



THE KIWI

JOURNAL OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

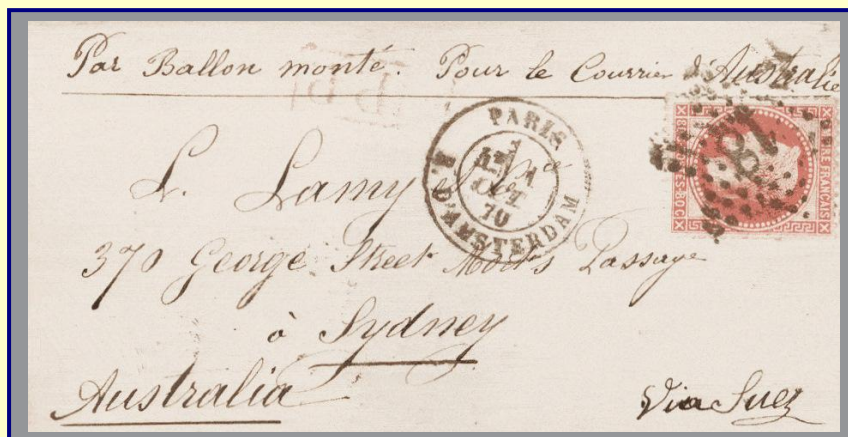


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WHOLE NUMBER 381

JANUARY 2017



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.

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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.*



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EDITORIAL

Thanks to everyone who has provided me with material (or ideas) for publication during the last twelve months. This allowed me to produce a total of 200 pages over the course of the year. I begin this year with the usual plea:

"In order that The Kiwi shall not become a mere newsletter dealing with the Society's domestic affairs, more contributions on the stamps and philately of New Zealand generally are urgently required. These can take the form of an article, query or a letter of general interest. Or even a criticism of something that has gone before. Please give this matter some thought and your fellow members the benefit of your knowledge and experience."

Not my words but those of Mrs Margaret Erskine, the then Secretary of the Society, writing in *The Kiwi* in 1954. Plus ça change!



THE KIWI - ADVERTISERS IN THIS ISSUE

ADVERTISER	PAGE
Mowbray Collectables	Inside Front Cover
Steven Zirinsky	17
Ashford Stamps Ltd.	17

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.

Membership Renewal Time

Members should have received a reminder concerning membership renewal. Prompt payment would be appreciated as it is costly and time consuming if we need to chase people for subscriptions.

If you want to continue to receive *The Kiwi* then please act promptly.

If any of your details (address, e-mail etc) have changed please let the Membership Secretary know.

If you wish to change from paper to e-version of *The Kiwi*, or vice versa, do let us know.

SOCIETY NEWS

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

New Members:

A warm welcome to:

J. Gavin, Glasgow, Scotland



PROGRAMME OF SOCIETY MEETINGS FOR 2017

The programme for 2017 includes five London meetings, an 'out of London' day meeting in September and meetings of the Scottish, North of England and Midland Regional Groups.

London meetings are held at the Union Jack Club, Sandell Street, London SW1 8UJ (adjacent to Waterloo station).

28 January	11:00	Committee Meeting
	14:00	<i>Anniversaries</i>
25 March	11:00	Items of interest and new acquisitions
	14:00	<i>George V</i>
27 May	11:00	Exhibition workshop
	14:00	<i>Overprints and surcharges</i>
29 July	11:00	Committee Meeting
	14:00	<i>Subject to be decided</i>
30 September	11:00	Members meeting
		Venue to be arranged (out of London)
25 November	11:00	Annual General Meeting
	14:00	Auction - with prior viewing of lots

MIDLAND REGIONAL GROUP

Group Contact:- Ian Samuel ☎ 0121 449 0849

18 February	2pm at St Anne's Church Hall, Park Hill, Moseley, Birmingham, B13 8EU
Autumn	To be arranged

NORTH OF ENGLAND REGIONAL GROUP

Group Contact:- Jack Lindley ☎ 0161 705 1074 e-mail: lindleyjack@aol.com

25 February, 13 May 9 September, 11 November	12.30pm: at St Luke's Church, Lodge Road, Orrell, Wigan, WN5 7AT
7 October	12.30pm: joint meeting with Scottish Group, Hallmark Hotel, Carlisle, CA1 1QY

SCOTTISH REGIONAL GROUP

Group Contact:- Adrian Philbey ☎ 0141 562 5817 e-mail: adrian.philbey@ed.ac.uk

22 April	1pm at the ASPS Annual Congress, Dewars Centre, Glover Street, Perth, PH2 0TH
17 June	12.30pm: hosted by John Studholme
7 October	12.30pm: joint meeting with North of England Group, Hallmark Hotel, Carlisle, CA1 1QY

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

The next meeting of the Society will be held on Saturday **28 January 2017**

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

14:00 - *Anniversaries*

Members are asked to use their imagination and bring material appropriate to this topic!

There will be a committee meeting in the morning starting at 11:00 am

MIDLAND REGIONAL GROUP

The next meeting of the Midland Group will be held on Saturday **18 February 2017** at the usual venue, St Anne's Church Hall (behind the Church) Parkhill, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8EU starting at 14:00. Will members please bring along some items of interest or a mini display.

Group Contact: - Ian Samuel ☎ 0121 449 0849

NORTH OF ENGLAND REGIONAL GROUP

The next meeting of the North of England Group will be held on Saturday **25 February 2017** at St. Luke's Church, Lodge Road, Orrell starting at 12:30. Members to display new acquisitions or items of interest.

Group Contact: - Jack Lindley ☎ 0161 705 1074 e-mail: lindleyjack@aol.com

SCOTTISH REGIONAL GROUP

The next meeting of the Scottish Group will be an informal gathering, at 13:00 on Saturday **22 April 2017** at the ASPS Congress in Perth. Meet in the café on the balcony of the Dewar Centre.

Group contact: - Adrian Philbey ☎ 0141 562 5817 e-mail: adrian.philbey@ed.ac.uk



THE SOCIETY WEB-SITE AS A RESOURCE FOR MEMBERS

The Kiwi (now downloadable in pdf format)

- * Vol. 1-61 (1952-2012) available to all in pdf format.
- * Vol. 62-65 (2013-16) available to members only.
- *password required - contact the editor of The Kiwi.*
- * Vol. 66 (current year) - available to *e-Kiwi* subscribers.



Society web-site: www.nzsgb.org.uk

MEETINGS HELD

REPORT OF THE 65th AGM OF THE SOCIETY

A report of the 65th AGM, held in London on 26 November 2016, can be found on pages 33-34.

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NOTES OF THE MIDLAND GROUP MEETING, 22 OCTOBER 2016

Unfortunately, due to a late change of date from 29 to 22 October only three members were able to attend.

Ian Samuel showed a display of 1970-1980 postcards of New Zealand lighthouses from Cape Reinga down to Nugget Point in the Catlins on the South Island.

Terry Hancox displayed one of his Stratford competition entries entitled 'What No Perforations!' which included original stamps without perforations, accidental no perfs, corner folds, shifts up and across, blind perfs and deliberate 'philatelic' imperfs, on sheets, blocks and mini-sheets.

As a follow-on Terry showed two mini-displays. The first of cinderella mini sheets of 'Support the Pandas' at Auckland Zoo including postally (questionable?) used covers with no official postage paid, and some proof images. The second display was of Post Office 'instructional markings' including the 'pointing finger' return to sender strike from a number of New Zealand cities.

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NOTES OF THE NORTH OF ENGLAND GROUP MEETING, 12 NOVEMBER 2016

Seven members were present.

Paul Wreglesworth displayed a range of Doctor Blade flaws on stamps from the 1960 Definitive Issue. This was followed by two hand illustrated envelopes from the Second Sideface period and a range of railway related material. This included railway parcel and station labels, mail tags and a range of covers showing continuous roller TPO cancellations which were used for a very short period during from 1909-10.

Stuart Potter discussed his competition entry from the Stratford weekend dealing with 'Development of New Zealand Airmail Services'.

John Hepworth described his competition entry from the Stratford weekend - 'Mail by Rail'.

John Atkinson showed the 2015 issues from New Zealand Post, followed by the 2016 Christmas issue. Those present were surprised by the number of stamps issued in the one year and commented on how few of these were seen postally used.

Harold Howard showed an interesting selection of postcards of 'Early Ashburton' from different publishers. This was followed by a nicely presented selection of the 1d Dominion stamp showing constant flaws and errors most of which were in seldom seen fine used multiples,

Jack Lindley entertained with a miscellany of cinderella labels from the WWI and WWII years including mint and used, on covers. Jack closed with a similar showing of 'Tourist' and 'Safety' labels.

UPCOMING UK NATIONAL EVENTS

2017

- * 15-18 February **ABPS Spring Stampex** - Business Design Centre, London.
Full National Exhibition. Theme: The former Ottoman Empire including North Africa, Egypt and Balkan States, plus Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, Trans-Jordan, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Gulf States. With Iran.

THE GRAHAM COOPER COLLECTION OF KGVII STAMPS

On 14 December 2016 Spink, London auctioned the Graham Cooper collection of King George VI stamps. The sale included more than 300 lots of New Zealand, with some very interesting proof and essay material offered alongside the stamps of the period.



The issued 2d+1d stamp.

(image enlarged to 150%)

Lot 874 from this auction included imperforate colour trials, on cards, for both values of the 1943 Health Issue, featuring the two princesses. These items were accompanied by a Bradbury, Wilkinson Colour Chart in the form of an illustrated engraving showing an engraver at work and marked at the top "New Zealand 2d. Health Colour for testing 10/2/43. As submitted". This interesting piece is shown above (courtesy of Spink, London) with the issued stamp (left) as a comparison.

1959 CENTENARY OF THE RED CROSS - A SUITABLE SUBJECT FOR STUDY

Terry Hancox



Figure 1: The 1959 Red Cross Stamp.
(image enlarged)

On the face of it, the 1959 Red Cross stamp (Figure 1) is interesting, but perhaps not sufficiently so to warrant specialist interest. The stamp is from an era of many photogravure stamps and has little to single it out from the crowd. It is not until you consider the errors derived from this issue, and investigate the various flaws and retouches, that you begin to realise the printer has taken trouble to correct major and minor blemishes, and that each stamp does indeed have some uniqueness from its neighbours that is perhaps worth investigating. This article attempts to illustrate those known errors and major varieties.

Publicity

The New Zealand Red Cross Society had originally asked for the stamps to have a charity surcharge of 1d that would benefit Society funds. The Federation of New Zealand Health Camps objected that there was not a clear break between the proposed Red Cross issue and the annual Health stamp. Further, the Federation and the Central Councils of the Health Camp Movement asked that it should be 'made plain that the Red Cross stamp would be in addition to the Health stamp, not a substitute for it'. The Postmaster General gave appropriate assurances and the Red Cross issue was scheduled for 3 June 1959.

The N.Z. Red Cross Society Inc. distributed publicity material prior to the postage stamp to raise public awareness of the issue and the work of the Red Cross. Newspaper advertisements, 'Point of Sale' cards and leaflets were released. Examples are illustrated here (Figures 2, 3 and 4).



Figure 2: Newspaper advert for the new issue.
(image at 45% of original)



Figure 3: Back cover of a publicity leaflet.
(image at 50% of original)



Figure 4: Point of sale card.

(image at 55% of original)

Although it had been proposed to print 8 million stamps, the number actually printed was 4,400,040 with 3,699,118 eventually sold before the stamp was withdrawn from circulation on 31 August, 1959. All unissued stamps were destroyed.

Errors

The most significant error of this issue was the omission of the red colour (see Front Cover), which was discovered affecting two sheets. The first sheet had the red missing from the bottom of the sheet (row 20) with the other missing the red from the top (row 1) with a smudged, partial, print on row 2. As the stamps were printed in sheets of 120 (20 rows of 6 stamps) there are only 12 stamps known with the red colour completely missing, and six with partial omission. All these stamps have a very faint impression of the red colour, therefore the error might be better classified as 'red virtually omitted'.



Figure 5: Dry print of the red colour.

Examples showing a 'dry' print of the red colour are known, mainly affecting the left and lower arms of the cross (Figure 5).

Vertical blue 'Doctor Blade' lines (Figure 6) are found affecting one or two stamps, but examples with red doctor blade lines are less common.

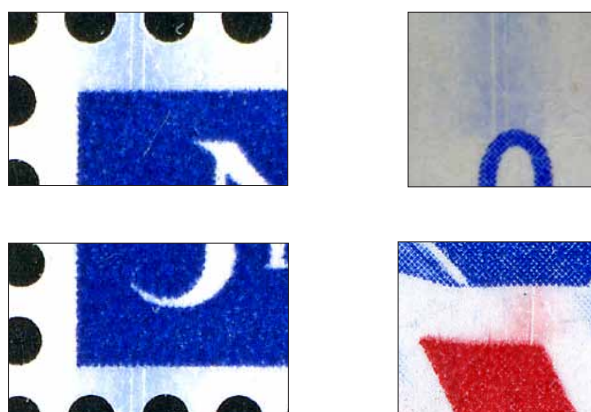


Figure 6: Examples of blue and red 'Doctor Blade' lines.

(images enlarged)

Printing Offset



Figure 7: *Offset (left) on stamps at Row 11/3 and 11/4 and enlarged (4x) showing detail (right).*
(left image shown at 80%)

It is interesting to see that several sheets, especially from later printings show, what appears to be, a small offset affecting the reverse of stamps row 11/3 and 11/4 (Figure 7). Looking closely it can be seen that the offset is of the 'winged' guide marking that can be found at the centre of either top or lower selvages. The offset is biased towards the left side of the guide, with only a few vertical lines appearing in the right. It is not certain which of the guides is the actual cause, but may relate to the hole that appears in the top selvage that cuts out part of this guide mark. This would imply that the hole was present in the paper prior to printing, the blue ink would be printed through the hole onto the cylinder, to be picked up on the reverse of the next sheet.

Double Perforations

Sheets were perforated by means of a comb head, gauging $14\frac{1}{2} \times 14$, working sideways. In normal sheets the right selvage is perforated whereas the left selvage is not.



Figure 8a (above) and 8b (right):

Examples of partial double perfs.

(image at 80% of original)

Partial strikes of the perforating head are known affecting the left selvage. Some examples (Figure 8a) do not encroach into the stamps and some show doubling of a small number of perforation holes in the first vertical column of stamps (Figure 8b).

Miscut Sheets

In the lower selvage there is a series of six buffer bars. These horizontal blue blocks are some 3mm in thickness and are just slightly shorter than the stamps themselves. They are constructed of a uniform thick blue colour of the main design.

Where a sheet is miscut with an abnormally wide top selvage, these buffer bars may be seen in the top selvage. Small varieties seen in the bars prove these are the bars normally found at the bottom of the sheet. An example is shown here (Figure 9). The image is reduced to 80% of normal.



Figure 9: *Miscut sheet with bars at top.*

The Varieties - An Overview

The stamp was printed by Harrison and Sons, Ltd., by photogravure, in sheets of 120 arranged in 20 rows of six stamps. Printing was in two colours with the red cylinder marked '1A' and the blue cylinder marked '2'. Prior to issue, varieties identified in the proof sheet were corrected and it is understood that the progress of bulk printing was interrupted once to repair faulty stamps at Row 7/5 and Row 13/6 (as confirmed by Mr H.F.G. Harrison, Managing Director of Harrisons) and a second time to repair the shading on Row 4/3. The result is that some stamps are found in a flawed and retouched state. Generally the retouching was well done but use of a graver tool, to correct the faulty stamps, leaves lines rather than screen dots in the retouched state which are quite noticeable.

The sequence of printing shows:

Original State Some varieties were noted in the proof sheets and corrected prior to bulk printing.	Stamps retouched at proof stage: Row 9/2 Retouch - west of South America, leaving some of the flaw remaining. Row 11/6 Retouch - around the Falklands off South America. Row 13/5 Retouched - to shading on the flag at top centre. Row 15/5 Retouched - in the ocean at foot of Africa. Row 18/6 Galápagos islands retouched. Row 19/1 Retouched - by Antarctica. Flaws not corrected at proof stage: Row 1/1 Flawed - circle by Greenland. Row 4/3 Flawed - break in shading on flag at top left. Row 5/3 Blue spots. - also at Row 14/6, 20/5 and 20/6. Row 7/5 Flaw - on Greenland. Row 13/6 Flaw - on flag in the shading at bottom right corner. Row 5/6 Shows no sign of a significant spot (pre-flaw).
Second Retouched State	Row 7/5 Retouched - leaving faint blue area. Row 13/6 Retouched - but leaving spots in the area.
Third Retouched State	Row 4/3 Shading retouched. Row 5/3 Spot removed leaving a white patch. - also at Rows 14/6, 20/5 and 20/6. Row 5/6 Significant blue spot appears. Row 9/2 Retouch - west of South America, shows no sign of the original flaw.

Major Varieties (all images enlarged)



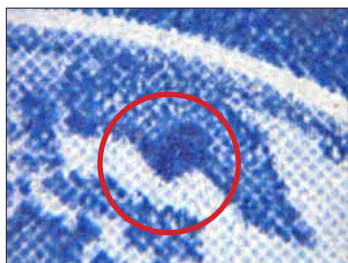
Row 1/1

A dark circle appears on the tip of Greenland. This is constant throughout the printing with no pre-flaw state or attempt to correct the mark.



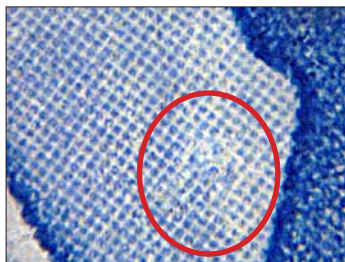
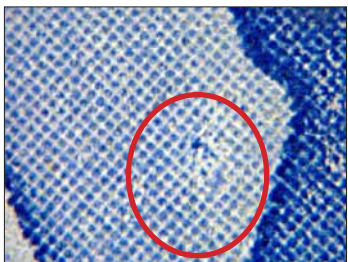
Row 4/3 Variety (left) and Retouch (right)

Part of the blue shading at the top left corner of the flag is missing, causing a gap in the left patch nearest to the flagpole. The fault was not corrected with Row 7/5 and 13/6 but noticed later and retouched by recutting a small number of near horizontal lines.
- The flaw state is scarcer than the retouched form.



Row 7/5 Flaw (left) and Retouches (centre and right)

The first sheets printed had a prominent coloured spot half way along the south coast of Greenland (left). The spot is solid and differs in shade to the other dark blue areas of the stamp. The spot was retouched (at the same time as the flaw at Row 13/6) but this was not very effective giving a blurred blue circle on the coast (centre). As printing progressed the blurring spread further, extending across the bay (right).

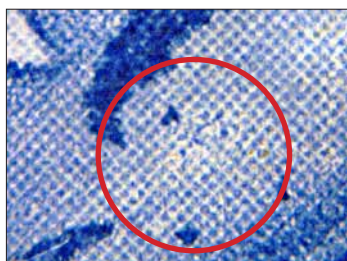


Row 9/2 Early State (left) and Later State (right)

Sheets from later printings show a distinct variant of this flaw with the dark blue flaw 'removed' but with the disturbance extending to the left, toning down the screen dots at that point. This makes the area more consistent but the retouched area is still visible.

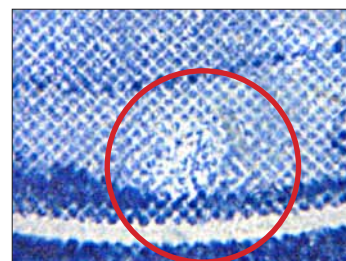
Volume IV of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand (Ref. 1) states that proof sheets showed the stamp at Row 9/2 having an uncoloured area to the left of South America repaired. Certainly there is a flaw at that point. In early sheets (with the original flaw at Row 13/6) there is a dark blue spot with a disturbance to the right of it.

As the flaw was retouched at the proof stage no examples of the original flaw state are known.

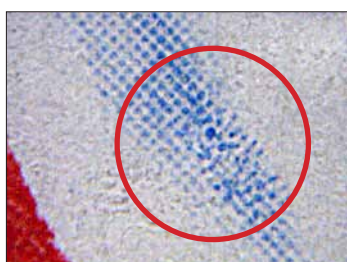


Falklands Retouch

Row 11/6 Retouches
Whilst the stamp was at the proof stage two white patches were noted and retouched. The first, effectively removes one of the islands from the Falkland's group (left). The second (right) affects most of the land mass of Antarctica. The original flaw states do not exist on the issued stamp.

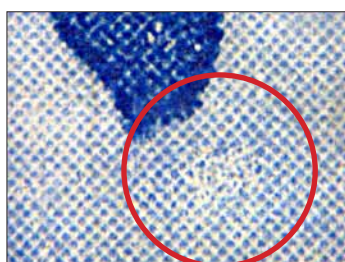


Antarctica Retouch



Row 13/5 Retouch

Shading on the flag, top right of the cross, is retouched appearing as a series of spots. This maybe correcting a flaw or missing shading. This appeared prior to the Row 13/6 retouch and can be found on sheets with flaw or retouch states of the latter.



Row 15/5 Retouch

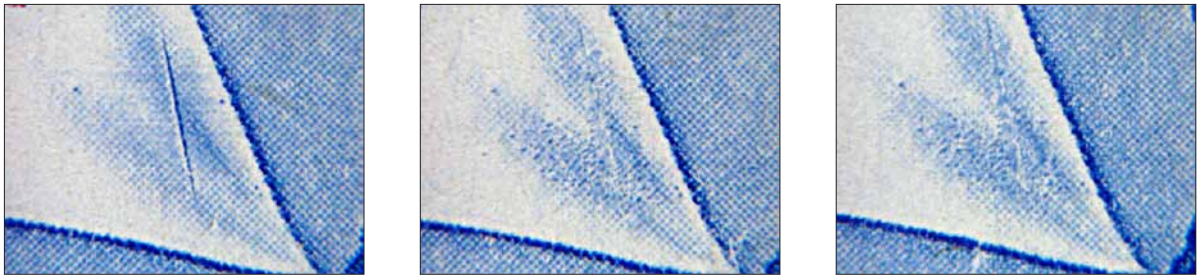
A disturbance in the ocean to the south east of South Africa in the left hemisphere. This has the appearance of a retouch, perhaps to an uncoloured area, at this point. This correction was made at the proof stage and the flaw is not found on the printed stamp.



Row 18/6 Retouch

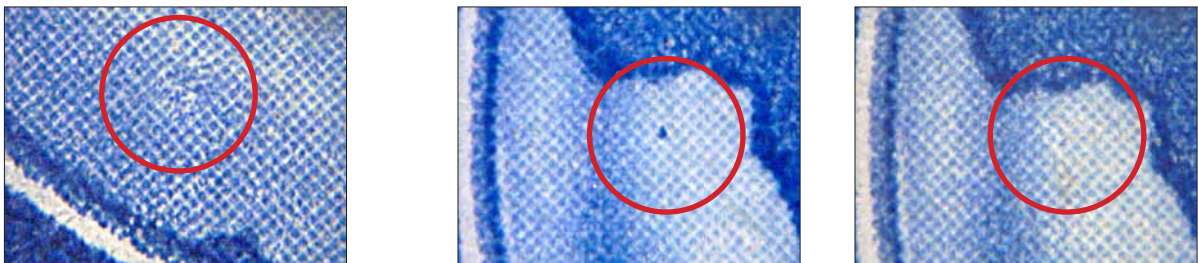
A definite retouch, effected at the proof state, to an apparent small uncoloured area to the west of the Galápagos islands - which have also received attention. On other stamps in the sheet the islands are quite blurred whilst they are clear on this stamp.

The stamp at Row 13/6 shows a well-known flaw and retouch (often given catalogue status in most specialist publications) most likely due to its prominence. The flawed state is rare, and the retouch can be found in a number of different states due to the wearing of the plate.



Row 13/6 Flaw (left), Early State Retouch (centre) and Late State Retouch (right)

After a small number of sheets had been printed a long, near vertical, scratch was visible in the bottom right corner of the flag (above left). Either side of the scratch, horizontal lines of colour appear (against the direction of the printing) and are likely to be smudges of the colour caused by presence of the scratch. The flaw was repaired at the same time as that at Row 7/5. After retouching only a small number of coloured spots in the 'V' of the shading remained (centre above). The line of the scratch is still visible but is not very pronounced. With time the spots became more uniform, but are still present (right above), and the scratch becomes more visible.



Row 19/1 Retouch

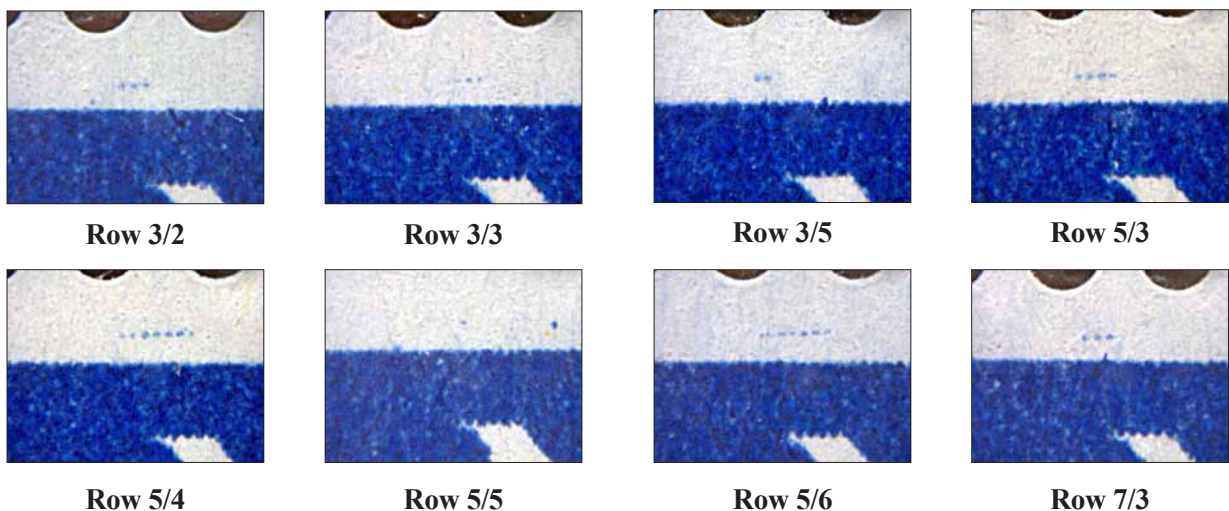
There appears to be a small retouch between New Zealand and Antarctica in the right hemisphere. It is difficult to see without a magnifying glass. The retouch shape varied and shrinks as printing progressed.

Row 20/6 (and other positions) - Blue Spot

Early sheets up to state 2 show significant spots in and around the central design, west of Africa (left). Similar spots have been seen on stamps at 5/3 (between flagpole and flag), 14/6 (near rim below Africa) and 20/5 (left of Antarctica in left hemisphere). In state 3 these spots have disappeared (right). There is no reference to these stamps having been retouched so it may have been due to these points wearing with time so that the spots ceased to be visible.

Line of Dots in Top Margin, Left of 'N' of 'LAND'

No less than 21 stamps show the same form of variety in the top margin to the top left of the 'N' of 'LAND'. This takes the form of a series of small dots in a horizontal line. The displacement of the dots varies from stamp to stamp. These varieties are illustrated here to show the range of effects, and to act as a 'stamp finder', based upon this variety alone.



Pattern of stamps with dots above 'N' of 'LAND'

	1	2	3	4	5	6
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						
13						
14						
15						
16						
17						
18						
19						
20						



Row 7/5



Row 8/4



Row 9/1



Row 11/3



Row 11/4



Row 13/2



Row 17/3



Row 18/1



Row 18/2



Row 18/3



Row 18/5



Row 19/5



Row 20/5

Summary

It is possible to plate all 120 stamps to individual positions on the sheet by reference to tiny differences that are constant across the sheet. To the modest 'specialist' it is relatively easy to reconstruct the printed sheet. It also enables some stamps to be collected in a number of states - but not enough to seriously confuse. In short, the 1959 Red Cross issue is a well-designed stamp, from a time between human endeavour and mass production, that still manages to retain enough variety to stimulate specialist interest.

Acknowledgements:

Thanks to Paul Wreglesworth for access to his collection of 1959 Red Cross errors and publicity material.

Reference:

1. Collins R.J.G. and Watts C.W.,(Editors), *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand*, Vol.IV, Chap. XXVI, p.282-287, pub. Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, Wellington, New Zealand,1950.

THE 9d AIRMAIL POSTAGE RATE TO NEW ZEALAND FORCES IN FIJI, NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1941

Laurence Kimpton

In November 1941 Pan American Airways added Fiji as a stop between Canton Island and Noumea, New Caledonia on the San Francisco-Auckland South Pacific service (FAM19). The first return service left Auckland on 24 November 1941 and arrived at Suva, Fiji the following day. New Zealand mail for Fiji was charged at the rate of 1s 3d per half ounce. A concession rate for New Zealand forces in Fiji was made available at the rate of 9d per half ounce (Figure 1). However, most mail for the forces in Fiji was franked at the 1s 3d rate. It appears that the availability of the 9d concession rate was not widely known. The second service, also carrying mail at the two rates, left Auckland on 24 November and arrived at Suva on the 25th.

Early on 7 December (8 December in Auckland, west of the Date Line) the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbour, Hawaii. At the time of the attack the PAA Boeing 314 flying boat *Pacific Clipper* was flying between Noumea and Auckland. It reached Auckland safely and on 15 December it flew to Noumea, collected PAA personnel who had worked in the South Pacific, and returned westward to the USA. The third eastward South Pacific service via Fiji therefore did not take place and mail from New Zealand intended for carriage on this service was forwarded by ship. A cover intended for this third service posted at Auckland on 9 December 1941, at the 9d concession rate, is shown opposite (Figure 2).

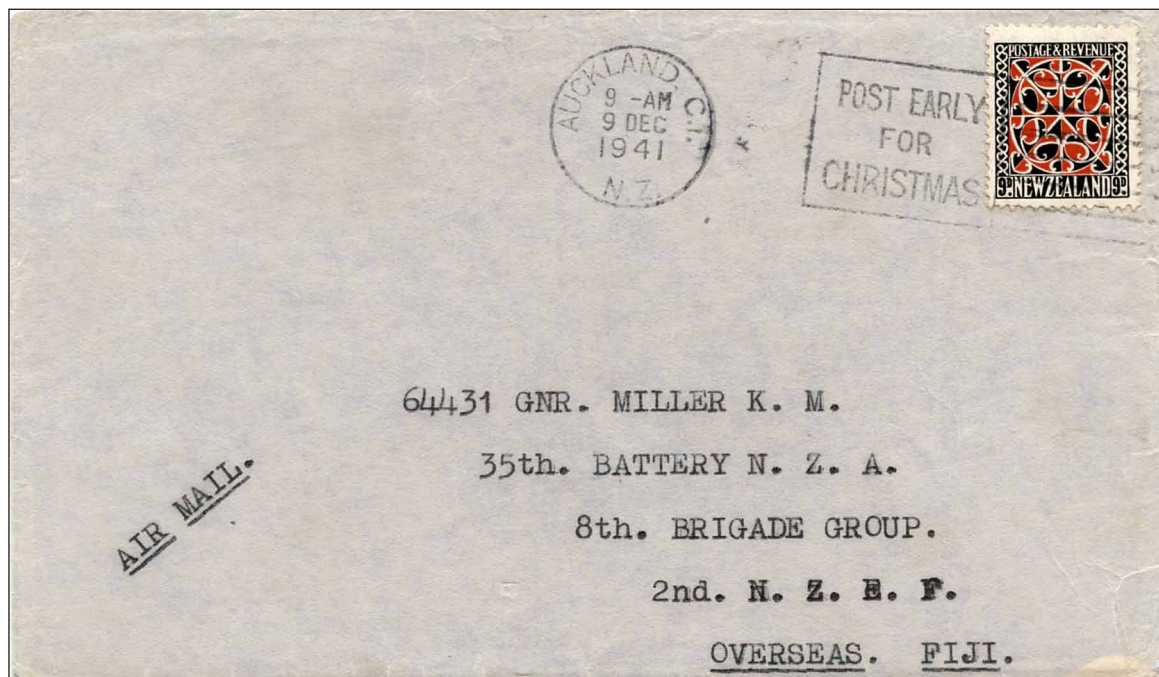


Figure 1: Cover to a member of the New Zealand forces in Fiji posted at Auckland on 10th November 1941 at the concession rate of 9d per half ounce. Flown on the first flight of the PAA South Pacific Service to call at Suva. Red first flight cachet applied at Auckland (the cachet had the month October deleted as the first flight took place in November).. Backstamped at Suva on 13th November.

References:

1. Aitink H.E., and Hovenkamp E., *Bridging the Continents in Wartime*, pub. SLTW, Netherlands, 2005.
2. Startup R. M., *Airmails of New Zealand, Volume 3, International Airmails 1940-1970*. pub. Air Mail Society of New Zealand, 1997.



Figure 2: Cover to a member of the New Zealand forces in Fiji posted at Auckland on 9th December 1941 at the concession rate of 9d per half ounce. Intended for carriage on the third flight of the PAA South Pacific Service to Suva which did not take place. (Bryan Jones collection).

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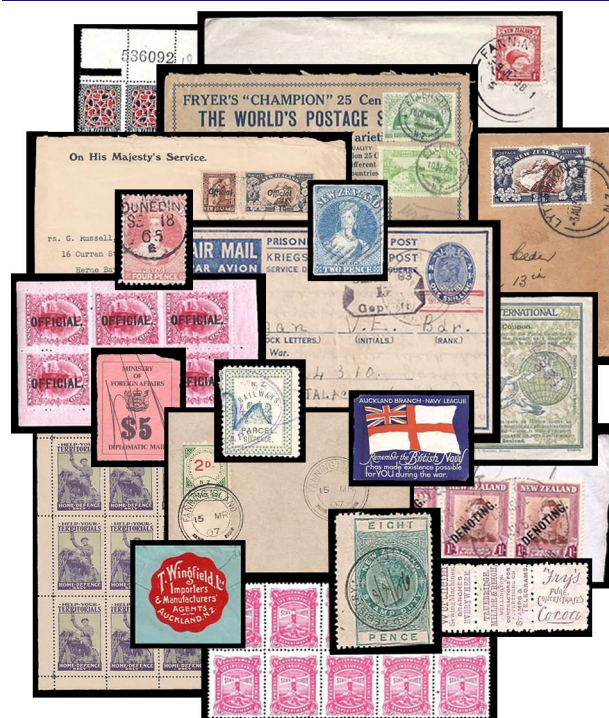
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PRIORITY MAIL CALL

Paul Wreglesworth

Mail sent using the 'Express Delivery' service, for which special stamps were first issued in 1903, is very popular amongst collectors. However, similar services for expediting the delivery of letters and parcels have been available since the late 19th Century.

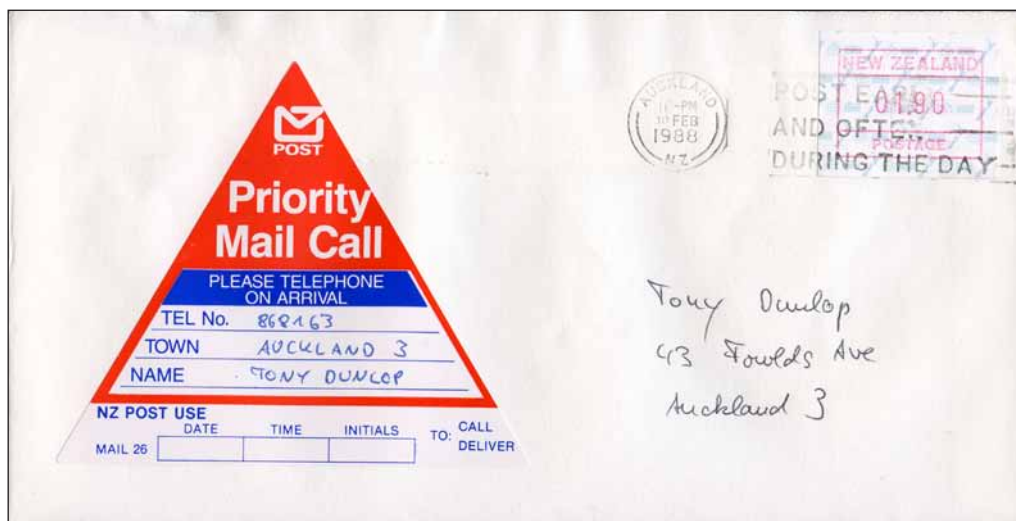


Figure 1: A Frama label pays the \$1.90 charge for a local letter sent using the Priority Mail Call service.
(Image at 60% of original)



Figure 2: NZ Post leaflet advertising the 'Priority Mail Call' service.
(Image reduced)

As early as 1884 a telephone messenger could be hired to deliver letters or parcels on payment of a charge, based on mileage or time, (Ref. 1). Alternatives have been in place over the years and one, relatively short lived, option was the 'Priority Mail Call'.

In December 1987 the 'Fly Phone' service, for airmail parcels, was re-named 'Priority Mail Call' and extended to airmail letters and first class non-standard mail (Ref. 2).

The sender could request the Post Office to phone the addressee when the mail item arrived at their nearest office, from where it could be collected if urgent. If not it would be delivered in the earliest delivery.

The cost of the service was \$1.50 plus normal postage. An example of a letter sent in this way is shown above (Figure 1). Standard postage at the time (February 1988) was 40c so the letter is correctly pre-paid \$1.90. A gummed triangular label was affixed to the item to identify it. Details of the service were set out in a NZ Post leaflet (Figure 2).

The service was little used and was phased out around 1992.

References:

1. Collins R.J.G. and Father H.T.M., (Editors), 'Express Delivery', *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand*, Vol.I, Chap. XXVI, p.424, pub. Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, Wellington, New Zealand, 1939.
2. Vincent B.G., (Ed), 'Priority Mail Call', *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand*, Vol. VIII, , p.487, pub. Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, Wellington, New Zealand, 1998.

NEW ZEALAND AIRGRAPHS – AND A SPECIAL DEFINITIVE STAMP

John Watts

**Subject: SPECIAL CHRISTMAS AIRGRAPH
SERVICE TO NZ**

HQ 2 NZEF
Maadi Camp Ext 37,
Q 68/2/4365
12 Nov 42.

To: List "Z"

- (1) It is announced for general information that arrangements have been made for a Special Christmas airgraph service between the Middle East and New Zealand. This, it is emphasized, is a special service only and must not be regarded as indicating that a regular airgraph service is operating.
- (2) Under this scheme each member of the 2 NZEF, Middle East, is permitted to send one airgraph to New Zealand free of charge.
- (3) A supply of blank airgraph forms estimated to be sufficient for the issue of one to each soldier is being sent direct to units. If the number received is insufficient for a full distribution application should be made to the nearest NZ or British Field Post Office for an additional supply of the forms.
- (4) The airgraph forms when completed must be handed in to the unit orderly room and will on no account be handed by individuals to a Field Post Office, NZ or otherwise.
- (5) After censorship, units will forward the airgraphs, under cover, by the quickest means to the OC, NZ Chief Post Office, 2 NZEF.
- (6) The airgraphs should be packed flat and not folded. If the number from any unit is few they should be rolled in cylinder form.
- (7) When all airgraphs from each unit have been despatched to the NZ Chief Post Office a certificate will be rendered to ADPS, Postal Directorate, HQ 2 NZEF, that the distribution of forms within the unit was on the basis of not more than one to each man on the strength at the time of distribution.
- (8) It is necessary that all the forms should reach the Chief Post Office not later than the 30th November and units will fix their own times for acceptance to ensure that they will be received by that date.
- (9) It is appreciated that forms from some units, particularly those in isolated places, may have difficulty in reaching the Chief Post Office by the 30th November and although at the moment the scheme provides for one despatch only to New Zealand an endeavour is being made, in view of the special circumstances operating in the Western Desert in particular, to arrange for a supplementary despatch. There can, however, be no guarantee that this will be possible and units should make every effort to forward the forms as early as possible. Units should forward the completed forms daily to the Chief Post Office rather than hold for one despatch which may miss the mail.
- (10) It is to be clearly understood that each soldier is entitled to despatch one airgraph only under this Special Christmas Airgraph scheme. There is no provision for the despatch of additional airgraphs, postage prepaid or otherwise.

W G STEVENS,
Brigadier,
Officer in Charge Administration 2 NZEF.

NZPU-283

Figure 1: Notice of the Special Christmas Airgraph Service to New Zealand.

(Image reduced)

and sent again. Between 1941 and 1945 over 250 million airgraphs were despatched or serviced throughout the world, weighing an estimated 50 tons; the equivalent number of airmail letters would have weighed 4,500 tons.

New Zealand first became involved in the airgraph services in March 1942 when the 2nd NZ Expeditionary Force postal services in Egypt began to accept airgraphs, through field and military post offices, for addresses in the UK and Eire. They were handed over to Kodak Ltd. for processing using their 'Recordak' camera equipment. The fee was 3d and had to be prepaid in New Zealand or British postage stamps. 3,292 airgraphs were handled in the first month.

In November 1942 the 2nd NZ Expeditionary Force HQ arranged for a special Christmas airgraph service to New Zealand. Announcement of this was by a notice issued by Brigadier W. G. Stephens dated 12 November 1942 (Figure 1). Under this scheme each member of the 2nd NZ Expeditionary Force was allowed to send one airgraph to New Zealand free of charge. An airgraph taking advantage of this 'special service' is shown here (Figure 2).

Airgraphs had to be in Cairo by 30 November for

The idea of 'airgraphs', as used during World War II, was conceived by Kodak Ltd. in 1932. They proposed that the weight of airmails could be reduced if messages were written on a special form which could then be photographed in miniature, using machinery they had developed, onto film. The film would then be flown to its destination, processed and produced at a readable size on bromide paper. At this time the idea was not progressed.

The system however was adopted by the British Government in 1941. Following the fall of France, and the Axis forces' advances in North Africa, to overcome serious delays that developed in the transporting of mail from Britain to the British forces, and others in Egypt, Kodak personnel set up film processing facilities in Cairo in May 1941 that could handle incoming and outgoing Airgraphs.

3,500 of the A4 airgraph forms, that were made available, weighed 1lb., 100ft. of 16mm film used could accommodate 1700 forms and weighed just 5½oz. If the one ton of airgraphs carried to and from New Zealand during the war had been in the form of airmail letters they would have weighed 120 tons. The use of airgraphs therefore saved 119 tons in air freight at a time, during the war years, when aircraft and shipping space was so valuable.

During the processing by Kodak of the outgoing forms they were numbered serially. If by chance airgraphs were lost, due to an aircraft failing to arrive, the original message could be re-photographed

New Address
is new RUCB
when used
within the post

**MR AND MRS G.E. BAIRD,
42 DUNCAN STREET,
DUNEDIN,
NEW ZEALAND**

Facing Officer's
Signature and
Unit Name Stamp
Required

Military Airgraph Service authorized by Egyptian Postal Administration

Write the message very plainly below this line

29109 1/2 Pte. H.D. Baird
HQ, 56 NZ, Supply Coy, NZEF
2 NZEF,
246 1/2 Mile East Suez

23/11/42

Sender's Address

Dear Mum & Dad,

Being able to send this note of special Christmas greetings is a pleasant surprise, and I hope it reaches you safely and in time there to a cheery Christmas, anyway, and a much happier New Year than the old one has been. I can send only one of these notes, so you must pass on my love and those wishes to Elsie and also to Uncle, Auntie and the families. Let's hope that next Christmas will see us all together again and finished with the rotten business. I'm keeping very well and have been getting letters and parcels by the dozen lately. Saw Sam Wood, and Oliver on leave recently and they are both well. Not much space left so I must say cheerio for this time. All the very best in the world from
Your loving son,
H.D.

Figure 2: 1942 airgraph taking advantage of the 'special service'.

(Image reduced)



Figure 3: Kodak's premises, Willis Street, Wellington.

processing and despatch of the film. In New Zealand the films were processed by Kodak Ltd at their premises in Wellington (Figure 3) before handing over to the Post Office who then despatched the processed messages in standard departmental window envelopes (Figure 4).

This special service allowed the New Zealand processing service to be tested prior to accepting airgraphs from within New Zealand for despatch overseas.



Figure 4: Window envelopes used for despatch of messages.

(Image reduced)

The Airgraph Service commenced operation in New Zealand, to the United Kingdom and Canada, on 18 January 1943, and to the Middle East on 10 February 1943. At first only messages addressed to members of the forces were accepted but from 2 April 1943 messages to civilian addresses were accepted.

A regular service, from Cairo to Wellington, was introduced on 6 April 1943 with a fee of 3d an airgraph. 19,387 airgraphs were despatched in April 1943. Airgraphs from New Zealand were charged 5d to members of the forces and 10d for civilians.

Office space was provided at the General Post Office building in Featherston Street, Wellington. This was the collection point for outward airgraph forms, and the distribution point for incoming airgraphs. Post Offices throughout New Zealand sent messages accepted from the public, separated by quality of message, typed or hand written, packed flat direct to Wellington.

The first form ('Type 1'), available free from post offices, for use by the New Zealand public bears the printing number P.O. 1. 1,000,000/8/42 – 4694 (Figure 5).

A number of minor changes were made to the form when reprinting. 'Type 2' forms have some variation to the instructions shown on the reverse side. The printing number is P.O. 1. 1,000,000/8/43 – 6094. A second printing was made of 'Type 2' with printing number P.O. 1. 2,000,000/4/44 – 924. A third printing of 'Type 2', has number P.O. 1., on the front, but no quantity or date details are shown.

'Type 3' forms have P.O. 1. on the front, with printing details 2,000,000/1/44 – 12176], on the reverse.

'Type 4' forms have a series of lines in the address box. (Figure 6). The printing number P.O. 1. 1,500,000/6/44 – 3807] is on the front. On the reverse are changes to some of the instructions. A new instruction, Item (7), 'Airgraphs having snapshots affixed cannot be accepted for transmission'.

Original instructions, (7) and (8), were renumbered (8) and (9).

A second printing of 'Type 4' shows P.O. 1. on the front, with quantity and order number 1,000,000/11/44 – 10736 on reverse.

Figure 5: Front (left) and reverse (right) of the first, 'Type 1' form. (Images reduced)

The example shown on the left below (Figure 7) was purchased at a UK auction in 1999. Modifications can be seen in the detail by the address panel. Because a mint copy of this form has not been reported it is not possible to give any further details. (the author, through the Hon. Editor, would welcome any further information that members may be able to provide regarding this Type of form).

Figure 6: 'Type 4' form - lines in address box. (Image reduced)

The J class 34mm datestamp (Figure 8) was used in the Wellington airgraph office to 'kill' uncanceled stamps on the back of message forms. The regulation required that all the original forms were to be destroyed within 3 months following advice that the message film had been despatched and received. They were sent to the Mataura paper mill, in Southland, for pulping.



Figure 8:
J class datestamp used
in the Airgraph Office.

Figure 7: Form with modifications to left side of address box. (Image reduced)

A special Christmas and New Year airgraph form was issued for 1943/44 (Figure 9). Printed on thick coarse paper, it has the order number, 7663 – 43], printed on the reverse. A second printing was made on a finer quality paper but without any printing details. 86,123 messages were sent to forces addresses and 39,044 to civilian addresses using these airgraphs.

For most of the period of use of airgraphs, from New Zealand to civilian addresses, the charge was 10d and because there was no stamp of that denomination available at the time, two 5d stamps, or a 2d plus an 8d stamp were used to make up the fee. This created a situation where 5d and 8d postage stamps were being consumed at a far greater rate than anticipated. With the cost of replacement escalating in wartime, it was decided to withdraw 3,842,280 of the 1½d Centennial Issue stamps, which was little used, and overprint with the surcharge 'TENPENCE'. (Figure 10). These were issued on 1 May 1944 (Figure 11).

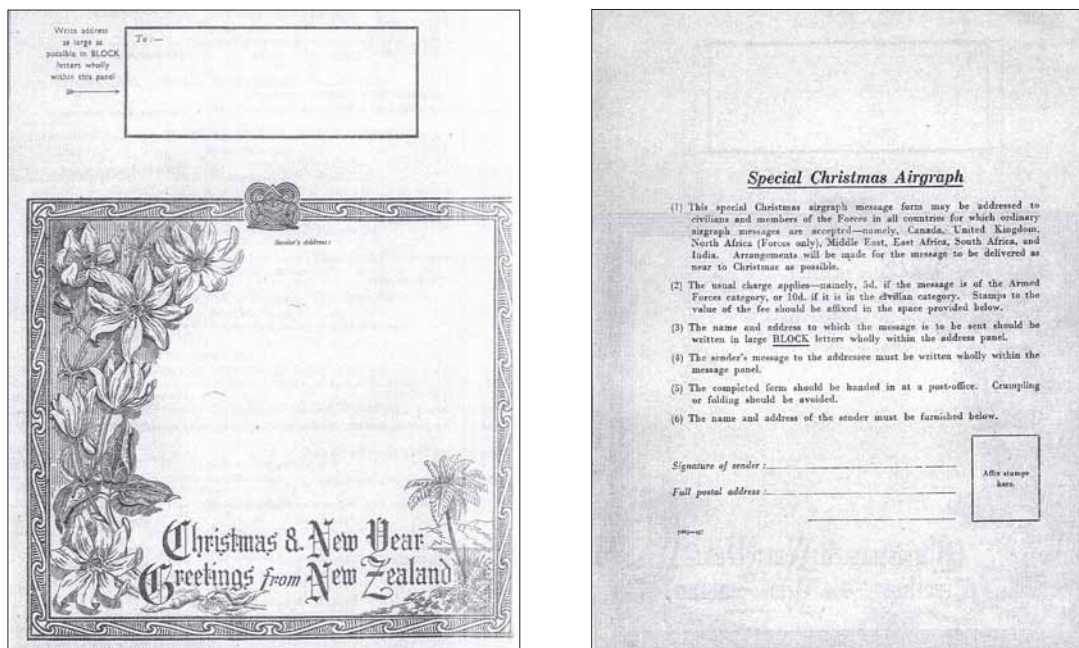


Figure 9: Front (left) and reverse (right) of the 1943 /1944 Christmas & New Year airgraph form.
(Images reduced)

As this was only for use with airgraphs it is believed that New Zealand was the only country to have a special stamp specifically issued for payment of the airgraph service.

A new design of form was used for the 1944/1945 Christmas & New Year form (Figure 11) and order number 3000, 000/8/44 – 6330 appears on the reverse. The charge was 5d to either service or civilian addresses. A second printing was made on a poorer quality paper but there were no printing details on the form. 179,000 were despatched overseas raising the question why a second printing was required.



Figure 10: 1940 Centennial 1½d stamp overprinted 10d.

Following use of the U 347(151-56) (Figure 3) envelope for the first airgraphs received in New Zealand, in 1943, special envelopes were produced from re-pulped manila paper. There were two types (Figure 12a and b).

None of the envelopes had glassine windows which might possibly have been for cost saving reasons.

Once the film of incoming forms had been processed the bromide prints were delivered to the G.P.O. where they were put into envelopes and then transferred to the Mail Branch for sorting and despatch. G.P.O. staff did much of the enveloping as an after-work shift.

The airgraph service ceased on 31 July 1945.



Figure 11: (left)
First day usage of the
surcharged stamp.

Postmarked KAMO
1 May 1944

(Image reduced)

Between January 1943 and July 1945 3,633,991 airgraphs were despatched from New Zealand and 4,325,781 received. The Chief Post Office of the 2nd NZ Expeditionary Force, in Cairo, despatched 2,123,821 messages, mostly to New Zealand.

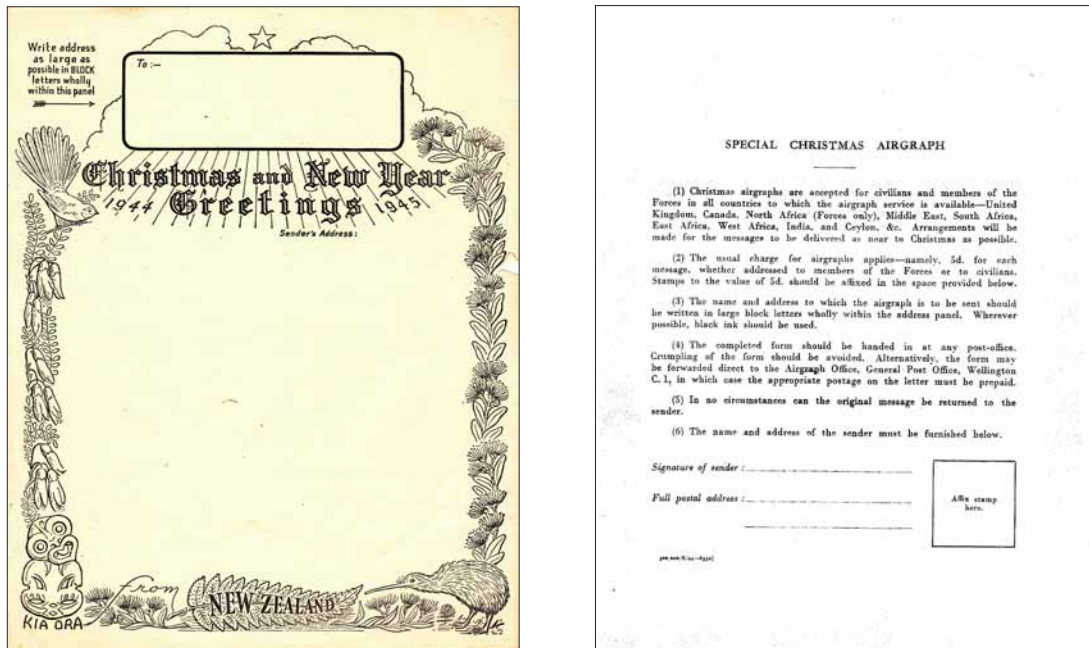


Figure 11: Front (left) and reverse (right) of the 1944 /1945 Christmas & New Year airgraph form.
(Images reduced)



Figure 12a: 'Type A' envelope
- large diameter curved ends to cut out.
(Image reduced)



Figure 12b: 'Type B' envelope
- rectangular cut out with curved corners.
(Image reduced)

Acknowledgement:

The author would like to recognise the work of Robin Startup and Keith Griffiths, through the New Zealand Postal History Society, from which considerable details are taken for this article.

References:

1. Griffiths K. A., 'New Zealand Airgraph Service 1942-1945', Postal History Society of New Zealand Handbook No. 41, 1999.
2. Leppard E.W., 'The Airgraph Letters', *The Kiwi*, Vol.40 No.6, pp.11-13, January 1991.
3. Robinson H., *A History of The Post Office in New Zealand*, pp. 238-240, pub. R.E. Owen, Government Printer, Wellington, 1964.
4. Startup R. M., 'Airgraphs', *The Mail Coach*, Vol.23, pp14-15, pub. Postal History Society of New Zealand, October 1986.

SHEEP SKULL ... NEIGHHHH !!!
ALTERNATIVE POSTAL OPERATORS
– STANDARD POST CANTERBURY LTD – TAKE TWO

Alastair Watson

Standard Post Canterbury Ltd. was a short-time Alternative Postal Operator that offered a service to the Southern Canterbury region, around Timaru, between 1999 and 2002. Tony Ward discussed the company and their operation in the May 2016 issue of *The Kiwi* (Ref. 1). Three self-adhesive stamps (40c, 40c, 80c) were issued and Ward described one 40c stamp (Figure 1) as “a multicoloured image of a rustic mailbox, a sheep’s skull, located in the Catlins region of the South Island”. Postal usage was recorded by Ward on a single cover dated 25 May 2000 at Temuka.

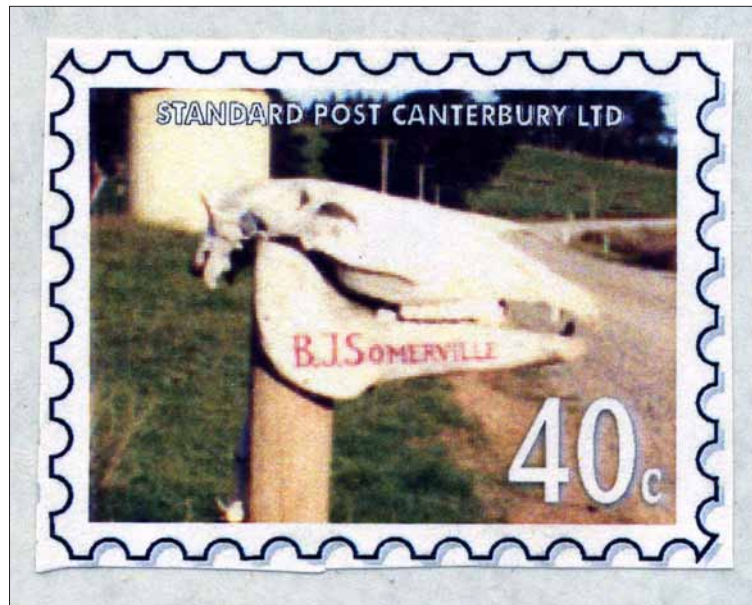


Figure 1: Rural ‘wacky-letterbox’ crafted from an adult stallion’s skull, located on the Southern Scenic Route Highway in the Catlins region, southeast Southland (1991-92) shown on a self-adhesive 40c stamp from Standard Post Canterbury Ltd., (circa 2000).

(stamp image courtesy of Tony Ward)

My initial viewing of this stamp raised thoughts about not looking a gift horse in the mouth, yet my Murihiku roots and philatelic curiosity stirred to dig up the toothy truth ... neighhhh !!!

Further, not wishing to pull the wool over anyone’s eyes, but on first seeing this stamp, it was apparent that this was more than mutton dressed as lamb. The skull, as seen in a published photographic image of this stamp, is not from a sheep! Not even from a legendary Hokonui wild ram! I should disclose myself here as having grown-up on our family sheep farm (not too far west from the location of this rural ‘wacky-letterbox’ in the Catlins), where I frequently butchered the family mutton and lamb for our Sunday roasts and weekday meals, as well as teaching veterinary anatomy over four decades.

The skull shown on this stamp is from a horse. The side view reveals its characteristic equine osteology and bears well-erupted upper and lower canine teeth (in the gap between the incisors up front and the row of large molars behind), which testifies that it belonged to a stallion, of at least 6-7 years of age, likely much older. A closer inspection of the teeth in this skull could refine an age estimation.

The owner’s name was boldly painted in red capital letters along the lower jaw bone – B.J.SOMERVILLE – which, after some local sleuthing, allowed me to locate him farther eastward along the highway at Papatowai, South Otago, where he now devotes his time fully, as he says, to “tinkering” and curating his eclectic “rustic automata” (Lost Gypsy Gallery) (Refs. 2 and 3). Our subsequent conversations and visit (October 2016) clarified the origin and location of this one-of-a-kind letterbox (Ref. 4).

The owner's artistic ingenuity created a functional mailbox with the upper part of a horse's skull hinged and tilting back so mail items could be placed in a receptacle box between the fixed lower jaws. He also divulged that this horse skull was recovered as a 'found object', complete with bullet hole, from the back-forty on his uncle and aunt's farm near Clydevale, South Otago. This horse-skull letterbox was placed outside the farm cottage where he lived just off the Southern Scenic Route, 13.5 km southwest from Papatowai. Its period of roadside use was for "about one year" (1991 – 92) before Blair moved on; the current highway location reveals a much improved road and lack of evidence for letterbox or its post. The final resting place is unknown.



Figure 2: Adult stallion's skull letterbox as featured in a photograph in the Saturday edition of *The Southland Times*, 4 January 1992 (Ref. 5). Newspaper legend correctly identifies the provenance of the horse skull.

(Microfilm image courtesy of Invercargill City Library and *The Southland Times*)

The original photograph of the horse skull mailbox was taken during a holiday tour of the Catlins area in 1991 by Nathan Frahm, who as the director of a newly formed Alternative Postal Operator, Standard Post Canterbury Ltd., used the image to create one of its 40c stamps (Figure 1)(Ref. 6).

This unique horse-skull letterbox carries a distinct rustic hew and the embodiment of Southlanders' innovative making-do, which was highlighted in a local newspaper's photograph of this peculiar mailbox (Figure 2).

The idiosyncratic rural letterbox and the postage stamp depicting it were equally short-lived.

References:

1. Ward T., 'Alternative Postal Operators - Standard Post Canterbury Ltd.', *The Kiwi*, Vol.65 No.3, pp.88-89, May 2006.
2. Askew R., 'Catlins hidden treasure', *The Southland Times* [<http://www.stuff.co.nz/southland-times/culture/9663233/Catlins-hidden-treasure>].
3. Lost Gypsy Gallery [<http://www.thelostgypsy.com>], (Accessed 26 August 2016).
4. Somerville B.J., 2016. Personal Communication.
5. Anon., 'General News', *The Southland Times*, p15, 4 January 1992.
6. Frahm, Nathan. 2016. Personal Communication.

COMMERCIAL USE OF THE FIRST PICTORIALS

Robert P Odenweller RDP, Hon. FRPSL, FRPSNZ

Exhibitors of the First Pictorial issues have a difficult time when faced with judges who are not familiar with the subject. In essence, the judges would like to see commercial covers showing uses of all values, as would be the case with any of the European countries of the time.

Unfortunately, as Derek Diamond pointed out in his recent book, letters with postage totalling more than one shilling are very few, and the non-philatelic ones are rare. Parcel labels can help a bit, but with basic rates of 2½d per half ounce for international mail, plus 3d for registration, letters seldom rose above a shilling except for packets to philatelic addresses.

The large envelope, shown below (Figure 1), is an unusual size, used by an American printer of Webster's dictionaries. The pre-printed address was lined out and the address written on front and reverse, with a vertical strip of five of the 2½d Lake Wakatipu stamp paying five times the ½ ounce rate. It was sent from Wellington (postmarked 28 NO 01), but on arrival in Auckland had torn open, and was officially sealed, using the special labels intended for that purpose. Transit time was just over three weeks, arriving in Springfield, Massachusetts on 22 December.



Figure 1: Five 2½d stamps pay the 5x rate on a large letter to the USA. Found damaged at Auckland it has been re-sealed with an official label on the back of the envelope. (images reduced)

At least parcels labels were not philatelic. The rate in 1905 was 6d for the first pound, and 3d for each additional pound, up to eleven pounds. The label illustrated here (Figure 2) has 1/9 postage, which covers up to six pounds.



Figure 2: 1905 Parcel label with 1s 9d postage.

1967 PICTORIAL DEFINITIVES

1 CENT BOOKLET STAMP - ERROR OF COLOUR

In the November 2016 issue of *The Kiwi* (Ref. 1), 1960 and 1967 Definitive stamps from the De La Rue archives were discussed. This included the 1967 1 cent booklet pane in a most unusual colour. The conclusion drawn was that these particular stamps were not from the archives but were an error of colour which had been sold through post offices, in booklet form. The fact that some examples are known used supports this theory.

Below are a number of further examples mint and, importantly, used which are now known. It has been suggested that the error was caused by a spill of cleaning solvent during printing. This may be the case but, given the numbers known, this must have been a very extensive spill.



Stamps 5 and 6 may have been a pair

References:

1. Wreglesworth P., and Shaw J., '1960 and 1967 Pictorial Definitives - Further De La Rue Archival Material Surfaces (2)', *The Kiwi*, Vol.65, No.6, pp186-188, November 2016.

Acknowledgments:

Thanks to Frank Parkinson (Images 1,2,3 and 6), Auckland City Stamps (Image 4) and Richard Wooders (Image 5), for providing the above images and permission to reproduce them here.

[PACW]

REQUEST FOR HELP FROM MEMBERS

Colin Capill writes:

The former Post Office had postal operations that were very labour intensive, its postal machinery was antiquated and it was losing vast sums of money. New Zealand Post, as a state owned enterprise, was required to operate as a commercial business, to modernise itself and to become profitable. To give it an initial start the Government increased postal rates on 2 February 1987.

By 1993 New Zealand Post had transformed itself to become profitable and the envy of many overseas postal administrations. This had been achieved through large staff redundancies, the closing of Post Offices, the building of dedicated Mail Centres, the acquisition of modern postal handling equipment, stream-lining mail handling and the implementation of new postal services and products. Several times new products and services were trialled before being adopted. Sometimes after being trialled they were modified or even not implemented.

In recent years I have been assembling information relating to New Zealand Post's products and services during the period 1 April 1987 to 31 March 1998. These are the dates from when New Zealand Post was Corporatised (when the Post Office was split into three separate Corporations) until when the postal service was Deregulated.

This research has developed into an extensive work on the subject. The basis has been the information I gathered when writing 'New Zealand Notes' for the *New Zealand Stamp Collector*, the reference collection I formed at the time, information from New Zealand Post leaflets and Postal Users Guides plus information from numerous published articles. Also included in this publication is an extensive section on the postage rates during this period.

Some examples of the products produced, during this specific period, are illustrated here but there are still a few areas where I would appreciate help from readers, by way of supplying information or photocopies, or by sending material for inspection and/or purchase.

1. 'Handirange' Products:

'Handitube' Address labels for use on 'Handitubes' were introduced in August 1994. Can anyone tell me what was their selling price?

2. Heritage Series Postcards:

NZ Post produced a set of 10 sepia coloured non-post numbered postcards featuring old Post Offices or the carriage of mail. These were for sale at the Sesqui 1990 Carnival in Wellington in February 1990 and then in major Post Shops for several months afterwards. What did the set of 10 sell for?

3. Fax Messages:

What were the charges for sending faxes, from 1 April 1987 until 1991? During this period the service was operated by Telecom New Zealand.

4. Sesqui 1990 Carnival Postcards:

Four Post Paid computer-produced postcards, each with a different message, were available at the Carnival. Three of the four messages are:

- (a) "Greetings from the New Zealand Post Pavilion, Sesqui 1990, Wellington N.Z. 24 February-1 April 1990". An example is shown opposite (Figure 1).
- (b) "Greetings from Sesqui 1990 – Wellington's celebration of 150 years".
- (c) "Best Wishes from the capital. Wish you were here at the Sesqui 1990 carnival."

What was the fourth message?



Figure 1: A computer produced postcard from the Sesqui 1990 Carnival in Wellington .
(image reduced)

5. 'Boxlink' Post Paid Envelopes:

What was the price of these Postage Included envelopes when they were first issued in October 1992?

The first list I have seen is dated December 1994 and that gave the following prices which included GST:

Size	Window	Seal	No. Per Box	Price (\$)
DLE	non-window	gummed flap	500 to a box	250.00
DLE	window	self-seal	500 to a box	250.00
DLE	window	gummed flap	500 to a box	250.00
DLE	window	self-seal	500 to a box	250.00
A5 (C5)		self-seal	250 to a box	212.50
A4 (C4)		self-seal	250 to a box	212.50
Foolscap (E35)		self-seal	250 to a box	212.50

6. Telegrams:

Pictorial Greetings telegrams were withdrawn from use by New Zealand Telecom on 31 August 1988. I am aware of these three designs:

- (a) A kiwi in a bush scene.
- (b) A traditional maori poi.
see (Figure 2) right.
- (c) A Kereru (Wood Pigeon).

Does anyone know of any others? – colour scans/photocopies would be very much appreciated.

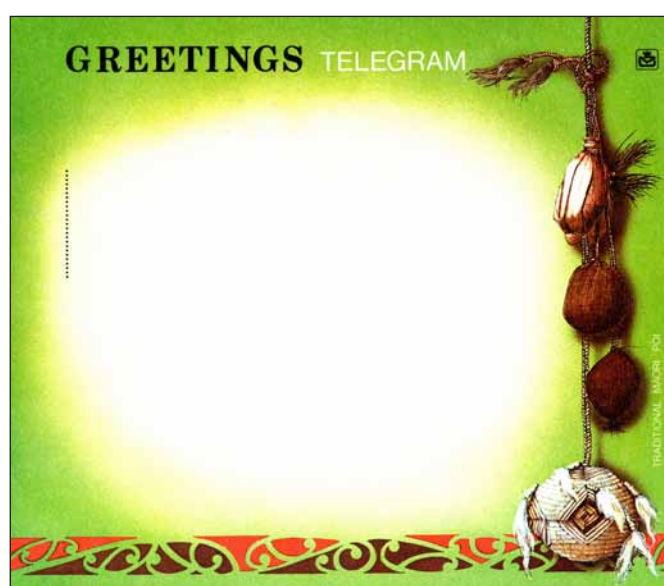


Figure 2: Telegram form with maori poi.

(image reduced)

7. Postage Rates:

To complete the section on postage rates do readers have the following rates they can send copies of?
Circular Advertising Nationwide (CAN):

- (a) Rates effective from 3 April 1989 (the date when NZ Post acquired this business)
- (b) Rates effective from April 1990.

The above two rates were not published in the Postal Users Guide.

8. Maximum Cards

(These are Post Paid and the picture side has a stamp cancelled with the First Day of Issue postmark).

I am looking for examples of the following:

Date of Issue	Topic	No. of cards in set
7.8.1996	1996 Definitive stamps (five cards in a Tourist Pack)	5

Descriptions of both the individual cards and pack are required.

9. 'Post Paid' Postcards:

On a few occasions New Zealand Post issued sets of postcards associated with a new stamp issue. These are similar to the Maximum Cards but do not have a stamp affixed and cancelled with the First Day of Issue postmark.

Do readers have these sets they can send photocopies of (both sides and preferably in colour) either mint or used, or sell to me if preferred.

Date of Issue	Topic	No. of cards in set
16.8.1994	Wild Animals	10
22.2.1995	Cities By Night	6
1.9.1995	Christmas	6

An example of one of the cards issued for Christmas 1995 is shown below (Figure 3).



Figure 3: Examples of post-paid postcards, front (left) and back (right), for the 1995 Christmas issue.
(images reduced)

10. New Zealand Post Christmas/Greetings Cards:

Each year New Zealand Post produced a card for sending to clients and/or those on their philatelic mailing list. The front usually had a picture associated with that year's Christmas stamp and some had a Christmas stamp on the inside cancelled with a First Day of Issue postmark.



Figure 4: Fronts of 1998 (left) and 1999 (right) Christmas cards from New Zealand Post.
(images reduced)

Do readers have any examples. I am particularly looking for cards from the following years:

1987
1988
1989
1990
1991

Again colour scans/photocopies would be welcome. I am also prepared to purchase examples if that is an option.

11. Cards for New Zealand Post to Hold Mail Temporarily:

Does anyone have any examples of these cards or copies of them that they could send to me?

I would be delighted to hear from anyone who has any of the items mentioned here and who can provide colour scans or photocopies (both sides where appropriate) of relevant examples.

I can be contacted, either through the Hon. Editor or directly:

CG Capill. 8 Asher Road, RD 5, Tauranga 3175, New Zealand.

Email: colinpat@wave.co.nz

RESULTS OF THE 2016 ANNUAL SOCIETY AUCTION

The Society held a successful auction on 26 November 2016. Total sales exceeded £6,300 with further offers anticipated for unsold lots. The Society thanks all vendors for their participation and the following members of the 'Auction Team' for all their efforts:

Brian Stonestreet	:	Auctioneer
Andrew Dove	:	Auction catalogue compilation
Brian Stonestreet	:	Display of lots
Keith Collins and Michael O'Keefe	:	Handling of lots during auction
John Stimson	:	Recording, payments, posting lots, vendor liaison post sale.

Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£	Lot	£
A	1.00	53	38.00	101	18.00	163	10.00	211	4.00	310	45.00
B	1.00	54	50.00	102	76.00	167	4.00	213	4.00	311	135.00
C	1.00	57	20.00	115	10.00	168	3.00	215	6.00	312	50.00
D	1.00	58	5.00	116	10.00	169	4.00	227	9.00	314	40.00
E	10.00	59	75.00	123	60.00	170	19.00	229	10.00	316	90.00
F	1.00	60	50.00	124	40.00	171	6.00	230	10.00	319	110.00
G	1.00	61	21.00	131	16.00	172	3.00	232	11.00	325	950.00
H	12.00	63	8.00	133	30.00	173	3.00	233	20.00	329	40.00
I	1.00	74	2.00	134	30.00	174	3.00	234	5.00	330	50.00
K	1.00	75	9.00	137	20.00	175	3.00	235	10.00	344	200.00
N	3.00	76	7.00	139	8.00	176	3.00	236	4.00	349	70.00
O	3.00	79	16.00	141	3.00	179	5.00	237	40.00	357	100.00
P	3.00	80	22.00	142	17.00	181	30.00	240	15.00	369	10.00
1	40.00	81	40.00	143	25.00	182	10.00	241	10.00	370	10.00
3	180.00	82	13.00	144	21.00	186	4.00	242	6.00	371	10.00
6	21.00	83	10.00	145	30.00	187	4.00	244	15.00	372	10.00
7	21.00	84	10.00	146	20.00	188	4.00	246	3.00	373	23.00
8	23.00	85	36.00	147	26.00	189	4.00	247	10.00	374	40.00
9	35.00	86	26.00	148	6.00	190	4.00	250	25.00	377	30.00
21	100.00	87	37.00	149	11.00	191	5.00	251	30.00	384	30.00
22	35.00	88	32.00	150	64.00	192	3.00	252	25.00	385	8.00
23	8.00	90	30.00	151	85.00	193	3.00	255	70.00	386	11.00
26	5.00	91	46.00	153	35.00	194	3.00	256	125.00	387	90.00
27	14.00	92	15.00	154	50.00	195	5.00	257	63.00	390	60.00
28	6.00	93	6.00	155	50.00	201	15.00	260	38.00	391	15.00
43	25.00	94	6.00	156	30.00	202	8.00	262	60.00	396	36.00
46	14.00	95	6.00	157	31.00	203	7.00	265	36.00	409	55.00
47	20.00	96	6.00	158	20.00	204	10.00	273	75.00	415	30.00
48	8.00	97	22.00	159	9.00	205	3.00	280	50.00		
50	21.00	98	19.00	160	6.00	206	3.00	300	100.00		
51	100.00	99	11.00	161	30.00	209	6.50	305	200.00		
52	130.00	100	22.00	162	5.00	210	14.00	306	200.00		



New Zealand Society of Great Britain

Minutes of the 65th Annual General Meeting held on 26th November 2016

The Chairman, John Stimson, opened the meeting at 11am by welcoming the 16 members present.

1. Minutes of the 64th Annual General Meeting

The minutes, as published in the January 2016 issue of *The Kiwi*, were approved as a true record.

2. Chairman's Report and Review of 2016 (John Stimson)

The Chairman was justifiably upbeat in reflecting that the Society had gone from strength to strength in 2016, though the Committee was determined to stem if not reverse the gradual decline in membership that most such societies were experiencing. Participation by members at the Society's London meetings and the Scottish, Midland and North of England groups remained strong, with loyal support from a steadfast core of volunteers. *The Kiwi* continued as a key benefit for members, and a major advocate for the Society, with the index for 2016 showing the great variety of topics and depth of research covered. The website, now the Society's main recruitment tool, continued to expand thanks mainly to Bob Clark and Paul Wregglesworth, with research documents about the early NZ Post Office and routes & rates amongst recent additions. Members were encouraged to use and contribute to this invaluable resource.

In discussion of publicity, it was noted that the Society had placed an advertisement in the forthcoming edition of the Stanley Gibbons specialized New Zealand catalogue and had again booked a stand at 'Midpex' (Warwickshire Exhibition Centre, Leamington Spa, 8th July 2017). Members could help by promoting the Society when attending or speaking at other society meetings.

The Chairman concluded with thanks to the organisers of the Society's philatelic weekend in Stratford-upon-Avon in September/October, for which the weekend in Glasgow in 2014 had set a high standard to follow. One of many highlights had been the number and quality of the entries to the Society biennial competition, judged by John Jackson and Paul Wregglesworth. The Committee was already thinking about the next philatelic weekend, in 2018, and would welcome suggestions for a venue and volunteers for the organizing committee.

3. Treasurer's Report and Accounts (Paul Woods)

The Treasurer presented his report and draft accounts for the year to 30th September 2016. He thought it advisable that the accounts were scrutinised by an independent examiner, for which he would welcome a volunteer. Particular points to note included:

- a net surplus of £2,068, including £656 from the 2015 auction and £178 from the Stratford weekend, increasing the Society's main reserves to £46,826;
- a slight drop in subscription income but reduced net costs of *The Kiwi* due to higher advertising revenue;
- no contribution from the Packet account, though a contribution of £500 from funds accrued in 2015/16 would be made in 2016/17;
- continuing low interest (<0.25%) on the Society's reserves; and
- no proposals for changing subscription rates for 2017.

The Treasurer was exploring options for securing greater income from the Society's reserves to offset their erosion by inflation without exposing the funds to more than a low level of risk. It would in due course be for the Committee to decide what, if any, level of risk was acceptable.

Keith Collins, seconded by Lewis Giles, proposed that the accounts for 2015/16 be accepted. This was approved unanimously.

4. Packet Secretary's Report and Accounts (John Hepworth)

The meeting considered a written report and accounts from the Packet Secretary. Sales remained at over £6,000, and insurance costs were mostly met by buyers' and vendors' fees. After allowing for uncleared cheques, the sum in the Packet account at 30th September was just over £1,300. To maintain a sound working balance, £500 of this would be transferred to the Society's account. The Packet continued to depend on a small number of regular contributors, so it was hoped that more members would send booklets of stamps, postal history and postal stationery for circulation and that more members would opt to receive the Packet.

5. Reports by the Secretary and Library Liaison Officer (Michael Wilkinson)

The Secretary gave an overview of the programme of London and regional meetings planned for 2017, for which Programme Cards were available. The topic for the London meeting on 29th July and the venue for the meeting out of London on 30th September had yet to be decided – offers and suggestions from members would be welcome. The morning session on 27th May would be a Workshop on Exhibiting at which members could share advice and tips on the presentation of their material for display or in competitions.

The Library Liaison Officer reported that use of the Library, which continued to operate as part of the National Philatelic Society Library, remained modest. He also reported that, in addition to scanning all copies of *The Kiwi* (see below), John Biddlecombe had scanned complete sets of the *Campbell Peterson Bulletin* (published in the UK from 1963 to 1993) and the *Campbell Peterson Newsletter* (published in New Zealand since 1949) and that it was hoped to add these to the resources on the Society's website shortly. John was also scanning other journals but whether these could be made publicly available would depend on discussions with the copyright holders.

6. Report by the Editor of The Kiwi (Paul Wregglesworth)

The Editor noted that having the printer also distribute the printed version of *The Kiwi* continued to be good value, with particular savings on overseas postage. About 35 members, mostly in the UK, currently opted for the electronic version. Anyone wishing to switch between versions need only ask. Thanks to John Biddlecombe, Volumes 1-60 (1952-2011) were available to everyone on the Society's website in searchable format. More recent issues were available to members using a password available from the Editor, and issues from the current Volume were available only to members opting for the e-Kiwi. These arrangements would be rolled forward annually.

The Editor also noted that, since cost was not a constraint on the size of *The Kiwi*, Volume 65 (2016) had 200 pages. This depended, of course, on sufficient items being submitted. Amongst these had been several articles by Terry Hancox, including plating studies of the 1925 Dunedin Exhibition issue (March 2016) and the 1933 Health 'Pathway' issue (May 2016), for which Terry had been awarded the F G East trophy. These articles were essentially overviews of considerably more extensive research which Terry had generously made available in full on the website. The Editor would be suggesting to the Committee that the Society pays for printed copies of this research, to be donated to the libraries of the Society, the RPSL and the RPSNZ, and for possible sale to members.

The Editor concluded with an exhortation by the then Hon Secretary, Margaret Erskine, from 1954: "*In order that The Kiwi shall not become a mere newsletter dealing with the Society's domestic affairs, more contributions on the stamps and philately of New Zealand generally are urgently required. These can take the form of an article, query or a letter of general interest. Or even a criticism of something that has gone before. Please give this matter some thought and your fellow members the benefit of your knowledge and experience.*"

7. Election of Officers for 2017

There had been no new nominations and no existing Officers had indicated a wish to stand down, though Adrian Philbey had taken over from John Stalker as Secretary of the Scottish Group. The Chairman therefore proposed that Officers be re-elected en bloc. This was agreed unanimously. The officers for 2017 are therefore:

President	Keith Collins	Packet Secretary	John Hepworth
Vice President	Bernard Atkinson	Auctioneer	Brian Stonestreet
Chairman	John Stimson	North of England Group Secretary	Jack Lindley
Secretary and Library Liaison Officer	Michael Wilkinson	Scottish Group Secretary	Adrian Philbey
Membership Secretary	Esmé Diamond	Representative in New Zealand	John Watts
Treasurer	Paul Woods	Examiner of Accounts	to be appointed
Editor of <i>The Kiwi</i> and Publicity Officer	Paul Wreglesworth		

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 12 noon. The 66th Annual General Meeting will be on 25 November 2017.

New Zealand Society of Great Britain Packet Accounts for Year Ended 30 September 2016

Expenditure	£	Income	£
Payment to vendors		Brought forward	1452.38
Insurance premium 2015-2016	6115.48	Packet sales	6233.65
Unpresented cheques from 2014-15	689.91	Insurance from buyers	594.00
Secretarial expenses	137.3	Donation-mint G8 stamps	62.00
	79.21	Uncleared cheques	689.91
		Total Income	9031.94
Total expenditure	7021.9		
		Total credit	9031.94
		Less expenditure	7021.9
		Balance	2010.04
		Cash at bank 30.09.16	2009.15
		Stamps in hand	0.89
		Carried forward to 2015-2016	2010.04
		(signed) John Atkinson 21.11.2016	
	Audited and found correct		

New Zealand Society of Great Britain

Income and Expenditure for Year Ended 30 September 2016

	2014/2015		2015/16	
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Interest on Deposits				114.52
Receipts from the Packet Account		114.01		
Auction		750.00		0.00
- Sales	5,657.16		6,124.84	
- less Vendor payments	-4,705.60		-5,468.75	
				656.09
Publications and Other Sales	2,850.74		0.00	
- less Costs	-1,083.45		0.00	
		1,767.29		0.00
Subscriptions received		4,554.02		4,238.55
Stratford Weekend				
- Income			6,048.70	
- Costs			-5,870.75	
				177.95
Total Income		8,136.88		5,187.11
Expenditure				
Meeting costs		2,694.51		2,107.00
Kiwi				
- Printing and Distribution	3,309.27		3,596.97	
- Less advertising	-1,538.00		-2,918.00	
		1,771.27		678.97
Society Costs				
- ABBS Affiliation Fees		231.00		206.25
- Web Site and Officer Expenses		76.00		127.12
Total Expenditure		4,772.78		3,119.34
Surplus for the Year		3,364.10		2,067.77
		8,136.88		5,187.11
Balance Sheet				
	Brought Forward	Carried Forward	Brought Forward	Carried Forward
	£	£	£	£
Current Accounts	16,394.31	19,758.41	19,758.41	21,716.18
Deposit Accounts	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,110.00
	41,394.31	44,758.41	44,758.41	46,826.18
Movement on Accounts		3,364.10		2,067.77

"Presented and signed by Paul Woods, Treasurer 26/11/2016".

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