



THE KIWI



THE JOURNAL OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

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WHOLE NUMBER 307

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY WILL BE HELD ON OCTOBER 9TH AND 10TH, 2004
AT THE CARLTON HOTEL, EDINBURGH**

THIS IS OUR ANNUAL MEETING OUTSIDE LONDON

THE FULL PROGRAMME IS ON PAGE 95 OF THIS ISSUE OF *THE KIWI*

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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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ENCLOSURE

With this copy of *The Kiwi*, there should be enclosed an order form for *New Zealand and Dependencies - A Philatelic Bibliography*. Should it be missing, please contact the Hon. Editor.

ERRATUM

The last copy of *The Kiwi* contained the first notification of the Society Annual Auction. Unfortunately, the Fax number given therein is incorrect. The correct number is **0207 5407947**.

EDITORIAL NOTE

It is a great pleasure to see the number of new members recorded in this and the last issue of *The Kiwi* thanks to Warwick Patersons kind distribution of information with the annual catalogue supplement. As Editor, I would like to remind all members that the Journal can only be as good as the contributions received. This is very much your magazine: use it. It provides an effective forum to solve problems but only if you put your pen to paper and let me have material for publication.

Andrew Dove

SOCIETY NEWS:

MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS:

We welcome:

D.N. Anderson, Washington, USA
J.F. Bailey, Jnr., Texas, USA
P.I. Brown, St. Andrews
D.M. Cohen, Surrey
E.J. Davies, Cheshire
A.D. Funnell, Cambridge
W. Handelman, Connecticut, USA
B. Hebditch, Chelmsford
M. Kirwan, Edinburgh
P. Lay, Devon
W.A. Tagg, Derbyshire
G.B. Wain, Christchurch, New Zealand
R.G.G. White, Devon

NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY



‘EDINburgh 2004’

Our biennial weekend is almost upon us and so the final details are given below. For those arriving by early evening of Friday 8th October, there is an opportunity to meet up at an informal get-together for a drink in the first floor bar of our venue, the Carlton Hotel, at 7pm.

From 8.30am on Saturday, various tourist information leaflets will be available for the sightseers in the party, before the main meeting starts, in The Cromarty Room, where all our meetings on both days will be held.

SATURDAY 9TH OCTOBER

09.00 - 10.30	The Scottish Group Entertains
10.30 - 11.00	Coffee/Tea Break (opportunity to purchase raffle tickets)
11.00 - 12.30	‘Scottish Links with New Zealand and Edinburgh’s links with Dunedin’
12.30 - 14.00	Break for lunch (can be purchased in hotel or nearby hostelry)
14.00 - 15.30	3 Displays, including Stan Kundin’s (USA) award winning QEII
15.30 - 16.00	Coffee/Tea Break (further opportunity to buy raffle tickets)
16.00 - 17.30	‘New Discoveries and Unusual Items’

Ian Perry will have a dealers table throughout the day and on Sunday morning, so, no doubt, you will bring along your ‘wants’ lists.

19.00 - 19.30	Drinks Reception in the Sutherland Room
19.30 onwards	‘Taste of Scotland’ Dinner in The Sutherland Room (Dress for men - kilt or lounge suit) Raffle will be drawn towards the end of the evening

SUNDAY 10TH OCTOBER

09.00 - 10.30	The Scottish Group Entertains Again
10.30 - 11.00	Coffee/Tea Break and Quiz results
11.00 - 12.30	‘From North to South’
12.30 - 13.30	Liqueur & Whisky Tasting, courtesy of The Scottish Liqueur Centre (<u>All</u> those coming for the weekend are invited to attend the Tasting)

Should anyone have any queries about the weekend, please contact the deputy co-ordinator, John Studholme, on 01875 852171.

NEXT MEETING OF THE NORTHERN REGIONAL GROUP

The next meeting of the Northern Regional Group will be held at St. Luke's Church, Orrell on September 18th, 2004 starting at 13.30.

It will be a members meeting and the theme will be the '70's - either 1870's or 1970's. This is a huge subject with many variations, use your imagination and bring along items to show.

NEXT MEETING OF THE MIDLAND REGIONAL GROUP

The next meeting of the Midland Regional Group will be at the Carr's Lane Meeting Rooms, Birmingham, on September 18th, 2004 starting at 14.00.

It is a members meeting on the subject of the letter 'P'. Can everybody bring along up to 18 sheets on any subject related to 'P'.

NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOCIETY HELD IN LONDON ON JULY 31st, 2004

Derek Diamond opened the meeting with 19 members present. He explained that the meeting would be concerned with mechanisation in the Post Office in New Zealand. In the early part of the 20th Century, New Zealand led the world in inventing and implementing ways in which machines could expedite the work of the Post Office. He posed the question: Why should a small country be so innovative? Although the question is hard to answer, he hoped that the effects would be fully illustrated during the afternoon.

During the afternoon, displays were given by **ALAN MCKELLAR, ANDREW DOVE, BERNARD ATKINSON, LEWIS GILES, DEREK DIAMOND and ERNIE LEPPARD**. A number of these displays covered the same areas and, therefore, rather than reporting each individual showing, this meeting report provides a summary of the information imparted.

The afternoon was led by Alan McKellar who started by showing some sheets kindly contributed by Robin Startup. These sheets showed examples of the early Barr-Fyke machine cancels which almost began the story. However, the first attempt at using a machine to apply a cancellation was made in Christchurch in 1865. A machine designed by the Christchurch Postmaster, Mr. F.E. Wright, employed a date-stamp to impress incoming mail with a cancellation on the reverse of the envelope. Because of the varying lengths of the envelopes, they were run through sideways meaning that the cancel is always found sideways.

About 33 years later, there was concern that the obliterations used by the Post Office were damaging stamps for collectors. Accordingly, enquiries about alternatives were made in America in 1898 by the New Zealand Resident in San Francisco. He recommended the 'Dolphin' or Barr-Fyke machine. As the owners of the 'Dolphin' machine were unwilling to sell units, a 'Barr-Fyke' machine was purchased and put into service.

The machine was rented for a year with the proviso that it could be purchased if the trial proved successful. Initial usage was in Wellington. The first machine cancel included a circular datestamp with the name of the city and date and time of cancellation and 16 vertical lines cancelling the stamp. In late August, 1899, a nut accidentally fell into the machine damaging the die and necessitating a replacement from America which was put to use in January 1900. Examples from the damaged machine show some of the vertical bars broken. A similar accident resulted in some of the circular datestamp being omitted. In October 1899, the vertical lines were replaced by a locally produced die showing an ensign displaying the flag of New Zealand and NZ and Stars. The machine proved a great success and was purchased in May, 1900.

With a skilled operator, the machine could cancel about 40,000 articles an hour. However, the increasing quantity of mail following the introduction of the penny post meant that this was insufficient and the search for a replacement began. Enquiries were made in America but the Chief

Clerk of the Post office, Mr. D. Robertson, had been developing a machine which was as efficient as the 'Barr-Fyke' and cheap - each machine was costed at £25. Initially, the Railway Department was commissioned to produce the machine but was unable to undertake the work and a Wellington Engineer, Mr. Denton, made the machine with the cancelling dies coming from America.

The new Robertson machine canceller came into use in June, 1902 and worked in tandem with the 'Barr-Fyke' machine. The cancellation has the circular town datestamp with seven horizontal lines containing the letters 'N.Z.'. The first Robertson machine was put into use in Wellington and within 6 months further machines were in place in Auckland, Christchurch and Dunedin.

The next development arose from a further suggestion from Mr. Robertson and resulted in the 'Barr-Fyke' machine canceller being fitted with a new die advertising 'N.Z. Penny Postage'. This was introduced in 1904 in Wellington. The opportunity for advertising through Postal Slogans was not taken again for 9 years when the opening of the Auckland Exhibition was commemorated.

Wavy line replaced the straight line cancellations in the 'Barr-Fyke' machine following an overhaul in 1904.

The cancelling dies were replaced as soon as they became worn. The replacements were in a number of different formats and, from 1905, many of the circular datestamps were replaced by rectangular datestamps.

In 1907, the pattern of cancellation changed when continuous cancellers were introduced. Before this, it was important that postal articles were fed in carefully to ensure that the stamp was cancelled. The introduction of the new machines provided a larger coverage and made loading accuracy less important. The resulting cancellations had the datestamp in the middle of two sets of horizontal lines.

The powering of the machines varied. The first 'Barr-Fyke' machine was powered by electricity and the absence of a supply in other centres slowed its introduction in other areas. Some examples were treadle operated and in Christchurch, it was suggested that gas be used.

Since the early days, a variety of machines have been used: some designed and produced locally such as the Saville and Burns machines. Others have been imported such as those from the Universal Stamping Machine Company, in 1925, and those from the Krag Machinfabrik in Norway. Each has a characteristic appearance and was fully illustrated during the afternoon.

The other aspect of mechanisation discussed was the use of meters. Like the mechanical cancellers, meter cancellations were introduced during the first decade of the 20th century. In the first instance, the requirement was to provide a means whereby mail could be posted when the post office was closed and no stamps were available. The development of efficient stamp slot machines made this requirement obsolete but it soon became apparent that it was a great convenience to businesses to be able to frank mail without purchasing stamps and the machines developed to allow this. The early office machines required a coin to be inserted and mail was cancelled until the credit was exhausted. This was cumbersome and the change to recording usage and later payment was soon made.

The first machines were trialled in Scandinavia in 1900 but in 1903 a locally developed machine was available and put on trial in Christchurch. The machine was invented by Moss and marketed by Dombrain. A total of three trials were held, two in Christchurch and one in Wellington and about 11,000 items were marked in total. These are now scarce.

The second machine was provided by Robert Wales and was derived from a machine developed by Hollingworth in Australia. This underwent a lengthy trial in Dunedin for about 7 months in 1904/5. The trial seems to have been successful with about 47,000 impressions taken. Although there was some trouble with fraud using washers not coins, this was overcome but after the trial, there was no further use of this machine.

The next machine was, again, designed by Moss and was the first office machine to be available in New Zealand. It required a sovereign to be placed in the machine and 240 impressions would then be applied to mail. The Christchurch Meat Company was chosen as the guinea pig for its trial.

A number of new models were designed by Moss and their use became more widespread in offices. Wide usage began with the Moss machine Model D which replaced the Model C machine between 1915 and 1921. The machines remained in use until the 1960s when the advent of decimal currency saw their final replacement.

In the late 1920s and 30s, a wide range of models became available including Neopost, Rotex and Sentinel machines. Examples from a good variety of the different models was shown on the afternoon.

There was discussion about the regulations relating to the carriage of mail with meter marks. Until September 1906, metered mail had to be handed in to a Post Office and, if addressed inland, a Paid handstamp applied. Until September 1907, any metered mail for overseas destinations also had to carry postage stamp. For a short period, until September 1908, a paid cancellation was adequate to allow carriage overseas but after that, it again became necessary to affix postage stamps for correspondence addressed beyond Australasia.

For further information, the reader is directed to *A Far-Reaching Innovation* by G.I. Robertson published by the Postal History Society of New Zealand in 2003 and reviewed in *The Kiwi* in November, 2003.

Derek Diamond paid tribute to the extensive and comprehensive nature of the material that had been shown during the afternoon and said that he was a lot clearer about the results of the innovations but was little wiser as the answer to his original question as to why New Zealand seems to have been the experimental centre of the world during this period.

The meeting closed at 16.00.

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, £30 in UK and £35 overseas airmail inc. P. & P. (Society members will receive a 40% discount)

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

FROM THE COMMITTEE

A Committee meeting was held on July 31st, 2004.

- The chief matter discussed was the programme for 2005. At present, the proposal is:

January 29th: Military Mail - Excluding World War I and World War II
April 2nd: 12 Sheet Competition with displays of Railway Travelling Post offices
May 28th: A New Zealand Pot-Pourri from John Watts
July 30th: Problems and Queries
September 24th: A Meeting to be held outside London - details to be announced
November 26th: Annual General Meeting and Auction

Additionally, it is also hoped that Joseph Hackmey will show his award winning collection of Chalons at an additional meeting.

The Society has also booked space at Midpex on June 25th, 2005 - further details to be announced.

- The Packet: Bernard Atkinson, Hon. Packet Secretary, expressed his concern about the packet. Costs of insurance and postage are increasing and the amount of material being submitted is decreasing. For the continued health of the Packet, it is important that all those who take it try and send material for inclusion.
- The Annual General Meeting is approaching. Help is always wanted in running the Society. John Woolfe has indicated that he would like to vacate the position of Auctioneer: a volunteer is needed for this important post. If anybody is interested in helping in any way, please contact Keith Collins.

ANNUAL SOCIETY AUCTION

The Annual Society Auction will be held on Kiwi Day, Saturday, 27th November, 2004. Members who wish to place items in the Auction should note the following instructions:

1. A list of your Lots, typewritten or in block letters please, should be prepared, giving a brief description of each Lot - e.g. U.M. : Unmounted; M: Mint; F.U.: Fine Used, etc.
2. State your realistic estimate of the market value and reserve for each Lot. This is a must. If you have no reserve, please say so. Estimates for Lots should be more than £4.00.
3. All Lots should be contained in clear envelopes or plastic holders. A white label about one inch square should be placed in the bottom right hand corner for the insertion of the lot number.
4. Lots may be sent to the Auctioneer with your list, but in any case, they must be in my hands prior to the Auction. The Auctioneer will acknowledge receipt of lists and Lots. Lots handed in on the day of the Auction must have their Lot numbers clearly shown.
5. The Auctioneer is:

A.J.Woolfe, 31, Emberson Way, North Weald, Essex CM16 6DL

Lists must reach the Auctioneer by Saturday, 18th September, 2004, so that the Catalogue can be printed in time for distribution with the November issue of *The Kiwi*. Lists may be faxed to the Auctioneer on: 0207 5407947.

6. Commission will be charged at 10% of the sale price. All postage, poundage, insurance, etc. is payable by the vendor. A lotting fee of 15p per lot will be charged. Bulky lots comprising books, periodicals, boxes of stamps etc. cannot be accepted unless the vendor

undertakes to deliver and collect from the auction room, or, if sold, to deliver to the purchaser direct.

An analysis of previous Auctions suggests that modern Lots, such as First Day Covers, unless unusual, have a poor rate of sale and would be better disposed of through the Society's Exchange Packet. Stamps with bad creasing or toning should not be submitted: you do not want them but neither do other members: please remember that this is a specialist society.

In recent years, problems have been experienced with the contents of some Lots. Accordingly, the Auctioneer has the right to decline lots that do not conform to their description or which, in his view, are of insufficient quality to sell. Payment to vendors will be made when postal purchasers have received and paid for their Lots.

APPEAL

Each year it has been the practice of many generous members to offer items, both philatelic and general, to be auctioned on behalf of Society's funds. This is much appreciated. Do please see what you have surplus to your requirements. No matter what it is, we will be delighted to receive it, preferably by 18th September, 2004, so that it can appear in the catalogue, otherwise at any time up to 2.00 p.m. on Kiwi Day.

Do remember to bring your catalogue to the auction. Copies available in the room will cost £1-00.

INFORMATION RECEIVED:

MEDIA RELEASES

STAMPS FEATURE HOME OF MIDDLE EARTH

16 June 2004

New Zealand Post's latest stamp issue takes the Lord of the Rings fans on an exploration of the magnificent New Zealand scenery that acted as a backdrop to the journey through Middle-Earth.

The innovative stamp pairs in this issue each display the original landscape set beside its depiction in the Lord of the Rings movie trilogy.

Stamps General Manager, Ivor Masters says the stamps are a superb demonstration of the power of contemporary movie-making and of the immensely beautiful country New Zealanders like to call home.

45c The Ford of Bruinen - Skippers Canyon

The Ford of Rivendell was located where the Great east Road crossed the River Bruinen. Here Arwell summoned the great flood to prevent the black riders from crossing the river. The Ford is actually located in the Shotover River, deep in Skippers Canyon, near Queenstown. The scene of the horses walking down the river was filmed on the banks of the Arrow River near Arrowtown.

90c South of Rivendell - Mount Olympus

The rocky outcrops of Mount Olympus in the South Island's Kahurangi National Park provided the shelter for the fellowship from Saruman's crebain (large black crows). The rocks, eroded over time by water, have twisted and cracked revealing column-like shapes providing a perfect site for the rough country south of Rivendell.

\$1.50 Edoras - Erewhon

The film crew spent eleven months in the large mountain valley Erewhon, near Mount Sunday in the towering Southern Alps. Here they created the Rohirrim city of Edoras, and the golden Hall,

court of King Theoden. Strong winds, baking heat and snow all added to the construction hazards while building the elaborate Edoras set in such a remote site.

\$2.00 Emyr Muil - Tongariro

The great battle of the Last Alliance, marking the end of the Second Age of Middle Earth, was filmed in the starkly dramatic Tongariro National Park, in the North Island. The Emyr Muil was rough range of hills that stretched either side of the River Anduin. It was here that Frodo and Sam encountered and tamed Gollum as they searched for a way to Mordor.

The Lord of the Rings scenic stamps were designed by Frans Lenzen of Commarts Design, Wellington. The gummed stamps have been printed by Southern Colour Print, Dunedin and the self adhesives by SNP Sprint, Australia, by offset lithography.

The stamps, miniature sheet, se-tenant block of 8, booklet and presentation pack will be available from the usual outlets from 7 July 2004.

* * * * *

NEW ZEALAND ACTION REPLAY STAMPS A WORLD FIRST

Monday 2 August 2004

Four of New Zealand's finest Olympians will relive their gold-medal winning moments in Wellington today at New Zealand Post's official unveiling of the world's first 'action replay' stamps.

The stamps celebrate some of New Zealand's heroic achievements in the Olympic arena and when tilted, replay original footage of the Olympic gold winning performances of Yvette Williams (Helsinki 1952), Peter Snell (Rome 1960), John Walker (Montreal 1976), and Ian Ferguson and Paul MacDonald (Seoul 1988).

New Zealand Post Group Chief Executive John Allen said, 'for many Kiwis, Olympic memories revolve around those moments when some of our most highly respected New Zealanders became champions. These stamps celebrate some of New Zealand's landmark Olympic achievements and demonstrate our commitment to innovation.

'As the Olympics is by definition all about movement, we thought it would be fantastic to capture some of these historic moments and replay them on a stamp,' said Mr Allen.

The featured stamps recreate the defining Olympic moments as Williams makes her longest jump; Snell throws his body across the line ahead of Belgium's Roger Moens; Walker leads the field home, arms outstretched; and Ferguson and MacDonald go for gold.

'New Zealand Post is delighted to bring this exciting new medium to life by capturing the amazing achievements of these Olympic athletes. The innovative printing technique both celebrates the Olympics, past and present, and raises the worldwide benchmark for stamps' said John Allen.

The special printing process known as 'lenticular', creates the effect of movement by two or more images being printed together or 'inter-faced' into each other. The images are printed the wrong way on the back of a special lens material. Because of the optics in the lens, the eye is forced to see only a very small area of the lens at a certain angle. So, when you tilt the stamp, the images appear to move.

The stamps are available from the usual outlets from August 2, 2004. The denominations are: 45c - John Walker; 90c - Yvette Williams; \$1.50 - Ian Ferguson and Paul MacDonald; \$2.00 - Peter Snell. The stamps have been designed by Saatchi and Saatchi, Wellington and printed by Xtreme Graphics, USA, by the Lenticular process.

REVIEWS OF PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

NEW ZEALAND AND DEPENDENCIES - A PHILATELIC BIBLIOGRAPHY

Authors: David R. Beech, Allan P. Berry & Robin M. Startup. Pub. (2004) by Allan P. Berry & David R. Beech, 238 Waikiekie Road, Thames, New Zealand. XVI + 288 A4 pages, case bound. ISBN 0-476-00516-7. Price NZ\$80.00 + Postage: \$5.00 in NZ, \$14.00 to Australia, \$29.00 to USA and \$32.00 elsewhere.

This publication was first published by the British Philatelic Trust in a limited edition of 16. The Society acquired copy number 8 of this limited edition. The Society was asked to make a contribution towards the costs of publication (we, of course, did) which were truly very large indeed compared to the digital alternative as used for our recent publication of the fifty year *Kiwi* index. Although it has now become available to the public following its formal publication in New Zealand, for almost every member of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain, the most convenient way to consult this massive bibliography will be to borrow it from the Society's library.

It is a surprisingly comprehensive compilation that has been 16 years in the making and is arranged into ten major sections according to the type of publication, viz: 1. Monographs (628 listed on 52 pages); 2. Manuscripts and Grey Literature which includes, for example, photocopies of the Marcel Stanley collections in the library of the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand (354 items listed on 28 pages); 3. background literature which includes, 'local histories that have community postal history as a distinct section or with some thoroughness', (144 items listed on 14 pages); 4. Indexes to Monographs, Manuscripts and Background Literature Chapters in which the main subjects (e.g. coin date stamps or wartime airmails) dealt with in the 1345 items covered in the preceding three sections are listed on 14 pages. Section 5 covers Periodicals whose scope is substantially the philately of New Zealand and its Dependencies, and includes almost 200 journals. Section 6 is Stamp Catalogues and covers 18 pages. Section 7 tackles Auctions and Sales Catalogues which the compilers judge to contain material of importance to the subject which again covers 18 pages and includes an index of 140 named sales. Section 8 on Exhibition Literature covers 14 pages in a chronological listing starting in 1924 and ending in 2002. Section 9 is Official Publications and Section 10 is Government and Post Office Publications which together cover an amazing 92 pages. The last 32 pages of the Bibliography cover New Stamp Issue Descriptive Brochures, Date Stamp Posters, Commercial Postal Operations and, finally, Compact Discs and Video Tapes.

Anyone consulting this Bibliography will be truly amazed at what the compilers have achieved - to call it 'surprisingly comprehensive' is to make a classic English understatement! It is no surprise that it has been 16 years in the compiling and I am totally confident in saying that there will never be another bibliography of New Zealand like it.

However, it is not that user-friendly despite the careful definition of what each section contains, simply because of the amount of information included. Considering the high cost of postage to the UK (more than £12) which adds substantially to the cost of the book itself (£30), I doubt whether most collectors will find sufficient use to purchase a copy outright. It is, of course, inevitable that a further problem may be in locating a publication when it has been identified as potentially useful. There will be two copies in the Society library and I would recommend that you make use of them. This is undoubtedly a tremendous contribution to New Zealand Philately and has already become one of the treasures of our library.

D.D.

SOUTH OF THE OLD COACH ROAD

Being the Postal History of South-eastern Southland, New Zealand

Author: John R. Slattery. Published by The Southland Philatelic Society (Inc.) P.O. Box 300, Invercargill, New Zealand. XII + 170 A4 size pages, plastic spiral bound.

Limited Edition of 120 copies. Price NZ\$25 + P&P NZ\$15.

This book provides a comprehensive record of the past Post Offices in this area of New Zealand, just to the east of Invercargill. The history of each office is meticulously recorded with, when available, a picture and ground plan of the Office, a plan showing the location within the community, listing of the Postmasters/postmistresses and, of course, a record of the datestamps and other postal markings used.

As with other good postal histories, this is also a social record of the area. In a Reflection at the end of the book, the author records the fact that there was one Post Office open in 1859, rising to a peak of 42 in 1916 and falling gradually until there are 5 open today. The extent of the research required is shown by the location of the 126 offices listed with many of the vanished offices sited in Residences, Sledge Huts, Sawmills or Accommodation Houses.

Chapter 1 gives a history of the postal service from the opening of the first post office at Bluff in January, 1856 when the carriage of mails was entirely on coastal vessels bound for Dunedin, through the development of the mailcoach run by Cobb and Co. to the Railway Travelling Post Office Service which began in 1879 and finished in the 1920's. Subsequent chapters are each devoted to the postal service in one community.

New Zealand Postal Historians are probably as well provided with published information as any in the world. This volume is a worthy addition to the literature. Published 23 years after John Slattery's previous book, *The Mails of North Canterbury*, the latest publication shows the advance in publishing techniques. The illustrations are well reproduced and liberally scattered throughout the text. The book is published by the Southland Philatelic Society and they are to be congratulated on taking the plunge to allow us to enjoy and make use of the results of this research.

Thoroughly recommended to those with an interest in postal history or the development of this area of New Zealand.

A.D.

SALE OF THE ROBERT SAMUEL COLLECTION OF NEW ZEALAND POSTAL HISTORY

The postal sale of the late Robert Samuel's collection of the Postal Stationery of New Zealand will close on the 17th of September, 2004.

Included in the sale are the only known copies of New Zealand POW Aerogrammes having inverted overprint and double overprint. The KEVII stamped telegraph forms are represented by one of the two recorded complete examples plus the original essay for the 6d die.

There is a good range of rare accepted and unaccepted stationery essays and die proofs. The 1932 Provisionals are represented by many very rare examples of the overprints produced to account for the changes in postal rates carried out at the time.

One item of major interest will be the 19th century cigarette packet used by Austin Walsh & Co to distribute their Postage Paid postcards. It is believed that this is the only surviving complete packet.

Catalogues can be obtained from:

Classic Stamps Ltd., PO Box 13-396, Christchurch, New Zealand.

e-mail: classicstamps@inet.net.nz

READERS QUERIES:

MISSING STAMPS?

PETER FAVIER

As a new member (and tyro), I am trying to write up my collection of Health stamps and covers. I have already encountered a problem with the very first stamp, the 1929 issue.

In a memorandum dated 17 September 1931 from the Custodian and Issuer of Stamps to the Controller of Accounts, it is stated that:

1929 issue 4,000,000 stamps printed
 26,160 stamps damaged in printing
 2,633,840 stamps on hand

According to the records that I have seen, the total sales were 592,848 stamps.

Elementary mathematics suggests a deficit of 747,152 stamps so what happened to them?

As a beginner, I do not know whether this constitutes an acceptable leakage or wastage, but it does seem rather a lot!

It seems to be agreed that the charity proceeds amounted to just over £5,000 which, after expenses, would roughly tie up with official sales.

A NEW VARIETY ON THE 40c BROWN KIWI?

MAURICE ALLEN

I recently picked up a 40c Brown Kiwi in a club booklet. It was described as "yellow missing" but the price was exceptionally reasonable. The perforation was $14\frac{1}{4} \times 14$ and, by comparison with the examples that I already have, seems to be the fine paper issue (PC 13b in Campbell Paterson catalogue). On reference to this catalogue, the only 40c Brown Kiwi shown with "Yellow Missing" is PC 14c which is the $13\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{4}$. I hesitate to advertise a new variety but would be grateful for any information. I am aware that some stamps are well known to fade if exposed to bright sunlight, is this one such?

AN UNUSUAL OVERPRINT

CHRIS FOLLAND



Figure 1

I recently acquired the $\frac{1}{2}$ d King Edward VII stamp overprinted 'SAMOS' which is illustrated in Figure 1. I can find no record of this overprint and have no idea of its significance. Can anybody help?

ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTIONS:

THE HISTORY OF A SIMPLE AIRMAIL COVER TO THE GILBERT ISLANDS

ANN CARTER

I recently acquired a cover flown from Wellington to the Gilbert Islands (Figure 1).



Figure 1

It is franked with a 6d 1960 Pictorial Definitive stamp and has been cancelled 'ACCOUNTS BRANCH/GPO/HERD St/WELLINGTON/N.Z. 29 JUL 61'. Several questions sprang to mind.

First, why was Herd Street so named, was it a market area or does it commemorate somebody? The simple answer is that it was named after one Captain Herd, an early whaler and explorer. According to page 50 of *The Streets of my City* by F.L.Irvine-Smith (1948, reprinted 1974), Herd Street was named after Captain Herd of the 'Rosanna' who wrote on entering harbour in 1826 'Here all the navies of Europe might ride in perfect safety'. Apparently, Herd had been to the harbour earlier in 1822 on the 'Providence' on a trip seeking spars at Hokianga.

Secondly, why was the letter sent from the 'Accounts Branch'? The cover illustrated is addressed to The Chief Postmaster, Philatelic Bureau, Central Post Office, Tarawa, Gilbert Islands. It is my understanding that Universal Postal union regulations allow mail between Postal Authorities on Post Office business to be transmitted free of charge, so why the 6d stamp? If not on Postal business why the Accounts Branch cancellation? This second question required much more knowledge than I possess and I am grateful to Allan Berry and Robin Startup for the information that they provided.

This airmail envelope is not an officially printed envelope with OHMS nor does it have an Official stamp so it would not appear to be on official Post Office business. The New Zealand Post Office Guides for 1954 and 1956 (the next issue is dated 1964) do not specify an airmail service to the Gilbert and Ellice Islands. Both state that the route is direct and elsewhere they state that 'Particulars of airmail services and postage rates are available from post offices'. Andrew

McNivens 'History of Postal Rates and Charges from 1840' shows that the airmail fee for a letter to Australia was 6d per half ounce from 1st March 1952 and did not increase to 7d per half ounce until 1st October 1964. Perhaps for postal purposes the Gilbert and Ellice Islands were treated at that time as being within the same postal area. It was not until 2nd February 1976 that a specific rate of 15 cents per half ounce was introduced for Australia and the South Pacific, designated as Zone A.

The Herd Street Post Office had two postal cancellations, one on the counter for use on parcels and registered items, the other in the mailroom. The counter one was the standard style with the office name HERD STREET around the top and NZ at the foot whereas the mailroom one had added its main function, that is handling all outward ACCOUNTS BRANCH mails.

This canceller was replaced in 1965 by another with identical text though smaller in size with the G of G.P.O. being drilled off in 1968 as the title General Post Office was no longer applicable. In 'The 1998 New Zealand Post Offices Cancellation and Postmark Guide' by Richard Wooders, Herd Street Post Office is listed as having a J-class date stamp, rarity of 2 out of 10, suggesting that it is common. It is also listed as having used a relief cancellation at some unspecified time.

The Herd Street Post Office was a city central south, departmentally staffed office providing full services, other than street delivery to the Clyde Quay - Oriental Bay area of Wellington. It was on the ground floor of a six floor art deco style building completed in 1940 for the government as the offices for the Finance and Accounts Division and the Savings Bank Division of the General Post Office. The Herd Street Post Office is recorded in Robin Startup's 'New Zealand Post Offices' 1993 edition as being open between 1st July 1940 and 17th July 1987 when N. Z. Telecom acquired the building. The building still stands 'around the corner' from today's Museum of New Zealand (Te Papa) and after much controversy is now being converted to residential apartments.

The one remaining question concerns the actual flight. Can anyone fill in the gaps regarding who provided the service from New Zealand to Tarawa in the Gilbert and Ellice Islands?

AN UNHERALDED STAMP ISSUE

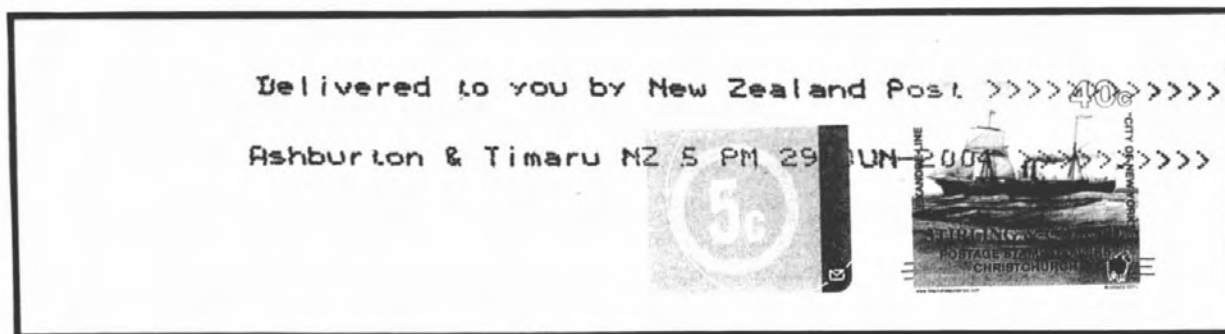


Figure 1

New Zealand Post appear to have been taken by surprise by demand for 5cent stamps following the increase in postal rates from 40c to 45c on 5th April, 2004. On June 29th, a non-descript 5c self-adhesive stamp (Figure 1) appeared in Christchurch. No official announcement preceded the issue and no N.Z. Post Office first day cover was produced. The supply appears to have been inadequate as none were available by lunch on the day of issue. This is not the first time, of course, that the New Zealand Post Office has miscalculated demand and had to rely on makeshift arrangements. In 1971, the 4c on 2½c moth resulted from a shortage of the 4c following a rate increase and, in 1979, the 4c on 8c, 14c on 10c and 17c on 6c were necessary for the same reason. It seems likely that the unpredicted demand for N.Z.P.O. stamps to make up the new rates for Alternative Post Operators contributed to the shortage.

FIRST DAY OF THE CENTURY 1 JAN 1901

ERNIE LEPPARD

A recent successful bid on a 1 Jan 01 cover added to my collection of covers used on this date. However, it is more interesting than at first sight as it could easily fit into four other collections and proved an interesting routing puzzle.

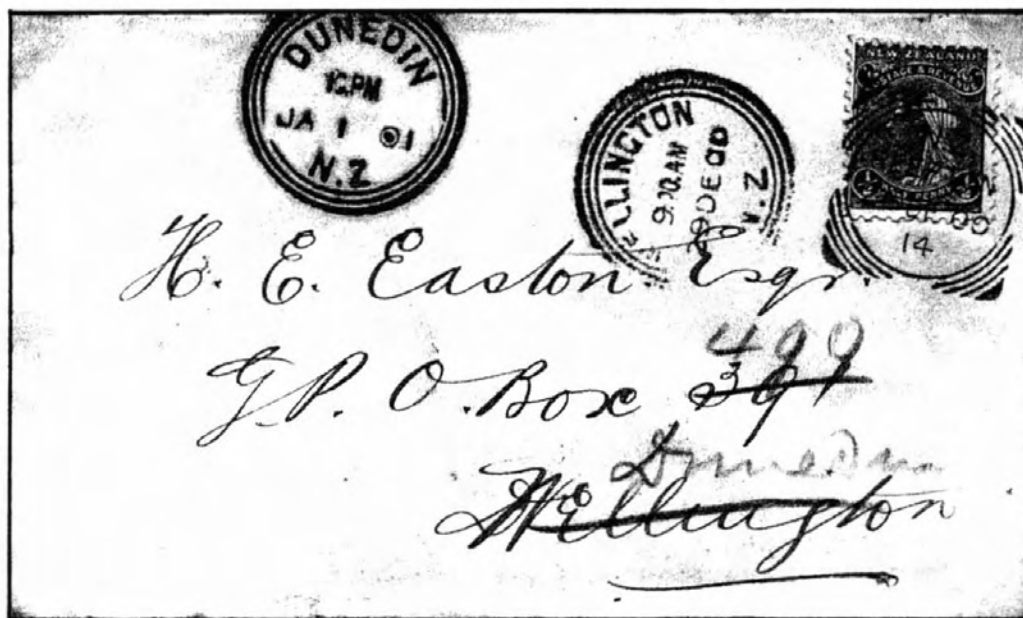


Figure 1. Obverse of cover



Figure 2. Copy of cancellations on reverse

First, how many 1 Jan 01 covers are there which are not 1d. Universal covers? I only know of one other: a 1½d stationery lettercard overprinted one penny (Samuel BA 17a); this is a first day cover.

The cover illustrated in Figure 1 and 2 was posted at Reefton on 26 Dec 00 addressed to a GPO Box number in Wellington. It presumably travelled by River boat or mail coach to Nelson and then by mailboat to Wellington. However only ½d postage was applied: this should have been surcharged at the 2d rate. So it would fit well into an underpaid sideface collection. It was received in Wellington at the unsocial hour of 4a.m. on 29 Dec 00 and the Wellington flag cancel applied. It would sit equally well in a collection of machine cancels.

The cover has "Naumai" in pencil on the reverse. It would not have gone there as this is 12 miles south of Dargaville. It then has a redirect GPO Box number in Dunedin and is despatched at 9 a.m. on 29 Dec 00 by mailboat to Christchurch to catch the Southern Express from Christchurch to Dunedin. On the Southern Express from the mailboat in Christchurch, it travelled by rail and received the RPO DN-N with an index 2, dated 31 Dec 00, which shows it travelled south into Dunedin.

I wondered whether the cover might have travelled by mailboat to Dunedin and the RPO strike applied after the Dunedin 1 Jan 01 datestamp as no RPO 1 Jan 01 was available. But the Dunedin 10p.m. datestamp would mean that it would have had to travel on the RPO on 2 Jan. Post Offices were officially opened between 9a.m. and 11a.m. to sell and datestamp first day mail as January

1st was a holiday and the Post Offices should have been closed. The 10p.m. postmark shows that the Post Office staff were working during the holiday to move the mail.

An interesting cover that would grace a collection of: 2nd Sidefaces, Machine Cancels, RPOs or first day of the century.

THE 1935 PICTORIAL ISSUES AND ASSOCIATED POSTAL RATES WITH DATES OF PRINTING OF VARIETIES

PART 2: OVERSEAS POSTAGE RATES AND NOTABLE EVENTS (1932 - 1939)

ROBERT P. ODENWELLER

1932

June 1932:

Existing rates. There was no regular airmail service but a number of special airmail survey attempts were tried prior to the issue of the 1935 Pictorials, notable were those of C.T.P. Ulm.

	Letters	Postcards	Notes
Surface letters: British Empire, Egypt, U.S.A., Hawaii, Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, Italy, Portugal, Roumania, Yugoslavia	1d	½d	each ounce or fraction
U.P.U. countries	2½d	1d	first ounce
	1½d		each additional ounce
Late fee	1d		
Registration	3d		

1934

30 November 1934:

The New Zealand Post Office announced that mails would be accepted for transmission by extended service from Australia to Singapore connecting with the Empire service and Capetown. Inclusive rates were listed. Correspondence was to be suitably routed, such as 'Australia-Singapore-England' or 'Australia-Egypt-South Africa'.

	Letters	Postcards	Superscription required
Darwin	4d		
Dutch East Indies, Malaya	9d		
Siam	1/-		
Burma	1/1		
India	1/2		
Gwadar	1/5		
Great Britain, Bahrein	1/6		
Arabia, Koweit (Kuwait), Iraq, Palestine and Egypt	1/7		
Greece, Italy and France	1/9		
Sudan	1/10		
Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika	2/3		
Northern and Southern Rhodesia and			

Nyasaland	2/5
Bechuanaland, South West Africa and South Africa	2/9

1935

1 May 1935:	Original issue, all denominations, single watermark nz and star, various perforations issued.
November 1935	1d type II, 1½d, 2½d, 3/- single watermark, different perforations issued.

1936

'1936':	1d Perforation 13½x14 and Official of same issued.
February 1936:	1½d and 3/- printed with watermark inverted and reversed issued.
March 1936:	½d, 2d printed on multiple watermark paper issued. Official of 1d and 1/- original and 2d second issued.

27 March 1936:

Imperial Airways Ltd. - Qantas Empire Airways Ltd carried New Zealand via a through service Hong Kong - Sydney via Penang. Mail to New Zealand arrived approximately 7 April but most covers not backstamped on arrival. The N.Z. Post Office was slow in accepting the Penang-Hong Kong service and the actual date of first acceptance remains obscure. It is believed that the air rate was eventually fixed as below until superseded by the Empire Air Mail Scheme.

	Letters	Notes
London, by way of Penang and Hong Kong	1/3	per ½ ounce
U.S.A (?) via Australia, Penang and Hong Kong	4/6	per ½ ounce

April 1936:	1d, 2½d, 1/- printed on multiple watermark paper issued.
June 1936:	1½d, 8d, 9d printed on multiple watermark paper.issued
July 1936:	Official of 1½d multiple watermark, perforated 14 x 13½ and of 1½d original issue issued.
August 1936	3d, 4d, 5d, 6d, 2/-, 3/- printed on multiple watermark paper issued. Official of 4d of that issued.
November 1936	2½d printed on multiple watermark paper, perforated 14 line issued.

1937

February 1937:	1/- Official on multiple watermarked paper issued.
May 1937:	2/- Official on multiple watermark paper issued.
July 1937:	½d Official on multiple watermark paper issued.

20 November 1937:

Imperial Airways Ltd. service from Australia-Singapore-England. The 'Cygnus' crashed on 5 December 1937. Although some mail was lost, the majority was salvaged in soaked condition and out of 8,000 letters, all but 65 were delivered.

	Letters	Postcards	Notes
London, via Sydney & Singapore	1/6	9d	per ½ ounce
December 1937:	6d Official on multiple watermark paper issued		

1938

'1938':	2½d printed on multiple watermark paper perforated 14 comb issued.
2 January 1938:	

Pan American survey flight. Inclusive rates were advertised. The 'Samoan Clipper', under the command of Captain Musick, left Pago Pago for Auckland on the return trip and was lost at sea.

	Letters	Postcards	Notes
American Samoa	6d	3d	per ½ ounce
Hawaii	3/-	1/6	
U.S.A. (included internal air service in U.S.A. and Canada and would also carry to Great Britain by surface at quoted rate - additional air transit required additional fees	4/6	2/3	
Registration	4d		

28 Feb. 1938: ½d replaced by KGVI issue.

March 1938: 9d printed on multiple watermarked paper issued.
Official of same and 3d on multiple watermark paper issued.

25 May 1938:

W.R. Carpenter Airlines Ltd. Mail from Sydney-Port Moresby-Salamua-Rabaul was established, with the N.Z. Post Office announcing in mid-May that mails would be accepted for dispatch by sea to Sydney and then by the new service to Papua and New Guinea.

	Letters	Postcards	Notes
Port Moresby, Salamua and Rabaul	4d	2d	per ½ ounce

30 June 1938: 1d replaced by KGVI issue.

26 July 1938: 1½d replaced by KGVI issue.
2½d Official on multiple watermark paper, perforated 14 line and comb issued.

26 July 1938:

'All-up' Empire Airmail Scheme (E.A.M.S.). Sea mail to Australia, air to 40 listed countries in the British Empire (see Appendix A for country and method of despatch). Blue Air Mail labels were not to be affixed, and letters were to be posted in normal post boxes. Air mail to other countries would use the labels and were to be posted in air mail boxes, where available. (First day of KG VI 1½d stamp). Special cachets for start of service known. With the start of the service, Marine P.O. service ceased. Average monthly mail was 8,600lb.

	Letters	Postcards	Notes
Air to British Empire	1½d	1d	per ½ ounce
Australia	1d		Airmail not available
Foreign Surface Mail	2½d		first ounce
	1½d		each additional ounce

1939

March 1939: 2/- printed on multiple watermark paper, perforated 13½ x 14 issued.

May 1939: 2/- of March 1939 issue issued as Official.

July 1939: 8d on upright multiple watermark paper issued.

16 August 1939:

Letters via the Empire Route and Pan American Airways Atlantic service:

	Letters	Postcards	Notes
U.S.A.	3/6	1/9	per ½ ounce

Canada and Newfoundland

1/9

11d

5 September 1939:

Termination of 'All-up' Empire Airmail Scheme due to the declaration of war on 3 September 1939. The last N.Z. flight at 1½d rate was 9 and 11 August and all mail in transit as of 3 September 1939 was diverted to surface transport. This would include all mail dispatched between 12 and 28 August. All such mail falls into the 'interrupted' class. Average monthly mail after termination was 1,000lb. (The rate from G.B. to Empire countries, including N.Z., was 1/3 for letters and 7d for postcards. The average transit time between England and New Zealand was 22 days.)

	Letters	Postcards	Notes
British Empire countries (but only to countries directly served by Empire Air Services. In cases where additional air services were involved, the rate was increased accordingly. Most of these rates were about the same as those listed under 30 April 1940.)	1/6	9d	per ½ ounce

October 1939:

Change to surface rates for British Empire:

	Letters	Postcards	Notes
British Empire, Egypt, Iraq	2d		first ½ ounce
	1d		each additional ½ ounce
U.P.U. countries	3d		first ½ ounce
	1d		each additional ½ ounce
British Empire, Egypt, Iraq and U.P.U. countries		1½d	single card
		3d	reply card
Registration	4d		

1 December 1939:

Schedule of Air Mail Changes No. 5 issued by the New Zealand Post Office on 24 November 1939 in mimeograph form (anticipating more changes). The key rates show a sample of the routing and mail carriage that was possible pre-war. The service was suspended to Czechoslovakia, Danzig, Germany and Poland.

	Letters	Postcards	Superscription required
Australia	5d	3d	
Egypt	1/6	9d	Australia-Egypt
Canada	1/-	6d	U.S.A.-Canada
	1/3	8d	Canal Zone-Canada
	3/6	1/9	Australia-France-Canada
Great Britain	1/6	9d	Australia-London
United States	1/3	8d	Canal Zone-U.S.A.
	1/9	11d	Honolulu-U.S.A.
	1/9	11d	Australia-London
	3/6	1/9	Australia-Europe-U.S.A.

(To be continued)

