

IRISH STAMP NEWS

No. 12. September - October 1982

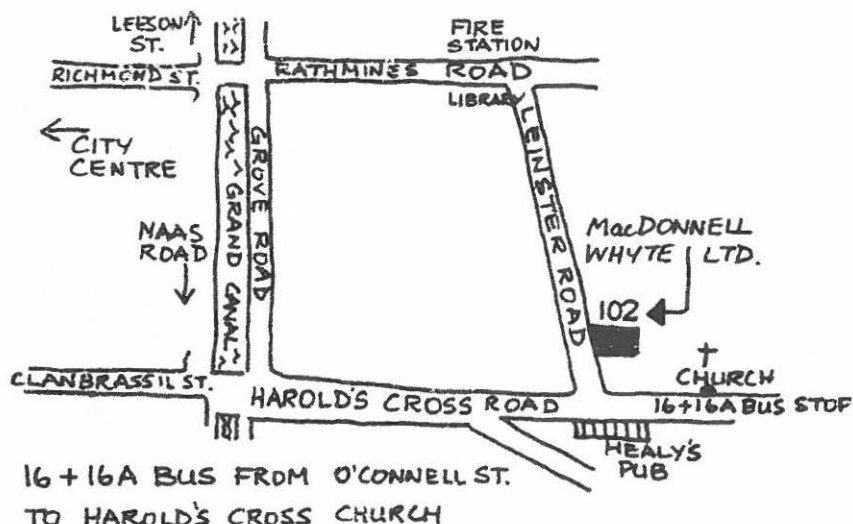


75p

IMPORTANT NOTICE

As from **September 18** next we are closing our office and showroom in Fitzwilliam Place.

As from **October 4** callers will be welcome to our new showroom at 102 Leinster Road Rathmines, Dublin 6.



Our Rathmines showroom will have many advantages to customers in that parking is much easier — no meters, yellow lines or wardens! — and that our entire stock may now be viewed in one location. We will continue to stock the excellent range of Lindner products.

As some refurbishment will be necessary before we can open the showroom at 102 Leinster Road the premises there will be closed to the public from September 20 to October 3.

Business hours will be 9a.m. to 5p.m. (9.00 — 17.00 hrs) Monday to Friday and 10 a.m. — 1p.m. on Saturday.



MacDonnell Whyte Limited
102 Leinster Road, Dublin 6, Ireland.

Telephone: 01-977449. Cables: 'Overprint', Dublin.



Irish Stamp News

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EDITORIAL

Last February I met Mr. Paddy Harte T.D., who at that time was Minister of State at the Department of Posts and Telegraphs. During our conversation Mr. Harte came up with the thought-provoking suggestion that Irish postage stamps should bear the nation's name in both Irish and English, i.e. EIRE/IRELAND.

There is a lot to be said for this idea. In the first place 'Ireland' related better to its foreign equivalents viz. 'Irland', 'Irlanda', 'Ierland', and should therefore be better understood by foreign recipients of our stamps. Elsewhere in this magazine we note that 'Dublin' is still used on returned mail to overseas destinations as 'Baile Atha Cliath' might not be understood abroad as being our capital city.

Secondly there are precedents from every bi-lingual country in the world. A few examples are Belgie-Belgique, South Africa/Suid Afrika, and Suomi/Finland. Many countries which use non-Roman alphabets include their country's name in English such as Japan, Saudi Arabia, India and Pakistan. Canada, whose name is spelt the same in both French and English, goes so far as to have bi-lingual inscriptions regarding the subject commemorated on its special stamps, and the words 'Postage/Postes'.

The bi-lingual inscription might read EIRE/IRISH REPUBLIC in an attempt to prevent the stupid use of the word 'Eire' by some British publications to denote the Republic. The same publications use expressions such as 'The Eire people' or the 'Eire government' whereas they would not use the expressions the 'Sverige people' or the 'Sverige government' when talking about Sweden. Perhaps our coins too should have bilingual inscriptions - our banknotes have been so since 1928.

When the ultimate expression of our nationality, our passports, bear both the Irish and English - as well as the French - versions of our country's name it does seem rather odd that our stamps should not also bear the name in the language that the vast majority of us speak.

IAN WHYTE/Editor

NOTE: John Gilmore has had to go abroad for family reasons, and due to his rather sudden departure we were not able to publish the July/August edition. Ian Whyte will resume the Editorship for the time being, and we hope to keep to the bi-monthly schedule.

BUYING IRELAND

UNMOUNTED MINT AND SUPERB USED ONLY.
BUYING PRICES IN STERLING.

PLEASE NOTE: Used buying prices are for stamps with clear part circular datestamp only. commercially used are not required.

(A)

SETS	u/m	f/u
1929 O'Connell	9.00	3.75
1932 Eucharist	2.00	1.00
1933 Holy Year	2.00	1.00
1938 Matthew	—	2.25
1939 US Const	—	2.25
1941 Rising o/pts	12.00	3.75
1945 Davis	2.50	1.50
1950 Holy Year	7.50	5.00
1953 An Tostal	8.50	6.00
1954 Newman	6.00	2.25
1957 Redmond	4.00	2.75
1957 O'Crohan	—	1.75
1957 Brown	12.00	6.00
1957 Clarke	5.00	3.00
1958 Aikenhead	6.00	3.00
1958 Constitution	—	1.50
1959 Guinness	5.00	3.00
1960 Refugee	—	0.75
1960 Europa	4.00	4.00
1961 Aer Lingus	1.00	1.25
1961 St. Patrick	—	1.25
1964 World Fair	—	1.25
1964 Europa	1.50	1.00

(B) DEFINITIVES

SG Nos	u/m	f/u
78 5d 'SE' wmk	14.00	—
80 9d 'SE' wmk	12.00	3.00
81 10d 'SE' wmk	10.00	3.00
82 1/- 'SE' wmk	30.00	—
72a 1d Coll Single Perf	48.00	50.00
72c 1d Coll 'SE' wmk	12.00	8.00
74a 2d Coll 'SE' wmk	25.00	20.00
74b 2d Coll	p.o.r.	250.00
102 2/6 St Patrick 'SE'	45.00	15.00
103 5/- St Patrick 'SE'	50.00	20.00
104 10/- St. Patrick 'SE'	35.00	15.00
119a 8d 'E' wmk	0.20	—
121a 11d 'e' wmk	0.30	—
122 1/- 'E' wmk	40.00	4.00
112a 1d p14 Coil	9.00	12.00
112b 1d p15 Coil	6.00	3.00
125 10/- Cream Paper	17.00	—

142a 8d Airmail	0.75	—
143a 1/3 Airmail	1.00	—
227/8 3d, 5d photo	0.30	—
248 1d dog	0.01	—
249 2d dog	0.02	—
252 5d dog	0.04	—
260 2/6 ox	0.75	—
— 2d dog PVA gum	25.00	—
299 10p Ox type 1	4.00	—
299a 10p Ox type 2	3.50	—
300 20p Ox	1.50	—
345 6p stag No wmk	0.30	—
347 7p stag No wmk	0.30	—
349 8p stag No wmk	0.22	—

(C) BOOKLETS

1931-40 2/- red cover	200.00
1941-46 2/- nos. 24-28	100.00
1946-47 2/- nos. 29-30	20.00
1948-53 4/- nos. 31-36	6.00
1954 4/- nos. 37	20.00
1956-61 4/- nos. 38-42	6.00
1962-63 3/- nos. 43-44	6.00
1964 3/- red & yel. cover	6.00
1966 2/6 red on white cover	3.00
1966 2/6 blue on white cover	2.00
1966 5/- green on white cover	4.00
1969 6/- blue cover	7.00
1971 30p blue cover	15.00

WE ALSO WISH TO BUY MOST
SPECIALISED IRISH MATERIAL,
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SELLING IRELAND: If you collect anything in Ireland you must send for our comprehensive price list. Extensive coverage of commems, definitives, booklets, booklet panes, specialised gerls, overprints etc. We also send out regular price lists of specialised single items on which we operate a 'Buy or Bid' system.

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Telephone: 01-836 6122 ANSWERING SERVICE 01-836 6122
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NEWSBEAT

1982 ISSUES – CHANGED PROGRAMME

In a welcome development the Department of Posts and Telegraphs has reduced the face value of some of the postage stamps to be issued this year. They have decided not to issue any more special stamps with a face value of 44p (the airmail rate). Instead issues that would have included a 44p stamp have an extra 22p value instead, thus reducing the set price by 22p. In some issues this means there will be two 22p values, but no doubt the price reduction will offset this minor annoyance.

The revised programme is as follows: Fauna and Flora, issued July 29, 22p, 22p (formerly 44p), 26p, and 29p; Irish Boats, to be issued September 21, 22p, 22p (formerly 44p), 26p, and 29p; Bi-Centenary of Grattan's Parliament 22p and Eamon de Valera Birth Centenary 26p, to be released on October 14; finally Christmas 22p and 26p only (no 44p as previously announced).

The total face value of this year's stamps is reduced therefore by 66p a modest but much appreciated relief to the collector, particularly the plate block specialist who could save up to £40 on the year's issues.

TWELVE SPECIAL STAMP ISSUES FOR 1983

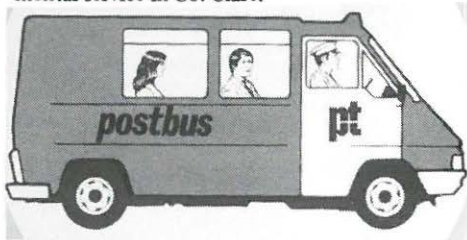
The Minister of State at the Department of Posts and Telegraphs, Mr. Terry Leyden T.D. has announced that special postage stamps will be issued for the following: World Communications Year; Europa; Bi-Centenary of the founding of the Bank of Ireland; Bi-Centenary of the founding of the Dublin Chamber of Commerce; Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals; Fauna & Flora; Centenary of the founding of the Boys' Brigade; Centenary of the birth of Padraig O Siocghradha (An Seabhac); 150th Anniversary of the founding of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul; Andrew Jackson (1767-1845), Seventh President of the United States of America; 'Ireland' series (the 'Irish Boats' is the first set in this series); Christmas.

The Andrew Jackson issue would seem to be another 'joint venture' release by both the Irish and U.S. Post Offices, similar to the James Hoban issue of 1981.

POST BUS SERVICE STARTS IN ENNIS

On Monday, July 12, the Minister for Posts and Telegraphs, Mr. John Wilson T.D. presided over the inauguration of the first Postbus service in Ireland. The service uses a modified minibus to carry passengers as well as mail on a circular route from Ennis which takes in 15 towns and villages including Corofin, Kilfenora, Lisdoonvarna, Liscannor, Lahinch and Ennistymon.

The Postbus service is similar to that operating in other European countries, including the U.K. There are many areas in Ireland which are not served by any form of public transport. The Minister said that "to fill this gap to some extent and to ascertain the volume of support which might be forthcoming for a Postbus system it was decided to introduce an experimental service in Co. Clare."



Clare was chosen because it already had a twice daily collection and delivery of mails, and the vans used traversed a number of areas which had no public transport service. Another factor was that the area attracts many tourists who might use the Postbus service which includes many scenic stops on its route such as the Cliffs of Moher, Kilnaboy and Kilnamona.

Tony Finn reports that although there is no posting box on the Postbus the driver will accept mail on request from passengers. When he bought a ticket to travel on the bus he was given a piece of paper with an Ennis postmark of that day as the P.O. there had not received proper tickets as yet.

The service runs every day except Sunday. Every morning it travels from Ennis in a clockwise direction and every afternoon except Saturday it travels from Ennis in an anticlockwise direction. The journey takes between two to three hours to complete.

Davo Albums



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Extra leaves 47p each.
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STAMPA '82

STAMPA '82, the eleventh National Stamp Exhibition will be officially opened by the Minister for Posts and Telegraphs on Friday, October 22, at 12 noon. It will take place at the RDS, Dublin (Anglesea Road entrance) and will run until Bank Holiday Monday, October 25.

There will be the usual top class exhibits from philatelists competing for the much coveted STAMPA medals and trophies, as well as several special exhibits from the archives of the Post Office. It is hoped that the Postal Museum will give a preview of some of its treasures. In addition there will be junior exhibits, and for the first time this year there is an adult, novice or first time exhibitors section, designed to encourage collectors to display their particular interests or studies.

The main theme of this year's exhibition is the 60th Anniversary of the Irish Post Office, and in Particular the Anniversary of the first postage stamps that were distinctively Irish, i.e. the definitive series of 1922-23, for which many essays were submitted. The four postmarks — one for each day of the exhibition — which will be used to cancel mail posted at STAMPA '82 will incorporate four different essays submitted in 1922.

It is hoped, subject to the approval of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs, to issue a souvenir card depicting three essays produced by Murphy, O'Loughlin and Boland which were, for an unknown reason, never submitted to the Minister. These three designs, by Miss Evelyn Willis, did appear in 'die proof' form in 1943, and the blocks are in the archives of Dr. J. Stafford Johnson who intends to donate them to the Postal Museum. Dr. Stafford-Johnson has kindly lent the blocks to STAMPA '82 for the purpose of producing this very interesting and collectable souvenir. The designs will be reproduced in green in a limited edition of 2,500, and also in blue, the latter being for the STAMPA members, the edition being limited to the number of members. The souvenir card will be on sale at £1 each, limited to one per person.

Those unable to visit STAMPA '82 may obtain the set of four cancellations on the official commemorative covers by mail order. The complete set fully serviced costs £2 (US\$3) plus 50p postage per order (US\$1.50 airmail), and orders should be sent to STAMPA '82, 102 Leinster Road, Dublin 6. Incidentally membership of STAMPA '82 closes on September 30 — subscription is £6 (US\$9) —



STAMPA '82 proposed cancels, (subject to P & T approval).

and benefits include a free copy of the souvenir card in the special blue printing.

STAMPA '82 is held in the Concourse and Lawn Restaurant of the R.D.S., Ballsbridge and the entrance is in Anglesea Road, not at the front of the building. The hours of opening are 12 noon to 9 p.m. on Friday, October 22, and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the other three days — Saturday, October 23, Sunday, October 24, and Bank Holiday Monday, October 25.

Railway Preservation Society of Ireland New Issues



- MS3.** Sheetlet of 9 railway letter service stamps surcharged 22p each and overprinted "PORTRUSH FLYER". Issued August 21, 1982. Sheetlet = 3 different designs x 3.
For use on 'Portrush Flyer' special train pulled by ex GNRI 'Slieve Gullion' 'S' Class 440 locomotive. Run 3 times a year by the R.P.S.I. from Belfast to Portrush.
MINT SHEETLET OF 9 22p stamps **£1.98 sterling or IR£2.50**
SET OF 3 COVERS WITH 3 DIFFERENT STAMPS (1 on each cover) CARRIED ON 'PORTRUSH FLYER'. **£3.30 sterling or IR£4.15**

- MS4.** Sheetlet of 9 railway letter service stamps surcharged 22p each and overprinted 'STEAM ENTERPRISE'. Issued September 4, 1982. Sheetlet = 3 different designs x 3.
For use on 'Steam Enterprise' special train pulled by ex GNRI 'Slieve Gullion' 'S' Class 440 locomotive. Run twice a year (September 4 and 18 1982) by R.P.S.I. from Belfast to Dublin.
MINT SHEETLET OF 9 22p stamps **£1.98 sterling or IR£2.50**
SET OF 3 COVERS WITH 3 DIFFERENT STAMPS (1 on each cover) CARRIED ON 'STEAM ENTERPRISE'. **£3.30 sterling or IR£4.15.**

Postage extra: 50p per order. Payment with order please.

PHILATELIC OFFICE, R.P.S.I., 19 SKIPPER ST., BELFAST BT1 2DZ.

IRISH TRADE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

ITPA

1882 - 1982

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Express Document Delivery: 'genuine' commercial cover.

ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE POSTAL SERVICE

In IRISH STAMP NEWS No. 11 we reported on Paperlink's courier service. Since then we have come across another alternative postal service, Express Document Delivery. Express Document Delivery works on the same basis as Paperlink, in that they are concentrating on business users, their delivery area is the Dublin Postal District plus Blackrock and Dun Laoghaire, and their standard charge for normal letters is 12p plus V.A.T. Both Paperlink and Express have identical charges as follows (with Post Office charges in brackets): Documents up to A4 size, 12p (22p and 26p); parcels up to 1Kg, 48p (£1.05) up to 2.5Kg, 72p (P.O. up to 3Kg £1.40) up to 5kg, 96p (£1.75).

To be fair it should be pointed out that the Post Office charges are for delivery anywhere in Ireland or Britain. However the number of business houses using these services is growing, and perhaps the Post Office will soon have to abandon Universal Postal Rates to compete with the couriers, or alternatively press the Government to prosecute them under the Post Office Act. The latter guarantees the Post Office a monopoly on the delivery of mails but it is believed that the Government are unwilling to enforce this law or to bring in tougher legislation due to popular opposition to this monopoly.

CORK EXHIBITION IN OCTOBER

The annual Cork Stamp & Coin Fair will take place on Saturday, October 9 in the Imperial Hotel. The show is organised by the Cork Philatelic Society and will include a display of the winning exhibits in the Society's annual competitions and special exhibits from the Department of Posts and Telegraphs. The Lord Mayor of Cork is expected to open the show and present the awards, and leading dealers from all over Ireland will attend.

A special postmark on the theme of St. Francis of Assisi will be used on mail posted at the exhibition and a souvenir booklet will be on sale. Covers serviced with the special cancellation will be available at 50p each from the Honorary Secretary of the Cork P.S., Mr. P. Browne, 29 Clashdun Estate, Glasheen, Cork.

KERRY P.S. FORMED

We are pleased to report that the Kerry Philatelic Society has been recently formed. The Society hopes to hold regular meetings and possibly host a small exhibition at some time in the future. Interested collectors in the area should contact Dominic Scanlon, 14 Charles St., Listowel, Co. Kerry.

**See us
at**



AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION

OCTOBER 11th - 17th

Brisbane, Australia

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and Perth. Write us first so we can make
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RECENT ROBBERIES

The theft took place last May of a major Irish collection from a house in Mount Merrion. The collection, which was written up by stencilled lettering on Frank Godden album leaves included many Irish overprint varieties including inverts, 'PENCF' and 'PENCF corrected' flaws, 'ONF', missing and inserted accents, re-entries, 'QNE' flaws, mainly in mint condition, mostly in blocks. Anyone who is offered such material in suspicious circumstances is asked to contact either the I.P.T.A. at Dublin 977449 or Blackrock Gardai at 01-886913/882288/882213.

A collection of Great Britain used stamps including twelve 1d blacks, hundreds of 1d reds, and ranges of surface printed and Edwardian values to £1 was stolen from a house in Co. Kildare. Any information to the I.P.T.A., telephone 01-977449.

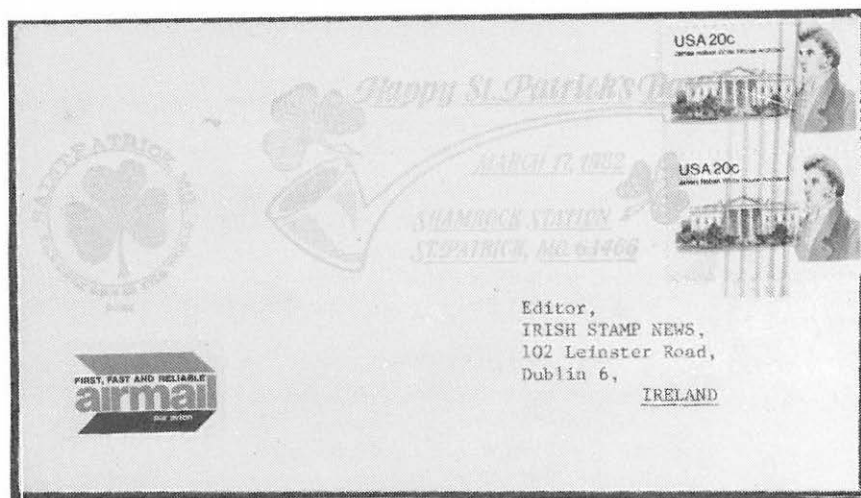
The number of robberies of stamps in the past twelve months appears to have risen dramatically. The increasing amount of publicity given to stamps in the media has encouraged house burglars to take them when they see them lying around, whereas before they left them through ignorance. Collectors are advised to try and keep their valuable stamps out of sight and preferably locked away when their houses are unoccupied.

SPECIAL CANCEL AT KILKENNY

Bicentenary of the foundation of St. Kieran's College, Kilkenny. To commemorate the 200th anniversary of St. Kieran's College, Kilkenny, special celebrations will be held from 20th to 26th September, 1982. A special posting box will be situated at St. Kieran's College from 20th to 26th September, and all stamped and addressed items posted in the special posting box on these dates will receive a special handstamp cancellation.

VINCENT A. LINNELL

We regret to report the death of Vincent ('Vince') A. Linnell of Montreal, Quebec, on May 18 last. Vince Linnell joined the Eire Philatelic Association in its early formative years and contributed greatly to its establishment as a major international philatelic organisation. He served in various positions in the E.P.A. including the Presidency from 1969 to 1971. In 1973 Vince Linnell received the E.P.A.'s highest award, the Thomas E. Field Award, which is presented annually to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to Irish Philately. He made many friends throughout the world and he will be sadly missed.



Cancel used at the town of St Patrick, Missouri, U.S.A., courtesy of Richard T. Crowe, Chicago.

The Philatelic Service
Seirbhís Stampshamais



FOUR NEW IRISH STAMPS

THE IRELAND SERIES 1982 – IRISH BOATS

22p – “GALWAY HOOKER”; 22p – “CURRACH”;
26p – “ASGARD II”; 29p – “HOWTH 17 FOOTER”:

The Irish Post Office will issue four new postage stamps on Tuesday, 21st September, 1982. These stamps will be the third issue in the “Ireland” series and will feature Irish boats. The stamps will be issued in three denominations 22p, 22p, 26p, 29p, and in four separate designs. The 22p denominations feature the “Galway Hooker” and the “Currach”, the 26p denomination features the “Asgard II”, and the 29p denomination features the “Howth 17 footer”.

Pictorial First Day Covers (Price 14p each) will be printed in conjunction with the above stamps. Orders for first day of issue services must be received before the date of issue.

IRELAND SERIES '82 – MINT SET @ 99p
SERVICED FDC WITH SET @ IR£1.13

Postage (no coins please):

Orders under £10 26p

Orders of £10 and over 96p (Registered)

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION OF OUR PHILATELIC SERVICE AND/OR MAIL ORDERS FOR THE ABOVE STAMPS SHOULD BE SENT TO:

The Controller, Philatelic Bureau,
G.P.O., Dublin 1, Ireland.

I.S.N.

pt

GPO, Dublin 1 Tel 01-748888
Árd-Oifig an Phoist, Baile Átha Cliath 1

FORSCHUNGS – UND ARBEITSGEMEINSCHAFT IRLAND

Für das interessante Sammelgebiet Irland wurde am 24 Juli 1982 in München eine Forschungs- und Arbeitsgemeinschaft gegründet. Rund 20 Philatelisten aus ganz Deutschland hoben den neuen Verein aus der Taufe. Aus Irland, Grossbritannien und den USA kamen Grussworte für ein gutes Gelingen.



Franz Holzmüller, newly elected president of the Munich based Irish Philatelic Study Group at the first A.G.M.

Zusammen mit schriftlichen Anmeldungen besteht die FORSCHUNGS- UND ARBEITSGEMEINSCHAFT IRLAND bereits zu Beginn aus über 40 Mitgliedern.

Der neue Verein beantragt die Mitgliedschaft im Bund Deutscher Philatelisten e.V. und strebt eine gute Zusammenarbeit mit den internationalen Organisationen der Irland-Philatelie an.

Der erste Rundbrief mit dem Titel "Die Harfe" soll im Oktober erscheinen, außerdem sind Vereinsauktionen und ein Rundsende-dienst geplant.

Informationen (bitte Ruckumschlag) beim
1. Vorsitzenden: Frank Holzmüller, Auenstrasse
21a, 8000 München 5.

REPUBLICAN CHRISTMAS POSTS

Padraig O Mathuna writes to correct and add to our report on this subject in IRISH STAMPS No. 11. He says that the postal service operated every year from 1975 to 1981 except 1980. Padraig's collection includes some dated covers from the 1981 Christmas postal service viz. "Pearse-Starrs Cumann" with December 11, 19 and 21 dates, and "Sean Dolan Sinn Fein Cumann" with "Dec. 81". The 1981 labels were sold to collectors in presentation packs. The pack contained the 10 labels issued and sold for £2.

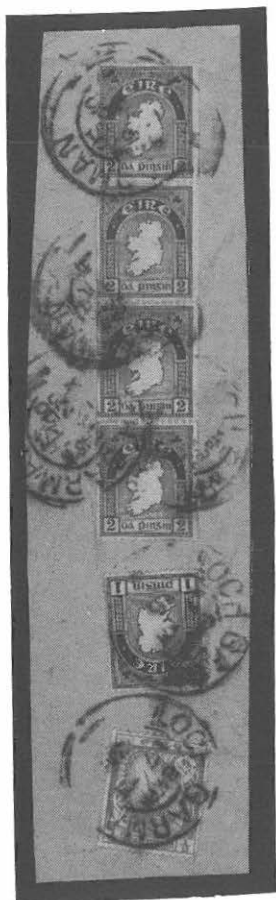
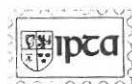
Padraig also reports the existence of a Christmas Postal Service run in Strabane by the local "H-Block Committee" in the same manner as that in Derry. There were two types of label used: black print on white, and black print on gold with the inscription "Prisoners Christmas Post". These labels were used in conjunction with the Derry labels. The charge was 5p per Christmas card delivered, or 12 cards for 50p. Despite attempts by the authorities to curtail the service, about 800 cards were delivered.



Illegal overprint on 1972 G.B. stamp, unused, and on cover, cancelled Armagh.

A collector in Armagh has come across an interesting item not entirely unconnected with this subject. It is an overprint in black on the U.K. 1972 Explorers stamp, similar to those produced in 1971 by Provisional Sinn Fein. The overprint reads "SUPPORT/OFFICIAL/I.R.A." Our correspondent has seen a couple of panes of 25 which might indicate that, like the other overprints, that these were produced in stereos of 25, i.e. quarter-sheets. He also has two covers addressed to Armagh with two examples of the overprints tied by Armagh machine cancel (wavy lines) with an indecipherable date in 1973.

IRELAND'S RAREST STAMP.



Used strip of four SG74b with Loch Garman c.d.s.

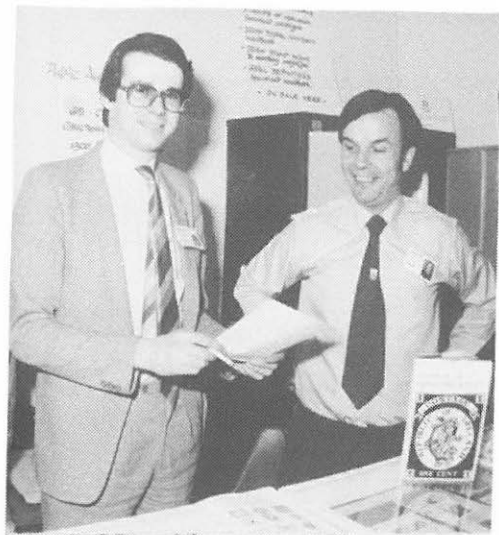
Hibernian Stamp Co. Ltd. is pleased to offer for sale by private treaty this unique c.d.s. used multiple of the scarce 2d. experimental coil SG74b. Despite slight faults which do not detract, this strip would form the highlight of any specialised Irish collection.

Offers in the region of IR£4,750 are invited.

HIBERNIAN STAMP COMPANY LIMITED,
11 Harrington Street, Dublin 8.
Tel: 755086/782609.



HAROLD DOUGLAS



Ian Whyte of MacDonnell Whyte and John Cowall of David Feldman S.A. look pleased about a purchase at STAMPEX 82 in London last February.

We regret to report the death of Harold Douglas, a long-standing member of the Irish Philatelic Society. Mr. Douglas, a former member of the Irish Senate and the Commissioners of Lights (responsible for Irish lighthouses and lightships), was well-known, for his entertaining displays of 'Children on Stamps' and 'Lighthouses on Stamps'. His collections were not merely thematic but studiously philatelic in that he collected every variation, however minute, of a particular stamp that illustrated his theme.

During World War II, or the 'Emergency', as it was known in this country, Mr. Douglas converted his radio shop into a stamp shop for which many collectors were very grateful as correspondence with overseas dealers was virtually cut off at that time. When the war ended and radios were freely available again Mr. Douglas had a big clearance sale of stamps and collectors still talk about the bargains to be had in his shop!



DES QUAIL 1982 winner of the Gardiner Cup at the Portadown Philatelic Club for his display of "Varieties on N. Ireland Regionals".

IRISH STAMP NEWS BACK NUMBERS

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Irish Stamp News, 102 Leinster Road, Dublin 6

AUTUMN SPECIAL OFFERS FROM HIBERNIAN.

Below is a small segment of Special Offers currently available ex-stock.

Please forward Wants Lists for very favourable quotations.

	Special Price IR£.
SP25 Complete Collection of unmounted mint definitives, excluding coils, 1922-1981 comprising S.E. vals to 10.0d., E vals to 10.0d., including both cream and chalky papers, pre-decimals gerls, watermarked decimal gerls and unwatermarked gerls.	Special Price. 700.00.
SP26 Complete Collection of Postage Dues unmounted mint. 1925-1980.	175.00.
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SP30 1968-1981. The complete collection of unmounted mint singles of gums and papers on the Gerl definitives as listed in the Hibernian 1982 catalogue.	275.00.
SP31 1974-1982. Unwatermarked 6p. Stag S.G.346, Cylinder Block of Four.	4.00.
SP32 1974-1982. Unwatermarked 7p. Stag S.G.347 OCP PVA. Unmounted mint Block of Four. ..	9.50.
SP33 1974-1982. Unwatermarked 50p. Eagle S.G.358 Mill join unmounted mint, recently discovered and as yet uncatalogued.	75.00.
SP34 Complete collection of Postage Dues issued in 1980 comprising the following set of singles unmounted mint and fine used, set of gutter pairs unmounted mint and fine used, set of cylinder block unmounted mint and set of gutter pairs on F.D.C.	36.50.
SP35 1982 Europa 26p. scarce gutter strips showing the two perf type, i.e. perf both margins and perf. one margin only.	27.50.
SP36 Long Island Carriage Labels - seven printers' progressive proofs in blocks of four of this short lived issue - only forty eight sets known to exist. ..	75.00.



HIBERNIAN STAMP COMPANY LIMITED,
11, Harrington Street, Dublin 8.
Tel: 755086/782609.





A 'philatelic group' at the wedding of Joan Woods and Ian Whyte: Front row: Peter McBride (Belfast Stamp Company), Lawrence Fisher (MacDonnell Whyte Ltd.), Second row: Declan O'Kelly (MacDonnell Whyte Ltd.), Philip Wilde (Western Auctions Ltd., Cardiff), Norman Finnie, Paddy Macken, Back row: Brian Warren, Tony Finn, Peter Kay (Stephen Braham Ltd., London).



Another Philatelic wedding: Pat Stillwell who has won many awards in the U.S.A. for her Irish postal history collection, and W. Danforth Walker, equally well-known for his West Indies collection amongst others.



STAMPEX '82: The Irish P.O. stand with (l. to r.) John Murphy and Leslie Hewson.



Pat Stillwell's wedding cake decorated by Irish handstamps in icing ** to *** (various dates!)

IRELAND'S ADMISSION TO F.I.P., PARIS, JUNE 1982

The following is the text of the speech made by Heloise Mitchell at the F.I.P. Congress at Paris:

"Monsieur le President, Mesdames et Messieurs,

The Federation of Philatelic Societies of Ireland was founded in 1975 with the following objects in mind:—

1. To promote interest in all Irish philatelic societies by all suitable means.
2. To encourage the formation of stamp collecting clubs in towns having no club at present, and to offer guidance and assistance to them.
3. To encourage the collection of stamps in schools, and among Irish youth.
4. To encourage Irish participation in national and international exhibitions, congresses and other philatelic events.
5. To encourage the publication of books and articles of philatelic interest by authors in Ireland.
6. To organise an expert committee to make judgements as to the genuineness of Irish and, where possible, other stamps.
7. To promote any other activity that might benefit the hobby of philately in Ireland.



Heloise Mitchell reading the formal application for membership of F.I.P. at the Congress.

We are happy to report that to date we have achieved much success in the pursuance of these objects, and we see no reason why this trend should not be continued in the future.

As the result of close co-operation between our Federation and the Irish Post Office authorities, philately in Ireland has expanded

considerably during the last few years. Two of our more distinguished philatelists, Dr. Colin Ross and Reverend John Brennan, were awarded medals at LONDON 80, while other members have been successful at various national exhibitions over many years. In the literature class, the Gerl Definitive handbook by Brian Warren and Eddie Fitzgerald won silver/bronze medals at Norwex 80 and India 80.



At the reception to mark the issue of the Irish Literary & Musical Anniversaries on June 16 at PHILEXFRANCE, Paris: (left to right) Donal McDermot, Dept. of P & T, Capt. Pat Casey, F.P.S.I. delegate, Gerry McDonough, Dept. of P & T, Terry Leyden T.D., Minister of State at Dept. of P & T, and Heloise Mitchell, F.P.S.I. delegate

Our own national exhibition "Stampa" has been held each year since 1972 and has done a great deal for the promotion of Irish philately since its inception. A Postal Museum will be opened in Dublin later this year, though the exact date has not yet been finalised.

The conservative stamp issuing policy of the Irish postal authorities enhances the popularity of Irish stamps in many parts of the world, and during the last two years agencies were set up in the United States, Brussels and Great Britain to facilitate the distribution of Irish stamps, and last Wednesday, our junior minister in the Department of Posts and Telegraphs, Mr. Terry Leyden, attended a reception at PhilexFrance to launch the latest of our commemorative stamp issues.

Since 1980, we have been affiliated to the British Philatelic Federation, a body with whom we enjoy very cordial relations.

It is now our earnest desire that we should become an affiliated member of La Federation



Heloise Mitchell, one of the Irish delegates is greeted by Jean Davezac, Commissioner-General of PHILEXFRANCE '82 at the Irish reception. Also in the picture is Eoin Boyle, Irish agent for Davo albums.

Internationale de Philatelie as we feel that membership of this world-wide organisation would enhance and further the image of Irish philately and Irish philatelists all over the world.

Accordingly, we now present to this Congress our formal application for membership, and trust that you, the delegates, will give it favourable consideration and subsequent approval and ratification.

Monsieur le President, Mesdames et Messieurs, nous vous remercions a l'avance de votre attention et de votre consideration."

The Irish Federation was unanimously accepted as a full member of F.I.P. Ireland was represented by two delegates, Mrs. Heloise Mitchell, and Captain Pat Casey.

I.P.T.A. JOINS I.F.S.D.A.

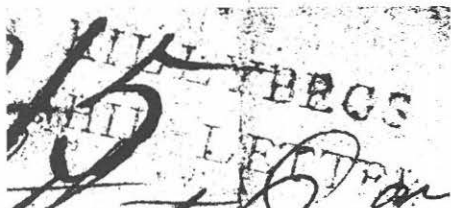


At the Annual General Meeting of the International Federation of Stamp Dealers Associations (I.F.S.D.A.) held in Paris on June 15 the

Irish Philatelic Traders Association (I.P.T.A.) application for membership was considered. The I.P.T.A. were proposed for membership by the Philatelic Traders Society of London, and seconded by the American Stamp Dealers Association of New York. The meeting unanimously accepted the I.P.T.A. as a new member. Mr. David MacDonnell, Honorary Treasurer of the I.P.T.A. was present at the meeting.

Membership of I.F.S.D.A. is very important to I.P.T.A. members as they may now participate in international exhibitions and they will be listed in the I.F.S.D.A. directory which is circulated to all the members of the I.F.S.D.A. associations. Hopefully this will lead to increased international trade for Irish dealers.

KILLYBEGS SHIP LETTER



The only recorded example of the two line KILLYBEGS/SHIP LETTER mark was auctioned by William Carson in his May 8 sale in Glasgow. It was a very good strike on a 1797 entire from Philadelphia to Edinburgh. Estimated at £500 sterling, its rarity was spotted by a number of bidders and it eventually sold for £1,225. Also in this sale was a LIMERICK/SHIP LETTER in brown on an 1800 entire



letter from Jamaica to London which we can add to the 1809 example in red (on a Philadelphia to Liverpool entire) previously recorded.

THE DOMESTIC PACKETS OF IRELAND

BY JOHN GILMORE

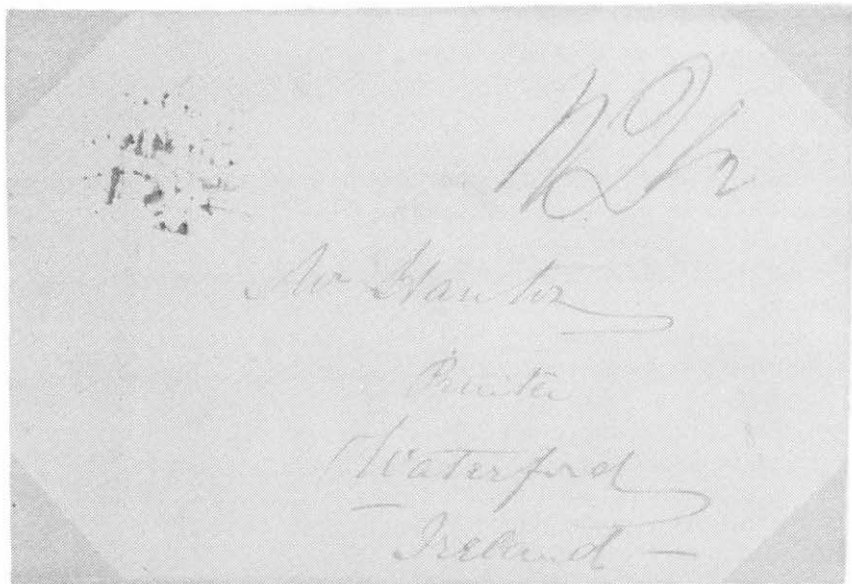
6th June 1649. Civil war in England had ended, the King had been beheaded, and Cromwell was now fully engaged in dealing with problems, as he saw them, in Ireland. Two months later, in August 1649, he was to land and carry out the massacres of Drogheda and Wexford. Meanwhile Prince Rupert, with a small force of "ships," was trapped in Kinsale harbour, by a naval task force under the command of William Robinson, a Puritan officer. Quick communication with mainland England was essential. It must be appreciated, however, that during the previous decade there had been two services dealing with military despatches, that of the Royalist and that of the Puritan army. Moreover, as Queen Elizabeth had discovered, a public mail service acted as a most useful source of intelligence to counter plans for rebellion. Such a rebellion was anticipated in Ireland, and indeed broke out in 1641. In this regard, the Commons Journal for 1640 reveals that every mail overseas was opened and read, in order to try and discover any plan the King might have for obtaining help from France. Sir Samuel Morland had invented a machine to lift and replace seals without any sign of opening.

It is against such a background that the opening of a weekly mail packet between Waterford and Milford Haven took place on the 6th June, 1649. Here then was the start of one of the Domestic Packets between Ireland and Great Britain. They are called 'Domestic' because they refer to mail-carrying ships plying between Ireland and ports in Scotland, England and Wales, and 'Packets' because they refer to ships either owned by, or under direct contract to, the Post Office, or operated by the Admiralty on behalf of the Post Office expressly to carry mail. Study, and the collection of illustrative examples, of these Domestic Packets is becoming a popular area of philatelic interest.

To place such a study in perspective one has to go back to 1635. On the 31st of July of that year, a Royal Proclamation "... for the settling of the Letter office of England and Scotland" was issued, based on a proposal by a London mercer, Thomas Witherings, who had been appointed Postmaster of Foreign Parts after the suppression of the Merchant Adventurers' Post. To replace the Merchants' post, he carried private letters overseas as well as the Royal Mail. On the basis of this experience, he made a proposition for settling Packet posts between London and the Dominions which was accepted by King Charles, and he was given sole rights to carry private letters. He was commanded, among other things, to lay posts for the whole of Ireland from London to Dublin via Chester and Holyhead. The service was started in October 1635, and letters were carried for 9 pence each.



From WATERFORD to CAMPBELTOWN via PORTPATRICK – an unusual routing.



Cover via WATERFORD and MILFORD HAVEN route showing the additional $\frac{1}{2}$ d tax included in the rate from London.

This then was the first Domestic Packet to operate a regular scheduled service between Holyhead and Dublin. However it was operated during a period of great tension, and a complex pattern of struggle for power both in England and in Ireland.

In England the struggle between Crown and Parliament was swiftly approaching its climax. In Ireland some 5,000 former swordsmen loyal to Hugh O'Neill and Rory O'Donnell, were preparing for the Gaelic rebellion of the 23rd September 1641. No wonder both Royalists and Parliamentarians needed good intelligence and good communications. No wonder that the position of Postmaster was one of immense power, and much intrigued for. No wonder the general public were suspicious of the postal services, and avoided using them wherever possible. Under the circumstances it is amazing that the Domestic Packets not only survived, but developed.

So far we have only mentioned two routes which qualify for the title of Domestic Packet. There was a third. The success of the Ulster settlement in the eastern portion of that Province resulted in an overwhelming proportion of Scots rather than English settlers. What is more, most of these Scots settlers were Presbyterian rather than Anglican. Thus they were penalised by the English Church as dissenters. Robert Kee records that on one Sunday afternoon over 500 people from County Down crossed the sea to Stranraer to receive the sacrament in a manner forbidden to them by English law in Northern Ireland. Naturally these dissenters took mails with them, messages for relatives at home, as well as more subversive communications. The Post Office had to take an interest in order to try and bring these illegal methods of communication under control. Local shipowners were given financial inducements to carry mail over the short sea route between Ireland and Scotland. As cargo was more lucrative than carrying mail, the attempt was not very successful, with the result that the Post Office itself set up its own contract service between Donaghadee and Portpatrick in 1662. Never a popular route, with a most irregular, albeit supposedly weekly, service, it struggled on for one hundred and twenty eight years. In an attempt to make it more popular the Post Office, in 1790, using its own ships, introduced a daily service. This service, although it limped on for another forty seven years, never gained popularity, and ran regularly at a loss. Strategically important, it was taken over by the Admiralty in 1837 who managed to keep it going for another eleven years. The end had to come, and the service ceased as a Packet in 1848, when the mails were transferred to the Belfast/Glasgow route operated by G. and J. Burns Ltd.

No specific postmarks are associated with the Donaghadee Packet, although covers annotated in manuscript identify the route. As can be expected most of the mail from Ireland to Scotland using the route



Monday Night Dec
Best Regards —

Advertising for the City of Dublin Steam Packet Co. of Eden Quay, the company which operated the H&K packet. Posted on board the RMS Munster.

Royal Mail Service

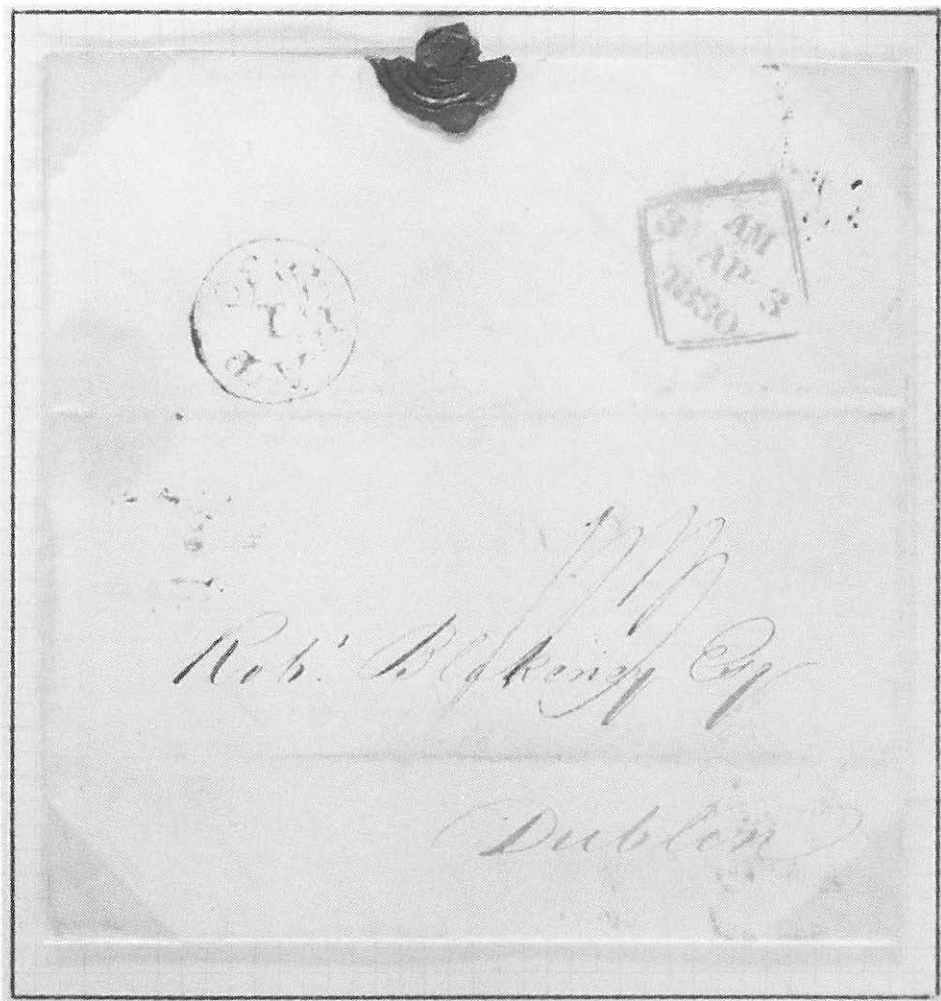
TWO SERVICES
EACH WAY DAILY
between
KINGSTOWN & HOLYHEAD
in
connection with
the Mail Trains from all parts
of
ENGLAND & IRELAND.
Best and Fastest Route

POST CARD.

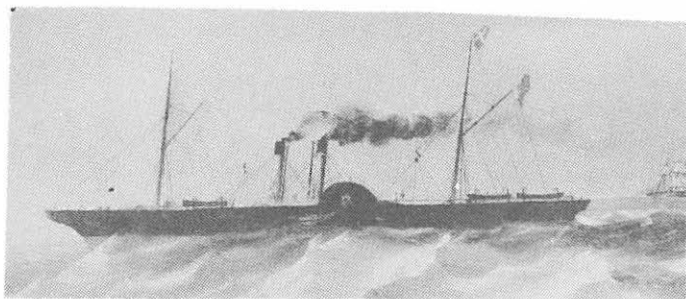
THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS ID



Min. Hollar
Passagekast
Waterford
Ireland



The 1/3d rate of 1830 showing that this cover was routed via Holyhead.





EXPRESS DELIVERY handed in directly to RMS Leinster on the H&K packet route.

originated from the Belfast area. However, surprisingly, mail from the south of Ireland is found with that routing, including mail from Waterford to Scotland, despite the Waterford/Milford Haven Packet.

Alternative short sea routes existed, particularly between Belfast and Glasgow as well as the still existing Larne/Stranraer. Some mail was carried on a non-contract basis between Belfast and Stranraer by the London, Fleetwood, Whitehaven, Stranraer, Glasgow and Ardrossan Steam Packet. Similarly an 1883 cover from Castle Toward in the West of Scotland to Killarney carries the handstamp of the Columba Steamer/Greenock. This handstamp is connected with the daily service between

Ardrishaig and Greenock maintained by steamers owned by David Macbrayne, Ltd., from 1879 onwards. These had offices on board, at which letters could be posted, and mails were picked up at places of call. The ships involved were the Columba, Chevalier, Iona and Grenadier, and the marks of these when connected with mail to Ireland make an interesting corollary to a study of these routes.

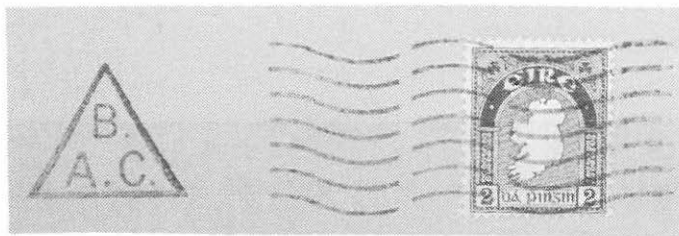
The Waterford/Milford Haven route can be identified in two ways. Most frequently by the fact that the Waterford datestamp is the **latest** Irish date on that cover. Between 1635 and 1653 the packet rate was 9 pence. This was reduced to 6 pence in 1653 and remained at this rate until 1801 when it was reduced to 2 pence. In 1836 an extra $\frac{1}{2}$ penny was added to the rate for a single sheet letter in order to pay for improvements to the road leading to the Welsh harbour. This surcharge is only found added in manuscript, unlike the "Additional $\frac{1}{2}$ d" applied to mails to Scotland, for which handstamps were available in London, Edinburgh and Dublin. The Scots $\frac{1}{2}$ d was per letter, whereas the Welsh tax was per sheet, so on double sheet letters one has to look out for a 3 penny packet rate.

Although ships sailed regularly between Waterford and Bristol, the road to London from that port was so bad, and consequently mails so slow, that this route was not used for mails proceeding beyond Bristol. Letters using the route therefore are to or from Bristol, connect only with Waterford, and carry only Bristol and Waterford datestamps, usually 48 hours apart.

Prior to 1827 the Dublin/Holyhead route cannot be positively identified, other than by presumption that with no evidence to the contrary, this was the regular route used. One sailing per week each way started in 1646 under Post Office contract, this was increased to three sailings a week in 1666, and to six sailings a week in 1767. From 1827 to 1839 the route can be positively identified by the rate charged. During that period an extra 2d was added to the existing 2d packet rate, in order to help pay for the Conway and Menai bridges. As the basic rate between London and Dublin at that time was 1s/1d, covers bearing a 1s/3d rate must have passed over these bridges on their way to Holyhead. From 1839 to 1861 we have another period when one can only presume that this route was used. From July 10th, 1861 the route is identified by the popular H & K PACKET datestamps. Much has been written about these, particularly by Cyril Kidd, although research is not yet complete, and new information appears every year, as the H & K marks are a popular exhibition item.

The aim of this article has been to draw together the strings of early beginnings, to indicate some of the areas of research which could prove fascinating, and perhaps to generate an interest beyond the narrower confines of the Holyhead and Kingstown route.

INLAND PRINTED PAPER POST



In issue No. 10, March–April 1982, we published a list of the triangular marks used to identify circulars passing through the post at the $\frac{1}{2}$ d rate. We take this opportunity of adding a few representative illustrations, to expand the list, and to make one correction. In this we have been much helped by Tony Finn and Fred Dixon.

First the correction. As can be seen from the illustration below, Dublin should read B.A.C., not BAC as printed.



Tony Finn has come up with KE (illustrated) which Fred Dixon attributes to Kenmare, although he is not positive in this. Perhaps a reader has further information.

Fred Dixon has also added to our listing with the following:-

DNU	?
KS	Kells
OV	Ovoca (now Avoca).

Can any reader help with the attribution of DNU?

Finally Rosscarbery (under Bandon) used the code RIJ on Parcel Post. Does a Paper Post mark with this code exist?

RECENT RELEASES

BY BRIAN WARREN AND EDDIE FITZGERALD

Date	Issue		Sold For	Plate Numbers
4/5/82	Europa (Historical Events)	— Great Famine	26p	1A1A, 1B1B
	Europa (Historical Events)	— St. Patrick	29p	1A1A1A1A, 1B1B1B1B
22/5/82	Dundalk Philatelic Exhibition Booklet		£1	"
16/6/82	Literary and Musical Figures	— Padraic O'Connor	22p	"
		— James Joyce	26p	"
		— John Field	29p	"
		— Charles Kickham	44p	"

Both stamp issues were printed by Irish Security Stamp Printing Limited. The second issue on the 16 June coincided with the Irish Post Office's attendance at Philalexfrance '82 in Paris (11-21 June). A special first day pictorial cachet similar to the Dublin and Cork postmarks was available for use on FDC's. The usual plain cachet was also available throughout the exhibition. This issue of four vertical designs was printed in the usual single sheet (10 x 10) format with perf. type I.



29p: Plate 1A block showing imperforate left margin together with plate 1B block showing perforated left margin.

The Europa stamps were in the smaller 41 x 24mm size and were double sheet printings similar to the Hoban issue of last September. The 29p was a horizontal design and the printer's sheet was made up of two sheets of 100 stamps. The two different sheets are designated A and B respectively and thus plate block sets of both 1A and 1B exist. Each post office sheet of 100 stamps is sub-divided into two panes of 50 (5 x 10) with gutter margin. The complete sheet of 200 stamps was perforated left to right prior to guillotining into individual post office sheets of 100. As a result 1A sheets have perf. type I (i.e. imperf. left margin and perf. right margin) whereas 1B sheets are perforated through both left and right margins i.e. same as Hoban stamp.

The 26p was in a vertical format in a similar double sheet printing with 1A and 1B sheets. In this case the 1B sheets were imperf. top margin and perf. bottom margin whereas the 1A sheets were perforated through both top and bottom margins; this is the reverse situation indicating that the 1B sheet was above the 1A sheet in the

printer's sheet of 200. Another anomaly occurred in the perforation of this value. An incorrect perforation box was used for the majority of the printing. We understand that the original perforator did not perforate through the gutter and as a result it would have been impossible to detach single gutter pairs (or blocks) from the complete strip without the aid of scissors. It was decided to guillotine the sheets. It is estimated that 75% of the printing of 10,000 sheets (20,000 post office sheets) were guillotined into panes of 50 stamps. The remainder of the printing was perforated in the normal manner and both 1A and 1B gutters exist.



26p: Plate 1A gutter block with perforated top margin and fully perforated gutter together with a corner block from a guillotined sheet with only one extension perforation hole.

Dundalk Exhibition

The Louth Philatelic Society held an exhibition with the help of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs in the Imperial Hotel, Dundalk on 22 and 23 May. A booklet issue of 450 was on sale. Each interleaved and pre-numbered booklet contained 2 panes of 6 x ½p dog stamps plus 2 x 22p St. Francis of Assisi stamps. There was no postmark available at this exhibition.

E.C.M.T. Postmark

The European Council of Ministers for Transport held a meeting at Dublin Castle from 24-26 May. A postmark of poor quality was used at the venue in conjunction with post office facilities.

Gerl Note

The £1 value has appeared in recent months on a much thinner type E paper with a rather blotchy gum effect.

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Diary

Irish Philatelic Society (I.P.S.) meetings take place at 7.45 p.m. at the Clarence Hotel, Dublin, on alternate Thursday evenings.

Portadown Philatelic Club meetings take place at 7.30 p.m. on the first Friday of the month at the Killicomaine Community Centre, Portadown.

Secretaries of other societies and clubs are invited to send in their programme of events for free publication in IRISH STAMP NEWS.

SEPTEMBER

- Thursday, 9th: I.P.S. 'Irish Postal History'.
Tuesday, 21st: Stamp issue.
Thursday, 23rd: I.P.S. Informal meeting with two Irish Stamp Designers.
Saturday, 25th: 5th Annual Course & Exhibition, Portadown P.C. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Portadown Town Hall.

OCTOBER

- Friday, 1st: Portadown P.C. Display of designs and artwork by Tom Collins of Cookstown, Designer of the first Northern Ireland regionals.
Thursday, 7th: I.P.S. Annual General Meeting.
Saturday, 9th: Cork P.S. Annual Exhibition 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. Imperial Hotel, Cork.
Thursday, 14th: Stamp issue. Grattan's Parliament 22p and Eamon de Valera 26p.
Thursday, 21st: I.P.S. Vatican by Mr. W. de Souza.
Friday, 22nd: STAMPA '82. R.D.S., Dublin. 12 noon to 9 p.m.
Saturday, 23rd: STAMPA '82. 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday, 24th: STAMPA '82. 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Monday, 25th: STAMPA '82. 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

NOVEMBER

- Friday, 5th: Portadown P.C. 'Australia' by R. Teeney (N.I.P.S.).
Thursday, 11th: I.P.S. 'The President's Guest'.

Letters

Dear Sir,

The DUBLIN No 6 datestamp is one of two in English used in the foreign section of the Central Sorting Office - the other being FOREIGN PARCEL POST DUBLIN. They are used in cases, such as shown by Dr. Furst, where Baile Atha Cliath wouldn't mean anything to the recipient. I think their main usage is on documents going abroad.

They are sometimes found on internal mail. Most of the cases I have seen are on letters posted with used stamps on them which were spotted at the facing table and sent to an inspector. There are three courses of action he can take. - (1) Treat them as unstamped and charge full postage due; (2) Affix the orange label asking for the envelope to be returned to him with the address of the sender; or (3) Let them pass. It is in the last case that the two datestamps are sometimes used.

I have both of them used as datestamps on Business Reply cards, and DUBLIN No 6 used as a cancellation on a newspaper.

Yours etc.,
J. G. Lennon,

Editors Note: A U.K. customer recently showed me a cover franked with a 10p 'stag' addressed to Dublin 12 with DUBLIN NO. 6 c.d.s. of 20.V.1977. He also told me of a cover from Dublin addressed to the Philatelic Bureau in Nevis with the same cancellation used in 1981. Nevis is an island in the West Indies and possibly the sorters were not sure of its location so it was sent to the 'foreign desk'.

CORRESPONDENTS WANTED

FRANCE - used stamps to be swapped with Ireland used. Send 100 to 200 different to P. Bertrand, 14 rue P. de Ronsard 14123 IFS, France.

POLAND, USSR, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, DDR, Mongolia, North Korea mint sets exchanged for Ireland, Iceland, U.K. & Islands, and other western Europe or Commonwealth countries, mint sets. Also wanted, thematics: Christmas, Easter, Paintings, Flora, Fauna, Europa, Ships, Cars, Railways, Minerals, Shells etc. Exchange basis Yvert, Michel catalogue values or face value of stamps. Languages: English, French, Italian, German, Russian. S. Andrzej Kowalewski, P.O. Box 1953, 50-983-WROCLAW-14, Poland.

Auction Report

The last auction held in Dublin before the traditional summer break was a MacDonnell Whyte Sale on June 26. The good weather seemed to deter many people from attending the sale and overall it was a rather dull auction with most of the lots being sold to postal bidders. There were however a few interesting realisations which I noted before I dozed off.

As usual with MacDonnell Whyte sales there was a good postal history section including another example of the rare 'COUNTERFEIT/2' horseshoe mark, this time on a 1743 entire letter to Dublin, which fetched £440 against an estimate of £280. An 1838 cover to London with 'SKIBBEREEN SHIP LETR' and 'SKIBBEREEN PENNY POST' fetched £160 and an 1839 cover with a Belfast handstamped '4' of the Uniform Fourpenny Post fetched £440 against an estimate of £250.

One seldom sees the 1922 continental "hammerhead" experimental cancels on cover and to emphasise the point an example of the Dublin datestamp on a cover re-directed to Sligo fetched £30. Two very fine 1d blacks used in Ireland fetched good prices: a plate 7 lettered 'CH' on an 1840 cover Dublin to Thurles fetched £180 while a plate 9 example lettered BK on an 1840 wrapper Roscrea to London sold for £190. Needless to say both stamps had good margins and the covers were clean and attractive. An 1841 1d red tied to a clean cover to Clonmel by a superb strike of the black Dublin distinctive Maltese Cross sold for £48.

A demonstration of how condition is everything as regards price was the price achieved for a set of the scarce Thom 4-line overprint high values which are catalogued at £2,150. This set had a slight crease on the 2/6, 'short perforations' on the 5/-, and a slight stain on the 10/-, and as a result only fetched £250, about a quarter of what a reasonable set would fetch.

An interesting lot I noticed in the definitives was a small card with a 2d 'Map' definitive attached. On the card was a note regarding the design of the stamp by the designer in his own handwriting and across the stamp his signature — James F. Ingram. Apparently this had been a gift by the designer to a friend and it was

turned up last year in New York. It fetched £43 at the auction, not unreasonable for such an unusual and possibly unique item.

IRISH REBELLION, MAY, 1916.



J. J. WALSH, T.C. (DORK)
(Appointed Postmaster-General by the Irish Republican Army,
Sentenced to Death;
Sentence Commuted to 10 Years' Penal Servitude.

A postcard with a philatelic interest. J. J. Walsh became in 1922 the first Postmaster-General of the Irish Free State. This card was published in 1916, after the Rising, by Powell Press, and sold in a recent MacDonnell Whyte auction for £15.

In the last 'Auction Review' I noted that the O'Connell first day cover went exceptionally well at a previous sale. In this sale the first six commemorative first day covers were on offer and these items are still sought after to complete collections. This time the O'Connell fetched £310 (estimate £250), the Shannon sold for £320 (estimate £280), the Eucharistic Congress was an illustrated first day postcard, hand painted with a printed inscription, and fetched £140.

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Book Review

"Irish Postmarks since 1840" by James A. Mackay, published by the author. (Available at IR£11 post paid – IR£14 overseas – from MacDonnell Whyte Ltd., 102 Leinster Rd., Dublin 6) 222 A4 pages 2,085 illustrations. Soft cover.

There is more to this book than suggested by the title for there is a lot of useful postal history information included. It takes up where the Feldman and Kane Handbook left off and brings Irish postal history up to the present. There are 23 chapters, each dealing with a particular type of postmark from the Fourpenny and Penny Post of 1839/40 down to the 'special events' of today. Each topic has its background given and then the marks relating to it listed chronologically with any reasons for changes noted. Much of the content is taken from previously published articles, (the collating of which, in itself, would be worthwhile) and from leading collections but there is new material also.

The first thing to strike me is the quality of the illustrations which is well above what one normally sees. Many are photocopies of good examples but most seem to be painstaking tracings or drawings and in some cases are probably better than even the proof impressions. Nowadays most parcel postmarks are so bad that the place of origin is a mystery but here you can see what they should be like.

Mr. Mackay is a native Scots Gaelic speaker and delights in giving explanations of the Irish grammar and spellings found on postmarks. This will be welcomed by many collectors. Government Ministers will be amused to learn that Mr. Mackay translates their title "An t-Aire" as "meanness"!

The treatment of a subject depends on the amount of information available to the author, so while some subjects such as the combined date and obliterating stamps get detailed examination, others such as the provincial Paid handstamps get glossed over.

The scope of the book is so wide that there are bound to be errors. The first I noticed is at the very start where it states that unpaid letters of the 4d Post were charged double, whereas that practice started with the Penny Post. The chapter on Postage Meters and Paid Impressions is very welcome. This is an area neglected

by most collectors. There is a mistake in the section on Post Paid Impressions that relate to the Republic. The two categories are not based on the language but on the licence number. Those with licence numbers are part of the postage meter system and those without are part of the bulk posting system. The interpretation of the current D.D.E. as Dublin District Express instead of Dublin Document Exchange was probably an 'inspired guess' that went wrong.



Some of the illustrations from James Mackay's latest book, on Irish postmarks 1840-1922.

In the introduction Mr. Mackay says that he was reluctantly forced not to give scarcity or valuation ratings and for this I feel thankful. The find of even a small collection of letters can change a postmark from being scarce to fairly common overnight and, as he says himself, a particular postmark may be scarce although the type is common.

If you are interested in Irish postal history you must have this book. If you are only interested in those adhesive labels called "stamps", then I strongly recommend the book to you as a good read, and it shouldn't be too long before you join the first group.

J.L.

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BOOK REVIEW Contd.

"Stanley Gibbons Stamp Catalogue: Part 1, British Commonwealth." 715pp, A4, hardback. (Available at IR£18.50 plus £1.50 postage from MacDonnell Whyte Ltd.)

The beginning of the philatelic year 1982/83 is heralded by the appearance of the 'Red Book', Stanley Gibbons' priced listing of the stamps of the Empire, latterly the Commonwealth. The rumours emanating from London have been verified in that the high value stamps of the late Victorian period through to George V have been reduced in price by up to 60% in some cases, and an average of 35%. The stamps of George VI have been increased in price however, though it should be noted that in this and all subsequent editions of the 'Red Book' prices for mint stamps issued after 1937 are for unmounted.

This 85th edition — the second to be set by computer (all the easier to change the prices) — has several useful additions and improvements. Issues of Egypt (to 1922) and for the British mandates of Iraq and Transjordan have been re-instated, as are the Cyrenaican issues of 1950.

Our main interest in this book is the listing of Ireland which is included as a matter of convenience to collectors of Commonwealth. There have been a number of price changes but overall Irish stamps appear to have held their own price-wise.

The few decreases in price are in the high value overprints where the Thom 4-line set moves from £1,500 mint and £1,625 used to £1,050 mint and £1,125 used, and the 1935 'Re-engraved' is now £655 mint and £740 used compared to £925 mint and £1,000 used in the last edition. All the other 'seahorse' prices remain unchanged as do the low value overprints with a couple of exceptions. The exceptions are the errors on the Thom black set where the 1½d PENCf (SG 10a) and the 2d die I inverted overprint (SG 12a) are now priced respectively at £550 and £350 used as opposed to £475 and £275 a year ago.

The 1937 St. Patrick high values are now priced at £255 for unmounted mint compared to £140 for mounted mint a year ago. The low value 'Se' watermark definitives set price is unchanged at £65 for mounted mint despite slight changes to individual values. There are slight increases in the 1940-68 set which now moves to £150 against £140 a year ago for mint.

The issues of 1937 to 1950 are repriced to take account of the fact that prices are for

unmounted and thus the 1941 Rising overprint is now £32 (£16 in 1982 edition) and the 1948 Airmail set is now £21 (£16). The used price of the latter is increased to £13 from £10 and in the mint it should be noted that both the 1/3 and 1/5 have doubled in price.

There are increases of about 10% in some of the commemoratives, both mint and used, including Tostal, Aikenhead — now £20 mint — and Europa 1960. Most of the earlier Europa issues mint have increased similarly in price. The 1972 miniature sheet used is now priced at £16 as opposed to £14 last year, the 1976 sheet is now £7 mint and £9 used against £6 and £6.50 last year and the 1980 sheet is doubled in price at £3 mint and £3.50 used. The 1976 U.S. Bi-Centennial 15p with the 'silver omitted' error, unpriced in previous editions, is this year valued at £425.

In the 'Gerl' Definitives there are a few notable changes including the 1971 ½p sideways watermark (ex booklet) which moves from £3 mint and £4 used to £8 and £9 respectively and the 10p in the same set which was issued in two types is now priced at £11 for type I mint and £7 for type II mint against respective prices of £6.50 and £5.50 last year. Few changes are noted in the unwatermarked set where the 3½p moves to £3 and £1.75 for mint, and the 7p booklet pane is now £7.50 against £5 last year.

The major changes in the postage dues are in the more recent sets. The 1971 issue is now priced at £5.50 mint and used against £3.50 and £3.75 last year. The shortlived trio issued in 1978 are not surprisingly shunted from 37p mint and 47p used to £2.55 mint and £3.75 used.

All in all Ireland has fared reasonably well so far through the depression in the philatelic market and the current Gibbons listings seem to confirm that the massive speculation which harmed so many other countries has not affected the value of Irish stamps to the same extent.

I.W.

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THE 'BOOKLET' COILS

— *An Addendum* —

by Padraig O Mathuna

As a footnote to my article in Issue No. 9 of 1981, I am now in a position to publish the location of all known surviving leader and end papers. They are as follows:-

1. My own collection — 2 leaders, 3 ends — origin Cashel.
2. Donal Sammon (Thurles) — 1 leader, 1 end — origin Thurles. No other survived from here.
3. James Munro (London, England) — 1 leader — origin Cashel.
4. F. C. Godfrey (Margate, England) — 1 leader — origin unknown.
5. Otto Jung (Duren, W. Germany) — 1 leader dated 1969 (day and month not visible) — 1 end. Both joined to Wmk invert stamps. These are from the Hibernian Stamp Co. Roll origin Portlaoise or Portarlinton. Sold at auction to German dealer W. Grohn who sold to Otto Jung.
6. Miss Norah Wright (Dublin) — 1 leader — origin Cashel P.O. Dated 24 August 1969.

Thus seven leaders are known to exist, which is therefore evidence for the existence of seven rolls.



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