



THE KIWI



THE JOURNAL OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

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WHOLE NUMBER 278

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE UNION JACK CLUB, SANDELL
STREET, LONDON SE1 (Directions in July 1999 *Kiwi*)
ON JANUARY 29TH, 2000 STARTING AT 2 P.M.

THIS WILL BE A JOINT MEETING WITH THE PACIFIC ISLANDS STUDY GROUP
PLEASE BRING DISPLAYS OF MATERIAL ILLUSTRATING THE
NEW ZEALAND/PACIFIC ISLANDS LINKS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Membership	2
Next Meeting of the North of England Regional Group	2
Kiwi Day: 27th November 1999: Minutes of 48th AGM	2
Notes of Joint Meeting of the Scottish and Northern Groups held on October 15th 1999	6
Notes of Meeting of Northern Group held Nov. 13TH, 1999	6
Meetings of the Scottish Group in 2000	7
Awards to Members	7
Annual Competition	7
Auction Realisations: 27th November 1999	9
Committee Meeting	10
Meeting at The Stamp Show 2000	10
Recent Changes to Overseas and Internal Postal Services	10
A Visit to Wanganui "Books & More" Postshop	14
News Release	15
A Follow Up to The Printing and Stationery Franks	17
A Fascinating Ink Jet Error	19
Kahurangi National Park	20
A Strange Example of the Second Sideface ½ ^D	23

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

Annual Subscription £12.00

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SOCIETY NEWS:

MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS:

We welcome:

K.B. Bryant, 51, Hillview Court, Woking, Surrey GU22 7QW
F. Davies, 14, Birchvale Drive, Romiley, Stockport SK6 4LE
K.W.J.L. Lynch, Auckland, New Zealand
Mrs. J. Simpson, 16, de Morgan Close, Underwood, Notts NG16 5EU

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

A.G. Brown to East Sussex
D. Churchill to 77A High Street, Mansfield Woodhouse, Notts NG19 8BB
B. Symonds to Snowford Hill Farm, Long Itchington, Southam, Warwickshire CV47 9QF
R.G. Darge to 24, Waterview Grove, Ellenbrook, Western Australia 6069, Australia
G.J. Elliott to P.O. Box 313, Waiheke Island, Auckland 1240, New Zealand

ENCLOSURES

Enclosed with this issue of *The Kiwi* is a copy of the Society's Annual Accounts and Packet Accounts for the last year attached to the form for the renewal of your annual subscription. Also enclosed is your Membership Card/Programme for the year 2000.

If either of these items is missing, please contact the Hon. Editor for replacements.

NEXT MEETING OF THE NORTHERN GROUP

The next meeting of the Northern Group will be held at the usual venue in Orrell on February 19th, 2000 starting at 13.30. This is an open meeting and members should bring along items of their own choice, starting with six sheets - more if time permits.

KIWI DAY: SATURDAY 27TH NOVEMBER, 1999

The 48th Annual General Meeting of the Society commenced at 11.00 with our Chairman, Lewis Giles presiding. Eighteen members were present.

**MINUTES OF THE 48TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NEW ZEALAND
SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN**

1. Minutes of the 47th Annual General Meeting

The Minutes of the 48th A.G.M. had been circulated in the January, 1999 issue of *The Kiwi* and were accepted as a true record.

2. Report and Review of 1999 from the President:

Ernie Leppard, our President, presented his review of the Society for the last year:

"Mr. Chairman and fellow members, each year it is the custom for the President of the Society to describe the state of play and to review the past year in the life of the Society. It is my pleasant duty to give this report.

This year, each of our officers reports a continuing high level of activity. The almost new team is settling in: I exclude Bernard, our Packet Secretary, from the comment as he, like me, has now been around for so long that he is almost part of the furniture. On behalf of the Society, I would like to thank each one for their work over the year and, perhaps, remind them to do better next year! I would also like to commend the organisers of the Regional Meetings. These are becoming increasingly successful and are bringing the Society to a wider constituency. These meetings should be emphasised with entries in Regional Federations and by any members giving displays to Local Societies.

During the year, our London meeting place has moved from the Central Club to the Union Jack Club. The physical facilities are better and the cost less: a good move. We have been treated to the usual high quality of displays at our meetings: January, WW II, led by myself, our Annual Competition, a Perforations Workshop, which I unfortunately missed, and John Smith's display of Q.E.II. In the Regional Groups, the Northern Group hosted an impressive display by Alan Green, Secretary of the Waterlow Study Circle, of Waterlow related material and I judged their Annual Competition and was impressed by the quality of the entries. The Midland Group were entertained by Derek Diamond, with the 1898's, and Alan Baker with a display of Health Issues and related material. The Scottish Group held their usual members meetings but the high point of the year was their joint meeting with the North of England Group in Carlisle. This event was much enjoyed and, at present, the plan is to make this biennial event.

Next year, 2000, is an important year in the calendar: the Society will hold a meeting at Stamp 2000 at Earl's Court and we hope to meet many overseas visitors and other members of the Society who do not usually attend meetings. The meeting will be held during the afternoon of May 23rd: I understand that Robert Samuel, President of the R.P.S.N.Z., will give a display but we also hope to hold a Workshop on Proofs/Specimens etc.

The year 2002 is the 50th anniversary of the foundation of our Society. We hope to arrange a special event for commemorate this milestone. Further information will, as always, be publicised through *The Kiwi*.

It only remains for me to wish all members of the Society around the world very best wishes for the new millennium and to express the wish that they will continue to astound collectors everywhere with superb displays of New Zealand philatelic material."

3. Report from the Honourary Treasure:

Ernie Leppard, Honourary Treasurer, circulated copies of the Annual Accounts and his report for 1998/9. A copy of the audited accounts is enclosed with this issue of *The Kiwi*. He then made his report:

"The Accounts for the year ending 30 September 1999 are presented. This year, the Society made a profit of £944 but this has only been achieved due to the annual transfer of £1,000 from the packet account, interest of £574 from our deposit accounts

and a substantially increased auction turnover. Costs of producing and circulating *The Kiwi* have increased but the increase has, for the most part, been due to the cost of photocopying flyers for dealers and this expenditure has been offset by the fees paid.

The income from subscriptions is similar to last year and it is pleasing to note that many of our "temporary" half year members of last year (42) stayed with us.

I believe that given our healthy balance sheet and the increase in membership the subscription should remain at £12.00 for the forthcoming year.

Next year will see an increase in expenditure due to our meeting at **Stamp 2000**.

Over the years, I have been doubtful that our A.B.P.S. subscription, which now exceeds £100 per annum, offers value for money. I believe that a recent change in the Representative for the Specialist Society's may improve our input. I would, therefore, recommend that our affiliation to the Association of British Philatelic Societies for the next year but that we keep our position under review and that the Committee keeps a close eye on the situation.

Derek Diamond has taken over as Membership Secretary. One of his responsibilities is to produce the labels for the despatch of *The Kiwi*. Please contact him, through the Honourary Secretary, with any problems. During the year, our membership showed a nett increase of one with four deaths, five resignations, sixteen lapsed members and twenty six new members."

Acceptance of the Report and Recommendations was proposed by Andrew Dove and seconded by Derek Diamond. The motion was passed unanimously.

4. Report from the Honourary Packet Secretary:

Bernard Atkinson spoke to the Packet Report (enclosed with this issue of *The Kiwi*). There had been a profit of about £1,300 for the year. £1,000 had been transferred to the main Society account.

There was some debate about the content of the packets and it was agreed that a notice should be included in the next issue of *The Kiwi* to encourage members to enter a diverse range of material into the circuits.

Attention was also drawn to the fact that a number of new members request the packet but do not return the application form to the Packet Secretary after joining. The question was posed as to whether the system is too complicated. After discussion, it was agreed that the issue should be remitted to the next Committee Meeting.

Acceptance of the Report was proposed by Derek Diamond and seconded by Ann Carter. The motion was passed unanimously.

5. Election of Officers of the Society:

All Honourary Officers of the Society automatically resign at the end of the year but are eligible for re-election. No written nominations were received and the Committee proposed the following Officers ((E) denotes membership of the Executive Committee of the Society):

President:	Ernie Leppard
Vice Presidents:	Allan Berry, Alan Gardiner, Tom Hetherington and John Smith
Chairman (E)	Lewis Giles
Vice-Chairman	Derek Diamond
General Secretary(E)	Keith C. Collins
Treasurer (E)	Ernie Leppard
Packet Secretary	Bernard Atkinson

Editor of <i>The Kiwi</i> (E)	Andrew Dove
Librarian	John Woolfe
Auctioneer	John Woolfe
Membership Secretary	Derek Diamond
Meetings Reporters	Andrew Dove & Derek Diamond
Publicity Officer	Paul Wreglesworth
Auditor	John Smith
Representative in N. Z.	John Watts

Committee members: Northern Group Chairman (Geoff Wragg) and Secretary (Jack Lindley), Midland Group Organiser (Bernard Symonds), Scottish Group Organiser (David MacGill) and Dr. Phillip Hoare.

The election of those named was proposed by Ann Carter and seconded by Alexander McCulloch. The proposal was passed unanimously.

6. Reports from other Officers:

The Hon. Editor of *The Kiwi* reported that members will have noted that the journal has added 4 pages to its size. This addition has been made to expedite the publication of a backlog of articles. If the rate of contributions allow, the expansion will become permanent. He further reported that a request had recently been received for advertising space in each issue for the year 2000. He is minded to accept the request as adverts provide useful information for all members. He requested that any members with particularly strong feelings contact him.

The Publicity Officer: Paul Wreglesworth reported that his efforts seemed to be bearing fruit given the increased membership. However, all members need to take every opportunity to promote the Society. The arrangements for the Philatelic Weekend in Chester on September 22 - 24, 2000 were progressing. Although a comparatively small number of positive written responses have been received, the decision has been made to proceed. Those interested, if they have not yet written to Paul, please drop him line. Address in the September, 1999 issue of *The Kiwi*.

The Honourary Librarian: John Woolfe reported that some items in the Library have deteriorated to such an extent that they will need restoration and re-binding before they can be loaned.

He also said that a new list of the Society Library Holdings is long overdue. He would like to produce the new list in such a way as to allow searches with regard to title, author and subject. This will, obviously, require a substantial amount of work and he would be most grateful from other members who would be interested in helping.

The Honourary Auctioneer: John Woolfe thanked Eric and Elizabeth Lewis for typing the auction list. He said that there had been a few problems with the description of condition: he had written to postal bidders and believed that he had contained the problems.

7. Any Other Business:

Ernie Leppard reported that he was making progress with the commemorative booklet for the 50th Anniversary of the Society. Any members who would like to contribute an article, of whatever length, should get in touch. All contributions will be most gratefully received and incorporated into the publication.

General collectors who had spoken to the Society to officers at Midpex, Hampex etc., appeared to be of the view that the Society was too specialised. There was discussion about various ways to make the Society more accessible.

The Society will share a stand with the Australian Society of Great Britain at Glasgow 2000 on November 18/19th, 2000. Any Society members attending will receive a warm welcome.

A listing of the library of the first Governor-General, Sir George Grey, which is held in Auckland is to be published. Further information will be made available in *The Kiwi* as it appears.

A bibliography of New Zealand philatelic literature is being compiled by David Beech, Keeper of the Philatelic Collections at the British Library, and Allan Berry and will be published shortly. Again further information will be published in the *The Kiwi*.

8. Presentation of Awards:

The Awards won in the Annual Competition presented (with a kiss!) by Ann Carter. In addition to the awards won, Bernard Atkinson was awarded a Silver-Gilt medallion as a first time winner of a class in the Society's Competitions. The F.G.East Jubilee Goblet for the best contribution to *The Kiwi* during the year was awarded to Allan P. Berry.

Post Meeting Note: (From the Editor): Certificates commemorating these awards have been prepared. Unfortunately your Editor forgot to take them to the AGM. They will be forwarded to winners as soon as possible.

NOTES OF THE FIRST JOINT MEETING BETWEEN THE SCOTTISH AND NORTHERN GROUPS HELD IN CARLISLE OCTOBER 15TH, 1999

David MacGill opened the meeting and welcomed the 15 members present. He said that if the meeting was successful, it would be nice to repeat it every two years.

Andrew Dove opened the displays with a showing of King George V. The exhibit contained artists sketches, proof material and perforation varieties.

John Studholme came next and gave an account of his family's links to New Zealand. His great-grandfather emigrated and became a politician. As a result, a settlement was named after him. John showed examples of postmarks from Studholme Junction.

Pat Riddell showed the ½d. Mt. Cook with varieties of paper, colour and perforations and Ken Anderson showed nice examples of used 1935 definitives. Next, Jack Lindley showed a range of Chalon covers and explained the different routes taken. Later, Jack showed a range of different FDC of the 1937 Coronation issue. The 3d 1960 definitive was Paul Wreglesworth's subject. This was a comprehensive coverage with different perforations and Plate Blocks illustrated.

Don Scregg talked about the 1920 Victory issue. He made the point that dissatisfaction with the delay in the issues arrival in New Zealand led to future stamps being printed in New Zealand. On show were a range of proofs and shades in the issued stamps. Brian Cartmill displayed a range of colour separations produced by New Zealand Post for the 2000 Club. Stuart Potter had twelve sheets with examples of the Trans-Tasman Pioneer Flights of 1933 - 34 a number were signed by the pilots, Kingsford-Smith and Ulm. There was also some publicity material for Wakefield Oils who sponsored the flights.

A number of spectacular modern missing colours including the 1959 Red Cross stamp without the Red Cross were shown by Alec McCulloch and the displays finished with David Stalker's collection of the varieties on the 1958 3d + 1d Health stamp and part of David MacGill's collection of commemorative covers for centennials and other notable events.

David thanked all those who had taken part in the displays and the very successful meeting ended at 16.30.

NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NORTHERN GROUP HELD ON NOVEMBER 13th, 1999

Ten members were present when the meeting opened and one other had sent apologies. Considering that the first leg of the England v. Scotland Play-off to decide admission to next year's European Football Cup was being played on the same day, this seems a good turn-out.

The meeting started with a report of our joint meeting with the Scottish Group. This was a well attended and most enjoyable and interesting meeting and, hopefully, will be repeated in two years.

The dates for the groups meetings in 2000 were discussed. It was decided that meetings would be held on February 19th, June 3rd and November 11th. The usual meeting in September would not be held as, hopefully, members of the group will be attending the Philatelic Weekend in Chester.

The theme for the meeting was Commemoratives: members favourite and least favourite issues.

Jack Lindley showed the 1940 Centennial Issue, stamps, joined "ff" varieties, plate blocks etc. Later, Jack displayed illustrated F.D.C.'s from 1953 onwards.

Aubrey Halpern showed the first issue of the Ross Dependency and was followed by Don Scregg who first showed his least favourite issue, the Agricultural Science set of 1976 and then his favourite, the joint issue with China in 1998 showing Roses.

Next, Mike Hanson mounted a display of the 1920 Victory Issue, including specimens, colour trials etc. Thereafter, Brian Cartmill showed N.Z. Stamp Points Issues, Stuart Potter displayed covers carrying the 1940 Centennial and Peace Issues and Geoff Wragg explained why the 1923 Map Stamp was his least favourite issue.

After a vote of thanks for the variety of issues shown, the meeting closed at 16.30.

MEETINGS OF THE SCOTTISH GROUP IN 2000

The dates and venues for the meetings of the Scottish Group have now been agreed:

- Saturday March 18th at the Scottish Congress in Falkirk: meet in the Bar Lounge at 12.00.
- Sunday June 18th at the home of Mr. & Mrs. D. MacGill in Saltcoats: meet at 12.30.
- Saturday October 14th at the home of Mr. & Mrs. Alex McCullough at Gatehouse of Fleet: meet at 12.30.

November 17th - 19th: GLASGOW 2000. The New Zealand Society of Great Britain will share a stand with the British Society of Australian Philately at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre. We will be pleased to hear from anybody coming North for this event.

AWARDS TO MEMBERS

Very many congratulations to our member, Robin McGill Startup FRPSL, FRPSNZ, who was awarded the Rhodes Medal of the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, its highest award, on October 1st, 1999. The full citation for the award will be published in the next issue of *The Kiwi*.

Congratulations to the following members who gained awards at Palmplex Stamp Show '99:

Allan Berry, Large Silver Gold, Gordon Darge, Gold + Special Prize, Robert Samuel, Gold + Special Prize and Robin Startup, Large Silver.

ANNUAL COMPETITION

This will be held on Saturday, 25th March, 2000, at the Union Jack Club, Sandell Street, London. Details of the classes and awards are as follows:

CLASSIC SECTION

The issues of Queen Victoria and the First Pictorials.

Condition	30 pts.
Completeness	20 pts.
Presentation	20 pts.
Philatelic Knowledge	20 pts.
Judge's Discretion	<u>10pts.</u>
	100 pts.

AWARDS

Winner: Stacey Hooker Cup & Silver-Gilt Medallion.

Runner-up: Paua Bookends.

MODERN SECTION 1.

Stamps issued during the reign of King Edward VII and King George V, the Penny Universals, the Penny Dominion and the Second Pictorial Definitive issue.

Condition	20 pts.
Completeness & Rarity	30 pts.
Presentation	20 pts.
Philatelic Knowledge	20 pts.
Judge's Discretion	<u>10 pts.</u>
	100 pts.

AWARDS

Winner: Noel Turner Trophy & Silver-Gilt Medallion.

Runner-up: John Evans Trophy.

MODERN SECTION 2.

Stamps issued during the reign of King George VI and the pre-decimal issues of Queen Elizabeth II.

As Modern Section 1.

AWARDS

Winner: Kiwi Shield & Silver-Gilt Medallion.

Runner-up : Paua Musical Box.

MODERN SECTION 3.

Stamps issued since decimalisation.

As Modern Section 1.

AWARDS

Winner: David Forty Salver & Silver-Gilt Medallion.

Runner-up : Campbell Paterson Trophy.

POSTAL HISTORY SECTION.

Knowledge and personal study displayed.	40 pts.
Originality and importance of the Exhibit.	20 pts..
Relative Condition	10 pts.
Presentation, including write-up	20 pts.
Judge's Discretion	<u>10 pts</u>
	100 pts.

AWARDS

Winner: John J. Bishop Trophy & Silver Gilt medallion

Runner-up: Barton Bowl

Each entry shall consist of twelve normal sheets, each sheet to be contained within a protective cover and numbered in the order of sequence. It is essential that a short note, of no more than eighty words, should be placed at the back of the first sheet, between the sheet and the plastic cover, describing the theme of the entry, and calling attention to items of especial interest and rarity.

Postal Entries should be sent to arrive no later than TUESDAY, 21st MARCH, 2000 to::

K.C. Collins, 13, Briton Crescent, Sanderstead, Surrey, CR2 0JN

Unfortunately, entries from overseas members cannot be accepted as, in the past, problems have been encountered with the Customs and Excise Authorities.

Entries will be accepted on the day if produced to one of the Society's Officers immediately on arrival, and before judging commences.

A Silver-Gilt medallion will be presented to the best entry submitted by a Member who has not previously won a trophy in the Society's Annual Competition.

The Committee hope for an increased number of entries compared to last year. It is not difficult to win one of the trophies listed above. Many have before now.

AUCTION REALISATIONS: 27TH NOVEMBER 1999

Lot	Realised	Lot	Realised	Lot	Realised	Lot	Realised	Lot	Realised	Lot	Realised	Lot	Realised
A	15.00	36	2.50	110	7.00	178	17.95	220	7.50	314	12.00	387	12.00
B	2.00	37	4.00	111	8.00	179	W/D	221	7.00	316	11.00	388	5.00
C	7.00	38	20.00	112	12.00	180	6.00	222	15.00	317	5.00	389	10.00
D	27.00	41	11.00	113	8.00	187	12.00	223	7.00	320	5.00	390	16.00
E	4.50	42	15.00	114	5.00	189	7.00	225	5.00	321	16.00	393	11.00
F	8.00	43	15.00	115	10.00	197	7.00	226	10.00	327	15.00	394	25.00
G	8.00	47	13.00	116	8.00	198	4.00	228	19.00	329	8.00		
H	1.00	53	9.00	118	9.00	200	10.00	229	15.00	330	4.00		
J	4.50	54	25.00	119	30.00	201	4.00	230	19.00	335	7.00		
O	2.50	55	9.00	120	8.00	202	5.00	231	5.00	336	8.00		
P	1.00	56	15.00	121	14.00	203	5.00	232	11.00	337	18.00		
Q	2.50	57	70.00	123	7.00	204	5.00	233	8.00	338	3.00		
R	1.50	58	44.00	125	20.00	205	7.00	234	8.00	339	8.00		
S	2.00	59	15.00	126	20.00	206	9.00	235	14.00	340	1.00		
T	1.00	61	3.00	127	9.00	207	9.00	236	12.00	343	15.00		
U	0.50	62	13.00	128	24.00	208	6.00	237	10.00	343A	7.00		
V	9.00	63	20.00	129	4.00	209	10.00	238	8.00	344	13.00		
2	4.00	65	10.00	130	12.00	210	7.00	242	30.00	345	10.00		
4	6.00	66	19.00	131	10.00	211	4.50	244	16.00	346	2.00		
5	7.50	67	10.00	132	14.00	212	5.50	245	30.00	347	0.05		
6	9.00	70	80.00	133	22.00	213	14.00	254	7.00	348	15.00		
7	9.00	71	15.00	134	15.00	214	4.00	261	150.00	349	5.00		
8	13.00	73	10.00	135	3.50	215	15.00	262	22.00	352	17.00		
9	6.00	74	16.00	136	10.00	216	5.00	263	100.00	354	10.00		
10	5.00	75	46.00	139	11.00	217	11.00	265	16.00	355	4.00		
11	6.00	77	20.00	140	75.00	218	8.00	269	25.00	360	9.00		
12	5.00	79	10.00	142	18.00	219	6.00	270	20.00	361	10.00		
17	27.00	80	14.000	143	18.00	220	10.00	276	22.00	367	10.00		
18	10.00	81	9.00	150	6.00	222	5.00	277	40.00	369	10.00		
19	10.00	82	6.00	152	5.00	226	6.00	278	70.00	370	5.00		
20	2.00	83	6.00	157	10.00	228	10.00	283	5.00	371	15.00		
21	3.00	84	8.00	158	35.00	232	13.00	288	50.00	372	45.00		
22	11.00	85	6.00	162	8.00	236	13.00	289	6.00	373	6.00		
23	11.00	88	8.00	167	30.00	237	8.00	291	70.00	374	10.00		
25	13.00	89	10.00	168	50.00	238	10.00	299	43.00	375	6.00		
26	58.00	90	9.00	169	14.00	239	11.00	302	16.00	376	7.50		
28	45.00	91	6.00	170	19.00	240	2.00	303	16.00	378	12.00		
29	8.00	92	3.00	171	10.50	241	6.00	304	16.00	380	7.00		
30	7.00	94	9.00	172	50.00	242	6.00	305	20.00	381	6.00		
31	9.00	97	10.00	173	19.00	243	1.00	306	23.00	382	8.00		
32	35.00	98	10.00	174	16.00	244	5.00	307	8.00	383	8.00		
33	10.00	101	38.00	175	14.00	245	5.00	308	16.00	384	8.00		
34	7.00	102	6.00	176	19.00	246	7.00	311	10.00	385	5.00		
35	5.00	105	6.00	177	3.00	247	5.50	312	16.00	386	8.00		

Lots A-V were donated for Society funds. Many thanks to the donors.

Tony Stephens has written to thank our Hon Auctioneer, John Woolfe, for the time and trouble that he took to ensure that the event ran smoothly. A very successful event. Unfortunately, most of those present were in a hurry to leave and nobody seemed to have time to say thank you!

COMMITTEE MEETING

Will the Officers of the Society and Members of the Committee please note that there will be a Meeting of the Committee before the next General Meeting to be held on Saturday, 29th January, 2000. The meeting will commence at 13.00. An Agenda will be circulated before the Meeting.

LEWIS GILES, CHAIRMAN

FREE AUCTION CATALOGUES FOR MEMBERS

Brian Rumsey, the Managing Director of Ashford Stamps, has written to say that he would be pleased to provide free copies of the company's Auction Catalogues to members of the Society on request.

Interested members should contact him:

By Post; P.O.Box 3390, Auckland, New Zealand, or

By Email: ashford@stampsale.com, or

By Fax: +64-9-307-3791, or

By Phone: +64-9-307-3794

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

MEETING AT THE STAMP SHOW 2000

As previously reported, the Society will hold a meeting between 14.30 and 17.30 on **Thursday**, May 25th 2000 in Room Wellington 2 at Earl's Court during Stamp Show 2000. Robert Samuel has agreed to show his award winning collection of the 1931-1932 Postal Stationery. The second half of the afternoon will be given over to a workshop on Proofs and Essays.

We hope that many overseas members will take the opportunity to join us for what promises to be a most enjoyable occasion.

Further details will be given in the next issue of *The Kiwi*.

CURRENT EVENTS:

RECENT CHANGES TO OVERSEAS AND INTERNAL POSTAL SERVICES

ALAN TUNNICLIFFE

On 9 August 1999, NZ Post streamlined the ten existing overseas mail services into three new services:

EXPRESS INTERNATIONAL, AIR INTERNATIONAL, ECONOMY INTERNATIONAL

The Registered Post International service has been abolished but the Registration Service is still available for internal mail. Insurance for overseas is still available.

The former postal rate of \$1 for International aerogrammes and postcards to all destinations worldwide has been raised to \$1.10.

A single \$1.10 stamp was not available until the \$1.10 Christmas stamp was issued on 8 September 1999. Interestingly, this is the blue stamp depicting Mary and Joseph and donkey shown with a face value of 80c in the May 1999 issue of "Stamp FOCUS". Since then, two \$1.10 stamps have been issued: Hobie Cat yacht and Lord Ernest Rutherford millennium on 17 November. Two more \$1.10 stamps are due for issue soon: Maori Guardians on 9 February 2000 and Gold Round Kiwi on 6 March 2000. A booklet of \$1.10 self adhesive definitives may be issued on 3 March 2000 for use on aerogrammes and postcards.

Medium size letter rates to Australia and the South Pacific have been raised. The Air International rate has increased by 10% from \$1.00 to \$1.10 and the Economy International rate has increased by 14% from 70c to 80c.

Seapost International which was used to send parcels to the United Kingdom, Europe, North America and East Asia, has been abolished. This means that there is no alternative to Economy Post to these destinations. These rates have, in many cases, increased to destinations around the world.

The last time changes in overseas parcel rates were made was on 1 August 1996, when rates to Australia were altered.

The principal reason (apart from increased costs incurred by NZ Post in providing these services) for rises in overseas parcel rates is the abolition of a separate rate for Small Parcels that had been in place for many years and which offered reduced rates for parcels weighing up to 2 Kg. These former rates included GST and were, therefore, popular with philatelists as stamps could be used to pay the postage.

Now, however, because the former Small Parcels and former Customs Parcels rates have been amalgamated and are zero-rated for GST, not only does it cost more in many cases to post a parcel to any overseas destination, but if it wished to use stamps, GST, at the rate of 12.5%, must be added to the price.

Taking a positive view, NZ Post has announced that there will be seasonal specials. For example, there may be a continuing reduced price for posting early for Christmas. There is also the new continuous weight pricing system, in which the price changes for every 10 grammes (over 100g minimum) instead of the previous system under which one had to pay for every 500g or part thereof.

Full service Post Shops (i.e. company Post Shops, franchised Post Shops and Books & More outlets) will be able to use the computer-linked electronic scales to calculate the price payable for each parcel, but Post Centres (privately owned businesses acting as NZ Post agents) will have to use the customary manual method, which may lead to incorrect prices for customers, depending on the accuracy of the weighing mechanism.

As before, size and weight limits for international letters are 10mm maximum thickness and up to 200g in weight, in three size brackets: medium, large and extra large envelopes.

The new Air International and Economy International labels come in two sizes, for letters and for parcels, and are blue and green respectively. They differ from the former labels mainly in the omission of the word POST but other design changes have also been made (Figures 1, 2).



Figure 1



Figure 2

Express International is the new name for an amalgamation of the former EMS (Express Mail Service) and CourierPost International services. The new service allows documents and parcels to be sent overseas with delivery within 2 or 3 days. Two special envelopes are provided for use with documents. Prices for documents are cheaper than those for parcels (i.e. not private or business letters or magazines/catalogues), but the letter/document rates have only two price brackets, up to 500g and up to 1kg, whereas the Express parcel rates are calculated for each 10g from 500g to 20kg.

The label for use with Express International comes in only one large size, for use on parcels. It is bright red (Figure 3).



Figure 3

Other changes made on 9 August include the introduction of two new customs forms: the small green self-adhesive OS8A (7/99) CN22 for use with parcels up to 2kg, is smaller than the former version and has no space for the senders name and address.

For parcels over 2kg, a new large red form OS 007 is used. This is a combined despatch note and Customs declaration CN23. It has at its right side, six peelable service labels to choose from. The top (red) copy of the form is self adhesive and this is attached to the parcel. There are four carbon copies, the third of which is the "Senders Copy". Extra insurance cover or Track and Trace service may be paid for and is indicated by the appropriate label being peeled off and affixed in the space provided.

SPECIAL "EARLY BIRD" XMAS LABEL

The first of the seasonal specials was launched on 20 September 1999 for Early Bird Christmas Parcels (Figure 4).



Figure 4

The special rate applied only to parcels sent to the U.K. and Europe and to Asia or North America. The special rate consisted of a 20% discount off the usual Economy rates, if posted by Monday 11 October (in the case of U.K./Europe) or if posted by Friday 29 October (for Asia/North America) and delivery was promised for 6 weeks after the closing dates. The normal delivery period for the Economy mail service is 3 weeks.

The Early Bird Xmas Parcel special service was not offered for parcels going to Australia, the South Pacific or the Rest of the World.

In place of the normal green Economy International Parcel label a special round, self-adhesive label was used. The label was inscribed "Early Bird Christmas Service". Readers interested in these had better salvage any seen on parcels as it is believed that a different label will be used next year.

The 1999 Early Bird Christmas label is multicoloured, with the border, text and logos in red, the tree and decorations being green, brown, blue, yellow-orange and white.

NEW INTERNAL PARCEL AND PACKET SERVICES

NZ Post introduced sweeping changes to services within New Zealand on 18 October 1999.

ParcelPost

The main change is that the Fastpost option for parcels has been abolished. However, Fastpost service can still be obtained for parcels by using a Postage-Paid Handibag (there are seven in the range). Parcels under 1kg in weight and within the maximum size of 340 x 220 x 50mm, are classed as packets. If outside these dimensions they are classified as parcels even though they are under 1kg in weight.

As previously, payment for parcels may be made by postage stamps or by tickets. If stamps are used, a grey barcoded nil value tracking ticket is also attached to the parcel. Parcels can then be electronically tracked and are delivered by CourierPost.

If postage stamps are not used, one of the new coloured bar-coded parcel tickets are used (there are six different basic tickets, coloured pink, yellow, green, blue, lime and orange; also three excess tickets, coloured yellow, green and blue).

Another change is that the maximum weight for parcels has been increased from 20kg to 25kg. Across town parcels now cost \$3 for any weight up to 25kg but if a book of 20 tickets is bought, the cost is \$2.745 per item compared with the old rates of \$2 for under 1kg and \$2.50 for over 1kg.

A comparison between the old and new prices for sending parcels between islands: North to/from South, or to Great Barrier, Pitt or Chatham Islands) reveals one decrease and many increases. A parcel weighing between 1kg and 2kg was \$5.50 and now costs \$4.75. A parcel weighing between 2kg and 5kg is, however, now \$10.95, increased from \$6.70, \$7.80 or \$9.00.

Parcels weighing 5-10kg were \$12.45 but are now \$19.95; 10-15kg rates are \$10.75 higher having increased from \$18.20 to \$28.95. Parcels between 5kg and 20kg were \$24.00 and have risen to \$37.95, with those up to 25kg costing \$46.95. However, considerable savings may be made by the advance purchase of a book containing 20 parcel tickets.

PacketPost

As mentioned earlier, packets must be no thicker than 50mm and no longer than 340mm with a maximum height of 220mm and under 1kg. Packets may be sent by ordinary Post or by FastPost and there are two weight levels, up to 500g and up to 1kg.

Prices are: \$2.50 (\$3.10 FastPost) up to 500g; \$2.95 (\$3.50 FastPost) up to 1kg. These rates apply nationwide. Postage may be paid by postage stamps or by special packet tickets (without bar-codes). There are 4 different brown tickets, one for each of the prices; two are, therefore, FastPost tickets. As with the parcel tickets, packet tickets may be bought at discounted prices in books of 20. Delivery of packets is made by Posties.

Observations to date (26.11.1999) reveal that Post Shops are using the plain black and white computer printed labels formerly in use for parcels when stamps were not used to pay postage, rather than the new coloured labels.

Details of all the new services described in this article are contained in two NZ Post brochures: ADV71 (9/99) "Sending letters and parcels overseas" (This is a revised version of the brochure issued in August) and ADV220 (10/99) "Sending parcels and packets within New Zealand". Details can also be seen by visiting NZ Post's website: www.nzpost.co.nz.

A VISIT TO WANGANUI "BOOKS & MORE" POSTSHOP

ROBIN M. STARTUP

During September, 1999, my wife and I drove to Wanganui from Masterton (a return drive of five hours) to visit the new Books & More Postshop.

What did I think of the new postshop?

Dismay

What did I think of the new bookshop?

Unexciting

The new Books & More replaced the existing London Bookshop in the Trafalgar Square shopping complex. We parked in the underground carpark walking up to the western wing of the shopping floor then along the main corridor or arcade to the eastern wing where Books & More was located opposite Foodtown and the eastern entrance from the groundlevel carpark.

There was no attention-grabbing signage or indication that this was a post shop and the principal post shop for the City of Wanganui. There was a dual chest-height to floor posting box in the corridor outside the entrance. Behind the tellers' counter, five positions, along the backwall were two NZ Post posters from the recent international changes, and in the corner, a stand with handirange products. At late morning, the store was not overly busy - about the same as when it was a London Bookshop.

The former New Zealand Post Wanganui Postshop in the Chief Post Office building in Ridgway Street, despite the archaic entrance, was busy each time that I visited it. It had six or seven well spaced teller positions, a great display of posters and products along the walls and well set out and interesting floor display stands. My impression was that the display area comprised 80% postal products and 20% magazines and stationery.

The new Books & More is a complete reversal. The display area appeared to be 95% books, magazines and stationery, and 5% postal products.

The bookstore itself did not have the same visual impact as when it was a London Bookshop. The corporate colour scheme was non-descript and did not stand out. I could not see any signage directing me to specific parts of store.

The layout of the bookstore, the books, magazines and stationery displays reminded me of the layout of most Whitcoulls stores. After a thorough look at the stock contained in the Books & More section on New Zealand, Travel and History, and some "mystery/crime" we moved on to Whitcoulls in Victoria Avenue and looked at the same sections. The breadth and extent of the stock was very similar and I made no purchases.

I have reached the conclusion that for novels in which I have an especial interest, it is easier, and no more expensive, to use the Internet to order from overseas.

My impression from this visit is that New Zealand Post, after devoting a lot of effort to establishing distinctive signage and a corporate retail profile, has simply abandoned Wanganui and discarded its loyal customers. If Fastway Post were more innovative and energetic in creating its retail network, and had financed a new shop in one of the vacant units in the core shopping blocks, it seems likely that it would have captured much of the NZ Post trade. It was interesting to note, however, that KiwiMail has already set up a posting box for letters and packets in a Lotto shop in the main street: with greater public awareness, this is likely to take more business away from New Zealand Post.

INFORMATION RECEIVED:

NEWS RELEASE

YACHTING STAMP ISSUE IN A CLASS OF ITS OWN

18 October 1999

New Zealand Post's latest stamp issue pays tribute to New Zealander's love of water and Yachting as both a sport and recreational activity and is due to set sail on New Zealand's mail on its release date of 20 October 1999.

"The series of yachts depicted in the Yachting stamp issue are all commonly found here on our waters," says New Zealand Post Stamps Marketing Manager Wendy Riley.

"The stamps reflect some of the New Zealand's success in yachting and the enjoyment we get from competitive, recreational and spectator yachting activities."

The Yachting stamp issue features seven different classes of yachts including: Optimist (40-cent self-adhesive stamp), P Class (40-cent stamp sheet), Laser (80-cent sheet stamp), 18' Skiff (\$1.10 sheet stamp), Hobie Cat (\$1.20 sheet stamp), Racing Yacht (\$1.80 sheet stamp) and Cruising Yacht (\$1.80 sheet stamp).

The Yachting stamp release depicts the popular Optimist yacht in which many of New Zealand's most famous sailing personalities began their career along with the smaller and faster P Class yachts. Another stamp in the issue features the Laser which is considered one of the most competitive yacht classes in New Zealand, while Skiff racing is growing in popularity and is one of the sport's most exciting spectator events.

The stamps, self adhesive booklet, miniature sheet and first day covers were designed by BNA Design of Wellington and printed, by lithography, by Southern Colour Print of Dunedin.

NEW DAWN POSTMARKING SERVICE PROVIDES CHANCE TO CREATE HISTORY

1 November 1999

Stamp collectors around the world will be able to create their own special collectible this New Year with New Zealand Post's special postmarking service for 1 January 2000.

The New Dawn Postmarking Service enables collectors of New Zealand Post stamps to have mail postmarked 1 January 2000 from either the first city (Gisborne), the first town (Waitangi, Chatham Islands) or the first inhabited place (Pitt Island) in the world to see the sun rise on 1 January.

New Zealand Post Stamps Marketing Manager Wendy Riley said the service was designed to enable collectors of New Zealand Post stamps to create their own millennium memento and to send friends, family or themselves a special New Year's message.

"New Year's Day is a public holiday in New Zealand and is not a day when mail is normally processed by New Zealand Post. However, to mark this significant occasion we have designed a special service to enable collectors of New Zealand Post stamps to create a special and personal record of this once in a lifetime event."

Ms Riley said that collectors wanting to use one of these services will need to:

- Affix only one New Zealand Post stamp to their medium sized letter (maximum 120mm x 235mm, 20mm thickness) ensuring this stamp is the correct postal rate from New Zealand to the receiver's address.

- Place their stamped, addressed medium size letter inside an outer envelope and write the name of the preferred service (Pitt Island, Gisborne or Waitangi) on the left hand corner of the outer envelope.
- Post the correctly stamped outer envelope to the Stamps Centre, Private Bag 3000, Wanganui, New Zealand **to arrive no later than 10 December 1999.**

Ms Riley said the early close off date for these services had been set to ensure customer's mail could be processed during what is likely to be a very busy period for New Zealand Post.

LEADING THE WAY STAMP ISSUE

Ms Riley said New Zealand Post will be releasing the penultimate issue in their millennium stamp series on 17 November, making it ideal for collectors to use on the mail they send requesting the New Dawn Postmarking Service. Entitled "Leading the Way", the six stamps each depict examples of when New Zealand or New Zealanders were first to lead the world with a significant initiative or achievement.

"The stamps in this issue are ideal to use on mail using the New Dawn Postmarking Service. Just as New Zealand will be the first country in the world to see the sun rise, so we have lead the world in other important areas."

The "Leading the Way" stamps depict important milestones including Women's Suffrage (40c), Powered Flight (80c), Splitting the Atom (\$1.10), the Jet Boat (\$1.20), conquering Mt Everest(\$1.50) and Nuclear Free (1.80).

The stamps are designed by Siren Communications of Wellington and printed by Southern Colour Print of Dunedin.

Other millennium products

Also planned are two special stamps to be released on 31 December and 1 January. To mark the passing over from one millennium to the next, New Zealand Post will release a special overprinted issue of the purple Round \$1 Kiwi stamp on 31 December 1999.

"The round kiwi stamp has become a favourite amongst collectors and the wider public since the first olive green round kiwi was introduced in 1988," Ms Riley said.

"Reissued over the past 11 years in red (1991), blue (1993) and purple (1997), this special round kiwi stamp with its overprinted sheet selvages and gutter strips signals the end of the availability of the purple round \$1 kiwi stamp."

The overprinting in the gutter strip includes the New Zealand Post Stamps website address and simulates golden rays of the sun on the selvedge of the 33mm diameter, circular stamps.

The original stamp was designed by Allan Mitchell of Wellington while the Last Sunset Cover including the Special Round Kiwi Stamp has been designed by Diane Prosser of Wellington. The stamp was printed by Southern Colour Print, Dunedin.

First stamp issue for 2000

1 January 2000 will see the release of the 40c "Year 2000: First to see the New Dawn" stamp. It is the first New Zealand stamp to be micro-printed and features a dawn sunrise with a map overlaid showing the arc of the rising sun around the world and the time when the sun will rise on Hakepa on Pitt Island in the Chathams, the first inhabited place on earth to see the new dawn. This issue is also the last in New Zealand Post's millennium series of stamp issues.

"Derived from the language of the Morioris, Hakepa appropriately means 'the place which receives the first rays of sunlight'," said Ms Riley.

"As New Zealand is the first nation to see the light of the new age, New Zealand Post thought it fitting to commemorate 1 January 2000 with this stamp issue."

Ms Riley said that collectors will not be able to have either the special purple round kiwi stamp or the First to see the New Dawn stamp postmarked using the New Dawn Postmarking Service as they will be released after the postmarking service deadlines.

"Both stamps, and related stamp products, will, however, make special additions to every philatelist's collection."

The stamp has been designed by Diane Prosser of Wellington and printed by Southern Colour Print in Dunedin by lithography.

Ms Riley said that the stamp issues planned for the year 2000 will also be worth waiting for.

"From the Spirits and Guardians issue which commemorates the Year of the Dragon to the Gold Round \$1.10 Kiwi stamp and the second series of Kiwiana stamps, the New Zealand Post Stamp programme for the year 200 will have something to offer every collector.

"New Zealand Post will also continue our commitment to ensure stamp collecting remains a fun, progressive and rewarding interest for existing and new collectors of any age."

RESPONSE TO A PREVIOUS ARTICLE:

THE PRINTING AND STATIONERY DEPARTMENT FRANKS: CORRIGENDA AND ADDITIONS TO THE RECORD

ALLAN P. BERRY

Following publication of my articles in *The Kiwi* (1, 2), I am pleased to report on further information that has come to light.

RON INGRAM has pointed out that the earliest use of the Second Frank illustrated in the first article (1) as Figure 3 is clearly a handstamp impression. I can confirm this and regret the omission. Ron also pointed out a second omission in that the colour of the handstamp was not stated. It is, in fact, a dull or faded magenta. He kindly sent a cut-out of the same hand stamp impression in a bright magenta. Both the labels described with the First Frank and the label with the handstamp impression appear to be made from redundant forms - presumably a cost saving exercise.

Further study shows that the printings using the Second Frank on commercial size envelopes (those measuring approximately 140mm x 80mm) can be sub-divided further.

Of those with a comma after "Department", illustrated on page 67 of the original article, only two types were identified, one with the line below "On Public Service Only" measuring 57 mm and the other with the line measuring 62 mm.

On envelopes where the line measures 57 mm, the distance from the right hand end of the line to the printed frank varies. On two, it measures 15.5 mm - on one of those, the frank has a ragged bottom right frame line; on the second, there are breaks in the right frame line at the top. On a third example, the distance from the right hand end of the line to the frank is 15 mm only. On this, there is a white line flaw down the left side of the frank.

A further example has surfaced on which the line below "On Public Service Only" measures 61 mm and the distance from the right hand end of the line to the frank is 11.5 mm. In another example, the line below "On Public Service Only" measures 58 mm and the distance from the right hand end of the line is 12.5 mm. On this, the top left corner of the frank is broken.

In the examples where the line below "On Public Service Only" measures 62 mm, on one, the distance from the right hand end of the line to the frank is 10.5 mm and there is a flaw below the top frame line at the right. In another case, the distance from the right hand end of the line to the

frank is 11 mm and there are breaks in the top frame line to the right and to the right frame line at the top.

Of the commercial size envelopes where there is no comma after "Department", only the one type appears to exist. Following the same procedures that enable one to identify the printings listed above, it has to be recorded that the distance from the right hand end of the line below "On Public Service Only" to the printed frank measures 11 mm and that the top left corner of the frank is broken.

On page 68, examples of the Second Frank used on parcel labels were listed. In Group 2, the first classification was listed as a. and two examples with part printed address and one with partial rubber handstamp address were listed. A further example with a partial rubber datestamp address has been reported. This time it reads "INSPECTOR OF STOCK".

DOUGLAS HAGUE has reported a very interesting example of a Group 2 label (Figure 1). This is distinguished by having the print number [20,000/2/97-985 printed in the bottom right hand corner outside the frame lines. It is interesting that a label that was clearly printed in 1897 and should be in Group 2 - i.e. with the year date shown as 18...., in fact is in Group 3 in which the date is shown as 189.....This is even more interesting as I believe that one can interpret the printing numbers of Group 3 to deduce that examples were printed in 1894 and 1898. There may be scope for a re-classification. Any further changes will be published in due course.

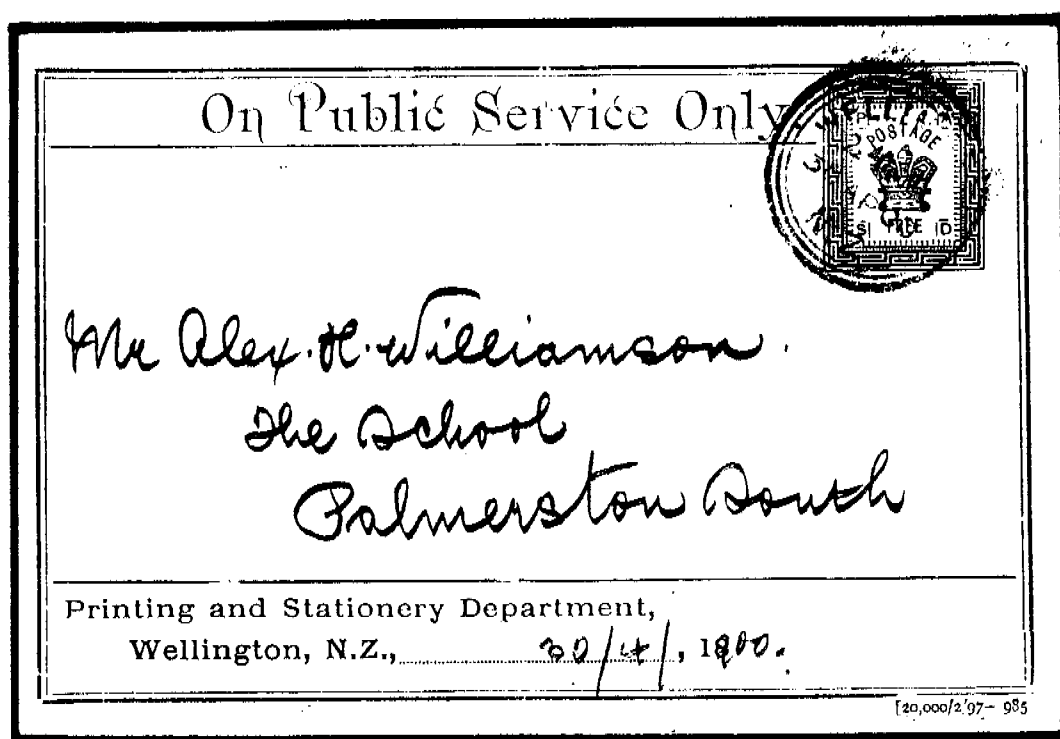


Figure 1

Further examples of the Second Frank used on postcards have surfaced. One is printed in black on off-white or fawn stock and entitled on the message side "New Zealand Statutes, 1891". It is used from Wellington on 24 SP 91. A second example with the message side entitled "Sheep Returns for the Colony made up to 30th April, 1891" has been found, printed in black on grey stock. It was used from Wellington on 15 OC 91. A third example has also surfaced and is printed in black on pale pink stock. The message side reads: "Sir, — / Your letter of the enclosing / £..... for..... /....., has been received /..... /..... /Yours Obediently, / SAMUEL COSTALL, / Government Printer. It was used from Wellington 18 OC 95.

On page 107, printings of the commercial size envelope with the Third Frank were listed. The last printing had the number 10,000/7/1900-4794]. This has now been found with a mourning corner added at the top left, used from Wellington on 4 SP 01. Thus a printing made in July, 1900, was still in use fourteen months later.

On pages 109 and 110, the commercial size envelopes with the Fourth Frank are listed, with the comment that none have been found with a print number dated after 1904. This is still the case, but a further printing, with mourning corner at top left, has been found. This has the print number 750/11/1901-8508]. It was used from Wellington, dated 7 NO 01.

On pages 110 to 112, printings of the Fourth Frank on parcel labels were listed and illustrated. A further example has surfaced, with the print number [5,000/6/1903-4941A. The difference between this and the printing without the suffix letter is that there is a partially printed address, *The Registrar / Births, Deaths, and Marriages*, - the example that I have has two lines printed onto which the rest of the address may be written. It is unused.

References:

1. Berry AP. "The Printing and Stationery Department Franks (Part 1)". *The Kiwi*. (1999) Vol. 48. No. 3. pp. 64 - 70.
2. Berry AP. "The Printing and Stationery Department Franks (Part 2)". *The Kiwi*. (1999) Vol. 48. No. 5. pp. 106 112.

ORIGINAL ARTICLES AND READERS QUESTIONS:

A FASCINATING INK-JET ERROR

ROBIN M. STARTUP

Over the weekend of November 13/14 1999, senior processing staff at the Waikato Mail Centre experimented with the ink-jet printer on one of their two culler-facer-canceller machines. They wanted to establish how much text could be accommodated and tried out "CARRIED BY THE MILLENIUM STAGE COACH HAMILTON-RAGLAN 1999-2000>>>>>". This just fits the width of an E8 size envelope. Had they inserted the missing "N" in "MILLENNIUM", it would only have resulted in the dropping of one ">".

However, they forgot to re-instate the standard text in the printer memory and when the evening processing run started on November 15th. the text was printed on approximately 10,000 - 12,000 business envelopes before staff woke up!! An example is shown as Figure 1.

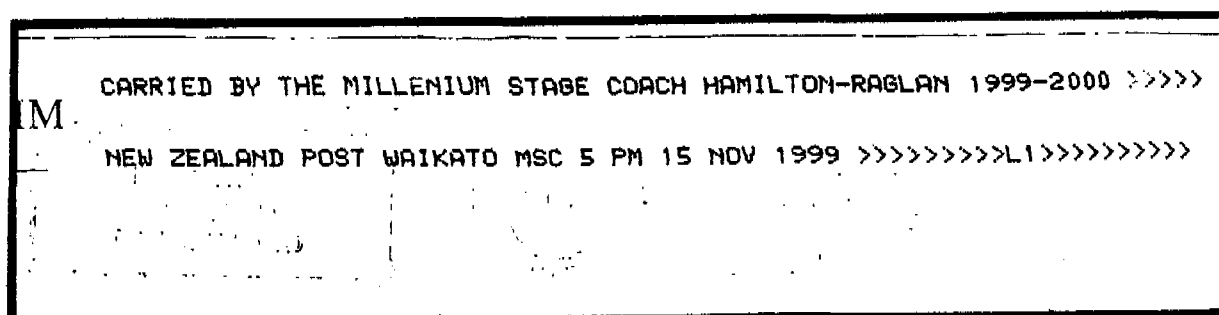


Figure 1

A stage coach trip may be planned for 31 December - 1 January but nobody has told philatelists yet! Instead of providing pictorial or special datestamp, NZ Post is using the inkjet for special mails and we could still see used - but with the correct date.

KAHURANGI NATIONAL PARK

CECIL BRISTOW

Some years ago, I wrote a series of articles describing the National Parks of New Zealand. The last described the Bay of Islands Maritime and Historical Park and was published in 1990 (1). In the articles, I said that, hopefully, this would not be the final page in the story as these protected areas are major gift to the future of the country and the world. Future purchases and gifts should lead to the designation of more Parks.

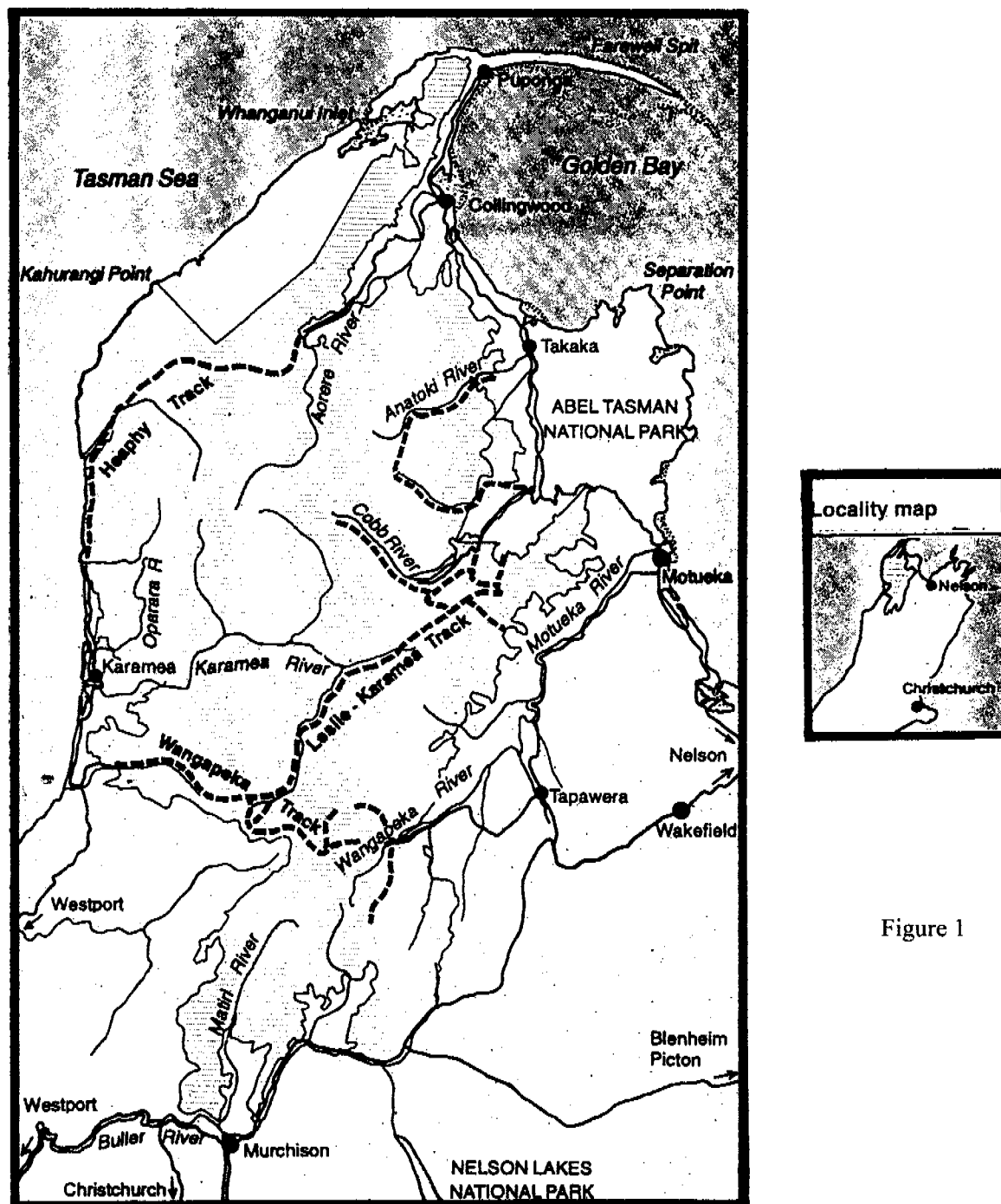


Figure 1

I am pleased to say that my prediction has been fulfilled by the creation, in 1996, of Kahurangi National Park. The geographical boundaries are shown in Figure 1.

For the past thirty years, most of this area was part of a Forest Park administered by the New Zealand Forest Service. The most recent National Park covers 453,000 hectares and was created after years of lobbying by conservation groups seeking more effective protection for the area's extraordinary range of plant and animal life.

The new Park has a wide range of natural environments due to its size and varying geology. Within it are some of the country's oldest rocks and landforms, with areas of limestone and marble, which have been shaped into spectacular caves, arches and outcrops by the passage of water.

The longitude of the new park freed it from most of the Ice Age of 10,000 years ago and the variety of land forms in the shape of plateaux, glaciated mountain tops, valley floors, rocky coastlines and a vast wilderness area provide a variety of habitats for animals and plants.

Kahurangi National Park plays host to more than half of the 2,400 native species endemic to New Zealand and 67 are only to be found in the new Park. Amongst Alpine species native to New Zealand, 80% can be found within the boundaries of the latest Park.

Such a vast expanse of vegetation that is relatively unaffected by weeds, pests, fire and timber milling provides a perfect habitat for wildlife. A wide range of birds, including 18 native species, are to be found within the park. Notable sightings include the Blue Duck (Figure 2), the Great Spotted Kiwi (Figure 3), the New Zealand Falcon (Figure 4) and Rock Wrens. The Park is also the main home of *Powelliphanta*, a giant carnivorous land snail that can grow to about 10cms. in diameter (Figure 5).



Figure 2



Figure 3



Figure 4



Figure 5

Access to the Park is through five settlements: Motueka, Takaka, Collingwood, Karamaea and Murchison. Once inside the Park, there is a network of tracks to suit all requirements. The difficulty varies from easy to most challenging and each track has its own huts and shelters. The tracks require a permit to walk and the huts have basic items for comfort. The maximum stay at each shelter is limited to two nights. Despite the well spaced shelters, because of the changeable weather, it is recommended that walkers carry their own cooker and are equipped for all conditions.

There are two of the country's major walks within the Park:

THE HEAPHY TRACK:

This is a 4 - 6 day, 80 kilometre walk. The track follows the route between the Aorere and Whapoai rivers and was used by many generations of the Golden Bay Maori in their journey to central Westland seeking Greenstone for their tools, weapons and ornaments.

The track is named after Charles Heaphy V.C., a draughtsman who, with Thomas Brunner, surveyor, were the first Europeans to traverse the coastal section of the track. They were accompanied on their journey in 1846 by the renowned Maori guide, Kehu. Charles Heaphy is an interesting historical figure as he was awarded the Victoria Cross for his actions in the Maori Wars and was the first recipient of the medal who was not in the regular army.

The inland portion of the track was first traversed by a gold miner named Aldridge in 1859. In 1860, James Mackay, a warden of the Collingswood Goldfields followed in his footsteps and in 1861, the route was developed to pack-track standard. By 1900, the road had become overgrown and, with the loss of the gold-diggers, little used.

In 1965, the North West Nelson Forest Park was established and the track was cleared again for public use.

THE WANGAPEKA TRACK:

This is a 52 kilometre long track which takes 3 - 5 days to walk. It traverses the park from the Waimea basin in the east to the West Coast near Karamea. It crosses two saddles over 1,000 metres high and passes through the beech-forested valleys of the Wanganui, Karamea, Taipo and Little Wanganui rivers. There are six huts along the route.

The track can be walked in conjunction with the Leslie/Karamea track to link with the Mount Arthur tablelands, or with the Heaphy track, to create a round trip between Nelson and the West Coast. Some of the route is along riverbeds but all major and most minor rivers have bridges or high water alternatives.

Gold was discovered in the Wangapeka Valley in 1859 after a survey by Dr. Ferdinand Von Hochstetter. This discovery and the need for access to the West Coast led to the building of the track in stages between 1862 and 1899. Unemployed gold miners and diggers were recruited to work on its formation. The area attracted gold hunters for about 70 although it is doubtful if any fortunes were made.

The first pastoral licence for grazing sheep in the valley was issued in 1851. By the late 1860's, the sheep had reached the alpine grasslands of the Wangapeka tops. Graziers tied small bags of grass seed to the sheep's necks introducing new grass species into the area. Grazing was discontinued after 1940 because of the large number of deer competing for the feed.

The 1929 Murchison earth quake caused severe damage to the track and totally destroyed the Mount Zetland route on the western side of the Little Wanganui Saddle. The damaged sections were rebuilt during the 1930's Depression when the Government introduced a gold mining subsidy scheme for unemployed men.

Cecil King's hut is a relic of this time. King built the wooden slab hut in 1935 and, after his retirement in the 1960's, spent every summer fossicking there until 1981. He died in 1982 and his family spread his ashes around the hut. Restoration work by the Department of Conservation in 1991 has given it a new lease of life.

The lower Wangapeka valley provides a series of short walks from Courthouse Flat (reached from Taparewa) exploring the old gold-mining relics and picturesque streams. Journeying as far as Cecil King's hut makes a full day's trip.

The third major walk in the Park is the LESLIE-KARAMEA TRACK:

This is a 3-4 day link between the Mount Arthur area and the Wangapeka Track and passes through the rugged earthquake torn mid-Karamea Valley. It is one of the Top of the South Region's premier semi-wilderness experiences.

Several earthquake- triggered slips have to be traversed with care. One of the slips came down Apollo Creek from Mount Kendall (1762m) and dammed the Karamea River creating Moonstone

Lake. The lake is about 3 kilometres long and some of the trees drowned during its formation still stand as naked trunks.

Other Short Walks include:

THE MATRI VALLEY

This track may be accessed from Murchison and leads to Lake Matiri, one of many lakes formed in the park when earthquake caused slips dammed rivers. Beyond the lake is a steep climb to plateaux with spectacular views.

MOUNT ARTHUR and the TABLELANDS

There are a number of walks signposted in this area starting from Flora car park which may be accessed through Motueka.

The Mount Arthur/Cobb area has many special geological features. A complex series of ancient rocks have been eroded into distinctively different landscapes. Below ground are some of the deepest cave systems in the country: the exploration of these complexes is far from complete.

The walk to Mount Arthur hut or the climb to Mount Arthur (1795m.), itself, make excellent day trips. A two day excursion to Salisbury Lodge on the Mount Arthur tablelands provides an excellent introduction to the Park and to tramping.

CONCLUSION:

New Zealand is a small country with an extraordinary range of environments: from orange groves in the North to glaciers in the South with geothermal areas in between. This unique habitat, flora and fauna must be preserved for future generations. The National Parks programme is a significant and very welcome initiative to secure the future of the environment

Reference:

1. Bristow C, "New Zealand Maritime Parks (3) Bay of Islands Maritime and Historical Park." *The Kiwi*. May 1990. Vol.39 No. 3. Pp. 47-50.

A STRANGE EXAMPLE OF THE SECOND SIDEFACE ½^D

R.E. COLE-MACKINTOSH

Can any reader help me in the identification of a recent acquisition illustrated as Figure 1.



Figure 1

This stamp is considerably lighter than other examples that I have. The feature that puzzles me is a white line running almost horizontally across the front. The line runs across the design from the left margin, just below Her Majesty's nose, through her veil and background and stopping just short of the right margin. It appears to thicken shortly before it finishes. The stamp has not been creased, indeed, the back is extremely clean. Clearly, this is not due to a paper crease or engraver's error. Could this be a paper shift during printing?

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