



# ***THE KIWI***



**THE JOURNAL OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN**

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**WHOLE NUMBER 284**

**THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE UNION JACK CLUB, SANDELL STREET, LONDON SE1 ON JANUARY 27TH 2001**

**THE SUBJECT OF THE MEETING IS:**

**THE PENNY UNIVERSAL CENTENARY**

**THE MEETING WILL BE LEAD BY EW LEPPARD AND WILL START AT 2.00 P.M.**

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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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**OFFICERS OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN**

**Honorary General Secretary:**

Keith C. Collins 13, Briton Crescent,  
Sanderstead, Surrey, CR2 0JN,  
☎ 0208 - 657 - 4566

**Honorary Packet Secretary:**

B. T. Atkinson, 77, Wood Lane,  
Osterley, Middlesex, TW7 5EG  
☎ 0208 - 560 - 6119

**Honorary Treasurer:**

E.W. Leppard, 68, Chestnut Grove,  
Balham, London, SW12 8JJ  
☎ 0208 - 673 - 4710

**Honorary Editor:**

Andrew Dove, 12, Stella Avenue,  
Tollerton, Notts NG12 4EX  
☎ 0115 - 937 - 3762  
e-mail DDOVEAF@CS.COM

Internet Address: <http://www.cs.stir.ac.uk/~rgc/nzsgb>

**ENCLOSURES:**

With this issue of *The Kiwi* you should receive a copy of the audited accounts, membership renewal form and membership card for 2001. If any have been omitted, please contact the Editor.

**SOCIETY NEWS:**

**NEW MEMBERS:**

We welcome:

WTA Block, West Lothian  
SM Kettle, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire  
JW Pugh, Chester

**DECEASED:**

JA Firebrace

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**NEXT MEETING OF THE NORTHERN REGIONAL GROUP**

The next meeting of the Northern Regional Group will be held in Orrell on February 17th 2001 starting at 13.30. This will be a members meeting, please bring along items of interest.

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**KIWI DAY: SATURDAY 25TH NOVEMBER 2000**

The 49th Annual General Meeting of the Society commenced at 11.00 a.m with our Chairman, Lew Giles, presiding. Six members were present.

**MINUTES OF THE 49<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NEW ZEALAND  
SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN**

**1. Minutes of the 48th Annual General Meeting**

The Minutes of the 48th A.G.M. as circulated in the January, 2000 issue of *The Kiwi* were accepted as a true record.

**2. Report and Review of 2000 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 described 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.

As expected, 2000 was a busy year. The first meeting of the year was a joint meeting with the Pacific Islands Study Circle. The meeting room was packed and

members of the Study Circle showed a wide range of superb material. I must confess that I thought we were a little ill-prepared in our displays.

The March meeting was, as always, our Annual Competition. This year, as an innovation, those members present judged the entries. We were delighted to welcome Robin Gwynn to the meeting and very grateful to him for the erudite comments he made about the entries.

The May meeting was held at Stamp Show 2000 and was well attended. Amongst those present were a number of overseas members: it was a great pleasure to make their acquaintance. The meeting was entertained by Robert Samuel's display of the 1932 Provisional Stationery and other items arising from the change in postal rates. There was a follow on display of Essays and Proofs. The meeting complemented the first class displays in the Competitive Classes in the Main Hall: an extraordinary display, only seen once every 10 years.

In June, our Chairman, Lew Giles, presented an excellent display and explanation of the internal and external airmails. This was a real eye-opener for many present.

We then come to our first weekend convention, held in Chester in September. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend but all reports report it to be a great success with the highlight being the display of Proofs and Essays. The success of this event augurs well for similar future meetings.

If I can offer a word of criticism of our meetings: perhaps we do not encourage member participation enough and should slant our meetings in this direction.

The Regional meetings have developed into regular events. In December, Jos Gregson showed the Yeroc collection of Chalons to the Midland Group. Successful meetings were held by the Northern, Midland and Scottish groups. A significant event was the joint meeting between the Northern and Scottish Groups in Carlisle with about 20 members present. This will be repeated. Glasgow 2000 has recently finished with the Society sharing a publicity table with the Australian Society.

I would like to thank all the officers of the society for putting everything together. We must, particularly, commend Paul Wreglesworth for his organisation of the Chester convention and Andrew Dove for supplementing these events with follow up articles in *The Kiwi*.

For the future, an interesting programme is planned for 2001. 2002 is the Society's 50th anniversary and planning is well advanced for a special year. Further details will be announced as they become available.

In the November issue of *The Kiwi*, you will have seen a paper from Derek Diamond discussing the future strategy of the Society. Please let us have any views on the future of the Society when you return your subscription invoice in January.

### **3. Report from the Honourary Treasurer:**

Ernie Leppard then donned his Treasurer's hat and circulated copies of the Annual Accounts. He then gave his report:

"This year, as expected, has been a very busy one for the Society with Stamp Show 2000 and the Chester Convention. This activity is reflected in the Annual Accounts. In spite of this, the I/E account shows an excess of income over expenditure. This is due to a transfer of £1,000 from the Packet Account and a legacy of £250 from Mrs. Grace Gordon-Kaye. I feel that this represents a very satisfactory financial year for the Society.

Considering membership of the Society, I am pleased to say that the total number of members has increased by 8 over the year. We have welcomed 28 new members this year compared with 26 in 1999.

There have been significant increase in the costs of producing *The Kiwi* and our Regional meetings have become more regular and, therefore, represent an increasing demand on Society funds.

I have decided to recommend that the **Annual Subscription remain at £12.00.**

However, I believe that there should be a penalty for late payers and, therefore, recommend that the following subscription rates should apply for those paying **after March 1st**: **UK, European (Airmail) and World-wide Seamail: £14, Overseas members (Zone 1 & 2) by Airmail: £16**

This differential subscription rate recognises the significant cost of airmail postage to overseas members.

The facility for members in America, Australia and New Zealand to pay their subscription in local currency to Allan Berry and, thereby, avoid U.K. Bank charges, remains and we are grateful to him for this.

2002 is our Fiftieth Anniversary Year and we must cater for a substantial increase in costs to celebrate the Anniversary.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted unanimously.

#### **4. Report of the Honourary Packet Secretary:**

Bernard Atkinson reported another successful year for the packet with a substantial profit being transferred to Society funds.

He drew members attention to the packet rules, especially those relating to telephoning ahead and forwarding mailed packets by first class post when the insurers so stipulate.

More material is always needed.

The report was accepted unanimously.

#### **5. Election of Officers of the Society:**

All 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, Tom Hetherington, John Smith |
| Chairman (E)                  | Lewis Giles                               |
| Vice-Chairman                 | Derek Diamond                             |
| General Secretary (E)         | Keith 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 NZ          | John Watts                                |

Committee members: Northern Group Chairman (Geoff Wragg) and Secretary (Jack Lindley), Midland Group Organiser (Bernard Symonds), Scottish Group Organiser (Ken Andison) and Dave Piggott.

The election of the Committee was proposed by Ann Carter and seconded by Bernard Atkinson and passed unanimously.

#### **6. Reports from other Officers:**

Reports were received from: **The Editor of *The Kiwi***, who reported that the journal had remained at 24 pages but that more material was always required. Some advertising had been accepted and the income helped to defray the cost of the publication.

**The Publicity Officer** reported that the membership numbers looked healthy and this was due to the success of the publicity for the Society. The mention in Gibbons Stamp Monthly is important but, at the leading edge, the Society is lucky to have Bob Clarke to manage our Website. The contents are excellent and the site receives many visitors.

#### **7. Any Other Business:**

Thanks were given to Jeff Hook for his work in founding and sustaining the Northern Regional Group.

It was agreed that the Auction would revert to the November meeting and be held on Kiwi Day in conjunction with the A.G.M. Hopefully, this would reverse the disappointing results at Chester and improve the attendance at the A.G.M.

It was agreed that the name of the Hon. President be included on the Membership Card.

Ann Carter thanked everybody for their hard work, particularly those responsible for organising the Chester weekend.

The Society trophies were presented to winners and runners-up of the Annual Competition. The F.G.East Jubilee Goblet for the best contribution to *The Kiwi* was awarded, on the nomination of the Editor, to Cecil Bristow for his article on "The Kahurangi National Park".

The Annual General Meeting closed at 12.30.

\*\*\*\*\*

At 14.00, the afternoon display was given in two halves.

Keith Collins gave the first half showing some of his own material and some provided by Derek Diamond who could not be present.

Keith explained that the 1861 Stamp Duties Act authorised special stamps to show payment for the duties on Land Transfers etc. The stamps were printed with value added to the basic stamps. Initially, the stamps were imperforate, they were then perforated 12½ and 10 in line with the Chalons.

In 1871, a second die was engraved in Melbourne with an enlarged "Stamp Duty" and "New Zealand". A new design appeared in 1881 which was to be used for almost 50 years until they were replaced by the Arms stamps.

We saw examples of early Stock Transfers, Duty Paid, Fine Paid, Estate Duty and Not Liable with the latter usage being explained. Other examples showed Counterpart, Denoting and Mortgage Indemnity Fee.

Also on show were some Beer Labels, Passport Fee stamps and some examples of the Fiscals used on cover.

For the second half, Ernie Leppard gave a display starting with the Arms stamps. He explained that whilst the lower values could be used postally, most of those over £5 were used fiscally. He showed values up to £1,000.

There followed examples of Counterpart, Denoting, Mortgage Indemnity and Law Court overprints were shown.

Two examples of the 5/- stamps which had been cleaned and then given forged postmarks were shown.

Beer labels, Wage Tax Stamps, Unemployment and Social Security stamps were shown and there was some discussion about the use of the 2/- and 3/- Admirals.

The next sheets illustrated the use of these issues in the Dependencies.

Finally, Ernie showed Railway Department Essays, Railway Stationery and Revenues together with a few representative Newspaper Stamps.

The meeting closed at 16.00.

The meeting reporter feels that he must comment on the small attendance for both the AGM and the display, a total of 8 members for each. If this level of attendance continues, the Society will be in trouble and ways must be found to involve more members.

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#### **NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MIDLAND GROUP HELD OCTOBER 14TH 2000**

Bernard Symonds opened the meeting with seven members present. He announced that the next meeting of the group would be held on April 7th, 2001 - speaker to be announced. He then welcomed the Society's Chairman, Lewis Giles and invited him to enlighten those present about the mysteries of New Zealand Airmails.

He started with the internal flights commencing with the Pigeon Post, included was a flown flimsy. Next was the Dominion Airways service for which a 6d. sticker was produced. This was soon prohibited by the Post Office and the charge was raised for the signature of the pilot.

The Airmail service expanded in 1931 and survey flights were made around the country in conjunction with a special Christmas service. A specially overprinted 5d. stamp was produced and a large number of markings from the flights may be identified. The special Christmas flights were repeated in 1932 but were far less popular and there was a significant decrease in the number of covers carried.

Mr. J.C.Mercer organised private flights between 1935 and 1947 based on Hokitika on the West Coast of the South Island. Unlike other services, they continued throughout the Second World War.

The second session covered the overseas flights to 1945. The first cover was an example of the 1911 Coronation flight from London to Windsor that had then been carried by sea to New Zealand for a fee of 1d.

There followed a comprehensive review of the development of the airmail connections between New Zealand and the rest of the world. The point was made that many of the new services were developed using Flying Boats as they required less sophisticated facilities to operate. Unfortunately, they were prone to crashing and this explains the range of crash covers available.

By 1940, a regular Airmail route had been established between New Zealand, Australia and Great Britain. The War interrupted the service which then terminated in South Africa,. However, the Pacific route remained but the postal charge was high at 6/3. The rates change frequently and eventually reduced to 1/6.

The final cover was an air/sea cover rated 1½d to Fanning Island. There was much discussion about the exact location of this island!!.

A vote of thanks was given by Lawrence Kimpton.

BLS

### **NOTES OF MEETING OF THE SCOTTISH GROUP HELD ON OCTOBER 14<sup>TH</sup> 2000**

The meeting was held on a glorious day at Gatehouse of Fleet and was hosted by Alexander McCulloch and family. Our thanks are due to them for an excellent meal and drinks.

After the socialising, the serious matter of the meeting began with Kenneth Andison showing a range of Queen Victoria issues. He was followed by David Stalker with a comprehensive showing of the printing flaws in the 1962 Centenary of the Telegraph and the 1967 Centenary of the Royal Society of N.Z. issues.

Next, Pat Riddell displayed KGV covers and varieties on the 4d. Violet and 4d. Yellow KGV issues, Aileen Davis showed Health stamps and David McGill mint 1970 issues.

The meeting finished with Alexander McCulloch showing Christmas and Health stamps with missing colours and colour shifts.

During the meeting a number of very interesting non New Zealand items were also displayed.

The next meeting of the group will be held at the Falkirk Congress on Saturday 30th June, 2001 at Longniddry, meeting in the bar at 12.00.

KA

### **NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE NORTHERN GROUP HELD ON NOVEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> 2000**

Thirteen members were present at the meeting and apologies were received from two more.

This was Competition Day and the entries were to be judged by David Ripley, a philatelic colleague of our Chairman, Geoff Wragg. There were eleven entries in the competition.

During the judging, the Group congratulated Paul Wreglesworth and Stuart Potter on their efforts in organising the Chester weekend. Compliments were also paid to Don Scregg for his display on the Christchurch Exhibition and to all members of the Northern Group who displayed at the weekend. It was apparent that the Northern Group played a significant part in the success of the whole weekend.

The results of the competition was announced:

Captain Cook Trophy: Paul Wreglesworth: K.G.V. ½d.

The Kiwi Medal: Stuart Potter: Airmails with Interruption of Services.

David Ripley commented that he was very impressed with the standard of the entries and that it had proved extremely difficult to separate them.

Following the presentation of the prizes, a special award of a tankard was made to Jeff Hook. Jeff, with Tom Latto, was instrumental in creating the Northern Group. Each group needs the sort of single minded determination shown by Jeff to create a firm foundation. Unfortunately, Jeff has decided to stop collecting although he will visit us now and again. His contribution will not be forgotten.

The second part of the afternoon was a display by Geoff Wragg of the Universal Penny Post from 1901 to 1939. This was a most impressive display including stamps, complete sheets of stamps, postal history, postal stationery. The show was accompanied by a detailed commentary on the period.

Geoff was thanked for his display and the meeting closed at 16.30.

JL

### **AWARDS TO MEMBERS**

Congratulations to Members of the Society who won the following awards at **Canpex 2000**:

B. Alexandre: Large Gold and Grand Award: N.Z. Dependencies Q.V. Fiscals.

M. Shand: Gold medal: Airmails of NZ 1919-1940.

P. Wales: Gold Medal: The British Antarctic Expedition 1901-1904.

S. Kundin: Large Vermeil: The Coil Stamps of N.Z.

R.M.Startup: Large Vermeil: Airmails of N.Z., Vol. III.

R. Wooders: Vermeil: NZ 2d. Chalon Value from 1855-1874.

R.M.Startup: Silver: 2 NZEF Middle East 1940-1946; Postage Stamps and Rates.

Congratulations to Dr. A.F.Dove who was awarded a Vermeil for his display "NZ Involvement in WW1" at Glasgow 2000.

### **AWARDS TO *THE KIWI***

*The Kiwi*, the Journal of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain was entered in the Literature Class of Canpex and Glasgow 2000. At both Exhibitions, the journal was awarded a Silver Medal.

### **OBITUARY**

#### **JOHN AYLWARD FIREBRACE**

The death of John Firebrace, one of our Honourary Members, is reported in September this year. He joined the Society in 1967 and became an Honourary Life Member in 1991.

John was one of the old style collectors and had Robson Lowe as his mentor. He spent a lifetime studying British Empire campaigns in the Near East between 1914 and 1924. His endeavours culminated in 1991 with the publication by Christie's Robson Lowe of the definitive work on the subject. The book contains more than 1,250 illustrations of markings and 15 maps. The bibliography and acknowledgements at the end occupy 3 folio pages and bear eloquent testimony to the extent of the research undertaken. The text is now the source material for any Postal History collection of the period and references are now made as "per Firebrace". He also wrote many articles for *The Kiwi* and could be relied upon to accurately identify any debated marking of the period in the Middle East.

As an interesting sidenote, John's uncle was the Chief Fire Officer of the London Fire Brigade during the Blitz and following wartime period.

EWL

### **COMING EVENTS**

#### **THE NEW ZEALAND NATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION 2001**

The next National Philatelic Exhibition will be held in Invercargill between March 16th and 18 2001. Entitled "2001: A Stamp Odyssey", the theme of the exhibition is Astrophilately and world class thematic exhibits covering space and space travel have been invited. There is also a range of National Classes, a 16 Page Competition and a separate class for exhibits of Picture Postcards.

For further information, contact George Stewart, Secretary, 2001: A Stamp Odyssey, P.O.Box 3000, Invercargill, New Zealand.

The Editor of *The Kiwi* has copies of the publicity brochure if any members would like one.

#### **NORTHEX 2002**

A National Stamp Exhibition will be held at North Shore Events Centre, Glenfield, Auckland between April 5th and April 7th, 2002.

A full range of classes will be exhibited including a Court of Honour and non-competitive invited displays. The competitive classes include Traditional Philately, Postal History, Marcophily and others. In addition, there is a full range of Youth Classes and Literature.

Entry forms are available from: Northpex 2002, P.O.Box 34-253, Birkenhead, North Shore City, New Zealand and must be returned by November 30th, 2001.

## ANNUAL COMPETITION

This will be held on Saturday, 31st March, 2001, 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>10 pts.</u> |
|                      | 100 pts.       |

### AWARDS

**Winner:** Kiwi Shield & Silver-Gilt Medallion.

**Runner-up:** Paua Musical Box.

### 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:** Stacey Hooker Cup & Silver-Gilt Medallion.

**Runner-up:** Paua Bookends.

### 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:** Noel Turner Trophy & Silver-Gilt Medallion.

**Runner-up:** John Evans Trophy.

### 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 should consist of twelve normal sized 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, 27st MARCH, 2000 to:

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

Entries from overseas members cannot be accepted as 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 Special Award will also be made 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.

### **SPECIAL NOTE:**

For the first time this year, the trophies will be presented at the conclusion of the Competition rather than at the A.G.M. The Hon. Sec. will be in touch with previous winners to arrange for the return of trophies.

### **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, 27th January, 2001. The meeting will commence at 11.00. An Agenda will be circulated before the Meeting.

LEWIS GILES, CHAIRMAN



## **Stanley Gibbons Commonwealth Specialist Department Fine Items From New Zealand**

New Zealand has long been one of our favourite countries, and you will find an attractive selection of stamps, errors, proofs and covers on our regular illustrated lists (available on request). Alternatively, you can visit our Website.

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For further information, please contact either Mike Harvey or Pauline MacBroom at the address below.



**Stanley Gibbons Commonwealth Department**  
399 Strand, London WC2R 0LX, United Kingdom  
Tel: +44 (0)20 7836 8444  
Fax: +44 (0)20 7836 7342  
e-mail: [commonwealth@stanleygibbons.co.uk](mailto:commonwealth@stanleygibbons.co.uk)  
Internet: [www.stanleygibbons.com](http://www.stanleygibbons.com)

## **INFORMATION RECEIVED:**

### **NEWS RELEASE**

#### **BEARS AND DOLLS IN THE SPOTLIGHT FOR 2000 CHILDREN'S HEALTH STAMPS**

5 October 2000

Classic children's toys of teddy bears and dolls feature on the 2000 New Zealand Post Children's Health stamp issue being released on Thursday 5 October. The stamps are part of a wider stamp issue called Bears and Dolls featuring a mixture of pre-loved and modern dolls and bears.

Health stamps raise money for children's health by carrying an additional five cent charge that is donated to Children's Health Camps around New Zealand. The 40 cent stamp (plus 5 cent donation) features "Geronimo", a teddy bear made by Auckland Rose Hill in 1996 from white mohair. The 80 cent stamp (plus 5-cent donation) features two dolls, an antique porcelain French girl doll and a wooden Schoenhut boy doll made in the USA, both very popular here before World War II because New Zealand was not making bears and dolls at the time.

New Zealand Post's stamp design manager Linda Morgan says the organisation's association with Health Camps dates back to 1929 when the first Health Stamp was issued featuring a nurse and the emblem of the Anti-Tuberculosis Societies.

"This year's Children's Health Stamps are designed to appeal to the child in all of us with beautiful images of timeless children's toys."

New Zealand's seven Children's Health Camps provide a supportive and healthy environment where children and their families can gain long term skills and confidence, offering both residential and non-residential care. Last year, \$133,393 was raised from the sale of Health stamps for the 3,000 children who attended the Children's Health Camps.

"We are really pleased about New Zealand Post's continuing support for our Health Camps. The funds from the sale of Health stamps contributes to Camp life and programmes, allowing us to continue with all our activities, as well as provide specialist care," says Sandy MacGillivray, national spokesperson for the Children's Health Camp's health stamp campaign.

This year's stamps, miniature sheet and first day covers were designed by New Zealand Post's Stamp Business and printed by lithography by Southern Colour Print of Dunedin.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **KIWI TEAMS UP WITH KESTREL IN JOINT STAMP ISSUE**

2 November 2000

Threatened birds are a common theme for a joint stamp issue being undertaken between New Zealand and France.

New Zealand's rarest kiwi, the Okarito Brown Kiwi, and France's Lesser Kestrel feature on the two stamps which are being issued simultaneously in both countries on 4 November bearing their respective currency amounts.

The complete Threatened Birds stamp issue highlights six New Zealand and one French bird and comprises the Lesser Kestrel (joint issue with France, 40c), Orange-fronted Parakeet (40c), Black Stilt (80c), Stewart Island Fernbird (\$1.10), Kakapo (\$1.20), North Island Weka (\$1.50), and Okarito Brown Kiwi (joint issue with France, \$1.80).

New Zealand Post's Stamp Design Manager, Linda Morgan, said that the Threatened Birds stamp issue recognises the ongoing work of keeping New Zealand's native birds safe from extinction. "We've also featured the lesser kestrel from France which has declined in numbers because of pesticides reducing its prey and causing accidental poisoning."

Joint stamp issues have previously occurred with China (1997) and Turkey (1998). Postal administrations around the world produce joint stamp issues as a means of promoting their stamps in new countries and strengthening working relationships.

The stamps and first day covers were designed by Paul Martinson of Masterton and printed by Southern Colour Print in Dunedin.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### TRANSPORT ON THE ICE ON STAMPS

2 November 2000

If you receive a letter from a New Zealander in Antarctica soon, the chances are it will bear a stamp showing transport used on ice.

A "Transport on the Ice" stamp series is being issued by New Zealand post *solely for use by residents of New Zealand's Ross Dependency in Antarctica*. The stamps are not valid for posting in New Zealand but are available for collecting.

New Zealand Post's Design Manager, Linda Morgan, said the first Ross Dependency stamps were produced specifically for use in Antarctica in 1908 and have been issued annually since 1994.

"The stamps show close-ups of the type of transport used to move people and equipment over the mainland ice and sea ice and the challenges they face in such a harsh environment."

Photos of six forms of transport commonly used in the Ross Dependency feature on the stamps including RNZAF C130 Hercules aircraft (40c), Hagglunds BV206 All Terrain Carrier (80c), Tracked 4 x 4 Motorbike (\$1.10), ASV Track Truck (\$1.20), Squirrel Helicopter (\$1.50), Elan Skidoo (\$1.80).

The "Transport on Ice" stamps and first day cover were designed by Sea Sky Design of Paraparaumu, with photos supplied by Antarctica New Zealand, Chris Rudge and David Geddes, and printed by Southern Colour Print in Dunedin.

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#### STAMP SERIES TELLS THE STORY OF ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF MAIL DELIVERY

6 December 2000

It will be one hundred years since New Zealand issued its first Penny Universal stamp and to celebrate New Zealand Post has issued the stamp series "100 Years of Moving the Mail".

"The introduction of the penny stamp on 1 January, 1901, proved an immediate hit in New Zealand with 10,000 stamps sold in Wellington in the first half hour of its release," said New Zealand Post's Stamp Design Manager Linda Morgan.

"One of the stamps in the 2001 issue reproduces aspects of the original Penny Universal, while the whole series highlights how mail delivery has changed over the past 100 years, from the horse-drawn coach to today's electronic communications."

Text on the back of the stamps gives more details the illustrations and their era. It is only the second time that New Zealand Post has printed text on the back of stamps in recent years using a special type of non-toxic ink.

The 100 Years of Moving the Mail stamp series will be released on 1 January 2001. In conjunction with the series, New Zealand Post has produced "100 Years of Moving the Mail-The Story" which is a 24 page book of photographs and anecdotes of Postal History.

The stamps and first day cover were designed by Designworks, Wellington and printed by Southern Colour Print, Dunedin.

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## **RESPONSE TO ARTICLES PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED:**

### **THE EMERGENCY FLIGHT IN 1940 - FURTHER THOUGHTS**

MIKE SHAND

I was interested to read the original Meeting minutes (1) and the follow-up article by Harry Fox (2) on this subject. I believe that the Japanese/German submarine was, in fact a mine!

A newspaper article from August 23, 1940 reads:

#### **"RAIDER FIRES ON STEAMER OFF NEW ZEALAND**

WELLINGTON, New Zealand, Aug.23 (AP). — The 8,706 ton British steamer Turkanina sent a radio from the Tasman Sea Tuesday night saying she was being fired on by a raider, prime minister Peter Fraser of New Zealand announced today.

This was the first report of a surface attack on a British ship in Australian waters. **The liner Niagara was sunk by a mine off New Zealand on June 18.** (Ed.: my emphasis)

The message gave the ship's position but no later advice has been received from the vessel, which was due at a New Zealand port last night. Naval and air forces took up the search for the reported raider."

Figure 1 illustrates a cover carried on the flight commanded by M.C.M<sup>c</sup>Leod with 2nd Officer W.Smillie.

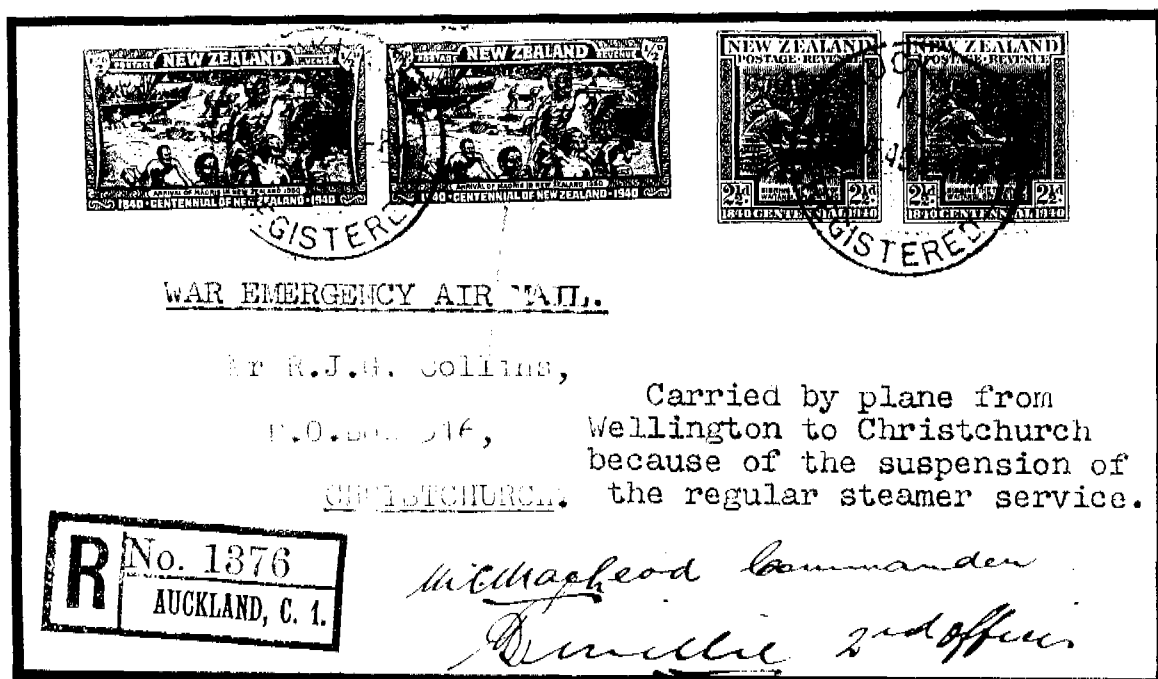


Figure 1

Figure 2 illustrates a cover carried on the Emergency Flight on June 21st carrying a special cachet and signed by the Commander, K.R.Johnston and 2nd. Officer, T.R.Pike. The cachet is in red: I have only seen one such cachet although I have seen a few covers bearing the G.B. Centennial stamps as illustrated in the previous article.

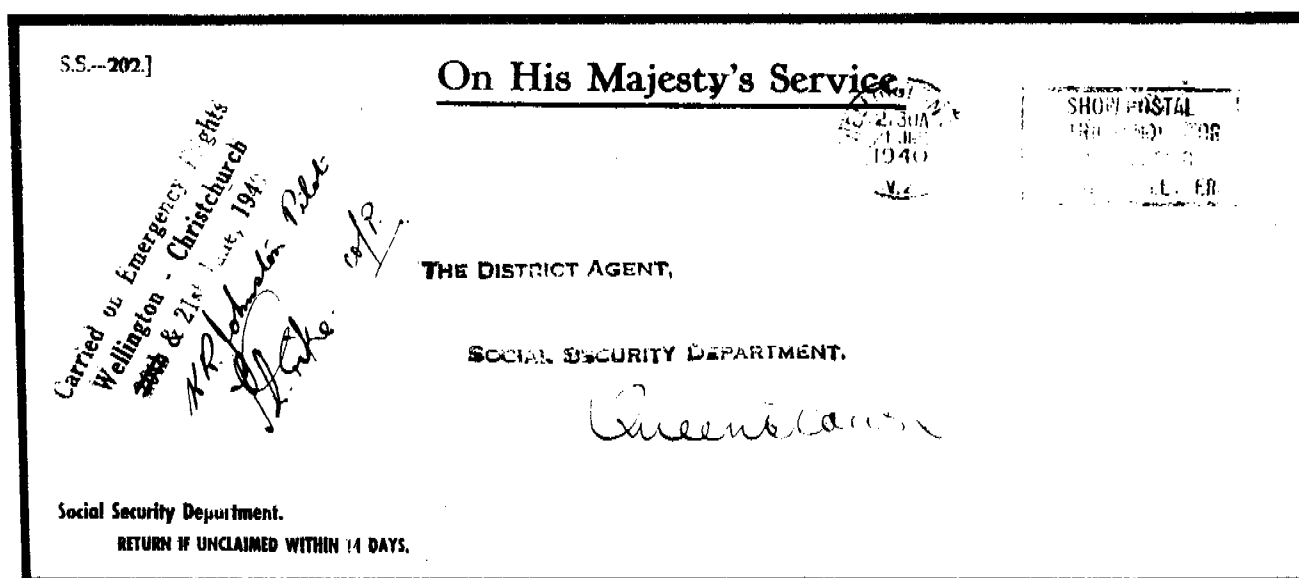


Figure 2 (Reduced by 25%)

References:

1. AFD "Notes of the Meeting held in London on July 29th, 2000". *The Kiwi*(2000). Vol.49. No.5. Pp100-102
2. Fox H. "The Emergency Flight in 1940". *The Kiwi*(2000). Vol.49. No. 6. P.141.

**REJECTED DESIGNS FOR THE 1898 OR 1935 PICTORIALS?**

KEITH C. COLLINS

I can provide further information with regard to my request in *The Kiwi* (1).

A recent article in the *The New Zealand Collector* (2) contains an article on the 1895 Design Competition. One of the illustrations is of a proposed design for the Fourpence. The picture is identical to the Fourpence contained in my article except that 4d. has been added at either end of Postage and Revenue. This proves that the six designs were produced for this competition.

Unfortunately, the name of the designer is unknown.

The Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand hold a number of the design entries and would like to hear from any member who has examples of unselected designs not illustrated in their article and would appreciate a colour photocopy for their archive.

References:

1. Collins KC. "Rejected Designs for the 1898 or 1935 Pictorials". *The Kiwi* (2000). Vol.49. No. 3. P.62-3.
2. Miller A. "The Design Competition of 1895 -material in the RPSNZ Archives". *The New Zealand Stamp Collector* (2000). Vol. 80 No.32. PP. 76-82.

**MORE INFORMATION:**

STEVE ZIRINSKY

Steve Zirinsky, stamp dealer from New York, has asked that readers be informed that he will be at the Stamp Show to be held at the Royal Horticultural Society between March 1st and 3rd, 2001. He would be delighted to see any members of the Society who visit the show.

**CHANGE OF POST CODE FOR ROYAL PHILATELIC SOCIETY LONDON**

The Post Code for the RPSL has changed from W1N 1PE to W1G 6JY.

## **CURRENT EVENTS:**

### **DEREGULATION OF NEW ZEALAND POST - AN INTERESTING COVER**

DAVID MacGILL

I have seen some covers franked by companies responding to the de-regulation of the Postal Services in New Zealand. However, I was recently interested to receive a postal item franked as shown in Figure 1.

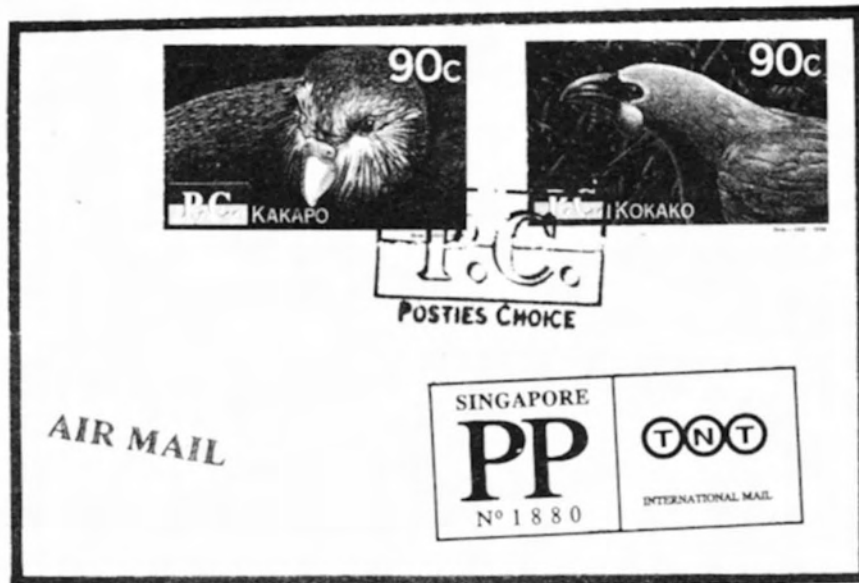


Figure 1

Some interesting points and questions arise:

- There is no date stamp. Therefore, it is impossible to ascertain how long the letter took to transit the system.
- What is the relevance of "Singapore"? Is it the main transit point for TNT?
- What is relationship of "Posties Choice" to New Zealand Post? Does the \$1.80 fee paid contain any payment to NZ Post or was this cover carried entirely outside the official post system (if there is still such a thing!).

### **EARLY BIRD CHRISTMAS PARCEL LABEL: 2000**

ALAN TUNNICLIFFE

I reported in early 2000 (1) that New Zealand Post had introduced a special "Early Bird" Xmas label. As expected, the service has been offered again this year.

In contrast to last years label, is a long rectangular one, measuring 192mm x 24mm. It comprises a self-adhesive strip with 7 identical designs (Figure 1) the background has white dots on a green background intended, I suppose, to represent snow against a green background. The dark central circle is bright red and this, incidentally, is the newly introduced logo of NZ Post. Interestingly, the labels are unusual in having no wording and no description of its function.



Figure 1

The discount was 20% off normal International Economy rates and only applied to parcels posted to Zone D (UK and Europe) by October 2nd and to Zone C (North America and East Asia) by October 23rd. Delivery time was quoted as 6-8 weeks after the closing date. There was a later closing date for Christmas parcels (and letters) posted by the Economy Service to these zones of November 20th.

A descriptive leaflet has been issued although, interestingly, this does not explicitly state the discount available.

Reference:

1. Tunncliffe A. "Recent Changes to Overseas and Internal Postal Services". *The Kiwi* (2000). Vol. 49. No. 1. Pp. 10-14.

## **ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS:**

### **THE "SMALL PIN" DICKIE MACHINE TEST COILS**

STANLEY J. KUNDIN

I am currently in the throes of writing a book on the subject of New Zealand's vending and affixing machine coils. Chapter 6, *Test, Dummy and Training School Coils* used 4 paragraphs and three illustrations to deal with the subject of these early "Dickie Test Coils" (not to be confused with the Dickie *Trial* Coils). I had never thought of these three coils as a subject worthy of too much attention since I was under the impression that everyone knew all that there was to know about them. However, I received a letter earlier this year from a New Zealand collector asking for more information about the ½d green Mount Cook "test stamp" which, he said, seemed to have appeared on the New Zealand philatelic scene in the 1970's.

Although his query was specifically about a block of four, he also mentioned that a number of complete sheets appeared on the market at about the same time. I had no previous knowledge regarding the sudden appearance of material since at the time, I was not a particularly avid collector of N.Z. coils. Besides, I had always assumed that these interesting stamps were from a much earlier period. As I tried to give detailed answers to his questions, I realised that the story was much more complicated than I had originally thought. These test stamps" became a definite part of my research into the story of New Zealand's coils.

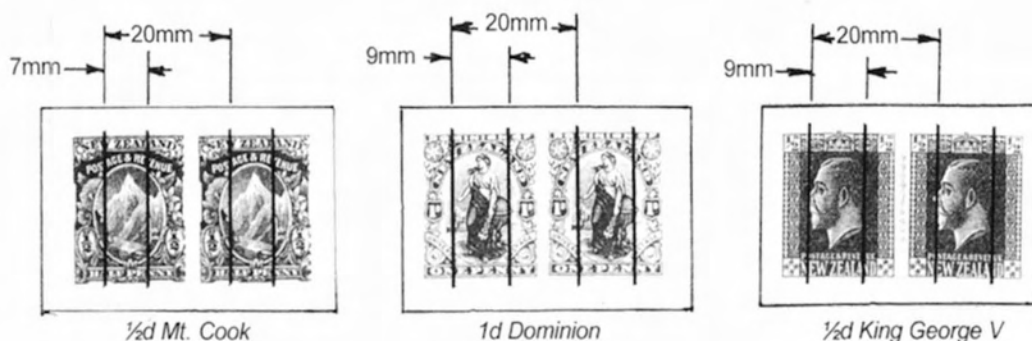


Figure 1: Printed invalidation lines on three early sheets used for test coils

The term "test stamp" in this case referred to one of three early sheet stamps (Figure 1) invalidated by means of two vertical lines printed on the stamp. The other two were the 1d Dominion and the ½d King George V. As to his comment about their appearance in the 1970's, I must admit to some initial confusion since I had always assumed that they dated from the first decades of the 20th century and that they were processed into coil rolls by Dickie as part of

ongoing efforts to improve his stamp vending machines after the initial trials in 1905 - 1906. In researching the answers to my correspondents questions, I was distressed by the paucity of detailed information, official or otherwise, other than the occasional mere mention of their existence and rare appearances in a price list. However, I did find one very interesting reference to these early test coils.

In a 1951 newspaper article (almost certainly from an Auckland newspaper), there is an interview with Dickie in his retirement. Written by columnist Mac Vincent, it is entitled "*Men Women and Memories*" and he relates in part:

*"I saw a stamp vending machine on which he'd (Dickie) made a lot of improvements. He demonstrated these using a roll of cancelled stamps given him by the department 40 years ago. He purposely kept breaking the roll and I hated to see it for there's value in those stamps, as he showed me how the machine corrected faults, one of these concerned with the vibrations of passing trains".*

The phrase "roll of cancelled stamps" almost certainly refers to test rolls of the ½d Mt. Cook since the "40 years ago" would be about 1910 or even earlier.

After the initial 1905-06 trials of his vending machines, Dickie's efforts were concentrated on designing a "small pin" vending machine that could use normally perforated sheet stamps directly from post office stocks for conversion into stamp rolls. The main advantage would be eliminating the need for pairs of 2mm holes (for the "larger" sprocket pins used during his initial trials) punched between stamps to facilitate their transport through the vending machine. Keeping this "sprocket" system would also require the Government Printers to keep stocks of imperforate sheets on hand or even making special printings to accommodate coil orders.

That these new machine designs would require rolls of stamps for testing is obvious. We also know that the design was well developed by 1907 so that the first of the test coils had to be the ½d Mount Cook since it was the only one of the three to be issued at the time. The ½d green Mount Cook was issued on 7 March, 1900, the 1d. Dominion on 8 November, 1908 and the ½d KGV on 30 July, 1915. The question is, how can we date the advent of the "small pin" design as early as 1907?

Since the New Zealand P & T Department could not yet afford to purchase his new machines, much of Dickie's early work was directed to improving it for use in the USA, Canada, the UK and, ultimately, in New Zealand. In 1907, he submitted a proposal to Australian postal officials to adapt his machine for their use. The Director General wrote the following letter which was re-printed in the February, 1954 issue of the "Philatelic Bulletin":

*"In 1907 the Department was giving some consideration to an automatic stamp-selling machine invented by two New Zealanders, Messrs. Dickie and Brown, and in order to facilitate their further experiments, which were being carried out in New Zealand, England and, subsequently Australia, the Department made available 500 sheets (120 on) of the then current 1d Victorian postage stamps.*

*The stamps in the sheets were however, first invalidated by two heavy black lines, each 4mm high, which extended horizontally across the sheets, this overprinting being carried out in the Stamp Printing Branch, Melbourne.*

*The Dickie and Brown machine underwent it's first Departmental test in Australia early in 1908 and was subsequently installed and available for public trial at the G.P.O. Melbourne from March 9th to 14th 1908 inclusive. Rolls of the current Victorian stamps were specially made up for use in the machine which enjoyed reasonable public patronage.*

*The test was found satisfactory and the purchase of a number of machines was recommended. However, it was decided that the matter should stand over until stamps in use in Australia were uniform in size and shape so that machines of standard pattern might be used in all States."*

M.R.C.Stradwick,  
Director General,  
Postmaster-Generals Dept.  
Melbourne, C.2.



Figure 2. Invalidated  
1d. Victoria stamps

From the above statement, we can see that small pin machines were demonstrated well before the 1d Dominion was issued. A strip of these invalidated 1d Victoria stamps is shown in Figure 2. Of the 60,000 stamps made available to Dickie, a limited number seem to have survived. A few complete sheets are also rumoured to have survived.

As for the three New Zealand test varieties, I have not yet uncovered any official information about them or when they were distributed. However, there are several clues available that can be of some help. First, referring to Figure 1, the 1½ point rules that form the vertical lines on the ½d Mount Cook are spaced 20mm horizontally from the matching lines on adjacent stamps. The vertical lines on both the Penny Dominion and the ½d King George V (also 1½ point rules), are spaced 9mm apart on the stamp with individual lines again spaced 20mm from matching lines on adjacent stamps. Note that the basic stamp is also 20mm wide so these lines fall in the same place on all stamps in a sheet with some variation due to paper shrinkage.

The lines on all three test stamps were almost certainly printed on a letter press at the Government Printers in Wellington. From the dimensions given above, it seems probable that there were two production runs of these sheets. The first was of the ½d Mount Cook with lines spaced 7mm apart. Sometime, most probably years later, a second printing was made, with both 1d Dominion and ½d KGV sheets having lines spaced 9mm apart.

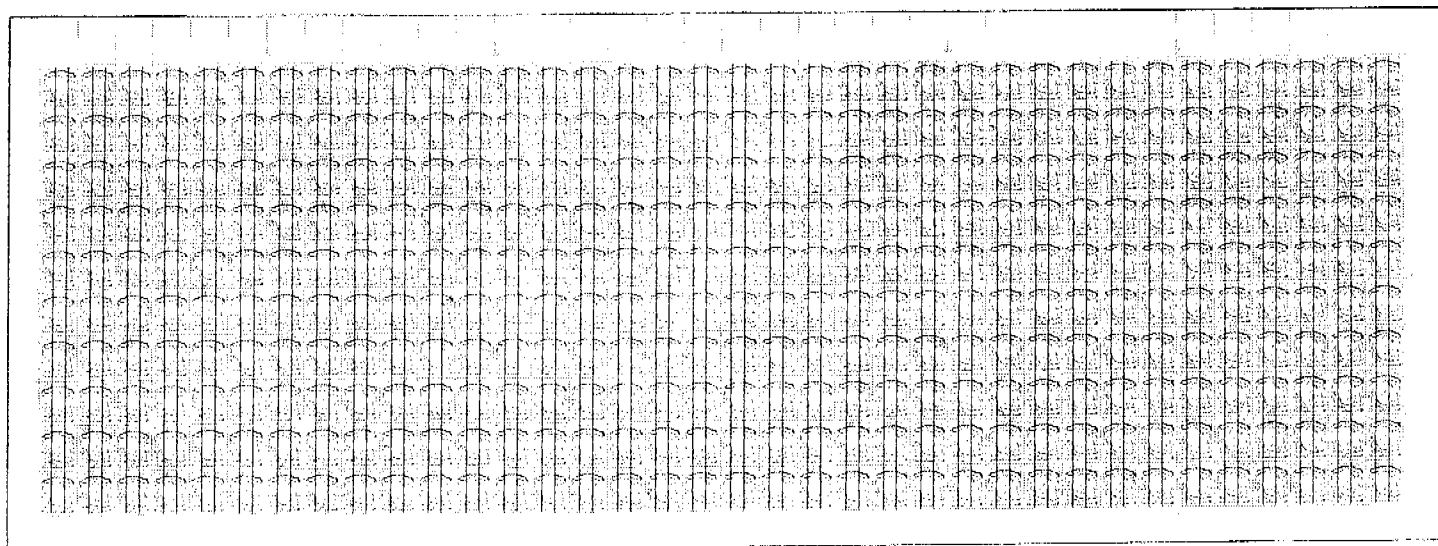
The rationale for this statement is that the plate used to print these lines on a letter press was really a frame assembly (called a "stone" by printers) which normally held type but in this case contained discrete rules and spacers wedged in place in the frame and positioned so as to make the lines fall on the sheets of stamps where desired. These "stones" would be composed as needed and not usually kept intact unless they were to be in fairly constant use such as for standard government forms, etc. A print shop would normally disassemble them and return the rules and spacers to the "case" where they would be available for further printing jobs.

As these sheets were to be used for conversion into testing coils, it made little difference which stamps were supplied. What mattered was that they should be of a size suitable for processing into vending machine rolls. Most of the specimens that I have seen have been badly centred so it seems likely that poorly centred stock was first selected from the inventory to be used. Invalidated sheets would undoubtedly have been "written off the books" and, no longer being "accountable paper", further official record keeping would be unnecessary.

The larger question is: when were these three "test" sheets invalidated? There are several reasons already given for thinking that the first of the test sheets was the ½d Mt. Cook and that a fairly large number of sheets were supplied. This stamp seems to quite common with specimens available from many dealer's stocks. The 1d Dominion is not quite as common but still readily

obtainable. The ½d KGV, however, has proved to be quite difficult to locate. It had been on my want list for a long time before I was able to obtain a small lot from Dr. Ken McNaught a few years ago.

That full sheets of the ½d Mt. Cook (Figure 3) and 1d Dominion currently exist is well known. Although not common, over the years they have been seen in collections at several major dealers and, occasionally, offered at auction. However, I have yet to hear of the existence of a full sheet of the invalidated ½d KGV. The reported surfacing of sheets of the Mt. Cook and the Penny Dominion in the 1970's is, so far, unexplained.



*Figure 3 Complete sheet of 240 of the invalidated ½d Mt. Cook*

If I am correct in my assumption that the 1d Dominion and the ½d KGV were part of the same printing run because of the identical line spacing, then one explanation for the scarcity of the ½d could be that there was a temporary shortage of 1d Dominions in Stamp Office stocks and a relatively small number of the KGV sheets were needed to complete the test stamp order. This would place the printing date of this batch of test stamps sometime after the 30th July, 1915 issue of the KGV stamp.

Several of Dickie's "small pin" machines went into service in New Zealand in late 1909, first at the Wellington GPO. The Auckland GPO also had one permanently installed on 4 July, 1910. Coil rolls for sale in these early machines were wound by hand in the Stamps Office, Wellington. The source of these machines is, at the moment, the subject of additional research but I believe that they were rented from a company originally formed by Dickie, E.C.E. Mills and W.J.Napier to make the first machines for the British Stamp and Ticket Automatic Delivery Co. Ltd. (BSTAD) in England and for other potential customers. BSTAD was the company formed by Dickie, Brown, Mrs. Kermode and her sister, Miss Fawns to promote the use of Dickie machines in the U.K. and elsewhere in Europe, the Americas and the British Empire.

Returning to New Zealand's first operational vending machines, supplying rolls of stamps for these machines was undoubtedly a tedious, labour intensive and, therefore, rather expensive task when done by hand. Dickie had, by this time, already developed equipment for efficiently performing this task as indicated by the Australian trials and developments in the U.K. with BSTAD's machines.

On 7 September, 1910, obviously in response to a proposal from Dickie, the following letter (listed in the NZPO Archives as P.O. 10-1235) was sent to Dickie in Wellington:

7th September, 1910

Sir,

*In reference to your letter of the 16th ultimo, respecting the preparation of stamps in roll form for the stamp vending machines, I beg to inform you that your offer to arrange for the preparation of the stamps is accepted as a temporary measure on the conditions mentioned in your letter. You will be paid commission at the rate of one percent on the value of each lot of 100 sheets prepared by you.*

*The Acting Chief Postmaster, Wellington, has been instructed to make the necessary arrangements for handing you the stamps as required.*

*Yours obediently,*

*J. Robertson*

*Secretary*

*Mr. R. J. Dickie,  
Chief Post Office,  
WELLINGTON*

This letter, obviously a contract awarded to Dickie for the fabrication of coil rolls, leads one to the conclusion that Dickie had equipment not yet available to the Stamps Office for efficiently producing rolls of stamps. The question is, would anyone enter into a contract to provide this service without knowing beforehand what his costs would be? I think that at some time prior to making his proposal, Dickie would have needed a supply of invalidated sheets for this purpose and the best candidate still seems to be the ½d Mt. Cook. Keep in mind that, at this time, Dickie's position in the P & T Department was somewhat ambiguous. Although his primary job was as a foreign mail clerk, he also wore another, well deserved, hat as the Department's resident expert on stamp vending machines. The P & T Department later changed his job title officially to "Vending Machine Expert".

During the period between the end of the 1905 - 1906 trials and this coil rolling contract in September of 1910, Dickie was already hard at work on improving and selling his machines to several other postal administrations. It seems more than likely that he sought and obtained a quantity of invalidated sheets from the Government Printing office to further his experiments, especially since the P & T Department stood to be the eventual beneficiary of these developments.

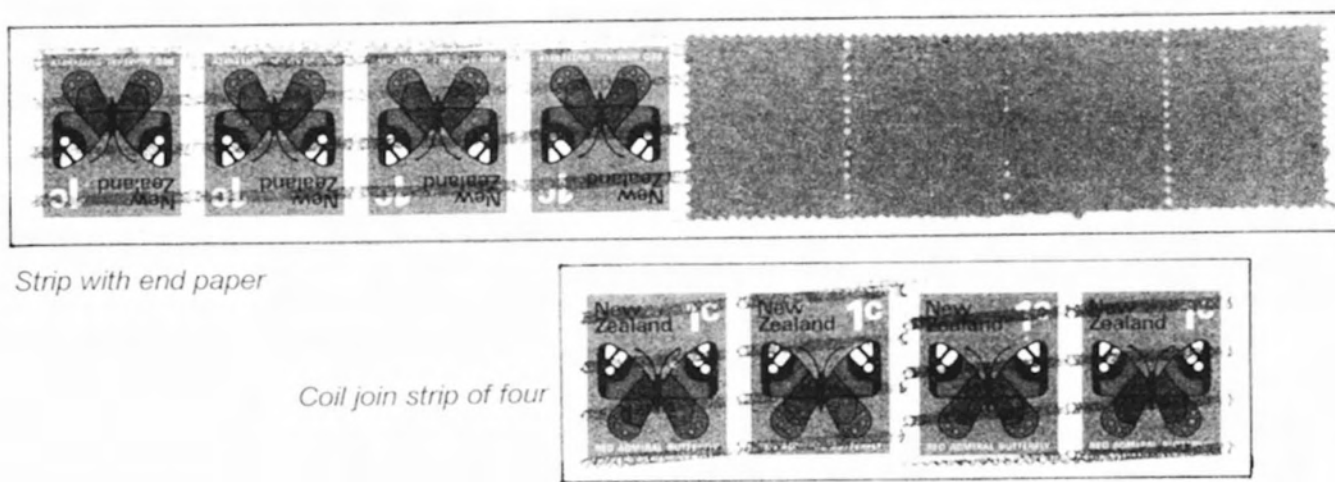
Dating the other two varieties is more difficult. If my assumption is correct about both of these stamps being invalidated at the same time, then obviously they would be dated after the 1915 issue date of the ½d KGV. It would seem logical that when this new ½d stamp was first issued, there still remained some of the old ½d Mt. Cook sheets in the inventory. If test stamps were needed shortly after 1915, it seems more than likely that that the newly obsolete Mt. Cooks would have been chosen and, if so, these would probably have the wider spaced lines. I have neither seen nor heard of examples with lines 9mm apart so this theory does not seem valid.

The Penny Dominion with only one exception, the Auckland Exhibition issue of 1913, was the only 1d stamp used for vending machine coils from 1909 until 1926 when the 1d Field Marshal was issued. The ½d KGV in both the normal and overprinted "War Tax" versions, were the only coils of this denomination used from 1915 until 1935 when the ½d Fantail appeared. I think that the most likely period for the appearance of the last two test coils is between 1918 and 1920. There are two reasons for this "guesstimate". First, by this time, Dickie's position as "Vending Machine Expert" involved his transfer to Auckland. He was tasked with supervising vending machine operations and generating improved designs. He would undoubtedly have required rolls of test stamps to accomplish this.

Probably of greater significance is the completion of negotiations with the P & T Department for the purchase from Dickie of the New Zealand rights to his vending machine patent. This took place in 1918 at the cost of £2000 and included 108 vending machines of which 85 were already in service. Existing machines were to be maintained or repaired and new machines fabricated at the Engineering Work Shops, Wellington. Again, there would be a need for test rolls to check out new and/or repaired machines.

I must admit that there are several versions of the above theory. The main one being that Dickie had a number of ½d Mt. Cook rolls and probably some sheets to use and eventually, to take to Auckland. These lasted him until his retirement on 24 July, 1931 and, since they were “off the books”, a quantity of these rolls and sheets undoubtedly “retired” with him and came the market from his estate when he died in 1958. Although all three varieties are generally referred to as “Dickie test coils”, the only one that I can definitely connect to Dickie is the Mt. Cook. The other two test coils may have been ordered by the Engineering Work Shops and Dickie may or may not have ever used them.

I am still unable to fully explain the appearance of those complete sheets in the 1970’s. However, about that time there was an interesting development that might shed some light on the subject. Sometime during the 1970’s (again, I have not uncovered any official records), the Engineering Work Shops in Wellington ordered a supply of test rolls from the Stamps Office. These were made from sheets of the unwatermarked 1 cent Red Admiral Butterfly stamp of the 1970 Pictorial issue. This stamp was issued on 7 September, 1973 and superseded on 26 November 1975 by the 1 cent “Sterling Silver Rose” of the 1975-1982 series, a stamp too large to use for coil production. Although the 1 cent Red Admiral was also used for vending machine rolls during this period, there was evidently a sufficient supply available to the Stamps Office to fill the test coil order.



*Figure 4 Engineering Workshops test coils, ca 1970s*

The 1 cent Red Admirals were invalidated by means of multiple, diagonally oriented black lines printed on the full sheets using an offset press. The sheets were then processed into rolls of 960 stamps. Shown in Figure 4 are a coil join strip of four and a roll end paper. I was sure that the coil leader must still exist and finally, on my two week holiday to attend Canpex 2000, I examined one in a collection which had a rolling date of 5 April 1976. There would likely have been only one large rolling although I would appreciate hearing from anybody with leaders with a different date. I believe that all the invalidated sheets were processed into rolls as no sheets or blocks are currently known to me. I should add that I also saw an example of an earlier 1cent Karaka coil

with **thick black vertical** lines invalidating the stamps. These also seemed to be offset printed but with a different line arrangement and were undoubtedly rolled at a different time from the Red Admirals. A printed leader, if available, would, no doubt, confirm this. The remaining question is, when the work shops received the shipment of new test coils, did they then release remaining stocks of the older ½d Mt. Cook and 1d Dominion sheets to friendly collectors or dealers.

It is quite probable that early on, some sheets as well as coil rolls were used as aids in training new post office employees as counter clerks and in the proper procedures for loading vending machines. Although there is no official record of this usage, if true it would have provided another conduit for the "escape" of this material into the philatelic market. Quantities of all three original test sheet varieties were rolled into coils and these should be more desirable to collect than the blocks or vertical strips which seem to be more common for the first two types and are usually considered curiosities. However, I must admit that I have not seen any of the ½d KGV version which were not coils. I live in hope!

During my Canpex 2000 travels, I discovered a source with six complete sheets of the overprinted ½d. Mt. Cook. The sheets were from Plates 1 & 2. I also viewed a nearly complete roll of the ½d. Mt. Cook. Although the roll had no leader, it looked to be a roll of 480 stamps with a core diameter of approximately 9 or 10mm. The end paper could be seen and appeared to be of plain white paper with an unknown number of perforated, stamp sized segments. The roll appeared to be machine made as the stamps had cut edges as is seen with rolls processed on a rotary slitting machine. The coil joins were the same size (about 4-5mm) as used for the 1d. Dominions in my collection. This would place their rolling date at sometime after 1910. I would also add that there cannot be too many complete Mt. Cook and Dominion sheets still available since there have been several recent examples for sale and in auctions with high reserve prices and estimates of up to NZ\$1,000 per sheet.

Clearly, any study of New Zealand's early coils is inhibited in no small measure by the passage of time and the lack of clear historical records. Any study of this topic, therefore, must rely to some extent on intuition and conjecture supported by a foundation of general knowledge and some degree of experience with the subject of coils and their production. As a specialist and exhibitor of this material, I realise that there is still much research to be completed and would welcome the assistance of readers having any additional information or unusual examples of the varieties discussed here and of the Dickie and Parker trials of 1905-1906.

Stan Kundin,  
8721 #34 Hayshed Lane  
Columbia, Maryland 21045  
USA

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**WRONGFUL RE-USE OF ENVELOPES**

ALLAN P. BERRY

Since arriving in New Zealand, one of the tasks that we promised ourselves that we would do was to transcribe family letters from Napier to my father in England. Most of the correspondence is from my Grandmother and one of my Uncles and the letters give a fascinating picture of life in the 1930s and 1940s. The envelopes themselves are showing some interesting aspects of the postal history of the time.

Figure 1 is a quite ordinary cover - franked with a 2d. Second Pictorial definitive stamp, cancelled at Napier on 9th December 1942. It is addressed to my father in Chatham, England and is from my Uncle Allan. The interest lies in what I found **INSIDE** the envelope.

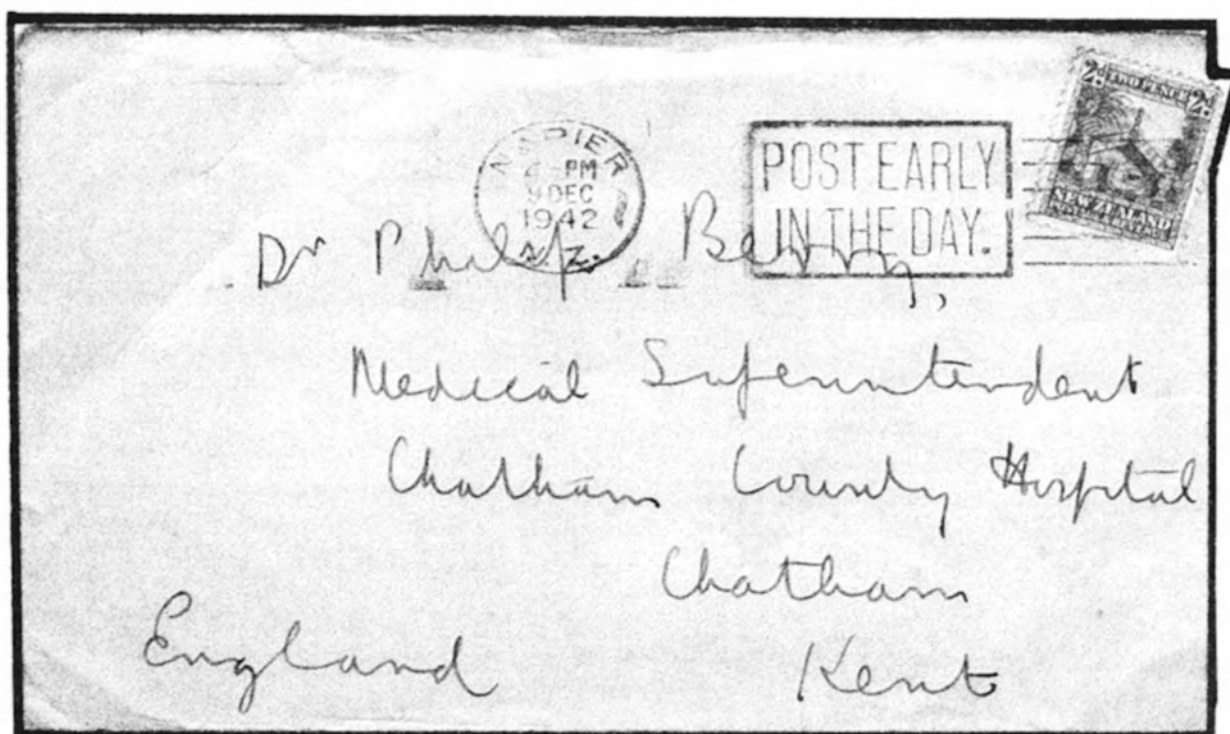


Figure 1

Figure 2 shows another cover found within the first. It was also originally franked with a 2d. Second Pictorial Definitive stamp. It is from Palmerston North, addressed to my Uncle Harold in Clive Square, Napier. The original cancellation is dated 26 November 1942. My Uncle Allan has crossed out the Clive Square address, addressed the envelope to my father in Chatham, England, and added a further 2d Second Pictorial definitive stamp, which has, in turn, been cancelled by the Napier datestamp on 7th December 1942. The octagonal framed cachet N.Z. / NAPIER / - 8DEC1942 / UNCLAIMED has been applied.

On the back of the envelope. My Uncle Allan has written - as the first note of three:

"8/12/42 You cannot use used envelope for overseas mail so they stamped my stamp and sent for me to collect my letter."

ROBIN STARTUP was asked if he had any relevant information. He pointed me to the Post Office Circular of September 1 1942, where the following is stated:

8. Rule 252A. - *Envelopes for Transmission of Correspondence: Re-use.*

In reference to the Official Circular for January, 1939 (Order No. 2) and July, 1941 (Order No. 15): Envelopes which have served their original purpose, particularly those with old automatic stamping-machine impressions, postage-stamps, and addresses covered over by means of a piece of gummed paper, cannot be reused for the transmission of overseas communications.

Persons or firms known to be reusing envelopes for postal purposes are to be so informed.

[Ex. 9/42]

[P. & T. 1942/996.]

While clearly the Officers in the Napier Chief Post Office were correct in informing the writer that envelopes could not be re-used for overseas correspondence, it seems unfortunate that they cancelled his stamp so that he had to pay again! Collections have been made of war time re-used envelopes - I wonder how often it can be proved that their re-use for overseas addresses was not

allowed - and one also wonders why the prohibition was in place at a time when everyone was concerned to avoid any form of waste.

Incidentally, the third note on the reverse refers, not surprisingly, to difficulty in spelling "acanthocyanuria". I presume that this is a medical term but would be interested if anyone can enlighten me on the precise meaning.

Figure 2

8 + 242  
You cannot use  
used envelopes  
for overseas mail  
so they stamped my  
stamp & sent for me to  
collect my letters.  
Back again at work  
It has been raining  
hardly for some  
days.  
Acanthocyanuria  
Phew that's a spell  
wrongly.

