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Edited by

O.M. RICHARDS

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EDITORIAL

How pleasant it was to have Stewart Telfer staying with us for a few days in October, the sole topic of conversation seemed to be Irish Philately. He was followed by Noel Langton and his wife Vera, more philately but this time with a leavening of model railways. Earlier in the year we had the pleasure of the company of Andrew Reynolds and his wife Sonia, we were delighted to see them all.

What a great meeting we had in York. Victor Hale is to be congratulated on being so persistent in arranging this meeting after the disappointment of last year, more details in the 'NEWS'.

Dorothy and me wish all the members a Happy and Peaceful Christmas and hope that 1981 is good to you.

OM Richards

"Irish Philately"

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POSTMARK MISCELLANY

by O.M. Richards

ROSSLARE/PEMBROKE - NEW CAR FERRY SERVICE

On 22 May 1980 the B & I Line inaugurated a new car ferry service from Rosslare to Pembroke in South Wales. The vessel used for this inaugural crossing was the Viking III chartered from Townsend Thoresen Line pending the building of a new vessel for this route. The journey time is four hours and there is one crossing per day in each direction. With this new service the B & I Line now has seven passenger sailings in each direction from Ireland to the UK, these are the twice daily Dublin-Liverpool, the daily Cork-Pembroke, the twice daily Dublin-Liverpool Jetfoil service and the latest Rosslare-Pembroke service.

The inaugural crossing was from Pembroke and a card was produced for the occasion, the British stamps were cancelled by a special handstamp at Rosslare, the Irish stamps on the return journey were cancelled by the "PAQUEBOT PEMBROKE DOCK" on 24 May 1980, in purple. The cards received an impression of the ship's "POSTED ON BOARD VIKING III" cachet, illustrated below. Ian Whyte of 3 Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin 2 is the Philatelic Agent for the B & I Line, no doubt he will be able to supply pairs of cards if you missed obtaining them in May.



Black



Pembroke Dock



Rosslare



Purple

Two Viking III cachets exist, that on the mail handled at Pembroke Dock is smaller.!

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

One of the more attractive First Day of Issue handstamps is that used in Belfast, much better than the plain circle with BELFAST FIRST DAY OF ISSUE.



ASCAILL GHLASNAIOM

Thanks to our member Edward FitzGerald I am able to show an illustration of a skeleton stamped used in his local office which changed its name recently.



It was formerly ASCAL BHAILE MUNNA, Ballymun Avenue, it is now ASCALL GHLASNAIOM, Glasnevin Avenue. No doubt the permanent stamp will appear in due course. I shall illustrate it then.

ULSTER WEEK SLOGANS

From March 1964 a series of ULSTER WEEK EXHIBITIONS were held in England, Scotland and Northern Ireland and slogan dies were used in advance of the Exhibitions as a means of publicising the events. The first of these was held in Nottingham 26-31 October 1964 and 4 slogan dies were used in the City machines from 10 to 31 October 1964. The full list of use is as follows:-

<u>Town</u>	<u>Dies</u>	<u>Period of Use</u>	<u>Remarks</u>	<u>Date on Slogan</u>
NOTTINGHAM	4	10-31 Oct 1964	I have A & B dies	26-31 Oct 1964
BRISTOL	4	15-27 Mar 1965	I have B C D dies	22-27 Mar 1965
EDINBURGH	4	20 Sep to 2 Oct 1965		27 Sep to 2 Oct 1965
SHEFFIELD	3	14-26 Mar 1966	I have A & C dies	21-26 Mar 1966
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE	2	14-24 Sep 1966	I have A & B dies	19-24 Sep 1966
LEEDS	3	17-30 Apr 1967	I have A die only	24-29 Apr 1967
BELFAST	2	13-27 May 1967	I have A & B dies	20-27 May 1967
SOUTHAMPTON	8	16-28 Oct 1967		23-28 Oct 1967
SOUTHAMPTON	3 (transposed)	16-28 Oct 1967		23-28 Oct 1967
MANCHESTER	7	26 Feb to 9 Mar 1968	I have C die and Salford	4-9 Mar 1968
(including Salford & Withenshawe)				
BELFAST	3	11-25 May 1968		18-25 May 1968
LEICESTER	7	30 Sep to 12 Oct 1968	I have A and Ashby de la Zouch	7-12 Oct 1968

The dies used in England and the one in Scotland are of the same design, the only differences being the name of the city and the dates. One of the dies used in Belfast is similar, the 'Star' has been replaced by a hexagon with the 'Red Hand of Ulster'. The other die has the hexagon too but the layout of the wording etc is completely different. These slogans are very much a part of a collection of stamps and postmarks with an 'Irish' theme.



ULSTER WEEK
in
Bristol
March 22-27

ULSTER WEEK
in Belfast
MAY 20 - MAY 27



I came across this postmark from BALLINASLOE recently, it is on a postcard of 'The River Suck and Bridge'.

It is similar in layout to a skeleton postmark that I have of LLANGOLLEN and I wonder if the BALLINASLOE postmark is also a skeleton stamp.

The letters of the name are 1x5 mm from the rim of the stamp as against the .75 mm in a normal stamp. Comments?



The field for those who collect items with an 'Irish Theme' is very wide. Going through one of my boxes the other day I came across two meter stamps which fall into this category. Both are in red.



A prepaid letter of 1835 from PORTARLINGTON to DUBLIN has a very nice Portarlington undated double arc circle with POST PAID and an indistinct square DUBLIN PAID stamp. All are struck in red.

The letter is charged at 5d, this is in manuscript in red. Red was normally used on prepaid letters.



POST PAID

It can be quite fascinating to track down interesting and unusual postmarks and it may be that there are other members who collect such material. If you think that you have anything which might be of interest and would like to see it reproduced in Postmark Miscellany, please forward to me a drawing of the item together with a few words telling the story behind it. Should you prefer to forward the actual item I would be only too happy to make the drawing for you and return the material to you

SKELETON HANDSTAMPS

(continued)

by J.T. Howley

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>SIZE</u>	<u>INSCRIPTION</u>	<u>DATES</u>	<u>TYPE</u>
DON 2	34	ATH NA GROIGHE	19 JY 40	16b-2
DON 6	37	ARDA RATH	5 JA 34	16
DON 11	35	BAILE ATHA FEICH	9 JY 35	16
DON 23	39	Ballygorman/Letterkenny	4 DE 22 (circle 2mm)	10e
DON 25	35	BEAL ATHA SEANAIGH	17 OC 35	16
DON 40	32-34	Carrick/Strabane (Bi-Territorial)	22 JA 23	10q
DON 43	36	CEALLA BEAGA	17 AP 26	16
DON 50	34	CILL CHARTHAIGH	1 11 40 (Feb)	16
DON 54	34	Dungloe/Strabane (Bi-Territorial)	18 De - 27 DE 22	11-2a
DON 79	36	Dunkineely	FE 6 23	11
DON 81	30	DUN FHEANNACHAIDH	12 MY 72 <u>NOTE</u>	23b-4
DON 83	36	Donegal	10 JA 23	11-1
	36	do	21 SP - 27 SP 26	11-3
	34	DUN NA NGALL	29 JU 28	16
DON 87	36	FRASA/CO DHUN NA NGALL	MY 8 30	14y-1
DON 91	36-38	Glencolumbkille	20 JA 23	11b-2
DON 97	34	GORT AN CHOIRCE	11 NO 27	16-2
DON 107	34	LEITIR CEANAINN	1 SP 26	16
	35	do	8 MY 20 MY 16-6-30	16
	37	do	23 JU - 4 JY 33	16-4
DON 124	34	NA DUINE	1 NO 28	16-2
DON 151	30	TOACHR LEITIR CEANAINN	JU ? 53 (Spelling!)	23d-1
DUB 25	37	BAILE BREAC	13 DE 34	16
DUB 26	31	Balbriggan	20 MY 22	11
DUB 69	34	Brittas/Dublin	30 JA 23	10e
DUB 77	31-34	Blackrock/Dublin	19 JA - 21 JA 29	11-2
	30	CARRAIG DHUBH/A CLIATH	16 AP 63	23a-1
DUB 85	30	CILL FIONNTAN	6 OC 50 (?)	23b
DUB 102	30-32	Dalkey/Co Dublin	24 JA 27	11b-3
DUB 112	36	Dundrum/Co Dublin	30 JA 23	11-4
DUB 115	34	FAITHCHE AN CHOLAISTE	20 MY 28 (?)	16-2
DUB 153	29-31	Rathfarnham	9 OC 23	11b
DUB 184	36	Capel St/Dublin	5 AU 22	11-4
DUB 210	37	Somerset St/Dublin	8 SE 26	11-4
DUB 225	30	TIGH MOLOG	30 OC 56	23b
GAL 18	36	Loughrea/Co Galway	21 AP 23	11-4
GAL 31	29-31	BEAL ATHA MOGHA	11 MR 29	16p
GAL 32	29-31	Ballinasloe	2 FE 27	11a
GAL 44	29-31	Carna/Co Galway	2 MR 27 (?)	11b-4
	30	CARNA GAILLIMH	9 FE 70	23d-1
GAL 77	30	CNOC BREAC/CO NA GAILLIMHE	20 JA 73	23b-3
GAL 83	29-31	CREACHMHAOIL	25 JU 28	16p
GAL 87	30	CROSBHOTHAR MHAMA	4 AU 39 (?)	23b
GAL 100	30	GLEANN NA MADADH	? AU 62	23b
GAL 109	30-32	Inishbofin	13 DE 27	11f
GAL 119	35	LEITIR MOR/GAILLIMH	16 JY 26	14g
GAL 124	37	Moylough/Ballinasloe	20 JA 28 (circle 2mm)	10e

GAL	128	35	Woodlawn/Co Galway	? ? 28	11-4
GAL	143	30-32	Tynagh/Co Galway	22 FE 23	9c
GAL	146	33	TUAIM	23 NO - 19 DE 27	16k
KER	1	36	ABHAINN AN SGAIL	13 JY 33	16a
KER	8	30-32	Ballybunion	19 FE 23	11a-1
KER	17	37	BAILE NA SGEALG	10 11 30 (Feb)	16-2
KER	27	35½	Cahirciveen	14 AP 24	16
		34	CATHAIR SAIDHBHIN	6 FE - 1 AP 29	16-2
KER	35	34-36	CILL GHARBHAIN/CILL AIRNE	? JU ?	16p-2
KER	61	34	GLEANN CARRTAIGE	28 JU 28 (aspirates)	15y
KER	73	30	LÍOS NA GCEÁNN/CILL AIRNE	25 10 71	23b-6
KER	75	33	Listowel	23 JA 23	11
		36	Listowel/Co Kerry	16 NO 27	11g
		30	LÍOS TUATHAIL	23 AP 40	23
KER	80	29-31	Muckross	9 DE 26	11a
KER	82	31-33	NEIDIN/CILL AIRNE	23 JA 29 ("INEDIN")	16j
				21 FE 29	16j
KER	84	29-31	PORT MHIG AOIDH	21 FE 28	16p-1
KER	85	30	RATH MHOR/CO CHIARRAIGHE	5 OC 38	23b-3
KILD	4	36	BAILE ATHA H-I	26 FE 37	16
KILD	10	35	Robertstown/Naas	22 JA 23	15r
KILD	21	30-32	Celbridge	25 AP 23	11a
KILD	34	34	Donadea/Kilcock (Kilcock)	17 NO - 20 NO 22	10e
KILD	41	37	Mageney	MR 7 27 (circle 2mm)	11
KILD	43	34	Monasterevan	4 MR 23	11-1
KILD	45	34	Naas	15 JY 25	11
		31-33	NAS NA RÍOGH	1 DE 28 - 19 JA 29	16p-3
		30	do	27 JY 40	23
KILK	1	34	Freshford/Co Kilkenny	10 JU 29	11-4
KILK	12	35	Thomastown/Co Kilkenny	10 JU - 24 AU 26	11-4
		30	BAILE MHIC ANNDAIN	16 DE 67	23b
KILK	19	35	CAISLEAN AN CHUMAIR	9 JA 32	16
KILK	34	31	CUIRT AN PHUCA	16 AU - 17 DE 28	16-2
LEIT	7	37	BARR NA CUILE	29 JA 35	16-2
LEIT	12	29-31	CARA DROMA RUISG	9 JY 25 27 JY - 26 AU 26	16j
LEIT	23	36	CLUAININ UI RUAIRC	27 SE - 1 OC 34	16a-1
LEIT	24	29-32	Kiltyclogher	18 DE 22 - 26 JA 23	11f
LEIT	39	34	Drumsna	10 DE 27 - 13 JA 28	11-1
LEIT	48	34	Glenfarne/Co Leitrim	30 DE 22	9h
LEIX	4	29-31	Castletown/Leix	27 MR 29	9c
LEIX	14	37	BAILE UI LAIDHGNEIN	26 MR 29	16-2
LEIX	26	37	Port Arlington	? FE 23	11
		34	CUIL AN tSUDAIRE	15 MR 27	16
LEIX	37	36	PORT LAOIGHISE	7 MY 30	16a-1
LIM	6	30	ATH DARA	7 SE 72 - 17 FE 73	23b
LIM	25	34	BEAL ATHA DHA THUILE	26 MR 28	16-2
LIM	32	36	Bruree/Co Limerick	? JA 24	9h
LIM	34	34	Newcastle West	11 SP 23	11-1
LIM	42	37	CEAPACH MHOR	22 AP 32	16-2
LIM	50	30	CILL MOCHEALLOG	21 JY - 27 JY 38	23
LIM	99	34	SEANA GHUALAINN	25 NO 27	16-2
LONG	5	37	Ballymahon/Mullingar	12 AP 24	10e
LONG	6	34	Ballinamuck	24 OC 22	11-2
LONG	8	35	BEAL ATHA NA LAUGH	5 JY - 3 SP 34	16-2
LONG	23	35-37	Granard/Longford	22 MR 23	10q-1

LONG	26	30-32	Longford	29 AU	23	11a
		30-32	LONGPHORT	17 SP	26	16j
		31	LONGPHORT	22 JU	28	16-1
LOUTH	29	30	DROICHEAD ATHA	4 JY	44	23b
LOUTH	35	30	DUN DEALGAN	? NO	60	23a
LOUTH	43	36	O MEITH/CO LUGHBHAID	17 AU	30?	14y
		37	O MEITH/CO LUGHBHAIDH	22 MR	34	14y
		35½	O MEITH/CO LUGHBHAID	18 OC	39 (D reversed)	14y
MAYO	17	29-31	BAILE CHATHAIL	15 OC	28	16p
MAYO	24	36	BALL ALUINN/CO MHUIGHEO	8 AP	29	14y
		30	BALL ALUINN	28 AP	72	23b
MAYO	29	37	BEAL ATHA BHARAIDH	DE 9	30	16-2
MAYO	30	30	BEAL ATHA AMHNAIS	12 AU	- 16 DE 77	23b
MAYO	32	34	BEAL ATHA NA MUICE	1 MY	- 2 MY 34	16
MAYO	33	36	Belcarra/Castlebar	20 NO	22	10e-3
MAYO	43	34	BUN AN CHOIRE	7 SP	28	16-2
MAYO	45	34	Castlebar	15 JA	- 1 FE 23	11
		35-37	CAISLEAN AN BHARRAIGH	15 MR	27	16p-3
		30	CAISLEAN AN BHARRAIGH	11 SP	75 - 12 JA 76	23b
MAYO	48	36	CAOL/CO MHUIGHEO	14 JA	38	16a-2
MAYO	52	29-31	CATHAIR NA MART	25 JA	27	16j
MAYO	70	36	CLAR CHLOINNE/MHUIRIS	29 MY	26	16aa
MAYO	88	35	Kiltimagh/Claremorris	12 JA	27	10e-1
MAYO	91	36	Crossmolina/Co Mayo	29 OC	27	9d-2
MEATH	2	30	AN OBAIR/CO NA MIDHE	14 NO	70	23b-3
MEATH	14	32-34	Trim/Co Meath	15 MY	26	9c-1
MEATH	21	30	BAILE MHIC GORMAIN	18 JU	74 (M inverted)	23c
MEATH	32	36	Kells	16 AP	22	11
		29-31	CEANANNUS MOR	8 SP	27	16j
MEATH	56	30	DUN BOINNE/CO NA MIDHE	5 JY	39	23b-3
MEATH	58	35	Dunsany/Co Meath	27 NO	22	9d-2
MEATH	74	36	Slane/Drogheda	3 DE	22 (Time below date)	10e-3
		30	SLAINE	13 OC	- 19 DE 77	23b
MON	9	36	Ballybay/Co Monaghan	8 JU	26	11-4
MON	12	34	BUIDHEACHAIR	24 JU	33	16-2
MON	15	37	Carrickmacross	10 AU	25	11
		30	CARRAIG MHACHAIRE ROIS	? ?	43	23b
				26 OC	- 29 OC 68	23b
MON	17	34	Clones	15 DE	22	11
MON	50	37	Monaghan	20 JA	- 25 JA 30	11g-1
OFF	11	34	CEANN EITIGH/BIORRA	29 AP	29	15r
		30	CEANN EITIGH BIORRA	4 AP	72	23d
OFF	17	36	Cloghan/King's Co	9 JA	23	9d-2
OFF	21	32	Cloneygowan	6 NO	22	11-1
OFF	26	36	DAINGEAN/UA BHFAILGHE	1 FE	28	14y
OFF	33	36	Geashill/King's Co	17 AU	22	9d-2
OFF	42	36	RATH CHOBAIN/BIORRA	24 ?	28	16-6a
OFF	49	36	Tullamore	8 NO	24	11
ROS	4	32	Athleague	11 AP	27	11-1
ROS	14	32-34	BEALACH AN DOIRIN	29 AP	- 29 MY 31	16j
			(misplaced or inverted letters)			
ROS	23	34	Castlerea	8 MR	22	11 var
		36	CAISLEAN RIABHACH	13 AP	35	16a-1
ROS	32	33	Cootehall/Boyle	10 DE	28	10e
ROS	47	37	Frenchpark/Castlerea	16 FE	- 9 AP 23	10e
ROS	56	35	LOCH GLINNE/CO ROS COMAIN	12 AU	25?	14y
ROS	64	29-31	Roscommon	14 JY	25	11b

(Time appears where date should be; date in time space).

SLIGO 6	29-31	Ballymote	10 OC - 9 DE 22	11b
SLIGO 18	36	BUN AN FHEADAIN	5 SP 28	16b
SLIGO 27	29-31	CLIATH MHUINE	12 MR 29	16p
SLIGO 41	29-31	Collooney	3 JA 23 & JA 23 23	11a
	37	CUIL MHAOILE	15 AU 32 - 11 DE 33	16b-1
SLIGO 53	36	GRAINSEACH/SLIGEACH	15 DE 30 - 20 JA 31	15r
SLIGO 66	31	SLIGEACH	13 JA 23	16-1
	29-31	SLIGEACH	2 MY 27	16j-1
TIP 7	37	Ballinderry/Borrisokane	18 NO 29	10e
TIP 9	37	Ballingarry/Co Tipperary	15 MY 28	9b
TIP 22	32	Newtown/Nenagh	9 JU 28	10e
TIP 38	30	CAISEAL MUMHAN	30 AU - 21 SP 72	23b
TIP 46	30-33	Cappawhite	? ? 22	11f
	34	CEAPACH NA BHFAOITEACH	25 JY 35	16-2
TIP 48	29-32	CILL AN FHAIL	21 NO 27	16p
TIP 50	36	CILL CHOMAIN/DURLAS EILE	1 JY 30	16a-3
TIP 61	30-32	CLUAIN MEALA	5 DE 26	16j-1
TIP 80	34	DUN DRONGAIN	21 MR 30	16-2
TIP 82	29-31	DURLAS EILE	11 NO 26	16j-1
TIP 111	34	Portroe/Nenagh	25 NO 27	10e
TIP 115	29-31	Roscrea	25 OC 26	11b
TIP 131	30	TIOBRAID ARANN	22 FE 72	23b
TIP 136	36-38	Newport/Co Limerick	31 JA 23	11b-4
	36	TULACH SHEASTA	16 MY 29	16-2
WAT 18	37	Cappoquin/Co Waterford	15 JA 27	9d
WAT 20	30	CILL MHIC THOMASIN	23 JY 66	23a
WAT 28	37	Dungarvan	15 MY 24	11g-1
WAT 29	34	DUN MOR/PORT LAIRGE	24 JA 29	15r
WAT 47	36	Stradbally/Kilmacthomas	? ? 22	10e
	34	SRAIDBHAILE DEISEACH	7 OC 35	16-2
WAT 52	34	TRAIGH MOR/PORT LAIRGE	22 MR 27	15r
	36-38	TRAIGH MOR/PORT LAIRGE	12 MR 46	15bb
WAT 53	37	TULACH AN IARRAIN	9 JA 28	16
WEST 3	29-31	ATH LUAIN	14 JU 26	16u
	30	ATH LUAIN	17 JU 67	23a
WEST 10	36	Castletown Geoghegan	9 JU 22	11-1
WEST 14	36	Ballynacargy	3 NO - 16 NO 22	11-1
	34	BAILE NA CAIRRGHE	? ? 34	16-2
WEST 16	34	BAILE NA HABHANN	11 JY 28	16-2
WEST 19	34	Collinstown/Mullingar	11 JA 28	10e
WEST 29	30	CAISLEAN NA SRAIDE	27 JY 40	23b
WEST 30	29-31	CEANN NA NGAD	4 JU 28	16p
WEST 49	36	Moyvore/Mullingar	18 OC 22	10e-1
WEST 52	36	MUILEANN CEARR	25 JY 25	16
WEST 57	30-32	Rathconrath	16 JY 22	11b-1
WEX 29	32 $\frac{1}{2}$	Oylgate	? JA 23	11-1
WEX 48	36	CLUAIN AOIBHINN/GUAIRE	6 JY 28	16-6
WEX 53	29-31	Arthurstown	AP 18 23	11b-1
WEX 58	36	Curraclloe	5 DE 22	11-1
WEX 59	34	Castlebridge/Wexford	20 AP 22	10e
WEX 63	34	Duncannon/Wexford	11 AP 23	10e
WEX 66	37	FEARNA/CO LOCH GARMAN	17 SP 28	14y
WEX 73	36	Gorey	15 AP 22	11
	29-32	GUAIRE	14 MY 28	16j-1
WEX 74	30	INIS COIRTHE	12 FE - 21 MR 72	23b
WEX 75	35	Inch/Co Wexford	22 AU 28	11-4

WEX	78	29-31	LOCH GARMAN	4 DE 27	16j-1
WEX	86	37	Kilmore Quay/Wexford	6 MR 23	11-1
WEX	90	29-31	Rosslare/Wexford	21 MR 23	11b-5
WEX	91	36	ROS MHIC TREOIN	22 OC 25	16
WEX	102	29-31	Taghmon	10 FE - 13 MR 23	11b-1
WICK	15	34	Baltinglass	17 SP 25	11
WICK	19	36	CARN NUA/SIOL EILIGH	28 12 26	16a-3
		34	CARN NUA/SIOL EILIGH	8 AP 29	15r
WICK	27	34	CILL TAGAIN	5 JU 26	16-2
WICK	29	34	CLOCH LIATH	22 AU - 3 OC 39	16
WICK	41	35	Dunlavin/Co Wicklow	22 NO 27	11-4
WICK	45	30	Glenealy	9 MR - 9 AP 74	23b
WICK	54	30-33	RATH DROMA	11 MY 26	16j
WICK	57	30-32	SIOL EILIGH	26 NO 27	16p
WICK	63	32-34	Tinahely	17 FE - 7 MR 23	11b-1

NOTE: Tiny "H" above and to the right of "F". Also year is above date.

METHOD OF LISTING

1. The 'Office' is listed according to the 'Master List' of all P.O. which I have established, county by county.
2. Size is in millimetres; for double circle handstamps the sizes of the inner and outer circles (diameters) are shown.
3. The Inscription is as it appears on the handstamps. All English inscriptions are in lower case; all Gaelic inscriptions are upper case. Where a slash (/) occurs, the words above the slash are at the top and those below the slash are at the bottom of the handstamp.
4. Dates are shown exactly as they appear on the handstamps.
5. The 'Type' is another invention of my own to illustrate the major arrangements and minor differences in them. If anyone is interested I can provide photocopies at cost.
6. Certain misspellings and misplaced letters are noted in the text. Quite a few such varieties do occur.

* * * * *

6d SAORSTAT WITH CONTROL V23 PERFORATED

by P.H. Williams

This note is an addendum to the article by Dr CI Dulin entitled "Saorstat Overprint Settings in Relation to Base GB Plates" in the Journal for September 1979 at p 35.

The 6d with Control V23 perforated is not included in the tables to that article, the contributors having confined their information to what was verified from material available to them. This control is stated in the SG Specialised Catalogue as not known in the unoverprinted state.

Recently I have examined a single 6d V23 perf control. It is overprint setting 3 and from the characteristics of the control can be ascribed to GB Plate 7.

Mr David McDonnell kindly drew my attention to Lot 783 in the TE Field auction of 11 May 1966. This is a block of six and was described as "believed to be the only example known". The current SG Catalogue lists the control with a footnote to the same effect. The Feldman Handbook lists the control but does not give the overprint plate or plates associated with it.

Dr Dulin has expressed the opinion to me, and I concur, that the Field block of six was also setting 3 but on GB Plate 6. We have deduced this from the photograph in the auction catalogue.

It is undoubtedly a very rare control - possibly the rarest in the Irish overprints. Now we know of two (assuming the Field example is extant). If any reader knows of an example would he assist us all by recording its pedigree in these pages?

* * * * *

2/6d SAORSTAT NARROW DATE WITH DOUBLE OVERPRINT - ONE ALBINO

by P.H. Williams

In the Ian Whyte auction in Dublin on 6 October 1979 Lot 615 was described as a mint copy of the SG 83 (the 2/6d Saorstat narrow date setting) with double overprint, one albino. The albino overprint was said to be 3mm lower and 6mm to the left of the normal overprint. It was stated to be a new discovery and was offered with a Feldman certificate.

So far as is known, this is the first such variety on any of the Irish high values to be recorded. A small number of the examples of a double overprint, one albino are known on the 1d Dollard with inverted overprint.

I was reliably informed that this 2/6d stamp was discovered by an English dealer in an auction lot at North West Philatelic Auction in Liverpool some time in 1979. It was not described as any variant on a normal copy. The dealer purchased the lot and the stamp in question passed to Ian Whyte who auctioned it. The price realised was £375.

It is surprising that such a discovery should be made more than 50 years after the stamp was issued. Such overprint errors are known on certain issues of the Bradbury Wilkinson high values overprinted for Bechuanaland, Morocco Agencies and Nauru. In some cases the whole sheet of 40 stamps received an albino impression; in others half of a sheet; again in others fewer than five rows. We can only speculate on how many Irish examples may have existed.

A word of caution may not be amiss. The Royal Philatelic Society does not issue certificates for an albino overprint and it behoves prospective purchasers of previously unrecorded errors to exercise caution. Let us hope that this fascinating discovery does not tempt the unscrupulous to manufacture attractive but costly varieties. Would not things now be very different if "unmounted mint" could have been made to order as expertly in 1970 as it can be in 1980? In the meantime, we should re-examine our Seahorses. Who knows what we might find!!

CACHETS

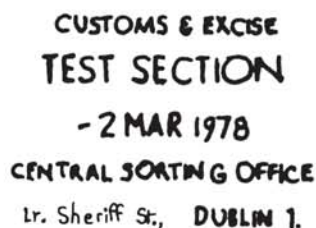
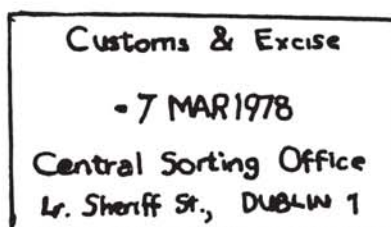
by O.M. Richards

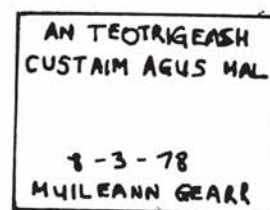
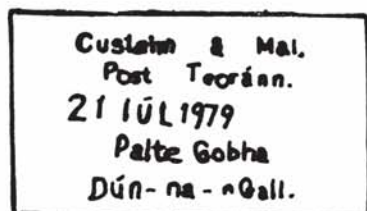
During my lifetime of collecting I have put aside both covers and postcards bearing a rubber stamp with perhaps the name of a firm or a hotel, sometimes it was "POSTED AT ----". Whilst I did not go out of my way to look for them I started mounting the ones that came my way and was especially interested in those from 'SUMMIT OF SNOWDON', 'LLANFAIRPWLLGWYNGYLL etc', 'SUMMIT OF SNAEFELL', those with a tourist attraction. The collection is now into the hundreds of cachets and I wonder where it will all end.

From time to time in Postmark Miscellany I have illustrated the odd Irish cachet, 'CASTLEWARD' in Co Down springs to mind, 'ULSTER FOLK MUSEUM' is another but there did not seem to be many of Irish origin. However, I looked up the word 'CACHET' in my dictionary and amongst the many definitions was "philately", a firm's name, slogan or design, stamped or printed on an envelope or folded letter. The field was now fairly wide open and I realised the things like Government Department rubber stamps and those stamps used by business organisations were all 'legitimate', as it were, CACHETS.

Many of the stamps used are oval, most difficult to draw and so I am being a coward when I leave them out. To those, like myself, who do not speak or read Irish I can recommend 'EOLAIRE AN STAIT' (State Directory) issued by the Department of Public Service and available at the Government Publications Sale Office, GPO, Arcade, Dublin. My own copy is dated 1978 and the cost at that time was £1.30, no doubt it will have gone up a little in price.

Whilst I cannot cover all the Irish material I have, I will try to show some of the ones which are relatively easy to obtain, especially in the Government Department rubber stamps series.





One of the most prolific producers of cachets is the Customs and Excise, in Irish, CUSTAIM AGUS MAL. I have shown a few examples of the different stamps that can be found. The Central Sorting Office of that organisation in Lower Sheriff Street must have many more stamps that I have not seen.



The counterpart of my own Corps (The Royal Observer Corps) in Ireland is An Cor Breathnadoiri (Observer Corps). Their main function is the Warning and Monitoring of Radio Active Fallout, with a secondary role of tracking aircraft, coast watching and general air and ground intelligence. As you will see from the illustration, their cachet is most attractive, it is also incorporated in the Corps collar badge. It shows a crane holding a stone in its upraised claw which, since medieval times, has been a symbol of unceasing vigilance. The ancients believed that the crane held a small stone in this manner so that, if by chance it should fall asleep, the noise of the stone falling would arouse it and return it to its vigilance.

Thanks to Miss Norah Wright I am able to illustrate one or two cachets from light vessels and lighthouses. These are on cover and look well with a postcard of the light vessel or lighthouse. I have a card of FASTNET and the DAUNTS light vessel.

SKELLIGS

FASTNET

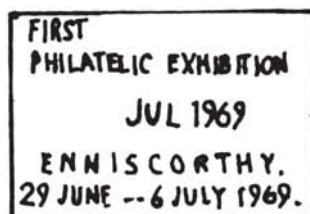
DAUNTS

CODLING L/V

EAGLE ISLAND.

The Lighthouse Literature Mission of Bedford Street, Belfast, issued a number of postcards of light vessels and lighthouses, they are a difficult series to collect as they are not numbered. I had only a few showing various American light vessels. Whilst on holiday on the Isle of Man in the summer, we visited an exhibition of postcards, pictures etc of the various vessels associated with the island. There were a couple of dealers at the exhibition one of whom had several cards from the Lighthouse Literature Mission. One of these, a card of Whalsey Skerries lighthouse in Shetland had on the reverse a nice oval cachet struck in magenta, illustrated. The card is addressed to HJ Evans Esq, Glan-y-mor, Wallasey, Cheshire, and the

message is:- "Thanks for very nice card to hand, I shall send you any new photo ones we publish. S.H. Stair". The fact that it has the cachet on it seems to indicate that it was sent from Mr Stair at the mission.



The First Exhibition of the South-Eastern Philatelic Society was held in Enniscorthy on 1 July 1969 for which a cachet was produced, as illustrated. This was applied in black and the adhesive stamp was cancelled with a single ring INIS COIRTHE 3 handstamp.



I am not sure what a Live Chess Tournament is but one was held in Castlebar on 25 August 1969. A cachet was applied on covers, as shown, and the adhesive stamp was cancelled by the CAISLEAN AN BHARRAIGH No 1 handstamp.

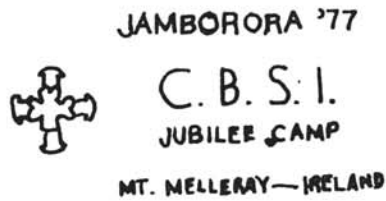
The CBSI (Catholic Boy Scouts of Ireland) held a 'JAMBORORA' (Jamboree) International Scout Camp in the grounds of Mount Melleray Abbey, Cappoquin, Co Waterford, from Tuesday 26 July to Saturday 6 August 1977. I have an account of the Jamboree written by Michael McNamara which I hope to produce in full at a later date. Sufficient for the present is to show some of the cachets connected with this event. It must have produced more cachets than any other event in Ireland!!

The logo of the Jamboree was a bee with a hive, the bee being connected to the hive as it were by the words 'CBSI JAMBORORA 1977'. This logo was incorporated in the special handstamp used at Cappoquin and was struck in purple. There were at least three sizes of this logo struck both in purple and green, one of these had a cross incorporated.

Arrangements had been made to have a balloon ascent, the balloon was to fly into the camp and then out again but this was cancelled due to high winds. In view of this a makeshift cachet was applied to mail indicating that the balloon was grounded and the flight cancelled. This was in purple.

There were many other cachets applied by scout troops from overseas as well as sub camp cachets, perhaps Michael will allow me to illustrate some of them in the future. I have the circular 'SCOUT STAMPS COLLECTORS CLUB' in green and in red.

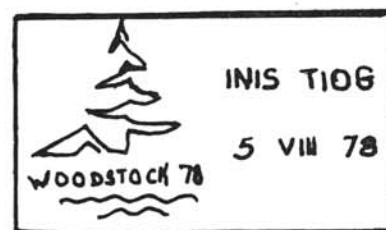
One cachet from a different source is the 63rd Dundrum Troop used in black. The BALLOON POST cachet struck in purple is a 'home-made' effort, very commendable and quick thinking on someone's part.



CANCELLED
BALLOON 30.7.77
GROUNDED

63rd Dundrum Troop
Camp Mail Collection
(black)

Another cachet with scouting connections was that used at the WOODSTOCK CAMP, INIS TIOG, in 1978. The cachet is based on the special cancellation, both of which I illustrate. The cachet is struck in blue.



Two nice cachets are those used by the Consulates of Ireland in NAIROBI (purple) and RIO DE JANEIRO (green).



An early cachet that I found in one of my desk drawers just recently is that of the RI Constabulary Office Dublin Castle. It is struck in purple on an official envelope on which is printed On Her Majesty's Service and Royal Irish Constabulary Office, Dublin Castle. It is addressed to CARLOW.

In red is the DUBLIN OFFICIAL PAID No 5 dated 7 November 1898 and on the reverse is the double ring, double arc of CARLOW dated 7 November 1898. The stamps are as illustrated.



I finish with one or two ships' cachets, all three have Irish connections. 'IRISH POPLAR' and 'IRISH STARDUST' are vessels of the Irish Shipping Company.

The 'GRANUAILE' is one of the Guinness vessels.



MV. IRISH STARDUST
DUBLIN
OFF No. 400855
G.T. 19191.88
N.T. 11145.72
B.H.P. 13040

GRANUAILE
LIVERPOOL
OFF NO. 339929
GROSS TONS 2008.42
NET TONS 595.35
B.H.P. 3200.

I hope that I have whetted your appetite for cachets and perhaps introduced a new aspect of collecting to you. There are many more cachets that I could show but I feel that this is enough to be going on with.

I must thank FE Dixon, Miss NK Wright and M McNamara who have been so very kind in supplying much of what I have illustrated in this article.

MECHANISED LETTER OFFICES

by M. McNanara

In Irish Philately, March 1979, members were informed that the British Post Office began to apply phosphor coding dots to Ireland-bound mail during 1978. Being colourless the dots could easily be missed but nowadays such coded mail can have BLUE dots. Since July 1980 MLOs in the UK have used blue phosphor tape and covers so coded are easy to recognise.

Up to now it has been difficult to display a collection of coded covers, just as it has been difficult to show the phosphor bands on postage stamps. However, with blue dots on cover there is no excuse for leaving these covers out of your local postal history collection. As for decoding the dots it is possible to read them in that they represent binary numbers. To find out the binary equivalent is easy but it is essential to use a gauge showing all dot positions. To begin, the dots are $\frac{1}{4}$ " apart and the pattern is as follows:-

. ■
PARITY DOT 32 16 8 4 2 1 32 16 8 4 2 1 START DOT - Reads 63 63.

If no dots except start dot and parity dot appear in any group the total is 64. In writing the binary equivalent the right hand group is read first. Examples are shown. Whilst codes are not permanently assigned to addresses that are not changed unless it is necessary for operational purposes.

The next difficulty is proving that the pattern on any cover is that which is assigned to the post town. Unfortunately, the only way to do this is to have several of the same pattern, decode and then write to a MLO asking the Postmaster to confirm your findings.

For those members living in Dublin, and who want to extend their collection of Dublin postal history, acquiring a complete collection of the codes for Dublin could be a problem. For, although it seems to be unnecessary, different codes have been assigned to each district. Even more surprising, codes have been allocated to Districts which have not, as yet, been set up. These are:-

	PD	32	16	8	4	2	1	32	16	8	4	2	1	SD
DUBLIN 15 (1321)	•		•		•		•			•	•		•	■
DUBLIN 17 (2614)	•			•	•	•			•	•		•		■
DUBLIN 19 (2720)	•		•		•				•	•		•	•	■

The Codes for Dublin are as follows:-

DISTRICT		PD	32	16	8	4	2	1	32	16	8	4	2	1	SD
DUBLIN 1	4017	•		•			•	•	•		•				■
DUBLIN 2	4022			•		•	•		•		•				■
DUBLIN 3	4023	•		•		•	•	•	•		•				■
DUBLIN 4	4024	•		•	•				•		•				■
DUBLIN 5	4025			•	•			•	•		•				■
DUBLIN 6	4026			•	•		•		•		•				■
DUBLIN 7	4028			•	•	•			•		•				■
DUBLIN 8	4031			•	•	•	•	•	•		•				■
DUBLIN 9	4033	•	•					•	•		•				■
DUBLIN 10	4034	•	•				•		•		•				■
DUBLIN 11	4035		•				•	•	•		•				■
DUBLIN 12	4048	•	•	•					•		•				■
DUBLIN 13	4205					•		•	•		•		•		■
DUBLIN 14	4207	•				•	•	•	•		•		•		■
DUBLIN 16	3955		•	•		•	•	•	•			•	•	•	■
DUBLIN 18	2661	•	•	•	•	•		•		•	•		•		■
DUBLIN 20	2757	•	•	•	•			•		•	•		•	•	■
DUBLIN	4015	•			•	•	•	•	•		•				■

The coding for other Irish addresses is based on extracts of post towns. The extract is made up of the first three and the last two letters of the post town.

The following codes have been quoted:-

BALbriggAN	5/7	WICKLOW	14/20	NEWmarkET	17/31
GLEncairN	49/56	BALlyjamesduFF	16/28	BALIiNA	2/36
COLoonEY	38/33	KILmacthomAS	56/47	LETterkenNY	56/52
GALWAY	49/53	BALLinroBE	5/55 5/8	ABBeyfeaLE	1/18
ASHbourNE	1/59	BALlyraggET	7/57	KILruSH	56/48
MUIne bheAG	58/24	CURragh caMP	39/27	YOUghAL	14/22

No doubt there are many more.

Going North, and in the context of Belfast postal history, 24 coding desks were installed there during 1979. Following a number of postponements, engineers began testing the desks with random lots of live mail on 8 November 1979. Colourless phosphor tape was used at the outset and it was expected that it would be some time towards the middle of 1980 before blue phosphor tape would be brought into use. In actual fact, blue tape was introduced on all desks on 24 January 1980. Thus covers with colourless dots are likely to be rare.

Originally the Indents were upright in the form

0	0	0	0	to	2	2
1	2	3	4		3	4

During April/May 1980 the Indents were positioned sideways left in the form

0	0	0	1	and so on.
2	3	4	2	

With regard to Belfast's Automatic Letter Facers, these were brought into use in November and December 1975 and have the dies 1 2 3 4 and 5 6 7 8. Dies 9 and 10 are spare.

Returning South, according to recent Newspaper reports, Irish postal workers have settled their dispute with the Department of Posts and Telegraphs. It was stated that a major element is a productivity bargain which will open the way for modern advanced technology to be introduced in the postal service. Time alone will tell if we will have a National postcode and postcoded postmarks and if we will see on our mail similar colourful phosphor, fluorescent or magnetic coding bars similar to those used by other Administrations.

CURRAGH CAMP



A rather tatty cover, acquired recently, filled in a gap in my small collection of Curragh Camp Stamps.

It is the double stamp which I illustrate, indeed the stamp itself is not as good as it would seem from the illustration. There is a Royal Engineers crest on the reverse of the envelope and two indistinct stamps, one a squared circle and the other a circular red stamp.

THE POST PAID LICENCES

by J. Lennon

In 1960 the Electricity Supply Board (ESB) was posting about 20,000 bills a day and, with this amount increasing, they approached the Post Office to see if there was any way in which the franking could be printed on the bill instead of having to pass each one through a franking machine. One problem was how to show the date of posting. The date of making out the bill was accepted as the date of posting and this was to be printed on the front beside the address. At first just the day and month were shown but later the year was added.

A licence (ceadúnas in Irish) was issued to the ESB and given the identifying number one which was to be printed along with POST PAID and DUBLIN in Irish. As this licence replaced, or was an extension of, meter franking similar payment was required and so each month an advance payment was to be made covering the expected cost of the following month's mail. This licence was first used on 23 October 1962.

Licence number two was issued to Arnott and Company, a large Dublin department store and the earliest known use is 1970.

Licence twenty-three had appeared by 1974 so after after eight years with only one licence we find another twenty-two appearing in about four years. Was this due to a campaign by the Post Office? The majority of the licences so far issued are used on newspapers or journals which, not being very suitable for passing through the franking machines, would have to be handstamped by the Post Office either to cancel stamps or to apply 'PAID' date stamps.

An interesting feature of the licences is the spelling of the Irish for 'PAID'. The Post Office uses ÍOCTHA on its machines and handstamps and this was used by the ESB in 1962. By 1970, however, the ESB had changed to ÍOCHTA and this was the spelling adopted by Arnotts (who later changed to ÍOCTHA). It was also used by the ESB for licence fifteen during its short life but by 1976 they had reverted to ÍOCTHA. Licence twenty-nine first appeared in 1978, I think, and used ÍOCTHA but is now using ÍOCHTA. Licence eleven has also used both forms but ÍOCTHA is the form which is generally used for all other licences. Licence seven used ÍOCHTHA! The correct spelling, according to Dineen's Dictionary is ÍOCTHA but most people that I have asked pronounce it ÍOCHTA.

The RTE Guide, which is distributed by Independent Newspapers Ltd, now uses licence four in English.

Some of the licences are no longer in use and the small number that have been issued makes me wonder if there is some difference that makes them so unpopular in Ireland compared with the United Kingdom where fairly high licence numbers can be seen.

All the licences known to me have Baile Átha Cliath (Dublin) on them. I would be very interested to know if the Cork Examiner uses one. Needless to say, any further information, particularly on the numbers missing from my following list, would be most welcome.

My thanks to FE Dixon and A Finn for their assistance.

POST PAID LICENCES

1. Electricity Supply Board (ESB) bills.
2. Arnott and Company.
3. The Irish Times Ltd.
4. Independant Newspapers Ltd and RTE Guide.
5. Irish Press Ltd.
6. HIBERNIA - a weekly revue.
7. UN Children's Fund.
8. The Far East - monthly magazine of the Columban Fathers, Navan.
11. C  RAS TR  CHT  LA/Irish Export Board - Used for EXPORT, their magazine and for second class mail.
14. BUSINESS PRESS OF IRELAND LTD - for Business and Finance, weekly magazine.
15. ELECTRICAL MAIL - ESB monthly paper.
18. FARMERS JOURNAL.
23. Irish Management Institute - used for MANAGEMENT, their magazine and for second class mail.
26. Irish Medical Journal.
29. Private Motorist - quarterly paper of PMPA Insurance Company.
30. Irish Medical Times.

21 2

JC
8
DL

20 2 74

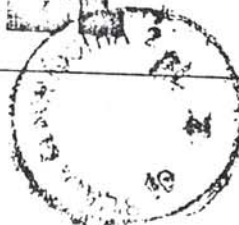
MR
10
CU

POSTAS   CHTA
BAILE   THA CLIATH.
CEAD  NAS 1.

POSTAS   CHTA
BAILE   THA CLIATH
CEAD  NAS 1

POSTAS   CHTA
BAILE   THA CLIATH
CEAD  NAS 1

R.T.E. GUIDE
DUBLIN 1, IRELAND



POSTAGE PAID
DUBLIN
LICENCE NO 4