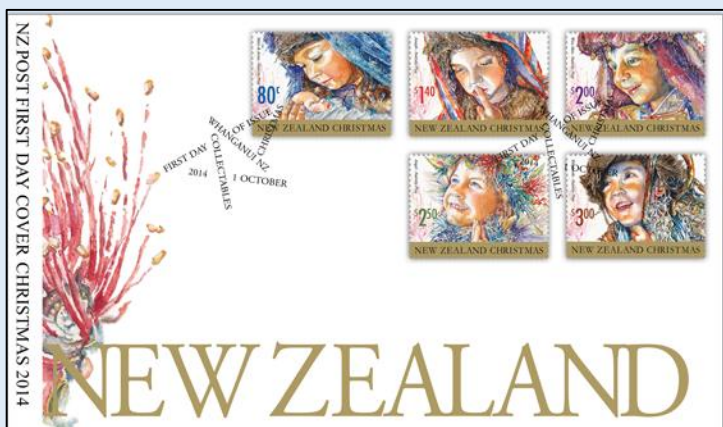


NELSON PHILATELIC SOCIETY (Inc)

2014 November No. 369

New Zealand's latest:



Christmas 2014 – issued: Oct 1

New Zealand took painstaking measures to produce the \$20 definitive issued in response to demand by customers who mail documents and parcels. The design illustrates popular images of New Zealand: Mt. Cook; ferns; kowhai flowers; a Maori rafter pattern; and the flag. NZ Post selected Heather Arnold's submission. This design was shipped to Sweden, where *Czeslaw Slania* transferred the artwork onto a small steel block. A banknote company in Britain converted the engraved image into a printing plate, then a Melbourne, Australia printer used three printing processes to produce the stamp. In the first pass a security pattern, detectable under black light, was applied. Then gold foil was applied both to the Maori rafter pattern across the top and to a straight line across the bottom. Lastly the blue design was printed. The process used intaglio recess and gold foil printing methods.



BE PREPARED, this is Nuts, Stupid & Crazy

Following the discussion at the October meeting, here are the official notes from the PO rule book:

MUH Stamps sent within NZ are a **Prohibited item** and it is illegal to send them at all, including courier and registered mail services, however used stamps are okay.

MUH stamps can be sent overseas -- "if additional compensation cover is bought" for airmail letters. I asked and my letter would cost \$13.75 had I done this. In a very ominous sign the PO can open it to take a look, might not deliver it, and can charge you for its disposal.

So there - all you criminals - be warned !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

B G 1c Magenta sets \$9.5m auction record

The British Guiana 1c Magenta has set a new world record for a stamp at auction, achieving \$9.48m in a single lot sale at Sotheby's New York on June 18. This equates to a return of 7.94% pa since 1980, when it sold for \$935,000.

It spectacularly eclipsed the previous record, set at \$2.3m for the **1855 Treskilling Yellow** in 1996. While the 1c Magenta is not the only one of a kind stamp in the world, it carries a mythical status, having passed through some of the world's greatest collections.



Meetings on the second Tuesday of the month at Stoke School at 7:15pm sales table, 7:30 meeting

Club Programme

Tuesday: Nov 10th 2014 – Other things to do with stamps

Display letter: Letter of the month is...



It's Guy Fawkes time again, anyone with any pyrotechnics (or stamps) to go on display this month?



Published monthly by **Nelson Philatelic Society**

PO Box 16, Nelson 7042

Free to Full Members

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History of NZ Post THE CONTINUING STORY.....

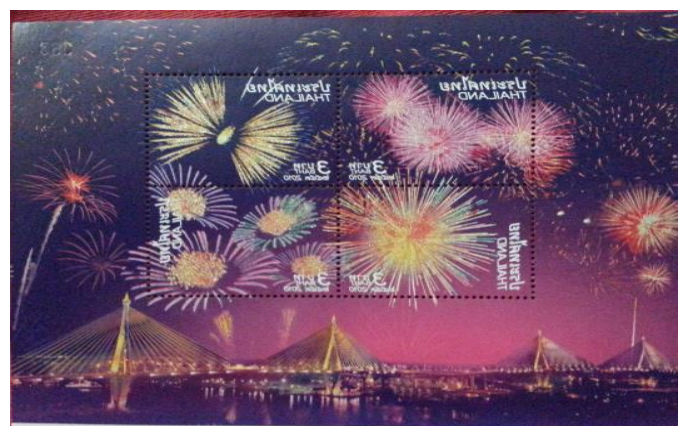
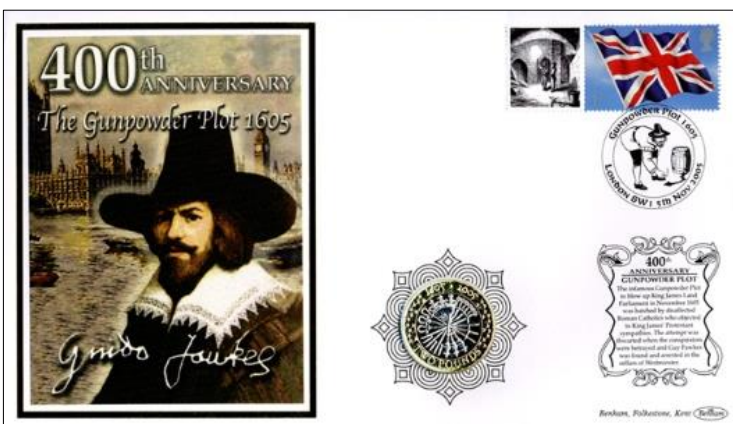
Becoming a State-Owned Enterprise - On 1 April 1987 the New Zealand Post Office was 'corporatised' and its core businesses split into three separate companies - Telecom, Post Bank and New Zealand Post. Each company was set up as a State-Owned Enterprise (SOE) and was expected to operate as a commercial entity. The [State-Owned Enterprises Act 1986](#) required NZ Post to operate as a successful business and to be: as profitable and efficient as comparable businesses not owned by the Crown; an organisation that exhibits a sense of social responsibility by having regard to the interests of the community in which it operates and by endeavouring to accommodate, or encourage, these when it is able to do so; and a good employer.

The Act also spelled out the broad nature of the Crown's ownership of the company, defining the role of directors and outlining the responsibilities of shareholding Ministers. The reporting requirements for SOEs are also outlined in the Act. The Act creates an arms-length relationship by distancing management tasks from political control. Under the Act, the Government must fund any non-commercial activities that the Government wants carried out.

One of the major innovations of the SOE Act was the introduction of a *Statement of Corporate Intent*. This was designed to bring accountability to the new business, accounting policies and performance targets. The Statement is updated annually and records the information required for NZ Post Ltd for the following three years. Performance updates are presented to the shareholding Ministers and Parliament through half-yearly and annual reports.

In 1989 a *Deed of Understanding* between New Zealand Post and the Government was first established, setting out certain social, price and service undertakings to be met by the company. The Deed, updated in 1998 to reflect the newly competitive environment for postal services, cements New Zealand Post's position as the provider of a universal postal service for all New Zealanders.

The arrival of competition - On 1 April 1998, the *Postal Services Act 1998* was passed, deregulating the New Zealand postal market and opening it to full competition. In all other products and activities New Zealand Post was already operating in a competitive market. New Zealand Post had been preparing for competition since it became a State-Owned Enterprise in 1987, with the impact of deregulation always being included as a scenario in the company's business plans. The Act removed New Zealand Post's monopoly on the delivery of the standard letter, resulting for the first time in 150 years, in full competition in postal services. Under current regulations anyone can now process and deliver mail, at any cost, as long as they register as a postal operator with the Ministry of Economic Development. Under deregulation New Zealand Post is still required to provide a universal service – delivery throughout New Zealand under the Deed of Understanding. There are currently more than 25 individual postal operators, including New Zealand Post, registered on the Postal register with the Ministry of Economic Development.



Brierley out of pocket over stamps

New Zealand's best-known stamp collector may be \$A200,000 out of pocket after he was sold stamps by a person who did not own them.

The Victoria Supreme Court found the stamps, bought by Sir Ron Brierley in August 2013, had not been obtained lawfully from the late Melbourne art dealer Julian Sterling.

Justice Vickery said Sir Ron was an innocent party, but he will order him to return the stamps to their true owner, Mr. Sterling's daughter and sole heir, Marilyn Kino.

Sir Ron bought the stamps from Mrs. Kino's step-brother, Brian who said Mr. Sterling gave them to him between 2008 and 2010, but Justice Vickery said no evidence supported that claim.

Brierley was an innocent party in the matter, according to the judgment by Justice Peter Vickery, but legal title to the stamps in question remained with Sterling's daughter, and heir.

OUCH !!!!



Ingenuous are the ways of man!!!! Fast post through the ages



Buffalo Balloon stamp

Balloon mail used in the Franco Prussian war 1872 and Przymysl (Poland) in WWI stamped *ballon monte* for mail accompanied by a balloonist and *ballon non monte* for unmanned bags of hot air. Also famously in the US in 1877 aka the buffalo balloon stamp

You wouldn't think that the first airmail stamp could have been produced many years before the first mail plane took off. But that is indeed the case. That very special stamp, produced for a balloon flight between the towns of Nashville and Gallatin Tennessee on June 18, 1877, is known as The Buffalo Balloon Stamp. It is a crown jewel of any airmail collection, commanding attention as one of only two semi-official airmail stamps recognized in *The Scott Specialized Catalog of US Stamps and Covers* designated CL1. Unlike usual airmail issues that can frank any airmail going to anywhere in the world, only 300 stamps were produced for a special flight.

It was designed by John F. B. Lillard and engraved by John H. Snively and printed by Wheeler Brothers Printers of Nashville, Tennessee. It is believed 200 were actually used on mail carried on Samuel Archer King's balloon "Buffalo." Whenever it comes up for auction, its sale becomes an event, covered by the non-philatelic press as well as other media. The French "ballon montes" (literally, manned balloons) that carried messages out of a besieged Paris in 1870 didn't produce any special stamps but were an early form of airgram that were used to transmit their messages via balloons. But the philatelist who collects stamps is left out in the cold when it comes to Siege of Paris



Parachute mail
Sydney to Mornington Island once yearly to an Australian inland Mission station



Catapult mail in 1928 french postal authorities started a ship to shore service to speed up delivery of trans atlantic mail the ships were about 600 miles from land !!! It was also tried by German post authorities



Glider Mail
developed in Cuba in 1935 called an "air train"

Pidgeon post

first tried in Franco Prussian war, 1870
NZ Great Barrier island from 1897



Rocket post Rockets were fired from ships off the coast to shore 500m or so away. Tried in 1934 by Royal Mail and enthusiastically taken up by the Americans and India post service to see if it was a viable system of making the mail service faster. Hmmm had any rocket mail lately!!!!



Concorde
Doesn't get much faster than this! The joint Brit/French attempt to go



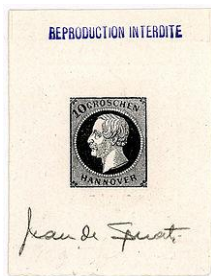
Flight of the Concorde:
Concorde flew from 9/04/1969 to 24/10/03 mainly from France and UK to the US at ...a lot... km/h!



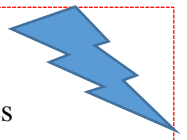
CAMEL POST IN THE SUDAN
started in 1800's.
It took
but the mail must go through



The camel post stamp design of Sudan has lasted over 100 years!!!! Since the first issue in 1898 after the designer saw the mail arrive in military camp and sketched the idea.



Somewhere in this newsletter there is a (rather big) mistake --- spot it and win the chockie bar. Hint, look at the pictures



Jean de Sperati – Master forger

Giovanni (Jean) de Sperati (1884 -1957) was a talented stamp forger that professional stamp authenticators of the time attested to the genuineness of his work. Sperati created what he called a *Livre d'Or* which he boasted of in his autobiography and which contained 239 favourable opinions as to the genuineness of his forgeries from numerous experts, including the Royal Philatelic Society, London.

Early life - Although born in Italy, he spent a large part of his life in France where he adopted the name Jean but always considered himself an Italian. He began to collect stamps as a child and was particularly interested in printing techniques, as well as photography, which was then in its infancy. Relatives owned a postcard factory as well as a paper mill, so Sperati was able to obtain copious knowledge of photographic processes, print technology and chemicals. These formed the basis for his eventual career as a stamp counterfeiter.

The first forgeries - The first attempts to copy stamps went extraordinarily well. The first forgeries were of valuable stamps from San Marino, and stamp experts believed them to be real. Thereupon Sperati began to produce numerous further reproductions of valuable stamps from all over the world. This eventually resulted in well over 500 master-quality forgeries from more than 100 different stamp-issuing agencies. Sperati came into conflict with the law in 1942 for the first time. A shipment marked as valuable from Sperati to a dealer in Portugal was intercepted by French customs. It contained several falsified German stamps. They charged him with "exporting capital without a licence" and trying to avoid customs payments. He protested his innocence, and explained to the police that it contained only *copies* of valuable stamps, which he himself had prepared, whereupon the police called in the country's best stamp experts to clear up the facts of the case. These experts came to the judgment that the stamps in question were all originals, and very valuable ones at that. Sperati still managed to convince the police that they were fakes, and was therefore charged with fraud. His trial took place in April 1948.

The 1948 trial - To explain, Jean de Sperati tried to convince the court that he had no deceitful intentions in the sale of the stamps. He considered himself to be an artist and not a counterfeiter. Furthermore he declared to the court that he had merely forgotten to clearly mark the stamps as forgeries and he promised to be more diligent about such marking in the future. He claimed that he had offered the forgeries of rare stamps at about 1% of the normal market price in order to assist the simple collector to obtain these rarities. Nevertheless the Parisian judiciary convicted Jean de Sperati and sentenced him to a year in prison, 10,000 francs fine, and an additional 300,000 francs for criminal intentions. The Parisians' judiciary did not convict him on the basis of the imitation, but rather because of Sperati's "deceitful intentions".

After the guilty verdict - Jean de Sperati did not have to serve his prison sentence on the grounds of his age - he was already over 64 years old. In 1954 he sold all his remaining forgeries as well as all the clichés to the *British Philatelic Association* for an enormous sum of money. He then withdrew from the forgery business and promised never again to falsify a stamp. His motive for selling the tools of his trade to the British Philatelic Association was to prevent them falling into the possession of someone who would imitate his work. Jean de Sperati died three years later in Aix-les-Bains at the age of 73.

His life's work - The stamp forgeries of Sperati are some of the best of the world. Many of them lie undetected in various collections as he falsified only the most valuable rarities of the stamp world. He did this with an inimitable precision scarcely obtained by any other counterfeiter. Jean de Sperati paid great attention to the accuracy of the postmark when falsifying the stamps; therefore postmarks found on his forgeries are limited to those of larger cities. It is believed that he might have produced over 5,000 forgeries. A Sperati forgery is today in no way worthless but are highly regarded and obtain high prices as special collectables.



How to forge stamps.....

- Get an old worthless stamp with a good post mark.
- Carefully remove the ink and design.
- Print the valuable stamp design over the top and presto - one stamp with correct paper and ink perfs, fooling everyone!



Quick
Post



Gone to the dogs, this years AAT issue, out Sept 9th, features the role of the Husky dog in Antarctic exploration - getting a bit pricy at \$8.85 for the mini sheet and 4 stamps and also looks like no FDC available hmmmm



There haven't been too many famous quotes associated with the US Post Office. The most famous is chiseled in stone above the entrance to the main post office in New York City that says, *"Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds."*

Most people don't realize that the quote is 2,000 years old. It comes from the Greek writer Herodotus, who mailed it in, intending it for the entrance of the post office in ancient Athens.

Rejected PO Slogans:

- Preferred carrier of the Unibomber.
- Neither rain nor sleet nor disgruntled uzi-bearing former employees will keep us from our appointed rounds.
- We know where you live.
- It's not just a job, it's a chance to shoot people.
- You work hard so we don't have to.

Europa postage stamps

Europa stamps are special stamps issued by European postal administrations/enterprises under the aegis of PostEurop in which Europe is the central theme. EUROPA stamps underline cooperation in the posts, taking into account the promotion of philately. They also build awareness of the common roots, culture and history of Europe and its common goals. Since the first issue in 1956, EUROPA stamps have been a tangible symbol of Europe's desire for closer integration and cooperation.

From 1956 to 1993 - The Europa issue (also known as Europa) is an annual joint issue of stamps with a common design or theme by postal administration member of the European Communities (1956-1959), the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT from 1960 to 1992), then the PostEurop Association since 1993. The first Europa issue was 15 September 1956 when the founding 6 members of the ECSC issued stamps with a common design of a tower made up of the letters of the word "EUROPA" and surrounded by construction scaffolding.

In 1959, these stamps were jointly issued by the member countries of the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications, the initials of which ("CEPT") are displayed on the stamps of the joint issue from 1960. There is a common design theme from 1956 to 1973 except 1957. However, many countries issue a stamp that does not feature the common pattern but just displays the word "EUROPA". Common theme issues ran out of steam and after 1973, CEPT allowed countries to issue stamps with different designs. The theme for 2013 was postal vans, and 2014 it is national musical instruments.

As before from 1974, the designs freely reflect a common theme. Of note is the CEPT logo indicating it is a Europa CEPT stamp issue. The success of Europa issues among collectors prompted many postal administrations of small countries or territories dependent of European countries (the Channel Islands for instance) to join the issuing countries in the 70s. The number of participants reached 35 in the 80s. Turkey has participated continuously since 1960, and communist Yugoslavia from 1969. The collapse of the communist bloc brought new issuers to 57 countries in the late 90s.

Since 1993 - When the CEPT decided to focus more on telecommunications in 1993, [PostEurop](#) took over the management of the Europa issues as well as the responsibility for perpetuating the tradition of the EUROPA stamps and ensuring its evolution. Therefore, the CEPT logo has been replaced by a new logo created by PostEurop beginning January 2011, the word "EUROPA" leaning to the right.

In order to promote Europa issues among philatelists, PostEurop created in 2002 an annual competition of the "Best Europa stamp". Until 2006, only representatives of the various postal administrations were entitled to elect the best design, but since 2007, the winner has been elected through an open and public voting procedure on the PostEurop website.



Welcome: Allan welcomed members.

Minutes passed (as in the newsletter) by Pam / Allan.

Matters Arising: no matters this month.

Correspondence: no correspondence this month as Paula was away.

General Business: Pam donated a book titled "Rare and Expensive Postcards". Steven Gray offered to compile a list of library books and update our collection. The next meeting will feature a talk by Leanne Edwards about alternative uses for stamps, so bring anything along.

Items of interest: John G presented an old trailer licence that originally belonged to Len! The *Fair Go* TV report on mailing items; an upcoming new Hobbit sheetlet where star gazers will have a chance to become a movie star by sending in a mug shot that will be converted to a hobbit stamp.

Letter of the Month - A

- Ann Ross - Aussie artists of stage and screen
- Steven Gray - 100 years of WWI ANZACS
- Robert Perrin - showed Aitutaki over-print NZ
- John Glaysier - art on French stamps
- Len Roberts - Antarctic penguins from a Falklands.

The winner was Len

Special Display - Quirky stamps

- Steven Gray had NZ rugby jersey stamps
- Len had butterfly mini sheets and pandas

The meeting was declared closed at 8.20pm.

This month was the annual 8-page competition

- Pam - Lighthouses from the ACE club
- Ann - GB Machin heads
- Robert - Transvaal period of southern Africa
- Drew - earlier NZ Antarctic issues
- Mike - the 100th anniversary of the Royal NZ Philatelic Society
- Mike - the RNZPS chalon m/ sheet issue.
- Drew - the 1931 Arms issue of NZ which is based on the NZ coat of arms

The winner was Robert with 8 votes

His entry traced the issues of this region from declaring independence by the Boer settlers through to recapture as a British colony and eventual inclusion into the Republic of South Africa including all the various overprints this created.

Allan commented that this year there was a good variation in subjects.



Aitutaki, also traditionally known as Araura, Ararau and Utataki, is one of the Cook Islands, north of Rarotonga. It has a population of approximately 2,000. Aitutaki is an "almost atoll". It has a maximum elevation of approximately 123 metres and a land area of 18.05 km². The barrier reef that forms the basis of Aitutaki is roughly the shape of an equilateral triangle with sides 12 km in length. Its fertile volcanic soil provide tropical fruits and vegetables. Two of Aitutaki's 15 islets are also volcanic. The rest are made of coral. Polynesians probably first settled Aitutaki around AD 900.

The first known European contact was with Captain Bligh and the crew of the HMS *Bounty* when they discovered Aitutaki on April 11, 1789. Aitutaki was the first of the Cook Islands to accept Christianity in 1821. In 1942 New Zealand and American forces were stationed on the island, building its two-way airstrip. This airport, and one on the northernmost Penrhyn Island, were to be used as bases by the Allies during World War II.

Two small islands, Rapota and Moturakau, were the locations of the first series of the UK reality television program *Shipwrecked* in 2000. On Feb 10–11, 2010, Aitutaki was hit by Cyclone Pat. Cook Islands stamps were the original source of postage on Aitutaki from 1892 to 1903. In 1903, New Zealand overprinted its own stamps with "AITUTAKI" and the local denomination; these were used as Aitutaki stamps. Only overprinted New Zealand stamps were issued until 1920. In 1920, NZ issued a set of stamps for all of the island nations in which they were associated. These were the first stamps issued for Aitutaki that were not overprints. Starting in 1932, Cook Islands stamps were once again used in Aitutaki as postage. This went on until 1972 when Aitutaki established their own postal service.

The first stamps during this time were actually overprinted Cook Islands stamps, but in April 1973 Aitutaki commenced issuing their own stamps. *The first European visitor probably should have stayed for longer. With the benefit of hindsight Captain William Bligh might have wondered if letting his crew relax on the island for a few days could have relaxed tensions aboard the HMS Bounty in 1789.*

