

THE KIWI

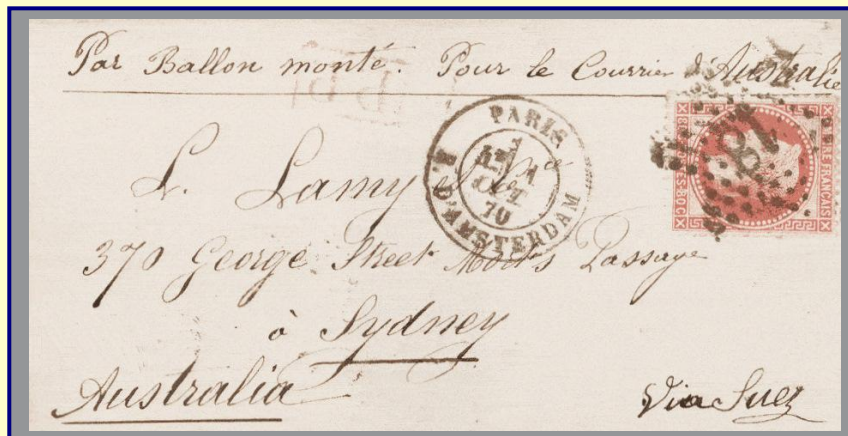
JOURNAL OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN



Instructional Markings - Topic for the January Meeting (see page 43)



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.



The above 13 August 1855 cover from Auckland to Birmingham, England, bears a pair of New Zealand's very first 1d full-face queen stamps. Only three covers bearing 1d SG1 FFQs are known – this being the earliest recorded date. It was acquired in 2009 by John Mowbray for a client for NZ \$138,000.

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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

Recent auctions held both in the UK and New Zealand, containing material from the late Bernard Atkinson, attracted much interest and two large, specialised sales of Chalons held in London and Switzerland continues to reinforce the interest in New Zealand material. This suggests there is still a market for good quality material or for something a little unusual.

If by any chance you purchased material from one of these sales how about writing a short piece for *The Kiwi*. Whether it is a single stamp, cover or a specialised study I have room for it.

On a different topic, the committee would welcome some assistance (see opposite). If you think you might be able to help please get in touch.

Finally, if you have yet to renew your subscription, hurry up or this may be the last issue of *The Kiwi* you receive.



THE KIWI - ADVERTISERS IN THIS ISSUE

ADVERTISER	PAGE
Mowbray Collectables	Inside Front Cover
Ashford Stamps Ltd.	68
Steven Zirinsky	68

ADVERTISER	PAGE
Classic Stamps Ltd.	Inside Back Cover
Auckland City Stamps	Back Cover

"Please mention the NZSGB when you speak with our advertisers"

THE KIWI - CURRENT ADVERTISING RATES

	Full (single insertion)	Full (3 or more consecutive)	Half (single insertion)	Half (3 or more consecutive)	Quarter (single insertion)	Quarter (3 or more consecutive)
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 or via the web-site.

Have You Renewed Your Membership for 2019?

Members should have received a reminder concerning membership renewal. Prompt payment is appreciated as it is costly and time consuming if we need to chase people for subscriptions.

If you want to continue to receive *The Kiwi* then please act now.

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

Esmé Diamond has expressed her desire to step down from the role of **Membership Secretary**, a job she has managed most efficiently in recent years. At their January meeting the committee considered a number of options and if anyone feels they might be prepared to step into the position, or who would like more information as to what is involved, please contact the Chairman, John Stimson.

An option to shuffle some of the current roles was discussed, but would potentially leave the current position of **Auction Supervisor** vacant. Anyone who feels they maybe able to help here, or would like to know what the job entails, please contact John Stimson for more details (contact details on page 39 of this issue).



COMPETITIVE AWARDS TO MEMBERS

There was an omission from the list, in the January 2019 issue (page 6), of members who were successful at **The Armistice Stamp Show 2018** - Dunedin, New Zealand, 9-11 November 2018

Member	Subject of Entry	Class	Frames	Mark	Award
Gerald Elliott	Fanning Island	Open	5	83	Large Vermeil + Felicitations

It is with particular pleasure that I can report that **Andrew Dove** tasted success with his book on *Wartime Internment in New Zealand*, published jointly by the New Zealand Society of Great Britain and the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand at **Italia 2018 National Exhibition of Philatelic Literature** - Verona, Italy, 23-25 November 2018.

Member	Subject of Entry	Class	Frames	Mark	Award
Andrew Dove	Wartime Internment in New Zealand	Literature	-	86	Gold

There are only a few copies of this book left. Anyone who is interested in a copy should contact Andrew for further details (dove697@btinternet.com) or via the editor.



UPCOMING UK NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

2019

- * 12-13 April **ABPS NORTHERN NATIONAL (PERTH)** - Dewars Centre, Perth, PH2 0TH
[last UK opportunity to qualify exhibits for London 2020]
- * 29 May-2 June **STOCKHOLMIA 2019** - Waterfront Congress Centre, Stockholm, Sweden
- * 6 July **MIDPEX** - Warwickshire Exhibition Centre, Leamington Spa, CV31 1XN.
[the Society will have a stand at the Exhibition]
- * 19-20 July **YORK STAMP FAIR** - The Grandstand, York Racecourse, York, YO23 1EX
- * 11-14 September **ABPS AUTUMN STAMPEX** - Business Design Centre, Islington, London.

2020

- * 19-22 March **NZ 2020 FIAP INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION**, Auckland, New Zealand.
- * 2-9 May **LONDON 2020** - Business Design Centre, Islington, London.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

The next meeting of the Society will be held on Saturday **30 March 2019**

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

11:00 - Members Items of Interest and Recent Acquisitions

14:00 - Early Postcards - with stories

The subject matter for this meeting might sound intriguing. What we are looking for is postcards that say something more than "Wish You Were Here". Some members have already indicated they have material they are intending to show but there is always room for more.

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 8EU 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 **11 May 2019** 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 **13 April 2019** 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. 1-63 (1952-2014) available to all in pdf format.
- * Vol. 64-67 (2015-18) available to members only.
- **password required - contact the editor of *The Kiwi*.**
- * Vol. 68 (current year) - available to *e-Kiwi* subscribers.



Society web-site: www.nzsgb.org.uk

MEETINGS HELD

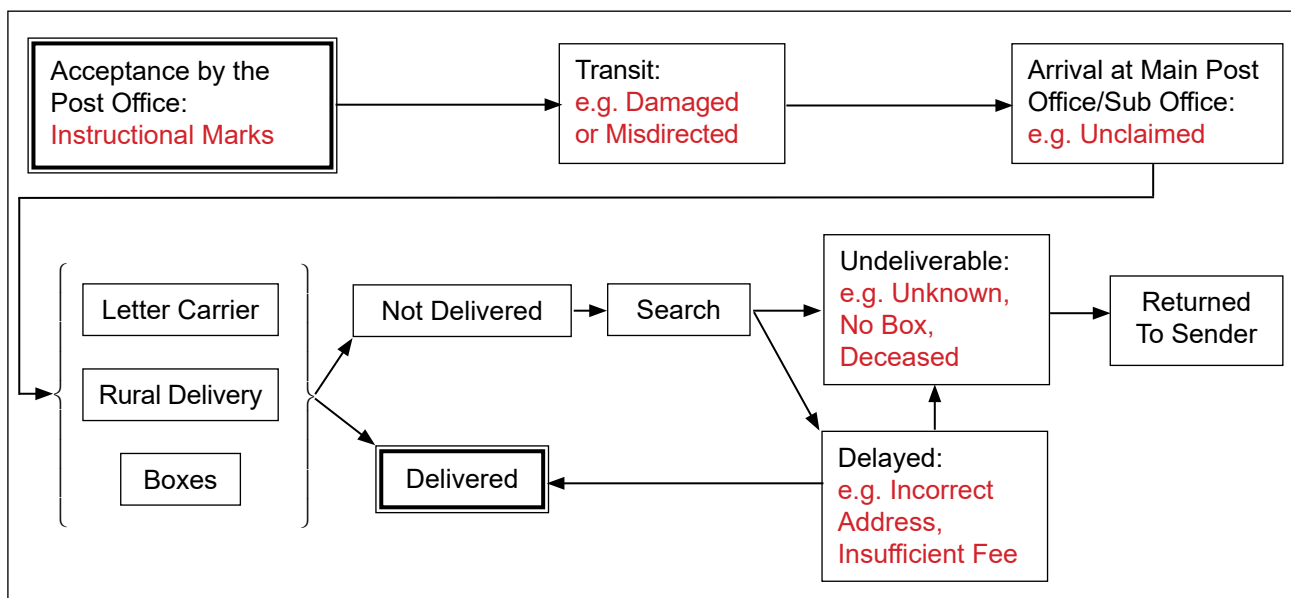
NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD, IN LONDON, 26 JANUARY 2019

The subject for our meeting on 26 January was Instructional Markings. **Andrew Dove** opened proceedings by noting that the Post Office applied instructional and informative markings to postal items for two main reasons: first, to instruct Post Office employees as to how an item was to be handled and, secondly, to inform their customers of events in the item's journey that may have affected its speedy and efficient delivery. Such markings were not only intrinsically interesting but also provided a valuable insight into the workings of the postal service.

Andrew explained that his display spanned the period from the early days of the Post Office until deregulation of postal services in New Zealand in 1987. Robin Startup's publication *Information Stamps* (Postal History Society of New Zealand, Study 8, 1977) which is a mere 17 pages, and yet lists over 800 different markings. Since there were or have been at least 3,000 post offices in existence, each with its own collection of cachets, some issued nationally and some produced locally, the range of markings even then was essentially unquantifiable. Although the Post Office was normally secretive about operational details, in 1972/73 requests from Robin to many offices for examples of all the markings then in use met with some success, showing for example that the town of Stratford, in Taranaki, held more than 40 while the settlement of Mayfield near Ashburton held only five.

Since 1987 the number of markings used by New Zealand Post and by Independent Postal Operators had grown exponentially and with even greater diversity to meet the changing needs of the postal service, so effectively closing one chapter and opening a new one in this branch of collecting. Robin Startup, with others, had begun what was presumably intended as a series on *The Postal Markings of New Zealand Post from 1987*, (Postal History Society of New Zealand, 2002) but the introduction alone runs to some 160 pages.

Andrew then tracked the main stages at which instructional or informative markings might be applied to a postal item in its journey from acceptance to delivery (or sometimes non-delivery):



Possible stages in the transit of a mail item, from acceptance by the Post Office to delivery - or non-delivery!

Markings applied at the acceptance of mail by the Post Office could include:

- registration, including compulsory registration of letters that contained or were later found to contain obviously valuable items such as coins.
- notice that items found in normal letters boxes had been prepaid at the registered rate.

- in wartime, notice that mail was from an individual on the Government's watch list and so was subject to censorship.
- AR (Avis de Reception) markings showing that the sender had requested proof of delivery.
- airmail labels, and sometimes notices that an item had been insufficiently prepaid for the route used.
- notice that items had been received "too late" to catch a particular service, which was an important protection for the Post Office when, for example, a ship to the required destination sailed only every week or two.
- "loose letter" to indicate an item received at a delivery office without indication of origin.
- "flag station" for items carried by rail but posted at a unmanned station where the train would stop only if flagged down.
- notice that the item concerned was not permitted in the post – e.g. postcards decorated with tinsel.



Image
Reduced
to 85%

A compulsorily registered letter to a dentist in Napier: The addressee must have been on a watch list as it is inland mail, censored in Wellington (internal censorship was uncommon during WWII). The censors possibly found money inside and alerted the Post Office who then registered the item.

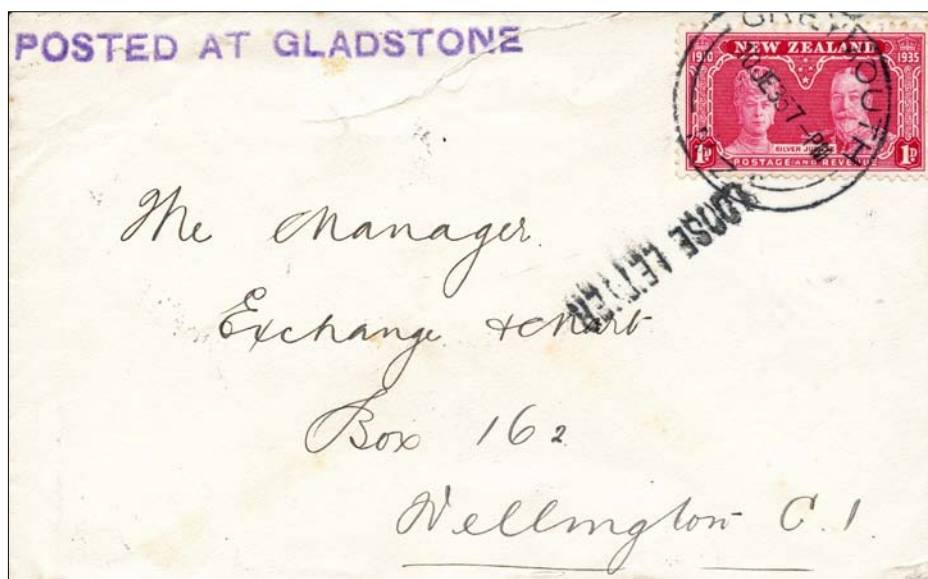


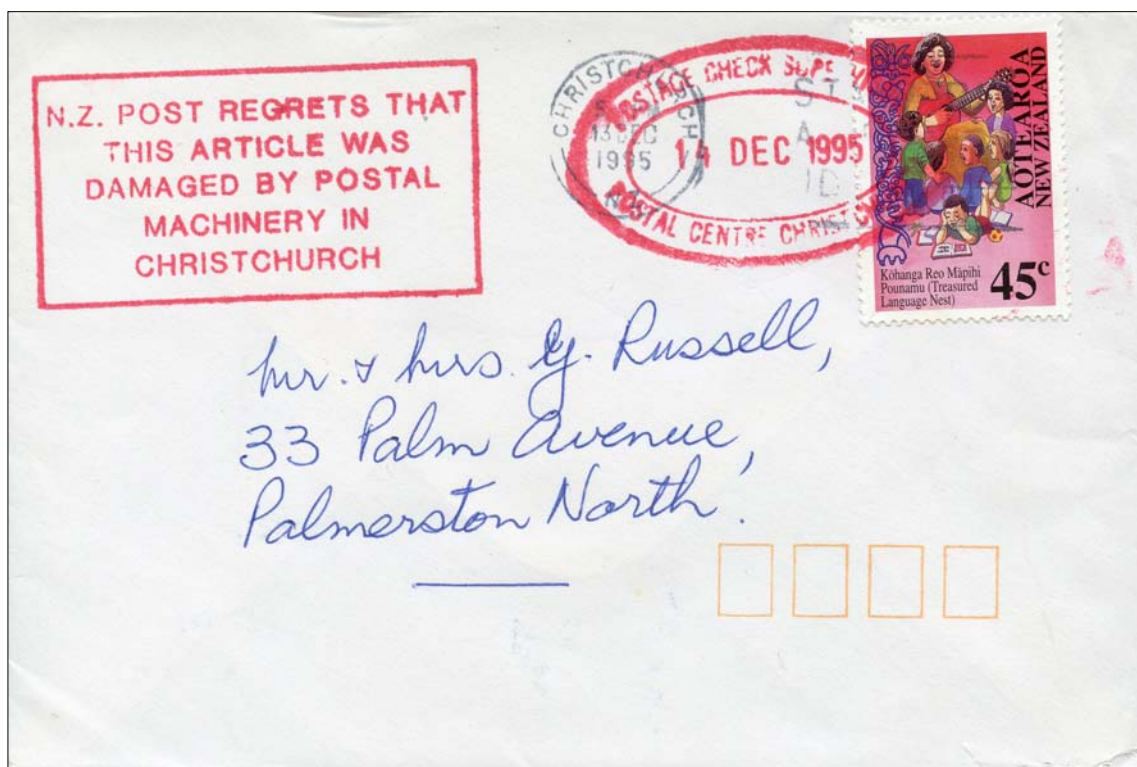
Image
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to 85%

A letter posted at Gladstone, an unmanned Flag Station, seven miles south of Greymouth. No 'Late Fee' was required if the name of the station was indicated. Marked as a 'Loose Letter' on receipt at Greymouth.

During the transit of mail markings applied might include ones reporting delays to airmail services, which were not uncommon in the early days of airmail or in wartime, that items had been mis-sent to the wrong destination and notice that items had been damaged by crashes or other accidents or by postal machinery.



A 1964 letter addressed to Korea but missent to Osaka in Japan.



Letter damaged in the postal machinery in Christchurch.

Markings relating to the delivery of mail could include:

- notice that a registered letter to be signed for or an underpaid item to be paid for was awaiting collection at the post office.
- a range of markings to show when an item could not be delivered at the first attempt and the trouble that the Post Office had taken to identify the intended address.



A letter from the UK to Warkworth which has travelled back and forth between Warkworth and Auckland and remained unclaimed.

Andrew noted that, to inform their researches, Robin Startup and Ken McNaught had been known to send letters to nonexistent addresses, taking care to include a return address, just to see what markings and cachets would be applied. Andrew himself had direct experience of the cachets applied to returned mail since some of the bills he issued when working as a GP in Wanganui were returned as undeliverable for a variety of reasons.

Each attempt to find the correct address or addressee for undelivered mail was often denoted by a separate marking, sometimes in manuscript, but to ensure a systematic approach a cachet of a checklist of the common (and sometimes uncommon) problems was sometimes applied so that the applicable box(es) could simply be ticked. Thus a 1985 cover from Massey University in Palmerston North addressed to Balmoral Road, Rotorua had been ticked “NO SUCH ST. IN ROTORUA”, but other options included the no doubt familiar “ADDRESSEE UNKNOWN” but also the rather surprising “HOUSE DEMOLISHED SECTION EMPTY”.



Examples of undeliverable mail. Left the addressee was ‘Not Known By Postmen/Onehunga’. The second example (right) has been endorsed ‘Posted Without Address’.



In times of war mail might be returned, endorsed to say the addressee might be missing or, at worst, killed in action.

In wartime, of course, mail chased troops around the world and many items could not be delivered because the recipients had been killed. The Post Office was very diligent in trying to find recipients, even to the extent that some items went 'round the world'. For example, one cover shown had travelled to Delhi, Calcutta, Auckland and Madras, all for 4 anna. Another, from the Seamen's Hospital in Greenwich addressed to RMS *Rotorua*, had travelled all the way to Wellington and back in search of its recipient; and a 1932 cover from Otorohanga to a passenger on the *Esperance Bay* carried a succession of redirection markings for

Auckland, Port Said, Sydney, and Melbourne and then, sadly in this case, the Dead Letter Office in Wellington.

Further material, showing a wide range of markings, was displayed by **John Stimson, Keith Collins** and **Paul Wreglesworth**.

NEW PUBLICATIONS - REVIEW

CACHETS APPLIED TO INTERRUPTED NEW ZEALAND AIRMAIL

Authors Brian R Peace FRPSL, ARP and Robin D Gwynn RDP, FRPSL, FRPSNZ. Co-Published (2019) with Mowbray Collectables. ISBN 978-0-9570440-3-6 A4, 108p fully illustrated throughout in colour.

Available in the UK and Europe, directly from Brian Peace. Price £23 postpaid, by bank transfer, or £24 by PayPal. Contact Brian (brpeace@ntlworld.com) for details of payment and to confirm mailing address. Cash or cheque payments cannot be accepted but if this causes any members problems please contact the Kiwi editor.

The authors of this study have spent thirty years amassing examples and information on the subject. The result is a 108 page full colour book containing details of every cover recorded and its provenance.

Jim Stapleton, compiler of *The New Zealand Air Mail Catalogue*, had intended to publish something on this subject over 25 years ago, and the two authors had provided him with details of their examples. Sadly, Jim passed away before taking the matter further.

The study deals only with the cachets applied to interrupted air mail in the period 1936 to 1967. The authors set the context by stating 150 examples have been identified. They then list the number of examples recorded for each year, pointing out that 87 examples (58% of those recorded) are from the period April 1936 to 1938. What is remarkable is that in 57 of the 89 incidents (64%) only a single example is recorded. Auction realisations have not reflected the scarcity of these cachets.

A census of covers is included. Listing every example in chronological date order, with images where available, one can quickly establish whether a cover has been recorded already or is a new find. Listings of all the aircraft involved during the period are very detailed, and will prove useful for those collecting first flight covers.

Inevitably the publication of the study will encourage collectors to examine their examples to check if they have an unrecorded item. Many more examples will come to light.

The authors state that other aspects of New Zealand disaster mail could be the subject of further studies. It is hoped these have already been started.

Available at NZ\$35, plus postage, from Mowbray Collectables, Wellington, NZ. (john@mowbrays.co.nz).



NEW ZEALAND POST - STAMP ISSUING PROGRAMME FOR 2019

The programme announced by New Zealand Post for this year is as follows. Issues scheduled for July and September have yet to be finalised. The dates shown are indicative only and may be subject to change.

January 16	2019 Year of the Pig 2018 Annual Packs
February 13	Native Alpine Flora
March 6	2019 Lighthouse Perspectives
April 3	2019 ANZAC
May 1	New Zealand Space Pioneers
June 5	Kupe (Legendary Maori Voyager)
July 3	Keep an eye out for this issue!
August 7	New Zealand Rock Formations
September 4	Keep an eye out for this issue! Ross Dependency - Hut Artefacts
October 2	Tuia Encounters 250 (First meeting of Maori and Europeans)
November 6	Christmas Issue
November 13	2019 Annual Album
Further details of past and upcoming issues can be found on the NZ Post website (https://stamps.nzpost.co.nz)	

On 13 February New Zealand Post issued a set of six stamps, and a miniature sheet, featuring New Zealand's intrepid alpine flora.



Technical Details: Stamps and miniature sheet designed by Stephen Fuller, Wellington, New Zealand.

Printed in four process colours by Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, using offset lithography.

Paper is 'Tullis Russell' 104 gsm red phosphor gummed stamp paper and perforations gauge 14.4x14.

Stamps size: 30mm x 40mm (vertical).

ROYAL MAIL SPECIAL ISSUE - COMMEMORATING CAPTAIN COOK'S VOYAGE OF DISCOVERY

On 16 August 2018 Royal Mail issued a series of stamps marking the 250th anniversary of Captain Cook setting sail on one of the greatest voyages of discovery of all time.

On 25 August 1768 the bark *Endeavour*, under the command of Lt. James Cook, left Plymouth and set out on a voyage to the South Seas that would last just short of three years. *Endeavour* was a humble collier brig which, normally, would have had a crew of around 15 however, after being specially adapted, it sailed with nearly 100 men on board including marines, an astronomer and a party of artists and scientists led by the wealthy botanist Sir Joseph Banks.



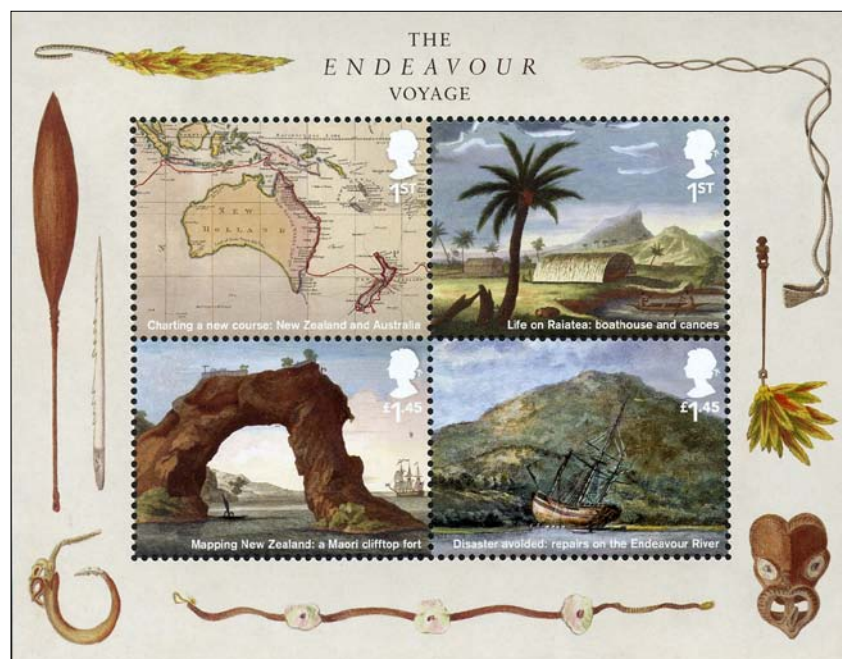
The three individual stamps issued commemorating Cook's voyage aboard the Endeavour.

The *Endeavour's* primary task was to observe the transit of Venus, a rare astronomical event, which they were able to do on 3 June 1769 from the island of Tahiti where they stayed for three months. During their stay Banks and his natural-historians found, and recorded, over 300 plants new to European science.

With Venus observed the *Endeavour* sailed south in search of the 'Southern Continent' which had been briefly observed by Abel Tasman some 150 years earlier.

The ship arrived on the east coast of New Zealand's North Island on 8 October 1769 landing at Turanganui-a-kiwa, which Cook named Poverty Bay. Between October 1769 and March 1770 Cook carried out a running survey of New Zealand's two islands and was able to prove it was not a peninsula of the Southern Continent.

Cook eventually returned to England, his journey an extraordinary success, arriving on 13 July 1771.



Miniature sheet featuring aspects of Cook's voyage.

Acknowledgment: The text for this piece is drawn from the Royal Mail presentation pack.

MRS PURDON ILLUSTRATED COVERS REMAIN AS POPULAR AS EVER



The cover shown above, and featured on the front cover of the January issue of *The Kiwi*, was one of two offered for sale by Auckland City Stamps (Lot 1769, Auction 227, January 22 2019). Estimated at NZ\$500 it sold for NZ\$605. The second cover (Lot 1770) estimated NZ\$400 realised NZ\$495.

The Society website hosts a pictorial listing of Mrs Purdon's hand painted envelopes. Currently 260 are recorded, between 1947 and 1961. The cover shown above is the first so far listed from 1948. The website has recently been updated, adding previously unrecorded covers to each of the years from 1947 to 1954.

Mrs Purdon often painted several covers for the same event or stamp issue, each differing only slightly from the others.

The cover to the right (top), is one of the newly listed covers. Celebrating the opening of Parakao Post Office, October 6th 1947, this is the second variant of this design now recorded.

The other cover to the right is now one of three, from 1951, commemorating 60 years since the issue of the first New Zealand Lighthouse stamps.

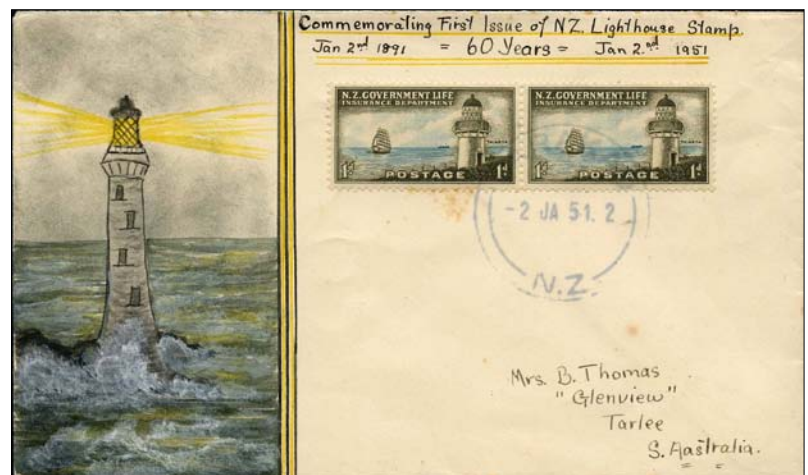
These two covers are addressed to Mrs B Thomas, in South Australia. Mrs Purdon addressed the majority of her covers to herself or her mother, Mrs Fairburn. Of the 260 items listed on our website only ten are addressed to other people.

There are no doubt further covers, painted by Mrs Purdon, that are not recorded on the website. If you have any in your collection please check them against those listed and please get in touch with any new information.



Opening of Parakao Post Office, 6 October 1947. (NZSGBRef 47/1B)

[image reduced]



60th Anniversary of first issue of lighthouse stamps. (NZSGBRef 51/2C)

[image reduced]

NEW ZEALAND NATIVE BIRDS – MRS PURDON INSPIRES UK ARTIST

Julia Farrer has lived in Macclesfield, Cheshire, for nearly 30 years. Although she had an interest in art from a young age it was not until 2017 that she enrolled at a local college, taking evening classes in art, to learn the basics of drawing and explore the use of different drawing media. Julia refers to herself as a ‘hobbyist’ artist and, currently, her preference is for the use of wax or oil based coloured pencils to create images from objects or photographs.

Julia’s link to the *New Zealand Society of Great Britain* was established when she was shown some of the hand illustrated covers by Mrs Purdon from the 1950s. Using envelopes sent from New Zealand as her canvas she tested her newly acquired skills by illustrating them with native flora and wildlife. An early example featuring a rainbow trout is shown below.

Some of Julia’s work was shown at a meeting of the North of England Group of the Society and was very well received. The possibility of producing illustrated envelopes for members attending the philatelic weekend in Bath was discussed and Julia accepted the challenge.



Macclesfield Artist Julia Farrer.



An early painting which eventually led to the series of bird covers.

[image reduced]

Taking as her theme ten of New Zealand’s most iconic birds Julia produced a series of covers which, in the best tradition of Mrs Purdon, vary in some of the detail. The ten birds chosen were the Yellow-eyed Penguin, Saddleback, Tui, Morepork, Pukeko, Fantail, Tom Tit, Kea, Little Spotted Kiwi and the Brown Kiwi.

Members who attended the Bath weekend each selected one of the covers which were all then transported to New Zealand, courtesy of John Watts, who arranged for each cover to have a stamp from the Armistice series (domestic or international rate) added and specially cancelled before being returned to the UK.

Images of all the covers will be placed on the Society’s web so that we have a record of this body of work. There are a small number of covers which were unallocated and these will be offered in future Society auctions.



Illustrations of the Pukeko, with domestic rate stamp (left) and Little Kiwi with international rate stamp (right).

[images reduced to 35%]

MAIL POSTED SHIP-SIDE - PROVISION FOR LATE FEE MAIL

Paul Wreglesworth

As early as 1864, by Order in Council and published in *The New Zealand Gazette* it was decreed that “All sea-borne Mails to be kept open to within two hours of the departure of the Mail from the Post Office. Each Chief Postmaster shall cause Letters for Great Britain and Australia to be received at his Office after the closing of the general Mails, to be made up into a supplementary Mail consisting of late letters only”. Such a ‘Late Fee’ service was important to give every opportunity to send mail via a particular ship or route when the next might not be for several weeks. The fee for this service was originally one shilling although this was gradually reduced with time (Ref. 1).

By Order in Council, published in *The New Zealand Gazette* dated 1 October 1891, Times for posting correspondence was stated as follows “Seaborne mails, as a general rule, are closed for ordinary correspondence one hour previous to the despatch of the mails from the Post Office, but by payment of a late fee letters may be posted until within twenty minutes of the time the mail leaves the office.....The late fee in all cases is, for places beyond the colony, an extra single rate of postage” (Ref. 2).

Whilst the facility existed to post a letter after the normal closure of the post office the demand to catch a particular sailing almost to the point the steamer was set to sail led to the placement of a bag for ‘Late Letters’ on the wharves, close to the ships. However with the passage of time the uptake for this service was so great that, with the exception of contract mail ships where there was a Mail Agent travelling on board, there was little time to sort bagged mail on arrival at the next port and ensure it could be placed on connecting steamers.

By the 1930s this had reached a critical point and the Postmaster-General’s Report, dated 18 August 1936 stated:- “To enable late fee correspondence from New Zealand to be dealt with more expeditiously at Sydney, an improved service for handling of such correspondence has been provided at Wellington and Auckland. Previously, letters deposited in the late fee bags at the outer barrier or at the ship’s side could not be date-stamped and sorted until they reached Sydney. This caused delay, which frequently involved the missing of onward connections.” (Figure 1).



“After a short period of trial at Wellington it was decided in June last to make available at Wellington and Auckland a suitable motor van equipped with facilities for the posting, weighing, date-stamping and sorting of letters and the sale of postage stamps on the wharf. As soon as mails for conveyance by the vessel have closed at the Chief Post Office, the van takes up its position at the outer barrier where it remains until the vessel is about to leave. The mails are then closed and placed on board. At the gangway a bag is provided for the posting of last-minute correspondence.”

Figure 1: (left) “Posting a late fee letter at the special ship-side post office prior to the departure of the *Marama*’ yesterday. The post office, which comprises a specially built motor-van, is now used on the Auckland wharves when overseas mail liners leave”

Ref: *New Zealand Herald*, Vol. LXXII, Issue 22196, 24 August 1935, page 10.



Figure 2:
First day use of the 'Ship-Side'
cancellation at Auckland.

The facility opened on 23 August 1935 at the Auckland wharves and proved very popular. *The New Zealand Herald* for 28 August reported:

“The ‘shipside post office’ which was available on Prince’s Wharf, Auckland, on Friday for the first time to receive letter mail for dispatch by the *Marama* for Sydney, was well patronised. About 1000 letters were posted at it and a few stamps were sold”.

It is reported that postal officials who were required to work in the vans, called them “the pie-cart post offices”. The working accommodation was very cramped and stuffy and there was very little regret by the staff when the service was abandoned some years later.

A new canceller was introduced with this service which indicated the letters had been posted ‘Ship-Side’. An example of this mark, used at Auckland on the first day of use is shown here (Figure 2). Although the precise date of introduction of the Ship-Side cancellation at Wellington is not known an example is shown in Volume III of *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand* dated 6 September 1935. (Ref. 3). Earlier dates may exist and I would be delighted to hear of any examples.

No doubt this new service, together with the new cancellations, had not gone unnoticed by collectors and the volume of mail increased steadily. On 14 December 1935, with Christmas approaching, *The New Zealand Herald* reported :

“A heavy Christmas mail for Australia was despatched to Sydney by the *Monowai* yesterday afternoon. It was the largest mail sent from New Zealand to Australia for a number of years. The mail totalled 503 bags, which was mostly made up of letters and small packages containing Christmas gifts. Extra officials had to be employed at the chief post office to cope with the heavy postings. After the mail had closed at the post office three bags of letters were posted at the ship-side post office on the Prince’s Wharf shortly before the *Monowai* sailed”.

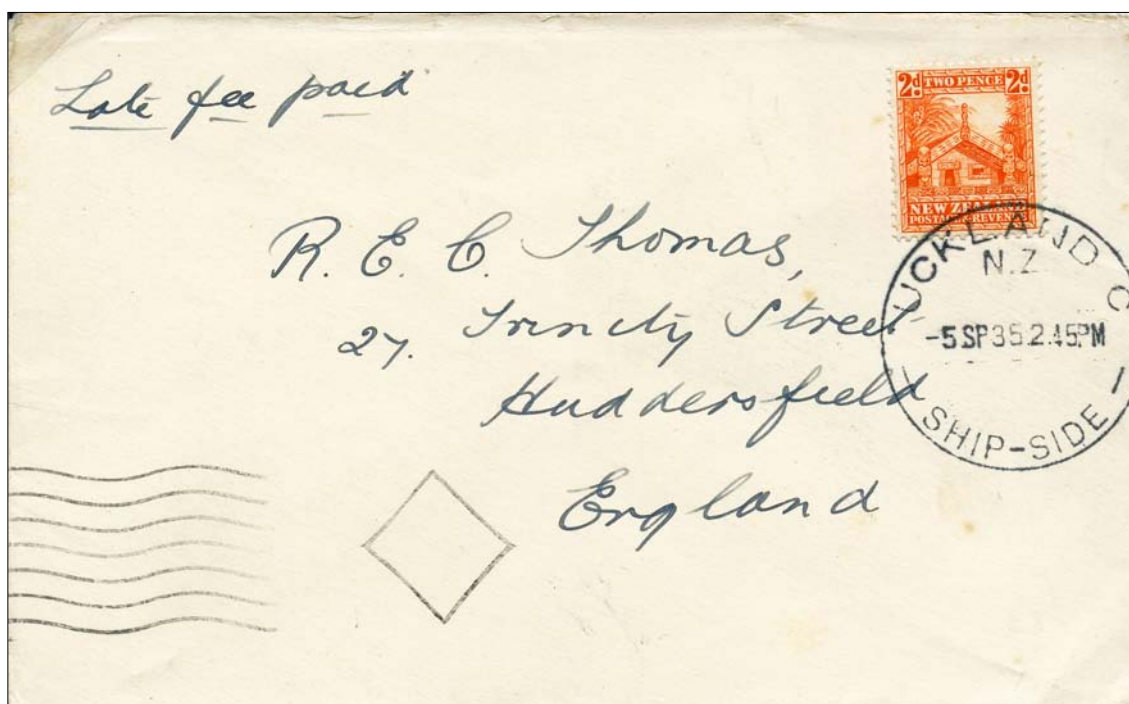


Figure 3: A cover posted Ship-Side, addressed to the UK, and endorsed “Late fee paid” indicating the 1d additional fee had been paid. The cover has been postmarked 2.45 PM on 5 September and would have been carried on the ‘Marama’ which sailed for Sydney at 3 PM.

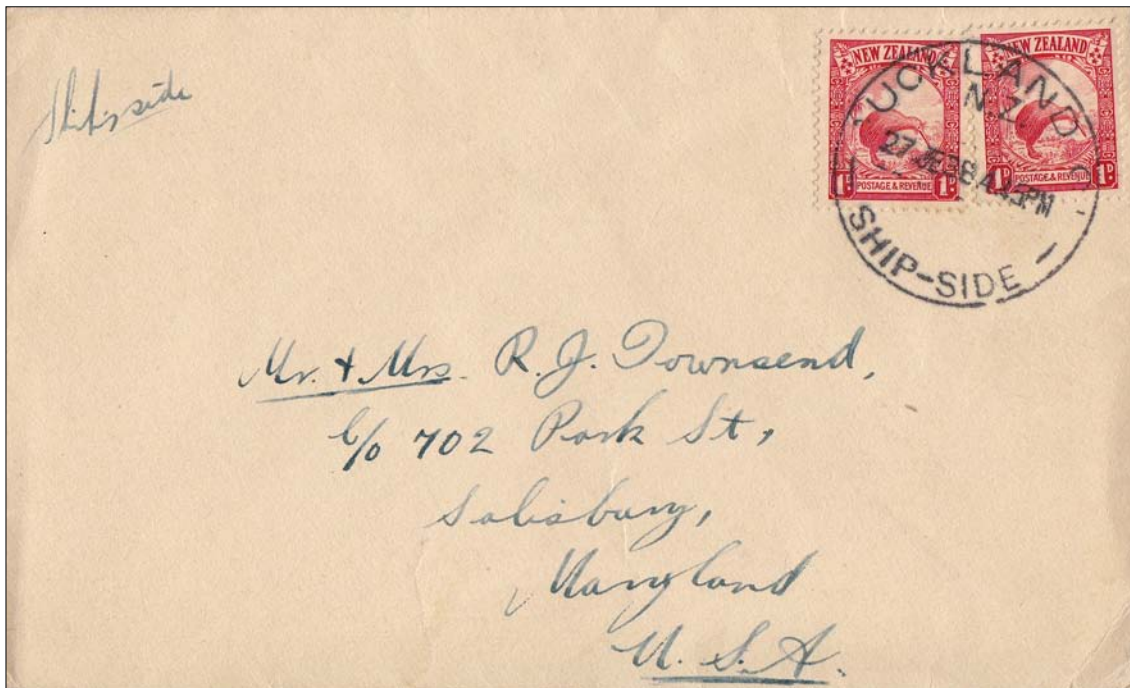


Figure 3: A cover to the USA posted Ship-Side at Auckland on 27 JE 38 prepaid 2d, 1d postage and 1d late fee. The cover was cancelled at 4.45 PM and would have been carried on the 'Mariposa' which, scheduled to sail for San Francisco at 5 PM, eventually sailed at 5.25 PM.

Although the service was intended to speed up the sorting of mail at Sydney the late fee service could also be used for mail to be placed on ships leaving New Zealand for North America (Figure 3).

Much of the mail making use of the late fee service was intended to pick up the increasingly popular airmail service from Australia (Figures 4, 5 and 6).

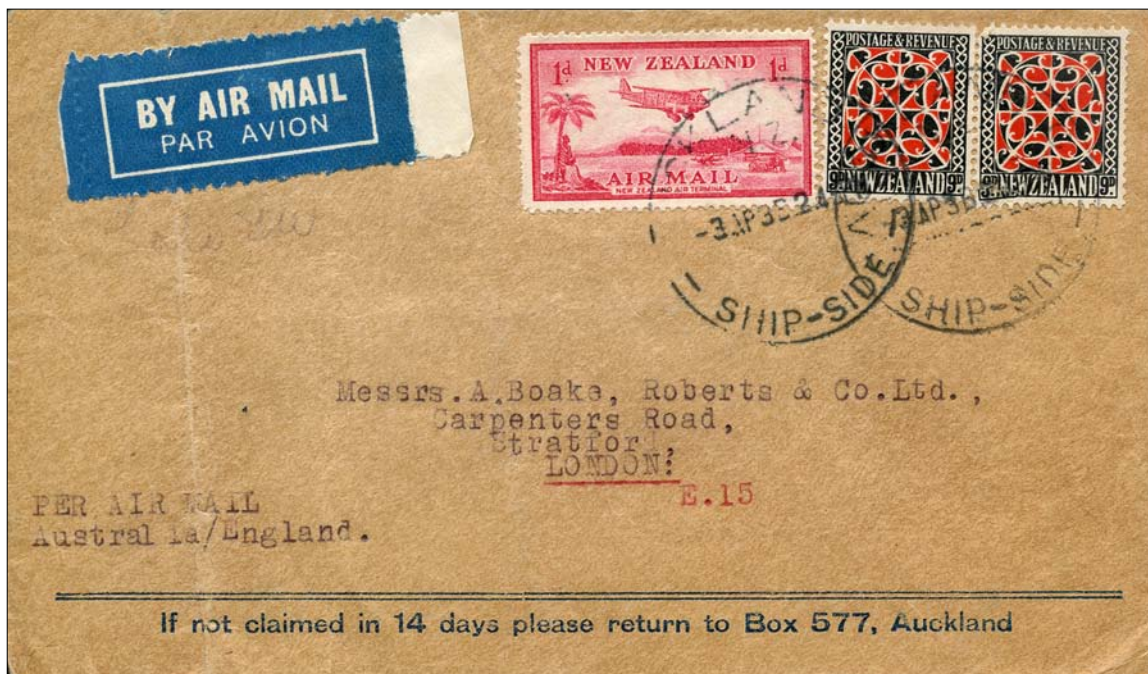


Figure 4: A cover posted Ship-Side at Auckland on 3 April 1936 to link with the airmail service from Sydney to the UK. The 'Monowai' was scheduled to depart at 3 PM and finally sailed at 3.25 PM.

Examples of the Ship-Side cancellation seem to be found more often on mail posted from Auckland with examples posted at Wellington apparently less common.



Figure 5: An airmail cover to England posted Ship-Side at Wellington on 9 March 1937. Endorsed 'Via Australia - Singapore - England' the cover would have been carried on the 'Awatea' from Wellington to Sydney to connect with the air service.



Figure 6: An airmail cover to England posted Ship-Side at Wellington on 15 October 1937. Prepaid 6s 1d with 1d paying the late fee. The 'Awatea' sailed from Wellington for Sydney at 5PM.

[image reduced]

The popularity of the air mail services had implications for the post office. The chief postmaster at Auckland, Mr WG Cooper was reported in the *Auckland Star* of 30 July 1938 as saying that as a consequence of ... "The diversion of letters to (the) Empire air service, the great increase in the volume of correspondence for dispatch by Australian steamers and the resultant increase in the work, including the listing and weighing of foreign air correspondence associated with the closing of the mails, the post office would be unable to continue the existing wharf late fee facilities, except letters to be dispatched by Matson liners sailing for Vancouver and San Pedro".

"The last vessel for which general late fee facilities would be provided at the wharf was the *Awatea*, leaving Auckland for Sydney on Monday next (1 August). Thereafter, late fee letters for all countries dispatched via Australia would be accepted only at the chief post office. The late fee mail would close one hour before the steamer's sailing time, or at 8 p.m. whichever was the earlier. There would be no late fee after 8 p.m.

“After August 1 in respect of steamers sailing for Australia, only letters for Australia would be accepted at the wharf post office”.

“Wharf post office facilities would be provided for steamers leaving for San Pedro and Vancouver , but late articles for Great Britain or Ireland would not be accepted for dispatch by liners on the Pacific route”.

So, although general late fee facilities effectively ended at Auckland on 1 August 1938 and, reportedly, at Wellington on 21 August 1938 the facility remained in place for ships sailing to Vancouver and it would appear the Ship-Side postmark was used for some time afterwards (Figure 7).

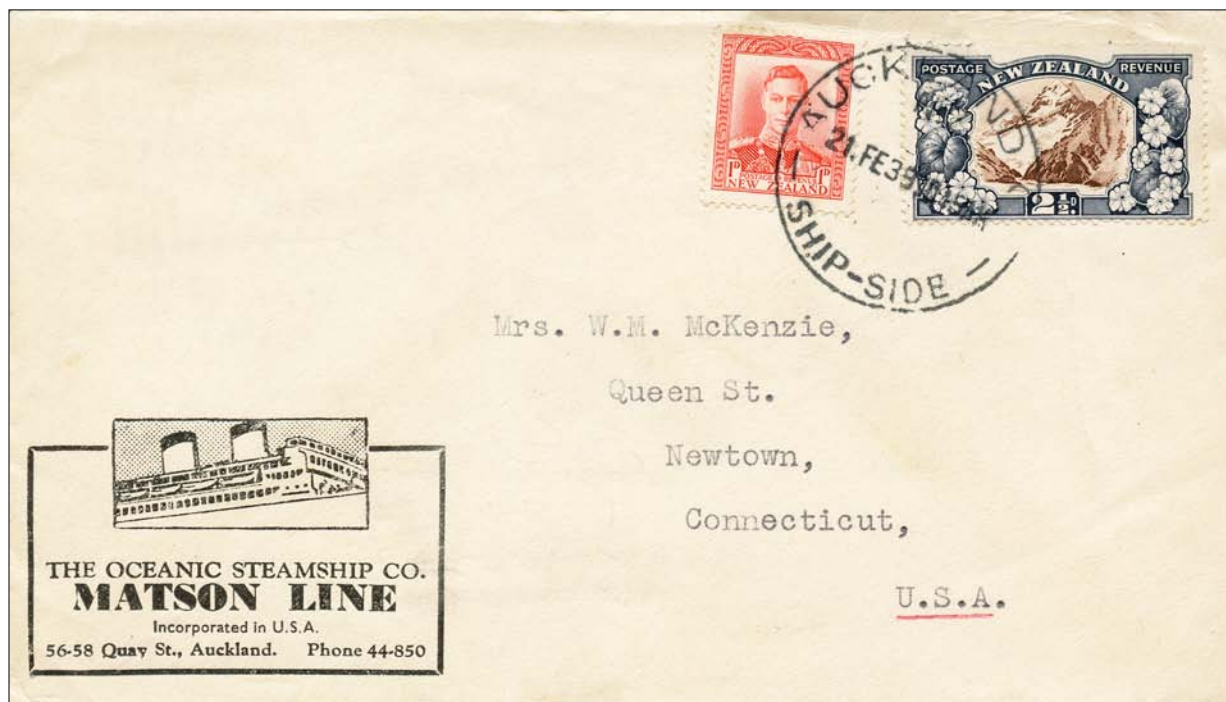


Figure 7: A late fee cover to the USA posted at Auckland on 21 February 1939 with Ship-Side cancellation. Late fee facilities remained in place for ships sailing to Vancouver and the advert on this cover would suggest it was carried on one of the Oceanic Steamship Company's Matson Line ships that sailed on this route. However the date means it is most likely it was carried on the Union Steamship Company's 'Aorangi' which sailed from Auckland for Vancouver, via Fiji and Honolulu, at 11.45AM on the 21 February 1939.

The dates frequently quoted for the late fee service from Auckland (23 August 1935 - 1 August 1939) would seem not to reflect accurately the period of usage of the Auckland Ship-Side cancellers. Dates of usage for the Wellington canceller are even less well defined with fewer examples recorded.

If anyone has examples of these cancellations that might help to pin down the period of usage please contact the editor.

Acknowledgments:

I would like to thank Keith Collins, Stephen Jones and Geoff Amos for providing scans of covers in their collections and for permission to reproduce them here.

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1. Collins RJG and Watts CW, *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand* Vol III, pub Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, p233, 1955.
2. *Supplement to The New Zealand Gazette*, No 72, p 1092, 1 October 1891.
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A FAREWELL TO HEALTH STAMPS

- PART FIVE

John Watts

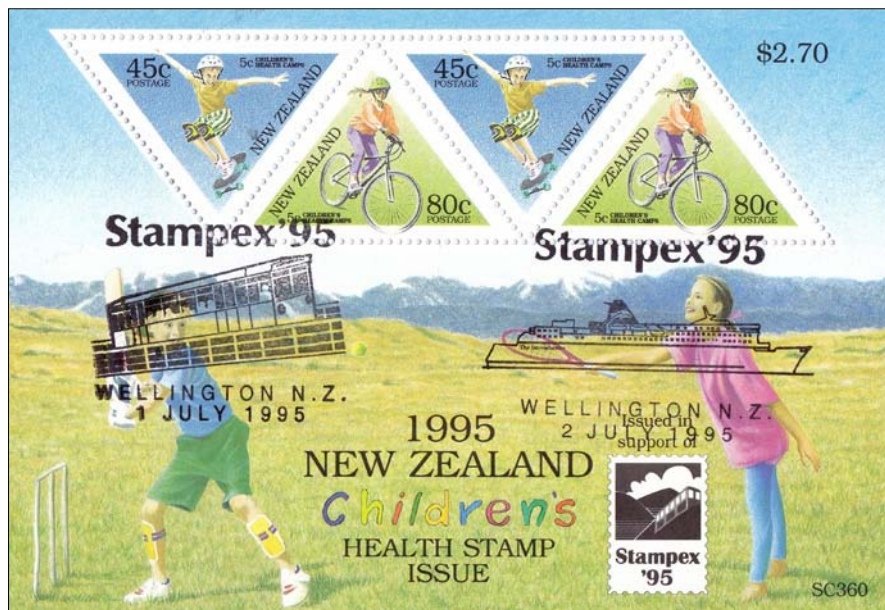


Figure 1: 1995 miniature sheet overprinted for Stampex '95.

The 1995 issue design brought about a touch of nostalgia, in that it was only the second issue of a New Zealand postage stamp issue in triangular format, a repeat of the 1943 Health issue.

The theme of the issue was outdoor activity and the stamp designs, by Paul Martinson of Masterton, show a boy skateboarding and a girl cycling, the theme is further extended in the miniature sheet with a boy playing cricket and a girl playing tennis.

Printing was by Leigh Mardon Pty Ltd, of Melbourne, Australia. The stamps were in sheets of 50, (5 rows of 10) with alternate upright and inverted impressions, resulting in a unique sheet layout with a saw-tooth appearance down the left and right hand margins. The four stamps in the miniature sheet are all upright, in a single row with the two values, 45c+5c and 80c+5c, alternating.

The miniature sheets were issued in fours, being made available overprinted for Stampex'95 (Figure 1) which was held in Wellington during the same year.

The mesh of all the stamps is horizontal and the perforations gauge 14.25 across the bottom of the stamps and 14.5 along the sides. The inverted 45c+5c sheet stamp can be distinguished from the upright version as follows:

1. All upright stamps show two retouches in the background under '45c POSTAGE', particularly noticeable in R1/6
2. All inverted stamps show an 'apostrophe' in the background to the right and opposite of the 'Z' of ZEALAND There is also a line to the left in the background under POSTAGE.
3. Inverted stamps show a heavier shadow under the right eye of the boy, giving a different expression. The upright stamps have a more 'open' facial expression.
4. The upright stamps show a black dot in the ankle, not present in the inverted stamps.

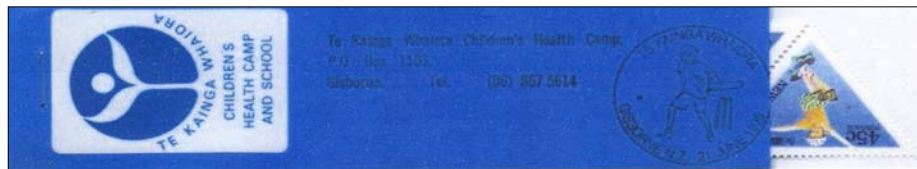


Figure 2: 1995 Gisborne Health Camp Booklet.

'Road Safety', with a particular focus on children, was the theme for the 1996 Health Stamps. It was a two stamp issue with the lower value being 40c+5c to meet the new standard 'Definitive Postage Rate' which was introduced on 2 October 1995.



Figure 3: Abergail Mossman (4 months) and Louis Avia (4 years) were the models for the 1996 designs..

The stamp designer was Helen Casey of Auckland who used the children of a friend as models for the two designs (Figure 3).

Prior to the printing of the stamps the designs were approved by the Land Transport Safety Authority and the Child Healthcare organizations. The printing contract was awarded to two separate companies, who both used the lithographic process to produce the stamps:

1. Sheets of 100 stamps (10 rows of 10) and miniature sheets Joh Enschedé Netherlands
 2. Self-adhesive coil stamps* (50 stamps) and boxes Australia Post Sprintpak
- * (these were the first self adhesive Health stamps)

Following placement of the orders the promotion program moved into action with the release of pre-issue advertising material (Figure 4).

It was a Plunket (Child Healthcare) nurse in the South Island that first drew New Zealand Post's attention to the fact that the regulation for the restraints for babies up to six months old travelling in cars required that they should be facing backwards whilst the 40c+5c stamp design, showing the teddy bear belted alongside, indicates that the baby is facing forwards.

Because of the embarrassing elements of the design, and considering the intended theme of the issue, New Zealand Post took decisive action and redesigned the 40c+5c stamp, removing the 'teddy bear' from the design.



Figure 4: Pre-release publicity material showing child and teddy bear facing forward.

New printing orders were placed with:

1. Southern Colour Print 40c+5c sheet stamps
2. Australia Post Sprintpak 40c+5c self adhesive coil stamp and miniature sheet

New publicity material was produced.

Unfortunately New Zealand Post's woes continued when two post offices were supplied with some of the wrong 40c+5c stamps, containing the teddy bear error, with their new stock.

Royal Oak Post Office, Auckland received stock with the error consisting of:

Five Sheets of 40c+5c stamps. – Three sheets were sold, Two sheets were unaccounted for.
 Five Boxes of self-adhesive rolls. – Two boxes sold, Three boxes were unaccounted for.

Te Ngae Post Office, Rotorua received stock with the error consisting of:

Ten Sheets of 40c+5c stamps. – Two complete sheets and 51 stamps were sold. – Five sheets and 39 stamps were returned to New Zealand Post, Stamps Centre, Wanganui, leaving two sheets and ten single stamps unaccounted for.



Figure 5: Original and replacement self-adhesive coil stamps and their respective boxes.

[images reduced]

The replacement self-adhesive coil stamps contained a Health Camp publicity label after every 20 stamps, but no 'remaining stamps' information labels as had been the case with the original printing (Figure 5).

The 'Road Safety' issue was released on 5 June 1996 but it was not too long before another situation caused a further problem for New Zealand Post. It was reported that copies of the miniature sheets, produced by the Dutch firm Enschedé, were being offered for sale on the philatelic market. This was difficult to understand as none of these sheets had been released in New Zealand.



Figure 6: Miniature sheets produced by Enschedé in the Netherlands which found their way to the market.

[images reduced]

There were two forms of these sheets, the initial design and a version printed for release at the Canadian Philatelic Exhibition, CAPEX '96 (Figure 6).

The New Zealand Post investigation discovered that those miniature sheets which were appearing in the philatelic market had come from examples that the printers had released to their staff. In some ways this was reminiscent of when, in 1861, Perkins, Bacon supplied sets of New Zealand's Chalon stamps for friends with a special 'CANCELLED' obliterator. These stamps, as with the 1996 teddy bear stamps were considered the property of the New Zealand Post Office as they had paid for the printing.

The replacement 40c+5c sheet stamps were printed by Southern Colour Print, Dunedin and have a different perforation, gauging 13¾x13½, compared to the stamps from the miniature sheet, printed by Australia Post Sprintpak, which measure 14x14½. They are also 1mm wider with the value '40c' 1mm higher.

New Zealand Post Publicity Department arranged for the distribution of sheets of self-adhesive labels which featured a section of the 80c+5c stamp (Figure 7).



Figure 7: Publicity Labels produced to support the 1996 issue.

The Gisborne Health Camp continued their practice of producing their own, unofficial, booklets and in 1996 these contained 40c+5c stamps from the self adhesive coils (Figure 8).

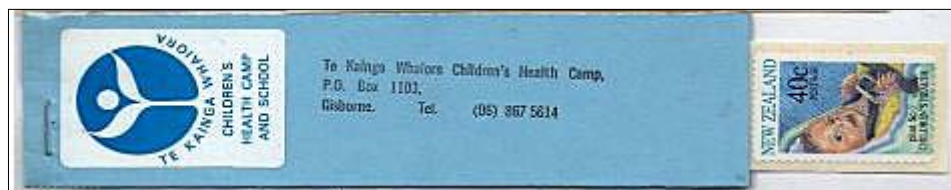


Figure 8: *The 1996 Gisborne Health Stamp booklet.*

The saga of the 1996 ‘Teddy Bear’ Health stamps produced great publicity for Health camps and stamps. Some lucky collectors found examples used in the post. Prices asked by dealers reflected the limited numbers that were available.

New Zealand Post, worried about the possibility of further examples of the 40c+5c ‘Teddy Bear’ stamp coming to the market, over and above those that were unaccounted for from the stock issued to Royal Oak and Te Ngae Post Offices, destroyed all remaining stock with the exception of some sample sheets in the archives held at Te Papa (Figure 9).

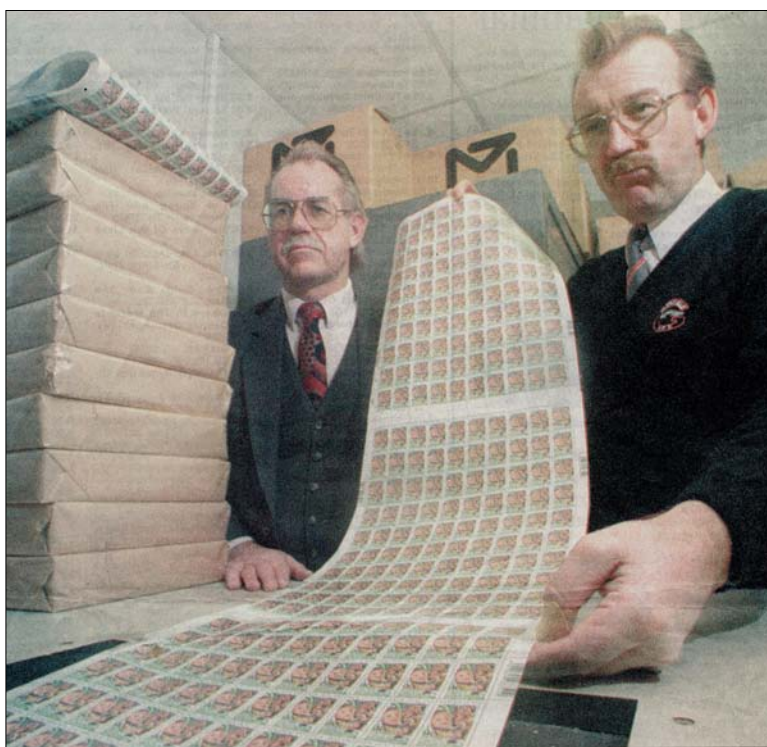


Figure 9: *North Shore Auckland Mail Centre shredding sheets of the ‘Teddy Bear’ stamps.*

The 1996 Health miniature sheet was issued overprinted for Stampex Tauranga (Figure 10), selling for \$4.50c to raise funds towards the cost of the exhibition which was held on January 24 1997

Healthy living was the subject for the 1997 Health stamp issue with designs chosen from a New Zealand Post ‘*Design a Stamp*’ competition, for school children, held during ‘Stamp Month’ in 1996. The stamps were issued in sheets of 50 (5 rows of 10 stamps).

The 40c+5c stamp featured a child on the beach by Fern Petrie of Auckland with the 80c+5c stamp, by Georgia Dumergue of Auckland showing a ‘Horse Rider on the Waterfront’. Self adhesive coil stamps were printed by Southern Colour Print, Dunedin (a first for them), in rolls of 100. Also a 40c+5c stamp it depicted fruit picking, from an illustration by Anita Pitcher from Palmerston North. The coils had the usual information labels ‘25 and 5 stamps left’ but, additionally, had Children’s Health Camp labels between stamps 15/16, 42/43, 68/69 and 84/85.



Figure 10: The 1996 Health miniature sheet overprinted for Stampex Tauranga 1997.

The miniature sheets for the 1997 issue, below, (Figure 11) were also printed by Southern Colour Print on a plate of 15 sheets, laid out in three rows of five. The perforations for the 40c+5c and 80c+5c beach scene stamps, both in the large sheets and the miniature sheet, were perforated 14. The other, vertical format, stamp from the miniature sheet was perforated 14½. The self-adhesive coil stamps which had die cut perforations which gauged 10¼x 10½.



Figure 11: The miniature sheet issued for 1997.

Gisborne Health Camp used strips of the 40c+5c self adhesive stamp, featuring children picking fruit, for their 1997 unofficial booklets (Figure 12).



Figure 12: Gisborne Health Camp produced unofficial booklets from the 1997 self-adhesive stamps.

It was a return to 'Children's Safety' in 1998 focusing on 'Young People and Water Safety'.

There were two different designs for the 40c+5c and 80c+5c stamps which were produced by Sea Sky Design, Paearaumu. The gummed stamps were printed in sheets of 100 (10x100) by Southern Colour Print, Dunedin and perforated 13 ½.

A second version of the 40c+5c value stamp, in rolls of 100 self-adhesive stamps, was produced by Australia Post Sprintpak, SNP. In rolls of 100, their was only the '25 and 5 stamp' information labels.



Figure 13: Self adhesive (left) and sheet stamp (right).

The self adhesive stamp is smaller in dimensions, 26mmx37.5mm, compared to the sheet stamps which measure 28mmx40mm. These differences are quite marked as can be seen here (Figure 13).

The miniature sheet contained two stamps of each value (Figure 14) with perforations gauging 14 ½ x 14.



Figure 14: 1998 Health miniature sheet featuring water safety.

Auckland post offices produced 'semi official' Health Stamp booklets in 1998 as part of an exercise to promote sales. 5000 booklet covers were produced. A number contained ten 40c+5c sheet stamps and a number were prepared with the 40c+5c self adhesive stamps. For customers who required stamps for 'Fast Post' booklets were made available with ten 80c+5c stamps (Figure 15).



Figure 15: 'Semi official' booklets produced in 1998 by Auckland Post Offices.

1000 covers were produced for the Auckland Downtown Office, these contained ten 40c+5c stamps (Figure 16a). Booklets for the Wellesley Street Office (Figure 16b) were also sold with ten 40c+5c stamps but there are no records of how many covers were produced.

Porirua Office had been producing a simple folded red card booklet for some years, in small quantities, identifiable by a double oval Porirua date stamp. For 1998 these contained ten 40c +5c stamps (Figure 16c).

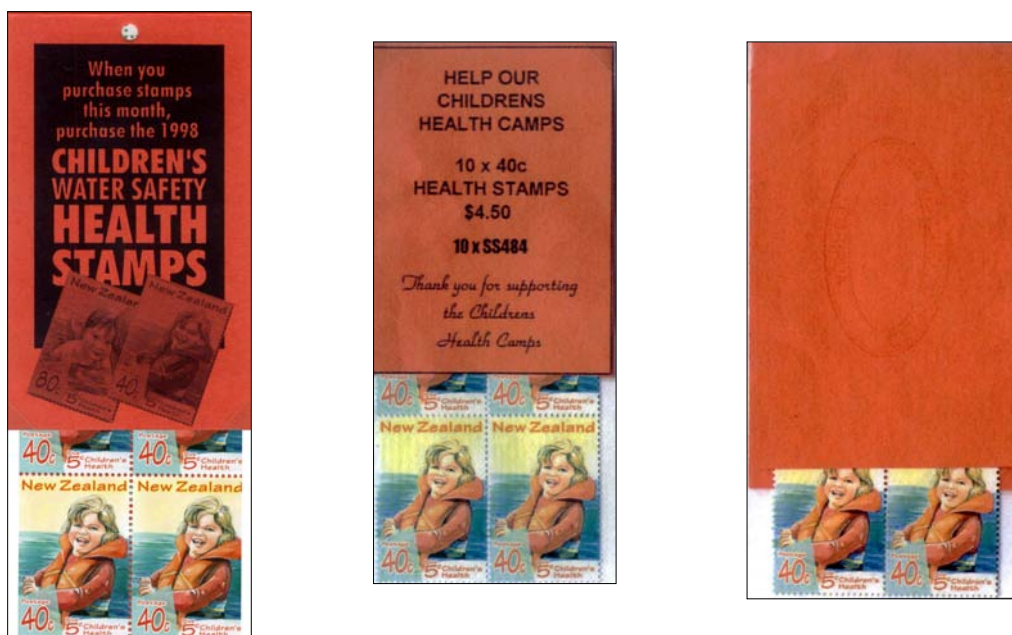


Figure 16: 1998 booklets for (a) Auckland Downtown (left), (b) Wellesley St (centre) and (c) Porirua (right).

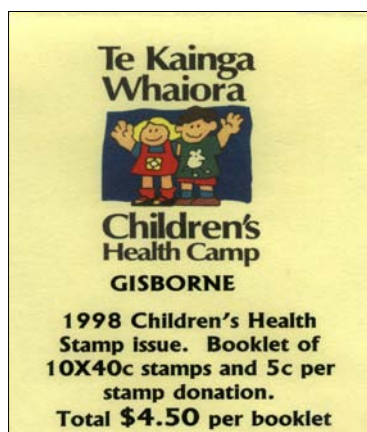


Figure 17:
1998 Gisborne Health booklet.

For the 1998 issue Gisborne Health Camp joined forces, for the first time, with the local Lions Club to promote the sale of Health Stamps. This provided funds for an improved, more professional cover presentation (Figure 17).

\$157,495 was raised from the sale of Health Stamps in that year.

With the number of different Health Stamp booklets produced in this particular year perhaps 1998 should be known as 'the year of the booklets'.

Acknowledgments:

I am grateful to John Biddlecombe for assistance with a number of the illustrations. Figure 9 is reproduced from *The New Zealand Herald* (29 May 1996).

Further Reading:

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2. Vincent BG, *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand, Volume X*, Chap. VII, p259, pub. The Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, 2013.
3. Watts JL, *The Kiwi*, Vol. 61 No. 5, p108-115, September 2012.



THE 1960 PICTORIAL DEFINITIVE ISSUE

- CHAMBON PERFORATIONS

Paul Wreglesworth

The original seven low value stamps, ½d to 8d, were printed by De La Rue on the web (i.e., using continuous reels of paper - a little like newspaper printing), rather than in sheet fed presses. It was expected that demand for the lower values would be high and therefore this form of high speed printing was entirely appropriate. When it came to perforating the printed sheets then De La Rue completed this as the sheets left the printing press. The perforations on the the 1960 Pictorial Issue were discussed in some detail in *The Kiwi* in 2018 (Refs. 1 and 2).

De La Rue used a series of different ‘comb’ heads for perforating. For early printings a single comb was employed which, at a single strike, perforated one entire horizontal line of perforations and all the vertical sides of that row of stamps. The comb head could be placed in the machine with ‘teeth’ pointing up or down. Later on they employed a double comb head which perforated all four sides of one row of stamps and the vertical sides of the stamps in the row above, or below. But De La Rue also used a very different comb, an ‘H’ comb, which like the double comb head perforated an entire row of stamps and half the vertical perforations on the row of stamps above and below. A comparison of double comb and ‘H’ comb can be seen here (Figures 1 and 2).

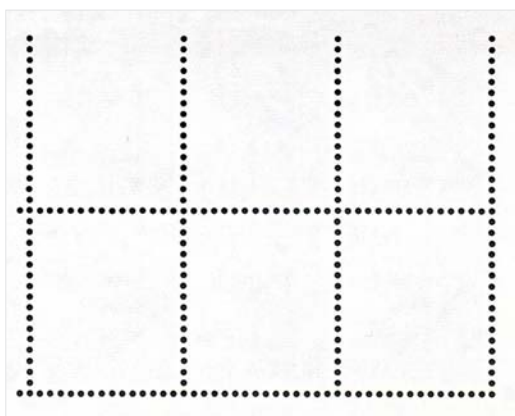


Figure 1: Double comb perf head
- comb pins pointing up.



Figure 2: Chambon
- ‘H’ comb.

These unusual perforations appear to have come to the notice of collectors late in 1962 as discussed in *Campbell Paterson's Newsletter* for December of that year (Ref. 3):-

“We had some time ago noticed a peculiar feature of the perforations on some sheets of the lower value pictorials (½d to 6d, De La Rue printings). Of considerable interest, therefore, was the statement made by De La Rue and discussed in *Gibbons Stamp Monthly* for November.

At the centre of the vertical perforations in alternate horizontal rows the holes sometimes overlapped or were far enough apart to leave an appreciably wider “tooth”. This is now explained by the layout of the pins in a new type perforator, used experimentally for a period of about eight weeks and then discarded as unsatisfactory. The layout of the pins is unique to philately, as at one strike a horizontal row of stamps is completely perforated and half the vertical sides of both adjacent stamps are perforated too. The next strike completes one of these partly perforated rows, does the next row completely and the succeeding row is once again partly perforated.

The machine was supplied to De La Rue by Messrs. Chambon, and for want of a better name this perforator could perhaps be called the ‘Chambon Experimental’. The first issues were perforated by a normal single comb. Then the ‘Chambon Experimental’ comb (gauging 14) was used. Later issues were perforated by a standard type double-comb, making three different heads used for some of the values. The ‘Chambon Experimental’ is of considerable philatelic interest and importance, and consideration is being given to our listing, in the next Catalogue Supplement, all the values which we know have been perforated with this extraordinary device”.

Louis Chambon (Figure 3) was a pioneer of multicolour printing and his company manufactured and supplied photogravure presses to many stamp printers. They worked very closely with De La Rue as they printed the 1960 Pictorial stamps for New Zealand (Ref. 4).

Presumably Chambon also supplied the perforating heads that were used in association with their printing presses. When the volume of stamps demanded by the New Zealand Post Office reached the point that the perforating step was rate limiting an alternative was required. Perhaps Chambon offered the ‘H’ comb which De La Rue adopted and, far from being a short term option, it was used extensively throughout the 1960 Pictorial Issue period (Refs. 1 and 2). Although a double comb was introduced it appears to have been used alongside the ‘H’ comb.

Although the ‘H’ comb perforating heads that were attached to De La Rue’s presses do not appear to have been used widely by other printers there is evidence that the Israeli State Printers, Hakirya, Israel used a similar perforating head (Figure 4).

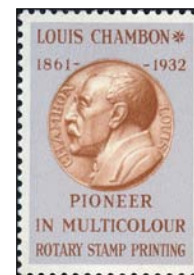


Figure 3:
Louis Chambon on a cinderella stamp printed by De La Rue.

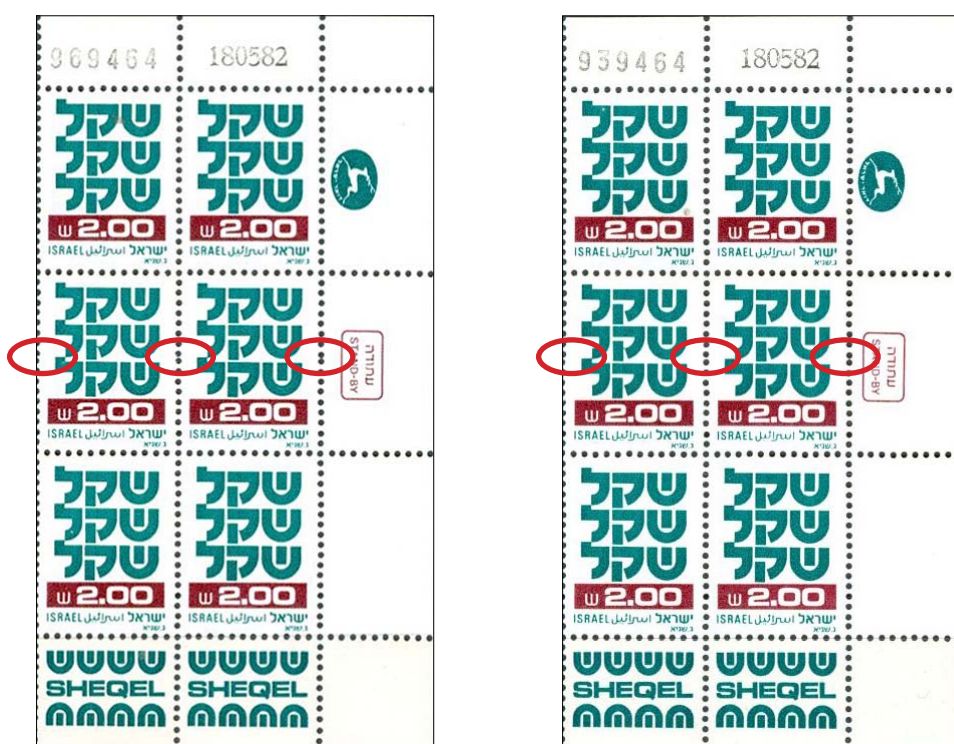


Figure 4: *Blocks from an Israeli stamp issue of 1980 showing Chambon type characteristics.*

It is the characteristic ‘wide’ or ‘narrow’ perforation at the mid-point of the vertical sides of the stamp, when consecutive strikes of the head are slightly out of alignment, that attracted the attention of collectors. Examples attract a premium despite the relatively common nature of the feature. In 1963 examples were reported, on the 2d and 4d values, where malfunction of the head had led to extensive ‘blind’ perfs at ‘Chambon intervals’ but otherwise examples of major problems resulting from the use of the ‘H’ comb are rare. A single used example with a horizontal ‘shift’ is shown here (Figure 5).

The ‘H’ comb was eventually used on all of the low values of the 1960 Pictorial series. The appearance of the last value, the 8d, was first reported in the September 1963 issue of *Campbell Paterson’s Newsletter*.



Figure 5:
A rare example of major misalignment of the ‘H’ comb.
[enlarged to 150%]
Image courtesy of M. Willocks.

Examples of the characteristic ‘narrow’ and ‘wide’ perforations are seen to best effect in blocks of six (Figure 5) where different combinations of ‘narrow’, ‘wide’ and ‘normal’ can be collected. The scarcest combination being ‘thick’ and ‘thick’ together in combination.

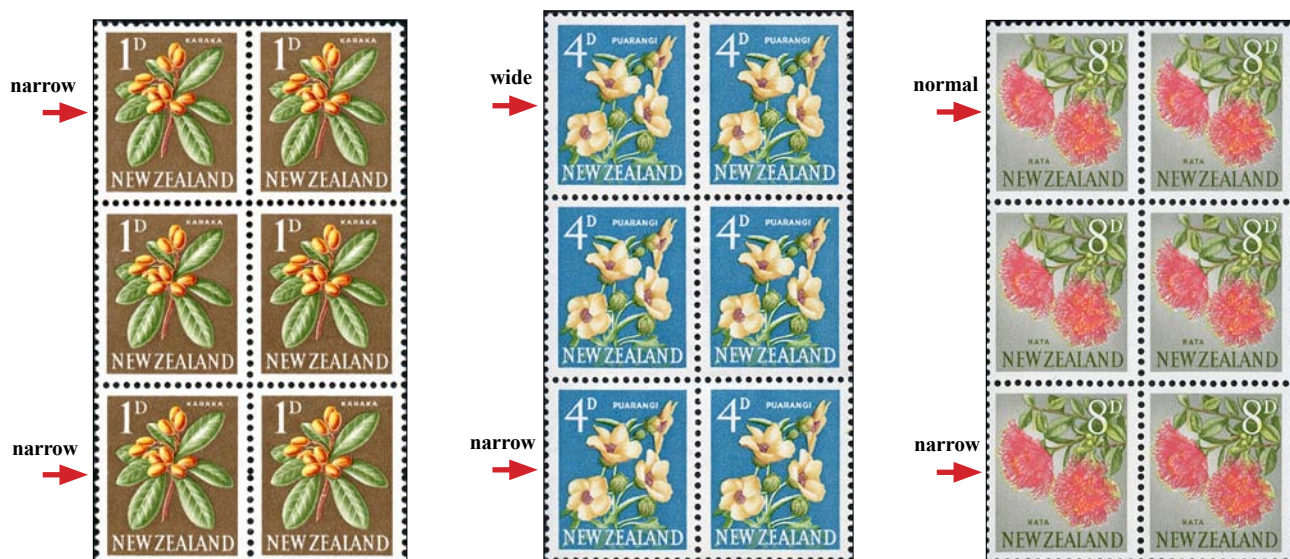


Figure 5: Blocks of the 1d, 4d and 8d values showing different combinations of the Chambon characteristics.

The characteristics of Chambon perforations are readily seen in the large sheets but as the sheets from which booklets were produced were also printed on the same printing machines the same features can be seen in booklet panes (Figures 6 and 7).



Figure 6: Pane from the stapled 4/6d booklet of 1962 showing narrow perms on the lower row.



Figure 7: Pane from the stitched 4/3d booklet of 1964 showing narrow perms on the lower row.

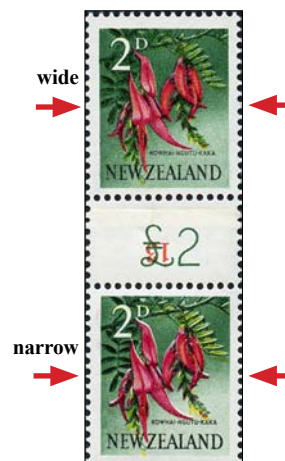
As counter coil stamps were produced from ordinary sheets of stamps these also show Chambon characteristics (Figure 8).



Figure 8: Examples of 2d counter coil pairs showing the characteristics of Chambon perforations.

The coils were prepared from normal sheets of stamps which, printed and perforated on the web, had perforations through the gutter between the separate sheets. Consequently the ‘join’ between two strikes of the ‘H’ comb could occur in Row 1 of the sheet (bottom stamp in a coil pair) or in Row 20 (top stamp in a coil pair).

Depending how the sheets were combined examples with Chambon characteristics in both stamps in the pair can be found (right).



Some vending machine rolls were also produced from standard sheets and these can also be found with Chambon characteristics (Figure 9).

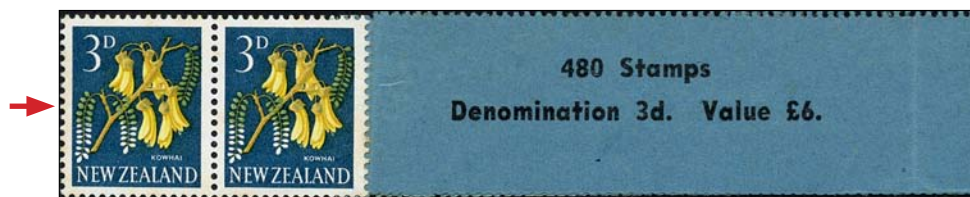


Figure 9: A wrapper for a vending machine coil, also prepared from standard sheets, and showing 'narrow' perforations. Interestingly the 3d stamps have the green colour partly omitted.

Campbell Paterson's Newsletter, July 1967, reported that "the photogravure rotary machines which produced the Chambon perforations have been sold to Indonesia and Pakistan so we are unlikely to see these oddities again - unless, that is, we collect Indonesia and Pakistan".

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3. Paterson C, *Campbell Paterson's Newsletter*, Vol. 14 No.5, p3, December 1962.
4. Wreglesworth P, 'Chambon - more than just a perforation', *New Zealand Stamp Collector*, Vol.84 No.4, 112-114, December 2004.

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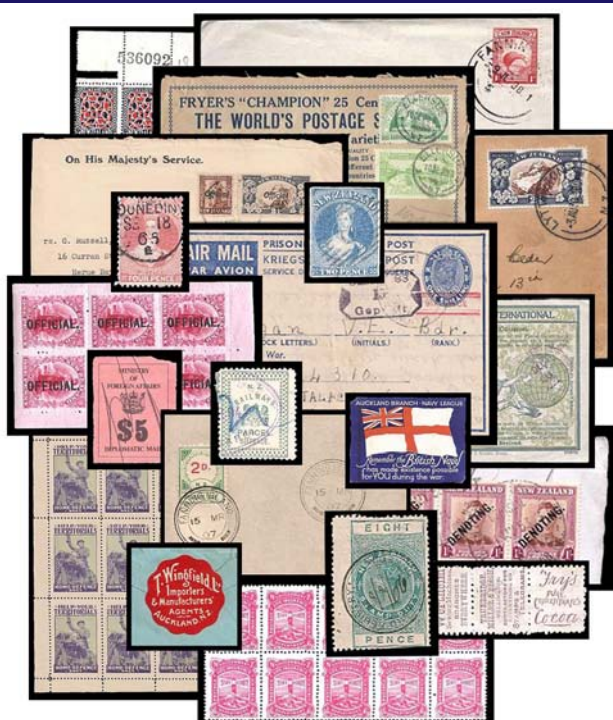
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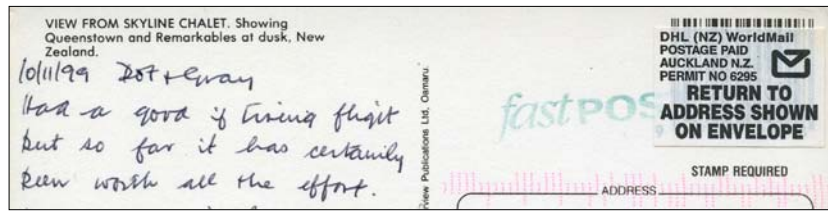


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REQUEST FOR HELP FROM MEMBERS - A POSSIBLE ANSWER

I had a number of responses to my request for information regarding the unusual label on a 1999 picture postcard which was reproduced in the January 2019 issue of *The Kiwi*. Part reproduced here (right)



I suggested that it might have been an early experiment from one of the Alternative Postal Operators, who entered the market following deregulation in 1998, although I am not aware of DHL, who are named on the label, being one of those companies.

Andrew McNiven wrote: “Regarding your inquiry, the deregulated postal market in New Zealand is indeed an interesting one”. Having confirmed that there was no stamp under the DHL label, “from the text that the senders “Jean & Keith” have placed on the postcard it is difficult to know if they were on an organised tour or were touring New Zealand as independent travellers. Either way they could have handed the postcard over to the tour guide or hotel reception for the item to be mailed, without themselves having to find a post office, know what the postage rate was, purchase or affix a stamp. A number of businesses involved in tourism activities - be it gift shops or accommodation providers did not use New Zealand Post for all of their mail. In some cases they didn’t use NZ Post for any of their outgoing mail.

I am aware that New Zealand Document Exchange Limited trading as DX Mail was registered as a postal operator on 20 April 1998; DX Mail had an agreement in place with DHL for the conveyance of mail. So the item would have been uplifted in a satchel/ bag by DX Mail from a business, conveyed through their network to a sorting hub and internationally addressed items handed over to DHL. The decision at the DHL sorting hub would be - based on the destination, weight, size, speed, value of the item - does it continue in the DHL network or does it join the NZ Post network?

One factor to be aware of is that in New Zealand the purchase of a postage stamp incurs GST, which on 1 July 1989 increased from 10% to 12.5%, however if a business lodges mail without stamps, such as under a business mail permit system the mailing is GST exempt. I would also suggest that DHL would have had a “contract” with NZ Post based on volume lodged and presort - which would have lead to the sticker being applied at the DHL sorting hub (most likely in Auckland) and lodged along with the :’statement of posting’ for all the other postcards and mail items with New Zealand Post.

The *Fastpost* indicator would have assisted the sorting staff to know to send it by *AirPost International*, rather than the slower *EconomyPost International* service”.



I am grateful to Laurence Kimpton who sent scans of a card (left) he posted whilst in Argentina in 2009, and the DHL Express collecting box, one of many, he notes, conveniently placed outside tourist shops.

Laurence purchased a DHL stamp and posted the card, which arrived some eight weeks later having travelled through the DHL network, entering the conventional postal system at DHL’s hub in Frankfurt. A ‘Deutsche Post’ label had been added over the original stamp and proved difficult to remove. (Scans show ‘before’ and ‘after’ trying to remove the label).

Laurence’s card is an example of DHL acting as a private operator in a de-regulated market. Andrew makes some interesting points although I cannot believe DX Mail would not have their name or logo on the label.

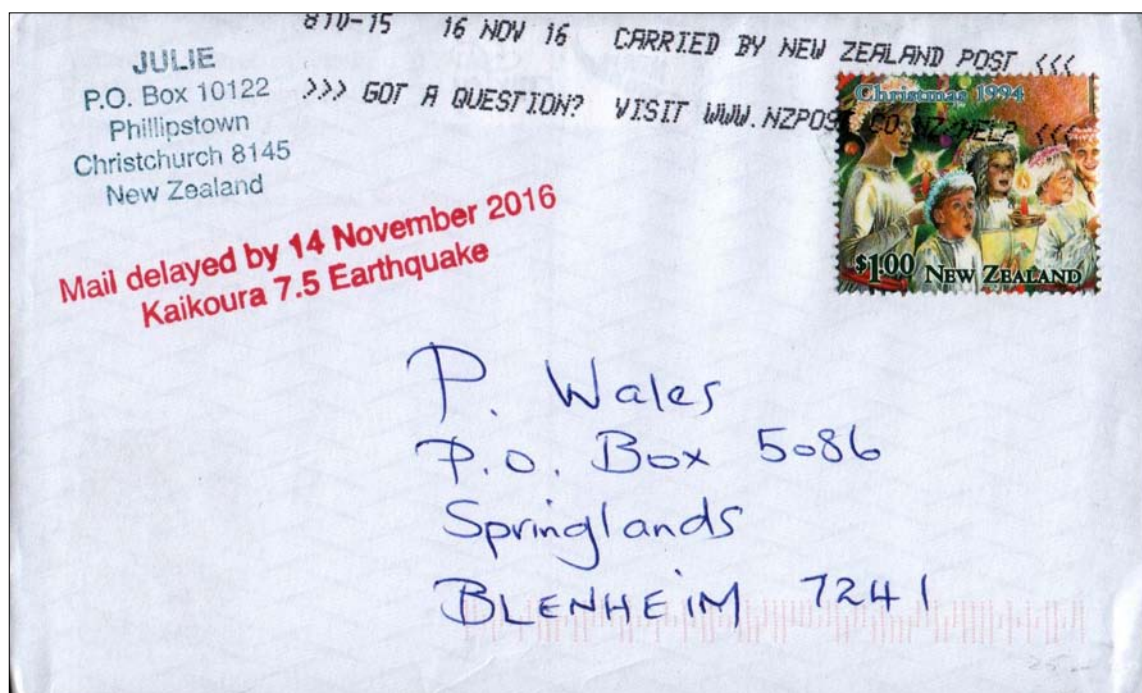
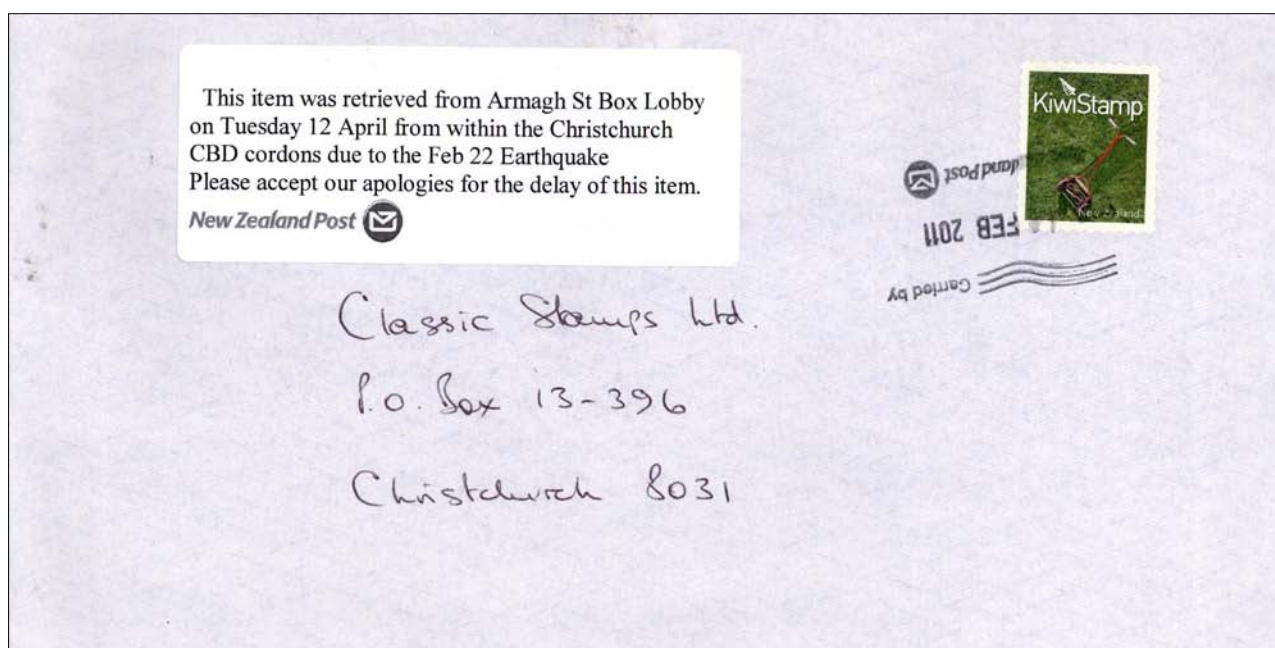
Any further thoughts? Please get in touch. (kiwieditor@gmail.com).

PW

REQUEST FOR HELP FROM MEMBERS

Brian Peace has mail that was involved in five earthquakes in New Zealand (see table below) and would like to hear from members who have examples of mail associated with any other New Zealand earthquakes.

Date	Intensity	Location
1929 17 June	7.8	Karamea
1931 3 February	7.8	Hawkes Bay
1931 13 February	7.3	Hawkes Bay
2011 13 June	6.0	Christchurch
2016 14 November	7.5	Kaikoura





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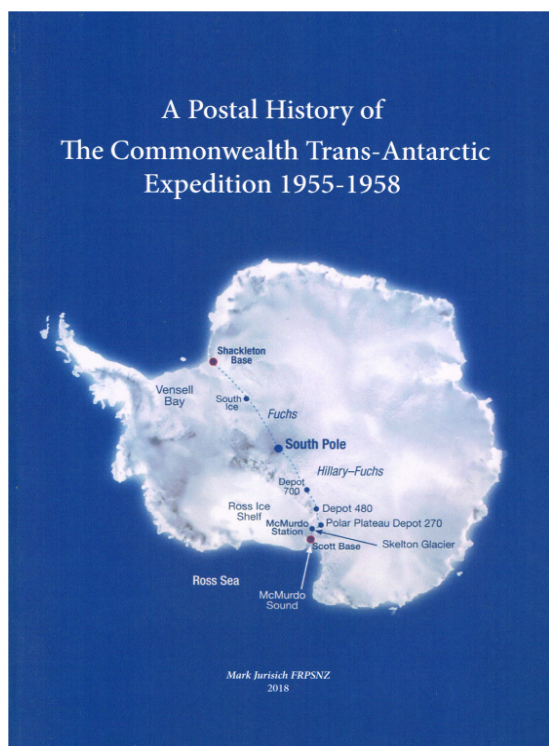
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