

NEW ZEALAND BULLETIN



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SIR JOSEPH BANKS by Peter Collins

Recently revisiting my former home town of Boston, Lincs. I came upon a portrait in the Guildhall and the following information.

Sir Joseph Banks was Squire of Revesby * and Recorder of Boston 1809-1820.

He accompanied Capt. Cook on the Endeavour as botanist, and brought back plants for Kew. He was President of The Royal Society 1778-1820.

At the Boston Borough Council meeting held on 29th April 1813, it was "unanimously resolved that Sir Joseph Banks. Bart, Recorder of this Borough, whose life has been spent in useful pursuits for the good of his country, and whose judicious and active exertions have improved and enriched this town and neighbourhood, be requested to allow this Corporation to have his portrait taken by an eminent artist to be placed in the Council Room of this Corporation".

Thomas Phillips painted the portrait in 1814. and it was loaned to Melbourne and to Sydney in 1970 in connection with the Bicentenary Celebrations.

Sir Joseph Banks appears of course on the 6c. of the NZ Capt. Cook set and collectors may find something in these notes of interest in their writing up.

Boston, by the way, is a town of considerable historic interest. The Guildhall dates from 1450, the Pilgrim Fathers were imprisoned there, and there are many associations with the New World and the Antipodes.

* A village some 15 miles North of Boston.

PHILYMPIA KIWI

The New Zealand Society of Great Britain has produced a 56page booklet to mark the great International Exhibition in London. It covers many aspects of New Zealand philately from pre-adhesive days to the Timaru locals and Christmas stamps. Contributors include the Williams Brothers, Jas. Mackay of the British Museum, Cyril Harmer, Robson Lowe and many other notable philatelic writers and personalities. The book has been produced by the printers of our Bulletin. We can supply copies from stock at a price of 15/- post free.

MISSING BLUE OLYMPIC RINGS

A young lady has told us that on the date of issue of the 1968 Health Stamps she was in a post office queue (at Christchurch, I think she said) to buy stamps to put on First Day Covers. She is not a philatelist, but makes a practice of obtaining two F. D. C. of the Health Stamps each year.

When she reached the counter, she received two $2\frac{1}{2}$ + 1 cent stamps (the boy runner) from the right hand side of a miniature sheet; i. e. a vertical pair with selvedge on three sides. She was on the point of affixing them to her cover when she observed that the blue ring was missing from the design of the stamps and also from the selvedge where it should have appeared. She fought her way back to the counter, but of course the clerk had no more "missing colours" and knew nothing at all

about having sold any.

Enquiries were made through the post office authorities and of many leading philatelists in New Zealand, without hearing of any similar items having appeared or been recorded or even heard of.

Either our young lady's stamps are unique, or some other 1968 $2\frac{1}{2}$ + 1 cent Health Stamps with blue missing are lying unknown and unrecognised probably on somebody's First Day Cover.

Keep your eyes open, and if you see any such items, let us know!

KGV 4d VIOLET - SOME NEW LIGHT by Colin Hamilton

If there is anything guaranteed to have any NZ specialist, amateur or professional, reaching eagerly for his glass, it's an unsorted bundle of the KGV 4d violet/purple. This must rank with the Second Pictorial 2/- as one of the most philatelically interesting, and rewarding, of all "modern" New Zealand stamps and when the bundle amounts to 5000 copies, well, the garden tends to get rather sadly neglected.

It will be recalled that the 4d violet superseded the 4d yellow in 1916, when the colours of the 2d and 4d values were transposed. The same plate, numbered 20, was used to print supplies in the altered colours, so that the well-known "wrong value" re-entries at Row 1, Number 6 and Row 4, Number 10 exist in both colours. By 1924, however, plate 20 had begun to wear, and this showed in the printed stamps as pale patches in the background above POSTAGE & REVENUE and behind the King's neck. In very late copies, these patches were more extensive, and almost white.

In 1926, plate 20 was replaced by a new plate, numbered 44, which also had two prominent re-entries at Row 3, Number 8 and Row 10, Number 12. (All four re-entries mentioned thus far are graphically illustrated in the C. P. Catalogue). In addition there were two minor re-entries (R10/8 and 10/9), and almost every impression on the plate showed signs of retouching, particularly around the frames of the value panels and in the cross on the top of the crown. Because of these latter peculiarities, stamps from plate 44 are a happy hunting ground for the "plating" enthusiast.

Co-incident with the introduction of plate 44, the printing ink used showed a marked change of shade. All stamps from plate 20 had been in shades of violet; those from plate 44 were in distinctive and characteristic deep purple shades.

These aspects - the two plates and their varieties, and the related shade changes - would be interesting enough, but there is a third factor which is at once a complication and a source of fascination. I refer, of course, to the perforations.

As was the case in most of the KGV recess-printed values, comb heads of two gauges, $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ and $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$, were used to perforate sheets of the 4d violet, and the following table shows the various combinations which exist in this value.

	Sheets Perf $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ Throughout	Sheets Perf $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$ Throughout	Top 4 Rows Perf $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$ Bottom 6 Rows Perf $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$	Top 5 Rows Perf 1 $14 \times 14\frac{1}{2}$ Bottom 5 Rows Perf $14 \times 13\frac{1}{2}$
PLATE 20 (VIOLET SHADES)	YES	NO	YES	NO
PLATE 44 (DEEP PURPLE SHADES)	YES	YES	NO	YES

It will be seen from the table above that the only stamps from the top half of plate 44 with the 14 X 13½ perforations are those from sheets perforated 14 x 13½ throughout. These, according to "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand", were the first sheets printed from plate 44 (see Vol. II, Page 312, correcting an earlier statement in Vol I, Page 311), and the earliest recorded date of issue is July 1926; all sheets from later printings had either the "reversed two-perfs" (1927) or perf. 14 X 14½ throughout (1927) or perf 14 X 14½ throughout (1927 onwards).

The evidence of the bulk lot mentioned earlier suggests the need for some modification of the facts as they are generally understood at present. I refer here only to sheets printed from plate 44. Until now, it has been generally accepted that sheets perforated 14 X 13½ throughout, and those perforated 14 X 14½ in the upper five rows, 14 X 13½ in the lower five, were issued in approximately similar quantities. However, the 5000 copies examined yielded not a single example, perf. 14 X 13½, of the R 3/8 re-entry, and only three retouched stamps (again perf. 14 X 13½) which can with certainty be allocated to the upper half of plate 44. Furthermore, none of the retouched stamps is from the same sheet position. All of these would, of necessity, come from sheets perf. 14 X 13½ throughout. On the other hand, no less than eight examples of the R10/12 re-entry were found, of which perhaps seven would have come from "two-perf" sheets and only one from sheets perf 14 X 13½ throughout if the above incidence is consistent.

In other words, 14 X 13½ sheets were apparently very much rarer than "two-perf" sheets.

In reaching this conclusion, it has been assumed that:

- (1) the evidence has not been distorted because the accumulation of the stamps was limited to a particular period.
- (2) the accumulation was genuinely unsorted.

Dated copies noted ranged widely, from August 1921 to November 1934, which would more than adequately cover the period of the perforation variations concerned (1926-27), and because of the incidence in quantity of all the other varieties one would expect to find, it is difficult to believe that the accumulation had already been picked over. So the assumptions seem justified.

This finding in no way invalidates the widely held opinion as to the extreme rarity of the "reversed two-perf" vertical pairs. Sheets from which these came were issued at only a few post offices, and their existence was not generally known at the time they were current.

In addition, collectors were conditioned to looking only for the normal two-perf combination, with the upper stamp perf 14 X 13½. If the upper stamp in a vertical pair gauged 14 X 14½, the pair was of no further interest - so presumably most of the two-perf pairs which did exist were lost.

Perhaps some of our KGV specialist friends will be able to add to the above. One thing seems pretty certain, anyway. In the absence of any contradictory evidence, some of the varieties listed under K4d in the C. P. Catalogue are due for a drastic price revision!

Incidentally readers have the opportunity elsewhere in this Bulletin to reap the rewards of this little exercise. Meanwhile, can anyone lend me a scythe?

1000 KGV 4d Violet. A specialist's delight, this stamp, and here is the collection to prove it. Starting with the perf 14 X 13½ issues, there are three stunning shades, including the scarce deep purple. Next a late copy from plate 20 showing clearly the plate wear which led finally to a new plate in 1926. By way of varieties there are three stamps with re-entries, all listed and illustrated by C. P., and two prominently retouched copies. In the perf. 14 X 14½'s, there are again three excellent shades, examples of the two major re-entries existing in this perf., and this time three retouched copies, producing a variety of peculiar shapes and sizes of the small crown at the top of the stamp! In total, seventeen stamps all in C. P. used condition, in other words, the finest. £7.10.0.

P. S. All the write up you need to make this the star item in your KGV album can be found in the article elsewhere in this Bulletin. And don't be pessemistic about your chances - we can repeat this lot several times over.

AN EXCELLENT "STARTER" COLLECTION OF NZ

- 1001 A "gift" for the first-comer. A simplified collection, mainly used, some mint, of NZ from 1874 to the present day. Condition varies but is generally very fine.
For the price this is a truly remarkable lot - completion has been aimed for and has been achieved in many sets: for example: The following catch the eye:-
1874 Sidefaces comp. to 2/-; 1882 Sidefaces, complete; 1898 Picts. comp to 5/-; Edwards complete both Ordinary and official; Geo V comp to 2/- (non-official); 1935 Comp both ordinary and official; Geo VI all complete; Q EII comp. to 10/- (excluding 2d on 1½d error). 1967 Picts Complete; 1920 Victory comp; 1935 Jubilees, Commerce, Anzacs, 1940 (Anzac) ord. and official; All later Commers, comp to 1964; Xmas Comp. to 1966; Health Camp from 1929 to 1965 (inc. a superb mint pair of 1931 (and other earlies fine Centennial); all are complete; Life Ins. "VR" to the scarce used 1/- and 1913 sets comp.; many Postage Dues, Long Type and Arms Type Fiscals inc fine used 22/-, £3, £4 and £5 Arms; Ross Dependency comp. mint. The big collection, mounted in a C. P. Simplified Album - (remember, the 1931 Healths alone sell at £20 plus).... The collection of over five hundred stamps - a superb present for the keen beginner..... £50

LAST YEARS S. G. CATALOGUES

We have available a very few copies of both S. G. Part 1 (British C'wealth) and S. G. "Elizabethan" (Q. E. II Issues of the C'wealth) just the thing for the beginner or young collector who wants a good Catalogue but who does not want the more costly new editions: Condition describable as "superb used" S. G. Part 1, 1970 Edition 15/-; S. G. Elizabethan 1970 Edition 12/6. (POSTAGE EXTRA on either of above Catalogues 4/6).

"CHALONS" - JOB LOTS AT GIFT PRICES:

- 1002 1862 perf 13 at Dunedin" A short set of 1d, 2d, 6d and 1/-, of good to very fine appearance, very well centred for this issue with no serious defects. Cat over £41, the four £10
- 1003 As above, perf 13 The 2d and 6d values only, fine clean stamps, excellent appearance, centering superior to normal in this issue. (Cat. £7.15.0.) Price..... 50/-
- 1004 As above p.13. An unused (no gum) 2d perf 13. Not so fine but scarce unused in this perf. (Cat. £18.) Price £2
- 1005 Richardson White paper Three shades - from very pale to deep - 2d blues of 1858/59. All have four margins, all good appearance. One, or possibly two have small thins and one a minor crease - (which accounts for the price!) Ask to sell on approval. The three, (Cat. S. G. over £70!) £10
- 1006 2d Imperf Chalon (Star Wmks). A set of four Plate 1 copies - of varying quality but no serious faults other than some close or 'touched' margins. The four show the progressive wear of the plate and so range from deep blue to (very worn) pale blue. Interesting and very reasonable, (Cat. £18+) The four 80/-
- 1007 Set of Chalons, NZ Wmk. Five used stamps of the NZ wmk set: (1) S. G. 98 three margins (Cat. £24); (2) S. G. 106 (rather heavy cancel but Cat. £35) (3) S. G. 107 rather o/c to top but good looking; (4) S. G. 108 o/c, clear face. The four stamps (Cat. over £60) 80/-
- 1008 Chalon 2d NZ Wmk perf. 12½. S. G. 107 unused and used copies - both off centre but of good appearance. (Cat. £11.10.0.) The two..... £3
- 1009 6d Chalon S. G. 55 "Rouletted 7" A stamp of very fine appearance, at first sight imperf. but with unbroken line of roulette cuts down right side. Stamp has beautiful clear head; slightly cut into at foot, and with a curious small colourless flaw in the design to left of shoulder. Cat. £20 and a bargain @..... £8

NZ PHILATELIC LITERATURE

- 1010 The famous "Jolliffe" Handbook of NZ stamps to 1913 - published by the Philatelic Society of NZ (now the 'Royal'). This was the first exhaustive NZ Handbook on the History of NZ stamps and is thus the direct forerunner of the later volumes. The book is in excellent condition and contains the two (half sheet) proofs of Rows 14 to 20 of the damaged and retouched 2d Chalon Plate 2. ("Jolliffe" is often found with these proofs removed. An historic volume..... £18
- 1011 R. J. G. Collins. Three of the smaller books from the most famous of all NZ Philatelists. One "New Zealand, A Philatelic Handbook". The second is "The Stamps of the Pacific Islands (Vol. 1). This last covers the period to about 1924 and includes exhaustive studies on NZ Dependencies, Australian Dependencies, Samoa, Tonga, New Hebrides, Br. Solomon Islands, Gilbert and Ellice Islands and Nauru. The Third "R. J. G. Collins" work is his remarkable study of Plate 1 of the 2/- Captain Cook demonstrating the possibility of "Plating" every one of the 120 stamps on the plate and showing the results of at least three different instances of retouching and or flaw development. This is perhaps Collins' most remarkable work outside of the famous Handbooks of 1938 onwards. This copy is autographed by the Author. The three historic works..... £12
- 1012 "The Postage Stamps of New Zealand". Volumes 1 to 4 of the famous "Handbooks". These magnificent volumes, carrying the most exhaustive history of New Zealand's stamps and postal markings are not often seen today offered as a set. Ours is complete from Vols. 1 to 4 plus the "GRLea" Monograph on the 1d Universal. As an investment in future pleasure as well as financially these volumes are hard to beat The set,..... 100gn.
- 1013 As above, Vol. 2 only. We have a few copies of Vol. 2 which cover the issues from 1936 to 1948 plus much information not known at the time of the publication of Vol. 1. As with the Volumes in our Lot 1013 the condition is very good, leaving little to be desired. Vol. 2, includes the six magnificent Die proofs taken from original Perkins Bacon Dies of the six values of the Chalon set. Price for Vol. 2..... £15
- 1014 1935 to 1947 Pictorial Plate blocks. (Single wmk)
- L1a ½d Fantail. Plate 1B in block of 4 (several available)..... 3/-
- L2a 1d Kiwi. Plates A1 and B1 each in block of 4..... 3/-
- As above. Two shades of each plate A1 and B1, 4 blocks..... 10/-
- L3b 1½d Maori Cooking. Plate 1B perf 13½ x 14 in block..... 10/-
- L4a 2d Whare. Plate 1B (several available)..... 4/-
- L7a 4d Mitre Peak. Plate 1 in block of 4..... 4/6
- L14b Of Mt. Egmont. Perf. 13½ x 14 in Plate block..... 50/-
- 1015 Pictorials as above (Multiple wmk)
- L1b ½d Fantail. Three plates A3, A4 and B4 all in blocks and all in different shades The three..... 3/-
- L2d 1d Kiwi. Three plates A3, A4 and B4 all in blocks and all in different shades. The three..... 7/6
- L2d 1d as above. Plate A4, with inverted watermark..... 5/-
- L4b 2d Whare. Plates 1B or 2B in blocks each..... 2/-
- Plate 4b (scarce) in block..... 7/6
- L4C 2d Whare (Blitz perf "line 14") Plates 2A or 2B, each..... 10/-
- L4d 2d Whare (Scarce perf. 14 X 14½) Plates 2A and 2B - the two..... 50/-
- L4e 2d Whare (Blitz perf 12½) Plates 2A or 2B, each..... 3/-

L4f 2d Whare on coarse paper, perf 14 x 13½. Plate 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B, 4b, 5, 5A or 5B, each in block of 4 1/3

As above. The scarcer plate 4A in block 10/-

Enquiries are invited for plate blocks in the higher values. Stocks are limited but prices most attractive - as above.

EDWARD VII OFFICIAL VARIETY

1016 The Edward VII 8d Official (overprint in red) two stamps (14 X 14½ and 14 X 13½) both inverted wmk. The two 10/-

1017 Map Stamp. Mint blocks of four of the De La Rue and Jones papers of the 1923 Re-introduction of Penny Postage. Two brilliant blocks clearly showing the difference between the two papers, S. G. 518 and 521, C. P. 516a and S166 27/6

1018 Commonwealth Cable. The cylinder from which these stamps were printed was in two halves, and although they are unnumbered, they can be readily identified; one has a vertical yellow line in the top right hand selvedge, and the letter A in ZEALAND is broken on R1/4. On the other plate, there is no yellow line and no flaw in the lettering. Two mint value blocks; one from each half of the plate, with top right hand corner selvedge showing the differences as noted. A good "specialist" pair of blocks 70/-

1019 Royal Visit. There is a re-entry on R 10/8 of the 3d Queen Elizabeth Royal Visit 1953. It shows as doubling of the lines of background shading at the top. Mint in marginal pair with normal 7/6

FIRST DAY COVERS

Some items still available which may be missing from your collection. Inexpensive but attractive, they are always in demand and add interest to your collection as "proving pieces" of the date of issue.

DEFINITIVES.

30	Jul. 1968	Fox Glacier. 28 c 6/-
8	Jul. 1969	Fruit, Wool & Meat 8c, 18c, 20c .. 7/6
3	Dec. 1969	Fishing 7c 2/6
2	Sept. 1970	Moths and Butterflies ½c, 1c, 2c 2½c, 3c, 4c 3/6

COMMEMORATIVES

19	Sept. 1968	Universal Suffrage 3c 2/-
19	Sept 1968	Human Rights 10c 2/9
11	Feb 1969	I. L. O. 7c 2/-
18	Aug 1969	Bay of Islands 4c and 6c 2/3
9	Oct 1969	Capt. Cook 4c, 6c, 18c, 28c... 10/-
18	Nov. 1969	Corso 7c and 8c 3/-
8	Apr. 1970	Expo '70. 7c, 8c, 18c 6/-

LIFE INSURANCE

Many people ask the purpose of these issues. They are "Official" stamps for use on the Government Life Insurance Department's mail. The attractive decimal series on F. D. C., with inside a stiffener carrying the history of the stamps, and story of each of the lighthouses depicted on the set.

27 March 1969. Life Insurance Lighthouses. ½c, 2½c, 3c, 4c, 15c. 5/-