



the kiwi

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

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VOLUME XXIV No. 4

JULY 1975

WHOLE 132

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 30TH JULY 1975, AT THE NATIONAL LIBERAL CLUB, 1, WHITEHALL PLACE, LONDON, SW1A 2HE, STARTING AT 6.30 P.M. THE SUBJECT WILL BE POSTAL STATIONERY. THE LEADER WILL BE GERALD PRATT. IF ANY MEMBER HAS MATERIAL OF INTEREST IN THIS CATEGORY, WE WOULD BE DELIGHTED TO SEE IT.

ROYAL MAIL POST BUS

Is Your Ticket Correctly Stamped?

As a contrast to New Zealand's Rural Delivery Service by which private contractors deliver the mail, Royal Mail Post Buses have recently started to operate in the United Kingdom. These are owned and operated by the Post Office but carry private passengers. They run in a few rural areas where commercial bus services have been withdrawn for economic reasons causing considerable inconvenience to country people without cars.

Royal Mail Post Bus



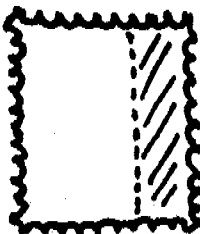
TICKET



In exchange for the fare a ticket is given. This carries a standard adhesive postage stamp, cancelled with a rectangular rubber date stamp.

The first Post Bus to operate in Surrey, and indeed the first within the ambit of the Metropolitan Traffic Area is based on Dorking. It started on 2nd August 1973, and provides a thrice daily service to the villages of Cold Harbour and Ockley. The latter is about eight miles from Dorking. About 160 passengers are carried each week, and the 'Postage' on an adult for the full distance is 12 (new) pence.

G.E.C.PRATT



The stamp shown is a 1d. Second Sideface Issue, 1882-1897. A piece of paper (shaded) has been added and gives the appearance of having been gummed and perforated afterwards. The stamp is perf. 11.

Mrs. Rita Gilders would be pleased to hear from any member with information as to the reason for this.

EDITORIAL

NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN

First of all, may I thank all members who have taken the trouble to write to me. Some have sent articles for 'Kiwi', others have written with comments and criticisms which I find very valuable. Certain actions have been taken, the results of which should be seen in this edition.

Those of you who have sent articles for 'Kiwi' may rest assured that they will be published in due course. But I am afraid that financial considerations have forced us to limit the size of 'Kiwi' to that of the present edition. To those of you who are thinking of sending contributions for 'Kiwi', may I please beg you not to be deterred, as having plenty of copy on hand makes the job of compiling an edition that much easier.

A relatively new member of the Society has written to our Hon. Secretary, to give him his impressions of the first meeting he attended. Among other complimentary things he writes :-

"to be able to closely examine all the sheets was another treat for me, with questions in my mind such as how do they mount their stamps?, how do they lay out their stamps on the sheets?, how do they write up their material? No amount of book reading tells you as much as ten minutes perusal of competition quality material".

I am sure all of us subconsciously ask these questions when we view any display, and by experiment arrive at our own individual way of doing things. The next step is putting on a display, usually at first at the local Philatelic Society. Eventually this progresses until one is showing at the Specialist Society of one's choice.

Following on from this, the New Zealand Society of Great Britain is frequently asked to supply speakers, or teams of speakers, for local Philatelic Society displays. I am sure many of you would be willing to display your material, but unless you inform your Officers that you are willing and able to display your stamps, many other philatelists will be denied the pleasure described by our new member mentioned earlier. Further, a list of members who are so willing would greatly help our Hon. Liason Officer. So would those of you who feel you can help please let your Officers know.

ALLAN P. BERRY

MEMBERSHIP

RESIGNED

~~Mrs. B.M. Billingham, 4, Abbots Park, Chester.~~

NEW MEMBERS. We welcome

~~R.F. Langley, 28, Appledore Gardens, Lindfield, Sussex.~~

~~C.D. Perney, "Coppers", Oak Lane, Minster, Sheppey, Kent.~~

~~S.A. Rinch, 962, Laurier Avenue, Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada.~~

~~M.F. Therogood, 9, West Drive, Ferring, Worthing, Sussex, BN12 5QZ.~~

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

~~P.A. Wilder, Western Auctions Ltd., Bank House, 225, City Road, Cardiff.~~

~~(Previously of 21, 23, Charles Street, Cardiff.)~~

~~R.P. Odenweller, 50, King's Point Road, Great Neck, New York, 11024, U.S.A.~~

~~(Previously of Bermuda.)~~

MEETING HELD SATURDAY 31ST MAY 1975 - THE THREE KINGS

Noel Turner, deputising for John Watts, who was away abroad on business, opened the meeting at 2.30 p.m. Apologies for absence were presented on behalf of C.T. Atkinson, F.G.W. East, Mr. and Mrs. D. Hague, T. Hetherington, B.T. Joyce, R.H. Mercer, Capt. B.J. Pratt, E.G. Ward, J.L. Watts, and Mrs. I.J. Willis. Two new members, D.W. Bradbury and D. Diamond, and one guest, F.H. Mohr, were made welcome. We hear that R.H. Mercer and D. Hague will soon be out of hospital, and wish them well. In the absence of Roy Mercer, in hospital, the team for the afternoon was led by Phil Evans, and included A.E. Harrod, C.D. Philips and G. Philips, and some material sent by Roy Mercer.

The material displayed was dominated by King George V. The surface printings covered all values, colours and watermarks. There were very clear examples, not easy to illustrate, of the De La Rue, Jones, Cowan and Cowan reversed watermarks. Official overprints were well represented and they illustrated many of the less well known minor varieties. A $\frac{1}{2}$ d 'Official' on cover, which took the owner two years to find, was exhibited. Perhaps the item to create most interest was the $1\frac{1}{2}$ d slate with inverted watermark (S.G. 505) which is thought to be unique. This item was discovered by one of our members, and is mentioned on page 53 of the April edition of 'Kiwi'. The present owner would like to be able to identify the cancellation, so as to be able to find the office which issued the stamp.

The attractive King George V recess printings included most plates colours and perforations. There were many multiples - a block of sixty of the 2d yellow was outstanding.

Postal Stationery included a study of the 1d King George V embossed. This is part of an on-going research project of George Philips. King George VI was represented by a study of the $\frac{1}{2}$ d and 1d varieties.

It was interesting to learn from Phil Evans that double gumming of the litho 'watermark' issues was due to the inability of this paper to accept the gum in adequate quantities on one application. Also that the 2d violet King George V had its colour changed with the 4d yellow, since the Post Office, ever mindful of the possibility of fraud, thought the purple obliterating ink used on receipts may not be readily visible.

No member could be found able or willing to show King Edward VII material, thus reducing the Three Kings to Two Kings. Anyone prepared to help with this for a future date please contact the Secretary.

Noel Turner proposed the vote of thanks and the meeting closed at 5.30 p.m.

I.G.FOGG

From Philatelic News, published by Peter Oldham Ltd., Vol.10, No.3, May, 1975.

1967 Pictorials, 4c Matua-Tituma. Retouch to the left of 4c.
Position unknown.

1967 Pictorials, 8c Flag. Retouch between the stars of the flag.
Position unknown.

Can any reader plate these retouches?

NEW ZEALAND 'CHALONS'

SELECTION FROM RECENT LIST - SEND FOR IT TODAY !

S.G.2	2d London printing on faded blued paper with 2 good margins, slight nick on 3rd. Light numeral '9' pmk. (Cat. £120)	£35
S.G.5	2d Richardson printing. Close on 2 margins and clean '1' pmk. Good looking! (Cat. £50)	£18
S.G.6	1/- green. Beautiful 4 margined copy but slight nick in top margin. '10' pmk. Repaired (Cat. £300)	£50
S.G.8	1d dull orange with 4 good margins but minute thin on reverse and barely noticeable crease. A fine looking stamp with light '17' pmk. (Cat. £40)	£10
S.G.9	2d pale blue with 3 good margins but just cut into on 4th. Very Fine Used (Cat. £25)	£12
S.G.10	2d blue close on 3 margins and slightly heavy '17' pmk. (Cat. £25)	£ 7
S.G.13	6d brown with 4 good margins but barely visible crease. (Cat. £35)	£ 8
S.G.14	6d pale brown. 3 margins and neat pmk. (Cat. £35)	£10
S.G.16	1/- green. Good looking with 4 margins. Repaired surface tear on reverse. (Cat. £140)	£25
S.G.34	1d vermilion. 3 margins and light but indistinct pmk. (Cat. £16)	£ 5
S.G.36	2d deep blue with 4 margins but just slightly cut into bottom right. Average Used. (Cat. £10)	£ 4
S.G.38	2d pl blue 4 good margins with light circ. pmk. but barely noticeable fault on reverse. (Cat. £10)	£ 3
S.G.40	3d brown lilac. 4 margins (2 large) light pmk. minute thin top left corner on reverse. (Cat. £20)	£10
S.G.41	6d black brown with 4 margins but bottom right margin cut into. (Cat. £15)	£ 8
S.G.42	6d brown good colour with 4 margins and light pmk. (Cat. £17)	£12
S.G.43	6d red brown 4 margins (2 large) light pmk. Slight staining on reverse. (Cat. £13)	£ 5
S.G.44	1/- green. Good appearance with 4 margins and neat '7' pmk. but slight nick left margin and thinned on reverse. (Cat. £30)	£ 8
S.G.45	1/- yellow green. Fresh colour, 2 good margins and neat '18' pmk. (Cat. £27)	£10
S.G.46	1/- deep green with 4 margins, but slight tear btm. rt. hardly noticeable & cut into top margin. (Cat. £32)	£ 8

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WAIKAWA POST OFFICE - CORRESPONDENCE

Our member, Alan Jackson, has been doing some research into this Post Office, following the small note on page 53 of the last edition of Kiwi. The following is a summary of what he has to say.

It appears that the changing of an office name by the Post Office in the 1890's was in many cases just an academic exercise. Quite often the datestamp with the original spelling continued in use for many years. From the North Island, Alan sent information about four Post Offices to illustrate the point.

MOAWHANGO - official name 1885-88. Then changed in 1888 to



MOAWHANGA, but reverted to the original spelling in 1895. Alan has shown me an A-class, or coin-circle datestamp from this office with MOAWHANGO spelling dated 7 FE 94 and 30 AU 98, and he tells me that a friend of his in New Zealand has the same datestamp with dates ranging from 1894 to 1924. He concludes that this datestamp remained in use continuously from 1885, or whenever it was introduced, and that no datestamp with the MOAWHANGA spelling may ever have been used.

OPUNAKI - official spelling 1870-81, then changed to OPUNAKE.



Alan has shown me an A-class datestamp with the original spelling clearly dated 6 AP 87, and he tells me that he knows of another example dated 9 OC 88. He also showed me another datestamp with the new spelling dated 6 AP 91. So the datestamp change was made somewhere between 6 and 10 years after the official change of name.

POLLOCK SETTLEMENT - official name 1877-92, then changed to POLLOK SETTLEMENT. Alan has shown me two strikes of an A-class datestamp, one dated 7 DE 89 and the other 11 ? 08. These are both obviously the same datestamp, and in the earlier one the spelling is clearly POLLOCK SETTLEMENT. The later strike is a little indistinct, and some attempt may have been made in this one to erase the C, although this seems hardly likely. If in fact it is still inscribed POLLOCK, that is 16 years after the official change of name.

PARUA - official name 1881-88, then changed to PARUA BAY. Alan



has shown me A-class datestamps with the original spelling dated 16 SEP 91 (note very unusual abbreviation of month), and 19 JA 97. He tells me that he knows of another example dated 3 JE 05. He also showed me an example of the double circle "English" type datestamp dated 9 NO 31. This type of datestamp was on general issue during the first few years of this century, and it is highly likely that it replaced the A-class datestamp inscribed PARUA very soon after the 1905 date given above - that is, at least 17 years after the official change of name!



Bearing all these vagaries in mind, it seems quite possible that the WAIKAWA A-class was transferred from the original WAIKAWA when it closed in 1896 to the office officially called WAIKAWA TOWNSHIP 1896-99. This would be very likely if the latter office did not have a datestamp of its own and was still using manuscript cancellation.

Finally, neither Alan nor his New Zealand friend have ever seen

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AUCKLAND 5

NEW ZEALAND

a datestamp inscribed WAIKAWA TOWNSHIP.

I feel that we have not heard the end of this problem. If any reader can throw more light on this, would they please let the Editor know.

ALLAN P. BERRY

A FIRST COMPETITION EFFORT !

I had never entered for a competition before. I had never even seen one. I seemed always to miss the night when our local Society's cup was awarded and the display of winning entries. I did not consider myself a "First Division" philatelist at all; I belong rather to the Southern League or to the "Western Island Minors". But last year I decided to have a go.

To cover up my shortcomings I entitled my twelve page entry "Some Flights of a N.Z. Philatelic Butterfly" by "Red Admiral". This allowed me to flit around from flower to flower, as it were, without staying long at any one spot but adding interest, I hoped, at wherever I stopped.

So I had, first, four pages on the 1970 4 c on 2½c Provisional showing the three printings, London photogravure, London letterpress, and Local (N.Z.) letterpress. This field could have been more fully explored by a study of the various printings that were used, but I was a novice butterfly; I could not stay long.

Then I had three pages on King George VI Counter Coils. Here I flew in for a brief inspection with an introductory page on the dates at which the different values appeared. After that I returned to examine the different papers used in printing the 'pioneer', the 3d blue, and then had a flying look at the numerals in the gutters.

My third field consisted of five pages of flights backwards and forwards, here and there. First, a single page showing the main watermarks of N.Z. stamps (see pages 9-10 of Campbell Paterson's Catalogue), each illustrated by a sketch and stamps front and back. Secondly, facets of Maori History, Life and Culture - history, people, houses (exteriors), houses (interior), weapons, and designs. The field here to be explored is very big. I could have stayed longer, but I am only a novice butterfly, I couldn't fly too high.

My following page I called "A Royal Visit at the Fourth Attempt". This title and idea I stole from Campbell Paterson's Bulletin. Perhaps it makes me a shameless plagiariser but, predator though I be, it made a nice page, drawing attention to the fact that stamps for a proposed Royal Visit had been prepared three times and had had to be destroyed until it came off in 1953. This "Royal Visit" issue (S.G. 721 - 722) came of age in 1974.

"Waitangi : the Evolution of New Zealand Day" was the title of my next page. This was simply a delineation of how the settlers and the Maoris arrived in New Zealand (S.G. 609, 614, 903-4), made their pacts with one another (S.G. 613, 616), created "Waitangi Day" and then coinciding with the Royal Visit to New Zealand in 1974 it became New Zealand Day (February 6th) - the first New Zealand national holiday (S.G. 1046 Miniature Sheet).

Then finally, "New Zealand School Model Post Offices". These were set up in some schools to help children understand postal affairs. They are managed by the children themselves; they stamp the letters with their own cachet and then send them to the nearest Post Office

for cancellation and dispatch.

I covered alot of ground in my flights, perhaps too much. I hope I have not used up all my energy and that I can try again, staying longer at one spot - if I have any stamps, money or time left. No, I did not win the Club Competition, but I was proud to fly in just behind another member of the 'Kiwi' family and of our Society who did it with a fine display of another N.Z. field which may hit the top in London later this year. With this reflected glory I may summon up courage to spread my wings once again and fly to fresh fields. Floreat Nova Zealandia ! Floreat the 'Kiwi' !

VERY REV. DR. J.T.CARSON

THE LITHOGRAPHED "WATERMARK"

Six different stamps were issued with the lithographed substitute for the watermark - the 1d. Dominion and its Official version, the King George V $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 2d. (relief printed) and the Postage Due $\frac{1}{2}$ d. and 2d.

The Handbook Vol. 1 page 289 tells us that the total printing of the 1d. Dominion on this paper was 50,000 sheets and later on - pages 467/8 - infers that the Officials were provided out of this quantity. No quantities are stated for the King George V and Postage Due values.

A letter from the Secretary's Office, G.P.O., Wellington, to the "London Philatelist" gives specific quantities for all six values. The letter is dated the 4th February 1926 and is believed to be previously unpublished. It says :-

"Only sufficient stamps were printed to fulfil requirements, the numbers being as follows :-

$\frac{1}{2}$ d. ordinary	34,500	sheets	(240)
1d. ordinary	58,000	sheets	(240)
2d. "	5,000	"	(240)
1d. official	2,000	"	(240)
$\frac{1}{2}$ d. postage-due	250	"	(120)
2d. " "	250	"	(120) "

We are grateful to the Hon. Librarian of the Royal Philatelic Society, London, for permission to quote this information in 'Kiwi'.

PHIL EVANS

Congratulations to our member Bob Odenweller on the award of a gold medal plus special prize for his collection of Samoa exhibited at Espana '75. Bob writes to say that he has 12 frames in Paris in which to exhibit New Zealand 1855 to 1874. He tells us that members may find an item or two worthy of inspection, and that this fact may be enough of an excuse for visiting that Exhibition.

Congratulations to our member E.K.Hossell on the award of a Bronze medal for his entry of Q.E.11 1953 Definitives at Espana '75.

From Postal Auction No.5, Donald F. Ion, 49, Arawa Street, Rotorua, New Zealand.

1902 1/- Kea & Kaka, Perf. 11. Unused pair showing sideways inverted-reversed watermark. Unlisted.

From Stirling News No.182, May 1975, published by Stirling & Co. Ltd.
1963 Christmas Stamp, mint corner selvedge copy with almost half the stamp printed on what appears to be selotape. Unusual.

We give below a selection of items from our latest monthly list.
A copy is yours for the asking.

- $\frac{1}{2}$ d Newspaper Stamp SG150 - a scarce fine mint block of six showing the defective cliché at R20/12, a rare item in the difficult Perf. 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ £ 24.00
- Attractive Cover to England comprising the Edward VII 1d Postal Stationery envelope with additional 1d Universal surface print SG441 and two $\frac{1}{2}$ d Mount Cooks SG246 each cancelled by a slightly overinked UPPER SYMONDS STREET c.d.s. of OC 13 1909 and with a fine Registration Label with hand-stamped Office of Origin. £ 4.00
- 1d Terraces SG299 - if you look at Volume 1 Page 200 you will see reference to the Reversed Plate Numbers found on the $\frac{1}{2}$ d Mount Cook. We have a superb mint top marginal strip of the 1d Terrace bearing the inscription in reverse No 4 Top - a very rare and desirable item, not mentioned in Vol. 1. £ 30.00
- 1d Universal Booklet - a very rare complete 1902 booklet in extremely fresh condition containing two perfect panes, very rare and fine. £110.00
- 1d Universal Booklet - a partial booklet with complete interleaving and one pane of five, one stamp removed. Useful for exploding to show the format. R3/2 shows considerable re-entering in the letters ONE. £ 15.00
- 1906 Christchurch Exhibition - a superb mint set in lovely fresh condition, all stamps once mounted or unmounted. £ 30.00
- Edward VII 4d Perf. 14x14 $\frac{1}{2}$ SG455 - a superb mint unmounted vertical block of six of brilliant colour and appearance. £ 5.50
- Edward VII 4d Yellow SG456 - a brilliant unmounted sheet number corner block of six which would be a worthy addition to any collection. £ 7.00
- Edward VII 5d Perf. 14x14 $\frac{1}{2}$ SG457 - an unmounted right marginal block of four, brilliantly fresh and attractive - a small ink spot on the reverse of one stamp. £ 4.50
- Edward VII 5d Line Perf. 14 SG466 - a superb and brilliant unmounted mint horizontal block of 12, 2x6, with perfect centering, the line perforation showing up very clearly £ 12.50
- Edward VII 6d Line Perf. 14 SG467 - a mint unmounted and brilliant top marginal block of four of fresh appearance, minor ink mark and slight offset on the reverse £ 10.00
- Edward VII 8d Perf. 14x14 $\frac{1}{2}$ SG461 - a mint unmounted top left marginal block of six, very slight stain on a couple of perfs. but perfectly centered and fresh £ 4.50
- As above but in a lovely unmounted left marginal block of 4 £ 3.00
- As above but in a brilliant unmounted and perfect block of 16 (4x4) from the left margin of the sheet £ 15.00
- A superb large piece on which are a 2/6 and 5/- Long Type Postal Fiscal, a strip of four and a pair of the George V Recess 9d, a single 4d of the same issue, a single 1d Admiral and a pair of the 3d Surface Print George V, all cancelled TIROROA 4 April 1929 - most attractive and an interesting addition to any collection. £ 3.50

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NEW ZEALAND RELIEF DATESTAMPS

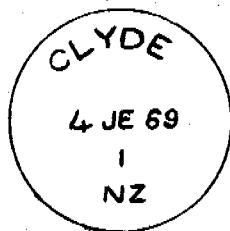
Continued from page 60.

The longest period of use yet recorded of a relief is the almost two years that CLYDE waited for its regular datestamp to be replaced. The relief was used from 7 MY 69 to 1 AP 71 - see figure 19. The record for the shortest definitely recorded period of use is probably due to ANDERSONS BAY, which used a relief for half an hour only on 5 JA 70. PUKETE used one for two hours on 5 JA 65 - see Figure 20.

Some offices have succeeded in covering the whole fifty years since reliefs were introduced without apparently ever using one. Other offices have used reliefs on a disproportionate number of occasions; e.g. HAWARDEN has eleven separate usages recorded between 1925 and 1973. The average length of use of a relief is probably somewhere between two weeks and a month.

TELEPHONE OFFICES.

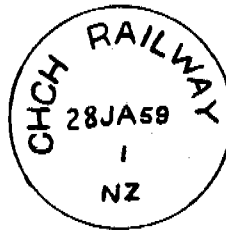
On rare occasions reliefs have been used at Telephone Offices, or in the Telegraph Section of major Post Offices. The only way in which collectors may obtain impressions of such datestamps is on telegraph forms. Only fourteen different usages are recorded; one, from CHRISTCHURCH RAILWAY, is illustrated in Figure 21.



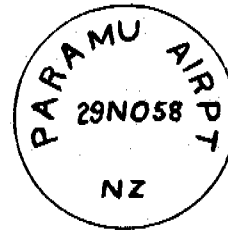
19



20



21 Telephone Office

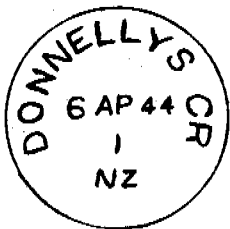


22

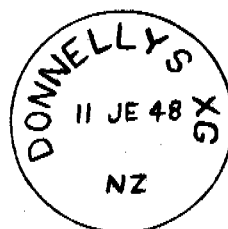
ERRORS AND VARIETIES.

Ever since their introduction, reliefs have proved a prolific source of errors and varieties. This is not surprising when one considers the shortcomings inherent in their design. As each relief must be made up from individual pieces of type, innumerable permutations of the design are possible, and inventive postal officials have not been slow in producing them.

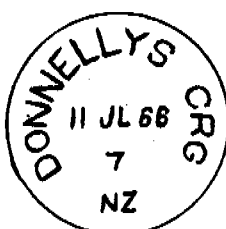
One of the major problems with reliefs is that there is only a limited amount of space available in the slot where the office name is to be inserted. Consequently, where a relief is used at an office which has a long name, some form of abbreviation must be used. This has led to some strange designations at times. In figures 23 to 26 are shown the different abbreviations used in four separate usages at DONNELLYS CROSSING.



23



24



25



26



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Some particularly unusual abbreviations have been :-

FR J GLACIER for FRANZ JOSEF GLACIER.

MRE CENTRAL for MANGERE CENTRAL.

PAPATOE STH for PAPATOETOE SOUTH.

PARAMU AIRPT for PARAPARAUMU AIRPORT - see Figure 22.

SI STREAM HOS for SILVERSTREAM HOSPITAL.

Quite often, where an office name consists of more than one word, the assembler neglects to use a spacing blank, and the office name appears on the relief run together as one word. There are many examples of this type of error - e.g. TEPUKE for TE PUKE - see Figure 27.

The month designation in reliefs is always abbreviated to two letters. The normal abbreviations for June and July are JE and JL, but occasionally JN and JY are seen, especially on earlier reliefs. Very rarely, JN is used incorrectly as an abbreviation for January, which is properly abbreviated as JA; the only example known is REGENT, used in January 1972. The Postmaster at PORT NELSON produced another unique variety in January 1974 when he abbreviated the month to JAN.

Misspelling of the office name from time to time is another seemingly inevitable product of the system. Not infrequently, it is a case of one letter being mistakenly used for another, for instance Q is used for O, and a C as a G, and vice versa. Other, more startling errors which have occurred are :-

BARTTLETS for BARTLETTS - see Figure 28.

GENFIELD NTH for GLENFIELD NTH.

HERALAD ISLAND for HERALD ISLAND.

KAIWHARAWHAR for KAIWHARAWHARA - possibly caused by a limited number of the letter A being available.

MANAGPAI for MANGAPAI.

STUDHLOME JN for STUDHOLME JN (Junction).

TAHEKAROA for TAHEKEROA.

WIANUIOMATA for WAINUIOMATA.

Other mistakes in the setup of reliefs are numerous. Occasionally, one finds letters, usually in the dateline, written in in manuscript. Over the years, as new sets of relief datestamps and type have been issued to Chief Post Offices, the type has become mixed, and consequently Postmasters sometimes have difficulty in getting the type to fit or sit correctly. An example of a letter not striking is the first I of WAITANGI in Figure 18.

One particularly outstanding error occurs when the relief is assembled completely inverted, as has happened on four known occasions. The assembler obviously has had the mistaken impression that the curved slot for the office name is at the foot of the relief, and proceeded to assemble the datestamp on that basis, ending up with a design like that illustrated in Figure 29. The four examples known are EPSOM in 1956, ETRICK in 1959, KUMEU in 1935, and WEST LYNN in 1962.

Other types of error sometimes found are :-

Various parts of the relief inserted in the wrong slots.

No mail numbers, although these are not normally used at some small offices anyway.

No 'NZ'.

Inverted type.

Some examples of this type of error are shown in Figures 30 to 33.

Forthcoming

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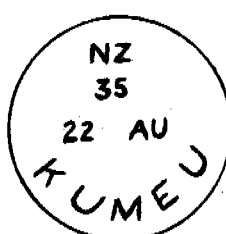
Overseas correspondents sending property for sale can avoid Value Added Tax complications by including the V.A.T. number after our name on the outside of the package. If sending by freight (air or surface) please secure the appropriate labels from us before sending.



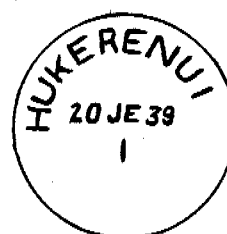
27 TEPUKE
for TE PUKE



28 BARTLETTS
error



29 KUMEU
error

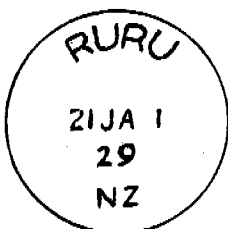


30 No NZ

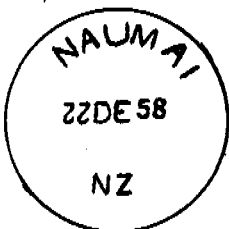
One unusual group of reliefs is provided by a number of usages, all from offices in the Christchurch Postal District, where the office name is followed by the letters PO. With one exception, all date from the years 1934 to 1945. They are :-

CULVERDEN PO in 1934 - see Figure 34.

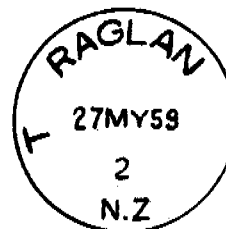
LINWOOD PO in 1938, LYTTELTON PO in 1945, MAYFIELD PO in 1938, PARNASSUS PO in 1938, RICCARTON PO in 1944, SUMNER PO in 1938, TINWALD PO in 1944, and HEI HEI PO in 1944.



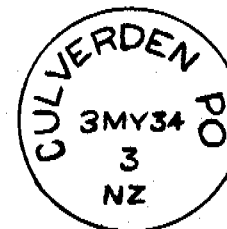
31 Figures '29'
and '1' transposed



32 Figure '22'
inverted



33 Letter 'T'
used as
filler.



34

Forming another interesting group are those datestamps, not of the typical relief design, used for relief purposes. Some time during 1949 - 1950, the 'English double-circle' type datestamp which for many years had been used at TOWAI in the Whangarei district was withdrawn. At some later stage the name TOWAI was drilled from the screw-on head, and a slot to take loose type cut. This unusual datestamp was used for relief purposes in the Whangarei district on four known occasions.

PATAUA in 1961 - see Figure 35.

OHAEWAI in 1961, HIKURANGI in 1965, and MATAPOURI in 1967.

The same expedient was resorted to in Blenheim in 1959, but this time it was an A-class, or coin circle, datestamp, formerly used at GROVE Post Office, closed in 1952, which was modified. This relief, as far as is known, was used on only one occasion, at WARD in 1959 - see Figure 37.



35



36



37



38

Another screw-head datestamp, of B-class type, was also modified at Blenheim in 1968 for relief purposes. This was used on three

occasions in that year - at RAI VALLEY in June/July, see Figure 36, at RAPAURA in July/August, and at WARD in October/November, see Figure 38.

Very rarely, reliefs may be found struck in colours other than the standard black. Sometimes inks of unusual colours are the result of the relief having been used for Post Office Savings Bank work, while at other times a rubber-stamp pad may be the only stamp pad available, as for example at ARTHURS PASS, after a fire in 1963. Colours recorded are violet, green, blue, and red.

I hope these necessarily very general notes have proved of some interest and given readers a little insight into this unusual byway of New Zealand Postal History. I would be particularly interested to hear from any reader in Britain or elsewhere who has in his collection examples of any reliefs dating from the early 1950's or before. It is highly likely that the information you provide will add something new to existing records. Please write to me care of the Editor.

Collectors who are particularly interested in obtaining examples of new reliefs are advised that the Postal History Society of New Zealand operates a service - for members only - whereby impressions of newly reported reliefs are obtained, if possible, on postcard while they are still current, and made available at a nominal price. As the Society receives no official notification from the Post Office of impending usages, the availability of impressions depends very much on reports received from collectors, and on their being on time!

ALAN JACKSON

THE DAY OF THE WEEK OF ANY DATE BETWEEN 1800 AND 1999

The formula given below will tell the day of the week for any date between 1800 and 1999. Perhaps the mathematicians can explain how it works!

Take the last two digits of the year.

Add a quarter of this number, neglecting any remainder.

Add the date of the month.

Add according to the month as follows :-

January...1 (in leap year 0)	February...4 (in leap year 3)
March.....4	April.....0
May.....2	June.....5
July.....0	August....3
September.6	October....1
November..4	December...6

Add for the 19th Century...2, for the 20th Century...0.

Devide the total by 7, and the remainder gives the day of the week as follows :-

- 1 = Sunday
- 2 = Monday
- 3 = Tuesday
- 4 = Wednesday
- 5 = Thursday
- 6 = Friday
- 0 = Saturday

Any year, except a century year, which is exactly divisible by 4 is a leap year.

NAUGHTY! NAUGHTY!

To be a good philatelist you have to have a rebellious mind. You do not trust anything anyone has written or told you, however authoritative that person is, unless you have also seen the proof.

You may well ask therefore how you can set about studying a new subject. The answer is that you treat other people's work as "hypotheses". Only when you can prove them true do you accept them as facts. Very occasionally you will find someone has made a faux pas in his hypothesis, and as you are working only from proven facts, you will be able to correct the theory - but remember do not extrapolate your theory beyond the bounds set by the known facts, without clearly stating so.

In case you think the old boy is blathering, I will give you an example that occurred as recently as October, 1974.

The Great Barrier Pigeongram Mail is the story of two rival companies - the Original Great Barrier Pigeongram Service (known as the Original Service) and the Great Barrier Pigeongram Agency (known as the Agency).

One of the greatest enigmas of philately seems to me the way the early history of the Great Barrier Pigeongram Agency was completely blotted out. It was not until 1968, 60 years after the pigeon services were terminated due to the arrival of the telegraphic facilities on the island, that the researches of the Aucklander J.Reg.Walker, were published by the Collectors Club in New York as their handbook 22 "The Great Barrier Island 1898-99 Pigeon Post Stamps" and brought to light the fact that W.W.Fricker, proprietor of the G.B.P.Agency, started the first regular pigeon service from the island to Auckland. 60 years of oblivion!!

This oblivion was deepened and prolonged by Volume 1 of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand. The opening of a service on 14th May, 1897 by Parkin through the efforts of Company promoter Smales is chronicled and the fact that S.Holden Howie took over the so-called Original G.B.P. Service in April 1898. Omitted completely were the facts that

- 1) Smales had earlier approached W.W.Fricker who had started his service in February, 1897 at 2/- per message. Probably because Fricker refused to reduce the price, Smales later approached Parkin who agreed to charge only 1/6d.

- 2) Fricker was not eliminated from the scene by the antecedant moves to set up the second service, but had moved his loft to Oroville in April, 1897 and appointed D.N.McMillan as his loft manager.

I said that Volume 1 deepened and prolonged Fricker's oblivion because they had the clue in their hands that the Agency had been operating in 1897.

I recently had the good fortune to acquire the flimsy quoted on pages 438/9 as follows :-

An extant flimsy which provides evidence of the bonafides of this (Agency) service bears the date 17/7/99 and contains the following message :-

To Mr. Fricker

Dear Sir,

I heartily congratulate you on your success in the show and I feel as proud as if I had won it myself. I hear Parkins has

challenged you to fly your birds from here to Auckland for £5/0/0 I think he would have some trouble in beating No 2 or No 3 they are far the best birds you have here as they lose no time in getting away. I am sending you this note principally to ask you not to send the young birds this week as I only got the timber up last night about dark and I have to be away from home today. I think you had better send down some wire for the front of their place and a trap like the one the other birds have.

D.N.McMillan

As the flimsy consists only of a handwritten message, it could be just a copy of a genuine message or an imaginary one written out on a blank flimsy and then cut down to size. Thus the first job is to establish its status.

27.7.99

This was a Thursday, the day on which the weekly boat normally arrived. Hence the flimsy would not be a flown flimsy, but one sent to Auckland by boat with the returned pigeon baskets, etc.

Parkin's Challenge

This seems very odd as in 1899 he had long retired from the Original Service, and, as far as I know, was Secretary to two pigeon racing clubs - The Auckland Flying Club and the Auckland Homing Society. £5 seems alot of money - in 1899 terms - for the Secretary of clubs who in private life is the caretaker of "Auckland Chambers" a building occupied by printers, to bet publicly with one of his members.

Instructions re "this week's" birds

This is also odd because the birds for "this week" will be arriving that day, so that the instructions are really about "next week's" birds.

Nothing seems quite right - I suppose they did record the date correctly. NO!! The correct date is 27.7.97!!

Now let us start again.

Date 27.7.97. Tuesday

Just the right day to fly out instructions about this week's birds.

Parkin's Challenge

This came from the rival company's sole proprietor and was merely continuing the infighting.

Even the show becomes intelligible - it was probably the New Zealand Champion Bird and Poultry Show which had been held in the Agricultural Hall in Auckland on 16th July, 1897. Mr. Fricker had been showing his birds there equipped for the journey.

After sundry other tests I satisfied myself that I had obtained what I had long been searching for - a pre-stamp flown flimsy - perhaps the oldest known example, though there may be one from Parkin's commencing day, 14.5.97.

And how did the error occur? Someone changed the date to fit in with his theory. Naughty! Naughty!

M.S.BURBERRY

EDITOR'S NOTE - I have checked Michael's allocation of the day of the week to the dates in the above article, and the formula on page 78 gives answers that are in complete agreement with his.

This should be the earliest known example of an "Agency" pigeonram but are there any earlier examples than 27th July 1897 known using "The Original Service".

CENTENNIAL OF HAWKES BAY
3d VALUE - CAPE KIDNAPPERS

Cylinder 7 without full stop - continued from page 62.

- R4 /3 A vertical 1 mm flaw just below the beak of the largest gannet.
- R4 /4 a) Small flaw 7.8 mm from top and 7 mm from right side.
b) Small flaw touching top right point of Z of ZEALAND.
- R4 /5 Small flaw 8 mm from top and 18 mm from left side.
- R5 /1 a) A coloured flaw (blue line) extending from the C to the A (8 mm) of CENTENNIAL and midway between this word and the skyline.
b) Small flaw below the dot between the L of CENTENNIAL and 1958.
- R5 /3 a) Small flaw just below the horizon and under Y of BAY.
b) Small flaw against right side and 9.2 mm from the top.
c) Small flaw 0.8 mm from bottom and 0.5 mm from right side.
- R5 /5 Small flaw between the dot and the 1 of 1958.
- R5 /6 A very weak area 2 mm to the right of the base of the island rock.
- R6 /3 a) Small flaw 0.5 mm below the lower tip of the 3 of 3d.
b) Small flaw above the largest gannet's tail and 2.8 mm from the left side and 9 mm from the bottom.
- R6 /4 a) Small flaw 4.2 mm from top and 8.2 mm from right side.
b) Small flaw 2 mm from right side and 8.8 mm from top.
- R6 /6 a) Small flaw on the horizon and under the right leg of the first N of CENTENNIAL.
b) Small flaw just above mainland 1 mm behind the largest gannet's head.
c) Small flaw 2 mm below the tip of the largest gannet's beak.
d) Small flaw just below the horizon and in line with the diagonal downstroke of the 3 of 3d.
- R7 /1 A 1 mm flaw on the horizon 5 mm from the left side.
- R7 /2 a) Small flaw just below the horizon and under the 5 of 1958.
b) Small flaw 1 mm below the largest flying gannet.
c) Small flaw 1 mm below b).
- R7 /3 a) Small flaw 1 mm above the island rock.
b) Small flaw 1 mm to the left of the tip of the island rock.
- R7 /6 a) A 1 mm flaw, 1 mm below the left leg of the first N of CENTENNIAL.

- R7 /6 b) Small flaw on the top edge of the stamp above the L of CENTENNIAL.
c) Very small flaw above and to the right of the 3 of 3d.
- R8 /5 Small flaw 2.4 mm below the horizon and below the right leg of the third N of CENTENNIAL.
- R9 /1 Small flaw 1 mm below the right wingtip of the largest flying gannet.
- R9 /2 An extensive flaw on the left edge of the stamp to the left of the C and K of CAPE KIDNAPPERS.
- R9 /5 Small flaw just above and to the right of the island rock.
- R10/1 a) Small flaw 3 mm from right side and 9.6 mm from bottom.
b) Small flaw 1 mm forward of the largest gannet's left leg and touching the body.
- R10/3 a) Small flaw 1 mm below the 5 of 1858.
b) Small flaw extreme right top corner.
c) Small flaw slightly below and 2 mm to the left of b).
d) Very small flaw 1 mm below b).
- R10/4 Small flaw 2 mm below the 5 of 1858.
- R11/1 Small flaw above the mainland and under the small flying gannet 14 mm from the left side of the stamp.
- R11/2 a) Small flaw just below the horizon, under the 5 of 1858.
b) A 1 mm flaw just below the horizon, under the H of HAWKES.
- R11/3 A 1 mm flaw 4 mm from right side and 10.5 mm from top.
- R13/3 Small flaw on the top edge directly above the left leg of the second N of CENTENNIAL.
- R13/4 Small flaw 0.8 mm below the left leg of the H of HAWKES.
- R13/5 Small flaw 0.8 mm to the right of the wing edge of the largest gannet's folded wing.
- R13/6 Small flaw 0.2 mm behind the largest gannet's head at eye level.
- R14/1 A 1 mm flaw 5.5 mm from the left side and just above the mainland.
- R14/2 a) Small flaw 1 mm below the horizon and under the largest flying gannet's left side wingtip.
b) Small flaw midway between the bottom of the 3 of 3d and the island rock.

To be continued in the September issue of the Kiwi.