

the Revealer

QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF THE ÉIRE PHILATELIC ASSOCIATION
VOL. 68 NO. 2
WHOLE NUMBER 291

SAMRADH
SUMMER 2018



ISSN 0484-6125



IN THIS ISSUE

Page 2 President's Message
Page 4 Airmail Stamps to the USA
Page 6 NOCAL Chapter Meeting
Page 7 Postcard Communication
**Page 8 That Was the That Was-
2017—Part II**
Page 19 Galway Through Stamps
Page 25 The Architecture Series
Page 27 Useful Information Source

The Association thanks Liam Malone outgoing Editor and congratulates John Pedneault as the new Editor.

Plan to attend the Annual General Meeting
at BALPEX over Labor Day weekend.

THE REVEALER**www.eirephilatelicassoc.org** ISSN 0484-6125Published quarterly by the Éire Philatelic Association:
Membership dues are as follows: U.S. (\$20.00); Canada / Mexico (\$25.00); all other countries (\$30.00).**Address and e-mail changes to:****Barney Clancy, P.O. Box 3036, Seminole FL 33775-3036, BCLANZ@aol.com.****STAFF****Editor: LIAM MALONE**

eparevealer@gmail.com

Advertising Manager: RICHARD KELLYP.O. Box 627, Naperville, IL, USA 60566-0627
kellyrd@sbcglobal.net**OFFICERS****President: RICHARD KELLY** *address above***Vice President, North America: William A. O'Connor**, 3803 Foxglove Lane, Fallbrook CA, 92028-8764; conocon@aol.com**Vice President, Europe: BRIAN WARREN**

brian.warren2@upcmail.ie

Secretary / Chapter Coordinator:**JOHN B. SHARKEY**; 1559 Grouse Lane, Mountainside, NJ 07092-1340; jsharkeyepa@me.com**Treasurer: BARNEY CLANCY** *address above***Auction/Trading Post Manager: BOB KEMPER**1301 Willow Bud Dr, Walnut CA 91789
rkemper@roadrunner.com**Historian & Librarian: TIMOTHY O'SHEA** 58Porter Street, Granby, MA, USA 01033-9516
tosheal@comcast.net**Special Offers:****TIMOTHY O'SHEA** *address above***Youth / School Program Managers:****IRELAND: PHELM O'NEILL**336 St. James Rd. Greenhills, Dublin 12, Ireland
poneill@iname.com**USA: RICHARD KELLY** *address above***APS Representative: JOHN B. SHARKEY** *address above***DIRECTORS****ROBERT BENNINGHOFF** **OTTO JUNG**
MICHAEL S. CANAVAN **DAVE BRENNAN**
RAYMOND MURPHY **TIMOTHY O'SHEA****PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE****By Richard Kelly**

World Cup mania should be done when you read this issue of the REVEALER.

Our long time Editor, Liam Malone, has decided to step down after 9 years. Liam volunteered to become Editor after the untimely death of George Nicholson. Under Liam's stewardship we have introduced color on all pages, improved the packaging and mailing, posted past issues on our website and enjoyed many of his articles. We owe Liam our thanks and wish him well in his next endeavors.

The board has appointed John Pedneault as the new Editor. We will introduce John more fully in our Autumn issue. I would like to thank all who responded to our email note regarding this opening.

CHAPTER COORDINATORS

The Association Secretary provides Coordinators with names and addresses of new members. Coordinators welcome new members and invite them to join the local Chapter.

Commodore John Barry ChapterMembers reside in NJ, NY, PA
Coordinator: John B. Sharkey,
1559 Grouse Lane,
Mountainside, NJ 07092
jsharkeyepa@me.com**James Hoban Chapter**Members reside in MD, VA, DC
Coordinator: VACANCY**John McCormack Chapter**Members reside in CT & MA
Coordinator: Timothy O'Shea
58 Porter St, Granby, MA 01033-9516
tosheal@comcast.net**Lone Star Chapter**Members reside in Central TX
Chapter is currently inactive, please contact the Secretary if you wish to volunteer for this position.**Northern California Chapter (NORCAL)**Members reside in Northern CA
Coordinator: Christopher Palermo
230 Alberta Avenue
San Carlos, CA 94070
chris_palermo95125@yahoo.com**Southern California Chapter (SOCAL)**Members reside in Southern CA
Coordinator: William A. O'Connor,
3803 Foxglove Lane,
Fallbrook, CA 92028**DEADLINE FOR ARTICLE SUBMISSION****Winter: Dec. 12; Spring: Mar 7; Summer: June 7; Fall: Sep 7****Each Issue published about a month after above dates.****The Revealer ADVERTISING RATES**

	size (inches)	per issue	4 issues (contract rate)
Full Page	7.375 X 9.75	\$160	\$550
Half Page Horizontal	7.375 X 4.875	\$90	\$320
Half Page Vertical	3.625 X 9.75	\$90	\$320
Quarter Page	3.625 X 4.875	\$50	\$180
Eighth Page	3.625 X 2.50	\$30	\$105

CAMERA READY COPY REQUIRED**Contact Richard Kelly at kellyrd@sbcglobal.net**

It is not too early to begin planning for our Annual General Meeting at BALPEX. Details are in this issue. The biannual election of directors and officers is also coming up in the fall. Currently we have no candidate for Vice President. If you have an interest please contact one of the current officers.

Irish stamps continue to make the news with Linn's highlighting new issues in its New Stamps of the World column. An interesting article appeared in the May 14, 2018 Linn's. The subject is a cover mailed from Dublin in March, 1948 to Chicago. The cover was sent surface mail and correctly franked with a 2 1/2d Coat of Arms stamp. US Customs intercepted the letter and examined it suspecting it contained Irish Sweepstake tickets, which were prohibited matter. Not finding any lottery related matter the letter was sealed with Customs labels and delivered.

This issue is one of the largest issues we have published in a long time. Please thank our advertisers for their support.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

New Members

2939 Derek S Weston, Glyngarth-10 Victory Rd, Chertsey, Surrey KT16 8BL UK
 2938 Toralf A Pedersen, Grinveien 33, Oslo 0756 Norway
 2940 Tim Scanlan, 4767 Dahlia Way, Hugo MN 55038
 2941 Dr Brian T Callan, 15 Firgrove Dr, Bishoptown, Co Cork, Ireland
 2942 Victoria G Roganasky, 710 Washington St, Sewickley, PA 15143
 2943 Nicola Burdiat, Via XXIV Maggio 281, 86170 ISERNIA IS, Italy
 2945 Thomas Donlon, 18961 Mount Castle Circle, Fountain Valley, CA 92708

Reinstatement

2232 Bill Tatham, 4065 Montecito Ave, Santa Rosa, CA 95404-1922

Change of Address

2724 William J Heaphy III, 5166 Harvest Loop, Delaware, OH 43015

New Email Addresses

If you have a new email address or if the address below is not correct, please contact Barney Clancy, EPA Treasurer at: bclanz@aol.com

2568 James Ball turbojim06@gmail.com
 2943 Nicola Burdiat nicola.burdiat@gmail.com
 2941 Dr Brian T Callan callanbt@eircom.net
 2945 Thomas Donlon tdonlon@socal.rr.com
 2936 Lee J McConaghy leemcc44@yahoo.com
 2935 Daniel J O'Donnell dumans24@gmail.com
 2938 Toralf A Pedersen tarnolp@online.no
 2942 Victoria G Roganasky, roganasky_v@lynchburg.edu
 2940 Tim Scanlan tscanlan@gmail.com
 2232 Bill Tatham bill@williamtatham.com
 2939 Derek S Weston dereks.weston@gmail.com

Bad Addresses—Unable to Forward

2887 Michael Collins mcollins@vernier.com
 2729 Fr Brendan Duggan CSSP ebduggan@vimmagemanor.ie
 2846 Leo L Flynn lf1942mt@yahoo.com
 0689 John J McDavitt sloninteoir@verizon.net
 1124 Richard J O'Connor rjcocon@comcast.net
 2660 Thomas R Thebolt trbolt@charter.net

Membership Status

Membership as of April 1, 2018	367
New Members	7
Reinstatements	1
Life members of unknown status	11
Complimentary mailings	23
Membership as of July 1, 2018	375
Total Mailings	409

Dear Members,

My resignation as Editor of the Revealer is primarily because I no longer collect Irish stamps. I sold my Irish collection in auctions last year. I am only collecting material, stamps, FDCs, etc. of the 1981 James Hoban joint issue. I feel your Editor should actively collect Irish stamps. One reason are those times when the Revealer needs a short piece to fill a page, the Editor needs to use items from his own collection, I no longer have that and have already published in this journal over several years my more interesting Hoban material.

Serving as Editor has been a thrill and a wonderful honor. I have come to know many members either in person and/or through email. I thank the Association for their trust and confidence in me. I had to learn MS Publisher, a fun endeavor indeed! From your articles and messages I have learned so much more about Irish philately. I will continue on as a member, and am providing whatever assistance John Pedneault needs to produce the next several issues.

President Rich Kelly mentioned the many changes that occurred under my watch. In addition, I would to point out that many authors were new to writing and felt proud of their articles and short pieces. Also, I agreed to publish the 30 part series of Ireland through Stamps by Mike Doherty and those one page autobiographies of your fellow members, and the short items featuring a cover and short blurb.

My favorite articles were those covering the Rare Coil, particularly Robert Benninghoff's and David McDonnell's. I also thoroughly enjoyed watching the evolution of Brian Warren's articles on That Was the Year That Was becoming both more technical and more inclusive of material released by An Post.

If anyone wishes to communicate with me, please use liammalonedc@gmail.com

Much success to the Association and John as the Revealer turns over!

The Vox Hiberniae Airmail Stamps from Ireland to the USA

Robert Benninghoff

I was most intrigued by Brian Harmon's one frame exhibit, *Vox Hiberniae Airmail Stamps*, shown at STAMPA last October in Dublin. Brian's exhibit can now be seen on the EPA web site under resources / exhibits. This inspired me to look for these stamps used on cover at various stamp shows, several of which are shown in this article

The Irish Post office issued two special airmail stamps in 1948 with an additional five values added through 1965. These stamps are known as the Vox Hiberniae (voice of Ireland) and show the Angel Victor flying over the Four Provinces of Ireland carrying the Vox Hiberniae Banner signifying "*From The Four Provinces of Ireland to the Four Corners of the Globe*" (1)

This article will show examples used on cover and postcard to the USA

The first example is a postcard from the Dublin Horse show to Easton Pennsylvania postmarked 21 May 1949 about 2 months after the 3d stamp was issued. The postcard has an airmail label, however the surface postcard rate to the USA was 2d in 1949 and hence I believe there was insufficient postage for airmail to the USA.

The second example was mailed from Galway to Dearborn Michigan with 1/4d postage. The postmark date is not clear, however the airmail rate was 1/4d in 1951 dropping to 1/3d in 1953.

The third example was mailed from Cobh (Cork City passenger and shipping terminal formerly known as Queenstown) on 6 October 1955 to New York City. The 1/3d paid the airmail rate and the 6d paid the express letter rate. It would be interesting for further research to see what relationship existed between the Irish post Office and US Post Office in 1955 for additional "Express Delivery" of airmail letters and how many days were saved for the extra 6d fee.

The Final example is one I find most Interesting. The registered airmail cover with 2/9 in postage was mailed from Dun Laoghaire on 6 March 1957 to the University of Hawaii with a Honolulu Back stamp of March 10 1957 – 4 days transit. Much faster than today's International registered mail which can take several weeks from Ireland to Philadelphia. The Foreign Registered Mail Rate was 6d in 1957 (2) and the airmail rate was 1/3d for a total of 1/9d. There are two possibilities for the additional 1/- in postage. One option would pay for an additional 60 pounds in insurance (compensation), the second would pay for an additional ½ ounce of contents. The relative small size of the envelope does not give much of a clue, however the lack of a return address would lead me to guess the second option.

End Notes and Contemplations.

Harmon, Brian : *Vox Hiberniae Airmail Stamps*, Single Frame Exhibit Presented at STAMPA 2017, The Irish National Stamp Show 4 to 6 2017

You can see a copy of Brian's Exhibit on the Eire Philatelic Association (EPA) Web Site. Go to: <http://eirephilatelicassoc.org/> Select EPA RESOURCES > > Go down the list and select EXHIBITS

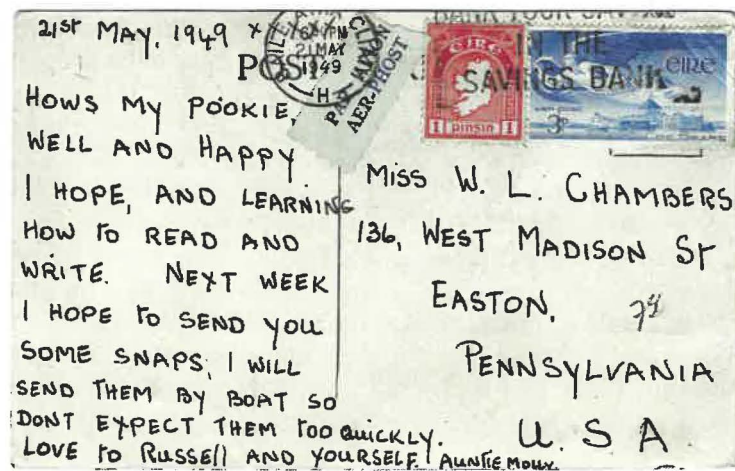
Schaaf, Joachim and Warren, Brian : Irish Postal Rates 1839 to 2014 Published by FAI 2014 Pages 23 and 28.

Note that from June 1956 until March 1959, the Registration rate in Ireland was 9d and 6d for foreign mail.

This booklet is essential for anyone trying to understand the various Irish Postage rates during the past 180 years. The booklet is available from both the EPA and FAI.

The FAI is the Irish Study Group based in Germany and Publishes a quarterly journal *Die Harfe* in both German and English. For more information go to www.fai-germany.de.

I suggest further research or even a one frame exhibit from fellow members showing the various uses and combined uses of these 7 airmail stamps. Liam is always looking for articles and we need new exhibits.



Purposefully no explanations appear with these spectacular covers. I have always sized most pics large so that you can make out postmarks, dates, ancillary notes, etc.

Too often we are told what to see. But each of these wonderful and historic covers tells part of the great airmail story.



Northern California members of ÉPA held a meeting in conjunction with WESTPEX 2018 on Saturday, April 28, 2018. Nine members from around California attended, including ÉPA's Vice President Bill O'Connor. Members gathered at a comfortable meeting room at the San Francisco Airport Marriott Hotel arranged by WESTPEX chairpersons. After a social period, members enjoyed a talk by Barry Cousins, winner of 11 exhibiting awards and author of numerous articles, monographs and books. Barry described why he prepares "compendiums," books in the form of reference guides on Irish definitives, commemoratives and overprints for stamps from 1992 through 2001. Barry brought presentation copies of several of his recent works, and also recounted how he has detected altered stamps, as well as errors in commercial catalogs, by collection of information from non-catalog sources including primary sources such as executives at security printing companies. What is truly remarkable about Barry's compendiums, which run to hundreds of pages and are privately printed in Malaysia, is that all images show items from his extensive collections. These include several likely unique items. After Barry's informative talk, members browsed material for sale and enjoyed fellowship. Northern California members will meet again at WESTPEX in spring 2019, but if there is interest in meeting in less time than a year, please contact the undersigned at cjpalermo1964@gmail.com and a gathering will be arranged. - Christopher J. Palermo, chapter coordinator

IF YOU COLLECT IRELAND

Send for your

FREE 2016 PRICE LIST *covering all issues
from 1922-2017*

For **SPECIALISED MATERIAL**

*including Postal History,
request my next*

MAIL SALE LIST

A.R.BALLARD

PO BOX 780, LONDON SE13 5QA, UK

Email: arballard@hotmail.co.uk

Regular Public Auctions in Dublin

**Please write or call for a copy
of the next catalog**

Want lists serviced.

Expertization service.

Literature list sent on request.

MacDonnell Whyte Ltd.

102 Leinster Road Dublin 6 Ireland

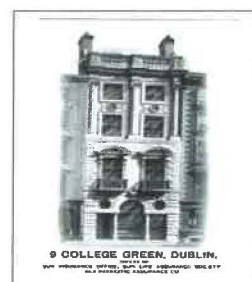
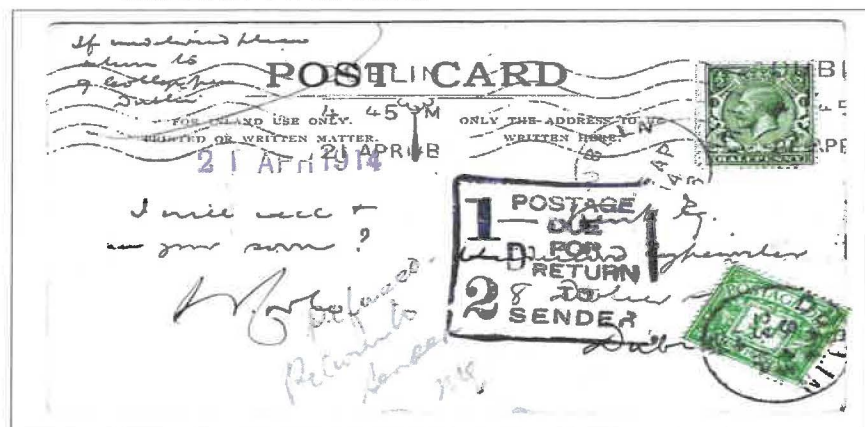
Tel: +353 1 4977449 Fax: +353 1 4977440

Email: mdwltd@eircom.net

Robert Benninghoff

The Postcard was mailed by an agent from the Sun Life Assurance Society in Dublin to a local client trying to set up a meeting. The Post card was refused and returned to the sender. However, the sender had to pay a 1/2d service fee for the return of the postcard and the payment was documented by the 1/2d postage due stamp cancelled on 23 April 1914 – three days after the Postage due labels were issued in the British Isles. The 1/2d return to sender fee remained until June 1921 when it was raised to 1d.

I wonder how much junk mail would still come through our mail boxes if we all refused the mail and returned it to the sender.



Raven Stamps

12C Washington St. West,
Cork, Ireland

For all your Irish Stamp requirements.

Tel + 353 21 4271750,
Fax + 353 21 4271779

Website www.ravenstamps.com
e-mail sales@ravenstamps.com

The Editor specialized in
Wild Flowers Definitives 2004-10
and has 2 albums of material including
many fine official FDCs, covers, 1A &
1B MNH plate blocks, full sheets of 1, 2
& 5 Euro stamps, many covers, many
sets of MNH and used singles. One al-
bum is a 64 page exhibit. This collection
is included in a

Spinks auction after Labor Day.
If you would like to receive an auction
catalog, please contact me at
liammalonedc@gmail.com or Spink.

THAT WAS THE YEAR THAT WAS - 2017 - PART 2

by Brian Warren

A HISTORY OF IRELAND IN 100 OBJECTS, A SELECTION - NINTH DEFINITIVE SERIES

Date of Issue	Description	Cost	Notes	Perforation	Printer
---------------	-------------	------	-------	-------------	---------



12 Jan.	A History of Ireland in 100 Objects - Definitive Series				
	- Mesolithic Fish Trap (1)	72c	Se-tenant vertical strip of four (Numbered 1 to 4)	11 x 11¼	CCL Label Irl
	- Ceremonial Axehead (2)	72c			
	- Neolithic Bowl (3)	72c			
	- Coggalbeg Gold Hoard (4)	72c	Se-tenant vertical strip of four (Numbered 5 to 8)	11 x 11¼	CCL Label Irl
	- Flint Macehead (5)	72c			
	- Bronze Age Funerary Urns (6)	72c			
	- Tara Torcs (7)	72c			
	- Brighter Boat (8)	72c			
12 Jan.	A History of Ireland in 100 Objects - Definitive Series				
	Booklets (Self-adhesive)				
	- National	€7.20	* 10 x N (72c) *	14 x 14	Cartor
	- International	€11.00	* 10 x W (€1.10)*	14 x 14	Cartor
12 Jan.	A History of Ireland in 100 Objects - Definitive Series				
	- Wrapped coil (self-adhesive)	72c x 2	** €72** per roll of 100 (100 x N)	11¼ x 11¼	Ashton-Potter

* : Subsequently increased to €1.00 and €1.35 respectively as from 13 April 2017, with complete booklets then costing €10.00 and €13.50.

** : Subsequently increased to €1.00 x 2 as from 13 April 2017, with the complete roll then costing €100.00.

The Easter Rising definitives issued in January 2016 were intended to be a short-term set and were replaced in January 2017 with a new set of designs based on Fintan O'Toole's book "A



History of Ireland in 100 Objects", which involved The Irish Times (who published the book), The National

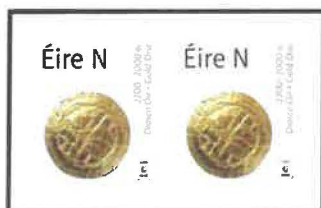
Museum of Ireland and the Royal Irish Academy. All three bodies collaborated with An Post in the production of this new series, which will feature a selection of the 100 objects over the next five or six years.

An Post, together with the Royal Irish Academy, have developed a website www.objects.ie which gives further background details and information relating to the objects. In addition, all of the stamps contain image recognition technology to allow smartphones with the CEE app installed to link to the same website. All original twelve objects are currently on display at the National Museum of Ireland premises in Kildare Street, Dublin 2 (Open Tuesday to Sunday, closed Mondays and bank holidays).

SOAR Issue: There are 8 designs as listed, and the bureau set, which is numbered 1 to 8, is split into two strips of four. The strips sold by the bureau have the eight designs set out in the same order as the SOAR set sold at post office counters. Strips of any length can be obtained from post office counters. All counter rolls are printed in the same sequence (as illustrated above). The date code 17012 corresponds with 12 January and the reference code is 02501000001 (as before). Each stamp measures 56mm x 25mm and has three small preprinted vertical yellow phosphor bars similar to previous SOAR definitive issues. As with previous issues, the surplus paper is removed between stamps.

There were two separate first day covers. The first cover with SOAR stamps 1 to 4 illustrates the Castlederg Bronze Cauldron, which is one of the designs contained in the €100.00 coil (see below). The second cover with SOAR stamps 5 to 8 illustrates the Glenisheen Gold Gorget as shown on the W stamp in the €13.50 booklet (see below).

National Self-adhesive Booklet (€7.20 now €10.00): The booklet contains 10 x N (72c now €1.00) small vertical format stamps illustrating a Gold Disc (2200-2000BC).



Each stamp measures 20mm x 24mm and has the usual yellow phosphor frame. Surplus paper retained.



First Day Cover with the two booklet stamps

A pair of self-adhesives with normal booklet backing and with surplus paper also intact is available from the philatelic bureau.



International Self-adhesive Booklet (€11.00 now €13.50): The booklet contains 10 x W (€1.10 now €1.35) small vertical format stamps with the Glenisheen Gold Gorget. Each stamp measures 20mm x 24mm and has the usual yellow phosphor frame. Surplus paper retained. A pair of self-adhesives with normal booklet backing and with surplus paper intact is available from the philatelic bureau. The booklet also contains 10 x small format airmail labels. The Glenisheen Gorget (also known as the Glenisheen Gold Collar) featured previously on the 34p, 37p, 38p and 40p stamps in the Irish Heritage and Treasures definitive set (1990-1995). The design was also illustrated on a St Patrick's Day card in 1995.

National Self-adhesive Coil (€72.00 now €100.00): The roll is issued as a shrink-wrapped coil of 100 stamps. There are two designs in each

roll – (a) Castlederg Bronze Cauldron; and (b) Armlet, Old Croghan Man.

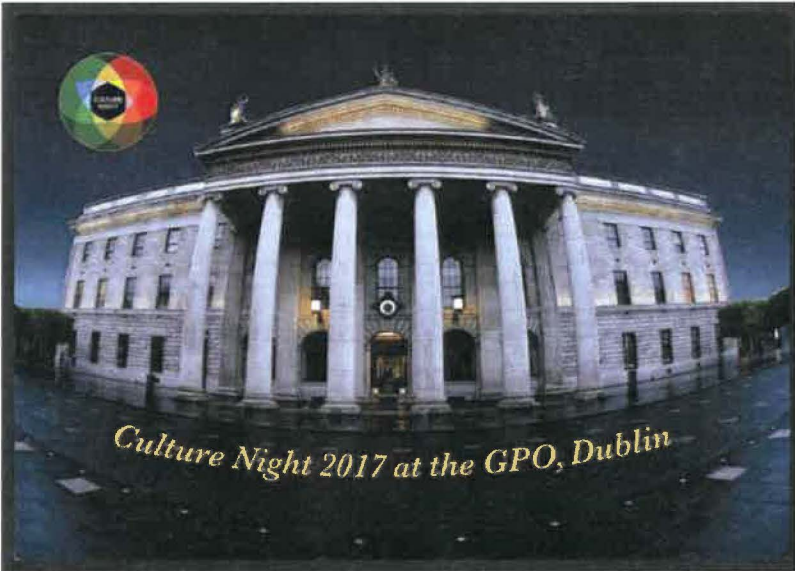


The rolls of 100 stamps continue to be reeled vertically (top feed) with no joins, commencing with a small white label which measures 25mm x 17mm. Each stamp measures 30mm x 25mm and has a yellow phosphor frame. There are five labels in the roll, each

with the same three-line wording in black "See reverse / for quantity / remaining". The numbers 100, 80, 60, 40 and 20 are printed on the reverse of the respective labels. This is the same make-up as previous definitive printings by Ashton-Potter. The roll is sealed with a peelable adhesive printed orange coloured leader which can be easily removed as it is not permanently attached to the stamps/labels.

Unlike recent coils from Ashton-Potter, the leader is NOT numbered on this issue. The surplus paper is removed between stamps on complete coils. A pair of stamps, but with surplus paper intact, is available from the philatelic bureau.

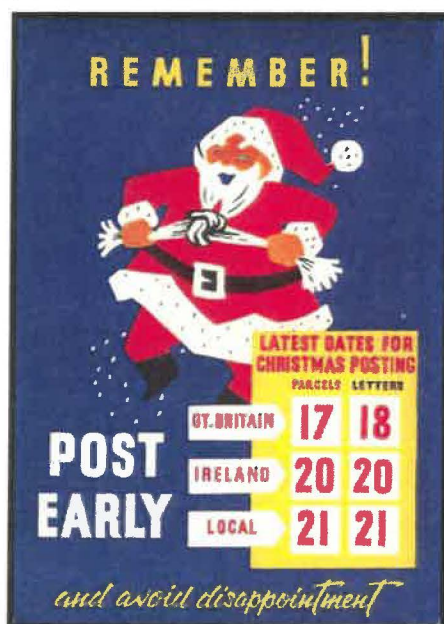
STATIONERY

Date of Issue	Description	Cost	Note	Printer
				
22 Sept.	Culture Night	- Postcard	- GPO Design - see note below	An Post Print & Design
14 Dec.	Christmas exhibition	- Set of five postcards	- Various designs - see below	An Post Print & Design

Culture Night Postcard: The large format undenominated postcard measures 210mm x 148mm and has the same fisheye illustration of the GPO Dublin used in both 2015 and 2016 (with the date changed to 2017). Most cards were

handed out with an €1.35 self-adhesive booklet stamp and airmail label already affixed to the card. There was no special cancellation. Mint cards (without a stamp) were subsequently available at the philatelic bureau counter. The

card was given out free of charge to anybody visiting the GPO on the night.



GPO Museum Christmas Exhibition: During the Christmas season, Stephen Ferguson of An Post prepared a small exhibition - *Turkeys, Cards and Santa Claus – the Post Office at Christmas* – which ran from Friday 15 December through to Sunday 7 January 2018. The exhibition was situated in the reception area of the GPO Witness History Museum and displayed reproductions of material in the An Post Museum & Archive collections. In connection with the exhibition, the

Penfold postbox, previously situated inside the staff entrance to the GPO in Princes Street, was moved into the reception area on Thursday 7 December and a set of five postcards on the Christmas theme were freely available to visitors from Thursday 14 December (i.e. the day before the exhibition opened).

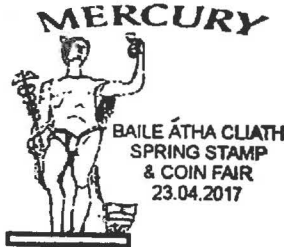


The cards illustrate (i) the GPO at Christmas; (ii) a 1908 Christmas card featuring Santa Claus in a green costume which predates the now standard red robe; (iii) a 1963 Post Early for Christmas notice; (iv) the first Irish Christmas stamp of 1971 featuring the Madonna and Child statue in Loughrea Cathedral; and (v) A Georgian Door with Christmas Holly Bough, one of several unadopted designs for the 1981 Christmas issue. I illustrate cards (ii), (iii) and (v)

Anything posted in the box (including the special exhibition cards) received the steel CDS Museum postmark previously referred to in my TWYTW article of 2015. Items could be posted in the box until late January. The box is still in situ but is not in use as of February 2018.

No other postal stationery or cards/envelopes issued during 2017, except for the two Postcrossing cards referred to above and the envelope distributed with the RTE Guide - see under *Other Items*.

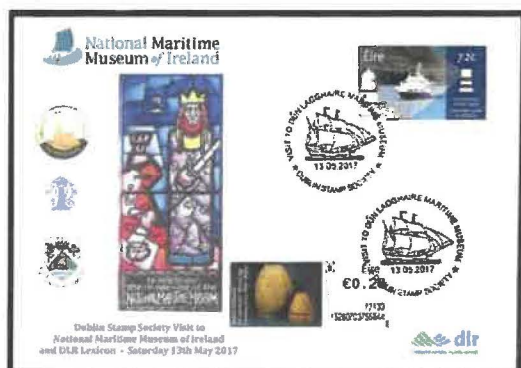
EXHIBITION AND SOCIETY SOUVENIRS AND POSTMARKS

Date of Issue	Description	Cost	Numbers/Notes	Paper	Perforation	Printer
	 					
23 Apr.	Spring Stamp & Coin Fair	- 2016 Love booklet €12.00	with black overprint - see below.			Mahons
		- Illustrated cover €4.00 *	with special postmark - see below.			DSS
13 May	Dublin Stamp Society visit to Dún Laoghaire					
		- Illustrated cover €4.00 *	with special postmark - see below.			DSS
25 Sept.	Stampa 2017 (Members' Souvenirs)					
	- 1916 Easter Rising M/S (Easter Week)	€22.00	700 overprinted *	CCP3	13½ x 13½	Mahons
	- Irish Lights booklet pane		700 overprinted *	CCP3	13¼ x 13¼	Mahons
	- Reproduction postcard featuring Kingsbridge Station		1,000 printed with Stampa imprint*			Moo
25 Sept.	Stampa 2017 (Public Souvenir)					
	- Irish Railway Stations M/S	€6.00	800 overprinted *	PCP	13¼ x 13¼	Mahons
6-8 Oct.	Set of 3 official Stampa covers	€12.00 *	See below (covers also sold separately at €4 each)			Stampa
18 Nov.	Cork Philatelic/Stamp & Coin Exhibition	- Booklet €3.50 *	125 printed (contains a pair of Jack Lynch stamps)			
	- Single illustrated cover (Cork Philatelic Society)	€2.00 #	100 printed (cover bears an image of Jack Lynch)			
	- Set of four illustrated serviced covers (Train Stations)	€15.00 #	100 sets (covers bear an image of one of the Train Stations)			
	- Irish Train stations miniature sheet with black o/p	€9.00 *	500 overprinted	CCP3	13¼ x 13¼	Mahons
	- Irish Train Stations miniature sheet with red o/p	€50.00 *	100 overprinted	CCP3	13¼ x 13¼	Mahons
* . The production and overprinting of the miniature sheets and booklets marked with an asterisk above were arranged by the organisers of the show. Overprinting of the miniature sheets and booklets was with the permission of An Post. # The Spring Stamp & Coin Show and Dun Laoghaire covers were prepared by the Dublin Stamp Society and printed by Brian Warren. The Cork booklet and Jack Lynch cover were produced by the Cork Philatelic Society. The set of four train station covers were produced by Raven Stamps. The Stampa covers were produced by the organisers and printed by Brian Warren.						
None of the items listed above were sold by An Post						

Spring Stamp & Coin Fair: This annual show was held at the RDS in Dublin on Sunday 23 April. The front cover of the 2016 Love and Marriage booklet was overprinted by the organisers for the show and numbered. Total printing of 400 booklets. The single line overprint in black reads "Spring Stamp & Coin Fair, 2017".

An Post was in attendance and provided a special postmark illustrating the Statue of Mercury, which is one of the three statues above the GPO in Dublin. This was the last in a series of three cancellations during the three-year period (2015-2017) illustrating the these statues.

The Dublin Stamp Society provided an illustrated cover also showing the statue, which was available serviced with a gummed 1916 stamp and the special postmark. Total printing of 70 covers.



Dublin Stamp Society - Visit to Dun Laoghaire:

The Society paid a visit to the National Maritime Museum of Ireland on Saturday 13 May. The Museum is located in the former Mariners Church in Dun Laoghaire.

Following the visit, a special meeting of The Dublin Stamp Society was held in the adjoining DLR Lexicon (the local library). Members Des Norton and Brian Warren displayed various items from their collections relating to Kingstown/Dún Laoghaire. To mark the visit to the Museum, An Post provided a postmark featuring a sailing ship and the Society produced two illustrated covers. The main cover (see above) featured a stained glass window in the museum (Total printing 100).

The alternative cover (see above) marked 200 years of Dún Laoghaire Harbour and illustrates the George IV monument located on the harbour seafront. This was erected in 1824 to mark the visit of the King to Kingstown and the commencement of the building of the harbour in 1817 (Total printing 30). Each cover bears one of the stamps from the Commissioners of Irish Lights set issued in 2016. The Commissioners have their headquarters in Dún Laoghaire.

Stampa 2017: The various souvenirs as listed were posted to members in advance with certain members receiving them on 25 September.



The Easter Rising miniature sheet has a single-line overprint in red which reads "STAMPA 6th - 8th October 2017". The Irish lights booklet pane (illustrated above) has a two-line overprint in blue which reads "Stampa / 6th-8th Oct. 2017". The Irish Railway Stations miniature sheet has a two-line overprint, also in red, which reads Stampa / 6th-8th Oct. 2017"



Copies of the postcard featuring Kingsbridge Station were sold at €5 each maxicard style with matching stamp and postmark.

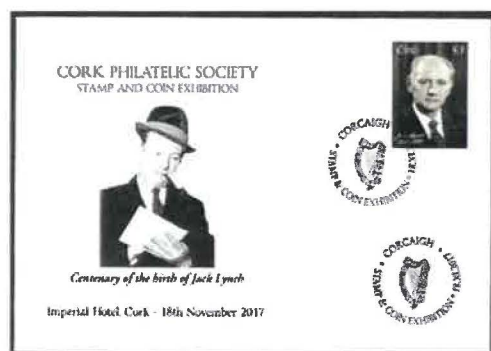
The three special cancels and the related stamp issues were as follows:-

- 6 October: Steam Engine (Irish Railway Stations issue);
- 7 October: Glenisheen Collar (100 Irish Objects definitive issue); and
- 8 October: Buoy (any Irish Lights stamp)



The three postmarks were designed by John Mullen and Brian Warren. A set of three illustrated and serviced covers on the same theme designed by Brian Warren were also available at €4 per cover. The cover for 6 October with an illustration of Heuston Station (formerly Kingsbridge) illustrated above.

The Kingsbridge card was also used as a ticket (60 copies) and menu for the awards dinner in Wynn's Hotel, Lr. Abbey Street, Dublin 1 (55 menus, 46 attended).



Cork Philatelic Exhibition / Cork Stamp & Coin Exhibition: The Cork Philatelic Society held its annual show in the Imperial Hotel, Cork in association with Raven Stamps. The front cover of this year's booklet refers to the "Cork Philatelic Exhibition 2017" and contains a pair of the Jack Lynch stamps. The Society also produced an illustrated cover bearing an image of Jack Lynch who was born in Cork.



In addition, four serviced covers were sold as a set by Raven Stamps. Each cover illustrated one of the train stations included in the stamp set issued earlier in the year and had the matching stamp.



Two special postmarks were available from An Post. The first postmark with a Harp featured on the Jack Lynch cover and the second cancellation with the image of a train was used on the set of train station covers.

Raven Stamps arranged for the overprinting of the Train Stations miniature sheet. The three-line overprint reads "CORK STAMP & COIN SHOW / November 18th 2017 / Supported by An Post". All souvenirs were individually numbered (booklets and sheets).

SLOGANS USED ON INTEGRATED LETTER PROCESSING SYSTEM MACHINES (ILPS - NEC Japanese machines in use at all four mail centres)

(Illustrations of all slogan postmarks have been reduced)

Only one new slogan was introduced in 2017, together with one repeated slogan (ILPS 137). They were both in use at Athlone Mails Centre (AMC), Cork Mails Centre (CMC), Dublin Mails Centre (DMC) and Portlaoise Mails Centre (PMC). An article in the Irish Independent during 2017 stated that the facility in Athlone is in danger

of closing down while the one in Portlaoise could be scaled back.



ILPS 137 (variety): Remember to / Use Your / EIRCODE

A new AMC version of the EIRCODE slogan in the same smaller font style as the DMC and PMC machines was first noted on 2 May 2017. Initially, it was used only on one machine with the counter reset to zero but was later in use on all four AMC machines. The older larger font machine slogans had become almost illegible.



A similar small font slogan was introduced in Cork on 11 September. The Cork machines were changed to the smaller font one by one over a number of weeks commencing with the ILPS 137 slogan illustrated above followed by ILPS 138 (illustrated below). This resulted in two formats of the Peter McVerry Trust slogan referred to below at the CMC. The last CMC machine to change was 3999 with the large font format last used on 13 October (with ILPS 138 also illustrated below). After a gap of a week, the machine was again used on 20 October in small format with ILPS 137 and the counter reset to zero.



ILPS 138 Peter McVerry Trust / Opening Doors / 9-15 October / WWW.PMVTRUST.IE.

First noted on 29 September. Used at all mail centres. DMC had reverted to the EIRCODE slogan by end

October but one DMC machine used the McVerry slogan until 15 November. AMC and CMC used the slogan until 13 October. PMC used it until 14 November

The Peter McVerry Trust was established by Father Peter McVerry and is a charity set up primarily to help young homeless people.

Other Tagging:



In my 2015 article, I referred to the use of a new type of tag-code similar to that used in the UK. It is known as a 4 State Code ("4SC") due to the use of four types of vertical lines - very short, long, ½ line down and ½ line up.

Similar 4 State Tagging was seen on a limited amount of mail in July. The one example seen by me was used on a DMC cancelled item on 18 July. However, in addition, between 14 and 21 July 2017, some, but not all mail, had a series of very short lines superimposed on the normal tag-code as illustrated above. The reason for this double tagging is not known.

Continued use of Slogan



ILPS 137 Remember to / Use Your / EIRCODE

The large style version was used in AMC and CMC until replaced by the smaller font version referred to above. The smaller font version was in use throughout the year at DMC and PMC except when replaced by ILPS 138.

OTHER CANCELLATIONS



Universal Machine Use:

The "HAPPY / CHRISTMAS / POST" slogan was again used in Dublin in December. The "POST EARLY / FOR CHRISTMAS / POST" slogan was also noted.



A universal machine die (no slogan) was also used in Cork throughout 2017.

Baumann Machines: The Baumann machines continued to be rarely used during the year. There are no Baumann machines in use at DMC but examples of their use can be seen from the three other mail centres, especially during the Christmas period.

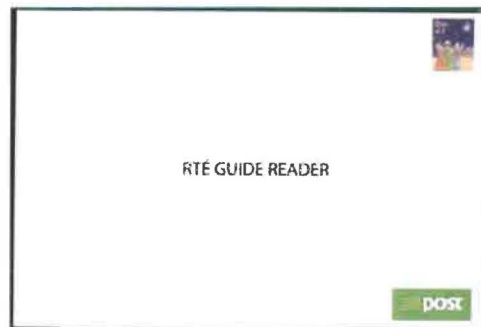
COMPACT FLATS SORTING MACHINES (CFSMs - built by Selex Elsag in Genoa, Italy and in use at all four mail centres)

I have NOT noted any changes in the CFSM postmarks during 2017.

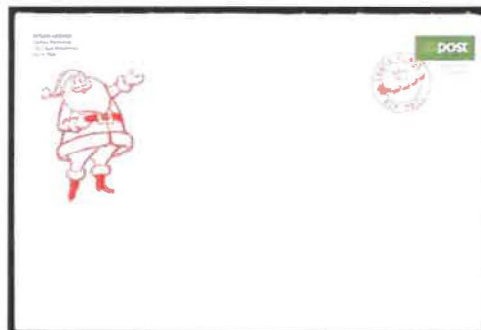
OTHER ITEMS



Frankfurt - Shannon - Frankfurt: A new Lufthansa route was established between Frankfurt and Shannon on 29 April. A special postmark was made available by An Post. A similar German cancellation was used for the inward flight. Special covers were flown.



November - RTE Guide Envelope: A special preprinted An Post envelope was distributed with the RTE Guide (a popular weekly television and radio listings) for the week commencing 25 November. The large sized sealed envelope was not intended for use but did include the usual postage paid indicium. Inside, there was a card advertising a competition on the RTE Radio 1 national station.

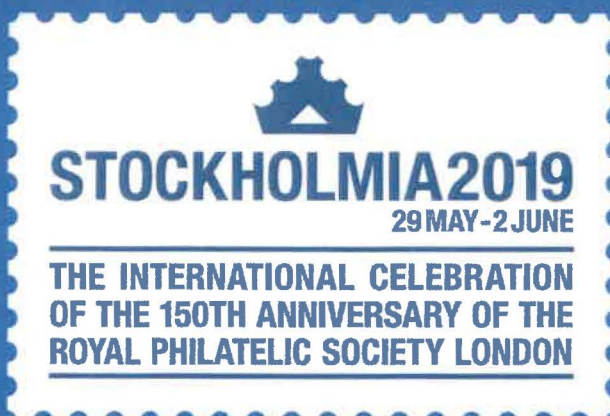


December - Santa Christmas Envelope: A new envelope and printed postmark were introduced this year. The last change was in 2014.



An Post Christmas Card: The 2017 card shows a family on a rocky outcrop looking out to sea at the Statue of Liberty and the New York skyline. This links in with the current An Post "World Wide Open" advertising slogan.

Come! All are invited



**Time to Mark Your Calendars
and Make Your Reservations for
the Birthday Party of a Lifetime**

WWW.STOCKHOLMIA2019.SE



**RARITY
AUCTION**
Cosign Now!





Royal Collection Trust
©Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2018
Photographer: Ian Jones



The Golden Colour Error
3 Skilling Banco Yellow



H.M. King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden
Photographer: Anna-Lena Ahlström, royalcourt.se

WELCOME TO STOCKHOLMIA 2019

The International Celebration of the 150th Anniversary of The Royal Philatelic Society London

- The Royal Philatelic Society London, the oldest philatelic society in the world, was established in 1869 as The Philatelic Society, London. In 1896 HRH The Duke of York, son of King Edward VII, became President of the Society, an office he continued to hold until his accession to the throne as HM King George V in 1910. Permission to use the prefix Royal was granted by His Majesty King Edward VII in 1906. Following his accession King George V acted as its Patron, and in 1924 granted the Society permission to use the Royal Arms on its stationery and publications. The Royal philatelic tradition has been maintained and today the Society is honoured by the Patronage of Her Majesty The Queen. At STOCKHOLMIA 2019, a selection from The Royal Philatelic Collection, will be presented as part of Court of Honour.
- STOCKHOLMIA 2019 is an International Philatelic Exhibition with exhibits and displays from members of the Society from all over the world.
- With capacity of 2,100 frames, the exhibition is the largest Society exhibition ever held. In addition, more than 50 Trade Stand Holders, from 13 different countries are participating.
- His Majesty King Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden has graciously agreed to be Patron of STOCKHOLMIA 2019 when it takes place at Stockholm Waterfront Congress Centre, Nils Ericsons Plan 4, Stockholm.
- One of the world's most famous postage stamps, The Golden Colour Error, 3 Skilling Banco Yellow, will be presented as part of the exhibition's Court of Honour.
- Tickets and all other registrations and bookings, including accommodation offers, are here-with presented in this Destination Offer.
- The exhibition opens for Early Birds with the Vernissage on 28 May at 3.00 pm., followed by five public days from 29 May until 2 June.

Tuesday	28 May 2019	3.00 pm. – 7.00 pm. Vernissage
Wednesday	29 May 2019	10.00 am. – 6.00 pm.
Thursday	30 May 2019	10.00 am. – 6.00 pm.
Friday	31 May 2019	10.00 am. – 6.00 pm.
Saturday	1 June 2019	10.00 am. – 5.00 pm.
Sunday	2 June 2019	10.00 am. – 3.00 pm.

**The exhibition concepts,
programme and progress are
continuously presented online at
www.stockholmia2019.se.**

County Galway



1717	1690	1626	313	698
	552 547			
1470	742	413	600	

Portumna Castle (Scott 1717), is located on what Heritage Ireland's website calls "a magnificent location on the shores of Lough Derg on the River Shannon." It is not so much a castle as a semi-fortified house. Built in the 17th century, it was the home of the prominent deBurgo family for two centuries until it was gutted by fire in the 19th century. It has recently been restored by the Office of Public works and is open for tours. Because of the harshness of its then landlord's treatment of its tenants, Ireland's 19th century Land League War started in Portumna Castle. The castle is now a museum of the historic Flight of the Wild Geese. Portumna Bridge, completed a century ago links the town with the northwestern section of Tipperary across the Shannon. Portumna also has a reminder of Ireland's hardest times, a Poor Law Union Workhouse.

A little north of Portumna we find the townland of Meelick (Scott 1690) on the Shannon. The image on the stamp makes the Shannon look very wide, which it is. At this point it is almost a mile from bank to bank, peppered with islands, and fine for salmon fishing. For tourists who have not had the experience of seeing locks in action, Meelick has one of the busiest locks in Ireland. It may not compare with some of the larger locks in Europe, but it was constructed 130 years ago!

Meelick has the oldest continuously used Catholic church in Ireland, a Franciscan abbey built in 1414. A sense of the place may be given by this description:

Meelick is in a beautiful setting on the edge of a wetland next to the river. Glimpses of swans and other birds can be got a short distance away and horses sometimes graze nearby. Some trees and shrubs grow around the perimeter. Liverworts mat the ground and flowers... can be seen among the gravestones. The tranquility of Meelick will surely help you to quieten down as the only sounds are those of the wind, an insect buzzing as it goes about its work, perhaps some birds, or a distant sound of machinery. (Quoted from the website, Praying Nature with St. Francis of Assisi.)

Leaving Meelick we make our way a little to the east to view the Round Tower at Kilmacduagh (Scott 1626), a village near Gort. The Round Tower is in excellent condition, except that it has had a distinctive lean for centuries, so it has been named the leaning tower of Kilmacduagh, calling to mind the much newer and very different tower in Pisa.

In Kilmacduagh is also the ruin of a monastery founded by St. Colman MacDuagh in the year 610. St. Colman is associated with many legends, especially with respect to animals. He was supposed to have been awakened by a rooster crowing in the morning, but he wanted to arise for prayer in the middle of the night too, so he asked a mouse to awaken him at a certain time each night, which the mouse did faithfully. He also had a pet fly, and when he was interrupted in his reading, the pet fly stayed in the exact spot in the prayer that Colman had been reading. Need I remind you that this is 7th century Ireland?

Now we move a short way northeast to another cathedral, St. Brendan's in the town centre of Loughrea. The cathedral, named after St. Brendan the Navigator, dominates the town's skyline. St. Colman's was built in 610. St. Brendan's is a bit more modern. It was completed in 1902! The cathedral was decorated exclusively by Irish artists of the Celtic Revival, and has especially noteworthy stained glass windows, including windows by artists Harry Clarke and Evie Hone whose windows have been celebrated on Irish stamps. Scott 313 shows a statue in the cathedral of the virgin and child by John Hughes. The artwork in St. Brendan's is described extensively and lovingly in a paper by Thomas MacGreevy.

Loughrea has an annual poetry festival and in 2014 inaugurated a medieval festival. The festival includes a celebration of Loughrea's status as a walled town, a medieval banquet and in 2015 a gathering of the clans and

clan parade. Our next stop is the lively city of Galway (Scott 600), a city of about 75,000. It was granted city status in the year 1484 by King Richard III, but there is evidence that people lived in the area at least 10,000 years ago. The 17th century was a hard one for Galway, as it fell first to Cromwell and then to the Williamites, after which it went into serious decline.

The city is considered by many Galwegians, as folk from Glasgow are called, to be Ioreland's cultural heart. It has too many festivals and celebrations to list, and it is strongly associated with the Irish language, Irish music and art. Another association with the city is the famous Claddagh Ring, the original creators of which, Dillon's, are still in Galway on Quay Street. Dillons has been in business for almost 300 years. The ring represents love, loyalty, and friendship.

A small abstract monument to Christopher Columbus was placed in the Spanish Arch to memorialize his visit to Ireland in 1477, 15 years before his voyage to America. The city boasts the largest medieval church still in use in Ireland, St. Nicholas' Collegiate Church, built in 1320 and now a Protestant church. In contrast, Galway's Catholic cathedral dates to 1965. The city also has a major university, the National University of Ireland, Galway. Galway is a really delightful city to walk around.

For a major change of pace, depending on the year and depending on one's likes and dislikes, we might continue northeast and go on to Ballinasloe, for its October Horse fair and festival (Scott 698), which dates to the 18th century. The fair includes horsetrading – literally – as well as all sorts of other artistic, cultural and sporting events. If a nine-day horse fair is not appealing, we may go on westwards to Connemara (Scott 1470), sitting on the west coast of the country.

Connemara is widely known for its beauty, and is especially known in the U.S. as being one of the sites for the filming of the *Quiet Man*, with John Wayne and Dublin born Maureen O'Hara. You will not find Connemara on a map of Ireland because it is not a political subdivision. It is an area defined by tradition and its boundaries are not clearly defined. Let's consider it as all of County Galway west of Lough Corrib. Connemara calls up images of the relatively unspoiled beauty of the place, a shoreline indented by peninsulas, the mountain range known as the Twelve Bens, and bogs. Connemara is home to the largest Gaeltecht in the country.

Three specific places in Connemara are shown on stamps. One is in the town of Oughterard, Aughnacore Castle (Scott 547). Aughnacore Castle is actually a very well preserved fortified residence, like over 200 similar structures in Galway alone. It is not the sort of grand military structure in the sense of Cahir Castle that I think of when I hear the word "castle."

Aughnanure sits on the banks of the Drimneed River such that the river flows beneath the low cliff on which the castle was built. Whereas most castles are in towns or villages, Aughnare is “in an idyllic setting between rivers in an out-of-the-way wood.” The stamp shows the tower house and a small circular watchtower. Tourists with the surname “O’Flaherty” might especially like to visit Aughnare, as the O’Flaherty family controlled the castle on and off over the centuries until they sold it to the state.

We make our next way to the Ballynahinch (Scott 413), now pretty far west in Galway. The stamp image shows a peaceful countryside scene with a mountain in the distance, which I assume is one of the beautiful 12 Bens. A main feature of the area is Ballynahinch castle, set in a private 450 acre estate, overlooking its salmon fishery. The castle is clearly an upscale one, described as “one of the finest 4 star luxury hotels in Ireland.”

Next stop is Connemara National Park (Scott 742) still further west. The park is 7,300 acres of mountains, bogs, scenic mountains, grasslands and woodlands. The park’s bogs do not provide adequate nutrients for most plants, so a number of carnivorous plants there obtain their needed energy from insects that they consume.

One place of note in the national park is the beautiful Kylemore Abbey, which is a Benedictine Monastery. For me, Kylemore abbey is truly unforgettable. A number of years ago I was walking the grounds when a familiar but for the moment unrecognized figure came near. I was a bit stunned when he called out “Mike?” I was (and am) living in Bowling Green, Ohio. He was from Bowling Green, but I knew that at the time he was working in and living in Singapore! Such a coincidence is hard to forget. A more mundane reason that Kylemore is unforgettable is that we have a print of it on our living room wall!

Our next and final stop in Galway would take only the most intrepid tourist again out into the Atlantic. It is St. MacDara’s Church (Scott 552). St. MacDara died about 1,500 years ago on this remote 60 acre island, now called St. MacDara’s Island. I believe that this island of about 60 acres is now uninhabited and can only be reached by rowboat. I’ll pass on this trip. The tiny church shown on the stamp image was restored in 1975, and it is a beautiful example of early Christian oratories. Should anyone want a careful description of the oratory and island, a detailed summary was written in 1895 for an expedition of the Royal Society of Antiquaries in Ireland (see Macalister in the references for a web address).

One of the largest and most comprehensive stocks of Irish material available on the market.

Some recent offers from our ever-changing stock



2 - 3 Mail-Bid
and Internet Auctions
every year with lots
of exciting IRELAND
material. Send for
YOUR free copy of
the next catalogue
TODAY !!!

Specialising in **collection-building** for the general collector and for Exhibition: whether you collect Ireland **for pleasure**, maybe are even interested in **winning an award** for your collection, or you collect with an eye to **investment**, my business is to help you achieve **your goals**.



Roy Hamilton-Bowen

Eisenbahnstrasse 8

DE- 63110 Rodgau GERMANY

Call: (+49) 6106-3023 Fax: -3024

e-mail: roy.hb@online.de



Publisher of the award-winning Hibernian Handbook and Catalogue

THE web-site for Irish Philately: www.hibernian-news.eu

BALPEX 2018 is Encouraging Two and Three Frame Exhibits: Closing date for entries is August 10th

BALPEX: August 31 to September 2 at Hunt Valley, MD, near Baltimore.

Building on the success of recent Rockford, Illinois 2-3-4 frame stamp shows, BALPEX 2018 announces a new category for Two and Three Frame exhibits to encourage first time exhibitors and existing exhibitors who would like to have fun and receive feedback on their material.

The \$15 Exhibit Fee is being **waived** by BALPEX for Two and Three Frame exhibits; while the \$20 per frame fee applies.

The Two and Three Frame exhibits will be judged and medals awarded based upon the APS Manual of Philatelic Judging, 7th edition.

HOWEVER, prizes will be given in the Two and Three Frame exhibit categories, including but not limited to the following:

- The **Best** Two and **Best** Three Frame Exhibit.
- The **Best** Two Frame and **Best** Three Frame Exhibit from a First Time Exhibitor.

All First Time Exhibitors in the two or three frame classes receive a prize.

The American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors will give a copy of their book the **Path to Gold** for the **Best** Silver Medal in among the two frame and three frame exhibits.

The Eire Philatelic Association (EPA) will present Waterford Crystal prizes for the **Best** two and **Best** three frame exhibits by Association members. These exhibits do not have to show Irish Material.

To join the EPA visit eirephilatelicassoc.org

BALPEX also includes the traditional Single and Multi Frame Exhibit competitions.

More information on two and three framers to follow in future issues of **The American Philatelist**.