

# CAPTAIN COOK

NEWSLETTER OF THE  
CHRISTCHURCH (NZ) PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC

ISSN 0122 – 9813

Num 795 (Vol 46 No 4)

May, 2018

## 1966 £11/15/02 Bulk Payment Cover

Dated April 4, 1966, this fabulous cover was part of a lot sold in Mowbray's recent public auction in March. The lot attracted multiple bids and sold for nearly 50% more than the estimate. When mail that has a Postage Paid Authority marking on it is received at the addressee's post office, the postage owed for the carriage of the mail is collected from the recipient and stuck on the cover. Where there is more than one item being collected, it is not uncommon for the postage collected for all items to be stuck onto just one of the covers.

In this instance, there was a considerable amount of mail to be collected and the postage came to a total of £11/15/02. Included in the stamps used for the postage payment were 11 x £1 geyser stamps from the 1960 Pictorial issue. Wow. Fortunately the cover's significance was appreciated at the time and the cover was retained in one piece.



What isn't indicated on the cover is the amount of items of mail that this bulk payment pays for. Using the 1966 Post Office Guide for reference, the rate at the time for internal mail was 4d. £11/15/02 comes to 2822 pennies which, presuming that the payment is based on a multiple of the units received is not evenly divisible by four.

The Guide also gives rates for Printed Matter, 3d per item but it would take a very liberal interpretation to include census returns in this category. Also this rate applies to mail posted as an addresser, not received, as an addressee. 2882 pennies isn't divisible by three either. If the Post Office deemed the mail to be Business Reply Post then an additional penny would be levied on each reply, increasing the postage to be paid to 5d per letter.

Of course, all this is presuming that all the mail was sent from addresses within New Zealand and by regular mail, not airmail or treated as registered mail, or from overseas.

Stephen Jones

## Hank Smits: Closed Album

Hank Smits passed peacefully in late March 2018 at the age of 95. Hank had been a Christchurch Philatelic member since 1987 but was well known in Christchurch philatelic circles for many years prior to his joining the CPS.



His other major collecting and exhibiting interests were in thematic collecting (floral clocks, quill pen, umbrellas etc). Each of these was written up by hand using a stencil font that was almost a work of art by Hank.

One of the last one-frame exhibits Hank completed was that of the postcards of Floral Clocks of Christchurch and I remember being amazed at how many Hank had obtained when judging this at an exhibition.

This writer best remembers Hank for his passion of maximum card collecting. I often was truly amazed how Hank would manage to find a post card for each of New Zealand's new issues that he would subsequently match with a stamp and a cancellation to ensure concordance - an amazing achievement.

Hank was the New Zealand Philatelic Federation representative for the Maximaphily FIP commission for many years.

A gentle Dutchman, Hank will be missed by his many Christchurch philatelic friends.

Sue Claridge

## Stephen Jones: NZPF Award Of Merit 2017

In 2017, the Christchurch Philatelic Society was successful with their nomination of your Editor to receive the Award of Merit from the New Zealand Philatelic Federation.



Stephen Jones receiving his award from NZPF President Stephen Chivers

It was flattering to find that the books, newsletters and articles I have written have been recognised as contributing to the improvement of philately in New Zealand.

This literature includes two catalogues on New Zealand illustrated FDCs, 27 newsletters giving details on new FDC finds and background information, along with numerous articles published over the last four years in the Captain Coqk.

My thanks to the CPS committee for submitting my name for nomination.

## ***SOCIETY PAGE***

### ***PROGRAMME***

**MAY 7** POSTAL HISTORY GROUP

**MAY 8** SOCIETY MEETING **Silent Displays**  
"Bring & Buy" Night

### **Silent Displays**

"Bring & Buy" Night Time to clear out the drawer, shoebox or other approved philatelic container and bring the contents along to our May meeting for the inaugural "Bring & Buy" night

**MAY 15** LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

**MAY 22** POSTCARD GROUP **Political Postcards**  
Alan Tunnicliffe MC

**JUNE 4** POSTAL HISTORY GROUP

**JUNE 12** SOCIETY MEETING **Annual Society Competition**  
8 and 16 page entries

**JUNE 19** LIBRARY NIGHT Open to 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)

**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>	Paul Ledington
<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

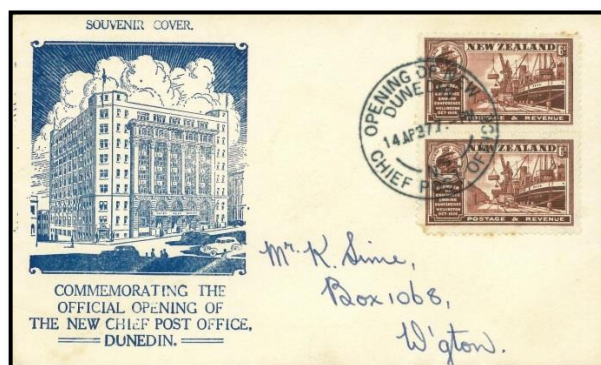
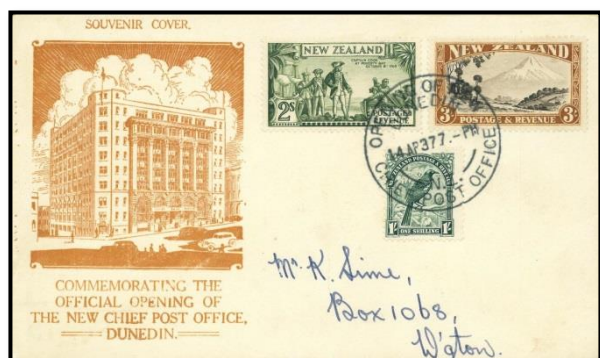
The newsletter is published 11 times a year by the Christchurch (NZ) Philatelic Society (Inc), PO Box 9246, Tower Junction, Christchurch, 8149, New Zealand

The Copyright of articles remains with the original Author. Articles may be reproduced only with the permission of the Author and CPS. However, short quotes may be used provided *CAPTAIN COQK* is acknowledged

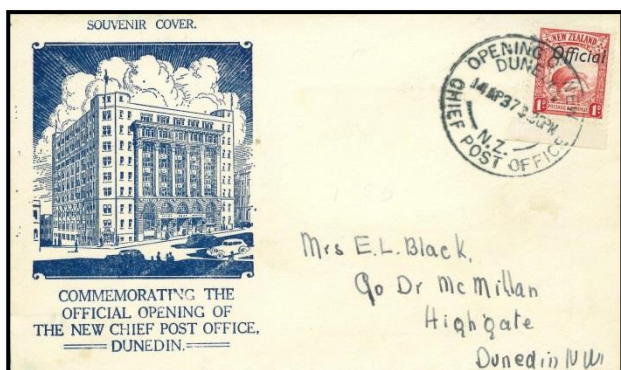


## 1937 Dunedin Chief Post Office Opening (cont)

Leaving aside the postmark variations, collectors also used a wide variety of stamps to frank their covers.



The addressee on the above two covers was so excited about the event he sent a group of six covers franked using the entire 1935 Pictorial set and another group of five covers using pairs of the 1936 Commerce set and a sixth franked with the complete set. Covers have been seen franked with official stamps, though probably not on official business with the example below, and also covers using express delivery stamps.

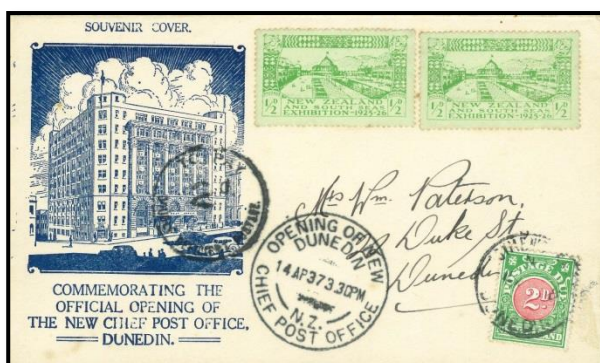


Unauthorised usage of 1935 1d Official stamp

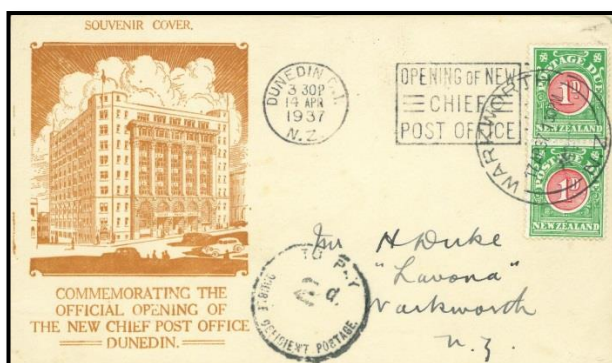


Express delivery but not marked as such

Then there were collectors who used demonetised stamps or no stamps at all. The PO circular from July 16, 1934 listed a number of stamp issues, including the 1925 Dunedin Exhibition set, which would no longer be valid for postage after December 31, 1934. Mail franked with these stamps would be treated as unpaid and charged postage due.



Usage of invalidated Dunedin Exhibition stamps, 2d postage due charged

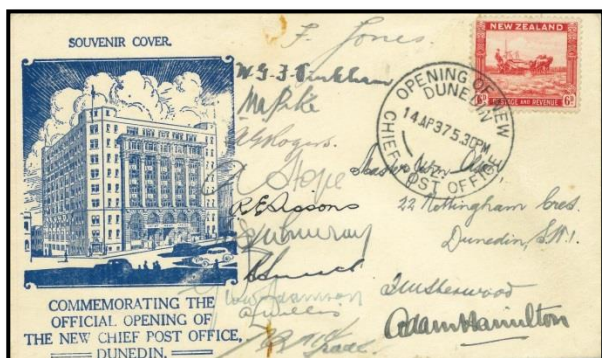


Posted without stamps, 2d postage due charged

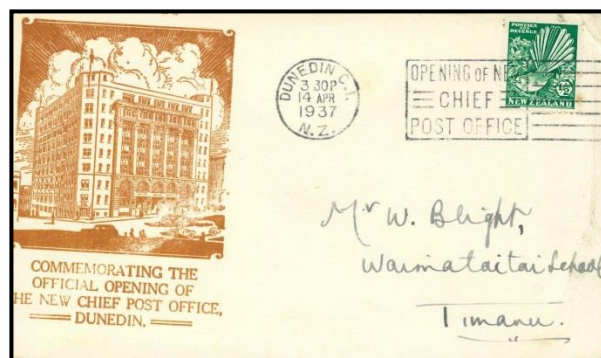
Once the opening ceremony was over, selected guests were invited to attend the luncheon on the third floor of the new building, If you were fortunate enough to be asked then you could get your cover signed by some of the dignitaries. The following cover has been signed by F Jones, the Postmaster General along with those of a number of other attendees that I



haven't been able to identify. Then there was the matter of production errors such as skewed or offset prints associated with the cachet.

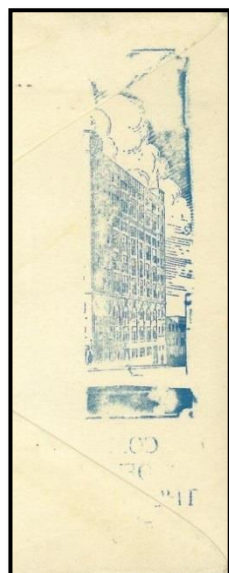
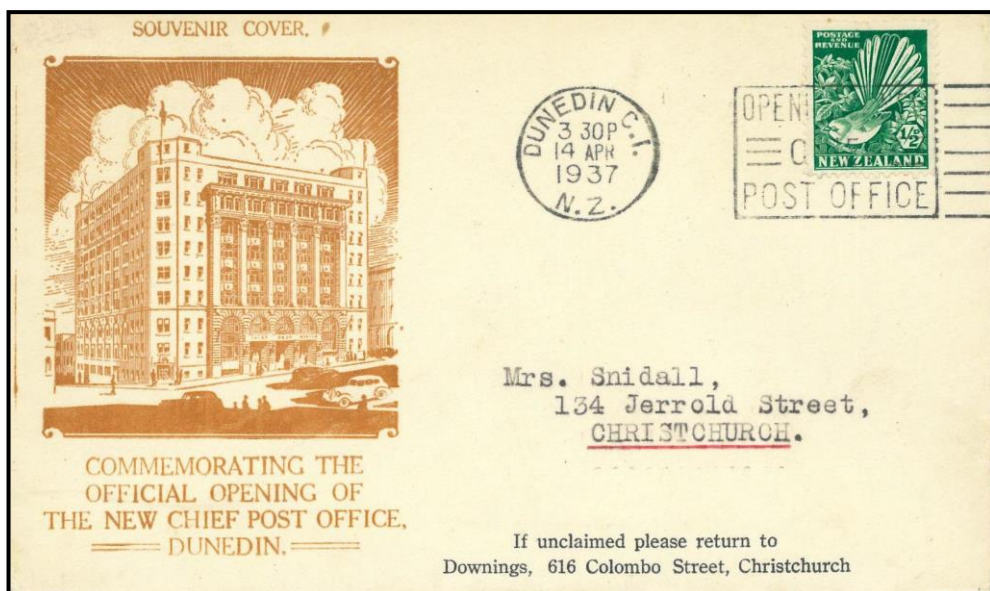


F (Fred) Jones (Postmaster General) and others

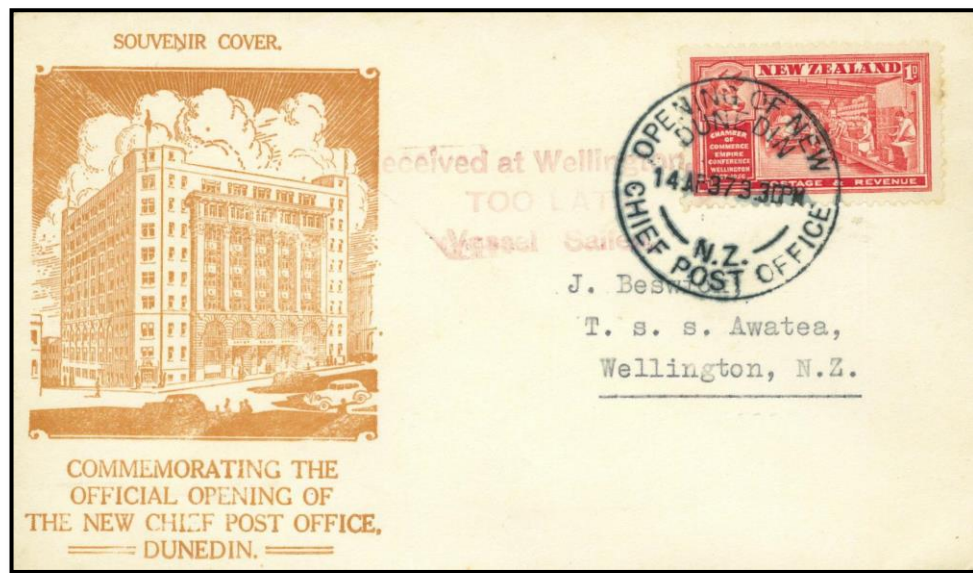


Skewed cachet

Occasionally covers are found with a return address, 616 Colombo Street, Christchurch, printed along the bottom edge. In 1937 this was a retail outlet for Downings, a shoe store, and the presumption would be that the store sent them out as souvenirs to clients. This confirms that the envelopes had been available for some period prior to the opening day on April 14, giving collectors' time to prepare the covers for posting. This variation is found on both the blue and tan cacheted versions of the cover.



Partial offset



Cachet reads "Received at Wellington, TOO LATE, Vessel Sailed"

This article should give readers some idea of the broad range of cover material available for this event. There is much else not shown including registered covers, those addressed to foreign destinations or struck with instructional markings that keen collectors should be able acquire.

Somewhat surprisingly, given how common these event covers are, I could find no articles of any significance in previous issues of the Mail Coach, Captain Coqk, The New Zealand Stamp Collector or the NZSGB "Kiwi" publications. If I have overlooked something in these aforementioned publications, or if readers can provide further information on the amount of covers serviced or images of other interesting usages, please contact me. My thanks to fellow CPS member Jeff Long for providing some covers to assist with illustrating this article.

Stephen Jones

## From the AGM

Congratulations to the winners of our annual awards.

**Stephen Chivers** and **Stephen Jones** were jointly awarded the Anderson Cup for the best talks of 2017 (Janet Marshall stamp Designer and Edward VII and George V issues of NZ respectively)

**Paul Clark**, by popular vote was awarded the Pim Cup for the best Member's night presentations.

**Murray Taege** received the Literature award on the recommendation of Alan Tunnicliffe who was invited to judge the articles in the 2017 issues of "Captain Coqk".

Murray's articles started with "Where on Earth is...?"

We would also like to welcome two new members to the executive, Paul Ledington has agreed to take on the Secretary's role and Murray Willocks is joining as a committee member. Thank you for agreeing to join us, "us" being the rest of the team that was all re-elected.

Paul van Herpt

## +++ ==== Annual Competition ==== +++ June 12

Don't forget your entry for the Annual Competition in June

### CLASS A: 16 Pages

- |    |   |    |               |
|----|---|----|---------------|
| 1  | Postal History  | 2  | Traditional   |
| 3  | Postal Stationery                                       | 4  | Aerophilately |
| 5  | Maximaphily   | 6  | Revenues      |
| 7  | Cinderellas   | 8  | Thematic      |
| 9  | Open  | 10 | Postcards     |
| 11 | Entries which do not fit into any of the above classes. |    |               |

### CLASS B: 8 Pages

- 12 Adult Development - any of the above classes.

Remember too, that you can put together 8 pages of material you like and want to share with the rest of the members on the night.



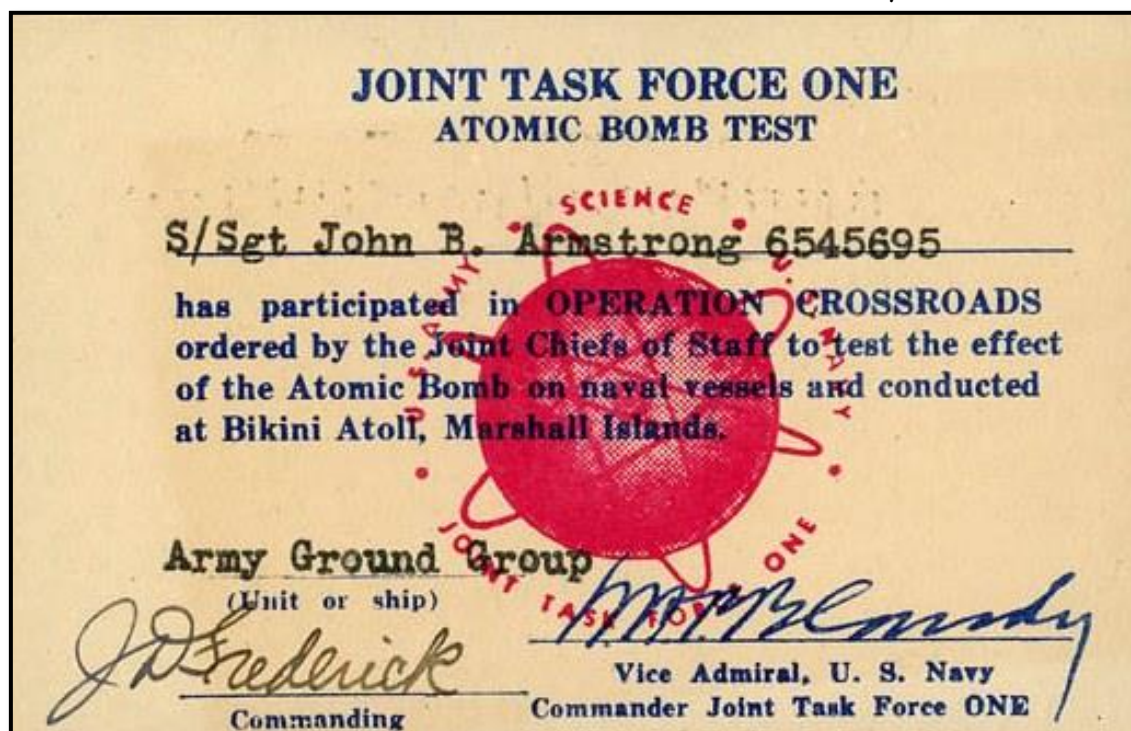
## 1946 Operation Crossroads Atomic Bomb Test

Seen in a US auction, a cover posted from the site of the first atomic bomb detonations after the bombing of Nagasaki and Hiroshima. The test was called Operation Crossroads and was based at Bikini Atoll in the Marshall Islands.



The cover came with its original enclosure and a message saying " They told us yesterday that there would be a special postmark on the letters sent today so be sure and save the envelope. The cancellation will be a Atom Bomb drawing of some sort...Saturday morning around 6:00AM, weather permitting the A Bomb will be dropped the first "

The first test was Able. The bomb was named "Gilda" after Rita Hayworth's character in the 1946 film Gilda, and was dropped from the B-29 Superfortress Dave's Dream of the 509th Bombardment Group on July 1, 1946. The second test was Baker. The bomb was known as "Helen of Bikini" and was detonated 90 feet (27m) underwater on July 25, 1946

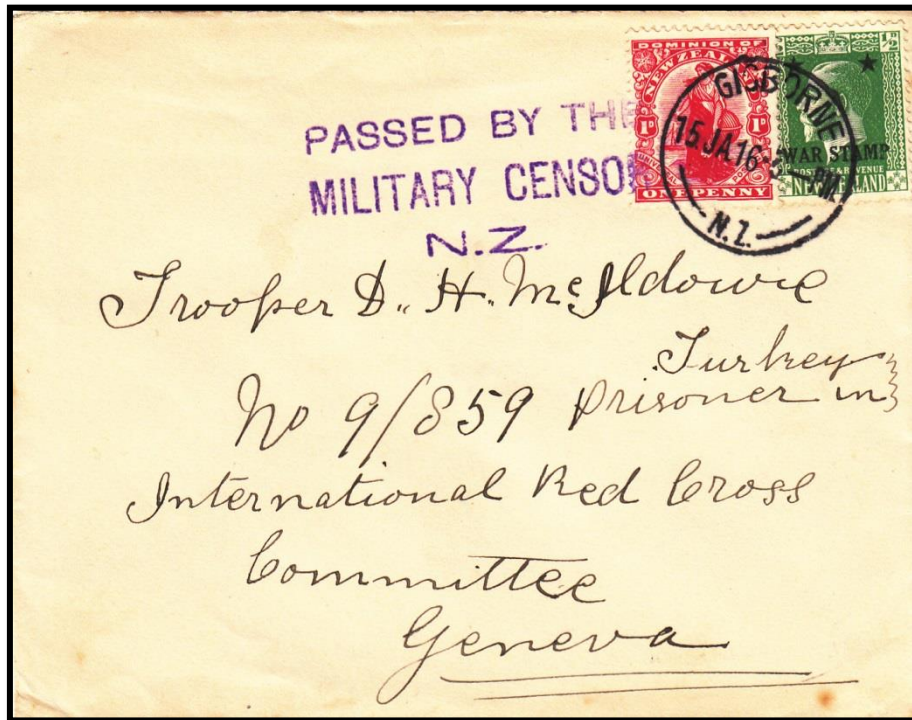


Stephen Jones

## 1916 NZ POW Held In Turkey

A recent listing in an internet auction was for a WWI censored cover addressed to the Red Cross in Switzerland. With the advent of online auctions, WWI New Zealand censored mail has become readily available; especially mail to the USA, however, mail to the Red Cross is less commonly encountered. What made this particular cover so interesting is that address indicates the prisoner, Trooper DH McIldowie, is being held as a POW in Turkey. Now, I am not an authority on all the different actions other than Gallipoli where we may have engaged with the Turks, if any, so I presumed that this would mean that he was captured at Gallipoli.

I recall a number of years ago, the late Des Hurley, a collector with a long time interest in the history of the Gallipoli campaign commented that mail to NZ POW's in Turkey was exceedingly rare, potentially making this cover a most attractive item.



The cover is postmarked January 15, 1916 which was after the ANZAC troops had pulled out of Gallipoli the previous month. By this time the writer would have known the peninsula had been abandoned plus they would have received word that the individual was missing in action.



My first searches for information were for details of New Zealand prisoners taken at Gallipoli. These were very productive and I very quickly found the information I needed.

Hurley was quite correct with mail to them as POWs being rare as there were only 25 New Zealanders taken prisoner during the entire campaign, the bulk of who were taken during the battle of Chunuk Bair on August 8 (and also includes one prisoner taken on the first day, unlucky!!) Apparently all had been wounded when captured and six subsequently died in captivity. Disappointingly my man's name was not among the 25 names listed.

Once I had got the spelling of the surname correct, my searches for information specific to McIldowie also produced results.



The Auckland War Memorial website has a huge amount of detail, both textual and pictorial, relating to members of the armed forces. It would appear that there are a number of people researching the history of different service personnel and posting the results on the website for use by others who have an interest.

My man's full name was Donald Hunt McIldowie and he was born in Gisborne on June 7, 1894. The indications are that he grew up in a farming environment as on enlisting he gave his occupation as a shepherd. He was 20 years old and single when he enlisted in Wellington on December 29, 1914 and was attached to the 12<sup>th</sup> Squadron of the Otago Mounted Rifles.

After a short period of training, probably at Trentham, he departed New Zealand for Egypt sometime between February 4 and March 26 as a member of the third reinforcement. He would have sailed on one of three troopships, the Maunganui, Tahiti or Aparima, that were acting as troop transporters at the time.

The online file lacks any further specific information on McIldowie's arrival in Egypt and subsequent deployment to Gallipoli. However, he was one of the 400 New Zealanders that participated in the attack on Hill 60 that began on August 21 and ended in a stalemate later that month on August 29.

His file does record that he was reported missing on August 27 and this information was published in the New Zealand Freelance. It wasn't until the following year that it was confirmed that he had died during the assault.

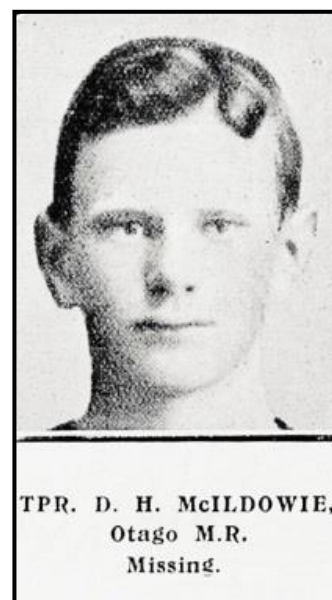


Photo from the Freelance

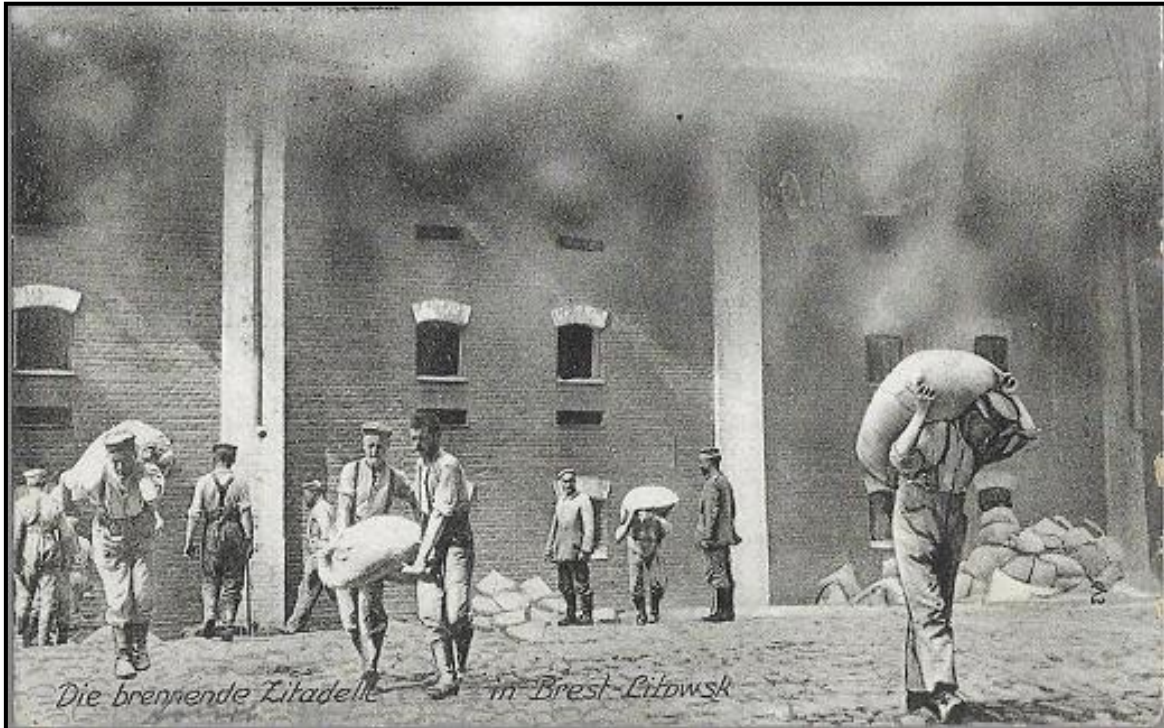
As the cover is postmarked January 15, confirmation of his death must have been received by the family after this date, consequently the writer sent the letter in the belief that he was being held as a prisoner by the Turkish Army. Unfortunately this wasn't the case and the March 10 issue of the Freelance reported him as being killed in action. He would have been 21 years old at the time of his death. His name is included in the list of 183 New Zealanders on the Memorial built on Hill 60.



## The Waste Of An Army

On November 26, 1917, Bolshevik emissaries met their German counterparts to arrange for negotiations for peace. It was agreed they would be held at the HQ of the Central Powers' Armies at Brest-Litovsk. A full ceasefire was signed on December 5. Peace negotiations were organized by General Max Hoffmann, chief of staff of the Eastern Armies.

The Central Power's delegation included Austro-Hungarians, Ottomans and Bulgarians. Adolphe Joffe headed the Bolshevik delegation. Bolshevik overtures to France, Italy and Britain to participate were scornfully rejected. On December 15, an armistice for thirty days was agreed, which would automatically be extended until notified by any party of its intention to resume hostilities.



Post card of the Citadel of Brest-Litovsk, where the negotiations were held (after the fire)

On December 22 peace negotiations began. The Russian conditions for peace centred on the Bolshevik slogan of peace with "no annexations or indemnities". The Central Powers accepted this only on the proviso that the other Entente powers agree to do the same. Joffe thought this meant no annexation of territory.



The only Soviet/Russian stamp to include Trotsky

However, Germany had determined that the part of Russia it had already taken would be separated from Russia: Poland, Lithuania and Courland. Germany and Austro-Hungary planned to annex slices of Polish territory and to set up a rump Polish state with what remained, while the Baltic provinces were to become client states ruled by German princes.

On December 27, Hoffman corrected Joffe's misunderstanding. The horrified Bolsheviks were granted a 12-day recess. The Bolsheviks only hopes were that given time, either the Entente would agree to join the negotiations or that the western European proletariat would



revolt. So, they stalled for time. Foreign Minister Leon Trotsky replaced Joffe as the leader to do the stalling.

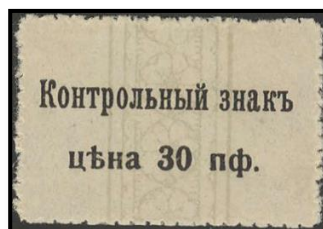
On New Year's Day the Kaiser insisted that Hoffmann reveal his views on the future German-Polish border. He advocated taking a small slice of Poland. Hindenburg and Ludendorff wanted much more. Hindenburg wanted to annex Russian Poland, contending that the peace "must increase Germany's material power". They pressed for additional territorial acquisitions.

When the negotiations restarted, Trotsky continually entered into meaningless debate. Hoffman forced the Bolsheviks to concentrate on the future borders. Trotsky was granted nine days to decide whether to agree to the peace conditions. Trotsky argued against signing, while Lenin was for signing rather than having worse demands forced on them. The "Left Communists" were sure that the Central Powers were all on the verge of revolution. They wanted to continue the war while waiting for the revolutions to occur. Lenin agreed. The negotiations reconvened on February 10, 1918. The Russians thought their stalling was succeeding until Hoffman broke the impasse when on 16 February he notified them that the war would resume in two days.



Hindenburg

Operation Faustschlag (Fist Punch) began on February 18 when fifty-three divisions advanced against the near-empty Russian trenches. It was a three-prong attack. The northern force captured the key city of Daugavpils on the 18th. Pskov fell on February 24 and Narva on March 3. The central forces captured Minsk on February 21. In the south Zhitomir was taken on February 24. German forces advanced to within 100kms of Petrograd.



1918 Dorpat issue for German 8<sup>th</sup> Army  
in Estonia

1918 issue for the German 10<sup>th</sup> Army in Byelorussia

On the night of February 18, the Central Committee supported Lenin's resolution to sign the treaty. On February 23 Hoffman presented new terms that included the loss of Ukraine, Finland and Transcaucasia. Lenin forced the Central Committee to accept the new peace terms or he would resign. Trotsky resigned as foreign minister. The Treaty of Brest-Litovsk was signed on March 3, 1918.

On December 16, 1917 a delegation from the Ukrainian People's Republic (UPR), arrived at Brest-Litovsk. They wanted to be included in the peace negotiations. Hoffman realised the Ukraine would provide a valuable offset against the Bolsheviks, its economic and demographic potential could be tapped by Germany and Ukraine could relieve Germany's dire grain crisis. On January 12, 1918, Central Powers start negotiating a separate peace with the UPR. The Bolshevik delegation protested, but was ignored.

The UPR offered grain in return for Chełm and other parts of Ukrainian Austria-Hungary. Austria-Hungary protested but was overruled by Germany who wanted the grain. The UPR



delegation returned to Kiev on January 20. With Bolshevik forces nearing Kiev, the UPR delegation returned to Brest-Litovsk to seek immediate military assistance. On February 9 the Central Powers and the Ukrainian People's Republic signed the Brest-Litovsk peace treaty. In return for Chełm and German military assistance, the Central Powers would receive vast quantities of grain and other minerals. Germany had the right to station its soldiers in the Ukraine. The Bolsheviks agreed to withdraw their forces from the Ukraine.



1918 Ukrainian People's Republic inaugural issue.  
The Ukrainian People's Republic only existed with German support.



When the Austria-Hungarian Poles learnt that the Ukraine would receive Chełm, (which the Poles considered part of Poland proper), under the treaty, they revolted. It irreversibly damaged the Austro-Polish political compact and Polish soldiers in the Austrian army largely deserted to the Polish Corps in Russia.

On February 18, 1918 German troops start entering the Ukraine in accordance with the treaty to ensure the Bolshevik forces are removed. Kiev was entered on March 3, Odessa March 13, Nicolaiev on March 17, Kharkov and Rostov on April 8.



On April 13, 1918 German troops enter the Crimea. Germany establishes the first Crimean Regional Government on June 25, 1918 with General Maciej (Suleyman) Sulkiewicz as nominal head. The aim is to secure access to the Crimean ports, especially Sevastopol, for the transport of oil from the Black Sea port of Batum (Georgia) to Germany.



German military card with a "Deutsche Ukraine-Deinst" (German Ukraine Office) mark and field post cancel April 27, 1918

After the Treaty of Brest-Litovsk, Hindenburg and Ludendorff shifted their best troops in the east to the western front for the upcoming Michael Offensive. However, over 500,000 German troops still remained in Russia and Ukraine, doing very little. From March to November 11, 1918, Germany received little material benefit from Russia or Ukraine compared to the cost of the troops being there.

Many historians have argued, with which I concur, that if these or a large portion of these were available in on the western front, World War 1 would have had a different ending. The German collapse in the west, the war weariness in its cities, and the revolts in November came as a complete surprise to these soldiers. They had only known victory and relative plenty. The German High Command had deliberately left them ignorant of what had been happening in the west. It is little wonder that the "stab in the back" conspiracy theory came from these soldiers. Many bemused German soldiers in the east joined the Frei Korps and fought the Bolsheviks in the Baltic or Germany.



Crimea 1918  
Murray Taege

## Record Royalty Tax Stamps



Typically found on the labels of 78's, and later also on the backs of record sleeves

Stephen Jones

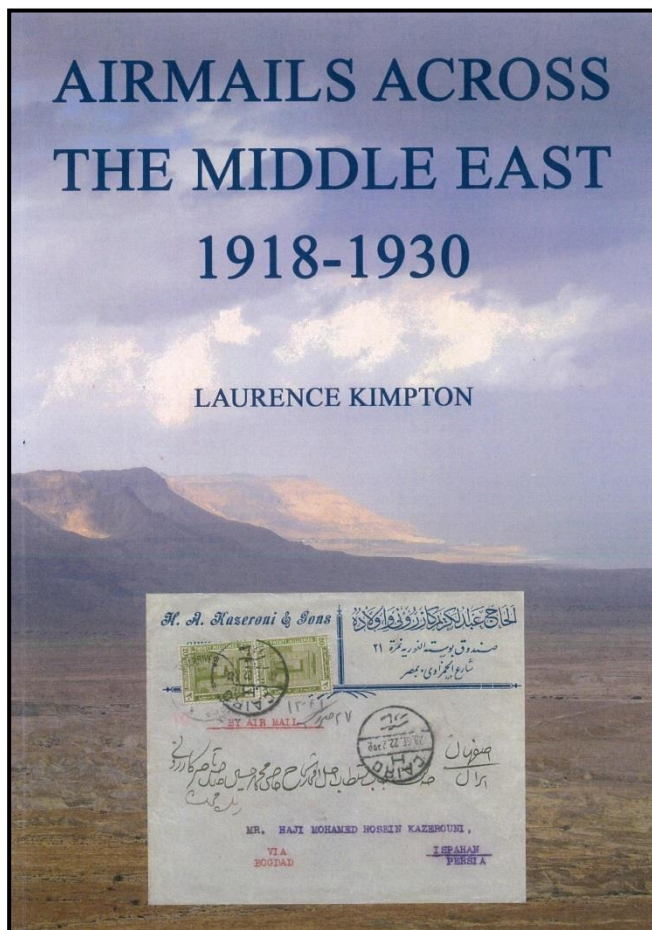
## Book Review

Airmails Across the Middle East 1918-1930

Laurence Kimpton

ISBN978-0-9550831-1-2

Laurence Kimpton in his 320-page publication brings together a plethora of information on the Middle East airmail services from the end of World War I through to 1930. Kimpton in his introduction acknowledges the strategic location of Egypt in the development of air transport and the need to carry mail quickly and efficiently. He writes of some inconsistencies in information that will be addressed in the publication and the inclusion of information released after 50 years had elapsed.



Beginning with a political and historical narrative Kimpton then moves on to the development of an England to Egypt air route to the East and the development of an imperial air route in the 1919-1920's.

The first flights are covered in detail and in a chronological sequence the author covers subsequent development of air routes, races, services and airlines.

Six chapters are devoted to the Royal Air Force services and the Imperial Airways services are likewise covered in some depth. Kimpton concludes with the development of KLM, French and German services.

Illustrations of both historical events and accompanying philatelic illustrations are reproduced in clear formats with appropriate explanations as to their original size and source.

The author is to be congratulated on the use of references and bibliography at the end of each chapter, enabling readers to research specific chapter content in further detail. This is something that has often been missed in traditional published philatelic texts especially those taken from a writer's own philatelic material.

It is noteworthy that Kimpton acknowledges previous authors and their contributions as well as those who have directly helped with the groundwork of this publication.

Printed by Pardy & Son Ltd, Ringwood, Hampshire, United Kingdom the first-rate publication ends with an excellent index and is recommended by the reviewer.

Sue Claridge  
Egypt Study Circle & CPS Member







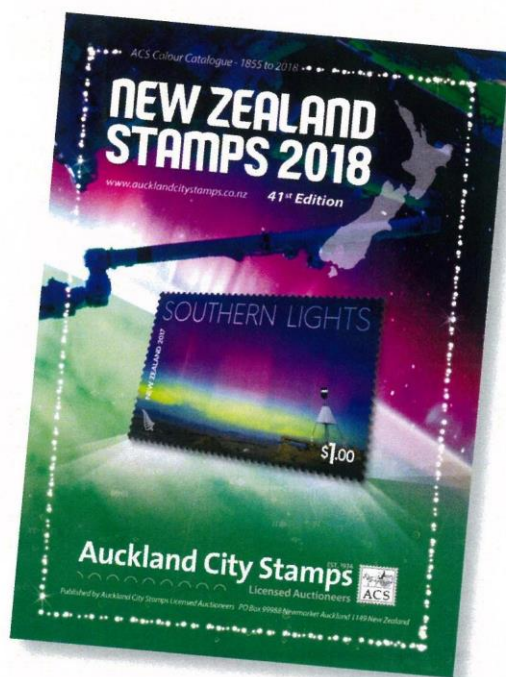
# PUBLIC & POSTAL AUCTIONS STAMPS & POSTAL HISTORY

Each year we offer thousands of items for sale via our Public & Postal Auctions and Direct Sale Lists. **Phone, email or visit our web site for more information.**

- NEW ZEALAND STAMPS
- COLLECTIONS & ACCUMULATIONS
- ESTATE LOTS
- MARITIME MAIL
- ERRORS
- WORLD STAMPS
- FULL FACE QUEEN COVERS
- VARIETIES



## 2018 Colour Catalogue of New Zealand Stamps



- Colour Photos & Prices for every New Zealand Stamp from 1855-2018
- Many Price Changes

Phone, email or visit our web site for more information.

**PHONE** +64 9 522 0311

**FAX** +64 9 522 0313

[hello@aucklandcitystamps.co.nz](mailto:hello@aucklandcitystamps.co.nz)

[www.aucklandcitystamps.co.nz](http://www.aucklandcitystamps.co.nz)

1 Ngaire Ave Newmarket | PO Box 99988 Newmarket Auckland 1149 New Zealand

Dealers in fine stamps  
of the World, Specialists  
in New Zealand and the  
Pacific Islands.

**Auckland City Stamps**  
Licensed Auctioneers

EST. 1974

