

Mid Western Philatelic Society

Photo. by courtesy of An Post.



The Stamps of 1991 - A Review: p.8.

Newsletter

No. 10 ■ Spring 1992

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Editorial:

If any single theme has run through each copy of the Newsletter, it is that, if the magazine is to survive, we need a constant supply of articles from our readers and members. It has reached the point where this theme has become excessively boring, and I would hope not to have to repeat this plea. For the future, I intend to stop harping on the need for articles; the NL will be published if there are enough articles to hand. If I have not got enough articles to justify publication, then the publication date will be advanced until enough articles have arrived. Some members have contributed regularly, and to those I would express the NL's gratitude; I would ask the others to get there pens out, and make the effort to keep our NL alive.

Our other contant problem is, of course, financial. We would thank those who have paid their sub. for this year, and would appeal to those who have not yet done so, to please submit their sub. without delay. The cost is £4.00 p.a. to members, which includes membership sub. and postage.

The highlight of our years activities - our Annual Exhibition and Fair - takes place on Saturday 14th. March next. We have advanced publication of the NL to coincide with this event. It is to be hoped that the Exhibition will be as successful as in the past. A report on the day will appear in the next issue.

Michael Hartnett.
March 1992.

An Post Monopoly to be curtailed? Legislation currently being considered by the European Parliament could possibly spell the end of An Post's monopoly of the Postal Service. A Green Paper on Postal Services within the EC includes provision for major policy changes, which could radically affect the way in which every postal service within the EC operates. The P.O. monopoly dates back to the very earliest days of the Post Office, when it was seen as a necessary part of the control of information, and also, of course, as an important revenue source. The legislation, as originally proposed was quite radical and would probably have ended the monopoly completely. However, by the time it reached Green Paper status, it had been watered down and by the time legislation is actually passed it will almost certainly be watered down still further. Some curtailment of the monopoly is certain, but it will not be in any sense an abolition; and it is true to say that An Post is now accustomed to competition in some areas of it's operation and will not find the proposed 'loosening up' as traumatic as might have been the case in the past.

Marketing Opportunities: One can only be amazed at the ingenuity of the human animal. Especially the American version. Always with an eye to potential profit, the Americans particularly never miss an opportunity - below is an example of philatelic advertising found on a book of matches offering 1000 stamps for \$2.95. It even sounds like good value!

1,000 STAMPS COLLECT STAMPS ENJOY HOURS MOST REWARDING HOBBY

1,000 world wide STAMPS Guaranteed Worth Over \$30 at Standard Catalog Prices - yours for only \$2.95

Now - a great opportunity to increase the value of your present collection or to start a new one. You get 1,000 all different stamps from over 55 countries! Money back if not delighted.

YES! I ENCLOSE \$2.95. SEND ME 1,000 ALL DIFFERENT STAMPS - guaranteed worth over \$30 at Standard Catalog prices. My money back if not delighted. I agree to look at other stamp offers on Free Examination from which I can buy any or none - return balance - cancel service anytime.

Name _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____

Worth Over \$30 at Standard Catalog Prices!

KENMORE CH-101, MILFORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03070

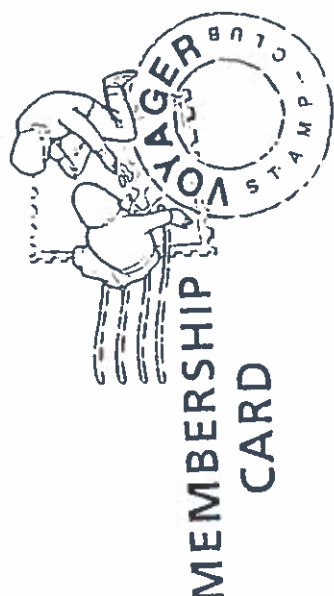
Letter box enthusiasts will be interested in a checklist produced last August by the Letter Box Study Group. This A-5 format, card covered publication lists all stamps, booklets, miniature sheets, postal stationery and even Cinderellas which are known to illustrate "letterboxes on stamps". This is quite a comprehensive checklist, which would be of value to any collectors interested in this theme; it includes Gibbons numbers and gives other information, such as date of issue, varieties, errors, proofs and more. It is available at £3.00 (sterling), inclusive of p&p from G.H.Morgan, 17, Kingsley Court, Romford, Essex, RM2 5SY.

There is a degree of consternation in the UK, caused by Royal Mail's plan to close some 500 offices over the next six months or so. The plan was not publicised, but has been leaked to the British press, where reaction has, in some cases been quite forceful. Mind you it does not sound too bad; comparable, in fact to An Post's plan to close 500 offices over here. Mind you, looking a bit closer, it would appear that Royal Mail could perhaps better afford to lose 500 offices than we could. The An Post plan was to close almost 22% of Irish P.O.'s; Royal Mail's plan is to close less than 3% of the total. Perhaps one should not make comparisons.

Did any of you see the television programme "Live at Three" on Friday 13th. December last? It featured a poster advertising our Mini-Mart and meetings, prepared by Tim O'Connor. The poster was most successful in it's objective, as it brought a good number of new visitors to the Mini-Mart. Our thanks and congratulations to Tim.

Our December meeting was marked by a presentation of Waterford Crystal to our retiring President, Sean Moore. In a short address when making the presentation, our new President, Michael Hartnett, commented on Sean's unique contribution to the hobby in this region. He remarked on the work to promote the hobby undertaken by Sean over a great many years, and made reference to the many 'lecture tours' to local schools, colleges and institutions, radio broadcasts and articles in the local papers undertaken by Sean for the furtherance of stamp collecting as a beneficial hobby. He also commented on Sean's philatelic work with the Redemptorists, and of course, his founding of the MWPS. In accepting the presentation, Sean Moore made a short speech, in which he noted how much he had enjoyed the hobby over the years and the manner in which his life had been enriched by the promotional work which he had undertaken. Congratulations and good wishes were expressed to Sean by all present.

Also at our December meeting, Michael Hartnett presented the Telecom Eireann Callcard Catalogue, which had been produced by the MWPS to coincide with Roger O'Donoghue's talk on that subject. The catalogue was well received by the members present, and it was agreed to expand the effort and publish it as a supplement to our next NL. In proposing this, Sean O'hAllmhurain noted that Callcard collecting was an area of increasing interest, and a simple catalogue could be of benefit to other collectors apart from those attending the meeting.



An Post launched its new "Voyager Stamp Club" at Stampa '91. This venture is aimed at attracting the younger collector to the hobby, and encouraging the existing young collector - objectives similar to those of the UK Post Offices "Stamp Bug Club", though in terms of value, the Voyager Club goes way beyond anything ever offered by "Stamp Bug".

In return for an unused £2.00 stamp, the member receives:
1) A four ring, loose leaf binder (Album); (2) a membership card; (3) a packet of 10 mint stamps; (4) a set of five printed album pages, covering the current definitives and the 1991 commemorative issues; (5) An FDC; (6) a miniature sheet (Cycles) in an appropriate album page; (6) a tweezers; and (7) a ball point pen. each item inscribed with the V.C. motif. As value for money this is a most exceptional offer, and as encouragement for the young collector, it is an offer without comparison in my experience. If you know of a young person, who collects stamps, or would benefit from starting, I would strongly recommend enrolment in the Voyager Club without delay.

Incidentally, I forgot to mention, that the pack also contains a copy of the "Voyager Club News" - a bright, lively little magazine which contains many interesting philatelic news items and snippets. Another bonus for club members, is the special offer to new members - for a further £2.00 he/she will receive a stock book, 75 world stamps and a pack of stamp hinges, with a magnifying glass to cap it all off. Anyone interested should drop a line to: Voyager Stamp Club, Room 2-232, GPO, Dublin 1.

John Mitchell's recent illness was the subject of some discussion at both our December and January meetings. The society's cordial best wishes were conveyed to John at each meeting for his speedy and complete recovery. Hurry back, John; you are sorely missed.



There is rumour of a dramatic variety on one (or more) value of the current 'Irish Heritage and Treasures' definitive series. While we have no details at this time, we hope to have some information on this by our next issue.

Collectors in the old USSR are very anxious indeed to acquire material from 'The West', and many are writing to collectors in other parts of the world and are advertising in Western Philatelic Journals in an effort to establish contacts for swaps. An international club has been formed, based in the Ukraine, for the purpose of fostering contact between collectors in the 'New' Republics and collectors in Western Europe. A magazine has been launched, subscription \$2.00, in which subscribers can advertise free. Anyone interested should write to: The Hon. Secretary, "EWS-Club", P.O. Box 16, 327047, Nikolaev - 47, Ukraine.

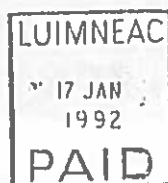
Peel out this section and apply to item to be posted



Hand item over post office counter

An Post launched a new priority letter service on 20th. January last. The new service, called 'Swiftpost' guarantees next day delivery within the state, and priority delivery to foreign countries. It is not a cheap service, at £1.50 + postage inland, and £2.50 + postage abroad, but because of the priority aspect, An Post expects that it will be popular. Two labels are available, one for inland mail, the other for foreign mail. Four envelopes, two internal and two foreign are also available. There are no weight limits on internal mail, but foreign mail is limited to 250 g. The inland label and accompanying receipt are shown.

Postmark collectors will be interested to note that the 'Limerick Paid' mark has appeared in black ink. Used on 17th. Jan. last, this was the only example found used on that date, and the only example with black ink. There are now three versions of this mark - the normal red version; 'Paid' die inverted (reported in NL No.2) and now with black ink.





Postage Paid Postas íoctha	Baile Átha Cliath
1	CEADÚNAS 140

'Unofficial' Postmarks, were first used by Telecom Eireann in (I think) mid-1989. They were introduced in response to complaints from TE's customers that bills were not being received on time. An Post denied any delay in delivering TE's licenced mail, but TE introduced the postmark to ensure that no argument would be possible. Now AIB Bank has followed suit with a simple, single ring PM on it's Access accounts. These marks, unofficial though they may be, will be welcomed by collectors of 'Ceadunas Numbers'.

SWIFTPOST

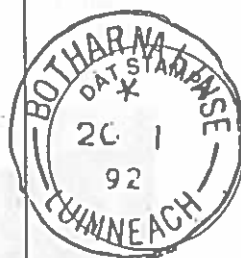
Receipt Adhmháil

SPA A44211

Hand this portion in with item

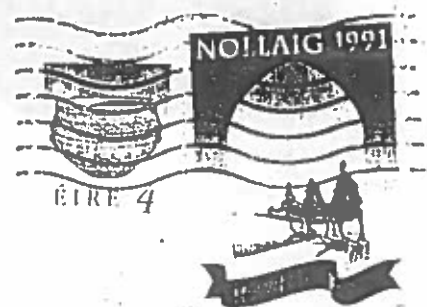
Date and office of issue is as shown with this datestamp.

Léiríonn an dáil stampa seo an dáta agus an oifig eisiúna



Destination: _____ Time: _____

See back for conditions



NVC (continued).

Post Box News: (1) The W.T.Allen Box sited 1.2 miles from Killaloe, on the Bird-hill Road was removed from service last December.. An excellent restoration job was done on the wall where the box was placed - it would now be impossible to tell that a box had ever been situated at this spot.

(2) The McDowell Stephen Pillar box at the junction of Foxes Bow/William Street was struck by a truck on 6th. January last, and destroyed. The intact door of this Edwardian Pillar box now resides in Ennis at the home of an anonymous MWPS member. (Souvenir pieces for sale at reasonable rates?). The box was replaced the following day with a more recent vintage Carron.

Thomondgate closure: Mrs. Rose Murrin, the very popular Sub.-P.M. at Thomondgate sub office, who had been suffering from ill-health for some months, finally and much to the regret of her many friends and customers, resigned from the post last November. Her cheerful smile and friendly service will be sorely missed by all the patrons of this busy office.

The office closed on 9th. January last, and is now situated at it's previous site on Treaty Terrace, which was it's location from sometime in the late 1950's until 1980. The office reopened on 23rd. January 1992.



Moving Out: The old office being cleared of P.O. equipment on 22nd. January 1992.



The New Office - open for business on 23rd. January 1992.

An excellent new publication has appeared on the market aimed at the novice collector. Entitled "The Beginner's Guide to Stamp Collecting" and written by Neill Granger, it is available through your local dealer at £8.95 (Sterling). I got the impression that it is aimed at the novice adult, rather than the younger collector, nonetheless, I would recommend it for younger collectors as well as adults. It is a well illustrated book, in A4 format, which gives advise on just about every aspect of the hobby, including equipment, albums, what stamps to look for, philatelic terms and a good abbreviated history section.

The next meeting is on Friday 17th. April; Next Mini-Mart is on Saturday 4th. March.

Our February meeting was a particularly lively and enjoyable one. The pre-meeting sale was conducted, as usual by Sean Moore, and was divided into two sections: first, a short auction, at which due to the small attendance, a few quick bargains were obtained by lucky bidders, and secondly, a sale of members duplicates. This latter section had a larger number of items than usual, and those present were well pleased with their purchases.

The formal part of the meeting was devoted to the finalisation of our plans for the Annual Exhibition. Our Hon. Sec., Roger O'Donoghue, in his capacity as co-ordinator of the arrangements for the Exhib. gave a comprehensive report of progress to date, and allocated further tasks to the team of helpers. Tim O'Connor's design for our cover is reckoned to be the best for many years, if not the best ever, and Joe McCarthy is to have this and the booklets printed within the week following the meeting. Sean Moore and Sean O'Allmhurain are taking care of organising the hall and tables, and Jack Ormston is taking care of 'Outdoor advertising'.

The meeting concluded with a 'Philatelic Quiz' organised by Joe McCarthy, which was very good fun, and much enjoyed by all participants. It was won by Sean Moore, who beat the runner-up by one-fifth of a point.

This year's St. Patrick's Day cards went on sale on 18th. February last. There are four postcards at 35p. each, and three 'greetings cards' at 60p. each. As usual the purchase price includes postage world wide. The Greetings Cards come with envelopes.

The special introductory offer to those joining the "Voyager Club" closed in February. Those joining now will receive a subscription to the club magazine, - "Voyager News", - membership card, Binder and pen. As mentioned on a previous page, the introductory offer was one of the best I have seen, and those who did not avail of it have really 'missed out'. Nonetheless, if you know of a young person who would benefit from membership, it is still well worth while enrolling them now.

Frama labels will be introduced on a phased basis from 6th. April 1992. Initially, the machines will be installed in Dublin, Cork, Limerick and Galway. The design will be as illustrated in NL. No. 9. Unfortunately, An Post has decided to differentiate between labels issued in different locations. Collectors had hoped that they would avoid this unfortunate error of judgement, but regrettably, they have decided to put the town name and identifying number on each label (Dublin will be number 1). Like the numbered booklets of some years ago, collectors resent 'manufactured collectables', and this sort of tactic, however beneficial to revenue, is more likely to drive collectors from the hobby, rather than attract them.

All our members will be delighted to learn that John Mitchell is now fully 'back in harness'. We are all more than pleased at his rapid recovery from his recent illness, and wish him every good fortune and health in the future.

I have been asked to emphasise that your NL is first and foremost a stamp collector's magazine. The supplement on Telecom Eireann Callcards is published in response to collector demand, and I would say that we will always, when possible, respond to our critics and advocates, by endeavouring to provide the type of articles which are requested. There is plenty of room for us to cater to non-philatelic items, where these are requested. A clear majority of our members who regularly attend meetings now have at least a peripheral interest in Callcards, and we are pleased to respond to this interest. In the past we have printed articles on 'Alternative Collecting' interests, and would hope to do so in the future.



1991 - A Financial Review.

The following is a list of the items produced by An Post during last year, for the benefit of the collector and the postal service user:

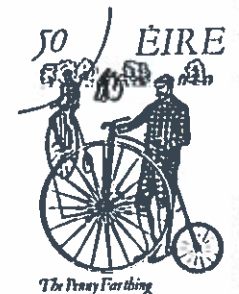
1. January:	New Definitives - £5,20p.	5p.	£5.25
2. "	Love Stamps - 26p + 30p.		.56
3. March	Transport - 26p., 30p. + 50p.		1.06
4. "	" - Min. Sheet		1.06
5. "	St. Patrick's Day - 5 x 33p.; 1 x 40p		2.05
6. April	City of Culture + Anniversaries -28p,32p,44p,52p.		1.56
7. "	Definitives - 28p., 37p.,38p.,44p.,52p.		1.99
8. "	1916 Anniversary - 32p.		.32
9. "	Culture Capital - Booklet		2.60
10. "	Definitive Year Book (1 @ £25; 1 @ £100)		25.00
11. May	Europa - 32p. + 44p.		.76
12. "	Williamite Wars - 28p. x 2		.56
13. "	Europa Sheetlets		7.60
14. "	Definitive Booklet		1.00
15. July	J.A. Costelloe etc. - 28p., 32p. + 52p.		1.12
16. "	Year Book (Advance orders - issued Sept).		23.00
17. Sept.	Fauna & Flora etc.- 32p.38p.52p.28p + 28p.		1.78
18. "	Maximum Cards (unserviced)		.85
19. "	Definitive Pack		12.54
20. Oct.	Fishing Fleet: 28p.,32p.,44p.,52p.		1.56
21. "	Prestige Booklet		5.00
22. "	Self-Adhesive stamps (collectors pack)		.96
23. Nov.	Christmas - 28p.,32p.,52p.		1.12
24. "	Discount Sheetlet		3.36
25. "	Year pack (Commemoratives)		10.70.

TOTAL: £113.36.

The equivalent for 1991 was £90.37, so this year the cost of one of each item has increased by £22.99. As in the past, the above listing does not take account of stationery, Exhibition Souvenirs and other very optional items, though it does take account of Year packs and special books. If Year Packs etc. are taken out the figure drops to a much more reasonable £52.12 (£44.12 in 1991). It is the opinion of many collectors that the expenditure required to keep up with new issues is too high, though it must be said that if An Post did not have a ready market for the items it produces then it would not produce them. The figure of £52.12 above bears comparison with other developed countries, which are regarded as 'respectable' issuing territories, such as England, and others. However, when you take relative populations into account, the comparison seems less reasonable.

The point was made to me last year, after publication of the 'Financial review' for 1990, that most other hobbies are considerably more expensive. The example of Golf was used, and in this context, our hobby does not seem so outrageously expensive.

What is your opinion? Does An Post overissue? Send your comment (briefly) on a P.C., and I will publish our own 'straw poll' on the subject.



From The Archives.

.Tony Cassidy.

(Ed. Note: As many of our readers know, Tony Cassidy spends an enviable part of his time researching the Postal History of Co. Clare in the Archives in London. He has very kindly agreed to share items from the archives relevant to the Mid-Western region with NL readers, and we commence this series with the notes below relating to Co. Clare offices).

BALLINAHINCH, NEAR TULLA, COUNTY CLARE.

POST 36: MINUTES AND REPORTS (IRELAND) TO THE POSTMASTER GENERAL. VOLUME 15, PAGE 106, NUMBER 497, 11 NOVEMBER 1869.

"Cancelling authority for post to Ballinahinch near Limerick, the inhabitants failing to contribute at the last moment".

"The enclosed is an instance of the trouble caused by the arrangements for extending Postal accomodation to small places in Ireland under promise of a contribution from the Inhabitants towards the expense.

"After considerable correspondence and a distinct offer from Mr.Westropp on behalf of the persons interested to pay the sum of £17-1-4, the difference between the cost of a Post to Ballinahinch viz. £22-3-2 a year and the sum available according to the present number of letters - viz £5-1-10 - the money at the last moment is not forthcoming.

"The authority contained in Minute Nr.460 must of course be cancelled, but I think it will be right to instruct Mr.Cornwall and the Surveyors in Ireland to abstain as far as possible from encouraging offers from the Inhabitants of a place to pay a part of the expense of a Post, except in cases where there exists a much less disproportion between the expense and the revenue than is presented in the present case."

"Minute Nr.460" referred to above related to Post 36, Volumé 15, Page 64, Number 460 :-
Establishment of a Post between Tulla and Ballinahinch.
Deficiency in Revenue to be contributed by Inhabitants.
A Messenger Post under Guarantee.

minute 19 October 1869

BUNRATTY, COUNTY CLARE.

POST 36: MINUTES AND REPORTS (IRELAND) TO THE POSTMASTER GENERAL. VOLUME 11, PAGE 258, NUMBER 587, 23 JULY 1866

Bunratty Sub Office declared vacant.

"As the Sub Postmaster of Bunratty refuses to make use of the dated stamps supplied to him for the purpose of stamping the letters and has returned them to Limerick accompanied by an insubordinate letter, I submit that his office which is stated to be in a very discreditable state and to be held in a low public house, be declared vacant as promised."

Note: The Sub Postmaster was Michael Ryan who had held the office from 1857. It would appear that Michael Ryan retained the Sub Post Office despite it being "Declared Vacant", as he was, apparantly, Sub Postmaster to 1870 at least and probably to 1877

Was the "low public house" Durty Nellie's ??

CROSS, NEAR KILRUSH, COUNTY CLARE.

POST 36: MINUTES AND REPORTS (IRELAND) TO THE POSTMASTER GENERAL. VOLUME 31, PAGE 378, NUMBER 493, 9 JULY 1880.

Sub Office established under guarantee.

"As Captain O'Shea states on behalf of the Inhabitants of Cross, Co.Clare, that they accept the conditions on which he was informed that a Post Office could be opened at Cross - viz, that the Inhabitants pay the £3 a year involved - I propose to give instructions for the establishment of an Office. As in all such cases in Ireland, the money will be payable in advance".

Postmarks on Railway Mail.

Sean Moore.

Some few years ago there was a page in the weekly edition of "Ireland's Own" called "Collectors Corner", which dealt with antiques, by John Frazer and Stamps by C.W. Hill. Given the strong interest shown in post mark collecting in recent years, it appears worthwhile taking a closer look at one particular article written by C.W. Hill on the inauguration of Railway Mail Postmarks in Ireland and America.

Before the advent of the motor car and the aeroplane, long distance mail was carried by Railway and steamship. The rail link between Dublin and Kingstown was opened in 1834, and was the first in Ireland to carry mail on a regular basis. Within a very few years a network of railways linked both Dublin and Belfast to all the principle Irish cities enabling mail to be carried quickly to all parts of the country.

The next step was to introduce sorting carriages, known as T.P.O.'s (Traveling Post Offices) - these were specially fitted coaches in which Post Office Clerks could sort mail while travelling between destinations. The first of these was introduced on the Dublin/Cork line in 1855. This was known as the Great Southern and Western Railway Travelling Post Office, and apparatus at the side of the track enabled mail-bags to be picked up or dropped at several points without the necessity of stopping the train. The service was extended to Galway in 1887, to Belfast in 1868, and to Limerick Junction in 1892.

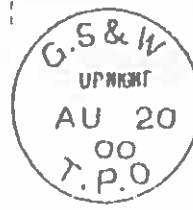
It was not long after their inception that TPO's were provided with special hand-cancellers for franking the mail they were sorting, and these postmarks are now keenly sought after by collectors. Early postmarks, on their original envelope, complete with the postage stamps can be quite valuable if in clean and collectable condition.

Irish postmarks can usually be recognised by the name and/or initials of the railway company in conjunction with the initials T.P.O. Some had the letters "S.C." inscribed on them, standing for "Sorting Carriage". Typical examples would read - "Dublin and Derry T.P.O." or perhaps "GS&WTPO....night mail".

I am aware of only one rail accident involving a TPO - this occurred in December 1944, near Portlaoise when the Dublin and Cork Down Night train crashed into a stationery cattle train. Regretably, a staff member was killed in this accident.

In the United States, the great distances which mail had to travel made railway sorting carriages and TPO's essential for rapid delivery and very many trains were used in the early days. However, with the growth of air transport, the use of TPO's in the U.S. had steadily deminished since 1945. The last regular service, between New York and Washington ceased in 1977.

From time to time, steam enthusiasts organise excursions by rail, and on some of these mail is carried, and franked. One such excursion was held in the early eighties between Alexandria and Charlottesville in Virginia, and mail carried on the journey was franked with a facsimile of an old postmark which I show below. I also show a small range of typical TPO markings.



Henry Morris.

While clearing out some old papers during last Summer, I came accross two related newscuttings which I thought might be of interest to "Newsletter" readers. As far as I can tell both are from the "Irish Times"; the first is probably dated late February 1939 - I am unable to date the second. Perhaps one of our readers could put a date on it for me?

NEW IRISH STAMP

The Department of Posts and Telegraphs will issue, on the 1st March next,



a commemorative postage stamp in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the inauguration of the American Constitution and the installation of George Washington as first President of the United States of America.

The stamp has been designed by Mr. George Atkinson, R.H.A., A.R.C.A., and depicts the American eagle (based on the version on the Great Seal of the United States of America) as the centre feature, bearing a shield blazoned with the thirteen vertical stripes representing the thirteen united colonies, which subsequently became the original thirteen States. The horizontal line at the top of the shield signifies their unity. The eagle displays in one claw an olive branch, symbol of peace, and, in the other, is grasped thirteen arrows emblematic of preparedness for defence. A profile portrait of George Washington, adapted from the famous bust by Houdon at Mount Verdon, is the feature of the left-hand side of the design, and it is balanced on the other side by the harp as symbol of Ireland.

The stamp will be issued in the 2d. (Carmine) and 3d. (Blue) denominations.

SUDDEN DEATH OF AN IRISH ARTIST

Mr. George Atkinson, R.H.A., Director of the National College of Art, was discovered, yesterday, in his

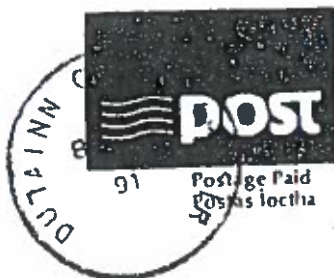


offices at the college in a collapsed condition. He was removed to Mercer's Hospital.

Restoratives were applied over a period of hours, but without effect, and he died. An obituary notice will be found in another page.

Doolin - An Interesting Handstamp.

Roger O'Donoghue.



The counter handstamp was stolen from Doolin Office in early November last. A Skeleton CDS was promptly put into service, pending the preparation of a new stamp. This skeleton is interesting in that the 'l' of 'Dulainn' was inserted upsidedown, and reversed. It was in use for about two weeks, before the mistake was spotted and corrected. It was corrected on 18th. November 1991.

150
JAHRE
DEUTSCHE
EISENBAHNEN

Deutsche Bundesbahn
Bundesbahn-Zentralamt München
Postfach 20 04 01 • 8000 München 2



Frankly Speaking.

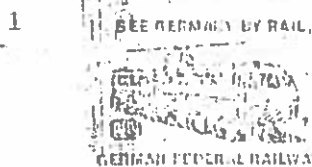
Desmond P. O'Donoghue, B.A

(Continued from Issue No.9)

In the true spirit of 1992,
this article will show some
Railway Franks from the
Continent of Europe:

1. Germany: Federal Railway (DB).
"150 Years of German Railway"
2. U.K.: DB's London Office -
"See Germany by Rail".
3. Germany: DB - Intercity -
"Every Hour, Every Class".
4. Germany: DB Head Office -
"Your Holiday starts with
the Railway".
5. Germany: BVG (Berlin Trans-
port Authority) - "Speedy
Connections for a fast City"
- drawing shows a U-Bahn
(underground) train, bus,
S-Bahn (elevated) train.
6. France: UIC - International
Union of Railways.
7. Switzerland: CFF/SBB/CFS -
Swiss Federal Railways -
"Cargo Domizil - The Train
Carries it, the Train Brings
it".
8. Denmark: Danish State Rlys.-
"Have a good Journey" (?).
9. France: SNCF - French
State Railway.

(Series concluded).

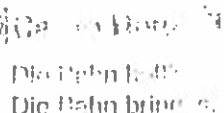
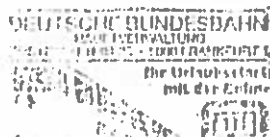
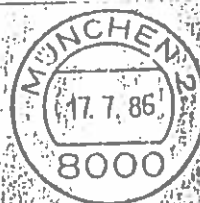


2/11/85

INTERCITY
JEDER STUNDE. JEDER KLASSE.

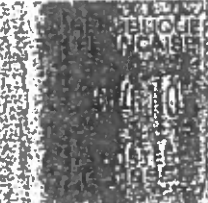
Bundesbahn-Zentralamt
Postfach 20 04 01
8000 München 2

Die Bahn



ren rejs

BSB
Belvgade 40, 1349 København



Meter Marks.

Tony Cassidy.

As an addendum to the supplement "Meter Marks: A Partial Index", which appeared with issue no. 6. of the Newsletter, I give details below of some such marks from my own collection, which may be of interest to those of your readers who are involved in this area of study.

	<u>M/M number.</u>	<u>Town Inscription.</u>	<u>Other inscription/s.</u>	<u>Date of use.</u>
1.	PB T 054M	Inis	-	11 X 78
2.	PB T 1903V	Inis	-	1.7.82 & 13.7.82
3.	PB L 288Z	Inis	-	26.11.82 & 29.4.82
4.	PB T 016M	Inis	-	1.2.84
5.	RV 1120	Inis	-	26.X1.84
	(Note: This is noted in the "Partial Index" as Syntex, Clarecastle)			
6.	PB T 1014V	Inis	-	23.7.85
7.	PB T 3049M	Inis	Gaeilge agus Failte	25.2.88
	(Ennis Urban Council? or Clare County Council?)			
7a.	PB T 3049M	Inis	inis 750 Inis 1990	25.2.88
			Ennis	
	(as '7' above)			
8.	PB * 4067M	Inis	as '7a' above	30.7.90
	(as '7' above)			
9.	RV 1203	Inis	-	8 V 89
10.	PB D 1129C	Inis	The Clare Inn Hotel	6.9.90
11.	PB T 1524V	Aerphort na Sionainne	-	31.10.84
12.	PB T 1459*	Aerphort na Sionainne	-	11.12.84
13.	PB T 1632K	Aerphort na Sionainne	-	27.11.84
14.	PB T 1632K	Aerphort na Sionainne	-	5.9.85
15.	PB T 2710M	Aerphort na Sionainne	Fly via Shannon Airport	8.3.88
			Ireland.	
16.	PB *****	Aerphort na Sionainne	If undelivered please	
			return to Shannon Mail	
			Order Shannon Free	
			Airport, Ireland.	30.1V.86
	(***** Has no number).			
17.	PB T 1386K	Aerphort na Sionainne	-	16.12.86
18.	HF 80776	Aerphort na <u>Sionnainne</u>	-	1.V.86
		(Misspelt)		
19.	PB L 028E	Aerphort na Sionainne	Aviation Technical	
			Operations Services	
			Control Tower, Shannon	
			Airport.	4.7.88

Meter Marks (continued):

20.	PB T 3382M	Aerphort na Sionainne	Molex	15.12.88
21.	PB F 00874	Sionainn (QBE Insurance, Shannon Industrial Estate)	-	24.8.89
22.	PB T 2673M	Sionainn	Boart Europe Mining & Construction Division Shannon Ind. Estate, Ireland.	1.5.86
23.	PB T 1021H	Inis	Clare Marts Ltd.	20.1V.77
24.	PB L 028E	Inis	Michael McMahon Property, Insurance, Finance	30.5.76
25.	PB T1014V	Inis	as '24' above	11.6.80
26.	PB T 1684K	Inis	Ennis Urban District Council	15.11.77
27.	NP 1176	Inis	-	12.V1.81
28.	EF 60062	Inis	(No name or slogan, but is Clare Champion)	3.1.90 (Should be 3.1.91)

M/Marks from outside Co. Clare:

1.	S 122	Corcaigh	Scoil na nOg Trabolgan	26.V11.64
2.	NV 377	Baile Atha Cliath (Almost definately a Dublin Bank).	-	4.V11.68
3.	A 129	Baile Atha Cliath	-	19.V111.65
4.	PB T 1607K	Baile Atha Cliath	Business Computer Call Memory	17.10.80
5.	M***	Baile Atha Cliath	Sister Laura's food best for babies & invalids.	7.**.40
(Franking impression not clear. This is interesting as the 1/2d. rate is for unsealed rate. The British Censor has therefore applied his censor tape to leave the envelope still unsealed).				
6.	U 205	Baile Atha Cliath	-	-
7.	U 206	baile Atha Cliath (6 & 7 are the special elongated franking marks shown in George Ithell's article - Revealer No. 176 - and refer to the ESB).	-	-
8.	N 424	Baile Atha Cliath	Norwich Union-Scottish Union Insurance Group. 63 Dawson St. Dublin	27.V. 64
9.	PB L 443J	Baile Atha Cliath	Abbeyville, Kinseley, Co. Dublin.	16.3.88
10.	NP 1911	Ros Lair	Hotel Rosslare for That Special Break	21.11.83
11.	V 215	Baile Atha Cliath	Alco for Heat	8. V111.61

(Ed. Note: The second part of Mr. Cassidy's most interesting and helpful addition
to available knowledge of this subject will appear in the next issue.).

Collecting Aircraft.

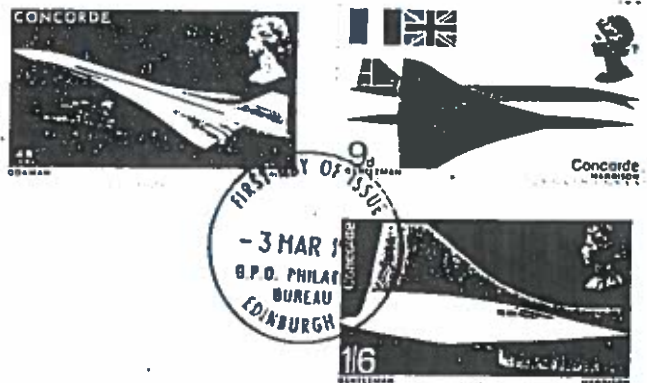
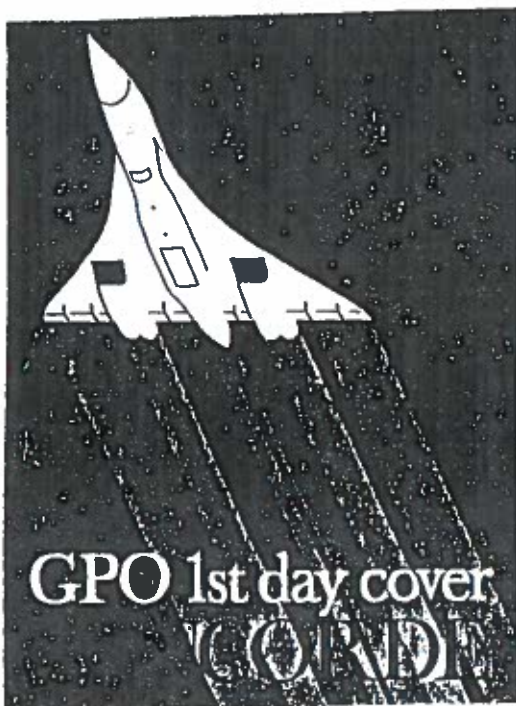
Henry Morris.

As a theme, Aircraft can cover quite a lot of ground. I know of one collection which includes, as well as postage stamps, postcards, photographs, maps (both hand-drawn and printed), manufacturers specifications, details of airports, notes on crashes and a lot more besides these items. It is a beautiful collection, but in my opinion, far too detailed. I suppose I am trying to say that one should not try to make a thematic collection do too much. Before one starts, it is important to set limits on the collection, by deciding what should and should not be collected, and then to stick fairly rigidly to the set parameters. First and foremost, we are talking about your collection, and the decision on what to include or exclude is completely yours; however, it is important to avoid cluttering up your collection with irrelevant material. One should remember that it is a stamp collection, first and foremost. Other items should only be included if they are completely relevant, and add something worthwhile to the collection. They must help to tell the story, if they are to be included.

To take a single example of the Aircraft theme, I have chosen to illustrate Concord, as depicted from the British Philatelic view point.



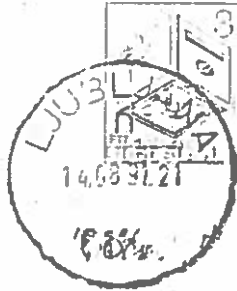
Concord was launched (if an aircraft is 'launched') in 1971, after nine years hard work and co-operation between French and British Aircraft companies. It was designed to achieve the most significant improvement in aircraft speed in the history of aviation, and it met it's design intention handsomely, more than doubling air speeds possible at the time, from about 600 mph to over 1200 mph. France and Britain issued stamps simultaneously on 3rd. March 1971 to commemorate the first flight of Concord. There were also presentation packs available, newspaper cuttings, privately produced maximum cards and post cards and a host of information packs, ranging from elementary to quite technical. While many photographs are available, I do not usually include these in a thematic collection as they are seldom 'philatelic' in nature. I do include FDC's as these are unquestionably philatelic, but they do pose problems in that they are bulky, and take up a lot of space. Privately produced FDC's should not be included. Maximum cards also pose problems - again they are bulky, and they must show a connection between the card, the stamp used and the postmark, otherwise they will not be true maximum cards. I hope to return to this exciting theme in a future article.



Mr. T. O'Reilly,
15, Dominick Street,
GALWAY,
Eire.

Odds & Ends.

Desmond O'Donoghue, B.A.



kment along the Ljubljana
1 • Foto © JANEZ SKOK

I show two items which may be of passing interest to 'Newsletter' readers:

On the left is the first example of an independent 'Slovenja' postage stamp which I have seen. I am sure there will be many more, and they are worth watching out for. I have not yet seen any Croatian stamps - has anyone else seen any, I wonder?

The second item is a letter to Denmark, missent to Sweden. This sort of mistake tends to make me curious - how did it happen? Did the sorter responsible think that Stockholm is in Denmark or was it just a question of carelessness - did he throw the right envelope into the wrong bag? I don't suppose I will ever learn the reason for the error, but it has provided an interesting oddity.

I like the way that the Swedish sorter applied his postmark 'clear' - I suspect that if the cover had arrived in Ireland instead of Sweden, the mark would have been superimposed over the first mark, thus making both illegible.

MAL DIRIGE
SLO
LA SUINDE



Lykke Thingmann
BORUPSALLEE 137, 4th
2000 FREDERIKSBERG,
DENMARK

Varieties.

Sean Moore.

Following publication our the supplement on Varieties in the last NL, I have been sent details and examples of varieties on two stamps, which I feel worth bringing to our readers attention.

A. William Butler Yeats Issue (1965) - 5p. value:



1. Dot below lower bar of last 'E' of 'Eire',  beside frame line.

2. Dot Below top bar of last 'E' of 'Eire'.



3. Line below top bar of first 'E' of 'Eire'. 

4. Dot to left of top bar of first 'E' of 'Eire'. 

B. Kevin Barry Issue (1970) - 6p. value:

I am unable to illustrate these varieties; there are four stamps, which in series appear to indicate that the "split lip" variety (R3/1) is progressive. The first stamp in the series shows a small mark above the lip, the next, a deeper mark, the third a deeper mark still, and the last shows the full 'split lip'. I would be grateful for confirmation of this series.

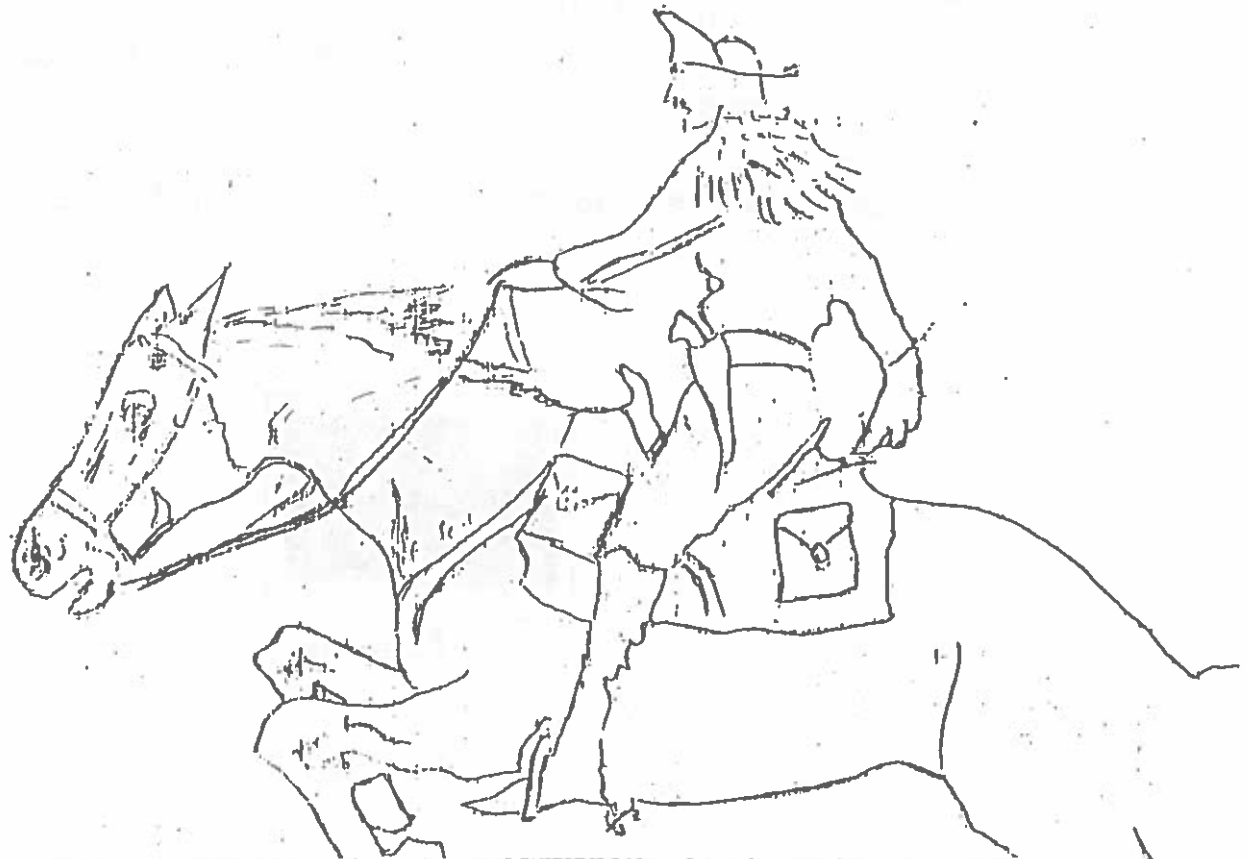
Postart in Limerick.

Members of the MWPS photographed at the opening of An Post's "Postart" Exhibition at the City Art Gallery, Perry Square. last November. Left to right are; Henry Morris, Sean Moore, Roger O'Donoghue, Joe McCarthy, John Mitchell, Tim O'Connor and Sean O'hAllmhurain.



THE PONY EXPRESS

by: James P. McAllister



WANTED

YOUNG, SKINNY, WIRY FELLOWS - NOT OVER 18
MUST BE EXPERT RIDERS, WILLING TO RISK DEATH DAILY

ORPHANS PREFERRED

WAGES - \$25 A WEEK

Don Rising was replaced by Jack Keetley, a famous pony-rider. Riding around emigrant wagon trains he arrived at Cottonwood Station.

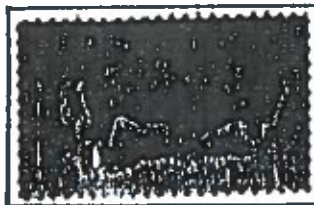
Giving way to beautiful woodlands and in turn to many miles of sagebrush, the rider entered the country of the Platte River; dried up in Summer and flooded in Spring.

He was soon approaching Ft. Kearny in Nebraska.



Fort Kearny

Leaving the fort he found himself in buffalo country and many Indian lodges and portable tepees from which the Indians hunted buffalo and antelope.



Wildlife Conservation issue

Having received his cargo of mail John W. Richardson had first to cross the Missouri River by ferry. This gave him time to discard his fancy costume and put on his working clothes.

Upon reaching land he galloped briskly to make up for lost time. Changing his mount four times at way stations he dismounted at Granada, Kansas.



The next rider, a Don Rising, took off through the reservation of the Kickapoo Indians. Being peaceful people he anticipated no trouble and had none, next to Seneca Kansas and Smith's Hotel.

After a rest here he was on to his home station at Marysville, Kansas on the Oregon Trail.

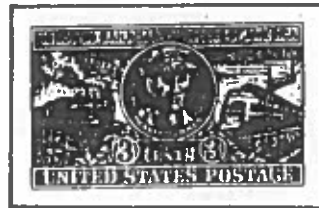
Top row - Billy Richardson • Johnny Fry — bottom - Charley + Gus Clift



The Hannibal and St. Joseph R.R. delivered mail from the East which was to be carried to California by the Pony Express.

Since the government had not closed any deal with the railroad, the management of the railroad was eager to show Uncle Sam what could be done.

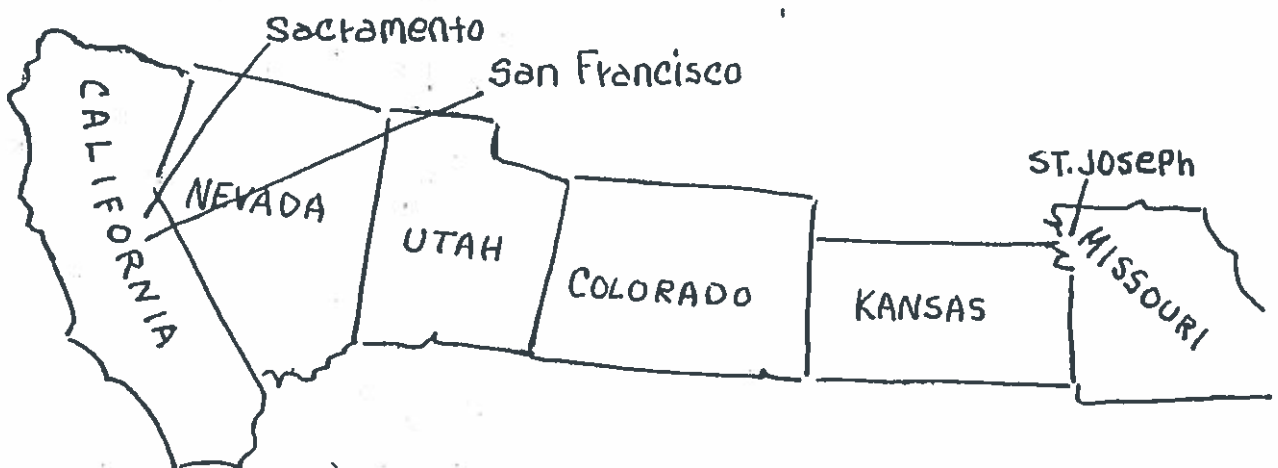
Up to this point mail had been going to St. Joseph by boat.



Railroad Engineers issue

Many stories of daring-do have been written about the exploits of these fearless men of the railroad.

Operations began on April 3, 1860 - westward from St. Joseph and eastward from San Francisco. St. Joseph had a strategic location as a frontier town on the Missouri River with a population of a thousand people or so.



It soon became host to 50,000 gold seekers, selling them animals, equipment and supplies of all kinds. It was to serve again as gold was discovered in Colorado. It also was a junction of the railroad and stagecoach lines.

Even Mark Twain related in his book "Roughing It" the humorous yet realistic view of the mining camps as he trekked westward from his home in Hannibal, Missouri in search of the famous Pony Rider.



Mark Twain

"Without any idling time for a pony rider on duty he rode so without stopping by daylight, moonlight, starlight or through the blackness of night. He rode a splendid horse that was born for a racer and fed and lodged like a gentleman.

Upon arriving at a station, two men stood holding a fast, fresh steed and the transfer of rider and mailbag was made in a twinkling of an eye.

Every neck stretched further and every eye strained wider to find the 'black speck' on the horizon. In a second or two it becomes a horse and rider, growing nearer and nearer and another instant, with a wave of a hand, man and horse burst past our excited faces and go winging away like a belated fragment of a storm.

SPECIAL OFFERS FROM STOCK

	£
1. 1922 Dollard set of 8 with black overprint unmounted mint.	40.00
2. 1922 4d Dollard with carmine overprint - superb unmounted mint.	45.00
3. 1922 Dollard high-value overprint 2s6d value - fine mint.	20.00
4. 1922 Harrison 5-line coil 1½d value - unmounted strip of 4.	12.00
5. 1922 Thom blue-black overprint set of 14 - fine unmounted mint.	105.00
6. 1922 Thom wide-date overprint set - fine unmounted mint.	40.00
7. 1923 Harrison 3-line coil 1d value unmounted mint pair - one with variety long 1, but with couple of tone spots.	35.00
8. 1925 10-shilling narrow-date overprint - fine unmounted mint.	165.00
9. 1922-3 complete collection of low-value overprints - excluding carmine values, fine mint.	175.00
10. 1922-34 SE definitive set to 1-shilling - fine unmounted mint.	110.00
11. 1922-34 ½d SE definitive CDS used with inverted watermark.	5.00
12. 1937 SE St. Patrick 2/6d unmounted mint but with slight fault.	30.00
13. 1940-68 E watermark definitive set of 14 - fine unmounted mint.	65.00
14. 1940-68 St. Patrick set of 3 on white paper unmounted mint.	15.25
15. 1968-9 ½d - 10 shillings pre-decimal Gerl definitive set - unmounted mint.	19.50
16. 1968-69 set of 8 values pre-decimal Gerl definitive with PVA gum - fine unmounted mint, including the rare 2d.	95.00
17. 1971-4 ½p - 50p Gerl definitive set watermarked E set of 18 unmounted mint.	29.50
18. 1974-80 Gerl definitive unwatermarked set in unmounted mint gutter pairs.	60.00
19. 1982 £1 architecture unmounted mint - the key value to the set, unmounted mint	3.50
20. 1968-84 small collection of definitive gutter pairs unmounted mint from all five definitive series a total of 40 different gutter pairs in fine condition.	35.00
21. 1929 Daniel O'Connell set - fine unmounted mint.	19.50
22. 1939 U.S. Constitution set on illustrated FDC.	50.00
23. 1941 Easter Rising overprint set unmounted mint.	25.00
24. 1941 Easter Rising set on plain FDC	30.00
25. 1941 Easter Rising 2d value CDS used with variety snub-nosed E.	30.00
26. 1943 Hamilton set in unmounted mint blocks of 4.	7.00

	£
27. 1950 Holy Year set - fine unmounted mint.	12.50
28. 1953 An Tostal set unmounted mint.	15.00
29. 1953 An Tostal set - fine used.	14.00
30. 1954 Marian Year set in unmounted mint blocks of 4.	24.00
31. 1957 O'Crohan set in unmounted mint block of 4.	20.00
32. 1957 Admiral Brown set - fine unmounted mint.	25.00
33. 1957 Admiral Brown set CDS used.	12.00
34. 1959 Arthur Guinness set - fine used.	5.50
35. 1960 Refugee Year set in complete unmounted mint sheets of 120. Cat. 144.	60.00
36. 1960 Europa set on illustrated FDC.	12.00
37. 1966 Easter Rising set in fine used se-tenant pairs.	12.50
38. 1970 Patriots set in se-tenant pairs x 4 sets unmounted mint.	24.00
39. 1970 Patriots set on maximum card with day of issue cancellation	12.00
40. 1970 Patriots set in se-tenant gutter pairs unmounted mint.	35.00
41. 1976 Bi-Centenary miniature sheet in FDC.	6.50
42. 1977 Year Pack fine condition.	8.00
43. 1978 Year Pack - fine condition.	8.00
44. 1982 Year Pack - fine condition.	12.50
45. 1983 Dogs Miniature Sheet CDS used.	3.50
46. 1929-80 complete collection of Commemorative issues in de luxe stockbook. Fine unmounted mint.	325.00
47. 1971-90 complete collection of Commemoratives in de luxe stockbook - fine unmounted mint.	175.00
48. 1971 30p booklet - fine condition.	19.50
49. 1974 50p green booklet - fine condition.	16.50
50. 1934 ½d coil imp. x perf. 14 with slogan cancel.	12.00
51. 1948-65 airmail set - fine unmounted mint.	12.50
52. 1948-65 airmail set in unmounted mint blocks of 4.	50.00
53. 1949 3d and 6d airmail value of FDC.	9.50
54. 1925 SE postage due set unmounted mint.	125.00
55. 1940-69 E watermark postage due set of 10 unmounted mint.	35.00
56. 1940-69 E watermark postage due set of 10 CDS used.	19.50
57. 1978 postage due set of 3 - superb used.	4.50
58. 1985 50p postage due CDS used x 10 at face value.	45.00
59. 1988 postage due set of 11 on FDC - extremely scarce.	45.00
60. 1980 Stamp members souvenir wildlife miniature sheet with red overprint.	70.00

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An Post - Stamp Programme 1992.

(Provisional).

<u>Date.</u>	<u>Subject.</u>	<u>Denominations.</u>
28.1.92	Love Stamps	28p, 32p.
25.2.	Olympic Games	32p., 44p.
"	Sli na Slainte	28p.
2.4.	International Maritime Heritage Year	32p., 52p.
"	Bicentenary of Galway Chamber of Commerce & Industry	28p.
14.5.	Europa (500th. Anniversary of the discovery of the Americas)	32p., 44p.
"	Impact of the Irish Abroad (Americas)	52p. (se-tenant).
2.7.	Fauna & Flora (Pine Marten)	28p., 32p., 44p., 52p.
2.9.	400th. Anniversary of the founding of T.C.D.	32p., 52p.
"	200th. Anniversary of Maltons Pictures of Dublin.	28p., 44p.
15.10.	Ireland Series (Food & farming)	4 x 32p. se-tenant strip.
"	Completion of the Single European Market	32p.
19.11.	Christmas	28p., 32p., 52p.

Contacts:

Joseph Corrigan,
39, Lough Conn Road,
Ballyfermot,
Dublin, 10.

Joseph collects USSR from 1930 to 1969, and would like to hear from
other collectors who would be prepared to exchange.

Collectors Ads:

Penny Red Plates (1858 - 1870) wanted in any condition. Will swap or buy.
Box 10/1.

Collector wants to borrow early copies of 'The Revealer' - pre-1970 - for research.
They will be returned in same condition as lent.
Box 10/2.

Acknowledgements:

Our grateful thanks go to all who have helped produce this issue of the Newsletter:-

- Those who wrote articles: Sean Moore, Tony Cassidy, Henry Morris, Desmond O'Donoghue, Roger O'Donoghue, and James McAllister;
- Those (anonymous) contributors to the NVC section;
- John Mitchell, who so stoically endures the many intrusions into his business life during the preparation and photocopying of the NL;
- Fergus Murrihy for so generously giving his time to proofreading;
- Raven Stamps, An Post and Telecom Eireann for helping to keep us from bankruptcy by taking advertising;
- MacDonnell Whyte and James Mackay for their kind permission to use their copyright material;
- Joe McCarthy for undertaking to distribute the NL;
- All who have paid their subs: D. O'Donoghue, I. Harrow, J. Leonard, T. Cassidy, P. McCooile, S. Moore, S. O'hAllmhurain, R. O'Donoghue, M. Hartnett, T. O'Connor, H. Morris, B. Horgan, B. Shields, J. Lyall, C. Darcy, O. Walshe, K. Darcy, B. O'Loughlin, J. O'Connor.

Advertising:

All collectors ads. (contacts, wants, swaps etc.) are free.

Commercial ads.: £5.00 per quarter page (or pro rata).

Next Issue:

The next issue is due on 15th. June next. Our continuing to publish the NL, and continuing to publish on time depends on our receiving a continuous stream of articles/items. We are now out of publishable material. If you want the NL to continue, please let the editor have your item for publication without delay. Closing date for contributions is 25th. May 1992.

Correspondance:

Please address all correspondance relating to the NL to:

Michael Hartnett,
1, Clifton Close,
Ennis Road,
Limerick.
'Phone: 061/51228.

Monthly Meeting: Are held on the third Friday of each month; the next meeting is on 17th. April.

Mini-Mart: The Mini-Mart is held on the first Saturday of each month; the next Mini-Mart is on 4th. April.

The venue for meetings, Mini-Mart and other club activities is:

Halla Ide,
18, Thomas Street,
Limerick.

VOYAGER CLUB.

As mentioned on p. 7, the special introductory offer available to persons joining the Voyager Club is now closed. However, it is still well worth joining, and any young person (or, indeed, not so young) would benefit greatly from membership. In return for an unused £2.00 stamp, the new member receives - a subscription to the Club Magazine - "Voyager News", a club binder, pen, membership card and album page. For the benefit of prospective members, an application form is printed below (if you do not want to cut your NL, a photocopy, or handwritten copy will do).

Simply fill in the application form below and return it to us without delay. If you are under 18 you'll also need the signature of your parent or guardian.

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY ON THIS APPLICATION FORM

Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

Other Interests: _____

Telephone: _____

If under 18 signature of parent or guardian.

Date: _____

HOW DO I PAY MY MEMBERSHIP FEE?

Simply attach an unused £2 Irish postage stamp in the box opposite.
Your local post office will be pleased to sell you a £2 postage stamp.

*Fix
your unused £2
stamp here*

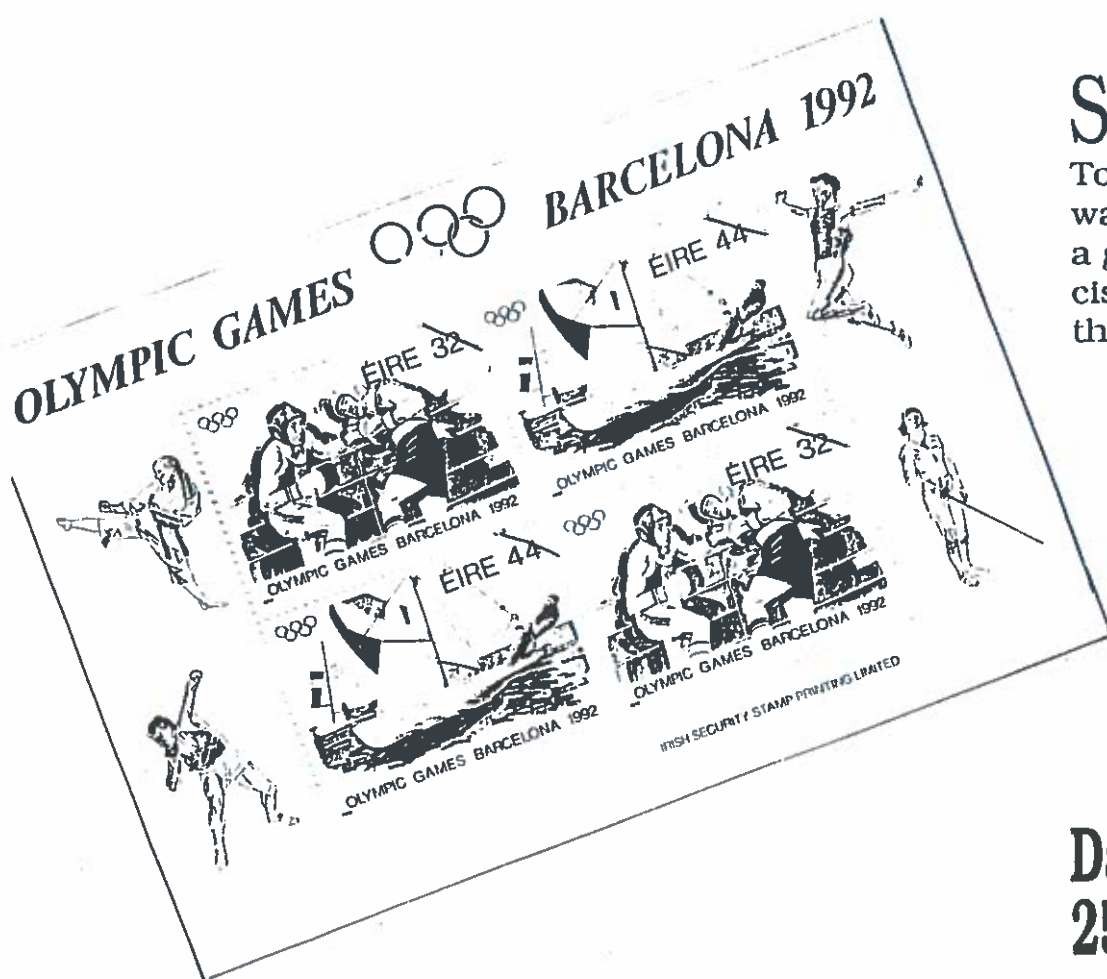
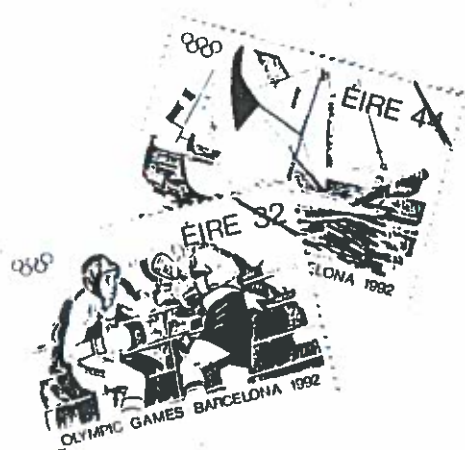
Send your application (Post Free) to:

Voyager Stamp Club,
FREEPOST,
Room 2-232,
G.P.O.,
O'Connell Street,
Dublin, 1.

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GOLD RUSH!

An Post celebrates the Barcelona Olympic Games with these very interesting and collectable stamps. A super souvenir sheet is also available and An Post wishes the Irish team every success in their quest for gold.



Slí na Sláinte

To promote a healthier way of life and encourage a greater interest in exercise An Post also issues this colourful stamp.



Date of Issue:
25 February 1992

First Day Cover also available

