

IRISH PHILATELY

JOURNAL OF THE IRISH PHILATELIC CIRCLE

Edited by

O.M. RICHARDS

"Llys Awel", 6 Cloverdale Road, Lambeg, Lisburn, Co. Antrim

Volume 1976

September 1976

No. 3

CONTENTS

Editorial	41
Letters to the Editor	42 - 43
Postal Stationery Since Decimalisation	44 - 45
Code Letters of Dublin Post Offices	45
An Illustrated Guide to Varieties since Decimal Day 15 February 1971	46 - 50
Random Notes	51 - 53
DF Newsletter Summer 1976	53
The Cancelling Machines of Ireland	54 - 55
Postmark Miscellany	56 - 58
The Diamond Sorting Stamps of Dublin with Hour Times	59 - 60

"Irish Philately"

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EDITORIAL

Firstly my apologies for the error in the dates of 'Stampa' in the previous issue of the Journal. The correct dates are 11 to 14 November 1976.

The fact that we seem to be losing members is worrying and it seems that we should make every effort as members to bring in additional recruits to increase the membership. This is not peculiar to our own Circle, several other societies to which I belong are experiencing losses in their membership. It is inevitable that subscriptions will continue to rise as postal and printing charges increase and it may be that these rises are causing the resignations.

I feel sure that our committee would welcome any suggestions that might help to overcome this very real problem.

O.M. Richards

letters to the Editor:-

Dear Sir,

Originally the IPC came into being via a Study Circle. At the last AGM in Liverpool it was decided to resuscitate this idea and a number of groups were set up - one of which was Overprints.

As the co-ordinator of this particular group, I would like to appeal through your columns for, initially, topics that members would find of mutual interest.

For example, here are a few that possibly may be considered as candidates:-

- . Overprint settings and GB Plates (Finishing the fine work of JAC Munro).
- . Stereo structures of the overprint settings (Supplementing - if that is possible - the magnificent work of Mike Priestley).
- . Sheet stereo reconstruction of the Harrison coils (A project on which I personally am half way through).
- . Recurrent flaws of the overprints and their evolution.
- . Flaws of the GB base Plates (There is a surprising amount of work to do here on both low and high values).
- . Overprint setting identification by key characteristics.

I am sure that many other topics could be suggested. When it is realised that Feldman's Philatelic Handbook, for example, has (as of last count) more than 150 errors and Hibernian more than 250, it can be seen that the scope is even wider than might be thought.

The procedure, once a topic (or topics) has been decided would be to outline the main study with a summary of current knowledge and to indicate how this might be evolved towards the goal. A copy of this would be circulated to members of the Study Group for comments and amplification as gleaned from their own collections.

There are very few indeed who are fortunate enough to have sheets of all the overprints. However, as a group, I am sure the material is, collectively, there for study.

I look forward to prompt and large response from those members who, like myself, equate Irish Philately with the Overprints.

If they would be kind enough to write me a short note indicating their interests to me at the address below, I would hope to have a study going by the end of the year.

Yours sincerely,

C.I. Dulin

Address:- 4 rue des Bugnons, 1217 Meyrin, Geneva

Sir,

NEWS JOURNAL or HISTORY

Searching through the latest IPC Membership List the name of Mr MacCearra is not to be found and one must presume that he is not an IPC member. If he had been he would have already declared his interest in the many aspects of Irish Philately and would have been that one step nearer to what he has suggested in his letter in IP Vol 1976 p.25.

For many years now, Collectors of Irish have asked the Irish PO to issue advance notice of forthcoming issues and postmarks and, to be fair, there has been a great improvement with regard to the stamps but little success with the special postmarks. Notices received on the 'Day of Issue' are of little use to the Collectors to climb on the band-wagon!

Therefore, the 'Loners', such as Mr MacC should be grateful for the random and other notes and comments published by our active members in Dublin and elsewhere for drawing our attention to what has happened in recent weeks/months/years. In other words, HISTORY.

It is an impossible task to spoon-feed collectors with what they want for almost everyone has some peculiar interest, be it singles, pairs, blocks, corners, gutters of Defins and Commems, or First and Last Day of Issue or Special Event, Place Name or whatever postmarks. Surely one of the joys of Collecting is to seek what you have not so far got?

Take heart Mr MacC - make contact with someone somehow - preferably an IPC member in Ireland with similar interests to your own - supply him with the ready cash to go out and get what you want - and it may surprise you with what he turns up with.

Ano Loner.

From the Editor: Mr MacCearra is, in fact, a member who desired the anonymity of signing his name in Irish.

MISTAKEN IDENTITY (Extracted from the Irish Times - 10.6.1976)

Sir, - I hope the GPO is being handsomely rewarded by Granada TV for displaying a picture of Coronation Street's Ena Sharples on our new 9p postage stamp.

Yours etc, Verell Booth, 6 Aubrey Park, Shankill, Co Dublin.

Grateful thanks are due to Michael Kerr of Dublin for forwarding this snippet for inclusion in the Journal.

The writer is, of course, referring to the 9p value of the American Bi-centenary issue. This will also apply to the 13p value.

POSTAL STATIONERY SINCE DECIMALISATION

by Dr. C.A. Ross

The rapid rate of inflation since decimalisation (15 February 1971) has played havoc with attempts by the authorities to keep postal stationery in step with the increasing postal charges. No doubt due to the original quantities printed, little or no attempt has been made in the case of envelopes, letter cards, postcards and wrappers to keep pace with the rates. Indeed, the 2½p newspaper wrapper issued in 1971 has not so far been superceded. The letter card has recently (18 March 1976) appeared in the current 9p rate but the postcard, issued in the 5p rate about October 1975, is, of course, obsolete. The original 4p envelope was re-issued in a whiter stock before being replaced by the 5p envelope which appeared about the time that the letter rate was increased to 7p on 1 October 1974.

A more conscientious effort has been made in the case of the registered envelopes to keep them up to date so that a whole crop of issues and varieties has resulted. The original issue, 14p, in all three sizes, G, H and K has the incorrect registration fee of 6p on the reverse and a mis-spelling in the word "Mhor". In June 1972, the three sizes were issued with the correct fee of 10p, slightly revised text in Irish and the opportunity was taken to correct the spelling to "Mhoir". Unfortunately, however, in the case of the size K envelope, another spelling error was introduced - "Bhreatian". In a further release in 1973, all three sizes show an increase in compensation for total loss from £3.40 to £5.44 and, in the case of size K, the spelling was corrected to "Bhreatain". Two varieties in size G have been noted. Some pre-decimal stock was used in which the registration fee appears as 1/3 and also unused envelopes have been seen with no embossed stamp.

Following the increase in rates (5p and 12p) on 2 July 1973, the 17p red size G and H envelopes were issued on 21 November but with the incorrect fee of 10p. Subsequently, they were issued in the correct form - as was, on 28 March 1974, the size K envelope.

With the increase in rates (7p and 18p) on 1 October 1974, the 25p blue envelopes were issued, size G on 19 February and sizes H and K on 16 January 1975. The registration fee was incorrectly given as 12p and there is also a variety of the size G envelope with the fee as 10p. Subsequently, the size K envelope was issued with a completely reset text on the reverse which does not specify the minimum registration fee. Further, the envelope is made of new stock with no scrim but a blue finish to the inside of the envelope.

Following a further increase in rates (9p and 24p) on 1 January 1976, the current issue of the 33p purple-brown envelopes appeared in sizes G and K on 1 February and size H on 25 March. The size H envelope is now also in the new stock (no scrim) and has the reset text on the reverse.

The two organisations, the ESB and the Cork Gas Consumers Co. who use stamped-to-order meter reading cards, have also provided a series of items resulting from escalating postal rates. The original 2½p ESB card appeared with an additional 1p blue stamp before being replaced by a 3½p card printed in

orange-brown. Subsequently, when the postcard rate was increased to 5p in 1974, cards were franked with an additional 1½p by passing them through the meter franking machine, JIII, with the circular date stamp omitted. It is understood that this was only done for cards used in the Dublin area and that in the provinces adhesives were added. A 5p card in yellow-green appeared before the ESB abandoned the costly use of stamped-to-order cards and adopted the business reply cards. A 'disconnection of supply' card (ESB BX179) has been seen with the original 2½p card additionally franked with 1p blue and 1½p brown purple stamps.

The Cork Gas Consumers Co. have issued the following cards:- 2½p brown; 3½p orange-brown; 3½p and 1½p purple-brown; 5p yellow-green and the 5p yellow-green additionally franked 2p by passing through the meter franking machine NP503. The numerals have been removed from the circular date stamp with the exception of the Roman numeral month plug (so far I and III have been seen).

To complete the record, two philatelic stamped-to-order items have appeared since February 1971. The first Irish definitive was commemorated by a non-standard envelope printed with 4p and 2½p stamps. The 13th AGM of the IPC held in Liverpool on 12 and 13 May 1973 was marked by the issue of a standard 2½p postcard additionally franked with a 4p stamp.

CODE LETTERS OF DUBLIN POST OFFICES (FROM EOLAI AN PHOIST 1953)

A R1	Amiens St. Railway Station	DRN	Ringsend
B	Ballsbridge	DRR	Rathgar
D	College Green (now St Andrew St)	DSU	Russell Street
DAX	Annamoe Street	DSW	S King Street
DBU	Donnybrook	DUC	Upper Clanbrassil Street
DCO	Cork Street	DUL	Upper Leeson Street
DDX	Dolphin's Barn	DWH	Whitehall Terrace
DFJ	Fairview	G	Ormond Quay
DGX	Pearse Street	H	Harcourt Road
DHA	Harold's Cross	J	Harcourt Street
DIE	Inchicore	K	James's Street
DIL	Islandbridge	L	Kingsbridge Railway Station
DKM	Pairc na Gaeltachta	M	Lower Baggot Street
DKN	Camden Street	N	Manor Street
DKP	Cattle Market	O	Merrion Row
DKR	St John's Terrace Clontarf	Q	North Wall
DKX	Drumcondra	R	Phibsborough
DKZ	St Mobhi Road	S	Rathmines
DLG	Lr Dorset Street	TDQ	Terenure
DLP	Sandymount	W	Thomas Street
DML	Milltown	X R1	Westland Row Railway Station
DMO	Merrion	Y	Portobello Bridge
DNX	Infirmery Road	Z	Ranelagh
DRM	Drimnagh		

F.E.D

AN ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO VARIETIES SINCE DECIMAL DAY - 15 FEBRUARY 1971

by P.J. Smithers

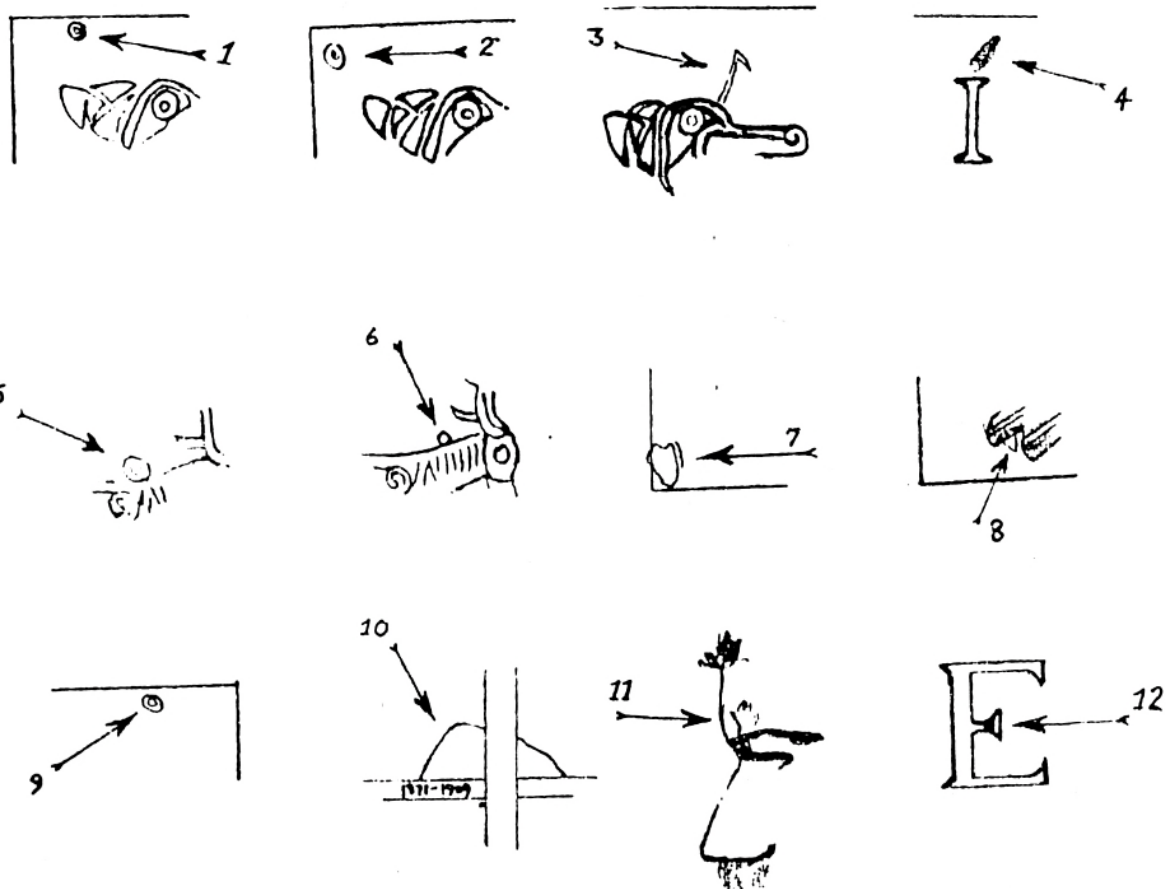
This is not an exhaustive list of the varieties since Decimal Day - 15.2.71., but a list of the varieties that I have considered worthy of inclusion in my collection. My own particular favourites are numbers 26, 33, 36, 37, 53, 59 and C. In my opinion, these should be in every collection of modern issues. I hope that this listing will provoke members into looking at their stamps and that the finding of any of the listed varieties will give them interest and pleasure.

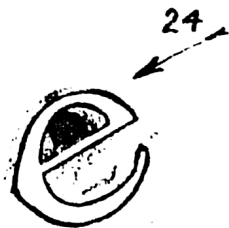
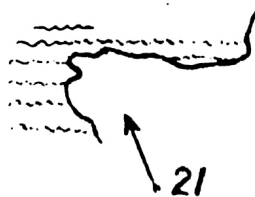
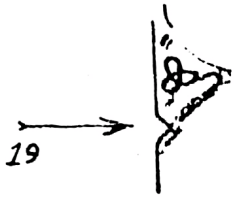
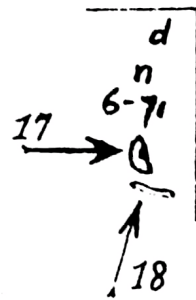
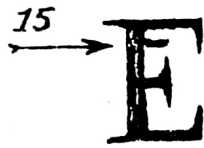
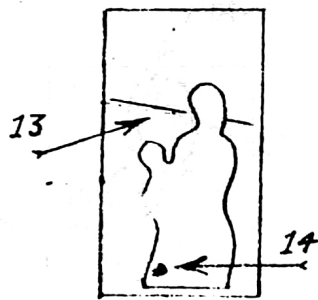
<u>NO</u>	<u>STAMP</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1.	Definitive ½p Dog	✓ R6/1	Retouch top left corner
→2.	Definitive 2½p Dog	✓ R8/2	Retouch top left corner
3.	Definitive 3p Dog	R13/5	Stroke over head
4.	Definitive 6p Dog	R14/1	Accent over I of Eire
5.	Definitive 7p Stag	R15/2	Retouch on stags neck
6.	Definitive 7½p Stag	✓ R15/8	Retouch on stags neck
7.	Definitive 8p Stag	★ R20/4	Brown smudge bottom left corner
8.	Definitive £1 Eagle	✓ R8/2	White mark on tail feathers
9.	1971 Europa both values	R2/7	Retouch
10.	1971 Synge 4p	R9/2&3	Hair-line
11.	1971 Synge 10p	✓ R6/10	Stroke on forehead
12.	1971 Island Man	R3/2	Damaged E
13.	1971 Christmas both values	✓ R5/8	Vapour trail
14.	1971 Christmas both values	R7/9	Black spot on Madonna's dress
15.	1972 Europa 6p	R8/7	Extra serif on 2nd E of Eire
16.	1972 Blue Lake	R4/3	Blue moon above hills
17.	1972 Blue Lake	R5/9	White smudge
18.	1972 Blue Lake	R6/10	White hair-line
19.	1972 Christmas 3 values	R3/10	Break in left frame line
20.	1972 50th Stamp Anniversary	R2/2	White dot in left panel, obliterated
21.	1972 50th Stamp Anniversary	R6/9	Achill Island joined to mainland
22.	1972 50th Stamp Anniversary	R8/4	White mark between I & R of Eire
23.	1972 50th Stamp Anniversary	R9/4	White line between E and 6
24.	As above - Mini-sheet	R1/2	Retouch to 1st E in Eire
25.	1973 EEC 6p	R9/1	Boomerang mark above E of Eanair
26.	1973 EEC 12p	R4/7	Heavier printing of "EORAIR"

27.	1973 Berlin Blues	R1/7	Retouch in top horizontal blue shape
28.	1973 WMO both values	X R3/2	Retouch (Lake in France)
29.	1973 WMO 3½p	R5/4	Storm off east Scottish coast
30.	1973 Christmas both values	X R6/1	Red line through G in NOLLAIG
31.	1974 Lifeboat	R5/9	Star in sky
32.	1974 Lifeboat	R3/1	Tam-o-Shanter
33.	1974 Europa 7p	R6/1	White circle on 1st E of Eire
34.	1974 Goldsmith both values	R6/1	Nick in Goldsmith's right leg
35.	1974 Goldsmith 12p	R1/5	Retouch beside G's left leg
36.	1974 Rugby 3½p	R4/1	Re-entry (only partly illustrated)
37.	1974 Rugby 12p	-	Major drift of recess printing
38.	1974 UPU 5p	R8/4	Retouch in centre of circle (Ditto on 7p is very faint)
39.	1974 Christmas both values	R7/5	Stroke on forehead
40.	1974 Christmas both values	R8/8	Mark over Madonna's head
41.	1974 Christmas both values	R9/10	Red circle
42.	1975 Europa 7p	Δ R4/4	Half-moon shape top right corner
43.	1975 Europa 7p	R8/6	Ball shape in sky
44.	1975 Europa 9p	R10/2	Whip 2nd figure from left
45.	1975 Europa 9p	R10/4	Arm-band figure on right
46.	1975 Golf 6p	R3/8	Line through EI of Eire
47.	1975 Golf 6p	X R6/3	Red spot on hat of player on left
48.	1975 Golf 9p	R1/5	White mark beside G in Golf
49.	1975 Golf 9p	Δ R2/3	Accent on 1st E of Eire
50.	1975 Bird of Prey	X R9/4	Extra talon
51.	1975 Nano Nagle 5p	X R10/6	Pendant on small girl
52.	1975 Nano Nagle 7p	X R10/5	Pendant on tall girl
53.	1975 Architecture 5p	Δ R4/2&3	Telegraph cable
54.	1975 Architecture 7p	R9/1	Hair-line under Architectural
55.	1975 Christmas 7p	Δ R10/3	Accent on 1st E of Eire
56.	1976 Larkin both values	Δ R3/2	Damaged bottom right corner
57.	1976 Larkin 7p	R3/7	Hair-line on plate I only
58.	1976 Larkin 7p	Δ All R/7	White dot on Larkin's right eye
59.	1976 Telephone 15p	R5/1	Serif on 5 of 15

Other items not listed but worthy of inclusion are as follows:-

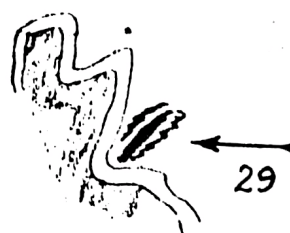
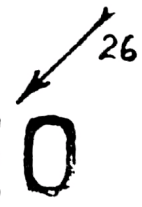
A.	2½p Dog definitive	Plate I and Plate 2✓
B.	5p Stag definitive	Plate II and Plate I (2nd "I" is missing)
C.	10p Ox definitive	The normal colour of spots and outline of ox is brown however, some sheets were issued with above in lavender colour
D.	1971 Synge 4p	Plate IIII and Plate 2III
E.	1971 Racism both values	White circular flaws occurred at Intervals but lasted only for a few sheets
F.	1972 Patriot Dead 6p	Plate III and Plate 132
G.	1972 Christmas 2½p	Plate IIII and Plate 12II
H.	1972 Christmas 4p	Plate IIII and Plate 12II
J.	1973 Christmas 3½p	Plate IIII and Plate III2
K.	1975 Plunkett both values	Set of plate numbers from 1 to 7
L.	1976 Larkin 7p	Plate II✓ and Plate 12✓
M.	1976 Larkin 11p	Plate II and Plate I (2nd "I" is missing)



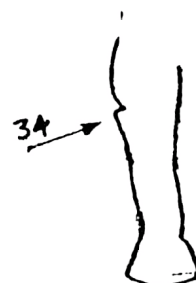
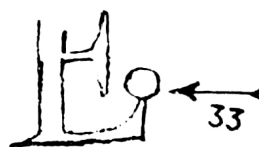
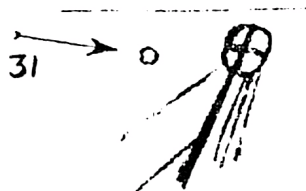


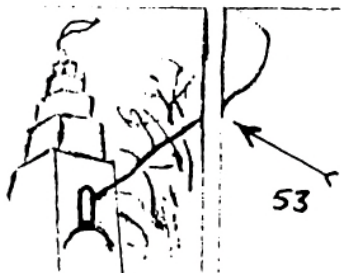
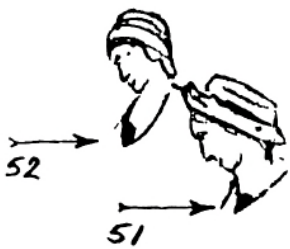
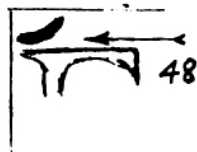
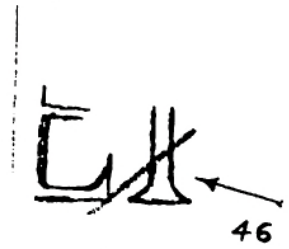
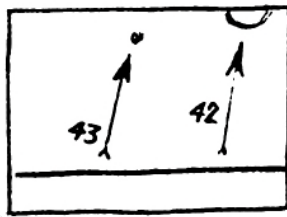
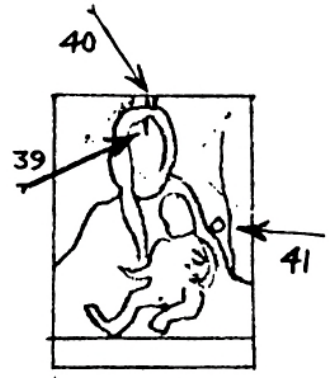
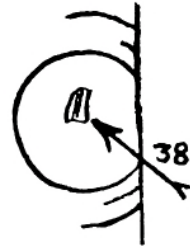
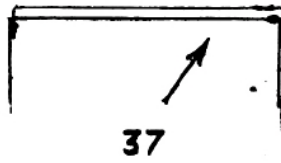
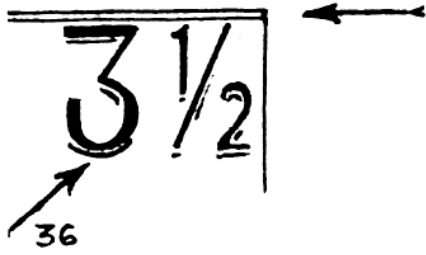
EO
NORMAL

EO
VARIETY

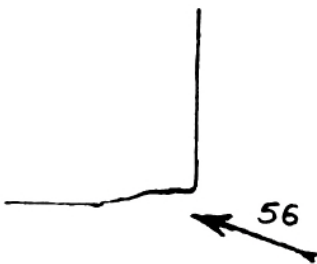


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Architectural



RANDOM NOTES

by F.E. Dixon

POSTAL HISTORY DISCOVERIES I have been sorting a few hundred letters, mostly of the 1830s, salvaged from a Cork distillery. Some of the letters are interesting, eg a complaint at being quoted 3s a gallon for whiskey when another customer was being charged only 2s 10d!

One surprising discovery was that from 1836 to 1839 Cork did not datestamp incoming letters. The most important additions to our lists are PAID AT BRUFF (1838) and PAID AT BUTTEVANT (1841). Also unrecorded I think is a very large TOO LATE from Dungarvan (1837 - 38) in a frame 49 x 9 mm. Another TOO LATE is Clonmel 1835. Also new to me is an undated circular stamp from KILMALLOCK 1838. A remarkable cds used at NEWCASTLE (now Newcastle West) with the N reversed, occurred in 1837 - 38.

One mystery marking is "Prepaid" handstamped on two letters from Dublin in 1841. As they bear the normal square PAID DUBLIN datestamp and are from the same firm, I think it is a private stamp of the firm.

It is not yet decided which of the letters can be put on the market and which are more valuable to the archivist than to the collector. So don't send us your want lists.

There were one or two later items, including the Dublin "signet ring" datestamp of 1857 with no code letter below the date. A, B and E have been seen in this position. What about C or D?

IRELAND & c Dr de Burca's excellent note in the March issue of Irish Philately needs little comment. He is quite right to query Robson Lowe's 1777 date for IRELAND. Such a marking was probably introduced when the Irish Post Office became a separate entity in 1784.

P & T COMMITTEES Robson Lowe has retired from the Philatelic Advisory Committee and Raymond Mc Grath from the Stamp Design Advisory Committee. Each received an album of specimen stamps. It is claimed that the Philatelic Advisory Committee has led to big business, the sales to philatelic dealers in 1975 being £300,000 - double the 1974 figure.

2p DEFINITIVE The 2p definitive is much used to combine with a 7p to make up the 9p rate. So there is a fresh printing, this time on unwatermarked paper. Although we were told it was to be issued there was no fixed day of issue.

9p LETTER CARD Issued 18 March has rouletting instead of perforations.

5p DEFINITIVE Have you mint examples of the bright yellow shade of the 5p, less bilious than the normal? Although I have seen many used in the past few months it is only recently that I found it on sale at a post office. It is worthy of catalogue status and I recommend its purchase - if you can find it.

THE OLDEST IRISH LETTERS I recently had the opportunity of examining some of the very rare volumes published in the last century with superb colour

facsimiles of early manuscript material. Unfortunately the editor, JT Gilbert, did not think it necessary to reproduce the address side of any letter. Volume II includes letters from the 12th century. Volume IV-2 has the famous letter of 15 June 1690 from Robert Mason to Sir Robert Southwell when the Irish GPO was temporarily at Lisburn and operated twice weekly posts to London via Portpatrick. This letter was among the sources of TV Jackson's classic article "The Irish Post Office 1638 - 1703" in Bulletin 100 of the Postal History Society. March - April 1959, pp 33 - 36.

LABELS The Irish Tourist Board has produced an interesting label for use from its USA office with the legend VISIT IRELAND, DISCOVER YOUR BICENTENNIAL HERITAGE.

ABBREVIATED NAME-STAMPS Fr Brennan reports a cover of 1723 with B-BETT for Belturbet. Other stamps of this town were B.T.BET seen 1792 -3 and B.TURBET in 1804.

SLOGAN CANCELLATIONS A new one, unannounced, appeared on 1 April, GIVING FOR LIVING with the pelican symbol for blood donors.

NEW BOOK Strongly recommended is "Herewith My Frank" by JW Lovegrove, well researched and adding much to our knowledge of the FREE franking system and the associated postal markings. The date ranges in the Irish section need modification. A good feature is rarity classification with ten categories from common to unique.

P & T PUBLICITY "Ireland today" (Formerly EIRE/IRELAND - with accent) is the regular bulletin distributed by the Department of Foreign Affairs. Most of the issue for 7 May was devoted to an account by Liam Miller - well illustrated in colour - of Irish postage stamps from 1922 to date. It is more concerned with the people and events commemorated than with the philatelic details and has one mis-statement - that airmail covers of the 1930s are as highly prized as early ship letters.

Liam Miller is also responsible for the first publication of the Philatelic Section of Dublin GPO described as a checklist 1922 - 1976. It describes each design, specifying the designers and in some cases the origins. Varieties, perforations, gum, coils, booklets, stationery are dismissed in a paragraph referring one to specialist catalogues. No mention of quantities issued, sheet make-up, numbers of plates used etc. There are a number of mistakes - wrong printers, wrong process etc.

SPECIAL CANCELLATION Some recipients of envelopes with a faint rubber cancellation "Cill an Mhuilinn 31.V.76 Presentation Order" were puzzled. The explanation is that the cancellation was one of the efforts organised by a local committee at Killavullen, the birthplace of Nano Nagle, who founded the Presentation Order 200 years ago.

DUBLIN SPRING SHOW LABELS The advertising labels for the 1976 Show were quite different from any I have seen for earlier years: no badge or other design - just the inscription in red on yellow "Spring Show & Industries Fair/Royal Dublin Society Ball's Bridge Dublin 4 May 4 5 6 7 & 8 1976".

DUBLIN Some miscellaneous material recently passed to me by Dr
POSTMASTERS Stafford Johnson includes two early references I had not seen
before. In February 1618 (OS) at the request of the English
PMG Lord Stanhope the Lord Deputy and Council appointed Melchior Van Pelkem of
Dublin to have charge of the posts in Ireland.

The other reference is in a letter from the scientist Robert Boyle, probably
of October 1681, and mentioning Mr Dowlin "post-master of Dublin".

An interesting feature is that one of the Council members was Henry Docwra.
Could he be father or grandfather of the man credited with the London Penny
Post?

COBH Cards or covers with the Cobh Paquebot cancellation are not as
PAQUEBOT common as they ought to be. Two turned up in an album of
otherwise ordinary postcards. Both have a peculiarity of which
I already have an example on piece, the year being omitted. In each case the
stamp is UK 1½d George V typographed with GvR watermark, introduced 1924.
Has anyone datable examples of the variety? My guess is 1925 or 1926.

POSTMAN'S A postcard of 1907 addressed to a house in Garville Avenue,
ANNOTATION Rathgar, Dublin, was delayed in delivery and the postman
explained the delay by a pencilled endorsement:-
"Gate locked" !

MID-MAY Mid-May was a busy period. On 14th a ceremonial handing-over
of new stamps to the USA Ambassador, with philatelic traders
invited but only two collectors. 15th and 16th a stamp, coin and postcard
dealer's fair. The associated special cancellations misleadingly commemorating
the 75th anniversary of the Irish Philatelic Society. This was an expensive
enterprise for the Post Office who had to replace a large number of covers
given a wrong cancellation. On the 17th came the new stamp issue. Many offices
quickly sold out their limited supplies of miniature sheets. On 18th was a
new aerogram, not widely publicised: first-day examples will be rare. The new
features are folding like the USA style, the folded size being 8¼ x 4 inches
and 15 inches to lick instead of 6 inches.

DF NEWSLETTER SUMMER 1976 Another issue of the DF Newsletter came through
the letter box recently and, as usual, is full of 'good things' for the
collector of Irish postal history, cancellations and stamps.

The controversy surrounding the true date of issue of the "Shannon Scheme"
stamp continues to puzzle and intrigue collectors and there are several letters
giving information and opinions. However, there will need to be more research
before the answer is known.

AR Doublet writes on the Dollard "Valdivia Heads" and sheds further light on
the mystery that surrounds these so called "essays".

There are more 'varieties' on Irish stamps listed and illustrated by
'Hibernicus', whilst Maurice Cowan comments on the 'IRELAND' and 'DUBLIN'
stamps.

The DF Newsletter is published by David Feldham Ltd and can be obtained from
them by subscription at:- 102 Leinster Road, Dublin 6.

O.M.R

THE CANCELLING MACHINES OF IRELAND

PROVINCES

by O.M. Richards

DROICHEAD NA BANNDAN (Bandon)

A new Pitney Bowes DD (slow) machine, Serial No 3775, was first used on 6 July 1964. Only the continuous wavy lines have been used so far. There is no provision for PAID or OFFICIAL PAID mail.

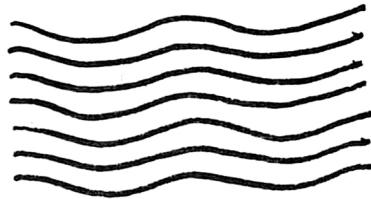


Fig. 48

CAISLEAN AN BHARRAIGH (Castlebar)

Castlebar was issued with a Universal DD (slow) machine, Serial No 3218, in November 1960 and it was used for the first time on 8 November 1960. Slogans have been used regularly but I have not seen PAID or OFFICIAL PAID mail.



PLEASE
DISTRICT NUMBERS
IN DUBLIN
ADDRESSES
SHEW

Fig. 49

CLAR CLAINNE MUIRIS (Claremorris)

A Universal DD (slow) machine, Serial No 3219, was brought into use at Claremorris on 8 October 1960. The wavy lines are continuous thus precluding the use of PAID or OFFICIAL PAID dies. Slogans are used regularly.



Fig. 50

CAISLEAN RIABHACH (Castlerea)

A new Pitney Bowes DD (slow) machine, Serial No 44206, was issued to Castlerea on 15 April 1971, it was brought into use on 22 April 1971. The machine has continuous wavy lines, there being no provision for OFFICIAL PAID or PAID mailings. Slogans have not been used as yet.

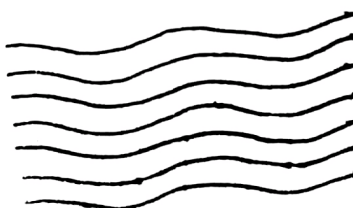


Fig. 51

CEANANNUS MOR (formerly Kells)

Ceanannus Mor was issued with a new Pitney Powes DD (slow) machine, Serial No 4934, early in May 1971, it was first brought into use on 18 May 1971. As with several machines issued to the smaller offices requiring them, this machine has continuous wavy lines with no provision for OFFICIAL PAID or PAID mail. As far as I am aware slogans cannot be fitted.

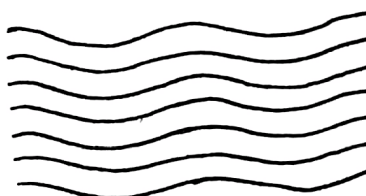


Fig. 52

CILL MOCHEALLOG (Killmallock)

Killmallock too was included in the 1971 issue of cancelling machines and was issued with a new Pitney Bowes DD (slow) machine, Serial No 4935, early In April 1971. It was brought into use on 24 April 1971. As with the machines at Castlerea and Ceanannus Mor there is no provision for OFFICIAL PAID or PAID mailings, or, indeed, slogans.

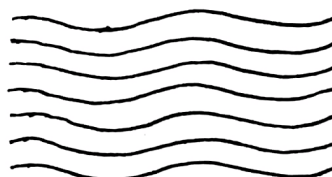


Fig. 53

The listing of the machines of Ireland has fallen behind somewhat due to lack of space in recent issues of the Journal. An effort will be made to catch up in the next few issues of Irish Philately.

POSTMARK MISCELLANY

by O.M. Richards

At the Stamp and Coin Fair held in Belfast earlier this year I acquired a cover which has a strip of three of the 1d map stamp, they were cancelled by the skeleton handstamp shown. This has not been listed previously and is new to me.

The vessel SS Ryndam was one of the fleet of ships of the Holland America Line which presumably was visiting Dublin on that date. The handstamp was presumably 'created' for mail posted during the visit. This vessel called at Cobh in 1958 and a cover I possess on which the Cardinal Newman stamp is cancelled by a Cobh Paquebot stamp also has a strike of the ship's cachet shown.

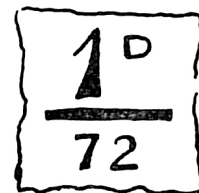
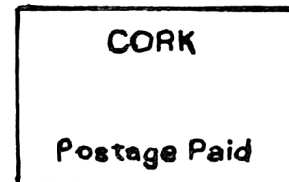
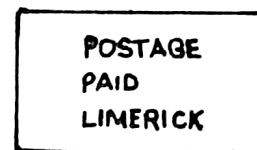
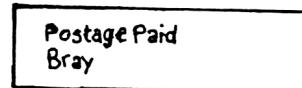
A query from South Africa questioning the use of a 'POSTAGE PAID LIMERICK' in English which was printed on an envelope of the International Book Information Service prompted me to write to the Head Postmaster to ask why the use of English. Apart from an acknowledgement there has been a deafening silence and no explanation.

Since the Limerick item, thanks to member Michael Kerr of Dublin, I have acquired further examples from Bray and Cork, printed on a wrapper from Bray (International Business Equipment) and on an envelope from Cork (Cash and Co Ltd).

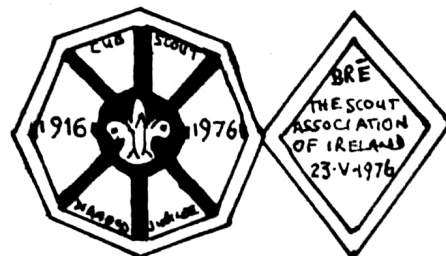
I assume that because the bulk of the postings will be to addressees outwith Ireland it is a requirement that the town name be in English.

This is the first time I have seen this particular 'Postage Due' stamp used in Ireland. It is struck on a postcard from Bray to Templemore on 26 September 1921. The postage due was not collected as there is no adhesive stamp on the card.

A visit to Castle Ward in Co Down recently was rewarded not only by being able to see through the house which is full of wonderful furniture, pictures etc, but by being able to purchase a card of Castle Ward and having impressed on the reverse a very nice cachet in blue, as illustrated.

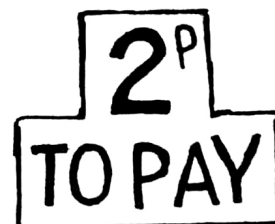


On 23 May 1976 a special handstamp cancellation was used for the Cub Scout Diamond Jubilee, presumably in Dublin. The cancellation is unique I think in not having any indication of the town where it was used. It was struck in violet.

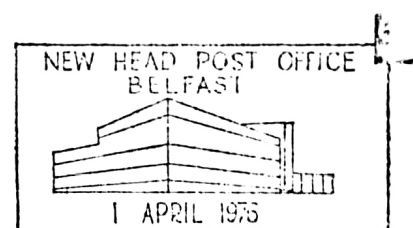


Many of us have posted underpaid covers on the Irish TPO's in an effort to obtain Late Fee markings, as far as I am concerned unsuccessfully. I was delighted to receive from member Lesley Roberts of Carrigaline four covers, two from the Dublin - Cork TPO and two from the Dublin - Galway TPO, all of which have the boxed 'POSTED WITHOUT LATE FEE'. The two Galway covers also have the 2d TO PAY, although no postage due was collected, the 'D' having been changed to 'P' in manuscript.

POSTED WITHOUT LATE FEE



When the new Head Post Office in Belfast was opened by Sir William Ryland CB on 1 April 1976, a special Souvenir Cover was provided for the invited guests. On it was depicted the new Head Office, the 6½p stamp being cancelled by the special handstamp illustrated. This will be one of the scarcer cancellations as it was not available generally to collectors.



The practice of the GPO in Dublin in providing special handstamp cancellations for use in Dublin when new stamps are issued continues. Illustrated are those used for the following issues:-

10.3.76. Centenary of the First Telephone Transmission by Alexander Graham Bell.

17.5.76. Bi-centenary of the American Declaration of Independence. The last cancellation was very poor on all the covers that I have seen.



The Special Cancellation for the Presentation Order used at Killavullen, mentioned by FE Dixon in Random Notes, is illustrated. It was struck in violet.



I was very fortunate to have successfully bid for two very fragile outer sheets of letters addressed to - 'George Thompson Esq., Treasury, Dublin Castle' - received from Galway on the 8th and 12th July 1822. Both have the Galway 104 mileage marks in red and the Inspectors' crown, illustrated, again struck in red. These dates are later than that quoted by Alcock and Holland, 1820.

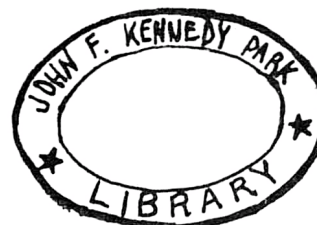


On a cover from Belfast to Irlam, near Manchester, the postage has been paid by a KGV 1d and has been cancelled by the BELFAST double ring = 5 = on DE 22 11. The $\frac{1}{2}$ d Late Fee has been paid with a KE VIII $\frac{1}{2}$ d which has been cancelled by the LATE FEE stamp illustrated. Did any town other than Dublin and Belfast use Late Fee stamps?



I have already illustrated a cachet applied at Castle Ward, Co Down. Two more which recently came my way are shown; that of the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum was my own effort and that from the John F Kennedy Park - Library by the efforts of FE Dixon.

The Ulster Folk and Transport Museum cachet is struck in black and as an additional bonus has been signed by Mr GB Thompson, the Museum Director. That from the John F Kennedy Park - Library is struck in violet.

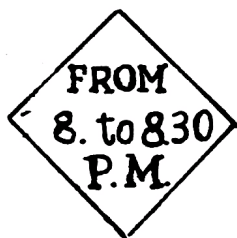


This collecting of cachets is an interesting sideline to a collection of 'Irish' and reports of any such cachets will be gratefully received. A photocopy from which I can make a drawing will be appreciated.

ULSTER FOLK & TRANSPORT MUSEUM

THE DIAMOND SORTING STAMPS OF DUBLIN WITH HOUR TIMES

by B. de Burca and A.T. Sedgley



During the years 1841 to 1852 the diamond sorting stamps of Dublin had on occasion ten different hourly marks from 3.30 to 4.30 up to 8.00 to 8.30 P.M. These have recently been described as Late Fee marks but we have no record that a Late Fee had been paid. The diamond stamps in their 37 years life had always been used as sorting or receipt stamps and consequently were always applied on the back of letters. Late Fee stamps were always applied on the front of letters. We therefore prefer

Alcock and Holland's, and also Brumell's idea that they were applied to letters posted without a late fee for dispatch the same day.

There was a similar system of hour marks used in London, Scotland and some English provincial towns, used on letters on which a Late Fee had not been paid. There was no late fee system in Ireland previous to 1841 but Too Late stamps go back to the 18th Century and the earliest Dublin type recorded was used in 1808. We have seen a Too Late on a letter from Sligo to Dublin in 1829. On none of these Too Lates have we seen an extra fee paid. On late letters in the 1850s are seen the GPO and Town Receiving Houses posted since 5 P.M., 6 P.M., and 8 P.M., applied on letters for dispatch the following day or so it would seem. Studying a number of these letters we found that they were dispatched up to 8 P.M., the same day. An example is a letter from Dublin to London "POSTED SINCE 6 P.M. LAST NIGHT" dated - 13th February 1855 and in London on - 14th February 1855. This must have been dispatched on the night mail on the thirteenth which arrived at Euston at 1 P.M., on the fourteenth.

The Diamond time stamps and those of the GPO and Town Receiving Houses have been previously studied in isolation. As one preceded the other, and both served the same purpose, they should therefore be taken in continuation. With the introduction of the duplex stamps these appeared on the front of letters though the date stamps continued to be applied on the reverse side.

Now of the Diamond time marks 19 have been recorded on cover, 10 in red and 9 in black. None have been recorded for June or from August to November inclusive. April and May seem to have been the peak period. Of 16 which we have been able to place during the week, 6 were posted on Monday, 4 on Friday and none on Thursday or Saturday. Fourteen were used on external mail and five on internal. Apart from covers, Alcock and Holland record examples only on piece and state that they have never seen one on cover. The maximum number of copies therefore does not exceed 24, a very small number for a post mark in use for eleven years.

Why so scarce? We can only give a possible explanation. The habit of the Post Office workers to bundle letters is well known and even the postmen would bundle letters to a single address and put the total charge on the top letter. In addition, a census of mail was more frequent than is the present practice of doing it during one month of the year. For instance, there was a daily average of 2205 letters leaving London for Holyhead in 1837 and the

weight 208 pounds the heaviest mail leaving London for any centre. So what is more probable than that the letters for one period were bundled and that the time stamp was applied to the bottom letter. One must remember that the letters had been previously date stamped at Dublin and to stamp each letter again would take too much time when mail had to be dispatched quickly. To confirm this there is a distinct 16 mm wide depression across the centre of one letter examined and a more irregular depression across the centre of another.

Finally, it is thought worth listing known covers.

<u>TIME P.M</u>	<u>COLOUR</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DESTINATION</u>	<u>COLLECTOR</u>
3.30 to 4.30	Black	Wed Jul 5 '43	London	B.de B
5.00 to 5.30	Red	Mon Mar 8 '47	Gloucester	A.T.S
5.00 to 5.30	Red	Mon Apr 12 '47	London	T.E.F
5.00 to 5.30	Red	Sun Mar 2 '47	Birmingham	Auction '38
5.00 to 5.30	Red	Fri Dec 11 '46	Birmingham	R.D.A
5.00 to 5.45	Red	Mon May 17 '47	London	F.E.D
5.00 to 5.45	Black	Fri Dec 4 '46	Birmingham	R.D.A
5.30 to 5.45	Red	Jul '47	Exeter	T.E.F
5.30 to 5.45	Red	Tue Dec 1 '46	Birmingham	R.D.A
6.00 to 6.15	Red	Tue Feb 17 '52	Maryborough	T.E.F
6.00 to 7.00	Red	Tue Apr 8 '45	Drumnsa	J.D.H
6.00 to 7.00	Red	Fri May 2 '45	Drogheda	T.E.F
7.00 to 7.30	Black	Mon May 8 '48	Edinburgh	T.E.F
7.00 to 7.30 with time plug inverted	Black	Sun Apr 19 '45	Drumnsa	J.D.H
7.00 to 8.00	Black	Apr 19 ' ?	?	F.E.D
7.00 to 8.00	Black	Mon Jan 31 '42	Edinburgh	T.E.F
8.00 to 8.30	Black	Mon Feb 15 '41	Greenock	T.E.F
8.00 to 8.30	Black	Fri Jul 7 '43	London	B.de B

References:-

The Postmarks of Great Britain and Ireland - RC Alcock and FC Holland
The Royal Mail to Ireland - E Watson - Arnold, London 1917