

Musings and observations from a lifetime in philately.

FURTHER OBSERVATIONS ON COLOUR

BERMUDA - KING GEORGE 6 - 2 SHILLINGS

Readers who deal in the George Sixth issues from Bermuda will no doubt be aware of the very distinctive 'mottled blue' variety from the 1942 printing. We have all got used to Scott catalogue numbers differing from Gibbons and different again from other catalogues but that surely is as far as it goes? Don't you believe it! The Bermuda 2s mottled blue is actually a colour changeling, but not a changeling in the normal sense of the word - see here

Scott- Sc 123b

dull violet & ultramarine on mottled blue paper

Gibbons - SG 116c

purple & blue on deep blue

Bridger & Kay Commonwealth cat CW 11a

purple & deep blue on mottled blue



So how can dull violet become purple? or ultramarine change to blue then deep blue?

And while we're on this subject, Scott lists three versions of the 2s value, the mottled blue as above and two others, a perf 13 and a perf 14. The perf 13 is of little interest here but the other perf 14 (Sc 123a cat \$9.25) is worth looking out for. If you can buy from a US listing for between \$5 and \$10, you could be on to a winner ... that one Scott listing is represented by five listings in Gibbons - there's the more common 116c & 16d at £11 and £15 respectively, but there's also the first printing at £100 and two others (including the line perf 14.25) catalogued at £300 and £325. A neat purchase like this could pay your Society subs for several years.

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