



# ***THE KIWI***



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

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**WHOLE NUMBER 302**

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY WILL BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 29TH, 2003 AT  
THE UNION JACK CLUB, SANDELL STREET, LONDON  
THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WILL START AT 11.15  
AND WILL BE FOLLOWED BY  
THE ANNUAL AUCTION STARTING AT 13.00  
THE AGENDA FOR THE AGM WILL BE FOUND ON PAGE 119

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

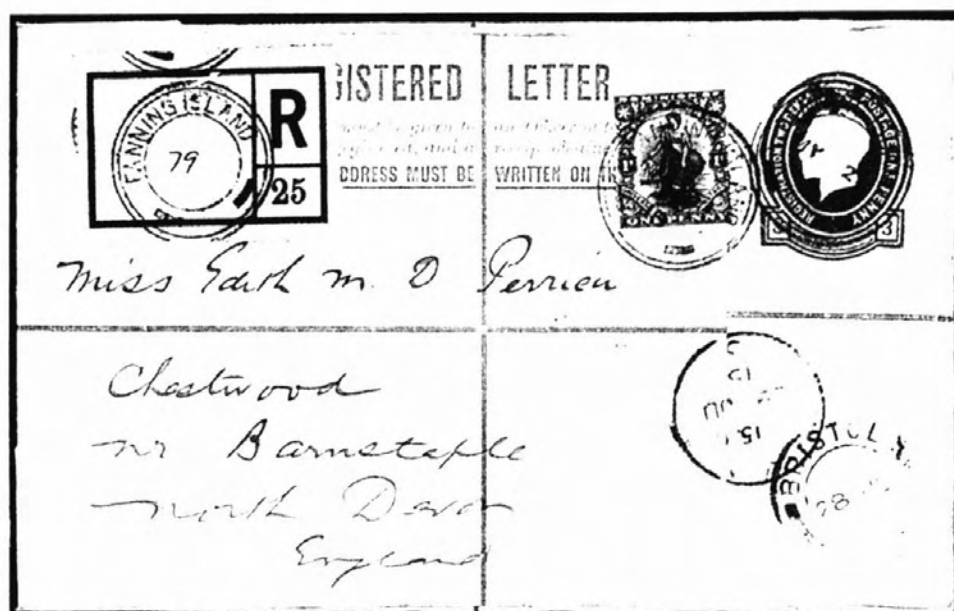
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This fine Fanning Island usage of a NZ registered envelope attracted considerable interest in our September Australasia sale: competition between 4 bidders ensured that it sold for £260.00 against the pre-sale estimate of £100.00!



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**SOCIETY NEWS:**

**MEMBERSHIP**

**NEW MEMBERS:**

We welcome:

M.W. Thomas, London

-----  
**52ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**OF**

**THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN**

Notice is hereby given that the 52nd Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain will be held at The Union Jack Club, Sandell Street, London on Saturday 29th November, 2003, commencing at 11.15.

**AGENDA:**

1. Minutes of the 51st Annual General Meeting (Published in *The Kiwi* Vol. 52. No. 2 P. 27)
2. President's Report and Review of 2003.
3. Financial Report from the Hon. Treasurer.
4. Report from the Hon. Packet Secretary.
5. To elect:
  - i) A President
  - ii) Vice Presidents
  - iii) A Chairman
  - iv) A Vice Chairman
  - v) An Honorary General Secretary
  - vi) An Honorary Editor of "*The Kiwi*"
  - vii) An Honorary Packet Secretary
  - viii) An Honorary Treasurer
  - ix) An Honorary Auctioneer
  - x) Other Officers of the Society
6. To elect a Committee.
7. Any Other Business proper to the Annual General Meeting of which due notice has been given in writing to the Honorary General Secretary.

Nominations are invited from Members for all the Officers of the Society, having obtained the agreement (in writing) of the member so nominated.

KEITH C. COLLINS, HONORARY GENERAL SECRETARY

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### JOINT MEETING OF THE SCOTTISH AND NORTHERN GROUPS

A joint meeting of the Scottish and the North of England Groups will be held in Carlisle on Saturday 15th November, 2003. The meeting will take place in the Cumbrian Hotel (next to the station) from 13.30 to 17.00 and, as usual, members can 'get together' beforehand over a bar lunch from 12.30 onwards.

Everybody attending is invited to bring along a display of up to 16 sheets.

-----

### NEXT MEETING OF THE NORTHERN REGIONAL GROUP

The next meeting of the Northern Regional Group will be held on November 1st, 2003 starting at 13.30 at St. Luke's Church, Orrell. This will be our Annual Competition with 12 page entries. There will also be displays.

-----

### NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOCIETY HELD IN WARWICK ON SEPTEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup> 2003

**Bernard Symonds** welcomed the 20 members present to the meeting which was held in the viewing room of Warwick and Warwick, Auctioneers: he said that he had been appointed Chairman for the day in the absence of Derek Diamond. He expressed thanks to Warwick and Warwick for allowing the Society to use their premises for this meeting.

**Bernard Symonds** kicked off with a small display of Rugby Union Football related material. He gave no opinion as to the likely victor in the forthcoming World Cup but his display included the original artwork for the 1967 Health stamp and a range of Social Philatelic items such as beer labels. **Eric Lewis** followed and started by showing pages from the Philatelic Chronicle and Advertiser of 1894. This was the official journal of the Birmingham Philatelic Society at the time and the issues shown contained a listing of New Zealand issues. Interestingly, there was also a vituperative article which focussed on unnecessary stamp issues - nothing changes very much! Eric then moved on to his main interest of advertising covers including some buying price lists from Stamp Dealers and a very attractive 1904 letter sheet with a hand drawn illustration entitled 'Bringing Home the Xmas Bacon' with a Maori carrying home a pig and a fish for the Christmas table.

**Mike Smith** covered the eruption of Mount Tarawera in 1886. His interest arose because of a book which illustrated the aftermath including the destruction of the Pink and White Terraces which had been featured on the First Pictorial stamps. A number of postcards had been produced including one of Guide Sophie who had been a notable Maori guide to the area before the eruption and a card from C. Ways Tearoom showing some the range of relics to be viewed by tourists. The range shown reminded those present of the volatile nature of New Zealand's scenery. **David Piggot** illustrated his interest in the 1935 Second Pictorial issue with sheets showing rare and difficult aspects of the issue. Included were examples of 7 states of the plate flaw adjacent to the plate number 1 on the 6d, some large blocks which allowed re-entries to be plated, copies from each of the printings of the 5d except the pale ultramarine but including the cobalt and an example of the 8d Tutara Official on single watermark paper of which about 30 copies are known.

**John Potter** showed some very attractive album pages bearing copies of the 1940 Centennial issues with hand coloured illustrations. These will be the subject of a forthcoming article in *The Kiwi*. **Andrew Dove** showed some covers carrying examples of the 1d Field Marshall including an

envelope that was part of the first all flown mail to New Zealand. This arose in 1934 when some contestants in the 1934 England to Australia Air Race continued to New Zealand and unofficially carried a small number of letters with them. The stamp was added and cancelled at Palmerston North on arrival.

**John Hicks** followed with a number of illustrated postcards. Although the first cards were printed in about 1894, they became popular with the large number that were produced to celebrate and illustrate the Christchurch Exhibition of 1906. Whole series were produced which focussed on particular events: one such was the visit of the American White Fleet in 1928 when a special Post Office was opened in Auckland for the 4 days it was in harbour. A further example occurred in February 1909 when the S.S. Penguin ran aground in the Cook Strait. Zak produced a whole series chronicling the event from the original shipwreck and some of the washed up life rafts, through the recovery of the unfortunates to their funerals.

**Beverley King** started with a Registered cover that was one of three written by the Prince of Wales, later King Edward VIII, during a visit to New Zealand in 1920. The cover was addressed to Mrs. W. Dudley Ward who was his mistress until he became enamoured with Wallis Simpson. She then showed a range of material including a Muir and Moodie card of the Maheno shortly after her delivery in 1907.

After a break for lunch, **Allan Berry** gave an overview of the state of the philatelic world in New Zealand. He said that since de-regulation of the Postal Service, New Zealand Post's mailing list had decreased significantly in size. Most of those now on the list are interested in the themes of stamps rather than students of New Zealand stamps. Some of the Private Postal Operators appear to be doing well and are producing labels in compliance with their licensing agreements. His view was that it was probably already too late to record all the labels issued as a number of operators had already gone out of business and those still operating are producing so many different designs that they, themselves, probably do not have a complete list. Interestingly, two philatelic societies already have their own postage stamps.

Turning to the collectors world, Allan said that there were many Societies active in the country although, talking as a guest speaker, he found their propensity to cover matters other than the main display frustrating as it meant that he would often have half or less of the evening to expound his area of display. The size of Societies varies considerably but most have their own Newsletter which often contains items of much interest. For example, the 'Marlborough Sounds' error was first reported in the newsletter of the Tauranga Philatelic Society. The New Zealand Philatelic Federation had now been restructured and a separate section created for Philatelic Judges to try and broaden the appeal of the main body for ordinary collectors rather than those interested in displaying and competing.

**Bernard Atkinson** showed postcards starting with a series showing Maori history and finishing with postcards issued by the Weekly Press including examples of the same picture on different coloured cards.

**Paul Wreglesworth** gave a display focussing on the early use of the Second Sideface Pictorial issue. Although the stamps were released in 1882, only a few examples are known used in their first year. For the 3d, the first known example is dated 1884. The reason for this lack of early used examples is debated: Robin Gwynn believes that it is because the fiscal stamps were being used and the Second Sidefaces were not, therefore, released until later. Samuel, by contrast, believed that before 1882, fiscal and postage stamps were separate, after 1882, one stamp could be used for either. Users, however, would still have had old stocks and these would have used before the new stamps were put to use. Another difficulty is that the usual cancellation was the Duplex killer and it is impossible to see the date on stamps off cover. The display included a fascinating range of

covers and individual stamps showing early usage including the earliest known (at present) used examples of the 1d fiscal, 1d Rose, 2½d, 6d and 8d.

Paul was followed by **Jack Lindley** who showed World War II material starting with the 'For King and Empire' seal including one of the original distribution envelopes with the enclosed letter asking for a contribution of 2/6 in payment for the seals. He also showed 18 complete sheets of the seals in different shades: his view is that this represents the complete range of colours. There followed items related to Sir Bernard Freyberg, New Zealand's most important military figure of the twentieth century. Apart from autograph material, there was a card from Taranaki offering free beer to returning troops celebrating Freyberg's visit to the area.

**Lawrence Kimpton** illustrated the linking of New Zealand to world airmail routes in the late 1930's. The first survey flights were by an Imperial Airlines seaplane in December 1937. Although some unofficial mail was carried, the routes were not properly exploited until the end of 1939 when the Aotearoa, a Solent seaplane, was flown to the country. The first commercial flights started in May 1940. The other route being opened at the time was between Auckland and San Francisco. This route was flown by a Pan American Martin flying boat piloted by Pan Ams chief pilot, Captain Musick. A wide variety of covers from the different stages of the route were shown. The postage rates were high and a significant event occurred in September 1940 when the cost was reduced to 5/9 in recognition of the increasing volume of mail which meant that mail bags could be routed right through America rather than opened and re-sorted.

**Harold Howard** showed a collection of postmarks from offices based in Hospitals with cards showing the appearance of the hospital buildings. He also showed a display of Health Camp Social Philately including stamps, covers and various cinderellas that won its class at the Northern Federation competition. **John Hepworth** showed Postal Stationery illustrating changes in postage rates between 1876 decimalisation. Particular interest centred on the early 30s when postage rates went up and down and stocks were overprinted to avoid waste.

**Bernard Symonds** closed proceedings with sheets of machine coils. He made the point that Dickie's coils using the 1d Universal are listed in Campbell Patersons' catalogue but there is little detail of succeeding issues although the counter coils are fully described. Amongst the many examples shown was a ½d Mount Cook coil join from the coil described by Stan Kundin in his article in *The Kiwi* (1).

**Bernard Symonds** formally closed the proceedings by thanking all those who had contributed to making this a fascinating and varied afternoon. He again thanked Warwick and Warwick for their hospitality.

Reference:

1. Kundin SJ "Serendipity or Luck?". *The Kiwi* (2003). Vol. 52 No. 4. Pp 84-87.

#### NOTES OF MEETING OF THE NORTHERN GROUP HELD SEPTEMBER 20TH 2003

Ten members were present and apologies had been received from one more. The theme of the meeting was interesting covers and postcards. Those present showed as follows:

**Harold Howard** showed postmarks from Post Offices positioned in hospitals and postcards of the buildings. Next, **John Hepworth** showed a wide variety of material including World War I Troopships and Hospital Ships, military mail from both World Wars, postal stationery and a nice 1952 Health cover illustrating Yvette Williams with a cadet. He was followed by **Alan Durant** who showed a range of different King George V values used on cover and a range of KGV postal stationery with different overprints and slogan cancellations.

**Don Scregg** started with a First Day covers of the 1d Universal including Ward cards and covers, two examples of the Bishop type, including insert cards and a Milton Mills. He also displayed a recent acquisition: a cover from Mafeking to Wellington, dated 15 August 1900, a few months after the siege, from Lieutenant R.J. Seddon to Miss May Seddon. Lieutenant Seddon was the son of R.J. Seddon who had become Prime Minister in 1893 and remained in office until he died in June, 1906. At the time the letter was written, he was also acting as Defence Secretary .

**Bernard Jackson** showed a wide variety of covers and postcards and **John Atkinson** displayed a range of covers with colourful frankings that he had produced when he was on a ship in New Zealand in the 1970's.

**Fred Davies** followed a range of postal stationary with different types of reply paid envelopes from the Philatelic Bureau illustrating changes in style and colour and including a reusable Lord of the Rings envelope. Next **Paul Wregelsworth** showed a cover carrying a Perfin, a range of Sideface covers including advertising envelopes and an 1882 cover with both a First and Second Sideface stamp. This occurred because the letter was posted 11 MAY 1882 with a First Sideface 1d. Unfortunately, it could not be delivered because the addressee could not be found. The cover then made its way around New Zealand for about 6 months. During this time, it collected a Postage Due surcharge of 2d on 12 AUGUST 1882. This charge was paid using a Second Sideface 2d. **Jack Lindley** finished the displays with examples of postcards illustrating the Christchurch Exhibition.

Overall, a very interesting afternoon which closed at 16.30.

## PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Society publications are now available:

SP 1: *Aspects of Collecting New Zealand Stamps*.

SP 2: *Index to The Kiwi Volumes 1 to 50*. Printed and CD Version.

SP 3: *The Kiwi Volumes 1 - 50*. Full text on CD

Price: SP 1: £10 inc. P. & P.

SP 2 & SP 3, £14 in UK and £18.50 overseas airmail inc. P. & P.

Payment accepted in NZ\$, US\$ or £St. All orders to:

New Zealand Society of Great Britain  
9, Ashley Drive,  
Walton-on Thames,  
Surrey KT12 1JL

## AN INVITATION TO SCOTLAND IN OCTOBER 2004

Our Scottish Group has been honoured by the Committee and asked to host the main meeting of the Society in the Autumn of 2004. The meeting will be held on the weekend of October 9th and 10th, 2004 in Edinburgh, the Dunedin of the North! A warm invitation is extended to all members to join us north of the border for this event. Further details will be published in *The Kiwi*.

Meanwhile, please put these dates down in your diary as a booked weekend!

### AWARD TO A MEMBER

Congratulations to Lewis Giles who was awarded a Silver medal for his display of New Zealand Goldfields in this years Autumn Stampex.

### COMING EVENTS:

#### BAYPEX 2004

Baypex 2004 will be the New Zealand National Stamp Exhibition in 2004. It will be held between October 29th and 31st at the new Pettigrew-Green ARENA Hawke's Bay, Taradale, Napier. It will be a full national exhibition with a comprehensive range of classes and will be the first national exhibition to be hosted by Hawke's Bay.

Further information can be obtained from the Secretary, Baypex 2004 Stamp Show, PO Box 865, Hastings, New Zealand; or by e-mailing the Chairman, Dr. Robin Gwynn at [gwynn@paradise.net.nz](mailto:gwynn@paradise.net.nz).

### INFORMATION RECEIVED:

#### SPECIAL DATESTAMPS

#### WELPEX 2003 STAMP EXHIBITION



Three special pictorial datestamps will be issued to commemorate the **Welpex 2003 National Stamp Exhibition** being held in Wellington from November 7 - 9, 2003.

Persons wishing to obtain these date stamps can post their stamped addressed envelopes in a special posting box at the exhibition or forwarded in an outer envelope to Welpex 2003 Stamp Exhibition Date Stamps, Private Bag 3001, Wanganui to be received no later than 3 November, 2003.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### NEW ZEALAND HOME OF MIDDLE-EARTH DATE STAMP

A special **New Zealand Home of Middle-earth** date stamp will be available from 5 November to 21 November, 2003 at the Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch Stamps Centres.

To obtain examples, send your stamp addressed envelope in an outer envelope, to New Zealand Home of Middle-earth, P O Box 2339, Wellington, New Zealand.



\*\*\*\*\*

## NEW ZEALAND HOME OF MIDDLE - EARTH SPECIAL POSTMARK



From 5-21 November and 1 - 12 December, 2003, Auckland, South Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch Mail Centres will be postmarking mail with a **New Zealand Home of Middle-earth** message.

Mail volumes do not allow all mail to be postmarked, approximately 20% of mail results in a postmark being applied.

If you do not wish to leave obtaining a postmark to chance, please send your stamped addressed envelope in an outer envelope to 'The Lord of the Rings' cancellation, P O Box 39199, Wellington Mail Centre, New Zealand.

## MEDIA RELEASES

### STAMPS CELEBRATE CENTENARY OF THE AA IN NEW ZEALAND

15 August 2003

New Zealand Post is celebrating 100 years of the New Zealand Automobile Association (AA) with its latest stamp issue featuring some of the first cars to hit the roads in the country.

The 'Veteran Vehicles' stamp issue features five classic vehicles built before 1918. The images used in the stamps reflect the passion New Zealanders have had for their vehicles since motoring began in New Zealand in the 1890s, and pays tribute to the AA's role in that history.

Stamp General Manager Ivor Masters said that the past 100 years the AA has been tremendous as the 'voice' of New Zealand motorists.

"Motoring is such a significant part of New Zealanders' lives, both from necessity and pleasure, and the AA has been a major player in the motoring industry since it was founded in 1903.

"New Zealand Post is delighted to be celebrating such an exciting and worthy milestone. With a 900,000 strong membership, it's clear that New Zealanders appreciate the services it provides."

The 40-cent stamp features an 1895 Benz Volvo, which was launched in Germany in 1894 as the world's first inexpensive, mass-produced car. Released in the same year as the AA was formed, the 1903 Oldsmobile from the United States is depicted on the 90-cent stamp.

Invented in secret by Herbert Austin while working for the Wolseley Sheep Sheering Machine Company, a 1911 Wolseley adorns the \$1.30 stamp. Nicknamed the 'Invincible Talbot', a name the car proved itself worthy of in 1913 by becoming the first vehicle to cover more than 160 kilometres in an hour, the \$1.50 stamp features a 1915 Talbot.

The final stamp in the issue is a 1915 Model T Ford on the \$2.00 stamp, a simple, reliable car, available only in black, that transformed the world of motoring by being priced for the masses.

The Veteran Vehicle stamp issue was designed by Stephen Fuller, Watermark, Wellington and printed by Southern Colour Print of Dunedin. The stamps and related products will be available from the usual outlets from 3 September 2003.

\* \* \* \* \*

### STAMPS RETURN FOR THE KING

17 September 2003

Anticipation of December's world premier of the final *The Lord of the Rings* film is building with New Zealand Post today unveiling a series of stamps to celebrate the third movie.

The issue features characters and scenes from *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*<sup>TM</sup>, giving fans a taste of what lies ahead in the movie. This is the third in the series, following on from the successful *The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring*<sup>TM</sup>, and *The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers*<sup>TM</sup> stamp issues.

Stamps General Manager Ivor Masters said that New Zealand Post was extremely pleased to be celebrating the third movie of this wonderful trilogy with this special stamp issue.

"Each image featured on the stamps and other collectable products contributes to this amazing epic and gives people a preview of the movie and its stunning cinematography," Mr Masters said.

"New Zealand Post has been proud to be associated with the three films and salutes New Zealand director Peter Jackson for his extraordinary achievement."

The stamps feature some of the main characters of *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*<sup>TM</sup>. The elf Legolas is on the 40-cent stamp, hobbit Frodo<sup>TM</sup> who carries the burden of taking the Ring to Mount Doom is on the 80-cent stamp and the 90-cent stamp features hobbits Merry<sup>TM</sup> and Pippin<sup>TM</sup>.

Aragorn<sup>TM</sup>, the last descendant of the ancient kings is on the \$1.30 stamp, the White Wizard Gandalf<sup>TM</sup> is on the \$1.50 and the pitiful, wretched creature Gollum<sup>TM</sup> features on the \$2.00.

The stamp issue also includes collectable products such as miniature sheets, first day covers, maximum cards (post cards) and presentation pack which provide more detail of the film *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*<sup>TM</sup>. The stamps were designed by Frans Lenzen of CommArts, Wellington and printed by Southern Colour Print, Dunedin.

While enthusiasts can pre-order their collection from today, products will be available for purchase from the usual outlets from 5 November 2003.

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### PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

#### **A far-reaching innovation public trials, Government & commercial usage of franking machines in New Zealand 1904-1921**

Author: G.I. Robertson. Published Postal History Society of New Zealand Inc, P.O. Box 99-673, Newmarket, Auckland, New Zealand. Price \$38 inc. P&P in NZ, \$11 Aust, \$18 S. Pacific, \$22.50 E. Asia \$ N. America, \$24.50 UK & Europe, \$26.50 Rest of World. PP. 246. Soft bound, fully illustrated in B & W and colour.

Like many, I have picked up the odd meter cancelled cover the years but did not know much about them. That has changed since this book was delivered. I am not aware of any other philatelic book that begins, as does this one, in the first century AD. This is because the first press was invented to extract oil from olives and the meter presses are directly derived from that technology.

The first 50 pages continue with the historical story and includes English and Norwegian parts of the story as well as giving a full description of Moss and other developers of machines in New

Zealand. There are illustrations of existing early machines and, where these no longer exist, drawings derived from Patent applications are shown. The remainder of the book contains a detailed list of Government Departments and commercial users of the pioneer meter marking machines from their beginnings in 1906 until 1921.

The book is copiously illustrated throughout with some pages in colour showing an example of the Model D machine and some early covers.

This book fulfils the dual objectives of providing an interesting and informative source of information for the collector and also giving a comprehensive listing of available information. It is well produced and a worthy addition to the publications list of the Postal History Society of New Zealand. Recommended.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **ALTERNATIVE POSTAL OPERATORS IN NEW ZEALAND - Part One**

Author: John Hill, 13 Leeds Place, Napier, New Zealand. E-mail john-hill@clear.net.nz. Published by Author. Price \$25 + P&P \$14.70 to UK.

The Editor of *The Kiwi* has been sent a copy of the chapter on National Mail from this publication. His knowledge of the total text is therefore limited but the section viewed provides much information of interest. It covers the relationship of National Mail with New Zealand Post and the various agreements reached as well as the labels issued by the carrier.

I understand that Part 1, this volume, covers National Mail, KiwiMail and Fastway Post, Part 2 is in preparation and covers NZDX and Pete's Post and a third volume is scheduled to be published in 2004.

For any reader interested in the details of the private postal carriers, I would suggest that they contact John Hill for further information.

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#### **THE "CHALON" ISSUES OF NEW ZEALAND**

**JOHN WOOLFE**

Ken Lynch has kindly provided the Society Library with a copy of the latest edition of this work, this being the fourth edition, published in 2003.

This edition runs to 65 copies, 15 more than the last print run. It is significantly expanded to 164 pages from 118 in the previous edition. There are new sections on John Davies and William Humphries and an extra colour plate of the 2d Davies printings. Pelure papers now have 4 pages and there is a two page section on the Introduction of the Perforating machine to New Zealand. Some of the price indications show significant changes, for example, the value of the Richardson 1/- has doubled. I worry how accurate a non-dealers view on valuation can be and some look significantly out to me.

The major expanded area is the section containing references to items of interest concerning Chalons in the major journals such as *New Zealand Stamp Collector*, *The Kiwi*, *Captain Coqk* etc. and this is now building into a major source of information. Personally, I would have preferred that one journal was indexed completely rather than runs of several journals. To be fair, however, those consulted are clearly listed and it may be that whole runs are not available in New Zealand.

Despite some idiosyncracies, this is building into a very source of information and those that collect these stamps are missing something if they do not have access to the volume. The book is available directly from KJ Lynch in Auckland and HH Sales had a few copies available in the UK.

## **RESPONSES TO PREVIOUS ARTICLES:**

### **ILLUSTRATED ENVELOPES**

**JOHN WATTS**

In response to the question raised in Beverley Kings' recent article in *The Kiwi* (1) and the interesting follow up from Allan Berry (2), a further example is illustrated in Figure 1. It differs in some respects from the two examples shown in the original article.

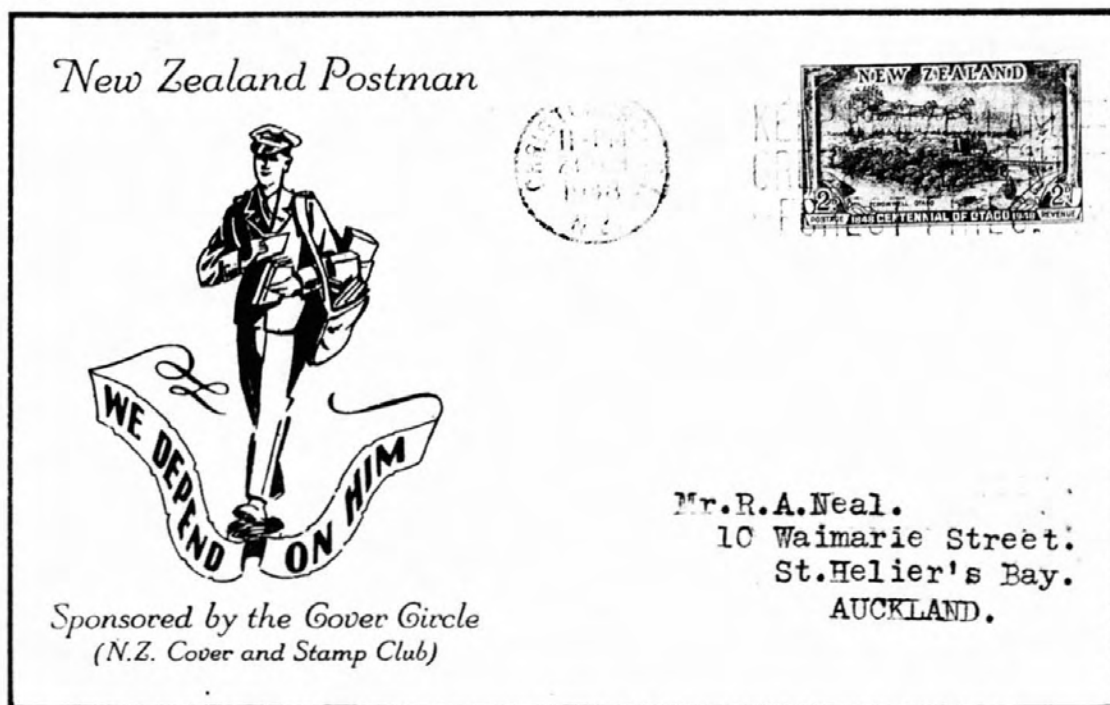


Figure 1

It was sponsored by the Cover Circle of the NZ Cover and Stamp Club which was based in Christchurch. One of the leading lights of the Club was Charles Hitchins.

The date stamp on this cover is 24. 3. 1948 which pre-dates the two covers illustrated in the original article and I believe that this was probably the original design and that others were modified to suit different requirements.

References:

1. King B "Illustrated Envelopes". *The Kiwi* (2003). Vol. 52 No. 4. P. 91.
2. Berry AP "Illustrated Envelopes". *The Kiwi* (2003). Vol. 52. No. 5. P.103.

### **ILLUSTRATED ENVELOPES**

**ERNIE LEPPARD**

Beverley Kings article on illustrated envelopes (1) prompted me to look out the cover shown in Figure 1. The cachet says "Today is the ninety-eighth anniversary of the arrival of the First of the First Four ships at Lyttelton. The Charlotte Jane dropped anchor at 10 a.m. on December 16th, 1850". You may well think that it a little unusual to celebrate the 98th anniversary of an event and therein lies the interest.

The centenary of the landing of the first British settlers in Canterbury, the fertile plains in the South of the South Island in New Zealand, was approaching in 1950. The actual landing had been at Port Victoria, later renamed Port Lyttelton, the Port for the city of Christchurch. In 1946, the principal citizens of Christchurch approached the Post Office with a view to the issuing of a

commemorative stamp issue to celebrate the forthcoming centenary. The Post Office refused. The insult was heightened when they heard that it had been agreed that a special issue would be produced to celebrate the centenary of the Province of Otago, further south, and the town of Dunedin. One source of this rivalry arose because the Province of Canterbury and Christchurch had been settled by High Church of England settlers whilst the Province of Otago and Dunedin had been settled by low church Presbyterians.



Figure 1

The Otago Centennial set was duly issued on February 23rd, 1948 and, to make the point, the cover illustrated on December 16th, 1948.

History, of course, records that the Post Office repented and the Canterbury Centennial set was issued on November 20th, 1950.

#### Reference

1. King B "Illustrated Envelopes". *The Kiwi* (2003). Vol. 52 No. 4. P. 91.

### THE EXPRESS DELIVERY SERVICE

#### ROBIN STARTUP

With reference to the article concerning The Express Delivery Service in the last issue of *The Kiwi* (1), I have a few observations.

The contemporary Post Office Guides contained lists of those offices with telegram delivery services. This shows that for Island Bay, delivery would have been by messenger from Wellington South post office. No doubt, the choice as to whether the letter was carried by telegraph messenger or by letter carrier would depend on the time of day at which the Expressed letter was received at the delivery office.

The Featherston Military Camp S-class datestamp cancel on the envelope shows a mail closing time of 3.15PM. The letter would have been with the mailbags taken to Featherston railway station, about two miles south, in time to catch the next train to travel over the Rimutaka ranges to Upper Hutt and Wellington, probably arriving at Wellington between 5 and 6 PM. At that time of day, all deliveries would have ceased but early the following morning, the letter would have been

looked at. At that time, a supervisor would have endorsed the cover 'Beyond Express Delivery Limits' and transferred the item to the Letter Carriers Branch for delivery along with the standard mail.

Reference:

1. Dove AF 'The Express Delivery Service'. *The Kiwi* (2003). Vol. 52. No. 5. Pp. 112-114.

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## **ANSWER TO A QUESTION ABOUT A WORLD WAR I COVER**

**ROBIN STARTUP**

The text on the cover illustrated in Ken Bracey's article in the last issue of *The Kiwi* (1) is the result of a badly written 'GPO'. Letters to the New Zealand Expeditionary Force were concentrated on Wellington where I presume that they were separated according to whether the addressee soldier was in England, with the British Expeditionary Force in France, or in Egypt - Palestine. I am not sure whether the NZEF sorters had an alphabetical card index of soldiers to check against but, on this occasion, the cover certainly reached the correct theatre.

Reference:

1. Bracey K 'A Question about a World War I Cover'. *The Kiwi* (2003). Vol. 52. No. 5. P. 115.

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## **FURTHER THOUGHTS ON NEW ZEALAND LOCAL POSTS**

**JOHN WATTS**

Following Derek Diamonds article on 'Postal Deregulation' (1), there have been a number of follow up articles in *The Kiwi*.

At present, it is difficult to gauge the amount of collecting interest in what could generally be called 'Local Posts'. It would appear that Derek was directing his comments primarily at New Zealand issues whereas such issues are available throughout the world and have been for a long time.

Because those of us in the New Zealand Society of Great Britain have our interests firmly directed to matters that pertain to the 'Land of the Long White Cloud', I thought that a review of some of the basic information might be helpful and of interest especially to those not resident in New Zealand.

First, New Zealand Postal Deregulation was brought about by the 'Postal Services Act 1988' which became effective on April 1st, 1998.

The Act authorised the acceptance, carriage and distribution of mail within New Zealand by any organisation or individual/s registered with the Ministry of Commerce. New Zealand Post Ltd., as the sole existing postal enterprise was automatically registered within New Zealand. The statutory monopoly on the carriage of letters, a monopoly that had existed since the creation of the New Zealand Postal Service in the 19th Century was removed. Acceptance, carriage and delivery of parcels, packages and documents within New Zealand had already been open to unregulated competition for many years.

Section 39 of the Act made it an operational requirement for all items of mail handled by each operator to be distinctly marked as soon as possible after acceptance with the operators' identifiable marking or postal label used by the operator. The use of the words 'New Zealand' is only allowed if it is part of the normal name of the operator as registered. New Zealand Post is allowed to be used on mail.

The affixing of a stamp/label or other evidence of operators identity would be an indication that the article has been accepted by the operator for conveyance by post.

Section 2 of the Act defined 'Postage Stamp' as an adhesive label or a mark or design that is affixed to or impressed or printed on stationery to indicate payment of the fee chargeable for the

carriage of a postal article. The stamp is to be an indication that the operator's fee for the carriage and delivery of that article has been paid.

Although a number of the operator's 'stamps' carry a value, this requirement has not been universally followed.

By August, 1999, there were 22 registered postal operators including New Zealand Post. The following list shows the situation as at June 20th, 2003 as reported by the Ministry of Economic Development. It lists 32 operators who were active at the time as well as those who are no longer listed.

| REGISTER OF POSTAL OPERATORS                                                                |                   |              |            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------|------------|
| Operator                                                                                    | Registration Date | Last Amended | Removed    |
| Admail Limited                                                                              | 1999-01-11        |              |            |
| Airwaves Corporation Limited                                                                | 1999-03-03        |              |            |
| Bell, Peter (t/a Pete's Post)                                                               | 1987-07-30        |              | 1999-03-31 |
| CBD Mail Management Limited                                                                 | 2000-03-07        |              |            |
| Chatham Islands Postal Service Limited                                                      | 2000-02-15        | 2001-05-07   |            |
| Clark, Harold Alan (t/a Pamfleet Post)                                                      | 2001-08-02        |              |            |
| Dagelet, John                                                                               | 1998-07-30        |              | 1999-10-19 |
| DE & KD Tuson Ltd. (t/a QikPost Waihi)                                                      | 1999-08-09        |              | 2002-07-11 |
| Dunstan Mail                                                                                | 1998-12-09        | 2002-06-19   |            |
| Fastway Post New Zealand Limited                                                            | 1998-06-03        | 2001-05-07   |            |
| French, Warren (t/a Smart Post)                                                             | 2000-05-19        |              | 2000-11-09 |
| Go Postal Ltd                                                                               | 1999-08-12        | 1999-09-15   |            |
| Gray, Trudi Ann (t/a Tui Deliveries)                                                        | 1999-08-25        | 2002-10-14   |            |
| Hennesy, Robert John                                                                        | 1999-11-01        |              | 2000-11-09 |
| Hometown Post                                                                               | 2002-04-15        |              |            |
| Huntley, Brad Alan (t/a G Post)                                                             | 2001-04-20        |              |            |
| Jones, Daimen (t/a Superior Post)                                                           | 1999-03-16        | 1999-05-20   | 2002-06-25 |
| KiwiMail Group Limited                                                                      | 2000-02-23        | 2001-09-28   |            |
| Local Post Kaikoura                                                                         | 1998-06-25        |              |            |
| Luijk, Joanne Lynette (t/a Zero Post)                                                       | 2000-06-13        | 1999-05-17   |            |
| Mailboxes Limited                                                                           | 1998-01-27        |              |            |
| Masterpost Limited                                                                          | 1998-11-09        | 2002-10-14   |            |
| Mount Post                                                                                  | 1998-10-02        |              | 1998-11-24 |
| National Mail New Zealand Limited                                                           | 1998-11-18        | 2000-11-13   | 2001-02-12 |
| National Mail New Zealand Limited                                                           | 2001-05-03        |              | 2002-07-08 |
| New Zealand Document Exchange Ltd. (t/a DX Mail)                                            | 1998-04-29        | 2002-06-17   |            |
| New Zealand Post Limited (deemed to be registered by s. 63 of the Postal Services Act 1998) | 1998-04-01        | 2003-02-26   |            |
| Nye, Kim Barbara (t/a Destination Post Services)                                            | 1999-04-12        | 2002-06-28   |            |

|                                                              |            |            |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| PMP Distribution Ltd                                         | 2000-11-13 | 2003-06-13 |            |
| Pete's Post Limited                                          | 1999-03-31 | 2002-06-12 |            |
| Pitney Bowes NZ Ltd                                          | 2000-11-15 |            |            |
| Posties Choice New Zealand Limited                           | 1998-07-17 | 2001-08-31 | 2002-12-20 |
| Presort Limited                                              | 1998-07-20 | 1998-10-13 | 1999-05-21 |
| Quantum Post                                                 | 1998-09-30 | 1999-02-22 |            |
| Rural Couriers Society Limited (Coural)                      | 1998-10-09 | 2002-07-11 |            |
| Selectpost New Zealand Limited                               | 1998-05-05 | 1999-03-05 |            |
| Smart Post                                                   | 1998-09-01 | 1998-09-02 | 2000-05-19 |
| Smith, Graham Neville                                        | 2000-01-21 | 2002-06-17 |            |
| Stamps at Work Limited                                       | 2002-12-20 |            |            |
| Standard Post Canterbury Ltd                                 | 1999-08-04 | 2002-07-12 |            |
| Sutherland, Larry Douglas and Frances Jean (t/a Todays Post) | 1999-07-29 |            | 2000-11-16 |
| Universal Mail New Zealand Ltd                               | 2001-08-31 |            | 2001-10-24 |
| Whitten, Bendall and Megan Whitten (t/a Palmy Post)          | 1999-03-17 |            |            |
| Wind, Luwe (t/a EKO)                                         | 1999-02-10 |            |            |
| Zero Post                                                    | 1998-12-21 | 1999-05-17 | 2000-06-13 |

One of the operators that have been removed is Universal Mail New Zealand Ltd. Although not now registered, the company is still active as a carrier of mail outside New Zealand. They are a customer of the 'Spring Consortium' (previously TNT (Thomas Nationwide Transport)) an Australian based mail handling operator carrying mail by air.

The service is aimed at the New Zealand tourist who wish to mail postcards and letters overseas, as such their products are generally available country wide at tourist centres.

The company have their own mail boxes located at populist tourist areas which are cleared 5 days a week by NZ Couriers and delivered to Universal Mail who sort the collection into countries. It is then collected by Spring Consortium for air transport to the different countries where arrangements have been negotiated for handling this mail by Spring.

New Zealand Post Ltd. will not accept mail with this operators' stamps (although some examples are reported to have slipped through their system). It is questionable if this operators system qualifies as 'Local Post' although it is certainly an 'alternative New Zealand mail handling system'.

I have not addressed the point raised by Derek Diamond regarding a catalogue dealing with material issued by the local operators. Normally a catalogue is a list of material with prices and indicates the item sale value. I do not believe that these values have yet been set. My own recommendation would be that a Study Circle is formed by those interested, information collated and published from time to time. Material could be exchanged/sold with the market place eventually establishing price levels that would not include the commercial costs that are incurred by dealers.

Due to the fact that the material is mainly for use in New Zealand, the majority of information would be sourced in New Zealand. I feel sure that the Editor of *The Kiwi* would be prepared to publish information on the subject, including illustrations, if made available to him.

It is now up to collectors of this material to spread the word.

Reference:

1. Diamond D "Postal Deregulation". *The Kiwi* (20030. Vol. 52. No. 3. P. 59.

## PRISONER OF WAR CAMP COVER

JOHN WATTS

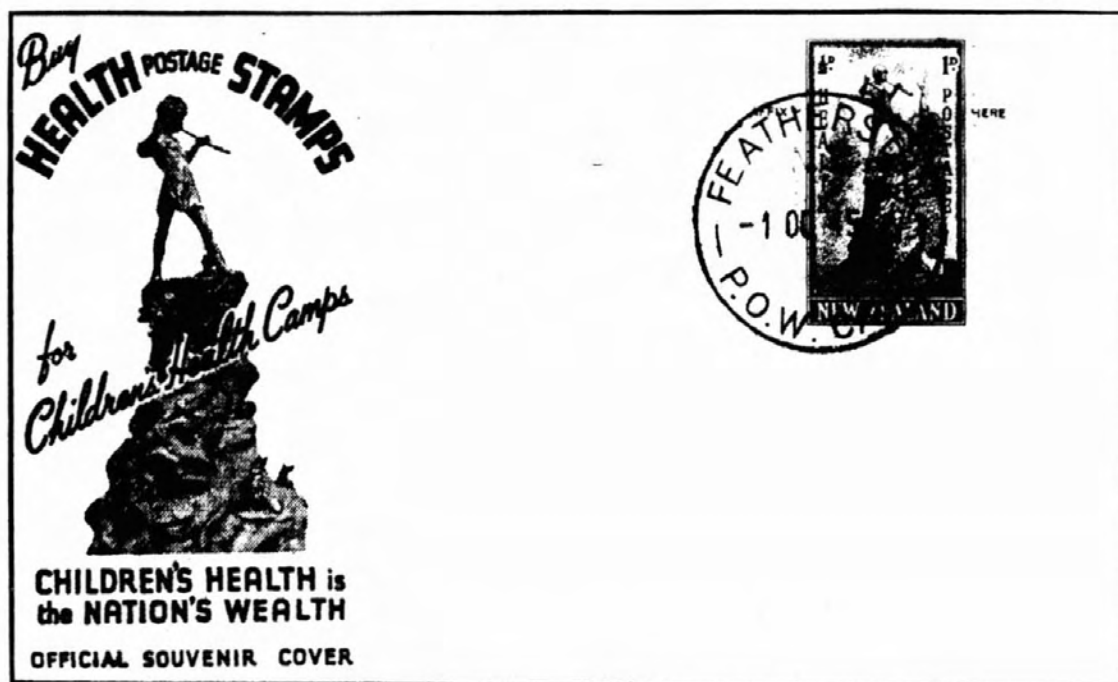


Figure 1

Following on from Startup's note on Prisoner of War Camps in a recent *Kiwi* (1), a cover bearing the Featherston P.O.W. Camp postmark is illustrated in Figure 1. It is dated 1 OCT 45 which was the first day of issue of the 1945 'Peter Pan' Health Stamp issue. This is the only example that I have seen and I concur with Startup that few items of mail were processed through this office. The envelope is not addressed so was, presumably, cancelled 'per favore' for one of the guards or somebody else with access to the camp but not one of the Japanese POWs held there. The Post Office was open between 15 March 1944 and 31 May 1946 so it would have been possible to have two years of the annual Health Stamps issues cancelled on the first day of issue.

I would be interested to know, through the Editor, if any reader has an example of the 1946 issue cancelled with this mark.

Reference:

1. Startup RM 'Prisoner of War Camps' *The Kiwi* (2003). Vol. 52 No. 4. P. 83.

## ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS:

### THE SECOND PICTORIALS: PROBLEMS WITH THE FOURPENCE PLATES

ROBERT G. CLARK

#### Introduction:

The fourpence plates of the 1935 Pictorials are well known as a difficult area. There are two reasons for this:

- At least two of the centre plates are unnumbered.
- The frame plate numbers 2A and 2B appear at the right of the bottom margin while the centre plate number (when present) appears at the left. A complete strip of 10 is, therefore, required to tie them together as shown in Figure 1.

There are no problems with the original May 1935 issue on single watermark paper. The printer was De La Rue and the sheets had 80 impressions in 8 rows of 10 stamps. The frame plate number

is 1 and appears on the left of the bottom selvedge under the second stamp while the centre plate is unnumbered. Vertical lines appear respectively above or below the first stamp in both the top and bottom selvedge (1). These lines are in the colour of the centre plate and were presumably used during printing to help align the centre and frame plates.



Figure 1: Centre plate number at left, frame plate number at right

#### **Multiple watermark on fine paper:**

In August, 1936, the stamp was issued on multiple watermarked paper, perforated 14 x 13½. According to Volume I of *The Handbook* (2), the plates were unchanged. We now have the first problem: plate blocks do not have a vertical line in the selvedge below the first stamp. So what happened to it? If we assume that a new centre plate was not produced, the engraved line must have been removed from the centre plate in some way. This line re-appears in later printings and so the removal was not permanent. Any suggestions as to how this may have been done would be very welcome.

In 1938, stamps were issued which had been printed from two new frame plates (2A and 2B) and from a new centre plate (2). The frame plate number is on the right under the 9<sup>th</sup> stamp while the centre plate number is on the left under the 2<sup>nd</sup> stamp. Both frame plates are known in combination with centre plate 2 and with an unnumbered centre plate. It is here that the account differs.

According to Volumes I and II of *The Handbook* (2, 3), the centre plate is the original unnumbered plate that had been used in combination with frame plate 1. However, Volume VI of *The Handbook* (4) states that a second unnumbered centre plate was issued at the time and that the original centre plate was never used in combination with frame plates 2A or 2B.

Stamps printed from frame plate 1 can readily be distinguished from those printed from frame plates 2A and 2B. In plate 1, the central line in the lowest leaf in the design at the right is strong whereas in plates 2A and 2B, it is weak indicating that some damage occurred in the transfer roller after plate 1 was laid down. This is shown in figure 2.



Figure 2: Frame plates 1 and 2A/2B

According to Volume II of the Handbook (3), the impression at R3/8 of the original centre plate was re-entered leading to a trebling of the right hand side of the mountain. The stamps in my block of this re-entry all have weak central lines in the lower leaf at the right indicating that they are from frame plate 2A or 2B. Hence, the original plate does exist in combination with the new frame plates.

Furthermore, the vertical line that occurred in the original issue on single watermarked paper is present in plate blocks of 2A and 2B in combination with an unnumbered centre plate (1) suggesting that it is the original unnumbered centre plate. My copy shows an incomplete vertical line which is in keeping with the notion that some measure has taken place (e.g. filling in the engraved line) that was now becoming undone.

A further printing of stamps from the original unnumbered centre plate and frame plate 1 was made in 1945. In these plate blocks, the vertical line in the selvedge below the first stamp is present as in the original issue.

In 1941, stamps were issued from centre plate 3. It was used for the Blitz perforations and for the initial printing on coarse paper perforated 14 x 14½. Its use is straightforward and will not trouble us further.

#### **Multiple watermark on coarse paper:**

In 1943, stamps were issued perforated 14 x 14½ on coarse paper from new centre plate(s) and it is here that things become complicated. According to Volume II of the Handbook (3), a double plate was produced with one pane being unnumbered and the other numbered 4 (the 4 occurs under the first stamp in the bottom selvedge). According to Volume VI of the Handbook (4), no new plate was issued. You will remember that this Volume suggested that stamps from a new centre plate had been issued in 1938. The author argues that this plate now had the number 4 added to it and lists the following flaws as occurring on stamps on fine paper perforated 14 x 13½ with an unnumbered centre plate and on stamps on coarse paper perforated 14 x 14½ with plate number 4:

- Row 7 Stamp 6: Coloured dot in sea at the edge of the shading of the water halfway between the top of the launch cabin and the cliff's edge in the background.
- Row 7 Stamp 8: Several large flaws in colour on the face of the mountain.
- Row 8 Stamp 1: Vertical flaw in colour on the face of the mountain.
- Row 8 Stamp 5: Flaw in colour in the shape of a reversed 'L' on the slope of the mountain above the trees above the 'N' of 'Zealand'.

They further state that Row 8/3 was re-entered before the later printings. The most prominent flaw is the *reverse* 'L' in position R 8/5 and shown in Figure 3.



Figure 3: Reverse 'L' shaped flaw

All the examples that I have seen with the flaws on an unnumbered centre plate are on coarse paper and perforated 14 x 14½. Collins (1) has the following blocks of 20 stamps on coarse paper in his collection:

- an unnumbered centre plate without the flaw
- an unnumbered centre plate with the flaw
- a centre plate numbered 4 without the flaw
- a centre plate numbered 4 with the flaw

I recently acquired two blocks from the Society packet that, along with a previous purchase from the Society auction, confirms the last three states. My plate block with an unnumbered centre plate and one block from centre plate 4 both show *all* the above flaws and R 8/3 is noticeably darker. This agrees with Volume VI. There therefore seems little doubt that there was an unnumbered centre plate that was later numbered 4.

My second plate block of 20 with centre plate 4 has *none* of the above characteristics. That suggests that two different plates were numbered 4. The presence of blocks from an unnumbered centre plate that does not have the reversed L flaw further suggests that *both* plates 4 were initially unnumbered!

It can be argued that it is extremely unlikely that De La Rue would give two separate plates the same number. However, Volume II of the Handbook states that a double centre plate was produced at this time. I suggest that the two panes of this plate were initially unnumbered and subsequently *both* had the number 4 added. There is another case in this issue where the two panes of a double plate had the same number (2d plate 5).

#### **Conclusions:**

1. The original unnumbered centre plate occurs in combination with frame plates 1, 2A and 2B on fine paper perforated 14 x 13½.
2. A double centre plate was produced in 1943 in which the two panes were unnumbered. They occur in combination with frame plates 2A and 2B on coarse paper perforated 14 x 14½.
3. Subsequently, *both* unnumbered panes in the double centre plate had the number 4 added.

I would be interested to hear from anyone with either supporting evidence or with evidence to the contrary. Volume VI states that stamps from a second unnumbered centre plate were issued in 1938 and that the plate had the four flaws listed above. I believe that is incorrect, but would like to hear if anyone has a block with an unnumbered centre plate on fine paper perforated 14 x 13½ and which has these flaws.

I would like to acknowledge information and comments from Keith Collins. My *New Zealand Stamp Images* website [www.nzstamps.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.nzstamps.fsnet.co.uk) has had several earlier versions of this article. Until recently, it had far more questions than answers.

#### **References:**

1. Collins K. Private communication (2003)
  2. Ed. Collins RJG, Fathers HTM "*The Postage Stamps of New Zealand (Volume I)*" Pub. Philatelic Society of New Zealand Inc., Wellington (1938).
  3. Ed. Collins RJG, Watts CW "*The Postage Stamps of New Zealand (Volume II)*" Pub. The Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand Inc., Wellington (1950).
  4. Ed. Naish DEG, McNaught KJ "*The Postage Stamps of New Zealand (Volume VI)*" Pub. Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand Inc., Wellington (1977).
-

## GREEK ARMY INVOLVEMENT WITH THE N.Z. CORPS AT THE BREAKTHROUGH AT THE TEBAGA GAP.

E.W.LEPPARD AND KOSMAS ZOGRAFOS

In late 1942, after Rommel had lost the Battle of El Alamein, he retreated into Tunisia and took possession of the Mareth Line, a formidable defensive line between Tunisia and Libya. The Allied 8th Army undertook a frontal assault on the fortifications and, at the same time, the New Zealand Division, commanded by Lieutenant - General Freyberg, swung to the south with the intent of falling on the rear of the Axis forces through the Tebaga Gap. The initial night attack breached the Italian positions but the armour failed to take full advantage. Montgomery became so frustrated by the lack of progress that he replaced Freyberg with Lieutenant - General Horrocks. A further fierce assault resulted in the taking of the Tebaga Gap shortly thereafter.

Interestingly, it was during this engagement that the inspirational conduct of Lieutenant Moana-nui-a-kiwa Ngarimu resulted in the posthumous award of the Victoria Cross, the only occasion that a Maori serving with New Zealand Forces has been awarded the highest gallantry medal.

It is recorded that a Greek Army Unit was included in the N.Z. Corps which led the attack but, until I came by the cover illustrated in Figure 1, I had seen no definite proof of this Greek involvement.

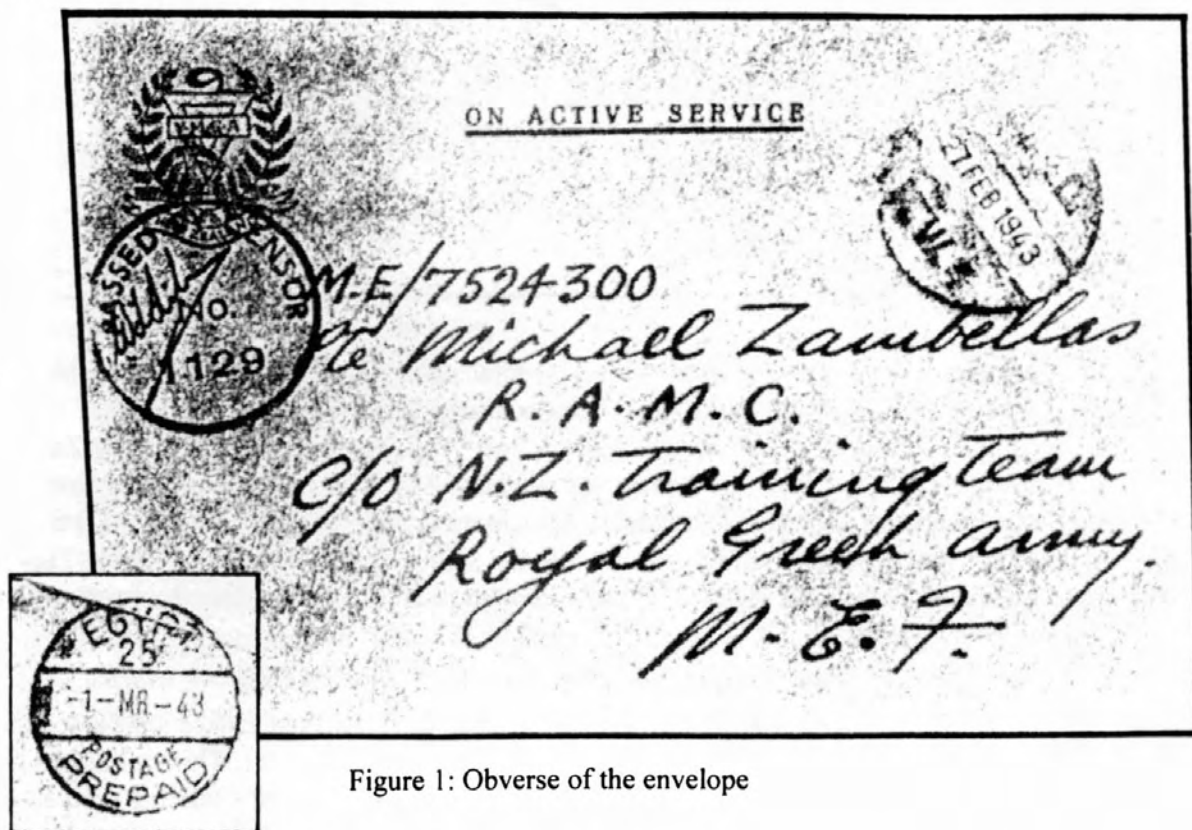


Figure 1: Obverse of the envelope

Figure 2:  
Cancellation on Reverse

The cover carries a strike of K.W.4, dated 27 Feb 1943. At this time, the Post Office was located in Tripoli. By 28 March, 1943, K.W.4 had moved to Gabes after the breakthrough. Mail would have been routed through Egypt "25", as proved by the postmark on the reverse of the envelope (Figure 2) which was located at the No. 1 Convalescent Depot, N.Z., which had moved from Egypt to Tripoli.

# NORTH OTAGO CENTENNIAL MAIL

ANN CARTER

I recently acquired two covers parts of which are illustrated in Figure 1 and Figure 2.

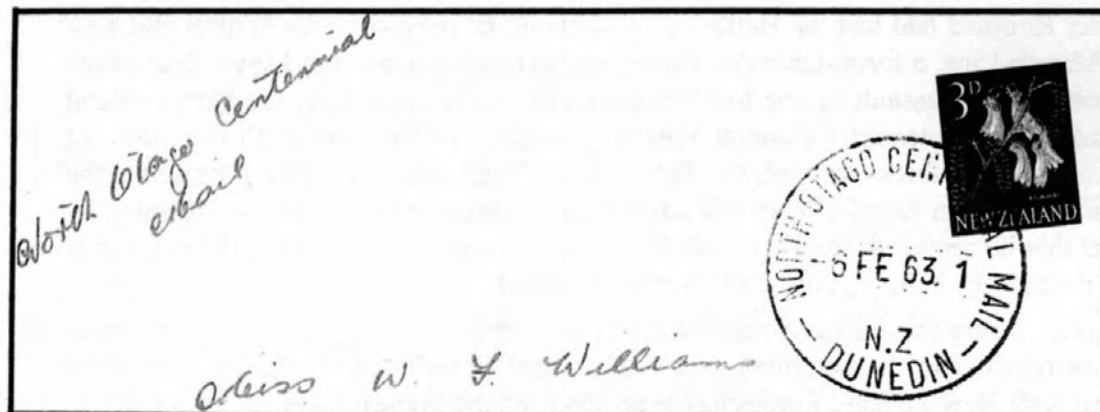


Figure 1



Arrival  
datestamp

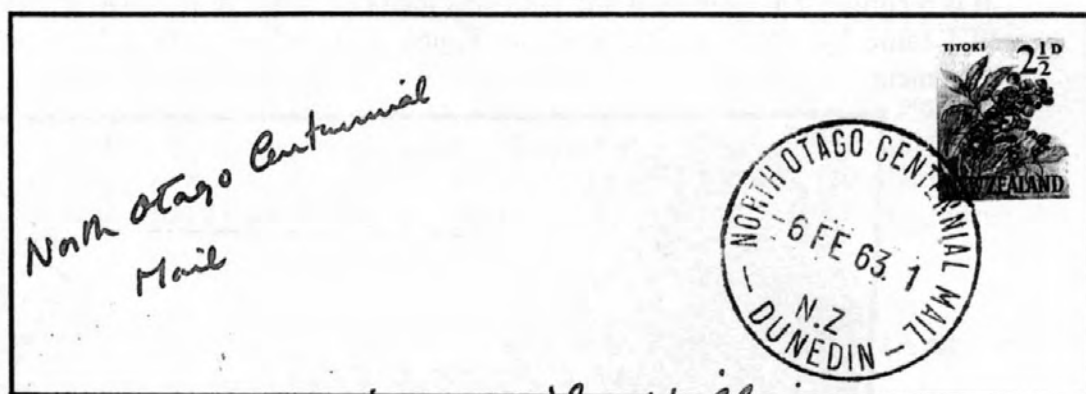


Figure 2

Both envelopes have been cancelled with a special datestamp produced to commemorate the Centennial of North Otago dated 6 FE 63. This datestamp is listed in both "Pictorial and Special Hand Datestamps of New Zealand" and Volume VI of "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand" but no details are given except that the former states that 8,418 items were cancelled, including six registered. The reverse of each shows an identical Oamaru arrival datestamp dated 9 FE 63. My first thought that the 6 had been inserted incorrectly into the stamp, that is, a 6 upside down. This seemed unusual so I checked with Allan Berry. He was able to explain the discrepancy by quoting from The New Zealand Postal Historian, Vol.4 No. 9 (March, 1963). P.159:

## North Otago Centennial Mail. PONY EXPRESS

"As part of the North Otago Centennial celebrations, the Post Office sent a special mail on horseback from Dunedin to Oamaru (a distance of 115km.). This re-enactment of the pony express commenced on February 6th when bearded Oamaru restaurant proprietor, Mr. Ashley Henderson, left Dunedin by horse with a mail of 8000 souvenir covers arriving at Oamaru three days later. Ashley Henderson was playing the part of David Hutchinson. It was Hutchinson who brought the first supply of mail from Dunedin on February 1st 1857."

So the date was correct after all.

At this date, the first class postal rate was 3d and second, 2½d, this explains the different value stamps on the covers. I am not sure what the correct rate was but it seems that for mail carried on horseback, it was not necessary to pay the extra!

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