

IRISH (STAMP) NEWS

No.22 Summer 1986



90p

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EDITORIAL

We regret that we have once again managed to earn the description of "an Irish quarterly – it comes out twice a year!" However, things are improving and with the help of our new assistant, Barra O'Keeffe not to forget our trusty stalwart of several years, Brian Warren, we hope to get this journal out more frequently.

As we explained before IRISH STAMP NEWS is not a profit-making magazine and it just about covers its production costs. This means we cannot afford to pay for an editorial staff which results in the magazine being produced whenever its editor can take time off from his other activities – including trying to make a living from selling stamps, secretaryship of STAMPA, chairmanship of the IPTA, commissioner for international exhibitions, involvement in church fundraising and a political party not to mention the demands of a wife, a one year old son and two cats! So please bear with us – your patience up to now is much appreciated and will be rewarded, hopefully, with a more frequent IRISH STAMP NEWS by the end of this year.

As always we are still looking for articles. We are especially interested – following requests from readers – in articles on the commemoratives up to 1970 or so and also on the definitive series including booklets and coils of 1922 to 1968. Any offers? (We will pay a modest fee where requested).

Finally, please support our advertisers and when dealing with them remember to say you saw their advertisement in IRISH STAMP NEWS. It is our advertisers who keep the magazine alive so a little word of encouragement always helps.

IAN W. WHYTE/Editor

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FRONT COVER: *The set of stamps commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Aer Lingus issued on May 27.*

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The Irish Post Office will issue five new postage stamps on 27th May, 1986. The Ireland Series continues with three stamps based on a theme of waterways. In conjunction with this series, there will be two stamps to commemorate fifty years of service by Aer Lingus.

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NEWSBEAT

EPA AWARDS ANNOUNCED

O. Michael Richards of Wrexham, Clywd, U.K., is the 1985 recipient of the Eire Philatelic Association's Thomas Edwin Field Award.

The award was established in 1967. The late T. E. Field of Yorkshire, England, was one of the foremost Irish philatelists. He compiled a truly remarkable collection of Ireland and contributed greatly to the knowledge of Irish Philately. The award is presented annually to a philatelist who has made an outstanding contribution to Irish Philately in the tradition established by T.E. Field.

Upon the recommendation of the Awards Committee, and the approval of the President, the EPA this year honours O. M. Richards, who has contributed over many years both as Editor and as a contributor to "Irish Philately," the Journal of the Irish Philatelic Circle.

Bob Corless of Phoenix, Arizona, is the recipient of the E.P.A.'s John Clark Award. This award is presented annually for outstanding service to the association during the past year. Corless is the publisher and distributor of *The Revealer*, the official journal of the EPA, published quarterly.

The plaque and certificate were presented to Corless by E.P.A. President, Patricia Stilwell Walker at the E.P.A. meeting held in conjunction with Stamp Show '86 in San Diego, California.



Bob Corless receives his award from Pat Stilwell Walker.

FAI AWARD FOR WILLIAM KANE

Bill Kane the well known Dublin philatelist and postal historian has won the 1986 FAI (Irish Study Group of the German Philatelic Federation) for his achievements in the field of Irish philately and for the strong interest and encouragement he has shown to the FAI's activities in Germany. The award is in the form of a paperweight in marble with a golden medal on top showing the FAI seal with the Irish harp.

Bill Kane is well known to Irish collectors on the continent for his writings including books — *Handbook of Irish Postal History* which he co-authored with David Feldman and the *Catalogue of the Postal Markings of Dublin c. 1840-1922* — and articles in the DF NEWSLETTER and IRISH STAMP NEWS amongst other journals.

The award was announced at the AGM of the FAI held in Steinhunde, near Hannover with about 30 members in attendance on March 23 last. The outgoing board of directors was re-elected and the President Frank Holzmüller set his aim for the next AGM — to be held in Cologne — of having a total of 200 members. The FAI already has 180 members in its mere four years of existence and has become a major factor in the growth of Irish specialised philately in Germany through its activities, not least its excellent journal DIE HARFE (The Harp) and series of handbooks. The FAI has attracted members in Austria, Switzerland, Netherlands, Belgium, and Ireland, as well as its native Germany.

The AGM coincided with the nearby Wunstorf Philatelic Society's 40th anniversary stamp exhibition and of 35 senior exhibits eight FAI members won top awards: Gold medals for Horst Laudenbach (post 1937 Eire), Manfred Schollmeyer (A Study of the Irish Overprints), Otto Jung (Irish Postal Stationery); and Horst-R. Scholz (Ireland); Vermeil medals to M. Dittman (Irish Postal History The Penny Post); Frank Holzmüller (Return to Sender/Postage Dues on cover), Heinz J. Kumpf (Struggle for Independence), and Werner Zobel (Irish Seamail/H&K Packets).

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AMERIPEX BARS IRISH EXHIBITORS



In the most extraordinary move in the history of international philatelic exhibitions the organising committee of AMERIPEX — the world stamp exhibition due to take place in Chicago later this month — have refused to accept exhibits from a number of countries including Ireland.

Ian Whyte, AMERIPEX Commissioner for Ireland, was astounded to receive, in early January, an unsigned letter advising him that the Exhibit-Selection Committee of AMERIPEX had "concluded that it cannot accept any exhibits which have been submitted by you on behalf of collectors from your country." Even more astonishing was the reason given: "We have had applications submitted for more than three times the number of frames that we have available, and, therefore have concluded that countries with a small number of exhibits would not be well served if a few exhibits from that country were to be accepted."

Whyte says: "this was the worst example of gobbledey gook I had ever read. It was an insult to the intelligence of anyone who received this letter — i.e. the 19 Commissioners whose countries' exhibits had been rejected." He immediately wrote a letter of protest to the AMERIPEX Committee as did the other 18 countries treated in the same cavalier fashion — these included China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Finland, Iceland, and Liechtenstein, all of whom had submitted six or less exhibits.

The Federation of Philatelic Societies in Ireland protested to FIP (Federation International de Philatelie) as did many of the other disbarred countries. The FIP instructed its co-ordinator for the show D. N. Jatia of India to investigate the affair.

In the meantime the AMERIPEX Committee did not give Ireland the courtesy of a reply to Whyte's letter of protest. The Irish Commissioner contacted Peter Barry TD, Minister for Foreign Affairs, who instructed Ireland's Ambassador in Washington to see

what could be done about this insult to Ireland's philatelists. The US State Department were sympathetic but as the show was being organised by a private incorporated company without public funding — though it has received half a million dollars from the USPO as well as free postage on its mail — they were powerless to do anything.

Following all the protests from Ireland and the other offended countries AMERIPEX admitted the real reason behind the refusal to accept exhibits from them. In a press release dated January 18 they claimed that an FIP regulation requiring that a Commissioner to an international exhibition get his hotel room paid for, a per diem, and invitations to the Palmare Banquet and all receptions and other social functions, was responsible for the exclusion. The regulation which applies to commissioners who bring at least two exhibits with them, was adopted at Paris Assembly of FIP in 1982 — at which, incidentally, Ireland was formally admitted to FIP — and was vigorously opposed by the US delegate Bernard Hennig.

Hennig, who is Chairman of AMERIPEX claimed that it cost \$2,500 for each commissioner and he is quoted as saying in relation to the Irish protest "I'll be darned if we should spend \$2,500 to wine and dine a guy for two exhibits". However, the true cost of the commissioners expenses at AMERIPEX has been found to be closer to half the amount Hennig was claiming to save by cutting out one-third of the countries applying for exhibits.

After pressure was brought to bear on AMERIPEX by FIP they agreed to accept exhibits from ten of the countries previously excluded. However, Ireland was not amongst the countries accepted and there was speculation that this was because of the forcefulness of the Irish protest which had resulted in a bad press for AMERIPEX.

Amongst the countries admitted in this 'second round' were Finland which Hennig justified by saying that Finland was taking two trade stands at the show and was providing a souvenir card for the show catalogue. Ireland is incidentally taking two trade stands and the Eire Philatelic Association is also taking a Society booth and has already contributed to AMERIPEX funds with a generous donation.

Ian Whyte says, "This petty piece of shoddy politicking by AMERIPEX is totally against the spirit of international philately. If the Los Angeles Olympic Committee had taken the same attitude to smaller countries you can

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1954 Newman	450
1963 Europa	115
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1982 Boats	75
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8 Dollard 9d.	500
9 Dollard 10d.	500
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25 9d. Dollard red	1000
26 1/2d. coil	100
29 2d. coil die I	800
38 5d. blue-black o/pt.	150
51 1/- wide	1500
80 9d. 'se' wmk.	1200
82 1/- 'se' wmk.	2500
72a 1d. coil	4000
72c 1d. coil	1200
74a 2d. coil	2500
103 5/- 'se' wmk.	4000
122 1/- 'e' wmk.	3000
123 2/6 'cream'	300
125 10/- 'cream'	2500
143a 1/3 airmail	150
124a 5/- 'white'	200
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299 10p ox type 1	275
299a 10p ox type 2	275
300 20p ox	175
301 50p eagle	350
356 15p ox	20
356c 17p ox	20
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1949 6 1/2d. violet	900
1953 9d. purple	800

TELEGRAMS

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1929 1/6 brown	£175

BOOKLETS

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1946 2/- brown	3500
1956 4/- No. 38-42	1000
1962 3/- brown	1200
1964 3/- red/yellow	900
1969 6/-	900
1974 50p green	600

COMMEMORATIVE VARIETIES

SG	Buy
201a 5d. brown omitted	£400
391a 7p silver omitted	£350
394a 15p silver omitted	£175
MS395a m/s silver omitted	£350

GERL DEFINITIVES

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a) Sterling issues	
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3d. dog	45
5d. dog	75
6d. dog	75
7d. stag	175
8d. stag	200
9d. stag	150
1957 1/- red	700
1962 1/1 blue	1200
1964 1/5 green	300
1969 1/9 brown	300
1970 2/9 blue	1200
1974 17p red	350
1975 25p blue	300
1976 33p brown	75
1977 37p green	60

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1925 2d. red	800
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1942 2 1/2d. brown	350
1953 2 1/2d. + 1/2d.	800
1954 3d. blue	150

AIRLETTERS

1945 blue/grey	300
1955 purple/green	100

10d. stag	150
1/- stag	75
1/9 stag	400
2/6 ox (6)	900
5/- ox (6)	2000
10/- eagle (6)	3500

b) Decimal wmk. issues

1p dog	100
10p ox type 1	2000
10p ox type 2	1800
12p ox	150
20p ox	700
50p eagle	1600

c) No wmk. issues

6p stag	200
7p stag	200
9p stag	200
10p ox	125

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22p	125
24p	125
26p	100
29p	100

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109	2d. US Const.	25
166	5d. O'Crohan	175
267	1969 9d. Europa	15
313	1972 4p Europa	75
379	1975 6p Architecture	10
392	1976 8p US Bicent.	12

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1931 RDS	3500
1933 Holy Year	6500
1934 GAA	3000
1950 Holy Year	1200
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1953 An Tostal	1200
1953 Emmet	700
1957 Redmond	450
1957 Brown	700
1958 Aikenhead	400
1963 Red Cross	60
1964 World Fair	200

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imagine the uproar." Whyte says there are less than a dozen philatelists in Ireland who are qualified to enter internationals such as AMERIPEX. Many of these cannot afford the cost of entering foreign exhibitions — an average of £200 between entry fees and insurance. Four collectors had applied for frames at AMERIPEX and three of these have been accepted for STOCKHOLMIA 86, the other international to be held in Autumn.

The role of the commissioner is vital to the success of any international show. He or she is responsible for promoting the exhibition in his or her country and in persuading qualified collectors — the minimum requirement is a Vermeil medal at national exhibition — to enter. The commissioner does all the necessary paperwork connected with his country's exhibit applications and acts as a representative of the exhibition in his home country. The commissioner carries the exhibits to the show and has to personally accompany them at all stages — an insurance requirement — oversee their mounting and dismounting at the show and see that they are properly displayed.

In most larger countries the commissioner's air fare is paid for by the home federation. However, the Federations in smaller countries such as Ireland rely on volunteers who pay their own travelling expenses. The host country is then expected to pick up the bill for the commissioner's hotel room and pay him a daily allowance of about £25.

Most international exhibitions these days are heavily subsidised — if not completely under-written — by the postal administration of the host country. The Americans say that because they are not sponsored by the USPO — despite the half million dollar gift already mentioned above — they cannot afford to comply with the FIP requirements for Commissioners. It will certainly add to the shame of the AMERIPEX Committee's behaviour if, as seems likely, that the exhibition shows a large profit.

Although Irish exhibits from Ireland have been banned by AMERIPEX there will be Irish stamps and postal history on display. In the postal history section Patricia Stillwell Walker's gold medal exhibit will be shown as well as "an examination of instructional postal markings from 1628 to Victorian times" by an anonymous collector from the USA. Johan Rehnberg of Goteborg, Sweden will show his 'Transition Period' material and Cyril Dubin of Switzerland will display his overprints.

Overprints will also be shown by Jean Macdonald of Illinois.

An Post and MacDonnell Whyte Ltd are the only two Irish trade standholders at AMERIPEX. The Eire Philatelic Association will have a Society booth and Irish collectors whether members of the EPA or not are warmly invited to drop by the booth. Gene Labiuk, the Toronto-based newly elected president of the EPA will be present as will most of the other officers of the association.

AMERIPEX runs from May 22 to June 1 at the Rosemont-O'Hare exposition Center, Chicago.

FEDERATION OF PHILATELIC SOCIETIES IN IRELAND AGM

The FPSI held its Annual General Meeting on April 16. The Joint Honorary Secretaries, Mrs Heloise Mitchell and Commandant Pat Casey, reported that the Federation had continued useful discussions with An Post covering many aspects of philately, with particular reference to development of the hobby in schools and the possibility of opening a postal museum.

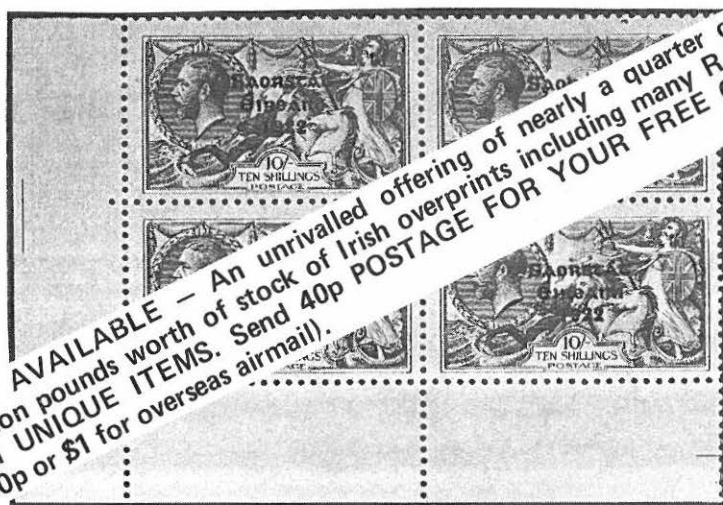
During the year representatives of the Federation had provided displays and lectures to several schools and it was hoped to expand this service during 1986. Volunteers were needed to do this work particularly in rural areas.

The AGM deplored the behaviour of AMERIPEX in refusing the Irish exhibits and it was agreed to ask for disciplinary action to be taken against the United States of America at the AGM of FIP to be held in Stockholm next autumn. The Federation were pleased to note that in stark contrast to AMERIPEX, STOCKHOLMIA 86 had accepted four out of five exhibits submitted as well as all the literature exhibits.

Dr Joseph Quigley outgoing President of the Federation announced that he would not be seeking re-election and he proposed Paul Murphy of the Cork PS for the position Paul Murphy was elected unopposed and both he and Commandant Casey paid fulsome tribute to Dr Quigley's service to the Federation over the past four years. Michael Murphy of the Dublin Stamp Society was elected Honorary Treasurer of the FPSI to replace Paul Murphy, and the Honorary Secretaries Heloise Mitchell and Pat Casey remained in office.

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HIBERNIAN DIRECTOR EXPELLED FROM IPTA

Stefan Klincewicz, managing director of Hibernian Stamp Co. Ltd, was expelled from the Irish Philatelic Traders Association on October 14 last. The reason given for the expulsion was alleged violations of the IPTA code of ethics. Allegations of unethical behaviour in the conduct of its auctions had been made by LINN'S STAMP NEWS – the leading US journal – against Hibernian last summer. An article by Les Winick detailed the sale of a lot to two different bidders at different prices – one was invoiced at \$1100 and another at \$900. It is believed the article prompted an investigation by the IPTA into Hibernian's activities.

It is believed that the IPTA also took into consideration a number of other complaints against the company. IRISH STAMP NEWS had also received complaints about Hibernian which were forwarded to the IPTA.

The expulsion resulted in Hibernian Stamp Company not having a stand at STAMPA for the first time since 1972 when the show began. STAMPA rules insist that standholders be a member of the IPTA or other IPSDA organisation. However, a STAMPA spokesperson said that no formal application had been received by STAMPA from Hibernian before the closing date of September 30. In fact, the spokesperson went on, no reply had been received to a letter sent by STAMPA inviting Hibernian to take a stand.

The whole affair was reported on the front page of Dublin's EVENING PRESS on October 17. In the Press story mention was made of the withdrawal of IPTA membership benefits from Rodgau Philatelic Service GmbH. However a statement issued to IRISH STAMP NEWS by Roy Hamilton-Bowen, a former employee of Hibernian Stamp Company and currently managing director of Rodgau Philatelic Service GmbH, stated that this was not so. The statement went on to say that "the fact that Mr S. J. Klincewicz . . . may have been a majority shareholder in the company does not have any bearing on the ethical (or otherwise) conduct of the executive staff of Rodgau Philatelic Service GmbH, as Mr Klincewicz simply provided financial backing for the foundation of this company and is in no way connected with the administration or day-to-day running of Rodgau Philatelic Service GmbH."

Rodgau Philatelic Service GmbH was formed

in Germany early last year following the collapse of Wolfgang Grohn's company WG Philatelic Service, which specialised in Irish stamps. Grohn was declared bankrupt and debts exceeding DM200,000 were declared including over DM60,000 to An Post's agent in Germany, Georg Roll. Other creditors included Hibernian Stamp Co., Royale Stamp Co., and MacDonnell Whyte Ltd. According to the APHVeV – the German trade organisation – there were no assets left in the company and therefore no payment was made to the creditors.

Rodgau Philatelic Service GmbH trades from the same address as the bankrupt WG Philatelic Service GmbH and uses the same logo – an Irish harp similar to the one used by the Irish Government.

Klincewicz took over Hibernian Stamp Company Limited in 1974, having previously traded in Cork as Cork Philatelic Service and Cork Philatelics Limited. He was expelled from the Philatelic Traders Society, London, in 1975. In 1982 he was expelled from the IPTA even though he had just been elected to its council. He was subsequently re-admitted to membership of the association but was defeated in a re-election for his council seat.

Hibernian has rarely been out of the national media since Klincewicz took over. A story in the EVENING HERALD on July 23 called him "the driving force behind a creative worldwide enterprise" whose company "has developed from a mundane Irish stamp wholesalers to an international business that has made inroads into commercial philately that were previously unconsidered." The HERALD went on to say that Klincewicz had "strengthened his hold on the world market by opening a shop in Germany".

Despite all the trauma of the last few months Klincewicz is undaunted and intends to shortly launch a major enterprise in the United States to promote Hibernian Stamp Company.

**COLLECTORS
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	Industry	1.85	Engineering	1.50	Naftel	1.75
1985	Xmas	2.00	Commonwealth	1.80	Xmas	.90
	Film Stars	2.25	Fishes	1.80	1986 Saimanez	1.85
	Legends	1.85	1982 Xmas	1.80	JERSEY	
	Royal Mail (350)	1.85	Cars	1.80	1985 Ouless	1.75
	Safety at Sea	1.85	Information	.80	Europa	.75
	Composers	1.85	Textiles	1.60	Youth	1.40
	Insects	2.25	Maritime	2.00	Railway	1.75
	Trains	2.25	Theatre	1.65	Hugenots	1.50
1984	Xmas	2.00	Youth	1.65	Davis	1.40
	Council	1.85	Darwin	1.60	1986 Lily Langtry	.75
	Royal Mail	1.65			ISLE OF MAN	
	Greenwich	1.65	Pre 1982 Commemoratives		1985 Guiding	1.85
	Summit	.60	in stock price list		Europa	1.10
	Europa	2.25	available send for your		Motor Cars	1.75
	Urban	1.65	copy now. Also fine		Families	1.35
	Cattle	2.00	used available.		Cubbon	1.20
	Heraldry	1.85	GUERNSEY		Xmas	.85
1983	Xmas	1.95	1985 Fish	2.00	1986 Comm. Games	1.40
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A selection of St. Patrick's Day cancels from the U.S.A. (Courtesy, Richard Crowe)

OBITUARY

It is with regret that we announce the deaths of Bill Noonan and Tommy Dixon. Both were members of the Dublin Stamp Society since its inception. Bill Noonan, a native of Galway and a former Post Office worker — one of his proudest possessions was his 'curfew pass' issued during the Troubles — was a stalwart of the Dublin group of the Guild of St. Gabriel, the society for religious thematists. He was also a keen aerophilatelist having been 'converted' to the collection of flight covers by his friend and fellow county man the late Tony Killeen. Bill moved to Cork a few years ago where he died recently in his 90th year.

Tommy Dixon was well known for his displays of Ireland and Canada as well as his excellent collection of 'Ship' postcards and maritime postal markings. He emigrated to Canada a long time ago but scarcely a year went by that he and his wife did not return to Ireland to renew their friendships with Dublin philatelists and dealers.

NEW STAMP SHOP IN BELFAST

"The Stamp Shop" is not surprisingly the name of Belfast's new philatelic store. It is located at 11 Victoria Street, Belfast, convenient to the city centre shopping area around Royal Avenue. The shop carries an extensive and varied stock of Great Britain and British Commonwealth, as well as Ireland. Postal history of Ulster is a speciality and the shop carries new issues from around the world.

Gibbons and Lindner albums and accessories are stocked and most other makes can be supplied to order by the Stamp Shop which is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday to Saturday inclusive. The telephone number is 0232 (or 084 if dialling from the Irish Republic) 231954.

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VANDALISED MAIL CACHET

Paddy Macken kindly lent us this cover to Canada posted November 1985. It was delivered in a 'Dublin Postal District' polythene bag. The instructional marking applied in violet to the cover reads 'VANDALISED MAIL/THIS ITEM WAS DAMAGED/IN A PILLAR BOX FIRE/An Post regrets any inconvenience caused.' Someday this might be as highly prized as the 'SALVED FROM FIRE, GPO' 1916

cachet? And before any oldtimers start saying "pillar boxes were never vandalised in my time" Con Buckley of An Post will be pleased to show you from their archives a Victorian poster offering a reward for the apprehension of a person or persons unknown who were putting excreta into pillar boxes! We wonder what cachet was applied to mail recovered from such attacks!



RPSI OVERPRINTS ON RAILWAY STAMPS

The Railway Preservation Society of Ireland has announced a number of overprints on its current series of Railway Letter Stamps as follows(issue date in brackets): Change of value from IR£1.23 to IR£1.10 (March 17); "1986 Western Tour" (May 11); "Rail Tour 1986" (March 12); "Portrush Flyer" (July 17); "Bangor Belle" (August 25); "Steam Enterprise" (September 6); and "Steam Enterprise" (September 20). The value change. "Western Tour" and one of the "Steam Enterprise" overprints are on the IR£ values, while the remainder are on the sterling value (20p stamps).

The change in value relates to a change in the railway letter fee in the Irish Republic from £1 (plus VAT) to £1.10. The RPSI are no longer charging the VAT so in fact the face value has been reduced from IR£1.23 to IR£1.10. The other overprints relate to steam train tours organised by the Society during 1986 and they will be used exclusively on covers posted on board the trains on the relevant tours.

Further details of these issues are available from the Railway Letter Agent, Railway Preservation Society of Ireland, Drumconvis House, Coagh, Co. Tyrone BT80 OHF.

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NEW POSTAGE RATES

On March 3 1986 new postal rates came into effect. Generally speaking the increases were small and the first in the basic rates in four years — although there were swingeing hikes in the overweight rates last year.

The rate increases are as follows:—

Postcards and Printed Papers (P.O.P. size)	22p to 24p
Same (non P.O.P.)	24p to 26p
Letters (Inland & EEC) (P.O.P.)	26p to 28p
Same (non P.O.P.)	30p to 32p
Postcards (Airmail)	28p to 30p
Letters (Europe & Surface)	37p to 39p
Letters (Airmail)	44p to 46p
Express Fee	50p to 55p
Registration Fee (Minimum)	90p to 95p
Postage due surcharge	16p to 17p
Airletters	37p to 40p

An unfortunate difficulty arose after the introduction of the increases where many offices had no supplies of 1p or 2p stamps available for many days.

The cost of registration envelopes increased by 1p in the case of both sizes available.

A NEW TYPE OF REGISTRATION LABEL INTRODUCED

Late in 1985 a new type of registration label appeared used from offices in Dublin. The label is printed in violet blue with a broad outer frame line. The "R" is tall, narrow and seriffed with a thin dividing line between it and the office name and number box. The office name is in neat lower case sans serif type. Offices noticed so far have included Carraig Dhubh Co. Baile Atha Cliath, and South Anne Street, Dublin. An example of the type is illustrated.

1986 STAMP ISSUE PROGRAMME

The 1986 programme for special and commemorative stamp issues got off to a start on January 30 with two "Love" stamps in 22p and 26p denominations. The stamps were as a result of a competition to produce designs and the winners were Reis Hoek (22p) and Terry Monaghan (26p).

On March 20th three stamps were issued depicting Ferns in the Fauna & Flora series, 24p, 28p and 46p.

The May 1 Europa issue refers to protection of the environment on two denominations, 28p and 39p. May 1 was also the issue date of three new definitives, 32p, 39p and 46p. The Cahir castle design is re-introduced on the 46p stamp.

On May 27 three stamps 24p, 28p and 30p will be issued in the Ireland series depicting the theme Irish waterways. On the same day the 50th Anniversary of Aer Lingus will be commemorated with 28p and 46p stamps.

Four stamps will be issued on July 10 for the 150th anniversary of the British and Irish Steam Packet Company Ltd., (24p & 28p) and the Commissioners of Irish Lights (24p & 30p).

The next issue is on August 21 with 30p and 46p values for International Year of Peace. The centenary of the Dublin Council of Trade Unions is marked by a 24p stamp, Women in Society is depicted on a 28p stamp, and a new series, "Statesmen of Ireland" commences with a 28p stamp showing Arthur Griffith.

On October 2 the 200th Anniversaries of the births of William Mulready (Artist) (24p) and Charles Bianconi (28p and 39p) will be commemorated.

The Christmas Stamp series will include 24p and 28p values and will be issued on the 20th November.

The total cost of the special and commemorative stamps for the year is £7.74 which is not a huge sum of money to spend to get one example of each (26 stamps), though plate block collectors will expend a great deal more

DESMOND J. QUINN

We were particularly saddened to note the death on May 3 of Desmond J. Quinn. Des, a former Chief Officer in the National Bank of Ireland, College Green, was Exchange Packet Superintendent of the Irish Philatelic Society for many years. Under his expert management the Packet was built up to become a flourishing business much to the benefit of the membership of the IPS and the Society's funds.

Des worked for Ian Whyte Ltd and subsequently MacDonnell Whyte Ltd. from 1976 to 1983. He was a familiar and much liked figure at auctions and exhibitions held in Dublin. His main collecting interest was Canada, in particular the large and small Queens Heads, and he gave many displays to the IPS. He won several medals including Silver at STAMPA for his very fine collection.

Desmond Quinn was a true gentleman and will be sadly missed by all who came into contact with him.

DF6D. SG339/359. Sc343/359. Mi250z/321. 1974-80 GERL DEFINITIVES.

Type A: Original coated paper (OCP) PVA gum.

Type B: Fluorescent coated paper (FCP) PVA gum.

Type C: Fluorescent coated paper (FCP) PVA gum with dextrine (PVAD — blue-green ribbed)

Type D: Fluorescent coated paper (FCP) PVA gum with dextrine (pale blue-green, mottled).

Type E: Fluorescent coated paper, brilliant white, PVAD whitish gum with slight blue tint.

All prices in IR£

DF No.	TYPE A	TYPE B	TYPE C	TYPE D	TYPE E
D70 ½p	—	—	—	.10	—
D71 1p	.35	.45	.40	.15	.10
D72 2p	.35	.90	.25	.50	.10
D73 3p	.30	—	—	.50	.10
D74 3½p	3.75	—	—	—	—
D75 5p YELLOW-OLIVE	.40	—	2.25	—	—
D75A 5p GREEN-OLIVE	2.50	—	—	.40	.30
D76 6p ELK	—	—	2.00	—	—
D77 6p DOG	—	.25	—	—	.50
D78 7p ELK	9.00	—	3.00	—	—
D79 7p DOG	9.00	.75	.50	—	—
D80 8p ELK	—	1.10	—	—	—
D81 8p DOG	—	.80	.40	.30	—
D82 9p ELK	1.50	—	1.50	—	—
D83 9p DOG	—	1.40	.50	—	.40
D84 9½p DOG	—	—	—	.30	—
D85 10p OX	2.00	—	3.00	—	—
D86 10p ELK	—	30.00	1.50	—	—
D87 10p DOG	—	.90	.60	.90	—
D88 11p ELK	—	2.50	1.00	—	—
D89 12p ELK	—	3.00	2.50	.90	—
D90 12p DOG	—	—	—	.40	—
D91 13p ELK	—	—	—	.40	—
D92 15p OX	—	2.50	1.50	—	—
D93 15p DOG	—	—	—	.60	.50
D94 16p ELK	—	—	—	.60	—
D95 17p OX	—	.90	2.00	—	—
D96 20p OX	12.00	3.50	3.00	.90	2.00
D97 50p EAGLE	5.00	8.00	—	8.00	6.00
D97A 50p COARSE SCREEN	—	—	—	—	2.00
D98 £1 EAGLE THIN PAPER	—	4.00	—	—	—
D98A £1 THICK PAPER	—	12.00	—	9.00	—
D98B £1 COARSE SCREEN	—	—	—	—	4.00

A dash (—) indicates that it does not exist on that particular paper. PRICES ARE FOR VF UNMOUNTED MINT. CYLINDER BLOCKS — from 6 times single price and GUTTER PAIRS — from 4 times single price: wants lists invited for these items for quotation for what we can supply ex stock. All prices are in Irish pounds (IR£).

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MISSENT MAIL

Illustrated here are three different missent items of recent vintage. The first is a postcard sent from Barbados addressed to Tallaght which the Bajans assumed to be in the USA not unnaturally as 90% of their tourists come from there. It was correctly re-addressed in the USA.

The second item is more perplexing. It is correctly addressed to Ireland yet ended up in Bankok! It is not uncommon for items addressed from Ireland to occasionally end up in Iceland, Iran, Iraq, Israel, India or Italy due to missorting. A possible theory is that an entire mailbag destined for Ireland was missent to Thailand. Has anyone another example from about the same date (October 1985) to support this?

Finally we show a cover to Israel from the USA with the MISSENT TO/IRELAND cachet. Israel usually is a good source for such items, though as we mentioned above other countries with the same initial and in particular Iceland, Iran or Iraq should get a good share of missent mail intended for Ireland.

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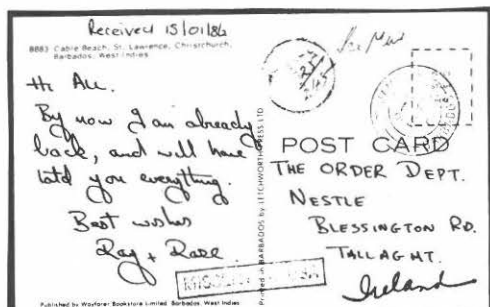
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STAMPA '85 REPORT

The Stampa '85 exhibition was a highly successful event with over 3000 visitors over the three days of the exhibition. All the stands were fully booked and holders included three visitors from England, Wolfargo De Souza, Royale Stamp Company and Phillips, Auctioneers and valuers from London. Dr. R. P. Towers FRPSL signed the Distinguished Roll of Philatelists at the Awards Banquet.

The award winners in the competition were as follows:—

Gold Medal: F. E. Dixon, "Irish Postal History to 1784", and also the David Feldman Trophy for the best overall exhibit, and the E.P.A. Medal for the best Irish exhibit.

Vermeil Medal (Silver Gift): B. Warren, "Ireland — The Architecture Definitives" and also the Revenue Stamping Branch Trophy for an exhibit of outstanding merit consisting primarily of Irish postage stamps issued since 1922.

Dr. C. I. Dulin, "Ireland — The Transitional Period 1922-1925", and also an EPA Certificate.

Silver Medal: R. I. Draper, "Irish Railway Letter Stamps 1891-1920".

Dr. J. Mackey, "Postal History of County Clare, and also an EPA Certificate.

R. F. Smyth, "One hundred years of Registration in Ireland".

Bronze Medal: B. O'Keeffe, "Ireland — Postal Stationery stamped to order."

Comdt. P. Casey, "Air Mail through the Years".

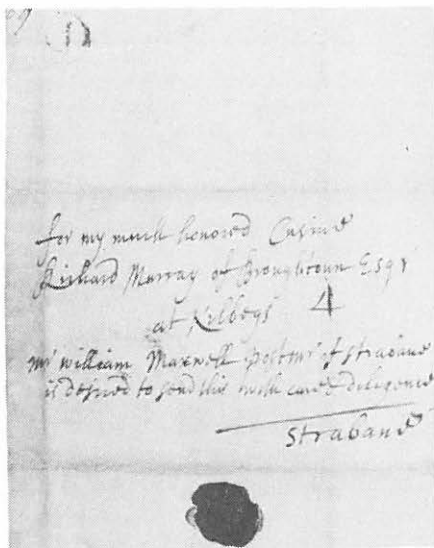
A. F. Finn, "Irish Railways and T.P.O.'s."

The Gwyn Bennett Trophy for the best exhibit in the novice competition was awarded to W. A. Moore for "Handstruck Stamps in Ireland".

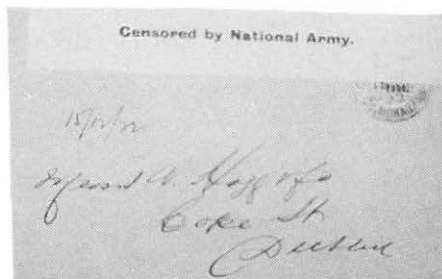
In the Literature Competition "Die Harfe" the quarterly publication of the Irish Philatelic Study group in West Germany was awarded a silver medal and a bronze medal was awarded to "The Mileage Marks of Ireland 1808-1839" by H. G. Moxter.

For details of the STAMPA souvenirs and postmarks see RECENT RELEASES.

STAMPA 86 will take place on November 7 to 9 next at the usual venue — The RDS, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4.



1667 Cover to Strabane with handstruck 'D' in a circle — the earliest recorded Irish handstruck postal marking — from Fred Dixon's exhibit of Irish Postal History to 1784 which won the David Feldman Trophy.



1922 Civil War cover with rare censor label from Cyril Dulin's collection of Transition material.



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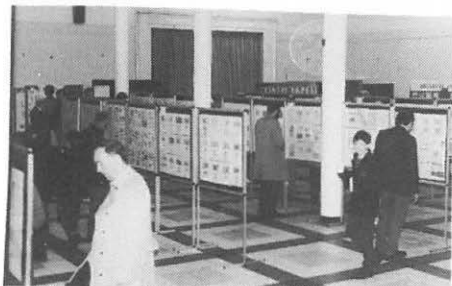
Frenzied activity at the most popular stand of Bill Clarke's Stamp Shop...



While the more leisurely and sedate specialists debate the merits of a major rarity with Dave Macdonnell.



Just what the dealers (and the STAMPA Treasurer) ordered... a good crowd scene!



A view of the Exhibits Hall

A message to our Irish friends from the Australian stamp magazine that's read in more than sixty countries...

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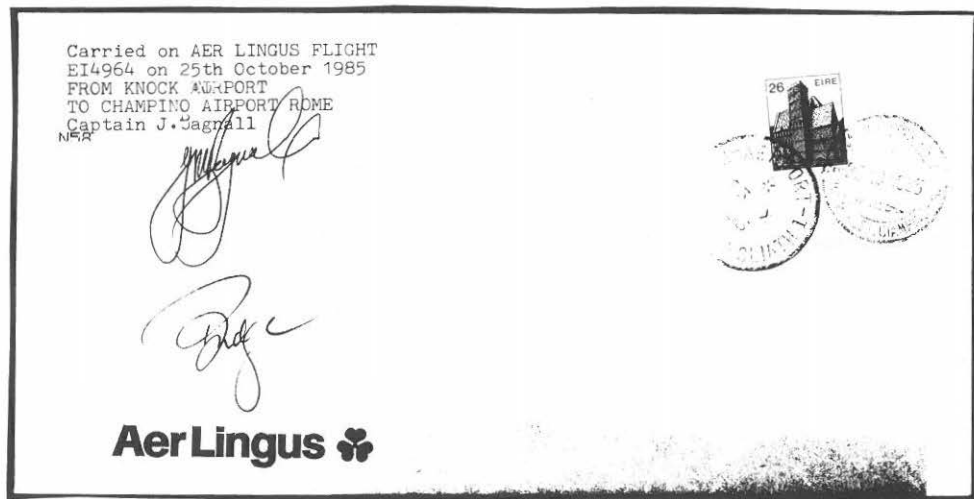
— Single rarities especially on cover.

— Postal History of Rathfarnham and Rathmines.

DAVID FELDMAN, P.O. Box 81, 1213 ONEX-GENEVA,
SWITZERLAND



The enterprising FAI's STAMPA souvenir – you had to be a member to get one.



Knock (Co. Mayo) to Champino Airport, Rome first flight cover. One of less than 30 covers carried on one of the three chartered Aer Lingus flights to Rome from the newly opened Knock Airport.

PRESIDENT REAGAN VISIT COMMEMORATED

We only recently discovered that Mr. Padraig Burke, an enterprising chiropodist from Cork, has had an illustrated cover produced to commemorate the visit of the U.S. President, Mr. Reagan to his ancestral home town in June 1984.

The cover is cancelled with Beal Atha Poirin cds., for the day of the visit. Mr. Burke encoun-

tered some difficulty in passing through the tight security around the village on the day in question. The village post office was only open for a few hours that day.

The proceeds from the sales of the covers will go towards a new foot clinic opening in Cork city which will provide free foot treatment for senior citizens and deserving cases. Collectors wishing to obtain covers should write to Mr Padraig Burke, The College of Surgical Chiropody, 43 Paul St., Cork City.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

Postage stamps commenced in 1840 when one paid 1d for a stamp which would transmit one's letter. At present one buys a picture of a dancing girl or some other pretty label which is sold at several times the cost of the letter. In my young days one had cigarette cards...

The present system of issuing series of coloured labels in Post Offices at many times the cost must be one of the biggest hoaxes or frauds practised on a long-suffering public.

These coloured labels issued by the Post Office should yield a good profit if sold at 1p each to decorate flower pots possibly...

Yours etc.

Brian de Burca MBE,
Thornton Heath, Surrey.

Dear Sir,

The "*Ornaghi*" on slogan postmarks of cycle thematic interest lists nothing for Eire. Could this be an oversight, or are there in fact none? Come to this, are there any hand stamps on cycling? I should be most grateful to hear from any of your readers.

Yours etc.

Peter C. Rickenback, London.

Sir,

I give details of just a couple of interesting varieties I have discovered:

1. Casement: This was issued on 29.9.1966 and it seems amazing that almost 20 years later a major error in the Feldman and Hibernian catalogue comes to light. This is in connection with the second printing and is Row 1 Stamps 14/15/16. You already know about the scar on the forehead. You already know about the slash on the chest. Everybody including myself has totally omitted Stamp 14 where the slash continues right through the date. There is absolutely no doubt about this because I have an unmounted mint sheet part of and the error is absolutely striking. Examine a sheet and you will discover Stamps 14/15/16 are all one large diagonal black slash.

2. Cl49: I am referring to Jellet 1970 and I confirm that I have a totally grey stamp as regards the background and as far as I am aware there are only eight copies in circulation. I also have the one showing a very slight red in the background.

Yours etc.,

T. J. Hamilton, Sligo.

Sir,

I have come across an interesting variety on the 1976 Aerogramme, PSAL6. It is a major printing shift, and I enclose illustrations showing its three stages from normal.

I have examined a large number of these aerogrammes but have not come across any more of this variety. Perhaps your readers may be able to help in this respect.

Yours etc.

Harry Hanna, Dublin 5.

An chéad fhilleadh anseo First fold here

NORMAL

An chéad fhilleadh anseo First fold here

FIRST STAGE of SHIFT

pt

An chéad fhilleadh anseo First fold here

SECOND STAGE of SHIFT

An chéad fhilleadh anseo First fold here

 **aérogramme**
THIRD STAGE of SHIFT

THE END OF AN ERA

by Bill Kane

For many years Irish Postal Historians have been mystified by a cryptic mark "DC" on plain envelopes. Anyone who had a Post Office Savings Bank account, at sometime in their life received such an envelope, hence they knew it emanated from that department; but they could not explain the connection between the mark and the P.O.S.B.

All Government Departments' official correspondence, carry an identifying logo or frank, with the one exception, the P.O.S.B. as in the instance outlined above.

I cannot say when this mark was first used, but my first acquaintance with it was in 1924, when as a Post Office Telegraph Messenger, I worked in the P.O.S.B. in Dublin Castle.

The premises was in a building located beside the Ship Street Gate of the Castle, Following the destruction of the G.P.O. in Sackville Street (now O'Connell Street), Dublin, in 1916, the Savings Bank was transferred to Dublin Castle.

The mail section was in a ground floor room, at the entrance to the building. This room was also for enquiries etc. The staff consisted of two members, one being an Adult Messenger, and the other a Boy Messenger. The Adult Messenger was a Mr Clarke, who had the responsibility for sealing all the envelopes, and then applying the "DC" handstamp. I asked him what was the significance of the mark, and he told me it stood for "Dublin Castle".

When one wished to send their account book to the P.O.S.B. for any reason, such as to have it checked, or have the yearly interest entered in the book, you went into any Post Office, and requested two envelopes for that purpose. One envelope was plain, on which you wrote your name and address: this cover and your account book you enclosed in the second envelope, which was officially addressed to the Savings Bank, Dublin.

When the plain envelope was returned to you, it bore a single mark, i.e. the "DC", that is until this year, when I was surprised to find my envelope bore a meter mark in place of the familiar "DC".

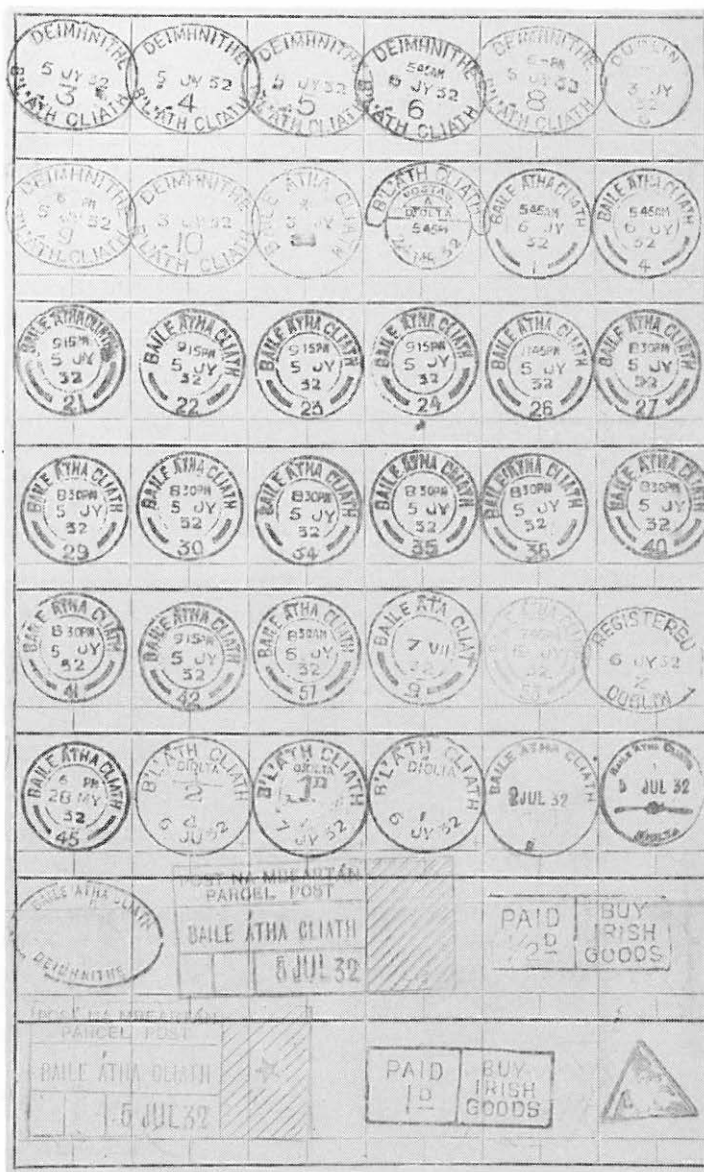
I suppose this is part of the new policy of "An Post".

Can we hope and trust that the faithful "DC" handstamp will find a new home in the proposed Post Office Museum.



DUBLIN POSTAL MARKINGS 1932

Bob Jones, U.S. Co-ordination of the Eire Philatelic Association has kindly supplied photostats of these sheets, which would appear to show impressions of all the date-stamps used in Dublin in 1932. Many of them have not been seen used on cover. Comments are invited by readers.



THE ARCHITECTURE DEFINITIVES

NO: 2

by Brian Warren and Eddie FitzGerald

There was a general revision of postal rates on 25 February 1985. Although the basic inland rates were unaltered, and were extended to include EEC countries in line with many fellow EEC post office administrations, the first weight step was reduced from 60 grams to 20 grams and overweight and non-POP (Post Office Preferred) size envelopes are now subject to significantly higher charges. All charges including inland rates were subject to further increases effective 3 March 1986. Arising from the aforementioned increase in rates on 25 February 1985 and the withdrawal of the £1 Cahir Castle definitive on 14 November 1984, four new stamps were released on 27 June 1985 – 24p (Cormac's Chapel), 28p and 37p (St. MacDara's Church) and £1 (Killarney Cathedral). A new £1 vending machine booklet and a £2 counter booklet were placed on sale on the same date. New values arising from the March '86 increases are to be issued on May 1 – 32p, 39p and 46p are the new values; booklet contents will also require alteration. A complete list of all new values/ printings since our last report up to end March '86 is set out below.

New G4 Perforator

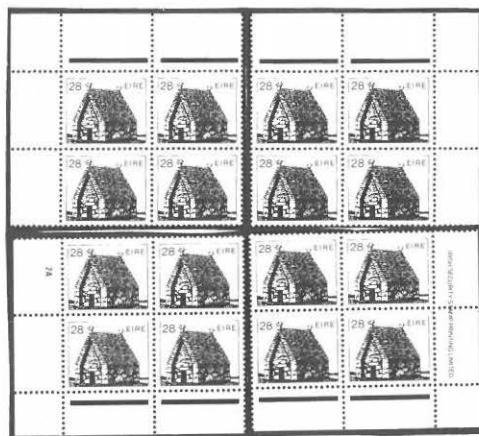
The G3 perforation head has been replaced and all recent printings have both 'A' and 'B' sheets perforated through all four margins. As a result 'A' blocks are now perforated through the left margin. The cream CCP3 paper continues to be used for all values.

Value	Plate Numbers	Perforation Type	Paper Type	Issue Date
4p	2B	G3	CCP3	July 1985
4p	2A/2B	G4	CCP3	December 1985
6p	2A/2B	G3	CCP3	November 1985
20p	1A/1B	G4	CCP3	March 1986
22p	2A/2B	G3	CCP3	June 1985
22p	2A/2B	G4	CCP3	November 1985
24p	1A/1B	G3	CCP3	27 June 1985
24p	3A/3B	G4	CCP3	March 1986
26p	2A/2B	G4	CCP3	July 1985
26p	3A/3B	G4	CCP3	January 1986
28p	1A/1B	G3	CCP3	27 June 1985
28p	2A/2B	G3	CCP3	September 1985
28p	2A/2B	G4	CCP3	March 1986
37p	1A/1B	G3	CCP3	27 June 1985
£1	1A1A/1B1B	G3	CCP3	27 June 1985

(Killarney Cathedral)



6p, Plate 2B plus imprint (G3).



28p, Plate 2A with G4 perforation.

There were two minor errors in the table set out in our article in Irish Stamp News No: 21 — the 44p, G3, CCP3, plate 1A1A/1B1B appeared after plate 2A1A/2B1B with the earliest known date of June 1985 and the third 50p in the list should of course read 2A2A/2B2B as illustrated on the front cover of the same issue.

4p, Plate 2 Printings on CCP3 Paper

Complete sheets of 200 (with gutter) only exist with the G3 perforation on CCP3 paper ex. plate 2B. 'A' sheets which are recognisable from the single pin extension hole in the left margin only exist in top half sheets of 100 (no gutter) with the bottom pane including plate number guillotined from the sheets. Although the guillotining and distribution of half sheets is not uncommon, the nonappearance of plate 2A with G3 perforation is something of a mystery as later G4 printings exist in complete sheets in respect of both 2A and 2B panes. One possible answer has been put forward by our philatelic colleague, Padraig O'Mathuna and appears to be the only logical explanation. In late 1985, stocks of 4p stamps ran out and in a circular post offices were requested not to order this value until further notice. After about five weeks stocks of both 2A and 2B sheets appeared with G4 perforation. Stocks of this later printing have been somewhat erratic with many offices out of stock. As the printing and perforation are separate operations perhaps the G4 stocks came from initial sheets of the earlier printing run prior to damage to plate 2A. If anybody has seen plate 2A with G3 perforation on CCP3 paper, please contact us via the editor.

24p, Plate 3A/3B

24p became the basic inland printed paper rate as of 3 March 1986 and a new printing was distributed the same month. However a new plate 3 was used with no intermediate plate 2 thus causing another mystery. This may be due to a short run ex. plate 2 which has yet to be distributed ex. stores.

Booklets

A new £1 experimental vending machine booklet was released on 15 August 1983. Initially the booklet was only available from two machines located at the G.P.O. Dublin and the philatelic bureau. Since the issue date, machines have been installed at most major offices throughout the country. Two different machines are in use — one

of British origin similar to the type used by the British Post Office for their 50p booklets and one of Swedish design. The Swedish design seems to be the more common type. All machines outside the G.P.O. in Dublin are now of the Swedish type. In addition within the G.P.O. Dublin, there is a free standing machine with two dispensers similar to the Swedish wall mounted type. The initial £1 booklet contained 4 x 22p and 3 x 4p plus a label in a neat se-tenant pane affixed by the selvedge into a thin card cover featuring a drawing of the Four Courts, Dublin by Michael Craig. The master printers sheet was on display at Stampa '83 and contains 40 panes in four columns of 10. Each of the card covers (but not the panes) are numbered 1 through to 40. The top pane in each column viz. 1, 11, 21 & 31 have small traffic lights, in the same ruby colour as the 4p stamps, printed in the outer margin. Pane 1 has one circle, pane 11 two circles, pane 21 three circles and pane 31 four circles. The outer margins of the panes in this and all subsequent booklets are imperforate and the panes are folded over to fit the size of the cover. The £1 booklet is the same size as the G.B. 50p booklets. The affixing of stamp panes to covers required a certain manual matching of columns of panes and covers (hence the traffic lights). As a result errors did occur and some panes from column 3 were attached to covers from column 4 (31 to 40). This error can only be recognised with cover 31 which instead of having a pane with four circles has a pane with three circles (i.e. pane 21). A quantity of booklet 31 with pane 21 were found at the time in the bureau counter stock (as well as the normal pane) but to date we have not seen any booklet 21 with pane 31 (i.e. four circles). It should be noted that as its relatively easy to peel off a pane from a booklet, this error can be readily manufactured and this therefore somewhat detracts from its value. In some cases due to bad guillotining the circles on panes 1, 11, 21 & 31 are partially or fully trimmed off. The booklets were distributed in packs of 10 with a printed yellow wrapper. This was the only booklet issued to date which detailed the contents on the cover. Paper type is CCPI.

POST
10 Books
value £20.00
PRINTED BY
IRISH SECURITY STAMP PRINTING LTD

COUNTER SALES STAMP
BOOKLET

50 X £2.00

VALUE: £100.00

£2 Counter Booklet Wrapper plus Shrinkwrap Label

				Interested in collecting Irish postage stamps? For information contact Philatelic Bureau G.P.O., Dublin 1 Telephone 748888 IRISH SECURITY STAMP PRINTING LIMITED	£1 4 @ 22p 3 @ 4p  Stampai/Postage Stamps
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£1 Booklet - Number 31 with four traffic light circles.

The second booklet issued without any prior notice was released on 9 July 1984. This discount booklet was part of a Post Office promotion to encourage people to "Keep In Touch". The £2.26 booklet cost £2 and contained a pane of twelve stamps (5 x 22p, 4 x 26p and 3 x 4p). 400,000 booklets were printed and there was a limit of two per person. However the discount factor of 11.5% did not attract people and by the end of July, it was reported that only 200,000 booklets had been sold. The booklets were to be withdrawn at that time but the sales period was extended to end August when they were withdrawn from both general and philatelic sale. The words "Booklet Stamp" appear, over the gum, on the reverse of each stamp. We under-

stand that the master sheet contained three columns of ten panes. Booklets were not numbered and no sheet markings exist on issued panes. Booklets were distributed unfolded in packs of ten with a printed pink wrapper. In turn ten packs were distributed in a larger pink wrapper with the wording "100 Books Value £200.00". This booklet pane saw the first use of the cream CCP3 paper and not the £1 booklet as incorrectly stated in our last article.

The experimental vending machines must have proved themselves as the second £1 booklet was issued on 27 June 1985. The single pane contains 2 x 2p, 2 x 22p and 2 x 26p. The cover bears a 19th century print of the Customs House, Dublin. The booklets were not numbered and no sheet markings exist on issued panes. Paper type is CCP3. The master printers sheet was on display at Stampa '85 and contains five columns of ten panes with no plate numbers. The previous £1 booklet was withdrawn from machines prior to 27 June and from philatelic sale on 31 August 1985. Packs of ten booklets with plain unprinted wrapper in yellow, pink or green. Distributed in shrinkwrapped packs of fifty with a plain label which reads "Vending Machine Stamp Booklets 50 x £1.00 Value: £50.00".

A £2 counter booklet was issued on the same date and contains a pane of twelve stamps 4 x 2p, 4 x 22p and 4 x 26p. The green cover bears the An Post symbol and the words "Keep In Touch". The master sheet was also on display at Stampa '85 and contains three columns of ten panes (split into two groups of five). Again no plate numbers and no sheet markings on issued booklets. Although the master sheet was imperforate, we established that as the sheets were perforated left to right from column one through to column three, panes ex. column one have a completely imperforate binding margin (at left) whereas panes ex. columns 2 and 3 have a single row of perforations in the binding margin between the two rows of 2p stamps. Our good friend, Dermot O'Toole in Cork was the first to spot the two versions in September 1985 but we have since established that both types were available on day one. The Dublin philatelic bureau stocks on issue date all appear to have been ex. columns 2 and 3. Booklets came in packs of ten with a pink printed wrapper (same as discount booklet as total value was £20 in both cases) with later distributions in a light blue printed wrapper. Five packets of ten were shrinkwrapped and distributed together with a plain printed label which read "Counter Sales Stamp Booklet 50 x £2 Value: £100.00".

All booklets were printed and made-up by Irish Security Stamp Printing Limited although their imprint only appears on the back cover of the first £1 booklet. Their name also appears on all the printed wrappers (i.e. first £1, Discount and £2 booklets). No special first day facilities were available for any of the booklets not even the most recent two booklets which coincided with the release of new sheet stamps. Collectors had to be happy with C.D.S. impressions on their covers.

Presentation Packs

Presentation packs for the new series were first released on the opening day of Stampa '83 (28 October). The much improved design features the Rock of Cashel (location of Cormac's chapel) on the front of the low value pack and Ballybunion Castle on the high value pack. The low value pack contained the sixteen small format stamps (1p to 30p) with a face value of £2.15 and retailed at £2.75. The high value pack contained the four large format values (44p to £5) with a face value of £6.94 and retailed at £7.25.

In April 1984, a special trial variation of the low value pack went on sale at the philatelic bureau counter in Dublin. The inscription "Gutter Pairs" was overprinted on the cover and as this suggests it contained the then complete gutter pair set (1p to 30p) and sold for £4.80 (50p over face). The pack has never appeared on the official stock list but was also to be seen at times on sale at the Post Office stand at local Irish exhibitions during 1984/5. I have not seen it on sale since the issue of the additional stamps to the series on 27 June 1985.

The old £1 (Cahir Castle) stamp was available in the high value presentation pack until May 1985 although the stamp itself had been withdrawn on 14 November 1984.

The pack was re-issued in July 1985 with the new £1 (Killarney Cathedral) stamp replacing the previous design. However the text which illustrates the old £1 design was not altered, as presumably, large stocks of the pack were to hand. Instead a special supplementary card insert which referred to the change in design was included in the pack. The separate card was also available free of charge to callers at the Dublin philatelic counter. The cost of the pack remains at £7.25. The 24p, 28p and 37p values were added to the low value pack increasing the cost to £3.64 but this did not require any change to the text.

All packs were printed during pre An Post days and thus bear a reference to the Department of Posts & Telegraphs. Presumably when reprinted they will be altered to An Post probably without advance notice.

First Day Covers and Postmarks

The first day cover for the three releases in the original twenty stamp set cost 14p and features the round tower of Teampall Finghin, Clonmacnoise, Co. Offaly. The three postmarks feature various doorways (see illustration); the first postmark (15 December 1982) is smaller than as illustrated on the official promotional leaflet. The larger cancel gave a cluttered look to the FDC. The pictorial cancels were available at Dublin, Cork, Limerick and Galway. The third postmark was repeated for the 27 June 1985 releases. However the first day cover design was altered and unusually featured the withdrawn Cahir Castle design (cost 16p). The pictorial cancel facility by this time had been extended to also include Athlone, Carrick-on-Shannon, Dun Laoghaire, Sligo, Tralee and Waterford.



COLLECTORS ADVERTISEMENTS

This form of advertising is available to private collectors only, not to traders. The charge is 20p per word or group of initials/numbers, minimum charge £5. VAT @ 25% is extra

First 12 Issues Irish Stamp News, mint condition for sale - £27 post free. M. O'Neill, Ballyveelick, Mallow, Co. Cork.

WANTED: International Reply Coupons of Ireland in exchange for IRC's of other countries or Swedish stamps, booklet or postal stationery, mint or used. Bengt Lindgren, Seglaregatan 4, 8 van., S-41457 Goteborg, Sweden.

EXCHANGE large size stamps: send 100 receive 100. Ed Petersen 1265 N. Harvard, Los Angeles, CA90029. USA.

WANTED: Ireland 1980-86 mint stamps; Flight-Sport-Judaica Covers/Cachets; military post items. 1 offer Israel (including classics!). Eitan Bar-Erez, 25 Ben-Yehuda Street, 49373 Petah-Tigra, Israel.

CANADIAN collector wishes to exchange Canadian Elizabethan era stamps, mint or used for quantity used Irish stamps, particularly the 11p, 13p, 20, 23, 24, 25, 29, 30, 36, 37, 44 Commemoratives. Others wanted, send for list of Irish stamps needed (all queries answered). W. Bileski, 149 Helmsdale Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba. R2K 0V8 Canada.

RECENT RELEASES

by
Brian Warren and Barra O'Keeffe



The long time gap since our last report ensures that there is something for everybody in the listing set out above. Barra O'Keeffe who is a keen collector of postal stationery has joined the team and will contribute the latest information in this area in future issues.

Date of Issue	Issue	Description	Sold For	Plate Numbers
2/6/85	Louth Philatelic Society	— Booklet	£1.25	
10/6/85	International Reply Coupon		50p (price 72p since 1.4.86)	
16/6/85	2nd Collectors Festival	— Booklet	£2.50	
20/6/85	U.N. Defence Forces	— 25th Anniversary	22p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B and 1A1A1A2A/1B1B1B2B
20/6/85	Thomas Ashe	— Birth Centenary	26p	1A1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B1B
20/6/85	George Berkeley—300th Birth Anniversary		44p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
27/6/85	Architecture Definitives—Cormac's Chapel		24p	1A/1B
	— St MacDara's Church		28p	1A/1B, 2A/2B
	— St MacDara's Church		37p	1A/1B
	— Killarney Cathedral		£1	1A1A/1B1B
	— Vending Machine Booklet		£1	
	— Counter Booklet		£2	
1/8/85	International Youth Year		22p	1A1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B1B and 1A1A1A1A2A/1B1B1B1B2B
			26p	1A1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B1B
1/8/85	Portumna '85 Selection Packs	— Pack A	£2	
		— Pack B	£2.50	
17/8/85	Sligo Yeats International Stampex			
		— Booklet	£1	
22/8/85	Postage Due Labels		20p	I
			30p	I
			50p	I
3/10/85	Ireland Series	— Industrial Innovation	22p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
	(6th Series)	— Industrial Innovation	26p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
3/10/85	Institution of Engineers of Ireland		44p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B

12/10/85	Cork Philatelic Society Exhibition	Booklet	£1	
8/11/85	Stampa Exhibition Card	— Postage Due	£1	
8/11/85	Selection Packs	— Pack A	£2	
		— Pack B	£2.50	
		— Pack C	£3	
8/11/85	22p Postcard		25p	
8/11/85	26p Lettercard		30p	
8/11/85	26p 'A' Envelope		30p	
23/11/85	Limerick, Coin, Stamp & Postcard			
	Fair Booklet		£1.25	
26/11/85	Christmas	— Se-Tenant	22p+	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B and
	(15th Issue)		22p	2A2A2A2A/2B2B2B2B
			26p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
				2A2A2A2A/2B2B2B2B
26/11/85	Christmas	— 16 x 22p Sheetlet	£3	
2/12/85	Year Pack		£17.50	
7/12/85	Galway Philatelic Society Exhibition			
	Booklet		£1.20	
10/12/85	£1.16 Size G Registered Envelope			
	(90p + 26p)		£1.26	
10/12/85	£1.16 Size H Registered Envelope			
	(90p + 26p)		£1.31	
10/12/85	37p Aerogramme		40p	
30/1/86	Love Stamps	— Stylised Bird	22p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B,
	(2nd Series)			2A2A2A2A/2B2B2B2B and
				3A3A2A3A/3B3B2B3B
		— Pillar Box	26p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
31/1/86	Redirection Postcard		25p	
26/2/86	St. Patrick's Day Postcards	— Set of Six	30p ea	Standard size
	(3rd Series)	— Set of Three	40p ea	Large size
8/3/86	Mid-Western Philatelic Society Exhibition		£1	Booklet
18/3/86	40p Aerogramme		40p	
20/3/86	24p Postcard		27p	
20/3/86	Fauna and Flora	— Hart's tongue fern	24p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
	(9th Series)			
		— Rusty back fern	28p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B and
				2A2A2A1A/2B2B2B1B
		— Killarney fern	46p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B
23/3/86	Third Collectors Festival	— Booklet	3.50	

Commemorative and Special Issues

All stamps continue to be printed by Irish Security Stamp Printing Limited in the same format as described in Irish Stamp News No: 21. In addition to the plate numbers set out above, the Cork 800 stamp issued 14 March 1985 appeared with a second plate combination of 2A1A1A1A/2B1B1B1B. A special cover was available from An Post to match the special Cork cancel as mentioned in the last Recent Releases.

In connection with the three stamps issued on 20 June special covers/postmarks were available as follows: — Thomas Ashe: Special cover available in Tralee and Lispole, Co Kerry. A special cancel was available at Lispole which is situated near his birthplace of Kinard. U.N. Defence Forces: Special cancel available in Dublin. A special cover was sold fully serviced by the Army at a cost of IR£1.50 with proceeds donated to the Defence Forces Benevolent Fund. George Berkeley: Special cancel available in his birthplace of Kilkenny. The three cancels were in addition to the general pictorial cancel which, beginning with this issue, was extended to include Carrick-on-Shannon, Sligo, Tralee and Waterford. A special cover and cancel was

available at Portumna, Co. Galway for the International Youth Year set in connection with the Scout Jamboree held at this venue from 30 July to 8 August.

In addition to the normal sheet stamps, a special Christmas sheetlet of 16 x 22p stamps featuring a candle design was issued and sold as a unit at £3, a saving of 52p. Individual stamps could not be purchased. The sheetlets remained on general sale until 24 December but continue to be on philatelic sale. Unlike the 1984 promotion there were no restrictions imposed regarding period of posting. All sheetlets had colour checks but no plate numbers.

	COMPENSATION Subject to conditions outlined in Post Office Guide. Inland Service Minimum registration covers IR£20. Extra fees cover higher amounts. Foreign Service Minimum registration covers IR£20. For higher amounts use insurance service. Further details are available at all Post Offices. CÚITEAMH Paid réir na gcoinníochas atá leagtha smach in Éirinn an Phoist. An tSeirbhís Intriú Cúiteabhair an clár leas <i>£20</i>. Cúiteabhair clár breise maidéanna le réis ná sin. An tSeirbhís Choigríche Cúiteabhair an clár leas <i>£20</i>. I gceist maidéanna le réis ná sin, ní mór srachas a tháir. Tá oiliúcháir sonair ar fáil i ngach Post-Óifig.	
FEE PAID TAILLE IÓCHTA	Sender's name and address _____ _____ _____ _____	

New registered envelope issued on December 10, 1985.

Definitives and Postage Dues

Arising from the postal rate revisions of 25 February 1985 and the withdrawal of the £1 Cahir Castle design, four new stamps were issued on 27 June 1985. Two new booklets were released on the same date. The £1 vending machine booklet replaced the previous type (issued in 1983) and contains two each of the 2p, 22p and 26p values.

The £2 counter booklet contains four of the same values and in both booklets the stamps are set out in one pane with imperforate edges.

Three new postage due labels were added to the existing set on 22 August. Photo-gravure printed by the Revenue Stamping Branch in sheets of 200, split into two panes of 100 (10 x 10) with gutter. The postage due labels are the only postage stamp or stationery contract to remain with Dublin Castle.

Presentation Packs

Six different packs containing commemorative and special issues were released during the year. Experimental 'Selection Packs' were released without prior notice at Portumna '85 on the day of issue (1 August) of the International Youth Year stamps. In order to encourage the idea of stamp collecting among the large number of young people attending this Scout Jamboree, the Post Office sold two specially prepared packs containing various issues covering the period 1984/85. The packs were of a somewhat makeshift nature and included an illustration of the Portumna first day cancel together with an inscription which read "Portumna '85. Pack A - Sold at IR£2: 150 Years of Irish Railways (4), U.N. Defence Forces (1) and International Youth Year set (2), total face value IR£1.92. Pack B - Sold at IR£2.50: Butterflies (4), Dunsink Observatory (1), First Flight by an Irishman (1) and G.A.A. (2), total face value of IR£2.34.

Special Cancellations

Special postmarks were available in connection with the following events on the dates indicated:

June 5-7: International Seed Trade Federation Congress, Killarney.

June 20-23: Carrolls Irish Open Golf Championships, Royal Dublin Golf Club.

June 20: Opening of Irish Jewish Museum, Dublin. Special cover available.

August 17: Sligo Philatelic Exhibition, Sligo. The advertised cancel included the FPSI (Federation of Philatelic Societies of Ireland) logo. However a second cancel with the town reference in English (contrary to regulations) and with the wording Yeats International Stampex was also available at the Post Office stand. Special cover available.

August 6: 75 years of Automobile Association, Dublin. Special cover available.

September 9-12: European Congress of Building Societies, Dublin.

October 12: Cork Philatelic Exhibition. Special Cover available.

November 8-10: Stampa '85, Dublin. Three different cancels all on the postage due label theme. Special cover sold by An Post.

December 7: Galway Philatelic Exhibition, Galway. Special cover available.

March 8: Mid-Western Philatelic Society Exhibition, Limerick. Special cover available.

Slogan Postmarks

Five further slogans appeared in 1985 and to date two new slogans have appeared in 1986. First seen in June, a Post Office sponsored slogan appeared promoting the use of Post Office Preferred Size envelopes and read "Save Money - Be Wise - Use the P.O.P. Size". Dun Laoghaire ran a slogan in the summer period which read "Visit Maritime Museum Dun Laoghaire Open May-Sept". Youghal promoted their local potato festival with the wording "The Walter Raleigh Potato Festival of Youghal June 30th to July 7th". The Irish Kidney Association sponsored a slogan in general use during August - "Be A Kidney Donor Your Gift Could Save Lives". During December, Dundalk used a slightly altered version of the die "Are You On The Draft Register Of Electors? Check Now At Your Post Office". The "Check Now" is no longer highlighted and the frame is thinner. 1986 marks 60 years of Irish radio and both Irish and English dies were in general use during Jan/Feb - "RTE Radio 60 Serving Ireland Sixty Years"/Radio RTE 60 Seasca Bliain Ag Fonamh d'Eirinn". A pictorial slogan first seen in April 1986 reads "The Irish Girl Guides 75th 1911-1986".

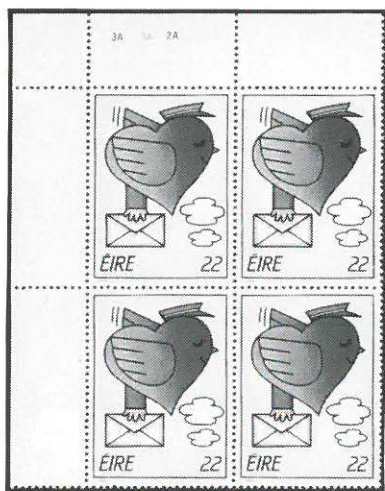
Overseas Exhibitions

During 1985, the Irish Post Office or their agents provided cachets at five exhibitions - Stampex, London (Feb 26 - Mar 3); Interpex, New York (14-17 Mar); Philatelia, Cologne (19-21 April). Nordfrimex, Copenhagen (26-29 Sept); and Italia '85, Rome (25 Oct - 3 Nov). A special souvenir card on the theme "European Music Year" was sold at the Rome show. The three stamps from the E.M.Y. set were affixed to a large illustrated souvenir card and cancelled with the exhibition cachet. A Stampex cachet was also available this year (4-9 Mar).



Louth Philatelic Society Exhibition Booklet Cover

The above packs were followed by a further three selection packs issued on the opening day of Stampá (8 November). Selection packs 'A' and 'B' have the same contents as the Portumna packs referred to above and are sold at the same prices of IR£2 and IR£2.50 respectively. Selection pack 'C' is sold at IR£3 and contains the following stamps – Europa '85 (2), European Music Year (3), Royal Irish Academy (1), Cork 800 (1), George Berkeley (1), Galway 500 (1) and 200th Anniversary of Irish Post Office (1), total face value of IR£2.92. The annual Year Pack was released on 2 December and retails at IR£7.50 (face value IR£7.32). The pack contains all the 1985 special and commemorative issues excluding the 22p Christmas stamp sold in sheetlet form.



22p Love – Plate 3A3A2A3A



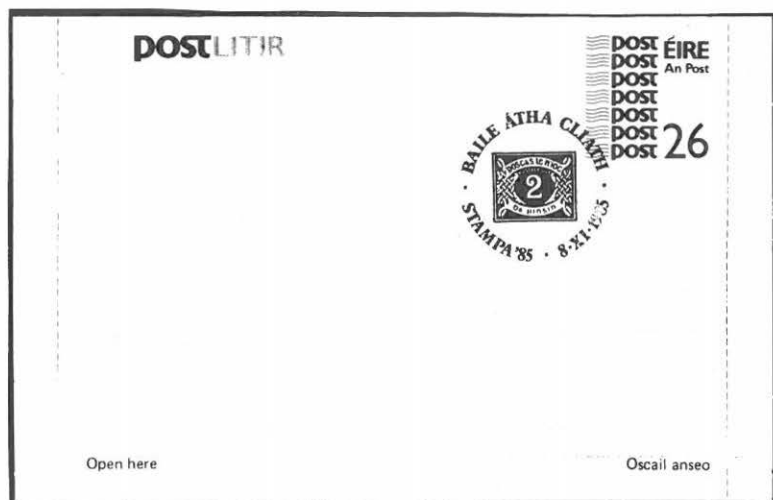
28p Fauna & Flora – Plate 2A1A1A1A.

Exhibition Souvenirs

The cover of the Louth booklet features a drawing of the Old Franciscan Tower at Seatown Dundalk and contains 2 x 22p European Music Year stamps plus 4 x 1p definitives (300 booklets). The Second Collectors Festival booklet contained the two Europa '85 stamps mounted in a Hawid strip. Numbered edition of 375 booklets. The Sligo booklet (500 copies) contains 2 x 22p International Youth Year Stamps and 4 x 1p definitives. The cover features a drawing of Drumcliff Churchyard, burial place of W.B. Yeats. The Cork booklet contains the 26p Cork 800 stamp in a Hawid strip. This well produced item contains several pages of information and illustrations of postal history connected with Cork – 650 booklets. The Stampá souvenir card commemorated the 60th anniversary of the first Irish Postage Due Labels and features the 1d carmine label in raised relief. A total of 1,800 cards were printed with a further 350 cards in sepia (1p decimal colour) which were distributed to Stampá members. The Limerick, Coin, Stamp & Postcard Fair booklet was in a numbered edition of 300 and contains 3 x 26p Thomas Ashe stamps. The Galway booklet (300) has similar contents to the Louth booklet mentioned above. The Mid-Western booklet (400) also contains the two se-tenant 22p European Music Year stamps, a popular choice in the last year among the private booklet brigade. The Third Collectors Festival booklet (500) contains the two se-tenant pairs taken from the 1980 Wildlife miniature sheet. New readers should note that all items are privately produced by the exhibition organisers and are not issued by An Post although booklets do contain genuine postage stamps.

Postal Stationery

1985 saw the issue of a new 'An Post' logo design stamp for all stationery.



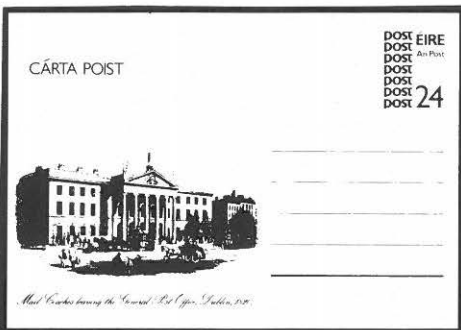
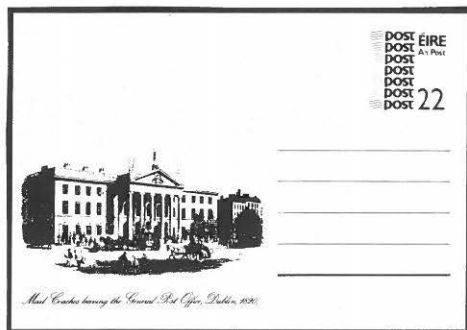
26p Lettercard issued on opening day of Stampa with postage due cancel.

The new stamps were issued on the first day of Stampa '85 (Nov. 8) on postcards, envelopes and lettercards. The postcard featured the previously adopted illustration of the G.P.O. The heading CARTA POIST was left out and the 22p stamp is in deep green. The envelope with green 26p stamp lithographed was in size 115 x 160 mm. The interior of the envelope has a printed "Glenmalure" design in red-brown ink. The lettercard has a 26p bright green stamp on cream card and is in a new size of 99 x 156 mm. The heading has been changed from LITIR-CHARTA to POSTLITIR using the An Post logo. The lettercard is rouletted 9 and includes a space for the name and address of the sender. An error in the text states that postage is paid inland whereas it should state that postage is paid to all E.E.C. countries. The lettercard, of good design, is the first to be issued for almost ten years. The postcard was printed by Cahill Printers Limited, the envelope by Capital Spicers Limited, and the lettercard by W & S Magowan (Ireland) Limited.

On December 10 1985 new design £1.16 (90p registration fee and 26p postage) registered envelopes were issued in sizes G and H. The envelopes, printed by Trimfold Limited are of a completely new design with regard to their text. The stamp is similar to that on the 26p "A" envelope but with the legend "CLARU:90" above the postage value. For the first time ever the envelopes were sold with the flap unfolded and opened out flat.

Also on December 10 a stamped aerogramme was issued for the first time ever. The aerogramme was issued with a 37p stamp and sold for 40p. A colour illustration the G.P.O., Dublin is depicted on the face, while the back shows the four provinces' crests. The aerogramme bears an imprint 1-85.

On 31 January 1986 a redirection postcard was issued at a cost of 25p. The cards are intended to be used by people wishing to advise their correspondents of a change of address. The cards bear an undenominated postage paid indicator. They are printed largely in green ink.



*22p and 24p Postcard Stamps showing variation
in positioning of An Post under Eire.*

The 1986 set of St. Patrick's day cards were issued on 26 February and include nine designs, as follows:— Standard size (110 x 155 mm) costing 30p each, (1) Peace Needlework, (2) Blessings of Peace, (3) Snake, (4) Dove, (5) Greetings and (6) St. Patrick quotation. The legends on cards 1 and 2 were transposed in error. The Blessing Blessings of Peace card featuring a pattern of doves and shamrocks is described as "A St. Patrick's day needlework sampler". This legend should have been on the Peace Needlework card which had instead the legend "Rich blessings of Peace and prosperity on St. Patrick's Day". The legend on card 1 was retained as being sufficiently appropriate. The legend on card 2 however was noted as an error prior to release and stocks were issued with the legend obliterated by a row of overprinted shamrocks. However some supplies of the card with the legend unoverprinted were on sale through the G.P.O. in Dublin including the philatelic sales counter on the 26 and 27 February. Three further cards of larger size (122 x 186 mm) costing 40p each were included in the set. The cards bore a short verse and featured springtime flora of meadowland, woodland and lakeshore flora. A special green first day cancel was available in Dublin.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY, 17th. MARCH.
GREETINGS FROM IRELAND.
A St. Patrick's Day needlework sampler.

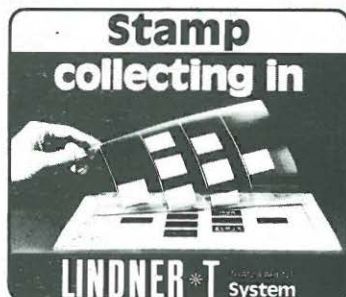
ST. PATRICK'S DAY, 17th. MARCH.
GREETINGS FROM IRELAND.
A St. Patrick's Day needlework sampler.

*Two caption settings on St Patrick's Day
Blessings of Peace postcard.*

On March 18 a new Airletter with imprint 2-86 and a 40p stamp was issued to take account of the new rates of 3rd March. The design is the same as the previous 37p issue (1-85) which was withdrawn on March 1 1986. The new airletter is sold without additional charge for the stationery.

On March 20 a 24p postcard was issued to cover the increased inland and EEC postcard rate. The card is similar to the previous issue showing the G.P.O. but with the heading "CARTA POIST" re-introduced. The stamp is of a different setting with the base of the words "An Post" beneath EIRE below the top of the third Post logo. On previous issues of stationery this stamp shows the base of "An Post" in line with the top of the third logo.

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