

CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL ARCHIVES

CCC/ARC/700 – London to Christchurch International Air Race Correspondence
October 1953. Please refer enquiries to archives@ccc.gov.nz

Archives Number	Description	Dates covered
CCC/ARC/700/1	New Zealand Freelance – article Page 12 re International Air Race – London – Christchurch 8 October 1953	29 April 1953
CCC/ARC/700/2	Minute Book of the Christchurch Welcome Club – Executive Committee – the Welcome Club was formed prior to the opening of Burnham Military Camp to provide week-end recreation and entertainment for men of the Armed Forces who have no homes or friends in Christchurch – an Executive Committee was set up comprised of representatives of most of the recognised religious, and social service organisations, both men's and women's, and under the Chairmanship of His Worship the Mayor.	5-October 1939 – 4 September 1945
CCC/ARC/700/3	Minute Book of the Christchurch Welcome Club – Management Committee	16 May 1941 – 27 June 1945
CCC/ARC/700/4/(1)	Copy of telegram to Mayor of Christchurch from KLM Liftmaster – Dutch Airliner thanking Mayor for 'this weeks reception'	11.05am Friday, 16 October 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(2)	Air Race – Receipts for sale of parking stickers for International Air Race	Aug-Oct 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(3)	Air Race – Receipts for sale of parking stickers for International Air Race	Aug-Oct 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(4)	<p>Bulletin No 3 from the Canterbury International Air Race Council re England-Christchurch (NZ) Air Race October 1953 – 19 entries from 4 nations – 13 in the speed section and 6 in the handicap section – entrants from Britain, US, Holland, Denmark, Australia and NZ – same 6 countries represented in the famous London to Melbourne race in 1934</p> <p>Included in the Bulletin is a letter to the Finance Committee from N O Steel –Sub-committee of the Finance Committee – International Air Race Council – ChCh – setting out the methods of admitting the public to the airport on Saturday 10 October and Sunday 11 October 1953.</p> <p>List of Official entrants, their aircraft details, pilot, co-pilots, and radio operators, intended flight paths; intention of training flights between England NZ prior to the race by the Royal New Zealand Air Force Hastings with a crew of 30 – two separate air crews, a master crew and a relief crew – navigators, wireless operators and service and maintenance crew and an estimation of finishing times – all competitors are given 168 hours from the starting time of the last aircraft in which to complete the course of 12,155 miles.</p>	<p>April 1953</p> <p>14 September 1953</p>
CCC/ARC/700/4/(4) continued		

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	<p>A Christchurch jeweller will make the magnificent Harewood Gold Cup, valued at £1,000, which will go to the winner of the speed section. The cup will be made of New Zealand gold, greenstone, and polished rata wood. Rubies to be used in the design of the base will be obtained from England (additional description in CCC/ARC/700/4/(82).</p> <p>Requests for accommodation can apply to the accommodation committee. Aviation correspondents and other newspaper representatives and photographers are asked to advise the Secretary as soon as possible.</p>	
<p>CCC/ARC/700/4/(5)</p> <p>CCC/ARC/700/4/(5) continued</p>	<p>The International Air Race – “Queen of the Air Race” Contest Bulletin - Local Conducting Organizations – organisations, including local government departments, trade unions, amateur theatrical societies etc, were encouraged to sponsor a female employee for the competition. One public library decided to have photos of six of their employees displayed and borrowers were invited to pay 3d a vote for their favourite candidate –£21 was raised of which ten guineas was used for the winners entry fee; the remainder going to the Air Race funds. The girl crowned Queen would receive £100 worth of clothing and other awards and the offer of becoming an Air Hostess (this latter offer could be declined and the offer would go to the runnerup without the prizes). Townships were encouraged to run a competition to find a “Miss (town)” thus putting the “town on the map”.</p> <p>The competition was not to be promoted as a Queen ‘Carnival’ as candidates would be judged on their merits (merits in this case being their suitability to be an Air Hostess) and not on how much money they raised. It is also pointed out that TEAL (Tasman Empire Airways Limited) were looking for young ladies of good personality, character and common sense and would be selected in a dignified manner by private interview rather than being assessed by ‘parading’ in swimsuits. They are not looking for raving beauties.</p> <p>At the interview – you would have to be between 21 and 27 years old, have had a good secondary education, and enjoy a good record of health. You might be surprised at being asked to remove your hat, coat and gloves –this gives the board a better idea of how you would look in a uniform. Nursing experience is not essential but it is naturally helpful, and so is some sort of catering experience – perhaps in connection with a social organization such as many girls join.</p>	<p>Prior to August 1953</p>

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	<p>Working behind the scenes on a committee serving suppers or teas gives some experience of 'bulk requirements'. Previous work as a receptionist or in other jobs having contact with the public is also considered. The board likes applicants to have an interest in sports, as being beneficial to physical fitness, and it prefers an applicant's parents to give their approval to her flying. With the Tahiti service in operation, one or two hostesses who can speak French are valuable.</p> <p>Sheet attached with General Information for District Committees re the Contest</p> <p>Letter template from the Mayor of Christchurch to organisations seeking support and funding of applicants for the "Queen of the Air Race" contest</p>	
CCC/ARC/700/4/(6)	Canterbury International Air Race Council - Finance Committee Minutes - covers all aspects of publicity and fundraising eg approaching Trotting Conference to have a fundraising meeting, motor car club to have a fundraising car race, Art Union might organise a special raffle etc	19 September 1952 8 September 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(7)	<p>Canterbury International Air Race Council – Management Committee Minutes – Discussions on a reception and speeches on arrival of the planes, a cocktail party and presentation of prizes</p> <p>Mr Hay (Hays Ltd presumably) suggested that it would be a calamity for the Air Race to take place without suitable festivity and perhaps the manufacturers could assist.</p> <p>A National Appeal was proposed with donations over £200 publicly acknowledged in the newspapers. Publicity in "Time" and "Life" magazines.</p> <p>Prime Minister to be asked about Government guests, issuing a commemorative stamp and raffles.</p> <p>Brochure Committee proposed that advertising could be sold for between £200 and £500 per page – printing costs quote was in the vicinity of £50 per page and the initial print should be 20,000 copies</p>	21 April 1952 5 May 1952 19 May 1952 16 June 1952 30 June 1952 11 August 1952 8 September 1952 6 October 1952 20 October 1952 1 December 1952 15 December 1952
CCC/ARC/700/4/(8)	Letter from Canterbury International Air Race Council to Mr T H Langford advising him of his appointment as Chairman of the Reception Committee with the authority to co-opt the services of anyone he may wish to assist him – list of duties attached.	18 February 1952
CCC/ARC/700/4/(9)	Canterbury International Air Race Council – Financial Statements –	1949 - 1951

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	Dedication Day – 18 December 1950 Income and Expenditure – 9 Sept 1949 – 16 March 1951 9 Sept 1949 – 31 January 1951 31 Jan 1952 Balance Sheet – 31 January 1951 Statement of Finances to 31 July 1952	
CCC/ARC/700/4/(10)	Canterbury International Air Race Council Meeting Minutes – Record No 46 – meeting with UK Civil Aviation Mission to officially form the Canterbury Air Race Council and to set the date of the Air Race in October 1953 with prize money of £29,000 divided over the various sections– it was decided to have many varieties of aircraft (question mark over flying boats). Mr George warned ‘that in the event that by 1953 remote controlled aircraft could be guided this distance, a condition might have to be imposed that somebody must be on board’. It was also agreed that the race would be open to the world.	29 September 1948
CCC/ARC/700/4/(11)	Letter from J M Caffin – Chairman of the Publicity Committee to Mr W W Laing – Chairman of the Finance Committee advising that there were quite a few Christchurch organisations appealing for funds for themselves around this time and that it would be advisable if the CIARC (Canterbury International Air Race Council) were to appeal nationally.	22 August 1952
CCC/ARC/700/4/(12)	Rules of The Canterbury International Air-Race Council Incorporated (3 copies)	
CCC/ARC/700/4/(13)	Preliminary Report by H D Christie and J W Stannage on discussions in America, Canada, United Kingdom and Holland relative to the England-Christchurch (NZ) Air Race of 1953 – very full and informative	

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CCC/ARC/700/4/(14)	<p>Canterbury International Air Race Council – Reports. Confidential document re Suggested Handicapping Formula for the London/New Zealand Race – writer B Vaughan Williams – 21 July 1949</p> <p>Confidential “Extract from the Minutes of the Meeting of the Records, Racing and Competitions Committee of the Royal Aero Club held at the Royal Aero Club Aviation centre, Londonderry House, 19 Park Lane, London W1 on Monday 23 May 1949 at 3pm”</p> <p>Report by H D Christie and A B W George on discussions in Australia and the United Kingdom on the organization of the England-Christchurch (NZ) Air Race of 1953</p> <p>Report of the Sub-Committee Set up at the last meeting of the Council to consider the Report on the Route to be Flown in the Race –date stamped 10 August 1949</p> <p>England-Christchurch (NZ International Air Race 1953) – Notes of meeting held to discuss letter received from the Douglas Aircraft Company Inc on 5th September 1951, at the Royal Aero Club, 119 Piccadilly, London W 1</p> <p>Canterbury International Air Race Council Inc – Report of Management Committee – stamp dated 3 September 1951</p> <p>Report of Management Committee of the Canterbury International Air Race Council covering the year ended 31st January 1952</p> <p>Reception Committee – Reported to Meeting of Management – March 24 March 1952</p> <p>Report from Reception Committee – 12 June 1952</p> <p>Random handwritten notes</p> <p>Proposed Scheme of Celebrations to Coincide with the Finish of the International Air Race - October 1953</p>	1949 - 1952
CCC/ARC/700/4/(15)	Canterbury International Air Race Council – Reception Committee Minutes	12 June 1952

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CCC/ARC/700/4/(16)

KLM Newsletter KLM DC-6A Liftmaster with 64 Passengers
from London to Christchurch – 54 Dutch emigrants fly to new
homeland

Miss Mimi Busmann (27) from Oldenzaal
Mr Arie Harteveld (23) from Scheveningen
Miss Ans van Geffen (23) from Eindhoven
Mr Age van der Goot (25) from Harich (Friesland)
Miss Mein de Rooy (24) from Oegstgeest
Miss Feikje de Boer (24) from Opsterland
Miss Corinne Willenborg (28) from Amsterdam
Miss Toos van der Laan (21) from Deventer
Miss Antoinette Naninck (30) from Heerlen
Mr Henk van der Vloodt (20) from Hilversum
Miss Geesje Essing (22) from Nieuw Amsterdam
Mr & Mrs Kees and Riet Dam-de Wit from Heensemolen
Miss Matty Verboom (23) from Renesse, Zeeland
Miss Riet Groeneveld (21) from Tilburg
Miss Engeline Haans (23) from Tilburg
Mr Gerard Sturkenboom (26) from Houten
Mrs Coby Bakker-van Raay (19) from The Hague
Mr Paul Franken (18) from The Hague
Miss Claartje Meyering (21) from Oegstgeest
Mr Riex Meyering (22) from Oegstgeest
Miss Thea Brom (30) from Hilversum
Miss Gre van Schie (24) from Katwijk-on-Rhine
Miss Jeanne van Doorn (25) from Weert
Miss Sjaan Prienus (21) from Tilburg
Mr Jan Jacobs (20) from Oss
Mr Leo Straver (28) from Rotterdam
Miss Jeanne van den Boogaart (21) from Zuilen
Miss Jacqueline Ligtvoet (21) from The Hague
Mr Arie van den Berg (23) from Voorhout
Mr Wim van der Togt (25) from The Hague
Mr Toon Wartenbergh (26) from Amsterdam
Mr Jaap Grooteman (21) from Wieringerwerf
Mr Jan Meyer (21) from Lisse
Mr Koos Meyer (32) from Lisse
Mr Jan Pleyers (28) from Gulpen
Mrs Anna Pleyers (25) from Gulpen
Mr Tien van den Berg (34) from Grave
Miss Johanna Kuppen (26) from Grave
Mr Harry Claassen (28) from Heythuizen
Miss Lies Kigger (26) from Heythuizen
Mr Herman Appelhof (29) from Schayk
Miss Truus Willemse (24) from Geffen
Mr Joop Di jkman (23) from Haarlem

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	<p>Miss Bep Kaandorp (24) from Haarlem Mr Jan Prins (23) from Zaandam Miss Corrie Kamerman (23) from Barendrecht Mr Frans Koks (28) from Gulpen Miss Stien Rameckers (29) from Wittern Mr Nic Steens (22) from Bergen op Zoom Mr Ben Steens (26) from Bergen op Zoom Mr Ab Warning (30) from Leyden Miss Els Filbry (26) from Leyden Miss Jana Gorissen (24) from Asten Mr Herman Vissers (27) from Meyel</p>	
CCC/ARC/700/4/(17)	<p>KLM Newsletter –listing the aircraft in the Transport Handicap Section – the emphasis is laid not on speed as on payload, passenger accommodation, comfort, costs, revenue from the flight, regularity, operation efficiency etc.</p> <p>Race Entrants are</p> <p>The “Flying Dutchman” – No 21 – KLM DC-6A Liftmaster “Dr Ir M H Damme” – Captain HAA Kooper (46) (carried 64 passengers, including a number of emigrants – see CCC/ARC/700/4/(17) above.</p> <p>The Royal NZ Air Force’s Handley Page Hastings – W/Cdr R F Watson.</p> <p>British European Airways’ Vickers Viscount 500 – Captain W Baillie</p> <p>Rausch Aviation, USA’s Lockheed 18-56 – Captain V Reavely</p> <p>Privately owned DC-3 owned by Mrs G J McKenzie of Australia – The captain of this machine is Mrs Dianna C Bixby, and the crew are all ladies</p> <p>The Custer Channel Wing Corporation USA CCW-5 – Captain N J Davidson</p> <p>NB – All of the competitors must reach Christchurch within 168 hours after the take-off of the last machine. 1st prize for this section was £10,000</p>	

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CCC/ARC/700/4/(18)	Before the Starting Signal of the Biggest Air Race Ever fact sheet – issued from The Hague – mentions background details of the flight and the fact that Holland is also commemorating the event by baking biscuits, producing tiles, and shops, tobacconists and distilleries were fitting up special window displays. Special letters have been written to the Mayor of Christchurch and one from Burgomaster of Lutjegast, the birthplace of Abel Tasman. It was suggested that the ladies on board take their knitting as it is a very long flight! - <i>as if they needed to tell them!</i>	
CCC/ARC/700/4/(19)	The “Flying Dutchman” – No 21 – KLM DC-6A Liftmaster “Dr Ir M H Damme” personnel biographical fact sheets of: Captain Henry Anthony Adrian Kooper Joseph Frances Griffith – an Australian pilot in KLM crew Rietje Kremer – Stewardess on the final stretch of the Christchurch Air Race	
CCC/ARC/700/4/(20)	Open letter invitation to the Annual Meeting of the Air Race Council to be held at Pioneer Sports Club, 188 Oxford Terrace on Tuesday 23 February 1954 at 8pm	18 February 1954
CCC/ARC/700/4/(21)	3 lists of personnel for: Accommodation Committee Reception Committee Members of Air Race Council	
CCC/ARC/700/4/(22)	Letter of complaint to The Town Clerk from a partner in Bates, Edgar & Wills, Barristers & Solicitors – no name mentioned. Invitation to Air Race dinner arrived one week late because sender had sent to old address acquired from the telephone book– recipient had shifted - the Post Office had been advised of the redirection but stil sent to old address – usually mail eg notices of meetings, from the Air Race Council Committee went to the office so complainant disgruntled.	23 October 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(23)	Letter to The Mayor Christchurch from Town Clerk’s Office – Akaroa – noting that they had received the circular letter with regard to the “Queen of the Air Race” Contest but had not received the entry forms, conditions and general details. Reply from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC confirming they had been sent	28 May 1953 9 June 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(24)	Letter from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC, to	2 September 1953

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	Miss L Booth, 68 Weston Road – presumably answering her query re the public transport arrangements during the Air Race period (no letter). Advised that Midland Motorways will be providing transport (from their depot) to and from the Airport.	
CCC/ARC/700/4/(25)	Letter to N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC (and response from same), from P F Carter – Fairlie, South Canterbury requesting an entrance sticker to parking area at Harewood and enclosed £1. Reply suggested entrance to the car parking area should be via Sawyers Arms Road and instructions on the use of the sticker included.	21 September 1953 24 September 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(26)	Letter to N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC (and response from same), from Mr S Cross – enquiring if they could purchase parking tickets in Ashburton (6 required). Reply suggested contacting the Town Clerk at the Borough Council Chambers Ashburton.	24 August 1953 31 August 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(27)	Letter from T H Langford – Chairman of Reception Committee – to Mr D Dobson, Christ’s College Old Boys’ Association advising that the dates of the 8-10 Oct Air Race would clash with their sports week and that hotel bookings may be difficult if the two events were on at the same time – proposed postponement. Reply confirmed the sports days would be moved to 19 & 20 October	8 December 1952 16 February 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(28)	Letter from V A Fairfax-Jones, NZ Forest Services, Hanmer - requiring information re caravan and camping grounds in and around Christchurch Reply named, Campers Park, Pages Road; Abbot’s Park, Yaldhurst Road; Addington Show Grounds, Lincoln Road; Rawhiti Domain, New Brighton – also sent was a Christchurch Guide of further camping facilities.	5 October 1952 8 October 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(29)	Letter from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC to Mr S Jacobs, Hereford Street– listing names of people who expressed the desire to be employed during the air race at car parks etc.	14 September 1953

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CCC/ARC/700/4/(30)	<p>Letter to N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC (and response from same), from D Leeming, 89 Jerrold Street requesting a car park sticker and inclusion of £1 cheque.</p> <p>Reply enclosed the sticker and pointed out that the route to be taken is shown on the sticker – also included was a circular letter from the Air Race Council giving details on the use of the sticker etc.</p>	<p>25 August 1953</p> <p>31 August 1953</p>
CCC/ARC/700/4/(31)	<p>Notice of Meeting – International Air Race Reception Committee in the Public Relations Office, City Council Chambers, 194 Manchester Street on Tuesday 21 October 1952 at 4pm – T H Langford</p>	<p>13 October 1952</p>
CCC/ARC/700/4/(32)	<p>Notice of Meeting of Reception Committee International Air Race Council Public Relations Office, City Council Chambers, 194 Manchester Street on Wednesday, 11th June 1952 at 4.30pm – T H Langford</p>	<p>5 June 1952</p>
CCC/ARC/700/4/(33)	<p>Letter to N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC (and response from same), from Ivan A Mitchell MD for Mitchell's International Tours Limited, Dunedin, thanking for copies of small maps of Christchurch and asking if public transport from the city to the airport will be provided very early on the Saturday morning when the first planes are expected in.</p> <p>Reply – yes, and meals can be obtained at the Airport</p>	<p>25 September 1953</p> <p>28 September 1953</p>
CCC/ARC/700/4/(34)	<p>Letter to Mayor from Ivan A Mitchell MD for Mitchell's International Tours Limited, Dunedin, asking whether there will be public transport from the city to the airport very early on the Saturday morning when the first planes are expected in – many people from Dunedin are travelling by coach to Christchurch and need confirmation they can get to the airport in time for early landing of the first planes.</p> <p>Reply from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC, there will be extra buses put into service as the demand warrants. (<i>Very non committal</i>). Advised that hotels were fully booked but private homes were offering rooms at reasonable tariffs (had been inspected). Also advised of car hire and the need to purchase a car park sticker from Jacob's Corner in Dunedin – the sticker enables a full load of passengers to enter the airport at any time and as many times as desired during the race.</p>	<p>3 September 1953</p> <p>23 September 1953</p>
CCC/ARC/700/4/(35)	<p>Seating Arrangements – Aeronautical Dinner – list of attendees (<i>interestingly there is a seat for J Profumo MP –</i></p>	

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	<i>may be the British MP who fell from grace for having an affair with prostitutes, Christine Keeler and Mandy Rice-Davies, a few years later – he possibly came as a passenger on the British plane – he was actually a Brigadier)</i>	
CCC/ARC/700/4/(36)	<p>Invitation to Pilot Officer G R Blackett from the Twentieth Century Group - Overseas League – Christchurch Branch to attend a Cocktail Party to be held prior to the Air Force Ball on Tuesday, 10 October, 1953 at 5.50pm at the 'Jacobean' High Street.</p> <p>Also a complimentary ticket to the same venue for the Air Force Party on same day (<i>sounds like the same event</i>).</p> <p>Letter from Public Relations Dept CCC advising P/O C R Blackett that his accommodation was at RNZAF Station Wigram – also included a list of events for the following week .</p>	10 October 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(37)	<p>Letter and newspaper clipping from 'The Herald' 2 August 1953 to, N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC (and response from same), from Addy Meyering requesting information about the arrangements for visitors to meet relatives once the KLM plane arrives from Holland – Miss Meyering is expecting her brother and sister (<i>mentioned in CCC/ARC/700/4/(16) list of emigrants</i>)</p> <p>Reply – advised that details have yet to be arranged for visitors to the airport who wish to meet passengers off the competing planes – when arrangements have been put in place it will be probable that special passes will be issued by the Dutch Club in Christchurch</p> <p>Letter and copy of letter to Dept Labour & Employment (below) to N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC, from Miss Meyering notifying that on their arrival they had a reservation in the restaurant at the airport and she again enquires about a special pass for herself.</p> <p>Courtesy letter from Miss Meyering to Dept of Labour & Employment informing them of her brother and sisters intention to go to Auckland rather than Dunedin and Invercargill as mentioned in their emigration papers as Miss Meyering is now working and staying there and she has organised accommodation for them.</p>	<p>30 August 1953</p> <p>10 September 1953</p> <p>24 September 1953</p> <p>24 September 1953</p>

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CCC/ARC/700/4/(38)	The England – Christchurch (NZ) Air Race 1953 – Conditions booklet issued by The Canterbury International Air Race Council (Inc), 116 Hereford Street, Christchurch and The Royal Aero Club of the United Kingdom, 119 Piccadilly, London W1, England	
CCC/ARC/700/4/(39)	Folder containing lists for functions for: Council Party – 10 October 1953 – handwritten list of alcohol consumption from caterer Burke & Co - £54 Aeronautical Dinner – 15 October 1953 – held at Beaths Restaurant, copy of seating plan, menu and quote from Beath & Co Limited (£1 per head excluding any wines or spirits and cigarettes or cigars), invitation and invitation list, toast list (<i>Mr Profumo gave a speech</i>), evening programme, aircraft crew list Cocktail Party – 16 October 1953 – held at the Art Gallery – Durham Street – copies of invitation list, crew list, letter to NO Steel from G S Martin Sqn Ldr for Wing Commander, Commanding RNZAF Station – Wigram with a list of Service Air Race visitors to Christchurch and where they are accommodated, RNZAF personnel list	October 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(40)	Letter to N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC, from S M Graham – Secretary/Treasurer Canterbury International Air Race Council, thanking for co-operation and assistance given re the sale of car parking stickers – special thanks to all the volunteers	29 October 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(41)	Note requesting car parking sticker from T Nelson, 21 Puriri Street and enclosed £1 payment Reply from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC enclosing ticket and saying the route is via Yaldhurst Road and Russley Road	23 September 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(42)	Letter to N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC (and response from same), from S Taylor 11 Peel Street, Westport enquiring about a publication with details of the race, planes etc Reply – on the payment of 5/- postal note a copy could be sent, also advised writer of sale of car parking stickers, admission charge and availability of accommodation in private homes	2 September 1953 3 September 1953

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CCC/ARC/700/4/(43)	<p>Letter to N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC (and response from same), from R B Turnbull, 340 Broadway, Palmerston North, requesting any literature, brochures etc for distribution to the public giving details of hotel accommodation, general amenities, tours from Christchurch etc, and details of viewing the finish</p> <p>Reply – Advising that under separate cover booklets had been posted, that the viewing of the finish was yet to be decided and advise to make early reservations for accommodation.</p>	28 April 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(44)	<p>Letter from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC to Mr E Steele – Stamp Shop, Chancery Lane – advising that a letter requesting first day covers from T C Horwood of 45 Greenlane Road Remuera, Auckland had been forwarded to him.</p> <p>Letter from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC to Mr T C Horwood in Auckland advising that he had passed his letter of enquiry on to the Stamp Shop</p>	<p>3 November 1953</p> <p>3 November 1953</p>
CCC/ARC/700/4/(45)	Letter from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC to the Manager, Beath & Co Ltd, Cashel Street expressing his appreciation for the co-operation received during the preparations and staging of the Aeronautical Dinner on 15 December and to thank Mr Goodman and his staff	20 October 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(46)	<p>Letter to Mr R M Macfarlane MP from H T (Bert) Hamilton, Main Street, Otaki asking that a tray cloth (that was enclosed) could be autographed by the race finalists and saying that it would eventually be donated to the Christchurch City Council</p> <p>Replying on behalf of the Mayor, N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC apologised for not being able to get all the signatures requested but had secured the signatures of 1st, 2nd, 3rd planes in the speed section. These men said they felt it an honour to sign alongside such names as C Kingsford Smith, Jean Batten and G P Ulme – tray cloth returned</p>	<p>6 October 1953</p> <p>20 October 1953</p>
CCC/ARC/700/4/(47)	<p>Telegram from Mr Fox, Otaki requesting two seats be booked for final of Queen Contest</p> <p>Reply from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC advising that regrettably the final of the Queen Contest was fully booked.</p>	<p>5 October 1953</p> <p>5 October 1953</p>

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CCC/ARC/700/4/(48)	Memorandum for City Treasurer from Public Relations Officer requesting a cheque for £2 to be sent to the Clerk of the Licensing Committee, Magistrates Court for a restaurant license to be issued for the Aeronautical Dinner on Thursday, 15 October and is a charge against the Air Race	20 October 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(49)	Memorandum for City Treasurer from Public Relations Officer requesting a cheque for £2-10s in favour of Mr F Blackburn of the Automobile Association for his services as Steward on the night of Saturday, 10 October 1953 – the sum also covers cleaning and no charge was made for hire of the rooms.	20 October 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(50)	Letter from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC to Mr E Palliser, Joint Secretary, Automobile Association of Canterbury, Worcester Street thanking the staff of the Association for their assistance and for the use of their lounge on 10 October 1953	20 October 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(51)	Letter from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC to The Manager, P Burke & Co Ltd, Bush Inn, Riccarton – thanking the staff for the excellent fare and service on 10 October 1953	20 October 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(52)	Letter from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC to Mr Matheson, Flat S4, Harewood Transit Camp, Harewood apologising for not taking up an offer of accommodation (at Harewood presumably) for the 9 and 10 October. Chose to stay in the city as the “weather on the Friday had prevented a number of us from getting any sleep and the responsibility of arranging a function on the following evening necessitated staying in the city” – had called but received no answer to his knock	20 October 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(53)	Letter from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC to Mr Hunter McNicoll, Press Officer, Tasman Empire Airways Ltd (TEAL) Auckland enclosing Mr McNicholl’s invitation to the Aeronautical Dinner and a copy of the menu	19 October 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(54)	Letter to Council from J Maitland, Maitland’s, Cabinetmakers and Housefurnishers, Revel Street, Hokitika, requesting a parking sticker and the inclusion of £1 fee Reply from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC enclosing the sticker and route instructions and a circular letter from the Air Race Council giving details on the use of the sticker – under separate cover, booklets on Christchurch have also been sent for your information.	10 September 1953 14 September 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(55)	Letter from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC to Mr L	23 October 1953

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	F de Berry, Civic Music Council, Christchurch thanking for the assistance and provision of musicians, pianist and vocalists for the function on Saturday, 10 October	
CCC/ARC/700/4/(56)	Letter from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC to Mr Weir, Clarendon Hotel, Worcester Street thanking him and staff for their assistance and co-operation during the Air Race – would arrange to have a general discussion in the near future	23 October 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(57)	Letter from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC to Mr Fraser, Warners Hotel, Cathedral Square thanking him, Mrs Fraser and staff for their grand co-operation and assistance given during the Air Race	23 October 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(58)	Letter to N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC from A Whitaker, Clerk to Committee Magistrates' Court requesting £2 for a Restaurant Permit Reply – thanking for assistance and willing co-operation during the Air Race period and enclosing £2 payment	27 October 1953 28 October 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(59)	Letter to N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC from International Air Race Council re “Queen of the Air Race” contest wishing to thank the staff of the Christchurch City Council for the sponsorship of Miss Shirley Sutherland as a candidate in the contest.	1 September 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(60)	Letter from Canterbury International Air Race Council to Mr J Boyd-Clark, Chairman, Entertainment Committee with list of Press representatives for the dinner	9 October 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(61)	Letter to N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC (and response from same), from H Scholte, Secretary Special Services General Operations, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines thanking for assistance and information on Southern New Zealand in general and Christchurch in particular and hopes to put his photos and information together and publish in a good class weekly about his NZ impression and, if the result deserves it, he will send a copy.	4 November 1953

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CCC/ARC/700/4/(65)	<p>Letter from B Oliver – Secretary of Hauraki Aero Club (Inc) Pollen Street, Thames to The Secretary, Canterbury Aero Club requesting accommodation between 10-13 October for 8 males</p> <p>Telegram Telephoned from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC to Hauraki requesting confirmation of dates.</p> <p>Confirmation telegram received</p> <p>Letter from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC to Hauraki Aero Club confirming booking at Croydon House Armagh Street</p>	<p>24 June 1953</p> <p>30 September 1953</p> <p>30 September 1953</p> <p>1 October 1953</p>
CCC/ARC/700/4/(66)	<p>Letter received from N Walters, 18 Connolly Avenue, Mt Roskill, Auckland asking the dates of the expected arrival of the first aircraft at Harewood so that the necessary arrangements for transport and accommodation could be made</p> <p>Reply from T H Langford, Chairman, Reception Committee to Mr N Walters, 18 Connolly Avenue, Mt Roskill, Auckland S2 - advised that the hotels are not making reservations as yet. If enquirer could supply dates of proposed stay their names will be entered into a register to be dealt with, once bookings open</p> <p>Reply from N Walters– two single rooms required for 9 -23 October inclusive also requested departure tickets to be organised with NAC on 23 October, ChCh-Auckland</p> <p>Letter to N Walters from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC seeking confirmation that dates for accommodation were still correct and advised that the airway bookings were handed to Whites Travel Service Christchurch for action – also request £1 deposit for each accommodation room</p> <p>Reply from N Walters – advising that arrangements for both accommodation and flights were finalised through Whites Travel Service</p>	<p>5 April 1952</p> <p>2 May 1952</p> <p>16 May 1952</p> <p>17 September 1953</p> <p>28 September 1953</p>

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CCC/ARC/700/4/(67)	<p>Memorandum to Mr Langford from S M Graham Secretary Canterbury International Air Race Council – request from Civil Aviation Branch Air Department to make reservations for the air race finish on behalf of Mr & Mrs F J Thomson (Senior Aeronautical Engineer)</p> <p>Letter to Mr R H Alston, 259 High Street, ChCh from Mrs G E Small for Regional Representative Christchurch Airport advising that Head Office, Wellington has requested that accommodation is required for officers from the Civil Aviation Branch and to allocate spaces for Mr R J Dippy – Deputy Controller of Airways, Mr E Carpenter, Deputy Controller of Airworthiness, 2 Air Traffic Services Officers, 3 Operations Officers, 5 crew of CAB Douglas Aircraft for Search and Rescue duties</p> <p>Letter to Mr R H Alston, 259 High Street, ChCh from Mrs G E Small for Regional Representative Christchurch Airport advising that Head Office, Wellington has advised that accommodation will be required for Mr S R Meatcham – Officer on Duty</p> <p>Letter from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC to Mrs G E Small, Civil Aviation Branch Air Department, Christchurch Airport, Harewood NW4 seeking confirmation of the attendance of Mr S R Meatcham et al, and the need for accommodation – request arrival and departure times and dates</p>	<p>30 August 1952</p> <p>28 May 1953</p> <p>19 June 1953</p> <p>9 September 1953</p>
CCC/ARC/700/4/(68)	<p>Telegram from Tauranga to Secretary Canterbury Aero Club from Tauranga Aero Club confirming request for accommodation for 8 personnel</p> <p>Reply from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC – to Tauranga Aero Club requesting dates of arrival and departure and names</p>	<p>28 August 1953</p> <p>30 September 1953</p>
CCC/ARC/700/4/(69)	<p>Telegram from Wairoa to Accommodation Secretary from Wairoa Aero Club requesting accommodation from 8 – 11 October 1953 for Mr Allen and Mr Beckett from the club</p> <p>Telegram Telephoned reply from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC to The Secretary Aero Club Wairoa – acknowledging receipt of accommodation request and will confirm when organised</p>	<p>22 September 1953</p> <p>30 September 1953</p>

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CCC/ARC/700/4/(70)	Telegram Telephoned reply from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC to Aero Club Balclutha – requesting names dates of arrival and departure for accommodation	
CCC/ARC/700/4/(71)	Telegram Telephoned reply from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC to Aero Club, Dunedin confirming accommodation of twin rooms for Johnstone and Butterfield 10 & 11 October at Melville House Gloucester Street – require £1 deposit for each	30 September 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(72)	Telegram Telephoned reply from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC to Mr H HW Lightbard, Lightbard & Co, New Plymouth re accommodation bookings at Cokers Hotel and Storey's Hotel	
CCC/ARC/700/4/(73)	Telegram Telephoned reply from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC to Aircrafts Supplies, Palmerston North advising of accommodation at New Brighton Hotel	5 October 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(74)	<p>Letter from The Southland Aero Club, 24 Esk Street, Invercargill to the Secretary, Canterbury Air Race Council requesting accommodation for 11 club members and hangar space for 2 Austers</p> <p>Letter from The Southland Aero Club, 24 Esk Street, Invercargill to the Secretary, Canterbury Air Race Council requesting accommodation for 18 club members, “arriving the evening before the first plane is expected and leaving in the morning three days later”.</p> <p>Letter from The Southland Aero Club, 26 (address changed?) Esk Street, Invercargill to the Secretary, Canterbury Air Race Council enquiring again about confirmation of their accommodation needs – one member wishes to pitch a tent as close to the runway as possible so he can be on hand at all times of day and night whenever aircraft are arriving – will there be an official camping area or does he have to get permission from neighbouring farmer – urges a response as members are nagging...</p> <p>Telegram from Southland Aero Club, Invercargill again enquiring about their accommodation</p> <p>Reply from N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC to Mr P S Fougere, Secretary, The Southland Aero Club (Inc), Invercargill explaining that upon receipt of the names of the 11 members, their dates of arrival and departure he cannot confirm the booking</p>	<p>4 December 1952</p> <p>1 July 1953</p> <p>5 August 1953</p> <p>4 September 1953</p> <p>9 September 1953</p>
CCC/ARC/700/4/(74) continued	Letter to N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC from Mr P S Fougere, Secretary, The Southland Aero Club (Inc),	

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	<p>Invercargill - can't give names of the 11 as too many members have applied to attend and they have to run a ballot; but dates given – all members would prefer to be in the same hotel – a further 7 people have also applied – included in this is two married couples who require a different good hotel for a longer period than the race</p> <p>Letter from John Falconer, 22 Main Street, Gore to the Accommodation Officer, Air Race Council requesting accommodation for himself – he is a pilot member of the Southland aero Club</p> <p>Finally a letter to N O Steel – Public Relations Officer CCC from Mr P S Fougere, Secretary, The Southland Aero Club (Inc), Invercargill with the names of attendees who won the ballot and there are only 11 – the others had made their own arrangements except the two married couples who only want to be accommodated in a 'good' hotel!</p> <p>Telegram from Mr P S Fougere, Southland Aero Club asking that an extra bed be booked at the Provincial for a Miss Cross (her sister and another female wish to share a room)</p>	<p>11 September 1953</p> <p>17 September 1953</p> <p>24 September 1953</p> <p>6 October 1953</p>
CCC/ARC/700/4/(75)	<p>Letter to Mr R T Alston, Chairman, Accommodation Committee from Chairman, Publicity Committee, Canterbury International Air Race Council requesting accommodation for the press representatives:</p> <p>Messrs B L Hewitt and W Reeves – New Zealand Press Association – providing the Air Race Council with a special news service</p> <p>Miss Dorothy Drain and photographer, 'Australian Women's Weekly',</p> <p>Mr & Mrs T W Ewart – Mr Ewart represents the leading British and Australian aviation journals, 'The Aeroplane' and 'Aircraft'</p> <p>Mr G B Lynch and Mr C Bergman, reporter and photographer for New Zealand Herald and Weekly News</p> <p>2 reporters and 2 photographers – 'Evening Post', Wellington</p>	30 August 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(76)	<p>Memo to Mr R T Alston – Accommodation Committee from President of Canterbury International Air Race Council – listing more dignitaries who are needing accommodation.</p>	4 August 1953

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CCC/ARC/700/4/(77)	Memo to Mr Alston from H D Christie? Canterbury International Air Race Council requesting accommodation be arranged for 12-13 crew, 5 Press, 25 normal passengers off the KLM flight. The 40 migrants will be taken care of by the Immigration Department – suggest that Dr Schmitz could supply full details	14 July 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(78)	Letter to The Town Clerk CCC from Warwick M Warren, Special Representative NZ, British Commonwealth Pacific Airlines advising of representatives of the firm who would be in Christchurch during the Air Race and it would be appreciated if they were included in any functions	21 September 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(79)	<p>Canterbury International Air Race Council Information Bulletin – advising of the arrangements made for reception at ChCh Airport.</p> <p>Dept of Agriculture requires all surplus food on board to be destroyed.</p> <p>Upon arrival there will be a very brief formal welcome and ten minutes have been allotted for press and radio interview, then given a meal at the airport, then taken to their accommodation.</p> <p>Selection of entertainments offered: play casual golf; take part in a tournament; fishing; go on scenic drives - there has been a conscious effort to keep entertainment to a minimum so guests have an opportunity to enjoy private hospitality – form to fill in and return, of preferred option.</p> <p>2:30pm Thursday, 15 October the Governor-General (Sir Willoughby Norrie) will present the Harewood Gold Cup, and prizes and medals to crews at the Airport. At 8pm crews will be entertained by the Air Race Council and CCC at an aeronautical dinner. Friday 16 October, race crews will be entertained at a cocktail party by the Air Race Council.</p> <p>Unofficial functions, Tuesday 13 October – Cocktail party at 20th Century Group, Overseas League then on to the Air Race Ball, arranged by the Air Force Association.</p> <p>Wednesday 14 October – Royal NZ Air Force mess night at Wigram. An international documentary film festival organised by the Christchurch Film Society will be held in the city from 5 – 16 October – tickets available.</p> <p>Of interest also is the Romance of Transport Exhibition – 9-24 October</p>	9 September 1953
CCC/ARC/700/4/(80)	Accommodation houses and list of guests at each:	

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	<p>Avon View Private Hotel, 208 Kilmore Street Canterbury Guild, cnr Cambridge Tce & Worcester St Carlton Mill, Cave Rock, Sumner, Central Hotel Clarendon, Worcester Street, United Service, Cokers Hotel Dominion Hotel, Eastern Hotel – Fitzgerald Ave Embassy Hotel, Excelsior Hotel, Federal Hotel Gainsborough Private Hotel, 263 Bealey Ave Gresham Hotel, Haydn House – Bealey Avenue Imperial Hotel, Marine Hotel, Sumner, Masonic Hotel McKendrys Hotel, New Brighton Hotel, New Wellington Hotel Occidental Hotel, Oxford Hotel, Ozone Private Hotel, Marine Parade, Nth Beach, Packford Private Hotel, Papanui Prince of Wales Hotel, Private house at 35 Carlton Mill Road Provincial Hotel, Royal Hotel, Stonehurst Private Hotel Storeys Hotel, Tattersalls Hotel, Warners, Whakatata Private Hotel, 44 Cashel Street, White Hart Hotel</p>	
CCC/ARC/700/4/(81)	List of people supplied by Dr Schmitz labelled KLM but not sure what it is for	
CCC/ARC/700/4/(82)	<p>Canterbury International Air Race Council – News Bulletin – main points:</p> <p>Prizes for both Speed Section and Transport Handicap Section are 1st prize – £10,000, 2nd prize – £3,000, 3rd prize - £1,000, 4th prize - £500</p> <p>The exception is that the winner of the Speed Section would be presented with the Harewood Gold Cup as well as the £10,000 prize money.</p> <p>Entry fee is 100 guineas for each section of the race</p> <p>More than 1,000 entry forms distributed throughout the world - closing on 31 January 1953. Race open to land planes or flying-boats. Refueling in flight is permitted in the speed section but not the Transport Handicap Section</p> <p>Competitors must complete the 13,000 mile air race in 168 hours (7 days) of the authorised starting time of the last aircraft. American airwoman - Miss Jacqueline Cochran (Mrs Floyd B Odum) was willing to lodge a firm entry in the race and pay entry fees provided that before the closing date she had the right to switch from the Transport Handicap Section to the Speed Section – it depends on the type of aircraft available to her – if in the Transport Handicap Section she intends to fly a turbo-jet powered Convair or a Mustang Fighter if she enters the Speed Section.</p>	
CCC/ARC/700/4/(82) continued	<p>Navy are interested in participating</p> <p>List of likely participants and their aircraft</p>	

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	<p>The Harewood Gold Cup – valued at £1,000 – designer Mr Owen C Lawrence of Invercargill. Cup 11 ½ “ high made of pure NZ gold, with NZ jade and polished native rata wood used in the base. The cup is 10-sided, and the base, in the form of a hemisphere, has lightly inscribed meridians and outlines of Britain and NZ. A deeply incised arc on the surface symbolises the orbit path of the race. Speed is indicated by the red jewel symbol of the mechanical principle of jet propulsion – the venture. Dividers rising from the globe to the cup itself symbolically span the portion of the orbit encompassed by the speed race. The triangulation signifies the measured precision in the science of navigation, surveying, and engineering, which are epitomised in the nature of the contest.</p> <p>Mr F Rowarth, is the official handicapper to the Royal Aero Club since 1928, has been invited by the Air Race Council to come to Christchurch to act as a judge at the finish of the race. He is a member of the records, racing and competitions committee of the royal Aero Club, which is responsible for the organisation, start, and control of the race as far as the intermediate control point. NB:Harewood – Christchurch’s International Airport is one of the finest natural airports in the world, according to overseas experts. It has clear approaches, natural drainage, and sealed runways on a foundation of hard packed shingle 200ft deep. Christchurch, 2nd city of NZ, will welcome crews and passengers to NZ when the race finishes in October next year. A city of fine homes and pleasant gardens, Christchurch has a population of 175,000.</p> <p>Responsibility for the race from the intermediate control point in the vicinity of Basra rests with the Canterbury International Air Race Council. The Royal Aero Club will manage the race from the start, near London, to the control point. Members of the Air Race Council include the NZ Prime Minister (Rt Hon S G Holland); Minister of Defence (Hon T L Macdonald); the Leader of the Opposition (Rt Hon W Nash), the Air Secretary Mr T A Barrow, Air Chief Marshal Sir Keith Park, former Allied Air Commander-in-Chief, South East Asia, and Air Vice-Marshal Sir Leonard Isitt, chairman of directors of the NZ National Airways Corporation and Tasman Empire Airways, and a director of British Commonwealth Pacific Airlines.</p>	
CCC/ARC/700/4/(83)	<p>Canterbury International Air Race Council News Bulletin No 2. Even though the rules and conditions of the race have not</p>	April 1950

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	<p>been announced there are Provisional entries from: British European Airways Corporation, London British Overseas Airways Corporation, London KLM (Royal Dutch Airlines), The Hague Quanta's Empire Airways, Sydney, Australia</p> <p>Airlines competing in the Transport Handicap Section are likely to fly their aircraft to NZ with full loads of tourists.</p> <p>The race is timed to start in England on or about 10 October 1953. Aircraft will fly via the Middle East route – Basra, Calcutta, Singapore, and the east coast of Australia to Christchurch. The Royal Aero Club will control the route between London and Singapore, and the Air Race Council will control the section between Singapore and NZ. The check point in Australia has not yet been decided.</p> <p>In Bulletin No 1 we reported that the NZ Government had announced that it proposed to develop the aerodrome to international standards. The aerodrome is now being developed to Class C4 international standards, and construction and sealing of the permanent runways is now in progress.</p>	
CCC/ARC/700/4/(84)	List of Speed Section and Transport Handicap Section entrants, pilot, aircraft Make/Model, engine size, accompanied by a biographical notes of their crew members.	