



Dunedin Stamp & Postcard Club

NEWSLETTER

February 2017



Meetings are held on the 4th Thursday of the month at 7.30pm at St Mary's Hall, Whitby Street Mornington (behind the BP garage)
All philatelists and postcard collectors welcome.



Society News

Important Notice

By now you will have received this years programme of events, however we have had a number of hiccups with date alterations. Your programme should now read:

- FEB** Bob Herron talking about Postal History in Southland & Val Sparrow to show items of Chatham Islands postal service.
- MAR** Sinclair McLaren – about displays and how to extend an exhibit.
- APR** Still awaiting confirmation – TBA
- MAY** John Steel – Trains on stamps. Also Pauline Lane showing South Georgia
- JUN** Alan Kilpatrick with interesting items.
- JUL** Auction night.
- AUG** Wayne Bowen on his collection interests.

I think many of these collections you will find quite amazing considering these are all from our members.

Mark Grellet

ARMISTICE STAMP SHOW DUNEDIN
9 – 11 November 2018

*This is a full national stamp and post-card exhibition.
The event coincides with the 100th anniversary of the ending of hostilities in World War I.*

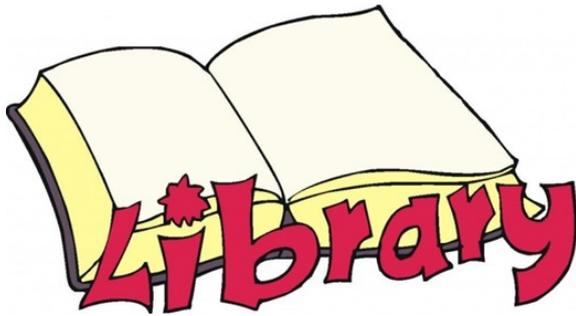
NEXT MEETING :

Bob Herron is to entertain us with his vast knowledge of Southland and its Post Offices. Many rare postmarks will be on display. Also Val Sparrow will give you the “Chatham Island Experience”

LAST MONTHS' MEETING

This was very well supported by our members and our room was completely full of tables with people buying and selling. For the night we welcomed two from out-of-town, one from Australia and the other from Invercargill.





Come along to our rooms and have a look in our library – there are catalogues that you can borrow

ONE PAGE COMPETITION – RESTARTS!

Are you ready with your entry for this months one page competition – **LETTER “G”**

Any topic along as it starts the the letter G , plenty of countries (Great Britain etc) and topics such as goats, giraffes gold, golf, etc. Rules remain the same as last year, points awarded to most popular entry and at the end of six months that member with the most points will win the Webb Cup.

**2016/17 Subscriptions are due. Payment by cheque to :-
The Treasurer, Dunedin Philatelic Soc.
c/- 6 Glenbrook Drive, MOSGIEL 9024
OR direct into the Societies SBS Bank
Acc #03 1355 0832038 00
OR better still by attendance at the Society’s meeting in January.**

Philatelic News

New Zealand Post have issued their second stamp issue for 2017, this time showing scenes of the Southern Lights or Aurora Australis.

The Southern Lights or Aurora Australis is a spellbinding natural light show that produces shimmering sheets of colourful light that appear to dance across the sky. New Zealand is home to the world’s largest Dark Sky Reserve, offering premium conditions for star gazing



Auroras are the result of electrically charged particles from solar winds reacting with gases in the earth’s atmosphere. The excess energy from these reactions creates a stunning light show that can be seen at the North or South poles. In order to view the Southern Lights you would need to be as far South as possible, which is part of the reason that New Zealand is such a prime location for viewing these colourful displays

The Aoraki Mackenzie International Dark Sky Reserve is located in the Mackenzie Basin of the South Island. The extreme lack of natural light and the multitude of clear nights make it the perfect combination for stargazing, or if the timing is right, for viewing the Southern Lights. The Mt John observatory is the University of Canterbury’s premier astronomical observatory and is a much favoured spot for catching a glimpse of the Southern Lights.

The Southern Lights can range in colour from pink to green to purple, with the colours dependent on a number of factors. The type of solar wind particle, the type of gas molecule and the electrical state at the time of the collision all have an effect on the eventual colour of the aurora.

This stunning stamp issue features six gummed stamps - each featuring a photograph of the Southern Lights at the Aoraki Mackenzie International Dark Sky Reserve. Each stamp shows a different view of the Southern Lights, with the various colours and patterns of shimmering light clearly evident in these stunning photographs.

NZ Post Stamp Issues Programme

The programme of stamp issues for 2017 has now been released, although details and subject matter for some issues is still being kept under wraps. The programme as it is so far is:

- 11 January—Year of the Rooster
- 8 February—Southern Lights
- 1 March—Native NZ Fresh Water Fish
- 5 April—The Darkest Hour (WWI Centenary)
- 3 May—British & Irish Lions Tour
- 7 June—Not announced
- 5 July—Kiwiana
- 2 August—Not Announced
- 6 September—Not Announced, Health Stamps
- 4 October—Not Announced
- 1 November—Christmas

N.Z.POST PROFITS

NZ Post Office showed a profit of \$6,218,288 for its operations 1968-69, up from \$5,824,477 in the 1967-68 period. 575,000,000 articles were posted and as at 31 March 1969 there were 1506 Post & Telegraph Offices and a staff of 30,671. From 30 June 1969 the present special air charter service between Wtgn to ChCh will be expanded and more mail will be sent by air. **This improved interisland mail service will cut some delivery times by up to 24 hours.**

POSTMARKS OF DUNEDIN EXHIBITION.

Dunedin Exhibition Post Office opened 17th Nov 1925 and closed 15th May 1926. As this exhibition was formally known as New Zealand and South Sea Exhibition, it was realised it was not possible to supply a date stamp with the full wording, so it became "Dunedin Exhibition". In 1925-26 Post Office was issued with two date stamps and in addition a machine cancellation was used. Due to the very large quantities of packets and parcels being posted, a relief date stamp was also used for a period. The exact date the relief stamp was used is unknown but was available till closing date. This relief is scarce and at one time a lady in Dunedin had the only known copy. Maybe more have found since, but they still would be very scarce and rare. The machine cancellation is also scarce and even the hand stamp isn't that common. (NZ Stamp Monthly - August 1969)

Travellers to Australia.

Those considering trips to Australia might like to check these dates, to coincide with major stamp shows. Firstly Melbourne has the FIAP show on from 30th Mar to 2 April. 2017. later in year, 24-29th October in Adelaide there is Stampex 2017.

"It is not necessary that a postman should possess a good voice, but it is a most essential thing that he should have a good delivery."
(The Philatelist, August 1870.)

Time now for a little poetry !

The lament of the Postage Stamp.

When I was born I was a twin,
And I had brothers many,
But I've been torn from all my kin –
Of all remain not any;
And he who took me from my friends
He "licked" me well to make amends.
He stuck me on an envelope,
Flung me down some dark space,
And then for me a wretch did grope,
Who struck me in the face;
So hard a blow his hand did give
I shall be black while I shall live.
Then was I thrust into a bag
"Mong letters large and small,
And knocked about nor let to lag –
I'm just alive – that's all;
But stamp collecting now's the rage,
And may I rest on some fair album's page.

(from "Stamp News, 1883.)

65th Anniversary of the Queen's Accession to the throne - a mixed blessing from Royal Mail.

On 6 February 1952 King George VI died peacefully in his sleep at Sandringham House. The official announcement said the King retired in his usual health, but passed away in his sleep and was found dead in bed at 7.30 am by a servant. He was 56, and was known to have been suffering from a worsening lung condition.

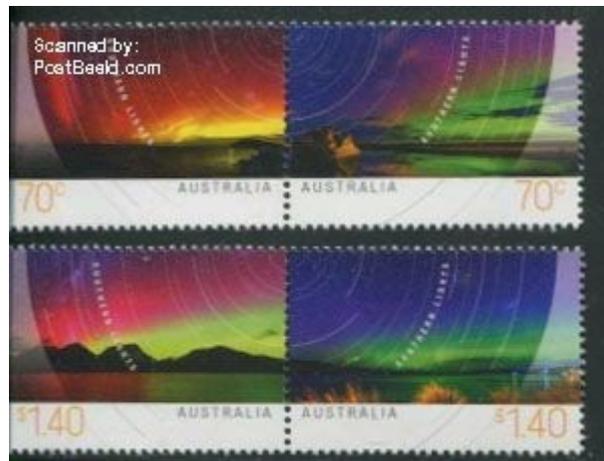
Princess Elizabeth, who was in Kenya at the time, became Queen Elizabeth II at the age of 25, and returned to the United Kingdom as soon as arrangements could be made.



There IS only one stamp. Although listed on the Royal Mail webshop in the 'latest special stamps' listing it is announced as a definitive, replacing the £5 blue issued in 2009.

This information was first published on Norvic Philatelics Blog on Tuesday 17 January. For further information on any British stamps the link is <http://blog.norphil.co.uk/>

Ian Billings of Norvic Philatelics Ltd also has a regularly updated website about British Stamps here <http://www.norvic-philatelics.co.uk/index.htm>



If the images on our Southern Lights seem a little familiar, maybe it is because of the above stamps which were issued by Australia Post in 2014.

The images for the New Zealand stamps were taken at the observatory at Mt. John, near Tekapo. The images for the Australian stamps were taken in Tasmania. Thus the skies from which the images were taken would be at a similar latitude, and the aurora would produce similar effects at both locations.