

CAPTAIN COOK

NEWSLETTER OF THE
CHRISTCHURCH (NZ) PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC

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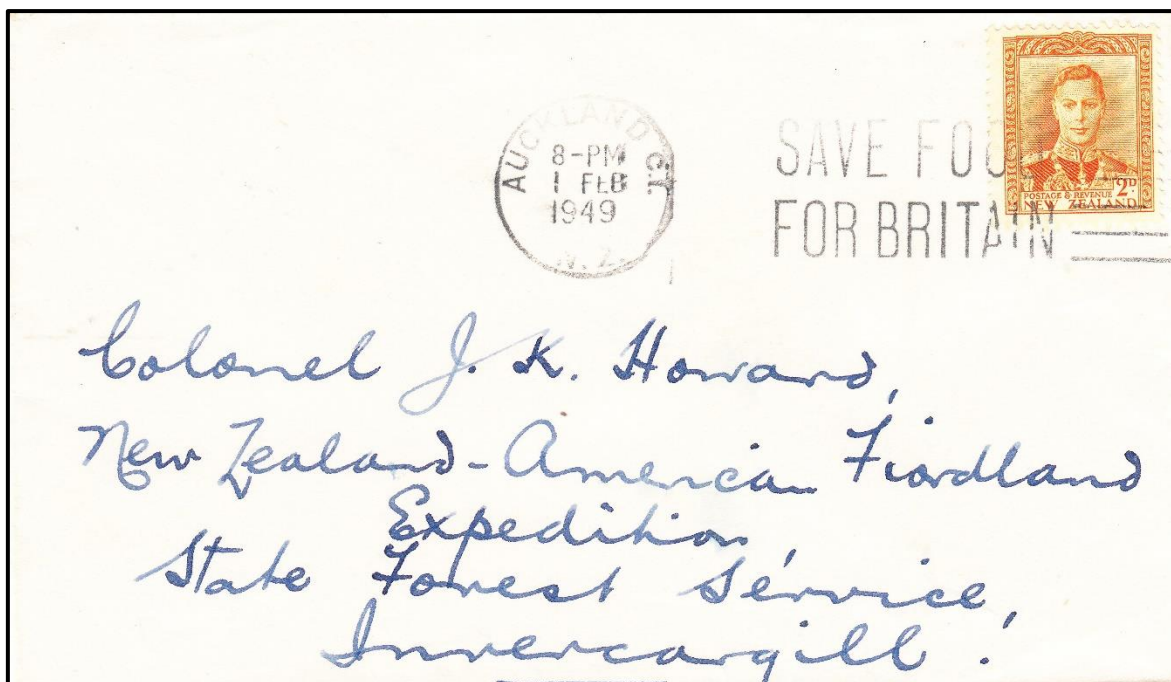
Num 829 (Vol 49 No 5)

June, 2021

1949 New Zealand America Fiordland Expedition

When looking for a cover to showing the postal use of a particular stamp, collectors will find some values easy to acquire, typically the lower values used on everyday internal mail. Rather than grab the first one that comes along, it is more enjoyable to look for a cover that has something extra or unusual about it. One feature could be advertising printed on the envelope and these can make a very attractive addition to a collection. Another is the address, whether to an unusual destination or something other than Mr Joe Blow at Anywhere Street, Nowhereville.

Consequently, I was very taken with two covers addressed to Colonel J(ohn) Howard on the New Zealand - America Fiordland Expedition in 1949, an undertaking completely new to me.



The expedition, mounted early in 1949, had been arranged by the Internal Affairs Department who contributed £7000 with the idea that other government departments would contribute the costs associated with their scientific representatives. Due to leave for Fiordland in February, the objective of the expedition was to obtain information on the populations of red deer and wapiti that had become established in the area.

The expedition leaders, Colonel Howard, Harvard University representative and Dr OJ Mourie, director of the US Wilderness Society arrived in Auckland on December 23, 1948. Mourie had published a book on the American wapiti from which the New Zealand population originated from.

SOCIETY NEWS

May Meeting:

We called it a film evening, but we did it the 21st century way by resorting to You Tube clips. In particular we watched three episodes from Graham Beck's Exploring Philately series, one called Kiwi Stamps, one on an old English legal document with embossed revenue which included a wonderful re-enactment of affixing the revenue, and one on the British Guiana 1c magenta which took us to Washington, USA to the post museum there where the stamp was on display. This was of course just a small sampling of the great number of episodes Beck has produced, generally aimed at the beginner.

You can see more of these episodes on <http://www.youtube.com/c/exploringstamps> Go to the "playlists" label to see the full range of his shows.

In addition, Murray Taege did a show presentation on searching for philatelic information on the internet and Paul Ledington gave a demonstration of using the Goggle Lens app on his phone to take an image of an unidentified stamp which the Goggle search programme then found and identified for him. A night of using the digital technologies available at the philatelic centre.

There were also two "silent" displays, one an open class exhibit on the cinema, the other a thematic exhibit on wine.

Society Competitions:

In the last issue, there were the rules and arrangements for this month's annual competition. The sharp eyed among you will have noted that I basically reproduced a previous document and amended dates. However, I missed the postal address, it still had the old post box number for the Society and not the current one. If anyone did post an entry to the old post box (PO Box 29, Christchurch) can you please advise by email to captaincoqk@gmail.com so that we can make sure it is not lying around the postal lobby! Apologies for any inconvenience.

From Overseas:

Noted in the Dutch media, covid 19 lockdowns cost the Dutch Post Office 200 million Euros in grants to shop owners. As here, there are fewer and fewer Post Offices, instead there are franchises going into other retail outlets like bookstore, chemists etc.

During lockdown, many shops were not considered essential services and had to shut, but the postal counter in one part of the store was an essential service. Many owners claimed it was not viable to be open just for the postal counter and not be allowed to sell anything else. The Post Office stepped in with grants to allow all their franchise operations to be open to the tune of that 200 million euros.

Takes a pandemic to throw the spanner in the works of economics of all sorts of things. Despite this large payment the Dutch Post Office still posted a hefty profit, with increased parcel services as people were buying online and getting things posted home with the retail shops being shut.

Across the border the Belgian Post seems to be bucking the trend. We have a couple of entries for the Literature Exhibition later in the year from there, but they could not be posted to NZ. Parcels in the post there are now limited to no more than 2 kg in weight. So, while other postal services are profiting from more parcels and less mail, Belgium appears to want to limit their growth into that parcel market. The books are here, courtesy DHL, a courier company owned by the German Post!

Paul van Herpt

SOCIETY PAGE

PROGRAMME

JUNE 7 POSTAL HISTORY GROUP

JUNE 8 SOCIETY MEETING Annual Competition

Annual Club Competition

Not long now, time's tick, tick, ticking away so get stuck in and get those pages finished for the June meeting

JUNE 15 LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

JULY 5 POSTAL HISTORY GROUP

JULY 13 SOCIETY MEETING **Memembr's Night**
The letters C, P, and S

JULY 27 LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

AUGUST 2 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)

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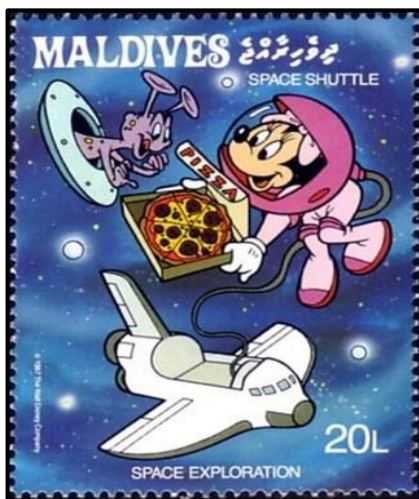
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Where On Earth Is: The Land Of Pizza, Ice Cream & Our Alphabet?

The Neapolitan Provinces. The Neapolitan Provinces was the southern half of the Italian peninsula in the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies. Naples (the capital) was considered the birthplace of the pizza and from where the originators of Neapolitan ice cream are said to have come from.

The use of the word pizza was first documented in 997 AD in southern Italy. In the 18th or early 19th century, flatbread with tomato base with cheese became popular in Naples. Its popularity quickly spread in Italy. With southern Italian immigration to the US, pizza gained in popularity.



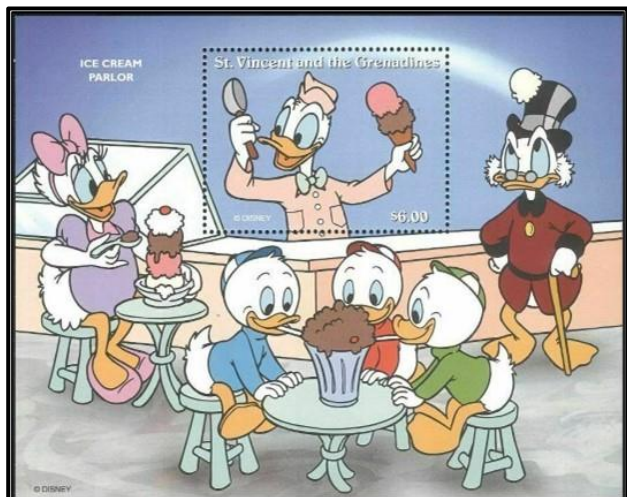
The Neapolitans also brought their expertise in frozen desserts with them. Spumone, (a moulded gelato made with layers of different colours and flavours), was introduced to the US in the 1870s as a Neapolitan-style ice cream.

Early recipes used a variety of flavours and colours. Three colours and flavours moulded together became the common denominator, to imitate the Italian flag.

Chocolate, vanilla, and strawberry became the standard for Neapolitan ice cream as they were the most popular flavours in the US at that time.

In the 8th and 7th century BC Greek city states began to settle in coastal areas of southern Italy and Sicily. Due to the large number of Greek colonies, the Romans called southern Italy and Sicily, Magna Graecia, "Greater Greece". With colonization, Greek culture came to Italy.

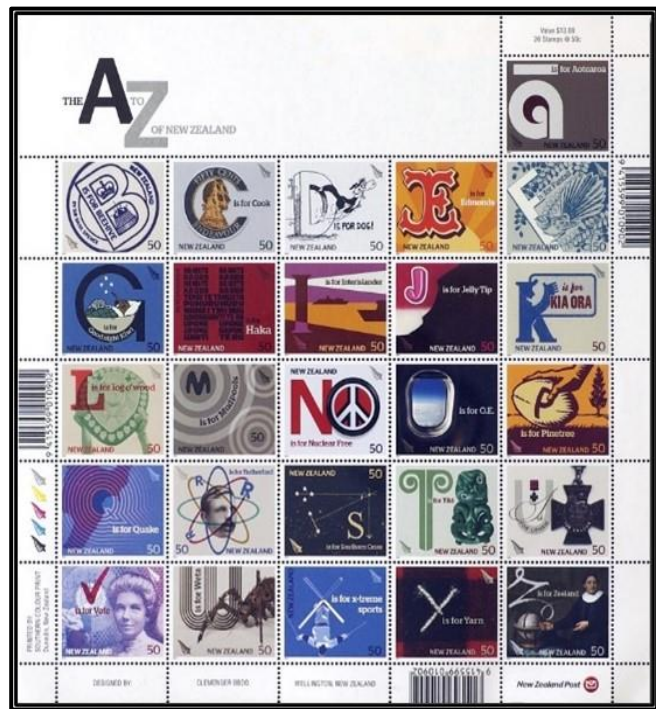
The most important cultural transplant was the Chalcidian/Cumaeen variety of the Greek alphabet, which was adopted by the Etruscans. The Etruscan alphabet was the forerunner of the Latin alphabet





Greek temple, Paestum, Naples

The Greek colonies became rich and powerful. Some still exist such as Neapolis ("New City", Naples). As Rome pushed south, Neapolis was absorbed after a short war in 328 BC. By the end of the Pyrrhic War, 280-275 BC, southern Italy had fallen to Rome.



Justinian 1

With the fall of the Western Roman Empire, southern Italy swapped ownership several times. The Germanic Flavius Odoacer, leader of the Germanic soldiers in Imperial service, deposed the last Western Roman Emperor, Romulus Augustus, in 476 and became King of Italy.

In 493 Theodoric the Great established the Ostrogothic Kingdom of Italy.



Lombard's in Italy

Justinian I, Byzantine (Eastern Roman) Emperor, started the Italian Gothic War, 535-554, to reclaim Italy. The Byzantines gained, lost, and finally conquered southern Italy by 554. The Byzantines did not enjoy their conquest long. In 568 a Germanic people, the Lombards (where Lombardy in northern Italy received its name), invaded Italy.



Norman castle of Bari

In 571, they established the Duchy of Benevento which took most of southern Italy except for Calabria and southern Apulia (foot and heel of Italy) and Naples. In 999 the first of the Normans arrived in southern Italy as mercenaries. They discovered rich pickings were to be had and they were quickly joined by more Normans. From 1012 to 1053 the Lombard Duchy of Benevento was conquered. In April 1071, Byzantine Calabria and Apulia were finally captured.

After the Lombard invasion, Naples effectively became an independent duchy. From 1077 to 1139, the Normans conquered Naples. In 1130, Norman Roger II was crowned king of Sicily. With the conquest of Naples, southern Italy became part of the Kingdom of Sicily in 1139.



Crowning of Roger II



Norman & Hohenstaufen period, when Malta was part of Sicily

It became part of the Holy Roman Empire under the Hohenstaufen Henry VI. With the many Empire vs Papal stoushes, Pope Clement IV invited the French Charles of Anjou to invade the Kingdom of Sicily in 1266. In 1266 Charles conquered the Kingdom.

After the Sicilian Vespers, (a Sicilian revolt against the French 30 March-28 April 1282), Charles lost Sicily but just managed to retain the mainland. Not for the first time the kingdom was split. Spanish Peter III of Aragon occupied Sicily during the Vespers. Mainland Sicily became to be known as the Kingdom of Naples.

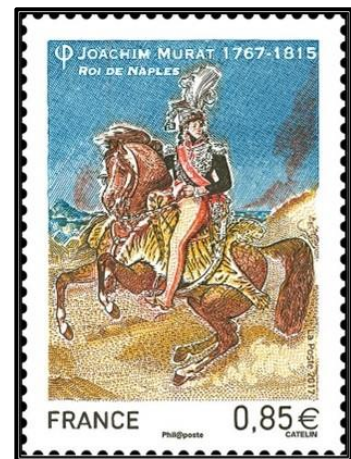
On 6 June 1443, Alfonso V of Aragon conquered Naples and united both under the Crown of Aragon. Alfonso V was the first ruler to call Sicily and the mainland: "Regnum Utriusque Siciliae", (Kingdom of both Sicilies). Under Charles I of Spain, they were ruled directly from Spain.



Aragonese castle Regio



Kingdom of Sardinia
That is how Savoy-Piedmont became the Kingdom of Sardinia



Joachim Murat King of Naples

The Peace of Utrecht, 1713-1715, ended the War of the Spanish Succession. The House of Savoy-Piedmont was granted Sicily and Holy Roman Emperor Charles VI was granted the mainland. In the Treaty of The Hague, 17 February 1720, Savoy was "persuaded" to swap the rich Kingdom of Sicily for the poor Kingdom of Sardinia. Austrian ownership did not last long. During the War of the Polish Succession, 1733-1735, Spain retook both Sicilies.



Naples 1858, 7 stamps, same coat of arms with different borders



Naples Provisional government with the coat of arms and Cross of Savoy

In January 1799, Napoleon Bonaparte, captured Naples and proclaimed the Parthenopean Republic. He did not take Sicily. In 1806, Bonaparte, installed his brother, Joseph, as King of Naples. In 1808, Napoleon placed Joseph on the Spanish throne and appointed his brother-in-

law, Joachim Murat, as king. With Napoleon's final defeat the Kingdom became the Kingdom of Two Sicilies in 1816.

After the truncated Papal States, the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies was the last of the Italian states to be annexed by the Kingdom of Sardinia. Sicilian exiles requested Giuseppe Garibaldi liberate the kingdom.



Garibaldi

This was the casus belli needed by Sardinia. Garibaldi landed in Sicily on 11 May 1860 with 1089 volunteers.

After defeating Royalist forces in Sicily, Garibaldi landed in Calabria (Neapolitan Provinces) on 19 August. Naples was liberated on September 7.



Neapolitan Provinces 1861

On 1 October, Sardinian forces entered the Neapolitan Provinces. On 21 October, a plebiscite confirmed the annexation of the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies to the Kingdom of Sardinia. On 17 March 1861, the Kingdom of Italy was established.



Peter McIntyre's painting "Wounded at Cassino"



The 2nd NZ Division landed in southern Italy on 3 October 1943. It fought a hard battle on the Sangro River in November-December 1943. From 16 February to 21 March 1944, the 2nd NZ Division fought two unsuccessful battles at Monte Cassino. Famous landmarks include the ruined city of Pompeii with Mount Vesuvius and the Amalfi Coast.

Among the famous people from southern Italy are: Rudolf Valentino, 1920s actor; Nicola Romeo, founder of the Italian car giant Alfa Romeo; Gianni Versace, founder of the Versace fashion house; Giulio Raimondo, (Cardinal Mazarin), bequeathed a centralised French state to Louis XIV (sun king); and St Thomas Aquinas, pre-eminent philosopher, theologian and jurist.



Rudolf Valentino



Alfa Romeo



Gianni Versace



Giulio Raimondo,
Cardinal Mazarin

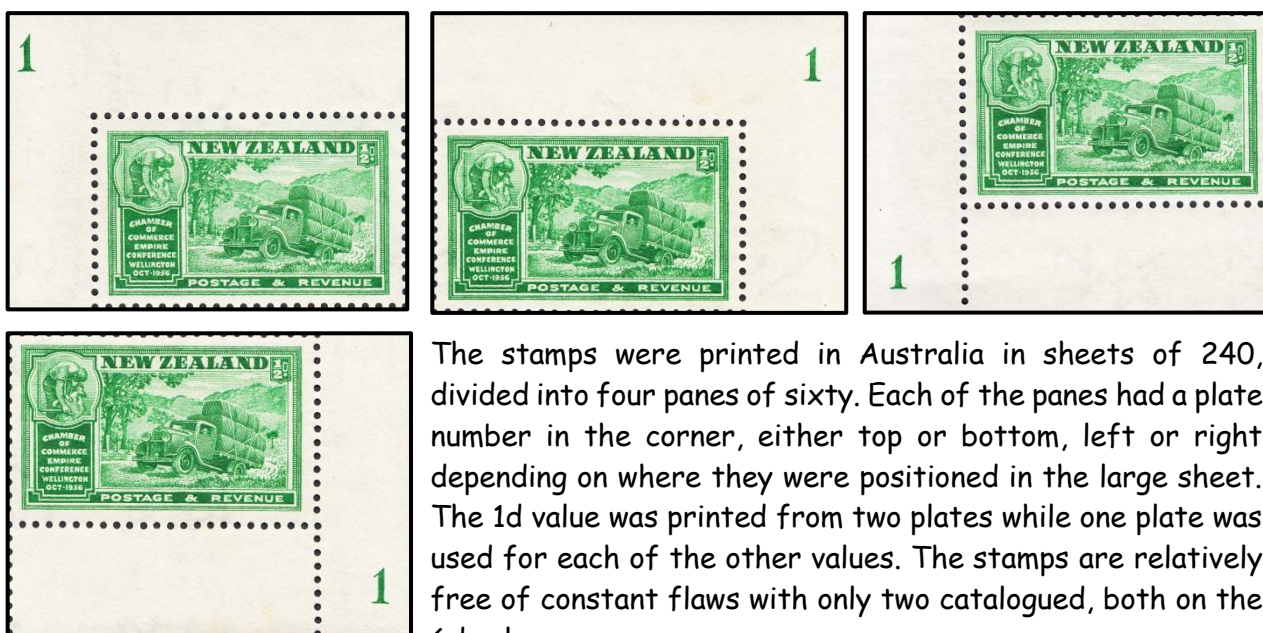


St Thomas Aquinas

Murray Taege

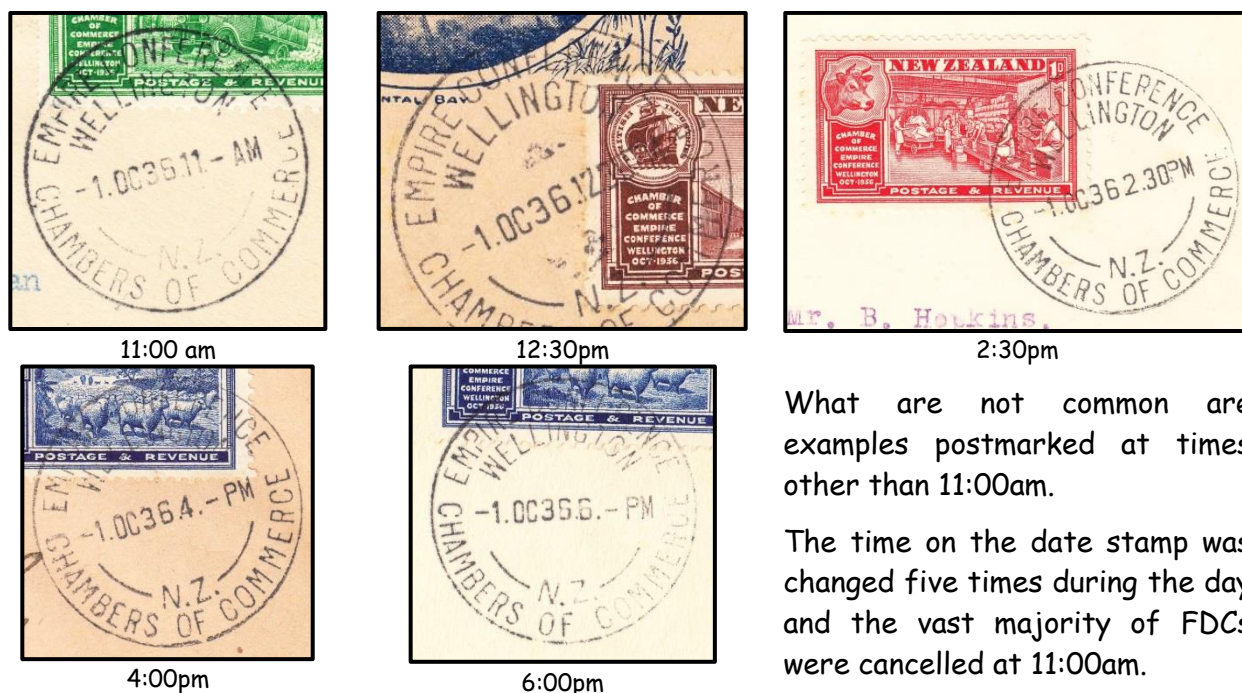
Collecting The 1936 Commerce Issue

There is a lot of scope with this issue to expand on just having a mint and used set of these five stamps. The stamps were put on sale on October 1, 1936, were only available for the month before being withdrawn on October 31 and would be one of the shortest official issue periods for any New Zealand stamp issue. They proved popular and complete sheets of all values are still found today; used copies are common.



The stamps were printed in Australia in sheets of 240, divided into four panes of sixty. Each of the panes had a plate number in the corner, either top or bottom, left or right depending on where they were positioned in the large sheet. The 1d value was printed from two plates while one plate was used for each of the other values. The stamps are relatively free of constant flaws with only two catalogued, both on the 6d value.

Collecting used examples is way more interesting. The stamps were issued to coincide with the opening of the Chamber of Commerce Conference being held in Wellington Town Hall. The conference ran for seven days and had a post office on site open each day the conference was on. Cacheted First Day covers serviced using the special postmark for the conference are common.



What are not common are examples postmarked at times other than 11:00am.

The time on the date stamp was changed five times during the day and the vast majority of FDCs were cancelled at 11:00am.

The other times found are 12:30, 2:30, 4:00 and 6:00, all of which, especially the 6:00, are very uncommon. This practise continued for all seven days the post office was open so you can collect covers postmarked for all dates through to October 7, and all five times during the day. I do.



October 5 12:30pm



October 7 12:30pm

If this isn't enough and you are looking for something else, then a side interest is collecting one value, say the common 1d, postmarked on each day of October. This is not as difficult as it would seem as the stamp is often found with good, readable dated cancels. Sunday dates can be a challenge, but hey, it's not a race.



October 19



October 20



October 21

In the 1930's, a good range of postmark types were still in use so don't be satisfied with examples with roller cancels when with a little patience, you can find stamps cancelled with "A", "B", and "F" class date stamps. For the masochists amongst you, try putting together a used set cancelled with only the town die from a slogan date stamp cancellation.



Pakiri "A" class



Mangatawhiri double circle



Cobden "H" class



Riccarton relief



Paquebot Sydney



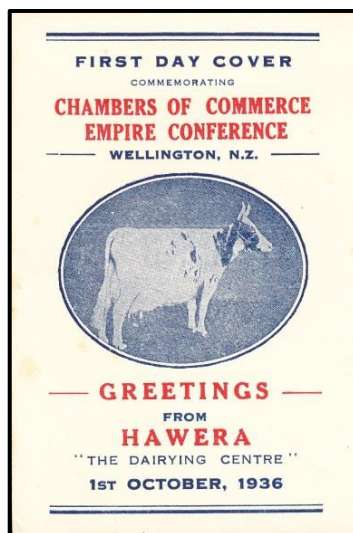
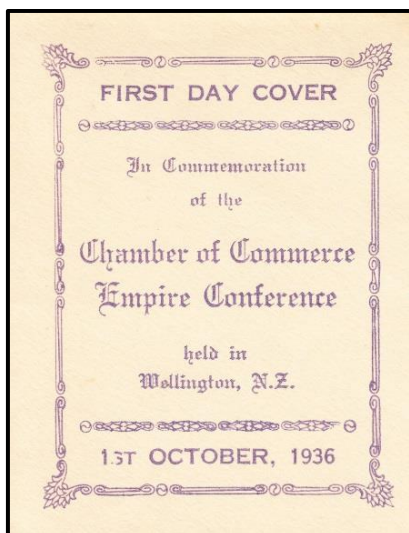
Slogan town die



Returning to FDCs, there is plenty to offer in the way of different cachets.

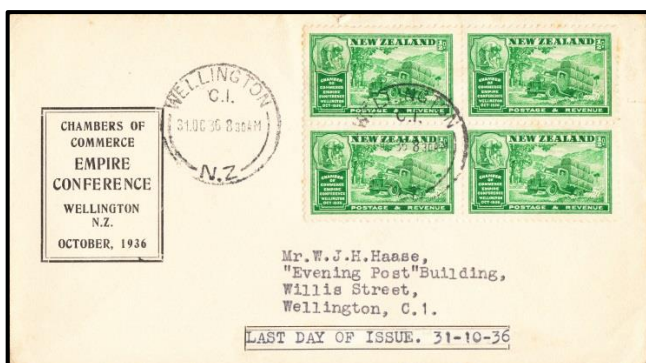
Some are readily available so if you only have one FDC for your collection there is no need to have a plain cover unless that is your preference.

GH Wood, printer, and aspiring stamp dealer, FDC



Examples of scarcer cachets used for Commerce FDCs

Others can be a real challenge to find and were probably done in extremely limited numbers at the time. Because the issue was on sale for a limited fixed period, a few enterprising collectors posted Last Day Covers on October 31. While you are at it, keep an eye out for FDCs sent with only a single $\frac{1}{2}$ d stamp and the flap sealed. Having the flap sealed meant they no longer qualified for the reduced rate, liable for deficient postage thus attracting postage due.



Last Day Cover



Insufficient postage paid as the flap was sealed

Covers directly related to the Chamber of Commerce are very elusive and I have only come across two examples. I thought there would have been more as I have a letter sent out from the head office encouraging members to use the stamps, rather than a postal meter, on all correspondence.



Wellington Chamber of Commerce stationery used as a FDC

There is now the question of usage and the fun of finding covers posted during October. Typically, each value of the stamp issue will match a postage rate in common use at the time with the two lower values being the most commonly found. Starting with the $\frac{1}{2}$ d value, this was used for business related correspondence, unsealed letters, magazine wrappers and similar.



Unsealed flap, second class mail



Unsealed flap, Printed Matter to Switzerland

The 1d value is usually found used for regular internal correspondence sent with the envelope sealed but look out for less common usage such as on postcards addressed overseas or paying "Late Fee" charges.



Postcard to the USA



Used to pay "Late Fee"

The higher values can be more elusive to find, especially as a single usage. As the issue was popular at the time of issue, the three higher values were often used as make up rates or on over rated covers. The $2\frac{1}{2}$ d was used on correspondence to some non-commonwealth countries such as Germany.



Germany



Registered to Australia

In 1936, the registration rate for a standard letter was 4d, 1d for postage and 3d for registration. This same rate was also valid to some overseas destinations. Again, this value can be found making up higher rates such as the overseas airmail rates during this period.

When found on cover, the 6d is usually part of a make-up rate, say the 1/6 airmail rate to the United Kingdom. The charge for the Express Delivery service was 6d and any stamp could be used to pay the fee and while scarce, covers using the 6d Commerce value are known.



Used to make up registered airmail to India

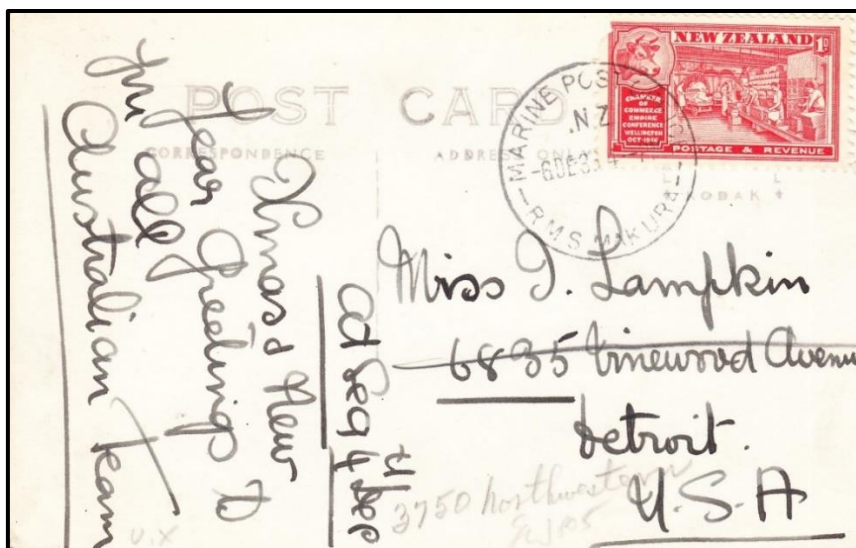


Used to pay Express delivery



FDC sent airmail to the United Kingdom

During the 30's, a number of ships operating as part of the trans Pacific passenger services had post offices on board. They were issued with New Zealand stamps, including the Commerce issue, so that passengers could post mail while at sea.



Posted to the USA on the RMS Makura

Collectors will be familiar with the multi franked Tin Can Mail covers prepared by George Quensell that were extremely popular to collect in the 1930's. Quensell didn't waste an opportunity and looks to have also franked the incoming mail carrying requests for his covers. These are less common than the outgoing mail with Tongan stamps and you may be hard pressed to find them dated stamped in October.



People approach stamp collecting in different ways for many reasons, one of which is the affordability of the material. There is a temptation to start a collection of another country or theme because the stamps you are looking for are beginning to stretch the budget too much. One of the pleasures of collecting stamps is adding new items to the collection. This applies to all collectors from novice through to those with Grand Award-winning exhibits. So, rather than start an entirely new collection, look at how you can improve on the examples stamps you already have or add something different that does not cost a great deal.

The 1937 Coronation issue is common and inexpensive, and a good issue to begin with if the ideas I have introduced in the preceding text have struck a chord with you.

Stephen Jones

Annual Competition - June 8

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. | | |

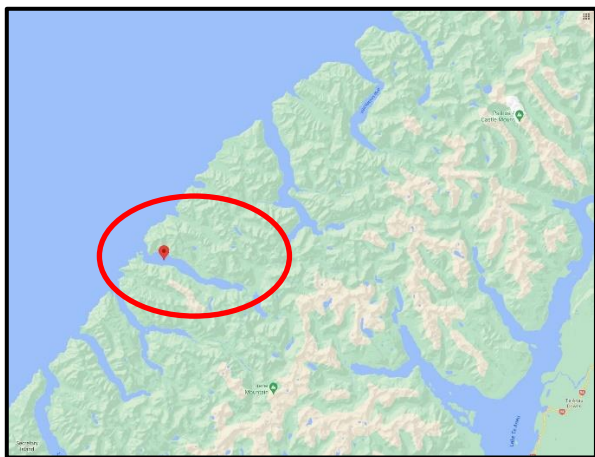
CLASS B: 8 Pages

- 12 Adult Development - any of the above classes.

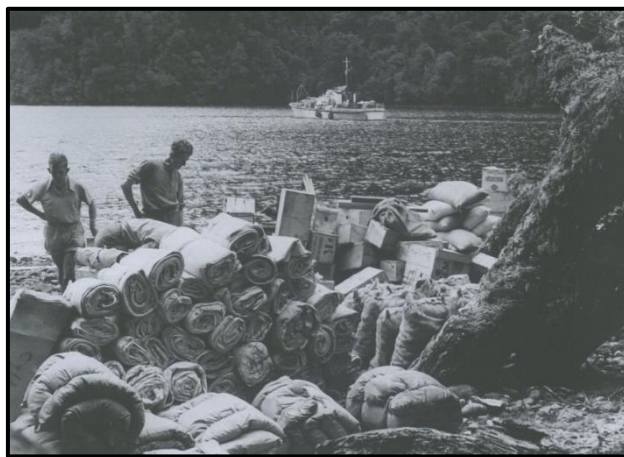
Remember too, that you can put together 8 or 16 pages of material you like and want to share with the rest of the members on the night.

According to a piece in the Otago Daily Times, the expedition with 33 members was the largest ever undertaken of the region. Along with a number of US members there were scientists from various New Zealand departments carrying out surveys of the flora and fauna, accompanied by people from the New Zealand Forest Service to assist with setting up the camps and guiding the party through the terrain.

The New Zealand Tourist Department sent a representative to assess the region's tourist potentials. Concurrent with the expedition, the area had been closed to hunters, a move that had the support of the New Zealand Deerstalkers' Association.



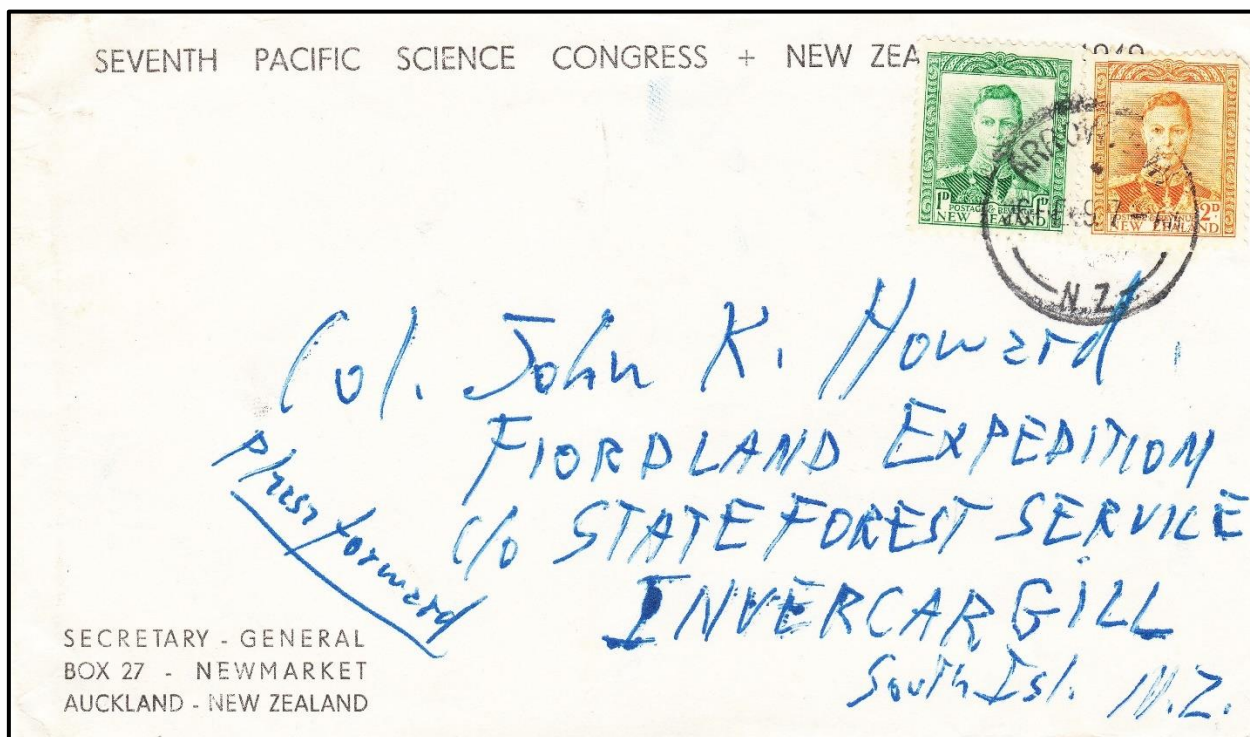
Caswell Sound Fiordland



Offloaded stores in Caswell Sound

Colonel Howard had done some preliminary reconnaissance the previous April and May. It was decided to use Milford Sound as the jump off point for the expedition. From there, the provisions would be transported to Caswell Sound, 50 miles south of Milford Sound.

By January 11, helped by a period of favourable weather and a group of volunteers from various Christchurch mountaineering clubs, the establishment of the camp in Caswell Sound by the advance party was well underway. A trip to Lake Marchant, the source of Stillwater River flowing into the Sound had been undertaken and a wapiti cow and calf seen. Comments were made on the abundance of birdlife in the area.



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AUCTION 83: Closes JUNE 15 at 9:00am (N.Z. Time)

Lot numbers are in red. Numbers are Campbell Paterson catalogue numbers



135 KO4a(X) – inverted wmk 262 L4b(X) (shows where the 'Tekoteko' flaw originated)

296 L7c

373 LO4e