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MICHAEL SETON BURBERRY

Philately in general, and New Zealand philately in particular, are both very much the poorer following the sudden death on 23rd November 1985, at the age of 67, of Michael Burberry.

A man of wide and varied interests, it is as a philatelist quite extraordinary that those reading this will remember him best. In actual fact, his collection was originally intended to be a narrowly-based one, restricted to the issues of 1898-1907 — Pictorials, 1d Universals, and Pigeon Posts. But diversions along the way included pre-adhesive material, pioneer air mails, and proofs. In all of his chosen fields, Michael was an insatiable student, and an expert, recognised even by experts, with much original research standing to his credit. Perhaps more importantly, he was the most approachable of men. His knowledge and experience were made available in equally general measure to all, and he was invariably ready and willing to show and to talk about his unique collection. He looked upon the latter as a treasure and a pleasure to be shared — all done in a way that was never flamboyant. He was known for instance to quietly pass over his priceless Christchurch Exhibition cover bearing three 1d Clarets as "just a little curio".

Although in recent years his health had been indifferent, he never complained, nor allowed this to dim his enthusiasm for the things in life that interested him. Outwardly he remained the same Michael Burberry I had known for close on twenty years. It was a privilege to know him, and a greater privilege still to be numbered among his friends.

Michael will be sorely missed by all who knew him, most of all by his family. To his wife Sylvia, daughter Elaine and son Michael we extend our deepest condolences.

G.C.H.

N.Z. NOTES AND COMMENT

by Colin Hamilton

A Crashing Surprise! Our thanks to Mr J.M.Bettle of Christchurch N.Z. for unearthing and drawing our attention to a nice little piece of history from over 30 years ago. Whilst visiting Australia, Mr Bettle noticed, in a collection, a very charred copy of the March 1954 issue of the C.P. Newsletter, an even more charred envelope addressed to Scotland, and an O.H.M.S. envelope to the same addressee. Both envelopes carry the boxed 'Salvaged Mail/Aircraft Crash/Singapore 13-3-1954' cachet, so clearly C.P.Ltd had more than the detached philatelic interest in this unfortunate air accident we'd previously thought! Neatly rounding off the story, the addressee concerned still resides at the same address and remains an active subscriber to the C.P. Catalogue!

From the sublime At 8a.m. on November 22nd, we took delivery of a letter from New Zealand, written on Nov. 19th and postmarked at 2.30p.m. on that day at Wellington.

.... To the ridiculous. By the same post we received a letter from London (bearing "first class" postage, too), postmarked at 2.45p.m. on the 19th. We'll refrain from further comment.

1947 Healths. Last month I mentioned some previously unrecorded varieties in this issue. These are:

- (1) 1d+½d: Top selvage block with black arrow wrongly positioned, erased from the surface of the sheet (in a similar manner to the well-known 'Finger flaw' on the 1963 Health 3d), and a second arrow inserted in the correct position.
- (2) 1d+½d: Bottom selvage block (with printer's imprint), with correctly positioned arrow apparently excised — leaving an arrow-shaped hole in the sheet — and a second arrow printed too far to the right!!
- (3) 2d+1d: Sheet value £1/4/0 wrongly positioned, erased as in (1) above, and second sheet value marking added in the correct position.
- (4) 2d+1d: Sheet value £1/4/0 doubly printed, one albino.
- (5) 2d+1d: Sheet value £1/4/0 albino print only (this was in a top selvage strip long enough to show a quite normal black arrow in the usual position).

Note: As regards items (4) and (5), albinos and double prints one albino have been recorded before, but only of the selvage arrows, never the sheet values.

1946 Healths. My note last month on the newly-discovered Waterlow "Shift markings" (on the 1947 Healths) prompted our old friend George Wood of Kent to re-examine some blocks of the 1946 issue — also a Waterlow production — with job numbers offset on the back in his collection. Both he and I are agreed that on three blocks of the 2d+1d value, with job. number 43010, there is no evidence of any shift dots, but on all four of his examples of the 1½d+1d, with job no. 43009, there is possible evidence of one shift dot. Unfortunately, none of the offset impressions is quite strong enough to allow us to be absolutely sure on this point, so we are still seeking positive confirmation of this, or any other dots combination.

A complete proof sheet of 240, with all selvages, printed in chocolate brown on white wove unwatermarked paper. This proof was pulled by Waterlows prior to sending the plate to New Zealand, thus the scratched plate number 4 does not appear in the selvedge (this number was added after receipt in N.Z.), the only selvedge markings are the eight marginal arrows. Proof that it is from the Reserve plate is of course ample — all the recorded re-entries are present, as are the "London Dot" impressions on Rows 1–5, Nos 21–22, and the prominent flaw at R4/24, affecting the lowest of the three pearls at centre right (this flaw, incidentally, must have been the result of damage to the transfer roller, since it appears in diminishing form throughout the bottom left quarter of the plate (Rows 6–10, Nos 1–14), being strongest on stamp 14 in these rows, and weakest on Stamp 1).

The sheet has been folded several times, and there is some selvedge damage (the worst being at the top where there is an irregular tear approx 3 inches long, well-clear of the impressions). Overall condition and appearance, however, is astonishingly good for an imperf item of this size (the sheet measures 23" x 12"). An exhibition item of great rarity, and of inestimable value and interest to the 1d Universal specialist

PRICE ON APPLICATION

FIRST PICTORIALS USED (concluded)

- | | | |
|--------|---|--------|
| 102(a) | 1/- Reduced Design, Perf. 14x12½-13¼ (E19a). Single copy | £20.00 |
| (b) | As above. Set of two superb shades — dull orange-red and deep bright orange-red. Unusual | £45.00 |
| 103(a) | 1/- Reduced Design, Perf. 14x15 (E19b). Single copy, fine | £12.00 |
| (b) | As above. Not-so—fine example. Minor imperfections only, looks super ... | £2.50 |
| (c) | As above. Set of four excellent shades of orange-red. Cap that if you can in this stamp! | £50.00 |
| (d) | As above. A really magnificent looking copy in the rare orange-brown . Colour absolutely brilliant and true (as different from the normal orange-red range as chalk is from cheese). Cat. \$ 660 (S.G. £300) mint, unpriced used. Vertical crease at left — invisible on face side — allows only | £50.00 |
| 104(a) | 1/- Official (EO18e). Single copy | £7.50 |
| (b) | As above. Set of two listed shades (orange-red and red) | £17.50 |
| (c) | As above. A superfine used block of 4 , c.d.s. 9th July 1907 | £40.00 |
| 105 | 2/- Milford Sound, London Print (E20a). Copy of stunningly fine appearance, but with minute pinhole, hence | £10.00 |
| 106(a) | 2/- Perf. 11, No Wmk (E20b). Single copy | £22.50 |

	(b) As above. One set only, in the listed shades of blue green, grey-green and deep green. All with c.d.s., and lovely, lovely, lovely!	£92.50
107	2/- Provisional Issue on Laid Paper (E20c). Fine used, and rare	£110.00
108(a)	2/- Perf. 11, Wmk'd (E20d). Single copy	£22.50
	(b) As above. Set of three shades — Green, blue-green, deep green. Alas no moss-green, but a most attractive contrasting trio, again all with c.d.s.	£87.50
109(a)	2/- Perf. 14 (E20e). Single copy	£15.00
	(b) As above. All three listed shades (green, deep green, blue-green), yet again all c.d.s. copies. Marvellous coverage	£57.50
110(a)	2/- Official (E20e). Single copy, superb	£35.00
	(b) As above. Two beautiful shades	£60.00
111	5/- Mt Cook, London Print (E21a). C.d.s. copy, centred fractionally to the right, otherwise very fine (as we have mentioned previously, fine used 'Londons' are much the scarcest of the 5/-'s).....	£137.50
112	5/- Perf. 11, No Wmk (E21b). Well-centred copy in carmine-red (S.G. 291). Beautifully light neat c.d.s. A few blunt perms detract little from a lovely stamp	£110.00
113(a)	5/- Perf. 11, Wmk Sideways (E21c). Fine c.d.s. example in a deep bright vermilion shade	£95.00
	(b) As above. Another copy, equally fine, and perfectly centred, in dull vermilion	£97.50
114(a)	5/- Perf. 11, Wmk Upright (E21d). Fine copy in vermilion (S.G. 376aa) ...	£100.00
	(b) As above. Fine example in deep red (S.G. 375a), contrasting superbly with the previous item	£92.50
115(a)	5/- Perf. 14, Wmk Sideways (E21e). Very fine c.d.s. copy in a deep vermilion shade	£87.50
	(a) As above. Similarly fine copy in carmine-red — an extreme contrast to the previous example	£87.50
116	5/- Perf. 14, Wmk Upright (E21f). Superfine copy in red	£95.00
117(a)	5/- Official, Perf. 14, Wmk Sideways (E21e). An unusually 'large' copy of brilliant appearance. A minute puncture caused by the (1907 c.d.s.) postmark, and visible only on the back, allows	£32.50
	(b) As above. Superb used horizontal pair. Curiously, this too is exceptionally large, due to the vertical perforations being misplaced outwards at both left and right. Centred a little high, but beautifully fresh, without defects, and each stamp neatly cancelled by Napier c.d.s. of 29th June 1907. Cat. \$ 1100, the pair	£247.50

KING GEORGE VI

The concluding part of this specialised listing — as usual full descriptions provided where necessary.

118(a)	2/- Upright Watermark (M15a). Two fine contrasting frame shades, mint ..	£7.00
(b)	As above. Plate (1—1) block of 4, mint	£18.00
(c)	As above. Mint marginal block of 6, including centre plate varieties R9/9, 10/9 and 11/9 (MCV15a(a))	£22.50
119(a)	2/- Sideways Wmk (M15b). Three lovely frame shades, mint	£7.50
(b)	As above. Two superb centre shades, deep and pale, mint	£5.00
(c)	As above. Plate (1—1) block of 4, mint (Cat. \$ 30)	£9.00
(d)	As above. Set of three mint plate blocks, (i) R15/1, 16/1, 16/2 centre flaws; (ii) all 3 impressions re-entred; and (iii) new centre flaws at R16/1—2	£35.00
(e)	As above. Two different papers, one normal (thick), the other thin, mint ..	£5.00
(f)	As above. Mint plate block of 4 on the thin paper	£15.00
(g)	As above. Corner block of 4, showing the scratched orange "cross" in the top selvedge above R1/10 (this centre plate marking is something of a mystery; its origin is unknown, and it does not appear on all sheets). Mint	£10.00
(h)	As above. Mint marginal block of 6, including centre plate varieties R9/9, 10/9 and 11/9 (MCV15b(b))	£15.00
(i)	As above. Magnificent set of five blocks (6 stamps each) showing different states of the R12/3 and 13/1 frame flaws. Included are all 4 states as listed in the C.P. Catalogue — MFV15b(b-e) — plus the original unlisted pre-flaw state. Superb and rarely available — Cat. \$ 180 as normal single stamps	£85.00
(j)	As above. Large mint block of 20, including plate numbers, R12/3, 13/1 and 14/4 flaws (stamps alone Cat. \$ 120)	£47.50
(k)	As above. Extraordinary mint block of 42, including plate numbers, and R10/6, 11/3, 11/5, 11/6, 12/3, 13/1, 14/4, 16/1—2, 16/6 varieties (Cat. \$ 252 as normal singles)	£100.00
(l)	As above. Mint single, inverted watermark (M15bZ), Cat. \$ 22	£6.50
(m)	As above. Mint unmounted block of 4, also inverted wmk.	£22.50
(n)	As above. Two frame shades, mint, also inverted wmk.	£15.00
(o)	As above. Plate block of 4 of the 'Official' overprinted issue (MO15b). Superb ..	£55.00

120(a)	3/- (M16a). Magnificent set of all five listed shades, in mint blocks of 4 (Cat. \$ 140)	£55.00
(b)	As above. The same five shades, mint singles	£15.00
(c)	As above. Both plate blocks of 4 (2-1, 3A-1), mint	£30.00
(d)	As above. Mint stamp showing the centre misplaced to the frame. Rather nice	£5.00
(e)	As above. Four mint blocks of 4 showing (i) early stages of R15/4 flaw; (ii) R14/4 flaw and 15/4 more developed; (iii) both impressions re-entered; and (iv) new flaws on R14/3 and 15/4 (MFV16(a-f)). Lovely!	£35.00
(f)	As above. This set of three blocks of 6 is a progressive follow-on from the previous lot. Included are (i) R14/3 and 15/4 flaws; (ii) R14/3 second flaw, 15/4 flaw and 15/4-5 cracks; and (iii) cracks more extensive. Superb, mint ..	£35.00
(g)	As above. Two corner blocks of 12, both with plate (2-1) numbers and R14/3 "two-flaw" variety, but showing different states of the R15/4 vertical flaw ..	£45.00
(h)	As above. Another mint block of 12, with R14/3 and 15/4 varieties, but this time with plate (3A-1) numbers — MFV16a(f)	£22.50
(i)	As above. Mint copy with inverted watermark, chocolate shade (M16aX) ..	£7.50
(j)	As above. The inverted watermark variety, in both listed shades (red-brown and chocolate) — M16a(X,Y), mint	£16.50
(k)	As above. The same two inverted wmk. shades, but in mint blocks of 4. Superb ..	£50.00
121(a)	1½d Provisional (M17a). Three fine carmine shades, mint	£1.00
(b)	As above. Two mint corner blocks, of 4 with black sheet serial no., and of 6 with red sheet serial no. Nice	£7.50
(c)	As above. Marginal block of 4 with R4/1 overprint variety, mint	£7.50
(d)	As above. Mint marginal block of 4 with R4/10 overprint variety	£7.50
(e)	As above. Two very nice carmine shades, both upright wmk. (M17aZ)	£3.00
(f)	As above. Bottom marginal block of 4, also upright wmk.	£3.00
122(a)	3d on 1d Green (M18a). Set of 8 plate blocks of 6, complete except for the scarce plate 109. Mint	£11.50
(b)	As above. Mint block of 4 from plate 114, with R13/5 variety	£5.00
123(a)	1d on ½d Chestnut (M19a). Three lovely shades, mint	£1.00
(b)	As above. Both plate blocks (nos 101 and 133), mint	£1.80
(c)	As above. Corner block of 15 (from plate 133) including R3/23 and 5/24 varieties	£7.50