



The Official Organ of the NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY of GREAT BRITAIN  
Affiliated to: BRITISH PHILATELIC FEDERATION

# the kiwi

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VOLUME XXXI No.4

JULY 1982

WHOLE 174

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON SATURDAY, 31ST JULY, 1982,  
AT THE Y.W.C.A. CENTRAL CLUB, 16 - 22, GREAT RUSSELL STREET,  
LONDON, WC1B 3LR, STARTING AT 2.30 P.M.

THE SUBJECT WILL BE DISASTERS,

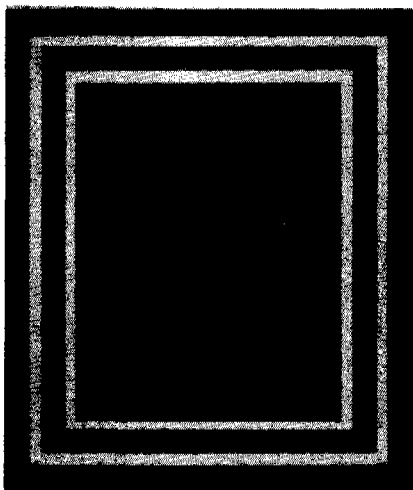
LED BY BRIAN PEACE

ANY MEMBER WHO HAS EXAMPLES OF INTERESTING DISASTER MAIL  
IS ASKED TO BRING IT ALONG TO SHOW

PALMPEX '82.

## PALMPEX'82

NATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, PALMERSTON NORTH, NEW ZEALAND, 15th-23rd MAY, 1982.



### New Zealand's "Mystery Stamp"

The unique 4d. inverted centre of 1904

PalmpeX '82 is proud to be able to offer New Zealanders their first chance to see this outstanding New Zealand rarity. Nothing is known of the history of this variety prior to its discovery in 1930. Only one copy has been recorded. It was found in Great Britain. The stamp has the Picton postmark of March 21, 1904. It is displayed by arrangement with Mr Robert W. Lyman of Irvington-on-Hudson, New York, U.S.A.

SEE PAGE 59.

## EDITORIAL.

As can be read elsewhere in this issue of 'The Kiwi', Palmpex '82 was a most successful Exhibition. My wife and I feel very privileged to have been able to attend, and in a small way, contribute to the activities.

We would like to place on record our gratitude to all friends and relatives who made us so welcome. The hospitality shown to us was marvellous, and will be remembered for a long time. There were some members of our Society who we were unable to meet, and some with whom we could not spend all that much time. Such are the restrictions of the tight schedule that was imposed on us. In spite of this, we were surprised just how much we were able to do. Our thanks, once again, to all concerned.

ALLAN P. BERRY

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### MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERS. We welcome

Mrs. H.A.Mallin, Peddars, Main Road, Brancaster,  
King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE31 8AA.

RESIGNED

P.H.Bladon, 33, Britannia Avenue, Morningside,  
Queensland, Australia.

J.E.Burn, 16, Barton Meadows, Bosvigo, Truro, Cornwall.

D.M.Dodsworth, 59, Balmoral Drive, Bramcote Hills,  
Beeston, Nottingham.

L.Johnson, Welfare House, 10, Burngreen, Kilsyth, Glasgow.

DECEASED

Mrs. E.Mitchell, 4, Trendeal Gardens, Penzance, Cornwall.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

J.R.Hill, 4188, Kincaid Street, Victoria, B.C., Canada, V8X 4N8.  
(previously of Edmonton, Canada.)

R.Davis, 75, Cotefield Drive, Leighton Buzzard,  
Bedfordshire, LU1 8DN.

(previously of Sri Lanka.)

B.Roth, 3, Belgrave Road, Ilford, Essex.

(previously of Barkingside, Ilford.)

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+ MRS. BETTY MITCHELL. +

It is with sincere regret that we have learned of the passing of Mrs. Betty Mitchell of Penzance, Cornwall.

She was one of our Lady Members who will be truly missed and in particular to the Organisers of Ladies' Day. Her support was always there, and if unable to attend in person, she could be relied upon to send us interesting material. On Kiwi Day her thoughts were always with us, which was demonstrated either by the sending of a Greetings Card or some other contribution.

Some years ago Betty wrote an article for publication in 'The Kiwi' on the subject of William Colenso, who originated from Penzance, and whose links with New Zealand was one of her principal interests. Many of us will miss the contacts we had with Betty Mitchell, and our deepest sympathy is extended to her only daughter, Elizabeth.

R.G.

MEETING HELD SATURDAY, 22ND MAY, 1982.  
TRAVELLING POST OFFICES AND RAILWAY STAMPS

The meeting was declared open at 2.30 p.m. by our Chairman, Stanley Cross-Rudkin. Apologies for absence were received from Noel Turner, Allan Berry, A.Harrad, Michael Burberry and from David Churchill, the leader for the day's display, who was in hospital with a broken leg.

Our Chairman put up David's Bronze-Silver Medal collection of Railway and Freight stamps, including the experimental issues used at Wanganui Station, indicating their rarity and raising a question as to the date of issue.

The display detailed the method of production with reference to known and recorded flaws, and illustrated the ways of overprinting the freight stamps. District Managers were given instructions to cancel stamps with a cross. The later issues were overprinted with the station's name before issue to reduce the possibility of fraud.

Phil Evans showed two maps, one of the North Island and one of the South Island, drawn by C.W.Ward in 1951, showing the railway stations and routes. Bernard Atkinson showed postcards with scenes of railways and railway stations.

Mr. Leppard's contribution included a manuscript cancellation and essay card, and blocks of the Railway Centenary Stamps.

Tom Hetherington showed covers with T.P.O. cancellations and our Chairman brought the afternoon to a close with a selection of stamps from 1882 to King George VI issues, all bearing T.P.O. cancellations. His covers included one bearing an early, 1882, South Island railway station cancellation.

Mr. Bacon gave the vote of thanks with our best wishes for David's speedy recovery.

R.G.

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PALMPEX '82.

This New Zealand National Stamp Exhibition was held at Palmerston North in the new Centennial Buildings from Saturday, 15th May, to Sunday, 23rd May, 1982, inclusive.

All aspects of Philately and Postal History were covered, with classes for Thematics, Postal History, One Issue Studies, etc.

Each Exhibitor was required to submit an album of material for the Judges to examine, but only one frame of sixteen sheets was on display. This led to apparent anomalies in certain awards, which could only be explained by the lack of back up material retained in the Bin Room.

Court of Honour displays were provided by Michael Burberry, Gerald Elliott, Robin Gwynn, K.J.McNaught, A.R.Burge, Eric Gibbs, Ray Chapman, Australia Post, Marcel Stanley and W.R.D.Wiggins.

The New Zealand Post Office Display showed examples of the work of Bock and Cousins and included a complete sheet of the Penny Claret Christchurch Exhibition stamp, as well as some museum pieces.

There was strong support for the Exhibition from some thirty dealers who took stands. There were Dealers present from England, Australia and the U.S.A.

The New Zealand Post Office supported the Exhibition from its inception. A fully manned Post Office offering all postal facilities was open throughout the nine days of the Exhibition.

One of the most popular features of the Exhibition were the "Coffee Sessions", held each morning and afternoon. These were half hour sessions at which invited speakers gave talks on all aspects of philately.

On the first Sunday evening of the Exhibition, our Vice-President, Michael Burberry, gave a one hour talk and display on the Pigeon Posts of New Zealand.

The Social Programme included the Chairman's Welcoming Banquet, a Wine and Cheese evening, a trip out to a local brewery, a trip to the Post Office Philatelic Bureau at Wanganui, and culminated in the Awards Banquet on the last Saturday night.

The Exhibition attracted a surprisingly large number of visitors each day. This was in no small measure due to skilful publicity and to the presence of the famous New Zealand problem stamp - the 4d. First Pictorial with inverted centre - and the Western Australia 4d. of 1854 with inverted frame.

The full story of the problem stamp, so far as it is known, is given in the excellent Handbook Catalogue produced for the Exhibition. Other articles of interest to New Zealand Philatelists and Postal Historians may also be found in this publication.

The Chairman and his Committee are to be congratulated on a most successful Exhibition. It is a pity that the experience so gained is likely to be lost, since the next National Exhibition in New Zealand will be organised by a completely new team.

Congratulations to the following members who gained medals for entries of New Zealand material:-

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| Gold Medal           | - R.G.Darge. This entry was also awarded the Palmerston North Stamp Centre Ltd. Trophy for the best New Zealand entry.  |
| Silver-Gold Medals   | - J.McC.Thomson. This entry was also awarded the Stanley Gibbons (Australia) Pty. Ltd. Trophy for the best Classic entry.<br>- Dr. A.R.Marshall (with felicitations).<br>- R.D.Samuel.  |
| Silver Medals        | - R.M.Startup. This entry was also awarded the Campbell Paterson Ltd. Trophy for the entry illustrating the best research in New Zealand philately.<br>- Dr. A.R.Marshall. This entry was also awarded the Ponwinkle International Trophy for the best entry of unpublished philatelic literature.<br>- Mrs. P.Capill; R.D.Samuel; J.Watts. |
| Silver-Bronze Medals | - A.P.Berry; Mrs. J.L.D.Craw; A.Jackson; R.M.Startup.   |
| Bronze Medals        | - A.P.Berry; S.W.Fairbairn; Mrs.V.M.Palenski; R.M.Startup.  |
| Certificate of Merit | - Mrs. J.L.D.Craw; P.Oldham; Stirling & Co. Ltd.  |

E.W.N.

## SPECIAL DATESTAMPS

### 75TH ANNIVERSARY ROYAL NEW ZEALAND PLUNKET SOCIETY



A special pictorial datestamp was used at the Chief Post Office, Dunedin, on Friday, 14th May, 1982, to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Plunket Society. Mail posted in a special posting box at the Chief Post Office, Dunedin, was cancelled with the special datestamp.

### "PALMPEX '82" NATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION



A series of nine special pictorial datestamps was used at Palmplex '82 temporary post office, established in Palmerston North from 15th May to 23rd May, 1982, for the Palmplex '82 National Philatelic Exhibition (Palmplex '82). There are three designs which cover the dates 15th to 16th May, 17th to 21st May and 22nd to 23rd May, 1982, and are based on unusual and interesting obliterations used in the Central Districts area a century ago. FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE N.Z. AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY CORPS.



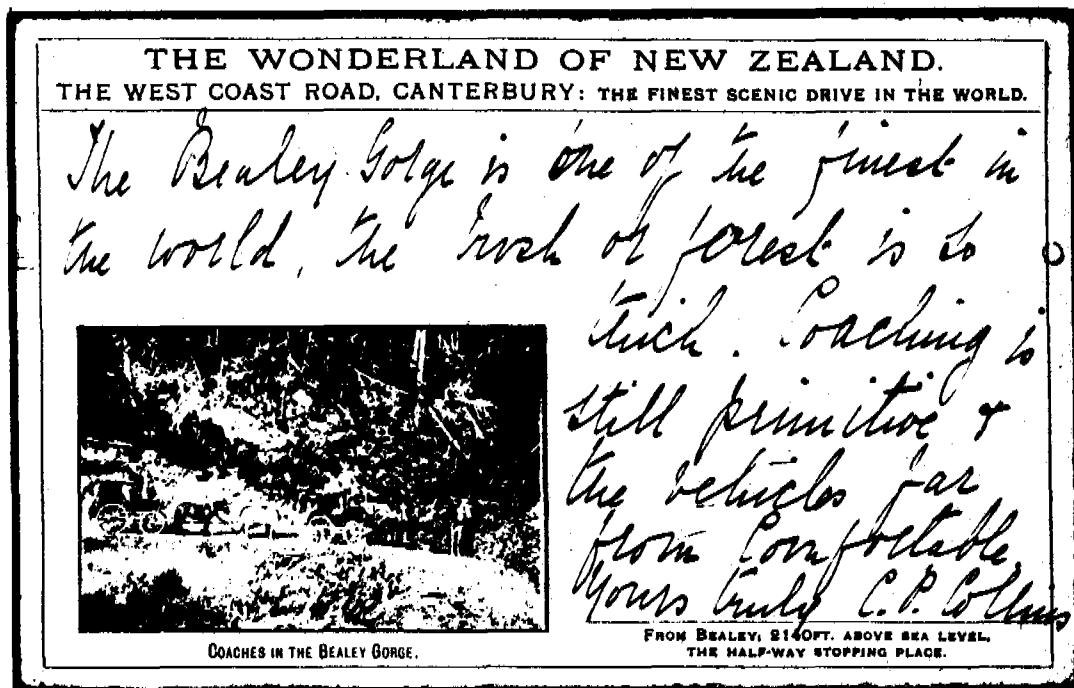
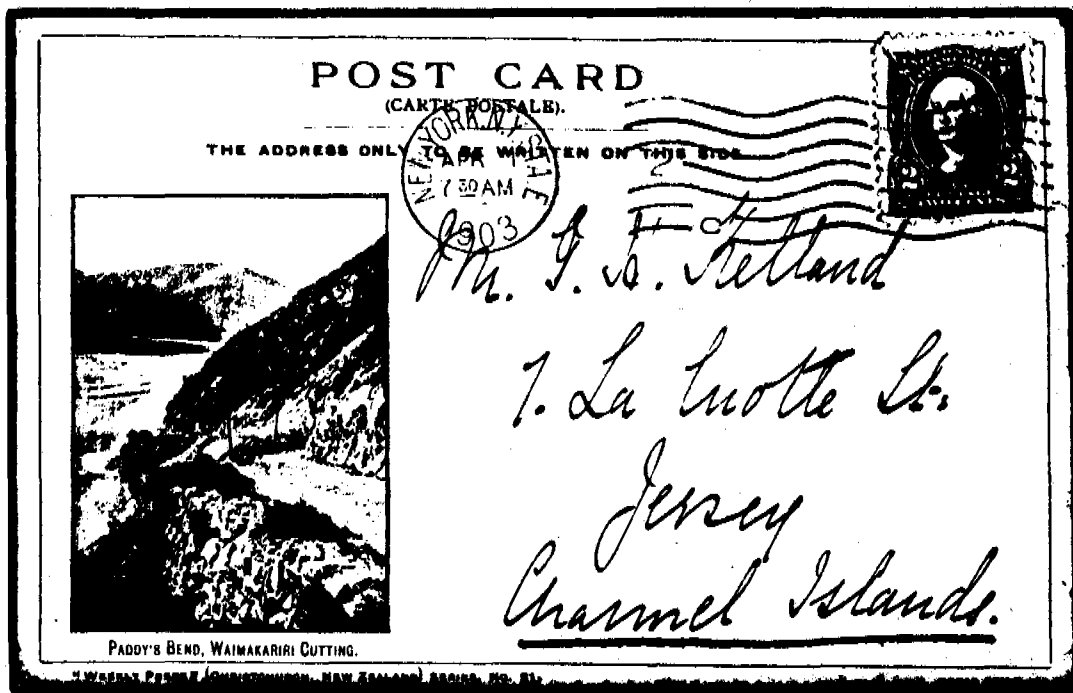
A special pictorial datestamp was used on Tuesday, 8th June, 1982, to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the N.Z. Amateur Radio Emergency Corps. Mail posted in a special posting box at the Wool Exchange Building, Marine Parade, Napier, was cancelled with the special datestamp.

### THE WONDERLAND OF NEW ZEALAND.

ALLAN P. BERRY

The Post Card illustrated on the following page is printed on the front side in black on a pale buff tint, and on the reverse side in black on a pale green tint. It was posted to the Channel Islands from New York on April 1st, 1903. It is No. 21 of the "Weekly Press" (Christchurch, New Zealand) Series. It provides an interesting comment on travel in New Zealand during the early years of this century, with the statement "Coaching is still primitive and the vehicles far from comfortable". It would be interesting to know what were the scenes on the other cards in this Series. If any member can provide further information, I would be glad to hear from them.

I am quite certain that there are other series of Post Cards of a similar nature. Many must lie in members' collections for their postal history interest. When such Post Cards are publicised in 'The Kiwi', much interest has been expressed. If you have an example that comes into this category, then please let me know.



## LATE USE OF OBLITERATORS

K.J. McNAUGHT

Continued from page 33.

1889 - 1918.

On page 370 of Volume VI of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand, I stated:-

"As time passed, it must have become evident from Auckland District experience that datestamps firmly and centrally applied, not only provided evidence of the source and date of despatch, but did in fact successfully 'obliterate' the stamps, effectively preventing their re-use. Consequently, when the decision was made in 1887 to provide all post offices, including the smallest non-permanent offices, with datestamps with the office name, the decision must have been made at the same time to discontinue the provision of obliterators for all but a few collecting or resorting offices. Offices already in possession of obliterators must have been instructed to discontinue their use for cancelling stamps on outward mail, and to use them instead as 'killers' to obliterate uncancelled stamps on incoming, transit, or loose-letter mail only."

The presumed instructions concerning the changed use of obliterators have not been located, consequently there is uncertainty when their function was effectively altered. In the lists that follow, I have recorded the latest usage I have seen, starting from the change from Die 2 to Die 3 in the 1d. and 2d. Second Side-Face Queen Victoria definitive stamps off cover, that is from 1889 to 1890, as a reasonable starting point for late use of obliterators on uncancelled stamps on incoming mail. Of the few covers available for study, most carry no evidence, such as a manuscript endorsement or loose-letter handstamp, to indicate the function of the obliterator.

Perkins, Bacon Obliterators. (Illustrations Volume 111, page 35.)

Akaroa - 4 on 2d. Pembroke Peak, Pirie paper, perf. 11, 1900. (Volume VI, page 364, type 7a.)

Hutt - 1 (Volume 111, page 38, type 31) converted from Wellington small 10 (Volume 111, page 35, type 16) on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, 7mm paper, Die 3, perf. 12 x 11½, 1889 - 1892.

Mongonui - 4 on 1d. and 3d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 11, 1897 - 1898. (Volume VI, page 364, type 7b.)

Wanganui - 8 on 1d. 1898 Pictorial definitive.

Collingwood - unworn upright 15 (Volume 111, page 35, type 23) on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10, with 1893 advertisement.

Kaiapoi - worn 16 with flat top to 6 on Penny Universal, unworn dot plate of 1904.

Postal District Obliterators. (Numbered as in Volume 111.)

1. Auckland Postal District.

Auckland unbroken A (Type 7, page 43) on Penny Universal, Pirie paper, perf. 11 of 1901 - 1902.

Auckland tall thin 1 in oval of bars (Volume V, page 713, type 47, correcting type 44, page 447 of Volume IV) sometimes used on Mariposa between 1895 and 1900 and on Sonoma in 1901 (Volume V, page 714) on 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, 7mm paper, Die 3, perf. 12 x 11½, 1889 - 1892.

A over a number.

- Drury - A over 6 on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive with advertisement, 1893 - 1894.
- Howick - A over 7 on Penny Universal Cowan watermarked paper, perf. 14, worn plate, 1903.
- Port Albert - A over 14 on 1d. and 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitives, perf. 10.
- Aratapu - A over 20 on 1d. and 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitives, perf. 10.
- Helensville - A over 21 on 2d. 1898 Pictorial definitive.
- Raglan - A over 24 on pair Penny Universal Dot plate on cover, no Raglan datestamp, via Auckland, 22 SP 04, to Tasmania. Also on 1d. Christchurch Exhibition, 1906 - 1907, originally cancelled across the corner only.
- Russell - A over 26 on 2d. 1898 Pictorial definitive.
- Taupiri - A over 32 on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, 7mm paper, Die 3, perf. 12 x 11½, 1889 - 1892.
- Huntly - A over 33 on 1d. Terraces definitive, 1900.
- Kawakawa - A over 36 on 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10.
- Ngaruawahia - A over 39 (reversed 9) on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive with advertisement of 1893 - 1894.
- Mauku - A over 47 on 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10.
- Newmarket - A over 54 on 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10.
- Clevedon - A over 56 on 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10.
- ?Frankton Junction. A over 57 (see Volume VI, page 373). Penny Universal faintly cancelled KIHIKIHI 12 JL 07 on cover addressed to Tasmania, backstamped Auckland same day, Hobart 22nd July. Stamp is overobliterated A over 57 used at Omaha until this office was closed on 15th January, 1891, then transferred to another office; either Te Awamutu (if A over 81 used earlier at this office was replaced because of loss or damage) or more likely the important resorting office at Frankton Junction.
- Waiuku - A over 59 on 1d. and 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitives, perf. 10.
- Otahuhu - A over 67 (replacing earlier oval type OTAHUHU 5 over A) on 2½d. Wakitipu, 1898. Re-allocation from Tauranga when this office was transferred to Thames District in 1883.
- Papakura - A over 72 on block of ½d. black Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitives, partly cancelled Clevedon OC 97.
- ?Whakahara - A over 74 on 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10.
- Whangaroa - A over 76 on 2d. 1898 Pictorial definitive.
- Te Awamutu - A over 81 on 1d. Terraces definitive, 1900.



- Pukekohe - A over 86 on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive with 1893 advertisement.
- Puhoi - A over 91 on pair 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitives, perf. 10 x 11, on piece dated Puhoi OC 97. Also on 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, Pirie paper of 1900.
- Hautapu - A over 94 on 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, 4mm paper, Die 3, perf. 12 x 11½, 1890 - 1891.
- ?Pororo-tarao - A over 108 on 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10.
- Mt. Roskill - A over 111 on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10.
- Manurewa - A over 117 on 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10.
- Waiwera - A over 120 on 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 11, 1897 - 1898.
- Kihikihi - A over 126 on 1d. and 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitives, perf. 10.
- Upper Waiwera - A over 128 on 1d. Terraces and 2d. Pembroke Peak definitives of 1900.
- Parakakau - A over 129 on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, 7mm paper, Die 3, perf. 12 x 11½, 1889 - 1892.
- Remuera - A over 133 on 1d. and 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitives, perf. 10.
- Te Kopuru - A over 152 on 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive on piece with Te Kopuru datestamp 17 AP 00. (Re-issue of Queen Victoria stamps in 1898 - 1900.)
- Kaikohe - A over 166 on 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, 4mm paper, Die 3, perf. 12 x 11½, 1890 - 1891.
- Oxford North - A over 167 on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10. (Oxford North was later Tirau.)
- Tamahere - A over 207 (see 'The Mail Coach', Volume 14, page 91, December, 1977) on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10.
- ?Pukekararo - A over 222 on 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10.
- Walton - A over 223 on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10.
- Waharoa - A over 233 on 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, 4mm paper, Die 3, perf. 12 x 11½, 1890 - 1891.

Number only. (page 47).

- Mangapai - 24 on 1d. Terraces definitive, 1900.
- Mangawhare - 26 on 2d. 1898 Pictorial definitive.
- Ngaruawahia - 53 on 1d. and 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitives, perf. 10. (as well as A over 39).
- Pahi - 68 (? 89 inverted) on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive with advertisement of 1893 - 1894.
- Whangarei - 83 on 3d. London Print Pictorial of 1898 - 1899.

2. Thames Postal District. (page 49).

- Thames - A over 3 (type 1 or 2, ? same) on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 11, 1897 - 1898.
- "COROMANDEL" in oval of bars on ½d. Mount Cook and 2d. Pembroke Peak Pirie paper, perf. 11, 1900 - 1901.

- Paeroa - TS over 2 on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10.
- Te Aroha - TS over 14 on 5d. London Print Pictorial of 1898 - 1899.
- Waihi - T over 16 over N.Z. on 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, 7mm paper, Die 3, perf. 12 x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1889 - 1892.
- Tauranga - TH over 19 on 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, 7mm paper, Die 3, perf. 12 x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1889 - 1892.
- Opotiki - TH over 20 on Penny Universal, Cowan watermarked paper, perf. 14, worn plate, 1903.
- Matata - T over 25 over NZ on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 11, 1897 - 1898.
- Paeroa - TH over 2 in concentric circles on pair 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitives, perf. 11, on yellow-toned paper of 1898. This is the only example of this type of marking I have so far seen on any stamp issued after 1887. This obliterator was presumably held in reserve during continued use of the more suitable metal TS over 2.
3. Gisborne Postal District. (page 52).
- Gisborne - GS in oval of bars on 6d. redrawn pictorial, perf. 14 x 15, 1909.
4. Napier Postal District. (page 53).
- Waipukurau - 4 on 6d. Kiwi red, no watermark, 1901 - 1902.
- Wairoa - medium 6. in oval of bars on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, 7mm paper, Die 3, perf. 12 x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1889 - 1892.
5. New Plymouth Postal District. (page 55).
- Patea - T over 3 on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, 4mm paper, Die 3, perf. 12 x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1890 - 1891.
- Waitara - T over 4 on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10, with advertisement of 1893.
- Inglewood - T over 5 on 1d. V.R. Life Insurance stamp, perf. 10, 1894 - 1896.
6. Wanganui Postal District. (page 56).
- Marton - W over 20 on Penny Universal London Print, 1901.
- Waverley - W over 21 on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10.
- Waitotara - W over 63 on 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, 4mm paper, Die 3, perf. 12 x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1890 - 1891.
- Hawera - WG over 6 on 1d. Second Type Postage Due stamp, perf. 11, 1905 - 1906.
7. Wellington Postal District. (page 60).
- Featherston - 3 in rectangle of bars (? recut 3, Volume IV, page 448, type 26) on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10.
- Carterton - 5 in rectangle of bars on 3d. Pictorial, Cowan paper, perf. 14, of about 1906.
- Masterton - 6 in rectangle of bars on Penny Universal Dot plate, worn, of 1905.

8. Nelson Postal District. (page 62).

Richmond - N over 2 on  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. black Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10, 1895 - 1896.

9. Blenheim Postal District. (page 63).

Blenheim - 1 in oval of bars (type 2) on Penny Universal Cowan watermarked paper of 1903.

Blenheim - M over 1 (type 6) on 1d. 1898 Pictorial on cover to Blenheim with boxed LOOSE LETTER and Blenheim datestamp of 25 JL 98. Also 1d. Terraces definitive of 1900.

Blenheim - as last with M over 1 removed, on redrawn Penny Universal of 1908 - 1909, and 6d. redrawn pictorial, perf. 14 x 15 of 1909.

Wairau Valley - 3 on 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, 4mm paper, Die 3, perf. 12 x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1890 - 1891.

10. Christchurch Postal District. (pages 65 - 66).

Christchurch - C in lozenge (type 4) on 1d. and 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitives, perf. 10.

Lyttelton - LN on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10.

Dunsandel - small circle of eight bars on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, 4mm paper, Die 3, perf. 12 x 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1890 - 1891.

Ashburton - C over 12 on Penny Universal Basted Mills paper, perf. 14, 1902.

11. Timaru Postal District. (page 70).

Timaru - TU on Penny Universal Royle Plate of 1906.

Temuka - C over 55 on Penny Universal Royle Plate blurred print of 1907 - 1908.

12. Westport Postal District. (page 71).

Lyell - WP over 10 on Penny Universal Dot plate, 1904.

Charleston - N over 5 on 1d. and 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitives, perf. 10.

13. Greymouth Postal District. (page 72).

No further examples.

14. Hokitika Postal District. (page 74).

Hokitika - 21 in oval of bars on Penny Universal Cowan watermarked paper of 1903; also 3d. Pictorial definitive, Cowan paper, perf. 11, 1902 - 1905.

Ross - C over 6 on 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10.

Kumara - V over 4 on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10 x 11, 1896 - 1897.

15. Dunedin Postal District. (pages 77 - 78).

Dunedin - unbroken O (type 9) on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 11, coarse paper, 1899 - 1900.

Dunedin - broken O (type 12) on Penny Universal Royle plate of 1906.

- Waikouaiti - 05 on 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10 x 11, 1896 - 1897.
- Outram - 07 on 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10.
- Waipori - 09 on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, 7mm paper, Die 3, perf. 12 x 11½, 1889 - 1892.
- Green Island - 010 on pair of 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitives, perf. 11, on cover backstamped Green Island 22 JA 98, endorsed on cover by an old collector "sent from Abbotsford 20/1/98". Also Penny Universal Royle plate, perf. 14 x 14½, 1906.
- East Taieri - 011 on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10, with 4 of 1894 date.
- Waitahuna Gully (from Waitahuna)  
- 016 on 2d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 10; and on Postcard of February, 1894.
- Lawrence - 017 on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 11, toned paper of 1898.
- Clinton - 021 on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, perf. 11, 1897 - 1898.
- St. Bathans - 031 on pair of 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitives, perf. 11, on cover with St. Bathans datestamp of 20 NO 99.
- Ophir - 044 on Penny Universal Pirie paper, perf. 11, 1901 - 1902.
- Waitahuna - 144 on ½d. Mount Cook Pirie paper, perf. 11, 1901. Waitahuna was a new office.
- Kaitangata - 0 over 41, replacing 041 in one line, on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, 7mm paper, Die 3, perf. 12 x 11½, 1889 - 1892.
- Owake - 0 over 150 on 1d. Queen Victoria Second Side-Face definitive, 7mm paper, Die 3, perf. 12 x 11½, 1889 - 1892. Owake is the same as Owaka.
16. Oamaru Postal District. (page 80).
- Oamaru - 01 cancelling stamp on printed card with Duntroon datestamp of 6 SP 94 clear of the stamp, datestamped Dunedin 6 SP 94.
- Waimate - 19 (type 2A) on ½d. Mount Cook, Cowan watermarked paper of 1902 - 1906.
17. Invercargill Postal District. (page 81).
- Woodlands - small 9. in oval of bars on Penny Universal Cowan watermarked paper, perf. 14, local plate in worn state, of 1903.

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THE THAMES GOLD DIGGINGS - " A OVER 3" OF GOLD-FIELDS ORIGINS

JOHN D. EVANS

The comments on the Large Harbours Stamp Issue of June, 1980, reported in 'The Kiwi', Volume XXIX, page 79, included some brief references to Auckland Harbour. Auckland became Capital of the Colony in 1840, a position which was relinquished in favour of Wellington in 1865. By 1870, the Thames gold mining boom had, says the article, "boosted the City's economy and set it on the road to

becoming the prosperous modern city" of today.

In the present phase of Postal History collecting, which has sometimes bordered on the thematic to the extent that thematic collectors exhibiting have been advised not to "over-tip" their National Competition entries into those of Postal History, it seems appropriate in relation to the Thames Gold Diggings to recall at any rate in part what they were and what Postal History was at the time.

It has been stated that in the Coromandel district of the peninsula opposite the City of Auckland as it was in 1852, gold had been found on the east side of the Gulf of Hauraki at that time. This attracted 3,000 diggers but most were disappointed and few persevered. Gold had been found on what was "native" land in 1865, but it was only towards the end of July, 1867, that Gold Diggers were allowed by "the natives" to commence operations.

In February, 1981, a philatelic friend of mine gave me various cuttings and prints from 'The Illustrated London News' issue of September 25th, 1869, and I was delighted to find a report sent apparently to the paper by two correspondents in Wellington of events from July, 1867. Even after allowing anything between 50 to 70 days for a letter to reach England the effort required to compile such a report with widely scattered diggings, spread over many miles must have been time consuming. Here is part of the report.

"As soon as the rich quartz reefs were discovered, a 'rush' followed, and in a short time claims were numbered by thousands. The population at the present time is thought to be about twenty thousand. The principal town - Shortland - is situated on the Kauaeranga Creek, at the mouth of the Thames River. At its back is a range of mountains 4,000 feet in height; in front, towards the west lies the Firth of Thames; and, stretching in a south-westerly direction, are its low southern shores, covered with the forest. Extending towards the north are to be seen the gold-workings, with the tents and stores of the digging community, as well as on the mountains at the back of the town; and southward lie the unopened native lands, supposed to be rich in treasure. The town already contains several banks, first class hotels, churches, chapels, and schools, and the usual public buildings, with commercial stores. Grahamstown adjoins Shortland, to the north of it, and next comes Tookey's Town - the three in fact forming one Township. But, as usual on extensive diggings, the huts, tents, and houses are spread in all directions for miles. Numerous machines for crushing the quartz have been erected over the fields. The distance from the city of Auckland is about fifty miles; a number of steamers and sailing vessels ply constantly to and fro. The Long Drive claim is just now the favourite speculation. Prince Alfred was tempted to become a shareholder. The amount of produce from this one claim, between April and the end of July last, was no less than 6,375 ounces of melted gold."

This report must have been considered 'hot' news because the yield of the Long Drive claim up to the end of July, 1869, was published in London in 'The Illustrated London News' in about seven weeks.

It seems that shortly after the rush started the town of Shortland was laid out in August, 1867, and a Post Office opened

on 1st September, 1867, mail routes having been opened between Auckland, Kopu (Thames) and Shortland, three miles from Kopu. The Taipari family were influential chiefs who favoured the opening of the Gold Field and the name of Shortland was bestowed in honour of the family.

Grahamstown was founded in 1866 by, and named after, Robert Graham, Auckland Provincial Superintendent from 1862 to 1865 but a post office was not opened there until 1868. Three obliterations, all 'A over 3' within seven horizontal bars, were used at Thames, Grahamstown and Shortland, and these are illustrated on page 49 of Volume III of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand, and are reproduced below.



TH 1



2



3

'A over 3' is the only Auckland District Number found on Chalon Heads. I have obliterator TH 1 illustrated above on the 1d., S.G. 111. The 'A' is unfortunately blurred in the example above but this obliterator is readily recognised by the large 'A' and the larger '3'. I also have it on a pair of the 2d., S.G. 115 and on the 1d., S.G. 152 of 1874 - 1875 Queen Victoria First Side-Face definitive issue. The smaller A's and 3's on TH 1 and TH 3 and the general differences can be seen at a glance. In the Duplex Cancellation the 'A' is squat not unlike TH 1 and the '3' is large and not unlike the '3' in TH 2. I have this on the 2d. blue, S.G. 115 and also on the 4d., S.G. 120 and the 6d., S.G. 122. This Duplex must have been in use until 1874 because I have it on the Chalon Heads in the altered colours, 2d. orange, S.G. 128 and S.G. 133, and on the 6d. blue, S.G. 136.

In 1870 the post office at the Thames was moved to a central position between Shortland and Grahamstown and used the duplex cancellation of Thames c.d.s. and 'A over 3' within seven horizontal bars and also illustrated on page 49 of Volume III of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand. The two towns merged and became known as The Thames.

Grahamstown as Graham's Town is said to have opened a post office on 1st July, 1868, which was closed in about June, 1869, no doubt to make way for the merger. However, a double cancellation with the name Grahamstown was in use in 1881, also illustrated on page 49 of Volume III of the Postage Stamps of New Zealand.

Shortland had post facilities on the Waihou River which was named the Frith or Firth of Thames by Captain Cook in November, 1769, because he recorded "on account of it bearing some resemblance to that river in England". From a print published in 'The Illustrated London News' and Captain Cook's fame, he must have been thinking of the estuary rather than the upper reaches of "that river".

From this little incursion into the early history we can add 'A over 3' as an early cancellation with gold fields origins. From the book 'Thames Borough Centenary, 1873 - 1973' it appears that

the real star in the Thames Gold Firmament arose with the production of the Manukau, Golden Crown and Caledonian fields between 1869 and 1871 when the Caledonian alone produced a grand total of 61,581 ounces giving a total value of about \$1,950,000. This proved to be the peak year. The Waiotahi mine operated from 1877 but the continual working of the mines resulted in their gradual exhaustion and by the start of the 1914 - 1918 War the industry had been phased out.

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FINDINGS FROM FILES.

CHARITY STAMP.

ALLAN P. BERRY

The files at present in the custody of the National Postal Museum contain three letters that relate to the proposed issue of a Charity Stamp. The first is a letter from the Trade and Produce Officer of the New Zealand Government Offices, 415, Strand, London, W.C.2. It is addressed to the Controller, Post Office Stores Department, Stamp Section, Somerset House, London, W.C.2. It is dated 12th September, 1930, and reads:-

"I am directed by the High Commissioner to say that he is arranging for a supply of a Die and Plate in connection with the proposed issue of a Charity Stamp in New Zealand. The question of supply lies between two sources, and some difficulty is being experienced in deciding upon the merits of proofs which have been submitted. These two proofs, together with a small photograph received from New Zealand, are forwarded herewith, and the High Commissioner would very much appreciate an expression of opinion from you, as to which of the two proofs you consider the most satisfactory, after comparing them with the New Zealand photograph. He is, of course, most anxious that a satisfactory Die should be sent, and your valuable help in achieving this object will be greatly appreciated."

The Controller replied on 15th September, 1930, as follows:-

"...I have to inform you that the proofs forwarded have been carefully examined and that it is considered that while in the one marked "B" the face is somewhat softer and is rather more pleasing in expression, in other respects the proof marked "A" is superior. The greater clearness and sharpness of line in the latter proof, together with the more accentuated contrasts of light and shade, should produce a plate that will give better impressions in the hands of a good printer than those produced from proof "B". "A" is therefore to be preferred for stamp production. The photograph and the two proofs are returned herewith."

This was acknowledged on 17th September, 1930, with a letter which reads:-

"I am directed by the High Commissioner to acknowledge the due receipt of your letter of the 15th instant...returning proofs of Charity Stamps, and to express his very best thanks for your observations thereon, which are very helpful and will now enable the High Commissioner to deal with the contracting parties."

It is not clear from the files which design of stamp is being discussed, but from the dates of the correspondence, it is most likely to be the Smiling Boy. Should any member be able to enlighten us further, I would be glad to hear from them.

I am very grateful to the National Postal Museum for allowing access to these files, and for permission to publish extracts from them.

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NEW ZEALAND STAMP DUTY - COMPANIES ANNUAL LICENCE FEE.

J.W.BRODIE

For some years questions have been raised as to the nature and purpose of an embossed New Zealand duty stamp known from cut-outs that bore the words "Annual License" in sans-serif capitals.

These questions were first raised by David Churchill in 'The Kiwi', Volume XXVII, page 71, July, 1978, and partly answered in Volume XXIX, page 64, May, 1980.

An entire document has been seen that clears up the question. It is a foolscap sheet that bears the wording :-

"Annual License / Nominal Capital / Fee paid / To whom issued / This is to certify that 'The.....' being a company duly incorporated, having this day paid to me the Annual License Fee required to be paid by incorporated and other companies pursuant to 'The Stamp Act, 1882' is hereby licensed to carry on business in the Colony of New Zealand until the thirty-first day of December, 190-. / Head Office, Stamp Department / Wellington, ....., 190-. / .....For the Commissioner."

The Government Printer's docket number and the quantity printed, 2,500 in November, 1902, appear at the foot.

At the head of the document in the present case above "Annual License" is an embossed stamp for £25. The impression is cancelled in blue ink with a double-lined oval datestamp "STAMP DEPARTMENT / SEP / 24 / 1904 / NEW ZEALAND".

The company concerned had a nominal capital of £50,000, the fee was paid at the rate of 0.05% and the licence was issued to the Manager of the company. With the licence came a folded foolscap blue form on which receipt of the impressed stamp was to be acknowledged. The form was meant to be folded so that the lettering "On Public Service Only / The Honourable / The Commissioner of Stamps / Wellington" appeared on the front. It bore at top right a Crown with "Postage" above and "Free" below. At the bottom left were the words "Receipt Impressed Stamps / Stamp Office ....., 190-."

Many collections of New Zealand revenues contain cut-out examples of these impressed revenues with the words "Annual License" and a wide range of denominations which we can now assume related to a graduated scale of charges for the licence fee.

DAVID CHURCHILL writes :-

Further research at the National Archives in Wellington has led TONY DIBLEY to write with more observations about the fiscal impression problems raised in 'The Kiwi', Volume XXVII, page 71, and Volume XXIX, page 64. The results have been rather



disappointing but the following have been observed.

- 1) Embossed duty stamps of one, two and four pence values, each in different small designs and all quite different from the embossed stamps previously discussed.
- 2) In the design illustrated in 'The Kiwi', Volume XXVII, page 71, the following have been noted.
  - a) ONE SHILLING - on bills of exchange and a contract to supply timber to Government House, Wellington. The contract is dated 13th December, 1869, and the duty stamps are cancelled with an obliterator similar to that illustrated in 'The Kiwi', dated 15th December, 1869.
  - b) TEN SHILLINGS - on a transfer under the Native Land Act, 1873. The obliterator, in similar format, was WELLINGTON / CROWN / 19.10.81 / A.
  - c) FIFTY POUNDS - two impressions on a piece cut from an Annual License and cancelled with obliterator NEW ZEALAND / CROWN / 16.1.85 / O. When one recalls that License Duty was assessed at one shilling per one hundred pounds of nominal capital, it would seem that this would have been one of the very few companies in that league in New Zealand in 1885!

Among the material found in National Archives is a Deed of Bond between John Mitchell of Messrs. Ferguson and Mitchell, and Her Majesty the Queen and entered into on account of his being "...employed to make two dies for the purpose of impressing paper and other material with an impressed stamp...". The deed, however, bears a ONE SHILLING embossed duty stamp and is dated 13th November, 1871. What dies, then, did Mr. Mitchell make? Fergusson and Mitchell are, of course, known as a Dunedin firm responsible for the perforating of some of the Full Face Queen Victoria stamps for the Postmaster at Dunedin. See the Postage Stamps of New Zealand, Volume 1, pages 59, 68 and 509.

I am very grateful to TONY DIBLEY for his help and research.

QUEEN VICTORIA SECOND SIDEFACE DEFINITIVES - 2½d. VALUE.

CHARLES RYDER

At a recent Auction, I was successful in picking up a most intriguing item, a strip of four of 2½d. Second Sideface Queen Victoria definitives, used, with what appears to be a mixture of double perforations and mixed perforations. The top and bottom gauge 10, while the normal vertical perforations gauge 12½. The additional, misplaced vertical perforations, or double perforations, gauge 10. The watermark is misplaced, with the star in the middle of the stamp and the fringes of the NZ at the top. I am satisfied that this is the 7mm watermark, and thus the stamps can be identified as C.P. D4e(Y).

The problem of patching and re-perforating of the Second Sideface Queen Victoria definitives was first aired in 'The Kiwi', Volume XXIV, pages 63 and 117. In these notes, the 2½d. value was not mentioned. It is your Editor's view that the strip of stamps was originally perf. 10 all round, but with the vertical perforations badly misplaced. The sheet of stamps was re-perfed 12½ vertically in the correct position, after the misplaced perforations were backed with strips of paper. After the stamps were used, the

backing strips of paper would be washed off when the strip was soaked off the paper.

Interestingly, these are the first Second Sideface Queen Victoria definitives perf. 12½ which have come my way in over fifteen years of collecting New Zealand stamps. During that time I have seen many stamps of this era which suggests to me that the stamps perf. 12½ are perhaps rarer than the Catalogue suggests.

### ROAD SAFETY CINDERELLAS.

ALLAN P. BERRY

On page 1 of Volume XXX of 'The Kiwi' there was illustrated the reverse of a cover on which were affixed three Road Safety Labels. A brief note was added asking for any further information.

The labels are multicoloured, and appear to be printed by a photogravure process. They are perforated, measuring 11 x 10¾.

From New Zealand, our member JOHN RABARTS has sent the illustration of a complete sheet shown below. Unfortunately, John can supply no further information as to who printed them and on whose authority. So, if any member can help, please let the Editor know.

