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FOR COLLECTORS OF NEW ZEALAND STAMPS

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NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES

FROM ANGELA NICHOLSON OF OUR AUCKLAND STAFF

November was a busy month for New Zealand Post with the release of two new issues and a new \$4.00 stamp booklet.

The Native Birds Stamp issue features some of New Zealand's unique and protected bird species. The stamps were designed by Pauline Morse of Pukerua Bay and were printed in Australia by Leigh-Mardon Pty. Ltd., using the lithographic process. This issue is part of the definitive stamp series and will remain on sale indefinitely.

Several transient flaws were noted by us in this issue. A very striking naked-eye flaw occurs in R4/10 of the 30¢ Silvereye. This takes the form of a prominent black spot in the brown patch under the bird's wing. To date, we have seen this flaw on three sheets only.

The 60¢ Spotted Shag certainly lived up to its name, with close scrutiny of our stock revealing an abundance of "spots" as follows:-

- R1/8 Small blue dot under beak.
- R1/9 Small blue dot above the "c" of 60¢. Also a small blue dot inside the "0" of 60.
- R1/10 Blue dot in top left-hand corner of stamp.
- R2/10 Blue dot to the left of the bird's neck.
- R6/7 Blue dot just above and to the right of the word "shag".
- R8/4 Blue dot below the "0" in 60¢.

All of the above flaws also proved to be transient and were noted by us on only three sheets.

Several interesting variations have been noted within the Native Birds issue. The first concerns selvedge perforation differences. Sheets of the 10¢, 30¢ and 90¢ values are "perfed through" on all sides. Sheets of the 20¢, 40¢, 50¢, 60¢ and 80¢ are perfed through the sides and bottom only, not through the top selvedge.

There is also a curious variation in the sheet value markings. The \$10 marking differs from all others in two respects - firstly, it is in a different typeface and secondly, it reads "\$10" instead of the more usual "\$20.00", "\$30.00" etc.

Also noted is an interesting variation in the traffic light markings. The 20¢ Imprint Block differs from all others in that the marking reads black, yellow, pink and blue from top to bottom. Imprint Blocks of the other values read yellow, pink, blue and black from top to bottom.

Striking paper differences are also apparent in this issue. The 10¢, 30¢ and 60¢ values are printed on cream paper and are clearly different from the other values which are on white paper. When viewed from the back the 20¢ and 50¢ values are even more clearly different from the others. In addition to this colour difference, the 30¢ and 60¢ values are on slightly

coarser paper than the other values.

An interesting gum difference occurs in the 50¢ kingfisher. We have in our possession one Imprint Block of the kingfisher which has a distinctly "greenish" appearance to the gum in comparison to the usual "bluish-white". The greenish gum also has a slightly more shiny surface than the bluish-white gum.

We would be most interested to hear from readers who have come across variations other than those described above.

A new \$4.00 stamp booklet was released on November 2nd. The booklet features the 40¢ brown kiwi - one of the new Native Birds definitive series - and carries a view of Mt. Cook from the Hooker Valley on the cover. As with the 70¢ Fastpost booklet released earlier this year, the new brown kiwi booklet comes attached by the left and right selvages.

November 2nd also saw the release of the 1988 Whales Stamp issue - a series of six stamps designed by Lindy Fisher of Auckland which illustrate various aspects of whale behaviour. The stamps were printed in Wellington by the Government Printing Office using the lithographic process.

This issue has aroused a great deal of interest among collectors for two reasons. Firstly, the stamps contain the words "Ross Dependency" in addition to "New Zealand". The recent closure of the post office at Scott Base in Antarctica should have marked the end of Ross Dependency issues, but it seems that NZ Post is trying to find a way around the problem of obtaining cancellations for their Ross Dependency stamps. The question is - are we to class this issue as a New Zealand commemorative or as a Ross Dependency issue?

Secondly, as mentioned above, the Whales Issue is a locally produced issue, the first to be wholly printed in New Zealand (with the exception of the Arms Fiscals) since the 1939 Postage Dues. This may herald the beginning of a return to locally printed stamps. If so, there will probably be a "settling in" period while problems in the printing process are sorted out and there should be much to interest the collector of flaws and varieties.

A number of interesting flaws have already come to light in the 1988 Whales issue.

60¢ Humpback Whale

- R1/2 Black dot in light sea patch bottom left. A transient flaw.
- R5/4 Red spot on baby whale's back.

70¢ Killer Whale

- R2/10 Black spot between whales' heads.
- R5/10 Red spot to the left of "New".

80¢ Southern Sperm Whale

- R2/1 Red scratch in the "0" of 80¢.
- R2/2 Small spots of red and black to the left and below the "8" in 80¢. Also small blue dot along the white spine ridge of the whale.
- R5/3 Black scratch below the second "e" in Dependency. Also small grey dot to the left of the third "e" in Dependency.

FOUR

\$1.05 Southern Bottlenose Whale

Distinct red colouration in the scars on the large whale's head and also in the dots on the fin. Red haze around the tail and lower back of the large whale. This striking variety occurs in R1, stamps 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, giving these five stamps quite a different appearance from the rest of the sheet. This is probably a temporary colour registration shift - a transient flaw seen on three sheets by us to date.

R4/4 Red spot above the large whale's fin. This is also a transient flaw.

\$1.30 Sperm Whale

R2/10 Red spot just above the horizon to the right of centre. The R2/10 stamp and adjacent stamps contain a profusion of small coloured dots reminiscent of an earlier stamp which, coincidentally, also dealt with a "fishy" subject - the "spotted" 5d. swordfish (1935 Pictorial issue).

NEW REPRINT Sheets of the 40c Blue Duck with 4 kiwis in the Imprint have been used in the manufacture of booklets (November Newsletter). Collectors wishing to obtain the full Imprint in booklet form will have to purchase a pair of booklets.

Acknowledgement We would like to thank our Working staff for their observations on November's new issues.

NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES SERVICE Readers interested in acquiring new issues and/or varieties as they appear should register with our popular New Issues and Varieties Service. Please contact us for full details.

1988 New Issues: NZ v GB from Andy Dolphin To all our readers who have recently just finished purchasing a year's worth of New Issues from NZ Post and are feeling slightly aggrieved at the amount of money they have had to spend to buy all the proliferation of new stamps, we thought a comparison with our British cousins and their year's worth of British stamps, might prove an interesting exercise. The figures speak for themselves!

1988 Year-Packs NZ - \$17.75 : GB - \$26.76. GB is over 50% more!!

The Year-Book, however, tells a slightly different tale:-

1988 Year-Books NZ - \$49 : GB - \$47.75

It seems we have some little way to go before we reach the UK levels of stamp releases - let's hope both countries start to show restraint in their stamp issuing policies.

"May I say how pleased and grateful I am at the quality of the stamps received from you each month - truly a great selection. Thank you." - JGK, Bay of Plenty



210(a)



211(a)



214(b)



215(b)



217(a)



218(b)



219(a)



221(b)



222(a)



223(b)



223(d)



224(c)



225(a)



226(a)



226(b)



227(a)



231(a)



232(a)



232(f)



233(a)



234(c)



235(a)



238(a)



238(c)



238(g)



239(b)



240(c)



239(e)



239(h)

FULL FACE QUEENS - PERFORATED

For the New Year - a continuation of last month's popular offering.

(Please note: Some illustrations refer to February offers)

1d. CARMINE-VERMILION (etc.)

- 210 (a) Alf (SG.69), p.13, 1d Carmine-vermilion (Unused) Centring utterly amazing for this usually poorly centred issue. Crisp, clean item - glorious. Well worth (cat.\$1000).. \$950.00
- (b) Alf (SG.69) 1d. Ditto (Used) Central marking - a little untidy, but nicely centred item and good deep colour (cat. \$375) \$125.00
- 211 (a) Alm (SG.110), p.12½, 1d. Carmine-vermilion Superb unused single. Bright, brilliant colour (cat. \$190)... \$150.00
Or centred left - slightly clipped at top \$55.00
Or Deep colour - slight tear at top \$20.00
- (b) Alm (SG.110) 1d. Ditto (Used) Brilliant lightly marked single - centered low left (cat. \$50) \$30.00
- (c) Alm Ditto Lovely clean pair used - centred left. Perfs out of position. Nice-looking item (cat. \$100) \$60.00
- 212 (a) Alm (SG.110) Ditto Superb unused of major re-entry Row 14, No.12. Centred low, but re-entry characteristics (curved line in 'NEW', Queen's face etc.). Clear - one of the nicest Chalon re-entries we've seen \$175.00
- 213 (a) Alm (SG.111) 1d. Orange-vermilion, p.12½, (Used) Lovely copy of the shade. "Province of Auckland" cancel - few shortish perfs \$30.00
Or copy very light postmark \$45.00
- 214 (a) Alm (SG.111) 1d. Vermilion Dazzling unused - centred slightly right. Fresh shade \$145.00
- (b) Alm, 1d. Ditto Very, very fine used. Centred high, but fine \$40.00
- (c) Alm, 1d. Ditto Glorious strip of four unused \$750.00
- 215 (a) Alm (SG.112) 1d. Orange, p.12½ Beautiful unused. Narrow stamp, but colour very deep and true. Exhibition example (cat. \$450) \$250.00
Or copy with fault at top (small section perfs removed). Wonderful unused sample of shade \$37.50
- (b) Alm, 1d. Orange Brilliant used example. Light mark - glowing colour. Invisible tear at base (cat. \$125) ... \$20.00

1d BROWN

- 216 (a) Aln (SG.126) 1d. Reddish-brown, perf. 10 Catalogued at \$875 unused. Our copy is very fine, well centred. Perfs improved a little artificially right-hand side.... \$375.00
- 217 (a) Alp (SG.128) 1d. Reddish-brown, p.10 x 12½ (Unused) Very fine (cat. \$200) \$175.00
- (b) Alp (SG.128) 1d. Brown, p.10 x 12½ Superb o.g. copy - centred high \$125.00
Or major re-entry Row 19/3. Lines at top doubled - other doubling. Nice item (cat. \$225) \$175.00

SIX

- 218 (a) Alq (SG.132a) 1d. Brown, p.12½ (Intermediate Plate Wear)
Centred high. Fine shade and print (cat. \$225)..... \$175.00
(b) Alq (SG.132) 1d. Reddish-brown (Advanced Plate Wear)
Superbly centred example. Very, very fine \$175.00
Or slightly off-centre \$150.00
(c) Alq (SG.132) 1d. Reddish-brown, p.12½ (Extended Plate Wear)
Centred high. Deep and brilliant \$55.00
(d) Alq (SG.132a) 1d. Brown, p.12½ A little off-centre,
but nice copy \$35.00
(e) Alq (SG.132) 1d. Reddish-brown, p.12½ Copy with huge
margins. Nice intermediate copy \$45.00
- 2d. BLUE
- 219 (a) A2e(4), (SG.72a), 2d. Milky-blue, p.13 Absolutely
guaranteed intermediate used of this very scarce shade.
Early plate wear. Beautifully centred - marking light
if central (cat. \$175) \$165.00
- 220 (a) A2j(x), (SG.105), 2d. Blue (Worn Plate), p.13 Intermediate
copy - light postmark - nice colour (cat. \$350) \$50.00
Or tear at top \$15.00
(b) A2j(x), (SG.103) 2d. Blue, Ditto, p.13 Superb copy -
centred high \$95.00
- 221 (a) A2m (SG.113) 2d. Blue (Extensive Plate Wear), p.12½
Lovely unused - some slight perf deficiencies (cat. \$180) \$50.00
(b) A2m (SG.113) 2d. Ditto Bright Blue copy - slight
corner crease. Nice used \$15.00
- 222 (a) A2n(2), (SG.114) 2d. Greenish Blue, p.12½ Lovely unused.
Margins if centred a little to left (cat. \$300) \$200.00
(b) A2n(5), (SG.114) 2d. Deep Royal Blue, p.12½ Dry print -
nice unused \$150.00
(c) A2n(6), (SG.114), 2d. Dull Blue, p.12½ Superb unused . \$150.00
(d) A2n(7), (SG.115), 2d. Blue Glorious unused \$125.00
- 223 (a) A2n(2), (SG.114) 2d. Greenish Blue, p.12½ Lovely used -
slight vertical crease \$15.00
(b) A2n(5), (SG.114), 2d. Deep Royal Blue Very fine copy
indeed \$40.00
(c) A2n(6), (SG.114), 2d. Dull Blue Superb! \$40.00
(d) A2n (SG.115), 2d. Blue Fine used \$45.00
- 2d. ORANGE
- 224 (a) A2r (SG.130) 2d. Orange, p.10 x 12½ Nice intermediate
used copy. Excellent looks if postmark centred (cat.
\$40) \$25.00
- 225 (a) A2s (SG.133) 2d. Orange, p.12½ Unused (slight repair),
damaged plate \$20.00
(b) A2s (SG.134) 2d. Vermilion, p.12½ Centred low left -
superb copy \$65.00
- 226 (a) A2s (SG.133), 2d. Pale Orange, p.12½ Superb used \$35.00
(b) A2s (SG.133), 2d. Orange, p.12½ Superb used \$30.00
(c) A2s (SG.134), 2d. Vermilion, p.12½ Nice intermediate
used \$20.00

- 227 (a) A2t (SG.138) 2d. Vermilion (No Watermark), p.12½ (Unused)
 Superb copy (cat. \$120) \$95.00
 Or plate damage item \$125.00
 Or excellent pair unused \$200.00
 (b) A2t Ditto, 2d. Orange (No Watermark) (Used) Good
 lightly commercially used \$20.00
 Or Letters of "SAUNDERS" (cat. \$2500) \$325.00
- 228 (a) A2v (SG.138) 2d. Vermilion, p.12½, "NZ" Watermark Lovely
 unused. Perfs into margin two sides, but a superior
 item (cat. \$750) \$525.00
 (b) A2v, 2d. Ditto, "NZ" Intermediate used - light
scattered postmark (cat. \$200) \$100.00
- 229 (a) A2x (SG.142) 2d. Orange (Watermark Lozenge), p.12½ Nice
 intermediate (bottom perfs improved) - cat. \$2000 \$325.00
- 3d. LILAC
- 230 (a) A3b (SG.74) 3d. Brown-lilac, p.13 Postmark (Dunedin)
 over face, but a sound example of the rarity. Centred
 left a little - excellent of the shade (cat. \$450)..... \$215.00
- 231 (a) A3d (SG.117) 3d. Lilac, p.12½, Unused One of the finest
 in existence - superb centring and colour. The perfect
 3d. p.12½ \$140.00
 (b) A3d (SG.117), 3d. Pale Lilac, Unused, Ditto Again
superb \$120.00
 (c) A3d (SG.118) 3d. Mauve, (Unused), p.12½ Superb example
 (if short perf at bottom). Lovely bright colour (cat.
 \$500) \$225.00
- 232 (a) A3d(1), (SG.116), 3d. Brown-lilac, p.12½ (Used) Glorious
 example. Deep colour, light postmark (cat.\$1000).
 Invisible weak corner allows \$250.00
 (b) A3d(2) (SG.117), 3d. Lilac, p.12½ (Used) Centred left -
superb! Unusually clear print \$45.00
 Or fine looker (small thin) \$10.00
 (c) A3d(3), (SG.117), 3d. Pale Lilac, p.12½ Glorious looks -
 minor thin \$10.00
 (d) A3d(4), (SG.117), 3d. Deep Lilac See this shade and
 marvel. Fine used \$40.00
 (e) A3d(7), (SG.117), 3d. Mauve-lilac Distinctive - very
 fine used \$60.00
 (f) A3d(8), (SG.118), 3d. Deep Mauve, p.12½ Outstanding
 looks - crease and marginal fault allows (cat. \$100) \$15.00
 (g) A3d(9), (SG.118), 3d. Mauve, p.12½ Lovely intermediate
 used. Excellent appearance and quality - light postmark \$55.00

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	(d)	T15b	Ditto, Plate 6	\$2.50	
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	(f)	T19a	1947 Eros, 1d. Value block: 6/-	\$10.00	
	(g)	T19a	Ditto, Value : 12/-	\$10.00	
	(h)	T19a(z)	Ditto, inverted watermark	\$30.00	
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	(w)	T31a(z)	Ditto - U	\$12.00	
	(x)	T31b(y)	Ditto, Poaka, 3d inverted watermark, FU	\$25.00	
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502	(a)	T36a	1964 Tarapunga, 2½d, minor red shift	\$10.00	
	(b)	T41b	1969 Cricket, 3c, blurred print + shade	\$10.00	
	(c)	T41c	Ditto Gunn, 4c flaw : blue line	\$10.00	
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	(o)	T53a/b(y)	1981 20c, missing centre perf - unusual	\$30.00	
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	(s)	T53a/c	Ditto, s/t set FDC	\$5.00	
	(t)	T54c(6)	II 1982 30c Plate block 1111, black overprint..	\$55.00	
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