



THE KIWI

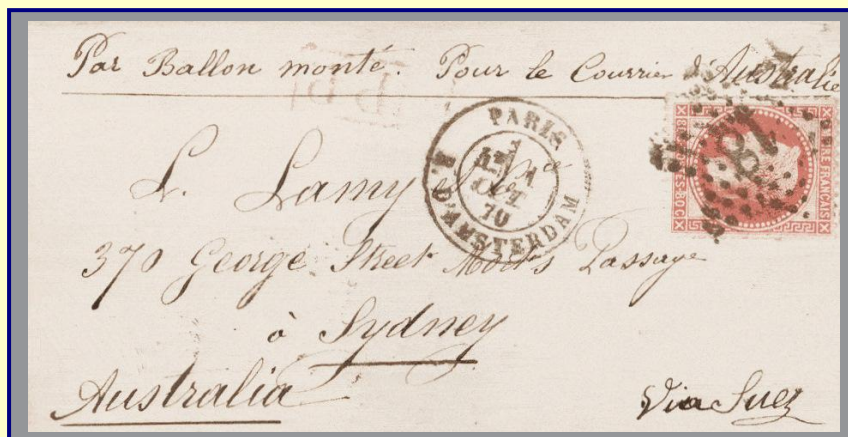
JOURNAL OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN



*'ANZAC' Anniversary Photo Cards
(see page 84)*



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!

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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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as its major sponsor

EDITORIAL

The last issue of *The Kiwi* elicited a lot of comment and feedback, which at least shows someone is reading the journal. As a consequence I am able to show several related items this time round.

It is always rewarding to attend Society meetings to put faces to names and to see the range of things that others collect. I have lost count of the number of times, on these occasions, that I have heard someone say "I've never seen that before" or "I didn't know that" to the response "I didn't think it was anything unusual". Sometimes I can get a scan of the item under discussion and share it with you through the pages of *The Kiwi*.

Those of us who were able to attend the last London meeting heard first hand from Terry Hancox, a regular contributor to this and other journals, how to study a stamp or issue and his views on the importance of putting findings and theories into print. The acquisition of (philatelic) knowledge, personal and collective, is an iterative process which is helped both by interaction and collaboration between collectors and publication whether through notes, articles or books. Hopefully this journal can play a role in that process.

CORRIGENDUM

Volume 66, No.2

Pages 16-17 - The images for Figure 1 and Figure 2 are transposed.



THE KIWI - ADVERTISERS IN THIS ISSUE

ADVERTISER	PAGE
Mowbray Collectables	Inside Front Cover
Steven Zirinsky	95
Ashford Stamps Ltd.	95

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:

J J C Gareze, Southampton

L H Savins, New South Wales, Australia

In Memoriam:

Deceased:

G Goodens, Hull



COMPETITIVE AWARDS TO MEMBERS

Congratulations to members who were successful at:

SPRING STAMPEX - Design Centre, London, 15-18 February 2017

Member	Subject of Entry	Class	Mark	Award
Lionel Savins	The 1935 Pictorial Definitive Stamps of New Zealand.	Traditional	87	Gold
Paul Woods	New Zealand Queen Victoria Long Type Stamp and Overprints.	Revenue	81	Large Vermeil

AUCTION APPEAL

Advance details of this year's auction can be found on page 82

Each year it has been the practice of generous members to offer items, philatelic and general, to be auctioned for Society funds. This is much appreciated. Please see what you have that is surplus to your requirements. No matter what it is, we will be delighted to receive it, preferably by 16 July 2017, to allow a description to appear in the catalogue, otherwise at any time up to 12.00 noon on the day of the auction.

UPCOMING UK NATIONAL EVENTS

2017

- * 8 July **MIDPEX** - Warwickshire Exhibition Centre.
- * 21-22 July **YORK STAMP FAIR** - The Grandstand, York Racecourse, York, YO23 1EX
- * 27-30 July **THE PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GB** - Jury's Inn, Park Place, Cardiff, CF10 3UD
- * 13-16 September **ABPS AUTUMN STAMPEX** - Business Design Centre, London.
- * 14 October **Association of Sussex Philatelic Societies** Stamp Fair & Convention, Ardingley.

2018

- * February **ABPS SPRING STAMPEX** - Business Design Centre, London.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

NEXT MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

The next meeting of the Society will be held on Saturday **27 May 2017**

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

11:00 - Exhibition Workshop

- An interactive session discussing the different approaches to displaying and exhibiting at local and national level - or beyond.

14:00 - Overprints and Surcharges

- Michael Wilkinson will lead this session and members are invited to bring any relevant items for display.

MIDLAND REGIONAL GROUP

The next meeting of the Midland Group will be held in the Autumn (**date to be arranged**) at the usual venue, St Anne's Church Hall (behind the Church) Parkhill, Moseley, Birmingham B13 8DU 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 **13 May 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 **email:** lindleyjack@aol.com

SCOTTISH REGIONAL GROUP

The next meeting of the Scottish Group will be held on Saturday **17 June 2017** starting 12:30, and will be hosted by John Studholme, East Lothian. For further details contact Adrian Philbey.

Group contact: - Adrian Philbey ☎ 0141 562 5817 **email:** 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.
- * 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

NOTES OF THE MEETING HELD, IN LONDON, 25 MARCH 2017

The morning session was for “items of interest” and, as usual, there was much on display. **Keith Collins** brought some imperf pairs of 1935 Pictorials cancelled with a ‘Field Post Office 2’ postmark and asked if anyone knew where the postmark was applied.

Lewis Giles showed examples of the Perkins Bacon obliterations applied to Chalon stamps. This topic was the subject of a member’s question in the last issue of *The Kiwi* (page 46) which had been answered by Bob Odenweller.

Terry Hancox brought a number of interesting pieces including two different printings of the cinderella labels produced to publicise the 1940 Centennial (further details are shown on page 103). This was followed by an example of a ‘Maryland Forgery’ of the 1943 Health and a number of items relating to the 1932 and 1933 Health stamps. The plates for both were engraved by HT Peat and Terry showed bromide photographs of the 1932 issue together with a letter of thanks from the Post Office together with the envelope postmarked the day before issue of the stamps.

Paul Wreglesworth showed a 1966 postcard addressed to Pakistan with a Karachi censor mark applied towards the end of the period of unrest between India and Pakistan. A cover posted in the same year, from Auckland to Canada showed damage as a result of being involved in an air crash at Tokyo airport. The plane undershot the runway and hit the sea wall killing 54 passengers and all ten crew. For his final pieces Paul showed two interesting hand illustrated covers from 1883 and 1900.

Neil Jones had a question surrounding the plate numbers which appear in the corners of sheets of the 1936 Commerce issue and asked why some blocks did not show a plate number. The answer to this question is dealt with on page 93 of this issue. Neil then showed a number of George VI newspaper wrappers including an example of the 1d green wrapper, postmarked 8 July 1949, an earlier date of usage than he has seen recorded.

Our Chairman, **John Stimson**, concluded the morning session with some examples of mixed perfs on the Second Sideface issue.

In the afternoon we were treated to two presentations from **Terry Hancox** who has shown, through articles he has produced for *The Kiwi* and other journals his skill and determination in researching and recording errors and varieties.

Terry began by explaining that he has a passion for what his wife calls “random stuff” such as artwork, proof material, errors and varieties. It was this latter area, coupled with a frustration that not everything he found was recorded in catalogues and philatelic literature, that led him to start recording what he had in his own collection.

Armed with the published information, a number of blocks and some complete sheets, Terry set about trying to find all the flaws on the 1959 Red Cross issue. Not only was he able to find the listed flaws and retouches but he found more and ultimately was able to differentiate between every stamp in the sheet. Some of this work was reported in the January 2017 issue of *The Kiwi*.

From a starting point of simple ‘checklists’ he realised that others might be interested in the results of his research and set about publishing his findings both in articles in *The Kiwi* and more comprehensively in book format. Whilst not everybody will be interested in this level of detail, perhaps dismissing it as ‘fly spec’ philately, Terry should be praised for publishing his work and making it widely available to other collectors.

Displaying examples of his research material Terry discussed how he has now extended his studies to the 1925 Dunedin Exhibition, 1929 and 1933 Health issues, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960 and 1977 Health miniature sheets as well as aspects of a number of QEII definitive issues. Several of the self-published books documenting

his research were available for members to study.

Terry explained that his main tools, when studying the fine detail of a stamp, were a small magnifying glass and a USB digital microscope. Beyond this what was needed was time and patience! This type of work, he felt, was well within the scope of most collectors and help was available within the Society if members were unsure of how to approach a particular problem. Terry finished by encouraging people to share their findings either through the pages of *The Kiwi*, or by publishing a paper for the website. If you have a story to tell, some new information to share then share it with others. Don't be held back thinking your information is of little value or that others know more than you. Collecting habits vary but there are always others looking for information.

In the second session Terry gave a comprehensive display of the New Zealand Government Life stamps and explained the history of this Government department from its establishment in 1869, on the instruction of Sir Julius Vogel, until its ultimate privatisation in 1989 under the auspices of the Tower Corporation.



*Receipt from the Government Life Insurance Association (1885).
(image reduced)*

Difficulties in agreeing the sums owed by the Department to the Post Office for postage resulted in the introduction of their own stamps in 1891. Designed jointly by WB Hudson of the Department and JF Rogers of the Government Printing Office the stamps featured the letters 'VR', divided by a lighthouse. Alfred Cousins prepared the dies for the central design which was common to all the values and Terry showed examples of die proofs of the central vignette as well as plate proofs in black and in colours.



*Bromides for the 1947 issue from Bradbury Wilkinson's 'Day Book'.
(images shown at 70% of original)*

The organisation began as the New Zealand Government Life Insurance Association before changing its name, in the 1880s, to Life Insurance Department and later to Government Insurance Department and Terry showed a series of policy renewal receipts which illustrated the sequence of name changes.

In 1870 the Association had agencies in 13 Post Offices and ten years later there were 150 post offices at which premiums could be paid. However, by the 1880s, the amount of business being conducted had reached the point that it was causing difficulties at the larger Post Offices necessitating the establishment of dedicated agency offices.



UPU specimen from the Bechuanaland archive.

On the death of Queen Victoria it was felt inappropriate for the Life Insurance stamps to include 'VR' and although a new design was proposed it was never introduced. New plates without 'VR' were prepared and whilst the 2d value was issued in 1905 and the 1d in 1906 the other values were not introduced until 1913. Alongside the basic stamps Terry displayed a series of facsimiles produced for the 1906 Christchurch Exhibition and strips of three stamps, with punched holes, attached to a ledger page which were amongst the UPU specimens supplied to Bechuanaland.

A new pictorial design, still featuring lighthouses, was introduced in 1947 and the display included essays, by the designer James Berry, photographs of each of the lighthouses, photo-proofs, plate proofs and bromides from the printer's, Bradbury Wilkinson, Day Book.

Further design changes came with decimalisation in 1967 but these were not introduced until 1969, necessitating a provisional overprint of the sterling series. James Berry was responsible for the new designs along with those for additional 8c and 10c denominations, required in 1976 to meet changes in the postal rates. Terry was able to show Berry's pencil sketches for the two new values and some interesting usage of the stamps.

1981 saw the introduction of one final design of lighthouse stamps for the Government Life Office before the change to the Tower Corporation who operated as a mutual association. The last day of usage of the Life Insurance stamps was 30 September 1989.

Paul Wreglesworth thanked Terry for providing a thoroughly entertaining afternoon illustrated with some excellent material and for giving those present an insight into his techniques for studying and recording errors and varieties and for encouraging others to turn their own research into articles for *The Kiwi*.

NOTES OF THE MIDLAND GROUP MEETING, HELD ON 18 FEBRUARY 2017.

Ian Samuel started the meeting with a display of mini-sheets produced by New Zealand Post and covering a range of National and International Philatelic Exhibitions from 1986 to 2001.

Terry Hancox followed with information and a copy of the imperforate version of the 2016 Christchurch Exhibition mini-sheet the release of which was delayed due to the earthquake which damaged the Wellington Post Office building in which the sheets had been stored. For more information see the article in the last issue of *The Kiwi* (Vol. 66, No. 2, page 69).

Peter Denston showed a range of QEII stamps in blocks, vending and counter coil strips as well as stamps showing Chambon perforations.

Mike Smith showed a study of the QEII 2½d overprint on the 3d vermilion showing different varieties. This was followed by a study of the 1960 4d Puarangi stamp focussing on the characteristics of the blue cylinder.

John Potter displayed items associated with the 1940 Centennial Issue including mint and used sets, blocks and plate blocks and examples of official overprints, including examples of the 'joined ff'. John also displayed a range of adverts, brochures, slogan postmarks and labels used to promote the event.

Terry Hancox finished the session with a very interesting display of early CALs, issued between 2004 and 2006, including the labels issued by the ANZ Bank and those showing the BMW hubcaps.

A most enjoyable meeting with much unusual material shown.

NOTES OF THE NORTH OF ENGLAND GROUP MEETING, HELD ON 25 FEBRUARY 2017.

Stuart Potter showed an interesting envelope used for transhipment of ship's crew mail, followed by a series of first flight covers including one to Fiji in 1941 and a selection of later balloon flights.

John Atkinson brought Chalon reprints by Hausberg and Joliffe and, by contrast, some modern material detailing the history of the Victoria Cross and their recipients.

Harold Howard displayed examples of redirected mail, some 2016 CALs and regional booklets.

Paul Wreglesworth showed an 1890s music sheet with an advert for Beecham's Pills - 'Worth A Guinea A Box'. Paul followed this with some material from the 1960s including a number of examples of double perforations.

Jack Lindley completed what had been a fine afternoon with an extensive range of stamps and covers, with a military theme, from 1936 to 2014.

ANNUAL SOCIETY AUCTION - NOTIFICATION

The annual club auction will be held on 25 November 2017. The rules are as follows:

1. **By 16 July 2017** vendors should send a description of their lots for sale to the catalogue compiler:

Andrew Dove, e-mail address: dove697@btinternet.com - preferred method

or by post to: 12, Stella Avenue, Tollerton, Notts. NG12 4EX

Only a description of each lot is required with the vendors reserve price. The minimum reserve is £3.

The catalogue compiler will acknowledge receipt within 5 days. He will supply a copy of the auction list entry, including lot number/s, for proof-reading. Do **NOT** send items for sale to the catalogue compiler.

2. **Only the first 400 lots will be accepted.**
3. **Vendors** will be charged the full postage for the return of unsold lots.
4. **Scans of auction lots** can be placed on the Society website if scans (JPEG files) are sent to the catalogue compiler following receipt of the auction list for proof reading. Scans should include the lot number.
5. Lots should be contained in clear envelopes with the lot number clearly displayed on a small label (1cm square) in the lower right corner of the envelope.
6. Lots may be delivered to the venue before 11.30 on the day of the auction. Vendors unable to attend must send their material to the auctioneer, Brian Stonestreet, by 17 November 2017 at:

Brian Stonestreet, 32, Bedgebury Close, Vinters Park, Maidstone, Kent ME14 5QZ

7. Viewing will start at 12.30. The auction will commence promptly at 14.00.
8. Only members of the society are eligible to enter material in the auction
9. Successful purchasers attending the auction may take their lots away provided their account is settled.
10. Vendors may not remove unsold lots without the authority of the auctioneer.
11. Absent successful bidders will be invoiced by email or post. Prompt settlement will ensure prompt delivery.
12. Unsold lots and sales, less all expenses, will be returned to vendors once all sales income is received.
13. The Society will insure all items from the date of receipt until the time of purchase or return to the vendor.
14. The Society fee, payable by the vendor, is 10% of the hammer price.
15. The auctioneer may decline lots which are not as described or are considered to be of insufficient quality.
15. **Successful Postal bidders** with a serious complaint, on receipt of his/her purchases, must return them to the Auctioneer within one week of their arrival.
16. Postal bidders with a serious complaint must return the lots concerned with details of the complaint within one week of their arrival to:

John Stimson, Mead Cottage, Boulters Lane, Maidenhead, SL6 8TJ.

17. A list of unsold lots will be placed on the Society website as soon as possible after the auction and will remain available for purchase at the reserve price until 10 December 2017. Those wishing to purchase should contact: john.m.stimson@gmail.com.

Remember to bring your catalogue to the auction. Copies available in the room will cost £1.00

RECENT AUCTION REALISATIONS

MOWBRAY COLECTABLES, Philatelic Rarities Auction, Wellington, 11 March 2017

(excluding buyers premiums and taxes where applicable)

Lot	Description	Realised (Est) (NZ\$)
54	1949 Royal Visit 3d HMS <i>Vanguard</i> . Mint.	54,000 (25,000)



The 3d HMS *Vanguard* was one of four stamps prepared for the 1949 Royal Tour of New Zealand. When the King's health deteriorated the visit was cancelled, the stamps were not issued and instruction was given to destroy all stock.

In the 1970s it became apparent that a few copies of the 3d HMS *Vanguard* had survived. Mystery surrounds the means by which examples survived and includes a story that a few were recovered from the furnace to which the stamps had been consigned.

Seven copies are known and are of varying quality. The copy offered by Mowbray Collectables, although with light toning, is regarded as the finest of those in private hands. This item last sold by Stanley Gibbons Australia in June 1993. The last Vanguard sold by Mowbrays, in November 2009, realised \$27,000 plus buyers premium. This latest realisation sets a new record for this stamp at NZ\$54,000, equating to NZ\$67,859 when the buyers premium is included.

MOSSGREEN, Stamps, Postal History & Picture Postcards Auction, 27 February 2017

(including buyers premium)

Lot	Description	Realised (Est) (Aus\$)
820	Series of six imperforate plate proof singles of surface-printed essays by TI Archer	900 (500)
824	1935-42 Pictorials 1d upper-left corner block of 4 with a large void area and an albino impression of the designs on the blank area, a pre-printing paper fold resulted in a part printing on reverse. Unmounted. Spectacular!	3,600 (1,000)
828	1935-42 Pictorials 2d Multiple Wmk Counter Coil strip of 5 with coil join & Number '2'. CP #L4f(X), unmounted. Cat \$NZ3000.	2,640 (1,000)
833	1935-42 Pictorials. Enlargement of the original artwork for the Maori's Head in black on thick wove paper (135x125mm) and a progressive die proof with blank tablets & faint printer's rules in black on wove paper (34x44mm). (2 items)	2,640 (1,000)
839	1935-42 Pictorials 5d Multiple Wmk Counter Coil strip of 6 with coil join & Number '1' in red. CP #L8f(Z), mounted in the margin. Cat \$NZ4000.	2,640 (1,250)
865	POSTAL FISCALS: 1940-58 Multiple Wmk '£6' on £6 orange, '£7' on £7 claret & '£9' on £9 rose-pink, well centred, lightly to very lightly mounted. Unlisted in Gibbons.	2,880 (500)
1376	New Zealand - Muir & Moodie "stamps" PPCs all with an inset photograph. a few blemishes but mostly fine to very fine. (16)	1,020 (500)

1936 ANZAC ANNIVERSARY PHOTO CARDS

Jack Lindley

At a recent North of England Regional meeting there was much interest in a series of six photo cards that I displayed. All of these cards show images associated with the ANZAC landings on the Gallipoli peninsula on 25 April 1915 with a brief handwritten description below each image.

All the cards are self-addressed to CVDownes, a noted collector of air mails, c/o of the Post Office in Blenheim (2), Wellington (3), or Christchurch (1). Two cards are postmarked Wellington 27 AP 36 8:30am with a receiving postmark of Blenheim, 27 AP 36 11:00am. Three cards are postmarked Blenheim 27 AP 36 8:40am with a receiving postmark of Wellington Delivery, 10:45am. The final card (c/o the Post Office in Christchurch) is postmarked Wellington 27 AP 8:30am although the receiving postmark is unclear.

Each card has the two ANZAC stamps attached to the picture side of the postcard, postmarked on the day of issue, whilst the address side has a 1d 1935 Airmail stamp together with a blue 'BY AIR MAIL' label, all cards being carried by air.

I have six cards and a further card (Figure 3a and Front Cover) has been provided by Stephen Jones of Christchurch, New Zealand.. There are four different images (listed as 1 to 4 below) each with a handwritten description underneath the image.

1. ANZAC Cove 1915. (Figure 1).
2. "ANZAC" April 25 1915. Troops Landing from Barges (Figures 2a and 2b).
3. "ANZAC" - 1915. Beach View No 2 Outpost (Figure 3a, 3b, 3c and Front Cover).
4. "ANZAC" April 25 1915. Transports and Landing Boats off Shore (Figure 4).



Figure 1: Card Type 1
ANZAC Cove 1915.



Figures 2a and 2b: Card Type 2
 "ANZAC" April 25 1915
 Troops Landing From Barges.
 (images shown at 60% of original)

Of the seven cards seen to date there are two of card 'Type 2' - "Troops Landing From Barges" and three of card 'Type 3' "Beach View No2 Outpost".

However, closer examination of these duplicate cards shows that the handwritten descriptions below the respective images differs in each case so in theory all the cards are different. Even where the card image is identical the descriptions seem to be individually written.

It is possible that, as all the cards are self-addressed to Claude Downes, that he had a hand in producing the cards. He was a well known airmail collector in the 1930s and also produced some better philatelic items. If each card was individually prepared it is likely that the number produced was quite small. The cards are not listed in Stephen Jones' *Illustrated First Day Covers of New Zealand Part 2* (Pub. 2004).

I would be interested to hear from anyone who has any further examples of these cards.

Thanks to Stephen Jones for providing a scan of one card and for useful comments on their origin.



Figures 3a(top), 3b(middle), 3c(bottom): Card Type 3
 "ANZAC" - 1915
 Beach View No2 Outpost.
 (images shown at 60% of original)



Figure 4: Card Type 4
 "ANZAC" April 25 1915
 Transports and Landing Boats off Shore.
 (image shown at 60% of original)

NEW ZEALAND'S ALTERNATIVE MAIL SERVICES

Klaus Møller and Tony Ward

Introduction and Background

In their first article (Ref. 1) the authors provided a general introduction and background to the subject.

PART 2: SERVING REMOTE RURAL COMMUNITIES

5. Coromandel Local – ‘309 Road’

In the early 1980's John Rabarts operated a postal auction business out of Coromandel township on the Coromandel peninsula (Ref. 2). He wrote, edited, printed, published and distributed a colourful and rather ‘different’ journal called *Ponwinklenews*, which had a special bent towards Cinderella stamps.

John also produced ‘local’ stamps at his small printing works, which were used for pre-payment of various services in the area. One such was the delivery of items to people living on the remote ‘309 Road’, a very narrow, winding and undulating gravel road that runs from Coromandel town in the west to the state highway on the east of the peninsula a few kilometres outside Whitianga. This road is so rough that it is not recommended for caravans or heavy trailers, unless they are towed by a hefty four-wheel drive vehicle.

Rabarts was careful not to use the words “mail” or “post” on the stamps, as these were reserved for the post office monopoly (Ref. 3). Some of the proceeds from the sale of stamps covered the costs of printing, but some also went to Bill Smith, a minister of the Church, who dropped off items in resident's mail boxes on his frequent trips over the road, and collected items left in the mailboxes for delivery in Coromandel or Whitianga.



Figure 1: A cover, marked ‘FIRST DAY’, 2 May 1980, and carried on behalf of the Coromandel 309 Local service by The Reverend W. Smith. The letter has a 14c New Zealand Post stamp as well as a 15c ‘Parish Post Fee’ label.

Examples of some of the labels produced by John Rabarts for use with mail items delivered to, or collected from, residents on the remote “309 Road” between Coromandel township and Whitianga are shown here (Figures 1 and 2).



Figure 2: Two labels produced by Rabarts for his ‘309 Local’ service (left) and a single used (right) from a letter; cancelled with the Coromandel-Whitianga Local 309 stamp and dated 11 JUN 1981.

If the item concerned was a parcel then there was no conflict with the postal authorities, as it was classified as a courier service. An example of one of Rabarts’ parcel labels is shown (Figure 3). Letters however had to have a legitimate New Zealand Post stamp attached to the envelope alongside the ‘Local 309’ label in order to appease the postal authorities. John had a strong, amicable and co-operative relationship with the local postmaster, so the service functioned well until Bill Smith and his wife were killed in a car accident in Northland.

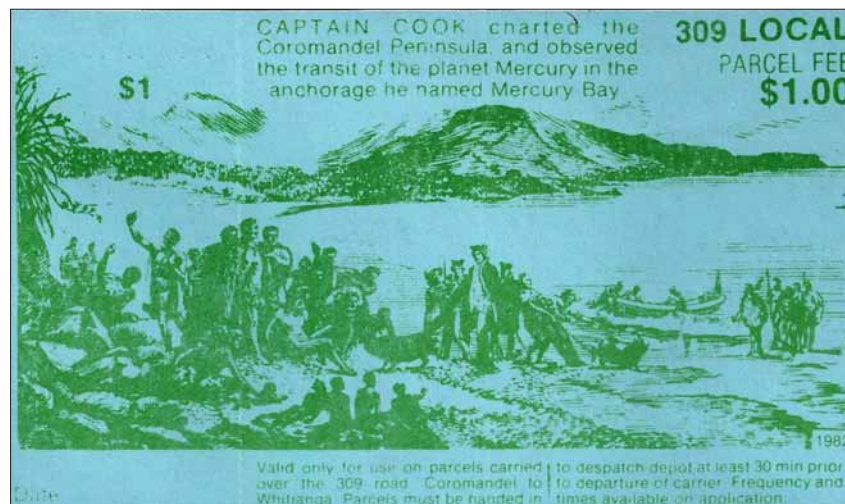


Figure 3: A large \$1.00 label produced to pay the ‘Parcel Fee’ on the ‘309 Local’ Service.

6. Coast Community Society Document Exchange and Stampways Ltd, Otorohanga

The ‘Coast Community Society Document Exchange’ was a rural courier enterprise that for a short while in the late 1980’s served the remote rural area (generally referred to as the Waitomo area) located between the towns of Otorohanga and Te Kuiti on State Highway 3 to the East, and the small settlements of Te Anga, Taharoa and Marokopa on the West Coast south of the Kawhia Harbour (Ref. 4).

The Coast Community Society was established by local residents after they became angered and frustrated by austerity measures introduced by New Zealand Post, in their effort to become profitable, when it was created as a State Owned Enterprise following the passing of the *Postal Services Act 1987*. This anger was exacerbated when Perry Buses, who provided a local passenger service for local residents, lost their local rural delivery contract.

On discovering that a 'document exchange' was exempt from the regulations, set out in the Act that protected New Zealand Post's monopoly position for the delivery of mail, the Community Society decided to set one up in the Waitomo area. A green sticker with the words "RURAL DOCUMENT EXCHANGE" was attached to letterboxes of those residents who had paid a levy to join the scheme. They could then have 'documents' delivered and collected by the local bus operator, Perry Buses Ltd. The bus company linked up with New Zealand Post in Te Kuiti, where a redirection order to the addressee, "c/- Perry Buses", enabled the collection of incoming mail. Outgoing mail could also be placed into the standard New Zealand Post system at this point.

The Coast Community Document Exchange commenced operations on 1 December 1987. It was opened by Jim Bolger, MP for King Country and Leader of the Opposition, and later Prime Minister of New Zealand.

'Stampways' was an organisation established to promote the Otorohanga area through the use of special envelopes, cachets and stamps. Its first project was a \$1.75 local post freight stamp and envelope illustrating the electrification of the Main Trunk Railway between Palmerston North and Te Rapa (Figure 4). Stamps were cancelled in red by a hand stamp first introduced on 22 June 1988 for use on freight parcels despatched from the Otorohanga Travel Centre.

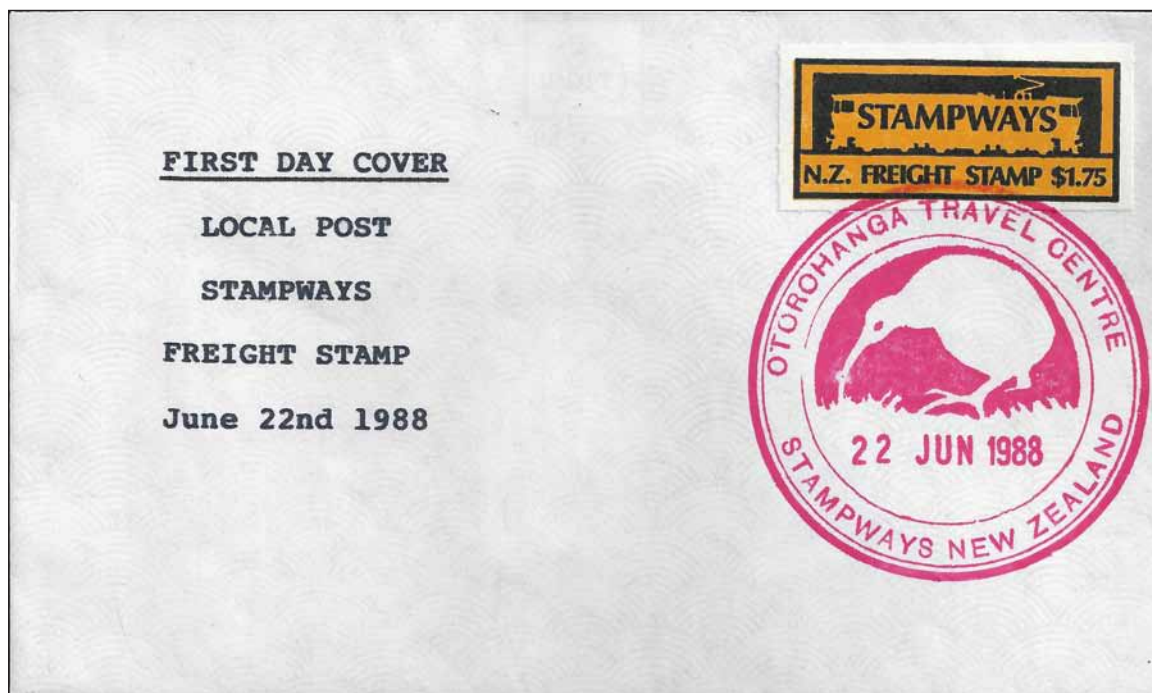
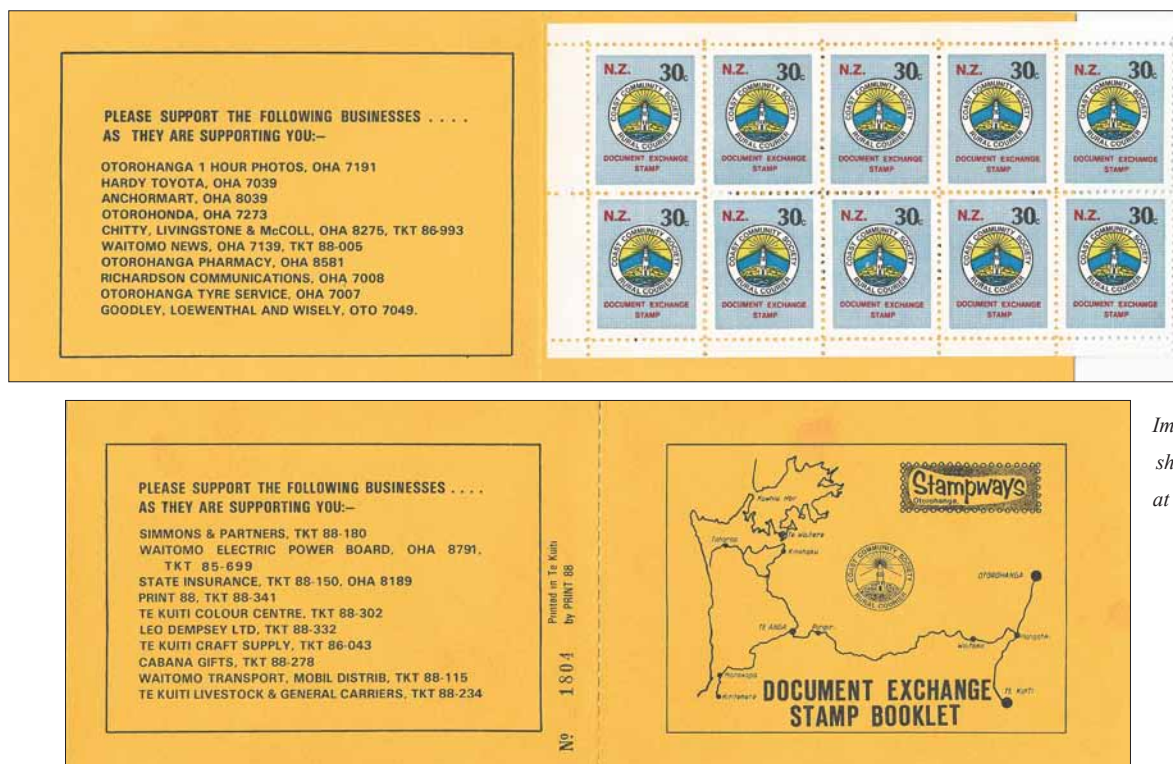


Figure 4: First Day Cover with \$1.75 local post freight stamp, issued by Stampways, marking the electrification of the Main Trunk Railway between Palmerston North and Te Rapa.

Stampways began cooperating with the Coast Community Society in June 1998. By that time, members of the Society, hard pressed by the downturn in the farming sector, were becoming concerned about the relatively high levy imposed on members of the Document Exchange. Stampways therefore offered an option to use adhesive stamps for pre-payment of the document exchange service (employing a "user-pays" principle). Legal opinion was that this would not contravene the *Postal Services Act 1987*.

Document Exchange Stamps with a denomination of 30c, depicting the Marokopa Lighthouse, were designed by Peter Gregory. Two separate issues, with the stamps in different colours were produced. The stamps were line perforated 11 and sold in booklets of ten stamps (Figures 5 and 6).

Agencies were set up at strategic locations throughout the region, and each was allocated a rubber date stamp.



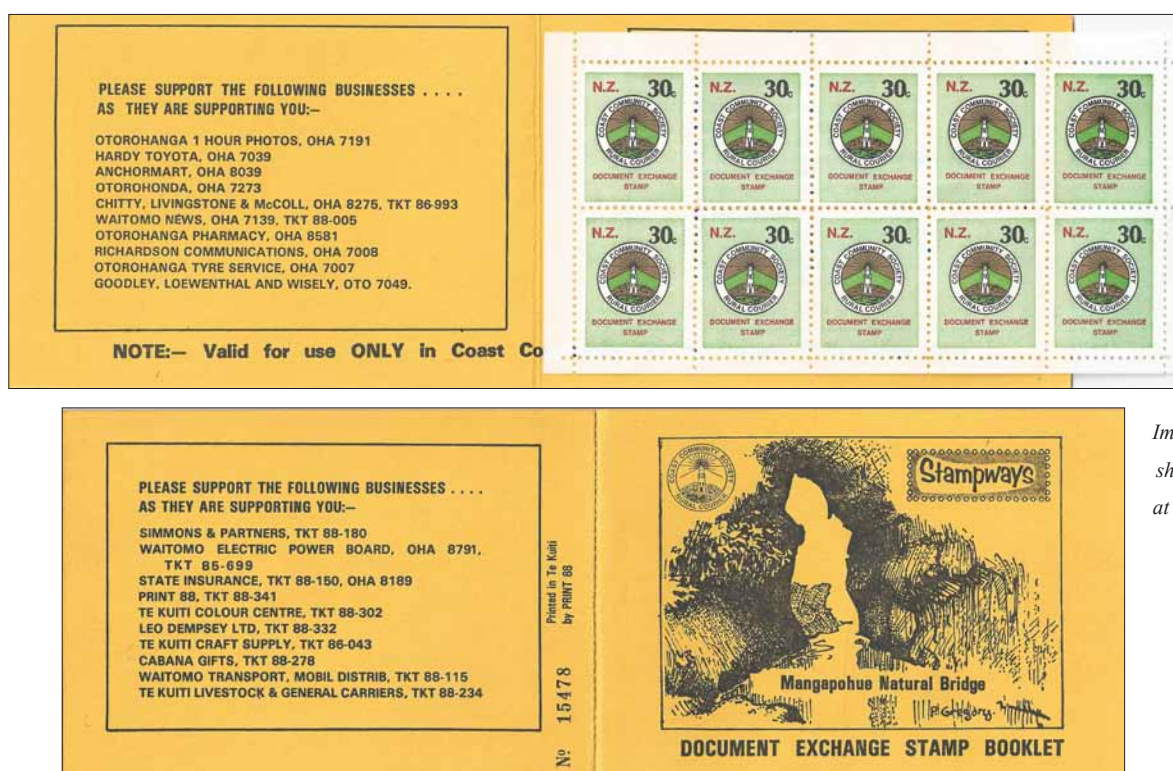
Images
shown
at 60%

Figure 5: First design of the Stampways booklet. Inside, with stamps, (top) and outer cover (bottom).

Cover: depicting a map of the area was designed by Dr Ross Marshall.

Booklets printed by Arthur Manson of PRINT '88 in Te Kuiti. Issued on 1 September 1988.

The first printing was of 3,200 with a subsequent second printing of 2,800. (6,000 in total).



Images
shown
at 60%

Figure 6: Second design of the Stampways booklet. Inside, with stamps, (top) and outer cover (bottom).

Cover: depicting the Mangapohue Natural Bridge (between Waitomo and Te Anga) was reproduced from a line drawing by Peter Gregory on commission to Stampways.

Booklets printed by Arthur Manson of PRINT '88 in Te Kuiti. Issued on 16 September 1988.

10,000 booklets printed and numbered from 6,001 to 16,000.

Agencies included: Otorohanga Travel Centre, Otorohanga; Perry Buses, Te Waitere; Taharoa Superette, Taharoa; Meat Tavern, Te Kuiti; Triple 'S', Te Kuiti; Waitomo Caves Store Ltd, and Glo Worm Service Station, Hangatiki.

The new service opened on 1 September 1988, now in direct competition with New Zealand Post. It received wide media coverage and a lot of goodwill and support from the local farming community.

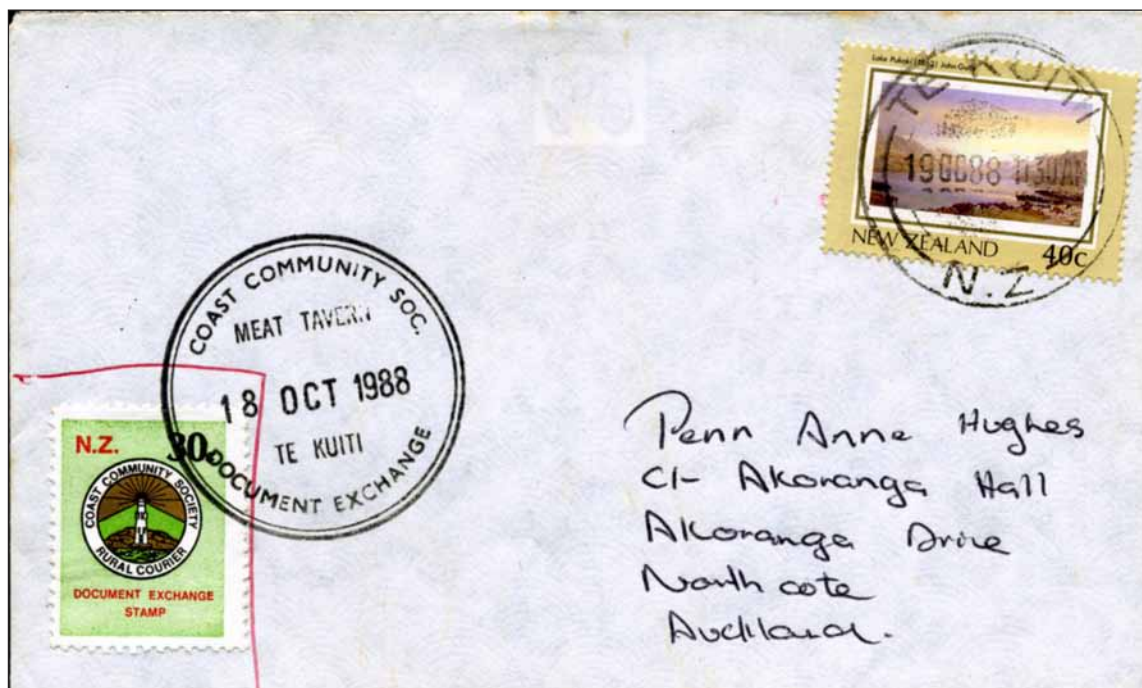


Figure 7: Cover with Document Exchange Stamp, cancelled at the Meat Tavern agency, Te Kuiti. Transferred to New Zealand Post and despatched to the addressee in Auckland the following day.

The cover shown above (Figure 7) carries a Stampways label cancelled on 18 October 1988 and a standard New Zealand Post stamp cancelled on 19 October 1988. This was during the period the Document Exchange used Stampways labels for pre-payment. The respective cancellations on the cover indicate that the envelope was collected from the sender's Document Exchange letterbox by Perry Buses, who took it to the Te Kuiti postal counter after being hand stamped en route at 'Meat Tavern', from where it was forwarded on to the addressee in Auckland by New Zealand Post. The sender paid a total of 70c for the letter to reach its recipient, compared to the 40c it would have cost to use the rural delivery service contracted to New Zealand Post. This is a good illustration of the support given by members of the Coast Community Society to the Document Exchange scheme.

New Zealand Post acted swiftly when they discovered that the Document Exchange was now using stamps as prepayment for delivering its 'documents'. Letters requesting the immediate closure of the venture were hand-delivered to Stampways, Perry Buses and the Coast Community Society; with legal action threatened if this didn't happen. The three main players, again backed by legal opinion, agreed to resist this threat, which resulted in a request by New Zealand Post for an injunction order to close the service, and subsequently led to a hearing in the High Court, in Hamilton, on 9 and 10 November 1988.

In an attempt to appease the wrath of New Zealand Post the Document Exchange and Perry Buses changed their organisation in several respects on 7 November, just prior to the High Court hearing. It was this new organisation that became the subject of the hearing. But this was to no avail, and the judgement made by the High Court late on 10 November 1988 was that the service contravened the intended meaning of document exchanges as stated in the *Postal Services Act 1987*, and that it was basically an alternative postal system. An injunction order was issued the next morning, and this decreed that the service operated by Perry Buses was to be terminated, and that Stampways was not permitted to supply any stamps for use in the system or to any other similar system that may be established in the future.

A particularly interesting twist of the High Court judgement was that, with the Document Exchange system having been defined as a postal service, and with it having been in operation from 7 to 11 September, the

stamps used during these four days are classified as legitimate postage stamps! However, this does not apply to unused stamps, nor those used between 1 September and 6 November which are best termed 'Locals' (Ref. 4).

The last day of operation of the Coast Community Document Exchange Service was thus Friday 11 September 1988. This is shown explicitly on the cover below, addressed to Dr A.R. Marshall (Figure 8). The cover carries the hand stamps of two of the agencies established by the Coast Community Document Exchange (Glo Worm Service Station and Perry Buses). This was one of the organisational changes designed to improve the chances of getting a favourable decision in the High Court hearing on 9 and 10 November 1988.

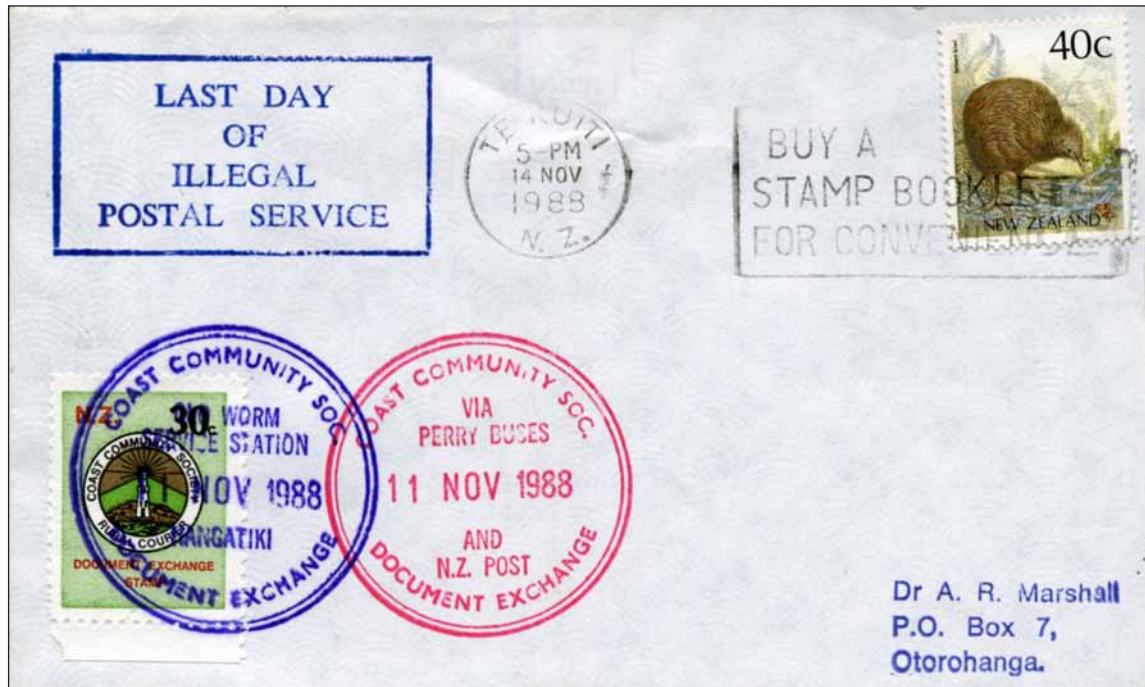


Figure 8: Cover delivered on the last day of the illegal postal service, Friday 11 November 1988. Subsequently sent to Dr A.R. Marshall (a Stampways director), Otorohanga, on Monday 14 November 1988.

Perry Buses continued to serve the Coast Community after the cessation of the Document Exchange. New Zealand Post eventually re-allocated them the contract for the rural delivery service (RD8 Te Kuiti) for the area, and they again became part of New Zealand Post's regular service.

Stampways was incorporated as a private company on 22 September 1988, with directors Douglas Home and Ross Marshall, both of Otorohanga (Ref. 5) and struck off the company register on 9 December 1993.

Acknowledgements:

The authors are indebted to Dr Ross Marshall of Otorohanga for providing a scanned copy of Reference 4 which formed the basis of Section 6, and to John Rabarts of Kennedy Bay, Coromandel Peninsula, for his friendly personal reception and information about the Coromandel Local '309 Road' enterprise discussed in Section 5.

References:

1. Møller K and Ward T, 'New Zealand's Alternative Mail Services – Part 1', *The Kiwi* Vol.66, No.2, pp48-52, March 2017.
2. Strachan WN, *A Century of Philately, A History of New Zealand Stamp Collecting*, (Monograph Series No. 8) pub. Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, Wellington, New Zealand, 1988.
3. Rabarts J, personal communication.
4. Marshall R, *Stampways Coast Community Society Document Exchange*, pub. Stampways Ltd., PO Box 275, Otorohanga, February 1989.
5. New Zealand Companies Office Website. Available at <https://www.business.govt.nz>

POSTAL USAGE OF THE 1/- EDWARD VII STAMP

In the last issue of *The Kiwi* Tony Ward showed an example of the Edward VII 1/- value used on a 1916 registered letter to Switzerland (Ref. 1) and commented that the single use of this high value was uncommon.

I am grateful to Stephen Jones for a further example (shown below). This cover is from Auckland, postmarked 21 AP 13, to Belgium and, as with Tony's cover, has a single 1/- stamp paying 2d registration and a quadruple rate of postage; 2½d per half ounce at this date.

What is a little unusual about the cover to Belgium is that it has a further two ½d Edward VII stamps on the back of the cover (see lower image). These are not postage nor are they paying for any additional service but would appear to have been used as a form of security seal. Both have been initialled, more than likely by the person who addressed the letter. In a time before 'Sellotape' and, in the absence of sealing wax, this was probably seen as an effective way of preventing anyone from tampering with the cover!



Reference:

1. Ward T, 'Postal Usage of the 1/- Edward VII Stamp', *The Kiwi*, Vol. 66, No. 2, p. 63, March 2017.

1936 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - PLATE NUMBER POSITIONS

Terry Hancox

The Postage Stamps of New Zealand, Volume 1 (Ref. 1) is not clear when describing the position of the plate numbers on the 1936 Chamber of Commerce issue, and this has caused some confusion to plate block collectors when 'unnumbered' corner blocks are found. The 'handbook' states "The numbers, which were engraved by hand, were in the four corners of the plate...". The statement is correct, but the printing plate was constructed of four sections producing four panes of 48 stamps (8 rows of 6 stamps each), with plate numbers appearing once on each pane on the 'exposed' outer corner of that pane. The master sheet would have appeared as shown below (Figure 1) prior to guillotining and trimming into four separate panes.



Figure 1: *The four panes of the halfpenny Commerce issue placed together to show the format of the master plate which had a plate number in each corner. The master sheet produced was guillotined into four panes of 48 stamps before issue.*

This format is not unique and can also be found on the 1936 ANZAC issue and the Health issues for 1935, 1936 and 1937.

The paper used was Wiggins Teape rag paper and was originally intended for use in the printing of the 1935 Pictorials. However the printers found the paper unsuitable and it was only used for the 5d and 9d values. Surplus stock of the paper was taken up by the New Zealand Government and was used for other issues produced during the 1930s.

The make-up of the paper had watermark multiple 'NZ and Star' (this was used sideways for the 1936 Commerce issue) but had the words 'NEW ZEALAND POSTAGE' as part of the watermark on both left and

right selvages and twice down the centre of the paper sheet (what would eventually be the central gutter between the panes after printing). This is shown below (Figures 2 and 3).

For the 1936 Commerce issue, the master sheet was printed and cut into two, vertically, prior to perforating. A single comb head was used, running vertically from the top of the, now double, pane downwards. The gap between the vertical double panes would need to be one stamp in height to enable perforating to be continued uninterrupted into the pane below. The double panes were finally cut horizontally into single panes and trimmed ready for issue.



Figure 2: Pane (top right) with additional scans emphasising watermarks in the side selvages. 'NEW ZEALAND' is visible, reading down, in the right hand selvage and 'ND POSTAGE' can be seen, reading up, in the left hand selvage.

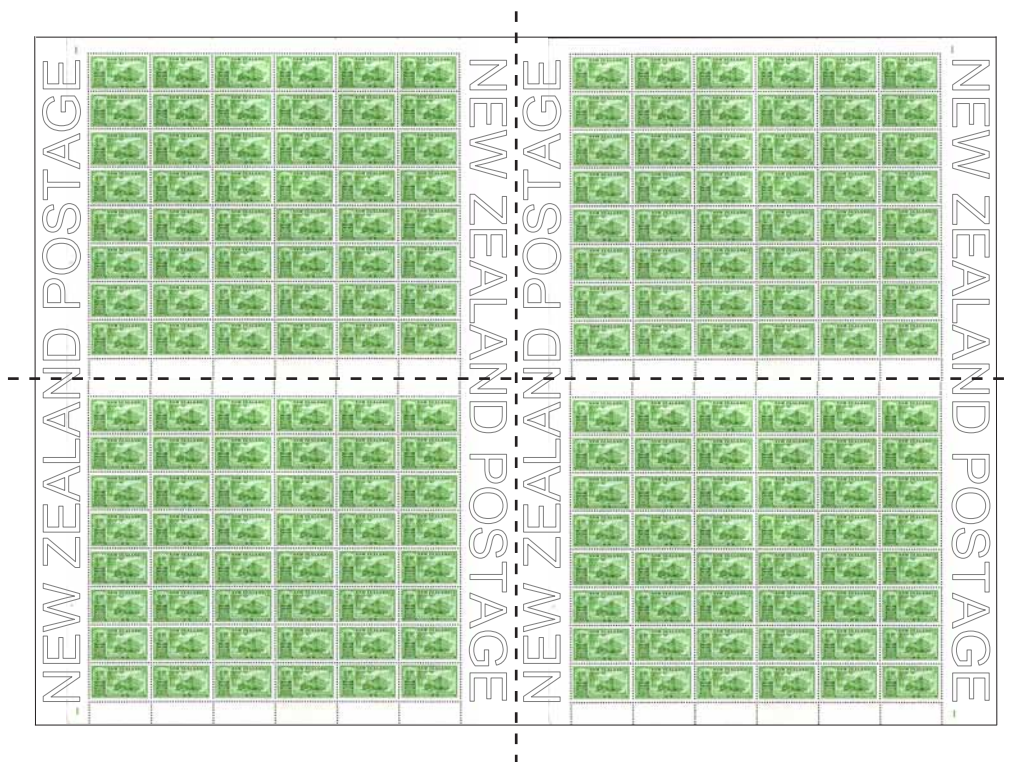


Figure 3: A mock-up of a master sheet showing the layout of the four panes and the placement of the 'NEW ZEALAND POSTAGE' watermark in the side margins and central gutter. The dotted lines show approximately where the master sheet was guillotined; the central gutter would be trimmed further.

Conclusion

Indeed, there are four positions to the plate numbers for the 1936 Commerce issue, but these appear only once on each of the four panes that make up the master sheet. Once divided into the four panes, for issue to post offices, three of the four corners would have no plate number. It is perhaps reasonable that the majority of corner blocks that survive have plate numbers as collectors would naturally be drawn to the numbered plate blocks. Unnumbered corner blocks show no special print marks and perhaps because of this may not survive in such numbers - but enough to cause some confusion with collectors.

As discussed the paper used for the 1936 Commerce issue was originally intended for the 1935 Pictorial series but not favoured by the printers. Its size, and composition of the watermark, make the paper recognisable, with 'NEW ZEALAND POSTAGE' appearing four times within the sheet and forming a border between the panes. Given that the New Zealand Government had surplus stock of this paper, was the format of the 1936 Commerce issue designed to fit the paper, or a favourable coincidence?

Either way, the characteristics of the 'letters' watermark, and the perforations, make it possible to assign each of the panes to its correct position on the master sheet; top left, top right, bottom left or bottom right. Collecting all four positional blocks has proved to be popular with collectors.

Reference

1. Collins RJG and Fathers HTM, *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand, Vol. I*, pp 393-395 and 649, pub. The Royal Philatelic Society of New Zealand, Wellington, (1938).



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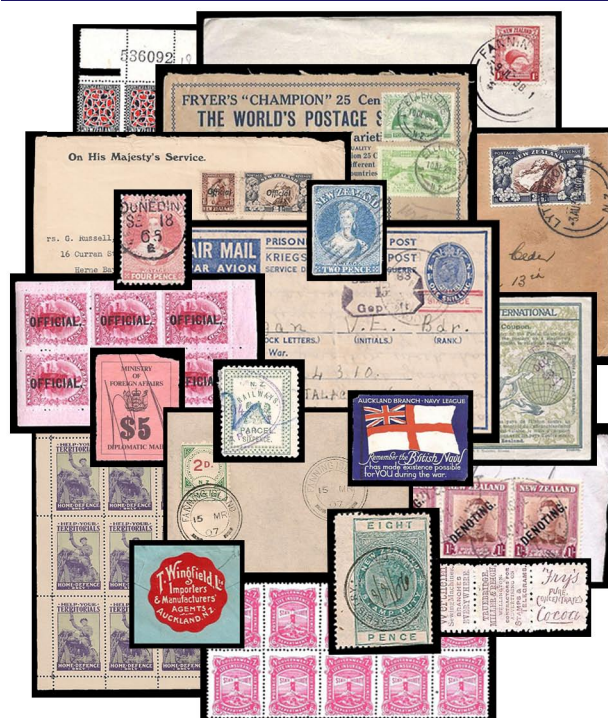
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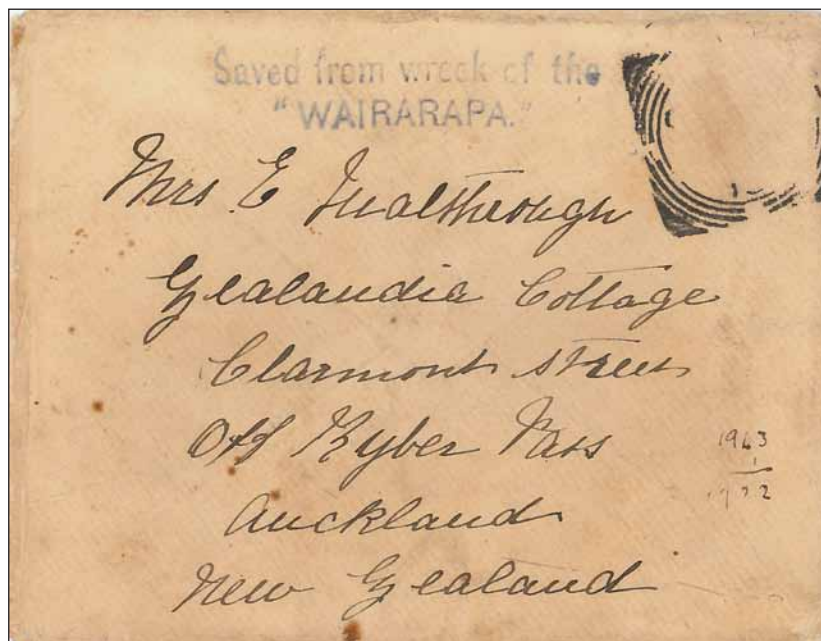
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UNLISTED COVERS FROM THE SS 'WAIRARAPA' - A FOLLOW UP

There was much interest in Adrian Philbey's article, on covers salvaged from the SS *Wairarapa*, in the last issue of *The Kiwi*. (Ref. 1).

Eleven covers were listed which he suggested were not included in the 2013 publication *Australasian Wreck Mail* (Ref. 2). The author of this book, Brian Peace, got in touch to say that one item, 'Cover 4', from Melbourne to Gisborne is in fact listed as item 'VIC 7' in his census. Notwithstanding this ten 'new' covers can potentially be added to the overall listing and, together with a further four known to Brian, a total of 108 covers are now recorded.

However it was 'Cover 7' (reproduced below) which attracted the attention of Brian Peace and also of Robin Gwynn, who coauthored another book on maritime wreck mail (Ref. 3).



Both had some questions regarding this cover. Robin Gwynn wrote:

"The cover has several features which, in combination, are disturbing. First, because the stamp has been washed off, it cannot be dated. Second, there are no backstamps, which is highly unusual for Wairarapa covers – the other ten described in the article all have them, and I cannot recall ever seeing a cover from the wreck without one. Third, the cachet is suspiciously straight – while there are cachets that are straighter and others that are more curved, all in my experience show some degree of curvature. Finally, aspects of the cachet seem not quite right in either shade or lettering: the opening 'S' of 'Saved' seems a bit odd. While I have never seen the cover in the flesh, I was left with an overall feeling that were I to be judging an exhibit including it, I would probably find myself urging that it be expertised before being shown again."

A cautionary note to collectors of wreck covers and perhaps other items of postal history where a particular endorsement or marking on a cover adds to the potential value - and its retail price!

References:

1. Philby A, 'Unlisted Covers from the SS Wairarapa', *The Kiwi*, Vol.66, No.2, pp.56-61, March 2017.
2. Peace BR, *Australasian Wreck Mail*, 2nd Edn., pub. Brian Peace, Chapel Allerton, Leeds, United Kingdom, 2013.
3. Hoggarth N and Gwynn R, *Maritime Disaster Mail*, pub. The Stuart Rossiter Trust Fund, Bristol, 2003.

SS 'TASMANIA' AND THE WRECK OF THE SS 'WAIRARAPA'

In the last issue of *The Kiwi* (page 62) the role that SS *Argyle* played in the rescue of survivors from the wreck of the SS *Wairarapa*, in October 1894, was described. It is recorded that the *Argyle* was first on the scene and took as many survivors as possible to Auckland, arriving on 1 November.

Robert Duns, of Christchurch, has sent me a scan of an item from the collection held by the Philatelic Foundation in Christchurch. This appears to be an insert or flyer produced by the *Daily Times* and concerns the SS *Tasmania* suggesting that it was this vessel, rather than the *Argyle*, that carried survivors from the *Wairarapa* to Auckland. Most written commentary after the event records that the *Argyle* was first to the scene and carried most survivors to Auckland although the *Tasmania* did 'take some survivors south'.

It is unclear where this 'Extra' was produced. The *Otago Daily Times* and *Wairarapa Daily Times* were both in print in 1894 but it is possible that this was an Australian paper as both the *Wairarapa* and the *Tasmania* sailed between Sydney and Auckland.

At the time of the accident there was much speculation that the Huddart-Parker owned liner, *Tasmania*, and the Union Steam Ship Company's *Wairarapa* were involved in racing between Sydney and Auckland. In anticipation of a Government enquiry into the disaster the *Evening Post* carried an editorial piece which discussed the matter (Ref. 1).

"It is to be desired that the official enquiry into the *Wairarapa* wreck will, outside the question of the immediate cause of the disaster, elicit the fullest possible evidence obtainable from all sources, and without respect of persons, as to the alleged practice of racing between competing ocean steamers in the New Zealand-Australian trade, and the instructions to commanding officers of such vessels, whether standing, special, or implied....

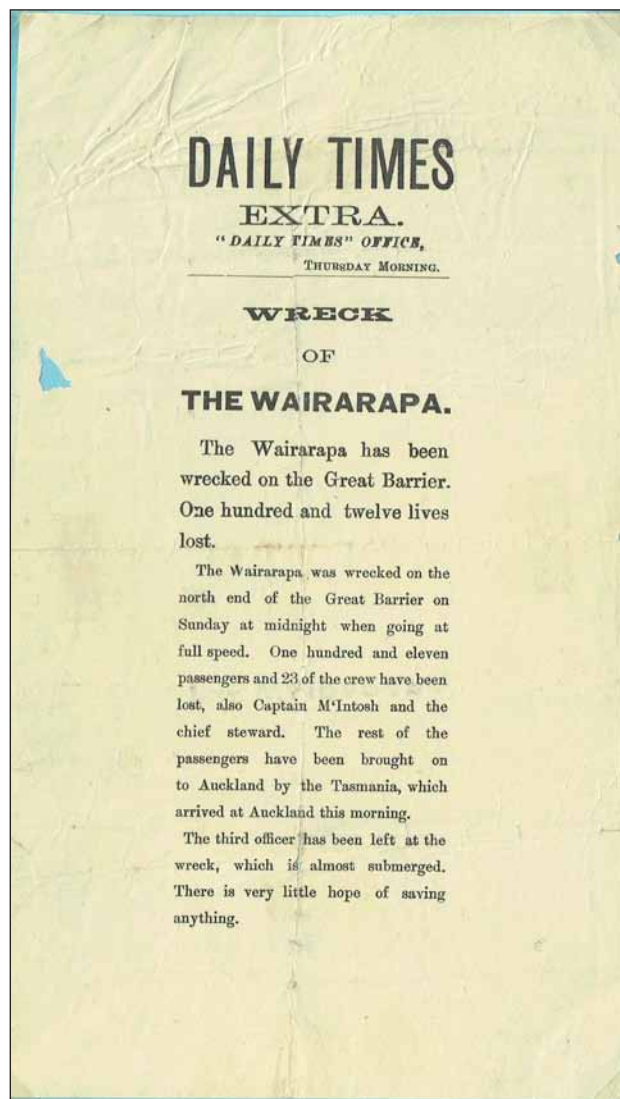
.... Have commanding officers of these steamers, running under conditions of cut-throat competition, any instructions, express or implied, direct or indirect, official or understood, to use their own judgment in deflecting from the rule of assured safety, in order to "make a record", or to run to time?

.... Had Captain McIntosh believed that the HUDDART-PARKER liner *Tasmania*, fresh from dock, and with reported increased powers of speed, was not far behind him, and that to bring up and wait for daylight, in the thick weather of Sunday night, might enable the rival vessel to pass him, or, in any event, make a better time record for the voyage, what then?

.... This is the stake that is being played for with most desperate and dogged determination, and so long as the players do not gamble with human lives the public need have no concern, but the *Wairarapa* tragedy seems to reveal a new and terrible danger that it is the clear duty of the Government to set at rest."

Reference:

1. 'Racing Steamships', *The Evening Post*, p2, 5 November 1894. (available at <https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz>)



The Daily Times 'Extra' notice. (image reduced)

TRANS-PACIFIC AIRMAIL FROM NEW ZEALAND TO THE UNITED STATES, JANUARY 1938

Robert Clark

Introduction:

In 1935, the New Zealand Government signed an agreement with Pan American Airways for a regular air service between Honolulu and Auckland via Kingman Reef and Pago Pago (American Samoa) that would connect at Honolulu with the weekly Pan American FAM 14 service to San Francisco. In March 1937, the agreement was extended to 31 December with the condition that immediate steps were taken to implement the service. The result was a Honolulu - Auckland survey flight on 23-30 March 1937 with the return flight on 4-9 April. No official mail was carried (Refs. 1 and 2).

Two more survey flights were planned before the end of the year, but the second Honolulu - Auckland flight did not take place until 23-26 December. No official mail was carried. The aircraft was again a Sikorsky S42B flying boat captained by Edwin Musick and now renamed *Samoan Clipper* (Refs. 1 and 2). Because of the closeness of the 31 December deadline it was decided to carry mail on the return flight, but it is not generally realised how little notice was given especially as this was over the Christmas period.

Douglas Walker's excellent *Airmails of New Zealand, volume 2* (Ref. 1), is normally very accurate, but has errors concerning this flight. Walker states that the return flight was scheduled for 30 December and that the initial mail closing date in Auckland was 19 December. The '19' is likely a typo for '29', but unfortunately the 19 December date has often been repeated in later publications. Contemporary newspapers show that the flight was initially scheduled for 29 December with the mail closing on 28 December.

Walker also makes no mention of an internal air mail fee and quotes the registration fee as being 4d while it was 3d (Ref. 3). In his book he shows a registered cover from Dunedin to Pago Pago franked with 10d. The additional postage over the 6d fee, for Auckland to Samoa, was made up of 3d registration fee and 1d internal air mail fee, not a 4d registration fee as he infers.

This article makes use of information from contemporary New Zealand newspapers available online: *The Press* (Christchurch), *The New Zealand Herald* (Auckland), *The Evening Post* (Wellington) and *Auckland Star*. The last two are evening papers.

Information Before Christmas:

No decision on mail being carried on the clipper's return journey had been made by the evening of 23 December when the *Auckland Star* (p8) reported a Pan American official as saying: "that question is under discussion ... we are fully prepared to carry mail."

On Christmas Eve the two evening papers, *Evening Post* (p12) and *Auckland Star* (p10), confirmed that mail would be carried and gave the postage rates, per half ounce, as: 6d to American Samoa, 3s 0d to Hawaii and 4s 6d to the United States. Postcards would be carried at half the rate and letters for Britain and Europe would be sent by sea from New York at no extra cost. The departure date was reported to be 29 December. *The Evening Post* also stated: "As there is a limited time in which to get letters to Auckland, the internal air-mail services ... will be found of advantage." The additional cost of the internal air mail was 1d.

The short notice meant that connecting mail could not be sent from countries such as Australia. Some dealers were quick to post covers and an example, to Honolulu, postmarked in Dunedin at 8:00 pm on 24 December is shown opposite (Figure 1). It is franked with 3s 4d made up of 3d registration, 1d internal air mail and 3s 0d air mail fee to Hawaii. All mail was backstamped on arrival, either in Pago Pago at 5:00 pm on 1 January, Honolulu at 2:00 pm on 3 January or San Francisco at 12:30 pm on 6 January 1938.



Figure 1: Registered cover from Dunedin to Honolulu postmarked on 24 December 1937.



Figure 2: Cover from Timaru to Los Angeles with postage due as internal air mail fee was not paid.

27-28 December - Postings Before Initial Closing Time:

As 26 December was a Sunday the Boxing Day holiday for post offices was Monday 27 December, and so members of the public were unable to purchase stamps for covers from the Post Office during the three days 25, 26 and 27 December.

On 27 December, the Auckland papers announced the closing time in Auckland for mail to be sent on the flight was 8:00 pm on 28 December and the Evening Post (p10) gave the Wellington closing time as 2:00 pm while the closing time from Christchurch was 9:00 am. *The New Zealand Herald* (p11) announced: "Letters posted in any part of New Zealand other than Auckland will be required to carry the New Zealand air mail fee". This was the first and only report in the newspapers that the 1d internal air fee was mandatory.

The cover shown on page 97 (Figure 2), addressed to Los Angeles was postmarked in Timaru at 7:00 am on 27 December. It would be sent by rail to Christchurch and flown from there to Auckland. As it was only franked with 4s 6d, it was insufficiently paid for the internal air mail service to Auckland and so has 'T 20 centimes' and 'U.S. charge to collect 4cents' handstamps to cover double the deficiency of 1d. On 27 December, *The Timaru Herald* (p7) had given the air mail rates from Auckland (but did not mention the additional air mail fee) while *The Otago Times* (Dunedin) (p8) only reported that use of the internal air mail services would be of advantage.

On 28 December, the evening paper *Auckland Star* (p.9) reported that there were queues that day at the Chief Post Office in Auckland to buy air mail stamps. Despite the short notice, some attractive first flight covers were prepared such as the one shown below (Figure 3). On 29 December, newspapers reported that 15,000 letters were in hand in Auckland by 8 o'clock on 28 December.



Figure 3: A first flight cover to Los Angeles, postmarked at Auckland 8:00 pm on 28 December 1937.

First Flight Cachets in Red, Purple and Black:

A first flight cachet 'New Zealand - U.S.A. / First Air Mail / December, 1937' was applied to the covers. The cachet is normally in red, but on some (mostly from Wellington) it is in purple. Schmidt (Ref. 4) carried out a survey of covers with purple cachets and lists covers from Wellington as well as a small number from Auckland and two from Timaru.

Pan American produced private covers with a black cachet which did not come onto the market until after Pan American went bankrupt in the 1990s. Three different cachets exist: to American Samoa, to Hawaii and to United States of America. An example to American Samoa, postmarked on 28 December, which also has the normal red cachet is shown opposite (Figure 4).

29 - 31 December - Postings After Initial Closing Time:

On 29 December, the newspapers reported that, due to bad weather, the departure of the clipper had been postponed for 24 hours. *The Auckland Star* (p9) reported that: "the departure has been set for about 4 o'clock tomorrow morning, but.... definite decision is unlikely to be made until 9 o'clock to-night." It also reported (p10) that: "Auckland postal officials experienced a steady rush today".

It was not only mail from the South Island that had to include the 1d internal airmail fee. A registered cover postmarked in Wellington at 12:30 pm on 29 December, addressed to London and franked with 4s 10d to include the 3d registration and 1d internal air mail fee is shown on this page (Figure 5). As well as a San Francisco backstamp on 6 January 1938, the cover has one applied at Highgate, London on 20 January.

Pan American used the delay to produce some more covers with the black cachet and an example to the United States postmarked in Auckland on 29 December and signed by the pilot Captain Edwin C Musick is shown (Figure 5). The franking includes a pair of 2s 0d second pictorials and Robert Odenweller has pointed out that they are, as in this case, invariably in the rare perforation 14-13 x 13½ (Ref. 5).



Figure 4: Cover to Pago Pago, American Samoa, with Pan American cachet in black.

(image shown at 70%)



Figure 5: Air mail cover from Wellington, postmarked 29 December 1937, franked with 4s 10d.

There were further delays, as the clipper was unable to take off on the morning of 30 December. *The Evening Post* (p10) reported that it had been moved from its base in Mechanics' Bay to Islington Bay, Rangitoto Island which was more sheltered from the north-easterly wind and that it was not certain that the clipper would be able to depart on the morning of 31 December.

On 31 December, *The Press* (p12) reported that a definite decision had been made that the clipper would not depart until 1 January at the earliest and this led to further postings. I have a cover to Britain postmarked in Christchurch at 9:00 am on 31 December. According to *The Auckland Star* (p11), the clipper was returned to its base at Mechanics' Bay in the afternoon of 31 January.

Departure on 2 January 1938:

The clipper finally left Auckland at 3:00 am on the morning of Sunday, 2 January carrying 5,887 items for Pago Pago, 3,525 items for Honolulu and 15,722 for San Francisco. Having crossed the International Date Line, it arrived in Pago Pago on 1 January, Kingman Reef on 2 January and Honolulu on 3 January. The mail was transferred to a Martin M.130 flying boat on FAM Route 14 and arrived in San Francisco on 6 January. (Ref 1).



Figure 6: Cover with Pan American black cachet postmarked on 29 December 1937.

(image shown at 70%)

Epilogue:

The *Samoan Clipper* left Honolulu on 9 January on its return journey to Auckland. There were problems after take off from Pago Pago on 11 January and the clipper jettisoned fuel so that it could return to Pago Pago. The fuel ignited causing the *Samoan Clipper* to explode and everyone on board was killed. As a result, the regular trans-Pacific air mail service between Auckland and San Francisco was delayed until July 1940.

Sources:

The information from *The Press*, *The New Zealand Herald*, *The Evening Post* and *The Auckland Star* is from the *Papers Past* website at: <https://paperspast.natlib.govt.nz>

I would also like to thank Bob Watson for sending me information from *The Timaru Herald* and *The Otago Daily Times* of Dunedin.

References:

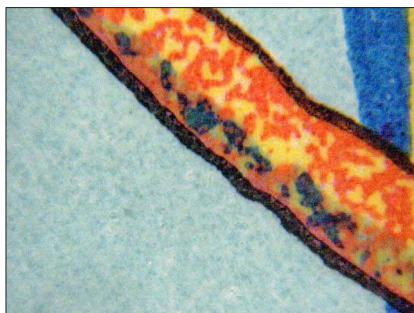
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2. Krupnick J, *Pan American's Pacific Pioneers*, Pictorial Histories Publishing Company, Montana, 1997.
3. Startup R, *New Zealand Overseas Airmail Postage Rates 1930 – 2011*, Air Mail Society of New Zealand and Mowbray Collectables, 2012.
4. Schmidt G, 'The New Zealand Survey Flight : The Purple Cachet', *The Mail Coach*, Vol. 29, No. 5, pp.211-215, June 1993.
5. Odenweller R., 'A Rarity Made More Common', *The Kiwi*, Vol. 64, No. 5, pp.152-153, September 2015.

1939 NEW ZEALAND CENTENNIAL EXHIBITION CINDERELLA LABEL

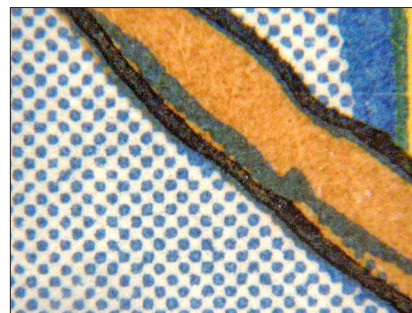
Terry Hancox

At the February 2017 meeting of the Midlands Group, John Potter alerted me to the presence of two forms of the 1939 New Zealand Centennial Exhibition cinderella label. At first sight these are of a similar design, but under magnification they show remarkable differences. The two types are illustrated below.

The label features a Maori woman, arms outstretched holding two wreaths, set against a background of the Centennial Tower and buildings in yellow; light and dark blue rays emanate from behind the buildings. This was one of a number of cinderella items used to promote the Exhibition.



Type 1: The Woman's arms are blotchy red on a yellow background. The light blue colour is flecked with dark blue producing an overall smooth effect.



Type 2: The Woman's skin is smooth orange apart from the legs that have a hatched dark blue screen. This dark blue hatched screen also covers the light blue rays.

THE SOCIETY WEB-SITE AS A RESOURCE FOR MEMBERS

The Kiwi (now downloadable in pdf format)

- * Vol. 1-61 (1952-2012) available to all.
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Society web-site: www.nzsgb.org.uk

REQUEST FOR HELP FROM MEMBERS

Frank Parkinson writes:

Redrawn Surface Print of the Penny Universal (CP - G11)

In my study of this stamp I started with a five page dissertation by Peter de la Mare, in correspondence with Dr Ken McNaught, who started with the list from the Postage Stamps of New Zealand handbooks and added from what blocks they had available. It never got to the stage of publishing their findings as they had too much missing information.

Unfortunately I am now at a standstill as I have gaps in the material I have been able to put together.

The blocks I have cover the areas of the sheet shown in the table below, each 'X' represents a stamp I have, in blocks, allowing the sheet position to be confirmed.

		Stamp Number																							
Sheet Row		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	1	X	X	X	X	X	X													X	X	X	X	X	X
	2	X	X	X	X	X	X													X	X	X	X	X	X
	3	X	X	X	X	X	X							X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X
	4	X	X	X	X	X	X							X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	5	X	X	X	X	X	X							X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	6	X	X	X	X	X	X							X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	7	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	8	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	9	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	10	X	X	X	X	X	X							X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Some of the printing errors/marks in the value tablet I have positioned are as follows:



Row 4, Stamp 23
Small white fleck in right lower ornament, above left arm of Y



Row 6, Stamp 6
Flaw on second N of PENNY



Row 6, Stamp 8
Flaw on inside of left leg of the first N of PENNY



Row 6, Stamp 11
Vertical scratch above second N of PENNY



Row 6, Stamp 16
*mark low in E of
PENNY*



Row 8, Stamp 4
*scratch through 'E' of POSTAGE,
line through first N up to central
RH pearl which is broken*



Row 9, Stamp 20
*large white flaw in E of
PENNY*

The one flaw I have not positioned, even though I have more than one example including a block of ten, and a pair, giving over all a block of eleven. Unfortunately I have not been able to marry either end of the block with other blocks I have. This particular stamp has the diagonal mark across the first N of PENNY; obviously a gravure slip chipping the plate.



Position Unknown
*Diagonal mark across
the first N of PENNY*

In my study I have each variation scanned and entered in Row numbers and also in variation type:

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| A – top curls at left | B – top left pearl attached to left rosette |
| C – left rosette | D – left curls below rosette |
| E – left spur | F – left central pearl |
| G – left leaf ornament | H – left tail at top of lower ornament |
| Etc. | |

This enables one to compare each variation found on the stamps.

If anyone has blocks that may help please contact me.

Frank Parkinson ☎: +64 9 5201895 email: frank@fparkinson.nz

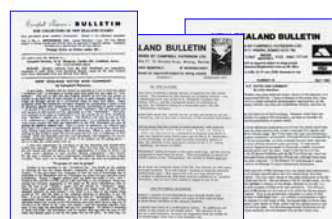
THE SOCIETY WEB-SITE AS A RESOURCE FOR MEMBERS

Campbell Paterson's Bulletin and Newsletter (NEW!)

Many members will be familiar with the monthly Newsletter which Campbell Paterson have produced at their Auckland offices since 1949 and the Bulletin which was distributed from their UK office between 1963 and 1993. These are packed with offers, information and articles and form an incredible resource for researchers.

Now, with the permission of David Holmes of Campbell Paterson, the New Zealand Society of Great Britain has made all available copies of these publications available, to all, via our website.

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



David Stalker writes:

"I came across a set of New Zealand Post posters for Christmas stamps recently, as well as several for commemoratives etc. The 1991 poster is shown here (right).

None have any identifying numbers and all are laminated with stamps and first day covers. For the 1994 Christmas issue the miniature sheet and associated FDC are included and, for 1995, a second poster was issued featuring the reduced rate 40c stamp.

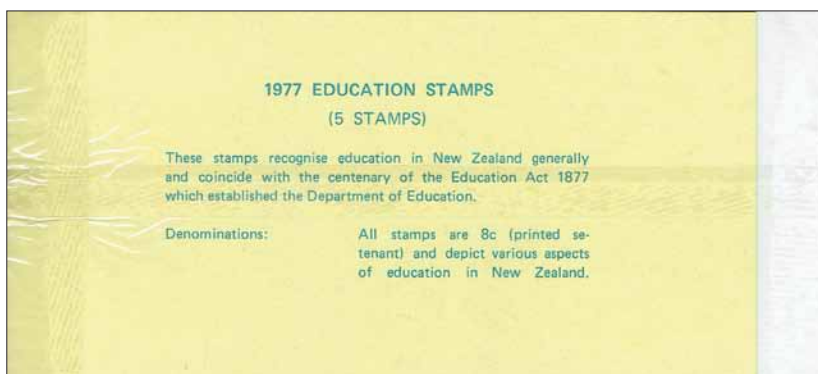
The book 'New Zealand and Dependencies-A Philatelic Bibliography' (p260) indicates that only a few posters appear to have survived.

I would be interested to find out if these laminated posters only appeared in the 1990s or were they the same as those referred to in the Bibliography for the 1980s which all have a number identifier or for succeeding years? The only one that appears to be mentioned in the bibliography is the one for 1996 which is unnumbered.

The scanned poster for 1991 has pin holes in the corners showing that it was actually put up on display."



Many Thanks to the several members who responded to David Stalker's request, in the March issue of *The Kiwi* (page 70), for information regarding the Christmas 'pack' he had acquired.



These were produced for New Zealand Post, or their representatives, to sell at overseas exhibitions. This presumably helped with the logistics of handling and selling as well as making it easier to account for sales at the end of the event.

Robert Duns commented that he was not sure that these were prepared for all overseas exhibitions or just those in the UK. He remembers purchasing the 1977 'Education' strip in this format at the 1977 British Philatelic Exhibition (BPE) held in London that year. This is illustrated here (image at 60% of original).

So these are in fact 'stamp packs'.



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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.
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