



Take Note

by Tricia Glensor



In 2015, the Reserve Bank began producing a new set of New Zealand banknotes. Everything on the banknotes shows something special about New Zealand.



Famous faces

On the front of every New Zealand banknote, there is a famous face. Each face is of a person who has done something important for New Zealand (and sometimes for other countries too).

\$5: Sir Edmund Hillary (1919–2008)

In 1953, Sir Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay became the first people to climb Mount Everest, the highest mountain in the world. Sir Edmund Hillary was also the first person to drive a vehicle with wheels across Antarctica to the South Pole. (Other people who had reached the South Pole had used sleds.) He is also famous around the world for the work he did to help the people of Nepal.



\$10: Kate Sheppard (1847–1934)

Before 1893, New Zealand women weren't allowed to vote in elections. Kate Sheppard was a leader of a group of women who helped change that. New Zealand was the first country in the world to give women the right to vote.



\$20: The Queen (1926–)

The Queen lives in England, but she is also the Queen of New Zealand.



\$50: Sir Āpirana Ngata, Ngāti Porou (1874–1950)

Sir Āpirana Ngata was an important Māori leader and member of parliament. He worked hard to improve life for Māori. He also encouraged Māori to keep their culture.



\$100: Ernest Rutherford (1871–1937)

Ernest Rutherford was a New Zealand scientist who won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1908.



Other images

As well as the famous faces, there are many other images on our banknotes. Here is a closer look at the images on the \$5 note.

THE FRONT OF A \$5 NOTE

1 Tukutuku pattern

Every New Zealand banknote has a tukutuku pattern. The \$5 note has the kaokao pattern.

2 Hoiho

Every New Zealand banknote has a bird on it. The \$5 note has the hoiho (yellow-eyed penguin).



3 Aoraki/Mount Cook

This is New Zealand's highest mountain. It was one of the first mountains that Sir Edmund Hillary climbed, and it was one of his favourites.

THE BACK OF A \$5 NOTE

The images on the back of the \$5 note all show things to do with the Subantarctic Islands, a group of New Zealand islands that are close to the Antarctic (the area around the South Pole).

1 Campbell Island

Campbell Island is one of New Zealand's Subantarctic Islands.

4 Hoiho

The hoiho is one of the most endangered penguins in the world. It is found only in southern New Zealand, including the Subantarctic Islands. (There are two more images of the hoiho on the front of the \$5 note.)

2 Campbell Island daisy

This giant, colourful daisy grows close to the ground, away from Campbell Island's strong, cold winds.



3 Ross lily

This plant is also found on the Subantarctic Islands. It has bright yellow flowers and grows up to a metre high.

If you were designing a banknote, what images of Aotearoa New Zealand would you choose?

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