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INSIDE THIS ISSUE – ALMOND FIRST DAY COVERS,
MYSTERY ENVELOPES, BELFAST RECEIVING OFFICES
AND MORE



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To clarify the matter with regard to any articles for inclusion in the Journal:

Could you please, where possible put any articles into “Times New Roman” as the font (I am able then to adjust the size and resituate, where necessary). All illustrations should be on a separate sheet from any text – by all means indicate where you would like them placed in the articles.

If it is possible to send them by email also try and ensure that the illustrations, images or whatever are set as JPEGs, thus reducing the size of information to be sent. I am only able to enhance, resize or crop these images whichever way I received them.

My thanks to those of you in Dublin, who not only gave me some articles but have offered more for the future as I explained that **“I was down to 2 contributors only for most of the Journals”**.

This information and any other relevant pieces, I usually try to put up on the web page which is www.philatelic.cwc.net. Also you may email me at eddydalton@ntlworld.com

Telephone 01494 583111 in the UK.
Editor

Eddy DALTON

Frontspiece: This is a front of Jung Type Eu1b, Format H, Date AS

College Green, Dublin Single
that collect this sort of information.

Mackay Type 261 6th November 1924, for those of you
Jpeg available if requested

The Overprinted Issues – Almond First Day Covers

An early purchase in my overprint collection was the First Day Cover, (Fig 1), addressed to C.S. Almond Esq.



Fig 1

Because the all-important date was so clear, I was concerned that it might be a fake and illustrated it in an article in the Revealer, asking whether readers thought it was genuine. I was surprised to receive a letter from George Nicholson who wrote to say that he also had an Almond FDC (Fig 2) with exactly the same time and postmark as mine. On the back of his cover had been written "Hope to see you Wed – about 7.30. E.A.W."

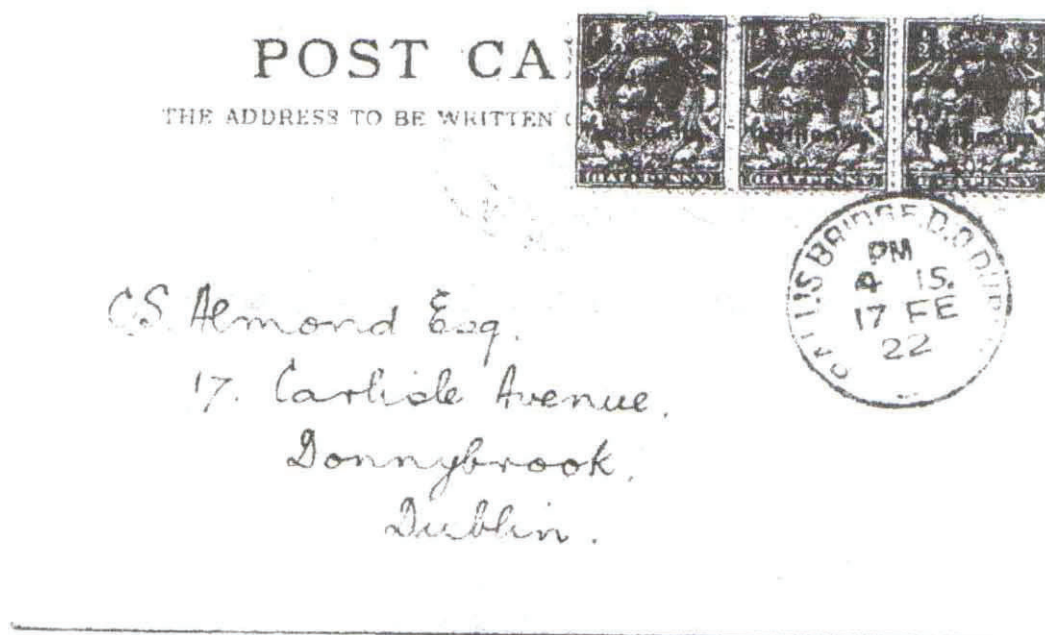


Fig 2

George continued "It appears that E.A.W. (the sender) knew the post office staff and maybe got special treatment regarding the additional clear cancellations."

Michael Murphy also wrote:

“Mr Almond was a senior civil servant who worked in the Department of Finance, Merrion Street, Dublin. When I commenced working in the civil service in the early 1950’s, I regularly came across correspondence signed by him in the 1930’s and 1940’s. He would have been well aware of the historical as well as the philatelic importance of the 17th February 1922 and I have no doubt the cover is genuine.”

Since then I have received photocopies of three more Almond FDC’s from Cyril Dulin (Figs 3, 4 and 5) and one with the same date, time and post office addressed to F.R.A.McCormick (Fig 6) but in different handwriting.



Fig 3



Fig 4



Fig 5

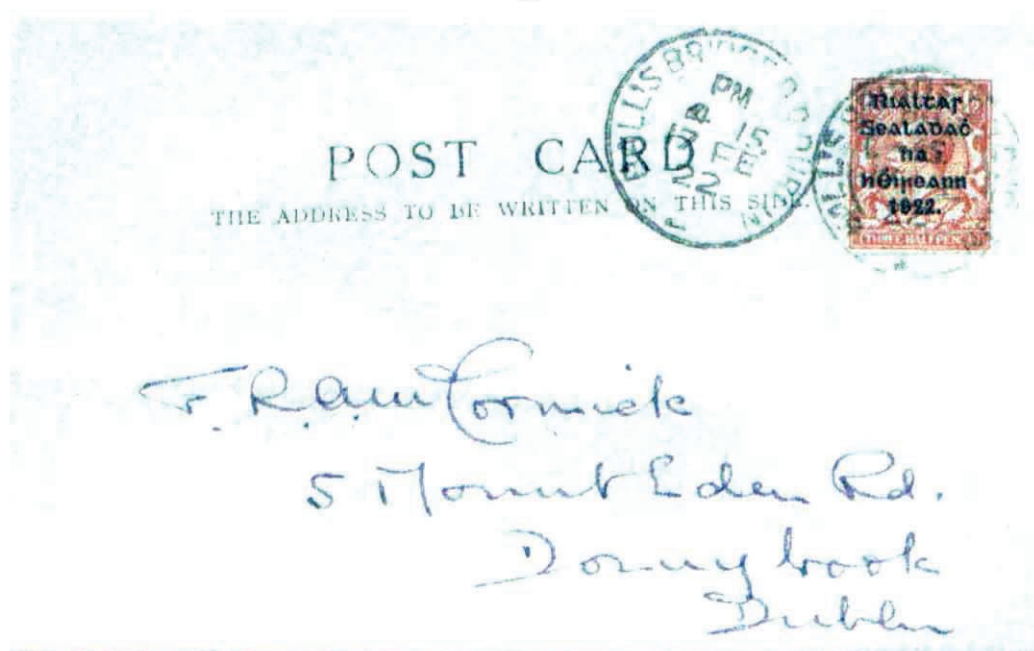


Fig 6

Cyril's comments are as follows:

Fig 3. A strip of 4 x 1/2d Dollard with double ring Ballsbridge. What is interesting is that there is no doubt that the inner ring is wearing and the remnant traces can be seen under the LL up to the RI in Ballsbridge. The handwriting is identical to Fig 1 and Fig 2 and the time code is PM/4.15 with a partly worded Code 2 at the base.

Fig 4. A similar envelope but with 2 x 1/2d and 1d Dollard. Considerably less wear of the inner ring which is virtually complete. Time, Code etc similar to Fig 3.

Fig 5. A registered envelope with 1/2d and 3d Dollard and 1 x 1/2d Thom. This differs from Figs 3 and 4 in that the Ballsbridge is a single ring 25mm diameter as opposed to the double ring of 28mm diameter. Moreover the inscription is Ballsbridge with 6.Dublin at base. This is not Ballsbridge D.O. Dublin.

Fig 6. The postmark is similar to the Almond double ring type. I would welcome further comments from members.

Michael PRIESTLEY

Mystery Envelopes



I believe that most of us who indulge in Irish philately sooner or later come across items which simply do not make apparent sense. Often, of course, this may be due to lack of knowledge which an "expert" will find a perfectly logical explanation for. There are others which appear to defy even the "experts" opinions.

One such has had me puzzled for years. It was only recently when a similar cover appeared in one of Andy Ballard's mail sale (No.47 Lot 75) that reminded me of it. Accordingly, this note is written in the hope that someone can come up with a reasonable explanation.

Essentially, I have a series of six of these envelopes (two of which are illustrated in reduced size above and below) which bear the boxed two line cachet (in black) "Found in Paddington/without contents". All have Irish definitive stamps (various denominations from ½d to 10d in my collection, 9d in Andy Ballard's sale) together with a British GV 1½d definitive. All the envelopes were unsealed.

The postmark on the Irish stamps is that of College Green (in Gaelic) and dated 25 JU 25. The British stamps are all postmarked Paddington 10 AU 25. The only exception to this is the 10d which has a machine cancel but equally dated 25 Aug 1925. All were on Jury's Hotel Dublin stationery. Paddington, incidentally, is a district in West London mostly known for its railway terminus there.

Finally in terms of description, all were addressed to Philadelphia, but to two distinct persons and addresses. One was to a Mr. William Conlen of 1818 Packard Bldg, the other to Mr. Edward R. Wood Jr at 245 South 17th Street. No envelope had any arrival American backstamps on it.

So much for description, now for the unanswered questions.



Firstly, it seems that they were genuinely used in Ireland. As to why they were found in Paddington is conjectural. If there was some mix-up in the mail bag distribution then a more logical railway terminus might have been Euston (where the Holyhead trains finished their journey). The lag time between the Dublin and Paddington postmark dates are of the order of 6-7 weeks. Again an unknown factor.

Next, the British GV stamp might have been affixed in Dublin. This would be of no import at all to the Irish Post Office but could have a bearing on the British Post Office. At that time, the preferential rate to the USA was 1½d for the first ounce (the inland rate was still 2d although for 3 ounces). Conceivably the envelopes (all empty now as then) could have contained advice notes, in which case they might have qualified under Printed Matter for which the postage would have been ½d. Usually, but not necessarily, such material would have been masked as Printed Matter. The key point here is that neither in Dublin or in London was any surcharge raised.

Did the London Post Office forward the mail to the States or was it returned to Ireland? The latter seems unlikely since the envelopes did not contain any contents and hence no inkling of any return address. The absence of any US arrival markings was not uncommon at the time.

The dates appear, to me at least, without significance. As far as I can judge there were no especially important announcements in Irish or Phuir regarding this particular date. The announcements on Irish Postal Stationery came weeks later.

Why to two different people, albeit in the same city? The names, to me at least, are not those of regular dealers at that period. And, finally, why bother to send the whole range of Irish definitives in this way? The values I have not seen are the 2½d, 5d and 1/-. They probably exist, but where?

Any and all comments would be greatly appreciated.

C.I. DULIN, Geneva

ALBERT BRIDGE POST OFFICE, BELFAST

I wondered whether IPC members might be interested in the progress that has been made in researching the Belfast post offices. Much of this was done by my late friend Tony Graham, drawing on information from many sources. (My own contribution consisted mainly of postmark data and PMG minute refs. from the London Post Office Archives.) Tony left some floppy disks with the basic data and I am still in the process of updating and correcting this as far as I can but I offer the following "Albert Bridge" as a fairly typical Belfast office sadly which is no more. Ideally I would like to add a map, photo(s) and illustrations of postmarks but if I do it will make for quite a thick tome! The format of the text is perhaps not perfect-the basic postmark descriptions were based on formats suggested in an IP article by Stan Challis. Since then, however, Stan has moved on to a new improved format ('05.07.1956' should perhaps read '5 Jul 1956', for instance). Still, those of you who saw my "Belfast Postmarks & Post Offices-A Preliminary Study"-in which I suggested something less patchy might be produced by 2003 (350th anniversary of Belfast's PO?) may notice some improvement! Any additional information welcome-sight of any parcel post labels for instance.

ALBERT BRIDGE, BELFAST

See also SHORT STRAND

Revised 10th Feb.2001

Open:

1 Nov 1893: P.O.Circular advised Short Strand MOSB renamed. It actually also moved c.100 yards from Short Strand (Road) to the Ravenhill Road. Listed thereafter in all P.O.Guides & local directories until closure.

Locations & Postmasters: [From local street directories.]

1890 & 1892: 98 Short Strand (q.v.) - J. Boomer (tobacconist & PO)
[Originally open 1890 (Newspaper report 13 Feb 1890) & upgraded to Money Order & Savings Bank, 2 Feb.1891(P.O.Circular)]

1894 - 1901: 4 Ravenhill Road.

Pmrs: 1894 - 1898: Mrs. J. Boomer.
1899 - 1901: Mrs. J. J. Young.

1902 - 1910: 8 Madrid Street.

1910 - 1975: 10 Madrid Street.

Pmrs: 1901 - 19: W. J. Young.
1920 - 35: Mrs. J. J. Young.
1936 - 48: Miss Agnes Young [P.O.Archive Minute 1936 No.7761 advised her appointment. Daughter to above (?)]
1949 - 75: Mrs. A. Ross (nee Young as above) to final closure.

Closed:

2 Aug 1975: Date advised by PO.

This area has been completely demolished and redeveloped for new road approaches to bridge and new housing. OS Map Ref J350 739.

POSTMARKS:

SR 24	ALBERT BRIDGE BELFAST	17.12.19[3?]4;	--.---.1963	1
SR 24	ALBERT BRIDGE BELFAST	05.07.1956;	--.---.1963	2
SR 24	ALBERT BRIDGE.BELFAST 5.	--.---.1963;	--.---.1975	3
SR 24	ALBERT BRIDGE.BELFAST 5.	--.---.1963;	--.---.1975	4
PPc.77x34	BELFAST/ALBERT BRIDGE/1//PARCEL/POST		--.-7.1931	5

Notes:

1-2. Both 1 & 2 probably in use from 1930's. Replaced by 3 & 4 with postcode numbers in 1963.

P.O.Archive Security Scrap Post 55/241 refers 1963.

Example dated Dec 19[3?]4 on ½d stamp.

Example dated 5 Jul 1956 from illustration in Mackay's 'Irish Postmarks since 1840'.

3-4. Replaced 1 & 2 and had district numbers filed off between 12 Aug - 30 Sep 1967 giving lop-sided appearance typical of many Belfast datestamps. P.O. Archives postmark issue book

Post 55/80 dated 30 Jan 1963 and Security Scrap Book 6 Jan 1978 (sic) shows final appearance.

5. P.O. Archive proof issue book-Rectangular parcel postmark.

SNIPPET:

• January 17th, 2003 •

Post knocks on a new door in Knockbridge

The closing bell sounded for Knockbridge's popular Post Office yesterday (Tuesday) when after more than sixty years it has re-located to Brodigan's Store.

Una Kirk, who lives next door to the closing Post Office, and has been Postmistress for the last few years said it would be the end of a "little bit of local history."

Between them, Una and her mother, Anne Wynne had acted as Postmistress in the premises for twenty years.

The Post Office had previously been run before them by Mary Sloan in a thatched cottage opposite Una's home for forty years.

"Prior to that, the P.O. had operated from Brodigan's Stores, where it will now be returning to be operated by Declan Brodigan" adds Una.

The mother of two had taken up the

position as Postmistress after returning home with her husband Paul from New Jersey, USA, where the couple had resided for eleven years.

"The Post Office could have been run from here had it gone computerised, but the only new developments in recent years here was that we could sell TV licences and dog licences etc."

Now, the building will be run as an "agency" of An Post whereby stamps can be sold, but other Post Office essentials, such as the availability of pensions will be operated from Brodigan's.

"The most important thing is that despite the Post Office closing here after so many decades, the elderly will be able to collect their pensions locally as we are quite a bit from the nearest P.O in Louth Village," added Una.

Postal Stationery

In this article early Irish postal stationery is described in terms of their registration. There is a wealth of data that was previously unrecorded and many new, and surprising, facets have emerged.

Envelopes:

This section contains only two types, the 2d and the ½d. Both were embossed on watermarked Ballyclare paper. The 2d, in size A, was registered on September 23, 1924, while the ½d was registered on October 20, 1924, with its flap right. The dates of issue of these items (and, indeed, of most early Irish postal stationery) are not known with any degree of accuracy. For a more detailed discussion on this the reader is referred to the author's "Ireland's Transition" (Pub MacDonnell Whyte Dublin 1992).

Registered Envelopes:

Officially these are designated as "Money Envelopes". All were with a 5d embossed stamp and were without printers imprint under the flap. The size F alone was with the wide "Cláratact" on the reverse.

Registration Date

Size F	August 13, 1924
Size G	May 13, 1924
Size H	June 11, 1924
Size K	May 2, 1924

Note: The considerable gap between the Size F and other sizes in terms of registration dates seems to indicate that there may have been some hesitation in deciding whether an F size was necessary. It is notable that the first announcement in "Iris an Phuist" No.106 on July 23, 1924 referred only to the sizes G, H and K being available for issue. The announcement on the size F introduction was not made until December 24, 1924 (Iris an Phuist No.128).

Postcards:

There were two of these, the 1d and the 1½d. Both were typographed with the appropriate stamp and were imprinted with a monogrammed SE as well as "Carta Puist" (= English Post Card). As noted elsewhere ("Ireland's Transition") these were the only items that did not conform to the previous British types in terms of size. They corresponded to the British Foreign thin type rather than the British domestic Inland size. There is no explanation, as yet as to why this divergence exists.

The master sheets for these postcards were in a 6 x 5 array with alternate rows inverted with respect to each other. Thus far no miscuts showing portions of two cards have been reported.

Registration Date

1d	May 6, 1925
1½d	September 1, 1924

Note: Curiously, the postcard rate was reduced from 1½d to 1d on May 1, 1925. That is the postcards had not yet been actually registered by that date. The official

announcement as to their availability was not made in Iris an Phuist No, 109 until May 20, 1925. Even more curiously, the British equivalent of Iris an Phuist (British Post Office Circular No.2786) announced the 1d postcard rate on May 6, 1925 (essentially "that instructions should be given for postcards to be passed at the new rates").

Letter Cards:

There were two of these, one for 1924 and the other for 1934. The 1934 version was noted as being in "Amended Shade", this having the typographed stamp in yellow green rather than the deeper green of the 1924 version. Both were imprinted with a SE monogram between the words "Leitir Carta" (= English Letter Card), Specialists have examples with a missing perforation hole, but these examples were complete in this respect.

Registration Date

2d (Deep green)	June 17, 1924
2d (Yellow green)	June 6, 1934

Note: Unfortunately, it was not noted as whether the examples were of gummed front or back types.

Wrappers:

Unofficially referred to as Newspaper Wrappers, there were two of these the ½d (stamp typographed in green) and 1d (stamp typographed in carmine). Both were on buff paper. Again, both were in master sheets of 16, the arrangement being "tete-beche", No miscuts have ever been recorded.

Registration Date

½d Green	May 30, 1924
1d Carmine	June 10, 1924

International Reply Coupons:

Whether these should be listed as postal stationery is debatable. However, for the record, the first of these was registered on September 5, 1935. The master sheet put-up of 50 impressions was 10 x 5.

Telegraph Forms:

This was certainly one of the more interesting groups since compared with other items of postal stationery very little has been known about them. They were in two groups. the 1/- (with embossed stamp in blue) and the 1/6d (embossed stamp in brown). All were rouletted at left. The 1/- types were singles, the 1/6 in 2 set form vertically with no apparent perforated or rouletted signs of separation.

Unusually, but perhaps significantly, two of the 1/- types were overprinted "Specimen". Considerable debate has taken place as to whether the 1/6d brown stock exchange form was actually issued although. its existence is generally thought to be valid. Its late printing

probably gave rise to this suspicion.

Registration Date

1/- Blue	June 23, 1924
1/- Blue A1/ SE	May 2, 1928 (Overprinted "Specimen")
1/- Blue (Romanised)	February 28, 1928 (Overprinted "Specimen")
1/6d Brown	February 7, 1929
1/6d Brown A1/SE	September 5, 1935

Note: Telegraph forms were issued in wads of 50 but there is no indication of this in the registration detail.

C.I. DULIN, Geneva

SNIPPET:

Mayor raps An Post for Christmas mail delay

"Nonham STANDARD" Thursday 9/1/03

"They have no way of organising or running a business," stated Co Monaghan's Mayor Hugh McElvaney at Monday's meeting of Monaghan Co Council when taking An Post sternly to task for the delays in the delivery of mail over the Christmas and New Year periods.

Referring to An Post as "this outfit that delivers our mail", Mr McElvaney said they told everyone before Christmas through the local media that they were ensuring next day delivery by sending mail to Athlone. However, most of them were only getting their Christmas mail now, and he thought An Post deserved to be condemned for that.

The Mayor said people required their post fast and efficiently. Pdraig McNally stated that he knew one person who missed out on a very important hospital appointment because of the late post. They could all accept if Christmas cards were late - this was not a life or death situation, but the person he referred to had been waiting ten weeks for the hospital appointment concerned.

"Post coming late is not acceptable in this day and age," the South Monaghan representative went on. The simplistic excuse offered that the machinery in Athlone hadn't been able to deal with square Christmas cards was beyond belief.

Mr McNally added that he had been "inundated" by the dismissive apologies for the delays offered by the Chairman of An Post.

EXCUSES WERE "LAME AND LAME"

Willie McKenna branded the postal delays "a disgrace" and said the excuses offered for it were "lame and lame." For an organisation like An Post to be going back rather than forward in 2003 was not acceptable.

Owen Bannigan agreed that An Post's handling of the Christmas postal deliveries was nothing short of a disgrace. He knew of a letter posted in Ballybay on December 13 that arrived two miles outside the town on January 3 with an appointment for a job interview that was late. A letter from Melbourne in Australia had taken ten days to arrive at the same address.

Mr Bannigan said he was concerned with some of the developments in An Post, which were leading to the closure of small Post Offices. The closures were coming about through "financial incentives behind backs and nice and quickly". Some of their major Post Offices, such as that in Castleblayney, were being downgraded and this was going to have a detrimental effect on the people of the county and cost jobs which they urgently needed.

Caoimhghin O Caolain TD thought it important to highlight that one would no longer know where an item of post had been posted or have the date of postage stamped upon it. He thought the impact of this had not been fully appreciated, particularly for philatelists. Postmarks were part of the stamp collection phenomenon but no longer would one either see Monaghan or Muineachain on a postage mark. This was a serious development and he didn't think An Post, which had its own philately promotion department, had appreciated the effect of having the post sorted regionally.

"An Post's performance, not only over the Christmas period but for a considerable time past, has been one of 'carry on regardless' of the wider public concern," Deputy O Caolain told the meeting.

They have to realise they are not independent and have to get themselves back on track with the public they serve."

Early Belfast Receiving Offices-supplementary

Dear Editor,

My thanks to David MacDonnell (letter, IP, March/03) for reminding me of the additional offices which I did not include in my original article(IP Sept/03). The truth is that I hadn't included them because they are more or less beyond what I would call present day "Belfast proper". One thing I learnt early on in Belfast postal history research was that many offices apparently under Belfast were well outside the city limits. Even Newcastle & Cushendall have had postmarks with 'BELFAST' at the base, so I eventually dropped the more outlying ones.

However, Tony Graham made it his business to research all Northern Ireland Pos so I've looked out some of the data for each of the offices quoted. (A happy by-product of this was that I found some more postmarks filed in with the notes!) Tony went into great detail for each of these offices-addresses, postmasters etc. and some of the data should be on floppy disc in Northern Ireland. I understand the Ulster Museum has this; J.M.Rankin has also covered many of these offices in his 'Postmarks of County Antrim Pre-1970', of which I have a copy.

Below I've tried to add the names of the offices which these POs have come under for many years of their history.

a) BALLYCLARE	(Co.Antrim)	(1802?-)
b) BALLYEASTON	(" " ,under Ballyclare)	(1856-) Closed 1978
c) BALLYNURE	(" " , " ")	(1851?-)
d) CLOUGH	(" " ,under Ballymena)	(1835-)
e) CRAIGAVAD	(Co.Down,under Holywood)	(1851?-)
f) DOAGH	(Co.Antrim,under Ballyclare)	(1848?-)
g) DUNADRY	(" ")	(1846-)
h) DUNLOY	(" " ,under Ballymena)	(1857-)
i) GREENISLAND	(" " , " Carrickfergus)	(1851-)
j) GROOMSPORT	(Co.Down,under Bangor)	(1846-) - 4 miles from Donaghadee
k) HOLYWOOD	(" ")	(1817-) - also 'HOLLYWOOD'
l) KILLAGAN	(Co.Antrim,under Ballymena)	(1850?-)
	Possibly opened Dec.1849.	
m) NEWTOWN CROMMELIN	(" " ")	(1857-)
n) PARKGATE	(Co.Antrim)	(1848-) Closed 1918
o) TEMPLEPATRICK	(" " ,under Ballyclare)	(1832-)

This list helps to illustrate the overall picture. Round about 1855 offices in a wide hinterland around Belfast were "under Belfast", including the offices around Ballyclare. Some of the offices near Ballymena also came under Belfast for a while but they were a long way from Belfast proper. Clough, for instance, was a Ballymena Penny Post Receiving Office but came under Belfast by 1858. Yet I have an 1862 postmark which reads CLOUGH/ANTRIM. Later in its history it again came under Ballymena. Ballyclare, although technically under Belfast from 1802 (when it opened) seems to have had an independent history. An 1825 cover I have from Ballyclare to Dublin has a straight line 'BALLYCLARE' with a 'P.PAID' mark of the same town (in the same ink) and a Dublin PAID datestamp with no Belfast transit. In 1844 Ballyclare was given its own numeral cancel (38), Holywood was also given a numeral (252). It is true that Dunmurry & Strandtown (on my original list) also had numerals but their history is more bound up with that of Belfast and they did not receive these cancels until much later.

Bill Kane in his "Undated Namestamps of Ireland 1823-60" did not record the undated Type 2C which read 'BALLYNURE/BALLYCLARE'. It has been recorded for 1858 and Tony

Graham found another example, struck in blue-black ink on a letter of August 1856 (Public Record Office, Northern Ireland ref.ED/1/4/45-70 letter no.107 & 108). In contrast Ballyeaston had a 'BALLYEASTON/ BELFAST' mark of the same type also recorded 1856-8. Odd, when one looks at a map and sees these places almost next to one another.

The list could be extended. What about Crawfordsburn? There was also Crosskeys which was under Antrim in 1851 but under Belfast in 1859 and Grangecorner - also originally under Antrim but later under Belfast in 1860. (Both these last two offices then later still came under Toomebridge). You can see how the mind of a student of Belfast can begin to boggle. I have not researched the postmarks of all these offices, all of which might be called "rural" and outside the city but I do have some copies and there are illustrations in Tony's notes and I am happy to share this with anyone interested who may have a specific query.

Tim STEPHENS

SNIPPET:

A Christmas card posted in December delivered in January, or is it February ?

We all know that An Post took it's time to deliver the Christmas mail in Dundalk and elsewhere in the country.

Indeed some were doubting if cards would be delivered in time for next Christmas.

Eventually this week the last of the 66,000 items of mail which had failed to make the December 24th delivery deadline were dropped through the letterboxes of Dundalk homes.

But one Dundalk householder who had a card which had been posted ten days before Christmas delivered this week was rather

Baile Atha Cliath
DMC
09.02.03

mystified by the date stamp on the envelope.

It was dated (as can be seen from above) 09.02.03, which means that the card was in fact delivered a month ahead of schedule and not a month behind.

So we now have a situation that a

card posted in December is delivered in January, but carries the date stamp of February.

Is An Post trying to tell us something here?

Maybe they feel that we should be celebrating Christmas in February and not January as they obviously intended this year.

It's all rather confusing for we all know that we're living in the age of almost instant communication, but this is pushing telecommunications to a new era, delivering mail ahead of the date stamp.

Well done An Post.

Dear Editor,

I was interested in Stan Challis's list of lettered dies used in Dublin Post Offices. Part of what I collect - not too rigorously - Slogan dies of Dublin.

There are three questions I would like to raise.

1. Are the same dies used with Slogan additions or are there separate dies for Slogans?
2. Mackay's "Irish Slogans" lists dies used but to my knowledge the list is incomplete, as I find other lettered dies unlisted.
3. If the slogan dies have some connection to Stan Challis's list, then his unrecorded items are really recorded items! e.g. C and H in different forms being popular; and all the other lettered dies have been used on Slogan dies.

Yours sincerely

John FLYN

Thom 5 Line Narrow Overprint

Variety – R of Rialtas over e of Sealadac (Variety R/e)

Corrections and Additions

By Bill Fletcher

The R/S and R/Se Variety

The illustration in figure 1 showing the varieties R/S and R/Se together with Ei/1 and Ei/19 did not produce well in the March 2003 *Irish Philately* and this illustration is repeated.

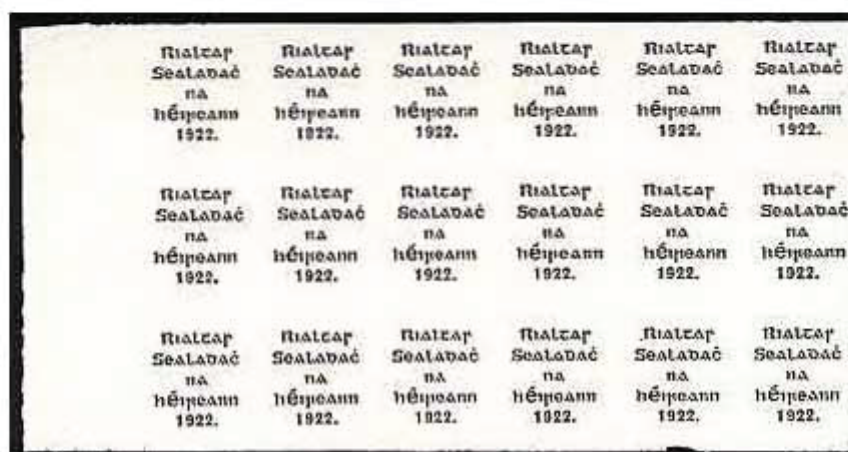


Fig 1. 'Thom to Dollard' Proofs shows Setting 2, rows 11 to 13, stamps 1 to 6.

Row 12 shows: Stamp 1, 2 and 3 R/Se(2). Stamp 4 R/Se(3), Ei/19(1) and wide 'ea' in Sealadac

Stamp 5 and 6 R/Se(3), Ei/19(2). Rows 11 and 13 are normal.

The R/e Variety

The paragraph with the heading The R/Se Variety on page 2 should have been headed 'The R/e Variety'.

The illustration 'Fig 4' should read 'Left stamp is R/e and Ei/19(3) The Right stamp is normal'

Additional Occurrence of the R/e Variety.

Patrick Williams reports additional occurrences of the R/e variety on Setting 5; in the LOWER Pane. It occurs also in Row 16, stamps 5*, 6*. [*also Ei/19(3)]

Bill FLETCHER

Dr Cyril I. Dulin - Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of Ireland



Pat Casey (left), Secretary FPSI looks on as Cyril Dulin signs the Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of Ireland at the IPC Annual Convention held in Dublin on 10th May, 2003.

Cyril Dulin has been selected as a signatory of the Federation of Philatelic Societies of Ireland 'Roll of Distinguished Philatelists'. The object of the award is to honour a person who has made a notable contribution to philately in Ireland, or contributed to improving the standing of Irish Philately abroad. The Irish Philatelic Circle was the nominating Society.

Cyril started to collect and study Irish material about thirty years ago in virtually all its different aspects, but particularly in terms of postal history, overprints, booklets, political labels, airmails and postal stationery. The greatest emphasis has been on that part of postal history 1922-1925, the so-called transition period, and the Irish overprints on base Great Britain stamps.

Cyril has achieved a considerable degree of success in National and International exhibitions (list of main Palmares attached) with both philatelic material and literature.

Apart from very numerous articles, his publications have been "The Dublin Spoon 1855-1857", "Irish Booklets A Handbook of Irish Stamp Booklets 1931 to 1991" and "Ireland's Transition 1922-1925". The latter volume, the stand reference book on this subject, received gold medals and jury prizes at a number of international exhibitions including Ottawa 1993 (Orapex), Stampa 93, Korea 94, Basle 95, New Zealand 95 and Singapore 1995.

He is a member of various philatelic societies including the Irish Philatelic Circle (past editor of its Journal and past President), the Éire Philatelic Association, and the Great Britain and International Philatelic Society Basle. He has sometime been a jury member at Stampa. In 1979 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Philatelic Society London and he presented a display (shared with Jacques Renollaud) before its members in 1997.

Awards Obtained

Year	Exhibition	Award	Subject
1977	Stampa 77	Silver	Transitional Period (Best Overall)
1980	London 1980	Silver	Transition
1981	PhilaTokyo	Silver	Saorstata Overprints
1984	Naba Zurich	Large Vermeil	Overprints
1984	PhilaKorea	Vermeil	Overprints
1984	Ausipex	Silver	Transition
1985	Stampa 85	Vermeil	Transition
1986	Stockholmia	Large Silver	Overprints
1986	Ameripex	Vermeil	Overprints
1987	Hafnia	Large Silver	Transition
1988	Stampa 88	Vermeil	Pioneer Flights
1988	Stampa 88	Gold	Overprint varieties
1988	Stampa 88	Silver	Essays
1989	Stampa 89	Vermeil	Postal Stationery
1989	Stampa 89	Vermeil	Easter Rising
1989	Stampa 89	Gold	Booklets
1990	Helvetia 90	Gold + OP	Overprints
1993	Polska 93	Large Vermeil	Overprints
1993	Polska 93	Gold	Transition
1993	Ottawa 93	Gold + PH	Book (ORAPEX 93 2nd Nat Phil Lit)
1993	Stampa 93	Gold	Book
1994	Korea 94	Large Vermeil	Overprints
1994	Korea 94	Gold with felicitations	Book
1995	Finlandia 95	Large Silver	Postal Stationery
1995	Basler Taube	Gold	Overprints
1995	Basler Taube	Large Gold + PH	Book
1995	New Zealand	Gold and Grand Award	Book (4th Nat Phil Lit Exhibition)
1995	Singapore	Gold	Book
1996	Istanbul 96	Gold with Felicitations	Overprints

Signing the Roll

At the IPC Convention held at Ely House, Dublin on the 10th May 2003, Pat Casey, Secretary of the Federation of Philatelic Societies of Ireland, accompanied by the Treasurer, Michael Murphy, invited Dr Cyril Dulin to sign The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists of Ireland. After describing the rules for selection of invitees to sign the Roll, Pat Casey listed the many philatelic awards at national and international level achieved by Cyril Dulin and his contributions to the literature of Irish philately. He said that Cyril Dulin was in every way a most worthy recipient of the honour.

Cyril Dulin then signed the Roll and was presented with an impressive certificate. He said how pleased he was to receive the award and described how much Irish philately had done for him. In particular he told the audience that his doctor, having agreed that Cyril was fit to attend a philatelic conference, found that afterwards his health had improved. The doctor therefore recommended philately for its health-giving benefits.



Pat Casey, Secretary FPSI, Cyril Dulin with Certificate and Michael Murphy, Treasurer FPSI.

Signatories of The Roll of Distinguished Philatelists Of Ireland (Instituted in 1979)

1980
Dr. J. Stafford Johnson

1981
Frederick E. Dixon
William Kane

1982
Dr. Brian De Burca
Rev. Fr. John Brennan

1983
Norah Wright
Col. Bill Zellers

1985
Dr. Robert P. Towers

1986
Dr. Joseph A. Quigley

1987
Dr. John P. Mackey

1988
Rev. Edwin Davey

1991
Joseph E. Foley

1996
Geoffrey McAuley

1997
David Feldman

2000
Finbar O'Mahony

2001
Brian Warren

2003
Dr Cyril Dulin

(Pictures courtesy of George Etoe and Michael Priestley)

Irish Postal Rates Since 6th January 2003

Inland rates were unchanged but there were significant increases for Britain and Europe. In the case of Britain, the priority rate for the initial 50g weight step was increased to 50c and no longer is in line with the basic inland rate of 41c unless letters are sent at Economy rate. In the case of European destinations, all rates up to 100g are now the same as the Rest of the World. The basic 25g priority (airmail) rate for the Rest of the World (57c) was unchanged with all higher weight steps reduced; economy (surface) rates for the Rest of the World were also restructured with both increases and reductions depending on weight/size of item sent.

Ireland (unchanged)

Weight not over	Letter / Postcard	Large Envelope	Package
50g	41c	47c	47c
100g	60c	60c	60c
250g		92c	92c
350g		€1.49	€1.60
500g		€1.49	€1.60
1kg		€2.50	€4.25
1.5kg		€5.50	€5.50
2kg		€7.00	€7.00
Each additional 500g		€1.35	€1.35

Britain

Weight not over	Letter/ Postcard		Large Envelope		Package	
	Priority	Economy	Priority	Economy	Priority	Economy
50g	50c	41c	75c	64c	€1.20	€1.02
100g	85c	72c	85c	72c	€1.20	€1.02
250g			€1.75	€1.50	€1.75	€1.50
350g			€2.60	€2.20	€2.60	€2.20
500g			€2.60	€2.20	€2.60	€2.20
1kg			€4.80	€4.00	€4.80	€4.00
1.5kg			€6.20	€5.25	€6.20	€5.25
2kg			€7.80	€6.50	€7.80	€6.50

Europe

Weight not over	Letter/ Postcard		Large Envelope		Package	
	Priority	Economy	Priority	Economy	Priority	Economy
25g	57c	44c	95c	81c	€1.70	€1.45
50g	83c	71c	95c	81c	€1.70	€1.45
100g	€1.20	€1.02	€1.20	€1.02	€1.70	€1.45
250g			€2.00	€1.70	€2.00	€1.70
350g			€4.00	€2.80	€4.00	€2.80
500g			€4.00	€2.80	€4.00	€2.80
1kg			€8.00	€4.50	€8.00	€4.50
1.5kg			€12.00	€6.20	€12.00	€6.20
2kg			€16.00	€7.80	€16.00	€7.80

Rest of World

Weight not over	Letter/ Postcard		Large Envelope		Package	
	Priority	Economy	Priority	Economy	Priority	Economy
25g	57c	44c	95c	81c	€1.70	€1.45
50g	83c	71c	95c	81c	€1.70	€1.45
100g	€1.20	€1.02	€1.20	€1.02	€1.70	€1.45
250g			€3.00	€2.00	€3.00	€2.00
350g			€5.00	€4.00	€5.00	€4.00
500g			€5.00	€4.00	€5.00	€4.00
1kg			€10.00	€6.90	€10.00	€6.90
1.5kg			€15.00	€9.60	€15.00	€9.60
2kg			€20.00	€11.40	€20.00	€11.40

Maximum dimensions of a Letter / Postcard: 235mm x 162mm x 5mm thickness (i.e.C5 size) (Also known as "POP" or Post Office Preferred Size). Above 100grms, the large envelope or package rate applies.

Maximum dimensions of a Large Envelope: 400mm x 300mm x 25mm thickness (i.e.C4 size) (Also known as a "Flat" item).

Dimensions of a Package: Items that exceed 400mm x 300mm x 25mm thickness.

REGISTRATION RATES

Ireland: Basic fee of €3.10 plus postage. The fee payable for the basic registration covers compensation up to a maximum of €320. Additional compensation up to €1,250 and €1,750 is available for an additional fee of €2.00 or €3.00 respectively i.e. total cost of €5.10 or €6.10 plus postage.

Britain, Europe and Rest of the World: €3.40 plus priority postage. In the case of Britain, the fee payable for the basic registration service covers compensation up to a maximum of €320. Additional compensation of €580 (i.e. up to €900 in total) is available on payment of an additional fee of €2.00. In the case of Europe and the Rest of the World, the fee payable for basic registration covers compensation up to the limit for each individual country. The maximum available limit does not exceed €150 in any country.

SWIFTPOST (inclusive of Priority Postage for National and Exprés)

	National ¹	Exprés ²		International
Weight not over	32 Counties	Britain	Europe	Other Countries
100g	€3.80	€5.00	€6.30	Fee of €3.60 plus priority postage. Delivery times not guaranteed (Service not available for all countries)
250g	€5.15	€6.30	€7.65	
500g	€6.50	€7.65	€8.95	
1kg	€7.85	€8.95	€12.60	
1.5kg	€9.20	€10.25	€16.80	
2kg (max)	€10.55	€11.60	€21.00	

1. Guaranteed next day delivery to every address in the Republic of Ireland with delivery in town centres, commercial centres and industrial estates before 12.30 p.m. For N. Ireland the delivery times for Britain apply (2 days, urban - 3 days , rural).
2. Guaranteed day certain delivery for items to Britain, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Spain and Switzerland – guaranteed delivery times vary between countries e.g. Spain - 2 days, urban - 4 days, rural. For other countries the lower (non –guaranteed) Swiftpost International rate applies.

Brian WARREN