

# CAPTAIN COQK

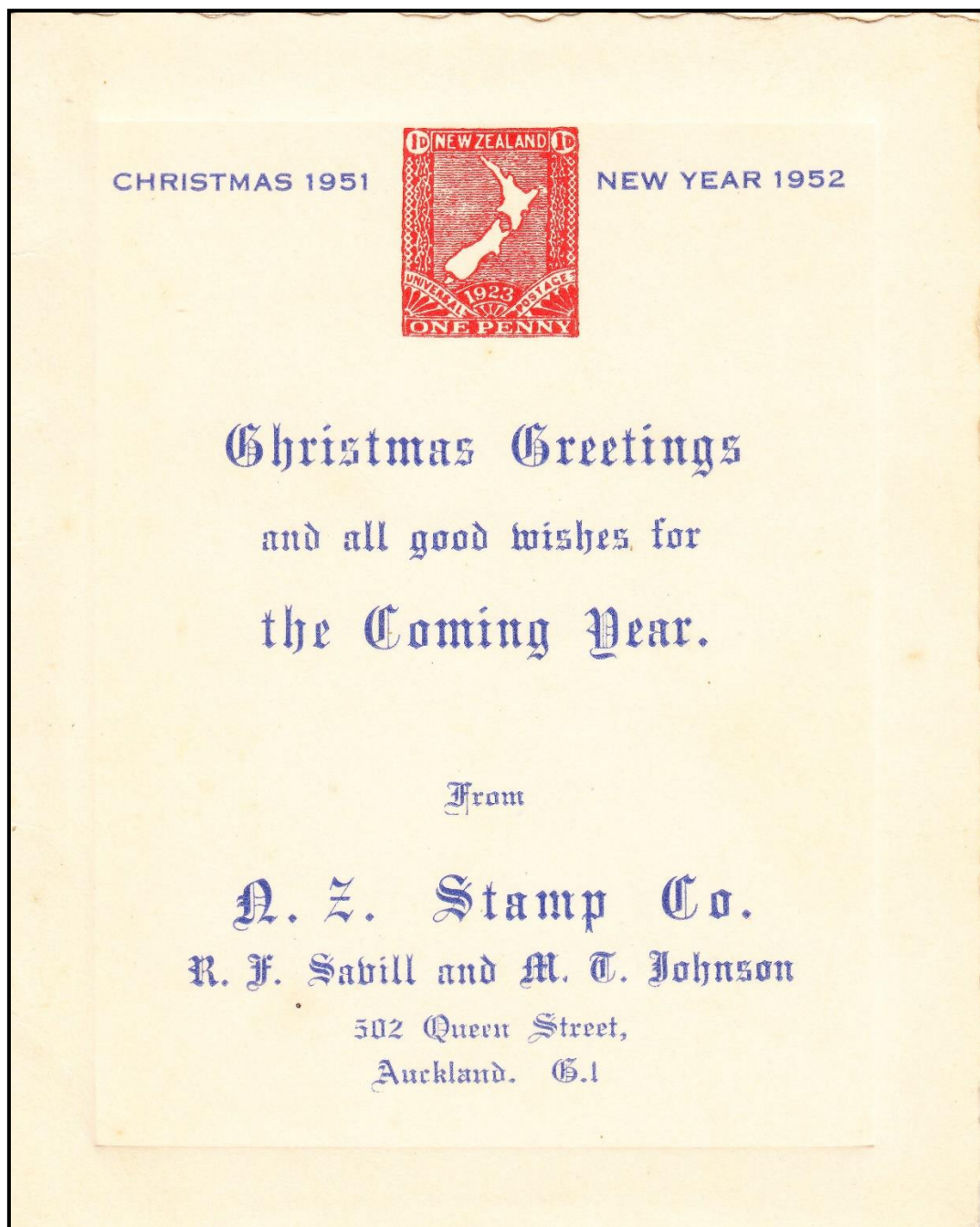
NEWSLETTER OF THE  
CHRISTCHURCH (NZ) PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC

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December, 2019

## 1951 Christmas Card



Produced by the New Zealand Stamp Co to send out to clients, this Christmas card uses an image of the 1923 Map stamp to illustrate the front of the card. It measures 112mm x 127mm and is deckle edged.

Stephen Jones

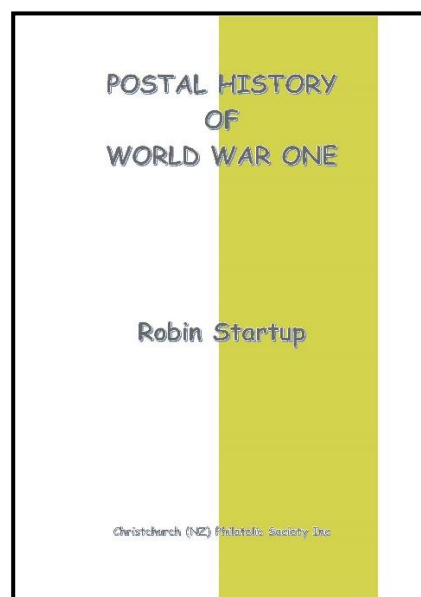
## November Meeting & News

**Members Night – Transportation;** Seven members showed material at the November general meeting on the theme of transportation. Railways was the most popular with three presenters on the Thailand-Burma railway construction during WW2 from Murray Taege, NZ Railway freight stamps from Paul Ledington, and Belgian Railway stamps from the writer. Aviation followed with 2, Union Airways ephemera from John Kersel and a variety of aviation related stamps and covers from Alan Tunnicliffe. Robert Duns show sea mail from the Napoleonic war period. Murray Clark covered everything with this display of King George VI definitives from India with its higher values showing various types of mail transport. Not just one set, but overprints for the Convention States, the Middle East territories, and Pakistan.

**2020;** The Society programme for 2020 has pretty much been finalised and will be distributed soon. Keep an eye out for it as the first half of the year will feature a good number of members nights, with a run of speakers later in the year.

**Military History;** As most members will be aware, the Society has the Robin Startup Memorial Archive in our library. In that archive are a number of unpublished manuscripts which we intend to publish over time. The first one off the press as they used to say is "Postal History of World War One". This volume concentrates on the NZ military postal history and was originally written in 1960.

It is published as Robin wrote it, but we have added in editorial comments where we know there have been other publications since that have more, or different, information. We have also included various notes and corrections Robin made himself to his manuscript along with relating pamphlets and photos found in the archive.



This book is only available digitally, is 117 pages or 6,786KB digital size and will be sent absolutely free by email. Request your copy by email to [captaincoqk@gmail.com](mailto:captaincoqk@gmail.com)

To work out what these two photos are about you will need to order the book and find out for yourself.



Paul van Herpt

## SOCIETY PAGE

### PROGRAMME

DECEMBER 2 POSTAL HISTORY GROUP

DECEMBER 10 SOCIETY MEETING Michael Smith  
Cartography

## Cartography Philately from a cartographic perspective

DECEMBER 17 LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

DECEMBER 25 Merry Christmas to all from the Committee

JANUARY 14 SOCIETY MEETING Member's Night  
Ephemera

JANUARY 21 LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

FEBRUARY 3 POSTAL HISTORY GROUP

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) [captaincoqk@gmail.com](mailto:captaincoqk@gmail.com)

### SOCIETY OFFICERS:

Patron	Jeff Long	President	Murray Willocks
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	Paul van Herpt
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 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)

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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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## History: What History?

When NZ Post didn't reply to my enquiry into their commemoration of the 250th anniversary of Captain Cook's first visit to New Zealand, I had assumed that NZ Post was not going to produce an issue to mark the occasion. However, NZ Post's produced: "Tuia 250: Michel Tuffery's Artistic Journey of Discovery".



This is quite a difference to what had been issued on Captain Cook earlier. Michel Tuffery brings out strongly the Tahitian connection. I am not sure if it achieves a "tuia" (weaving together) of European and Māori, but it represents a part of Cook's story that has previously been neglected. NZ Post also issued a set commemorating Kupe, the legendary explorer, was the first person ascribed to discover Aotearoa.



Emaciated survivors of the great voyage



What I find most interesting in this issue is the re-connection with Māori's ancestral home, Ra'iāte. After Māori pioneers had left all connection was lost. It raises the question, if Kupe returned to tell others, why was the connection never maintained? Was Kupe the first? How many departed that didn't make it to NZ?

On 12 September 2019, Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern announced the compulsory teaching of NZ history in schools by 2022. Aspects expected to be included: the arrival of Māori; first encounters and early colonial history; the Treaty of Waitangi and its history; colonisation of, and immigration to, Aotearoa; the New Zealand Wars; the evolving national identity of New Zealand in the late 19th and early 20th centuries; and NZ's role in the Pacific, (from Stuff.co).



The devil is not just in the details of what but also in how history is taught and what is the emphasis going to be on.



How well does NZ stamps reflect the foregoing? In terms of the NZ Wars, the only representation is on the 1984 miniature sheet of "Military History - The Army".

For land issues, only Dame Whina Cooper in the 1995 "Famous NZers" issue could represent the topic. As for NZ's role in the Pacific, I could only find the 2012 "50th Anniversary of the NZ-Samoa Friendship Treaty"

Given Richard Seddon's (King Dick), Prime Minister 1893-1906, desire to create a Pacific empire for NZ; and the Pacifica population in NZ, Pacifica themed stamps may have featured a little more. All the categories above can give NZ Post ample scope to produce issues to illustrate NZ history in depth.



Famous New Zealanders 1995



Samoa Friendship Treaty



Vogel supported female suffrage

What was not mentioned in the press conference is something which I believe is part of NZ's DNA: our innovativeness (in all aspects). I am hoping it is a press release oversight. The Treaty of Waitangi itself is unique in world history. Both Māori and Pakeha ingenuity has enabled NZ to punch above its weight in many areas. Perhaps it is NZ's dearth of population, resources and its relative isolation is the catalyst.

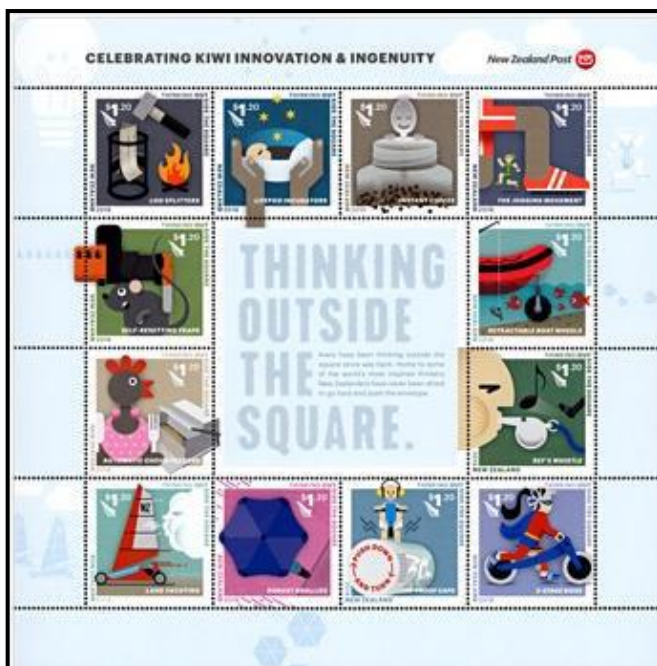






NZ Post's 2019 "New Zealand Space Pioneers" issue commemorates the 50th anniversary of the landing on the moon. Philately, more than any other hobby, can bring to light people and their achievements who are not known to the general public. This comes on the back of the 2018 "New Zealand in Space" issue celebrating Rocket Lab putting NZ on the "space map". NZ has beaten Australia and many other nations to put a reusable rocket successfully into space.

If Richard Pearce was not the first, he was certainly in the earliest group of powered flight aviators. Both are remarkable achievements for NZ.



In the arts and in society NZ has also led the world in many areas. Our innovativeness is part of NZ history which currently gets ignored in the education curriculum.

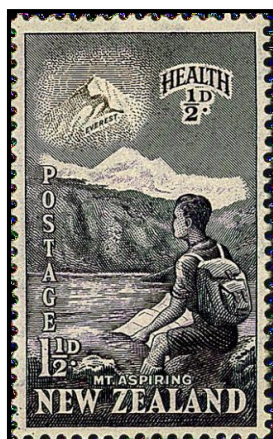


Three Kiwis came to my attention recently who led or created something which still leads the world but are unknown. In a documentary on the 1940 Battle of Britain, Sir Archibald McIndoe and his Guinea Pig Club was mentioned. McIndoe was a pioneer in plastic surgery, especially burns, and the psychological recovery of the victims



Alex Lithgow CAL

Steven McLachlan produced a CAL on Alex Lithgow. Lithgow wrote the Invercargill March, first aired at Invercargill in 1909. It is one of the most popular marches in the world. Then on 2 October 2019, the Google doodle was of William Robinson. He invented the lead rubber bearing seismic isolation device, used in buildings in seismically active countries around the world. These are but a few of many Kiwis who have led the world but are relatively unknown in NZ.

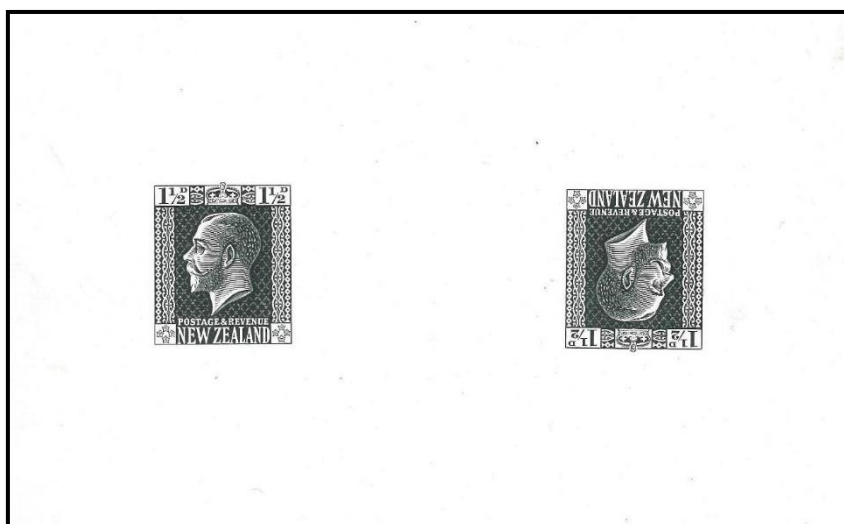


On 17 July 2009, the then US President, Barack Obama gave a speech to the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People (NAACP), on its 100th anniversary. He exhorted young Afro-Americans to aspire to be scientists and engineers, doctors and teachers, not just basketballers and rappers. In NZ, read rugby. Over the last 30 years, NZ has produced a proliferation of sports themed stamps. The preponderance being rugby.

The point of teaching NZ innovativeness isn't necessarily to emulate the innovators/ leaders, but to inspire youth to achieve more than they thought they could. Obama didn't shy away from the past and present issues facing Afro-American youth, he didn't want these issues to define them and their abilities. In NZ read Māori and Pacifika. NZ Post could play a role by producing each year an issue on Kiwi innovators in all aspects. These can then be turned into stamp posters and other teaching material for schools. It could also have an added benefit of introducing youth to philately.

Murray Taege

### 1916 George V Die Proof



Die proof on heavy, highly surfaced paper for the London print issue of the surface printed GV 1½d value. The die was used to make the plates to replace the stamps printed from the locally made plate. Unusual in that there are two impressions on the card. Actual size is 128 x 85.

Stephen Jones



## £400 QVLT Perf 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ NZ & Star (6mm) Watermark – Fiscally Used!

A catalogue editor's job is never done!

No sooner had the 7<sup>th</sup> edition of the *Kiwi Catalogue and Handbook of New Zealand Revenue & Railway Stamps* been printed than it was rendered out of date by the discovery of an unlisted stamp, viz., £400 QVLT perf 11 $\frac{3}{4}$  with NZ & Star (6mm) watermark, featured below.



Courtesy of Mowbray  
Collectables

In 1880 the 2<sup>nd</sup> series of QVLT stamps gradually replaced the 1<sup>st</sup> series, initially issued in 1867. At the time of the replacement of the 1<sup>st</sup> type QVLT stamps, the highest pre-printed denomination stamp was £50 (Die II rose & blue), listed as R366 in the *Kiwi* catalogue. Occasionally one comes across a strip of 3 or possibly of four – such were required to pay the annual licence fee by any Chartered Incorporated or Joint Stock company carrying on business in New Zealand. The maximum fee was set at £200.<sup>1</sup>

Much of the New Zealand Government's revenue at that time would have been derived from stamp duties payable on land transfers as well as from estate duties. In 1877, and possibly earlier, Die II QVLT ultra-high value gold and blue stamps were used to pay the relevant stamp duty/estate duty. These generally had denominations printed in the thousands of pounds, but there were a few exceptions. The earliest known QVLT ultra-high value stamp (£2,134) is dated 17 March 1877. An £802 QVLT ultra-high value stamp is known dated 19 March 1878.<sup>2</sup>

### The Long Depression 1878-1895

Following the failure of the City Bank of Glasgow in October 1878, and three further bank collapses in December, there was a tightening in the London money market. New Zealand had spent the previous decade relying on borrowing in London to support the Vogel boom. The tap was turned off and there was a credit contraction. Trading bank advances, which had almost trebled between 1870 and 1879, fell 15 percent in the following year, and while there was some subsequent growth, New Zealand struggled through the next decade in "The Long Depression".

There are two other elements crucial to this story. First, wool prices had been falling since 1873. So, while the Long Depression was precipitated by a monetary crisis overseas, the independent terms of trade deterioration compounded the misery. Second, there had been land speculation in the 1870s, and land prices were out of line with the returns from farming them. Owners were thus saddled with excessive interest payments on overvalued land (and falling output prices). Banks were faced with the dilemma of carrying such owners and some banks failed with the New Zealand Government bailing them out.

Factor and product prices were flexible in those days, and there was a general lowering of price levels. However, debts are usually set in fixed nominal terms, and so are inflexible. One of the greatest problems in each depression has been how to realign debts with actual prices; sometimes bankruptcy is the only option. Banks and finance companies foreclosed on mortgagees who could not pay their interest. Between 1870 and 1895 the area of land in private or company ownership increased fifteen-fold, whereas the number of owners only increased fourfold.<sup>3</sup>

Unfortunately, a fire destroyed printing records held by the New Zealand Post Office on 28 April 1887. These records would be of immense help in determining what denominations and



quantities of QVLT stamps were printed during the Long Depression, but alas they are no more. The £802 QVLT ultra-high value stamp, dated 19 March 1878, is evidence that denominations higher than £50 were required. Of course, such denominations could be and were printed singly by the Government Printer, but it would have been a time consuming process to set up. With the imminent introduction of the 2<sup>nd</sup> series of QVLT stamps it is likely that the requirement for stamps exceeding £50 was considered and that a decision to include £100, £200 etc was approved.

As noted above the economy was sluggish for a long time, which coincided with the introduction of the 2<sup>nd</sup> series QVLT stamps. Obviously extant (1<sup>st</sup> series QVLT stamps) stock would have been used in various Stamp Offices even when similar denominations of 2<sup>nd</sup> series QVLT stamps were available (in Wellington).

The 1880 2<sup>nd</sup> series QVLT stamps were printed on NZ watermark paper & were perforated  $11\frac{3}{4}$ . Denominations up to £20 (R485A) are recorded in the Kiwi catalogue. A set of plate proofs, in issued colours, up to and including a £20 denomination is known. This set includes a 30/- brown; however, no such QVLT 30/- perf  $11\frac{3}{4}$  with NZ watermark has yet been located. No doubt the stamps were printed shortly after the plate proofs were prepared. Probably the £50, £100, £200 etc. stamps were ordered later.

Attention would most likely have been paid to printing lower denominations first. It is suspected that by the time the Government Printer came to print the highest denominations in 1881-1882 the NZ watermark paper had been exhausted and thus the NZ & Star (6mm) watermark paper with horizontal mesh was used. These were also perf  $11\frac{3}{4}$ . In the previous (6<sup>th</sup> edition) catalogue, denominations up to £50 were recorded. Since then a £100, and also a £200 stamp printed on NZ & Star (6mm) watermark paper have been discovered. These are listed in the current (7<sup>th</sup> edition) as R497B/R498B.

Now, a £400 has been discovered. As may be seen, this was originally attached to a document with 2 foil punches and bears an embossed AUCKLAND impressed die. Part of the year of cancelling (1887) still visible on the datestamp. This discovery of course will be included in any future edition of the Kiwi catalogue as R500B.

Recent research made by Paul Woods has revealed that in 1888 a printing of £100, £200, £300, £400, and £500 2<sup>nd</sup> series QVLT stamps was made on NZ & Star (7mm) watermarked paper with vertical mesh, but only 360 stamps of each denomination were printed.<sup>4</sup> These were of course perf  $12\frac{1}{2}$  and are listed as R497C2/R501C2. A further printing of these same five denominations was made in 1903 on Cowan unsurfaced paper with sideways NZ & Star watermark. The quantities printed ranged from 2,340 (£100 & £300) to 2,400. These stamps were perf 11 and are listed as R497E/R501E.

The 1888 print run of the £100 - £500 stamps was only 360 of each value. This lasted for 15 or so years and New Zealand was then emerging from The Long Depression. In a comparative use situation (during the depths of The Long Depression), it is suggested that perhaps no more than a couple of sheets (of 60 stamps) of each of £100, £200, £300, £400 and £500 denominations were printed on NZ & Star (6mm) watermark paper and then perforated  $11\frac{3}{4}$ , i.e. 120 stamps were sufficient for about 5 years.

None of these denominations had previously been printed, thus demand for them could not be readily gauged. During The Long Depression it is believed that the New Zealand government would not wish to spend money printing large quantities of very slow diminishing stocks of stamps, hence the suggestion of a minimal printing of 2 sheets of each denomination. This would make these stamps exceptionally scarce, especially given the high attrition rate over the past 130+ years.

It is also suggested that there was no printing in 1886 of £100-£500 QVLT stamps perf 12½ on NZ & Star (6mm) watermarked paper given the small demand for these denominations. Do 1880 QVLT perf 11¾ on NZ watermark paper with higher denominations than £20 (R485A) exist? Do 1881-1882 QVLT perf 11¾ on NZ & Star (6mm) wmk with £300 & £500 denominations exist? Given the likely high attrition rate of many early high value stamps locating any of the above will be no easy task. This discovery shows that there is much still to learn about the QVLT Stamp Duty stamps printed in the 1880s.

It is extraordinary that it has taken over 130 years for the existence of this stamp to come to light.

David Smitham.

## References

- 1 *Kiwi Catalogue & Handbook of New Zealand Revenue and Railway Stamps*, 7<sup>th</sup> edition, p51.
- 2 *Ibid*, p66.
- 3 *Growth and Depressions in New Zealand's Economic History*, by [Brian Easton](#), a paper presented at *Asia-Pacific Economics and Business History Conference*, 17-19 February 2010.
- 4 *Kiwi Catalogue & Handbook of New Zealand Revenue and Railway Stamps*, p72.

## 1964 "Postmarkology"

The following newspaper clipping is about a Levin collector who was amassing a collection of postmarks from the different post offices open at the time. Apparently, he had already collected over 800 postmarks (presumably all different offices) and by his reckoning had another 900 to go as there were around 1700 offices open at the time.

### POSTMARKOLOGY

**E**VERYONE—from schoolboy to centenarians — knows about stamp collecting, but few concern themselves with another branch of philately—collecting postmarks (postal cancellations).

One who does is Mr N. F. Larsen, of Levin, who has collected more than 800 postmarks since he became interested in "postmarkology" three years ago.

This interest began when Mr Larsen started a mail-order flower bulb company in Levin; he noticed some unusual cancellations on envelopes he received, and decided to collect the postmarks.

Mr Larsen knows of no other person in New Zealand with the same hobby. Two years ago he read an article in an English magazine telling of "postmarkologists" overseas. Mr Larsen wrote to the magazine hoping to contact other collectors, but received no reply to his inquiries.


Mr Larsen's postmark collection is neatly laid out in a large stamp album, and as a new postmark comes in, a pin is stuck in a large map of New Zealand eliminating the post office.

In 1961, Mr Larsen said, there were more than 1700 post offices in New Zealand. "I still have a long way to go before I have them all," he said.

When a special centenary or celebration postmark is designed, Mr Larsen sends a stamped-addressed envelope to the Postmaster-General for the cancellation.

Although some postmarks in Mr Larsen's collection are recent, the stamps on the envelopes are three years old. When a light-colour health stamp was issued in 1961, he bought several sheets to use for his special postmarks.

A full set of the 1963 Royal Visit postmarks hold a place of pride in Mr Larsen's collection.



Mr N. F. Larsen, with his collection of post cancellations and a map of New Zealand with pins marking towns from which postmarks have been received.

Even a postmark from the Royal Yacht Britannia was sent at Mr Larsen's request.

Mrs Larsen takes an active interest in her husband's unusual hobby, and their four children (eldest aged six years) will have a good start if they decide to carry on the collection.

—DIANNE CADWALLADER

It's interesting piece for a few of reasons. Compared to then, the ever-increasing closure of post offices, reducing the opportunities for new offices, would make this a somewhat dull exercise nowadays. Another is that he collected in a vacuum as he wasn't aware of any other individuals who were collecting in this manner thereby missing out on the benefit being in a local Society or as a member of the Postal History Society.

Stephen Jones



## Marie Taglioni 1804 - 1884

Will that little hunchback ever learn to dance?' mocked Marie Taglioni's teacher. Despite being exceptionally plain with long arms and legs, Marie Taglioni became the world's most famous dancer.

Marie Taglioni was born in Sweden into a family of dancers, she trained in Paris but was not considered talented until her father, Filippo became her teacher.

Marie made her debut in Vienna, Austria in 1822 and in the 1830s she became one of the first women to dance *en pointe*, (on the tips of the toes)

In 1832 Filippo created *La Sylphide* to show Marie to her best advantage. This story with its romantic setting combined with Marie's *ethereal* look became a defining moment in romantic ballet. Marie became the rage of Europe.



Marie Taglioni  
(from an old lithograph).

The ethereal image of the *La Sylphide* was reflected in fashion. Young women often drank vinegar and water to make themselves look pale and interesting.



Marie Taglioni  
in the ballet «La Sylphide».

In 1860 Marie Taglioni choreographed the ballet *Papillon* and this dance became famous of her portrayal of the fragile butterfly which ended with the butterfly's wings burnt away as cupid holds a flaming torch near her to release her from a spell to be reunited with her lover.

Marie selected her pupil Emma Livry for the ballet *Papillon*. Tragically in 1863 Emma's stage costume brushed against a gas jet and caught fire. She later died of burns.



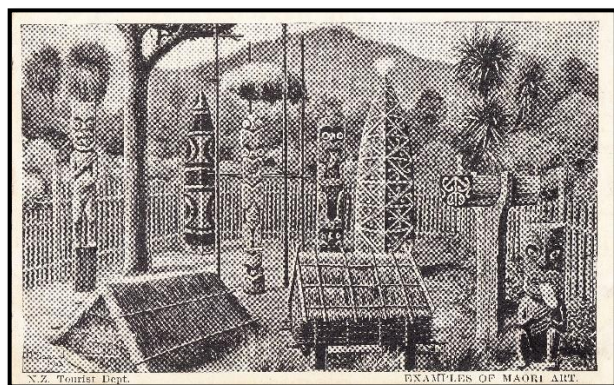
New Zealand Post commemorated the Royal N.Z Ballet 50th Anniversary with the issue on the 05 March 2003.

The 90cent issue telling the story of *Papillon* of fairies, princes, butterflies, goblins and magic spells entranced N.Z audiences while on tour in 1989 and was choreographed by Paul Jenden.

Rodger Cox

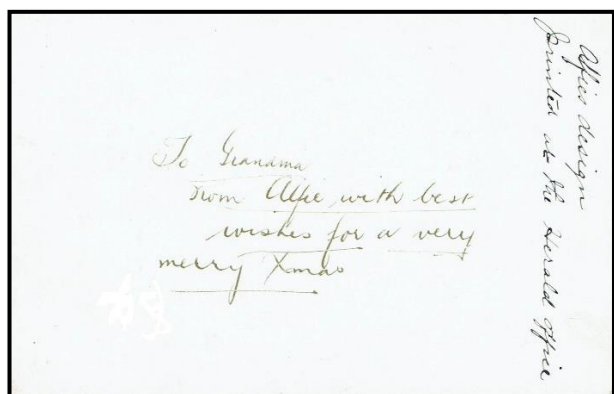
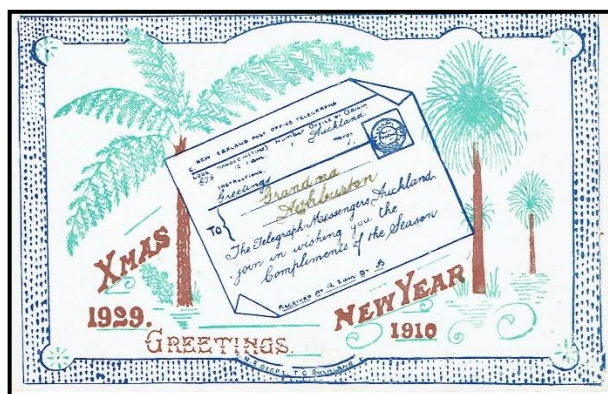
## Merry Christmas From The New Zealand Post Office

The Telegraph section of the General Post Office produced a series of pictorial postcards in the 1900's for sending Christmas greetings by members of the public. These cards were in the form of a telegram, with a series of illustrations of NZ scenes on the reverse.



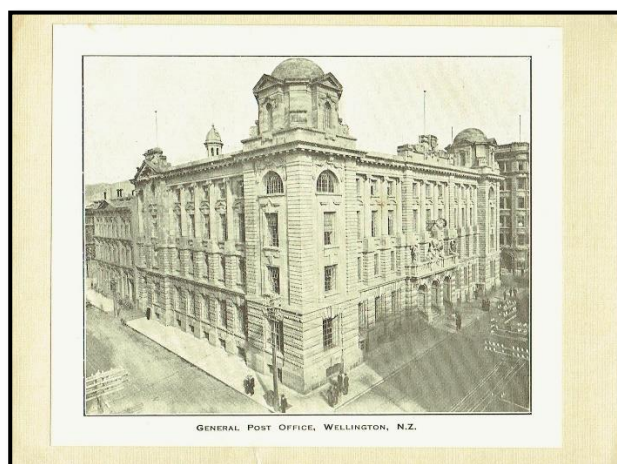
However various sections of the Post Office produced Christmas cards of their own. The Philatelic Foundation Christchurch, has a collection of these in their postal museum.

The earliest 1909 - 1910, is a card from the Telegraph Messengers, Auckland - sent to 'Grandma at Ashburton'. It has a plain back, so would have been sent in an outer envelope. The reverse bears a handwritten message 'To Grandma from Alfie with best wishes for a very merry Xmas'. An additional handwritten inscription on the reverse states 'Alfies design - printed at the Herald Office'. This would be the NZ Herald, Auckland.



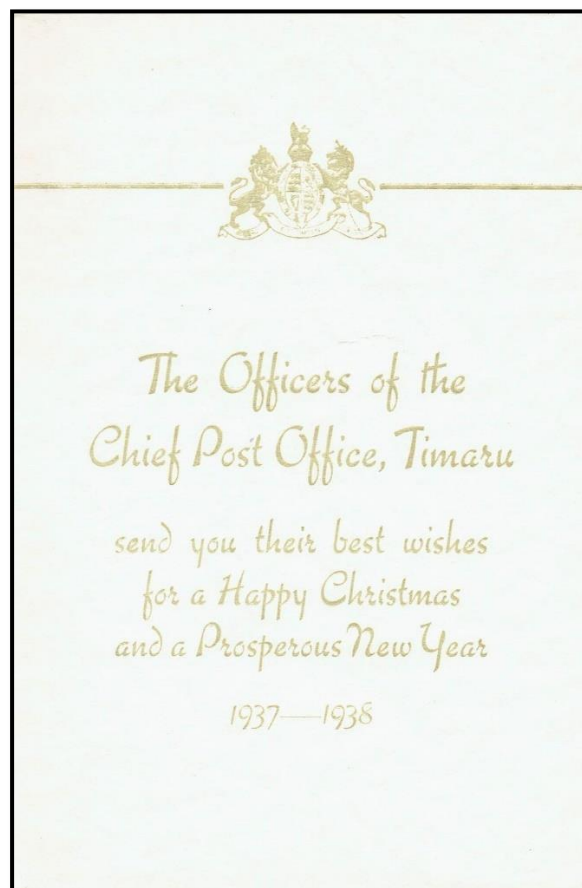
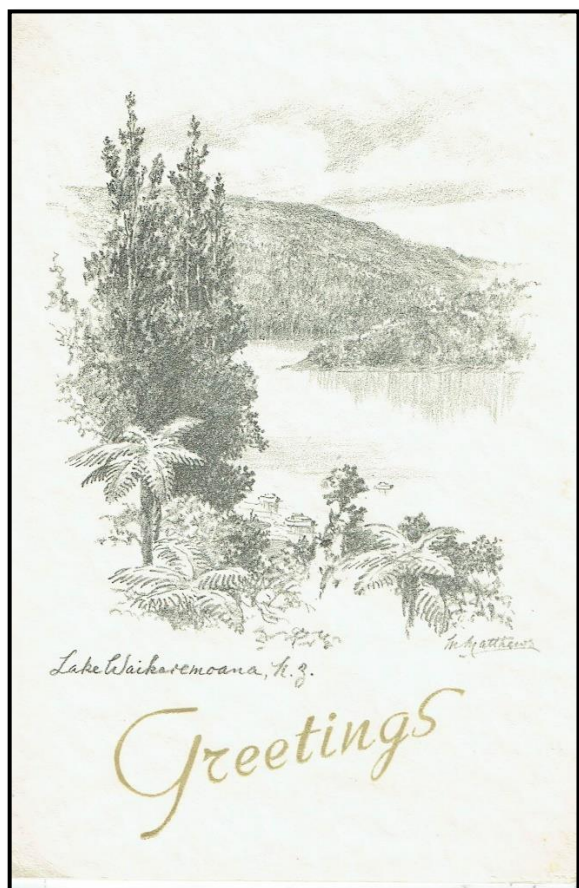
The next item in the collection is a single card from the Officers of the General Post Office, Wellington, New Zealand for Christmas 1922 - 1923.

A card from the same group for 1927 - 1928, is in the form of a folded card, with a photograph of the General Post Office Wellington inserted.

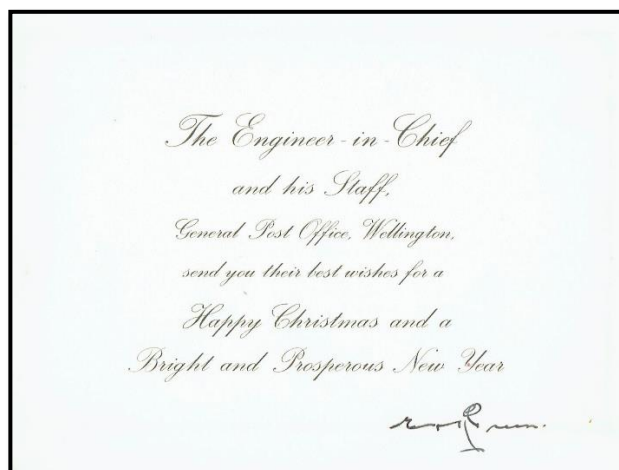
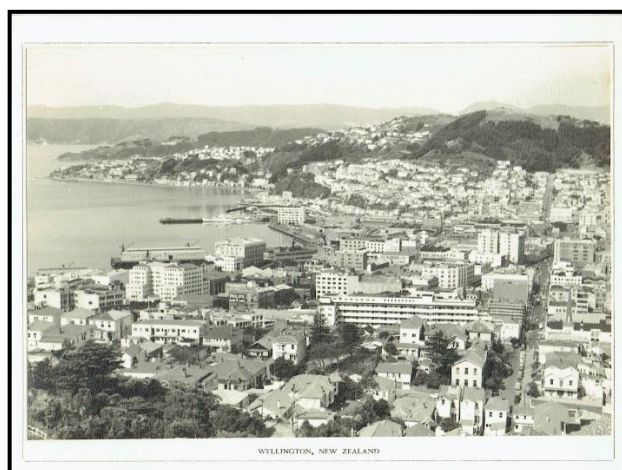
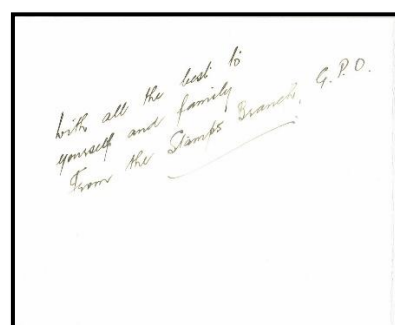
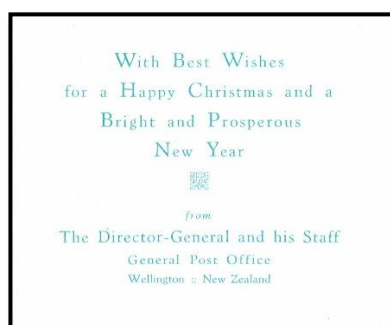
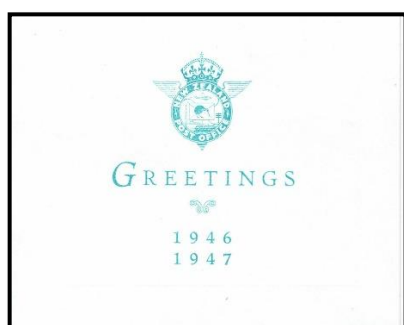




The Officers of the Chief Post Office, Timaru in 1937 - 1938, sent a card with a sketch of Lake Waikaremoana, with the wording printed in gold.



In 1946 - 1947, the Director General and his staff sent a card of more simple design - no doubt due to the continuing war-time shortage of materials, but our example has an additional handwritten inscription 'With all the best to yourself and family From the stamps Branch, G.P.O.'.



By the end of the 1950's the country was more prosperous and the quality of the card and the inserted photograph of Wellington city had improved on the card produced for the Engineer in Chief, and his staff, of the General Post Office, Wellington for 1958 - 1959.



An undated card - printed on standard crinkle edged cards of the type used for invitations etc, was produced by the Mail Room Social Club of the Chief Post Office, Christchurch.

Presumably this would have been mailed in an outer envelope or sent with the mail to larger business customers.

These cards also provide a timeline of changes to the coat of arms/logo used by the New Zealand Post office over the years.



1927



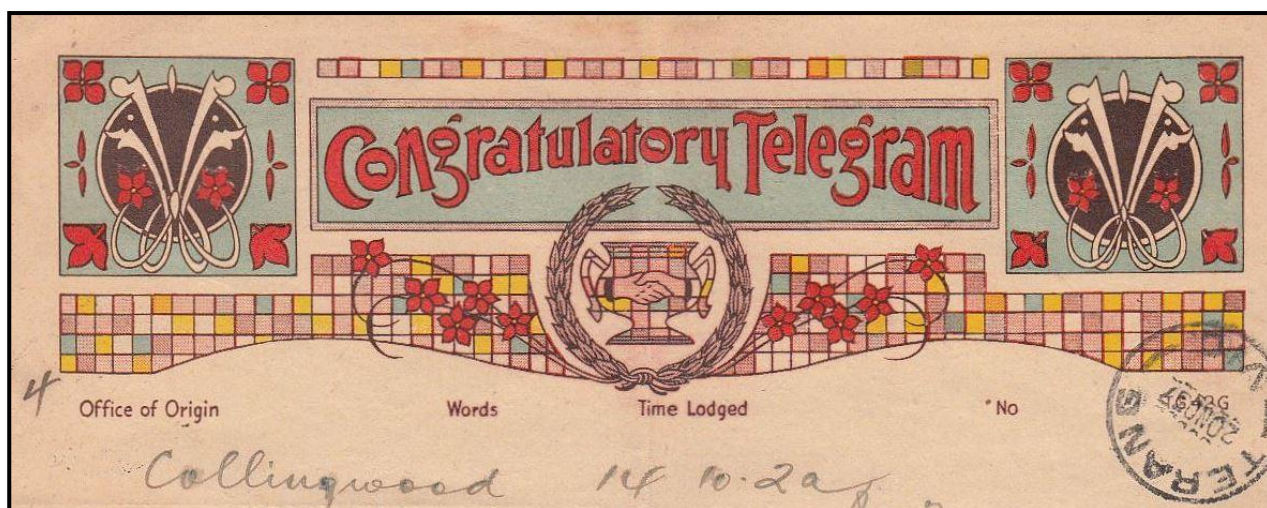
1937



1947

Cards were produced annually to distribute to persons or businesses where the overload mail was left by the postmen on their rounds and accompanied by a gift from NZ Post. This may have ceased with the introduction of the Paxit delivery vehicles with their larger carry bag capacity.

Robert Duns





## Captain Cook, A Philatelic Perspective

# THIRD VOYAGE

NEW BOOK PUBLICATION JAN-MAR 2020

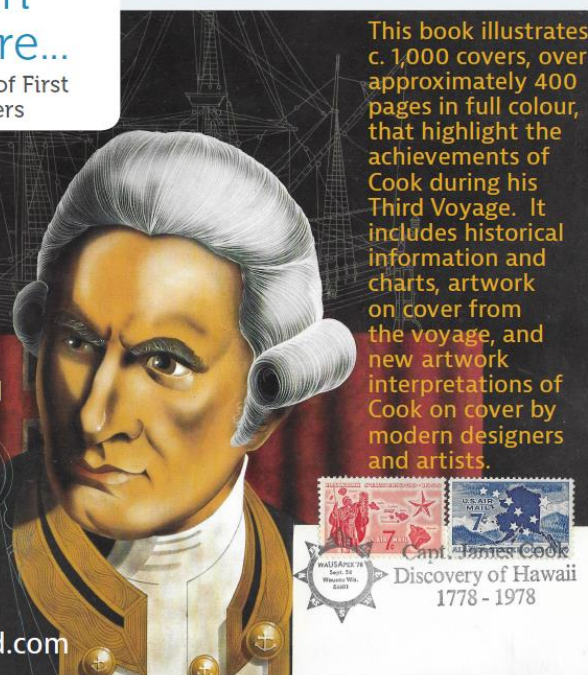
## 1776 - 1780

**Cook as he has never been seen before...**  
...through the lens of First Day and Event covers

A strictly limited print run. To register your interest, without any commitment to purchase, please contact the author at the below email address. Final number printed will be based solely on registered interests received prior to 15 December 2019.

Daryl Kibble  
[kibbled@bigpond.com](mailto:kibbled@bigpond.com)

This book illustrates c. 1,000 covers, over approximately 400 pages in full colour, that highlight the achievements of Cook during his Third Voyage. It includes historical information and charts, artwork on cover from the voyage, and new artwork interpretations of Cook on cover by modern designers and artists.



Discovery of Hawaii  
1778 - 1778

To be published in the New Year, a philatelic look at Captain Cook's third voyage to the Pacific region. Daryl has published other works including a book on the postal history of the Arab - Israeli conflict. Contact Daryl directly at [kibbled@bigpond.com](mailto:kibbled@bigpond.com) before December 15

And finally, the important dates for your shopping pleasure in 2020

### 2020

## Christchurch Stamp & Postcard Fairs

Held at Philatelic Centre, 67 Mandeville St, Riccarton  
On The Following Saturdays 9am - 12 noon.  
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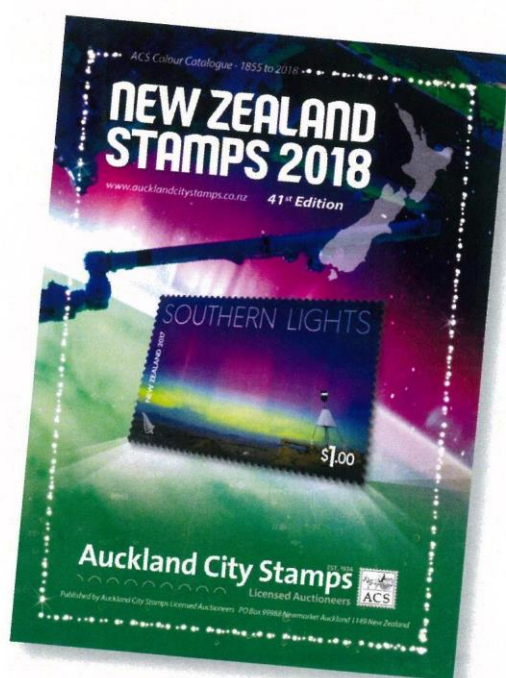
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