



THE KIWI

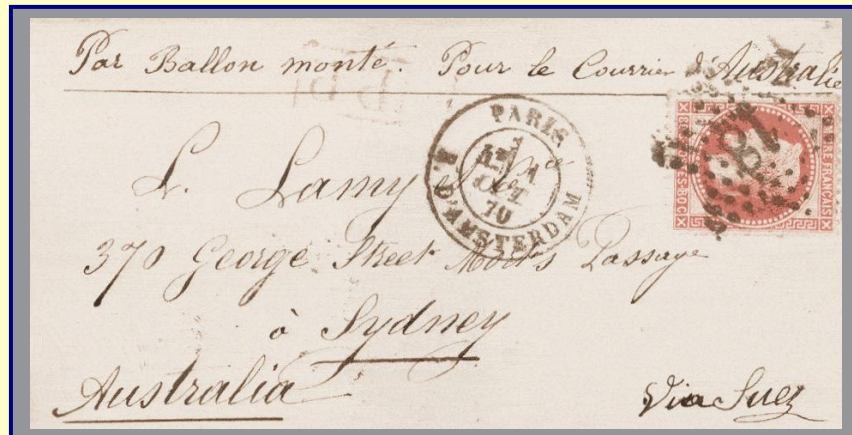
JOURNAL OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN



*The 1925 Dunedin Exhibition - Errors and Varieties.
(see page 48)*



Superb material for the discerning



The above cover was an example of the world's first airmail and is the only known Paris ballon post cover addressed to Australasia. In 2009 Mowbrays Australia sold this 1870 Siege of Paris ballon monté cover for NZ \$238,625 – then a record Australasian price for a philatelic item.



The above 13 August 1855 cover from Auckland to Birmingham, England, bears a pair of New Zealand's very first 1d full-face queen stamps. Only three covers bearing 1d SG1 FFQs are known – this being the earliest recorded date. It was acquired in 2009 by John Mowbray for a client for NZ \$138,000.

Mowbray Collectables buys and sells collections, stamps and postal history. What can you offer? Contact our friendly staff in the first instance.

Mowbray collectables offers New Zealand and world collections, stamps and postal history in monthly postal auction catalogues – free samples available!

Mowbray Collectables

Private Bag 63000, Wellington, New Zealand 6140

☎ + 64 6 364 8270

fax + 64 6 364 8252

mowbray.stamps@xtra.co.nz

www.mowbraycollectables.co.nz

THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

Honorary President

Keith C. Collins

Honorary Chairman

John Stimson

Mead Cottage

Boulters Lane, Maidenhead, SL6 8TJ

☎07710 336064

e-mail: john.m.stimson@gmail.com

Hon. General Secretary & Librarian

Michael Wilkinson

121 London Road,

Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 1BH

☎017-32456997

e-mail: mwilkin799@aol.com

Honorary Membership Secretary

Mrs Esmé G. Diamond

9 Ashley Drive, Walton on Thames,

Surrey, KT12 1JL

☎01932-223280

e-mail: esmegdiamond@gmail.com

Hon. Treasurer

Paul Woods

57 Grosvenor Drive, Whitley Bay

Tyne & Wear, NE26 2JR

☎0191 2534652

e-mail: pvdw1958@yahoo.co.uk

Hon. Packet Secretary

Professor J. D. Hepworth

2, Carnoustie Close,

Fulwood, Preston, Lancashire, PR2 7ER

☎01772 861709

e-mail: j.d.hepworth@tinyworld.co.uk

Hon. Editor of *The Kiwi*

Paul Wreglesworth

37, Blakelow Road,

Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK11 7ED

☎01625 420694

e-mail: kiwieditor@gmail.com

Webmaster

Bob Clark

nzsgb1@googlemail.com

Website: www.nzsgb.org.uk

Representative in New Zealand

John Watts

jlwatts463@gmail.com

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*The Society is affiliated to: The Association of British Philatelic Societies
the New Zealand Philatelic Federation
and the Association of Scottish Philatelic Societies.*



MOWBRAY COLLECTABLES

is proud to support the New Zealand Society of Great Britain
as its major sponsor

EDITORIAL

Within the New Zealand Society of Great Britain we have a diverse membership that collects all manner of stamps and postal history. Some are happy to collect at a simplified level whilst others immerse themselves into a particular period or issue and eagerly research the subject. Thankfully some go even further and share the fruits of their studies, with others, through the pages of *The Kiwi* or by publishing separately.

On page 48 of this issue you can read a short article, from Terry Hancox, looking at flaws and errors of the Dunedin Exhibition issue of 1925. This work is impressive in itself but a mere 'taster' for a book that Terry has written covering every aspect of the varieties found on this issue. Whilst not currently available in traditional print form Terry has unselfishly agreed to put his work on the Society's web-site where it can be accessed by anyone. Even if you don't collect this period, take a look - see what can be achieved.

If you have a subject you are studying, the pages of this journal are available for publishing ideas and findings and our web-site offers a medium to reach an even wider audience. It doesn't have to be a finished piece, it can be work in progress. You may find others who have an interest in the same subject.

Forgive me for mentioning the *e-Kiwi* - yet again! The committee have listened to feedback from members when asked which format they preferred. Those who asked if we could go further, by allowing access to back copies on the web-site whilst still providing them with a printed copy, will hopefully be pleased with the decision we have now taken. More details can be found on page 34.



THE KIWI - ADVERTISERS IN THIS ISSUE

ADVERTISER	PAGE
Mowbray Collectables	Inside Front Cover
Steven Zirinsky	47
Ashford Stamps Ltd.	47

ADVERTISER	PAGE
Classic Stamps Ltd.	Inside Back Cover
Auckland City Stamps	Back Cover

"Please mention the NZSGB when you speak with our advertisers"

THE KIWI - CURRENT ADVERTISING RATES

	Full (single insertion)	Full (3 or more consecutive)	Half (single insertion)	Half (3 or more consecutive)	Quarter (single insertion)	Quarter (3 or more consecutive)
Full Colour	£90	£75	£75	£60	£50	£40

NZSGB - CURRENT SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Membership rates are £20 (within the UK) and £25 (overseas) - with printed copy of *The Kiwi*.

Members who prefer to receive an electronic version of the journal (*e-Kiwi*), downloadable from the Society's web-site, as an alternative to the paper copy pay £20 regardless of country of residence.

Payment can be made by various means including PayPal ('gift' option). Details from the membership secretary esmegdiamond@gmail.com or via the web-site.

SOCIETY NEWS

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

New Members:

A warm welcome to:

G Aylett, Buckinghamshire

M Kirke, Australia

A Magowan, Lanarkshire

M Wooller, New Zealand



RESIDENTIAL WEEKEND 2016 - BOOK NOW!



HOLIDAY INN
STRATFORD-UPON-AVON
30th September - 2nd October 2016



Planning for the Society's 8th residential weekend, for members and partners, is well under way and the venue and dates are shown above. The hotel is within easy reach of 'bard'-related activities.

The philatelic attractions include displays, a guest speaker, the biennial 16 sheet competition and a gala dinner. The detailed programme will be posted on our website at www.nzsgb.org.uk as it takes shape.

Stratford-upon-Avon is a popular destination and we have been able to secure accommodation at very favourable rates. A block of rooms has been reserved and these are available for booking now (see below).

The full weekend rate will be £235 for a single person and £145 per person for couples. This includes two nights' bed and breakfast, a contribution to meeting room hire, morning and afternoon refreshments, and the gala dinner on the Saturday evening.

Bookings will be handled by the Society and NOT by the hotel.

To reserve accommodation for the weekend a deposit of **£25 per person** should be sent to:-

Michael Wilkinson
121 London Road
Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 1BH

Cheques should be made payable to 'The New Zealand Society of Great Britain'.

A day rate and alternative packages will be available for those unable to attend the full weekend.

For further details, or if you have any questions about the weekend please contact Michael.

A raffle will be held on the Saturday, which helps to defray some of the costs. Members have been most generous in previous years in securing items for prizes. If you can help in any way please contact Michael.

Put the dates in your diary now and start preparing your entry for the 16 sheet competition.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

The next meeting of the Society will be held on Saturday **26th March 2016**

at the **Union Jack Club**, Sandell Street, London, SE1 8UJ

11:00 Members Items of Interest and Recent Acquisitions

14:00 **Postal Stationery** (to be led by **John Hepworth and Michael Wilkinson**)

- Members are invited to bring items of interest on this popular subject.

To aid planning please let the Hon. Secretary know if you have material for display.

SCOTTISH REGIONAL GROUP

The next meeting of the Scottish Group will be an informal gathering, at 13:00 on Saturday **April 16th 2016** at the ASPS Congress in Perth. Meet in the cafe on the balcony of the Dewar Centre, Glover Street, Perth.

Group Contact: - David Stalker ☎ 0141 812 6653

e-mail: davidmstalker@yahoo.co.uk

NORTH OF ENGLAND REGIONAL GROUP

The next meeting of the North of England Group will be held on Saturday **May 14th 2016** at St. Luke's Church, Lodge Road, Orrell starting at 12:30. Members to display items of interest.

Group Contact: - Jack Lindley ☎ 0161 705 1074

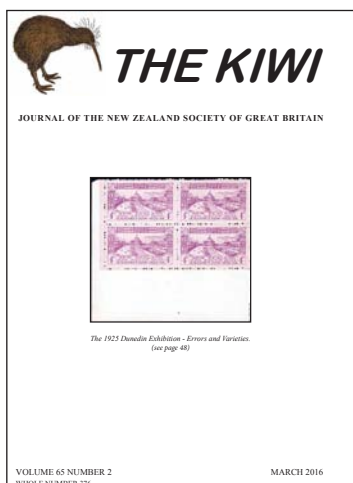
e-mail: lindleyjack@aol.com

MIDLAND REGIONAL GROUP

Autumn meeting to be arranged

Group Contact: - Ian Samuel ☎ 0121 449 0849

ACCESSING THE JOURNAL



The committee has agreed to implement the following options in due course:-

- * We will continue to make paper and *e-Kiwi* available as preferred
- * The current year (Vol. 65) will be available on line to *e-Kiwi* subscribers
- * Volumes 1-50 are already available to everyone on line
- * Volumes 51- 60 will be added to the web-site, available to everyone
- * Volume 60-64 will be placed on the web-site and will be available **to members only** - with password access.

This will be a rolling process with one volume being added to the web-site at the end of each membership year. More details in due-course.

MEETINGS HELD

NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD, IN LONDON, JANUARY 30th 2016

The topic for 30th January was Air Mails within, from and to New Zealand. Such was the breadth of material shown that this report can cover only a few highlights.



Stuart Potter opened proceedings with material sent to or from New Zealand by air.

Stuart Potter began with covers carried in September 1911 for about 15 minutes on the first UK aerial post service (21 miles from Hendon to Windsor), celebrating the coronation of George V, and thence by ship to New Zealand. The service required the consent of the Postmaster General (Herbert Samuel), but the covers stated that he took no responsibility for any loss, damage or delay. A cover posted on 11 September, bearing a ½d GV stamp, had travelled via Vancouver and Dunedin, reaching its recipient in Oamaru on 27 October.

Examples were shown of mail carried unofficially on the first successful flight from Australia to New Zealand on 10 September 1928 (Brisbane to Christchurch) and on the return flight, which took nearly 23 hours due to bad weather and strong

headwinds, on 13 October (Blenheim to Sydney). Kingsford Smith was the pilot and Ulm the co-pilot of *The Southern Cross* for both flights. The outward cover, from the New South Wales Broadcasting Company to the New Zealand Broadcasting Company, is unstamped and unsigned but the return cover bears a 1d Admiral stamp, is signed by Ulm and Litchfield (navigator), and addressed to Mrs Ulm.

Later in July 1930 the New Zealand Post Office began to accept mail to be carried by internal air services within the United States and Canada. Ships carried mail from Wellington, every fortnight, alternately to San Francisco and Vancouver. The first consignment to the USA left on 15 July 1930. One cover shown was then flown to New York via Chicago en route to its destination in New Jersey while another, originating in Christchurch, had continued by ship to its addressee, the aerophilatelist Francis Field, in Sutton Coldfield. The first consignment to Canada left on 29 July 1930, and the cover shown had then travelled by rail to Calgary, Western Canada Airways to Winnipeg (via Moose Jaw, Medicine Hat and Regina), rail to Toronto, Canadian Airways to Quebec and Montreal and finally, possibly after a further flight to New York via Albany, by ship to Francis Field in Sutton Coldfield, arriving on 27 August 1930. It was estimated that the use of air services saved about a week in transit time. The postage rate from New Zealand to North America was 1d plus 4d for airmail.

Also shown were examples of covers flown on the first and second experimental airmail services from Australia to England. Mail from New Zealand to join these services left Auckland by steamer on 17 April and 8 May 1931. Australian National Airways, QANTAS and Imperial Airways co-operated to provide a service to England and destinations en route. The postage rates from New Zealand were 1/- to Straits Settlement, 1/3 to India and Burma, and 2/- to the UK and Europe, plus the standard letter rate of 2d per half ounce. It is known that 335 letters to London and 41 to India were carried on the first flight, and the second flight, which included 14 letters to India, reached Calcutta on 25 May 1931. One of the return flights crashed in Java, but Kingsford Smith came to the rescue by salvaging the mail and flying it to Darwin.

Stuart showed further interesting covers flown on services between 1931 and 1940, including the first official service between Australia, New Zealand and the UK (1934), the start of services between the USA and New Zealand by Pan Am (1938), the inaugural TEAL flight linking New Zealand with Australia and the Empire Air Service (1940), and an epic round-the-world journey in 1940 from the USA to New Zealand, to the UK and back to the USA, with extra stamps affixed at each stage since postage for the entire journey could not be pre-paid.



Lewis Giles displayed internal New Zealand airmails.

Lewis Giles' first items were 'pigeongrams' flown between Auckland and Great Barrier Island, 60 miles to the North East, following the wreck of the SS Wairarapa, with the loss of 121 lives, on 29 October 1894. It was over three days before news of the disaster reached the mainland. This inspired the provision of a pigeon post service whereby homing pigeons, trained in Auckland or on Great Barrier Island, carried up to five messages written on 'flimsies' attached to their legs. The charge was 6d from Great Barrier Island to Auckland but 1/- in the opposite direction due to the greater costs of training pigeons on the Island. The service operated from 1897 to 1908, when a telegraph cable was laid to the Island.

The 1920s was the era of 'pioneer' airmails, with some pioneers buying surplus military planes after the First World War. Perhaps inevitably, the early days of aviation were peppered with accidents. Some initiatives

were nearly thwarted by officialdom, as Lewis's display illustrated. For example, on 22 December 1930 Dominion Airlines started an unofficial airmail service between Gisborne and Hastings, charging 6d for a label (incorrectly inscribed 'Dominion Airways'). The Post Office declared the label illegal. The airline responded by cutting the price from the label and charging 6d for the pilot's signature instead! Dominion Airlines operated some emergency flights after the Hawke's Bay earthquake on 3 February 1931, the philatelist R G Collins taking the opportunity to add the cachet EMERGENCY EARTHQUAKE AIR MAIL to letters, including one addressed to him c/o Napier Post Office. Dominion Airlines ceased operation when their Managing Director was killed in a crash, and Gisborne Air Transport took over the service from March 1931 to December 1932.



A 'flimsy' carried by pigeon with a 1 shilling label issued by 'The Original Great Barrier Island Pigeongram Service'

To promote the use of air mail services, the NZ Post and Telegraph Department experimented with what some saw as a gimmick for Christmas 1931 and 1932. The publicity, displayed by Lewis, encouraged people to "buy the new air-mail stamps and send a Christmas gift by air" on Christmas Eve flights to be "performed" between Palmerston North and Invercargill, Wellington and Auckland, and Gisborne and Palmerston North (return), with intermediate stops on each service. The cost was 3d per ounce plus normal postage, and items posted were given coloured cachets. In 1931 17,500 covers were flown but by 1932 interest had waned and the service attracted only 5,700 items.

A few years later airmail was growing in popularity and reliability, and there was enthusiasm for Air Mail Exhibitions. One such was held in Christchurch on 7-9 November 1938. Lewis showed commemorative covers bearing a winged datestamp for each of the three days. A total of 9,531 covers and 390 registered covers were posted at the Exhibition, 75% on the first day.

Further material displayed by members included the following:

Bernard Atkinson: Dominion Airlines covers, a cover from an Air Pageant in Marlborough in 1931, and mail from the Duke of Gloucester's visit to New Zealand in 1935.

Paul Woods: 1931 Christmas mail bearing a 1/3 Arms stamp in lemon, and a cover, bearing 12/- in postage, postmarked 29 November 1941 addressed to an officer on HMS *Prince of Wales*, then en route to Singapore. There is no evidence that this cover left New Zealand or reached the addressee, who is known to have survived the sinking of the *Prince of Wales* by the Japanese on 10 December 1941.

Lorraine Maguire: a collection of Forces mail, many from addresses in Egypt, to New Zealand during the Second World War. She hoped to learn more about the senders and recipients.

Paul Leonard: an air mail cover with two 'smiling boy' health stamps. The cover was signed later by Charles Kingsford Smith (see below).

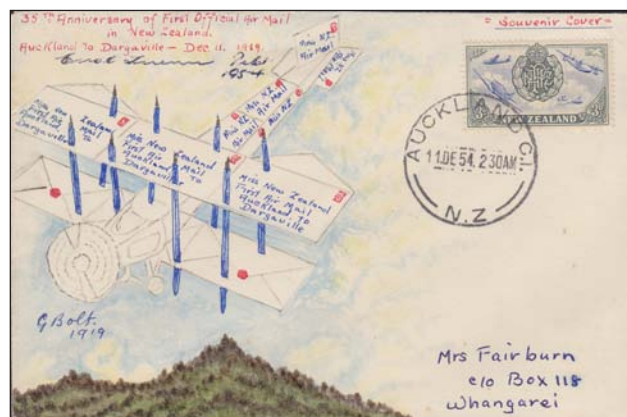


A flight cover carrying a pair of 'smiling boys' and said to have been signed by Charles Kingsford Smith "during lunchtime at the Mangere aerodrome, on Sunday Jan 29th 1933".

Brian Stonestreet: a cover sent at Christmas 1931 bearing the newly issued 3d green air stamp overprinted FIVE PENCE, and a registered cover signed by Ulm and flown by him on the first official airmail flight from New Zealand to Australia in February 1934, bearing the 7d blue air stamp overprinted TRANS-TASMAN/AIR MAIL/"FAITH IN AUSTRALIA", a George V 2d stamp and the current 1d+1d Health stamp.

Michael Wilkinson: a 6d blue air stamp postmarked TAUPU/7MR35, 2 months before its official issue, and a set of eight covers flown by BOAC Comet on its first flight from London to Auckland in April 1963.

Alan Tunnicliffe: Alan was congratulated for his dedication in editing the *New Zealand Air Mail News* for 35 years. He had sent scans of some of his favourite items, including a Mrs Purdon cover marking the 35th anniversary of the first official airmail in New Zealand (Auckland to Dargaville in December 1911) (shown right), RAF covers flown by Comet in the 1950s, covers flown on Concorde during its visits to Christchurch in 1989 and 2000, and a Cinderella sheet marking the centenary of the Great Barrier Island pigeon post service.



A 1954 'Purdon' cover commemorating the 35th anniversary of the first official air mail in New Zealand.

The meeting concluded with thanks to all who had displayed material and a feeling that this subject might deserve a further visit in due course.

NEW ZEALAND POST - STAMP ISSUING PROGRAMME FOR 2016

The programme announced by New Zealand Post for this year is as follows. The issues and the dates shown are indicative only and may be subject to change:-

January 13th	2016 Year of the Monkey
February 3rd	RSA: 100 Years of Service
March 2nd	New Zealand Native Glowworms
April 6th	1916 Courage and Commitment
May 4th	Keep an eye out for this issue!
June 1st	Matariki 2016
July 6th	Kiwiana
August 3rd	Keep an eye out for this special issue!
September 7th	2016 Children's Health plus Keep an eye out for this issue!
October 5th	75 Years of the Navy
November 2nd	2016 Christmas Issue plus Ross Dependency
November 18th	Christchurch 2016 Exhibition and the Annual Album
Further details of past and upcoming issues can be found on the NZ Post website (https://stamps.nzpost.co.nz)	



Issued on February 3rd, New Zealand Post's second issue of the year was a set of six stamps and a miniature sheet marking 100 years since the founding of the Royal New Zealand Returned and Services' Association (RSA)

Technical Details: Stamps and miniature sheet designed by Richard Payne of New Zealand Post

Printed by offset lithography, in four colours, by Southern Colour Print.

Paper is 'Tullis Russell' 104gsm red phosphor gummed stamp paper and perforations gauge 14.4 x 14.62

THE AUSTIN WALSH POSTCARD

Jim Shaw

Section 14 of the Post Office Act 1881 allowed for the Postmaster-General to "furnish and issue private cards" (Ref. 1). It was a postcard, produced for the Auckland tobacco importers and manufacturers, Austin Walsh & Company, that was New Zealand's first item of private postal stationery.



Figure 1: *The Austin Walsh cigarette packet (opened out for display). The tray, which contained the cigarettes, is shown below (reduced to 75%)*



The normal postage rate, in 1892, for a postcard was 1d. Austin Walsh negotiated a special rate for their card of ½d and, as there was no halfpenny postage stamp available at the time, the cards were impressed with a stereo of the ½d newspaper postage stamp.

At first the Post & Telegraph Department arranged with the Government Printer to print and stamp, simultaneously, stationery required by commercial firms or individuals; later the Government Printer only stamped the stationery provided. Printing or advertising being arranged elsewhere. There was a minimum order of 1,000 items with a charge for the stationery item, the printing as well as for the postage applied.

Austin Walsh & Company had 20,000 cards produced in two lots of 10,000, one in March 1892 and the other in August 1892. According to records of the Government Printer the printing forme contained eight units (Ref. 2) and the card is known in two distinct shades, rose pink and a darker carmine lake. These may relate to the two separate printings but this cannot be determined with any certainty.

The card, 2¾" wide and 1¾" deep, was designed to be inserted into a packet of 'Atlas' cigarettes (Figure 1) as part of a publicity campaign for the Company. On the reverse of the card the purchaser was encouraged to express an opinion and vote on the

merits, or otherwise, of the 'The Atlas Cigarette' and estimate the number of votes that might be returned in a particular month (Figure 3). Presumably there was a prize for the person whose guess was nearest to the number of votes actually received in that month. The card was a forerunner of the Business Reply postage scheme of the 1930's.



Figure 2: Front of an unused card, in the rose pink shade, showing the printed newspaper postage stamp.

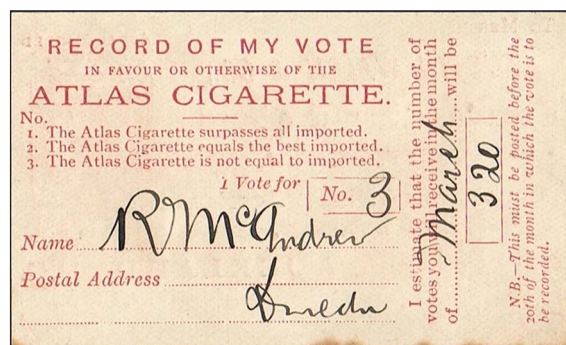


Figure 3: The reverse of a returned card showing a vote - for option '3'.



Figure 4: An early used card from December 1892.



Figure 5: A well travelled card from Patea to Auckland, via Hawera, posted in May 1894.

Cards have been recorded from 18 October 1892 and as late as 20 April 1896 (Ref. 2) and exist in roughly equal numbers, mint and used, probably as a consequence of Austin Walsh selling the returned used cards and surplus mint cards to stamp dealers.

One card exists with the printed address crossed through and a new address inserted (Figure 6). As this was presumably in contravention of the agreement Walsh had with the Post Office the card was assessed for deficient postage. This particular card sold as part of lot 2416 in the postal stationery section of Spink's 'Len Jury' sale in London in October 2015 (Ref. 3).

By 1897 Austin Walsh & Co. were advertising, in New Zealand newspapers, an alternative competition on behalf of Thomas Ogden of Liverpool, for whom they were the New Zealand agents. Contained in packets of Ogden's cigarettes were picture cards which were to be collected and returned to Austin Walsh "to enable Messrs Ogden to determine who are the largest smokers of their Cigarettes in New Zealand". The ten senders of the most pictures were to receive a bicycle valued at 200 Guineas! (Ref. 4).



Figure 6: A re-addressed card, incorrectly used, and assessed for deficient postage

Austin Walsh was a pioneer of the tobacco industry in New Zealand. Born in 1856 at Bradford, West Yorkshire, England. He was descended from a long line of tobacco manufacturers and his ancestors were said to have been cutting tobacco in York as early as 1771 (Ref. 5). Walsh married in 1879 and arrived in New Zealand in 1883, settling in Auckland where he established a tobacco importing business in Wyndham Street

at the Atlas Bonded Tobacco Factory. Whilst the importing and manufacturing business appeared to enjoy success Walsh's attempts to introduce tobacco growing to New Zealand appear to have failed and although they later established a plantation in Fiji the Company found it increasingly difficult to compete with the major international, particularly American, brands claiming their products were boycotted by the 'tobacco monopoly'.



Figure 7: An 1893 postcard advertising that a representative of Austin Walsh & Co. was to call.

(card reproduced courtesy of John Hepworth)

In August 1904, at a meeting of shareholders, it was agreed to wind up the Company. The business and all its assets were sold at auction in December 1904 for £5,000 to a local business syndicate who were expected to continue the business. A few days later the Company's warehouse, which was insured for £1,750 and the stock, which was insured separately for £6,750, were severely damaged by fire. The business did continue for a number of years.

Austin Walsh had two sons, Leo and Vivian, who founded the New Zealand Flying School which supplied the plane which carried New Zealand's first airmail on 16 December 1919. Austin was secretary of the School until his death in 1924, aged 68, at his residence *Kohimarama*, Auckland.

References:

1. The Post Office Act, 45 VICT 1881, No 7, p24 (available at <http://www.nzlii.org>)
2. Samuel R. D., 'Printed to Private Order Postcards' in *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand*, Vol IX, pp72-74, pub. Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, Wellington, 2006.
3. Lot 2416, 'The Len Jury Award Winning Collections of Postal History, Stationery, 1913 Auckland and 1920 Victory Issues' Auction Catalogue, Spink, London, 7 October 2015.
4. *Bay of Plenty Times*, p3, 6 December 1897 (available at <http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz>)
5. *The Auckland Star*, p7, 1 February 1924 (available at <http://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz>)

CHRISTMAS ISSUES - DE LA RUE PROOFS

When New Zealand issued its first Christmas stamp, in 1960, questions were asked as to the need for a special issue. However it proved very popular with some 20,000,000 of the 2d stamp, printed by Harrison & Sons, London, issued. Thus began a regular annual issue which continues to this day.

In anticipation of the 1961 issue the firms of De La Rue & Co., Harrison & Sons Ltd. and Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Ltd., were invited to tender for the printing in photogravure. Bradbury Wilkinson declined and the tender went to Harrison & Sons. A similar process was followed on a number of occasions throughout the 1960s with Harrison & Sons being successful on every occasion.

In January this year a number of De La Rue proof items, prepared for the Christmas issues, were offered at auction. It is interesting to compare the De La Rue proof material with the issued stamps and they are reproduced here by kind permission of Andrew McGavin, Managing Director of Universal Philatelic Auctions (UPA) in Gloucestershire, England.



Figure 1: 1961 Christmas issue. De La Rue proof (left) and issued stamp (right).

Dürer's 'Adoration of the Magi', currently in the Uffizi Gallery, Florence, Italy, was the chosen subject for the 1961 issue. De La Rue's proof, (Figure 1), is mounted on a piece of printers archive paper with a manuscript '340/4' beneath. The issued stamp has been opened up by moving the country name to a separate frame and the value changed to 2½d. [UPA Auction 60. Lot 16559, Estimated: £200, Realised: £245].



Figure 2: 1965 Christmas issue. De La Rue proof (left) and issued stamp (right).

The nativity was again the subject for the 1965 Christmas issue, based on Murillo's 'The Two Trinities', now held in the National Gallery, London. The issued stamp was enlarged, from the De La Rue proof (Figure 2), with a 'picture frame' around the painting and a larger outer border in which the words New Zealand have been placed and the value, 3d, moved from the right side on the De La Rue proof to the left side on the issued stamp. [UPA Auction 60. Lot 16565, Estimated: £200, Realised: £205].



Issued stamp

Figure 3: 1966 Christmas issue. De La Rue proof (left), central vignette proof (centre) and issued stamp (right).

Two De La Rue proofs for the 1966 stamp are shown above (Figure 3). The first is on gummed paper, with De La Rue marked in the lower margin, and the second is an imperf proof of the central vignette only. Again the stamp, produced by Harrison & Sons, shows some opening up of the image, a larger font for the country name and value moved to the lower frame. Maratta's 'The Virgin with Child' was the basis of the design and is in the Kunsthistorische Museum, Vienna. [UPA Auction 60. Lot 16569, Estimated: £250, Realised: £235].

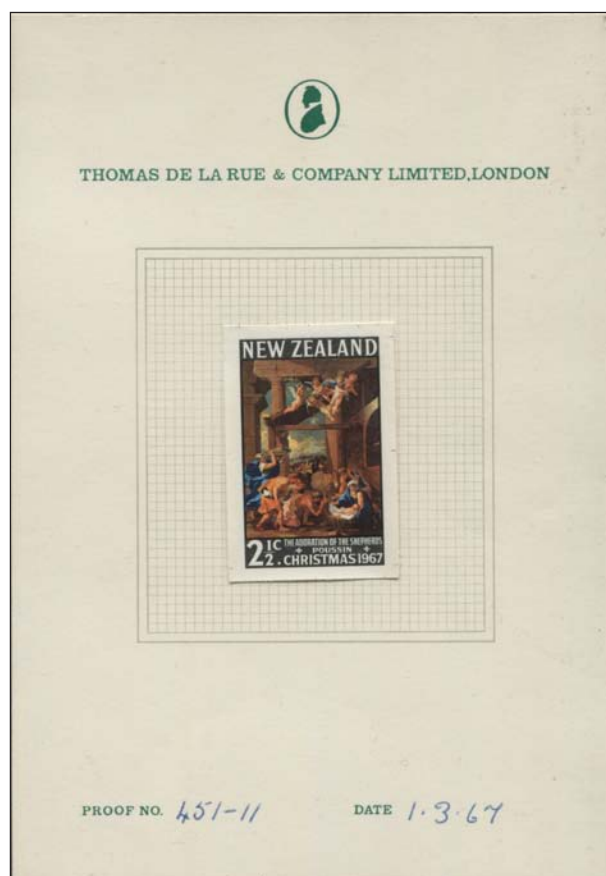
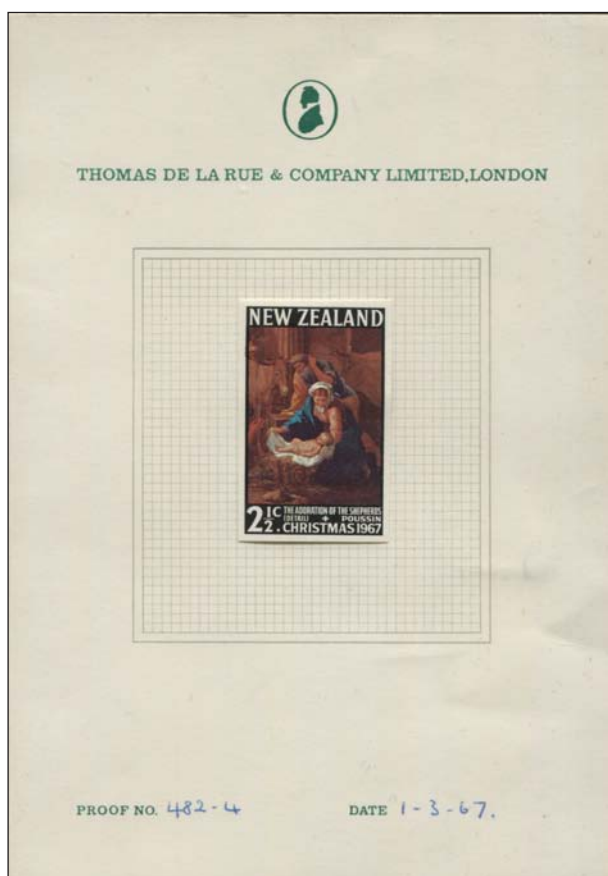


Figure 4: Two different proofs for the 1967 Christmas issue on De La Rue headed archive cards.

(images reduced to 70%)

Two of the lots from the UPA auction (Figure 4) were proofs for the 1967 Christmas stamp. Each was on gummed paper and mounted on the original De La Rue archive sheets. The first (left) is very close in appearance to the issued stamp and shows a Proof No. '482-4' and a date, '1-3-67'. [UPA Auction 60. Lot 16572, Estimated: £200, Realised: Unsold]. The second (right) shows a greater portion of the original painting. The archival card is marked Proof No. '451-11' and with the same date, '1-3-67'. [UPA Auction 60. Lot 16576, Estimated: £200, Realised: £245].

A further lot (16574) offered two more De La Rue proofs for the 1967 issue (Figure 5), similar to the proofs on archive cards shown in Figure 4.



Figure 5: 1967 Christmas issue. De La Rue proofs (left and centre) and issued stamp (right).

The painting used as the basis for this issue was Poussin's 'Adoration of the Shepherds' held in the National Gallery, London. The first proof is of the entire painting whilst the second shows a detail which was much closer to the image used for the final stamp. [UPA Auction 60. Lot 16574, Estimated: £200, Realised: £235].

PACW

A RECENT PARCEL FROM NEW ZEALAND



These days we sometimes forget that stamps used to be used when posting parcels!

When so many are now delivered by couriers or in pre-paid plastic bags purchased from the Post Office the sight of a stamp on a parcel is a noteworthy event.

On the rare occasion we receive a large item with stamps on it then more often than not they are torn, obliterated by biro, customs label or bar-code label or, if postmarked, will be an over-inked and unreadable parcel postmark.

I am very grateful therefore to John Watts, our 'man in New Zealand' who, whilst clearing out his office, decided I would like some of his old notes! 7kg worth to be exact!

The parcel duly arrived. Beautifully packed, with all the stamps hand cancelled, and then covered in plastic. 47 stamps, including no less than five \$20 stamps, had been carefully arranged around the address label. A total face value of \$198.85 - although the Post Office label states 'prepaid \$153.88'.

PACW

Now how exactly do I display this?

NEW ZEALAND ADVERTISING TELEGRAPH FORMS

Paul Wreglesworth

Members may recall the article on this subject that John Watts wrote in 2014 (Ref. 1) together with the follow up (Ref. 2). The form below was one of two that was offered in Auckland City Stamp's January auction.

The form shown is an earlier date than previously recorded by John. It is a Type 'D' form with the 'Frisco' Mail Timetable in the left margin. The date of use (cancelled at Russell) is 12 DE 93. The earliest recorded by John was 19 FE 94.

Type 'D' Telegraph Forms (1-4)

Left Margin of Form: 'Frisco' Mail Timetable

Right Margin of Form: Blank



D1

E: 12 Dec 1893* L: 13 Jun 1895

* new earliest date

References:

1. Watts J. 'New Zealand Advertising Telegraph Forms', *The Kiwi*, vol63, no3, pp 67-75, May 2014
2. Watts J. 'New Zealand Advertising Telegraph Forms', *The Kiwi*, vol64, no3, p73, May 2015

RECENT AUCTION REALISATIONS

(excluding buyers premiums and taxes where applicable)

Auckland City Stamps, Auction No. 211, 19 January 2016

Lot	Description	Realised (Est) (NZ\$)
1871	6d brown FFQ, with light 'Province of Auckland/6', cancelled MY 1 67	275 (100)
1910	1882 1d rose SSF, mixed perfs 10x12½, left selv. strip of three, unh.	1400 (1500)
1943	1906 Christchurch Exhibition, set of four with Exhibition cancels.	650 (500)
1987	1935 Pictorials, 2/- Captain Cook, p12½, Plate 1 corner block, unh.	1298 (1000)
2120	2002 Booklet, \$4 Tongaporutu Cliffs, phosphor printing inverted.	2420 (2000)
2171	1941 Health on maxicards (Jones H51 E1A), prod. by Seven Seas.	133 (100)
2209	1899 Postage Due, 2/- Green/Red, SG D4, good mint.	200 (240)
2428	1893 NZ Post Office Telegraph Form (see above).	80 (100)

HIGH POSTAGE COVERS

Robert P Odenweller RDP, Hon. FRPSL, FRPSNZ

Occasionally the speed, weight and importance of material sent by the post will result in very high postage costs. In his book 'New Zealand Overseas Airmail Postage Rates, 1930 - 2011', the late Robin Startup chose to show a 1943 registered cover to the Red Cross in Geneva (Figure 1), concerning prisoners of war (Ref. 1). The total postage of 14s 4d paid the rate for a letter up to two ounces. It may not be the highest franking with stamps only of the 1935 Pictorial definitive issues, but could be a contender. For such high postage, the postal fiscals are usually needed.



Figure 1: A 1943 registered cover to the Red Cross in Geneva pre-paid 14s 4d for a letter up to two ounces.
(image reduced to 65%)

A different 1943 cover, also not necessarily the highest postage, certainly has a place where it comes to multiples (Figure 2). With eighteen of the 5s Official postal fiscals, one might wonder why a higher denomination wasn't used. The answer is simple - the 5s is the highest denomination postal fiscal overprinted Official then available, so there were none to be had.

The total of £4 13s 6d was cancelled on 5 July 1943. In January a four ounce weight restriction had been imposed on airmail correspondence for the UK, but it did not apply to properly identified Government official air mail. The rate could have been an official one that is not in the usual lists. As a sheer guess, and using the main assumption that the exact postage was on the packet, a rate of 2s 10d per ounce gives a weight of 33 ounces. (Similarly figuring the numbers, a rate of 2s 9d per ounce would give a weight of 34 ounces, although that would not make an even rate for a half ounce increment.) This may be incorrect, but is the only rate that gives a digital response for even amounts applied. It may have been available only to official mail.

A final note is that the cover is made up of a large piece that was glued to a substantial envelope after being processed. Extrapolating from uses in other countries, it is possible that documents essential to the shipment were enclosed in the envelope, and the portion with the postage and other information were added to it according to normal procedures, perhaps after first being put onto the outside of the package. Still, whether any of this is only fanciful conjecture or not, it is a fascinating piece of WWII postal history.

Reference:

1. Startup R. M., *New Zealand Overseas Airmail Postage Rates 1930-2011*, p6, Mowbray Collectables and The Air Mail Society of New Zealand, Wellington, (2012).



Figure 2: A 1943 piece with eighteen 5s Official postal fiscal stamps contributing to a total of £4 13s 6d in postage.

(image reduced)

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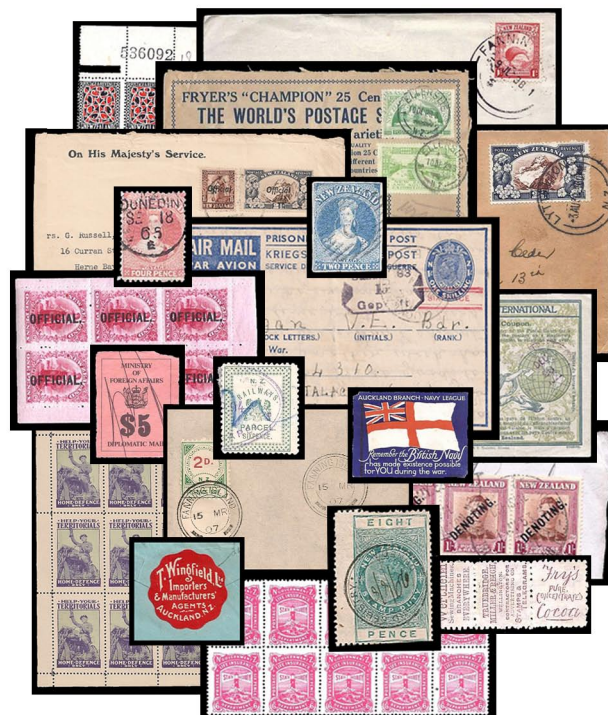
Ashford Stamps Ltd

P.O. Box 9845, Newmarket, Auckland 1149, New Zealand.
Email ashford@stampsale.com
Fax +64 9 520 5947 Telephone +64 9 520 5946
Managing Director: Brian Rumsey, member NZSDA, APS

STEVEN ZIRINSKY

MEMBER PTS, APS, NZSDA, APTA, PPS

NEW ZEALAND



PO BOX 230049, Ansonia Station, New York, NY 10023 USA
szirinsky@cs.com

www.zirinskystamps.com

@ZirinskyStamps

1925 DUNEDIN EXHIBITION - ERRORS AND VARIETIES

Terry Hancox

Introduction

Mr H. L. Richardson was commissioned to produce designs for stamps to commemorate the New Zealand and South Seas Exhibition which was to open in November 1925 at Dunedin. By August 1925 designs were approved and denominations of ½d, 1d and 4d agreed (Figure 1).



Figure 1: *The Dunedin Exhibition stamps as issued.*

(images shown at 130%)

For the central part of the design a view of the Grand Court was used, looking towards the dome of the Festival Hall, with hills in the background. This same image was used on postcards (see page 53) and envelopes made available to visitors to the Exhibition (Figure 2). The frame was of the Maori Taniko pattern, and the head of a tekoteko was introduced in the upper corners.



Figure 2: *Logo from envelopes available to visitors to the Exhibition. Note however that this is a mirror image of that used on the stamps and postcards (page 53).*

Due to the short time available, it was decided that the stamps would be printed by a means that did not need the production of a die. The method of production of the sheets contributes much to the interest in these stamps, and is worthy of summary.

A working drawing of the 1d value was produced and a mini sheet of four prepared via a photographic and reducing technique. This block of four was then copied 15 times and stuck on to a thick card. This black sheet was photographed and transferred onto a zinc plate which was then etched to produce the master printing plate.

After the 1d plate had been completed, 120 lithographic reproductions of the value '½' were cut up and carefully used to cover up the '1d' inscriptions on the black printed card. The photographing and etching was then repeated to create the ½d plate.

Before repeating this process for the 4d value, the ½d inscriptions were removed with the aid of a knife. The '4d' inscriptions were gummed into place on the black printed card, so that the 4d plate could be made.

Because of the photo-etching process, every stamp in the sheet possessed individual characteristics, providing the stamp enthusiast with the opportunity to plate each value. Recurring flaws in the body of the design can be found on all three values.

Major Errors

There is only one reported error on this issue and that occurs on the ½d stamp. A few sheets were produced with the top row of comb perforations displaced downwards (through the middle of the stamps) giving the impression that the top row of stamps are imperforate along the upper edge. An example of this is shown from both front and back of the sheet (Figure 3).



Figure 3: A top marginal block of six of the ½d value, shown back (top) and front, with misplaced perforations.

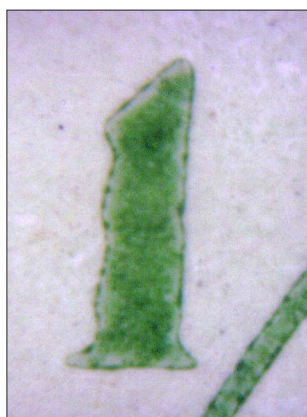
½d Value Formes

There appears to be two types of forme for the '1' in the ½d stamp (Figure 4). The majority of the stamps are of the first type (Type 1), showing a flat sloping top to the number, with a few examples of the second (Type 2), with a concave top.

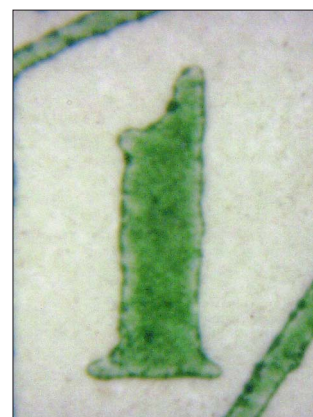
Row 5/3 comprises Type 2.

Row 5/4 is a combination of Type 1 and Type 2.

Row 9/4 is a combination of Type 1 and Type 2.



Type 1



Type 2

Figure 3: Formes of the ½d value.

4d Value Panels

It is interesting to note that the height of the value panel, in the 4d stamp, on the left and right are different (Figure 4). The left is taller than the right with the result that there appears to be more room for the value on the left, and is often placed higher to compensate.



Left Panel



Right Panel

Figure 4: Value panels from the 4d value

Major Varieties

The major varieties comprise a number of flaws that are relatively easy to identify with the naked eye, only some of which have made it into the catalogues of stamp dealers. They are listed here in row/column order and will indicate on which value they can be found, or 'common', where the variety is present on all denominations.



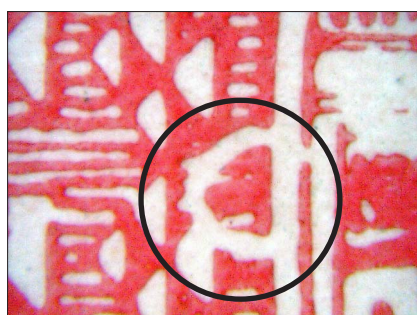
Row 1, Stamp 2 - 4d Value

The lower limb of the 'E' of 'POSTAGE' on the right value panel is broken, due to a slip of the knife prior to inserting the '4d' value inscriptions onto the original card. This is very like the famous variety that appears on Row 10/1, but leaves traces of the right end of the lower limb of the 'E' in place.

Note that the inner frame line just below the letter is thinned and the right frame line much thickened just below the letter 'E'.

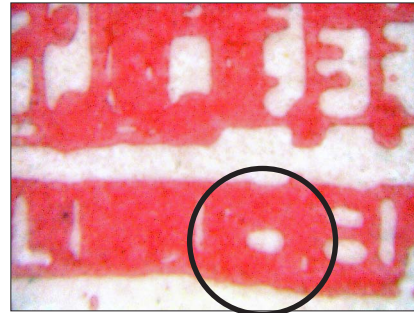
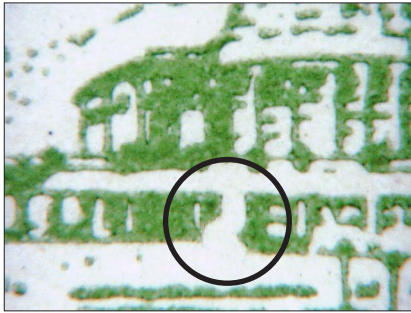
Row 1, Stamp 4 - ½d Value

This appears in the ½d value only. Damage to the plate resulted in the top of the 'O' of 'EXHIBITION' being broken; with approximately the top right quarter of the letter being omitted.



Row 2, Stamp 2 - All Values

This is the 'horseshoe' flaw, so named because there is a white semi-circle affecting the left border of the stamp, from the inner curved frame through the lower triangles. It is not retouched and appears on the ½d, 1d and 4d stamps.



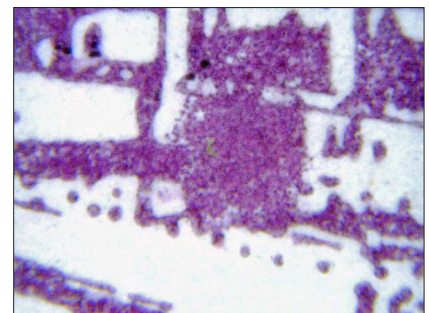
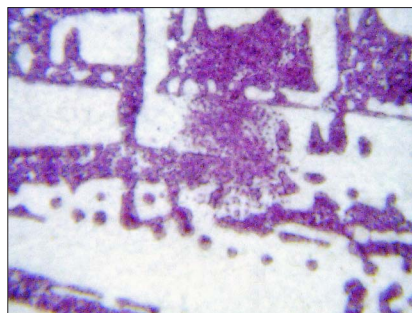
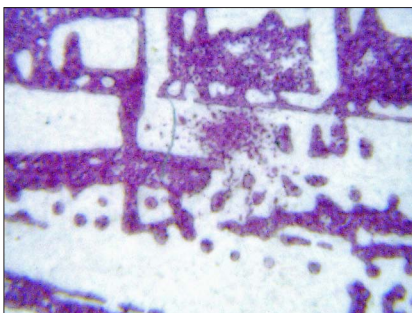
Row 3, Stamp 6 - ½d and 4d Values

There is a large break in the ground floor of the central dome that cuts through the building. This is found on the ½d (shown above - left) and 4d values only. The 1d value appears normal (shown above - right), although this could be a good repair.

Row 5, Stamp 2 - 4d Value

This variety is also due to a slip of the knife whilst removing the old '½d' value inscriptions prior to adding the '4d' ones. The variety takes the form of the lower limb of the 'E' of 'POSTAGE' on the left value panel being broken and the frame under the letter is also cut through.

This is similar to the variety on stamp at row 1/2 but appears in the right value panel.



Row 6, Stamp 4 - 4d Value

The variety at Row 6/4 shows a 'bonfire' on the right of the Grand Court, towards the right wing of the building. There are a number of states to this flaw, beginning with a small disturbance and resulting in a dark patch over the site. The illustrations above show this progression.

Row 10, Stamp 1 - 4d Value

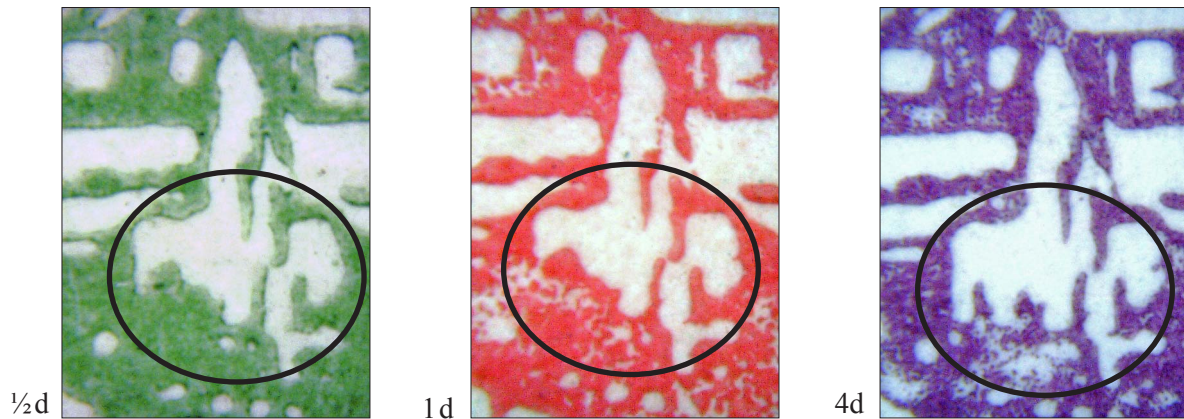
4d Row 10/1 has the word 'POSTAGF' in the inscription on the right hand side and is perhaps one of the most well-known varieties in New Zealand philately. (see also Front Cover).

The original card used in the production of the 1d value had small pieces of paper with '½d' stuck over the 1d values. After photography, the card was then reused for a third time to produce the 4d value. It was not appropriate to superimpose pieces of paper with '4d' printed on them over the '½d' value and achieve proper alignment, so it was decided to remove the '½d' pieces.



It was a difficult and tedious task to prize off the small pieces of paper with a knife, and it was not surprising that errors occurred. At Row 10/1 in taking off the old '½d' value at the bottom right, part of the original design was also removed in error. This error affected the lower limb of the 'E' and a portion of the curved frame line of the value panel.

The damage to the frame line was noticed and, prior to the card being photographed with the '4d' value pieces secured in place, the frame line was redrawn in Indian ink and thickened. The 'E' was still unnoticed and the damaged letter thus appeared in the final printed sheet.



Row 10, Stamp 3 - ½d and 1d Values

The stamps at row 10/3 show an interesting variety that affects the base of the fountain. Normally there are distinct cascades at the base shown by vertical white and coloured areas. On the variety stamp the base is partly filled in. The 1d stamp is most affected, followed by the ½d stamp, with the 4d appearing almost normal.



Row 10, Stamp 4 - 1d Value

On the 1d stamp, at row 10/4 there is a distorted circle that is to be found in the left panel, circling the lower inner triangles and part of the building. It appears as if the line were created by a hair falling onto the printing plate and becoming part of the design.

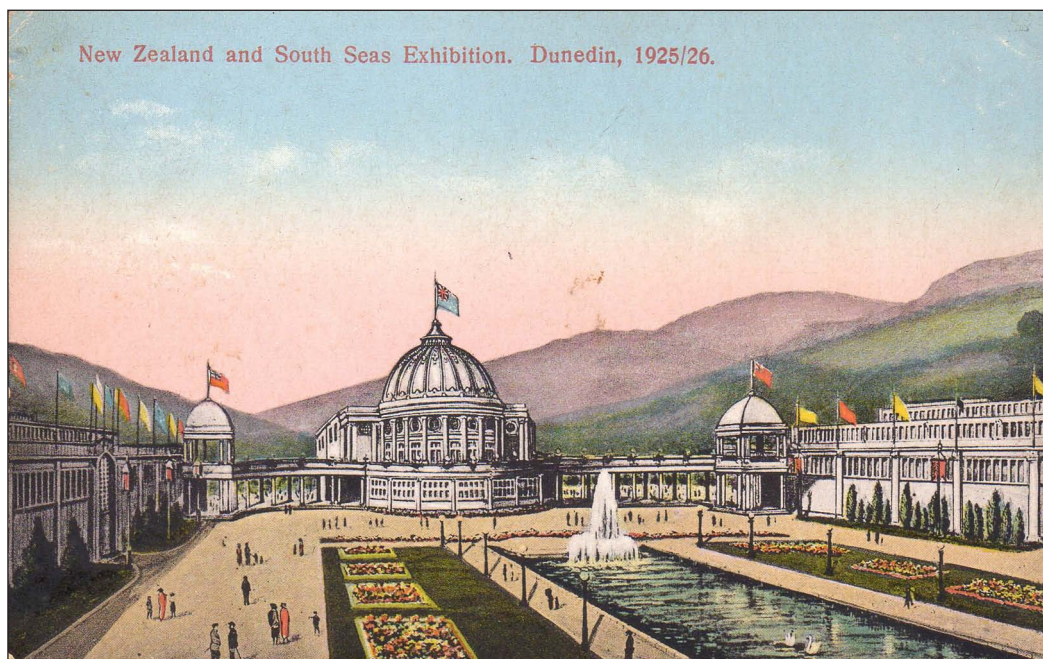
There are a number of major flaws to be found in this issue and, some, affecting the wording, are collectable because of that. These are caused by the unprecedented method of stamp production, unique in New Zealand stamp history. Other varieties, affecting the design, are of equal magnitude, but so far have been overlooked. The 1925 Dunedin Exhibition is an interesting stamp to explore and will offer the collector a good opportunity for study.

Reference:

1. Collins R. J. G. and Fathers H. T. M., *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand*, Vol. I, pp 386-389, pub. The Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, Wellington, (1938).

Further Reading:

A more detailed study of this issue is available on the Society web-site at www.nzsgb.org.uk/research.html



A postcard for the 'New Zealand and South Seas Exhibition' showing a view similar to that on the stamps.

1922 CHRISTCHURCH INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION

Mention the Christchurch Exhibition and most people think of the International Exhibition held at Hagley Park in 1906 and the set of four stamps issued then. In November and December of 1922 a smaller Dominion Industrial Fair was held in the city at the King Edward Barracks and whilst no stamps were issued to mark the event members of the public attending the event were able to post envelopes bearing a meter mark. A Model D, Moss Franking Machine was installed at the site and values of ½d, 1d, 1½d, 6d and 1s were available (Ref. 1).



Unposted and posted envelopes franked with two 1d meter marks, from the Christchurch Industrial Exhibition of 1922.

(reproduced by kind permission of Anthony's Stamps and Coins, New Jersey, USA)

Reference:

1. 'Franking Machines (Meters)' in *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand*, Vol. III, p446, pub. Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, Wellington, 1955.

NEW ZEALAND 'i-SITE' STAMP BOOKLETS

- OBSERVATIONS AND FURTHER ERRORS

Alan Tunncliffe

To complement Terry Hancox's two excellent articles on these booklet stamps, in the May 2015 (Ref. 1) and January 2016 (Ref. 2) issues, I offer here a summary of my observations of these, including further errors.

The booklets and stamps were designed by the Stamps Business of NZ Post in Wellington using photos and captions supplied by the 'i-SITE' organisation. They were printed by Southern Colour Print in Dunedin who print the majority of NZ stamp issues, including the Personalised Postage ['CAL' or Customised Advertising Label] booklets. Only CALs in sheet format are printed at the Collectables Centre in Whanganui. There are more than 80 i-SITEs around New Zealand but not all of them bother to stock these stamp booklets for their region and continue to sell normal NZ Post stamps, or those of other postal operators.

Around April 2014 the first 20 stamp booklets were issued, ten of them with ten different 70c stamps and a further ten with the same ten designs on \$1.90 stamps; so in total there are 100 different designs. The country was divided into nine regions, with ten different scenes being used for the stamps in each regional booklet. Making up the ten was a New Zealand booklet with ten different, so-called, 'iconic images'.

Each of the 20 booklets in the first release displays a product code in the bottom right-hand corner of the back cover of the booklet. An error was made on the 70c 'West Coast Regional Stamp Booklet' where the code PP4S19BK was used. This was the code for the \$1.90 booklet. (Figure 1). The correct code should have been PP4I70BK. No barcodes were used on the first issue of booklets.

The table below is a checklist of the booklet names and product codes for the first issue:

Booklet Name	Value	Product Code	Comment
Auckland/Northland & Coromandel	70c	PP4A70BK	
Canterbury	70c	PP4B70BK	
Eastern/Central North Island	70c	PP4C70BK	
Lower South Island	70c	PP4D70BK	
Taranaki	70c	PP4E70BK	
Top of South	70c	PP4F70BK	
Waikato	70c	PP4G70BK	
Wellington	70c	PP4H70BK	
West Coast	70c	PP4S19BK	This is an error for PP4I70BK
New Zealand	70c	PP4J70BK	
Auckland/Northland & Coromandel	\$1.90	PP4K19BK	
Canterbury	\$1.90	PP4L19BK	
Eastern/Central North Island	\$1.90	PP4M19BK	
Lower South Island	\$1.90	PP4N19BK	
Taranaki	\$1.90	PP4O19BK	
Top of South	\$1.90	PP4P19BK	
Waikato	\$1.90	PP4Q19BK	
Wellington	\$1.90	PP4R19BK	
West Coast	\$1.90	PP4S19BK	
New Zealand	\$1.90	PP4T19BK	

Each of the 20 booklets has an illustration on the front cover of one of the stamps within that booklet and a background illustration that is used for another of the stamps. Elsewhere on the inside of the booklet are background illustrations used for two further stamps in each booklet.



Figure 1: 70c 'West Coast Regional Stamp Booklet' (top) showing the incorrect product code PP4S19BK which was the code for the \$1.90 West Coast Booklet (bottom).

In July 2014 another issue of 20 stamp booklets was made in consequence of the postage rate rises which took effect from 1 July 2014. The 70c inland standard letter rate rose from 70c to 80c and the international postcard rate rose from \$1.90 to \$2.00. The same 100 different designs were used for this issue but the denominations of the stamps were changed from 70c to 80c and \$1.90 to \$2.00 respectively. The same stamps were used on the fronts of the booklets and the same background illustrations were employed. However, one major change was made to the wording on the 'Taranaki Regional Stamp Booklet' as half of the scenes used on the stamps in these booklets are not in Taranaki! Three are in the Manawatu area and a further two are in the Whanganui area. Consequently the new 80c and \$2 regional stamp booklets were renamed 'Western North Island Regional Stamp Booklet' (Figure 2).



Figure 2: The original 70c 'Taranaki Regional Stamp Booklet' (left) and the equivalent 80c booklet (right) renamed 'Western North Island Regional Stamp Booklet'.

The back covers of the 20 new booklets now have barcodes, in addition to (all correct) product codes. Below is a checklist of the names, product codes and barcodes for the second issue:

Booklet Name	Value	Product Code	Bar Code
Auckland/Northland & Coromandel	80c	PP4A80BK	9 415599 10918 7
Canterbury	80c	PP4B80BK	9 415599 10919 4
Eastern/Central North Island	80c	PP4C80BK	9 415599 10920 0
Lower South Island	80c	PP4D80BK	9 415599 10921 7
Western North Island	80c	PP4E80BK	9 415599 10922 4
Top of South	80c	PP4F80BK	9 415599 10923 1
Waikato	80c	PP4G80BK	9 415599 10924 8
Wellington	80c	PP4H80BK	9 415599 10925 5
West Coast	80c	PP4I80BK	9 415599 10926 2
New Zealand	80c	PP4J80BK	9 415599 10927 9
Auckland/Northland & Coromandel	\$2.00	PP4K20BK	9 415599 10928 6
Canterbury	\$2.00	PP4L20BK	9 415599 10929 3
Eastern/Central North Island	\$2.00	PP4M20BK	9 415599 10930 9
Lower South Island	\$2.00	PP4N20BK	9 415599 10931 6
Western North Island	\$2.00	PP4O20BK	9 415599 10932 3
Top of South	\$2.00	PP4P20BK	9 415599 10933 0
Waikato	\$2.00	PP4Q20BK	9 415599 10934 7
Wellington	\$2.00	PP4R20BK	9 415599 10935 4
West Coast	\$2.00	PP4S20BK	9 415599 10936 1
New Zealand	\$2.00	PP4T20BK	9 415599 10937 8

In addition to the spelling errors and other variations in the captions, as noted by Terry Hancox in the earlier articles, I list below further errors as noticed by me.

Auckland/Northland & Coromandel

The front covers of the 70c and 80c booklets show the stamp from row 4/1 with a caption in one line reading 'Pohutukawa Tree, Coromandel' whereas the actual stamp within the booklet has a caption in two lines reading 'Pohutukawa Tree, The Coromandel' (Figure 3). This is contrast to the caption on the stamp at row 2/2 which reads 'Cathedral Cove, Coromandel' (Figure 4).



Figure 3: 70c from the front cover (left) captioned 'Pohutukawa Tree, Coromandel' (centre, top) and the same stamp from Row 4/1 of the booklet (right) with caption now reading 'The Coromandel' (centre, bottom).

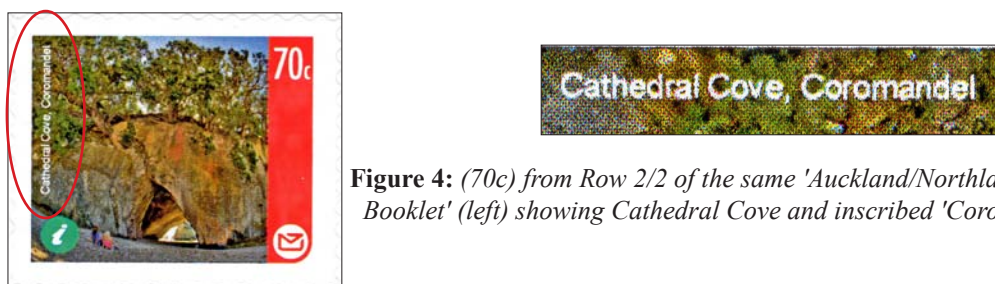


Figure 4: (70c) from Row 2/2 of the same 'Auckland/Northland & Coromandel Booklet' (left) showing Cathedral Cove and inscribed 'Coromandel' (above).

Canterbury

Two of the ten stamps in this booklet have scenes of Kaikoura. The stamp at row 4/1 has an incorrect spelling, with the caption reading 'Kaikora, Canterbury' (missing 'u') in all four values, i.e. 70c, 80c, \$1.90 and \$2.00 (Figures 5a and 5c). The correct spelling is used in the caption for the stamp at row 5/2 'Whale Watching, Kaikoura' (Figures 5b and 5d) for all four values and as shown on the front cover of the \$1.90 and \$2.00 booklets.



Figure 5a: (\$1.90) from Row 4/2 with the incorrect spelling, *Kaikora* and **Figure 5b:** (\$1.90) from Row 5/2 showing the correct spelling *Kaikoura* in the same Canterbury booklet.

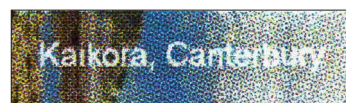


Figure 5c: Detail of the *Kaikora*, Canterbury stamp from Row 4/2 with error of spelling.

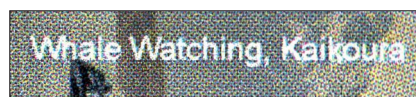


Figure 5d: Detail of the *Whale Watching*, *Kaikoura* stamp from Row 5/2 with correct spelling.

Wellington

The stamp at row 4/1 in the Wellington booklet has the caption 'Vineyards, Martinborough', which is correctly spelt in the \$1.90 and \$2 booklets (Figures 6a and 6c), but wrongly spelt as 'Vineyards, Matinborough' (missing 'r') in the 70c and 80c booklets (Figure 6b and 6d).



Figure 6a: (\$2.00) from Row 4/1(left) with the correct spelling of '*Martinborough*' and **Figure 6b:** (80c) (right) with the incorrect spelling '*Matinborough*'.

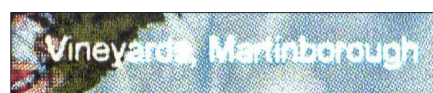


Figure 6c: Detail of the *Vineyards*, *Martinborough* stamp from Row 4/1 with correct spelling.



Figure 6d: Detail of the *Vineyards*, *Matinborough* stamp from Row 4/1 with the incorrect spelling.

Only the later twenty 80c and \$2 i-SITE Regional Stamp Booklets are still available from the Collectables Centre, Whanganui (the earlier 70c and \$1.90 booklets having been withdrawn from sale on 30 November 2015). The current booklets can be ordered separately on-line at the website (<https://stamps.nzpost.co.nz>) where they are listed under 'Other Products' and the sub-heading 'Personalised Postage Booklets' (along with the NZ Red Cross and Heart Foundation booklets). However, here they are referred to as 'Label Booklets' rather than 'Stamp Booklets' and likewise in the October 2015 'Focus' order form.

Acknowledgment:

I would like to thank Terry Hancox for his assistance in providing illustrations for this article.

References:

1. Hancox T., 'Tourism Stamps from 'CAL' Booklets - New Zealand 'i-Site' Stamp Booklets', *The Kiwi*, vol.64, no.3, pp122-123, May 2015.
2. Hancox T., 'New Zealand 'i-Site' Booklet - Revisited, So How Do You Spell Marlborough?', *The Kiwi*, vol.65, no.1, pp16-19, January 2016.

REQUEST FOR HELP FROM MEMBERS

David Stalker writes:

I have acquired the item shown below and have some questions which members might be able to answer.



The piece is postmarked Lancaster on 1 OC 80.

(image shown at 75%)

Questions:

This instruction would have been sent out from Post Office Headquarters. Assuming this, why does it have the Lancaster postmark and not the Wanganui postmark as on First Day Covers? Presumably the instruction should have been received at Lancaster in advance of 1 Oct 1980, if only to allow the affixing of stamps to mail as stated up to TWO working days prior to release.

Presumably the postmark applied to the instruction is that of the Official Date of Issue and not the date of receipt as then, technically, stamps would exist with pre-official date of issue postmarks.

Where was Lancaster Post Office? It is listed in Volume VI of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand as having opened on October 10 1966. Volume VIII does not list Lancaster in the list of Post Shops. When did it close?

I assume these were sent out to all offices and this one was sent to Lancaster. Not a 'point of sale' piece so presumably was either thrown away after the issue was released or 'passed on' to a collector and the stamps cancelled per favor by the Post Office.

If anyone can provide further information please contact the Hon. Editor.

Editors Note: According to Richard Wooders' New Zealand Post Offices Cancellation & Postmark Guide Lancaster was in the Auckland Postal District. It opened 10/10/1966 and closed 25/09/1987.





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The web site is up and running allowing orders to be placed directly once you have registered. Currently there are over 12,000 stamps, covers, postcards etc on the site and all are illustrated.

Email us if you have any problems registering or navigating around the site. There is a search facility allowing you to search for your Interests. e.g. Entering the word 'Railway' brings up around 200 different items.

Website categories include:

- NZ definitive issues from Full Face Queens to the current issues.
- NZ Commemoratives from the 1906 Christchurch Exhibition onwards.
- NZ Health and Christmas issues.
- Booklets.
- Air mail stamps and covers.
- Life Insurance.
- Postage Due and Express stamps and covers.
- Postal fiscals and Revenue stamps.
- Cinderellas.
- Various miscellaneous issues and covers. Postal fiscals and Revenue stamps.
- New Zealand Postal History.
- New Zealand Postal Stationery.
- Antarctic stamps, Postcards and Postal History.
- Various British Commonwealth and Foreign Country's stamps and covers.

Below is a sample of what you can find on the site:



1906 Christchurch Exhibition aluminum postcard (rare).



1906 Christchurch Exhibition set with Exhibition cancels.



1868 Full Face Queen postage due cover.



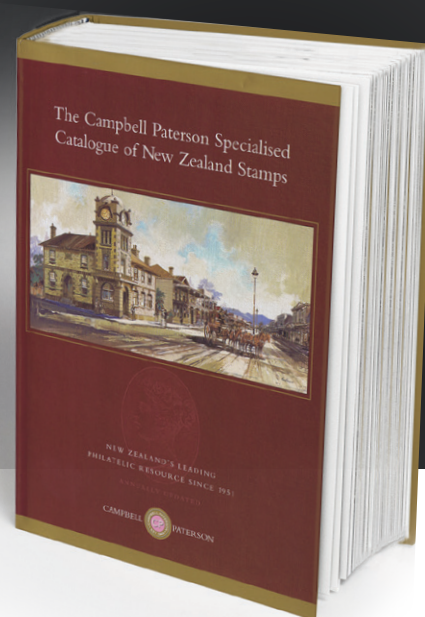
Registered postal stationery cover to USA.

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