



the kiwi

The Official Organ of the NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY of GREAT BRITAIN
Affiliated to BRITISH PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION and
PHILATELIC CONGRESS of GREAT BRITAIN

Hon. Secretary: C. A. GILDERS

10 Southspring, Avery Hill, Sidcup, Kent, DA15 8DX. Tel.: 01-850 2709.

Hon. Treasurer: NOEL TURNER

Gladstone House, High Road, Wood Green, N22 6JT. Tel.: 01-888 4888.

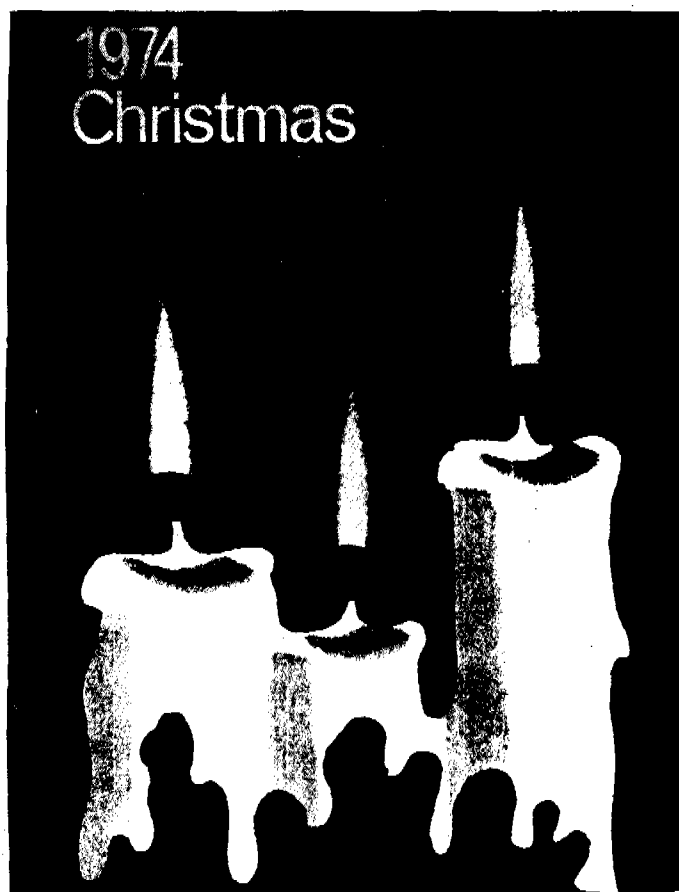
Editor: ERIC N. BARTON

11a Haig Avenue, Canford Cliffs, Poole, Dorset, BH13 7AJ. Tel.: 0202 709565.

VOLUME XXIII No. 6

NOVEMBER 1974

WHOLE 128



ON BEHALF OF YOUR PRESIDENT
THE "KIWI" EXTENDS TO ALL ITS
MEMBERS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD
A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A
PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

A N N U A L

G E N E R A L

M E E T I N G

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30TH 1974
AT THE SHAFTESBURY HOTEL,
MONMOUTH STREET, LONDON W.C.2.



M E M B E R S H I P

It is regretted that we made three errors in the addresses of members given in the September "Kiwi". Will you therefore kindly amend the following :-

Mr. F.E.Kiddle should read 10, Lea Wood Road, not 19.

Mr. H.P.Hunter should read Mr. H.P.Punter.

Mr. J.G.Stonehouse should read 28, Lowndes Park not 97.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mrs. M.Poole, 11850, Tennessee Place, West Los Angeles, C A 90064 U.S.A.

Mr. J.G.Williams, "Isca", 39, Avenue Road, Abergavenny, Gwent. NP7 7DB.

Mr.P.Wreglesworth, 19, Russett Grove, Squirrel Ditch, Ashenhurst,
Huddersfield, Yorks.

RESIGNED

Mr. E.L.Clark, Epsom 3, Auckland, New Zealand.

Mr. F.Kerr-Cross, 66, Croxted Road, London, S.E.21.

Mr. J.G.Williams of "Isca", 39, Avenue Road, Abergavenny, writes to our President and tells him that he is trying to build up a postmark collection, so far he has 1826 postmarks from 951 different offices and he would like to hear from anyone interested in postmarks from any New Zealand Office.

Our congratulations are offered to the following members of the Society on their successes at the British Philatelic Exhibition 1974 -

J.D.Evans	Silver Medal	A.E.Harrad	Bronze Silver (First time entry)
J.A.W.Smith	Bronze Silver	G.C.Phillips	Bronze Medal (First time entry)
A.H.Rose	Bronze Medal	E.G.Ward	Bronze Medal

A young person by the name of R.M.J.Smith in the junior classes also won a Bronze Medal and we hope that this junior will one day become a member of our Society.

It is with very deep regret that I have to inform you that I am discontinuing the Editorship of the "Kiwi" as from this issue. My health has not been very good of late and on my Doctor's advice I am giving up anything and everything that entails any effort. I have tried during the last four years to make the "Kiwi" a really worthwhile Society magazine and I sincerely hope that you all agree that I have achieved this. Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas.

E.N.BARTON, Editor.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 23rd Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain will be held at the SHAFTESBURY HOTEL, MONMOUTH STREET, LONDON, W.C.2. on Saturday 30th November 1974 to commence at 11.30 a.m.

AGENDA

- Items. (1) To receive and approve the Minutes of the 22nd A.G.M.
(2) To receive the Financial Report from the Hon. Treasurer.
(3) To receive the Report from the Hon. Packet Secretary.
(4) To elect a President.
(5) To elect Vice-Presidents.
(6) To elect a Chairman.
(7) To elect Honorary Officers.
(8) To elect a Committee.
(9) To consider the programme for 1975.
(10) The presentation of awards for the Annual Competition of the Society 1974.
(11) Any other business proper to the A.G.M.

Retiring Officers and Committee

Hon. President Mr. Noel Turner.
Hon. Vice-Presidents Mr. J. D. Evans, Mr. M. Burberry, Mr. E. N. Barton,
Mr. C. A. Gilders.
Hon. Chairman Mr. P. L. Evans. Hon. Vice-Chairman Mr. J. L. Watts.
Hon. Sec. Mr. C. A. Gilders. Hon. Asst. Sec. Mrs. R. Gilders.
Hon. Treasurer Mr. Noel Turner.
Hon. "Kiwi" Editor Mr. E. N. Barton. Hon. Asst. Editor Mrs. H. Gordon-Kaye.
Hon. Exchange Packet Sec. Mr. I. G. Fogg.
Hon. Auction and Competition Officer Mr. W. H. Young.
Hon. Asst. Auction Officer Mrs. Young.
Hon. Librarian Mr. A. R. Daborn. Hon. Auctioneer Mr. Noel Turner.
Hon. Auditor. Mr. D. S. Hague. Hon. Membership Registrar Mr. B. T. Atkinson.
Hon. Meetings Reporter Mr. I. G. Fogg. Hon. Publicity Officer Mr. C. A. Gilders
Hon. Members of the Committee - Mrs. I. J. Willis, Messrs. A. P. Berry,
F. G. East, L. Neel, K. B. Mann and T. Hetherington.

The following Officers will not seek re-election :-

Mr. P. H. Evans as Chairman. Mr. Noel Turner as Treasurer.
Mr. E. N. Barton as "Kiwi" Editor. Mr. C. A. Gilders as Publicity Officer.
Mr. K. B. Mann as Committee Member.

NOMINATIONS for all the offices within the Society should be made to the Hon. Sec. C. A. Gilders, 10, Southspring, Avery Hill, Sidcup, Kent as soon as possible. Any nomination must have the prior consent of the member so nominated.

C. A. GILDERS,
Hon. Secretary.



BUYING OR SELLING BY AUCTION

If you are interested, or contemplating becoming interested, in Philatelic Auctions, either as a buyer or vendor, it will pay you to contact us. We would like to take this opportunity to point out some of the advantages offered by our Auction House.

To Buyers

1. Regular three-weekly Auctions
2. Lots prepared to suit collectors
3. A complete and accurate description of every lot offered. This renders bidding by post simple
4. Lots from £8 to £3,000
5. Over 1,000 Lots per Sale
6. Many important properties handled. From general collections to highly specialised items
7. Subscription £1 per year (£2 overseas)

To Vendors

1. 3,750 subscribers to our catalogues who reside in all corners of the Globe.
2. A supplementary list of highly-specialised collectors to ensure a home for the unusual
3. 45 years of experience in Philately
4. All rare items photographed
5. Proof as to high prices realised by publication in leading Philatelic Magazines
6. Majority of lots sold to collectors
7. Commission 15 per cent

For any further details contact

MR. P. M. WILDE

WESTERN AUCTIONS LIMITED

21-23 CHARLES STREET, CARDIFF, GREAT BRITAIN

Member B.P.A., P.T.S., A.S.D.A., A.P.S., etc.

Established 45 years

KIWI DAY

Once again we have enjoyed a great year. It has seen our move to new meeting premises, a series of most interesting and enjoyable meetings well attended and including most welcome members from overseas, and the Society once again among the awards at the higher Exhibition level. With your support this Society can well continue from strength to strength, so come along to the A.G.M. and give the support required. We, as usual, extend to all new members and those attending for the first time a special welcome, we shall also be delighted to welcome your friends we hope you will bring with you, for we have always considered these visitors as potential new Members and we are, in many cases correct.

The programme for the day will be as follows :-

- 11.00 - 11.30 a.m. Exhibition of Members sheets.
- 11.30 - 12.30 p.m. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.
- 12.30 - 1.00 p.m. Viewing of Auction Lots.
- 1.00 - 2.00 p.m. Luncheon in the Hotel Restaurant or any other place of your choice.
- 2.00 - 2.30 p.m. Final viewing of Auction Lots.
- 2.30 - 4.00 p.m. The Annual Auction. (First part).
- 4.00 - 4.30 p.m. Tea will be taken.
- 4.30 - 6.00 p.m. The Annual Auction (Second Part).

Lunch will be informal, a meal to suit any taste may be obtained in the Hotel Restaurant or Grill Room.

These are all the details of our ANNUAL GREAT DAY, it only remains for YOU to come along and make it a huge success.

IMPORTANT NOTICE CONCERNING THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Subject to the approval by vote of the Members present at the Annual General Meeting there will be changes in various offices of the Society. Briefly the details are as follows :-

(1) Our Treasurer after nearly 20 years in that post is NOT offering himself for re-election and it will be proposed that Bernard Atkinson should become the Hon. Treasurer, subject to any other nominations. Should Bernard be elected all Members should note that his address is 77, Wood Lane, Osterley, Mdx. TW7 5EG and his telephone number 01/560/6119.

(2) Our Hon. Treasurer is prepared to accept the post that Mr Atkinson at present occupies, namely, that of Membership Recorder. Our Treasurer has a file on every member of the Society and will see to it that all changes in membership and new additions are duly passed to the Officers and recorded in "Kiwi".

(3) Over the years the work of the Editorship, preparation and distribution of "Kiwi" has grown very substantially and all Members of the Society owe a deep debt of gratitude to Eric Barton. For health reasons, and at the request of Eric, the work is being divided so that the Editorship will be undertaken by Allan P. Berry of 24, Irwin Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 5PP. He will commence with the next issue, subject to the approval of the Members at the A.G.M. The considerable labour of the printing and distribution of "Kiwi" will continue to be under the supervision of Eric Barton and his team of helpers at Bournemouth. Eric's official title will be Publisher and Advertising Manager.

(4) It will be proposed that the Chairman of the Committee for the ensuing year shall be John Watts of Wilbury Crest, 11, Wilbury Road, Letchworth, Herts. with Philip Evans, our present Chairman taking over as Vice-Chairman. Again it must be emphasised that the above changes are all subject to the approval of the Members at the A.G.M.

Nominations for all the offices should be submitted, in accordance with the rules, to the Secretary, and in each case the consent of the person to be so nominated must be obtained in writing.

NOEL TURNER.

This may be an appropriate space in which I as Editor can say to Mrs. Gordon-Kaye a big thank-you for her efforts in producing the labels addressed to stick on the envelopes. I also must thank our member Peter Marks and his very glamorous Secretary Cherry Ann for her part in sticking on the labels to the envelopes, stamping same, inserting the "Kiwi" and taking them to post. I am most grateful to all of the above for the assistance which they have given me.

EDITOR.

MEETING HELD SATURDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER 1974 at
NATIONAL LIBERAL CLUB, WHITEHALL PLACE, LONDON, S.W.1.

Subject: Commemorative Issues by Members. Team Leader Colin Hamilton.

One guest Mr. Levett, one overseas Member Mr. George Fisher and two new Members both Mr. Wests, were welcomed by our Treasurer Noel Turner. The displays were organised by Colin Hamilton with his characteristic competence and knowledge. They covered the period 1906 to the present day. All 70 Commemorative Issues were represented and many aspects of social and historical as well as philatelic interest were illustrated and discussed.

The outstanding display was undoubtedly the Christchurch Exhibition of 1906. Proofs, colour trials, advertisement labels and stamps were all there. A set in blocks of 6 with top and side selvedge were of particular interest. They clearly showed the structure of the individual panes (five rows of three). New Zealand's rarest stamp the one penny

Below we give a further selection of items from our monthly list. If you are a serious collector of New Zealand you cannot afford to be without this FREE list. Please drop us a line and ask to be put on the mailing list.

2d Worn Plate Perforated - a copy on small piece with manuscript cancellation of Orari, see Postage Stamp of New Zealand Vol III p.102. The stamp has a few stains, hence a reasonable £10-00

1d Dominion CPJ6a(2) - a fine mint horizontal pair from Dainties booklet pane, very scarce as a complete pane (Cat ~~£~~75-00).

C.P.notes that all panes bar Abdulla's are rare. This pair has creasing in the left hand label, otherwise very fine £12-50

The Anzac Forces in World War I were stationed at Sling Camp in Wiltshire - this lot comprises 15 mint postcards of the camp in good condition, scarce £7-50

1931 SMILING BOYS in brilliant unmounted top marginal blocks of four, S.G. 546/7 £135-00

1933 Pathway - a superb bottom marginal unmounted mint block of four £10-00

George VI 1d Booklet Pane SG605 - a fine mint pane of six, slight toning £1-00

George VI 2/3 Booklet in fine mint condition, all panes with reasonable perfs. £17-50

George VI 8d SG684 - unmounted mint blocks of four on PELURE paper, thin fine paper with the design showing through clearly on the reverse 75p

1952 Health Stamp Pair stuck down on special Harrison's presentation card, scarce and desirable £10-00

Queen Elizabeth 1/- Die II - SG732a, a fine mint lightly mounted copy £14-00

Ditto - a very fine mint imprint block of four, Cat.CP~~£~~180-00 £80-00

5d Matue Tikum SG787 - a superb unmounted mint marginal block of six with double perfs, very extensive and attractive. Cat. CP~~£~~40-00 £25-00

1969 Centenary of New Zealand Law Society - a fine mint collection on thirteen pages comprising 3c value blocks of ten (2) of different mesh, 10c value block of 10, 18c value block of six, 3c Plate block 1a (4) in both meshes, 3c Plate 2(4) in both meshes, also minor varieties and extra shade blocks (2), 3c Plate 1(4), 3c Plate 2233 both with varieties, also 3c Pale Sky variety. The 10c value comprises both plate blocks. The 18c value comprises plates 1111(2), 1121, 1a1a2a1a(2), 1221, 1a2a2a1a, 2221 and 2a2a2a1a. Where there are two identical plate blocks these are of different shades from different sources. Plates 1221 and 1a2a2a1a are both very rare and unpriced by C.P. The whole collection £65-00

1/9 Multicoloured on Plain F.D.C. SG794 £1-00

3/- Multicoloured SG799 on Plain F.D.C. £1-00

Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference Set SG835-7 on illustrated F.D.C., scarce £1-25

J.M.A.GREGSON P.T.S. 46,Cotham Hill, Bristol BS6 6LA Tel.0272-32953
Cash with order. Postage extra.

claret, only 60 were issued, was represented by no fewer than 5 copies: three of these were on a last day cover, surely a unique item. Mention was also made of the relative unpopularity of the Auckland Exhibition overprints at the time of issue. Two thirds of the printing was unsold and destroyed. Proofs of the 1920 Victory Issue, many of which have come to light in recent years, were shown, and reference made to the scarcity of the half penny pale green shade. Most of the printing in this shade was used for the two penny surcharge.

The 1940 Centenary Issue was shown in some quantity. This was a "high-prestige" event in New Zealand considerable trouble was taken to produce fine designs and fine printing. Most people would agree this object was achieved. Sales were 80 million (producers of modern stamps please note). There was, however, one design error. The event of hoisting the British flag at Akaroa took place 15 years before the use of double yardarms. Yet a ship with double yardarms is shown on the 5d value, which depicts this scene. Also, the design of the 7d value was originally intended for the 8d value. A late change in parcel weights demanded a 7 rather than 8d stamp. Then during the currency of the issue another change in rates required that an 8d stamp be introduced. A Members discussion on the reason for the numerous plates concluded that the probable reasons were (a) the desire for uniformly fine issue. (b) the use of steel plates. These were cheaper than copper plates and were more readily discarded, rather than retouched, if faults should appear.

A brief history of the Canterbury Association was given by the tireless John Watts. It was a surprise to learn that there is a plaque at 41, Charing Cross Road, commemorating the foundation of the Association in 1807. Mention was also made of the close association of the Canterbury Philatelic Society with persuading the Postmaster General to approve a set of stamps to commemorate the foundation of the Canterbury Province.

Among other items were proofs for the defunct 1952 Royal Visit (the then Princess Elizabeth had only reached Kenya, when she had to return home on the death of her father King George VI). There was also a complete run (or rather nearly so) of first day covers.

A vote of thanks was proposed by our friend George Fisher.

The exhibitors assisting Colin were - M. Burberry, G.Daborn, P.H.Evans F.G.Fifoot, Noel Turner, J.L.Watts and Colin Hamilton displayed material by Mr. Tweed.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

These are due for payment on January 1st next and it is usual to send a form for renewal with the November "Kiwi". But it is the retiring Treasurer's wish that these should be sent out by the newly appointed Treasurer as one of his first duties.

Members are reminded that should they be considering resigning from the Society they must do so in writing to the Treasurer or Secretary by December 31st this year otherwise they are liable for next year's subscription.

CHICHESTER AND DISTRICT PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Our member John Evans has arranged to give a display of his New Zealand Chalon Heads to the Chichester Society on Monday 13th January 1975 at 7 p.m. The Chichester Society meet at the County Hall Staff Canteen and have cordially invited any of the members of the New Zealand Society who would like to see this display. The County Hall Staff Canteen is in West street, Chichester. - I understand the display will include a goodly proportion of those handsome stamps which John Evans displayed on 26th January last fully reported in May 1974 "Kiwi" pages 48-51. It should be an interesting evening and an opportunity for those who missed the January display to see a real treat and have a very interesting evening. It is hoped that at least some members of the Society will make an effort to support John Evans and attend this display. Should you wish any further directions or information please write to Mr. C. Dudeney, Summerdown, Pottery Lane, Nutbourne, Chichester. P.O. 18 8RW.

1947 HEALTH STAMP

Our member Mr. J. Harrison was interested in the bow held by Eros in the 2d stamp and took the trouble to write to the secretary of the Society of Archer - Antiquaries. The reply he received is as below :-

Dear Mr. Harrison,

Yours was a most unusual request.... The bow as held by Eros is, I'm afraid, one of those "impossible" bows incorporated into a statue by the sculptor. I have observed it myself on many occasions in order to confirm my statement. The bow held by Robin Hood at Nottingham (the bronze statue, that is) is wrong also, though in this case the sculptor could at least have checked the shape of it before he got to the casting stage. Having said all that..... the bow held by Eros is really a hold over from the more romantic age, we might, for instance, quote paintings of Cupid where he is shown holding much the same sort of bow. However, the whole thing goes further back than that. The classical Greeks had something to do with the shape of the Eros bow. It is, unfortunately, quite a large - or at least a wide - ranging subject - this business of romantic bows. It was carried on through the ages in various Victorian books dealing with the bow and by Durer the painter - one could go on endlessly. The bow has its foundation in fact, though, you may have heard of the short Asiatic composite bow, well this bow was known to the Ancient Greeks who traded with the Scyths. Both people used the composite bow although it never gained prominence as a major arm with the Greeks. They incorporated it into the decoration of objects and statues and the idea was born. Copying carried it on throughout time but in the



last 50 years or so this art form seems to have gone into decline. The Eros bow is "impossible" in two areas, the grip section and the "siyahs" or ears - or extremities. Some ultra modern bows have centre sections very similar to the Eros bow but the latter weapon just is not practical.

I am sorry if I have debunked any ideas which you may have had about the bow; it has been the subject of a short article in our Society Journal in the past and the Author of the article bears out what I have said here. If I can be of any further help then please let me know.

Yours sincerely,
Douglas Elmy.

Should any member require any further details the address of the Society's Secretary is 61, Lambeth Road, Bridlington, Yorkshire. It is investigation on subjects such as above which are always of interest to the Editor of "Kiwi", thus if any member of the Society has such information however remote please let the Editor know.

WARNING

I have in front of me an envelope measuring 5½" x 7½" which is sent to one of our members registered, insured and by Air Mail. The total value of the stamps contained therein is not known to me but our member Mr. Royton Heath was asked by the Postman delivering it to pay £2.75 charges made up of £2.50 V.A.T. and 25p Post Office Clearance Fee. This rather shook Royton as he had not expected anything like it, but did manage to discover from the Postman what kind of racket was going on. He offered in the end to pay by cheque, this was in order, but the Postman had to take the cheque and parcel back to the Depot, to be again delivered after the cheque had been cleared. In the end Royton paid by cash.

He also said that the people who had opened it at the Customs had little knowledge of what they were doing and had handled the contents with anything but care. This procedure also happens with new issues, although the Philatelic Bureau of N.Z. have made no mention of this fact. Members should therefore take note that you are liable for V.A.T. plus the Post Office collection charge. This cover is an extremely interesting one but unfortunately it is not practical to display this in "Kiwi" as it would mean splitting the cover into two parts and I don't think the owner would like me to do that.

EDITOR.

By the courtesy of the New Zealand Post Office I have recently been given information about the contractual arrangements between the Post Office and the private contractors who deliver so much of the mail in rural areas. This is quite unlike the system operating in the United Kingdom. The story of this service was ably described by Robin Startup in "Travelling Mails" : this was published in 1960 as a limited edition of 100 copies and may not be as widely known as it deserves. As many as 800 contracts are functioning at the present time by which private operators deliver mail instead of Post Office salaried staff. A typical contract provides for delivery to 200 box holders on a round circuit of 100 miles.

When a service is to be initiated, tenders are called by the Post Office, though the lowest tender is not necessarily accepted. Those likely to be interested are transport operators or local businessmen who already have commitments to deliver meat, bread or groceries in the area.

The method of transport varies widely - cars, station wagons, passenger buses or motor launches. These are allowed to carry the sign "Royal Mail". The last horse-back service ceased as recently as 1970.

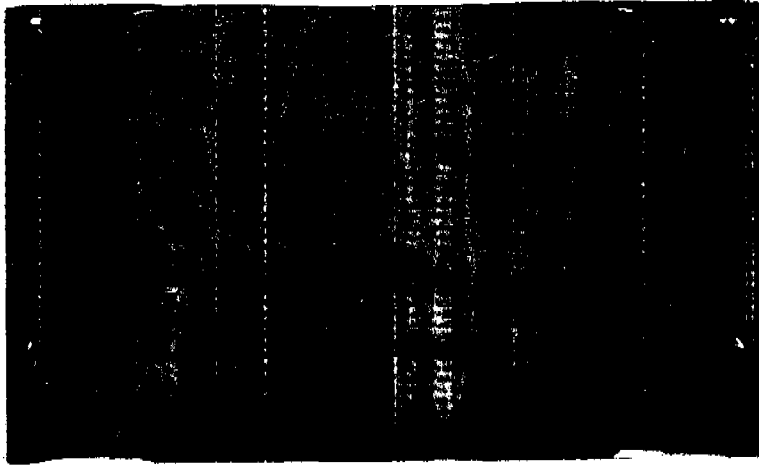
Contracts are usually for the period of 3 years ending on 30th September of the third year, with prescribed conditions governing earlier termination or assignment. An extension is usually offered by the Post Office, but understandably any request for a higher price has to be justified by a detailed analysis of costs and of revenue from other goods delivered.

The Contractor collects the mail from a box at the Base Post Office, and then has to sort it. Delivery is not made into house letter boxes as in the U.K. but into Rural Mail Boxes set up on the agreed route of the contractor. A fee is charged for the right to set up a box. This is at present 2½ a year for a box-holder on a service where the frequency is greater than thrice weekly. It is 1½ for a service three times weekly or less.

These boxes are required to be of a standard type, with a front lid to keep out the birds from a desirable nesting site; also with a red flag. This can be raised as a signal to the contractor to stop to collect outward letters. Articles which are too large for the box may be left in a safe place under cover nearby, possibly in a cardboard box used for delivery of groceries or other items also being delivered by the contractor. Alternatively a notice is left in the box so that someone can meet the next delivery.

Registered and insured articles must be delivered to the addressee or some responsible who can sign a receipt. If actual delivery is impractical then a notice is left in the box, and the article taken out again on the next delivery.

A similar notice has to be left as warning to collect and pay the tax on short paid or unpaid mail at the next delivery.



The contractor carries a stock of adhesive stamps for sale. If Money Orders etc. are needed a special advance request has to be given.

The contractor can deliver mail from one box holder to another on his rounds without necessarily passing the mail through a Post Office. He has no date stamp so is required to cancel the adhesive stamps in ink or indelible pencil. All other mail is cancelled at the Post Office on his return from his rounds. Thus there is no indication that the mail has emanated from a Rural delivery service. Unfortunately there is thus little evidence of this service that can be shown in a Post History collection. While the collector of adhesives will not see Rural Mail cancellations on his stamps. The main evidence of these 800 Rural Delivery Services lies in the stamps applied to Undeliverable Mail before return to sender, or more rarely a stamp used to allocate a letter to a particular Rural Delivery Service. These stamps on undeliverable mail are of two main types. Type (a) is in box form to permit a check of the number of services dependent on one Post Office. Type (b) simply states that no such box holder is known on the named service .

STOCKHOLM INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION Our congratulations once again to Dr. and Mrs. Riddell who received a Gold Medal for Russian stamps used in the Far East, also to Ted Hossell who received Silver Bronze for his study of the 1953/67 Definitives, a good achievement in a very tough international class.

B.P.E. My apologies for omitting on Page 92 the fact that Rita Gilders thematic exhibit of "Floral stamps" earned her a Diploma of Merit.

TYPE 'A'

Not Known by Rural Mail Contractors EKETAHUNA.	
1 <i>1/1</i>	2 <i>yw</i>
<i>3-37-4</i>	<i>4</i>



— YOU
SET
BY TELEGRAPH



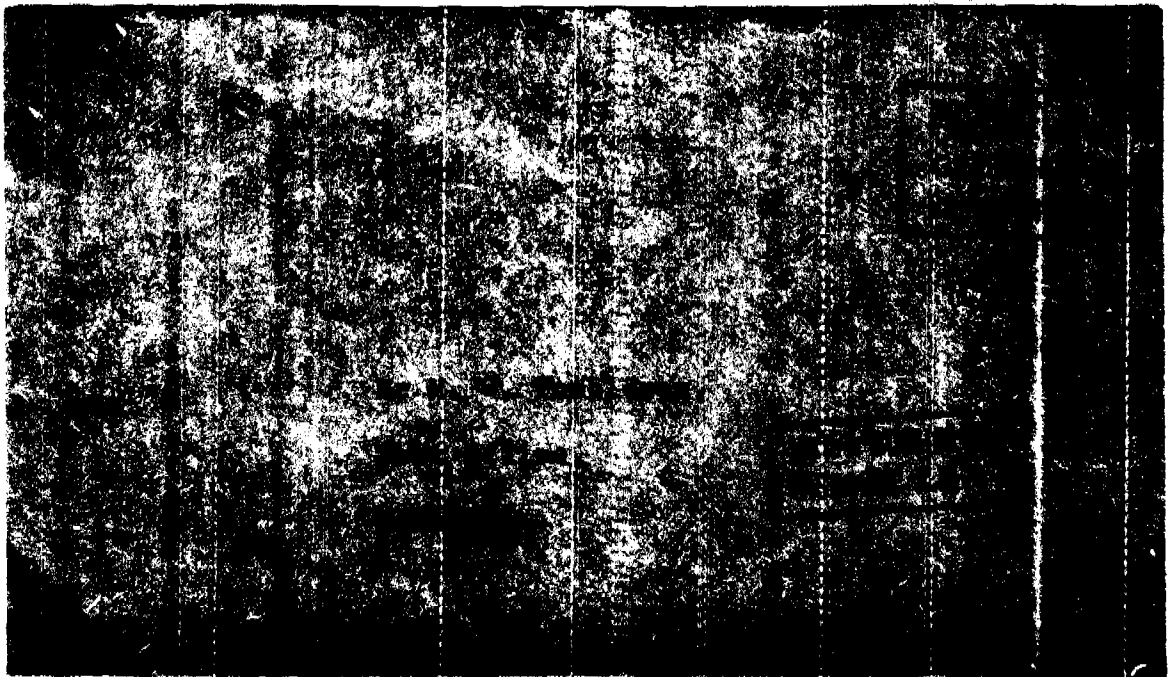
RETURN
TO
SENDER.

Mrs. T. H. Pettig
Care, R.D.
EKETAHUNA

*Unknown
Unfound
Eketahuna*

not RD4 EWA.

TYPE 'B'



As far as I can say this subject has not appeared in the "Kiwi" in detail. It all started for me when Cyril Gilders referred to me for information about the "Jeffrey" forgery, Mr. Alfred J. Branston F.R.P.S.L. an expert whom I have since had the privilege of meeting on this subject.

Briefly the "Jeffrey" forgery of the 1s value imperf. in Green appeared on recess printed wove paper with Forged Star Watermark imperforate in deep green and green. It was probably for a book plate or some other ornamental purpose and as produced it appeared on a piece of paper about 70 x 60mm. The design of the stamp was printed obliquely on the paper so that the watermark fitted. Frame lines of four adjacent "Stamps" are included and the crest of an arm holding a Crook appeared at the top of the Watermark, so that if the watermark was not in the centre of the piece of paper, the whole of the Crest of an arm holding a Crook does not appear. The piece of paper appears to be colour washed in green to stimulate the colour of the genuine stamp.

The "Jeffrey" forgery is usually uncanceled but specimens are known with a cancellation consisting of a thick "1" in an oval of seven thick horizontal bars no doubt to simulate the type of Auckland cancellation of "1" within thick horizontal bars. The first of these appears in about 1865. Type AK1 Page 43 in Vol.III Postage Stamps of New Zealand Jeffrey could have had the cancellation for this forgery in mind.

The "Stamp" could be and was cut down to a size, used on piece and unused, so that it had excellent margins : also for some reason which to me is obscure the forgery has been cut down so as to include a small unused piece which included the arm holding the crook above it. I have this in deep green shade. Jeffreys were convicted at the Old Bailey in I think 1892.

The purpose of referring to me was that Mr. Branston wanted to include further material which I am glad to have provided at least in part for his lecture on Famous Forgers Jeffreys and Fournier at the Philatelic Course on the 8th - 10th November 1974 at the Council of Essex Wansfell College for Residential Adult Education at Theydon Bois, Epping, Essex. Fournier was I think a Swiss forger and is of no relevance for this article.

I am glad to say that for his lecture Mr. Branston has taken a colour transparency of my 60 x 70mm piece of paper and that his documentation for this part of his Lecture on the "Jeffrey Forgery" of New Zealand 1s value is reasonably complete.

However during a very interesting discussion with Mr. Branston on 16th July 1974 I said, (in error as it turned out) that I had some forgeries with what in my mind was a "square of dots" cancellation. Mr. Branston sent me the "square of dots" on a photostat of Antigua. The "square of dots" really means what it says : it also appears on the 1864 stamps of Sicily, as later mentioned. However, Mr. Branston also sent me a photograph example not only of the 1864 stamps of Sicily (50 Grani) but also of a pane of the 4d Bahamas 1862 (25 stamps) with a forged obliteration with a description which fits the obliteration described in the Postage Stamps of New Zealand Vol I Page 668 as follows ; "eight curved verticle lines four on the left concave to the left and four to the right, between eight horizontal bars four above and four below"

Example
Not to scale



NOTE The Spiro obliteration has ten curved vertical lines five to the left and five to the right as shown.

This was the clue because when I compared the Pane with the forgeries I have, I found the "obliteration" on the 2d and the 1872 4d value of the Forgery of the Chalon Head. I found from Mr. Branston's examples that the obliteration of my New Zealand 2d and 4d was the same. So the question arose "where did the obliteration come from?". There is nothing in the Volumes of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand as to this except that this set of forgeries the 1d, 2d, 4d, and 1s, is lithographed. Mr. Branston was able to express the opinion that the obliteration on the stamps of Sicily and the Bahamas was of the House of Spiro and from the unquestionable similarity of the same "obliteration" appeared on the forged 2d and 4d value of the Chalon Head, there is no doubt in my opinion that the lithographed forgeries of the 1d, 2d, (two) 4d and 1s values mentioned in Vol I of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand are Spiro forgeries. There is no indication in Vols I, II or III where these forgeries came from and Mr. Branston has kindly given me information from which I have compiled the summary below :

"The House of Spiro Bros. of Hamburg began to produce imitations in 1864 under the personal direction of Philip Spiro and continued for some 15 years, ultimately offering around 500 varieties. They were freely sold to all comers through the medium of the Philatelic Press and the House organ Der Deutsche Briefmarken Sammler, first appearing in 1864.

The firm of Spiro Bros. were cheap commercial printers and resorted to lithography for all their variations even when genuine stamps were well known as engraved. The paper was of a commercial quality and without watermark. The printing of the "stamps" was followed immediately by the addition of a "cancellation". Stamps were issued Imperf and sometimes perforated very crudely. The above allowed the selling without gum and apparently all used copies are no more than single stamps from the panes just as they were printed."

It is in my opinion highly likely that the lithographed forgeries of the Chalon Head with other "obliterations" also emanate from the House of Spiro. These obliterations are according to Vol I as follows :

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| <u>1d Value</u> | Eleven horizontal bars containing figure 30 within a lined diamond, in the middle. |
| <u>2d Value</u> | As the 1d value. |
| <u>4d Value</u> | Figures "67" in a diamond of eleven horizontal bars. |
| <u>1s Value</u> | (i) As the 4d value.
(ii) Oval cancellation containing a number flanked by two curved vertical bars on each side, and three horizontal bars above and three below. I have this. |

As the 4d value S.G. 139 was issued in 1872 and the House of Spiro issued forgeries from about 1864 - 1879, it follows that the lithograph forgeries were issued by Spiro in Hamburg between 1872 and 1879.

For what reason would the "curved vertical lines" obliteration illustrated above have been chosen ?. This is conjecture but it is interesting to note that New South Wales in 1852 (perhaps Sydney) used a curved vertical lines obliteration with seven curved vertical lines on the left and seven to the right between eight horizontal bars, four above and four below. Members with knowledge of New South Wales obliterations may elucidate to the Editor please.

One other interesting point. The lithographed forgeries do not include the 3d or 6d value. One wonders whether these were avoided by Spiro, because the 3d value issued in December 1862 was used as a surcharge for mail to Europe via Marseilles and the 6d value for the half ounce letter to Southampton. These could have been avoided as these crude forgeries might even in those far off days have been recognised.

The other type of forgery is according to Vol I recess-printed from a photo-etched die. I hope further research will reveal the origin of these forgeries.

J.D.EVANS

NEW ZEALAND POST OFFICES

Awaroa AK post office closed 30th September 1974. This office had opened in a now 80 year old farmhouse/boarding house 18th January 1900, and apparently had been in the hands of the Gordon family for its life. Closed when public road opened to here and a rural delivery made possible.

Barrington CH Post Office moved to its new premises in the Barrington Shopping Mall on 3rd September 1974.

Bryant Park HN post office opened 16th September 1974 in a shopping complex on the corner of Sandwich Road and Cecil Street, Te Rapa, Hamilton 3 miles north east of Hamilton Chief P.O. The name is from the developers of the land here for housing, the Bryant Trust Board a philanthropic organisation established by Mr. D.V. Bryant.

Chartwell Square HN Post Office will be opened 30th September 1974 in a \$4 million shopping centre at the corner of Hukanui and Comries Roads Hamilton, about two and a quarter miles north of Hamilton Chief P.O. Chartwell is from Sir Winston Churchill's country home in England, Chartwell being a river name.

Dunedin DN. The Otago Early Settlers Museum now has an octagonal wooden telephone box outside the entrance, adjacent to the iron pillar postage box. Mrs. Gawler reports that the pillar box has the letters E.R. crudely affixed.

Gisbourne GS. Construction of a new Chief Post Office building is making good progress and it is expected that it will be occupied in February 1975.

Greenhaven CH Post Office has recently been renovated and extended taking in adjacent premises.

Nelson NN. Final working plans for the proposed new Chief Post Office building are nearing completion. The seven floor building will have a circular tower attached and this will house the town clock.

Paraonui HN Post Office will be opened 14th October 1974 on a non-classified basis in a shopping centre in northwestern Tokoroa.

Springfield CH Post Office moved into new premises on 27th September 1974. The new office is sited behind the former Springburn P.O. a former Army hut bought in 1946 for \$45.

Tuai NA An automatic telephone exchange costing \$81,000 is to be established here by mid 1976.

Waitakaro GS remains closed with the acting Principal of the Hiruharama School not being prepared to take over the Office at this stage.

Waitaria Bay BM Post Office closed on 28th June 1974. The closure at first was temporary but subsequently this was made permanent.

Weymouth AK Post Office was closed temporarily on 17th June 1974 and reopened on 23rd September 1974. Same Postal Date Stamp in use.

Acknowledgement is made to the Editor of The Mail Coach for allowing us to make this extraction from the October edition.