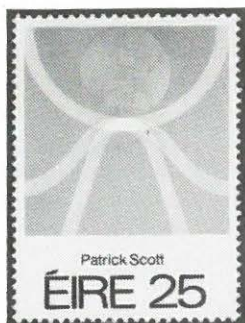


# IRISH STAMP NEWS



No.7. Spring 1981

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# Irish Stamp News

Edited and Published  
by

IAN WHYTE

3 Fitzwilliam Place,  
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Telephone: 761383



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## EDITORIAL

IRISH STAMP NEWS, as most of you know, is a non profit-making venture, and was never designed to be otherwise, though I would like it to break even some day. Most of the contributions are unpaid, and the editing and publishing is done in my spare time. It is the latter, or rather the lack of it, that has caused the delay in bringing out this, the seventh copy of Irish Stamp News in two and a half years.

Since the publication of the last issue, last Summer, I have literally not had the time to devote to the publication of the magazine. During the past five months I have been on business (and pleasure) trips to Hong Kong, Indonesia, Australia, U.S.A., United Arab Emirates, as well as several trips to London and around this country. I have also organised two auctions and participated in the organisation of STAMPA as Secretary of the National Stamp Exhibition Committee. These activities left me no time to devote to the magazine, much to my regret, and judging from your letters, yours as well.

However, this year I hope to spend less time travelling and with the re-organisation of our business will have more time to devote to IRISH STAMP NEWS. I still believe that Irish philately needs a magazine of this type. A very important aspect of this magazine is that it is sold in newsagents throughout Ireland. This means that it is on offer to a much wider audience than a magazine sold on subscription only. Although selling the magazine in this way is a loss-making activity due to the discount given to the wholesaler, we are reaching many new collectors, and probably educating many non-collectors, who buy IRISH STAMP NEWS on impulse.

The total circulation of IRISH STAMP NEWS is now 1200, a third of which is sold through newsagents, a further 20% through stamp dealers, and the remainder go to subscribers. This is greater than any other Irish philatelic magazine, and it is hoped to increase these figures substantially this year by various promotions. Regrettably advertising revenue has not increased since we started, which has meant that the size of the magazine has remained static at 40 pages. For every extra page of advertising we can print two extra pages of text, so please encourage our current advertisers by supporting them and always mention that you saw their advertisements. Every little bit helps!

Ian Whyte,

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# NEWSBEAT

## TWENTY-ONE SPECIAL STAMPS THIS YEAR

A total of twenty-one special stamps will be issued by the Irish Post Office during 1981, compared with 15 last year. The combined face value — allowing for the increase in postal rates — will be £4.16, as opposed to £2.40 last year, so the Post Office would appear to be looking to increase their philatelic revenue by about 73%.



The first issue will be *Irish Science and Technology* on March 12. The designs feature inventions by Irish scientists: Boyle's Air Pump, Holland's Submarine, Parsons' Turbine, and Ferguson's Tractor. Each stamp will also incorporate a portrait of the respective inventor, and the values will be 12p, 15p, 16p and 25p. This issue coincides with the designation of 1981 as International Year for Science and Technology.

The *Europa* issue on the theme "Folklore" will be released on May 4 in 18p and 20p denominations. The stamps will feature designs based on 18th century Irish folk art on a religious theme.

On June 24, the 50th Anniversary of An Oige will be commemorated by the issue of four stamps, 15p, 18p, 20p and 30p. An Oige is the National Youth Hostel Organisation and the design will feature outdoor activities associated with youth hostelling in Ireland.

The fourth issue in the *Fauna and Flora* series will feature famous Irish horses in a set

of five stamps. The horses, chosen in consultation with Bord na gCapall, are: Arkle, Ballymoss, Boomerang, King of Diamonds and Coosheen Finn (a Connemara Pony). The values are 15p, 18p (two se-tenant), 20p and 30p. The stamps are designed by Wendy Walsh, who was responsible for all the previous sets in this attractive series, and they will be issued on July 30.

Two stamps will be issued on September 10. An 18p stamp will mark the 150th Anniversary of Jeremiah O'Donovan Rossa, the Fenian patriot, and a 15p will be issued for the Centenary of the Land Law (Ireland) Act 1881.

On October 12 an 18p stamp will mark the 250th Anniversary of the Royal Dublin Society. On the same day the thirteenth stamp in the Contemporary Irish Art series will be issued. This will be a 30p value and will feature a painting by W. J. Leech.

The three Christmas stamps — 15p, 18p, 30p — will be issued on November 12, and will feature a painting in keeping with the festive season. The painting will be selected from a competition among mature art students.

## POSTAL CHARGES INCREASE

In his Budget speech on January 28 last the Minister for Finance announced — in addition to 6p on the pint of beer, 10p on cigarettes and 15p on petrol — a £35 million increase in revenue to be derived from increasing postal and telecommunications charges. The details of the increases are to be announced later by the Minister for Posts and Telegraphs, and will come into effect on April 1.

It is expected that the new minimum basic rates will be as follows: Ireland & Great Britain — first class letters, 18p; printed matter and postcards, 15p; Western Europe (airmail) and elsewhere (surface mail), 20p; Overseas airmail, 30p. There are no 18p or 30p definitives at the moment so new values will have to be printed in the 'Gerl' series to cover these rates. These will probably be the last new Gerl definitives to be issued before their replacement by the 'architecture' series later this year.

# The Philatelic Bureau



## 1981 Stamp Programme

Irish Science and Technology.

Europa.

50th Anniversary of the founding of An Oige.

Fauna and Flora.

150th Anniversary of the birth of Jeremiah O'Donovan  
Rossa

Centenary of the Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1981.

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## BUILDINGS TO APPEAR ON NEW DEFINITIVES

At least four values in the new definitive series are due to appear this year but as yet little or no details are available officially. We do know that the top value will be at least £2, and that there are five different designs so far, the theme of which is 'Irish Architecture'.

Amongst the buildings to be included are the Busaras, (Dublin City Bus Station), the 'Casino', (Dublin), Dublin Castle Gates, and Galerías Oratory, Co. Kerry. One of the buildings chosen was the Fern House in Belfast's Botanic Gardens. However the Belfast City Council, while agreeing to the use of an illustration of the building on an Irish stamp have insisted on the incorporation of the words 'Northern Ireland' in the title. No decision has been made yet by the Department on whether they will include this design in the set.

## POSTAL MUSEUM FOR 'IRISH LIFE MALL'

The Department of Posts and Telegraphs has acquired a 4,000 square feet site in central Dublin for the proposed Postal Museum. The site is in the Irish Life Assurance Company's massive office and shopping complex between Talbot, Gardiner and Abbey Streets. The Museum will be located in the 'Mall', the new shopping arcade between Talbot Street and Abbey Street.

Although no official announcement has been made so far, Maeve Binchy, "Irish Times" columnist and member of the Philatelic Advisory Committee, confirmed the acquisition in her paper on January 31. She also mentioned that it was expected to have the Museum open by the end of the year.

Con Buckley of the Philatelic Section has been appointed to take charge of organising the establishment of the Museum, and will in due course be looking for material to exhibit there, hopefully including donations and loans of items from the public. The Department have studied Postal Museums in other countries, notably Sweden, Denmark, Finland, and the Netherlands, and the Museum will incorporate some of the best features of these examples.

The initial reaction of Irish philatelists has been surprise at the location, but pleasure at the decision to go ahead. The area in which the Museum is located is noted for petty thievery by gangs of juveniles, so security will have to be tight. Also parking is a major problem on weekdays, even though a large underground car park is

incorporated in the Irish Life Centre. However most collectors feel that it is a start in the right direction and even if the location is found to be unsuitable after a couple of years it can always be changed.

## JOINT U.S.-IRISH STAMP ISSUE

According to a report in the "Sunday Independent" on February 8, the Irish and U.S. Post Offices have agreed in principle for a joint Irish American Stamp issue. The stamps are expected to feature the Year of the Disabled and the designer of the White House and Capitol buildings, Kilkenny born John Bohan.

The agreement came in a recent meeting between Minister of State for Posts and Telegraphs Mark Kililea T.D., and U.S. Postmaster General William Bolger. According to the newspaper report "this unique development is expected to yield £8 million for this country".

No date has yet been fixed for the issue but it is expected within the next twelve months.

## SELF-ADHESIVE STAMPS FOR IRELAND?

The Department of Posts and Telegraphs have requested quotations for rolls of self-adhesive stamps, according to informed sources. The rolls would be designed for use in vending machines.

Presumably the stamps would be on a backing paper which would be serrated or perforated. These stamps would be a boon to people using large quantities of postage stamps, but collectors reaction may not be favourable.

Other countries that have experimented with self-adhesive stamps include the U.S.A., Sierra Leone, Tonga, and Gibraltar. However the experiments have never led to permanent use of self-adhesive stamps. It should be pointed out that the Department is only investigating the cost of production at present, and it is not known yet whether a decision has been made to actually issue self-adhesives.

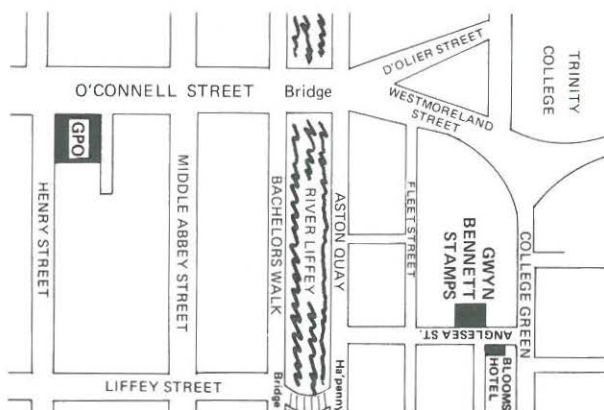
## J. A. MILLIKEN F.C.A.

We very much regret to report the death of Mr. J. A. Milliken, of Glenageary, Co. Dublin. Mr. Milliken was a longstanding member of the Irish Philatelic Society and was Honorary Auditor of the Society up to his death. Mr. Milliken was also Honorary Auditor to the Irish National Stamp Exhibition, STAMPA. His work and advice for both organisations was invaluable and he will be sadly missed.

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*Padraig O Mathuna (right) presents Michael Giffney with the T.E. Field Award certificate at STAMPA '80, with from left to right, Rev. J.*

*Brennan, W. Kane, F. E. Dixon, Mr. and Mrs. T. Dixon, J. Lennon, Dr. J. A. Quigley.*

## EPA NAMES GIFFNEY FIELD AWARD WINNER

Michael P. Giffney of Dublin, Ireland, was the 1980 recipient of the Eire Philatelic Association's Thomas Edwin Field. The late T. E. Field of Yorkshire, England, for whom this award is named, was one of the foremost Irish philatelists. He did extensive research which contributed greatly to the advancement of Irish philately. The award has been presented annually to an individual who has also made an outstanding contribution to Irish philately, in the tradition of T. E. Field.

Upon the recommendation of the Award Committee and with the unanimous approval of the Board of Directors, the E.P.A. has recognized the many contributions made by Michael Giffney to Irish philately.

Michael was one of the Charter Members of the Eire Philatelic Association and has worked diligently for the past thirty years to promote the association among all he has met. He was appointed as Regional Representative for Europe in 1951 and has held that post ever since. He was also the first Honorary Secretary of the Dublin Stamp Society, and served with distinction for many years. His willingness to assist other collectors by supplying information and guidance and his leadership in fostering the growth of the Association, aiding in its rise to its present prominence in Irish philately has won Michael Giffney the 1980 Thomas Edwin Field Award.

Philatelists interested in joining EPA may obtain membership information from EPA Secretary, Jean L. MacDonald, 926 So. Austin Blvd., Oak Park, Illinois 60304 USA.

## CAPTAIN COOK STUDY UNIT

This is a world-wide organisation of collectors who specialise in stamps, covers, and postmarks connected with Captain James Cook and his voyages. It has recently been relaunched with new officials in Britain and Ireland. The society publishes a quarterly magazine — "Cook's Log" — the subscription is UK£3 per annum.

The President of the organisation is Kieran McGovern, 19 The Drive, Woodpark, Ballinteer, Dublin 16, and the Secretary is David Seymour, 38 Sherwood Road, Meols, Wirral, Merseyside L47 9Rt, from whom further details and a sample copy of "Cook's Log" may be had.

## EXHIBITION IN WATERFORD

A stamp exhibition will be part of a weekend Collectors Fair to be organised in Waterford by local dealer, Bill O'Connell. The exhibition will be provided by the Federation of Philatelic Societies in Ireland and the Irish Post Office. The fair will include dealers in stamps, coins, medals, postcards, banknotes, and antiques, and will take place on the weekend after Easter, Saturday and Sunday, April 25 and 26.

Further details will be published in the local newspapers, and the organiser, Bill O'Connell may be contacted at 186 Viewmount, Waterford. Telephone: (051) 72240.



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## STAMPA '80



*Mr. Albert Reynolds T.D., Minister for Posts and Telegraphs chats to Peter McBride of The Belfast Stamp Company.*

'STAMPA '80' was by all accounts, a great success. The attendance figures were well up at nearly 3000, as opposed to about 1800 the previous year. Television advertising and the attractive souvenir sheet seemed to attract the crowds, and the holding of the event on a bank Holiday weekend gave people more opportunity to visit STAMPA.

The exhibition was opened officially by Mr. Albert Reynolds T.D., Minister for Posts and Telegraphs, on Friday, October 24. In his speech the Minister stated that the Department's revenue from philately will be of the order of £1 million this year. He also emphasised his Department's commitment to fostering philately in co-operation with the philatelic societies. Mr. Reynolds presented a special trophy to Mr. Bill Kane for his exhibit of Irish Overprint Coils, which was judged to be the best exhibit of Irish Stamps. The trophy was kindly donated by the Director of the Revenue Stamping Branch and is a large hand-some perspex reproduction of the 1922 2d 'Map' definitive, which was previously used as part of the Revenue Stamping Branch's exhibit to mark the 50th Anniversary of the first Irish stamp at 'STAMPA 72'.

The standard of exhibits was very high indeed, with twelve exhibits out of twenty-five receiving awards. Dr. Peter Smith-Keary was awarded the David Feldman Trophy for the best overall exhibit for his magnificent 'Australia: the 1d King George V 1914-1937'. The exhibit was remarkable in that it explained, in terms understandable even to the non collector, the production of the dies and original steel plates by Perkins Bacon and the ways in which successive printers modified and re-touched the plates during the twenty-three years of use. The study was liberally illustrated by superb pieces, several rare, and some probably unique. It was an example of philately at its very best and worthy of top awards at international level. A full list of the medal-winners appears at the foot of this report.

The Revenue Stamping Branch displayed some very interesting material. As usual the original artwork, essays, proofs, and colour separations of the Flora and Fauna set were shown. In addition the original printers sheet of the miniature sheets was shown, so collectors who had already established that there were nine different, were able to 'plate' them. (See 'Book Review' for a review of Declan O'Kelly's guide to the plating). Included in this section was a very interesting sheet of 1970 one shilling postage dues overprinted 'Specimen' in red, and an imperforate proof sheet of the 1938 Fr. Mathew 2d - without, incidentally, the 'comma' flaw.

The National Museum displayed several sheets from the Duke of Leinster's collection of France. The Junior exhibits were of a good standard, and once more St. Munchin's College won the Windsor Motors Inter-Schools Trophy.



*C. Oates and J. Pease of the Isle of Man Post Office Authority.*

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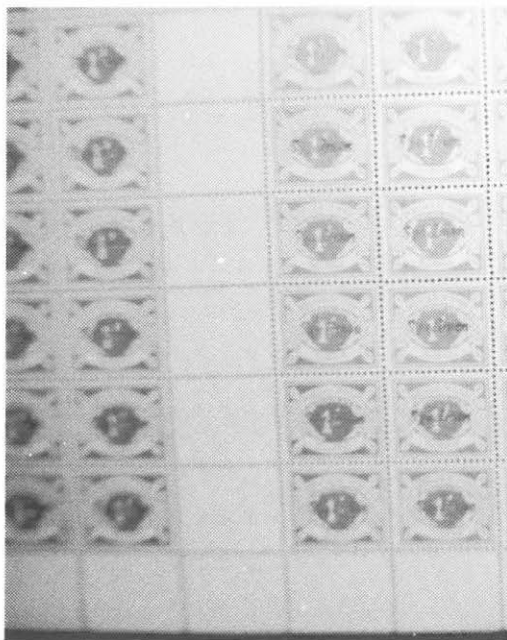
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## STAMPA '80 Contd.



*Part of the 'Specimen' overprint on 1/- postage due sheet on show at STAMPA. Note the 'gutter' between panes.*

There were sixteen dealers in attendance along with the Philatelic Section of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs and the Isle of Man Post Office. Despite the current recession business was brisk and most dealers were happy, even the British who had to add about 20% to their marked prices to allow for the difference in Sterling.

The special souvenir was in great demand, as was to be expected. It consisted of the 1980 Fauna miniature sheet overprinted with the inscription 'STAMPA 1980 Irish National Stamp Exhibition' with the permission of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs. Only 2,000 were overprinted, 1850 of them in black and 150 in red. The red overprints were distributed to subscribers to the Stamp Society, and the black overprints were sold to visitors to STAMPA on a one per person basis. As the original sheet had sold out within weeks of issue and was on offer at about £2 each on dealers' stands there was no problem in selling out the STAMPA version at £1.50 each, especi-

ally as they are 150 times scarcer! The four postmarks featured the animals depicted on the 'Fauna' set, as did the matching commemorative covers. The postmarks were designed by Paul Stewart and the covers incorporated drawings by Alice Fogerty.



*Tony Quigley attends to the long queue at the Stamp Sales Stand for the overprinted miniature sheet.*

The social highlight of the exhibition was the Prize-Giving Banquet at the Burlington Hotel, and everyone present agreed that it was the most enjoyable one yet. Mr. Jim Sheehy, Director of the Stamping Branch presented the various awards and made a most interesting speech regarding his work as printer of most of Ireland's stamps for the past twenty odd years and his close association with Irish philatelists. Levy entered the proceedings thereafter with the by now customary joke award to the 'best dealer of STAMPA', this year awarded to Steve Braham Junior of Stephen Walter, London. Ian Whyte, the Hon. Secretary then conducted an auction of three of the souvenir items including the 'No. 1' overprinted sheet,



*Norman Finnie attends to some junior collectors at STAMPA '80.*

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## STAMPA '80 Contd.



*David and Doreen Lee snatch a quick coffee break on the busy stand of James, Lee Hulbert Co. Ltd., of Norwich.*

the 'No. 80', and a set of the overprinted sheets on covers postmarked at the show. The items eventually realised £80 for STAMPA funds, after much banter between auctioneer and bidders who continually changed the currency of their bids and insisted on ridiculous bidding steps such as 'ten pounds nine shillings and eleven pence' and similar offers. Tony Finn, the Committee member responsible for this event is to be congratulated for the most successful crowning point of a STAMPA that will be long remembered.



*Ceri Bennett helping out on her brother's stand.*



*Ian Whyte, Bill Kane, and Brian Warren at the Official Opening.*

## AWARDS

**David Feldman Trophy for Best Overall Exhibit of Stampa '80 and Silver medal:** P. Smith-Keary, Dublin, "Australia: the 1d King George V 1914-1937". **The Stamping Branch Trophy for an Exhibit of Outstanding Merit of Primarily Irish Stamps Issued Since 1922 and a Silver medal:** William Kane, Dublin. **Silver Medals:** F. E. Dixon, Dublin (with Felicitations of the Jury); Norah K. Wright, Co. Dublin (with felicitations of the Jury); Michael B. Phelan, Co. Kilkenny; **Bronze Medals:** John F. Barrett, Co. Mayo; Captain P. Casey, Dublin; George E. R. Ithell, Middlesex; William Kane, Dublin; Glenn H. Morgan, Essex; Johan Rehnberg, Sweden; P. Smith-Keary, Dublin. In the Literature entries the following awards were made: **Gold Medal** to Brian Warren and Edward FitzGerald for "The Gerl Definitives", **Bronze Medal** to David MacDonnell and David Feldman for "Stamps of Ireland 1980 edition", **Certificate of Merit** with the Felicitations of the Jury to Ian Whyte for "Irish Stamp News".



*A regular cross-channel visitor, Wolfango de Souza, who specialises in Vatican and Western European stamps.*

# ireland

## DEFINITIVES — UNMOUNTED MINT

| S.G. no. |                                    | £ Sterling |
|----------|------------------------------------|------------|
| 71-82    | 1922 ½d.-1/- 'SE' wmk.             | 150.00     |
| 71a      | 1934 ½d. coil 'SE' wmk.            | 30.00      |
| 72a      | 1934 1d. coil single perf.         | 90.00      |
| 72c      | 1934 1d. coil                      | 18.00      |
| 74a      | 1934 2d coil                       | 55.00      |
| 102-4    | 1937 'SE' St. Patrick (3v.)        | 270.00     |
| 111-22   | 1940 ½d.-1/- 'E' wmk.              |            |
|          | (14)                               | 85.00      |
| 112a     | 1940 1d. coil p.14                 | 15.00      |
| 112b     | 1940 1d. coil p.15                 | 12.00      |
| 123-5    | 1940 St. Patrick cream paper (3v.) | 70.00      |
| 123a-5a  | St. Patrick white paper (3v.)      | 16.50      |
| 140-3b   | 1948 airmails (7v.)                | 10.00      |
| 227-8    | 1966-7 Photo printing (2v.)        | 1.00       |
| 247-62   | 1968 ½d.-10/- (16v.)               | 18.00      |
|          | 1968 1d.-2/6 Pva gum (8v.)         | 100.00     |
| 287-301  | 1971/5 Dec. wmk. (18v.)            | 16.70      |
| 299-299a | 1971 10p ox                        | (Buy 1.50) |
| 339-59   | 1974/8 Dec. no wmk. (24v.)         | 8.25       |

## POSTAGE DUES

|        |                        |        |
|--------|------------------------|--------|
| D1-4   | 1925 ½d.-6d. 'SE' wmk. | 125.00 |
| D5-14  | 1940/70 ½d. 1/- (10v.) | 38.00  |
| D15-21 | Dec. wmk. (7v.)        | 1.75   |
| D24-6  | Dec. no wmk. (3v.)     | 1.75   |

## COMMEMORATIVE SETS — UNMOUNTED MINT

|                           |       |
|---------------------------|-------|
| 1929 O'Connell            | 18.00 |
| 1930 Shannon              | 0.55  |
| 1931 Royal Dublin Society | 0.55  |
| 1932 Eucharist Congress   | 5.00  |
| 1933 Holy Year            | 4.50  |
| 1934 G.A.A.               | 0.90  |
| 1937 Constitution         | 4.50  |
| 1938 Father Matthew       | 5.75  |
| 1939 US Const.            | 5.75  |
| 1941 Volunteer            | 0.40  |
| 1943 Hyde                 | 0.90  |
| 1943 Hamilton             | 2.30  |
| 1944 O'Clery              | 0.45  |
| 1944 Rice                 | 0.38  |

|                         | £ Sterling |
|-------------------------|------------|
| 1945 Davis              | 3.60       |
| 1946 Davitt and Parnell | 3.15       |
| 1948 Wolfe Tone         | 4.50       |
| 1949 Republic           | 2.70       |
| 1949 Mangan             | 2.70       |
| 1950 Holy Year          | 12.00      |
| 1952 Moore              | 2.70       |
| 1953 Emmet              | 33.00      |
| 1954 Marian Year        | 5.75       |
| 1954 Cardinal Newman    | 10.00      |
| 1956 Barry              | 7.25       |
| 1957 Redmond            | 8.00       |
| 1957 O'Crohan           | 5.40       |
| 1957 Brown              | 27.00      |
| 1957 Wadding            | 11.00      |
| 1958 Clarke             | 8.00       |
| 1958 Aikenhead          | 10.75      |
| 1958 Constitution       | 3.60       |
| 1959 Guinness           | 8.00       |
| 1960 Refugee Year       | 0.65       |
| 1960 Europa             | 9.00       |
| 1961 Aer Lingus         | 3.00       |
| 1961 St. Patrick        | 2.25       |
| 1962 Scholars           | 2.40       |
| 1962 Europa             | 1.00       |
| 1963 F.F.H.             | 1.15       |
| 1963 Europa             | 2.40       |
| 1963 Red Cross          | 0.50       |
| 1964 Wolfe Tone         | 2.70       |
| 1964 World's Fair       | 2.70       |
| 1964 Europa             | 2.75       |
| 1965 I.T.U.             | 1.35       |
| 1965 Yeats              | 2.75       |
| 1965 I.C.Y.             | 2.70       |
| 1965 Europa             | 2.25       |
| 1966 Rising se-tenant   | 6.50       |
| 1966 Casement           | 0.60       |
| 1966 Europa             | 0.70       |
| 1966 Abbey              | 0.45       |
| 1967 Europa             | 0.85       |
| 1967 Canada             | 0.35       |
| 1967 Tourist Year       | 0.25       |
| 1967 Fenian             | 0.25       |
| 1967 Swift              | 0.25       |
| 1968 Europa             | 0.70       |
| 1968 St. Mary's Cath.   | 0.25       |

*Royale  
Stamp Co.*



Please Note: These are export prices in Sterling and do not include V.A.T.

|                          | £ Sterling |
|--------------------------|------------|
| 1968 Countess Markievicz | 0.25       |
| 1968 Connolly            | 0.25       |
| 1968 Human Rights Year   | 0.20       |
| 1969 Dail Assembly       | 0.20       |
| 1969 Europa              | 1.05       |
| 1969 Labour Organisation | 0.25       |
| 1969 Art                 | 0.25       |
| 1969 Gandhi              | 0.30       |
| 1970 Conservation        | 0.50       |
| 1970 Europa              | 1.15       |
| 1970 Yacht Club          | 0.08       |
| 1970 Art (Jeliet)        | 0.25       |
| 1970 Patriots se-tenant  | 6.50       |
| 1970 Barry               | 0.40       |
| 1971 Europa              | 1.15       |
| 1971 Sygne               | .60        |
| 1971 Art (Jack Yeats)    | .40        |
| 1971 Racial Equality     | .60        |
| 1971 Christmas           | .55        |
| 1972 World Health        | 1.15       |
| 1972 Europa              | 3.50       |
| 1972 Patriot Dead        | .55        |
| 1972 Art (Dillon)        | .20        |
| 1972 Olympic Council     | .50        |
| 1972 Christmas           | 1.00       |
| 1972 50th Stamps Anniv.  | .20        |
| 1972 Stamp m/sheet       | 7.00       |
| Plated set of 14         | 110.00     |
| 1973 E.E.C.              | 1.00       |
| 1973 Europa              | 1.15       |
| 1973 Art (Scott)         | .80        |
| 1973 Meteorological      | .70        |
| 1973 Ploughing           | .55        |
| 1973 Christmas           | .60        |
| 1974 Lifeboat            | .15        |
| 1974 Europa              | 1.50       |
| 1974 Goldsmith           | 1.15       |
| 1974 Art                 | .25        |
| 1974 Rugby               | .90        |
| 1974 U.P.U.              | .60        |
| 1974 Christmas           | .75        |
| 1975 Women's Year        | .75        |
| 1975 Europa              | .80        |
| 1975 Golf                | .75        |
| 1975 Art (Kelly)         | .48        |
| 1975 Nuns                | .40        |
| 1975 Architecture        | 1.50       |
| 1975 Oliver Plunkett     | .70        |
| 1975 Christmas           | .55        |
| 1976 Larkin              | .70        |
| 1976 Telephone Cent.     | .80        |
| 1976 US Bicentenary      | 1.00       |
| 1976 do. min. sheet      | 4.00       |
| 1976 Europa              | .60        |
| 1976 Art (Paul Henry)    | .40        |

|                              | £ Sterling |
|------------------------------|------------|
| 1976 Radio                   | .60        |
| 1976 Christmas               | .50        |
| 1977 Museums                 | .50        |
| 1977 Europa                  | .70        |
| 1977 Art (Le Broc)           | .50        |
| 1977 Scouting                | .80        |
| 1977 Anniversaries (2v.)     | .70        |
| 1977 Jubilees (3v.)          | .85        |
| 1977 Christmas               | .70        |
| 1978 Trans-Atlantic          | .50        |
| 1978 Flowers                 | .80        |
| 1978 Anniversaries (3v.)     | .60        |
| 1978 Natural Gas             | .20        |
| 1978 Coinage                 | .80        |
| 1978 Christmas               | .70        |
| 1978 Europa                  | .40        |
| 1979 Birds                   | .65        |
| 1979 E.E.C.                  | .35        |
| 1979 Cross-Country           | .15        |
| 1979 Rowland Hill            | .22        |
| 1979 Papal Visit             | .18        |
| 1979 Year of the Child       | .50        |
| 1979 Anniv (2v.)             | .25        |
| 1979 Art                     | .25        |
| 1979 Pearse                  | .18        |
| 1979 Christmas               | .38        |
| 1979 Europa                  | .35        |
| 1980 Wildlife                | .85        |
| 1980 Wildlife Minisheet      | 1.75       |
| Plated set of 9 (with guide) | 20.00      |

#### YEAR UNITS

|                        |       |
|------------------------|-------|
| 1929-1934 (10v.)       | 28.00 |
| 1937-1941 (5v.)        | 40.00 |
| 1943-1949 (16v.)       | 18.40 |
| 1950-1953 (9v.)        | 55.00 |
| 1954-1956 (6v.)        | 22.00 |
| 1957- (8v.)            | 49.00 |
| 1958-1959 (8v.)        | 28.00 |
| 1960-1962 (13v.)       | 16.00 |
| 1963-1964 (10v.)       | 11.50 |
| 1965- (8v.)            | 8.50  |
| 1966- (14v.)           | 7.80  |
| 1967- (10v.)           | 1.85  |
| 1968 (10v.)            | 1.60  |
| 1969 (9v.)             | 1.90  |
| 1970 (13v.)            | 8.25  |
| 1971 (9v.)             | 3.15  |
| 1972 (13v. + 1 m/s)    | 13.00 |
| 1973 (11v.)            | 4.00  |
| 1974 (12v.)            | 5.25  |
| 1975 (18v.)            | 5.50  |
| 1976 (16v. + 1 m/s)    | 8.00  |
| 1977 (15v.)            | 4.30  |
| 1978 (18v.)            | 3.50  |
| 1979 (20v.)            | 3.20  |
| 1929-1979 Comp commems | £280  |

Please Note: These are export prices in Sterling and do not include V.A.T.

#### THE PRICE LIST

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## IRISH PHILATELIC SOCIETY CELEBRATES ITS 80TH BIRTHDAY

The Irish Philatelic Society is 80 years old this year. Nineteen members attended its first meeting held on February 12, 1901, when it was known as the "Irish Philatelic Club". By 1903 the Hon. Secretary reported that of an estimated 100 stamp collectors in Ireland one third were members of the Society. Mr. William Lane-Joynt, founder-member and President, was also curator of the Museum's philatelic collection including the bequest of the Duke of Leinster.

On June 22 1923 Dr. Jameson Johnson, who succeeded Lane-Joynt as President, opened the first public stamp auction ever held in Ireland. In 1936 the I.P.S. organised the "First Irish Philatelic Exhibition" which was held in Jury's Hotel, Dublin and was successful enough for the Society to sponsor a second exhibition, again in Jury's, in 1938.

In 1944 the I.P.S., with the help and encouragement of the Minister for Education, Mr. Thomas O'Derig, and the Director of the National Museum, organised the third and biggest Irish Philatelic Exhibition. The exhibition took place in the National Museum from October 23 to November 4 and a special postmark was used throughout. The exhibition was opened by the Minister for Posts and Telegraphs, Mr. P. J. Little, himself a keen collector. The exhibition was very successful but unfortunately the excellent work done by the Committee under the presidency of Senator Joseph Brennan was not repeated, and it was almost 30 years before another exhibition was attempted. STAMPA '72 was conceived by I.P.S. members David Glass and Ian Whyte who organised a meeting of interested parties in 1971 which afterwards formed into the National Stamp Exhibition Committee, in which I.P.S. members have played an active role ever since.

Many distinguished Irish philatelists have served as President of the Society including Mr. F. E. Dixon, Mr. J. D. Houston, Dr. R. P. Towers, Mr. W. Kane, Dr. J. A. Quigley, Mr. A. L. Stokes, Dr. M. A. W. Roberts, Dr. D. J. O'Kelly, and Miss N. Wright. The current President is Mr. Charles Griffiths.

Today the I.P.S. has about 200 members, holds fortnightly meetings throughout the year, organises two annual competitions, and

publishes a quarterly newsletter. In addition the Society has a thriving Exchange Packet and a comprehensive Library.

This year its energetic new Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Alice Fogerty, has organised a bumper programme to celebrate this 80th birthday. In February a visit to the Central Sorting Office will take place, while in April the Revenue Stamping Branch, who are responsible for printing much of Ireland's stamps, will provide a talk on 'Modern Stamp Printing' by Mr. Gay O'Brien. A cross-channel visitor, Mr. R. Johnson of the Postal History Society and the Society of Postal Historians will display on June 11. Other visitors will include Mr. J. A. Finley with 'Antarctica' from the N.I.P.S., Belfast, Dr. C. Ross with 'Colombia' from the C.P.S., Cork, and Mr. J. Kelly with 'Isle of Man' from the D.S.S., Dublin. On September 24 there will be an informal meeting with three Irish stamp designers. The famous 'Purser' collection, not seen in public since Mrs. Purser's death several years ago, will be shown by her grand-daughter, Lady Blunden, on November 26. The section to be displayed is 'Canada'.

On May 7 a Dinner will be held to mark the 80th Anniversary. Tickets will be available to members and friends of the Society. Further details of this and other activities of the Society can be obtained from the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. Alice Fogerty, Deepark House, Sutton, Dublin 13, Telephone: 323139.

## Irish Stamp News

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES

As from March 1 1981

|                                     |       |
|-------------------------------------|-------|
| Per 4 issues:                       |       |
| G.B. & Ireland                      | £2.60 |
| Europe &<br>Overseas (surface mail) | £3.00 |
| Europe &<br>Overseas (airmail)      | £4.50 |

## STAMPA NEWS

At the Annual General Meeting of the Stampa Society on February 2, the outgoing Executive Committee were re-elected unanimously. They are: Dr. J. A. Quigley (Hon. Chairman), S. Kearns (Hon. Vice-Chairman), I. W. Whyte (Hon. Secretary), B. Warren (Hon. Treasurer), G. Bennett, C. Buckley, A. J. Byrne, F. E. Dixon, A. F. Finn, J. Lennon, D. MacDonnell, Dr. R. P. Towers F.R.P.S.L. Owing to the death of Mr. J. A. Milliken F.C.A. a new auditor had to be appointed, and Richard J. Stein was unanimously approved for this appointment.

The accounts passed by the A.G.M. were for the year ended May 31 1980 (i.e. STAMPA '79) and showed a surplus of £696. This money was invested in new frames and equipment for STAMPA '80, which in turn is expected to return a surplus of about £700. All the money made by the exhibition is re-invested in new equipment for future exhibitions. STAMPA is now on a much sounder financial footing than it was in the first three years when it incurred heavy losses on the 1972 and 1973 exhibitions.

STAMPA '81 will be part of the Royal Dublin Society's major exhibition to mark its 250th Anniversary. This exhibition which will be held from October 10 to 18 next, will take place in the Society's Main Halls at Ballsbridge. The show will encompass the themes of 250 years of Irish history, science and technology, industry and agriculture. The main participants will be the National Museum, various Government Departments, the Confederation of Irish Industry, and STAMPA, the Irish National Stamp Exhibition. The main advantage to STAMPA of participating in this show is that it is expected to attract some 90,000 people, and this will be a great opportunity to expose the hobby of stamp collecting to such a huge audience, much of which will be school children.

Further details of STAMPA '81 will be available in the Prospectus, which will be available in April from the Hon. Secretary, STAMPA '81, 3 Fitzwilliam Place, Dublin 2.

## SLOGAN CANCELS

There has been very little news from the Department of Posts and Telegraphs regarding slogan cancels during the last few years. The news releases on new slogans have stopped being issued, but we have obtained a list of slogans to be used at Dublin, Limerick, Cork, Waterford, Galway, Cavan, Donegal, and Dundalk. They are as follows: January, "Irish

Wheelchair Association"\*, February, "Savings Bank", March, "Prevent Forest Fires", April, "The Blood Transfusion Service", May, "Savings Bank", June, "National Savings Committee", July, "Collect Postage Stamps", August and September "Conserve Energy", October "International Year of Disabled"\*, November, "ITT (Golden Pages)", December, "Post Early for Christmas". Those marked with an asterisk (\*) are new, the others having been used in previous years.

It is not known what the schedule for other sorting offices is at present.

## DOES THIS STAMP EXIST?

John Pedneault of New York has been searching in vain for a copy of DF T28a, the Thom blue-black overprint inverted on 2d Die I, for several years. He claims to have examined dozens of purported copies of the stamp only to find they are the black overprint as opposed to the blue-black. And John should know, as he runs the largest testing laboratory on Long Island, and his equipment can identify any ink immediately.

John Pedneault is beginning to doubt whether this stamp exists at all, and has asked IRISH STAMP NEWS to invite readers who have, or think they have a copy of this stamp to contact him. Meredith reported 'two sheets of 2d blue-black — overprint inverted — one in each die' in his "Postage Stamps of Ireland 1922-1927". John Pedneault's address is 800 Blair St., Bohemia, New York 11716, U.S.A.



*SYDPEX AUSTRALIA: Dave MacDonnell sells a catalogue to Mike Smits of Perth, while Mary K. Vlot and friend from Campbelltown, New South Wales smile for the camera.*

# REGISTERED MAIL: PART TWO

## by William Kane

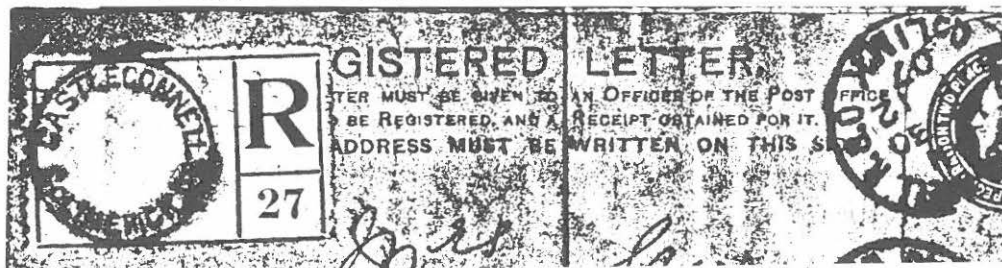
### REGISTERED LABELS

In most countries of the world, the Post Office demand a signed receipt from the addressee on delivery of registered mail. In order to prove that the correct item is being signed for, the Post Office affix a special label in the top left hand corner of the packet, which carries the name of the town where the item was posted, also a number which corresponds with that on the receipt which the addressee signs.

Prior to the introduction of registered labels, registered letters carried several endorsements: usually the superscription, such as the word "REGISTERED" which was applied to the letter, and the serial number corresponding to an entry in a special registration book, kept at the Post Office of dispatch.

It was at the Rome Convention of the U.P.U., in 1906, that it was decided that printed registration labels should be introduced by all the member countries, as from February 1907. Britain and Ireland were among the first countries to conform, and issued labels that month. In the beginning there were four sizes, differing in appearance and style of inscription. The labels used at the smaller country post offices were comparatively large in size, containing space for the name of the office, which was inserted in manuscript, or by means of a date stamp bearing the name of the office.

This large type of label was withdrawn early in 1917, but can sometimes be seen used at temporary post offices, since that date.



*Castleconnell, Co. Limerick, date stamp without date, used to show the office of origin. This type of label was issued in sheets of 50, and were probably hand stamped upon receipt at the office, and then used as required.*

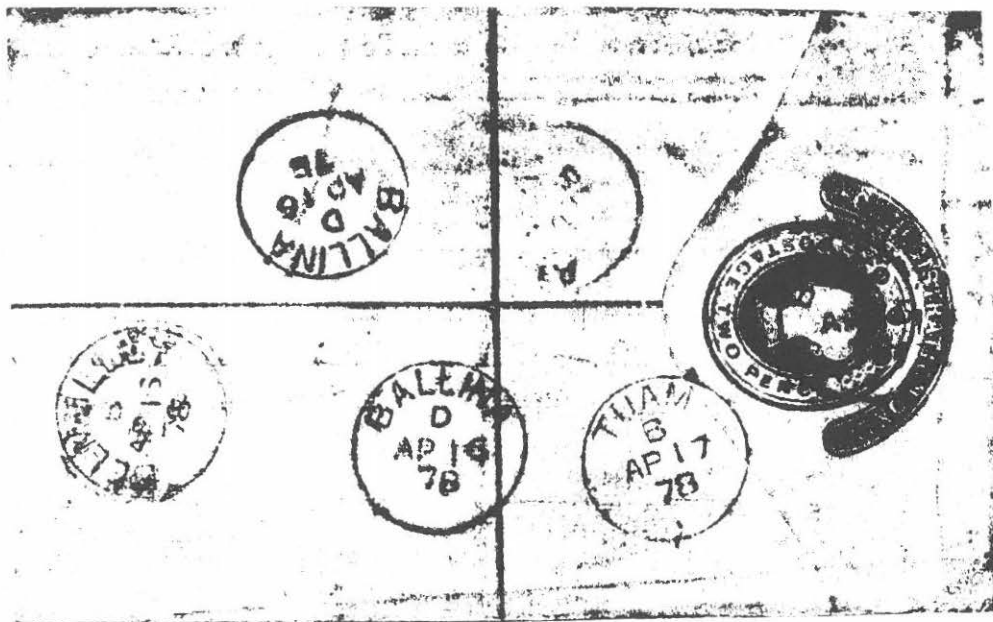


*Dublin 59. (Dolphins Barn). The number following the word Dublin, was the identity of the Dublin Sub-Office.*

There are other aspects associated with the registered mail, such as the "A.R." forms, (Acknowledgement of Delivery); Compulsory Registration; Postage Due; Express Post; and the various handstamps used in connection with registered mail, all of which are important, but which I must pass over in this brief introductory article.

## REGISTERED ENVELOPES

The study of the registered envelopes issued since 1878, will provide enough material for a specialised collection, and for those looking for an interesting theme, I can certainly recommend this particular sideline.

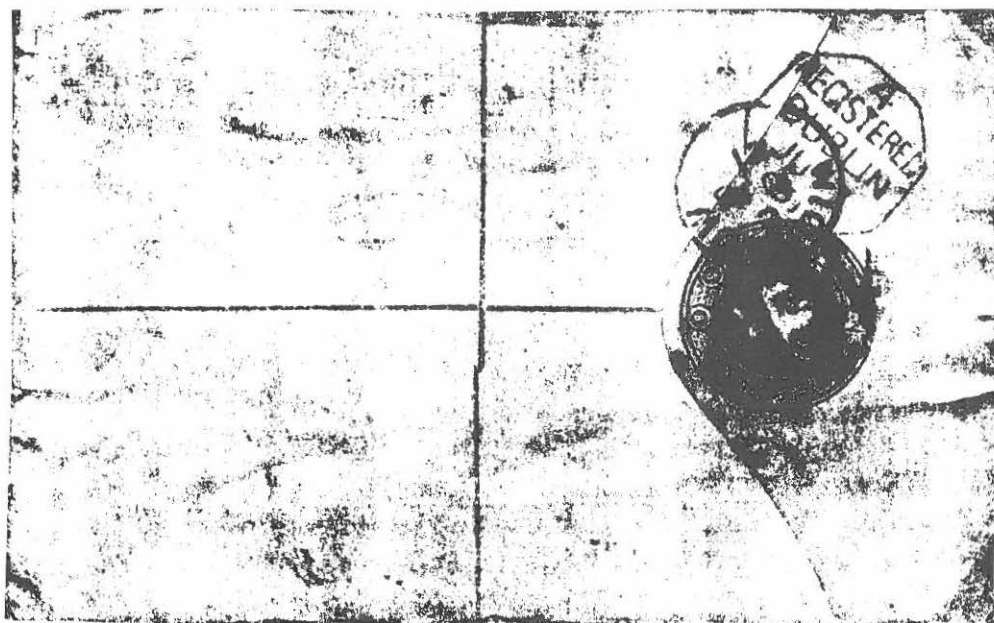


First type of Post Office Registered Envelope, issued in 1878. Due to the difficulty of stamping paper backed with linen, it was decided to place the stamp on the open flap which was not lined. Issued in two sizes. The registration stamp of 2d, with a collar above it, with the words "FOR REGISTRATION ONLY". Additional adhesive stamps were necessary to prepay postage.

This Letter must be given to an Officer of the Post Office to be Registered.

**REGISTERED**

The front of the envelope had the word "REGISTERED" boxed, and a single line instruction above. Both the boxed registered, and the instruction, varied in size and style in later issues.



1878, April. — The style of the registration stamp changed. Collar removed, and new wording.

|                                                                |                   |                                                   |                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>R</b>                                                       | <b>REGISTERED</b> | <b>LETTER.</b>                                    | THE STAMP<br>TO PAY THE<br>POSTAGE<br>MUST BE<br>PLACED HERE. |
| THIS LETTER MUST BE GIVEN TO<br>OFFICE TO BE REGISTERED. AND A |                   | AN OFFICER OF THE POST<br>RECEIPT OBTAINED FOR IT |                                                               |

1881, October. — A large "R" at top left hand corner of the envelope.

|                                                        |                   |                                                           |                                                               |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>R</b>                                               | <b>REGISTERED</b> | <b>LETTER.</b>                                            | THE STAMP<br>TO PAY THE<br>POSTAGE<br>MUST BE<br>PLACED HERE. |
| THIS LETTER MUST BE GIVEN TO<br>TO BE REGISTERED AND A |                   | AN OFFICER OF THE POST OFFICE<br>RECEIPT OBTAINED FOR IT. |                                                               |

1883, March. — New format, with large "R" in oval at top left.

|                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                 | <p><b>Inland Registration.</b></p>                                                                                       |
| <p>Compensation for<br/>in respect of Inland<br/>all kinds, according to<br/>the fees set forth in<br/>ordinary registration</p> | <p>Loss or damage is given<br/>Registered Packets of<br/>the following table—<br/>which include the<br/>fee of 2d.:-</p> |
| <p>Subject to the Conditions in<br/>the published Regulations as<br/>to Registration of<br/>Inland Letters, &amp;c.</p>          | <p>the published Regulations as<br/>to Registration of<br/>Inland Letters, &amp;c.</p>                                   |

1891. — Inland Registration. With scale of compensation £5 — £25 on back.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  <p><b>REGISTERED LETTER.</b></p> <p>THIS LETTER MUST BE GIVEN TO AN<br/>OFFICER OF THE POST OFFICE<br/>TO BE REGISTERED, AND A<br/>RECEIPT OBTAINED FOR IT.<br/>THE ADDRESS MUST BE<br/>WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.</p> | <p>THE<br/>STAMP<br/>TO PAY THE<br/>POSTAGE<br/>MUST BE<br/>PLACED HERE.</p>        |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |

1893. — New small registration stamp, on new style envelope, curved flap on front, with stamp in centre.

# Inland Registration.

Subject to the Conditions published in the Post Office Guide as to Registration, compensation for loss or damage is given in respect of Inland Registered Packets of all kinds according to the following table:—

| Fee.         | Table of Compensation. |
|--------------|------------------------|
| 2d. ....     | £5.                    |
| 3d. ....     | £10.                   |
| 4d. ....     | £20.                   |
| 5d. ....     | £30.                   |
| 6d. ....     | £40.                   |
| 7d. ....     | £50.                   |
| 8d. ....     | £80.                   |
| 9d. ....     | £70.                   |
| 10d. ....    | £80.                   |
| 11d. ....    | £90.                   |
| 1s. 0d. .... | £100.                  |
| 1s. 1d. .... | £110.                  |
| 1s. 2d. .... | £120.                  |

1898. — Compensation schedule altered to £5 — £120.



## REGISTERED LETTER.

THIS LETTER MUST BE GIVEN TO AN OFFICER OF THE POST OFFICE TO BE REGISTERED, AND A RECEIPT OBTAINED FOR IT.  
THE ADDRESS MUST BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.



1901. — New envelope with stamp at top right hand corner.

As I stated at the beginning, this would be a brief article and so it is, just a mere outline which I hope has provided enough thought to whet the appetite of some philatelists. If you like a challenge, then this is a subject for you.

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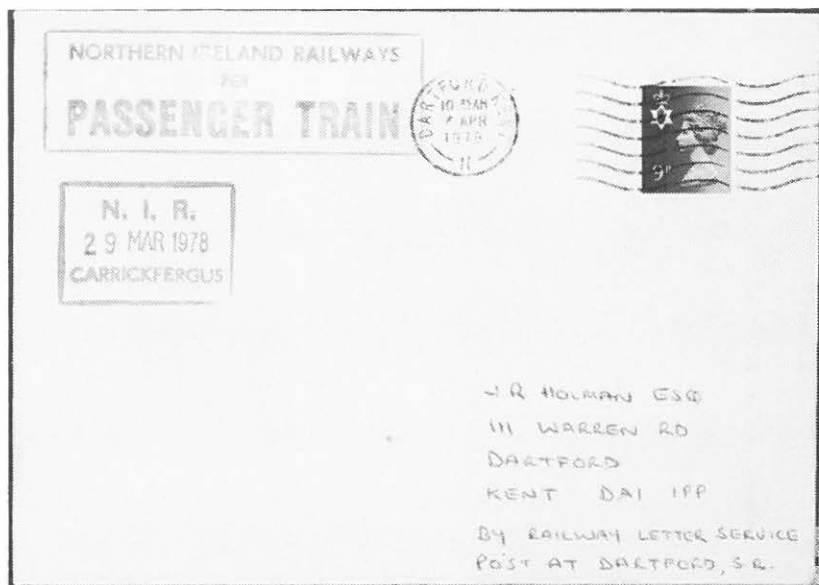
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- IRISH
- NEW
- ISSUES
- IRISH
- PACKETS

# THE IRISH RAILWAY LETTER SERVICE SINCE DECIMALISATION

By J. R. Holman



*N.I.R. Cover carried from Carrickfergus to Dartford, Kent, 29 March 1978. The N.I.R. rubber stamps indicate the payment of the 28p railway letter fee.*

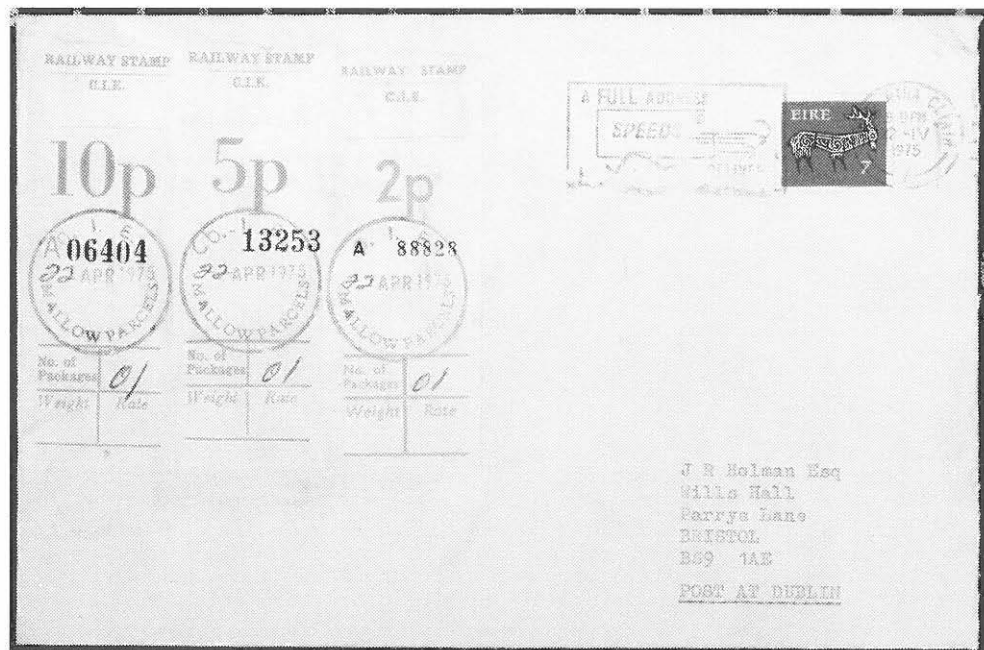
In Great Britain and Ireland there are three main railway companies – British Rail, Coras Iompair Éireann and Northern Ireland Railways. All three continue to operate the railway letter service which was inaugurated in February 1891, when nearly a hundred railway companies, both great and humble, became party to the agreement with the Post Office. Since decimalisation the charges for carrying letters on all three railway systems have increased as inflation hits our economies. The charges for the two Irish systems are as follows:

## Coras Iompair Éireann

|                  |     |
|------------------|-----|
| 15 February 1971 | 10p |
| 30 August 1971   | 12p |
| 6 August 1973    | 14p |
| 15 July 1974     | 17p |
| 12 May 1975      | 21p |
| 4 April 1977     | 29p |
| 8 May 1978       | 32p |
| 2 July 1979      | 40p |
| 28 January 1980  | 60p |

## Northern Ireland Railways

|                  |     |
|------------------|-----|
| 15 February 1971 | 10p |
| 1 October 1973   | 11p |
| 31 March 1975    | 20p |
| 8 September 1975 | 20p |
| 26 April 1976    | 25p |
| 6 June 1977      | 28p |
| 11 June 1979     | 31p |

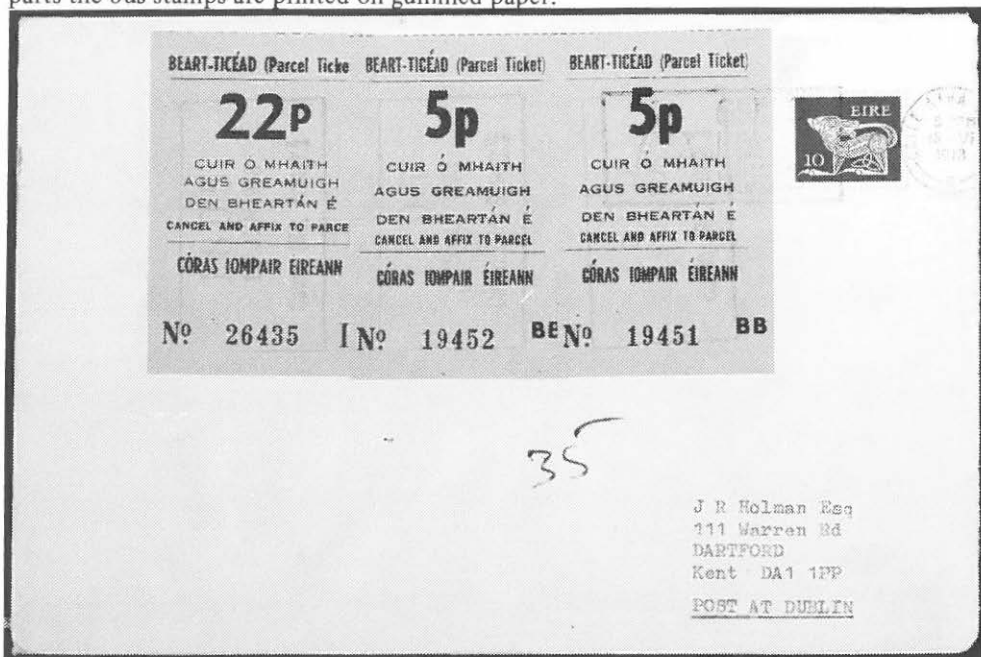


C.I.E. Cover carried from Mallow to Dublin 22 April 1975, fee 17p denoted by 10p, 5p and 2p parcel stamps.

The charges have been subject to V.A.T. since April 1973. By comparison with British Rail the Irish charges are now indeed modest – British Rail also charged 10p in February 1971 but is now (August 1980) a staggering £1.25 even before V.A.T. is imposed. Of the three rail networks the letters carried by C.I.E. are the most interesting as the company continues to use parcel stamps to denote the fee paid (usually the V.A.T. exclusive amount). Covers showing valued parcel stamps (glued to the envelope) and a machine-printed parcel stamp are illustrated. On the Northern Ireland Railways parcel stamps have not been used since at least 1967 and the payment of the relevant fee is indicated by impressing the station datestamp (an example from Carrickfergus is illustrated). For comparison, British Rail occasionally use an unvalued parcel stamp (on which the fee paid is inserted in manuscript) and even more occasionally valued newspaper stamps are brought into use. Mostly the station datestamp is used as on N.I.R.

As well as carrying letters on their own services, railway letters can, by agreement, be passed on to the services of one or both of the other two companies. However, there is usually quite a delay on letters transferred across the Irish Sea, although a better service is likely (in my experience) for letters *en route* from Ireland to Britain than those travelling in the opposite direction. C.I.E. in addition to its rail services also runs an extensive network of road passenger services and by agreement with the Dept. of Posts & Telegraphs railway letters may also be carried on bus routes. A separate

series of parcel stamps are used on the bus services quite different in design to the railway issues. A cover bearing these stamps is also shown. Unlike their railway counterparts the bus stamps are printed on gummed paper.



C.I.E. Cover carried by bus service from Cavan to Dublin, 15 June 1978, fee of 32p being shown by 22p and 5p bus parcel stamps.

At the ports of Rosslare and Dun Laoghaire letters can be handed to the British Rail Sealink representatives for conveyance to Fishguard and Holyhead (respectively) and beyond. These of course will be subject to the B.R. fee of £1.25 and not the more respectable C.I.E. charge (60p). Details of the services available are given in the Post Office Guide (*Eolai an Phoist*, 1977 edition Vol. 1 pp 64 – 66).

As well as the three main companies letters have been carried on the bus services of the Co. Donegal Railway Company and the Londonderry & Lough Swilly Railway Co. The Co. Donegal Company was amalgamated into C.I.E. in July 1971; from decimal day until then a charge of 17½p was made for carrying a railway letter. The company had its own parcel stamps, similar in design to those of C.I.E.

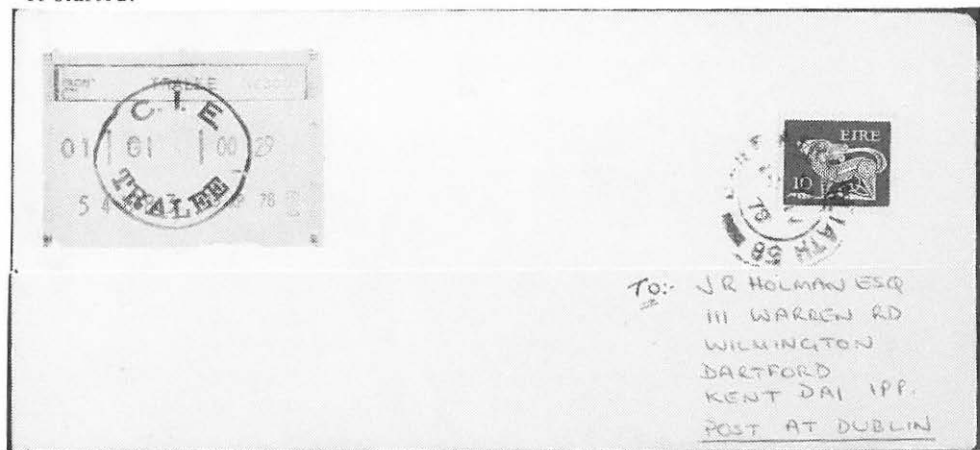
The Londonderry & Lough Swilly Railway operated a railway letter service until November 1973, the charge levied being their minimum parcel rate. In November 1971 this was 5p, increasing to 8p by July 1973. Until about 1972 the company used their own valued parcel stamps (of the standard Irish design); thereafter their standard parcel label was affixed to letters, the value being printed on the label by the ticket-issuing machine on the bus. The label and its receipt (given to the sender) was illustrated in *Irish Stamp News* No. 1 (Autumn 1978, p. 21).

The 'stamp' portion used on a railway letter is illustrated here. In November 1973 the Londonderry Head Post Office decided that letters carried on the Londonderry &



*Londonderry & Lough Swilly Rly. Letter carried from Letterkenny to Londonderry and then by N.I.R. to Belfast. Fee paid 5p – shown on standard parcel label.*

Lough Swilly services and posted on arrival in the city could not be accepted for onward transmission. The company was unable to convince the Post Office that the service was quite legitimate – their having been party to the agreement of 1891 (at which time they operated railway rather than bus services), and the service ended. It has strictly speaking only been 'suspended' but it is unlikely now that it will be re-started.



*C.I.E. Cover carried from Tralee to Dublin, 13 April 1978, fee 29p denoted by machine-printed parcel stamp.*

To many people the railway letter service seems something of an anachronism in the age of the telephone, telex and the silicon-chip. However for the philatelist interested in cinderella material it is the source of many interesting covers. It is to be hoped that it will be allowed to continue and it would be nice if both the British and Irish Post Offices could be persuaded to issue a postage stamp to commemorate the centenary of the service in eleven years time.

## THE GERL DEFINITIVES — SUPPLEMENT NO. 3

By Brian Warren and Eddie FitzGerald



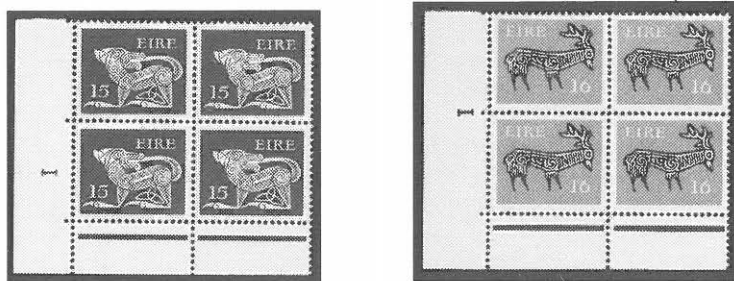
Since the issue of supplement no. 2 in Irish Stamp News No. 5 there have been six additions including four new stamps to the type D series as follows:—

| Value    | Colours and Dates of Issue                 | Cylinder Numbers  |
|----------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 3p dog   | Cinnamon 6/80                              | I                 |
| 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) |
| £1 eagle | Yellow, olive, orange and ultramarine 9/80 | III               |

As stated in the last Recent Releases article, the 12p dog and 13p stag took cognisance of the increase in postal rates on 1st August 1979. However, with a further increase in rates on 1st July 1980, a 15p dog and 16p stag were released on 10th July to meet the revised inland and European letter rates respectively. The 15p dog is known to have been pre-released as early as the 8th July as post offices were short of this value. Sheet formats and marginal markings as per previous issues. On page 29 of our handbook we referred to the disappearance of the colour register crosses on new monochrome values introduced since 1976. Recent 'dog' releases have seen their reappearance on the 9½p, 12p, and 15p values; however on the 12p dog, only one cross exists in the right margin opposite row 17.

Normal FDC facilities available for the new stamps with pictorial cancels available in Dublin and Cork (12p and 13p: Stag cancel; 15p and 16p: Dog cancel). The 3p is a brighter shade than type A, the only other unwatermarked 3p, due primarily to the use of fluorescent coated paper for the first time in the printing of this value. The 12p dog exists with two distinct shades. Sheets presently on sale are paler than those first distributed. It should be noted on the 16p stag cylinder block that 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. The varieties previously published in the handbook in respect of the 3p and £1 values naturally occur on the type D releases as the same cylinders are used for new printings. A listing of the more prominent varieties, not previously published, on recent and past issues follows:—

- 12p stag (Cyl. II) — R5/4: Cell damage and retouching beneath front legs of stag (Th.F5).
- 12p stag (Cyl. I2) — R6/9: Retouch between rear legs (Th.E2).  
— R9/8: Indent in top margin (Th.A4).
- 12p dog (Cyl. I) — R3/9: Large Scratch in top left corner (Th.C1-A2).  
— R7 to 11, stamp 4: Dot in spiral on neck (Th.C3).  
— 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 behind stag's rear (Th.C1).
- 15p dog (Cyl. I) — R1/7: Large blue spot in shoulder spiral (Th.D4).  
— R4/2: Blue spot in ear (Th.B2).  
— R6/8: 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) — R2/10: Line through 6 of figure 16 (Th.E7).



*Cylinder blocks of the 15p dog and 16p stag.  
The two "I's" are superimposed on the 16p  
block.*

The 15p dog varieties on R6/8 and R14/8 are two of the best flaws to appear on the Gerl series. The repeating dot in spiral on Rows 7 to 11, stamp 4 on the 12p dog suggests that the variety occurred during the "step and repeat" process in the manufacture of the multipositive for the new cylinder.

**70p Booklet.** In supplement no. 1 we referred to the existence of 40p booklets with the slogan (Please show district numbers etc.) missing from the inside front cover. A small number of the 70p booklets have recently been discovered with the slogan missing from the inside front cover. Once again the total number of booklets with this variety is a multiple of 42 and depends on the number of error cover card sheets utilised in the production of complete booklets. So check your booklets!

**Supplement No. 2 — Corrigenda.** The printing gremlins strike again. Astute readers will have noticed that in the type D listing the release date of the 8p dog should read 8/78 as per the handbook and not 8/79.

# RECENT RELEASES

By Brian Warren and Eddie FitzGerald



The second half of 1980 has proved to be an expensive period for plate block collectors. The third Flora and Fauna issue gave rise to a total of eleven plate/perforation combinations.

| Date     | Issue                                           | Value | Plate Numbers | Perforator<br>(note below) |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------|-------|---------------|----------------------------|
| 7/80     | Registered Envelope<br>Size H – Second printing | 44p   |               |                            |
| 30/7/80  | Flora and Fauna – Stoat                         | 12p   | 11111         | Grover & Bickel            |
|          | – Hare                                          | 15p   | 11111, 11121  | Grover only                |
|          | – Hare                                          | 15p   | 12121, 11122  | Grover only                |
|          | – Hare                                          | 15p   | 12111         | Bickel only                |
|          | – Fox                                           | 16p   | 11111         | Grover & Bickel            |
|          | – Deer                                          | 25p   | 11111         | Grover & Bickel            |
| 20/7/80  | Miniature Sheet                                 | 68p   |               |                            |
| 21/8/80  | Newspaper Wrapper                               | 8p    |               |                            |
| 25/9/80  | Irish Music and Dance                           | 12p   | 11111         | Grover only                |
|          |                                                 | 15p   | 11111         | Grover only                |
|          |                                                 | 25p   | 11111         | Grover only                |
| 11/10/80 | Cork Philatelic Exhibition<br>Booklet           | £1    |               |                            |
| 23/10/80 | Sean O'Casey Birth Centenary                    | 12p   | 11111, 11212  | Grover only                |
|          | Irish Art                                       | 25p   | 111           | Grover only                |
| 24/10/80 | Stampa '80 – Miniature Sheet                    | £1.50 |               |                            |

Grover: Sheets have imperf. left vertical margins and perf. right vertical margins.  
Bickel: sheets have imperf. vertical right margins and perf. left vertical margins.

**Commemorative Issues.** All three commemorative issues were printed by Irish Security Stamp Printing Limited using the offset lithography process. The usual plate numbers, imprint and colour checks exist on all the above issues. In our notes in Irish Stamp News No. 6 we referred to the two perforation types on the 13p Oscar Wilde stamp. It has now been established that this was due to the use of both the Grover and Bickel perforators for this issue. Both perforators were used on the Flora and Fauna issue as listed above. This issue also saw the release of the third miniature sheet by the Irish Post Office. The primary sheet consisted of nine miniature sheets. An uncut primary sheet was on display at both the Cork Philatelic Exhibition and Stamp '80; through the existence of minor varieties it has been possible to plate the nine sheets. Plating guides are on sale from most dealers in Ireland. 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 figures of value in a separate operation as the new postal rates which came into effect on 1 July were not known when printing operations began. This second cylinder was not 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. To date, no perforation complications have arisen on the later commemorative issues.



*Plate blocks of the 15p Hare showing the two perforators – plate 12111 (Bickel) and plate 12121 (Grover).*

**Exhibition Souvenirs.** The Cork Philatelic Exhibition booklet contained the following stamps:— 2 x 12p Shaw, 6 x 1p dog, 6 x 2p dog (interleaved) and was issued in a limited pre-numbered edition of 300 booklets. Price £1 (one per visitor). The booklet was sold out by 11.30 a.m. The back cover illustrated the exhibition postmark. The Stamp '80 miniature sheet consisted of a black imprint on the margin of the Flora and Fauna sheet. Official permission was obtained for this imprint which was effected

by Irish Printers Limited. Price £1.50 (one per visitor). There was a total of 2,000 pre-numbered sheets. 150 of the sheets had the imprint in red for distribution to members of the "Stampa Society". The sheets were postally valid to the value of 68p.

**Postal Stationery.** A further printing of the 44p size H registered envelope appeared in July on duplex manilla paper (sold for 47p) with incorrect foreign compensation amount of £6.35. It is also believed to be a small printing as of course the postal rates for registration were increased on July 1st. A new 55p size H envelope will be issued on November 18th to take cognisance of the increase in rates. The missing "For" variety mentioned in Irish Stamp News No. 3 has been noted on this second 44p printing of the size H envelopes. A new 8p newspaper wrapper (cost 9p) was released on Thursday 21 August and covers the inland rate as from 1st July. This is only the second newspaper wrapper issued since decimal day.



*Stampa '80 - Miniature Sheet.*



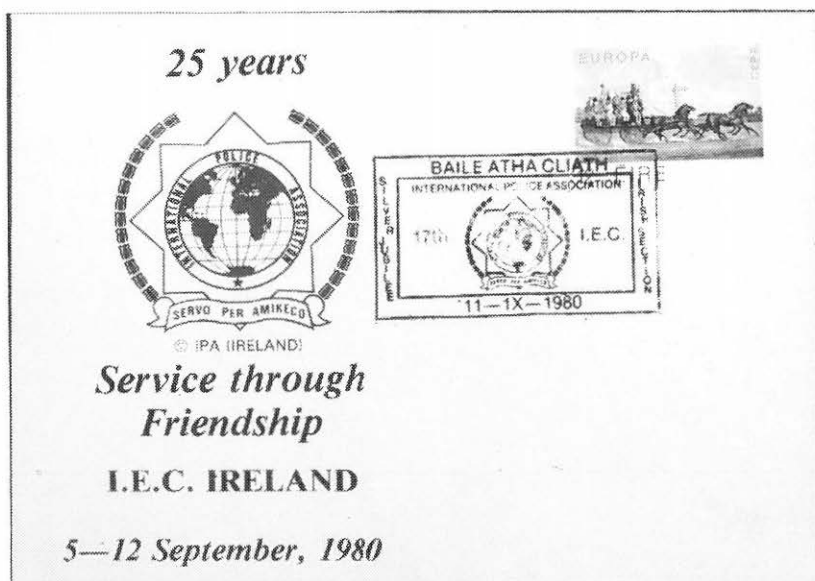
*Horse Show skeleton cancel.*

**Postmarks.** Special pictorial first day postmarks were used in both Dublin and Cork for the three commemorative issues. Commencing with the Flora and Fauna issue, special pictorial first day covers (price 14p) are being made available by the Post Office for stamps issued on a single theme. The standard first day cover continues in use for multiple stamp issues i.e. where stamps are issued on the same day for more than one subject. As a result special covers were available for the Flora and Fauna issue and the Irish Music and Dance set whereas the standard cover was used for the O'Casey/Art issue. The special event cancels were as follows:—

5—9 August: R.D.S. Horse Show, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4. A philatelic stand and posting facilities were available. Other postal services including registration were not available. A skeleton datestamp was used on mail posted at the stand.

13—17 August: Carrolls Irish Open Golf Championship. Similar postmark as per previous years used at Portmarnock Golf Club. Applied in purple.

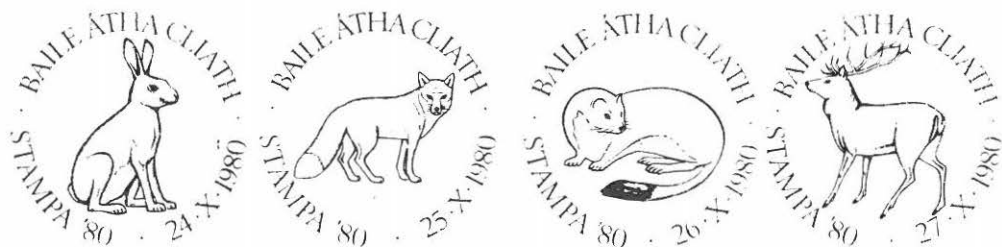
11 September: International Police Association. Rectangular pictorial cancel used at Trinity College. Special cover and cachet also available.



*International Police Association – Cover and Cancel.*

11 October: Cork Stamp Exhibition at the Imperial Hotel, Cork. The circular pictorial cancel featured a bust drawing of G.B. Shaw. Special cover available.

14 October: Borough of Dun Laoghaire Golden Jubilee. Oval cancel used on mail posted at the town hall. The cancel features the Borough Coat of arms.



*Stampa 1980 cancels.*

24-27 October: Stampa '80. Four cancels featuring the animals on the recent Flora and Fauna set.

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).

Four official envelopes featuring a sketch of each of the appropriate animals were available to match each day's postmark.

# Book Review

**FAUNA & FLORA MINIATURE SHEET PLATING GUIDE.** Compiled by Declan O'Kelly, published by David Feldman Ltd. 10pp A4. Price: £1 plus postage. (Available from Ian Whyte Ltd.)

This is an excellent piece of original philatelic research, showing that the classic philatelic pursuit of plating has not been killed off by photogravure or multi-colour lithography. Mr. O'Kelly has compiled a list of the major constant flaws on the sheets, attributed them to the various positions, and each sheet is illustrated at four times its normal size to emphasise the flaws.

This reviewer found it particularly easy to use, though not so easy, alas, to find all the different sheets to make up my set. I am still two short but Mr. O'Kelly is to be congratulated, even if he has forced me to spend nine times the amount of money I had intended on the miniature sheet.

E.J.

**THE SPOON EXPERIMENT 1853 – 1858** by R. M. Willcocks and W. A. Sedgewick. Published by the authors. 71pp paper-back, A5. Price: IR£6.50 plus postage (available from Ian Whyte Ltd.).

This is the most comprehensive work published on this subject, which of course is of great interest to Irish postal historians. Although only 16 pages refer to the Irish Spoon cancellations it does give as complete a listing as possible of the Irish marks.

To the uninitiated I should explain that the name 'spoon' is given to a group of cancellations which were widely used in Ireland and England between 1853 and 1858. Up to 1853 letters bearing adhesive postage stamps received a cancellation of the stamp by means of, initially, a 'Maltese Cross', and later, a numbered obliterator, and also a datestamp indicating the date and place of posting. It was a logical step to incorporate both datestamp and obliterator into one cancellation, and the 'spoon' type cancels are the first of these, designed to speed the handling of mails. The word 'spoon' is used due to the shape of the cancel which resembles a spoon.

This book is a very readable account of why and how this experiment took place, an experiment that was revolutionary in the cancellation of postage stamps. The listings are very comprehensive, and a scarcity rating is included, giving values of good strikes on cover. A typical entry reads:

"DERRY No. 172

English type as Fig. 20. Seen from 25th October 1855 to 17th January 1857 code letters A, E, F, M, in blue, green, black and brownish black.

Irish type. Seen from 6th April 1857 to 23rd March 1858 in black with code letters A, E, M."

The illustrations are first-class – an essential element in any work on postal history – and numerous. I would have no hesitation in recommending it to the Irish postal historian.

I.W.

## Letters

Dear Sir,

I have now read through the Summer issue of I.S.N. and would like to make an open reply to some comments made by a Mr. McKee in the letters section. Firstly, I don't feel that Mr. O'Maithuna's views are at all unreasonable. I say this because as a vocation I am a student of Political Science at the University of Freiburg here. The very fact that the newly born Irish Free State issued definitive stamps in 1922 showing a map of a UNITED IRELAND was in itself a political act! So why does Mr. McKee think Irish stamps should *not* be removed from the British sphere of influence. As a student of history (I own a copy of Prof. J. C. Beckett's fine "The Making Of Modern Ireland"), I can see where this would only be natural. I personally began collecting Irish stamps for nationalistic reasons. You see, I am part Irish on my mother's side. Also, as a German, I can understand a people who are also occupied and divided against themselves by a foreign army.

As to Mr. McKee's contention that Irish collectors generally favour British Commonwealth nations, German collectors here rarely venture to collect anything outside of Bund, Berlin & GDR except France & Switzerland.

## Letters Cont.

For those here who do collect "Europa" as a topic, there is a special catalog printed by Michel for these issues alone. Though, I have been trying without success to get others to take more than a casual interest in Irish stamps, so far they want only the Europa issues. But, who knows? This too could change. One gentleman does say he likes Irish stamps because of their quality, printing and beauty. However, this same gentleman does have albums of at least 25 different countries in his cupboard.

As to Mr. McKee's reference to Valhalla, I wasn't aware that any of Richard Wagner's operas were playing in Dublin, let alone the "Ring" cycle. I would be very surprised to learn that German Operas, which I love, are being performed in the Republic of Ireland. Or are they being shown there in English translation? As to trading stamps, I dare Mr. McKee to trade me some Irish stamps in exchange for German. Though I order from the philatelic bureau, I could always use a few more to trade with other collectors through the mail!

Yours etc.

Baron Vernon Wilhelm von der Heydt  
7813 Staufen im Breisgau  
Germany

Dear Sir,

With reference to J. H. Marshall's interesting letter in Irish Stamp News No. 5, we would like to make the following comments which may be of interest to readers. The various shade variations as set out in his letter are primarily due to changes in ink pigment and variations in the temperature and humidity of the atmosphere during the printing operation. Heavy or light inking and changes in the amount of pressure will also give rise to shade varieties. Shade variations exist on many of the multi-coloured commemorative issues and can vary from sheet to sheet and even within the same sheet. Reds and yellows are particularly prone to variation e.g. most Christmas issues. Although some of the shades are collectable, it is difficult to classify and describe such variations and we appreciate the reluctance of catalogue editors to list such items. Changes in cylinders can result in colour alterations but none of the shade variations in the issues detailed in Mr Marshall's letter can be attributed to this factor.

The slight movements in inscriptions are due to, incorrect registering of the different ink

cylinders. The floating value phenomenon of the G. B. Machin definitives is not relevant to Irish issues. We illustrate a particularly good example of a colour shift on the Christmas '78 issue which has recently come to our attention. Separate multipositives are used for each cylinder but this in itself is not a contributing factor. The printing of the inscription is not usually a separate operation. There have been a number of exceptions in recent years which are as follows:—

(a) Christmas '73 — 3½p value.

(b) European Amateur Golf Championships 1975 — Both values.

(c) James Larkin 1976 — Both values (head and inscription).



8p Christmas '78 with colour shift leaving a white line between value tablet and portrait

In respect of these issues the inscription was printed by a litho plate whereas the remainder of the design was printed by photogravure.

With reference to past issues an annual contribution under the title "That Was The Year That Was" for the Journal of Irish Philately is published by the Irish Philatelic Circle. The contents of these articles are similar to the Recent Releases feature. We have written this feature for the I.P.C. since 1976. Details of membership and the availability of back issues of the Journal are available from the Secretary, H. K. Jamieson, 3 Cleves Way, Hampton, Middlesex TW12 2PL. We are pleased to note that our Recent Releases feature is of help to our readers and thank Mr. Marshall for his comments.

Yours etc.

Brian Warren  
Eddie FitzGerald.

# Auction Report



*Two rarities from a collection of Irish airmails sold by David Feldman S.A. at their Zurich auction in November.*

(Note: All prices quoted have been converted into Irish pounds at the rate prevailing at time of sale, and exclude auctioneer's premium or commission).

The economic recession has affected the stamp trade just as much as other sectors and this is reflected in a softening of prices of much philatelic material on offer. Investment-orientated items such as high value Great Britain and Commonwealth of the period 1900 to 1935 have peaked out, and in some cases can be picked up for a fraction of their 1979 'highs'. For example the 1929 P.U.C. £1 of G.B. unmounted mint was being quoted at £2200 in September 1979. A year later one would be lucky to sell for £800 in auction.

However not all prices have dropped. Some have remained static, and will remain so for some time to come. This is good for the collector as the investment market had pushed the rarer items out of the grasp of all but the wealthiest collectors. Now with prices stabilised, and in some cases pulled back a little bit, the collector will have a chance to catch up on the stamps he's missing, provided, that is, he is still in a job.

Medium range (less than £100) Irish lots seem to be holding their own in auction but higher-priced material does not seem to be selling well, if at all. The number of unsolds at recent auctions has risen dramatically, to judge from those auctioneers honest enough to admit unsold lots in their lists of prices realised. Some rarities however, still attract

record prices, as can be seen from some of the auctions I have reported on below.

Ian Whyte held a 900 lot sale in Dublin on October 18, the week before STAMPA. There were about 300 lots of Ireland, but few really interesting collectors pieces. Postal History material was a bit sluggish, with about one-third unsold, and a few lots going for much over estimate. A few maps kicked off the Irish section, with a 1950 map of the "Kingdom of Ireland" by St. Robert, France, selling for £36. A 1713 E.L. with Cork straightline made £52, while a 1795 Newry mark sold for £34. An 1836 entire with a very fine 'Strabane Penny Post' and sub-office mark seemed cheap at £25, even though the cover was affected by filing creases. An 1877 hand-drawn illustrated envelope used from Clonmel sold for double estimate at £51, and a 1906 postcard with Londonderry Colonial Pkt. c.d.s. also sold well over at £44.

In the Forerunners a 1907-16 Celtic Cross, block of six imperforate between, with faults, sold for £125. Bidding was slack in the overprints, though a couple of exhibition pieces sold well. A block of eight of the 1927 2/6 Composite 'Wide and Narrow' mint unmounted sold for £310, while a block of four of the ten shilling (two pairs) sold for £1400.

The complete set of 4 of the Dollard engraved proofs — of which only 30 sets are known (one sheet) — sold for £180, about half the Feldman catalogue price, and a 1930 Shannon 2d on plain first day cover fetched

£180. A surprising price of £400 was paid for a corner block of four of the 3d Holy Year 1933 showing the 'Dot on Annus' variety. This is a record price for an Irish commemorative variety.

David Feldman S.A. had only 100 lots of Ireland in their 9,000 lot sale in Zurich (November 3-8) but many of them were top quality items and bidding was very keen. Postal history sold well, with an 1840 very clear Uniform Fourpenny Post of Dublin selling for £410, a 1795 superb 'Post Paid D' at £140, and an 1840 'Waterford Ship Letter' with New York forwarding agent mark realising £200. 'G.B. used in Ireland' included some nice items which sold well, such as 1841 1d and 2d cancelled by Hollymount Maltese Cross (off cover) at £260, and a 1921 (commercial) cover with ½d and 1½d postal stationery cut-outs, cancelled Dublin sold for £80. I was interested in seeing the latter, as an almost identical cover sold for about £2 in a society auction about a year ago, which shows that bargains can be had, if you keep your eyes open.

An 1867 'Fenian' 3c green label made £420, despite the controversy over the origin of these items. Overprints were reasonable in price but covers fetched a good premium, as with a registered cover franked with Dollard ½d to 10/- and Thom ½d to 1/-, which sold at £450, and the Thom wide date ½d to 1/- on cover which also realised £450. A superb mint set of the Thom 4-line overprint on 2/6 to 10/- fetched £1785 while an average set sold for £655. The 1927-28 'Composite' set of horizontal pairs made £1250.

The 1934 2d perf. 15 x imperf. coil with Naas c.d.s. sold for £1010 despite a blunt perf. The U.S. Bi-Centennial 15p 'missing silver' error was offered in a single and a block of four which fetched £390 and £1130 respectively. There are only 100 known copies of this stamp. A variety I have seen rarely – the 1/3 Airmail 'extra feather' – was sold in a mint block of four, with a crease, for £200.

The outstanding Irish lot in the Feldman sale was a magnificent collection of airmail covers. Amongst the rarities in this collection were the 1932 Galway-Berlin-Brazil, 1932 Mollison Dublin-New York – 2 covers, one franked with the rare 1s. overprint, 1934 Catapult acceptance to Berlin, 1937 Dublin to Isle of Man, 1949 Belfast Balloon, 1952 St. Kevin crash cover etc. The price paid for this lot was over £10,000, an average of £55 per cover for the 188 included.

On November 12 Harmers of London included some wholesale lots of Ireland that attracted fierce room-bidding. One hundred unmounted mint sets of 1957 Admiral Brown was offered in two lots and sold for an average of £25 per set. Also sold were 100 Luke Wadding for £840, 60 1958 Clarke for £475 (£8 each), 150 1958 Aikenhead for £1125 (£7.50 each), and 160 1958 Constitution for £440 (£2.75 each).

Seahorse overprints have had mixed reactions at auction recently and to illustrate this I have picked two sets which I have noticed recurring in recent sales. Firstly the Dollard set (SG 17/21, Scott 12/14) which in VF mint (hinged) condition fetched £154 on October 18 (Whyte, Dublin), £107 on November 3 (Feldman, Zurich), and £129 on November 14 (Harmers, New York). The 1935 'Re-engraved' set (SG 99/101, Scot 93/5) is a 'regular' at most auctions. VF mint hinged sets fetched £418 (Whyte, Dublin), £318 (Feldman, Zurich), £337 (Harmers, New York) and £375 (Harmers, London). All these prices have been converted into Irish pounds at the rate prevailing at the time of sale, and in this instance only, I have included the buyer's premium – Whyte 5%, Harmers, New York 10%, Feldman 12½%, (Harmers London do not have a premium).

A few other interesting realisations:

**Harmers, New York, Nov. 14:** SG 44. Sc 38. Thom 4-line 10/- VF mint £500.

**Harmers, Sydney, Nov. 27:** SG 85a. Sc 79a. 1927 10/- Wide and Narrow vertical pair VF mint £460.

**Phillips, London, Nov. 20:** Thom 2d die I ovpt. inverted, fine marginal £115. 1922-23 Saorstat 9d missing accent in vertical marginal strip, slight creases £52. 1925-28 Wide and Narrow vertical pairs 2/6, 5/- and 10/- £775.

**Robson Lowe, Bournemouth, Dec. 4:** 1874 Chromo-Litho Christmas Card used in Ireland £62. 1922-23 5/- 'reversed accent' with slightly creased normal in a pair mint £220.

**Western Auctions, Bristol, Dec. 6:** 1922-23 Thom 1d mint strip of 3 with reversed 'Q' for 'O', pulled perf., o.g. £80.

**Harmers, London, Dec. 10:** 1922 1d Dollard ovpt. inverted mint £155. 1925-28 2/6 wide and narrow pair, used £185.

Ian Whyte's next auction is on February 25 in London, and another sale will take place in Dublin on May 30. Hibernian's next auction will be on March 7 in Dublin.

# Diary

IPS: Irish Philatelic Society Meeting, usually followed by an auction, commencing at 8 p.m., held at the Clarence Hotel, Wellington Quay, Dublin 2. DSS: Dublin Stamp Society Meeting, usually followed by an auction, held at 7.45 p.m. at the Ormond Hotel, Ormond Quay Upper, Dublin 1.

## FEBRUARY

Thurs. 19th: IPS. "Animal Drawn Vehicles.. Mrs H. Mitchell.

Tues. 24th to  
Sat. 28th:

STAMPEX. British National Stamp Exhibition, Royal Horticultural Halls, London.

Wed. 25th: Ian Whyte Stamp Auction, Charing Cross Hotel, Strand, London. Viewing 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Auction at 4.30 p.m.

## MARCH

Thurs. 5th: IPS. 'Irish Fiscals'. Mr. F. E. Dixon.

Wed. 11th: DSS. 'Mechanised Sorting in the U.K.' Mr. M. McNamara.

Thurs. 12th: NEW ISSUE: Irish Science & Technology.

Sat. 14th: Hibernian Stamp Auction, Burlington Hotel, Dublin.  
Limerick Civic Week Stamp Fair, Cruises Hotel. 11.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.

Thurs. 19th: IPS. 'Japan'. Mr. C. Griffiths.

Wed. 25th: DSS. A talk by Mr. F. Quinn, Chairman of An Bord Poist: "Challenges for the Irish Postal Services."

## APRIL

Wed. 1st: New Postal Rates come into effect.

Thurs. 2nd: IPS. 'Antarctica'. Mr. J. A. Finley of the North of Ireland Philatelic Society.

Wed. 8th: DSS. Annual Competition and Club Bourse.

Thurs. 16th: IPS. 'Modern Stamp Printing'. Mr. G. O'Brien, Revenue Stamping Branch.

Wed. 22nd: DSS. 'Switzerland'. Mr. S. Kearns.

Sat. 25th: Waterford Stamp, Coin & Antique Fair, Newtown School, Waterford. 11.00 a.m. to 8.00 p.m.

Sun. 26th: Waterford Fair. 12 noon to 6.00 p.m.

Thurs. 30th: IPS. Dobbs Memorial Trophy Competition.

## MAY

Mon. 4th: NEW ISSUE: Europa 1981.

Wed. 6th: DSS. 'Belgium'. Mr. W. Threlfall.

Thurs. 7th: IPS. 80th Anniversary Dinner, Clarence Hotel.

Thurs. 14th: IPS. 'Isle of Man'. Mr. J. Kelly of the DSS.

Sat. 16th: Hibernian Stamp Auction. Venue to be announced.

Wed. 20th: DSS. Annual General Meeting.

Thurs. 28th: 'United Nations'. Miss N. Wright.

Sat. 30th: Ian Whyte Stamp Auction, Burlington Hotel, Dublin 2. Viewing 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Auction at 1.30 p.m.

## LIMERICK STAMP FAIR

The second annual Limerick Civic Week Stamp Fair will be held in Cruises Hotel, Limerick on Saturday March 14, from 11.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. The show is organised by the Midwestern Philatelic Society which represents collectors from the counties of Limerick, Clare and Tipperary.

The Department of Posts and Telegraphs will provide special exhibits from the archives of the Revenue Stamping Branch, and on the evening of the Fair a meeting of the Midwestern Society will be held at which there will be a special display. This display will be provided by the Federation of Philatelic Societies in Ireland.

A booklet, with a limited edition of 300 will be on sale at the Fair and a special handstamp will be used to cancel mail posted at the show.

# **STAMP AUCTION**

**BURLINGTON HOTEL DUBLIN  
SATURDAY, MAY 30 1981**

**ALL-WORLD GENERAL SALE  
ESPECIALLY STRONG IN IRELAND  
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