

# Stamp collecting is for You!



No matter your age or interests in life, here is a hobby for all ages that can either stand in its own right or augment any of your existing leisure activities. It doesn't matter whether you are interested in science or the arts – or even politics. People, places, human achievements geology and landscape, opera or the Bible. These and much more have been celebrated on stamps. The hobby is ideal for learning about all manner of things. Whilst it can be a relaxing solitary hobby that is an excellent distraction for the recently retired or an absorbing and mentally stimulating hobby for young people and old age pensioners alike, the main idea is to share your interest with others or learn of others interests. Collecting is just great for your health and wellbeing. Come and Join us.

[Take a peep and discover some interesting links](#)

## Scottish Connection to New Zealand

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Scottish migration to New Zealand dates back to the earliest period of European colonisation and there is still, to this day, a great affinity between New Zealand and Scotland. The majority of Scottish immigrants settled in the South Island. All over New Zealand, the Scots developed different means to bridge the old homeland and the new, and many people, as direct immigrants or as descendants, have made their mark in New Zealand society and culture. There are many place names with direct links to Scotland, more particularly in South Island and others with Scottish names. The influence of Scots and Scottish heritage can be seen on a number of stamps from New Zealand and it can be an interesting theme to link Scotland and New Zealand. Some examples of such stamps are shown below, beginning with some place names, mainly from South Island.

### Dunedin

Probably the most recognisable city with a Scottish name and connection is **Dunedin** in New Zealand's South Island. Dunedin is the second largest city in South Island and the main city in the Otago Region. Its name comes from *Dun Eideann* which is the Gaelic name for Edinburgh and indeed Dunedin is twinned with Edinburgh. The first Scottish settlement dates back to 1848 and in the second half of the 1800s many thousands of Scots emigrated to Dunedin; lured in part by the discovery of gold in Central Otago. Many of its streets and suburb names mirror those of Edinburgh and there is even a statue to Robert Burns. The iconic architecture of the railway station is world famous.

Dunedin features on a number of stamps of which three are shown here.



## Invercargill

Down in the very south we find **Invercargill**, which is the southernmost and westernmost city in New Zealand, and one of the southernmost cities in the world. Many streets in the city, especially in the centre and main shopping district, are named after rivers in Great Britain, mainly from Scotland. The main streets are called Dee and Tay, with many other streets also named after Scottish rivers. Inver comes from the Gaelic word *inbhir* meaning a river's mouth and *Cargill* is in honour of Captain William Cargill the then Superintendent of Otago. Born in Edinburgh he emigrated to New Zealand in 1847.



The Southern Alps were a great attraction to those of a free spirit and willing to explore. Amongst them was Donald Sutherland.

## Sutherland Falls

Born in 1839 in Wick, backwoodsman Donald Sutherland emigrated to New Zealand in 1862. Exploring his favourite area around the Arthur River valley he discovered the highest falls in New Zealand, the 1,904 ft Sutherland Falls which were named after him.



Many of the features in the Southern Alps were named after places in Scotland. Several mountains have distinctly Scottish names and the River Clutha is aptly named after the River Clyde

### River Clutha

The stamp shows the Alexandra Bridge which spans the river Clutha in Otago. The river takes its name from *Cluaidh*, the Scots Gaelic name for the River Clyde in Scotland.



The major city in South Island is Christchurch and the delightful river which flows through the city has a Scottish connection.

### Avon River, Christchurch

The river was given its current name by John Deans in 1848 to commemorate the Scottish Avon, which rises in the Ayrshire hills near what was his grandfathers' farm, Over Auchentiber.



### Glenorchy



Up at the northern end of Lake Wakatipu in Otago lies the small town of Glenorchy. It is named after Glen Orchy, a valley in Argyll. It is a popular tourist spot, with many outdoor activities and close to many tramping tracks.

New Zealand is renowned for sheep farming and a key area in this is the Mackenzie Country.

### Mackenzie Country

The **Mackenzie Basin, or Country**, near the centre of the South Island of New Zealand, is the largest such basin in New Zealand. Historically famous mainly for sheep farming, the sparsely populated area is now also a popular tourism destination.

The basin was named in the 1850s by and after James McKenzie a shepherd and sheep thief of Scottish origin, who herded his stolen flocks in what was then an area almost totally empty of any human habitation.



The sea is never far away and it forms a major part of the life and history of New Zealand. There is a long and often treacherous coastline luring many a ship to a watery grave.

### Cape Campbell

The Cape, on the very north eastern point of South Island, was named Cape Campbell by European settlers after Scottish Vice Admiral John Campbell, who circumnavigated the world in 1740. The lighthouse was fully automated in 1986 and is now managed from a control room in Wellington; there being no public access.



There are many places that have a Scottish sounding name but the name of the person is not Scottish - two of the most well-known places are shown below. There are more place names of direct Scottish origin and it is worth delving into the history of such places and seeing if there are any stamps showing these places.

### Hamilton



Hamilton was named after an English ship captain, John Charles Fane Hamilton, who was killed during the Battle of Gate Pa in Tauranga in 1864. Hamilton, sitting on the banks of the Waikato River, is the seat and most populous city of the Waikato region, and is the fourth most-populous city in New Zealand.

### Napier

Napier was named after Charles Napier who was a commander of British Forces in India. Napier, and nearby Hastings, was largely levelled in the 3<sup>rd</sup> of February 1931 earthquake. The city was rebuilt in an Art Deco style which remains to this day.



Devastation from earthquake



A new Art Deco City

Scots immigrants and people of Scottish descendency have played an important part in New Zealand history and culture. Two women who influenced the greater wide world are shown below.

### Elizabeth Grace Neill

**Elizabeth Grace Neill** was born 26 May 1846 in Edinburgh, and after spending time in England and Queensland she became the first female factory inspector in New Zealand in 1893. Amongst other aspects she was the prime mover in reforming health care practice. Neill devoted herself to a project that would provide suitable nursing service for all of New Zealand and came up with the idea to require nurses to be registered to be able to practice. This was later extended to Midwives and she set up the first maternity hospital. Ideas that were adopted worldwide.



### Kate Sheppard

Born in Liverpool in 1847 but educated in Scotland. In 1893 Kate Sheppard and her fellow suffragists gathered the signatures of nearly 32,000 women to demonstrate the groundswell of support for their cause. Despite the opposition of Premier Richard Seddon, the Electoral Act 1893 was passed by both houses of Parliament and became law on 19 September. The news took New Zealand by storm and inspired suffrage movements all over the world.



## What you need to know

The Caledonian Philatelic Society meets every Thursday evening, 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. from October to March in Room GH 542 in the Graham Hills Building of Strathclyde University. There is pedestrian and disabled access from George Street and pedestrian access from Richmond Street. The latter gives access to the car park for the building – but only from 7.0 p.m. onwards. There is ramped access to the entry points within the car park.

Membership is open. Please come along for a trial evening or two to start with. The annual membership fee is currently £12. Every week, there is a display or other event with an interval half-way through. Attendance is usually about thirty so you will meet many new friends with a great spread of knowledge about different aspects of stamp collecting. For further information about the Society, please contact the secretary: [secretary@caledonianphilatelic.org.uk](mailto:secretary@caledonianphilatelic.org.uk) or use the website-

[www.caledonianphilatelic.org.uk](http://www.caledonianphilatelic.org.uk)

## Other Stamp Clubs in the Glasgow area

**Bearsden:** Every Second Wednesday September to Easter 7:30pm. Westerton Church Hall, Crarae Avenue, Westerton, Glasgow G61 1HY

**Glasgow:** Every Second Tuesday between September and April 1:30pm - 3:30pm. room 10, Partick Burgh Lesser Halls, Burgh Hall Street, Glasgow, G11 5LW

**Glasgow Thematic:** First Monday of each Month between October and April at 7:30pm. Automated Processing Centre, St Rollox Business Park, Turner Road, Springburn, G21 1AA

**Kirkintilloch and District:** Meetings at 7:00pm, Board Room, Lenzie Academy, Myrtle Avenue, Lenzie

**Lanarkshire:** Fridays Twice Monthly September to May, Hamilton Caledonian Bowling Club, Motherwell Road, Hamilton, ML3 7BL

**Old Eastwood:** Alternate Mondays October to April at 7:30pm. Netherlee Church Hall, 1 Ormonde Avenue, Glasgow, G44 3QU.

**Paisley:** Second and fourth Wednesdays from end of September to April at 2.0 to 4.0 p.m., in Ralston Community Centre, Allanton Avenue, Paisley, PA1 3BL

**Please contact clubs directly for information about access for the disabled**