

# NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN



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## **A GLASS FOR THE PHILATELIST**

**by Colin Hamilton**

The range of magnifiers on the market is huge, so it is small wonder that many collectors are bewildered when faced with the problem of choosing a glass which will be suitable for their requirements. While personal preference undoubtedly plays a part in the selection of this essential requisite, there are one or two basic points which should be taken into consideration before any final choice is made.

Firstly (and in my view most importantly) when examining stamps under magnification, the eye itself must be as close as possible - within two or three inches - to the work, and this at once rules out any form of reading glass, or what I would call the "Sherlock Holmes" type of instrument. These generally have a relatively long focal length, so that the distance between the glass and the stamp being viewed (when in sharp focus) is too great for philatelic purposes, and in any case, the magnification is unlikely to be sufficiently powerful.

This brings us straight to the question of power. Naturally, I suppose, one's instinct suggests that the more powerful the glass, the better it must be. Not so ! In fact I would go as far as to say that (from a philatelic point of view) too strong a glass is if anything a greater evil than one which is not powerful enough. Imagine a close-up view of a 12 foot square enlargement of a stamp projected on to a pebble-dashed wall - the unevenness of the surface would mask the details of the design, and this is precisely the result when using an over-strong glass to examine stamps. A glass with a power of 8x, or a maximum of 10x, is the ideal.

So we have narrowed down the field of choice, but even so it is still large. There are those which are hand-held, or on stands, those with single lenses or with multiple lenses, those with built-in light. As I said, individual preferences vary. Collectors with a liking for gadgets, for instance, may be attracted by the multi-lens, built-in light types. I myself, however, use a comparatively simple instrument known technically as a folding 1" linen tester (so-called, I believe, because its original purpose was in examining the threads of woven linen). It fulfils admirably all the requirements outlined above and has two advantages over those hand-held folding types, in which the lens usually swivels into the handle when not in use. In the first place, when fully unfolded into its operating position, the linen tester is a magnifier-on-a-stand, so that when placed over the item to be examined, the focusing is automatic. Secondly, the lens is somewhat larger, and thus allows larger areas to be examined without moving either glass or stamp. In conclusion, I would again emphasise that when using this or any similar glass, the viewer's eye should be within half an inch or so of the lens. Even for the wearer of spectacles like myself, this is a very easy glass to use.

(Anyone wanting one of these linen testers should read the offer elsewhere in this Bulletin).

## RECENT DISCOVERIES

Mr. S. F. Cross-Rudkin has recently shown us two interesting used items: (1) A copy of the 2d Second Sideface "Adson", Die 3, perf. 12 x 11½ (D3c) with mixed perfs (originally perf. 12 x 11½, re-perf. 12½ at foot). The advertisement, incidentally, happened to be a "Poneke" one, thus proving it to be from the Third Setting. (2) 1965 Health 4d + 1d (T37b) with wmk inverted. Both of these are new to us, and will be listed in our Catalogue in due course.

### SECOND SIDEFACES

Anyone who has tried to obtain these issues knows just how elusive they are in anything like reasonable condition.

- 201 (a) Mint Multiples. A most unusual lot, comprising ½d (blocks of 24 and 4), 1d (block of 6 incl. "screwdriver" flaw, three blocks of 4, two horiz. pairs, two vertical pairs), 2d (pair), 3d (block of 4 and a pair). Various perfs and shades are represented. A few minor faults, but overall a very fresh and fine-looking lot in a much undervalued issue. 62 stamps, all identified ..... £18. 50
- (b) Mint Collection. Fine lot of 60, with all values from ½d - 1/- (4) and many perfs and shades included. Again a few small faults, condition generally well above average. A superb basic collection ..... £75. 00

### 2/- CAPTAIN COOK VARIETIES

- 202 (a) Double Print 'One Albino'. A used copy of this rarity on coarse paper, perf. 12½, from plate 1 of course (L13fZ). The characteristic blurring of the printed design is very pronounced. A fine used variety ..... £24. 00
- (b) As above. Mint marginal copy (mounted in selvedge only) on coarse paper, perf. 13¼ x 13½, this time from plate 2 (L13gM). Again the blurring of the design is very noticable ..... £24. 00

N. B. Both of the above varieties, in addition to having a C. P. Catalogue listing, are documented in Volume 2 of the Handbooks. In each case, it is recorded that only one sheet was issued showing the variety.

- 203 The 'COQK' flaw on R1/4 of plate 1, persisted throughout the full life of the plate and can therefore be found in all printings. We offer here several examples of this well-known and attractive variety:-
- (a) COQK Flaw. Registered watermark, perf. 13½ x 14, in fine mint condition (L13bZ) ..... £2. 45
- (b) As above. Multiple watermark, perf. 13-14 x 13½, mint (L13cX) ..... £1. 54
- (c) As above. A beautifully used example, with c. d. s., of 'b' above (L13cX) ..... £1. 54
- (d) As above. A mint marginal copy (hinged in selvedge only) with perf. 13½ x 14 on multiple watermark paper. The scarcest of all the 2/- printings! A desirable item (L13dZ) ..... £13. 75

Note: The R1/4 impression developed an additional flaw, appearing as a diagonal coloured dash across the jacket of the soldier behind Captain Cook, and the stamp offered in 'd' above shows this extra flaw, as do 'e', 'f' and 'g' below.

- 203 (e) As above. A used example on the multiple watermark paper, perf.  $13\frac{1}{2} \times 14$  (L13dZ) ..... £1. 85
- (f) As above. A further mint copy of this difficult issue, but this time over-printed Official. (LO13dY) ..... £6. 15
- (g) As above. A mint vertical pair on coarse paper perf.  $12\frac{1}{2}$ , the upper stamp being the COQK flaw (L13fW) ..... £3. 00

#### OTHER SECOND PICTORIAL VARIETIES

- 204  $\frac{1}{2}$ d Clematis. The scarce R5/17 re-entry (from one of the two unnumbered plates), in mint block of 4 with three normal stamps. The variety block (L1bW) ..... £7. 50
- 205 (a) 3/- Mount Egmont. The prominent R3/6 centre plate re-entry, represented by used copies from three different issues - perf.  $12\frac{1}{2}$  fine paper (L14eZ), perf.  $13\frac{3}{4} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$  coarse paper (L14fX) and perf.  $14\frac{1}{4} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$  (L14gX). An attractive set of 3 used ..... £4. 25
- (b) As above. The R3/6 re-entry again, but on the final issue only (L14gX). Used. .... 60p
- (c) As above. Used single showing the really big re-entry on R9/4, again on the final issue (L14gU). As illustrated in our Catalogue ..... £1. 50
- (d) As above. Plate block of 16 stamps (4 x 4) of L14g, including the R9/4 re-entry. A magnificent block, mint ..... £21. 75
- (e) As above. Another example of the R9/4 re-entry in positional block, in this case a bottom right corner block of 6. A small tear in the right selvedge, otherwise brilliant mint ..... £9. 25
- (f) As above. Top right corner block of 9, including the Catalogued R1/6 and R3/6 re-entries. In addition, further varieties on five of the remaining seven stamps are noted. Some reinforcement of the perfs. in the top selvedge, but the condition of the stamps is superfine mint throughout. The multi-variety block ..... £11. 75
- 206 Second Pictorial Letter Watermarks. Mint marginal singles of the 8d, 2/- and 3/- all with the variety "letters watermark". An unusual addition to any collection ..... £6. 00

#### Q. E. HEADS VARIETIES

Many of the following lots are accompanied by printed descriptions and illustrations showing the varieties - useful as write up material.

- 207 1d "Small Figure of Value". The finely executed retouch on Plate 5, R4/6 (NV2a). In mint block of 4 ..... £4. 95
- 208  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d "Small Figure of Value". Plate 14, R1/20. Another fine retouch (NV3a). In mint block of 4 with selvedges ..... £5. 55
- 209 (a) 2d "Small Figure of Value". Plate 16, R4/2. An extensive retouch, as described in our Catalogue (NV4a). In mint block of 4 with selvedge ... £5. 50

- 209 (b) As above. The retouches to adjacent impressions on Plate 15, R3/12 and 3/13 (NV4b), in one mint block of 6 with selvage ..... £3. 70
- 210 (a) 3d "Small Figure of Value". Plate 22, R5/11 (NV5a). The biggest of all the Q.E. retouches. In mint block of 10, with top selvage .... £3. 70
- (b) As above. Plate 23, R8/3. Retouch in top left corner of the design (NV5b). In mint block of 6 with selvage ..... £6. 20
- (c) As above. Plate 24, R6/6. Retouch to Queen's hair and diadem (NV5c). In mint block of 4 ..... £8. 65
- (d) As above. Plate 24, R6/19. Retouch in and around the centre of the diadem (NV5d). Imprint block of 4 ..... £6. 00
- (e) As above. Plate 26, R4/2. This retouch exists in two states as described in our Catalogue, and matching mint blocks of four are here offered showing both states. (NV5e and NV5eZ) ..... £18. 50
- (f) As above. Plate 30, R4/8. Similar but rather more extensive retouch to lot (d) above. A naked-eye variety (NV5g). In mint block of 4 ..... £8. 65
- (g) As above. Plate 26, R1/14 retouch, again as listed and described in our Catalogue (NV5p) ..... £4. 35
- 211 6d "Small Figure of Value". Plate 6, R4/19. This exists in two states: with flaw on Queen's left temple, and with the flaw retouched. The block of 8 here offered shows the retouch- another variety clearly seen without a glass (NV7a 2). Mint ..... £7. 25
- 212 (a) 8d Rose-Carmine. Plate 20, R6/16. The second retouch to this impression, in which the lines of shading above the Queen's right shoulder are clearly strengthened (NV8a 2). In mint block of 4 ..... £7. 25
- (b) As above. Plate 20, R9/4. Retouch to Queen's chin and adjacent background shading lines at left (NV8b 2). In mint corner block of 8 ..... £4. 95
- 213 8d Pale Pink. This distinctive shade is very scarce. It seems probable that only two sheets existed, one being issued as sheet stamps and the other being used in a making of counter rolls. In the latter case, examples are known only as the right-hand stamp in some pairs numbered 16, and as the left-hand stamp in some pairs numbered 17. We can offer a coil pair with either number as described at, each ..... £9. 50
- 214 1d "Large Figure of Value". Plate 11, R10/22. The major and easily seen retouch affecting the collar and the area surrounding "NEW ZEAL", offered in mint imprint/plate block of 6 stamps (NV31a 2) ..... £4. 65
- 215 1½d "Large Figure of Value". Matching corner blocks of 20 of the original issue (N32a) and later provisional issue surcharged 2d (N40a), each including four stamps - R7/3, 7/5, 8/5 and 10/5- with frame lines showing graver slips. Incidentally the blocks are in beautifully contrasting shades of lake and brown-lake. The two large blocks ..... £3. 75
- 216 2½d on 3d Provisional. Three mint blocks of 4, one having all stamps with narrow setting of surcharge (N42a), another with all stamps wide setting (N42b), and the third with the upper pair "narrow" and the lower pair "wide", giving two variety pairs se-tenant. The three blocks ..... £9. 75

# SELECTED ITEMS

- 217 K. G. V "Two-Perf" Pairs. Complete set of 16 vertical pairs, showing the perfs 14 x 13 $\frac{1}{4}$  and 14 x 14 $\frac{1}{4}$  se-tenant. The set comprises 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d (3 prs, incl. 2 on the "Pictorial" paper, one of which is the no wmk variety), 2d violet, 2d yellow, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 3d, 4d yellow, 4d violet, 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 5d, 6d, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ d, 8d, 9d and 1/- . One or two of the pairs have very minor faults on the back, but condition is good to fine mint. The scarce set, certain to continue to increase in price ..... £57. 50
- 218 1935 1d Kiwi Booklet Panes. Two panes of 6 from the special booklet issue (L2c), one having wmk upright and the other wmk inverted. Both panes are complete with all selvages (with "Parisian" ads. at sides), and superfine mint ..... £5. 55
- 219 1935 3d Maori Girl. Corner block of 4 of the 'Registered' wmk issue (L6a), showing a small portion of the plate number 2 in the bottom selvedge. Because this number was placed so far away from the impressions on the plate, it was almost invariably absent from the printed sheets on the single wmk paper, and blocks showing even part of the number are rare. The upper left stamp in this block is thinned, but nevertheless, a desirable item ..... £12. 50
- 220 8d Tuatara "Official". One of the rarest of all N. Z. stamps is the 8d Official with wmk upright. Only nine copies, all used, have been recorded. The example offered here is one of those nine, and one of the finest, with light, neat roller cancel of Whangarei, dated 1943. A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to acquire an item which very few collectors are privileged to own. Sold with our unconditional guarantee, of course. The great rarity, used ..... £625

Note The advertised price is the approximate equivalent of \$1000 N. Z. at the time of going to press. Should there be any advantageous alteration in the exchange rate, we shall be pleased to give the purchaser any benefit from such a change.
- 221 (a) 1967 Pictorial Counter Coil Pairs. Complete set of 9 coil pairs (2 $\frac{1}{2}$ c, 3c, 4c, 6c, 8c, 10c, 15c, both 20c), with random coil numbers. Already becoming elusive in complete set ..... £8. 25
- (b) As above. Coil pair of the 20c Meat Industry only. The scarcest of the series ..... £3. 10
- 222 (a) Frozen Meat Export. A variety collection of the 4d and 8d Lamb stamps (S72a and S73a), including four noted varieties listed in Volume 4 of "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand", in positional blocks. A total of 22 mint stamps ..... £10. 50
- (b) As above. Two additional plate varieties (not included in the above lot) at R1/5 and 1/6 on the 4d value, in mint positional block of 4 with wmk inverted. The block ..... £5. 00
- 223 1962 Telegraph Centenary. A specialised "single issue" collection, with plate, imprint, sheet value and colour code blocks, shades and a superb range of varieties, including a very fine example of the "ghostly hand" (brown colour partly omitted). The all mint collection of 73 stamps (55 x 3d, 18 x 8d) ..... £37. 50

## PHILATELIST'S GLASS

Folding one-inch linen-tester, a fine magnifier for finding and studying re-entries and retouches, and for all close work with stamps. Good quality glass lens, housed in metal, and very well finished.

Price, post paid ..... £2. 30

## REVIEW OF 1974 ISSUES

### 10th British Commonwealth Games (issued 9/1/74) 4c, 5c, 10c, 18c, 23c.

|                                                        |         |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Set of 5 mint or used .....                            | 60p     |
| Complete set of 10 plate blocks (two each value) ..... | £10. 00 |
| One plate block each value .....                       | £5. 00  |

### New Zealand Day (5/2/74). 4c x 5, issued only in complete miniature sheets.

|                                                     |     |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Miniature sheet mint ..... 21p ; or fine used ..... | 28p |
| Illustrated First Day Cover .....                   | 32p |

### Napier and U. P. U. Centenaries (3/4/74) 3c, 5c, 8c.

|                                      |     |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| Set or 3 mint or used .....          | 17p |
| Complete set of 3 plate blocks ..... | 80p |

### Air Transport (5/6/74). 3c, 4c, 5c, 23c.

|                                                       |        |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Set of 4 mint or used .....                           | 35p    |
| Complete set of 8 plate blocks (two each value) ..... | £4. 70 |
| One plate block each value .....                      | £2. 35 |
| Illustrated First Day Cover .....                     | 40p    |

### 1974 Health (7/8/74) 3c + 1c, 4c + 1c, 5c + 1c.

|                                                         |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Set of 3 mint or used .....                             | 15p    |
| Complete set of 6 plate blocks (two each value) .....   | £1. 80 |
| One plate block each value .....                        | 95p    |
| Miniature Sheet of 10 stamps (4c + 1c stamp only) ..... | 52p    |
| Illustrated First Day Cover .....                       | 21p    |

Health Camp Postmarks. Complete set of 6 covers, each bearing a full set of the 1974 Healths, and each postmarked at a different Health Camp on the first day of issue (this being the only day of the year when the special camp post offices are open). The set of 6 covers ..... £1. 40

### 1974 Christmas (2/10/74) 3c, 5c, 10c.

|                                      |     |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| Set of 3 mint or used .....          | 18p |
| Complete set of 3 plate blocks ..... | 80p |
| Illustrated First Day Cover .....    | 22p |

Off Shore Islands (4/12/74) 6c, 8c, 18c, 23c.

|                                      |        |
|--------------------------------------|--------|
| Set of 4 mint .....                  | 52p    |
| Complete set of 4 plate blocks ..... | £3. 30 |
| Illustrated First Day Cover .....    | 57p    |

Definitives (no fixed dates of issue).

|                                                                                                                                                   |        |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| <u>2c Butterfly, unwmk'd paper, bluish gum.</u> Mint single .....                                                                                 | 2p     |
| Complete set of 2 plate blocks .....                                                                                                              | 44p    |
| <u>3c Moth, wmk'd paper.</u> Counter coil pair, coil no. sideways reading upwards (PC5b), mint .....                                              | 23p    |
| Watermark inverted, mint or used .....                                                                                                            | 10p    |
| <u>3c Moth, unwmk'd paper, original gum.</u> Mint or used single .....                                                                            | 3p     |
| New plate numbers 2A2A1A and 2B2B1B. Complete set of 2 plate blocks ..                                                                            | 64p    |
| Variety: P1. 2B2B1B, R10/1 flaw across lower wing, in plate block of 10                                                                           | 32p    |
| <u>4c Moth, unwmk'd paper, original gum.</u> Counter coil pair (PC6b), mint ..                                                                    | 30p    |
| <u>5c Fish, watermarked paper.</u> Counter coil pair, coil no. sideways reading downwards (PC7b), mint .....                                      | 37p    |
| <u>5c Fish, unwmk'd paper, original gum.</u> Mint single .....                                                                                    | 6p     |
| Complete set of 2 plate blocks .....                                                                                                              | £1. 10 |
| <u>7c Fish, unwmk'd paper, original gum.</u> Mint single .....                                                                                    | 7p     |
| Complete set of 2 plate blocks .....                                                                                                              | £1. 40 |
| <u>8c Fish, unwmk'd paper, bluish gum.</u> Mint single .....                                                                                      | 8p     |
| Complete set of 2 plate blocks .....                                                                                                              | £1. 50 |
| <u>10c Coat of Arms, unwmk'd paper, original gum.</u>                                                                                             |        |
| Counter coil pair, coil no. sideways reading upwards, mint .....                                                                                  | 74p    |
| <u>10c Coat of Arms, unwmk'd paper, bluish gum.</u> Mint single .....                                                                             | 10p    |
| Plate block of 6 stamps .....                                                                                                                     | 65p    |
| <u>18c Maori Club, unwmk'd paper, bluish gum.</u> Mint single .....                                                                               | 18p    |
| Plate block of 6 stamps .....                                                                                                                     | £1. 20 |
| <u>20c Maori Tattoo, unwmk'd paper, bluish gum.</u> Mint single .....                                                                             | 20p    |
| Plate block of 6 stamps .....                                                                                                                     | £1. 25 |
| Counter coil pair, mint .....                                                                                                                     | £1. 48 |
| <u>25c National Park.</u> New plate numbers 23323 and 23423 in mint blocks of 6 stamps (the corresponding 'a' plate is not yet known), each ..... | £1. 65 |
| <u>30c National Park.</u> New plate numbers 2212 in mint block of 6 stamps ..                                                                     | £1. 95 |

# 1960 PICTORIALS

| C. P.   | S. G. |                                   | Mint | Used |         |       |                                   |        |        |
|---------|-------|-----------------------------------|------|------|---------|-------|-----------------------------------|--------|--------|
| 01a     | 781   | ½d Manuka .....                   | 3p   | 3p   | 012a(2) | -     | Do. scarcer dull green shade ..   | 31p    | 31p    |
| 02a     | 782   | 1d Karaka .....                   | 3p   | 3p   | 013a(1) | 792   | 1/3 Trout - bright blue .....     | £1. 85 | 31p    |
| 02b     | 782a  | Do. coil issue, Perf. 14½ x 13 .. | 22p  | 22p  | 013a(2) | 792Ec | Do. deep blue .....               | 47p    | 9p     |
| 02c     | 782b  | Do. chalky paper .....            | 6p   | 6p   | 013a(3) | -     | Do. ultramarine .....             | £1. 85 | 37p    |
| 03a     | 783   | 2d Kaka Beak .....                | 4p   | 3p   | 014a    | 793   | 1/6 Tiki .....                    | 37p    | 13p    |
| 03a (2) | -     | Do. pale red shade .....          | 19p  | -    | 015a(1) | -     | 1/9 yellow-bistre .....           | £1. 85 | 37p    |
| 04a     | 784   | 2½d Titoki .....                  | 4p   | 3p   | 015a(2) | 794   | Do. bistre-brown .....            | £1. 85 | 37p    |
| 05a     | 785   | 3d Kowhai .....                   | 5p   | 3p   | 015b    | 795   | 1/9 multicoloured .....           | 31p    | 19p    |
| 05b     | 785a  | Do. coil issue, Perf. 14½ x 13 .. | 31p  | 31p  | 016a    | 796   | 2/- Taniwha .....                 | 37p    | 8p     |
| 05c     | 785b  | Do. chalky paper .....            | 9p   | 6p   | 016b    | 796a  | Do. chalky paper .....            | 50p    | 43p    |
| 06a     | 786   | 4d Puarangi .....                 | 8p   | 3p   | 017a    | 797   | 2/6 Butter making .....           | 93p    | 25p    |
| 07a     | 787   | 5d Daisy .....                    | 13p  | 6p   | 018a    | 798   | 3/- sepia-black .....             | £4. 63 | 62p    |
| 08a     | 788   | 6d Pikiarero .....                | 16p  | 4p   | 018b(1) | 799   | 3/- multicolour (brown-bistre) .. | £1. 24 | 62p    |
| 08b     | 788b  | Do. chalky paper .....            | 16p  | 16p  | 018b(2) | -     | Do. (yellow-bistre) .....         | £1. 24 | 74p    |
| 09a     | 788Ec | 7d Koromiko .....                 | 19p  | 22p  | 019a    | 800   | 5/- Sutherland falls .....        | £1. 54 | 31p    |
| 010a    | 789   | 8d Rata .....                     | 31p  | 6p   | 019b    | 800a  | Do. chalky paper .....            | £1. 54 | £1. 54 |
| 011a    | 790   | 9d Flag .....                     | 16p  | 6p   | 020a    | 801   | 10/- Tasman glacier .....         | £3. 00 | £3. 00 |
| 012a(1) | 791   | 1/- Timber .....                  | 19p  | 6p   | 020b    | 801a  | Do. chalky paper .....            | £3. 00 | £3. 00 |
|         |       |                                   |      |      | 021     | 802   | £1 Pohutu geyser .....            | £6. 15 | £6. 15 |

## WANTED TO BUY

We will pay the following prices for material in first-class condition until stock requirements are filled:

1906 CHRISTCHURCH EXHIBITION - £25 per set mint, £30 per set used.

1913 AUCKLAND EXHIBITION - £30 per set mint, £35 per set used.

1920 VICTORY (set of 7) - £5 per set mint, £4. 50 per set used.

1925 DUNEDIN EXHIBITION - £5. 50 per set mint, £8. 50 per set used.

1931 HEALTH - £23 per set mint or used.

Also required: - good specialised collections of all periods, particularly up to and including the 1935-43 Pictorial issue. Similarly high prices paid for the right material.

Immediate cash settlement for all purchases.