

CAPTAIN COQK

NEWSLETTER OF THE
CHRISTCHURCH (NZ) PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC

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July, 2018

£300 Fine Paid, Extraordinary New Find

David Holmes from Auckland City Stamps has provided an image of an extraordinary new revenue find; a £300 Long Type revenue overprinted "Fine Paid". Up until this example was discovered, its existence was only known from printing figures for all revenues collated by A Dibley. In the list, the printing figure given for the £300 Fine Paid value was given as "2". This is not a lot.

The printing figures given for all Fine Paid values indicate that in relative terms, not many of any of the values were overprinted. Most were in the low 1000's with a number printed in quantities of less than 1000, and some cases in single or double figures. Compare this to 75,000 Red Boy and 112,000 Blue Boy Health stamps sold in 1931/32.



Interestingly, the combined face value of the three Fine Paid values is the same as that of the unoverprinted values indicating that the fine levied was 100% of the duty paid. This is contrary to the current understanding and documentary evidence that the fine levied equates to 25% of the duty paid.

Somewhat overshadowed by the £300 value, is an example of the £40 Fine Paid value. These are also extremely rare with this being only the second example to be recorded. The printing figure for this value is "1" so it looks like more research in this area is needed. Prior to this example surfacing, Mowbray's auction in October 2016 was the last time one came on the market. It was unpunched and sold for \$6566 (see page 93)

For those who wish to own the above document, you will get the opportunity when it comes up for sale in the Auckland City Stamps public auction to be held in August.

Stephen Jones

John F Wilson 1932 - 2018

John started attending meetings of the ChCh Philatelic Society in 1948 at the age of 16, but could not become a member until he was 18, which he did in July 1950. Between 1948 and 2011, he rarely missed any meetings. He was the earliest member of the Society still alive, and that role is now held by a member who joined in 1968.



John with the certificate presented to him commemorating 60 years continuous membership of the CPS

In 1956 he became the Society's Auditor and over the next 26 years served as Secretary, Newsletter Editor, Vice President, Librarian, and President. He was made a Life Member in 1985.

That year he began producing the Society's newsletter and continued this until 2003 - a total of 205 issues

John was also the Treasurer of the committee that organised the very successful 1977 Pan Pacific Stamp Exhibition committee from 1974 - 1978, and was Vice President of the Philatelic Foundation from 1978 until his passing.

In 1986 John was awarded the AWARD of MERIT by the NZ Philatelic Federation, for services to Philately.

John formed three extensive collections of NZ philately -
The Date-stamps of Temporary Post offices from the 1880's,
Vending machine stamps,
Franking Machine markings
All of which have been displayed at Society meetings

We will all have our own memories of John, - philately has lost one of its personalities, and a wealth of knowledge of local philately.

A memorial Service for John will be held on Wednesday, June 27 at 5.30pm at Lamb & Hayward's Chapel, Wairakei Road, Christchurch.

Robert Duns

SOCIETY PAGE

PROGRAMME

JULY 2 POSTAL HISTORY GROUP

JULY 10 SOCIETY MEETING **Member's Night**
The letters F, N, T & Z

LETTERS F, N, T, & Z

This month's meeting will be brought to you by the letters F, N, T, & Z
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 Fukien, Nejd, Temesvar, or Zelaya.

JULY 17 LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

JULY 24 POSTCARD GROUP **Royalty Postcards**
Shirley Bone MC

AUGUST 6 POSTAL HISTORY GROUP

AUGUST 14 SOCIETY MEETING **Bob Gibson**
Road Safety

AUGUST 21 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
(emails) Use the "Contact" facility in the website

SOCIETY OFFICERS:

Patron	Jeff Long	President	Paul van Herpt
Vice President	Sue Claridge	Secretary	Paul Ledington
Treasurer	Karen Jeffrey	Library	Robert Duns
Editor	Stephen Jones	Exchange Supt	Tony Stockley
Collections Convenor	Paul Clark	Immed Past Pres	Robert Duns
Web Master	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 31st (or on application for membership)
Where both husband and wife are members but require only one *CAPTAIN COQK* newsletter to be sent, a combined subscription of \$90.00 is
charged, \$15.00 discount allowed. Additional postage is charged to cover the extra cost of posting to overseas addresses. Overseas postage
rates are as follows: Australia & South Pacific \$13.20 Rest of the world \$18.70 (Economy rate discontinued)

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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1940, New Zealand Crosby Covers

Collectors of New Zealand FDCs for the 1940 Centennial will probably be familiar with the beautifully executed covers known as "Crosby" covers. Typically the cachet will be printed using a process called thermography and will incorporate a small photo as part of the design. Crosby was an American collector and very active producing covers with Navel related themes along with Patriotic and US FDCs. He was an early member of the Universal Ship Cancellation Society (USCS) and is described by the Society as "... one of the most influential persons to the hobby" and a prolific and imaginative cachet maker for nearly two decades. Fortunately for New Zealand collectors he produced a number of different cover variations, both in colour and design, for the 1940 Centennial issue. This was his only foray that I have recorded into FDCs for the stamp issues of New Zealand.



Long cover incorporating two different Crosby cachets, with a Maori head over Parliament Buildings
Noted in black also

Due to Crosby's prominence in the hobby, the USCS website has quite an extensive biography on him written by Steve Shay. Walter Garfield Crosby was born in Santa Monica in November, 1881 and enlisted in the Navy in 1898 aged 17. He initially served aboard USS Mohican as an Apprentice Boy 3rd Class during the Spanish American War, advancing through the ranks to become a Chief Gunners Mate. Subsequent postings included the USS Iowa, Missouri, Chattanooga and Albert (Submarine Base) with official records indicating he was discharged from the USS Missouri in November, 1906.



"American Fleet Week", Auckland

In July, 1908, Crosby reenlisted as seaman in San Francisco and personal correspondence of his indicates that he made the Great White Fleet cruise aboard one of the battleships. The Fleet stopped over in Auckland for six days in August 1908 and was celebrated with "American Fleet Week", an almost unending round of receptions, banquets, floral arches, flag waving, including trips to Rotorua and a day at the Ellerslie races.

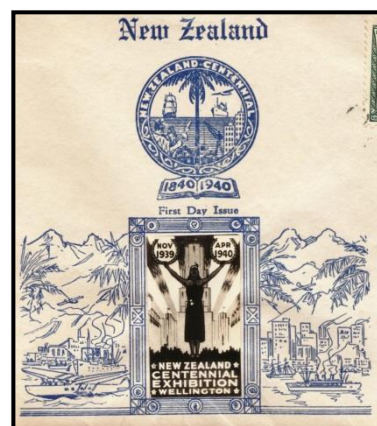


Chief Petty Officer Crosby

It may have been this visit in New Zealand and fond memories of it that was the catalyst for the covers he created in 1940. After transfer to the Fleet Naval Reserve, Chief Gunner's Mate Crosby retired from the Navy in December 1925.

After his retirement, he operated "Bones' Place" at Front & Beacon Streets in San Pedro (1928). It was a bath house with all the modern conveniences catering primarily to naval personnel. His nickname "Bones" comes from his service days when he loved to shoot craps, "rattle the bones", in his free time. This location allowed him to meet mail clerks when their ships docked, as San Pedro was headquarters of the Pacific Fleet.

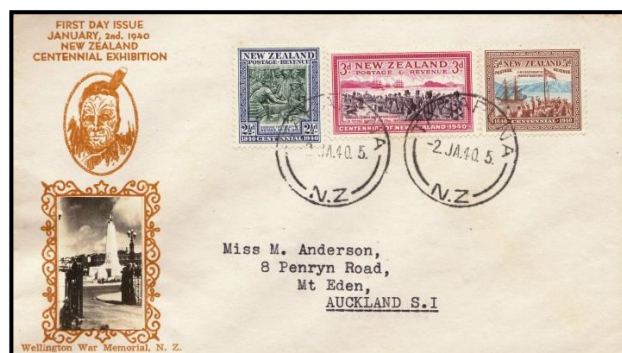
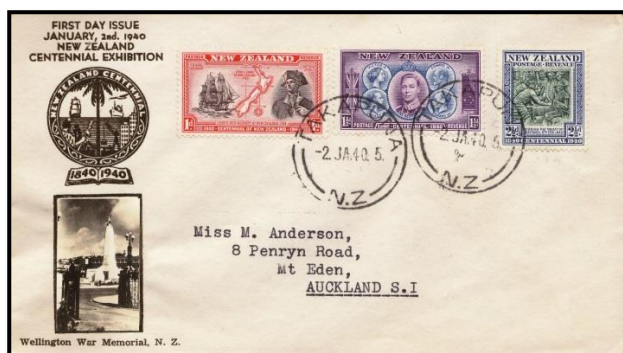
Possibly building on an existing interest in navel themed covers, Crosby advertised a cover service in both the Western Stamp Collector (1928) and the Weekly Philatelic Gossip (1930) before opening the Stamp, Coin & Curio Shoppe in San Pedro in 1931. He joined a number of stamp clubs describing his interests as specialising in battleship postmarks, CAM & FAM covers, First Flights and odd postmarks. By 1931, Crosby was marketing the Crosby Album that would hold 800 covers and was selling flight covers as early as 1930. His first FDC was produced in October, 1929 and he was involved with flight or air mail covers, and FDCs until his death in September, 1947. Crosby (USCS #69) joined the newly formed USCS in March, 1933 and held a number of administrative roles in the Society until his death in September, 1947. He was survived by his wife Emma and two children. His wife carried on the business with assistance from USCS member Ralph Burkholder before finally selling the rights to another member, William Gmahle in 1949.



Three cachet variations incorporating the image of the Exhibition cinderella

Crosby's signature style of cover was started in May 1935. He used a specialized heat printing process known as "thermography" which involved sprinkling resin or wax powder on the wet ink and then heating the cover melting the material, resulting in a raised effect in the printing. Often a small paste on photo was added within the cachet design and this was the case with all the 1940 Centennial FDCs seen so far.

To date, thirteen different cachet colour and format variations used for FDCs have been recorded with all illustrated in this article. These include two printed on airmail envelopes and two longer format examples. Also illustrated are two different flight covers for the first Trans Pacific Clipper flight between New Zealand and the USA.



Design variations incorporating a picture of the Wellington War Memorial



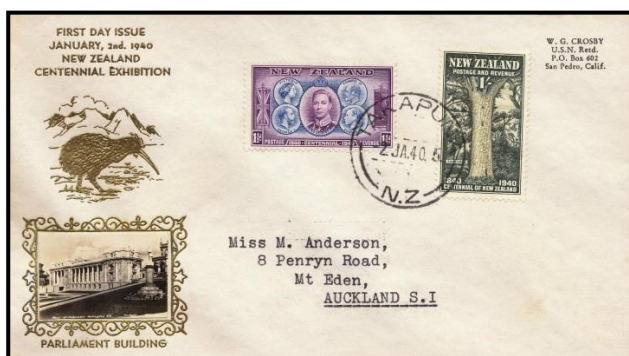
Design variations incorporating a picture of the Parliament Buildings



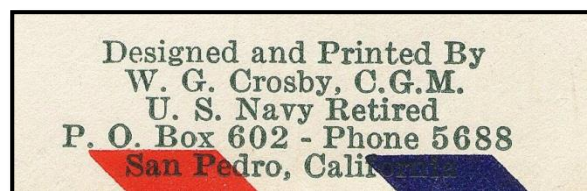
Two colour variations printed on airmail stationery



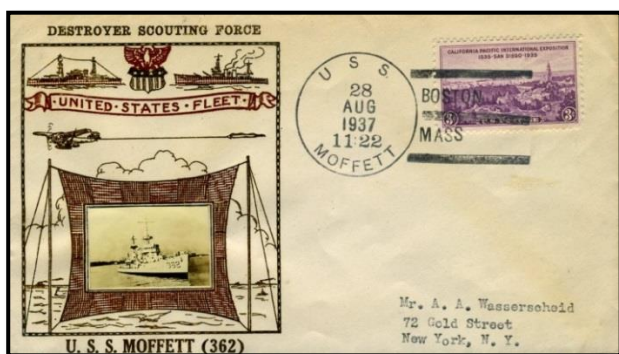
Long cover incorporating two different Crosby cachets, with a Kiwi over Parliament Buildings



Parliament Buildings and Kiwi



Crosby's address stamp



With colourful thermographic designs and actual photos, it is easy to see why Crosby's covers were so popular with collectors in the US. They were especially so with the collectors of the naval covers as Crosby used a photo related to the vessel.

In New Zealand, there had been nothing produced that would have been comparable to these covers and I imagine that these covers

would have been treasured items by collectors back in the 1940's. I haven't come across any details as to how they were distributed in New Zealand although it is probable some would have been done by Crosby for clients based in New Zealand. On the whole, these covers are not commonly encountered, with the longer variations being very scarce. I would be interested to see any varieties not illustrated in this piece.

Stephen Jones



Covers for the Trans Pacific Clipper flight between New Zealand and the USA



GRAND LONG, COMPLETE STORY THIS WEEK.

SUNDAY STORIES

WAR-TIME PRICE
1 1/2D

Cpl. Stetings
B.E.F. FRANCE

Sgt. Verner
18th Battalion
INDIA.

KHAKI
Language of
Postage Stamps
SEE INSIDE.

Pl. Richards
17th Div. Hqs.
B.E.F. FRANCE

John Morrison
Italy

2nd Mar

Harry R.A.M.C.
Mulla



"THE GIRL WHO LOVED AGAIN"; Splendid Serial Story, "THE TESTING OF MARY BRIGHT"; Jeannie Maitland's "RECOLLECTIONS OF MY LIFE," &c.
No. 1,143. March 16th. 1918.

The Language Of Stamps

During a recent excursion to the second hand shops of Paeroa, I came across a copy of a weekly magazine, "Sunday Stories", from March, 1918. The cover featuring the "Khaki Language of Stamps" drew my attention as I thought the content may have been a contemporary article on the subject. However I was disappointed as the subject matter comprised primarily of stories aimed at "young ladies of a certain age"



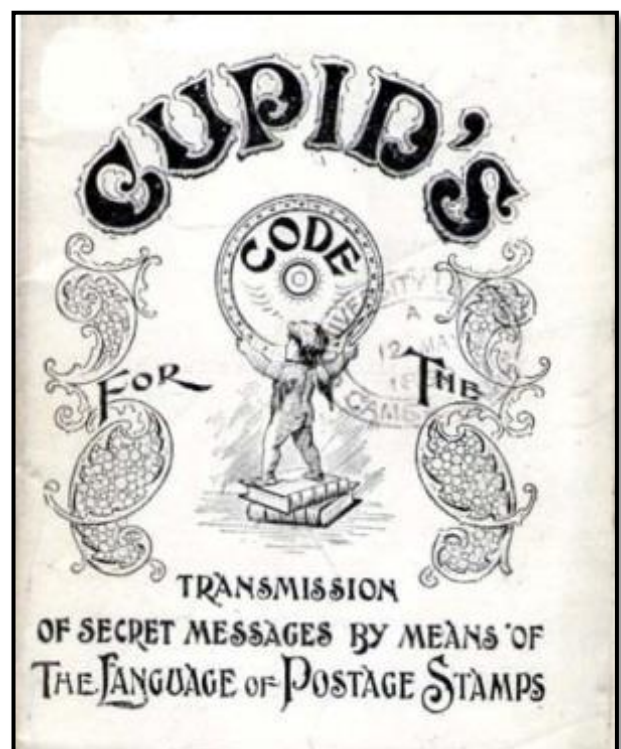
The only reference in the magazine was a block of text with a few of the many possible stamp orientations and their meanings that became popular in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

A search on the internet was very fruitful and certainly added to my knowledge on the subject. It is not unlikely that a variation of this theme was around in the pre stamp era of sending mail. Prior to using stamps, it was usual for the recipient to pay the cost of the postage, something that was in relative terms very expensive. There are accounts of people refusing to pay the cost of the postage, happy in the fact that the letter confirmed the sender was still alive.

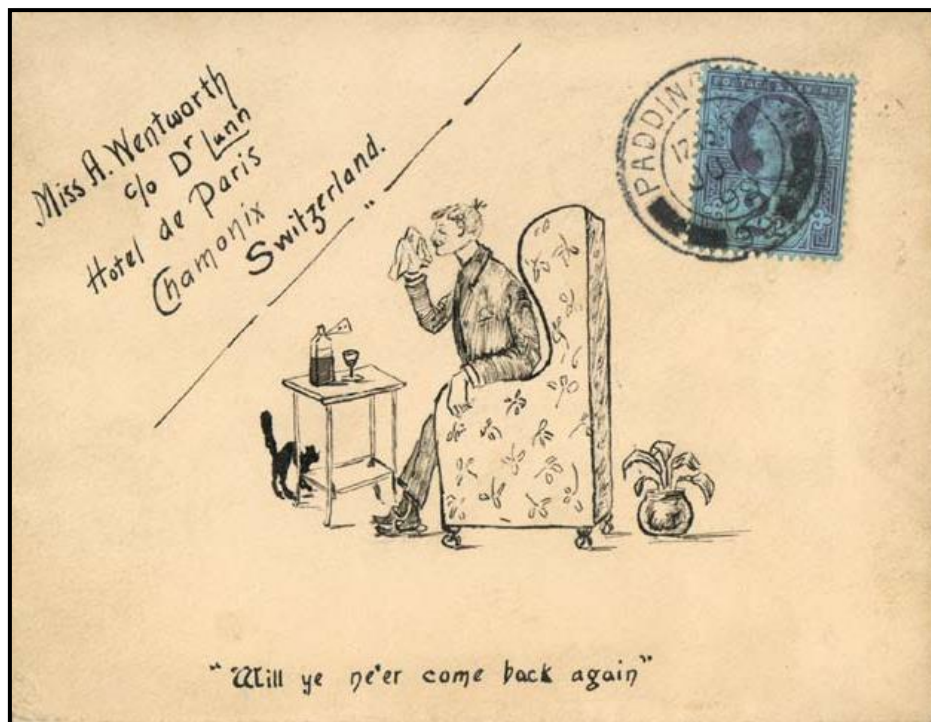
With the advent of penny postage, the reduction in the cost of sending a letter and the increasing usage of stamps opened up all sorts of possibilities for conveying unwritten messages. Writing online, one collector speculated the practice of using the orientation of the stamp on the envelope to relay a message may have started in the Austrian/Hungarian Empire around the early 1870's, concurrent with the advent of the greeting card. The earliest reference he could find was in a Hungarian provincial weekly from 1890 which inferred it was already well established.

The delivery of mail in the household would still have been a novelty for quite a few years so there was little chance of any correspondence between young couples remaining secret. Given the authoritarian nature of some households, it is probable that Father would be very interested in the content of any letters arriving for his young daughter!

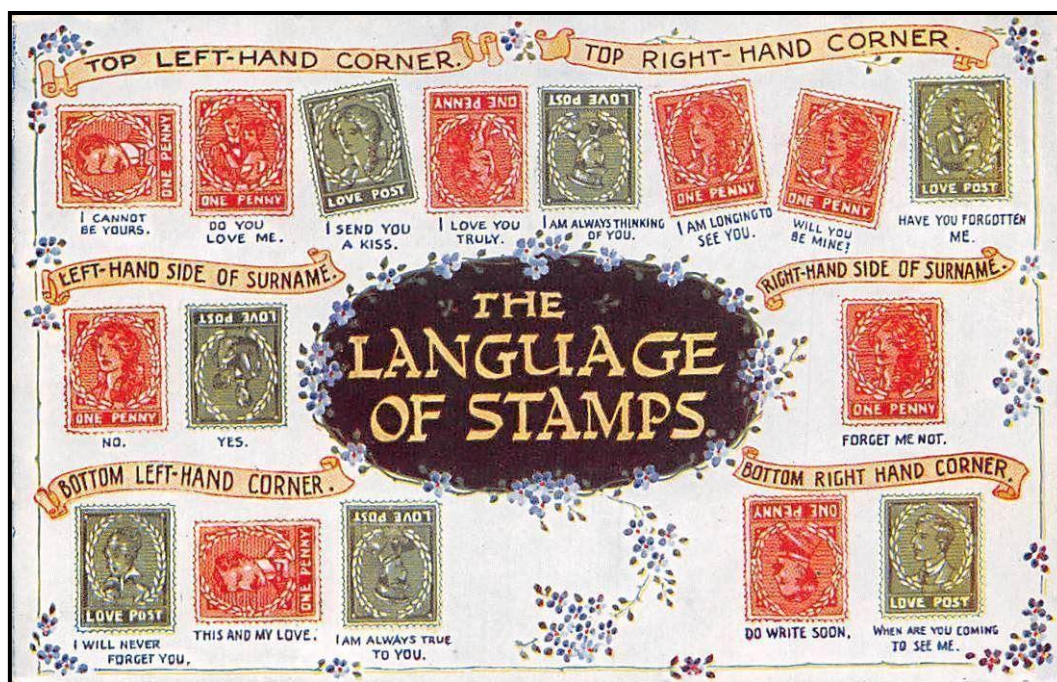
However, to convey a message using the stamp, you had to be sure that there was no misunderstanding by the recipient of the sender's intended meaning. As its popularity increased, it is likely there would have been all sorts of magazines articles and pieces to help both to be of a like mind, and "Cupid's Code for the Transmission of Secret Messages by Means of the Language of Postage Stamps" from 1899 is one example.



While the introduction page to one such 'how-to' booklet claimed to be able to encode **270,000 message variations**, I am guessing that for convenience and ease of use, things would have become fairly standardised. With the explosion of the postcard craze at the turn of the 20th century, the language of stamps was a one of the themes picked up by postcard manufacturers. So much for it being a secret language.



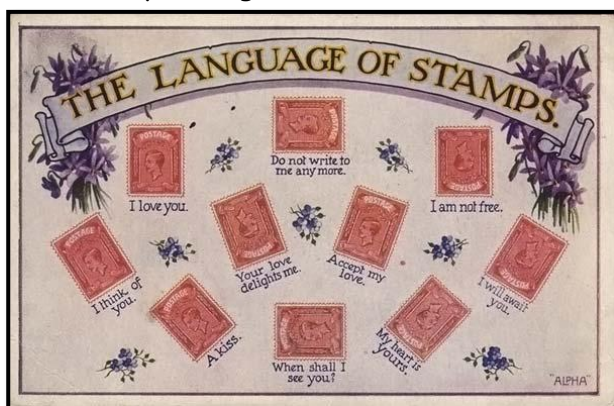
The above cover, sent in 1898 by a (young) man clearly missing the girl of his affections, has the stamp placed at an angle. Although the postcard below would have been produced a few years later, the message conveyed by the placement of the stamp looks to be "Will You Be Mine!"



Card 1

This postcard gives very specific instructions on where to place the stamps, "Top Left-Hand Corner", "Right-Hand Side Of Surname" etc but some cards are not prescriptive at all. In fact, although this messaging system was widespread, it appears there was significant variation between countries. In some countries the emphasis was on where the stamp was placed on the envelope while others were more concerned with the stamp's orientation on the

envelope. With Card 2, I am presuming that it refers to the orientation of the stamp when placed in the top right corner (TRC) so there is some consistency as Card 2 has this as "Accept my love". But make sure you have the correct understanding of the card because Card 2's "When shall I see you" is quite different from Card 3's "I cannot be yours". What to do? While this could be confusing, by and large the interpretations used on most English postcards were relatively benign and mistaken meanings probably wouldn't result in relationship ending events.



Card 2



Card 3

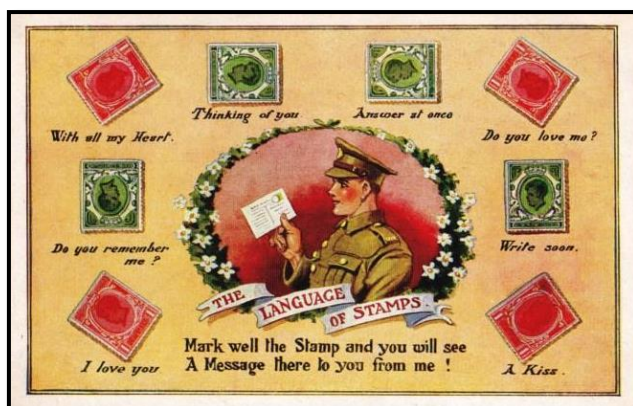


Card 4

However, a young Austrian lady using Card 4's "Antworte sofort" (Answer immediately) may not realise that her English beau using Card 3's "I cannot be yours" might not elicit the response she hoped for.


When the Great War erupted in August 1914, it was inevitable that picture postcard publishers would get their artists to design a 'Language of Stamps' card that would present a 'military' theme. In the early stages, the war was viewed as a great adventure and with

an element of romanticism associated with it by some. As it progressed and people realised the huge cost in lives, this would have been tempered with the hope that their boyfriend or husband would return alive and unharmed. Whatever the view, I think these unwritten messages would have provided a great comfort to the recipients; adding a private message that would have not been exposed to the eyes of the censor. Using the military themed postcard below, the following cover sent to an officer serving in India, sends the message "I love you".




Postcard manufacturers were not slow with developing the concept further and came up with a number of other "languages" for using as themes for their postcards. So you can find


Die Blumensprache .




Flieder.
Lass mich nicht warten.




Epheu:
Meine Liebe soll dich schützen!




Distel:
Mit uns ist's aus.




Kresse:
Ich hab' es raicht
b'see gemeint.




Iris:
Richte
mein
krankes Gemüth
wieder auf.




Reseda:
Nicht Schönheit,
nur Seeligkeit
bestimmen meine Wahl.




Kömmel:
Wir sind verrathet.




Rosmarin:
Sinn Joha' ich
dir die Liebe.




Kleeblatt:
Treue Freundschaft.




Klatschrose:
Verrathe
unsrer Geheimnisse.




Kornrade:
Dein Herz
mög denn Auge gleichen!




Grashalm:
Ich bitte
um Antwort.



Klee:
Heizt er oder nicht heizt er?
Das ist die Frage.



Lorbeerblatt:
Die Liebe hat besieget.



Blume:
Unter welcher
seih der Namenszug befindet, kommt in Betracht.

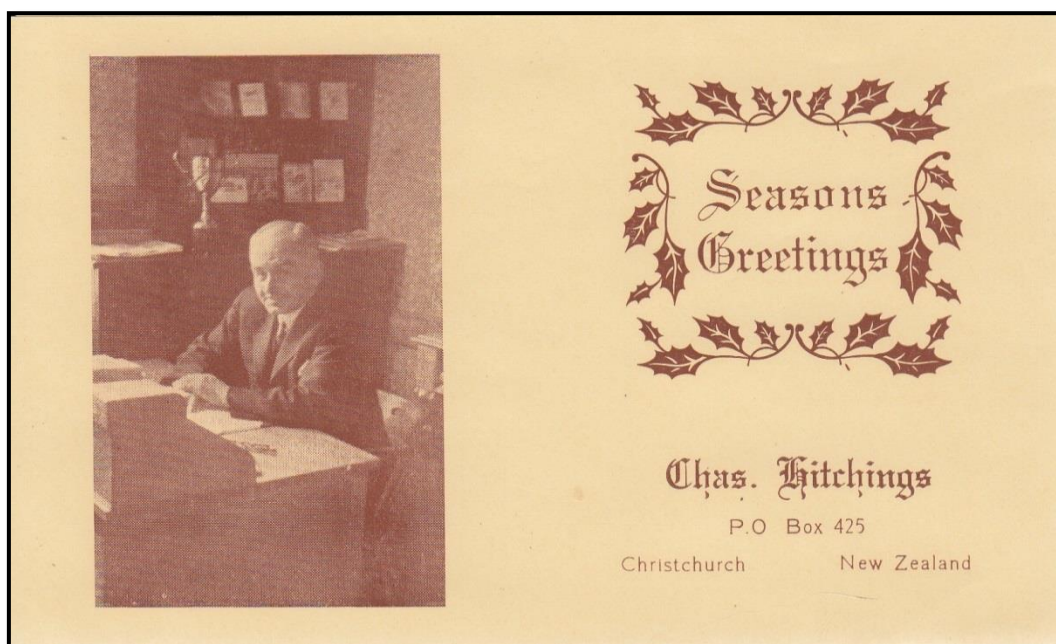
Die Karte dient zur Einführung in die Blumensprache.

Das ist die Frage.

Unter welcher
seih der Namenszug befindet, kommt in Betracht.

The end of the war and the decline in the general demand for postcards would have been two of the reasons that the interest appears to have waned with this form of communication. How widespread the use was in actuality is difficult to judge, there is certainly a dearth in examples of New Zealand related material. For collectors of English and European stamps, this field could provide ample material to build up an interesting sideline collection.

1953 Chas Hitchings Seasons Greeting Card



The image displays four historical U.S. postage stamps. From left to right: a 15-cent stamp (1846) featuring a blue vignette of a ship; a 24-cent stamp (1846) with a green border and a central vignette of a ship; a 30-cent stamp (1862) with a red eagle and a shield containing the number 30; and a 1-cent stamp (1865) featuring a portrait of Abraham Lincoln.

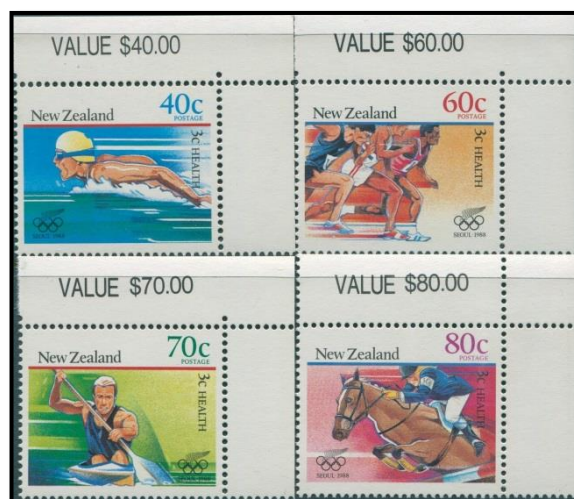
Num 797 (Vol 46 No 6)

1988 NZ Post Sells Discounted Stamps

The 1988 Health issue, as with all previous Health stamp issues from 1957, was available in two different formats, full sheets of 100 and miniature sheets, combining in this instance all the four different values. As is also normal practice for ease of sale and auditing, both products had the total value of the stamps printed on the product. For those of us who didn't leave school before Standard IV, full sheet values of 100 stamps are pretty easy to work out; 100 40 cent stamps comes to \$40.00, 100 27 cent stamps comes to \$27.00, and so on. Well, in 1988 someone slipped up and didn't do their sums correctly.



Sheet value includes Health surcharge



Sheet value does not include Health surcharge

In 1988, the combined value of the postage in the miniature sheet was \$2.50 plus an additional 12 cents for the Health Camps, giving a total of \$2.62, correctly shown under the stamps. On the other hand, using the 80 cent value, the total postage for the full sheet comes to \$80.00 plus an additional \$3.00 for the Health Camps, giving a total of \$83.00.

At some point, probably during the production stage, this additional \$3.00 wasn't added to the sheet value printed in the margin at the upper right corner of the sheet. This resulted in the sheet values for all four stamps reflecting the value of the postage only, not the actual face value of \$43.00, \$63.00, \$73.00 and \$83.00 that the sheets would have actually cost. It would be interesting to know how many sheets were sold before this error was identified and the impact on the promotional prospects of the person responsible for the mistake.

Stephen Jones

1920's High Value Fine Paid Stamps



The discovery example of the £40 Long Type value overprinted FINE PAID. While two examples have now been identified, they would still be among the rarest New Zealand stamps known.

The £30 value is also very scarce with only seven examples recorded as being overprinted FINE PAID.

(thanks <http://nzrevenues.co.nz/>)

Stephen Jones

1968-2018 "DSC" Is Fifty Years Old And Still Going Strong

I think all collectors are lamenting the decline in traditional stamps shops and in Christchurch consider themselves almost spoilt for choice with two of the three still operating in the South Island! However, there has been some disquieting news floating around that Don White's Dunedin Stamp Centre would be closing down later this year.

Well, "Rumours about my (philatelic) demise are greatly exaggerated!" advised Don in a recent email. Don goes on to say that ".. for some reason, a number of Christchurch collectors seem to have been given the impression that I plan to close my business shortly. I am changing things a bit to suit, but definitely not closing"

"I've renewed the lease, but from August 1st, I will be making some "lifestyle changes"

MAIL ORDER: As this is already over 80% of our business, it will continue as at present, so most clients will notice little change, unless I'm away. Keep an eye on our listings on Trademe, and add Dunedinstamps to your "Favourites". Check out our website for latest offers and news.

SHOP: As you know, we are one of the last full-service stamp shops left in NZ, and even in Australasia. With the industry ideal for mail-order, most dealers now operate from an office, or from home. I value my shop clientele, but I can't fit 80 hours work into a 40 hour week! Four days a week are needed for mail orders and stock processing - and I still have a "stack" to work through.

So, from August 1st, 2018, the shop and display area will be open Wednesdays only, and from 10am until 4.30pm. I will continue to have available the usual extensive range of stamps, albums & accessories, and masses of collections, box lots, etc and look forward to seeing you. Other times may be available by appointment only, but these will be limited. Email dunedinstamps@gmail.com, or phone, if you need to arrange a time.

I am still buying, so recommend arranging a suitable day & time in advance if a bulky collection is involved.

Unfortunately, in addition to these changes, David will be leaving to go back to Oamaru after being with me for over 21 years. I wish him well in the future, and thank him for his valuable service over the years.

DUNEDIN STAMP CENTRE

32 HANOVER STREET, DUNEDIN

Don White, PO Box 776, Dunedin, 9054

Phone (03) 477 6128

www.dunedinstamps.co.nz

It is vital for all collectors to fully support Stamp Dealers who continue to maintain retail outlets in any form in New Zealand. It is important also to keep in mind the generous support that the CPS receives from both [Paul Wales of Classic Stamps](#) and [David Holmes of Auckland City Stamps](#) through their regular advertising in the Captain Coqk. Stamp Dealers provide a valuable service to the philatelic community and I feel that there are some collectors that don't fully appreciate how important Stamp Dealers are to the health of the hobby.

As the Seekers' song goes ".. you don't know what you've got 'til it's gone..."

The Editor



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.

Recent additions to the Classic Stamps' web site.

Polar specialist Mark Jurisich FRPSNZ has recently updated three of his Antarctic monographs and produced eight new ones.

The full list of eleven publications is:

- * 'A Postal History of Campbell Island' (55Mb).
- * 'A Postal History of the Joint New Zealand - United States Hallett Station Antarctica' (225Mb).
- * 'The Postmarks of Ross Dependency' (13.5Mb).
- * 'Ross Dependency Stamp Issues' (1.8Mb).
- * 'Ross Dependency Historic Huts Restoration' (39.6Mb).
- * 'The Postmarks of Argentine Antarctic Bases' (1.3Mb).
- * 'The Postmarks of Chilean Antarctic Bases' (1.4Mb).
- * 'Postal History of Italian Antarctic 1957-1995' (14.7Mb).
- * 'The Postal History of the Commonwealth Trans-Antarctic Expedition 1955-58' (161Mb).
- * 'The Postmarks of Deep Freeze Antarctic Bases' (19Mb).
- * 'Operation Deep Freeze Picket Ships' (23Mb).

Some publications may take a short while to load due to the size (in brackets).

These are all freely available on the web site.

To access them, go to www.classicstamps.co.nz and you will see at the bottom of the left hand column the following.

Monographs

**Current Antarctic
Monographs**

Click on the red 'Current Antarctic Monographs' and you will see the list.

Click on the 'Click Here' to see the monograph you are interested in.

Remember: The bigger ones may take a few minutes to open.

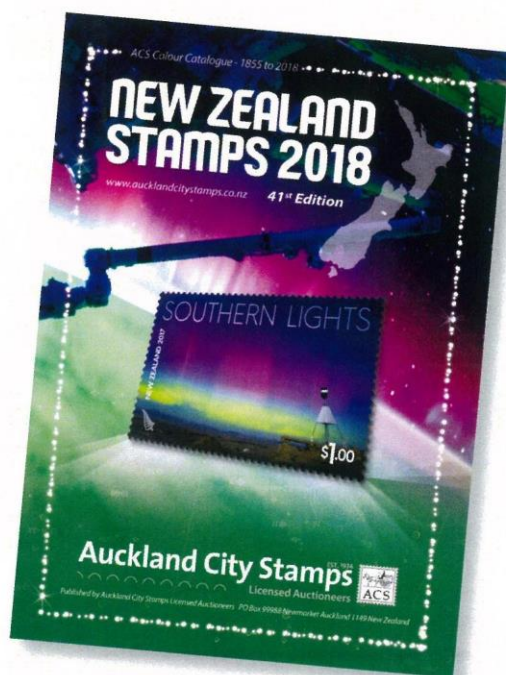
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- Many Price Changes

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