

Linn's Stamp News



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Six New Zealand stamps salute the 1950s, from rock 'n' roll to the conquest of Everest

New Zealand captures the color and spirit of the 1950s on six stamps to be issued March 24.

The 1950s were a relatively prosperous time in New Zealand. They also were a time of change, especially in popular music.

The introduction of rock 'n' roll is celebrated on the 45¢ stamp, which shows a couple dancing.

Young New Zealanders listened to American rock 'n' rollers, such as Elvis Presley, Little Richard, and Bill Haley and the Comets, in the 1950s. A whole new breed of musicians from New Zealand, including Johnny Devlin and Max Merritt, also emerged during the decade.

A New Zealand mountain climber, Edmund Hillary, conquered the mighty Mount Everest at 11:30 a.m. May 29, 1953. The 80¢ stamp commemorates this event.

Hillary was one of the first two men to reach the top of the 29,028-foot summit and return. The other man was Tenzing Norgay, a Sherpa tribesman from Nepal.

Queen Elizabeth II knighted Hillary for his achievement.

A New Zealand radio personality, Aunt Daisy, is honored on the \$1 stamp. The stamp shows Aunt Daisy and a radio from the 1950s.

From 1936 to 1963, Aunt Daisy filled the airwaves with everything from useful household hints to homegrown philosophy. She also became one of the first New Zealanders to face a television camera in 1951.

The \$1.20 denomination pictures Queen Elizabeth II during her 1953 visit to New Zealand. The queen was the first reigning sovereign to visit the country.

At the end of the first day of her five-week visit, she told the people of New Zealand, "Though this is my first visit to New Zealand, I have the impression that I know it well and I know that here I shall feel at home."

The \$1.50 value features Opo, the friendly dolphin. Songs, stories, poems and novels were inspired by this affectionate and friendly visitor to the tiny Hokianga beach settlement of Opononi in the summer of 1955-56.

The dolphin seemingly came from nowhere to entertain the swimmers with her aquatic antics and tricks. Through the long summer, she would play gently with the children and eventually even gave them rides.

The Auckland Harbor Bridge, nicknamed the Coat Hanger because of its shape, is shown on the \$1.80 stamp. The bridge was opened in

May 1959 to pedestrians and later to traffic.

More than 100,000 people streamed across it on foot in a single day, and within six weeks of its opening to traffic, 1 million vehicles had crossed the bridge.

Karen Odiam designed the stamps. Leigh-Mardon of Melbourne, Australia, printed them by multicolor lithography in sheets of 100.

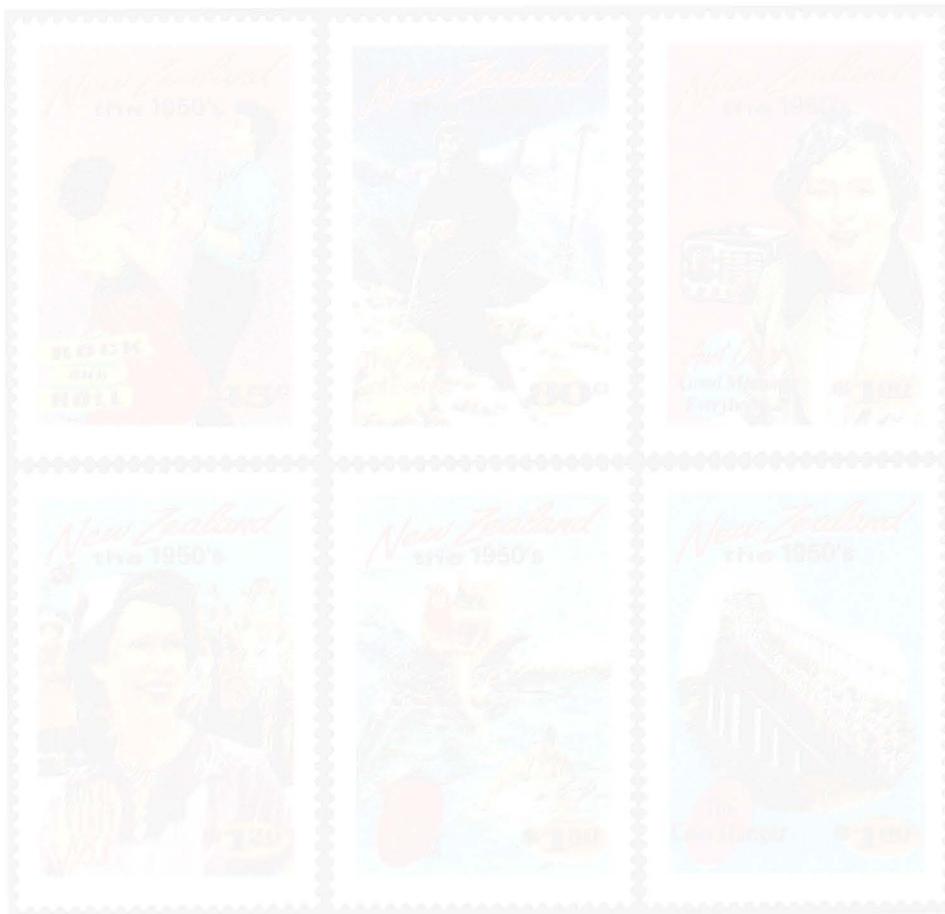
The stamps conclude New Zealand's Emerging Years series, which began Nov. 4, 1992, with stamps celebrating the spirit of the Roaring '20s.

The decade of the 1930s is remembered on stamps released Feb. 17, 1993. While some of the stamps represent the hardships of the Great Depression, others show happier times.

The war and other events of the 1940s are reflected on stamps issued Nov. 3, 1993.

New Zealand Post decided to name each set in its Emerging Years series after a song.

The songs are *Painting the Clouds with Sunshine* for the 1920s; *I've Got a Pocketful of Dreams* for the 1930s; (Please turn to page 13)



New Zealand will issue six stamps March 24 saluting the atmosphere and events of the 1950s, including rock 'n' roll, the conquest of Mount Everest, Aunt Daisy on the radio, the 1953 royal visit, a friendly dolphin and the opening of the Auckland Harbor Bridge.

British saucy seaside postcards to appear on five stamps April 12

Saucy seaside postcards designed by Donald McGill are pictured on five British stamps to be released April 12. The stamps mark the 100th anniversary of picture postcards in the United Kingdom.

Before September 1894, postcards were not allowed in the British mailstream. Anyone wanting to send a postcard had to enclose it in an envelope.

However, once postcards were allowed, it was just a few months before picture postcards made their debut. Among the earliest postcards were those produced by George Stewart & Co. of Edinburgh, Scotland, before the end of 1894.

By 1910, more than 100 million postcards had been sold in the United Kingdom, and by the 1930s, every seaside town had its array of cards.

Donald McGill, Britain's most prolific postcard designer, produced at least 10,000 postcard designs. One of his cards sold in excess of 2 million copies.

Born Fraser Gould in 1875, McGill studied naval architecture before turning to cartoons. His first comic design was for a sick relative in 1904. His first comic postcard followed in 1905.

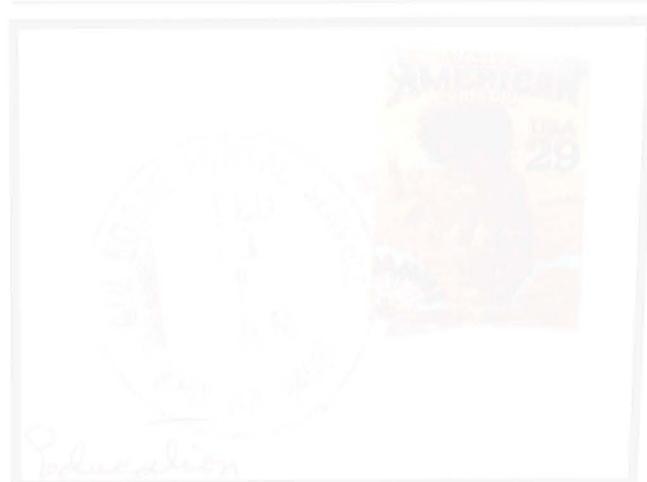
The 19-penny stamp for the domestic second-class rate shows a large woman in a polka dot bathing suit teetering on one leg, with a crab firmly clamped to the big toe of her raised foot.

Blackpool Tower, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, can be seen in the background.

The 2p value pays the first-class domestic rate and the basic rate to European Community countries. (Please turn to page 18)



Great Britain will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the picture postcard in that country on commemoratives to be issued April 12. Two of the five stamps are pictured here.



Legends used in Rio

Close-up of a used 29¢ Native American Culture stamp, from a recalled Legends of the West pane. The stamp is on a cover sent Feb. 1, via an Air Force post office, from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, to a department at Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio. This is the second use of a Legends stamp from Brazil to come to light. A story on the use appeared in *Linn's* March 14, page 3. A story about a recalled 29¢ Sacajawen stamp on a Feb. 1 cover from Rio de Janeiro was in the March 7 issue, page 1.

Contents on page 3

PRINTED entirely on recycled paper MAILED: March 10
PAID CIRCULATION: 69,946 TOTAL DISTRIBUTION: 71,250
POSTMASTER: Address changes to Box 29, Sidney, Ohio 45365

Offset missing on 22¢ Girl Scouts

By Michael Schreiber

A partial pane of United States 22¢ Girl Scouts stamps of 1987 (Scott 2251) missing all regularly printed offset colors has come to light. Only the engraved black and engraved red are printed on the stamps.

The Philatelic Foundation has issued its certificate No. 275134 for a partial pane of 46 of the stamps, noting that they are "unused, o.g. [original gum], all lithograph col-

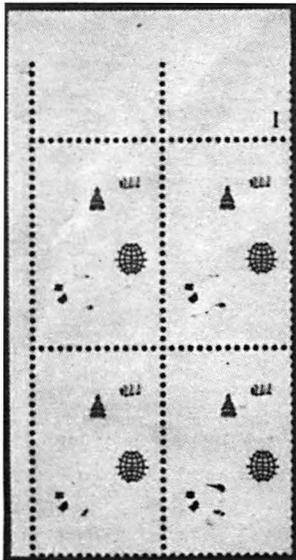


Figure 1. Plate block of four of the United States 22¢ Girl Scouts stamp with only the regular engraved colors printed. The block is part of a larger block of 46 stamps recently expertized by the Philatelic Foundation's expert committee.



Figure 2. The normal 22¢ Girl Scouts stamp of 1987, picturing 14 merit badges (two shown only partially).

ors missing." The Foundation's expert committee is of the opinion that the stamps are genuine and never hinged.

The block of 46 is a nearly complete, upper-left pane of 50. Pairs of stamps from positions 41-42 and 49-50 (both from the bottom row) have been removed and were expertized separately.

Figure 1 pictures the plate block of four from the large block, showing the black engraved plate number above the second stamp. The five offset plate numbers above the first stamp are missing. Figure 2 pictures a normal single 22¢ Girl Scouts stamp.

The stamps were printed on the U.S. Bureau of En-



Figure 3. Close-up of the missing-offset Girl Scouts stamp from position 15 in the larger block of 46.

graving and Printing's combination offset/intaglio D press. A single plate printed both engraved red and engraved black, similar to how a single plate prints the red and blue on the current 29¢ Flag Over the White House definitive stamp.

The engraved black is the covering on the Conestoga wagon (local lore merit badge), the Capitol dome (active citizen badge), and the latitude and longitude lines (wider opportunities badge).

The engraved red forms the highlights on the sock, shoe and shoelaces in the individual sports badge.

The block has been consigned to Sam Houston Philatelics of Houston, Texas.

According to the firm's president, Bob Dumaine, the stamps bear errant flecks of the offset colors that are believed to have been deposited on the stamps by the tagging roller.

The offset flecks are not in the normal positions for the offset colors, what Dumaine described as "helter-skelter color." More than half the stamps also bear small smears of color. Some are visible in Figure 1 in the lower part of each stamp.

Figure 3 shows the stamp from position 15 (fifth stamp in the second horizontal row) in the larger block.

The stamps are block tagged normally for the issue (large rectangular block covering what would have been the entire printed area had all colors been there), except that a wider-than-normal tagging gap appears over the left column of stamps.

Dumaine said he received the stamps in 1993 after about six months of negotiating with the owner. It was only recently that the Foundation's expertization process was completed.

According to Dumaine, the stamps are believed to have been purchased at a post office in 1987 by a Minnesota collector as part of a larger stamp purchase, with the missing-offset pane possibly being sandwiched between other normal panes. ■