

IRISH PHILATELY

JOURNAL OF THE IRISH PHILATELIC CIRCLE

Edited by

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"Irish Philately"

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EDITORIAL

We begin another year generally
looking forward to whatever may
appear in the field of Irish
philately.

Whilst reading That Was The Year
That Was, I was struck with the
fact that the range of special
booklets is increasing each year,
the aim is generally to increase
the income of the organisation
concerned.

I was perturbed to note that at
least three such Fairs etc., had
no philatelic facilities available,
that is special postmarks, no
attendance by An Post staff etc.
Booklets were produced for these
Fairs and sold at grossly inflated
prices being produced by a
commercial firm. This trend is to
be deprecated by all collectors.

OM Richards

THAT WAS THE YEAR THAT WAS - 1986

by B. Warren

1986 was some what less hectic than the first two years of An Post. No new promotions were inaugurated during the year. Postal rates were increased on 3 March 1986 with the basic inland and EC letter rate increased by 2p to 28p.

SPECIAL AND COMMEMORATIVE ISSUES

The 1986 programme comprising 25 stamps and one sheetlet was issued over eight release dates at a total cost of IR£10.00. This compares with the 1985 totals of 26 stamps and one sheetlet with a cost of IR£10.32. The overall saving was primarily due to the reduction of the number of stamps in the Christmas sheetlet from 16 to 12. All stamps were printed by Irish Security Stamp Printing Limited. Perforations $14 \times 14\frac{3}{4}$ (vertical format) or $14\frac{3}{4} \times 14$ (horizontal format). Printing and sheet layout as per 1985. I have also indicated at the end of the section the paper/gum types. No stamp is known in more than one type.

Date of Issue	Description	Designer and Details	Value	Plate Numbers
30 Jan	Love Stamps (2nd issue)	Stylised bird by Ries Hoek	22p	1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B 2A2A2A2A/ 2B2B2B2B 3A3A2A3A/ 3B3B2B3B
		Pillar Box by Terry Monaghan	26p	1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B
		(Note pillar box retains p & T symbol)		
20 Mar	Fauna and Flora (9th issue)	Original drawings by Ian Loe		
		Ferns		
		Hart's tongue fern	24p	1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B
		Rusty back fern	28p	1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B 2A2A2A1A/ 2B2B2B1B
		Killarney fern	46p	1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B
1 May	Europa (26th issue)	Designed by Gerrit van Gelderen featuring the need for harmony between industry and nature 28p and conservation of hedgerows 39p	28p 39p	1A1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B1B 2A1A1A1A1A/ 2B1B1B1B1B 1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B

27 May	Ireland Series (8th issue)	Designed by Brendan Matthews featuring a view of the Grand Canal at Robertstown, Co Kildare 24p; a fishing scene in Co Mayo 28p and a cruiser at Dromineer, Lough Derg on the river Shannon 30p.	24p 28p 30p	1A1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B1B 1A1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B1B 1A1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B1B/ 1A1A1A1A2A/ 1B1B1B1B2B
27 May	Aer Lingus - 50th Anniversary	Designed by Robert Ballagh featuring a modern "Jumbo Jet" traversing the globe 28p and a pictorial illustration of the first plane, the "Iolar" prior to its inaugural flight 46p.	28p 46p	1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B 1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B
10 Jul	B & I - 150th Anniversary	Designed by Charles Rycraft featuring the 19th century "Severn" 24p and the M.V. Leinster in Dublin Bay 28p. The B & I produced a special first day postcard featuring the M.V. Leinster in her new livery (the photograph on the 28p stamp was taken before a recent refit and change in colours). The card had the 24p stamp (and not the appropriate 28p!) affixed and cancelled with the Dublin FDC postmark on the reverse of the card.	24p 28p	1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B 1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B
10 Jul	Irish Lighthouse Service	Original paintings by Robert Ballagh featuring the Kish Lighthouse 24p and the Fastnet Lighthouse 30p.	24p 30p	1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B 1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B
21 Aug	Centenary of the Dublin Council of Trade Unions	Designed by Robert Ballagh based on a National Library photograph of JP Nannetti the first President beside a linotype operator.	24p	1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B
21 Aug	Statesmen of Ireland - (1st issue) - Arthur Griffith	Line drawing by Robert Ballagh based on a photograph held by the National Library.	28p	1A1A/ 1B1B
21 Aug	Women in Society (1st issue)	Symbolic design reflecting the changing role of women in modern society. Designed by Mel Cameron.	28p	1A1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B1B

21 Aug	International Year of Peace	Designed by Anton Mazer featuring clasped hands 30p and the Irish tricolour with a dove superimposed 46p.	30p 46p	1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B 1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B
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I understand the Dublin Council of Trade Unions produced a special postcard in connection with the 24p stamp but I have not had a sight of the card.

2 Oct	William Mulready Birth Bicentenary	Designed by Colin Harrison and featuring a representation of the artist's studio.	24p	1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B
	Charles Bianconi Birth Bicentenary	Designed by Anton Mazer and featuring Angelo Hayes aquatints - Bianconi car outside Hearn's Hotel, Clonmel 28p and Bianconi long car in transit 39p. Both aquatints held by the National Library.	28p 39p	1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B 1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B

A set of three maximum type cards, the second set to be issued by An Post were also available at 16p each.

20 Nov	Christmas (16th issue)	The 28p sheet stamp features 'The Adoration of the Magi' by Frans Franken III (1607 - 1667). Designer: Charles O'Neill.	28p	1A1A1A1A/ 1B1B1B1B
		A sheetlet containing three rows of four 21p stamps was sold for IR£2.50. The 21p stamp features 'The Adoration of the Shepherds' by Francesco Pascucci (1636 - 1706 circa). Designer: Anton Mazer. Selvedge design by O'Connor, O'Sullivan Advertising.	21p	
		Both paintings are in the National Gallery of Ireland.		
		The sheetlet was sold as a unit and gave a total saving of 38p (13%) when compared to the usual rate of 24p per card. Valid for Christmas cards (any size) posted to addresses in Ireland, Britain and EEC countries. The sheetlets remain on philatelic sale and the stamps are still postally valid for 21p.		

Six sheetlets in the master sheet.
Many semi-constant white spot
varieties noted.

PAPER/GUM TYPES

There have been three basic papers used on offset litho stamps (both special/commemoratives issues and definitives) printed by Irish Security Stamp Printing Limited as follows:-

- CCP 1 - Clay Coated Paper (CCP) white in colour with a gum which varies between off-white and pronounced blue green. UV reaction is brilliant white.
- CCP 2 - As for CCP 1. white paper but with a brilliant white gum. UV reaction is light grey.
- CCP 3 - Cream paper with a gum which varies between off-white and cream. UV effect is negligible - dark appearance.

All ultra violet lamp (UV) reactions are described as per the face of the stamps. All papers can be easily distinguished after some experience without any need for a UV lamp.

Turning to the 1986 issues, all stamps were printed on CCP 3 paper except the following which were printed on CCP 1 paper:-

B & I stamps (both values); Irish Lights issue (both values) and the Dublin Council of Trade Unions stamp 24p.

CCP 2 paper was not used. The 28p Christmas stamp was printed on an experimental paper which gives a near black reaction under the UV lamp. However, visually it is similar to previous CCP 3 printings. I understand the paper is not to be used in future.

Perforation types: Specialists will be aware that all sheets (including definitives) are now perforated through all four margins (G4). A number of the definitive issues exist in more than one perforation format due to re-printing (G1, G2, G3 or G4 - ie perforated through 1, 2, 3 or 4 margins). I have not adverted to this more specialist information and would refer readers to the more detailed articles "The Architecture Definitives" by both Eddie Fitzgerald and me which appear in Irish Stamp News.

DEFINITIVES - SHEET ISSUES

Arising from the increase in postal rates on 3 March 1986, three new values were issued on 1 May 1986 - 32p (St McDara's Church); 39p (Cormac's Chapel) and 46p (Cahir Castle). In addition there were several plate changes on existing values as set out below:-

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 2p | plate 1A/1B (July) - CCP3 previously CCP 1. |
| 24p | plate 2A/2B (2A, April - 2B, July) - plate 2B scarce. |
| 24p | plate 3A/3B (March). |
| 26p | plate 3A/3B (February). |
| 28p | plate 3A/3B (November). |

32p	plate 1A/1B (1 May).
39p	plate 1A/1B (1 May).
46p	plate 1A1A/1B1B (1 May).

All CCP 3 printings. Production details as per previous values.

DEFINITIVE BOOKLETS

A new £2 vending machine and counter booklet was issued on 8 September. The booklet contains 2 x 2p, 3 x 4p, 3 x 24p and 4 x 28p in a block of 12 (2 rows of six). The master sheet was on display at Stamp '86 and contains three columns of ten panes with no plate numbers. All panes have an imperforate binding margin. CCP 3 paper.

PRESENTATION PACKS

Definitive Packs: The three new values issued on 1 May were added to the appropriate packs increasing their cost to IR£4.35 (low values) and IR£7.71 (high values). The increases were equivalent to the face value of the extra stamps. No change in text which still refers to the Department of Posts and Telegraphs.

Year Pack: Released on 28 November, cost IR£7.95 (face value: IR£7.71). The pack contains all the special and commemorative issues issued during the year including the 21p Christmas stamp ex. sheetlet.

Selection Packs D & E: Two further selection packs were issued during September. Pack D entitled "Environment Awareness" contains the following sets all issued in 1986 - Fauna and Flora (Ferns), Europa (Protection of the Environment) and Ireland Series (Waterways), cost IR£2.60 (face value: IR£2.47). Pack E also contains three 1986 sets and is entitled "Sea and Air Transport" - Aer Lingus, B & I and Irish Lighthouses, cost IR£2.00 (face value: IR£1.80).

FIRST DAY COVERS AND CANCELLATIONS

The Love FDC cost 16p. All FDCs since that date cost 17p. The general purpose cover was used for the five stamps issued on 21 August and the Mulready/Bianconi stamps issued on 2 October. Special FDCs were available for all other issues. Two separate covers and postmarks were made available for the Aer Lingus and Waterways sets issued on 27 May. One special cover and postmark was used for the B & I and Irish Lighthouses sets (two separate postmarks were advertised but only one combined design used). A special cover was available in Clonmel and Cahir for the Bianconi stamps (small size 162mm x 113mm).

The FDC pictorial cancels were once again available at Dublin, Cork, Galway, Limerick, Dun Laoghaire, Athlone, Carrick-on-Shannon, Sligo, Tralee and Waterford. In connection with the Mulready/Bianconi stamps a similar cancel was available at Ennis (Mulready's birth place), Clonmel and Cahir.

A re-enactment of the original Bianconi Clonmel to Cahir post route took place by horse drawn coach on issue day. A special despatch of the special FDCs referred to above were carried on the coach. The stamps were cancelled with the Clonmel pictorial cancel and the cover was backstamped with the Cahir FDC cancel. In addition the front of the covers bear a three line cachet applied in blue which reads "Carried on Clonmel/Cahir Mailcoach". The cover features a photograph of the West Gate, Clonmel.



OFFICIAL SOUVENIR ENVELOPES

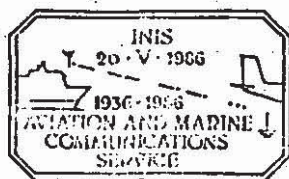
No items issued under this heading during 1986.

SPECIAL CANCELLATIONS

LUIMNEACH 8.VIII.1986 MID-WESTERN PHILATELIC SOCIETY

Used in connection with the 7th Annual Fair and Stamp Exhibition organised by the Mid-Western Philatelic Society at Cruise's Hotel, Limerick. Circular postmark in black which features a representation of the Treaty Stone of Limerick. Same as previous years. Special cover available.

20.V.1986 1936-1986 AVIATION AND MARINE COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE



50th Anniversary of the foundation of the Aviation and Marine Radio Officers Association.

Special postmark rectangular in black was available at Cork, Dublin, Ennis, Limerick and Shannon.

TIOBRAID ARANN 6-VI-1986 FIRST BALLOON-MAIL IN EIRE OE-AZP PRO JUVENTUTE

Used in connection with a balloon flight from Tipperary. Further details given under section "Flight Covers". Rectangular in black. The wording is incorrect in stating that it was the first Balloon Mail. A special balloon flight was organised by the Dublin Ballooning Club in 1972 in connection with The Hot Air Balloon Championships of Ireland. The flight carried special covers which were flown from Newcastle, Ballymahon, Co Longford to Roscommon on 5 October 1972. Covers did not bear a special cancel but were datestamped 3 October with the Ballymahon CDS.

TIOBRAID ARANN 06 VI 1986 POST BHALAIN

Used in connection with a second flight on the same day.

Again see section headed "Flight Covers". Circular in black



CARROLLS IRISH OPEN BAILE ATHA CLIATH 21-VI-1986



Used at Portmarnock Golf Links during the annual Carrolls Irish Open Golf Championship (19-22 June). Rectangular in purple. Same design as previous years. Note the return to the Portmarnock venue. During the period 1983-85, the Championship was held at Royal Dublin. In 1982 and prior years when the venue was Portmarnock, the special cancel read Port Mearnog and not Baile Atha Cliath. Although in County Dublin, Portmarnock is outside the Dublin Postal Area and therefore there is no reason why it should not read Portmarnock.

BAILE ATHA CLIATH * BALDONNEL VILLAGE * 26.VII.86

Used at a special exhibition in a tented village at Baldonnell aerodrome to mark the 50th anniversary of the Air Corps Apprentice School.

Circular in black. Again Baldonnell is in the County of Dublin and therefore the postmark is not strictly correct.



10th WORLD COMPUTER CONGRESS DUBLIN

Used on mail posted at the venue Trinity College, Dublin in respect of post office facilities provided. Used during the period Saturday 31 August to Friday 5 September inclusive. I am unsure if facilities were provided on Sunday 1 September. I would doubt it and therefore I presume the postmark does not exist with that date.

SLIGEACH 27-IX-1986 YEATS INTERNATIONAL STAMPEX



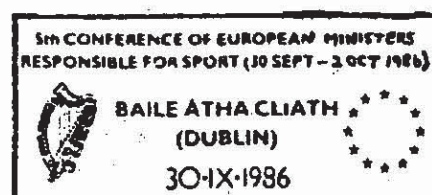
Used in connection with the annual exhibition held at the Silver Swan Hotel, Sligo and organised by the Sligo and District Philatelic Society.

Circular in black. Special set of six different covers available.

5th CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR SPORT

(30 SEPT - 2 OCT 1986) BAILE ATHA CLIATH (DUBLIN)

Used in connection with conference held at Royal Hospital, Kilmainham, Dublin from 30 September to 2 October inclusive. Rectangular in purple.



CORCAIGH 11.X.1986 CORK STAMP EXHIBITION

Used at the Imperial Hotel, Cork in connection with the annual Cork Philatelic Society Exhibition.

Special cover available. Circular in black featuring a maltese cross.



BAILE ATHA CLIATH STAMPA



Three circular postmarks in black, one for each day of the exhibition, were applied on mail posted at the Exhibition Post Office in the RDS Ballsbridge, Dublin 4. The theme of the 1986 exhibition was the Centenary of the Motor Car. An Post issued three postcards on this theme on the opening day of the show (see section headed "Postal Stationery"). The cancellations were on the same theme and featured Post Office vehicles - Austin P & T Van (7 November); Renault 4 P & T Van (8 November) and An Post Renault Traffic Van (9 November). The skeleton CDS was once again in use at the exhibition and read "RDS Ballsbridge" as per 1985. However, RDS was more closely space compared to 1985.

BAILE ATHA CLIATH FLOWER FESTIVAL S. JOHN'S SANDYMOUNT 14.XI.1986

Pictorial cancel rectangular in black used in connection with the St John the Evangelist Sandymount Winter Flower Festival, Dublin 4.

Special cover issued to raise funds for the church restoration fund.



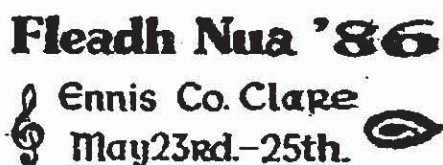
STAMP EXHIBITION GAILLIMH 22.XI.1986

Used in connection with the 6th annual stamp exhibition organised by the Galway Philatelic Society. Held at St Patrick's National School, Galway. Circular in black featuring the Galway Coat of Arms as per previous years. Special cover featuring the Browne Doorway Eyre Square.



NEW SLOGAN CANCELLATIONS

Nine new slogans were introduced during 1986. The numbering sequence continues from last year. None of the slogans were announced in advance.



268 - RTE RADIO 60 SERVING IRELAND SIXTY YEARS

Used during January and February Cork, Dublin (5 dies - A C D F and G) Donegal?, Dundalk, Galway, Limerick and Waterford.

269 - RADIO RTE 60 SEASCA BLIAIN AG FÓNAMH d'EIRINN

Used during January and February Cavan, Cork, Donegal, Dublin (5 dies - C D F G and H), Dundalk, Galway, Limerick and Waterford.

270 - THE IRISH GIRL GUIDES 75th 1911-1986

Used during April at Cavan, Cork, Donegal, Dublin (5 dies - A C D F and G), Dundalk, Galway, Limerick and Waterford. The five slogan dies used in Dublin were slightly smaller than the dies used at the other locations.

271 - FLEADH NUA '86 ENNIS CO. CLARE MAY 23rd - 25th

Used during April and May at Limerick.

272 - WAWC 1986 FOCUS ON FAMILY

Used from 21 to 27 April at Killarney in connection with the holding of the World Association of Women's Clubs Conference held in the town.

273 - DUN LAOGHAIRE 40th YEAR BRIDGE CONGRESS

Used at Dun Laoghaire during September.

274 - SEPT 26th - OCT 4th CORK FILM FESTIVAL

Used during September at Cork in the second machine which is only used at 8pm on larger envelopes. The slogan is therefore scarce.

275 - USE THE GOLDEN PAGES ITS FASTER & CHEAPER BY FAR

Used during October at Cavan, Cork, Donegal, Dublin (5 dies - A C D F and G), Galway, Limerick and Waterford.

276 - 9th OCTOBER - WORLD POST DAY

Used on 9 October at Cavan, Cork, Donegal (?), Dublin (3 dies - C F and G), Galway, Limerick and Waterford (?). Note the change of wording from slogan 237 used on the same date during the period 1981-85 which read "9th October - UPU Day".

A question mark above indicates that positive proof by actual sight of an impression from this location required.

SLOGAN CANCELLATIONS RE-USED IN 1986

- 82 Bank Your Savings in the Savings Bank - Galway.
- 101 Post Early For Christmas - Blackrock, Cavan, Dublin (6 dies - A C D F G and H), Dundalk, Galway, Letterkenny, Sligo, Tipperary and Waterford.
- 120 Prevent Forest Fires - Cavan, Cork, Dublin (5 dies - A C D F and G), Dundalk, Galway, Limerick, Mallow and Waterford.
- 132 When It's August Bank Holiday It's Kinsale Regatta - Cork.
- 143 Make Sure You Are On The Voters Lists - Dundalk, Galway, Naas, Nenagh, Thurles and Tullamore.
- 144 Are You On The Voters Lists? Check Now At The Post Office - Athlone, Ballina, Bray, Cavan, Clonmel, Cork, Dun Laoghaire, Galway, Kilkenny, Letterkenny, Limerick, Roscommon and Waterford.
- 146 Please Shew District Numbers In Dublin Addresses - Monaghan and Tullamore.
- 147 Westport For Sea Angling - Westport.
- 159 A Full Address Speeds Delivery - Ballinasloe, Blackrock, Bray, Dundalk, Ennis, Enniscorthy, Tipperary, Tralee and Tuam.
- 166 Build On Secure Foundations £1 Units Tax Free Savings Certificates - Cavan and Dublin (2 dies - C and F).
- 167 Save The Easy Way Easy Deposits Easy Withdrawals The Post Office Savings Bank - Carlow, Cork and Dublin (die A).
- 186 Ballinasloe Show and Fair 1st Week October - Ballinasloe.
- 198 Shop In The Golden Pages Classified Telephone Directory - Limerick.
- 205 Post Early For Christmas - Cork.
- 220 Conserve Energy - Cavan, Cork, Dublin (4 dies - A C F and G), Dundalk, Galway and Limerick.
- 221 Let Your Fingers Do The Walking - Use The Golden Pages - Limerick.
- 223 Giving For Living - Sligo.
- 226 Clonakilty Beach Centre West Cork - Clonakilty.
- 230 Collect Postage Stamps - Cavan, Cork, Donegal, Dublin (4 dies - A D F and G), Dundalk, Galway and Limerick.

- 233 You've Got To Get Saving National Savings Committee - Cavan and Dundalk.
- 234 Are You On The Draft Register Of Electors? Check Now At Your Post Office - Dublin (6 dies - A C D F G and H).
- 246 United Nations Disarmament Week 24-31 October - Cork, Donegal and Dublin (4 dies - A C F and G).
- 248 Post Early For Christmas - Donegal.
- 249 Post The Stamp Of The Future - Cavan (May 1st am).
- 251 Happy St Patrick's Day - Cavan, Cork, Donegal, Dublin (5 dies - A C D F and G), Dundalk, Galway, Limerick and Waterford.
- 253 Blood Donors Are Always Needed - Cavan, Cork, Donegal, Dublin (5 dies - A C D F and G) and Waterford.
- 254 Help UNICEF Give A Child A Chance To Survive Tel: 01-770843 - Cavan, Cork, Donegal, Dublin (4 dies - A C F and G), Limerick and Waterford.
- 255 Beautiful Bantry Bay For Holidays - Bantry.
- 263 Save Money - Be Wise Use The P.O.P. Size - Drogheda and Killarney.
- 266 Be A Kidney Donor Your Gift Could Save Lives - Cavan, Donegal, Dublin (3 dies - A F and G), Dundalk, Galway, Limerick and Waterford.
- 267 Are You On The Draft Register Of Electors? Check Now At Your Post Office - Dundalk (January) and Donegal (December).

IRISH EXHIBITION SOUVENIRS

8 MARCH - MID-WESTERN PHILATELIC SOCIETY 7th ANNUAL EXHIBITION & FAIR

In connection with this event the organisers produced a numbered edition of 400 booklets containing the se-tenant pair of 22p European Music Year Stamps issued in 1985. Cost IR£1.00. Postmark and Philatelic facilities available.

23 MARCH - THIRD COLLECTORS FESTIVAL

Held at the Ormond Hotel, Dublin a booklet was available from dealers at the show at an average price of IR£3.50. The 500 numbered booklets contained the two se-tenant pairs taken from the 1980 Wildlife Miniature Sheet mounted in Hawid strips. No postmark or philatelic facilities.

25 MAY - LOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY EXHIBITION

Held at the Imperial Hotel, Dundalk. No postmark but philatelic facilities were available. Numbered edition of 175 booklets containing the three ordinary sheet stamps of the 1985 Christmas set in Hawid strips.

The cover features a line drawing by C O'Neill of Kelly's Monument, Dundalk. Cost IR£1.50.

LOUTH PHILATELIC SOCIETY EXHIBITION



25th May 1986

14 SEPTEMBER - FOURTH COLLECTORS FESTIVAL

Held at the Ormond Hotel, Dublin. No postmark or philatelic facilities were available. Numbered edition of 500 booklets containing either the ordinary 1985 Christmas set (2 x 22p plus 26p) or the European Music Year set of the same year (2 x 22p plus 26p) mounted in Hawid strips (250 of each). Again the booklet was sold through the dealers present. Average price of IR£3.50.

27 SEPTEMBER - YEATS INTERNATIONAL STAMPEX SLIGO

Held at the Silver Swan Hotel, Sligo. Postmark and philatelic facilities were available. Booklet containing 4 x 2p plus 6 x 1p definitives. The booklets were numbered but the total printing was not stated. I understand that the total number produced was 300. In addition, the organisers produced a two colour card reproducing the exhibition postmarks plus two earlier incorrect proofs. Again numbered but total printing not stated. I understand the total number produced was 300. The booklet cost IR£1.00 and the card 50p.

11 OCTOBER - CORK PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

The booklet, as postmark & cover, commemorated the bicentenary of the birth of William Mulready and contained 2 x 24p Mulready stamps and sold for IR£1.00. Numbered edition of 600 booklets. Postmark and philatelic facilities were available.

7. NOVEMBER - STAMPA '86

The 1986 souvenir was a set of three postcards issued by An Post and are therefore listed under Postal Stationery. Postmarks and philatelic facilities were available.

Members of Irish National Stamp Exhibition Limited (subscription IR£10.00) received two replicas to commemorate the birth bicentenary of William Mulready - one of an actual Mulready wrapper and the other one of the few caricatures of the Mulready with an Irish flavour showing Daniel O'Connell, the Pope, Lord Melbourne and the Duke of Wellington. Total production of 300 pairs. Both souvenirs were franked with the Mulready stamp and handstamped with the Ennis first day cancel.

22 NOVEMBER - GALWAY PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

Numbered edition of 300 booklets containing 2 x 24p B&I stamps and 2 x 39p Bianconi stamps. Cost IR£2.00. Postmarks and philatelic facilities available.

29 NOVEMBER - LIMERICK COIN, STAMP & POSTCARD FAIR

Produced by P.J.W. Promotions (Dublin). Booklet containing 3 x 28p Arthur Griffith stamps. 200 numbered booklets. Cost IR£1.50. No postmark or philatelic facilities available.

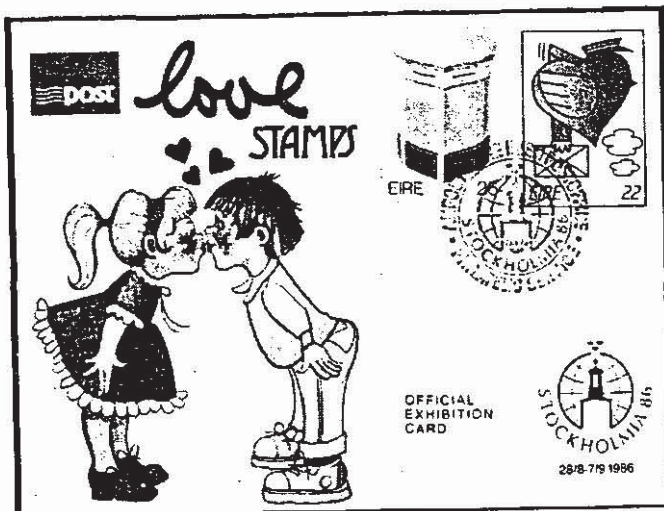
Note: The postmarks referred to above are included under special cancellations.

OVERSEAS EXHIBITION SOUVENIRS AND CACHETS

The Irish Post Office or their agents attended several overseas exhibitions during the year. Cachets and/or souvenirs were available at the following shows:-

STAMPEX, LONDON - 4 to 9 MARCH

The usual cachet applied in green was available which reads "An Post The Irish Post Office Philatelic Service Post Stampex 4-9 Mar 1986 London".



ESSEN STAMP FAIR, WEST GERMANY - 10 to 13 APRIL

Oval cachet applied in black which reads "We love the Essen stamp fair 10-13 April 1986 Ireland". A numbered card (147mm x 210mm) on the Love stamp theme was sold by the Post Office's German agent. The numbered card had a 22p 1986 Love stamp cancelled with the cachet on a light grey background featuring the Boy and Girl design as included in the cachet.

AMERIPEX, CHICAGO - 22 MAY to 1 JUNE

Circular cachet applied in black which reads "An Post The Irish Post Office Philatelic Service Post Ameripex '86 Chicago May 22-June 1".

The Eire Philatelic Association issued three souvenirs in connection with the exhibition:-

1. Three colour card (140mm x 103mm) featuring the EPA emblem. Total of 390 numbered copies. Sold for \$1 to members and \$2 to non-members at their booth. Many members affixed Aer Lingus or Waterways sets to the cards (issued during the show on 27 May) and had them cancelled with the Dublin FDC cancel and/or the exhibition cachet referred to above. There was no special first day cancel.
2. Similar size card in four colours featuring both the EPA and the Ameripex emblems. This was not sold at the show but distributed without charge to members. Additional copies available at \$1 plus postage.

3. The James Hoban chapter of the Association produced a numbered edition of 300 booklets containing 2 x 22p 1985 Love Stamps. Sold for \$2. The booklet cover also referred to Stampshow '86 (21-24 August) and Vapex '86 (21-23 November at Virginia Beach, Virginia). 150 booklets were on sale at Ameripex with the balance at the other two shows.

Three Irish stamp dealers also launched a booklet at Ameripex entitled "Prominent Contributors to Irish Philately" - Number 1 of a series, it contained details of three contributors to Irish philately together with blocks of 6 x $\frac{1}{2}$ d O'Cleary, 6 x $\frac{1}{2}$ p Gerl plus 6 x 1p Architecture. Note however, the booklet did not refer to the exhibition. Numbered edition of 1000 booklets. Announced for sale at \$1 but I have only seen it for sale through the relevant dealers at IR£4 to IR£5.

STOCKHOLMIA '86, STOCKHOLM - 28 AUGUST to 7 SEPTEMBER

Cachet available which reads "An Post The Irish Post Office Philatelic Service 28.8-7.9 1986 Stockholmia 86". A card was also sold which features the 1985 Love FDC design together with the two 1986 Love stamps cancelled with the aforementioned cachet. Price and number printed not known.

STAMPEX '86, ADELAIDE, AUSTRALIA - 4 to 10 AUGUST

A special cover was sold which reproduced the 30p Irish Lights stamp with a clever slogan "See The Light Collect Irish Stamps". The cover has been seen with either the 30p Irish Lights stamp or the complete sets of both the Irish Lights and B&I issues cancelled with a pictorial circular cachet which reads "An Post The Irish Post Office Stampex '86 Adelaide Aug 4 - Aug 10". The cachet shows the "Severn" as per the 24p B&I stamp. Price and quantity printed unknown. Not numbered.

An Post's North America agent attended at ASDA New York (November) but no cachet was available this year.

Overseas members may be able to add to the above list or amend the information contained therein. If so I would appreciate it if you would write to Brian Warren, 42 Lohunda Park, Clonsilla, Dublin 15, Ireland. The only two exhibitions attended by An Post's own staff from Dublin were Ameripex and Stampex London. In the case of the other agency-represented shows An Post are often unaware of any souvenir/cachet and certainly do not hold stocks. It is therefore difficult to obtain such items or even be aware of them for the purpose of recording same in this annual listing.

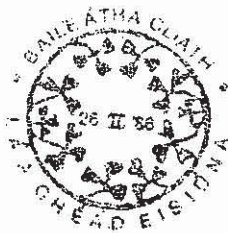
POSTAL STATIONERY

31 JANUARY - REDIRECTION POSTCARD

The cards are intended to be used by people wishing to advise their correspondents of a change in address. The cards bear an undenominated postage paid indicator. Cost 25p although normal sales to the public are via the redirection of post service which costs IR£12.50 per annum including 20 postcards. The charges did not increase on 3 March 1986.

26 FEBRUARY - ST PATRICK'S DAY POSTCARDS

The set of six cards included six in standard size of 110mm x 155mm featuring (1) Peace Needlework (2) Blessings of Peace (3) Snake (4) Dove (5) Greetings



and (6) St Patrick's quotation. Each card cost 30p (25p in 1985).

The legends on cards 1 and 2 were transposed in error. Card 2, Blessings of Peace features a pattern of doves and shamrocks and is described as 'A St Patrick's Day needlework sampler'. This legend should have been on Card 1, Peace Needlework which instead had the legend 'Rich blessings of peace and prosperity on Saint Patrick's Day'. The error was noted prior to

distribution and the Blessings of Peace card was distributed with the legend obliterated by a row of overprinted shamrocks. However, some supplies of the unoverprinted card were on sale through the GPO in Dublin, including the philatelic sales office, on 26 and 27 February before being withdrawn. The legend on the Peace Needlework card was retained as being sufficiently appropriate.

The standard cards were also used by An Post to send greetings and an advertising message to their business customers. The greetings etc were printed in blue on the message part of the card.

A further three cards of larger size (122mm x 186mm) costing 40p each were also included in the set. Strictly speaking they were not St Patrick's Day cards as the cards bore a short verse and featured springtime flora of meadowland, woodland and lakeshore flora with no mention of the feast day. The cards were not popular and due to their large size were easily damaged in the post. A special first day cancel applied in green was available in Dublin.

18 MARCH - 40p AEROGRAMME

A new aerogramme with imprint 2-86 and a 40p stamp was issued to take account of the new rates of 3 March. The design is the same as the previous 37p issue (1-85) which was withdrawn on 1 March 1986. The new aerogramme was printed by W & S Magowan (Ireland) Limited (as was the 37p) and was sold without additional charge for the stationery.

20 MARCH - 24p POSTCARD

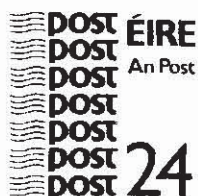


Fig 1

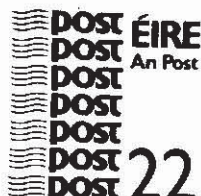


Fig 2

of 'An Post' is in line with the top of the third logo. Fig 2. Cost 27p and printed by Task Print & Packaging Limited, Naas, Co Kildare.

The card was issued to cover the increased inland and EC postcard rate. The card is similar to the previous 22p issue showing the GPO Dublin but with the heading 'Carta Poist' re-introduced. The stamp is of a different setting with the base of the words 'An Post' beneath EIRE, below the top of the third Post logo. Fig 1. On the previous issues of stationery with this stamp the base

8 JULY - 28p ENVELOPE

The 28p stamp is the revised setting as per the 24p postcard. Printed by Capital

Spicers Limited. Cost 32p and not 33p as stated on the ten pack wrapper. Members may be interested to know that the exact same blank envelope is available in packs of 25 from Easons Limited stores in Ireland.

SEPTEMBER - UNSTAMPED AEROGRAMME

A new printing of the unstamped airletter was first seen by collectors in September. The green map of Ireland design is now printed on a light blue paper compared to the grey of previous printings. The overall size is smaller - 298mm x 219mm approx. as against the larger size of 315mm x 242mm approx. of the grey paper printing. The type is much bolder. I have noted two distinct shades of dark and pale green. The pale green version has slightly thinner lettering most noticeable in the word 'Aerogramme'. Printed by Dafil Limited, Dublin.

7 NOVEMBER - STAMPA POSTCARDS

The centenary of the motor car was the theme of Stampa '86 and An Post issued a set of three 24p postcards featuring vehicles - Austin 7, Model T Ford and a Benz Comfortable. The 24p stamp is the same as on the ordinary postcard issued in March 1986. The cards were designed by Charles Rycraft who was responsible for the train stamps of 1984. Printed by Irish Security Stamp Printing Limited. Cost 40p each. Three pictorial cancels featuring Post Office vehicles were available - see under special cancellations.

19 DECEMBER - SIZE G REGISTERED ENVELOPE - IR£1.23

The new registered envelope was to meet the current minimum inland and EC rate of IR£1.23 (28p postage plus 95p registration). The envelope cost has increased by 1p to 11p giving a total of IR£1.34. The paper is of poor surface quality and is far rougher and more creamy in colour when compared to previous issues. The stamp element has been re-set; the figure of postage value (28) is smaller and more square in comparison to the 26 of the previous envelopes and the lettering of Eire is far thinner. The envelopes were printed by McCorquodale Envelopes Limited, England. As far as I am aware this is the first time McCorquodales have printed stationery for the Irish Post Office. Members will be aware that McCorquodales are responsible for printing stationery for the British Post Office and other overseas administrations.

UNISSUED ITEM

As part of a special "Keep in Touch" campaign discount packs of pre-paid postcards were to be issued on 15 July. There were to be three packs - 15 @ IR£3; 50 @ IR£11 and 100 @ IR£20. The cards were to be on sale for a three week period. No design details were given and a subsequent notice announced that due to production difficulties, the date of issue has been postponed.

FLIGHT COVERS

9 MAY - SHANNON to ATLANTA by DELTA AIRLINES

Introduction of new service from Atlanta, USA via Shannon to West Germany. Plain Delta Air Lines Inc covers with Shannon CDS of 9 May.

9 MAY - SHANNON to MUNICH by DELTA AIRLINES

As above similar covers carried to Munich. Some covers known with Munich Airport CDS backstamp of same date.

31 MAY - DUBLIN to DOUGLAS, ISLE OF MAN by AER LINGUS

Re-introduction of Aer Lingus service to Isle of Man using Commuter aircraft. Covers cancelled with Dublin CDS (Philatelic Bureau) and backstamped with Ronaldsway Airport cachet.

1 JUNE - DUBLIN to GUERNSEY by AER LINGUS

Covers with stamp cancelled by Dublin CDS (Philatelic Bureau). Backstamped on arrival by Guernsey Post Office. First flight by Aer Lingus.

6 JUNE - TIPPERARY BALLOON FLIGHTS

In connection with special Pro Juventute charity covers, two flights with special postmarks took place from Tipperary on 6 June (see special cancellations). Two different covers were produced. The first balloon flight landed in Ballyporeen and covers bear the 44p balloon stamp of 1985 cancelled with the circular special postmark; the CDS of Ballyporeen post office was also applied to the front of the covers. The second flight landed in Cahir and the covers bear the same stamp cancelled with the rectangular special postmark; the Cahir post office CDS was applied to the front of the covers.

23 MAY - DUBLIN to LUTON by RYAN AIR

Introduction of new service by Ireland's newest airline. Ryan Air covers with stamp cancelled with Dublin CDS. No arrival backstamp applied by Post Office but the airline applied a "Ryan Air London" cachet. Covers also carried from Luton to Dublin.

5 JULY - DUBLIN to BRISTOL, AER LINGUS 50th ANNIVERSARY FLIGHT

Special covers produced. Aer Lingus stamps cancelled with Dublin first day cancel of 27 May. However, due to poor weather conditions the flight was postponed twice and did not take place until 5 July. Covers carried on same type of aircraft as original "Iolar" flight of 27 May 1936. Covers bear a "flight delayed" cachet.

8 OCTOBER - DUBLIN to NURNBERG by AER LINGUS

This was the first flight of a regular five nights a week service for private courier mail (TNT). The covers were postmarked Dublin CDS (Philatelic Bureau) the day before (7 October) as the flight left in the early hours of 8 October. The covers were backstamped by the German Post Office on arrival at Nurnberg Airport with a date of 9 October.

Ryan Air introduced a regular service between Knock and Luton during late 1986 but no mail was carried on the flight.

The Samaritans (a charitable telephone counselling group) organised a special mail flight by model aircraft across Dublin Bay on the weekend of 10/11 May 1986. The model aircraft flew from St Anne's Park, Clontarf on the north side of Dublin

Bay to Dun Laoghaire harbour on the south. The covers bear the 44p balloon stamp of 1985 cancelled with a Dublin CDS (Philatelic Bureau). However, due to poor weather conditions the flight did not take place until 11 May. Covers were backstamped on arrival with a Dun Laoghaire CDS of 11 May. The covers were printed with the An Post logo thereon and were limited to 100 envelopes which were sold at IR£100 each with all funds donated to this charity.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

22 MARCH - FORSCHUNGS UND ARBEITSGEMEINSCHAFT IRLAND E.V.

The Irish Research and Study Group in West Germany held their annual general meeting on 22/23 March at Wunstorf near Hanover. 300 numbered booklets were produced containing a pane of 6 x 2p Architecture definitives, each stamp overprinted in two lines FAI 1986. One booklet was distributed to each member with the remainder (100 approx) sold at DM5 each. They also produced a dinner card which bears a West Berlin stamp cancelled with a Wunstorf postmark. Total of 40 produced.

IRISH PHILATELIC CIRCLE - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The meeting was held in the Clarence Hotel, Dublin 2 on the weekend of 17/18 May. No souvenir was produced this year.

8 NOVEMBER - STAMPA '86 DINNER MENU

The awards banquet was held in the Powers Hotel, Dublin 2 on 8 November. Each diner received one of the 28p Bianconi maximum cards with the matching 28p stamp affixed to the reverse side and cancelled with the Stampa postmark of 8 November. The menu and the venue are also printed on the reverse of the card. Total of 70 cards. Not numbered.

7 NOVEMBER - FAI STAMPA ENVELOPE

FAI posted specially prepared and printed envelopes to their members. The envelopes, printed in green with insert, referred to Stampa and had an appropriate stamp affixed and postmarked with the show cancel of 7 November. Not numbered. Total printing not known.

FOREIGN STAMPS WITH IRISH ASSOCIATIONS

USA A 4c stamp in the "Great Americans" series SG 2111 was issued on 14 July which features Father Edward J Flanagan who was born on 13 July 1886 at Ballymoe, Roscommon. He moved to the USA in 1904 and is best known as the founder of Boystown, Nebraska. I might also add that in 1959 Costa Rica issued a 5c Christmas obligatory tax stamp SG 576 which also features Father Flanagan.

WEST BERLIN A 60pf stamp was issued on 10 April to mark the 16th European Communities Day SG B720. The design features the flags of member countries including Ireland. Designed by F Ludtke. Litho printed.

AUSTRALIA Commemorative envelope for the 25th anniversary of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. The 36c envelope (cost 43c) features the flags of the twenty-five current member countries including Ireland.

WORLD CUP MEXICO 1986 There was of course the usual crop of wallpaper for this event. I have identified the following stamps which in some way bear a connection with N Ireland who once again reached the finals:-

Grenadines of St Vincent: Set of eight stamps plus two miniature sheets were issued on 7 May. A \$2 stamp from the singles set SG 473 features a Northern Ireland player.

Bequia, Grenadines of St Vincent: A \$3.50 stamp features a Northern Ireland player. Issue date and set details not known. Not listed by Stanley Gibbons.

Tuvalu: Set of eight stamps plus two miniature sheets. The single set contains a \$2 value which features a Northern Ireland team photo (but only 10 players shown). One of the miniature sheets contains a single \$2.50 stamp with the same photo/design against a background of the design used for the Bequia stamp referred to above.

All of the above issues were part of several series of World Cup stamps printed by Format International.

El Salvador: A 70c stamp SG 1925 from a four stamp set issued on 6 June features the flags of participating countries.

Spain and Portugal: Spain and Portugal joined the European Community on 1 January 1986. Both countries issued sets of stamps to mark the event. A four stamp set from Spain (Pts 7 17 30 & 45) included the flags of member states within the design of the three values (Pts 17 30 & 45) including Ireland. All four values were combined together in se-tenant form within a booklet. Issue date 7 January. Portugal issued a two stamp set (Esc 20.00 & 57.50). The designs are the same as the PTA 45 & 17 Spanish stamps respectively and thus show the Irish flag. Also issued in miniature sheet form in a block of four ie two of each value se-tenant. I believe Spain also issued some postcards but as I have not seen them, I do not know if there is any Irish connection.

CONCLUSION I wish to acknowledge the help of my many philatelic friends in once again answering my many queries in preparing this article including T Finn, E FitzGerald, F Holzmüller, O Jung, E Labiuk, Tony Quigley, I Whyte and Bill Zellers. Particular thanks to John Lennon who once again provided the slogan postmark listings. This time last year I asked members to give their views regarding this annual article. I only received two written responses and both requested that I should continue the article in the same style, layout etc., as heretofore. Not a great response - however, in the absence of any other replies I assume a 'Yes' vote. Happy collecting in 1987.

THAT WAS THE YEAR THAT WAS - 1984 POSTSCRIPT

by B. Warren



Thanks to the generosity of Heinz Gunther Grunz, I can illustrate a cachet used by An Post's German agent at the Essen Stamp Fair, West Germany 26 - 31 May 1984.

The cachet reads '84 IRLAND ESSEN 1984' and was applied in blue-green.

My examples are applied to a set of the 1984 St Patrick's Day postcards.

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