

# CAPTAIN COQK

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
CHRISTCHURCH (NZ) PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC

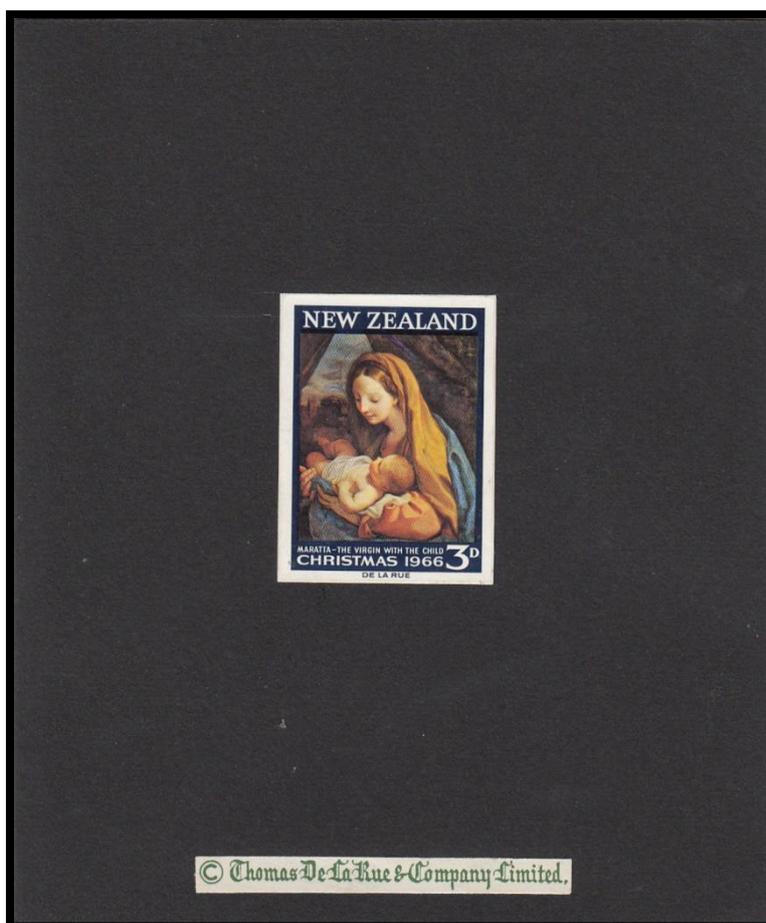
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## 1966 Christmas Stamp, De La Rue Essays

Although the production of the 1966 Christmas was awarded to Harrisons and Sons, De La Rue and Company also submitted at least two different essays for this issue. The first, De La Rue designated proof 266 - 5, was stuck onto a small quadrille ruled page, headed Thomas De La Rue and Company, and dated March 1, 1966.



The second essay is attached to a folded black card measuring 100mm x 120mm. No further details accompanied the folder.

Stephen Jones

## 1985 The Tokelau Bell

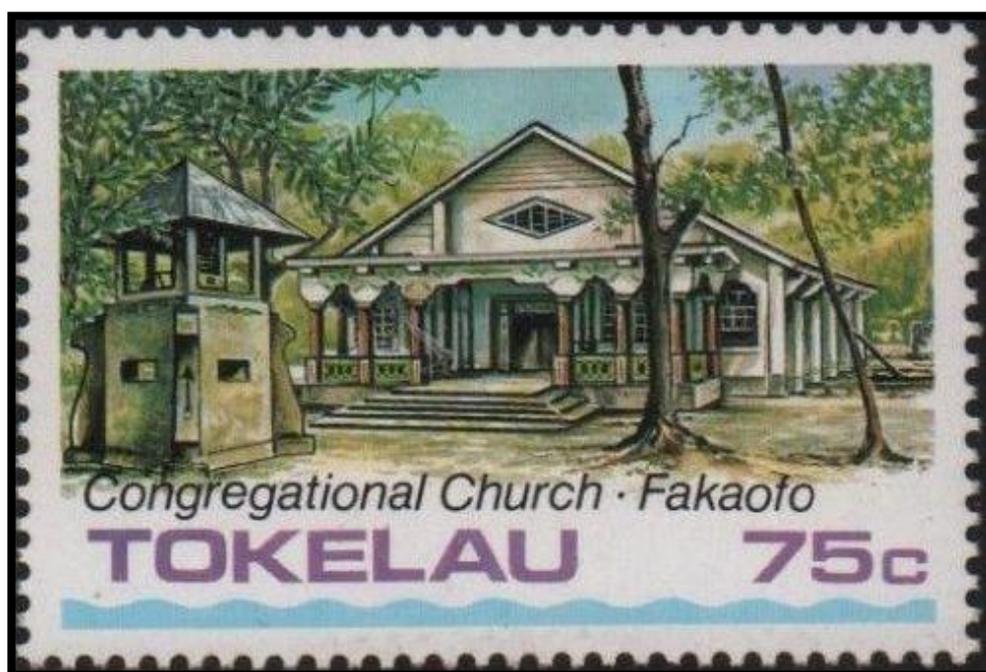
"Well, it seemed like a good idea at the time." Thanks to Ian Swift and the Hutt Valley Philatelic Society, the following is reproduced from the HVPS newsletter.

**Ian Swift** related the "Saga of the Bell". When Ian worked in the Hutt Railway Workshops as the Apprentice Instructor, he worked with Tim, a big Tokelauan man. One of Tim's fists was the same size as two of Ian's side by side. Tim was from the island of Fakaofu and had been in New Zealand for about 10 years when one day he announced that he would be late back from lunch as he was going to buy a Bell. "A big Bell me old mate, about this high and that wide." (this was 4 feet and that was 3 feet). "Where are you going to get a bell that size?" "I'll go to Cable's Foundry me old mate". "But what note do you want it to make?" Tim didn't mind whether it was middle C or upper D as long as it made a noise. The bell was going to be his gift to the Church on the Island - a real landmark to summon everyone to worship. Tim arrived back from an extended lunch happy as Larry. The foundry was going to cast and machine the bell.

In due course the bell was finished but.....!! "Big trouble me old mate". The foundry said Tim had to get it to the island!! After many phone calls, and a threat from the foundry that they would soon start charging storage, it was eventually arranged for the bell to travel via Union Steam Ship Company at a cheap rate to Apia and then on a boat chartered by the Tokelau Administration to Fakaofu. The day it left the foundry to go to the wharf Tim had a "sickie". The bell was blessed, sent on its way and Tim was his usual healthy self when he arrived at work the next day. We were all told when the bell arrived at Apia and the day it arrived at Fakaofu Tim shouted everyone ice-creams.

Months went by and no more news about the bell was forthcoming. When Ian asked Tim how the bell was getting on all hell broke loose. "The bloody bell is no bloody good. The trees on the island are not strong enough so the bell cannot go up in the air. It's only this far (4 feet) off the ground. The bell is no good me old mate" You see the plan had been for it to go up in the air above the church, but the church wasn't strong enough to take the extra weight and the timber on the island was not strong enough to make the bell self-supporting.

It is there for all to see on the 1985 Tokelau 75c stamp showing the Congregational Church on Fakaofu, Tokelau - covered by a small shelter, 4 feet above the ground.



Ian Swift/HVPS

# **SOCIETY PAGE**

## **PROGRAMME**

DECEMBER 4 POSTAL HISTORY GROUP

DECEMBER 12 SOCIETY MEETING **MEMBER'S NIGHT**  
The Letters O, P, Q, & R

### LETTERS O, P, Q, & R

This month's meeting will be bought to you by the letters O, P, Q, & R  
These letters will need a bit of help so have a look through your collections and see  
what will fit in the evening's theme  
Typically there is a fair bit of latitude with regards interpretation, so don't despair if  
your stamps aren't from Obock, Priamur, Qu'Aiti or Rizeh.

DECEMBER 19 LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

DECEMBER 25 Merry Christmas to all from the Committee

JANUARY 9 SOCIETY MEETING Committee Member's Night

JANUARY 16 LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

FEBRUARY 5 POSTAL HISTORY GROUP

FEBRUARY 13 SOCIETY MEETING

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

**SOCIETY ADDRESS:** PO Box 9246, Tower Junction, Christchurch 8149  
(website) [www.cps.gen.nz](http://www.cps.gen.nz)  
(emails) Use the "Contact" facility in the website

### **SOCIETY OFFICERS:**

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<i>Collections Convenor</i>	Paul Clark	<i>Immed Past Pres</i>	Robert Duns
<i>Web Master</i>	Murray Taege		

### **Christchurch (NZ) Philatelic Society (Inc) Subscription Rates**

The annual subscription to the Society is \$60.00. A \$10.00 discount may be deducted if paid by March 31<sup>st</sup> (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)

The view expressed in this issue of *CAPTAIN COQK* are not necessarily those of the Christchurch (NZ) Philatelic Society (Inc) but are simply those of the respective authors

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## A 1-2-3 Tale (Continued)

1 - A postcard was produced by Kuhn & Zonen NV of Rotterdam for H Pander & Zonen depicting an image of their Pander Postjager as a sleek and fast aircraft (or perhaps also described as "stylised") with text in Dutch "Deze briefkaart werd special uitgegeven voor de Eerste Snelpost Vlucht, November 1933" (*This postcard was issued to commemorate the first fast post flight, November 1933*).



There were two printings, one with instruction for use on the reverse side in grey, the other in red. The instruction reads "Voor Retourzending te Adresseeren aan; Hoofd der Posterijen te Bandoeng" (*For return posting address to Head of the Post Office, Bandoeng*). Those who wanted their commemorative special cover back needed to use this address and make sure they used the 30c special flight stamp Nederland in the top right corner for the flight out, and a Nederl-Indie 30c special flight stamp in the bottom left corner for the return flight.



Reverse side, grey instructions, and sent to the Post Office in Bandoeng

These cards will have a Dutch town cancel from early December mostly next to the stamp with the stamp tied by a small red special flight cancel whose text reads "Amsterdam Batavia De Postjager", an arrival cancel in the Netherlands Indies, usually Bandoeng 22 December. For the return flight there was a special postmark "Pelikaan Bandoeng" December 26 and a Dutch town arrival cancel dated December 31. A special envelope was also produced. These items left with the Postjager on 8 December to go as far as Italy, then by train Taranto to Brindisi, Imperial Airways to Cairo, KLM "Ijsvogel" to Jodhpur, KLM "Pelikaan" to Bandoeng. These 5 sectors are not specifically identified and are only identifiable by the departure and arrival date stamps.

Not all mail went to Bandoeng for return post. Some mail went to family or friends who then returned the item, while other mail was commercial mail destined for locations in the Indies.



Reverse side, red instructions, gone to family or friends who returned it  
Note, different Pelikaan cancel, ex Batavia Centrum

2 - A special envelope with text in black top left "Luchtpost per Zilvermeeuw" (Air mail by Zilvermeeuw) and across the middle of the envelope "Speciale Kerstvlucht 1933 Amsterdam Batavia per Fokker F XX van de KLM" (Special Christmas flight 1933 Amsterdam Batavia by Fokker F XX of the KLM). On the back flap was an image of the Fokker F XX with Christmas holly.

Another printing was also produced, with small additional text "Maandag 18 December 1933" under the "Per Zilvermeeuw". These have a normal tariff stamp plus the 30c special flight stamp. The first received the town cancel; the second an circular orange cancel "Amsterdam Batavia De Zilvermeeuw". These envelopes were carried on the "Pelikaan" as part of the 186 kg of mail they left Schiphol with.



Zilvermeeuw specially printed cover (left) with part reverse side (below) showing special label.



3 - A special envelope with text in blue Per Pelikaan Speciale Nieuwjaarsvlucht 1933-34 Batavia Amsterdam per Fokker F XVIII van de KLM Vertrek van Batavia 27 December 1933" (By Pelican Special New Year Flight Batavia Amsterdam by Fokker F XVIII of the KLM departing Batavia 27 December). The printers in the Dutch Indies had a chance to print envelopes with the correct text for the flight which their Dutch counterparts did not have when the Fokker F XX became unserviceable.

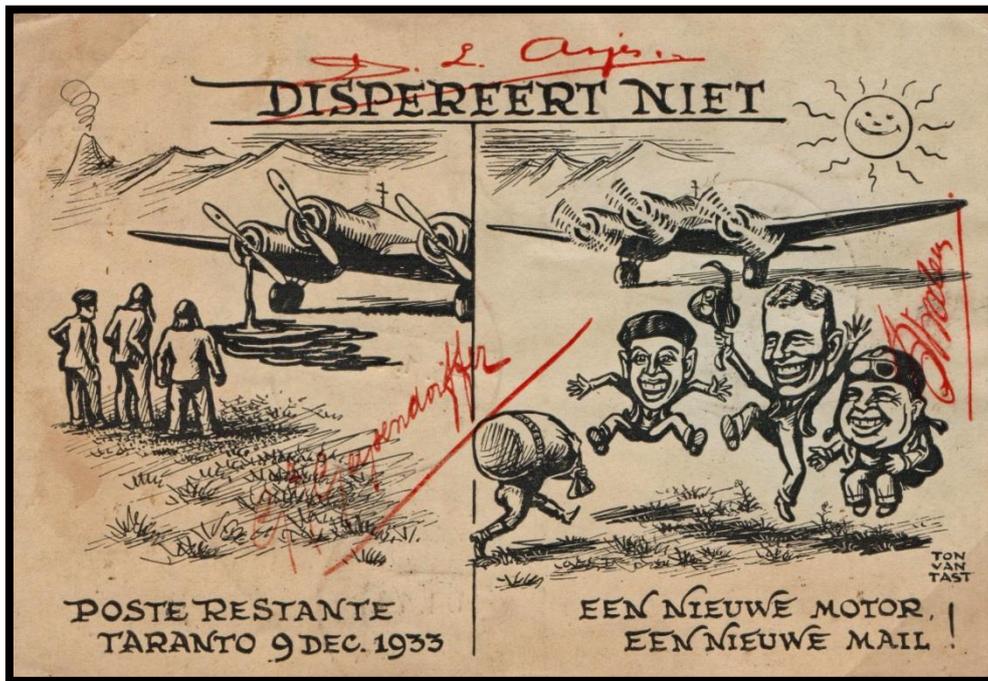


Specially printed envelope for the return flight of the Pelikaan

These envelopes generally are all sent to addresses in the Netherlands and have the normal tariff stamps datestamped by a town cancel and a 30c Nederl-Indie special flight stamp cancelled with a special "Pelikaan" cancel. There were 4 cancels, "Pelikaan Bandoeng" (which was used on most return cards), "Pelikaan Batavia Centrum", "Pelikaan Palembang" and "Pelikaan Medan". These different postmarks were in use in the stops across Java and Sumatra where the plane landed and obviously added to its cargo of mail.



4 - The post card sent to Taranto. Again these cards were printed by Kuhn & Zonen NV of Rotterdam for H Pander & Zonen. These cards were carried overland at normal tariff rates to Taranto in Italy, then by Postjager to the Indies. These cards had the 30c Nederl-Indie special flight stamp were then carried back to the Netherlands on the Postjager return flight on 6 January. There were special postmarks "Postjager Bandoeng", "Postjager Batavia Centrum" and Postjager Medan" and within these there are varieties in the digit 3 and the numbers of vertical lines.



Special card sent to the Postjager crew stuck in Italy, is autographed by the crew members

Ordinary mail was also carried back on the Postjager, but it did need the extra 30c special flights stamp.



Standard airmail with the additional 30c triangular special flights stamp and a Postjager special postmark



The moral of this tale is that you cannot rely on the text on the envelopes to determine which flights or by which aircraft the mail was carried!

Paul van Herpt

### Bibliography

"Luchtvaart en Luchtpost encyclopedie, deel 1" by J L C M T Schroots & H H C T Schroots-Boer

"Uit de Geschiedenis van het Luchtpost Vervoer", by J Boesman, Uitgeverij Davo NV, Deventer

"Pictorial History of KLM Royal Dutch Airlines" by Roy Allen, 1978, Ian Allan Ltd, London

## 1904 Montserrat: A Philatelic Coincidence

As members of the CPS may be aware, I have a specialised collection of Montserrat, a British Overseas territory situated in the West Indies. A part of this collection was displayed last year at a CPS meeting

Early correspondence from the island is scarce but I do have number of entire letters from 1790 onwards from sugar estate managers to the owners in London with lots of interesting detail as to how the estates were run. I have forwarded copies of these to the Montserrat National Trust who run the island's museum, and as a result they have included my email address in their contacts.

From time to time I receive requests about family history and normally refer these onto the Colonial Records Office in London. Earlier this year I received a request from a lady in Hawaii seeking information on her family history. She was aware that one of her ancestors, a sister of her Great Grandmother, was living on the island when they got married in 1857 and that they worked on one of the lime plantations. At the turn of the century, one of the siblings moved to Hawaii.

Mail between Montserrat and Hawaii is rare but coincidentally I had a cover, posted in 1904, addressed to the Sandwich Islands, the original name given by Captain Cook to the island group.



The lady and her sister had gone to Montserrat in an effort to find more information on her ancestors but to no avail. On her return, I scanned the cover and emailed a copy to her. The following is her response (abridged)

"I am so pleased to receive your scan. I have printed off a copy for my niece who is visiting Hawaii from England; she was also named Juliet after this relative. Really, to see a single women's printed business stationery makes me so proud of her. She never married, left no heirs and took care of her mother after her father died. She is probably buried on Montserrat with her grave now covered in ash and rubble from the volcano.

We know nothing about her and yet here is her handwriting staring us in the face and it is all because of you that we have discovered this sparkling gem of information!

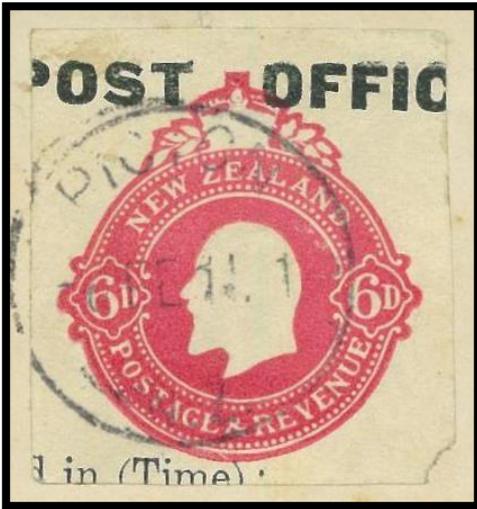
THANK YOU SO MUCH!"

Note, the southern part of Montserrat suffered significant ongoing damage from a series of volcanic eruptions beginning in 1995. (Ed)

Mike Smith

## 1911 Edward VII Telegram Form Cutout

Volume IX of *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand* covers all aspects of the New Zealand postal stationery issues and the late Robert Samuel, a member of the CPS for many years, was a significant contributor to the volume. One of the more unusual items included is a 6d impression incorporating Edward VII for use on telegram forms.



This was the first and only time that the post office had adopted this idea; however it doesn't look to have been a success. Exhibitor and leading NZ Postal Stationery specialist Steve Schumann records in his exhibit only four complete forms and two cutouts known.

What was also unusual was the impression contained the words "Postage & Revenue" inferring that it could be used for those purposes. While these words had been included in the design of New Zealand stamps from the Second Sideface issue of 1882, they were not incorporated in the stamp impressions on postal stationery. The reason for its inclusion in this instance is not known with any certainty.

By the 1900's, the Post Office had permitted the use of postal stationery cutouts in the place of postage stamps pasted on envelopes and examples of covers, both commercial and philatelic, franked in this manner are known. While there was no likelihood the telegraph stamp would be used for revenue purposes, postal usage was a possibility.



The "Steinkamp" cover

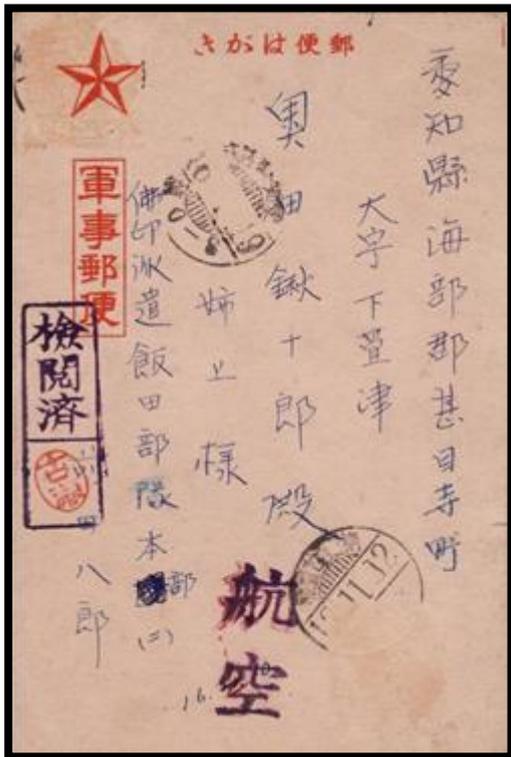
Volume IX of *The Postage Stamps of New Zealand*, on page 322, refers to one such cover sent with the postage paid using a Telegraph stamp cutout, see following:

"Dr Peter Steinkamp, of Germany, has reported a copy of the 6d Telegraph stamp used on cover. A cut-out of the stamp has been affixed to the cover and, although of philatelic origin, the stamp nevertheless has been accepted as a postage stamp. The stamp was in fact inscribed POSTAGE & REVENUE and, although intended to stamp telegraph forms, its use for postal purposes would appear to have been quite valid. The Steinkamp cover had been posted at Picton, on 7 February, 1911."

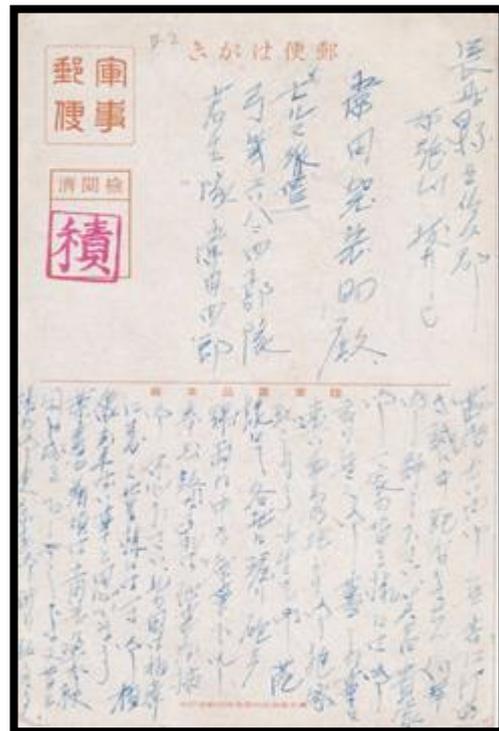
Stephen Jones

## Indian Ocean Raid

At 0:30am on December 8, 1941, (before the attack on Pearl Harbour started), a Japanese fleet bombarded Kota Bharu, Kelantan, starting the invasion of Malaya. Prince of Wales and Repulse are sunk on December 10 whilst on the way to attack the invasion force. Although British and Empire troops outnumber the Japanese, they are being continually pushed back. December 19 General Bennett, commander 8<sup>th</sup> Australian Division in Malaya, begs for a division from Egypt. Australian Prime Minister, John Curtin, cables Churchill to ask what resources will be sent to stop the Japanese advance. However, by December 20, Britain had effectively written off Malaya. Churchill is pressing the US to take responsibility for the defence of the Pacific including Australia and New Zealand. British plans were to garrison Java and Sumatra, and move the main naval base from Singapore to Ceylon.



IJA 25th Army, French Indochina, cancelled November 12 1941, just prior to their invasion of Malaya

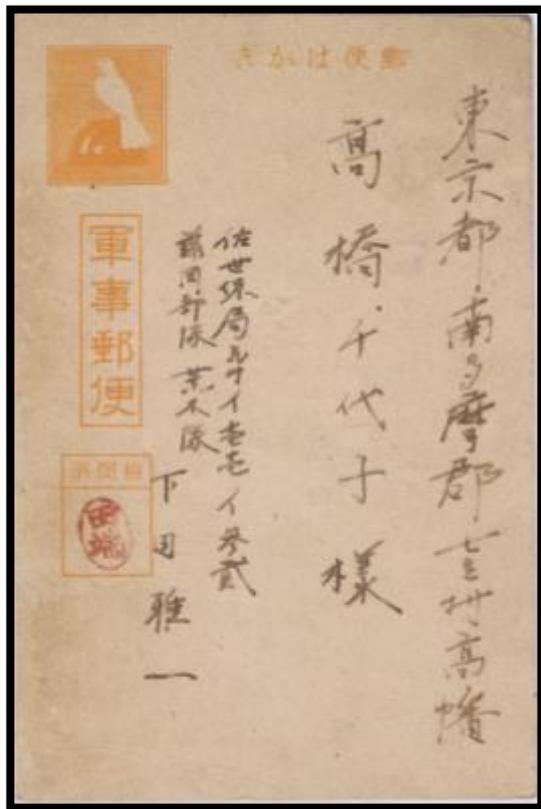


Japanese Military Gunji Yubin card from the 33<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division, 215<sup>th</sup> Regiment, which invaded Burma in 1942

To this end, Churchill earmarked the Australian 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Divisions, then in Egypt, to be sent to South East Asia. These plans failed to include adequate air or naval support. Disillusioned with British plans, Curtin, in a radio broadcast on December 26, summed up the mood of Australia by stating that Australia realised it could not depend on Britain to defend them. Australia and US would go it alone. Curtin wanted the Australian troops back in Australia.

On January 11, 1942 Japanese troops enter Kuala Lumpur unopposed. Japan begins its invasion of Burma on January 18. January 31: the last organised Allied force leaves Malaya and the causeway to Singapore is blown up; Operation Stepsister, transfer of the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Divisions to South East Asia begins when the 7<sup>th</sup> Division begin embarking in Egypt. Japanese troops land on Sumatra, February 14, and Java, March 1.

Singapore, whom Churchill ordered to be defended at all costs, surrenders on February 15. Japanese troops enter Rangoon, Burma, on March 7. On March 9, the Netherlands East Indies surrender. British military ineptitude is being repeated in Burma. Japan's principle aim in Burma is to cut the Burma Road, Chiang Kai Shek's last remaining supply route. Burma's oil and rice are added bonuses.



Military Mail from I-11 I-32, 12th Guard Unit, Port Blair, Andaman Islands

To protect the Netherlands East Indies and the seaward flank of their advance into Burma, Japan embarked on two operations: Operations C and D. Operation D was the capture of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The islands stretch from Java towards the Irrawaddy Delta, Burma. These islands screen Java and Burma's southern coast.

On March 23, Japanese forces occupy Port Blair, Andaman Island, with-out any resistance. Operation C was a naval sortie by a fast carrier strike force into the Indian Ocean, with the aim of eliminating any threat posed by the British.

The strategy was to attack and destroy Allied bases and shipping in the Indian Ocean. Britain called it the Indian Ocean raid.

With the fall of Singapore and worsening military situation in Burma, Churchill, on February 15, wanted the Australian divisions to go to Rangoon. Churchill and Roosevelt insisted the Burma Road be kept open.

Archibald Wavell, the British commander in Java, had advised Churchill that any reinforcements would come too late to make a difference and recommended they be sent to Burma.

The Australian military advised Curtin, that without adequate air defence, the Australian divisions could achieve little and feared Burma was going the same way as Malaya. Curtin wanted the divisions home to defend Australia. This started a week long "cable wars" between Churchill and Curtin. On February 17, Churchill ordered the 7<sup>th</sup> Division, then on board in the Indian Ocean, to Rangoon. Curtin protests and the ships arrive in Australia.



Mail from AIF FPO 21, the Australian 6th Division, Ceylon, cancelled 1 May 1942

After the fall of Singapore, Ceylon became more strategically important. Not only did it become the new front line, it also commanded the Indian Ocean. It controlled access to India, the vital shipping routes to the Middle East and the oilfields of the Persian Gulf. Britain had naval bases at Colombo and Trincomalee. For Japan, the elimination of British naval forces and merchant marine would severely disrupt British ability to reinforce and resupply the SE Asian front. On March 10, the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Brigades 6<sup>th</sup> Division leave Egypt.

Through decrypts of Japanese communications, Britain expects a Japanese attack and invasion of Ceylon. To soothe the strained relationship, Curtin agrees to part of the 6<sup>th</sup> Division remaining in Ceylon to defend the island only until further reinforcements arrive. Consequently, the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Brigades arrive in Ceylon on March 26. Britain rushes units of other colonial divisions to Ceylon to bolster its defence

(to be cont)

Murray Taege

## 1945 Cathedral Fund

### A Penny a Day for Our Cathedral

PEACE THANKOFFERING APPEAL

I promise to give to the Peace Thank-offering Appeal for Wellington Cathedral at the rate of one penny a day for one year.

I hereby give the sum of 1-10-0 outright to the Peace Thankoffering Appeal for Wellington Cathedral.

Please strike out whichever does not apply and sign below.

**Signature:**

**Date:** 26th Nov 1945



Please keep this Certificate by you.

If you are saving a penny a day, a collector will wait on you each month and, in exchange for your 2/6d. will give you a stamp to stick on one of the squares until your promise is fulfilled. If you make an outright gift, this will be recorded on the certificate by the collector. This certificate is therefore a memento and acknowledgement of your gift and carries our sincere thanks.

The general definition of a Cinderella is very broad with one type being labels that are given as a receipt for a donation of money towards a charity or charitable project, in this instance the building of a new Cathedral in Wellington.

The donors were urged to save a penny a day and each month would receive a stamp to stick onto the certificate in exchange for the accrued money. At the end of one year, the fund would have received £1/10/- from the donor.



These particular labels are quite uncommon, but rarer still is the original certificate they were intended to be stuck onto. Thanks to Kadine Stamps in New Plymouth, I am able to illustrate an example. In this instance the donor has paid up for the year in one payment and received a block of 12 stamps in exchange.

Stephen Jones

## A Hidden Gem From 1857

Early in my collecting life, I would read stories about some of the significant finds of rare stamps. The Post Office Mauritius issue, 1 cent British Guyana, Penny Blacks and many others all have stories of lucky collectors finding examples in old correspondence, collections or tucked away in bureaus. Reading these 50 years ago, it sometimes seemed all the treasure had been found and there was nothing of any note left to look for. A spectacular find in a collection auctioned by Mowbray's in 2015 has shown otherwise.



1857 Tiflis 6 Kopek (enlarged)

In the collection was an example of a local stamp from Tiflis in Russia. The 6 kopek stamp was issued in 1857 and is regarded as Russia's first stamp. The stamp is embossed in colourless relief on thick white paper, unused without gum, and is considered to be a very fine example with only a few minor surface marks. Up until the discovery of this example, only five were known with two being held in institutional collections. Its discovery, and subsequent verification that it was genuine, is detailed in the September 2017 edition of the "London Philatelist". A copy of this magazine is held in the CPS library. The stamp was put up for auction recently by Spinks with an estimate of £70,000 - £100,000 but failed to sell.

Stephen Jones

## 1900 $\frac{1}{2}$ d Mt Cook Paper Pleat



Occasionally during the printing process, the sheet can become creased prior to having the image printed on. If this is not picked up during checking of the finished sheets, then the sheet will be sent out for issue. In this instance, soaking the stamp off the envelope revealed a quite spectacular variety.

Stephen Jones

## 1933 5/- Vertical Arms Official Used On Cover



The 5/- Arms with vertical Official overprint is one of the scarcer New Zealand stamps. Even more difficult to find are covers posted using this stamp. Although philatelic, it is one of only three covers I have recorded franked with this stamp. Thanks to Geoff Tyson for sharing this with the members.

Stephen Jones

## Members Wants



Member seeking information about a Croxley Mail 2009 50c self-adhesive postage stamp depicting Muriwai Beach (Auckland) - FDI stated as June 26 2009.

Member would like to see dated stamps and proving covers. Please contact Editor *Captain Coqk*."



### Wanted To Buy

Wildlife/Gamebird stamps (Duck Stamps) on Permit or Licence. All years required

\$20 each

Contact directly:

Neal Hart, PO Box 28 363, Remuera 1541

Ph 09 520 2996

### Wanted to Exchange



I have collected NZ stamps for many years and I want to find a member who has an interest in exchanging New Zealand stamps for stamps from Denmark, Norway and Sweden. Please contact Arne Christie by email [lise.christie@mail.dk](mailto:lise.christie@mail.dk) or post: Bjerggårdsmarken 12, 7140 - Stouby, Denmark



**Phone: (03) 579 5650. Fax: (03) 579 9894.  
PO Box 5086, Springlands, Blenheim 7241.**

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.
- NZ Commemoratives from the 1906 Christchurch Exhibition onwards.
- 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.

**To show we stock not only New Zealand but here is something different. . . . .**



**ROSS SMITH COVER**

Cover carried on the First Aerial Mail from Great Britain to Australia (12 Nov 1919).  
Of the 16 covers carried to Queensland, only 7 (including this one) are known to exist.  
To be offered in a future private treaty list.

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