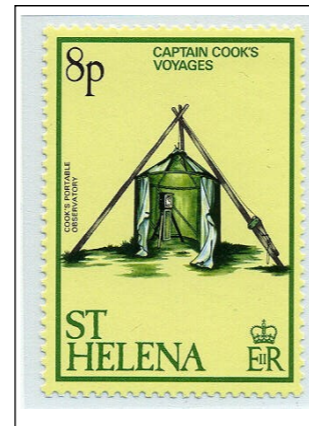


2.3.3. a rendezvous with Venus

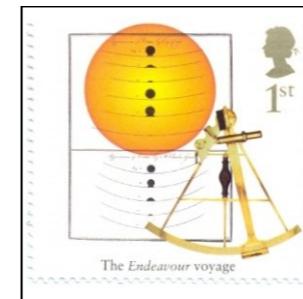


At **Point Venus** James Cook and Charles Green observed the Transit of Venus using a **reflecting telescope** placed on a barrel for support..

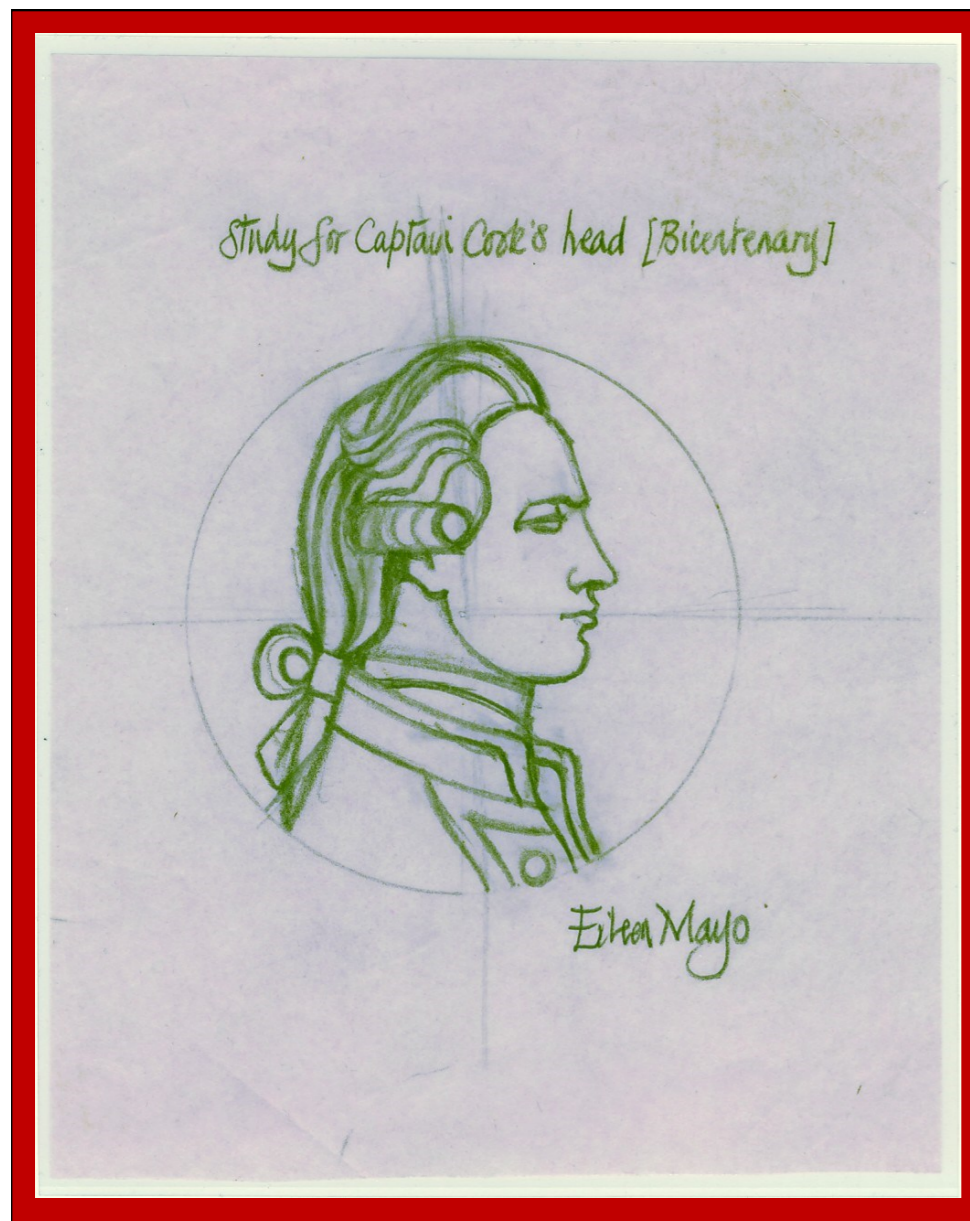
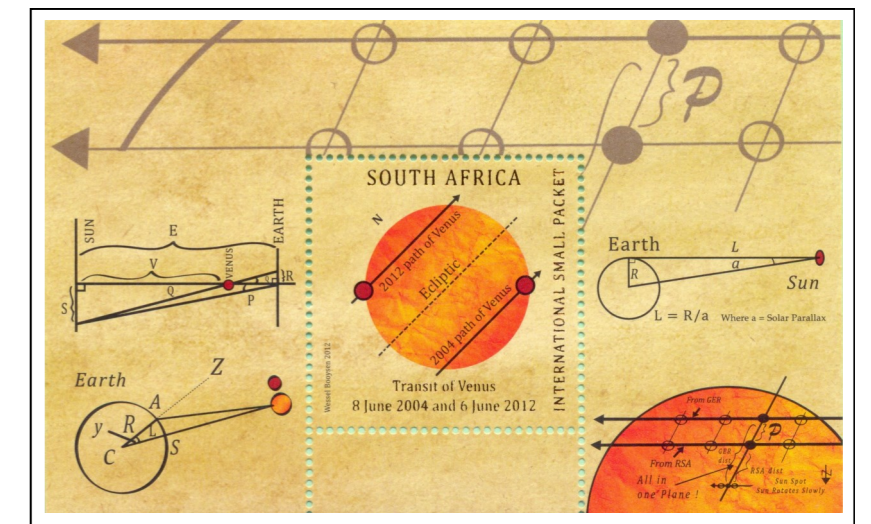


..and the transit was timed using a **pendulum clock**.  
Shown here inside a portable observatory.

The result was published in Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society, 1771



Drawing of the observations published - plus a photograph of the 2004 transit.



Original artwork in pencil on art paper. Signed by the artist Eileen Mayo. Probably unique.  
"Study for Captain Cook's head".  
New Zealand bicentenary issue 1969.



as issued in imperforated pair with slight colour-shift.  
One sheet of 100 known to exist.

Below normal stamp for comparison.



Trial colour die proof (Epreuves de couleur) with colour code 1420 in pencil. Between 1946 and 1964 the 1400's were for the red colours. Usually printed in 8 to 10 different colours but only a few printed for each colour. Shows wandering albatross over the island of **Moorea**.



As a back-up plan in case of bad weather Cook sent a party to the neighbouring island of **Moorea**..

..and he also visited **Bora-Bora**.





2.3.3. a rendezvous with Venus (cont).

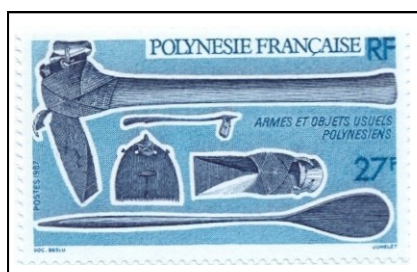


After the long voyage from England the sailors enjoyed the warm climate and what the islands had to offer.



Sepia inspection die proof. Prepared from the unhardened die before final acceptance. 3-5 ex printed. 3 copies went to the postal authorities and only 1 or 2 appeared on the philatelic market.

Cook collected **ethnographic items** such as a full **mourners dress** and **instruments for tattooing** which was highly developed in the islands.



Engravings from Hawkesworth's account of Cook's First Voyage (1773). Hatchet and tattooing instruments.



**Tupaia** was a local priest and navigator, and was taken on board for the voyage ahead searching for the Unknown Continent. Tupaia proved valuable to Cook as an interpreter and mediator.

Cook also took **the boy Taiata** with him, and he was involved in the incident occasioning Cook to name Cape Kidnappers in New Zealand (p31).



"The Lad Taiyota of His Country" by Parkinson



Trial colour plate proof with colour codes in pencil.

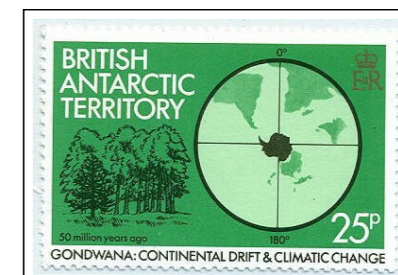
The ENDEAVOUR and a full **mourners dress** from a painting by an unknown artist. The opinion is now that it was drawn/painted by **Tupaia**.

3. Search for the Southern Continent.

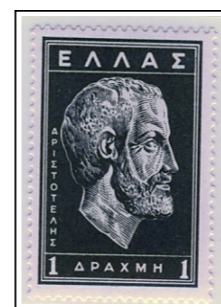
3.1. Postulated by Ptolemy and others *but*..



After the successful visit to Tahiti Cook proceeded south in search of the fabled Southern Continent that had puzzled scientists and cartographers for centuries.



According to the **Continental Drift theory by Wegener** (1880-1930) Pangaea (left) was a solitary megacontinent in an ocean covering more than two-thirds of the Earth. Some time around 260 million years ago rifts opened creating Laurasia to the north and **Gondwana**, a supercontinent to the south. Gondwana would **break apart** to become South America, Africa, India, Antarctica and Australia. 50 millions years ago **Antarctica** and **Australia** was still attached.



In ancient Greece **Aristotle** (384-322 BC) deduced that the Earth had to be balanced, i.e. the northern landmass had a southern counterpart in order for the Earth not to flip over. **Ptolemy** (c90-168) incorporated the **Southern Continent** in his **Mapa Mundi**.

Terra Australis Incognita (Unknown Southern Land) figured in European maps for centuries..



Copy of front (reduced)

Postal stationery; postal card. Vatican City 1991. World Map c1480 featuring Terra Australis Incognita (based on Ptolemy).

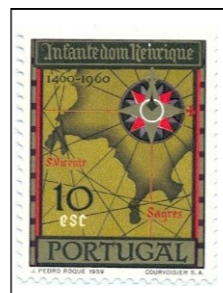


### 3.2. Eluded navigators for centuries

#### 3.2.1. Henry the Navigator and his navigators..



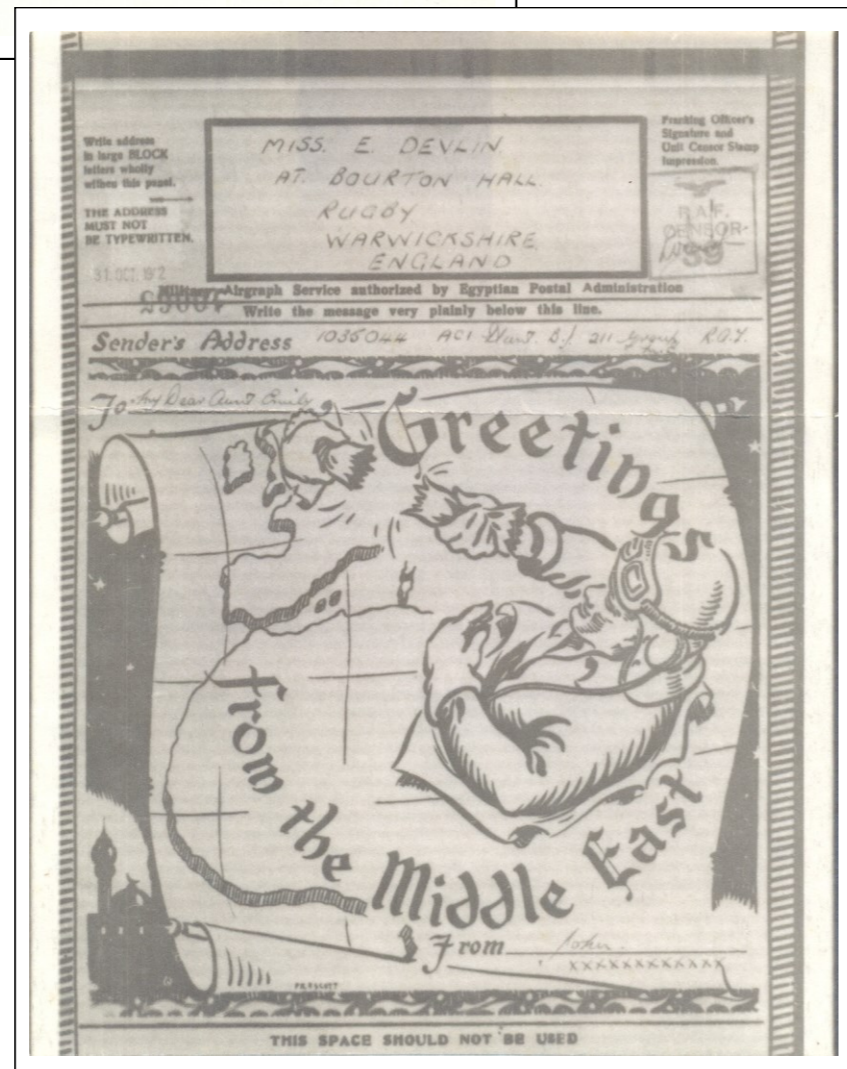
**Henry the Navigator** (1394 -1460) was not an explorer himself but established a **School of Navigation** in Sagres in the south-western corner of Portugal.



Postal stationery; postal card. Portugal 1957.

He started sending expeditions south along the **west coast of Africa**.

In 1434 **Gil Eannes** (1395-14??) was the first to sail beyond **Cape Bojador** on the west coast of Africa.

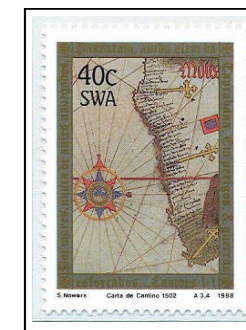


Airgraph 1942. WW2 Illustrated Xmas Greetings. From British Forces in the Middle East to England.

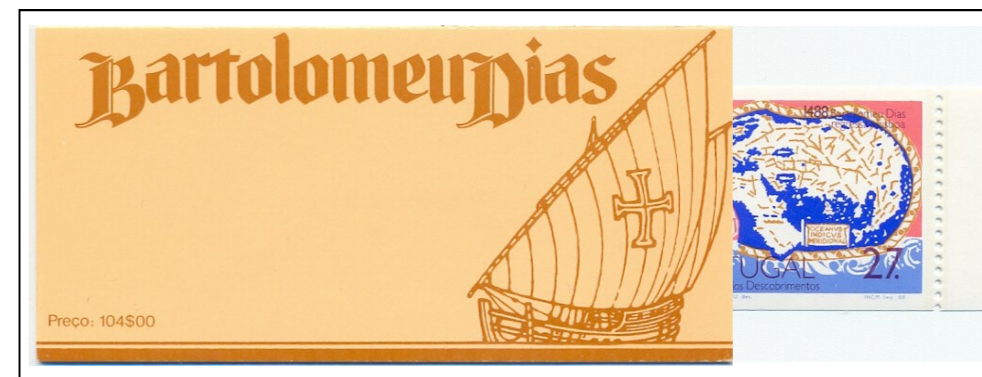
#### 3.2.2. rounded the southern tip of Africa..



**Diogo Cao** (1450-86) reached the **Namibian coast** in 1485..



and a **stone pillar** was erected marking the southernmost point of the voyage.



Booklet with copy of contents. Portugal 1988.



Map of Africa 1508 by Francanzano de Montalbodo in which the continent is represented as surrounded by the ocean.

**Bartolomeu Dias** (1450-1500) doubled the southern tip of Africa in 1488.

The cape was called **Cabo das Tormentas** (Cape of Storms) but was later changed to **Cabo de Boa Esperanca** (Cape of Good Hope).

Africa was shown not to be joined to a Southern Continent.



Postal stationery; postal card. Portugal 1957.

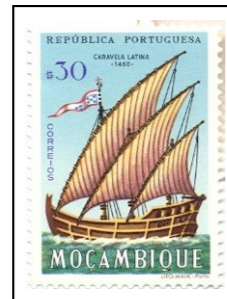


3.2.3. .in caravels..

The development of a new type of ship, the **caravel**, was one reason for the Portuguese success. The caravel is a ship with two or three masts bearing **lateen rig (triangular sail)**, highly maneuverable and not wholly at the mercy of the winds.



They developed from barques (**barca**) used on rivers and in coastal waters.

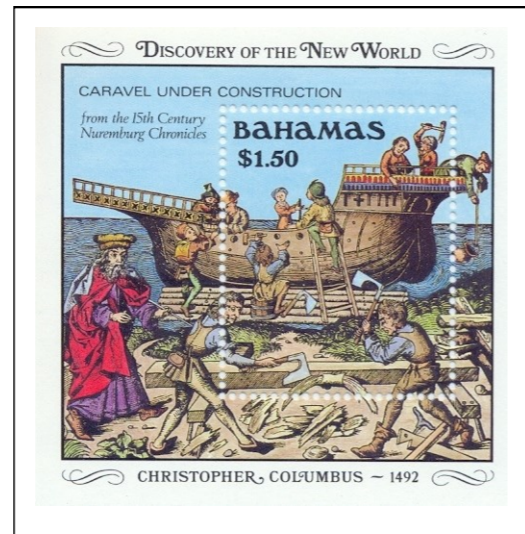


The caravels were **carvel-built**, meaning that the planks were laid side by side.



Imperf plate proof on yellow thin paper. Portugal 1943.

Towards the end of the 15th century the Portuguese developed a larger version bearing a **forecastle** and a **sterncastle**.

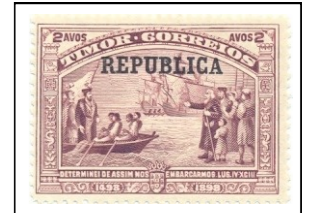


Larger caravels had square-rigged foremast and the rear masts bearing triangular sails.



Postal stationery postal card. Inverted value imprint. Caravel design. Denmark 1934. Rare, only a few known examples.

3.2.4. .finding a sea route to India.



**Vasco da Gama (1460-1524) left Lisbon in 1497 with a fleet of 4 ships** hoping to find a **Sea Route to India**. In 1498 he reached **Calicut**.



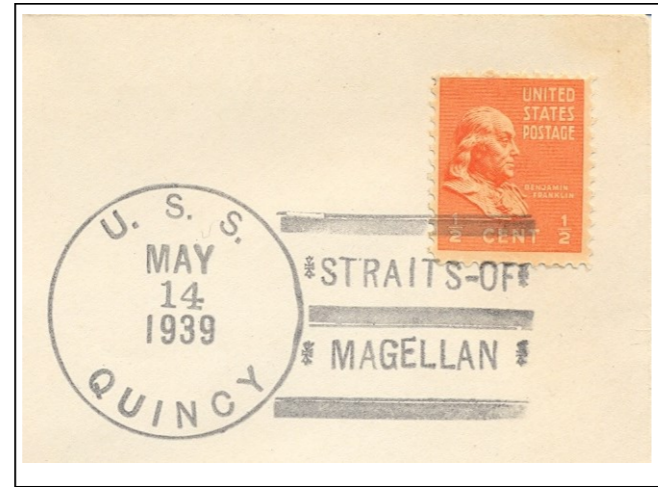
Entire from Livorno to Genova, endorsed "Via di Mare". Tied by Livorno cds 28 Jun 1863, backstamped Genova arrival cds 29 Jun 1863.



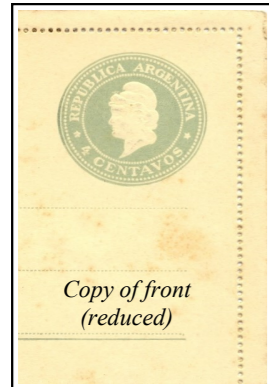
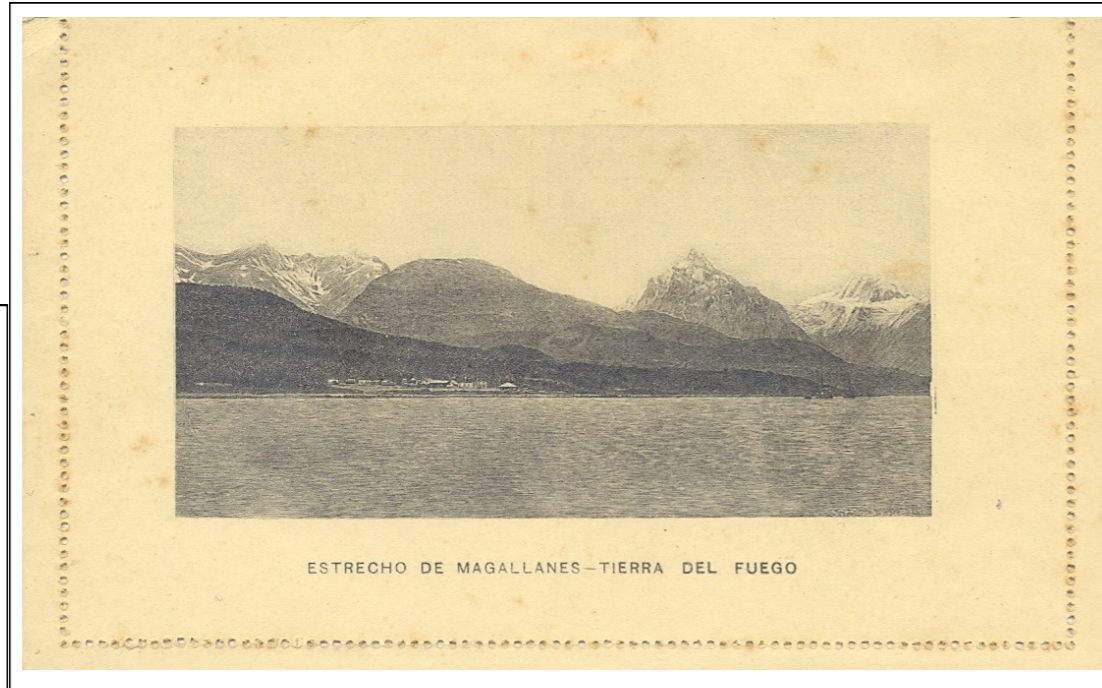
Postal stationery; postal card. Portugal 1957.



3.2.5. Magellan and the Strait..



**Ferdinand Magellan** (1480-1521) commanded a fleet of ships in search of a western route to the Far East. He sailed in **VICTORIA**, and in late 1520 he found a narrow strait (**Strait of Magellan**) separating South America from a land mass to the south. He was convinced that the land to the south was the **Terra Australis** (Southern Land) but did not explore it any further.



Copy of front (reduced)

The land to the south was later named **Tierra del Fuego (Land of Fire)**.

Postal stationery; letter card. Argentina 1897.



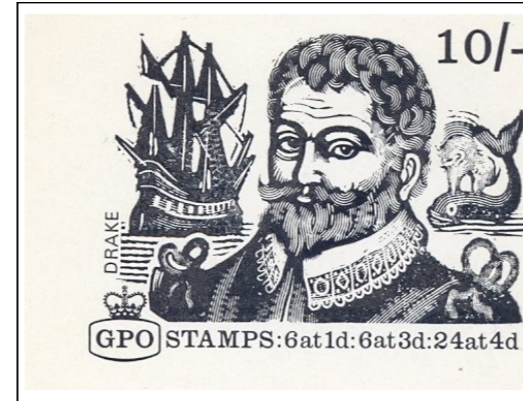
Magellan sailed into a vast and almost empty ocean which he named **El Mar Pacifico** (Pacific Ocean).

The first European to sight the Pacific Ocean was however **Vasco de Balboa** (1475-1519) in 1513 after having crossed the **isthmus of Panama**.

Imperf plate proof.



3.2.6. .passed by Francis Drake.



Booklet proof. Unadopted booklet, GB 1972. Drake and his ship **GOLDEN HIND**.

The **GOLDEN HIND** was a **galleon** which was a large, multi-decked, square-rigged ship with lateen-rig on the rear mast.

Galleon means "large ship" and comes from Spanish galeón which means "large merchant ship".

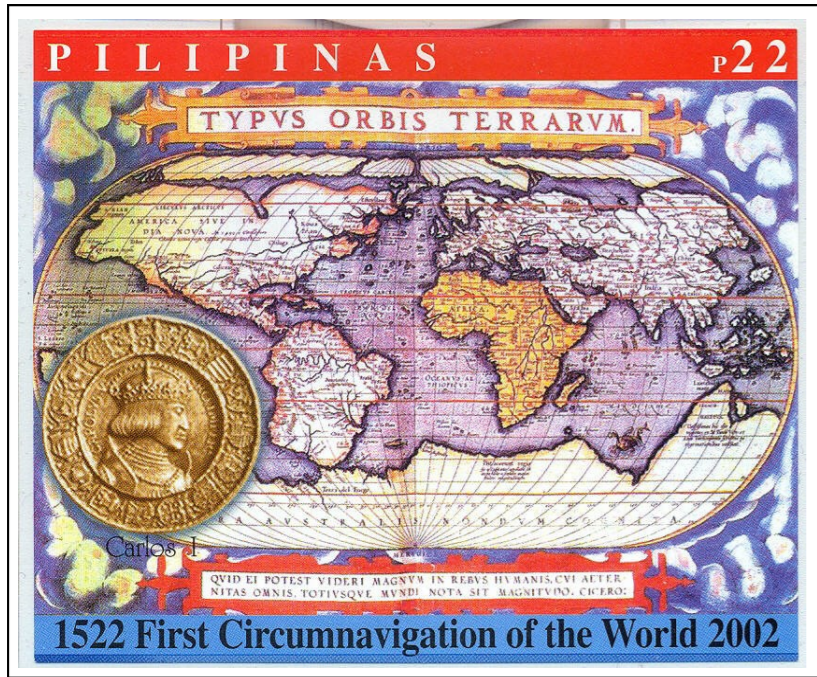
**Francis Drake** (c1540-96) passed the Strait of Magellan in 1578 and was forced **well to the south** in a storm. From the huge swells and lack of land he deduced that no large landmass could exist in these waters. The passage between Tierra del Fuego and Antarctica is named **Drake Passage (Mar de Drake)**.



Busta Lettera Postale, Italy 1921-23. Advertising letter card with adhesive stamp attached overprinted B.L.P. Sold below face value, the revenue for the aid to wounded ex-servicemen from WW1 came from the advertisers. Shows a **galleon**. + copy of front (reduced).



3.2.7. Australia and New Zealand discovered.



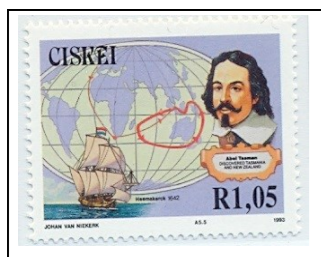
Map by Abraham Ortelius, Antwerp 1581.

In the late 16th century mapmakers still depicted the **Southern Continent** as a huge land mass extending north in the area of New Guinea.

The first known landing on the "continent" by a European was the Dutch navigator **Willem Janszoon** (c1570-c1630) in 1606.



**Dirk Hartog** (1580-1621) visited in 1616 the western coast of what was thought to be the Southern Continent.



**Abel Tasman** (1603-59) sailed in 1642 **along the southern coast** of the newly discovered land in **HEEMSKERCK**. He landed and named it **Van Diemen's Land** but did not explore it any further. He never realized he had visited an island which was later named Tasmania.

In 1644 Tasman coined the name **Niuew Holland** (New Holland) to the new continent.



Experimental separations Perf 12 by Walch & Sons. Ex "Besancon" (II).



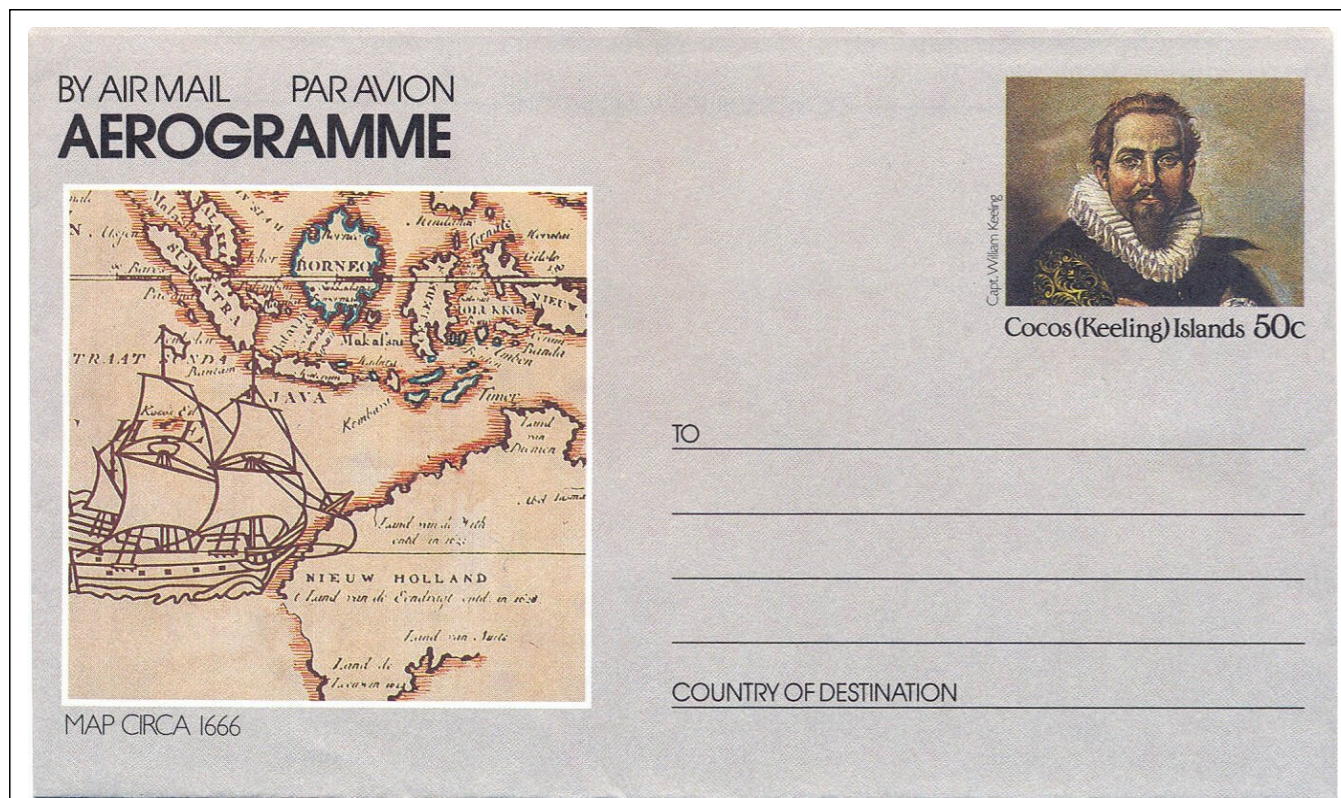
Loose (ship) letter to Chicago, USA. Posted at sea between Macassar (Indonesia) and Sydney Feb 12 1930. Tied by (faint) **SS Niuew Holland** cancel and Brisbane cds Feb 20 1930. **SS Niuew Holland** was a KPM (Koninklijke Paketvaart Mij) freight- and passenger ship operating a regular service between Malaya and Australia from 1928 until the outbreak of WW2.

Tasman continued to the north-east and discovered a huge land mass which he was convinced was part of the Great Southern Continent. He landed on the western side but due to **hostile natives** he left without further exploration. He had discovered New Zealand.



Plate proof with approval signature and date. 1940 Centennial issue.

According to Maori tradition **Kupe** discovered New Zealand over 1000 years ago but he returned to his homeland Hawaiki which is thought to be Raiatea in the Society Islands. About A.D. 1350 a fleet of large, **ocean-going canoes** arrived and settled the country.



Aerogramme. Cocos (Keeling) Islands 1984.



## 4. In the South Seas.

### 4.1. New Zealand circumnavigated..

Cook headed south and soon he **rediscovered** the land that no Europeans had visited for the past 127 years.

**Cook landed** in 1769 but the reception by the Māori was not quite as amicable as illustrated on the 3d stamp of the 1906 Christchurch Exhibition issue shown below.



*Essay, mirrored design..*



*Essay, in brown..*



*.and as issued.*

Cook was to conduct a thorough survey in the ensuing months, and he discovered that it was not the Southern Continent but **two large islands** separated by a strait.



*Unadopted essay in black ink on thin card by L.C.Mitchell for the proposed 2½d stamp of the New Zealand 1940 Centennial issue. Features ENDEAVOUR, Cook's map of New Zealand and James Cook.*



4.1.1. A thorough survey conducted

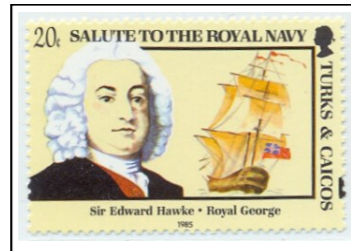


Cook landed in a large bay which he named **Poverty Bay** "because it afforded us no one thing we wanted" (Cook).

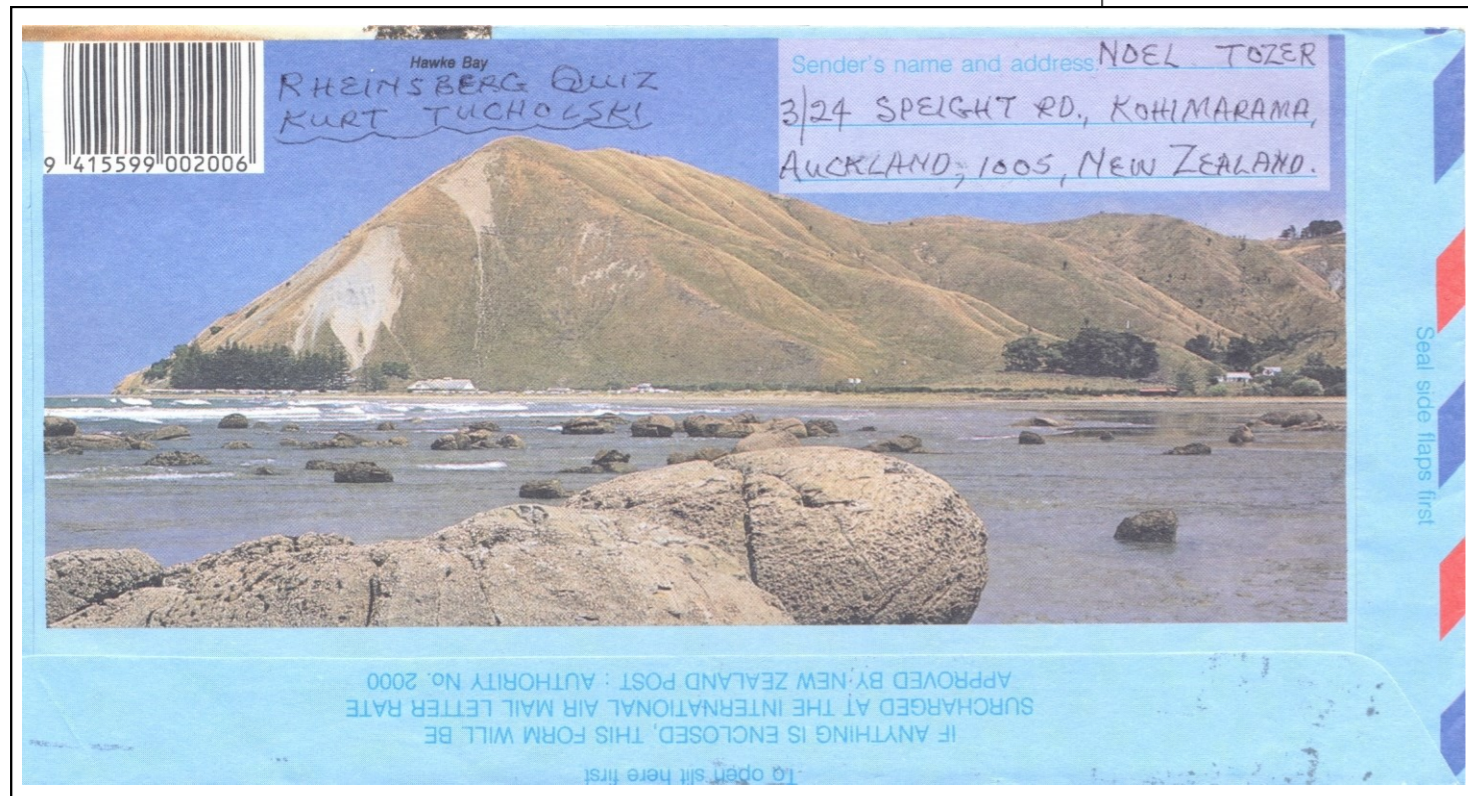


Die proof on wove paper. Rare. Flaw in rigging, retouched out in all three plates. Stamps from plate 1 and plate 3 shown right.

To the south of Poverty Bay a large bay was named **Hawke's Bay** in honour of **Sir Edward Hawke** (1705-81), Royal Navy admiral.



Copy of front (reduced)



Aerogramme (reverse). Used to Germany. Features **Hawke Bay**.

**Piercy Island** was named after rear admiral Piercy Brett (1709-81).



Cook bestowed many names during his circumnavigation: **Cape Kidnappers** (a Māori incident) and **Endeavour Inlet** (anchoring place).

Pete's Post is a New Zealand postal delivery company created in June 1998 under the deregulation legislation (see also p33).



Cook sailed across a wide bay without landing but observed that it was well populated and looked fertile. He called it Bay of Plenty.

**White Island** was named and a dormant volcano on shore got the name **Mount Edgumbe**.



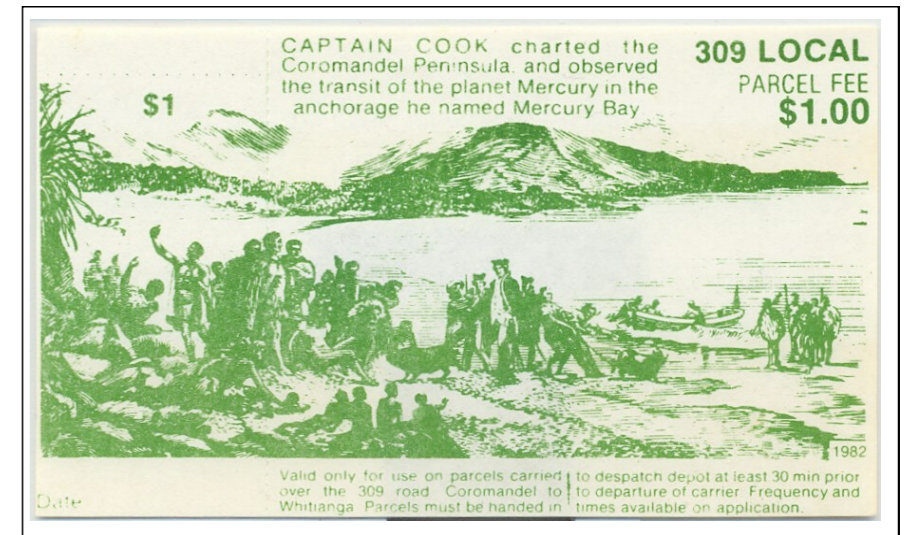
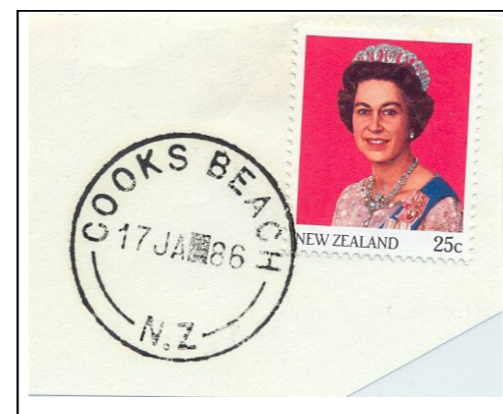
Postage Due cover from Whakatane to **Edgumbe**, tied by Whakatane cds 27 June 1932 and Edgumbe cds 28 June 1932. Insufficiently franked with 1/2d George V. Inland letter rate was 1d (1 June 1932 - 30 Sept 1939). 1d To Pay cachet (double deficient postage). 1d stamp affixed and endorsed PD as postage due stamps not available.

**White Island** cds. Post office in use Aug 1 1927 to Dec 22 1930.



Cook stayed 11 days in a large bay to observe the transit of Mercury, and hence named it **Mercury Bay**.

**Cooks Beach** is located in Mercury Bay near present-day Whitianga.



Parcel fee label. Valid for parcels carried over Road 309 from Coromandel to Whitianga. Design based on a watercolour "Captain Cook Landing in New Zealand" by Temple, 1869.