

**IRISH
PHILATELIC
STUDY
GROUP**

JOURNAL



I.S.G

Journal

Issued for IRISH STUDY GROUP

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I.P.S.G. JOURNAL

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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

I welcome the opportunity, given by this first number of the I.S.G. Journal, to send a message to all members of the Group.

The regional arrangements suggested in my letter of 23rd November to all members, are now in operation, and we are all indebted to members R.P.Woods (South), R.Crookes (North) and W.Kane (Ireland) for accepting the position of Regional Hon. Sec. in their respective areas.

More especially we are grateful to Mr. Woods and those who have collaborated with him, for their efforts in launching the Journal in which this message will come to members. We wish them every success and it is hoped that members will ease their task by contributing material for publication.

Mr. Telfer's Bibliography, on the publication of which a start is now made, will fill a long felt need. We wish him every success with this.

We are all grateful to Mr. Leonard for all that he has done throughout the period of "growing pains", and it is pleasing to feel that his burden is now eased by the regional arrangements.

London Exhibition. The Postal History Society, of which several of us are members, has very kindly extended an invitation to the members of our Group to use their private lounge in the Festival Hall throughout the period of the Exhibition (July 9th to 16th next) and has placed a special meeting room at our disposal on Wednesday July 13th from 3 p.m. for our first General Meeting (as distinct from the Regional Meetings which have already been held).

Further particulars of this Meeting will be announced nearer the time, but meanwhile all Group members intending to visit the Exhibition are asked to try to include Wednesday July 13th in the period of their visit, and to attend this Meeting.

It is hoped that, amongst other business, it may be possible to adopt a Constitution and Rules, and to appoint Officers with such powers as are thought necessary to conduct the affairs of the Group. Those of us who have been doing that are grateful for the manner in which members have accepted the arrangements which we have made without any formal authority to do so, but I think we should all welcome more definite knowledge of the extent to which we may act. Our membership is so widely scattered that opportunities to consult members in General Meeting will obviously be few and far between.

With all good wishes and hoping to see you on July 13th.

Yours sincerely,

Thomas E. Field.

P.S. If any members have overlooked the request, made in my letter of 23rd November, to remit 10/- to Mr. Leonard at 2 Alvanley Road, West Derby, Liverpool 12, to cover membership for 1960, will they please now do so?

EDITORIAL

The success of a Philatelic Society or a specialised Study Group, such as ours, is dependent upon the support given by the members whether monetary or in kind. Where a regular programme of meetings can be drawn up, then attendance is a measure of success, coupled with the willingness of members to undertake certain offices and duties.

Our membership is scattered and what is perhaps unusual about us, is the number of active working personnel we appear to have. This means that official duties cannot be thrust upon retired people, who are usually the backbone of a large number of Societies. This is all to the good, but it does mean that it imposes heavy strains on the time of those who are most enthusiastic, but providing they get the support I know the time is never begrudged.

Most specialist Groups produce their own Journal or magazine, and it is felt that the time is ripe for the I.S.G. to enter the field as well. For your comments, and it is hoped your interest and pleasure, the Editorial Staff present the first issue of the I.S.G. Journal.

We hope there will be criticisms, views and opinions for those are the means whereby a journal improves and grows, but what is urged upon readers is the need for material. Mr. Telfer's Bibliography can be relied upon for several issues, but extra articles, news items, etc will be needed.

This Journal is not meant to replace the invaluable "Irish Philatelic News" supplied by our Mr. Dixon; indeed it is to be considered as complementary to it.

The covers are a temporary measure at present and it is hoped that we shall have our own special covers, but this will depend upon all members paying their dues as and when called upon.

To summarise, the I.S.G. should have its own periodical, and here it is - twice if not four times a year - but is dependent upon its members to supply the necessary data; your views and criticisms are called for, so that the next issue can be improved, but enlargement will cost more! and please supply the necessary data for inclusion in its pages.

Thank you.

March, 1960.

R.P. Woods.
T.S. Telfer.
M.C. Mabberley.

POSTAL HISTORY

The following extract quoted verbatim will be of interest to all Postal Historians of the Group. It is hoped to find other genuine news items from this unusual find of old "Illustrated London News" .

"The Illustrated London News", November 26th, 1853.

" The Steam-ship "Stag".

This fine vessel is one of three magnificent new steam vessels respectively named "Stag", "Elk" and "Lynx" now fitting out for the Glasgow and Belfast Royal Mail Steam Packet service. The mails between Scotland and Ireland have been conveyed by this route since July, 1849 with a regularity and convenience unknown before, when the mails between the two countries were carried in Government steam vessels between Port Patrick and Donaghadee.

The service was undertaken by Messrs. Burns of Glasgow and has been carried out by them entirely free of charge to Government by their steam vessels employed for the conveyance of goods and passengers between these important districts of the two countries - thus conferring an important benefit on the community by their regularity and efficiency, and at the same time saving a large sum of money to the country every year by the withdrawal of the expensive and inefficient packet stations formerly maintained.

"

CANCELLATIONS

Combination of Letters in Triangular Obliterating Stamps of Eire.

Compiled by the late Chas. E. Edridge of Greenock in 1955.

M. Leonard published a list of these cancellations in "Stamp Collecting", 17th April, 1953. It is apparent that the late Chas. Edridge compiled this from that list with two additions. It is felt, however, that it will be of assistance to our newer members.

ABC = Abbeylax	CWB = Clones
ALB = Arklow	CWC = Clonmel
ALR = Athenry	CWH = Clonakilty
ALT = Athlone	CWU = Cootehill
ALV = Athy	GG = Curragh Camp
ANU = An Uaimh	
ARO = Ardee	DA = Drogheda
	DJA = Donegal
BAC = Dublin	DJO = Dromoo
BJ = Ballinasloe	DLO = Dunlaoghaire
BQ = Birr	DMP = Dungarvan
BWY = Ballina	DHG = Dundalk
BXY = Ballyhaunis	EIF = Edenderry
BYE = Ballymote	EIP = Enniscorthy
BYJ = Ballyshannon	EJ = Edgeworthstown
BYS = Bandon	ES = Ennis
BYV = Bantry	
BZC = Belturbet	FE = Ferns
BZJ = Blackrock	FY = Fermoy
BZQ = Boyle	
BZR = Bray	GA = Galway
BZZ = Buttevant	GF = Gorey
	GS = Greystones
CCO = Ceanannus Mor	
CHB = Charlestown	KHH = Kilkenny
CK = Cork	KHR = Killeshandra
CQN = Claremorris	KHX = Killucan
CTF = Cahir	KIF = Kilmallock
CTJ = Callan	KIG = Knocklong
CTO = Carlow	KIJ = Kilrush
CTU = Carrickmacross	KIZ = Kinsale
CTV = Carrick-on-Shannon	KOV = Cobh
CTW = Carrick-on-Suir	KY = Killarney
CUA = Cashel	
CUV = Castlebar	LQF = Lifford
CUY = Castleblayney	LK = Limerick
GV = Avoca	LTV = Letterkenny
CVI = Castlerea	LUI = Listowel
CVM = Cavan	LUL = Longford
CVT = Clara	LUS = Loughrea



March, 1960

DMG = Dundalk	TP = Tipperary
MJR = Monastereven	TJA = Tralee
MPR = Middleton	TJI = Tuam
MPZ = Mitchelstown	TJR = Tullamore
MRB = Moate	
MRH = Monaghan	WSC = Westport
MRY = Mountrath	WSE = Wexford
MSI = Mullingar	WSM = Wicklow
MUB = Muine Beag	WT = Waterford
MW = Mallow	
	YL = Youghal
NIG = Naas	
NIL = Nenagh	200 = Dunmanway
NJE = New Ross	507 = Ballinrobe
PJU = Portarlinton	DN = Dublin
PTL = Port Laoghise	KGT =
RIG = Roscommon	
RK = Roscrea	
RLU = Rath Luire	
SYK = Skibbereen	
SYN = Sligo	
SYI = Swinford	
TIK = Templemore	
TIO = Thomastown	
TIR = Thurles	

March, 1960

METER MARKS

It is felt that these will probably increase in Eire, as they are doing in this country. F.E. Dixon records any unusual feature or type in his "I.P.N.S" and the following cover his notes on these from 1958:

Feb. 1958	Electric Supply Board	= U.205
Jan. 20th 1959	Unknown origin	= NV 2
Feb. 19th 1959	Irish Assurance Co.	= NV 28
May, 1959	Messrs. Miller & Son Ltd., Dublin	= U.215
Feb. 10th 1960	Messrs. Jas McMahon Ltd., Limerick	= M.196

Many firms now use the meter machine and I shall be able to give the numbers of those timber firms who correspond with the Timber Development Association, but a comprehensive list on this subject would be a welcome addition to the data on Irish postal knowledge. Lists of marks of known origins could be sent to me and I will see that they are included in the Journal.

REMEMBER

During the past year F.E. Dixon raised several queries in his "I.P.N.S" - Has anyone found the answers yet? To remind you here they are:

1. What was the significance of the cancellation "Wexford P.T.O. 24 06"
2. A Registered Envelope posted at Drumrury, the flap secured by sealing wax impressed with the sealing stamp of the Office - are there any other examples?
3. Are there any other examples of the "Maltese Cross" with a small dot in the centre as used at Kingston in August, 1842?
4. What is the earliest example of the Dublin paquebot cancellation? Why have none been recorded prior to 1935?
5. What does the cancellation GAILLIMH F indicate? If extra handstamps are now lettered instead of numbered, where are A B C D and E used?

March, 1960.

Some Notes about the Bibliography of Irish Philately

All entries have been arranged in alphabetical order throughout.

Authors' Names are of primary consideration and wherever possible these have been listed, followed by a reference to the title of the subject and the name of the Publishers.

The Names of Press Publications are also listed in alphabetical order, together with data as to the articles which have appeared since the 1922 period.

Any reference to the PRESS covers all Publications which appear at any regular interval, from Daily to Yearly.

Date of publication is important, as it indicates the contemporary nature of the contents. Thus to write about a subject one week old, cannot show the same exhaustive study of the subject as an article written some years later.

Any reference to Irish Philately before the 1922 period must be sought under such titles as "British" or "Great Britain". Many Authors, whilst covering British Philately only, do in fact touch on the special subject of Irish Philately and Postal subjects.

Entries in the Bibliography are, of necessity, very brief and are made in the great majority of cases without sight of the publication or book in question. Therefore, the compiler would welcome any additions or corrections - it is realised that there are bound to be many.

T. Stewart Telfer
8 Clivedon Road,
London, E.4.

January, 1960

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF IRISH PHILATELY

FOREWORD

This Bibliography was first prepared in 1948 - 1950, in an attempt to record all Works of Reference on the subject of Irish Philately. At that time, it was thought that the task would be simple and easy, as it had been found that most Dealers and Booksellers had nothing to offer in the way of Handbooks. However, contrary to popular belief, it became evident that in point of fact quite a lot had been published - particularly in the Philatelic Magazines and Journals.

The task of examining Indexes outgrew its welcome and had perforce to be shelved for some ten years, by which time the Irish Study Group had been formed, resulting in a revival of interest in the Bibliography.

Numerous friends, both inside and outside the membership of the Irish Study Group, have since compiled notes and data and thanks are here recorded to all who have assisted in any way to make the Bibliography reasonably complete.

It is hoped that this Bibliography of Irish Philately will prove of value to Collectors of all tastes and that they will now be able to refer to published articles and books for some guidance in the pursuit of their chosen hobby or subject.

T. Stewart Telfer.

January 1960.

ACTS OF PRIVY COUNCIL - Vol XXIX p. 591

Reference to Postal Service of the Elizabethan Period.

AERO FIELD - by F.J. Field

AIRMAILS OF THE BRITISH ISLES - H.S. Redgrove, 1940

AIRMAILS:

Some of the undernoted are not essential to Irish Collectors, but have their uses at times.

1935	F.J. Field	British Air Mails
1938	G. Lockwood	By Air Mail
1940	H.S. Redgrove	Airmails of the British Isles
1942	N.C. Baldwin	G.B. & Ireland Airmails
	A. Phillips	Airmail Magazine for 1942
1944-		
1948	F.J. Field	Ae ro Field
1948	F.J. Field	World Air Post

N.C. Baldwin	Imperial Airways
N.C. Baldwin	Bridging the Atlantic 1945 - 1950

AIRMAIL MAGAZINE

1940 - September	Eire First Airmails
	Eire Transatlantics
1940 - October	Air Transport Labels of Eire.

ALCOCK, R.C. & HOLLAND, F.C.

The Postmarks of G.B. & Ireland 1660 - 1940
Parts I and II. Published 1940

ALMANACKS & DIRECTORIES

Ireland has been well supplied with annual publications or works of reference. The Postal content of the earliest is trivial and the first series of note is that begun by John Watson as the "Gentleman's and Citizen's Almanack" in 1729. It continued under that name for well over a century and steadily grew in size and usefulness. In it appear lists of Post Towns, postage rates, coach routes and schedules, as well as lists of the M.P.s and Peers, useful in identifying franks. From about 1750 it was often sold bound with Exshaw's "English

Registry" and from the 1760s a third item sometimes included is Wilson's "Dublin Directory". The Directory is mainly an alphabetical list of the tradesmen, but later issues include full details of the Dublin Penny Post services. It was issued with a map of Dublin inserted but this is frequently missing from the volumes which have survived.

In or about 1800 the three items bound together were sold with an engraved title page as "The Treble Almanack" and were often quite elaborately bound - which has helped to preserve them. The 1800 is one of the scarcest. Fewer were sold that year because the price was made excessive by the increase of the Directory Tax to 1/-d.

The Post Office Directory begun in 1832 is discussed on another page, that dealing with Post Office publications.

In 1834 Messrs. Pettigrew and Oulton commenced their "Dublinn Almanac, and General Register of Ireland" which successfully blended the contents of three constituents in the Treble Almanack. Its postal information is very full, e.g. it lists the sub-offices of the rural Penny Posts..

In 1844 came the most famous of them all "Thom's Irish Almanac and Official Directory", as comprehensive as Pettigrew and Oulton's and with additional features such as useful statistical summaries. Within a few years the rivals ceased publication, and Thom's alone survived - until 1958. In that year it was announced that printing costs made the production uneconomic and that no more volumes would appear

The National Library of Ireland and other Dublin libraries have large collections of the almanacks and directories, and many private collectors have accumulated them. (Nearly 20 feet of shelf space in the case of Dixon's library!)

AN ACCOUNT OF IRELAND, STATISTICAL & POLITICAL - by E. Wakefield.

ANDERSON, ERNEST B.

Sailing ships of Ireland. Published 1951 Dublin. Morris & Co.
See reference also under Ship Letters.

ANDERSON, SAM

Types of Handstruck stamps used in Ireland.
Published 1939-40. "P.H.S.B. "

March, 1960.

AUCTIONS & AUCTION CATALOGUES

Catalogues prepared by certain Auctioneers, notably Robson Lowe Ltd., are useful sources of information concerning the existence of varieties and rarities. The description of Lots and photo illustrations confirm previous philatelic knowledge and are invaluable for record purposes. Bound copies of the Catalogue - often very well printed - are usually available after the Sale together with the prices realised.

The following is a brief list of some of the principal auctions of Irish stamps in recent years, and is by no means complete.

H.R. HARMER

1930. May 26 The Agnew Collection. An entire sale of 326 Lots. Very interesting, might be considered an essential, if it were possible to obtain copies, which it seems it is not.
1949. Dec. 12 Lots 445 - 465.

HARMER ROOKE

1949. Oct. 6. Lots 267 - 279.

VESSEY

1951. July 14 Lots 225 - 306.

ROBSON LOWE

- 1931 Priced catalogue of the stamps of the Irish Free State.
1948. Dec. 15 The Hopkins Collection. Lots 277 - 339
1952. Oct. 8 The T.E. Field Surplus of Ireland & G.B. Geo.V
- Dec. 10 Lots 32 - 63
1955. Dec. 7 The Brocklehurst Collection. Lots 341 - 362
1957. Mar. 27 The Sir John Dodds Collection. Lots 32 - 132
1958. Feb. 12 Reputed Fenian Label. Lot 27.
- Apr. 2 The Dr. Stafford Johnson Sale of the Postal History of Ireland. Entire Sale
1959. Mr. Thonton. Postal History. Lots 440 - 471.
- May 6 Ireland 1867 - 1927. Collection offered by the Marquess of Bute.
- Jul. 8 J.S. Preston. Sale of 1676 - 1945. Lots 1 - 82.

March, 1960.