flaws (Figures 16 and 17).



**Figure 16:** *Shifts of red colour found on the 3d value of the 1959 issue.*

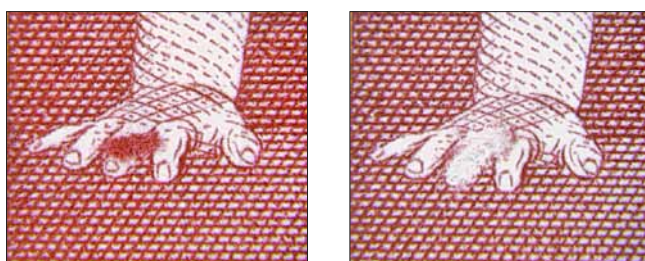
It is interesting to note in the 1960 issue that the miniature sheets were perforated 11 ½ x 11 compared to the sheet stamps which were perforated 13 x 13.

The Post Office introduced Christmas Stamps in 1960. When it was announced in Parliament that the issue date would be November 1<sup>st</sup> Lance Adams-Schneider, the National MP for Hamilton, asked “whether, despite his intention to issue a Christmas stamp, the Postmaster-General would refrain from penalising the health camp movement by allowing the sale of Health stamps to continue until the usual date of January 31<sup>st</sup>, instead of calling them in on November 30<sup>th</sup>”.



**Figure 17:** 1962 3d value  
- missing orange.

The Post Master General replied that “health stamps would remain on sale for their usual period of time. With the Christmas, health and pictorial stamps there would be three different 2d stamps available at post offices for use on Christmas mail”. However the volume of Health stamps sold in 1960 was affected by the introduction of Christmas stamps and this continued generally in later years.



**Figure 18:** The ‘blood stained finger flaw (left) and retouch (right), at Row 3/5 of the 3d value of the 1963 Health stamp.

After four years of ‘Bird’ issues the Health Camp Federation requested a change for 1963 and suggested stamps featuring Prince Andrew. Photographs were obtained that had been taken by ‘Studio Lisa’ in London and two different poses were selected for each value.

A prominent flaw is found in the 3d sheet at Row 3/5 (Figure 18) showing a blob of red ink on the prince’s right hand, commonly known as the ‘blood stained finger’; it appears only on sheets from plate 1B.

There has been considerable discussion, over a number of years, as to how this flaw came about. However some ten years after the stamps were issued a visit was made to the printer Thomas De La Rue & Co’s Security Printing Works at Basingstoke and from discussions it was concluded that the flaw occurred in ‘state 1’ (flaw) due to a small piece of material dropping on to the plate causing an indentation into which extra ink collected in the paper fibres, this was corrected in ‘state 2’ (retouch).

The 1964 issue that followed the Royal designs had a major increase in size of the miniature sheets having eight stamps instead of the normal six, this variation was due to a request from the Children’s Health Camp Board. But the reasoning may have been due to the fact that the price for the package of two miniature sheets was a round 5/-.



**Figure 19:** The 1964 Health issue which  
saw a return to the ‘bird’ theme.

The stamp designs (Figure 19) were prepared by the Display Section of the Post Office with the 3d design being based on a painting by Chloe Talbot Kelly.

Printed by Harrison & Sons by the photogravure process colour registration seems to have been a problem and there are a number of spectacular examples known of misaligned colours (Figure 20).



**Figure 20:** Enlarged images showing different shifts of the red colour on the 2d value.



The 1965 Health issue was affected by the postage rate increases of 1 October 1964. The inland letter rate for surface and air was raised by 1d to 4d; the postcard rate by ½d to 3d.

Another change in 1965 was that for the first time since 1934 the year of the Health stamp issue was included in the design. The Post Office considered that Health stamps had now been issued for 36 years and it was becoming difficult to identify issues without the use of a catalogue.



Figure 21: The 1965 Health stamps.



Figure 22: major colour shift.



Figure 23: A mis-cut miniature sheet of the 1965 4d value.

A spectacular colour misalignment occurred on the 3d value of the 1965 issue (Figure 22) as well as an incredible mis-cut miniature sheet of the 4d value.

The Bird series was now completed with the 1966 issue (Figure 24) and again a number of major colour flaws and errors occurred (Figures 25 and 26), which at least kept the specialists and stamp dealers happy!



Figure 24: The 1966 Health stamps.



Figure 25: Misplaced colours on the 1966 3d value.

From 1957 through to 1963 New Zealand Post introduced the use of pictorial date stamps for use at the Health Camps special 1st day offices (Figure 27) In 1964 the 'Rising Sun' cancellation (Figure 28) was introduced and with some detail modifications was used through to 1991.





**Figure 26:** *Misplaced colours on the 1966 4d value (left and centre) and a double strike of the comb perforating head, on the same value, (right).*



**Figure 27:** *The seven different pictorial datestamps used between 1957 and 1963.*



**Figure 28:** *The 'rising sun' cancellation*

The 1966 stamps were the last from the Sterling currency era. Past issues had been demonetized from time to time and the remaining Sterling issues were finally demonetized in 1971. Dates of demonetization were:

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| 1 January 1935  | - Health stamps for 1929 - 1931 demonetized.   |
| 1 January 1942  | - Health stamps for 1932 - 1936 demonetized.   |
| 1 December 1949 | - Health stamps for 1937 - 1945 demonetized.   |
| 1 August 1971   | - Remaining sterling currency issues demonetized. Until 31 July 1972 they could be exchanged for their equivalent value in decimal stamps. |

In the next chapter we will begin the review of the Decimal issues.

### Acknowledgments:

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D. Parsons (Spink, London) - Figure 3.

T. Hancox - Figures - Fig's 1a, 1b, 2, 6, 16, 18, 20.

R. Wooders - Figures 11, 22, 23, 26.

### Reference Sources:

1. *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand* Vol.2, 4 and 6 pub. Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand.
2. Tennant M, *Children's Health, The Nation's Wealth, A History of Children's Health Camps*, pub. Bridget Williams Books, 1994.



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## KIWI STAMP CIRCUIT CALs

Founded in 1930, the Kiwi Stamp Circuit is New Zealand's largest Stamp Exchange Club whose aim is to help members buy and sell stamps.

The Circuit is currently run by Dave and Jan Butcher and they have issued a number of Customised Advertising Labels (CALs) over the years. Examples from 2009, 2010 and 2017 are shown below.



If you collect CALs or are putting a thematic collection together featuring this unique bird then the 2017 issue is available from Dave & Jan, PO Box 18-337, Glen Innes, Auckland, NZ 1743. [kiwistamps@xtra.co.nz](mailto:kiwistamps@xtra.co.nz)

## REQUEST FOR HELP

I have had a request from Ed Fraser, from Florida in the USA, whose interest is in 'Undercover Mail', both WWI and WWII, with a focus on the WWII Thomas Cook & Son undercover mail scheme. The largest usage was run out of London and used P.O. Box 601 in Amsterdam initially, but following Holland's occupation, shifted to P.O. Box 506 in Lisbon in the summer of 1940.

Sometime after that, separate boxes were set up by Thomas Cook in Lisbon for Australia (Box 520) and New Zealand (Box 525). Surviving examples of usages are scarce and it is with Box 525 in particular that Ed is seeking help from members. An example, from Norway, to Box 525 is shown below (Figure 1).



Figure 1: A 1943 cover from Finland to P.O. Box 525, Lisbon, Portugal.

(continued on page 70)



The service was publicised in New Zealand papers in 1940. (Ref. 1)

## LETTERS TO ENEMY COUNTRIES

### ADVICE ON TRANSMISSION

The following directions have been issued by the Controller of Censorship for those who wish to communicate with friends in enemy countries or in territory in the occupation of the enemy:-

Authority has now been given to permit communication with persons residing in enemy territories through the authorised intermediary, Messrs. Thos. Cook and Son, Ltd., subject to the following conditions.

1. Letters must not show the address of the sender. They may be in English or the language of the country (excluding Czech) for which they are intended, and are not to contain anything but matters of personal interest.
2. No reference is to be made to any city, town, locality, or journey in New Zealand, to any phase of the war, or to any office of Messrs. Thos. Cook and Son, Ltd., in New Zealand or abroad.
3. No enclosure of the following nature is permitted:- Printed matter, map, plan, sketch, drawing, print, photograph, or other pictorial representation, or postage or revenue stamp.
4. Communications should be as brief as possible. No erasures are permitted.
5. Each letter must be placed in an open unstamped envelope fully addressed to the addressee, who should be asked to address any reply to your full name care of Post Box 525, Lisbon, Portugal.
6. The open envelope containing the letter should be placed in an outer envelope, stamped, and posted to Messrs. Thos. Cook and Son, Ltd. (Foreign Department), Post office Box 1661, Wellington, together with a memorandum plainly written, containing in block characters the name and full address of the sender, and an open addressed envelope for the forwarding of the reply, should one be received from the correspondent.
7. The communication to Messrs. Thos. Cook and Son Ltd., must enclose a postal note (not stamps or international coupons) for 2s6d, which fee will cover the postage of one envelope containing one communication to the neutral country and from the neutral country to the addressee, also a reply (if received) from the neutral country to Messrs. Thos. Cook and Son's office in Wellington, and from that office to the intended recipient. The fee does not include the postage from enemy territory.
8. Letters exceeding 1oz in weight will be subject to an additional charge.
9. Messrs. Thos. Cook and Son, Ltd., undertake this transaction at the sole risk in all respects of the party requiring their services, and on the express understanding that no action will lie against them by reason of any act or default on their part or on the part of any person or agent employed by them.
10. Money cannot be sent in any of the letters.
11. Communications for prisoners of war - i.e., British and Allied Naval, Military, and Air Force prisoners and civilian internees - must not be sent under the foregoing arrangement, but forwarded in accordance with the regulations, of which particulars may be obtained at any Post Office.

---

If anyone has any further information on the service, or examples of mail sent via Thomas Cook and Sons., Ltd., or addressed to P.O. Box 525, please contact the Hon. Editor with details.

#### Reference:

1. *The Evening Post*, p11, 18 December 1940. Available at: <https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz/>





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