



THE KIWI



THE JOURNAL OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

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WHOLE NUMBER 313

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY WILL BE HELD ON SEPTEMBER 24TH 2005
AT THE HOLIDAY INN HOTEL, TAUNTON STARTING AT 12.00 FOR WEST COUNTRY
MEMBERS. THE PHILATELIC PART OF THE MEETING WILL START AT 13.00.

FURTHER INFORMATION IS ON PAGE 82 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 **Annual Subscription £15.00**

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SOCIETY NEWS:

NEW MEMBERS:

We welcome:

Postmuseum, Helsinki
G.B. Wain, Christchurch, New Zealand

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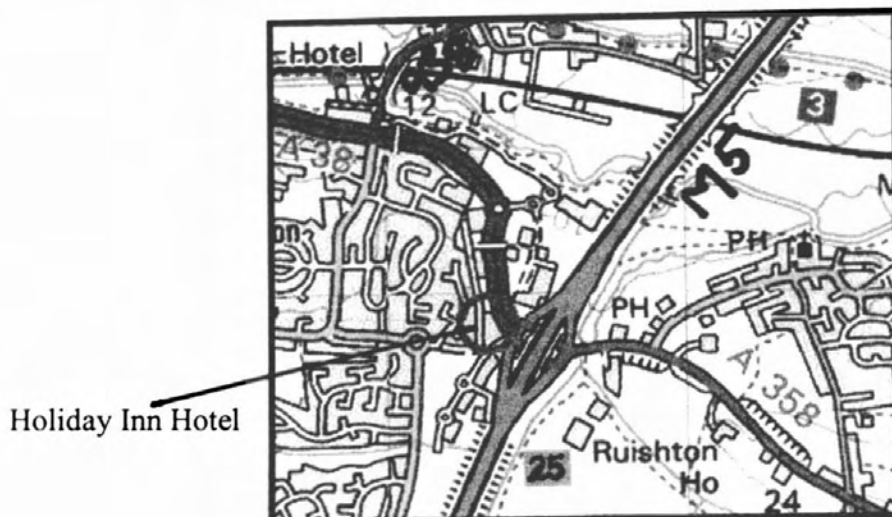
P. Gufford, Lancashire

THE ANNUAL AUCTION

A reminder that the Auction will be held after the Annual General Meeting on Kiwi Day, 26th November 2005. **All lists MUST be with the Auctioneer by Saturday September 10th, 2005. No lots will be accepted after this date.** Full instructions for those wishing to enter material were in the last issue of *The Kiwi*.

THE NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

The next meeting of the Society will be held in the Holiday Inn, Dean Gate Avenue, Taunton, Somerset TA1 2UA. The venue is situated just off Junction 25 of the M5 – see map below.



As well as being the Society's Annual Meeting outside London, this is the inaugural meeting of the West of England Group of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain. Before the philatelic part of the meeting which will start at 13.00, there will be a meeting of members from the West Country to discuss the formation of the Group and to agree organisers etc.

The last meeting in the West Country, in Bristol, saw an excellent turnout resulting in a fascinating and stimulating meeting. This will, no doubt be the same. If you are coming and propose to show material, or if you want further information, please contact Paul North, ☎01392 877054.

NEXT MEETING OF THE MIDLANDS GROUP

The next meeting of the Midland Group will be held on September 17th, 2005 at the Carr's Lane Meeting Centre starting at 14.00.

The meeting will be entertained by the President of the Society, Derek Diamond. He will show a Pot-Pourri of New Zealand material: contents not yet revealed but do not be surprised if there is the odd First Pictorial item. It will undoubtedly be a very entertaining afternoon.

For further information, please contact Bernard Symonds, ☎01926 813985.

JOINT MEETING OF THE SCOTTISH AND NORTHERN GROUPS

There will be a joint meeting of the Scottish and Northern groups on Saturday 29th October, 2005. It will be held in the Lakes Court Hotel (previously the Railway Hotel) in Carlisle. We will meet for lunch from 12 noon onwards and the displays will be in the afternoon.

All members of the Society, especially those from the North East, are warmly invited to attend.

A MEETING OF THE SOCIETY AT NEW ZEALAND NATIONAL STAMP SHOW 2005

On Saturday, November 19th, 2005, there will be a Presidents Breakfast meeting at Northpex. One theme will be the launching of the new book on New Zealand Chalcids. A further theme of the meeting will be The New Zealand Society of Great Britain.

Entry to the meeting will be by ticket and any interested members of the Society will need to make a reservation. It would be nice to have as big a representation as possible: those who will be attending the meeting should contact John Watts for further information and to reserve tickets: e-mail: j-watts@clear.net.nz.

NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SOCIETY HELD IN LONDON ON JULY 30TH 2005

The meeting was opened by Derek Diamond. He said that the Vice Chairman had unfortunately resigned because of other commitments and that another committee member is urgently needed. Anybody interested should contact the Hon. Secretary as soon as possible. He then handed the meeting over to Michael Wilkinson who was to run the meeting.

The overall topic of the afternoon was to explore and, perhaps, solve queries and problems that members had brought along. The first session was focussed on shades.

Michael introduced the subject by commenting that he, like most others, found it difficult to define shades. There is a valid question as to the importance of different shades because the Post Office had little incentive to hold a colour constant so long as it fitted the loose UPU definition of, for example 'blue'. Some shades are important because they give information about the date of the printing or other technical aspects of production such as the paper or printing process. A question was raised as to when serious efforts were made by printers to ensure consistency of colour

between printings. In answer, examples from the 5 printings of the 1995 -2004 40cent Mitre Peak were shown demonstrating marked variations in shade.

He had, therefore, tried to use modern technology to provide an absolute description. Modern computer programmes such as Adobe Photoshop are able to analyse scanned images and assign them a numerical value based on the weighting of the primary colours in the sampled image. This appears to be transferable between computers. Unfortunately, the technical difficulty is to decide where on the stamp the colour should be sampled as adjacent pixels in a magnified image will vary in colour.

A similar sort of problem arises if a collector attempts to compare a shade with Stanley Gibbons shade guide. The guide shows solid blocks of colour and stamps, of course, are rarely solid which can make it extremely difficult to compare.

A further problem arises in the nomenclature of shades. Michael produced an interesting crib sheet of the CP and SG descriptions of the shades of the First Pictorials. There are a large number described and the ability to make a definitive distinction between the brown-red, deep red and orange-brown of the 1/- must depend on having a large number to compare and, even then, it remains subjective. The situation is not helped by descriptions such as that in Volume I of the Handbook of a shade of the 2½d as 'Antwerp Blue'.

As always at Society meetings, the breadth and depth of knowledge present was surprising. We were updated on the research finding that the female eye is able to distinguish a wider range of shades than the male. There was also a fascinating technical input on the definition of a colour and shade: a colour is fully saturated and shades are created when a colour has black or white added to it in differing proportions. This leads to the conclusion that many of what we colloquially call shades are in fact distinct colour variations. The standard way of differentiating colour is by the use of the Pantone system which provides the specification for the whole range of colours as is used as the industry standard for colour reproduction.

A number of the members including **Bernard Symonds, Maurice Allen, Keith Collins and Andrew Dove**, had brought along a variety of shades and comparison of the examples shown illustrated the points made.

Overall, the discussion ranged widely but, as most good debates, raised a lot more questions than it answered. Perhaps, the solid conclusion lies in the statement made that if a collector sees a different shade, then it is a true shade and worthy of inclusion in his/her collection.

The second part covered other problems brought along for discussion.

Keith Collins showed some examples of the Collins essays for the Second Pictorial issue. Some examples had been in a recent Len Jury auction and statements made as to the number of designs produced and the number of colours used. Other members had brought along further examples and comparison of those present in the room showed that current information is inaccurate. The proposal was made that all those with examples should be invited to bring them to a future meeting and an attempt would be made to produce a definitive list.



Derek Diamond showed a small coin shaped cancellation on a postcard stamped with a 1d Universal and addressed to Plymouth in the UK that he had been unable to identify. The postmark reads 'London 06'. It appeared that this was only seen on British Naval mail and is therefore likely to have been applied to a postcard carried back to the UK by a visiting Royal Navy vessel.

Bob Davey brought a collection of postmarks that he had recently acquired and enquired how he should start sorting them. The consensus was that Richard Wooders publication '*New Zealand Post Offices Cancellation & Postmark Guide*' was a good starting point as it gives a good basic guide to the different types of postmark in the introduction as well as providing an indication of scarcity.

Paul Wreglesworth posed some questions from the Second Sidefaces:

- First he showed a trial of the first rotary perforating machine to be imported into New Zealand in 1890. The proofs used were printed on a green wove paper. He was not aware of this paper being used anywhere else and wondered it had come from.
- Secondly, he illustrated examples of concentric ring markings that are sometimes found in the margins of the sheets. They are always under the second stamp in the horizontal row. His question was why they were there. Two suggestions were forthcoming, first that they served the purpose of the buffer bars which are sometimes used to protect the plate from damage caused by the repeated first impact during printing. Alternatively, it was suggested that they may be used to allow rapid sorting of a large number of sheets to ensure that they are all in the same orientation.
- Thirdly, he showed examples of sheets with the upper margin still present. The sheets were imported in pads of 500 sheets which were perforated 14 at the top. Examination of issued sheets shows that the most sheets were separated from the pad by guillotining but some are carefully separated along the perforations. The question is why the two methods of separation. The suggestion was that if a single sheet was needed to proof a plate or for another reason, it would be removed carefully but for the ordinary provision for printing, the whole pad would be guillotined.
- Fourthly, Paul asked the interesting question of when the sheets were numbered. It is widely thought that the numbers were applied by the manufacturers of the paper. Two types of font are found on the sheets but the same font seems to have been used on Waterlow and De la Rue papers. This would suggest that they were applied after the paper had been provided to a single user.

Ernie Leppard showed what is probably the only surviving complete sheet of the London printing of the 1d Universal and described some of the problems arising if attempts are made to plate the stamps.

Derek Diamond asked the question 'What happened to the Fiscals?' Until 1954, stamps were used to collect a range of duties etc. after it is unclear what mechanism was in place although he showed a printed machine frank suggesting that this method had been considered as an alternative.

Tony Stephens provided the last problem with an example of the 2d Second Sideface with a diamond cancellation. The top part of the mark contained GB and the lower a sum in French currency. This was explained as a French Accountancy mark. These were supplied to Chief Post Offices to allow them to accept and identify unfranked mail for France which would pass through the UK. On delivery to the French Post Office the sum shown in the mark would be payable to the UK Post Office. Unfortunately, shortly after the cancellers were delivered, the acceptance of unfranked mail was stopped. The cancellers were, however, sometimes used on ordinary mail from smaller post offices rather than for their proper purpose.

Derek thanked all those who had taken part in the afternoon and, in view of the enthusiastic response to the question – Is this an interesting format for meetings? – promised that the future programme would include a similar session covering watermarks, papers and perforations. The meeting closed at 16.30.

CAN YOU HELP PLEASE?

Len Jury requires items to expand collections of New Zealand:

1. Postal handstamps used on cover pre 1914 for 'in depth' research and reference collection.

For example: NUMERAL HANDSTAMPS (1(d), 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 1/-) in black or red, LATE FEE, TOO LATE, LATE LETTER, DEFICIENT POSTAGE, FINE, DETAINED FOR POSTAGE, INSUFFICIENTLY STAMPED, UNCLAIMED, ADVERTISED UNCLAIMED, NOT KNOWN, LOOSELETTER, FREE, PAID, PAID AT, PAID ALL, MISSENT TO, Registered Handstamps and any other hand/directional cancels not listed. If you have items like these that are NOT for sale, I would be delighted to receive a photocopy or scan please so that a full record can be made. Thanks for your help.

2. AUCKLAND EXHIBITION 1913 - 1914.

Covers to overseas countries, within New Zealand, used on parcel or package labels, Exhibition Labels (also on cover), Advertising labels, Advertising covers with or without Advertising labels, Covers with Postage Due or Refused markings, Stamp Proofs, flaws, Postal Stationery postcards either used or unused, any related memorabilia.

3. NEW ZEALAND EXHIBITIONS 1865 - 1924.

A number of these exhibitions were celebrated philatelically but NOT with a stamp issue. A number had a postmark/slogan or were notable for the first use of a new stamp producing mechanism. Any memorabilia.

4. New Plymouth.

Pre-stamp and Full Face/Side Face Queen/1898 Pictorial covers from and to New Plymouth and from/to other centres such as Maori/Land War Military Camps, Waitara, Inglewood, Stratford, Hawera, Eltham, Patea, Omata, Bellblock and other localities.

Also Taranaki Province. Pre 1930 Datestamps/manuscript/postal markings on cover or postcards of small localities, villages and townships.

5. New Zealand 1920 Victory.

Artist drawings, essays, engravings, die proofs, printers proofs, specimen overprints, specimen markings, printers samples in singles, pairs and blocks with and without specimen overprint (various colours). Victory stamps on cover/postcard in singles, in combination with other victory stamps, in combination with other stamps (including other countries) sent to addresses in New Zealand or to overseas countries. Covers with Postage Due or Refused markings. Also required: Samoa Victory overprints used on commercial mail and New Zealand/Samoa Victory used in NZ Territories e.g. Fanning Island, Washington Island and Tokelau Islands.

Initially, please send photocopy or scan of any of the above together with price required

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NOTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SCOTTISH GROUP HELD ON JUNE 25TH 2005

The meeting was hosted by Bob and Maureen Clark at their home in Stirling. Six members and three wives were present. Apologies were received from six members. John Studholme showed us photographs that he had taken at the Edinburgh Weekend.

Bob Clark showed external New Zealand airmails from 1929-38 including several crash covers.

David Stalker showed the recent 5c provisional issue. This included covers with the 5c in combination with 40c stamps from local private operators. Later, he showed 2003 Christmas stamps including the 40c missing fern error.

Ken Andison showed a range of used stamps depicting birds.

Bill Black showed special event first day covers and later showed a range of early postage dues.

Peter Brown showed a range of KGVI covers including the war-time Horseshoe Route.

John Studholme showed the 150th Anniversary stamps and then later showed a range of Tourist Leaflets each with appropriate stamps.

NOTES OF THE JOINT MEETING WITH THE CINDERELLA STAMP SOCIETY HELD ON JULY 16TH 2005

Eight members of the Society were given a warm reception by members of the Cinderella Stamps Society at 106 Charterhouse Street for a joint meeting on the theme of the Cinderellas of New Zealand on July 16th. The meeting was chaired by Charles Kiddle, well known author of many articles about poster-stamps who, in his introduction, pointed out that it was inherent in Cinderella collecting to always be seeing something new. He told the story of the dealer who purchased, at not inconsiderable cost, two items previously unrecorded and unknown only to be offered a suitcase full of identical items the next day. Previously a New Zealand collector himself, Charles Kiddle believed that New Zealand to be an excellent choice for Cinderella collectors. He was undoubtedly proved right by the displays that took place both before and after lunch extending to almost 40 frames and the only marked repetition was of the Timaru bicycle post 'stickers' (i.e. etiquettes)!

As Leader for the away team I had been concerned that like me, our members were not into Cinderellas having so many other facets of New Zealand philately to tackle. However by defining Cinderellas as everything not in the standard stamp catalogues we were given plenty of scope. Ernie Leppard took full advantage of this, displaying artists essays, die proofs, progressive plate proofs and 1898 miniature sheets. However, the focus of the meeting was on traditional Cinderellas defined as labels issued for non-postal purposes, primarily by non-governmental bodies but also including government fiscal and local stamps.

The displays from six members of each Society amply demonstrated the extraordinary width of Cinderella collecting. Apart from the reasonably documented area of government fiscal stamps including not only the Stamp Duty Stamp series but Land and Deeds, Maori Land Court, Patent Office, Passport Fee, Beer and Honey, Social Security etc. etc., a wide range of other Cinderellas were shown, most of these fell into one of three categories. Transport was well represented with its Railway labels, private carriers (Freight Express), airmail cachets and, in New Zealand, the Pigeon Post story. Another big topic concerned with promoting exhibitions and tourism, again a theme well represented in New Zealand. We were treated to the extraordinary and probably unique opportunity of seeing each of the 7 labels produced in association with the Christchurch Exhibition of 1906, tied on covers of the period. The third category was called by one exhibitor 'War and

Peace'. A range of patriotic labels, on and off cover, were shown a swell as victory envelopes of varied design, savings stamps and war-risk insurance fees.

There were other items of interest which did not fit into these three broad themes such as British Postal Orders overprinted for use in New Zealand, a workers Holiday Card stamped up, an appeal on behalf of Wellington Cathedral, discount stamps, local posts (Kermadec Islands), T.B. campaigns, sporting events especially rugby, and Cinderella material associated with the issue of health stamps – another New Zealand speciality!

It was as the Chairman had predicted an exciting occasion and thanks are due to all who displayed – Charles Kiddle, John Armstone, Conrad Graham, Ian Spencer, Derek Weston and Margaret Thompson from the Cinderellas Stamp Society and Ernie Leppard, Lewis Giles, Keith Collins, Alan Baker, Don Scregg and Derek Diamond for the New Zealand Society of Great Britain. At least three areas of collecting and two big arguments remain to be included in the return match at some future date. Forgeries, telegraph stamps and Registration labels were noticeable by their absence and the debate on whether Adsons and the current private post issues are Cinderellas or not was not resolved.

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 30th, 2005:

- The programme for next year was confirmed as reported in the January issue of *The Kiwi*. Two meetings will start at 11.00 to allow the morning session to be used for members to bring along items of interest and recent acquisitions. There will also be an extra meeting on a Saturday in June or July at which **Joseph Hackmey** will show his international award winning collection of the Full Face Queens. This will be held at the Royal Philatelic Society of London's premises in Devonshire Place and will start at 13.00. The exact date will be published in *The Kiwi* as soon as it is available. The Philatelic Weekend dates were confirmed as September 29th to October 1st, 2006. It will be held in Rugby.
- There was a discussion about whether there should be a higher subscription for overseas members to allow for the cost of airmail postage of *The Kiwi*. The conclusion was that the

value of the overseas members outweighs the extra cost and that no change should be made to the policy of having the same subscription for all members.

- The award of trophies for the 12 sheet competition was discussed. In future, a trophy and certificate will be awarded to the winner of each class and a certificate to the Runner up. There was also a suggestion that a competition should be held between the Regional groups of the Society. The views of the current groups will be sought but if any members have any comments, please contact the Hon. Sec.

RECENT AND COMING EVENTS:

NEW ZEALAND 2005 NATIONAL STAMP SHOW

November 17TH – 20TH, 2005

Two new stamps have just been issued: both valued at 45cents, one shows the Exhibition logo and the other a 2d Chalon. They are being printed by New Zealand Post and will be limited to a total print of 6,500 copies. Orders for the stamps and First Day Covers (and any request for other information) may be sent to North Shore Philatelic Society Inc., PO Box 34-253, Birkenhead, North Shore, Auckland 1310.

As noted elsewhere in this issue, a major event at the exhibition will be the launch of what may prove to be the definitive work on the 'Chalon' issues. The co-authors are Gerald Elliott, Bob Odenweller, John Watts and Tom Lee with a section on the roulette issues contributed by the Right Honourable R.J. Tizard. The volume is being printed by the same company as produced Bob Odenweller's recent volume on Samoa and should be a 'must have' volume for the bookshelf.

AN AUSPICIOUS YEAR - 2005

ROBIN STARTUP

The main event marking the 150th Anniversary of the introduction of Postage Stamps in New Zealand was the opening of **Stamped! Celebrating 150 years of New Zealand's Postal History**, a six-month long exhibition in our Museum of New Zealand, Te Papa, in Wellington. Unfortunately, I was not able to attend as I was in Taranaki, my home province, for a couple of days.

Though not opening to the public until Saturday 16th, the Friends of Te Papa had a preview/supper on the evening of the 14th, while the 15th "Philatelists Day" commenced with a dawn Maori blessing and ended with a dinner in the evening to thank those who had helped. I understand that New Zealand Post Stamps Business people had invited about 27,000 people on their mailing list and, despite it being a Friday and a working day, some 1,200 turned up. Michael Sefi, the Keeper of Her Majesty the Queen's Collection, explained the display from that Collection to attentive audiences both that day and on the first two public open days.

The opening was featured in two three to five minute slots on prime-time television, in 'headliners' on Friday evening and in the 6 p.m. national news on Sunday evening. Robin Gwynn handled the explanations admirably while the Maori curator, Dr. Patrick Brownsey, the Museum Curator responsible for philately, and Michael Sefi were key commentators on other segments. It was interesting to note that the cameras concentrated on a display of Maori head stamps – insensitive at the time to Maori culture and controversial, the Chalon Heads with a mint sheet of the one shilling value on display and, to my amusement, both times, one of my own contributions of a savagely scissored in censorship WW2 wartime letter.

From what I have seen in both television and newspaper reports this exhibition is very worthwhile visiting and I am planning to make this the highlight of my next visit to Wellington.

The opening itself was commemorated with a pictorial postage paid envelope featuring the artists drawing of the 8d 1940 Centennial stamp. This was available specially handstamped with a cancellation provided only for the day – on the 16th.

This, of course, is not the only commemoration. Apart from the Chalons Handbook nearing publication in North Shore, Auckland, several philatelic societies have arranged special displays. The Timaru Philatelic Society has their own “*Postal History of South Canterbury*” exhibition in the South Canterbury Museum in Timaru between May 21 and 7 August. The June 2005 issue of *New Zealand Stamp Collector* of the Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand featured the anniversary and my own article “20 July 1855 – a momentous date in NZ philately”.

PACIFIC EXPLORER INTERNATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION 21ST – 24TH APRIL 2005

JOHN WOOLFE

Pacific explorer 2005 World Stamp Exhibition was held at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, Darling Harbour, an up and coming refurbished Sydney suburb with many restaurants nearby. It is a recently constructed building with a light and airy interior and none of the dark corners of the type often found at London Exhibitions.

There was no FIP Championship Class but an invited Court of Honour including some exhibits from the British Library Tapling Collection arranged by David Beech. On show was one of the two recorded examples of the Chalon 1d ‘Dwarf Print’.

In the Competitive Exhibition, there were seven New Zealand entries:

Exhibitor	Title of Exhibit	Frames	Marks	Medal
Stephen Schumann	New Zealand Postal Stationery 1876 - 1936	8	94	Gold
Greg Francis	Early Otago Postal History	8	92	Gold
John Woolfe	Early New Zealand Overseas Mail	5	88	Large Vermeil
Barry Scott	NZ Air Mails 1919 - 1948	8	87	Large Vermeil
‘Phoenix	1d Universal	5	85	Large Vermeil
David Beech, Allan Berry and Robin Startup	NZ Bibliography	Lit.	82	Vermeil
Captain Coqk	Periodical	Lit.	65	Silver Bronze

There were 120 dealers or Postal Authorities Stands but, of these, only 4 were from New Zealand although most of the other well known dealers from New Zealand were present as visitors. From a New Zealand collectors point of view, there seemed little new material on offer.

My major criticism was the poor liaison between the Organisers and the Exhibitors. For example, although free admission had been promised for Exhibitors, it was, in fact, impossible to obtain and entry to the Palmares seemed to be restricted to those using the Exhibition web site.

INTERNATIONAL FLAVOUR TO STAMP LITERATURE EXHIBITION

Striking international interest was evident at the exhibition of stamp literature held in Palmerston North on the last weekend of June this year.

From a strong field of over 80 entries, the Grand Award and a large gold medal went to a Canadian, Joseph Chalhoub, for his magnificent catalogue of the stamps of Egypt.

Runner-up was a 3-volume Italian entry on the postal history of Ethiopia, which over the past five years has opened up a new field of research for collectors. Another gold medal went to John Heath of the United Kingdom for a detailed study of the 1868 issue of Mexico.

Best local entry was a formidable philatelic bibliography of New Zealand and Dependencies co-authored by Allan Berry of Thames, Robin Startup of Masterton and David Beech, the philatelic curator at the British Library. Its large silver-gold medal award was accompanied by the Felicitations of the Jury for a real labour of love.

Other works of New Zealand interest included the first serious attempt to catalogue the recent productions of private postal operators, by Hilton Dickens of Masterton; and a deeply researched and entertaining study of Southland postal history by Jon Slattery.

Judging was carried out over a month by a team of six judges under the chairmanship of Dr Robin Gwynn of Napier. Entries were couriered around the country, and then the team met to make its final decisions at Christchurch where four of the judges were based.

"It's great to see such a splendid range of entries in this, the 150th year since the first New Zealand were issued", said Robin, himself a former Grand Award winner of this exhibition organised biannually by the Central Districts Philatelic Trust.

"It's a grand lead-up to next month, when on 20 July we celebrate the actual anniversary."

Jenny Banfield of Raumati, President of the New Zealand Philatelic Federation which represents over forty stamp clubs around New Zealand, added her congratulations to the entrants. "Their enthusiasm keeps the hobby bubbling, and their research deepens our knowledge", she said.

"The historical significance of the work represented here will be obvious in the large scale six-month exhibition 'Stamped!' being mounted in Wellington by Te Papa, which opens the week before the 150th anniversary next month.

"New Zealand stamp literature will also be a part of the competitive exhibition to be held in Auckland in November.

"Whether you are a beginner or a deeply engaged enthusiast, 2005 is an exciting year to be a stamp collector", Jenny said.

INFORMATION RECEIVED:

PRESS RELEASES

Health Stamps Celebrate Pets as Companions

3 August 2005

The comfort and companionship children gain from looking after a pet is celebrated in New Zealand Post's latest children's health stamp issue, entitled '*Children and Pets*'.

Health stamps have been issued by New Zealand Post every year since 1929. The stamps raise money for New Zealand children by carrying an additional five cent surcharge, which is donated to Children's Health Camps throughout New Zealand.

Stamps General Manager Ivor Masters said that New Zealand Post had chosen this year's theme because of the significant contribution pets make to the overall well-being of our young people.

'Pets often play a pivotal role in a child's emotional development, as well as bringing physical benefits in the form of exercise and entertainment. We believe the '*Children and Pets*' issue reflects the holistic approach Children's Health Camps take to addressing health needs. This involves working closely with family/whanau to help our kids develop more positive lifestyles.

'New Zealand Post is immensely proud to provide assistance to this vital children's service for the 76th year running. We hope that all New Zealanders will show Children's Health Camps their support next time they go to send a letter or a card.'

Children's Health Camps were originally set up in New Zealand in the early twentieth century, in response to concerns about children suffering from tuberculosis and malnutrition. Today the camps address a very different range of needs, but remain highly relevant in their contribution to the health of New Zealand children.

Chief Executive of the New Zealand Foundation for Child and Family Health and Development Dr Fiona Inkpen said that New Zealand Post's ongoing support helps the camps to offer a wide range of programmes. These programmes address issues from anger management and communication skills to more specific health needs such as skin care or the management of diabetes.

'Funds raised through the sale of health stamps will be used to support some of our most vulnerable young people to grow in confidence, and build fulfilling and resilient lives for themselves. This year the funds will contribute to the development of healthcare programmes that teach children how to manage their medical conditions and live happy, healthy lives.'

The '*Children and Pets*' issue features two 45-cent stamps (plus 5-cent donation) and one 90-cent stamp (plus 5-cent donation), which depict children enjoying and playing with their pets.

The stamps and first day covers were designed by Donna Cross of Three Eyes Limited, and printed by Southern Colour Print, Dunedin. They are available from the usual outlets from 3 August 2005.

Stamps Celebrate Survival of the Extraordinary Kakapo

3 August 2005

The dedication shown by conservationists in bringing the Kakapo back from the brink of extinction is celebrated in New Zealand Post's 2005 Worldwide Fund for Nature stamp issue, which features four images of this remarkable native bird.

There have been times in New Zealand's history where it was believed that the species was doomed to die out, and only the determined efforts of the Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) and other conservation organisations have saved it from this fate.

Stamps General Manager Ivor Masters praised the WWF for the significant impact its environmental work has had in New Zealand, of which conservation of the Kakapo is a small but important part.

'We hope that this stamp series will give New Zealanders an understanding of how unique the Kakapo is, and a renewed appreciation for the work that WWF and other organisations have undertaken to save it from extinction.'

Four 45-cent stamps make up the 2005 Worldwide Fund for Nature Kakapo series. The word 'Kakapo' can be translated as 'night parrot', and this is the theme of the first 45-cent stamp. The second stamp illustrates the ability of the Kakapo to camouflage itself by a 'freeze and blend' strategy, which is so effective conservationists say that they have stood less than a metre from a Kakapo in the forest and have been unable to see it.

The Kakapo's nocturnal and flightless characteristics are depicted in the third stamp. Although they live on the ground, and at 3.5 kilograms weigh in as the heaviest parrots in the world, Kakapos can climb surprisingly well and are able cover distances of between 15 and 30 hectares in a day.

Finally, the fourth 45-cent stamp in the series bears the caption 'Endangered – only 86 known surviving', emphasising the precarious nature of the bird's existence. Numbers of Kakapo declined

rapidly from the early 1800s with the arrival of European settlers and subsequent introduction of cats, stoats and several species of rats. Today the species is officially extinct on mainland New Zealand, and all remaining birds live in designated reserves on offshore islands.

The stamps and first day cover were designed by Cue Design in Wellington and printed by Southern Colour Print. They are available from the usual outlets from 3 August 2005.

SPECIAL DATESTAMP

‘Stamped: Celebrating New Zealand’s Postal History’ Exhibition



A special pictorial date stamp was issued to commemorate the ‘collector’s only’ day at ‘Stamped: Celebrating New Zealand’s Postal History’ exhibition being held at Te Papa, Wellington on 15 July 2005.

PUBLICATION RECEIVED

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH PACIFIC AIRLINES 1946 – 1954

Author: Laurence Kimpton. Pub. By the Author, 20, Greytree Crescent, Dorridge, Solihull, West Midlands B93 8SL. ISBN 0-9550831-0-9. Perfect bound soft covers, A4 size. Printed in a limited edition of 300 copies. PP64 with 4 in colour. Price £15 + P&P (£1.80 in UK).

This book by Society member, Laurence Kimpton, describes the aviation and aero-philatelic history of what must be the shortest lived airline in aviation history. Born out of the politics at the end of the Second World War, the company was created by Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom as a counterbalance to the United States. Initial efforts to obtain landing rights in 1946 failed and any passengers or mail had to travel to Vancouver and then back to the USA on an American Airline.

Starting with the pioneer Pacific flights of Kingsford Smith and others in the late 20’s and 1930s, it gives a full account of the development of trans-Pacific traffic by Pan American Airways in 1937 and 1938. After the war, British Commonwealth Pacific Airlines (BCPA) was set up as a counterbalance to the Americans. Unfortunately, it had no aircraft and had to borrow from Australian National Airlines. For most of its existence, only 4 aeroplanes operated under BCPA colours and, by 1952, due to increasing competition, passenger numbers were falling. The joint ownership was also causing tension as the national airlines of the three countries owning the company were competing directly. The last flight was in May 1954 and much of the operation was absorbed by Quantas.

This book gives a comprehensive and well written survey of the history of the whole period. Numerous flown covers are illustrated but, equally interesting, the whole range of ephemera generated are also shown. This includes publicity leaflets, airmail etiquettes, timetables and postcards showing the aeroplanes operated.

The volume is well produced with high quality printing on good quality paper giving a pleasing clarity to the illustrations which is not always present in philatelic literature. The colour illustrations are especially of excellent quality.

Overall, this is an interesting vignette of a fascinating short period of history and is recommended for anybody interested in the airmails of the period.

RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS ARTICLES:

THE BOER COVER – FURTHER INFORMATION

In a previous issue of *The Kiwi*, an illustration of an envelope from H.R. Tuckey was illustrated (1). Subsequently, Allan Berry provided some very useful and interesting information about the cover (2). Some further information was published in *The Mailcoach* in 1994 (3). Part of this information is reprinted here with grateful acknowledgements to *The Mailcoach* and the author, George Stewart then of Mutare, Zimbabwe (3). In this article, the contemporary town names have been used for historical accuracy.

Lt. Tuckey's Boer War letters were preserved by his daughter and copies may be found in the National Archives of Zimbabwe. From them there is a detailed account of the activities of the New Zealanders in the Rhodesian Field Forces in 1900 (4).

By 1900, some 1,700 men of the Rhodesian settler population had gone off to fight on the side of Britain against the Boers. Rhodesia, having been settled just 10 years earlier, is on the northern border of present day South Africa. The defences of Rhodesia were considerably weakened by the loss of such a large number of its new population. The authorities who were the British South Africa Company (founded by Cecil Rhodes) agreed to enlist and equip the Rhodesian Field Force with the Imperial Government bearing the expense. This force was to reinforce the country through Beira to Portuguese east Africa. It was made up of the 17th Battalion of the Imperial Yeomanry, the 18th Battalion of the Sharpshooters from Britain and 4,000 Australian, Tasmanian and New Zealand 'Bushmen'. The army was under the command of Major General Sir Frederick Carrington K.C.M.G., K.C.B. (4).

The New Zealanders and Australians landed in Beira on 11th 1900 in a neutral country but a treaty to allow troop movements existed. In Beira the troops suffered badly from mosquitoes and malaria and dysentery broke out. Horses fared not much better from the burning sun. Lieutenant Hickey of the 5th New Zealand Regiment wrote, "We might as well have stayed in New Zealand another three weeks and then we should not have had to hang around in this fever-stricken hole." Three weeks later, still in Beira, he wrote, "No white man would dream of camping where this camp is. However, the Imperial authorities do not seem to think it is a very serious thing to dump colonials in such a place."

Their second camp was at Bamboo Creek, about 60 miles inland from Beira by a two foot gauge railway which could not cope with the demands of an army. The station was surrounded by a malaria infested swamp. Food was rotting in Beira. "We have bully beef, bread and jam and tea in the morning and call it breakfast, ditto midday dignified by lunch, ditto in the evening and the food is honoured by the title dinner," Tuckey wrote. Horses in shadeless enclosures contracted a new disease, "black tongue". Each day dead horses were dragged out for the vultures and hyenas.

The army at last moved up into Rhodesia to Marandellas, about 40 miles south east of the capityal Salisbury. The full width railway line between Salisbury and Bamboo Creek had recently been completed to this point. At Marandellas conditions of climate and accommodation were

better but the altitude at 5,400 feet above sea level, whilst making the environment most pleasant, caused the malaria fever to manifest itself. Black tongue followed the horses with an average of 20 dying a day. For the Australians and New Zealanders who had brought their horses from home, their deaths were more unsettling than their own illnesses.

It seemed that Lord Roberts, the British Commander of the Imperial Forces in South Africa, did not know what to do with the Rhodesian Field Force. It was not ready for the relief of Mafeking on 16th May 1900. Roberts wanted it to march into the Transvaal but Carrington dallied. In August it went to Mafeking to link up with Baden-Powell. Carrington marched on Brakfontein in which was a small garrison of Australians and Rhodesians surrounded by Boers. When Carrington's forces came under attack he retreated and his troops considered it a betrayal of their comrades who eventually were relieved by Lord Kitchener eleven days later.

That was really the end of the Rhodesian Field Force. They returned to Mafeking. Tuckey, now a Captain, was Staff Officer to Colonel Manners-Wood who had been left in charge of the Field Force in Mafeking and the unit made its way back to Tuli inside Rhodesia.

In Tuli, further training was carried out. It is here that the illustrated cover was sent. Carrington returned to Bulawayo and was relieved of his command. He later returned to England where it was suggested that he might be given a baronetcy for his services. Tuckey was sent to Bulawayo where he took charge of a composite squadron of New Zealanders, men from New South Wales and Victoria who had been in hospital and recovered. December 1900 saw him on the train to De Arr in the Cape.

What remains of this army? Apart from the misery of death and disease, not from fighting, there was certainly no glory other than the intentions of brave men who had followed inept leadership. A clasp 'Rhodesia' on the Queen's South African Medal, an illuminated address by the citizens of Salisbury to the Force (in the National Archives of Zimbabwe) and the graves at Marandellas are the only memorials to those New Zealanders and others who were in Rhodesia.

However, philatelically, as far as the postal history of Rhodesia is concerned, there are other reminders. The troops were given a concessionary postage rate of 1d per half ounce for Empire mail. Postmarks from Marandellas should be found on covers from the Rhodesian Field Force between May 1900 and August 1900 and elements of the force were deployed in Umtali and Bulawayo from where covers could also have emanated. Mail bearing the reduced rate is normally found bearing the name, rank etc. of the sender and is countersigned on the cover by an officer.

New Zealand Forces came back to Rhodesia forty years later as part of the Empire Air Training Scheme during World War II. And again forty years on, New Zealand Forces which so brilliantly supervised the end of the Rhodesian Civil War and birth of Zimbabwe in 1980. This time they left in glory.

References:

1. Woolfe J. 'A Boer War Cover'. *The Kiwi* (2004). Vol. 53. No. 6. P. 130.
 2. Berry AP. 'Some Information about a Boer War Cover'. *The Kiwi* (2005). Vol. 54. No. 3. Pp. 51-53.
 3. Stewart G. 'The Tuckey Cover'. Pub. The Mail Coach (1994). Vol. 30. No.5. Pp. 219-223
 4. Hickman Col. AS '*Rhodesia Served the Queen*'. Pub. Govt. of Rhodesia (1975).
 5. Tanser GH '*A Sequence of Time*'. Pub. Pioneer Head, Rhodesia (1974).
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REGARDING 'A NEW LABEL FROM NEW ZEALAND'

ALAN DEAL

I was interested to read the note from Allan Berry about the new red label (1). The insufficient postage labels began life as slogans on envelopes shortly after the increase in postage rates from 40c to 45c on April 5th, 2004. There are two examples illustrated here: it is interesting to note that 'insufficient' is incorrectly spelt in the example shown in Figure 1.

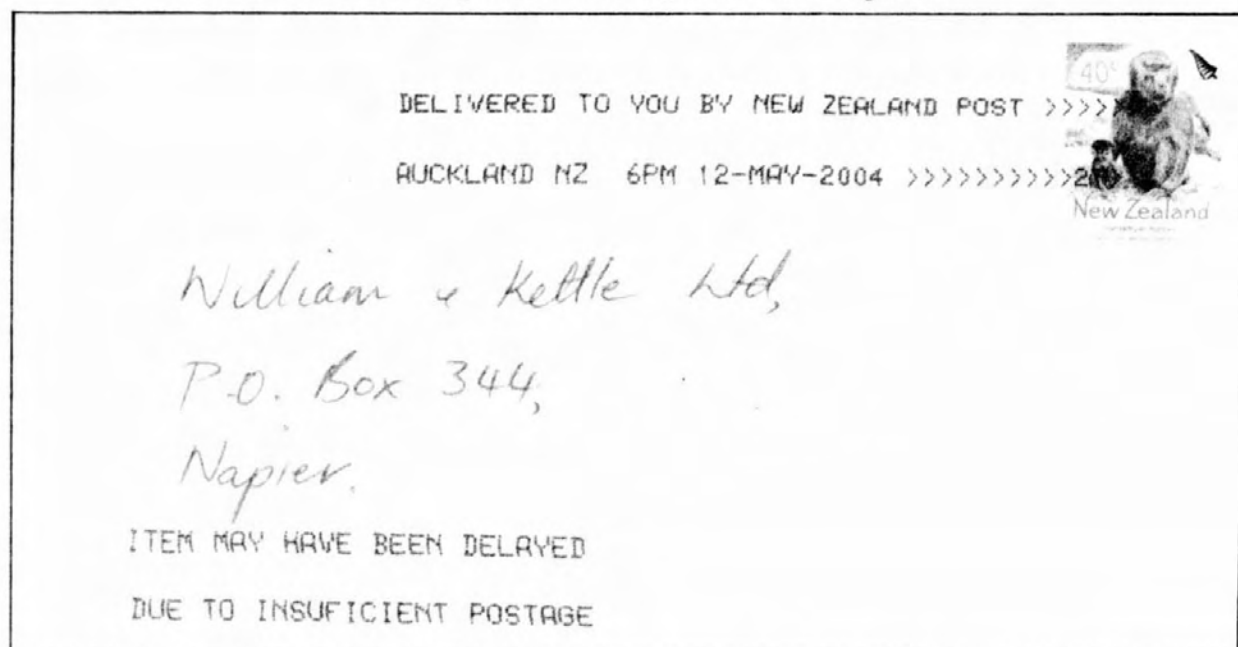


Figure 1

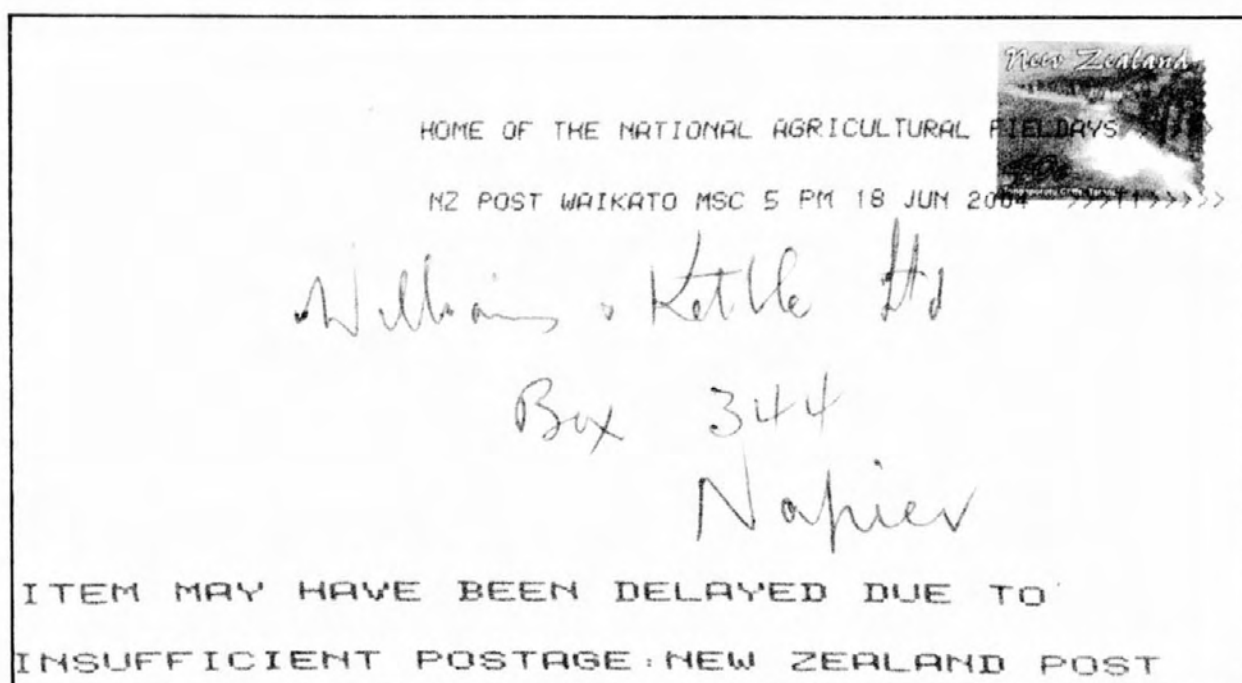


Figure 2

Reference:

1. Berry AP. 'A New Label from New Zealand Post'. *The Kiwi* (2005). Vol. 54 No. 3. P. 55.

MORE ABOUT THAT 1935 AIRMAIL!

ALAN ARCHER

I was very interested to read Harry Fox's very helpful correction to N.Z. Post's latest error (1). I have a shared interest in New Zealand stamps and de Havilland aeroplanes and would like to add to the debate.

The D.H.86, de Havilland's first four-engined airliner, sometimes called the 'Express', was built to the Australian Governments specification for use on the Singapore leg of the England-Australia 'Empire Service'(2). The prototype, first flown in January 1934, and the next three, had the same stubby nose as their twin-engined predecessor, the D.H. 84 Dragon, which had room only for a single pilot. The second to be built was certified in July 1934 and was sold to Holyman's Airways Pty., registered VH-URN and flown by Tasman Aerial services as 'Miss Hobart'. It crashed in the Bass Strait in October 1934, killing Holyman, his navigator and ten passengers. The other 3 Dragon-nosed machines were operated by Railway Air Services in the U.K.

Not surprisingly, for long haul work Australia called for side by side seating for two pilots. This required a re-designed and notably longer nose. After the first had been fitted to the prototype this new nose was adopted as standard on the production line. It was in 1936, after 29 had been built – including six for New Zealand, that the improved D.H.86A with detailed modifications, was introduced (and in 1937 the last 10 were the further modified D.H.86Bs with auxiliary fins). The de Havilland 'Express' could not compete with the Douglas DC2 and DC3 on the world market and only 62 were built.

It goes against the grain to have to conclude that, in this case, Stanley Gibbons was correct. The aeroplane at Bell Block aerodrome shown on the stamp issued on 4 May 1935, has a distinctly stubby nose and is therefore confidently identifiable as one of the first four D.H.86 to be built and it can only have been the unfortunate 'Miss Hobart', construction number 2301, that visited New Zealand in 1934.

Sorry!

References:

1. Fox H. 'New Zealand Post Again!'. *The Kiwi* (2005). Vol. 54. No. 4. P. 75.
2. Jackson AJ 'De Havilland Aircraft since 1909' Pub. Putman. 3rd edition, 1987.

ORIGINAL ARTICLES AND CONTRIBUTIONS:

THE FIRST APPEARANCE OF POSTAGE STAMPS IN NEW ZEALAND

Readers will be aware that this year we celebrate the 150th anniversary of the issuing of the first postage stamps in New Zealand. Interestingly, the exact date on which they became available has been a matter of debate over the years. The first known usage on cover is a part letter sheet dated 1 August 1855 franked with a pair of the twopence and which is in the Tapling Collection in the British Library.

To illustrate the nature of the debate, three articles are reprinted below. The first two are written by **Ray Collins**, the foremost philatelist and dealer of his time who authored numerous contributions to the New Zealand Stamp Collector in its early days. The third article is by **Robin Startup**, the most prolific philatelic author on New Zealand Postal History of modern times. Robin Startups' article illustrates the continuing nature of philatelic research and shows that there are still important statements to be made about the most fundamental facts in philately.



1. From NEW ZEALAND NOTES by R.J.G.Collins, published in *The New Zealand Stamp Collector*, August 6th., 1924.

Owing to the loss of the official records when the Post office and the Government Printing Office were destroyed by fire, it has been a difficult matter to compile exact information concerning the early issues of New Zealand stamps, and as a result there has been a diversity of opinion concerning several points.

Among the items which have been in dispute there is the question as to the exact date on which the "full-face" stamps were introduced. The matter was revived in the London letter in the January number of this journal in which our correspondent quotes an article by the Rev. C.S. Morton, which had appeared in the "Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly." In the course of his remarks Mr. Morteon wrote as follows:-

"A note in the "Government Gazette" of **13th July 1885***, stated they had been received and issued to the public by postmasters; stamps to be affixed outside letters or packets and above the address: and if the one penny postage be not prepaid, twopence would be charged. Both the Handbooks issued by the N.Z. Philatelic Society and by Mr. Collins give the date as 18th July, 1885*, and Stanley Gibbons, though long adhering to the thirteenth, have since 1917 given date of issue as the eighteenth.

"Mr. Davies, in his able and well-informed article in the "Philatelic Record" for September 1889, gives the thirteenth, and this certainly appears to be the correct date of issue; the other authorities appear to have misread the date in the "Government Gazette" or a compositor is responsible."

It would appear from Mr. Morton's remarks in the last paragraph which I have quoted that he has inferred that both Mr. Joliffe and myself have misread the "Government Gazette" but apparently he has not endeavoured to substantiate his inference by reference to the Gazette. The position is that on the 13th of July, 1855, the Colonial Secretary's office drew up a notice the "The Postage Stamps..... have been received, and are issued by Post Masters to the Public at the respective fixed values of such stamps, viz:- one penny, two pence and one shilling per stamp." This notice was sent forward for publication in the next Gazette which appeared on the **18th July**. Now, it may not be generally known that official notices and proclamations become operative from the date of the Gazette in which they appear and not from the date of the notice or proclamation, hence, although the notice itself was dated in the Colonial Secretary's office on the

13th the authority for the issue of the stamps dates from the 18th and the latter must, therefore, be accepted as the official date on which the stamps were introduced.

(* note this appears to be a typographical error in the original article and should read 1855).

2. The second article is also by Ray Collins and was published in the Catalogue of the New Zealand International Stamp Exhibition which was held in Auckland Town Hall between July 16 and July 22, 1955.

THE INTRODUCTION OF ADHESIVE POSTAGE STAMPS IN NEW ZEALAND

By R. J. G. Collins, F.R.P.S.N.Z.

In the hundred years during which New Zealand Postage stamps have been in use, no date is more important to the philatelic historian than that on which the first stamps were issued.

For many years Gibbons' catalogue quoted July 13th, 1855, as the date of issue of the 1d., 2d., and 1s. with the full-face portrait of Queen Victoria taken from the Chalon painting. Since the issue of the "History of New Zealand Stamps" published by the Philatelic Society of New Zealand in 1911, the date of the first issue of the "full-faces" has been accepted as July 18, 1855. Actually this was the date upon which the stamps were first made available to the public at Auckland.

Authority for the issue of stamps to indicate the pre-payment of postage was given by a proclamation issued by Sir George Grey, and published in the "New Zealand Gazette" of January 8, 1851. One clause in this proclamation reads:-

"And whereas it is expedient that by pre-paying the postage, persons should be enabled to send letters to and from the Colony of New Zealand to Great Britain free of postage to the persons receiving the same, and that a system of pre-payment of letters by stamps should be introduced into New Zealand".

From the wording of the proclamation it is evident that the Governor and his Colonial Secretary believed that the stamps would be available before the proclamation became operative on April 1, 1851. A letter had been sent on November 19, 1850, to the Postmaster-General of New South Wales enquiring whether it was possible to procure postage stamps for New Zealand in Sydney. Mr. John Carmichael, who was considered to be the best engraver in Sydney, intimated that he was prepared to engrave plates for New Zealand, but that he could not undertake the work until he had completed engraving which he was then executing for the Government of New South Wales. Upon receipt of this advice, the governor decided to have the plates and the first printing of stamps produced in England.

On December 22, 1852, the acting Postmaster at Wellington reported to the Colonial Secretary that he considered 1d., 2d., and 1s. would suffice for requirements of the Colony at that time. Early in 1853 the Colonial Agent in London was instructed to take the necessary steps to have plates produced and an initial supply of stamps printed. There was a long delay before the order was filled, as it was not until February, 1855, that they were received in Wellington and transhipped to Auckland in March.

A special committee consisting of the Auditor-General, the Postmaster at Auckland, and the Commission of Crown Lands submitted a report to the Colonial Secretary on June 1, 1855. This committee proposed that the following regulations be adopted:-

"1. All letters to be prepaid by Postage Stamps.

"2. The stamps to be issued by the Treasurer and Sub-Treasurer on the requisition of the different Postmasters. (A requisite supply of such stamps must be sent to each such Treasurer before the Regulations come into force).

"3. On the receipt of stamped letters in each Post Office, the Stamps are to be cancelled previously to their despatch.

"The Regulations to come into force in the Province of Auckland on a day fixed by a Proclamation, and on such a day, in other Provinces, as may be specified, after the receipt of such Proclamation by the Postmaster, in each Province, who shall notify the date of such receipt."

The official notice published in the "Gazette" at Auckland on July 18, 1855, announced that:-

"The Postage Stamps referred to in the Proclamation (of December 31, 1850) have been received, and are issued by Post Masters to the Public at the respective fixed values of such stamps, viz:-one penny, two pence, and one shilling per stamp".

The following letter is in the Dominion Archives at Wellington:-

Colonial Secretary's Office
Auckland
19th July 1855

The Postmaster,
NEW PLYMOUTH

"Sir,

I am directed by His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government to forward to you the enclosed Gazette and to draw your attention more particularly to that portion thereof relating to the introduction of the use of Postage Stamps in lieu of the payment of a money rate as at present.

"I am further directed to inform you that His Excellency has caused instructions to be issued to the Postmaster at Auckland to furnish you with cancelling stamps and ink to enable you to comply with the instructions contained in the notice alluded to.

I have (etc.)
Andrew Sinclair
Col. Sec."

Similar letters were written to the Postmasters at Wellington, Nelson, Lyttelton, and Dunedin.

Notification of the issue at Lyttelton was published in "The Lyttelton Times" on August 28, 1855.

A very interesting position arose at Wellington. The Postmaster at that place wrote to the Colonial Secretary on August 28, 1855:-

"Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of date 19th July last containing instructions from His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, for the introduction of postage stamps in lieu of money as at present, at the same time drawing my attention to the Proclamation contained in the Government Gazette on date July 18th, 1855, accompanying it.

"Upon a careful perusal of the Proclamation referred to, I find that it has been long since revoked, and consequently a dead letter, I have therefore postponed bringing the use of stamps into operation until his Excellency has had an opportunity of referring to the existing Proclamation and furnishing me with further instructions.

"His Excellency will find on reference to the New Munster Gazette, Volume 4, No. 24 of date 19th September, 1851, a Proclamation by His Excellency Sir George Grey

revoking the one of 31st December, 1850, and abolishing and repealing all regulations and rates, established thereby. Upon again referring to the New Munster Gazette, Volume 5, No. 31 of date 21st December, 1852, His Excellency will further see a Proclamation by His Excellency Sir George Grey revoking the one of the 19th September, 1851, except so much as revokes the one of 31st December, 1850. This Proclamation I believe has never been repealed by His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government and has been the one by which all proceedings with regard to the conduct of my Office has been conducted.

“As the Auckland Mail containing the instruction with regard to the introduction of Stamps, was only received at this Office yesterday, in consequence of its unintentional detention at Nelson by the Postmaster of that place, it would have given so short a notice to the Public to have brought them into operation on the 1st September, that under all circumstances I have thought it advisable to postpone doing so until the beginning of next quarter namely the 1st October before which time I hope to have further instructions from His Excellency as also His Excellency’s views on the following questions which the introduction of Stamps forces upon one’s attention.

“1. Should not prepayment by Stamps of all letters for despatch be Compulsory, and if put into the office unpaid should not a double rate of postage or some penalty be incurred thereby?

“2. To prevent Postmasters from constant annoyance which would naturally interfere with their duties, should there not be a limit to the amount of stamps sold under which no Postmaster should be compelled to serve the public say ten or twenty shillings worth?

“3. Should there not be some allowance made (as in England) to stationers or others who may purchase stamps to sell them again to the public?

“The above points appear to me of some importance, and to which I hope His Excellency will be pleased to give his consideration. In the meantime pending His Excellency’s reply, I shall give due notice to the public, that the introduction of stamps shall take effect from 1st October next.

I have (etc.)

John F. Hoggard,
Postmaster.”

The Colonial Secretary called for a report on the points raised by Mr. Hoggard. He was informed that:-

“The last Proclamation on the subject of letters was issued at Wellington on the 31st December, 1850.

“The late Postmaster in Auckland informed me that the latter Proclamation was the one under which he was acting, and hence the mistake arose.

“However, in fact, no practical evil can result, for the Proclamation was not re-issued but merely republished and attention drawn to the paragraph relating to postage stamps, which paragraph is word for word identical with that in the Proclamation now in force; and, indeed, the two Proclamations are, with the exception of two or three clauses related to printed books copies of each other.

“There is not the slightest reason for the Postmaster delaying the introduction of Stamps, the use of which is optional, on account of the inaccuracy in question.

"There are two modes of rectifying that error, republishing the former notice and the Proclamation now in force, 31st December, 1850, or re-issuing a new Proclamation to the same effect as that one, merely adding in the clause regarding the stamps the provisions of the notice already published.

"I think the questions to which the Postmaster alludes should be deferred (and in fact they were purposely deferred) until it could be seen how the system worked, and until a Postage Act (none existing now in the Colony) could be introduced regulating the whole subject of Postage by legislative enactment".

The matter was then referred to the Attorney-General to know whether he thought it necessary to take steps on account of the objections raised. The opinion of the Attorney-General was:-

"It appears to me that nothing is **necessary** to make the law operative as the Proclamation **now in force** I presume makes all necessary provision in reference to stamps. It may however be **desirable** to republish for general information the Proclamation which is virtually in operation".

This opinion, which was dated October 13th, was surely vague. One would have thought that, before giving his opinion, the Attorney-General would have read the "Proclamation now in force" and would not have had to presume that it made "any necessary provision in reference to stamps". However, the Postmaster at Wellington did not defer action until he received a reply to his letter. He replaced the stamps on sale on October 1st.

3. The third article is by Robin Startup and was published in The New Zealand Stamp Collector of June 2005. It is reproduced with the kind permission of the author and the Editor.

20 JULY 1855 – A MOMENTOUS DATE IN NEW ZEALAND PHILATELY

By Robin Startup FRPSNZ FRPSL

After a gestation period of some five long years New Zealand's first postage stamps were placed on sale to the public in July 1855, 150 years ago in this year 2005. the stamps were printed 240 to a sheet in imperforate gummed sheets, and were available only in three values, 1d vermilion, 2d blue and 1s green. For philately the problem has been "what was the first day of issue?"

The stamps, printed by Perkins Bacon & Co., in London, had actually been landed in New Zealand, at Wellington, from the *Simlah* about 24 February 1855 but could not be sent north immediately as only about half of the packages could be retrieved from the hold before the coastal steamer sailed for Manukau, with mails etc. for the then capital, Auckland. Eventually the packages of stamps, printing press, and postage stamp materials were shipped on s.s. *Nelson* sailing, via Nelson, on 22 March.

It is believed the consignment reached Auckland about 29 March but not until 8 May was anything done by then administration. On that date a suggestion was made by Colonel Wynyard, Officer Administering the Government (pending arrival of the next Governor) that a Board of Enquiry be set up to open the packages, report the contents, and recommend the regulations under which the stamps should be issued.

1. In pursuance of the directions of His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government we have examined the eight cases containing the Postage Stamping Materials &c recently arrived from England, and we have the honor to report as follows on their content, and on the regulations under which stamps should be issued.

2. We found the contents of the cases to correspond with the Invoice attached to the accompanying papers.

3. With reference to case No. 1 – we recommend the distribution of its contents in the following manner:

86,000 Postage Labels consisting of the kinds specified in the Margin to be delivered to the Colonial Treasurer

12,000	One penny
66,000	Two pence
<u>8,000</u>	One shilling
86,000	

4. 36 cancelling stamps to be delivered to the Postmaster at Auckland for his own use, and for issue to the different Post Offices in New Zealand.

5. The same course to be adopted with reference to the 50 tin canisters of Cancelling Ink – we would suggest with regard to this Ink, that a further supply be obtained, as it consists of a peculiar character, and as serious inconvenience would be the result of its failure.

6 Ink boxes to be retained for the present in the Colonial Secretary's Office

1 Cwt of Whiting to be kept in the Queen's Warehouse.

6. We recommend further that the three steel Postage Plates be kept in a Fire Proof safe in charge of the Colonial Secretary:- as it is important that a continuous supply of stamps be maintained, and as difficulty exists in working the Printing Press here, we would suggest that the authorities at Sydney should be communicated with, as early as possible, with a view to their causing to be printed from these plates, and transmitted here, a supply of stamps at such rates as may be agreed upon.

7. The other seven cases (containing materials of the Printing Press) we recommend to be kept in the Queen's Warehouse.

8. The regulations under which the Stamps should be used should be, we think, chiefly as follows

1 All letters to be prepaid by Postage Stamps

2 The Stamps to be issued by the Treasurer and Sub Treasurers on the requisition of the different Post Masters. A requisite supply of such stamps must be sent to each of such Treasurers before the regulations come into force.

3. On the receipt of stamped letters in each Post Office, the stamps are to be cancelled previously to their despatch.

9. It is suggested that persons posting letters be requested to affix the stamps on the top right upper corner of the face of such letters, in order that the Stamps may be quickly observed, and the transaction of Post Office business facilitated.

10. The Regulations to come into force in the Province of Auckland on a day fixed by a Proclamation, and on such day, in other provinces, as may be specified, after the receipt of such Proclamation by the Postmaster, in the capital of each province – who shall notify the date of such receipt.

11. The Stamps to be issued, by Post Masters to the public at their respective fixed values.
12. If the Stamps are expended at any Post Office, cash payments to be resorted to until a fresh supply of Stamps can be procured.
13. We beg to attach for His Excellency's information a printed copy of Post Office Regulations on this subject issued in September 1853 at Hobart Town.

Charles Knight, Aud. Gnl.
William Hulme, Postmaster
W. Gisborne, C. Crm Lands.'

The report was received on 5 June 1855 and then was sent around members of the Executive Council. Remembering that this was decades before the arrival of typewriters the only copy of the six page hand-written document was passed on from hand to hand with each official writing his comment across the face of the top pages. With expeditious handling it got back to Colonel Wynyard who, on 14 June, instructed that 'what is necessary for the Public guidance' be gazetted.

First it had to go through the Executive Council (18 June). As the stock of initial stamps, known to us today as the 'London Prints', was to be issued through the Colonial Treasury in Auckland to the Sub-Treasurer in each of the provinces of New Plymouth, Wellington, Nelson, Canterbury, and Otago, they had to know what was planned so a circular letter was issued to them 6 July. On the same day the Provincial Postmasters were written to advising that the stamps were being placed with the Sub Treasurer, and that they could draw their supply, for supply to the public, from them. These letters were probably carried south from Manukau on the s.s. *Zingari* sailing 9 July, reaching Wellington on the 15th and Dunedin 25th July – this voyage was primarily to collect Members of Parliament for the session of Parliament coming up.

The actual notice of availability of stamps for prepayment of postage, dated 13 July 1855, was gazetted on 18 July. Copies of the *Gazette* were sent to the six provincial Postmasters on the 19th. Remember at this time the *Zingari* was on her way north, not sailing from Manukau for the south again until 11 August.

In earlier years philatelists had accepted the date of issue of these stamps as being 13 July – from the date of the *Gazette* notice but from the 1930s at least the accepted date has been 18 July, the date of the *Gazette*.

However, the date is now accepted as 20 July.

The Postmaster, Auckland, along with the Postmasters in the five remote Provincial capitals, was sent his copy of the *Gazette* on 19 July – we know this from a hand written endorsement on the documents Colonial Secretary's office 55/4019 (in Archives New Zealand, Wellington, holdings). The Postmaster would have received this at earliest on Thursday 19 July but more probably on the morning of Friday 20 July 1855. This was simply the notice and authority for introducing postage stamps – the Postmaster still had to obtain his stocks from the Colonial Treasurer's office.

The first requisition for a replacement supply of postage stamps survives. This requisition form, completed by William Corbett, the Acting Postmaster, Auckland, (the Postmaster having died in the meantime) was dated 19 September 1855. It gave details of the previous supply of stamps and gives 20 July 1855 as the *date of receipt of those stamps*. This requisition form also survives as part of the Colonial Secretary's office documents in Archives New Zealand, Wellington (number CS 57/1469).

THE CENTENARY STAMP EXHIBITION

MIKE SHAND

This year sees the 150th anniversary of the issuing of the first postage stamps in New Zealand. The Centenary was marked by an International Stamp Exhibition which was held in the Town Hall at Auckland between July 16th and 22nd in 1955. The catalogue is a handsome production of about 95 pages which includes a listing of all the exhibits and the Rules and Regulations for those entering. The picture they convey shows how different and informal competition was at that time. Some extracts illustrate the point:

ELIGIBLE ENTRIES

1. Every type of Philatelic Collection except fiscal, telephone, railway or poster stamps may be entered by individuals, societies or groups of collectors throughout the world, but only the first can enter for competition. Government exhibits may be invited by the Exhibition Committee and a Court of Honour may be established.

FORM OF MOUNTING

4. Exhibits of stamps for display in frames must be mounted on loose leaf album pages. A portion of an exhibit may be shown in frames and the remainder held for examination by the Jury. No exhibits for display in frames will be accepted in any other form

5. Stamps or covers may be exhibited in cellophane or other transparent containers but exhibitors are requested, for the benefit of the Jury, not to do this unless it is essential for the protection of the particular stamps exhibited.

The preamble to the catalogue describes the Constitution and Powers of the Jury. It specifies that:

Awards shall be made on the standard attained rather than the placings of the exhibit within its section and the Jury will be requested to base their awards on a consideration inter alia of the following factors:

Up-to-date philatelic knowledge

Completeness

Condition

Arrangement and neatness

In the event, the winner of the Grand Championship was J.W. Grant, FRPSL of Christchurch with a General Collection of N.Z., 1855-1955. The description of the exhibit shows that it included a cover posted at Kororarika in 1841 and a historical series of correspondence from the Rev. Thomas Burns, one of the founders of Otago, a pair of SG 1 and a block of four of the 1d Christchurch Exhibition Claret.

The Runner up and winner of the Royal Philatelic Society of London Medal and gold Award was Dr. J.W. Avery from Darfield. Unfortunately the catalogue description of his entry is not as revealing: 'A generalised N.Z. collection showing re-entries, re-touches and printing flaws etc.'

One of the features of the Exhibition was a full range of social activities. This started on the first afternoon with the official opening by the Patron, The Governor-General, His Excellency Lt. Gen. Sir Willoughby Norrie, GCMG, GCVO, CB, DSO, MC and continued on the evening of 21st July with the official Exhibition Dinner. Menus were handed out which included space to collect the autographs of prominent philatelist who were attending the dinner. An example is shown in Figures 1 and 2. I was taken by the idea of having a comic turn and violin solo interspersed with the speeches. I can recognise some of the signatures but wonder whether anyone can identify them all. Is there anyone still around who actually attended the banquet?

[illegible]

NEW ZEALAND INTERNATIONAL
STAMP EXHIBITION
1955



*J. M. Garland.
E. G. Murray.*

Celebration Dinner

*Kearney, &
J. Taylor.*

AUCKLAND, THURSDAY, 21st JULY, 1955

Figure 1
The Front of
the menu
Reduced
by 10%

H. A. Dexter.

Menu

APPETISER

Chilled Pineapple Juice
Chilled Tomato Juice

SOUP

Brown Windsor
Creme of Asparagus

FISH

Crumbed Flounder

ROASTS

Fillet of Pork and Seasoning
Beef and Yorkshire Pudding
Lamb and Mint Sauce

VEGETABLES

Baked Potatoes Creamed Potatoes
Baked Pumpkin Green Peas

SWEETS

Peach Pie
Fruit Salad and Ice Cream
Steamed Fruit Pudding
Biscuits and Cheese

Coffee

Toast List

THE QUEEN

THE VISITORS

President: V. McFarlane

Reply

Frederick Walker, K. R. Soward

ITEM: Song

Tony Rex

JURY AND JUDGES

T. W. M. Ashby

Reply

J. R. W. Purves, R. J. G. Collins

ITEM: Humour

John Reidy

FEDERATION OF PHILATELIC SOCIETIES

L. D. Nola

Reply

C. W. Watts

ITEM: Violin Solo

Cyril Pasco

THE POST OFFICE

K. J. McNaught

Reply

H. A. Eaves, P. Collas

ITEM: Duet

Tony Rex and John Reidy

THE DEALERS

J. Reg. Walker

Reply

L. Vernazoni

ENTERTAINMENT BY EX-MEMBERS OF
THE KIWI CONCERT PARTY

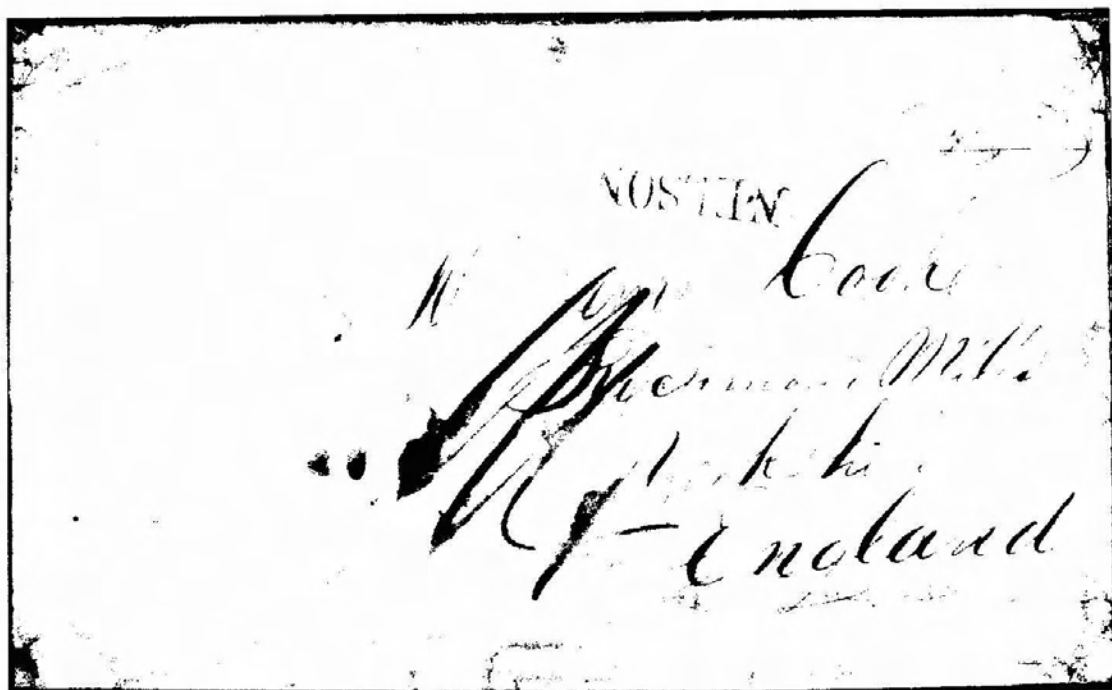
Accompanist, Eric Bell

Figure 2
Inside
the menu
Reduced
by 10%

Cavendish

specialises in the unusual!

Our 22nd – 23rd September sale will provide a feast of material to open the philatelic season.



1842 Ship Letter with rare NELSON mark – one of only a handful known

Can we help YOU build – or sell – YOUR Collection?

Contact James Grimwood-Taylor, Ken Baker or Ian Kellock.



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