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NEW ZEALAND NOTES AND COMMENTS by WARWICK PATERSON

6¢ CRESSET ROSE DEFINITIVE

Two new plates have appeared in this issue and the details are similar to those already noted in the 7¢ and 8¢ value of the current definitives. New plate numbers are 2A2A2A2A2A and 2B2B2B2B2B and again the new perforation is $14\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{3}{4}$ (original plates $14\frac{1}{2} \times 14\frac{1}{4}$). The sheet format is 2B on the left 2A on the right perforating from left to right (formerly 1A on the left 1B on the right perforating from the top vertically). Close examination of the new plates suggests to me that, as with the 7¢ reprint (June NL) not merely new plates but new origination (art work) has been used. The print is now much clearer and finer (particularly in the lettering) and I detect minor differences in the size of certain letters notably the length of the "¢" of "6¢". Once again the selvage markings are quite different (note the value blocks). Examination of the new plates reveals some excellent "naked eye" flaws and retouches. I felt the following were worthy of inclusion in a specialist study.

Plate 2A Row 3/8 Retouch lower left outer margin.

Row 5/7 Retouch bottom left corner inner margin.

Plate 2B Row 1/7 and Row 1/10 Prominent retouches top left corner margin.

Row 3/9 Plate flaws or scratches outside lower left margin.

Row 6/8 "Screen dots" flaw in red top right corner.

Row 9/9 Plate scratch in red over "w" of "New".

8¢ JOSEPHINE BRUCE

Mr. Goose of Upper Hutt has shown me a plate block (plate 1A) in which Row 10/5 shows a spectacular partial missing red. By chance the plate number is missing also a fact that confirms the bonafides of the variety.

1963 HEALTH PRINCE ANDREW 3d + 1d

Mr. Mervyn W. Lynch has shown me a copy of the miniature sheet in this value with complete offset on the back - a lovely and highly spectacular item - unique to my knowledge. It will be listed in the CP Catalogue. ➤

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WOKING
SURREY
ENGLAND

1976 HEALTHS

7¢ plus 1¢ "Is it a bird? is it a plane - no! it's superhorse."
 8¢ plus 1¢ "Rural dreamer" 10¢ plus 1¢ "The Innocents have found their next victim" - well - they're colourful as usual, but whether even the children will appreciate the designs this year is an open question. Somehow if the figures in the designs resembled real NZ children one could overlook the heavy sentiment and stylised paraphernalia, but these kids look to me like fugitives from some 1930's "Girls Own" annual. Enid Blyton would surely have approved. Alas, the Healths series has fallen on hard times. Varieties:-
 7¢ plus 1¢ Plate 1B1B1B1B Row 9/4 The boy has had a fright. The face is distinctly paler than in all other copies. 8¢ plus 1¢ Plate 1B1B1B1B Row 5/2 malformed "EA" of "Health". Value tablet plate 1B shows the sheet value in error as \$9.00 and 1A is correct at \$9.00. Miniature sheets The stamps from these attractive sheets will be distinguishable from those from the main sheets in that the mesh of the mini sheets is vertical to the designs and in the main sheets - horizontal (observation - our colleagues in Woking).
 15¢ Maori Fish Hook At last the last of the NZ stamps with watermark has run out and this issue is now appearing on unwatermarked paper with blue gum.

THE NEW STANLEY GIBBONS PART 1 (1977)

The second most important event in the New Zealand Philatelic Calendar is the appearance of Stanley Gibbons Catalogue. The proliferation of issues is evidenced by the number of pages in the volume this year - 942 as against 890 in the 1976 Catalogue and in a tacit acknowledgement of the unpredictable nature of the £1 sterling these days the currency conversion tables have been dropped. Items of particular note are as follows (all price information in sterling) Full Face Queens

SG 1 (used) £1800 (up £550)
 SG 2 " £225 (up £75)
 SG 3 " £800 (up £250)

Such increases are typical and some are even heavier e.g.

SG 3 Bisect £2500 (up £1000)
 SG 6 " £2000 (" £750)

at these prices incidentally both items may still be undercatalogued - certainly the greater rarity of SG3 Bisect on cover is not reflected by the 25% price difference over SG6. Pin perfs, serrates and roulettes seem to be well up this year and the "mainstream" Davies star watermark imperfs are increased overall. The pattern is quite recognizable in this group - around about 50% increase across the board except for some of the hugely priced rarities. Once can scarcely argue with any of these increases whatever method SG use to arrive at them.

Several stamps which have become almost unobtainable in the local (NZ) market lately still seem undercatalogued to me in SG: Examples -


SG 185 2/- 1st sideface £42 £40
 SG 186 5/- 1st sideface £42 £40
 The high value 2nd sidefaces e.g.
 SG 224 8d Blue £2.75 £2
 SG 212 1/- Brown-Red £4.00 80P
 Also
 SG 290 5/- Mt. Cook (no watermark) (p11) £15 £15
 (incredible!)
 SG 288 2/- Milford Ditto £5.50 £4
 (all the 2/- and 5/- are undercatalogued)
 SG 424 - 427 Christchurch Exhibition £56 £65.50
 SG 470 - 473 Auckland Exhibition £100 £100
 SG 538 4d Dunedin Exhibition £12 £14
 SG 575 6d Jubilee £5 £6

Many of the recent scarce commemoratives seem to lag - many of the prices would serve as dealers buying prices here in NZ and good old O96 8d Red Brown Official Geo V appears again at £5.50 £5.50.

(Note: The current conversion rate for sterling to NZ Dollars is about £1.75 to the \$1. Not an adventurous revision this year I'm afraid with the most realistic section being the Full Faces.

FULL FACE QUEENS 1864 - 1873

The perforated 12½ issues - a comprehensive coverage of all the values and varieties this month. Each value is subdivided into varieties - mint or used, multiples, covers, shades and plate variations. Each variety is subdivided where possible into grades of condition and the pricing of the lots has been carefully evaluated under the following groups: superfine, fine, intermediate, not so fine, spacefiller. Your chance then to select your own tailor-made requirements - at these prices - never again!

- 1d RED
MULTIPLES
- 35(a) SG111 Vermilion. A pair beautifully used and centred in a pale shade of Vermilion. Fine.....\$27.50
- (b) SG111 Ditto. A vertical pair this time in a similar shade. Heavy obliterator "1" in diamond and oval of bars and WAIUKU CDS.....\$15.00
- 1d CARMINE-VERMILION - UNUSED
- (c) SG110 Fine. Gorgeous copy - this one a possession to be prized.....\$25.00
- (d) SG110 Intermediate again a super-looking stamp - slight corner fold and a little off-centre.....\$20.00
- (e) SG110 Not so fine - but you'd hardly know it! Minor clipped perfs or weak corner.....\$5.00
- 1d CARMINE - UNUSED
- (f) SG110 Intermediate. Lovely example of the shade - a minor fault allows.....\$10.00
- 1d VERMILION - UNUSED
- (g) SG111 Fine. Nice copy if just a little off-centre - bright shade.....\$18.00
- (h) SG111 Intermediate Really lovely appearance - virtually without noticeable fault.....\$17.50
- (i) SG111 Not-so-fine. Minor thin allows.....\$3.50
- 1d CARMINE-VERMILION - USED
- (j) SG110 Intermediate. Deep shade and really a most presentable stamp. Minor factors of condition allow.....\$10.00
- (k) SG110 Ditto. One of the deepest "Red" shades we've seen in this stamp. An extraordinary colour, nearer the Deep Red of the last of the imperfs (rare in itself!) an exhibition proving item.....\$15.00
-  (l) SG110 Not-so-fine. In appearance very nice indeed.....\$4.00
- 1d CARMINE - USED
- (m) SG110 Intermediate. Again superbly attractive.....\$12.75
- (n) SG110 Not-so-fine. Good looks.....\$2.50
- 1d ORANGE-VERMILION - USED
- (o) SG111 Intermediate copy with M/S cancellation "PF" (see Vol. III p. 105 No. 218) "PEEL FOREST".....\$20.00
- (p) SG111 Intermediate heavyish mark but good of the shade.....\$7.00
- (q) SG111 Not-so-fine Faults but undeniably good value.....\$2.25
- 1d VERMILION - USED
- (r) SG111 Intermediate attractive and accurately priced.....\$8.00
- (s) SG111 Not-so-fine\$2.00
- (t) SG111 Space-filler.....50¢
- 1d ORANGE - USED
- (u) SG112 Fine a scarce one - fill the gap now - lovely.....\$18.00
- (v) SG112 Fine One of the deepest, richest examples of the shade we've seen - a beauty.....\$25.00
- (w) SG112 Intermediate lovely bright example.....\$10.00
- (x) SG112 Not-so-fine certified example.....\$4.00

FULL FACE QUEENS (CONT.)

- 35(y) SG112 Spacefiller one of the best buys this month - the shade is beyond question.....\$1.00
- (z) SG111 Nice re-entry Row 18/6.....\$15.00
- 1d BROWN - USED
- 36(a) SG132 Red Brown-Intermediate platewear A lovely example of the scarce pl2½ in this shade with little plate wear. It is a superb stamp with light clean Dunedin Duplex, a tear at top margin allows.....\$7.50
- (b) SG132 Reddish-Brown - extended plate wear Intermediate example...\$6.00
- (c) SG131 Brown - extended plate wear. Fine copy.....\$10.00
- (d) SG131 Ditto intermediate.....\$5.00
- (e) SG131 Ditto - Not-so-fine.....\$1.75
- (f) SG131 Ditto spacefiller.....50¢
- (g) SG131 Brown - advanced platewear - Fine copy.....\$12.00
- (h) SG131 Ditto Intermediate.....\$6.00
- (i) SG131 Ditto Not-so-fine.....\$2.50
- (j) SG131 Ditto spacefiller.....50¢
- (k) SG132 Reddish superb copy of re-entry Row 11/3.....\$15.00
- (l) SG132 Nice copy of R5/9 re-entry.....\$12.00
- 2d BLUE - PLATE 1
(EXTENSIVE PLATE WEAR)
- DEEP BLUE
- 37(a) SG113 Fine.....\$10.00
- (b) SG113 Intermediate.....\$6.00
- BLUE
- (c) SG113 Fine.....\$10.00
- (d) SG113 Intermediate.....\$5.00
- (e) SG113 Not-so-fine.....\$2.00
- BRIGHT BLUE
- (f) SG113 Fine.....\$10.00
- (g) SG113 Intermediate.....\$6.00
- (h) SG113 Not-so-fine.....\$2.50
- (i) SG113 Spacefiller.....50¢
- VARIETIES (2d PLATE 1)
- (j) SG113 with minor plate wear. The very early perf 12½ this with remarkably little plate wear - a rarity. Indistinct M/S cancel of parallel vertical lines - superb copy.....\$35.00
- (k) SG113 A pair on piece - obliterator "7" in oval.....\$17.50
- (l) SG113 Two contrasting pairs - one shows Blue shade the other (much more worn)- Bright Blue. Intermediate condition superb appearance.....\$35.00
- (m) SG113 UNUSED Superb copy in Deep Blue.....\$25.00
- (n) SG113 Ditto. This time Blue.....\$20.00
- (o) SG113 Ditto - Not-so-fine with slight thin.....\$5.00
- 2d PLATE 2
UNUSED
- 38(a) SG115 Pale Blue - not-so-fine.....\$5.00
- SG114 Royal Blue - superb.....\$14.00
- SG115 Dull Blue.....\$10.00
- SG115 Blue.....\$6.00
- (b) SG115 UNUSED Copy with plate damage.....\$15.00
- Copy with major retouching.....\$25.00
- 2d INDIGO - USED
- (c) SG115 Intermediate copy of superb appearance.....\$12.50
- (d) SG115 Not-so-fine copy - perfect except for clipped perfs.....\$4.00

Please turn to back page

SEVERAL ODDMENTS

- 70 (a) U2a Express Delivery Motorcar design. An interesting variety block of ten from the bottom left selvedge. Two stamps from a notably "brown gum" sheet have been patched into the sheet. The curious aspect of the variety is that no other perfs are parted other than was absolutely necessary to remove the original two stamps from the sheet clearly the work of a craftsman.....\$10.00
- (b) G10b 1d Universal Royle Plates - the rare perf 11. An extraordinary pair of blocks in two markedly different shades, one the CP listed Rose-Carmine, the other an unlisted pinkish shade - amazing.....\$480.00
or in singles.....\$120.00
- (c) H4c King Edward VII 4d Red-Orange "Vertical pair two different comb perfs, se tenant". One of the great rarities of NZ philately - we are privileged to present this month a superb block of four of the above variety. The block is Row 5 and 6 stamps 7 and 8. It is the block illustrated on page 75 of volume VI of the "POSTAGE STAMPS OF NZ". This is a famous proving item of enormous rarity. This block "proves" the use of the comb head 9/111 for the top five rows; 6/NO3 for the bottom five rows in this 4d value. It is a chance almost certainly never to be repeated in our lifetime - it is a chance NOT TO BE MISSED. Telephone us, cable us we care not - but DO NOT DELAY!.....\$1200.00

NOTE: The above lot is unconditionally guaranteed and if requested will be accompanied by our certification of the fact.

1898 PICTORIALS - MINT

Some superb gap-filling mint including blocks of four.

- 71 (a) E1a 4d Mount Cook Purple-Brown Superb in mint block of four....\$7.00
(b) E1a Ditto Lovely mint single.....\$1.40
- 72 (a) E2a 1d Lake Taupo lovely mint single.....60¢
- 73 (a) E7a 2½d Lake Wakitipu (error) Dull Blue - a glorious mint block of four (hurry - send us a telegram).....\$10.00
(b) E7a Ditto A few singles available.....\$2.00

4d GREEN MOUNT COOK

- 50 A mounted collection (mint and used)
A nice little lot beautifully mounted to exhibition standard on 17 leaves to fit "Warwick" multi-ring binder. The lot includes several officials. Particularly noted were 2 Pirie perf 11 shade blocks Yellow/Green and Green plus all the shades in good used. All the Pirie perf varieties mint and used. F3e used, F4d block of four mint and F4e block of four mint, single used. A good coverage of the new plates including F5c two mint blocks one featuring major flaw plate 2 R. 7/24 super at.....\$110.00

COMMEMORATIVES VARIETIES

- RED CROSS 1959
- 51 (a) S84a The major retouch Row 13/6 in pos. block of six and a used.....\$7.00
(b) SG84a Ditto used "Greenland" flaw - fine.....\$2.00
(c) SG84a Ditto a fine specialist pair both used. The rare flaw R4/3 and the later retouch (upper left shaded area of the flag) Includes original NL write-up.....\$5.00
- 3d TELEGRAPH CENTENARY - 1962
- 52 (a) S88a Mounted on two pages and annotated. All the major plate varieties in this issue - unrepeatable! - 18 items.....\$7.50

▶ "The Postage stamps of NZ" VOLUME VI from the Royal Philatelic Society of NZ is ready to go to press. In a recent publicity release the Society announces that the deadline for the preprinting price of \$30 per copy is 31.1.77 (after that \$35). Their address is P.O. Box 1269 Wellington. If you wish to save some money - act now!

FULL FACE QUEENS (CONT.)

		<u>2d GREENISH BLUE - USED</u>	
38 (e)	SG115	<u>Fine</u>	\$17.00
(f)	SG115	<u>Fine copy - major retouching</u>	\$17.00
(g)	SG115	<u>Intermediate</u>	\$7.50
(h)	SG115	<u>Not-so-fine</u>	\$2.00
(i)	SG115	<u>Not-so-fine with major retouching</u>	\$3.00
(j)	SG115	<u>Spacefiller</u>	\$1.00
		<u>2d BRIGHT BLUE</u>	
(k)	SG115	<u>Intermediate copy</u>	\$8.00
(l)	SG115	<u>Not-so-fine</u>	\$2.50
		<u>2d PALE BLUE</u>	
(m)	SG115	<u>Fine copy</u>	\$12.00
(n)	SG115	<u>Fine with major retouching</u>	\$18.00
(o)	SG115	<u>Intermediate</u>	\$8.00
(p)	SG115	<u>Spacefiller</u>	50¢
		<u>2d DEEP (ROYAL) BLUE</u>	
(q)	SG114	<u>Fine</u>	\$10.00
(r)	SG114	<u>Intermediate</u>	\$6.00
(s)	SG114	<u>Not-so-fine - (glorious appearance)</u>	\$2.50
		<u>2d DULL BLUE</u>	
(t)	SG115	<u>Fine</u>	\$10.00
(u)	SG115	<u>Intermediate</u>	\$6.00
(v)	SG115	<u>Intermediate - heavily retouched</u>	\$12.00
(w)	SG115	<u>Not-so-fine</u>	50¢
		<u>2d BLUE</u>	
(x)	SG115	<u>Fine</u>	\$7.00
(y)	SG115	<u>Intermediate</u>	\$4.00
(z)	SG115	<u>Not-so-fine</u>	\$1.00
		<u>VARIETIES</u>	
(z+1)	SG115	<u>Superb pair</u>	\$20.00
(z+2)	SG115	<u>Strip of three</u>	\$35.00
(z+3)	SG115	<u>Strip of three on piece with "London" receiving mark (superb appearance but horizontal split makes these "not-so-fine"</u>	\$10.00
(z+4)	SG115	<u>On piece with Wellington Duplex JY471</u>	\$12.00
(z+5)	SG115	<u>"5 OTAHUHU A" cancellation in beautiful strike</u>	\$15.00
(z+6)	SG115	<u>Copy with unidentified M/S cancellation</u>	\$12.00
(z+7)	SG115	<u>Copy with M/S cancellation 5 horizontal lines (plate damage evident)</u>	\$15.00
(z+8)	SG115	<u>Copy with horizontal but no vertical perfs. We cannot guarantee such a copy of course but is likely to be "accidental imperf as parts of the stamps on either side are present</u>	\$25.00
		<u>2d ORANGE</u>	
39 (a)	SG133	<u>Fine copy in Orange (evidence of plate damage)</u>	\$20.00
(b)	SG133	<u>Ditto. Copy with clipped perfs one side</u>	\$6.00
		<u>2d PALE ORANGE</u>	
(c)	SG133	<u>Fine copy with plate damage and trace of M/S</u>	\$12.50
(d)	SG133	<u>Intermediate copy</u>	\$7.50
(e)	SG133	<u>Intermediate copy with plate damage</u>	\$8.00
(f)	SG133	<u>Intermediate copy with major retouching</u>	\$10.00
(g)	SG133	<u>Not-so-fine copy with plate damage - superb example - appearance is "fine"</u>	\$2.50