

Te Awamutu Post Office

Material used in a presentation to the

Te Awamutu Museum

2013

Ross Marshall

The first Post Office in the Te Awamutu area opened as **Rangiawhia** [later **Rangiaowhia**] **March 27, 1854** at the Government station [Hairini] as a direct consequence of the change in the Auckland-Wellington] Overland postal route from the coast to the Waikato and Waipa Rivers then out to Kawhia.

In May 1857 the Government decided to establish a mail link via Taupo to Napier [Ahuriri] and later to Tauranga via Lake Tarawera. As a direct consequence, the Post Office was moved to **Otawhao** [Mission Station] **September 23, 1857** with the postmaster Rev John Morgan then in 1863, Sir John Eldon Gorst.

Relations between the Maori and the Government deteriorated and on **24 March 1863**, the Post Office was closed when Gorst and all other settlers were evicted from the district.

Otawhao Post Office

A datestamp – First Framed Type – was proofed in Wellington **FEB 30 62**. Examples are scarce. It is recorded used between **DEC 10 62** and **MAR 19 63**. An Otawhao manuscript marking is reported on an envelope flap August 30, 1860.



Photocopy of Proof



FEB 12 63



Otawhao JAN 29 63 via Auckland JA 31 1863 to Mrs Brown in Tauranga
Letter written by Maria Morgan wife of Rev John Morgan

One of Three recorded Otawhao Covers

The British Army Field Force reached Te Awamutu in February 1864 when a redoubt and camp was set up and garrisoned by the 40th Regiment. The **Te Awamutu Post Office** opened **March 24, 1864** to serve the military settlement. It was probably in the camp orderly room within the redoubt. The Police Station stands on this site. The office received the **Province of Auckland Number 2 datestamp**. This is recorded used between September 14, 1864 and December 5, 1867. Nine covers are known and 36 examples recorded on adhesive [Elliott 2010]



Enlarged copies
of Province-of-
Auckland 2
datestamp
1865



The Te Awamutu Post Office received **Money Order Office** facilities **May 1, 1874**. The regulations required that a named datestamp be issued to correctly document all monetary transactions. The datestamp was framed with the details in 5 lines. It is recorded used between JU 14 75 and SP 9 99. Mail index A-E are recorded.

AU 21 84	23 JA 95	24 JA 99	9 SP 99

At the time the datestamp was issued, an obliterator was issued from Auckland Chief Post Office. **A 81** in an oval of bars. The obliterator was to be used to cancel the postage stamp while the datestamp was applied to the envelope. Examples are uncommon – none are known on postage stamps issued after 1880. This coupled with the fact that the datestamp is known on postage stamps suggests that the obliterator was used 1875-1879 then lost.



A 81
Stamp of 1878

“A” Class datestamp

Proof impression in PO records **31 MY 99**. Use recorded **8 JE 99 to 6 OC 18**. Mail index 1-4

PC Proof	8 JE 99	10 NO 99	6 OC 01

“H” Class datestamp

Proof impression in PO records **27 DE 00**. Use recorded **7 AP 02 to 17 AP 11**. Mail index 1-6

PC Proof	13 SP 04	29 AU 04	6 FE 11

POST CARD.

FOR INLAND POSTAGE THIS SPACE, AS WELL AS THE BACK, MAY NOW BE USED FOR COMMUNICATION.
FOR FOREIGN POSTAGE THE BACK ONLY (Post Office Regulation)

THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN HERE.

Wishing you a merry Xmas & happy New Year with best from us

Mrs Rogers

11. 11. 06

TE AWAMUTU 20 DE 06

“H” Class 19 DE 06
to Kio Kio
20 JE 06

“H” Class 11 SP 11

Rare Advertising Envelope

SPEND A HOLIDAY AT Te Awamutu.

“The Garden of the Waikato”

On the border of the King Country An ideal place for recreation

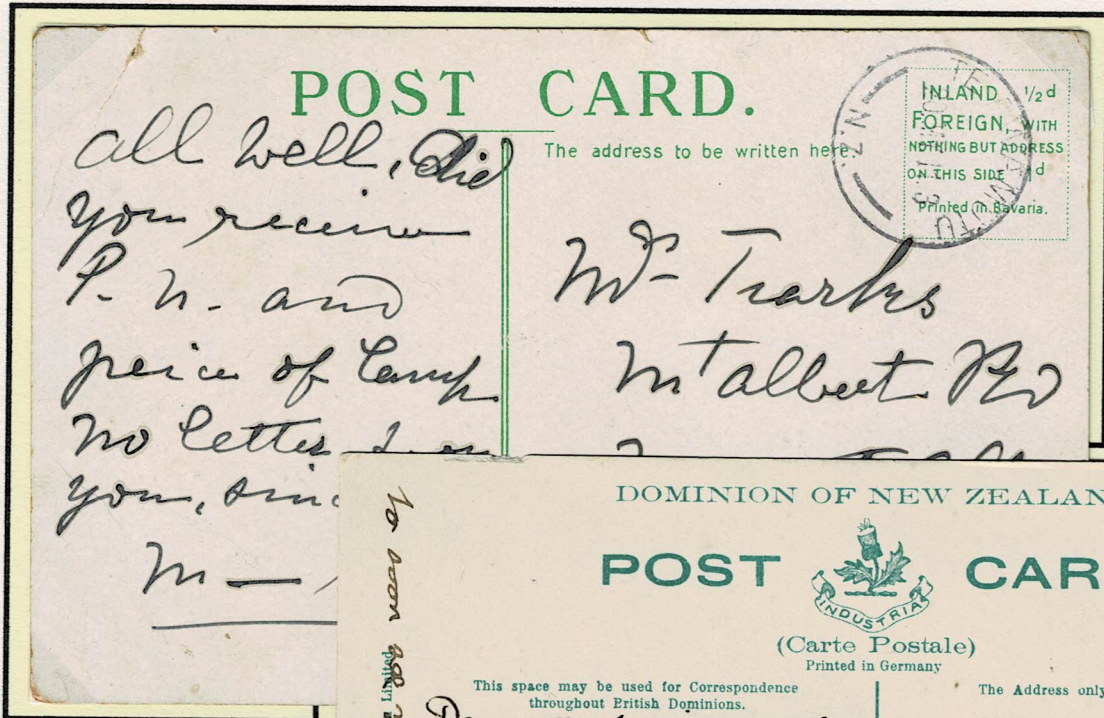
EXPRESS TRAINS TO AND FROM AUCKLAND AND TAURANGA DAILY

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First-class Accommodation Beautiful Country Historical Battle Scenes Trout Fishing Riding, Driving, Cycling Shooting Bowling, Tennis, &c., &c. 	<p><i>The Manager</i></p> <p><i>Tasmanian News</i></p> <p><i>Hobart</i></p> <p><i>Tasmania</i></p>
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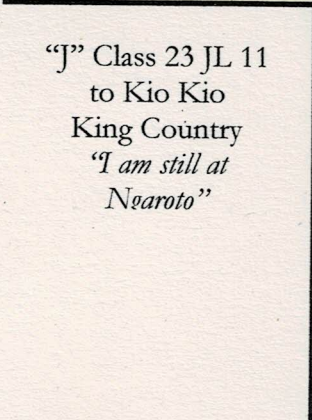
Intending visitors may obtain full information on application to “The Librarian, Te Awamutu.”

"J" Class 26mm datestamp

Proof impression in PO records **15 MY 11**. Use recorded **20 MY 11 to 7 JE 16**. Mail index 1-6



"J" Class 20 MY 11 to Mount Eden without stamp



"J" Class 23 JL 11 to Kio Kio King Country "I am still at Nearoto"



To soon from Mary...

Miss N Rogers
Kio Kio
King Country

"C" Class 25mm datestamp

Proof impression in PO records 2 FE 12. Use recorded JL 12 to ?? 27. Time index

			
PC Proof	JL 12	6 DE 23	18 SP 24

Te Awamutu "C" Class 9 MR 18 to Mr Gifford



Te Awamutu Chamber of Commerce

(INCORPORATED)

THE regular Monthly Meeting of the Te Awamutu Chamber of Commerce will be held at Spear's Cosmopolitan Club rooms on Tuesday, March 12th, at 8 p.m.

BUSINESS:

- Election of New Members
- Report on Pataruru Railway Scheme
- Consideration of Hydro-Electric Schemes
- Holiday Mail Service

NOTICES OF MOTION—

- "Consideration for the establishment of a Fire Board."—Mr Spinley.
- "That Rule 8 be rescinded, and in its place a new rule be substituted as follows:—" The management shall be in the hands of an executive consisting of the President and two members to be elected by the Chamber annually, and that the term Council be replaced by the word executive in all other rules.—Mr Clark.

Te Awamutu,
March 8th, 1918.

S. J. FORTESCUE,
Secretary.

“A” Class 25mm datestamp

Proof impression in PO records **12 AP 17**. Use recorded **21 AU 17 to 26 JL 22** No index Still there 1935

PC Proof	4 OC 17	10 NO 20	10 JA 35

“C” Class 25mm datestamp

Proof impression in PO records **8 FE 22**. Use recorded **16 AP 23 to 24 OC 52**. Time index – used without

PC Proof	16 AP 23	12 MR 29	15 OC 48

“J” Class 28mm datestamp

Proof impression in PO records **13 MY 27**. Use recorded **18 JL 30 to 7 JE 83**. Counter datestamp

PC Proof	6 NO 45	10 NO 45	20 MY 75

“C” Class 30mm datestamp

No Proof impression in PO records but an impression noted in **10 JA 35**. Use recorded **3 JA 31 to 10 MY 46**
Time index

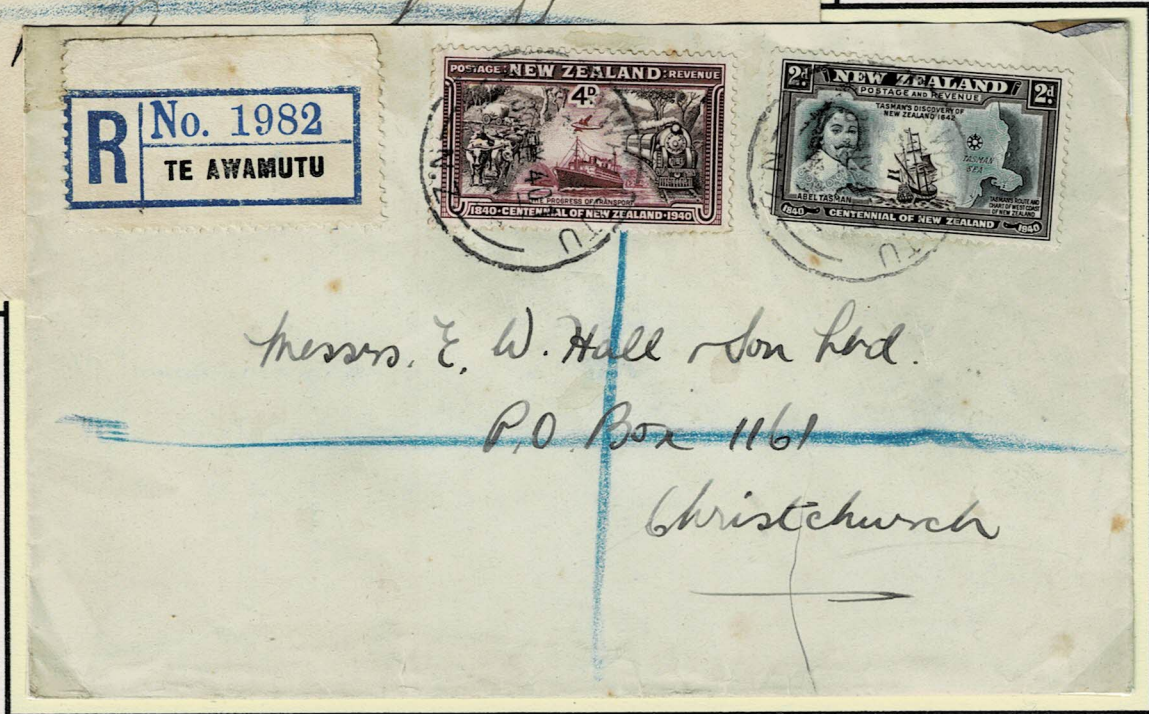
PO impression	20 AP 32	8 AU 36		6 NO 42

“J” Class 28mm datestamp – used on Counter for Registered mail etc



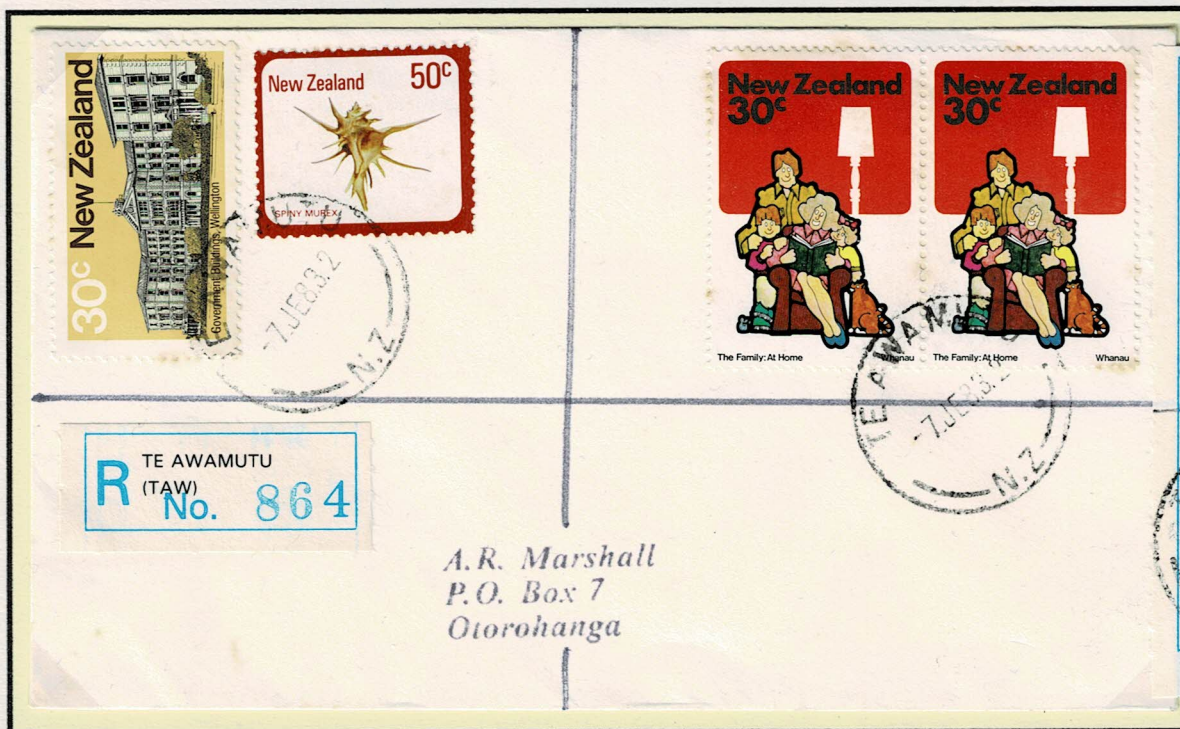
“J” Class 28mm
16 NO 37 on R-letter
4d rate

“J” Class 28mm
31 MY 40 on R-letter
6d rate



E W Hall – a prominent seed merchant in Christchurch

“J” Class 28mm
7 JE 83 on R-letter. \$1.40 rate



TE AWAMUTU	
R	No. 864
RECEIPT FOR REGISTERED MAIL	
MAXIMUM COMPENSATION	
INLAND SERVICE	\$10
OVERSEAS SERVICE	\$24
This receipt must accompany any inquiry	
of Accepting Officer	Initials
Date Stamp	
TE AWAMUTU	
7JE83.2	
N.Z.	

“C” Class 34mm datestamp

Proof impression in PO records **3 JA 46**. Use recorded **30 MY 46 to Present** Time index mailroom use

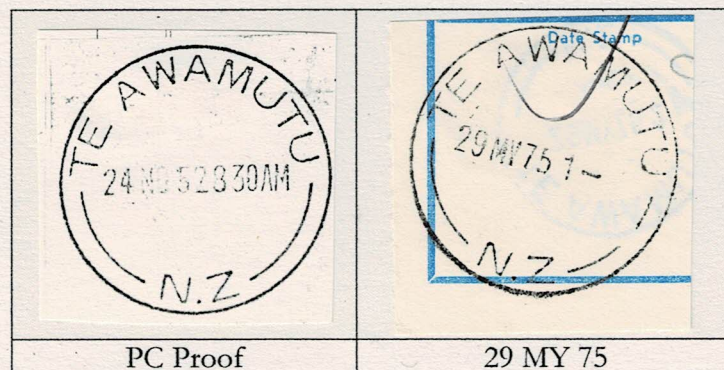


“C” Class 34mm datestamp – Mailroom use 7 JE 83

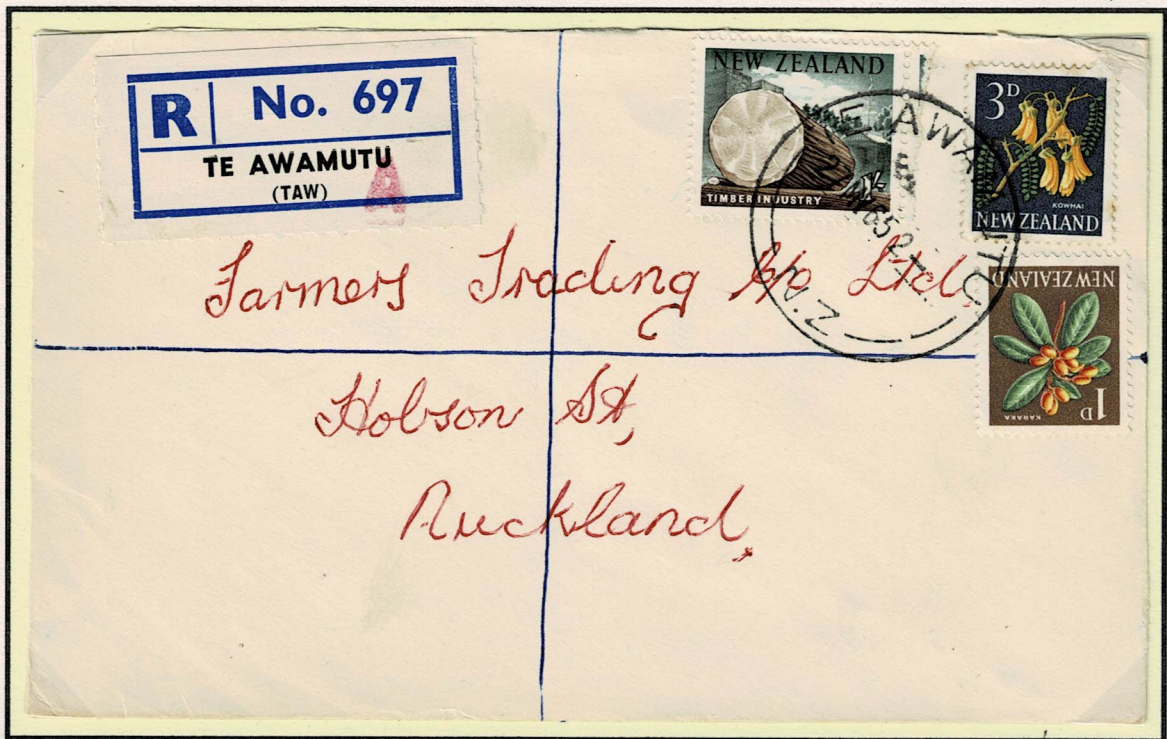


“C” Class 35mm datestamp

Proof impression in PO records **24 NO 52**. Use recorded **1 JA 54 to Present**. Used without time symbols



“C” Class 35mm datestamp – Counter use 27 MY 65 – Time symbols removed - Mail index 2



Farmers Trading Company mail survives as all incoming envelopes were archived.

“C” Class 35mm datestamp – Counter use 7 JE 83 – Time symbols removed - Mail index 1



Packet Obliterator TAW

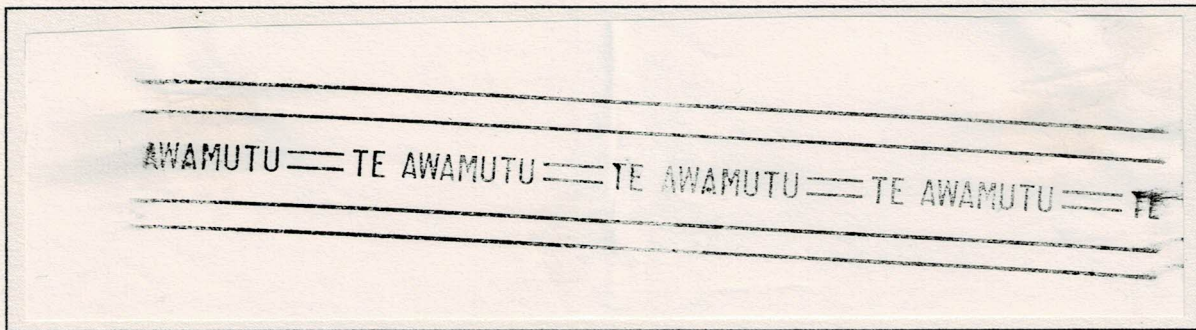
A packet obliterator **TAW** in a circle was introduced in the 1910's for use on irregular sized mail articles.

It continued in use to about 1935 when replaced by a self-inking roller canceller. Examples are scarce.



Undated Parcel Roller Cancellation

Issued about 1935 – still in use 1983



Dated Parcel Roller

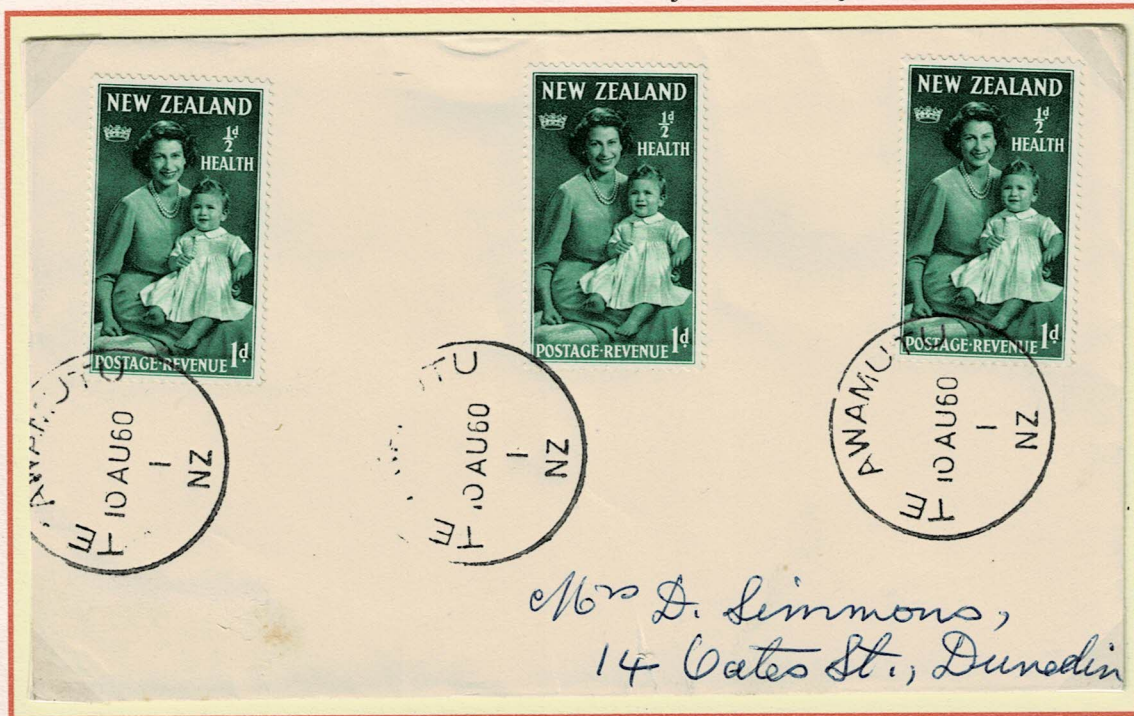
Used from 1955



Skeletal Relief Datestamp

Relief datestamps were put together at Hamilton Chief Post Office and provided to Post Offices when there were problems with existing datestamps.

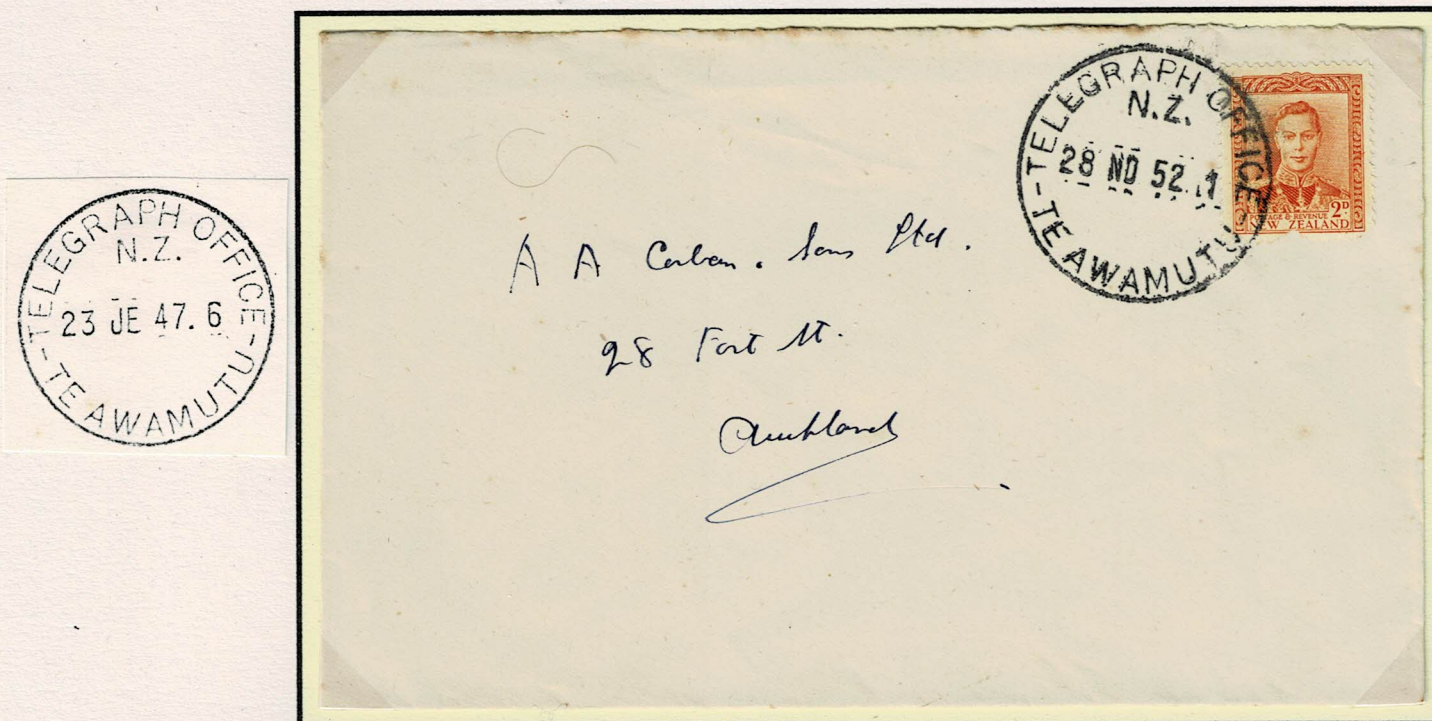
Te Awamutu Relief datestamp 10 AU 1960 [8th to 10th] – new screw in “C” Class 35mm datestamp
 Relief also known 23 FE 41; 18-23 JL 70 ; 12-14 JL 76.



Mrs Doris Simmons was one of 3 ladies who started systematically to send for postmarks from about 1948

Telegraph Office “J” Class 33mm

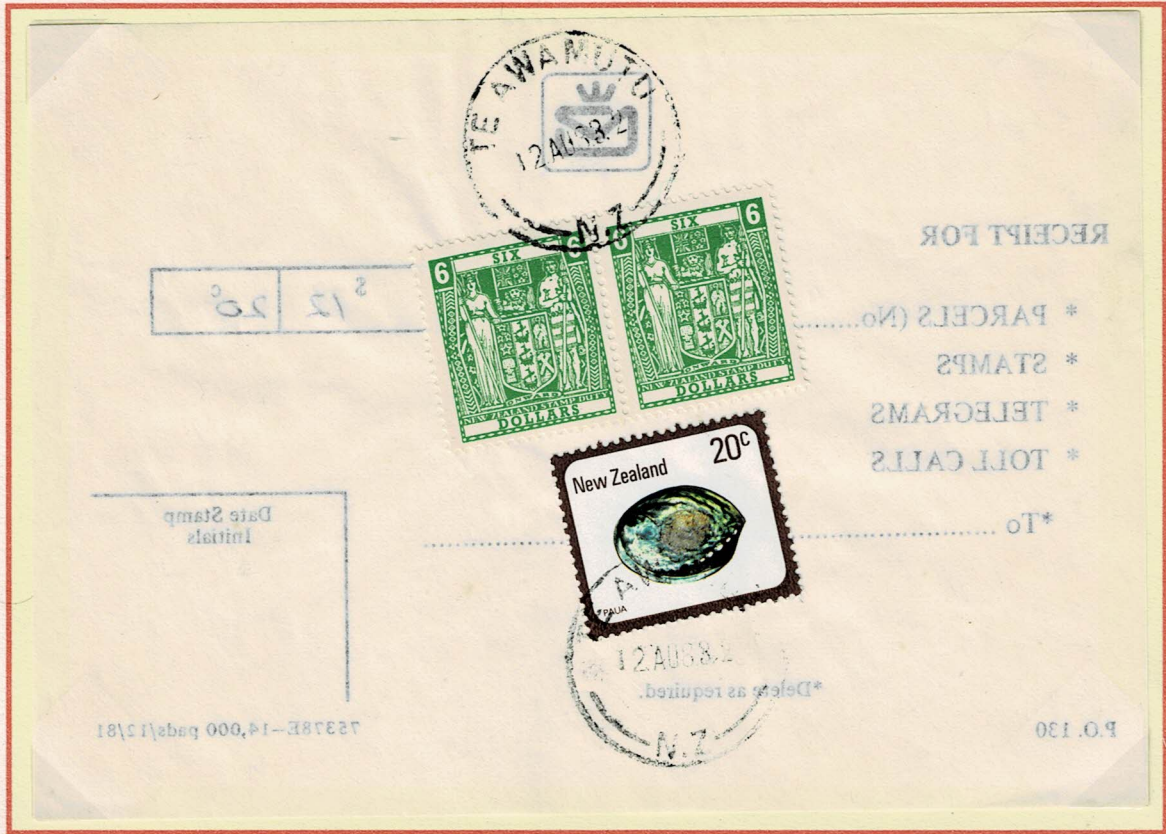
Proof impression in PO records 23 JE 47



Mr A A Corban – winemaker and Postal History collector saved all his correspondence

Bulk Mail Payment on Form P.O. 130 75378E-14,000 pads/12/81

"J" Class 29mm Counter datestamp 12 AU 83 - \$12.20



"C" Class 35mm [without time symbols] Counter datestamp 7 JE 83 - \$8.59



Te Awamutu Post Office Centennial 24 MR 64

"C" Class 34mm mailroom datestamp – Cover signed by Postmaster.



Special Commemorative datestamps



27 SEP 1984 Special commemorative datestamp 100 years since Te Awamutu achieved Borough status 1884-1984 Te Awamutu NZ – Rose Emblem

Special cancellation also used the 1993 for Cycle Classic

Instructional Markings – 1983

Please inform sender of your full address including the street number.

UNCLAIMED.

INSUFFICIENTLY ADDRESSED

COME; NO ADDRESS

NOTIFIED

UNKNOWN

NO SUCH STREET IN TE AWAMUTU

E.R.	
T.D.	
R.D.	

TE AWAMUTU
-7 JUN 1983
REGISTRATION

RETURN TO SENDER

Deficient Postage	\$	c
Surcharge		20c
Total	\$	c

INSUFFICIENTLY PREPAID FOR AIR TRANSMISSION - FORWARDED BY SURFACE MAIL.

Registration Rubber datestamps



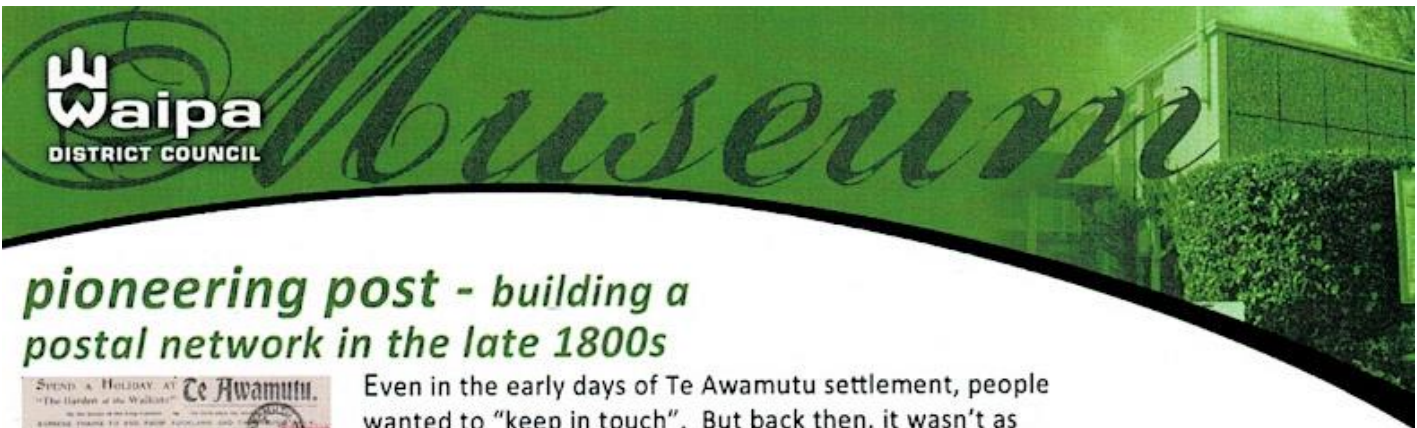
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Te Awamutu Museum

2013


Ross Marshall



Waipa
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Museum

pioneering post - building a postal network in the late 1800s



Even in the early days of Te Awamutu settlement, people wanted to “keep in touch”. But back then, it wasn’t as easy. In this programme, philatelist Dr Ross Marshall will present historic letters, stamps, postmarks and covers from that time to show how communication was managed.

If you love stamps or stories of the past, you’ll want to attend this programme
7pm on Wednesday 28th July at the Museum - gold coin donation requested

Te Awamutu Museum
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