



Dunedin Stamp & Postcard Club

NEWSLETTER

April 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

Next Meeting:

APL This is going to be a fascinating evening – learn what your fellow collectors collect.

So, please bring along a page or so from your collection, then we will know what your interests are – you may well find others with similar interests in the room!

Also, don't forget your 4 pages for the George Rolton Cup

Coming up quickly is the Stamp Auction, so bring along any material you want to add to this action.

ARMISTICE STAMP SHOW DUNEDIN
9 – 11 November 2018

This is a full national stamp and postcard exhibition.

The event coincides with the 100th anniversary of the ending of hostilities in World War I.

Check it out now at armisticestamp-show.com plus you can also find it in Facebook.

[facebook.com/armisticestamp-show.com/](https://www.facebook.com/armisticestampshow2018)

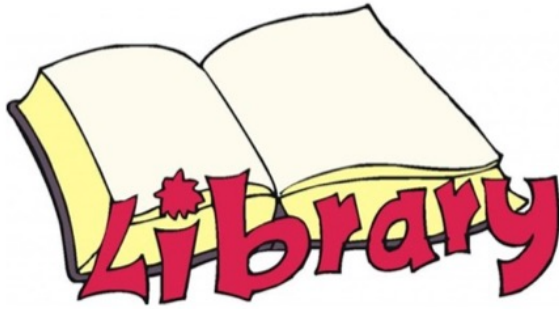
[ArmisticeStampShow2018](https://www.facebook.com/armisticestampshow2018)

LAST MONTHS' MEETING

Sinclair McLaren gave us all a most enlightening talk and display of what the judges are looking for when judging competitions. He showed us examples of the type of material they are looking for and how to present it, with Armistice Stamp Show 2018 in mind.

DUNEDIN STAMP FAIR
27th May 2017 at St Mary's
Hall - Whitby Street.
9.30 - 3.00





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

ONE PAGE COMPETITION

Are you aware there is no one page competition this month? Why? Because you should be working on your 4 to 8 page entry (on any subject) for the George Rolton Cup.

However last month we had to produce a page with the letter H, so naturally we had – Horses, also Hong Kong, Harbours, Hot Air balloons and Heavy Haulers (Australian issue)- the latter being the winning entry by Alistair

At the last meeting we were made aware of something that all members should be wary of – that the replacement of stamps in circuit books that has been happening in other clubs! We suggest vigilance – maybe even photocopying books before they are given to the Exchange Superintendents.

Philatelic News

The new issue from New Zealand Post this month is the fourth instalment of the five year series commemorating the centenary of World War I. The title for this instalment is “The Darkest Hour”.



By 1917, soldiers and loved ones had begun to lose faith in the ongoing war. Those on the Western Front were living in cold, wet trenches, and those at home were doing what they could to keep the home fires burning. New Zealand would experience the deadliest day in its military history when 845 lives were lost at the Belgian town of Passchendaele.

As the war continued its persistent trudge into 1917, New Zealanders began to grow weary of this Great War that seemed to have no end in sight. Those on the Western Front were living in cold, wet trenches, and would experience the deadliest day in New Zealand’s military history when 845 lives were lost at the Belgian town of Passchendaele.

Alongside the horrors of the Western Front, we tell the story of mother of ten Ellen Knight. Like many mothers, wives, sisters and daughters she experienced the war from New Zealand shores, relying on letters from loved ones and news reports to stay informed. However, Ellen’s story was grimmer than most – she had lost three sons by the war’s end.

Forthcoming Issues

Those of you who subscribe to New Zealand Post’s “Focus” magazine will have read information about some of the stamp issues to be released over the next few weeks.

To be released on 3 May is an issue commemorating the British and Irish Lions rugby team's tour of New Zealand. A stamp showing team colours and logos is placed at each of the venues where the team will be playing New Zealand teams, within a sheet showing a map of New Zealand, in a similar way to past issues such as the Tiki Tour sheets of 2009 and 2012.

On 17 May a set of stamps entitled He Tohu will be issued to commemorate 3 documents that are considered to be the founding documents of New Zealand. These are the 1835 document declaring the independence of the united tribes of New Zealand, The Treaty of Waitangi, which was signed in 1840, and the 1893 Women's Suffrage Petition.

There will be new scenic definitives issued on 7 June to use for the new rates which New Zealand Post recently announced effective 1 July.

Another issue to be released in June will show New Zealand Surf breaks.

In July there will be an issue called the Great Kiwi Road Trip.

I will publish more details about these issues, including images in future newsletters as New Zealand Post puts the images on to their website.

Warning!!!

As a result of last month's Newsletter article of "Beware the Illegal Stamp" we have a warning to DO NOT BUY OMAN STAMPS marked STATE of OMAN.

Oman is not a State but a Sultanate. All stamps should have the name Sultanate and to Crest.

STAMP COLLECTING.

Stamp collecting is a hobby of paying large sums of money for tiny pieces of paper that people have spat on.

LOOKING FOR NEW STAMPS ?

Postcrossing

I recently come across this site postcrossing.com which is a project that allows you to send and receive postcards back from random people around the world . that is real postcards not electronic Why ? because lots of people like to receive mail and the element of surprise of receiving postcards from different places in the world .

This can turn your mailbox into a box of surprises did you know several countries have issued postcrossing stamps Netherlands was the first to issue a set of ten different postcrossing stamps on October 15 2011 other countries who have also issued stamps Finland , Guernsey , Russia , Czech, Austria and Belarus etc .

How does it work?

- 1/ Request an address and postcard ID
- 2/ Mail a postcard to that address
- 3/ Receive a postcard from another postcrosser
- 4/ Register the postcard ID you have received
- 5/ Go back to number 1 and start again to receive more postcards

673,975 members worldwide from 208 countries are currently members . 1937 of these are from N Z .

Record Price for a New Zealand Stamp

In 1949 King George VI and Queen Elizabeth accompanied by their younger daughter, Princess Margaret were to have made a royal tour of New Zealand and Australia. Their elder daughter, then Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh opted to remain at home with their young baby, Prince Charles.

In order to commemorate the tour the New Zealand Post Office ordered a set of four stamps to be issued. The stamps showed the following images: 2d—inset portraits of the King and Queen over the grounds of the Treaty House at Waitangi, 3d—HMS Vanguard, the largest and fastest battleship in the Royal Navy fleet, upon which the royal family were to travel, 5d—King George VI, Queen Elizabeth and Princess Margaret, and 6d—the royal crown & sceptre.

The visit was to have been the first visit to New Zealand by a reigning monarch, however, due to the ill health of the King, the tour was cancelled and the stamps were ordered to be incinerated.

In 1979 two damaged examples of the 3d HMS Vanguard stamp, inscribed Royal Visit 1949, appeared in two different auctions. A few more of these stamps have appeared over the years and the known total now stands at seven examples.

On 11 March 2017 the finest known of these stamps was auctioned by Mowbray Collectibles in Wellington. This stamp was last auctioned in Australia in 1993.

The price realized for this stamp, including Mowbray's 15% buyers premium was \$67,850, which set a new world record for a New Zealand stamp. It more than doubled the previous record, which was set by another copy of the same stamp auctioned by Mowbray's in 2009. The stamp was sold to an undisclosed Asian buyer.

The seven copies of the HMS Vanguard stamp are the only stamps from the set known to have survived the incinerator.

Interestingly, the design of the 2d stamp was repurposed for an issue to commemorate the proposed visit by Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip in 1952. Due to the death of King George VI on 6 February 1952 while the royal couple were touring Kenya, that tour was also cancelled and the stamps were never issued.

The 6d design showing the royal crown and sceptre was used for the 1/6 value of the set issued in 1953 to commemorate the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II on 2 June 1953.

Race Horses

On 6 April Royal Mail issued a set of stamps showing famous race horses. Two stamps of each denomination 1st, £1.17, £1.40 and £1.57 make up the total of eight stamps. One stamp of each denomination shows a horse racing on a flat track and the other shows horses racing on hunt or hurdles tracks.

One of the horses, Estimate, shown on one of the £1.57 stamps, is owned by Queen Elizabeth II. In June 2013 the mare, Estimate, won the gold cup at Ascot, and in doing so became the first horse owned by a reigning monarch to do so.

Shown on one of the 1st stamps, Red Rum is the only horse to have won the Grand National three times, doing so in 1973, 1974 and 1977. In 1975 and 1976 he was placed second.

The above two articles have been abridged from articles in Linn's Stamp News in the issues of 17/04/2017 and 24/04/2017 respectively.

In 1984, members of the Oxford Literary Club for Retired Professional People & Others Interested were especially looking forward to hearing a guest speaker on the subject of "Old Age Absent Mindedness and Keeping Fit".

Unfortunately he forgot to turn up.

POST OFFICES IN OTAGO AND SOUTHLAND OF A BYGONE ERA

ROCK AND PILLAR

The Range

Believed to be named by John Turnbull Thomson, a Surveyor in 1857.

Rock and Pillar was named for a distinctive rock pillar about 7 metres high set among other unique configurations near the summit of the range of that name.

Photo of Mrs Pauline Prendergast's painting produced some 25 years ago after climbing to the summit to produce a painted image of the Rock and Pillar.



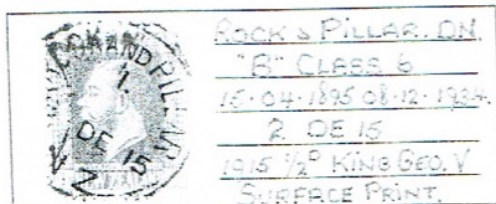
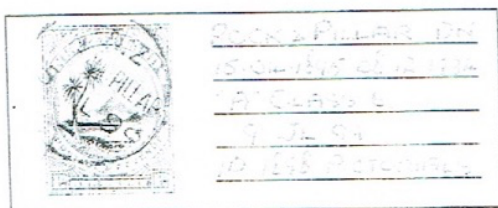
There is a persistent and high unusual cloud formation associated with the range. This strange cloud formation, found only in one or two places in the world, is more or less stationary and is called the Taieri Pet by the local inhabitants. It is formed by high north-westerly winds being forced upward over the Rock and Pillar range which also causes very strong winds at ground level

The Settlement.

Rock and Pillar is situated 8 miles north of Middlemarch. Rock and Pillar was also often referred to as "Moloney's" in honour of the hotel keeper who kept a good house when the coaches were running between Naseby and Middlemarch rail head. As the rail head pushed on, the settlement's importance declined despite various imaginative attempts to revitalise it, such as the establishment in 1907 of a short-lived tent based tuberculosis sanatorium centered on the old hotel.

A school operated from 1927 to 1935.

The Post Office and Telephone Bureau was operated from a Railway Surfaceman's House. A Post Office operated in Rock and Pillar from 15/04/1895 to 8/12/1934 when Rural Delivery was introduced.



Thanks to former residents of the area, Maurice Valentine and Maurice Prendergast for information and Pauline Prendergast for the photo of her painting.

ARE THERE MUMMIES IN YOUR STAMP COLLECTION ?

It's possible there are mummies lurking in your collection – or at least parts of them. We frequently don't give much thought to the paper our stamps and covers are produced on, but papermaking has a long, colourful, and somewhat sordid history involving various crimes, body snatching, and there is confirmed evidence of perhaps widespread use of mummy wrappings for pulp.

Mummy paper includes any number of products created using (at least in part) the linen wrappings of mummies imported from Egypt. As it turns out, from a relatively recent discovery, a number of our philatelic artifacts might contain traces of mummies

Due to many reasons, including a rapidly growing literacy rate and the rapid expansion of the newspaper industry, the demand for paper spiked during the mid 19th century. At the time, most paper was made with a high percentage of rag content, and the demand for rags far outstripped the supply. By the mid-1850s, papermaking in America was approaching a crisis, with no significant new source of rags in sight.

In Britain, it was not uncommon for criminals to dig up the recently deceased, sell the bodies for medical dissection, and peddle the clothing as rags for papermaking

In 1847, Isaiah Deck, an archaeologist, explorer, and physician, gave thought to mummy paper after having visited Egypt while searching for Cleopatra's lost emerald mines. He noted the huge number of mummies and parts (human and animal) that were frequently exposed in "Mummy pits" after sandstorms. By Deck's calculations in 1855 there were enough easily accessed mummies providing linen of the "finest texture" to sate the papermaking needs of America for about 14 years (at the average consumption of 15 pounds per person per year). Besides, the bones of animals (and, he presumed, humans) were already being extensively used for creating charcoal for Egyptian sugar refineries. Lines for paper, he reasoned, should be obtainable for "a trifling cost."

Even earlier, in its Dec 17, 1847 issue, the *Cold Water Fountain*, a temperance newspaper in Gardiner, Maine, ran an article regarding the potential use of mummies for paper. "The latest idea of the Pacha of Egypt for a new source of revenue is the conversion of the cloth which covers the bodies of the dead into paper, to be sold to add to the treasury." The article states. The paper went on to describe the fine quality of the linen and its superior suitability for papermaking.

Dard Hunter, in his "Papermaking: The History and Technique of an Ancient Craft", documented a paper mill in Gardiner, Maine that in 1863 used mummy wrappings due to a shortage of rags during the Civil War.

It's entirely possible that a good number of U.S. envelopes manufactured during the 1850s and 1860s from multiple factories (if not stamps themselves and stamped envelopes) may very well contain traces of mummy paper.

What might be hiding in your collection !