



THE KIWI



THE JOURNAL OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

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WHOLE NUMBER 279

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE UNION JACK CLUB,
SANDELL STREET, LONDON SE1
ON MARCH 25TH, 2000 STARTING AT 2 P.M.

THE ANNUAL COMPETITION WILL BE HELD
ALL THOSE ATTENDING WILL TAKE PART IN THE JUDGING

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

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THE RED SPOT:

**IF YOUR ENVELOPE CARRIES A RED SPOT, YOU HAVE NOT RENEWED
YOUR SUBSCRIPTION AND WILL NOT RECEIVE ANY MORE ISSUES OF
THE KIWI.**

PLEASE REMIT £12.00 TO ERNIE LEPPARD AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

SOCIETY NEWS:

MEMBERSHIP NEWS:

In recent months, an increasing numbers of new members are requesting that their addresses are not published due to increasing security concerns. It is proposed that, in future, only the postal town of new members will be published but not the detailed address.

Contact with any member may be arranged through: the Honourary Secretary, the Membership Secretary or the Honourary Editor of *The Kiwi*.

NEW MEMBERS:

We welcome:

M. Davies, Cheshire, W. J. Jewhurst, Suffolk, J. H. Scott, West Sussex, J. M. Stimson, Surrey

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

D. J. Armitage now Bedfordshire

A. J. Askew now Surrey

K.W.J. Lynch: c/- KWJL Publications, P.O.Box 274, Auckland, New Zealand

B. J. Peace a new address in Leeds

NEXT MEETING OF THE MIDLAND REGIONAL GROUP

The next meeting of the Midland Group will be held at the Carrs Lane Church Centre on April 15th, 2000 starting at 2 p.m. John Watts will show a Philatelic Pot-Pourri. This will comprise about 150 sheets and will range from Telegrams to major flaws.

NEXT MEETING OF THE SCOTTISH GROUP

The next meeting of the Scottish Group will be held on March 18th, 2000. It will be held at the Scottish Congress in Falkirk: meet in the Bar lounge at 12.00.

A CORRECTION

There is an error in this years Membership Card: Kiwi Day is on November 25th, not the 27th.

E-MAIL

The Editor of *The Kiwi* is now the proud possessor of an e-mail address: DDOVEAF@cs.com.

NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 29TH, 2000

Lew Giles welcomed members of the Pacific Islands Study Circle who were the guests of the Society. A total of 31 members of the Society and PISC were present.

The first display was given by Peter Phillips who showed the stamps and Postal History of the New Hebrides. This is an interesting territory as it was, until recently, a condominium with government shared by the United Kingdom and France. This led to bi-lingual stamps and the distribution of the languages was random. Included in the display were W.W. II censored covers and a rare commemorative cover from a short lived Airmail service.

Next, Peter Cottis showed Gilbert and Ellice Islands Postal History. Starting with a pre-UPU cover from Ocean Island posted by Registered Mail to the U.K., there followed a comprehensive display including a manuscript cancel from Hull Island, censored covers and the use of the rare first Airmail 7d envelope.

Bryan Jones showed material from the Aotearoa Survey Flights. Two planes were purchased but only one was delivered. Whilst the second plane was awaited, two survey flights were undertaken, the first from Auckland to Suva, Fiji and the second Auckland to Suva via Tonga. The display contained covers signed by the pilot, John Burgess, and a number of original photographs.

Tony Eastgate gave a display of the Military Postal History of the French Pacific. This started in 1962 when the decision was made to use the South Pacific for nuclear weapons testing. The public outcry necessitated considerable military activity and both Naval and Army forces were put into position. The base and other Post Offices provided to service this presence was fully illustrated and explained.

Rufus Barnes illustrated the Postal History of Christmas Island. The display started with a rare Registered receipt from 1948, included an Official cover with "HIS MAJESTY" replaced by "HER MAJESTY" following the death of King George VIth and an example of the scarce first Registered Label in which the text was incorrectly given as "Christmas Island, Western Australia". The artwork of the 1977 Christmas Miniature Sheet was included.

Iain Stevenson showed the first issue of Tonga. The link to New Zealand was strong as W.R.Bock designed the stamp and it was printed in New Zealand by the Government Printers. The stamps were issued in 1886 following the opening of a German Postal Agency at Nuku'alofa on Tongatapu. This lead to an apprehension that the Germans were planning to invade the territory and the stamps were issued as a "pre-emptive strike". The display was comprehensive and contained rare strikes from the German Postal Agency, Die Proofs, Plating studies and rare examples used on cover including bisects.

Chris Clifford displayed Norfolk Island Military Postage History from the Second World War: the display was based around correspondence from a New Zealand Private who was a part of N Force (strength 1,500) that was despatched to protect a new airfield. This airfield was crucial to the allies war plans as the decision had been made that this island would become, in effect, an aircraft carrier and allow air operations to be mounted throughout the region.

David Murray-Brown showed the Postal History of Norfolk Island. The display started with the earliest known Registered Cover from the island and included covers cancelled with "N.Z.A.P.O. E". He then exhibited Pitcairn Island postal history with postal wrappers from 1924/5 with no stamps

available. In 1926, a New Zealand Postal Agency was instituted and a number of examples were shown.

Martin Baxendale discussed the postal history of Tonga. He started by showing 2 covers from the Postmaster with the stamps cancelled 14/5/1897 although the first stamps were issued on 1/6/1897. It would appear that the Postmaster placed examples on covers as soon as he received them and posted them on the ship prior to its departure. Thereafter, there were many examples of military postal history from the Second World War when the island was used as a base for New Zealand troops.

Ernie Leppard gave a detailed description of N.Z. Forces involvement in the Pacific War. Relief datestamps numbered 1 to 10 were used and each was shown with their location identified. In due course, the Royal New Zealand Air Force assumed the responsibility for mail and renumbered the post offices.

Derek Diamond showed two covers: the first appeared to be part of an envelope from Cable and Wireless and he asked a question as to the addressee.

Ann Carter showed a number of interesting covers and the last display was from Ernie Leppard who showed a comprehensive display of Cook Islands, starting with S.G.1 and with special reference to military posts in the Second World War as well as other New Zealand Dependencies.

Derek Diamond gave a vote of thanks and emphasised the breadth and strength of the displays that all present had enjoyed.

The meeting closed at 16.15.

D.D./A.F.D.

REPORT OF A SPECIAL MEETING HELD IN BIRMINGHAM ON 17 DECEMBER, 1999

A special meeting of the Society was held to allow Joc Gregson to show the Yeroc Collection of New Zealand Chalon Issues prior to its dispersal (unless anybody buys the whole collection!!)

Members of the Society will have received a copy of the Catalogue and, therefore, the Meeting report will be brief.

The thirteen members present were privileged to view a collection that could not be readily assembled in the future. Yeroc has spent 35 years assembling the collection and selecting the best examples available and the display contained numerous stamps and covers which were one of two or three known or the only example known.

Each printing was illustrated by Proofs (Die and/or Plate), unused, used and examples used on cover.

Items that particularly caught the eye included; the 2d. London Print on the earliest known cover from Christchurch, Experimental Perforations (Serrates, Pin Perfs and Roulettes) in multiples (including the only known pair of the 1d. Carmine-Vermilion Roulette 7 Davies Print), used on cover and the strip of four of S.G.1 (the largest known existing multiple).

Four covers especially appealed to the Meeting Reporter.

First, a "Dropped Cover": in Christchurch, a reduced rate of 1d (from 2d), was available if the sender of a letter deposited the item at the Main Post Office and the recipient collected it.

Secondly, a cover was shown (Lot 550) with the stamps stuck over a piece of green ribbon: this is thought to be a precursor of the "Registration" system.

Thirdly, a cover bearing a strip of three 2d. from the 1863 Davies printing with a vertical overlap at the left. The only known example of an overlap on an imperforate Davies Print on cover.

Fourthly, the only known example of a Marine Marking cancellation used on a cover bearing 4 examples of the 6d. brown 1864-1867 Davies Large Star Watermark print, Perf. 12½.

I do not propose to enter great detail about the display, members have already received Joc's Catalogue, suffice it to say that it was a privilege to have the opportunity to view this extraordinary and unique collection.

Bernard Symonds thanked Joc for showing the collection and the meeting closed at 15.30.

AFD

AWARD TO A MEMBER

**PRESENTATION OF THE HIGHEST HONOUR OF THE ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY
OF NEW ZEALAND'S "RHODES MEDAL" TO ROBIN STARTUP**

There follows the text of the citation delivered by Robert Samuel, President of the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, on the award of the Rhodes Medal to Robin Startup:

I first became involved in the more serious side of philately about 1956 when, as a young lad of 15, I first joined the Timaru Philatelic Society. It was at one of the first meetings that I attended that I discovered that stamp collecting was not *just* about collecting those bits paper with gum on the back and holes around the edges (what the late Laurie Vernazoni used to call "little half bits of nothing"); some collectors actually collected postmarks! It was then that I became aware of a thing called "Postal History" and the name of Robin Startup. Robin was at that time running a private magazine, *The Mail Coach*, and I was to become one of its subscribers, but I think for only the final issue before it went into temporary recess. With the later formation of the Postal History Society of New Zealand, *The Mail Coach* made its reappearance and became the Society's official newsletter, and Robin Startup its first editor. It was Robin who acted as the "clearing house" for every little snippet of information concerning New Zealand post offices and contemporary and not so contemporary postal history. Without Robin's efforts, I doubt if many present day collectors would have been able to pursue their hobby. He has been one of the major influences in New Zealand philately.

I believe that Robin first began researching New Zealand postal history as far back as 1949. *The Mail Coach* came into being in 1956, but I understand that there were six earlier issues under the name of *New Zealand Postmark News* - now an extremely rare publication. Robin has in fact been our most prolific philatelic writer. Allan Berry has kindly supplied me with a list of Robin's publications. The statistics are not just impressive, but amazing. Beginning with *The Mails Went Through*, in 1957, Robin has been the author of no less than 52 published books and co-author of a further 8; and author of a further 84 books or papers described as "unpublished" (often restricted to private circulation, or distributed in conjunction to a talk given to a society meeting), plus two similar works of which he was co-author. Add to this his editorship of *The Mail Coach*, his numerous articles and other contributions made over the years to publications such as *The New Zealand Stamp Collector*, *The Pacific Stamp Journal* and *The New Zealand Postal Historian*, and chapters contributed to *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand*, and one gets the impression that Robin has spent his whole life writing. This may in fact be true. But behind the writings are years of research, visits to libraries and museums, and the detailed study of copious official records. And Robin is still involved in researching our modern, and complex, postal history; he is currently recording the history and postal markings of our various local carriers, as well as keeping his eye on the present-day happenings within New Zealand Post.

Of Robin's many books I would suggest his major work was *New Zealand Post Offices*. This was first published in 1960 as *New Zealand Post Offices, Past and Present*. It then amounted to 74 pages. In 1993 the fourth edition was published. It was now entitled *New Zealand Post Offices* and had grown to 281 pages. The subtitle for the third edition of this work gives the scope of his research. This reads: *An alphabetical list of names of all Post Offices ever open in New Zealand, or opened by New Zealand overseas, showing original, present, or alternative names; period*

open and indication of locations. Not very exciting, perhaps, but behind this was more than half a lifetime of research. The book itself was to become, and still is, the New Zealand postmark collector's "Bible".

Robin has been an exhibitor at many of our exhibitions and, in 1977, his exhibit on "The Journeys of Captain Cook" was displayed in the Court of Honour at Panpex '77. And until health problems brought his more strenuous activities to an end, Robin had served as a judge at many of our national exhibitions. His books have won many awards at exhibitions, both nationally and internationally. I recall judging his *New Zealand Post Offices* at Palmex in 1982. We concluded that it was one of the most boring books we had ever read - about as interesting as the Oxford Dictionary - but I can assure you that we not just appreciated, but marvelled at, the years of work and the detailed research which had gone into this book, and its value to both postmark collectors and historians of the future. I regret we had only the one research award available at that exhibition, but Robin won it hands down - and had we had a few more research awards at our disposal, Robin would have won these also.

The name of Robin Startup is and will continue to be indelibly inscribed in New Zealand philatelic history and it is fitting that Robin receive the Royal Philatelic of New Zealand's highest and most coveted honour, the Rhodes Medal. It gives me great pleasure, Robin, to present this to you, and to offer you my personal congratulations, the congratulations of the Royal, and the congratulations of and thanks from philately generally. We will be forever grateful for your fifty years of study, research and philatelic writing and the giant contributions you have made to the hobby.

PROGRAMME FOR 2001

The programme for 2001 was discussed at the last Committee Meeting and was proposed as:

January 27th,	1d Universals
March 31st,	Social Philately
May 26th,	Revenues and Fiscals
July 28th,	Maritime Mail
September 29th & 30th,	AGM, Competition and Auction
November 24th,	A decade - selection to be announced

LIBRARY NOTES

JOHN WOOLFE

1. At the request of a number of members, I have obtained a copy of "The Great Exhibition Christchurch 1.11.1906 to 15.4.1907" by Alexander de Kort, published in 1985. This is a comprehensive and well illustrated review of the Exhibition as well as covering all aspects of philatelic interest.
2. I have also obtained a copy of "Uncommon Carrier" by Cassells. This is a history of the Wellington and Manawatu Railway.
3. Ken Lynch of Auckland has kindly sent a copy of his privately produced book on "The Chalon issues of New Zealand". This is the second edition of what the author hopes will be a new edition every two years or so building into an authoritative summary of the Chalon (Full Face) issues. He gives his opinion on the current market values of all the stamps together with background information about the stamps, their printing and a bibliography of previous articles.

The author is to be congratulated on his efforts. Too many of us have information from research efforts which, if we are not careful may die with us.

I hope that the author is able to update this over the years and to produce a major contribution to New Zealand philately.

All are available for members to borrow.

OBITUARY

MAJOR HENRY DUMAS, C.B.E., M.C., F.R.P.S.L.

1915 - 1999

Henry Dumas was born in 1915 to an English family of Huguenot descent. His family left France in the 17th Century and, in due course, established a successful family company involved in the developing insurance market that grew around Lloyds of London in the 19th century. Following his education at Radley College and New College, Oxford, Henry joined the family firm of Willis Faber and Dumas Ltd. He saw service in the Royal Tank Regiment in the Second World War in the North Africa Campaign and, subsequently, in Burma. He was awarded the Military Cross for his courage in the Italian Campaign.

His interest in stamp collecting, latterly a passion, started when he was at school. The origins of his special interest in New Zealand is unknown but the foundation of his collection was the purchase from Robson Lowe of Major K.M. Beaumont's fine collection in the early 1950's. For the next forty years New Zealand would become the focus of his stamp collecting.

He displayed a number of times to the Society and those present recall with pleasure the quality and completeness of the material on show.

FREE AUCTION AND STAMP CATALOGUES FOR MEMBERS

LEN JURY LTD.

Len Jury has written to offer free Auction Catalogues to members of the Society. He is also willing to send a free copy of his stamp catalogue, now in its 30th year and reviewed in this issue of *The Kiwi*, to members who request it.

Contact addresses:

By Post: Len Jury Ltd., P.O. Box 4400, Auckland, New Zealand

email: lenjury@xtra.co.nz

Fax: +64 9 377 6806

Phone: +64 9 377 0275

AUCKLAND CITY STAMPS

Warwick Delamore has also written to advise that New Zealand Stamp Auctions Ltd. is the Auction Division of Auckland City Stamps. The company publish the ACS New Zealand Colour Catalogue: the current edition, 2000, is now available £5.00, inc. postage and packaging. Warwick would be pleased to supply free copies of the postal bid sale catalogues to members of the Society.

Contact addresses:

By Post: Auckland City Stamps, P.O.Box 3496, Auckland, New Zealand

email: nzstamps@hotmail.com

Fax: +64 9 373 5014

Phone: +64-9-373-5489

Web Site: <http://www.nzstamps.com>

FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

THE STAMP SHOW 2000

This International Exhibition will be held between May 22 and May 28th, 2000 at Earl's Court, London. It will include a major display from the Royal Collection, fascinating children's activities, Postman Pat's world and more than 200 international specialist dealers will be present.

As trailed in previous issues of *The Kiwi*, the New Zealand Society of Great Britain will hold a meeting in the afternoon of Thursday 25 May between 14.30 and 17.30. Details of location will be included in the next issue.

For more information or to pre-register for free tickets write to: The Stamp Show 2000, Royal Mail, 20, Brandon Street, Edinburgh EH3 5TX. You can telephone 0345 072 2000 or visit www.thestampshow2000.co.uk.

DISPERSAL OF A MAJOR COLLECTION OF NEW ZEALAND STAMPS

The collection of the late Major Henry Dumas will be auctioned by Spink on March 15th, 2000.

The first 374 lots comprise stamps and covers dated prior to 1873. Particular strengths are in the pre-stamp covers (34 Lots), the issued stamps with numerous examples of serrates, roulettes and pin perfs. The last 98 lots in this section are Postal History and include inland and outgoing mail, Maori War letters, Goldfield covers, Wreck Mail, Manuscript Cancellations etc.

Major items are scattered throughout the rest of the auction. For example, there are 9 lots of K.G.V. Imperforate material. Many modern missing colours and other varieties are represented and, amongst the Commemorative issues, there are two examples of the Christchurch Exhibition 1d Claret. Toward the end of the sale, lots 689 - 698 are Reefton Provisionals, most with R.P.S. certificates.

Spink has offered free catalogues to all members on request. Please contact: David Parsons, Spink, 5, King Street, St. James's, London SW1Y 6QS. Tel. 0171 930 7888. Fax 0171 839 4853. E-Mail: spink@btinternet.com.

CURRENT EVENTS:

FURTHER CHANGES IN NEW ZEALAND POSTAL SERVICES

ROBIN M. STARTUP

From 1 February, there have been radical changes to the Mail Service Centre or processing side. The Fastpost service has been re-branded and re-designated Priority Post or Priority Mail. We now, therefore, have three primary mail streams in New Zealand - Standard, Priority and CourierPost.

This change in mail processing apparently has meant introducing new town dies and slogans on Universal postmarking machines and new slogan texts on Inkjets, where they were used specifically for FASTPOST mail. New hand rollers, datestamps, both steel-face and sid/s, have also apparently been introduced for datestamping large flats and packages. There should also be new "Insufficiently prepaid" markings.

Manawatu MSC is now using a new Klussendorf, with NZ Post logo at the foot of the town die, with a new "PRIORITY MAIL / logo / NEW ZEALAND POST" slogan. Masterton MSC apparently had a steel-faced datestamp ordered but, of course, this centre closed last November!

The changes will be in the 25 or so Mail Service Centres and not in post shops.

The PRIORITY POST includes Fastpost, Boxlink and Air International mails. We can expect to see replacement NZ Post information brochures and, probably, new blue-coloured labels in place of the FASTPOST labels.

NEW STYLE DATESTAMP INTRODUCED FOR 2000

ROBIN M. STARTUP

Yesterday, I received a NZ Post media release on changes to the postal datestamps from 5 January 2000. A summary is given below:

THE PROBLEMS:

- Philatelists complained at PalmPex '99 NZ Post Stamps Business Unit sessions that they were unable to get stamps philatelically cancelled. With central mail processing, few Postshops now held steel-faced postal datestamps.
- Earlier, NZ Post had checked all datestamps in use in New Zealand to identify any potential Y2K problems - this included a review of the expiry date of the date wheels.
- Producing a clear and sharp impression with a steel faced datestamp is difficult. The application of sufficient force is, also, likely to result in injury to the operator
- The oil-based black coloured ink used with steel-faced datestamps and Universal machines was no longer a satisfactory permanent cancel on present date postage stamps surfaces.
- The cost of purchasing and engraving about 250 replacement steel-faced datestamps would be \$92,500 as against \$10,000 for self-inking rubber-faced datestamps.

THE SOLUTIONS:

- To issue self-inking rubber-faced datestamps to replace those steel-faced datestamps which expired with year '99 to all retail outlets for the cancelling of postage stamps when required. To introduce a new blue coloured ink that was an effective and permanent cancel.
- A new styled cancellation will be brought into use on the first day of business, 5 January 2000. This self-inking date stamp (SIDS) will have the office name around the top, NZ (above date) dateline with the year in four figures, logo (below dateline), and NEW ZEALAND POST (around foot).

Unfortunately, there has been no indication, as yet, as to whether blue ink is to be used with other cancelling appliances. Neither has information been published as to how many post shop and post centres will use the new cancellor.

CANCELLATION OF PHILATELIC COVERS

ROBIN M. STARTUP

Readers will be aware that from 1 January, 2000 NZ Post introduced self-inking datestamps (sid/s) at most post shops and certain post centres for the cancellation of postage stamps (a) on parcels with postage paid in stamps and (b) philatelic covers. The cancellation is circular, in blue ink, with the office name around the top and NEW ZEALAND POST around the foot. As a consequence, many of the surviving steel-face datestamps and Reiner roller datestamps have been withdrawn.

Delivery Branches and Mail Centres continue to use existing markings and cancellations.

It is reported that over 400 of the new sid/s have been issued. Already there have been changes: the sid/s at Waitangi, Chatham Islands, is different to that used, in black, on 1 January millennium covers. The philatelic challenge is collecting impressions from as many "places" as possible.

Robin Startup, PO Box 275, Masterton, is preparing a list of the "probable" places of use, with comment on the steel-face datestamp usage and identifying where mail is normally processed. He will provide a copy of the 8-page list, for free, to those who write to him enclosing a stamped addressed envelope.

NEW INKJET SLOGANS

ROBIN M. STARTUP

Last year, there were many complaints that New Zealand Mail Centres used "Delivered to you by New Zealand Post" inkjet slogans without any changes. They seem to have gone to other extreme now. Figure 1 and Figure 2 show two IMP Cueprint cancellations that I have received within the past 10 days!

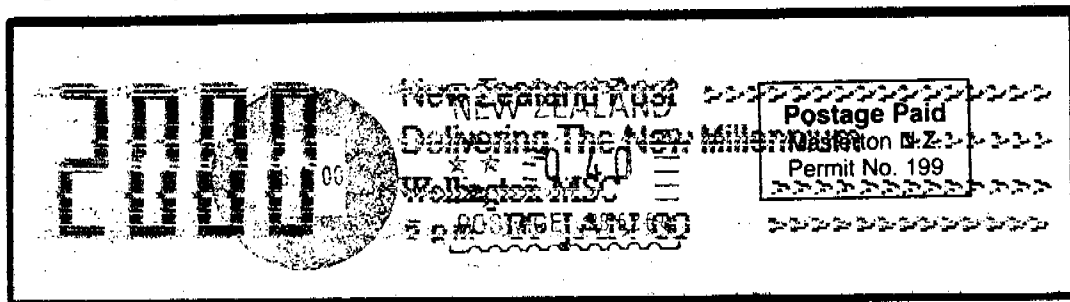


Figure 1

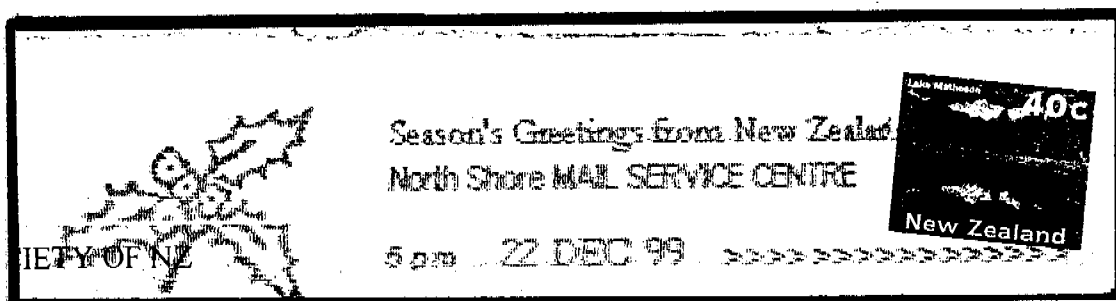


Figure 2

INFORMATION RECEIVED:

NEWS RELEASE

SPECIAL STAMPS TO BE RELEASED ON 31 DECEMBER & 1 JANUARY

12 December 1999

New Zealand Post will release two stamps to mark both the last day of the second millennium and the first day of the third millennium.

The special Round Kiwi stamp will be released on 31 December 1999. Then on 1 January 2000, the last stamp issue on New Zealand Post's millennium stamp series, "First to see the New Dawn", will be issued.

"The two stamps are designed to celebrate these two special dates in our lifetimes," said New Zealand Stamps Marketing Manager Wendy Riley.

Ms Riley said the Round Kiwi stamp has become a favourite among collectors and the wider public since the first olive green Round Kiwi was introduced in 1988.

"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 Kiwi \$1 stamp."

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

The 40c "Year 2000: First to see the New Dawn" stamp, commemorates New Zealand being the first country in the world to see the sun rise on the third millennium. It is also the first New Zealand stamp to be micro-printed.

The stamp 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.

"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."

SPECIAL DATESTAMP

FIRST CITY TO SEE THE NEW MILLENNIUM



A special pictorial date stamp was issued on Saturday 1 January 2000 in Gisborne. This special date stamp is the fourth and final in the series produced in Gisborne leading up to new millennium.

REVIEW OF PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

**"MARETH, MARCH 1943 BREAK THROUGH AT THE TEBAGA GAP WITH
N.Z. CORPS 8TH ARMoured BRIGADE."**

Compiled for The Nottingham Sherwood Rangers Yeomanry Old Comrades Association by Ken Ewing and Ernie Leppard.

Price £8.00 plus £1.00 P.& P. in the U.K. or £2.00 overseas.

Obtainable from: E.W. Leppard, 68, Chestnut Grove, Balham, London SW12 8JJ.

All profits will be donated to the Widows Fund of the Association.

The long and honourable history of the New Zealand Armed Forces is widely recognised and acknowledged. In major conflicts between the Boer and Gulf wars, their contribution has been significant. In between there have been many smaller campaigns to which New Zealand forces have contributed their due.

Clearly, the major conflicts of the 20th Century have been the First and Second World War: New Zealand played a full part in each, notably at the Gallipoli Landings in the First War and the North African Campaign in the Second.

This publication provides, for the first time, a full account of the Battle for Mareth and the Breakthrough at Tebaga Gap in March 1943. The German Afrika Corps had retreated 2,000 miles from Alamein to Tunis and established a defensive line at Mareth. However it was believed, correctly, that the line could be outflanked by a force moving through the Tebaga Gap.

The task was given to the N.Z. 2nd. Division, under the command of General Freyburg, V.C. and the 8th Armoured Brigade under the command of Brigadier Rosce Harvey, D.S.O.

This publication gives detailed information about the progress of the battle and enflankment through the diaries and reports of those involved on both sides. Included are, amongst others, the War Diary of the 3rd Royal Tank Regiment, the citation for the posthumous award of the Victoria Cross to 2/Lt. Moana Niu-akiwa Ngarina and a report from a member of the 21st Panzer Division - 5th Panzer Regiment, Karl Konig. The New Zealand Postal History of the campaign is also fully covered and illustrated in colour.

This publication is an interesting and well-illustrated read and provides much useful information for collectors of New Zealand Military History. A worthy addition to any bookshelf.

**"EXTRACTS FROM THE APPENDICES TO THE JOURNALS OF THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES RELATING TO POSTAL AFFAIRS - 1860 - 1926"**

(Reprinted in 1977 by the Philatelic Foundation Christchurch (Inc), P.O.Box 1129, Christchurch, New Zealand. No ISBN number).

EDITORS NOTE: "This publication has been received by the Royal Philatelic Society of London rather than The New Zealand Society of Great Britain. Our President, Ernie Leppard was requested to provide a review. A copy of his review is shown below. A copy of the publication is held in the Library of The Royal Philatelic Society of London. Members wishing to view the publication should contact the Honourary Librarian of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain."

The preface to this publication, written by Robert Samuel, explains that when R.J.G. (Ray) Collins, O.B.E., the doyen of New Zealand Philately, died in 1965, his widow gave Robert Samuel a copy of the notes containing relevant details of the New Zealand Postmaster-General's reports in 1926.

Ray Collins' "Extracts" were an integral part of *The Handbooks of the Royal Society of New Zealand*: (Volume I to V) and the *New Zealand Stamp Collector*, the Journal of the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand.

This copy is printed on ring soft bound A4 sheets. The publication is not on general sale.

The publication contains facts and statistics regarding Postal Affairs as reported to the House of Representatives between 1860 and 1926.

The document opens with extracts from the First Report of the Postmaster-General, dated 4th June, 1860 and closes with the Report of the Government Printer of July 1926.

In between is a wealth of information about the number of sheets printed, postal rates and other items of philatelic interest. The pamphlet contains information, inter alia, about the development of coil machines and the abolition of backstamping in 1910 and the introduction of the experimental carrying of aerial mail from 1919.

For example, the entry for the Postmaster-General's Report of 6th September, 1873 contains a statement on the Postage Rates:

"On the 1st January last the postage on newspapers posted in the Colony for delivery within the Colony was reduced to one halfpenny. An Intercolonial Conference approved a uniform rate of postage on letters and book packets addressed from one Colony to another: and from the 1st January next the postage on intercolonial letters will be reduced from 3d. to 2d. per ½ oz.

This is an invaluable resource for the connoisseur of New Zealand philately who seeks background to the decisions surrounding the issuing and production of stamps.

We are extremely grateful to Robert Samuel for making a copy available to the Royal Philatelic Society of London Library.

LEN JURY CATALOGUE OF NEW ZEALAND STAMPS.

Published by Len Jury Ltd., PO Box 4400, Auckland 1, New Zealand. Price \$7.50 inc.

Postage and Packing.

This catalogue is a welcome annual arrival. This year, the Catalogue celebrates the thirtieth Anniversary of the first publication. Although a simplified listing, it is beautifully produced in full colour and should be available to all collectors.

RECENT AUCTION REALISATIONS

JOHN WOOLFE

Macray Watson: 26 October 1999

N.Z. Marine P.O. Sierra (Type 1) 29 May 1902 on card to G.B. written at Honolulu franked 1d Universal	£80
--	-----

N.Z. Troopship No. 59 datestamp on card	£120
---	------

Harmers 30 November 1999

1959 Health 3d+1d pair, pink (legs) omitted	£92
---	-----

Alan Jackson 26 November 1999

N.Z. Troopship No. 48 on postcard with unrecorded (?) N.Z. Expeditionary Force O.C. Transport No. Handstamp	£210
--	------

Classic Stamps 19 November 1999

Chalon 1d Perf. 12½ (CPA1m) in orange vermilion vertical pair imperforate between (unlisted)	£1000
---	-------

Set of 7 Christchurch Exhibition labels	£60
---	-----

Printed ½d KEVII Auckland Exhibition P.C. (Samuel AB.3a(L)) used at exhibition	£180
--	------

Cavendish 22 October 1999

1929 - 1967 Complete set of Health F.D.C.'s (inc. 1931)	£1265
---	-------

1962 Health 3d+1d mint with orange (background) partly omitted	£520
--	------

1906 1/- Reefton Provisional	£750
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1973 4c Puriri Moth Greenish Blue omitted	£50
---	-----

1973 4c Puriri Moth Purple Brown omitted	£40
--	-----

Cavendish 28 November 1999

The Kiwi 1952 - 1999 with only two issues missing	£115
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The Mailcoach 1982 - 1999 complete	£53
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David Holmes 18 January 2000

1900 Inwards letter to N.Z. soldier in South Africa with PRISONER OF WAR/PRETORIA cachet	£300
---	------

1915 Loose Letter Troopship N. 4 cachet with cancelled deficient postage cachet	£145
---	------

1941 Cover to N.Z. from Crete with cachet Zengiert Gefangenen Lager cachet	£90
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RESPONSE TO A PREVIOUS ARTICLE:

THE SECOND SIDEFACE ½^d

P.A.C.WREGLESWORTH

I was interested to see the example of this stamp in the January issue of *The Kiwi* (1). I enclose photocopies of similar examples in my collection (Figure 1 and 2). I believe this to be from the lower left pane of the sheet (remember that the sheet was printed in four panes of 60 giving a sheet of 240 stamps in total). The position within this pane is Row 3 Stamp 2.



Row 3/2
scratch across face

Figure 1



Rows 2-3, Stamps 1-6.

Figure 2

The examples that I have are all on printings which appeared perforated P.11. This includes the 1897 Waterlow and the 1900 "Pirie" printings. It is possible that this scratch developed later in the life of the issue and, therefore, would not be found on any of the P.10, P.10x11 or P.12x11½ issues. However I do not have any evidence to support this supposition.

Given the large numbers of the ½d value that must have been printed, one might expect this flaw to be relatively common. It is not, however, referenced in either the Handbooks of the Royal Society of New Zealand or the better catalogues. It is very much a "naked eye" variety and, as such, I believe is highly collectable.

I hope that the information that I am able to provide is helpful and will encourage other collectors to seek other flaws: there are lots of them and they are very collectable.

Reference:

1. Cole-Mackintosh RE. "A Strange Example of the Second Sideface ½d". *The Kiwi*. Jan.2000. Vol. 49 No.1 P. 23

ORIGINAL ARTICLES AND READERS QUESTIONS:

PICTURE POST CARDS

SAFARI

The first N.Z. Post Office postcards to be made available throughout the country were issued on 1st November, 1876 with a pre-printed 1d Red brown stamp but were not of a pictorial nature. The

first Post Office issue with a pre-printed stamp and scenic view was available from Dec 1 1897 and carried scenes showing Otira Gorge, Mts. Cook and Egmont and the Waikite Geyser.

My question to exercise readers of *The Kiwi* is to ask for information about the use from New Zealand Post Offices of privately printed Picture Postcards needing the application of our adhesive postage stamp(s) for transmission through the post. In particular respect of:

(a) Any PPC from whatever source of printing posted in N.Z.: date and details which I imagine must have been mailed in 1900 or before.

(b) Any PPC printed in N.Z. with date of actual usage as early as possible. I believe from sometime in 1900. I wonder what information is available as to the Printers and distribution.

The questions above refer to Picture Postcards with a scene of some sort but I believe that Picture Postcards were available prior to 1900 of an advertising nature requiring the addition of a postage stamp for transmission. Comments would be welcome although these may not be of a true scenic nature.

Any information, through the Editor.

Editors Note: the following article was originally published in *The London Philatelist* (1) and is reproduced with the kind permission of the Author and the Editor.

NEW ZEALAND'S FORGOTTEN ERROR: THE 30c 'BLUE' 1970 PICTORIAL

ROBERT D. SAMUEL. FRPSNZ

The Stamp

The 1970 Definitive Pictorial issue was introduced over a period of time between March 12th (10c), September 2nd (½c, 1c, 2c, 2½c, 3c, and 4c), January 20th (15c, 18c, and 20c), September 1st (25c, 30c, and 50c), progressively. The ½c to 4c values making their first appearance on 2 September 1970. Other values were published over the next year or so. The 30c stamp was not issued until 1 September 1971. It formed part of a series within the set, four stamps on the theme of National Parks. The 30c stamp featured two silhouetted chamois on a mountain ridge, symbolic of the Mount Cook National Park. The other stamps in the series were the 23c Egmont National Park, the 25c Hauraki Gulf National Park and the 50c Abel Tasman National Park. The 25c and 30c stamps were printed by Bradbury Wilkinson & Co Ltd. the 23c and 50c stamps by Joh Enschede en Zonen, of the Netherlands.

There were a number of printings of the 30c stamp, divided into two main groups. The first printings were perforated with a comb machine gauging 13¼ x 13½. In 1976, stamps were issued with a comb perforation gauging 14. The final printing was again 13¼ x 13½.

The stamp was printed in four colours, usually described as blue, stone, olive black and turquoise-green. There are a number of shade variations. In this article, we are concerned only with the "stone" colour.

The Error

One of the most prominent - and least heralded - errors of our more modern New Zealand stamps is the 30c 1970 pictorial with the background (the sky) printed in "blue", instead of the normal colour "stone". For those, like myself, who have difficulty with this term, I would give as a possible alternative; pale yellow brown, buff, fawn or beige. Bradbury Wilkinson has advised that the ink for this colour was "a mixture of black, yellow and orange pigments". Suffice to say that the normal stamp has the sky area printed in a light brownish shade: the error has the sky printed in a *light colour blue*.

The error appears to have been first discovered in 1979 when a collector, the Rev. R. Grice, of Cambridge, New Zealand, located an irregular "strip" of three used 30c stamps with the wrong

background colour, blue instead of stone. Another copy of the variety was discovered by a Dr. K.R. Markham. These stamps were reported to Campbell Paterson Ltd. of Auckland and discussions of the variety are included in Campbell Paterson's Newsletter of July, August and October 1979 (2,3,4). Further reports were carried in the Newsletters of February and May 1980 (5,6). The firm conclusion was that the 30c Blue Sky was a genuine error. In the Newsletter for May, 1980 (6), the firm stated: "I am happy to say that the 30c Blue Sky will now appear in the Campbell Paterson Catalogue for 1981 as a major variety."

Something, it seems has happened since. The variety is no longer listed in that firm's specialised catalogue of New Zealand stamps. Neither is any mention made of the error in the just-published Volume VIII of the Handbook of the RPSNZ (7). The stamp, it seems, has faded into oblivion.

Other copies of the error were, apparently, discovered. A letter written by the Rev. Grice on 28 May 1981 includes the comment: "all other copies so far seen (according to Campbell Paterson not more than 10 or 12) are in varying shades and in poor condition." Unfortunately, my first hand knowledge extends only to three copies of the stamp, as detailed here.

The Grice stamps were postmarked with the Hamilton roller parcel cancellation. One of the stamps was later sold to a Christchurch collector, the late Ian Harkess. This stamp (Figure 1) has since been acquired by another Christchurch collector, Paul Wales, in whose collection it now resides.



Figure 1

The stamp is identical to the issued stamp with the exception that the sky is printed in a shade of light blue containing a trace of green. The description, teal, would be appropriate. It is an extremely prominent variety as the sky occupies about a third of the stamp design and is printed in solid colour.

The other two copies of the variety that I have seen have come to light only in the last year or so.

A Queenstown lady was in the habit of tearing stamps from her mail. She received a parcel from her daughter, living in Rotorua, removed the stamps and, only later realised that the sky was printed in a different colour. These stamps were also acquired by Paul Wales. The specimen is a smallish piece of paper carrying a pair of 30c stamps, plus a \$1.00 stamp of the same issue. Whether the Queenstown lady's recollection as to how she obtained these stamps is incorrect or whether her daughter posted a parcel on holiday is uncertain. However, the stamps are postmarked with a circular datestamp reading ".....ONE". Probably this is "PETONE" (an office just north of Wellington). The stamps are both damaged from having been covered with some kind of adhesive tape whilst affixed to the original parcel. The damage is, however, not unsightly and, if anything, gives the piece a certain amount of "character" and a high degree of authenticity.

The "Queenstown" stamps differ from the original errors in that the background is in an appreciably different shade of blue, a light blue compared with the teal shade of the original find.

The error stamps are from a printing perforated with the comb machine gauging 14.

Is it Genuine?

We can accept that the stamps are not forgeries. They are either genuinely printed stamps, or they are colour changelings. New Zealand philatelic experts of the past seem to have adopted the latter view.

The Reverend Grice had a lengthy correspondence with the printers Bradbury, Wilkinson, of the U.K. His correspondence - or, at least the replies received from Bradbury Wilkinson - are now in the possession of Paul Wales.

In a letter dated 15 February 1979, Mr. P.P.Brown, of Bradbury Wilkinson, wrote to say that he could "postulate several reasons for this phenomenon" but would prefer a copy of the actual stamp. He asked the Rev Grice if he would be prepared to make one of his stamps available for study.

A letter from Bradbury Wilkinson, dated 6 March 1979, thanks the Rev Grice for making his stamps available for examination, and goes on to say:

"You will be pleased to know that this blue stamp has caused wide interest here. I have done a considerable amount of research on the reasons but, unfortunately, I need more information from you before coming to an indisputable conclusion. Could you tell me, if possible, exactly which print this came from? We have reprinted the job several times since 1971. More importantly, however, I would like to know how the stamps came into your possession; were they purchased from a dealer, or did you and someone known to you receive them on mail through normal postal channels?"

The Rev Grice replied to this letter, presumably to advise that the stamps had come from normal commercial mail. Bradbury Wilkinson's response, in a letter dated 21 March 1979, is extensive.

"I have consulted our own file records, ink chemists, printing managers and technical advisers. To come straight to the point, the most important thing to appreciate is that the ink has not faded; the stamp was printed in the blue colour you now see. This is a fact and not a supposition. There are two possibilities as to how this could have happened: one is that the stamps were printed in the blue colour at our factory and accidentally passed through our quality checks and the other possibility is that the stamp could have been counterfeited.

The letter discusses whether the stamps could be of proof status. The normal method would be to print proofs of both values together so that in one printing run, the two values would be printed in the colours of the 25c stamp, and in the second run, the two values would be printed in the colours of the 30c stamp. The stamps in the wrong colours would be destroyed and the correctly printed stamps would be "mounted on a card and submitted to client." The possibility that the stamps were proofs which had, somehow, been placed in circulation is discounted by the statement:

"This might offer a cosy explanation but for the fact that none of the proof colour trials included a blue of any description. So that explanation is not valid."

Bradbury Wilkinson are not quite correct in saying that no proofs included any blue: the 30c contained an area of Deep Blue. However, the company's conclusion is supported by the fact that the 30c blue stamps are from a late printing: if any errors were to have arisen from the accidental issue of proof material, it is likely that the items would have been issued in 1971 with the first printing of the stamps not from the post 1976 issue.

Bradbury Wilkinson then offers a possible explanation:

"A remote possibility is that when the stamps were first printed there may have been a job on the printing press immediately prior to the Parks Issue, using a blue colour. It could have been that the machine operator "ran up" his first few sheets without washing out the previous job's ink and filling the ducts with Parks Issues colours. There is some evidence to support this possibility in that if you look at the blue stamp under a glass you will see that it is not in register. You can see areas of the colour projecting beyond their correct fit: on the bottom line of the line of rocks and also in the position of the markings on the two animals. You will note also that the overprint colour of the animals is different on each stamp: one is a gold hue and the other a definite silver. This then would be a plausible technical explanation."

The firm then goes on to deny that such a thing could have happened. It states, *"we have an inviolable rule here that such a practice is never employed"* and *"the printer who actually ran the first issue is adamant that this could not have happened"*. It states that there are three distinct quality control checks *"through which a sheet of stamps could not possibly have passed in a completely different colour"*. Bradbury Wilkinson thereupon comes to the *"generally agreed conclusion here"* that the stamps were counterfeits.

There is further correspondence on the subject. In a letter of 3 March 1980, Bradbury Wilkinson advised the results of tests that it had carried out in its laboratories to ascertain whether the variety could have been some form of colour changeling. The chemist had carried out his work and had concluded that *"the blue sky was printed in blue ink and not in the stone colour of the normal stamps"*. This letter goes on to say:

"Two different inks have been used during the several years in which the Parks Issue was printed. Both formulae have been analysed and subjected to a range of chemical tests: immersion in various organic and inorganic solutions together with fade comparisons. At no stage during any of these tests did even the remotest possibility of a scintilla of blue materialise in the sky area of the stamp."

A final letter, dated 20 May 1980, is addressed to Campbell Paterson Ltd, which firm had apparently submitted another copy of the error for examination. Bradbury Wilkinson's reply includes the comment:

"The stamp is extremely interesting and it confirms one hypothesis which I have previously postulated to the Rev. Grice. This is to say, that these stamps originate from a waste sheet on which the printer was running up colour."

The important fact to emerge from this letter is that, by this date, Bradbury Wilkinson seems to have rejected its original view that the stamp was a forgery and has now accepted it as a genuinely printed variety. From the Bradbury Wilkinson letters we gather that the firm carried out an exhaustive investigation. While there is a natural disbelief that such an error could have occurred and, even worse, not been observed in the checking process, we nevertheless have a virtual admission that something untoward must have happened and are given a plausible explanation. Bradbury Wilkinson has been very open with its findings.

The Stamp's Status

At least one of the Grice stamps was submitted to the Expert Committee of the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand. Part of the Committee's findings are reported in *Campbell Paterson's Newsletter* for August 1979. The conclusion was that the stamp *"was a normal stamp and the colour had been changed after printing"*. The stamp owned by Dr. Markham was, apparently, submitted to the British Philatelic Association's Expert Committee. Its verdict was, that it was *"not possible to give any opinion"* (*Campbell Paterson's Newsletter*, February 1980).

A letter from Bradbury Wilkinson dated 1 November 1979 thanks the Rev. Grice for "enclosing the Royal Society Report". The firm clearly disagreed with the findings of the Committee. It stated:

It is unfortunate that the Committee does not believe our opinion. We, the printers, are in possession of the specifications of paper, ink and machinery employed in the manufacture of these stamps: the Committee is not. I would venture to suggest, that while opinion is based on fact, the Committee's hypothesis remains speculative.

The Expert Committee had noted that, under magnification, the other colours as well as the pale blue varied from those of normal stamps. Bradbury Wilkinson commented that the issue had been reprinted many times and that even on its own files, there were copies of the stamp showing "marked variations in shade on several colours" and stated that "This is not unusual when re-printing long-run litho stamps, particularly when the design includes large areas of solid colour".

The Committee too had noted that the opacity and surface characteristics of the paper differ between the blue stamps and the "normal" (Bradbury Wilkinson's quotation marks). The company's response was to point out that the paper used the stamps was an "inexpensively gummed coated paper which does not have to meet the critical tolerances of more valuable security papers. It is supplied off the shelf and minor variations in substance, coating and opacity are to be expected".

The Committee also noted some differences in fluorescence. Bradbury Wilkinson here pointed out that "neither the ink nor the paper is fluorescent, but the gum is. The gum on the back of one sheet often sets off on to the printed surface of the sheet below it and this would give the impression that the ink itself was fluorescing. Because the gum does not necessarily set off on every sheet, it could easily appear that the effect was confined to one stamp when several were being compared".

The letter continues:

Finally, I refer to the "immersion" theory. We tested a stamp separately in four solvents: xylene, trichloroethylene, industrial methylated spirit (IMS) and acetone. Whilst no difference was observed on immersion in the first two, when the stamps were immersed in IMS and acetone, the dark blue of the rock outcrop bled but the stone colour of the sky did not.

The letter concludes "For the above reasons I must dismiss the findings of the Committee as misguided and based on false premise" and adds the suggestion that the Rev. Grice should sacrifice one stamp for testing purposes. This, it is suggested, "could quickly resolve the matter for once and all". Understandably, the Rev. Grice does not appear to have taken up this suggestion.

What I gather from all this is that the Committee had closely compared the error stamp with a 'normal' 30c stamp. The problem is that we cannot be sure that the 'normal' stamp was mint or used, or even from the same printing. Bradbury Wilkinson seems to think that the so-called differences are in fact quite normal and to be expected.

From the evidence that I have - both from stamps I have seen and Bradbury Wilkinson's correspondence - I can only conclude that the 30c stamp with the blue background is not a colour changeling. Indeed, Bradbury Wilkinson's letter of 3 March 1980, with a touch of humour, discounted the colour changeling theory by stating it was "a pigment of your imagination". Neither is it a forgery. Who in his right mind would forge a stamp - a postal forgery - and change the background colour? There is only one remaining conclusion: the stamp must be genuine.

I think that Bradbury Wilkinson's explanation is the right one. The ink ducts had contained blue ink left over from the previous printing job, and at least some sheets were printed with the sky in blue. There was some variation in the shade of blue, probably because the ink had not been mixed prior to the commencement of printing. In error, some or all of these wrongly printed sheets were perforated and included in a supply sent out to New Zealand. The sheets were distributed to post

offices and issued in the normal manner. The error was observed neither by Bradbury Wilkinson nor by the Post Office staff (after all, what is unusual about a stamp showing the sky printed in blue?). How the error failed to be noticed can only be a matter of conjecture. This, however, should not be matter of concern, nor reason to question the authenticity of the variety: the history of philately is full of such happenings.

The only conclusion that I can reach is the 30c Blue is a genuinely issued stamp. It deserves full recognition by collectors and full catalogue status. It is, in fact, one of the most major errors - if not *the* major error - of New Zealand philately.

A Follow Up:

Robert Samuel writes in the next issue of *The London Philatelist* (8):

I was very glad to see my article in print in the June 1999 issue, and the subject seems already to be attracting interest. I have one further observation to make, which is that the error stamps with the blue sky, the words MT COOK NATIONAL PARK, at the lower right, are also printed in blue instead of the usual brown or stone colour.

I have also been shown, by the NZ dealer, John Mowbray, an interesting used vertical pair of these stamps. The upper stamp has the upper portion printed in blue, blending into brown in the lower part of the sky. The words, MT COOK NATIONAL PARK are printed in brown. The lower stamp has both the sky and the wording printed in the normal colour. This pair clearly illustrates where the brown ink began to flow through the ink ducts and replace the residual blue colour from the previous printing job. The stamps are postmarked with a cds showing only part of the office name (....A), and with the date 1977.

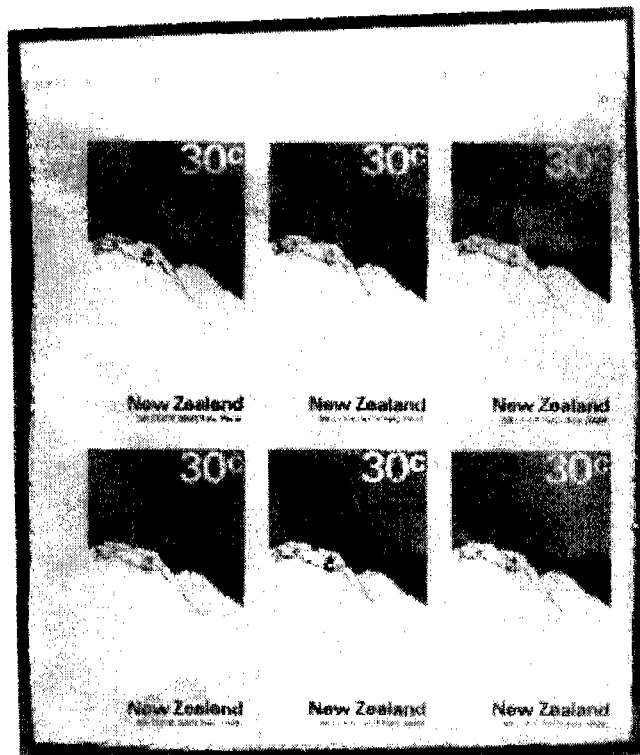


Figure 2

An interesting variety of the 30c from the collection of P. Wales, an imperforate block of six but printed in the normal colours. This item was not sold over the PO counter: it had apparently been used as some form of "wrapping paper". The conclusion is that it was used by Bradbury Wilkinson as a "parcel label" on a parcel containing a supply of sheets of the 30c Park issue. The "label" was apparently used to indicate the parcel's contents - a common printing office practice, albeit not a practice usually associated with postage stamps. The imperforate stamps were probably "souvenired" by a Post Office employee and, in more recent times, sold to a dealer. Mr. Wales has identified the block of imperforate stamps as a variety of the Perforation 14 group of printings. There is one other similar item associated with New Zealand, a 1d Queen Victoria postcard of 1876 printed on gummed paper. It is believed that this was intended for use on parcels of postcards to indicate their contents.

References:

1. Samuel RD "New Zealand's Forgotten Error: 30c "Blue" of 1970" *The London Philatelist*. June 1999. Vol. 108 Pp 151-156.
2. Paterson W "New Zealand Notes and Comments: The Security Printers and Philately". *Campbell Patersons Newsletter*. July 1979. Vol. 30 No.12.
3. Paterson W "30c Mt. Cook National Park "Blue Sky"-a Further Opinion". *Campbell Patersons Newsletter*. August 1979. Vol. 31 No.1
4. Paterson W. "30c Mt. Cook - "Blue Sky". *Campbell Patersons Newsletter*. October 1979. Vol. 31. No.3.
5. Paterson W. "New Zealand Notes and Comments: 30c Blue Sky Outlook Overcast". *Campbell Patersons Newsletter*. February 1980. Vol. 31 No. 7.
6. Paterson W. "30c National Park - "Blue Sky". *Campbell Patersons Newsletter*. May 1980. Vol. 31 No. 10.
7. Ed. Vincent BG "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand. Vol. VIII". Pub. The Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, Inc., Wellington, New Zealand. (1998).
8. Samuel RD "The New New Zealand 30c "Blue" 1970 Pictorial". *The London Philatelist*. July/August 1999. Vol. 108. P. 205.

FINDINGS FROM FILES

CHARGE TO NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT - PART TWO

ALLAN P. BERRY

This particular section of the files starts with a small scrap of paper on which have been written various notes. These read:

Accepted Tender (Royal Mint) Total £1011 (for dies and plates)

Perforating Head & Cutting Plate £40

[Waterlows tender was £1547]

Dear ...

Above are the figures you asked for. Apparently the value of the work we have done agrees very closely with the 'scale of commission' you shewed me. (Initials) 16/10/30

There follows a letter addressed to the Controller dated 16th October, 1930, apparently from the Head of the Stamp Section. It is partly typewritten and partly handwritten, the latter being shown in square brackets. The letter reads:-

"A letter was received in October last from the Office of the High Commissioner for New Zealand intimating that acting on instructions from his Government, he had obtained tenders for dies and plates for a new issue of Duty Stamps and that the tenders were to be submitted to this Department for a recommendation before acceptance.

"It was ascertained that one of the firms tendering proposed to have the dies and plates made by the Royal Mint and on the advice of this Department the High Commissioner invited a tender from the Royal Mint direct. The Mint's tender was substantially the lowest suitable and was accepted. Subsequently, the New Zealand Government requested the High Commissioner to arrange for supervision and inspection of the dies and plates by this Department. This work has now been completed and has occupied the time of an Executive Officer and a Warehouseman to the value of £12. A small addition [- say £3 -1 should perhaps be made for Staff Officers' time, making £15 in all. Authority is sought to claim this sum from the High Commissioner.

"[The work related to dies and plates of twenty-nine denominations.]" (Initials)

The response is written on the same sheet of paper. It reads:

"The work of making dies & plates is exceptional and is scarcely comparable with the services shown in the schedule of standard charges to Colonial Gov'ts. The cost of the dies & plates is necessarily high and the work of examination, etc., should not, in my opinion, be charged at the usual percentage for other stores. If you agree, the New Zealand Gov't should be charged £15 in this case."
(Initials)

Once again, on the same piece of paper, the Accounts Section wrote to the Stamp Section on 21/10/30, as follows:

"If you will kindly furnish the High Commissioner's reference number this section will arrange to render an account for £15."

There are initials and a date by an Officer of the Stamp Section below this note., the date being 27th October, 1930. The information requested is on a slip of paper which is the next document on the file. This reads:

Accounts Section

The particulars required are as follows:

Refce IS LK/KG
479/1421

The relevant letters to this Section are dated 15/10, 8/11 and 12/12 in 1929, and 25/1 in 1930.

The address of the High Commissioner is

415 Strand WC2

(Initials) 28th October 1930

There is a reply on the same sheet of paper is addressed to the Stamp Section. It is dated 3rd November, 1930. It reads:

"Please note that the account has been rendered and return the papers to this section for retention."
(Initials)

A copy of the account is the last document on this section of the file. It has been given the reference number A.S.N.7423, and is dated October, 1930. The 'Particulars of Service' given on the account read:-

"Supervision and Inspection of [Proofs of] Dies and Plates [made] at the Royal Mint."

The words in square brackets have been added in pencil, thus showing accurately the nature of the work carried out.

I am very grateful to the National Postal Museum for allowing access to these files, and for permission to publish extracts from them.

"RETURNED TO NEW ZEALAND WITHOUT REASON FOR NON DELIVERY" CACHET

ALLAN P. BERRY

The cover illustrated as Figure 1 (obverse) is of interest. It is franked with a horizontal strip of three one penny large figures Queen Elizabeth II definitives, machine cancelled at Auckland on 2 March 1957 with the slogan MOTORISTS / CARELESSNESS / KILLS. It is addressed to Trinidad. The address has been crossed out and there is a red circular datestamp reading RETURNED LETTER BRANCH - TRINIDAD 29MAY57, although the second digit of the day is not clear. There is a large purple unframed high case letters RETOUR cachet on the front and on

the back (Figure 2) the datestamp RETURNED LETTER / OFFICE - N.Z. / WELLINGTON /19 AU 57 1. On the front is a boxed cachet in purple that is new to me - "Returned to New Zealand / without reason for non-delivery". From the colour of the ink, I believe that this and the RETOUR cachet were both applied in New Zealand.

ROBIN STARTUP writes:

The marking "Returned to New Zealand / without reason for non-delivery" has not been written up anywhere. This was applied in the Returned Letter Office, Wellington, and although in the 1970's we were able to get complete records of markings used in the Wellington Chief Post Office mail branches, the Returned Letter Office was not recorded in the same way. I have a photocopy of this marking on cover posted Dunedin 14NOV1935 addressed to Chile stamped RETOUR and likewise without any obvious reason for return. This was in the A.I. Breen collection and was endorsed by him "not recorded in Volume III" (of The Postage Stamps of New Zealand).

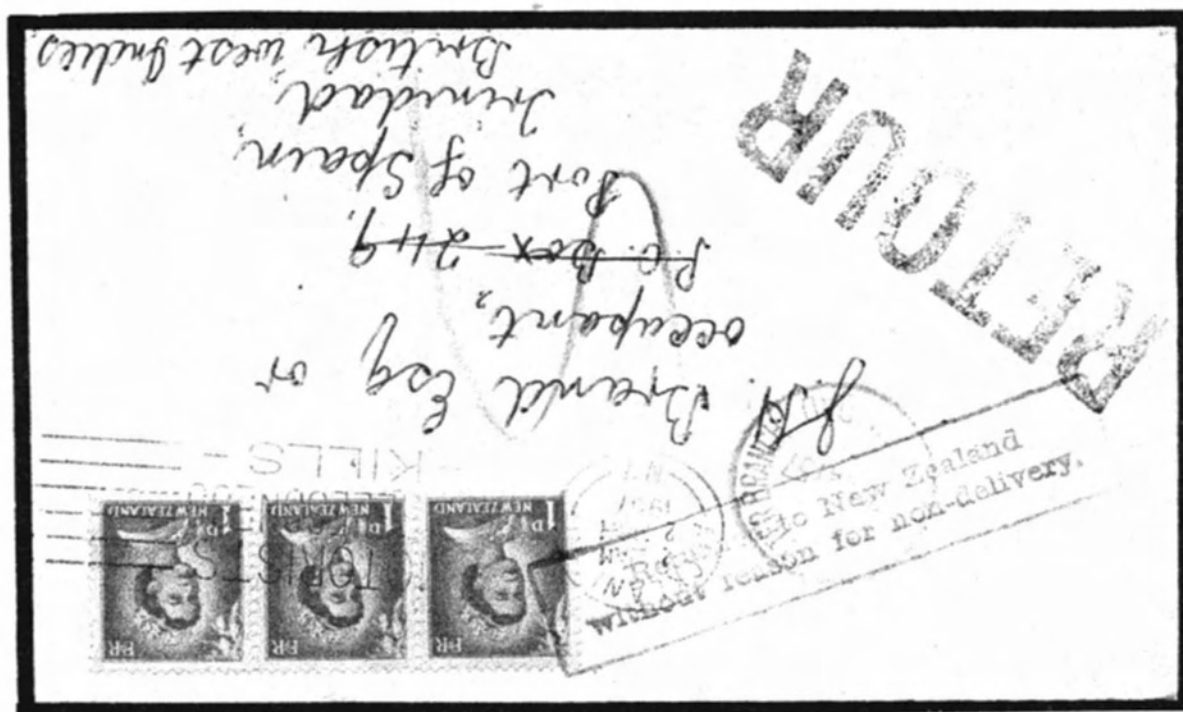


Figure 1



Figure 2

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