

CAMPBELL PATERSON



PATERSON

NEWSLETTER

FOR COLLECTORS OF NEW ZEALAND STAMPS

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The Rarest two-perfs of them all – part 2. The probably experimental combination of two comb perforation heads p.14 x 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ -13 $\frac{1}{4}$ makes its unique appearance (see p.2)

CP'S NEW ZEALAND STAMPS – WELCOME TO OUR TRADITION

CAMPBELL PATERSON LIMITED, PO BOX 5555, Auckland 1, New Zealand
Level Eight, General Buildings, Cnr O'Connell & Shortland Streets, Auckland 1
Telephone 64-9-379 3086, Facsimile 64-9-379 3087



NEW ZEALAND NOTES – By WARWICK PATERSON

The Rarest 2-perf Pairs of Them All – Chapter Two**4d Lake Taupo Comb Perf 14 x 12¾-13¼ (CP listing E12f)**

CP Newsletter has announced a number of “firsts” over a fifty year period but this class of discovery is now becoming more and more difficult and fewer and further between. Last month I had the unique experience of discovering a variety which has never been seen – or at least recognised – before, which fits into a known class of variations, has a fully documented explanation, and could quite reasonably be designated one of the more significant finds of the past twenty five years.

Illustrated this month is a block of four of the above issue with clearly “2-perf” characteristics, both upper and lower pairs measuring the same gauge but unmistakably effected by different perf heads.

To confirm this identification for yourself look at the vertical (short) rows of perfs **between** the upper and lower pairs and between the selvedge and the outer stamps in each case. Without any fear of contradiction I believe that you will readily see the striking difference in the orientation, and even alignment, of the perf holes in each case -- a characteristic which can only be explained by the “2-perf heads” analysis.

In a definitive article in *The New Zealand Stamp Collector* some years ago, Dr Nigel Eastgate of Dunedin advanced a cogent explanation for what he termed “the bizarre 2-perf process that dominated New Zealand Definitives from the second to the fourth decades of this century”. Briefly, Nigel identified a mechanical and an historical explanation in the use of the Barrett perforating machines which were used at this time in New Zealand by the Government Printer and the limitations of those machines.

I quote one paragraph of Nigel’s article in full as it contains the apparently accurate explanation for the “2-perfs”.

“For the both the earlier treadle machines and the later powered ones, the operation was much the same. A moving frame, with projecting arms bearing pins to perforate the selvedge marks, drag the sheet down one stamp height after each operation of the head, the distance of each step being determined by a stepping ratchet forming the side of the frame and operated by a crank or pawl. The lower selvedge marks were used first and after perforating a few rows, the frame arms were disengaged from the sheet and then reattached with the pins in the side selvedge marks, when the rest of the sheet was perforated. These early machines were apparently unable to maintain exact alignment on a run straight through the head, presumably because of the repeated concussion and vibration of the head itself.”

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

GST will be added to all prices listed in this Newsletter for local orders (12.5%). Overseas orders are “zero-rated” and do not pay GST.

So you have sheets of stamps perforated by a two-stage operation, to accommodate the limitations of the machinery.

The process becomes interesting when sheets are perforated first on one machine (using one perf head) and then shifted in the second stage to another machine where they are perforated **by another perf head of precisely the same gauge**. Nigel dates this process from the arrival of the plates for the King Edward VII issue (1909), where he suggests a second machine with a pre-adjusted spacing before the second or side grip became necessary. The practice of saving time and labour by using two pre-set machines was introduced. "Experiments had been carried out" (Volume IV p.74) and it is probable that the early experiments were done on stamps with a known machine and reliably spaced plate. This, he suggests, would explain the "2-perf" Mt Cook Green stamps perf 14 x 15. In other words, the undoubtedly rare ½d Green Mt Cook 2-perf pairs may well have been experimental and preparing the way for the use of a new system for the Edward issue.

Enter the perf head gauging 14 x 12¾-13¼ described by the CP Catalogue as a perforation which "did not have a long life". It is seen only in E10b, E12f, E15b, E19a and F5b. According to The Postage Stamps of New Zealand Volume 1 page 623, this perf head was introduced in 1907, varied in gauge between heads which were three in number, used in their original form for a short period, two later being converted to line heads in 1909.

Enter the 4d Taupo perf 14 x 12¾-13¼ (E12f). The fact that we have discovered an incontrovertible example of the 2-perf of the same gauge process used on one sheet of this issue in 1908 suggests with great conviction that the block which I have recently found represents an experimental use of the 2-perf/two heads system, preparatory to its full employment with the King Edward VII issues. (See last month's offerings of King Edward VII 4d Orange, 2-perf pairs).

A remarkable find therefore after so many years and one which will find its listing in the CP Catalogue as E12g "**1908 vertical pairs (experimental?): 2 (different) se tenant perfs, perf 14 x 12¾-13¼ over perf 14 x 12¾-13¼**", a variety which is unique for this issue and unique for these perf heads in the five issues for which they were used.

SS80a \$1.80 150th Anniversary of Auckland

A major new discovery

by Rob Talbot

We were excited to find an example of a very rare type of error peculiar to offset lithography. The image from the litho plate is transferred (offset) to a "blanket" which is on the cylinder which presses the design onto the paper. If an adjustment of registration is made to the plate cylinder the offset blanket carries sufficient ink from the **previous** impression to still print an image though naturally not full strength.

The only other examples listed by CP are S132a(X) and (W) and S133a(Z). They are only rarely encountered and show exceptional movement in image and in some cases from jobs running earlier on the press!

In our subject the black colour shows a ghost image noticeable behind “NEW ZEALAND” up a millimetre and left a millimetre. This image is very faint. There is no clearly discernible image of yellow and utterly no trace of the fifth special colour (blue-grey).

Magenta and cyan, however, in registration with each other show a clear image down 3mm and right 9mm. This produces a very blurred looking stamp and the secondary image prints in the stamp margins across to the right hand stamp. The margins of the secondary image have produced a light strip vertically on each stamp running through the smaller foreground yacht. All-in-all a most interesting and rare error known by us only in a block of four and a vertical pair.

NEW ISSUES AND VARIETIES

by Rob Talbot

Aircraft (2 May 2001)

This is quite a dreary set with the possible exception of the 90c value – a dashing Tiger Moth painted crocus yellow (the avian equivalent of a red MGA sports car). Unless you were a schoolboy in the heyday of the others the rest were very ho-hum.

This issue is selected as the subject of the current “prestige” or miniature sheet booklet, a series started with Racehorses in 1996. With individual **and** composite miniature sheets producing a double set this was never a cheap item. Regrettably NZ Post have seen fit to add nearly 45% to the face value as a “collectable” premium. Accordingly this prestige booklet will not be listed in the CP Catalogue and we will be supplying only to specific order.

As the same situation exists with presentation packs, (e.g. Greetings), we are seeking confirmation orders from **all** customers on standing order who would normally expect to receive “prestige” (M/S) booklets and/or presentation packs.

This booklet was only mentioned in “Stamps Focus” and not at all in “Collector’s Notes” (both promotional literature distributed by NZ Post). Therefore the following technical notes do not include information on the prestige booklet.

Stamps and FDC were designed by Rob Poulton of Auckland. Stamps were printed by Southern Colour Print and though not mentioned in Collector’s Notes, probably by litho. Four process colours were used and the paper type was de la Rue 103 gsm red phosphor stamp paper guillotined into sheets of 25 stamps (5 x 5). Perforation gauges 14.1 x 14.3 and mesh is vertical (the prestige booklet stamps are no different in this regard).

40c	Douglas DC-3
80c	Fletcher FU 24 Topdresser
90c	De Havilland DH82A Tiger Moth
\$1.30	Fokker FV11b/3m (Southern Cross)
\$1.50	De Havilland DH100 Vampire
\$1.80	Boeing & Westervelt Seaplane

Greetings 2001 (6 June 2001)

The designs are attractive and may be described as mood-setting images (photographic) on ethereal pastel-coloured backgrounds. I certainly favour them over the 1998 versions. What particularly stamps them as a departure from previous issues is the tag or label attached at the right of each design. In the sheets as issued at all Post Offices these tags are pastel coloured with lines of the word "greetings" reversed out of the background at an angle to the tag.

However, for a small fee of 40c per 40c stamp and 50c per 90c stamp you can personalise that tag. The minimum quantity is only 2 sheets and you supply the artwork in photographic format to precise rules. Delivery lead time is targeted at between 4 – 6 weeks though there is no guarantee and this and other let-outs are in the (very!) fine print section.

Because the labels are of different proportions to the stamp there had to be a special perforation tool made and potentially could be a quintuple head! The lay-up of the print sheet is unknown at this stage but we might expect multiple passes under a quintuple head with the sheet being oriented differently per pass. Certainly this issue was not perforated conventionally.- - that we can say!

Stamps and FDC designed by Esther Bunning, Watermark of Wellington. Printer is SNP Ausprint by litho in four process colours. Paper type is 104gsm, Tullis Russell red phosphor gummed stamp paper. One sheet of 5 x 4 (i.e. four sets of stamps) per value. Perforation gauges 14.5 x 14 and mesh is vertical.

40c designs: Bow, ring, heart; balloons; orange flower; gift; brass instrument

90c designs: Candles; star shapes; rosebuds; picture of a picture of a; fountain pen

Belgica 2001 (Brussels 9-15 June)

A reprint of the "Moving the mail" stamps within a differently designed miniature sheet. There is no back-printed (over or under the gum!) description and also there is a change of mesh to give a listable variety of all stamps.

Miniature sheet and FDC designed by CommArts Design of Wellington. Printed by Southern Colour Print in litho by four colour process on de la Rue 103gsm red phosphor coated stamp paper. Perforation gauges 14 and mesh is horizontal (core issue is vertical).

"It goes without saying that I appreciate your expert handling of the stamps sent which I am not used to in the past, even if I have only sold some items to dealers in New Zealand"

PA10, PA31a 10c Queen's head and surcharge**Printing Colours Redefined**

The colours used for this issue (and subsequent surcharge) have now been defined as the traffic lights appear (not as the general appearance of the facial and dress colours as previously listed). This will clear up the confusion surrounding the two missing colours namely ochre, was flesh, and orange, was yellow. The Catalogue listings will be changed when PA section is next published as below.

PA10a	14 ¼ x 13¾	Black, ochre, magenta, orange, blue	1.25	50
(Z)		Imperforate (pair) (ex 2A1A and 2B1B)	\$750	*
(Y)		Double impression of frame	\$100	-
[10]		Plates 1A1A1A1A1A, 1B1B1B1B1B, 2A1A1A1A1A, 2B1B1B1B1B	each \$30.00	
		First Day Cover	\$5.50	
PA10b	14¼ x 14½	As PA10a	50	25
(Z)		Frame (blue colour) omitted	\$900	-
(Y)		Grossly misplaced perfs	\$125	*
(X)		Partial blue offset on back	\$125	*
(W)		Frame partially omitted	\$200	*
(V)		Ochre colour omitted*	*	-
(U)		Pair imperforate (ex 3A2A and 3B2B)	\$500	-
(T)		Orange colour omitted**	\$400	*
[10]		Plates 3A2A2A2A2A or 3B2B2B2B2B or 4A2A2A2A2A or 4B2B2B2B2B	each \$10.00	
[10]		Value block from plate 3B2B2B2B2B containing R2/6 "bruised forehead" flaw	\$20.00	

* Ochre was originally termed "flesh" being the major pigment in the face.

** Orange was originally termed "yellow" being the major colour in the yellow dress. Also see PA31a.

PA31a	14c on 10c	(31 Aug 1979) PA10b	50	30
[10]		Plate Nos. 3A2A2A2A2A or 3B2B2B2B2B, 2 dot...	each \$10.00	
[10]		Plate Nos. 3A2A2A2A2A or 3B2B2B2B2B, 3 dot..	each \$10.00	
[10]		Plate No. 4A2A2A2A2A or 4B2B2B2B2B, 3 dot..	each \$10.00	
(Z)		Orange colour omitted (See note for PA10b)	\$450	
(Y)		Ochre colour omitted (See note for PA10b)	*	
(X)		Surcharge inverted	\$800	

Remaining varieties are unchanged

FIFTY YEARS AGO

by Campbell Paterson

From the Newsletter - July 1951

"The Postage Stamps of New Zealand" – Volume II

I have just received my copy of the new volume from the Royal Society. (Incidentally the Secretary of the "Royal" appeals to all who do not yet have their copies not to write asking why – the binding is being done as quickly as possible, but it will be some time yet before all orders can be filled).

I will not attempt a detailed review of the book – for one thing, it will take me weeks properly to digest the wealth of information. Again, as is well known, the contributors of the various chapters are all leaders in their chosen fields and have produced their customary masterly work. Facile praise or criticism based on a few hours' study would be useless and indeed presumptuous. Sufficient it is to say that the new work is obviously a very worthy supplement to its famous companion Volume I. Together they form a record of New Zealand's stamps which must excite the admiration and envy of collectors of other countries less ably served. All the contributors and particularly the co-editors, Messrs R.J.G. Collins and C.W. Watts, have richly earned the thanks and congratulations of all New Zealand specialists.

As one who has been and still is, in the throes of editing, I have a very keen appreciation of what lies behind such a work.

Our New Catalogue

As will be seen by the advertisement elsewhere in this Newsletter, we live in hopes that July will see the Catalogue appear. Being a Catalogue and therefore usable as a guide to market trends, we cannot (in fairness to all) distribute them as they come through, but must wait and make a general distribution of all prepaid orders at the same time.

Sight Sorting the 1935-47 Pictorials

3d Maori Girl

This is one of the easiest stamps of the set to sort, as there was only one issue in each of the Single and Multiple watermark groups. It is again a matter of separating the two by the mesh, if possible, or alternatively by use of the watermark detector. The mesh is always vertical for the Single watermark and horizontal for the Multiple. Once separated, the "Single" group should be checked for inverted watermarks, which are scarce. In the "Multiples", inverted watermarks again occur, though not common, and there are several fine re-entries to be found. These latter are excellent examples and scarce, as they appeared very late in the life of the plate and are seldom seen.

Does Specialisation Pay?

It has come to our surprised notice that in this county there is still one dealer who doubts that specialisation handsomely repays its devotees – both in the fun they get and in the chance it gives them of building up a real asset in the form of an advanced collection. While we realise that the very obvious world-wide trend toward specialisation may not yet have made itself felt in some places, we do not think many collectors are in doubt about the wisdom of the modern trend – notwithstanding anything Confucius may have said 5000 years ago.

"Thank you for your letter and enclosures received recently with which I am more than pleased. Thank you for sending them on approval, just like old times!" – (I.G. McR-O, Cornwall)

Campbell Paterson's Catalogue - Ready this Month!

The above statement is a rash one, we know, and we may be caught short in these days when so many things can and do go wrong. However, we have every reason to hope that July will see the advent of Mr Paterson's long-awaited magnum opus. (He himself says that so far it is all opus and not a sign of a magnum).

One thing is certain - that when the Catalogue appears the lucky ones will be those who ordered in advance. Already over 80 per cent of the intended printing is sold unseen - the public evidently expects something good, and we do not think they are going to be disappointed.

To those who have not ordered already, we say "DO IT NOW!" It is later than you think. Price 15/- - Post Free

The Catalogue

I was rash indeed when I named July as the publishing date. Since the last Newsletter went out there has seemed to be nothing but delay and more delay. Now it seems that both the printer and I have overestimated the speed at which the printer can rush the job through. However, that is because he (the printer) is producing a good job. As he says, if he were content with second-class work he could go quicker. As I am not prepared to hurry him at the cost of good workmanship (and I do not think any readers would want me to), it looks as if August will be well on to us before the Catalogues go out.

W66b(V) Advertising "Threatened Birds"**Printed on the backing paper?**

by Rob Talbot

Whilst checking new stock of the above booklet under UV light I thought I had struck the mother lode! However the first impressions of "being printed on the backing paper" e.g. W66b(Ya), proved incorrect in some detail but still left a mystery as yet unresolved.

As in W66b(Ya) the white (unprinted) portions of the cover reacted brightly instead of the usual dull white. Opening the booklet confirmed the inner (Stampside) surfaces reacted less brightly. Unfortunately the adhesive was correctly positioned on the reverse of the stamps.

After removing one stamp from each of the normal and "variety" booklets (for washing) I checked the inside surfaces again under UV. In the normal booklet, where the stamp had been removed, I obtained the reaction from the plastic coated "inner" surface of the backing paper. It was so dull that it looked like the black hole of Calcutta surrounded by the regular white reacting stamp paper.

In the variety booklet the coated surface of the backing paper showed through the stamp paper with much less contrast. This is a very dramatic differentiation indeed. Of course I was very keen to check the backs of the stamps I had earlier removed to wash off the adhesive.

There was no difference in reaction between the two stamps. I rechecked the inside of the booklets, i.e. the stamp paper, and both reacted the same. Of course the "black hole" still clearly identified the normal booklet. By now it seemed that the stamp paper was probably the same and only the backing paper differentiated the booklets.

Continued bottom opposite page

JULY SELECTION

Including material of great rarity, interest and specialisation. At least one entirely new discovery is presented this month (see notes) which will be listed in the CP Catalogue and is absolutely unique in our experience in a number of ways. We recommend close study of the following lists which include some fabulous material culled from our recent major European purchase.

Full Face Queen

- 1 (a) **A6c(1) (SG16) 1/- Dull Emerald-Green** imperforate, printed by Richardson on unwatermarked white paper. One of the nicer copies we have seen lately with four full and even margins, absolutely intact on the back and light obliterator 18 marking 50% over face. Unobtrusive surface marking in red at the top which conforms to the ink of the London receiving mark. Superbly presentable copy (new Catalogue \$4,500) \$3,975



1898 Pictorials

- 2 (a) **EV4f 1½d Boer War**, wmk W6 p11, re-entry R2/12. Designated by the CP Catalogue to be the best re-entry of all New Zealand stamps. Virtually total doubling throughout, very fine used example, centred left, difficult to match \$200
 or example with more central marking, also centred left with thin spot \$50
- (b) **EV4f 1½d ditto**. Perf 14. Very much rarer item in any condition and particularly, as in this case, in very fine dated used example. Light marking and stamp perfectly centred. One of the finest examples we have ever seen \$475

PRINTED ON THE BACKING PAPER? (Cont)

Because the adhesive is on the stamp, unlike W66b(Ya), we cannot say the printer has made a mistake. Strictly speaking we also cannot blame the papermaker. In fact this is an error of paper conversion. The processes of slitting, i.e. slitting the large rolls coming from the paper-making machine and re-winding onto smaller width (deckle) and diameter rolls; sheeting to various standard size sheets or, as here, laminating sheets of different papers together all occur after paper-making.

Once again the self-adhesives have produced a new type of error which is unique to their own technology and manufacturing process. It is not necessarily by accident as stock of backing paper may have been exhausted and the operative may have purposely used stamp paper instead.

As the stamps themselves cannot be differentiated this is unlikely to be Catalogue listed. Furthermore, identification is only reliable with the aid of UV. However, the growing band of booklet collectors and similarly growing use of UV lamps will certainly see this "discovery" occur again.

- (c) **E5a 2d Pembroke Peak (Brown Lake)**. Fine set of three re-entries R5/2, R8/7 and R10/12. Nice chance to complete these elusive plate varieties. Massive Catalogue value (\$250+). The complete set with photocopied illustration in each case \$30



- (d) **EP8b 2½d Lake Wakatipu**, no watermark, perf 11, overprinted "O.P.S.O." Quite extraordinary example of this huge rarity on dated copy (9th April 1906) overprinted in Violet. Absolutely verified and by the presence of the reversed New Zealand Post and Telegraph Department frank stamp on the back. The adhesive has been affixed over the frank stamp to defray overseas postage, possibly while the frank stamp impression was damp. 100% unconditionally guaranteed as genuine and a most remarkable item, easily ranking with usage on cover \$2,500
- (e) **E9b 3d Huias**, unwatermarked, perf 11 in Deep Yellow-Brown – superb dated used block of four. Lovely item \$40



- (f) **E12b 4d Lake Taupo**, perf 11, watermarked. One of the scarcer items of the series in fine used as this copy is. One of the finest we have seen and dated (1903). \$175

- (g) **E12f 4d Taupo**, perf 14 x 12¾ - 13¼, watermark W7. **UNIQUE ITEM FOR THIS ISSUE AND ALL OTHER ISSUES FEATURING THIS SCARCE PERFORATION.** Possibly one of the greater discoveries of the past twenty five years in New Zealand philately, we feature this month the unique block of four showing the use of two different perf heads se tenant, in side selvedge block of four, both heads of the same gauge. Never before discovered in the (nearly) 100 years since it was issued this fabulous item deserves to be featured in an international Gold Medal or Grand Prix winning collection. To be given a new Catalogue listing in the CP Catalogue E12g

\$15,000

- (h) **E14e 6d Kiwi (Red)**, watermarked, perf 11, very fine used. Very fine example in Rose-Carmine – near perfect \$7.50
 or copy in Carmine-Pink, fine commercially used \$7.50
 or in Brick-Red, as fine as we have seen \$125
 or in Salmon, very fine used example (Catalogue \$125) \$100
 or the complete set in very fine used, Rose, Rose-Red, Rose-Carmine, Carmine-Pink, Brick-Red, Salmon, all in near perfect used copies with fine centring \$275
- (i) **E15a 6d Kiwi (Red)**, redrawn, perf 14. Superb example of the scarcer shade Deep Rose-Red \$50
 or fine copy in Red \$40
 or extremely rare dated copy in the legendary Pale Rose shade. Unpriced in CP this copy is, while centred left, also dated and unmistakably a fully unconditionally guaranteed example of the rare shade. Very rare indeed \$975
 or demonstrable example in Deep Aniline-Pink. Stamp shows considerable show-through to the back (as Aniline should) and the shade is deep and brilliant. Very fine used. \$75
- (j) **E15b 6d (Redrawn) ditto**, perf 14 x 12¾ - 13¼. Fine used example of the scarce perforation \$200
- (k) **E15c 6d (Redrawn) ditto**, perf 14 x 15. Used example in Deep Aniline-Pink – very fine \$75



- (l) **E18c 1/- Kea & Kaka**. Abnormal watermark W4 (inverted), perf 11. Nice commercially used example postmarked Rawene 20th January 1904. Perfs all present and stamp fully intact and uncreased (if slightly straightened edge bottom left and top right). This is a most creditable and utterly genuine example of this great rarity. Seldom seen but often referred to (Catalogue \$3,500) \$2,950



- (m) **E19b 1/- (Redrawn) ditto**, p14 x 15 Orange-Brown LHM copy in the deepest shade we've seen \$800

- (n) **E20d 2/- Milford Sound**, watermarked, perf 11. Superb very lightly hinged example in the newly listed shade “Deep Blue-Green”. A really lovely item and very rare \$500
or ditto very fine used example of the re-entry R6/10 clearly visible doubling of right hand frame line, etc. \$250
- (o) **EO6b 2d Pembroke Peak Official**, perf 14. Two examples of shades which we have never seen before. Both are variations on the major shades listed – Purple and Red-Purple. However, these examples are very deep and intense variations and will add quite a lot of depth to any showing of this otherwise quite common stamp. Fine used copy in Deep Blackish-Purple \$50
or very fine example in Deep Red-Purple \$50

King Edward VII

- 3 (a) **H3a 3d Chestnut** perf 14 x 14½, block of four, very fine used in Bistre-Brown – Lovely item \$30
- (b) **H3a 3d Ditto** in Deep-Chestnut, top right selvedge serial number block of four in fine condition. (PO clerk’s accounting mark does not detract) \$350
- (c) **H4b 4d Red-Orange** perf 14 line. Magnificent UHM top right selvedge serial number block of four. \$425
- (d) **H5a 5d Brown** perf 14 line. Another UHM top right serial number selvedge block of four in Red-Brown \$300
- (e) **H6b 6d Carmine** perf 14 x 14½. Fine commercially used block of four in Deep Carmine \$25
- (f) **H7e 8d Indigo-Blue** perf 14 line. Extraordinary 2LH, 2UH block of four in this sideways watermark issue. A missing perf pin in the vertical perforations across the sheet just above the horizontal row of perfs gives the strong appearance of comb perforating characteristics. A proving piece, the implications of which are interesting to think through \$360
- (g) **H8b(y) 1/- Orange-Vermilion** perf 14 x 14½. UHM bottom left selvedge block of four showing the major re-entry R10/1 \$1,000

Officials

- (h) **HO3a 3d Chestnut** perf 14 x 14½. Commercially used block of four \$50
- (i) **HO8b(z) 1/- Orange-Vermilion** perf 14 x 14½. Bottom left corner selvedge pair showing R10/1 “V” in “Revenue” doubling (re-entry as above) \$575
- (j) **HO8b 1/- Ditto** perf 14 x 14½ UHM example with extended bottom selvedge showing the selvedge marking “2 plate dots”. Rare item \$575

“No doubt most members are not English literature fans with Lamb, Walton and Dickens on your shelves but you may have at one time or another turned to *Campbell Patersons* for the wisdom and offerings of the monthly newsletter.” - (Suzanne Vaassen – “The Mail Coach”)

RECENT PURCHASES

1935 Pictorials

594	(a)	L1b ½d Fantail plate variety noted in Royal Vol II from plate 1A, R1/1 large diagonal dash of colour on tail feathers, also colour above bird's head extends down on to head, in top left selvedge corner block of four	UHM	\$25
	(b)	L1b ½d Fantail plate variety noted in Royal Vol II from the unnumbered plate, R2/21 a spike through AN of LAND, in top right selvedge corner block of eight	UHM	\$25
	(c)	LO1b ½d Official plate variety noted in Royal Vol II from the unnumbered plate, R9/7 shading lines on bird missing, in lower selvedge strip of three	UHM	\$25
	(d)	L1b ½d Fantail: LV1c plate 1A block of nine, R8/1 clematis flaw, no flaw on R8/3. UH/LH, several tone spots (Cat \$75)		\$10
	(e)	L2a(z) 1d Kiwi inverted watermark, selvedge copy (Cat \$10)	LHM	\$6
	(f)	L2c(z) 1d Kiwi booklet stamp inverted wmk	UHM	\$30
	(g)	L2c(z) ditto ditto	LHM	\$20
	(h)	L2d(z) 1d Kiwi , mult wmk, inverted wmk	UHM	\$10
	(i)	L2d(z) ditto ditto	LHM	\$6
	(j)	L2d 1d Kiwi: LV2d plate variety noted in Royal Vol II, plate A3 plate block of four, R9/2 spot by top of cabbage tree trunk	UHM	\$25
	(k)	L2d 1d Kiwi coil leader strip of three, attached to strip of four perforated (plus one unit partly gummed) stamp size paper leader	UHM	\$50
595	(a)	L5a(y) 2½d Mt Cook and Lilies inverted watermark, selvedge copy (Cat \$50)	LHM	\$30
	(b)	L6b(z) 3d Maori Girl inverted wmk (Cat \$85)	LHM	\$45
	(c)	L7b(z) 4d Mitre Peak inverted wmk, selvedge copy	UHM	\$25
	(d)	L8c(z) 5d Swordfish inverted wmk (Cat \$60)	LHM	\$35
	(e)	L9b(z) 6d Harvesting inverted wmk (Cat \$50)	LHM	\$30
	(f)	L10b(z) 8d Tuatara inverted wmk (Cat \$40)	LHM	\$25
	(g)	L11c(z) 9d Panel inverted wmk HHM, toning (Cat \$150)		\$15
	(h)	LO12c(z) 1/- Official , right selvedge block of four R8/23 – R9/24, all four stamps showing various similar minor plate varieties, including bottom frame line re-entry, UHM, tone spot (Cat \$200)		\$150
596	(a)	L13a(z) 2/- Capt Cook inverted wmk (Cat \$150)	LHM	\$90
	(b)	L13b: LV13a(y) 2/- Capt Coqk R1/4 flaw (Cat \$200)	LHM	\$120
	(c)	L13c: LV13a(x) 2/- Capt Coqk R1/4, selvedge copy	UHM	\$110
	(d)	L13d: LV13a(w) 2/- Capt Coqk R1/4 flaw (Cat \$640)	LHM	\$400
	(e)	L13e: LV13a(v) 2/- Capt Coqk R1/4 flaw (Cat \$150)	LHM	\$90
	(f)	L13f: LV13a(u) 2/- Capt Coqk R1/4 flaw, selvedge copy	UHM	\$65
	(g)	L14d(z) 3/- Mt Egmont inverted wmk (Cat \$85)	LHM	\$50

597	(a)	O14a 1960 Pictorials 1/6d Tiki: OV14a green dots on left edge of design	FU	\$25
	(b)	O18b 1964 3/- multicolour: OV18b R1/6 retouch in sky top selvedge pair	UHM	\$25
	(c)	OD4a 1967 2½c Kowhai: ODV41 pl. 2A R10/6 large white flaw on 2	U	\$2
Commemoratives				
598	(a)	S3a(z) 1906 Christchurch Exhibition 3d R4/2 flaw behind Maori chieftain – prominent variety (Cat \$425)	LHM	\$325
	(b)	S43a(w) 1946 Peace 3d Airforce corner selvedge block of eight R2/4 completed rudder and retouch dots left	UHM	\$10
	(c)	S43a(v) ditto, corner selvedge block of six R3/2 completed runner and retouch dots left and right	UHM	\$10
	(d)	S43a(v) ditto, ditto block of four	U	\$10
	(e)	S45a(u) 5d Navy selvedge block of four R8/1 trailing aerial flaw	UHM	\$15
	(f)	S45a(u) ditto, ditto block of six	U	\$10
	(g)	S48a(x) 9d Chapel block of four R3/3, R4/3 two black flaws by cross	UHM	\$15
	(h)	S88a 1962 Telegraph 3d, a super collection of 19 flaws, all positions noted, including (x) R14/1, R11/2 and (w) R20/3, R15/4 (and 15 others)	U	\$40
	(i)	S92a(z) 1963 COMPAC corner selvedge strip of three, R10/4 cable break	UHM	\$20
599	(a)	SC3a(z) 1962 Christmas pl. 1A R7/1 flaw on shawl on left shoulder	U	\$3
	(b)	SS26a(z) 1977 16c Ocean Beach R1/5 no comma after Ocean Beach	U	\$4
	(c)	T18a(x) 1946 Health 1d right selvedge block of eight, R8/5, R8/8 frame lines re-entries UH/LH, tone stop (Cat \$7.50)		\$4
	(d)	T21a(z) 1949 Health 1d R4/1 bandaged finger flaw in block of four	UHM	\$20
	(e)	T21a(y) ditto R6/8 wristwatch flaw in block of four	UHM	\$20
	(f)	T21b(z) 1949 Health 2d R1/2 no dot below d in block of four	UHM	\$15
	(g)	T21b(y) ditto R6/20 flaw on left of daffodil above NEW in block of four	UHM	\$25
	(h)	T22b 1950 Health 2d unlisted minor flaw R4/3 on cheek in corner selvedge block of 15	UHM	\$5
	(i)	T29a(z) 1957 Health 2d R1/4 flaw spot on foot in block	UHM	\$25
	(j)	T40b(z) 1968 Health 3c R1/1 flaw inside yellow circle near black circle in block	UHM	\$8

PA10 and W13a 10c Queen**Are the booklet plate numbers finally revealed?**by **Rob Talbot**

We have recently seen several blocks (4 x 10) across the bottom of sheets from plates numbered 2A1A1A1A1A. The most obvious point of interest is a narrow “tramline” doctor blade flaw horizontally across the full width which was on all sheets viewed. A second look revealed something strange about the colours used (readily seen in the traffic light blocks) and this was the start of an interesting investigation.

Undoubtedly tandem plates 2B1B1B1B1B also existed with this variety but as you will discover may never be seen. This examination only concerns sheets from the first perforation as the plates 2A1A1A1A1A and 2B1B1B1B1B only came with that perforation (14¼ x 13¾).

Readers of our recent articles on the colours of this issue will not be surprised that the “confusing” ones on the regular sheets are the equivalent of ochre and orange. These are the second and fourth colours reading left to right across the plate numbers (bottom to top for the traffic lights). Those of this month’s subject blocks, however, are better described as buff and yellow-buff.

In making this comparison I not only checked plates with the same numbers but **all** plates regardless of perforation. A quick look at the **booklets** of this issue will show you that the narrow selvedge remnant by which the pane is attached could not possibly carry any colour blocks. None of our stock of plateblocks exhibited the yellow-buff (4th colour) and all had a healthy differentiation between the 2nd and 4th colours. Those of the subject blocks were very close indeed in colour – i.e. both unmistakably “buff”.

My initial inclination was towards these blocks being printer’s waste, finally surfacing in the market place. The slight registration shift of the yellow-buff (should be orange remember!) plus the already-mentioned doctor blade flaw gave weight to that feeling. But the colour of the dress being in the buff rather than yellow orange suggested something else.

Could there have been a printing error caused by the printer topping up his “orange” ink reservoir with the “buff/ochre” ink? The closeness in hue of these two colours was noted above. Or perhaps in the fine tuning of colour that takes place **on the press** this may have been one of the colour trials?

Only one forlorn hope of resolving the mystery remains ...switch on the ultra violet lamp. Comparing all imprints 2A1A1A1A1A the subject blocks reacted much more brightly under UV – clearly a different paper to the other PA10a sheet issues: when a copy of the booklet W13a took its turn under the hot light it became apparent where the paper under discussion had been used to produce them.

If the subject blocks are indeed from the printing used for booklets then we have ascertained they were printed from the 2A1A1A1A1A and 2B1B1B1B1B plates. Perhaps even this, much less the other conjectures mooted, will remain another philatelic mystery.

1½ BOER WAR – 1900

Arguably one of the ugliest stamps of its era, the 1½d Boer War occupies, nevertheless, a position of great affection in the minds of collectors of the first Pictorial issue. This month an extraordinary listing of shades and varieties in this issue as well as a major discount offer!

- | | | |
|--------|--|----------------------|
| 10 (a) | E4a 1½d Boer War, wmk W6 p11 , in beautifully centred UHM
- Brown | \$175 |
| | or lightly hinged (crease) | \$25 |
| | or in superb 2LH 2UHM block of four | \$550 |
| (b) | E4a 1½d ditto , in Chestnut, perfect UHM block of four
or single | \$200
\$45 |
| (c) | E4a 1½d ditto , Pale Chestnut, block of four UHM
or single | \$200
\$45 |
| (d) | E4a 1½d ditto , Reddish-Chestnut. Magnificent UHM block of
four
or fine single | \$150
\$50 |
| (e) | E4a 1½d ditto . Lovely set of shades in lightly hinged copies of
very fine appearance. Brown, Chestnut (the palest shade we have
seen), Reddish-Chestnut and a striking shade of Chestnut with
which we are unfamiliar which is best described as Bright Yellow-
Chestnut | \$150 |
| 11 (a) | E4a 1½d Boer War ditto , fine used with superb centring and light
markings. Brown
or Chestnut \$20; or Pale Chestnut \$20; or Reddish-Chestnut
or shade as above Yellow-Chestnut | \$80
\$25
\$30 |
| 12 (a) | E4b 1½d Boer War, wmk W7 p14 . Lovely UHM block of four –
special price (Catalogue \$120)
or very fine UHM single with beautiful centring (Catalogued \$30) | \$100
\$20 |

or DISCOUNT OPPORTUNITY OF THE MONTH

- | | | |
|--------|---|--------------|
| 12 (b) | E4b 1½d Boer War, perf 14 . We have a small number of very
fine used examples of this stamp available and are happy to offer
them at a discount – JULY ONLY . The recently acquired copies
are all of perfect centring, very light CDS marking and dated.
Catalogue price fine used is \$125 and they are offered this month
at \$95. 2001/2002 Paid-up Newsletter Subscribers Only Please
– send your order with your remittance. Be quick as there is a
handful of copies only..... | each \$95 |
| | or (first come first served) with any order of over \$100 from this
Newsletter | each \$62.50 |

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