

IRISH PHILATELY

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Edited by

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EDITORIAL

Our thanks are due to Edward FitzGerald and Brian Warren for their contribution - 'That Was The Year That Was'. Being able to include it in the first Journal of 1981 makes it a valuable check list of what happened in 1980.

Dorothy and me paid our first visit to the London Area Meeting on 31 January, it was good to meet many old friends and to make new ones. The journey from Lincoln was well worth the effort.

OM Richards

"Irish Philately"

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Sir,

May I make one or two comments on articles which have appeared in Irish Philately 1980 as follows:-

"What Is This?" - Ivar Mørch - Page 18

There were many such triangular marks, apparently different sections of the main sorting office in London, and it seems likely that they were applied on mail found in the wrong section. In the case described "IRISH" was applied because the quickest way of getting the card to Stockport was by the Irish Mail, in a bag to be put off the train in Chester or Crewe. The details at the apex of the triangle is a number: the highest I have seen with IRISH is 7.

The use of these mis-sort marks seems to have died out before World War I but a similar marking, unnumbered, was used in the Censorship Office during World War II. Its main use then was cancelling the stamps on items handed in for censoring instead of being posted in the ordinary way.

"Have You Seen These?" - Bill Kane - Pages 19 and 20

The BB=Balls Bridge is unlikely. The style of frame suggests an Examiner's Mark. It seems likely that the letter carrier, finding no Collum & Son in Upper Baggot Street, passed the card to the Dead Letter Office. Inspection of Thom's Directory there quickly established that there was a firm of solicitors of that name at 24 Upper Sackville Street. So Bill Bailey (or whatever his name was) amended the address and applied his stamp before dropping the card in his OUT tray.

The single circle datestamp of the 1907 Dublin Exhibition was the counter stamp, used on parcels, registered mail etc. It is illustrated in Ian Whyte's Irish Stamp News No 4.

"Dublin Horse Show Postmarks" - Dr Wilkinson - Page 42

In reply to the query, the status of the RDS Show postmarks is that of a "counter stamp". The cancellation was applied to anything handed in, thus including parcels and telegrams as well as express and registered mail. Ordinary letters and postcards were posted in a box and were taken to the Ballsbridge Post Office for cancelling.

From about 1920 (possibly earlier) there was a regular counter stamp, reading SHOW YARD BALLS BRIDGE, which was used until the 1957 Spring Show. Then a skeleton type was made up for the Horse Show of that year and similar ones were used at each Show until 1971. There was no post office from 1972 to 1979 but there was a new arrangement for the 1980 Horse Show, a kiosk being provided by the Philatelic Section. This was primarily to sell stamps but did have a skeleton datestamp which was applied to all mail handed in.

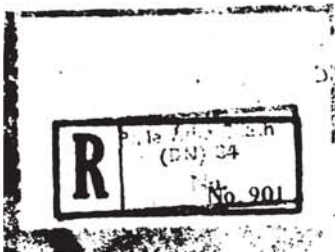
Examples from before 1957 are very rare as no philatelist seems to have used the facility. From then on a few "philatelic" covers were serviced but for most Shows my estimate of the numbers is only about 20 to 50, much smaller than the number of collectors now looking for them!!

"The 'Fay' Letter" - CI Dulin and PH Williams - Pages 57 to 59

One minor correction to the information in the excellent article on the "Fay Letter".

Mr HE Fay does not seem to have been in the Stores Branch. At the time he received the letter he was a Principal Officer in the Secretary's office. He had been an Assistant Surveyor at the time of the handover of the administration in 1922.

"Registration Labels" - Bill Kane - Pages 45 to 53



One further variant of the registration labels discussed by Bill Kane has come to light. The Companies Registration Office has a rubber stamp reading "Baile Atha Cliath (DN) 34 No" suitable for impressing on plain envelopes, the number being inserted by pen. However, it is exactly the size of the print on the adhesive labels and can be impressed on the sheets of such labels which are numbered.

Yours faithfully,

F.E. Dixon

Dear Sir,

Double Overprint (one albino) on Irish High Values

I refer to the article in the December 1980 issue at page 70 concerning an instance of a double overprint (one albino) on a 2/6d narrow date setting and in particular to the statement in paragraph two that this was, as far as known, the first example of such variety to be reported.

Mr Johan Rehnberg of Gotaborg has kindly drawn my attention to Lot 1365 in Hibernian Auction of 18 August 1979 which was a Dollard (SG 17) 2/6d with a similar variety. Mr Rehnberg, who saw the item, states that the variety was quite clean. From another member, who also saw it, I learn that it was appreciably more co-incidental than in the case of the narrow date setting.

So we now have two similar varieties coming to light in quick succession. Another matter (on which I hope to write to you) raises the distinct suspicion that an expert faker is at work. I can only repeat the warning I gave in my earlier article.

Yours faithfully,

P.H. Williams

Dear Sir,

Collectors of Guinness material might be interested to learn of two postcards issued by Pamlin Prints of Croydon. Both are reproductions of the following Guinness Posters:-

Ten to One its Guinness Time	-	issued 1934
My Goodness My Guinness	-	issued 1936

Pamlin Prints mainly print transport reproductions but these cards form part of a series of "Collector-Ads".

Yours faithfully,

A Reynolds

AUCTIONS At the Feldman Sale in Zurich in November 1980 a Dublin handstruck 4 of 8.1.1840 realised £370. The same was paid for a 3c Fenian. One mint set of Thom high values reached £1600. The 2d coil used at Naas £900. 1s 3d air with extra feather, creased, £160.

F.E. Dixon



PHILATELIC CONGRESS OF GREAT BRITAIN
NORBRECK HYDRO. BLACKPOOL.

At the 43rd Congress of Great Britain held at Blackpool in June 1961 a meeting of the Irish Philatelic Study Group was held and a photograph taken on this occasion. Standing from left to right:- Reg Crookes, Jack O'Neill, Leslie Fletcher. Seated:- Pat Woods, Stewart Telfer, Tom Field, Michael Leonard.



A photograph taken on the occasion of the presentation of the TE Field Award to Michael Giffney at Stampex 1980. Present from left to right:- Rev J Brennan, Bill Kane, Michael Giffney, F.E. Dixon, Mrs T. Dixon, Mr Tom Dixon (Canada), Padraig O'Mathuna, Dr J. Quigley, Brian Warren, Bro Leo and Edward FitzGerald.

It is interesting to note that the Group included the President of IPC Dr Quigley, three Past Presidents Rev J Brennan, F.E. Dixon and W. Kane and also the Hon Auditor B. Warren.

RANDOM NOTES

by F.E. Dixon

NEWSPAPER WRAPPER The long overdue new wrapper (the first since 1971) was available in the Philatelic Section on 21 August 1980. The 8p stamp shows an increase of 3740% from the first Irish issue of 1924. Remarkably, although the 1p supplementary charge for the wrapper seems excessive, the percentage increase since 1924 is "only" 3260.

FIRST SLOGANS USED IN IRELAND Slogan cancellations were introduced through the Columbia and Krag machines and the earliest in the UK was BUY NATIONAL WAR BONDS NOW, used in London from December 1917. Little has been recorded about the use of such slogans in Ireland and none are known for Dublin. I have BUY NATIONAL BONDS used in Belfast (Columbia machine) in February 1918 and have recently added FEED THE GUNS WITH WAR BONDS from the Cork Krag machine 28 October 1918. Did any other Irish towns use either slogan? The Cork one must be scarce as its maximum period of use was from 1 October to mid-November 1918.

STANLEY GIBBONS The 1981 Commonwealth Catalogue costs £14 in Ireland and is a luxury that most collectors will manage without. An innovation in the UK section is the inclusion of a price "on cover". For Ireland there is only a rough guide, eg overprints on cover are from three times the catalogue price. Comparison with 1980 prices shows increases ranging between 30 and 80%. The most expensive Irish stamp is 72b at £8000 mint and £1300 used. The £1300 applies to others used such as 10s Thom and is topped by £7000 for the 1d with missing accent.

MUSIC & DANCE The designs launched on 25 September are so badly drawn that one feels the artist must have done it on purpose. The dancer would fall backwards from the pose depicted even though she is sticking out her longer leg in an effort to achieve balance. The name of the alleged artist is John Dixon and I hasten to assure my readers that he is not related to me.

STAMPA 1980 Many thought the 1980 event the best yet. Attendance was good, although we missed some of the usual visitors from overseas. The exhibition was excellent, both in the standard of presentation and in the material represented. The judges shared this view and so more medals were awarded. Bill Kane added to his remarkable record by obtaining the new trophy offered by the Post Office for the best entry of Irish stamps of 1922 and after. The official display featured the artwork and progressive colour proofs of this years commemoratives, plus postage due sheets and a proof sheet of the 1938 Father Mathew. Also, very attractive were the original handbills from early times, plus reproductions of the important ones of 1840. The National Collection loaned two frames of early France.

IRISH POSTAL MUSEUM Although the Minister failed to mention it in his speech declaring STAMPA open, there is now no doubt that the preparations for the long promised Museum are gathering momentum. The problem of its location is not yet solved but similar establishments are being visited and decisions are being taken about display cases and other fundamental matters.

CHRISTMAS SEALS The Marie Curie Memorial Foundation of Ireland, 22 South Frederick Street, Dublin 2 (PO Box 259), has again issued a large sheet of Christmassy seals and adhesive labels with pertinent information printed on the gummed side.

LACK OF COMMUNICATION The Irish Post Office has again suffered an outbreak of the inefficiency we have often complained of, none of the following three items having been given the proper publicity.

NEW SLOGAN On 18 November Limerick introduced a new slogan cancellation advertising the National Savings Committee with the words "You've got to get saving", and the symbol of a bee in a hexagon.

REGISTRATION ENVELOPE Size H registration envelope with embossed 55p stamp was put on sale 18 November. The reverse specifies the amount of compensation if sent abroad as £7.20.

CHRISTMAS STAMPS There was no publicity for the delay in issuing the Christmas stamps and very many people made abortive journeys to the post offices on 13 November. When the stamps did appear three weeks later they were generally condemned. Even if you approve the idea of using a small child's design, you cannot condone presenting a horizontal design in a vertical format with nearly half the area wasted as dirty grey background.

PROPAGANDA SEAL Another adhesive label, seen during November on the front of an envelope, reads "NO RUGBY TOUR OF SOUTH AFRICA".

SPOON CANCELLATIONS It is 20 years since the Willcockses and Bentley collaborated in the first serious study of Spoon cancellations. Now we have a new and revised edition by R.M. Willcocks and a fresh collaborator W.A. Sedgewick. No fewer than 17 pages are devoted to the Irish section, including six pages about the Dublin types. The alleged Omagh is deleted. The top valuation is now "over £100" and applies to the Dublin PAID types, the English type for Strabane and the Irish type for Dalkey and Ennis. The figures are for clear examples on cover. Strongly recommended whether or not you have the first edition.

CARELESSNESS About 50 years ago an eminent philatelist acquired a large archive of the Penny Reds period. He selected what fitted in his collection and put the rest in a box. 30 years later he let me hunt through the box. Therefore I obtained several covers with good Receiving House marks. Now, a visiting philatelist inspecting the cover with undated circular WARINGSTOWN pointed out that the stamp thereon is the famous "Union Jack" re-entry. The lesson is that we must always examine all the stamps and all the postmarks on every cover.

* * * * *

THE CANCELLING MACHINES OF IRELAND

PROVINCES

by O.M. Richards

COBH (Formerly Queenstown)

A Universal DD (slow) machine was brought into use at the office in Cobh on 30 November 1960. Slogans are used regularly but, as far as I am aware, PAID or OFFICIAL PAID dies have not been used. Two dies are held at this office, 'COBH'

used to cancel normal mail and a 'PAQUEBOT COBH' which was used to cancel mail from ships. This latter die was used to cancel mail from cruise ships which called at infrequent intervals, as far as I am aware it has not been used in recent years. The post office at Cobh was unable to tell me when this die was issued. Figure 86.

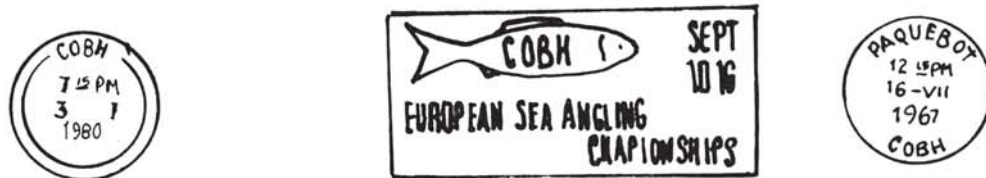


Fig 86

TUAIM (Tuam)

The first day of use of the Universal DD (slow) machine at post office at Tuam was 14 December 1960, a little late for the Christmas rush of mail. The serial number is 3223. Slogans are used regularly, PAID and OFFICIAL PAID dies are not used.



Fig 87

MAINISTIR NA CORANN (Midleton)

The Universal machine issued to this office in February 1978 was in use for only a short time when its servicing became affected by the Post Office engineers strike during that year.

This is a DD (slow) machine, this type is issued to offices where the amount of mail is too great to be handstamped yet not of such volume as to warrant the use of a high speed machine. The earliest date seen is for 28 February 1978, I have an example for 1 March 1978, then the next example appeared on or about 28 June 1978.

No PAID or OFFICIAL PAID dies are held, slogans are not used. The wavy bars are continuous.



Fig. 88

PARCEL POST Birr (BQ)	X LIST Letter and Number 1	POSTAGE S. D. 4	
		Registration and Express Fees	
FOR POSTAGE STAMPS.	DATE STAMP.		

PARCEL POST Coole (Under Edgeworthstown)	X LIST Letter and Number 1	POSTAGE S. D. 3	
		Registration and Express Fees	
For Postage Stamps.	OFFICE STAMP.		

PARCEL POST Bagenalstown (BWT)	X LIST Letter and Number 1	POSTAGE S. D. 4	
		Registration and Express Fees	
For Postage Stamps.	OFFICE STAMP.		

PARCEL POST Glanmire Road T.S.O. (Under Cork)	X LIST Letter and Number 1	POSTAGE S. D. 4	
		Registration and Express Fees	
For Postage Stamps.	OFFICE STAMP.		

PARCEL POST KILDARE (KGT)	X LIST Letter and Number 1	POSTAGE S. D. 4	
		Registration and Express Fees	
For Postage Stamps.	OFFICE STAMP.		

PARCEL POST PORTRUSH (PKA)	X LIST Letter and Number 1	POSTAGE S. D. 4	
		Registration and Express Fees	
For Postage Stamps.	OFFICE STAMP.		

Dr Brian de Burca has kindly sent photocopies of one or two Parcel Post labels from his collection. The two of special note are, the use of the double stamp at Kildare in 1890 and the use of the 1844 type of numeral stamp in Portrush in 1906. The number 380 was allocated to Portumna Co Galway in the lists of 1844-57, it was transferred to Portrush in the lists of 1874. I wonder if this is the original stamp transferred, I cannot imagine that at that fairly late stage a new stamp would be made for use in Portrush.

Any comments would be appreciated.

THAT WAS THE YEAR THAT WAS

by E. FitzGerald and B. Warren

SPECIAL AND COMMEMORATIVE ISSUES

The 1980 programme comprising fifteen stamps and one miniature sheet were issued over six release dates commencing 19 March and ending 4 December. The six releases have a total face value of IR £3.14 compared with the 1979 statistics of IR £2.49 for eight releases consisting of twenty stamps. The practice of placing two sets of plate (litho) or cylinder (photogravure) numbers on the sheet margins continued. All litho issues have in addition the usual colour-check squares and printers imprint.

All litho (L) issues were printed by Irish Security Stamp Printing Limited; the Christmas issue was printed by the Revenue Stamping Branch using the photogravure process (P).

No significant constant varieties were noted on the litho issues. The cylinders for the Christmas issue were obviously of a poor standard which resulted in a large number of insignificant varieties.

Minor varieties on the Flora and Fauna miniature sheet enabled the plating of this issue. The Primary Sheet consisted of nine miniature sheets. An uncut Primary Sheet was on display at the Cork Philatelic Exhibition, Stampa and the Galway Stamp Exhibition. Plating guides are on sale from most dealers in Irish Stamps. It was interesting to note on examination of the Primary Sheet that two black plates were used. We understand that this arose because it was necessary to print both Eire and the figure values as separate operations because the new postal rates which came into effect on 1 July were not known when printing operations began. The second plate was un-numbered. Another unrecorded black plate was used in the printing of the 25p value in the Music and Dance set. This second plate was used to intensify the colour of the dancer's stockings. Again, this plate was not numbered.

In our 1979 notes we referred to the use of two perforators for the St John of God stamp - Grover and Bickel. Both perforators were used in 1980 for the 13p Europa (Oscar Wilde) and the four animal stamps in the third Flora and Fauna set. The following table summarises the effect of the two types on the above vertical format issues:-

PERFORATION TYPE	LEFT MARGIN	RIGHT MARGIN	TOP AND BOTTOM MARGINS
Grover	Imperforate	Perforated Through	One extension hole
Bickel	Perforated Through	Imperforate	One extension hole

In respect of the St John of God stamp (horizontal format) there were two extension

holes; it appears that the extra pins were removed prior to using the Bickel perforator on these 1980 issues. The perforation size remained the same for both types - $14 \times 14\frac{3}{4}$. In the following listing of litho commemorative issues we indicate opposite the plate numbers the relevant perforation type as Grover (G) or Bickel (B).

Sheet issues were in the normal format of 100 stamps (10×10) with the exception of the George B Shaw stamp which, because of the unusual vertical design size of 24×61 , was issued in sheets of 72 divided into two panes of 6×6 with vertical gutter.

Date of Issue	Description	Designer	Value	Plate/ Cyl Nos	Perf
19 Mar L	De La Salle Order	Peter Wildbur based on portrait of founder	12p	11111 G 11121 G	$14 \times 14\frac{3}{4}$
7 May L	Europa (20th Issue) Famous People	Peter Byrne based on portrait caricature of GB Shaw (12p) by Alick Ritchie and portrait of O Wilde (13p) by Toulouse-Lautrec	12p 13p	11111 G 11111 G 11111 B	$14 \times 14\frac{3}{4}$
30 Jul L	Flora & Fauna (3rd Issue) Wild Animals Stoat; Hare; Fox and Deer	Original drawings by Wendy Walsh with graphics by Peter Wildbur	12p 15p 16p 25p 68p	11111 G 11111 B 11111 G 11121 G 12121 G 11122 G 12111 B 11111 G 11111 B 11111 G 11111 B	$14 \times 14\frac{3}{4}$
L	A series of envelopes depicting the animals were produced by Fleetwood, Cheyenne, Wyoming, USA. They were also the work of Wendy Walsh and are similar to previous issues.				
25 Sep L	Irish Music and Dance	Original paintings by John Dixon with graphics by Peter Wildbur	12p 15p 25p	11111 G 11111 G 11111 G	$14 \times 14\frac{3}{4}$
23 Oct L	Sean O'Casey	Peter Wildbur Featuring a photograph by Gjon Mili	12p	11111 G 11212 G	$14 \times 14\frac{3}{4}$

Date of Issue	Description	Designer	Value	Plate/ Cyl Nos	Perf
23 Oct L	Contemporary Irish Art (12th Issue)	Gold Painting No 57 by Patrick Scott	25p	111 G	14 x 14 $\frac{3}{4}$
4 Dec	Christmas (10th Issue)	Peter Wildbur from Child Art Nativity Scene by Geraldine Mc Nulty aged 8	12p 15p 25p	1111 1111 1111	14 $\frac{1}{2}$ x 15
Varieties:-					
	12p - R5/10	White spot between E and I of Eire			
	15p - R8/2	Bullet hole under O of Nollaig			
	R9/4	Bullet hole above O of Nollaig			
	R10/3 & 4	Damage to value tablets			
	25p - R4/3 to 10	Irregular dark line across value tablet			
P	R5/2	Spot under 9 of 1980			

DEFINITIVES

Four new values were released during 1980. The 12p dog and 13p stag took cognisance of the increase in postal rates effective from 1 August 1979. However, with a further increase on 1 July 1980, a 15p dog and 16p stag were released on 10 July to meet the revised Inland and European letter rates respectively. The 15p dog is known to have been pre-released as early as 8 July as post offices were short of this value. The 12p dog exists with two distinct shades (leaf green and emerald green). It should be noted on the 16p stag cylinder block, the black I is superimposed over the yellow-green I; the yellow-green I can just be seen with the aid of a good magnifying glass. All perf 15.

Value	Colours and Dates of Issue	Cylinder Numbers
12p dog	Leaf green - 26/3/80	I
13p stag	Chocolate and brown - 26/3/80	II
15p dog	Deep blue - 10/7/80	I
16p stag	Yellow-green and black - 10/7/80	II (superimposed)

A listing of the more prominent varieties, not previously included in our notes, on recent and past definitive issues follows:-

12p stag (Cyl II)	R 5/4	Cell damage and retouching beneath front legs of stag (Th F5).
12p stag (Cyl I2)	R 6/9 R 9/8	Retouch between rear legs (Th E2). Indent in top margin (Th A4).

12p dog (Cyl I)	R 3/9	Large scratch in top left corner (Th C1 - A2).
	R 7 to 11	Broken neck spiral (Th).
	stamp 4	
	R11/2	Dot above dog's head (Th A3).
	R19/2	Dot in spiral near tail (Th C6).
	R19/9	Small scratch at top left corner (Th A1).
13p stag (Cyl II)	R15/8	Retouch to the left of stag's rear (Th C1).
15p dog (Cyl I)	R 1/7	Large blue spot in shoulder spiral (Th D4).
	R 4/2	Blue spot in ear (Th).
	R 6/8	Broken left vertical frame line (Th E1).
	R14/8	Distorted and broken front leg (Th E3).
	R12/8	White spot between neck and figure 5 (Th D3).
16p stag (Cyl II)	R 2/10	Line through 6 of figure 16 (Th E7).

The 15p varieties R6/8 & R14/8 are two of the best flaws to appear on the Gerl series. The broken spiral on Rows 7 to 11, stamp 4 of the 12p dog suggests that the variety occurred during the step and repeat process in the manufacture of the multipositive for the new cylinder and a positional gutter block makes a fine display item.

BOOKLETS Both the 40p and the 70p booklets remain on sale at the Philatelic Bureau. In 1979 we reported elsewhere the existence of 40p booklets with the slogan - Please Show District Numbers etc - missing from inside the front cover. Three 70p booklets were recently discovered at the Stampa exhibition with the slogan missing from inside the front cover. The booklets were among a large quantity purchased from the Exhibition Post Office. In theory, the total number of booklets with this variety is a multiple of 42 (44 less 2 not released) and depends on the number of error cover card sheets utilised in the production of complete booklets. So check your booklets!! We would be interested to hear reports of similar finds.

VALUES ON SALE AT THE PHILATELIC BUREAU AS AT DECEMBER 1980

Unwatermarked series:- ½p; 1p; 2p; 3p; 5p; 6p; 7p; 8p; 9p; 9½p; 10p; 12p; 15p (all dog design). 11p; 12p; 13p and 16p (all stag design). 15p; 17p and 20p (ox design). 50p and £1 (eagle design). The 10p stag was sold out in December.

Watermarked series:- ½p and 4p dog plus 12p ox.

Presentation Packs:- The packs have been altered several times during the year to take account of additions/deletions during the period. Inserts have not altered as their wording does not refer to the actual stamps enclosed. The make-up of the packs as at December 1980 was as follows:-

Low Value Pack:- All the unwatermarked stamps of the dog and stag design set out above excluding the 12p stag. Note wmk 4p dog has been dropped from the pack. Face IR £1.28. Sold for IR £1.56.

High Value Pack:- 17p and 20p ox plus 50p and £1 eagle. Note no 15p ox. Face IR £1.87. Sold for IR £2.10.

POSTAGE DUE LABELS

The new series was released for sale at the Philatelic Bureau on Wednesday 11 June. No advance notice and no first day cover facilities were available. The first labels were released in 1925 and during the intervening fifty-five years the basic design has been unaltered except for colour, watermark and value changes. All seven values (1p; 2p; 4p; 6p; 8p; 18p and 24p) are photogravure printed by the Revenue Stamping Branch in sheets of 200 with two panes of 100 separated by a horizontal gutter ie same layout as the low value definitives. The cylinder number is 1 on all seven values. The colours are rather drab; four of the values are in shades of green. No official information has yet been made available as to the origin of the design or even who designed the labels. On the 2p value there are no marginal rules on the top margin of the top pane in the sheet. To date we have noted the following varieties:-

- | | | | |
|-----|---|--------|---|
| 4p | - | R 3/8 | Green line in e of 1e (Th E5). |
| | - | R 7/2 | Break in bottom frame line (Th F4). |
| 8p | - | R19/5 | White spot below e of postage (Th F4). |
| 18p | - | R 1/1 | Spot above O of Postas (Th D2). |
| | | R 4/7 | Break in top frame line (Th A4). |
| | | R 8/2 | Green dot in upper right of stylised design (Th A4). |
| | * | Gutter | White scratch in lower marginal rule between R10/2 and R11/2 ie second label in gutter. |
| 24p | - | R 1/1 | Major break in top frame line (Th A4/5). |
| | - | R11/8 | Break in top frame line (Th A4). |
| | | R16/1 | Break in left hand frame line (Th D1). |
| | | R19/5 | Green spot in top left of stylised design (Th A1). |
| | * | R20/2 | Break in marginal rule beneath stamp of R20/2. |

Readers will note that frame breaks are a predominant variety on this issue. The remaining stocks of the labels from the previous design mentioned in our notes for 1979 were exhausted prior to the release of the new set. Even with the release of the new labels definitives and commemoratives continued to be used on underpaid mail and postage dues were not seen in regular use until October.

FIRST DAY COVERS AND CANCELLATIONS

1. Commencing with the Flora and Fauna issue, special pictorial first day covers (price 14p) have been re-introduced by the Post Office for stamps issued on a single theme. The standard first day cover continues in use for multiple stamp releases ie where stamps are issued on the same day for more than one subject. As a result, special pictorial covers were available for the Flora and Fauna, Irish Music and Dance, and Christmas issues. The standard cover was also used for the two definitive releases.
2. As per previous years special pictorial postmarks were used on all FDCs processed in the Philatelic Section, GPO, Dublin 1 and St Andrew Street PO Dublin 2. First day postmarks identical in design were also used in Cork.

OVERSEAS EXHIBITION CACHETS

The Irish Philatelic Service attended three overseas stamp exhibitions during 1980:-

Stampex (5-9 February); London'80 (6-14 May) and ASDA New York (20-23 November). At each exhibition a plain cachet was available for use on covers as a souvenir of the occasion. The second day of the London '80 exhibition coincided with the release of the Europa set and "first day covers" had the stamps cancelled with the plain cachet. A first day pictorial cachet similar to the Dublin and Cork postmarks was NOT available on this occasion. The wording of the cachets are as follows:-

1. Department of Posts and Telegraphs Ireland London Stampex 5-9 Feb 1980.
2. Department of Posts and Telegraphs Ireland London 1980 LONDON 6-14 May 1980.
3. Department of Posts and Telegraphs Ireland New York 32nd National Postage Stamp Show November 1980.

The cachets are similar to those used at previous exhibitions and are circular in black. The cachets are not announced in advance by the Post Office and no special facilities were offered to collectors unable to attend the exhibition.

SPECIAL EVENT CANCELLATIONS AND CACHETS

BAILE ATHA CLIATH PAQUEBOT 25.IV.1980 INAUGURATION JETFOIL SERVICE DUBLIN LIVERPOOL

Used on mail carried on the return leg of the inaugural sailing of the B+I Line's "Cu na Mara" Jetfoil service. Pictorial circular in black. Mail carried on the outward trip bear the ordinary Liverpool paquebot cancellation. Special B+I cards were produced for the crossing. The cards also bear a red cachet - "Posted at Sea B+I Jetfoil Cu na Mara".

CALAFORT ROSLAIR PAQUEBOT 23.V.1980 NEW CAR FERRY ROSSLARE-PEMBROKE

Used on mail carried on the outward leg to Rosslare Harbour of the B+I line's inaugural service on this route. Pictorial circular in black. Mail carried on the return leg received a Pembroke Dock CDS paquebot cancel in purple. Special B+I cards were also produced for this event. The cards received a red cachet - "Posted on Board Viking III". Illustrated in December issue of Irish Philately.

DUN LAOGHAIRE COLLECTOREX '80 28.VI.80 CENTENARY OF TOWN HALL

DUN LAOGHAIRE COLLECTOREX '80 29.VI.80 JUBILEE OF BOROUGH

In connection with the annual Collectorex '80 exhibition and fair held in the Marine Hotel, Dun Laoghaire, two postmarks were available to commemorate the following events:-

- 28 June - Centenary of Dun Laoghaire Town Hall.
- 29 June - 50th Anniversary of the founding of Dun Laoghaire Borough.

The exhibition was held during the local Summer Festival and special commemorative covers were available. Both pictorial postmarks were rectangular in black.

SHOW RDS BALLSBRIDGE

A philatelic stand and posting facilities were available at the RDS Horse Show in Ballsbridge from 5 to 9 August. A skeleton datestamp was used on mail posted at the stand. It is understood that a similar facility will be available at future exhibitions at the RDS. Circular in black.

CARROLLS IRISH OPEN PORT MEARNOG

Used at Portmarnock Golf Links during the Carrolls Irish Open Golf Championship from 13 to 17 August. A temporary post office was provided and the rectangular pictorial postmark in purple was similar to previous designs.

INTERNATIONAL POLICE ASSOCIATION SILVER JUBILEE SECTION 17th IEC BAILE ATHA CLIATH 11.IX.1980

Used on mail posted during the 17th International Executive Council Meeting of the International Police Association at Trinity College, Dublin 2 during September. The logo of the association was included in the rectangular pictorial postmark in black. A special cover was available.

CORCAIGH 11.X.80 STAMP EXHIBITION GEORGE BERNARD SHAW

Used on mail posted at the Imperial Hotel, Cork, during the Cork Philatelic Exhibition which was held on the above date. Circular pictorial in black. Post office facilities were provided and a special cover designed and sold by the organisers, the Cork Philatelic Society, was also available.

STAMPA '80 BAILE ATHA CLIATH

Four pictorial postmarks, one for each day of the exhibition, were applied on mail posted at the Exhibition Post Office in the RDS Ballsbridge, Dublin 4. The four cancels featured the animals depicted on the Flora and Fauna issue.

24 October	-	The Irish Hare	(15p value).
25 October	-	The Fox	(16p value).
26 October	-	The Stoat	(12p value).
27 October	-	The Red Deer	(25p value).

All postmarks were circular in black. Four separate official envelopes featuring a sketch of the appropriate animal to match each cancel were available.

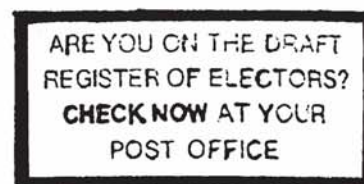
DUN LAOGHAIRE BOROUGH JUBILEE 14.X.80

Used on mail posted at the town hall on the above date on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of the Borough of Dun Laoghaire. Oval cancel in black featuring the Borough's Coat of Arms.

STAMP EXHIBITION GAILLIMH 6/7.XII.1980 FPSI

Used on mail posted at a stamp exhibition held in the Great Southern Hotel, Eyre Square, Galway on the 6th and 7th December. Post office facilities were available. The exhibition was organised by the Federation of Philatelic Societies of Ireland in collaboration with the Department of Posts and Telegraphs. The datestamp features logo of the Federation. A special cover was also available.

NEW SLOGAN CANCELLATIONS



1. "Please Show District Numbers in Dublin Addresses"

Three new slogans appeared, unannounced, in 1980. The first, in fact, is not a new slogan but a new die of an old slogan. The border is much thicker and the lettering neater than SP 165. It was used occasionally during July and August on the Dublin "D" machine.

2. "You've Got To Get Saving National Savings Committee"

The second was used in Limerick between 18th and 30th November and is scheduled for more general use in Summer 1981.

3. "Are You On The Draft Register Of Electors? Check Now At Your Post Office"

The third was part of a large advertising campaign which also saw the re-use of SP 108 and SP 109 (see below) for the first time in several years. It was used from 16th Decem in Cavan, Cork, Dundalk, Dublin (5 dies) and Galway (where it was used on that date only).

A new slogan for the 21st Anniversary of the Irish Wheelchair Association in connection with the International Year for the Disabled, meant for use in January 1981, was used in error in Dundalk at 7 pm on 31st December but will be listed as a 1981 slogan.

SLOGANS RE-USED IN 1980

The Sp numbers refer to the slogan postmark section of the First Edition of the Hibernian Specialised Catalogue of the Postage Stamps of Ireland issued in 1972. Slogans first brought into use since 1972 are numbered by reference to previous "That Was The Year That Was" listings.

SP 55	"Bank Your Savings in the Savings Bank".	Cork, Galway and Limerick.
SP 62	"Post Early for Christmas".	Nenagh.
SP 68	"Post Early for Christmas".	In general use.
SP 85	"Prevent Forest Fires".	In general use.
SP 95	"Buy Prize Bonds".	Longford.
SP 97	"When Its August Bank Holiday Its Kinsale Regatta".	Cork
SP 108	"Make Sure You Are On The New Voters Lists".	Cobh, Waterford, Westport and Wexford.
SP 109	"Are You On The Voters Lists? Check Now At The Post Office".	Bray, Port Laoise and Thurles.

- SP 111 "Please Shew District Numbers In Dublin Addresses". In general use.
- SP 123 "A Full Address Speeds Delivery". In general use.
- SP 130 "Build On Secure Foundations £1 Units Tax Free Savings Certificates". In general use.
- SP 131 "Save The Easy Way Easy Deposits Easy Withdrawal The Post Office Savings Bank". Cork, Drogheda, Dublin, Dun Laoghaire, Kilkenny, and Mullingar.
- SP 147 "Ballinasloe Show and Fair 1st Week October". Ballinasloe.
- SP 160 "Shop In The Golden Pages Classified Telephone Directory". Dun Laoghaire.
- SP 163 "Athlone On The Shannon". Athlone.
- SP 165 "Please Show District Numbers In Dublin Addresses". Dublin.
- 1975 No 4 "Conserve Energy". Cavan, Cork, Dublin, Dundalk, Galway, Letterkenny, Limerick and Waterford.
- 1975 No 5 "Let Your Fingers Do The Walking - Use The Golden Pages". Cork, Dublin, Dundalk, Kilkenny, Limerick and Waterford.
- 1976 No 2 "Giving For Living". Cork, Donegal, Dundalk, Galway and Waterford.
- 1977 No 2 "Clonakilty Beach Centre West Cork". Clonakilty.
- 1978 No 4 "Collect Postage Stamps". Cork, Donegal and Waterford.

EXHIBITION SOUVENIRS

22 March - Mid Western Philatelic Society Exhibition and Fair In connection with an exhibition and fair held by the Mid Western Philatelic Society in Limerick on 22 March, the organisers issued a limited edition of 300 numbered booklets containing a strip of three Papal stamps. The booklet was sponsored by the Limerick Savings Bank and was sold for £1. Each visitor could purchase one further booklet for IR £1.25.

28 June - Collectorex '80 The 1980 exhibition and fair in the Marine Hotel, Dun Laoghaire in connection with the local Summer Festival saw the release of an unusual booklet containing gutter pairs of the George Bernard Shaw stamp with an imprint in the margin "Collectorex '80". Sold at IR £1 each and limited to one per visitor; the total printing was 500 numbered booklets.

11 October - Cork Philatelic Exhibition A limited edition of 300 numbered booklets was produced by the organisers, the Cork Philatelic Society, for this annual exhibition. Each booklet contained the following marginal blocks of stamps - 2 x 12p (Shaw), 6 x 1p (dog), 6 x 2p (dog - interleaved). The back cover illustrated the exhibition postmark. Price IR £1. One per visitor.

24 October - Stampa '80 This years souvenir consisted of a black imprint on the margin of the Flora and Fauna miniature sheet. Official permission was obtained for this imprint. The imprinting was the work of Irish Printers Limited. Price IR £1.50 (one per visitor). There was a total of 2000 pre-numbered sheets. Of these 2000 sheets 150 were imprinted in red and each member of the Stampa Society received one of these red imprints free of charge. The imprint reads "Irish National Stamp Exhibition Stampa '80 Dublin October 24-27 1980".

15 November - Limerick Coin, Stamp and Postcard Fair '80 A limited edition of 250 numbered booklets were produced by PJW Coins & Tokens and Gwyn Bennett Stamps. The stapled booklet contains a marginal strip of 3 x 12p Sean O'Casey stamps. Sold for IR £1. One per visitor.

6 December - Galway Philatelic Exhibition 1980 A limited edition of 300 booklets containing the following blocks of stamps - 2 x 16p Flora, 6 x 1p dog, 6 x 2p dog. Sold for 80p. The interleaving included illustrations of the logo of the Federation of Philatelic Societies of Ireland and the Galway Coat of Arms.

POSTAL STATIONERY

25 March - 44p Size H Registered Envelope The 44p rate (32p registration, 12p postage) was introduced on 1 August 1979. The compensation amounts as printed on the back of envelopes were also increased - inland from £50 to £60 and foreign from £7.20 to £8.80. This was the first envelope to cover this rate (sold for 47p) and was on old cotton scrim stock and therefore had incorrect compensation amounts of £50 and £6.35 and incorrect registration fee of 12p. This envelope was sold out within two weeks and appears to have been a very low printing. A further printing appeared on 28 August on duplex manilla again with incorrect compensation amounts of £50 and £6.35 respectively. The missing "For" variety (refer to Journal of Irish Philately September 1979) has been noted on this second printing. This second printing also appears to have been low as the envelope is no longer available from the Philatelic Bureau.

30 June - 44p Size G Registered Envelope This envelope (sold for 46p) was released the day before the rate was increased to 55p (40p registration, 15p postage). It was duplex manilla stock with incorrect compensation amounts of £50 and £6.35. In December this envelope appeared on old cotton scrim stock with similar incorrect compensation amounts together with incorrect fee of 12p.

21 August - 8p Newspaper Wrapper This is only the second wrapper to appear since decimalisation and covers the inland rate from 1 July 1980 (sold for 9p).

18 November - 55p Size H Registered Envelope Duplex manilla envelope (sold for 58p) with incorrect compensation amounts of £50 and £7.20. Since 1 July 1980 the inland compensation amount was altered to £75 and the foreign limit to £8.20. Note the foreign limit was actually lowered from the previous compensation amount of £8.80.

18 December - 55p Size K Registered Envelope Duplex manilla envelope (sold for 59p) with incorrect compensation amounts of £50 and £7.20. This is the first size K envelope with a £7.20 imprint.

YEAR PACKS

The 1979 Year Pack, as stated in our notes for 1979, was released on 21 January 1980. Cost IR £2.70 (face value IR £2.49). The 1980 Year Pack was released on 9 December 1980. Cost IR £2.80 (face value IR £2.46). Format similar to previous years with a purple outer card cover.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Stampa '80 Dinner Menu The awards banquet was held in the Burlington Hotel, Dublin 4 on Saturday 25 October. Each diner received a copy of the menu to which was attached a 16p Flora stamp cancelled by the matching Fox postmark for that day.

Foreign Stamps with Irish Associations Vatican City issued during 1980 a set of stamps (common design of Pope John Paul II greeting outstretched arms) to commemorate the 1979 foreign visits by His Holiness. Each stamp depicted the appropriate Coat of Arms relevant to a visited country. The L 1000 value commemorated his arrival in Ireland on 29 September 1979 and the Coat of Arms depicted a Gold Harp on a blue shield (State Coat of Arms).

CONCLUSION

We wish to thank our many philatelic friends for their assistance in compiling the above notes and listings. In particular, we are indebted to John Lennon for once again providing the slogan cancellation listings. We would welcome comments from readers as to the required content in future listings.

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PERFIN NEWS

by Miss N. Wright

The perfin BANK which appeared in my last list is a carpet die. These carpet dies are designed to cover more than one stamp. It has been suggested that the carpet dies were produced from dies not intended for use on postage stamps but probably for use on documents or deeds.

As well as getting a number of stamps with this die in its various stages, I was fortunate to receive covers with this die and the corner card of the Royal Bank of Ireland.

Another perfin item which arrived the other day was on covers with Irish definitives, posted in Dublin, with the perfin ARI/PEX. This would seem to flavour of the US and a recent philatelic exhibition held in Arizona. We will, no doubt, hear more about this item at a later date.

New addition to catalogue:-

LD 17, 7, 7 12½
H

Again, many thanks to all who pass on perfins to me.

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HORSE POST CONTRACT.

NOTICE.

Proposals will be received from fit and competent Persons, for Conveying the Mail by Saddle Horse, at the rate of Five Irish Miles an Hour, including Stops, between **KELLS** and **ATHBOY**, on and from the 6th of September next.

Proposals to be addressed to me, at the General Post Office, Dublin, on or before the 16th July next.

P. URQUHART, ●

17th June, 1840.

Surveyor, G. P. O.

£0.—Printed by A. THOM, 86, Abbey-street, for H.M.S.O. June, 1840.

Another treasure from Dr Brian de Burca is this notice of 17 June 1840. I express the thanks of all our members to him for providing a photocopy of this most interesting item. The Railway reached Athboy in February 1864, built originally as the Dublin and Meath Railway it was absorbed into the Midland Great Western Railway in 1888. The railway reached Kells in June 1853, this was on the Oldcastle branch from Navan. So in 1840 the railway was some years away from both Athboy and Kells. It is interesting to note that the rate for a saddle horse on the Kells and Athboy service in 1816 was a penny farthing a mile or, as the Appendix to the Report from the Select Committee on Postage expresses it, 1 4/16d.