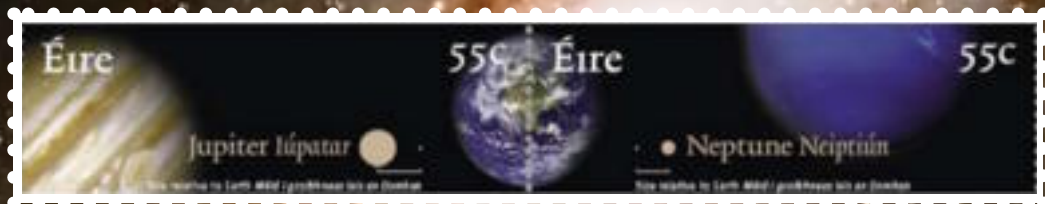
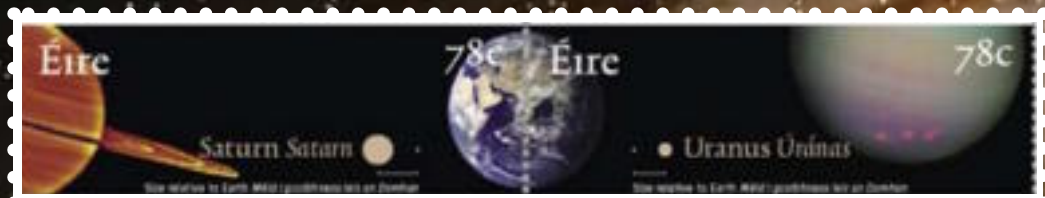


IRISH STAMPS

02/07

Collectors *NEWS*

www.irishstamps.ie



50th Anniversary of the Treaty of Rome
The Planets
Europa - 100 Years of Scouting

 **POST**



Dear Collector,

Welcome to the second edition of Collectors News for 2007. We were delighted to get so much positive feedback on the new look Collectors News and we hope to continue to impress you with our new look. In this edition of Collectors News, you will find a detailed account of our exciting new issues.

On 28 March, we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Treaty of Rome with a new 55c stamp and a special PNC. To follow on from our cover image, the 20 April sees 'The Planets' issue of four elongated stamps, these are wonderful designs guaranteed to add a spark to your collection. The striking stamps depict the four Gas Giants; Jupiter, Neptune, Saturn and Uranus.

The theme for Europa this year is 100 Years of Scouting. We are issuing two stamps, depicting the history of scouting from 1907 to the present day. These stamps will be issued on 9 May and no doubt the Europa issue will prove as popular as ever! Turn to page 16 for details.

I hope that you enjoy this exciting edition of Collectors News!

Aidan Murphy,
Marketing Manager, Irish Stamps

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The images throughout Collectors News are correct at the time of going to press, but final product may not be exactly as shown.

NEWS & INFORMATION

STAMPANIA 2007



The annual Stampania Stamp Show takes place this year on Sunday 15 April in the RDS Clyde Room (Anglesea Road entrance), Ballsbridge, Dublin 4.

Irish Stamps will be there with all of the issues from the past 12 months available from our stand. You can purchase a special edition souvenir sheet, overprinted, for the show, on the day.

As always, the show is very popular and there are many interesting exhibits planned. Admission is €3 per person and €5 for families. For more information on the show please contact Eoin F. Boyle at 00 353 (87) 816 8080 or email sales@irelandstamps.com

ONLINE WINNER

Congratulations to Norma Ferris, Maynooth, Co. Kildare, who won some Philatelic goodies after bringing sales on www.irishstamps.ie over the €1 million milestone, on 30 January 2007.

We would like to thank all who purchased online in January/February 2007.

ORDER ONLINE FREE GIFT OFFER

RYDER CUP PRESTIGE BOOKLET WORTH €12 ABSOLUTELY FREE

During the month of April 2007, if you spend €60 or more in one transaction while purchasing products from the Irish Stamps website, www.irishstamps.ie you will receive a Ryder Cup Prestige Booklet absolutely FREE.



Collectors, please note that there was an error in Collectors News 01/07 concerning perforation measurements. This error was beyond our control and below are set out the correct perforation details. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

STAMP	PERFORATION
Wedding Stamp: 26mm x 37.5mm	= 11.25 x 11 approx.
Greetings Stamp: 25mm x 30mm	= 11 x 11.25 approx.
N Rate Stamp: 25mm x 30mm	= 11 x 11.25 approx.

RECORD NUMBERS TURN OUT FOR FDC SIGNINGS IN THE G.P.O.



Seán Ó Brógáin (first time Philatelic artist) and Boyd Rankin (model for Hugh O'Donnell) signed Flight of the Earls FDC's for a large volume of very enthusiastic Collectors on the 28 February. Susan Sex also delighted a large crowd of Collectors when she signed First Day Covers of her beautiful new Definitive stamps on 1 March. Thanks to all who attended.

Boyd Rankin (left) and Seán Ó Brógáin (right)

Susan Sex (above)



Product Code 0706FDC Price €1.75

ST. PATRICK'S DAY 2007 FIRST DAY COVER

On 9 February 2007 a stamp was issued to celebrate St. Patrick's Day 2007. At the time of printing of the last edition of Collectors News the First Day Cover image was not available. The First Day Cover, as shown opposite, is now available to buy from the Philatelic Bureau, GPO, Dublin 1, or online at www.irishstamps.ie

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF



Technical details

Date of Issue:	28 March, 2007
Value & Quantity:	55c (330,000)
Design:	Steve Simpson
Stamp Size:	29.79mm x 40.64mm
Colour:	Multicolour (with phosphor tagging)
Make-up:	Sheetlets of 16
Perforations:	14 x 15
Printing Process:	Lithography
Printer:	Irish Security Stamp Printing Ltd.

The signing of the Treaty of Rome took place on 25 March, 1957. It traces its origins to the Treaty of Paris of 1951, which established the European Coal and Steel Community. Belgium, West Germany, France, Luxembourg, Italy and Netherlands were the original six members of the EU. On 1 November, 1993 the European Union came into full effect following the ratification of the Maastricht Treaty.

On 1 January, 1973 the number of member states increased to nine with the accession of Denmark, Ireland and the UK. Greece joined on 1 January 1981, followed by Spain and Portugal on 1 January 1986. On 1 May 2004, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovak Republic and Slovenia joined the EU, and on 1 January 2007 both Bulgaria and Romania became members, bringing the current total number of member states to 27.

To celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Treaty of Rome, An Post have issued a 55c stamp and a First Day Cover. The stamp, designed by Steve Simpson, features an image of the European Union flag, on which the signatories of the Treaty of Rome were superimposed. The background image is of Palazzo dei Conservatori, which is located in the Piazza del Campidoglio, Rome, where the Treaty of Rome was signed.

Also on 28 March, An Post, in conjunction with the Central Bank of Ireland are issuing a strictly limited edition PNC for the 50th Anniversary of the Treaty of Rome.



THE TREATY OF ROME



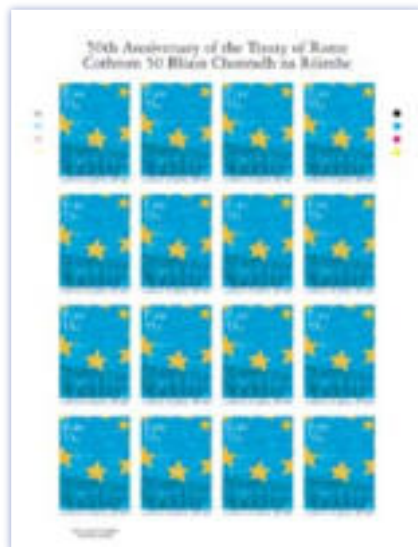
Product Code 0709PNC Price €10.00

For this Anniversary, Eurogroup Ministers decided that euro-area Member States would strike a 2-euro commemorative coin using a common design on the national side. The selected design is the outcome of a joint preparation by the European Mints.

The centre of the coin shows the Treaty signed by the six founding Member States on a background evoking the paving, designed by Michelangelo, of the Piazza del Campidoglio in Rome where the Treaty was signed on 25 March 1957. The translation of the word "Europe" appears above the book. The translation of the words "Treaty of Rome 50 years" is inscribed above the design. The year 2007 and the national name of the issuing country are inscribed under the design and the twelve stars of the European flag are depicted on the outer ring.

The coin is also being issued by: Belgium, Germany, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia and Finland.

The PNC is available to purchase along with the stamp and First Day Cover from The Philatelic Shop, GPO, Dublin 1, by calling 00 353 1 705 7400 or from www.irishstamps.ie



Product Code 070955SH Price €8.80

TREATY OF ROME

* The signatories on the stamp and the image on the First Day Cover are from;

"Signature of Rome Treaty,
© European Communities 1995-2007"

* The copyright for the building which is featured on the stamp, Piazza del Campidoglio, belongs to "Donald Corner & Jenny Young/ GreatBuildings.com"

THE PLANETS



After the Big Bang, during which space and time were created and expanded, it took the universe a billion years to evolve into an elaborate tapestry of galaxies and stars. Over the next twelve billion years, more stars and galaxies gradually weaved themselves into existence, re-incarnated from the dying embers of elderly predecessors.



Our Solar System, which is made up of the Sun, the planets, their moons, asteroids and comets is a relative newcomer in the field of cosmic creation.



The four Gas Giants, which form the outer Solar System, are featured in the 2007 issue.

Jupiter which has 61 moons has a diameter of 142,984 kilometres and is the largest

planet in the solar system. It was named after the King of the Roman Gods, and its day lasts 9 hours and 55 minutes Earth time.

Neptune was discovered in 1846, since that time, it has still yet to make a complete orbit around the Sun, this is because one Neptune year lasts 165 Earth years!

Saturn is 1.35 billion kilometres, minimum distance, away from the Sun, it has more than 30 moons and its day lasts 10 hours and 39 minutes Earth time. The amazing rings we see around Saturn are made up of chunks of rock and ice, some are just tiny pieces of dust and others are more than 0.8 kilometres across.

Technical details



Date of Issue: 20 April, 2007

Values & Quantities: 55c x se-tenant (410,000)
78c x se-tenant (360,000)
€2.66 Minisheet (35,000)

Design: Design Factory

Stamp Size: 60mm x 24mm

Minisheet Size: 150mm x 90mm

Colour: Multicolour with phosphor tagging

Make-up: Sheetlets of 16

Perforations: 13.5 x 13.5

Printing: Process Lithography

Printer: Cartor Security Printing



Product Code 0710FDCMS *Price* €3.66

THE PLANETS

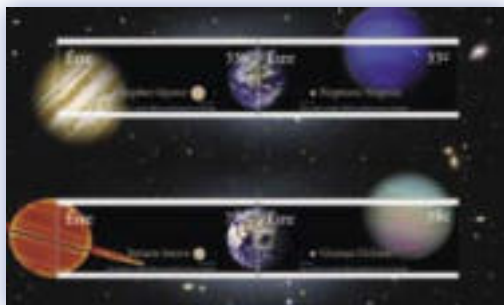
Astronomer William Herschel is credited with the discovery of **Uranus** in 1781. An odd planet, it sits on its side with the North and South poles sticking out the sides. Like Saturn, Uranus has rings surrounding it, rings that are dark and narrow, unlike Saturn's, which are bright.

On 20 April 2007, An Post are proud to issue four Planets stamps, the first part of the series of stamps which will be issued over a two-year period during 2007/2008. The stamps are special elongated stamps and are based on photographic images of the four planets, with the Earth visually represented as a design feature only. This issue comprises two sets of Set-tenant stamps, two denominated at 55c and two denominated at 78c.

These striking stamps along with the Minisheet, two First Day Covers and a Prestige Booklet are available from the Philatelic Shop, GPO, Dublin 1, by calling 00 353 1 705 7400 or from www.irishstamps.ie

THE PLANETS

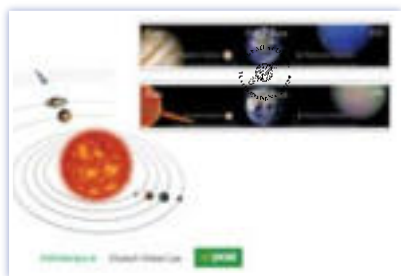
- * *Venus is the brightest planet in our sky and can sometimes be seen with the naked eye if you know where to look.*
- * *Earth has more exposed water than land. Three quarters of the Earth is covered by water.*



Product Code 0710MS Price €2.66

PLANETS IMAGE SOURCES

- * Saturn, Jupiter, Uranus: www.hubblesite.org
Backgrounds for minisheet also sourced from this website
- * Neptune: Source of Image; [PIA02245](http://photojournal.jpl.nasa.gov/tiff/PIA02245.tif):
Neptune's blue-green atmosphere:
<http://photojournal.jpl.nasa.gov/tiff/PIA02245.tif>
- * Minisheet Image from: Full Resolution Image Single HST ACS COSMOS Tile
- * Earth image: Copyright terms:
<http://visibleearth.nasa.gov/useterms.php>
Courtesy of NASA



Product Code 0710FDC Price €3.66



Product Code 071055STS8 Price €8.80



Product Code 071078STS8 Price €12.48

STAMP OF THE YEAR

Here's your chance to vote for your favourite Irish Stamp Issue of the year.

Simply fill in the entry form below and send it to: Best Stamp Issue 2006, Irish Stamps, Ground Floor, GPO, Dublin 1, Ireland.

The Stamp Issue that gets the most votes will receive the accolade, and if you have voted for that issue your name will be entered into a draw to win one of ten copies of the 2006 Irish Stamps Year Book. Winners will be announced in a future Collectors News. Closing date for entries is 1 May 2007.



1. Love/Greetings
2. The Cope
3. St. Patrick's Day 2006
4. Flora and Fauna - Trees
5. Harry Clarke
6. 1916 Easter Rising
7. Europa 2006
8. EU Flag
9. 150th Anniversary of the University Church St. Stephen's Green
10. Celtic Scholars
11. TG4/An Gaeltacht
12. Centenary - Rosslare/Fishguard Ferry Service
13. 90th Anniversary of the Battle of the Somme
14. Irish Guide Dogs
15. The Ryder Cup 2006 - Part 1
16. Ronnie Delany
17. Michael Cusack
18. Michael Davitt
19. The Ryder Cup Lenticulars - Part 2
20. National Concert Hall
21. Inland Waterways
22. Irish Music
23. Christmas 2006

COMPETITION 2006



Name:

Address:

Email Address:

Collectors Account Number:

Your Favourite Stamp Issue in 2006:

COMMEMORATIVE POSTMARKS



Fig. 1. Date Stamp



Fig. 2. Cachet



Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.

My last article, in *Collectors News* 06/06, paid tribute to Irish Airmail Stamps. This time I will write about another favourite theme of mine: special or commemorative postmarks and cachets. Postmarks come in many different forms, and I think everybody would be aware of the local Post Office postmark which cancels stamps on envelopes. The postmarks that I am going to illustrate and write about are postmarks that are designed specifically for special events, and most commonly used for Philatelic Shows at home and abroad. A postmark is considered to be a single specific date-stamp such as (1.V.1997) Fig. 1, whereas a cachet will show the dates the event is taking place (2-11.VII.1999). Fig. 2.

The interest I have in this field developed from the postmark designs themselves. They are a wonderful addition to any collection and can be used for any theme. The first commemorative postmarks are reputed to have been two postmarks prepared for Christmas; although to date, I have never seen any examples of these postmarks, other than in catalogues.

The first postmark illustrated from my very own collection is from the Irish Convention of 17-1-1918 held in Trinity College Dublin, for the purpose of negotiations which eventually lead to Independence in 1921. Fig. 3. This particular postmark is quite rare due to the fact that, at the time there was a lot of unrest in Ireland and visitors to the show were reluctant to use the postmark for fear of censorship as it travelled through the postal system.

Over the years there have been numerous events for which commemorative postmarks and cachets have been designed. These postmarks cover a wide variety of subjects in the philatelic world including sporting, cultural, commercial and historic events, e.g. Building Societies, Aviation, Scouts and Ships. Fig. 4.

BY JOHN MULLEN

Some of my favourite postmarks and cachets are designed for Philatelic Shows abroad which An Post attend. These however, are not the usual circular postmark, the designs can be extremely imaginative, e.g. Paris and Monaco Philatelic Shows. *Fig. 5.*

In addition to collecting special postmarks and cachets I also design them. This came about as I travelled around the country to various An Post/IPTA road shows, promoting stamp collecting and holding displays on behalf of one of our societies "The Irish Philatelic Society" which was celebrating its centenary year at that time. I noticed at the first show in Kilkenny, that the commemorative postmark was a repetition of the previous year, but with a different date. As a result I contacted An Post, who were very receptive to my suggestion and allowed me to submit designs for the following shows. *Fig. 6.*

Most commemorative postmarks and cachets are available, on request from the Philatelic Bureau GPO, Dublin 1 on 00 353 1 705 7400.



Fig. 5.



Fig. 6.

IRISH WILDFLOWER

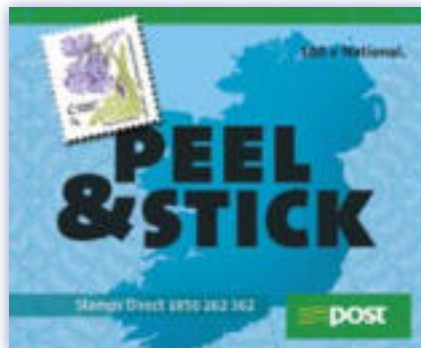
Collectors please see below all of the images for the N Rate & New Definitive Booklets, Collectors Pairs and Boxes, which are available from the Philatelic Bureau, GPO, Dublin 1, online at www.irishstamps.ie or alternatively you can use the order form attached.



Product Code 07DSAS1 Price €1.10



Product Code 07DBK1 Price €5.50



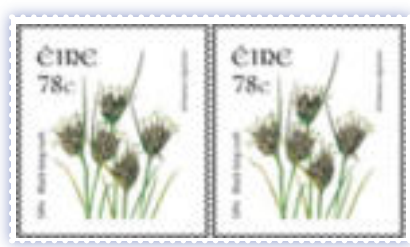
Product Code 07DSASB1 Price €55.00

Please note that the three products shown on this page are available to order right now while the images on the next page are not available to order until 20 April 2007. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

DEFINITIVE IMAGES



Product Code 07DSAS2 Price €1.10



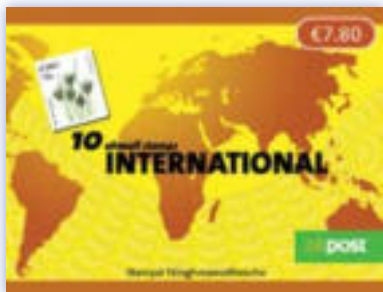
Product Code 07DSAS3 Price €1.56



Product Code 07DFDC2 Price €1.55



Product Code 07DBK3 Price €5.50



Product Code 07DBK4 Price €7.80



Product Code 07DBK2 Price €5.50



Product Code 07DBK5 Price €2.00



Product Code 07DSASB2 Price €55.00

IRISH YEAR BOOK AND PACK



Product Code 06YB
Price €55.00

Product Code 06YP
Price €32.00

Product Code 06YBS
Price €160.00

2006 YEAR BOOK

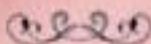
A perennial favourite with Collectors the world over, the 2006 Year Book – Complete Prestige Collection is now available from Irish Stamps. It features our entire collection of special and commemorative stamps from 2006 (including minisheets), and it also contains our two most innovative issues ever: Ireland's first Braille stamp, and Ireland's first lenticular stamps.

This is a truly fascinating collection, combining a high degree of visual sophistication with both informative and topical subject matter. It is also the ideal way to capture all our 2006 issues in one, high-quality book. What's more, the Year Book is available in two attractive formats;

Standard Hardback Edition €55, Luxury Leather-bound Hardback €160.

COMMEMORATIVE STAMP COLLECTION 2006 YEAR PACK

Our Commemorative Stamp Collection is available in a Year Pack format, containing all of our issues from 2006. This has been a particularly noteworthy year for Irish Stamps, featuring Ireland's first Braille stamp and first lenticular stamps, as well as our issue marking the success of Ireland's hosting of the Ryder Cup. Priced at €32.00, it is the perfect gift and is now available by visiting www.irishstamps.ie, or by using the order form attached.



The perfect way to announce your special day

Wedding Stamps from An Post

You are sending out invitations for the most important celebration in your life. What can be more charming than posting them with this beautifully unique stamp?

Designed to celebrate your special day, these stamps are presented in convenient booklets of ten. Available at just €5.50 from www.irishstamps.ie, by calling 01 705 7400, from the Philatelic Shop, GPO, Dublin 1 and from selected Post Offices.



Ed & Olivia Jones.
Carmoy Way?
turf.
Dublin 3.



EUROPA - 100 YEARS OF SCOUTING



Europa - 100 Years of Scouting is the common theme selected by PostEurop for the 2007 Europa issue.

What is Europa?

2002 saw the organisation of the first Europa design competition during PostEurop's Plenary Assembly held in Crete. The competition was created on an annual basis to encourage creativity and excellence in Europa stamp design. PostEurop selects the annual Europa theme for its yearly Europa stamps competition and it is always fascinating to see how each country interprets the common topic.

Europa stamps encourage cooperation in the domain of posts, particularly in the promotion of Philately and they also contribute to making the public aware of the common roots, culture and history of Europe and its common goals. As such, Europa stamp issues are among the most collected and most popular stamps in the world. Europa stamps are seen as a tangible symbol of Europe's desire for closer integration and cooperation.



Technical details



Date of Issue:	9 May, 2007
Values & Quantities:	55c (330,000) 78c (280,000)
Design:	Red & Grey Design
Stamp Size:	40.6mm x 29.8mm
Colour:	Multicolour with phosphor tagging
Make-up:	Sheetlets of 10
Perforations:	14.3 x 14.1
Printing Process:	Lithography
Printer:	Cartor Security Printing



Product Code 0711FDC Price €2.33

EUROPA - 100 YEARS OF SCOUTING

The origins of the scouting movement date from 1907 when Major-General Robert Baden-Powell held the first camp for boys on Brownsea Island, off the coast of England. With over twenty-five million members in 145 countries, the scout movement is now one of the largest voluntary youth organisations in the world.

Scouting Ireland is the National Scout Association for Ireland. It formed on the 1 January 2004 when Scouting Ireland S.A.I and Scouting Ireland CSI joined forces to form this new single association. It currently has over 40,000 members across Ireland. Scouts comprise of three sections, Beaver Scouts, which is for children aged six to eight, Cub Scouts, which is for children aged eight to eleven and Scouts, which is a range of program ideas designed to appeal to young people in the eleven to fifteen year old bracket. It is a fantastic association run by volunteers who provide a great service for young people today.

Two stamps will be issued on 9 May, 2007. Designed by Red & Grey Design the stamps are based on photographic images, which contrast the evolution of the scout movement from 1907 to the present day.

The stamps are produced in specially designed gummed sheets of 10. The sheets and the First Day Cover are available to buy from The Philatelic Shop, GPO, Dublin 1, by calling 00 353 1 705 7400 or from www.irishstamps.ie



Product Code 071155SH Price €5.50



Product Code 071178SH Price €7.80

KEEP THE MEMORY ALIVE!



LIMITED
EDITION

Product Code: 0622F Price: €70.00

Ryder Cup Framed Memorabilia

Mark the occasion of the Ryder Cup 2006 with this specially framed collection and create an impressive display for your home or office.

Featuring the "Mark of the Irish" minisheet from our July 2006 issue along with our unique lenticular 'moving' stamps and a selection of celebratory images from the event itself, this collection is a truly desirable memento of a great event.

The frame measures 450mm x 300mm approximately. And at just €70, it's a small price to pay for this wonderfully crafted piece of memorabilia.



 **post**

IRISH STAMPS

Commemorative First Day Cover Collection



The set includes every Irish Stamps commemorative FDC issue for 2006, including the revolutionary lenticular Ryder Cup FDC, as well as the innovative Braille stamp issued to celebrate Ireland's Guide Dogs. Also included are our popular Ronnie Delany, Michael Davitt and Michael Cusack FDC's.

The First Day Cover collection contains 30 commemorative FDC's, and includes 5 FDC's with Minisheets. Priced at €60 and housed in an attractive cardboard presentation box, this collection is a great way to round up the full wealth of covers from the past year.



A GIFT FOR LIFE!

This is the first Baby Set to be produced by the Central Bank & Financial Services Authority of Ireland. This set has been specially manufactured as a gift to celebrate the birth of a new baby, or as a christening present. Inside the set is a clear pocket, to insert a baby's photograph and you can personalise the set by inserting details of Baby's name, date of birth, weight, hair colour and eye colour. There is also a small treasure box for you to place in Baby's first lock of hair, identity bracelet and other similar tokens.

The set is available in both Pink and Blue.



Baby Coin Set Pink 07CP €25.00

Baby Coin Set Blue 07CB €25.00