

The Revealer

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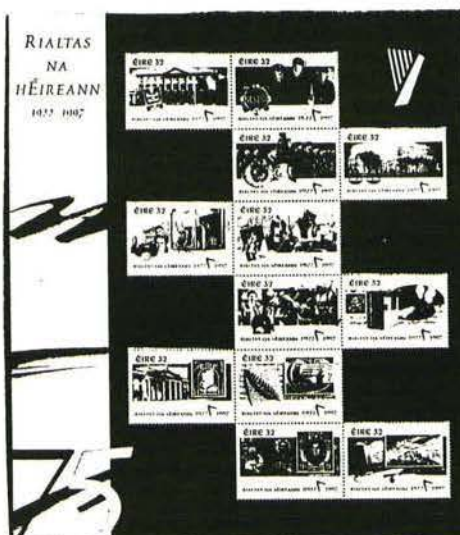
Whole Number 211

SAMHRADH - Summer 1998

That Was The Year That Was 1997

*Most Popular Stamp
for 1997*

*75th Anniversary
of State Issue*



*Nolan
Irish
Essays*

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by David J. Brennan



It has been a busy time these past two months making arrangements for the upcoming Annual General Meeting to be held at Chicagopex. I am appealing to all of you exhibitors to let me know, as soon as possible, how many frames and classes that you can enter. We would like to have a good showing at this show. There will be a special award, a Cuchulainn Statue. No, not the one in the GPO lobby; it

there will an ÉPA medal and certificates awarded. Please let me or one of your directors know of anything you would like to have brought up at the AGM. This is your time to be heard. Rooms are scarce, so make your arrangements early.

I had the pleasure of being the guest of Peter Bugg and attending the Northeastern Federation Show at Boxborough, Massachusetts. We reserved rooms for the year 2000. More details will be available from both Peter Bugg, show chairman, and Joe Foley, general chairman for the 50th anniversary of the ÉPA. Mark your calendar, this will be a very memorable occasion. Also, I attended the John McCormack Chapter meeting and met several of our members whom I haven't seen in quite awhile.

is a limited edition replica being made available by AnPost. Also,

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The Association Secretary will write the appropriate coordinator when a new member joins the Association and provide the coordinator with the name and address of the new member. The role of the coordinator is to contact the new member, welcome the member to the Association and invite the member to join the local chapter.

ISSUE DEADLINES Summer - 1 June • Fall - 1 September • Winter - 1 December • Spring - 1 March

SECRETARY'S REPORT

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 #2537 Henry Kuipers, Diepenbrockstr 109, Almelo, The Netherlands 7600 CX.
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 #2539 Marg Wiley, 41 Ivanhoe Tr., Bloomfield, NJ 07003.

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- #2303 Sean Fitzgerald, 79 Sunnyridge Ave., Fairfield, CT 06430.

Resignations

- #700 Walter C. McCaw, Canada.

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- #1292 Walter J. Butler, 356 Fox Hill Rd., Chatham, MA 02633-1415.
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Membership Status

Membership as of February 25, 1998	561
New Members	5
Reinstated	1
Resignations	1
Membership as of May 25, 1998	566 ♣

Unadopted Essays by Edward Nolan for Irish Stamp Designs

by Peter Collins

Editor's Note: This article first appeared in The Essay Proof Journal, Official Journal of the Essay Proof Journal Society, winter 1983 Vol. 40, No 1. Whole Number 157, pages 4-7. Your editor attempted to obtain permission to republish by contacting the Editor of the Journal. However, the Society is not active and she thought that the author was dead. She asked that if I decided to reprint it that credit be given.

Archives of the late Edward Nolan were sold by Robinson Lowe on April 12, 1983. They bring to light some interesting and, hitherto unrecorded, essays including drawings for the 1937 high value definitives and the 1941 Easter Rising commemoratives. On the whole, one feels that Nolan was still



Figure 1: Nolan's essay for the Easter Rising Jubilee

designing in an outmoded style based on a Victorian outlook, at a time when the Stamp Design Committee was a forward-looking body intent upon modern designs.

For instance, among his essays for the definitive high values were designs depicting St. Patrick and St. Bridget in unimaginative poses and the traditional symbolic Celtic Cross, Wolfhound and the Irish Harp - all subjects which had been submitted in connection with 1922 definitives and rejected. The selection of the surrealist St. Patrick design for the 1937 high value indicates that there was an adventurous spirit of modern thought in Ireland, and having selected this bold style, it was obviously economic for the government to use the same design for all three values.



Figure 2: Nolan's essay for the Gaelic Athletic Association

The Easter Rising took place on Easter Monday 1916, when 2000 volunteers from Sinn Féin and the Irish Republican Brotherhood occupied key points in the city of Dublin. The establishment of the Irish republic was proclaimed, and the insurgents managed to hold out for five days before they were forced into unconditional surrender. Fifteen of the leaders were executed and a further 3000 were interned, though the majority were soon released. No doubt as a gesture of appeasement to the USA where there was much Irish sympathy and whose weight was desperately needed to add allied war strength against Germany. Nolan's essays for the Easter Rising Jubilee issue (Figure 1) showed an angel mourning over the names of the seven of the patriot martyrs. The sentiment was mawkish and hardly in keeping with the event or the times. It is not surprising that the designs were rejected, but it was unfortunate that no commemorative stamp was ready in time for the occasion and the anniversary was marked by a provisional overprint on two stamps of the current definitive type.

There were plans to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Gaelic Athletic Association with a special stamp issue and, for this, Nolan submitted a portrait of the Rev. Thomas Croke who had been Archbishop of Cashel, Tipperary, and was instrumental in founding the G.A.A. (Figure 2) He was, in fact, a staunch worker for Irish Nationalism and despite his Holy Orders took an active interest in political affairs. As a young man he had been a supporter of Daniel O'Connor, and in his later position of influence, he befriended the Irish Parliamentarian Parnell. He was a great worker with the Gaelic League, the Land League and the Irish Tenants' League. From all these activities he attracted the anger and suspicion of the British government. It may be that when this essay was submitted he was still a political hot potato and the stamp design which was adopted for the event showing a hurling player was certainly more innocuous.

Following the Irish Famine of 1847-51, millions of Irish emigrants crossed the Atlantic. The Sinn Féin "Free Ireland" movement started in the USA, so the bond between the two countries was very strong. It was appropriate for the "Old Country"

(see NOLAN on page 15)

That Was The Year That Was – 1997

by Brian Warren

Once again, there was no general increase in postal rates (except SDS rates including parcels) during 1997. Letter and printed paper rates have remained unaltered since 2 April 1991. A major revision of the rates structure will come into effect on 6 April 1998.

I have now incorporated details of first day covers and additional first day postmarks within the special/commemorative and definitive listings.

litho printed by Irish Security Stamp Printing Limited (ISSP) or Walsall & Sons. Except as indicated below, all full sized sheets contain 50 stamps in the usual 10 x 5 or 5 x 10 format with plate numbers at top left ("A" or "B"), colour checks at top right and imprint at bottom left.

First Day Covers: FDC's cost 27p (an increase of 2p). Special covers were available for all special and commemorative

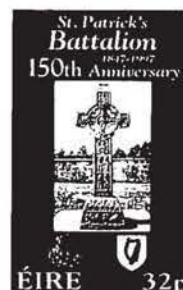
SPECIAL AND COMMEMORATIVE ISSUES



Love



Greetings



The 1997 programme, comprising 51 sheet stamps (including the special "75th Anniversary of the State" sheetlet which contains twelve separately identifiable stamps), 2 self-adhesive stamps, 4 miniature sheets (excluding the Pacific '97 miniature sheet which is included under the definitives listing) and 3 booklets, was issued over 11 release dates at a cost of IR£36.08. In addition to the "75th Anniversary of the State" sheetlet, the two Europa stamps were issued in sheetlet form at a cost of IR£7.60 for two sheetlets. The 1996 totals were 40 sheet stamps, 2 self-adhesive stamps, 3 miniature sheets and 3 booklets at a cost of IR£28.64; ten of the sheet stamps were issued in sheetlet form with a total cost of IR£19.52 for five sheetlets.

Printers and Sheet

Format: All stamps were

issues except for the four individual stamps released on 1 July; the general purpose FDC was used for this issue. Different FDC's were used for each phase of the "75th Anniversary of the State" set. As referred to below, special arrangements applied in the case of the single stamp and sheetlet issued on 6 December. The illustration on the cover for the Europa set reproduces the "Great Famine" design used on the 26p Europa stamp issued in 1982. Pictorial cancels were available for all issues.

Maximum Cards: The price of mint cards was increased by

Date of Issue	Description	Cost	Plate Numbers/Notes	Paper	Perforation	Printer
28 Jan	Love Stamp (13th Issue) - Pair of Doves	32p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 x 14 ³ / ₄	ISSP
28 Jan	Greetings Booklet (6th Issue)	IR£2.56	Two panes - (8 x 32p)	CCP3	14 x 14 ³ / ₄	ISSP
28 Jan	Year of the Ox - Miniature Sheet	96p	3 x 32p Greetings	CCP3	14 x 14 ³ / ₄	ISSP
18 Feb	75th Anniversary of the State ... - Legislature	32p	se-tenant	CCP3	14 ³ / ₄ x 14	ISSP
	(Phase 1 - Democracy - Defense Forces	32p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 ³ / ₄ x 14	ISSP
	and State Institutions) - Garda Síochána	52p	se-tenant	CCP3	14 ³ / ₄ x 14	ISSP
	- Judiciary	52p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 ³ / ₄ x 14	ISSP
6 Mar	Fauna and Flora - Grey Seal	28p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 x 14 ³ / ₄	ISSP
	(20th Issue - Bottle Nosed Dolphin	32p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 x 14 ³ / ₄	ISSP
	Marine Mammals) - Harbour Porpoise	44p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 ³ / ₄ x 14	ISSP
	- Killer Whale	52p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 ³ / ₄ x 14	ISSP
	- Miniature Sheet	IR£1.56	One set	CCP3	14 ³ / ₄ x 14 ³ / ₄	ISSP
3 Apr	75th Anniversary of the State - Culture	32p	se-tenant	CCP3	14 ³ / ₄ x 14	ISSP
	(Phase II - Sport, Culture, - Sport	32p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 ³ / ₄ x 14	ISSP
	Commerce & The Arts) - Arts	52p	se-tenant	CCP3	14 ³ / ₄ x 14	ISSP
	- Commerce	52p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 ³ / ₄ x 14	ISSP
3 Apr	Millennium of Irish Coin	32p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 ³ / ₄ x 14	ISSP
14 May	Europa (37th Issue) - ... - The Children of Lir	32p	Sheetlets of ten	CCP3	13 ³ / ₄ x 14	Walsall
	Stories and Legends) - Oisín and Niamh	44p	Sheetlets of ten	CCP3	13 ³ / ₄ x 14	Walsall
	- self adhesive ... 2 x 32p	...	Same designs - IR£32 per box	...	9 ¹ / ₂ x 9 ¹ / ₂	ISSP
14 May	An Gorta Mór (The Famine)	28p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 ³ / ₄ x 14	ISSP
		32p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 ³ / ₄ x 14	ISSP
		52p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 ³ / ₄ x 14	ISSP

(Table continued on next page)

2p to 22p per card. Sets of cards were available for the Marine Mammals, Europa, Lighthouses and Bram Stoker issues. The cards were printed by ISSP.

Love Stamp and Greetings Booklet: The two-pane booklet contains eight 32p stamps in se-tenant strips of four designs. The stamps feature various farm animals and are based on characters from well known children's nursery rhymes and stories - (I) Cow Jumping Over Moon; (II) Pair of Love Doves; (III) Pig Going to Market; and (IV) Cock Crowing. Each stamp has two greetings labels attached top and bottom and the outer edges of the pane are imperforate. One stamp in each pane has an imperforate edge giving a total of five stamps in addition to the sheet issue. The make-up of each pane is as follows:

Pane 1: 32p I; 32p II, 32p III and 32p IV (right margin imperforate);

Pane 2: 32p IV, 32p III, 32p II and 32p I (right margin imperforate).

As readers will note, pane 2 reverses the order of pane 1 and thus differs from the format of prior years. Each pane is rouletted in the binding margin and stitched into the covers. Three of the designs are included in the Year of the Ox miniature sheet referred to below. Separate cancellations were used for the Love stamp and the booklet panes.

Lunar Year of the Ox Miniature Sheet: A special miniature sheet to mark the Chinese Lunar Year of the Ox was issued on the same day as the Love stamp and Greetings Booklet. The sheet contains three of the Greetings stamps - 32p II, 32p III and 32p IV (right margin imperforate). The left hand panel shows an ox and the logo for the Hong Kong '97 stamp exhibition. The Greetings cancellation was used on FDC's.



75th Anniversary of the State (Phases I & II): Both 32p and 52p values were printed se-tenant in horizontal and vertical pairs in sheets of 40 stamps. Each sheet is set out in two panes of 20 with a vertical gutter with each pane containing two columns of ten stamps giving 10 gutter pairs in each sheet, five of each design. Although not specifically referred to by An Post in their publicity literature, several designs include identifiable artists/athletes. In the second set, issued on 3 April, Linda Martin is the singer featured on one of the 32p values; the second 32p includes Sonia O'Sullivan (athlete), Alan Gough (goalkeeper with League of Ireland soccer club, Shelbourne) and a scene from the 1995 All-Ireland Hurling Final between Offaly and Clare. The 52p stamp featuring members of the Garda Síochána shows, according to a report in the "Irish Independent" of 19 February, Garda Damien Hogan (Skerries, Co. Dublin), Garda Marie Egan

(Ardfer, Co. Kerry) and Garda Brendan Walsh (Rathmines, Dublin). All are attached to the Garda Press Office in Dublin where photographs for the stamp were taken by Q Design.

75th Anniversary of the State (Phases III and IV): All four stamps were issued in the regular 50 stamp format with no gutter. There was no official first day of issue service for the single 32p stamp issued on 6 December featuring the G.P.O., Dublin and the 2d map stamp. However, all account holders with a standing order for FDC's, received a complimentary cover bearing the final 32p stamp and cancelled with a Baile Átha Cliath first day cancel with the "75" design illustrated above. It was not possible to purchase additional or

(continued from previous page)

Date of Issue	Description	Cost	Plate Numbers/Notes	Paper	Perforation	Printer
1 July	Transport in Ireland (6th Issue - Lighthouses)	- The Baily 32p - Tarbert 32p - Hook Head 38p - Fastnet 50p - Prestige Booklet .. IRE4.64	se-tenant 1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B 1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B 1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B Four panes - see below	CCP3 CCP3 CCP3 CCP3 CCP3	14 3/4 x 14 14 3/4 x 14 14 x 14 3/4 14 x 14 3/4 Various	ISSP ISSP ISSP ISSP ISSP
1 July	St. Colmcille - 1400th Death Anniversary	28p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 x 14 3/4	ISSP
	Kate O'Brien - Birth Centenary	28p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 x 13 3/4	Walsall
	Daniel O'Connell - 150th Death Anniversary	32p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 1/4 x 14 1/4	Walsall
	John Wesley - 250th Anniv. of first visit to Ireland	52p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 x 13 3/4	Walsall
27 Aug	75th Anniv. of the State - 1/2d Micheál O'Cléirigh	28p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 3/4 x 14	ISSP
	(Phase III - 9d Catholic Emancipation	32p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 3/4 x 14	ISSP
	Stamps on Stamps) - 1/5 Airmail	52p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 3/4 x 14	ISSP
12 Sept	St. Patrick's Battalion (Mexico) - 150th Anniversary (Joint Issue)	- An Post stamp 32p - \$3.40 Mexican stamp 38p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B none	CCP1	13 1/2 x 13 1/2 13 1/2 x 13 1/2	ISSP Romo
1 Oct	Bram Stoker - 150th Birth Anniversary	- Dracula and bat 28p - Dracula with Lucy 32p - Dracula rising from coffin 38p - Dracula and wolf 52p - Mars Miniature sheet 32p - Miniature sheet .. IRE1.50	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B 1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B 1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B 1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B 32p stamp design one of each value	CCP3 CCP3 CCP3 CCP3 CCP3 CCP3	14 x 14 3/4 14 x 14 3/4 14 3/4 x 14 4 3/4 x 14 14 x 14 3/4 14 3/4 x 14 3/4	ISSP ISSP ISSP ISSP ISSP ISSP
18 Nov	Christmas (27th Issue)	- The Holy Family 28p - The Holy Family 32p - The Holy Family 52p - Booklet (self-adhesive - Christmas tree) .. IRE5.32	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B 1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B 1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B (20 x 28p - one free stamp)	CCP3 CCP3 CCP3	14 x 14 3/4 14 x 14 3/4 14 x 14 3/4 9 x 10	ISSP ISSP ISSP ISSP
6 Dec	75th Anniversary of the State (Phase IV)	- G.P.O. Dublin plus 2d Map stamp 32p - Sheetlet (12 x 32p) .. IRE3.84	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B all twelve designs	CCP3 CCP3	4 3/4 x 14 4 3/4 x 14	ISSP ISSP

unserviced covers. Collectors could, however, hand in their own personal covers for cancellation with the special first day postmark. As far as I'm aware, no pictorial first day postmark was available at any other location. A special event postmark was available in Cork on the issue date which included the same "75" design - see under Exhibition Souvenirs, Postmarks and Cachets below. The official cover had an overall background design printed on the cover featuring the G.P.O. Dublin as well as reproductions of earlier definitive stamps. This is the first time I can recall the use of an overall printed design on an FDC.



75th Anniversary Phase IV
12 Stamp Sheetlet @ £3.84
50 Sheets per Pack
Total Value £192.00

75th Anniversary of the State - Sheetlet: All twelve designs in the series were re-produced as 32p denominations in a sheetlet of twelve stamps which was on sale for a limited period to 31 December 1997. Six of the stamps in the sheetlet were already issued in normal sheet form as 32p denominations; the remaining six stamps were previously issued as 28p or 52p denominations, thus giving six new stamps viz. the Garda Síochána, Judiciary, Arts, Commerce, 1/2d Micheál O'Clérigh and 1/5 Air-mail designs. The stamps are set out in a se-tenant format within a dark blue surround. As a result, all stamps can be differentiated from the sheet issue as any individual stamp taken from the sheetlet has dark blue tips to the perforations on at least one side. A total of 75,000 sheetlets were printed.



Fauna and Flora (Marine Mammals):

The individual stamps within the miniature sheet have a common perf. (14^{3/4}) due to the mix of horizontal and vertical formats and thus differ from the individual sheet stamps.

Millennium of Irish Coin: Keen eyed numismatists noted that the reproduction of the silver penny on the 32p stamp included the head of King Sitric facing right and not left as on the

actual coin (and first day postmark). Special replica coins were also available and An Post produced a different cover incorporating both the coin and the stamp - cost: IR£4.95. The stamp was cancelled with the same FDC cancel as used on ordinary covers.

Europa (Stories and Legends): The sheet stamps were litho printed by Walsall Security Printing Limited in the usual sheetlet format comprising ten stamps with illustrated side panels. The side panels are imperforate, all other margins are perforated. No plate numbers, imprint or colour controls appear on issued sheetlets. As announced in advance by An Post, a quantity of both values were delivered trim finished to an incorrect



size with narrow margins. The standard sheetlets have an overall measurement of 153mm x 177.5mm whereas trimmed sheetlets measure 142mm x 157mm. Supplies of both types were supplied for both philatelic and postal use. Individual stamps do not differ although by reference to the author's own copies trimmed sheetlets of the 32p value are slightly more blue in appearance; however, I'm not aware if this is a constant feature.

The self-adhesive set was produced by ISSP. As usual, the overall size is smaller than the sheet stamps - 37.5mm x 26mm and are perf. 8 x 9. The roll of 100 stamps plus two labels is split into six strips of seventeen with the last two strips containing sixteen stamps plus one of the reminder labels. The reminder labels are in black. Sold in strips of two by the bureau. The Dakota logo plus a number (nos: 1 and 2 seen to date) is on one of the bottom inner flaps; the second flap has the reference 024844. The box illustrates the 32p value - "The Children of Lir".

NEWS FLASH

by Patrick J Ryan, Sr

Dave Brennan advises me that Michael Giffney, long time EPA member and Irish dealer, has closed his commercial stamp shop located at 39 Lower Ormond Quay, Dublin. He intends to continue to operate his mail order business out of his Post Office Box 1096, Dublin 1, Ireland.

Michael was one of the founding members of the EPA in Ireland and has been active in the organization from its' conception. He was also one of the dealers whose investigations led to the recognition of the rare Irish coil, Scott 68b, Sg 74b - the 2p Green Map of Ireland perf 15 x Imperf - by major catalogues all over the world.

We wish him many more years of success in his business. ♣



Transport in Ireland (Lighthouses) - Sheet Issues: The 32p stamps were printed se-tenant in horizontal and vertical pairs in sheets of 40 stamps. Each sheet is set out in two panes of 20 with a vertical gutter with each pane containing two columns of ten stamps giving 10 gutter pairs in each sheet, five of each design. The remaining values were printed in the usual 50 stamp format without a gutter.

Transport in Ireland (Lighthouses) - Prestige Booklet: There are four illustrated panes of stamps and eight pages of bilingual text and/or photographs; the text/photographs also extend to inside the front and back covers. Both the front and back cover features Youghal lighthouse. The panes contain a total of thirteen stamps made-up as follows:

- Pane 1: Three stamps in a horizontal se-tenant strip - 32p (The Baily), 32p (Tarbert) and 32p (The Baily) with a background map of Howth Head, location of The Baily lighthouse;
- Pane 2: 38p and 50p in a vertical pair with a background map of the West Cork coast location of the Fastnet lighthouse;
- Pane 3: Set of four values in a mixed format block with a background map of the Hook peninsula; and
- Pane 4: Se-tenant pair of 32p (Tarbert) plus se-tenant pair of 32p (The Baily) with a background map of Tarbert Island in the Shannon Estuary.

The individual stamps within pane 3 have a common perf. (14 $\frac{3}{4}$) due to the mix of horizontal and vertical formats and thus differ from the individual sheet stamps. As a result, all four values exist with perf. 14 $\frac{3}{4}$. In addition, the two stamps in pane 2 (38p and 50p) are also perf. 14 $\frac{3}{4}$ which suggests that both panes 2 and 3 were perforated in the same operation. All panes are rouletted at left and stitched into the covers.

A series of cards which featured all major Irish lighthouses, including the four depicted on the stamps, was produced by John Eagle, a photographer based in Co. Cork. There were two different cards of the Fastnet lighthouse. The cards were normally sold as a complete set, but certain individual cards (including those depicted on the stamps) were sold as individual cards by the National Maritime Museum in Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. The Hook Head card (No: 15) was wrongly captioned "Co. Waterford" and gave incorrect historical information. A revised card (No: 15A) was subsequently issued with revised wording and the correct geographic caption of "Co. Wexford".

St. Colmcille: This was one of two late additions to the 1997 stamp programme. There was considerable public pressure to issue an Irish stamp following the issue of two stamps (26p and

37p) by Royal Mail in March 1997 commemorating the same saint - known as St. Columba in Britain.

A special first day postmark was available at a temporary post office set up in Durrow, Co. Offaly, where the saint founded one of his monasteries. The old style two-line cachet "First Day



of Issue/Lá a Chéad Éisiúna" was also applied to covers posted at the office. I have noted use of the postmark on the Daniel O'Connell stamp issued on the same day. A newspaper report (Irish Independent of 10 July 1997) stated that 5,000 postcards were posted from Durrow; however, I have seen only plain covers and the report did not indicate if the postcards were illustrated.

Kate O'Brien/Daniel O'Connell/John Wesley Issues: All three stamps were printed in the usual 50 stamp format. The 52p John Wesley stamp measures 28mm x 44.5mm. In addition to the usual sheet markings, all three values have the Walsall logo printed twice on each sheet in the top margin above stamps 4 and 7.



St. Patrick's Battalion - Mexican Army: This was a joint issue with the Mexican Post Office who issued a similar stamp (\$3.40) on the same day. Both stamps were designed by Lorenzo Rafael and incorporate the Clonmacnoise Cross. An Post sold the Irish FDC complete with both stamps and an Irish (Dublin) cancel for 97p. A Mexican cancel was also available for use with the Mexican stamp on plain covers; the Mexican cancel was not available on the Irish FDC. The Irish stamp measures 28mm x 44.5mm and is perf. 13 $\frac{1}{2}$; it was distributed in sheets of 50 comprising two panes of 25 (5 x 5) with gutter with the usual sheet markings.

The slightly smaller Mexican stamp (24mm x 40.5mm) was printed in the same but somewhat deeper colours and incorporates the name of the designer and the Mexican printer (Romo) and is perf. 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 13 $\frac{1}{2}$. It was distributed in sheets of 50 (5 rows of 10 stamp) with no gutter. Sheets available at the philatelic counter in Dublin were imperforate through the left margin; all other margins perforated. Apart from thin lines in all margins, there were no sheet markings. A separately applied number in black (probably a sheet number) was applied on the

gummed side of the lower left margin.

This issue was a further late addition to the 1997 stamp programme. An Post informed collectors of the issue by mailing out a large postcard (211mm x 147mm) complete with pre-printed stamp - see under Miscellaneous Items.

Bram Stoker - 150th Birth Anniversary: The An Post FDC was printed on buff coloured paper. This is the first time I can recall the use of paper other than white for an official first day cover. The individual stamps within the single set miniature sheet bleed into the surrounding design and, as a result, have a grey rather than the white border which is found on the sheet stamps. In addition, the stamps in the miniature sheet have a common perf. (14³/₄ x 14³/₄) due to the mix of horizontal and vertical formats which also differentiates them from the individual sheet stamps.

The special "Mars" miniature sheet incorporates a single 32p stamp with the regular perforation of 14 x 14³/₄ but, once again, the design bleeds into the surrounding design. The individual stamp is thus readily distinguishable from the equivalent value from sheets or from the single set miniature sheet. The miniature sheet incorporates the "Mars" logo and was used as part of an in-store promotion by the confectionery firm of their fun-size chocolate bar packs. Despite regular visits to several supermarkets at the time, I never saw evidence of the promotion. I understand from one collector that the purchase of two fun-size packs of Mars products entitled you to a special plastic carrier bag (available in-store) which contained a free miniature sheet - the packs retail at circa IR£1.70-IR£2.00 per pack.

One further connected item was promoted by the Voyager Club and was available either from their stand at Stampa or by post. A set of six plastic-coated mini-cards (89mm x 63mm) was sold for IR£2. Four of the cards reproduced the individual stamps superimposed on a blow-up of the main element of the design; the fifth card reproduced the miniature sheet and the sixth featured a further Dracula image. These cards were printed by Nicolson & Bass. Clear stamp mounts were provided for the four stamps and the Mars miniature sheet. The stamps had to be purchased separately at an additional cost of IR£1.82.

Christmas: An Post's first self-adhesive stamps in booklet form replaced the normal discount sheetlet, first introduced in 1985. Each booklet contained 20 x 28p stamps giving one free stamp per booklet, an effective discount of 5% as compared to

Date of Issue	Description	Value	Plate Numbers/Notes	Paper & Gum	Perforation	
16 Jan	New Definitives - Birds of Ireland					
	Sheet Issue - Phase I					
	- Blue Tit	28p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP1	14 ³ / ₄ x 14	
	- Robin	32p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP1	14 x 14 ³ / ₄	
	- Puffin	44p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP1	14 x 14 ³ / ₄	
	- Barn Owl	52p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP1	14 x 14 ³ / ₄	
	- Greenland White-fronted Goose	IRE1	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP1	14 ³ / ₄ x 14	
6 Mar	£1 Booklet (1/97)	- Robin	IRE1.00	3 x 32p plus 4p Heritage	CCP3	15 x 14
6 Mar	Self-Adhesives - ISSP					
	- Robin and Peregrine Falcon	2 x 32p	IRE32 per box of 100 (50 x 2)		9 x 10	
Apr	Self-Adhesives - SNP Printset Cambec					
	- Robin and Peregrine Falcon	2 x 32p	IRE32 per box of 100 (50 x 2)		11 ¹ / ₂ x 11 ¹ / ₂	
29 May	San Francisco - Pacific '97					
	- Freshwater Duck	IRE2.00	Miniature Sheet format	CCP3	14 x 14	
27 Aug	Sheet Issue - Phase II					
	- Magpie	1p	1A1A/1B1B	CCP3	14 x 14 ³ / ₄	
	- Gannet	2p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 x 14 ³ / ₄	
	- Corncrake	4p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 x 14 ³ / ₄	
	- Kingfisher	10p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 x 14 ³ / ₄	
	- Lapwing	20p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 x 14 ³ / ₄	
	- Shelduck	IRE5.00	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 x 14 ³ / ₄	
Oct	Reprints on CCP3 paper					
	- Robin	28p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 x 14 ³ / ₄	
	- Blue Tit	32p	1A1A1A1A/1B1B1B1B	CCP3	14 x 14 ³ / ₄	
6 Dec	£1 Booklet (2/97)	- Peregrine Falcon	IRE1.00	3 x 32p plus 4p Corncrake	CCP3	15 x 14

6.7% for a sheetlet of fifteen stamps in 1996. Each booklet contained one pane of 20 stamps, folded twice; each pane contains 2 columns of 10 stamps. No variations of significance were noted

on the panes of stamps. Individual stamps measure 25mm x 30mm i.e. the same as the definitive self-adhesives. There was widespread criticism from the general public due to the difficulty in extracting individual stamps from the surrounding selvedge. The cover of the booklet varied in colour shading from dark blue to dull violet. Different qualities

of paper appear to have been used for the combined cover/backing sheet which is probably one of the causes of the colour shading.

DEFINITIVES - BIRDS OF IRELAND

Sheet Issues: A new series featuring Irish Birds was launched in January 1997. It is the first set of definitives to utilise full colour printing for all values. All values are double pane printings with both "A" and "B" sheets as before but the format/size has been altered for both low and high values. The low values (1p to 52p) measure 27mm x 24mm (28p - horizontal format) or 24mm x 27mm (32p, 44p and 52p - vertical format) and are issued in sheets of 100 (10 x 10); the IR£1 and IR£5 values which are in vertical format measures 27mm x 48mm and are issued in sheets of 50 (5 rows of 10). There are no gutters. The positioning of the marginal markings is the same for both low and high values irrespective of format and for both "A" and "B" sheets - plate numbers in top margin at left, colour controls at top right, and imprint in bottom margin at left. This is the same layout as on the majority of special/commemorative issues. The CCP1 gum varies can be found either mottled green or near white with slight blue tinge. The initial five values (28p, 32p, 44p, 52p and IR£1) issued in January 1997 were printed on CCP1 paper. The 28p and 32p values have now appeared on CCP3 paper with the same



plate numbers (circa October 1997). The second phase of five values were printed on CCP3 paper.

A special first day of issue cancellation was produced on behalf of the conservation organisation "Birdwatch Ireland" to coincide with the first phase of the definitives. In strict postal terms, it is a cachet given that there is no reference to a postal town or city within the cancellation.



and 4p Corncrake, imperf. right - all perf. 15 x 14 and printed on CCP3 paper.

Self-Adhesives: The initial rolls issued on 6 March were produced by ISSP. This was the first appearance of the Peregrine Falcon design (not available in regular sheet format), but no first day cancel was provided. The stamps measure 25mm x 40mm and are perf. 9 x 10 i.e. the same as 32p Brighter Collar printings, except the designs are in vertical format. The rolls are reeled vertically with top delivery, commencing with the Peregrine Falcon design. The waste paper around the stamps was not removed, as is now the case for all ISSP self-adhesive printings. The joins are every 20th stamp with the usual 10 and 20 reminder labels (all in black). There is a yellow strip at the join between stamps 60 and 61. The box only illustrates the Peregrine Falcon design, and the wording "Produced by Irish Security Stamp Printing Limited" can be clearly seen on the top "C" flap without opening the box. The Dakota logo plus a number appear on the inner bottom flaps (numbers 1, 4, 5, 8 and 9 seen to date). The stamps are sold in strips of two by the bureau as well as complete rolls.

IR£1 Booklet (Robin): The booklet was litho printed by ISSP in the same layout/format as the previous series except that the designs are all vertical format. The binding margin is at the top of the pane with a narrow selvedge at foot. The pane cover features a robin and the content is 3 x 32p Robin plus 4p Dunamase Food Vessel from the Heritage and Treasures series. All stamps measure 21mm x 24mm and are perf. 15 x 14. As the overall size of the booklet, and thus the stamps, remains the same in order to fit the dispensing machines, the stamps differ in size from the equivalent sheet values. There are two new identifiable stamps - 32p Robin imperf. left and 32p Robin imperf. right (both CCP3). The 4p imperf. left on CCP3 paper was first issued in booklet form in 1990; however, the colour is somewhat more intense than the previous issue.

IR£1 Booklet (Peregrine Falcon): The cover reproduces the "Peregrine Falcon". The vertical four stamp pane contains 3 x 32p of the Peregrine Falcon plus 4p Corncrake, giving three new booklet stamps - 32p Peregrine Falcon imperf. left, 32p Peregrine Falcon imperf. right and 4p Corncrake, imperf. right - all perf. 15 x 14 and printed on CCP3 paper.



ISSP



Printset Cambec

The Australian printing of the same rolls were not available until April (earliest date noted - 16 April in Galway). The philatelic bureau stated in "Collectors News" (4/97) an issue date of 6 March (as for the ISSP printing) but they were not available at the Dublin bureau counter on that date. Can any member confirm an earlier date than 16 April? Although the stamps are of the same size as the ISSP printing, there are several other identifiable differences:

- the simulated line-type perforations are 11½ x 11½;
- the waste paper has been removed from around the stamps (as in all previous Australian printings);
- the design element bleeds into the margins and in particular, the birds are larger in size;
- the shading of the colours differ, particularly the redbreast of the Robin; and
- the Irish/English inscriptions of Robin/Spideog and Fabhcún gorm/Peregrine Falcon are smaller.

The words "Sprintpak - SNP" plus a black box are printed on the backing strip of each stamp in similar manner as the previous Australian printing. The rolls are reeled vertically with top delivery commencing with the Peregrine Falcon design. There are four coil joins with strips of 25/25/26/24 + 2 reminder labels (in black). The box is similar to the Irish printing except that:

- the reproduced stamp design is larger;
- the shading of the bird is darker;
- a number appears on one of the inner bottom flaps (number 12 seen to date) but no logo on the second flap;
- the inscription "Produced by Irish Security Stamp Printing Limited" appears on the top "C" flap, but is hidden by the "D" flap, and thus, cannot be seen until the box is opened. This would appear to indicate that whereas the stamps are printed in Australia, ISSP arranged for the printing of the boxes and presumably placed the rolls within the boxes. At the time of writing, the Australian printing is only sold in complete rolls by the bureau.

The ISSP definitive self-adhesives are more commonly seen on commercial mail and therefore, presumably, they are responsible for the majority of the printings.

Pacific '97 Miniature Sheet - IR£2 (Pintail): This major FIP World Stamp Exhibition took place in San Francisco (29 May - 8 June). A special exhibition miniature sheet containing the IR£2 "Birds" definitive Pintail design was produced for the show. This is the first time that a definitive value has appeared in miniature sheet format. The Pintail stamp has yet to be issued in sheet format, and as a result, the stamp was available on FDC complete with special insert and cancelled with a San Francisco "Lá A Chéad Éisiúna" postmark. The 29 May cancel incorporates an illustration of the Golden Gate bridge. This was the only first day cancel available. A special cachet in similar design, together with a special card illustrating the sheet, was also available - see under *Exhibition Souvenirs, Postmarks and Cachets*.

DEFINITIVES - HERITAGE AND TREASURES

52p - ISSP Printing: I can now confirm that plate 1A1A as well as plate 1B1B of the CCP1 printing exists.

IR£5 - ISSP Printing: In October 1997, the IR£5 value was noted on CCP1 paper (plates 1A1A and 1B1B). Presumably this was printed prior to the issue of the new Shelduck design in August 1997. Can anybody confirm an earlier date?

20p - Enschedé Printing: In a prior report, I referred to imperforate as well as the usual perforated margins on certain values of the Enschedé printings. Plate 1B1B sheets of the 20p value were already reported with either perforated or imperforate top margin. The top margin incorporates the plate numbers (top left) and colour circles (top right). I can now report that plate 1A1A sheets also exist in both formats, and as a result, the plate block exists both with perforated and imperforate top margin.

Many post offices are still selling values from the "Heritage and Treasures" series, even though there is often an equivalent "Birds of Ireland" stamp. New finds can still be found. I would welcome details of any new items noted by members.

FRAMA LABELS

During December, whilst travelling through Dublin Airport, I obtained examples of Frama labels from both of the machines (01 and 02) situated in the airport. Subsequent examination under U.V. light revealed that a different paper appears to be in use. The paper used since introduction of the current series in 1992 has a yellow-green reaction under U.V. light, whereas the current paper has a yellow reaction. Subsequently, I have seen examples obtained from the 002 machine in May 1997 on the new paper. Labels recently obtained from the Bray machine are printed on similar paper with the yellow reaction, but Sligo labels were on the older yellow-green paper. As yet, I have not been able to check examples from the remaining six machines at Cork, Galway, Kilkenny, Killarney, Limerick, and Waterford.

PRESENTATION BOOKS AND PACKS

16 January - Definitives (Phase I): The initial set of five stamps was also available in a presentation pack which included the Ducks miniature sheet issued in September 1996. Cost: IR£.50 - face value: IR£4.22.

6 March - Marine Mammals: The miniature sheet was also available in a presentation pack. Cost: IR£3.00 - face value IR£1.56.

27 August - Definitives (Phase II): The second definitive presentation pack contains one of each of the six sheet values issued on the same day plus a pair of the 32p self-adhesives (ISSP printing) together with the Pacific '97 miniature sheet. Cost:

IR£9.00 - total face value of IR£8.01. At the time of issue of the pack, the Pacific '97 miniature sheet was "sold out" and was only available on purchase of the complete pack.

1 October - Dracula Presentation Pack: The single-set miniature sheet from the Bram Stoker set was included in the pack. Cost: IR£3 - face value IR£1.50.

1 October - The "Horror" Collection: A special "Horror Collection" pack included the Bram Stoker set as well as the Horror stamps issued by Canada, G.B. and U.S.A. One stamp in each set of four had a Dracula connection - 45c Vampire (Canada), 26p Dracula face (G.B.) and 29c Bela Lugosi as Dracula (U.S.A.). Romania's Europa set for 1997 was also on the Dracula theme but this was not included in the pack. The special pack also included a board game and a Dracula poster. Cost: IR£8.95.

6 December - 75th Anniversary of the State Presentation Pack - Sheetlet: The sheetlet in the presentation pack was spot gummed to the card and cancelled with the same first day postmark as used for the individual 32p stamp issued on the same day. Cost: IR£5.00 - face value IR£3.84.

6 December - Year Pack: The Year Pack contains one each of the special and commemorative stamps issued during the year. This pack includes both the sheet and self-adhesives for the Europa set; a pair of the Christmas self-adhesive (cut from a normal booklet with backing); and the Mexican St. Patrick's Battalion stamp, but excludes the Greetings booklet panes; miniature sheets; and 75th Anniversary of the State sheetlet - a total of 44 stamps with a face value of IR£16.32. Cost: IR£16.50.

6 December - Year Book: Each book contains all special and commemoratives issues (as per the year pack) together with the 75th Anniversary of the State sheetlet, three of the four miniature sheets (Year of the Ox, Marine Mammals and the full set Dracula sheet, but not the "Mars" sheet) plus one of the Greetings booklet panes - total face value of IR£25.46. A numbered black print of the 32p stamp issued on 6 December featuring the G.P.O. and the 2d Map stamp is also included in the book. Total printing of 3,000 standard copies (1995/96: 3,000) and 120 (1995/6: 130) half-bound leather editions. The books cost IR£30 and IR£100 respectively.

≡ POST NOTES

by Patrick J Ryan, Sr

(Ed Note: This article is compiled from various new sources emanating from An Post.)

New Self-Adhesives: The Goldcrest and the Blackbird mentioned above will be issued as self-adhesives. As with the last self-adhesives, these will be printed by two printers: Cambrec Printset/Sprintpak, and the Irish Security Stamp Program. In the Cambrec version, the design bleeds off the edge of the stamp while the ISSP version has a white margin. It is unclear if An Post will honor requests for Specific Printers.

St Patrick's Day Cards: New sets of both Greeting Cards and Post cards - 6 each - were issued on 14 February 1998. The complete set costs £5.00.

(see "Notes" on page 12)

POSTAL STATIONERY AND GREETING CARDS



In addition to the above listed items which were generally available, An Post also sent collectors on their mailing list in the New York/New Jersey area, a special postcard to publicise their attendance at the Postage Stamp Mega Event show in New York (see under *Exhibition Souvenirs* for further details). A second postcard was produced by the Philatelic Bureau to publicise the St. Patrick's Battalion stamp. Finally, a special postcard was produced by the FAI with the permission of An Post. Further details of the latter two items are included under *Miscellaneous Items*.

St. Patrick's Day Cards: Five postcards were available featuring (1) Country scene and rainbow with shamrock in silver bowl in foreground; (2) The Brian Boru Harp; (3) Peace and Celtic motif; (4) Stonechat (bird) on gorse bush with background of Croagh Patrick; and (5) Flying letters and ribbons ("Thinking of You"). All cards bear a misspelling on the reverse "Bennachtar" should read "Beannachtar". The Postage Paid imprint is the same R.J. King design first used in 1995, except that the "Postage Paid" indicator is in a different typeface as compared to prior years. All cards feature the new Bord Failte logo of "heads joined" (see illustration). The new logo has been subject to widespread criticism within Ireland and subsequently, a revised Shamrock design was re-introduced alongside the new logo. This new Shamrock logo does not appear on the cards.

Five greetings cards, complete with prepaid envelope bearing the same R.J. King stamp design in slightly larger format

(overall size 20.5mm x 39mm), were also available. The cards feature (1) St. Patrick (stained glass window); (2) Candle and Shamrock; (3) Celtic Motifs (4) Shamrock, flower and ribbon; and (5) Flying bird with greetings. The typeface used for the "Postage Paid" indicator is the same as prior years and thus differs from the postcard design.

None of the designs (postcards or greeting cards) were used in prior years. The usual green first day of issue cancel was available from the Philatelic Bureau for use on both cards and envelopes. Although a large number of the cards are sent overseas, and the cost of the cards includes airmail postage, neither the postcards nor the envelopes bear a pre-printed airmail label, which became normal practice for all overseas airmail as from 1 January - see note under *Miscellaneous Items*.



Roman "a"



weave pattern

"A" Envelope: In June 1997, I first noted a new printing of this envelope. The "Postage Paid" imprint has been reset and the lettering now incorporates a roman "a". The previous printings were with a modern "a". The envelope is printed on white paper and the former "all blue" inner lining has been altered to a blue "weave" type pattern (as illustrated). Initial supplies were noted with the conventional type of folding whereby the back of the envelope was gummed down over the side flaps. Subsequently, the same envelope was noted with the side flaps gummed down over the back of the envelope.

In October, the former printing with "all blue" inner lining appeared on white paper; the initial supplies which were first noted in 1995 were on cream paper. The imprint has a modern "a" as per the cream paper printing.

Oireachtas Card: The 1997 Oireachtas was held in Belfast (24 October to 2 November). The undenominated card features a firework display over a dolmen.

Exhibition Cards: A set of three exhibition cards were issued by An Post at Stamp '97

- full details are set out under *Exhibition Souvenirs, Postmarks and Cachets*.

Plastic Registered Envelope: This envelope, which was released in 1996 and referred to in my article last year, is printed by Globophan.

Date of Issue	Description	Cost	Notes	Printer
20 Feb	St. Patrick's Day			
	- set of five prepaid postcards	39p	per card	Colorprint
	- set of five greetings cards with prepaid envelopes	65p	per card/envelope	Colorprint
June (?)	"A" Envelope - new printing - see notes	36p	inner lining altered - two subtypes	Trimfold
Oct (?)	"A" Envelope - earlier printing on white paper	36p	blue inner lining (as before)	Trimfold
24 Oct	Oireachtas '97 (Béal Feirste) - postcard	-	no charge	Printstone
7 Nov	Stampa Exhibition Cards - set of three	32p	per card	BCR Press

EXHIBITION SOUVENIRS, POSTMARKS AND CACHETS

Souvenirs and Cachets - Overseas

Pacific '97 (San Francisco, 29 May to 8 June): In addition to the miniature sheet and special first day cachet referred to under the Definitive listings, a general cachet with the same design was available. A special card measuring 210mm x 179mm was also distributed by An Post at the show. The card illustrated the IR£2 miniature sheet and it was thus possible to affix the sheet and obtain either of the show cachets on the card. The card was not available from the bureau.



Other Cachets: Special cachets were also available for **Hong Kong '97** (12 to 16 February), **Philatelia '97** (Cologne, 18 to 20 April), **Stamp '97** (London, 24 to 27 April) and **Mockba '97** (Moscow, 17 to 26 October). The "Year of the Ox" miniature sheet included under the Commemorative and Special issues listing incorporated the Hong Kong '97 logo, but was issued in advance of the show.



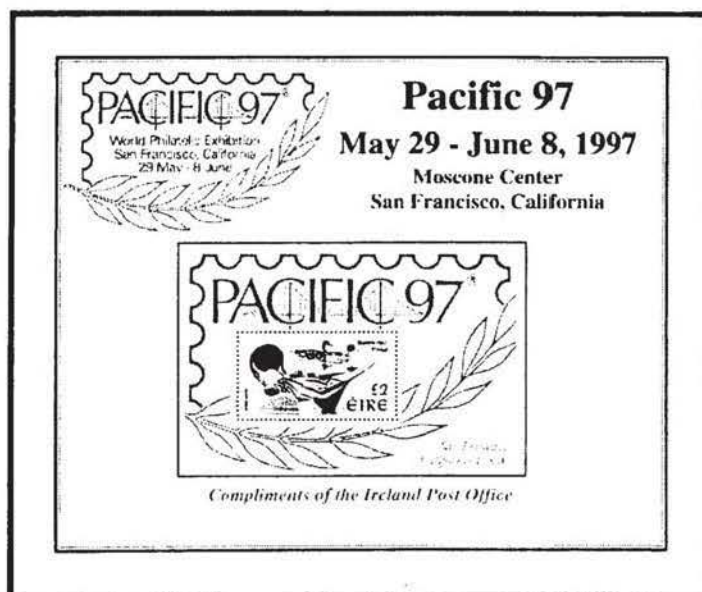
Irish Post in Moscow
17-26 October 1997

MOCKBA '97

Irish Post in Moscow

of Ireland series which was "postmarked" with a pre-printed bureau CDS cancel. Collectors who surrendered this desirable stationery item at the An Post booth received a large card (217mm x 180mm) illustrating the first five stamps in the definitive series. This was the only way the card illustrating the definitives could be obtained. There was no cachet or general souvenir for this show. Neither item was available from the philatelic bureau in Dublin.

Other Overseas Exhibitions: A special cachet was made available for **Norwex '97** (Oslo, 16 - 21 April) but no cachet was subsequently returned to the philatelic bureau, and I cannot confirm its actual use. An Post was also represented at **Shanghai '97** (19 to 23 November) and **Delhi '97** (15 to 22 December). Cachets may have been available but, to date, they have yet to be returned to the bureau in Dublin. There was no cachet for **Stampex** (London, 22 to 26 January) in 1997.



PAR AVION
AERPOST



Notes

(continued from page 10)

Bird Definitives - Phase III: The third phase of the Bird Definitive Stamp Series was released on 2 April 1998. It consists of seven new values and is presently available from An Post Philatelic Bureau. New values are £2.00, 50p, 45p, 40p, 35p and 5p and correspond to the principle weight steps in the new revised postal charges which became effective on 6 April 1998. Designs consist of female Pintail Duck (a male pintail was featured on the Pacific '97 Souvenir Sheet) on the £2.00; Sparrowhawk on the 50p; Song Thrush on the 45p; Ringed Plover on the 40p; Stonechat on the 35p; Goldcrest on the 30p; Blackbird on the 30p; and the Woodpigeon on the 5p.

(see "Notes" on page 17)

Souvenirs, Postmarks and Cachets - Republic of Ireland

Philatelic facilities were available at all of the Irish shows referred to below. All overprints on booklet panes and miniature sheets are in black unless otherwise indicated. Numbers printed and printer details given, if known.

Date of Issue	Description	Cost	Number Printed	Printer
8 Mar	IPTA/Collectors' Road Show, Dundalk			
	- Irish T.T. Winners miniature sheet with o/p	IRE£2.00	400	Mahons
23 Mar	IPTA/Collectors' Road Show, Limerick			
	- Year of the Ox miniature sheet with o/p	IRE£2.50	200	Mahons
12 Apr	IPTA/Collectors' Road Show, Dublin ("Stampania")			
	- Marine Mammals miniature sheet with o/p	IRE£3.00	500	Mahons
6 Sept	IPTA/Collectors' Road Show, Sligo	IRE£2.50	400	Mahons
21 Sept	IPTA/Collectors' Road Show, Tralee			
	- Lighthouses booklet pane 2 with o/p	IRE£2.50	400	Mahons
11 Oct	Cork Philatelic Society - Annual Exhibition - Booklet	IRE£2.00	150	
28 Oct	Stampa '97			
	- Lighthouses booklet pane 1 with o/p	IRE£15.00	Members' Souvenirs	Mahons
	- Lighthouses booklet pane 3 with o/p			Mahons
	- Lighthouses booklet pane 4 with o/p			Mahons
	- Lighthouses booklet pane 2 with o/p	IRE£2.00	Ordinary	Mahons
7 Nov	Stampa '97			
	- Large postcard	40p	300	Reprint
	- Exhibition handbook/catalogue	IRE£1.00	3,000	All Print & Design
	- Norwegian Post Office postcard	IRE£1.50		
23 Nov	IPTA/An Post Collectors' Road Show, Galway			
	- Lighthouse booklet pane 3 with o/p in red	IRE£2.50	400	Mahons
6 Dec	Cork Stamp Show	IRE£1.00	250	Raven Stamps

Cork Philatelic Society Exhibition:

A numbered booklet containing a se-tenant pair of the 32p Lighthouse stamps was available. A special cover (40p) and cancel, both featuring a lighthouse, were



also available. The back cover of the booklet reproduces the show cancel.

Stampa '97: The souvenirs were distributed to members prior to the show on 28 October. Members received three souvenirs this year (1,100 of each printed) plus, at no extra cost, the general souvenir (2,000 printed) which was on public sale at the show. None of the souvenirs were numbered. A large cream coloured card was also available at the exhibition which reproduced the three exhibition cancels. The large size was to facilitate collectors who wanted to affix any of the souvenirs to obtain the show cancel(s). A similar card was provided in 1996.

An Post issued a set of three exhibition cards on the opening day of the show. The three postcard themes, pre-printed stamps, and matching postmarks were as follows:

7 November: 75th Anniversary of Irish Stamps/32p Legislature stamp/

Harp postmark;

8 November: 150th Anniversary of Bram Stoker's Birth/32p Dracula stamp/Dracula postmark (8 November was Bram Stoker's actual birth date); and

9 November: 25th Anniversary of the First Stamp / 32p Robin definitive / 25 Years

of Stampa postmark.

The stamp designs are the same as the sheet issues complete with issued values and simulated perforations but reduced in size. The standard of printing of the stamp element was poor. The illustrations were once again on the obverse of the cards and incorporated reproductions of the 2d Map stamp, 32p Dracula stamp and the 1972 miniature sheet featur-

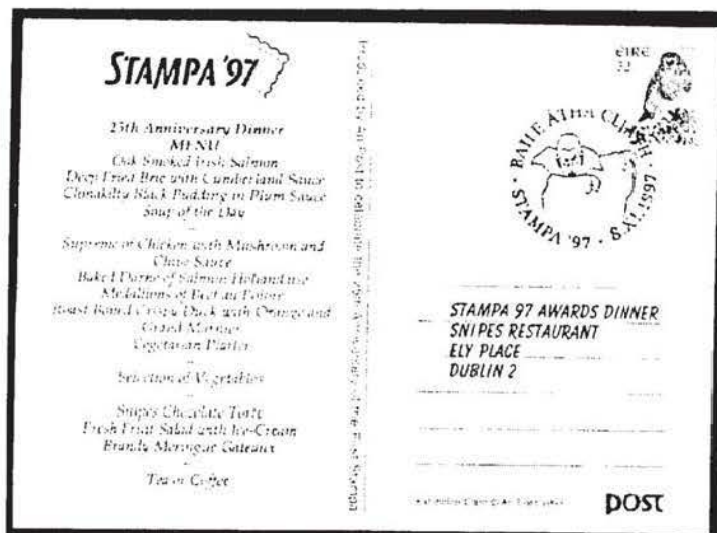


IPTA/Collectors' Road Shows: The Dublin show (also known as "Stampania" or "Spring Stampania '97") was a two-day event and was held at the Riverside Centre, Dublin 2. The provincial shows were all one-day shows and were held at Imperial Hotel, Dundalk; Jury's Hotel, Limerick; Silver Swan Hotel, Sligo; Brandon Hotel, Tralee; and Great Southern (Eyre Square), Galway. Special postmarks as well as souvenirs were available for all shows. All souvenirs were numbered. The Dublin and Tralee cancels were new designs. The illustration in the Tralee postmark features the refurbished windmill in nearby Blennerville.

Commodore John Barry Chapter

A meeting was held on May 23rd at NOJEX, at the Hilton in Secaucus, NJ and a slide show, "Postal Boxes of Ireland" produced by Peg (RIP) and Bill Zellers. Plans for the annual summer picnic were organized and a date set.

ing the map design respectively. A slogan die was used during October in Dublin to publicise the show - see Slogan Postmarks below.



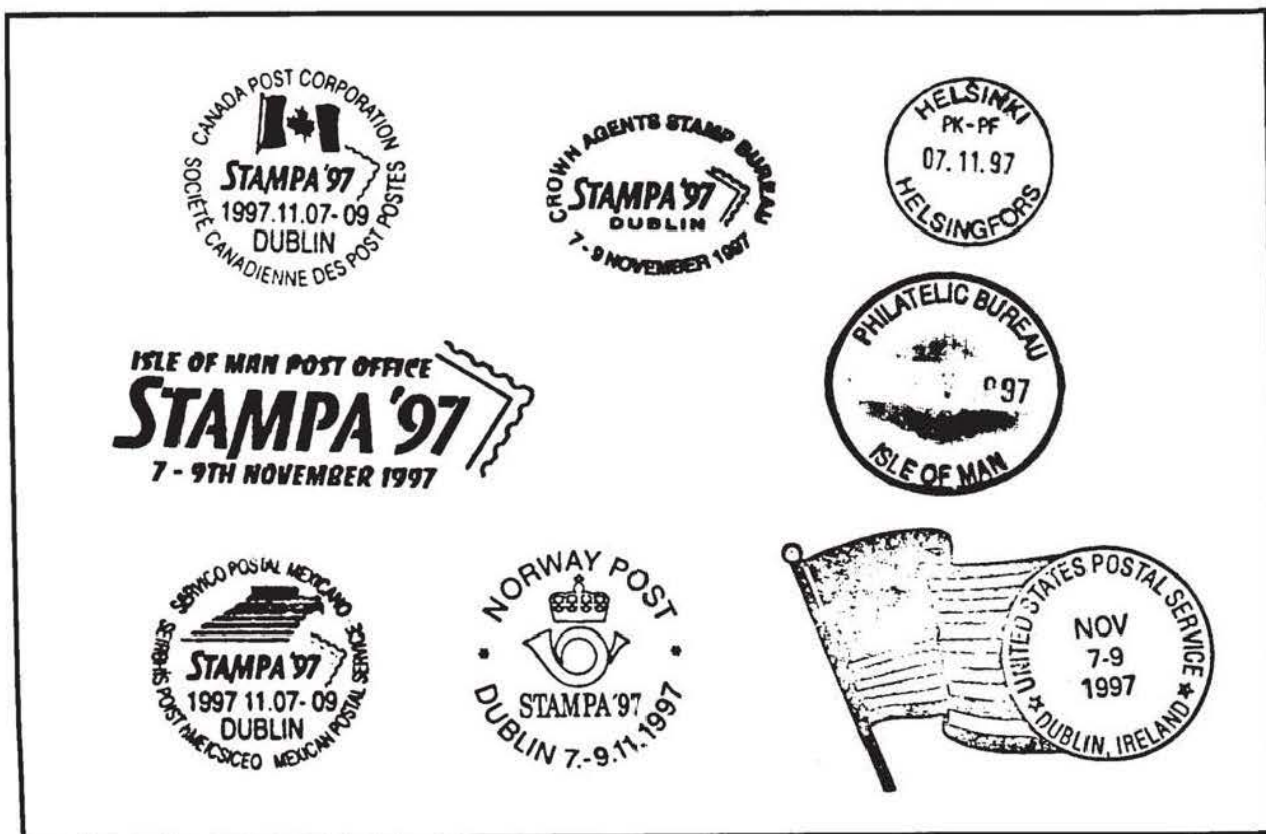
The 25th Anniversary of the First Stampa card was overprinted on the reverse for the Stampa Awards Dinner which was held in Snipes Restaurant, Ely Place, Dublin 2 on 8 November. The cards were distributed uncanceled but collectors could have the 8 November cancel applied on the cards at the An Post stand the following day.

All visitors to the show were given an exhibition passport at

no extra charge. There was a separate page for Ireland, the Crown Agents, plus the six other postal administrations who attended the show and provided cachets and/or cancellations. The Crown Agents, Isle of Man, and Norway stands were staffed by their own personnel; Canada, Finland, Mexico and U.S.A. were represented by An Post. Norway also produced an attractive card featuring a view of O'Connell Bridge, Dublin. Two stamps were affixed to the picture side of the card and were cancelled with their show cachet. Cachets were also available from Canada, Crown Agents, Isle of Man, Mexico, and United States of America. Finland did not provide a cachet - stamps were cancelled with a Helsinki steel datestamp (as illustrated below).

In the case of the Isle of Man, the special Stampa cachet was normally applied to the envelope/passport with a rubber bureau CDS with moveable date used to cancel the stamp(s). However, the bureau cancel was giving poor impressions and was rarely used. As a result, the Stampa cachet can be found cancelling the stamps. Envelopes handed in for subsequent cancellation in the Isle of Man were postmarked with either a Douglas, Isle of Man steel CDS of 7 NO 97 or a rubber bureau CDS of 7 November with, in each case, the cachet applied to the cover.

Cork Stamp Show: A stamp, coin and callcard show was organised by local dealership Raven Stamps on 6 December, to coincide with the actual anniversary date of the issue of the 2d Map stamp. A special booklet containing two strips of 3 x 1p magpie definitives was available plus a special postmark.



OTHER SPECIAL POSTMARKS AND CACHETS

I set out below details of special postmarks other than the exhibition items referred to above.

A number of new air services were introduced in May and several dealers organised "First Flight" covers. An Post provided a number of cachet type postmarks for the "First Flights" as follows:

1 May 1997:

- Dublin to Bristol (Ryanair)
- Dublin to Brussels Charleroy (Ryanair)
- Dublin to Helsinki (Finnair)
- Dublin to Paris (CityJet)
- Dublin to Paris Beauvais (Ryanair)

All cancels are of the same format with the same envelope plus plane illustration. As members will note, they are not a "true" postmark given the absence of the place of posting in Irish - Baile Átha Cliath.

15 May 1997:

- Dublin to Newark (Aer Lingus)



John Wesley: To coincide with the 250th Anniversary of John Wesley's first visit to Ireland, a special cancellation was provided by the philatelic bureau on the actual date of the visit, Saturday 9 August 1997. You will note that there is no reference to "Baile Átha Cliath" in the postmark. The postmark was requested by the Methodist Philatelic Society who also produced a special illustrated cover.

India: To mark the 50th Anniversary of the establishment of India's independence, a special Dublin postmark incorporating a map of India was

sponsored by the India-Irish Cultural Society and was available on the actual anniversary date, 15 August 1997. The Society also produced a special illustrated cover.



CILL CHOMHGHAILL

3-6 VII 1997

CO. CHILL MHANTAIN



Murphy's Irish Open: No special postmark was available this year although post office facilities were available at the venue (Druid's Glen, Delgany, Co. Wicklow); the Bray 5 (Bré 5) self-inking datestamp (SID) was used at the temporary post office (2-6 July incl. Pro-Am day). In the absence of a special postmark, one enterprising collector arranged a private cachet, similar in format to the postmark used in 1996. Covers bearing this cachet exist with the stamp cancelled with the Bray 5 SID. This is the first time since 1976 that a special cancel was not available.

Scout Jamboree - Lough Dan, Co. Wicklow: Post office facilities were provided at this event which was held from 30 July to 4 August. A special postmark/cachet as illustrated was available.

75th Anniversary of the Air Corps:

A special Dublin postmark was available on 6 July 1997 to mark the 75th anniversary of the foundation of the Air Corps. In addition, a special official cover depicting three different aircraft was produced by the Air Corps (100 produced); each cover bears the 10p and 17p stamps issued in 1978 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the first East-West transatlantic flight from Baldonnel to Greenly Island, Canada.



Figure 3: Nolan's essay for the U.S. Constitution issue

NOLAN

(continued from page 3)



Figure 3a: Second Nolan essay for the U.S. Constitution issue

to want to mark the 150th Anniversary of the U. S. Constitution in 1939. For this issue Nolan submitted two designs. (Figure 3 and 3a) Both tended to be rather in draft form, for there was not inscription included with the designs. At best, one can say, they are a little worse than the design that was accepted for the issued stamp and, as with so many unaccepted designs, one wonders what internal politics, nepotism and infighting may have affected the acceptance of the stamp which we actually see.

SLOGAN POSTMARKS

334 - Please don't/leave the elderly/ALONE: In use in Dublin since January 1997 (dies D and F).

335 - Inter/Media Inter/Media: Used in Cork during March and April (also noted in use in June). I have been unable to ascertain the significance of the term "Inter Media".

336 - COUNTY WICKLOW/THE GARDEN OF IRELAND: Used in Wicklow during the months of May and June.

337 - Nestlé® Kit Kat® Have a Break...: This slogan was introduced countrywide in late July commencing on 21 July in Cork. Also noted in Cavan, Donegal, Dublin, Dundalk, Galway, Limerick and Waterford. The slogan was due to continue in use until October 1997 but remains in use at the time of writing (February 1998). The wording and layout is identical to the U.K. slogan used nationwide in 1996.

338 - STAMPA '97 - NATIONAL STAMP EXHIBITION NOVEMBER 7-9. RDS, DUBLIN.: Used at the Dublin Mail

Centre (one die) during October but appears to have been withdrawn before the end of the month. All examples seen were of very poor quality. The illustration

is taken from the original artwork and does not exactly match the type font used on the actual die.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

16 January - Definitives - Fine Art Prints: Three Fine Art Prints were available at IR£15 per print (IR£40 the set) featuring the Greenland White Fronted Goose (per the IR£1 value), Pintail (IR£2) and Shelduck (IR£5).

5 September - St Patrick's Battalion Issue Notification - Postcard: An Post informed collectors of the St Patrick's Battalion joint issue by

mailing out a large postcard (211mm x 147mm) complete with pre-printed stamp. The stamp reproduced the 32p design which incorporated the 9d Catholic Emancipation stamp and issued as part of the 75th Anniversary of the State set the previous month. "Postas Íochta" was included under the design instead of a figure of value. The stamp was "cancelled" with a preprinted Baile Átha Cliath CDS of 5.Ix.97. The pre-printed "Par Avion/Aerphost" sticker was the old O.E.78 type rather than the "Priority Aerphost" label introduced in February 1997.

7 November - FAI Postcard: A special postcard was produced with the co-operation of An Post to mark 75 years of Irish stamps. The card incorporates the normal An Post Postage Paid indicator as used on regular postcards. It was only available with



the FAI's publication "75 Years of Irish Stamps". Both the book and the card were printed by Laekamp GmbH of Osnabrueck. This is probably the first time that an Irish stationery item has been printed outside of Ireland or Britain

December - An Post Christmas Cards: No separate card was forwarded by the philatelic bureau to customers this year. However, as already referred to earlier, the special 75th Anniversary of the First Irish Postage Stamp FDC. A special insert card was included bearing Christmas greetings and a reproduction of the 28p self-adhesive Christmas tree design. However, this FDC was only forwarded to account holders who had standing orders for FDC's.

Letter To The Editor

April 30, 1998

Dear Editor:

I am delighted to see that you are now giving some prominence to modern postal history; this is my favourite collecting interest and is, I feel, much neglected.

In relation to the DUBLIN/RETURNED LETTER SECTION datestamp, it would appear that most of these RLS datestamps are now inscribed solely in English with no Irish. The explanation given to me by An Post for this is that so many postal items are returned overseas where people may not understand Irish. An Post believes there is a need to provide explanations for non-delivery in English. The particular DUBLIN datestamp was, I think, first used at the Dublin Mails Centre in about April 1997 and all examples that I have seen have been in blue.

As regards the delay between posting (15 December 1997) and return (27 January 1998), this is by no means unusual, even for national mail. It may be partly explained by the Christmas holidays and by the absence of a district number in the Dublin address. You note there are no backstamps – more usually the datestamp would have been applied on the back rather than the front of the cover.

Regards,

Maurice Barrett



The general card used by An Post incorporated the same Christmas tree design behind a cut-out window. The actual stamp was also reproduced on the back of the card without the value indication. Both SDS and the Post Offices Operations Division also produced cards, but neither had any philatelic connection.

December - Santa Christmas Envelope: The 1997 postage paid envelope once again reproduced the same design as used both in 1995 and 1996 featuring Santa pulling a sleigh together with a pre-printed "NORTH POLE 12:00 PM Dec CHRISTMAS" postmark (in red). The postmark was repositioned and now covers a greater proportion of the An Post Postage Paid indicator.

Swiftpost Labels: A revised printing of both Swiftpost labels have appeared on matte paper with an off-white backing paper. The labels were first issued on shiny paper with a yellowish backing paper. This follows a similar change with the Registration labels. The layout and inscriptions etc. remain unaltered. I first noted the change in both labels in February 1997, but a fellow collector has noted use of the revised inland type in December 1996. Can any member confirm any earlier dates of use?

Registration Labels: There have been no major changes noted. However, due their high usage there are constant new printings which can give rise to minor variations. Towards the end of 1997, a new printing appeared with a revised setting of the text on the reverse.

Valentine's Day Labels:

In order to encourage advance posting of Valentine's Day cards, An Post distributed special self-adhesive labels to post offices in advance of 14 February. The red heart shaped labels were printed in sheets of 24 (6 rows of 4). The inscription on



the label reads "Deliver On Valentine's Day 14th Feb". There was no charge for the labels.

Airmail Labels: A new type of self-adhesive airmail label was distributed to post offices in the week commencing 24 February. The dark blue

labels with white lettering are available in sheets of 48 (16 rows of 3 labels). The white backing paper is rouletted. The labels are also distributed in rolls of 500 which are on a buff coloured backing paper. The inscription on the label reads "Priority/Aerphost".

Railway Preservation Society of Ireland Issues: No new issues were released during 1997.



CONCLUSION

Once again, I wish to thank An Post and my many philatelic friends for their help in producing this article. Particular thanks to Maurice Barrett, Jim Derwin, Bernard Donohoe, Tony Finn, Peter Geoffroy, Heinz Grunz, John Holman, Otto Jung, Jimmy Kelly, Michael Kelly, Gene Labiuk, John Lennon, Gerry Mooney, John Mullen, Bill Murphy, Jim Ryan, David Turner, Ronny Vogt and Ian Whyte for their never-ending patience in answering my queries and providing much valuable information. ♣

Notes

(continued from page 12)

1998 Stamp Programme Details:

Subject	Date of Issue
Birds Definitives Phase III ... 5p, 30p, 35p, 40p, 45p, 50p, £2 ...	2nd April
Equestrian Sports	30p, 32p, 40p, 45p ... 2nd April
Eurpoa (Festivals)	30p, 40p ... 6th May
Bicentenary of the 1798 Rebellion 4 x 30p se-tenant strip	6th May
Centenary of Local Government (Ireland) Act	30p ... 2nd June
25th Anniversary of Ireland's Accession to the EU	32p ... 2nd June
Centenary of Women's Vote in Local Elections	35p ... 2nd June
50th Anniversary of the Republic of Ireland Act	45p ... 2nd June
Tour de France (Ireland)	4 x 30p se-tenant ... 2nd June
Tall Ships, Dublin '98	2 x 30p se-tenant, 45p, £1 ... 20th July
Irish Postboxes	30p, 32p, 40p, 45p ... 3rd Sept
Centenary of Mary Immaculate College, Limerick	30p ... 3rd Sept
50th Anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights ...	45p ... 3rd Sept
Endangered Animals	2 x 30p se-tenant, 40p, 45p ... 8th Oct
Christmas	30p, 32p, 45p ... 17th Nov

New Postal Rates effective 6 April 1998:

Ireland/UK Basic Letter rate reduced from 32p to 30p.
Europe(EU) No Change.
Europe/Non-EU ... Basic Letter rate reduced from 44p to 32p.
Rest of World Basic letter rate reduced from 52p to 45p.

Registered £1.70 (Max compensation £100)
Letters £2.20 (Max compensation £500)
..... £2.70 (Max compensation £1,000)

(Editor's Note: See, everyone! Postal rates can really go DOWN!)

New Letter Rate Greeting Booklet: With the reduction in the basic domestic letter rates of 6 April, AnPost considered it necessary to reissue the very popular Greeting Booklet. The new version (above) retains the same four designs and two panes of four stamps (Bill Aspery's "Love is ..." design) but will be denominated at 30p each or £1.50 for the book. It will be available from the Philatelic Bureau throughout the remainder of the year. ♣

Cathedral Stamps

Declan O'Kelly, Padraig O'Shea

78 Marlborough St., Dublin 1

Tel/Fax + 353 1 878 6384

E Mail: cathedralstamps@hotmail.com

Formed as a direct result of Ian Whyte's decision to concentrate on the auction market, Cathedral Stamps, the newest name in Irish Philately, brings together two dealers with almost 50 years experience in the Irish stamp trade.

They aim to provide the Irish stamp collector with both a retail and mail order service that is second to none. Declan O'Kelly, who has extensive experience in stamp dealing, having worked with David Feldman and MacDonnell Whyte, will handle the Retail premises at 78 Marlborough St. He will be delighted

to assist you with any queries you may have, especially those involving the specialised gums and papers involved in the Irish definitive series. The mail order side of the business will be handled by Padraig O' Shea, of Raven Stamps, from his Cork base at 12C Washington St. West. He will provide the prompt and reliable service that has become his forte.

Cathedral will carry a general, all-world stock in addition to Ireland, together with the complete Lindner range of philatelic accessories. In fact, if it is philatelic, you will probably find it at Cathedral Stamps. For those visiting Dublin, the opening hours are as follows:

Monday to Friday, 10:00am to 5:00pm, Saturday 10:00am to 1:30pm.

We look forward to meeting as many of you as possible in the future. ♣

Letter To The Editor

27 Belmont Close
Burscough, Ormskirk Lanes
England L40 7TR

16 April 1998

Dear Editor,

Further to your article "Irish First Flight Cover" Spring Issue 1998 of *The Revealer*, it may prove of interest to you and members to see the advertisement for additional flights between Belfast and Liverpool, October 1-6, 1928.

We now know from Wm. F. Murphy's *Irish Airmails 1919-1990* that the additional flights proved unsuccessful. Due to inclement weather in the Liverpool area, flights were reversed in the second week leaving Belfast in the morning and returning from Liverpool in the afternoon.

In fact, flights in both directions were only possible on October 2. Following the flight from Belfast to Liverpool on October 4, the program was canceled.

Other points of interest:

The Short "Calcutta" flying boats 58 range were first test-flown by John Lancaster Parker at Rochester, Kent, on February 15, 1928. The manufacturer, Shorts Bros., Ltd., commenced business making balloons inside two railway arches at Battersea, London. They later established what is thought to be the world's first airplane production line at Leysdown, Kent, in 1909.

Imperial Airways was formed on 1 April 1924 by the amalgamation of four British pioneering airlines:

Handley Page Transport (1919); The Daimler Airways (1921); Instone Airlines (1920); and, British Marine Air Navigation (1923).

Best Wishes,

Eddie Savage

PS: Being a relatively new member, may I say how much I look forward to my receipt of *The Revealer*.

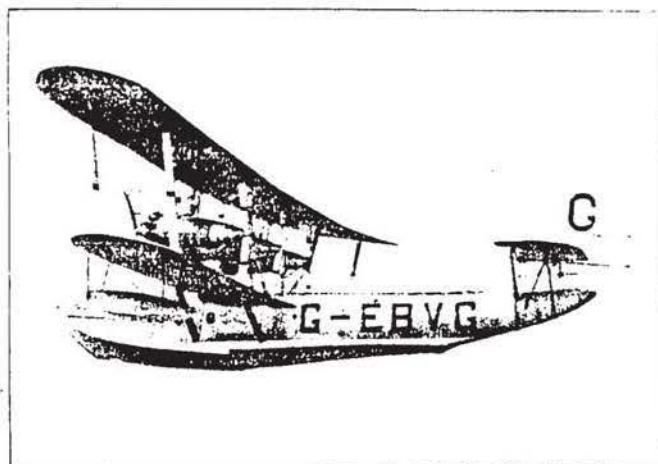
EDITOR'S NOTE: You may – You certainly may !!!!! ♣

The Giant Flying Boat "CALCUTTA" Continues Service for a further Week!

BOOK your ticket NOW through
W. W. JONES, DOOLY & CO., Ltd.
Steamship, Airline, Passenger and Freight Agents,
28, BRUNSWICK ST., LIVERPOOL (Tel. 9072 Bank)

OCTOBER 1st-6th Inclusive BELFAST/LIVERPOOL.				
Out.	Depart	ALBERT SQUARE, BELFAST	...	9-30 a.m.
"	"	No. 3 QUAY, BELFAST	...	9-45 a.m.
"	"	MUSGRAVE CHANNEL	...	10-0 a.m.
Arrive	"	LIVERPOOL MOORINGS	...	11-45 a.m.
"	"	ROCK FERRY PIER	...	12 noon
Home.	Depart	ROCK FERRY PIER	...	2-45 p.m.
"	"	LIVERPOOL MOORINGS	...	3-0 p.m.
Arrive	"	MUSGRAVE CHANNEL	...	4-45 p.m.
"	"	No. 3 QUAY, BELFAST	...	5-0 p.m.
"	"	ALBERT SQUARE, BELFAST	...	5-15 p.m.
Single Fare £3 10s. Od. Return Fare £6 10s. Od.				

The "CALCUTTA."



The latest addition to Imperial Airways' Fleet—one of three similar craft now on order, and destined to operate long-distance Empire sea routes—is illustrated above. Constructed entirely of metal, the "Calcutta" has a wing-span of 93 feet—equal in width to an Atlantic liner—and has a remarkably roomy cabin, accommodating 15 passengers. A steward has charge of a fully-equipped buffet, and provision has been made to install oil-cookers and serve hot meals en route.

Each armchair seat is upholstered with pneumatic cushions, and has a head-rest adjustable to individual requirements. A small folding metal table is provided for each passenger.

The cabin is decorated in royal blue and white, and the roof is lined with buff felt, giving an effect of softness and comfort and preventing the metal from "drumming." Power is supplied by three Bristol "Jupiter" engines, with geared propeller shafts, and fitted with silencers. The total horse-power exceeds 1,300.

Even when in flight, conversation is easily carried out in the cabin, and no great effort is required to converse over a distance of several feet. The steadiness and comfort of the craft evoke the admiration of all who travel in her and can appreciate the enormous advance in passenger-carrying aircraft that she represents.

Charles Birchall, Ltd., Typo, Liverpool.

The AGM meeting sites are as follows:

1998

Nov 6 - 8, Chicago, Rosemont, IL

1999

Fall, Philadelphia National Stamp Exhibition,
King of Prussia, PA

2000

May 5 - 7, Boxborough, MA

Changes in Postal Rates

Maurice Barrett

Postal rates were adjusted from 6 April 1998. The significant changes were the amalgamation of the Letter Post rate and Printed Matter rate into a single Letter Post rate of 30p for domestic mail, and the introduction of Priority and Economy rates for all

overseas mail. Swiftpost, SDS and registration rates also changed.

The new rates will be covered in detail by Brian Warren in his regular "TWTYTW" article, but in the meantime, the following table sets out the main changes.

Weight not over	Zone 1: Ireland (32 counties)	Zone 2: United Kingdom (excluding N.I.)		Zone 3: Europe		Zone 4: Rest of the World ¹	
	1st Class letter rate	Priority (Airmail)	Economy (Surface)	Priority (Airmail)	Economy (Surface)	Priority (Airmail)	Economy (Surface)
25g ²	30p	30p		32p		45p	
50g	35p	40p	35p	65p	40p	75p	40p
100g	45p	55p	45p	95p	55p	135p	75p
250g	70p	80p	65p	160p	110p	400p	135p
500g	115p	135p	110p	320p	200p	800p	300p
1kg ³	180p	330p	250p	640p	320p	1,600p	500p
1kg ⁴	300p	330p	250p	640p	320p	1,600p	500p
1½kg	400p	440p	375p	960p	440p	2,400p	700p
2kg	500p	550p ⁵	500p	1,280p	560p	3,200p ⁶	900p
Each Add'l. ½kg	100p						
Postcard	30p	30p		32p		45p	40p
Books:							
3kg			600p		600p		1,000p
4kg			800p		800p		1,200p
5kg			1,000p		1,000p		1,400p

Registration: Fee (in addition to normal postage) is £1.70 (compensation £100); £2.20 (compensation £500); £2.70 (compensation £1,000).

Swiftpost National: Fee (inclusive of postage) is £2.00 up to 100g; £3.00 up to 250g; £4.00 up to 500g; £5.00 up to 1kg; £6.00 up to 1½kg; £7.00 up to 2kg (maximum weight limit).

Swiftpost International: Fee (in addition to postage) is £2.00.



¹ROW weights are in steps of 50g up to 500g and steps of 100g up to 2kg. Only certain of the weight steps are shown above.

²This 25g rate applies only to POP items. To qualify for POP rate, items must be no larger than C5 size (i.e. 235mm X 162mm) and no heavier than 25g in weight.

³This rate applies to "flats", i.e. items which weigh between 500g and 1kg and dimensions not exceeding 400mm X 300mm X 25mm.

⁴This rate applies to "packages", i.e. items which weigh between 500g and 1kg and dimensions exceeding 400mm X 300mm X 25mm.

⁵Maximum permissible weight for Letter Post service.

⁶Maximum permissible weight for Letter Post service.

E.P.A. SPECIAL OFFERS

The following items may be ordered from Peter Bugg, 5 Forest St., Franklin, MA 02038 U.S.A. All prices include postage and handling (except as noted below). Overseas add \$1.00 per item for air mail. Make all cheques and money orders payable to Peter Bugg.

Dublin Penny Post

— by Manfred Dittmann

Originally prepared for a lecture at the FAI meeting in 1990, Manfred Dittmann spent many hours in the postal archives and museums in Ireland and Great Britain researching this subject. Many unknown documents were discovered and are shared with the public in this fine publication. Published by the FAI. Price \$35.00.

Die Gerlmarken

— by Otto Jung

A comprehensive listing of the Gerl issues. Published by the FAI. Price \$3.50.

The Irish Architecture Definitives

— by Otto Jung

The author, our world-wide well-known FAI member Otto Jung, also the author of the catalogue of the Postal Stationery of Ireland, shows again his research work on this definitive series as a consequence of the various types of papers, perforations and other peculiarities. Published by the FAI. Price \$6.50.

The Maritime Postmarks of Ireland

— by Bernt Dienelt

The author attempts to compile as accurate a listing as possible of all the Paquebot Postmarks of Ireland. The author also asks for assistance in filling in some gaps and other possible discoveries. Published by the FAI. Price \$6.50.

The First 55 Years of Irish Coils

— by Peter Bugg

A comprehensive listing of all Irish coils with a check list of all leaders and tab ends. Published by the EPA. Price \$8.50.

75 Years of Irish Stamps

Produced by members of the FAI to celebrate the 75th birthday of the Irish Post Office. Each book includes a specially printed post card from An Post. Published by the FAI. Price \$17.50.

Irish Overprint Identifier

A clear plastic overlay to help sort out your overprint issues. With it is a chart giving Scott and Gibbons numbers and an article on identifying the overprints. Price \$4.50.

Die Meilenstempel Der Irischen Post – (The Mileage Marks of Ireland) 1808-1839

— by Hans G. Moxter

1994 Edition. 57pp. Text in German and English. Published by FAI, the Irish Philatelic Group in Germany. Most informative and well illustrated. A complete listing of all known Irish mileage marks. Price \$6.50.

Ireland-Catalogue of Perfins

— compiled and edited by Richard L. Mewhinney

Published by The Perfins Club - 1994. 38 pp. punched for 3 ring binder. The catalogue is designed for use as an album as well as catalogue. Only observed Perfins are catalogued. Price \$9.00.

The Adhesive Revenue Stamps of Ireland: 1858-1925

— by James J. Brady

Detailed study of the Irish Revenue Stamps. All are in easy-to-follow catalog form with many details. A must for the Auction. Price \$2.25.

E.P.A. Rubber Stamp

The Official Seal of the Association as seen on the front of all official Society papers has been made into a rubber stamp available to our members. Dress up your envelopes and correspondence. Sold only to members at \$6.00.

The Maltese Cross in Ireland

— by Hans G. Moxter

1988 Edition. Published by FAI, text of the 80 page book is in both German and English. This is probably the most comprehensive review of this postmark to date. Price \$9.00.

Undated Namestamps of Ireland 1823-1860

— by William Kane

This booklet has been produced by FAI of West Germany. In English and German and records the colours, periods of usage on the various types of undated namestamps. Price \$7.00.

The Post Offices and Datestamps of the County of Leitrim

Original study of Dr. Brian de Burca, updated by James T. Howley. A very informative book showing 72 illustrations of handstamps, a map and descriptions of post office locations. A very useful item for postmark and postal history buffs. Published by EPA, 23 pages. Price \$6.00.

Irish Postal Rates Before 1840

— by F.E. Dixon

Produced by FAI it is in German and English. This publication lists the Irish Postal Rates from 1657 to 1840. A superb guide for Postal Historians. Price \$6.00.

E.P.A. Official Pin

A handsome metal pin replica of the E.P.A. logo. Available to members only at \$1.25 each.

A Listing of Irish Postmarks in Gaelic from 1922

— by James T. Howley

Produced by the E.P.A., Irish Postmarks are listed alphabetically in Gaelic with their English translations. It is a most comprehensive Guide to postmarks available. 82pps. \$6.00.

The Revealer Index and Addendum 1

— by Patrick J. Ryan, Sr.

A comprehensive index of all philatelic articles appearing in THE REVEALER from the first issue through the end of 1990. Articles are listed by subject matter. Cost: \$12.00.

An Introduction of Irish Mileage Marks

— by W. E. Davey

Published by the EPA, 1989 Edition, 22 pages. An excellent book for the beginning collector of Irish Mileage Marks. Price \$5.00.

Introduction to The Post Offices of County Clare, Ireland

— by John Mackey & Tony Cassidy

Text in German & English. Published by FAI. A study developed from the postal archives of Dublin & London. A must for the student of Postal History. 94 pp Price \$9.00.

The Dublin Spoon - 1855-57

— by Dr. C. I. Dulin

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