

Hon. Editor:  
A. A. Hard,  
42 Irvine Road,  
Colchester.  
Tel. 4560



Hon. Secretary:  
W. Hasler Young,  
23 Angel Close,  
London, N.18.  
Tel. EDMonton 6476

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT.

As all who read our "Kiwi" will know, this is rather an important issue appearing, as it does, just in advance of the London International Stamp Exhibition. First, I would like to welcome our overseas visitors. I trust their stay will be very pleasant and I sincerely hope to meet many of them. This 1960 Exhibition is going to give us all a great opportunity of meeting many of our old members and, I hope, make many new ones.

It is a very big occasion and although a number of our members may only be in London for one or another of the days during the period of the Exhibition, both my husband and myself will be at the Royal Festival Hall most of the time. May I suggest that anyone who would like to contact me should enquire at the Information Stand and I am sure someone there will be able to put them in touch.

Members know what a very pleasant Society we have, not only on the philatelic side but also socially. In case others wishing to find out more about us are a little shy, we are holding a special meeting during Exhibition week to encourage and admit more members into our very popular society. There has been much competition for the small amount of space available for Societies during the Exhibition, but I have managed on behalf of the N.Z.S.G.B. to book a small lounge on the 76 ft. level - the "top deck" - at the Royal Festival Hall, for three and a half hours. This meeting will be held on Wednesday, 13th July, from 3 - 6.30 p.m. During this period we hope to have displays from some of our overseas visitors, but in any case a supplementary "stand-by" show has been arranged by the Committee.

I do want all members to make a really big effort to support us on this date, when any queries, worries or useful advice can be discussed - a far more useful idea than by correspondence. Admission tickets are required for this meeting. They are free and members should write to Mr. W. H. Young for them in advance, or obtain them from the Information Stand at the Exhibition on arrival. Remember, a warm welcome awaits you and, incidentally, there is a refreshment bar adjacent to our meeting lounge.

As this is probably my last year of office in the N.Z.S.G.B. and having been in office for eight years - five as Hon. Secretary and three as President - I think I am entitled to two wishes. (ONE) - that we have an excellent Competition this year on the 27th July, and (TWO) - that I personally can enrol 20 new members to our Society during 1960 Exhibition Week.

Margarete Erskine (Mrs.)

## A Short History of the Society.

by G. B. Erskine

It was immediately after the war that I singled out New Zealand as one of the three countries to which I would pay more attention in future, and accordingly restrict my previous rather extensive collecting habits. While I knew there were quite a number of so-called "specialist" Societies, it did not occur to me that New Zealand was not among them - that is, until I received a letter from P. Alvin Hewett during the summer of 1951, suggesting that a New Zealand Study Circle should be formed, and asking if I would support such a project. I agreed, and soon afterwards announcements appeared in the philatelic press, suggesting that collectors who might be interested should get in touch with Mr. Hewett.

The first response to these announcements was most encouraging, and almost 100 philatelists, with some interest in the New Zealand issues, promised their support. When on 23rd January, 1952, twelve of these collectors, all seemingly full of enthusiasm, met in London and decided to form a New Zealand Group, most of them must have wondered "why it had never been done before".

It was on that day, under the title, "The New Zealand Society of Great Britain", that this new group was inaugurated. With no references to stamps, philately or specialisation, this title may be somewhat confusing, but that is how it was established in 1952, and that is how it remains.

~~Like many other new ventures the Society had its early difficulties; it got off to both a good and a bad start.~~

On the credit side applications to join came from all parts of the country and also quite a number from New Zealand, and other places overseas. In the first three months the membership was almost up to the 100 figure, indicating that the earlier promises of support had been duly ratified.

On the debit side the first few months saw, unfortunately, the resignation of two secretaries in succession. The first was the original sponsor - the convenor who, having done most of the ground work, decided to withdraw. His immediate successor lasted a mere three months. The third Secretary took over in September 1952 and from there the Society seems to have continued to push ahead following those early set-backs.

In a short history isolated instances can be of some interest. For instance how was our third Secretary appointed? It was in the early hours of the morning, towards the end of 1952, when I had just returned from a New Zealand Society Meeting, that I stumbled when getting into bed, and awoke my wife. At the same time I had an idea; apologising for awakening her I suggested that she would make a good temporary Secretary to the Society. As she wanted to get back to sleep, she agreed, but her acquiescence was mentally recorded. And that is how the third Secretary of the Society came to take over and continue in office for five years.

However, to revert to the early days. Membership still rose, almost to the 150 mark and with the usual annual "comings and goings" is still maintained around this figure. Eight of the original founder members remain, as do most of those who joined in 1952. From the commencement, support for the Society has been forthcoming from New Zealand and many of the leaders

in philately in that country have joined. In several places overseas, such as Australia, Canada, South Africa and the U.S.A. there is also a sprinkling of corresponding members.

The Society's first honorary member was Mrs. Webb, wife of an earlier New Zealand High Commissioner in London, who showed her interest in stamps when she visited the 1955 National Stamp Exhibition.

The first Annual General Meeting of the Society was held in November 1952, at the Kingsley Hotel, W.C.I., and ever since all our bi-monthly Meetings have been held there. At this first A.G.M. a new President was elected and although the retiring President assured his continued support we have not seen him since.

The Society's bulletin, "The Kiwi" forms the link between distant provincial members unable regularly to attend the Society's meetings at the Kingsley Hotel, and, of course, our overseas members. It is a point of interest that many of our New Zealand friends know us as "The Kiwi Society".

In 1955 the Society decided to take a further step forward in its philatelic career by establishing two annual competitions among members. One for the "Stacey-Hooker Silver Cup" (presented by the late E. Stacey-Hooker who was President from 1953 to 1955). The second trophy is the "Kiwi Shield".

These trophies have now been won and held for one year by the following members:-

	<u>G U P.</u>		<u>S H I E L D</u>	
1955.	A.A. Hard	(Colchester)	R.D. Williamson	(Sidcup)
1956.	A.B. Johnstone	(Edinburgh)	Noel Turner	(London)
1957.	J.D. Evans	(East Sheen)	J.R. Hinvest	(Horsham)
1958.	H. La C. Bartrop		Lt. Col. W.H.G. Burney	(Eastbourne)
1959.	Dr. H.J. Selby	(Gloucester)	H.F. Taylor	(Thorpe Bay)

Each of these members is proud of the specially designed Certificate which records their success.

Although at present the Society's meetings are held only in alternate months, when they come around they do produce both variety and keen interest. Those who attend seem to agree there is never a dull moment. There have been some first-class displays and talks ranging from the 1855 Chalons (and the Pre-1855 stampless covers) right up to the modern Elizabethans, with several excursions into the Dependencies.

We have been pleased to welcome to our meetings, many visitors from overseas and, in particular, from New Zealand such well-known personalities as J.A. Fleming, D.A. McCurdy, Ken MacNaught, Campbell Paterson and Allen A. Orton.

Perhaps it is more accurate to describe ourselves as a one-country Society rather than a Specialist Study Circle. Although there is plenty of study and research going on among members all the time, there is also a big diversity of interest. Personally, I am very glad I decided to take part in the foundation because during the last nine years through frequent contact with other members I have learned considerably more about the stamps of New Zealand than I ever thought I would know. It is when I contemplate upon the interests of those fifty-odd members who I have personally met, that I am

astonished by the fact that I have yet to meet any two who have exactly the same interests. This probably explains the reason for the popularity of the stamps of New Zealand. Philatelically, they have everything and it is possible to maintain as many as 50 or 60 different collections all on this one country but each dealing with an entirely different phase.

I must record that our last two Presidents have been ladies - Mrs. E.C.M. Moore (1956 and 1957) and Mrs. Margarete Erskine (1958, 1959 and 1960). The latter has told us she will not seek re-election at the next A.G.M. so WHO WILL BE NEXT?

In conclusion, I suppose I must mention that for nearly nine years the Society has been conducting an "Exchange Packet" of New Zealand material; it is very popular.

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From H.L. BARTROP, HIGHWORTH, SWINDON, WILTS.

The magnificent hand drawn map of Dutch discoveries known as the Tasman map of 1644 is still in existence and is housed in the Mitchell library, Sydney. It is reproduced in mosaic on the floor of the entrance hall of The New South Wales national library. Tasman was sent by the Dutch East India Company to explore the Pacific Ocean, and he first sighted New Zealand on 13th December 1642, but he made no landing there. The Maori attacked and killed men he sent in a small boat for wood and water and you will find "Murderer's Bay" marked on his chart. This bay was named Takaka Bay by the Maori and Golden Bay by the British because grains of gold were found amongst the sand on the sea shore. To New Zealand Tasman gave the name Staten Landt. This referred to the land seen by Schouten and Le Maire in 1616 south of Tierra Del Fuego. In 1643 a Dutch expedition under Hendrik Brouwer removed all doubt concerning the insular character of the Staten Landt of South America, and the name of Tasman's Staten Landt was probably changed to Nieuw Zeeland at this time.

The great land mass of Europe and Asia lay between Western Europe and the Pacific Ocean, and it was natural that English maritime thought and imagination looked westward across the Atlantic Ocean. In King George III's reign the science of astronomy gained momentum and Cook's first voyage of discovery was primarily planned to observe the transit of Venus which the astronomer Keppler had predicted could best be observed from the Pacific Ocean. Capt. Cook made his name amongst sea captains of his day by charting the St. Lawrence river in Canada which made possible Wolfe's success there, and by charting the coast of Newfoundland. He had the reputation of taking great care of sailors under his command and of being able to maintain their health during long sea voyages. Cook was consequently chosen to command the barque "Endeavour", and to go to Tahiti where a shore base for observation was established. He took with him Mr. Banks who afterwards became President of the Royal Society and an eminent botanist named Solander.

After the scientific observation of The Transit of Venus has been successfully accomplished, Cook had orders to explore the South Seas. No doubt Cook knew of Tasman's discoveries. He took with him from Tahiti a chief named Tupia, and after sailing S.S.W. from Cook Islands, a distance of about 1800 miles, they sighted the north-east coast of New Zealand, whereas Tasman had approached from the west. It must have been an exciting moment when Nicholas Young - the cabin boy - shouted: "Land ahead", from the Crow's nest on the mast. The date was October 6th 1769. On Cook's chart we see written: "Made the coast", and "Young Nick's Head", named after his cabin boy who first sighted this land. Cook anchored in a bay which he named Poverty Bay because he met violent hostility from the Maori and could obtain no water or provisions. Cook, therefore, put ashore the chief Tupia who could talk to the Maori because they spoke the same language having previously migrated from Polynesia. (Poly = many, Nesia = islands). Tupia assured the Maori that these were no demi-gods come to take their land away from them and so Cook and his men were allowed to land in the Bay of Plenty where they obtained fuel and water and traded with the Maori by barter for fresh provisions. Capt. Cook then circumnavigated New Zealand and he discovered by sailing through Cook's Straits it consisted of two main islands. He did not discover the strait between Stewart Island and the mainland in the extreme south. The British Maritime Museum will supply a photograph of Cook's chart for your stamp album at a cost of about 4/-.

Cook found that the Maori - isolated by the vast ocean - were still living in the stone age, and although they had a highly developed communal life and social structure they had no written word. Cook wrote across the North Island on his chart Eahenomauwe being the Maori name written phonetically meaning "Valcania fire brought by Maui." - Another Maori name of North Island is Te ika a Maui - "The fish of Maui". The fins are East Cape and Cape Egmont. The tail is the northern end of the island and the mouth is Wellington harbour. This is their mythical way of saying it was discovered by Maui a demi-god ancestor.

Across the south island Cook wrote "T'avai Poennamu". This should be "Te wai Poennamu" = The waters of greenstone. Cook found that the Maori had a profound knowledge of astronomy and astro navigation. They had a name for every prominent star, and indeed their lives were regulated by the astro calendar, e.g. when a certain star appeared over the horizon, it was time to plant Kumara (sweet potatoes). They told Capt. Cook that their navigational instructions when they sailed from Ngatangia channel Rarotonga on their great 1350 migration to New Zealand were:- Direct your course by Atutahi (the star Canopus) beside Mangaroa (Milky Way). In the day time they had a wooden frame which they laid parallel with the waves, which they could do because the wind blew constantly in one direction at certain times of the year, and they followed the course indicated by a string stretched on the frame. If sea currents carried them off course, a check at night by the stars no doubt enabled them to correct the deviation.

Sir George Grey tells us in his introduction to his book Polynesian Mythology that he learnt the Maori language to enable him to understand the fragments of ancient poems and mythology which Maori chiefs frequently quoted in explanation of their views and intentions, for they were great orators. The whole future of New Zealand and the native people depended on his ability to understand and govern them. He collected their ancient beliefs, songs, and poems which he translated and wrote for posterity. A similar intention prompted the New Zealand Government to sponsor the publication of

"Hamilton's Maori Art" and the Polynesian Society to publish "Skilled Handiwork of the Maori", being the Oldman collection of Maori Artifacts. Most of the examples of Maori Art which have appeared from time to time on postage stamps of New Zealand have been copied from one or other of these two books by the artists who designed the stamps. Savage in "Some account of New Zealand" says: "In 1818 the chiefs Te Tiri and Tui who had but little moko (face tattoo) were in England. Their visit to Cambridge enabled Professor Lee to reduce their language to a written one and to compose a grammar and dictionary. This afforded a means to translate the Bible and Prayer-book into the Maori language. Previously leaders and priests had been taught orally with only notched sticks as aide memoirs, in houses of learning (wharewananga); the ancestry, traditions, beliefs, laws, and lore of the Maori race, which were transmitted from generation to generation. According to Maori tradition New Zealand was first discovered about 950 A.D. by Kupe of Raiatea, his wife Hine Te Aparangi, and the magician Pehahourangi, in the canoe Matahuru. This event and imaginary figures of these people stand life size in Wellington Railway station. Most of the Maori, at the time of Capt. Cook's voyages, were able to name their ancestors back to one or other of the canoes of the 1350 migration. These were probably all double canoes joined together as illustrated on Gibbons type 21 Cook Islands stamp. Some of them had cabin super-structures for use of the navigator. These canoes were propelled by lateen sails and paddles and steered by long oars. Three lymphads sable in the centre of Gibbons 73a arms type illustration perpetuate the memory because in the order of evolution, a lymphad was the first ship to use sails and oars. Mr. Macdonald, the Dominion Museum curator, designed the Coat of Arms and his daughter is the white (Pakeha) lady portrayed.

Large Maori canoes were highly decorated on prow and stern and they had large stone anchors (punga). The prow carving usually consisted of two concentric spirals in tracery with tie pieces staggered to avoid radiating lines in spoke form, and the Maori name was "Pitau Whakarei Waka" - the fern frond which beautifies a canoe. The prow figure leaning forward with protruding tongue - a gesture of defiance - represented Tane Mahuta - the God of the Forest protecting the canoe from the fury of the god of whirlwinds Ta Whiri Matea, and God of the Sea Tangaroa. Canoe stern posts were most beautifully carved also, and this work, done entirely with stone tools, was probably the peak of Maori Art accomplishment. The Maori decorated lavishly their meeting houses (Wharepuni) particularly the window and door frames, gables and barge boards on the outside, and the posts or slabs which supported the roof principals on the inside, by very intricate carving. The carving on posts inside represented tribal chief ancestors and the human figure was never naturally portrayed but always in stylised grotesque carving. Mandible bird-like heads and three fingered hands indicate either remote demi-god ancestry, the Maori's own ghost spirit; or Manala, the spiritual force which can influence a man's life; according to its position etc. in the design.

Roof rafters were decorated by painting formal stylised geometric designs on them, some of which are shown on frame panels of New Zealand stamps. Gibbons type 106, 115, 119, 120, 144, 163 and 165 are examples. The panels between the wall posts were decorated by placing Kakaho stalks

close together, and then cross stitching dyed flax strips or yellow pingao in patterns of chevrons, diamonds, triangles or parallel lines. Similar patterns were woven into headbands known as pare. See the side panels of arms type stamps for examples of these. The borders of the 1925 Dunedin Exhibition stamps are the best examples of Taniko patterns which decorated woven belts or borders of cloaks, and mats worn like kilts. The Maori decorated their faces by tattoo using tiny chisels and a mixture of kauri pine charred ash, shark oil and other ingredients and they decorated their weapons and utensils ingeniously in many ways.

If to a study of the mechanics of stamp production, we add a study of stamp designs we increase greatly our enjoyment of philately. The early stamps of New Zealand tell us nothing of the Maori people, in fact it was believed they would become extinct as a race, but the 1914-18 war during which the Maori and Pakeha fought side by side, won for the Maori the respect of the white New Zealanders. This in turn won back the self respect of the Maori, and since then their numbers have constantly increased. In New Zealand the Maori have every opportunity to progress side by side with white people, they have equal opportunities and no racial discrimination against them. I advise you to borrow and read "The Coming of the Maori" by Te Rangi Hiroa or to give his full title and English name:- Sir Peter Buck, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., M.A., Litt.D., D.Sc., M.D., Ch.B., Professor of Anthropology, one of the most illustrious gentlemen of the Maori race.

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#### NEW ZEALAND RAILWAY TRAVELLING POST OFFICES.

by J.D. Riddell.

The construction of Railways in New Zealand began in 1860 in Canterbury, and immediately various methods of carrying mail by train were tried out. However it was not until the line from Christchurch to Invercargill was completed that a proper service was established.

The R.T.P.O. started in 1878 was divided into four sections each with its own staff of Post Office officials, for sorting and cancelling the mail. The first section was between Christchurch and Studholm Junction, and called Christchurch South, the second, was between Studholm Junction and Dunedin and called Dunedin North, and latterly Otago North, third was between Dunedin and Balclutha and called Dunedin South or latterly South Otago, and the fourth between Balclutha and Invercargill was called Invercargill or Southland.

The Post Office teams for each section were provided with their own cancellators of two different types, one RTPO above C, RTPO above IN, RTPO above DS and RTPO above IN, in an oval of bars respectively, for the cancellation of adhesives on mail matter actually posted on the train, and the other a circular cancellator with the date, letters to indicate the section of the route such as RTPO (C), RTPO (IN), RTPO (DS), and RTPO (IN), and a letter to indicate the route taken, northbound or southbound, within the circle.

This latter cancellation was used in conjunction with the first cancellator on mail posted on the train, as a sorting and dating mark, and on mail that was posted in a Post Office and carried on the train, in a similar capacity. However it was found unnecessary to continue to use both these cancellators so after some years the first type was discontinued and the second was used to cancel the adhesives on mail posted on the train, as well as a sorting and dating mark on mail that had been posted in Post Offices and required sorting on the train. The first two sections of this line were staffed with R.T.P.Os until 1942 when they were closed down, using during this period different types of cancellators. The second two sections were closed down in 1932.

In the North Island several different Railway T.P.O's were inaugurated. The first was the Wellington to New Plymouth line in 1886 by way of Wanganui. It was also divided into three sections, each with its own staff of Postal Officials, and cancellators. The first between Wellington and Palmerston North, the second between Palmerston North and Wanganui and the third between Wanganui and New Plymouth. The T.P.Os on this line were closed down in 1931, and during their life had a variety of different cancellators, all with the letters R.P.O. or T.P.O. on them to distinguish them by.

In 1891 a further line was completed between Napier and Wellington via Matamau and Palmerston North, and there connecting up with the Wellington New Plymouth line to Wellington. From Napier to Palmerston North it was staffed in two sections by the P.O. one, from Napier to Matamau, and the other from Matamau to Palmerston North, each with their own distinctive cancellators, also with letters or numbers to denote the route taken, i.e. Northbound or Southbound. This line was used as a T.P.O. from 1891 to 1897, and from 1909 to 1931 when it was closed down. During 1897 to 1909 a different route was taken by the T.P.O. between Napier and Wellington, i.e. from Napier to Pahiatua and thence via Masterton, Greytown to Wellington. The Napier to Palmerston North section of this line was latterly called the Hawks Bay R.P.O., this name appearing on the cancellation.

In the Northern section of South Island an R.T.P.O. was inaugurated between Christchurch and Culverden in 1900. The first cancellator read Christchurch N. which was what the line was called the Christchurch North line, and this cancellation is rare on cover. In 1908 the name was changed to North Canterbury and these cancellations are also difficult to find. This RTPO was closed down in 1908. However this latter cancellation can be found with dates up to 1916 because the cancellator was handed over to the Christchurch-Studholm Junction run and used there very occasionally.

In 1901 another new RTPO was opened, this time on the Auckland to Hamilton line with two shifts of mail clerks, which changed over at Mercer. Hamilton is in fact, Frankton Junction, and the line was latterly called the Waikato line. In 1903 the RTPO was continued to Thames from Frankton Junction and was closed down completely in 1931. This later line, the Auckland to Thames line, was called the Ohinemuri line, and this name appeared on the cancellator. All of these cancellations are difficult to find on cover.

The only RTPO in use today in N.Z. is the Main Trunk Line between Auckland and Wellington. It was inaugurated on February 19th 1909, the completed line having been in existence since August 7th 1908, when 200 V.I.Ps were taken on the first long overnight trip from Manawatu to Auckland under rather primitive conditions.



The RTPO is divided into two sections from Wellington to Taihape, and from Taihape to Auckland each with its own type of cancellator. On February 15th 1959 commemorative runs were made on this line on the occasion of the R.T.P.Os being 50 years in existence. A special cancellator was used on this day, one from Wellington and one from Auckland.

Then on September 12th 1959 a special R.T.P.O. was in use on the Christchurch-Timaru line as part of the South Canterbury Centennial Celebrations. A new date stamp was made for this trip with the name South Canterbury on it.

Apart from the usual type of circular dated cancellators used by the various RTPOs, two other types were used. One was the Machine Type cancellation used for a short time on the Dunedin to Invercargill line and the Main Trunk line. The other was an inscription made by rubber stamp or in manuscript on a cover or package which was uplifted by the train from a station where there was no Post Office. These markings read "Flag Station", where the train was "Flagged" to stop for mail. For these packages or covers there was no Late Fee charged, just the normal postage rate. These cancellations are rare.

Many New Zealand stamps or covers are found with a cancellation that reads "..... Railway" such as Frankton Railway Junction. These cancellations have been applied at post offices in Railway Stations, and are not RTPO cancellations.

Apart from the rare cancellations mentioned above, the most difficult to find on cover are the first types such as RTPO over O, in oval of bars.

Not counting the Machine and Flag type of marks, there are 75 different types of cancellators to be found, used by the New Zealand RTPOs.

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FROM THE SECRETARY.

The awaited opening of The 1960 Exhibition is upon us, and Wednesday, 13th, will be the big day for the Kiwi's, and on this occasion I trust that I shall have the pleasure of meeting many of you, who, as yet I have only known by name.

Whilst all this activity is being focused on the Festival Hall, please remember the Society Competitions which will be held on Wednesday, the 27th July. Also included in this issue, members will find a membership application form - this is not for your file - but a suggestion and request that all members should endeavour to recruit at least one new member - to celebrate 1960. Wishing you all a most enjoyable visit to the Exhibition and an entertaining evening in company with this issue of the "Kiwi".

W. Hasler Young - Hon. Secretary.

FROM: G.E.C. PRATT

32A, The Ridgway,  
Sutton,  
Surrey.

The Honorary Editor, "KIWI",

Dear Sir,

May I seek the hospitality of your next issue to seek confirmation and completion of a list of N.Z. postal rates since Universal Penny Postage was introduced?

Information on this subject is widely dispersed in the various volumes of the N.Z. Handbook, and analysis reveals some gaps and uncertainties.

I should be most grateful for any help that readers of "KIWI" can give me in completing the list of rates which I attach.

Yours sincerely,

Gerald Pratt.

SURFACE RATES FROM NEW ZEALAND.

Date	Inland U.K. Empire	Foreign	Postcard	2nd Class Mail.	Newspaper	REGISTRATION	
						Fee	Letter Rate
1. 1.01.	1d.	1d.	1d.		1/2d.	3d.	4d.
18.10.07.	1d.		1/2d.		1/2d.	3d.	4d.
1. 1.08.	1d.		1/2d.		1/2d.	2d.	3d.
23. 9.15.	1 1/2d.		1d.		1/2d.	2d.	3 1/2d.
1. 8.20.	2d.		1 1/2d.		1d.	3d.	5d.
1. 2.23	1 1/2d.		1d.		1/2d.	3d.	4 1/2d.
1.10.23.	1d.		1/2d.		1/2d.	3d.	4d.
1. 3.31.	2d.		1d.		1/2d.	4d.	6d.
1. 6.32.	1d.		1/2d.		1/2d.	3d.	4d.
- - 39.	2d.	3d.	1 1/2d.	1d.	1/2d.	4d.	6d.
- - 49.	2d.	3d.	1 1/2d.	1 1/2d.	1d.	4d.	6d.
1. 1.53	3d.	4d.		2d.			

LATE NEWS.

We have just heard by cable from Johannesburg that Harry Baxtrop has won a silver-gilt medal for his New Zealand entry at "UNICEK" and we send him our sincere and hearty congratulations upon his success.

PRINCIPAL AIRMAIL RATES.

Date	INLAND		TO UNITED KINGDOM			Remarks
	Fee	Total	Letter	2nd Class	A.L./Card	
12/31	3d.	5d.				
11/34			1/6			Australia/ Singapore England Air Mail
6/37	1d.	2d.				
26/ 7/38			1½d.			Empire All-Up Scheme. (Abandoned Sept. 1939)
- - 39	1d.	3d.				
? 1944			1/3		6d.	
1/ 1/53	1d.	4d.	1/6	10d.	8d.	
? 9/56	1d.	4d.	1/9	1/-	8d.	

LONDON - 1960

It seems very probable that "London - 1960" at the Royal Festival Hall, from July 9th to July 16th, will be the greatest philatelic event in the history of the hobby. It will certainly be the finest Philatelic Exhibition ever staged in Great Britain.

We anticipate that many of our members will visit the R.F.H., and there are available four transferable Season Tickets for our members' use. These will be allocated, as far as possible, to those applying to the Hon. Secretary, Mr. W.H. Young, stating date of proposed visit. The tickets should be passed back either to Mr. Young after entering the Hall, or to Mr. or Mrs. Ewskine, all of whom will be at the Festival Hall throughout the eight days. The tickets can then be passed on to the next members on the rota. Obviously with only four season tickets to play with, it will be a case of "first come, first served"; so apply at once to the Hon. Secretary.

Now just a few words about the exhibits - over TEN MILLION POUNDS worth!

Regarding New Zealand, in the "Famous Finds" (since 1946) section will be a mint block of four of the 1959 Red Cross 3d. + 1d. with the Red Cross omitted on the top pair. Only 24 copies are known and of these six are in official hands.

The New Zealand stamps in the Competitive Section are housed in Frame Nos. 458 to 466. Among the exhibitors are several of our members, including our Vice-President, H. In C. Bartrop, K.J. McNaught, F.W. Course,

G. Morris, J.D. Riddell and Dr. H.J. Selby.

Here are a few brief details of just a part of the treat in store:-

1855-72: Original essay by Humphreys, die proof of the essay, original plate proofs in blocks, London and Colonial first type printing and perforations.

1855-1920: Essays, proofs (some progress), colour trials, presentation sets and reprints.

1882-1900: Die and plate proofs, reconstruction of the advertisements and varieties, 'O.P.S.O.' overprints.

1935-44: Flaws, retouches and re-entries as well as the ld. partly hand perforated.

1878-1959: A study of the railway travelling post office cancellations.

Further along in Frame No. 490 will be sixteen sheets of the Cook Islands from 1892 including proofs, errors and forgeries.

Yes, there will be lots to see on the South Bank in July - something for everyone - so make a date.

Important Note: The Society has a Centre reserved (on top (76 ft.) level) on Wednesday, July 13th - from 3.0 to 6.30 p.m. For further details of this meeting, see the President's message elsewhere in this issue. DO NOT FORGET YOUR SPECIAL TICKET! This will be required for admittance from the Exhibition to the TOP LEVEL. They are free and can be obtained in advance from either Mr. Hard or Mr. Young, or on the day at the Information Stand as you enter the Festival Hall. The B.P.A. Centre is also on the Top Level and all our members will be welcome there, too.

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ADVERTISEMENT.

WANTED: Long Queen type Postal Fiscals - Postally or Fiscally used, also Cowan Arms type £2.10.0., £3.10.0., and £4.10.0. postally used.

Offers to: - W.D. Tonkinson, White House, West Grove,  
Hersham, Walton-on-Thames.

PLATING THE HEALTH MINIATURE SHEETS - 1958.

The thanks of all our Members are due to Mr. Talbot of Southern Rhodesia for his analysis of the Blue miniature sheets of 1958, (see the last issue of "Kiwi"). The Committee asked me to express their thanks and also to make some comment on Mr. Talbot's notes, for this Exhibition issue of the "Kiwi". As I had views on another subject that I wished to air, I "passed the buck" to our good friend and member - Mr. Campbell Paterson. His analysis of both the Blue and the Green Sheets follow this note by me. We are indeed grateful to both these Members for the work involved and the valuable information supplied.

Noel Turner.

CAMPBELL PATERSON'S NOTES.

Mr. Talbot has certainly gone to a lot of hard work over the miniature sheets. In the early days it certainly was confusing with reports coming from all quarters of various small features on the sheets which served to show that there were eight different "positions" on the printing cylinder and that these could be separated. Also, it was evident from obvious retouching that the Plate had been, to some extent, retouched after some use. Rather than try to discuss the various small points mentioned by Mr. Talbot in his article, I think it better to repeat, for the benefit of members, some quick identification points which were found to be constant and which serve to identify every sheet position on the plate. The following then is a list of the 1958 Blue Miniature Sheets with plate positions, the numbers being in accordance with the position of each on the plate as stated by Mr. Watts from his examination of the Proof sheet. Readers can take these identification points as constant and reliable.

- Sheet 1. Stamp 3: Retouch in front of boy's "adam's apple".  
" 2. " 6: White spur on G of POSTAGE.  
" 3. " 6: Blue spot in top portion of downstroke of "d" in "3d", level with top of "N".  
" 4. " 6: Patch of retouch in sky over trees on right side. Short "pence" dash in "2/-".  
" 5. " 5: Blue dot in downstroke of L of HEALTH.  
" 6. " 1: Blue flaw on tip of boy's nose.  
" 7. " 1: Minute dot in margin 1mm to left of the H. of HEALTH.  
" 8. " 5: Blue dot on boy's forearm; short "shillings" bar in "2/-".

NOTE: Sheets 3, 4 and 6 are known in a later state with retouching to the right of side of the big tent on stamp 6. Sheets 7 and 8 are known with the same tent retouched on both stamps 3 and 6.

I think it unnecessary to say a great deal more, except that I have not gone into the matter of possible third states where some small flaw may have appeared at a middle stage in the printing.

While on the job, as it were, now would be a good time to list similar small flaws that can be used to identify miniature sheets of the companion green stamp of 1958. Here again all the features mentioned are constant and reliable. As in the blue, there is no attempt made to list all flaws - I only mention the minimum necessary for quick identification. These then are details of the 1958 green miniature sheets - the numbers given indicating the position of each miniature sheet on the set-up of the printing plate - these positions having been ascertained by examination of the Proof sheet.

- Sheet 1. Stamps 4 & 5. Each has a spot of colour in the sky between tree and girl at shoulder level. Stamp 6 has a spot under the lower right cabbage tree head.
- " 2. Stamp 4. A coloured flaw under the O of LONDON.
- " 3. Stamp 1. There is a small spot near the top of the sleeve. A spot below and to the right of E of PRICE in the inscription.
- " 4. Stamp 1. Spot on brow under badge.
- " 5. Stamp 2. A spot in the left margin to left of H. Stamp 3, a spot to the right of the lower right cabbage tree head. Stamp 5, Four or five scattered dots on upper sleeve and near elbow. Similar spots, very minute, in lower sky.
- " 6. Stamp 3. A spot in the centre of the star to left of NEW. Stamp 5, a spot in mid-sky at eye level. Stamp 6, a spot on the column behind girl's hair.
- " 7. A spot below and to left of the P of PRICE. Stamps 2 and 3, there is a faint line of dots immediately above. Stamp 5, a small retouch in the central sky about eye level.
- " 8. Stamp 6. A coloured flaw on the right left of A of LAND and a white spot below the O of POSTAGE.

NOTE: There were a number of other plating aids which were quite striking, but these proved not to be constant throughout the whole issue and are therefore ignored.

I hope the above will assist members to identify any of these sheets which may come their way.

Campbell Paterson.

## IS MODERN NEW ZEALAND PHILATELICALLY SOUND?

For nearly eighty years New Zealand was, in a philatelic sense, like Caesar's Wife, above reproach.

Errors and varieties were few and far between and those that were discovered were so very obviously "honest". Even in the field of forgeries there was little to worry about and apart from the Jeffries effort on the Chalons, there was no need to look twice at any stamp that came your way. No Sperati, very few reprints, no unnecessary issues and certainly no spate of commemoratives. Altogether a very happy state of affairs for those interested in the collection of New Zealand Stamps. We may not have been too happy about the attractiveness of the first and second sides of faces and some of the other early designs left much to be desired. The listings of some of the groups are still a bit of a headache but that is more of a challenge than anything else and other countries suffered from the same sort of defect - if it really is a defect.

And so we jogged along quite happily. We tried to find some Roulettes in the Chalons and one or two "accidental" imperfs. We made sure we had Lake Wakatipu spelt both ways, and we never gave up the search for a Lake Taupo 4d. with an inverted centre. With Edward and George V we tried to be complete in vertical pairs of different perforation, and we had time to spare to "wonder why". In the limited field of Commemoratives we searched for a 1d. Claret Christchurch and a "POSTAGE" at right" on the 4d. Dunedin. Add the 14 x 15 perforation on the 3d. Ails of 1931 and we were practically finished. We had plenty of time to do some deep research and to add those things that make a collection live - covers, blocks, special postmarks, and all the other bits and pieces.

Can we be quite so happy or quite so sure about our philatelic cleanliness in the past two Reigns? It is true that the forger still does not bother us much, but in almost every other respect we seem to be suffering from everything that could possibly happen. When a new issue makes its appearance in these days, we sit back with cynical impatience waiting for the seemingly inevitable major variety to be announced. Cables fly back and forth, dealers move with even greater speed than they do at opening time, and a good time seems to be had by all - except the collector of modest means, who finds one more blank in his collection that he will never be able to fill. One of the most disturbing features about all this, is how some of these "varieties" happened in the first place, and how they ever managed to slip through the checks and re-checks and finish up on a Post Office counter. But we will look into that in a moment or two.

In the matter of stamp design we seem to be going from bad to worse and a cartoon on this subject in a recent issue of a New Zealand national newspaper, savoured of those that made their appearance following the issue of the "Mulreadys". Commemoratives arrive with monotonous regularity and the United States will really have to look to its laurels if it wishes to hold on to its "Commemorative" title in the near future. We have had everything from Meat Packing to Miniature Sheets and Baby Welfare to Boy Scouts. I can well understand the natural pride of the various Bays, Cities and Provinces and their desire to have their Centenaries recorded by a special set of Stamps. But what, may I ask, is the particular significance

of a 30th Anniversary, such as commemorated by the Kingsford Smith issue? Had this appeared at 25 years - or been delayed to 50 or 60, I could have understood it. But to celebrate 30 years seems like just an excuse for another issue.

The establishment of a Philatelic Bureau in any Country is usually regarded as a step in the right direction. But I sometimes wonder if it is always an unmixed blessing. Is there not a danger of the Country concerned becoming a little too conscious of the money that can be made out of those crazy stamp collectors? Such a Bureau would serve a useful purpose if it had power to see that stamp design is maintained at a reasonable level, that a commemorative commemorates something worth commemorating (to coin a phrase!) and above all to see to it that there are no changes made in colour, shade, watermark or perforation without good rhyme and good reason. In the past four years we have had at least seven major varieties. Some of these were undoubtedly accidents at the printers but I can think of at least two sound reasons why they should never have seen the light of day in a Post Office. As to some of the others, no explanation offers itself but "orders from above". Who decided that the second printing of the 1957 Health Miniature Sheets should have the Watermark changed to upright? The Printers? The Postal Authorities? Did it happen by chance, or was there another reason? Look what happened to the 1/3d. Arms type in a period of two years. In 1955 we have Watermark inverted and Watermark upright. In 1956 we have a third of a million printed with deep blue words of value instead of black. Before the year is out we are back to black letters, the paper has changed from chalk surfaced to uncoated, the perforation has changed and the watermark is again both upright and inverted. Were all these changes made by the printers? With or without the Authority of the Post Office Dept.? If without authority - did they get a rocket? If not, why not? If the changes were made on the orders of the Post Office, why all the chopping and changing about? "Experiment" seems a pretty dubious explanation. I don't suppose we shall ever be permitted to know the truth.

Another quite astonishing occurrence. When the 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>d. red-brown Queen was overprinted 2d. how did a couple of sheets of a stamp that had been out of print for THREE YEARS(!) find their way into the overprinting? Think of all the lovely excitement; all the publicity for New Zealand stamps. If you are a cynic in such matters, it becomes difficult to believe in "accident".

Space will not permit of more than a passing reference to some of the other "varieties" of the past few years. Consideration of one or two of them can only leave us with doubts and more question marks. No stop variety on the 1949 Health. Deep sepia shade of 1956 issue. Part design in the jubilee line of the 1958 issue. Watermark variations in 1957. Missing centre in 1955. Never a dull moment.

Finally what has happened to the checking systems? Presumably the printers are a bit fussy that no badly printed matter reaches the postal authorities without attention being drawn to the items. Security clauses probably call for an accounting for all sheets printed, whether usable or not. One can also presume that the P.O. people have their own methods of checking for mis-printings. Then how did the "No Red Cross" variety reach the stamp trade - I beg your pardon - the Post Office counter? And look what has happened to the poor Poaka of last year's Health Issue! This



bird, one of the joys of the New Zealand countryside, has been treated in a shocking manner. It's got "thick legs", "double legs", "four widely spaced legs" and finally they left out the red colour altogether!

Perhaps I have written parts of the foregoing with my tongue in my cheek. I am certainly not looking for writs for libel from printers and postal authorities. But some of these things have been worrying Members of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain and I feel that the time has come to commit the thoughts to paper, rather than to discuss them with raised eyebrows at our Meetings. Let us hope that New Zealand will redouble its efforts to see to it that we can again talk of its stamps and Caesar's Wife in the same context.

Noel Turner.

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For this special issue of the "Kiwi" we are very pleased to publish two articles from the pen of one of our oldest members, the Rev. W.G. Fremonger, now in his eighty-fifth year.

#### POSTAGE DUES - FIRST TYPE.

It is a curious thing how generally unpopular anything but ordinary Postage and Air Stamps are, such as officials, fiscals used postally and other odd varieties even if they are Catalogued. This is especially true of Postage Due Stamps, and yet the first issue of New Zealand Postage Due's has many items of interest which should attract the attention of many collectors; in fact it should be possible to plate them by following the list of varieties as given in "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand" from which much of the information that follows is taken.

First to take the formation of the plates of which there were two, differing from each other in the size of the "N.Z." and, the number of pearls above these letters. They also differ both in the size of the stamps and the number of impressions on the plate - the first consisting of 120, the second 240 - both in panes of 60 divided by plain gutters. The master die was used to make of 30 impressions clamped together, which was impressed either 4 or 8 times to make the printing plates to print by the electrotype process. A complete list of the flaws which occur in these two "frame" plates can be found in the Handbook and the most curious of these are the so-called "double-strikes" which occur on the outside stamps (top - bottom or sides) of each block of 30 and consist of a doubling of the ornaments round the centre circle. The cause of this doubling seems to me to be due to the fact, that, in taking the impressions from the block of 30 to apply it to the printing plate, the master-plate slipped very slightly and made a double impression of parts of the side ornaments; the same condition is found in many overprints of surcharges, as e.g. in the overprints of NIUE on the ONE PENNY UNIVERSAL of N.Z. The first plate was used for the higher value stamps, as fewer of these were naturally

used and, the new plate of 240 impressions came into use for the lowest values; in addition the double strikes naturally occur in the same way as in the previous plate, while there is a variety which is not chronicled by Gibbons, consisting of NO STOP after N (of NZ.), this occurs on No. 55 of the right-hand lower plate.

A short time ago I discovered another variety in the form of a double frame-line on the 6d. - of the first type of course. I wrote to Mr. Collins on the subject and he passed my question on to Mr. Watts of the Stamps Division of the N.Z.- G.P.O. and he very kindly examined the plates. The result was that he found that the frame-line of the bottom row of the left hand frame starts with a thick line, which develops almost at once into a double line; most of the stamps in the right hand pane have a thick bottom frame line. The 5d. stamp, so Mr. Watts tells me has the same variety. The only mystery left is, what about the other values in this type? Was there more than one frame plate for this issue?

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K.G.V. STAMPS OF N.Z. OVERPRINTED FOR USE  
IN THE DEPENDENCIES.  
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SOME VARIETIES.

For 10 years after the first issue of Stamps for the Cook Islands, the Stamps provided for them had sufficed for all the Islands of the group, including Aitutaki, Penrhyn Island, as well as for Niue after its annexation by Great Britain in 1900. But in 1902 after a visit from New Zealand of a Parliamentary Party, things were changed, and in the same year separate issues of stamps were provided for each of these Islands, and until 1920 they consisted of New Zealand stamps, overprinted with the names of Islands, and the values in native currency; towards the end the latter was omitted. The overprints were typeset, and because of this, the type being raised above the level of the plate, the stereotypes were liable to damage, especially to the dots over I's and the stops, which were sometimes broken off. It is with those on the engraved King George plates that I should like to deal, and there are three stamps of which I should specially like to write.

- (1) First the 1/- of Aitutaki - S.G.25, the overprinting plate of which must have suffered a considerable "bash" at sometime, in the right hand lower corner, where 6 letters have lost the dot over one I. I have a block of 18 - 3 rows of 6 from the lower right-hand corner, which shows 5 of these varieties - NO dot over the I of TAI on Rows 9 and 10, No. 12; No dot over the second I of "TIRINGI" on Row 8, No. 12 and Row 10, No. 7; and the dot missing over the third I on Row 8, No. 11. (The plate of course consists of 10 horizontal rows of 12). Mr. Collins tells me that the first of these varieties is also found on Row 8, No. 9 in a block in Sir Heaton Rhodes' collection. As there were three printings of this stamp, in June 1916, March 1917 and April 1917, in the latter of which the defective stereotypes were replaced, it is probable that this odd stereo was damaged between the first and second printings, my block coming from the first printing.

2. We now come to the second Stamp - the 3d. NIUE - S.G. 35, this is the only K.G.V. value of Niue, which has the value in native currency, and is certainly the scarcest of the K.G. stamps; as there were only 4,200 printed, there would seem to have existed only 35 copies of the, No Stop after "PENE", a variety which occurs on Row 10, No. 4. There is a curious point about these overprints in the spacing between them horizontally; between the stop after the E on the first stamp, and the first stroke of the N on the second stamp there is a space of  $10\frac{1}{2}$  mm., but between the 2nd and 3rd stamps the space is only  $5\frac{1}{2}$  mm. I have 2 blocks, one of 12 (2 rows of 6) and one of 10 (2 of 5) each of which shows these two distances alternating over each line. Each of these blocks of course contain the variety.
3. One may be forgiven, perhaps, for inserting a word or two dealing with a stamp contemporary with the preceding., the  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. deep blue (S.G.33), which contains some interesting points. I bought a half sheet of this stamp many years ago, and kept a quarter sheet, and corner block of 4 from the lower left-hand, the quarter sheet being from the top left-hand. The block of 4 provides an interesting variety, in which the I of PENI has lost its lower half, and the stop has almost disappeared; this is to be found on the corner stamp. The short N in NIUE,  $\frac{1}{2}$  mm shorter than the normal is found on 3 stamps. Rows 1 & 5, No. 1, and Row 7, No. 7. This plate consists of 12 rows of 10.

There is one variety in the Penrhyn issue without native currency; this is NO STOP after ISLAND, which occurs in later printings of the  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d, 6d and 1/- on No. 8 in Row 10.

W.G. Iremonger.

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ALBERT A. HARD

Hon. Editor - "KIWI".

THE 1960 COMPETITIONS FOR THE

"STACEY HOOKER CUP"

'CLASSIC' Section.

'CLASSIC' - All Early Material up to and including Edward VII issues.

"KIWI SHIELD"

'MODERN' Section.

'MODERN' - King George V. - to date.

The following headings apply to both Competitions:-

- Subject: Competitor's own choice (but restricted to the stamps, postal history, covers, etc. of NEW ZEALAND and Dependencies.)
- No. of Sheets: Any number - MAXIMUM Twelve. (12).
- Marking:
- |     |                                    |     |
|-----|------------------------------------|-----|
| (a) | Philatelic Knowledge and Research. | 30% |
| (b) | Arrangement                        | 30% |
| (c) | Condition                          | 20% |
| (d) | Writing up.                        | 20% |
- Judges: A judge (or panel of judges) will be appointed from outside the Society Membership.
- Closing Date: WEDNESDAY, 27th JULY 1960.  
at THE KINGSLEY HOTEL, W.C. 1.
- Entries by post should be sent to the Hon. Secretary, W. Hasler Young, 23, Angel Close, Edmonton, N.18, to arrive not later than Tuesday, 26th July. (FIRST POST).
- Please Note: The name and/or address of the entrant should not appear on the entry but on a separate sheet of paper attached.

The 1959 Competitions were most successful, so do not let the 1960 Exhibition hinder your entry, and remember the COMPETITION DATE - 27th JULY 1960.

Will members please inform the Hon. Secretary - postcard or phone - stating what they intend entering.