

THE KIWI

Vol.1. No.7.

November 1952.



THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

To Members of the Society

Notice is hereby given that the first Annual General Meeting of The New Zealand Society of Great Britain will be held at the Kingsley Hotel, Bloomsbury Way, London, W.C.1. on Saturday, 15th November 1952 at 2.30 pm. for the ordinary business set out on the Agenda below.

31st October 1952.

Margarate Erskine (Mrs.)
Hon. Sec.

AGENDA

1. To receive and approve the Minutes of the inaugural meeting held on 23rd January 1952.
2. To receive a report from the President on the initial year's working of the Society.
3. To receive financial report from the Hon. Treasurer.
4. To elect a President and Vice-President.

Mr. Hugh Bramsdon, being eligible, offers himself for re-election, and there are two other nominations:

Mr. F. Stacey Hooker and
Mrs. E. C. M. Moore.

For these offices there will be a ballot and the nominee with the highest number of votes will become President, the second highest Vice-President, and the third nominee will automatically be elected to the committee.

5. To approve the appointments of Mrs. M. Erskine as Honorary Secretary and Mr. A. A. Hard as Honorary Treasurer and Exchange Packet Secretary. (There were no nominations for either of these offices and the two retiring officers being eligible have agreed to continue.
6. To elect a committee of five members. (Retiring members Mr. G. B. Erskine and Mr. R. D. Williamson, being eligible, have offered themselves for re-election. Further nominations received are:

Major T. H. Pine and
Mr. T. H. Hopkins.

P.T.O.



A G E N D A

(Continued from previous page)

7. Adoption of rules. The following amendments to the Provisional Rules (circulated in March 1952) have been proposed by Mr. G. B. Erskine and agreed to by the committee:

On Page One.

- Clause 3; line 2: Amend to read "...Hon. Secretary, Hon. Treasurer..."
- Clause 4; line 2: Delete the word "four" and insert "five".
- Clause 7; line 4: Delete "...on 1st January in each year.." and insert "...at the Annual General Meeting".

On Page Two.

- Clause 15: Delete the word "Secretary" on line 1 and twice on line 7, and in each case insert the word "Treasurer".

On Page Three.

- Clause 17; line 1: Insert after "...maintain.." "...as soon as a sufficient number of suitable volumes is available.."

On Page Four.

- Clause 3; line 1: Delete "...on the Society's special form.."
- Clause 4: Add "Postal bids may be accepted at the discretion of the Committee organizing the Auction".

On Page Six.

- Clause 9; line 7: Amend to read "...suggested forgeries."
Delete the three line Note following clause 11.

8. Any Other Business proper to an Annual General Meeting.

REMAINDER OF PROGRAMME.

Following the formal business, as set out in the foregoing Agenda, the programme will continue as under:-

A talk by A. D. M. Curnow, Esq., (Press Officer at the New Zealand High Commissioner's Office, London.)

Tea.

Auction of 177 lots of New Zealand Material.
Hon. Auctioneer: Noël Turner, Esq.
(Lots will be on view from 2. pm. to 2.30. pm.)

In view of the lengthy programme the proceedings must commence sharply at 2.30. pm. Lunch will be available from 1. pm. onwards at the Kingsley Hotel for anyone who wishes to take advantage of this facility. The Hotel is most centrally situated; two/ three minutes west of Holborn (Kingsway) Underground Station, or five minutes east of Tottenham Court Road Underground Station; the following bus routes pass the door: 7, 8, 17, 19, 22, 23, 25 and 38.

- Lot 132 S.G.585b Two shade blocks six, as above but wood-pulp paper.....(8/6d)
- " 133 S.G.586 Block four, 8d, perf.14/13½ wmk, upright....(10/-d)
- " 134 S.G.586a Three shades 8d, perf.12½.....(5/6d)
- " 135 S.G.627 Bottom selvedge block showing 1 Bar, Mult. wmk. 9d.....(3/6d)
- " 136 S.G.626 Block four 9d, single wmk, scarce.....(32/6d)
- " 137 - - Block four 1/-d perf.14/13½ esparto paper(8/-d)
- " 138 S.G.588 Block six 1/-d perf.14/13½ wood-pulp paper(7/6d)
- " 139 S.G.588 Two pairs 1/-d perf.14/13½ wood-pulp paper shades....(5/-d)
- " 140 S.G.588a 1/- perf.12½ single.....(14/-d)
- " 141 S.G.589 The two main shades of 2/- perf.13-14/13½(45/-d)
- " 142 - - Two shades of 2/- perf.12½ on Esparto paper(25/-d)
- " 143 S.G.589a Block four 2/-perf.12½ on wood-pulp paper(26/-d)
- " 144 S.G.589a Pair with Plate No.1.12½ on wood-pulp paper(15/-d)
- " 145 S.G.589c Two shades plate I, 2/-perf.14/13½.....(14/-d)
- " 146 S.G.589c block four, plate II, 2/-perf.14/13½.....(14/-d)
- " 147 S.G.590a Single mint copy, 3/-perf.12½, scarce.....(60/-d)
- " 148 S.G.590b Two shades, 3/-perf.14¼/13½, 1 stamp has minor re-entry....(9/6d)

THE FOLLOWING - LOTS 149 TO 160 INCLUSIVE - ARE ALL USED STAMPS

- " 149 S.G.581a 2½d, perf.14 comb.4 main re-entries, 10/1, 10/2, 10/3, 7/5.....(12/6d)
- " 150 S.G.583c 4d, perf.14/14½, the re-entry row 6 No.1. superb used.....(4/6d)
- " 151 S.G.589c Plates I, II, III, and III blurred print, all U. (3/-d)
- " 152 S.G.568 Single wmk, inverted, used and scarce.....(15/-d)
- " 153 S.G.590b 3/- w/p. Four re-entries, The major row 9 No.4, 4/2, 7/1, 3/5.....(15/-d)
- " 154 1931 Air set complete mint, 3d, 4d, 7d, vals.....(22/6d)
- " 155 1931 Air 7d, value in fine used pair.....(17/6d)
- " 156 1935 Air complete fine used plate No. blocks of four, scarce thus.....(25/-d)
- " 157 1935 Air complete fine used plate No. pairs, scarce(20/-d)
- " 158 1925 Dunedin Ex. ½d. & 1d½ vals. in mint blocks of four(6/-d)
- " 159 Geo. V. the scarce 4d. yellows superb used, both perfs. in pairs.....(20/-d)
- " 160 Four shades of the Litho. wmk, with the scarce 'Colourless' & yel/gr.....(30/-d)
- " 161 S.G.15. Used.....(£3.10.0)
- " 162 S.G.42. Used.....(22/6d)
- " 163 S.G.117. Used.....(7/-d)
- " 164 S.G.155. Used.....(13/6d)
- " 165 S.G.262 and S.G.265. Used.....(7/-d)
- " 166 S.G.276 and S.G.359. Used.....(2/-d)
- " 167 S.G.368 and S.G.394. Used.....(3/9d)

	<u>1d</u>	<u>2d</u>	<u>1/-</u>
Auckland	5,120	25,700	8,880
New Plymouth	600	3,500	350
Nelson	750	5,000	450
Wellington	3,500	20,500	2,100
Canterbury	1,530	8,300	970
Otago	<u>500</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>250</u>
	<u>12,000</u>	<u>66,000</u>	<u>8,000</u>

This gives a guide of what postmarks can be found at this period, 1855 to say 1859.

* * * * *

The 2d "blue" Richardson print of 1858 is an interesting study for shades. Gibbons in their new catalogue for the first time include the rare shade of deep ultramarine and price it at £30 (S.G.8a). I have had many singles, pairs and strips for the last 20 years and could never understand why it was not included. I now give you the complete list of shades most of which are in the catalogues issued by Pim and Verne Collins.

Deep ultramarine; Blue; Sky blue; Pale blue;
Dull dark blue; Greenish blue; Dull blue;
Milky blue(rare); Bright blue.

In the main my list of shades agrees with the views of the late Mr. Benjamin Goodfellow who was one of the great authorities on full face stamps.

Another stamp which Gibbons will one day include is the 1/- Emerald green of the Davies print, watermarked star and also N.Z; it exists perf.12½, imperf and roulette.

I have specimens of all of them and Pimms, also the New Zealand Handbook, recognizes some of them - they are rare.

* * * * *

ADVERTISEMENTS

WANTED: Used copies of New Zealand F1 - F101 in any quantity, especially blocks, strips, pairs or single marginal copies. Please state price required.

N.R.Dawe, P.T.S.,
New Zealand Only Dealer,
99 Tregonissey Road,
St. Austell, Cornwall.

WANTED: For study purposes New Zealand stamps with advertisements on the back.

R.E.Bles - Prinses Julianalaan 25a,
Rotterdam,
Holland.

THE "DUPLIX" PERFORATION

In the 1935-46 Pictorials one of the most interesting details is the perforation known for catalogue purposes as 13-14 x 13½; for want of a better term I have described this as the "duplex" perf.

The 2½d., 5d., 2/- and 3/- values all appeared in this perforation. In September 1937 there was an article by Mr. R.J.G. Collins, the prominent Christchurch philatelist, stamp designer, dealer and publisher, in which he analysed the work of seven different perforating heads used for the first issues of the Pictorial set; the "duplex" was described as showing three gaugings on the long sides of the stamps - ten holes gauging 14, eight holes 13½, 8 holes 13. The same description is given in Mr. Collins's monumental work on Plate 1 of the 2/- Captain Cook. Volume II of the Handbook skates round the problem by saying the perforations are too irregular to record precisely.

It is with great diffidence, of course, that one would venture to differ from such an authority as Mr. Collins, but since becoming interested in this matter seven or eight years ago I have gauged many hundreds of these stamps and I have found it impossible to satisfy myself that the division into three sections can be substantiated. On the contrary, I have become convinced that the 26 holes divide into two sections - thirteen holes gauging 12.8 and thirteen gauging 13.8, allowing due tolerance on the decimal figures for the imperfections of the material, the gauges and the user.

Being possessed of a restless desire to know the "reason why" of philatelic minutiae I have a theory to account for this peculiar combination of two different gaugings in one line of pins, but before setting up my Aunt Sally it may be desirable to clear the pitch.

In the first place, the producer of stamps, the issuing authority and most users of postal services are completely heedless of what the stamp collector, with his little gauges, thinks about the perforations. They are concerned only that the perforating shall take out enough paper to make it easy to separate the sheet into single stamps and shall leave enough paper to avoid disintegration of the sheet in the course of normal handling. The printer has to see that the size and spacing of the holes are not unsuitable for the quality of paper and that the framework of holes is right dimensionally for the size of the stamps, for the gutters between the stamps, and, in the case of comb or harrow heads, for the number of stamps in the sheet.

Generally, a perforating head consists of three main members. First, there is the piece, which for convenience may be called the punch, in which the pins are mounted; the pins are like ordinary steel pins with a swaged head but have no sharp point. Second, there is the stripping plate, through which the pins pass before going through the paper; its purpose is to hold the sheets while the pins are withdrawn from the holes in the paper. Third, there is the die, with holes into which the pins sink after passing through the sheets; the edges of these holes are actually the cutting edges for the paper. Obviously the holes in all these three members must be in pretty accurate alignment with each other, and the obvious way of ensuring this is to drill the three together.

In the "duplex" head there were 449 pins, 163 in the base row which perforated the short sides of the stamps and 26 in each of the eleven spur rows which perforated the long sides. Before drilling can begin, it is necessary to mark-out and, unless a drilling jig is available, to make a centre-punch dot for each hole to locate the point of the drill. This is quite a piece of work, as you will appreciate if you try marking-out on paper and pay due regard to the need for fitting the sheet and avoiding any very large variation in spacing. Quite obviously, a lot of time can be saved if a suitable pattern, already worked out for one head, can be applied to another. Indeed, it is not inconceivable that a member drilled for one head might be made to serve the function of a drilling jig or template for another head.

Now for Aunt Sally. It is noticeable that the head used for most of the earlier supplies of the ordinary sized Pictorials (the ½d., 1d., 1½d., 2d., 3d. and 1/- values) bears an uncommonly close resemblance to the "duplex" head. It has a base row of 163 pins perforating the vertical sides of the stamps and giving a single pin in the sheet-margin at each end; it gauges 13.4 just the same as the "duplex". It has eleven spur rows of 13 pins gauging 13.8 just the same as the corresponding part of the "duplex". If this head was made first and the same marking-out applied to the head for the landscape stamps, it would fit perfectly so far as it went, leaving only the marking-out of additional pins on the spur rows.

But if the 13 holes are repeated on the same spacing they do not reach to the end of the long stamp. If a fourteenth hole is added on the same spacing it will protrude into the gutter and at the next stroke of the perforator will join up with a hole in the vertical row, so creating just the kind of weak spot that the Post Office counter clerk finds so annoying. The solution is to add 13 holes but to space them just a trifle wider - actually .074 millimetres wider, which is not enough to worry anyone, except perhaps a philatelist.

Bearing in mind that there were six stamps of the ordinary 17½ mm. x 21½ mm. size to be produced by the same printer, and that these included the values which would be required in vast quantities, it is quite likely that two heads were ordered for these and that the "duplex" head was created by a time-saving adaptation of the spare head. That is an interesting speculation, but must remain merely speculation; even the makers would be unlikely to have any record of such a temporary make-shift.

There is another interesting point. In perforating, the sheets were traversed sideways and it would depend on which side the sheet was fed into the machine first whether the 13.8 portion was at the right or left half of the stamp. The 5d. Swordfish exists both ways but so far I have not found the 2/- Captain Cook with 13.8 at the left, or either the 2½d. Mount Cook or the 3/- Mount Egmont with 13.8 at the right. Having started a run with the tops of the sheets to the left, for instance, the operators would certainly go on needling the sheets the same way for the whole of that run, but there is no visible reason why the next time the job came to the machine it should be done the same way.

Obviously there was a change for the 5d. and I am still looking for specimens of the other values showing a reversal from the usual. If they do exist, they must be extremely rare.

P.L. Evans.

QUERIES FROM MEMBERS

1950 1½d Provisional Overprint

I have a used copy of the 1950 1½d provisional overprint which has the overprint measuring 10.75 m.m. wide, this is approximately .5 m.m. wider than the usual setting - this difference is very conspicuous, the extra spacing being between the D and the stop.

Needless to say I have made a wide search for further copies of this wide setting but without success, therefore, I was wondering if through the medium of the "Kiwi" I might be able to solicit some information on this wider type setting, or if any further similar copies exist.

By the way, might I suggest that the "Kiwi" be hinged from the top - this would enable the pages to fold flat when turned.

.....W.W.Potts,
32 Links Avenue, Whitley Bay.

(A few copies of this issue stitched at the top as suggested have been sent out; now I await further comments - and/or complaints...Editor).

* * * * *

Second Side Face Issue

1d. value. Broken lines in front of nose.
2d. value. Ball of colour on forehead.
2d. value. Lobe of ear white.

Stating that he has not seen them referred to previously, a member seeks some information about these minor varieties.

.....C.H.Hilton, 2 Keble Road,
Leicester.

* * * * *

Back Numbers of "The Kiwi"

All requests received for back numbers appear to have been filled and there still remains a small stock of certain issues namely, 1,4,5,6, and 7. New applications for these will be handled in rotation.

Members' Interests

A number of members have still not sent details of their actual interests in the N.Z. issues; until these are received it is not possible to draw up a membership register or go forward with the Study Circle suggestion. Will these members who have not responded please do so at once.

ADVERTISEMENT

L. W. THOMPSON, P.T.S.
New Zealand Specialist,
Walters Ash,
Nr. HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS

S.G.678a	Scarce shade Mint	@	6/6d
S.G.650	£2. Fine Used	@	15/-d
S.G.652	£3. " "	@	27/6d
S.G.654	£5. " "	@	70/-d
S.G.544	£4. " "	@	32/6d

All modern New Zealand in stock.

"The Kiwi" is edited and produced by the Hon. Secretary:-Mrs. M. Erskine, 12 Elliot Road, Hendon, London, N.W.4, to whom all communications in connection with the Society should be addressed.