

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN



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VOLUME XVI

NUMBER 3

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N.Z. NOTES AND COMMENT

by Colin Hamilton

1898 1d. Lake Taupo (E2a). Volume 1 of the N. Z. Handbook records only one re-entry (at R2/7) on sheets printed from frame plate 1 of this value. From the evidence of a large block seen (which included R2/7) we can expand the list to four, the additional re-entries occurring at R4/4, 6/3 and 7/7. All are relatively minor, but in each case the doubling of part of the design is clear, the most extensive being R6/3, with duplication widespread throughout the design.

1941 Waterlow "Shift Markings". In my note last month, I mentioned that in the 4d, these shift dots as they appear on sheets comprise two sets — one (in sepia) pertaining to frame plate 2B, the other (in black) pertaining to centre plate 3 (these being the two plates from which Waterlow and Sons made emergency printings while De La Rue's operations were temporarily disrupted by blitz damage). I also mentioned that, as far as is known, the markings were not removed when the plates were handed back to De La Rue.

Since subsequent printings were made from each of these 4d plates in combination with other centre and frame plates, it follows that sheets on the final (coarse paper) issue can be found with only one set of shift dots, so the following can be added to the check-list of markings for the 4d:

L7e: 6 dots (3,3) where frame plate 2B was used with an unnumbered centre plate,
or with centre plate 4.

20 dots (10,10) where centre plate 3 was used with frame plate 2A.

1966 Health 4d + 1d Inverted Watermark. Some time ago I saw — in a collection and not, as I recall it, identified as such — a mint block of 12 'Weka' stamps with watermark sideways inverted (W8b). More recently two used copies turned up in a bulk lot I was sorting. This 'invert' appears to be previously unrecorded, and joins an ever-growing number of varieties (especially varieties of watermark) on common modern stamps which have escaped detection for a long period after issue. Considering the numbers of keen collectors of moderns, I find this a surprising state of affairs, one which I can only ascribe to an attitude of mind which runs: "It's no use checking my stamps — it can't happen to me". My guess is that there are many unsuspected varieties lying in collections, waiting to be recognised. So, even if you consider yours to be an "ordinary" collection, why not make a point, this winter, of thoroughly re-examining all your stamps — even the commonest — and let us know of any new or unlisted varieties you find. We are always pleased to report discoveries (with acknowledgement to the finder if desired), and who knows, you may be able to point to a future listing in the C.P. Catalogue and say: "I was responsible for that".

1c, 2c, 5c, 10c 'Cameo' Designs. Several more-or-less inaccurate details about these recently-issued stamps have been published in various sections of the philatelic press. To clear up any possible misconceptions, here is a summary of the basic facts:

10c Blue. No watermark, perf. $14\frac{1}{2} \times 14$. Issued April 1978, only in continuous rolls of 400 stamps, wound horizontally, for use in "Postafix" dispensers. This 10c, together with the 7c/3c and 8c/4c Provisionals of 1977 (which were also in rolls of 400) are the only values to date which have been produced for "Postafix" use. Since these rolls are provided as a service to users of 'Postafix' appliances (which are privately owned proprietary devices) the N.Z. Post Office charges a premium of 30c per roll sold.

1c Purple, 2c Orange, 5c Brown. No watermark, perf. $13\frac{3}{4} \times 13$. Issued June 1978, only in continuous rolls of 800 stamps, wound horizontally, for use in Post Office Vending Machines.

There is just one precedent for these jointless rolls — the 1d and 3d Pictorials (with sideways watermark) which were produced specifically for vending machines for a brief period from October - November 1963. Otherwise all rolls of N.Z. stamps (lightning rolls, vending machine rolls, counter rolls) before and since that period have been made up of strips from ordinary sheets, gummed together.

It should be noted that, in addition to the size of the rolls, the perforations of the 10c are markedly different from those of the 1c, 2c and 5c. The horizontal perforations are of no consequence, of course — since separation in this direction is invariably effected by guillotine during manufacture of the rolls — but the finer vertical gauge of the 10c is doubtless intended to facilitate the smooth operation of the "Postafix" appliances.

KING GEORGE V — RECESS PRINTED

Continuing the listing from last month's Bulletin

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| 1001 | 4d Yellow. "Two-perf" pair (K5c) from vertical row 12 of a sheet, and with selvage attached. Lovely mint | £12.00 |
| 1002 (a) | 4d Violet, Plate 20, perf. $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ (K5d). The two shades of bright and dull violet are shown to perfection in these two mint stamps | £6.00 |
| (b) | As above. Mint single in bright violet, with the major plate 20 " <u>wrong value</u> " re-entry at R1/6 (KV5d(a)). Lovely | £12.00 |
| (c) | As above. A repeat offer of the R1/6 re-entry, but this time in the dull violet shade. Mint and fine | £12.00 |
| (d) | As above. The other plate 20 "wrong value" re-entry occurs at R4/10, and is a striking naked-eye variety. The mint dull violet copy shows this variety to perfection..... | £15.00 |

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| 1003 | 4d Deep Purple, Plate 44. The major error "Vertical Pair, Partly Imperforate" (K5gZ). The top stamp is perforated at the top, and imperforate on the other three sides, while the bottom stamp is imperf at the top and normally perforated on the other three sides. Rare, and an exhibition piece..... | £200 |
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| 1004 | $4\frac{1}{2}$d Green. Mint copies in perf. $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ (K6a) and perf. 14×14 (K6b). The $4\frac{1}{2}$ d value is a most difficult stamp in this fine condition | £12.00 |
| 1005(a) | 5d Blue, perf. $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ (K7a1). The 5d is a value where shades abound, and this set of three mint stamps shows three quite distinctly different, yet all within the 'blue' group. Lovely..... | £12.00 |

	(b) As above. Pair imperforate, in the blue shade — with brownish gum — and therefore guaranteed genuine. An attractive example of a very scarce Variety (K7aY, now Cat. \$100), but a tiny defect on the back allows	£12.50
1006	5d Steel Blue, Perf. 14 x 13½ (K7a3). Unmounted mint single in the 1932 steel blue shade	£4.80
1007	6d Carmine, perf. 14 x 13½ (K8a). Like the 5d, the 6d too is rich in shades, and this set of 4 mint stamps includes a quite astonishing range, excluding the two rarities (carmine rose and carmine lake). The very attractive set	£15.00
1008	6d Carmine, perf. 14 x 14½ (K8b). Three shade contrasts of carmine, all mint	£12.50
1009 (a)	6d 'Pictorial' Paper (K8d). Unmounted mint marginal block of 4. Beautiful condition.....	£12.00
	(b) As above. Mint set of three showing the varying natural displacement of the watermark on this (and all other values on 'Pictorial' paper). One stamp has the wmk centrally placed, the second has only a small part of the wmk at the top of the stamp, and the third only the tiniest trace at the bottom. The mint set of three	£7.50
1010(a)	7½d Red-brown, perf. 14 x 13½ (K9a). Two mint singles, one red-brown, and the other a subtly different shade with a stronger brown tinge. Quite distinctive	£6.00
	(b) As above. The same two shades, but in <u>brilliant mint blocks of 4</u> . Superb	£25.00
	(c) As above. Top selvage block of 10 (2x5), all stamps perf. 14 x 13½, so proving that this block comes from an early sheet perforated 14 x 13½ throughout (the later "two-perf" sheets showed the two se-tenant perfs on horizontal rows 4 and 5). The very attractive proving block of 10, rarely seen.....	£36.00
1011(a)	8d Indigo Blue. A 'basic' set of 4 stamps, including perf. 14 x 13½ (K10a), perf. 14 x 14½ (K10b), and a "two-perf" pair (K10c). All superfine mint.....	£33.00
	(b) As above. Mint block of 4 with the two perfs se-tenant (K10c). Cat £48, of superb appearance but a small defect on the back allows.....	£32.50
1012(a)	8d Red-brown (K10d). Mint singles in the Catalogued shades of red-chocolate and red-brown. The two.....	£27.00
	(b) As above. Mint copy in red-chocolate.....	£15.00
	(c) As above. The somewhat less scarce red-brown shade. Mint single	£12.00
1013	9d Sage-green, perf. 14 x 13½ (K11a) Mint set of 3, in the listed shades of sage-green, pale sage-green and a delightful yellow-olive. A superb trio	£28.50
1014	9d Sage-green, perf. 14x14½ (K11b). Mint single	£7.50
1015	1/- Vermilion, perf. 14 x 13½ (K12a). The listed shades of vermillion, orange vermillion and pale orange vermillion. All very fine mint	£27.00
1016	1/- Vermilion, perf. 14 x 14½ (K12b). Marvellous shade variations — vermillion, orange vermillion and pale orange vermillion (this latter shade should not be confused with the well known salmon shade, which is not included as part of the set). The 3 stamps	£21.00

SECOND PICTORIALS SPECIALISED

Continuing the listing in the July Bulletin

1017(a)	2½d Perf. 13½x13½, Coarse Paper (L5f). Set of two shades as listed (chocolate and reddish-chocolate centres). Mint	£1.80
	(b) As above Two plate blocks (from pl. 4), one plain, and one with 'burele' band	£11.75
	(c) As above One plate block only, <u>without</u> burele band	£4.50
	(d) As above Bottom selvage block of 4 including R10/4, one of the best frame plate re-entries	£4.50
	(e) As above. Two positional blocks (of 4 and 6 stamps respectively) showing the excellent plate flaws at R1/1 ("Stalk to flower") and R8/6 ("Broken Flower"), both illustrated in our Catalogue. The two mint blocks	£12.00

	(f) As above. Collection of six variety blocks (33 stamps, all L5f), including no less than 18 stamps showing plate varieties, all fully annotated and described. The variety collection, mint	£40.00
1018	2½ Perf. 14¼x13½, Coarse Paper (L5g). Mint block of 4 (marginal)	£5.00
1019 (a)	3d Maori Girl, Regd Watermark (L6a). Single stamp mint	£6.00
	(b) As above. Two excellent shades (dark chocolate and chocolate brown)	£12.00
	(c) As above. Marginal block of 4, unmounted	£25.00
1020(a)	3d Maori Girl, Mult. Watermark (L6b). Two mint blocks of 4, in really magnificent shades of deep chocolate and warm chocolate brown	£25.00
	(b) As above. Plate block of 4 (with pl. no. 2) in the warmer brown shade	£15.00
1021	4d Mitre Peak, Reference Set. Complete set of 5 copies, representing all the major issues of this stamp, including the very scarce (and much misidentified) perf. 14 line. The reference set, L7a, b, c, d, e, fully identified and finest mint	£13.50
1022	4d Mitre Peak, Regd Watermark (L7a). Plate block of 4 (with plate. no. 1) and a bottom right corner block of 6, showing the prominent retouches to 1 of MITRE on R7/8, 7/10, 8/10. The set of two blocks	£8.50
1023(a)	4d Mult. Wmk, Perf. 14x13½ (L7b). Complete set of plate numbers (1, 2, 2A, 2B, each in mint corner block of 4 as Catalogued. The frame shades range from sepia through deep sepia to the scarce black-brown, and as additional bonus, the 2B block shows (abnormally) the variety "burele band in selvage". The four mint plate blocks	£15.00
	(b) As above. For collectors requiring a representative plate block only, we can offer (our choice of plate number) at	£1.25
	(c) As above. Matching corner blocks of 6 — one shows all three retouches at R7/8, 7/10, 8/10, the other (unusually) shows only two of these varieties, R7/10 appearing quite normal. Additionally, the frames in the blocks are in fine contrasting shades. The two mint blocks (LV7b)	£10.50
	(d) As above. Another matching pair of blocks, this time of 9 stamps each, and from the top right corner of sheets. One has the magnificent double re-entry at R3/8 (LV7c), with clear trebling of the right hand slopes of the mountains; the other (from the later centre plate) has R3/8 normal. The mint blocks	£8.15
	(e) As above. The R3/8 double re-entry, again in a corner block of 9 stamps, mint (LV7c)	£6.00
	(f) As above. Mint plate block of 4 with variety Burele Band in bottom selvage. Scarce and fine	£7.50
	(g) As above. Magnificent corner block of 12 (6x2), with variety <u>Watermark Inverted</u> . The block includes the R7/8, 7/10 and 8/10 retouches previously mentioned, together with another (to M of MITRE) on R8/5. The multi-variety block	£15.00
	(h) As above. Marginal single with Watermark Inverted	90p
1024(a)	4d Mitre Peak, perf. 14 line (L7c). The scarce one — single copy, unhinged mint	£12.00
	(b) As above. Plate block of 4 with pl. no. 2B, mint hinged but fine. Cat. £60, offered at	£50.00
1025(a)	4d Mitre Peak, perf. 12½ (L7d). Plate block of 4 (pl. no. 3), mint	£3.00
	(b) As above. Set of two top marginal pairs, showing both of the Waterlow & Sons "Shift Markings" (20 dots and 26 dots) which exist on this issue. In each case guillotining of the sheets has removed the top row of dots, but those that remain allow conclusive identification. The unusual pairs	£12.50
1026(a)	4d Mitre Peak, Perf. 14x14½ (L7e). Set of 5 plate blocks of 4 (2A, 2B, 4, 1, and 5-1), complete on the coarse paper issue with the exception of the very scarce plate 3. The set of plate blocks, mint	£8.25
	(b) As above. For "one-plate-only" collectors, we can offer a plate block of 4 with pl. no. 2A at	£1.20

- (c) **As above.** Late in the life of the original unnumbered centre plate, a flaw developed across the face of the mountain on R2/8, and this became very prominent. The set of three pieces here offered show: (i) Early stage, in mint block of 9 which includes the R3/8 double re-entry; (ii) intermediate stage, in mint block of 6, also including R3/8; (iii) advanced stage, in marginal pair. The superb 'progressive state' series £22.50
- (d) **As above.** The major R5/7 frame plate 1 re-entry (LV7h), with complete doubling of the design, in mint pair with normal. Strangely for such an outstanding variety, this one is seldom seen. The re-entry (illustrated on Perm Page L7 of our Catalogue)..... £4.75
- (e) **As above.** Two further excellent re-entries occur at R4/1 and 6/1 on frame plate 2B (LV7g). Both are included in this corner block of 10 (2x5), with centre plate no. 4 in bottom selvage. The double variety block £7.25

SPACEFILLER CORNER

A selection of scarcer stamps at a small fraction of normal prices. All items offered have defects, but are of superb appearance.

- 1027(a) 1929 Health. Unused..... £1.50
- (b) 1930 Health. Unused £2.50
- (c) 1925 Dunedin Exhibition. Set of 3, unused £7.50
- (d) K.G.V. 2/- and 3/- Admiral. Unused, the pair £12.50
- (e) 1931 Health. Set of 2, unused £15.00
- (f) Ditto, 1d + 1d value only. Unused £6.50
- (g) Ditto, 2d + 1d value only. Used..... £7.50
- (h) 1935 Health. Unused..... 60p
- (i) 1913 Auckland Exhibition ½d. Unused £2.50
- (j) 1920 Victory. 6d value, unused £3.00
- (k) Ditto. 1/- unused £4.50
- (l) 1935 Silver Jubilee 6d. Unused £1.50
- (m) Ditto, block of 4. Unmounted. Minor gum tone only £20.00

MISCELLANY

- 1028(a) ½d Newspaper. Superb mint corner block of 4 of the very scarce issue with "Small Star" watermark, perf. nearly 12 (C.P. B2b, S.G. 150). Rare in multiple £100.00
- (b) **As above.** Single copy in the same issue, superfine mint £24.00
- 1029 K.G.V 2½d "Two-perf" Pair (K3c). Our experience is that this is one of the more elusive of the George two-perf items (all are elusive these days, but the 2½d more so than most). Sound example, beautifully fresh appearance, now Cat. £24, but minor gum defect — not foxing — allows £12.50
- 1030 2d Whare. Mint copy with brilliant full offset impression on the back (L4fW). Has to be seen to be appreciated, this one — mere words cannot do it justice. The spectacular variety £20.00
- 1031 1925 Dunedin Exhibition First Day Cover. The complete set of stamps (½d, 1d, 4d) tied to plain clean cover by the special Exhibition machine cancellation (N.Z. Handbook, Vol 3, page 319, Type 12) clearly dated NO 17 1925. The rare first day cover £110.00
- 1032 1934 First Trans-Tasman Flight. Cover carried by Ulm in "Faith in Australia", with special cachet dated Feb. 1934, and bearing 7d blue air stamp with variety "Broken N in overprint" (V5aZ). Condition clean fresh and fine. Scarce and desirable £24.50

- 1033 **Pigeon Post Flimsy.** Superb unused example of the Agency's Pigeon Mail Form inscribed "Special Service from Government House Grounds in aid of Veterans' Home Funds" and dated December 15th, 1903 (Type no. 9 as listed in J.R. Walker's Handbook). The flimsy, complete and wonderfully fresh £22.50

USED INVERTED WATERMARKS – SPECIAL OFFERS

- 1034 **Q.E. Heads.** Complete set of 'inverts' ex-booklets, comprising 1d and 3d with small figures of value, and 1d and 3d with large figures of value on both the original and thick white papers. The set of 6 'booklet' inverts, complete (now Cat. £2.25) £1.50
- 1035 **1970 Pictorials.** 2c 'Tussock', 3c 'Lichen' and 4c 'Puriri' all with inverted watermark. The set of 3 (Cat. £4.80) £3.95
- 1036 **1965 I.C.Y. 4d.** Finest used copy with wmk W8a (S99aZ). Cat. £1.20, a gift at 65p

TWO MODERN MINI – REFERENCE SETS

The listed shades of the 1970 Pictorial 23c and 50c are apparently troublesome to many collectors. Here is the complete and inexpensive answer to the problem.

- 1037 **23c Egmont.** Set of two used copies in both listed shades. Supplied fully identified and guaranteed 70p
- 1038 **50c Abel Tasman.** Set of three used, covering the C.P. listed variations. Again identified and guaranteed £2.50

RECENT ITEMS

- 23c Egmont National Park.** New printing with bluish gum and with green shade close to the emerald of the 1st Printing. Imprint/plate block of 8 stamps. Plate no. 111 as before, but with the word "REPRINT" printed in blue in selvage below R10/3-4 £1.85
- Single stamp, mint 23p
- 50c Abel National Park.** New printing. Stamps are not notably different from previous printing, but the plate block (of 8 stamps) shows the word "REPRINT" printed in blackish-green in bottom selvage below R10/3-4. The 'reprint' plate block, mint £3.95
- Constant Plate Varieties.**
- 3c "Queen Elizabeth" Rose.** Sheet value block of 10 stamps, including R1/6 Massive retouch to right frame. This is a really prominent, naked-eye variety (from plate 1A) 70p
- 1978 Health 12c + 2c.** Marginal block of 4 including R8/2 Blue flaw on cap of nurse at left (from pl. 1A) 70p
- As above.** Marginal block of 6 including R6/8 Flaws on sleeves and hand in foreground (again from Pl. 1A) 85p
- As above.** Marginal block of 4 including R8/2 Prominent blue flaw on surgeon's left hand, and R9/2 Prominent blue flaw in background above surgeon's cap (from Pl. 1B). The double-variety block £1.00