

# AUCKLAND PHILATELIC SOCIETY Inc.

P.O. Box 1932 Shortland Street Auckland 1140://aps.gen.nz

**President:** Chris Keery

**Secretary:** Brian Carroll

Meetings are held at the Mt. Albert Senior Citizens' Hall, Wairere Avenue on the first and third Tuesdays of each month except Jan starting at 7.45pm



Auckland Philatelic Society

**EDITORIAL ADDRESS**

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## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

**EXCHANGE BRANCH:** We are very short of new booklets for the circuits. Victor urgently needs a large supply of booklets so he can keep the circuits flowing.

**RED DOT SALES 2020:** Feb 15<sup>th</sup> 2020, May 9<sup>th</sup> 2020. Red Dot Sales will now have doors opening at 12pm with sales starting 1.15pm to 1.30pm. The Society will open a new account with ASB to handle cheques, so cheques will still be able to be used at the next Red Dot Sale.

**Table auctions 2020:** The Society is going to hold a Table auction at the end of the meeting, similarly to the Suburban Stamp Club. Vendors bring 10 items maximum, listed and priced. Sale items are placed on a table. Buyers place a Red Dot any item they wish to bid on. These are auctioned after tea is served. Buyers pay in cash only and vendors are paid at the next meeting.

**GST:** New Zealand Customs have issued out advice that as from 1 December 2019, overseas businesses that sell goods valued at NZ\$1000 or less to private individuals in New Zealand may need to register for, collect and return, NZ goods and services tax (GST). This does not affect private to private shipments, but it will affect online marketplaces, businesses and re-deliverers (such as NZ Post YouShop) who ship to New Zealand customers. It is not known what delays will occur to shipments through the postal system for those overseas businesses who fail to comply, but an initial period of education, rather than enforcement is expected.

**Eastamps Monthly Stamps, Postal History and Postcard Fair:** David and Gaye are always happy to see you at their monthly fair. Next one is December 7th, Carey Baptist College Mess Hall, 473 Great South Road.

**Browns Bay Stamp Fair:** It is held at the Senior Citizens Rooms in Inverness Road, Browns Bay. Hours are 9.30am to 3.30pm and are held 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month, the next one is Dec 7th and They deal in Stamps, Postal History, Covers and Postcards and are also buying in stock too. You can contact them on 09 478 7599 for details. Members of NZSDA (1985 - ) and APTA (Australia).

## NZ 2020 SHOW – GET INVOLVED!

**NZ 2020 National Show:** This International Exhibition will be held at the Ellerslie Racecourse events centre on March 19 to 22. They are looking for people to get involved! Contact - <https://www.nz2020.nz/the-exhibition/people/volunteer-helpers/> they are also looking for your support and patronage. This is our first International show since 1990 – let's make an occasion of it!

**Have a Fair, Show or Sale to advertise - please email the editor at [taneknz@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:taneknz@yahoo.co.nz).**

# WE HAVE REACHED OUR 200<sup>TH</sup> ISSUE!!!

## Some musings on our milestone by your Editor.

An important milestone, this is our 200<sup>th</sup> newsletter of the current series. The newsletter is much younger than our society which is 97 years old this month, as the first meeting was in November 1922. The newsletter, we are unsure of its first number as the library has issues only going back to 1985 (Issue 42). Using the powers of guessing and deduction, a suggested date for #1 is sometime around 1978, hence the 70s style lettering.

The newsletter has seen many changes in its 40 or so years of life, 1980s issues were mainly produced on electric typewriters, however some may have also been done on an old manual typewriter as well. The newsletter has had quite a few changes over time, with word processed copies arriving around the millennium and the email distribution begun 2 years ago.

Here is to another 40 great years and the next 200 issues. I have had the pleasure of composing the last 18 issues of this publication and look forward to many more.

In 1978, our society was still meeting in the same venue and back then it was brand new. New Zealand had just 3.2 million people compared to almost 5 million now. Auckland had a population of some 850,000 compared to 1.6 million now. Subs in 1985 were \$5 per year and probably even less in the late 1970s. We have 2 or 3 members who were members back then as well. Of course your editor was not a member; he was just 2 years old and in Christchurch!

Stamps were still a booming hobby in the late 1970s; Auckland had several full time bricks and mortar stamp shops, like PIMS, Campbell Patterson, Auckland City Stamps, Moreton and many others. Nearly everyone was at least interested in stamps, most kids still collected them, as there was no internet, TV was limited to two channels for a few hours a day and computer games were still the pursuit of computer geeks, with the "Spacies" explosion only taking off at the beginning of the 1980s. Stamps were also widely available at most stationers and new sets were cheap and quite infrequent from the Post Office. Of course, now in 2019, all the bricks and mortar stamp shops are nearly gone (Only ACS is kind of open to the public) and most dealers are part timers who work out of offices or their homes. Very few kids collect now and our average Philatelist is likely to be elderly, European and have some disposable income and plenty of time on their hands. Some minorities are starting to join our club, and a few have made great strides in the administrative side of philately too. There is always room for more Philatelists and in the words of a noble Auckland philatelist – Philately is fun!

## ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY 2019

The annual Christmas party will be similar to last year. Amalies are back by popular demand and we have the Prizegiving, Raffles, the usual food and drinks and fun for you all. The date is Tuesday December 3<sup>rd</sup>, at our meeting place with the fun getting under way at 7.30pm. Chippies and Soft drinks will be provided, but we would love it, if you could all bring a plate – preferably with something sweet and festive on it. The invitation is extended to all the Auckland area clubs and any other Philatelists who happen to be in town. The venue is Senior Citizens Centre, Wairere Avenue, Mt. Albert – Auckland.

## BRUCE CHADDERTON: CHINESE AIRMAIL COVERS 1945/49, a POSTAL HISTORY

Our Keith Griffiths Memorial speaker this year was former President who gave a really interesting talk on Airmail rates in China between 1945 and 1949. This was a time dominated by three currencies and extreme inflation. He illustrated this point by showing a first rate collection of Airmail covers from China to the USA.

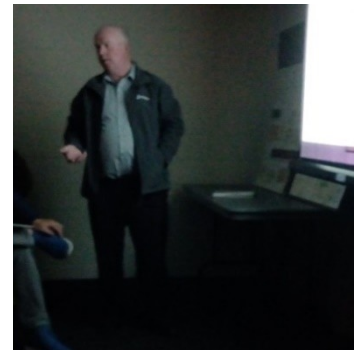
Bruce gave 2 reasons for these letters being mostly USA, WW2 had eliminated most of the earlier mail routes and the Soviet Union which became an American and Nationalist China enemy quickly saw the Pacific Ocean air route as the best in the period. Also the Americans and Nationalist Chinese (Under Chiang Kai Shek) were close allies and until the Communist takeover at the very end of 1949, a large American commercial and also missionary presence was in China, meaning a large amount of cross Pacific Ocean airmail. Bruce's collection included hundreds of covers he bought dating from late 1945 to the last safe flight out on December 3<sup>rd</sup> 1949.

Due to severe inflationary pressure in August 1948 the RoC government replaced the CNC\$ with the Gold Yuan (GY). Postal rates continued to be quoted solely in CNC\$ until 6 November 1948 when rates were adjusted to reflect the new currency. With GY stamps readily available, CNC\$ stamps remained valid for use until 31 January 1949, at an exchange rate of CNC\$ 3 million per GY 1.00.

Date <sup>1</sup>	Surface rate		Airmail rate (per 10g)	TOTAL COST GY (for airmail letter weighing)			TOTAL CNC\$ (to 31 Jan 1949)
	(1 <sup>st</sup> 20g)	(+20g) <sup>2</sup>		0-10g	11-20g	21-30g	
6-Nov-48	0.35	0.20	1.00	1.35	2.35	3.55	4,050,000
20-Nov-48	2.00	1.00	5.00	7.00	12.00	18.00	21,000,000
12-Dec-48	4.00	2.50	14.00	18.00	32.00	48.50	54,000,000
1-Jan-49	10.00	6.00	30.00	40.00	70.00	106.00	120,000,000
16-Jan-49	20.00	12.00	60.00	80.00	140.00	212.00	240,000,000
7-Feb-49	80.00	50.00	250.00	330.00	580.00	880.00	-
1-Mar-49	300.00	150.00	800.00	1,100.00	1,900.00	2,850.00	-
11-Mar-49	450.00	250.00	1,200.00	1,650.00	2,850.00	4,300.00	-
21-Mar-49	800.00	500.00	2,300.00	3,100.00	5,400.00	8,200.00	-
1-Apr-49	1,500.00	900.00	4,300.00	5,800.00	10,100.00	15,300.00	-
11-Apr-49	4,400.00	2,600.00	12,600.00	17,000.00	29,600.00	44,800.00	-
17-Apr-49	11,000.00	6,400.00	30,000.00	41,000.00	71,000.00	107,400.00	-

<sup>1</sup> is the date that rate came into effect      <sup>2</sup> is the rate per each additional 20g

GY 1.35 (CNC\$4,050,000)      6/11/48 – 19/11/48 (14 days)  
 comprising GY 0.35 surface rate, plus GY 1.00 airmail surtax per 10g



List of rates

Some covers

Bruce

Bruce mentioned there were 3 currencies at the time, the CNC \$ to mid 1948, then the Gold Yuan and finally the Silver Yuan in 1949. In the period, an airmail letter to the USA cost CNC \$22 in Sep 1945, by Nov 1949 it was 67.5 trillion Gold Yuan. Letter rates pretty much changed monthly or more often, becoming a few days by 1949. Stamp printing and overprinting usually could not keep up and most of his covers had panes of 10 or more stamps pasted on them to make up the latest rates. One cover had nearly 150 stamps on it!

The Post Office was aware of this issue and often gave 3 to 5 days grace for a new rate to bed in and covers that have the lower rate after a certain date are more collectible. For collectors of this series, having a legible date on the postmark adds the required context to the cover. The civil war resumed in late 1946 after an uneasy peace in the WW2 era where both Nationalists and Communists combined to rid China of the Japanese, and for the first 2 years, the Nationalists were winning except in Manchuria. But by early 1949 the situation had changed and the Communists swept the north, so that the mail operations moved to Canton in May (Guangzhou now) and Hong Kong in mid October. The People's Republic was declared on Oct 1 1949, but parts of the south remained out of Communist hands until early Dec, finally in late Nov – General Chiang moved to Taiwan and the last Nationalists were rounded up and slaughtered by Dec 15<sup>th</sup>.

The collection is very interesting and is clearly treasured by Bruce who got into this topic several years ago and mentioned how Keith Griffiths was his inspiration. The collection was very fascinating and offered an insight into not only Postal History, but a tumultuous and very unstable time in Chinese history.

## PETER DORMON - COINS

As part of our non-Philatelic hobbies programme for our second August meeting, Peter gave us a talk about coins, very much the sister hobby to stamps (And it even has a fancy name too – Numismatics) and no doubt many of us at least dabble with them (I know I do).

Peter gave us a comprehensive history of coins from ancient times to early Modern England and illustrated this with a superb range of coins, specialising in early 17<sup>th</sup> century shilling coins.

Peter then discussed the early coins of the Ancient world with Lydian Staters (Lumps of metal made out of Gold and silver mix), that evolved out of trading of metal ingots and other barter items previously. Coins were originally uniface in the 7<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> century BC but became 2 sided in the later 6<sup>th</sup> century and most Greek and Lydian (Turkish) states had them. He mentioned how cities like Athens had distinctive coins with Owls on them and the Greeks and Romans established

unified coinage and values throughout their empires. However, he stated that from the 3<sup>rd</sup> century onwards, Roman coins became debased through massive inflation and instability.



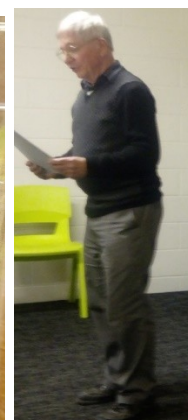
The 17<sup>th</sup> century shillings



Peter



Tibetan trankas



Peter then specialised with his 17<sup>th</sup> century shillings, mentioned how they were made with a hammer method like Ancient coins and that they went to the Trial of the Pyx twice a year, in which 2 of every denomination from each mint, were checked for weight and dies were examined for wear. He also discussed a study in which he worked out how long each mintmark was used (English coins before 1662 were not always dated and hammered shillings of 1603 – 1641 were not dated at all, except with a mintmark). He worked out on average a mint mark lasted 181 days and some much less, portraits wore down quickly too on dies that were hammered thousands of times on metal. Peter also showed some Tibetan silver coins and a mix of later silver coins like a 1950s South African crown and the talk was very well received.

## CHRIS KEERY - NEW GUINEA TO 1970

Chris Keery our President, gave this talk in our first September meeting in lieu of the planned speaker Nic Hendy being away. Chris gave us a brief but informative talk on the Eastern Half of Papua and its various stamp issuing entities between 1885 and 1970.

He started with a historical background that mentioned native peoples living there for thousands of years and the complexity and variety of cultures and languages (Mostly Melanesian on the coasts, Papuan inland and Torres Strait Islanders in south). Europeans explored the coasts as far back as the 1500s, but no serious colonisation took place until the late 1870s and early 1880s. In 1884, the Germans and British divided the eastern half of the Island with the Germans taking the northern half and calling it Deutsch Neu Guinea (German New Guinea) and the British calling their portion in the south "British New Guinea", although in 1907 this changed to Papua. The Dutch had the Western Half and they kept it to 1963, Chris did not deal with this part which used Dutch East Indian and later, Indonesian stamps as it became Irian Jaya state in Indonesia. Rabaul was the German capital and Port Moresby the British one. After WW1 Port Moresby became the capital and with Independence remained so, although Waigani nearby was the new Parliament centre.



Chris and his collection



Iconic 30s set 1.



Iconic 30s set 2.

The Germans used overprints on German stamps initially and then the Colonial “Yacht” series to 1915 when the territory was occupied by the Australians in World War One and it reverted to British control with an Australian mandate, they also got Papua to administer. Chris’s collection showed some amazing stamps of this era including many German ones, but the highlights were Australian “North West Pacific Islands” overprints on the Australian Kangaroo and KGV series, then some beautiful sets showing huts, the Bird of Paradise series and the Airfields series (Shown above). Chris’s collection was very near complete and many 10/- and £1 stamps were shown!

He then showed us British New Guinea, who did not issue any stamps until 1901, happy to use Australian colonial stamps of Queensland and NSW. In 1901 came the first of many iconic “Lakatoi” series showing a traditional Papuan canoe. Until 1907 they were “British New Guinea” then overprinted “Papua” and finally printed as Papua. The set was issued in many papers and types and by the 1910s a cheaper one colour set came out up to 2/6 and Air Mail overprints were used as late as the early 1930s. In 1932 came out a superbly engraved set of 15 showing Papuans, village art, culture and some amazing art. Then several commemoratives and other stamps were issued up to 1941. As in the north, the territory was overrun by the Japanese and stamp issues ended. By mid-1944 the Japanese had been pushed out, but the post-war period saw no new issues in either colony and not until 1952 did new stamps emerge, Australian stamps were used in the interim. Stamps 1952 to 1971 read “Papua and New Guinea” and served both parts.



The bird of paradise issue



Everyone wanted a look

Port Moresby, Papua, 4. 1. 1935

SIR, I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 9. 12. 34 and to enclose the following Postage Stamps in execution of your order:— together with the sum of £ 2. 5.

ORDINARY		OFFICIAL		COMMEMORATIVE		AMOUNT
No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value	
	½d.		½d.		.....	
	1d.		1d.	5	1d.	5
	1½d.		1½d.		.....	
	2d.		2d.	5	2d.	10
	3d.		3d.	5	3d.	15
	4d.		4d.		.....	
	5d.		5d.	6	5d.	30
	6d.		6d.		.....	
	9d.		9d.		.....	
	1s.		1s.		.....	

Stamp ordering 30s style!

Chris also showed us the very pretty engraved 1952 series which joined both colonies and showed remarkable ethnographic detail. This was followed by a series of colourful but “Wallpaper” issues as Chris put quoting a certain someone who has turned that term into a cliché. In addition Chris showed a few covers as signs of usage, and even a form sent from a remote Post Office to Port Moresby to request some more stamps, but only wanting the commonly needed ones.

Chris showed us a nearly complete collection, without all the usual glitz and over the top write ups of many collector displays, its simplicity of presentation was appealing as it put you with the stamp and judging by the reaction, was appreciated – people love completion and the quality of his specimens is always high, he makes his talks entertaining by telling us tales of how he got the rare ones and how much money he paid or what he had to go without to get it. It was refreshing, as the honesty and humility adds to the display.

## DEALERS NIGHT

Three dealers showed up to our annual dealer's night. David Bevan, Earle Howe and John and Jan Fitzpatrick came and sold their wares to members and had a good night in most cases.



Supper and biscuits were served to the hungry customers and dealers. The night was very well attended by members and is a portent for things to keep improving. Thanks to everyone who made it happen.

## TREVOR ROGERSON – THIRD REICH

Trevor Rogerson from Tauranga spoke to us about his large collection of Third Reich stamps and Postcards with special postmarks. He gave us a good background on the history of the Reich and dealt mostly with what happened in Germany rather than the World and also stated his disdain for the behaviour of this regime. Understandable given many of us are Pacifists, anti-Nazi, and many of our Members are old enough to remember that war and the sufferings we all endured as a result of it and Hitler's stupidity and cruelty. The stamps however offer an interesting insight into this regime and the Postcards make it sound almost like a collecting craze as each had a special postmark to celebrate some event that usually lasted a week at most.



Early stamps



Trevor



Some of the Postcards

He started by mentioning, that items were solely dressed up propaganda and designed as moral boosters for Germans, after a slow start, philately was promoted as it bought hard currency into the Reich and served the Nationalistic ideals of the Nazi regime, by stopping money leaving Germany as these were German products that stressed German culture (Well Nazi culture).

He also discussed the origins of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Reich saying the 1<sup>st</sup> one was the Holy Roman Empire from Charlemagne (800AD) to 1806, surprising as it started off Frankish or French. The 2<sup>nd</sup> was of course Imperial Germany (1871 – 1918), so the Nazi's were the 3<sup>rd</sup>. He then gave us a brief biography of Adolf Hitler and discussed the stamps from the Hindenburg issues of 1932 reissued with Swastika watermarks in 1933, to the last stamps of the "Grossdeutsches Reich" of April 1945 (By that stage you could call it Kleindeutsches Reich! Many stamps had surcharges for various funds and by 1943; the surcharges were more than the postage amount on the stamp.

He showed a good range of the stamps and not just the common Hitler heads you see in most collections, here were all the winter and culture relief funds, Brown Ribbon sheets (Scarce) and many of the official and occupation stamp issues. Nazi philately was well represented here. Trevor is also very knowledgeable and affable and has researched his topic very well, he presents with warmth and empathy.

## THE ARMSTRONG CUP

No less than 6 people entered the Armstrong Cup this year. The standard of the entries was very high and choosing a winner was not easy in the slightest. All 6 entries very different in their own ways and showcased the variety of topics and themes our members collect.

First up was Bruce Webber with a very technical and complete collection of Full Face Queens covering most values and types and he had separated them all into phases and types. It was a professional looking exhibit and definitely one of the front runners. These stamps have always been popular and as Bruce put it – very historic and important. Few would disagree.

Next was Mike Steel with a light hearted exhibit showing Kiwis (The bird) on stamps of New Zealand and postmarks along with ephemera. The amusement factor was ramped up with a soft toy, he teased us before we saw it as the real thing, but he had a real Kiwi egg, which is something else. Probably the winner for sheer amusement stakes.



Pitcairn and France



Bruce and his Queens

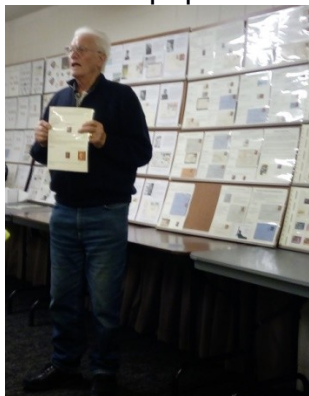


Brian and his bearded diplomats

Brian was up next with his collection of covers from each Head of the Ross Dependency research station from 1957 onwards and stated the frame was just a selection of his collection. The Head was chosen usually from Military men first and then scientists and maturity was a factor too. These heads also had to be Coroner, Registrar, Post Master (Hence the covers) and also a Diplomat as there were 3 American Bases in the vicinity and they had to obey the laws of her Most Britannic Majesty and the State of New Zealand. Each cover was relevant from the era and interesting.

Ray Wisbey spoke on his Perforation earlies of the UK going back to the 1850s and showed Henry Archer perforations and of course his first machine for franking stamps (It was all hand done before then). This was a very interesting presentation and his material was first rate.

Peter Dorman then did a talk on his Pitcairn Islands stamps display which covered the 1940 through to mid-1980s era and these stamps were very colourful and interesting and there was also a Bromide proof of one issue that had spelled the colony "Pitcairn Island" and thus made it even more collectible given that there 4 islands in the group, Pitcairn which has the 50 people and 3 more unpopulated islands (Oeno, Ducie and Henderson).



Ray Wisbey



Some of Brian's "Heads"



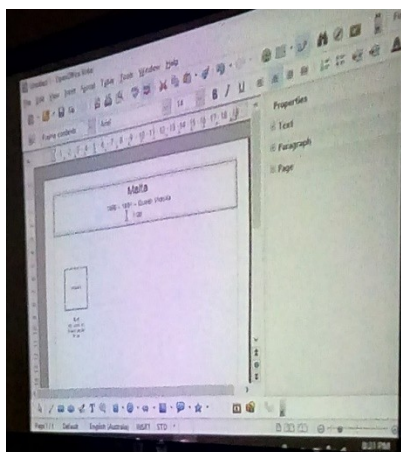
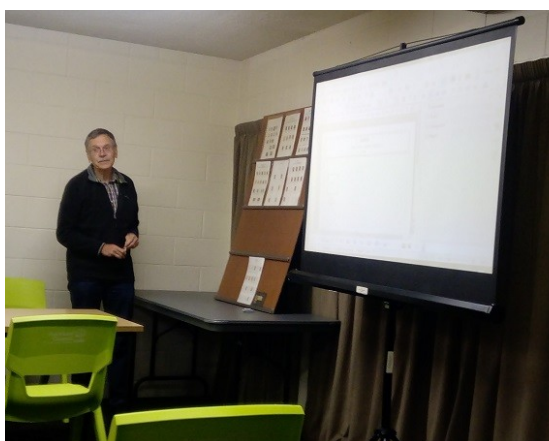
Roger Marshall

Last up was Roger who spoke on French Railway Post Offices and gave us an overview of their history starting back in 1828 at St. Etienne (a Stevenson engine was imported there) and the network expanded through the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century getting very large by the time of Louis Napoleon and there were 6 major companies laying lines down in France, hence a confusing network. Roger's display showed a range of early covers and postcards of the stations.

After a voting session, Brian Carroll was declared the clear winner for the second year in a row. I can tell you too, that Bruce Webber got 2<sup>nd</sup> place and every competitor got at least 1 vote. Thanks to all of you who entered. When we see this much talent, we wonder why we cannot enter a team in the Ambury Shield and bring it back home.

## NIC HENDY – MAKING YOUR OWN PAGES

Our first November meeting had Nic Hendy showing us how to make pages for our albums using a free publisher called OpenOffice.



He explained his history of page making from the days of writing on Warwick 44 and Wiljef pages. This changed to basic word processing around 2000 with Publisher and Microsoft Office. In the late 2000s he switched to Adobe Photoshop, but now Apple will not support it.

Nic explained how he collects many European countries and the more obscure varieties and types that the commercial album firms and even great online suppliers like Stamp Albums Web (Bill Steiner, my go to source) won't offer. So necessity becomes the mother of invention.

After attempting to show how he could make a page using Malta varieties, which did not go to well, he gave up and admitted defeat as the computer kept crashing (Projector too) and to be honest,



the audience was talking all the time and over him and it was not good for him at all. We would like to ask that you show proper respect to our speakers in the future.

## NEW STAMP ISSUES

More of the same in New Zealand Post's output. There are a few less issues, but as usual face values climb and the addition of un-necessary sheetlets of most issues.



**September – Ross Dependency: Cape Adare Hut** – Set of 5 stamps and sheet with them showing excavations at the preserved hut at Cape Adare, this dates back to the early 1900s and shows old photos along with preserved food (Yuk). Nice set and attractive.

**All Blacks Silver Fern** – Not sure if Sept/Oct but silly souvenir sheet showing evolution of All Blacks silver fern logo, 6 stamps at \$2.60 and no doubt will be scooped up by Rugby collectors, of course now in November after we got 2 places below what they expected, it seems pointless.

**October – Tupaia's Journey** – Interesting artistic interpretation of the Arrival of Captain Cook to New Zealand in October 1769, Tupaia a Tahitian was an interpreter taken on the Endeavour by Cook and proved invaluable when he could translate what the Maori were saying. The art is imaginative to say the least.

**November – Christmas 2019 (Holy Family)** – This year's set is religious and shows the Holy family with the Magi, Shepherd and Angel. Cartoons a bit light weight. But there are 2 of the low value stamps and the other values are \$2.60, \$3.30 and \$4. All except the 4 come as self-adhesives (The two mid values are booklets of 10 for the price of 9, and the \$1.30s in coils, booklets of 10 and boxes of 100 – no discount). Also a minisheet.



THE NEXT ISSUE WILL BE #201 in February/March 2020

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL!**

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