

# CAPTAIN COOK

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
CHRISTCHURCH (NZ) PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC

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April, 2018

## 2018 Suspended Mail to Yemen

Following on from last month's piece on suspended mail services to Crimea, the cover I sent to Yemen was returned to me, arriving back late January. I have to admit that I had been somewhat pessimistic that I would see the cover again.

The cover, postmarked December 11, had left New Zealand and reached Egypt before being returned to New Zealand. On the front of the cover is a large "RTS" label along with two poor strikes of the Egyptian receiving office for mail to this region. The date in receiving office cancel looks to read 17 January (17-1-2018) so it was in transit/held for a little over a month at least before returning to New Zealand.



The Mail Service Updates on New Zealand Post website has the following announcement re the mail suspension to Yemen:

### Yemen

**Start:** 2015

**Ends:** Ongoing

Due to the ongoing political situation in Yemen, mail dispatches into and out of the country have been suspended

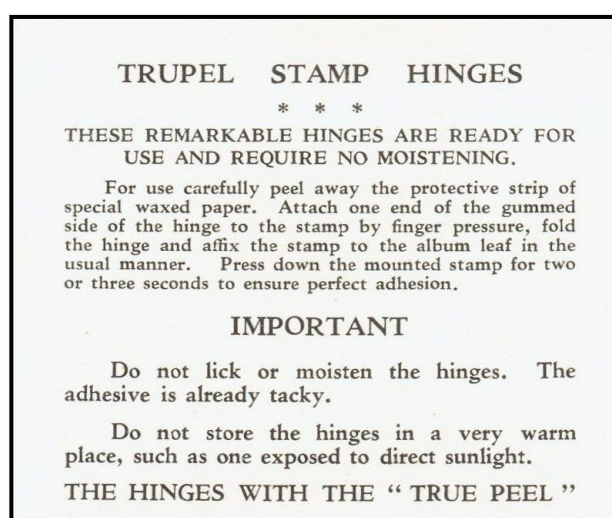
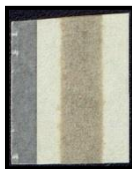
Thanks to Andrew McNiven for providing routing details

Stephen Jones

## The Culprit Responsible ...

Do readers recall seeing stamp collections ruined owing to the stamps bearing unsightly stains resulting from self-adhesive hinges? One affected stamp on a page may not look too bad, but when all the stamps are similarly affected, the visual impact is stunningly appalling. Apart from a self-adhesive hinge of some sort, this writer was none the wiser after being in the stamp trade for over 40 years.

Only recently whilst working for Mowbray Collectables, did this writer, find out the culprit responsible. Whilst processing a consignment, amongst the various packets of stamps etc., were some loose stamp hinges as well as a few opened packets of hinges.



Printed on 9.25 x 15.5 cm cream coloured card and folded at the base was the above *TRUPEL STAMP HINGES* inner protector of some hinges. All but one was immediately discarded, the sole survivor, measuring 2.0-2.1 x 1.6 cm, is illustrated above. One can clearly see the waxed paper at the left, and the effect that the central strip of adhesive has had over the years.

As with many things, when one looks for something: it ain't there. When one ain't looking for something it is there! Thus, the culprit of stained stamps, despite the promotional comment, "After removal, stamps bear no trace of having been mounted. Your stamps preserve their full mint value." has now been discovered - *TRUPEL STAMP HINGES!*

David Smitham

## CARD ===== CARD COLLECTORS FAIR === FAIR

### Philatelic Centre

67 Mandeville Street, Riccarton

Saturday 14 April - 10:00am - 3:00pm

Sunday 15 April - 10:00am - 12:00pm

Cigarette, Rugby, Cereal, Gum, Trade, Trading, Postcards. Dealers and collectors from around New Zealand offering to buy, sell and/or exchange

>>>>>>> FREE ENTRY and VALUATIONS <<<<<<<

Email [nzcardfair@gmail.com](mailto:nzcardfair@gmail.com)

## ***SOCIETY PAGE***

### ***PROGRAMME***

*APRIL 2* POSTAL HISTORY GROUP

*APRIL 10* SOCIETY MEETING **AGM**  
President's Nights

**AGM\*\*AGM\*\*AGM\*\*AGM**

Yes, it's the 2018 AGM, come along and be a part of it, join the committee and help out, you know you want to!  
This will be followed by a talk given by our President

*APRIL 17* LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

*MAY 7* POSTAL HISTORY GROUP

*MAY 8* SOCIETY MEETING TBA  
TBA

*MAY 15* LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

*MAY 22* POSTCARD GROUP Political Postcards  
Alan Tunnicliffe MC

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:**

<i>Patron</i>	Jeff Long	<i>President</i>	Paul van Herpt
<i>Vice President</i>	Sue Claridge	<i>Secretary</i>	Vacant
<i>Treasurer</i>	Karen Jeffrey	<i>Library</i>	Robert Duns
<i>Editor</i>	Stephen Jones	<i>Exchange Supt</i>	Tony Stockley
<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

The newsletter is published 11 times a year by the Christchurch (NZ) Philatelic Society (Inc), PO Box 9246, Tower Junction, Christchurch, 8149, New Zealand

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## CHRISTCHURCH (NZ) PHILATELIC SOCIETY INC.

Notice is given for the 107<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting to be held on Tuesday April 10, 2018 with an agenda as below to receive reports and elect officers. No specific remits have been received.

### **AGENDA 107<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY APRIL 10, 2018 AT 7.30pm AT THE PHILATELIC CENTRE, 67 MANDEVILLE ST.**

**WELCOME:**  
**APOLOGIES:**  
**MINUTES OF THE 106<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:**  
**MATTERS ARISING:**

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Literature Award results (covered in General Business)

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**  
**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS:**  
**FINANCIAL REVIEW PANEL'S REPORT:**

#### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

Patron	President
Vice-President	Treasurer
Secretary	Librarian
Exchange Superintendent	Newsletter Editor
Collections Convenor	Committee positions (x4)

#### **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

Officer's Expenses  
Annual Presentations  
The Anderson Cup, awarded for best talk and display during 2017  
The Pim Cup, most popular talk or display on Members nights  
Literature Award, for best Newsletter article in 2017  
Items from the floor

The meeting will be followed by the April general meeting, a presentation by the President

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### **MINUTES OF THE 106<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD 7.30pm ON TUESDAY 11<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2017 AT THE PHILATELIC CENTRE, 67 MANDEVILLE STREET.**

**WELCOME:** The President Paul v Herpt welcomed 26 members and 2 visitors.

**APOLOGIES:** Murray Clark, Christine Haythornthwaite, & John Sheppard.  
Moved from the chair that these be accepted. Carried.

#### **MINUTES OF THE 105<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:**

Tabled and moved (P v Herpt/D Reynolds) that as these have been published in the April 2016 Captain Coqk, they be taken as read. Carried.

There being no discussion it was moved (P v Herpt/D Reynolds) that these are a true and accurate record last year's AGM. Carried.

## **MATTERS ARISING:**

**CORRESPONDENCE:** e-mail from Paul Wales nominating the result for best article in Captain Coqk during 2016. (Covered under General Business).

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

Moved from the Chair that the President's Report as published in the April Captain Coqk newsletter be taken as read. Carried.

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT:** The Audit Review Panel has advised that the report as circulated in the April edition of Captain Coqk is an accurate summary of the Society's financial transactions and position for the past year.

Moved (K Jeffrey/D Mee) that this financial statement be accepted and approved. Carried.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** Moved (B Turner/D Reynolds) that the present officers be re-elected en masse. Carried. Officers elected were as follows:

<b>Patron</b>	Jeff Long	<b>President</b>	Paul van Herpt
<b>Vice President</b>	Sue Claridge	<b>Treasurer</b>	Karen Jeffrey
<b>Secretary</b>	Jim Robb	<b>Librarian</b>	Robert Duns
<b>Exchange</b>	Tony Stockley	<b>Capt.Coqk Editor</b>	Stephen Jones
<b>Collections Convenor</b>	Paul Clark	<b>Webmaster</b>	Murray Taege

Agreed that the Committee be given power to co-opt up to 3 additional members as required.

Moved (R Duns/R Allen) that D Reynolds and M Taege be reappointed as the Audit Review Panel. Carried.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

### **Officer's Expenses:**

Moved (D Reynolds/J Robb) that the sum allocated for Officers Expenses remain at \$2,200.00, to be distributed at the discretion of the executive committee. Carried.

### **Annual Presentations:**

President Paul v Herpt announced the following awards for 2015;

#### **The Anderson Cup**

2016 winner - Robert Livingston for his presentation on New Zealand Airmails

#### **The Pim Cup**

2016 winner - David Reynolds for his presentations on St Pierre & Miquelon at a Members' night during 2016.

**Literature Award** (for best article in Captain Coqk for previous year judged this year by Paul Wales

2016 winner - Stephen Jones for many and varied articles during the year 2016

### **Other business:**

A vote of thanks was proposed (B Turner/D Reynolds) to the outgoing committee for their work during the past year. Passed with acclamation.

MEETING CLOSED at 7.55pm.

**THE CHRISTCHURCH (NZ) PHILATELIC SOCIETY INC**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2017**

2016	Income	2017
<u>9,883</u>	Subscriptions	<u>8,778</u>
	Other Income	
3,200	Advertising	3,600
600	Donations	600
616	Exchange Branch Commissions	570
12,715	Interest	8,904
171	Library	231
-	Literature Exhibition	1,251
153	Miscellaneous	132
323	Raffles	268
-	Sales	<u>700</u>
<u>17,778</u>	Total Other Income	<u>16,256</u>
<u>27,661</u>	Total Income	<u>25,034</u>
	Expenses	
-	Depreciation and Write Off	4,646
200	Donations	250
498	Federation Delegate Travel	-
587	Federation Levy	565
153	General Expenses	198
380	Insurance	419
1,090	Internet	922
3,360	Library	971
-	Literature Exhibition	1,251
583	Meeting Expenses	864
1,300	Officers Expenses	1,100
1,481	Postage and PO Box Rental	1,544
4,720	Printing and Stationery	4,607
7,400	Rent	7,400
<u>80</u>	Society and Interclub Competitions	<u>80</u>
<u>21,832</u>	Total Expenses	<u>24,817</u>
<u>5,829</u>	Surplus/(Deficit) of Income over Expenses	<u>217</u>

**THE CHRISTCHURCH (NZ) PHILATELIC SOCIETY INC**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2017**

2016		2017
	Current Assets	
1,683	Westpac Cheque Account	6,078
29,473	Westpac Savings Account	17,051
436	Paypal	316
<u>281,057</u>	Westpac Term Deposits	<u>289,593</u>
<u>312,649</u>	Total Current Assets	<u>313,038</u>
3,000	Advance to Philatelic Properties	3,000
<u>150,000</u>	Shares in Philatelic Properties	<u>150,000</u>
<u>153,000</u>	Total Investments	<u>153,000</u>
<u>465,649</u>	Total Assets	<u>466,038</u>
	Current Liabilities	
<u>3,229</u>	Exchange Branch Suspense	<u>3,401</u>
<u>3,229</u>	Total Current Liabilities	<u>3,401</u>
<u>3,229</u>	Total Liabilities	<u>3,401</u>
<u>462,420</u>	Excess of Assets over Liabilities	<u>462,637</u>
456,591	Members Funds at beginning of year	462,420
<u>5,829</u>	Surplus/(Deficit) of Income over Expenses	<u>217</u>
<u>462,420</u>	Members Funds at end of year	<u>462,637</u>

Review Report to Christchurch (NZ) Philatelic Society Incorporated

I have reviewed the financial statements of Christchurch (NZ) Philatelic Society Incorporated for the year ended 31 December 2017.

A review is limited primarily to enquiries of Society personnel and analytical review procedures applied to financial data and thus provides less assurance than an audit. I have not performed an audit and, accordingly, I do not express an audit opinion.

Based on my review, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that these financial statements do not give a true and fair view the financial position of Christchurch (NZ) Philatelic Society Incorporated as at December 31, 2017, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended.

Murray Taeye  
138 Totara Street, Christchurch 8041  
March 4, 2018



## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**For year from May 2017 to April 2018**

The year has passed and the various services the society provides have continued without interruption. The newsletter "Captain Coqk" went out 11 times, with Stephen Jones continuing as Editor and major contributor to its content, supported by others who send in material. We also need to thank Graham Muir for continuing to arrange the printing and the folding of the finished product. John Sheppard is also a regular at the folding nights for which we are grateful.

The general meeting nights every second Tuesday of the month have taken place. We try to provide a balanced program with talks to listen to, nights to participate in, our annual 1 frame competition, and an AGM night. Attendance is on average close to 30 members. The third Tuesday evening is Library night and this has also continued as in the past, but with not the same level of attendance as in the past. There are postal history and postcard groups meeting under name of the Society as a joint venture with other societies, one once a month, one on alternate months. It's easy for these to roll on and do the same for next year, but I would like to think that what we put on responds to the membership's expectations so feedback on any of the activities we stage is always sought.

Circuit Books, continue to be circulated which are supervised by Tony Stockley, ably assisted by David Reynolds and Winston Groves. There has been a decline in participants to our circuits and we will be endeavouring to promote that side of the Society in the forthcoming year.

A highlight of the year has been the hosting of the 15<sup>th</sup> NZ National Philatelic Literature Exhibition which was deemed to have been a successful exercise. We managed to get a good number of entries giving an increase to the previous exhibition and attained the target we had set ourselves of 75 entries. The exhibition was held under the auspices of the Library team which has continued in its work of cataloguing and preparation for publishing some unpublished works from the Robin Startup Archive which we hold. Our thanks to John Sheppard for his efforts in cataloguing each Friday evening and Malcolm Westgarth for liaising with the book binder.

Finally, I record my thanks to all on our Executive Committee. In the background we have the officers of the Society working away keeping minutes and letters moving, bills paid, competitions and speakers organised, newsletters printed and posted. I've named above some of the members not on the Executive who assist, but with all those activities there are also Executive members in the mix as well. Our thanks to the full team needs to be recorded and hopefully the membership as whole will endorse their efforts by re-electing them all, and perhaps even joining them by allowing your name to go forward for election onto the Executive. In addition to the routine administration we also have an Audit Committee who we seem to give little actual time to do their work, just before this meeting. Nevertheless, it is an important function as a separate review to ensure our money is all correctly and competently managed

Paul van Herpt

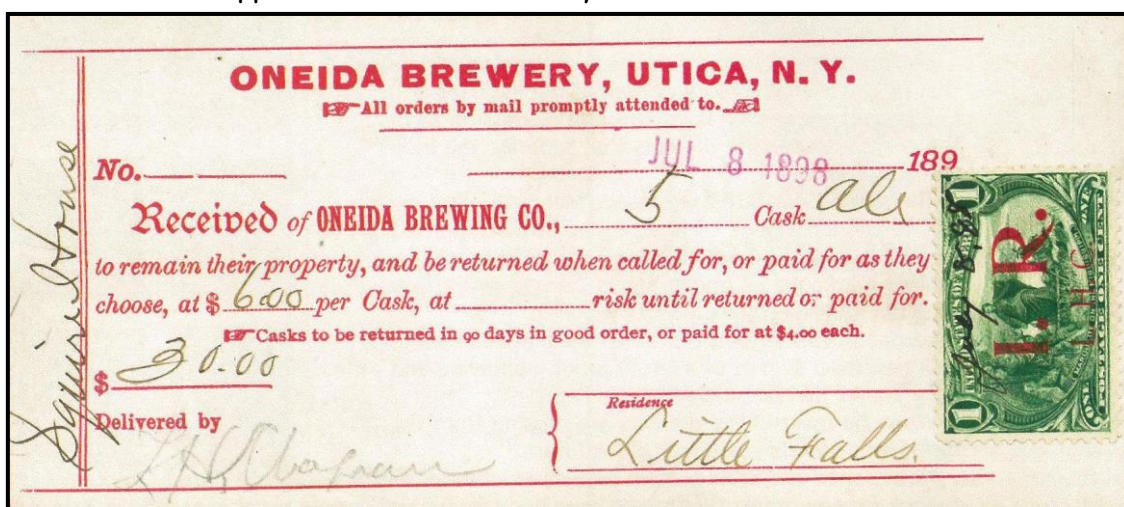
### **1898 Erie Canal US Provisional "I.R." Revenue**

The inside front cover of Linn's Stamp News is typically reserved for ads from US Stamp Dealer Gary Posner and often lists for sale examples of higher end US stamps. The ad in October 2017 issue featured an example of a US 1898 Revenue Provisional overprinted IR and LHC and still on the original document. Apparently this item is unique on document and was yours for US\$42,500. Provisional revenue, catalogue listing and expensive; could it get any better? There had to be an interesting story to go with it. Fortunately Professor Google took me straight to the ASDA website and a series of articles entitled "Greatest (US) Revenues". Written by Ron Leshner, number VII of series provided the details which I have summarised as follows.



In July 1898, the US Congress, in response to the sinking of the USS Maine in Havana harbor, created new taxes and raised the rates of established taxes. The revenue act was signed into law on June 13, 1898 with an implementation date of July 1, less than three weeks later. As a consequence, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing was swamped with the work of overprinting beer stamps and the various tobacco tax paid categories along with new categories of documentary, proprietary, and mixed flour. For the documentary category, the Bureau overprinted large quantities of the then current 1 and 2 cent postage stamps with a bold "I.R." and the \$5 newspaper and periodical stamp (also a postage stamp) with a more elaborate internal revenue text. The Bureau then proceeded to work on permanent replacements for these expediciencies.

US collectors have long been aware that, even with these hastily overprinted provisionals, there were additional difficulties with the distribution of stamps across the country. Local overprinting solutions in various offices of district collectors of Internal Revenue for the tax paid categories were apparently authorized and tolerated. But there were no supplies of old documentary and proprietary stamps in the district offices for these were new categories of taxation that had disappeared in 1883, sixteen years before.



Two shipping firms doing business on the Erie Canal apparently got caught short when the District Collector could not supply one cent documentary stamps. Each resorted to the same solution, possibly proposed by the Purvis Printing Company and endorsed by the District Collector, to overprint sheets of the current one cent Trans-Mississippi postage stamps with a large "I.R." and the initials of the users. In each case five panes of 50 stamps were overprinted, a total of 250 stamps for each of the shipping firms.

The first of these was done for Captain LH Chapman of the Chapman Steamboat Line, which had stops at Syracuse, Utica, Little Falls, and Fort Plain. Of the 250 stamps that were produced at least 18, including one on document are known in collections today. The sole surviving document with this provisional is dated July 8, 1898. It is a receipt that serves several functions for the shipment of five casks of ale from the Oneida Brewery in Utica to Little Falls, a distance of about 20 miles on the Erie Canal. The receipt acknowledges that the shipping firm has received the casks and further has delivered them to the Squire House in Little Falls.



The second shipping firm operating on the Erie Canal that used a similar provisional was PI Daprix & Son which ran between Utica and Rome. This provisional is the rarer, only four copies recorded in collections, one of which is on a page from a receipt book.

Stephen Jones



## 1937 Dunedin Chief Post Office Opening

In 1937, on April 14, Dunedin's new Chief Post Office building was finally opened after years of waiting and delays in construction. It had generally be felt that the previous facilities did not adequately serve the needs of the city especially as the twin branches of the Post and Telegraph department were in separate buildings some distance apart. This had been the situation since 1876, a period of almost 60 years.



Postcard of the new building

It would appear that the city had lobbied for a long time to get a new facility built and it wasn't until 1933 that the construction contract for £292,448 3s 9d was awarded to Fletcher Construction.

The date set for the commencement of the work was September 1, 1933, but delays in procuring the steel from England meant work didn't actually start until mid-February the following year. The balance of the year was taken up with erecting the steel framing and on January 12, 1935, the foundation stone was laid by his Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester.

Apart from the initial delays in late 1933, work proceeded at a good pace and by April 1937, with the fit out completed the nine story building was ready for use. According to the account in the Otago Daily Times for that day, built with steel framing and using facings of Bluff granite and Putaruru stone, the new office "..... represents probably the last word in that type of construction".

As can be seen in the Otago Daily Times (ODT) photo below, a huge crowd turned up to view the opening ceremony and to hear speeches by the Mayor of Dunedin, the Post Master General and various Members of Parliament from around the region.



A NOTABLE EVENT IN THE HISTORY OF THE CITY: A SECTION OF THE HUGE CROWD WHICH ATTENDED THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE NEW POST OFFICE YESTERDAY



According to the Official Opening Invitation, the ceremony started at 2:30pm and after the speeches were finished, the first letter, addressed to the Duke of Gloucester, was posted by the Mayor. The official opening time for the new office was 3:30pm giving people all of 30mins to transact any business before closing at 4:00pm!!



Addressed to the Duke of Gloucester, this is the first letter to be posted from the new post office, and is also the sole long format cacheted cover recorded to date

Philatelically for collectors, this was a huge affair and it is difficult today to appreciate the excitement that the event must have generated with collectors. It appeared the post office viewed the opening of the new building as a fairly significant event and decided to use both a circular datestamp and slogan machine cancel to commemorate the occasion. Although industrial exhibitions such as those held in Christchurch, Auckland and Dunedin in previous years had postmarks related to the event, they were essentially just the name of the post office operating at the exhibition. This was only the second occasion in recent times a special event postmark had been used; the first being that used for the 1936 Chamber of Commerce Conference the previous year.

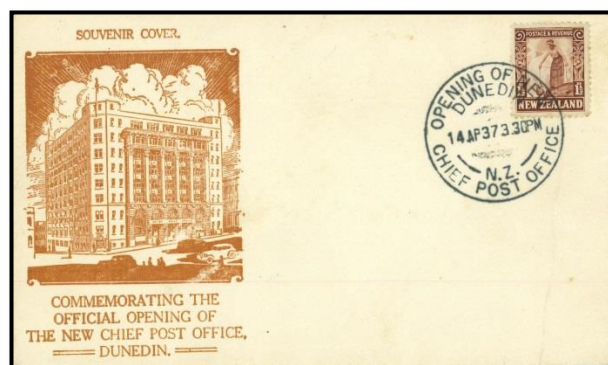
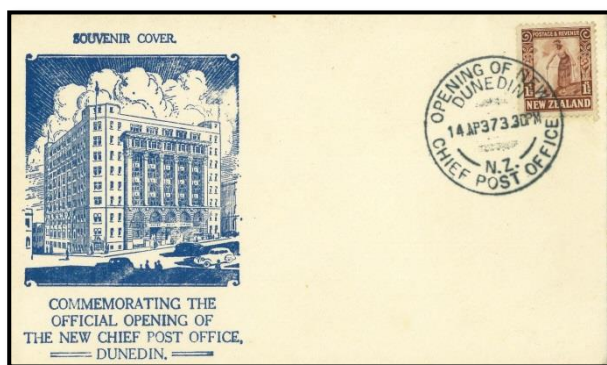
While the ODT for the day contained extensive reporting of the event there was nothing that I could find in Papers Past referring to the huge amount of mail posted on the day. I also checked the Post & Telegraph Circulars and the annual Post Office Report for the period and other than a brief mention on page five of the Report that people "...attended the opening in large numbers", there was no reference to the event. This lack of information seems quite at odds with the planning required for the celebrations and the coverage of it.

A cacheted cover, printed in either blue or tan, was produced and used extensively by collectors to get examples of the circular or slogan postmarks used for the opening. The NZ Post Office Bulletin for January 13, 1937 has the following:

"On the occasion of the opening of the new Chief Post Office at Dunedin, the Department will make available, free of charge, souvenir envelopes printed in (a) blue and (b) sepia and bearing an appropriate illustration and wording. Distinctive hand and machine cancellations will also be used on the day of opening. It is expected the office will be open towards the end of February or early in March next.

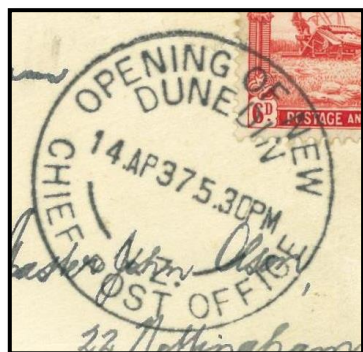
The envelopes may be had on application to the Chief Postmasters at Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch or Dunedin. Early application is recommended.

Members of the public desiring to post covers at Dunedin on the day of opening of the new post office should send their postings fully stamped direct to the Chief Postmaster, Dunedin. The Department cannot undertake to affix stamps to covers"



Typical examples of the blue and tan cachets, and cancelled 3:30pm with the circular datestamp.

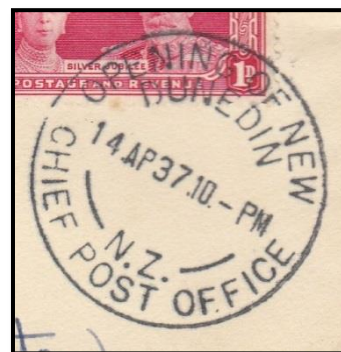
There was a big demand for the envelopes and collectors had between 10 -12 weeks to prepare covers for the event. And prepare them they did. A comment in an issue of the New Zealand Stamp Collector prior to the opening noted that often stocks of the envelopes at the issuing offices had been depleted and they were waiting for new stocks to arrive. Examples of these covers are still very common today and readily available, and in this instance, a plain cover would be a real rarity. I don't recall ever seeing an example.



5:30pm



7:00pm



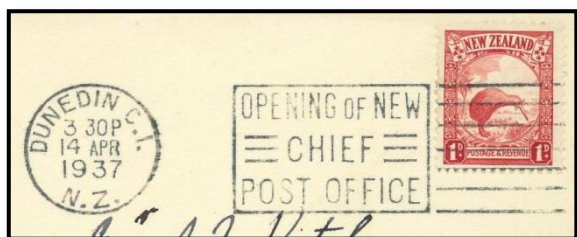
10:00pm

The times found on the circular datestamp are 3:30pm, the time the post office opened for business, 5:30pm, 7pm and 10pm. According to Vol III of the "Postage Stamps of New Zealand", two circular datestamps were employed to cope with the expected volume of mail.



Startup indicates the differences between them can be seen by comparing the orientation of the "F" in "OF" above the second "D" in "DUNEDIN". I checked through my examples of these but I was unable to see a difference between any of the strikes.

Concurrent with the circular datestamp, a slogan cancel with the same text was used.



3:30pm



5:30pm



7:00pm



10:00pm

Examples most commonly found of either type of datestamp are those postmarked at 3:30pm. Those at 5:30pm and 7:00pm are uncommon, with examples cancelled at 10:00pm being decidedly rare and worth looking for. In general, circular datestamps are more popular with collectors but in this case, the volume of mail that was cancelled with either type of datestamp makes any comparison of availability meaningless.

Anecdotally it is believed approximately 50,000 items were processed but I haven't seen any specific written evidence to confirm this. On page 37 of *The New Zealand Stamp Collector* for June 1937, it says "... it is reliably stated that the number of covers posted, constituted a record for New Zealand". To give a comparison, Lee & Watts "New Zealand Pictorial and Special Event Datestamps 1882 - 2002" gives the following figures; 39,225 serviced for the first Trans-Tasman Airmail on 17/02/1934 (Cat No 76) and 40,000+ serviced for the Chamber of Commerce Conference held 01-07/10/1936 (Cat No 82)

(to be cont)

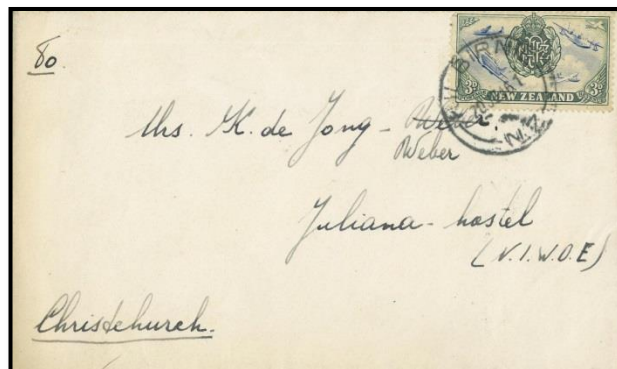
Stephen Jones

## 1946 Hostels For Ex Japanese Dutch Indies Internees

Recently I acquired two covers that were described as being from Dutch Internment camps in New Zealand. Both covers still had their contents including writing paper with a printed address for the "Kolonie Miramar". This was something new to me and the results of Professor Google's search didn't assist much as they were all in Dutch. However, fellow CPS member and Dutch collector, Paul van Herpt very kindly provided me with the following details as to how the covers would have come about. While Paul was aware of the Hostels being setup in New Zealand these were the first covers that he had seen from any of the residents at the Hostels.

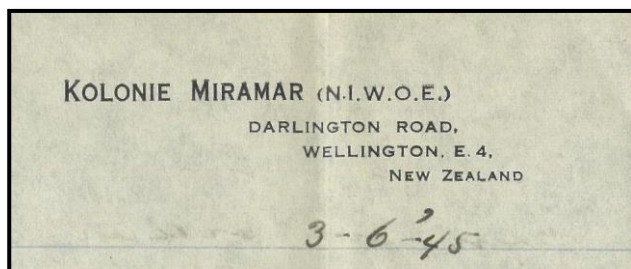
In April 1945, the Dutch Government asked the New Zealand Government for assistance in taking 2000 evacuees from the Netherlands Indies (Indonesia) in order to facilitate their recovery from being in Japanese internment camps. Good food and rest was sought for some months but not permanent migration.

The first shipload of 417 arrived in Auckland on board the "Tasman" on 13 February, 1946. There 160 disembarked and were taken to the Papakura Camp before the ship continued to Wellington to disembark a further 200 for a camp in Miramar, and to Lyttleton where the rest were put up in Christchurch and some in Dunedin. Two months later the "Tasman" was back with a further 600 people, 300 for Auckland, 200 for Wellington, and a further 100 for Christchurch.



Covers addressed to NIWOE Hostels in Invercargill and Christchurch

A local organisation had been set up by the Netherlands Consulate in Wellington to handle these evacuees with the title of NIWOE (Netherlands Indies Welfare Organisation for Evacuees) using local New Zealand staff. In Auckland the camp was at Avondale (even though the first group initially were taken to Papakura).



In Wellington a former Works camp in Miramar was used and became known as "Kolonie Miramar". NIWOE registered all the evacuees and provided them with some money. Some used that money to rent better accommodation outside the formal camps.

In August 1946, the evacuees were taken to Brisbane by the ship "Tasman" where the men were disembarked and put into another camp while the women and children went on back to the Netherlands. The men were soon taken back to the Netherlands Indies which was then in the grips of a civil war between the Dutch and republican Indonesians.

This information is incomplete, it comes from the book "Tasman's Legacy - The New Zealand - Dutch Connection" by Hank Schouten, 1992, published by New Zealand Netherlands Foundation Inc and which covers personal stories and so has gaps in some of its historical information. In this case the covers in question have names for the camps in Christchurch and Dunedin which are not recorded and one would have to assume that in Auckland the Dutch would soon name that facility also. The book records two arrivals of the ship "Tasman" but only one return trip, which may indicate either another ship came to collect the rest, or they were here for much longer than 6 months as the "Tasman" went to the Netherlands and back and not just to the Indies.

Stephen Jones





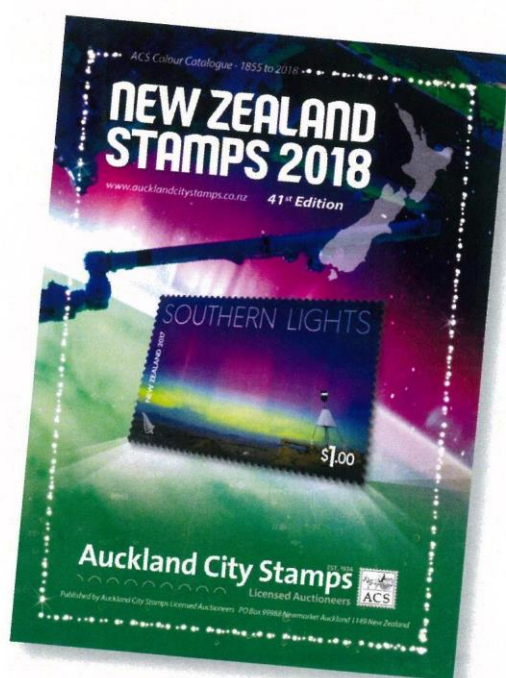
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