

Mid Western Philatelic Society

A GUIDE TO VARIETIES ON IRISH STAMPS.

By: Sean Moore.

Part 1: Commemoratives: 1973 - 1975.

1929. O'Connell - "Bullet hole" in forehead.



A SUPPLEMENT TO THE MWPS

NEWSLETTER.

A GUIDE TO VARIETIES ON IRISH STAMPS: By SEAN MOORE.

Introduction:

I have long held an ambition to own a comprehensive handbook of Irish Varieties (not a complete handbook - one thing that I have learnt from many years of stamp collecting is that completeness is very elusive indeed). Having waited for many years, it now seems to me that the only way for me to own such a handbook is to produce it myself. Hence, this first step towards what I hope will, over a period of time, grow to be a reasonably comprehensive listing of most of the varieties to be found on our postage stamps.

What follows is a first step in the production of a handbook of varieties, and makes no pretense to completeness. I am confident that philatelic friends and fellow collectors will help me over coming issues by adding their knowledge and examples to this modest first step, thus adding to the general store of philatelic knowledge to the benefit of all collectors in this field. With help from others who have an interest in this collecting area, I am certain that, over a period of time, a fairly complete record can be built up.

My thanks are due to a number of people who have helped in this endeavour, notably to John Mitchell, who has generously allowed me to use his large collection of varieties as reference, and who has provided many of the sketches used herein. Also, my thanks to Roger O'Donoghue who has so painstakingly undertaken many of the illustrations, and to McDonnell Whyte for their kind permission to use their copyright material.

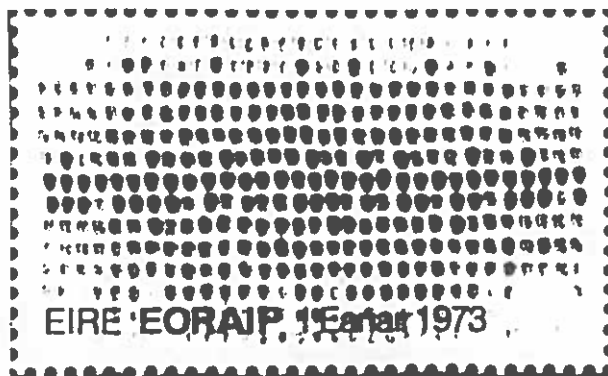
Your comments, constructive criticism and help in building up this 'handbook' would be more than welcome.

Sean Moore,
President, MWPS.
July 1991.

Notes:

1. I have tried to work to a format which would lend itself to storing in a loose-leaf binder. Using such a system, it would be relatively simple to make additions and corrections to the lists, as more information becomes available.
2. Where I have evidence of two or more of a particular variety, I have used the letter (C) to indicate constancy. Where sheet position is available, I have used this in preference to the letter (C).
3. Where the position of a variety is not readily apparent, I have used the "Thirkell Position Finder" to indicate the position.
4. As is usual with photocopies of stamps, good copies are the exception rather than the rule - I can only apologise for the poor copies.

1973. Ireland's Entry into the EEC:



6p.

1. Flaw above "E" of "Eoraip" (R9/1).



12p.

1. Re-entry - "Eoraip" (R4/7).

EORAIP

1973. Europa:

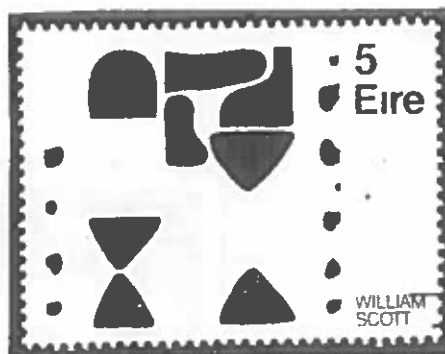


4p.

1. Retouch after "E" of "Eire" (R9/6).

E.4

1973. Art (Scott):



5p.

1. Flaw on "A" of "William" (R3/4).

WILLIAM

2. Line under design, bottom right (C).



1973. Intimas:

3 1/2p.

1. B7. Dot - top right-hand corner. (C).

2. A1-C2. Line from top left corner to Madonna's head.

3. B1/2. Dot - top left hand corner.

4. K5. Dot over "N" of "Nollaig". -----

Nollaig 1

5. Dot between "R" and "E" of "Eire".

R·E

6. L7. Dot - centre Right of "3 1/2" (C). -----

1.
2.

7. K7. Dot after "g" of "Nollaig" (C).

aig. 19

8. K3. Dot over "RE" of "Eire" (C).

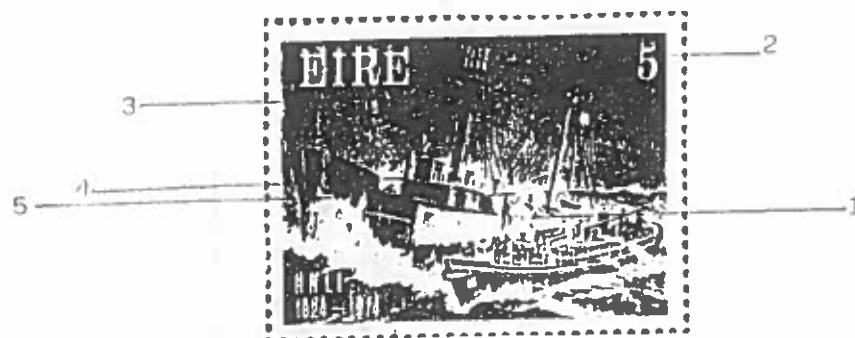
EIRE

9. Flaw over Madonna's head (R3/1).

12p.

1. As 9 above.





5p.

1. Dot to right of jumping figure (C).



2. Red Star (R5/9).



3. Dot under "R" of "EIRE" (C).



4. Dot at top left hand side of fo'c'sle (C)

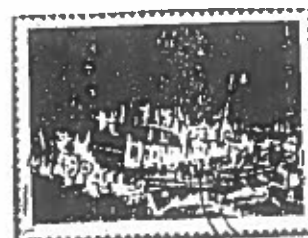


5. 'Hat' flaw (R3/1).

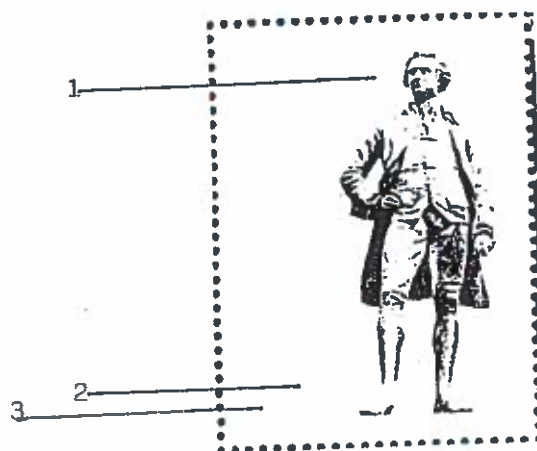


6. Missing Gold* - Gold colour omitted, resulting in missing Country name, value tablet and 'RNLI/1824-1974' inscription.

*Despite a hunt which has spanned many years, I have only found one example of this quite dramatic variety. Can anyone report another I wonder?.



1964. Europa:



5p.

1. Dot to left of statue's head (C).



2. Line st top of "r" of "Eire" (R7/9).

Eire

3. Line across stamp, from "O" of "Europa", to Right hand margin, behind Burkes' shoulders (C).



4. Damaged bottom, right hand corner (R9/1).

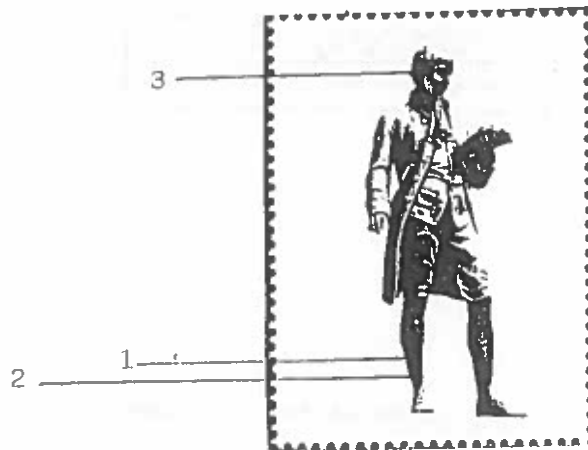


7p.

1. Dot in "E" of "Eire" (R6/1).

E

1974. Oliver Goldsmith:



3½p.

1. Retouch - side of left leg, below knee (C).



2. Retouch - centre of left leg, below knee (C).



3. Dot on left temple (C).



1974. Art (McGuinness):

5p.

Apart from colour variations, I have found no worth-while varieties on this issue.

1974. Rugby:



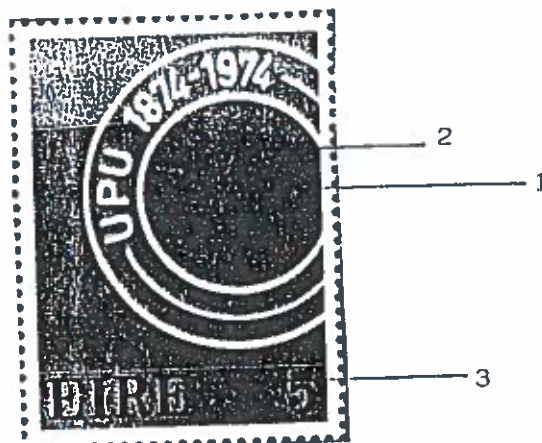
3 1/2p.

1. Frame line doubled at top & bottom (C).
2. Frame line doubled, bottom only (C).

12p.

1. Frame line doubled at bottom.

1974: U.P.U. Centenary:



5p.

1. Lines in centre circle, running SW to NE.



5p.

2. Line in centre, running N to S. (C).



3. Retouch after "E" of "Eire" (C).



7p.

1. As '3' above.

1974. Christmas:



5p.

1. Stroke on forehead (N-S) (C).



2. Stroke on forehead (E-W) (R7/5).



3. Break in frame above head (R8/8)



4. Dot to right of head (C).



1974. Christmas (cont'd.):

5p.

5. Dot on Madonna's left cheek (C).



12p.

1. Dot between eyes (C).



2. As '2' above (C).

3. As '3' above (C).

1975. International Womens Year:

8p.



15p.

8p.

1. D4. Dot in centre leaf (R3/9).



2. D4. Dot at side of centre leaf (R1/9).



3. D3. Dot near tip of centre leaf (C).



4. Dot between "i" and "a" of "Blian" (C).

L'AN IDIR

15p.

1. Damaged top of bottom leaf (R2/2).



2. 'Notch' on centre leaf (R3/9).



1975. Europa (Castletown Hunt):



7p.

1. A-B10. Inverted 'Exclamation Mark' (R7/7)

2. B-C11-12. Line to Rider's head (RG/10).

3. "Half Moon"

4. "Football" (R8/6).

5. Dot - top, right of centre (R5/6).

6. B6. Dot between riders (C).

9p.

1. D12. "Armband" on extreme right rider (C).

2. "Whip flaw" (R10/2)



1975. European Amateur Golf:



6p.

1. "Golf Ball" - Dot above "r" of "European" (R8/6).



2. Dot above head (C).



9p.

1. Dot - top left hand corner (C).



1975. Art (Oisín Kelly):



15p.

1. "Extra claw" (R9/4)



1975. Presentation Nuns Bi-centenary:



5p.

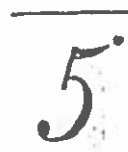
1. Broken frame - left, above shoulder (R9/1).



2. "Locket" on neck (C).



3. Dot at top of "5" (R8/10).



4. Dot in frame, above "EI" of "Eire" (R9/7).



7p.

1. Broken frame - see '1' above (R9/1).



1975: European Architecture Year:



5p.

1. Line through trees (R4/2).



VARIOUS

7p.

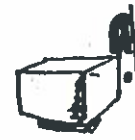
1. Hairlines across face of stamp (C).



2. Break in "R" of "Eire" (C).

R

3. Dot beside alter (R6/1).



4. J3. Dot beside pillar (R7/7).



9p.

1. Dot above "9" (C).



2. As '2' above (C).



1975. Oliver Plunkett:

I have found no note-worthy varieties on this issue.

1975. Christmas:



5p.

1. Black dot on leg (R9/9).



7p.

1. As '1' above (R9/9).

2. Line over "E" of "Eire" (R10/3).

ÈI

3. D1. Dot - left hand of stamp (C).



10p.

1. As '1' above (R9/9).

2. I4. Dot between child's feet (C).

