

CAMPBELL



PATERSON

NEWSLETTER

FOR COLLECTORS OF NEW ZEALAND STAMPS

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The Other Portrait

CP'S NEW ZEALAND STAMPS - WELCOME TO OUR TRADITION

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QUEEN VICTORIA IN HER CORONATION ROBES

by Jim Measures

Not by A.E. Chalon, this portrait by John Partridge exposes a long concealed truth about the Queen.

Almost every philatelist will be familiar with the portrait of Queen Victoria painted by Alfred Edward Chalon, that was used by so many members of the British Empire as the subject of early postage stamps. There is a second portrait of Queen Victoria that should be familiar to Canadian philatelists as it was in the possession of Sir Sandford Fleming when he designed Canada's first stamps, including the "3 Penny Beaver", "6 Penny Prince Albert", and our famous "12 Penny Black" showing Queen Victoria.

It may not, however be so familiar to New Zealand philatelists.

I had heard the story of Fleming rescuing the picture of Queen Victoria from the 1849 fire at the Legislative Chamber in Montreal, from a speaker at a stamp club meeting. He had this picture "rolled up under his drafting table" according to his diaries, so the club speaker was sure that he must have used it as a subject when he drew the original designs for the early stamps of Canada, showing Queen Victoria. I was therefore pleased to see this portrait in the Lobby of Canada's Senate when I was there on the First of July 1967. On that day I took my family and visited Ottawa, along with about 100,000 friends to celebrate Canada's Centennial. All day there were tours of the Parliament Buildings, so I joined one such tour. When the tour reached the Lobby of the Senate, sometimes called "The Hall of Royalty", there was Victoria, and all of Canada's other Royals in larger than life portraits. With my philatelic interest, I raised my camera to take a photograph of Queen Victoria's portrait. A uniformed guard politely but firmly took my arm and informed me that it was not permitted to take a flash picture of this portrait. He was friendly so I asked him why, and we had an extensive conversation about this particular painting. The following is my recollection of the story told me by this Parliament Hill Guard.

Queen Victoria was handicapped, she had a withered left arm. When she became Queen in 1837, the British Government wanted an official portrait for use on a variety of official documents, currency, etc. Since this was before the time of cameras and photographs, Alfred Edward Chalon was commissioned to paint the Queen's portrait and to produce several copies for government use.

Another artist John Partridge, saw this portrait and since he had met the Queen, he declared that the portrait was a lie. "It doesn't show her bad arm". Partridge then undertook to paint a similar portrait of Victoria that was more honest and showed her arm as it really was. The Queen would not allow the Partridge portrait to be shown in England so eventually it was given to the Parliament of United Colonies of Upper and lower Canada, and mounted in the Legislative Chamber in Montreal; it remained there until rioters burned the building in 1849. The day of the fire, Sandford Fleming was in Montreal. He was an admirer of Victoria, so he took out a pocket knife, cut the painting out of its frame, rolled it up and took it with him.

After Confederation when new Parliament Buildings were built in Ottawa, Fleming returned the portrait of Victoria to be mounted in the new Parliament. In 1916 another fire destroyed the Ottawa Parliament buildings but again the John Partridge portrait was rescued and was eventually mounted where it is to this day in the Lobby of the Senate.

Since that time, the Government of Canada fears that Queen Victoria's Ghost is trying to destroy this portrait, the only one in existence that shows her withered

arm, therefore we have a 24 hour guard watching to ensure that nothing flammable (such as flash cameras) can ever come near this portrait of Canada's and New Zealand's first Queen.

I suspect that the guard was exaggerating a little to entertain this tourist, but nevertheless, his story only adds to the interest we may take in Queen Victoria. She achieved greatness, well beyond many previous British monarchs, in spite of being handicapped. One weakness in the guard's story is the fact that the first fire, in 1849, was while Victoria was still alive, so it can be assumed that "her Ghost" was with her in England, not in Montreal. Nevertheless, I still wanted to have a copy of this portrait so I contacted my local Member of Parliament, who was sympathetic but told me that it was not possible to get permission to take a photograph of this painting. I let the matter drop until 1988 when New Zealand issued an attractive souvenir sheet that showed the full Chalon Portrait, the one John Partridge had called "a lie". This renewed my interest in obtaining a copy of Canada's portrait of Queen Victoria, but further enquiries got the same results as before, until 2002 when Mr. Lynn Myers MP referred my request to Mr. Blair Armitage, Acting Usher of the Black Rod in The Senate of Canada. This led to my being given permission to purchase a 5 x 7 black and white print of this painting from LUX Photographic service, photographers for National Archives of Canada.

The National Archives also sent me photocopies of a number of documents related to John Partridge and his portrait of Queen Victoria. An interesting item found among these documents is a hand-written note from Sandford Fleming dated 22 December 1901 saying that after the fire (of 1849), a copy of the picture of Queen Victoria "was made by an excellent artist Mr. Berthon and {given?} by the late Senator G.W. Allen to the City of Toronto for the City Hall". I have not seen this copy, but I wonder whether it also shows Victoria's withered arm and is therefore a target for Victoria's Ghost. I must look for it next time I am in Toronto.

At the Stamp Club meeting where I first heard of the Partridge portrait of Queen Victoria, we had a debate about whether the "12 Penny Black" was actually a Chalon or a Partridge portrait. At ROYAL *2003* ROYALE we saw an amazing single frame (16 page exhibit) of Canada's "12 Penny Black" and I was able to take a close look at the detail of the stamp and I am convinced that it is neither. Sandford Fleming drew the picture, he likely referred to the painting that he had "under his drafting table" but the stamp design is unique in several details so it can only be called an original "Fleming".

Of the two formal portraits of the young Queen Victoria, Chalon's is clearly the most famous. This is a shame as the Partridge portrait shows the Queen's handicap and therefore serves to enhance her achievements. She could be called "The Poster Girl for the Handicapped". If a teenage girl with a handicap can become Queen and serve successfully for over 60 years, there is no limit to what any of us can do, if we have Victoria's determination to succeed.

Notes 1 – The permission to show the Partridge portrait was granted by: Mark A. Audcent, Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel, "on the condition that the illustration is clearly identified as taken from a painting located in the Senate of Canada Lobby...".
2 – Various staff at the National Archives were extremely helpful to me in preparing this article, once the above permission was granted.
3 – In spite of my difficulties in obtaining either a copy or permission to photograph the Partridge portrait, a Grade 8 student on a school trip, in 2003, was able to photograph the painting and has given me a copy of his picture. *This article is reproduced by the permission of the author from "The Canadian Philatelist".*

NEW ZEALAND POST AND PHILATELY

The Response to the Response

Neil Walker whose original article led to considerable discussion in philatelic circles has read "the response" from Mr Ivor Masters representing NZ Post, but was not entirely convinced. He writes:

Ivor Masters has come out in defence of NZ Post against the criticisms I have levelled at their current philatelic policies, and I congratulate him on that. Debate and discussion of serious issues can never hurt and after a very long period of silence from them, it is pleasing to see that they are prepared to look at some of these matters.

It must be acknowledged too, that something seems to have shaken up NZ Post bureaucracy so that they are at last trying to tidy up some really bad customer service issues.

Unfortunately, however, just as an alcoholic soon forgets his good intentions and returns to the bar after a time it is important that NZ Post take real and significant actions rather we'll need more than simply deal with the most obvious abuses and going on a charm offensive. We'll need more than "warm fuzzies".

Mr Masters has commented on many of the points I have raised, but seems more inclined to find excuses than real solutions. Let us look briefly at the points he makes.

1. "There is no real increase in the number and value of stamp issues over the years."

Well, the figures don't bear that out, as everyone who has experienced the current steam of new issues (monthly) can see. The latest, very attractive sheetlet of 26 items is a case in point. A nice issue but available at most outlets only for a couple of days before it was back to "Lake Coleridge", and within six weeks we had a new "Trains" issue. NZ Post would do a lot better to keep the commemoratives running as long as possible. Maybe if the 26 stamps were used at every postal shop and centre for three months they would be more stimulatory, but who sees any of them on ordinary mail? And "Lo" the Christmas issue 2008 has just doubled in size.

2. "We are not discouraging the use of stamps."

Nonsense. NZ Post pays Post Shops 15% commission on labels and 10% on stamps. Overseas mail and parcels can use stamps, but are discouraged. Arguing that they cannot be used for special uses like overseas mail or registered post is nonsense, you just have to change the rules to do it. For example Australia uses GST free stamps on international mail.

3. "Stamps are always available for the collector"

Dubious. Just try to get them and don't blame the Centres who, it has been noted, get less for selling stamps than labels.

4. "We promote stamps well."

No not at retail level. You have to force the clerk to give you commemoratives. They should be seeking to sell stamps to collectors (bits of paper for money) but as that doesn't benefit the postal division there is no incentive for them to do so.

5. "Our revenue has shrunk and is shrinking."

Whose fault is that? They had a huge collector base and ran it into the ground. You can't expect a loyalty if people feel ignored and exploited. Why are no issuing figures being published? Why were consultative committees shut down?

6. "We care about collectors". Well, you really haven't convinced us over the last few years – carefully removing all hand cancellers from the Post Offices, introducing smudgy, blotchy cancellations, a "couldn't-care-less" attitude to damage, refusing to hand cancel etc, etc. We wait to see if your new resolution to do better will continue.

In conclusion I am afraid the philatelists of New Zealand need more than bland assurances and cosy sentiment, however heartfelt, to be convinced of a change of policy. More dramatic political action will probably be needed in the future to force through real change if the hobby and the huge potential revenue from 50 million collectors worldwide is to be fully harnessed.

IS NZ POST REALLY TRYING?

John Watts of Auckland also added his observations in response to my invitation.

1. Prices Charged for International Parcels

NZ Post have issued a document *Sending Overseas* ADV510CE08 (May 2008) giving details of rates against weights on pages 7 and 8.

There is no mention of a rate if a label is used as against stamps.

As a private individual, if I have the stamps available I could pack the parcel and put the value of stamps against the weight as shown in the table – would this be in excess of the label price or because I am using stamps, should I pay more?

On page 6 of the same document, there is a table for International letter pricing – why are not letters going overseas treated in the same fashion as parcels, less for a label than for using stamps.

When stamps are purchased there is a GST (c.f. VAT) included in the price and as such the customer is basically overpaying the postage rate on a parcel if they use stamps, if the reasoning given by Ivor Masters is to be believed.

2. Health Stamp Issues

In 1998 the Auckland District Post Offices produced special booklets to promote the sale of Health Stamps which was exceedingly successful. For many years there had been competition among the offices for who could sell the most Health Stamps and this was an extension of this.

In 1999 Downtown Post Centre had produced covers to carry out an exercise similar to 1998 but the day before the day of issue of the 1999 Health Stamps an official arrived from Wellington and ordered that the booklet covers were to be destroyed.

Because of this action the initiative of the Post Office staff to promote the sale of Health Stamps was killed and a feature of Health Stamps which promoted their sales plus an additional collecting feature has been lost.

During the time when Health Stamps are available it is quite rare for the counter staff now to inquire if you would like to purchase Health Stamps.

3. First Day Covers

The special Pictorial cancellations that are produced for first day covers often include detail features that are of interest to Thematic Collectors. A detailed book *New Zealand Pictorial and Special Event Date Stamps 1882 – 2002* has been published which is a guide to collectors. Unfortunately very often the Pictorial or Special Event cancellation cannot be clearly seen as it is over part of a stamp. This problem was discussed with the New Zealand Post representatives at Northpex 2002 with the suggestion that an extra copy of the cancellation should be made on the cover as is carried out by some of the overseas postal authorities.

The representatives stated that this should be possible, but no action was taken to put this suggestion into practice.

4. CAL's

New Zealand Post are selling copies of CALs in packs from Wanganui, why can't they keep collectors up to date with new issues through the medium of Focus?

These are some of the examples where it would appear that New Zealand Post shoot themselves in the foot with actions that reduce the possibility of additional sale of stamps.

CALs CORNER Part 6

by Andrew Dolphin

2008 Tarapex 2008 Exhibition, Third Issue

Further to the details of this \$1.00 self-adhesive CAL in the October 2008 CP Newsletter, we now have a date for the First Day Cover which doubles as the envelope for the Mt Egmont Pigeon Post re-enactment 2008, and this date is 18 September 2008.

2008 Sri Lankaramaya 50c

Produced May 2008 by the Sri Lankan Community in Auckland, and issued to commemorate the opening on 10 May 2008 of the Sri Lankaramaya Meditation & Community Hall and Library, or MC Centre, located in Otahuhu, South Auckland. The CAL depicts a view of the new Community Hall and Library, together with Sri Lankan symbols.

2008 TV2 'What Now', Second Issue

On 30 November 2007, TVNZ released a CAL for TV2's children's TV programme 'What Now'. A second CAL has now been released in June 2008 in a similar design, the main differences being the background, which was a multi-coloured swirl and is now predominantly bright green. The main feature of the CAL, What Now's NZ Post sponsored letterbox character remains unchanged.

Continuing the listing on Temporary Page Appendix C4.

2007 50c 2008 Nimrod Expedition Spirit of Enderby

Produced by Christchurch dealer Steven McLachlan of Shades Stamp Shop Ltd, this CAL was produced to commemorate the centenary of the Nimrod expedition, 1907-1909 led by Ernest Shackleton. The Nimrod left Lyttelton Harbour on 1 Jan 1908 and the Antarctic expedition vessel, Spirit of Enderby (or Professor Khromov) operated by Polar Cruise Ltd, departed Lyttelton 1 Jan 2008 to re-enact Shackleton's journey. First Day Covers were produced by Maritime Agencies dated 31 Dec 2007, Lyttelton being the closest date to the 1 Jan anniversary. Most of the CALs produced were retained on board the Spirit of Enderby for use of passengers and examples are known used on Club David Station envelopes with 2008 Ross Dependency postmarks. This was the final CAL for 2007.

2007 50c PM Otto design, Auckland

Penny M. Kellock-Otto produced this CAL on 18 June 2007. Penny is an Auckland artist and this CAL depicts detail from her 2006 acrylic painting entitled 'Seabirds'. Specifically the birds are Chatham Island albatrosses.

2007 50c NZ Peking Paris Rally May 2007

Produced 11 April 2007 by Peking Paris Rally (Casa Loma). This CAL was issued to celebrate the centenary of the first ever Trans-Continental Motor Marathon held in 1907. The CAL depicts New Zealand's entry in the 2007 Rally, Neville Jordan's 1922 Rolls Royce Silver Ghost, chassis 7kg Rally Entrant No. 15, crewed by Neville Jordan and Bruce McIlroy. First Day Covers were produced dated 27 May 2007, which was the departure date from Beijing. The route followed the Gobi Desert into

Mongolia, crossed the Steppes of Asia into Southern Siberia, Russia and into Moscow. From Moscow the event continued northwards to St Petersburg and on into Europe, ending with a parade in Paris on 30 June 2007 where commemorative covers were produced dated 30 June for the race finish. The New Zealand entrant which was the only carbon-neutral car in the rally, aiming to promote public awareness of global change, won a Gold Medal in the Pioneer pre-1912 Model Cars category.

2007 50c Stylised Golden Pig

Another CAL whose origins were initially a mystery. This turned out to be produced on 3 Oct 2007 by advertising agency Y & R promoting BNZ Bank, China UnionPay's ATM Credit Cards and featuring the 2007 Chinese Lunar New Year, the Year of the Pig. Presumably it meant something to the BNZ Chinese account holders at whom it was aimed, but I suspect to most other CAL collectors, some descriptive legend on the CAL would have been most useful.

2007 50c Rutherfords 120 Years 1887-2007

This CAL was produced 29 Nov 2007 by Colman Designs for Horwath Rutherfords Ltd, celebrating 120 years of the Rutherfords accounting firm based in Palmerston North. In 1887 Rutherfords was the first accounting firm to open in the Manawatu.

2007 50c Send and You Shall Receive

Produced 19 Oct 2007 by Maree Wilson. This is a New Zealand Post promotional campaign designed by the large advertising agency Saatchi & Saatchi Ltd. New Zealand Post launched three different TV adverts based on Send and You Shall Receive, with the first one airing 4 Nov 2007.

2007 50c SignArama Vehicle Graphics

SignArama Vehicle Graphics of East Tamaki, Auckland produced this CAL on 8 Nov 2007 to promote their vehicle fleet imaging. SignArama are New Zealand's leader in vehicle graphics from design specialisation to production of graphics through to application.

2007 50c Smalli & Smalli

As an example of what was possible to produce in Personalised Post for prospective clients, NZ Post themselves produced this CAL on 20 July 2007 depicting a fictitious business entitled Smalli & Smalli – cheekily modelled after NZ Post's own advertising agency, Saatchi & Saatchi.

2007 50c Stevensons Structural Engineers

Stevensons Structural Engineers (1978) Ltd produced this CAL on 7 Sept 2007 promoting their services. Stevensons is a New Plymouth based structural steel engineering company involved in fabrication, surface treatment and erection of structural steel.

2007 50c TM Total Media Creating Difference

Total Media Ltd have offices in Ponsonby, Auckland and Wellington and is an agency specialising in media strategy and communications. They produced their CAL on 13 Sept 2007.

2007 50c Toyota The All New Corolla Our Favourite Car, moving forward

New Zealand Post obtained permission from Toyota to produce a CAL as a sample of what might be done for Toyota, promoting their new Corolla should they so wish. So whilst Toyota approved the production of this CAL on 18 July 2007, they have subsequently confirmed that it was not specifically produced for, obtainable from or used by Toyota Cars. It thus has to be regarded as a further New Zealand Post promotional item in the same vein as Smalli & Smalli.

2007 50c TVNZ 'What Now' Children's TV programme

This CAL produced 30 Nov 2007 for TV2's children's programme 'What Now'. It features their NZ Post sponsored letterbox character and was produced in boxed coils of 100.

2007 50c Your Message Here

The third New Zealand Post Personalised Post specimen CAL produced 20 July 2007 promoting NZ Post's CALs.

2007 HIL Home Investments Ltd

Home Investments Ltd released a set of two CALs in both the standard and the FastPost rates of 50c and \$1.00 on 24 Sept 2007. HIL Ltd is based near Albany, on Auckland's North Shore and is a finance company specialising in residential property investment and rentals. They work in close association with Housing New Zealand Corporation (HNZC).

2007 Fishpond Books Movies Music

Fishpond Ltd is a New Zealand based Australasian online store started by Daniel Robertson in January 2004. Fishpond sells books, DVD's and CD's and is now based near Auckland International Airport. Fishpond have really got into CALs in a big way! They started off with a 50c CAL on 24 April 2007, and when these ran out reordered it, twice in fact, first on 4 Sept 2007 and then again on 30 Oct 2007.

On the same day 30 Oct, they increased their range of available CALs by adding a \$1.00 value and \$1.50 value (first CAL in this denomination) to give a complete set of three same design CALs. They again used up these two new denominations fairly quickly, reprinting the \$1.50 value on 5 Dec 2007, and the \$1.00 on 31 Dec 2007. It is a pity that nobody at Fishpond was philatelically knowledgeable, as a set of two First Day Covers the 50c on 24 April and the \$1.00 and \$1.50 on 30 October would have made a nice set of two FDCs.

(Thanks are due for research contributing to this article to Jo Blyth, Margaret Ingley and David Stalker).

"Re. CP Catalogue 2008 Supplement *If it hadn't been for the list of 2007 CALs on C3-C4 (Appendix), I would have found it impossible to check what I have and to get them into some sort of order. Thanks to Campbell Paterson, job made much easier."*

J.M., Kent, UK

FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH

from Andrew Dolphin

New Zealand Post & Chinese Lunar New Year issues

For the past twelve years, from January 1997 through to February 2008, New Zealand Post has issued a set of stamps commemorating the Chinese Lunar New Year. Once started on the Chinese Lunar Calendar cycle, it made sense to complete the series each year over the twelve year cycle, until each of the Years had been celebrated – Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Sheep, Monkey, Rooster, Dog, Pig and Rat. Each year the designs have been a mixed bag ranging from New Zealand species to global breeds, to children's pets (twice!), not always terribly successfully.

Now we learn from the latest issue of New Zealand Post's 'Focus' magazine October 2008, Issue 46, that come 7 January 2009, we are starting **again** on another twelve year Chinese Lunar New Year cycle of issues. Thus the Year of the Ox commemorated twelve years ago in 1997, with six breeds of New Zealand cattle, is being 'celebrated' once more with three symbolic ox designs.

Now while fully appreciating that New Zealand is a multi-cultural society and acknowledging New Zealand Post's desire to celebrate the Chinese Lunar New Year and the contribution of the various Chinese communities within New Zealand, do we really need once more to go through twelve years worth of dragons, snakes, monkeys and rats, etc? Surely, some other topic of national Kiwi significance could have been chosen.

Incidentally, there is an interesting corollary to this series, in the 2008 NZ Post Customer Satisfaction Survey results as detailed in the October 2008 'Focus'. Specifically, the Year of the Rat set from February 2008 is described as one of New Zealand Post's most successful issues, getting non-collectors using these stamps as postage and having 'a big fan base among newer collectors', **but** with the NZ Post's stamp collectors themselves indicating in the Survey that it is their "least popular theme". I rest my case.

SIGNAL HONOUR FOR ONE OF NEW ZEALAND'S MOST PROMINENT RESEARCH POSTAL HISTORIANS AND PHILATELISTS.

ROBIN STARTUP RDP

It would be hard to overestimate the impact that Robin Startup has had on New Zealand Postal History and philately through his tireless research work and unmatched talents as a cataloguer and investigator.

These talents – and Robin's work over many years – were recently recognised by his elevation to the Roll of Distinguished Philatelist (RDP) in London. The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists is limited in the number who at any one time, have signed it and contains the names of the most prominent individuals worldwide who have contributed to the philatelic field. The award is made by the Royal Philatelic Society of London.

In addition, Robin has been selected for his literary and research work for Induction to the American Philatelic Society Writers Unit "Hall of Fame".

All of us at CP Ltd – and particularly I do personally – extend our warmest congratulations to Robin and wish him many years of continued work.

Warwick Paterson

Reconstruction of the Second Side Face Adverts

"I have had a complete re-construction of the 1d 3rd setting 'sitting' around for some time. Having finally got around to thinking about it I would appreciate yours or indeed any other readers' comments on the best means of presentation. I have seen other re-constructions over the years presented in various different ways but they have never looked right or indeed done justice to them. One criterion must be displaying them in the individual panes of 60 to have the maximum visual impact and tie in with the relevant references i.e. CP Catalogue/RNZPS Volume 1. I have considered individual or strips of Hawid mounts but then you have the problem of vertical or horizontal multiples, I have tried to experiment with this method but the end result looks awful! Another method is using a Philatelic album – large size leaves but not quite big enough. Spacing between affects the total area which makes the resultant page very over crowded. Any suggestions? Many thanks. Pete Gilmour"

Can any CP Newsletter reader assist Mr Gilmour?

New Zealand Stamp Exhibition Dates

Tarapex 2008 7-9 November 2008

A New Zealand National exhibition plus Australasian Challenge, TSB Stadium, (next to the Racecourse, near Pukekura Park), Mason Drive, New Plymouth.

Open: Friday 7 November, 10am-5pm

Saturday 8 November, 10am-5pm

Sunday 9 November, 10am-4pm

National Literature Exhibition 27 June 2009, Palmerston North

Timpex 2009 17-19 October 2009

A New Zealand National exhibition, SBS Events Centre, Aorangi Park, Timaru

Palmpex 2010 12-14 November 2010

A New Zealand National exhibition, Arena3 Stadium, Pascal Street, Palmerston North

CPS100 2011 August 2011

A New Zealand National exhibition for Christchurch Philatelic Society's Centenary, in Christchurch 2011.

"I would thank you for the excellent service you and all at C.P. have given me over the years, and you can rest assured that if anyone asks me for advice on collecting N.Z. material then the name of C.P. will loom large."

D.B., E. Yorks, UK

EIGHTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

From The New Zealand Stamp Collector – November 1923

NEW ZEALAND

Issued October 1st, 1923 to commemorate the reintroduction of penny postage. Wmk "NZ" and Star. Perf. 14 x 15.

1d carmine. On the first sheets which were issued, the top of the stamps on the first row appeared blurred. Subsequently we received sheets on which were printed red bars 30mm x 5mm at intervals of 30mm along the top selvage of the sheet. These bars had probably been inserted to protect the top row. The stamps from these sheets are in much deeper shade than the first printings.

1d deep carmine.

OUR NEW STAMP

Issued on the first day of October, the new map stamp has brought forth a storm of protest from philatelists and non-philatelists throughout the length and breadth of the Dominion; so much so, that rumours are current that the stamp is to be withdrawn almost immediately, and that stamps are to be printed from a London plate which is already in Wellington. How much truth is in the first statement we are not in a position to say; but we must discredit the rumour that the new plate is already in New Zealand, for there would scarcely be time for it to arrive from England. When it does come to hand we hope to see a vast improvement on the present production, for the stamp has not one single feature which might appeal to the artistic taste even the colour might be very much improved upon.

We shall refrain from giving our opinion of the stamp, but append a few remarks made by various philatelists in New Zealand.

"My whole-hearted sympathy with those who condemn this blessed issue. Surely in crudity and execution it is the last word!"

"What do you think of the abortion let loose on the public in the new stamp?"

We asked a local collector what he thought of the execution of the new stamp. His answer was to the point: "I'm in favour of it."

"The new stamp is a disgrace to New Zealand. What are you going to do about it? How about producing a special issue of the "N.Z.S.C." edged in black in mourning for the loss of New Zealand's reputation?"

A prominent journalist: "Rotten."

A junior: "It's not as good as the one after the one before the one we had before this one was issued."

"It's not a bad design; but what's that in the centre?"

And so on ad infinitum.

EMPIRE PENNY POSTAGE

In the course of a speech recently, Mr. F.G. Kellaway, formerly Postmaster-General in Great Britain, urged the desirableness and possibility of immediately reinstating penny postage. He stated that the only reason the public were denied this immense boon was that the postal service is obliged to carry a yearly loss of £1,350,000 on the telegraph service. He stated that if the British Post Office restored Imperial penny postage while the Imperial Conference was assembled it would be a more eloquent gesture to the Dominions than preference on dried fruits.

AUSTRALIA ACCEPTS

After repeated requests from the Dominion that Australia should accept letters bearing one penny postage, the Commonwealth Postmaster-General has decided to acquiesce to the suggestion, and therefore one penny will now carry letters to all countries within the Postal Union.

WHERE IS THE GREAT BARRIER?

Sometimes philately is an aid in teaching geography; sometimes it isn't.

In a recent review of our Catalogue, "Stamp Collecting" makes an amusing error in stating: "The Catalogue concludes with the curious pigeon post stamp, of the Great Barrier Island, which as forerunners of aerial stamp, have taken a new lease of popularity, and are purely **local stamps of British Antarctica.**"

We trust our contemporary will pardon us for correcting this error, for the Great Barrier Island is situated about 56 miles north-east from Auckland, and is therefore, slightly further away from the icy regions than New Zealand.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

From the Newsletter November 1958

by Campbell Paterson

CURRENT BLUE HEALTH, BORDER VARIETY T30b(Z)

Our other recent puzzle, the reproduction of part of an extra stamp in a break in the blue border line on the left of the Blue Health sheet, beside Row 4 No.1 may now be solvable – subject to my information being correct. It seems that at the recent 70th Anniversary celebrations of the R.P.S.N.Z (at which, regrettably, I could not be present), the complete negative from which the plate of the 4d Meat stamp was made, was shown to members. I understand that this negative consisted of more images than appear on the plate, there being an excess of one row of images on every side of the negative. I am told that black tape had been applied around the edges of the negative to mask the extra rows, thus ensuring that when the negative was used only the correct number of images would be transferred on to the sensitised plate. Presuming that the same technique would be used for the Healths we can now surmise that a portion of the black tape was turned back, or absent, to account for the peculiar variety.

No doubt this puzzle, and that of the Kingsford Smiths will be explained in time but personally I get a lot of fun trying to solve such problems on the available evidence – and later finding just how far off the mark I have been! I recommend a bit of theorising on knotty problems as adding zest to collecting – but you have to be prepared to find yourself wrong. Then you get it in the neck, as I will probably get it for the above!

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

GST will be added to all prices listed in this Newsletter for local orders (12.5%). Overseas orders are "zero-rated" and do not pay GST.

"I wish you success with the sale of all the stock, and thanks for your promptness and courtesy in resolving the purchase of my collection."

E.R., Qld, Australia



495(a)

THE LONDON SHILLING

One of the Finest Copies Extant

1/- Deep Yellow-green Printed in London 1855.

495(a) A6a
(SG3)

Illustrated this month, this fabulous copy of SG3. Four margins alone, this must be one of the largest SG3's in existence with parts of the left hand and right hand units in the margins and very large top and bottom margins as well. The colour is deep, true and unfaded and the "Ivory Head" seen on the back conforms to all the requirements, is strong, clear and the marginal lines are unbroken and sharp. On the front blue "bleeding" is seen in all printed areas – this is a requirement a very fine SG3. Chemicals in the ink reacted with the paper which had been dampened by the printer to give a better impression.

The marking is over the face but the face is clear in all details and moderately struck. We are proud to present such an outstanding copy of this scarce New Zealand classic

POA

"I would just like to add that philately gave my father countless hours of pleasure. Following his retirement, he started to travel to many of the countries from which he had collected stamps. I am sure, if he had lived a little longer, he would have made it down to New Zealand to pay you a visit in person to talk about stamps."
R.R., Surrey, England

RECENT PURCHASES AND OFFERS FROM STOCK

An excellent selection of fine New Zealand here – from classic to modern – something for everyone!

500(a)	A2s(3)	1871 Full Face Queen 2d Deep dull orange well centred, but somewhat ragged perfs, although fully intact, Used (Cat \$85)	\$50
501(a)	E6d	1903 2d Pembroke Peak Purple Reduced. Mixed perfs block of four. Fine lower right corner selvedge block of four with two extra rows of p.11 used to correct the p.14 inaccuracies. The lower selvedge row of p.14 is particularly inaccurate, sloping down to the right well below the base of the stamp. An excellent block of four LHM (Cat \$5,000)	\$3,600
(b)	E12e	1903 4d Lake Taupo mixed perfs. A dated used single, solidly used, but still presentable with extra row of p.11 at top correcting p.14 inaccuracies. (Cat FCU \$1250)	\$875
(c)	E20b	1899 2/- Milford Sound no watermark p.11. A wonderful top right corner selvedge block of four in really nice well centred unhinged mint condition. This is a lovely block of four stamps, the gum is fresh and clean with above average perfs for this First Local issue. Superb UHM.	\$7,000
(d)	EO20e	1907 2/- Milford Sound Official. A nicely centred unhinged mint copy of this Official stamp, that is so often found hinged and so rarely found fine unhinged mint as this copy. UHM	\$1,100
502(a)	F5b	1907-08 ½d Green Mt Cook Cowan Paper p.14 x 12¼ - 13¼ A top left corner selvedge plate block of four Plate 3 UHM superb plate block of four from an issue that is gaining popularity with every moment. UHM	\$2,000
(b)	F5c	1907-08 ½d Green Mt Cook Cowan p. 14 x 15 A top selvedge block of four, Plate 1. No left selvedge LHM. Another scarce plate block from this popular series (Cat \$2000)	\$1,350
503(a)	H7c	1916 8d Edward VII (1) Indigo-blue UHM	\$175
(b)	H7c	Ditto (2) Deep bright blue UHM	\$175
(c)	H7d(2)	1910-16 Two perf pair block of four in the scarcer shade of Deep bright blue in two perf pairs. A lovely block of four LHM	\$700
(d)	K18d(Z)	1925 George V 2d Yellow Cowan p.14 x 15 An excellent example with good offset on back Shade(1) Orange-yellow LHM (with RPSNZ Certificate 2008) LHM	\$125
(e)	K18d(Z)	Ditto " Offset in Shade(4) Deep orange LHM	\$125
504(a)	N4a	1954 QE11 2d Top left corner selvedge block of eight: NV4a(a) from Plate 16 showing the R4/2 retouch. Virtually the whole of the collar is redrawn and at the right end the redrawn collar is abnormal UHM	\$35
(b)	N5a	1954 QE11 3d Top selvedge block of fifteen: NV5a(a) from Plate 22 showing R5/11. An extensive retouch UHM	\$30
505(a)	O2a	1960 1d Karaka Left selvedge block of six: OV2c R12/3 A weak area from above the value across to Karaka UHM	\$35
(b)	O3a	2d Kaka Beak Block of four: OV3f R16/11 White spur flaw from Green Plate 5 UHM	\$19
(c)	O8b	1966 6d Clematis Chalky paper block of four: OV8b R8/7 Green Plate 1, prominent retouch to PIKI (Cat \$50) UHM	\$40

505(d)	OC15b	1/9d Aerial Topdressing Bistre-brown (O15a) in counter coil pair with OV15a R6/16 retouch by plane's wing. Scarce counter coil, numbers 3 or 9. UHM each	\$125
(e)	P17a	1971 25c Hauraki Gulf National Park p. 13¼ x 13½. A top left corner selvedge block of ten showing PV17a Purple Plate 4, R1/5 major flaw right of purple island missing UHM	\$40
(f)	PD6a	1988 \$1 Round Kiwi Green imprint strip of six UHM FU	\$47 \$40
(g)	PD6b	1991 \$1 Round Kiwi Red imprint strip of six UHM FU	\$37.50 \$31.50
(h)	PD6b	Ditto 1-Kiwi imprint strip of six UHM FU	\$37.50 \$31.50
(i)	PD6c	1993 \$1 Round Kiwi Blue imprint strip of six UHM FU	\$25.50 \$23
Commemoratives			
506(a)	S44a(X)	1946 Peace 4d Inv Wmk Single, creasing M (Cat \$250)	\$25
(b)	S45a(U)	1946 Peace 5d Left selvedge block of four R8/1 trailing aerial centre plate flaw M	\$10
(c)	S45a(T)	" Pair R9/2 frame plate 42850 retouch in scrolls in frame M	\$10
(d)	S45a(S)	" Lower left corner selvedge block of four R14/1, centre plate 42792 re-entry broken mast M	\$10
(e)	S45a	" Packet of six used singles all with position identified minor re-entries or retouches U	\$6
(f)	S46a	1946 Peace 6d packet of thirteen used singles, minor re-entries or retouches two position identified U	\$6
(g)	S48a(W,U)	1946 Peace 9d packet of nine used singles. All position identified, minor re-entries and retouches U	\$10
(h)	S50a(Y)	1948 Otago 1d Inverted Watermark single fine UHM	\$150
(i)	S51a	1948 Otago 2d block of four, Plate 2 with R5/8 re-entry M Or single Plate 2, R5/8 used	\$4 \$1
(j)	S53a(Y)	1948 Otago 6d Plate A1 R6/6 Castle tower top red line flaw M Or single R6/6 used	\$5 \$5
(k)	S210a	1976 Vintage Farm Vehicles 7c interesting set of two plate blocks of six, both Plate 1B, one without and one with the R10/2 major flaw on lorry door UHM	\$12
(l)	SM367	1988 Royal Philatelic Society M/S Sydrex'88 Exhibition o/p (see note in CP Catalogue under SM367) UHM	\$40
(m)	S386a(Z)	1989 Writers 80c Top selvedge block of six with R3/7, prominent yellow spot in bottom left corner design UHM	\$25
(n)	S386a(Z)	Ditto Top left selvedge corner block of four with R2/1 blue spot above hair in top right corner	\$12.50
(o)	SM398-402	1990 Orchids M/S imperf. Noted CP Cat. ("Cat \$90")	\$60
(p)		NZ 1990 Leigh-Mardon \$1 Kiwi Black Print cinderella m/s	\$5
(q)	S440a	1992 Navigators \$1.50 Left selvedge block of four with R7/1 yellow retouch on Africa above sail at left	\$18
(r)	S440a	Ditto Top right corner selvedge value block of six showing on all stamps on R2, a black dot above G of Sighting. This repeated black dot flaw suggests a multi-negative UHM	\$30
(s)	S569-74	1997 Vineyards Limited Edition M/S ("Cat \$200") UHM Special	\$90
(t)	S679-84	2000 On the Road Cars Limited Edition Double Miniature	

		Sheet ("Cat \$250") UHM	Price	\$120
506(u)	S717-22	2001 Garden Flowers Limited Edition Imperf Miniature Sheet ("Cat \$225") UHM	Special	\$105
(v)	S729-34	2001 Aircraft Ltd. Edition Large M/S ("Cat \$200") UHM	Price	\$105
507(a)	X1e	Life Insurance VR ½d Purple on 1901 Life Insurance Mourning Cover. Postmarked with good 3 Nov 1901, Wellington Flag postmark to Auckland. Backstamped Auckland 12 Nov 1901. Cover has a few tone spots but a very genuine item. Cover multiplier Cat is \$112.50 so good offer price at		\$60
(b)	X9a(Z)	1917 Life Insurance 1½d Black Left selvedge pair with R2/2 major flaw long "T" in Government, rare fine UHM		\$695

QUEEN ELIZABETH II PLATE BLOCKS

Section PC Birds & Butterflies Definitives

All plate blocks are in blocks of six unless otherwise indicated UHM.

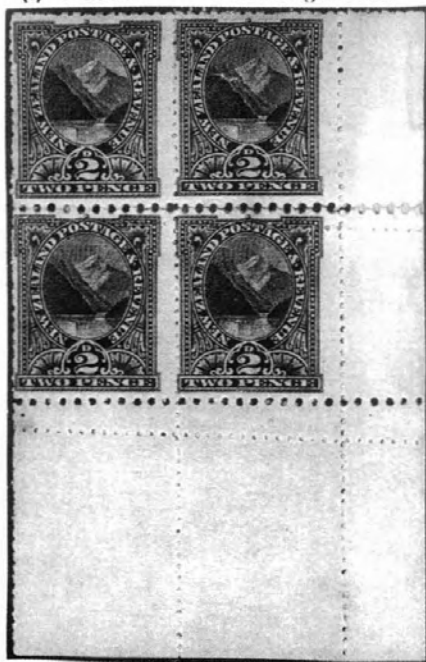
Note: A number of these plate blocks are in short supply, so earliest ordering is recommended.

553(a)	PC1a	30c Kakapo Original plate	\$15
(b)		1-Kiwi	\$15
(c)		2-Kiwi	\$15
(d)		Value block of four	\$8
(e)	PC2a	40c Blue Duck (Mountain Duck) White paper original plate perf selvedge	\$15
(f)		Original plate imperf selvedge	\$15
(g)	PC2b	Ditto Cream paper Original plate	\$15
(h)		1-Kiwi	\$15
(i)		2-Kiwis imperf selvedge	\$15
(j)		2-Kiwis perf selvedge	\$15
(k)		3-Kiwis imperf selvedge	\$15
(l)		3-Kiwis perf selvedge	\$15
(m)		4-Kiwis imperf selvedge	\$15
(n)		4-Kiwis perf selvedge	\$15
(o)	PC3a	45c New Zealand Falcon Original plate	\$17.50
(p)		Original plate FU	\$10
(q)	PC4a	60c New Zealand Brown Teal Original plate imperf selvedge	\$20
(r)		Original plate perf selvedge	\$20
554(a)	PC5a	\$1 Kokako white paper Original plate	\$26
(b)		Value block of four	\$16
(c)		3-Kiwis imperf selvedge	\$26
(d)		3-Kiwis perf selvedge	\$26
(e)		4-Kiwis imperf selvedge	\$26
(f)		4-Kiwis perf selvedge	\$26
(g)	PC5b	Ditto Cream paper 1- Kiwi	\$26

554(h)	PC5b (cont.)	2-Kiwis imperf selvedge	\$27.50
(i)		2-Kiwis perf selvedge	\$27.50
(j)	PC6a	\$2 Chatham Islands Black Robin Original plate	\$45
(k)		1-Kiwi imperf selvedge	\$45
(l)		1-Kiwi perf selvedge	\$45
(m)	PCM6	PhilexFrance Miniature Sheet UHM	\$30
(n)		FU	\$35
(o)	PC7a	\$3 Stitchbird White paper Original plate	\$70
(p)		3-Kiwis	\$70
(q)	PC7b	Ditto Cream paper 1-Kiwi	\$65
(r)		2-Kiwis	\$65
555(a)	PC8a	\$4 Saddleback or Tieke white paper original plate	\$90
(b)		1-Kiwi, Kiwi under ZEA	\$80
(c)		2-Kiwis	\$80
(d)		3-Kiwis	\$80
(e)		Value block of four FU	\$40
(f)	PC8b	Ditto Cream paper 1-Kiwi, Kiwi under NEW	\$80
(g)	PC9a	\$5 Takahe White paper Original plate imperf selvedge	\$90
(h)		Original plate perf selvedge	\$90
(i)		1-Kiwi imperf selvedge	\$90
(j)		1-Kiwi perf selvedge	\$90
(k)		1-Kiwi upright block of six inc barcode	\$90
(l)	PC9b	Ditto Cream paper 2-Kiwis	\$200
(m)	PC10a	\$10 Little Spotted Kiwi Original plate	\$180
(n)	PCM10	1995 PostX Exhibition Miniature Sheet UHM	\$40
(o)		FU	\$40
(p)	PC11a	10c Banded Dotterel (Double-banded Plover) Original plate	\$5
(q)		Value block of four imperf selvedge	\$3
(r)		Value block of four perf selvedge	\$3
(s)	PC11b	Ditto fine paper 1-Kiwi	\$5
(t)		2-Kiwis	\$5
(u)		Value block of four	\$3
556(a)	PC12a	50c Yellowhead Original plate	\$5
(b)		Value block of four	\$4
(c)		1-Kiwi	\$5
(d)		1-Kiwi value block of four	\$4
(e)		2-Kiwis	\$5
(f)	PC12b	Ditto p.13½ 3-Kiwis	\$20
(g)	PC13a	30c Silvereye (Grey-backed White Eye) coarse paper original plate	\$10
(h)		Value block of four imperf selvedge	\$6
(i)		Value block of four perf selvedge	\$8
(j)	PC13b	Ditto fine paper 1-Kiwi	\$10
(k)		Value block of four	\$6
(l)		2-Kiwis	\$10
(m)		3-Kiwis	\$10
(n)	PC14a	40c Brown Kiwi fine paper original plate	\$12
557(a)		3-Kiwis	\$12
(b)		4-Kiwis	\$12

557(c)	PC14a(cont.)	5-Kiwis	\$12
(d)		6-Kiwis	\$12
(e)		6-Kiwis plate block of nine	\$17
(f)		7-Kiwis	\$12
(g)		8-Kiwis	\$12
(h)		8-Kiwis plate block of nine	\$17
(i)		Value block of four	\$8
(j)	PC14b	Ditto coarse paper 2-kiwis	\$20
(k)	PCM14	Sheetlet p.13½ x 13¼ UHM	\$40
(l)		FU	\$40
(m)	PC14c	Plate block ex-sheetlet	\$20
(n)	PC15a	50c Sacred Kingfisher original plate	\$10
(o)		Value block of four	\$10
(p)		1-Kiwi	\$10
(q)		1-Kiwi value block of four	\$10
(r)		2-Kiwis	\$10
558(a)	PC16a	60c Spotted Shag (Cormorant) original palate	\$12
(b)	PCM16	PhilaKorea Exhibition Miniature Sheet UHM	\$9
(c)		FU (Cat \$10)	\$7.50
(d)	PC16b	Ditto p.13½ 1-Kiwi	\$40
(e)	PC17a	70c Paradise Shelduck original plate	\$14
(f)		Value block of four	\$14
(g)		1-Kiwi	\$14
(h)	PCM17	1989 Stamp Expo Miniature Sheet UHM	\$25
(i)		FU (Cat \$25)	\$15
(j)	PC18a	80c Fiordland Crested Penguin original plate	\$16
(k)		Value block of four	\$16
(l)		1-Kiwi	\$16
(m)		1-Kiwi block of eight inc. barcode	\$23
(n)		Value block of four	\$16
(o)		2-Kiwis value block of eight inc. barcode	\$26
(p)		3-Kiwis	\$16
559(a)	PC19a	90c South Island (New Zealand) Robin	\$18
(b)	PC20a	5c Spotless Crake original plate	\$5
(c)		1-Kiwi	\$5
(d)		2-Kiwis	\$5
(e)		2-Kiwis value block of four imperf selvage	\$3
(f)		3-Kiwis value block of four perf selvage	\$3
(g)	PC21a	45c Rock Wren original plate	\$12
(h)		Value block of four	\$9
(i)		1-Kiwi	\$12
(j)		2-Kiwis	\$12
(k)		Value block of four	\$9
(l)		4-Kiwis	\$24
(m)		5-Kiwis	\$24
(n)	PC21b(ii)(Z)	Ditto self adhesive block of four	\$25
560(a)	PC22a	\$1 Forest Ringlet Butterfly original plate	\$30
(b)		1-Kiwi	\$30
(c)		2-Kiwis	\$30
(d)		Value block of four 1-Kiwi	\$15

560(e)	PC22a(Z)	Booklet single Southern Colour Print UHM	\$10
(f)		FU	\$10
(g)	PC22b	Ditto p.13 $\frac{3}{4}$ x 14 3-Kiwis	\$40
(h)		3-Kiwis block of four	\$22
(i)	PC23a	\$2 Southern Blue Butterfly original plate	\$45
(j)		1-Kiwi	\$45
(k)		2-Kiwis	\$45
(l)	PC24a	\$3 Yellow Admiral Butterfly original plate imperf selvedge	\$55
(m)		Original plate perf selvedge	\$65
(n)		Original plate lower right corner block of four (new plate position)	\$45
(o)		1-Kiwi plate block of four	\$45
(p)		2-Kiwi plate block of four	\$45
561(a)	PC25a	NZ Falcon original plate	\$25
(b)		1-Kiwi	\$25
(c)		Value block of four	\$16
(d)		Value single FU	\$3
(e)	PC29a	\$4 Common Copper Butterfly Leigh-Mardon original plate imperf selvedge	\$72
(f)		Original perf selvedge	\$72
(g)	PC29b	Ditto Questa 1-Kiwi	\$75
(h)	PC29c	Southern Colour Print 2-Kiwis	\$45
(i)	PC30a	\$5 Red Admiral Butterfly Leigh-Mardon original plate	\$90
(j)	PC30a	\$5 colour separation in set	\$20
(k)	PC30b	Ditto Questa 1-Kiwi	\$95
(l)	PC30b	Value single UHM	\$12



501(a)



501(d)



507(b)

QUEEN ELIZABETH II PLATE BLOCKS

1982 24c MAP STAMP - A COMPLETE LISTING

All plate blocks are in blocks of six UHM

PA35a p. 12¼ x 12½			
550(a)	Plate 111	perf selvage	\$35
(b)	Plate 111	imperf selvage	\$35
(c)	Plate 112	perf selvage	\$90
(d)	Plate 112	imperf selvage	\$90
(e)	Plate 122	imperf selvage	\$22.50
(f)	Plate 122	perf selvage	\$22.50
(g)	Plate 211	imperf selvage	\$30
(h)	Plate 211	perf selvage	\$30
(i)	Plate 211	value block of four	\$12.50
PA35b p. 14¼ x 14			
551(a)	Plate 114	imperf selvage	\$15
(b)	Plate 114	perf selvage	\$15
(c)	Plate 115	imperf selvage	\$15
(d)	Plate 115	perf selvage	\$15
(e)	Plate 116	imperf selvage	\$25
(f)	Plate 116	perf selvage	\$25
(g)	Plate 213	imperf selvage	\$15
(h)	Plate 213	perf selvage	\$15
(i)	Plate 215	imperf selvage	\$15
(j)	Plate 215	perf selvage	\$15
(k)	Plate 225	imperf selvage	\$25
(l)	Plate 225	perf selvage	\$25
(m)	Plate 323	imperf selvage	\$15
(n)	Plate 323	perf selvage	\$15

552(a) PA35a-b A complete set of twenty-two different plate block formats as listed above (Cat \$605)	Special Offer \$455
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W.B., Christchurch

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