

The Circuit

AFFILIATE OF: APS & COPO

The Official Journal of the International Society of Worldwide Stamp Collectors

Looking Back: The Year in New Zealand Stamps

By K. M. Crowe (# 459)

New Zealand Post released a total of fifty-five (55) stamps in 1993 plus two (2) Health issues; a mix of the good, the bad, and the ugly! The January 1993 release of six Royal Doulton was disappointing in that the 45¢ internal letter rate featured a Toby or character jug (Figure 1) and even Doulton collectors admit these are very ugly jugs. The reason English pottery graces six New Zealand stamps was a New Zealand sponsored tour of the Doulton factory's collection of old wares. The 80¢ value (Fig. 2) does show New Zealand's Maori art on a cup and plate, but it was a set we could have done without.



Figure 1.

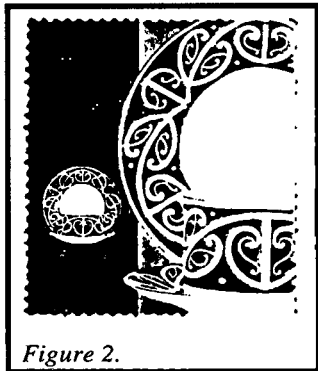


Figure 2.

February saw The Emerging Years series continue from 1992, this time showing the 1930's: fashions, the depression, the racehorse Phar Lap (Australia also claims this horse; see Australia # 693), welfare housing, free school milk,



Figure 3.

and talking movies all got a stamp (Fig. 3).

Four stamps in March acknowledged 100 years of Women's Vote (Fig. 4). New Zealand was the first country in the world to grant women that right, although South Pass City in Wyoming (USA) had given women that same right back in 1869 and was nearly denied statehood for that reason!

The 80¢ bird definitive, sold only in booklets of ten, continued the bird series begun in 1988 and still

current. The new stamp depicts a falcon on the wing (Fig. 5).

The set of six issued in May showed Thermal Wonders, the boiling mud pools and geysers of the central North Island city of Rotorua and is my pick for best set of the year (Fig. 6).

The World Wildlife Fund block of four (shown in Nov./Dec. 93 issue of *The Circuit*) seems to cram too many threatened and rare species onto each stamp so the scale of each is all wrong.

The booklet stamp showed the Mercury Tusked Weta, which looks like a cockroach so joins the Doulton Jug stamp as an equally ugly stamp. However, there are only 23 of these little critters left in the world (yes, 23!!!) so I guess it deserves its own stamp (Fig. 7).

A round \$1.00 Kiwi stamp in blue appeared in June, identical to previous green and red issues. In July, two Health stamps were issued (Fig. 8).

September brought a booklet of ten showing an underwater montage of local fish and seafoods. I was surprised the Hoki fish wasn't depicted as it's one of the bigger export earners, at \$3 million to the USA alone. If you've ever eaten at the US restaurant chain Long John Silvers, that fish is Hoki! The booklet has two adverts for the Fishing Industry Board along the sheet edge.

A Christmas block of four plus two singles were designed by an Auckland art student and released in September (Fig. 9). The stamps were a smaller.



Figure 4.



Figure 5.



Figure 6.

(Continued Page 2)

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Deadline: Next Issue
April 20, 1994

Items received after deadline
will appear in another issue.

New Zealand 1993 (Continued from Page 1)

format than the last two Christmas blocks, so not as attractive. October saw a five stamp set plus one booklet issued of

dinosaurs and coupled with the New Zealand release of the movie 'Jurassic Park,' which took only a week to break all New Zealand box office records and caused 'dinomania' with the local children. Australia and Canada also issued dinosaur sets on the same day, which will go down in history as one of stamp collecting coincidences! (Fig. 10/11)

The Australian set was far and away the best of them. The dinosaur booklets also had adverts, for TV 3's program 'World Around Us.'

The last release of 1993 was another Emerging Years set of six featuring the 1940s, with World War II, aerial top-dressing of farmlands, hydroelectric power, marching girls, the Americans, and Victory.

The Americans? - I hear you ask. Yes, with battles in the South Pacific during the later years of WWII, American servicemen were based in New Zealand before heading off to battle, and the war wounded were evacuated to New

Zealand hospitals. Many New Zealand girls left as war brides (including my father's sister!) and the common complaint from the local boys about the American troops was that they were 'overpaid, over sexed, and over here!' The stamp itself has a design error, as the US flag depicted was not introduced until 1959!

Other stamp news for last year was the auction of New Zealand's rarest stamp, the 1903 inverted Lake Taupo. Although bid up to \$155,000, it failed to meet the reserve. The stamp is pictured

correctly as Scott's illustration # A19, so check your collection; if your copy has the lake upside down, you're rich!!

By the time you read this we'll be well into 1994, early issues are a round \$1 face value Round the World Yacht Race issue, in a set of six. Others planned are a booklet featuring Tourism, a totally unneeded and unwanted \$20 face value issue. The Emerging Years will continue into the 1950s, with the 45¢ value depicting rock'n'roll!

Aland Bedrock Definitives

Set of 2
issued:
9/23/93
Designer:
C. Hemmingsson

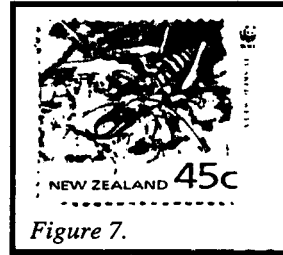


Figure 7.



Figure 8.



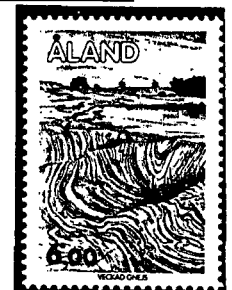
Figure 9.



Figure 10.



Figure 11.



THE PRESIDENTS COLUMN by Tom Fortunato (#379)**Topical Collectors are Worldwidiers, too!**

I dare say that there are many more topical or thematic collectors than there are worldwide collectors. But how many topical collectors realize that they are, in fact, worldwide collectors without even knowing it?

Both worldwidiers and topicalists are probably the most knowledgeable stamp collectors around. The two collecting areas greatly compliment one another. Here in the USA, the American Topical Association has a membership of nearly 6600 members. Beyond, there are hundreds of thousands of casual topical collectors who don't belong to any organized philatelic group. The numbers are even more staggering around the world!

So odds are that you know a topical collector out there somewhere. Introduce the ISWSC to him or her. We can learn from one another if you just give it a try!

As I write this column in late January, word has just reached me that so many of you took the opportunity to vote in the last election, actually a rather good turn out considering that it was an uncontested vote. Thanks to all of you, especially those who took the time to add notes of support and criticism. Peter Bylen, our vote counter, was amazed at the wonderful words many of you wrote. Your comments were read and appreciated. Don't ever hesitate to let any of your officers know what's on your mind. ••

Swap Circuit Manager Retires

After originating and operating the Swap Circuit for the past three years, Dalene Thomas (#101) is retiring. More than 160 members are involved with this ISWSC service, which works on a simple take one - add one basis.

Swap circuits now in circulation should be returned as listed to Dalene. New circuits will be started by the new manager, Jan Roderick (#669) as old ones are retired.

Anyone wishing to join the swap circuit are requested to contact the new manager, Jan Roderick (#669) at 12 Red Oak Road, Asheville, NC 28804.

The ISWSC wishes to thank Dalene for her work on behalf of the Society as she pursues other philatelic projects. ••

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IRAN OVERPRINTS by Dave Creson (#170)

Iran enjoys a vast unpopularity mainly due to the many forgeries of most issues. Not long ago a friend shared with me some interesting material. It was the Iran overprints, Scott 235-340. This material came to me usually in sheets of 24 and was mostly mint. Here is what I found.

This group was stop gap issues until the new Shah issue could be received from a foreign source. The grouping was locally printed. The issues were NOT valid for postage until overprinted by postal authorities so the non-government printer could and did run as many copies as they thought they could sell anywhere. Most basic copies found are NOT forged. Many would be classified as remainders. Scott catalog is 20 to 100 times too high in value on many issues. A more realistic value can be found in Gibbons. (Or most any other catalog for that matter.)

The data I gathered is as follows: The 1913 OP (Scott 235-9) are nearly

(Continued on Page 10)

ISWSC Meeting Planned for STaMpsShow '94

Start making plans to attend the APS STaMpsShow '94, scheduled for August 18-21 in Pittsburgh, PA. The ISWSC is trying to schedule a meeting at the event for Saturday, August 20. As usual, final meeting dates and times will come at the last minute, but we will inform you when things are set. If you plan to go, write to Tom Fortunato with a SASE who will send details when known, including possible group rate motel accommodations. Members residing in greater Pittsburgh are urged to write as well. ••

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Secretary-Treasurer's Report *by Carol Cervenka (# 498)*

Health problems plagued me during January and on into February. A hospital stay and lengthy recuperation have kept me from completing ISWSC work as quickly as I'd like. My apologies to all who were accustomed to a speedy response from me, and had to wait. I'm feeling much improved and have almost caught up at this writing.

As some of you know, ISWSC had a deposit "lost in the mail" in November '93. While the missing deposit has not turned up, I'm happy to report that all ISWSC members whose checks were lost, have reissued checks except for one. This presents a dilemma for me; technically the member is "paid," even though we don't have the money. Should I continue to hound the member (2 letters, one phone call), or give up and delete his name from our rolls? Any suggestions?

Members who have been dropped from the rolls since the last newsletter will be found with your roster update pages. Current members on the "endangered" list are: 883 Keil; 890 Martin; 891

Imbert; 905 Boryk; 906 Gent; 907 de Leon; 981 Hudson; and 984 Ahil. Last issue I asked you to contact any members appearing on this list to encourage them to renew. It worked so well, I'd like to ask you to do it with this list. Our members are important to us and we'd like to keep as many as possible. If we've failed them in some way, we'd like to know about it so it doesn't happen again. It is really upsetting to receive a resignation at renewal time from a member who is dissatisfied because of no response from a service manager. Let me know if you don't receive a timely reply and I'll check up on the situation - PRONTO!

Within this issue you will find an Income and Expense Report covering 1993. If you have any question or would like additional information, please feel free to contact me. And, please don't forget to include a SASE! I'm happy to report that our income exceeded our expenses this year! ••

Regional Secretaries Reports

AustralAsian Region

by Peter Scannell (# 453)

Promotion of the ISWSC is going well in the AustralAsian region. We now have 27 members. Requests from local junior stamp clubs for stamps through the AustralAsian Youth Program countries to grow. About 7500 used stamps were posted to junior clubs mainly in Australia but also in New Zealand, Philippines and Malaysia to help in their activities with children from June - December '93. Recently we have had write-ups of the Leader to Leader project and AustralAsian Youth Program from both the Australian Philatelic Federation and *Stamp News*, an Aussie monthly magazine, resulting in strong interest from numerous junior clubs as well as from those who wish to join.

An ISWSC Sales Circuit has recently been started in Australia involving Australia and New Zealand members only. Sixteen local members are involved with a good mixture of both buyers and sellers. Sixteen is a small number for a sales circuit, but you have to start somewhere. The 15% commission earned on sales will fund club projects in the AustralAsian region.

Member Chris O'Hara (# 972) of Australia wishes to advise that Adelaide, state capital of South Australia, will be holding the Aero-Astropex show later this year. Contact Chris for further information if you intend going. Chris is having a lot of difficulty finding a United States member that has US revenues to exchange. Anyone interested? Please write to Chris if you are. ••

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