

CAPTAIN COQK

NEWSLETTER OF THE
CHRISTCHURCH (NZ) PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC

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November, 2021

1893 Sunlight Soap Advert

Members will be familiar with the adverts that were printed on the back of the Second Sideface stamps during 1893. One of the more prolific advertisers was Sunlight Soap with the advice the soap was good for everything from washing dogs through to keeping goldminers clean. Back in the UK, Sunlight Soap was heavily advertised in a number of ways including inserts in the weekly newspapers in late 19th and early 20th century. One of the inserts was based on the common 1d lilac stamp first issued in the United Kingdom in 1881.



Issued UK stamp
1881



Sunlight Soap ad
1893

Measuring 130mm x 160mm and perforated, it makes a great "go with" for the Sunlight Soap adverts found on the Second Sideface stamps.

Stephen Jones

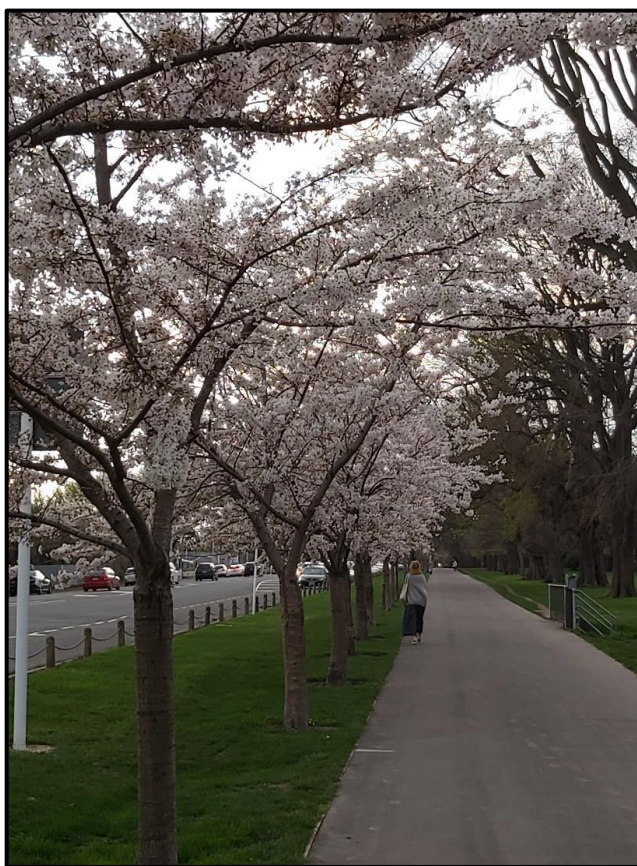
SOCIETY NEWS

October Meeting

Despite no dropping of covid levels for Auckland, the lower Canterbury region level meant that members & visitors could again attend the regular CPS meeting. Despite the President's less than optimum choice of topic/letters for members to participate in the meeting went well. Larger attendance at this meeting, than the previous - we appear to be getting braver going out more, still wearing masks and signing in of course with well-spaced seating.

Bloom

The letters/topic for the meeting was rather a difficult choice to illustrate philatelically! Sorry Folks!



Hagley Park cherry blossoms

You can blame the poor topic choice by the President on a recent birthday 'senior moment', coinciding with the amazing walks in the botanical gardens viewing the cherry blossom and daffodils she had taken in the hours leading up to rearranging the meeting topics due to the postponement of our visiting Auckland speaker being in lockdown - thanks Prime minister!

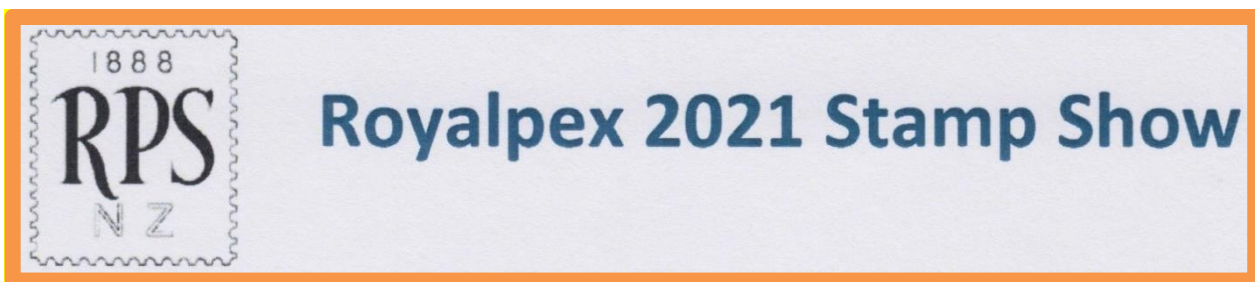
Not one to gloat, but 'it is truly a beautiful time of the year to be in the 'garden city'.

Murray Taege (webmaster) gave an innovative and creative power point presentation on bloom taken in a philatelic sense on the development and his '*blooming philatelic garden*'. Murray commenced with first issue symbolism and showed how nations viewed their history and development featured on stamps of the world - thank you Murray, very cool presentation.

The president took a more literal approach showing for B- blood & braille, L - leprosy, O - ophthalmology, operating theatre and orthopaedics, whilst M was for maternity and masks.

We trust you are taking this opportunity in lockdown to work and BLOOM in your chosen hobby.

Sue Claridge - President



Now February 26 - 28, 2022

SOCIETY PAGE

PROGRAMME

NOVEMBER 1 POSTAL HISTORY GROUP Open for all members

NOVEMBER 9 SOCIETY MEETING **Rick Oxenham**
Hydro Aviation - the Seaplane

Rick Oxenham will be talking on the early experimental period, and the subsequent development of successful seaplane flights as they commenced in the USA, England, Europe and Australasia

Rick has an extensive aerophilately knowledge, joining the New Zealand Airmail Society in the 1950's, he has been the past President, and is the current secretary of the Christchurch based Society

Members of the NZSCC and NZ Airmail Society are welcome to attend

NOVEMBER 16 LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

NOVEMBER 23 POSTCARD GROUP Open for all members

DECEMBER 6 POSTAL HISTORY GROUP Open for all members
Advertising Postcards

DECEMBER 14 SOCIETY MEETING **Christmas Meeting**
TBA

NOVEMBER 21 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)

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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.

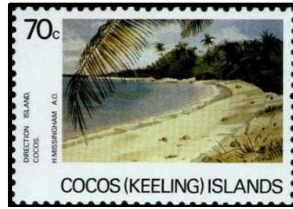
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What's In A Name: Please State Your Full Name



How can one tell if these are sovereign states or dependencies?



There are currently 193 member states of the United Nations, deemed sovereign states. There are two observer states, Vatican City and Palestine. Taiwan used to be a member but was replaced with mainland China. There are 49 dependencies, not including claims to

Antarctic territories, which had issued or currently issue stamps. There have been and currently are several geo-political entities which have claimed or currently claim sovereignty, but have only limited international recognition eg Northern Cyprus, Kosovo.

When one looks at the name on a stamp, how can one tell which category a name falls into? In many cases this will either not be possible or difficult to tell. There are two main reasons for this. Firstly, for ease of design and printing, most political entities will tend to inscribe only their "common" name on their stamps, not their official name. The official name often includes one or more adjectives which has been added to its common name to give a description of the type of political existence a political entity is.



Small inscription, hard to read

The official name can be longer and therefore difficult to fully fit within the design of a stamp. The longest official name (so far) is: "Al-Jamahiriyah al-'Arabiyyah al-Libiyah ash-Sha'biyyah al-Ishtirakiyyah al-Uzma", the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya (Republic). This has five adjectives to the common name of Libya. The official name can be longer and therefore difficult to

fully fit within the design of a stamp. The current longest official names have three adjectives added to their common names e.g., Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, (Sri Lanka). At independence in 1972, Sri Lanka's official name was: "Free, Sovereign and Independent Republic of Sri Lanka". A few of the dependencies have adjectives e.g., Norfolk Island is the "Territory of Norfolk Island".



Officially: "Former Yugoslav Republic" of Macedonia



"Democratic Republic" of São Tomé e Príncipe



Ukraine

The other reason is that of the 193 UN members, 23 (including New Zealand) do not have any added adjectives to their common name to form their official name e.g., the official and common name of New Zealand is New Zealand. Most of these are British Commonwealth countries e.g., Canada. The 23 also include European states: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Hungary, Romania, Ukraine. There are varying reasons for the non-use of adjectives.



Of the 49 dependencies referred to previously, 29 did not or do not have an adjective as part of their official name eg Tokelau's official name is Tokelau. The principal reason is historic. They were not given adjectives when colonial entities. Also, giving them a dependency status adjective runs counter to the United Nations ethos. Thus, superficially, all names can appear politically equal.

Many countries do inscribe their official name on their stamps. Adjectives define the type of political existence of a country at that time. Currently 132 countries have one adjective, 32 have two and 9 have three in their official names. Historically there have been four or five adjectives. The most common, as would be expected, is "republic". It occurs in the official name of 130 current countries. For those geo-political entities claiming a disputed sovereignty, all had or have the adjective "republic". The first country to issue a stamp inscribed "republic" was France's first issue in 1849.



Historically, "republic" has occurred in most countries' political iterations over the years where a country has had significant political change. The adjective "republic" is a politically very wide term. It encompasses opposing political beliefs and structures. Thus, many countries have added additional adjectives to define what type of republican political existence they are. "Democratic" appears 9 times in current official names and "People's" 6 times.



Latvia PSR
(=SSR)



"Popular" Republic



"Autonomous" Republic
1958



"Islamic" Republic



"Federal" Republic

They appear together currently 4 times, yet only 1 can be said to be an actual democracy. "Socialist" only appears twice. "People's" or "Popular" Republics were common during the cold war. Excepting for Poland and Finland, all the states that made up the old Russian Empire had the "Soviet Socialist Republic" as adjectives during the communist era. "Federal" appears currently 8 times. Religion makes it mark with four "Islamic" republics as does ethnicity with three "Arab" republics. Nine of the 23 countries that do not have an adjective are republics.



"Independent State" of
Croatia



"Free State" of
Bavaria

There are currently 13 countries that have "State(s)" as an adjective. Eight of these are republics e.g., the United "States" of America. "State" has appeared in past official names, especially in Germany during the revolutions of 1918-1919. "United" (or its synonyms) appears in 8 current official names. Six of these are republics, but only two have "republic" as another adjective.

The adjective "United" has given rise to official country names that are all adjectival e.g., "United Arab Emirates", and "United Arab Republic". The adjectives have/had become the common name. The "Union of Soviet Socialist Republics", again all adjectives, was not an official name of a country, but it became the de facto name for Russia.



"United States" of Venezuela



United Arab Republic UAR



C (Союз) CCP = United SSR



Tanzania 1964



"Union" of Myanmar

Currently there are 26 countries that have a monarchical adjective. Thirteen of the countries that have no adjective are realms e.g., Canada. Japan has no official adjective, is a monarchy. Prior to World War 1, the adjective kingdom and its synonyms (principality, emirate etc) was the most common adjective in the official name of countries.



"Kingdom" of Syria 1920



Cambodia

The fall of four empires during or at the end of World War 1, the Soviet invasion of Eastern Europe in 1944-1945, and de-colonisation after World War 2 significantly reduced the number of monarchical forms of government, even if they were democratic. Republic is from the Latin "res publica" meaning a public matter. The tendency of societies is to morph towards the full public control of politics in a geo-political area, even in modern democratic monarchies.

There have been a few cases where a republic has reverted to a monarchy, Cambodia is the only current example.



Dominion 1909



Kaiserliche = Empire
Königliche = Kingdom



"Kir(ályi)" = Royal



Central African Empire



"Orange Free" State is all adjectival

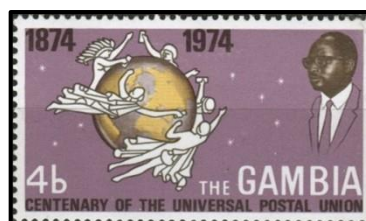
There is a scattering of other adjectives used by countries in their official name. Brunei's official name is "Negara Brunei Darussalam", Nation of Brunei, the Abode of Peace. Jordan has a personal adjective in its official name, the "Hashemite" Kingdom of Jordan. Bolivia is the "Plurinational" State of Bolivia. "Plurinational" means multi-national (ethnic). Uruguay has the only geographical adjective, the "Oriental" Republic of Uruguay. Venezuela has the name of its founder Simón Bolívar, "Bolivarian" Republic of Venezuela.



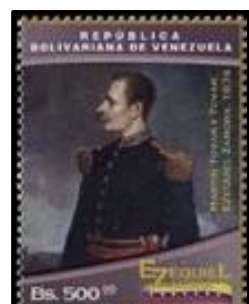
Darussalam = "Abode of Peace"



Plurinational State of Bolivia



The Gambia "The" has become an adjective



In a few countries, adjectives have become part of the common name of the country. The adjective turns the proper noun and proper name into a "noun phrase" e.g., New Zealand. The adjective "New" makes Zealand into the noun phrase "New Zealand". Most of these adjectives are geographical e.g., Equatorial Guinea, Guinea-Bissau. In these cases, adjectives have also become descriptors e.g., "South" Africa, "Central" African Republic. The majority of the noun phrase country names derive out of colonial settings. Some geographic adjectives used in a country's common name do not appear in their official name. The most common is East and West Germany, North and South Korea. Their official names referred to their political stance e.g., "Republic" vs "Democratic People's Republic". This is because the political authority behind the name seeks to represent the other country as well as their own. Whereas Timor-"Leste" (East) only represents the eastern part of Timor Island.



Sri means
"Resplendent"



"Sifiso" means
Western



"West" Ukraine



"North"
Inggermanland



"New" Caledonia

In the colonial setting, the most common usage of adjectives was the "proper" adjectives to define the ownership of a colony e.g., "Portuguese" Guinea, "German" New Guinea, "French" Guyana. Europeans defined themselves and their countries ethnically. This did not apply to those being colonised.



Arab Government
of the "East"
(Transjordan)



"Spanish"
"Continental" Guinea



"British" "New" Guinea



"Danish" "West"
Indies



"French" Polynesia

So, in broad areas, like the Guinea coast of Africa which stretched from Senegal to the equator, if a geographical feature wasn't used, they reverted to using their name as a proper adjective.



"Vetqeveritare"
"means self-
government



"Popular Socialist
Republic" of Albania



"Nova" Scotia
"New" Scotland



"Kibris Turk Yonetimi"
Turkish Management of
Cyprus 1973



Federation" of
"South" Arabia

It was a natural progression to use proper adjectives to for the administrative groupings of colonies e.g., "Italian" East Africa, "French" Equatorial Africa. Geographical adjectives were also commonly used e.g., "Northern" and "Southern" Rhodesia, or as a descriptor e.g., British Central Africa. "New" was a commonly used adjective e.g., "New" Hebrides.

Murray Taege

New Zealand Obliterator Cancels

Along with the first stamps dispatched to New Zealand, there was a set of numbered obliterated for use with cancelling the stamps. Prior to the use of stamps on mail there was a range of postal marking indicating the postage had been paid, usually accompanied by figures in red and/or black indicating the amount paid (red) or to be collected (black) from the recipient. Although stamps were available for use by the sender from 1855, it was not until April 1, 1862, that it became compulsory to use stamps to prepay the postage in full.



Unstamped cover, sent May 31, 1861, with unframed circular datestamps and the numeral 6 in red manuscript indicating 6d postage had been prepaid

The first lot of obliterations, in pairs numbered 1 - 18, were distributed out to post offices throughout New Zealand, 14 to the North Island with the balance going to the South Island. These are known as Perkins Bacon (PB) obliterations and are fairly easily identifiable. Evidence indicates that not all were put into use at the time with some not being sent out until as late as 1860 (Vol VII pg 206).

According to Vol III, at the time stamps were issued there were 23 post offices operating in New Zealand so there would appear to be a disparity right from the outset with fewer uniquely numbered devices for the number of offices. These devices proved to be very durable and are found used through to the 20th century to obliterate uncanceled mail.



PB 15



PB 5

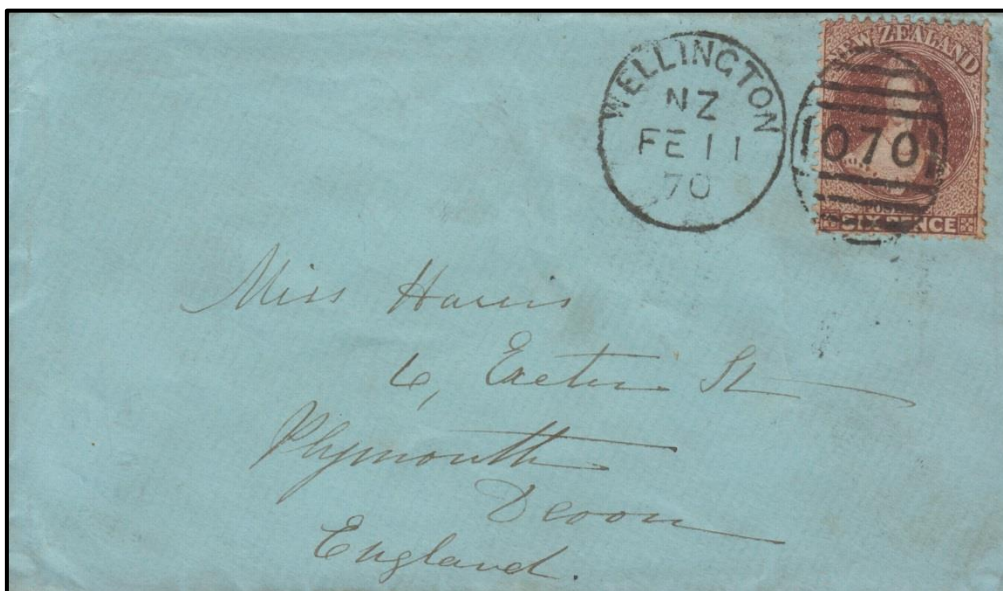


PB 7



PB 14

I should mention here the obliterator cancellers I will be referring to are cancellation devices that give a single undated impression. The term duplex refers to an integral device that combines an obliterator which can be a number, or letter/number combination, and a town die that included the post office name and date.



Cover sent from Wellington to the UK in 1870 with a duplex datestamp

As our population increased so too did the demand for postal services and new post offices began opening. A report dated June 4, 1860 commented that a number of post offices didn't have date stamps, but also that "... removal of a Country Post Office, a matter of no unfrequent (sic) occurrence, would, for instance, if the datestamps for these Offices were prepared on the ordinary model, be a source of much useless expense" ie if they manufactured a datestamp with the post office name incorporated into it, and the office closed, then the datestamp would no longer be of use.

To meet the demand for new obliterations, the post office arranged for the manufacture of the devices here in New Zealand. However, while starting off with good intentions, the rapid increase in demand coupled with the local manufacture, resulted in a large variety of different styles and formats, some of which, can be very challenging to find examples of, especially used on cover and with some form of confirmation of which post office applied it.

To allow an office to have a unique identifying canceller, but at the same time, making it reusable at another office should the original office close, the post office came up with the idea of letter/number obliterations with the letter referring to the postal district the office was located in.



W21 Letter/number obliterator for Waverley with accompanying Waverley datestamp



O23 Dunstan



O32 Kawarau Junction

So, a stamp cancelled with an "O32" obliterator would be from Kawarau Junction (Cromwell) in the Otago province. If, in the event Kawarau closed (or in this instance, changed its name) then the combination would then be recorded/reallocated to another post office. This still did not make it easier for later collectors as "O" was also used for Oamaru, and "A" for Auckland and Thames.



Barred "14" for Pahiatua

While a considerable amount of these letter/number obl iterators were distributed around the country, the post office also manufactured other patterns.

A series of numbered rectangular obl iterators were sent to Wellington for distribution to the district post offices in greater Wellington.

In some instances, it appears the manufacture of the device was undertaken, or arranged, by the postmaster of the office resulting in an array of interesting cancellations, and some errors.

Probably the best example of this would be the obliterator for Alfred Forest, near Methven in the South Island.

The three letter obliterator for the office was ALF, but as any kid making potato stamps knows, this does not translate as ALF when you make the stamp. You need to cut the letters in reverse ie ɹɹA.



ALF reversed



ALF normal



Hokitika



Stafford ^{ref 1}



Stafford



Invercargill



Geraldine



Temuka Star



Geraldine



Locally made OX obliterator for Oxford



Number cut in reverse and a negative image



Mute obliterator made up of lines cut into the device

Another novice error when making these devices is to cut the impression that you visualise into the material you are working with. This results in a "negative" image ie the areas you want coloured are uncoloured as they have not been inked when stamping the device on the inkpad.

Some makers lacked the skill to do anything other than cut a rudimentary design into the material, often just a series of lines across the face of the device.

Periodically mail will arrive at an office uncanceled; there can be a number of reasons for this. In these instances, the receiving post office will cancel the stamp with an undated obliterator to indicate the office was not the primary receiving office for the item.



Mailbag seal cancellation



Mailbag seal



"PAID AT" marking

There must also be times when the datestamp was not available for some reason and another device would be used to cancel the stamps. This could include mailbag seals or the prestamp "Paid At" marking.

Trans-Tasman and other international passenger shipping often had facilities on board to accept mail posted during the journey. Stamps can be found cancelled with postmarks of the foreign post offices receiving the mail or from the receiving offices on board the ship.



Melbourne



NSW



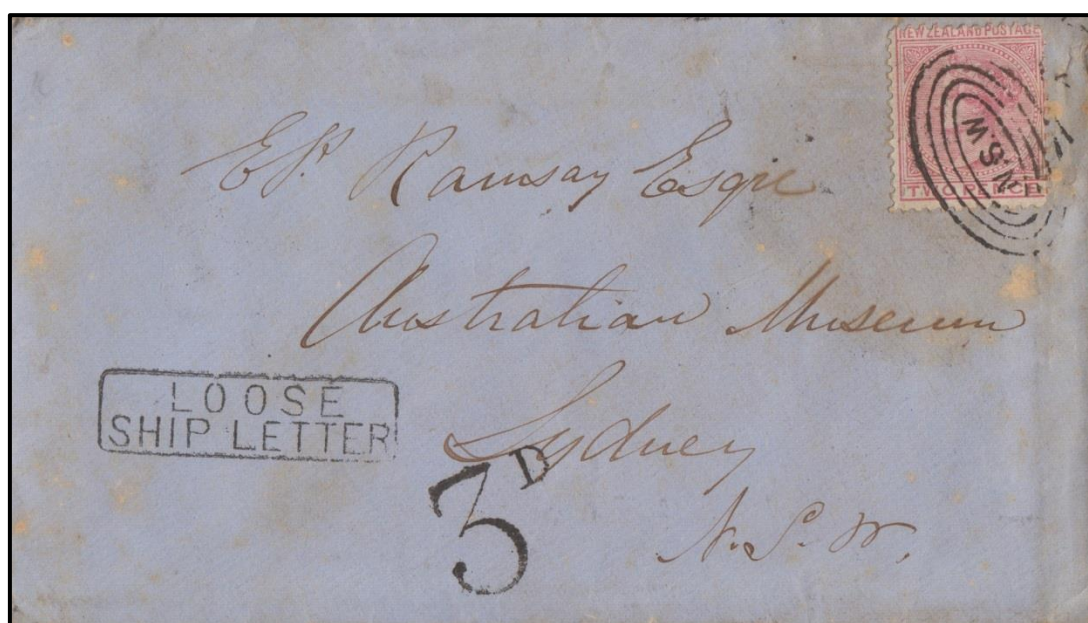
Victoria



UK Mail Boat



Unknown

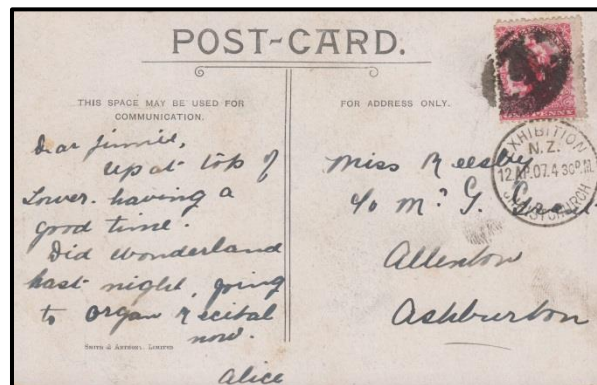


Posted on board a ship enroute to Australia

Beginning in the early 1870's, the post office began supplying small circular cancellers with movable type, "A" class datestamps, to offices. Having movable type meant the device could easily be transferred to another office and the office name changed. The use of obliterated devices declined but the devices would still be held in the post office and used to cancel mail that had arrived in the office uncanceled.



Registered but uncanceled at Lorne
Cancelled with a Riverton Barred "6" obliterator

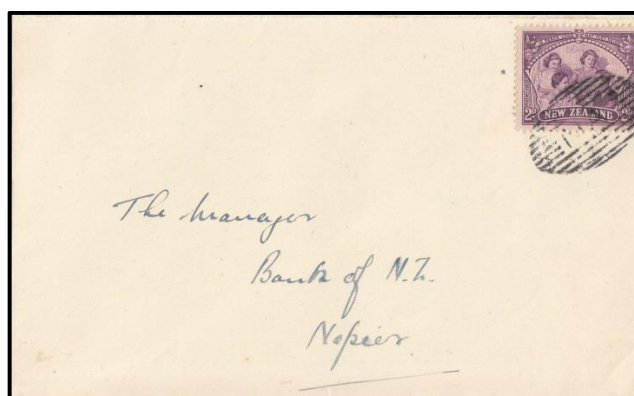


Sent from the Christchurch Exhibition but stamp
barely tied with the Exhibition datestamp.

Further cancelled at Christchurch with a very worn
"C" obliterator

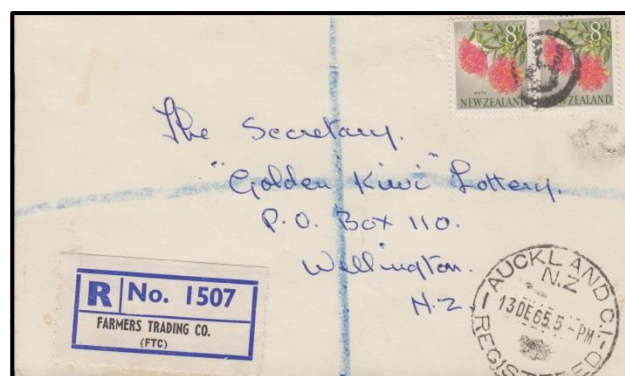


Posted at Catlin's River Flag Station and cancelled at Balclutha with "O19", the old Balclutha Ferry obliterator



Arrived loose at Napier, possibly from a Flag Station, and cancelled with an "NA" obliterator

Although not an obliterator in the normal sense, covers can be found with the stamps cancelled a capital R within a circle. This marking was first used in the latter part of the 19th century to indicate that an additional payment had been made to register the article for posting.



Registered but uncanceled at the post offices of acceptance
Circle "R" marking used to obliterate the stamps

This article is by no means a comprehensive account of all the obliterator markings found used in the 19th century, but it is to give collectors an idea of what is known and the variety of markings available. Some markings are extremely rare and unknown on cover, while others are quite common and affordable to collectors. Even the most common of them will take patience to find nicely centred and more importantly, orientated to read correctly.

Many collectors dismiss them as unsightly or ugly, but every collection would benefit from having an example or two. For those with patience, try putting together your set of perforated Chalons, all with the same obliterator cancel. Ideally to give yourself a fighting chance, choose one of the more commonly found markings, say the Perkins Bacon "9" from New Plymouth, but a hint, whatever cancel you choose, it might pay to begin with the 4d rose before leaping into it. It does take time to complete and once you have the last example (the value that you always used see until you wanted it), the page will be a pleasure to look at.

For further information on these cancellers, refer to Vols III and VII of the "Postage Stamps of New Zealand, both volumes of which are held in our Society's library.

Stephen Jones

References

- 1 New Zealand Stamp Collector 2003 Vol 83/6

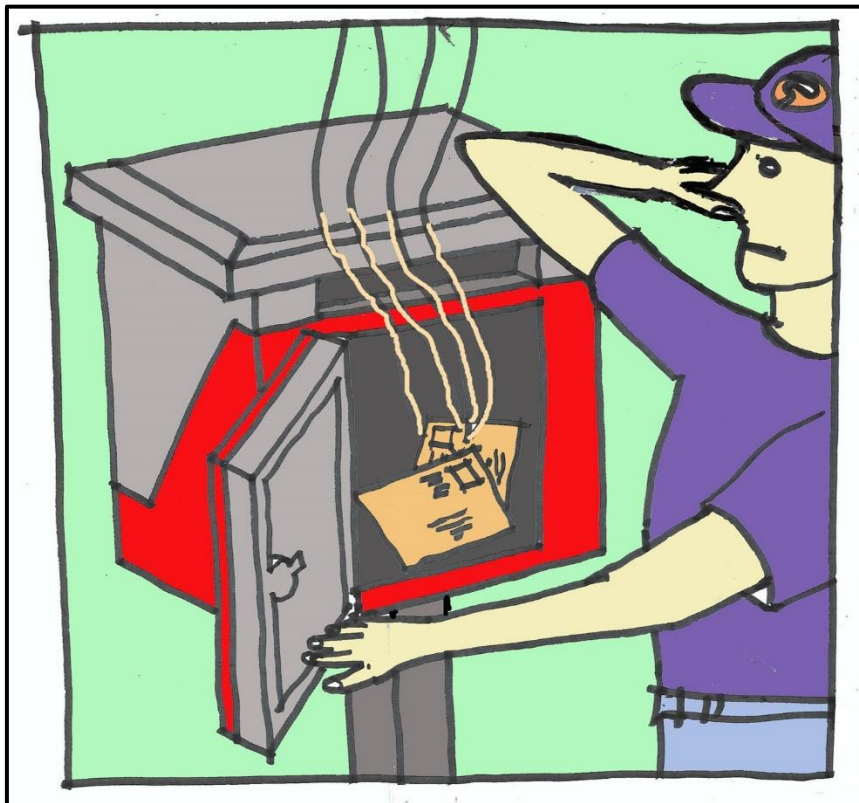
Medical Mail?

As medical science advances and more things become treatable and manageable if detected early, the various screening programmes that are around do need to be treated seriously, but occasionally you also need to see the funny side.

The National Bowel Screening Programme is for 60 to 74 year olds and relies on the postal service. A testing kit is sent out, samples taken, and then returned in the reply paid envelope. Obviously, there are more steps, and there are bags and containers as part of the process. Two steps relate to the postal service.

- 1 - Post it as soon as possible in the reply paid envelope provided.
- 2 - To prevent any postal delays, it's best not to send it on a Friday, Saturday, or Sunday.

Got me thinking about the postal workers if the last instruction wasn't followed !



Out on the streets on a typical summery Monday morning
"OH, I WISH THE LOCAL OLD FOLKS WOULD FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS AND NOT
POST THEIR SAMPLES OVER THE WEEKEND"

Paul van Herpt

KGV Letter Card Usage Dates Wanted

I am seeking clarification for the 1917 KGV 1½d Lettercard, Samuel BC 2a, black impression with horizontal shading lines across the monarch's face and neck. This is the second issue, now using William Bock's Die II (Wellington). The date of issue is variously listed as "October 1917" or "late in 1917" (Samuel's catalogue Part II, RPSNZ Vols VI & IX). The earliest postally used copy I have seen is February 28, 1918.

Can anyone verify this issue date or early postally used copies please; happy to receive your feedback and scans - contact Alastair hare.copper@yahoo.com



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AUCTION 84: Closes December 7, 2021.

NOTE: There will be 'NO Buyers Commission' in this auction



Lot 126



Lot 168



Lot 258



Lot 316



Lot 318



Lot 1324



Lot 628



Lot 634



Lot 83



Lot 144



Lot 412



Lot 2061



Lot 2062



Lot 2230



Lot 1600



Lot 1630

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