

# CAPTAIN COQK

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## 1931 Airmail Cinderella

The early 1930's was a busy time for aero philatelists with numerous flights pioneering different airmail routes. Collectors were spoilt for choice and large quantities of philatelic mail were prepared and flown on the first flights of these routes. So much so, that it is still easy to find a good range of covers from these flights in dealers stock today.



There are some items from this period that aren't common and the above airmail label, used November 12, 1931, is one of them. The 1999 edition of Stapleton's "New Zealand Airpost Cinderellas" refers to this label on page 45. It is illustrated in B/W with the comment "Believed to have been printed for a member of the Airmail Society of New Zealand", and unchanged from the comment in the 1992 edition. The postcard is addressed on the reverse to Billy & Hugh Treadwell in Mataroa and has the superscription "Via Palmerston (North) - Auckland" and an Auckland backstamp. There is still some conjecture as to who produced the labels, but I am advised by Alan Tunnicliffe, recent research by the Airmail Society indicates that it may have been Frank Bray, of the Oceania Exchange Club in Taumaranui.

The postcard is unusual as it features a Dornier X flying boat. Built in 1929, a behemoth weighing 56 tonnes, it was powered by 12 engines mounted front to back on six nacelles. This was barely enough to power it and it wasn't until it was repowered with Curtiss motors that it reached a sufficient flying height to cross the Atlantic. The Dornier's one and only transatlantic flight to New York, via the African West Coast and Brazil, took nine months. After some mixed fortunes it eventually ended up in an aviation museum in Germany. A total of three aircraft were built, the other two going to Italy.

Stephen Jones



## 1947 Health Stamp Poster



The poster features a bright yellow background. At the top, the text "Your GOOD DEED FOR CHILDREN" is written, with "Your" in a red script font and "GOOD DEED FOR CHILDREN" in bold black capital letters. Below this, a smiling girl with pigtails and a boy are illustrated. The girl is wearing a purple dress and has a blue and purple flower in her hair. The boy is wearing a green shirt. In the bottom left corner, two New Zealand Health stamps are shown: a green 1½d stamp and a red 2d stamp, both featuring a winged figure. The text "Buy HEALTH POSTAGE AND REVENUE STAMPS" is written in large red letters, with "Buy" in a script font. Below this, the text "For Children's Health Camps" is written in a black script font. At the bottom, a black banner contains the text "CHILDREN'S HEALTH IS THE NATION'S WEALTH" in yellow capital letters. The initials "W & T LTD" are visible in the bottom right corner of the banner.

**Your** GOOD DEED  
FOR CHILDREN

**Buy** HEALTH  
POSTAGE AND REVENUE  
STAMPS

*For Children's Health Camps*

**CHILDREN'S HEALTH IS THE NATION'S WEALTH**

This attractive, vibrantly coloured poster was printed in 1947 by Whitcomb and Tombs Limited to promote the sale of the newly issued Health stamps. The poster is printed on light paper and measures 279mm x 379mm, and would probably have been displayed inside the post office to encourage people to purchase the stamps.

Stephen Jones

## ***SOCIETY PAGE***

### ***PROGRAMME***

*JULY 3* POSTAL HISTORY GROUP

*JULY 11* SOCIETY MEETING Steve Chivers  
Stamp designer Janet Marshall

### **JANET MARSHALL**

Steve will be displaying his award winning exhibit of Janet Marshall Large Bird definitives from the 1980's, and which will include artwork, postal history and stamp varieties

*JULY 18* LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

*JULY 25* POSTCARD GROUP

*AUGUST 7* POSTAL HISTORY GROUP

*AUGUST 8* SOCIETY MEETING Stephen Jones  
New Zealand issues of EDVII & GV

*JULY 15* LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

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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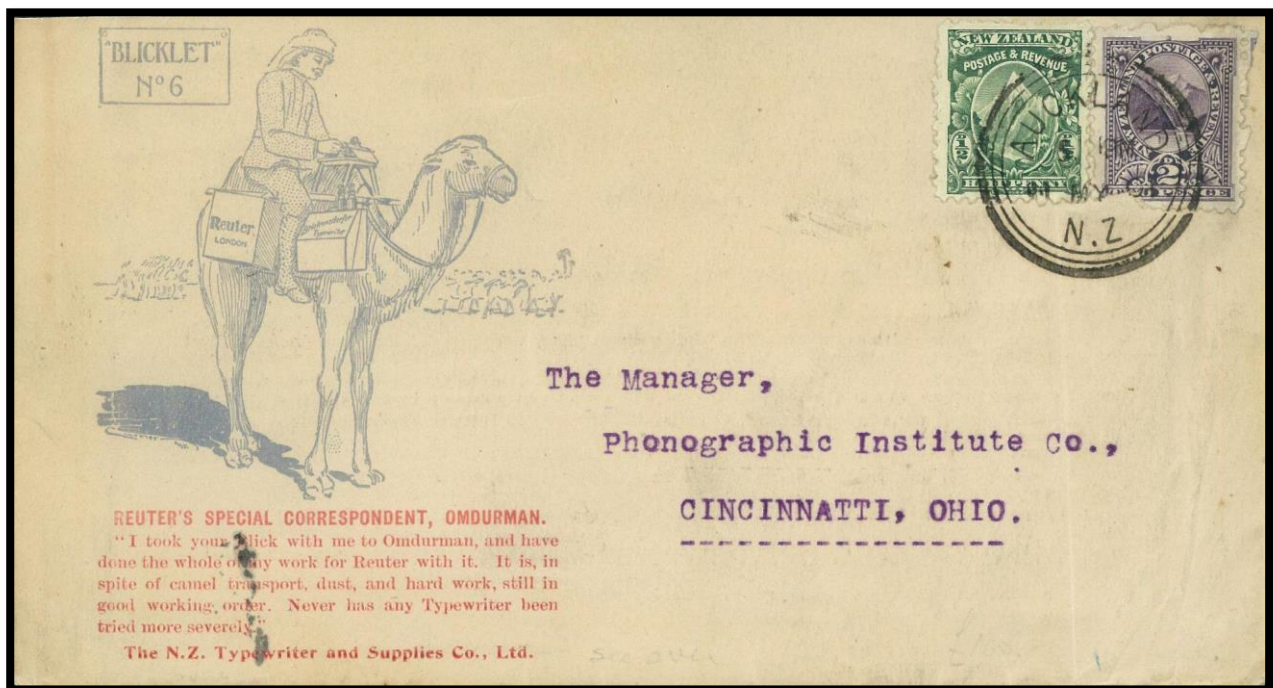


## 1901 New Zealand Camel Cover

Of all the subjects that one would expect to see illustrating an advertising cover in New Zealand, a camel would have to be fairly low on the list. That's why I feel fortunate to have acquired the following cover, ex the late Derek Diamond's 1898 collection, during the recent International Stamp Exhibition in Melbourne. While it has a few faults, it is still a most attractive item, featuring a very unusual subject for New Zealand.

It is from the New Zealand Typewriter and Supplies Company in Auckland and is promoting the "Blicklet" (model) No 6 typewriter. In typical "Boy's Own" speak, the text purportedly from a Reuters Correspondent, Omdurman says:

"I took your Blick with me to Omdurman, and have done the whole of my work for Reuter with. It is, in spite of camel transport, dust, and hard work, still in good working order. Never has any typewriter been tried more severely."



On the back of the envelope, there is extensive advertising for the company promoting their products and that they also have branches in Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin, and agents in Wanganui and Invercargill.

With the help to Professor Google, I was able to find out quite a lot on "Blicklet", or more correctly Blickensderfer, typewriters. The typewriter was named after the inventor, George C Blickensderfer of Stamford, Connecticut. He was born in Erie, Pennsylvania in 1850 moving to Stamford in the late 1880's. His first typewriter, the Model 1, was patented in August 1891, and this along with a stripped down version, the Model 5, were first unveiled at the 1893 World's Fair in Chicago.

They were the first truly portable typewriters of their time and had the added advantage that the typist could see what they were typing. Other typewriters at the time were understrike machines that concealed the printed text from the operator. They proved very popular with visitors to the Fair and demand for the machines in the following years allowed him to expand into a larger manufacturing facility in 1896.

The factory, at its peak from 1903 - 1907, produced about 10,000 typewriters per year and employed nearly 200 people until the factory closed in 1919.

His typewriter design was considerably simpler, using around 250 pieces rather than 2500 as used in those produced by his competition and this simplification of design meant the finished product was smaller, lighter and cheaper than others on the market. He also used a cylindrical type wheel as opposed to having the typeface mounted on the end of the type bars connected to the keys.



Blickensderfer "Blick" No 6

85% words contained the letters DHIATENSOR. Consequently these letters were all incorporated into the bottom, or home row, meaning the typist could keep their hands on the home row, minimising extraneous movement. Conventional QWERTY keyboards were designed to minimise key jamming rather than for ease of use.

The "Blick" No 6 model was the same as the No 5 model but used an aluminium chassis rather than cast iron, making it lighter and more portable. Further improvements resulted in the "Blick Featherweight", known as the Five Pound Secretary. The "Wikipedia" entry indicates the "Blick" 6 was first introduced in 1910 although this date would appear to be incorrect as the cover illustrated was used in 1901.

Blickensderfer died in August 1917 and without its innovative inventor, the company couldn't continue and was sold by his heirs in 1919. In 1926, it was taken over by the Remington Typewriter Company, finally winding up business in 1928.

A search on the NZ Typewriter and Supplies Company returned nothing although <http://oztypewriter.blogspot.co.nz/> contained details of a visit by a New Zealand typewriter enthusiast(?) to a typewriter museum in the USA. During the visit to the museum, he obtained this image of the New Zealand Typewriter Companies (NZTC) label inside one of the Blick cases. While the name differs slightly, it is in all likelihood the same company.



An NZTC branded "Blick" 7

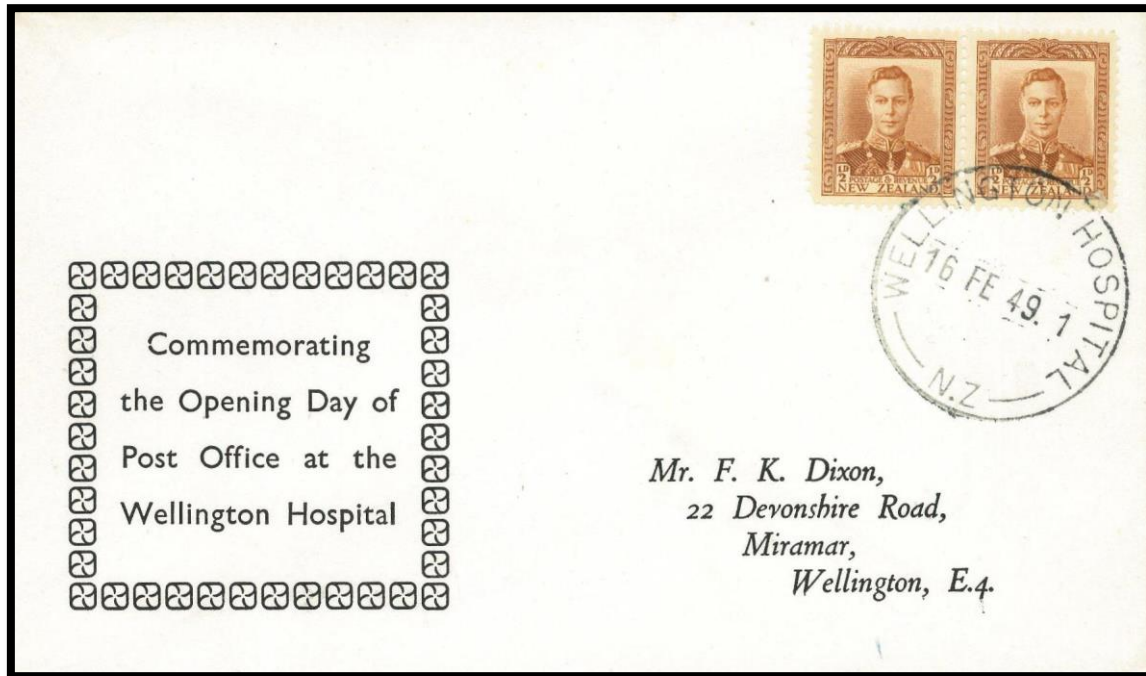
Stephen Jones



## New Zealand Hospital Postmarks

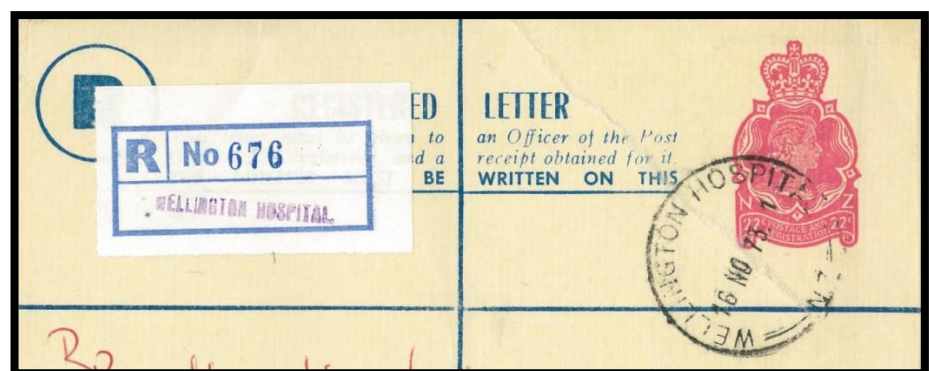
### Wellington continued

One of the first such public hospital post offices opened at the Wellington Hospital in Riddiford Street, on February 16, 1949, with others following in due course. Mail posted in the public posting boxes was taken to the mail room. The larger offices had their own automatic postmarking machines or Reiner roller date stamps.



First Day cover commemorating the opening of the Post Office - circular date stamp

Registered mail was offered by the hospital postal service. This allowed the sender proof of mailing via a mail receipt for an additional charge. Three label types shown - two (4.2cm x 1.8cm) with the registration number in the top portion, one printed **Wellington Hospital (WPT)** and the other having a purple hand stamp **Wellington Hospital**.



The third type printed **Wellington Hospital WPT (underneath)** [4.2 cm x 1.4 cm] has the 'R' and the 'No.' printed in a smaller blue font.

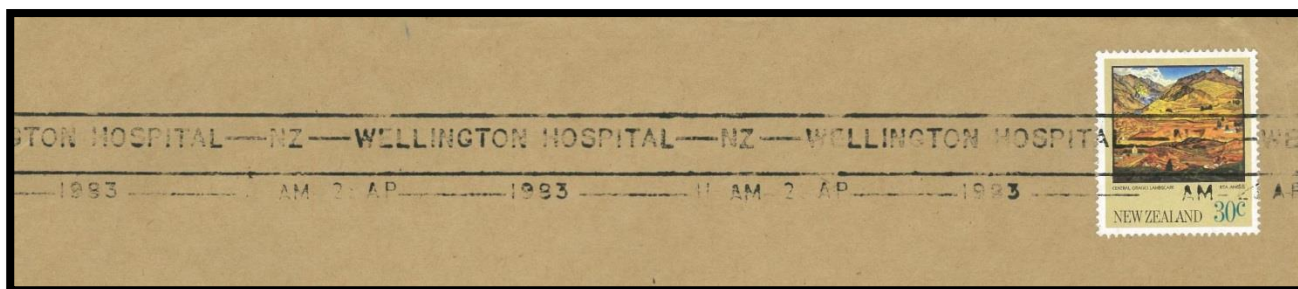




Also noted is the provisional usage of a registered label from **Kilbirnie** (piece only), with a red overprinted hand stamp **Wellington Hospital**.

## Machine Cancellations

The eighties saw the introduction of a machine cancellation as opposed to the hand-stamping of the previous decades. Examples in the author's collection are poor - in some instances difficult to read.



Example of Machine cancellations (period of use not known)

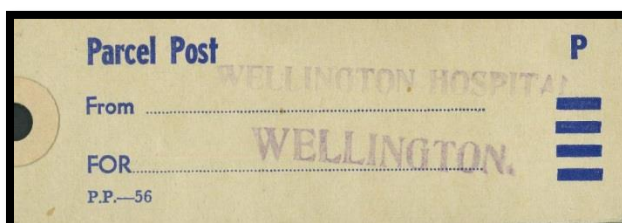
By the mid-eighties, the hospital was routinely using postage meter franking machines. The machine imprinted the amount of postage, functioning as a postage stamp and added in the details of the sender - in this case Wellington Hospital.



Neopost '505'

## Parcel Post Mail Labels

Two types of prepaid **parcel post** mail bag labels are shown for Wellington Hospital. Date of use is not known. The first is pre-printed in blue ink whilst the other has been hand-stamped in purple ink *Wellington Hospital Wellington*.





## Office Used Datestamps

Robin M Startup recorded the P.O.S.B. (circular) and two oval types (Postmaster & Manager) for Wellington Hospital in his 2003 article.



The author welcomes feedback and further information on dates of use for the postmarks illustrated. She wishes to thank her many philatelic friends for providing the ongoing supply of hospital postmarks.

Sue Claridge

## Bibliography

Barber, L & Towers, R. (1976). *Wellington Hospital. Wright & Carman Ltd, Trentham, N.Z.*  
Startup R. M. (2003) *Hospital Post Offices. Wellington Philatelic Society Newsletter.*

## Acknowledgements

Herb Cowley - Wellington

## You Sent It Where?

The printed stationery postcard shown below is one of a series featuring Boer War related scenes and has been uprated with a 1d Terraces as it was being sent from Bluff to Albania.

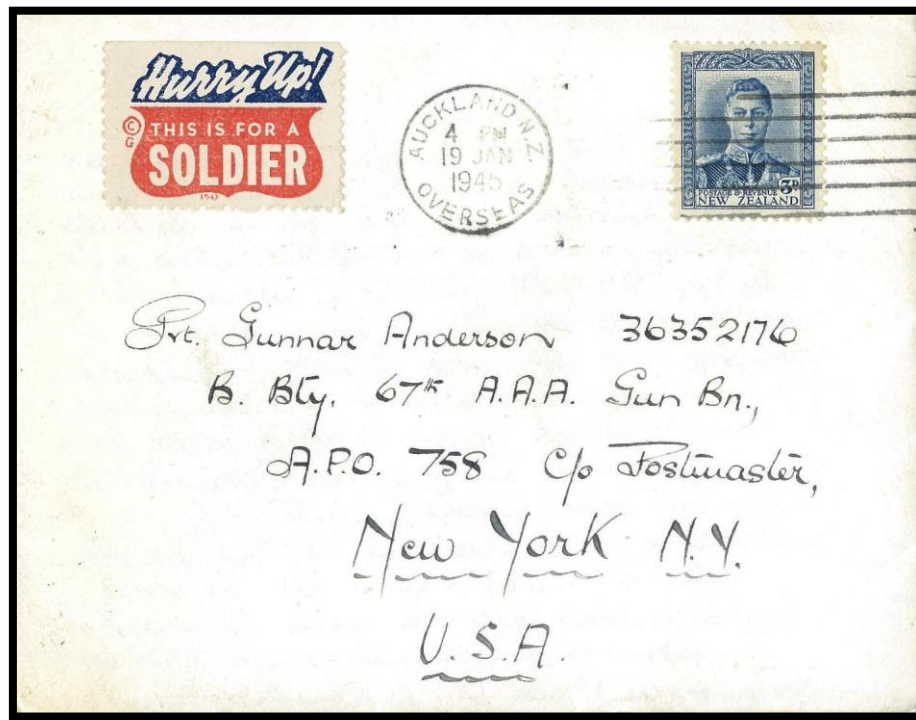


Well, I thought it was and so did the writer as they had addressed it Neu Schloss, Bohm Leipa, Bohemia in Albania. Bohemia, and Prague the final destination are 100's of kilometres north of Albania, however it would appear the addressee "P(r)incess Vera Hohoulbe", was well known enough to have it redirected simply to "Prague", by the post office. The writer would be interested in any details regarding the Princess as Professor Google was unable to assist.

Stephen Jones



## 1945 "Hurry Up!" Cinderella



The above label "Hurry Up! This Is For A Soldier" has been used by the sender in an effort to expedite the transmission of the letter. It is US in origin and there is also a matching label with "This Is From A Soldier" The use of them by US servicemen and families was discouraged by the US Postal Service but it would appear that this wasn't rigorously enforced by them.

Stephen Jones

## 1944 US Patriotic Cover Used From New Zealand



This US Patriotic cover would have been sent to a fellow collector in New Zealand to be stamped and posted back to the addressee.

Stephen Jones

## 1916 Bogus "Passed By Censor" Marking

From Trade Me a few years ago, I acquired a postcard (Fig 1) sent from Troopship 43 to New Zealand in March, 1916. Mail sent from the Troopships is typically unstamped, and may or may not have some form of censor marking on them. The use of a manuscript Troopship marking, rather than a handstamped cancellation, may have raised questions with a collector more familiar with this field as this is very unusual.

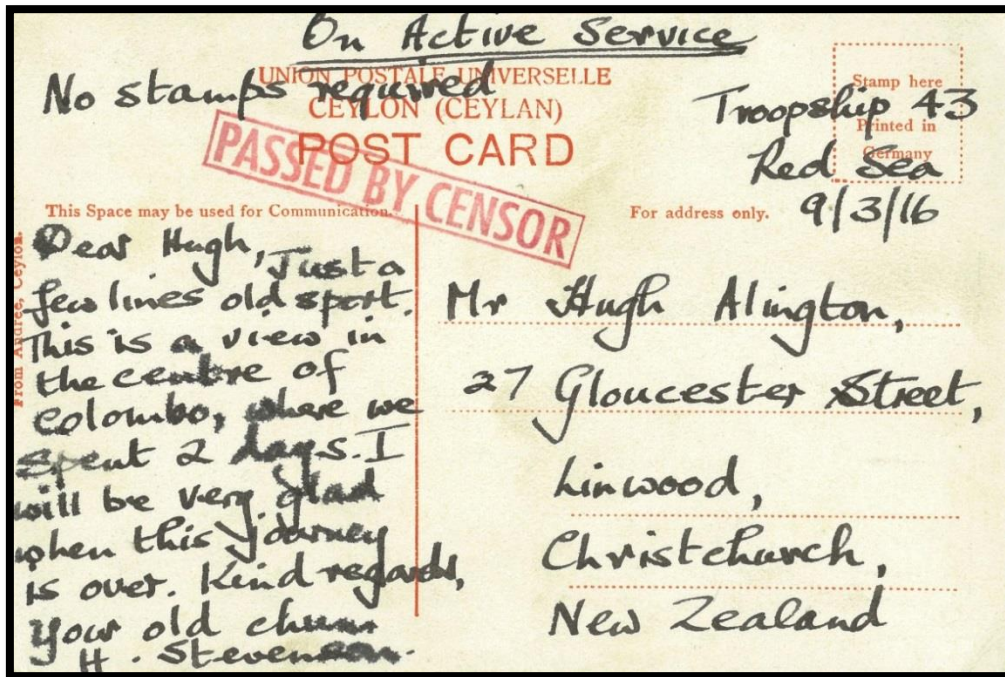


Fig 1 Bogus postcard acquired from Trade Me

A short while after I had received the item, I received an email from Don White, who had also seen the item listed on Trade Me, raising some questions as to the authenticity of the markings on the postcard, specifically the "Passed By Censor" marking.

Accompanying Don's email were images of two similar postcards (Figs 2 & 3), both with manuscript details for Troopship 43 and identical "Passed By Censor" strikes.

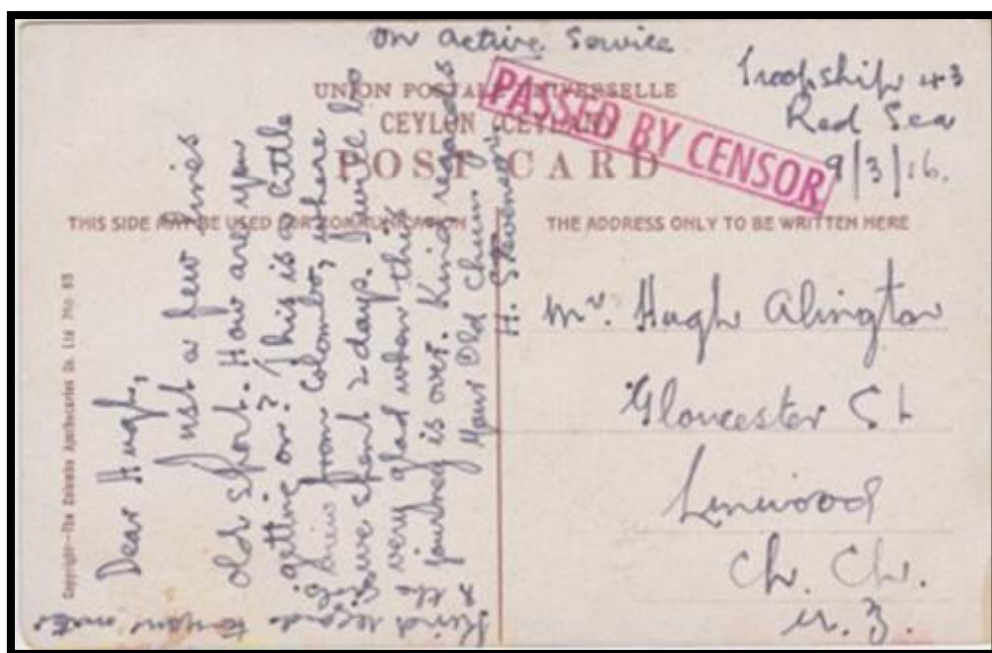


Fig 2 Original postcard (Don White)



That wasn't the only aspect that was common to my postcard as on the postcard shown in Fig 2, the message, location, date and the addressee were identical as well!! The message reads as follows:

"Dear Hugh, Just a few lines old sport. How are you getting on? This is a little view from Colombo, where we spent 2 days. I will be very glad when this journey is over. Kind regards, Your Old Chum, H Stevenson

I would agree with Don that this card (Fig 2) is probably the original, genuinely used postcard due to the pen used, the handwriting, and message orientation and format, although the "Passed By Censor" is bogus.

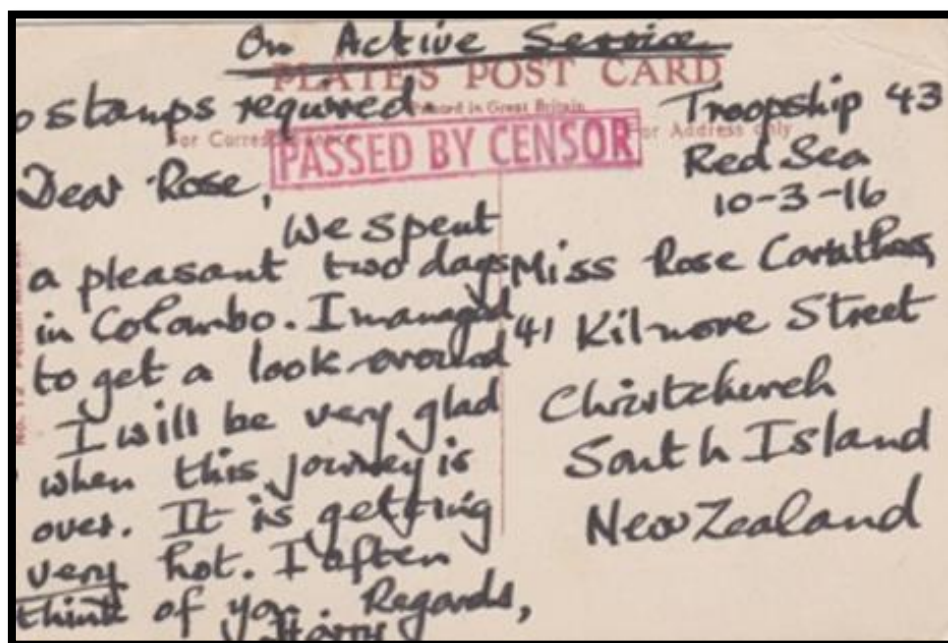


Fig 3 Bogus postcard (Don White)

So while they were on a roll, they made up at least one further fake usage (Fig 3), this time changing the addressee details and removing the reference of the view of Colombo from the message. The handwriting is different but is clearly from the same source.

Whether the creator of the improved postcard and the two bogus items (Figs 1 & 3) felt that the original postcard used in Fig 2 was too plain and needed jazzing up, or they were attempting to add some provenance to the censor marking by applying it to a genuinely used postcard, is unknown. It's a pity the collector that added censor marking to the Fig 2 postcard didn't appreciate the unusual usage of a manuscript Troopship marking on the original.

Stephen Jones

## 1953 1/6 Gutter Strip



The 1953 QEII middle values were printed in two panes separated by a gutter. Later printings had machine turning printed in the gutter to prevent illegal use the unprinted paper.

Stephen Jones

# The 1932 to 1960 CAUTION Labels - Update 1

## Introduction

A series of six articles have appeared in these pages over the past twelve months describing eight variations of CAUTION Labels used by The New Zealand Post Office during the King George VI <sup>(1-4)</sup> and early QE II <sup>(6,7)</sup> periods. These labels served to advise recipients why the post office had decided to compulsorily register an article sent through the mail <sup>(8)</sup>. Typically, compulsory registration occurred as a result of a sender having forwarded valuable item such as coins or banknotes in an unregistered enclosure. More rarely, a redirected registered letter could also be liable for compulsory registration if proper procedures for handling such articles were not followed <sup>(9)</sup>.

Sufficient examples of each CAUTION Label form were examined to permit a determination of the Earliest Known Usage ("EKU") date for each of the eight described in the series. As might be expected, new information has come to light over the past year with the result that earlier EKU's have now been identified for two of the labels in the series.

This article provides a summary of the EKU's for the CAUTION Labels appearing between 1932 and 1960 updated to reflect information to hand as of June 2017.

## The 1932 CAUTION Labels

Alan Jackson's article in the March 2017 "CAPTAIN COQK" issue described a compulsorily registered letter dated 23 February 1931 which established a new EKU for the 1932 Label <sup>(5)</sup>.

## The 1940 CAUTION Labels

George C Branam's article in the July 1999 issue of "The Kiwi" described a cover with a 1940 (8-line) CAUTION Label affixed to the reverse side <sup>(9)</sup>. The cover, Registered in Wellington for delivery in Gisborne was dated 16 February 1940. This establishes a new EKU for these labels of some four months earlier than that described in the December 2016 issue of the CAPTAIN COOK <sup>(3)</sup>.

Another 1940 CAUTION Label was described in Geoff Gooden's article in the May 2001 issue of "The Kiwi". This particular Label featured a printing identifier in the lower left hand corner indicating it came from a 2000 sheet printing dated 12/41. As this date is later than the EKU for the 1940 (8-line) CAUTION Labels, this indicates that there were at least two printings of the 1940 labels. The only other printing identified to date is the 3/37 printing of the 1932 labels as summarized below:

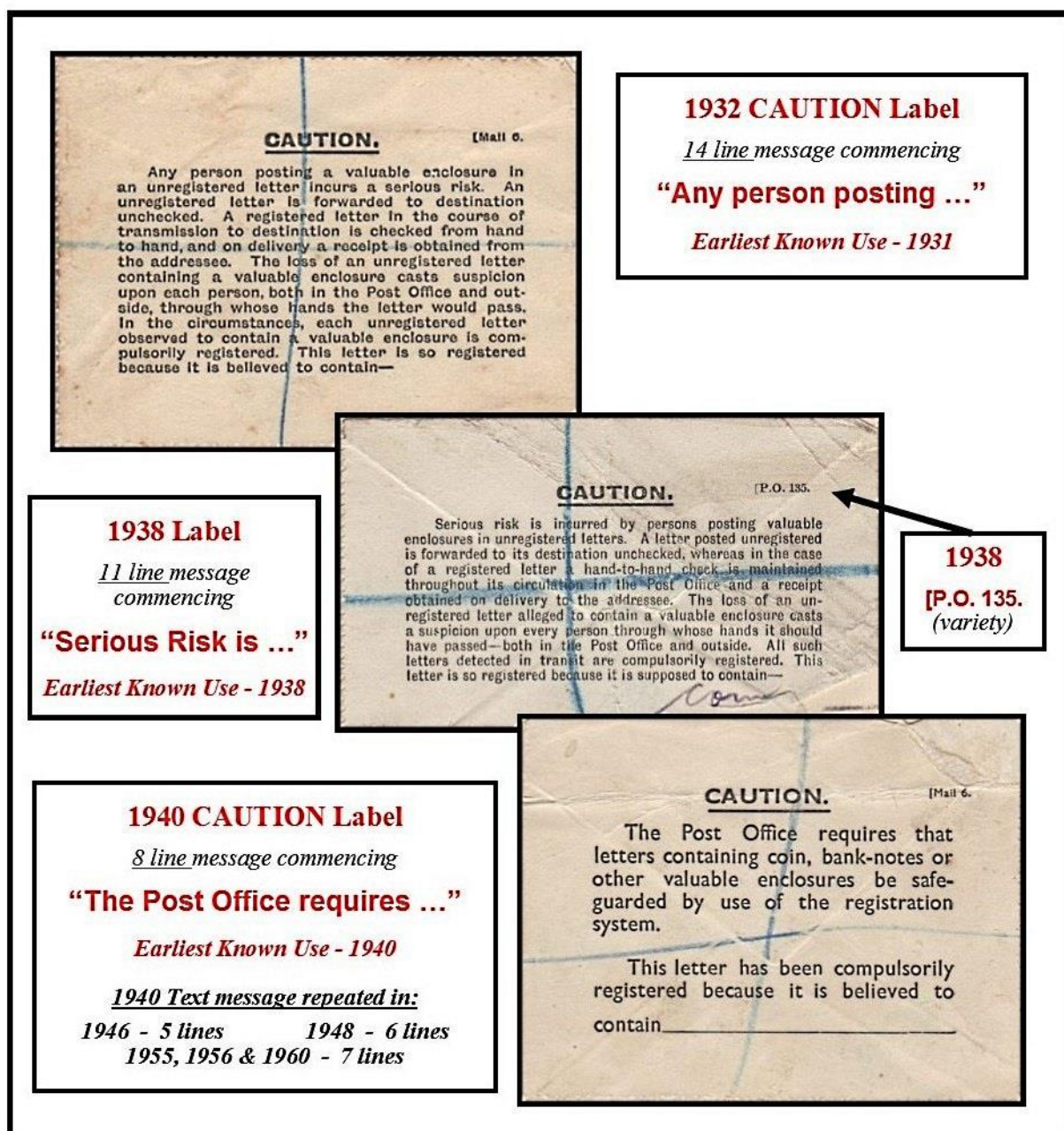
1932 CAUTION Labels	1,000 shts/3/37 - 21393
1940 CAUTION Labels	2,000 shts/12/41 - 13903



## Keys to Identifying the 1932 to 1960 CAUTION Labels

The key characteristics that differentiate the eight CAUTION labels identified during the course of this study are as follows:

- The 1932, 1938 & 1940 Labels have different texts as illustrated below.
- The text of the 1946 and later Labels is the same as the 1940 but printed as follows:
  - The 1940 Label - Printed over 8 lines
  - The 1946 Label - Printed over 5 lines
  - The 1948 Label - Printed over 6 lines
  - The 1955, 1956 & 1960 Labels - Printed over 7 lines
- Key identifying characteristics that differentiate the 1955, 1956 & 1960 Labels are:
  - The 1955 Label - 4<sup>th</sup> line of 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph reads: "the registration system"
  - The 1956 Label - 4<sup>th</sup> line of 1<sup>st</sup> para reads: "the use of the registration system" plus an enlarged font of the [Mail 6. Form Designator] in the upper right corner
  - The 1960 Label - 4<sup>th</sup> line of 1<sup>st</sup> para reads: "the use of the registration system" but the font of the Form Designator is the same (smaller) size as the 1955 Label



## Earliest Known Usage Dates (as of June 2017)

The updated listing of Earliest Known Usage dates for the 1932 to 1960 CAUTION Labels as of June 2017 is presented below. Changes from previously published EKU dates are highlighted for ease of reference.

<b>CAUTION Label Earliest Known Usage dates (as of June 2017)</b>			
<b>Used during the KG VI Period</b>		<b>Use Commencing in the QE II Period</b>	
<b>Caution Label</b>	<b>EKU</b>	<b>Caution Label</b>	<b>EKU</b>
1932	23 FE 31	1955	13 JU 55
1938	1 AP 38	1956	24 NO 56
1940	16 FE 40	1960	25 JA 60
1946	17 JU 46		
1948	23 AP 48		

This update concludes the series of articles about CAUTION Labels that were in use from the early 1930's to the mid 1960's. Further updates are anticipated as new information comes to light. Readers who have examples of CAUTION Labels in their collections are encouraged to contact the author either through email at [stephen.prest@gmail.com](mailto:stephen.prest@gmail.com) or through the kind auspices of our Editor.

One final note; for convenience of readers, the individual articles listed in the References below can be accessed by following the "Topics & Research/Compulsory Registration" links on the New Zealand King George VI website at [www.kgvi.co.nz](http://www.kgvi.co.nz).

**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

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- (1) SF Prest "The 1932 CAUTION Labels" CAPTAIN COQK, Newsletter of the Christchurch (NZ) Philatelic Society, Whole Number 776, Vol 44, No. 7, 2016 pp 96 - 98
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- (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
- (7) SF Prest, "The 1956 and 1960 CAUTION Labels, *ibid*, Whole Number 785, Vol 45, No. 5, 2017 pp 75-77
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- (9) SF Prest & PJ Skinner, "KGV Period Inland Short-paid Registered Mail - Part 2", *The Mail Coach, Journal of the Postal History Society of NZ*, Vol 52, No. 3, Whole No. 401 (Feb 2016) pp106-107
- (10) GC Branam, "New Zealand Postal Censorship in World War II" *The Kiwi*, *Journal of the New Zealand Society of Great Britain*, Volume 48, No 4, (July 1999) pp 93-96
- (11) G Goodens, "An Unusual Compulsorily Registered Cover", *ibid*, Volume 50. No. 3, (May 2001) pp 70-71

Stephen Prest



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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.
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