

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN

PUBLISHED BY CAMPBELL PATERSON LTD.

P.O. BOX 17, WOKING, SURREY GU22 7BL

PHONE : 0483 715887 ISSUED MONTHLY FAX : 0483 747149

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U.K. : 50p up to £100, £2.75 over £100, Overseas at cost.



VOLUME XXX

NUMBER 12

JULY 1993

N.Z. NOTES AND COMMENT

By Colin Hamilton

Q.E. 3d Counter Coil Pairs. Responding to my note in the April Bulletin, Mr. G.A. Butt of New Zealand writes:

"These never appear to have been a popular collectors item; however the article raises areas of possible further research and as a result greater collector interest.

"It is sometimes difficult to identify stamps from the two dies, 1a and 1b, from which the 3d was printed, particularly if coil pairs are examined in isolation. The coils are constructed in such a way that the right side stamp of the joined pair will be from the same die printing as the left stamp of the joined pair with the next succeeding number i.e. in a coil set the right side stamp of No. 2 coil pair will be printed from the same die (stamp from row 1 of the sheet) as the left side stamp of No. 3 coil pair (stamp from row 10 of the same sheet) of that set of coils, and so on. Obviously only if all 20 sheets used in the production of the full 20 sets of coils were printed on paper with the same die, either 1a or 1b, would all coil pairs in the set be the same - there would be no combined pairs. We can assume that a complete set of coil pairs Nos. 1 - 19 printed from the scarce die 1b sheets are hard to come by, possibly more difficult to obtain than sets from mixed sheets since these also contain stamps from the more common 1a sheets. For instance, I have two complete sets of the 3d coils, with second font numbers reading downwards (NC1(g)), which are mixed down to the ninth pair and thereafter both stamps in each pair are from die 1a printings.

"As a result of your prompting I have examined the coil pairs I have relating to those items you refer to and comment on your observations as follows:

NC 1(f) and (d) I have only 11 pairs. Pairs with No.3 to No.6 comprise both die 1b stamps. No.7 - left stamp die 1b, No.8 - right stamp die 1b, No.10 - left stamp die 1b, No.11 - right stamp die 1b. You indicate that only the left side stamp of No.12 pair is from die 1b. Each stamp of my pairs No. 12 and No. 15 are die 1b. Curiously the left side stamp of pair No. 13 distinctly appears to be die 1a; in view of my earlier comments I would have expected this stamp to have been a die 1b printing since the right side stamp of pair No. 12 is distinctly die 1b. Could the stars area of this latter stamp i.e. stamp at row 10 on the sheet have been retouched?

NC1(g) and (e) I can endorse your observations and note further that the centre paper has die 1b stamps attached.

NC3(c) The left side stamp of my pair No. 17 appears to be distinctly die 1a and the right side stamp die 1b; similarly with pair No. 19."

Amalgamating Mr. Butt's information with my own, the list of known section numbers is now expanded as follows (as before (L) or (R) following the combined Dies numbers indicates whether the die 1b stamp is at left or right in the coil pair).

NC1(f) Nos. 7(L), 8(R), 10(L), 11(R), 12(L).

NC1(d) Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 12, 15.

NC1(g) Nos. 3(L), 5(R), 6(L), 8(R), 9(L).

NC1(e) Nos. 1, 2.

NC3(c) Nos. 15(R), 17(L), 17(R), 19(R).

NC3(b) No. 16.

Rock Wren 45c. Our colleagues in Auckland have been advised by the Philatelic Bureau in Wanganui that the entire three-kiwi reprint of this stamp was used in the production of \$4.50 booklets (with 'll' on the back cover). If the Bureau information proves to be accurate, no example of the three-kiwi marking should exist, either in sheet form or in booklets. For unlike the earlier instance of the 40c Brown Kiwi, where the whole one-kiwi reprint was apparently used to make up booklets (and this marking is known only in booklets), in the 45c case, the side-selvages (where the reprint markings are situated) are removed and do not appear in booklets. Nevertheless, it will be well worth keeping an eye open for an example of this 45c three-kiwi marking. (We understand a four-kiwi reprint has now been issued, and appears to be available in the normal way).

Last Word on the 5d Swordfish 'Official'. It has recently been reported, quoting the original source, that no such stamp in fact exists, and that the details were circulated to the philatelic press allegedly as a hoax. We take a dim view of this kind of nonsense. No doubt many others will agree with that sentiment.

NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES
from C.P. Newsletter Monthly

Scenics (5 May 1993). Subtitled 'Thermal Wonders', this year's scenic stamps feature the spectacular thermal attractions of the North Island's volcanic region. The issue consists of six stamps: 45c Champagne Pool, Waiotapu, Rotorua; 50c Boiling mud, Hell's Gate, Tikitere, Rotorua - a particularly viscous grey mud (temperature over 115°C) is depicted; 80c Emerald Pool, Southern Crater, Waimangu - a small brilliant green cold water pool, which, incidentally, is erroneously described in the collectors notes provided by N.Z. Post in their brochure, as a 'hot water pool' (!); \$1 Hakereteke Falls, Waiotapu, Rotorua; \$1.50 Warbrick Terrace, Waimangu; \$1.80 Pohutu Geyser, Whakarewarewa, Rotorua - it is interesting to compare this depiction of Pohutu with the famous £1 pink of the 1960 Pictorials (and the later \$2 pink and multicolour from 1967 and 1968). Barcodes appear twice on each sheet of 50 stamps on the left-hand side sheet margins adjacent to stamp positions 4/1 and 7/1, as follows: 45c - 9 415599 032003; 50c - 9 415599 032010; 80c - 9 415599 032027; \$1 - 9 415599 032034; \$1.50 - 9 415599 032041; \$1.80 - 9 415599 032058;

The stamps were designed by Alan Hollows, of N.Z. Post Ltd., Wellington, and printed by lithography by Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, on horizontal mesh paper, perforation 12. They are also available in a presentation pack.

Postage Paid Airletter: A recent unannounced arrival is an illustrated imprinted airletter, inscribed 'Postage Paid'. The 'stamp' carries no denomination and may thus be expected to survive postal rate changes. The current global airletter rate is \$1. The form depicts Mahinapua Beach, Opito Bay on the front and Hawke Bay on the reverse, together with its barcode 9 415599 002006. The airletter is sold in packs of five postpaid forms from Postshops.

\$4.50 Panorama booklets have been released with Roman numeral 'II' on reverse. The booklet is available in hangsell and non-hangsell types, and as usual the former are available in strips of five, while the hangsell type exist only singly. There is a major change in the format of the hangsell issue, the perforations now being omitted from the top and bottom of the panes. This variation will be listed in the C.P. Catalogue. Examples of poor guillotining have been seen, resulting in the black "New Zealand Post" and red logo being just cut into at top and a small part of same appearing at bottom. All booklets seen to date (of both types) show left selvedge. We would be interested to hear of Panorama "II" reprint booklets in either format, attached by the **right** selvedge.

PA29a 1980 60c Portraits - Te Ata-o-tu. We've seen a dramatic partial red-brown offset on the back. Most notable feature of this offset is the eerie "Shroud of Turin" effect. We've not seen this offset before, and it will be listed.

S60a 1953 3d Coronation. We've seen a large block of 42, including top and bottom selvedges, showing a major area of printing fault covering a full five vertical columns of the sheet from top to bottom. The first vertical column of this fault area includes an apparent vertical doctor-blade flaw with heavy ink residue in an irregular vertical line. The next three vertical columns show, at the top, varying degrees of dry print, and the last vertical column shows similar vertical ink disturbance to the first column. The most spectacular error noted in this issue ever, in our opinion, and quite possibly worthy of listing in the C.P. Catalogue.

T49a 1977 7c Health: We've seen a dramatic new colour shift in this issue, with the Orange-red of all the wording "New Zealand 1977 Postage 7c Health 2c" moved downwards to the right. This results in a wide variety of partial white outlines throughout the stamp. An eye-catching variety.

N.Z. FULL-FACE QUEEN FORGERIES

- 701** The superb and probably unique reference collection of these bogus items (by the brothers Spiro and other unknown) formed by the late Marcel Stanley, and still mounted on his original album leaves. Includes 1d red (7), 2d blue (16), 2d brown! 4d yellow (4), 6d red-brown, 6d blue, 1/-green (8). Thirty-eight items, perf. and imperf., all purporting to be "used", with forged cancellations. A magnificent lot, priced at an average of less than £10 per item (when similar items turn up individually - a rare occurrence - they command prices in excess of £30 each) **£350.00**

1938 N.Z. - U.S.A. SAMOAN CLIPPER

On Jan 2nd 1938, the "Samoan Clipper" Flying Boat carried mail on a survey flight to Samoa, Honolulu and San Francisco. (The flight was originally scheduled for Dec. 30th 1937, but was delayed due to adverse weather conditions). All mail received the boxed cachet 'NEW ZEALAND' - U.S.A/FIRST AIR MAIL/DECEMBER 1937". Covers from this flight can only be described as common, no less than 25,000 items of mail being carried! However, while the overwhelming majority of cachets were applied in red, in just a few instances it was **applied in purple**. (The author of Volume 2 of The Airmails of New Zealand handbook, D.A. Walker, records that in 40 years he only managed to acquire one cover with a purple cachet).

- 702** **Wellington to U.S.A.** cover (posted 28 Dec., 11 a.m.), with Honolulu transit mark, cachet applied in **purple** **£42.50**
- 703** **Masterton to U.S.A.** cover (posted 28 Dec., 8.30 a.m.), with San Francisco transit mark, and cachet **applied in purple**. This cover would appear to be the only recorded example of a "purple" posted at Masterton **£52.50**

N.Z. RAILWAY STAMPS

A little section of offers from these seldom seen, neglected, but very interesting issues, extensive details of which are to be found in Volume 6 of "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand"

- | | | |
|--------|---|--------|
| 704(a) | Railway Newspaper Stamps. Fine mint set of all six values (1/2d), 1d, 2d, 3d yellow, 4d, 6d). The first printing of the 3d was in brown, but copies are very rare - all subsequent 3d printings were in yellow. The set of six (1992 'Kiwi' Cat. \$255 = £107) | £72.50 |
| (b) | As above, but used, and in far above average condition | £10.00 |
| (c) | As above. A collection of 90 (1/2d x 25, 1d x 35, 2d x 13, 3d x 7, 4d x 8, 6d x 2) on twelve album leaves. Various perms., but unchecked for papers. 8 x 1/2d and 8 x 1d are mint/unused, rest are used. Nice lot | £82.50 |
| 705 | Railway Parcels Stamps. Exceptionally fine (used) copy of the 6d which, with a 3d of the same design, was an experimental issue in 1894, and used for a very short period on the Whangarei Section of the railway only. Extremely scarce | £62.50 |
| 706 | Railway Charges Stamps. Lovely lot of 25 (1/2d, 1d x 2, one without stop below 'D', 2d, 3d, 6d x 6, 9d x 3, 1/- x 5, 1/6d x 2, 2/-, 2/6d, 5/- x 2). Where there is duplication of a value, station overprints are all different. A few imperfections, but generally fine | £65.00 |

1969 - 1990 HEALTHS

Concluding last month's listing of plate and sheet value blocks, mint and used.

- | | | |
|--------|--|--------|
| 707(a) | 1969 (T41a-c). All four plate blocks of the 2 1/2c and 3c values, mint | £2.50 |
| (b) | As above. One plate block of each of the three values, fine used | £12.50 |
| (c) | As above. Sheet value block of each value, mint | £5.00 |
| 708(a) | 1970 (T42a/b). Complete set of all four plates, mint | £4.50 |
| (b) | As above. One plate block of each value, fine used | £9.00 |
| (c) | As above. Sheet Value block of each value, mint | £2.00 |
| 709(a) | 1971 (T43a-c). Set of all three plate blocks, mint | £6.75 |
| (b) | As above. Set of three sheet value blocks, mint | £4.50 |
| 710 | 1972 (T44a/b). Two sheet value blocks, mint | £1.75 |
| 711(a) | 1973 (T45a/b). Two plate blocks, mint | £5.00 |
| (b) | As above. Two sheet value blocks, mint | £1.75 |
| 712(a) | 1974 (T46a-c). Complete set of six plate blocks, mint | £13.50 |
| (b) | As above. Three sheet value blocks, mint | £4.75 |
| 713(a) | 1975 (T47a-c). Complete set of six plate blocks, mint | £13.50 |
| (b) | As above. Three sheet value blocks, mint | £4.75 |
| 714(a) | 1976 (T48a-c). Complete set of six plate blocks, mint | £10.50 |
| (b) | As above. Three sheet value blocks, mint | £4.00 |

715(a)	1977 (T49a-c). Complete set of six plate blocks, mint	£12.00
(b)	As above. Three sheet value blocks, mint	£4.00
716	1978 (T50a/b). Set of four plate blocks, mint	£4.00
717	1979 (T51a-c). Set of four plate blocks, mint	£4.50
718(a)	1980 (T52a-c). Both plate blocks, mint	£3.00
(b)	As above. Both sheet value blocks, mint	£2.00
719	1981 (T53a-c). Complete set of all four plate blocks, mint	£9.50
720(a)	1982 (T54a-c). Both plate blocks, mint	£5.00
(b)	As above. The scarce T54c plate block with seven plate numbers	£42.50
721	1983 (T55a-c). All four plate blocks, mint	£11.50
722(a)	1984 (T56a-c). All four plate blocks, mint	£13.50
(b)	As above. Two sheet value blocks, mint	£3.50
723	1985 (T57a-c). Both plate blocks, mint	£6.00
724	1986 (T58a-c). Both imprint blocks, mint	£6.50
725(a)	1987 (T59a-c). Both imprint blocks, mint	£8.00
(b)	As above. Both sheet value blocks, mint	£4.00
726	1988 (T60a-d). All four imprint blocks, mint	£15.75
727	1989 (T61a-c). Both imprint blocks, mint	£8.50
728	1990 (T62a/b). Both imprint blocks, mint	£7.75

1960 PICTORIALS, CONTINUED

729(a)	2½d Titoki (O4a). Unhinged mint pair of stamps, one with error brown completely omitted(O4aZ), one with partial brown omission. Cat. \$250+	£75.00
(b)	As above. Two mint marginal blocks of four, both with the R6/1 retouch (over D of LAND), one block shows the additional flaw to O of TITOKI	£15.00
(c)	As above. Mint marginal block of ten, R8/5 and 9/4 plate scratch	£6.75
(d)	As above. Mint marginal block of twelve, R11/9 and 12/9 plate scratches	£6.75
(e)	As above. Mint marginal block of eight, R7/4 retouch	£6.75
730(a)	3d Kowhai (O5a). The first four shades listed in our Catalogue, each in mint block of four. Cat. \$120, offered at	£20.00
(b)	As above. Mint single of shade (5), the "Westport" shade	£6.00
(c)	As above. Eleven different plate blocks, plus a sheet value block (92 mint stamps). Cat. \$170	£52.50

	(d) As above. Corner block of eight, with R1/4 yellow in margin flaw	£6.75
	(e) As above. Corner block of four, with R1/2 stalk flaw	£6.75
	(f) As above. The same R1/2 flaw, this time in counter coil pair (OC5a)	£6.75
	(g) As above. Three different colour shifts - yellow downwards, yellow upwards and brown downwards. All mint	£7.50
	(h) As above. Plate (2111) block of eight with brown shifted upwards (the brown plate number is also shifted, of course)	£22.50
	(i) As above. Unhinged mint copy with error brown completely omitted (O5aY) ..	£62.50
	(j) As above. Counter coil pair varieties:	
	(i) with R20/10 flaw	£6.75
	(ii) two coil pairs, with R20/4 teardrop flaw and retouch respectively. Superb.....	£25.00
	(k) As above. Corner block of twenty (2 x 10) showing "blind perms" along the right hand perms - the block also shows Chambon perforations	£8.75
731	3d Coil Stamp (O5b). Horizontal mint strip of three, the centre stamp showing the interesting "teardrop" flaw, which repeated on every thirteenth stamp in some rolls only	£3.50
732(a)	3d Chalky Paper (O5c). Plate (3337) block of eight stamps, unmounted mint....	£7.50
	(b) As above. Another mint plate block, but of twelve stamps (4 x 3), with Chambon Perforations	£30.00
	(c) As Above. A selection of varieties, all unmounted mint and all listed in Vol. 6 of the N.Z. Handbooks:	
	(i) block of four, R12/6 variety	£6.75
	(ii) marginal block of four, R12/12 flaw	£7.75
	(iii) block of four, R19/10 flaw	£6.75
	(iv) corner block of six, R20/10 flaw	£7.75
	(d) As above. Counter coil pair (coil no. 18) both stamps chalky paper. Superb unmounted mint, with full perms. (OC5aZ)	£22.50
	(e) As above. Counter coil pair, one stamp chalky paper (OC5aY). In the same glorious unhinged mint condition	£25.00
	(f) As above. The mixed paper coil pairs are scarce enough and usually occur within the roll with coils nos. 4, 17 and 19 (1, 2, 3 and 18 in these rolls being 'all-chalky' pairs). However in just two known cases a mixed paper coil pair occurred with coil no. 3 (instead of no. 4). One stamp with crease and therefore offered at	£20.00
733(a)	4d Puarangi (O6a). Two blocks of four, buff and yellow flowers respectively. Striking shades	£1.50
	(b) As above. Imprint/plate (1111) block of eight and sheet value block of four	£6.75

- (c) **As above.** Three mint plate (1111) blocks of **twenty five stamps** from the blue (A) plates, showing (i) R18/3 and R18/5 flaws; (ii) R18/3 flaw, R18/5 retouch; (iii) R18/3 and R18/5 retouched. Marvellous philatelic material..... **£47.50**
- (d) **As above.** Another three mint plate (1111) blocks of twenty five but from the blue (B) plates, showing (i) R16/5 early blue flaw, R20/3 flaw; (ii) R16/5 rather more extensive flaws, R20/3 retouch; (iii) R16/5 very extensive flaws, R20/3 retouch. In a word, superb **£47.50**

(Note: The above two lots 733(c) and (d) demonstrate very clearly that two different blue plates, both numbered 1, were used to print the 4d. Since the only other blue plate used was numbered 3, it seems probable that one of the '1' plates was erroneously identified by the printers, and should have been numbered '2'.

KING GEORGE VI OFFICIALS

A listing of Official overprinted blocks of four, right out of the top drawer. All of the following lots are superb unmounted mint; many are marginal.

734	1/2d Green (MO1a), marginal block	£25.00
735	1/2d Chestnut, fine paper (MO1b), marginal block	£7.75
736	1/2d Chestnut, coarse paper (MO1d), marginal block	£8.25
737	1d Scarlet (MO2a). Non-marginal block, catalogued \$100 and offered at	£25.00
738	1 1/2d Chocolate (MO4a), marginal block. Cat. \$380, another wonderful offer	£100.00
739	1 1/2d Scarlet (MO4c), marginal block	£15.00
740	2d Yellow-Orange, coarse VM paper (MO6a), non-marginal block	£3.25
741	3d Blue, coarse paper (MO7c), marginal block	£3.25
742	4d Magenta (MO8a), marginal block	£15.00
743	6d Carmine (MO10a), marginal block	£20.00
744	8d Violet (MO11a), corner block	£25.00
745	9d Brown-Sepia (MO12a), corner block	£35.00
746(a)	1/- Upright Wmk, Die 1 (MO13a), non-marginal block	£25.00
	(b) As above. Two unmounted blocks of four, fine centre (and frame) shades	£50.00
747	1/- Sideways Wmk. (MO13b), non-marginal block	£25.00
748	2/- Sideways Wmk. (MO15b). Plate block of four	£67.50

N.Z. MINIATURE SHEETS USED, 1979 TO DATE

Demand for used miniature sheets continually exceeds supply, but a recent modest replenishment of stocks allows the following comprehensive listing from 1979. All are superb used, and with the one exception specified below, there are no Bureau cancellations. Numbers in parentheses indicate total quantities of sheets sold, where known.

Health Issues.

1979	Marine Environment	£8.50
1980	Children Fishing	£8.50
1981	Rock Pool	£8.50
1982	Three Breeds of Dog. Wanganui Bureau cancel	£3.00
1983	Three Breeds of Cat	£8.50
1984	Three Types of Horses	£8.50
1985	Prince of Wales and Family	£8.50
1986	Children's Paintings	£8.50
1987	Children's paintings	£8.50
1988	Seoul Olympics (125,454)	£6.50
1989	Duke of York and Family (136,497)	£5.25
1990	N.Z. Sporting Heroes (122,645)	£4.25
1991	Hector's Dolphin (110,605)	£4.25
1992	N.Z. Sporting Heroes	£3.25

Other Issues.

1980	125th Anniv. of N.Z.'s First Stamps	£4.25
1984	Antarctic Research	£8.50
1984	N.Z. Military History	£8.50
1985	Royal N.Z. Navy	£8.50
1986	Scenic (Bays)	£8.50
1987	Royal N.Z. Air Force	£8.50
1987	Scenic (National Parks)	£8.50
1988	Centenary of the R.P.S.N.Z. (442,637)	£3.25
1988	Scenic (Walkways) (212,726)	£8.50
1989	Scenic (Trees)	£8.50
1989	Philfrance (\$2 Black Robin) (30,570)	£12.75
1989	World Stamp Expo (70c Paradise Shelduck) (24,090)	£12.75
1990	Commonwealth Games x two diff. sheets. The pair	£6.50
1990	Treaty of Waitangi (338,983)	£3.25
1990	London '90 (50c Endeavour) (47,122)	£7.50
1990	Orchids (213,898)	£6.50
1990	Scenic (Trees)	£8.50
1990	150th Anniv. of Postage Stamps (221,908)	£6.50
1991	Rugby World Cup	£3.25
1991	PhilaNippon (above sheet redesigned to incorporate PhilaNippon Logo) (24,894) ..	£12.75
1991	PhilaNippon (\$3 Butterfly)	£6.50
1992	Olympic Games	£3.50
1992	Columbian Expo (above sheet overprinted with exhibition Logo)	£4.00
1992	Columbian Expo (\$1 Santa Maria/\$1.50 Pinta Nina)	£10.00
1993	Royal Doulton Ceramics Exhibition	£3.50