

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN



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Sir Charles Edward Kingsford Smith, 1897 – 1935. (Contd.)

It was almost a year before Smithy was able to complete his round-the-world flight. The Atlantic had only been crossed thrice by air: by Alcock and Brown flying west to east in 1919, by Lindberg solo in the same direction, and by a German team, east to west in the aircraft Bremen, so Smithy's achievement on June 23/24 1930 was a great event. Feted with tumultuous New York hospitality, Smithy flew on to San Francisco on July 2nd–4th and thus became the first man to circumnavigate the world by air.

Leaving his plane with Lockheed Aircraft for overhaul, Smithy returned to Europe. Another Australian, Bert Hinkler, had set an England–Australia record by a solo flight of 15 days, and on October 9th, 1930, Kingsford Smith left Heston in an Avro Avian which he had acquired and named "Southern Cross Junior". He covered the 10,700 miles to Darwin in North Australia in the record time of 9 days 22 hours. A few covers were carried from London to Sydney. It was not unusual at this time for the Darwin Post Office to ask fliers entering the country through this aerodrome to carry mail, so a small number of covers carried on this flight are also known, Darwin to Sydney.

On 19th March 1931, 2d, 3d, and 6d stamps were issued by the Australian Post Office to commemorate Kingsford Smith's flights.

In June 1932, Charles Edward Kingsford Smith was awarded a knighthood.

Still trying to persuade the authorities that an air link between Australia and New Zealand was essential, Smithy did another successful Trans–Tasman flight on January 11th 1933. Twenty pilot signed covers were carried on this trip, and about double that number on the return, postmarked either Rawena or Waipapakauri 25 JA, and backstamped Sydney 26 JA 33.

A year later, Smithy flew Southern Cross to New Zealand again, covers carried on this occasion being postmarked Newton, 13th January 1934 and backstamped New Plymouth. On this occasion his co-pilot was Thomas Pethybridge, and both pilots signed flown covers.

On 17th February 1934, Chas. Ulm, Smithy's old co-pilot, carried the first official airmail from New Zealand to Australia. A special printing in blue was made of the 7d airmail stamp overprinted Air Mail Faith in Australia (the name of Ulm's plane). 83,078 of these stamps were sold, and the remainder of the printing destroyed. 39,255 items of mail were flown. Smithy returned from New Zealand on 29th March 1934 and special covers were printed for mail carried on this flight,

listing the Trans-Tasman flights. Of these envelopes, 1,500 show an error of date, March 1935 instead of '34 and also OOT 1928. 20,979 covers were carried plus 887 registered items and 30 special covers issued at and carried by Kingsford Smith at the North Island Aerial Pageant at Hastings for the Hawkes Bay and East Coast Aero Club. Covers were postmarked with a temporary "skeleton" type handstamp "Kaitia 29 March 1934", and backstamped at Sydney on the same date.

On Dec. 4th 1934, Chas. Ulm, with a navigator and wireless operator left Vancouver to cross the Pacific. After leaving San Francisco for Hawaii, there was a long radio silence. Suddenly over the crackling of atmospherics, Ulm's voice was heard saying "Hullo, Hullo, I think we're going into the drink. Hurry and send someone to fish us out". They were never seen again.

In May 1935, Smithy planned to fly a special Australia-New Zealand "Jubilee Air Mail" in commemoration of the Silver Jubilee of King George V. The King was himself a keen stamp collector, and had been invited to send some covers for this special flight by "Southern Cross". A total of 28,279 letters were accepted for this mail, but half way across in the midst of the usual foul Tasman Sea weather, an exhaust pipe broke, and a piece flying off struck and broke one of the propellers. Smithy decided to turn back, and a tense situation developed, with the plane losing height and becoming increasingly difficult to handle. It was decided to ditch the mail in order to lighten the plane, and this was done, some 1,000 letters only being saved.

Smithy, no longer fit, short of cash and with business worries, sought to sell "Southern Cross". Turning down a good offer from Fokker's, the plane's makers, he accepted £3,000 from the Australian Government, and on July 18th he flew it for the last time from Mascot to Richmond, a short hop. A few covers were carried, signed by all on board, who included the young son of his old friend Charles Ulm.

Tired and strained as he was, Smithy determined to again have an attempt on the record between England and Australia. Leaving London on November 6th in "Lady Southern Cross" with Tom Pethybridge as co-pilot, they made excellent time to Burma. From there they set course for Malaya and were seen flying fast and true over Akyab at 9 p.m. on the night of the 6th, but on November 8th were officially declared missing after no word had been heard from them for 24 hours.

It is impossible today, with the man-in-the-street regarding long journeys by air as commonplace, to see these early fliers' exploits in perspective, but without the likes of Smithy, the development of long distance flights on either a commercial or a military basis would never have been accomplished. Sir Charles Edward Kingsford Smith was a controversial figure, but he has become a legend and a National Hero. Mascot, the aerodrome at Sydney, is known as Kingsford Smith Airport, and besides appearing on stamp issues, perhaps his most permanent claim to recognition came when his portrait was chosen to appear on Australian \$ 20 bills.

1898 - 1908 PICTORIALS USED

The finest and most comprehensive series of offers of used N.Z. First Pictorials we have ever been in a position to offer. Check the prices, too - they are invariably extremely attractive. Our listing commences with a range of basic sets of the various issues, and continues with exceptionally thorough coverage on a value-by-value basis. Unless otherwise indicated, quality can confidently be presumed to be of the highest standard.

1001 London Prints. Complete set of 14 values, ½d - 5/- (including both spellings on the 2½d). All with c.d.s. or light squared circle cancellations. We've said it before, and we make no apology for the repetition - the 5/- 'London' in

	particular is an extremely difficult stamp to find in fine used condition, as here. The set of 'Londons', minimum Cat. \$ 790+	£200.00
1002	Local Prints, Perf. 11, Unwatermarked. Set of 11 complete (2½d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d green, 6d red, 8d, 9d, 1/-, 2/-, 5/-). Min. Cat. \$ 585+	£185.00
1003	Local Prints, Perf. 11, Wmk. Double-lined NZ and Star. The 'odd-ball' set of three stamps (1d, 1½d, 2d purple), complete for this paper	£2.75
1004	Local Prints, Perf. 11, Wmk. Single-lined NZ and Star. Complete set of 11 values (2½d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d, 8d, 9d, 1/-, 2/-, 5/- wmk. sideways, 5/- wmk. upright). Minimum Cat. \$ 927.50	£225.00
1005	Local Prints, Perf. 14. Set of 13 values complete (1½d, 2d, 2½d, 3d, 4d, 5d, 6d, 8d, 9d, 1/-, 2/-, 5/- wmk. sideways, 5/- wmk. upright). Minimum Cat. \$ 850+	£225.00
1006(a)	1907-08 Reduced Designs, Perf. 14. Set of 2 (3d, 6d).	£15.00
	(b) As above, Perf. 14 x 12½ - 13¼. Set of 4 (3d, 4d, 6d, 1/-).	£100.00
	(c) As above, Perf. 14 x 15. Set of 3 (3d, 6d, 1/-).	£22.50
1007(a)	½ d Mt. Cook (E1a). Single copy	25p
	(b) As above. Set of three listed shades (purple-brown, purple-slate, blackish purple). As in all the shades sets we shall be offering in this listing, copies are specially selected for good contrasts	£2.00
1008(a)	1d Lake Taupo (E2a). Single copy	10p
	(b) As above. Set showing the three listed frame shades (yellow-brown, chestnut and chocolate brown)	£2.50
1009(a)	1d White Terrace (E3a). Single copy	5p
	(b) As above. Set of all four listed shades — crimson, rose-red, lake-crimson, and the very scarce deep crimson-lake. A magnificent quartet	£23.50
	(c) As above. Similar set, but three superb shades only — no deep crimson-lake	£4.00
	(d) As above. Single copy (in crimson), showing the outstanding major re-entry which occurred on Plate 2, R4/15 (EV3b — illustrated on Perm. Page E(B)). One of N.Z.'s very best re-entries	£22.50
	(e) As above. R2/17 (also from Pl. 2) is the only other big re-entry on the 1d Terrace, although not as major as R4/15. Here seen in superb used pair with a normal (rose-red shade)	£12.50
1010(a)	1½d Boer War Contingent, Perf. 11 (E4a). Single copy	£2.75
	(b) As above. Set of 4, in shades of brown, chestnut, pale chestnut and reddish chestnut. The 'brown' copy has a very minor hinge-thin, and is heavily discounted in the price of the set	£17.50

1011	2d Pembroke Peak, London Print (E5a). Shades of brown-lake and rosy lake, The two	15p
1012(a)	2d Pembroke Peak, Local Print, Perf. 11 (E6a). Single copy	10p
	(b) As above. Set of 3, in the listed shades of dull violet, mauve and purple	£1.25
1013(a)	2d Pembroke Peak, Local Print, Perf. 14 (E6b). Single copy	15p
	(b) As above. Three brilliant shades of purple, dull to reddish, as listed	80p
1014	2½d Lake Wakitipu (E7a). The 'error-of-spelling' stamp, relatively common mint (because the mistake was well-publicised and widely known at the time of issue), but scarce used, particularly with contemporary 1898 date, as here	£9.50
1015(a)	2½d Lake Wakatipu, London Print (E8a). Single copy	£1.25
	(b) As above. Complete set of the five listed shades. One set only, and very seldom available	£20.00
	(c) As above. Shorter set of three blue shades, but nice!	£6.00
1016(a)	2½d Perf. 11, No Wmk. (E8b). Single copy	£1.50
	(b) As above. Set of the four listed shades, complete	£7.25
1017(a)	2½d Perf. 11, Watermarked (E8c). Single copy	£4.50
	(b) As above. The listed shades in set of 3	£13.50
	(c) As above. Copy with variety Watermark Reversed . (Variations of the upright wmk. are very much scarcer than those found when the Cowan paper is used sideways, as in the 3d, 5d, 6d, 8d, 1/- and 5/-)	£12.50
1018(a)	2½d Perf. 14 (E8d). Single copy	£1.00
	(b) As above. Deep blue and dark blue as listed. The two	£2.25
1019(a)	3d London Print (E9a). Single copy	£3.00
	(b) As above. Two super shades, yellow-brown and deep yellow-brown	£6.25
	(c) As above. Copy showing a typical re-entry, with doubling in the top right corner. Because of the sharp and finely printed impressions, re-entry doubling on all London Prints is particularly clear	£5.75
1020(a)	3d Perf. 11, No Wmk. (E9b). Single copy	40p
	(b) As above. The two listed shades	95p
	(c) As above. A C.P. special — no less than seven excellent shades, ranging from the deepest of deep to the palest of pale	£5.00

1021(a) 3d Perf. 11, Watermarked (E9c). Single copy	20p
(b) As above. Yellow-brown, bistre-brown and pale bistre — the three shades (the last is quite scarce)	£2.25
(c) As above. Another extra-special lot, of nine lovely shades. A positive kaleidoscope of browns!	£11.50
(d) As above. Superb copy with variety Imperf. at Top (E9cW)	£5.00
1022(a) 3d Perf. 14. (E9d). Single copy	50p
(b) As above. Set of the three listed shades. Magnificent!	£5.75
(c) As above. Yet another long set of nine glorious shades	£15.00
1023(a) 3d Reduced Design, Perf. 14 (E10a). Single copy	£7.00
(b) As above. Contrasting shades of brown and deep brown. The two	£15.00
1024(a) 3d Reduced Design, Perf. 14 x 12½ - 13½ (E10b). Single copy	£8.00
(b) As above. Set of two, in the listed shades of brown and yellow-brown	£16.50
1025(a) 3d Reduced Design, Perf. 14 x 15 (E10c). Single copy	£5.00
(b) As above. Brown and yellow-brown shades, the two	£10.50
1026(a) 3d Official, Perf. 14 (E09d). Single copy	£1.75
(b) As above. Three fine shades, including a pale yellow-bistre	£5.75
(c) As above. A superb used (dated) block of 4	£10.00

TRANS - TASMAN COVERS

This month's notes make extensive reference to the Trans-Tasman crossings by Charles Kingsford Smith and C.T.P. Ulm. The following is a listing of covers carried on some of these flights:—

1027(a) 17 FEB 1934 Crossing, by Ulm. Printed Manilla envelope, complete with air mail etiquette, 7d Trans-Tasman adhesive (V5a, S.G. 554), special circular cachet, Kaitia relief datestamp, and backstamped on arrival at Sydney	£35.00
(b) As above. A similar cover, but posted at Dunedin on 18th January 1934 (the second-day of issue of the 7d Trans-Tasman stamp), and held until 17th Feb. when it made the crossing	£40.00
(c) As above. The quantity of mail carried on this flight was such, that an unknown number of "identical" relief datestamps were employed to cancel the envelopes. These four covers all show significant differences in this datestamp (full details provided) — an unusual set never before offered	£110.00

- (d) **As above.** Similar cover to lot (a) above, but the adhesive shows the broken N variety (V5aZ) £40.00
- 1028(a) 29 MAR 1934 Crossing,** by Kingsford Smith. Specially printed envelope (see Bulletin note), with new circular cachet "TRANS-TASMAN AIR MAIL/ KAITAIA/29 MR 34 1AM/NZ/SOUTHERN CROSS", and Sydney arrival mark £25.00
- (b) **As above.** The error cover (MARCH 1935 instead of 1934, and OOT 1928), with all correct markings — although 1500 of these were apparently printed this is only the third copy we have handled £47.50
- (c) **As above.** Cover to England, with 3d, 4d, 7d, 5d on 3d adhesives (V1a - V4a), and special cachet. Other markings are Gisborne 19 MR 1934 datestamp; Sydney 29 MR 1934 arrival mark; London 26 AP 1934 hand stamp; "Contrary to Regulations" in manuscript; "Not called for EC" rubber stamp; UNDELIVERED FOR REASONS STATED/RETURN TO SENDER; and finally Wellington Dead Letter office 12 JUNE 34. A "round the world" cover!! £40.00
- 1029(a) April 1934 Crossings.** In April 1934 pilot Ulm made a crossing of the Tasman Sea in both directions. This cover was carried on the outward leg (12th April)— the "First Official Air Mail Australia - New Zealand" — and is franked with Two Australian stamps (total 7d), special Australian cachet, and 12th April N.Z. backstamp £15.00
- (b) **As above.** Another Australia — N.Z. cover, similar to the last item, but signed by Ulm £37.50
- (c) **As above.** The return leg, New Zealand — Australia (14th April). This cover is complete with V3a adhesive, special April 1934 cachet, Kaitaia relief datestamp and Sydney arrival backstamp £30.00
- 1030(a) 2 JULY 1934 Crossing,** by Ulm. Special envelope with June 1934 cachet and Kaitaia relief datestamp £22.50
- (b) **As above.** An N.Z. — Australia — N.Z. cover, all correct frankings and markings for the outward flight, and return by sea £27.50

KING GEORGE VI, CONT

- 1031(a) 6d Coarse Paper (M10b).** One of the scarce K.G.VI stamps. Mint single £5.00
- (b) **As above.** Unhinged mint block of 4 £20.00
- (c) **As above.** The rare imprint/plate (no. 146), mint block of 4 £30.00
- 1032(a) 8d Fine Paper (M11a).** Three attractive shades, mint £3.50
- (b) **As above.** Unmounted mint, marginal block of 4 £3.00
- (c) **As above.** Complete set of imprint/plate blocks of 6 (nos. 93,95,99), mint £15.00
- As above.** Mint block of 10 with defective watermark £12.50

(e) As above. Counter coil pair (MC2j), mint	£5.00
(f) As above. Used block of 4, EPSOM c.d.s. 28.AU 52	£1.00
(g) As above. The 'Official' issue (MO11a), imprint/plate block of 6 (no. 95) — Brilliant unhinged mint	£32.50
1033(a) 8d Coarse Paper (M11b). Two shades, mint	£7.50
(b) As above. Marginal block of 4, unmounted mint	£12.50
(c) As above. Imprint/plate block of 6, no. 110, mint	£25.00
(d) As above. Counter coil pair (MC2k), mint	£5.00
(e) As above. Complete set of coil pairs (MC2k), numbered 1–19. Cat. \$ 228, mint	£57.50
1034(a) 9d Fine Paper (M12a). The three listed shades, mint singles	£3.50
(b) As above. The same shades, but mint blocks of 4	£12.50
(c) As above. Imprint/plate block of 6 (no. 97), mint	£8.50
(d) As above. Mint block of 10 with defective watermark	£17.50
(e) As above. 9d counter coil pairs on fine paper (MC2l) are extremely scarce — they occurred only with coil nos 6 and 7 within a very few coil sets. We have available one pair with each number at, each	£30.00
(f) As above. These few 9d "mixed-paper sets" not only included the two fine paper pairs (6 and 7), but also two coil pairs with fine and coarse papers combined (nos 5 and 8). This pair is no. 5, MC2l (Z), mint	£30.00
1035(a) 9d Coarse Paper (M12b). Two fine shades, mint	£8.00
(b) As above. Complete set of all 3 imprint/plate blocks of 6 (nos 97, 134, 135). One set only, mint (Cat. \$ 195)	£67.50
(c) As above. Odd imprint/plate blocks of 6, nos 97 or 134, each block	£25.00
(d) As above. Mint copy with inverted watermark (M12bZ)	£12.50
(e) As above. Counter coil pair (MC2m), two notably different coarse papers combined	£10.00
(f) As above. Two counter coil pairs, one with 'normal' (thin) coil number, the other with 'abnormal' (thick) no 1, recorded in Scott	£15.00
(g) As above. Complete set of counter coil pairs, nos 1–19, Cat. \$ 380	£90.00
1036 King George V Recess Officials. The three K.G.V. Two—Perf Pairs overprinted Official, 3d, 6d, 1/- (KO4c, KO8c, KO12c). Fine mint copies, cat. \$ 500 and offered at	£115.00

- 1037 Q.E. 2½ d on 3d.** Set of two pairs, showing the wide and narrow settings se-tenant vertically and horizontally (N42a Z, Y; S.G. 808bx2). The two pairs unmounted mint, cat. \$ 80 £25.00
- 1038(a) 1967 Life Insurance.** Complete set of 13 unhinged mint stamps (X21-X26), including (i) thin paper 1c, 2½ c, 5c, 10c; (ii) cream paper 1c, 2c, 2½ c, 5c, 10c; (iii) white paper 1c, 3c, 5c, 10c. Catalogued at over \$ 80 £25.00
- (b) **As above.** Set of the 6 stamps (one of each value) as issued on 'decimal day', on First Day Cover (Government Life Insurance Envelope), dated 10 JULY 1967. One of the scarcest of all modern FDC.s, and seldom available £45.00
- 1039(a) Victoria Land.** Top marginal block of 4 of the 1d (RD3a), unhinged mint. The block shows the 1d Dominion flaws found on R1/7 and 2/8 (plate 13)—both listed by Fisher in his monograph on the 1d Dominion stamp. Lovely multiple (full description provided if required). £122.50
- (b) **As above.** Right marginal block of the 1d, also unmounted mint. This block shows the plate 13, R7/23 1d Dominion flaw (also listed in Fisher). Superb in all respects £122.50

RECENT ISSUES

25c and 35c Queen Definitives, Issued 1st July 1985 (the 25c supersedes the 24c Map stamp following an increase of 1c in the standard letter-post rate!).

- Two mint stamps 42p
- Two imprint blocks of 6 for each value, bottom selvage perforated and not perforated. The set of 4 blocks £5.50
- One imprint block each value £2.80
- Two sheet value blocks of 4, one each value £2.00
- Official illustrated First Day Cover (Wanganui pmk) 52p
- Stationery.** 25c Lettercard — vermilion on blue 30p
- 25c Envelope (162mm x 114mm) — vermilion on white 30p
- \$ 1 and \$ 2 Bird Definitive Presentation Pack.** (PP10). As usual highly decorative, and most attractive (Post paid) £5.00

1985 Healths, issued 31st July 1985. 25c+2c x2 se-tenant, 35c+2c. This year's theme is Princess Diana, Prince Charles and children.

- Mint set of 3 65p
- Two imprint/plate blocks of 6, one each value £4.50
- Two sheet value blocks of 4, one each value £3.25
- Official illustrated First Day Cover (Wanganui pmk) 75p
- Miniature sheet of 6 stamps (two sets, the three stamps being se-tenant horizontally) £1.30
- Health Camp Postmarks. Set of 7 covers from the following health camps — Maunu, Glenelg, Roxburgh, Otaki, Pakuranga, Gisborne, Rotorua. (Post paid) .. £7.50