

CAPTAIN COQK

NEWSLETTER OF THE
CHRISTCHURCH (NZ) PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC

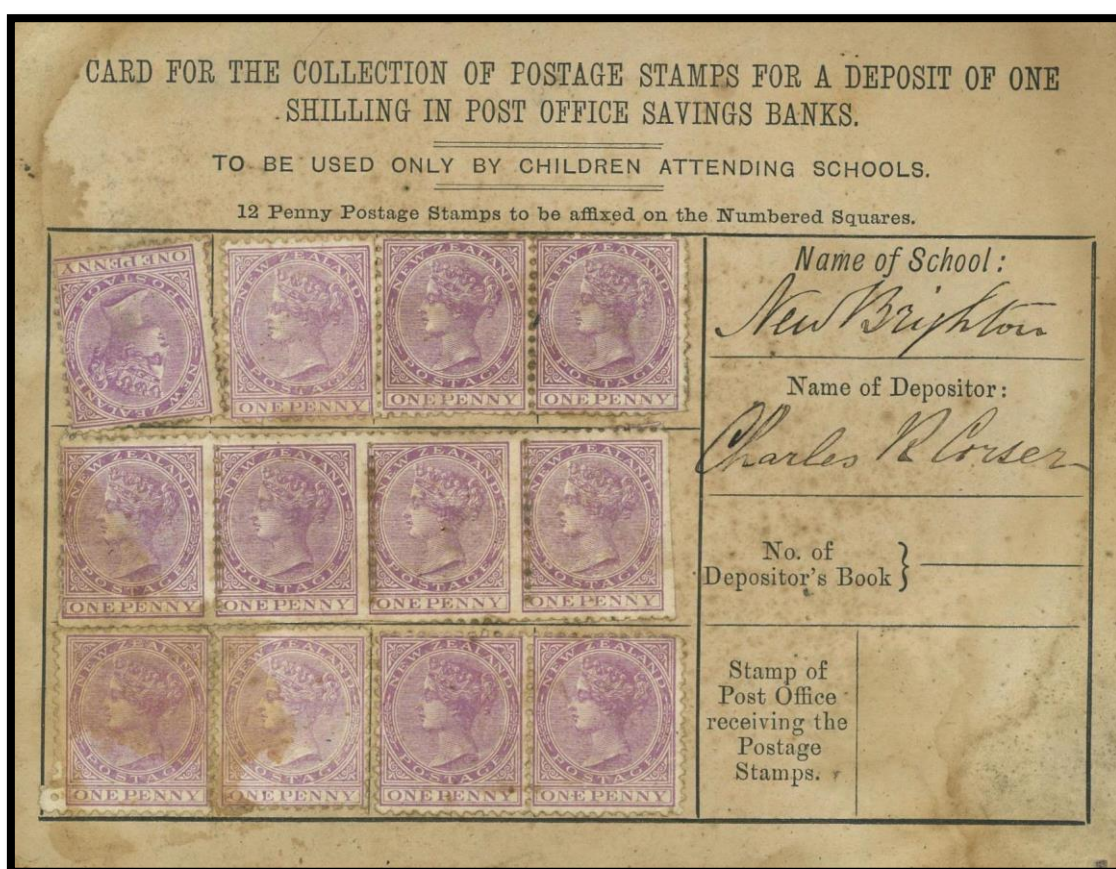
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1881 Post Office "Stamped Cards"

Some years ago I acquired the curious, somewhat stained, FSF item below. I guessed it was from the late 1870's, early 1880's as the 1d stamps were all comb perf 12 x 11½. Aside from what was obvious from the text on the card, I could add nothing further about it until a fortunate discovery during recent visit to the Societies excellent philatelic library.



On page III of the 22nd Annual Report of the Post Office Department YE end 31/03/1881, I found the following:

With the desire to provide a simple and convenient method for enabling school children to save their pence for ultimate deposit in Post Office Savings Banks, the department adopted the scheme recently introduced in the United Kingdom by the Imperial Post Office authorities, for receiving Savings Bank deposits of the value of one shilling by means of twelve penny postage stamps, affixed to cards specially issued for the purpose. The scheme is a most simple one; and, as the labour of book-keeping is not involved, it has been received favourably by the teachers as well as by the scholars. It is more convenient and less costly than what is known as the penny-bank system.

The cards were an immediate success and became known to the post office as "stamped cards"

Page X of the same report goes on to say:

The arrangement recently adopted in the United Kingdom for facilitating the saving of pence, by accepting cards having penny postage stamps to the value of one shilling as a deposit of that amount in Post Office Savings Banks, was introduced in New Zealand in February last, for the exclusive convenience of school children, and by the end of March, 8,684 accounts were opened by means of these stamped cards.

Page VIII of the report for 1882 had the following update on the success and the amount of funds deposited by school children:

In the last report it was stated that under the arrangement which permitted school-children to open accounts in the Post Office Savings Banks by deposits of one shilling in penny stamps affixed to cards, 3,684 accounts had been opened by means of the cards during the months of February and March, 1881. From April to December following, 4,972 additional accounts were opened; and at the close of the year the total number of this description of accounts open was, therefore, 8,656.

The following statement shows the number of shilling accounts which had been opened in each postal district up to the 31st December last:-

STATEMENT showing the Number of Savings Bank Accounts opened in the several Postal Districts by Stamped Cards, from February, 1881, to 31st December, 1881.

Total opened during February and March, 1881		3,684	
Opened from April 1881 to December 1881		4,972	
Postal District	Accounts Opened	Postal District	Accounts Opened
Auckland	366	Nelson	336
Blenheim	14	New Plymouth	40
Christchurch	929	Oamaru	99
Dunedin	1796	Thames	186
Gisborne	38	Timaru	91
Greymouth	31	Wanganui	288
Hokitika	79	Wellington	266
Invercargill	249	Westport	41
Napier	123		

By the end of December 1881, 8656 accounts had been opened, totalling just under £433. By the end of 1887, over £2000 had been deposited in "stamped card" accounts.



Image courtesy of Dave Ellsmere's revenue website

The scheme looks to have continued until at least 1935 as I have examples of similar documents with copies 1935 1d values on, along with others using 1d Field Marshall values in the 1920's.

This scheme was also adopted in Western Australia around about the same time as a virtually identical form has been seen used and dated in 1884. It is unknown if this was due to the success of the idea in New Zealand or following the United Kingdom's lead

Stephen Jones

SOCIETY PAGE

PROGRAMME

JUNE 5 POSTAL HISTORY GROUP

JUNE 13 SOCIETY MEETING Philatelic Sidelines

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that relate to your stamp collection

JUNE 20 LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

JULY 3 POSTAL HISTORY GROUP

JULY 11 SOCIETY MEETING Steve Chivers
Janet Marshall

JULY 18 LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

JULY 25 POSTCARD GROUP

All meetings are held at the Philatelic Centre, 67 Mandeville St, Riccarton, and commence at 7.30 pm. (Library night closes at 10 pm)

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The annual subscription to the Society is \$60.00. A \$10.00 discount may be deducted if paid by March 31st (or on application for membership) Where both husband and wife are members but require only one *CAPTAIN COQK* newsletter to be sent, a combined subscription of \$90.00 is charged, \$15.00 discount allowed. Additional postage is charged to cover the extra cost of posting to overseas addresses. Overseas postage rates are as follows: Australia & South Pacific \$13.20 Rest of the world \$18.70 (Economy rate discontinued)

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New Zealand Hospital Postmarks

Preamble

The writer has collected New Zealand Hospital postcards for many years, albeit wondering why publishers would produce cards of hospitals rather than the unique scenery found in New Zealand! Knowing of her interest in hospitals stamp collecting friends have over the last few decades given her New Zealand hospital postmarks that they come across. These have been in a shoe box for many years, despite the best of intentions to do a one framer or use them in a social postcard exhibit.

The following is the first in a small series on New Zealand hospital postmarks ex the writer's shoe box collection which is secondary to her main postcard collection. The examples are by no means complete and the author welcomes feedback from expert NZ postal historians. There is no specific order for the articles written by the author.

Covers and postmarks from the hospital postmarks are an area often forgotten in the general collecting of NZ postmarks (Startup, 2003). Startup elaborated further that they are often difficult to acquire and it can be challenging to build a substantial collection of them.

Hospitals are large institutions measured in size by the number of beds available and the number of specialist services they provide. For many years, these large and smaller institutions provided mail and banking services on site. Incoming mail arrived from New Zealand Post in a private bag, was sorted and then distributed throughout the hospital departments. Outgoing mail was dealt with in reverse with it being taken to the nearest NZ Postal Mail Service Centre for ongoing processing.

The earliest hospital post offices were opened at the end of the Second World War and they had their own handstamps to cancel mail and registration services were offered in some institutions. The last one (Dunedin) closed in 1999.

Wellington

Before a hospital was established in Wellington, the first European settlers had to make do with the services of Drs Johnston and Dorset, whose practice was based in the Medical Hall on Thorndon Quay just north of Barrett's Hotel. This state of affairs would last until 1847.

The first Colonial Hospital

In 1845, the colony's governor, George Grey commissioned four hospitals, to be situated in Wellington, Auckland, New Plymouth and Wanganui. A requirement was that each hospital should provide services to both the settlers and local Maori. Indeed, when plans were drawn up for the hospital in Wellington, it was referred to as the Native Hospital and that title continued through until the end of 1847 when it was replaced by the Colonial Hospital. The hospital opened in September 1847 and which was built on land donated by local Maori, bordered by Pipitea and Mulgrave streets - on the site where present-day Wellington Girls' College is located. This was the first of the four colonial hospitals to open.

The Second Thorndon Hospital

Plans for a new hospital were drawn up in 1851 and it was opened in 1852. It provided for a significant increase in patient numbers (40), and included was a female ward, and for the first time we see reference to nursing staff - at least to a Matron. By 1870 the hospital was becoming too small for the region and a new hospital was opened in 1881.

The hospital comprised an imposing front entrance which led into a two-storey block, housing administration offices, the casualty/operating room and the Medical Superintendent's

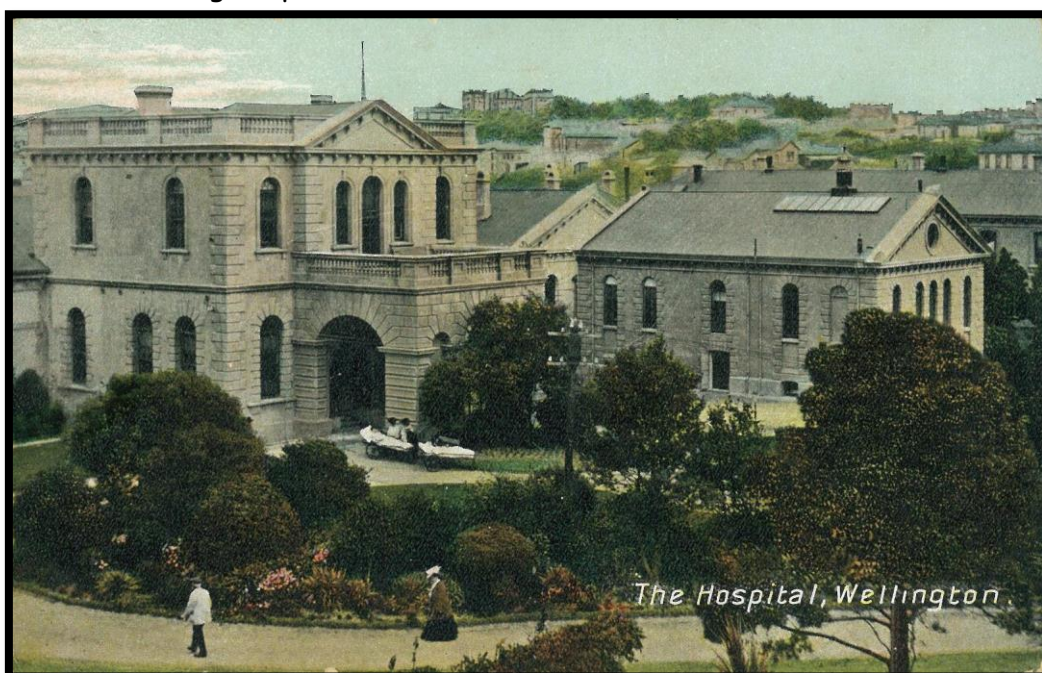
quarters. Behind this, an equally imposing corridor ran in an east-west direction, from which four 24-bed wards extended to the south. The wards were numbered 1 through 4, Ward 1 being the most westerly situated. There were two smaller 'private wards' off the front (north side) of the corridor, each containing four beds, giving a total bed capacity of 104. A separate fever ward, remote from the main building, provided for another eight patients.

The front entrance was reached by a sweeping driveway off Hospital Road - and can be seen in the two postcards illustrated.



A William Nees card. Nees was an active publisher in Wellington before and during World War I, mostly photographing troops training and departing for overseas. The reason for publishing a hospital card is not known.

Further additions were made in 1897, 1901 (new theatre block), nurses home (1904). The Fever Hospital & Children's complex was opened in 1910. Between 1913 and 1939 outpatient, laboratory, x-ray, further wards, ENT department, casualty, cancer centre & cardiology were all added to the existing hospital.



F. T. Card (Fergusson - Taylor) coloured card printed in Great Britain

For some time, the hospital had its own branch Post Office. The Wellington Hospital Post Office was opened from February 16, 1949 until February 10, 1989. The Post Office was situated opposite Ward 2 in a very busy part of the main corridor. The photograph taken from outside Ward 1 looking east shows a nurse aid collecting mail from private boxes.



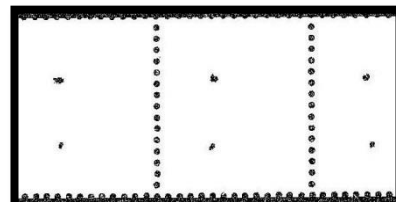
Startup (2003) records the hospital post office as handling mail for patients and the hospital administration. In the late 1940s nearly all post offices offered a Money Order and Savings Bank Service. By providing the additional service' both patients and staff were given the ability to withdraw or deposit money, cash pensions and family allowances' (Startup, 2003 pg. 4).

Circular Postmark used from (Feb 49-Feb 89) - postmark type, J Class

(to be cont)

Sue Claridge

George VI Slot Machine Coils



The above example shows quite clearly punctures from the spiked drum used to engage with the stamp's perforations and incrementally move them forward for dispensing from a stamp slot machine. In this instance, the spikes became out of kilter with the perforations resulting in them piercing the stamps. Consequently, when the stamps were separated from the machine dispenser, they tore along the line of spikes leaving a truncated stamp at each end.

Stephen Jones

Society Competitions

The May meeting saw the annual 16 page competition being held with 7 entries submitting this year. The results were;

Peter Bamber	"The Wild Roses Untamed"	Large Vermeil
Lindsay Carswell	"Postal & Social History of Lyttelton"	Large Vermeil
Robert Duns	"Dominican Republic Postal Cards & Reply Cards"	Not judged
Christine Haythornthwaite	"Damaged Christchurch Churches 2010-2011"	Large Silver
Karen Jeffrey	"Homes of the British Monarchy"	Gold
John Kersal	"The Philatelic Society of New Zealand"	Vermeil
Fred Saunders	"Captain Cook's Voyages Around New Zealand"	Vermeil

Thank you to all who submitted entries, nearly all new exhibits not shown before which is also nice to see, and from the results of a high standard.

Thanks also to the judges who reviewed them all. It was not the team originally agreed so thanks to Karen Jeffrey, Sue Claridge and Robert Duns for stepping into the breach on the night.

While judging was being carried out, the members present had a talk on Indonesian & Iranian Scouts (a letter "I" topic that we didn't have time for last members night) by the President, and one on Taranaki Stamps and Postal History from Andrew McNiven who was down visiting from Upper Hutt.

Paul van Herpt

1939 Express Delivery Using Official Stamps



Although the Post Office had issued special stamps to be used for express delivery mail, it was still permissible to use non express delivery issues to pay for the service. In this instance, ten GVI 1d officials have been used to pay the postage and express delivery charges.

The cover would have had to have been handed over the counter for processing, however using official stamps to cover the express delivery charge would probably have been easier than negotiating with the office petty cash tyrant for 6d to buy the Express Delivery stamp at the post office.

Stephen Jones

Treasury OHMS Registered Envelopes

These envelopes arrived in a hoard of coins brought to the RPSNZ office. The late Robert Samuel's extensive five part listing of New Zealand postal stationery¹ covered items with the postage paid either printed or embossed. The two items shown below were not included presumably because they carried a postage paid imprint. They are, however, official registered mail envelopes used by the New Zealand Treasury to post coin sets. The Treasury, at that time, was responsible for issuing coinage.

In 1967 there were two coin sets which came in two folders - one for the 1965 pre-decimal issue (purple) and one for the new decimal issue (blue):



Coin set folders (courtesy of Bill Leggett Collectables)

The envelope in Fig 2a was used for the 1967 decimal coin set folder.

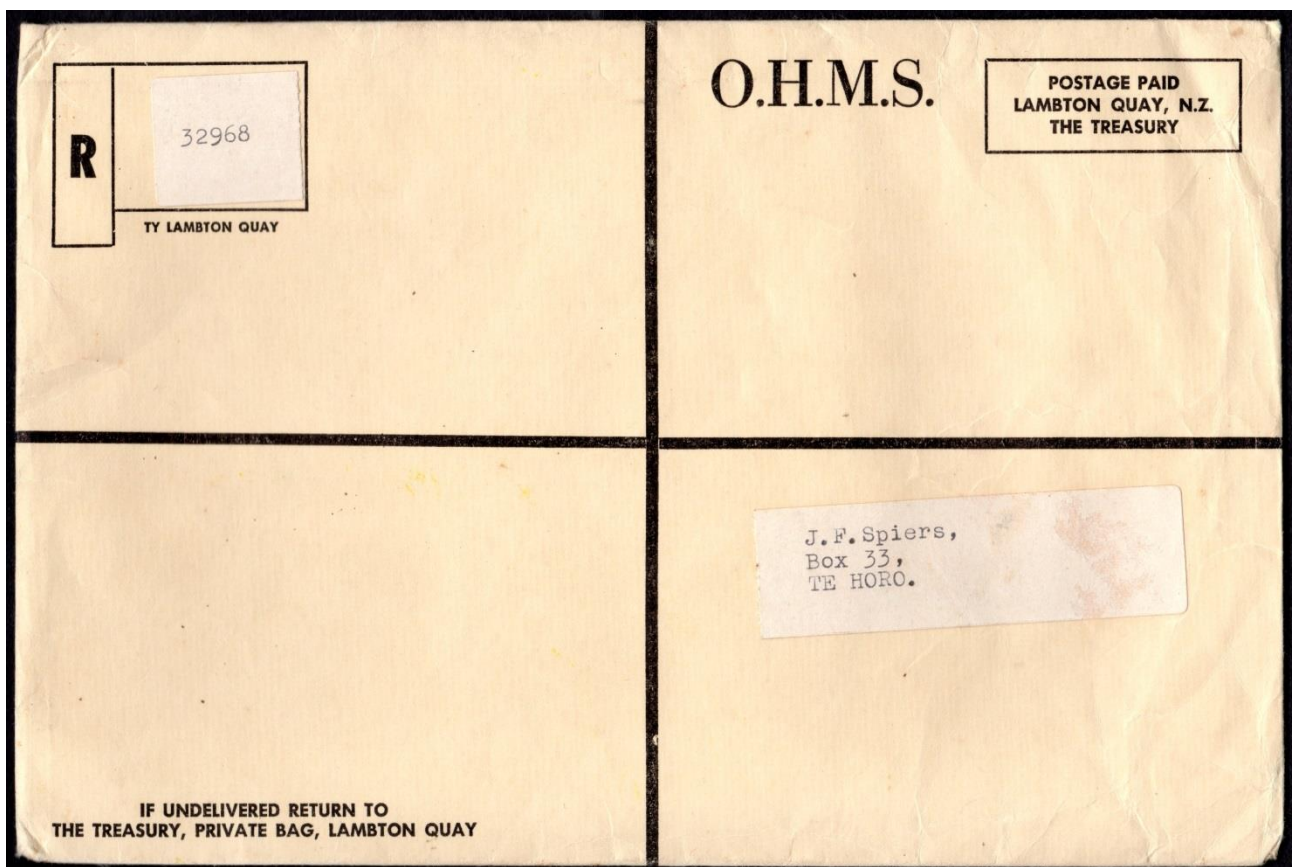


Fig 2a Large format envelope - Front (approx 55% of actual size)

The envelope is a cream colour and shows a vertical mesh. The dimensions are 22.9cm by 15cm but they vary by ~1mm due to the way the envelope was constructed. Fig 2b shows that the envelope is a folded single piece sealed both along the mid-line and by left side flap.

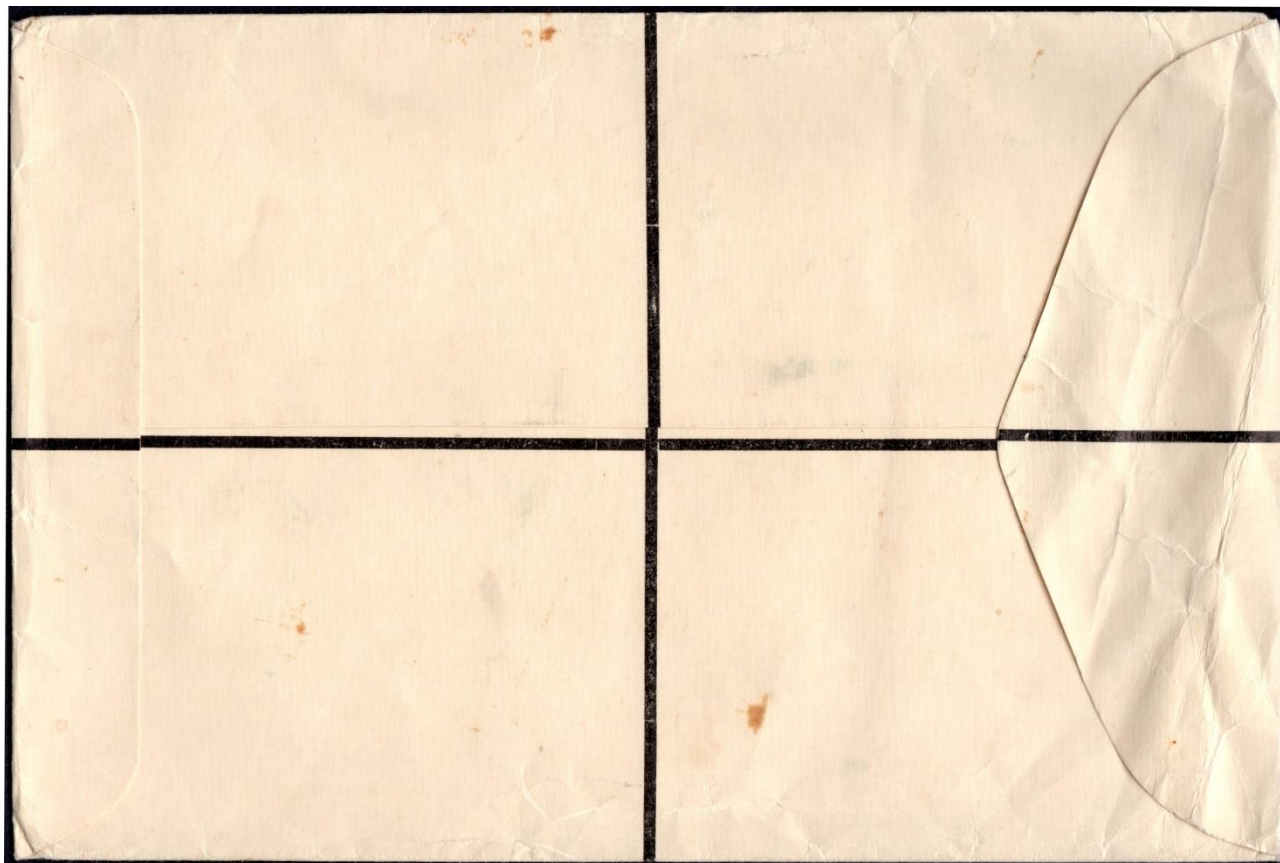


Fig 2b Large format envelope - Back (approx 55% of actual size)

The rounded main flap is 52mm deep.

There is a second example that shows the development in the Treasury's technology. It is hand-addressed with the registration number entered by the same writer whereas; the example above has an adhesive label with the address and registration number printed by machine.

The envelope in Fig 3a was used for the uncirculated decimal coin set of seven in a pocketed cellophane holder.

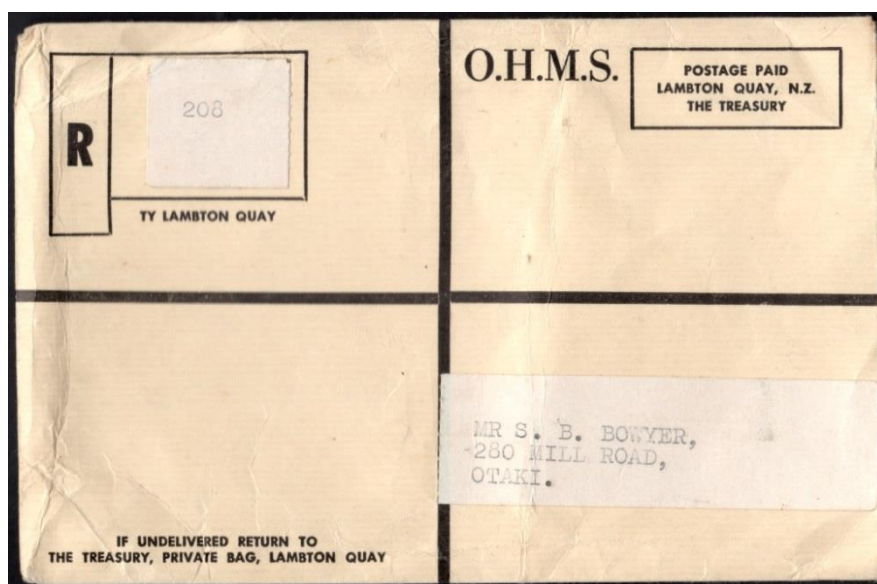


Fig 3a Small Format Envelope - Front (approx 65% of actual size)

The envelope is a cream colour and shows a horizontal mesh. The dimensions are 15.4cm by 10cm. Fig 3b shows that the envelope is also a single piece, folded and sealed both along the mid-line and by left side flap.



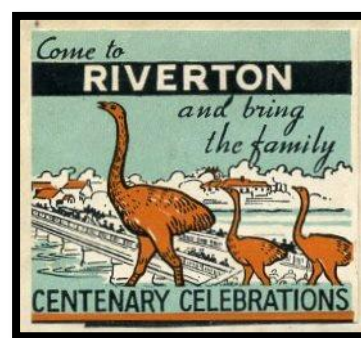
Fig 3b Small Format Envelope - Back (approx 65% of actual size)

The rounded main flap is 43mm deep. The damage to the flap when it was opened makes the measurement approximate. It is interesting that this envelope received two incomplete strikes of the Otaki date stamp. The green adhesion is the remains of the delivery advice label that was attached after the backstamps were applied.

These envelopes show that there is more work to be done to add official items into the listing of New Zealand's postal stationery.

Doug Tennant

1937 Riverton Centenary Cinderellas



Although uncommon, readers will probably be familiar with the cinderella issued in 1937 for the Riverton Centenary celebrations. Usually it is the variety with the light blueish green background that is encountered although there is another, much scarcer variety with a yellow background and additional date details at the base. I recently came across a cinderella issued for the 1936 Adelaide Centennial, which has a number a textual and format similarities and is possibly the inspiration for the Riverton label the following year.

Stephen Jones

The 1956 & 1960 CAUTION Labels

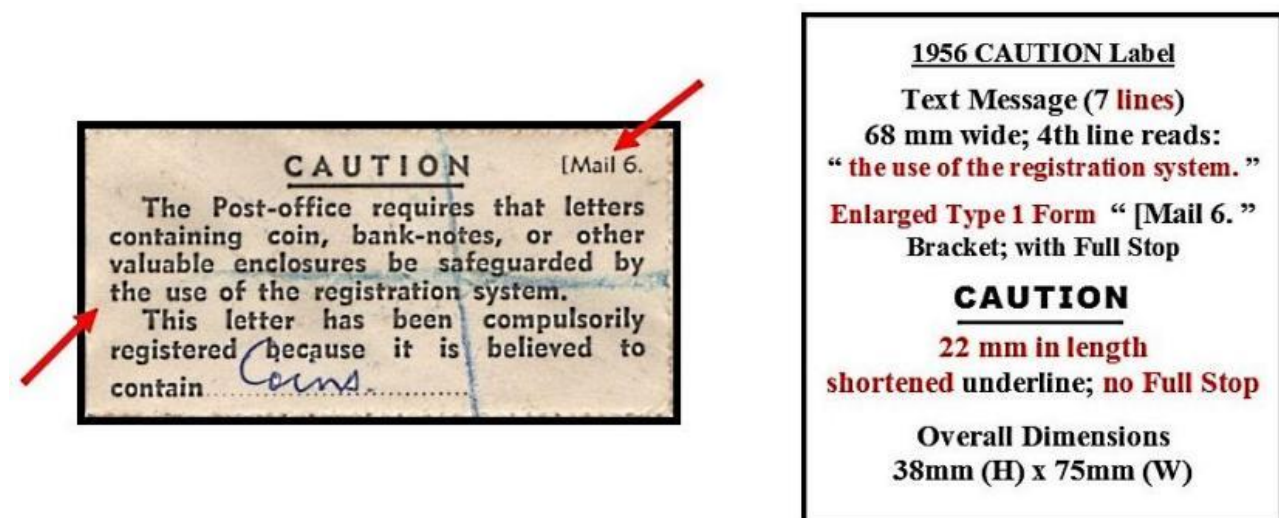
Introduction

Previous articles in this series have described six variations of CAUTION Labels used by the New Zealand post offices during the King George VI ⁽¹⁻⁴⁾ and early QEII ⁽⁶⁾ periods.

This article describes the 1956 and 1960 CAUTION Labels which, on information presently to hand, seems to have first appeared in the early Queen Elizabeth II period. The Earliest Known Usage dates of the 1956 and 1960 CAUTION Labels are 24 November 1956 and 25 January 1960 respectively.

The 1956 CAUTION Label

The 1956 CAUTION Labels exhibit two distinguishing features compared to the 1955 label. The first is an enlarged Form designator “ [Mail 6. ” in the upper right hand corner. The second relates to the text of the of the 1956 CAUTION Label, while also printed over seven lines as was the case of the 1955 labels, which exhibits one important difference, i.e. the fourth line of the 1956 label text reads “... the use of the registration system. “. By comparison, the shorter 1955 text contained just three words “... the registration system.”. Important dimensional characteristics of the 1956 Label are shown below.



The 1956 Caution Label, illustrated overleaf, shows the Earliest Known Usage of these labels, having been compulsorily registered and cancelled 24 NO 56 in Wellington, three days after it had been posted in Wanganui. The fee for registration had been increased to 9d. on November 1, 1956, hence the double deficiency charge of 1s. 6d.

<u>Earliest Known Use of the 1956 CAUTION “ Mail 6 ”(Type 1 Enlarged) Labels</u>		
	Postmark	Route
Type 1 (Bracket & Full Stop)	24 Nov 1956	Wanganui to Wellington
Latest Known Date	6 March 1967	Pongaroa to Wellington

*The 1956 CAUTION Label
Courtesy of the
Jeff Long Collection*

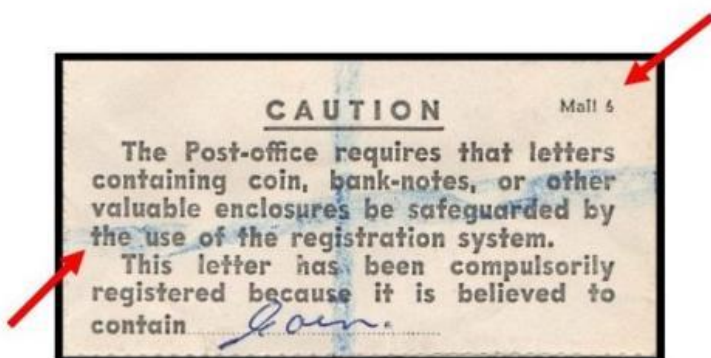


Earliest Known Use of the 1956 CAUTION Label (Type 1 variety - Enlarged, Bracket & Full Stop) affixed to a letter containing a coin - Registered 13 NO 56 within Wellington

The 1960 CAUTION Label

The format of the 1960 CAUTION Labels is similar to the 1956 Label with the exception that the Post Office Form designator “ Mail 6 ” is in size comparable to the 1955 and labels issued from 1946 onwards. The Form designation of the four 1960 Labels examined to date are printed without the leading Bracket and trailing Full Stop. These are referred to as Type 1c as per the classifications described in the first article in this series ⁽¹⁾.

The fourth line of the first paragraph of the 1960 CAUTION Label reads “... the use of the registration system.” which distinguishes it from the 1955 Label ⁽⁶⁾. The important dimensional characteristics of the 1960 Label are shown below.



1960 CAUTION Label

Text Message (7 lines)

67 mm wide; 4th line reads:

“ the use of the registration system. ”

Type 1c Form “ Mail 6 ”

no Bracket; no Full Stop

CAUTION

**23 mm in length
underlined; no Full Stop**

**Overall Dimensions
38mm (H) x 75mm (W)**

The 1960 Caution Label illustrated below shows the Earliest Known Usage of these labels, having been irregularly posted, compulsorily registered and machine cancelled 25 JAN 1960 in Lower Hutt. The letter appears to have been overweight as the double deficiency charge of 1s. 8d. covered double the registration fee of 9d. plus the second weight fee of 1d. for an Inland letter weighing between 1 and 2 ounces.



Earliest Known Use of the 1956 CAUTION Label (Type 1c variety - No Bracket and No Full Stop) affixed to a letter containing a coin - Postmarked 25 JAN 60 in Lower Hutt

Earliest Known Use of the 1960 CAUTION " Mail 6 "(Type 1c) Labels		
	Postmark	Route
Type 1c (Bracket & Full Stop)	25 Jan 1960	Lower Hutt to Wellington
Latest Known Date	10 Oct 1966	Christchurch to Palmerston North

...to be continued

Acknowledgements: The author wishes to acknowledge the contributions of Herb Cowley, Jeff Long, Harold Waite, Paul Wales and Richard Wooders have graciously provided permission for information and images from their respective collections or websites to be incorporated into the database assembled for this series of articles on CAUTION Labels

References:

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- (2) SF Prest "The 1938 CAUTION Labels", *ibid*, Whole Number 777, Vol 44, No. 8, 2016 pp 109 - 110
- (3) SF Prest "The 1940 CAUTION Labels", *ibid*, Whole Number 780, Vol 44, No. 11, 2016 pp 148 - 149
- (4) SF Prest "The 1946 & 1948 CAUTION Labels", *ibid*, Whole Number 781, Vol 45, No. 1, 2017 pp 11 -14
- (5) SF Prest "1932 CAUTION Labels - Earlier Use Discovered", *ibid*, Whole Number 782, Vol 45, No. 2, 2017 pp 31
- (6) SF Prest "1955 CAUTION Labels - Earlier Use Discovered", *ibid*, Whole Number 783, Vol 45, No. 3, 2017 pp 44 -45

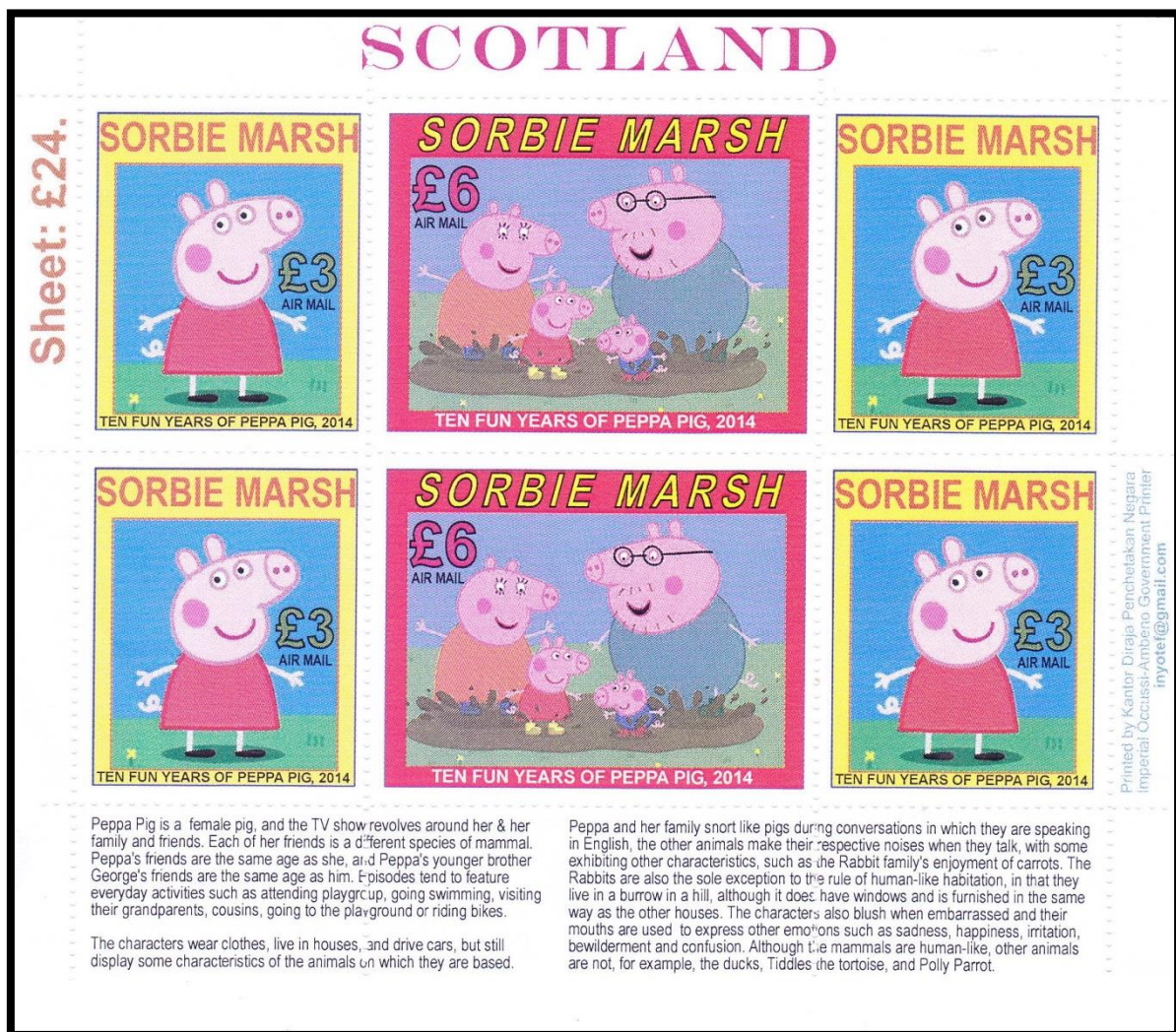
Stephen Prest

Sorbie and Peppa Pig

One of our members, Roger Cox, corresponds with a fellow collector in a small village called Sorbie in Scotland. Roger's correspondent collects Cinderellas and is a member of the Kirkcudbright Philatelic Society, the local philatelic society in the area. This Society runs a junior stamp club in a local school and Roger's correspondent goes on to say:

"One of the members who help run the junior club was telling me his three year old granddaughter wanted some stamps, but only Peppa Pig. So I put on my thinking cap and asked fellow Cinderella Club member and well known printer of Cinderellas, Bruce Grenville.

He had never heard of Peppa Pig but looked on the internet and got hooked. Soon a package arrived in the post of Peppa Pig Sorbie Post stamps so my small village is on the map at last"



Peppa Pig is a character in a children's cartoon TV series first aired in 2004. Each episode is five minutes long and revolves around Peppa and her animal friends and family, and their everyday activities such as riding bikes, going to the playground and visiting grandparents. There are also books, short films and in 2011, Peppa Pig World theme park was opened in New Forest, Hampshire.

Sorbie is a small town in Wigtownshire, a shire in the south west of Scotland.

The Editor



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The web site is up and running allowing orders to be placed directly once you have registered. Currently there are over 12,000 stamps, covers, postcards etc on the site and all are illustrated.

Email us if you have any problems registering or navigating around the site.

There is a search facility allowing you to search for your Interests. e.g. Entering the word 'Railway' brings up around 200 different items.

Website categories include:

- NZ definitive issues from Full Face Queens to the current issues.
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- NZ Health and Christmas issues.
- Booklets.
- Air mail stamps and covers.
- Life Insurance.
- Postage Due and Express stamps and covers.
- Postal fiscals and Revenue stamps.
- Cinderellas.
- Various miscellaneous issues and covers. Postal fiscals and Revenue stamps.
- New Zealand Postal History.
- New Zealand Postal Stationery.
- Antarctic stamps, Postcards and Postal History.
- Various British Commonwealth and Foreign Country's stamps and covers.

Below is a sample of what you can find on the site:



When did you last see a postally used block of six 5/- Mount Cook?
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