



VOLUME
2010

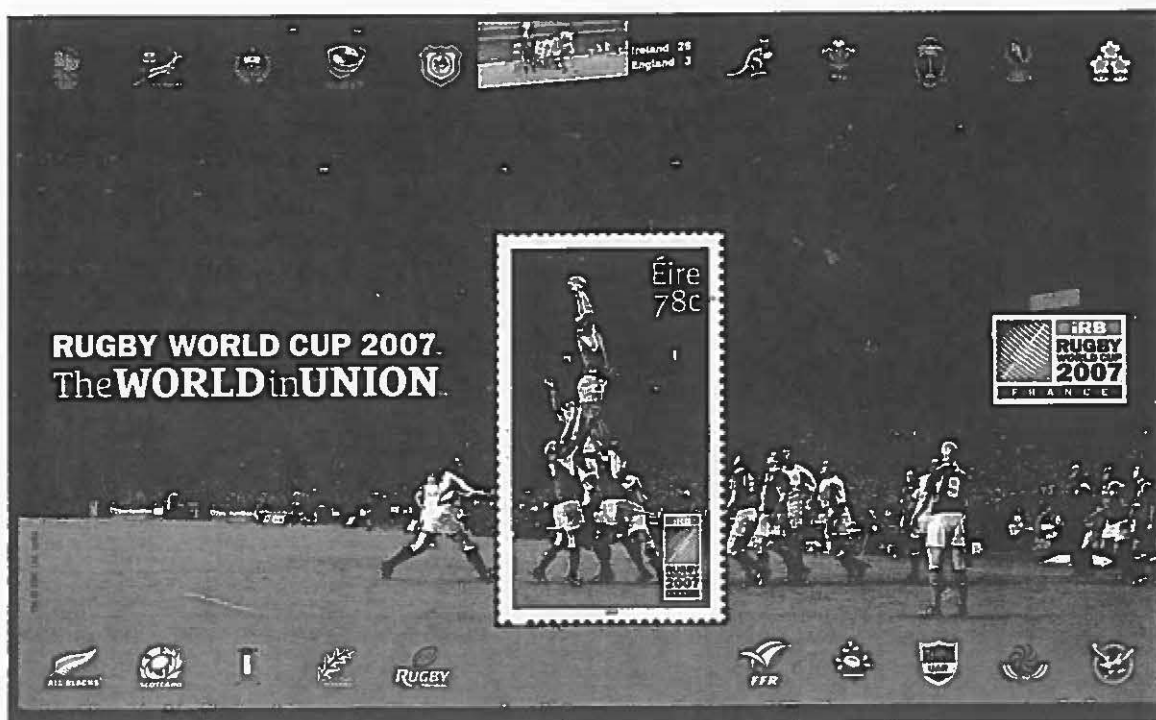
CUMANN SIGHNEACHAIR NA hÉIREANN
THE IRISH PHILATELIC SOCIETY
FOUNDED 1901

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i.p.s. news

THE JOURNAL OF THE IRISH PHILATELIC SOCIETY

In this issue : News, Displays, Competitions, Society Social Evening. Articles: Irish Hot Air Balloon Festivals 2010, Irish Ferries, Dublin Docklands Maritime Festival, An Post First Machine Counter Stamps, Stampania Spring Stamp & Coin Show, An Post Postcard Calendar 2010.



2007 Rugby World Cup miniature sheet just to remind you
that 2011 is again World Cup Year.

Dear Member,

Herewith the December Journal, the last one for 2010 with apologies for its lateness. This is due to work commitments and Indipex 2011 Commissionership work. The last quarter of the year was very good for the Society with medals gained at both Lisbon and Stampa, Dublin (see News). No new members were elected and no resignations were notified and with Indipex 2011 due to be held in New Delhi in a few weeks time that will be a great start to 2011 if, we manage to take home a few medals. All that remains for me to do is to wish you all belated New Year Greetings.

NEWS

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Since the issue of the last journal no new members have been elected and no resignations have been notified.

EXHIBITIONS

Lisbon 2010

The Society had a total of 4 accepted entries at this International Exhibition held from 1 to 10 October. The following awards were gained :

Barry Wilson - Large Vermeil for 'Isle of Man Postal History'

Frank Mc Donald - Large Silver for 'Discovering West London' (Thematic)

Brian Warren - Silver for 'Northern Ireland Regional Issues' (Traditional)

Pat Casey - Silver for 'Elizabeth Regina II' (Open Class)

In addition a Gold Medal was won by Des Quail for his entry 'Irish Postal History'.

Sadly since that exhibition Barry Wilson has passed away.

Stampa 2010 - Irish National Stamp Exhb.

The Society gained the following awards :

Gerry Byrne - Silver Medal for 'Pan Am First Flights 1928 - 1952'

Brian Warren - Silver Medal for 'Irish Maximum Cards'

John Mullen - Silver Medal for 'Foynes'

Indipex 2011

The above International Exhibition will be held in New Delhi from 12 to 18 February with Mr. Frank Mc Donald as National Commissioner. A total of 4 entries have been accepted for Ireland these being :

- Mr. John Fitzsimons - "W.A. Mozart from Prodigy to Genius"
- Mr. Brian Warren - "Northern Ireland Regional Issues"
- Mr. Mike Burrington - "Bosnia and Herzegovina 1906 Definitive Issue"
- Mr. Frank Mc Donald - "Discovering West London"

This is the first time that Ireland has had 2 thematic and 2 traditional philately entries accepted in the same International or FEPA Exhibition and we will report on this exhibition in the next journal.

Displays

Hong Kong - 14 October

This display was given by Brian O'Connell and showed the stamp issues from Queen Victoria to King George VI. Included were ordinary stamp issues, surcharges with their need explained, various commemorative issues including the 1935 Silver Jubilee and 1946 Victory issues. Cover usage of definitive issues and maritime mail mail also featured.

Open Class Competition - 28 October

This annual no rules competition comprised of 9 sheet entries and judged on the night by members present attracted a total of 7 entries as follows :

- John Lennon - "Dundrum Post Office Bicentenary"
- Brian O'Connell - "Ireland Europa 1960-1969"
- Heloise Mitchell - "Its Great Gas"
- Gerry Byrne - "Ship to Shore Airmail SS Bremen"
- Kevin Drury - "Embossed Revenue Stamps George IV to Queen Victoria"
- Michael Mc Namara - "Gaza"
- Tom Mc Carthy - "New South Wales"

Following a vote after circulation of the entries the winner was declared to be John Lennon for his entry "Dundrum Post Office Bicentenary" and was awarded the Open Class Trophy for 2010.

Charles Griffith Memorial Trophy and Medal

This trophy and medal is awarded annually to the most entertaining Display of the Year voted for by the membership. The 2010 winner was John Lennon for "Irish Postal History on Screen" shown on 18 March.

Society Social Evening

This annual event was held on Thursday 25 November in Ely House. It followed the usual format of a 40 lot bourse starter. Following the bourse a total of 16 members and guests sat down to dinner in Ely House and the evening was rounded off with a social drink in the bar.

Irish Hot Air Balloon Festivals 2010

By John Mullen

One of my great pleasures in philately is Irish airmail flights which of course include Hot Air Balloon Festivals, as is with previous years once the good weather comes in it's up, up and away. This year so far we have had 3 festivals, Trim, Tullamore and Birr Festivals. All of which I like to attend, unfortunately I was not able to make the Trim festival due to previous engagements, however I did send some covers but somewhere along the way they went missing.

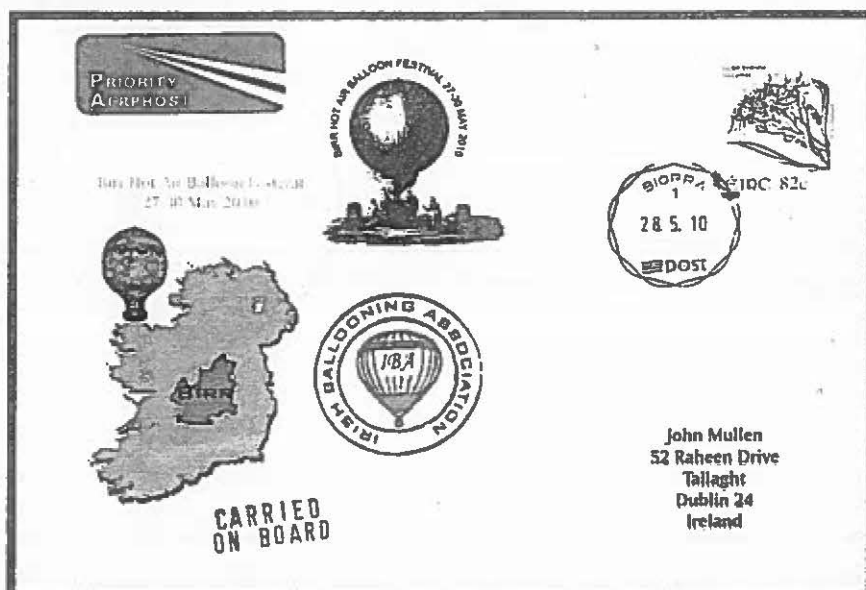
Tullamore festival, which is commonly known as the Phoenix Festival, took place on the weekend of the 7-9 May. The Birr Festival took place the weekend of the 27-30 May.

Hot Air Balloon festivals are quite a spectacle with magnificent colour and one of the most enjoyable parts of the festival is being able to get up close to the balloons. Last year I purchased myself a good quality camera, which enables me to capture some wonderful photographs with the philatelic covers I organise for these festivals.

A number of years ago I purchased an Irish balloon cover and when I wanted to expand that theme, I found very little material, so after making enquiries I decided to create my own, over the last few years I have amassed quite a collection and hopefully will continue to do so. Later on this year we look forward to the 40th anniversary of the Irish Hot Air Balloon Championships, which will take place this September in Co. Longford



Commemorative cover Phoenix Festival Tullamore. Tulach Mhor No2 cid 7.5.2010 Blue IBA cachet



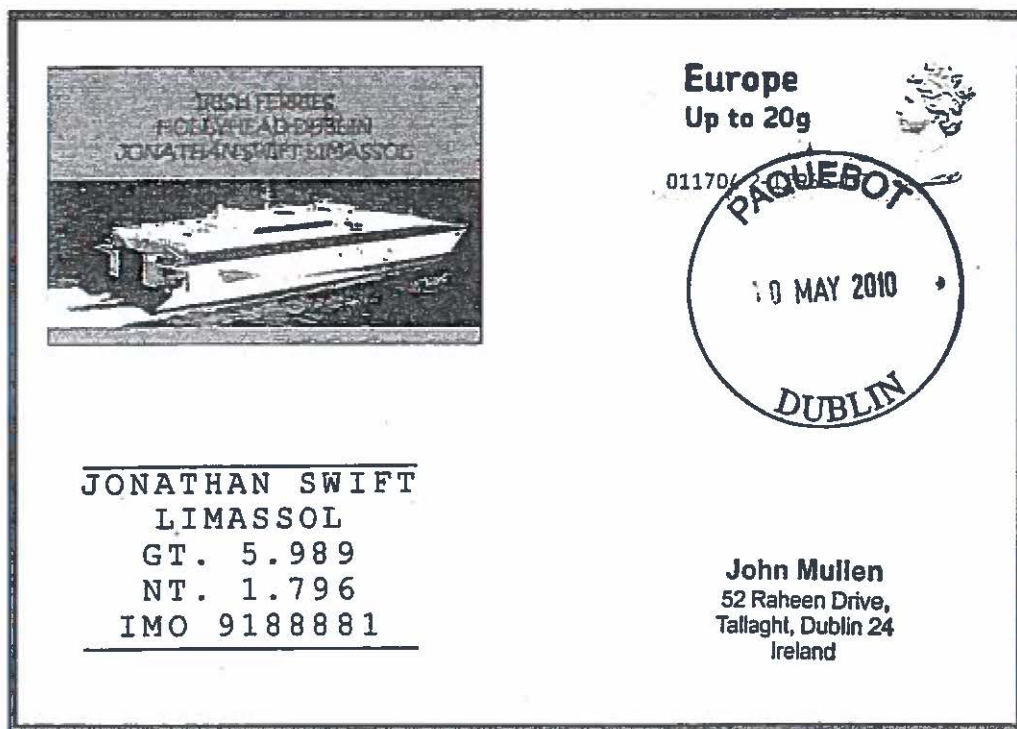
Commemorative cover Birr Festival. Birra No1 cid 28.5.2010 Red IBA cachet

Irish Ferries

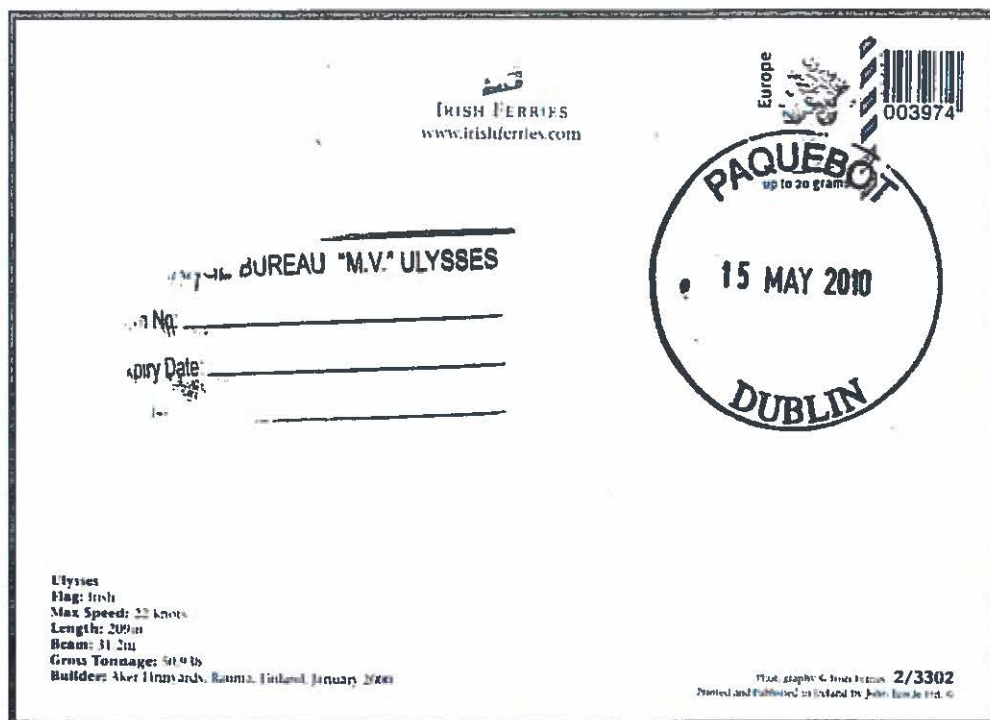
By John Mullen

Due to the activities of the Icelandic Volcano many travellers were grounded and had to find alternative transport home, this happened to me in early May and I travelled home by Irish Ferries aboard the Jonathan Swift Limassol, Hollyhead to Dublin, Been a diligent philatelist, I carried some blank covers which I had the ships hand stamp applied, to my surprise the receptionist took the covers away and returned with them with a new ships hand stamp.

Later in May, Brian Warren was also grounded after the London 2010 Show. He travelled home by the "M.V" Ulysses. Once again been a diligent philatelist also he received some post cards hand stamped by the Exchange Bureau "M.V" Ulysses hand stamp, this is a hand stamp I had not seen before, good for you Brian.



Jonathan Swift hand stamp, GB label tied by Dublin Paquebot date stamp 10th May 2010



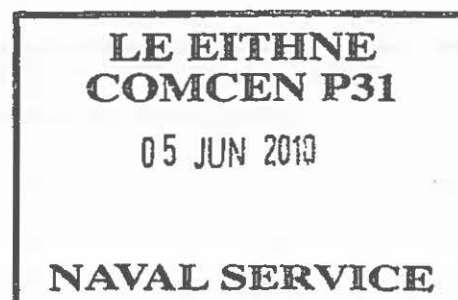
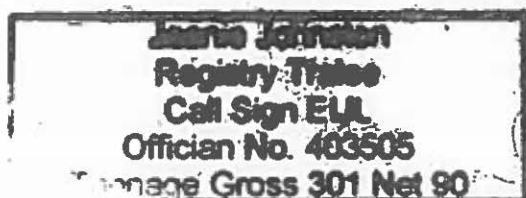
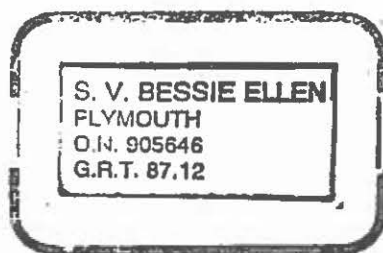
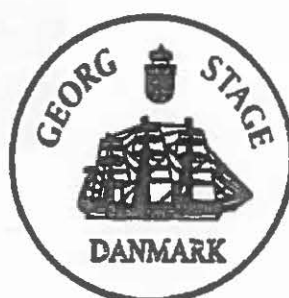
"M.V" Ulysses hand stamp, GB definitive tied by Dublin Paquebot date stamp 15th May 2010

maritime festival



As is customary at this time of year in Ireland the Dublin Docklands Maritime Festival took place over the June Bank holiday weekend, and as is also customary I love to attend this festival. This year we had a fantastic turn out for the festival and without doubt the beautiful weather helped.

Ships represented were The Danish Georg Stage which had two hand stamps, the Notre Dame de Rumengol, French, which had no hand stamp, the Bark Artemis Nederland's which had two hand stamps, the Bessie Ellen GB., one hand stamp, and our own Jeanie Johnston, two hand stamps. Overseeing all the maritime activities were the Irish Coastguard helicopter and the LE Eithne naval ship. The Le Eithne produced a new hand stamp which read "LE EITHNE COMCEN (Communication Centre) P31, date in red, NAVAL SERVICE". P31 is the ships designated number. All covers are postmarked with the DMC Paquebot date stamp, see illustrations below, if any member would like an example of any of the hand stamps I have some duplicates.



4/7 June 2010
**maritime
festival**



**LE EITHNE
COMCEN P31**

05 JUN 2010

NAVAL SERVICE

John Mullen
52 Raheen Drive,
Tallaght, Dublin 24
Ireland

Dublin Docklands Maritime Festival "LE EITHNA"
Dublin (DMC) Paquebot date stamp 5th June 2010

4/7 June 2010
**maritime
festival**



S. V. BESSIE ELLEN
PLYMOUTH
O.N. 905646
G.R.T. 87.12

John Mullen
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Tallaght, Dublin 24
Ireland

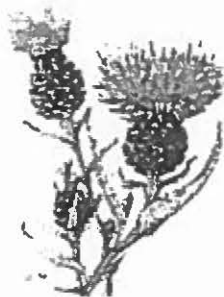
Dublin Docklands Maritime Festival "S.V. BESSIE ELLEN"
Dublin (DMC) Paquebot date stamp 5th June 2010

An Post First Machine Counter Stamps

On the 20th May 2010, An Post issued its first machine counter stamps there are four different designs. The first Experimental Post Office was the Blackrock office in the Frascati Shopping Centre. Special thanks to Mr. Declan O'Kelly for keeping us informed about the issue of these stamps;- he has a stock of FDI for sale. All stamps are similar in size to the standalone (PSC) machines that we see through out the country. The four designs are flowers, Mountain avens, Spring gentian, Bloody crane's-bill and Common knapweed. There are three vertical Phosphor bars, which show up as yellow under ultraviolet light, unlike the PSC machine the word Éire along with the value and three sets of numbers are printed by the machine.

The issue I purchased has the first number 10140 which is year 10, year day 140, the following day would be 10-141;- In the case of the second number 7070301704064, the first three digits 707 is the post office location as can be determined from the receipt, the central digits (03017) is the transaction number, the last five digits (04064) are the machine stamp counting number, a small vertical number at the bottom right hand corner appears to be the stamp counting number within the specific roll, see illustration below. The value can be from 1cent to as large a value as is needed, and comes in strips of whatever is required, I purchased a strip of 20 and if need be, can continue till the roll runs out, it is estimated a number of 600 stamps per roll. The Spring gentian is the only design with the name printed horizontally, all other design names are vertical.

Centleura nigra
Mnscath - Common knapweed



Éire
€0.82

10140
7070301704067

233

Simulated Phosphor Bars

Post Office receipt showing transactions
No.1 ----985 / No.2 -----987 No.----986 missing



Centleura nigra
Mnscath - Common knapweed

Éire
€0.82

10140
7070301704065



Centleura nigra
Mnscath - Common knapweed

Éire
€0.82

10140
7070301704066



Centleura nigra
Mnscath - Common knapweed

Éire
€0.82

10140
7070301704067



Centleura nigra
Mnscath - Common knapweed

Éire
€0.82

10140
7070301704068

An Post	
Mails Retail Receipt	
Post Office: 707	Position: 3
Date: 20-May-2010	Time: 14:20:35
Bulk Batch ID: 030089	

Product Name: Custom Stamp - 1c	
Unit Price	0.01 EUR
Quantity	20 x
Item Total	0.20 EUR

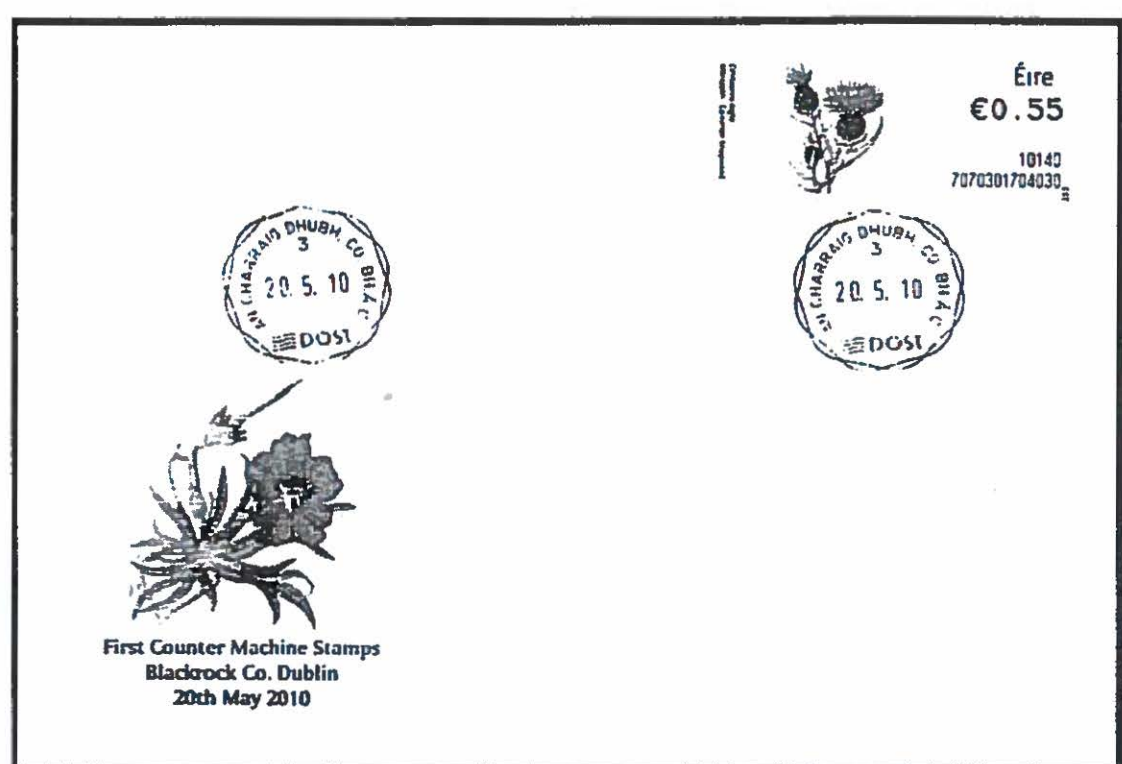
Reference Number	
7070301703985	
7070301703987	
7070301703988	
7070301703989	
7070301703990	
7070301703991	
7070301703992	
7070301703993	
7070301703994	
7070301703995	
7070301703996	
7070301703997	
7070301703998	
7070301703999	
7070301704000	
7070301704001	
7070301704002	
7070301704003	
7070301704004	
7070301704005	

Total Amount Paid	0.20 EUR
Payment Method	Cash

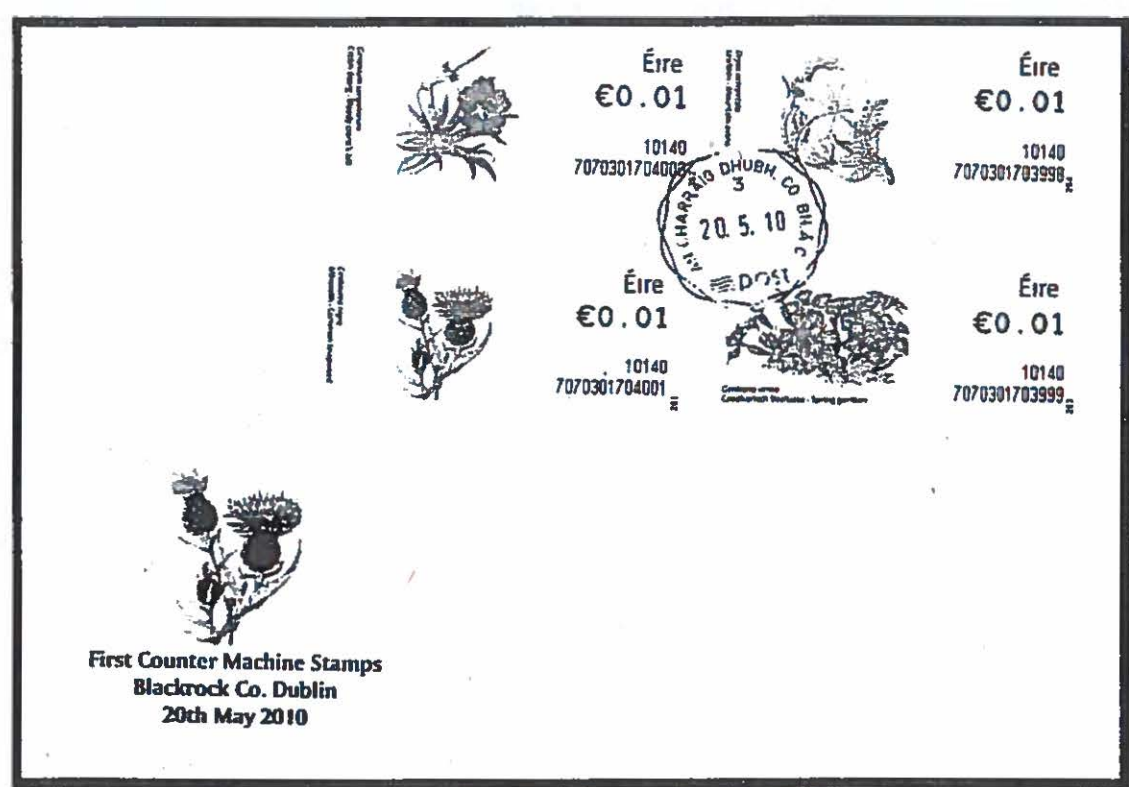
Over the weekend following the issue of these stamps, Brian Warren and I met to study this stamp issue and the receipts. This article tries to show the complexity of these computerised stamps, but as always more study is necessary and we would be delighted to hear from any and all collectors.

In the case of two or more post office positions been used at the same time (counter No.1 / No.2) for printing the machine stamps, the stamp transaction number will alternated between the two positions as determined by the office's central computer, see receipt illustration above.

Receipt shows, First stamp No. 7070301703985 – second stamp No. 707031703987 (986 missing) This appears to be due to another customer purchasing a stamp from counter position No. 2, during the printing of the stamps at counter position No. 3. All vertical stamp counting numbers run in series on the printed strip even though the transaction numbers will alternate.



First Day of Issue Blackrock (An Charrig Dhubh Co. BH.A.C. code 3 20.5.10



1.cent x 4 Smallest Denomination FDI

Stampania Spring Stamp & Coin Show

By John Mullen

About this time of the year the Stampania show takes place at the RDS Dublin. This year however the powers that be, changed the name of the show to the Spring Stamp & Coin Show, even though the souvenir sheet shows the word Stampania overprinted. For the last number of years the coin dealers attended the show, it was decided that it was only proper to be inclusive, hence the change of name.

This year with the name change, I decided to continue with the Dublin theme incorporating the Four Courts into the show cancel, many collectors have complimented me on the Dublin theme cancel, since I started designing these special hand stamps / cancels.

An Post were in attendance, and were quiet busy, as a result they sent all collectors to the Federation table to have the souvenir sheet cancelled which we were delighted to help. In attendance at the Federation table were Mr. Brian Warren, Mr. Jim Kelly and as they say "there's no show without Punch" namely myself, representing many of the Philatelic Societies. As is usual members of the societies put on an exhibition of 5 frames, of philatelic material.

The souvenir Sheet was the Year Of The Tiger at a cost of 15€ each which can be purchased from many of the philatelic dealers. A souvenir cover designed by myself was for sale all proceedings going to the Dublin Stamp Society, a worthy recipient.



Four Courts Dublin



Constructed 1784

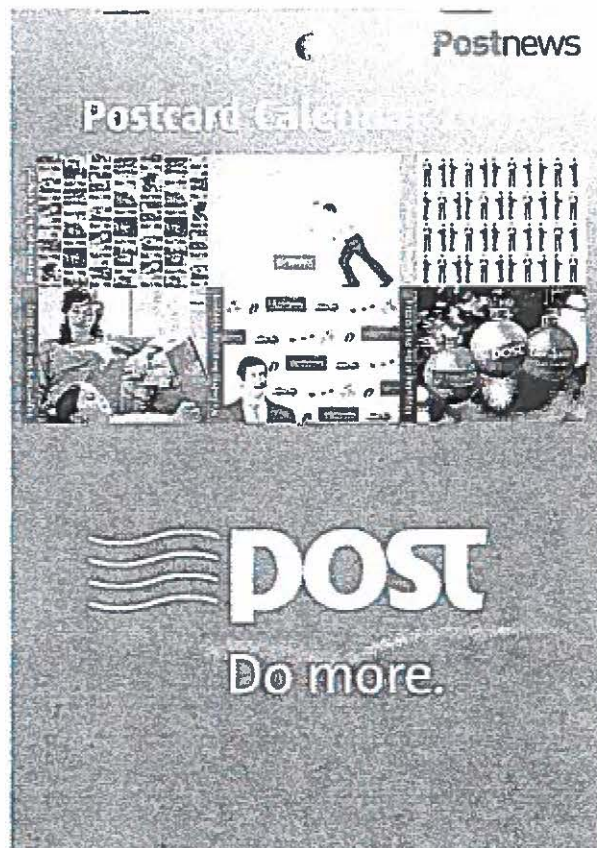
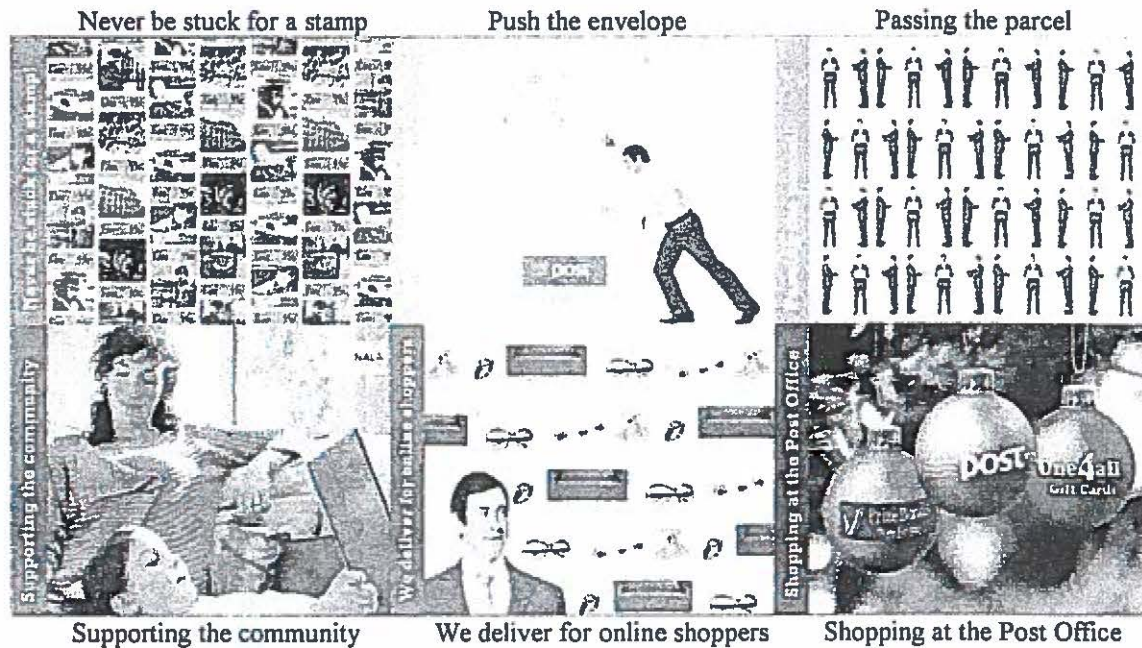


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Ireland

An Post Postcard Calendar 2010

By John Mullen

My Brother Bob visits me on a regular basis; he is a retired Postal worker and receives An Post publication, Postnews, shortly before Christmas 2009 he arrived to me with the Postnews and a calendar for 2010, which he always gives to me. My eyes lit up when I opened the calendar to find six post cards as part of the calendar, which are perforated, each card is perforated to two months of the year and are easily detached, unfortunately they are not pre-paid, but are still a nice addition to any collection, see illustrations.



Postnews Postcard Calendar 2010