



AUCKLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY Inc.

15 Maybeck Rd, Mt Albert, Auckland, 1025

www.aps.gen.nz

President: John Powell – jp.auckland@gmail.com

Secretary: Andrew Chessum – 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

Newsletter No.217 ISSN 0113 6100 – February 2024



Olympic Rings on Stamps and Cinderellas – Bruce Webber
(See page 7)

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions for this year (2024/25) are due by 30th June 2024. There has been a small rise in our yearly amount so please ensure the correct amount when paying. As usual there is a \$5 discount if paid before 30th April 2024.

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 options \$5 discount if paid before 30th April 2024.

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) 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) 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) with your details.

2024 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Saturday 11th May 2024 is our next Red Dot sale.

Tuesday 5th March – Part Two Ambury Shield presentations.

Tuesday 19th March – Angola before Independence – Tane McManus

Tuesday 2nd April – Plan and Preparing for a one frame exhibit - Tim Beach

Tuesday 16th April – Buying and Selling on the internet – Nic Hendy

Tuesday 7th May – Club Members 1 Frame Revue – Denise Rosenfeldt

Tuesday 21st May – Music to my Ears – Victor Sutcliffe & Andrew Chessum

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 with the information.

Index

	Page
Internet Banking Account details	2
Dates for your diary	2
The Letter, A Poem – Cybil Woolmore.....	4
How Novelists have Portrayed Stamp Collectors Brian Marshall	5
Olympic Rings on Stamps and Cinderellas – Bruce Webber....	7
Meeting Reports:	
Ambury Presentations – Part 1.....	9
Recent NZ Post Issues	11



We Need You!!!



We need to find someone who is interested in training to become our new Exchange Superintendent. The Exchange Superintendent looks after our Circuit Books and is a key part of the Auckland Philatelic Society. This role has been outstandingly managed for a number of years by the wonderful Victor Sutcliffe. Unfortunately, for health reasons, Victor is keen for us to identify someone with a keen philatelic interest to initially join him to understand how the circuit currently operates and is managed with a view to ultimately taking over his role as APS Exchange Superintendent/Circuit Manager. The position would ideally suit someone with a few spare hours each week who is well organised and is good with figures.

The role can be undertaken as a standalone position or, if you would prefer, you can become part of the APS Management Committee – the choice is yours. The Circuit Manager is awarded an honorarium of \$750 per annum.

There is an Assistant Circuit Manager to help with the delivery and collection of Circuit Books and to keep Circuit Membership up to date and accurate.

If you would like to investigate this opportunity, we would love to hear from you. Drop an email to our President John Powell at jp.auckland@gmail.com or if you would prefer, give him a call on 021 347 630.

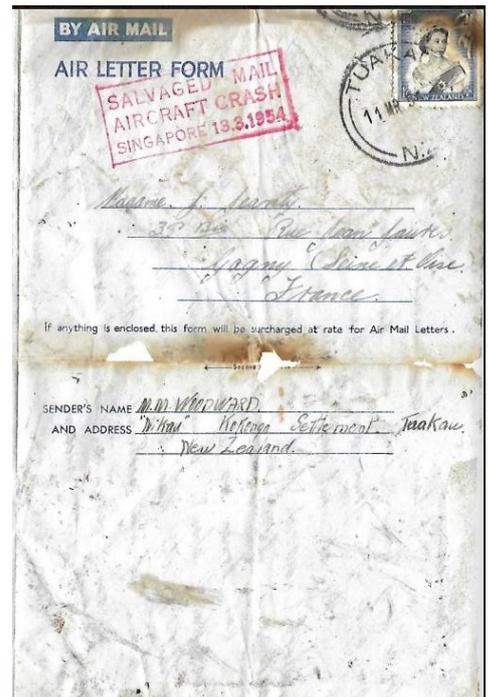
A request from Barry Cleaver

I am trying to acquire any Sommerville postmarks issued between 1898 and 1904. Sommerville was a rural area north west of Taihape and was superseded by Mataroa from 1904 to 1972. I know of two such postmarks in a private collection so can only hope there are others out there somewhere. As I am collating a history of the area, it would be most helpful if I could add one of these postmarks to the collection. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated. Please email me barrycleaver@slingshot.co.nz Thanks, Barry.

THE LETTER

A Poem by Cybil Woolmore

Molly (my mum) finally had time to sit and write
To her pen pal in France, it gave her a little respite
With six children under the age of eight to care
She relished any snippet of time she could spare
This letter was posted on 11th March 1954
Now it was gone, she'd think about it no more
It's now 2024 and the story of this letter
Slowly unfolds before my eyes, I couldn't have
scripted it better
It's February and this Friday was just another
ordinary day
Until an extraordinary email came my way
There had been a plane crash in Singapore in 1954
It had held no relevance to me before
I mentioned before Mum's pen pal in France
Today her family had found this letter by pure chance
There was a stamp on the letter which they'd not
seen before
It said "Salvaged from a plane crash in Singapore"
All those years ago on that plane was the letter to Mum's French pen pal
And this amazing story we are now able to tell
There're scorch marks on the letters, they're easy to see
How anything was salvaged from this crash is a mystery to me
As the plane had exploded and burst into flames
33 people perished, the article gave no names
I was only four when Mum had sent that letter to Helene
It was so special to read now, how her early life had been



Editor's note: Cybil Woolmore, a good friend of mine, lives in Paeroa with her husband Ken. She has just had published a book of poems called "The Way I See It" and although not a philatelist when the email arrived she said "This is an amazing true story, just had to write about it." I thought so too.

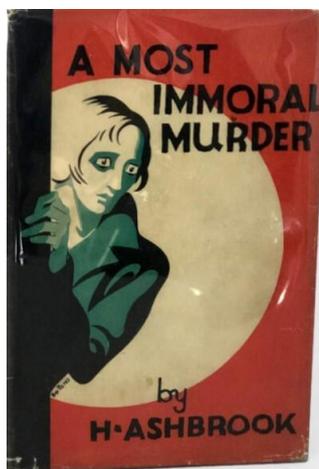
STAMPS
+ much more
visit www.breyden.com
Easy to use.
Payment by
PayPal or bank deposit.
Warwick Jost.
warwick@breyden.com

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 11th May 2024
Commission: Non-members 20%
Members 15%, Fellow Societies Charities 10%
More info: Email Nic nichen@hotmail.com

How Novelists have Portrayed Stamp Collectors

Brian Marshall

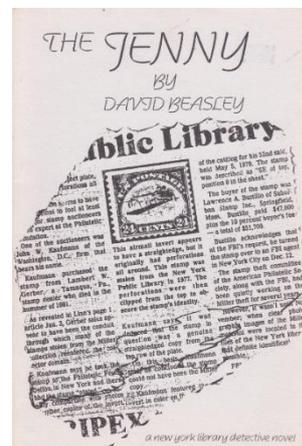
There are a good number of novels that deal with philately one way or another. Here are some of the descriptions of stamp collectors that can be found in works of fiction.



In *A Most Immoral Murder* Harriette Ashbrook describes a stamp collector thus: "For fifteen years he has lived shut up in that house with not another human interest in his life but his stamps. His damn stamps! They were an obsession with him, a mania. He cared for nothing else on earth. He pored over them like a miser with his money bags". In Leslie Thomas's *The Adventures of Goodnight and Loving* the main character finds his life is in a rut and his only solace is "his intimate moments with his stamp collection". He handles his stamp albums "with the affection of familiarity". His wife is much less understanding and says "she could never understand how he could merely look at them; once you had seen them, surely you had seen them".

The passion that stamp collectors have for their hobby is expressed many times. A character in J.B. Chittenden's *Stolen Stamps* has a passion that "excluded his interest in any woman whatsoever, his charming wife included". In E.V. Cunningham's *The Case of the One-penny Orange*, stamp collectors are noted for collecting "with greed and passion", and a true collector "seeks for meaning, very narrowly, very fanatically, but there are no ethical boundaries to his religion".

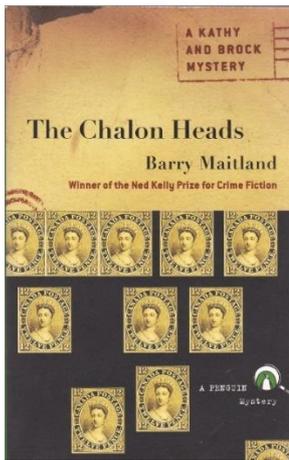
In some novels a collector's passion may lead to crime. In David Beasley's *The Jenny* a stamp collector comments "I have had customers who would murder me for a stamp if I couldn't sell it to them. That's the sort of passion that keeps me in business." The passion of a collector "comes high as an incentive to crime" in Ngaio Marsh's *Grave Mistake*, and in *The Chalon Heads* by Barry Maitland a dealer comments that some collectors "would willingly sell their mothers for some item they particularly desire". In Morris Ackerman's *Multiplex Man* and *The Mystery of the One Penny Orange*, one collector pulls a gun on another collector in a bid to obtain a copy of the 1847 Mauritius one penny orange stamp.



Stamp collectors are sometimes portrayed as odd and lonely. In Peter Lovesey's *Bloodhounds* one character describes stamp collecting as a lonely hobby; he has no difficulty "picturing some middle-aged man with a personality defect poring over his collection". In Craig Rice's *The Fourth Postman* a character explains to a criminal lawyer that he "was always the uninteresting member of the family... I've never been handsome, and I've always been shy, and I collected stamps".

Stamp collectors tend to be male. This is explained in Robert Graves's *Antigua, Penny, Puce* when he writes that "all British schoolboys of a certain age collect postage-stamps. Schoolgirls, on the other hand ... do not go in for stamp-

collecting. In fact, they usually despise the pursuit, which is not direct and personal enough to satisfy them emotionally. Graves goes on to write that sisters do “not have the necessary philatelic temperament”, for they have no memory of the varieties of stamps, treat valuable specimens carelessly, and do not agree to spend any money on improving a collection. Lovesey's Bloodhounds notes that “very few women go in for collecting [stamps]...This acquisitive impulse is a masculine thing”. Women collect shoes and hats, not “useless things like stamps and beer-mats”.



In Barry Maitland's *The Chalon Heads* a woman comments that stamp collecting is “the most boring hobby devised by man”, while her husband, who is a stamp collector, observes that the hobby “appeals to some instinct to organise and classify”.

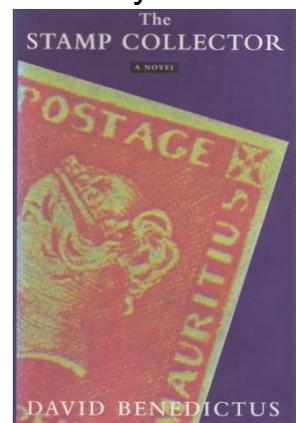
A woman in Ellery Queen's *The Chinese Orange Mystery*, once in possession of a valuable Foochow local, comments “I realized that I was selfish to hold on to it, since I've not the faintest interest in philately. I suppose I share the usual feminine stupidity about such things”.

Observing that all the customers in a stamp shop are male, a policewoman in Maitland's *The Chalon Heads* comments that “despite the array of technology at the door, the place had something about it that made her think of an old-fashioned gentlemen's club – an air of ordered calm, of discreetly murmured conversations, of clocks ticking but time standing still”.

All stamp collectors enjoy the thrill of tracking down an elusive item. A New York dealer explains in Ashbrooke's *A Most Immoral Murder* that “the real collector is not interested in price. Price is nothing. It is the thrill of owning, of having, of discovering”. In Ackerman's *Multiplex Man and the One Penny Orange Mystery* is the comment that “the hunt was one of the real pleasures of stamp collecting”. On the other hand, a character in Trove Jansson's *Finn Family Moomintroll*, a book for younger readers, is downcast not because he has “lost a rare stamp again” but because his collection is complete. There is comment that the philatelist is not a collector anymore, “only an owner, and that isn't nearly as much fun”.

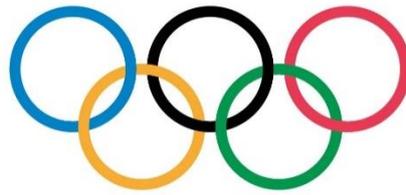
In conclusion, a female collector in Ackerman's *Multiplex Man and the One Penny Orange Mystery* laments that “She had often realized she had missed a lot of fun and knowledge because she had not collected stamps in her youth”.

And, a collector approaching death in *The Stamp Collector* by David Benedictus, when asked what it is really like to be dying, replies “If I look forward it's darkness. If I look back it's regrets. So I try and do neither. My stamps help”.

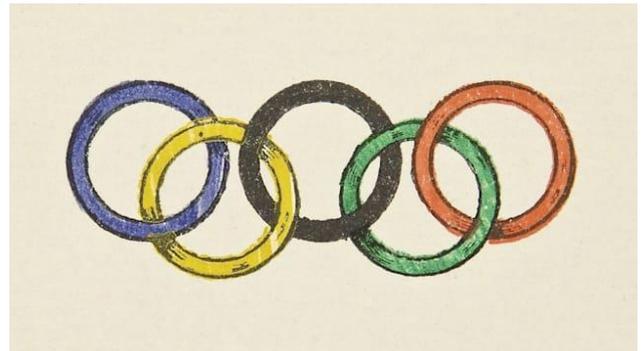


Olympic Rings on Stamps and Cinderellas

Bruce Webber



The International Olympic Committee (IOC) discussed the use of a flag in 1910. A design for a flag was presented by Theodore Cook but it was not accepted. A commission to design a flag was set up but that also didn't produce anything worthwhile. In 1913 the originator of the modern Olympic movement, Baron Pierre de Coubertin, who was also a talented designer, set about designing a flag which contained five coloured rings on a white background. It first appeared in 1913 at the top of a letter he had written. In the letter he wrote, "These five rings represent the five parts of the world now won over to the cause of Olympism and ready to accept its fertile rivalries. Moreover, the six colors thus combined reproduce those of all the nations without exception."



Au Bon Marche, a Parisian Department store manufactured the flag in silk and it was presented in June to the 1914 Olympic congress in Paris and accepted. The intention was that it would first be used in Berlin at the 1916 games. (It had already been publicly flown during the opening of the Chatby Stadium in Alexandria, Egypt on 5 April 1914). The 1916 games were cancelled because of the First World War. The flag's official first Olympic use was in Antwerp during the 1920 games.

At the end of the games a strange thing happened. The flag went missing and could not be found. The Belgian Olympic committee quickly got another flag made so they could hand it over the IOC but the flag was manufactured, presumably accidentally, as a mirror image of the original flag. In the original flag through the middle the yellow ring goes over the blue ring and under the black ring and the green over the black and under the red, ("over, under, over, under"). The Antwerp flag had the yellow going under the blue and over the black and the green under the black and over the red ("under, over, under, over"). In 1957, in Sofia, Bulgaria, this intersecting ring design became the official Olympic pattern.

Stamp designers in the early years were unaware of the correct ring intersecting pattern and so designed the ring pattern as they saw fit. There are 16 different patterns to choose from.

The first use of the rings on a stamp, the 1928 Portugal postal tax stamp to raise funds for the Portugal Olympic team, had for their pattern, “under, under, over under.”



The production of Cinderellas to help raise fund and stimulate interest in the games had been occurring since the 1912 games in Stockholm. The 1928 Finland Cinderella is the first colour depiction of the rings and it looks like the designers have got it correct. Not so a 1932 Los Angeles Cinderella, which has an “under, under, under, under” configuration.



under, over” configuration.

It seems that the designers of the British Olympic stamps of 1948 were also unfamiliar with the correct pattern, although the designer of the first day cover did (image front page). The 2½d stamp has the rings in a row. Interestingly, if the 2nd and 4th rings were pulled



down the overlapping of the rings would match the official pattern. The 3d ring pattern is indecipherable. The 6d rings are in Pierre de Coubertin’s original pattern and the 1s stamp seems to be an “under, under, under, under” configuration.



By 1952 much of the world had caught on to the official pattern, exceptions being Hungarian Olympic stamps (over, over, over, over) and the Netherland's Olympic Committee's Cinderella (under, over, under under).



Since the IOC's official definition of the rings in 1957 there have been two other iterations with minor changes, one in 1986 seen in the 1991 USA stamp above and the other in 2010 reverting back to that which was seen in the Hungarian 1960 stamp above.

The Antwerp flag was used continuously until the 1988 games in Seoul where it was retired. The Seoul flag continued in use until the 2016 Rio de Janeiro games and the Rio de Janeiro flag is still in use.

In 1997 a reporter was interviewing Hal Haig Prieste, a 1920 USA diving bronze medalist. They were talking about the missing flag and Prieste said "I can help you with that, it's in my suitcase." He had climbed the flagpole and stole the flag. Prieste, when aged 103, returned the flag in a ceremony at the 2000 Sydney games.



While the flag is recognized by the IOC, critics and historians note that the returned flag is not the one that was used in the 1920 opening ceremony, as the original flag was much larger than the one returned by Prieste.

References:

[rings.pdf \(alphabetilately.org\)](#)

[Olympic symbols - Wikipedia](#)

[Olympic rings - Symbol of the Olympic Movement \(olympics.com\)](#)

Meeting reports:

20th February 2024, Ambury Shield Presentations Part 1.

APS had 19 entries into 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.

During the evening a lot of discussion ensued on the validness of some comments made by the judges. It was noted judge's comments from the Ambury Shield competition should be taken positively, as helpful hints on how to improve. The comments should not be taken negatively. Also, judges are human and may at times get it wrong.



Helen Jenkins started evening with her two entries. The first was a 4-page entry on the coincidental relationship between Winton Churchill and Sir Alexander Fleming the inventor of Penicillium. The second was an 8-page entry on The African Wild dog (*Lycaon pictus*), in which the entry talked about many of the dogs



traits including their acute hearing, pack mentality, hunting and communication skills.

Tom Butler's 4-page entry won second prize. It was on the 1908 Messina Earthquake Charity Stamps. The earthquake in southern Italy was followed by three Tsunamis with over 100,000 fatalities. The charity stamps authorised by the Italian government were used to raise funds to assist the victims of the earthquake.



Bruce Webber had two 8-page entries. The first was "Great Britain "Machin" ½p Definitive Issue" exhibition various issues and booklets of the ½p Machin from 15th February 1971 to 30th December 1981. This entry got a



first prize. His second entry was "Health Camps Heath Stamps" which the judges didn't look that favourably on. The title didn't describe what was exhibited and the covers, although they had health stamps on them, had no relevance to the subject and didn't add to the story.

Neil Coutts had an 8-page exhibit on the first pictorials, displaying mint stamps of all the issues from 1898 to 1908 and ending with some used Boer War 1½d stamps. This entry won third prize.



Mike Steel's 8-page entry was on Hans Christian Anderson. The entry followed much of his life and many of the fairy tales he authored.



Chris Keery had an excellent entry on New Zealand's first postage due stamps discussing their specifics and showing examples usage. He displayed a 1-shilling stamp cancelled Woodville, December 1 1899, which was the first day of issue. Chris' entry won first prize and the Novice Cup award.

AUCKLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY INC

invites you to participate in their

2024 SINGLE FRAME EXHIBITION

with over \$1,000 in Cash Prizes

A Choice of Four Categories to enter:

- Category One – NEW ZEALAND and/or the PACIFIC ISLANDS
- Category Two – INTERNATIONAL (i.e. the Rest of the World)
- Category Three – POSTAL HISTORY or SOCIAL (OPEN)PHILATELY
- Category Four – THEMATICS and/or REVENUES
- PLUS – Cash Prizes for the public vote of BEST IN SHOW

Enter as many categories or times as you like. All frames must be equivalent to 16 x A4 sized pages. Each entry will require a separate Entry Form.

Here's your chance to create and /or take a new or just finished single frame (16 A4 pages or equivalent) display to great heights. All entries will be judged by an appointed judging panel and a point allowance will be made for Novice and/or First-time exhibitors – so everyone will be judged on merit. Entries will be evaluated for Treatment, Knowledge, Material and Presentation (25 points each). Winning Exhibits will also receive APS Certificates to acknowledge their success and all entries will receive a judges score sheet with comments to help with the development or potential improvement of your exhibit for entry into future competitions. All results will be published on the Auckland Philatelic Society website after the Exhibition

PRIZES

- Category One – 1st \$120 - 2nd \$50 - 3rd \$30
- Category Two – 1st \$120 - 2nd \$50 - 3rd \$30
- Category Three – 1st \$120 - 2nd \$50 - 3rd \$30
- Category Four – 1st \$120 - 2nd \$50 - 3rd \$30
- Public Vote - 1st \$150 - 2nd \$50
- Public Voter Prize Draws – 2 x \$50 Grocery Vouchers

For all Exhibition enquiries, please contact:

Andrew Chessum – APS Secretary

Email: andrew.chessum@gmail.com

Phone : 027 6787 744

Or visit our website at

<http://aps.gen.nz>

Recent NZ Post Issue



2023 Year of the Dragon, issued 6th December 2023. 4 gummed stamps, 20 stamps per sheet, perf 13.33. Three miniature sheets; a standard 4 stamps in a row miniature sheet and then two gold foiled miniature sheets in Perspex

stands, one in colour the other gold foiled. Also available are limited edition (88 copies only) framed and numbered miniature sheets for \$560 and \$1888. The \$2.00 stamp depicts longevity noodles their long length representing a long and prosperous life. The \$3.30 Garden of Prosperity stamp represents the Chinese market gardener contribution to New Zealand horticulture. The \$4.00 Land of Good Fortune stamp represents the 1865 gold rush in Otago where miners from Canton, China arrived in New Zealand. \$6.90 The Festive Fireworks and Thomas Wong Doo, born in Canton around 1903, who founded a shop that sold fireworks on Hobson Street, Auckland in 1940.



2024 Marine Reserves, issued 7th February 2024. 4 gummed stamps, 20 stamps per sheet, perf 14x14.4. One miniature sheet. Although there are 44 marine reserves within New Zealand, they cover less than 1% of our marine environment, which is 15 times larger than New Zealand's land mass. We have a privilege and a responsibility to care for our bountiful ocean surroundings. In the future, the number of reserves will be expanded, and will form a conservation network that protects the full spectrum of marine species in our waters. These stamps offer a snapshot of some of the many creatures that call our marine reserves home.

(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 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.