

Year of the Horse

Personality



Lucky Colors: green, red, purple

Lucky Numbers: 3, 4, 9

Lucky Flowers: giant taro, jasmine

Year of Birth: 1918, 1930, 1942, 1954, 1966, 1978, 1990, 2002, 2014, 2026

Celebrities Born in the Year of the Horse



Louisa May Alcott, Chopin, Davy Crockett, Ella Fitzgerald, Aretha Franklin, Sandra Day O'Connor, Rembrandt, Teddy Roosevelt, Sir Isaac Newton, Barbara Streisand, Cindy Crawford, Cynthia Nixon, Denzel Washington, Harrison Ford, Jason Biggs, Jackie Chan, Jerry Seinfeld, John Travolta, Leonard Bernstein, Oprah Winfrey, Paul McCartney, Rembrandt, Ashton Kutcher, Emma Watson, Josh Hartnett, Katie Holmes, Kristen Stewart, Kobe Bryant, Genghis Khan.

Year of the Horse: IS THIS YOU!!!?

Strengths:

People born in the year of the horse have ingenious communicating techniques and in their community they always want to be in the limelight. They are clever, kind to others, and like to join in a venture career. Although they sometimes talk too much, they are cheerful, perceptive, talented, earthy but stubborn. They like entertainment and large crowds. They are popular among friends, active at work and refuse to be reconciled to failure, although their endeavor cannot last indefinitely.

Weaknesses:

They cannot bear too much constraint. However their interest may be only superficial and lacking real substance. They are usually impatient and hot blooded about everything other than their daily work. They are independent and rarely listen to advice. Failure may result in pessimism. They usually have strong endurance but with bad temper. Flamboyant by nature, they are wasteful since they are not good with matters of finance due to a lack of budgetary efficiency. Some of those who are born in the horse like to move in glamorous circles while pursuing high profile careers. They tend to interfere in many things and frequently fail to finish projects of their own.

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

Club Programme

Tuesday, February 11 : A Social Evening to discuss future Programmes and Speakers and a Buy Sell Swap

Feb Display letter: F

Learn how to draw a horse on page 5 – Design a stamp!!



Published monthly by **Nelson Philatelic Society**

PO Box 16, Nelson 7042

Free to Full Members

Editor: Pam Frahm 47a Martin St., Nelson 7011 **Tel/Fax:** 5476322 **Email:** frahm@ts.co.nz

Celebrities Born in the Year of the Horse





French Polynesia



China



YEAR OF THE HORSE STAMPS



Philippines



New Zealand



Taiwan



Hong Kong



Macau - China



USA



Christmas Island



Viet Nam



Korea



Mail decline changes NZ Post

By **ROB STOCK**

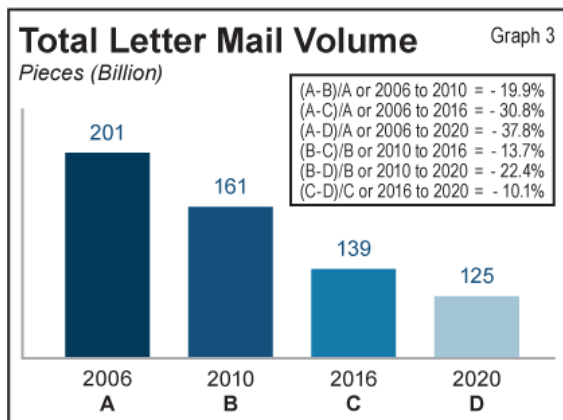
(Sunday Star Times – December 1)

New Zealand Post chief executive Brian Roche says some people contact him out of the blue over the on-going massive restructuring of the postal services to cope with dramatic falls in mail volumes.

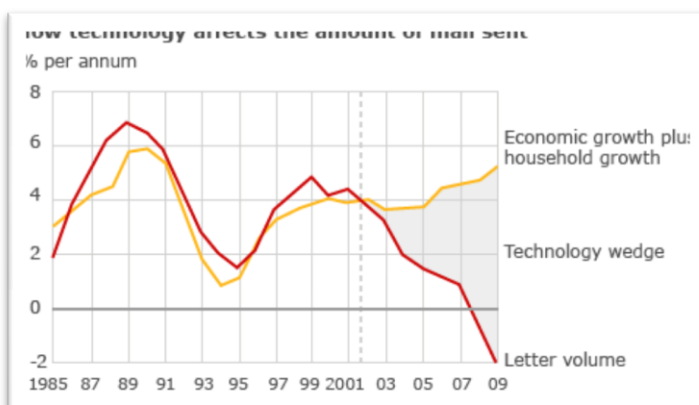
But when they express their view about the ongoing programme to close three out of six mail processing centres and 50 satellite offices along with around 1000 posties being made redundant, they invariably do it online rather than by post.

"When people comment about the changes we are making, they will send me emails rather than letters, which I find ironic," says Roche, who has a reputation as a "fixer" and was brought in to reshape NZ Post.

The decline in the mail is dramatic, with people sending fewer letters and instead preferring to email, text or phone. This trend began in earnest in 2002 and has only been partly offset by the rise in parcel delivery as people buy more online. NZ Post's current infrastructure is built to deliver over a billion mail items a year, yet it handled just 771.5m of them in the past financial year.



USA graph above..... UK graph below



Generally those who decry the changes believe the postal services should be run as a public service, effectively cross-subsidised by its wholly-owned subsidiary, Kiwibank, Roche says.

"Cross subsidisation is something we do not think is sustainable. We want each of our businesses - the courier business, the bank, the postal business - to provide contributions to profits," Roche says.

There is a requirement on state-owned enterprises to make a return for the government, he says. The National government has had a focus recently on owning businesses that are fit for sale.

While it is inconceivable that the postal service would ever be privatised - "It's part of the social fabric of the country", according to Roche - the same may not always be said of the other businesses NZ Post owns. That means the postal business needs to be able to stand alone.

Roche, 58, took over the NZ Post hotseat in 2009, tasked with transforming the institution. That involves not only right-sizing NZ Post, but also building Kiwibank and developing new businesses like its online directory and community business, **Localist**.



Roche is a man with an eye to history and enjoys being involved with events and occupations which define the nation and contribute to nation-building.

When a partner at Coopers & Lybrand, the forerunner of PwC, he spent years on secondment to the Prime Minister's office. He worked under former prime ministers, David Lange, Geoffrey Palmer and Jim Bolger, an experience which taught him much about the workings of power, provided invaluable contacts, and widened his interests.

He has been involved in a number of Treaty of Waitangi settlements including as the Crown's chief negotiator on the giant Ngai Tahu claim, and had his champagne moment as project manager and chairman of the Rugby World Cup 2011 bid when it secured hosting rights for the tournament that ended 24 years of hurt for Kiwi rugby fans. (continued on page 4)

(continued from page 3)

While Roche's career trajectory clearly takes some smarts, he says a person's intellect is not what defines them or earns their reputation. He numbers his best executive traits as his ability to relate to others and, unusually, his humanity.

Although nicknamed "Rocky", Roche denies he's seen as a tough guy or that it relates to his physique. "If anything I'm more on the hobbit side of things," he said. Rather it's a play on words as his surname translates to rock in French.

"People don't think I'm tough. I think I am seen as being very focused, and very humane," he says.

But Roche doesn't find driving change personally burdensome, even with the scale of redundancies that has been involved so far.

"I am really respectful of the impact of those changes, but I am comfortable in my mind of the necessity for these changes."

And, he feels the responsibility rests on more shoulders than just his own. NZ Post is no "CEO cult", he says, with strong support from the board and shareholder.

He believes the majority of the public understand and support the need to modernise. "We have a job to do, and we will do it," he says.

It's not just posties losing their jobs. Middle management has been slimmed, and NZ Post reorganised as a leaner, flatter group of businesses able to change rapidly.

The humble postie riding past your house on a bicycle will increasingly be replaced by vans driving around accompanied by runners jogging alongside delivering letters and parcels. Roche knows this trend will be seen as a markers in New Zealand's history, a moment akin to the disappearance of the milkman.



THE DawK WALLAH – postal runners of India, 1858

Will this be the last round of rationalisation and redundancies? It depends on how low mail volumes fall, but Roche notes the rising penetration of smartphones as likely to put further pressure on letter volumes.

NZ Post isn't the only big project on Roche's plate. Kiwibank, while owned by NZ Post, has national significance as well in being a significant locally-owned player in the sector dominated by Australian-owned retail banks.

Whereas once NZ Post looked like a postal service with a bit of a bank on the side, that position has reversed.

The bank, including its KiwiSaver and insurance businesses, are where much of NZ Post's growth ambitions lie, though digital communications (including facilitating websites for small businesses, **Localist** and the **RealMe** digital identity verification system) and its courier businesses are also potential drivers of growth.



Kiwibank's importance is demonstrated in NZ Post Group's financial results over the past four years.

After tax profits for the group, including Kiwibank, were \$120.2 million (2012-13), \$169.7m (2011-12), -\$35.6m (2010-11) and \$1.3m (2009-10). Kiwibank's profits in those years were \$97m, \$79m, \$21m, and \$46m.

"It (Kiwibank) is currently valued at way more than a billion," Roche says. Not bad, he points out for a bank which has so far had \$360m injected into it by NZ Post, but even that hasn't changed some people's minds.

"There are some people who firmly believe it should not exist," he says.

Roche is not one of them, but accepts political debate over Kiwibank's future is likely to intensify again soon. NZ Post plans to use the \$200m proceeds from the sale of New Zealand Post House in Wellington and the divestment of its 35 per cent stake in Datacom fund Kiwibank's growing capital requirements.

And that discussion will give politicians of all hues something to debate in the run-up to next year's general election.

Could that mean a partial sell-down via a private capital injection?

Roche admits one of the options NZ Post looked at for the once-troubled Localist, was to bring in an outside shareholder.

Considering such a move for Kiwibank would be a political question, he said diplomatically. "That would be a government decision."

- end



IN THE NEWS



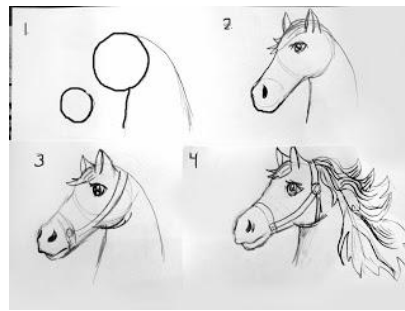
Hungry (Magyar Posta)



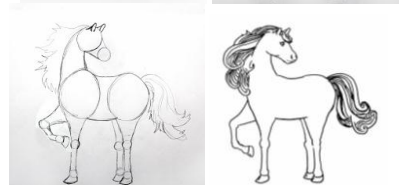
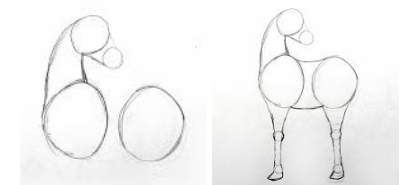
Hong Kong



Tuvalu



Draw your own horse
And design a stamp!



Canada



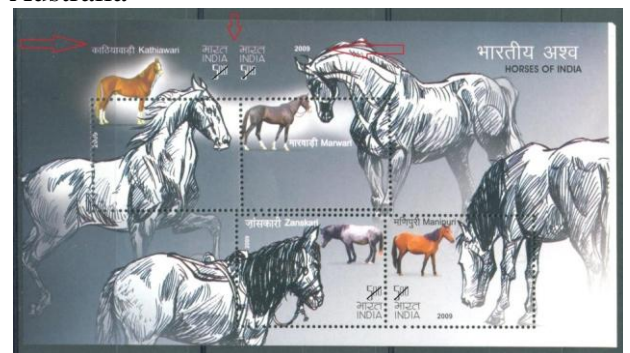
Japan



Chunghwa



Australia



India



Montserrat

Apologies were received from Allan Smellie and Paula Hucklesby. In their absences Deputy President, John Glaisyer chaired the meeting, and Ann Ross deputised for the Secretary.

Welcome: John welcomed all to our final meeting for the year.

Minutes of the November meeting as circulated were taken as read. (Pam Frahm/Klaus Winter)

Matters Arising: Nil

Correspondence In/Out: Nil

General Business:

- Allan is still wanting more circuit books.
- There was a general discussion re NZPO and centralization, and the effects of delaying delivery.
- Len advised that Lyn Nicholl was in Nelson Hospital and requested the club send a card.
- Kelvin displayed 16 pages of postcards from the early 1900's with the theme of "Christmas".

Items of interest: Pam Frahm - envelopes with many stamps

Letter of the Month- Z

- Weldon Lineham - Zehan PO, province of Tasmania (*Winner*)
- Robert Perrin - Zulu land
- Kelvin Trower - Zepex

Special Display – Christmas:

- Weldon Lineham - NZ Christmas issue,
- Ann Ross - early Canada Christmas issue,
- Barry Jackson - Christmas Island
- Kelvin Trower - Pitcairn Christmas issue,
- **Len Roberts - Samoa (*Winner*)**

The meeting was declared closed at 8:10

Program: a relaxed social supper time and an entertaining Dutch auction under the hammer of Len.

Next meeting – 11 February 2014; letter F

Farewell to Laurie Dale
Who passed away on January 16



Speaking to us in May on Postal History night.

**SAVE THIS....
LETTER OF THE
MONTH FOR 2014**

March - J	Aug - M
April - Q	Sept - T
May - V	Oct - A
June - B	Nov - S
July - G	Dec - C



A first day cover I just bought off ebay featuring a Vatican stamp, depicting my 6x great cousin... John Carroll. First Archbishop to the United States and founder of Georgetown University, below a FDC of his statue on a US prepaid postcard. (Pam)

