

CAPTAIN COOK

NEWSLETTER OF THE
CHRISTCHURCH (NZ) PHILATELIC SOCIETY, INC

ISSN 0122 – 9813

Num 840 (Vol 50 No 5)

June, 2022

1973 Suspended Mail Service To France

During the Cold War, there were nations that placed a lot of emphasis on developing, and testing, nuclear weapons. Some such as the USA had plenty of remote unpopulated areas within the country, but others like Britain and France, needed to look further afield. Initially the UK used sites in and around Australia but public opposition resulted in the cessation of these trials.

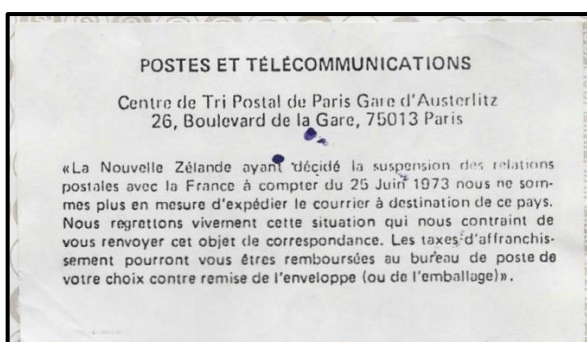
France conducted their tests in Algeria, and French Polynesia on the atolls of Fangataufa and Mururoa beginning in 1963. These initial tests were atmospheric explosions but in 1975 the testing was conducted underground



H Bomb explosion, Mururoa 1972

The French tests were met with huge criticism from countries in the Pacific region and in 1973, Norman Kirk, sent a letter to the French asserting the tests were illegal under international law and would seek a legal remedy through the International Court of Justice.

In June 1973, the New Zealand government also suspended postal services to France and the above cover, posted on June 23, from France was returned to the sender as undeliverable and with a label on the reverse explaining the reason why.



"New Zealand having decided to suspend postal relations with the France from 25 June 1973 we are no longer able to dispatch mail to this country. We deeply regret this situation which forces us to send you this object of correspondence. Postage taxes may be reimbursed at the post office of your choice against delivery of the envelope (or packaging)"

Stephen Jones

SOCIETY NEWS

May Meeting

Visitor and guest speaker Tim Beach treated members to a great talk and display at the May meeting. Postponed from October last year as a result of covid restrictions, Tim brought his James Berry collection to Christchurch. Tim gave an educational and interesting talk to those members present. Beginning with the history of how James ended up in New Zealand, then onto his pathway to designing the many coins and stamps his is now remembered for.

Born Reginald George James Berry in England in 1906 he emigrated to N.Z. in 1925 and worked initially as a farmhand, in Gisborne and later in the insurance business. By the time he was 21 he was beginning to be more interested in art and drawing.

In 1933, he submitted four designs for New Zealand semi-postals known collectively as "Health stamps". Berry's design, titled Road to Health, was accepted and issued as a 1d+1d stamp (1d each for postage and charity) on Nov. 8, 1933. He went on to design stamps and coins for many countries in following years until his death in 1979.



Additionally, Tim showed some of Berry's other productions such as 'New Zealand in Review' produced in 1940. Tim displayed an extensive and complete collection of Berry's 'philatelic' works including original artwork.

Sadly, his larger works of art remained in Auckland too big to travel to Christchurch. We once again extend our thanks to Tim for his talk and display.



Guest speaker, Tim Beach (right) chatting with CPS personalised stamp designer, Paul van Herpt following Tim's talk and display

Sue Claridge

SOCIETY PAGE

PROGRAMME

JUNE 6 POSTAL HISTORY GROUP Open for all members

JUNE 14 SOCIETY MEETING Annual Competition

Annual Club Competition

Tick tock, tick tock, not long now
Time's tick, tick, ticking away so get stuck in and get those
pages finished for the June meeting

JUNE 21 LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

JULY 4 POSTAL HISTORY GROUP Open for all members

JULY 12 SOCIETY MEETING John Martin
1935 Pictorials

JULY 19 LIBRARY NIGHT Open for all members

JULY 26 POSTCARD GROUP Other collectables, Recent acquisitions
Interesting items

All meetings are held at the Philatelic Centre, 67 Mandeville Street, 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.

The newsletter is published 11 times a year by the Christchurch (NZ) Philatelic Society (Inc), PO Box 9246, Tower Junction, Christchurch, 8149, New Zealand

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What's In A Name: How Do You Spell Your Name?

The first issues of many countries and states were not inscribed with their name. Many of these considered the content of their stamps to be a sufficient identifier of their country/state



United Kingdom



Brazil 1843



Peru



Prussia 1850

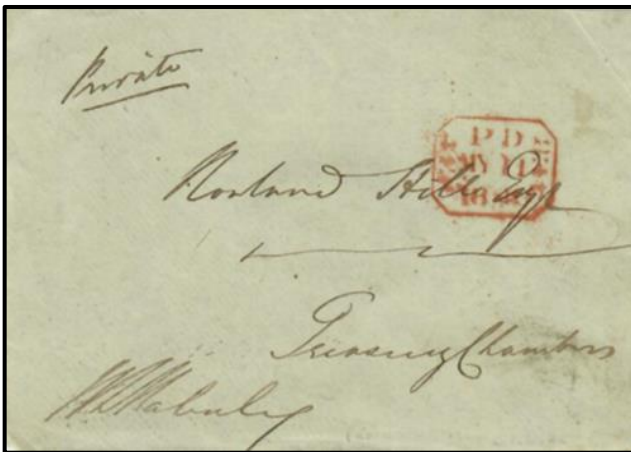


Russia 1857



Sardinia 1855

Rowland Hill's postal reforms had a major impact on world communications. The volume of international mail grew enormously. Each country had to negotiate bi-lateral postal treaties to deliver mail. In the absence of a treaty, mail had to be forwarded through an intermediate country. Postal arrangements were complex and overlapping. In 1863, an international postal conference smoothed some of the difficulties. On 15 September 1874, an international postal congress was held in Bern. It was attended by representatives of 22 states. On 9 October 1874 the Treaty of Bern was signed that established the "General Postal Union", (in 1878 the Universal Postal Union). It was implemented on 1 July 1875. A member country's stamp was to be valid for delivery into another member's country.



Letter from William Maberly, Secretary of the Post Office, to Rowland Hill 11 May 1840. Maberly opposed Hill's reforms stating they would not work. Hill's reforms revolutionised communications domestically and around the world.

Content identifiers were not considered sufficient to properly and adequately identify the originating country. So, at the conference it was agreed that all member countries would inscribe their name on their stamps, except for Great Britain.

Content identifiers were not considered sufficient to properly and adequately identify the originating country. So, at the conference it was agreed that all member countries would inscribe their name on their stamps, except for Great Britain.

In the Universal Postal Union's Article 6, 3.1 "the name of the member country or territory of issue, in roman letters, or, ...is so requested by the member country or territory of issue, the abbreviation or initials officially representing the member country or territory of issue". This has meant that in some cases, two or more languages, one being a Latin language, is inscribed on the stamp. This only occurs when the geo-political area the stamp represents uses another language other than Latin.



USSR in Cyrillic but imitates roman letters



"KSA" is the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and inscribed in Arabic



"SWA" was accepted for South West Africa



Brazil 1877

Multiple languages on a stamp indicates different aspects of a country's history. It shows the society of the geo-political area represented has attained a level of societal development that has enabled the creation of its own written language or has adopted and modified a written language for itself through cultural interaction or conquest. Anthropologists have stated this

is a pre-requisite for a greater degree of specialisation within society and the development of more complex communities into cities, city states and broader countries and empires. Writing is humanity's principal methodology for collecting, manipulating, storing, retrieving, communicating, and disseminating information.



Germany 1934 "Professions", the written language was necessary for the development of labour specialisation and the growth of a "middle class" (as represented here) to whom the National Socialists appealed to.



Egypt 1959 Seated Scribe from the 5th dynasty 24th cent. BC

Writing was invented independently in Mesopotamia (uncertainties relate to its influence over Egypt and the Indus Valley), China and Mesoamerica. It was in all these areas that city states began. Earliest writing was to account for transactions. In Sumer (Mesopotamia) from 3200 BC it changed to include funerary dedications, religious observances, recording a ruler's decision and the gamut of human life. Over time it came to represent a cultural identity.

An example of this is China. The earliest known use of the Chinese writing system is divinatory inscriptions into tortoise shells and oracle bones in the Shang dynasty (1766-1122 BC). It makes Chinese the oldest continuously used written language. "China" in Chinese is "Zhōng guó", (中國), "central state". The earliest appearance of Zhongguo is in Western-Zhou (1045 BC-771 BC). Zhongguo came into common usage in the Warring States period (475 BC-221 BC), referring to its physical location.



Mēxihco is the Nahuatl term for the heartland of the Aztec Empire, based upon city states.



P.R. of China 1996 Shang tortoise shell writing



The Chinese dynasties saw themselves as culturally superior to the rest of the world, hence the "center". The world came to them

From the Qin period (221 BC-206 BC) onward, Zhongguo became a metaphor for being civilised and cultured as opposed to barbaric (non-Han). It first appeared in a formal international legal document between the Qing dynasty and Imperial Russia (Treaty of Nerchinsk, 27 August 1689).

Although the Qing dynasty (1636 - 1912) embedded Zhongguo as referring to all of China under its rule, it still used the older Chinese habit of referring to China by its dynastic name: the "Great Qing". Qing dynasty stamps were inscribed "China" or "Imperial Chinese Post" in English, in Chinese they are inscribed "大清國郵政" (Great Qing Land Post). As an empire, China had no official name. Revolutionaries like Sun Yat-sen, initially opted for "China", but later on preferred the non-foreign "Zhongguo". It was adopted as the official name with the 1912 revolution.



Unlike Egypt, Libya was populated by semi-nomadic Berbers with only a few cities. The Egyptians gave them the hieroglyphic name "rbw" (Ribu) to those living in the regions west of the Nile. When the Phoenicians settled the area, they changed the r for an l to form Libu.



Cyrenaica is from the city of Cyrene, part of Libya



During the Phoenician period they renamed the area after the city states that they established. During the Ottoman period, 1556 to 1912, the area was called Tripolitania (three cities). In 1934, Italy renamed the area Libya to break with the Moslem-Ottoman past.

After WW2 King Idris retained the name Libya as an attempt to overcome over 2000 years of provincialism when the Kingdom of Libya became independent on December 24, 1951.



Yugoslavia in Cyrillic and Latin



South Africa in Dutch and English



Palestine in Arabic and Hebrew



Labuan in Arabic and Chinese

Multiple languages can show that more than one ethnic group has attained sufficient political authority and power to enable the title to be inscribed in their language on the stamp. By far the majority of the titles on a stamp are unitary. This is because either one ethnic group has attained the dominant position with-in the geo-political area or there has been a unification of ethnically similar groups to form a geo-political entity. There are times in which borders claimed have not led to a clear ethnic domination.

Under Charlemagne, Flanders (settled largely by Flemish speaking Germanic peoples) stretched from the Marne and Seine (France) to the Rhine. In the late 9th century, the western portion became French. On 8 August 870 the Treaty of Mersen split Flanders along the Scheldt. The west became the County of Flanders (French) and the east the Landgraviate of Brabant (Imperial). Western Flanders became the County of Artois in 1180 and passed to France.



Belgium 1883



In 1191 Baldwin V Count of Hainaut inherited the Flanders. He was also Duke of Brabant. Hainaut was Walloon, (French) and this forms the start of the ethnic mix. In 1477 Maximilian I of Habsburg inherited all three. In 1493 Artois returned to France. On January 6, 1579 the Catholic Hainaut and Southern Flanders formed the

Union of Arras which became the Spanish Netherlands. From the 1659 to 1697 France annexed parts of the Spanish Netherlands. What was left became the Austrian Netherlands in 1713. At the 1815 Congress of Vienna, the Austrian Netherlands was given to the restored Kingdom of the Netherlands. It became the United Kingdom of the Netherlands. King William I was ardently Netherlandish and protestant.

The imposition of the Dutch language and protestant secularism on, combined with cultural insensitivity towards, the Austrian Netherlands, alienated it from the Netherlands. The Belgian revolution started on August 25, 1830. It gained independence on July 21, 1831. Anti-Flemish resentment meant that only Walloon was used. The 1860s saw a Flemish cultural awakening. It led to the eventual recognition of Flemish as an official language in Belgium.

Multiple languages show the spread of languages across the globe. Languages spread from their originating centres through conquest, colonisation, culture, trade, or religion. As with Libya, over time the written language can change completely and many times. But they can still leave behind words which make their way into modern usage. Some of these have been passed down such as Lebanon from the Phoenician "lbn" meaning "white". Others because they were recorded, as in Libya above. The spread of Latin is well known with the world colonisation by western Europe from 1496 onwards.



Belgium 1891 the first Belgian stamp inscribed in Walloon and Flemish



France 1962 celebrating 300 years of Dunkerque being French. Originally it was part of the Spanish Netherlands (Belgium)



Moslem traders and preachers had made contact with Indonesia, Malaysia, Borneo as early as 674 AD. By the 12th century AD Moslem Arab, Indian and Tamil traders had settled widely in the region and had formed trading colonies. Muhammad Shah (Awang Alak Betatar) converted to Islam circa 1363 and established the Sultanate of Brunei.

Whereas in Mauritania, Islam initially came through trade and culture via nomadic Berbers, trading with the Moslem Almoravid empire. During the 11th century the Almoravids conquered much of Mauritania and converted it to Islam. The spread of Islam brought with it Arabic writing



Egypt is derived from the Greek "Aἴγυπτος", from the Pharaonic for Memphis its then capital. "Misr" (مصر) is Egyptian for Egypt. It means borderland. Its usage dates from the Persian conquest in 525 BC.



Bhārata (भारत) is Indian for India. India is from the Persian from Sanskrit *Sīndhu*, which was the name of the Indus River.



Japan in Japanese is "Nippon" or "Nihon" 日本. Japan is from the Portuguese from the Malay name for Japan, *Japang* or *Japun*, was borrowed from southern China.



The Georgian name is *Sakartvelo* საქართველო; "land of *Kartvelians*", derived from the region of *Kartli*. Georgia is from the Persian word for wolf.



Albania is derived from the Illyrian tribe of *Albani*, recorded by Ptolemy in 150 AD. Albanian for Albania is *Shqiptarë*, commonly used from the 18th century by the Albanians.

Multiple languages can indicate that the name we call a country isn't the same name as they call themselves. Exonyms, what foreigners call a country, mostly come from names other people have called them.

Murray Taege



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Thanks again to Alan Tunnicliffe for his sterling work in compiling the index.

Annual Competitions 2022 Meeting Night

The CPS annual competition night will be held on Tuesday, **June 14th**, so here is your chance to have a go in preparation for WPS100 (a national stamp exhibition being held from 11th to 13th November 2022) – the first national stamp show for some years.

Your display/exhibit can be four, eight or sixteen pages and cover any class. For more details on the types of classes see the New Zealand Philatelic Federation website.

Please note that your exhibit may be chosen to represent the society at the annual inter-club competition later in the year, depending on covid restrictions.

This year judging will be a popular vote on the night, by attendees at the meeting. However, one to one mentoring can be given to you by local stamp & postcard judges, Mr Jeff Long, Sue Claridge and Karen Jeffrey, should you wish further guidance.

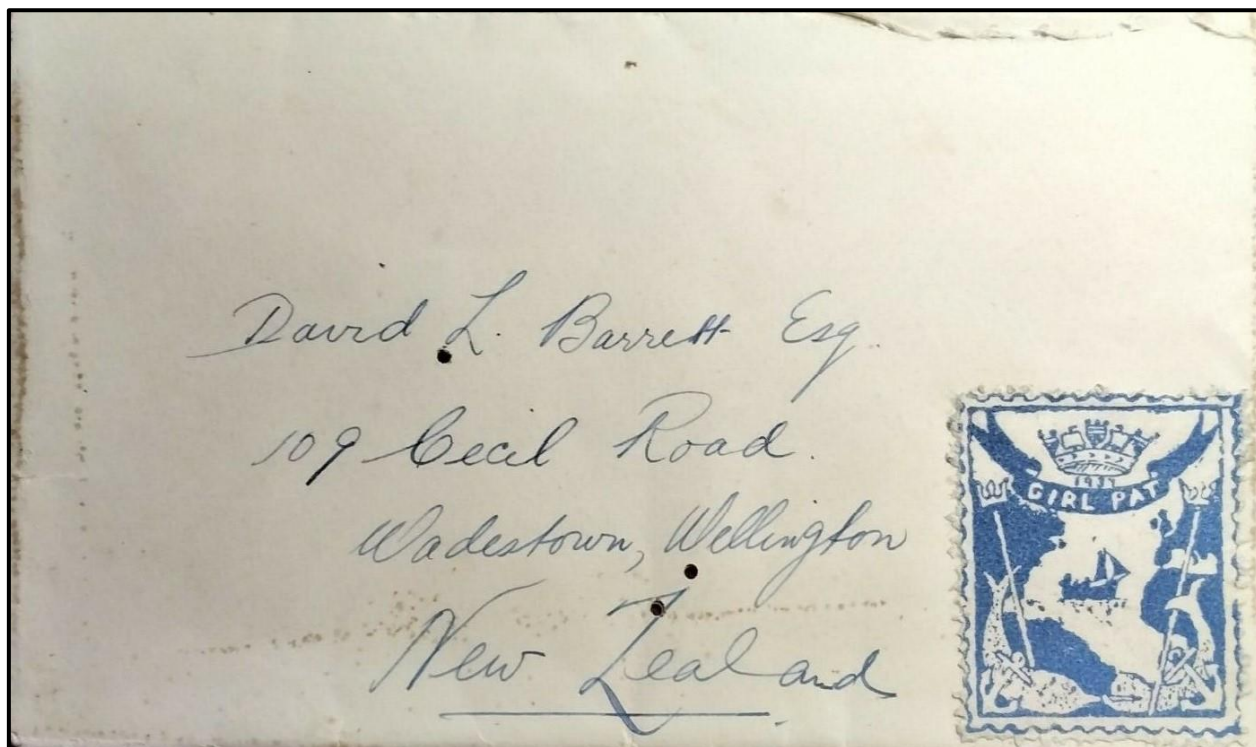
Halfway through the year, so enjoy getting back into the world of stamp collecting.

Take care & be safe out there.

President Sue

1936 "Girl Pat" Trawler Hijack

Trawling around the internet recently, I came across a cover described as "1930s Girl Pat ship boat stamp label cover" to New Zealand. This sounded intriguing and I was hoping to come across an unusual ship mail or paquebot marking for my collection. Not quite what I was expecting but unusual to me anyway.



The cover was addressed David Barrett and the sender's details on the reverse indicated it was from an Alex Lee in British Guiana. There were no postal markings on the cover, however the cover didn't appear to be a recent creation. David Barret will be known to collectors of New Zealand FDCs as he produced cacheted covers from the late 1930s through to the 1950s. Barrett lived in Wellington before moving to Dannevirke in the late 1930s.



A quick search using Professor Google was very productive and there is an extensive Wikipedia entry on the affair that I was able to crib considerable detail from.

Girl Pat was a small fishing trawler, based at the Lincolnshire port of Grimsby, that in 1936 was the subject of a media sensation when its captain took it on an unauthorised transatlantic voyage.

Built in 1935, Girl Pat was the property of the Marstrand Fishing Company of Grimsby. On 1 April 1936, Orsborne, with a crew of four and his brother James as a supernumerary, took the vessel out on what the owners authorised as a routine North Sea fishing trip of two to three weeks' duration. After leaving port, Orsborne informed the crew that they were going on an extended cruise in more southerly waters.

Nothing more was heard of them until mid-May, when the owners, who had by then assumed the vessel lost, received invoices relating to its repair and reprovisioning in the northern Spanish port of Corcubión. Subsequent sightings placed her in the Savage Islands, at Dakar in Senegal, and Îles du Salut off the coast of French Guiana in South America.

The captain's main means of navigation during a voyage of more than 6,000 nautical miles (11,000 km) was a sixpenny school atlas and a compass. At one point *Girl Pat* was reported wrecked in the Bahamas, with all hands lost. After the vessel's capture and detention following a chase outside Georgetown on June 19, Orsborne and his crew were hailed as heroes in the world's press.

Charged with the theft of the vessel in October 1936, Orsborne maintained in court that the owners had instructed him to get rid of the ship, as part of a scheme to obtain its insurance value. This claim was dismissed by the court.



Years later, in his memoirs, Orsborne told a different, uncorroborated story: in absconding with *Girl Pat* he had been carrying out a mission on behalf of British Naval Intelligence, connected with the outbreak of the Spanish Civil War in July 1936.

After his release from prison, Orsborne took part in further maritime adventures and served in the navy in the Second World War. He died in 1957. In Georgetown *Girl Pat* was acquired by new owners who returned her to Britain, where she was displayed as a tourist attraction in several resorts. In 1939 she was sold to the Port of London Authority for use as a wreck-marking vessel and, after being requisitioned by the Royal Navy during the war, was returned to the authority in 1945. There is no public record of her subsequent career.

The Wikipedia entry had no reference to the labels, but a further search found an entry in the StampBoards website that referred to a piece in the June 1, 1950 "Australian Stamp Monthly". It turns out one of the crew saw an opportunity to cash in on the notoriety of the affair and approached a local printer to get some "stamps" printed to sell as souvenirs and used, along with postage stamps, on mail. It is believed that 30,000 labels were printed.



Courtesy of Stampboards.com



Courtesy of Stampboards.com

Both the British Guiana and British postal authorities viewed these as illegal productions and mail posted in Demerara was returned to the *Girl Pat* with the cover endorsed "Returned from *Girl Pat* as illegal mail". One example, posted with the current British Guiana stamps, was further endorsed "Contravenes Postal Regulations" in manuscript and rubber stamped "J Reilly, Postmaster General". Still, as shown by the above cover, some enterprising collectors were able to get examples of the labels used on cover and going through the post.

While not one of my collecting interests, I found the whole affair quite fascinating. This is the sort of item that tempts a collector to start one more collection, "just for fun, you understand, nothing serious". Yeah, right!!!

Stephen Jones

Kapiti Coast Self Service Stamps

After reading last month's piece by David Smitham, Tony Ward, one of our Australian members, was able to provide further examples of the usage of these labels. Tony had been aware the trial was to go ahead using a machine based on the same idea as the GB Post & Go labels and did some planning to ensure that he was able to secure some covers once the machine was put into service.

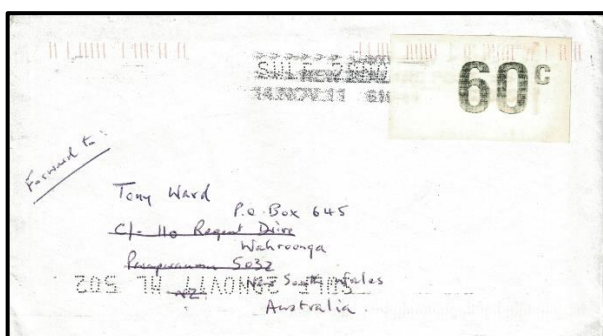


Figure 1



Figure 2

Tony's planning paid off and he was able to secure some FDCs of the labels. The labels were issued on November 14, 2011 and FDCs are difficult to find. The cover shown as figure 1 was sent to a local address, and then redirected to him in Australia, and that as figure 2 was sent directly to his address in Australia and franked with examples of both values plus an additional 10 cent definitive. It is likely that this example of FD usage to Australia is unique.

During the usage period of the machine, Tony prepared further covers to addresses in New Zealand and also overseas (figures 3 & 4), and also sent covers when the rates were increased to 70 cents and \$1.40 for Fastpost (figure 5).



Figure 3



Figure 4

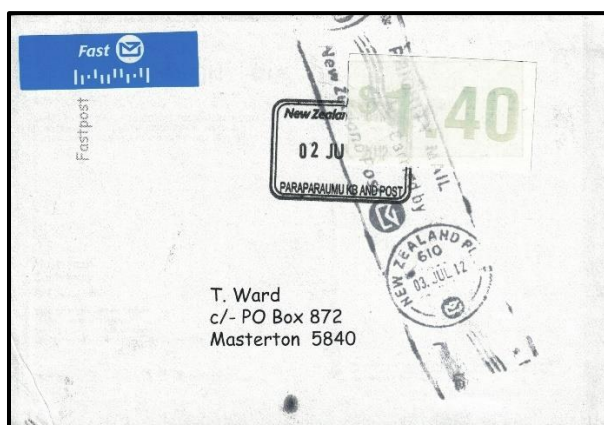


Figure 5

Tony commented that on most of the covers the inkjet cancel failed to take well to the surface of the label, and that possibly was one of the reasons why the trial was discontinued.

While the usages shown are philatelic in nature, any examples on cover are very difficult to find. Certainly, any cover clearly demonstrating proper commercial usage would be a very desirable item indeed.

Thank you Tony, for supplying the images and additional info.

Stephen Jones

New Zealand 1d Blue Stamp Duty - 30 January 1882

An often forgotten aspect of New Zealand philately is the early 1882 period when there was a shortage of 1d postage stamps - the 1st Side Face issue of Queen Victoria, before the 2nd Side Face Queen Victoria replacements were available in April.



30 Ja 82

This, according to Gwynn¹: "was probably due to the 26 October 1881 Order in Council which permitted the use of postage stamps for fiscal purposes (though not vice versa). This must have had the effect of greatly accelerating the demand for the 1d in particular."

The 1d Stamp Duty stamp was specifically authorised for postal use by a G.P.O. postal notice in late February 1882, and newspapers in March were advertising this use. Early dates of February 22 (Wednesday) in Dunedin, February 18 and 23 in Christchurch, and February 25 in Lyttelton are known.

Now an even earlier date has come to light. The above 1d blue Stamp Duty stamp clearly shows a Wellington 30 January 1882 "A" class postal cancel.

Monday January 30 fits in with the timing of subsequent emergency distributions of these stamps to Christchurch & Dunedin, and other population centres. It is likely that postal use of these stamps would have first occurred in Wellington, where the bulk supplies were held. The date is significant: the year is **82** and not **92** which would otherwise indicate philatelic use, many years after the shortage of 1d postage stamps had ended.

This postally used example was found in a Mowbrays Collectables purchase, amongst Government Life Insurance and Official stamps! Its significance was not appreciated by the previous owner.



Year date "(18)82"

Reports of any other early postal uses of the 1d blue Stamp Duty (particularly in January or February 1882) are welcomed.

The 1d Lilac Stamp Duty

As a corollary to the above, there has long been controversy about the status, as a postal provisional, of the earlier 1d Stamp Duty printed in lilac. *Postage Stamps of New Zealand*, Volume I (1938) states on pages 511-512: "In 1878 a new type was adopted for the 1d value of the Stamp Duty issue. The die was engraved by Bock and Cousins, and the design was closely copied from the contemporary 1d Inland Revenue stamp of Great Britain, with the inscription 'INLAND REVENUE' replaced by 'STAMP DUTY N.Z.'."

When first issued, on June 15, 1878, this stamp was in lilac, the same colour as that of its British prototype, but from December 14, 1878, the colour was changed to blue." The 1d lilac Stamp Duty therefore, had a short life, even fiscally. The colour may have been changed specifically to avoid confusion (in use) with the very similar British stamp (listed by Stanley Gibbons as type "F2 1d purple"). The 1d stamps were primarily used by the general public (i.e., not just by officials) for receipt purposes.

Regarding postal use from 1882, suffice it to say that we have still to see a verified postally used example of the 1d lilac Stamp Duty with a date in early 1882. The "postally used" examples

that we have seen (and they are few in number) were used (probably philatelically) much later, in the late 1880s to 1890s.

By February 1882, the 1d lilac Stamp Duty stamp had been out of general use at Stamp Offices (for fiscal purposes) for a considerable time (well over 3 years). Only stocks of the 1d blue Stamp Duty stamps appear to have been distributed from Wellington for emergency postal use in early 1882. The circumstantial evidence, from a considerable corpus of known early use examples, seems overwhelming.

Perhaps all "postally used" examples of the 1d lilac Stamp Duty should be regarded as philatelically contrived well after the emergency period. Can anyone show us an example of one genuinely postally used in early 1882?

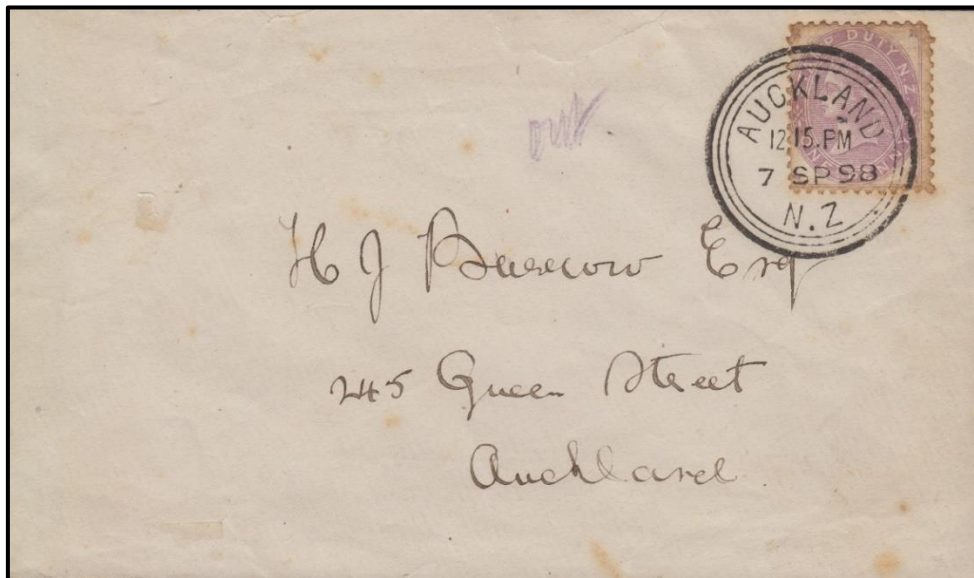
Reference:

- 1 *Collecting New Zealand Stamps*, by Robin Gwynn, 1988, p 29.

David Smitham & Alan Jackson

New Zealand 1d Fiscal Usage On Cover

While commercial in nature, not quite the usage dates David was hoping to see.



Sent locally in Auckland, dated September 7, 1898. I believe it wasn't uncommon for older stamps found in offices of solicitors to be used some years after they were issued.



Mixed FSF and 1d blue usage, backstamped Charleston July 12, 1882.

Stephen Jones

2022 Facit Catalogue For Scandinavia

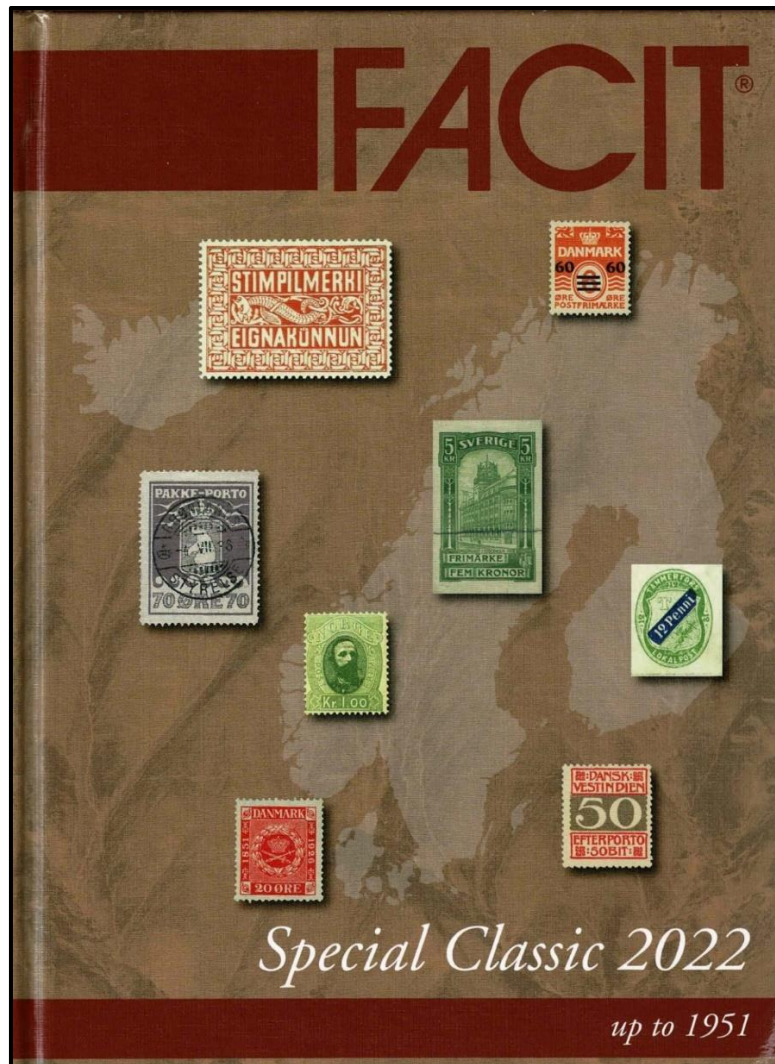
New library acquisition: FACIT 2022 Classic Catalogue of Scandinavia to 1951.

David Loe has very kindly donated this book to the library. It covers Sweden, Norway, The Faroes, Greenland, Danish West Indies, Iceland, and Finland.

The detail is amazing. The section on Iceland, for example, is spread over 70 pages. Everything is written in Swedish and English, and all illustrations are in full colour. Topics covered in this section include the stamps of course, but also extensive notes on postal markings, British and American military mail from the time they had troops stationed in Iceland, all sorts of official stamps, stamp booklets, revenue stamps, postal stationery, first day covers and some articles on particular aspects of Icelandic philately.

This catalogue is so good it might encourage you to start a new area of collecting !!

Reviewed by Jeff Long



PYC Page Protectors

The Philatelic Youth Council has exhibition protectors for sale. These are made from oriented polypropylene and are about 290mm by 255mm. They are quite stiff and display well. Protectors are available in either packs of 25 at \$20.00 or packs of 100 at \$55.00 (both prices include GST and postage within New Zealand). Note: The above price is only while current stocks last.

Write to: PYC, PO Box 2979, Shortland Street, Auckland 1140 to order OR contact pycsecretary01@gmail.com via their website for more details. Please note that there is a limited supply of the protectors and this maybe your last opportunity to acquire these as the philatelic youth council is considering disbanding.

Sue Claridge

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