



# AUCKLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY Inc.

15 Maybeck Rd, Mt Albert, Auckland, 1025

[www.aps.gen.nz](http://www.aps.gen.nz)

**President:** John Powell – [jp.auckland@gmail.com](mailto:jp.auckland@gmail.com)

**Secretary:** Andrew Chessum – [aucklandphilatelic@gmail.com](mailto:aucklandphilatelic@gmail.com)

**Meetings are held at the Mt. Albert Senior Citizens' Hall, Wairere Avenue on the first and third Tuesdays of each month February to November. Doors open at 7.30pm**

## EDITORIAL ADDRESS

Bruce Webber, 10 Coyle Street, Sandringham, Auckland, 1025. Email: [brucewebberqa@netscape.net](mailto:brucewebberqa@netscape.net)

Newsletter No.218 ISSN 0113 6100 – July 2024

---



Angola in Stamps before Independence

Tane McManus

(See page 4)

# SUBSCRIPTIONS

**Subscriptions for this year (2024/25) are due.** There has been a small rise in our yearly amount so please ensure the correct amount when paying. The early payment discount option has expired.

Adult Members \$45 pa, including Partner \$50 pa.

Country Members \$35 pa, including Partner \$40 pa.

Junior Members (under 18 years at 01/01/2024) \$20 pa.

All payments to Auckland Philatelic Society (APS) need to be either in cash at a Club night, or by internet banking.

**APS Subscription Account: ANZ Bank 01-0102-0063264-00**

For subscription payments. Please put your name in "Particulars" (i.e. "J Blogs") and in "Reference" put the year your subscriptions relate to (i.e. 24/25). When paid please also email Andrew Chessum ([aucklandphilatelic@gmail.com](mailto:aucklandphilatelic@gmail.com)) with the details.

## Other APS Accounts

**The Exchange Circuit Account: ASB Bank 12-3077-0246547-00**

For Circuit Book payments. **Important** When paying for your Circuit Book purchases please put your name in "Particulars" (i.e. "J Blogs") and the Circuit Book numbers you are paying for as the "Reference" (i.e. "Books 10, 12"). To successfully credit your account, we need these details. Please email Victor Sutcliffe ([victor.sutcliffe66@hotmail.com](mailto:victor.sutcliffe66@hotmail.com)) with confirmation.

**The Red Dot Sales Account: ASB Bank 12-3034-0184198-00**

For Red dot auction payments. Please put your name in "Particulars" and "Red Dot Sale" in "Reference". When paid please email Nic Hendy ([nichen@hotmail.com](mailto:nichen@hotmail.com)) with your details.

## 2024 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2024 is our next Red Dot sale.**

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> August** – Keith Griffith Memorial Lecture – Bruce Tapp.

**Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> August** – Discovery Lecture, No. 4 Numismatics.

**Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September** – Armstrong Cup, one frame competition.

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> September** – Dealers night.

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October** – Discovery Lecture, No. 5 Genealogy.

## Association of Northern Philatelic Societies

The ANPS now has a Facebook page which has been established to promote the Upper North Island philatelic events. Visit to see what's going on: <https://www.facebook.com/UpperNorthIslandPhilatelicEvents> . If you have anything you want promoted, email [lmccully@orcon.net.nz](mailto:lmccully@orcon.net.nz) with the information.

<b>Index</b>	<b>Page</b>
Internet Banking Account details .....	2
Dates for your diary .....	2
APS Exhibition Results .....	3
Angola in Stamps Before Independence – Tane McManus .....	4
PHILAS Auctions – Nic Hendy .....	6
Back to basics – Line vs Comb perforations – Brian Carroll.....	8
Haria’s Stamp Shop Limited – Bruce and Joe Burgess .....	9
How to appraise stamps .....	11
The 1856 British Guiana 1c Magenta – Bruce Webber .....	12
Meeting Reports:	
Ambury Presentations – Part 2.....	13
Recent NZ Post Issues .....	15

## **APS Exhibition Results**

On Saturday June 8, anybody attending the Single Frame APS 2024 Exhibition would have been surprised and delighted to see the increased level of attendance and stand activity compared with recent years.

Exhibition stands this year included the NZ Genealogy Society, the NZ Postcard Society, the Auckland Wargamers Club, the Auckland Numismatic Society and three of our most loyal dealers in Earle Howe, John & Jan Fitzpatrick and Eric Diamond. APS is extremely grateful for their support and trust they enjoyed the day as much as the APS membership did.

Over \$1,000 in Cash Prizes over four categories was on offer to exhibitors this year and as a result entries were of a very high calibre which made the judges’ task both rewarding and difficult.

### **Winners from the 2024 APS Exhibition were:**

#### **Category 1 – New Zealand/Pacific Islands**

- 1st Brian Carroll (APS) – They Came on the Wings of the Morning
- 2nd = Brian Marshall (APS) – The NZ 1954 Health Stamps and Covers
- 2nd = Christine Anderson (Whangarei PS)- Celebrating NZ Centennials

#### **Category 2 – International**

- 1st Ross Marshall (Waikato PS) – Poland Postage Dues
- 2nd Bruce Webber (APS) – The Hermes Heads of Greece
- 3rd Andrew Chessum (APS) – Music on stamps of the USSR (1929 – 1991)

#### **Category 3 – Postal History/Open**

- 1st Brian Carroll (APS) – The Byrd Antarctic Exposition
- 2nd Monica Comrie (Whangarei PS) – Civil Censorship Northern Territories Australia WWII
- 3rd Ross Marshall (Waikato PS) – Ohai-Nightcaps Coalfields

#### **Category 4 – Thematic**

- 1st Monica Comrie (Whangarei PS) – Tomatoes
- 2nd Francesca Giraldo (APS) – Space Exploration

3rd Monica Comrie (Whangarei PS) – The Rooster and his Family (Postcards)

### Public Vote

1st Francesca Giraldo (APS) – Space Exploration

2nd Ray Wisbey (APS) – Early English Postcards

Special thanks to our two judges Tim Beach and Denise Rosenfeldt for their professional input and giving up the whole of one Saturday to facilitate our judging requirement.

And a big congratulations to all the category winners and runners-up.

To all of you who exhibited, participated or attended this year's exhibition and all of whom didn't make sure you mark Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2025 into your diaries! The Auckland Philatelic Annual Exhibition is fast becoming an event not to be missed!

## Angola in Stamps Before Independence

Tane McManus.

Tane gave this talk as guest speaker at the 2023 Ambury Shield competition. He was farewelled as this was his last night with us before moving to Christchurch.



Angola is a country in Southern Africa

between Democratic Republic of Congo, Zambia and Namibia to the South. It is mostly savanna based with Jungle to the north and Kalahari Desert to the south. It is oil rich and most of the people are black Africans of Southern and Central Bantu background. There are Khoisan to the south and small communities of whites and mixed race people. Despite its oil wealth, most people are poor and live by subsistence agriculture.

Angola was settled and named by the Portuguese in 1482 and, by 1510, a settlement had been started in Luanda. Constant wars and an oppressive climate saw almost no development until the late 19th century, when railways were built into the interior. The country was dependent on Portugal until independence. Angola turned to communism after a 15-year civil war but by 1990 had rejected communism for a corrupt hybrid regime.



The first stamps were issued in 1870 and featured a crown symbolising Portuguese control. These early stamps are not rare but many them are hard to find rather than expensive. The set was used for 16 years and many stamps are likely from the later

1870s and 1880 than 1870. The second and subsequent issues showed an image of the Portuguese monarch until 1909. This was similar to stamps issued by Portuguese colonies all over the world. Starting in the 1890s, overprints and provisional issues dominated and by 1911 – some 80 provisionals had been issued on 50 original stamps. Postage Dues came in 1904 and in early 1911 a revolution saw Portugal become a republic and all the stamps in use were overprinted “Republica”, including the unissued stamps of Manuel II (1908 – 1910) for Angola. In 1913 a new currency of Escudos was issued and the Lusitania series was issued in 1913 all over the empire. Stamps of this era are hard to find outside common postal rate values like 1 and 2 centavos. ¼ and ½ centavo stamps were issued as they were 2½ and 5 old reis.

Many stamps were used for taxes including Postage Dues, newspaper tax, social assistance, building funds and even Povoamento, which was a resettlement tax in the 1960s.

The 1920s saw further provisionals and overprints and in some cases stamps were overprinted twice and some were even from the 1890s! 1932 saw the currency renamed Angolare and new stamps were issued from 1 centavo to 20 Angolares. In 1938 an imperialistic set came out showing Portuguese “colonial heroes.” Finally in the mid-1940s, unique Angola stamps were issued, although these celebrated Portuguese control of Angola. Compared to other colonies, Angola was overlooked and many omnibus issues were not issued for Angola. More one-off issues followed after 1950 including an 80th anniversary set of the first stamps. In 1951 the first of many definitive sets was issued showing birds ranging from 5 centavos to 50 Angolares. 1953 saw wild animals, 1955 railways and 1957 natives. During this time the stamps became wallpapery. These stamps were designed and printed in Portugal and I am confident that no native Angolan had an input in their design.



Inflation got worse in this era, so by 1960 the lowest face value was usually 25 cents. In 1955 the Angolare was renamed Escudo. Numbers of stamps issued got higher in the early 1960s. There was a 45-stamp issue showing coats of arms and the next year a 20-stamp issue of churches. This was at a time other European nations were granting their African colonies independence, but Portugal was fighting civil wars to retain them. After 1965 stamp numbers decreased as the war dug in and most show jingoistic and colonialistic themes based around military, development and colonial history. Very few stamps featured Africans or African culture beyond them being decorative (1957 Dances, 1961 Hairstyles Dances etc). Few Angolans had been educated or trained and many joined guerilla bands fighting the Portuguese. Many were communist based with Leninist ideas and they were given arms by the USSR and Cuba. In 1974 the regime in Portugal toppled and free elections gave the country independence in 1975. Some Portuguese issues were overprinted, but new stamps showed communist and African themes.

Angolan stamps show a tragic story of colonialism gone wrong. The Portuguese had nearly 500 years in Angola and compared to other empires, achieved almost nothing and caused much anger. However, collecting these stamps has been rewarding and frustrating and they show an insight into a doomed country.

## **The Philatelic Association of New South Wales (PHILAS)**

Nic Hendy

Nic Hendy, who has run our Red Dot auctions for many years, was asked by Bruce Chatterton, a past president of APS who now lives in Australia, to visit, help and give advice on the running of the PHILAS auctions. He spent four and half days in Parramatta helping out. This is Nic's report on PHILAS Auctions.



The PHILAS warehouse full of lotted stamps. Bruce Chatterton is in the group of people on the right.

PHILAS is an organization of greater Sydney's philatelic societies.

There are about 60 clubs in an area about the size of Whangarei to Hamilton (we have about 7 in the same size area). PHILAS was formed in 1971, principally to run 4 auctions a year.

About 2 ½ years ago the President and Vice-President bought an industrial building for \$5,200,000 to use as a site for storing and running auctions. They had not run it past the PHILAS committee, so it caused a lot of controversy. The building is zoned industrial and cannot be used as a commercial building (you cannot make sales from the building). There is an application with the council to change this categorization. It is also a long way from anywhere. It took me 20 to 30 minutes to travel to and from Parramatta by car each day depending on the traffic.

To make the building useful, they spent \$800,000 and built 4 offices on a mezzanine floor above 3 existing toilets. They would like to build further mezzanines so they can house their 7,000 library books.

PHILAS had 6 containers stored with philatelic items to sell. They were collections from non-members who were offering family collections for sale. The items are valued and an estimate is negotiated with them and agreed upon. Items cannot be sold for less than 80% of the estimate.

Members from several societies are rostered to go through the material and group them by vendor and create boxes out of the bulk lots. These were then vetted and then probably the best removed. The items were sorted by country.

At this stage the PHILAS catalogue is created, printed and sent out. On this occasion a total 987 lots were lotted with an estimate total of \$144,665. Out of this, there were 93 NO LOTS, where a vender had changed their mind and withdrew the lot. The lots had been already numbered so they were published

in the catalogue as such. Items from previous sales that have not sold are allowed to be included. At the discretion of the vender, they can be inserted at the same or lower estimate. These consisted of 24% of the auction. A total of 116 (56%) of these sold and 515 (75%) of the new items.

The sale prices realized on the day totaled \$122,221, with 631 (70.4%) lots sold. The highest price for an item "Australia - 1966 to 2000s mint to \$10 denomination in sets, miniature sheets, sheets and A.P.O. packs face value \$8,690" was estimated at \$3,500 and sold for \$5,000. The lowest price was \$4 for a book.

Postal bidders purchased 200 (31%) of the 630 lots sold. All the postal bidders are recorded separately with their own bidder numbers. When a lot is sold, the under bidder (the postal bidder or room bidder that had the second highest bid) is also recorded. They do this because sometimes buyers do not pick up the items purchased or change their minds, so the under bidder is then offered the item.

Because of council regulations, items could not be sold from the Parramatta building, so the auction was held in a rented building, 2 blocks away.

Room bidders were registered at the sale-venue and were given a pre-printed plastic bid paddle. It is only printed on 1 side, and you can't distinguish an upside down 6 from 9, except for writing above the number. Postal bidders are given a number from 100 to 210. Only 66 of the postal bidders secured lots.

On the sale day there were two auctioneers who took turns, it was going to be an hourly change, but it was more often than that because of interruptions. At the top table there were two scribes, writing separate ledgers and a data entry person on a computer, plus a runner.

At the other end of the hall at the entrance door was the Registration desk. When a bidder arrived, they filled in a form with name, address, phone no and email address. They then received a bidding paddle that was also recorded. I sat with my computer and sales data was run down to me every time someone wanted to leave. This meant the auction had to stop, the data entry person had to save his file and then copy it to a memory stick (which was run down to me). Room bidders were allowed to leave at any time they liked and this made for a lot of annoying breaks. I can think of two ways to over-come this: by mirror-imaging the data entry computer on the registration computer so that the auctioneer does not have to stop, or buyers can only leave every half hour when the auctioneers swap over for a break.

When a buyer left, I was able to print them a sale sheet that included their sale details. We had several occasions when buyers pointed out items that they had bought that had not been included. Several of these pointed to mistakes in data entry and the sale had to be stopped to check the data on the manual ledgers. Buyers took their registration sheet and their sale sheet back to the Warehouse where they paid for their lots and uplifted them.

# Back To Basics

## Line vs Comb Perforations - How to tell the difference

Brian Carroll

One of the least understood varieties in “old-fashioned” lick-and-stick postage stamps relates to “line” or “comb” perforated stamps and how to tell the difference. Why is this important you may ask? Not only are they “technically” different stamps for your collection but there are often major differences in values based on the perforation type. So, it’s worth knowing the difference, especially when you are looking through online offers or physical sales stock.

*In the world of philately, knowledge is power, use it to your advantage.*

**1967 Niue Decimal Overprint:** The image on the left is a Line perf (NZ\$3), while the image on the right is a Comb perf (NZ\$40), both offered on Delcampe for \$4.



### “Line” Perforation

The older, and now rarely used perforation method was by **Line** perforators. A Line perforator machine simply consist of a single row of perforation pins and are arranged in a straight line.

The process begins by perforating the top edge of the sheet, then the sheet of stamps is shifted down by the height of a row of stamps to perforate the next row of stamps at the upper edge and is repeated until the lower sheet margin is perforated. In this way, the sheet is now perforated horizontally. Now the sheet is rotated 90 degrees and the process begins again at the top of the sheet until the bottom of the sheet is perforated.

As the vertical and horizontal perforations are done in many separate steps, this process can lead to stamps of different size as sometimes the shifting of a row is not the same as the previous shift.

**Haphazard corner perforations are produced and are markedly different in appearance from line comb perforated stamps.**

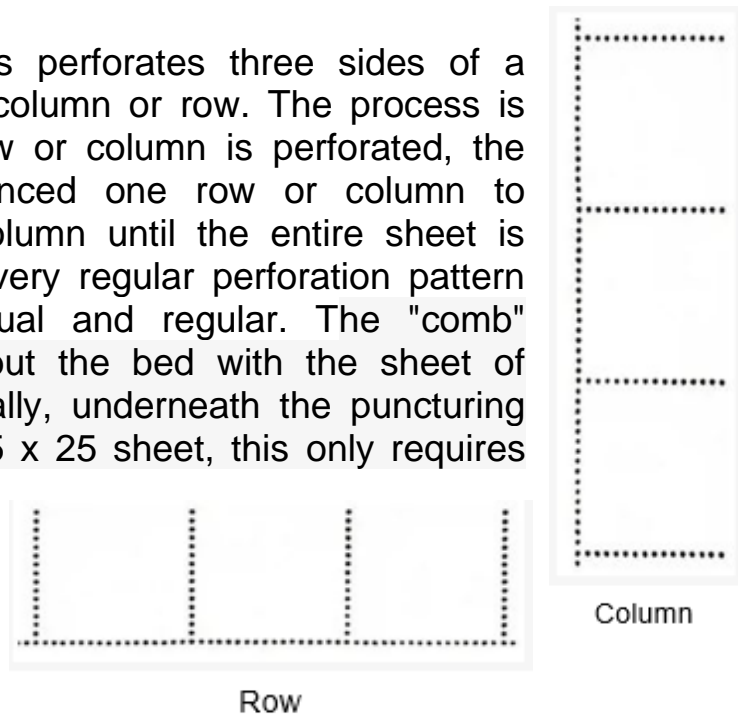
Consider a sheet of stamps that is 25 x 25. This would require 52 individual perforation steps, each possibly being offset by a small amount, resulting in very irregular corner shapes, that is characteristic of line perforated stamps.



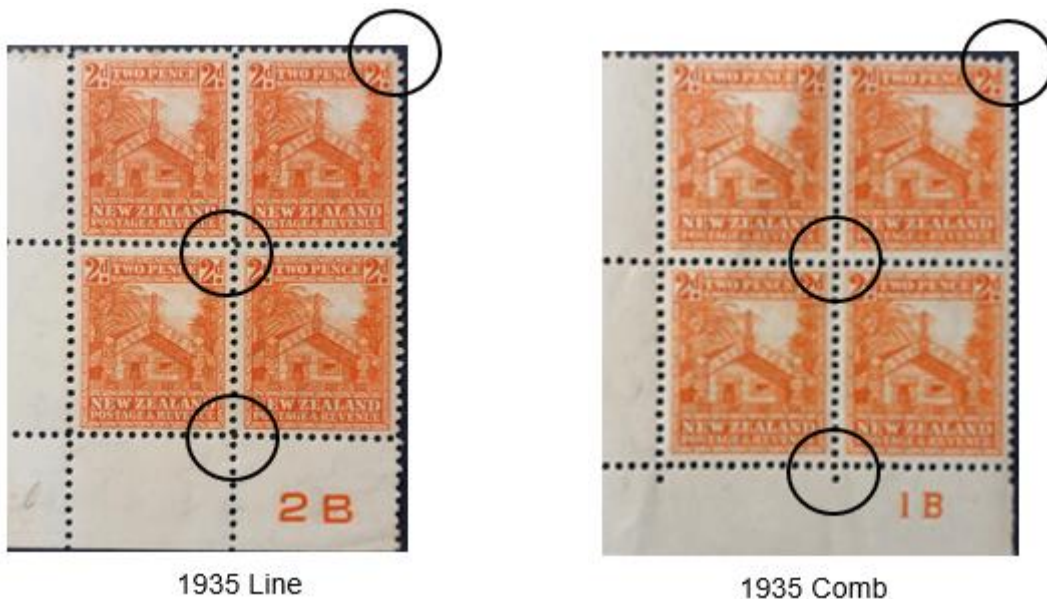
## “Comb” Perforation

The most common and later type of perforation used was the “Comb” perforation

The comb perforator process perforates three sides of a stamp at once for an entire column or row. The process is automated and once one row or column is perforated, the perforation process is advanced one row or column to perforate the next row or column until the entire sheet is perforated. This produces a very regular perforation pattern and all perforations are equal and regular. The "comb" actually does not advance but the bed with the sheet of stamps advances, incrementally, underneath the puncturing pins. Comparing the same 25 x 25 sheet, this only requires 50% of the operations (26)



**A determining feature of most comb perforations are the equal & regular corner perforations like the image below**



**Haria's Stamp Shop Limited, Nairobi, Kenya**  
**Kenton Kikoys Stamps, Harrow, UK**  
Bruce and Joe Burgess

Have you heard of these companies? We started communicating with Pushpendra Shah as a result of some eBay purchases. We transitioned to chats via WhatsApp.

His grandfather (surname Haria) emigrated from Ossiya, India, to Mombasa, Kenya by dhow in 1906 aged 12 or 13. (People from Ossiya were known as 'Oshwals'.)

His father and he were born in Nairobi. His father (who changed his surname to 'Shah') dealt in stamps from mid 1940s supplying the big names in USA, UK, France, Germany, Italy with bundles of used stamps. His father & uncle formally registered 'Harias Stamp Shop' in 1958, when Pushpendra was 2yrs old (B 1956)

His uncle emigrated to UK in 1967 and started a stamp shop in Liverpool Street. Sadly, he died two years later aged just 31 and the shop had to be shut down.

In the 1970s and 1980s Pushpendra studied accountancy in England. He used to visit the Strand at least once a week, buying stamps mostly for his father in Kenya.

Pushpendra and his brother, Madhukant (1952 – 2021 Covid victim) joined the Nairobi shop in 1982 and they gradually moved away from stamps, due to people's leisure time being taken up with videos and watching sports on TV. He saw the changes happening in the UK so started to diversify, knowing it would hit them in Kenya too. They sell largely online now and on eBay. They have kept the business name as there is lots of goodwill still attached to it. His nephews run the shop now, being the 3rd generation to do so – but stamps are not their forte.

For Pushpendra sending stamps is not about the money or profit. If he were to cost everything out, he would be losing eg 2.5 hours to travel to and from Stanley Gibbons.

Stanley Gibbons in the Strand is the last stamp shop remaining in London! The vast majority of dealers he used to deal with have closed up, passed on or moved out of shops to sell online. And of these, most do not even respond to queries.

(If you ever visit Nairobi, he recommends you visit the David Sheldrick Elephant Place and The Giraffe Centre, both on the outskirts of Nairobi).



**STAMPS**  
+ much more  
visit [www.breyden.com](http://www.breyden.com)  
Easy to use.  
Payment by  
PayPal or bank deposit.  
Warwick Jost.  
[warwick@breyden.com](mailto:warwick@breyden.com)

**APS**  
**RED DOT SALES**  
Auction off your unwanted stamps. Put together no reserve box lots, or collections valued at greater than \$20.  
**Next Auction:** Saturday 12 October 2024  
**Commission:** Non-members 20%  
Members 15%, Fellow Societies Charities 10%  
**More info:** Email Nic [nichen@hotmail.com](mailto:nichen@hotmail.com)

## How to Appraise Stamps

### **Stamps are usually more valuable if...**

**In good condition:** A stamp which is in the same state as when issued by the Post Office (mint with full original gum) will be worth more than one which has been previously hinged or damaged.

**They have bright, fresh and original colours:** If a stamp's colour has faded (because of water or sunlight) its value will be significantly reduced.

**Issued before 1960:** The best way to think of a stamp collector is as an archaeologist of postal history, who consider stamps and covers as valuable artefacts. The most valuable items tend to be rare with a good historical story.

**From a country of interest:** Extremely rare and early stamps from countries where postal deliveries were infrequent are known as 'Classics' and date from 1900 or earlier. In most cases, they are one of the earliest stamp issues from that particular country and, subsequently, they can command a higher price.

**The face value is a higher denomination:** Stamps with denominations above 1/- (one shilling) are often worth more because of their rarity.

**No piece of the stamp is missing and it has perfect perforations:** A stamp which has part of its design or a perforation missing will not command a premium price – even if it is extremely rare. In most cases, the neater the perforations are, the more a stamp will be worth. If imperf it the design will not be cut into.

**Creases and other damage are minimal:** A 'bend' or 'crease' will significantly reduce a stamp's value. Lighter 'wrinkles' will also devalue a stamp but much less significantly.

**They are 'unhinged' and not stuck to a page:** A stamp which has never had a hinge applied to it is worth more because it will still have its full original gum. When a hinge has been applied, this small, transparent piece of folded paper tends to remove the stamp's original adhesive, making it much less valuable. Never attempt to pull a hinge off a stamp as you could damage it.

**It's got a unique cancellation on it:** Older stamps which are still on the original envelope can sometimes be worth considerably more if a special or rare cancellation mark has been applied. To preserve a stamp's authenticity, never remove stamps from the original piece upon which it was sent.

**It contains a rare error:** When a mistake has been made on a stamp design, such as a missing colour or feature because of a printing or production error, these stamps become highly collectible and are often worth significantly more than a 'normal' issue.

**It has a light and tidy cancellation mark:** When a stamp has been 'Socked on the Nose' it means that a circular date stamp cancellation mark has been applied very close to its centre. When carried out in a tidy and light manner - with either the date, place name or location within it, a stamp tends to be worth more.

## Stamps are unlikely to be valuable if...

**In poor or scruffy condition:** If a stamp has fading, discoloration, marks or tone spots which disfigure its design, and usually occur as a result of poor storage, their worth is massively reduced.

**Part of an 'instant' or manufactured collection:** Sheets of stamps which are themed or marked with a commemorative inscription, marking an anniversary or event, are sold in their thousands. They are hardly ever worth anything significant unless, of course, they contain a rare stamp error.

**Released to commemorate a Royal Event (Birth, Wedding, Anniversary):** Royal commemorative stamps and sheets are always issued to mark special events. Unfortunately, they are sold in their thousands and, even though they are only on sale for a limited period of time, they are worth little to collectors and dealers.

**They are 'First Day Covers' from 1970 onwards:** Envelopes or cards which have been postmarked and used on the first day of issue (First Day Covers) are often highly-desirable to collectors and dealers, but only if they are rare.

*Information taken from the Warwick and Warwick Auctioneers of Collectables website. [How to appraise stamps \(& where to get stamps valued FREE\) \(warwickandwarwick.com\)](http://www.warwickandwarwick.com)*

## The story of the 1856 British Guiana 1c Magenta

Bruce Webber

The ship from England bringing a supply of British Guiana stamps for the postmaster, E.T.E. Dalton, did not bring all that was ordered. A shortage of stamps eventuated, so Dalton asked the local newspaper publishers, Joseph Baum and William Dallas, to print a small run of definitive stamps. They printed 3 denominations, the 1c on magenta paper, a 4c on magenta paper and a 4c on blue paper. They were imperforate and printed in black. The design included a three-masted sailing ship and the colony's Latin motto "Damus Petimus Vicissim" (We give and expect in return). Four thin lines frame the ship and the face value and Postage British Guiana surround the frame.



When further supplies of stamps arrived, the locally printed stamps were removed from circulation. The 1c was used as a newspaper stamp and the 4c stamps for mail. Newspapers were probably thrown away after being read so any stamp affixed to the paper would have also been thrown away.

However, one survived. The stamp has a Demerara postmark dating it to the 4<sup>th</sup> April 1856. Dalton required each of these locally printed stamps to be signed by the postmaster or post office clerk to prevent forgery; this one is signed by EDW (Edmond D. Wight) seen on the left-hand side of the stamp.

The story goes that 17 years later, a 12-year-old Scottish school boy, Louis Vernon Vaughan, living in Demerara at the time, found it in his uncle's (Andrew Hunter) possessions. The stamp would have been rectangular when purchased but for some reason unknown, the four corners have been clipped away turning it into an octagonal shape.

Louis offered the stamp to Ross McKinnon, a local collector, who initially declined the offer but then purchased it for six shillings. Since then, it has changed hands between collectors round the world.

Owner	When purchased	Amount paid
Andrew Hunter	4 <sup>th</sup> April 1856	1 Cent
Louis Vaughan	1873	Found it
Ross McKinnon	1873	6 shillings
Thomas Ridpath	1878	£120
Philipp Von Ferrary	1878	£150
French Government	1920	Confiscated
Arthur Hind	April 1922	\$32,000
Ann Hind Scala	1932	Inherited
Frederick Small	1940	\$45,000
Irwin Weinberg and Associates	1970	\$280,000
John E du Pont	1980	\$935,000
Stuart Weitzman	2014	\$9,480,000
Stanley Gibbons	2021	\$8,307,000

For Stanley Gibbons to purchase the most expensive stamp in the world they raised a loan and then tried to sell 80,000 shares in the stamp at £100 each to cover their costs. It didn't work and when the loan was due to be paid back in 2023, Stanley Gibbons declared insolvency. A rescue package from the loan company meant that Stanley Gibbons could continue to trade and expand into new products.

References: [British Guiana 1c magenta - Wikipedia](#) , The Times, February 07 2024/

## **Meeting reports:**

### **5<sup>th</sup> March 2024, Ambury Shield Presentations Part 2.**

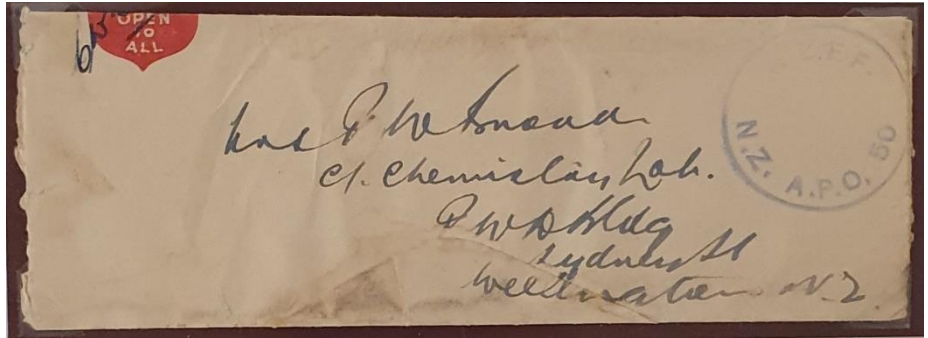
APS had 19 entries in last year's Ambury Shield competition. Eight of those entries were presented this night. The purpose of the evening was to share what the judges had said so that members can learn how to improve future entries into Ambury Shield or other exhibitions.

Bruce Burgess's third prize winning entry was on the environment of the elephant. Because the elephant is capable of digging water holes with his tusks and knocking down trees to open up grassland many animals that share the environment with the elephant

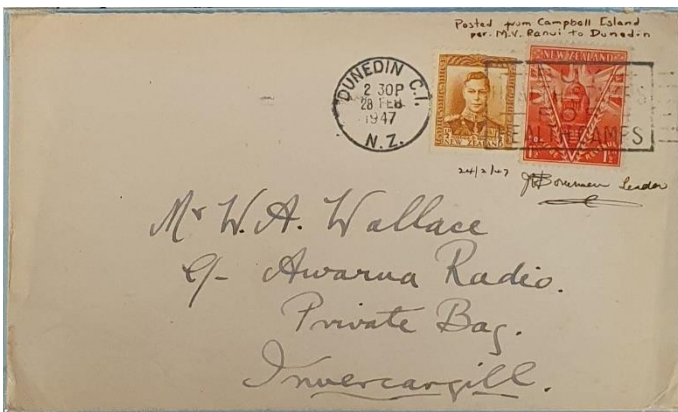


benefit greatly from its activities. The judges emphasised here and in other entries that the title needs too indicate what the entry is about.

Grant Longley's exhibit was on New Zealand Forces Mail Cancellations and Markings 1942-48 in Norfolk Island. Because of Norfolk Island's strategic



position an airfield was constructed and military units from Australia and New Zealand were stationed there during the second world war. The first Forces Post Office NZAPO 50 was opened during October 1942 and this was inscribed on a rubber date stamp.



Brian Carroll's exhibit was on the mail from Cambell Island 1946 to 1995. The post office opened in 1952. Mail prior to that went via whatever boat was around. The MV Ranui was often used. The postmaster was not a professional postal worker, but a leader of the scientific team having had a period of training at Postal Headquarters,

Wellington. He took an "Expected years usage of stamps" with him.

Brian Marshall's "Taihape's Iconic Gumboot" got third prize. He told the story of how gumboots (initially Wellingtons after the Duke of Wellington), were made and how Taihape, a small rural town in the lower North Island, responded to economic hard times by adopting the gumboot as its local icon.



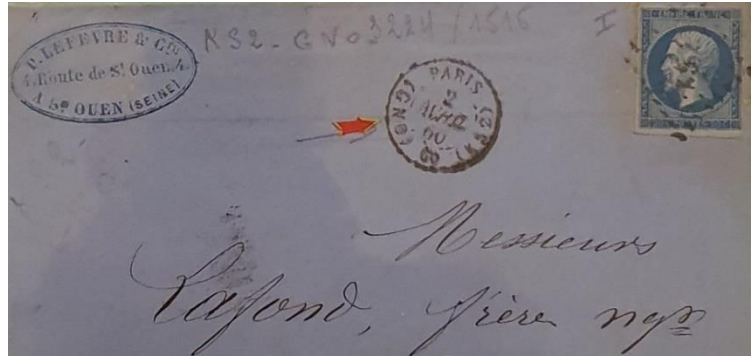
Andrew Chessum's entry was on "Portraits of Mozart on Stamps" for which he got second prize. Mozart died of an unknown illness in 1791. Stamps have been produced for the 150<sup>th</sup> and 200<sup>th</sup> anniversaries of his death, as well as the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth.



Paeroa duplex cancel

Nic Hendy's entry was on "Obliterator Postmarks of New Zealand" The Obliterator postmark was designed to mark a stamp so it could not be re-used. A date stamp was designed to be applied to the cover to supply information on place and date. Sometimes these are paired together, as with the Duplex cancels.

Roger Marshall's entry was on Paris Train stations that became sub-branches of nearby bureaux. From January 1852 three of the bureaux sited in new rail terminals became sub-branches. Their codes were DS1 BS2 and KS2 in a lozenge. The "S" indicated it was a sub-branch. The station code was in the date stamp.



Francesca Giraldo's entry was on Loss of Species. Many species over Earth's history have become extinct due to environmental changes, competition or natural disasters. The entry's aim was to bring attention to the global problem of accelerated species extinction. The entry won first prize and was judged best in the people's choice award.



## Recent NZ Post Issue



**2024 Making Games issued 6<sup>th</sup> March 2024.** 5 gummed stamps, and a miniature sheet. 20 stamps per sheet, perf 14

x 14.40. These stamps celebrate five video games produced in New Zealand that have been successful. They are TD 6, Depth, Dredge, Mini Metro and Into the Dead 2



**2024 Veterans Issued 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2024.** 6 gummed stamps, and a miniature sheet. 20 stamps per sheet, perf 13.33 x 13.60. Not all veterans are elderly. These veterans represent the many hundred that have served overseas where that service involves a credible military threat from the enemy's military, insurgents, or other hostile forces. The trauma received during these conflicts can stay with them for the rest of their lives even though they

have returned to ordinary civilian life and work.



**2024 Split Enz True Colours Issued 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024.** 4 gummed stamps, and a miniature sheet. 20 stamps per sheet, perf 14.29 x 13.90. Although Split Enz debut album was in 1975, their album True Colours made them world famous. Their music influenced many overseas and New Zealand artists.



**2024 Paris Olympic Games Issued 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024.** 4 gummed stamps, and a miniature sheet. 20 stamps per sheet, perf 14 x 14.167. The stamps portray rowing, rugby sevens, cycling and the fans that watch their teams and individuals excel either by being in the

stands or watching on TV.

(Information and images taken from <https://collectables.nzpost.co.nz/>)

### Advertising

Would you like to advertise within this newsletter?

Are you missing something from your collection and want to ask around and see if someone might have it for sale?

Email the editor [brucewebberqa@netscape.net](mailto:brucewebberqa@netscape.net) for rates – whole page to some lines in a box.

### COPYRIGHT AND DISCLAIMER 2024

Material in this Newsletter may be reproduced without permission provided that:

(a) The item does not already carry a specific copyright notice (We sometimes reprint items with the express permission of someone or another Society on the understanding that copyright stays with the original publisher).

(b) An item is reproduced in its entirety, or is stated as being abridged.

(c) An acknowledgement must be given to this publication and the Auckland Philatelic Society

The views expressed in this newsletter are the responsibility of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the APS.