

CAPTAIN COQK

NEWSLETTER OF THE
CHRISTCHURCH (NZ) PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC

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1968 Closures Of Wanganui River POs

Following the Wanganui River from Parikino, 24 kms outside of Wanganui, for a further 40 kms through to Jerusalem, this cover has been cancelled at eight post offices on the way. Addressed to a collector in England, the stamps have all been postmarked on October 3, 1968, the day that these offices were closed.



In addition to the datestamps, the Postmistress at each office has added their signature to the cover. It is interesting that seven of the eight offices were opened between 1910 and 1915, with five in 1914. There would seem to have been an increase in commerce through the region to warrant the opening of so many new offices.

I am unsure how easy it would be to get examples of some of the offices but it is difficult to imagine that Upokopito or Whakaihukaka would ever have been particularly busy.

Stephen Jones

NZ2020 International Stamp Exhibition

Introduction

NZ2020 is the first international exhibition held in New Zealand since the successful NZ1990 World Stamp Exhibition. The exhibition will have some 1200 frames making it two to three times the size of our typical NZ National exhibition. The exhibits will be among the best on offer from the more than 20 participating countries; and, most will never have been seen in New Zealand before. There will be 40 trade stands with dealers (many of whom will be from overseas who rarely, if ever, visit and trade in New Zealand) and postal agencies (in addition to NZ Post). We invite your members to be part of it



So, come to the show

The first, and obvious way, is to take advantage of having an international stamp exhibition here in New Zealand by visiting the venue to look at the exhibits, checking what's on offer at the trade stands, meeting old collecting friends and making new ones.

Be volunteer helpers

Exhibitions require a lot of people to set up and run efficiently. This means there is a need for voluntary assistance from well beforehand; at the setting-up stage; during the event; and, immediately afterwards; a role for everyone.

For more details see <https://www.nz2020.nz/the-exhibition/people/volunteer-helpers/>

Purchase exhibition product and Provide financial support

Over the coming months and during the exhibition NZ2020 will have a range of collectable products available for purchase. These products and how they can be obtained will be advertised on the NZ2020 website at <https://nz2020.nz>

Running an international exhibition is expensive. Collectors can help by joining the **Patrons' or Supporters' Clubs** whose members will have access to the Patrons' Lounge and receive a range of philatelic souvenirs. Additionally, Patrons will receive a ticket to the Palmares function. Membership costs are \$500 (Patrons' Club) and \$100 (Supporter' Club) There is also **Frame Sponsorship** at \$10/frame, and **Donations** from \$10 upwards are, of course, very welcome.

For more details see <https://www.nz2020.nz/the-exhibition/people/supporters-and-donors/>

Payments

Payment can be made by the following methods:

Through the website at: <https://nz2020.nz/shop/> [this provides for payment by credit card]

By Internet banking to the following bank account:

Account Name: NZ2020 Stamp Exhibition Inc.

Account number: 38-9019-0077973-00

Bank Name: Kiwibank Limited

Bank Address: 7 Waterloo Quay, Wellington 6011

Swift Code: KIWINZ22

[NB international bank drafts should include \$25 to cover bank fees]

A New Zealand cheque made out to 'NZ2020 Stamp Exhibition' and posted to: Leigh Gravestock, NZ2020 Treasurer, 1 Ryan Grove, Tawa, Wellington 5028

Register your interest by completing the form at <https://nz2020.nz/contact/> to receive updates on the exhibition and the products available.

SOCIETY PAGE

PROGRAMME

MARCH 4 POSTAL HISTORY GROUP

MARCH 12 SOCIETY MEETING **John Kersel**
The Sinking of the "Tahiti"

John Kersel

Talking and displaying material related to the sinking of the "Tahiti"

Members

Bring along your own Crash, Wreck or Disaster related mail to add to the evening's theme

MARCH 19 LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

MARCH 26 POSTCARD GROUP Alan's display of Armistice Day postcards

APRIL 1 POSTAL HISTORY GROUP

APRIL 9 SOCIETY MEETING **AGM**
Presidents Night

APRIL 16 LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

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

SOCIETY ADDRESS: PO Box 9246, Tower Junction, Christchurch 8149
(website) 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
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<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 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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The German Revolution 1918 - 1919

By 1914 the Social Democratic Party (SPD) was the leading socialist force and the largest political party in the German parliament. However, only the Kaiser could appoint the government, in which the SPD were excluded.



East Germany 1966 50th anniversary of the Spartacus League

The SPD were initially anti-war. Faced with the general enthusiasm for the war, SPD feared it would lose support if it kept its pacifism. The SPD voted in favour of the war on 4 August 1914. Karl Liebknecht joined the Gruppe Internationale that Rosa Luxemburg had co-founded on 5 August 1914 with others from the SPD left. They adhered to the anti-war resolutions. From this group the Spartacus League was formed on 1 January 1916.

On 29 August 1916, Field Marshal Paul von Hindenburg and General Erich Ludendorff were appointed to the head of the German army. They became the de facto rulers of Germany. They subjugated civilian life to the needs of the war and the war economy. It often meant 12-hour work days at minimal wages with inadequate food.

After the Russian February Revolution in 1917, strikes occurred in Germany in March and April. The SPD, under Friedrich Ebert, excluded the opponents of the war. The Spartacists joined with other anti-war parties to found the Independent Social Democratic Party of Germany (USPD) on 9 April 1917. The USPD demanded an immediate end to the war.



General Erich Ludendorff



Germany 1928 Ebert

On 29 September, Ludendorff informed Wilhelm II that the military situation was hopeless. To get better armistice terms from US President Woodrow Wilson, Ludendorff requested the government become democratic. It also meant that army wouldn't be blamed for any peace deal. The SPD agreed to join the government.

It was only on 5 October that the German public was informed of the dismal situation that it faced. In the general state of shock, the constitutional changes on 28 October went almost unnoticed. Germany became a parliamentary monarchy. SPD considered their objectives were met, no revolution was required.

However, on 23 October in his third note, Wilson demanded German evacuation of all occupied territories and Wilhelm II's abdication. With this, 24 October, Ludendorff changed his mind and demanded the resumption of the war. By now German troops had come to expect the war to end. The German public wanted an end to the war and believed Wilhelm's abdication was the only way to achieve it.

In October 1918, another series of strikes swept through Germany. Over 1 million workers took part. During these strikes Revolutionary Stewards formed worker's councils. The SPD feared a Bolshevik revolution in Germany. They wanted a democratic government not revolution.

The German Imperial Naval Command, Kiel, planned a last battle against the Royal Navy without any authorization. The naval order of 24 October 1918 and the preparations to sail triggered a mutiny. The sailors wanted an end to the war. They feared the attack would compromise armistice negotiations.

The mutiny began during the night of 29-30 October 1918. Although it was suppressed on the 30th, the Naval Command was forced to drop its plans. Those who had mutinied were imprisoned. 3 November, a mass protest of sailors and workers in Kiel demanded the prisoners' release and an end to the war.



Post mark SMS Thüringen, one of the first ships to mutiny



On 4 November, the revolt started. Kiel was taken by the sailors and workers. Delegations from Kiel dispersed to all of the major cities in Germany.

By 7 November, the revolution had seized all large coastal cities as well as Hanover, Brunswick, Frankfurt on Main, and Munich. King Ludwig III was effectively deposed on 7 November, King William II of Württemberg on 9 Nov and King Frederick Augustus III of Saxony on 13 November.

Workers' and Soldiers' Councils (WSC) were established, almost entirely made up of SPD and USPD members. They wanted an end to war. The SPD wanted quick elections to determine Germany's future, while the USPD wanted a revolution first.

To prevent revolution, Ebert wanted to win over the middle-class parties and the old elites. The old elite wanted to keep the Kaiser. Ebert realised that the Kaiser had to go, and demanded his abdication on 6 November. The old elites and the conservatives saw him as a traitor.



Hindenburg, part of old elite



Germany 2015 Proclamation of the republic

On 9 November, mass demonstrations in Berlin demanded the abolition of the monarchy. The SPD learned that Liebknecht planned a proclamation of a socialist republic. Thus the SPD proclaimed a republic from the Reichstag (parliament). At this time Wilhelm II hadn't assented to this, but was forced to do so later that day.

At the same time Liebknecht proclaimed a socialist republic from Berlin's town hall. To reduce the threat of revolution, Ebert offered the USPD and Liebknecht participation in the government. They did not respond.

On 10 November, Revolutionary Stewards from Berlin occupied the Reichstag. They did not trust the SPD and announced elections for 11 November. Every factory and regiment was to elect a council that would in turn elect an Executive Council. This, Council of the People's Deputies, would replace Ebert's as chancellor. 10 November, the German Army assured Ebert of its support.



The administrative machinery largely carried on as normal even under WSC control

The election resulted in SPD/USPD power sharing, a blow to the left. The SPD saw this as an obstacle to democracy. SPD leadership mistrusted the councils. Internal power struggles made the Executive Council ineffective, and the WSC continually changed their position. The SPD worked with the old administration to bypass the Executive Council. Unions and employers also feared WSC control. In the turmoil of the 11th, the signing of the armistice went almost unnoticed.

On 15 November the Bremen revolutionary republic was proclaimed. In Leipzig, Hamburg, Chemnitz WSC took control. WSC sent deputies to Berlin for the "First General Convention of Workers' and Soldiers' Councils", on 16 December. Ebert and the Army sent troops to Berlin to prevent the convention and to regain control of Berlin. On 16 December, in an attempt to arrest the Executive Council, the Army opened fire on an unarmed demonstration, killing 16. The convention continued.

The Executive Council had ordered the newly created People's Navy Division from Kiel to Berlin for its protection. The division was wrongly considered as pro-Spartacists. Ebert demanded their disbanding and refused to pay their wages.

On 23 December, the sailors occupied the Imperial Chancellery and Reichstag. They could have eliminated Ebert's government, but they just insisted on their pay. Ebert gave orders to attack the sailors with troops loyal to the government on 24 December.



The postal system was still working during the height of the Christmas crisis

The sailors repelled the attack. The government troops had to withdraw. The Revolutionary Stewards called for demonstrations and the USPD left the government in protest on 29 December. The military defeat had turned into a political victory. Ebert was now free of the far left.

The Spartacists concluded that their goals could be met only by forming their own party. They founded the Communist Party of Germany (KPD) on 30 December 1918. They hoped to gain power by revolution. On 4 January 1919, Ebert dismissed the USPD chief constable of Berlin because he refused to act against the demonstrators during the Christmas Crisis. The USPD, Revolutionary Stewards and the KPD called for a demonstration. On 5 January, hundreds of thousands protested in the centre of Berlin, many armed. Buildings were occupied.

An "Interim Revolutionary Committee" was formed. Liebknecht demanded the overthrow of the government and an armed struggle. 6 Jan, demonstrations were even larger. But the Committee failed to win over the troops, who mostly remained loyal to the government.

Even the People's Navy Division were not willing to support the revolt. On 9 January government troops started to suppress the revolt. On 12 January the Freikorps moved into Berlin. By 15 January the revolt was over. 173 were killed, including Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg.



East Germany 1969 death of Liebknecht and Luxemburg



Postcard of street fighting in Berlin, with Freikorps and ex-British tank



East Germany 1968 50th anniversary of the November 1918 uprising

In the elections on 19 January 1919, the SPD became the strongest party in the Reichstag. The USPD did poorly. To get away from the post-revolutionary confusion in Berlin, the National Assembly met on 6 February at Weimar.

The Army and revolution put the SPD in an impossible position. It had to accept the humiliation of the armistice and the Treaty of Versailles. In 1919 it gave rise to the "stab in the back" myth: Germany wasn't defeated militarily, it was the socialists, Bolsheviks and Jews, i.e. the home front, who betrayed Germany, to seize power. Hitler used this myth as a pretext to eradicate the left after 1933.

Murray Taege

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Thanks again to Alan Tunnicliffe for taking the time to collate the Captain Coqk index for 2018. This is a time consuming exercise but makes the Captain Coqk all the more valuable as a philatelic reference.

2018 Pakistan Propaganda Issue

Issued by Pakistan in 2018, the stamps claim to show images of Indian violence against the Muslim majority population living in the Indian State of Kashmir.



Original image

While these images are supposed to encourage sympathy for those involved, at least one of the images (circled) is not what it is purported to be.

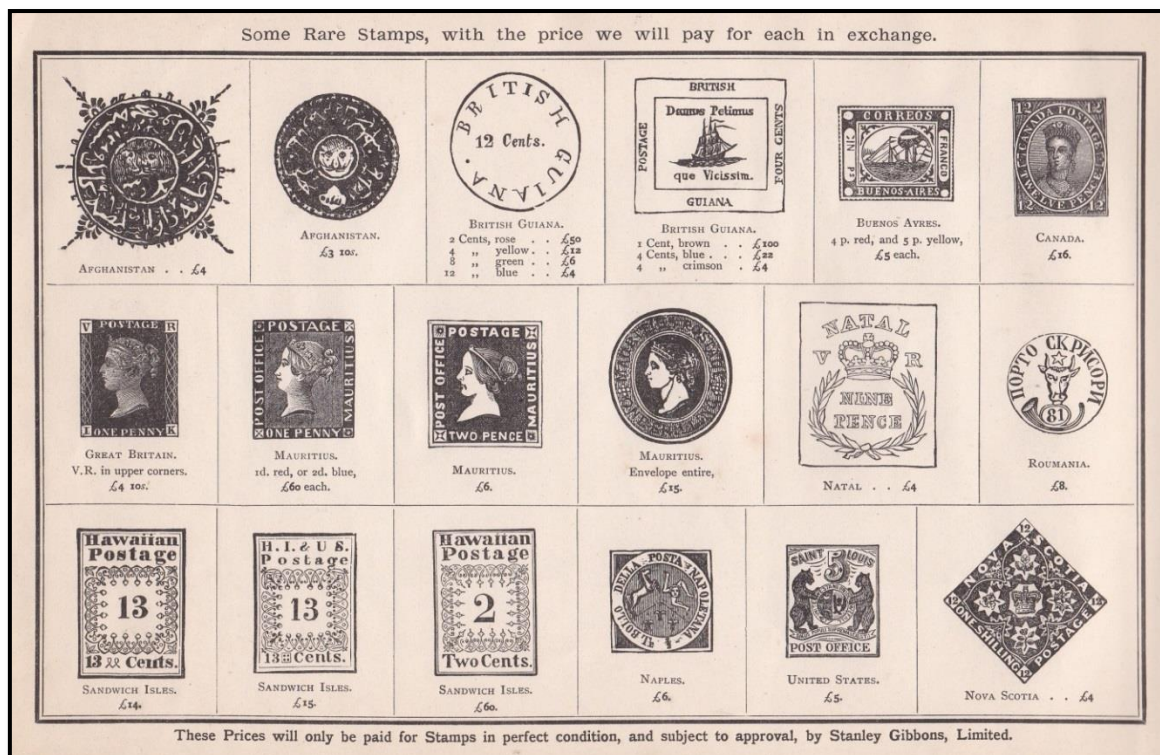
It is based on a photo taken of a peaceful protest by a group of (Hindu) Kashmiri Pandits who were displaced by the threat of extremist violence from their homes in the Kashmir Valley.

The issue of the stamps, of which 20,000 sheets were printed, was one of the contributing factors leading to the cancellation of high level talks between Pakistan and India due to be held in New York last September.

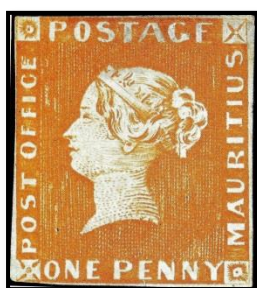
Stephen Jones

1880's Stanley Gibbons Album

Advances in imaging and communication technology have set the bar high in our expectations of catalogue illustrations and how true to life these images should be. In the 19th century, things were a bit more of a challenge for the producers of illustrated albums and catalogues as the page below shows. It is from the 12th edition of a Stanley Gibbons Improved Postage Stamps Album. Although the album is undated, I am guessing it is from the late 1880's as it gives the Gibbons address as 8 Gower Street, their premises from 1876.



Headed "Some Rare Stamps, with the price we will pay for each in exchange", it illustrates a number of well-known rarities such as the VR 1d Black, Hawaiian Missionaries, a St Louie Bear and the two Mauritius "Post Office" issues. Two Mauritius "Post Office" issues?? Well, presumably they are different issues as the offer referring to two values, is substantially higher than for the other illustrated with a 2d value.



1847 1d stamp



1847 1d illustration



1848 2d stamp



1848 2d illustration

Our knowledgeable CPS readers will know that only the issue of 1847 was worded "Post Office", and that the still quite rare (but considerably more affordable) issue the following year incorporated the words "Post Paid" into the design.

Leaving aside the overall reproduction of both the designs, it would seem fairly clear that the illustrator wasn't working from an example of the actual stamp and it is not unlikely that they could be copying another illustrator's (incorrect) reproduction of the stamp.

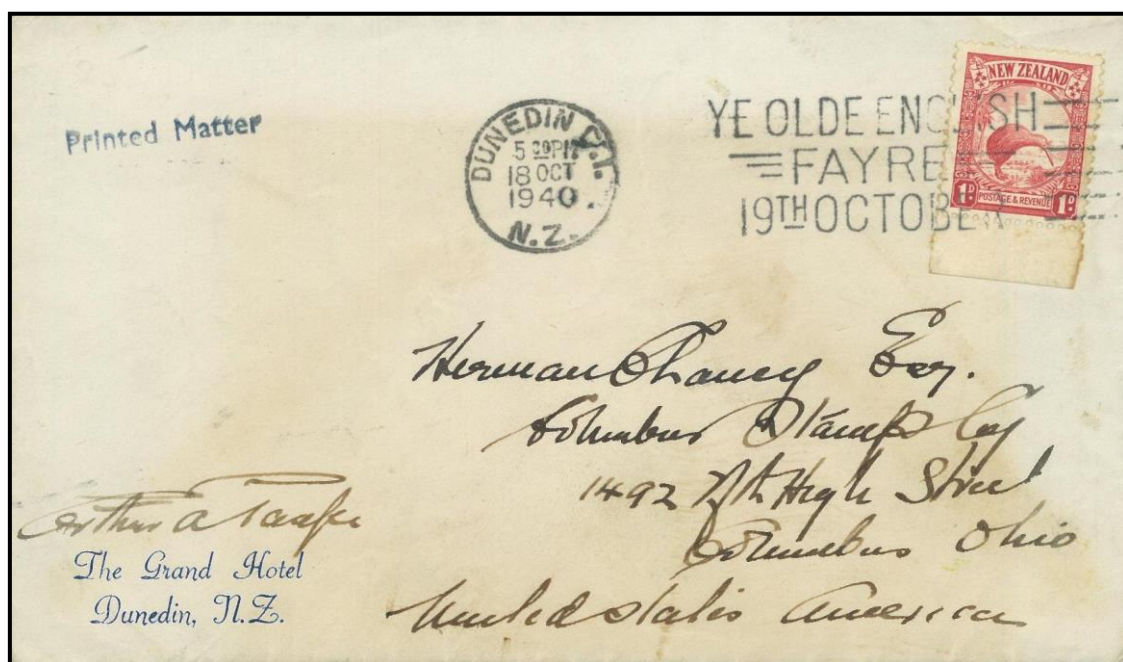
What is does illustrate is that best part of 40 years later, even the more common of the two was still a difficult stamp to acquire. After all, it would appear that Stanley Gibbons couldn't provide an example to copy from.

Stephen Jones

1940 Dunedin "Olde English Fayre"

Postmark collecting, whether by post office, region or type has quite a following although machine slogan postmarks don't seem to have generated the same interest amongst collectors. This is a pity as they can make a good "go with" for a lot of the stamps that New Zealand has issued. Many of them saw very limited use and finding examples on cover can involve a great deal of patience.

Some are just interesting in their own right and the example on the below cover is one such and the first that I have seen. Postmarked at Dunedin on October 18, 1940, it is promoting "Ye Olde English Fayre" being held the following day. A search using "Papers Past" was able to elaborate on the event.



The Otago Daily Times (ODT) had a small piece in its September 24 edition indicating the council had approved an application to hold an "Olde English Fayre" in the Octagon on Saturday, October 19 as part of the ongoing Otago Queens Carnival initiative. The application was from a group raising funds for the rehabilitation of soldiers and would entail the closure of a large part of Princess and George Streets from 8:00am through to 11:00pm. Interestingly the application was approved in favour of another from the Army Queen Committee which was declined at the same meeting.

The ODT for October 12 gave some idea of what visitors to the Fayre should expect:

"... there will be Punch and Judy shows, fortune tellers, innocent yokels, doubtful games of chance run by villainous looking gypsies, beauty contests, thrilling devices to amuse young and old, scores of stalls that sell everything or a game billiards. "A nice crayfish or your photograph taken for 1s" will be the quaint sign over one of the stalls"

The piece described two other amusements. The first was "punching the pumpkin", which I hope one of our readers will be able to expand on. The other was "...the "Wonder Man from Texas" who stands 8ft high and announces that he will walk on his hands for 50 minutes of every hour during the currency of the fair". Now, that's something you don't see every day.

Concurrent with the amusements, sideshows and stalls there was Maypole Dancing with 17 teams of twelve competing and an extensive programme of sporting events. Starting from 1:30pm, a number of novelty running events were scheduled with participants from different groups including nurses, postmen, taxi drivers, factory girls, barristers and publicans. As some of the participants of the last two groups were mentioned by name, it gives some idea of who is viewed as having some influence within the city. The city's students weren't

forgotten either as there was "...a "flying squad" race for students in which they should excel for it consists of a sprint followed by a beer drinking contest".



Maypole dancing (ODT October 19)



The Army Queen dance to raise funds for the Army's Queen Arini

Fortunately the weather was sympathetic to the organisers and the event looks to have been a great success and well supported with crowds of people in attendance before the official opening. The Maypole Dance competition proved to be a very popular attraction with the team from New Zealand Paper Mills declared as winners. There doesn't seem to be any published information that I could find on the amount raised but a piece in the ODT for October 24 goes on to say "...it is probable that when the final figures are completed the day's takings will amount to about £2000".

There was final footnote to the event. In the "Letters to the Editor" a certain JS writes "....I would like to bring to the notice of the public through your columns the following facts: (1) The profit from the pony rides was £21/9/- (2) This amount almost exactly offset the cost of the amount of beer consumed by the bands - some 80 gallons". In response, the Conductor and Secretary for the St Kilda Municipal Band advised that the members "...did not partake of any liquid refreshment, were not invited to do so and as 80% of the members were under the drinking age, any invite to do so would have been refused".

Stephen Jones

Bunbury 2019 Stamp Show

With no planned national exhibitions in NZ for 2019, those exhibiting one frame entries may be interested in the Australian national one frame exhibition in Bunbury, West Australia.



The Exhibition, also incorporating displays of Postcards, Coins and Banknotes, is being held on July 20 - 21 this year.

Further information can be found at their website:

<http://www.wapc.org.au/bunbury-2019/>

Stephen Jones

Alice In Wonderland Covers

Last year, Abacus Auctions, listed eight covers hand illustrated in the style of Sir John Tenniel, the original illustrator of "Alice in Wonderland" The addressee's family had held the covers since the 1870's. The covers realised between A\$1,000-A\$1,600 each when auctioned.



A Tenniel illustration from the original "Alice in Wonderland"



Stephen Jones

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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.