

THE NEW ZEALAND

STAMP MONTHLY



This stamp, part of a set to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the death of President Roosevelt, shows the President engrossed in his favourite hobby — stamp collecting.

VOL. 3. No. 9.

DECEMBER, 1970.



Christmas Greetings

25c

NEW ZEALAND COMMEMORATIVE ISSUES (Cont'd)

		Mint		Used				Mint		Used	
		\$	c	\$	c			\$	c	\$	c
1953	Coronation	1.00	.90			1965	Centenary of Govt. in Wel-				
2d	blue	.04	.03				ington	.07	.03		
	ditto, pale blue	.12	.10			1965	I.C.Y.	.07	.03		
3d	chocolate	.05	.02				ditto, Wmk Inverted	3.00	.50		
4d	carmine	.15	.15			1965	Parliamentary Conference	1.25	1.25		
8d	grey	.30	.30			4d	multicoloured	.10	.10		
1/6d	purple & ultramarine	.45	.45			9d	multicoloured	.25	.25		
1953	Royal Visit	.15	.10			2/-	multicoloured	1.00	1.00		
3d	violet	.06	.03				ditto, Retouch R 10/10	5.00	5.00		
4d	blue	.12	.10			1966	Scout Jamboree	.07	.04		
1955	Stamp Centenary	.22	.18			1967	P.O.S.B. Centenary	.20	.20		
2d	brown & green	.04	.03			4d	multicoloured	.07	.05		
3d	rosy-lake	.06	.03			9d	multicoloured	.15	.18		
	ditto, carmine-lake	.10	.05			1967	Royal Society Centenary	.30	.30		
4d	black & pale blue	.12	.12			4c	multicoloured	.10	.08		
	ditto, black & pale ultramarine	.12	.12				ditto, Multipositive flaws R				
1956	Southland Centenary	.45	.45				1/10, 2/8 (6)	1.00	—		
2d	deep green	.05	.04				ditto, Flaw R 7/10 (□)	3.00	—		
3d	brownish-sepia	.06	.04				ditto, Wmk Inverted	4.00	—		
	ditto, sepia	.12	.09			8c	multicoloured	.25	.25		
8d	slate-violet & red	.40	.40				ditto, Retouch R 1/10 & flaw				
1957	Frozen Meat Anniversary	.65	.60				R 1/8 (6)	2.00	—		
4d	bright blue	—	.15			1968	Centenary Maori Bible	.06	.03		
	ditto, Wmk Inverted	2.50	2.00				Wmk Inverted	—	7.00		
8d	deep orange	.50	.50			1968	Armed Services	.70	.60		
1957	Plunket Society Jubilee	.06	.03			4c	multicoloured	.08	.06		
1958	Trans-Tasman Anniversary	.15	.10			10c	multicoloured	.20	.15		
1958	Nelson City Centenary	.06	.03			28c	multicoloured	.50	.50		
1958	Hawke's Bay Centenary	.55	.50				ditto, Wmk Inverted	1.00	1.50		
2d	yellow-green	.05	.05			1968	Universal Suffrage	.06	.03		
3d	blue	.05	.03			1968	Human Rights	.20	.15		
8d	red-brown	.50	.50			1969	I.L.O.	.12	.10		
1959	Scout Jamboree	.08	.03			1969	Law Society Centenary	.50	.45		
1959	Marlborough Centenary	.55	.50			3c	multicoloured	.05	.03		
2d	green	.05	.04			10c	multicoloured	.18	.15		
3d	deep blue	.05	.03			18c	multicoloured	.30	.30		
8d	brown	.50	.50			1969	Otago University Centenary	.20	.17		
1959	Red Cross	.10	.05			3c	multicoloured	.05	.03		
1960	Westland Centenary	.60	.55			10c	multicoloured	.16	.15		
2d	green	—	.04			1969	Bay of Islands 150th Anniv.	.18	.20		
3d	orange	.06	.04			4c	multicoloured	.07	.07		
8d	grey	.55	.55			6c	multicoloured	.12	.15		
1962	Telegraph Centenary	.55	.50			1969	Cook Bi-Centenary	.75	.80		
3d	brown & green	—	.03			4c	multicoloured	.07	.05		
	ditto, Retouches (various)	4.00	.50			6c	multicoloured	.10	.10		
8d	grey & red	.50	.50			18c	multicoloured	.25	.28		
1963	Railway Centenary	.65	.65			28c	multicoloured	.40	.42		
3d	multicoloured	.10	.05				Souvenir Sheets	.85	.95		
1/9	multicoloured	.60	.60			1969	Corso Anniversary	.20	.22		
1963	"Compac" Cable	.60	.60			7c	multicoloured	.10	.10		
1964	Road Safety	.06	.03			8c	multicoloured	.12	.12		
	ditto, "Apostrophe" Flaw					1970	Cardigan Bay	.15	.15		
	(□M)	1.50	.50			1970	Expo	.50	.55		
1965	Anzac Anniversary	.30	.22			7c	multicoloured	.12	.12		
4d	bistre	.08	.04			8c	multicoloured	.15	.15		
	ditto, chestnut	.12	.07			18c	multicoloured	.28	.30		
5d	green & red	.25	.20			1970	United Nations	.20	.17		
1965	I.T.U. Centenary	.20	.20			3c	blue, green & brown	.05	.03		
1965	Churchill	.15	.12			10c	red & yellow	.15	.15		

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4	1948 Silver Wedding	10.00	5	Olympic Games	.86
7	1951 Festival	.32	9	1957 Scout Jamboree	2.49
10	Parliamentary Conference	.91	11	1958 Empire Games	2.14
12	1960 General Letter Office	3.07	13	Europa	2.77
14	1961 P.O.S.B.	1.58	15	C.E.P.T.	.49
16	Parliamentary Conference	1.75	17	Productivity	1.50
18	Freedom from Hunger	1.40	19	Paris Conference	.41
20	Nature Week	.39	21	Lifeboat Conference	1.89
22	Red Cross	2.24	23	Cable	1.40
24	Shakespeare	2.63	25	Geographical	2.19
26	Botanical	1.93	27	Forth Bridge	.39
28	Churchill	.39	29	700th Parliament Ann.	.88
30	Salvation Army	.88	31	Lister	.44
32	Arts Festival	.74	33	Battle of Britain	1.96
34	Post Office Tower	.37	35	United Nations	.53
36	I.T.U.	.86	37	Robert Burns	.49
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46	E.F.T.A.	.39	47	1967 Flowers	.79
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UNUSUAL ITEMS

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British Solomon Islands Illegal proofs of larges canoes — coloured	\$30.00
Cook Is. Churchill Overprints, 4d value — wide spacing between 2 top lines. mint pair	\$1.00
Cook Is. Churchill, Misplaced "IN". R3/3. Short set only (3/- value missing). 5 pairs	\$20.00
1882 Second Sideface. 2d Mauve perforated through centre of stamps. Strip of 6	\$50.00

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NEW PLYMOUTH.



Christmas Greetings and a Happy New Year

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Christmas Greetings and a very Happy New Year to our many readers.

TOO MANY NEW ISSUES

"Stamps Lose Significance" was the heading of the third leader in "The New Zealand Herald" of 20 October. We feel that this article will be of interest to all readers and it is reproduced in full.

"An issue of the new postage stamps was once an event of note. Now it has become almost a monthly occurrence. Indeed, one of the greatest difficulties of the stamp industry seems to be finding occasions to justify the launching of fresh motifs.

The Chatham Islands stamps which will appear in December may well bear attractive designs. But, with stamps as with banknotes, the skill of the artist adds nothing to the value of currency if it has been debased by extravagant printing.

Too many new stamps are appearing. The line-up for the first six months of next year is almost ludicrously long. As well as seven new definitive stamps, nine commemorative stamps are planned for that period. They will honour such things as One Ton Cup yachting and the 10th anniversary of the Antarctic Treaty.

Commemorative stamps are a useful form of national advertising and a significant source of revenue. But the circumstances they commemorate should at least justify the issue of a stamp; otherwise we merely advertise an odd sense of history and expose a mercenary intent.

Too many different types of stamps also confuse the public. Since stamps are for postage first and philately second, the requirements of the user merit precedence over those of the collector".

Acknowledgment to Pacific Stamp Journal

TONGA

"Pacific Islands Monthly" reports that Tonga is considering the idea of producing stamps that smell by fixing a tiny capsule of banana oil to the back of a non-lick "banana" stamp — some collectors think Tongan stamps stink enough now!

PRICE FREEZE

The Prize Freeze does not affect stamps. Stamps are termed second hand goods.

LEN JURY.

GIBBONS AS SEEN BY THE CITY PUNDITS

The Stanley Gibbons share price has not had a happy time since its debut two years ago. Offered by tender at 12/6d. the striking price was pitched at 20/- and great things were expected. But profits have not been living up to their early promise and the shares are now pretty friendless at 13/-.

The dull performance is surprising against a background of growing interest in philately, but the board blames general economic uncertainties. Last year it missed its forecast, and in the first six months of the current year pre-tax profits were down from £88,139 to £67,134.

Better things are looked for in the usually more buoyant second half, but it is beyond the current year that prospects seem much brighter.

The link with the Crown Agents that have bought 20 per cent. of the Gibbons equity, opens up big potential. The Crown Agents role in the stamp world is the production and distribution of new stamps for about 60 countries. There will now be closer co-operation between the two organisations with exhibitions overseas representation.

Meanwhile, Gibbons is reported to have had a very good Philymphia. And the first two volumes of the Gibbons Great Britain Stamp Catalogue are being reprinted only six weeks after publication when they were expected to last for at least two years.

Though Gibbons has made an unimpressive start to the investment scene, its long-term prospects look good.

"Sunday Telegraph"
(City Section)

NICARAGUA

25th ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

On 11th November Nicaragua is releasing a set of six airmail stamps commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the death of Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

The stamps all feature photographs of the late President of the U.S.A. and those on the 15 cent and 1 Cordoba denominations are most apt as they show Mr. Roosevelt examining his stamp collection.

Release date: 12th October, 1970.
Printer: Lito Nacional—Portugal.

PHILATELIC THOUGHTS

MURRAY WING

A few days ago I was privileged to see the strip of five 3c 1970 Christmas stamps (top row) with the top panel completely blank. Thus the words "New Zealand Christmas 1970 3c" are entirely missing. I was pleased to have the opportunity of sharing with Mr. Bill Nicholson his pleasure in acquiring the kind of variety one dreams about.

From time to time I have been testing one or two Brownies for their collectors' badge. It may be an indication of the growing popularity of stamp collecting but imagine my surprise the other evening when no fewer than 6 Girl Guides presented themselves for testing for their badge at one time.

The level of interest in philately is sometimes a good indication of the state of the country's economy. Since the mini-budget was announced local stamp dealers have been experiencing the affects of a shock-wave. That is a wait and see attitude on the part of the collector before they make any large purchases for their collections.

The recent trend of including relatively high values in commemorative or special stamp issues (the recent 10c Christmas is an example) seems to be meeting with consumer resistance. If this continues (the average collector simply cannot afford it) the authorities may be killing the goose that lays the golden egg.

Good used copies of recent commemoratives however are not plentiful and such N.Z. issues as Expo 70, Corso, and Cook Bicentenary are worthwhile acquisitions before supplies are fully depleted.

Comparative newcomer to the stamp dealing business in these parts is Allan Todd who operates from Tawa and who I understand has taken over from Jos Gregson who left N.Z. recently to reside in the United Kingdom.

FIJI ERROR

Arnold Paddock writing in "Western Stamp Collector" U.S.A. reports that there is an error of fact in the design of the 3c Explorers & Discoverers of Fiji issue. This is entitled "Capt. Cook and Endeavour 1774"—Cook was sailing on the "Resolution" in 1774 when he discovered Vatoa.

TO OUR MANY GOOD FRIENDS AND CUSTOMERS, WE EXTEND THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON, AND WE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR VALUED CUSTOM, IN HELPING TO MAKE THE YEAR JUST CONCLUDED, A MOST SUCCESSFUL ONE.

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POSTMARK CORNER

by A. F. WATTERS

Firstly let me wish all my readers a very happy Christmas and a brighter New Year as each goes around collecting postal history. To those travelling by car please be careful as you travel over our roads. Remember to take a supply of stamped addressed envelopes with you so that you can post one at each post office.

Mr. S. Soper, Christchurch, writes "I am enclosing a datestamp impression from Murchison, which you will see is spelt with "G" instead of a "C". I have never seen it spelt this way and wonder if it is an oddity." On looking at this copy I wondered if my copies were the same and so checked my collection and find that my copies since 1958 look as though it has a "G", my earliest copy of this datestamp, 8 September 1922, shows that it has a thicker base opening on the "C" and this has no doubt worn till it looks like a "G". I have written to the Postmaster and he advises "Thank you for your recent enquiry about the letter "C" on our postal datestamp. I have examined the datestamp type carefully and compared the impression of today with impressions of other years on old documents held at this office. It seems obvious from these studies that the letter "C" has become malformed through use over the years."

Kingston Heights (Wellington): This post office opened with full postal facilities on the 19th October in leased premises at the corner of Quebec and Montreal Streets in Wellington.

7th Far East Scout Conference (Wellington): I said that this post office was to have a steel datestamp. However it was issued with a rubber composite one. It appears that they used different colour inks on different days.

Studholme Junction (Timaru): This post office which opened on 1st November 1877 under the name of Waimate Junction closed on the 31st August 1970. The post moved with the railway station in 1879 and changed its name to Studholme on the 21 September 1880. This was a very busy station in those days and the NZR had just taken over the Waimate branch line from the Waimate Railway Company. Though it was privately owned it was worked by the Railways Department. By 1883 the line went to Waihao Downs, with up to three passenger trains each way, a day, plus, of course, goods trains too. However the line was cut back to Waimate and completely closed a couple of years ago. This spelt the death of Studholme for it was no longer a junction and when the attendant was removed from the station the post office closed.

Mount Maunganui South (Rotorua): Late in the afternoon of the 11 June 1970 this office had what is a most unusual error. The post office code which appears on the registration labels was inverted but only on one sheet of five labels. The postmaster here said that all the rest of the printing which will last for 12 months at least was checked but this sheet of five are the only errors. I know where one is but wonder where the other four are.

Tokoroa (Hamilton): A new post office opened on the 19 October 1970 and used a special datestamp on all souvenir mail posted that day. It was clearly applied to the mail and shows just what can be done in this field. (Congratulations to the Department on this datestamp.)

Mt. Cook Airlines Inaugural Flight. The covers carried on this flight were serviced with a special datestamp showing a Hawker Siddeley 748 aircraft above the jagged peaks of the South Alps. All mail was backstamped at Queenstown by being put through the machine without a slogan in it.

I received a most interesting letter from a reader in Jamaica who mentioned he had a cover in his collection which his father bought in a bundle of covers at a stamp auction in Petone many years ago. It bears the manuscript marking of "Posted to receiver in Van F 436 / under repairs Add Shops / 16 May '47 (the word "Add" refers to Addington Railway Workshops).

There is a signature but it can't be deciphered. It was posted at Christchurch two days later and this no doubt the reason it was not surcharged by the post office for it bears a 1d Universal stamp and was addressed to a firm in Christchurch. All this is the result of posting letters in the letter box in the guards van and having the letter fall into a crack and not being found until the van is being dismantled. I am hoping to get a photo of this cover in due course. I found one other cover of this type reported on in "The New Zealand Postal Historian" Vol. 2 No. 1 June 1960. The wording on it said "Posted in van F449 / under Repair Add Shops / 4-4-60 JS" and was posted at Timaru 8 April 1960.

Railway Traveling Post Offices: The post office held an inquiry last year into the running of the two remaining railway travelling post offices. The previous one was held in 1956 and it was decided to keep this running as they do a very useful service in speeding mail around the North Island of New Zealand. Actually there are two R.T.P.O.'s, one attached to the daily south bound express from Auckland and the other to the north bound express from Wellington. Readers wanting covers cancelled should address the stamped addressed covers to the Railway Agent, Railway Travelling P.O., at either Auckland or Wellington. Both use a datestamp showing "IN" or "OUT" so ask if you want both but of course they have to be used on different covers and then each cover must have 3c extra postage for "Late Fee".



QUICKSALES NO. 8

P.O. BOX 174, NEW PLYMOUTH.

HOW TO BID

NOTE LOT NUMBER of each item in which you are interested together with your maximum bid. Each page should include your printed name and full address. Please note last date for mailing bids. Overseas buyers please airmail offers.

Cat. no's and values S.G. Simplified 1970 unless marked.

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ABBREVIATIONS

F.D.C.—First Day Cover

U—Used

F.U.—Fine Used

M—Mint

V.F.U.—Very Fine Used—

Circular cancels.

O/P—Overprint

BIDS MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN THE 30th DECEMBER.

Lot No.	Estimate	Lot No.	Estimate	Lot No.	Estimate
NEW ZEALAND WHOLESALE — USED					
752 1946 Peace ½d (100), 1d (50), 1½d (50), 2d (80)	2.50	792 do. 1963 (90), 1964 (110), 1965 (30)	2.25	821 do. Second shade. Retouch R1/6	3.50
753 do. 4d (40), 5d (50)	2.25	793 do. 1966 (210), 1967 (140)	2.00	822 1967 Timber 10c M. Brown colour shift. Quite spectacular	2.00
754 do. 6d (120)	2.50	794 do. 1968 (170), 1969 (240)	2.00	823 do. Green colour shift	1.00
755 do. 8d (5), 9d (25), 1/- (10)	4.00	795 Health 1947 1d (50), 2d (50)	1.50	824 Capt. Cook Miniature Sheet with official Tarapex Exhibition overprint	2.00
756 1963 Coronation 2d (160), 4d (10)	2.20	796 do. 1948 1d (70), 2d (60), 1949 1d (60), 2d (110)	4.00	825 COLLECTIONS.	
757 do. 3d (830)	5.00	797 do. 1950 1d (30), 2d (50), 1953 1½d (110), 2d (80)	5.00	1949 U.P.U. MINT. Stated to be complete. Normals cat. \$470. Plus numerous special souvenir sheets, Imperfs, special surcharges. Scarce German and Vatican sets. British section has toning on number of stamps. (Cat. \$48.) Neatly mounted in three specially printed Albums. Est. \$200	
758 do. 8d (5), 1/6 (8)	2.50	798 do. 1954 1½d (130), 2d (80)	4.00	826 1953 Q.E. Coronation. M. Set out in special presentation album. Cat. £10. Est. \$10.00	
759 1953 Royal Visit 3d (320), 4d (30)	4.00	799 do. 1955 1½d (26), 2d (100), 3d (200)	6.00	827 Relief Postmarks. Teteko (7 No. 69) Coach Corner (7 JL 70)	1.00
760 1955 Stamp Cent. 2d (200), 4d (20)	3.50	800 do. 1956 1½d (30), 2d (70), 3d (140)	4.50	828 do. Kapuni-u (27 Mr 30)	1.00
761 do. 3d (540)	3.25	801 do. 1957 2d (180), 3d (298)	6.50	LATE LOTS	
762 1956 Southland 2d (770)	7.50	802 do. 1958 2d (120), 3d (160)	4.00	829 170 Australian States Mix. Some duplication. Cat. 66/-. Est. 2.00	
763 do. 3d (1550)	9.00	803 do. 1959 2d (40), 3d (130), 1960 2d (50); 3d (100)	4.20	830 65 Rhodesia (36 1/- 1966) Cat. 105/-. Est. 2.50	
764 1957 Plunket 3d (960)	7.50	804 do. 1961 2d (60), 3d (80), 1962 2½d (40), 3d (130)	4.00	831 Vatican S.G. 47, 49, 50. Cat. £20.15.0. Some toning Est. 10.00	
765 1968 Nelson 3d (190)	1.25	805 do. 1963 2½d (80), 3d (120), 1964 2½d (100), 3d (310)	8.00	832 Cyprus. 1964 U.N. Overprints Cat. 30/3. Est. 1.00	
766 1958 Hawke's 2d (260)	2.20	806 do. 1965 3d (50), 4d (100), 1966 3d (60), 4d (100)	5.00	833 New Zealand 1961 Xmas (M) 30. Cat. C.P. 22.50. Est. 7.50	
767 do. 3d (350)	2.00	870 do. 1967 2½c (50), 3c (100), 1968 2½c (43), 3c (190)	5.00	834 New Zealand Xmas M. 1961 (15), 1962 (15). Cat. C.P. 14.50. Est. 6.00	
768 1959 Scout 3d (120), 1967 4d (70)	1.30	808 do. 1969 2½c (60), 3c (270)	3.50	835 New Zealand Xmas M. 1963 (24). Including Donkey Nose flaw. Cat. 4.00 Est. 2.00	
769 1959 Marl. 2d (120), 3d (540)	4.50	FLAWS AND VARIETIES			
770 1959 Red Cross 4d (98)	1.50	809 1960 Rata 8d M. R1/9 Flaw and Retouch	1.50	836 New Zealand 1930 Health M. (21). All with toning. 2 bad crease, 1 torn. Cat. \$63. (One block.) Est. 18.00	
771 1960 Westland 2d (160), 3d (350)	3.25	810 do. R1/-1 Flaw and Retouch	1.50		
772 1963 Telegraph 3d (400)	2.00	812 1970 Royalty 10c M. Inv. Wmk.	2.00		
773 1963 Railway 3d (300)	2.00	813 do. on First Day Cover	3.00		
774 1960 Pict. ½d (500), 2d (400)	1.50	814 1970 Butterfly 1c M. Inv. Wmk: Plate Block (6)	5.00		
775 do. 1d (600), 2½d (300), 3d (400), 4d (1,000)	1.00	815 do. pair, Inv. Wmk., one with selvedge	1.00		
776 do. 5d (400), 6d (500)	2.00	816 1966 Koromiko 7d M. Inv. Wmk. pair one with selvedge	2.00		
777 do. 7d (25), 9d (60), 1/6 (60)	2.00	817 do. Plate block 1B (12) Inv. Wmk.	10.00		
778 do. 8d (400), 1/- (500).	3.00	818 1967 Tongariro 3/- M. Scarce second shade. Inv. Wmk. Mint pair with selvedge	40.00		
779 do. 1/3 (470)	3.00	819 do. M. Single Inv. Wmk.	15.00		
780 1964 Road Safe. 3d (450)	2.00	820 do. M. Corner block of four. Inv. Wmk.	85.00		
781 1965 ICY 4d (160), Govt. 4d (80), P.O.S.B. 4d (250)	2.25				
782 1968 Bible 3c (400)	2.00				
783 1968 Suffrage 3c (500)	2.50				
784 1969 Law 3c (500)	2.00				
785 1969 Otago 3c (680)	2.50				
786 1969 Cook 4c (360)	7.50				
787 1969 Cook 18c (189)	24.00				
788 1969 Wool 18c (200)	9.00				
789 1970 Meat 20c (200)	5.00				
790 1970 Expo 18c (150)	18.00				
791 Christmas 1960 (80), 1961 (130), 1962 (70)	4.00				

SPECTACULAR NEW VARIETY IN OFFSET PRINTING

by Arthur Dexter

Since I wrote my article on How to Evaluate Varieties, a new type of variety has been discovered that will rank in interest and rarity with "double print one albino" and "missing colour".

Mr. John Elmes of Taranaki discovered three sheets of the U.N. 3c issue with what is, I believe, an impression over the whole sheet, of the last job that was done in the same printing press. It is the "Blanket impression" of a previous job in an offset press.

To understand these varieties one must have some knowledge of the printing process involved. Each of these varieties is peculiar to a different method of printing.

The recess, or intaglio, process is well known and understood, and also its counterpart photogravure. The printing process in each case is similar, the main difference lies in making the printing plate.

In recent years an entirely new printing process has come into considerable use by De La Rue and Bradbury Wilkinson Ltd., a surface printing offset process commonly called offset lithography. The photographically treated plate is etched similar to the plate used in photogravure, except that the design part is raised instead of being recessed as in photogravure.

This plate is wrapped around a cylinder for use in a rotary press, and is inked in the usual way. This impression then rolls against a hard rubber cylinder called a "blanket" cylinder and transfers the inked design to this, which in turn transfers the ink to the paper. There is no wiper or "doctor" blade used.

The success of this process depends on the ability of the impression cylinder to transfer the ink faithfully to the blanket cylinder. Anything that affects this ink transfer produces a variety on the sheet of stamps. After the offset press has been running for a short time the blanket cylinder acquires the ability to transfer ink better in the design in contact with the impression cylinder than in other parts. When a job is finished the blanket cylinder is usually ground or machined to remove a minute portion of the surface in order to clean off the "old impression". If this is not done, or not done properly, the first few sheets of the next job will allow the blanket cylinder to transfer ink better in the old design and while printing

the design of the impression cylinder faithfully the design of the previous job will appear as well.

This is what has occurred in the last three sheets of the 3c U.N. stamps found by Mr. Elmes. On about 16 stamps of each sheet lines of letters forming words appear in the blue colour of the sky. On other parts of the sheet there are shaded rectangular areas, as of the outline of pictures and in some parts there are irregular slopes. The design is stronger on one sheet and much weaker on another.

These three sheets are all 1A plates, so there should be at least another three 1B sheets which could have all been used. The foreign design, while faint, is readily seen in the blue sky in a good light.

This type of variety could be found in any issue printed by Deltacryl or offset lithography, which are both similar, and would be dependent on the following factors.

1. A blanket cylinder not properly cleaned.
2. A stamp with a large plain area of a weak colour.
3. The sheets getting past examiners in the printing works and the P.O.
4. If a press is stopped to put in a new printing plate, or to do some repair to the plate, and the press used for another job in the meantime, the probability of this type of variety is increased.

Dear Sir,

I enclose a Plate and Imprint Block of the current 2 cent Pictorial (1970 issue) with inverted watermark, for readers interest. Also, I enclose several value blocks from Plate 1B1B1B1B of the 1967 two cent Pictorial. A small variety occurred in the black 1B plate early in the issue, this being the "NF" variety.

It is peculiar to Plate 1B1B1B1B. Evidently the black 1B Plate had a certain amount of foreign matter lodged in the letters "New Zealand" and "Kowhai" at ROW 4/10 and ROW 5/10 respectively. The cells which take up the ink in the 1B black cylinder were partly filled with dirt. As a result only parts of the black letters were printed.

Gradually, however, it seems that this foreign matter was forced out of these recesses and the letters "New Zealand" were printed complete.

Row 4/10 in an early state shows weakness around "New", the letter "E" being an "F" (F, full stop). Final stages show a completely printed "E".

Row 5/10 also shows weakness in all black letters especially "NEW ZEA" and "KOWHAI".

These flaws, in progressive stages, were constant over the printing of Plate 1B1B1B1B. Constant black flaws in the same block from Plates 1B1B1B1B and 1B1B1B2B match up. This therefore is the same black plate.

In the top margin at Row 2/10 there is a small black hairlike, constant over the printing of both plates. In some states this, and other small flaws are not present at all.

These flaws are not retouches, but only the progression of a flaw, as ink is gradually taken up by the black plate into the letters "NEW ZEALAND".

I collected a small number of these varieties over the period of a year—as yet no-one else seems to have found any examples. It is highly probable that others may have these in their own collections.

J. F. Shaw

2½c VARIETIES

Auckland.

Dear Sir,

The following is a list of further varieties (additional to those sent by Mr. R. G. Darge) on this stamp and includes flaws and touching up, chiefly to the Blue cylinder.

1A1A1A1A:

4/6, 6/5, 12/8.

1B1B1B1B:

1/2, 2/2, 3/1, 4/6.

2A1A1A1A

1/6, 15/2, 15/9 (green), 15/10, 18/1, 18/2, 18/9.

2B1B1B1B

1/2, 1/5, 1/10, 4/6, 5/7, 11/5, 16/1, 18/5, 18/7.

2A2A2A3A

1/10, 19/9.

2B2B2B3B

8/5, 19/1.

Some that occur on more than one cylinder are multipositive flaws which are very similar although not always identical. There may be other differences on the same stamp. If a person was shown single copies of 1A 19/1 (R. G. Darge list) and 3B 19/1 and asked if they were the same stamp, there would be some difficulty in giving a definite answer.

Arthur Dexter

COOK IS. & GREAT BRITAIN CHOOSE SAME CHRISTMAS DESIGNS

British Christmas Stamps Inspired by 14th Century Manuscript

The 14th century de Lisle Psalter in the British Museum has provided the designs for these three Christmas stamps to be issued on November 25th by the British Post Office—the last Christmas stamps to be issued in non-decimal currency.

The stamps depict nativity scenes from the Psalter and were designed by 28-year-old Sally Stiff, a children's book illustrator, who had to obtain special permission to study the manuscript.

For second-class mailing of Christmas cards, the 4d. value shows an angel and shepherds in the fields; the 5d. value is of the infant Christ in the manger and the 1s./6d. shows the wise men before the Madonna and Child.

Background colours are vermilion, mauve and olive green respectively, but all the stamps have as many as seven or eight colours incorporated in the design.

On the first page of the de Lisle Psalter are the arms of England, France and the two East Anglian Kings and martyrs, St. Edmund and St. Ethelbert. The psalter was given by Robert de Lisle, Lord of Rougemont and Comeldon, in central England, to his daughter Audere in 1339, and is now bound up with part of another 14th-century psalter. Both manuscripts came into the possession of Lord William Howard of Haworth, Cumberland, in the late 16th century and were later passed to his nephew Thomas Howard, Earl of Arundel.

While the work of the artist of the de Lisle manuscript shows early 14th century English painting at its most imposing, that of the second artist is in a softer style, revealing the influence of the important illuminator Jean Pucelle, who was active in Paris during 1320 to 1360.

COOK ISLANDS

STAMP DESIGNS FOR 1970 CHRISTMAS MAILED ISSUE

The new designs for the 1970 Christmas season mails continue the traditions of the past four years Cook Islands Christmas Issues, which picture birth of Christ scenes appropriate to the religious season.

The sheet margins of the past three years Christmas issues reproduced illuminated manuscripts of mediaeval times. This year's issue carries this tradition one step further: A full fourteenth century manuscript page, presently in the British Museum, has been reproduced in multicoloured photogravure printing on parchmentlike paper.

After acceptance of the designs for the issue in January of this year, many months were required for the completion of printing in six colours plus a gold metallic colour, before despatch to Raro-

tonga where it will be placed on sale November 30th.

The combination of religious subjects, plus the exquisite beauty normal to the rare illuminated manuscript pages, is most suitable to Christmas stamp designs and sheet margins — providing the finest equipment is available for their production — and it is noted that other Post Offices of the World have begun to also use this style of illustrative material on their stamps for the Christmas season.

Sheet Size: At the request of Post Office Patrons, this year's Christmas Season Issue is being printed in smaller sheets than last year, this provides easier handling, and complies with the wishes of Post Office Patrons who often use the identifying label in the sheets, and some of the colourful margins to decorate their Christmas mail. However, the decision on this was also influenced by the fact that the small sheet also better conveys the original illuminated manuscript page.

MALTA

CHRISTMAS STAMPS 1970

The latest in the series of Christmas stamps issued by Malta since 1964 are illustrated in this issue. The 1d stamp depicts a Christmas Eve procession with the statue of the Child Jesus — a Christmas event characteristic to Malta and Gozo; the 10d stamp portrays the Nativity, and the 1s. 6d stamp shows the shepherds searching their way to the place where Christ the Lord was born.

Three local churches form the background in these stamps to emphasize the principal feature on Christmas day — the traditional midnight Mass. The prominent display of the Star of Bethlehem and the flight of Angles is an augury of hope in a trouble-torn world for a lasting peace based on the Christmas message: "Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to men of good will".

This year, as in the case of last year's issue, the stamps bear an additional charge which will be wholly used by the Government of Malta for the support of Child Welfare Organizations.

The postage value, additional charge and selling price of the stamps are as follows.

Postage Value 1d, Additional Charge ½d, Selling Price 1½d; Postage Value 10d, Additional Charge 2d, Selling Price 1s. 0d; Postage Value 1s. 6d, Additional Charge 3d, Selling Price 1s. 9d.

The technical details of the stamps are as shown hereunder:-

Release date: 7th November, 1970. Designer: Chev. E. V. Cremona. Printer: Government Printer, Jerusalem, Israel. Process: Photogravure. Watermark: Maltese Crosses. Size: 30mm. x 25.7mm. Perforation: 14 x 13 (comb).

GAMES ISSUE

The 1974 Christchurch Commonwealth Games Committee unsuccessfully applied to the Post Office for a commemorative stamp with a surcharge for the Games. The Committee has now applied for a commemorative stamp — without surcharge.

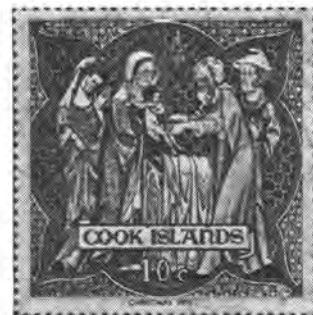
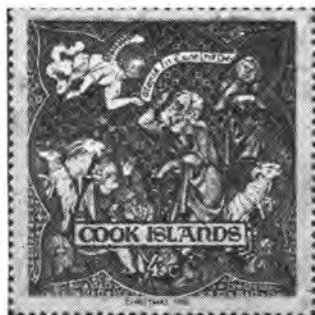
CHRISTMAS 1970

GT. BRITAIN

25 NOV 1970



COOK IS.
30 NOV 1970



MALTA
7 NOV 1970



BAHAMAS
3 NOV 1970



BRITISH HONDURAS
2 NOV 1970



ST. KITTS
16 NOV 1970



GIBRALTAR
1 DEC 1970



NEW HEBRIDES
30 NOV 1970



CYPRUS
23 NOV 1970



CHRISTMAS ISSUES

British Honduras

British Honduras. Christmas 1970. Release date: 2nd November, 1970. Designer: J. E. Cooter. Printer: J. Waddington of Kirkstall Ltd. Process: Lithography. z z

From amongst the wealth of works of art, British Honduras have chosen two more famous paintings, depicting the "Nativity" to be reproduced on a six value set of stamps in honour of Christmas 1970.

The ½, 10, and 22 cents denominations are a reproduction of the "Nativity" by Arthur Hughes which is to be found in the Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery.

The 5, 15, and 50 cents denominations reproduce a detail of the "Mystical Nativity" by Sandro Botticelli which is to be found in the National Gallery, London.

New Hebrides

Christmas this year is being celebrated by the Condominium of New Hebrides by the release of stamps depicting "The Virgin and Child", by Giovanni Bellini and Giovanni Cima.

Bellini was born in Venice around 1430 and he and his brother studied under their father, a well-known painter of the period. Subsequently Giovanni moved on to Padua where he became an ardent follower of Andrea Mantegna (who was to marry his sister in later years). In 1475 Bellini met Antonello and from this moment his paintings achieved a magnificence which led him to be respected as one of the greatest artists of his time. He died in 1516. Giovanni Battista Cima da Conegliano was born thirty years after Bellini and, as he was also a Venetian, he was very greatly influenced by the older artist. His work was also influenced by that of Antonello. He died in 1517-18.

Release Date: 30th November, 1970. Designer: V. Whiteley. Printer: Harrison & Sons Ltd. Process: Lithography. Watermark: English Version — C.A. Block. French Version — Unwatermarked. Set: 25.

Cyprus

(Paintings — 4) Setenants

Cyprus, the historic island with ancient Christian traditions, is known for its popular Christmas stamp issues.

Date: November 23. Printer: Harrison and Sons, England. Denominations: 75 mils and 25 mils.

75 mils — "The Virgin and Child Between Archangels" (Wall Painting in 16th Cent. Church). Size: 31.75 x 44 mm (50 stamps per sheet).

25 mils — in "se-tenant" strip of three stamps of 25 mils each, divided by perforation between stamps. "The Virgin and Child Between Archangels" (detail of above Church Wall Painting). Size: 47.4 x 24.13 mm (30 stamps per sheet).

St. Christopher-Nevis-Anguilla

This year St. Christopher Nevis Anguilla are issuing four stamps to commemorate Christmas which show reproductions of works by two famous Flemish artists. The 3 and 40 cents show the "Adoration of the Shepherds" by Frans Floris (1517-1570) which is in the care of the Koninklijk voor Schone Kunsten, Antwerp, and the 20 and 25 cents "The Holy Family" by Sir Anthony Van Dyck (1599-1641) which is in the Manchester City Art Gallery.

Frans Floris (Frans de Vriedit) studied the works of Raphael and Michelangelo in Italy before returning to Antwerp where he became a member of the guild in 1540.

Sir Anthony Van Dyck was also a native of Antwerp who showed such talent that he was made Ruben's chief assistant whilst still in his teens. Although he visited England for a brief spell in 1620 it was not until 1632 that he returned and gained enormous prestige at the Court of Charles I. During his years in England (1632-1641) he painted prolifically and it is his works during this period for which he is chiefly remembered although, in the view of many authorities, his best works were completed in the years from 1625 to 1632.

Release date: 16th November, 1970. Designer: Joh Enschede en Zonen Studio. Printer: Format International Security Printers Ltd. Process: Lithography. Watermark: C.A. Block.

Bahamas

(Paintings — 4) Nov. 3.

The lush and popular islands of the Bahamas are the objective of over one million tourists annually, and Christmas is the peak of the tourist season. In honour of the Christmas season, the Bahamas will release a set of 4 colour stamps showing beautiful religious Paintings.

Designs

3c — **Bittoni:** "The Nativity": This painting is found in the National Gallery, London. Reproduced by courtesy of the Trustees of the Museum.

11c — **Anton Raphael Menges:** "The Holy Family": This painting is found in the Victoria Albert Museum, South Kensington, London.

12c — **Giorgione:** "Adorazione Dei Pastori": (Adoration of the Shepherds). Found in the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. (Samuel H. Kress Collection). The painting is reproduced on the stamp by courtesy of the Director of the National Gallery of Art.

15c — **School of Seville:** "The Adoration of the Shepherds": Detail, found in the National Gallery, London. Reproduced by courtesy of the Trustees of the Museum.

Grenada

Designs:

2c: "The Madonna of the Basket" by Correggio (1494-1534 — Italian) (border colours: silver, light blue, Royal cypher and value on green).

3c: "Madonna of the Goldfinch" by Tielepo (17th Cent. Italian) (border colours: rose and royal blue; Royal cypher and value on rose). Same design also appears in 1/2c (border colours: silver and light green; Royal Cypher and value on rose).

35c: "The Virgin and Child with St. Peter and St. Paul" by Bouts (1400-1475, Dutch) (Border colours: green and blue; Royal Cypher and value on blue). Same design also appears in 1/2c (border colours: silver and rose; Royal cypher and value on blue).

50c: "The Madonna of the Basket" by Correggio, as above. (Border colours: brown, green, Royal cypher and value on green.)

\$1: "The Virgin and Child" by Bellini (15th Cent. Italian). (Border colours: magenta, blue, violet. Royal cypher and value on Blue). Same design also appears as 1/2c (border colours: silver and yellow; Royal cypher and value on blue).

The surge of interest in philately over the last few years has prompted speculators to invest heavily in new issues. Results are not always as expected. But given careful study most collectors can make their hobby pay.

SPECULATING IN STAMPS

by Kenneth F. Chapman, Editor "Stamp Collecting", London.

In 1963, the British Post Office set up a Philatelic Bureau to cater for stamp collectors and in the first year the turnover amounted to £100,000. In the financial year 1966-67 this figure had risen to nearly £1 million and the figure will be over £3 million for the current year. This means there has been a 30-fold increase in sales to collectors within six years. Why?

The answer lies in the decision taken in 1963 to issue new stamps more frequently and with more interesting designs. Quite apart from established stamp collectors, the British public began to take an interest in British stamps. As the collecting fever entrenched itself, these newcomers began to search for the far less frequent earlier issues whose printings had been small compared with the issues of 1963 and later.

The value of these earlier stamps began to climb steeply as demand built up and stamps like the 1924 and 1925 Wembley Exhibition issue doubled in price almost overnight and now stand at something like ten times their 1963 valuation.

Another remarkable issue was that of the 1929 set for the ninth Postal Union Congress, held in London. There were five stamps in the set—1d., 1d., 1½d., 2½d. and £1. The four low values were in atrocious designs but loyal collectors bought them at their face value (5½d.) while they were on general sale. Thirty years later, in 1959, they were available from stamp dealers for a modest 2/6d. Today, an average price is 45/-.

VIRTUALLY BOYCOTTED

At the time of issue, the really handsome £1 black P.U.G. stamp was virtually boycotted by collectors, the view being that Britain had managed without a £1 stamp since

about 1913 and that the sudden inclusion of a commemorative £1 stamp was an attempt to exploit collectors. Postal and philatelic sales totalled only 61,000, of which a large number were lost to philately. Even so, a fine mint example of the stamp could still be bought in 1960 for about £5. Today the demand is such that the asking price is around £65.

Had more collectors bought the £1 P.U.C. stamp at the time of issue in 1929, its value today would have been much less. This is a point overlooked by the thousands of people who buy large quantities of each new issue as it appears and confidently sit back anticipating a solid, tax-free profit on their investment within a year or two. As with any other commodity, the market price is governed by supply and demand. The stock of British commemorative issues of the 1965-70 period now held by investors is more than adequate to meet the demands of the philatelic market for many years. Appreciation in value will be slow.

However, the overall picture is not as dismal as it might appear. The really interested collector—as distinct from the would-be get-rich-quick speculator—can still make his hobby pay. Given the inclination to study stamps seriously any careful buyer can still spot the winners and they are by no means confined to the commemorative issues.

A collector who reads the more advanced philatelic journals knows that the present is a period of experimentation in the production of everyday definitive stamps whose design is only the head of the Queen. Almost weekly, some new variety, unappreciated by the non-philatelist, makes its appearance.

MALAYSIA BUTTERFLIES (SECOND PART)

£1.00—*Appias nero figulina* (The Orange Albatross).

Males are common, and are in evidence from March to June; large numbers may often be taken settled on moist sand on the banks of forest streams.

The female is surprisingly rare; it appears to prefer higher elevations than the male (about 2,000 feet), and is not found at at moist spots on the ground but seeks flowering plants in the forest.

£2.00—*Trogonoptera brookiana* (Raja Brooke's Birdwing).

The male is not uncommon along the banks of forest streams at low to moderate elevations. Sometimes dozens may be found settled in the vicinity of hot springs, or on paths or river banks.

The female prefers higher ground occurring from about 750 to 3500 feet; she is found flying around flowering trees and flies higher than the male, being seen from 20 to 40 feet above the ground and often higher. During night the white markings on the forewing of the female are very conspicuous and give the impression of being in rapid motion.

The food plant is a climbing species of "Aristolochiaceae" (a family of woody climbers commonly known as akar ketola).

£5.00—*Narathura centaurus centaurus* (The Centaur Oakblue).

There are over eighty species of Oak Blues. The butterfly depicted is one of the largest and perhaps the commonest. It is found not only in the jungle, but also around trees in towns.

The green larva is clothed with rather short hair; there is dorsum, and, laterally, there are brownish markings and a blackish line.

£10.00—*Terinos terpander robertsia* (The Royal Assyrian).

This butterfly is not uncommon roads at all usual elevations. Often, it is to be seen at moist quartz quarries and other rocky spots.

The larva is greenish with longitudinal stripes, the head yellow, and the spine blackish. It feeds on a species of "Antidesma" (a small tree or shrub belonging to the ruber-plant family commonly known as Waterberry or Sebasa).

EXCLUSIVE TO THE NEW ZEALAND STAMP MONTHLY

NIUE ISLAND

by A. F. WATTERS

Like so many of the Pacific Islands Niue was discovered by Captain James Cook on the 20th June 1774. When Cook's party landed, they were greeted by Savages with darts, so Cook called it "Savage Island".

The island annexed to Gr. Britain in October 1900, and was included in the boundaries of New Zealand a year later. Niue was put within the Cook Island group for administration.

Prior to 1901 there was no provision for mail to and from Niue and the little there was, was handed to the odd sailing ship's captain; however in 1901 a post office was opened with the newly appointed resident agent as postmaster. Mr. C. J. Maxwell had many other jobs and it was hard going, for he and the natives spoke a different language. In 1903 Niue took control of its affairs under direct guidance of the Native and Islands Dept. of the New Zealand parliament, though the laws as used in the Cook group were still in force.

For the first months of the post office, the word Niue and the date, were written across the stamps. These manuscript covers are extremely scarce and copies of the first stamp are known to exist with forged mailings. No figures of the mail is available but there would be very few letters and most would be from the Maxwell's, either business with no stamps or private with stamps.

FIRST DATESTAMP

The first datestamp issued was a double circle 27mm in diameter with NIUE around the centre top, New Zealand around the base and the date in the middle. The year was always shown in full, i.e. 1902. It is found in deep red to purple.

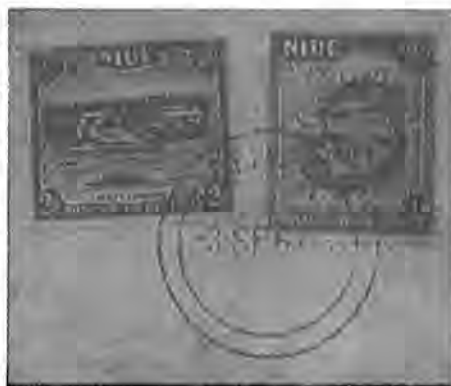
The second datestamp was a coin type with the usual N.Z. on top with NIUE below the date line. The letters for NIUE are of a different type to that used for more other datestamp from this period. The exact date of issue is not known, but I have a copy 1907 as the earliest and 1927 as the latest. It would appear that either this datestamp and third one were used at the same time or my last is an error. It is thought that a wrong year slug was put in through an error for no other copies have been found with a date later than 1925.

The third datestamp introduced in 1925 measures 27½ mm with Niue at the top of the curve with N.Z. at base and arc lines filling the gap between the N.Z. and the dateline. It shows the date, month year (two last numerals) and the mail number.

The fifth datestamp issued in 1935 has Niue at the top on the curve. This word breaks an inside circular line, with date as shown on previous date. (Note N.Z. does not appear on this datestamp.)

The sixth datestamp is the Paquebot one and it seems to be fairly scarce. No date is available to me as to when it was first used, though I have a copy 1958 and 1968.

Due to the amount of parcel mail leaving the Island a parcel roller was issued about 16 years ago and is still in use there. The islanders post the baskets they make for sale overseas and in New Zealand of course. The name appears spaced, with lines and the



day, month and year on a lower level again spaced with lines.

There are of course the usual P.O.S.B. 1, P.O.S.B. 2, Postmaster and "Short Paid".

For each new issue of stamps a special First Day of issue datestamp similar to the ones used at Chief Post Offices in New Zealand is used.

FIJI

The Story Behind The Stamp

by VAL MCFARLANE

THE 5/- GOLD INDUSTRY

Do you know that the 5/- stamp featuring the "Gold Industry" of Fiji, does not feature a Fijian Gold Mine. When the design of the Fijian Gold Mine was received by the printers, Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Ltd., they found that the design was not clear enough in detail, and would be most unsatisfactory as a postage stamp. The printers then decided that as there was not sufficient time to get a new design from Fiji, to substitute a South African mine for the Fijian one. When the stamp was placed on sale it did not take the Fijian's long to notice that the Gold Mine was not one of their own, and they were not very happy with the printer's for making the change, so they approached the authorities and asked for a new design. However the stamp did not have a very long life, because the 5/- was not in great demand, and with the printing of the 1959-63 definitive set the 5/- stamp was replaced with a 4/- value, the "Kandavu" Parrot. Then in 1962 another definitive set was issued, and it included a new 5/- stamp, which features the "Orange Dove", a



very attractive stamp that was very well received. The "Orange Dove" is of interest, since it is a distinct species, found only on Tavenui, Vanua Levu, and Gua, as are also the "Golden Dove", which is confined to Viti Levu, and the "Green Dove", found on Kaduva, yet all three species have evolved from the Green fruit dove which must have reached the Fiji group from the Solomons, or New Hebrides.

The 5/- Gold Stamp, was issued on the 1st October, 1954, and was printed by Bradbury Wilkinson & Co. Ltd., on Multiple Script C.A. watermarked paper and perforated 11½ x 11.

The 5/- Orange Dove stamp was issued on the 3rd December, 1962, and was designed by Michael Goaman, and printed by Harrison & Sons Ltd., by the photogravure and perforated 14 x 14½.

AUSTRALIA

NEW DEFINITIVES SHOW NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Four important aspects of Australian national development are shown on a new series of stamps being issued on 31st August, 1970, at all post offices. The subjects and values are: 7c Snowy Mountains Scheme, 8c Ord River Scheme, 9c Bauxite to Aluminium, 10c Oil and Natural Gas.

All four stamps were printed in four-colour photogravure by the Note Printing Branch, Reserve Bank of Australia, Melbourne. Sheet content is 100 in each case, unwatermarked paper incorporating heleocon was used, and the stamps measure 34.5 mm x 22 mm, excluding perforations.

Three Melbourne artists prepared the designs, to a common format. In each stamp, a larger panel at the lefthand side shows the development of the natural resources, and a smaller right-hand panel shows utilisation.

Mr. Les Mason designed the 7c Snowy Mountains Scheme stamp, which shows the mountains, forests Snowy complex, and a power pylon and one of the many dams of the signifying the hydroelectric power derived. Mr. Mason previously designed the 4c Royal Lifesaving Society issue of 1966.

The 8c Ord River Scheme stamp was designed by Mr. Robert Ingpen, and shows the diversion dam at Kununurra, W.A., which releases the Ord water into the irrigated area. Below the dam, a pattern symbolizes the cultivated farmlands, with a cotton plant flower superimposed. At right is a matured cotton boll.

The 9c Bauxite to Aluminium stamp was also by Mr. Ingpen. This shows bauxite being handled by conveyor belt; the right-hand panel is framed by an aluminium window, a familiar example of the many products now made from aluminium.

Mr. Brian Sadgrove, responsible for the recent Rail Link stamp, designed the 10c Oil and Natural Gas stamp. He has shown an off-shore drilling rig, and pipelines representing the refining and distribution of oil and natural gas. The colours signify heat and energy.

The new stamps will replace the 7c, 8c, 9c and 10c Barrier Reef stamps, which have been on issue since 1966. However, the Barrier Reef series will be sold concurrently

until stocks are exhausted, and should be available from philatelic sales centres for some months yet.

Souvenir packs, priced at 34c each, are also available from all official post offices.

THE SNOWY MOUNTAINS SCHEME

North and south along the eastern coast stretches the Great Dividing Range, rising to 7,000-ft snow-covered heights on the border of Victoria and New South Wales. In this area, known as the Snowy Mountains, three main rivers rise — the Snowy, Murrumbidgee and Murray.

The Snowy Mountains Scheme was designed to capture water from the Snowy, which previously was lost into the Tasman Sea, and to divert it into the westward-flowing Murray-Murrumbidgee system, generating electric power in passing and providing irrigation water for the dry but fertile inland plains.

In 1949 the Commonwealth Government passed the Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Power Act, and set up the Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Authority as the body responsible for the design and construction of the scheme, which was to become the largest engineering project ever undertaken in Australia.

To date, in an area of more than 2,000 square miles of rugged mountainous country, there have been built 50 miles of aqueducts, 90 miles of tunnels, 16 large dams, seven power stations, and hundreds of miles of transmission lines.

Falling 2,600 feet through the tunnels and power stations, the waters generate electricity for the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales and Victoria, supplementing the power grid systems of these areas, especially at peak load periods. When completed in 1974, the Scheme will be producing 5,000 million kilowatt-hours annually. Revenue from electricity supply will meet all costs of the Scheme, expected to be \$800,000,000, and the additional water for irrigation is thus a bonus, made available without charge.

THE ORD RIVER SCHEME

The Ord River flows northward from the East Kimberley Ranges of far north Western Australia, reaching the sea near Wyndham. The area is characterised by many ranges of hills, between which are large tracts of fertile land. During the "wet" season — January to March — from twenty to sixty inches of rain swell the Kimberley rivers, and during this period the



Ord is capable of flows of more than one million cubic feet a second. The "wet" is followed by an almost rainless seven-eight month dry period, ideal for agriculture watered by irrigation.

The Ord irrigation scheme was planned for many years, beginning with a small experimental agricultural establishment, and continuing with the Kimberley Research Station. In 1958 the Government of Western Australia was satisfied that the irrigation scheme was feasible and with Federal Government assistance began the project. The first dam was completed in 1963.

This, the diversion dam, stores a large amount of water, and controls the flow to the farms already established. The main dam is now under construction further back in the mountains; when completed it will have a storage seven times the capacity of Sydney Harbour, and will permit irrigation of more than 170,000 acres.

The Ord Scheme is regarded as a stepping-stone to further developments on the nearby Victoria River in the Northern Territory.

The Ord Scheme centres on the new town of Kununurra — a modern community specially planned for the semi-tropical location. The name is an aboriginal word meaning "Big Waters".

The black soil plains are ideally suited to cotton, which is the main crop. The land is usually heavily irrigated in October and November, and seed is planted in December. The first flowers appear after about six weeks, and picking of bolls begins about June. Cotton flowers are yellow when they first open, changing gradually to pink.

Picking is done by mechanical pickers which cost about \$20,000 each. From the machines, the crops are transferred to the ginnery, which separates lint from seeds.



Besides cotton, some rice, safflower, linseed and cereals are grown. Apart from these modern innovations, the traditional Kimberley cattle industry continues on the big pastoral properties in the area.

Oil and Natural Gas

Petroleum—crude oil and natural gas—is the world's major source of energy, and the raw material for many products; cosmetics, perfumes, weed killers, crop sprays, artificial fertilisers, plastics, synthetic rubber, printing inks, gramophone records and synthetic fibres are some of the diverse products made from oil. Crude oil is found in marine sedimentary basins, usually associated with natural gas.

Although almost half the land area of Australia-New Guinea is sedimentary rocks, oil and gas production began on a large scale only in recent years. Bitumen was found as early as 1839, by HMS Beagle, on the Victoria River, Northern Territory, and in the early 1900's natural gas was used to light the streets of Roma, Qld. In the years following, the search for Australian oil continued with some isolated small yields.

In 1965, extensive off-shore discoveries of oil and natural gas were made along the Gippsland coast of Victoria and natural gas from these Bass Strait fields is being piped to Melbourne. Shortly, the fields will also supply about half of Australia's total crude oil needs.

In Queensland, near Roma, further fields have been developed, and natural gas from there is supplied to Brisbane. The Moonie and Alton fields in Queensland and the Barrow Island field in Western Australia produced about 8 per cent of Australia's crude oil in 1968.

In far north South Australia, the Gidgealpa-Moomba fields are producing natural gas for Adelaide.

Other areas have also shown good prospects, and the oil search goes on continuously, and intensively. The potential value of natural gas in Australia is still not fully realised—already used extensively for domestic and industrial fuel, it may also provide the means for developing new industries, and become valuable export, in liquid form.

Bauxite and Aluminium

Aluminium is the most widely distributed material in the earth's crust, and the third most common element. However, it is difficult to separate from its ores, and was not isolated until 1827—in fact, it was then so costly that it was made into jewellery. Only in the late 19th century, using more sophisticated chemistry and electricity, did quantity production become possible.

The commercial source is bauxite, which is heated under pressure with caustic soda, and converted (through several stages) to alumina. Aluminium is then obtained by passing an electric current through alumina. About four pounds of bauxite make two pounds of alumina, which makes one pound of aluminium.

Australia has vast resources of bauxite, the most notable being at Weipa, in Queensland; Gove and Marchinbar Island, in the Northern Territory; and the Darling Range and Kimberley area of Western Australia. Production of bauxite has increased greatly in recent years, from 1.1 million tons in 1965 to 4.8 million tons in 1968. In the latter year alumina production was 1.2 million tons, and aluminium production 95,000 tons.

At present, large scale mining is being carried on at Weipa and Darling Range. Bauxite from the Darling Range goes to an alumina plant at Kwinana, W.A., and the alumina is smelted at Point Henry, Vic. Ore from Weipa goes to alumina refineries at Gladstone, Qld., and Bell Bay, Tas. Preparations are being made to work the Gove deposits, and others in the Admiralty Gulf area.

The soft, silvery metal is being used more and more widely in most sectors of modern life: in domestic utensils, in buildings, in aerospace industries, in power cables, as foil for packaging. Bauxite is used in quick-setting cement, in steel-making and water purification; and alumina is used as an abrasive.

SPAIN

by H. MOY HAMMERTON

The First Issues, 1850

This issue showed the Head of Queen Isabel II and comprised five values, the 6 cuartos, 12 c., 5 reales, 6 r., and 10c—the stamp for normal internal postage was the 6 c., was issued in black—the so-called Spanish Penny Black. A "killer" was introduced at the same time, the famous Arana or Spider, with an open space in the centre so that the head of Queen Isabel should not be obliterated. Needless to say, even in the leisured days of 1850, the postal employees seldom took the trouble to see that the killer was placed so accurately and it is exceptional to find a perfectly placed Arana. Covers of the period normally bear the stamp cancelled by the Arana and a Baeza postmark giving the place of posting alongside. But there are endless possibilities and one of the small prizes of Spanish philately is a stamp cancelled with a pre-adhesive marking.

The commonest stamp of this issue the 6 cuartos black was printed from two plates, easily distinguished by the fact that in the first plate, the TO of cuartos are separated, while in the second they are joined at the top. All stamps of this issue bear a secret mark, breaks in the frame etc., a good guide to authenticity.

1851 to the Abdication of Isabel in 1868

With the exception of the year 1854, in which year the stamps bore the shield of Spain, all issues show the head of Isabel II. As might be expected, there are many variations in shades and papers, giving ample scope for the specialist.

The postmarks of the period offer numerous varieties and are of considerable interest. In mid 1852, the Arana was replaced by the Parilla or grill (framed) and in 1855 by an unframed grill. In 1859, the famous Cartwheel was introduced bearing numerals from 1 to 63 for the different districts in Spain. A complete set of these numbers can be made on the common values without great expense.

The abdication of Isabel ushered in one of the most interesting and confusing periods of Spanish philately—the Carlist Wars of 1872-76, the abortive reign of Amadeo and the Restoration of the Bourbons.

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- N. 86 N.Z. 1931 Health "Blue and Red Boys" lovely mint condition. \$44.25.
- N. 93s From Tonga . . . complete mint sets of "Royal Visit" (13), Commonwealth membership set of (13), June 9th new definitives set (20), British Red Cross, 1970 (13). Total stamps this special Christmas offer of (59) stamps . . . a real bargain at only \$14.95.

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C 41 U.S.A.	1889 DOLLAR	GD.EF	\$3.50
C 41 U.S.A.	1890 DOLLAR	GD.EF	\$3.50
C 42 AUSTRALIA	1966 50 CENTS.	EF	.80
C 43 AUSTRALIA	1969 50 CENTS.	B.UNC	.85
C 44 AUSTRALIA	1970 50 CENTS. COOK COMM.	B.UNC	.85
C 45 NEW ZEALAND	1949 CROWN ROYAL VISIT COMM.	B.UNC	\$6.00
C 46 NEW ZEALAND	1953 CROWN CORONATION COMM.	B.UNC	\$6.00

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"From Our Desk" newsletter **subscription** issued once a month at **only .75c**. Our newsletter is circulated world wide to both stamp and coin collectors. It is very diversified and includes many fine offers not always offered in philatelic or numismatic publications. **Send 10c stamp for complete lists** new issue service forms and a complimentary copy of "**FROM OUR DESK**". Current issue (November issue contains 16 pages with 4 pages of printed illustrations). We also include with all enquiries our complete stamp accessory list which includes many fine imported items.

When next is Gisborne make a point to visit New Zealand's finest showrooms.

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P.O. BOX 244,

GISBORNE,

NEW ZEALAND.

WHAT'S COMING ?

NEW ZEALAND

- 1970: Dec. 2: Chatham Is. Issue. 1c and 2c.
 1971: Jan. 20th: Maori Artifacts. 15c, 18c and 20c.
 1971: Feb. 10th: CWI and Rotary.
 1971: March 3rd: One Ton Cup Yachting Contest.
 1971: April 14th: National Parks. 25c, 28c, 30c and 50c.
 1971: May 12th: Centenaries Palmerston North, Auckland and Invercargill.
 1971: June 9th: UNICEF and Antarctic Treaty.

NIUE ISLAND

- 1970: Dec. 9: Airport Opening set. 3c, 5c and 8c.

ROSS DEPENDENCY

- 1971: New Definitive series.

TOKELAU IS.

- 1970: Dec. 9: Discovery. 5c, 10c and 25c.

WESTERN SAMOA

- 1970: Nov. 29: Papal Visit. 8s and 20s.
 1971: January: 9th Anniversary of Independence (Timber).
 1971: New definitives.

PAPUA & NEW GUINEA

- 1971: Jan. 27: Native Buildings. 5c, 7c, 10c and 40c.
 1971: March 31: Flora and Fauna. (Five stamps.)
 1971: June 9: Fourth South Pacific Games. (Four stamps.)

CHRISTMAS ISLAND

- 1970: December 14th: Fish. 15c and 30c.

AUSTRALIA

- 1971: Jan. 6: Australia-Asia. 7c, 15c and 20c.
 1971: Sydney Stock Exchange.
 1971: 100th Anniv. R.S.P.C.A.
 1971: Animals Series (3).
 1971: 50th Anniv. of RAAF.
 1971: May: Rotary Convention.
 1971: Parliamentary Conference.

NORFOLK ISLAND

- 1971: Feb. 24: 2, 5, 15, 50 cents.
 1971: June 16: 20, 30 cents, \$1.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS

- 1971: New Definitives.

BR. SOLOMON ISLANDS

- 1971: Jan.: Ships and Navigators.

GT. BRITAIN

- 1970: Nov. 25: Christmas. 4d, 5d and 1/6.

PITCAIRN STAMP NEWS

Another special issue is planned for 1st March, 1971. This time the theme will be "Polynesian Pitcairn."

The issue will comprise four stamps: (1) Rock carvings at Rope; (2) Assorted Polynesian stone artifacts; (3) Polynesian stone fishhook and (4) Polynesian stone deity; and the denominations will be 5, 10, 15 and 20 cents respectively.

Pope's Visit To Western Samoa

Following the recent announcement that His Holiness, Pope Paul VI will visit Western Samoa, the Western Samoa Post Office will release a set of two (2) stamps—8 sene and 20 sene to commemorate His Holiness' historic visit on the same day—29th November, 1970.

His Holiness, Pope Paul VI has decided in favour of a visit to Western Samoa in order to honour through this visit the peoples of the Pacific and the heroic missionaries who have spent their lives in the service of these Peoples of the Pacific. The Papal visit is of the greatest significance, in that it is the first ever made by a Pontiff, not only to Samoa but to this vast area of the South Pacific.

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 FOR LATEST NEWS**

SAMOA CHRISTMAS STAMPS

A little information on the artists . . .

Sister Meleane Fe'ao a fully professed Carmelite nun, Sister Meleane Fe'ao was born in Nuku'alofa, Tonga, entered the Carmelite Monastery of St. Joseph at Vailima, Western Samoa, in 1963. Painting is her hobby.

Frances B. Eccles came to Samoa with her husband who an officer in the first U.S. Peace Corps to work in this island group. For seventeen years Frances Eccles had made a hobby of black and white photography but the beautiful Samoan scenery and the friendly people convinced her that now was the time to test her ability at painting. She met with considerable success and her paintings are in great demand in Samoa.

By profession a school teacher, Frances Eccles, has taught in many countries spaced far apart—the U.S.A., Tripoli, and Germany to name a few. She is now a mother of six children but during her busy days still finds some time to gain further experience in her hobby of painting.

W. E. Jahnke was born in Western Samoa in the year 1918 and went to school in Germany where he attended the Aufbauchule High School in Berlin from 1928. He studied painting under Professor Ledner here until 1938. On his return to Samoa he concentrated on painting but is doing painting in his spare time. Some of his important works include the portrait of His Highness Tupua Tamasese Meaole, late Joint Head of State in Western Samoa, also a painting of the late President John F. Kennedy. Werner Erich Jahnke is married with a family of eight children and lives inland, eighteen miles west of Apia, at Fasitooouta, A'ana.

WESTERN SAMOA

7th Anniversary of Independence (Flowers): 2 sene: 76,380; 7 sene: 72,230; 20 sene: 47,052; 30 sene: 47,042; FDC: 1,695.

75th Anniversary of the Death of R. L. Stevenson: 3sene: 83,781; 7 sene: 95,931; 20 sene: 69,892; 22 sene: 54,892; FDC: 3,056.

Samoa Honours U.S. Moon Astronauts: 7 sene: 122,540; 20 sene: 119,340; FDC: 16,497.

NEW ZEALAND NEWS

Stamp Shortage

Stocks of the 50c definitive stamp, which features the Sutherland Falls, are running low and supplies at some post offices may run out in the near future.

The stamp will be replaced in April next by the new 50c stamp in the "National Parks" theme within the 1970/71 definitive issue as it has been decided not to order a reprint. Instead two 25c stamps, of which ample stocks are available, will be used.

A similar situation may arise with the 20c "Meat" stamp, which will be replaced by a new "Maori Artifact" stamp in January 1971. If supplies run out the demand for this denomination will be met by using existing stocks of the 20c "Maori Rock Drawing" stamp.

Collectors unable to obtain the 50c and 20c stamps at their local post office should write to the Post Office Philatelic Bureau, Private Bag, Wellington or obtain their requirements from the Philatelic Sales Sections at Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch.

Ambury Shield Weekend

The President of the Waikato Philatelic Society, Mr. John Moore, opened the 23rd Ambury Shield Weekend when he welcomed a gathering of 140 stamp collectors. Mr. Moore then presented the Ambury Shield to this year's winners, Wellesley Philatelic Society, and announced the following results:

1, Wellesley P.S.; 2, Taranaki P.S.; 3, Waikato P.S. and Tauranga Stamp Club; 5, Poverty Bay P.S. and Whakatane P.S.; 7, Cambridge Stamp Club; 8, Rotorua P.S.; 9, Tokoroa Stamp Club and Auckland P.S.

It was interesting to note that every Club or Society that entered gained a place in one or more classes. It was also pleasing to see entries from newcomers Cambridge and Tokoroa.

Following the comments by this year's judges, Frank Course and Gerald Elliott, a talk entitled "The Trials and Tribulations of a Stamp Dealer" was given by Mr. Colin McNaught of Wellington. This was followed by a talk and outstanding display from Mr. Gerald Elliott when he spoke on and showed his collection of "Philatelic Terms"

which recently won a premier award at Philympia.

The evening programme consisted of 2 talks and displays from Mr. Arthur Dexter — "Offset Lithography on N.Z. Stamps" and Mr. Dick Armstrong — "The Penny Black of Great Britain".

The weekend was rounded off with the usual morning tea on the Sunday at the Hamilton Lake.

Withdrawal of Definitive Stamps

Four of the 1967 definitive stamps will be withdrawn from sale on 31 March 1971.

They are the 7c "Rata", the 8c "Flag", the 20c "Maori Rock Drawing" and the \$2.00 "Pink" Geyser.

The remainder of the 1967 definitive series issued between 10 July 1967 and 3 December 1969 will be withdrawn from sale on 31 December 1971.

Special Postmark

A special pictorial datestamp featuring a "Whaler" will be used at the 13th National Sea Scouts Regatta, Marsden Point temporary Post Office on 1st January, 1971.

Persons requesting this special datestamp will be asked to forward their stamped addressed envelopes to the Chief Postmaster, Whangarei by 31st December, 1970. The outside wrapping should be enfaced "Covers for official opening 13th National Sea Scout Regatta, Marsden Point".

Garden Week

PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

For the third time in the last twelve months the Society showed its "flag", this time at the request of the Garden Week Show Committee in Auckland.

The Council was delighted to receive the invitation and judging by the exhibits . . . over 1000 album pages . . . there is no doubt that the Society must gain considerable strength and unity from this type of project.

Through the generosity of the Philatelic Bureau, Port Moresby, Papua and New Guinea, many colourful pamphlets were made available and these were eagerly snapped up by the young and the not so young. Three fine films were also made available . . . these showed the butterfly issues, information and life and folklore in that territory.

For the statistically minded the Exhibition covered all facets of postal history and most of philately . . . it covered 700 sq. feet of wall space with 9 album sheets on each board all of which was provided by 15 members.

The centre piece was the Royal Collection Book surrounded by several historical and philatelic references.

The Garden Week exhibition was opened by His Excellency the Governor General on Saturday, October 17th, and closed on Labour Day the 26th . . . eight full days and if the interest shown by the many thousands who visited the stall is any criterion then surely stamp collecting and postal history are hobbies keenly pursued.

Silver Medal For C. P. Catalogue

The well-known Campbell Paterson Loose-Leaf Specialised Catalogue of New Zealand Stamps was awarded a silver medal at "Philympia".

PHILYMPIA PRIZEWINNERS

Marcel Stanley	(Class of Honour) Gold —	Frames 2039-2046
Marcel Stanley	(N.Z.) Vermeil	Frames 2248-2258
Gerald Elliott	(Thematics) Vermeil	Frames 1961-1963
	(with congratulations for research)	
Gerald Elliott	(N.Z.) Large Silver	Frames 2285-2294
John J. Bishop	(N.Z.) Silver	Frames 2259-2261
M. G. Tombleson	(N.Z.) Silver	Frames 2308-2310
A. R. Burge	(Cook Is.) Bronze	Frames 2241-2243
R. S. Craddock	(Basutoland Decimals) Bronze	Frames 1753-1755

BRITISH COMMONWEALTH NEWS

November Releases

1st November, 1970.

Singapore. Shipping. 15, 30 and 75 cents.

Tristan da Cunha. Crawfish. 4d., 10d., 1/6 and 2/6.

2nd November, 1970.

British Honduras. Christmas 1970. 4, 5, 10, 15, 22 and 50 cents.

British Indian Ocean Territory. New Values to Definitive. 30, 60 and 85 cents.

Fiji. Centenary of First Fiji Postage Stamps. 4, 15 and 20 cents.

The Gambia. Republic Issue. 2d., 1/- and 1/6.

Jamaica. 75th Anniversary of the Agricultural Society. 2 and 10 cents. Decimal Definitive (Part II). 15, 20, 30, 50 cents, \$1 and \$2.

St. Helena. Military Uniforms. 4d., 9d., 1/3 and 2/11.

3rd November, 1970.

Botswana. Christmas 1970. 1, 2, 7, 25 cents and souvenir sheet.

4th November, 1970.

Malawi. Christmas 1970. 2d., 4d., 9d., 1/6, 3/- and souvenir sheet.

7th November, 1970.

Malta. Christmas 1970. 1d. + 3d., 10d. + 2d. and 1/6 + 3d.

11th November, 1970.

Guernsey. Christmas 1970 (Churches). 4d., 5d., 9d. and 1/6.

16th November, 1970.

British Virgin Islands. Spanish Main. 4, 10, 30 and 60 cents.

Malaysia. Definitive — National Series (part II). \$1, 2, 5 and 10.

St. Kitts. Christmas 1970. 3, 20, 25 and 40 cents.

St. Lucia. Christmas 1970. 5, 10, 35 and 40 cents.

21st November, 1970

Jamaica. 125th Anniversary of the Jamaican Railway. 3, 15 and 50 cents.

23rd November, 1970.

Cyprus. Christmas 1970. 25 mils (se-tenant strip of 3 stamps, each of 25 mils) and 75 mils.

St. Vincent. Christmas 1970. 8, 25, 35 and 50 cents.

26th November, 1970.

Ceylon. Keppitipola Dissava. 25 cents.

30th November, 1970.

Montserrat. Tourism. 5, 15, 25, 50 cents and souvenir sheet.

New Hebrides. Christmas 1970. 15 and 50 gold centimes.

Zambia. Traditional Crafts. 3, 5, 15, 25 ngwees and souvenir sheet.

Forthcoming Issues

DEFINITIVE ISSUES

Ascension Island. (Space). 15th February, 1971. British Antarctic Territory. Decimal Values. Overprinted. 15th February, 1971. Brunei. 1970. Christmas Island. (Fish). 15 and 30 cents (new values). 14th December, 1970. Cyprus. 1970/71. Falkland Islands. Decimal Values Overprinted. 24th February, 1971. The Gambia. 1971. Gibraltar. (4p, 1p 2p stamp reels). January, 1971. (Old and new prints.) 16th February, 1971. Guernsey. 10p, 20p and 50p. 6th January, 1971. Remaining values. 15th February, 1971. Jersey. Decimal. 4p to 9p. 15th February, 1971. P.D.L's. 1971. Lesotho. 4th January, 1971. Malawi. (Antelopes). 15th February, 1971. Malaysia. State Series. (Butterflies). 1970. St. Helena. Decimal. 15th February, 1971. South Georgia. Decimal Values Overprinted. 14th February, 1971. Tristan da Cunha. Decimal Values Overprinted. 14th February, 1971. Turks and Caicos Islands. (New Value Tablets). February, 1971.

Commemorative Issues

Antigua. Military Uniforms. 1st December, 1970. 20th Anniversary of Adult Suffrage. 1st February, 1971. Barbados. Tourism. 1971. Bermuda. Keep Bermuda Beautiful. 8th February, 1971. Botswana. Important Crops. 1971. British Antarctic Territory. 10th Anniversary of Entry into Force of Antarctic Treaty. 23rd June, 1971. British Honduras. New Capital. 11th January, 1971. British Indian Ocean Territory. Aldabra Nature Reserve. February, 1971. Cayman Islands. Turtles. 8th January, 1971. Ceylon. Republican Issue. 8th January, 1971. East Africa. Conversion to Metric System. 4th January, 1971. Gibraltar. Christmas. 1st December, 1970. Guyana. Christmas 1970. 1st December, 1970. Public Buildings. 1971. Hong Kong. Lunar New Year. 1971. Jersey Wildlife Preservation Trust. 1971. Lesotho. Birds. January, 1971. Malawi. Decimal Currency. 1971. Malaysia. 25th Anniversary of the installation of the Sultan of Trengganu, H. H. Tuanku Ismail Nasiruddin Shah. 16th December, 1970. Muda Irrigation Scheme. 1971. Montserrat.

Girl Guides Golden Jubilee. 31st December, 1970. Irish Settlers. 1971. St. Helena. Easter 1971. 1971. St. Kitts. Flowers. 1st March 1971. De Poincy. 1st July, 1971. St. Lucia. Opening of Beane Airport. 1st March, 1971. Seychelles. Flowers. 29th December, 1970. Singapore. National Day. 1971. Swaziland. Flowers. 1971. Tristan da Cunha. 50th Anniversary of the Shackleton Rowett Expedition. June, 1971. Turks and Caicos Is. 300th Anniversary of the Granting of Letters Patent. 1970.

Late News

Mauritius Port Lois, Old and New issue scheduled for release on the 1st October was deferred until 15th October.

Pen Friends From New Zealand Junior Stamp Club

Club membership is now over 280 so our estimate of 300 for the new year will be reached. Although the club is primarily run by correspondence, club committee members have met over one third of the boys and girls. Some of the members are extremely active and regularly participate in club activities. The most recent one was a Jumbled Letters and Quiz Competition. This was won by Graham Shaw (13) of Christchurch. It was a very close competition with 5 correct entries.

The 1971 club programme is now being planned and this will be announced in the December club newsletter. From the items being discussed by the committee it will be a busy year.

The club has sent out over 80 penfriends to members over the last 2 months but we still have some adults in Poland, Czechoslovakia, South Africa, United States, Roumania and England wanting adult penfriends or people to exchange stamps with in New Zealand. If you are interested could you please send a s.a.e. to the N.Z. Junior Stamp Club, P.O. Box 812, New Plymouth.

Birthday draw winner for October was Philip Senior (11) of Lower Hutt. In November it was Paul Rennie (12). December winner is Deane Hogg (9) of Lyttleton — Happy Birthday to you all. We hope you like your prize of 100 stamps.

NATURALIST, ADMINISTRATOR, STAMP DESIGNER



C. M. WOODFORD, C.M.G.

Although, strictly speaking, Charles Morris Woodford is not an Australian—that is to say, not one of Native Born—his life's work in the Solomon Islands has had so much to do with Australia, and the future of the group seems to be so peculiarly involved with the future of the Commonwealth, that there would seem to be rather more than mere justification for our claim to him as a Good Australian. It is only comparatively recently that the value of the Solomons to the Empire has begun to be recognised in a general way. For many years it has been known to the few Colonial Office officials who carry on the work of governing it, to some Bishops of Melanesia and missionaries, to a handful of traders, a few captains in the Royal Navy, and a very few outsiders who have visited the group. But today it is becoming known in Throgmorton-street and in Lancashire—and even in that centre of all ignorance as to outposts of Empire, Downing Street, there are a few bold and original thinkers who know where the Solomon Islands are situated. It is not too much to say that, politically and commercially, the Solomon Islands are of the most vital present interest to Australia. The man who, literally almost single-handed, has won the Islands for the Empire, who has ruled them as an almost absolute monarch for a score of years, with a wisdom and fearlessness that entitle him to rank amongst the best of Empire builders, is so remarkable a man that, if he would admit their claim to him, Australians might well be proud to class him as one of themselves.

From Kent

Mr. Woodford is a Kentish man, and the men of Kent have always been a sturdy, vigorous and enterprising stock. In the somewhat neglected industry of smuggling, they were quite the equals of Cornishmen, and today the Deal longshoremen take rank as the best boatmen in the world. They are people who do things. He was born at Gravesend in 1853, and was educated at Tonbridge School

—and the Western Pacific. He came into those seas, in the first instance, purely as a naturalist who was collecting for the well-known Rothschild private museum at Tring Park, near London. That was in the very early eighties. For the best part of the next ten years he travelled and explored amongst the

THIS ARTICLE WAS
WRITTEN IN 1911

Melanesian Islands, and particularly in the Solomons. For months he lived with the natives of Guadalcanal, one of the largest islands in the group, daily carrying his life in his hands, and undertaking expeditions into the interior that were nothing other than most daring, and almost impudent, adventures with Death. In a book that is entirely delightful, "A Naturalist Among the Head Hunters", Mr. Woodford has recored something of this period. In 1890 he was awarded the Gill Memorial medal of the Royal Geographical Society for his work of exploration in the Solomons. He is a Fellow of the Society, and a highly valued contributor to the pages of its Journal, as well as to that of the Royal Anthropological Institute.

Stamped Out Head Hunting

But it is in the work of government that Mr. Woodford has made his mark. In the Solomons, with not more than four white assistants, he rules over 400,000 natives who have for years borne an unenviable reputation for savagery and blood-thirstiness. He has practically stamped out head hunting—a charming hobby of the Melanesians, which nevertheless, had its disadvantages—and has greatly discouraged the pastime of murdering white traders and missionaries. He has established order where there was anarchy, and has substituted trade for bloodshed. The natives respect him because they get justice and protection from him. They also get sure, certain and swift punishment when they "go looking for it". Two words sum up Mr. Woodford's success as an administrator—justice and fear-

lessness. And, if you were to think of it, those two same words have always stood—from Roman colonisation to British—for all that has meant success in the ruling of native races.

Some day, when the story of the Solomons comes to be written and to be better known. Mr. Woodford will "come into his own". A few people know it now; but it will be well known some day—the fact that Charles Morris Woodford is a very great man, and that the work he has done is very great and good work.

Own Stamps

In 1906 Mr. Woodford proposed to the High Commission of the Western Pacific that the Solomons either produce its own stamp, or use overprinted Fiji stamps. It was agreed that the Solomons issue its own stamps and Mr. Woodford produced a design showing a view of Tulagi harbour with a canoe in the foreground. The issue was printed by W. E. Smith & Co. of Sydney and the first denomination released in February 1907 were ½d, 1d, 2d, 2½d, 5d, 6d, and 1/-. This issue was withdrawn in 1908.

(Acknowledgments to the Solomon Islands Stamp Magazine.)

RECENT AUSTRALIAN ISSUES

Dairy Congress
7th October, 1970.



CHRISTMAS
14th October, 1970.



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Name

Full Address

Signature

Date

NOTE: If applicant is under 21 parent or guardian should sign above.

MOSTLY YOU

by Merry Trishus

Continuing my overseas philatelic adventures, I arrived in London in March—just in time to have a look at Stampex, which is held annually there. If I remember alright, the New Zealand Post Office had a display of Health's that year. But, being a mere accumulator who is never likely to make a display in what is left of his lifetime, the stands of beautifully set out stamps which had been entered in the various competitions, failed to raise any enthusiasm in my breast. You will readily understand why I did not visit Tarapex, although there was admiration for the enthusiasm, skill, and knowledge involved. Was there perhaps a small twinge of envy regarding the knowledge? If I had the knowledge perhaps I could engender the enthusiasm. But I doubt it.

Stamp Centre

However, what I was enthusiastic about were the numerous stalls of dealers from all over Great Britain including the very great ones from London. Oh! If only I had had the spare funds. But I was not enthusiastic enough to apply funds set aside for towns of Europe and the Balkans towards filling my albums. But I did pick up a mint 97 F.F.Q. for a fiver. But that was before those gems skyrocketed.

Another thing that intrigued me into buying it (for 10/-) was a card on which was set, properly labelled, copies of the two greens of 1946 1d Health—the proper green and orange brown, and the one that shouldn't have been, the yellow—green and orange brown. Even to my colour troubled eyes they certainly looked quite distinct and different. Maybe the labelling helped because when I took them off the card to put into my album I unfortunately, dropped them both and on picking them up I couldn't tell which was which. So I still can't decide which of my green soldiers, if any, are the wrong colour. But I must still have my few bob's worth, musn't I? But I don't know which it is.

Another thing that intrigued me, stampwise, in London was the 1d dip one of the dealers had at his stall in the Strand Stamp Arcade. This is an arcade, nearly opposite Gibbons' shop in the Strand, where about a dozen different stamp dealers have their stalls. The idea probably being that if you can't get it at one you might at another, and certainly cheaper than over the road. Some of the stalls dealt only in certain stamps and for instance

one had only Middle East, another only Mint.

This dealer I mentioned had a large box adjacent to his stall in which had been put, loose, literally thousands of used world stamps all off paper. Mostly average but if you look hard enough you might find something a little better. For instance I noticed an 8d N.Z. You paid 1d for what you picked out, and pickers were at work, pawing them over every time I went into the arcade. I kept all the stamps off my N.Z. letters and before I left London I did a swap with the dealer who ran the dip. I gave him 60 N.Z. on paper—and picked 60 out of the dip. And I don't think I lost on the deal. Postage from N.Z. wasn't so high then.

Europe

Talking about Europe, when travelling through, I kept my eyes open, philatelically (if there is such a word). Of course, being a true New Zealander I speak no language but my own, but one manages somehow to communicate if a dealer or a postal clerk is so foolish as not to be able to speak English. In Brussels, where there is a street of stamp shops I found one who could, and we discussed second side-faces of which he had a few cheaper specimens—all he had. Of the rest, few had ever heard of N.Z. nor much of anywhere else except European countries.

In Vienna I was told by the proprietor of that very modern stamp shop in the downstairs arcade under the main street, opposite the Opera House, that a N.Z. dealer had the previous week bought his only N.Z. stamp—a F.F.Q. The dealer in the corner of St. Marks Square Venice, wasn't the slightest bit interested.

In Prague it was a Sunday and the stamp shop on the main street was closed. But I found the Post Office was open for the sale of stamps, with one clerk, female, dealing with a long queue. I had some letters to post to N.Z. and, from a traveller's guide I knew the amount of postage required. So I made out a list and thought that that would solve the language difficulty. I even remembered that the Continental figure seven must have a dash across it. But I found that the clerk was machine stamping and was not inclined to bother to get me out proper stamps. We were at a standstill when a lady further down the queue, who had apparently heard my wails and expostulations, came to my rescue,

and interpreted and persuaded the clerk to accede to my requirements. Much no doubt the relief of the now very long line which had been held up by this mad Imperialist.

In Roumania boys, and even young men, peddled in the streets, and particularly round our bus, the millions of reprints issued in Roumania.

In Istanbul the Post Office has a philatelic bureau but their main effort when I was there, seemed to be to provide a sort of lottery. They were putting up sealed packets which they sold for the equivalent of 1/-. I saw several being bought and then being avidly ripped open and contents scanned. Which leads one to assume that occasionally something other than rubbish is slipped into a packet or packets.

But from a Post Office point of view my fondest remembrance is of Helsinki. Here, just inside the main door is a Bureau where there are attendant maidens who, between them, can speak all the main languages. Probably a relic from the Olympic Games era. The English speaking one told me the postage required, worked out the greatest number of stamps I could get to cover it and then, after speaking on an inter-phone, sent me to another counter. And by the time I got there that clerk had all the stamps ready for me.

That was efficiency, that was. Which I have no doubt our Chief Postmaster could surpass. If they could find interpreters.

PHILYMPIA

TOP SECURITY FOR VALUABLE STAMPS

Stamps worth \$3 million were flown between New York and London by BOAC in a recent six-day top-security operation. The stamps represented more than 50 U.S.A. collections at the International Stamp Exhibition in London.

The operation, described by Norman Jeppeson, BOAC's Cargo Development Manager U.S.A., as "probably the world's largest philatelic airlift", necessitated stringent insurance requirements. These in turn limited the maximum value on any one aircraft, so six flights were used.

Each shipment was escorted to the London-bound flight's diplomatic locker. At London, pickups were made by Securicor armoured cars.

On return flights, the shipments were met by BOAC guards, then driven to New York vaults for return to the exhibitor-owners.

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PRICES FOR VARIETIES

by PETER OLDHAM

in "Philatelic News" published by Peter Oldham Ltd.

In the course of business I read a considerable number of philatelic publications, articles and correspondence, for stamp dealers have to keep a careful check on current thoughts and trends if they are to satisfy the requirements of collectors. Recently I have seen several in which the writers query the prices asked for varieties, with particular emphasis on those of the more recent issues, the underlying theme being that collectors are forced to pay the inflated prices which the dealers impose on these items.

The truth of the matter is, of course, that the dealers have no control over prices what so ever. Stamps are no different from any other commodity available on the open market, and perhaps could be compared with competitive market. There are many dealers operating in New Zealand today and the only way they can hope to stay in business is to pay the best possible prices and sell as cheaply as possible, for the dealer who ignores this maxim does little business. Collectors therefore are under no obligation to buy or sell at prices they consider to be unreasonable, because they can always check with other dealers.

Varieties are speculative items, particularly when they are first issued, because it is so difficult to determine their true value. If a collector discovers a new variety and wishes to sell it, he expects a dealer to immediately quote a price. The dealer may have not previously heard of the variety, in which case he will be most reluctant to do so until he has some indication of how many other copies there are and what the demand may be. In these circumstances he may prefer not to buy the item at all rather than take a gamble or offer a price far less than the seller expects. I still have varieties in stock which cost me many times their present value, simply because far more copies turned up than I had estimated. On the other hand there are several varieties selling at high prices today which I can recall selling for a few shillings five or six years ago. Dealers can seldom take advantage of these spectacular price rises because they are caused by excessive demand and the dealers' stocks would all have sold at lower prices

to satisfy the demand. It must be realised of course that the price seldom rises until there is a general shortage on the market. A good example of this is the 2d 1960 Pictorial ZF variety which I sold in considerable numbers at 3s 6d a mint block when it first appeared. The demand for this variety was so great, particularly on overseas markets, that it steadily rose in price over the years and is now catalogued at \$25.00. Catalogue prices are not hard and fast quotations but merely the publishers' estimation of the market price at the time of publication. They do give a good indication of the market trend however. Sometimes, when I have made an offer for a collection, the seller has expressed dissatisfaction and pointed out specific items for which he has paid high prices, although I cannot recall having my attention drawn to items which were purchased cheaply. Perhaps this is understandable because the seller is trying to push the price as high as possible, but the point to remember is of course that the offer for a collection is based on present market prices, and is in no way connected with the prices prevailing at the time of the original purchase.

I stated previously that prices are controlled by supply and demand, therefore the collector who considers that the price for any particular item is too high can be assured that other collectors are paying that price. If they were not, the price would soon fall because no dealer is going to ask a price which is too high when he knows that the collector can check the price and buy cheaper elsewhere. The prospective buyer may of course think that a lot more copies of the particular variety may turn up and he will get it cheaper if he delays his purchase. He may be quite correct in his assumption, on the other hand he may have to pay considerably more. There are occasions when the collector may know that more examples of a particularly scarce variety have been found, in which case he probably knows more than the dealers and the dealers run a good chance of losing money. It must be remembered that the dealer often buys varieties in quantity, in which case if the price drops before he has sold them, or if he has misjudged the market, he stands to lose far more than the collector who has only bought one copy.

I have discussed the financial in the hope that they will make side of stamp collecting because I am sure many collectors buy stamps money. It must be remembered however, that primarily it is a hobby from which most collectors derive an infinite amount of pleasure. It is also one of the few hobbies I know which has a good re-sale value should the collector decide to discontinue it. The golfer for instance who has paid a high price for his equipment and annual club subscriptions, can realise little financial return when he decides to give up the game.

It is quite possible that many collectors are unable to estimate the value of a modern variety because they do not have sufficient knowledge and information regarding the numbers available. Knowledge and information about most varieties from modern issues are of course available to all collectors if they are prepared to spend the time in finding out, but there is no easy or short cut. The method is to examine large numbers of a stamp which is known to contain a specific variety. To do this with mint stamps is expensive but if the variety is on a stamp of low face value there is no difficulty in obtaining large quantities. Try asking your friends or business acquaintances to save all the stamps from their correspondence for you, and if this does not produce sufficient, then invest a dollar or so and advertise for modern stamps on paper in bulk. When you have washed your stamps off the paper, take them one at a time and examine them carefully. By using this method you are not only looking for the known variety but may quite possibly discover something new. When you have examined your first thousand stamps, stop and count the number of varieties you have found. If you have five or more copies of one variety it is common and will be low in value. If there are one or two it may still be fairly common but its price would possibly be a little higher. If you have found none or possibly one, then it may well be scarce, although there is no guarantee of this. It will be necessary to examine many thousands before you can estimate with any certainty how scarce the variety really is, but by this time you will have realised that your investigations have taken many long hours, and the dealers price may not be unreasonable after all.

Christmas Issue CHURCHES OF GUERNSEY

Christmas 1970 (Churches). Release date: 11th November, 1970. Designer: Printers - Staff Artists. Printer: Courvoisier S.A.

Church of St. Anne, Alderney 4d.

Christianity was brought to Alderney by St. Vignal, a disciple of St. Magloire, and a chapel dedicated to him existed for many years. The ancient Church of St. Anne was built in 1111 on the same site. Originally it was dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin but the name was changed to St. Anne at the Reformation. This having fallen into ruins was replaced by another church in 1584.

The present Parish Church of St. Anne was built on a new site and consecrated in 1850. It was designed in the transitional style from Norman to early English Cruciform and built of Alderney granite, dressed with white Caen stone. In proportion to the size of Alderney the building may seem excessive, but this is probably explained by the fact that in the middle of the last century a large number of troops were garrisoned in the Island. The links with France are much in evidence: the two Bibles on the lectern, one in English and the other in French; the Ten Commandments, the Creed and the Lord's Prayer appear in both languages on the walls of the apse, as does a quotation from the First Epistle of St. John on the walls by the door.

During the Second World War, Alderney was evacuated by the civilian population. The Church was used by the Germans as a general store, most of the pews and all six bells being removed. Four of the six bells were later found outside Cherbourg on their way to be melted down for munitions. These were returned to the Island and later sent to England for recasting with the other two bells. The work of restoration was eventually completed by Christmas 1953.

Church of St. Peter (Town Church, Guernsey) —5d.

In the heart of St. Peter Port lies the Town Church, the "Cathedral Church of Guernsey"; the Bishop's throne bears the arms of the Diocese of Winchester. Here may be found three features of particular interest to collectors of Guernsey stamps: the Liberation Window

over the Hight Altar given by public subscription as a thank-offering; the regimental colours of the Guernsey Militia which hang in the Chancel and on either side of the West Door, and the Brock Memorial Chapel, where the fire engine was once stored. In this Church the Dean used to hold his Court, the States and the Royal Court met until 1799, and the fruit market sheltered from inclement weather. The first place of worship on this site was the fishermen's chapel, built by William of Normandy in 1048, remains of which can still be seen in the Nave. The West Door with its rounded Norman arch is still in place; so too are the thick walls reminiscent of the former dual purpose of a church—a place of worship, and a place of refuge in the event of raids by pirates. Subsequently, enlargements were made so as to render the Church uniform in design but the whole plan was thrown out of balance by the addition in 1466 of the South Transept built out over the churchyard. The church's link with France is much in evidence, e.g. the floor inscriptions, the memorial tablets, and the Ten Commandments on the walls of the Sanctuary.

Church of St. Peter, Sark—9d.

The first place of worship in Sark was the oratory built by St. Magloire and his companions. The next colonist to arrive in the island was Helier de Corteret who came from Jersey in 1565 and it was he who provided a small barn where services could be held and arranged for a French pastor to come to the island. The present church was built in 1820 by Messrs le Pelley, father and son, both Seigneurs of Sark; it was licensed for worship in 1821 and consecrated in 1829. The Church was built by means of a grant of £400, two-fifths of the total cost, from the Church of England Building Society on condition that half the seats should be free. The building was improved in 1880 by the addition of a Chancel, while in 1883 a new bell was cast and engraved in France from two brass sixpounder field guns formerly used by the Sark Militia. Stained glass windows were fitted in the nave in 1926. In 1960 the Church underwent a complete restoration and was rededicated by the Bishop of Southampton.

The first mention of a Parish Church of St. Tugual is to be found in a Latin manuscript dated 1480 when a friar of Cherbourg was appointed incumbent of Herm. St. Tugual's identity is not clear. One authority believes the saint to

have been a Welsh woman who was slaughtered by the Saxons; another names him as one of the sons of Rioyal I, King of Brittany, and alleges that he was among the missionaries accompanying Saint Magloire.

The Chapel adjoins the old mansion at the top of the hill in the centre of the island. Although during the Occupation it was turned into a hen-coop, the interior retains an air of great antiquity.

Crabs and Fish

BRITISH INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORY

As a result of a change in postal rates the following definitive values ,45, 75 cents and Rs 2/25 will be made obsolete and replaced by the following values:

30 cents "Birgus latro (Robber or Coconut Crab).

This crab is one of the best known crustaceans in the South Seas. It is said to climb the coconut palm to cut down meaty nuts for food, although whether it actually does the cutting down is still open to question. The crab, however, is an agile and ready climber. "Birgus" is eaten by the native of South Sea Islands and is widely distributed on islands of the Indian and Pacific Oceans.

A red and blue variety is found in B. I. O. T. often at some distance from the beaches.

60 cents "Carpilius maculatus" (Spotted Pebble Crab or Blood Spotted Crab).

Essentially a coral dwelling crab. It occurs along the outer edge of seaward reefs, hides by day but moves about by night when it is easily captured. In Cocos Keeling Island it is called "Kepiting Durias" and is eaten in many parts of Indo-Pacific. A rather delightful legend tells of an ancient sea god, searching for food on the reefs of Hawaii, grasped a specimen of this crab, who drew blood from the god's fingers. The god dropped the crab leaving a row of red finger marks on its back. Thus the descendants of this species all display the red imprints of the god's fingers! It is distributed throughout the coral areas of the Indian and Pacific Oceans.

85 cents "Elagatis bipinnulatus".

This fish is widespread in the tropical Indo-Pacific. Although not usually seen close inshore, it does occur around reefs and shoals.

It attains a length of about four feet, is an excellent sporting fish and makes good eating. It is also known as Runner and Rainbow runner.

CHRISTMAS 1970

GUERNSEY

11 NOV 1970



GRENADA - 1970



DOMINICA
END OF NOV 1970



BRITISH INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORY
2 NOV 1970 - FISH



THE GAMBIA
REPUBLIC ISSUE
2 NOV 1970



DOMINICA - NATIONAL DAY
3 NOV 1970



JAMAICA
AGRICULTURAL
SOCIETY
2 NOV 1970

SINGAPORE - NATIONAL LINE
1 NOV 1970



NATIONAL SHIPPING LINE FEATURED

SINGAPORE

Neptune Orient Lines.

The Neptune Orient Lines Ltd. was established in Singapore on 30th December, 1968 with an authorised capital of S\$100 million. Although wholly owned by the Singapore Government it operates strictly on a commercial basis and without subsidy from the Government. The Neptune Orient Lines operates regular service between Hong Kong/Straits ports and U.K./Europe. N.O.L. also operates several dry cargo vessels on the charter market as well as one product tankers. It has plans to extend its route to Australia and Japan. Plans are also in hand to expand its fleet to include super tankers, bulk carriers and ore/Bulk/oil carriers.

At present, N.O.L. has a fleet of eleven vessels totalling 106,000 dwt in commission. Five other vessels are under order and construction. They have a total deadweight of 287,000 tons. The ship, "Neptune Aquamarine" which is depicted on the 15c stamp is a marine vessel of 12,690 dwt. It has a speed of 19.0 knots and was built in 1969.

P.S.A. First Container Berth.

Work on the Port of Singapore Authority Container Berth is progressing and by November 1970 the 700 feet Cross Berth for feeder service vessels will be completed. The first container berths will be completed by the end of 1971. When the P.S.A. Container Port project is completed it will comprise a stretch of 2,250 feet of marginal wharves for container vessels and a Cross Berth of 700 feet for feeder service vessels. There will be a back up area of approximately 100 acres of land. The cost of the project is estimated to be S\$77.6 million.

Shipbuilding and Ship Repairing Industry in Singapore.

The development of Singapore's shipbuilding and repairing industry has now reached a new era where it is being transformed rapidly from a traditional to a modern industry, with facilities being extended to service mammoth tankers and construction of ocean-going vessels, patrol boats and offshore oil rigs. As one of the fastest growing industries in Singapore with an average growth of 20% per annum for the past five years the turnover of the industry has reached 190 million in 1969. About

80% of this amount was from repairs and the rest in new building. The industry is targeting for a turnover of more than \$200 million this year.

There are at present about 50 shipyards employing a regular work force of over 12,000 workers. They are located mostly at Kallang, Tanjong Rhu, Jurong and Sembawang. The three big shipyards—Sembawang Shipyard, Keppel Shipyard and Jurong Shipyard are mainly repair yards and are capable of repairing tankers up to 100,000 dwt. The dry dock in the Jurong Shipyard is now extended to accommodate ships of up to 3000,000 dwt. Another dock is being planned in Sembawang to accommodate ships of up to 400,000 dwt. The other shipyards build and repair smaller vessels. They have a good reputation for fast and efficient service. Many of them are extending and modernising their facilities to further improve their service. The Government has introduced several training schemes in its vocational and industrial training centres. The Government's efforts is being complemented by the training scheme of the shipyards.

JAMAICA

75th ANNIVERSARY OF THE JAMAICA AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY

The Society was formed in 1895 and was incorporated in 1941 by the Jamaica Agricultural Society Incorporation Law, Cap. 169. Its objects are:

(i) to promote and encourage agriculture, horticulture, arboriculture and stock-raising in all their branches;

(ii) to establish and maintain an office of the Society in Kingston and, where necessary, sub-offices in various parts of Jamaica for the dissemination of information upon the matters specified in paragraph (i) of this section to the members of the Society;

(iii) to provide for the reading of papers and the delivery of lectures, and for courses of instruction and the holding of examinations in subjects connected with the matters specified in paragraph (i) of this section;

(iv) to provide and award premiums for the encouragement of agriculture, horticulture, arboriculture, apiculture and stock raising;

(v) to provide for the holding, from time to time, of agricultural and livestock exhibitions;

(vi) to promote, acquire an interest in, or finance any company or organization, or to carry on any trade, business, school, college, administration centre, exhibition, model farm or pen, experimental work or scientific research, calculated to promote directly or indirectly, or to contribute to, the agricultural or economic welfare of Jamaica;

(vii) to apply the funds placed at the disposal of the Society for the purposes of the Society.

Since its inauguration 75 years ago the Society has been the chief agent for the dissemination of agricultural knowledge, particularly among the small farmers, and for bringing to the attention of Government the problems of the agricultural community, and it acts as a liaison between Government and that community.

At its Annual Meeting in July, 1950, the Society unanimously accepted Government's proposals for the integration of the agricultural services of the Island and instructed the Board of Management to prepare a plan for the future conduct and operation of the Society. The Board in collaboration with officers of the Department of Agriculture drafted the plans under which the Society now functions.

The Society ceded its Extension Staff to the Department of Agriculture and appointed instead officers responsible for organizational work. These Officers are now called Branch Organizers and Project Officers.

To commemorate this occasion Jamaica is issuing a two value common design set of stamps showing the main products of Jamaican agriculture, bananas, citrus fruit, sugar cane, tobacco.

Release date: 2nd November, 1970. Designer: G. Drummond. Printer: Questa Colour Security Printers Ltd. Process: Lithography. Watermark: Jamaica Pineapple.

Sales Figures

ST. VINCENT

Methodist Conference, 1996: 2c: 98,976; 8c: 55,028; 25c: 55,688; 35c: 17,207; FDC: 1,248.

1st Anniversary of C.A.R.I.F.T.A.: 2c: 115,648; 5c: 179,515; 8c: 86,816; 25c: 76,883; FDC: 1,330.

INDEPENDENCE AND NATIONAL DAY

THE GAMBIA REPUBLICAN ISSUE

The Gambia lies on the west coast of Africa and is wholly bounded on the landward side by Senegal. It consists of a rectangle 70 miles long and 30 miles wide covering the mouth of the Gambia River, the land on either side and a strip of land 10 Kilometres wide on each side of the river above this, extending, if measured in a straight line, for approximately 130 miles. The lower 290 miles of the Gambia River, flow through the country from east to west.

The principal feature of The Gambia is the river, one of the finest waterways in Africa. Quite large ocean going vessels of 26 feet draught can enter the port of Bathurst and smaller ocean going vessels of 17 feet can sail 150 miles up-stream to Kuntaur.

The Constitution of The Gambia as a Republic provides for a parliament consisting of the President and of a House of Representatives. The House consists of 40 members, of these 32 are elected on the basis of Universal adult suffrage in 32 single member constituencies. Four members of the House are elected by the Head Chiefs from among their own number by secret vote, and are known as Chief's Representative members. Four members of the House are nominated by the President but these four nominated members do not have a vote. Members must have attained the age of 21 years, and be able to speak English well enough to take part in the proceedings of the House, which are conducted in that language. All except the nominated members must be citizens of The Gambia.

The Gambia became a Republic within Commonwealth on the 24th April 1970 with Sir Dawda Jawara as the President of the New Republic. To commemorate this occasion The Gambia are issuing a three value set of stamps.

The Republican issue was first raised in 1965 but failed to gain a majority, it was however passed by the House of Representatives in December 1969.

The 'State House' which is shown on the 2d stamp has always been the official residence of Governors and Administrators and according to records was built in 1821. The name was officially changed to 'State House' after The Gambia

became a Republic and the official residence of the President.

The 1/- stamp shows the President's portrait and the 1/6d stamp shows the National Flag and the President's portrait.

Technical Details

Release date: 2nd November 1970. Designer: G. L. Vasarhelyi. Printer: Questa Colour Security Printers Ltd. Process: Lithography.

DOMINICA

NATIONAL DAY ISSUE

Since it was on November 3, which fell on a Sunday, on one of Columbus' voyages that the Dominica (the "Sunday Island") was discovered, this day has remained its National Day.

This year's National Day is again being commemorated through a stamp issue. The designs are the result of a local Stamp Design Contest which has yielded, for the first time, stamps based on designs produced by local artists, based on local themes. These were then completed for printing by G. Drummond, the British stamp designer.

Date: November 3rd or shortly before.

Printer: Questa Colour Security Printers Ltd., England.

Denominations: 5c — (red, orange, green-yellow background). Two local girls in National Dresses of the 18th century.

8c — (light brown, green background). Local Historic Objects: 18th Century Carib Mace, and Carib Basketry. This basketry is also called Attrappe-Le-Main or "Wife Leader", used by the husband to take his wife in tow.

\$1 — (Royal blue, red, green — light blue background). National Flag and Map.

CHRISTMAS — CHARLES DICKENS ISSUE — END NOVEMBER

A unique combined honour to Christmas as well as to the Centenary of the death of the famous and beloved English novelist Charles Dickens, will be contained in a forthcoming stamp issue of Dominica. Since one of the best known and most widely read works of Dickens is "A CHRISTMAS CAROL" (written 1843), the stamps show the main characters and scenes of this work.

Charles Dickens was born in 1812 and produced some of the most lasting novels, such as "David

Copperfield", "The Pickwick Papers", "Oliver Twist", and "Great Expectation". It may be of special significance that most of these have been turned into very popular moving pictures, the latest, soon to be released, being "Scrooge", based on "A Christmas Carol". Dickens died June 9, 1870.

Designed by R. Granger Barrett of Great Britain, the Dominica Christmas set features, in vivid colours and in the style of the Victorian period, the spirit of the Dickens work in a memorable and impressive fashion, full of dignity for the Christmas season.

Date: End November. Printer: Questa Colour Security Printers Ltd., U.K. Designer: R. Granger Barrett. Size: Stamps — 1-15/16" x 1-3/8". Souv. Sheet — 5-1/2 x 3-1/2".

2c: (royal blue, brown, orange, black) **Marley's Ghost.**

15c: (green, light blue, violet, brown, green, black) **Fezziwig's Ball.**

24c: (carmine, green, yellow, royal blue, brown, black) **Scrooge and his Nephew's Christmas Party.**

\$1.20: (orange, dark green, brown, black) **The Ghost of Christmas Present.**

Special Pmk. POSTING BOX, THE SUMMIT, MT. KOSCIUSKO

The letter receiver at the summit of Mt. Kosciusko will be opened again on 14th December, 1970, for the reception of philatelic mail during the 1970/71 summer tourist season.

All letters posted in this box during the period 14th December, 1970, to 29th March, 1971, will be postmarked with a special pictorial hand postmarker typifying Mt. Kosciusko. This facility does not provide for the handling of registered mail.

The letter receiver will be cleared twice weekly during January and once weekly during the remainder of the period.

Overseas collectors should forward fully addressed envelopes to the Officer-in-Charge, Philatelic Bureau, 374 Bourke Street, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, 3000, together with a remittance to cover the cost of the Australian stamps to be affixed.

REVIEW

The Australasian Stamp Catalogue

1971 EDITION

Published by Review Publications Pty. Ltd., Sterling Street, Dubbo, N.S.W., Australia. —Price \$1.00.

The 1971 edition of this popular catalogue appears in slightly larger size to accommodate a new format of four columns to the page and for the first time includes large section identification at the top of each page so that the collector flipping through the catalogue can quickly identify each division.

The Old States section no longer appears at the front of the catalogue but has been relegated to the centre so that the Commonwealth section (which is the section most used by collectors) could be placed at the front of the book.

Another major change in the 1971 edition is the complete re-writing of the Kangaroo and George V issues. Listing of imprints, plate numbers, coils and booklets in these sections now appear in separate listings instead of being included in the main sections. The quick identification and checking of basic issues in the new style of listings should be much appreciated by collectors.

The catalogue lists, illustrates and prices every stamp of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Old States issues from 1850 to Federation and all the stamps of the Dependencies (Australian Antarctica Territory, Christmas Island, Cocos Islands, Norfolk Island, Nauru and Papua and New Guinea —including the pre-war issues of Papua, New Guinea, New Britain and North West Pacific Islands). The listings are completely up to date, including all issues of the Commonwealth and Territories to the end of 1970.

Prices have also been completely revised and updated, but no spectacular price rises are noted in the new edition, though prices for earlier pre-war issues continue to firm.

The catalogue has a striking new four colour cover featuring one of Richard Bates' prizewinning entries in the 1968 "Stamp News" Captain Cook Bicentenary stamp design competition.

Investment in Australian Stamps

The British magazine "Stamp Weekly" recently devoted a whole page to market index and investment possibilities of Australian stamps. The index showed that the Australian market reached a peak in 1967 since when prices had dropped (due to over-speculation) for many post-war issues, resulting in lower price indexes overall, though most pre-war issues continue to rise steadily.

The magazine made this comment on the situation, "Australia should be more popular than it is. The number of emigrant families that leave this country and the subsequent correspondence back and forth should certainly help this popularity.

The stamps of Australia offer much for the specialist—by way of the vast number of re-entries—and the thematic collector. There have been many fluctuations recently coupled with a falling-off in prices—but nothing that cannot be righted. Australia issues cheap stamps and prefers to issue plenty of 5c stamps rather than expensive series."

Shown below is one of the index charts used by "Stamp Weekly" to illustrate the feature. The figures are in sterling but N.Z.S.M. readers should have no difficulty translating them to New Zealand decimal currency.

	Total No. issued	No. Issued in year	Total Face value	Face Value in year	Could be purchased for
Up to 1964	141	—	75s 9½d	—	364s 8d
1964	144	3	75s 9½d	3s 1d	457s 8d
1965	152	8	86s 5½d	7s 8d	737s 6d
1966	155	3	87s 8½d	1s 3d	959s 8d
1967	162	7	92s 8½d	5s 0d	1,672s 10d
1968	182	20	115s 11½d	23s 3d	1,530s 0d
1969	198	16	130s 5½d	14s 6d	1,450s 7d

 AUSTRALIAN P.O.
 POSTMARKS COVERS
 SIX DAYS LATER

Some Australian stamp dealers have described as "questionable trade practice" a post office decision to extend the issue of first day covers by six days.

Mr. Kevin Duffy, a Sydney stamp dealer, said it was "questionable trade practice to stamp date an envelope with the wrong date."

A Post Office spokesman denied the claims made by stamp dealers.

"Our sales of first day covers under this arrangement do not suggest that their significance or value has decreased," he said.

Mr. Wayne Lawrence of the Chatswood Stamp Gallery wrote to "Stamp News" as follows: —

"What is a First Day Cover? It is an envelope with the stamps of a specific issue cancelled on the date they were issued, for example, National Development Series, 4 stamps issued and cancelled on August 31st, 1970. The reason that First Day Covers are sought by collectors is that it is only possible to cancel a small number of the total issued on the First Day. This therefore puts them at a premium, but the Australian Post Office will now issue and back date First Day Covers thereby making it possible to receive the First Day of Issue 7 days after they were issued. Which will mean that there are a greater number of First Day Covers on the market than there was possible before. Therefore a First Day Cover completely loses its significance.

"Furthermore many stamp dealers provide, at a small margin, a service to those members of the public who are unable for some reason or other to obtain their own First Day Covers. These dealers will no longer be able to compete in this field as the Post Office has created a monopoly by issuing First Day Covers 7 days after they are released. Surely this is not right? We all support the Post Office in their efforts to reduce their continued losses—but not at the expense of the individual and philately as a whole."

DONALD F. ION

(Member N.Z.S.D.A.)

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atics and many other countries. We are always making up
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N.Z. 1936 Chamber of Commerce (5v) MINT	80c set
1937 Coronation (3v) M. or U.	17c set
1946 Peace (11v) Mint @ 80c set	Used @ 50c set
1948 Otago (4v) Mint @ 18c set	Used @ 18c set
1950 Canterbury Mint @ 35c set	Used @ 30c set
1953 Coronation Mint @ 60c set	Used @ 50c set
1956 Southland Mint @ 40c set	Used @ 35c set
1957 Meat Export Mint @ 55c set	Used @ 55c set
1959 Marlborough Mint @ 50c set	Used @ 45c set
1960 Westland Mint @ 55c set	Used @ 49c set
1967 25c Buttermaking Mint @ 65c ea.	

Send 3c stamp for a free copy of our N.Z. catalogue.

BHUTAN 3 Dimensional Art set (4v)	\$1.20 set
3 Dimensional Animal set (9v)	\$1.40 set
AUSTRIA 1950 Airs (7v) Mint hinged	\$60.00 set
COOK ISLANDS 1966 Churchill (6v) Mint	\$3.00 set

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—9A

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Waihi Beach.**

—9P

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6A

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DUNEDIN, N.Z.**

UNITED STATES NEWS MILITARY THEMES

One recognizes the contributions of U.S. Servicemen, particularly those who are prisoners of war or missing in action.

The second stamp celebrates the 50th anniversary of the Disabled American Veterans. This service organization, with membership exceeding a quarter million, has aided more than 1.5 million veterans and their families during a half century.

The servicemen's stamp will focus attention on the efforts of the newly-formed National League of Families of American Prisoners of War and Missing in Southeast Asia. This group has appealed that Hanoi release or at least identify interned servicemen.

Participants in the stamp unveiling ceremony included Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird, Acting Secretary of State John N. Irwin, II, Mrs. Michael K. McCuiston, Acting National Coordinator for the National League and Cecil W. Stevenson, National Commander of the Dav.



STAMP FOR SHEEP

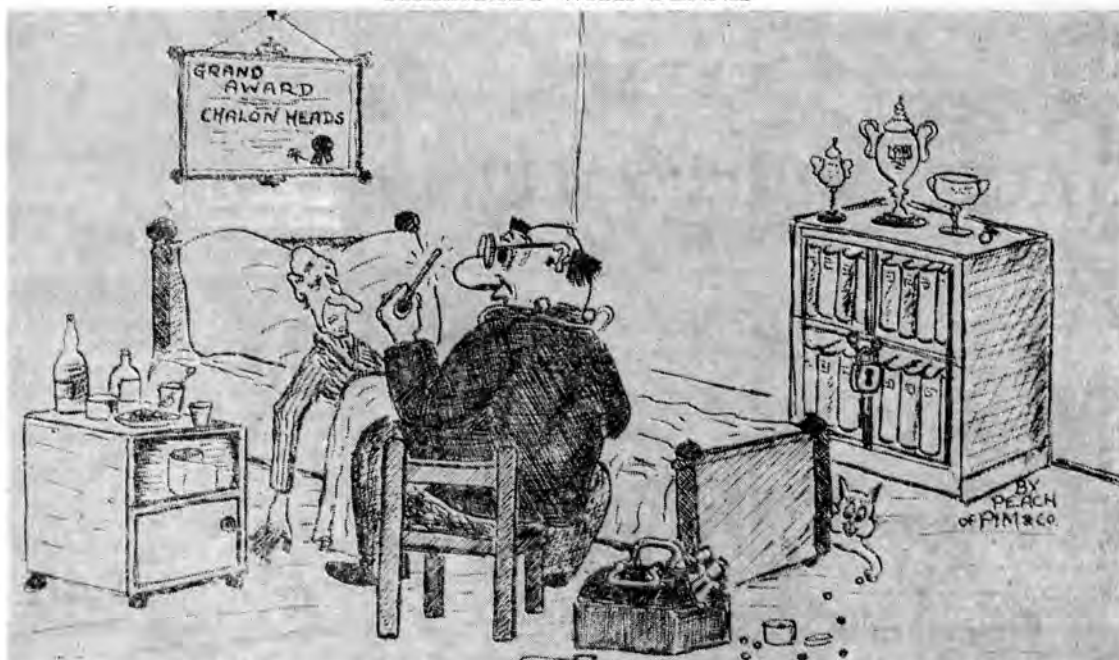
A postage stamp will commemorate the 450th anniversary of the introduction of sheep to the North American continent, an event that was to have impact on today's economy.

Design of the stamp was unveiled in a ceremony at Rawlins, Wyoming, a major sheep centre, by Deputy Postmaster General E.T. Klassen.

In his salute to the industry, Mr. Klassen said, "It has been said that if wool had been produced out of a test tube by 20th Century scientists, it would be known as a miracle fiber. But wool is older than recorded history. There is evidence that domesticated sheep were present in Europe as early as 10,000 B.C."

The American Wool stamp, which will be issued early next year, was designed by Dean Ellis, of New York. He has based his design on a photograph by Bob Taylor of Cordell, Oklahoma, which appeared in the May, 1970 issue of the "National Wood Grower." The vertical stamp, to be printed multi-colour and issued in panes of 50, shows a ewe with a lamb.

PHILATELY WITH DENNIS



"As a Doctor, I'd rather not pass an opinion, but, as a keen Philatelist, I think you should accept a quick cash offer for your stamp collection."

ADD A TOUCH OF CLASS TO YOUR COLLECTION THIS CHRISTMAS with a selection of New Zealand George V "two perf" pairs. Upper stamp in each pair Perforated 14 x 13½; lower stamp 14 x 14½.

1½d Grey	M \$1.00 U \$1.50	4½d Green	M \$3.50 U \$5.00
2d Violet	M \$1.25 U \$1.75	5d Blue	M \$3.50 U \$4.00
2d Yellow	M .75 U \$2.25	6d Carmine	M \$7.00 U \$8.00
2½d Blue	M \$2.00 U \$2.50	7½d Red Brown	M \$3.00 U \$7.75
3d Chocolate	M \$2.50 U \$3.00	8d Indigo	M \$1.75 U \$3.50
4d Yellow	M \$1.50 U \$6.00	9d Green	M \$5.00 U \$7.75
4d Violet	M \$2.00 U \$3.00	1/- Vermilion	M \$9.00 U \$10.00

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The original issues unmounted blocks of 4. (½c — \$2) \$22.00
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RUATARA, THE CHIEF WHO "PREPARED THE WAY"

Abel Tasman and his men celebrated the first Christmas in New Zealand waters somewhere between Kapiti and Cape Egmont in 1642. Turn to the 2d. centennial stamp of 1940.

Captain Cook and his men were somewhere off the North Cape on Christmas Day in 1769; Joseph Banks gives us a happy picture of the joyous time they had. Turn to any of the Cook stamps 1906, 1935, 1940, 1969.

The first Christmas on the mainland was celebrated in 1814 at Oihi, Bay of Islands. Turn to the Christmas stamp of 1964.

We all know that Rev. Samuel Marsden, who was the prison chaplain in New South Wales, brought the story of Christmas to the Maori people when he preached the first sermon in New Zealand more than 150 years ago. As we look at this Christmas stamp of 1964 I would like to consider the young chief Ruatara who is shown on this stamp. We can compare the story of John the Baptist with that of Ruatara in at least one respect. John the Baptist said that he was the voice of one crying in the wilderness and his work was to prepare the way of the Lord.

Ruatara was a voice in a savage land and his task was to prepare the way so that the preacher could bring the message. Marsden and Ruatara—each had a part to play in the story which Mr. L. C. Mitchell has pictured on this stamp.

Ruatara a chief of Ngapuhi, who had his home on the hill overlooking Oihi where the Marsden Cross stands today. The cross was used for the special datestamp used at Paihia and Russell.

Ruatara wanted to see the world of the Pakeha, he had heard such wonderful tales from his relatives and friends. At the age of 18 he got a job on a whaling ship but the captain treated him dirty; dumped him ashore at Sydney and failed to pay him his wages. He was able to join another whaling ship and finally arrived back at his home rather suspicious of the pakeha. He did so want to visit England and see the King. He spent almost two years on the journey but when he finally arrived in the great city he was disappointed. He had no friends, no one to help him. It was winter. At last greatly disappointed he took a position on a convict

ship bound for Sydney. He was now a sick man—the cold and damp of an English winter had been too much for him. On this ship were John King and Samuel Marsden who took notice of the young Maori and as far as they were able they tried to comfort him in mind and body. He was not only sick but sad. And when

JUNIOR PAGE

by Simon Sam

Stamp Talks by Simon Sam can be heard on Radio 2ZP and 2ZH on Sunday mornings, December 13th and 27th, at 9.05 a.m.

the ship reached Australia Marsden took him into his own house. At least a ship was sailing for New Zealand and it was arranged that Ruatara should be given a passage across the Tasman. But the captain proved false and he abandoned Ruatara at Norfolk Island. Here he was noticed by a more kindly seacaptain who took him on board and returned him to Marsden's care in Sydney. Ruatara remained in Marsden's home until late in 1811 or early in 1812 until he was able to return to his own people at the Bay of Islands, after four years or more away from his people.

Samuel Marsden had been considering for some time the possibility of establishing a mission station in New Zealand. He sent two of his men to have a look at the prospects. They met Ruatara and others and it was agreed that the time was ready for the enterprise.

When they returned to Sydney, Ruatara and his uncle, Hongi Hika, went with them. Everything was got ready in Sydney and at last the little ship "Active" sailed past Sydney Heads on the voyage to the land of the Maoris. On board with Samuel were Joseph Kendall and John Hall who were to open the mission. There was quite a party on board the small ship and this included Ruatara, Hongi and Korokoro, under whose protection the mission was to operate. They reached the Bay of Islands safely—and the chiefs went ashore to make arrangement for the coming of the missionaries.

To be continued.

THE PHOEBE

The Phoebe, an 613-ton mail steamer has mysteriously appeared on the 8d. St. Helena stamp issued to commemorate Mail Communications in 1969. Although the stamp has the inscription R.M.S. Dane, this vessel is without doubt the "Phoebe" which was for a number of years in the waters of the Pacific.

The Phoebe was built in 1851 by Denny at Dumbarton for the South American service of Preston and Company, being purchased by the Union Line in January 1858. She then became one of the company's five original mail steamers.



The Phoebe, Dane (being the first), Celt, Athens, and Norman, served on the Cape for some time before additions of larger vessels in the 60's. The Phoebe gained a reputation of being a very fast ship while serving on this mail run and as a result was purchased for the purpose of running the American blockade during the Civil War. After having served this purpose she was bought for the Inter-Colonial service between Australia and New Zealand. While serving on this latter inter colonial service she was captured by several masters, two recorded were A. Kennedy and E. Wheeler. Captain Wheeler is believed to have been the longest serving master of the Phoebe.

After changing hands often the Phoebe ended her career in 1901, becoming a store hulk and finally broken up.

POSTMARKER FOR SCOUT JAMBOREE

A special postmarker will be used at a temporary post office provided for the 9th Australian Scout Jamboree at Leppington, N.S.W. from 29th December, 1970, to 9th January, 1971.

The postmarker design will depict a small replica of the Jamboree motif which features Captain Cook's Endeavour.

Overseas collectors should forward fully addressed but unstamped envelopes to the Philatelic Bureau, 374 Bourke Stret, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, 3000, with remittance to cover the cost of the stamps to be affixed. These orders must reach the Bureau by 23rd December, 1970.

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NEW Zealand Bulk per 10, 100 or 1,000 off paper. Send for FREE buying list to Philatelic Distributors, P.O. Box 174, New Plymouth, New Zealand.

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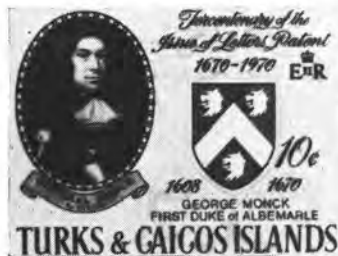


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